

**BOROUGHBRIDGE MAYOR'S DIARY**  
**Councillor Geoff Craggs's Weekly Diary**

**3 September 2010**

The August Bank Holiday weekend came and.....it went; this week most parents are seeing their offspring go back to school with the usual mixed feelings of relief and trepidation. I think the current BBC advert showing a mother waving her space-suited little daughter off into outer space at the start of her school career is quite brilliant, encapsulating the start of a journey into education where parental influence is no longer paramount. It says much for the quality of our teachers and education system that the vast majority of our young people emerge from their educational years well prepared for the rest of life's journey- let us hope that there are jobs for them all afterwards.

There is very good news and hopefully an end in sight to the saga of the damaged memorial seat in the "Rec". We have had a message from Patrick Kilburn, Head of Harrogate Parks and Gardens, to say that they have established that the seat was in fact damaged accidentally by one of their employees, and in consequence HBC will replace the seat in the very near future. I would like to thank Mr Kilburn and his staff for this, and also the member of the public who came forward as a witness to the accident. There is still somewhat of a mystery surrounding the whereabouts of the plaque which was on the seat, but I have been told in confidence by a local youngster that the plaque is still around; if it is could I urge whoever found it to either hand it to me or to the Town Clerk or post it through the Council Office letter box. No questions will be asked- just a "thank you"!

Saturday was quite a busy day for Betty and me- late morning we dropped by the Boroughbridge Horticultural Society's Summer Show at the Social Club. There was a very impressive show of produce and flowers but sadly- despite quite widespread publicity- a dearth of visitors; it was I know very disappointing to the organisers and members of the Society, which is one of the township's oldest associations. I know we came away laden with excellent produce which we bought at the end of the Show- our gain I am sure, but we would have been more comfortable if there had been more people there fighting to buy it! On then to the Canal Basin at Ripon for "Scuba Diving for All's Raft Race and fun day- and what a fun day it was for everyone in the almost idyllic setting of this "hidden gem" of Ripon. Had we been there earlier, I would have been press-ganged into taking part in the Mayor's Swan Race, which was won I believe by the Knaresborough and Richmond team. A great day out as usual and what joy the people who run Scuba Diving for All bring to so many less-advantaged folk- well done Yvonne Covell and your team! Finally on Saturday, Betty and I were invited to attend the official opening of Boroughbridge's newest treasure "Curvy Bridal" where prospective brides who do not qualify as "stick insects" can find a suitable wedding dress, as can their mothers, bridesmaids and other feminine "followers". The shop is absolutely stunning and has brought more than a touch of class to our town- on cutting the ribbon with Louise the owner I wished her every success in the venture and meant every word. Specialist businesses like hers are what make Boroughbridge "tick" as a place to shop. Every success, Louise and thanks for choosing Boroughbridge.

The last activity of the weekend was a visit to St.James' Church for coffee and a slice of cake today (Monday); the ladies of the Church open up for refreshments over every Bank Holiday in aid of Church funds, and the cakes are good!

