

Dear Colleagues,

RE: 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth – 13th March 2017.

Monday 14th March this year marked Commonwealth Day 2016. Over 900 Commonwealth Flags were raised together at 10am that morning by local authorities (including over 200 parish and town councils) and a small number of others, throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories.

This was the largest, single, raising of the Commonwealth flag in the history of the Commonwealth which bodes well for the future, especially as this event is to become an annual occasion growing in size and stature over the next few years, involving the countries and communities of all the other 52 Commonwealth countries on Commonwealth Day each year, (which always falls on the second Monday in March).

I have pleasure therefore, in asking **all parish and town councils**, to download the 2017 Guide To Taking Part from the 'Fly the Flag' website - www.flyaflagforthecommonwealth.co.uk, and would like to encourage your participation in this unique, annual occasion, that will bring the communities and countries of the Commonwealth together in a common celebration of this great family of nations, its diverse cultures and communities.

Please go to page 5 of the Guide to enable you to see how you can take part, and where to obtain you 90' x 54' Commonwealth Flag for Monday 13th March 2017. There are two size of flags that you can purchase. Once used, the Flag can be stored away in readiness for Commonwealth Day 2018 and beyond, so please look upon the purchase of the Commonwealth Flag as an investment for the future.

Your flag could either be raised by your Mayor, Chairman of the Council, or you may wish to invite a young person from a local school to raise in on your behalf, especially as the youth of the Commonwealth are the future of the Commonwealth.

It is important that those taking part, should complete the online Registration Form found at www.flyaflagforthecommonwealth.co.uk, by no later than the 29th January 2017 please, to ensure your involvement is registered to enable the public and media alike, to attend your flag raising ceremony at 10am on the 13th March 2017. (Those that have taken part previously do not have to re-register their involvement unless the town or parish clerk has changed).

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Ken Browse
Chairman
National Association of Local Councils