

Leigh on Sea Town Council News

issue 08

Illustration of Leigh on Sea by Neil Fendell



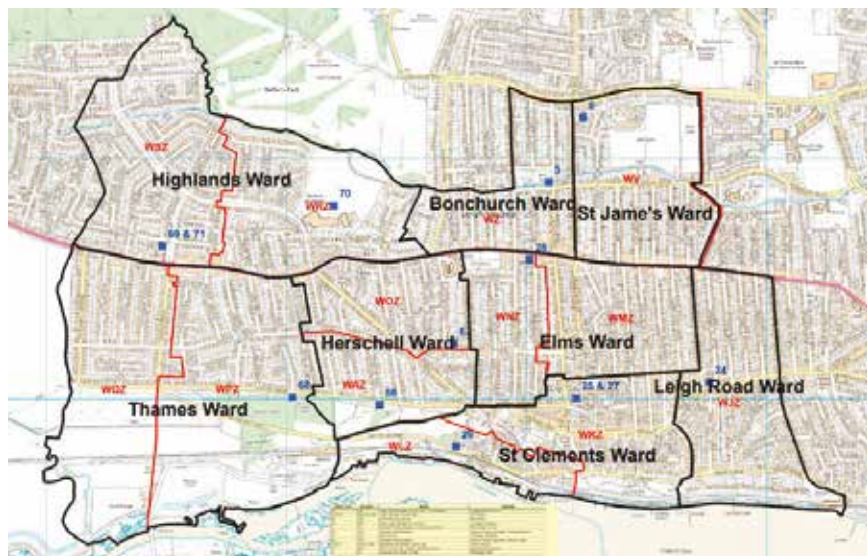
Arts & Culture | Clubs & Societies
Council Facilities & Activities | Outside Spaces

Editor's Note



Welcome to the 8th Edition of the Leigh Town Council News. Our cover is designed by talented local artist, Neil Fendell – you can find out more about Neil's work and his collaboration with the Leigh-on-Sea Brewery towards the end of the newsletter. Inside you will find information on Council activities and meetings. Amongst other things, we have included an article on the initiative to recruit Special Police Constables and also a call for volunteers to support The Friends of Leigh Library Gardens. These are both good examples of the work Leigh-on-Sea Town Council is doing to look after our community. The timing of this edition has been planned to give you plenty of notice of all the Christmas events we have in store for you. However, the Community Centre is busy all year round and our programme of activities for the autumn/winter is listed on our events 'centre-fold'.

I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter – it might even inspire you to put yourself forward as a Town Councillor in the elections next spring! *Cllr. Vivien Rosier*



LTC Councillor Details

Email: councillor@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Bonchurch Ward

Cllr Jill Healey 07854 959 389

Elms Ward

Cllr Fr. Clive Hillman 01702 475967
Cllr Caroline Parker 01702 477703
Cllr Keith Evans

Herschell Ward

Cllr Dec Mulroney 01702 475117
Cllr Gerry Glover

Highlands Ward

Cllr Mark Bromfield 01702 390602
Cllr John Duprey
Cllr Vivien Rosier 01702 474252

Leigh Road Ward

Cllr Anita Forde 01702 715070

St. Clements Ward

Cllr Valerie Morgan 01702 475590
Cllr Carole Mulroney 01702 475117

St. James Ward

Cllr Jill Adair 01702 716626

Thames Ward

Cllr Patrick Fox
Cllr Ron Owen 07748 907110

LTC Staff Details

Town Clerk – Helen Symmons

helen.symmons@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Assistant Responsible Finance Officer – Emma Stratton

emma.stratton@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Assistant Proper Officer – Abbie Cotterell

Abbie.cotterell@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Facilities Manager – Graham Davison

Graham.davison@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Events & Projects Officer – Emily Dean

Emily.dean@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Marketing & Profile Officer – Francesca Smith

Francesca.smith@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Bookings Administrator – Hannah Mumford

Hannah.mumford@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Receptionist – Liz Evans / Linda Mitchell

reception@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Caretaker – Claire Broad

Caretaker – Mark Doolan

Caretaker – Richard Flint

Caretaker – Graham Lock

Caretaker – David Skeels

SBC Councillor Details

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council YOUR Councillors for Leigh-on-Sea Wards

Belfairs Ward

Councillor Stephen Aylen 01702 212892
cllraylen@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Maureen Butler 01702 212867
cllrbutler@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Lesley Salter 01702 432364
cllrsalter@southend.gov.uk

Blenheim Park Ward

Councillor Helen Boyd 01702 212363
cllrboyd@southend.gov.uk

Councillor James Courtenay 01702 212870
cllrcourtenay@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Floyd Waterworth 01702 212892
cllrwaterworth@southend.gov.uk

Leigh Ward

Councillor Bernard Arscott 01702 212062
cllrarscott@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Carole Mulroney 01702 212890
cllrmulroney@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Peter Wrexham 01702 711958
cllrwexham@southend.gov.uk

West Leigh Ward

Councillor Fay Evans 01702 558657
cllrevans@southend.gov.uk

Councillor John Lamb 01702 483908
cllrlamb@southend.gov.uk

Councillor Georgina Phillips 01702 534644
cllrphillips@southend.gov.uk

Useful Numbers

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council 01702 716288
Southend Council switchboard 01702 215000

Parking, Highways and Transport 01702 215003

Planning, Development and Building Control 01702 215004

Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing 01702 215005

Waste, Fly tipping or posting and Graffiti 01702 215006



New Chairman Announcement

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council has selected Valerie Morgan as their new Chairman for the 2018/19 Council year, with Cllr. Jill Healey taking over as Vice-Chairman. Councillors also voted in the following members as Chairmen for each committee;

Cllr. Jill Healey: Planning, Licensing & Highways Committee

Cllr. Valerie Morgan: Environment & Leisure Committee

Cllr. Carole Mulroney: Community Facilities Committee

Cllr. Declan Mulroney: Policy & Resources Committee

A new Staffing Committee was formed to replace the former Personnel Sub-Committee, to better serve the Council's employees and will be chaired by Cllr. Patrick Fox.

This is the final year in the electorate term, with Councillor elections being held in May 2019.



Note from Chairman

I hope you enjoy reading this our latest edition, number 8, of your Town Council News. I was honoured to be elected Chairman for the current year and will do my best to serve this lovely, vibrant town of ours.

I plan to work with our many volunteers and Southend Borough Council to make it even better. I have chosen Southend YMCA as my charity for the year and you can read more about the work they do in this newsletter. By working together with organisations like the YMCA we can do more for the young people of the town.

We also plan to have more regular meetings for our older residents.

We now look forward to our Christmas events, details of which appear elsewhere in this Newsletter. All the work we do as a council in putting on these events, alongside running the Community Centre, is only made possible by the hard work of our staff and I would like to say a big thank you to them.

Full Council Meetings

All Council meetings are open to the public. Council meetings are always held on a Tuesday at 7.30pm, the majority take place in the Council Chambers (Room 6) at Leigh Community Centre.

The Council has various standing Committees and Sub-Committees which all report back to Full Council Meetings. Committee meetings are held bi-monthly and sub-committees only meet when called.



New Town Councillors For Leigh

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council has just co-opted two new Councillors for the 2018/19 Council year. Gerry Glover will be representing Herschell Ward and Keith Evans will be Councillor for Elms Ward.

There were nine candidates who applied for the two vacancies. A vote was held at the 29th May Full Council Meeting to confirm the successful applicants.



It was great to see so many people had put their name forward to be a part of the Town Council. There will be a Full Council election next year so there will be plenty of opportunity for those who were unsuccessful to go through the election process.

Note from Town Clerk

The team is very excited to finally be able to implement the extensive repair programme for the Community Centre. Whilst we had a glorious summer, those summer storms played havoc with our leaking lantern light so I am delighted to announce that work commenced in September to make us watertight and to restore the lantern light to its former glory. The next step will be to replace our lift with one that can cope with the ever-increasing visitors. We also should have the heating system in better working order for the winter. The years have taken their toll on the building so it will be a little while before it is 'shipshape' but we believe it will be worth it and so do our hirers, visitors and users of the Centre.

Unfortunately, it means there will be some disruption at times but we will endeavour to keep this to a minimum.

I have highlighted elsewhere in the Newsletter the fact that next year is a full election year for the Council so if you are interested in serving your community then please take a look and feel free to contact me if you have any queries or want to know anything more about being a Councillor.

Finally, if you want to keep up to date with what goes on at Council and Committees, then all the Agendas and Minutes are published on our website. Better still, all the meetings are public ones so feel free to pop along and meet us all.

Helen Symmons, Town Clerk



Dates

Tuesday 20th November
Tuesday 22nd January
Tuesday 5th February
Tuesday 19th March
Tuesday 21st May



Leigh Town Councillors Complete Chairman Training

Three of the Leigh-on-Sea Town Councillors, Valerie Morgan, Vivien Rosier and Jill Healey recently completed a three-day Chairman training course with the Essex Association of Local Councils.

The course which comprised a series of workshops has helped to develop the Councillors skills in order to better serve the community when chairing the Council's meetings.



Town Council Chairman Opens Careers Fair

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council Chairman, Valerie Morgan was pleased to be invited to open the Belfairs Academy Careers Fair on Wednesday 18th July.

Cllr Morgan gave a short speech to inspire the youngsters at the school and spoke to some of the students attending the event.

The Council is proud to support the school in events and initiatives and hopes to collaborate with them more in the future.

Merchant Navy Day

This year for the first time the council took part in Merchant Navy Day, September 3rd, joining more than 800 councils across the country, raising the Red Ensign, affectionately known as the Red Duster, on Strand Wharf.

September 3rd 1939 marked the outbreak of WW2 but was also the day of the first major British maritime casualty, the vessel SS Athenia, torpedoed just a few hours after hostilities were declared, with the loss of 128 passengers and crew.

Leigh First Aid Post

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council is pleased to celebrate the 20 year anniversary of the First Aid Post down in the Old Town. The Council has collaborated with St. John's Ambulance to bring first aid facilities to those using the beach since 1998.

With a prayer by Reverend Andrew Cowley to commemorate and celebrate the work of Merchant Navy Seafarers, Leigh-on-Sea Town Councillors were joined by representatives from Southend Borough Council, Royal British Legion, Royal Naval Association, Sea Scouts and local MP Sir David Amess.



ELECTIONS ARE COMING

There are 10,000 local (town and parish) councils in England, with 100,000 councillors serving their communities. In May 2019, 16 newly elected councillors will take up office to represent the Leigh-on-Sea Community for a four year term. Could it be you?

Being a local Councillor involves holding a position of trust and the role can be a rewarding and enriching experience. Leigh-on-Sea Town Council prides itself in being a non-political council (something the National Association of Local Councils strongly recommends) so you don't need to be a member of a political party or have any background in politics. You just need to be passionate and want the opportunity to contribute to the wellbeing of people in Leigh.

The Town Council is the first tier of local government and democratic election gives local Councillors a special status in public life for those willing and prepared to take decisions on behalf of the Leigh community with the responsibility to act fairly and within the law.

Providing services to meet community needs and aspirations is the prime function of Leigh Town Council and below is just a sample of the work we have undertaken over the past four years:

- Turned the Community Centre into a vibrant hub for the community and started an extensive repair and refurbishment programme
- Organised events for the Town - Leigh Lights, Maritime Festival, Summer Season on Strand Wharf, Community Day, Carols on Strand Wharf, Brent Geese Watch and the Community Centre Holiday programme



"Being a councillor is a team game, and we all need to play our part. But remembering that we are there to represent our community- and so finding as many ways as possible to listen to their views, seizing every opportunity to meet them, being honest about what we can and what we can't do – is probably the most important of all."

Town Councillor

- As a statutory consultee, we have reviewed every single planning and licensing application in the Town and made recommendations to the Borough for their consideration
- Produced a bi-annual newsletter and provided up to date social media sites to keep residents informed
- Redeveloped and managed Strand Wharf as a community space
- Introduced a new Christmas street decoration lighting scheme
- Organised hanging basket displays throughout the Town
- Funded a school crossing patrol
- Run regular community transport trips for the over 60s living within the Town boundary
- Liaised and developed relationships with Southend Borough Council, to ensure that the needs of the residents of Leigh-on-Sea are considered fully when decisions affecting them need to be made.
- Helped form Friends of Leigh Library Gardens and litter pick campaigns
- Helped form the Leigh Partnership Group for businesses and traders within the town
- Funded a Special Constables program
- Run a Youth Market, Christmas Craft Fayres, Nearly New Sales and revitalised the monthly Farmers' Market
- Formalised an Artist in Residence Programme at the Community Centre with regular art exhibitions
- Funded the First Aid post at Bell Wharf beach

But there is still a lot more to do to make Leigh-on-Sea the kind of community we want to live in.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Look out for potential councillors. Do you know someone passionate about our Town, who wishes to be a voice for the community and effect real change? Maybe it is you!
- Nominate a candidate. Being a town councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to the community and helping to make it a better place to live, work and visit. There are no rules as to how much time you spend on being a councillor – the minimum requirement is that you attend a council meeting at least every 6 months.

In order to be a Councillor, you must be:

- a UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union
- at least 18 years old on the day you become nominated for election
- an elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work or live within 3 miles of the local council boundary

DONALD FRASER OBITUARY

It is with deep sadness that Leigh-on-Sea Town Council learned of the passing of its longest serving member, Cllr Donald Fraser, on 2 April at the age of 92.

Donald was one of the founding members of the Town Council in 1996 and one of its staunchest advocates spending his time working tirelessly for the people of Leigh and in his latter years helping out in the Town Council offices and on reception. He loved meeting and talking to people and being part of the Leigh community.

Donald chaired the Town Council in 2000/1 and for many years was the Chairman of its Finance and General Purposes Committee. He had a sound head for figures and budgeting and kept a keen eye on the finances.

Donald was also one of the leading proponents of the Council's Community Transport Scheme for our elderly and disabled residents – enjoying the trips himself in his latter years and always keen to find new venues and activities for the Group.

Those who knew Donald knew of his very detailed interest in our local transport systems, be they buses or trains. He was the 'go to' person for anything to do with these subjects and for many years served on the Southend Area Bus Users Group.

One of his other interests was planning and he made sure that the people of his ward were always aware of what was going on or proposed and spoke effectively for them.

Others will no doubt write of his support for many other local institutions such as the Church and the Heritage Centre. With his vast knowledge of Leigh and its people over a long-life Donald was a fount of knowledge, always freely given with enthusiasm.

Donald's passing is an immeasurable loss to the Town Council, for although he had recently resigned due to his health, we know that he would have been keeping a key eye on our activities and we will miss his laugh, his voice and his humour and knowledge and, above all, his love for Leigh.

As a mark of our gratitude and respect we have renamed the Lower Hall in the Community Centre, to the Donald Fraser Hall, so his name will be remembered by all present and future councillors as an exemplar for what a good Councillor should be.





Chairman's Charity

For the 2018-19 Council year, Chairman Valerie Morgan has selected Southend YMCA. Throughout the year the Council will be undertaking a variety of fundraising initiatives and events to help the charity as well as finding ways we can directly support the Southend YMCA by working together to provide facilities for the youth in the Town.

Council Chairman Valerie Morgan says "When I was elected Chairman I realised I needed a charity to support for my year in office. I decided I wanted it to be local and to benefit young people, Southend YMCA ticked both of those boxes. I hope over the year to raise some money for them and to raise their profile in the Town."



About Southend YMCA

Southend YMCA is your local children and young people's charity, supporting disadvantaged youth to build their future. The charity has been in operation since 1887 and all funds raised by the Southend branch go directly back to them.

They offer a range of services and projects to help support young people who are faced with challenging circumstances such as homelessness, bullying, abuse, poverty, unemployment and mental health issues. These include accommodation, education, positive activities, mentoring, coaching and counselling.

They firmly believe that no young person should have to face life difficulties without support, and strive to create projects that meet their needs and aspirations.

Facts & Figures on the young people who have been supported by Southend YMCA

82% of young people improved their motivation and confidence.

94% accessed education, volunteering or employment.

79% said their feelings of being part of a local community strengthened.

100% gained independence with a planned move on.

Ways you can help Southend YMCA!

- Volunteer directly to support young people
- Volunteer as an advisor to share your wisdom
- Help to fundraise by an organising or attending an event
- Make a donation -
Text "YMCA07 £5" to 70070 to donate £5

Council Initiatives

- Fundraising will take place at various public events throughout the year, most notably Leigh Lights and Carols on Strand Wharf
- Staff and councillors will take part in fundraising activities within the Council Offices
- A donation box will be set up in Leigh Community Centre, for toiletries and dried/tinned foods to help young people who have been left with nothing
- At Christmas we will be setting up a "Giving Tree" where you can donate presents to young people living with Southend YMCA, many of whom are estranged from their families
- The Council are working closely with Southend YMCA to develop and implement a youth club in the Leigh area for the 8-13 year old age bracket



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A LEIGH-ON-SEA COMMUNITY SPECIAL CONSTABLE WILL:

- 1 Be integrated into a Community Policing Team
- 2 Start and end their duty as close to their community as possible, potentially from another agency's premises
- 3 Spend the majority of their time within the council area's neighbourhoods
- 4 Be visible and accessible in local communities on uniformed, foot or cycle patrol
- 5 Help address local issues and priorities as informed by the local council and police intelligence-led tasking
- 6 Patrol hot spots identified through intelligence or which have been deemed to be priority areas
- 7 Respond to police-related incidents within the council area
- 8 Engage with local communities and support further recruitment of Specials
- 9 Attend suitable local council meetings where available to do so
- 10 Have regard to the Council's aims and objectives in their voluntary service

Community Special Constable - Policing your neighbourhood

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council will be funding its own volunteer police officers as part of Essex Police Community Specials scheme.

Under the scheme, the town council will fund the expenses of volunteer police officers who will be designated to the Leigh Town Council area.

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council and Superintendent Simon Anslow, lead for the Special Constabulary met at the Community Centre to officially launch the scheme.

Our Community Special Constables will be volunteering a minimum of 16 hours each month in Leigh to target and disrupt anti-social behaviour, respond to community concerns and carry out high visibility foot patrols in the town. The Specials have the same full policing powers and uniform as regular police officers.

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council will fund expenses that the Specials require to carry out their duties in the town and the scheme will form part of the council's plans to continue to keep the town area safe.

Superintendent Simon Anslow, said: "We're delighted that Leigh Town Council has decided to work in partnership with us to increase the visible presence of police officers in the town. Dedicated Special Constables will bring something a little extra that will help deal with some of the really local issues. We'd love to see more people from the town put themselves forward to join up and support the policing in this vibrant part of the borough."

Leigh-on-Sea Town Clerk, Helen Symmons said: "Leigh-on-Sea Town Council is pleased to be able to support this scheme in our area and see the volunteer police officers helping to protect our community.

"It is something we have been working with Essex Police towards and are pleased to say we have made it happen. We are actively promoting the volunteer scheme and look forward to having up to five Specials joining us."

Roger Hirst, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex, said: "We know that safe and secure communities are the bedrock on which we build wellbeing and prosperity for all. This initiative is a great example of how by working together with local parish and town councils we can help communities keep safe.

"These fully warranted roles will also provide local people with the opportunity to make a huge contribution to the communities in which they live. Its really positive that Leigh Town Council has taken up this opportunity and I am looking forward to seeing it work in action. The public wants more local, visible and accessible policing and this will make a big difference to the people of Leigh."

Community Specials are committed to policing the area that pays for them. However where a critical incident occurs, for example a terrorist attack, the Community Special may be called on to help in another area of the county.

Applicants can apply via the website: essex.police.uk/specials

A detailed account from a Special Constable working in Witham

I joined Essex Police as a Special Constable attesting in December 2017 with the belief that I could contribute in some positive manner to my community and specifically my neighbourhood.

The training continues after attestation and takes you in all directions as you gain different experiences in a multitude of incidents and disciplines, generally this is a part of a Local Policing Team meaning that you react to a request for assistance from the Public. After this initial period however I found that I was not quite addressing an issue that seemed to be at the forefront of members of the public's concerns - where are Police Officers on the streets? This has always been of interest to me and I started to look for opportunities that would allow me to get out on foot patrol proactively and in conjunction with an ongoing policing operation this took me on to the streets of Braintree, Halstead and Witham in the company of another more experienced officer.

I documented my foot patrols on social media and the response from the residents of the town was very encouraging. I combined these foot patrols with my response shifts and this started to introduce a more rounded experience for me which enabled me to offer both a reactive service and a constructive visible presence in the towns.

Shortly after commencing my foot patrols I was approached by Les Hawkins (Specials Supported Policing Officer) and asked if I would be interested in providing a minimum of 16 hours each month to becoming a Community Special Constable for Witham. I accepted and joined S/Sgt Jason Wintin and SC Lorne Campbell to become a dedicated community resource for Witham. I originally lived in Witham before moving to Braintree so I was already familiar with the town and combined with my previous foot patrols I had increased my local knowledge, now I had an opportunity as part of #CSCWitham to start to make a real positive impression on the lives of the local people.

After a successful launch of the scheme on 4th June 2018, SC Campbell and myself under the leadership of S/SGT Wintin began our patrols in Witham. The role funded by the local council was welcomed by the Community and this was highlighted clearly when we attended Witham Community Fun Day, where we were approached by many different members of the public, young and old, welcoming us and thanking us for the visibility, help & reassurance we would bring.

One of the key aspects of the role is visibility to the public, whether this is a passing 'hello' or helping out with a local issue and this perfectly aligns with my desire to be out on foot patrol (although we may be getting push bikes to increase our range at some stage in the future!)

One of my first patrols as a Community Special Constable was with S/Sgt Jason Wintin and we conducted foot patrol around Witham town centre. This coincided with one of the World Cup games involving England so we were keen to be seen and try to ensure that everyone had a good time. During the match the town was quiet and we ventured out a bit further, taking in the train station, the local COOP and ASDA store and taking the River Walk. Specifically targeting areas identified for concern by Witham residents I am pleased to say that all was in order.

The next patrol however demonstrated why visible policing with officer's present on the streets can be important in tackling different types of Anti-Social Behaviour and whilst on patrol in the early hours of a Saturday morning I ended up conducting a Stop & Search resulting in the confiscation of a quantity of a Class B drug. This action could only have been taken by being on the street at the time and this has a direct positive impact on the community.

I am not independent yet and this means that I need to be patrolling with a more senior officer, this helps me at the moment as I increase my knowledge, learning from each experience but of course it also provides a significant visual impact to the members of the public with reassurance of multiple officers on patrol and shows that Essex Police are committed to the safety and well-being of the communities they serve.

I am looking forward of course to achieving independent status where this will further allow me to personally call into shops and stores, pubs and clubs and other local businesses, visit schools and colleges to establish and integrate ourselves into the community. Which will fully address my ambition as a Special Constable for Essex Police.



Leigh on Sea Council does not currently have any Specials signed up but are recruiting for up to five Community Specials to join the scheme soon.

Applicants can apply via the website: essex.police.uk/specials

Policy & Resources Committee

The Policy & Resources Committee is responsible for the governance and financial control of the Council. It is also responsible for staffing, grant awards, the volunteer programme and the Leigh-on-Sea Town Council Newsletter.

The remit of this Committee includes:

- Approval of the Corporate Plan
- Council's Budget setting
- Ensuring effective Use of Resources and Value for Money

Dates

Tuesday 6th November 2018

Tuesday 8th January 2019

Tuesday 5th March 2019

Tuesday 7th May 2019

Membership

Cllr Declan Mulronee - Chairman

Cllr Mark Bromfield - Vice-Chairman

Cllr John Duprey

Cllr Patrick Fox

Cllr Jill Healey

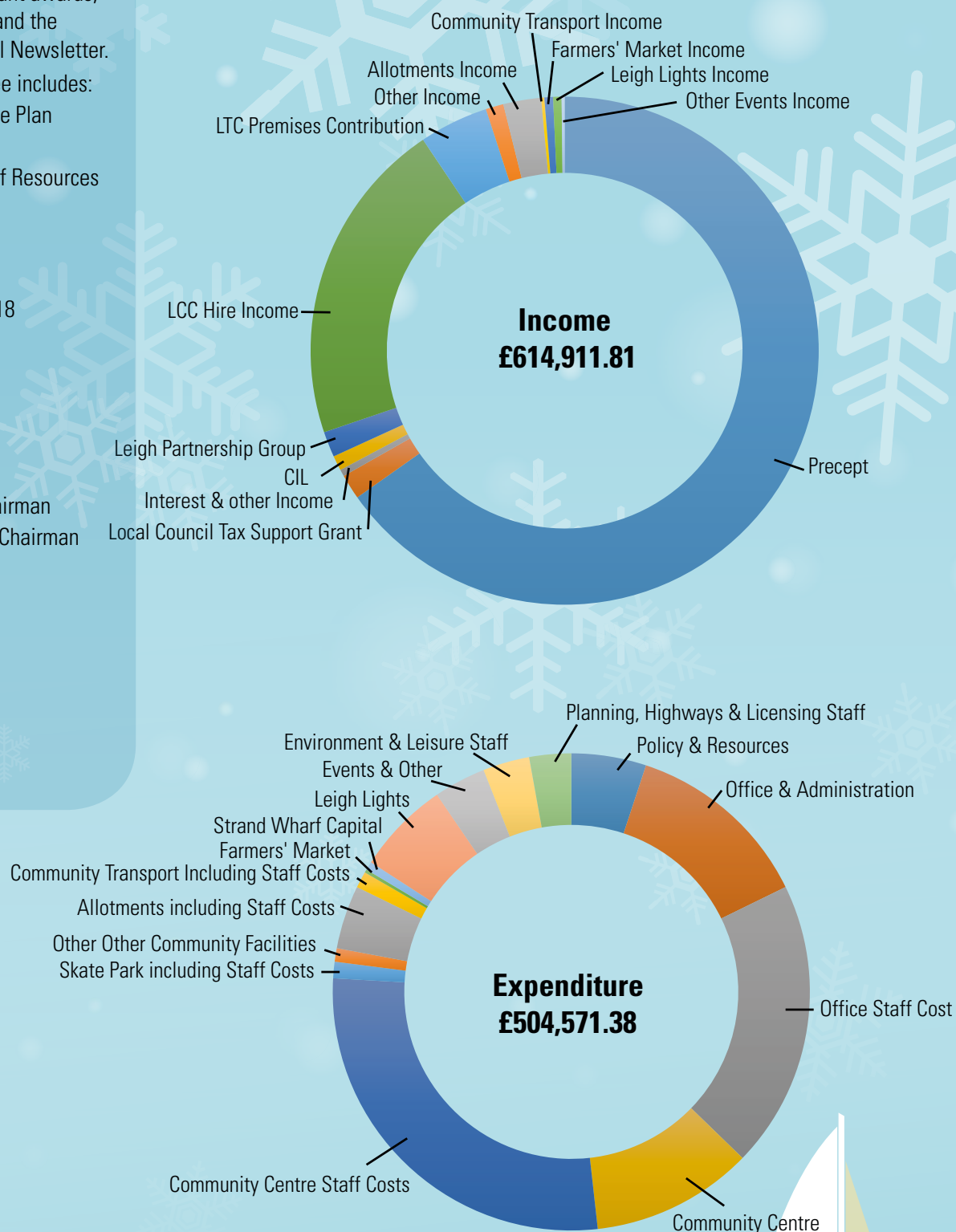
Cllr Valerie Morgan

Cllr Carole Mulronee

Cllr Ron Owen

Cllr Vivien Rosier

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council 2017/18 Income and Expenditure



Grant Award Scheme

Applications are now being taken for Leigh-on-Sea Town Council's Grant Award Scheme. The Council offer grants of up to £500 for charitable, not-for-profit organisations and community initiatives throughout the town.

The grant can also be awarded in the form of a bursary to cover the cost of room hire at Leigh Community Centre. This is ideal for organisations who need an accessible space to run events, workshops or meetings that will benefit the local community. The Council have previously supported Leigh Art Trail, Blade Education, and Leigh Regatta as well as many other groups.

Multiple bursaries can be awarded at each intake, with the next deadline for applications being the 31st March 2019. For more information or to request an application form, please email council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk or visit Leigh Community Centre Reception.



Recent Recipients

The Town Council was pleased to award 6 different organisations a grant in May 2018, totalling £1899.65.

Once again, the Council has chosen to support the British Legion for their Poppy Appeal launch by offering them a bursary to cover the room hire for their coffee morning in October. Southend Area Bus Users Group has also been awarded the cost of their room hire for the year for their meetings.

Other grants distributed this year included N-Act Theatre School, Southend RNLI, Leigh Folk Festival and a Dementia Friends Group.

Southend RNLI

The Southend Lifeboat Station is very grateful to be chosen for Leigh-on-Sea Town Council's Grant Award, which will be of great benefit to the volunteer crews.

The RNLI is the charity which saves lives at sea and depends entirely on voluntary donations. Although the RNLI provide all equipment and clothing for the crews there are times when they have to provide some items themselves.

The money will also be used for any future projects and purchases for the crew rooms. The crews work very hard to provide floats for the Southend Carnival and the Leigh Lights. There are always some costs involved but the effort is well worth it as this year the collection at the Southend Carnival raised £1,424.96.

The RNLI Annual Boxing Day Dip will this year be held on 26th December on Southend Seafront, at the beach near Sea Life Adventure. For more information visit southendlifeboat.org

N-Act Theatre School



June and July 2018 were busy months for N-Act Theatre in Schools – due in no small part to the contribution made by the grant awarded by Leigh-on-Sea Town Council. Having also secured funding from Arts Council England, Essex Community Foundation, and Southend Borough Council we were all set to start our tour of 'Friend'. This play was created in response to Southend Police to support them in their drive to combat the increasingly worrying culture of gangs.

It is surprising to learn that our comparatively small town of Southend is home to 21 identified gangs. Many London gangs recruit our young people (some as young as 12) often without them being aware of what they are getting into.

The play is based entirely on true stories and demonstrates how everyone has a choice. After our show 98% were able to identify signs of being recruited into gangs, and what to do about it. 15 of our 17 schools saw disclosures from students who had been affected by gangs and were motivated by our production to do something about it, showing the power of interactive theatre.

"It was very powerful and poignant and made me feel emotional" (Parent)

We gave 22 performances in 17 schools and 2 Community Showcases. We sold out our summer tour, and have now extended this into the new term.

2018 – 2019 is going to be a very exciting time too. In addition to our extended tour of 'Friend, we return with 'Linked' - our play about internet safety. We are busy working on 2 new shows for 2019/20 and are preparing to host the Theatre Stage with METAL at the Village Green next July.

"I think this will have a huge impact on our generation as they can see what really happens when you're involved with the wrong crowd" (Student)

"An absolutely brilliant play which was so relevant. Youngsters aren't going to listen to teachers and politicians but they may listen to organisations such as yourselves." (Sir David Amess)

GOOD FOR LEIGH WINNERS 2018

The 'Good for Leigh' awards are presented at our annual town meeting, in recognition of contributions made to the community



Nicholas Mounsey



Oasis Coffee House



The British Legion

Nicholas Mounsey

Last year local secondary school student Nicholas was witness to a motorbike incident, he remained calm and called the emergency services for the injured party, put them in the recovery position and stayed with them until the ambulance arrived. Nicholas is a shining example of a good citizen.

Oasis Coffee House

For the last few years Oasis Coffee House has been running a suspended meal scheme, where patrons can buy an extra meal or hot drink for those living in food poverty. They also issue vouchers to Southchurch Foodbank and to 57 West, a local church that gives around 50 to 80 meals to homeless and vulnerably housed people every week. They also work closely with The Storehouse Food Bank and HARP. Since 2015 they have raised over £27,000.

Royal British Legion - Leigh on Sea Branch

The British Legion works tirelessly all year round to promote and raise funds for the poppy appeal, and to clean up the town with regular litter picks. In November 2017 they worked closely with Blade Education to bring poppies to life for children across the Borough.

Uniformed Volunteers in Leigh on Sea

The Council wanted to present a Good for Leigh Award to everyone who volunteers for uniformed groups that meet in Leigh on Sea, to thank them for all of their hard work in providing activities for young people throughout the Town. This includes all the leaders and helpers from Girl Guiding Groups (Rainbows, Brownies and Guides) and Scout Groups (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Sea Scouts).



Uniformed Volunteers

VOLUNTEER PROFILE - REG WELLS

When did you start volunteering for Leigh-on-Sea Town Council?

As a child I lived in Ilford and used to help fundraise for local charities and later helped start the Redbridge Carnival and ended up as chairman for which I received the Carnival Guild medal for service to charity. After 10 years I had to give it up when I moved to Southend plus my work involved a lot of travelling and sometimes working overseas. I suppose it all started here when I moved to Leigh and was picked as an Essex Ambassador for the 2012 Olympics. Ambassadors were not disbanded after the Olympics but requested to help with various local charities etc., and I was willing to help in my spare time. So when I retired in 2014, and had more free time, I started to look to see what I could do to help the community, especially if it involved using the meeting and greeting skills I had learnt while being an Ambassador.

What volunteering roles have you fulfilled for the Council?

The first event for the Leigh Council was helping the public at the Maritime Festival, then the Christmas Lights, helping at a stall for the pantomime in the Community Centre, manning a crafts stall at a couple of Children's events and helping at various other events at the Centre. And recently being trained as a driver for the mini bus.

What has been your favourite event/project to volunteer at and why?

That's a difficult one as I enjoy them all. Being retired, it helps you to get out instead of just sitting at home and I enjoy helping the community and meeting people. After all, many of the events would never happen without us volunteers.

What other activities do you do?

Oh dear the list is endless. I am a genealogist and one of the experts for the Essex Family History Society Southend Branch. I help the Youth Officer at Belfairs Woods, assist at the Leigh Folk Festival and the Southend Museums. I am one of the Care Car drivers for Southend Hospital. I am involved in other charity events for the Hospital, Southend Carnival and Leigh Beer Festival, plus I go back to the 1800's as a re-enactor for the 44th East Essex Regiment of Foot.

Why do you like being a volunteer for Leigh-on-Sea Town Council?

It's the satisfaction of helping the community and a great way getting out and meeting people. I cannot understand when I hear of people who moan that they are lonely and bored, when there are so many local charities and organisations that are pleading for people to help as volunteers. As I have already stated these events and organisations would not exist without our help.



This year in Leigh, the Town Council will be holding 8 events as well as hosting activities at Leigh Community Centre, which it also manages.

The Town Council has a part-time Events Officer who sympathises with those who try to organise events in Southend and Helen Symmons, the Town Clerk and former Events Officer, is well aware that it has become harder to organise public events and meet the strict requirements surrounding them. Volunteers like Reg helps us keep costs down as hiring outside agencies is expensive.

The Town Council is delighted that its events programme this year included a brand-new Community Day event at Bonchurch Park in June, the popular Summer Season on Strand Wharf and another new event in conjunction with the RSPB in the autumn. This is followed by Leigh Lights - the Council's biggest event at the end of November - and Christmas Carols on Strand Wharf in December.

During school holidays there are children's activities in the Community Centre as well as the monthly Farmers' Markets and regular craft fairs. This summer the Community Centre saw an inaugural Youth Market giving the youngsters in the town a chance to show off their entrepreneurial talents.

The Folk Festival, Regatta and Art Trail all add to the exciting FREE events programme in Leigh and whilst the Town Council contributes to their costs and assists where it can, these events are run entirely by volunteers. So, if you can, please show your support and volunteer a few hours to assist the organisers of these events. This is your chance to keep them running and be involved in the community.

Community Facilities Committee

The Community Facilities Committee is responsible for all Council premises and assets of Leigh Community Centre. There is also a Leisure Development Sub-Committee that meets as required to discuss the developments of other council assets, such as the Skate Park.

Dates

Tuesday 4th December 2018

Tuesday 5th February 2019

Tuesday 2nd April 2019

Membership

Cllr Carole Mulroney - Chairman

Cllr Ron Owen - Vice-Chairman

Cllr Keith Evans

Cllr Anita Forde

Cllr Gerry Glover

Cllr Jill Healey

Cllr Valerie Morgan

Cllr Declan Mulroney

Cllr Vivien Rosier

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

As some of you may be aware Leigh-on-Sea Town Council recently made the necessary decision to commence a repair programme at Leigh Community Centre. The first part of this work will be urgent roofing repairs starting on 10th September 2018 and we anticipate this will last until Friday 16th November 2018. We will be working with contractors to ensure the least amount of disruption as possible to all, however we cannot avoid total disruption.

We want to make all residents aware that during this time there will be no short stay 20-minute parking bays or disabled parking space to the front to the building. Disabled parking is available in the Elm Road car park.

These works are necessary repairs and maintenance to the roof which will make the building watertight once more, as well as restore the existing lantern light for the benefit of all centre users.

Looking to the New Year we will be replacing the lift and are hoping to continue with further refurbishments to the Centre.



New Hirers

As always, the Centre is once again host to a variety of new regular sessions. We are excited to now offer:

Southend Meeting of Creative Kids

A regular art class for 11 – 18 year olds held on Saturday mornings at 11am. www.smock.club

Zumbini

A Zumba inspired music and movement session for 0-4 year olds. Held on Tuesdays at 1.30pm. www.zumbini.com

Teen Spirit Yoga

A weekly yoga class for 14-19 year olds held on Thursday's at 5pm. teenspiriteducation@gmail.com

Love Leigh Yoga Kids

A yoga adventure class for 3-8 year olds held weekly at 9.45am on Saturdays. www.loveleighyogakids.com

Piano lessons will also be running from September making use of our Grand Piano in the Donald Fraser Hall, and the Leigh Estuary U3A have launched a **Creative Writing Class**.

In October we will also be welcoming back the WEA who will be running a variety of **adult learning courses**. Titles include, Nobel Prize Winning Writers and Conflict in the 19th Century Essex Countryside. Then in January, Literature of the 1960's and A History of Ideas. www.wea.org.uk

Lorna & Lottie's Café

Lorna & Lottie's is a family run cafe situated on the ground floor of the Centre and caters for the needs of all the Centre users. The cafe serves an array of hot drinks, tasty breakfasts, lunch time meals and a variety of delicious homemade cakes and treats. Children's lunch bags are also available. Card payments are now accepted for transactions over £5.



Lorna & Lottie's also provides affordable and tailor-made catering options for weddings, parties and events at the Centre.

OPENING TIMES

Mon	9am - 5:00pm
Tue	9am - 3:30pm
Wed	9am - 6:30pm
Thur	9am - 9:00pm
Fri	9am - 3:30pm
Sat	9am - 2:00pm
Sun	open for private functions only



The market is held in Leigh Community Centre on the third Friday of the month from 9am to 1pm. We are always on the lookout for new local traders to attend the market and can offer very competitive rates for stalls. We have a focus on bringing fresh, local and quality produce to the residents of Leigh, and invite everyone to come along!

For further information call 01702 716288

Or visit us online at:

www.leighcommunitycentre.com/leigh-farmers-market

www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk/leigh-farmers-market

www.facebook.com/LeighFarmersMarket

Farmers Market Dates 2018

Friday 19th October

Friday 16th November

Saturday 22nd December

Farmers Market Dates 2019

Friday 15th February

Friday 15th March

Friday 19th April

Friday 17th May

Friday 21st June

Friday 19th July

Friday 16th August

Friday 20th September

Friday 18th October

Friday 15th November

Our Regular Stall Holders

Our market is still regularly supported by the following stalls. All of which provide locally sourced and handmade foods.

Bean & Boy – Handmade soaps

Boxes Honey – Locally produced honey

Box Boy – Handcrafted wooden boxes

Bradfield's Farm Dairy – Local milk, cheese and yogurts

Elixirs of Life – Natural skin products

The Food Beaver – Spice blends and seasonings

Flower & Home – Local florist

Gambardeli – Vegan deli

Highfield Farm – Beef and eggs

Hoppily – Beers from independent breweries

Mallow Magic – Handmade marshmallows

McCarthy's Country Store – Bread, cakes and pastries

My Choc O'Leight – Artisan chocolates

My Kind Cakes – Vegan and dairy free cakes

Pig & Mini – Vegan dog treats

Plant Powered Proteins – Raw, protein balls and energy bites

The Pop Stop – Handmade ice lollies

Rhyne Park Farm – Pork and lamb

Sarah Green's Organics – Locally grown vegetables

Sharpening Solutions – Knife sharpening van

South East Essex Organic Gardeners – Plants

New Stall Holders

As always, our catalogue of regular stallholders has once again grown in the last 6 months. We are now welcoming six new stalls each month, selling a variety of treats, eco-products and larder goods.

Caversham Confectionary

Southend based business making traditional, soft fudge in lots of lovely flavours ranging from traditional delights such as vanilla and rum & raisin, to more unusual options including lemon meringue and ginger.

Flour & Spoon

A small artisan bakery based in Leigh on Sea providing hand mixed and hand shaped sour dough bread. Breads can be pre-ordered through their website.

Hugo's Pantry

From Leigh on Sea, delicious handmade baked goods including from blondies, brownies, cookies and cakes.

Leigh on Sea General Store

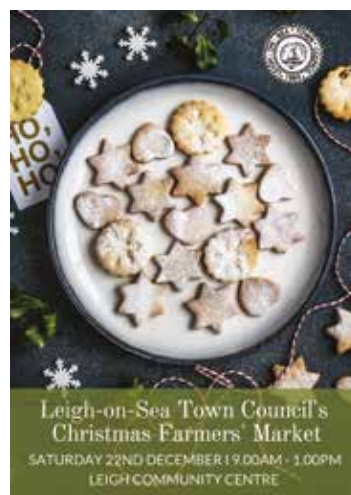
Offering ethical personal and home cleaning products on tap to fill reusable containers, brands include Ecover, Faith in Nature, If You Care and Georganics. Local delivery available, cotton shopping bags available for £3, with a £5 purchase.

Little Fin Roastery

A small batch coffee roasting business based in Southend-On-Sea that caters to both public and trade. Offering a range of filter and espresso coffees and currently roast all coffee fresh to order. Also sell cold brew coffee by the bottle at summer markets.

The Perfect Pudding Company

From Leigh on Sea, originally selling just Christmas puddings and cakes, have now expanded to make their own pickles and chutneys, sold throughout the year with an ever-increasing catalogue of varieties available.



Christmas Farmers' Market

The Christmas Farmers' Market will be open on Saturday 22nd December from 9am to 1pm. You can expect to find all of our usual stalls as well as exciting festive additions so you can pick up all of your supplies for a yummy yuletide.

Every person entering the market will also receive a raffle ticket to win a Christmas Hamper including items from all of our stallholders.

To really get you in the

Christmas spirit there will also be Carol singing and free giveaways for those attending. Orders can be placed at the November market for collection just before Christmas.

Or remember to pop in to grab some last minute fresh, festive fayre for your Christmas dinner!



OCTOBER

Wednesday 17th – Saturday 20th October

Palace Theatre

Leigh Operatic & Dramatic Society performance of "Spring Awakening". Prices start at £16.00

Tickets available at southendtheatres.org.

Friday 19th October

Leigh Community Centre

Leigh Farmers Market. 9am – 1pm. Free Entry

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October

Leigh Community Centre

October Half Term Events – Mad Science Week

Slime making, bubble workshops, gardening workshop and a detective workshop! Prices from £5

Details available at www.leighcommunitycentre.com

Saturday 27th October

Leigh Community Centre

WW1 Armistice Event. Free Entry .10.00am – 4pm

The Royal British Legion Coffee Morning, 'Leigh People' exhibition, poppy making workshop, exhibitions, films made by schools ... and lots more

Saturday 27th October

Leigh Community Centre

Rudi and The Allstars Band Night

Sunday 28th October

Leigh Community Centre

Cheeki Monkey Nearly New Baby Sale

2.30pm – 5pm. Stalls from £15. Entry £1.50

Wednesday 31st October

Leigh Community Centre

"Cards for Good Causes" Christmas Card Sales start trading

NOVEMBER

Saturday 10th November

Leigh Community Centre

Leigh Pop Up Christmas Designer Craft Market

12pm – 4pm. Free entry.

Saturday 10th November

Leigh Community Centre

Leigh Rock -The Beatles Tribute

Night 7.30pm – 11pm.

Tickets £12 on the door

Sunday 11th November

Leigh Community Centre

Remembrance Sunday Muster

Starts at 1pm

Wednesday 14th November

Leigh Community Centre

Veterans Tea Party

Organised by St. Clement's Church. Starts at 3pm.

Wednesday 14th November

Leigh Community Centre

Leigh Society Talk – Essex Fire Brigade Museum

7.30pm – 10pm. Members £2/Non-Members £3

Friday 16th November

Leigh Community Centre

Leigh Farmers Market

9am – 1pm. Free Entry

Saturday 17th November

Leigh Community Centre

Broadway Belle's W.I. Christmas Fayre

Saturday 24th November

Leigh Community Centre

Southend Adult Community College

Christmas Handmade Fayre

10am – 3pm. Free Entry

Sunday 25th November

Leigh Community Centre

Cheeki Monkey Nearly New Baby Sale

2.30pm – 5pm. Stalls from £15. Entry £1.50

Friday 30th November

Leigh Community Centre,

throughout Leigh Town Centre

Pre-Parade Fun at Leigh Community Centre 4pm – 6pm.

Free entry. Leigh Lights Event from 5pm throughout

Leigh Broadway



More details available online www.leighcommunitycentre.com

A L E N D A R

DECEMBER

Saturday 1st December

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh-on-Sea Town Council Christmas Fayre
11am – 4pm. Free Entry

Friday 14th December

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh Rock - Led Zeppelin Tribute Night 7.30pm – 11pm.
Tickets £12 on the door

Friday 21st December

Leigh Community Centre
Stud 100 and The Beautiful People Band Night
7.30pm – 11pm. Tickets from £10

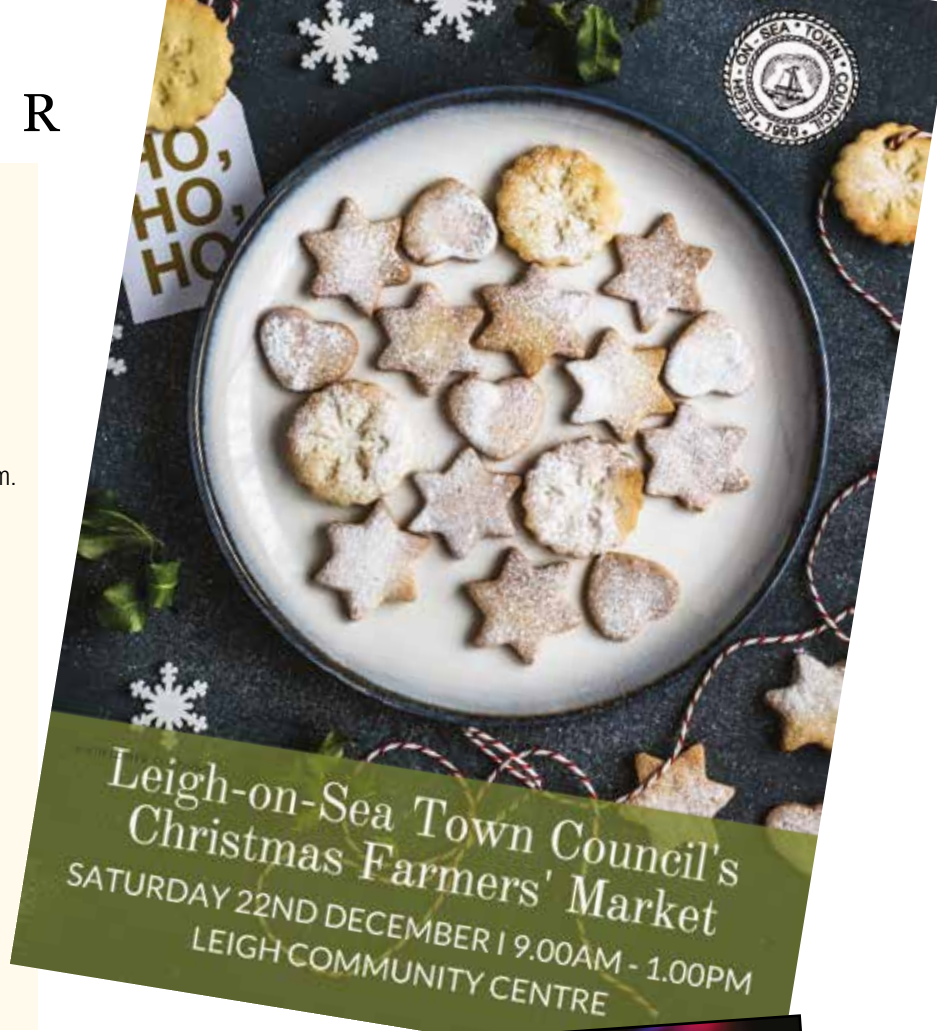
Saturday 22nd December

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh Christmas Farmers Market
9am – 1pm. Free Entry

Monday 24th December 2018

Wednesday 2nd January 2019

Leigh Community Centre &
Town Council Offices closed



FEBRUARY 2019

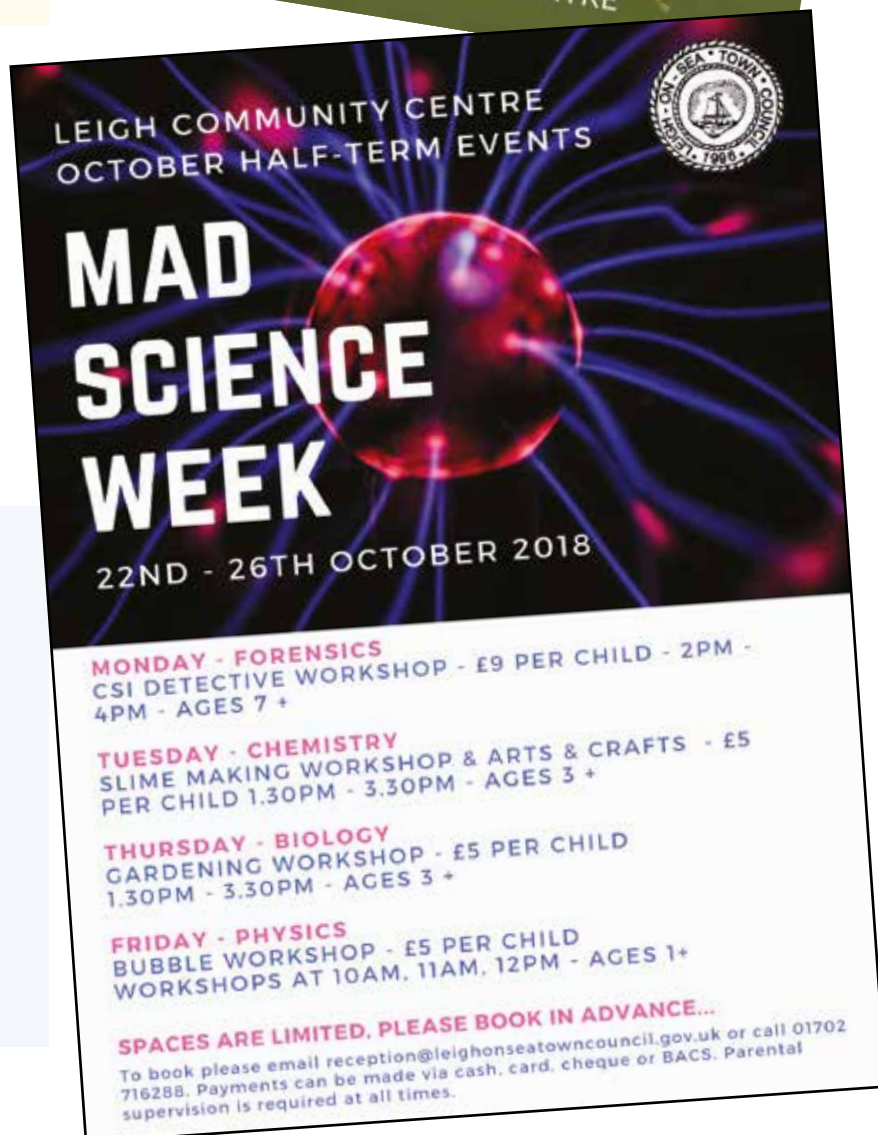
Friday 15th February

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh Farmers Market
9am – 1pm. Free Entry

Monday 18th February –

Friday 23rd February

Leigh Community Centre
February Half Term Events
Details to follow at www.leighcommunitycentre.com



MARCH 2019

Friday 15th March

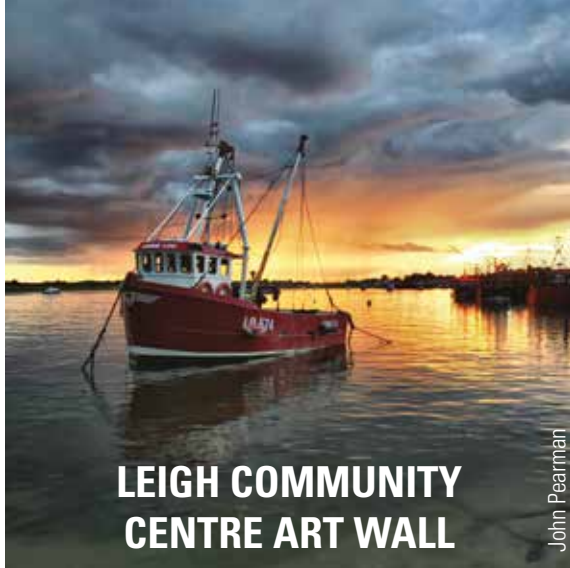
Leigh Community Centre
Leigh Farmers Market
9am – 1pm. Free Entry

Saturday 16th March

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh Rock - St Patricks day special with U2 TRIBE
7.30pm – 11pm. Tickets £12 on the door

Friday 22nd March

Leigh Community Centre
Leigh-on-Sea Town Council Annual Town Meeting
Meeting commences at 7pm.



The Leigh Community Centre Art Wall has gone from strength to strength thanks to the curating skills of Bronwyn Oldham.

We have an exciting programme of exhibitions planned for the next 6 months. Why not pop in and take a look? The exhibition space is in the stair-well, along the upper corridor and there are some cabinets for 3D work too.

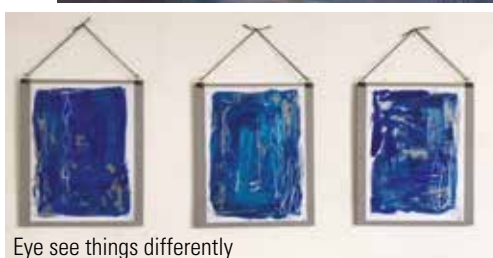
Lisa Meehan



John Harwood



Ann Chadwick



Eye see things differently

8th - 28th Nov **Face2face Arts Chaplaincy**

'Requiem' is an exhibition of works by artists who are responding to the Great War by focusing on a person or animal or object linked to that conflict in some way. The original idea was proposed in order to pay tribute to the individual who, whether through loss of life or through their sacrifice in other ways, helped to bring about the armistice in 1918. The exhibition, organised by The Face2face Arts Chaplaincy will begin in St Clement's Church on 18 October with a Private View on 26th October 7-8pm. It will then be transferred to the Leigh Community Centre for exhibition with a tea party for invited veterans taking place on 14th November.

29th Nov - 10th Jan **Drawing in the Park**

Lisa Meehan guides this creative group of budding artists who get together once a week at Metal Art School in Chalkwell Park. Inspiration is drawn from nature in and around the park and individual members of the group can often be seen perched on benches with pens and pencils in hand. Lisa encourages the use of a variety of mediums – pencil, graphite, charcoal, coloured inks, pastels, watercolours and acrylics – and also different drawing tools such as sticks, twigs and lengths of bamboo in order to produce more spontaneous drawings. Some of the most recent work took full advantage of the summer sunshine and light sensitive paper was used to create some amazing negative effects. Contact lfmeehan@btinternet.com for details and to learn more about the sessions at Metal Art School.

14th Jan - 14th Feb **Cre4teCollab**

The Council is keen to play a part in supporting the aspirations of enterprising young people like this group of talented young artists who all had stalls at the Youth Market (see right) and are organizing this Art Wall exhibition.

18th Feb - 14th March **John Harwood**

John started drawing and painting after early retirement. Having enrolled in evening classes, he started sketching with pencil and charcoal, moved to watercolours and finally to oils. In Leigh on Sea he ran his own gallery for a while, painting landscapes and receiving commissions for portraits. John is a member of Southend Art Club, has won awards for both his portraits and landscapes and acts as a group leader for local portrait painting workshops.

18th March - 18th April **Ann Chadwick and John Pearman**

This is a joint exhibition by two local artists who are inspired by views of their home town. Ann was born in Leigh and has lived here ever since. She works mostly with acrylic and, more recently, oil paint. A member of Southend Art Club, she says, "It's difficult to define my work. I paint what attracts me and there is so much scope for subjects to paint here in Leigh and I am also tempted by places I visit on holiday." John lives in the Old Town. It's a place he loves dearly, he is always out and about recording images of its ever changing appearance. The ebb and flow of the tide, sunrises and sunsets, beaches and boats, sunshine and storms. John doesn't stop at the seashore either, he recently bought a kayak to get amongst the boats and to see Leigh from a different perspective.

22nd April - 23rd May **Eye see things differently**

Claire is an abstract, intuitive artist. She says that she has always been a creative sort, and studied Fashion Design at The London College of Fashion but was steered in the direction of a 'proper job' and neglected her creativity for many years. All that changed last year when an emergency visit to hospital made her realise that you really do only get 'one shot at all this' so she quit her full time job to do the thing she enjoys most. She has almost completed a year as a full-time professional artist and she couldn't be happier! Check out her work on Instagram or Facebook, using #eyeseethingsdifferently.

If you are interested in exhibiting your work email council@leightowncouncil.gov.uk for further details.



Alicia Hodson



Alfie Winters



Faith Beswick

Alicia Hodson (Nature Slice)

Alicia (BSc Zoology) is an aspiring wildlife filmmaker and photographer, alongside being currently employed as a full-time digital photo editor, and volunteering with the Natural History Museum and Essex Wildlife Trust. She yearns to share her knowledge and passion for the natural world with everyone! Alicia is currently self-funded but working to create more content for a Patreon account. See Instagram [#nature_slice](#)

Alfie Winters (a23 film making and photography)

Alfie is a 15 year old photographer and filmmaker. He says that the style of his photography is constantly changing and evolving and subject matter ranges from moody street scenes to sea lions! Alfie can be found on Instagram [#_a_2_3](#)

Faith Beswick (F.A.B. Designs)

Faith is a 20 year old artist who works in painted textiles. She has set up a small business that specialises in bespoke creations and offers a range of unique hand-painted items to order. She is commencing a degree in fine art this year and cannot wait to learn new skills! See Facebook and Instagram [#bespokefabdesigns](#)

Amy Lambert (Amy Ellen Illustration)

Amy is a 22 year old designer and illustrator. She is inspired by inventive typography, natural forms and architectural illustration. Her work utilizes simplicity in composition whilst creating detailed illustrations and immersive designs. She is setting up her own print and commissions business alongside designing full time. [amyellenillustrator.co.uk](#)



Amy Lambert

YOUTH MARKET

Leigh-on-Sea Town

Council ran their first Youth Market this year.

The event was run as an indoor market, stalls were set up for free so the young people had the chance to kick start their business. The majority of those involved were aged between 16-24. We had a variety of inspiring young people who performed and sold their hand-crafted items.

The market is set to be an annual event so if you or someone you know would like to be involved next year then please contact the council at council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01702 716288.

Emilie Muggleton

My name is Emilie Muggleton and I am an author/illustrator. I have graduated from Bournemouth with a 2:1 in illustration. I have just written, illustrated and self-published my first children's picture book 'Friends Aren't Food!'. It is a light-hearted and empathetic story about a little girl who visits an animal sanctuary, and after learning about what intelligent and compassionate beings they are, makes the decision to stop consuming animal products. The book is available at The Acorn Veggie Deli and Wild Health and at [emiliedrawsthings.com](#)



Lottie Mollica

My name is Lottie Mollica and I am a 15-year-old singer-songwriter from Benfleet. I perform at local open mics and occasionally go busking. I am influenced by musicians like Ed Sheeran and George

Ezra (or anyone else with a guitar and some lyrics). My original song "People" is a download to buy on the SoSlam's Young Musicians Album.



Ruby Rainbows

Ruby Rainbows was trained by one of the leading face painting companies in Australia and has a diploma in theatrical makeup. You can hire Ruby Rainbows to make any event special and you can even request any particular designs or theme you wish for, to make it personalised to your day. See Facebook [#RubyRainbowsFacePainting](#)



Dozens of Buttons by Siân Hillis

I sell a variety of handmade items with buttons. I make bespoke frames for anniversaries to birthdays, new baby's to weddings! I even have personalised prom frames that have space for you to add your own prom photo. See Facebook or Etsy [#DozensofButtons](#)



Francesca Burke

I started designing stationery and accessories in 2013 and I now have five lines of stationery, and stock my products in local shops. My inspiration includes current events, my studies and my work as a writer and marketing freelancer. I love doing local markets and meeting other vendors, especially when they're my own age, and hope this Youth Market is one of many. [francescaburke.com](#)



Environment & Leisure Committee

The Environment & Leisure Committee controls the running of town events, allotments, the community transport scheme and the Leigh Farmers Market as well as handling any environmental issues.



Membership

Cllr Valerie Morgan - Chairman
Cllr Anita Forde - Vice-Chairman
Cllr Jill Adair
Cllr Keith Evans
Cllr Jill Healey
Cllr Fr. Clive Hillman
Cllr Carole Mulroney
Cllr Declan Mulroney
Cllr Caroline Parker

Dates

Tue 16th Oct 2018
Tue 18th Dec 2018
Tue 19th Feb 2019
Tue 16th Apr 2019



Summer Season on Strand Wharf

Summer Season on Strand Wharf returned for a second year, comprising a series of relaxed, family friendly events on Sundays throughout July:

Craft and Cuisine

The town council welcomed 15 local crafters and additional food stalls to Strand Wharf, hosted within a beautiful large marquee.

Kids Zone

A range of activities was organised including, crafts, pamper bar, princess appearances, stilt walker, tombola and games. A free circus workshop was also available where children could try their hand at juggling, plate spinning and balancing activities.

Movement Demonstrations

A day of mini movement taster workshops and demonstrations was arranged for residents and visitors to enjoy free of charge. These included, hatha yoga, tai chi, a tea dance and fitness/salsa sessions.

The Summer Season on Strand Wharf replaces the previous Maritime Festival and makes excellent use of Strand Wharf which was redeveloped by Leigh-on-Sea Town Council. The events were well received and the Town Council will continue to present a varied events programme throughout the year.

Community Day at Bonchurch Park

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council hosted their first Community Day at Bonchurch park on the 10th June with the aim of promoting health and well-being in the community by bringing a variety of local charities and community groups together with the Town Council and utilising an area of Leigh we have not used before.

The event attracted approximately 600 visitors who enjoyed exhibits from 22 stall holders including the Salvation Army, British Legion, Leigh Lions, Women's Institute, Girl Guides, St Johns Ambulance, Community Police, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Southend YMCA, Southend Adult Community College, Safer Essex Roads Partnership, the Co-op and more. There was also a number of performances throughout the day from local dance and drama groups including Strictly Smartz, Morgan Academy of Performing Arts, Princess Gatherings and Starlite Majorettes.

Bonchurch Park was looking its best with the grass and hedges freshly cut and West Leigh Baptist Church helping to litter pick throughout the day.

Special guests, the Mayor and Mayoress of Southend and our MP, Sir David Amess and Southend Borough Councillors also attended.

Responses from visitors on the day were overwhelmingly positive and there was a noticeably 'local feel'. Many residents commented that it was good to see the park used and get publicity.

The stall holders said it was a great opportunity to meet local residents who they hoped to maintain contact with and also network with other community groups to share their experiences including volunteering opportunities.

A selection of comments obtained by the Town Council through an online survey from stallholders and visitors included:

"The atmosphere was one of friendliness and fun. The music and dancing was excellent."

"A good mix of stall holders all from the Leigh area and a good family feel."

"I applaud those who worked so hard to make this day a success. Lovely to see our local community come together."

Given the success of the day, we hope to see it repeated next year and would like to thank all those community groups and residents who attended.





Community Transport

Our Community Transport Scheme has recently benefited from a new officer who has been keen to organise a variety of new excursions for our elderly and disabled members.

Over the last few months the scheme has visited the Palace Theatre to see Barry Manilow's Copacabana, taken a trip to Audley End House & Gardens in Saffron Walden, gone on a heritage tour of Rayleigh and taken a trip to Beth Chatto Gardens & Tiptree Jam Factory.

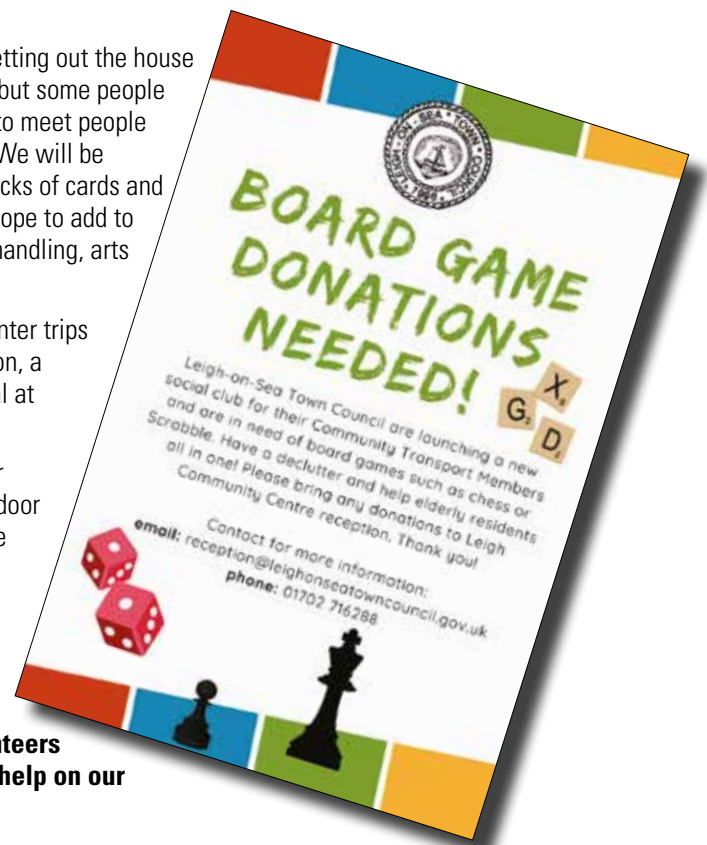
The scheme is also benefitting from a new monthly social club that will be meeting at the Leigh Community Centre on the second Wednesday of each month for tea, biscuits, games and chat.

We know that a lot of our members enjoy getting out the house to go on exciting trips to interesting places, but some people are also just happy getting out to socialise, to meet people they can have a chat and a cup of tea with. We will be providing a selection of board games and packs of cards and once the sessions are well established we hope to add to the sessions with activities such as animal handling, arts and crafts demonstrations, talks and more.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Winter trips which will include shows at the Cliffs Pavilion, a shopping trip and our annual Christmas Meal at The Sarah Moore.

If you would like to become a member of our Community Transport Scheme and be given door to door transport for excursions and have the opportunity to socialise with like-minded people from the local area then contact the Council offices for more information, by calling 01702 716288 or visiting the Community Centre reception.

We are always on the look out for volunteers for the scheme who would be happy to help on our outings or drive our minibuses.
If you are interested please email us at council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk



LEIGH ON SEA BREWERY



Beer was a major accomplice in the founding of Leigh on Sea Brewery. Our heroes - Ian and Mark - on a pub-crawl in Old Leigh back in December 2016 had an idea: how wonderful it would be to have beer made in Leigh, celebrating its history. Their conviction grew stronger with each pint and in January 2017 the stars aligned and the opportunity to put their plan into action arose. It was now or never for our intrepid duo.

Fortune favoured the brave; we met our extremely accommodating landlord Ben Norton by accident, friends and family fought to invest. Tom Newman, a master brewing consultant and Vincent Johnson, brewery engineer extraordinaire were quickly on board. Southend Council and HMRC were helpful and even the much-maligned EU stumped up some cash. Finally, Neill Fendell, a local artist and Nick Petit a graphic designer worked with us to develop our branding. All systems were go!

We brewed until Christmas 2017 on a small kit while awaiting the arrival of our full brewery and opened our Brewery Tap Room in December. In that time our beer won prizes at Rochford Beer Festival and local pubs, restaurants and bottle shops snapped up our produce. We had not a drop left to toast Christmas day!

The New Year brought with it the challenge of up-scaling tenfold. We have since sold across Essex and East London at pubs, taprooms and beer festivals. Our beer is available in many Leigh restaurants and bars. We are a small team, just our heroes and me, with help from Alex Morris. We have discovered that brewing is a tough, competitive, wet and messy business. Its hard work, but its work we love. We would like to thank the good people of Leigh for buying our "Love-Leigh" beer and helping turn our pipe dream into reality.



Iconic Illustrations by Neil Fendell

Neil Fendell is a professional designer/illustrator from Leigh on Sea and has kindly allowed us to use one of his wonderful posters for the cover of this newsletter. Neil's work has become well-known in the local area and his posters, along with his other artwork, have been featured in the Leigh Art Trail. Encouraged by the response from the general public, he has continued to expand and branch out with new, exciting collaborations such as the one featured on this page. As you can see, Neil's distinctive designs feature on the labels of Leigh on Sea Brewery's award winning beers.

Neil's main retail outlet in Leigh on Sea is 'Puddle and Goose' who usually have some of his work in their shop window. Information on all Neil's designs and links to his Etsy shop can be found at www.fendell.co.uk. You can follow him on Facebook: [neilfendellposters](https://www.facebook.com/neilfendellposters) and Instagram: [fendellposters](https://www.instagram.com/fendellposters).

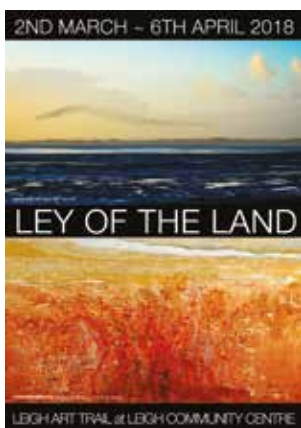




Leigh Art Trail Residency at The Leigh Community Centre

Back in the summer of 2017, the Directors, at their usual 'after trail debrief' at a local drinking establishment, toasting the success of another successful trail, had a conversation about how it would be great if the Art Trail had a local presence throughout the year, not just in the first two weeks of June. And so the idea was hatched that we would apply to be the Artist(s) in Residence at the Leigh Community Centre, not thinking for a minute that we would get it!

Fast forward to October 2018 and here we are musing over what has been an incredible year of art! Starting with our Christmas Show, we have had a total of 7 curated exhibitions, showcasing many different mediums, from the larger than life artworks by Dave Nevard, to the intricate clay work of Lola Swain. And who could forget the beautifully sculptural heads by Gwen Simpson that greeted you as you walked up the top of the stairs, in the 'Figuratively Speaking' exhibition?



-
- 365 days
-
- 294 individual artworks
-
- 68 different artists
-
- 7 eclectic exhibitions
-



To coincide with each exhibition, invited artists ran a free workshop, sharing some of their tips and skills. First off the block was abstract artist, Sally-Anne Ashley, who ran a really amazing 'Making the first mark' mindfulness workshop, followed by artist Susan Allen, who showed you how to create a watercolour landscape in an afternoon!

All this is possible due to the late Art Trail artist Yvonne Pedretti, who exhibited her intricate wall and sculptural pieces formed through machine stitch, knit, crochet and weave in the Trail for a number of years. It therefore seems fitting that the residency was based in the very building where she taught, worked and pursued her passion for textiles.

The Directors and Artists of the Leigh Art Trail would like to thank Town Clerk, Helen Symmons, Cllr Vivien Rosier, Graham Davison, Facilities Manager and all the Council office staff for their help and support with this project.

Leigh Art Trail 2019 will take place in various venues around the town from Saturday 8th June – 15th June.
The call out for new artists is now open! Please check the website for more information, www.leigharttrail.com, but be quick applications close on 31st October 2018.

Planning, Highways and Licensing Committee

The Planning, Licensing and Highways committee considers all planning and licensing applications and highway issues. Their recommendations are then passed onto Southend Borough Council and can help weigh the outcome of the application. Due to the large number of applications this committee meets fortnightly.

If a planning application is submitted by a neighbouring property you will be notified by Southend Borough Council. You are then welcome to come and view the plans at Leigh Community Centre and make comments about the application.

Dates

23rd October 2018
13th November 2018
27th November 2018
11th December 2018
15th January 2019
29th January 2019
12th February 2019
26th February 2019
12th March 2019
26th March 2019
9th April 2019
23rd April 2019
14th May 2019
28th May 2019

Membership

Cllr Jill Healey - Chairman
Cllr Caroline Parker - Vice Chairman
Cllr John Duprey
Cllr Keith Evans
Cllr Patrick Fox
Cllr Gerry Glover
Cllr Fr. Clive Hillman
Cllr Valerie Morgan

Note from Chairman of Planning

I was delighted to be re-elected as chairman of the Planning, Highways and Licensing committee for a second year in May. As you probably know, the committee meet twice a month to consider and discuss planning and licensing applications from within the Leigh Town Council area. The content of the meetings vary from week to week. Any member of the committee can "call in" an application. This simply means that the councillor wishes the application to be discussed at the committee meeting. Sometimes we have members of the public joining us and sometimes it is just the committee!

At the meetings we discuss material planning considerations as detailed in the Southend Borough Council Development Management Document. We also refer to the conservation area and listed building guidelines.

Since January there have been 288 planning applications and 6 licensing applications to consider. A few controversial applications have attracted attention however many haven't caused any concerns.

The objections and comments we make are passed to Southend Planning Team and are considered along with representations from the public and other relevant local government departments. Some applications are decided by Southend Borough Council planning officers and some are 'called in' by a Borough Councillor for discussion at a Southend Borough Council Development Control Committee meeting.

Everyone is welcome at our public meetings whether it is to speak in relation to a specific application, or just to find out what goes on!

Cllr. Jill Healey



Where Do Your Pink Sacks Go?

Council Chairman Valerie Morgan recently visited our local recycling plant to learn about what happens to the waste we put in our pink sacks...

Bywaters is London's leading recycling and waste management organisation serving London and the South East since 1952.



In July I was able to visit Bywaters recycling plant in the East End of London. This is where Veolia send our pink sacks for recycling. Bywaters are a family firm and have been on their current site since 2006. Here they operate their MRF (material recovery facility) which has been operational since 2008. It is capable of recycling up to 125,000 tonnes of co-mingled waste, which is analysed, captured and baled before being distributed to recycling and reprocessing centres across the UK.

It can process mixed plastics (PET, HDPE and film), aluminium and ferrous cans, plasterboard, cardboard, tetrapak and paper although we don't send all of these materials in our pink sacks. The machinery is housed in a vast building almost unnoticeable from outside, in fact it was difficult to find, and powered by a massive array of solar panels on the roof making it almost carbon neutral.

Inside there are numerous moving belts carrying the waste to various sorting stations using magnets, different wavelengths of light etc. You can see a video of the MRF by googling Bywaters undercover material recovery facility video.

Of course, it is up to us to put the correct recycling in our sacks and spot checks are carried out on arrival at the facility. Too much of the wrong sort of rubbish and Veolia are fined which of course eventually impacts on our council tax. We are expected to only put clean material in our bags, a quick rinse should sort that and it was interesting that the interior of this vast building did not smell, dirty waste having been removed in the initial checks.

All in all, it was a fascinating visit and my thanks go to Veolia for arranging it.

For more information about your recycling centre visit www.bywaters.co.uk and for a great insight into what happens to your waste watch the Secret Life of Rubbish video on the Bywaters website.



LEIGH LIGHTS

Friday 30 November, 5-8pm

Leigh Lights returns to welcome the Christmas season. The elves at the Town Council have been busy at Santa's workshop getting all the entertainment together for Friday 30th November.

The festivities will begin at 5.00pm and the town will be lit up as visitors arrive.

Our popular Yuletide Parade, supported by Stibbards & Sons, features joyful fundraisers who will keep crowds entertained - departing from Kings Road at 6.30pm and travelling along Leigh Road, Broadway, and finishing in Broadway West.

Market stalls, tasty food and treats, music and entertainment will line the streets.

Last year, the Yuletide Parade featured 22 entrants and nearly 400 people took part, raising an outstanding £2089.42 for 14 different charities.

A parade programme will be available from Leigh Community Centre including a map of the festivities, timetable and special offers from participating traders to add to the night's enjoyment.

For children's pre-event fun, stop by Leigh Community Centre from 4.00pm - 6.00pm where you can visit Elsa's grotto!

Thanks to Leigh Round Table you can have your picture taken on Santa's sleigh and they will also be selling reasonably priced glowsticks. This is the perfect opportunity for younger children to enjoy the event, whilst avoiding the crowds and cold weather outside!

If you are a vehicle owner, then the advice is to stay clear of the area from 5pm as the Broadway and Broadway West will be closed. Parking restrictions will be in place from 4.30pm around town (3.30pm in Elm Road) and there will be no traffic movement in Leigh Road from 6.15pm. Details of the Traffic Management Order will be available in due course.

The Town Council's Yuletide Season continues with a Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 1st December, Carols on Strand Wharf on Saturday 8th December and the Christmas Farmers Market on Saturday 22nd December. It will be an exciting time for Leigh residents and traders!



More event details can be found at
www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk



Carols on Strand Wharf

Saturday 8th December, 5-6pm

Join us at our beautifully lit Strand Wharf, Old Leigh 5pm – 6pm and enjoy an evening of carol singing with the Salvation Army Band.

Carol sheets and glow sticks will be handed out upon arrival and you are welcome to enjoy a mince pie, kindly donated by local supermarkets. Mulled wine, cider and hot chocolate will also be available to buy to warm you as you join in the singing.

Beforehand, pop along to the Fisherman's Chapel in New Road to make and decorate a lantern to help light up the event and bring a torch along too so you can read all the Christmas Carol sheets.

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 1st December, 11am-4pm

Due to the popularity of last year's Christmas Fayre at Leigh Community Centre we have decided to make the event an annual affair!

We will have over 50 stalls selling arts, crafts, and handmade Christmas gifts, as well as decorations, cards, food and more throughout the whole of the Centre.

Refreshments will be available from Lorna & Lottie's Café where you will also be treated to live music from talented young singers.

There will also be a chance for youngsters to visit Elsa's Grotto and meet real princesses! We would like to thank Princess Gatherings for their support in organising this event.

Entry to the event is free, but remember to bring cash for your purchases.





Leigh Library Gardens

A new community group has been formed to help give Leigh Library Gardens a bit of TLC and rejuvenation.

“Friends of Leigh Library Gardens” was established through the joint efforts of Ian Brown from Southend Borough Council Parks Department and Leigh-on-Sea Town Council Chairman Valerie Morgan, who is very passionate about environmental issues.

So far, the group, has already attracted several local residents, has been meeting to undertake litter picks, weeding and planting in the gardens.

The Town Council is helping to facilitate the initiative by using the Community Infrastructure Levy, a payment received for all new developments in the Borough to aid community infrastructure.

Leigh on Sea has a high population of residents, proud to live in the Town and willing to help protect and improve it for the good of the Community. It is hoped that further enthusiastic residents will join the group over time.

Although at this stage the sessions have primarily been gardening based, the aim is to increase the activities of the group, as well as promoting physical health and wellbeing.

To develop the project further there are plans to diversify the plants in the gardens as well as promoting community engagement by having more information about the history and nature of the space.

People of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to join, and the friends’ group are keen to share ideas and skills among the whole community. Get the chance to socialise, exercise, as well as doing something great for your Town.

There are regular meetings held at the Gardens each month, for more information visit the Southend Parks Facebook page or email friendsofleighlibrarygardens@southend.gov.uk if you are interesting in joining.

How to keep safe in the event of a fire...

With fire safety regularly being a 'hot' topic, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service remind you how to stay safe in your home.

The best thing you can have in your home regarding fire safety are working smoke alarms on every level. Each one has a button. Press it once a month (using a long handle to reach it) to make sure it works.

Kitchens pose the highest risk in the home with around 70% of dwelling fires starting there and with ovens, microwaves, washing machines, toasters and other electrical items it's easy to understand why. Distractions, such as phone calls, social media and watching or playing with children, are a major cause of fires so we stress the importance of keeping a close eye on your cooking to make sure it doesn't get too hot and catch fire. It's also important to keep your hob clear as they can easily be accidentally switched on and have caused items on them to ignite.

If you are alerted to a fire, our advice is simple: GET OUT, STAY OUT, CALL THE FIRE SERVICE OUT. Just three breaths of smoke-filled air can render you unconscious so please leave the firefighting to us. Have you thought about an escape plan should you need to exit in a hurry? Your local Service can come round to your home to talk to you about fire safety and, if needed, fit smoke alarms. It is available to anyone in Essex and is a free service, just call 0300 303 0088. If you would like to book a group talk, please call the Community Safety team on 01376 576205.



**GET OUT,
STAY OUT,
CALL THE FIRE
SERVICE OUT.**



With Bonfire Night just around the corner, we want you to enjoy the festivities and recommend attending an official display but if you do light fireworks at home, please follow the instructions carefully, keep children away from them, pets indoors and wear gloves when handling sparklers. And of course, never return to a lit firework!



Centenary of World War 1

The Royal British Legion (TRBL), Leigh on Sea Branch

In recent years, thanks to the generosity and cooperation of Leigh-on-Sea Town Council and Neil Harding, the Leigh on Sea Branch of The Royal British Legion have launched their Annual Poppy Appeal with a coffee Morning and Cake Sale in Leigh Community Centre.

This year's Appeal will be launched at Leigh Community Centre on Saturday 27th October between 10.30am and 1pm. Instead of the wonderful bacon rolls usually on sale in "Lorna & Lottie's" café, we will be selling a selection of fantastic home-made cakes as well as taking part in a raffle to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal which during the last ten years, thanks to the generosity of the people of Leigh on Sea, has raised almost £230,000.

The Leigh on Sea Branch was formed back in 1937 and held its inaugural meeting at St Clements Hall on 22nd September. The branch was initially formed because the many old soldiers of the area could not afford the sixpence it cost to travel into Southend to attend meetings there.

Today the Leigh on Sea Branch has a thriving membership and meets at 8pm every 3rd Monday of the month, usually with an interesting speaker, at the Moose Hall in Cranleigh Drive, Leigh on Sea.

We rely on our brilliant supporters to enable us to continue our life-changing work. From the Poppy Appeal to other fundraising activities including challenge events, local community events and fairs, your contribution can make a big difference.

For membership enquiries please call 01245 347123 or join online at www.britishlegion.org.uk/membership

Membership is open to everyone, whether they have served in the Armed Forces or not. If you have an interest in the objectives of the Legion and want to help and support those who have served their Country and their families, please come and join us.

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

As part of the Council's celebrations of the centenary of the WW1 Armistice, a series of films on the history of the Great War made by West Leigh Junior School children alongside a specially commissioned exhibition of photographs and artworks will be shown in the Donald Fraser Hall. The Southend Great War People installation will display the work of young people from the Belfairs Academy and Artist in Residence, John Adams. as part of its partnership project with TRBL Leigh on Sea.

The café and foyer of the Centre will also be home to an exhibition depicting the lives of soldiers in the First World War who came from the Leigh area. The exhibition will be compiled by Leigh-on-Sea Town Councillor, Carole Mulroney.

Blade Education will be running a poppy making workshop. All donations will go to TRBL.



The Great War and the Sinking of the Lusitania



RMS Lusitania was a British ocean liner, holder of the Blue Riband, and briefly the world's largest passenger ship. She was launched by Cunard in 1906, at a time of fierce competition for the North Atlantic trade. She was torpedoed and sunk by a German U-boat, causing the deaths of 1,198 passengers and crew.

Controversy has always surrounded the sinking and it is now clear that the Lusitania was carrying more than just passengers, making her a target for German U-Boat activity.

Submarine warfare was intensifying in the Atlantic and Germany had declared the seas around Britain a war zone. In the USA the Germans placed a newspaper advertisement warning people of the dangers of sailing on the Lusitania.

Peter Buswell was born in 1888 in Canning Town, then part of Essex, and by 1915 was living with his wife, Marion, and son in Leigh Hall Road. Peter was a shipping agent for the Anchor Line based in Glasgow, later to be closely allied to Cunard.

On 22 March 1915 he arrived in New York aboard the Cunard ship, Tuscania and was scheduled to return to Glasgow aboard the Cameronia. For reasons that are not clear the Cameronia was requisitioned on 1 May and so Peter, along with several others, was transferred to the ill-fated Lusitania.

On 7 May, Lusitania was torpedoed by a German U-Boat, 11 miles off the southern coast of Ireland inside the declared "zone of war". She sank in just 18 minutes.

In firing on what was then held to be a non-military ship without warning, the Germans had breached international laws. The sinking caused huge protests in the US, as 128 Americans were among the dead, and helped shift public opinion there against Germany, influencing America's eventual declaration of war in 1917. It also invigorated the recruitment campaign at home.

Peter Buswell survived the sinking of the Lusitania and continued to travel back and forth across the Atlantic, sometimes taking Marion with him. His career was to be one of crossing the Atlantic in some of the greatest passenger liners of the day, such as the Aquitania and the Berengaria.

He lived in Leigh Hall Road until his death in 1945. On a recent visit to the Lusitania exhibition in Liverpool I was able to pass on Peter's details to the curators as they had no information on him. Did he ever pass the story of his experiences on to anyone in Leigh? I would be interested to know.

Cllr. Carole Mulroney

**LEIGH
CHRISTMAS
FARMERS MARKET**

**SATURDAY 22ND
DECEMBER 2018**

9.00AM – 1.00PM

**LEIGH
COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

Christmas in Leigh

**LEIGH
LIGHTS**

**FRIDAY 30TH
NOVEMBER 2018
5.00PM - 8.00PM
THROUGHOUT LEIGH TOWN**

**CHRISTMAS
FAYRE**

**SATURDAY 1ST
DECEMBER 2018
11.00AM - 4.00PM
LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**CAROLS ON
STRAND WHARF**

**SATURDAY 8TH
DECEMBER 2018
5.00PM - 6.00PM
STRAND WHARF**

**LEIGH-ON-SEA
TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS**

For more information visit:
www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk



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