



The Mayor of Guildford

Municipal year 2024 – 2025
Councillor Sallie Barker MBE

Making connections
for the wellbeing of our communities



GUILDFORD
BOROUGH

The Mayor

Cllr Sallie Barker MBE

Sallie was born and went to school in London. She chose to study at Bangor University in North Wales to train as a teacher, as she enjoyed climbing mountains! She has been passionate about sport ever since.

Sallie taught Physical Education for eight years and moved to Guildford in 1988 for her last role, as Head of PE at Heathside School in Weybridge. The same year she moved to the centre of Guildford. During her teaching career Sallie began her commitment to public service, serving as an Officer in the Territorial Army for nearly 20 years.

After one cold and snowy winter Sallie decided teaching was not for her and she moved into sports administration. She joined the GB Sports Council, which later became Sport England, and finished her career as Chief Operating Officer for the Sport and Recreation Alliance.



Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Throughout her career, Sallie has focused on the positive benefits of sport in addressing inclusion, diversity, and opportunity. She has a particular interest in promoting women and girls in sport. She organised the first International Women and Sport Conference in 1984 and was a member of the team that drafted the Brighton Declaration on Women and Sport. It includes a set of principles for sports organisations to develop gender equality in sport and physical activity and is still relevant today.

For her services to sport, Sallie was awarded an MBE from Queen Elizabeth II in 2017.

Since her retirement in 2015, Sallie has continued to promote the benefits of physical activity in addressing issues of equality and inclusion. Sallie was Chair of the organising committee for the Women's World Lacrosse Championships, held at Surrey Sports Park in 2017, and she is currently Chair of British Blind Sport and organised the World Blind Games in Birmingham, in August 2023.



Links with our town and villages

On her retirement, Sallie wanted to put something back into the community she loves and to continue her commitment to public service by developing even closer links to our town and surrounding villages by getting involved with a number of community groups and organisations. These include:

- Friends of Guildford Fringe
- The Board of Guildford Young Carers
- Member of Wanborough Barn Management Committee
- A Governor at Puttenham Infants School and
- Guildford Spike WI – where she was President for 4 years.

Sallie was elected as a Guildford Borough Councillor for Pilgrims Ward in May 2023 and was subsequently appointed as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2023-24.

Sallie is keen to use the knowledge, experiences, and skills she has gained from her voluntary and public roles to benefit the residents in Guildford and surrounding villages.

Sallie lives in Guildford with her partner, Phil. They enjoy living in the centre of Guildford for the many social opportunities on offer but also enjoy taking long walks in the nearby countryside. They have 27 goldfish in their garden pond and a 10-year-old cat, Harry who spends his time trying to catch them!



Making connections for the wellbeing of our communities

This is Sallie's theme of the year. She has a passion for bringing people together to work towards a common goal. She hopes that her Mayoral year will provide the perfect opportunity to do this, by making connections and working in partnership with a wide range of organisations to support as many people as possible.

The wellbeing of our communities is at the forefront of Sallie's interests, and it applies to us all, young and old alike. She is looking forward to getting out and about across the borough and meeting people from all walks of life, and circumstances. Sallie hopes that by encouraging conversations about our wellbeing, she will be able to add her voice and support to those providing help and services to people struggling in their daily life.



Charity Support

During her Mayoral year, Sallie is keen to support as many local charities as possible. She is aiming to hold, and attend, a range of fundraising events that support the differing areas of need within the borough. By attending these events she will also help to raise the profile of the charities involved, so that more people will be aware of their work and can access their services.

Sallie will also be visiting as many community groups and organisations as possible to see the work they do, and personally thank them, on behalf of all the residents of Guildford Borough, for all they do to support our community.

Guildford Philanthropy

In 2024, Guildford Philanthropy will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary. During this ten-year period the charity has helped bring donors together to build a fund that helps support those that are struggling within our community. To mark this significant anniversary, Sallie will be working with Guildford Philanthropy to help raise funds for specific projects.



For more information, please visit Guildford Philanthropy's website:
guildfordphilanthropy.org.uk

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The Mayor of Guildford's Local Support Fund

As Mayor of Guildford, Sallie will continue the work of former mayors to promote and raise money for this fund. The fund provides vital financial support to residents facing difficult financial circumstances.

For more information, please email:
civicsecretary@guildford.gov.uk

Scan to support the Mayor of Guildford's Local Support Fund.



Fundraising

Sallie recognises she's not able to fundraise for all the great charities in our borough but will attend as many events as possible to help organisations fundraise for themselves and to raise their profile. **So, please invite her to your event!**

Sallie hopes this will mean that her Mayoral support will cover the wide areas of interest that she has, reach right across our borough, and support as many people as possible.

Save the date for these upcoming events



19 May 2024

The Big Charity Fundraising Walk: in collaboration with Rotary in Guildford, Sallie will be walking in support of the Mayor's Local Support Fund.

2 June 2024

Charity six-a-side adult football tournament.

30 September 2024

Charity Night at The Shahin Restaurant, Woodbridge Hill.

12 December 2024

The Mistletoe Ball, G Live, Guildford. Celebrating Guildford Philanthropy's 10th Anniversary.

15 December 2024

The Mayor's Christmas Concert, organised by the Guildford Wey Rotary and the Vivace Chorus, at Holy Trinity Church, High Street, Guildford.

7 March 2025

Afternoon Tea with celebrity speaker.

April 2025

Diversity, a multi-cultural event, at Holy Trinity Church.

For more information, or to book a place at any of the above events, please email:

civicsecretary@guildford.gov.uk

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