

# Harborough *District News*



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**Councillor Phil King**  
**Leader of Harborough District Council**

## Welcome to our February newsletter

It's been a busy start to the year; we're continuing to encourage investment into the district having unveiled some new signs at Market Harborough train station to promote tourism and all that the district has to offer.

We'll be hosting important information-sharing events with the community including landlords and letting agents as part of the Landlord's

## Spend a 'fiver' and boost our economy

Local independent shops and businesses across Harborough district are once again taking part in an initiative to help boost the local economy - but they need YOUR support.

National campaign 'Fiver Fest' returns to the Harborough District from **Saturday 15 February to 29 February** highlighting how shoppers spending just £5 can have a huge positive

Forum, as well as encouraging businesses to work more closely with the armed forces community.

We are also preparing for the BIG Weekend of comedy, and looking at how we can mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day with a number of activities planned for the bank holiday on Friday 8 May. We'll share more on that - and how you can get involved - nearer the time.

impact on local independent shops, the vibrancy of towns, and the district's economy.

There'll be lots of special £5 offers to entice people into local shops so don't miss out!

## Top names of comedy set to 'bring the funny' at venues across district

**THE BIG WEEKEND**  
LEICESTER COMEDY FESTIVAL  
WWW.COMEDY-FESTIVAL.CO.UK

**Harborough District**  
13-17 February 2020

*featuring*  
**Lost Voice Guy**  
**Paul Sinha**  
**Mrs Barbara Nice**  
**Dad's Army Radio Show**  
**Arthur Smith**  
**& many more!**

**TICKETS & INFORMATION**  
www.comedy-festival.co.uk  
0116 456 6812

Big names in comedy are set to bring the laughs to the Harborough district as even more venues prepare to host some top stand-up acts and comedy performances.

The BIG Weekend - part of the Leicester Comedy Festival - offers something for everyone; from the Dad's Army Radio Show (featuring a brand new show), Jarred Christmas and the Hobbit Kids show, Magical Comedy Brunch, and much loved film favourites to comedy quiz nights, puppet shows and even a Faulty Towers Murder Mystery.

Live at the Market Hall features comedy from Paul Sinha (from TV's The Chase), Lost Voice Guy (Britain's Got Talent winner), Barbara Nice (Phoenix Nights) and just confirmed Andrew Ryan (winner of Leicester Comedy Festival's Best New Show 2018).

Venues hosting comedy events as part of **the 'BIG Weekend'** of comedy from **13 February to 17 February 2020** include Harborough Market, The Angel Hotel, Market Harborough's Old Grammar School, Lutterworth Golf Club, Beerhouse and

Aldwinckles Coffee House.

Tickets are selling fast so book now to avoid disappointment at [www.comedy-festival.co.uk](http://www.comedy-festival.co.uk)

Following the inaugural 2019 event, organisers Harborough District Council and the BIG Weekend scooped the Liberty Award at the 2019 Leicester Comedy Festival Awards given in honour of events that embodied the spirit of the Comedy Festival.

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## Giving back to armed forces community - how your business can help

Calling all local businesses which are keen to look at ways to give something back to our local armed forces community.

We're hosting an event encouraging businesses to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant and pledge a commitment to help support the armed forces community in any way possible.

The event aims to help businesses understand the strength and wealth of skills that the armed forces community can bring as employees.

It takes place on **Monday 16 March 2020, 6pm-7.30pm** at **Harborough Innovation Centre**, and will also be a chance for businesses to learn about the Employment Recognition Scheme. This scheme acknowledges employers who are providing exceptional support to veterans, serving personnel, reservists and family members of those in the armed forces. Those businesses which are successful in achieving this can gain access to free training opportunities to help develop the skills of all staff.

There will also be an opportunity to take part in a publicity photo on the night with other businesses.

[Register to attend via Eventbrite.](#)



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**Amazing prizes up for grabs  
if you play local lotto over  
coming weeks**

As well as raising funds for local good causes, if you play the Harborough Lotto before 21 March 2020 you could win some amazing extra prizes.

You could win one of five Fitbits and Google Nests as well as a host of cash prizes.

And best of all, you'll be supporting a great local charity or good cause of your choice in the Harborough district.

Since Harborough District Council launched Harborough Lotto in 2018, nearly 50 local charities, voluntary groups and not-for-profit organisations have signed up to benefit from a share of nearly £90,000 raised from ticket sales.

Nearly £15,000 has been given away in cash prizes for players of the Harborough Lotto – plus £5,500 in free tickets and £250 worth of Amazon vouchers.

60p from every £1 lottery ticket sold will go direct to local charities, voluntary organisations and other good causes in the Harborough District.

Players who buy a lottery ticket online are able to nominate which good cause they would like to support.

Draws take place weekly and players have a chance to win up to £25,000 in cash every week.

Play or find out more at [www.harboroughlotto.co.uk](http://www.harboroughlotto.co.uk) or call 01858 405050 to get tickets or register a cause.



**WIN**  
1 of 5 FITBIT  
& Google Nest  
Mini Bundles

Harborough  
Lotto

Harborough District Community Lottery

[www.harboroughlotto.co.uk](http://www.harboroughlotto.co.uk)

## Is your project worthy of building award?

Has your building project involved innovation in construction or design? Or problem solving to overcome challenges? Or shown excellent project management or inclusive principles?

If so, it's time to enter it into the regional stage of the Local Authority Building Control

## JUST turn up to get active and involved

Ladies - are you looking to get more active in 2020?

If so, we're once again launching the popular JUST sessions which aim to engage previously inactive females, aged 16 years and over.

The best bit is, as the name suggests, you can just turn up

## Landlord lowdown at joint housing event

A not-to-be-missed event is being held to update landlords and letting agents on new legislation and other housing issues.

Special guest speakers will be presenting on a number of topics providing invaluable advice and support.

The free event, being held by the Council in partnership with Blaby District Council and Hinckley and Bosworth Council, is taking place over two sessions on **Tuesday 25 February 2020** at the Wycliffe Rooms, George Street, Lutterworth.

(LABC) Awards 2020.

Building control surveyors, builders, architects, designers and anyone else involved in a construction project, where building control was provided by the Council, can submit an entry to the relevant region. These are then reviewed and shortlisted by a panel of judges.

Shortlisted entries will be invited to attend the regional awards, and winners will be invited to attend the Grand Finals, which are held in London and attract over 800 guests.

Enter today at LABC Awards.

and join in.

It's great fun and a good way to meet new friends and get active in a social way.

Sessions include ladies fitness, tennis, bootcamp, fast-paced walks, couch-to-5k running, kickboxing, jiu-jitsu, dodgeball, aqua-natal, adult tap, and dance cardio.

JUST is in it's fifth year and there are freebies for participants and coaches / leaders including wristbands and water bottles.

Find out more online

The afternoon session runs from 1pm – 4pm and the evening session runs from 6pm – 9pm.

A buffet will be provided.

Register your interest by telephone on **01858 821019** or e-mail [hhs@harborough.gov.uk](mailto:hhs@harborough.gov.uk)

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