

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



1st September was the first anniversary of Blossom Hill Flowers in Danbury.

It's also the beginning of Childhood Cancer Awareness month. They chose to celebrate by inviting the Deputy Mayor to officially launch their support for the Children's Cancer Charity www.goldgeese.org/

Why not pop in and have a chat with Jan, Steve and the staff, they'll be only too pleased to tell you how and why they got involved and why they'd like your support. www.blossomhillflowers.co.uk



The Mayor and Consort were pleased to be invited to open the Writtle Surgery Dementia Garden by Chelmsford CVS who have coordinated volunteer gardeners, Men's Shed, Good Gym and RHS to create this accessible and sensory garden located behind Writtle Surgery. The Primary Care Network helped fund the garden with materials provided by Chandlers. The garden was specifically designed for dementia sufferers and their carers as easy to navigate in a circular route.

It has fragrant plants, a raised pond and gentle wind chimes giving a tranquil feel. Garden furniture has been up cycled to provide a calming space for Surgery staff to take lunch and wellbeing breaks during their working day. The Mayor thanked CVS and the volunteers for coming together to create such a beautiful garden.

www.chelmsfordcvs.org.uk

www.writtlegpsurgery.net





Hatfield Peveler Village Hall came alive when Namaste Chelmsford held a vibrant Onam celebration which the Mayor and Consort enjoyed participating in.

Namaste is a Chelmsford based Indian Community of new residents of our City, mainly from Southern India, who have formed a welcoming group to celebrate the diverse culture and religious harmony of this unique area whilst educating their children in the traditions and customs of their ancestors.



Onam is a harvest festival and was celebrated with a procession of various art forms including drums, dancing dragons and characters with meticulously painted faces and colourful costumes. The Mayor and consort were entertained by cultural dancing and martial art performances before presenting trophies to the winners of a recent badminton competition. They would like to thank the organisers for their generosity, warm hospitality and delicious vegetarian food which was served traditionally on a 'banana leaf'.

www.namastechelmsford.co.uk

Donna, Events Manager at Broomfield Village Hall, kindly invited the Mayor to officially open a lovely Community Garden which has been created by members of the local community who came together and worked hard to make some a lovely space. The garden includes raised flower beds, accessible areas, information boards and complimentary dog-bags to remind dog owners to respect the area. The Mayor was happy to thank everyone involved in this lovely venture to support health and well-being amongst residents, and was pleased to see the area covered by monitored CCTV for safety and security.

www.broomfieldvillagehall.com



Remus Horse Sanctuary in Ingatestone held a fundraising open day the first Sunday of September with a dog show, craft stalls, books, tombola, plants for sale and cream teas. The Mayor and her Consort Ian were pleased to join founder Sue Burton for a tour of the sanctuary and thank her, the volunteers and supporters for the great work they do in nurturing badly treated and neglected horses.

The last Open Day of the season will be on Sunday 1st October from 1-4pm. More information and details of how to support Remus on their website

www.remussanctuary.org/



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor joined Lord Petre, The Deputy Lieutenant, High Sheriff of Essex and other Mayors and Chairs to attend the AGM of The Essex Heritage Trust at the Markshall Estate, Coggeshall. They enjoyed walking through the beautifully planted walled garden with which combines traditional and contemporary planting in five separate areas. The Mayor of Castlepoint, Cllr Lynsey McCarthy-Calvert joined them for the walk, as

did resident peacock, Percy!



The Mayor and Deputy heard about the important work of the Trust Supporting unique heritage in Essex by grant-funding restoration of buildings, publication of books and items for public galleries and museums.

www.essexheritagetrust.co.uk

www.markshall.org.uk



Writtle University College (WUC) held their Class of 2023 Higher Education ceremony for Postgraduates and Undergraduate Courses at Chelmsford Cathedral celebrating the achievements of students during their time at WUC. Congratulations to all recipients and particularly Student of the Year, Adelaide Chinn, who had presented a talk to her peers aimed at

those who struggle with their mental health. Adelaide bravely talked about her own struggles and her presentation is now used by the Wellbeing Team at WUC to support other students. Guest Speaker, College Chancellor Jimmy Doherty, presented the awards. www.writtle.ac.uk



The Mayor and her consort were pleased to attend fundraiser Angela's Garden Party to support Farleigh Hospice. Angela opened her lovely garden to sell plants & books with a raffle and tombola. The Mayor enjoyed tea and cake with the other visitors thanking Angela for her support of Farleigh. www.farleighhospice.org

Chelmsford Civic Society launched their Heritage Open Days at 'Patch' where the Mayor attended an interesting talk by Dr Vivien Newman 'Words on a Crisis' www.chelmsfordcivicsociety.co.uk www.patch.work



The NHS held a Marketplace event at Basildon Hospital ahead of its AGM which the Mayor attended. She enjoyed chatting to the hospital teams and finding out about their recent achievements and innovations including a demonstration of their new state-of-the-art Heart and Lung bypass machine in the Cardio-Thoracic Unit which will significantly improve patient outcomes. There is a bigger emphasis on supporting elderly patients in their home environment and Nurses making regular visits with no time restraints to give the nursing care required to keep these patients at home as much as possible, also Admiral Nurses are specifically trained to care for Dementia Patients and specific 'Falls' Nurses educate staff and support patients who are at risk from falls in hospitals. The Mayor

was very pleased to meet Learning Disability Champions who, with new training initiatives educate all staff to provide reasonable adjustments so all patients can access the care they need on an equal basis and have better healthcare outcomes - this includes issuing VR headsets for anxious Autistic patients who can familiarise themselves with the layout of the hospital before attending. www.mse.nhs.uk

Chelmer Valley High School held its Annual Award Ceremony and Headteacher, Claire invited the Mayor to present the awards to the students and celebrate with the worthy recipients for their hard work. The Mayor too this opportunity to thank the student support network of school Staff, parents/carers and Governors as well as congratulating all the winners. www.chelmervalleyhighschool.co.uk



The Mayor and Consort enjoyed watching Chelmsford Theatre Workshop's performance of Tom Stoppard's play Arcadia. The play explores the relationship between past and present, order and disorder. They enjoyed CTW's production and passed on their thanks to the cast and crew afterwards. www.ctw.org.uk



The Royal Air Force Association (RAFA) held an Open Day to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Britain which the Mayor and her Consort were honoured to attend and were met by a Guard of Honour by the 276 City of Chelmsford Air Cadet Squadron. www.rafa.org.uk
www.chelmsford-raf-cadets.org.uk

Club Chair, Glenn gave a speech about the importance of marking this milestone and paying our

respects to those who lost their lives. The Mayor particularly enjoyed seeing the young Cadets interacting with the ex-servicemen and woman at the Club.



The sun was shining at the Farleigh Hospice Garden Fete which the Mayor and her Consort attended. The Deputy Lieutenant, Jennifer Tolhurst buried a time capsule to commemorate 40 years of Farleigh with prize winner Sophie, and there was cheerful music from the Farleigh Community Choir as well as tea and cake. www.farleighhospice.org

Chelmsford Civic Society held a Heritage Through the Arts day in Tindal Square which the Mayor and Consort attended and was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This event featured heritage walks, cultural dances and stalls with participants and visitors encouraged to dress as historical figures through the ages. This successful and well-attended event was the culmination of 34 events and videos on the rich heritage of Chelmsford and many are on the website www.chelmsfordhod.co.uk/



Local Community Choir, New City Voices with Men2Sing held a concert at St. Andrew's Church in aid of Essex Search and Rescue. The music was varied and uplifting.

Moulsham Lodge Community Trust formed the choir 9 years ago to bring the community together under the expert guidance of Musical Director John Trent-Wallace, assisted by Accompanist Clare Penfold, and they rehearse on Thursday evenings at Moulsham Infant School.

Essex Search and Rescue Volunteer Colin thanked the performers and explained that SAR provide a pool of trained volunteers ready to assist the Police in searching for missing vulnerable people primarily within Essex. This group is funded entirely through voluntary donations and all members are volunteers. For more information about New City Voices email: newcityvoices@gmail.com
 Essex Search and Rescue: www.essexsearchandrescue.org.uk
 Men2Sing: www.men2sing.org



Hylands House Open Day with Urban Food Festival was buzzing with something for everyone from children's activities to Hotbox live music in the Stables. The Mayor was delighted to see the Storytelling and House Tours were being signed with plans for future events to have audio descriptions to make events more inclusive.

The National Honours and Awards Seminar was hosted by Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst, Lord Lieutenant of Essex. The Deputy Mayor attended and found the presentations very informative and interesting especially for those seeking to enter a nomination for UK National Honours, Kings Award for Voluntary Services and Kings Award for Enterprise. Further information on how to nominate for these awards goes to www.honours.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Aqua Warehouse are celebrating their 20-year anniversary and opening their new Swimspa showroom adjacent to their existing premises in Rignals Lane, Galleywood. The Mayor was invited to cut the ribbon officially opening the showroom and was pleased to congratulate Richard and his team on expanding their successful business in Chelmsford. The Mayor and her Consort are themselves customers of Aqua Warehouse and have been for the past 12 years. www.aquawarehouse.co.uk



The London Pearly Kings and Queens Society invited the Mayor and her Consort to their Costermongers' Harvest Festival in St. Mary-le-bow Church. www.pearlysociety.co.uk



Pearly Kings and Queens started in 1875 when Henry Croft collected money for the orphanage he attended and his friends, the Costermongers helped raise money for local charities. They embellished their clothes with mother of pearl buttons to make Pearly suits - there were 28 families, one for each London Borough.

The festivities started at the Guildhall with Pearlies and Mayors Maypole dancing then a procession to the Church for the Harvest Festival. After the service there was a Cockney sing song with Mayors and Pearlies in the rub a dub dub, which the Mayor really enjoyed, particularly as both Linda and Consort Ian have East End of London heritage.



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were invited by John Deighton to visit The Church of Latter-Day Saints in Baddow Road where they met Ukrainian families who have been accommodated under the Homes for Ukraine scheme. The Church and their volunteers host regular evenings to support the families with visiting specialists and City Council officers offering advice on employment, education and housing as well as local information. Children of all ages were enjoying an Art workshop. The Mayor and Deputy were happy to welcome the families into our community and see the great supportive network in place for them. A great example of collaborative working.



The Chelmsford walking group Heart and Soul, who are linked to Ramblers Wellbeing Walks, recently celebrated their 20th Anniversary. The Deputy Mayor was pleased to join them for a walk from Marconi Plaza through Central Park, returning to the Civic Centre for tea and cake. For more information contact www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/where/community-sport-and-wellbeing/heart-and-sole-walks/



The Deputy Mayor was delighted to attend Roxwell Primary School for their Macmillan's Biggest Coffee Morning. The year 5 and 6 pupils were excellent hosts serving up delicious cakes, teas and coffees to many proud parents and grandparents.



Some of the children were happy show the Deputy Mayor the cups and trophies they'd won for Maths, Reading and Writing. www.roxwellschool.co.uk

The Mayor, her Consort and The Deputy Mayor were pleased to join the Royal Air Force Association in High Chelmer Shopping Centre to launch their Wings appeal. They were joined by Veterans of the RAF and Air Cadets from the 276 (City of Chelmsford) Squadron with their Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant Davis. After talking to the Veterans and shoppers at High Chelmer, they joined members of the RAFA Club in Hall Street for their coffee morning. www.rafa.org.uk
www.chelmsford-raf-cadets.org.uk





Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (CAODS) wowed the Mayoral Party at their triumphant and joyful production of 'Priscilla, Queen of the Desert' at Chelmsford Theatre. This extravaganza of vibrant costumes, sets and songs were expertly performed with excellent casting in all roles. A real taste of West End razzmatazz in Chelmsford, congratulations to all involved in this brilliant production! www.caods.com

Chelmsford Male Voice Choir invited the Mayor and her Consort to attend their Autumn Extravaganza at Trinity Methodist Church with special guest Leigh Orpheus Male Voice Choir and Soprano, Anna Maria. www.cmvchoir.co.uk

They thoroughly enjoyed listening to the talented singers and enjoyed the varied selection of music which included some popular musical theatre numbers as well as more traditional Welsh hymns and a sea shanty. After the concert there was a retiring collection on behalf of Essex Dementia Care, CMVC's Charity of the year, and they thanked the concertgoers for their generosity to benefit this worthy charity.



Mayor's Quiz Night – Saturday 14 October 2023

7.15pm for a prompt 7.30pm start



Great Baddow Parish Hall

Why not come and join us for a fantastic, fun, and frivolous evening of Trivia in aid of the Mayor's Charity – YMCA Essex

Teams of up to 8 people or book as individuals

Tickets £8 per head

Bring your own drinks and nibbles!

Tea and Coffee available



Tickets available from www.mlct.org.uk/mayors-quiz-night

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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