



BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Office, Church Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD
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Remembrance Events in Blandford Forum

2nd–5th November WWI Working Group's Closing Exhibition in the Corn Exchange – The Peace Dividend. An exhibition exploring Commemoration and Legacy of WWI and also featuring the role of women. The exhibition will also have a replica trench where members of the public will be invited to make and 'plant' a poppy. There will be trench models, a film and slides.

Sunday 4th November at 10.45am Everyone is welcome to attend the Royal British Legion Memorial Service at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) section of the Blandford Cemetery in Salisbury Road.

Friday 9th November at 10.45am Local schools will be laying crosses in the churchyard of St Peter and St Paul followed by two minutes' silence. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Sunday 11th November at 10.45am At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month a Two Minute Silence is observed on Armistice Day, the day which marks the end of the First World War when the guns fell silent. The Town Council will be joining the national silence on **Armistice Day** in the Market Place.

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Church Service on 11th November from 2.45pm Watch the wreath laying against the war memorials on the front of the Corn Exchange, hear music from The Blandford Stour Valley Band and join your family, friends and fellow residents in singing a Hymn in the open air prior to the church service, which everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact us if you would like to lay a wreath or take part in the parade, which is open to all.

The printing for the Remembrance Sunday event is kindly sponsored by Purely Print at Blandford Heights Industrial Estate.



War Memorial Rocks



The names of 117 local, fallen servicemen from the Great War 1914-1918, are inscribed on the two war memorials on the Town Hall in the Market Place. During this centenary year of the Armistice (1918-2018), the Town Council has prepared 117 rocks, one with each serviceman's name on.

The rocks were then placed at the foot of the war memorials in October on artificial grass (pictured), kindly donated by Paul Dowling who owns the local business Tidy Gardens. The public were invited to come and take them to hide. Those who find the rocks are asked to post a picture of the rocks on the Blandford Rocks Facebook Group and to rehide them.

The aim is for those who find a rock to visit the Blandford Forum Town Council website at <https://blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk/war-memorial-rocks> to find out more information about each serviceman (kindly provided by Dr Peter Reder, Bill Lovell and Nicci Brown), so they are no longer just names on a memorial but local men - fathers, sons and brothers - with a story to tell. If you do not have access to the internet, please come into the office to see a paper copy. Sadly, there are no details for 11 of them, other than their names.

Cllr Lynn Lindsay is pictured at one of the war memorials with a rock bearing the name of her great-grandfather, Gerald Moore.

Thanks also go to tidygardensblandford.co.uk for putting up the Union Flags in the town centre, in preparation for the Remembrance events.





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FREE CHRISTMAS PARKING

Saturday 1st December

Market Place, Station Court, Sheep Market Hill, Church Lane, Eagle House Gardens, Marsh & Ham, Langton Road

Saturday 8th December, Wednesday 12th December and Saturday 15th December

in North Dorset District Council car parks (not Market Place or Sheep Market Hill)



PLEASE NOTE that time limits will still be enforced.



Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Service

The Town Council would like to invite you and your friends and family to attend this year's official lighting of the Christmas tree and Civic Church Service. Please join us from **5.30pm** in the Corn Exchange on **Friday 7th December** for seasonal refreshments and a chance to see Father Christmas in his grotto. The Stour Valley Band will provide seasonal music and Krazy Kev will entertain the children while you are waiting to see Father Christmas. There will also be some seasonal market stalls. The Civic Christmas Carol Service will commence at **7.00pm in St Peter and St Paul's Parish Church**. Everyone is welcome!

Events in the Corn Exchange

- Saturday 17th November** 'Fabulous Forum'
A variety show: Rising Stars of Blandford — 7pm-9pm
- Monday 19th November & 17th December** Strictly Come Tea Dancing 2pm-4pm
- Friday 23rd November** Christmas Craft Market 9am-5pm
- Saturday 24th November** Panda Pre-School Christmas Fair 9am-1pm
- Saturday 8th December** Lions Christmas Fair 9am-3pm
- Wednesday 12th December** Yuletide Festival from 5pm

Christmas Window Competition

The Town Council is continuing to run its Window Competition this year, hoping to encourage shops/businesses to enhance the Town's image and create a wonderful atmosphere for its residents and visitors to the Town during the festive period.

This year the decorated windows will be judged over the weekend of the 8th-9th December by a judging panel consisting of two youths, the Chairman of the Town & General Purposes Committee, the editor of the Forum Focus and the Town Mayor. The Mayor will then present the prizes to shopkeepers on their premises on the evening of Wednesday 12th December, during the Blandford Yuletide Festival.

Card Payments - The Town Council is now able to take card payments in person or by phone for bookings, cemetery matters, ticket sales and market stalls.

Alice in Cuckoo Land - Pantomime in the Corn Exchange

Friday 14th December and Saturday 15th December at 6.30pm, Sunday 16th December at 2.30pm

Following some negative feedback from last year's pantomime in the Corn Exchange, the Town Council has asked a local production company to produce a pantomime. Rehearsals are under way and tickets are now available (Child £8, Adult £10) online at <https://b-c-p.co.uk/>, or from the Town Council offices.

The Town Clerk's Office will close on Friday 21st December 2018 at 12.30pm and will re-open on Wednesday 2nd January 2019 at 9.30am.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish residents a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!