

## **MAYORS DIARY**



### **GOVERNMENT U TURN !**

Last time I wrote in this column I mentioned the Chancellors budget and my concern about his proposal to cut disability benefits. Since then there has been a major U-turn and the proposed cuts were dropped. I should have bought a lottery ticket! Sometimes I feel that some decisions are made without actually consulting the people that they will affect.

Sadly this week has been marred by the horrific attacks in Brussels and now Lahore. My heartfelt condolences go out to all the victims and their families. I make no secret of the fact that I have been a soldier for most of my life and throughout those years I have been involved the fight against terrorism and idealism in various countries and locations.

Do these radicalised and indoctrinated groups not realise that their actions will only isolate them even more from the rest of humanity?

Easter weekend saw the Boroughbridge and Lower Ure Valley Walks Team hosting their 2016 Walking Festival. I believe from first reports that this prestigious annual event has once again been a major success and I would like to congratulate all those involved.

The 'Ghost Walk' alone had nearly 100 participants. This superbly organised event attracts people from all over the Country and can only get better. On Saturday Julie and I visited their Exhibition in the Jubilee Room above the Library - A great Exhibition that was combined with the Boroughbridge and Historical Society showing some fantastic photography and interesting historical information of 'Old Boroughbridge' and surrounding areas.

Local photographer Ken Harrison also displayed some superb photographs of the area and hosted a photographic competition. The photographs we saw were absolutely First class and we would not like to judge any of them. We will leave that to the experts. Thanks must go to all those individuals involved in the planning and setting up of all the events over the weekend.

Finally this will be my last entry in the Gazette due to upcoming local elections. These local elections are for a new Town Council and will be held in May. I would like to thank all the people who I know read this column especially Doreen, Audrey and John. I must also thank Dominic and his team from the Gazette for their tireless efforts to produce a great journal. Thanks and have great week.