

Embargo: 00.01hrs Wednesday 4 August 2021

Town council calls on residents and businesses to celebrate first 'Bexhill Day' for 100 years

- **Bexhill Day is on Sunday 22 August 2021**
- **The original Bexhill Day was in 1917**
- **Town Council invites local businesses and residents to honour this special occasion**

Bexhill-on-Sea's newly formed Town Council is inviting local businesses and residents to get involved in the first Bexhill Day for 100 years on Sunday 22 August.

Bexhill Day was originally celebrated in the seaside town more than a century ago in 1917, and now the Town Council is keen to reinstate the tradition of the town's celebration day.

The council is asking local traders to create unique special offers for customers – perhaps along the lines of a 'Bexhill burger' or a 'Bexhill bouquet' in the red, green and white colours of the town flag – which the Town Council will promote on its new website www.bexhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

And residents can join in the fun too and share any pictures on social media with the hashtag **#BexhillDay**

Local crafters and artists from the Made in Bexhill group will start the weekend of celebrations with a family friendly afternoon of creative stalls in Egerton Park on Saturday 21 August.

Mayor Paul Plim will be paying tribute to Bexhill Day at 11am on Sunday 22 August at the Bexhill-on-Sea festival (which is running all weekend at Glyne Gap and includes terrier racing, a dog show, stands, beer garden, music, martial arts displays and funfair attractions). Deputy Mayor Claire Baldry will then read a new poem she has written for the occasion called 'The Mayor's Journey'.

This will be followed by a walk by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor taking in each council ward and greeting residents.

Also on Sunday, the Rotary Club is running a Scrapheap Challenge in Egerton Park. This free event is a competition to build and launch a sailing vessel measuring a maximum of 50cms long, wide and high using materials normally discarded and is open to all ages.

Mayor Paul Plim said: "For some time now, I've felt that Bexhill had lost its special identity within the district. But thanks to research done by Bexhill Heritage, I've found some of that long-lost identity in Bexhill Day.

"Bexhill Day was first celebrated in our town in 1917. And now, for the first time in over 100 years, we can all celebrate our great town again.

"Let's show the rest of Sussex how proud we are to be Bexhillians! I hope everyone enjoys the events happening over the weekend."

Raymond Konyn from Bexhill Heritage said: "It is good to see the newly formed Town Council engaging with local groups and organisations in the town, helping to release potential for community benefit. The recovery of Bexhill Day will be an ideal opportunity to launch this critical role and Bexhill Heritage is delighted to participate in this event".

For more information about getting involved in Bexhill Day please email the Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council Town Clerk Julie Miller.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

- **Mayor walk:** Mayor Paul Plim will leave the Bexhill-on-Sea festival at approximately 11.30am. His walk will start at the Oceanside café on the beach. The first stop will be the Coastguard station, then on to the Angling Club and the Bexhill Heritage shelter where there will be a short talk about the shelter. From there the Mayor will go along to the war memorial, the De La Warr greens and the Clock Tower, then onto Egerton Park to visit the scrap heap challenge happening that day. Next up is the Sovereign Light Café, the West Parade to the end of the prom, South Cliff, Beaulieu Green, along to Cooden Beach and into Norman's Bay, ending at the boundary with Pevensey.
- **Deputy Mayor walk:** Details to be confirmed shortly.
- For more information about the Made in Bexhill group craft event in Egerton park please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/992225814874304/?ref=newsfeed>
- For more information about the Bexhill-on-Sea festival please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/glyne-gap-field/the-bexhill-on-sea-festival/2947587218863617/>
- For more information about the Rotary club Scrapheap Challenge please visit: <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=844343&ClubID=696>
- For more information about Bexhill Heritage please visit <https://www.bexhillheritage.org.uk>

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