

Mayors Diary Boroughbridge Monday 18th Dec 17

It has been nice to see the town busy over the Christmas period and with almost everyone taking part in the late night shopping event it got everyone in the Christmas mood. We are lucky in these days of uncertainty that our town centre is so vibrant with very few empty shops, in fact I don't think there are any at the moment. As I mentioned last week Pauline and I judged the Christmas shop windows and costumes. I can now announce the winner's. They were, best dressed team Urban Hair. Best dressed shopkeeper was the Oxfam Elf Martin Henry and the best dressed window was KM & G Farrer for "Walking in a winter wonderland"

The week was completed by a wonderful German style Christmas market in Hall square organised by Boroughbridge Live. The music provided by a barrel organ guided visitors to the square where they enjoyed buying gifts from the local artisans stalls. Hot chocolate, gluwain, German style food and the now famous fruit kebabs were in great demand. The Buttermarket was transformed into a magical Christmas grotto where Santa was busy all day with young visitors eager to see him & make their Christmas wishes. This event has become part of the annual Boroughbridge Christmas Festival Week and will be back in 2018.

It was a bit of a shock the other week for most of us to wake up with no water. A burst water main on the junction of Horsefair and Fishergate caused quite a spectacular fountain causing some nearby shops to be flooded. This also led to the road being closed for a short while, mainly due to HGV, s being unable to pass each other safely on Horsefair. Later in the week the footpath close to where the leak was collapsed, but Yorkshire Water were quick to respond to my urgent call. Whilst on the subject of Yorkshire Water I have spent some time chasing up their investigations in to the poor performance of their waste water management. I have been informed that flow tests are ongoing but some of the sewage outlet pipes are too congested and that some capital investment plan is required. This is to separate some of the top water drainage from the existing sewage pipes. It is to be hoped this happens sooner rather than later.

It was fabulous to see all the Christmas trees displayed in St James's Church. There were some really clever and colourful designs. Congratulations to Aldborough, Boroughbridge and Dunsforth WI., who won the adult trophy. With the junior trophy going to Kirby Hill Primary After School Club. Well done to all for such a great festive event.



One last reminder, you have only a couple of weeks before the community award nominations close. For those who wish to post a last minute nomination visit our council website.

All that remains for Pauline and myself to do is wish you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year