

Contact your Councillor

Email your councillor at:
initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk

Ashplats	
Jacqueline Beckford	07727 601830
Liz Bennett	01342 301007
Danny Favor	01342 410244
Tony Scott	01342 325045
Baldwins	
Margaret Belsey	01342 321574
Nick Hodges	01342 300113
Norman Webster	01342 317806
Imberhorne	
Heidi Brunsdon	07889 837362
Bob Mainstone	01342 326454
Frank Osborne	01342 322646
Rex Whittaker	01342 302515
Town	
Vacant	
Adam Reeves	01342 887635
Peter Wyan	01342 313985
Herontye	
John O'Brien	01342 321883
John Saull	01342 822712
Dick Sweatman	01342 322743
Worsted	
Garry Sillitoe	07771 892113

New grit bins

THERE will be seven new grit bins around the town this winter, including three on the Gardenwood Road, bringing the total to 72. Labels explaining the correct method of applying salt have been fixed to all of them to encourage the effective use of supplies.

Election for Town North

THERE will be an election in the Town North Ward on Thursday 13 February to fill a casual vacancy. Polling cards will be issued to ward residents by Mid Sussex District Council in advance of polling day.

Fairtrade - for a better world

EAST Grinstead has been a Fairtrade town since 2005, when the Town Council passed a resolution supporting its work in ensuring just prices, decent working conditions and local sustainability for farmers and producers in the developing world. During Fairtrade Fortnight, which runs from 24 February until the 9 March, the town's schools, churches and community groups will be promoting their work and selling a wide range of fairly traded goods including tea, coffee, chocolate, wine and spices as well as fresh produce including flowers and bananas. To find out more, organise a speaker or arrange for a sale of goods, contact Susan Joy on 01342 315440 or email SusanJoy471@hotmail.com

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings in the East Court Council Chamber are open to the public and start at 7pm with a maximum of 30 minutes for public questions before Council meetings, and 15 minutes before Committee meetings.

*Charities committee meets at Chequer Mead

6 January	Council
7 January	Planning
23 January	Consecutive standing committees for budget
27 January	Planning
3 February	Council (Budget and Precept)
17 February	Planning
6 March	Public Services
10 March	Planning
13 March	Amenities and Tourism
17 March	Charities*
20 March	Finance and General Purposes
31 March	Planning

CONTACT THE COUNCIL

Visit: East Court Mansion, College Lane, East Grinstead, RH19 3LT
Call: 01342 323636
Click: www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk

Contacts

East Grinstead Town Council	01342 323636
West Sussex CC Area Highways	01243 642105
East Grinstead Learning Centre	01342 321874
Citizens Advice Bureau	01342 321638
West Street Library and Help Point	01342 332900
Queen Victoria Hospital	01342 414000
Affinity Sutton	0845 6887717
King's Centre	01342 328616
Police Station, East Court	101
Mid Sussex District Council	01444 458166
East Grinstead Tourism Desk	01342 410121
Samaritans	0845 7909090
Chequer Mead	01342 302000
Museum	01342 302233
EG CVS & Volunteer Centre	01342 328080
Wallis Centre (Youth Centre)	01342 321585
(answerphone)	

FIND help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council at the Help Point in the library. The Help Point is open Monday 9.30am – 7pm, Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am – 6pm, Friday/Saturday 9.30am – 5pm.



Neighbourhood Plan

Contents

- News from East Grinstead
- Community Offers
- What's on
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The Consultation for the Draft Neighbourhood Plan which took place during late summer received over 1000 responses. Many had comments on just one or two areas, others were pro forma responses issued by local groups, but all have been read and catalogued, and the Town Council is now considering how the comments and suggestions will be addressed as the Plan goes forward. The quality of responses has been good and provided the working group with much food for thought. It is important to stress that anyone completing pro formas or responding to literature put through their door by any person other than the Town Council, should ensure they have also read the official Plan.

In some cases interpretations are not fully relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan but are simply the views of the paper's author. It is important that everyone reads the official document before making up their minds about its contents. That said, the response from townspeople throughout the consultation process has allowed the Council to understand what is important to residents and we are grateful to everyone who took the time to take part in the process. A slight delay in the Sustainability Appraisal, caused by changing advice and emerging guidance, has meant that the Scoping Document only went out for consultation in December and the Draft Plan cannot be finalised until this completes its passing.

It is expected that the Plan will be finalised in March and pass through the April Town Council meeting. If it is necessary to re-consult on part of the Plan this will happen thereafter. If the amendments are not judged significant enough to require re-consultation, the Plan will be submitted to the District Council for the next stage. From this position, the earliest a referendum would take place is in the summer of 2014.



Volunteering is good for you

WANT to find a different way to use your skills, or learn some new ones, meet new people and make someone's life better? Volunteering to help an organisation that couldn't survive without people like you is a satisfying way to use your time and talents, it's good for your health, and it looks great on your CV. The East Grinstead Volunteer Centre brings together volunteers and the community groups who need them. Even a few hours a month can make all the difference, and there's always a wide variety of opportunities on offer. To find out more contact Sasha or Mandy at East Court, email sasha@egcv.org.uk or mandy@egcv.org.uk, or call 01342 328080.

Make a date...

SPRING Sunday Bus Running Day - 13 April from 9.30am to 4pm. There will be a special Sunday opening of the High Street shops to coincide with the annual Bus Running Day on 13 April. A hugely popular event for both families and enthusiasts, the day offers an opportunity to ride restored vintage buses around the town and surrounding villages along the bus routes of yesteryear. **THE town museum** in Cantelupe Road will be putting on a centenary exhibition about how WW1 affected the people of East Grinstead. The exhibition will open on 23 July. **A Cottage Hospital Grows Up** - the story of East Grinstead's Cottage Hospitals - is open until 9 February.

Upcoming Events

Hogmanay

Inspired by Hogmanay?

Then join the Scottish Country Dance Society to brush up your technique for next year. Meetings at 8pm at Sackville School from 8pm to 10pm. Contact Linda on 300843 for more details

Farmers Market

High Street

Fresh meat, fish, cheese and vegetables from local producers every Thursday morning

Magic

Magician Paul Daniels

will be at Chequer Mead on 24 January for the First Farewell Tour from Legend to Leg End

Rock And Roll

Superstar Marty Wilde

will make his East Grinstead debut at Chequer Mead on 30 January

X Factor winner

Joe McElderry

will be Live and Unplugged at the town theatre on 12 March
For more information on any of these shows contact the theatre box office on 01342 302000

Sunday concerts in the Park

THE Town Council intends to host concerts in the park again next summer, on four Sundays, yet to be finalized, between June and August.

Volunteers are needed to publicise the concerts and to man the events. Anyone who would like to help these popular family days go with a swing should contact Dawn Spalding by email at d.spalding@eastgrinstead.gov.uk; or drop in and see her on the tourist desk at the library. Volunteers need not offer to cover all four events.



Three towns, three days one great challenge...

ONE of the most popular sporting events in Mid Sussex will be back over the May Bank holiday weekend.

The three-part, three towns Marathon will comprise a ten-mile run in East Grinstead on Saturday 3 May, a second ten miles in Haywards Heath on 4 May and a final 10 kms at Burgess Hill on 5 May, to make up the traditional Marathon distance.

Runners can run one or all of the races which will be largely off-road, on countryside routes. Enter online at nice-work.org.uk or fill in an entry form at www.midsussexmarathonweekend.co.uk

Entries may be also accepted on the day but this is subject to the race limit not having been reached.

* Volunteers who would like to help steward the event should contact Dawn Spalding at the tourist information desk in the library on 01342 410121.

Avenue Verte creates business for town traders

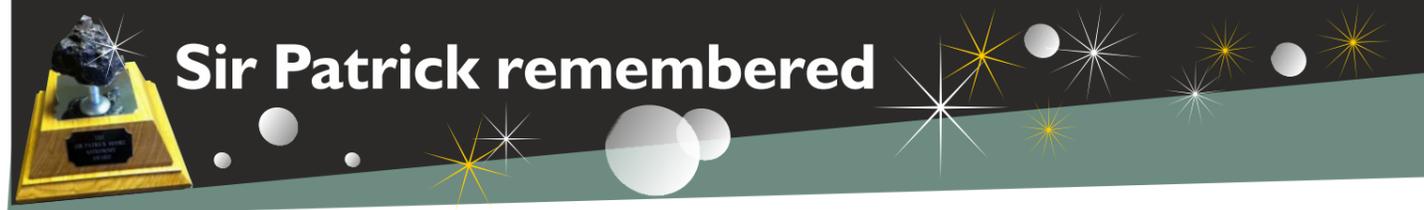
TOUR operators Girolibero have chosen East Grinstead as an overnight stop on the new London to Paris Avenue Verte bike route between the two capital cities.

Described as a 'cyclist's dream' the new cycle route which was inaugurated last year for the 2012 Olympics will bring new opportunities for campsites, hotels and bed-and-

breakfast operators in the town between May and September each year, said promotions officer Simon Kerr.

"I think London to Paris via East Grinstead has a certain ring about it," he laughed, "and as the Avenue Verte becomes more popular it will be a welcome boost for the town's traders."

THE fifth in the popular antique series Secret Dealers will be filmed in West Sussex – see poster for details of how to apply to take part.



Sir Patrick remembered

THE first Sir Patrick Moore Astronomy Award at Sackville school has been won by Cameron Gray.

Following the awards ceremony, a bench was unveiled which will be placed in front of the school's observatory dedicating the building To the inspiration of Sir Patrick Moore, East Grinstead Stargazer.

Sackville's observatory was completed in 2012, shortly before Sir Patrick's death, after which the Town Council approached the school to ask if they might like to dedicate it to the former resident's memory.

The school had the idea for an annual award to recognise a student who makes the biggest contribution to Astronomy, not just one who gains the top grade. The Town Council readily offered to pay for the award and to make an annual prize of a voucher to the Telescope Shop in Lingfield.

Town Clerk Julie Holden said: "I hope that this would have been thought of as fitting by Sir Patrick, and will be an encouragement for the next generation to share his passion for studying the stars."



WHITEHALL Properties, the developers of the old Parish Halls site, have submitted an artist's impression of their proposals as part of the planning process. Their scheme includes three town houses and five flats with gardens at the back and some car parking spaces. A decision is expected in the New Year.

Keep up the pressure

THE Bluebell Railway has launched a new Keep Up the Pressure campaign to raise £400,000 to increase its passenger capacity.

The opening of the East Grinstead extension has greatly increased visitor numbers to the historic steam railway, necessitating longer trains which need bigger locomotives to pull them. Additional revenue has already paid for the overhaul of 73082 Camelot, but the new fundraiser will pay for two more big boilers to go for outside overhaul to bring them back into service.

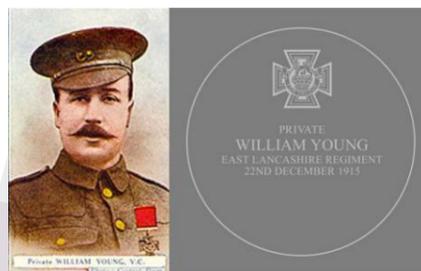
To make a £10 donation text "KUTP59 £10" to 70070 or donate online at www.justgiving.com/KUTP

McIndoe Fundraiser

THERE will be a special fundraiser for the McIndoe statue appeal on the Bluebell Railway on Saturday, 22 February, when the 1920s Golden Arrow Pullman dining steam train will depart from Sheffield Park station at 7pm.

After a drinks reception at the station, diners will board the train and enjoy a three-course Silver Service dinner served to the standards of a bygone age as they enjoy travelling through the Sussex countryside on one of the most famous and glamorous trains in the world.

To reserve a seat for this unique occasion in support of The McIndoe Memorial Appeal email Julia Pique at julia.pique@bluebell-railway.co.uk or phone 01825 720800. Dress code – black tie.



Private Godley honoured

THE Government has unveiled the winning design for a memorial slab which will be installed in the birthplaces of all those who won a VC in WWI. The slabs are part of the centenary commemorations to mark the 100th anniversary of the 1914-18 war.

One of the first memorials to be installed will honour Private Sidney Godley, who was the first private soldier to be accorded

the honour. He won his VC on 23 August 1914 for continuing to defend a bridge, while seriously wounded, so that his companions could escape. He was subsequently captured, but survived the war.

Pictured is the sample design which recalls the bravery of Private William Young. Private Young was gravely wounded while rescuing a colleague, and eventually died of his wounds.