

Chair's Report to Full Council, 15 September 2021

Being Chairman continues to be quieter than I anticipated. Probably a good job given how much I am usually involved within my own ward.

The main event I will have attended as your Chairman on 9th September was the first recognition locally of Emergency Services or 999 Day with a flag-raising ceremony in County Hall car park. I was accompanied by the High Sheriff, representatives of all the emergency services and leading Isle of Wight Councillors. I was delighted to be able to initiate this important event, along with Council support staff, which I hope will now be annual and held in St Thomas' Square.

I was also invited to the IsleAccess '*Accessible Activities and Services Day*' at West Wight Sports Centre, which was entirely illuminating.

As your Chairman and personally I was very sad to learn of the passing of Cllr Vanessa Churchman's husband, David, but I know she has been comforted by all the messages of condolence and support.

Finally I have been involved in preparations for this year's county Remembrance Sunday ceremonies in Newport. I am delighted that representatives of religious faiths other than Christian will now be invited to be part of the civic elements of the ceremonies and of course I have no faith.

Cllr Geoff Brodie