

## Chairman's Announcements – 23 May 2014

### **Commonwealth Flag Raising Event - 10 March**

Hosted by HM Lord-Lieutenant of Herefordshire and myself, the Commonwealth Flag was raised at Brockington to mark Commonwealth Day. It was very pleasing to see so many Councillors and local dignitaries attend the event.

### **Chairman's Civic Service - 16 March**

Thank you to all those Councillors and guests who attended the civic service this year. It was super to see so many people at the Cathedral.

### **HARC Topping Out Ceremony - 9 April**

A 'topping out' ceremony was held at the HARC Building on the Enterprise Zone which marked the completion of the roof and the final stages of the build. The Vice Chairman cut the ribbon and say a few words.

### **The Wye Trow - 29 April**

I enjoyed a lovely trip down the river wye on the Trow 'Hereford Bull' organised by the past High Sheriff, Bob Tabor. It was a splendid occasion, the sun shone and the event attracted quite a big audience and was shown on Midlands Today.

### **Royal Visit by the Countess of Wessex to Aspire Living in Ross-on-Wye - 7 May**

We had a very enjoyable visit by the Countess of Wessex at Aspire Living in Ross. The Countess thoroughly enjoyed meeting the staff, residents and supporters and was very encouraged by the level of dedication shown by all the staff and the excellent facilities of the centre itself.

### **Hospice Angels - 10 May**

The HM Lord-Lieutenant, the High Sheriff, the Mayor of Hereford, myself and other guests all turned out to support the Hospice Angels at the start of their journey from Hereford to Inverness. The Hospice Angels are very active fundraisers for St Michael's Hospice and I hope they enjoyed a safe trip to Inverness and raised lots of money for both St Michael's and the Highland Hospice.

### **County Mayors**

I would like to pass on my good wishes and thanks to those Mayors who have just completed their term of office, for their courtesy and kindness during the past 12 months. I look forward to working with the County's newly elected Mayors, during this civic year.

### **The Rifles**

Following the close of business, and before we begin the Diamond County Award ceremony, we will be joined by Major General Nick Welch of the Rifles, our adopted regiment. I would like to

take this opportunity to place on record our gratitude to all those serving in the armed forces and our condolences to those families who have lost a relative in the past year.

**Councillor Roger Hunt and Councillor Peter Watts**

Finally, it is with great sadness that I record the passing of two Councillors, Roger Hunt and Peter Watts. Both had served not only as Herefordshire Council Members but also on Leominster and Ledbury Town Councils respectively. Both Councillors worked tirelessly in their communities and are admirable examples of the ethos and commitment elected Members should aspire towards. I have written to their families on behalf of the Council and I know that all Members of Council will join me in passing on our condolences to their family and friends.