

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2025

THE BIG BONIFACE BASH – SUNDAY, 8 JUNE

The first ever Big Boniface Bash was in 2024 and it was such a hit that we're bringing it back for 2025! The patron saint of Devon, St Boniface, was born right here and this is our day to celebrate our most famous son. Back again: pop and rock in the bandstand; food and craft stalls; a bar; free kids' activities. New this year: New games, DJ, Punch and Judy, Mermaidcurls

This is Crediton's answer to Glastonbury! It's a free, friendly, daytime party in the park. Get a drink at the bar, bring a blanket and listen to the bands all day. Or pick up a coffee while you explore all the free activities on the football field, and shop till you drop at the market area. A huge thank you to Ernest Jackson and to Gilbert Stephens for their generous sponsorship. Join us in Newcombes Meadow, 11 am - 4 pm.

CREDITON FOOD FESTIVAL – SATURDAY, 12 JULY

Crediton Food Festival started in 2009. When the amazing committee of volunteers decided they could no longer run the event we were happy to take it on and ensure the future of this standout annual event. What's new? More stalls, more pedestrianisation, more for kids, more demos, better sound.

Thank you to Ashgrove Kitchens for again bringing their impressive mobile kitchen. With the very generous support of Ashgrove Kitchens and the Chamber of Commerce, we have upgraded the sound system for the whole event and booked 'Uncle Tacko's Imaginarium' to entertain the crowds. Entry to the whole event is free! Here's the demo tent line-up so far: Barny from Sandford Orchards with Mary from Quickes, Jim Cairney from Cairney's Bistro, Patrick from Devon Dinnertime, Gretchen's Cookery School Jules Bristow from Tangled Bank Foraging, Sepali Godakanda's Authentic Sri Lankan food.

VE DAY 80

Thank you to everyone who attended the events on 8 & 10 May as well as all of the organisations, volunteers and entertainers involved, these events really couldn't happen without your support.

If you missed the events, we will be sharing plenty of photos! A big thank you to the QE students for capturing the Vintage Picnic.

IN MEMORY OF CLLR FRANK LETCH MBE – MAYOR OF CREDITON 2008 – 2021

As we at Crediton Town Council reflect on the passing of Frank Letch MBE, we remember him fondly as a dedicated public servant, a tireless advocate, and a beloved member of our community.

Frank served as Mayor of Crediton from 2008 to 2021, his tenure defined by his ability to bring people together, championing initiatives that fostered inclusivity, and improving the lives of those living in Crediton. His work extended beyond Crediton, as he also served on Mid Devon

District Council and Devon County Council, ensuring that local voices were heard at every level of governance.

Frank's advocacy was not limited to local politics. He was deeply involved in charitable work, supporting organisations such as Reach and Devon in Sight.

Frank's contributions to Crediton will not be forgotten. He set an example for all who had the privilege of knowing him. His passing leaves a void in our community, but his legacy will continue to inspire us. As a mark of respect, the Crediton flag was flown at half- mast, and a Book of Condolence is available for those who wish to pay tribute to his memory. We extend our deepest condolences to Frank's family and friends.

Rachel Avery, Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

This year's Annual Town Meeting will be held on 17 June on the town square. With light refreshments and consultation displays from 18.00, the public element of the meeting will start at 19.00. Residents on the electoral roll may raise any issue of their choice and

vote at the meeting. This is an opportunity for locals to discuss important topics, ask questions and review the Council year. The agenda will be available to view on our website:

www.crediton.gov.uk

PEOPLES PARK GRASS CUTTING

After careful planning and consultation I am delighted to announce that we have left about 1/3 of the grass in Peoples Park uncut. We look forward to seeing what will grow and we will watch, learn and review. This is exactly why I joined the Town Council. We will not have a habitable planet unless we tackle Climate Change and Biodiversity loss.

In terms of Peoples Park, not mowing has numerous benefits for wildlife and the

environment. It helps create a more diverse ecosystem that supports pollinators. It creates habitat and food sources for various creatures, including insects, birds and mammals. This ties in with our work on the wildlife garden at the east end of Peoples Park and our recent planting of two circles of oak trees. We welcome volunteers, please contact me on 07484 878681

MEET YOUR NEW TOWN COUNCILLOR

I'm Vix and I was elected in the recent by-election in March. I am an independent councillor and was supported by Independents for Crediton (IfC) and have the view that community benefit should come before party politics at town/parish level. I would like to see the Town Council become more engaged with local people and businesses and truly acting on behalf of our community. In my view the Town Council should be more visible, and councillors should be actively engaging with and encouraging wider participation from the public they represent.

Aside from the Town Council, I'm a single, working mum who has lived in Crediton for nearly 20 years and feel very 'at home' in the town. I love the sense of community, enjoy attending local arts and music events, spend lots of time walking the footpaths and surrounding countryside

and I am involved in the Crediton Netball League. I have recently started volunteering in Peoples Park

Wildlife Garden and have been photographing it as nature changes throughout the seasons. I am really looking forward to the new challenge of being a Town Councillor

CREDITON & HAMLETS WAT MEMORIAL

Crediton Town Council and The Royal British Legion Crediton, would like to add names to the Crediton & Hamlets War Memorial of those who have lost their lives on operational service since 1945.

If you would like your loved one's name place on the memorial, please contact the RBL Branch Secretary for further details: crediton.secretary@rbl.community or Call, Text, WhatsApp - 0773 637 8902

CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE

UPCOMING DATES:

17 May - High Street 14 June - Jockey Hill 12 July - Exeter Road 9 Aug - War Memorial

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Visit us: Monday to Friday

Call: 01363 773717

Email: reception@crediton.gov.uk

Make an appointment

Attend a meeting

Public discussion

Website: www.crediton.gov.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May

SAT 10 – VE DAY 80 Picnic in the park, Newcombes meadow 11.00 – 15.00

SAT 17 - Farmers Market, Crediton Town Square 10.00 - 13.00

TUES 20 – Open Discussion, Crediton Library, Belle Parade 19.00 – 19.30

TUES 20 - Meeting of Crediton Town Council, Crediton Library, Belle Parade 19.30

June

SAT 07 & 21 - Farmers Market, Crediton Town Square 10.00 - 13.00

SUN 08 – The Big Boniface Bash, Newcombes Meadow 11.00 – 16.00

TUES 17 – Annual Town Meeting, Crediton Town Square 19.00

Calendar of Meetings

The new calendar for 2025/2026 will be available on our website:
www.crediton.gov.uk/meetings

CONTACT DETAILS

Crediton Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Name	Email	Telephone
Jim Cairney	jcairney@crediton.gov.uk	01363 773490
John Downes	jdownes@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774267
Joyce Harris	jharris@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775221
Stephen Huxtable (Deputy)	shuxtable@crediton.gov.uk	07875 886550
Natalia Letch	nletch@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775739
Paul Perriman	pperriman@crediton.gov.uk	07442 161917

Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward

Name	Email	Telephone
Liz Brookes-Hocking	lbrookeshocking@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774562
Rachel Backhouse	rbackhouse@crediton.gov.uk	07889 680434
Guy Cochran (Mayor & Chairman)	gcochran@crediton.gov.uk	07891 898487
Giles Fawssett	gfawssett@crediton.gov.uk	07484 878681
Vix Frisby	vfrisby@crediton.gov.uk	07855 571118

Rachel Avery (Town Clerk)

E-mail: r.avery@crediton.gov.uk Tel: 01363 773717

Council Offices, The Bungalow, 8 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT

District & County Councillors

Name	Telephone
John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Jim Cairney (District & County)	01363 773490
Guy Cochran (District)	07891 898487

Useful Contacts

Name	Telephone	Website
Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255	www.middevon.gov.uk
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	www.devon.gov.uk
Crediton Library	01363 772578	

More on our website: www.crediton.gov.uk/useful-contacts