



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

JACKIE'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

BY CLLR JACKIE LOVE

Welcome to 2020! A new year that will bring us all together enjoying life in our town and supporting each other, as we have done so many times at all the incredible events this town and our surrounding villages put on for us.

We look forward to those that we have in Uckfield such as Weald on the Field, Uckfield Festival, Uckfield Bonfire and Carnival Society's torch lit procession and carnival, and the Classic Car Revival. We know that as well as these major events there will be plenty more for us to visit and support; Easter and summer fairs, music and performances at the Civic Centre, Bridge Cottage and within our Churches as well as fund raising for groups, charities and schools. As a town we do so much and we should be very proud that we have incredible volunteers who organise it all.

Passion and commitment

In carrying out my Deputy Mayor duties, along with Spike, our Mayor, we have been invited to so many events. Each of the organisers are passionate and committed to the town and its residents. In 2019, we visited (among others) the Scouts, Guides, ATC, Youth Club and PHAB to see how our young people are gaining life skills and having fun. In November 2019 we went to an East Sussex Fire and Rescue event which gave advice to learners and new drivers




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on how to stay safe on our roads (**leave those mobile phones in the boot or the glove box!**). We've been to Fun Abounds to find out about the trampolining world where we have potential champions in the making. How awesome is that? We have been to fairs, music performances and so much more, the list just keeps going and it makes both of us incredibly proud to be a part of this town.

Celebrating Uckfield

It's time to celebrate another incredible, fun-filled year in Uckfield, let's do this together as we've done for many years.

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

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2020 CALENDAR COMPETITION WINNERS

On the evening of the 28 November, Uckfield Town Council Mayor, Cllr Spike Mayhew presented awards to entrants of the annual Photographic Calendar Competition whose photos were chosen to be included in the 2020 calendar, themed 'Uckfield at Work, Rest and Play'.

The theme for the calendar photographic competition for the 2021 edition will be 'Comedy Captions'.

More information will be available soon at www.uckfieldtc.co.uk

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Calendar Photograph Competition winners at the presentation on 28 November 2019



UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Uckfield Town Council, Council Offices,
Clock Centre, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 1AE
Telephone: 01825 762774 Website: www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk

All Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Clock Centre, and start at 7.30pm. Meetings are open to members of the public, who are advised to speak at the discretion of the Chairman of the meeting.

2020

YOUR 2020 CALENDAR

By now you should have received your 2020 calendar from the Town Council

You will notice that the council meetings and upcoming events are included in the calendar.

The Town Council meetings are open to the public. Agendas and minutes are published on the council website and are also to be found at the library and on notice boards around the town.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR TOWN CRIER

Uckfield's Town Crier, Ian Bedwell, talks about his role as town crier.

How I became Town Crier

In 2018, Uckfield Town Council decided to introduce the role of Town Crier. This was to promote Uckfield and the many activities, volunteer groups and events that go on in the town all year round and to act as Master of Ceremonies, if requested. I applied for the role and was formally interviewed by the Town Clerk, the Mayor and Seaford's Town Crier of 40 years. Apparently I was chosen out of all the applicants for my 'booming voice and tall stature'.

Debut cry

My debut cry was to advertise the Uckfield Festival in July 2018 where I was able to wear my full livery in the Sussex colours of blue and gold with a very English top hat.

Most Saturdays throughout the spring and summer months - and often autumn and winter - you can hear me ringing my bell to announce forthcoming events from the steps of Hartfields (Uckfield's Town Square) or at midday outside Bridge Cottage beside Uckfield's wooden Town Crier carving. Keeping with tradition my cries are always a maximum of 125 words - about four tweets in today's money!

The history of Town Criers

Town Criers were the original 'newsmen' finding their origins in the early Greek Mythology and as the voice piece of the Roman senate. In Great Britain, Town Criers are thought to have come to the fore in 1066 when news of William of Normandy's invasion was known. Men employed to remind everybody of Harold's authority passed information from town to town. These individuals were specifically employed to call out the King's proclamation. In later times,

they were provided with a bell and made important proclamations in the area in which they lived.

Britain's population came to rely on criers and heralds to learn about proclamations, edicts, laws and news. The Town Crier was the first (talking) newspaper shouting Oyez, Oyez, Oyez (listen here, listen here, listen here). Numerous local Sussex towns have had their town criers for many years. Seaford, for instance, have had one since 1865.



Crying further afield

I have also been asked to announce and open events away from Uckfield including wedding announcements, Crowborough's Charter Day and High Hurstwood's Summer Fair. I have also done talks for local organisations and next year will be heading for the National Town Criers Championships.

Need the Town Crier?

If you feel I can help publicise an event for you please feel free to contact the Town Clerk Holly Goring at Uckfield Town Council on 01825 762774 in the first instance.

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Upgrading Luxfords Play Area

Members of Environment and Leisure Committee were very pleased to see that investigations into the upgrade of Luxfords Play area, were now underway.



A proposal was put forward to change the shape of the current play area to enable better movement between equipment and enable play area companies to place more equipment within the space. The changed shape would also help parents or guardians to see across the whole play area and have better visibility when looking after a number of children.

Members agreed to set aside funds in the 2020/21 budget in addition to the developer contributions already received, to meet the costs of the project. Contractors are currently being invited to tender for the project, and we plan to run a consultation on the designs received from the play area companies from February onwards.

Budget setting for 2020/21

This month sees Uckfield Town Council's Full Council set the annual priorities and annual budget for 2020/21. The meeting of Full Council takes place on Monday 20 January 2020 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber of the Civic Centre, and the papers can be found on the Town Council website www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library and on the town council website. 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. All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at: admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

MON 6 JAN	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 13 JAN	– PLANS
MON 20 JAN	– FULL COUNCIL (BUDGET)
MON 27 JAN	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 3 FEB	– PLANS
MON 17 FEB	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 24 FEB	– PLANS

COMING NEXT MONTH

- 2020/21 Priorities
- Luxford Play Area

