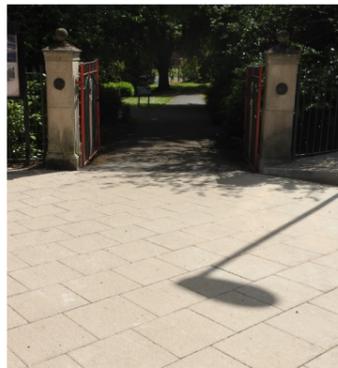


Borough Gardens gets ready for the summer



During the Spring the Town Council has been working closely with the Dorset Council Highways team on improvements they were considering at the Princes Street/Albert Road junction.

The Highways priority was to narrow the junction with Albert Road to

improve pedestrian safety across Princes St.

Dorset Council designed a scheme which presented a much clearer and safer entrance to the Borough Gardens, with the Town Council agreeing to meet the cost of higher quality surfacing treatments to emphasise the entrance. Works were completed at the beginning of June.

Inside the Gardens the surfacing around the Gregory Memorial fountain will be replaced over the summer, while a new gate has been installed onto Bowling Alley Walks at the southern entrance to the Gardens.

Iain Adshead joins the Town Council in June as Head Gardener and the team will be planting up a shield bed to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the town's twinning with Bayeux.

Walks Refurbishment completed

The final phase of works to The Walks was completed in March, when the link path from Icen Way through to Salisbury Fields was given a new surface. The work also presented an opportunity to regrade the path to reduce the steepness of the slope down towards Icen Way, improving safety and to install a replacement bench at path level.



Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

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Dorchester News

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Third time for Richard

In May Richard Biggs was elected as Mayor for the town for the third time. First elected to the Council in 1993 he is one of four Councillors elected for the Poundbury ward at the recent elections, where he was also elected to the Dorset Council.

Richard has lived in Dorchester most of his life, building a career in the civil service. He will be joined at civic events by wife Carolyn as his Mayoress; Carolyn also served on the Town Council until recently.

Richard's focus for the year is on how the town's community can both protect and celebrate our unique heritage and environment, to allow a thriving but sustainable local economy.

He will also be aiming to develop a positive working relationship with the new Dorset Council to ensure that discretionary services are safeguarded at a time when the Dorset Council's focus will be on statutory services.

If you have an event and would like Richard to attend, please download a mayoral engagement form from our website.



New Council takes reins

On 2 May residents elected fourteen returning and six new Councillors to represent them on the Town Council for the five year term until 2024.

Council recognised with gratitude the service of six retiring Councillors at its first meeting: -

Trevor Jones OBE, who served on the Council continuously from 1976 to 2019, including three years as Mayor and three years as Mayor's Consort. Council immediately awarded Trevor an Honorary Citizenship of the town to recognise his 43 years service

Carolyn Biggs, who served for 20 years on the Town Council and will be Mayoress for the third time this year

Tamara Loakes who served two terms from 2011

Gerald Duke, Kate Rice and Peter Stein, who each served for the four years from 2015

Stella Jones MBE now takes on the mantle of longest serving Councillor from husband Trevor; she celebrated forty years as a Town Councillor at the end of May by raising a Peace flag over the Municipal Buildings.

Council will now develop its draft Corporate Plan for the next five years, on which it intends to consult during the autumn.

Among the issues the plan will address is the important relationship with the new Dorset Council, particularly regarding Traffic, Parking and Affordable Housing, all of which will be delivered by Dorset Council.

Key decisions will need to be taken regarding how to safeguard discretionary services such as Public Toilets, Tourism services and support for Arts and community organisations, should the Dorset Council change their current funding arrangements.

The Town Council hopes to continue discussions regarding how Markets operate locally, will work closely with the Duchy of Cornwall to develop The Great Field, while also reviewing how it delivers its own services in the face of the global climate emergency.

Finally it will take a close interest in the next phase of the Local Plan, also being prepared by the Dorset Council, which is likely to continue to advocate large-scale housing development to the north of the town.

Supporting The Fire Fighters Charity

www.firefighterscharity.org.uk

As a County Councillor Richard regularly came into contact with the local Fire and Rescue Service, which now delivers services across Dorset and Wiltshire.

Recognising their role in situations from gas explosions to flooding disasters and the Salisbury Novichok incident, in his Mayoral year Richard will raise funds to help the Charity support firefighters deal with the physical and mental traumas they face.

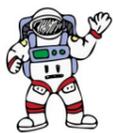
Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk



The Moon is coming to town

With Dorchester Arts the Town Council will stage the **Moonbury Rings Festival** from **19 - 21 July** to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the first Moon Landing.

- 10...** since January 2,000 local school pupils have enjoyed space-themed science and music workshops
 - 9...** during June/July there will be 74 art workshops to design and make installations for Moonbury Rings
 - 8...** on Friday 19 July young people will parade through town to Maumbury Rings, where the artworks will be installed around the site
 - 7...** that night 500 pupils from Dorchester, St Mary's Puddletown and St Osmunds Middle Schools, accompanied by a professional orchestra and students from Thomas Hardy School, will perform "Apollo - One Giant Leap", a cantata by local composer Geof Edge
 - 6...** you can join in too! See www.moonburyrings.co.uk for words and music to a new song "Touch the Moon", then come along and sing on the night
 - 5...** on Saturday 20 July the popular Open Air Cinema Day starts at 4.00pm with Wallace and Gromit in "A Grand Day Out" followed by the charming "Wall-E"
 - 4...** and continuing the space theme with "Apollo 13" as the light from the moon takes over
 - 3...** on Sunday 21 July, Noon - 4.00pm, young people can go through selection training and "Learn to be Astronaut"
 - 2...** while astronauts of all ages can get sciencey with expert astronomers, astrophysicists, chemists, mathematicians engineers and rocket scientists
 - 1...** all events held under Luke Jerram's world famous 7m diameter "Museum of the Moon" as it makes its final stop on a tour around Dorset
- Lift Off...** so come and celebrate one of Man's finest, most technical achievements, 50 years on from the first Moon Landing! www.moonburyrings.co.uk



August Bank Holiday Weekend of events

Maumbury Rings promises to be very busy this summer as we see the return of the annual End of the Summer festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend.



Saturday 24 August, Noon -6.00pm, the Rings will once more become the playground for young people with the very popular **Anonymous** event, organised by Dorchester Youth Extra, with 2 stages

showcasing some amazing young bands, opportunities to try out slacklining, ride a bucking bronco and get all arts and crafty. Plus lots of interactive stalls and information aimed at young people, so you can be busy all day or just relax and listen to the next generation of musical stars.



Sunday 25 August will once more host **Love Parade**, an opportunity for members of the local LGBT+ community to gather and celebrate diversity. The event will start with a lunchtime parade from the Town Pump, with entertainment laid on at Maumbury Rings. All welcome.

To round off a busy summer of events the August Bank Holiday, Monday 26, offers **Music in the Rings** from 1.00 - 10.00pm with an eclectic line up

The Shadrack Street Band
 Sandtimer
 Zoe Schwartz Blue Commotion
 The Drystones
 The Simmertones
 The Sessions



And don't forget to check out the Borough Gardens for loads of other free events all summer long.

Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

DORCHESTER NEWS Events July - September 2019

In the Borough Gardens

July

- Sunday 7** Swingtime in the Gardens - Noon
- Sunday 14** Durnovaria Silver Band - 2.30pm
- Saturday 27** Plastic Free Celebration Picnic - 11.00am
- Sunday 28** Nina Garcia - 2.30pm
- Wednes 31** Love Parks Day Family Event - 10.30am

August

- Sunday 11** WHOTT bus rally—10.00am at Top o' Town Car Park
 - Saturday 17** Round Table Cider Festival - 3.00pm
 - Sunday 18** Weldmar presents Tony Lowe - 2.30pm
- Further events to be announced. See Borough Gardens noticeboard for updated information.

At Maumbury Rings

July

- Friday 12** "A Perfect World" performed by Miracle Theatre - 7.30pm ([ticketed](#))
- Moonbury Rings Festival**
- Friday 19** Apollo: One Giant Leap - 7.00pm
- Saturday 20** Outdoor Cinema Day - 4.00pm
- Sunday 21** Astronaut Training Day - Noon

August

- Sunday 18** "The Legend of King Arthur" performed by Boxtree Productions - 5.00pm ([ticketed](#))
- Saturday 24** Anonymous Festival by Dorset Youth Extra - Noon
- Sunday 25** Love Parade
- Monday 26** Music in the Rings - 1.00pm

For events marked ([ticketed](#)) contact Dorchester Arts on 01305 266926 or visit www.dorchesterarts.org.uk

Green Burial area at Poundbury Cemetery

With the completion of a programme of works to install the internal road layout and the northern boundary wall, attention has now turned to the green burial area.

In the meantime work has commenced on a programme to remove rich topsoil from the area as this supports the growth of grass and undesirable weeds.

Once the soil environment is poor enough the area will be sown with a mix of typical Dorset wildflower seeds, above the existing graves, with the aim of establishing a permanent wildflower area in this part of the cemetery. This area is to be surrounded by a split chestnut fence, will be edged with grass pathways and new seating will be installed.

Online Cemetery Burial Records

Our website now provides access to records of burials, excluding burials from the last five years, in two of our cemeteries, at Poundbury and Weymouth Avenue.

A simple on-line form, on the [Cemeteries tab](#) of our website, allows graves to be identified on a digital map. The system is now 99%+ accurate, although dealing with burials from over a hundred years ago may throw up some anomalies.

Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

Have you used the town's Free wi-fi yet?

The Town Centre wi-fi enjoys its first birthday in June, having had 56,000 log-ins from 13,500 users during the year. Initially funded by local Councils the scheme is now operated and funded by Dorchester BID.

20 access points around the town centre, Brewery Square and the Borough Gardens provide Wi-Fi to a growing number of regular users who can surf the net, use Google maps, download information, check local retailer deals or explore social media, all for free!

...and speaking digitally



A friendly new face is showing how easy it is to get better broadband. Digital Norm goes "superfast", saving money at the same time. See an online animation showing how Norm and his family transform their home WiFi.

Almost everyone in town can now get superfast fibre broadband and over half of homes and businesses have already switched, making it the norm.

Superfast Dorset won Government funding for the Digital Norm campaign including the short film, which can be seen at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/superfast.

If you need help using computers or the internet phone 01305 221048; Superfast Dorset will match you with one of its Digital Champion volunteers.