

CIVIC REPORT

Councillor Hugo Mievile 26th March to 22nd April 2024

DATE	FUNCTION	COMMENTS
26 th March	Scouts Certificate Presentation	<p>It was a real pleasure the other night to present the certificates from the YMCA to our Scouts for their overnight sleepout under cardboard, in order to raise money for the YMCA.</p> <p>Apparently, the Blandford Scouts haven't fundraised for a charity in many years, so it was great that these Scouts joined in with this event and raised an incredible amount and were brave enough to sleep in a cardboard box for a night in chilly March.</p> <p>As Mayor, I have learnt how it is important to raise money for my mayoral charities, so I am sure that the Scouts - led by the redoubtable Sam Elliott - will make sure 'the ball keeps rolling' and that they will carry on helping their local community.</p>
27 th March	Weymouth Civic Day	<p>We spent one of the more unusual Civic Days of our mayoral year the other day at Tumbedown Farm at Radipole near Weymouth. We were treated to a rare insight into a genuine community farm, and we braved the rain to see the farm's many features, including a self-built dry-stone wall, meadow and growing areas. The farm also provides learning opportunities and experience for those with additional needs. We enjoyed a delicious lunch of home-made soup and home-made bread, before being set the considerable challenge of making wooden pigs out of the local timber, found in the woods nearby! Not my forte, I fear, but all good fun - with a serious purpose !</p>
5 th April	Ferndown Civic Day	<p>What a busy, active day we had at Ferndown Civic Day on Friday! From a very interesting talk about Bournemouth Water at beautiful Longham Lakes, we moved on to the incredible work of the High Mead Therapy Farm, where 'co-farmers' from diverse backgrounds are given a chance to learn a variety of rural skills in a relaxed and supportive setting. After a superb lunch at the Forest Inn, we then set off for our last treat of the day, which was a visit to the lovely, Chelsea Gold Medal-winning Knoll Gardens, replete with gorgeous grasses and trees. What a lovely day! Many thanks to Crissy Stamps, Mayor of Ferndown, for organising such a great day for the 'chaingang.'</p>
6 th April	Lyme Regis Civic Party	<p>We were privileged to be invited last night to the Mayor of Lyme Regis's end of civic-year party at the Marine Theatre in Lyme Regis. Food, music, fun and friendship were the order of the evening, and we really enjoyed our time in this historic town. Many thanks for the invitation, David and Erica, and see you soon!</p>

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17 th April	Civic Thanksgiving Service	<p>It was lovely to spend Wednesday evening at the Parish Church, enjoying my Mayoral Thanksgiving Service with the help and support of three fine musical groups: the formidable Blandford Stour Valley Band, the magical community choir Rokit, and the all-female 'a Capella' group Resonate who were making their debut performance. The theme of the service was 'charity' as I particularly wanted to celebrate the work of my three mayoral charities this year: the Blandford Food Bank (Nourish); the Blandford Museum and the Air Ambulance - as well as the idea of charity and community service itself. Many thanks to all involved in making the service such a success, including Sarah and Linda from the Town Council and Rev. Chris Beaumont, as well as a congregation which has been swelled by visiting mayors and mayoresses, as well as by Dorset's new High Sheriff - the familiar local figure of Anthony Woodhouse.</p>
20 th April	Opening Day of Blandford Bowling Club	<p>I spent a smashing Saturday afternoon at Blandford Bowling Club and had the honour of being asked to bowl the first bowl of the new season on the pristine and hallowed turf of the bowling lawn, before making a short speech. It was lovely to meet and chat with all the members, before being invited to sit and drink a quiet pint - whilst watching others who knew what they were doing - on the warmest day of the year so far! Many thanks to all for your kind welcome, and have a great season!</p>

Meetings Attended by the Chairman of Council

DATE	MEETING	COMMENTS