



MAYORS SUMMER MESSAGE

My fellow councillors have bestowed a great privilege on me and I am proud and honoured to have been elected Town Mayor of Romsey.

I have been associated with Romsey for many years, attending La Sagesse and living in Romsey in the 1980s. For a brief time I moved to Rownhams but was still a regular visitor and moved back again in 2004.

By 2010 I had begun to get involved in some issues close to where I live and I decided I would like to put something back into Romsey, so I stood as a Town Councillor in 2011 and I am still here.

As a small market town, Romsey is thriving. The development around the perimeter of the town has given the opportunity for improvements in the centre. Market towns have had to change their focus with the arrival of internet shopping and Romsey is doing just that by embracing this change and moving with the times. Changes can be like Marmite and take time to be accepted and those in the centre of Romsey are no exception. However once all the work is complete I am sure it will be a great enhancement.

The events that take place throughout the year draw many varied people into the town. We have our two wonderful Carnival Parades and the lantern parade, all managed by volunteers and the Carols in the Market Place organised by the Rotary Club. There are the French, brocante and antiques markets organised by the Town Centre Manager, the music and arts festivals, and the Food Festival in September. In July the town will be filled with music from the Beggars Fair, again organised by a committed group of volunteers.



The high attendance at all these events proves what a thriving and wonderful place Romsey is. People also come to Romsey to shop – preferring the smaller town environment to larger shopping centres and long may this continue.

With respect to the charity element of my year in office, I have decided to have a 'Community Chest' as this has proved successful in previous years and will enable me to support more small charities who work hard and achieve a lot on limited funds.

I am very happy to come along to any event that needs additional support. Please contact the Mayor's office in the Town Hall to make arrangements.

Romsonians should be proud of their town and the community. It is this sense of community and spirit that I want to embrace during my mayoral year and I am looking forward to meeting the people and community groups who are the heart and soul of Romsey in the coming months.

TOWN COUNCILLORS

ELECTED FOR THE TERM
2019-2023

ABBEY WARD

John Critchley

Home: 01794 515477

Mob: 07831 870120

johncritchleyabbey@icloud.com

Ian Culley

Home: 01794 522298

Mob: 07835 087955

ian.culley@virgin.net

Nik Daas

Mob: 07443 482919

cllrndaas@testvalley.gov.uk

Sally Lamb

Mob: 07793 115944

Sally.lamb@outlook.com

Simon Wilkinson

Home: 01794 518240

Mob: 07739 802739

sprwilkinson@yahoo.co.uk

Claire Wise

Home: 01794 367492

Mob: 07769 836830

Claire_wise24@yahoo.co.uk

CUPERNHAM WARD

Dorothy Baverstock

Home: 01794 517552

Mob: 07866 138350

dorothy.baverstock
@btinternet.com

Janet Burnage

Home: 01794 515815

Mob: 07764 584522

janetburnage@outlook.com

Karen Dunleavy

Mob: 07977 163198

karendunleavy@sky.com

Neil Gwynne

Home: 01794 368053

Mob: 07884 023646

Gwynnen2@aol.com

John Ray

Tel: 01794 830960

johnray@hotmail.co.uk

TADBURN WARD

Janet Cairney

Home: 01794 503336

Mob: 07840 989722

janet_cairney@hotmail.com

Mark Cooper

Home: 01794 516028

Mob: 07774 638310

cooper22tt@aol.com

John Parker

Mob: 07825 514348

parkerjsxx@aol.com

Matthew Southey

Home: 01794 521379

Mob: 07816 901442

m.southey
@askaboutmortgages.co.uk

COUNCIL MEETINGS

A complete list of Council Meetings, along with Agendas and Minutes can be viewed on our website at www.romseytc.org.uk

Full Council	Building & Town	Finance & Resources	Planning
23 July 2019	11 June 2019	25 June 2019	20 June 2019
24 September 2019	13 August 2019	3 September 2019	11 July 2019
12 November 2019	15 October 2019	5 November 2019	1 August 2019
	17 December 2019		22 August 2019
			12 September 2019
			3 October 2019
			24 October 2019

TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

As we move into summer, we are able to imagine the town without major roadworks. The Market Place enhancement has been controversial and a bit like Marmite. It has its fans and dissenters but we believe the final outcome will be worth the disruption and inconvenience and look forward to using the space for future events.

The French Market was the first event of our year and, given the pleasant weather, we had a huge turnout of visitors and residents. We hope to run our third event of this type next year with an improved layout, as for the first time we will have all our streets back in our control.

Looking forward, we have The Beggars Fair, The Food Festival and an Antiques Market planned before we get into the Christmas events. We always welcome comments and suggestions for town centre events, they are enjoyed by many but we are always trying to improve what is on offer.

We are often told locally and nationally that “High Streets” are dying. The reality is that Romsey is changing. We do have vacant shops but most have potential tenants planning to move in. These tenants are businesses prepared to invest time and money into keeping our town vibrant. They deserve our support, especially in the first couple of years as the business develops.

Nationally retail unit vacancy rates are in the order of 11%. The figures for Romsey stand up well to that figure and more importantly are showing a decline, a TVBC survey taken each October shows the improving situation.

October 2012	6.1%
October 2013	8.2%
October 2014	6.2%
October 2015	6.6%
October 2016	4.8%
October 2017	4.3%
October 2018	3.8%

It is fantastic to see the passion people have for



Romsey on social media, but as well as a means to publicise your event or complain that some organisation has not done what you think it should, media like Facebook and Instagram are great ways to promote small businesses that have gone the extra mile to help you with a product or service. Behind every business are people and we all enjoy a little bit of praise occasionally.

As reported in the last newsletter work on producing a “masterplan” for the area to the South of the Town Centre continues. So many people came forward with ideas that the next round of discussions was delayed until this summer. As the plan develops there will be many opportunities to add further comments. You can follow the consultation on www.romseyfuture.org.uk or email comments to romseyfuture@testvalley.gov.uk. Those of us working on this project value the time you give to getting involved in the future of your town.

We have added lots more information to our website. The community noticeboard page holds lots of information on local events and includes advice on how to have your event included on the page.

For details of all our events please check out our website www.romseytc.org.uk or follow our Twitter feed @destinationroms.

Mark Edgerley,
Romsey Town Centre Manager,
email: tcm@romseytc.org.uk

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

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 its 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 its 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 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 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 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.



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 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 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.



ROMSEY COMMUNITY CINEMA

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

Tickets £6.50

Doors open 30 minutes before each show

Refreshments available to purchase before the
performance starts.

Tickets are available from

www.romseytc.org.uk or Romsey Town Hall
Office between 9am and 3pm and are
non-refundable

Gift Vouchers available

Monday 1st July 2019

3.30pm / 7.00pm

THE FAVOURITE (15)

1 hr 38 min approx

Comedy/Drama starring Olivia Colman and
Rachel Weisz

Early 18th century. England is at war with
the French. Nevertheless, duck racing and
pineapple eating are thriving. A frail Queen
Anne (Olivia Colman) occupies the throne and
her close friend Lady Sarah (Rachel Weisz)
governs the country in her stead.

Monday 29th July 2019

3.30pm / 7.00pm

FISHERMANS FRIEND (12A)

1 hr 52 min approx

Drama starring Rami Malek and Tom Hollander

A chronicle of the years leading up to Queen's
legendary appearance at the Live Aid (1985)
concert. Bohemian Rhapsody celebrates
the band Queen, their music, and their
extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury,
who defied convention to become one of the
most beloved entertainers ever.

Monday 15th July 2019

3.30pm / 7.00pm

STAN & OLLIE (PG)

1 hr 38 min approx

Comedy/Drama starring Steve Coogan and
John C. Reilly

Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly star as Laurel
& Hardy in the untold story of the world's
greatest comedy act. Stan & Ollie wonderfully
portrays the unique and precious partnership
of the legendary duo as they set out on a tour
of Britain in the twilight of their career.

Monday 12th August 2019

3.30pm / 7.00pm

GREEN BOOK (12A)

2hr 10 min approx

Drama starring Ryan Gosling and Claire Foy

A working-class Italian-American bouncer
becomes the driver of an African-American
classical pianist on a tour of venues through
the 1960s American South.

EVENTS

Every 1st Sunday of the month Hampshire Farmers Market

Held in the Alma Road car park and open from 10am to 1pm. Great choice of locally grown produce and food products. This event will involve suspension of parking at the Waitrose end of the TVBC Alma Road car park.

Romsey Market

every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday

Saturday 15th June Romsey Gin Festival

The "Gin Stall" event in the Crosfield Hall offers an introduction to many artesian gins.

22nd June - 6th July Romsey Festival of Youth Music

The very talented young musicians from our local schools play a series of concerts at various locations across Romsey www.romseyfestivalofyouthmusic.org.uk.

Sunday 7th July Mayors Picnic

Always a great fun day in the Memorial Park bringing together local charities to fundraise

Sunday 7th July Demfest at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens

Romsey is a Dementia Friendly Town and local support group Romsey Dementia Action Group (RomDAG) run this annual Festival for Dementia suffers and their carers, mainly fund with music and

other entertainment but includes opportunities to seek help and advice.

Saturday 13th July Beggars Fair

The souths largest free street music festival over 100 acts at 20 locations across Romsey. Check out the website for details www.beggarsfair.org.uk.

Sunday 21st July Summer Carnival Parade

The streets come alive in the afternoon with a sea of floats, in the preceding week there are a number of related events.

Sunday 1st September Romsey Food Festival and Farmers Market

An amazing selection of food related stalls throughout The Hundred and Latimer Street, a foodie paradise not to be missed.

Saturday 14th September The Romsey Show

Where town and country meet, a great family day out. www.romseyshow.co.uk.

Sunday 13th October Romsey Antiques and Collectables Fair

Over 100 stalls spread across the town centre, from brocante to high end, there are stalls for everyone. We have a full programme of town centre events next year which can be viewed on our website at www.romseytc.org.uk. Check our website and local social media for timings.

Romsey Bandstand 2.30pm Summer Sundays

2nd June Birnie Boozle Band • 9th June George's Trust Concert RASO

16th June Jubilee Brass • 23rd June Flautissimo

30th June Brass Force • 4th August Michelmersh Silver Band

11th August Southampton Concert Wind Band • 18th August City of Southampton Albion Band

1st September Lockerley Silver Band • 8th September Greatbridge Riverside Band

Trustees' Summer Concerts in Romsey's War Memorial Park Charity no:- 1088180 Funded by Romsey Town Council's annual grant and by public donations.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Age Concern	01794 518817	Doctors Surgery	
Births, Deaths and Ceremonies	0300 555 1392	Abbeywell Surgery	01794 512218 / 01794 517878
British Red Cross			
(Romsey Area Centre)	01794 513202	Alma Road	01794 513422
Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 1306	Romsey Hospital	023 8231 0350
Dial A Ride	01264 356808		
Dog Warden Services	01264 368463	Dentists	
Test Valley Borough Council	01794 527700	Community Dental Clinic	0300 123 5099
Hampshire Police	101	Abbey Orthodontics	01794 519589
Hampshire County Council	0300 555 1375	Romsey Dental Care	01794 522222
Hampshire Highways	0300 555 1388	Heatherstone Dental Practice	01794 513100
Hampshire Constabulary		Wordsworth House	
– Safer Neighbourhood Team	101	Dental Practice	01794 512319
Romsey Good Neighbours	01794 514854		
Romsey Library	0300 555 1387	Chemists	
Youth in Romsey	01794 500581	Lloyds Pharmacy	01794 522716
		Boots The Chemist Ltd	01794 513143
		Superdrug Pharmacy	01794 513314

GRANTS

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

Romsey Show

£300

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



Romsey Town Clerk can be contacted by phone: 01794 512837 or email: townclerk@romseytc.org.uk
www.romseytc.org.uk