



Sandbach Town Council

Town Talk

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JUNE 2016



top features



Happy Birthday p3



Freedom Of The Town p4&5



Tour of Britain p8

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WELCOME



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picnics, pomp & pleasure

Bring a picnic, rug and chairs and enjoy a relaxing Summer evening listening to Foden's Band performing Musical Theatre Classics in Sandbach Park on Saturday 2nd July. This is an ideal family outing with Sandbach School Big Band opening the concert playing easy listening favourites from 6:30pm. Foden's Band will perform classics such as "Sing, Sing, Sing" and "Maria" from 8:00pm followed by community flag waving during the "Last Night of the Proms" style sing-a-long. The spectacular burst of finale fireworks at 10:15pm rounds the evening off perfectly.

Tickets £10 each adult, accompanied children free. Available, in advance, from Bramwell's, Demeter's, Sandbach Town Hall and Sandbach Town Council Office or buy online at www.sandbach.gov.uk/buy Licensed bar, hot drinks and snacks. Summer events are sponsored by Bathgate Silica, Sibelco and Flowcrete.



With Thanks to our Kind Sponsors

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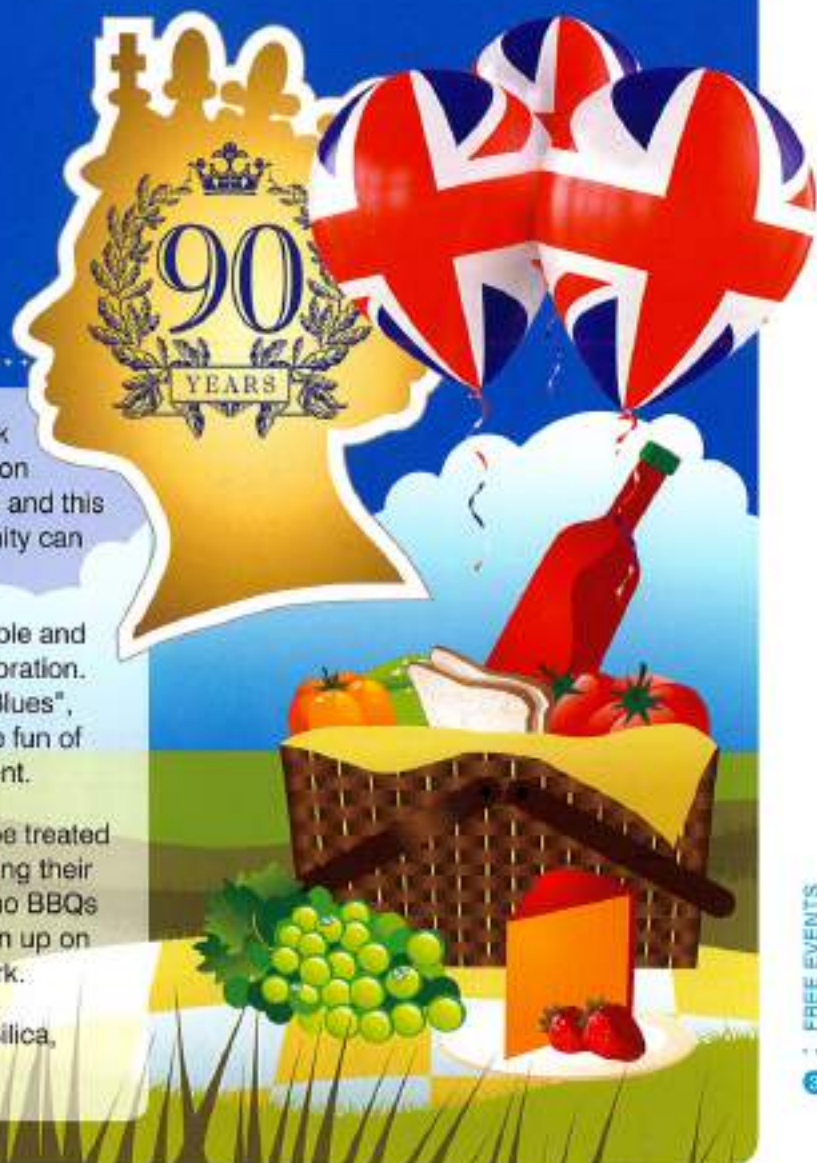
queen's birthday celebrations

Come along and join a Giant Picnic in the Park to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. Tradition encourages parties on momentous occasions and this will be a huge one, so that the whole community can celebrate together.

Just bring your picnic, cushions and rug or table and chairs and enjoy an afternoon of fun and celebration. There will be live music featuring "Out of the Blues", and a community sing-a-long as well as all the fun of the park. Everyone is welcome to this free event.

Honoured guests from local care homes will be treated to a birthday tea, but everyone else should bring their own. Tea/coffee available to purchase. Sorry no BBQs in the park. There is no need to book. Just turn up on Sunday 12th June, 2pm - 5pm. Sandbach Park.

With Thanks to our Kind Sponsors Bathgate Silica, Sibelco and Flowcrete.



family fun day



There will be loads of fun for all the family in Sandbach Park on Saturday 16th July with lots of extra free activities. Try out the bubble bike, new this year, or make your own freshly squeezed fruit juice on the juice bike. You just need stamina to squeeze the oranges. Have a go at still walking or zorbing (rolling down slope inside a huge plastic ball).

Try traditional games such as shove ha'penny and Diablo or join in the organised team games such as cricket, football and basketball in the multi sports area. There is something for all the family with willow art, crafts, bowling, balloon modelling and lots more. The fun begins at 11:00am and lasts until 4:00pm. Hot and cold food and drinks will be available to purchase, but all activities are free of charge. So come along and have a go.



**FREE
EVENT!**



freedom of sandbach

Dennis Robinson will receive Freedom of the Town of Sandbach, an honour bestowed by Sandbach Town Council, in recognition of his significant contribution to the community and town of Sandbach.

From the 1980's Dennis was a key member in the organisation of the Christmas Lights and Transport Festival. Using his wealth of practical skills and experience to bring these events to fruition and enhance the lives of the people of Sandbach.

He has been a trustee of Sandbach Literary Institution and continues to serve on both the Sandbach Alms House and John Stockley Trusts. He was a Congleton Borough Councillor and served as a Sandbach Town Councillor for nearly 30 years, being both Chairman and Mayor.

Dennis became Sandbach Town Crier in 1983, joining the Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers and representing Sandbach in competitions throughout the UK. In 1987 he won the National Championship in Hastings. Dennis explained "There were 65 Town Criers in the competition. The judges were locked in a caravan and could only hear our voices. We stood in the bandstand in Warrior Square. The acoustics were fantastic and our voices boomed and echoed all around. I was so thrilled when I won. My acceptance speech was all about Sandbach. I made it up on

the spot and it was then that I realised that I could help promote Sandbach all over the world." Dennis qualified for the world championships and competed in Belgium and Canada on a number of occasions. He has organised the annual North West Town Crier Competition since the 1980's and continues to represent Sandbach at UK competitions. He is regularly seen in Sandbach town centre proactively using his skill to advertise and support events in Sandbach.

As a resident of Sandbach Heath Dennis has been a worshipper and worker at Sandbach Heath Methodist Chapel all his life. A stalwart of the Chapel he has used his tradesman's skills to maintain the fabric of the building, his ingenuity to raise funds and his knowledge to run the Sunday School.

Mayor Cllr Gill Merry commented "This award is in recognition of Dennis Robinson's unyielding service and dedication to Sandbach for over 50 years. Dennis is a credit to Sandbach and its organisations. After so many years of service he continues to actively enhance and promote the town in his role of Town Crier."

an extraordinary engagement

Early morning, May 1993, a phone rings in Sandbach Heath, Cheshire, England. Dennis Robinson answers the telephone and hears a familiar voice on the end of the line "Ay, up Dennis, Are you busy this weekend?" asks Manchester Town Crier, Doug Brittain. "Why, what's on?" responds Dennis. "I'm in a bit of a pickle. I'm due to be in Paris to represent Manchester for their 2000 Olympic bid, but they also want a town crier in Monte Carlo for the Olympic bid promotions down there. Can you go to Monte Carlo for me?" Dennis replied without hesitation "What time do I leave?"



Dennis chuckles as he tells the story of an extraordinary four days in Monte Carlo. Within 30 minutes of the telephone call a suitcase was packed and Dennis was in a taxi heading for Manchester airport. As he settled into the taxi he began to wonder what his duties would be. His excitement at being part of the bid started to rise as soon as he joined the group of delegates waiting for the plane. "I struck up a conversation with Norma Charlton (Bobby's wife) and realised I was surrounded by celebrities" explained Dennis.

"I wore my red uniform, thinking I may be a bit warm but got soaked on the first outing. It rained during the whole event and I had to dry the feather in my hat with a hairdryer. On the second day I had to march into a ballroom flanked by two Gurkhas and two pipers from the Horseguards, stand beneath the Union Jack and announce the start of the banquet. When I joined the dining table I found I was seated at the table next to Princess Anne's! It was a whirlwind weekend. Shirley Bassey sang at the Sporting Club; trumpeters arrived by launch at the Yacht Club. Whatever the event, media from all over the world had their eyes on us. I felt so proud to represent Sandbach."

Photos: Above Right - Dennis Robinson at Elizabethan Market
Above Left: Mayor Laurence Yanwood, Cressie & Nantwich Town Crier Tom Clarkson, Newly appointed Sandbach Town Crier Dennis Robinson.



Sandbach Town Council

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it's all about morris!

Sounds of feet tapping, toe stomping, heels clicking, bells tinkling and hand clapping will ring through Sandbach at the Day of Dance on Saturday 10th September. This year's celebration of Traditional Morris Dancing welcomes a clog stepping team, Cholton Cloghoppers, who will perform intricate clog step-dances from Lancashire and beyond. Performances take place on the Market Square, outside the Old Hall and Market Hall and inside St Mary's Church Hall from 10:30am to 3:00pm. As well as watching the spectacular dancing, there will be opportunities for people of all ages to have a go. No experience is needed as the Morris dancers explain what to do. Totally free of charge, this is a day not to miss!

For more information contact **Sandbach Cellidhs 01270 765376**
or visit **Sandbach Day of Dance Facebook page**.



Image by Iain McNish

circular walks for fun

Sandbach Footpaths Group has produced a guide to nine circular walks around Sandbach. Each walk has a map and easy to follow directions and details the distance and anticipated walking time. The comprehensive guides can be downloaded from the Footpaths Group website at www.sandbachfootpaths.wordpress.com. Paper copies are also available at Sandbach library.

Trevor Boxer, chairman of the group, explained "The group was formed to preserve, protect and expand footpaths, footways and green walks in Sandbach. We have started by documenting and promoting existing circular walks, but ultimately we want to link up many of the footpaths in Sandbach."

He continued " We arrange group walks during the week and at weekends. With the longer days, evening walks will begin soon. Anyone can become a member of the group. It is totally free. Details of the group walks are posted on our Facebook page, Sandbach Footpaths Group, and website. Just come along and enjoy the fresh air and company."

Further information Trevor Boxer on 01270 765775.



history talks

Sandbach History Society organises interesting talks featuring local events and people. The new season starts on Tuesday 6th September when Ian Doughty from Congleton Museum tells the story of Congleton's textile industry - "From Weaver to Wearer". Robert's bakery (samples included) is Keith Birkett's topic on 4th October. In November Joy Bratherton focuses on "Love, Lust and Lust" and on 6th December Olivia Smedley features Cheshire's forgotten suffragette - Elizabeth Wolstenholme - Elmy. Talks commence at 8pm in Sandbach Library. New members and visitors are welcome.

Sandbach THEN & NOW

Explore an exciting trail around Sandbach with stories and more of Sandbach from the First World War. This free family-friendly trail will be live from Friday 24th June until Sunday 10th July.

Share your experiences and learn more with fun activities on Sunday 26th June and 3rd July from 1pm-4pm at UCan Studios, Unit 3, Zan Industrial Park, Wheelock.

For more information, visit www.sandbachthenandnow.org.uk or email sam@ucanplay.org.uk



sandbach garden trail

Sandbach garden Trail offers some inspirational gardens with enthusiastic owners who like nothing better than a good chat about plants. Enjoy the views with a welcome cuppa or perhaps a cream tea. Open 25th and 26th June and 6th and 7th August.

Entry is £4 per person for the whole season with programmes and full details available around the town, from Sandbach Partnership, the Town Council or by contacting one of the organisers.

This year money raised will help Grassroots Disability to improve access to greenspaces and facilities around Sandbach.

Barbara West: 01270 759729, Jenny Haines: 01270 761541
Kathie Benson: 01270 764885

sir bradley wiggins' team to cycle through sandbach

Sir Bradley Wiggins' team will be arriving in Sandbach on Tuesday 6th September during the Tour of Britain 2016. Cheshire East are thrilled to be hosting Stage 3 of the Tour of Britain and welcoming Sir Bradley Wiggins' team for what is rumoured to be his last professional road race. Top riders, such as Mark Cavendish, will be amongst the 20 teams from 10 countries cycling through Sandbach at approximately 11:30 am. The race commences in Congleton and travels with a rolling road block through Alsager, Crewe, Northwich, Middlewich, Sandbach, Holmes Chapel, Chelford, Knutsford, Tatton, Mobberley, Alderley Edge, Prestbury, Bollin, Rainow, Macclesfield, Cat and Fiddle, Chelford, Knutsford and returning to Tatton for the finish.



The Route



Full details and updates can be found at www.cheshiretourofbrtain.co.uk