

# MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

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## **CLLR JOHN CRITCHLEY**

Although born in Winchester, John lived and worked elsewhere before moving to Romsey in 2002. A retired professional architectural photographer and lecturer, he has found Romsey to be a super place to live and enjoys it's great community spirit. John is involved with organising the Romsey Lantern Parade each year.



## **CLLR SIMON WILKINSON**

Simon grew up in Worcestershire, came to Southampton in 1983 as a student, and moved to Romsey in 2006. He believes in enabling people to be happy and is increasingly concerned/involved with environmental issues. He works in technology and his immediate family comprises his significant other, his son and 3 cats.



## **CLLR IAN CULLEY**

Born in Hampshire, Ian has made Romsey his home for the last 40 years. He is married with a son currently at university. Ian studied law at Exeter University and recently retired after practising for many years as a solicitor both in private practice and as a Senior Crown Prosecutor with the Crown Prosecution Service. Ian loves Romsey and now wants to put something back.



## **CLLR CLAIRE WISE**

Claire and her husband both grew up in Romsey and are now raising their children here. She was actively involved in the successful Duttons Road School Crossing Campaign. Claire is keen to ensure that Romsey continues to provide attractive facilities for children and families, and to champion improvements for pedestrians and cyclists around the town.



## **CLLR NIK DAAS**

Nik has lived in Romsey all his life attending school locally in the town. He has this year been elected as a Town and Borough Councillor for Romsey Abbey ward alongside Sandra Gidley. In 2017, Nik founded the youth campaign group, Romsey Youth Voices to get more young people engaged in their local community. Among the successes of the group is the Duttons Road crossing. Nik is also a trustee of Romsey Sea Cadets. As a local councillor, Nik's priorities are to resolve issues of residents, enable Romsey's independent businesses to thrive and build a town that is fit for everyone of all ages.



## **CLLR DOROTHY BAVERSTOCK**

Dorothy moved to Romsey in 1987 and was Deputy Head at Romsey School. She has been the Town Mayor in 2004-2005, 2015-2016, 2018-19 as well as being the Test Valley Borough Council Mayor in 2012- 13. Dorothy is the Chair of Unity, formerly TVCS, and the Friends of the Romsey War Memorial Park and is on the Romsey Festival Committee. She is also a very active member of Romsey Future being Chair of the Tourism Group.



## **CLLR SALLY LAMB**

Sally has lived in Romsey all her life and currently runs the cafe in the War Memorial Park. She is passionate about Romsey and the quality of life here and will try her best to keep it that way.



## **CLLR JANET BURNAGE**

Janet's association with Romsey goes back to the mid 1960s. Educated in Romsey she has always felt a close affinity with the town and it's feeling of community. Her love of Romsey made her feel that she wanted to do more to help maintain and build on that community spirit, so in 2011 she was elected onto Romsey Town Council. She has sat on all three committees and is a past chair of the Building and Town Committee. She is a staunch supporter of the independent shops in Romsey and can be seen in the town most Saturday mornings.



**CLLR KAREN DUNLEAVEY**

Karen has lived locally all her life and has been a Town Councillor since 2005. Karen was Romsey Town Mayor in 2008-09 and is the only Mountbatten School pupil ever to have been Town Mayor. Amongst her interests are art and crafting, and Karen also enjoys nothing more than a good book with a good mug of coffee in one of Romsey's coffee shops.



**CLLR MARK COOPER**

Mark has been a Romsey Town Councillor since June 1986. He was Romsey Town Mayor in 1991, 2007 and 2012 and has also been a member of Test Valley Borough Council since 1986 and Hampshire County Council, representing the whole of Romsey town, since 2005. He specialises in planning and regulatory matters and is a member of the Hamble River Authority, the Hampshire 2050 Commission and is currently Deputy Mayor of Test Valley Borough Council.



**CLLR NEIL GWYNNE**

Neil has lived in Romsey since 2011 but has been coming here regularly, for a decade longer than that, as a performer at the Plaza (where he has been Chair for the last 8 years). Neil is also Chair at King John's House, and has played an active role in the Romsey Future initiative since its earliest days. As both a Town and Borough Councillor, Neil hopes he can help Romsey stay such a warm and friendly place to live.



**CLLR JOHN PARKER**

John was elected to Romsey Town Council in 2015 after 29 years on Romsey Extra Parish Council. He was Romsey Town Mayor in 2016 – 2017. In the recent 2019 elections John was re-elected to the Town Council but also elected as a TVBC councillor for Tadburn ward and a member of Romsey Extra Parish Council. He is currently Chairman of REPC.



**CLLR JOHN RAY**

John was born in Romsey and has lived and worked here all his life. Married to Rose with three children, he is a hairdresser on Latimer Street – a good way to discover the issues of the townspeople. John has been a Town Councillor for 12 years and was Town Mayor in 2009-10.



**CLLR MATTHEW SOUTHEY**

Matthew Southey lives in Halterworth with his wife and young son. Matthew has worked in property since he left the Navy in 1999 and having previously worked in the town centre as an estate agent and mortgage adviser, he opened his own Romsey based mortgage brokerage in 2014. A keen rugby player, Matthew played for and coached Romsey Rugby Club, leading the team to promotion in 2018. With a history in property and finance Matthew sits on the local planning committees where he believes his experience best serves local Romsey residents.



**CLLR JANET CAIRNEY**

London born, Janet had the good fortune to move to Romsey to join her partner fourteen years ago. She is interested in the Romsey of today, so that it stays a good place to live for all its citizens despite today's challenges, but has also become interested in its history through Romsey Local History Society, for whom she acts as Treasurer.

