

## Mayors Report for Tuesday Full Council Meeting

1. Clive and I attended the Wareham Civic Day. We met at the corn exchange and then proceeded to a small company called Biotract. This company makes listening devices for animals and birds especially for research teams to track migration and movements. It is absolutely amazing how small some of these devices are and how they are attached to small birds, bats etc. with super glue. Really interesting visit. We then visited the Streche Alms-houses which are in the process of being renovated. One of the residents kindly invited us into his home to show us the difference they have made. The next visit to the Rex cinema was another wonderful experience. This old cinema has been looked after and cared for so many years and now has the latest equipment to be able to show the latest films. They have kept much of the old cinema equipment for all to see just to show how technology has changed. The flower festival in the Priory church was magnificent, all commemorating the end of the first world war. We finished once again with the tour of the infamous Court Leet. A really special day
2. The West Dorset District Councillors civic day started with a visit to the wonderful Athelhampton House and gardens. What an absolute gem this grade 1 listed Tudor Manor is, it enables you to step back in time and visualise how people lived. An absolutely superb historical attraction. The next stop was Langham Wines. A wonderful winery worked by 5 people who all work to achieve the wonderful quality wines they sell. The passion these people have for the product they sell and how they achieve the wines they do without adding additional ingredients is wonderful. They have recently won a very prestigious award for their product. An excellent day
3. I had the privilege to present the Mayors Sash to my Scout Jacob Clark.
4. Clive and I were invited To Portland for their Civic Day. This started in the Harbour Heights Hotel. We were then taken to the Portland Museum where we were given a talk on the Shipwrecks around the area. It is absolutely amazing how many wrecks lay beneath the sea in this area. A fascinating place to visit. We were then taken to the industrial estate where we met Jethro. This young man finished university and started researching the history of Dorset Sea Salt. This commodity was at one time a vibrant industry but no longer exists. He decided that he would try and bring this special product alive once again. He started by collecting buckets of sea water, boiling it then drying it and giving it to family and friends. He then approached the Prince`s Trust who supported him with money and knowledge and is now on his way to making a wonderful success of this product. A lovely young man with a vision, superb to see.

5. The Memorial Hall has had some alterations and I was asked to be present at the re-opening. The Elizabeth room has now had new ceilings, floor and solar panels fitted and with additional alterations being made to other parts of the Memorial Hall. The Hall looks absolutely superb.
6. Barbara Bowey and myself attended the civic day at Christchurch. We were met at the Civic Offices and were bussed to Highfliffe Castle. This wonderful castle has been under renovation for many years and is only still in the early stages of transformation. It is an excellent monument and wonderful that it has been saved and is a really vibrant part of Christchurch history. The second stop was to Mudeford Quay to have a talk about the Battle Of Mudeford. This was something I really knew nothing about, but the historian made the talk really special and gave you a real insight of how things were around the time of smuggling. Excellent talk. We finished with a wonderful tour around the magnificent Priory. A really nice day.
7. Clive and I had the privilege to be present when the Rifles were given the Freedom of Sherborne. The afternoon started with a very emotional service in the Abbey where all the fallen were remembered from WW1 to Present day. And the afternoon finished with the rifles regimental band sounding the retreat within the Sherborne School grounds as the sun disappeared. A wonderful event.
8. We were invited to the Salvation Army Solent Band concert by Gia and Eka at the Memorial Hall. This turned out to be a superb event. The band was magnificent playing some exceptional pieces of music. The evening ended with excellent refreshments made by volunteers. A very enjoyable evening.