

Report for Wells Parish Council 26th September 2017 - News from Cllr Chris O'Donnell District Councillor for Wells Ward & Little Malvern & Parish Cllr for Wells Ward

Take a seat on a piece of the past

Visitors to Malvern can now take a seat on a piece of the past thanks to the latest stage of the Route to the Hills project. Five new benches have been installed in the town centre with each one featuring a unique bench-end depicting a story or legend linked to Malvern's history. Designs include the goat legs and cloven hooves of Mr Tumnus from the Chronicles of Narnia, a reference to Malvern providing the inspiration for CS Lewis' much-loved children's books. Visitors can also discover Florence Nightingale's beloved cat and writing implements, the wheel of a Morgan car and the shield and axe of Caractacus, the ancient British chieftain who according to folklore made his last stand at British Camp. The legend inspired Elgar to write his Caractacus Cantata. The benches can be found in Priory Park, Lyttelton Well, Rose Bank Gardens, outside the Post Office and on Belle Vue Island. A small plaque will be fixed to each one later to explain the story behind each design.



Festival to unveil 5G test plans for county

Plans to use Worcestershire as a test site for the next generation of digital communication technology are set to be unveiled as part of this year's Malvern Festival of Innovation. Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has recently announced plans for the county to be included in the national test programme for the 5G network, which is set to revolutionise how businesses operate and enable new applications. Details will be outlined during a Business of Innovating event on Friday, 6 October at Malvern Theatres as part of the festival, which is organised by Innovate Malvern CIC and supported by Malvern Hills District Council and numerous sponsors. Businesses located in the Malvern Hills Science Park and Worcester are set to be among the first areas to try out the 5G applications before it is rolled out nationally in 2020. This forms part of Malvern Hills District Council's commitment to encourage investment in the next generation of mobile technology as part of its Five-Year Plan.

Other Festival highlights include:

The Next Generation Schools day on Tuesday, 3 October at Three Counties Showground, which aims to inspire the 800 students taking part to become young entrepreneurs and inventors. The day will also involve, conditions permitting, the launch of a helium weather balloon which will be tracked and monitored in real time from the exhibition hall. Morgan Motor Company is hosting The Automotive Advances Morning on Wednesday, 4 October looking at driverless vehicles and environmentally friendly cars. The UK's leading cyber security firms will visit Malvern Theatres on Thursday, 5 October to showcase their research, products and services in a series of talks and exhibits. The festival ends on Saturday, 7 October with a family fun day and show at Malvern Theatres including hands-on exhibits and a whistle stop tour of the universe in just an hour.

Call for volunteers to help with community litter pick day

The search is on for keen volunteers to help clean up the local community. The Pickersleigh Community Litter Pick day has been organised by Malvern Hills District Council and Fortis Living. The event takes place on Tuesday, 24 October from 10am – 1pm, meeting at Malvern Town Football Club. With free refreshments and all equipment is provided.

Outdoor cinema returns

Movie fans will have the chance to watch a science-fiction blockbuster, a hit musical and a ground-breaking Disney classic under the stars as part of Malvern's new outdoor cinema season. **Star Wars: A New Hope** incredibly is 40 years old this year and sparked a franchise which is still going strong today with the latest instalment The Last Jedi, due in cinemas in December. Fans can catch up on where it all started on **Sunday, 1 October** and mark the start of this year's Malvern Festival of Innovation.

Alternative weekly collections, Waste disposal and Bin collection

In April 2018, we are due to move to Alternate Weekly Collections (AWC). As part of this, all properties eligible for a wheeled bin will receive one for general waste. If the resident is currently on a sack collection for recycling, it is likely they will remain on sack collection for general waste too. Work is currently underway to plan and model the collections before rolling out next year. Residents will be written to ahead of any proposed roll out. Two letter drops are proposed one in January to inform households of the change to come and when the bins will be delivered. The second letter will be in Feb/ March and this will provide information of the new collection, the collection day and calendar. These will be sent to individual addresses and will take three days to deliver.

Thank you, Cllr Chris O'Donnell