

Since our last meeting in May I have attended many meeting and events. These events have included the Sunset Ceremony at Bury St Edmunds and the opening of the summer theatre at Southwold. This event clashed with the England world cup semi final but my sense of civic duty prevailed and I attended the theatre. Both of these events were very enjoyable.

The NSPCC annual branch meeting was held as usual at Somerleyton Hall on a glorious summer evening – once again it highlighted the need for all our support and our local committee must be congratulated on all the work they do raising funds and highlighting the work of the charity.

Once again we had a very full and successful festival based around the anniversary of the great fire in 1688. There were many events to enjoy including the Prom Evening which raised over £200 for my appeal. I must thank Jason Collins for all his hard work, it was a great event but is expensive to stage.

I also attended the duck race and judged various categories of decorated ducks. Due to the slow running river I'm not sure any records were set in the actual race, most competitors had to be coaxed along by the canoeists!

I also attended the unveiling of the Flixton Airfield Memorial at the Aviation Museum. These granite memorials are gradually being introduced as close as possible to the world war 2 airfields, there was also a fly past by a Lancaster bomber.

The festival ended with an event at the castle which was organised by the Fisher Theatre – this was a great evening and ended with the beacon being lit and the flag being lowered. Both myself and the Mayor expressed concern about lighting the beacon during such a

long spell of dry weather but we were given permission by the fire service and thankfully it went without a hitch!

After the festival there was Shakespeare at the Castle which as usual was a great production this time of Macbeth and a full house as usual.

I think we have nearly come to an end with the saga of the Drift – you will hear more about this later. But at this stage I would just like to thank everyone who has been involved in this especially David and Colin.

There has also been a lot in the local press recently about the Trust and the Council – I'm not really sure how it all happened as the original issues were nothing to do with the Town Trust. I have had a good relationship with both Mayor's that I have worked with and that continues now. Bungay is unique in that it has as it's civic leader a Mayor but also has the office of Town Reeve. These posts must be used for the benefit of Bungay and I will do everything I can in the time I have left in office to restore and continue this relationship and hopefully the council will do the same.