



GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report 2005/2006

Annual Public Meeting

Tuesday 4th April 2006 at 7:00pm

Fellow Councillors, members of the Public and the Press.

Tonight I would like to present the Mayor's yearly report. Firstly I would like to thank some of the Councillors for their support over the past year. Stuart Morley and his wife Janet, Ken Woolley, Pearl Banyard, Elaine Hadley and my sister Barbara Marsh for all her help.

The year started with the VE Day Celebrations on 8th May, the rededication of the cenotaph after nearly 80 years was the start of a wonderful day in the Richmond Park. The Town Council applied for a special lottery grant and was awarded almost £7,000 which helped to make the day a great success.

The Riverside Festival was also a great event. 'Pam's of Gainsborough' partnered us on the stand with the expense of the bags, books, pencils and balloons, which we had great fun giving to all the children of Gainsborough. All the ladies and Bethany were very efficient at blowing up balloons and all said they never wanted to see another balloon ever again, well perhaps not until the next event!

On 25th July I was delighted to help cut the soil on the new Marshall's Yard Development which is of course a major part of the regeneration of our town.

My sister and I were guests at the Sands Venue at their Charity Night which was a fabulous evening and raised a considerable sum towards Cancer Research. Peter Swann has a superb venue and Gainsborough should be very proud to have it here in town.

I took me quite a while to decide what my charity would be for the year, but after paying a visit to the George Henderson Lodge my mind was made up. It is an excellent building, designed and built for the sole purpose of supporting terminally ill patients and their families.

One of the highlights of my year was a reception at RAF Scampton on 21st September. We had a full display of the Red Arrows which was truly magnificent.

Those who attended my Civic Service in September enjoyed the service and the buffet. I had many comments from my guests how wonderful the Old Hall and the Parish Church are. The Army Cadets put on a good show and they were thanked for their Guard of Honour. At this time Councillor Stuart Morley and his wife Janet were representing the Town Council in France.

The poppy appeal was launched on the 18th October at the Petwood Hotel which led up to the Remembrance Service on the 13th November when I laid the Town Council wreath which I was very proud to do.

It was with great sadness at this time we learnt of the sudden death of Neil Rodgers. He was a great asset to Gainsborough; his organisational skills, sense of fun and friendship with everybody was exceptional, he will be sadly missed.

It was nice to hear so many favourable comments about the Christmas Lights and the return of the Christmas tree. As usual the Salvation Army did a splendid job of playing for the carols and Councillor Stuart Morley for being you know who! Councillor Elaine Hadley organised a stall and a raffle at the Christmas Market and raised the magnificent sum of £303, which I thank her very much for.

Up to Christmas I attended four carol services and did bible readings at two of them. On Christmas morning I visited John Coupland Hospital and distributed chocolate to all the patients and staff, then on to Gainsborough House where 62 excellent dinners were served.

5th January 2006 = What a sad day: - Sue South lost her fight, what a courageous lady she has been. My thoughts and prayers go to Ian and all the family. She will be sadly missed. I was so very pleased to be able to call her a friend and colleague.

I am delighted that my long ago proposal of refurbishing the play areas on a rolling programme will this year get underway and will continue for the enjoyment of Gainsborough children.

A great deal of development is happening in the town and if all the authorities and organisations continue to work together for the good of the people of Gainsborough then the outcome can be nothing more than wonderful and which we can all be proud of.

I have attended a great many meetings, civic services, concerts, opened shops, given out certificates and prizes and many other functions which total over 200 which I have hugely enjoyed and I wish to thank the Council for giving me this opportunity.

Lastly and most importantly I wish to thank the Town Clerk Paul Leeder and Assistant Town Clerk Rachel Allbones for all their help and guidance during my year in office.

It has been a difficult year, but has been made considerably easier with their assistance.

In the short time they have been with the Town Council they have both become very competent and confident in their roles and make a great team.

Our latest addition to the team Jimmy Snee is settling in and tackling his work conscientiously and with enthusiasm and I am sure he will make a big difference to the Town Councils work programme.

I wish the Council success in the future and hope it settles down and works together for the advancement and benefit of the people of Gainsborough.

Sally Jupp
Mayor of Gainsborough
2005 / 2006