

Epsom Safe Haven moves to new location

16 May 2022



The Epsom Safe Haven from today, 16th May, has been moved and will now be based at Brickfield Centre, Portland Place, KT17 1DL, and will be ready to see people from 6 pm tonight.

The Epsom Safe Haven has moved.

From today, 16 May, the Safe Haven will be based at Brickfield Centre, Portland Place, KT17 1DL and ready to see people from 6pm. See the full story <https://t.co/I5tEbYfQl2> [pic.twitter.com/geDnIWuplr](https://twitter.com/geDnIWuplr)

— Surrey and Borders (@sabpNHS) May 16, 2022

The Safe Haven program is a series of out-of-hours clinics available for people suffering from a mental health crisis, it operates as a drop-in service. It's meant to serve as a safe alternative to A&E for people suffering from mental health issues. It has branches all over the country, including Epsom.

The relocation follows a decision by commissioners from Surrey County Council, funders at Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System, as well as service providers Mary Frances Trust and Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SABP) that the current building is no longer suitable to deliver the service. After an extensive engagement period to gather views from people using the service as well as partner organisations and local stakeholders, it was decided that the best location for the service was at the Brickfield Centre in Epsom.

For more information about Epsom Safe Haven, please visit their website.

Epsom & Ewell F.C. announce Anthony Jupp as new manager

16 May 2022



Epsom & Ewell F.C. have announced that Anthony Jupp will become their new head coach, following the departure of Jamie Byatt. Jupp was formally the manager of Horley Town F.C.

Epsom & Ewell finished in 6th place in the Southern Combination League this season, and no doubt be looking to strengthen their squad over the summer.

Anthony will assume this position immediately, as Epsom & Ewell F.C. look to take on their pre-season friendlies...

Epsom & Ewell Times would like to congratulate Anthony wholeheartedly, as we all look forward to watching Epsom & Ewell F.C. again next season.

Platinum Jubilee: Flypast to go over Epsom

16 May 2022



Image: www.visitlondon.com

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is just around the corner, and excitement is growing for the many events being held to commemorate it. A classic staple of the Jubilee is the RAF Flypast that will take place this summer (June 2nd) to close off the Queen's Birthday parade.

Spectators will be able to witness the stream of red, white and blue smoke as the RAF makes their flyover Surrey, going over Guildford, Reigate, Woking and, of course, Epsom.

READ MORE: Platinum Jubilee: 5 things to do in Epsom!

The timetable for the Platinum Jubilee Flypast shows the approximate timescale of the event and shows you when you will be able to see the event in your area. The jets are expected to be over Surrey between 12.50 pm and 1.30 pm.

Are you planning out looking out for the RAF on June 2nd? Let us know on Twitter: @EpsomandET, and keep checking epsomandewelltimes.com for more jubilee stories!

READ MORE: Epsom Derby: Queen's horse pulled out of race

5 Shops that could replace House of Fraser in the Ashley Centre

16 May 2022



Epsom's House of Fraser is shutting its doors for good on June 24th, leaving Epsom residents wondering what shop could take its place. There's been much discussion on the topic of House of Fraser's succession, so we've curated a list of 5 possible shops that could appear after it closes... read on!

Primark



Eden Walk Primark

Our first option is quite an obvious one, and there wouldn't be any surprises if Primark did indeed turn out to fill the vacant spot that House of Fraser is leaving behind. Doubtless it would pump some well-needed life into Epsom's retail heart, and it's reasonable prices are something that everyone can agree on.

A well known household brand, it would provide easy access for shopper to come in and pick up essential clothing items, as well as gifts and other items, at a very good price.

READ MORE: Surrey musical quartet to play Jubilee concert to fundraise for their local NHS

H&M



H&M Store on Sutton High Street

It's worth noting that there used to be not one but two H&M stores in the Ashley Centre, H&M and H&M Kids, both stores ended up closing their doors. Since then, H&M has opened a successful store in Sutton, could it be time for Epsom to give H&M another chance?

The prices are good, the selection is pretty decent as well, although it's very unlikely to take House of Fraser's spot in the Ashley Centre.

Flannels



Flannels store on Sutton High Street

Could Flannels replace House of Fraser? The high-end streetwear store is doing well in Sutton and other places, so is it so out of the question that the luxury brand could open up a shop in Epsom?

This is very unlikely to happen, all in all, the demand for shops like this in Epsom is low, and it's hard to imagine such a risky investment paying off, especially considering the luck that some clothes shops (H&M, House of Fraser) have had in the Ashley Centre.

If it does happen though, Epsom will have a new go-to for brands such as OFF-WHITE, Stone Island and Hugo Boss.

UNIQLO

A slightly left of field option, UNIQLO is a Japanese casualwear shop, mostly located in Central London, a UNIQLO store in Epsom could draw shoppers from all over the south to the Ashley Centre, and end up being exactly the kind of retail injection that the town needs.

UNIQLO would be welcomed by fashion enthusiasts and casual alike. With their sleek, elegant designs and futuristic minimalism it would certainly be a breath of fresh air in the Ashley Centre.

However, the prices of some of their items may put shoppers off, they're hardly comparable to H&M and Primark, but there's an argument to make that you get what you pay for, quality wise.

Crazy golf



Crazy Golf in Skegness

Now for something a little bit different. Why not forgo the retail route and implement some entertainment into the Ashely Centre? It would certainly bring in more families and would get people talking about Epsom!

Crazy golf is normally an outdoor affair, but more and more indoor golf venues are opening up, could Epsom have it's very own indoor golf course?

What are your thoughts? Please let us know on Twitter @EpsomandET, or email in at admin@epsomandewelltimes.com

For more stories like this, please [click here](#)

Surrey Police appeal for witnesses following burglary on Kingston road

16 May 2022



Image: Surrey Police

Were you in the Kingston Road area of Epsom on Monday afternoon (9 May)?

If so, you may be able to help them following the theft of a vehicle from an address on Kingston Road.

Suspects broke into the property sometime between 1.20 and 2 pm and carried out an untidy search of numerous drawers and cupboards before making off with a grey BMW which was parked on the driveway.

The suspects are believed to have headed off onto the A240.

Surrey Police would like to speak to anyone who was in the area at the time and who may have seen anything that could help with their enquiries.

If you have any information that may be able to help, please contact Surrey Police quoting PR/45220049025 via:

- Webchat on their website <https://www.surrey.police.uk/>
- Online <https://www.surrey.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/>
- Calling them on 101

If you do not wish to leave your name, please call the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Witness appeal following collision in Ewell

16 May 2022



Image: Surrey Police

Surrey Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious collision in Ewell this morning (Thursday, 12 May).

Officers were called to report a collision between a white Honda car and two pedestrians at around 8.25 am on the A24 Ewell By-Pass. The collision occurred on the southbound carriageway near the junction with Castle Avenue.

A child was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

The driver of the vehicle involved remains at the scene and is assisting officers with their enquiries.

The southbound carriageway of the A24 Ewell By-Pass is currently closed between the junctions with Cheam Road and London Road (Organ Crossroads). It is likely to remain closed for the next few hours.

Surrey police are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has any dashcam footage, to contact them straightaway quoting reference number P22098231. Please get in touch via:

- Webchat on their website <https://www.surrey.police.uk/>
- Online <https://www.surrey.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/>
- Calling them on 101

If you do not wish to leave your name, please call the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Inside the U3A Open house

16 May 2022



Epsom & Ewell Times enjoyed spending part of an afternoon at the U3A Open House at Bourne Hall in Ewell. U3A is a non-profit organisation that includes over 1000 charities, encouraging people who can no longer work to come together and learn for fun.

With activities such as chess, beer & wine tasting, racket sports, flower arranging and even belly dancing, spoilt-for-choice would be an understatement. With their youngest member being 49, and their eldest being 101, the only requirement to join (on top of the very fair £15/yr. membership fee) is not being in full-time employment.

The atmosphere in the hall was bustling as members (current and prospective alike) browsed the various stalls and chatted with organisers about their preferred activities. Member's artwork was on display, examples of chess openings were proudly laid out on tables and an assortment of beers and wines (for display purposes only) were presented on the Beer & Wine tasting table. There was truly something for everyone.

READ MORE: Queen misses opening of Parliament - Derby in question?

U3A was initially called the University of The Third Age, the name refers to the phase of life that begins after you retire

(The titular third age, the first being education, the second being work and family building) in which you are free to pursue artistic or intellectual interests that you enjoy. U3A looks to act as a guiding hand for people entering this age, to allow them to pursue lifelong hobbies they love or expose them to new ones that they didn't have time to try before retirement.

Upon speaking with a green-fingered gardening group, I was informed that Epsom, last year, entered Britain in Bloom and took silver. This year, Ewell Village themselves have entered, and are working with the council, focusing on Bourne Hall Park, looking to add even more colour and beauty to the vibrant park.

They also informed me that Gertrude memorial Garden has been neglected for nearly 7 years, and they will be focusing on that too. Friends of Bourne Hall will be planting brand new plants in the garden, working alongside the council. The endeavour will take around 2 years. The project was started as a mix of Local Pride and Horticulture, the volunteers told me that they see this as a big project, members of the group told me that previous experience in project management roles is proving invaluable to the task.

For more information regarding the amazing work that U3A does for people in our community, and up and down the country, please visit their website.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/>

Read: Epsom's House of Fraser closing date revealed

Epsom's House of Fraser closing date revealed

16 May 2022



Epsom's House of Fraser store will be shutting its doors for good in a matter of weeks, according to a store employee. The department store has been synonymous with the Ashley Centre for years, and will no doubt be missed by Epsom's shoppers.

The store was originally slated for closure in 2018, when the company announced that the Epsom branch would close along with 30 other House of Fraser stores across the country. The fire of hope was brightened in 2020 when a short-term lease extended the lifespan of the store, but it now looks like the shop will be closing indefinitely.

Having already shut their flagship Oxford Street branch earlier this year, it looks like another House of Fraser store has bit the dust. It's worth mentioning that there are still House of Fraser stores in London, as well as a branch in Guildford and Croydon.

READ MORE: Surrey musical quartet to play Jubilee concert to fundraise for their local NHS

According to SurreyLive, the Epsom store's final day of trading will be Friday 24th of June, just over a month away.

The absence of House of Fraser from the Ashley Centre will undoubtedly leave a big retail hole in Epsom, leaving residents curious about what shop could step up to take its place in the shopping centre...

To read more stories like this, [click here](#).

Surrey musical quartet to play Jubilee concert to fundraise for their local NHS

16 May 2022



Epsom Music Charity will host an NHS Staff Benefit concert, featuring the Salieri Quartet, as part of local Jubilee celebrations on Friday 27 May at midday at the Epsom Playhouse in the presence of Councillor Clive Woodbridge, Mayor Elect of Epsom and Ewell.

The long established and experienced Salieri Quartet, whose members have played with orchestras across Europe and worked on West End shows, will treat the audience to a relaxing hour of classical favourites such as the Pachelbel Canon along with works from famous and familiar composers like Bach and Mozart to name but a few. The quartet will then 'string out' the entertainment by setting up in Market Square to entertain shoppers and businesses with a more contemporary programme, ranging from Beyoncé to Game of Thrones, and where donations will also be gratefully received!

READ MORE: Police appeal for witnesses after assault on Waterloo Road, Epsom

Simon Littlefield, Chief Nurse of the Trust, who will be attending the event said: *"A huge thank you to Epsom Music and the Salieri Quartet for dedicating their time to organise this event to support our charity; our people and the NHS. We are very grateful for the effort that has been put into this and would encourage people to come along and support this special day-time musical interlude."*



Jubilee Concert poster

Lionel Blackman, Trustee of Epsom Music, said: *"Our charity supports the education and performance of all music throughout Epsom and Ewell. Many in the music community were sadly affected by Covid in one way or another, and now that events can once again take place, we wanted to take the opportunity to show our immense gratitude to our local NHS. We are honoured the Mayor Elect can attend, and we hope other people can show their support by getting a ticket and coming along!"*

The concert will be for one hour and start at midday on Friday 27 May. A minimum donation of £10 per ticket is requested which can be made online at www.epsommusic.org and all funds raised will go to Epsom and St Helier Hospitals Charity.

READ MORE: Enter the Dojo of the Code Ninjas

Enter the Dojo of the Code Ninjas

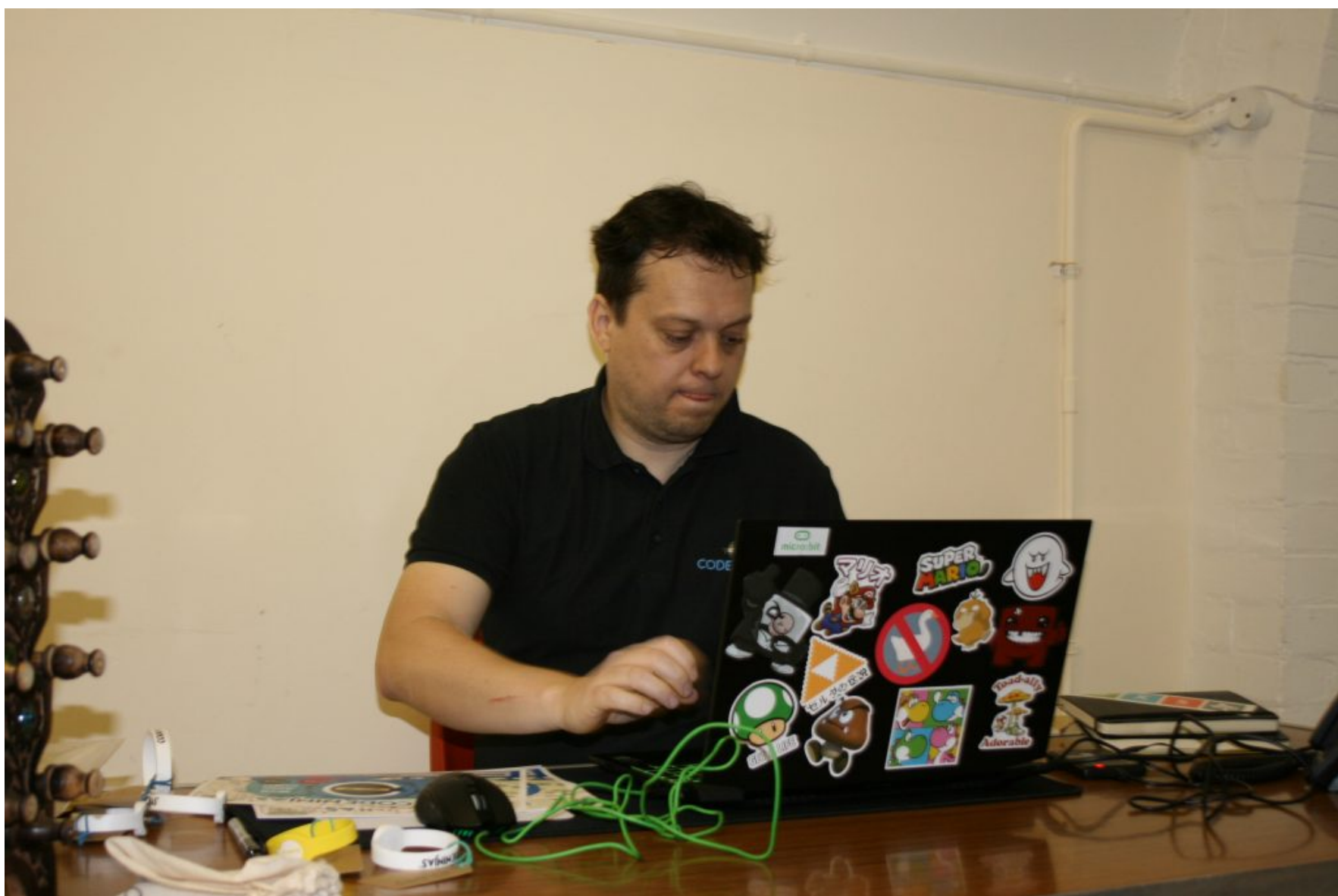
16 May 2022



A brand new coding school has opened in Epsom, teaching kids how to create programs, build robots and code video games.

Code Ninjas is a brilliant school whose Epsom branch has recently been set up by Lee Richards, a former English teacher and tech worker, that focuses on teaching young kids (aged 5-15) how to code and make their own video games. I was lucky enough to be invited to their grand opening at St. Martin's Church on Saturday to check out their set-up and have a chat with some of the organisers, and I was far from disappointed.

While working from home at the start of the pandemic, Lee reflected on both his 9 years of teaching English and the time he spent working online game development in Sweden and thought to himself, is there a more effective way to teach? Can I merge these careers together? Armed with a Masters in Philosophy and a post-graduate degree in teaching, Lee decided to open Code Ninjas Epsom.



Lee Richards, Code Ninja Master of Epsom Dojo

In the basement of St Martin's Church, walls adorned with detailed whiteboards and gaming paraphernalia surround 10 or so hard-working pre-teens, some are coding their own games, designing art assets to be used in said games, and some are using programmable toys. One thing they all have in common is they're clearly having a blast. With computers spread out across the rooms, and "Code sensei's" on hand to help the kids out, they couldn't have been in better hands. Their whiteboards are covered in plans, designs and diagrams informing the kids' coding decisions. Level names, level structure and other design plans are scattered over the board, between cute doodles of popular gaming characters.



The Ninjas, hard at work.

Much like a regular dojo, the kids track their coding progress through “belts”, with different colours awarded for different levels of proficiency.

READ: Meet the man cycling to Ukraine for charity

“We’re agnostic about languages”, Lee tells me when I ask about which coding languages they focus on. “Most expect to be using Python”, (Python is commonly used for amateur video game development), Lee gets the kids started on C#, which is a more versatile language that is quite similar to Python but allows you to do more.

Even the mayor, Pete Donovan, was getting in on the fun, checking out the kids’ projects and congratulating the little Ninjas for getting their belts. Upon speaking with me, he cheerily recounts his brother’s youthful obsession with Sega games that used to keep him up at night.



Mayor Pete Donovan, checking out the handiwork of one of the ninjas.

Also on display at the church is an entire room dedicated to retro gaming, featuring consoles that are years older than me and decades older than the kids who were so gleefully using them. A ZX Spectrum, a Commodore 64, classic Nintendo consoles (NES and SNES) along with more modern consoles capable of 3D Graphics (Sega Dreamcast, Nintendo 64, PlayStation 1 and an original X-Box).

Coding, being so versatile and used for so many useful things, is commonly associated with the design and creation of video games. Through piquing the curiosity of the kids through their love of gaming, Lee is nurturing what could be a

lifelong interest, or even career, for his Ninjas. It's not just about careers for Lee, Lee believes that a digitally-literate generation of kids would be nothing but beneficial to humanity, and hopes to help forge these Ninjas into the digital pioneers of tomorrow.

If you think your child would like to become a Code Ninjas, have a look at their website for all the information you need: <https://www.codeninjas.co.uk/epsom-sry-uk>

READ: Queen misses opening of Parliament - Derby in question?

Queen misses opening of Parliament - Derby in question?

16 May 2022



Queen Elizabeth was represented by the Prince of Wales at today's parliamentary ceremony, due to "episodic mobility problems" (according to Royal Doctors) preventing her from appearing in person. Her Majesty has only missed 2 of these events, both due to pregnancy. In these cases, the Lord Chancellor read her speech. Her Majesty has not missed a parliamentary opening ceremony for 60 years.

Prince Charles standing in as Queen's counsel for the ceremony represents an enormous shift in the duties of the Prince of Wales. Another future King, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince William, was also in attendance, making his first appearance at the ceremony. Prince Charles carrying out the duties of the Head of State will surely attract media attention across the globe, as the longest ever serving Heir Apparent begins to share duties with his Mother.

READ MORE: Epsom Derby: Queen's horse pulled out of race

The Queen's absence raises questions around other events planned for year, Her Majesty celebrates her Platinum Jubilee this year, marking 70 years on the throne. Events are planned up and down the country. Perhaps the most famous of these events is the Epsom Derby, which the Queen is known to thoroughly enjoy, despite it being the only one of the 5 'Classic' races she is yet to win.

Speaking to Hello! Magazine, Racing broadcaster Brough Scott said: *"The thought of The Queen winning The Derby this year, of all the fairy-tale stories, that would be beyond it. It's a wonderful thought."*

However, due to her mobility problems that have been plaguing her since last Autumn, is an appearance from Her Majesty at Epsom Derby going to be called into question? The Queen was absent from the Derby in 2021, due to the restrictions in place at the time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If the Queen feels she cannot attend this year either, it's safe to say that the mood will be severely dampened.

READ MORE: Platinum Jubilee: 5 things to do in Epsom!

Long serving Councillor Clive Smitheram dies at 76

16 May 2022



Clive Smitheram, Councillor for West Ewell, passed away on April 25th aged 76. Clive's health had been deteriorating in the last few months and last week was taken to Epsom Hospital for tests and was diagnosed with Sepsis.

Clive was a central figure in West Ewell having lived there for over 30 years with his wife Gill and family and although a proud Cornishman, Clive was someone who knew everyone locally and if he didn't know someone, he knew someone who did! Clive was a former police officer, having served 31 years in the service and was a retired community safety officer. As an active resident, it led to Clive being elected as a Resident Association Councillor for West Ewell serving for over 20 years, Clive was a former Mayor of Epsom and Ewell in 2010- 2011.

Clive was always happy supporting and providing advice to the residents of West Ewell and had a very proactive approach to getting things done. Clive always believed that central politics should have no place in local issues and that councillors should be "local people dealing with local issues". He believed this common-sense approach best served the community and its residents.

Clive served on many different committees during his time as a councillor, having been Chairman of Crime and Disorder, Licencing and Scrutiny, as well as an active member of the Planning Committee. Clive provided a wealth of experience and support to all colleagues and was a great mentor and listener, with a positive approach to problem-solving. Clive was an active member of All Saints Church in West Ewell and became a member of Epsom Rotary Club in 2011, becoming President in 2014. Clive was voted an honorary member in October 2020. In addition, Clive was a founder member of the town's twinning association with Chantilly in Northern France and this year marks the 25th anniversary.

Lastly, we have lost a special person and good friend and our thoughts are with his wife Gill, his children Chris and Claire and his four grandchildren.

This obituary was written by Councillors Barry Nash and Monica Coleman, both representing West Ewell.

For more news on the council, please [click here](#).