



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

December 2019

EDITION 204

thevoice

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

BY CLLR SPIKE MAYHEW

So I'm sitting here thinking, "Where has this year gone?"

I suppose when you have so many events in our wonderful town - like the Uckfield Festival, Weald on the Field, Uckfield Bonfire and Carnival Parade, the Classic Car Revival, the weekly Park Run, and all the other events put on by local fund-raising groups - it's no wonder 2019 has gone so fast.

Local Elections

This year saw our local elections in May and we were pleased to welcome six new councillors to the team who have settled in well. I was honoured to be re-elected as your Mayor with Jackie Love as Deputy Mayor. This has made us both very proud.

Challenges ahead

As a town we have many challenges ahead; such as the construction of a new roundabout on the A22 for the Ridgewood development, the continuing works at Uckfield College, the redevelopment of Streatfeild House and the proposed housing development at Harlands Farm. These may cause some disruption in the town, but we will do all we can to monitor the situation and minimise inconvenience.

Late Night Shopping

In the run up to Christmas we have late night shopping on Friday December 6 to look forward to, with the local shops, community groups and primary schools



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all gearing up for a great night- feel free to come and say hello to me on the stage opposite Carvills! This event is made even more spectacular with the wonderful Festive light display in the High Street. These lights are provided by the Town Council with the support of the Uckfield Chamber of Commerce.

One last thing, I will be starring as the dame, 'Sarah the Cook', with my fellow Uckfield Theatre Guild performers in our pantomime, Dick Whittington. The shows take place at the Civic Centre in December on Friday 13 and Saturday 14. If you're up for a laugh - see you there!

Merry Christmas

So on behalf of myself and your Town Councillors, I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



[@uckfieldtowncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/uckfieldtowncouncil)

WHAT'S INSIDE

- The pantomime
- Christmas tree lighting
- Last month in your council

TREE LIGHTING STARTS THE FESTIVAL

Please join us on Thursday 5 December for the official switching on of the lights (sponsored by Uckfield Town Council) on the Christmas tree outside of Holy Cross Church to launch this year's Festival of Christmas Trees.

The ceremony starts at 6:30pm and will be accompanied by carols and mulled wine. The Festival of Christmas Trees opens on Friday 6 December and continues until Sunday 8 December.

Late Night Shopping - Friday 6 December

Late Night Shopping is back and it's bigger than ever! Performances by local groups, children's choir, food stalls, hog roast, Santa on his sleigh, community

stalls and more. Also, back by popular demand is the the Hunt The Elf Game.

Other dates for your festive diary at the Civic Centre

Monday 2 to Friday 20 December

Christmas lunch can be booked at Luxfords Restaurant.

Saturday 7 December

The Uckfield Singers Christmas Concert

Friday 13 and Saturday 14 December

Dick Whittington Pantomime



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DICK WHITTINGTON PANTOMIME

Come and support your local pantomime at the Civic Centre Uckfield. Performed by the Uckfield Theatre Guild featuring the young stars from Deborah Lamb Theatre Arts, there will be lots of music, dance, laughter and audience participation - just what you want from a panto!



 **Civic Centre Uckfield**

Dick Whittington

Friday 13 December 2019 at 7.00pm
Saturday 14 December 2019 at 1.00pm
and 5.00pm
All tickets £10

Performed by Uckfield Theatre Guild

Featuring the young stars from
Deborah Lamb Theatre Arts

Directed by: Emma Creffield
Choreography: Deborah Lamb
Written by: Ben Crocker
Adapted by Emma Creffield

www.civiccentreuckfield.com 01825 762774

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Grass verge cutting in 2020

At the end of October, members agreed at their Full Council meeting to contribute a sum of £4,271 to East Sussex County Council in 2020 to assist with retaining the six cuts to



urban grass verges in the town of Uckfield. Members contributed in 2019, and as a result of fewer complaints and improved visibility at the roadside, they felt it was important to maintain existing service levels and frequent cuts.

Joining a National Rural/Market Towns Group



Uckfield Town Council has taken up an invitation to join the Rural Services Network Rural/Market Towns Group. Uckfield was one of three market towns in East Sussex selected to represent key service centres in the county, on this national group. The group seeks to encourage Central Government to develop a rural strategy and ensure the voices of rural towns are heard.

Final report from the External Auditor for 2018/19

The External Auditor recently announced their findings for Uckfield Town Council's accounts ending 31st March 2019. No issues were identified and Uckfield Town Council was given a good bill of health - with sound finances and good governance.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library. If you wish

to ask a question at a meeting, on items on the agenda, it is advisable to submit

MON 2 DEC	– PLANS
MON 9 DEC	– FULL COUNCIL (DRAFT BUDGET)
MON 16 DEC	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 23 DEC	– PLANS
MON 6 JAN	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 13 JAN	– PLANS
MON 20 JAN	– FULL COUNCIL (BUDGET)
MON 27 JAN	– GENERAL PURPOSES

your question beforehand to allow a full response to be given at the meeting. All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Getting to know your Town Crier
- The year ahead

