



# Shanklin Town Council

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## Town Mayor's address

*Councillor Chris Quirk, Shanklin Town Mayor*

There is lots of news this month. Firstly the good news that the repairs to

Appley Steps are complete and this access from Luccombe to the beach is now fully open.

The Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II was celebrated with street parties around the town and two major free events organised by the Town Council. On Friday 3rd June there was music and dancing on the Pier Apron, with music from Harry Lee on the Piano Accordion, Maurice Katchkup singing and tap dancing, Dance Vibez performing two dance shows (before some of them went off to London to lead the Jubilee procession down the Mall with The Shade Makers) plus music from Break the Ice with EMZ on vocals, Steve Parkes on Keyboard, special guest Roland

McCabe on Sax along with the rest of the band James Harwood, Kev Bev-Fields and Pete on drums. The event was attended by hundreds during the day and in spite of a cloudburst in the afternoon there was a Hula Hoop competition and Limbo Dancing. The Hog Roast raised nearly £500 for the Sandown & Shanklin Inshore Lifeboat. The event was attended by a changing crowd of several hundred during the course of the day.

On Sunday 5th June there was an event as part of the National Big Picnic with Music from Company B UK, Break the Ice, Derek Sandy, Shanklin Brass Band and Jake & Tilley, followed by a Jubilee Service led by the United Shanklin Churches. The Pimms' tent raised around £200 for the Shanklin Performing Arts Centre: there was also a Tea Tent, a Church Tent and a Strawberries and

Cream Stall run by "It's About Thyme." Our thanks to Sam from MMC for providing the extra stage, and to Shanklin Brass Band for letting us hijack their usual Sunday event and turn it into a Jubilee Big Picnic. A head count at the events busiest point attendees.

Also worthy of note is the restoration of the pond at Big Mead adjacent to St Blasius. The Town Council and Isle of Wight Council are working together to restore the pond, and qualified fisheries volunteers remove over 150 carp from the pod under an Environment Agency Licence, and transferred then to another local pond on the same water course, our thanks to the Fire Service for filling the holding pond for us. Over the coming weeks the pond will be partially dredged, the walls made sound, and a link to a new spring to feed the bond will be established. We also hope to remove the dinner plate sized terrapin, we assume an over-grown pet, that someone released into the pond; please no more terrapins!