



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

OCTOBER 2018

EDITION 190

thevoice

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE CIVIC CENTRE UCKFIELD

The Civic Centre and Luxfords Restaurant are important assets for Uckfield and its residents.

David Nott, the Civic Centre Hospitality Manager, brings a wealth of experience in events organisation and hotel management to the role and has plans to provide



new, varied and exciting offerings for local residents and visitors to enjoy.

Luxfords Restaurant Refurbishment

It is 20 years since the restaurant was last updated and the new look will provide a modern, contemporary restaurant while retaining its welcoming, friendly ambience. During the renovation the restaurant will remain open using the Weald Hall.

To celebrate the modernisation there will be the first of many themed evening dinners with a special Italian Opera Dinner. David also plans to introduce more variety in the lunchtime menu including meal deals, takeaway options and quick lunches for busy workers.

Exciting programme of events

David has arranged some new and interesting events for the coming months including a 'giant' of a pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk – featuring BBC Allo Allo's Mimi Lebonq (Sue Hodge) and a host of other stars. Leading up to Christmas there is the ideal children's



show for half-term - The Snow Queen - the charming retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale. And in 2019 there is a Buddy Holly tribute in March and the return of the Take That Experience and Abba Fever later in the year.

Room Hire

The Civic Centre has seven rooms available for hire by businesses, community groups and charities at very competitive rates. The rooms vary in size and there is a full in-house catering service for hirers from teas and coffees to hot and cold buffets.

Visit the Civic Centre website for more - www.civiccentreuckfield.com - and join our monthly mailing list for event news.

Contact us through:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

 @uckfieldtowncouncil

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Town Centre Developments
- Allotment Conference update
- Last month in your council



SPRUCING THINGS UP

Discussions began in 2017 to look at the costs associated with sprucing up the paved area in the centre of the town, known to most as the Town Square, located in front of the row of businesses set back from the road. The new yorkstone paving added to the High Street during 2016, soon highlighted that this area was mismatched and less aesthetically pleasing. The broken cobbles and traditional paving looking a tad dreary.

Working in Partnership

This project became an example of true partnership working. With the main landlord's agent Lawson Commercial taking the lead, quotations were sought and the Town Council engaged, to look at options for funding these improvements. By liaising with partners Wealden District Council and East



Sussex County Council we were able to identify developer contributions to meet half of the costs, and together with the main landlord's commitment, the works were able to go ahead.

A lovely new bench was added. With the Town Council's hanging baskets, and a smart new frontage for Hartfields, a clean and modern space evolved, ready to welcome visitors to Uckfield High Street.

UCKFIELD REVIVAL REVS UP



Saturday 6 October sees the return of the Uckfield Revival when the Town Council anticipates an attendance of over 80 classic cars and interesting vehicles at this annual display. To enter please contact the Town Clerk (townclerk@uckfieldtc.gov.uk). The Highlands Inn have again supported the event, by allowing the vehicles to assemble at their premises

from 9.30am, and by providing bacon butties and coffee.

The procession will then proceed to Luxford Field where they will be on display. Refreshments and stalls will be on the field together with children's entertainment.

Please come along and support this event and enjoy a nostalgic trip to bygone days.

ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE

BY CLLR JEREMY BEESLEY

There was a great turn out for this year's Allotment Holders Conference, with some good topics well discussed and presentations were made to the competition winners.

Considerable discussion took place on the availability of plots, their maintenance and size. We also talked about reducing the size of some plots or splitting some plots into smaller units to encourage newcomers and beginners. If you are interested in an allotment please contact

Uckfield Town Council at 01825 762774 or email allotments@uckfieldtc.gov.uk.

ALLOTMENT COMPETITION WINNERS 2018



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Allotment winners were presented with their prizes on the night by Uckfield Mayor Cllr Spike Mayhew.
Left to right: Mrs Berry, Cllr Spike Mayhew, Joshua Grzelak, Mr Manning, Mr Powell, Mrs Turner

This year the allotment competition was judged by Staverton's Nursery, Halland who generously provided the prizes. The judges were impressed with the standard of work and the quality and variety of produce that was being grown across all five sites in Uckfield.

Best Kept Allotments

Bell Lane – Mr Powell
Bird-in-Eye – Mrs Turner
Framfield Road – Mr Manning
Ridgewood – Mrs Murray
West Park – Mr Dawkins

Overall Winner

The judges had no hesitation in

deciding the overall winner in this category was Mr Manning whose name will be added to the plaque held at the Civic Centre

Most Creative Allotment

A new category this year was the Most Creative Allotment and the winner was unanimously judged to be Mrs Berry.

Tallest Sunflower

The children's competition to grow the tallest sunflower was won by Joshua Grzelak, who got his seeds in very early in the spring and grew a sunflower 2.95m tall.

Well done Joshua!

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

On 12 September, the Finance Sub-Committee met to consider the 24 applications received for the 2019/2020 community grants programme. The Town Council had already set aside a budget of £44,500 for the programme, to award local community and voluntary organisations.

It's never an easy task as the number of applications grows each year, making the decision for members a difficult one. The meeting went well and applicants' presentations provided an interesting evening; highlighting the excellent work and dedication that local groups have for their town and residents. General Purposes Committee has the job of reviewing the recommendations of the committee in October, before successful grant applicants will be informed of the final decision.

Strategic Plan 2018-2023

Environment and Leisure Committee saw members consider potential initiatives for the next financial year and beyond, as they discussed the Town Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2023 and how future funding should be spent in relation to culture, sports and leisure, and green spaces. Early ideas put forward included considering the cost of upgrading Luxford Field Play Area, contributing towards grass verge cutting, looking into improving signage within the town, exploring blue heritage plaques, and setting aside a budget to assist with becoming single-use plastic free.

Office staff would now be tasked with exploring these options and the costs associated with these ideas ready for the initial budget setting discussions in the coming weeks.



You can download a copy of our Strategic Plan 2018-2023 from our website: www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library. If you wish to ask a question at a meeting, on items on the agenda, it is advisable to submit your question beforehand to allow a full response to be given at the meeting.

1 OCTOBER	– GENERAL PURPOSES
8 OCTOBER	– PLANS
15 OCTOBER	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
22 OCTOBER	– FULL COUNCIL
29 OCTOBER	– PLANS
5 NOVEMBER	– GENERAL PURPOSES
12 NOVEMBER	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
19 NOVEMBER	– PLANS

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk. Please email: admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Remembrance
- Grants Award
- Calendar Competition

