

MAYORAL REPORT – 2008/2009**MAYOR – COUNCILLOR GARRY PELTZER DUNN**

Performance monitoring of the mayoralty continues. The process has shown that during the mayoral year 2008/2009 of the hundreds of engagements carried out:

92% supported the Council's priorities
85% involved community groups/associations and promoting the City
3% were associated with different religious groups
2% related to Health
5% related to internal visits and supporting Council projects/initiatives
3% involved Youth organisations
20% were education related
4% involved school visits to the Parlour
7% were sport/leisure related
8% were culture/the arts related
13% were related to charities
5% were statutory or traditional events (including citizenship ceremonies)

22 centenarians were visited
12 Citizenship Services were attended

The Mayor's Parlour was used on 156 occasions

During his year of office, amongst others, the Mayor (or his representative) has:

- Met with HRH The Earl of Wessex at the official opening of the new Duke of Edinburgh's Award facility in Hangleton
- Attended the Chattri Annual Commemoration Service
- Attended the Diocese of Chichester's Caritas Service
- Visited the Brighton & Hove Wood Recycling Project
- Met with Rotary Club visitors from France, Italy and Holland
- Co-hosted with ESCC a Retirement Reception for the former Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mrs. Phillida Stewart-Roberts
- Hosted a reception in the Parlour to welcome Peter Field as the new Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex
- Welcomed Judge Richard Brown in the Parlour as Honorary Recorder for the City Council
- Met with Mrs. Dorothy Pitts, Mayor of Douglas, Isle of Man on a visit to the City
- Met with Rabbi Wallach in the Parlour

- Celebrated Veterans/Armed Forces Day, presiding over the presentation of many Veterans' Badges, followed by a dedication service for a new memorial to those who have died in the service of this country since World War II
- Opened the centenary celebrations of Hove Library
- Joined Sussex University at a farewell party for their long-serving, well known and well respected Chancellor, Lord Attenborough
- Welcomed visitors from Brighton in New York, USA
- Welcomed both the Minister of Tourism and His Excellency the High Commissioner of St. Lucia in Brighton & Hove for discussions relating to the development of a National Arts Festival
- Welcomed a Legislative Drafting Delegation visiting the City from Vietnam
- Hosted a reception for members of the Sussex Heritage Trust
- Welcomed local government delegates from Sweden in Brighton & Hove to celebrate National Social Enterprise Day
- Met with a group of College Head Teachers from Saudi Arabia on a training visit to City College
- Attended numerous LGBT community events, including the spectacular Pride Parade in August
- Met with the staff and Trustees of the Carousel Charity Association
- Celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Volks Railway
- Joined the 200th anniversary celebration of Dorset Gardens Methodist Church
- Celebrated the centenary of Preston Bowls Club and the Hollingbury Park Golf Course
- Raised the flag at the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games handover
- Attended "Kannada Balaga" – a celebration of the Hindu New Year
- Met with a founder member of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University on a visit to the City
- Welcomed delegates of the first Sudanese Diaspora International Conference
- Celebrated the Chinese New Year and Moon Festivals
- Attended a Remembrance service for Jewish Sho'ah (Holocaust)
- Attended the first World 21U Beach Volley Ball Tournament Finals to be staged in Brighton & Hove.
- Attended the 900th anniversary service at Chichester Cathedral
- Met with students from all over the world, including France, Italy, Romania, Denmark, China and Japan.
- Attended celebrations of the Muslim Festival of Eid
- Attended the 125th anniversary service of the Boys' Brigade
- Attended the 150th anniversary celebrations of St. Andrew's CE Primary School
- Visited Chestnut Tree House – a hospice for sick children
- Attended the celebrations of a Greek Orthodox Festival
- Attended Hove Rotary's 75th anniversary celebrations
- Attended the Brighton Salvation Army's 125th anniversary celebrations
- Attended Brighton Scouts. Centenary celebrations

- Met with the Mongolian Ambassador at an Exhibition of the work of Mongolian Artists
- Held a civic reception in appreciation of Red Cross volunteers in the Parlour
- Showed civic appreciation for the City's foster carers in the Parlour
- Celebrated in the Parlour a successful exchange of working experience in a Global Xchange Project between Brighton & Hove and Africa
- Welcomed a group of Sudanese VIPs meeting with Muslim Organisations in Brighton & Hove
- Held a civic welcome in the Parlour for members of the Hove Business Association
- Held a civic appreciation of the achievements of our Social Workers
- Had tea with Major Robin Alexander on a stop-over in Brighton & Hove during his charity cycle ride for the Forces Heroes Charity
- Attended the Sierra Leone Community's Independence celebrations
- Met with thriller writer Peter James at the launch of his new book set in Brighton & Hove
- Met with the Muslim Fellowship Dialogue Society in the Mayor's Parlour
- Had tea with Mr. Henry Allingham (112 years old) in the Parlour prior to a Council meeting to confer upon him the Freedom of the City

The Mayor continued to encourage increased use of the Parlour. To this end, free use of the room has been offered to local charities, community groups and Council departments for special events or occasions. This opportunity has been welcomed and taken up by, amongst others:

- Various Social Agencies for networking and discussion opportunity
- The High Sheriff of East Sussex to welcome his successor
- Girl Guides Association to celebrate the presentation of two Queen's Awards
- Age Concern for a Members' Spring Games session
- Carer's Centre Tea-party
- Shopmobility
- Old Police Cells Museum
- Save the Children Fund
- Friends of St. Nicholas' Church
- Rockinghorse Appeal
- CYPT
- Registrars
- Electoral Services
- Revenue & Benefits
- Cultural Services
- Democratic Services

The Mayor has attended many memorable events – particularly the visit of HRH the Duke of Wessex, and his unforgettable meeting with centenarian Henry Allingham who was invited to attend a Special Council Meeting on 30th April 2009 to accept the Freedom of the City of Brighton & Hove. Henry is a

remarkable man – a survivor of two World Wars who says it is his ambition, at 112 years old, to reach 113 and so enter his second teenage!

He was also delighted to celebrate Veterans' Day by hosting a reception for 50 men and women from various service associations in the city. This was another wonderful, and emotional, gathering much enjoyed and appreciated by all those present – and "Sussex by the Sea" remains the anthem of choice for this event. The reception was followed by an opportunity for him to present Veteran Badges to a great many men and women living in the City, after which he officiated at a service of dedication for the new memorial at the Old Steine in remembrance of those who have died in the service of their country since World War II.

For the first time in many years members of the Sussex Civic Officers' Association were welcomed by the Mayor to the Mayor's Parlour for a meeting of the Association. Councillor Pat Drake very kindly organised a tour of the Old Cells Museum after the meeting which all those present very much enjoyed and appreciated.

One of the nicest and most important receptions the Mayor hosted in the Parlour was for a member of staff – a Social Worker- who's hard work, dedication and courage in the execution of her job, was singled out for special commendation by the judge presiding over a very difficult and complicated child protection case in which she was involved. Child protection and safeguarding have been receiving a great deal of national attention in recent months and it was a great pleasure for the Mayor to celebrate, on behalf of all councillors, the positive work being done by the Children & Young People's Trust. He was delighted to thank and congratulate the person concerned as well as all our Social Workers who are doing such an excellent job in Brighton & Hove.

For the first time this year, the Mayor presided over a Civic Carol Service at St. Nicholas' Church, Dyke Road. The Service was very successful, and it is hoped to continue this as a Civic event for the future.

The Mayor is pleased he is able to report the number of schools bringing groups of pupils to the Parlour to learn about the role of the Mayor, the history of the mayoralty and regalia, and visit the Council Chamber has risen again at 31, and it is hoped that numbers will continue to rise until all of the city's schools take advantage of the opportunity. School Headteachers are circulated twice a year with details.

The Mayor and Mayoress were pleased to join the diners at Hove Methodist Church for Christmas Day Lunch where a wonderful spread is provided for the lonely and needy of the city. This was preceded by a visit to some of the wards at the Royal Sussex Hospital. They were pleased to be able to meet many staff working through the holiday period as well as patients who were not able to go home.

Remembrance Sunday events in 2008 were very well attended. The Royal British Legion requested that the Mayor's Office should take over the organisation of events in Hove in the same way that it organises the Brighton event. The Mayor agreed that this should happen and so we took over, at very short notice, the arranging of last year's events in Hove, and will continue to organise them in the future in tandem with the Brighton event.

The Mayor's chosen charities this year have been: The Martlets Hospice, the Sussex Heart Charity, the Rockinghorse Appeal and the Alzheimer's Society (Brighton & Hove Branch). It is hoped that the funds raised will be in the region of £25,000 and this includes a good amount raised with the kind assistance of the Dome Management at the Mayor's Charity Gala Ballet Evening just after Christmas. Hopefully, this event will continue to remain on the Mayoral Charities' calendar.

The Mayor would like to express his grateful thanks to Councillor Averil Older for being such a splendid Chairman of his Charities Committee.

On 18th May last year the Civic Service took place at St. Nicholas' Church, Dyke Road. Attendance was encouraging, and it is hoped that this trend will continue. This year, the Civic Service is at All Saints Church, Hove – on Sunday 17th May 2009 at 10.30 am and the Mayor Elect hopes for a good attendance.

The Mayor has been very ably assisted throughout the year by Councillor Carol Theobald as his Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Bob Carden, Pat Drake, David Smith Jeane Lepper and David Watkins (Former Mayors). Councillor Peltzer Dunn wishes to acknowledge their excellent support and thank them all for their much appreciated assistance.

The Mayor also wishes to especially thank his wife Chip, and daughter Kate, for their great support throughout his mayoral term of office, as well as fellow councillors and friends who have all helped along the way.

