

Mayor's announcements.

Firstly may I say, councils decision to keep me in office for a second term was, I feel correct, in so much that my duties have been curtailed to such an extent that my fundraising activities have come to a complete halt and my deputy, Councillor Beale, would have had no opportunity whatsoever to begin his. In addition and sadly, councillor Beale was taken ill one week before Christmas and admitted to the Q.E. Birmingham where he spent a month undergoing treatment. Happily Cllr; Beale is now at home and recovering well. I am sure you will join me in wishing Graham well.

I am, however, pleased to report, I have been able to carry out some Civic duties on behalf of our town.

On 29th September 2020, I had the great pleasure, along with Councillor Richard Morris to escort "The High Sheriff of Worcestershire" around Town to see some of the sights and meet a few local traders, in order to find how they are coping during these difficult times. At the end of the tour, He remarked that "Droitwich is most definitely open for business and looking to the future".

Remembrance Day was difficult but thanks to the organisational skills of Councillor Humphries in his role as Chairman of Droitwich RBL we managed to put a video recording together in St Andrews Church prior to the day. Happily and gratefully we were joined by Lady Hughes representing The Lord Lieutenants office.

On the day itself, Wednesday 11th, our Town Clerk walked with me over to the war memorial to lay a wreath on behalf of Town Council where once again, we found Lady Hughes had paid a return visit to lay a wreath.

I was asked to do a lights switch on for the Mayflower Ghost Ship by Alan Davey but sadly I could not carry this out due to Covid restrictions in place at the time. I'm sure however, you will have all seen her looking brilliant .

In the lead up to Christmas, I was invited to Norbury Theatre to say a few words as part of a Christmas Concert video they were putting together in place of a live performance, which obviously could not be permitted at the time. The performance was available to be viewed on U-Tube, week commencing December 21st and was reported to have been a great success.

Following on, I was invited, along with our MP Nigel Huddleston and Cllr; Richard Morris to attend the Droitwich Rugby Club Christmas market. We

found it to be most enjoyable and the market was reported to have been a huge success.

DSRC are a great credit to our Town and I would like to wish them continued success in the future.

Under normal circumstances we would have been looking forward to hosting our annual Christmas dinner for all the volunteer staff who support the smooth running of The Heritage Centre and Town guided walks, through the year.

The volunteers and our Heritage Managers – Catherine and Sarah, are pivotal to the operation and have once again rallied to help make all the necessary adaptations for safe opening during the Pandemic.

We usually enjoy a thank you meal at “The Old Cock Inn” which, of course we had to cancel, and so we hope to reconvene in the spring with a dinner when conditions improve.

In the meantime, I express my appreciation for their sterling work on behalf of Town Council.

On a final and most important note, I would like to give a huge vote of thanks to our officers.

During this dreadful time they have continued to work, either in the office or at home to keep our Town working as smoothly as possible under extreme pressures and difficulties. They have managed exhibitions and socially distanced functions in St Richards House as safely as possible and of course, contributed greatly to the safe operation of the T.I.C. whilst still carrying out normal duties.

The remembrance poppies dancing around St; Richard’s house followed by our Town’s Christmas lights were, and are, a great achievement.

Finally, given yet another “Lockdown” and the inoculation program going at full speed, not to forget the due diligence of us all in this Town, we may be seeing light at the end of this “Covid Tunnel”

Let’s hope for a return to normal life very soon and enjoy Droitwich Spa in full bloom.

Cllr; Bill Moy

Mayor of Droitwich Spa.

