

Annual Meeting of the Parish of Mayfield 2017

3rd May 2017, 7.30, Memorial Hall

Mayfield Parish Council's Chair, Cllr Kerry Turner, welcomed 21 members of the parish to the meeting.

Local groups, who have been awarded grants by the Parish Council in 2016 - 2017 gave reports on their activities to date, including: Mandy Sowter on behalf of the Memorial Hall, Charles Wimbush on behalf of the MRA and Pat Smith on behalf of the Bowls Club. In addition, the Rev. Ray Owen gave an update on the activities of St John the Baptist Church, Mayfield.

These reports can be found in full on our website: www.mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

The highlight of the evening was the very first *Unsung Heroes of Mayfield* presentation.

Unsung Heroes of Mayfield is the bright idea of Cllr Janet Watson. She suggested that the parish council could help celebrate the work of individuals who live in the parish of Mayfield. These are the people who do that little bit extra in the community helping others, not necessarily people who serve on committees, but the people who work quietly behind the scenes. They give their time freely to support other people in many different capacities.

All Cllrs supported this idea and it was agreed that there should be a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, at which all parishioners would be welcome to attend and show their support and appreciation.

The first two *Unsung Heroes* are **Margaret Mansfield** and **Simon Sowter**.

Margaret was nominated by Janice Owen, who said of her:

"I have found Margaret to be utterly dependable and trustworthy, with unfailing good humour.

Many Mayfield villagers will be grateful to Margaret for her kindness and thoughtfulness. If she knows someone needs help, she responds. ... she visited a couple for several years every morning when they became housebound, making their breakfast with a cheery word [before heading off to work], ... she looked after her father-in-law for four years ... nursing, cleaning, cooking, shopping putting in a visit in the evening to help at bed-time.

Her patience and coping skills are remarkable. ... many others, including myself, ... value her as a friend.

An important part of Margaret's life is her involvement with St. John the Baptist Church in Mayfield. [She is] the Sunday School leader, calling for several children on the way to church on Sunday mornings."

Simon was nominated by Mandy Sowter, whose reasons for nominating Simon, include:

"He supports all aspects of village life. He has served on many committees, currently the Memorial Hall, and raises money for most clubs [and causes] including the MRA, MM Hall, Mayfield F.C., Hanging Bridge Tug of War, Alfie Hayes, Gala Queen to name a few.

After Ashbourne Round Table stopped bringing Santa to Mayfield, Simon [and] Gary Robinson acquired everything needed to fund a float and Santa came to Mayfield once again.

He selflessly volunteers to help out when he is able to; he can put his hand to any task. Without him the village would be at a loss, as he really does do so much.

Simon is an asset to the village, and I believe recognition of his efforts should be celebrated.”

Cllr Watson, on behalf of the Parish Council, presented Margaret with a tree and two engraved plaques – one for Margaret and one for her father-in-law, Jack Mansfield (who recently died at the age of 108, and was the oldest man in Britain).

She then presented Simon with an engraved hip flask (apparently this is a vital bit of kit for Shrovetide!).

Margaret gave thanks to the Parish Council and Janice Owen and Simon thanked Mandy, Mayfield parishioners and the Parish Council

The Parish Council provided drinks and nibbles and Cllrs and parishioners enjoyed a glass (or two!) of wine and a catch up.

If you would like to nominate someone for next year’s Unsung Heroes of Mayfield you can find the form on www.mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk or contact the Clerk, Fiona Raistrick on 01335 300 102 / email: clerk.mayfieldpc@gmail.com



Back Row - L-R: Cllr Sharon Amy, Cllr Dave Moss, Simon Sowter, Cllr Mick Edge, Cllr John Parker, Cllr Phil Cook, Mandy Sowter, Janice Owen

Front row – L-R: Margaret Mansfield, Cllr Kerry Turner (Chair, Mayfield Parish Council), Cllr Janet Watson