



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

December 2022

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thevoice

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE

BY CLLRS JACKIE LOVE AND DONNA FRENCH

The Weather has turned, the colder nights are here, and Christmas is getting closer! The lights are up in the High Street, shop windows are sparkling, and our large Christmas trees are decorated. Uckfield is looking truly magical.

Festival of Christmas Trees

The Holy Cross Church has again brought us the 'Festival of Christmas Trees'. If you've never been, please do drop in next year. It is quite breath-taking to see the Church transformed and the smell of pine as you enter is wonderful.



Late Night Shopping

The late-night shopping event provides a chance to pick up festive gifts, food, and decorations for the big day. Please continue to support the High Street whenever you can. We have a wealth of shops and many of them are independent. They have had a difficult few years and would very much appreciate your custom.



We do need to remember that some in our community will struggle this year trying to bring Christmas into their homes. I know that the Food Bank, the Community Fridge, and the Churches are helping in every way possible. We do hope as a town we will support these groups in any way we can to ensure Christmas joy will be with us all.

On behalf of the Town Council we wish you all a safe, joyous, and wonderful Christmas with family and friends. A time to relax and be with those we hold most dear and think of those that have left us treasured memories.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



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

WHAT'S INSIDE

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JOHN CARVEY

BY CLLR DUNCAN BENNETT ON BEHALF OF
UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

I was privileged to serve as John Carvey's Deputy during his time as Town Mayor and he was (and remained) a constant and truly selfless supporter of the town and so many of its organisations.

His loss will leave a gaping hole in the committees and community groups in our town. John was a brilliant example of a person for whom community meant everything and he did all he possibly could to do his bit for our community in return.

His energy and sense of decency and respect was gladly appreciated by so many across our town, from the Uckfield Lions to the Uckfield Branch of the Royal British Legion and from the Uckfield Bonfire & Carnival Society to the Uckfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group among countless others.



John was Town Mayor from May 2010 until May 2013,
and supported by Deputy Mayors
Councillor Duncan Bennett and Thelma Rumbelow

What finer lasting tribute could there be than if we were all to be inspired by his legacy of service.

From a personal perspective, John was a true gentleman who will obviously be sadly missed not only by his wife Wendy, his family and loved ones, but by all of us who knew him.

Rest In Peace, John, and thank you for your tireless service to Uckfield.



UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS 2023/2024

Applications now open!

Are you a community group or charity that needs financial help with a future project that will contribute to the welfare of the community by improving or supporting facilities and activities in the Uckfield Parish?

Why not apply for a grant to help your project. See the website below for guidelines and application form.

<https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/community/town-council-grants-2023-2024/>

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY PANTOMIME

The Civic Centre Uckfield and the Uckfield Theatre Guild are excited to bring you a fresh new pantomime this December. Come and join us for a family favourite fairytale, The Sleeping Beauty. Get ready to sing, dance or clap along, boo the baddies and cheer the goodies. Tickets on sale at the Civic Centre.





Uckfield Theatre Guild
presents...



*The
Sleeping
Beauty*

Friday 16th December 2022 - 6pm
Saturday 17th December 2022 - 1pm & 5pm
at Uckfield Civic Centre

All Tickets £12.50 - Available now!

Ring 01825 762774 to book
www.civiccentreuckfield.com

 | **Civic Centre Uckfield**

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Priorities and budget for 2023/24

In addition to the festivities, December and January are important months for the Town Council. Councillors prepare the priorities and budget for the next financial year in order to be able to let Wealden District Council know what level of precept is required, by the end of January.

The meeting of full Council on 12 December will see members review the first draft for the financial year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

As many businesses are finding, budget setting in these uncertain times is a challenge. We've already seen increases in utility costs, staffing, building/grounds materials and stock in the past 18 months, and it's likely this will continue into 2023.

Currently one third of the Town Council's income is generated through its own means; not through your council tax (precept) and we want to ensure we can continue to do this.

The documents will be placed on the Town Council's website until Sunday 15 January 2023 for feedback. We will finalise and adopt these documents on

23 January 2023.

Christmas Opening Hours

The Civic Centre and Luxford Restaurant will close after service on Christmas Eve. They will then open on Wednesday 28, Thursday 29 and Friday 30 December before reopening fully on Tuesday 3 January.

Grounds staff will be working on a rota system to ensure litter collections continue over the Christmas break and any urgent matters are addressed.

The Town Council offices will close at 4.00pm on Friday 23 December and reopen on Tuesday 3 January at 9.00am. The main email account (admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk) will be monitored over the Christmas break, should any urgent issues arise.

Don't forget issues relating to crime and anti-social behaviour should be reported to Sussex Police (999 in an emergency, or non-emergency to 101). Or go online and report at www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/. If you or a family member find yourself homeless over Christmas please contact 0330 123 3517.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library and on the town

council website. Meetings will now be held in person either in the Weald Hall

MON 5 DEC	– PLANS
MON 12 DEC	– FULL COUNCIL (DRAFT BUDGET)
MON 19 DEC	– PLANS (PROVISIONAL IF REQUIRED)
MON 3 JAN	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 9 JAN	– PLANS
MON 16 JAN	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 23 JAN	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 30 JAN	– PLANS

or Council Chamber at the Civic Centre. All meetings start at 7pm.

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Healthy New Year

