

News from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Chelmsford 2023-2024



The Mayor and her Consort joined local City and Parish Councillors who attended a service at St. Michael and All Angels Church in Galleywood to celebrate the 150th birthday of the consecration of the church. Rev. David Cattle, Vicar of Galleywood lead the service with The Rt. Revd. Dr. Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford. After the service, the congregation walked to the nearby copse which has recently been cleared and a large cross constructed from felled wood, which was blessed and serves as a focal point for the church in Galleywood.

www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk



The Deputy Mayor was invited to open Thingamajig Memory Cafe for those with Dementia and their carers at The Church of The Holy Spirit, Forest Drive, Chelmsford.

It was wonderful to speak with the very passionate chairperson Glenys, the volunteers, supporters, carers and their loved ones.

www.chelmsfordconnects.org.uk/activity/thingymajig-memory-café

St Augustine of Canterbury Church, North Springfield celebrated its 40th Anniversary. Pupils from Bishops and New Hall schools sang beautifully with the church choirs. The service involved the ministry of Methodist, URC, Catholic and Anglican. The Deputy Mayor was invited to join the celebrations and cut the anniversary cake after the service. It was a joyful evening.

www.staugustinespringfield.org.uk



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the Annual Meeting of The Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) which is an independent charity helping people and communities throughout rural Essex build a sustainable future. They heard about progress in providing rural affordable and community led housing as well as watching presentations by Essex Wellbeing Service and United In Kind, where volunteers are helping to tackle the problem of loneliness and social isolation. www.essexrcc.org.uk



The Deputy Lord Lieutenant Wing Commander Glenn Mayes unveiled a plaque in Broomfield Court Gardens at Broomfield Hospital to commemorate Broomfield Airfield. The Deputy Mayor was pleased to join him, members and veterans of the armed forces and hospital staff in celebrating the memory of those who had based there.

After the unveiling Lt Col Ed Rankin, Garrison Commander Colchester and David Walker Chief Medical Officer NHS signed the Armed Forces Charter to reinforce the commitment of the Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust as armed forces

friendly. www.mse.nhs.uk

The Chelmsford Sight Centre sets up shop in Chelmsford Library on the first Friday of every month between 10am-1pm to support the visually impaired and their carers by providing practical help, emotional support and advice. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor went along to the Friday session to speak to staff, volunteers and clients. They heard at first hand the positive impact this service had by helping to maintain safety and independence whilst reducing feelings of isolation by putting people in touch with local clubs, services, national charities, organisations and demonstrating low vision aids and equipment.

www.support4sight.org.uk



The Mayor and Deputy visited Cherry Wood Grange Care Home in Chelmsford to see a display of Artwork painted by residents who have been attending weekly lessons with their Teacher, Jenny. Sue Smith, Home Manager, was proud to show them the excellent standard of paintings proudly displayed in the lounge. Both the Mayor and Deputy were very impressed by the professional standard of the artwork, which has been expertly painted, and spoke to residents about the benefits of this creative art. They joined residents for afternoon tea and enjoyed the lovely atmosphere inside the home. www.cherrywoodgrangecarehome.co.uk

The Mayor and Consort attended the Essex and Suffolk Joint Twinning Congress and AGM at Galleywood Heritage Centre on Saturday Morning with Mark Dunk, Chair and Co-ordinator. Guest Speaker, Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, Dave Monk spoke about his career with the BBC and finding out about his family history and heritage on his father's side only recently which culminated in trips to France and Canada to be reunited with relatives.



The Mayor was happy to speak about her success in twinning Baddow Hall Junior with The Schillerscule in Germany and how they have regular Online Teams meeting with pupils who choose their own topics for discussion.

www.chelmsfordtwinningpartnership.co.uk <http://essexandsuffolktwinningcongress.onesuffolk.net>



Trinity Methodist and Drama held a spectacular 'Night at the Movies' with the addition of George Clooney (cardboard form unfortunately) amongst the Oscar-related props.

The Mayor and Consort enjoyed a lively and varied concert, narrated throughout, which included songs from Oliver, Les Miserables and My Fair Lady, which the Company will be performing in May 2024. Their next concert will be with Chelmsford Male Voice Choir

on Friday 15th December at Trinity Methodist Church. Thanks to Musical Director, Gerald and Producer, Helen for a lovely evening. trinitymethodistchelmsford.org/activities-and-groups/music-and-drama

The Mayor and her Consort joined The Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Jennifer Tolhurst as well as Deputy Lieutenants, Crown Court Judges, Mayors and Chairs from across Essex in attending the Annual High Sheriff's Justice Service at Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday. High Sheriff, Charles Bishop hosted this traditional service which was instituted in 1974 to acknowledge the importance of the work of the Courts in the life of our County.

[The High Sheriff of Essex](http://www.essex.gov.uk/the-high-sheriff-of-essex)





The Jack Petchey Foundation held its lively Annual Achievement Awards for Chelmsford & Maldon Schools and Clubs at Chelmsford Theatre on Tuesday evening. The Mayor was delighted to present the awards which celebrate the inspirational Young People and Leaders who make a wholehearted, unselfish and dedicated contribution to their club, school or community. Each award comes with a grant of £300 for their school or club. The motto of Sir Jack Petchey is 'If you think you can, you can!' www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk

The Deputy Mayor spent time today at Reed in Partnership Careers Fair. A pleasant morning enjoyed chatting to those looking for work as well as Reed staff, Essex businesses including the Co-Op, Prospero, A2B and Total Security all looking to recruit staff.

www.reedinpartnership.co.uk



Action for Family Carers held their AGM and invited the Deputy Mayor to join the High Sheriff of Essex and other council Mayors and Chairs for the meeting. We were delighted to hear the views of two young carers and how AFFC helps them and their families.

[Action for family carers | Supporting Carers Across Essex \(affc.org.uk\)](http://www.affc.org)

The Children's Society (TCS) held their Risk in the Community Young People's Voice conference and invited the Deputy Mayor to join them for the day. This was planned and hosted by young people who spoke eloquently about The Children's Society services that continue to help them. Other speakers included Nerys Anthony (TCS), Ben Hughes and Clare Burrell (Essex County Council) and The 2 Johns (<https://esafetytraining.org>) both qualified police trainers who (with prior warning) spoke frankly about online child sexual exploitation. The conference was very informative and lots of professionals used the opportunity to network during the breaks.

www.childrensociety.org.uk





The Mayor was pleased to attend the Annual Meeting of the Chelmsford Association of Voluntary Care Groups at the Community Station in Gloucester Avenue on Wednesday evening. The Association has been in existence for 46 and supports 10 local groups whose volunteers act as good neighbours in supporting those in need by taking them to medical appointments, making home visits and responding to other requests as needed.

The Mayor thanked Chair, Tony and asked him to pass on her grateful thanks to all 190 volunteers across the Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers areas for their kindness and continuing commitment to their communities.

276 (City of Chelmsford) Air Cadets invited the Mayor to their Parade evening with special guest Regional Commandant of Central and East Region, Group Captain Boreham who formally opened their new Headquarters in Springfield Road.



The Mayor was delighted to appoint Cadet Sgt Walledge as the first City of Chelmsford Mayor's Cadet for her Mayoral Year and presented her with a unique badge to mark this historic appointment. Sgt Walledge will be an excellent ambassador for the Air Cadets when she escorts the Mayor during Civic events. www.chelmsford-raf-cadets.org.uk



Simply Hair in Great Baddow held a fundraising evening for Emma, their client who sadly passed away suddenly leaving a young baby. The Mayor and Deputy were happy to support this event hosted by owners Laura and Holly raising more than £1,107 which will go to the trust fund set up for Emma's daughter. www.simplyhairchelmsford.co.uk

The Mayor and her Consort, Joe officially opened a new sensory garden at Essex Dance Theatre and congratulated pupil Bea, who had received a Jack Petchey Award and a grant of £300 which was used to fund the garden.

Principal Debbie Holme thanked Abercorn Nursery for donating plants to the garden project. www.essexdancetheatre.co.uk





The Mayor attended Harlow's Civic Service on Sunday with Lord Lieutenant Jennifer Tolhurst and other Mayors & Chairs of Essex. Chair of Harlow Council, Cllr Andrew Johnson spoke poignantly about the theme of the service 'Unity in the Community' with music by St. Paul's Indian Choir.

Anglia Ruskin University hosted the 2nd Annual Science Festival from 18th-24th October with free events including talks, exhibitions, workshops and a range of activities for all ages. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were invited to attend the launch of the Festival at Chelmsford Cathedral where they heard a rousing performance of Holst's 'The Planets' by Britten Sinfonia with projected visuals on a large screen to enhance the experience.
www.aru.ac.uk www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk



Chelmsford Beekeepers held their Annual Honey Show and Competition at Margaretting Village Hall where the Mayor and Deputy Mayor watched the process for judging honey using a lightbox to highlight any impurities and they sampled the delicious local honey.

The Mayor helped to judge the beeswax candle and photography competition before presenting the certificates and cups to the winners. The Mayor was pleased to see that membership had grown significantly and continues to grow due the rise in awareness of the importance of honey bees.

Chelmsford Beekeepers, in partnership with Chelmsford City Council, collect swarms, maintain the beehive in Chelmsford Museum and run beekeeping courses in the garden on the Hylands Estate.
www.chelmsfordbeekeepers.com www.margarettingvillagehall.org.uk

St. Mary's Church, Great Baddow kindly donated a commemorative tree in honour of the King's coronation to Baddow Hall Junior school. The Mayor attended the event at the school where she works with Rev Canon Tim Ball, local City and Parish Councillors, members of the Church, School staff, Pupil Councillors and members of the Green Team. The event included prayers of commemoration and the planting of the tree for pupils to enjoy in generations to come. www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk
www.baddowhall-jun.essex.sch.uk



The Mayor attended a Service at All Saints' Church in Springfield to start the Ministry of Revd Sally Croft with the Bishop of Chelmsford, The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, and the Archdeacon of Southend, The Venerable Mike Power. The Mayor welcomed Revd Croft to her Ministry on behalf of the City of Chelmsford and wished her joy and happiness in her role as Rector at All Saints'.
www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk

Margaretting Primary School held their Harvest Festival. The Mayor and her Consort really enjoyed the performance by the children and joined in with the Harvest hymn 'Paintbox'. Harvest donations were passed on to Chelmsford Foodbank.
www.margaretting.essex.sch.uk
www.chelmsfordfoodbank.org.uk



The Mayor and her Consort enjoyed an informative morning visit to staff and customers at Capital Space at the Waterhouse Business Centre. Our chief executive Lorraine Lee, centre manager Sharon Dodson and deputy centre manager Jeannene Murray-Brown showed the Mayor around the business centre and introduced her to the team from Cyberjammies as well as one of their new customers from Power Cheer, who just moved in to one of their

workshops earlier this summer. www.capitalspace.co.uk www.powercheer.com
www.cyberjammies.com



The Deputy Mayor had the pleasure of hosting the children and volunteers from the Community Support Centre in the Mayors Parlour. Cllr Deakin spoke about the Mayoral robes, chains and mace which were on display as well as the Royal Seal, presented to the council in 2012 when Chelmsford became a city. The group also looked at the display cabinets enroute to the Council Chamber.

Sankalpo Chelmsford held their annual Durga Puja multi-cultural celebration which was full of colour, music, joy and celebration. The Mayor and Deputy were made very welcome at Writtle Christian Centre hearing about the great educational and community work Sankalpo have been doing and were enthralled with the dancing, singing and fashion show performances before enjoying some traditional food.



Chelmsford Hindu Society held their Durga Puja Festival which pays homage to the Hindu Goddess Durga and is celebrated all over the world.

The Quaker Meeting House was transformed with flowers, colourful decorations, lights and bejewelled statues on raised staging where the Mayoral Party were delighted to join Cllr Smita Rajesh and other friends from the Society for the ceremonial worship of Goddess Durga and

celebrations. www.chelmsfordhindusociety.org
www.midessexquakers.org.uk



The Mayor and Consort were invited to join Sameeksha UK to formally inaugurate their UK Tug of War competition which comprised of teams coming from as far away as Ireland and Cardiff.

Sameeksha are a progressive cultural forum to promote social commitment, and education to members of the migrated Indian community.

www.sameeksha.org

The Mayor and her consort Ian enjoyed their time spent at Riverside Leisure Centre with the Chelmsford Ice Hockey Academy, celebrating the girls team during the International Hockey Federation World Girls Hockey Weekend. 'Thank you for joining us and handing out our game awards. It was great for our girls to see a woman in a position such as hers and just how interactive and enthusiastic she was about our academy and sport'. www.iihf.com
www.chelmsfordiha.co.uk



The Mayor and her Consort enjoyed visiting the Out Of This World event in the City Centre, discovering Chelmsford and the universe beyond. The Mayor couldn't resist completing the space trail.

www.chelmsfordforyou.co.uk/outofthisworld

The Mayor and her Consort attended The Low Vision Exhibition in Broomfield Village Hall which brings together suppliers of equipment and vital services for local blind and partially sighted people.

Exhibitors included Sight & Sound Technology, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Police anti-fraud Unit, Guide Dogs UK, Vision Aid Technologies, Chelmsford Talking Newspaper and Hearing Help Essex.

This was all held during the regular coffee morning which enables people living with sight kids, their families and carers to meet and chat about coping with sight loss. Support 4 Sight organised this event and has been offering support and services to vision impaired residents across mid and west Essex for almost 30 years.

All these services including lunch clubs, craft clubs and befriending schemes help to combat the social isolation which can be a key issue amongst the vision impaired community. www.support4sight.org.uk www.sightandsound.co.uk
www.broomfieldvillagehall.com www.essex-fire.gov.uk www.guidedogs.org.uk
www.chelmsfordtalkingnewspaper.org.uk www.hearinghelpessex.org.uk



Essex Police invited the Mayor and her Consort to spend time at the Contact Centre speaking to the call handlers who are the first point of contact for 999 emergencies.

They spoke to Inspector Stuart Rawlings and Thomas Moffat, Staff Officer to Chief Superintendent Stuart Hooper, QPM and staff about the challenges of the role and how they look after their own mental health whilst dealing with such extreme situations.

They are a great team who support each other - the Mayor thanked them for the vital service they provide for residents of Chelmsford. www.essexpolice.uk



The Mayor and her Consort visited the Land of the Dead Halloween and Pumpkin Festival at Kings Farm in Writtle. With plenty of pumpkins on offer in this decorated, themed scenic pumpkin patch, Koko's big top Circus performances, under cover seating, street food, fairground rides, and plenty of spooky surprises for all ages, the atmosphere changes as the sun goes down and the attractions light up. Great fun with plenty of activities to keep the children occupied during October half term. www.landofthedead.co.uk

The Mayor was pleased to join Herr Friedrich, Lord Mayor of Chelmsford's Twin Town in Germany, Backnang at the Annual Goosefair (Gansemkt). She traditionally walked some young children dressed as Geese down into the town of Backnang before handing out Goose biscuits and watching the children perform a dance on stage.

Whilst in Germany the Mayor also visited The Schillerschule which is twinned with Baddow Hall Junior School as well as two secondary schools to discuss future cultural and artistic exchanges with pupils - Taus Gymnasium and Max Born Gymnasium.



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor enjoyed an alternative Halloween evening at Baycroft Care Home in Great Baddow with residents listening to some well-known classical songs played by Kay on the flute and Gill on the piano. Families joined residents and staff for cheese and wine with plenty of conversation amid the themed autumnal Halloween decorations.

www.baycroft.co.uk

If you have an event you are planning, please do not hesitate to get in touch as subject to availability at the time the Mayor may be able to visit. [Invite the Mayor to an event - Chelmsford City Council](#) or contact the

Mayor's Office Mayors.office@chelmsford.gov.uk

The chosen Charity for 2023/2024 is YMCA Essex www.ymcaessex.org.uk To make a donation – reference Mayor's charity & name [YMCA Essex - JustGiving](#) or using the QR code below



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