

Embargo: 00.01hrs Wednesday 25 August 2021

Bexhill celebrates first 'Bexhill Day' for 100 years

- **The first Bexhill Day since 1917 was held on Sunday (22 August)**
- **Local businesses, community groups and residents came together to honour the special occasion**

Bexhill-on-Sea held its first Bexhill Day for 100 years on Sunday (22 August).

Bexhill Day was originally celebrated in 1917. This year the newly formed Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council voted to reinstate the town's special day, and local businesses, community groups and residents all came together to celebrate.

In Glyne Gap, there was a two-day "Bexhill-on-Sea Festival" on Saturday and Sunday run by Bentleys Events.

Activities on offer included martial arts displays by Upgrade Training, a vintage car show organised by Bexhill 100 Motoring Club, music from Bexhill Radio, and a dog show and dog photo booth put on by the Bexhill Lions.

On Bexhill Day on Sunday the event was attended by the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex Simon Corello JP, Chairman of Rother District Council Cllr Brian Drayson, Bexhill Town Mayor Cllr Paul Plim, and Bexhill Town Deputy Mayor Cllr Claire Baldry.

Mayor Paul Plim spoke about the history of Bexhill Day and Deputy Mayor Claire Baldry read a new poem she had composed for the occasion called 'The Mayor's Journey'.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor then travelled around each ward greeting residents. The Mayor was accompanied by Raymond Konyn from Bexhill Heritage flying the Bexhill flag. The Deputy Mayor read a poem that she had written especially for the occasion.

In Egerton Park, crafters and artists from the Made in Bexhill group ran a family friendly afternoon of creative stalls on Saturday. And on Sunday the Rotary Club ran a Scrapheap Challenge competition to build and launch a sailing vessel using recycled materials.

And Community Supporters also organised a beach clean-up from 2-4pm from the Sailing Club on Bexhill Day.

Many traders in the town chose to put on unique offers for their customers in celebration of Bexhill Day. The Brickmakers Arms on Sea Road had a special Bexhill bitter on at £3 a pint – that was sampled by the Mayor on his walkabout, and sold out very quickly!

Mayor Paul Plim said: "It was brilliant to see so many people out and about enjoying Bexhill and all that our wonderful town has to offer.

"I'd like to say thank you to everyone for getting behind Bexhill Day with such enthusiasm. From the traders who put on special offers and decorated their shops with bunting in Bexhill

colours, and the community groups who thought of such creative ways to celebrate, to all the residents who came out with a smile on their faces to enjoy the day with their families – thank you.

“We definitely showed the rest of Sussex how proud we are to be Bexhillians! I already look forward to celebrating Bexhill Day again next year.”

ENDS

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