

TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS – 4 November 2025

Thursday 9th October - Admiral Sir Trevor Soar - Jervis, Lessons in Leadership

The Crown Wharf Theatre hosted a sellout event with attendees from near and far to listen to a fascinating presentation about one of our local historical figures; Admiral Jervis. The appetite for the occasion was evident, and Admiral Sir Trevor Soar and Tim Gillow, High Sheriff of Staffordshire, delivered engaging and entertaining talks, which gave an insight into how significant Jervis and Nelson were to the direction of British history. Their attitudes and towards leadership; one of stern military discipline and ruthless anti-corruption, and one of diffuse leadership and empowerment are examples of their different personalities - both adept in delivering results that led to their immortalisation in British history. It was fantastic to see so many people taking such an interest in Stone's historical connection to these significant men, and milestone events that shaped the birth of America and the continued impact of the British Empire.

Sunday 12th October - Eccleshall Parish Council Civic Service

On the 12th of October I was pleased to be invited to Eccleshall to see our close neighbours. The event commemorated three of the residents from the village and their contributions over the years to the locals. The presentation recognised them as freemen of the parish entitling them to graze their cattle on the towns grasses, and to transport it through the town - a historical honorific that symbolises trust and recognition of recipients for their ongoing dedication to their village. The church service was particularly entertaining, thought provoking, and welcoming to all, showing wonderful integration with the civic life of the parish.

Friday 17th October - Stone Squadron 2352 - ATC Annual Dinner

Young people from around the local area were celebrated through awards, commendations, and promotions for their fantastic discipline and commitment to the Air Cadets. I was particularly impressed with one of our Mayors Cadets, Bella Balderson. Bella accompanied me diligently throughout the event. It is inspiring to see these young people meeting together for events and activities that will give them the skill set that befits a successful future. The precision in which the cadets performed their drills and duties was an inspiration, and all in attendance were immaculately presented and did the town a great service.

Saturday 18th October - Trafalgar Dinner

I was pleased to meet old friends and new at the Crown Wharf for this year's Trafalgar Dinner. The event was fully booked and we had an evening full of feasting and friendship. The event raised money for the mayoral charities, and we were able to showcase the Crown Wharf and celebrate the new place that it has in our community as a theatre, pub, dining venue, and host to our heritage centre. The occasion was marked by a lecture from our High Sheriff who showcased some of Stone's history and connection to Nelson via our own Admiral Jervis. The evening was rounded off with some music and shanty's, with an absolutely full schedule, and a raffle for our wonderful donors on the evening.

Friday 24th October - Stone Carnival Presentation, and Sponsor Event

The Co-Chairs welcomed the Mayoress and I at the Stone Carnival Presentation and Sponsor event at St Dominics Social Centre. I was pleased to be given the opportunity to give thanks to volunteers, sponsors, organisers, and attendees that made the event a huge success, and to present the proceeds of the event to the charities; Stone Minds Matter, The Stone Alzheimer's Association, and the Stone Community First Responders. It was wonderful to see friends to our town in attendance and to announce that there are plans to organise next year's events already under way! The Carnival was a very memorable occasion for Sarah, Andrew Best, and myself, and this evening allowed me to express gratitude to all in attendance and to thank the charities for their work for the people of Stone.

Sunday 26th October - Jesus; the Evidence

The Town Chaplain, Reverend Paul Kingman, hosted a thought provoking and engaging two-part lecture at Christ Church in Stone. It was wonderful to be part of an open event that welcomed many individuals from around the town and further afield that were curious to learn more about biblical history, and the context surrounding the events documented at the time. The speaker Derek McIntyre gave some historical context for the historical figure Jesus and the current scholarly positions of most historians, and highlighted the sudden presence of Christianity as a significant religious movement very soon after the execution of Jesus Christ. Guests were given opportunity to reflect and ask questions, and Christ Church kindly provided refreshments and kind welcome to all in attendance.

DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS – 4 November 2025

No engagements to report on this occasion