

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR —



It is daunting to be the latest in the line of the 824 previous mayors who have served our great city and wonderful district. Although the origin is lost in the mist of history, the mayoralty be can reckoned to date from about the time of the death of Richard Coeur De Lion. I step into the shoes of so many eminent individuals with some trepidation and humility.

The chain of office is an emblem of this honour and is a wonderful example of the goldsmith's craft, but it is also symbolic of the Mayor's links to the duties of the office.

The four local charities I have chosen fit with several aspects of the Council Plan: In particular Living Well and Vibrant Local Economy. I have tried to find ones that span a wide age range and that cover some my concerns, interests and enthusiasms.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the course of the next civic year.

Councillor Russell Gordon-Smith MAYOR OF WINCHESTER

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CHARITIES



HAMPSHIRE HISTORY TRUST

Hampshire History Trust is a charity which was formed in 2020 growing out of the very successful Winchester Heritage Open Days activity. The aim of the charity is to bring Hampshire history to life, and to the lives of Hampshire people. We aim to provide great experiences of Hampshire History; to share and promote a love of the history and heritage of the county for the enjoyment and benefit of the community and visitors alike.



ST JOHN'S WINCHESTER

St John's Winchester is dedicated to supporting older people to live well in Winchester. We focus our efforts on helping the most vulnerable in the community, establishing our Hand in Hand befriending and signposting programme, and more recently the Dementia Support service. Our almshouses provide affordable accommodation for older people facing financial challenges often combined with social, emotional or health needs, enabling them to maintain their independence.



SEA CADETS

Sea Cadets is a voluntary run organisation that offers fantastic opportunities for young people within the local community. It is affiliated with the Royal Navy and instils key qualities of leadership skills, team work and discipline. It is also fun and offers cadets the opportunity to learn and develop many sailing and nautical skills. We offer so much at our weekly meetings , boating in the summer and in the winter we teach Seamanship, first aid and catering.



WINCHESTER RADIO

Winchester Radio is a volunteer-led, community-driven charity, serving the community for nearly 40 years! We started our hospital radio charity service at the RHCH in 1984 serving patients and supporting the NHS - some of our volunteers have been involved all that time! All our team give their commitment, love and skills for free to help those in need, promoting positive ageing, keeping people connected, and reducing loneliness and isolation. Our community health and wellbeing radio service launched in 2019 on 94.7FM and this licence was recently renewed by Ofcom for a further term. Yay! You can find us via DAB, and online too!

2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Mayor's Alresford Walk: Secrets and History 19 July

Evening walks around this historic town with talks on its history and secrets.

All-day art session, Worthy Down 3 August

Avoid school holiday boredom! Family friendly art class, morning and afternoon session.

Abbey House open day 7 September

Guided tours of this historic house, part of the Heritage Open Days scheme.

Sunday lunch at the Gandhi Restaurant (Date to be confirmed)

Come and enjoy a wonderful meal full of traditional and innovative flavours.

Trafalgar Celebration Sea Shanty evening 12 October

An event with traditional sea songs by the Southampton Salty Sea Dogs Choir. Lecture by a senior Royal Navy officer in the interval. Location to be confirmed.

Wine-tasting evening, Abbey House

Increase your knowledge of wines with Simon Evans of the Naked Grape of Alresford. Come and taste an exciting range of wines enthusiastically explained!

Mayor's Mince Pies 4 December

Mince pies and mulled wine and guided tour of Abbey House.

Mayor's Charities Chalet in the Winchester Christmas Market (Date to be confirmed)

A select range of Winchester souvenirs for hard-to-please relatives and friends.

2025 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Eggheads Quiz, Itchen Abbas Village Hall 28 February

Put your collective team brains together for this famous annual quiz event.

Pie and Mash, Abbey House 2 March

Piecaramba! lunch. Range of delicious traditional pies.

Fundraising dinner at Rick Stein Winchester 29 April

Cheese Tasting and Lecture, Abbey House (Date to be confirmed)

Mayor's Walks in Winchester (Date and time to be confirmed)

To finish with a tour of Abbey House and refreshments with the Mayor.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Office of Mayor of Winchester is the second oldest mayoralty in England, dating back to the period when the city was the national capital. By tradition, the Mayor of Winchester stands second only to the Lord Mayor of London in precedence of civic heads.