

CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST PARISH COUNCIL
BIOPIC

BRIAN SWANN

I have lived in Cranbrook for 42 yrs and have loved being involved in Parish Life. I was born in Dulwich and attended Alleyns School, then Wye College, where I gained a B.Sc. in Agriculture. I used this experience in my work as a Bank Manager in the farming community.

I was initially elected to the Parish Council in 1995 and have been Vice Chairman. Since 1997 I have overseen the finances of the Council as Chairman of the Policy & Resources committee, a role I have now passed on –to give others experience in this crucial area. I have served on all the committees of the council but have a special and personal interest in maintaining the countryside and the 40 miles of footpaths that crisscross the Parish. I helped to run the Parish Paths Partnership in conjunction with K.C.C.

For over 15 yrs I was a committee member overseeing the safe running of Cranbrook's open air swimming pool and was part of the steering committee that enabled the Weald Sports Centre to be built. I still teach swimming (part-time) and value my association with the young of the Parish. Other organizations I have been associated with include Scouting, Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society (Stage Manager & scenery building), and The Friends of St Dunstan's.

Other activities which I enjoy besides walking, include gardening and my allotment. Tall Ship sailing is a passion – as is being a Grandfather. My wife and I enjoy travelling the world (while we can still get the insurance).

My ambition in Cranbrook is to see more local people taking part in the many clubs, societies and events that take place in the town. I am very keen to see the community centre progress along the lines that the Parish Council has researched & worked on over the last 3 to 4 yrs.

This, together with the development of the Cranbrook Engineering complex and the new housing site will hopefully embolden the business community by promoting the town and attracting more people to visit, shop and enjoy the beauty and history of the parish. I shall be working to this end.