



## TWEETS OF THE WEEK



■ **@TonbridgeFmMrkt**

To wear shorts Sunday, or not to wear shorts. This is the question.

Whether 'tis nobler in shorts to suffer.

The jibes & insults of others



■ **@tw\_people**

I'm eating roasted mushroom pate on half spelt flatbreads with a rocket salad. I've lived in TW for too long.

#sotunbridgewells



■ **@mrchrisaddison**

"Nigel Farage is in Tunbridge Wells today." Spiritually, he always is.

■ **@daisychaioir**

Man with a large builders bum outside the station. Someone please tell him cause I'm not gonna be the one

#tunbridgewells #crackabottle



■ **@Simon\_ERobinson**

I wish Moses did requests. I'd invite him to Tunbridge Wells and see if he could part Pembury Road for me.

## TOP 5 THISISKENT STORIES

- **Pilbeam the hero** as Tunbridge Wells end 25 years of hurt
- **"Nightmare on TV show that drove me to drink"**
- **Tunbridge Wells thief** sold her mother's gold to buy tattoos
- **£60,000 CCTV car** has earned just £672 in fines for council
- **Shipbourne woman** was forced to relive cancer ordeal trauma

## COLUMNIST

# Word on the Street

Sarah Bond's musings on life in Tunbridge Wells

I AM full of excitement this week about a COUNCIL MEETING! Yes, you heard right, and no, I don't need to lie down in a darkened room. Not yet...

Next Wednesday is red letter day as the full chamber debates my Tunbridge Wells parking petition at 6.30pm, after more than 2,000 of you signed it. Bless.

Feel free to write a red letter to your local councillor, too.

I may not be a suffragette, but their campaigning spirit lives on in the town. I am issuing a call to everyone to pack the town hall public gallery on April 24 to show the depth of feeling about machines that fill us with stress, demand correct coins and don't even give us change. Pay By Phone has big flaws, too.

Parking remains a piping hot topic, with retailers, shoppers and visitors maddened by the "Pay & Dismay" system forcing people to run back to their cars at all the wrong moments for fear of being fined.

As Eric Pickles says, in these tough times we should not have slap-happy wardens ticketing shoppers and tourists. Women have to run with wet hair from the hairdresser, mums have to pull children out of important eye checks, businessmen have to rush



■ **Read more from Sarah on Twitter @LadeezWhoLaunch**

out of important meetings, musicians have to run off stage mid-set, and retailers watch in horror as customers rush off mid-sale. It's utter madness.

Business rates are controlled by central government, though three cheers for Councillor Scholes for trying to change this.

However, the council CAN give the local economy a huge boost by changing the system so we can stay as long as we like and no one ever gets a ticket again. Plus 30 minutes free, and free parking on Sundays and bank holidays.

Every shopkeeper and shopper I've met complains, so let's Pay On Foot - not through the nose!