



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

FREE FAMILY EVENTS IN UCKFIELD THIS SUMMER

BY CLLR. MICHAEL MCCLAFFERTY

When I moved to Uckfield with my family in 2018, I thought it would be like one of the many other towns in which I have lived over my 39 years. I have never been so happy to be wrong! One of the many positives to living in Uckfield (aside from the people, shops, people, civic pride, and did I mention the people?) is the events and places one can take the family for free. This beautiful corner of the world is positively bustling with activities for the family to enjoy. First and foremost is **Weald on the Field**, which takes place every year on Luxford Field. This year, on 9th August, you can come along for food, drink, music, crafts, and entertainment. The event is organised by Uckfield Town Council and Food Rocks for all to enjoy, and is always a blast! This summer, there will also be a town-wide **Scarecrow Competition**. All will be able to enter their very own lovingly hand-crafted scarecrow, with judging taking place on 3rd September. If you'd rather revel in natural beauty, then we've got you covered: **West Park Nature Reserve and Lake Wood** to the west and north west of town are beautiful places



to visit with incredible forests, waterways, and a sandstone outcrop worth getting to the top of, as it offers a great view of the lake. Children will enjoy scrambling around and exploring the tunnels and caves.

To the south of town, **Victoria playground, pleasure grounds, Boothland Wood, and adjoining fields** are picturesque, tranquil, and full of energetic life.

Towards the north of town is another favourite of my kids: **Views Wood and the adjoining Buxted Deer Park**. Honestly, it feels like being in the middle of nowhere right next to town.

If that isn't enough to fill your time without emptying your wallet, visit one of the many **playgrounds** across town. Victoria is due to get a refurb this September - more on that overleaf! - so do check it out.

If you've lived here for years, you know what I've been talking about. To anyone new, I encourage you to get out and about with the family and explore!



Contact us through:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk
[@uckfieldtowncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/uckfieldtowncouncil)

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **New Town Councillor Elected**
- **Scarecrow Competition Launched**
- **Mayor's Wing Walk**
- **Victoria Pleasure Ground Play Area Update**

NEW TOWN COUNCILLOR ELECTED

Following the by-election on 10 July, and declaration of poll on 11 July, we welcomed a new Councillor to Uckfield Town Council for the ward of Uckfield New Town. This seat became vacant in May 2025.

Kathryn Ann Butler (Kathy) was duly elected to the position, becoming the most recent addition to the 15 Town Councillors who represent Uckfield. Support will be provided to Kathy by both staff and fellow Councillors while she finds out more about the work and services of the Town Council. Kathy and her family have been residents of Uckfield for over 20 years. Cllr. Butler has a keen interest in accessibility and ensuring services are inclusive for a range of abilities. She also has an interest in sport and leisure, and will be supporting the Town Council's current priorities to improve the town's facilities.



Uckfield Town Council's newest Councillor, Kathryn (Kathy) Ann Butler.

Following the result, Uckfield Liberal Democrat Focus said: *"Thank you to all the Uckfield New Town residents who voted in this by-election. Kathy looks forward to representing residents on the Town Council and we congratulate her on this fantastic result!"*

SCARECROW COMPETITION LAUNCHED

Uckfield Town Council has recently launched its new Scarecrow Competition to residents and businesses in the town. Having previously been restricted to entries from allotment holders only, the competition takes a new form this year.

Three categories have been introduced for this first town-wide edition; Household, Under-12s and Business. With the competition running for the entire school summer holidays, we hope that it is the perfect entertainment to keep children or grandchildren busy during the six-week break. Application forms and advice on how to build the perfect scarecrow can be found on the Uckfield Town Council website here: <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/news/uckfield-scarecrow-competition-2025-opens-for-entries/> The Town Council would like to express its thanks to Manor Park & Hempstead Field Residents' Association and the Allotment Working Group for their support in delivering the competition.



WEALD ON THE FIELD 2025 - THIS MONTH!

WEALD ON THE FIELD

FREE ENTRY

REALMS VR



EMC Uckfield Suzuki
part of Eastbourne Motoring Centre Ltd



LAWSON
COMMERCIAL



LUXFORD FIELD UCKFIELD



SATURDAY 9 AUGUST 2025 11AM - 7PM

LIVE MUSIC ON THE AIRSTREAM STAGE

- 12:00 The Management Duo
- 13:30 The Carnaby Brothers
- 15:00 Dynamite
- 16:30 The Midnight Project
- 18:00 The Dead Rabbits
- *Plus special guest appearance from Dominic Uppiah



*STREET FOOD *ARTISAN PRODUCE *POP UP BARS
*LOCAL CRAFTS *FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT



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LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

BY HOLLY GORING, TOWN CLERK



On the Wing

Our Town Mayor, Councillor Karen Bedwell, took a leap of faith into the sky this June, to raise important funds for local charity, Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare.

With another 11 supporters spread over two days, the Town Mayor undertook an individual wing walk at Headcorn Aerodrome on Saturday 14 June. The Wing Walk Company based at Headcorn in Kent were incredibly helpful and made sure those taking part were talked carefully through the process, and all checks were carried out before take-off. The fundraising exercise helped to raise £12k for the charity. It wasn't until the day, that I realised that it costs £6,500 per day to cover their animal care costs. Not being a great flyer myself or that fond of heights, I was very proud to see the Town Mayor take on this challenge!

Upgrade of Victoria Play Area

It is happening!

On 7 July, members of Environment & Leisure Committee took the final decision and awarded the contract for the upgrade of Victoria Play Area's facilities, to KOMPAN.

The Danish company is the world's leading provider of outdoor play areas, operating in over 90 countries.

Kompan have also been tasked with installing a new CocoWave Pendulum Swing (pictured below) at Hempstead Recreation Ground. This will replace the missing zip-wire and should be installed by the end of August.

Kompan will then commence works on the upgrade of a new play area at Victoria Pleasure Ground. Works are expected to commence in September 2025, and we hope you will join us in providing the necessary time and space for works to be undertaken, for an exciting new area for young children and their families to use.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Agendas and minutes can be viewed on the Town Council website at <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/agendas-and-minutes/>. Meetings are held in

person in the Council Chamber at The Civic Centre and all start at 7pm. All questions should be sent to the Town Clerk at: admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

MON 4 AUG	- PLANS
TUE 26 AUG	- PLANS
MON 1 SEPT	- ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
MON 8 SEPT	- FULL COUNCIL
WED 10 SEPT	- ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Community Involvement Project
- Weald on the Field Recap
- Uckfield Carnival News
- Last Month in Your Council

