



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 125

MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to edition 125 of our Clerk's Column circulated as usual to the 490 residents on our Residents' Forum email list and through the Chronicle's page 4.

FAMILY VOICE PROJECT

VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

TIME TO BE HEARD

Many residents of our Town Centre and Upper Ventnor will be driven deeper into poverty this year. The Town Council is keen that their experience is recorded and available to those who need to hear about it directly.

So, we've asked local resident and experienced documentary maker David George to record voices only and completely anonymous short interviews that he will weave into a single documentary record. If you are willing to take part, or would like more information about it, please contact David George directly and in confidence on 852540.

POVERTY IN VENTNOR

THE FACTS
The latest government index of Multiple Deprivation shows both Upper Ventnor and Central Ventnor are within the most deprived 20% nationally. The town's central area alone has 1,483 people living in the most deprived 2,002 small areas among the 32,844 nationally on both deprivation and environment. Upper Ventnor (plus 1,655 residents) ranks among the 3,000 most deprived on Children in Poverty and Education. Both areas are among the 5,000 most deprived for income nationally and it's living hard... Ventnor Foodbank provided food for over 1,000 residents from 140 households last year while Baby Box delivered food to 76 families and provided Christmas toys.

ONE FAMILY'S NEED
I live in Ventnor and I have 3 children. I have had vouchers for Co-op before and I was wondering if I could have some more please. I have been to the food bank last week but it didn't stretch to my payday. If it is possible please can I have some more as I'm struggling and have 3 young children and me and my partner at our address.

THE THREATS
The Town Council has just completed the distribution of Vouchers that can be exchanged at our town centre Co-op for anything they sell (except alcohol tobacco) and on top of the 100 payment meters, 120 local households have been recognised as needing that support and 227 vouchers have been accepted. We have funding from the Isle of Wight Council for another round in its room, but then what? From 1 April, the energy bills will increase by some 50%, inflation to 6% and National Insurance to 10% are in the impact of Covid is proven to have been significantly greater on the poorest.

It's time those at the sharp end of the town's poverty are heard directly: if you are experiencing it, please help us get this documentary made.

This leaflet was given out by Ventnor Foodbank and Baby Box to their contacts in the hope that some would be willing to be interviewed for the Family Voice documentary with assured anonymity. The aim was for the voices of those at the sharp end of what has become the cost of living crisis to be heard directly.

THE PROCLAMATION OF KING CHARLES III

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His Mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious Memory, by whose Decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George: We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm and Members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council and representatives of the Realms and Territories, Aldermen and Citizens of London, and others, do now hereby with one voice and Consent of Tongue and Heart publish and proclaim that The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the Death of our late Sovereign of Happy Memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord Charles the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all Faith and Obedience with humble Affection; beseeching God by whom Kings and Queens do reign to bless His Majesty with long and happy Years to reign over us.

Given at St. James's Palace this tenth day of September in the year of Our Lord twenty thousand and twenty-two.

ANNUAL FELL RUNS

150 dedicated fell runners descended on Ventnor at the weekend to run up and down St Boniface and surrounding area. Saturday were 3 mile and a 7 mile runs with Sunday extending the route for a 12 mile climb and descent. Ryde Harriers had good results with several London clubs entering teams in all age groups. The Mayor presented medals and shields to the winners.



Made by local professional film and documentary makers Utility Films, the completed documentary was shown in this evening's meeting of the Town Council.

A public meeting for Ventnor residents and organisations to view and discuss the documentary will be arranged for the first week in October that will be widely publicised.

VENTNOR'S AUGUST WEATHER

This was one of the warmest Augusts on record, equalling that of 1995. Highest temperature on Carnival Day: 27.4°C. Four tropical nights 11th-14th, (overnight temperature no lower than 20°C).

| Rainfall (mm): | | Date |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| Total amount | 68.7 | |
| % of average | 142 | |
| No. of dry days | 23 | |
| Highest | 42.9 | 17th |
| Temperatures (deg C): | | |
| Mean | 20.3 | |
| Difference from average | +2.9 | |
| Highest | 30.1 | 11th |
| Lowest | 12.4 | 6th |
| Coldest day | 18.7 | 2nd |

Thunderstorm on 17th brought 34.6mm rain in 50 minutes starting at 5.10pm.

LITTER PICKING NEXT SUNDAY

If you're up for it, please meet the Mayor and friends at 9am at our Green Room this coming Sunday.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED THIS WEEK

- A [Federation of Small Businesses](#) report today - Out in the Cold - finds '96 per cent of all small businesses say they are concerned about rising energy costs. 38 per cent say they are extremely concerned.'
- The [Big Issue](#) reports today 'Only one week back in classrooms after the summer break, hundreds of schools across the country are running food banks so children have enough to eat.'

MORE INFORMATION is available from the Town Council's website and @ventnor clerk

