

Mayors Diary Boroughbridge December 5th 2016

Things are starting to look a lot like Christmas, or so the song goes. It certainly did in Boroughbridge last Wednesday night when the Christmas tree lights were switched on during the late night shopping event. The shops looked splendid all decked out for Christmas with some shops offering mulled wine and mince pies to their customers. There were also many stalls selling traditional Christmas fayre. The atmosphere was really special. Well done to all who entered in to the spirit of the event and all those who supported it. Pauline and I were asked to help in the judging of the best dressed Christmas window, the best festive group costumes and the best individually dressed. The winners will be announced at Carols on the Square on Sunday 11th December. Many thanks to Stuart Watson for the great photos. On Thursday we should have been at the Hightimers pantomime, but were struck with a stomach bug and could not attend. Very disappointed.

Saturday was busy with the High School Christmas fair in the morning which Pauline and I were asked to attend. The stalls looked great and the sausage sandwiches were yummy. In Town it was "Small Business Saturday. An opportunity for us all to make the effort and support our local businesses. Santa was in his grotto in the Butter Market, with some lovely craft stalls in the square. The mulled wine and mince pies went down well. Well done everyone!

A couple of school events worth a mention a few weeks ago members of the High School Student Council attended the annual North Yorkshire County Council Youth Voice Summit. Something close to my heart. They were able to take part in a wide range of workshops, such as public speaking, refugees, the work of the Houses of Parliament and how to express protest through music and song. They received an inspirational talk from double para-olympic gold medallist Danielle Brown who talked about believing in yourself and how determination and resilience can lead to success. In the afternoon the students took part in the county Youth consultation, discussing what they thought the priorities for young people across the county should be. I hope to hear the outcome. On a more festive theme Roecliffe Primary school pupils are participating in an Advent Challenge. A challenge of 24 good deeds throughout Advent to raise funds for St James' Church in Boroughbridge.

One or two of you have been asking how best to report streetlight faults. The best way is to go direct to the North Yorkshire County Council web site. The "Report it Online" page is where you need to be. Here you can report all manner of things from faulty street lighting to damaged pavements and once you register you can receive feedback. We will also set up a link on our council website connected to the correct page.

Don't forget the Christmas tree festival this weekend in St James Church. I have just heard that there will be over 40 trees on display this year, followed by Carols on Hall Square at 4pm on Sunday.

Enjoying Late Night Shopping



Sweet Treats from Baileys



Oxfam Festive Fun



Great Costumes at Urban Hair



Festive Window Display at YMCA