

Peace For Our Time.

Council Leader, Denise Hyland announces that the council will repair the clock and will also ensure that funding is identified for its ongoing maintenance for the foreseeable future

I am grateful to SEnine magazine and particularly to Margaret Taylor for her article on the history of the Eltham Town Clock which provides some fascinating details on the history of this landmark, underlining its close links to the history of the town, as well as to that of the parish church itself.

Thanks to her research, your readers and the Council now know a lot more about the public and charitable contributions that preceded the Council's own role in maintaining the clock.

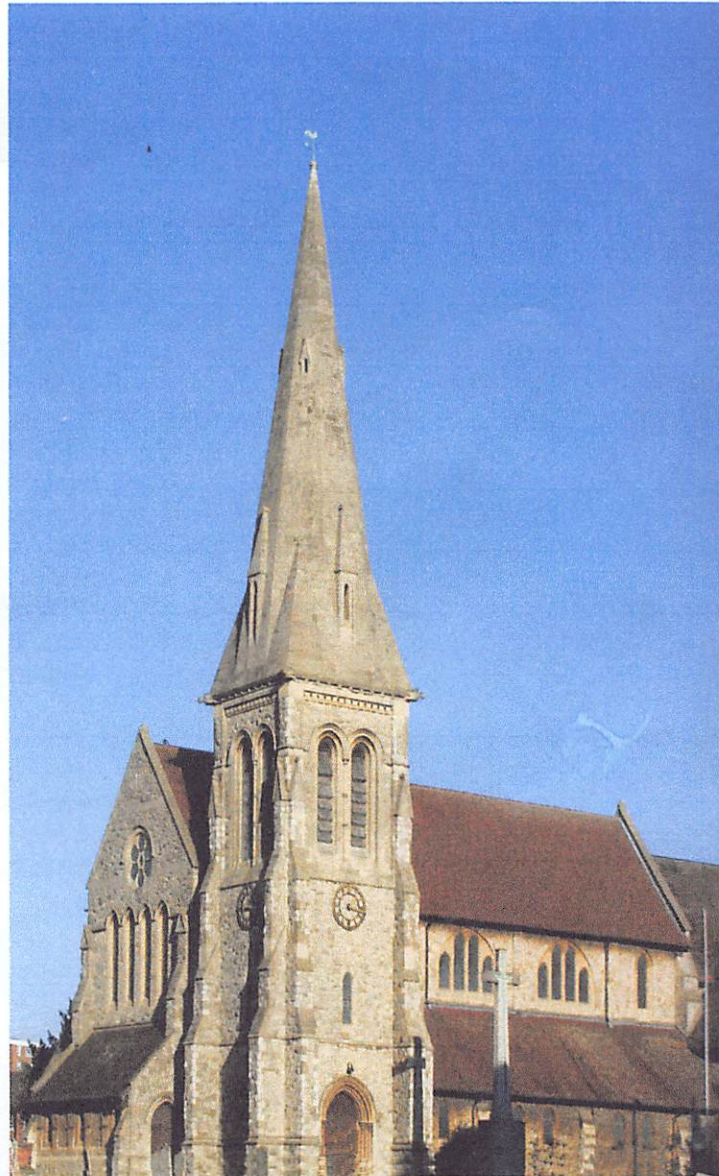
Margaret's article, and the generous fundraising campaign by the landlords and customers of the White Hart, underline the high level of interest in, and commitment to, this landmark amongst the local community.

I absolutely accept that the clock is a facility for the people of Eltham, rather than a church clock, and am pleased to report that in response to this, and to the local expressions of support, the Council will repair the clock and will also ensure that funding is identified for its ongoing maintenance for the foreseeable future. We are also in discussion with the church over how best to use the money collected by fund raisers - possibly by providing a more thorough overhaul to the clock.

I would like to thank the Rev Jim Bryson for all his support, and can reassure your readers that we will continue to liaise closely with the church and with other local organisations as our plans develop.

Yours

Denise Hyland
Leader, Royal Borough of Greenwich



Breaking news

Cinema Passes Planning:

Poundland announces closure

The cinema proposal easily passed through planning as was expected, give the council owns the building.

With dramatic timing Poundland announced its closure date of September 28th, 2015.

The speed of the announcement has shocked onlookers and the media.

But all is not lost. Poundland will move across the road into the 99p store. The whole 99p store group was purchased by poundland earlier in the year.

This is a serendipitous outcome for Poundland and the council.

Poundland have a premises and council has it building back to develop cinema and the owner of the 99p store can lay back on his yacht and enjoy spoils of victory, or not.

The Clock

The matter surrounding the clock has been resolved. If you flick to page 4 you will read a wonderful letter from the leader of the council, Denise Hyland, on the matter. But before you do that stay with me a little while as I perorate on the 'timely' events of the last months.



Cllr Denise Hyland

SEnine magazine spearheaded the events that bought about a change in the position of the council. SEnine did not make it happen, but certainly was the vehicle that allowed views to be expressed and opposing positions aired, at both ends of the spectrum of opinion. SEnine is the only free press media outlet focussed completely on Eltham and is able to proudly say we believe in and stand for Eltham.

In this matter the council, to its total credit, and Denise Hyland in particular, reviewed the information published in SEnine, especially Margaret Taylor's work, and realised that there was more to the history of the clock than appeared on the surface. Once that was known and understood, Denise was very quick to act and correct the matter.

SEnine was very pleased that Denise acknowledged SEnine's role in bringing the matter to public attention and eventual resolve, thank you.

Birthday

Next month we are 9 years or 108 months old. It is a significant milestone, and a precursor to November 2016 when we will be 10 years old. I am both excited and proud as we move into our tenth year.

I had the opportunity to speak with our MP, Clive Efford this month. He said in an on record interview that the road to the successful opening of the hospital (Story page 23) was long, with some 'hairy' moments.

As I was already in pensive mood, so those words hit a chord with me and my thinking about the journey of SEnine magazine and all the associated efforts that have been encouraged by the business.

While SEnine was a fledgling business scrambling to survive and succeed, it also was active with the Eltham Town Centre Partnership. SEnine established the Association for Commerce in Eltham (ACE). And founded Elthamse9 web site which was later transformed into a valuable 'go-to' resource for people looking for businesses and services in Eltham. It was a busy time, and that pressure has never ended. More lately we (SEnine) have worked with Eltham Against Business Crime (EABC) and the anti-terror command in Greenwich.

For years SEnine has been quietly active in junior and senior sport, involved in supporting local schools, charities and self-help organisations. We have assisted and supported many club and societies in Eltham.

We have also assisted in hundreds of school projects and homework assignments.



In an average year SEnine quietly donates to clubs and organisations without seeking recognition. Our support now approaches £50,000 to junior and senior sport, NFP organisations, schools, charities and the community.

So I am very proud of what has been achieved, and especially proud of the people who have assisted and supported. And we have just begun.

Along our path there have been many well meaning critics. They tell us they know how to do it better or do not approve of our vanilla reporting or other things we do. We are a long way from perfect and make mistakes but to escape criticism is to do nothing, say nothing and be nothing. So we quickly forgive and forget, and focus on what is good and wholesome. We move on.

As we proudly march into our tenth year I am also conscious that no business (or person) can rest on its (their) laurels and rely on a past reputation. We must continue to re-invent ourself, over and over, no doubt 2016 will bring change.

We have to bounce so high, over the rough times, that we catch the stars.

Mark

Enjoy life:
Enjoy Eltham.

Totally Independent

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Cameo: The Clock - See page 4

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