

## Mayor's Column January 2016

### *Happy New Year 2016*

Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> was a lovely dry night to enjoy the start of the Christmas Market. The lantern parade looked lovely, the Fowey River Academy Samba Band set up a strong, drumming rhythm, while the Fowey Town Band were in noisy festive spirit! There was quite a crowd waiting for the countdown to the turning on of the lights, with the special surprise of fireworks on the roof of the Church! It was a busy weekend with lots of visitors. Local butcher Richard Kittow said the following Monday was still a busy day for him.

Fowey was fortunate to have some additional Christmas Market visitors when the Mine Hunter HMS Cattistock berthed in Fowey on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. After a number of weeks at sea this was an opportunity for the crew to do some Christmas shopping and for Cornish boy Lieutenant Commander Simon Cox to show his family his new command. On Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, HMS Cattistock held a reception on board hosted by her Commanding Officer and Commodore Jamie Miller. Lieutenant Commander Cox says he would particularly like to thank Mrs. Elaine Elliott and her team at Fowey Seamans' Mission and Lloyd Pinckston at Imerys Port who worked hard to accommodate the Cattistock crew.

**Can I take this opportunity to wish Cllr. Anne Boosey a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday?** Anne has devoted much of her life to local politics, serving on Restormel Borough Council for many years before it transferred power to Cornwall Council. She has served Fowey Town Council as Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Fowey, while also being Chair of the Planning Committee. Anne has worked tirelessly for what she believes in and does not suffer fools gladly, and will soon give a withering glance if she does not receive the information she expects. At a recent "Open Doors" meeting with Cornwall Council Leader John Pollard, in St. Austell, Anne accused Mr. Pollard of looking at the devolution of services to town and parish councils through "rose tinted glasses". In particular the delay with Squires Field, Anne said "It's not rocket science, it's a field we are fighting for."

Last year the Town Council was asked at a public meeting if we could "do something" to celebrate local people who deserve recognition for their special contribution to Fowey and the Parish. There are many activities, which go unnoticed, charity work and fund raising, being a good neighbour or putting up the Christmas trees and lights so we can all enjoy them. Last year the Fowey Local Citizen's Award was given to Colin Liddicoat, our local street cleaner, who always gives that extra effort in maintaining the streets of Fowey. We also gave a joint Citizen's Award to Graham and Tracey Jane for twenty five years on the Regatta Committee. If you know someone who you think is an unsung "hero" and deserving of a Fowey Citizen's Award, please let me know.

**The Neighbourhood Plan prize draw was held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December in the Town Hall and the prize winners are – First Prize to Marie Mitchell, Second Prize to Jenny Parnell and Third Prize to Mr and Mrs Carter.** I have taken all the questionnaires to CRCC (Cornwall Rural Community Charity) who will input the data from the questionnaires online and then use the data to write a summary of the results. This will be a completely impartial report and will be published for the public to read. I am very pleased with the response – I have been told around 10% is what you can expect and we have had much more than that, the returns from full time households in Fowey parish was 29%, an excellent result.

There were some interesting responses, including this one answering the question How would you sum up what Fowey means to you; “It means my life, the joy that makes each day worth living, I love it all, every inch and I miss everything that changes; the shops, banks, post office – the closing of the Fish shop in Fore Street is the latest blow. I would miss the views, the green spaces, the ferries, trees, historic buildings and most certainly the library, most important and I couldn’t manage without it – the Town Bus”.

**Finally, the Town Council wishes all residents, businesses and organisations a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.**

You can contact the Town Council through our Clerk Sally Vincent, or myself as Mayor. Where we have Councillors who are at work, in Town, please respect their business priorities.

**The Council welcomes comments from residents and you are always welcome to come to Council meetings and raise any concerns you may have during “Public Questions”.**

**The January Council meeting in the Town Hall is on January 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 7.00pm**

Also contact us by:

[www.facebook.com/Fowey-Town-Council/408736029293341](https://www.facebook.com/Fowey-Town-Council/408736029293341)

[www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk)

[www.foweysfuture.co.uk](http://www.foweysfuture.co.uk) (Neighbourhood Plan)

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