

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE ▼

SUE FERGUSON IS A TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCILLOR AND RUNS THE MY TENTERDEN WEBSITE. HERE SHE TELLS US WHY SHE LOVES WHERE SHE LIVES...

Where do you live?

I live in Tenterden.

How long have you lived there and what made you decide to move there?

We came to the area because of my husband's job. 32 years ago we stumbled across Tenterden, loved it at first sight and never left!

What's your favourite shop locally?

Well that's a tough one as there are so many shops in Tenterden I love. Webbs Ironmongery and Kitchen/Home shops are both Aladdin's caves, you can get almost anything and everything to do with the home. But, the shop I seem to go into most of all is Waitrose!

The best place to get a cup of coffee?

There are so many coffee shops in Tenterden and several have delightful outside tables where you can just watch the world go by. Bluebell Coffee Shop

has got to be the best newcomer of 2016, Nutmeg Deli serves fantastic coffee, Max and Dan from Costa Coffee know all their regulars and make you so welcome which is amazing for a chain. My parents love the Lemon Tree so I certainly go there a lot.

Where do you take people when they come to visit?

Number one without a doubt is the Kent & East Sussex Railway. There is something for everyone, old and young, from taking in the wonderful views as you trundle along the track behind the steam engine to looking around the station yard and museum. There's so much to do, it's never a chore taking visitors here.

What's the night life like where you live?

Brilliant for a small town, pubs, live music, quizzes, huddled round the open log fires in winter, gathering outside in summer.

Where's your favourite place to eat locally?

Two new Italian restaurants came to Tenterden last year, Montalbano and La Cantina, both owned by Sicilian families and 100% authentic. I can't imagine Tenterden without them, the food is brilliant. I also love a good curry at the Badsha Indian restaurant.

Are there any nice views nearby?

A couple of times a year St Mildred's Church Tower is open, if you're able to climb the 132 steps to the top your reward will be some absolutely stunning views of the surrounding countryside. On a clear day you can see Dungeness, and it's rumoured the French coast although I've never seen it! Best of all though is when you are out in the countryside, or driving back into Tenterden, you can see the church tower from miles away. If you've lucky the sun will be out and the gold weather vanes will be glinting in the sun - such a beautiful sight.

If you're looking to relax and unwind, where's your favourite place to go?

I swim several times a week at the London Beach Spa – such a great way to clear my mind. I love to sit in my paved garden with a cup of coffee or a glass of red wine and read a magazine. If we have time we'll pop down to the coast, Dungeness or Camber Sands, it's like a scene from yesteryear, remote, empty (sometimes!) and beautiful.

What do you do when you spend a weekend or day off in the local area?

There are so many fantastic places to visit in the area, Sissinghurst Castle, Smallhythe Place, Bodiam Castle, Rye, and the countryside is beautiful.

Why do you love where you live?

Tenterden is very special, it's (mostly) peaceful but has a buzz about it, it's friendly, it's fun, and I love it.

www.mytenterden.co.uk