



# Harwich Headlines

Welcome to this **Autumn edition** of the Harwich Town Council newsletter of 2023. Following a busy year within the council, it certainly has been an action jam-packed summer in Harwich.



In May, Harwich Town Council welcomed its newly formed council following the local elections. New members include Councillors Louise Armstrong, David Chable and John Wade who were straight into the deep end with the proud and traditional annual ceremony of Mayor Making. Harwich welcomed its new mayor, Councillor Maria Fowler who can be seen left photographed thoroughly enjoying the

ancient custom of kitchel throwing, together with her friend and mayoress, Anna Rendell-Knights.

The King's Coronation was a moment in time never to be forgotten. Harwich's tribute to the celebration in the sea of flags displaying red white and blue gave the town centre and Harwich Quay the most patriotic feel of celebration. Both funded by Harwich Town Council, the Electric Palace offered free seats to anyone wishing to view the new Monarch's Coronation as they laid on a free screening, complete with aptly fitting union hand held flags and Dovercourt Town Centre threw the 'Big Coronation Party' with members of the community joining together in the High Street in celebration.



The 80th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic was commemorated in Harwich at the poignant location of the Merchant Navy Memorial. This battle is known to be one of the longest, largest, and most complex battles of all time and one which changed communities and lives forever. Over 70,000 allied naval and merchant seafarers lost their lives in this battle. Harwich Town Council was honoured to commemorate this anniversary on Sunday 28th May 2023, coming together in recognition of those so brave

and courageous in this monumental victorious fight for their country. A tremendous turn out and tribute was warmly comforting from local organisations, Standards and wreath laying. One personal wreath was laid by a local member of the community, whose father played an active role within this battle. Huge thanks are extended to all that attended the service, to Ellie Bould of Tendring Brass who played The Last Post and Reveille, and to Bob Bliss who commanded the Standards in a way so professional and respectfully placed.



**Next edition  
due for  
publication  
Spring 2024**

Anyone is welcome to attend any meetings which are held at the Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich. You can view the agendas prior to the meeting on the Harwich Town Council website which are published a week before. If you have questions relating to an item on an agenda, please come along so the council members can hear your questions.

**These meeting dates are subject to change. Keep an eye on the [HTC website](#) for regular updates.**

**A word from Harwich Town Council's  
NEW Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Pam Morrison**



The role of the Deputy Mayor is to fulfil the position of representing the council in a ceremonial capacity when the Mayor is otherwise engaged or unable to fulfil their role. I am honoured to represent Harwich Town Council as Deputy Mayor as well as standing as a proud council member.

**If you would like to invite the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to an event please visit the [HTC website](#) for more information.**

**Take a walk into History**

The home of Harwich Town Council is Harwich's historic Guildhall in Church Street. The Guildhall is the only secular Grade I listed building in the Tendring district and is a fascinating place to visit.

The Guildhall is also the repository for Harwich Town Council's archives which contain documents dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century including the original 1604 royal charter granted by King James I. The archives are overseen by the council's honorary archivists, Ray Plummer and Anne Kemp-Luck who also conduct guided tours of the building. In recent years, Cllrs. Garry Calver and Pam Morrison have assisted in the role of guides and the Guildhall is attracting interest from a wide variety of visitors. This year alone there have been visitors of Mayflower descendants from America, a group from Clacton Royal British Legion and the Holland on Sea U3A History group as well as a number of individual tours.

Harwich Town Council believes that the history within this wonderful building is another hook to encourage people to visit Harwich which can only assist with the town's tourist economy.

**Dates for your diary**

Harwich Shanty Festival—13-15th  
October—Multiple venues across  
Historic Harwich

Remembrance Sunday—12th November  
-3.00pm-St Nicholas Church

New Years Eve Firework Display—  
31st December 2023—Harwich Quay

Holocaust Memorial Day—26th January  
2024—11.00am—Kindertransport  
Memorial, Harwich Quay

**Harwich Town Council  
Grant Funding Awards 2023**

Harwich Festival of the Arts—£3300  
Harwich Electric Palace—£1900  
Harwich Shanty Festival—£3500  
H&D Social Stroke Group—£500  
H&D Partnership—£1500  
The Ark Centre—£2500



The Guildhall is open Monday,  
Wednesday and Friday between

**9.30am –1.00pm**

Any enquiries for tour bookings please  
contact the office on 01255 507211.