

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



Chelmsford & District Welsh Society invited the Mayor, Cllr Linda Mascot and her Consort, Ian Mascot to their annual St. David's Day dinner at the County Hotel. They enjoyed a lovely evening hearing from special guest speaker, Welsh actor, singer and politician, Sue Jones Davies whose career has included appearing in Jesus Christ Superstar, The Life of Brian and The Life and Times of Lloyd George. Harpist Rachel Bartels and Soprano Debs Allen-Morgan provided the entertainment with traditional Welsh songs.

The Mayor and her Consort joined the Mayor of Brentwood, Cllr Gareth Barrett for the Rotary District 1240 Young Musician 2024 final at Brentwood Cathedral. The standard of performance, from both vocalists and musicians was outstanding, the judges had a very difficult job choosing the winners. Rotary District Governor, David announced Rose as the winner in the vocalist category and Fred in the musician category, playing the clarinet. Congratulations to all the finalists and especially the worthy winners.



Chelmsford Amateur Operatic And Dramatic Society production of Cole Porter's 'Kiss Me Kate' at Chelmsford Theatre was fast-moving, well-choreographed and really showcased the talents of the cast. The play within a play was a complicated piece of theatre very well executed with superb costumes and well-known songs such as 'Another opening, another show', and 'Too darn hot'. The comic performances of the 'heavies' turning into 'lurvies' was very funny and well-done. The Mayor, Consort and Deputy Mayor, Cllr Jude Deakin all really enjoyed the

performance, congratulations to all the cast, tech, front of house and backstage crew for another triumph and bringing the West-End to Chelmsford.

Essex County Council Chairman, Cllr Jill Reeves held a service of celebration and thanksgiving for the work of ECC at Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday afternoon which was attended by HM Lord Lieutenant Jennifer Tolhurst and the High Sheriff of Essex, Charles Bishop. The Mayor and her Consort particularly enjoyed the performances by choirs Allego and The Music Man Project Essex, who had the audience up and dancing in the aisles.



High Sheriff of Essex, Charles Bishop welcomed 200 guests to the annual High Sheriffs' Awards Ceremony at Hylands House. He spoke about his interesting 12 months in office, touring the County, speaking to local charities and meeting volunteers. Local charities are benefiting from £38K funding from the High Sheriffs' Fund, which is managed by Essex Community Foundation. Congratulations to all the winners. The Mayor was delighted to see Sanctus Homeless Charity in Chelmsford won the Essex County Council Bowl for providing food and support to those who are homeless in the City. Also YMCA Essex, the Mayor's Charity, were presented with the prestigious High Sheriff's Shield for offering vital help and support to so many young people in need.

The British Isles Indoor Bowls Championships and The Home International Series were held at the Falcon Indoor Bowling Club in Channels Drive in March and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were delighted to join Club President, Ernie Brockman, in welcoming guests, players, officials and spectators to this prestigious competition in Chelmsford.



The Mayor and Deputy were invited to present an assembly at Baddow Hall Junior School to celebrate International Women's Day and talk about their roles. They both encouraged the children to be whatever they wanted to be by working hard towards their goals.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had a great evening celebrating our great and talented amateur artists bringing live music and drama to our City. Congratulations to all the winners of The Panic Awards 2024 and well done Andy Poole for putting on the awards each year





The Mayor and Deputy Mayor joined Rebecca Shipman, director of All Things Alpaca at Lathcoats Farm in Beehive Lane to meet the new arrivals, micro pigs Elvis, Elton and Elmo. They gave them a good scratch as well as a brush and heard how Elvis was the bossy one!

CEO of the Wilderness Foundation, Jo Roberts, invited the Mayor to join their Chairman, DL Vincent Thompson, Assistant Chief Constable, Rachel Nolan and High Sheriff, Charles Bishop for their graduation ceremony for the young people who took part in the Turnaround 16 programme. The participants and their mentors gave compelling testimony to the power of 1:1 mentoring and nature-based activities for those experiencing challenges which affect their ability to live the most fulfilling lives. Jo is a remarkable woman and her team provide such important opportunities to connect with nature and help build tools to manage their futures effectively.



Caprice The Essex Wind Orchestra, held a joyful charity concert at Chelmsford Cathedral supporting the Mayor's Charity, YMCA Essex. Musical Director David Bome conducted a varied programme of songs including themes from Thunderbirds and Star Wars, The Last Jedi. The Mayor and Consort really enjoyed the performance from the talented musicians, particularly highlights from South Pacific, Hits of the 60's, A Disney Spectacular and Fireflies.

Please support Caprice and Young Caprice at their concerts on 11th May and June 8th at St. Andrew's Church.

The Mayor joined anti-knife campaigner and youth advocate Julie Taylor to officially open a fundraising event for the Liam Taylor Legacy to provide bleed bags for local premises.



RCCG Power of Jehovah Church is celebrating 18 years in Chelmsford. The Deputy Mayor was accompanied by the Deputy Mayoress Helen Deakin. They were warmly welcomed by the Pastors and church members to a joyful service.



The Boswells School held their Spring Concert which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were pleased to attend. They were both in awe of the talented young people who performed as vocalists and musicians, both had a very enjoyable evening. Thanks to all the students, their music teacher Dan Hardaker, and the Boswells team who encourage and nurture their talent.

The Deputy Mayor was pleased to attend an Essex Recovery Foundation meeting at Riverside Leisure Centre cafe. The group has only been meeting in Chelmsford since January and it was very informative talking to staff, volunteers and service users. Representatives from Broomfield Hospital, Phoenix Futures, Open Road and Chelmsford CVS were also in attendance.



Lots of great music, dancing, tea and cakes at the Fundangles Chelmsford Side by Side Support Group in the Galleywood Heritage Centre. The Deputy Mayor was pleased to attend with the Deputy Mayoress daughter Helen, both thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

The Mayor was delighted to officially cut the ribbon and open Munchkins Nursery & Preschool in Great Baddow. She enjoyed a tour of the lovely, refurbished premises in Church Street with spacious outdoor play area and was impressed with the bespoke curriculum and individualised approach to Early Years Education and care.



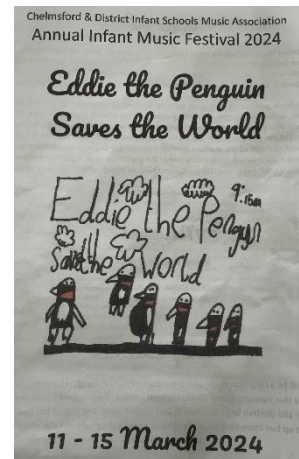
A new manager has recently been appointed to Morrisons supermarket. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor dropped by to welcome manager Neil to Chelmsford. They spoke about how much the local community really appreciates the continued efforts of staff at the store to support local charities and families. They particularly liked the idea of the recently introduced Saturday kids check outs.

The Broomfield Bird Club invited the Deputy Mayor to their March meeting to explain the role and responsibilities of the Mayor and talk about her experiences in that role throughout the pandemic. The ladies presented her with a pot plant and a donation towards a charity, which she has given to the Mayors charity YMCA Essex.



The Deputy Mayor had the pleasure of welcoming teams from England and Ireland to Chelmsford for the start of the men's International Series 2024 at Falcon Bowling & Social Club. It was such an interesting morning that she promised to return later in the week to watch the final game between England and Scotland

It was a delight for the Deputy Mayor to attend the Chelmsford & District Infant Schools Music Association concert at Christ Church. The weeklong event involves different schools participating to dance, sing, play percussion, act and narrate their performance of Eddie the Penguin Saves the World. All praise to the organisers and especially the Musical Director Jill Parkin who held it all together. The children had worked hard with the support of school staff and parents to provide a memorable show.



The Deputy Mayor attended the Young Carers Action Day and in recognition Action For Family Carers (AFFC) event at Harlow Civic Centre to promote their work. There was an opportunity to talk to young carers. We were welcomed by Cllr Andrew Johnson, Chair of Harlow Council. The CEO of AFFC James Clarke spoke about the work of the charity followed by the thoughts of the young carers present. The speeches ended with Deputy Lord Lieutenant Jackie Sully reading a moving poem.

A large group of students from Backnang Germany, one of our twin towns, were visiting students at Chelmsford County High School for Girls. The Deputy Mayor was happy to invite them into the Mayors Parlour. They were shown the mace, badges and gowns worn by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on very formal occasions and given a brief history of the council. They also spent time in the council chamber as various roles and responsibilities were explained.



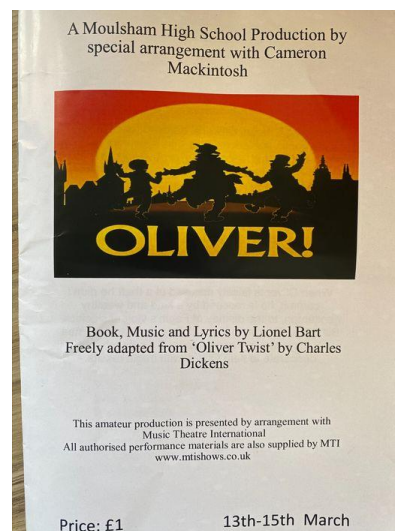
The RAFA club Chelmsford invited the Deputy Mayor to join them for lunch and their afternoon fundraising quiz. She spent a lovely afternoon helping raise money for a worthy cause.

The Mayor officially opened the new Sanctus charity shop - Second Chance, opposite Sanctus, in Broomfield Road. Of course, she took the opportunity to make some purchases & donate items to sell. The shop is beautifully kitted out and decorated with fabulous artwork (& hand painted cards for sale) by the talented Emma, as well as selling a variety of good quality clothing, shoes and home items.



The Mayor and her Consort had a very enjoyable evening at the 276 City of Chelmsford Squadron Air Cadet dinner & presentation night. Congratulations to all the worthy cadets who were presented with awards for their achievements during the year.

Moulsham High School students invited the Mayor to their production of 'Oliver' in the school auditorium. She was very impressed by their performances, the scenery, musicians, backstage crew and overall production of this popular musical.



First Give

The year 9 pupils at Hylands School took part in a programme run by First Give which is designed to

ignite a spark of social conscience in young people. The four groups chose charities that support causes they care about. They each gave a presentation in a bid to win £1000 for their chosen charity. The panel of judges included the Deputy Mayor who each marked the groups on presentation, knowledge, creativity, delivery, class commitment to the charity and impact. The charities chosen were Sanctus, Oddballs, CHES Homeless and Rethink Mental Illness. The marks were very close with Odd Balls winning a Commendation and the winning charity who received the cheque for £1000 was Sanctus.

St Marys Church, Broomfield & Chelmsford Competitive Festival of Music & Drama invited the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress to a fundraising concert in aid of the church organ and spire fund. They enjoyed a wide variety of music, speech and drama performed by very talented 2023 festival winners under the guidance of Festival Chair Jill.



The Mayor, her Consort and the Deputy Mayor spent a lovely afternoon with Chelmsford Hindu Society Temple celebrating Holi to welcome spring and the spread of colours and light it brings with it. The colours symbolise diversity and the powdered paint covers everyone in the colours of love.

Essex RFCA County Forum organised the annual Cadet Forces Reception where The Lord Lieutenant of Essex Jennifer Tolhurst presented awards to worthy CFAVs & Cadets from across Essex's Cadet Forces at Ingatestone Hall. The Deputy Mayor was pleased to attend and delighted to congratulate the award winners, many of whom were from the Chelmsford area





Chelmsford City Football Club Women's 1st Team had a resounding 5:0 win against Corringham in the quarter final of the League Cup which the Mayor, her Consort, Deputy Mayor enjoyed watching. Good luck for the semi-final which will be played on Sunday 14th April at their home ground.

Chelmsford Studio Theatre hosted the Spoken Word Poetry Slam where the Mayor watched a gathering of local schools' poetry performance for the Spoken Word Power project run jointly by Eastside Educational Trust and Essex Book Festival. She was pleased to see pupils from Baddow Hall Junior School after being involved in the school project herself from the poets running workshops to the performance itself. Congratulations to all the pupils from Moulsham High School, William de Ferrers, Beaulieu Park and Baddow Hall for their exuberant and confident performances as well as seasoned poet who supported them and entertained us all, Justin Coe.



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had a lovely visit to Barrow farm RDA (Riding for the Disabled) where they watched children from Bentley Primary School enjoying rides and games on the gentle ponies. The joy on the children's faces was lovely to experience and the Mayor thanked the workers and volunteers for facilitating such lovely

experiences for those facing challenges in life.

The Annual Chelmsford Museum Lecture was held in Chelmsford Theatre and delivered by guest speaker Dr Peter Murphy who spoke on 'Climate Change and the Historic Environment: Essex and Beyond.' The Mayor was interested and saddened to hear how our climate change and consequent predicted rises in sea-levels will result in historical and archaeological sites being lost to future generations. David Buckley, Chair of the Friends of Chelmsford Museums and Dr Mark Curties, Assistant Museums Manager had more promising updates about the upcoming events at Chelmsford Museum. The Mayor thanked the Friends for volunteering to support and help maintain Chelmsford Museum as such an important part of Chelmsford's heritage.



The Copper Pot Cafe at the Community Station in Moulsham Lodge held an Afternoon Tea with the Mayor on Mother's Day to raise funds for the Mayor's Charity, YMCA Essex. Thanks to Hayley, Sue and Mark Springett for running this event, the Mayor attended with her Mum and had a lovely time.



The Mayor and her Consort were pleased to support the Mayor of Castle Point, Cllr Lynsey K McCarthy-Calvert's Charity Ball which raised more than £2,00 for her charities, Havens Hospices, The Benno's Boobs Foundation and Bobbie's Big Heart.

Ace Music Therapy was established in 2017 as a CIC (community interest company) to provide music therapy service across London and the Southeast. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor joined Amelia Clapham, CEO and Senior Music Therapist at the Ace 'Making Melodies' Spring Concert to see children & adults performing with parents and therapists a variety of songs from their sessions. They were both happy to join in with the happy performances by singing and shaking their maracas! Well done to all the therapists and performers for a very entertaining evening.



The Mayor, her Consort and the Deputy Mayor had a great evening visiting Oki with all the fabulous coaches and young people at Chelmsford Ice Hockey Academy Riverside Leisure Centre. The Mayor drew the winning raffle ticket at the fundraising raffle for the most humungous Easter Egg prize, won by Lilith and collected by her brother Jackson. Well done to 5 year old Ezmae for progressing to net minder, incredible to watch the Under 10's, some as young as 3, so confident on the ice. A lovely welcoming community teaching the benefits of physical exercise through sport, resilience, confidence and teamwork.

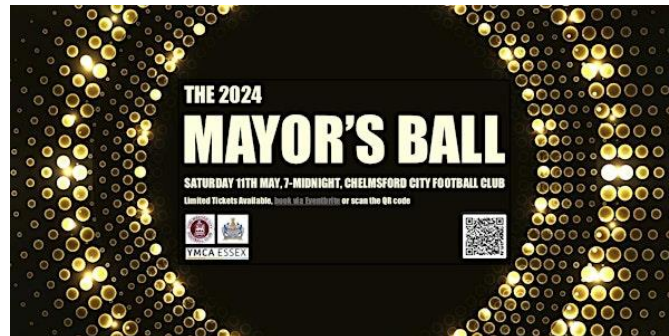
Guide dogs are an invaluable asset to the visually impaired, so the Mayor and her Consort were very happy to meet Jean, Sara & the other volunteers who help as fundraisers and puppy raisers to support this fantastic charity on their flag day in the City centre. As a previous puppy-raiser for Guide Dogs, it's a pleasure to support them and meet the lovely dogs who make such a difference and become great companions.





The Mayor hosted the annual Community Evening, welcoming guests to Hylands for an evening of appreciation for the contribution the nominated volunteers give to the local community. Guests were entertained by Cygams - Young Gen performing a selection of music from their forthcoming show, Everybody's Talking About Jamie

CHARITY UPDATE



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](https://www.justgiving.com/ymca-essex) or using the QR code below



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 Here for Communities
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