

The Petersfield Community Events timeline

Ben Errey and Steve Jacob meet as members of Petersfield Round Table and took on the organisation of the historic 3 day Petersfield Summer Festivities over the August Bank Holiday with only 6 weeks notice after the previous organisers dropped out. After enjoying a first successful Petersfield event, Hometown Events was created.

Hometown
- E V E N T S -

The Petersfield Awards were added to the list of Hometown events to celebrate the "best of the best" covering 17 categories of people and businesses throughout the area. The Awards are completely impartial with winners nominated and voted by thousands of local people culminating in an Oscars style Awards Ceremony evening for over 300 local movers and shakers.



The Hometown team had to pivot to survive and with the help of the awesome reputation for quality and reliability built over the previous decade, the company evolved. Building on the skills of our team we successfully launched Hometown Logistics offering house removals, clearances and logistics, and Hometown Creative to offer marketing, graphic design and website building.

Hometown **Hometown**
- LOGISTICS - - CREATIVE -



2011

2012

2016

2020

2021

2022



Whilst still working full time in other jobs, Ben and Steve made it their mission to have free-to-enter community events throughout the year with the addition of the 3 day Petersfield Spring Festival over the Spring Bank Holiday in May and a one day Petersfield Christmas Festival in December. These events were supported by local sponsors but were able to continue being personally financed by Ben and Steve with their time, purchase of essential equipment and topping up any shortfall in income in many years of bad weather.

After a decade of hard work building the events in Petersfield and establishing Hometown Events as a small passionate team who organise award winning family friendly events, the pandemic and lockdown wiped out the business overnight.

PETERSFIELD COMMUNITY EVENTS

To ensure the sustainability of the established events for many years to come without being able to personally financially back them without risking the jobs and security of the Hometown team, Steve and Ben have made the decision to create a Community Interest Company (CIC) to own the events going forward. Petersfield Community Events is a not-for-profit CIC who will put on events in future utilising trusted suppliers and partners built over many years. There will be the additional security of available funding to help the financial sustainability of the free to enter events in a very uncertain world as well as the opportunity to grow and include even more sectors of the community.

What are the benefits of the Petersfield Community Events to the local area?

- Promoting positive mental health and community spirit in residents of all ages.
- Reducing social isolation is much needed, following years of no events and contact.
- Volunteering opportunities which can aid confidence building and empowering people to find work while encouraging people to give back to the community.
- Creating part-time employment for local people during the events.
- Opportunity for local independent food producers and makers to promote and retail their goods.
- Potential exposure to new experiences and activities.
- Aspiring musicians have the opportunity to perform to large audiences which can be a stepping stone for their career.
- A free day out promoting social wellbeing which can include live music and activities for all the family to enjoy including fancy dress competitions, face painting, craft workshops, children's rides, classic and vintage car/motorbike displays and more.
- The opportunity for businesses to shine and local heroes to be recognised.
- Community engagement in supporting and promoting local businesses.
- Make Petersfield a standout town in the area for community events and inclusion.