

MAYOR'S REPORT FOR MEETING 30TH NOVEMBER

Since our last Council meeting I have attended 41 events or meetings. Some of them are as follows.

There have been 7 Saturday coffee mornings for charities, enabling them to raise their profile locally while raising monies for their cause. This is, as you are aware, a free of cost Council gift to help all local charitable organisations.

There have been 4 military events. The first was the 75th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Britain.

The second was the Remembrance Service in the Market Place. A very well attended event with the largest number of people to date.

The third was my attendance on Remembrance Day itself at St Barts School, where I am a Foundation Governor, where moving speeches were made by the head girl and boy.

The fourth event was the Remembrance service at RAF Welford attended by both USAF and RAF personnel.

On the MacMillan Cancer Coffee morning I managed to get to three different locations and was pleased by the number of people who made the effort to be there.

I have attended three AGMs. The West Berks Museum, the Samaritans and the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust.

I opened the Michaelmas Fair and remembered how giddy one can become when taking the rides. Great fun.

I attended the opening of the Crown Court at Reading and the Bracknell Forest Annual Civic service. I visited the World War one exhibition at our Town Hall . Many congratulations to those who helped to create this event.

I visited Carcaixent in southern Spain near to Valencia with the NTTA and got a deeper knowledge of how the Twin Town partnership functions and the friendships that it has engendered.

There was a Mencap Fashion Show at the Chequers Hotel. A great fun evening with all the young people strutting their stuff to some great music. A never to be forgotten time.

There were many more items I could list but one deserves mention. That was the 401 marathons in 401 days challenge being run by Ben Smith that took place at Park House School. The normal intake of a man is 2500 calories a day. Ben has to take in 6,000 calories which he said is quite a task. He hopes to finish on 5th October next year. He drives from venue to venue and sleeps in the mobile home he has adapted for his challenge. 250

children ran the first mile with him which was reckoned to be the highest number of starter on an occasion like this and will be put into the Guinness book of Records.

Here ends my report for this meeting.