

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to Burntwood Town Council's Annual Report.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairman to Burntwood Town Council for the past year. Maureen and I have had a most enjoyable time, representing the Town Council at more than 50 Civic events, Church Services and other events in neighbouring Authorities. I thank all the Councillors for their support during the year.

My Charities for the year are The Midlands Air Ambulance, who are the fourth 'emergency service' and make an outstanding contribution to the welfare of our community; and the local Alzheimer's Café, run by Debbie Hill in the Scout Hut in Ironstone Road on the third Thursday of the month; a meeting place for sufferers and a respite for carers.

We held the Town Council's Civic Service at Christchurch, Burntwood, which was led by the Reverend Margaret Mattocks, and followed by a superb meal at the St Mathews Social Club. The Carol Service was held at St Anne's Church, Chasetown where again we were welcomed by a new Vicar, the Reverend Vivienne Hatton, during which we were entertained by the Chasetown Specialist Sports College jazz band, playing traditional carols.

The now annual Burntwood in Bloom competition attracted more entries than ever; the judges had the very exacting task of deciding the best in each category. The gardens and commercial premises were a colourful floral display and a credit to the entrants. A lot of hard work by enthusiastic gardeners had gone into producing the fabulous results. Our thanks go to the local organisations and companies who donated the trophies which were presented at a special presentation evening.

The weather was more kind in 2009 at the Annual Wakes weekend! The young musicians 'Unsigned' event on the Friday evening, organised by Neon Sound Studios, was a mixture of brilliant children singing, playing folk music and heavy metal! Their talent was extraordinary. On the Saturday the daytime activities were appreciated by all who attended, and the Proms in the Park evening was a great success. The orchestra conducted by Adrian Jackson put on an excellent programme, during which we hosted a superb buffet in the Hospitality marquee.

My thanks to everyone who attended my very successful Charity event held at St Mathews Club and especially to those who donated so many raffle prizes. More than £600 was raised for the Charities. We have had many messages of appreciation from people who said they had a very enjoyable evening; the entertainment was provided by the singer comedian Malcolm Stent.

My thanks to all the Burntwood Town Council staff for their support, especially the Chairman's Secretary Jayne Minor for looking after the diary and for all her help in organising the Civic events.

I hope the incoming Chairman and his Lady have a successful and enjoyable year, just as Maureen and I have.

Thank you all.

Councillor Kenneth Humphreys
Chairman, Burntwood Town Council
2009-2010