

Mayor's Diary Boroughbridge October 16th

A busy two weeks has flown by. Starting with a council meeting that I was unable to attend due to illness, the first one in 18 months! However my deputy Cllr Geoff Haldenby stepped in to chair the meeting, so many thanks Geoff. On the Wednesday the fair made its annual visit to give our young folk and families something to look forward to. Most of our businesses and neighbours were understanding as it does cause some inconvenience and disruption in the car park. However the arrival of the fair helps keep our large car park free for everyone. Not many car parks across the area are still free and all we ask is for a donation. I will try really hard this week not to mention the words 'development sites' apart from encouraging people to keep their eyes peeled on the Harrogate Borough Council public access planning portal website. Make sure you register and if you have a comment to make, make it! For the Boddy's Wood Yard site search for 'Riverside Sawmills'.

On Friday I attended a community forum group that includes both our schools and the police. This meeting enables us to focus on our young people's community involvement by pursuing intervention packages to combat anti-social behaviour, and the provision of out of school activities.

Over the week I have been liaising with the 6th regiment based at Dishforth with regards to a visit from 426 squadron The Royal Canadian Air Force who were celebrating their 75th anniversary. What is the relevance you ask? The squadron were based at Dishforth during the Second World War before moving to Linton on Ouse. Some Boroughbridge residents still have memories of their time here in Boroughbridge. Like the day some of the squadron placed their maple leaf flag on top of the fountain, which stayed there for quite some time. So on Friday Pauline and I along with Mike and Colin Tasker, Geoff and Betty Craggs and Ian and Wendy Hick met the group at the officer's mess for a curry lunch. The trip was organised by RAF Linton on Ouse. What made the trip especially special was that one of the celebrating party members was a WW2 veteran 96 year old Harry Hepburn. Harry was a navigator who flew Halifax Bombers out of Dishforth. A truly remarkable man who was proud to show off his medal received from the King. Pauline was close to tears while he was reminiscing with her.



On Saturday we attended the Ripon Activity Project's AGM and Talent show in Ripon Youth Centre. Also present were the Mayor and Mayoress of Pateley Bridge. Always a pleasure, but more about that in my next column in a couple of weeks.

Nominations are still coming in for my community awards as we head to the closing date of December 31st. So, there is still time, just go onto the Boroughbridge Town Council website, download a form and follow the instructions.

One last note, the Royal British Legion will be holding its annual coffee morning on November 4th in the Jubilee Room above the library 10am till 12.