

Mayor's Communications, Wednesday 19th September 2018

Well what a wonderful summer we've all had. Adam and I have enjoyed attending a number of outdoor events, meeting lots of people, and enjoying the lovely sunny weather here in Ipswich.

We've been to the Fun Day in Landseer Park; the Bangladeshi Community day in Holywells Park; the amazing Ipswich Maritime Festival on the Ipswich Waterfront; and the One Big Multicultural Festival at Alexandra Park.

I've also met over 100 children from European countries when they visited me at the Mayor's Parlour, and I've joined local children and their families at Christchurch Mansion for one of IBC's summer events - An Audience with Queen Victoria!

This summer has also been about our "furry friends": I've taken part in the launch of the "Take the Lead" initiative to raise awareness and help prevent attacks on assistance and working dogs. I've visited the Blue Cross Centre on their open day and helped judge the "Waggiest Tail" dog competition, and only last week I officially opened the new Ipswich Cat Protection shop on Queen Street.

There have been a number of new businesses open in Ipswich this summer and I've had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon to open Emma's Florist Shop in St Peter's Street and the new Dunelm Store on the Anglia Retail Park, Ipswich.

Although I'm not a dancer, I was delighted to attend the ActivLives Tea Dance at the Town Hall and Corn Exchange recently. It was a pleasure to meet those attending, to watch them dance and to join them for a cup of tea afterwards!

This weekend was Battle of Britain Sunday, and it was a privilege to attend a special service at St Mary and St Botolph's Church in Whitton and to lay a wreath to commemorate those airmen who took part in that conflict. I also attended the Merchant Navy Day Service on the Ipswich Waterfront at the beginning of September, laying a wreath on behalf of the people of Ipswich in memory of our lost merchant seamen and women.

Finally, thank you to everyone who took part in my Mayor's Charity Walk and Supper event recently, and I'm pleased to report it raised over £226 pounds for my charity: The Suffolk Law Centre. The next charity event is a Folk Music Concert on Sunday, 30th September at the Cult Café, Ipswich Waterfront. Tickets priced at £10.00 are available via the Ipswich Regent Box Office.