

East Grinstead Civic news Town Council

May 2010

Edition 49



Council award for businesses

BULLFROG Music, Eclect and Trek Diagnostics are the first three town businesses to be granted 'Local Champion' status by the Town Council's Business Support Group.

At the presentation of certificates by the mayor, Cllr Bob Mainstone said the innovative scheme has been designed to publicise and support the efforts and initiatives of East Grinstead's business community, to encourage residents to support local traders and to "promote the positive aspects of our town".

The ongoing award scheme will initially be used to recognise businesses which add to the quality of life in East Grinstead said Bob, but it may be extended to recognise excellence in other areas of town life in due course.

Members of the public can contact the Business Support Group to suggest the names of other businesses deserving of recognition via the Town Council's East Court offices.

Prudent budget prunes precept

THE Town Council's precept for 2010/2011 was approved at £687,000 in February, a 0.2% reduction for Council taxpayers set against the previous year. The budget comprises expenditure (both revenue and capital) of £936,362 and income of £245,390, with the residual £3,972 coming from balances.

Council leader James Baldwin said: "Councils must help in these difficult times by being more efficient and cutting costs. We've done that, and also increased the Council's income from better marketing of our wedding, hall hire and conference services. That's made a freeze in our Council Tax possible, and we intend to do the same next year."

Full details of the budget can be viewed on the Town Council's website.



**NEW Mayor
Stephen
Barnett**

CLLR Stephen Barnett and his wife Pauline have lived in Ashurst Wood since 1997. Stephen works in the electricity industry and they have two children, James, 22 and Sackville student Elizabeth, 16.

Elected to Mid Sussex in 1999, Stephen has been a member of East Grinstead Town Council since 2003.

"Once elected, councillors should represent all the residents in their area equally, no matter what their political views," said Stephen. "The honour of being elected Mayor extends that responsibility across the town, and I look forward to visiting as many groups of residents as possible in the coming year."

The new Deputy Mayor is Bob Mainstone.

*** Stephen's chosen charities for his year in office are the town museum and the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation.**



A portrait of Sir Archibald McIndoe by his mother, the artist Mabel Hill

Museum remembers McIndoe

THE town's museum is to be extended to house a permanent exhibition in memory of the pioneering plastic surgeon Sir Archie McIndoe, who died 50 years ago.

The £750,000 extension will house artifacts from the Queen Victoria hospital which relate to McIndoe's work on pilots badly-burned in WWII. Museum trustees are still considering designs for the extension which may be built on stilts above the existing car parking spaces.

Meanwhile the internationally important McIndoe archives will be fully documented and properly stored before being used for temporary exhibitions which will make the collection available to a wider public for the first time.

Tourism officer Simon Kerr said: "This is a wonderful tribute to McIndoe himself, and to the courage of his patients who are known around the world as members of The Guinea Pig Club. Preserving McIndoe's legacy will also promote East Grinstead as a tourist destination."

CHECK the Council website at www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk for regular news updates and details of Council meetings, agendas, minutes, and the town diary. You can also find email addresses for all your town councillors, and longer versions of some of the stories in this Civic News.

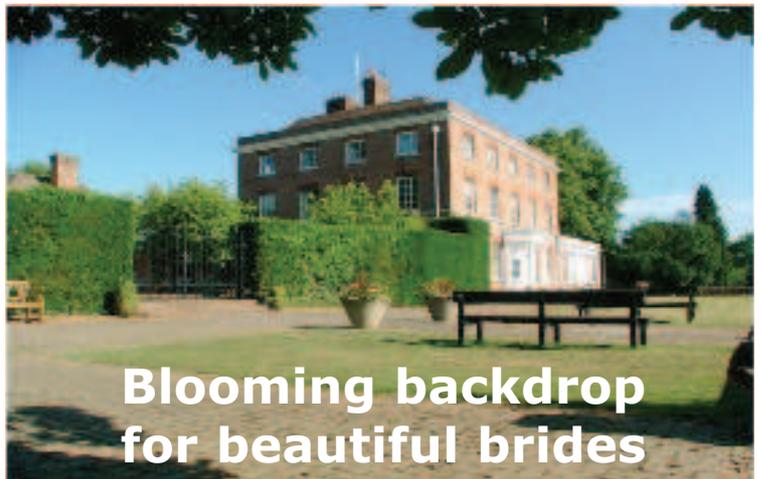
MAKE a date for the Midsummer Market on 24 July when a major section of London Road will be closed off for a host of stalls, fairground attractions and a return visit by the popular French Market traders. A day of family fun from 9am until 5.30pm.

Mount Noddy Cemetery

THE attractive new memorial wall at Mount Noddy cemetery gives the opportunity to commemorate loved ones, including people buried elsewhere.

The plaques cost £400 in perpetuity, and can be ordered from the Town Council's East Court offices.

*A new guide to Mount Noddy cemetery is available from the Town Council's East Court offices.



Blooming backdrop for beautiful brides

THE award of a prestigious Silver medal in the 2009 South and South East in Bloom competition is expected to make East Court more popular than ever as a wedding venue this summer.

Council spokesman Keith Astley said: "The combination of our well-tended gardens, the historic East Court Mansion and some of the best views in East Grinstead make a beautiful backdrop for wedding photos."

COUNCILLORS are pleased that Network Rail is investing over £2 million on the development of a new railway station for East Grinstead.

Although the new town station will be of contemporary design, all Stakeholders are accepting the Town Council's 'vision' for the Station environs. Councillor Paul Johnson said: "We have impressed upon both Network Rail and West Sussex County Council that we have the right to expect a station and facilities that match the needs of 1,350,000 annual users of the station at present and the increasing numbers expected to visit the town and Bluebell Railway in future."

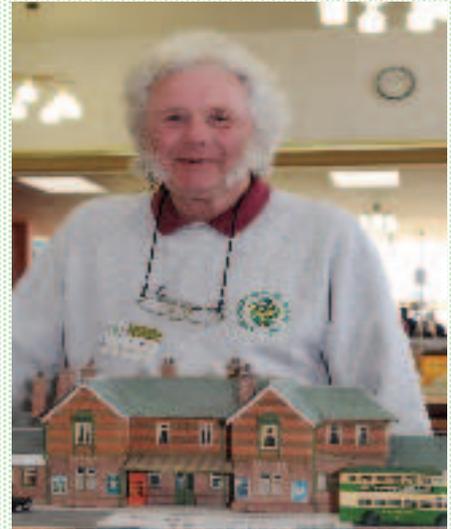
Kate is 'first baby'



MAYOR Lee Marmara made town history when he and his wife Emma became the first mayoral couple to both marry and become parents during their year in office.

They married shortly after Lee's election last May and their daughter Katherine Charlotte was born at the East Surrey hospital in March, weighing in at 8lbs 10oz.

In handing over his mayoral chain, Lee said the past 12 months had been a "truly wonderful time" he and Emma would never forget.



EAST Grinstead Railway Club celebrates its 70th anniversary this year.

Started by railway workers in 1940 it meets between 7.30pm and 10.30pm on Mondays and Thursdays in the basement at East Court Mansion.

New members are always welcome - contact Tony Stephens on 01342 328163 for details, or simply turn up at a meeting via the main door at East Court.

EAGLE-eyed town historian Michael Leppard has raised £74.35 for the museum by picking up coins he found in the street over the past year. He has given a total of £1,489.62 to the museum since starting his fund-raising in 1985.

Community Play salutes Guinea Pigs

THE East Grinstead Community Play is taking shape thanks to the volunteers who have been creating an oral history of the town and its surrounding villages,

The script is now in preparation and the story, set in the thirties and forties, will include the building of the Queen Victoria hospital, Sir Archibald McIndoe's work with burned airmen and the part townspeople took in their rehabilitation. A play-reading in July will be followed by casting, and anyone who wants a part will be guaranteed one. Volunteers will also be needed for off-stage roles. The play, by Claque Theatre, will be performed from 29 November to 11 December at Sackville school. Contact: www.claquetheatre.com

STAFF at Orchard Nursery are working hard on the 250 flower baskets which will be hung around the town this summer. Their bold silver, pink, and orange theme will be echoed in 20 half-baskets, 13 railing planters and tubs on the town's main roundabouts.



Cllrs Christine Mainstone and David Banks, chairman of the East Grinstead in Bloom committee, with Claire Hammond (left front) and Amelia Benwell of Orchard Nursery in the Holtye Road.

Travel tips

SOUTHERN is now running a revised weekday service to give a more regular pattern of roughly half-hourly intervals between departures for Victoria and London Bridge. Peak morning trains will leave for Victoria at 5.58, 6.37, 7.07, 7.37, 8.07 and 8.37am calling at all stations to East Croydon (plus South Croydon on the 8.07am as now) and then Clapham Junction. For London Bridge they will leave at 6.16, 6.49, 7.19, 7.49 and 8.19am, also calling at all stations to East Croydon. **METROBUS** has improved the 291 route with a Sunday and Public Holiday service hourly between Crawley and East Grinstead during shopping hours, with every other journey running through to Tunbridge Wells.

Council Diary

1 June	(T)	Planning
10 June	(Th)	Public Services
17 June	(Th)	Amenities & Tourism
17 June	(Th)	Charities
21 June	(M)	Planning
24 June	(Th)	Finance & General Purposes
24 June	(Th)	Special Council
5 July	(M)	Council
12 July	(M)	Planning
2 August	(M)	Planning
31 August	(T)	Planning
9 September	(Th)	Public Services
16 September	(Th)	Amenities & Tourism
16 September	(Th)	Charities
20 September	(M)	Planning
23 September	(Th)	Finance & General Purposes
4 October	(M)	Council
11 October	(M)	Planning
1 November	(M)	Planning
11 November	(Th)	Public Services
18 November	(Th)	Amenities & Tourism
22 November	(M)	Planning
25 November	(Th)	Finance & General Purposes
6 December	(M)	Council
9 December	(Th)	Charities
13 December	(M)	Planning

All full Committee and Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber at East Court Mansion and are open to the public. Meetings start at 7.45 pm with the exception of the June, September and March Charities Committee meetings which will begin immediately following the Amenities & Tourism Committee meetings on those evenings, and the Special Council meeting on 24 June to approve the annual accounts, which will be held immediately following F&GP Committee.

All Council meetings provide a maximum period of 30 minutes for public questions commencing at 7.45 pm.

All Committee meetings provide a maximum period of 15 minutes for public questions commencing at 7.45 pm.

Useful Telephone Numbers

East Grinstead Town Council 01342 323636
West Sussex County Council Area Highways

East Grinstead Learning Centre	01243 642105
Citizens' Advice Bureau	01342 321874
Library, West Street	01342 321638
Help Point at the Library	01342 410050
Queen Victoria Hospital	01342 300780
Downland Housing Association	01342 414000
Olympos Leisure Centre	0845 6887717
Police Station, East Court	01342 328616
Mid Sussex District Council	0845 6070999
East Grinstead Visitor Information	01444 458166
Samaritans	01342 410121
Chequer Mead	0845 7909090
Museum	01342 302000
EG CVS & Volunteer Centre	01342 302233
	01342 328080

Contact the Town Council at:

East Court Mansion, College Lane,
East Grinstead, RH19 3LT. 01342 323636

Or visit our website at

www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk

email: towncouncil@eastgrinstead.gov.uk

Need help with Council services?

FIND help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council at the Help Point in East Grinstead Library, West St.

Monday	9.30am - 7pm
Tuesday to Thursday	9.30am - 6pm
Friday/Saturday	9.30am - 5pm
Phone	01342 300780. Fax 01342 410262
email:	east.grinstead.help.point@westsussex.gov.uk

Contact your Councillor

Herontye

Stephen Barnett: 10 Woods Hill Close 326001
 [LD] PI, PS, A&T, F&GP Ashurst Wood RH19 3RJ

Ian Dixon Chevalhurst, Dunnings Road 317213
 [LD] PS, A&T East Grinstead RH19 4AD

Rob Musk Scandia, Hurst Farm Road 313310
 [LD] PI, A&T* F&GP East Grinstead, RH19 4BL

Town

James Baldwin Scarletts, Sandy Lane 321347
 [LD] A&T, F&GP* East Grinstead RH19 3LP

Jim Joyce-Nelson 1 Dexter Drive 314727
 [LD] PI, PS, F&GP East Grinstead RH19 4SU

Virginia Waddingham 11 Beckett Way 326627
 [LD] PI, PS, F&GP# East Grinstead RH19 4SF

Worsted

Margaret Collins, DL Bodinnick, Lewes Road 324296
 [LD] PS#, F&GP East Grinstead RH19 3UD

Baldwins

Bernard Gillbard 7 Meadowcroft Close 325184
 [LD] PS, F&GP East Grinstead RH19 1NA

Christine Mainstone Mallaig, Windmill Lane 326454
 [LD] PI, A&T# East Grinstead RH19 2DY

Lee Marmara Mill House, The Feld, 301265
 [LD] PS*, F&GP London Rd, East Grinstead
 RH19 2QL

Ashplats

Liz Bennett 39 Copse Close 301007
 [C] PS, A&T East Grinstead, RH19 3EF

Paul Johnson Kingsmere Cottage 311359
 [LD] PI*, PS, F&GP Stoneleigh Close
 East Grinstead RH19 3DY

Lee Quinn 07881530085
 [C] PI, A&T

Peter Reed 38 Fulmar Drive 311926
 [C] PI, F&GP East Grinstead, RH19 3NN

Imberhorne

David Banks 29 St Johns Road 312258
 [LD] PI, A&T, F&GP East Grinstead RH19 3LG

Heidi Brunson 83 Blount Avenue 327200
 [C] A&T, PS East Grinstead, RH19 1JN

Bob Mainstone Mallaig, Windmill Lane 326454
 [LD] PI, PS, A&T, F&GP East Grinstead RH19 2DY

Barry Starmer Kimberley, Pine Grove 300534
 [LD] PI #, A&T East Grinstead RH19 2BB

F&GP - Finance & General Purposes, A&T - Amenities & Tourism,
 PI - Planning, PS - Public Services,*Chairman, # Vice Chairman.

All phone numbers are 01342 and are Councillors' private numbers. C - Conservative. LD - Liberal Democrat



EAST COURT MANSION THE MERIDIAN HALL

A Spectacular Location For Weddings, Civil Ceremonies, Wedding Receptions & Family Gatherings

For further information please contact East Grinstead Town Council on 01342 323636