



## **New Romney Town Council – Press Release**

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### **64 Shades of Purple celebrate International Women's Day in New Romney**

**On 8<sup>th</sup> March, Lady Sandra Howard joined Councillor Patricia Rolfe, Deputy Mayor of New Romney and 62 empowered ladies from across Kent at Littlestone Golf Club for a Charity Dinner to promote International Women's Day. Dignitaries included Rosalind McCarthy DL, the Lord Mayor of Canterbury – Councillor Rosemary Doyle, Mrs Margaret Willmott – wife of the Bishop of Dover, the Mayor of Margate and representatives from Ashford, Folkestone, Hythe, Medway and Sandwich, as well as an array of ladies representing organisations in New Romney and elsewhere.**

Guests were encouraged to wear something Purple since the colour has a strong link to Females and particularly the Suffragette movement that led the fight for the right of women to vote in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. International Women's Day has been celebrated since 1911. The theme for this year is "*Press for Change*". Guest Speaker, Lady Howard provided inspiration by speaking of her personal experience in finding a new career as a novelist at an age when most women would be considering retirement. Councillor Rolfe spoke of the value women have to play in encouraging a fairer and more just global society.

Tables were named after several motivational women – Queen Elizabeth II, Emmeline Pankhurst, Amelia Earheart, Helen Keller, Malala Yousafzai and others. Councillor Rolfe observed "If History is Her story too, then – we can see from the names of our tables and the people seated in this room that women have had, and always will have, a vital role to play in promoting the need for fairness and equality as the cornerstones of every community. Make a difference, set a positive example and the world will change, slowly but surely, for the good." She continued, "Inequality is not a third world problem, it is a global issue affecting all of us and we should do what we

can to address it.” Ladies were reminded that empowerment begins within, and so having inner confidence in one’s own ability to make a difference can be the touchstone that sparks change in both oneself, and others for the better.

A sumptuous feast of Guinea Fowl, Romney Marsh Lamb, Crayfish Risotto and other delicacies were served and the atmosphere in the room was highly charged with positivity.

A significant sum was raised for the Mayor of New Romney’s Charity Fund and, at the end of the evening, ladies boldly stepped out into the cold March air – empowered and very determined....

To request any further details, please contact:

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