



# Romsey Town Council Newsletter

Spring 2017

## MAYOR'S SPRING MESSAGE

**C**hristmas was a magical time in Romsey. The lights were splendid as usual, thank you to everyone involved with putting them up and thank you to Jonathon Lenaerts from Speaking Space who helped me turn them on. The Romsey Chamber of Commerce and local businesses excelled themselves with all the Christmas trees and lights on the shops. The Carnival procession was splendid and the Lantern Parade spectacular and, as usual, Rotary organised Carols in the Market Place. We even had a Santa Fun Run which I was invited to start but chose to join in instead. While all this was going on outside, there was a very full programme of carol services and concerts in the Abbey featuring all the local choirs and schools and some visitors including John Rutter conducting some of his own carols.

On the more practical side we have seen two important initiatives kicked off, both aimed at making Romsey an even more welcoming place. Firstly, the Safe Place scheme has been relaunched. This scheme identifies certain premises where vulnerable individuals can seek refuge if they feel confused or stressed. The premises will be identified by a Safe Place sticker. Those who potentially need to use these facilities will be

provided with a card with their details and their personal contact numbers. You can expect to see the stickers going up around Town in the next few weeks.

The second scheme that has just been launched is to teach local businesses and service providers the basics of the Makaton signing system. The training is being provided by Hannah Anderson. Her aim is to get Romsey officially classified as a Makaton Friendly Town where those who have hearing or other communication problems can be supported. The Mayoress and I will be attending one of her introductory courses in April.

I look forward to these initiatives making Romsey an even more friendly town for all our residents and visitors.



**Respect me**



**Cllr John Parker  
Romsey Town Mayor**

Romsey Town Clerk can be contacted by phone: 01794 512837  
or email: [townclerk@romseytc.org.uk](mailto:townclerk@romseytc.org.uk)  
[www.romseytc.org.uk](http://www.romseytc.org.uk)

# Romsey Town Council

## ABBNEY WARD

**Cllr Nicky Bailey**  
Tel: 01794 521289  
Email: [nibailey@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:nibailey@gotadsl.co.uk)

**Cllr Mark Bramley**  
Mob: 07584 099093  
Email: [l4mw@supanet.com](mailto:l4mw@supanet.com)

**Cllr Mary Greggains**  
Tel: 01794 518083

**Cllr Nigel Nicholson**  
Mob: 07983 867414  
Email: [nigelnicholson@gmail.com](mailto:nigelnicholson@gmail.com)

## CUPERNHAM WARD

**Cllr Dorothy Baverstock**  
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Mob: 07866 138350  
Email: [dorothy.baverstock@btinternet.com](mailto:dorothy.baverstock@btinternet.com)

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**Cllr Karen Dunleavy**  
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**Cllr Ian Hibberd**  
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ROMSEY DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

**Cllr John Ray**  
Tel: 01794 523794  
Email: [johnray@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnray@hotmail.co.uk)

## TADBURN WARD

**Cllr John Burgess**  
Tel: 01794 501558  
Email: [john.c.burgess@ntlworld.com](mailto:john.c.burgess@ntlworld.com)

**Cllr Mark Cooper**  
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**Cllr Peter Hurst**  
Tel: 01794 517249  
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**Cllr John Parker**  
Mob: 07825 514348  
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ROMSEY TOWN MAYOR

# TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

New for 2017, we have an event planned for May 13th in the Crosfield Hall; Romsey Business Showcase will be an opportunity for those many businesses in Romsey and surrounding area to promote themselves to their potential customers in our community. Exhibitor space will be free thanks to sponsorship from TVBC and publicity will be organised by Romsey Chamber and Romsey Town Council. Watch the Romsey Advertiser and social media for more details.

For those who appreciate art, within the Romsey Festival we are organising "InsideOut" at a number of venues across the town on Sunday 2nd July. We are inviting artists and makers to exhibit their work in the Town Hall and Abbey Hall. There will also be stalls in the Cornmarket and artists' works on the various railings in the town centre. Romsey Signal Box will have an exhibition of railway paintings and an artist in residence working on railway related work. The Plaza Theatre is also joining in with works on display in their "Green Room".

We have now delivered "Arts in Romsey" leaflets to every household in Romsey. These give details of many of the cultural events happening in the town throughout the year. If you have not received a copy, they are available from the Town Hall and the Tourist Information Centre in Church Street.

As always, we welcome your ideas to enhance our town, if you have an idea or comment please feel free to contact me.

**Mark L. Edgerley**  
**Romsey, Town Centre Manager,**  
[tcm@romseytc.org.uk](mailto:tcm@romseytc.org.uk)  
Telephone 07850 449484

This is the time of year when we are busy planning the detail of the 2017 Romsey Town Centre events. A particularly busy year as it takes place the tri-annual "Romsey Festival" that will include in the first two weeks of July – details of events and how to book tickets are now available on [www.romseyfestival.org.uk](http://www.romseyfestival.org.uk). It promises to be a very busy and enjoyable two weeks with something for everyone.

As part of Romsey Festival, we are inviting town centre businesses and households to display a copy of their favourite painting in their shop or house window, the more artistic might even care to build a diorama. Just for fun, we hope this activity will display the diverse nature of people's interest in works of arts.

Plans are well advanced for the Beggars Fair on Saturday 8th July. Once again it promises to be a wonderful eclectic mix of music at a number of venues across the town. Now in its 25th year, this event is one of the largest free music festivals in the south attracting people to Romsey from a very wide area.

This year sees the return of the popular "Teenage Market" a free event for traders and visitors giving young people (11 to 29 years) an opportunity to trade their wares in the Town Hall. Details of how to book a stall are at [www.theteenagemarket.co.uk](http://www.theteenagemarket.co.uk) or from Town Centre Manager.

In 2016 we introduced a Sunday Antiques Fair to Romsey. We are repeating these in a similar format this year with Sunday 14th May and Sunday 15th October booked. There has already been strong interest from many traders to return for what we plan to be a great day out for all those interested in antique and decorative items.

# COUNCIL MEETINGS

## Full Council

11 April 2017  
(Annual Parish Meeting)  
23 May 2017 (Mayor Making)  
30 May 2017  
(Adjourned Meeting)

## Building & Town

18 April 2017  
13 June 2017  
15 August 2017

## Finance & Resources

16 May 2017  
11 July 2017  
5 September 2017

## Planning

13 April 2017  
4 May 2017  
25 May 2017  
15 June 2017  
6 July 2017

**Getting Married?**  
*Why not hold your wedding partnership at Romsey Town Hall?*

Contact:  
Debbie Forster, Events Manager  
Romsey Town Hall, 1 Market Place,  
Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8TZ.  
Tel: 01794 512837  
Email: [bookings@romseytc.org.uk](mailto:bookings@romseytc.org.uk)  
Web: [www.romseytc.org.uk](http://www.romseytc.org.uk)





## ROMSEY TOWN HALL PRESENTS

Upcoming Film Shows at 3.30 pm and 7.00 pm at Romsey Town Hall.

Doors open 30 minutes before each show

Refreshments available to purchase before the performance starts.

**Monday 10th April 2017 3.30 pm and 7.00 pm**

**THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS (12A) 2 Hours 13 mins approx. Starring:**

**Michael Fassbender, Alicia Vikander and Rachel Weisz**

*When lighthouse keeper Tom (Michael Fassbender) and his adored wife Isabel (Alicia Vikander) discover a baby adrift in a boat off the remote coast of western Australia, they must make a choice. When they decide to raise the child as their own, the shattering consequences of this choice will change their lives forever.*

**Monday 24th April 2017 3.30 pm and 7.00 pm**

**BRIDGET JONES BABY (15) 2 Hours 3 minutes approx. Starring: Renee**

**Zellweger, Colin Firth, Patrick Dempsey and Jim Broadbent**

*After breaking up with Mark Darcy, Bridget's focus on single life and her career is interrupted when she finds herself pregnant, but with one hitch ... she can only be fifty percent sure of the identity of her baby's father.*

**Monday 10th July 2017 3.30 pm and 7.00 pm (Part of the Romsey Festival)**

**PHILOMENA (12A) 1 Hour 38 mins approx. Starring: Judi Dench and Steve**

**Coogan**

*A world-weary political journalist picks up the story of a woman's search for her son, who was taken away from her decades ago after she became pregnant and was forced to live in a convent.*

Tickets available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseytowncouncil](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseytowncouncil) or

Romsey Town Hall and are non-refundable

## ROMSEY EVENTS 2017

<b>Sunday 7th May</b>	Teenage Market, Romsey Town Hall
<b>Saturday 13th May</b>	Romsey Business Fair / Showcase event
<b>Sunday 14th May</b>	Art, Design, Homes & Interiors Market
<b>Sunday 4th June</b>	Teenage Market, Romsey Town Hall
<b>Saturday 1st July to Sunday 16th July</b>	Romsey Festival - details at <a href="http://www.romseyfestival.org">www.romseyfestival.org</a>
<b>Sunday 2nd July</b>	Romsey Rotary Mayor's Picnic
<b>Sunday 2nd July</b>	Romsey InsideOut Art Trail
<b>Saturday 8th July</b>	Beggar's Fair
<b>Sunday 23rd July</b>	Summer Carnival Parade
<b>Sunday 6th August</b>	Teenage Market, Romsey Town Hall
<b>Sunday 3rd September</b>	Romsey Food Festival & Farmers Market
<b>Sunday 3rd September</b>	Teenage Market, Romsey Town Hall
<b>Saturday 9th September</b>	Romsey Show
<b>Saturday 23rd to 30th September</b>	Romsey Film Festival
<b>Sunday 15th October</b>	Art, Design, Homes & Interiors Market
<b>Sunday 12th November</b>	Remembrance Day Parade
<b>Saturday 25th November</b>	Christmas Light Switch On & Winter Carnival Parade
<b>Saturday 2nd December</b>	Small Business Saturday
<b>Friday 8th December</b>	Romsey Late Night Shopping & Lantern Parade
<b>Monday 18th December</b>	Carols in Romsey Market Place
<b>Sunday 24th December</b>	Christmas Hampshire Farmers Market
<b>Tuesday 26th December</b>	Boxing Day pre 1976 Car & Bike Meet
<b>Romsey Market every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday Hampshire Farmers Market, first Sunday of every month 10am to 2pm plus special Christmas Farmers Market on Sunday 24th December</b>	



## Romsey, Romsey and Romsey Town



Computer users who search for Romsey not infrequently are offered 'Romsey Town', which is a suburb of Cambridge. It was built as a railway town to house the many workers who flocked to the city to work at the extensive railway works there. Like Eastleigh, the area was developed by private builders rather than by the railway company itself but its late Victorian buildings are typical of their era.

Less often discovered by casual searchers of the internet is Romsey, Australia. This town is in Victoria, some 40 miles north of Melbourne. The reason for the name 'Romsey' is not known. Presumably someone who grew up in 'our' Romsey named the place after his home.

What Romsey Victoria does have, like Romsey England, is a horse statue. Theirs is known as a Light Horse Statue and commemorates the 4th/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse Regiment. It was unveiled in October 2014, a few months ahead of ours and is primarily remembering the men who served and secondarily the horses which went into action with them. Thus our statue remains as a rare example of a memorial to horses that served in the Great War.



Michael Garnett, a resident of this 'other' Romsey, has written a history of the town's contribution to the 1914-1918 War and sent a copy to the Romsey Local History Society which is held in the basement of Romsey Town Hall. It can be seen when the History Society has its workshops (Monday mornings and Tuesday evenings).

The 32-page booklet describes what Romsey was like on the outbreak of war, the background of volunteering for military service, and the vigorous recruitment that followed the outbreak of war. It mentions some of the actions in which the local regiment took part which included Gallipoli. The town struck a medal that was awarded to returning soldiers, often wounded. It contained the words,

"Presented to xxx who responded to the Empire's call in the Great European War". The booklet finishes with pictures of and notes about some of the men who joined up, in their army uniforms. Thus there is a symmetry across the world. We in Romsey England have a statue commemorating the service of war horses and on the opposite side of the planet, in Romsey Australia there is also a statue of a war horse.

**Phoebe Morricks  
March 2017**

## Planning and Romsey Town Council

Hampshire County Council, such as the Minerals and Waste Plan.

It meets between 16 and 17 times a year on a three-week cycle on Thursdays at 7.30pm. All meetings are in public and interested parties are always welcome to attend. Dates of meetings can be obtained from Romsey Town Council's website ([www.romseytcc.org.uk](http://www.romseytcc.org.uk)).

The number of planning applications in the three Romsey Wards averages about 244 a year, or about fourteen per meeting.

**Planning by numbers: applications examined by Romsey Town Council:-**

2012-13	213
2013-14	268
2014-15	248
2015-16	239
2016-17	224 (with two more meetings scheduled).

**Cllr Mark Cooper,  
Town Council Planning Committee  
Chairman**

Test Valley Borough Council is the local planning authority and if residents need to make a planning application they can access the service either on Test Valley's website or via the information desk at the Former Magistrates Court.

Romsey Town Council has no planning powers but it is a statutory consultee and must be notified of any planning application in Romsey. The Town Council Planning Committee thus examines every planning application in the three town Wards of Abbey, Cupernham and Tadburn. The committee has six town council members.

Every application either receives a comment of 'No objection' or an 'Objection', and a number of reasons will be given. Test Valley Borough Council Planning Officers will note the Town Council's judgment in their reports to the Borough Council.

The Planning Committee also comments in great detail on planning policy documents issued by the Borough Council, such as the Borough Local Plan and

## Get more out of Libraries



### Home Library Service

The Home Library Service delivers books to people who can no longer visit the library because of ill-health, disability or caring responsibilities. Books are delivered monthly by a Home Library Service Volunteer. Books in standard or large print along with a range of audio books are available from this free service.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from this service or you are interested in becoming a volunteer, you can call us on 0300 555 1387, email us at [library@hants.gov.uk](mailto:library@hants.gov.uk) or fill in an online form available at [www.hants.gov.uk/home-library-service](http://www.hants.gov.uk/home-library-service). Alternatively, please talk to staff at your local library.





# USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Age Concern	01794 518817
Births, Marriages and Deaths	0300 555 1392
British Red Cross (Romsey Area Centre)	01794 513202
Citizens Advice Bureau	03444 111 306
Dial A Ride	01264 356808
Dog Warden Services	01794 527700
Test Valley Borough Council	01794 527700
Hampshire Police	101
Hampshire County Council	01962 841841
Hampshire Highways	0300 555 1388
Hampshire Constabulary – Safer Neighbourhood Team	101
Romsey Good Neighbours	01794 514814
Romsey Library	0300 555 1387
Youth in Romsey	01794 500581
<b>Romsey Hospital</b>	02382 310350

## DOCTORS SURGERIES

Abbey Mead	01794 512218/830888
Alma Road	01794 513422
Nightingale	01794 517878/511513

## DENTISTS

Community Dental Clinic	01794 519589
Abbey Orthodontics	01794 519589
Romsey Dental Care	01794 522222
Heatherstone Dental Practice	01794 513100
Wordsworth House Dental Practice	01794 512319

## CHEMISTS

Lloyds Pharmacy	01794 522716
Boots The Chemist Ltd	01794 513143
Alliance Pharmacy	01794 513193
Superdrug Pharmacy	01794 513314

## Out of Hours Doctors Surgery

**Contact No** 0300 300 2012

## Hampshire Registration

**Service** 0300 555 3192

## ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS

Since the last Newsletter grants have been awarded to the following:

Greenbuttercup	£400.00
Romsey Choral Society	£250.00
Romsey Foodbank	£100.00

If you would like to apply for a grant for your organisation please contact the Town Clerk, Judith Giles

**Tel: 01794 512837 Email: [townclerk@romseytc.org.uk](mailto:townclerk@romseytc.org.uk)**



# THE ROMSEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP ARE UPDATING A DESIGN STATEMENT.



Town Hall  
1, Market Place  
Romsey  
SO51 8YZ



## We Need Your Help

Romsey Town Council and Romsey Extra Parish Council are leading the updating of the Romsey Town Design Statement, "Look at Romsey" that was originally adopted in January 2008.

A Town Design Statement (DS) contains a description and analysis of what it is that makes a town distinctive, and outlines design guidance for further development.

Its purpose is to help to control the design of new development so that the town's essential character can remain. A DS covers just the built area of a town but includes an assessment of the landscape as this helps to protect the built edge.

The project will encompass the whole of the urban part of Romsey both the historic core and the surrounding residential areas, including the newly built-up areas.

The result will be a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD will be used as material consideration in the assessment of planning applications and as far as possible will set guidelines for what is visually acceptable in parts of the town and for Romsey as a whole including new developments.

To get a project as comprehensive as this up and running we are looking for volunteers to join our team to identify the things you like and dislike, to spot the changes from 10 years ago, identify where design guidelines have not been followed and make suggestions for new design guidelines.

Please fill in the questionnaire overleaf and let us know your name, address, postcode and email address by no later than 30th April 2017. You can make additional copies for other members of your household. We will then get back in touch to see if you would be willing to spend a morning or an afternoon in a group walking your area with our team leaders to enable us to get a better understanding of the issues in your area. With your input we can then update the design statement.

**Please send completed questionnaires and your contact details to:**

The Town Clerk, Romsey Town Hall, 1 Market Place, Romsey SO51 8YZ  
or via email to: [info@romseytc.org.uk](mailto:info@romseytc.org.uk)

**The questionnaire is also available online at:**

[www.romseytc.org.uk](http://www.romseytc.org.uk) or [www.romseyextra-pc.org.uk](http://www.romseyextra-pc.org.uk)

**The 2008 Romsey Design Statement "Look at Romsey" is available online at:**

[www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/workingwithcommunities/mylocalarea/romsey-extra/romseytds/](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/workingwithcommunities/mylocalarea/romsey-extra/romseytds/)

## LOOK AT ROMSEY 2017 - DESIGN QUESTIONNAIRE

All questions relate directly to the immediate locality of your home.

**Survey scale: 1 = low. 4 = high.**

On a scale of 1 - 4 how well has any new development (new build or extension) been in keeping with your immediate area?	
On a scale of 1 - 4 are the open green spaces/green verges in your area important to you?	
On a scale of 1 - 4 how much do you value the trees and other vegetation in your area?	
On a scale of 1 - 4 are the footpaths, hedges and fences in your area maintained to a good standard?	
On a scale of 1 - 4 how much does on-street parking affect your daily life?	
What do you like about your area?	
What don't you like about your area?	
Any other comments?	
Please give us your name, address, postcode and email address.	