

## Contact Your Councillor

Email your councillor at  
[initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

### Ashplats North

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### Baldwins

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### East Grinstead South

John Belsey

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### Herontye & Ashplats South

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### Imberhorne

Ian Gibson  
Stephen Ody  
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### Town North

Lee Gibbs

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### Town South

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Stephanie Reeves  
Tony Scott

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## COUNCIL MEETINGS

1st June	Public Services
8th June	Amenities & Tourism
12th June	Planning
15th June	Finance & General Purposes
15th June	Special Council
3rd July	Council
5th July	Planning
24th July	Planning
14th August	Planning
4th September	Planning
7th September	Public Services
14th September	Amenities & Tourism
21st September	Finance & General Purposes
25th September	Planning
2nd October	Council
16th October	Planning
6th November	Planning
27th November	Planning
30th November	Public Services
7th December	Amenities & Tourism
14th December	Finance & General purposes
18th December	Planning

#### NOTES:

- 1) All full Committee and Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber at East Court Mansion or virtually and are open to the public. Meetings commence at 7pm.
- 2) Council meetings provide a maximum period of 30 minutes for public questions commencing at 7pm
- 3) Committee meetings provide a maximum period of 15 minutes for public questions commencing at 7pm.

## Fairtrade

East Grinstead has been a Fairtrade town since 2004 and has the support of East Grinstead Town Council. Further information from Susan Joy: tel: **01342 835190** Email: **SusanJoy471@hotmail.com**



## East Grinstead Community Bonfire

Sussex has a long tradition of bonfires dating back over 400 years, and this year East Grinstead Community Bonfire will be staging our first free annual event. This will be a Torchlit Procession, Bonfire & Fireworks on Saturday 21st October 2023.

Roads will close in the centre of town around 5.45pm onwards. In preparation for a torchlit procession commencing at 7.30pm. This will go through the town ending up at East Court for a bonfire and fireworks display at 9.45pm.

If you would like to get involved contact us through our Facebook page or email us at [egcbonfire@gmail.com](mailto:egcbonfire@gmail.com). You can also come along to one of our monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of the month at The Crown East Grinstead from 7pm.

If you would like to assist us financially, please donate at <https://gofund.me/17727c3f>

## Useful Contacts

Age UK East Grinstead	01342 327046
Being Neighbourly	01342 544 044
Bluebell Railway	01825 720800
Chequer Mead	01342 302000
Citizens Advice	0808 278 7969
Clarion Housing	0300 500 8000
Community Transport Sussex	01444 471919
Disability Access – East Grinstead Area	01342 322242
East Grinstead Foodbank	07983 209940
East Grinstead Library	01342 332900
East Grinstead Museum	01342 302233
East Grinstead Tourism Desk at Library	01342 410121
East Grinstead Town Council	01342 323636
Kings Centre	01342 328616
Mid Sussex District Council	01444 458166
Mid Sussex Voluntary Action	01444 258102
Mid Sussex Wellbeing	01444 477191
National Dementia Helpline	0800 888 6678
National Rail enquiries	0345 127 2920
NHS (non emergency)	111
Police (non emergency)	101
Police Station, Chequer Mead	01273 470 101
Queen Victoria Hospital	01342 414000
Samaritans	116 123 (free)
The Hope Job Club	01342 488282
The Quarry Community Café & Fridge	0772 4873336
West Sussex CC Area Highways	01243 642105

## CONTACT THE COUNCIL

**Visit:** East Court Mansion, College Lane, East Grinstead RH19 3LT  
**Call:** 01342 323636  
**Click:** [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

Find help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council in the library or call **01342 332900**.

The library is open: Monday - Friday 9.30am – 6pm  
Saturday 9.30am – 5pm.

**THE SIGN COMPANY**  
sales@thesigncompany.org.uk  
01342 312896

# THE Line

WHERE EAST MEETS WEST  
ON THE MERIDIAN LINE

May 2023  
Edition 85



NEWS FROM  
EAST GRINSTEAD  
TOWN COUNCIL

## Introducing the new Town Mayor

**A**t the Annual Town Council meeting on the 15th of May, Councillor Frazer Visser was elected as the new East Grinstead Town Mayor.

Frazer was first elected in 2017, representing Imberhorne Ward. This year he was re-elected in his home ward of Baldwins. Since 2017, Frazer has held several roles, including Chairman of the Planning Committee, Deputy Mayor, and as one of the Town Council's representatives on the board of directors at Chequer Mead Theatre for 4 years.

Frazer has lived in East Grinstead his whole life, attending Chequer Mead, The Meads, and Sackville Schools. He ran his photography business for over 20 years on the High Street, so he has deep links to the local community and businesses in town. Recently, Frazer worked as a medical photographer at Queen Victoria Hospital, where he saw first-hand the amazing work that this world-leading hospital does. For that reason, he has selected the QVH Charity as his Mayoral Charity.



Cllr. Frazer Visser, Town Mayor



Cllr. Frazer Visser,  
Town Mayor and Cllr.  
Steve Ody, Deputy Mayor

## Thank You from Adam Peacock



**T**he outgoing Town Mayor, Cllr. Adam Peacock, would like to thank everyone he has met during his year in office for making the last twelve months so enjoyable and fulfilling and for the kind and generous support shown to his two chosen charities; Being Neighbourly and East Grinstead & District Lions.

Adam commented "It has been a great honour and privilege to represent the town. I can honestly say I have found the last 12 months thoroughly enjoyable, rewarding and humbling. I think I speak for everyone when I say it has been an extremely busy period for us all punctuated by historic and era defining events - we celebrated her Late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, mourned her sad passing, witnessed the proclamation of King Charles III and celebrated His Majesty's Coronation.

These unique events have demonstrated to me what a great community spirit we have in our town but it was not just these unique events to highlight this - whether it was meeting the many volunteers and charities we are blessed to have in East Grinstead, an invite to a resident's 100th birthday, the opening of a care home after refurbishment or a new business, attending a volunteer fair, a charity AGM, community event or street party, I found residents' collective spirit, sense of community, kindness and generosity truly inspirational.

In this background £14,100 was raised for Being Neighbourly and East Grinstead & District Lions. This will allow them to continue the many good works that both organisations undertake in our town.

Thank you once again for the honour of being Mayor."

**QVH**  
CHARITY

**Q**VH Charity is the dedicated charity for Queen Victoria Hospital, a specialist NHS hospital providing life-changing reconstructive surgery, burns care and rehabilitation services for people across the South of England. World-leading clinical teams also treat common conditions of the hands, eyes, skin and teeth for the people of East Grinstead and the surrounding area. They also provide a minor injuries unit, expert therapies, and a sleep service.

Since 1996, QVH Charity has provided funding for equipment and other improvements that are above and beyond what the NHS funds. This includes funding cutting edge medical equipment, providing loan iPads for patients in critical care to use whilst in hospital, and specialist beds for cancer patients that can make them more comfortable. Things that make a real difference to patients at a difficult time.

If you would like to speak to a member of our friendly fundraising team please email us [qvh.supportqvh@nhs.net](mailto:qvh.supportqvh@nhs.net), call **01342 414392** or to find out more visit [www.supportqvh.org](http://www.supportqvh.org)



# The Coronation of King Charles III

In Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am, the coronation ceremony began of King Charles III. The King became the 40<sup>th</sup> reigning monarch to be crowned since 1066. People across the country celebrated and East Grinstead was amongst them.

In the lead up to the coronation, the town was readied for the historic event, a commemorative bench was installed on the High Street, flower beds were planted, and bunting was flown. Letter boxes were given crowns and churches and community groups came together to celebrate.

On the day of the coronation a 'Monarchy through the Ages' parade led by the Town Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and a golden coach pulled by members of 1343 (East Grinstead) Sqn. RAF Air Cadets, Nautical Training Corps East Grinstead and Surrey Army Cadet Force were joined by around five hundred people from twenty community groups and schools marched from East Court through town to King George's Field and came together to watch the ceremony on a big screen and enjoy the free children's entertainment, kindly sponsored by Step by Step School.



Sunday was 'The Big Lunch' and was a day of street parties around town, including one organised by Being Neighbourly in partnership with East Grinstead Town Council. The High Street was closed to traffic and filled with tables of people enjoying the weather and the live music entertainment.



## Mid Sussex Voluntary Action



Mid Sussex Voluntary Action supports local community groups and volunteering across the Mid Sussex area. We are passionate about community and our mission is to develop, support, and promote charities and voluntary organisations for the benefit of all. We do this by giving advice, information and support plus we run events such as sector forums and networking events for community groups.

We have just launched a great new training programme including First Aid, funding workshops, safeguarding and volunteer management. We also share news, legislative changes and other useful knowledge and ideas through our E-bulletin.

We actively support and promote volunteering across the sector as we know this is at the heart of our local communities. If you are looking to volunteer, find your perfect role on our opportunities page [www.msva.org.uk/opportunities](http://www.msva.org.uk/opportunities) where groups can add their roles and look out for our next volunteering fair.

Sasha Brown looks after East Grinstead and surrounding area. Please contact her at [sasha.brown@msva.org.uk](mailto:sasha.brown@msva.org.uk) or 01444 258 102 or go to [www.msva.org.uk](http://www.msva.org.uk) for more information.

## Volunteering

On the final day of the coronation weekend, 'The Big Help Out' was a chance for people to get involved in volunteering. In town on the Monday morning, volunteers arrived to help in a litter pick.

There are many community groups in the town who are looking for volunteers, if you would like to get involved, further information is available at the Community and Tourism Desk in the library, visit us or email [communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) or 01342 410121.

East Court Live is a summer programme of free outdoor live music events on the terraces of East Court so join us for an afternoon of music and family fun.

There will be a pay bar, food stalls and free disabled and limited additional parking onsite.



## Town Events

For information on town events, contact our Community and Tourism Team on 01342 410 121, [communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) or go to [www.visiteastgrinstead.com](http://www.visiteastgrinstead.com)

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June

**East Court Live 1-5pm**  
Bands performing are Lauren V, The Boomers, Amber T and headliner Randy and the Rockets.

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June

**Armed Forces Day 11am-3pm**  
East Court

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

**East Court Live 1-5pm**  
Bands performing are Jenny Green with the East Grinstead Jazz Club House Band, Raul d'Oliveira, Ceroc East Grinstead and headliner Shireen Francis Small Island Project.

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service** of the Whitehall Cinema Bombing, East Court

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August

**East Court Live 1-5pm**  
Bands performing are Time to Rock, Vermillion, Small Talk and headliner Two Weeks in Nashville.

### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October

**East Grinstead Community Bonfire**  
Torchlit Procession through town and Bonfire & Fireworks at East Court

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November

**Remembrance Day Service and Parade**  
London Road/High Street

## South East Water gives additional support

south east water

For the second year running South East Water is partnering with East Grinstead Town Council and will be out and about in the area talking about the schemes on offer which can save money and water.

The company, which supplies your clean drinking water, has also invested £850,000 over the past year in upgrading the town's water supply pipes, with Queen's Road finishing ahead of schedule opening the road two months earlier than expected.

In addition, 21 charities and community organisations across the town have shared a £100,000 donation from South East Water including the East Grinstead Food Bank, Age UK East Grinstead and District and Jigsaw (South East Bereavement Charity) Tanya Sephton, Customer Services Director, South East Water, said: "Saving money is now crucial for a large number of our customers so that's why this partnership with East Grinstead Town Council is even more important as we enter into its second year."

As part of this continued relationship, South East Water will be out and about in the town and working with local charities and support groups, giving advice on financial support tariffs for people struggling to pay water bills and how to save water and lower energy bills. If you need help with paying your water bills get in touch by ringing 0800 952 4000.

The team will be at East Court Live again this year, ready to talk about all things water. It will also be at regular High Street events to support those most needing the extra help.

"On the website we have a number of free water saving devices including regulated shower heads and water saving gels for garden plants. There are also Leaky Loo detection strips which could save up to 300 litres of water a day." The devices can be ordered at [southeastwater.co.uk/freedevices](http://southeastwater.co.uk/freedevices)

People can also check [southeastwater.co.uk/priority](http://southeastwater.co.uk/priority) to see if they are eligible for the Priority Services Register which offers additional support with water supply, managing water accounts and gives prior warning of any planned works.



## Carers Support West Sussex

for family and friend carers

While caring can be both wonderful and tough, the help and support carers give can present some trials and tribulations. Caring roles can often become a full-time job, leaving carers with little or no time for themselves.

Here at Carers Support West Sussex, we look to provide unpaid carers with information and guidance along with practical and emotional support, so they feel valued and supported. We want to help solve financial concerns or alleviate the often-felt feelings of isolation and loneliness.

If you are or know a carer whether it be as a parent looking after a child with disabilities or someone supporting a loved one with a long-term condition, dementia, or a mental health issue then we are here for you all.

In East Grinstead we are working to develop our offer to local carers by working closely with partner organisations and are now running a carer group at Glen Vue in Railway Approach. This runs once a month on the first Tuesday from 10.30-12.00 in the Sackville room where we provide a warm welcome, a cup of tea or coffee and perhaps a biscuit or two, but most importantly somewhere where carers can share their experiences with each other and receive support.

Contact us today to find out how we can help you.  
[www.carerssupport.org.uk](http://www.carerssupport.org.uk) | 0300 028 8888 [info@carerssupport.org.uk](mailto:info@carerssupport.org.uk)