

MAYOR OF BROMLEY'S NEWSLETTER

SECOND EDITION



Dear Friend

Welcome to the second edition of the Mayor of Bromley's Newsletter.

We hope very much that you enjoy this issue in which we have detailed some of the Mayor's latest engagements in the Borough. We would like to thank you all for the feedback we received, please send us any suggestions and comments for our future editions.

Mayor leads the Borough in remembrance

Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday the Mayor and Mayoress attended a service of Memorial at Bromley Parish Church, which included a 2-minute silence and the sounding of 'The Last Post'. They were joined by Sir Bob Neill MP, the Deputy Lieutenant Colonel RW Murfin TD DL, the Chief Executive Ade Adetosoye OBE and other Borough dignitaries. Following the memorial service, the Civic party processed up to the War Memorial, stopping along the route to receive a salute from the March past. When the party arrived at the war memorial, the Mayor led the wreath-laying ceremony.

The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress attended the Act of Remembrance at Orpington War Memorial to observe the 2-minute silence. Wreaths were laid at the memorial before those taking part marched up to All Saints Church for a Memorial Service. The congregation then processed out of the graveyard and paused at the grave of Ivy Millichamp – the last person to die by enemy actions in these islands during the second world war. The party then moved on to lay wreaths at Canadian Corner to honour the many Canadian soldiers from the First World War who are buried there.



Armistice Day

The Mayor led the Borough in an act of remembrance with a short but moving service at Bromley War Memorial on Thursday 11th November.

The Deputy Mayor was in attendance and a wreath was laid to mark Armistice Day.



Mayoral Engagements

The Mayor was delighted to present certificates to the 2020/2021 Street Sweeper of the year recipient along with this year's nominees. The Mayor was honoured to be able to personally thank those who undertake this very hard and sometimes undervalued job.



On Thursday 21st October the Mayor visited Mrs. Elizabeth Piekarski at the Antokol Polish Care home in Chislehurst to celebrate her 100th Birthday.

As a child Mrs. Piekarski lived with her parents in Poland, and in 1939 experienced the Nazi occupation of Poland and subsequently the invasion of Russian military forces. In spite of all the horrendous experiences she endured, her mind is still active, being able to recount the horrors which both armies inflicted upon the people, her own family having been deported to Siberia.



Elizabeth has contributed to a book which gives a graphic account of her travails and the efforts of the Polish survivors who under General Anders, formed a new army

to oppose the Germans, with notable achievements in the Syrian and Italian campaigns. Elizabeth trained as a Red Cross nurse and was thus able to tend her wounded fellow countrymen.

Her account is of primary importance as a person who witnessed the effects of war and will last as a fitting reminder of the inhumanity man can inflict on his fellow beings.

On Saturday 9th October the Deputy Mayor attended a memorial concert for Celia and Ernest Yeo, supporters of the Bromley Festival of Music over many years, which was held in Bromley Parish Church.

The concert featured many young musicians playing a variety of instruments including brass, harp, piano, strings and woodwind. It also featured recitals of 'I Tried to Do My Homework' by Ken Nesbitt and 'Sea Fever' by John Masefield. Cllr Tony Owen handed out certificates to each performer and commented 'I was hugely impressed by the array of young talent who have entertained us so beautifully.'



The Mayor attended the Beckenham Firework Display on Saturday 6th November which was held at the Croydon Road Recreation Ground. The display was fantastic with around 5,000 people attending. Indeed, such was the public interest in the display that the surrounding roads became completely gridlocked.

This marvellous event was hosted and organised by the 5th Beckenham Scout Group in support of various local charities in Bromley and proved to be a truly family occasion.



On Thursday 18th November, the Deputy Mayor was pleased to visit an Information Pod that was set up to mark Self-care week in the Glades Shopping Centre. The Deputy Mayor helped to hand out plenty of the new Flow Flex SARS-CoV-1 Antigen Rapid Test kits which are used in the nose only. During his visit, he also recorded a short website message to be broadcast at a later time.

On Sunday 12th September the Deputy Mayor was delighted to support a charity fundraising event for Bromley Down Syndrome Support Group in the form of an Old Tyme Music Hall evening. This was jointly organised at the Churchill Theatre by the Rotary Club of Park Langley and West Wickham Operatic Society.



The evening was splendidly politically incorrect, with the presentation of 'If I Were Not Upon the Stage' easily the funniest and naughtiest version seen by the Deputy Mayor and far, far better than any version on You Tube!

The Deputy Mayor was received by Rotary Club President Mrs Frances Miles and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the chance to return to live theatre.



On the 9th October the Mayor attended a dinner at the KIA Oval to celebrate the 200th year of the Bromley Cricket Club. The event was well supported by club members and their friends and families, who were entertained by the recollections of two distinguished guests – David Gower and Chris Cowdrey.

We wish the Club well for another century of enjoyable cricket.



The Deputy Mayor was very pleased to accept an invitation to the official opening of the Crystal Palace Football Club's new Youth Academy in Copers Cope Road, Beckenham at the end of October. The venue was opened by former CPFC Youth Academy product, player and now England manager, Gareth Southgate, alongside club Chairman Steve Parish. The Deputy Mayor took the opportunity to speak to many of the former and current managers and players.



The Mayor attended an award ceremony on Monday 8th November to honour and celebrate the achievements of members of the Bromley, Croydon and Sutton Police.

The acts of heroism and bravery were astounding and displayed a total commitment to their duty in ensuring our society is safe – often putting their own personal safety at risk. They are indicative of the excellent police force that we have in Bromley.

Mayor of Bromley's Charity Ball

The Mayor hosted a Charity Ball on Saturday 16th October, the first charity event during his term in office. The Ball was held at The Warren in Hayes and was well attended. Guests enjoyed a fabulous three-course meal, before dancing away the night to the sounds of the Force 10 Big Band. Our very own resident DJ the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Tony Owen, followed on with a disco for the guests.

A considerable sum was raised for the Mayor's Charity Appeal, with the money being donated to the Mayor's two chosen charities: The Beckenham Parochial Charity and The Shipwrecked Mariners Society. Thank you to all those who attended and helped to make it such a successful and enjoyable evening.



Christmas message from the Mayor

My first Newsletter received great interest and I am delighted that it has proved to be an excellent medium for communication between the activities of your Mayor on behalf of the residents of Bromley. Since my last Newsletter I have undertaken many tasks and in particular the honouring of a lady who has achieved the milestone of 100 years.

I represented the Borough at the Civic services at Westminster Abbey and St Pauls, an opportunity to forge the important connections with the other London Boroughs.

It is very interesting to see the number of new companies which are opening within the Borough and enabled me to undertake a ceremonial opening for their ventures for which I wish them the greatest success.

Our vaccination programme in Bromley is outstanding and we are hopeful that we will be able to arrange a further

celebration acknowledging the enormous success which the NHS has achieved.

The Mayor's activities, Golf and Bowls have proved eminently successful and we are more than grateful for the contribution to my two nominated charities.

I wish you all a very safe and merry Christmas and look forward to meeting more of the residents during the course of my Mayoralty.

Best wishes

Councillor Russell L. Mellor

Mayor of Bromley 2021-2022



Stay in Touch

Please remember to keep up to date with what the Mayor is up to on our social media pages:

 [@mayorofbromley](https://www.facebook.com/mayorofbromley)

 [@mayorofbromley0](https://twitter.com/mayorofbromley0)

 [@mayorofbromley](https://www.instagram.com/mayorofbromley)

If you would like to make a donation to the Mayor's Charity Appeal, please contact the office via Mayors.Office@bromley.gov.uk