



Tonbridge Civic Society

August 2023

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Chairman's note



TCS Chair
Tom Freke

At our Tea Party on Saturday we were delighted to meet so many TCS members and supporters, and to present our **design awards**.

The winner of the main design award was Hilden Oaks School, for the extension of their buildings on a very constrained site.



Hilden Oaks School extension

Design award commendations go to Holly Lodge in Hadlow Road, The Ivy House in the High Street, and Albemarle in Lyons Crescent.

We also introduced a **TCS community award** and there were a number of worthy winners here.



These went to Richard Collins for The Old Fire Station, Tina Plant for the Tree of Hearts/Remembrance Poppies, Friends of Mill Stream for the renovations of the garden, and to Bernard Chick for Upz & Downz in Longmead.

Tonbridge Calling

We had a great time at Tonbridge Calling on July 1, talking to lots of people about the town and the Civic Society, as well as sticking fun stickers on people.



We announced the results of the photo competition that day. Prizes included a framed version of their picture and local illustrator [Imogen Partridge](#) has kindly donated some of her lovely pictures of Tonbridge buildings to the winners.



And not only that ... Artspring have chosen to exhibit one of the winning pictures in their gallery in September. Do pop along to Artspring in the High Street to see which one they chose!

The winners are (clockwise from top left):

Celebrating Tonbridge, Scott Wishart
Post 1960s, Martin Garwood
Pre 1960s, Bryan Ellis
Special commendation, Clair Miller



Further details of the projects and the judges' views will be published on our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 5	Tonbridge Pride – Tonbridge Castle
Aug 23	Open Air Theatre, MacHamLear – Tonbridge Castle
Aug 26	Kent Gin Fest – Tonbridge Castle
Aug 31-Sept 1	Outdoor cinema – Tonbridge School
Sept 3	Tonbridge Dragon Boat Race – River Walk
Sept 9-10	Walled Garden Music Festival – Tonbridge Castle

INTRODUCING ... Tonbridge Angels

The town's football club barely needs an introduction but a new focus on community engagement (and a new badge!), prompted a chat with Rebecca Newton, the club's community development officer. And do also read [this interview](#) with the new chair, Sophie Purves, discussing plans and prospects for the club.



What's the history of Tonbridge Angels?

Tonbridge Angels FC compete in the National League South, the sixth tier of English football. The ground was originally located in the centre of the town on the site Sainsbury's now occupies. The club moved to its current site at Darenth Avenue in 1980.

What happens at Longmead now?

Around 1,000 people attend each home game, mostly from the local area but we do have dedicated fans who have moved further afield and still attend every game! We narrowly missed out on the league play offs last season and the team are aiming high this season.

What's your involvement with the town?

We set up a new 'Angels in the Community' section of the club at the beginning of the year. We've employed a Community Development Officer, showing how serious we are about engaging the local community. We run sessions for kids from the age of 2 all the way up to walking football for the over 50s. We wish to welcome people old and young to the club, with bags of football knowledge or none, and we hope anyone can find something to take part in here.

What are your plans for the next few months?

We are in the process of setting up a 'memories' group which we hope to establish this autumn. The intention is to bring isolated members of the community together in a warm space at the club biweekly. It'll be an opportunity for a cup of tea and a chat, a chance to reminisce about the old days and the history of Tonbridge (whether sporting or not!).

We would welcome guest speakers and already have volunteers who will help with the running of this group. Over the summer we're running soccer camps over the holidays, and we have just launched our women's team – so do come down and support the team who play every Sunday with a 4:30pm kick off.

For more information and to find out about fixtures and what's going on please see: www.tonbridgeangels.co.uk
Twitter: @tonbridgeangels
Instagram: @TonbridgeAngelsFC

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