



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

November 2019

EDITION 203

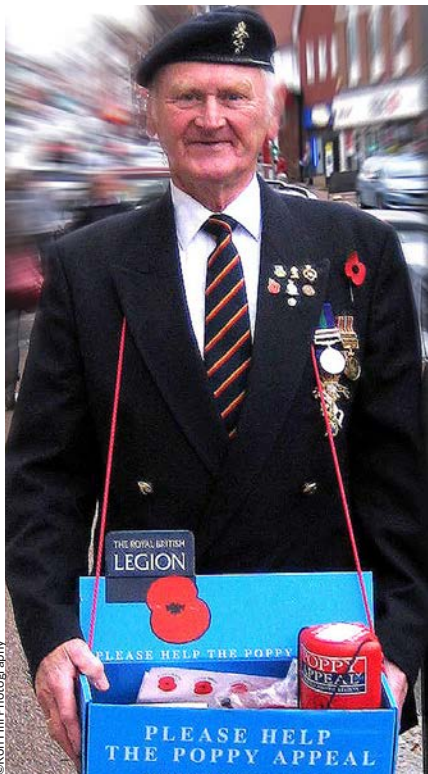
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10 NOV 2019

BY CLLR DIANE WARD

November is the month for Remembrance.

From Saturday 26 October you will be able to donate to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. During this period you will see street collectors around the town together with collection boxes in many local businesses and shops.

There will be a stall on Saturdays in



©Ron Hill Photography



©Ron Hill Photography

The Civic Centre, either in the Ashdown Room or the Weald Hall, where you will be able to obtain your poppies and other varied tokens of remembrance. The Town Council supports the Royal British Legion by contributing towards the costs of the hire of the rooms through the annual grant scheme.

Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday the town comes together with a parade at 2.30pm from Luxford Field Car Park via the High Street to Holy Cross Church. After the church service there is a two minute silence and wreaths are laid at the war memorial. This is followed by a salute to the Mayor at the library with the parade returning to the car park. Light refreshments will then be available at the Civic Centre.

Contact us through:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk
f @uckfieldtowncouncil

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- Uckfield Revival
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- Last month in your council

OUR BELGIAN HERO BY CLLR DUNCAN BENNETT

101 years ago, an eight year old Belgian boy, Eugene Seghers, was playing among the Flanders Fields, the scene of so much horror over the previous four years of the Great War.

This "War to end all Wars" sadly turned out to be nothing of the sort and that same boy would grow up to face conflict himself, along with millions of others, in the Second World War.

Invasion of Belgium

In 1940, Nazi Germany overran Belgium and Eugene Seghers and a number of colleagues from the Belgian Air Force courageously made their way across occupied territory to regroup in Britain and join the Royal Air Force.

Flung straight into the Battle of Britain, Seghers soon built upon his reputation as a talented combat pilot.

By the summer of 1944 he was flying Mk 14 Spitfires and having returned from flying sorties over the beachheads and battlefields of Normandy, his next role was to combat Hitler's new vengeance weapon, the V1 Flying Bomb.



Eugene Seghers (centre) with some of his WW2 flying colleagues



The Eugene Seghers memorial at The Highland Inn

On the 26 July, he targeted a flying bomb heading towards Uckfield. He emptied his cannons, but failed to stop the doodlebug. The bomb's engine then cut out, meaning that it would soon plunge towards the town.

Extreme heroism

In an act of extreme heroism, he tried to tip the bomb off course by using the tip of his wing. Tragically, the V1 exploded upon contact, destroying the Spitfire and killing Seghers instantly.

Lest We Forget

Although 75 years have passed, this incredible act of bravery shall not be forgotten in our community. The memorial to Eugene Seghers at The Highlands Inn will be the scene of one of the Acts of Remembrance taking place this coming Remembrance Sunday.

Please do join other members of our community for a simple ceremony and observance of the two-minute silence at 11 am.

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!



Dick Whittington

Friday 13 Dec - 7pm
Saturday 14 Dec - 1pm and 5pm
All tickets £10

Performed by The Uckfield Theatre Guild
featuring the young stars of
Deborah Lamb Theatre Arts

www.civiccentreuckfield.com 01825 762774

UCKFIELD REVIVAL 2019

A big thank you to everyone who attended Uckfield Revival - the all important stallholders and classic vehicle and bike owners, promotional displays from Andy Owen Motor Services and Race Car Preparation, SLM Toyota Uckfield together with Uckfield FM for their live broadcast. Not forgetting those of you who came along just to take a look! Special thanks goes to APCOA Parking UK and Network Rail who came to the rescue and allowed us to use the station car park for the event after waking up to a very slippery Luxford Field.



LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

As we move into autumn, it's time to start planning ahead for the next financial year.

New initiatives for 2020/21

For the Town Council, this planning includes reviewing the cost of our contracts; where we need to invest further, make repairs or improvements to our buildings, open spaces and

services; calculating potential increases in utility bills and staffing costs; as well as identifying where we can further reduce our expenditure.

December Full Council Meeting

The weeks leading up to the December meeting of Full Council, provide a great opportunity for Town Councillors to look back and look ahead. But, most importantly it gives them time to advise staff of any potential new initiatives for delivery. Staff then have the time to explore the associated costs of these projects and help members understand whether a project is possible or just too expensive to consider at this stage. However, there's still a chance it could be delivered, but it might just require a little help from grant funding or partnership support to make it happen.

Feed in your ideas

If you have any ideas that you would like to be considered, please contact your local Town Councillor, and they will help to feed these into the budget setting process for 2020/21.



See our Strategic Plan and last year's Annual Plan on our website at www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/DocumentsData-Transparency.aspx

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 your question beforehand to allow a full response to be given at the meeting.

MON 4 NOV	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 11 NOV	– PLANS
MON 18 NOV	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 2 DEC	– PLANS
MON 9 DEC	– FULL COUNCIL (DRAFT BUDGET)
MON 16 DEC	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 23 DEC	– PLANS

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at: admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- The Mayor's Christmas message
- The pantomime
- Council Christmas tree

