

- **The government has announced a pause on Local Government Reorganisation** for 14 areas across the country including Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. Local elections for district councils will now be held in May 2027, alongside the already planned parish council elections, but the proposed elections to unitary authorities (North and South Staffordshire) will not take place while the review is underway. The change of plans follows legal advice received by the Secretary of State
- As an Alderman of Staffordshire, I was invited by SMDC to attend **the raising of the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day**, to pay tribute to our merchant seafarers, both past and present. They bravely ensured that Britain continued to have food and supplies during the wars in very dangerous conditions and today they continue to serve us. This was very well attended by the Royal British Legion, Deputy Lieutenant Simon Davies, Reverend Arthur Hack, councillors and citizens
- **Tales of the Forest.** We spent a wonderful time with families at Coombes Valley Nature Reserve, along with the volunteers, **celebrating Winnie the Pooh's 100th birthday**, reading them stories as they followed the nature trail and took part in activities. Two Deputy Lieutenants joined us along with SMDC councillors and the parents enjoyed the day as much as the children.
- **The Royal British Legion are holding a 'Moorlands Meet-Up'** at Moorlands House on Saturday 19th September at 10.30am, to be led by RBL Staffordshire County Chairman, Anthony Frith. This is to bring local branches together to help shape a stronger future for the RBL in the Moorlands and to discuss ways to boost membership. It's open to the general public as an opportunity for prospective members to. Come and have a chat and find out more about the RBL
- **The Holocaust Memorial event on the theme of "No place for prejudice"** is to be held at Endon Methodist Church on Saturday 23rd January at 2pm
- **As part of World Alzheimer's month**, Staffordshire Police are urging families of people with dementia to sign up for a scheme that provides police with key information about them if they go missing. The Herbert Protocol is a quick and simple way of having useful details at the ready if a particularly vulnerable person, such as someone living with dementia, goes missing. When you create an account with the new provider **Safe and Found Online**, you will be asked to fill out a form that includes a loved one's details, such as required medication, mobile numbers, places previously located and an up to date photograph
- On Saturday 26th September at 9.30am in the Churnet Room, SMDC will be hosting **'Moorlands Water Day'** in collaboration with the Dove Catchment Partnership and the Environment Agency. This will enable people to learn from each other's experiences and gain first hand **access to the expertise of public bodies involved in water quality**. After a networking lunch, the event will move to Tittesworth for practical demonstrations. For further details go through the Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/moorlands-water-day-tickets1992417059058>
- **Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service** are hoping to attract people from a range of backgrounds to build a diverse and inclusive fire service. Applications will go live on 28th September with 16 positions available. All new **recruits will complete an apprenticeship** and development is encouraged and supported for those who wish to progress into leadership positions, or further develop their skills in specialist areas
- **Winter Ready** at Biddulph Town Hall 9.30am to 2.30pm on 23rd September to share tips on keeping your home warm, safe and ensuring people have access to winter essentials