



BRIXHAM SIGNAL

Brixham Town Council

January 2024

Issue 64



Brixham Pirate Festival 2024

Over the past decade Brixhams Pirate Festival has grown into a hugely popular celebration of all things piratical and with 2024 being host to The International Pirate Rendezvous it is sure to be a fantastical event. Billed as “the annual gathering of the world’s most infamous pirates and lowly scallywags,” it is set within the perfectly authentic backdrop of Brixhams charming historic port, which has been home to a number of smugglers and pirates over the centuries.



Come along, dress up as a pirate (an awful lot of people do). The whole town will be decked out in “skull and cross bones” while the sound of seagulls, shanties, skirmishes and with “arghhhh me hearties” floating through the air.

There’s sure to be a real family friendly party atmosphere. Keep an eye on the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BrixhamPirateFest>) or website www.Brixhampiratesfestival.com for updates, parlay information and announcements in the run up. The festival is planned to run from **10am until 6pm Saturday the 4th May and Sunday the 5th May and 10am until 4pm Monday the 6th 2024**

The Brixham Pirate Festival is a free to attend event that can only happen with the contributions and help from all of our amazing donors, sponsors, volunteers and friends please give what you can when you can to keep the festival alive - it’s never too late to donate!

PIC: Pirate Festival 2023 - Chris Slack Photography

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Town Clerk - Mrs Tracy Hallett

Happy New Year!

The last three months have, as always, been a busy time for the Town Council. My colleague Ross has his own article explaining all the wonderful projects we have been working on.

In addition to this the Town Council has:

- ♦ been planning the 2024/25 budget over the last few months and a draft budget will be considered by Full Council on 10th January.
- ♦ pledged £60,000 to support Shoalstone Pool's "Save Shoalstone from the Waves" project. The pledge is subject to Shoalstone Seawater Pool CIO raising sufficient funds to carry out the project. At the time of writing, we were waiting for Torbay Council to consider a similar financial request on 7th December before a joint press release is issued.
- ♦ met with a representative from the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities to discuss the priorities for Brixham within Torbay's Levelling up Partnership. Both Cllr Roseveare and I used this opportunity to highlight the Town's priority of a Town Centre Regeneration which included improved central parking facilities and a flexible public realm space. Whilst we recognise the need for the expansion of the fish quay, given that a large quantity of fish is transported by road into the town, we emphasised that Brixham does not have the road network to support this expansion. Brixham is historically a fishing port and long may this continue. However, it is also more than that now, it is a place to visit, live and work. Therefore, we believe there is a need for investment in the town that is outside of the fishing industry.



As we close the door to 2023 and look to 2024, I would like to say thank you to Torbay Ward Councillors for attending and engaging with the Town Council. We were also delighted to welcome Cllr Thomas and Mrs Bond, Leader and Chief Executive Officer of Torbay to the Town Council meeting back in November.

I am pleased to report that the frustrations the Town Council had prior to the May elections have somewhat been alleviated thanks to both Councils commitment to improving its engagement with each other.

I hope you all have a prosperous and happy 2024.

Friends of St Marys Park - Higher Brixham

We have had an exciting year in our park. In early spring we held a tree identification event with our local Tree Warden and surprisingly identified 56 of the most major trees throughout the park.

Late Spring saw the completion of 3 new raised planters and seating area which is being well used. All the shrubs and plants used to fill the planters are grown locally by our group or from a nursery at Preston. In mid-July we were judged in the Royal Horticultural Society "It's Your Neighbourhood Awards" and retained Outstanding for the 5th year running.

On the same day came the results for the Green Flag Awards of which we passed. This is awarded jointly by the Department for Levelling up and Keep Britain Tidy due to the Friends Group working jointly in partnership with Swisco. With recycled bulbs from Swisco flower beds 2023 we have now planted around 400 tulips in the Bluebell wood on the entry to the park to extend the early spring displays and recently we received and planted a second donation of crocuses from the Brixham Rotary in their efforts to rid the country of Polio.

Finally after the group held conversations with a Brixham Town Councillor we are very pleased to see Christmas lights hanging once again in St Mary's Square.

If you would like to join our happy bunch of volunteers please contact stmarysparkbrixham@gmail.com or ring 07968 091187 for more details. No experience necessary.

Chairperson's Report - Councillor Michael Roseveare

Welcome to 2024 - as I write this I am looking forward to the Lanterns, Lights & 'luminations event in the Town.

Firstly my thanks go to our previous Vice-Chair Steve Leech who sadly left Brixham Town Council (BTC) after several years of excellent supportive service. Thank you Steve for your enthusiasm and support. Our new vice chair, Paul Addison has previously served as chair of BTC.

I was touched by the overwhelming support our community expressed during recent acts of remembrance. The huge turnout for Sundays Remembrance Parade and wreath laying on November 12th made me especially proud of our towns community spirit. Memorable moments, were the many young people involved, Rattler keeping the parade in order and the Gig Club saluting the parade. Thank you all.



We marked local achievement with a Blue Plaque in New Road celebrating telebooster inventor Gordon J King. Details of Gordons achievements are available via a leaflet at the Town Hall reception and online

My fellow Councillors and I have been watching with interest the reaction of Brixham to the prospect of the redevelopment of the Breakwater Bistro.

I look forward to public discussions once the planning application has been submitted and welcome Torbay Council leaders pledge to hold the planning committee meeting in Brixham when deciding an application.

Finally I hope that everyone has a Happy and Prosperous 2024.

Town Hall - Facilities For Hire



The Town Hall has a variety of offices, meeting rooms, function rooms and the Scala Hall available to hire. Set in an enviable location the Town Hall is just a short walk from Fore Street, Market Street, the central car park, bus station, the harbour and quay. Most of the facilities can be hired at an hourly rate and reductions are given to Charities, Community Groups and Youth Groups. Previous events held, include:

*** Art Exhibitions * Horticultural Shows * Children's Birthday Parties * Pirate Festival * Live Music events * Record Fair * Tai-Chi * Dance Lessons * Keep Fit Classes * Award Evening * Wedding Reception * Indoor Markets * Public Meetings * Theatrical Performances ***

Current availability;

Hot-desking at **£15.00** per day, **Private Offices** from **£199.38** per month inclusive

Conference Room & Furzeham Room - **£15.00** per hour (**£10** concessionary rate)

Function Room - **£15.00** per hour (**£10** concessionary rate. Available Monday-Friday after 5pm, Saturday & Sunday - all day)

Scala - **£20.00** per hour (**Youth Groups £10.00** per hour)

If you would like more information on the current availability of facilities at the Town Hall, or to arrange a visit to view the offices and rooms to check on their suitability, please call 01803 859678 or email: info@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk.



Gardening Assistance Scheme

Another year has passed and another year for our lengthsman to help the residents of Brixham with their gardens. The weather was (mostly) on our side in 2023 and allowed us to provide this valuable service to 120 households providing 562 hours of gardening over a period of 113 days! In 2024 we are continuing the service to residents of Brixham who are

- **Residents aged 70 or over.** You must have no other person living in the property under the age of 70.
- **Residents with a disability.** You must have no other able-bodied person living in the property under the age of 70.
- **You do not already employ a gardener**

If you think you may qualify and would like some help with your garden, complete one of our application forms and return to our office. The forms can be found on our website and are available from our reception on the first floor of the Town Hall in New Road (9am-3pm).



Newly Appointed Vice-Chairperson of BTC

I moved from Reading to Brixham in 1987 and have run my own hardware store in Brixham ever since. I was elected as a Town Councillor for the Furzeham with Summercombe Ward 17 years ago, when the Town Council was first formed.

During my 17 years as a Town Councillor, I have twice held the post of Vice-Chair and Chairperson.

I am proud to be elected to the roll as Vice-Chair again. Over the years I have also been an active member of Brixham Community Partnership as well as Brixham Future.

I was involved in bringing the Banking Hub to the Town and am looking forward to helping develop Wishings Field into an area for all of our community to enjoy.

Pic: Councillor Paul Addison

***Councillor contact details can be found on page 11**



An Apology

In the October 2023 edition of the Brixham Signal we reported that the first volunteer group meeting regarding Wishings Field was held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 20th September. Unfortunately, the meeting did not take place due to the low number of volunteers attending and it was agreed that a new date would be arranged. In place of the meeting, all of those who had registered an interest in engaging with the group were emailed the presentation that had been prepared with detailed feedback from the consultation, work that has been undertaken and the next proposed steps.

The Brixham Signal goes to print one month before it reaches doors in our community. This meant that we were unable to edit the article. The Brixham Signal is published quarterly and to ensure it is relevant we wanted to provide the community with as much information about the activity taking place at Wishings Field. We apologise for any confusion. A correction note was added to the webpage where you will find the digital version of the Brixham Signal on the Council's website.

The re-arranged date for the engagement with the community meeting is the 4th January at 6pm in Brixham Town Hall.

Schedule of forthcoming Brixham Council Meetings

FULL COUNCIL	PLANNING & REGENERATION COMMITTEE	FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
10th January 2024	15th January 2024	22nd January 2024	29th January 2024
	12th February 2024	19th February 2024	
6th March 2024	11th March 2024	18th March 2024	25th March 2024
	8th April 2024	15th April 2024	

All meetings are held in the Town Hall Function Room (unless advertised differently) which is on the ground floor at New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA. The doors are open to the public from 5:30pm.

All agendas, minutes, reports and relevant documents can be viewed via the Town Council's website. Agendas are displayed in the Town Hall notice boards prior to each meeting and published on our website and social media pages.

The public are welcome to attend all meetings. If you would like to come along to any of the Council meetings then please call 01803 859678 beforehand. Meetings can be subject to change or cancellation.

Indoor Market - Scala

With the very successful Christmas Markets now but a memory our thoughts turn to 2024. The Council receive requests all the time for more markets but due to the ongoing popularity with hirers for the Scala, it is very difficult to find a weekend that is free!

However, the good news is we have been able to get the first market booked in for Saturday 23rd March (the weekend before Easter) and even at the time of writing this article in November we have pretty much sold out all of the stalls. That means there will be over 20 stalls selling arts, crafts, jewellery, candles, books, plants, gifts and much more. Brixham Theatre will be running the café as well as having a stall selling tickets for upcoming shows.

If you are someone who would like a stall, be that a professional seller or amateur, at future markets contact our office and get your name added to the list.



The poster is for the 'Easter Indoor Market' held on Saturday 23rd March 2024. It features a teal background with decorative circular patterns containing Easter bunnies and flowers. At the top left is the Brixham Town Council logo. The text 'Easter Indoor Market' is written in a large, orange, cursive font. Below it, 'Saturday 23rd March 2024' is in a white, sans-serif font. A purple box contains the time '10am - 3pm'. The location 'The Scala, Brixham Town Hall, New Road, TQ5 8TA' is listed in white. 'FREE ENTRY' is prominently displayed in large, white, capital letters. At the bottom, 'Candles, Crafts, Books, Jewellery, Clothes and More !' is written in a white, sans-serif font. A small bunny illustration is in the bottom right corner.

Brixham Stakeholder Group

Brixham Stakeholder Regeneration Group is looking for a Chairperson to help the group drive forward it's mission - which is to:

- Be guardians of the Brixham story & brand
- Represent the Brixham community within wider Torbay discussions
- Represent and communicate the Torbay story & brand where appropriate
- Provide a strategic, place-led view & leadership for the promotion and development of the town locally & regionally
- Oversee the development and delivery of a Brixham Place Plan that brings the *place story* to life
- Ensure the Brixham voice is heard within the context of Torbay
- Work to ensure there is unity, cohesiveness and collaboration in promoting Torbay

Membership is made up of representatives from a range of public, private and voluntary sector organisations. Meetings are facilitated and administrated with support from Brixham Town Council but otherwise the group is independent of the council. Meetings are held at Brixham Town Hall and dates are organised ad-hoc, generally bi-monthly. The role of the Chairperson is to lead the Brixham Stakeholder Regeneration Group meetings and to represent the group within the community and elsewhere, including on the Torbay Place Board.

If you are interested in this voluntary role, please send a short CV concentrating particularly on your suitability for this role by **Wednesday 31st January 2024** to: Ross Green, Deputy Town Clerk, Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham TQ5 8TA info@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk's Report - Mr Ross Green

The turn of the year is a good time to reflect on the work we achieved for our community in the last twelve months and what our aspirations are for 2024.

Highlights for the council in 2023 included being part of the Brixham Pirate Festival with our own treasure hunt, purchasing Wishings Field, holding an outdoor cinema event, the return of our lantern workshop and the culmination of four years waiting with our spectacular two day Lanterns, Lights and 'luminations event.

The turnout for both days of the Christmas event was more than we could have expected, producing a great atmosphere and showing Brixham at its best, perfectly lit up by our new Christmas light display.

Our aims for 2024 have been in progress for many months and will include another **two outdoor cinema events**, a partnership with **Doorstep Arts** to bring excellent touring family theatre to the Scala Hall and realising the communities goals for Wishings Field.

The first date for your diary is **Saturday 20th January** when will be holding our first community session at Wishings Field (weather permitting) from **9:00am - 12:00noon**. We have been working hard to remove the fence that restricted access to much of the green, clearing years of overgrown vegetation and prioritising urgent works to trees to make the area safe.



Unfortunately, with years of neglect, the green is littered with rubbish and we need your help to clear waste.

All we ask is that you bring the energy and preferably a pair of gardening gloves.

Keep checking our website and social media for updates on the community session, or give us a call 01803 859678



Helpful Contact Numbers

Emergency Services 999	
Action Fraud	0300 1232040
Anti Terrorist Hotline	0800 789321
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
Devon and Cornwall Police	101
Victim Support	0845 3030900
Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service (<u>not</u> 24/7)	01392 872200
Healthcare	
MIU (Newton Abbot)	01626 324500
Compass House Med Centre	01803 855897
Brixham Community Hospital	01803 881399
Mayfield Medical Centre	01803 495400
Dentist (Emergency Out of Hrs)	0333 063300
Community Dental Service	01803 217777
Brixham Dental Practice	01803 853980
Smiles Ahead	01803 857606
BUPA Dental Care	01803 858392
Support	
Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 9177650
Citizen Advice	03444 111444
Samaritans	116 123
NSPCC	0808 8005000
RSPCA	0300 1234999
Brixham Food Bank	07873 164211
Torbay Council	
General	01803 201201
Connections	01803 207201
Dog Warden	01803 208091
Brixham Harbour Office	01803 853321
Highways	01803 207740
Housing	01803 208723
SWISCo	01803 701310
Emergency Out of Hours	01803 550405
Utilities (Emergency)	
Floodline	0345 9881188
British Gas	0800 111 999
South West Water	0344 3462020
Western Power	0800 6783105

Other	
Banking Hub - 62 Fore Street Brixham TQ5 8EG	0345 722 3344
Brixham Chamber chair@brixhamchamber.co.uk	
Brixham Rotary Club: rotarybrixham@gmail.com	07776 365442
English Riviera Tourist Company	01803 211211
Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust	01803 520022
Members of Parliament	
<u>Totnes Constituency</u> Anthony Mangnall MP Constituency Office Conservative Club, Station Road, Totnes TQ9 5HW anthony.mangnall.mp@parliament.uk	01803 868378
<u>Torbay Constituency</u> Kevin Foster MP Constituency Office 5-7 East Street Torquay TQ2 5SD kevin.foster.mp@parliament.uk	01803 214989
Torbay Ward Councillor Contact Details	
<u>Furzeham with Summercombe Ward</u>	
Cllr Jason Hutchings C/o Town Hall, Castle Circus Torquay TQ1 3DR Jason.hutchings@torbay.gov.uk	07903 216666
Cllr Hannah Stevens C/O Town Hall, Castle Circus Torquay TQ1 3DR Hannah.stevens@torbay.gov.uk	07985 159950
Cllr Andrew Strang C/O Town Hall, Castle Circus Torquay TQ1 3DR Andrew.strang@torbay.gov.uk	07887 690923
<u>St.Peters with St Marys Ward</u>	
Cllr Steve Bryant C/o Town Hall, Castle Circus Torquay TQ1 3DR Steve.bryant@torbay.gov.uk	07488 252475
Cllr Anna Tolchard C/o Town Hall, Castle Circus Torquay TQ1 3DR Anna.tolchard@torbay.gov.uk	07775 773970

What's On In Brixham

Organisation	Location	Time	Contact	Details
Monday				
Brixham Town Band	Brixham College Music Dept.	7.45pm	01803 853539	Practice Session Mon & Thurs Online
Freemasonry	Church Hill West		trueloveandunity248@gmail.com	3rd Monday of the month excl. Jul & Aug
Drum Circle	The Edge	12noon - 2pm	01803 851414	Any age/ability
Visual Eyes Torbay	United Reformed Church	2pm - 4pm	07951 659514	1st Monday of month
Brixham Table Tennis Club	Brixham Sports Centre TQ5 9SN	7pm-9pm	Alan Maynard 07909 853047	All ages, all abilities, coaching available
Tai Chi	Brixham Town Hall	10am-11am	Lisa Kay 07943 275585	Scala Hall
Bollywood Brixham Dance	Brixham Town Hall	6pm - 7pm	Nicola 07783 787369	Scala Hall
Tai Chi	Catholic Church Hall	11am-12noon 7pm-8pm	Rita 01803 858521	
Tuesday				
Sew Crafty Brixham	Brixham Rugby Club	2pm - 5pm	Alison 07495 068888	Entry £3 including refreshments
West Country Embroiderers Torbay	Galmpton Barn Chapel Hall	10am - 12noon	Eunice 01803 853118	2nd Tuesday of each month
Computer Club	The Edge	11am-12noon		Free IT Support
Cycle Torbay	Fore Street	10am-12noon	FREE repairs	info@cycletorbay.co.uk
Yoga	Scala Hall	10am -11am	07525 735500	Nikki (Ocean Yoga)
Brixham Art Society	Please refer to the website	brixhamartsociety.co.uk	For details of demonstrations	Email: brixhamartsoc@gmail.com
Brixham Harriers Running Club	Admiral Swimming Centre	6.45pm	01803 850566	
Brixham Harmony	Catholic Church Hall	1.30pm - 3.30pm	01803 862246	
Brixham Ladies Forum	Catholic Church Hall	10am	01803 854928	Alternative Tuesdays
Brixham Rotary Club	Cricket Club	6.45pm	07776365442	2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesday
Brixham Stroke Ass.	United Reformed	2pm	01803 882269	Alternative Tuesdays
Live Music 50/60/70s	The Edge	2pm-4pm	01803 851414	2nd Tuesday
Mensheds	Edge, Fore Street	11am - 4pm	01803 883794	Tuesday & Thursday
Quay Harmony Ladies Choir	Brixham Rugby Club	7pm - 9pm	Kim Wilson 01803 858181	07532 762580
Royal Naval Association	Brixham Rugby Club	8pm	01803 859298	1st Tuesday of month
Serentys Garden Development Circles	Community Centre	7.30pm - 9.30pm	01803 857870	
Veteran Seafarers Association	United Reformed Church	2pm	Alan 01803 854990	
Slimming World	Catholic Church	4:30-7:30pm	Kerrie	07505 119326
Brixham Blues Club	The Birdcage Pub	Starts 8pm	Stuart 855256	2nd Tuesday of month

What's On In Brixham

Organisation	Location	Time	Contact	Details
Wednesday				
Brixham Battery Heritage Group	Battery Gardens	2pm-4pm	07933 793683	Closed until March 2024
Tripudio Flow (Gentle exercise to music)	Catholic Church Hall	11am - 12noon	Nicola 07783 787369	
Yoga	Brixham Town Hall	6pm -7pm	Nikki 07525 735500	Scala Hall, Brixham Town Hall
Brixham Horticultural Society	Catholic Church Hall	2pm	01803 853539	1st Wednesday of month. Not January
Riviera Singers Ladies Choir	Catholic Church Hall	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Chris 01803 883886	
Torbay Owls and Company	Galmpton Village Institute	7pm	01803 853453	Last Wednesday of month
Young Volunteers	The Edge	6pm - 8pm	01803 851414	14-25 years
Brixham Women's Institute	Brixham Cricket Club	2.15pm	Tina 01803 854486	3rd Wednesday of month (except Aug)
Thursday				
Yoga	Catholic Church Hall	1pm - 2.30pm	Fiona 07495 867318	
Bell Ringing	St. Mary's Church	7.30pm - 9pm	Guy 07764 344694	
Yoga	Brixham Town Hall	7pm - 8pm	Nikki 07525 735500	Scala Hall
Brixham Harriers Running Club	Admiral Swimming Centre	6.45pm	01803 850566	
Brixham Orpheus Male Voice Choir	Christian Community Centre	7.15pm - 9.00pm	John Pither 07878 836559	
Music Jam	The Edge	3pm - 5pm 6pm - 9pm	All Ages 16-25 years	
Brixham Probus Club	Catholic Church Hall	9.45am doors 10.30am start	Steve Tucker 07585 717525	
Meet Cook Eat	The Edge	10.30am - Lunch	01803 851414	
Royal British Legion Brixham Branch	Brixham Rugby Club	8pm	2nd Thursday of the month	
Soroptimists	Brixham Rugby Club	7.30pm	07884 370100	1st & 3rd Thursday of month (except Aug)
Friday				
Bereavement Group	The Edge	1pm - 3pm	01803 851414	
Geriatricks 50+ Walking Football	Brixham College	7pm - 8pm	Joe 07866 574263	Alternate Fridays
Brixham Foodbank	14 Brewery Lane	2pm - 4pm	07873 164211	Mon, Weds & Fridays
Saturday				
Brixham Rugby Cubs	Brixham C of E School Hall	10am (3-4yrs) 11am (5-6yrs)	bryanpitman33@btinternet.com	

Brixham Town Council Contact Details

Furzeham with Summercombe Ward

Cllr Michael Roseveare - Chairperson C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham TQ5 8TA	michael.roseveare@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk 07982 004531
Cllr Paul Addison - Vice-Chairperson C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham TQ5 8TA	paul.addison@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk 07812 854765
Cllr Christopher Simmonds C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	christopher.simmonds@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Chloe Pavely C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	chloe.pavely@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Sally-Ann Pavely C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	sally-ann.pavely@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Hannah Stevens C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	hannah.stevens@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk 07985 159950
Cllr Stephanie Edwards C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	stephanie.edwards@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

St. Peter's with St. Mary's Ward

Cllr David Blackmore C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	david.blackmore@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Mark Day C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	mark.day@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Oliver Swain C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	oliver.swain@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Clive Nicholls C/O Brixham Town Council, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA	clive.nicholls@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
Vacancy	

<p>Brixham Town Council Officers Mrs Tracy Hallett: Town Clerk Mr Ross Green: Deputy Town Clerk Mr Simon Hiatt: Office Manager Miss Tilly-Ann Partridge: Administrator</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Council Offices 1st Floor, Town Hall, New Road, Brixham, Devon, TQ5 8TA Open to the public: Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm (Note: the office is closed from 12noon - 1pm)</p>	<p>Social Media Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook & Instagram</p> <p>Email: info@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk</p> <p>Telephone: 01803 859678</p> <p>Visit our website for up to date news and information www.brixhamtowncouncil.co.uk</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
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Brixham Town Council Civic Awards

Civic Awards will be presented to any individual, community group or team who in the course of the year and through their activities, furthered the welfare and/or improved the quality of life of Brixham people. Nominations will be considered by the Community & Environment committee throughout the civic year, there are no deadlines for receiving nominations.

Categories of award:

- **Young citizen award**

A young person under 21 who has, in the course of the year and through their activities, furthered the welfare and/or improved the quality of life of Brixham people.

- **Civic award**

A person who has, in the course of the year and through their activities, furthered the welfare and/or improved the quality of life of Brixham people.

- **Sports and Culture award**

An individual or team who has excelled at sport, the arts and culture, or entertainment which has brought credit to them and Brixham.

- **Lifetime achievement award**

A person who has gone above and beyond and provided lifelong dedication benefitting the Brixham Community.

- **Voluntary organization / Community group award**

A body or charity that has consistently given an outstanding service for the well-being of the community and its residents.

- **Environmental ambassador Award**

An individual who has strived to protect, enhance and/or raise awareness of the natural environment in and around Brixham.

Criteria Information and Nomination Form

To view the criteria information and nomination form visit our website

www.brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

What's On In Your Town Hall

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7am – 8am YIN & TONIC YOGA Scala Hall <i>Nicolette – 07958450519</i>	10am – 11am YOGA / KEEP FIT Scala Hall <i>Nikki – 07525735500</i>	10am – 12 noon KNIT TOGETHER Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	10am – 12 noon COLOUR & CHAT Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	10am – 12 noon BRIDGE Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>
10am – 11am TAI CHI Scala Hall <i>Lisa – 07943275585</i>	10am – 12 noon KNIT & NATTER Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	10am – 12 noon BRIXHAM DOES CARE CAFE Function Room	1:30pm – 3:30pm ART Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	10am – 11am TAI CHI Scala Hall <i>Lisa – 07943275585</i>
10am – 12 noon BRIXHAM DOES CARE CAFE Function Room	10am – 12 noon BRIXHAM DOES CARE CAFE Function Room	11am – 12 noon TAI CHI Function Room <i>Wendy – 07923250282</i> (WhatsApp messages only)	7pm – 8pm YOGA / KEEP FIT Scala Hall <i>Nikki – 07525735500</i>	1:15pm – 3:15pm HANDICRAFT Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>
1pm FILM CLUB (once a month, pop into BDC for details) Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	1:30pm – 3:30pm BINGO Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>	12:45pm – 2:45pm LADIES GROUP Function Room <i>BDC – 01803 857727</i>		
6pm – 7pm BOLLYWOOD BRIXHAM DANCE CLASS Scala Hall <i>Nicola – 07783787369</i>		6pm – 7pm YOGA / KEEP FIT Scala Hall <i>Nikki – 07525735500</i>		

Check Our Website For Up to Date Events - www.brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Brixham Rugby Club - 150 Years of Rugby in the Town

Brixham RFC is a community sports club, proud of its history and reputation in the town that goes back to 1875. From the early part of the 20th century, rugby has been played at Astley Park on a ground that was bought by two stalwarts and given to Torbay Council with the stipulation that all the time rugby is played on the ground that they would have exclusive use in perpetuity which it continues to enjoy this privilege today. In addition to this, Torbay Council has recently granted a rolling 150 year lease, which is all but the same as the Freehold.

The numbers that play at the club and the size of the membership now are very different to those very early days. The club currently have 14 youth teams, Colts and 4 senior teams that will regularly turn out over a weekend. The Club is close to many people's hearts, in some cases a way of life. Thousands of past players have worn the Brixham shirt with passion and pride and benefitted from camaraderie and playing experiences over the years.

At the start of the **2024/25** season, rugby will have been played in the town for 150 continuous years. The club is in the heart of Brixham in terms of location and its place in the town's history and plans are being put in place to mark the Club's 150th Anniversary to celebrate this historic year. Club Chairman Chris Forster "We are very proud of reaching this landmark and want this achievement to leave a long-term legacy". We want as many people in the club and the community to be involved in our celebrations as possible.

This is the mission upon which Brixham RFC have embarked as the club launches a series of events to mark its 1875 founding.

Starting in July 2024, and running through to September 2025, events will include

- New shirt launch and Volunteers night
- Sponsored Walk
- 150th Year History Book
- Planting 150 trees
- Past players Celebrations
- Golf day
- Christmas Raffle
- Sportsman's dinner
- Time capsule
- Commemorative Merchandise
- Rugby Camp
- Exhibition of BRFC Memorabilia
- Beer Festival
- Rugby Legends Game
- Festival of Rugby
- Gala Anniversary Dinner



The club runs various teams and activities through the week

- Senior Men's and Women's Rugby:
- Colts Rugby
- Boys and Girls Youth Rugby plus Rugby Cubs
- Past Players Association
- Walking Rugby for over 55s
- Euchre and Darts Teams plus a great social club:
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Team
- Community Function Rooms



Anniversary events coordinator Bryan Pitman comments "If anyone in the community has any BRFC newspaper cuttings, programmes, photos, representative caps and memorabilia that they would like to donate or loan then please get in touch" **email: bryanpitman33@btinternet.com**

Any funds generated during the 150th Anniversary year will go towards targeting areas that will help the club develop and also deliver wider benefits to the local community leaving an indelible mark into the future.

Battery Gardens Volunteers

The group was formed in the Spring of 2022 with the intention of restoring the gardens to their former glory for the benefit of the local community and visitors alike after years of neglect. So far we have been able to restore the stunning views of the bay from the covered shelter by removing the brambles and some of the self-set buddleia bushes which had grown unchecked, whilst being mindful of the needs of the prolific wildlife that we are fortunate to have. There are rabbits, squirrels and numerous species of birds ranging from tiny wrens and fire crests up to the large buzzards.



We have built bug houses, installed a hedgehog house, renovated benches, sown pollinator flowers, planted hundreds of spring bulbs and maintained and improved pathways. We are in the process of preparing a memorial remembrance rose bed which will be planted out in the spring. This is all part of our plan to restore the gardens to a family and community friendly place.

We are a small, friendly, informal group who meet each Friday (weather permitting) at about 9.45am until about 12 noon. We would welcome new volunteers to come and join us. Tools are provided. You don't need to be a gardening expert, just friendly and enthusiastic and enjoy getting out into the fresh air. We have come a long way but there is still a lot to do. Come down and see us and have a chat and maybe join in. It is quite satisfying to see people of all ages coming to and enjoying this beautiful area just a stone's throw from the harbour.

Walking Football

Brixham Town 'GeriHatricks' Walking Football group provides a fun way for anyone over 50 to improve their physical and mental wellbeing. Our ages range from 55 to 83. It's an inclusive and accessible way to get active for people who may feel that they may not be fit or mobile enough. Sessions are held indoors **7-8pm every other Friday in the sports hall at Brixham College Sports Centre, Lytes Road, Brixham TQ5 9SN**. Previous football experience is not a pre-requisite- only a desire to get active, have fun and make friends.

If you're wondering how it's played, walking football is like conventional football but without the running and physical contact. It's also a great opportunity to get out and socialise more in our community, stay active and improve your health regardless of age or fitness level. For those wanting a more competitive experience there are also opportunities to play in the Devon Walking Football League.

The benefits of walking football are well documented. It helps build strength and endurance and the low impact nature of the sport means that it's suitable for people with osteoarthritis and joint problems. It's also perfect if you have a heart condition and want to maintain an active lifestyle and optimum mobility as you get older.

Want to find out more? Then WALK the WALK and come along to one of our fortnightly walking football 'Fun Hour' sessions and see for yourself or even join in, everyone's welcome. Contact **Joe on 07866 574263** for further details.



Putting residents at the heart of everything we do

**Brixham Family Hub -
there to support you
and your children
as they grow**



There are three Family Hubs across Torbay, with one in Brixham.

Your local Family Hub can be found at The Barn in Brixham Enterprise Estate on Rea Barn Road.

The Family Hub is a place to meet professionals who can support you and your family – like health visitors, maternity services and family support workers. If you are an expectant parent or have a baby and young children, the Family Hub can also help with parenting, infant feeding and support for parents and carers to manage your own wellbeing.

It can often be difficult to find information about raising children or where to go to for help. As well as being able to visit

the Family Hub for face-to-face support and activities, there is also a website. Here you can find out what activities and support sessions are taking place at the Hub as well as lots more useful information, including:

- Health and wellbeing advice for you and your family
- Community support networks
- Activities, classes and things to do in Brixham and across the Bay
- Support for adults including housing and financial advice.

To find out what is taking place at your local Hub, or to find out more information to help you and your family visit www.torbayfamilyhub.org.uk or email familyhub@torbay.gov.uk

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with council news**

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torbay.gov.uk/onetorbay



Brixham Time & Tide Bell

The Brixham Time and Tide Bell is one of 13 bells located around the coast and tidal waters of Britain and is designed to be rung by the motion of the waves at high tide. The bell has a unique design that produces a gentle musical sound that varies according to the differing wave patterns.



The timber frame supporting the bell was made from a single oak tree planted in Devon in 1790 and felled in 2021, thus capturing carbon from the industrial revolution through to present day. The Brixham bell steel structure was made by a local Brixham engineering firm, RWS engineering and the oak fashioned by a Brixham joiner, Kings Joinery.

The Time and Tide Bell project was created by Devon based artist, Marcus Vergette, and seeks to remind us of our strong relationship with the land and sea, and importantly for us, the Brixham fishing community's reliance on the sea and also how bells have been used for centuries to celebrate, summon and warn local communities.

This bell installation aims to stimulate thought, discussion and action, whether to remind us of the threat of rising sea levels, coastal erosion or simply to contemplate the nature of time and our place within it.

The other Time and Tide Bells all uniquely represent their communities and locations. These are **Aberdyfi** (Gwynedd), **Appledore** (Devon), **Bosta Bay** (Isle Of Lewis), **Camaes Bay** (Anglesey), **Happisburgh** (Norfolk), **Harwich** (Essex), **London** (Trinity Buoy Wharf), **Mablethorpe** (Lincolnshire), **Morecombe** (Lancashire), **Par** (Cornwall), **Redcar** (Yorkshire) and **Ventnor** (Isle Of Wight).



BRIXHAM TIME AND TIDE BELL

***In the quiet of the night
Tho you're not in sight
The toll of your bell
Rings out, helped by the swell***

***Sit proud on our beach
Sing out when you can
Live long in the tide
For it waits for no man.***

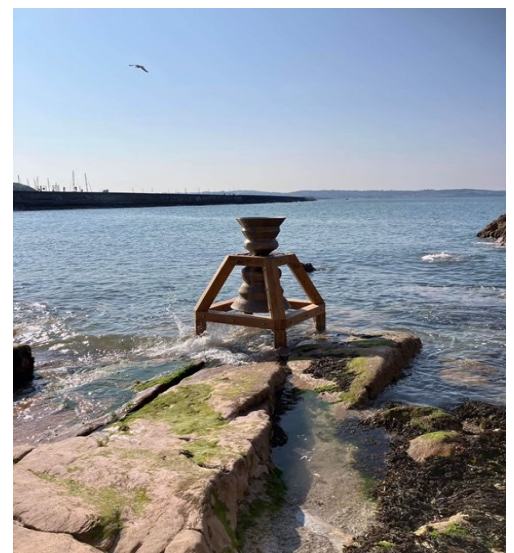
Verse by Spratt, a Brixham Fisherman

To find out more please visit www.timeandtidebell.org & www.brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk or follow Friends of Brixham Time and Tide Bell on Facebook

We wish to thank the following organisations for their support and funding this project.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND * ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND * BRIXHAM TOWN COUNCIL * BRIXHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE * BRIXHAM COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP * THE LEWIS FOUNDATION TRUST *

*** AND ALL THE GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS WHO MADE PRIVATE DONATIONS.**



Brixham Does Care

Brixham Does Care – Your Local Befriending Charity

Founded in 1978



Don't be lonely! Now is the time to make new friends!

We offer groups and events including Minibus Trips every fortnight, Monday to Friday. Please pop in for more details (see page 13 for further information)

We now have a once a month **Lunch Club** on a Monday, come in to our office for more details.

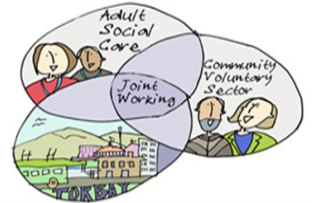
Our charity shop is open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. We always need donations for the shop, especially clothes please.

Our café is open Monday to Wednesday **10am until 12noon**. Why not drop in and try our menu, we offer **Bacon Sandwiches at £2.40**, surely the cheapest around!

In order to offer these services we are reliant on the help of our volunteers, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer and have some time to give, please pop in for an informal chat as we have roles in our **Cafe** and are in need of **Befrienders**. We are also in need of a **minibus driver** to collect donations for our charity shop.

We are continuing to provide a visiting service in the **TQ5** area for people who are isolated, housebound or vulnerable.

Brixham Does Care also provides Day Care services at The Friends Centre, if you would like any further information about this service, please call Karen on **01803 224970**.



For further information on groups and events at Brixham Does Care, please call **01803 857727** or check out our website www.brixhamdoescare.co.uk

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- Sports injuries - Digestive problems - Menstrual problems - PMT -
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Brixham Girl Guiding - Meetings

	LOCATION	TIME	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Monday 3rd Brixham Brownies	Christian Community Centre	17:30pm	Evan 07803 387089	Term time, girls aged 7-10
Monday 1st Brixham Guides	Christian Community Centre	17:30pm	Paula 07717 665003	Term time, girls aged 10 - 14
Monday 2nd Brixham Rangers	Christian Community Centre	17:30pm	Lucy Lucy.e.bates@btinternet.com	Term time, girls aged 14 - 18
Tuesday 1st Brixham Rainbows	Christian Community Centre	17:15pm	Helen 07813 810211	Term time, girls aged 4 - 7
Friday 4th Brixham Brownies	St Margaret Clitherow School	17:45pm	Helen 07813 810211	Term time, girls aged 7 - 10

Services in Torbay

			
01803 859678 info@brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk	01803 201201	01803 208443 harbour.authority@torbay.gov.uk	01803 520022 info@countryside-trust.org.uk
First tier of Local Government for the Parish of Brixham. Brixham Town Council is made up of 12 Councillors who stand for re-election every 4 years, the Town Clerk – Mrs Tracy Hallett, and a further 7 members of staff.	Local Authority. The Council is made up of 36 Councillors who are elected by the residents of Torbay every 4 years. They are responsible for making decisions on behalf of the local community about services provided by the Council.	Part of Torbay Council and is responsible for providing effective marine services in Torbay's Harbours and Beaches. Also controls operations in the three enclosed harbours of Brixham, Paignton and Torquay.	A local independent conservation charity. They care for over 1700 acres of Torbay's natural spaces, including a host of woodlands, meadows, cliffs and coastlines around Torbay.
Brixham Town Council are responsible for: Allotment Gardens - Brixham Signal - Defibrillators - Events - Fore Street Management - Grants - Lanterns, Lights and 'Luminations' - Statutory Planning Consultee - Town Lengthsmen Service - Town Hall Management - Wishings Field	Torbay Council are responsible for: Building Control - Childrens Services - Community Protection - Council Tax - Environmental Health - Highways - Land Charges - Licensing - Open Spaces - Parking - Planning - SWISCo - TDA - Transportation - Trees	If you have a coastal emergency, please call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. For out of hours urgent enquiries contact 01803 701310. For out of hours urgent enquiries contact 01803 701310 or Brixham Harbour Security on 07768 553881.	Brixham Sites Maintained by Trust: The Grove to Broadsands, Berry Head Nature Reserve, Gillard Road Nature Reserve and Sharkham Point.

Lanterns, Lights & 'Luminations 2023



2023 saw the arrival of our new Christmas lights which were positively received. We have lost count of the number of times we've seen their photos being shared on social media!

For the first time, the Lanterns, Lights & 'Luminations event took place over 2 days on the Friday & Saturday. Middle Street and the Quay were closed to traffic and packed with both traders stalls and performance stages.

The Scala at the Town Hall held its traditional Christmas Markets over the 2 days and for the first time had live music acts performing on the Scala stage. This music created a great atmosphere and got the stall holders and shoppers singing and dancing along!

The lanterns parade on the Saturday evening was well attended and with a fantastic firework display finale, again set off from the Breakwater and viewed from practically every viewing point possible around the harbour.

We always look forward to Christmas in Brixham and with our chosen contractor try to ensure our residents and many visitors enjoy our lights and events over the festive period.

We are now in 2024 and preparations have already started on this year's events and having taken onboard valuable feedback we hope to ensure this year is even better than last.



Brixham Horticultural Society

Brixham Horticultural Society Autumn Flower and Vegetable Show

We ended our Autumn Show this year with the presentations, all well deserved, as many of the exhibits took a lot of time, love and expertise to achieve, especially in the handicrafts section which was very popular. Next year we have decided to have only one show, as usual in July, and we are calling it **Brixham Horticulture and Craft Show**.

To make it a wonderful exhibition of plants and crafts we need lots of entries, so please could everyone get going with projects during the winter!

Wishing all Brixhamites a wonderful festive season and a really successful 2024. Hope to see as many of you as possible in July.

Lesley Bennett, Hon. Sec. (Contact 07712199426 or bentia94@gmail.com for further details)



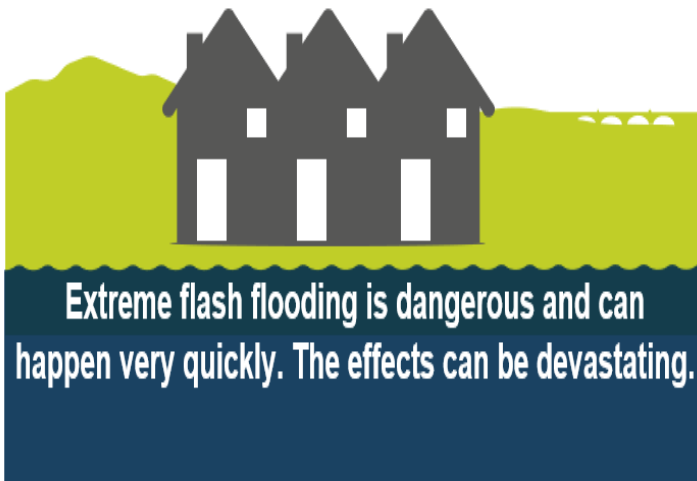
Flash Flooding

FLOODS
DESTROY
DESTROY
BE PREPARED



Your community is at risk of Flash Flooding

Stay Safe. Do you know what to do?



Prepare

Be aware and know the signs. Signs to watch for:

- Heavy rain or severe weather reports
- Rising water levels with churning dark water
- A build up of debris in rivers or streams
- Plan where to go if you get caught in a flash flood

Act

- Do not walk or drive through flood water
- If you are in a building with at least two storeys and you believe it is safer to stay where you are, you should move to a higher storey
- Call 999 if there's a risk to life, or if you're trapped

Survive

- Call 999 if you're in immediate danger
- Follow advice from the emergency services
- Keep yourself and your family safe

Disclaimer Brixham Town Council is not responsible for any errors, omissions or alterations with regards to entries in this newsletter. The content, views and opinions of articles do not necessarily represent the views of Brixham Town Council or the editor. The accuracy of the content in this newsletter is not guaranteed.

Rowcroft Hospice - Fundraising

Thank you Brixham!

Thank you to the Brixham community for helping to raise **over £1300** for Rowcroft Hospice.

During a bit of friendly banter, Jake Keeble, one of Inter-Line's Brixham team, bet fellow employee Matt Helley that if he didn't cut his hair for a year, Jake would give him £20. Matt took this hair-raising challenge and went one step further, using it to raise some money for local charity, Rowcroft.

The Hospice holds a special place in many hearts - both Matt's mother and more recently, Inter-Line's Brixham driver, Tim Chant found comfort from their incredible team in their final days. After a year, Matt's locks were expertly cut by Tasmin Moreing, grand-daughter of Inter-Line's founder, Stan Moreing and Matt even donated his hair for a wig charity.

The incredibly generous Brixham customers donated £820 to Matt's campaign - and Inter-Line then added another £500, making a huge £1320 going to Rowcroft. Well done to everyone involved!



Brixham Soroptimists

Brixham Soroptimists were really busy last year, beginning with the annual Charter Dinner held at the Berry Head Hotel. In 2023, we celebrated 75 years so it was a special evening and we were joined by members from several other clubs including our Regional President. The following morning some members marched at the Remembrance Parade and were joined by the Regional President who also laid a wreath.

We filled 62 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child which go to children in war torn countries and we believe this year they are going to the Ukrainian children in Romania. A quiz was held at Brixham Yacht Club which raised £584 which will be used to fund our Christmas charities.

Finally we held a coffee morning in the Methodist Hall where we had some stalls selling cakes, jams, pickles, Christmas items and we were entertained by the Fishtown hand bell ringers. Also we had a stall at the Lupton craft fair selling all hand made items which members had made, glass items, bird feeders, necklaces, felt animals pictures, cards and many more items. In total over the weekend we raised £750 for local charities.

Our annual Seaside Santa Run at the beginning of December was a bumper run this year with over 200 runners braving the weather! All money raised going to Shoalstone Pool.



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FEBRUARY OFFER: Jumbo Sausage, Chips & a pot of Curry Sauce - £7.50

MARCH OFFER: Our Homemade Fishcake, Chips & Baked Beans - £6.99



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