

## **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – to 4 December 2022**

### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Pickle Night**

We were joined by several civic leaders and guests from the local community to celebrate Pickle Night. We enjoyed a quiz, singing and fun. Limestone Brewery were great hosts and provided a lovely pie and mash supper. Everyone had a great night.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday**

The Mayoress and I joined civic guests, organisations and the residents of Stone in remembering the fallen of past conflicts and their sacrifice. I am always so impressed by the amount of people who join together remembering those lost.

### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Cannock Chairman's Charity Evening**

The Mayoress and I were invited to an evening of Turkish food and fun, hosted by the Chairman of Cannock Chase District Council. The evening ended with a raffle and music quiz.

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Stone Christmas Lights Switch on**

Although it was a cold, wet and windy evening many residents came to the High Street to enjoy an evening of Christmas fun and to see the lights being turned on for 2022. A large crowd watched the Mayoress and myself being joined on stage by the winners of the Christmas card competition and Father Christmas, to count down to turn on the Christmas Lights. It really was a wonderful way of starting Christmas.

### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Girlguiding Staffordshire – Annual Review 2022**

Myself and the Mayoress visited the JCB Academy for the Annual Review of Girlguiding Staffordshire. It was encouraging to see that numbers have increased since the pandemic and we watched insightful videos of overseas training trips that had taken place for leaders. Certainly, something for the Mayoress to consider for the future!

### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Cheadle Town Council's Christmas Lights switch On**

Following the Girlguiding Annual Review, we made our way to Cheadle for the Christmas lights switch on. We were joined by other civic heads to take part in the festivities with a town market, a donkey and even some reindeer! A lovely afternoon was had by all.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November – ABF The Soldiers Charity**

For the first time since pandemic restrictions were lifted, the ABF Curry Lunch was able to take place at Beacon Barracks, with support from across Staffordshire. A great afternoon was enjoyed, with items purchased to support the charity and a fabulous curry feast.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Crown Wharf Turkey Trot**

A slightly warmer day than last year's event, we had the pleasure of starting the Crown Wharf Turkey Trot, a fun event for all that took part. It was great to see so many people (and dogs) run the race with some impressive times run throughout the morning.

### **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Staffordshire County Chairmans, British Empire Medals Awards**

It was an honour to be invited to the British Empire Medals Awards at the County Council Offices and celebrate the deserving individuals who were awarded their medals. It was wonderful to see Maureen Recine receive her award for voluntary service to Young People through Girlguiding UK and to Charity in Staffordshire and we couldn't be prouder of her, for her recognised achievements.

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Opening of Wells Plastics Ltd Innovation Centre**

I joined our local MP for the opening of the new Innovation Centre in Stone and was thoroughly impressed by technology and development in place. It is great to see a local business grow to such levels of success since its founding in the 1980's and in addition, employ over 60 people from the local area.

### **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Advent Opening – Stone Library**

The first Advent window that we were able to open this year did not disappoint! A number of people joined in with the hymn and a lovely cheer was given with the unveiling. This was coupled with the Stone Farmers Market which gave a Christmas feel to the town.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Advent Opening – Christ Church**

Our second Advent window opening took place at Christ Church and was again supported by a great crowd. After singing the hymn, the window was unveiled to show a lovely display centred around the Water of Life.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Girlguiding Stone Outward Division Christmas Celebration**

After the Advent window, we made our way to Sandon Hall for the Girlguiding Stone Outward Division Christmas Celebration and were treated to an afternoon with naughty elves, Mrs Claus and her kitchen and even Father Christmas paying us a visit. Hymns by candlelight followed and a rousing rendition of Jingle Bells by leaders, guests and Guides finished the afternoon.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Ukrainian Thank You to Their Hosts**

An evening of thanks for those in Stone who have welcomed Ukrainian families into their homes during the recent crisis. It was a great, but emotional evening, particularly when hymns were sung in Ukrainian. We were treated to some delicious traditional dishes and were able to spend time with the guests and to purchase items to support the families who are still in Ukraine today.

### **DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – to 4 December 2022**

### **Friday 11 November – Armistice Service in Granville Square**

The Deputy Mayor was honoured to attend the Armistice Day Service in Granville Square which was a short but moving commemoration to those who have lost their lives to war.

The Deputy Mayor was very pleased to meet Deputy Lieutenant, Mr Jamie Friend DL, who attended the occasion on behalf of the Lieutenancy as well as other attendees present on the day.

**Friday 11 November – Christ Church Academy and The Daleian Singers Male Voice Choir Concert**

The Deputy Mayor and his family were delighted to attend Christ Church Academy and the Daleian Singers Male Voice Choir Concert on Friday evening which was a wonderful evening filled with melody and song. The Concert was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all.