

## Visit Chelmsford Autumn Blog

It has been an exciting couple of months here in Chelmsford, from a local company supplying the **New Great British Bake off** to **global success** in education. We have had some amazing new events in the city as well as local businesses absolutely smashing it! There are almost too many to mention in this Autumn Blog, but we will try our best to keep you up to date on this fabulous city!

We started September with a smile on our face at all the wonderful activities and events over the summer. Hylands house **selling out** on their fantastic summer outdoor cinema events. SWFest had an **incredible first year** providing an entertaining bank holiday weekend for South Woodham Ferrers residents. Festival day at the museum then followed with **over 1000 young children and families attending** the culturally inspiring day at Oaklands Park.

The wonderful RHS Hyde Hall **won the Field to Fork category at the Essex Life Food and Drink Awards 2017** celebrating their brand-new Global Growth Vegetable Garden development. As well as the **largest outdoor pumpkin award** picking up the **UK record at 1498.4lbs!** We also got all snappy with **Chelmsford City Photography Competition** in September, an evening held at the museum with the Mayor present, as well as sponsors from Bond Street and Aquila. It was an amazing evening with celebrating so many creatives from around the city.

Bond Street celebrated its **first birthday in September** with huge celebrations over the weekend. Essex Cricket Team celebrated this year's success with their Gala dinner as they finished off the season having **won the County Championships** Division 1 again this year Congratulations!

We had the privilege of **meeting the famous Channel 4 Great British Bake Off (GBBO) flour supplier** - the historic Marriages Millers in Chelmsford this Autumn. Meeting a sixth generation Marriage and having a sneak peek round their factory was a total treat. **More to be revealed** about this in the spring!

Anglia Ruskin University are cementing their name on the global map as they were **named one of the top 350 institutions in the world** in the **Times Higher Educations' World University Rankings!** This comes ahead of their developments to becoming Essex's first undergraduate School of Medicine in 2018!

On the topic of new developments, **launching in the spring** an **exciting new project** focusing on the stories that make Chelmsford the city that it is. It's a really exciting time to be able to showcase what Chelmsford is about and **revealing some hidden gems**. If you are a creative or own a business in Chelmsford and **fancy being part of this exciting new**



Festival Day



RHS prized pumpkin



City Photography awards



Marriages flour on Channel 4 GBBO



Essex County Cricket Champions



Cutting the cake at Bond streets 1st Birthday

**venture**, we really want to hear from you, be sure to email [visit.chelmsford@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:visit.chelmsford@chelmsford.gov.uk) for more information. More will be revealed in the Spring!

Our Chelmsford creative scene soared to new heights with **designers providing exclusivity to Rock the Frock Bridal Boutique** in Chelmsford. I had the privilege of talking with owner Karen about her amazing journey with Rock the Frock as she also **launches her new collections** as well as opening her **newest venture franchising** this spring! We really are creating a **real hub for Designers in Chelmsford** with Lucy Can't Dance another bridal designer having launched her own collection earlier this year.

Talking about clothes the Bearded Gypsie Vintage Co. celebrated their **first year in business** this month, Tillie being at the centre of pioneering some of the first creative Trade fayres in the city as well **pioneering an all female entrepreneur collective!** The next trade fayre is on the 2 December at the Transition. Talking about Transition, they have now completed and launched their co-working spaces as well as **lovely coffee shop, the mushroom cappuccino is a must!**

**Chelmsford City Theatre** as well as getting ready for panto season are also diversifying their shows with their **first live art performance in October**. They are hoping to bring more acts like this to the city with the 'Alternative Christmas Show' coming in December.

With so many new and exciting creative events and individuals really making an impact across the city, make sure to check our Facebook page and website to keep up to date!



Anglian Ruskin Global recognition



Rock the Frock Bridal Shop



Lucy Can't Dance Bridal Designer

## HELPING LOCAL BUSINESSES

We are passionate in helping showcase local businesses and events. We have free advertising on our site and with a reach of over 10,000 local people a month, an opportunity not to miss! We also have advertising space for specific Christmas offers so if you have an offer that you want to showcase to shoppers get in touch via: [visit.chelmsford@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:visit.chelmsford@chelmsford.gov.uk)

## EVENTS COMING UP NOT TO MISS

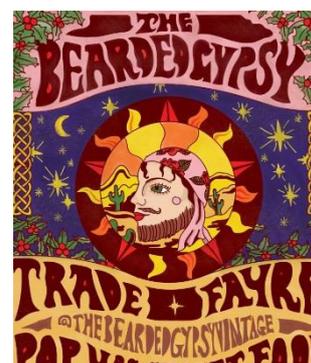
Here is snapshot of some key events not to miss especially over the Christmas season!

### GYPSIE VINTAGE CO. TRADE FAYRE: SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER.

A wonderful event off the back of the fayres throughout the year; a great opportunity to find some beautiful and unique gifts from our local creatives.

### RIVERSIDE WINTER WONDERLAND

join a host of magical characters and experience Chelmsford Winter Wonderland. Back for 2017 the event offers family skating in



The Bearded Gypsie Vintage Co. Xmas Fayre



The Transition co-working space

the snow,

festive food and drink, Santa's grotto and appearances by Pop the Penguin. The Winter Wonderland launches at the ice rink on Saturday 2 December and will be available every weekend, with the last session on Christmas Eve.

**CHRISTMAS MARKET IS BACK FOR 2017!** The popular Christmas market starts on the Monday 4 December with extra trading hours and a chance to pick up some unique gifts from local and independent suppliers.

**BOND STREET'S SANTA'S GROTTTO & ICE RINK** This year Bond Street have got their very own Santa's Grotto & Ice rink to keep you and your family entertained this festive season. They also have some Christmas events on throughout December. Keep an eye out for more details to come shortly.

**HYLANDS CHRISTMAS SOIREE** You are invited to Hylands House as The Cameo Players present another of their acclaimed Christmas Soirées! Experience the hustle and bustle of Hylands as the lady of the house and her aides prepare the country house for Christmas. With an evening of drama, poetry, and a selection of familiar songs to set your toes tapping, join us as we celebrate the glory days of the traditional 1930's Christmas House Party.

**IT'S PANTO TIME!** Rehearsals have started and panto season is very much upon us...Oh no it isn't! The always popular Chelmsford Theatres Panto returns with Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs. This performance never fails to disappoint with tickets selling fast. This year they are also offering a relaxed performance for a more informal & accessible show.

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON**

2017 sees some new sparkly Christmas Lights come to Chelmsford. Watch this space for more information on the annual Chelmsford Christmas light switch on!