

Written 11th July 2017 (for August 2017 Town and Around and HTC website)

Mayor's Remarks

Cllr Adrian Winnington

Catherine and I have had another very busy few weeks. Within Hunstanton we got to know more about The Lions after they kindly invited us to their AGM and Centennial Dinner. I also really enjoyed attending the AGM and Awards Ceremony of the 1st Hunstanton Scout Group; a very active and thriving group of young people who are fortunate to have such dedicated leaders. I was very proud to open the Carnival which extended over the whole weekend this year and was hugely popular and successful; I was even asked to crown the carnival dog queen and king at the end of the fun dog show! It was also a pleasure to be able to help show off our town to the visiting Anglia in Bloom judges. We were lucky with the weather for both of these events and also for the Open Bowls Tournament on Cliff Parade which went on all week without any rain. As Hunstanton Town Council sponsors one of the bowling competitions I was invited to the presentation evening where I was made very welcome. On the same evening the Deputy Mayor, Amanda Bosworth, attended the opening evening of the HDFA Drama Festival at the Princess Theatre. We are lucky to have so many people in Hunstanton who give their time voluntarily to make all these events happen.

Once again Catherine and I have travelled out of town, representing Hunstanton at the Mayor of Peterborough's Open Afternoon and at Wisbech Rose Fair Gala Evening. It is good that so many other places want to invite representatives from Hunstanton.

We have many people from elsewhere visit Hunstanton. I was delighted to welcome about sixty people who cycled 100 miles from Leicester to Hunstanton. They were raising money for liver and pancreatic cancer research. There are also many school parties which come here at this time of year. Some come to do course work such as surveys and some for a seaside "treat". I talked with groups of students from a secondary school in Milton Keynes on two consecutive days. I was so impressed with their good manners and general attitude that I sent an email to their school complementing them on their behaviour. I received a very nice reply from the vice principal in which he said "Our students are very fortunate to visit such a beautiful town and we thank you, along with the rest of the people of Hunstanton, for such a warm welcome".

I want to just say a few words about the Water Refill Scheme which has been launched in Hunstanton, thanks mainly to one of our town councillors, Amanda Knight. Details will be found elsewhere but it is an initiative which is trying to reduce the awful effect that plastic is having on our environment. The facts are staggering: 35 million plastic bottles are used in Britain every day; 16 million plastic bottles are dumped in the UK every day; in the world 530 billion plastic bottles are produced in a year; one truckload of plastic waste enters the ocean every single minute.

On a lighter note, Catherine and I had great fun judging a sandcastle competition on Hunstanton beach. It was a small challenge between groups of Red Hat Ladies and although the weather was grey the ladies certainly brightened up the beach, while in the next "bay" a school group of young children were determined to have fun in the sea whatever the weather.

Finally, please visit our new town council website at www.hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk and let us know if there is anything else you would like to see on it.