



TWINNING ASSOCIATION

2014 sees the 25th anniversary of Tenterden's twinning with Avallon, a beautiful town in France's Burgundy region.

The Tenterden & District Twinning Association organises a programme of events throughout the year, as well as annual exchanges between representatives of each town.

If you would be interested in learning more about the Twinning Association, or in signing up for biannual visits to Avallon, please contact Jean Anderson, the Association's Secretary, on phone number **01580 7 6 3 4 5 9** or by email at

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter as a PDF each quarter, please email a request to us at newslettersubscribe@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk.

If you know of an area that has not been covered by our hand delivery service, please let us know using the contact details below, and we will attempt to get the newsletter delivered using other means.

As always we welcome your feedback on the newsletter, so if you wish to share your thoughts please get in touch.

HOW TO CONTACT TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Hall is open between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday. You can telephone **01580 762271**, email townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk or visit our website www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk. Councillors' own direct numbers and email addresses are listed below.

Phil Carley (North)	33 Wealden Avenue. TN30 6NN	01580 764367	bcarley@btinternet.com
Mike Carter (South)	Caxton Cottage, 12 West Cross, TN30 6JH	01580 388706	pippa60@talktalk.net
Paul Clokie (West)	The Briars, High Street. TN30 7JB	01580 763124	paul.clok1@btopenworld.com
Jenny Crickmore-Porter (South)	Quill House, High Street. TN30 6HT	01580 765630	jcp@btinternet.com
Henry Edwards (North)	Eastwell Farmhouse, East Cross. TN30 6AD	01580 763428	townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Sue Ferguson (South)	2 St. Benets Court. TN30 6QS	01580 765546	mail@sueferguson.co.uk
Roger Finnis (South)	2 Ashenden Bungalows, Smallhythe Road. TN30 7NF	01580 763649	finnis2@btinternet.com
Emma Hannett (St. Michaels)	Sylvania, Shoreham Lane, St. Michaels. TN30 6EG	01580 764843	ehannett@hotmail.co.uk
Harry Hickmott (St. Michaels)	High Force, Grange Road, St. Michaels. TN30 6EE	01580 766496	m.hickmott11@btinternet.com
Barbara Misselbrook (St. Michaels)	21 Grange Crescent, St. Michaels. TN30 6DY	01580 766606	townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Justin Nelson (North)	66 Rogersmead. TN30 6LF	01580 765313	justin@nelsonlegal.co.uk
Mike Pearson (South)	155 High Street. TN306JS	01580 764413	mikepearson03@yahoo.com
Pam Smith (St. Michaels)	The Old Malthouse, Swain Road. TN30 6PS	01580 765081	cldr.smith.tenterden@hotmail.co.uk
Alan Sugden (St. Michaels)	60 Rogersmead. TN30 6LF	01580 765581	alan@aejf-sugden.co.uk
Robin Wade (North)	Birds Isle, Grange Road, St. Michaels. TN30 6TL	01580 762169	rw@rwla.com
Janette Wilson (West)	6 Gybbons Road, Rolvenden, Kent. TN17 4LL	01580 241170	jbonella@hotmail.co.uk
Deputy Town Clerk: Angela Patrick Admin Assistant: Robert Parham Site Manager: Andrew Clifton Maintenance Worker: David Bourner			
	Town Hall, 24 High Street, Tenterden, Kent. TN30 6AN	01580 762271	townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk

POLICE CONTACT POINTS

Kent Police will have a contact point located in the car park of Tesco between noon and 1pm on Sunday 2nd March, Sunday 16th March and Sunday 30th March. Residents are invited to raise any policing issues with a neighbourhood officer, to get expert crime prevention advice and to have a say on policing in Kent.



TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Hester Deackes tendered her resignation as Town Clerk in November 2013, and served her last day in January. A modest reception was held on her last day to bid her farewell and to thank her for her many contributions to life in the town. Mrs. Deackes came to the us in 2006, and is now the longest serving Clerk in the Town Council's history. Mr. Phil Burgess was selected from a number of outstanding applicants to be Mrs. Deackes' replacement, and will start work at the Town Hall on Tuesday 1st April 2014. Mr. Burgess is highly experienced, moving to Tenterden from Clipstone Parish Council in Nottinghamshire.



TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2014



DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

3rd March	Town Council & Committee meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm
17th March	Committee meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm
31st March	Committee Meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm
14th April	Annual Town Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm
28th April	Town Council and Committee Meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm
20th April - 3rd May	Tenterden Operatic & Dramatic Society, Oh What a Lovely War, Town Hall, 7.30pm
12th May	Annual Council Meeting, including Mayor Making, Town Hall, 7.00pm
27th May	Committee Meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm
9th June	Committee Meetings, Town Hall, 7.00pm

WEEKLY FITNESS CLASSES AT THE TOWN HALL.
 Mondays - Pilates - Call Liz (01580 292882)
 Tuesdays - Yoga - Call Maureen (01233 861362)
 Wednesdays - Pilates - Call Liz (01580 292882)
 Wednesdays - Chi Ball/Keep Fit - Call Ally (07709 052808)
 Thursdays - Pilates - Call Annie (01424 220561)
 Fridays - Chi Ball/Keep Fit - Call Ally (07709 052808)

If you wish to hold a class at the Town Hall, please contact the Town Clerk's office.

EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

The Town Clerk's office (located in the Town Hall) is now open from 9am until 5pm from Monday through to Friday. Members of the public are always very welcome to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Town Council by visiting us in the office. Outside these opening hours you may contact us by telephone on **01580 762271**, or by email using the address townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Annual Town Meeting will be held in the Assembly Room at the Town Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 14th April 2014, and all members of the community is invited to attend. It will follow the format trialed last year; reports from the Town Council and local organisations, followed by questions from the public. Please submit questions in advance to the office, so that the speaker may give an informed answer. Representatives of organizations wishing to give a report (either orally or to be distributed to attendees on paper) should contact the office for details. The minutes of the 2013 meeting can be found at www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk/agendasandminutes.html, or you can drop in to the Town Clerk's office for a paper copy.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Councillor Robin Wade.
 The Town Council is currently involved in a number of projects which I believe will be of great benefit to the town, some of which (such as the Tent 1 development and proposed improvements to Ivy Court Surgery) are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. One of the projects with which we have been engaged (in partnership with Ashford Borough Council, Tenterden Leisure Centre Trust and Kent County Council) is the Sports, Leisure and Community Facilities Review. This has been carried out by qualified consultants, and has highlighted a need for greater provision of sporting facilities, particularly in the areas of football, tennis and cricket. The next stage of the review will identify how this provision may be delivered. This project is of huge importance, and will ensure that the sporting needs of Tenterden's residents are suitably catered for in the decades to come. We have been working very closely with ABC and our Chamber of Commerce to deliver free parking for tourist coaches in the Station Road coach park. This scheme will take effect in April, and will ensure that tourism (which is very important to our town's economy) is not deterred by high parking costs and the threat posed by traffic wardens!

We have appointed surveyors to assess a number of our public buildings to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Some of the improvements that have been suggested would generate new revenue streams, and we hope that income generated by our public buildings in the future will help us to reduce our local tax demand on you, called the Precept, while we continue to provide efficient services to our residents and visitors.

TENT 1 DEVELOPMENT - LATEST NEWS

A public exhibition of the Master Plan for the Tent 1 Development was on show at the Town Hall on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th November 2013, with members of the Master Planning team on hand to take note of comments from members of the public. The team have taken this feedback away and are using it to put the finishing touches to the plan.

If you weren't able to make it to the exhibition, the material is still on display in the Town Hall on the board adjacent to the Town Clerk's office. It is anticipated that the full planning application will be submitted in March, and will be open to public consultation; check www.ashford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control to see the plans and submit comments. The plans will also be on show at the Tenterden Gateway (2 Manor Row, High Street), and comments may also be submitted by post to the **Planning Department, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL.**



Artist's impressions giving a feel of the proposed design of some of the homes in Tent 1 were included in the exhibition material.

IVY COURT SURGERY

Ivy Court, the doctors' surgery on Recreation Ground Road, is responsible for the care of some 14,500 patients, and is in great need of expansion. The surgery has been in intermittent talks with the various owners of the adjacent East Cross Clinic since 1995, with the hope that the land occupied by the clinic could be used to expand the existing surgery. This plan would include the addition of a 24 hour minor injuries unit.

With the recent broadening of the Sustainable Communities Act (*see right*), it is now possible for the Town Council to approach the Secretary of State with any proposal that will directly benefit the local community, and progressing this project would seem to fit the criteria. Successful projects would then see implementation from Central Government.

In order to take this forward, the Town Council has submitted an application, and is currently waiting to find out whether it has been successful.

You can read the full details of the proposal regarding the surgery's future on the News page of our website (www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk/news.html), and we would still welcome your feedback by email at townclerk@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk, or by post to the Town Hall.



HIGHWAYS & AMENITIES IMPROVEMENTS

Over recent months the Town Council has continued its schedule of improvements around the town.



The litter bin outside Waterstone's book shop (which was frequently knocked over by vehicles mounting the kerb) has been replaced with a sturdier model, which will hopefully be more resistant to HGVs!

The ancient milestone on the High Street, which was removed in 2006 after it too was hit by a vehicle and finally reinstated in 2010, has received some tender loving care, its lettering picked out in black paint as it was in days gone by.

A new bench has been installed at East Cross Garden in memory of Dr. Terry Flanagan OBE, who was very involved in the campaign to have the town sign, bearing the Arms of Tenterden, placed in the garden at the entrance to the town centre.

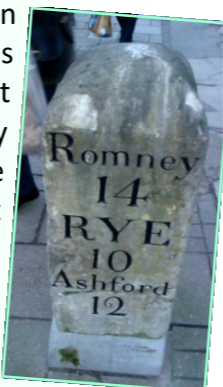
A new fence has been erected at the western boundary of St. Michaels Recreation Ground, to discourage the fouling of this community resource by stray animals.



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 has been opened up to Town and Parish Councils, allowing local communities greater powers to act on matters relating to sustainability, such as measures to promote local shops and services, local jobs and local businesses, to reduce social exclusion and increase active citizenship, as well to improve the local environment.

Proposals from the community relating to this field should be brought to the attention of the Town Council, which can then resolve to formally submit them to the Department for Communities and Local Government, which has the final say over whether the proposal will be taken forward.



APPLYING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

For affordable rented homes, you need to apply to join Ashford Borough Council's housing register via the online form at www.kenthomechoice.org.uk, or call ABC on **01233 331111**. ABC can only allocate a property to an individual that is on the register. You should apply to go onto the register straight away so that your application can be considered in advance of a scheme becoming available—if you wait until the last minute you may miss out.

Any applicant with a connection to Ashford and a housing need may apply to join the register, however in terms of a local connection scheme, priority will be given to those with a connection to Tenterden (usually current or previous residence, employment or some other significant reason). The full criteria are outlined in ABC's lettings policy, which can be read at www.ashford.gov.uk/housing.

Rents vary, but a new build affordable home is allocated as an Affordable Rent, which means that the monthly rental amount will be up to 80% of market rents in relation to the area that the property is sited.

New tenancies for affordable homes would normally be issued for a fixed term of five years before being reviewed. Applicants that are already tenants of a social landlord will retain lifetime tenancy if they transfer to a new home.

Shared ownership housing (part buy part rent) is marketed under the Help to Buy scheme, and more information on this scheme can be found at www.helptobuy.net/help-to-buy-options, or by phone on **0845 3596161**.

Residents should note that a Housing Association has not yet been selected for the Tent 1 development, and as such it is not possible to give figures for rents or the value of shared ownership homes.

HONORARY FREEMAN

On 4th November 2013 the Town Council conferred the title of Honorary Freeman of the Town and Hundred of Tenterden upon Mr. Roger Champion, at a ceremony attended by a crowd of over 100 members of the public. This title is a reflection of the high esteem in which Mr. Champion is held by the community, and the Town Council in particular.

Mr. Champion offered his thanks in an emotional speech, and stated that he felt there to be many members of the public equally deserving of the



COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Tenterden needs Community First Responders!

CFRs are volunteer members of the community who are trained to respond to emergency 999 calls in conjunction with the South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB). Volunteers must be aged eighteen or over, have access to a car and be able to immediately attend emergency calls from their home or workplace. When a CFR is on call they continue with their normal activities until a call is received. They attend if possible, or reject the call if it is deemed inappropriate.

CFRs are not a substitute for ambulance crews, but because they are based in the community they would usually be first on the scene. The CFR will begin lifesaving first aid before the arrival of an ambulance, greatly increasing the patient's chance of survival.

Each day, approximately 170 people in the UK suffer a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, and defibrillation within the first few minutes can save up to 75% of patients. SECAMB aims to respond to life threatening emergency calls within 8 minutes, and it performs well, but recognises that some locations can be difficult to reach. Even a great increase in ambulance resources would not be sufficient to deliver the necessary response speed to get to some patients in time, making the role of a CFR vital.

For information, or to register interest, contact the Volunteer Development Coordinator for Kent either by e-mail at Kent.CFR@secamb.nhs.uk or by

COUNCILLOR PROFILE

Paul Clokie

I gained an interest in Local government in Leeds, from being elected to the City Council in 1969. My firm moved me to the south, and I chose to move to Surbiton in Surrey in 1971. I was elected onto the Council of the Royal Borough of Kingston on Thames in 1978, and served on the Council until 1998.

My main interests have been Planning, Finance and Education. Becoming Leader of the Unitary London Borough from 1990 to 1994. My wife and I decided to buy a weekend house in Tenterden in 1994 to which we intended to retire, which we did in 1998. However on the Death of Hugh Blake in 1997 I was elected in a by-election in December 1997 to Ashford Borough Council. I became leader of ABC in 1999, and stepped down in May 2010.

As a result of my experience as Leader of ABC I hope to be able to build on the improvement in the relationship between ABC and Tenterden Town Council, to the ultimate greater benefit of Tenterden. With my local government experience of master planning in Ashford, and finance and budgeting in two Councils, I would hope to bring a constructive and possibly new outlook to the challenges which currently face Tenterden.

