Welcome to April's Harborough District Council newsletter as we look forward, with a spring in our step, to an host of exciting leisure opportunities - plus a popular veggie and vegan food festival returning to the District, and lots more.

We have a busy month ahead preparing for the District and Parish Council elections on Thursday 2 May 2019 and there is a reminder in this newsletter to use your vote and make sure you're registered to do so.

April events

Popular veggie and vegan event returns to the District

Win a bike with market's Easter bonnet competition

Easter leisure activities - find out what's happening
Join our spring clean and Keep Britain Tidy

We're looking for 'Litter Heroes' as part of the Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean campaign running until 23 April 2019.

We're once again supporting the campaign by lending litter picking equipment – including pickers, hi-vis vests, gloves, and bin bags – for parish councils, community groups or individuals in the #Harborough district who are keen to do their bit.

We will also collect the bags of waste from an agreed location so please get in touch.

Classic car show revs up as entries come in

There have already been more than 100 registrations for the Classic Car Show event being held in Market Harborough on 7 July 2019.

Last year’s event saw some of the most amazing retro cars, motorcycles, scooters and commercial vehicles from across the country lining the streets - as well as stalls and activities, plus prizes for ‘best in show’.

It is free to exhibit classic vehicles at the event, but you must register beforehand here.

Council delight at awards recognition

There was much delight on Monday evening after the Harborough BIG Weekend comedy event won a Liberty award as part of the Leicester Comedy Festival 2019 Awards.

The Council-organised event brought major comedy acts to local venues with tickets selling out for many of the shows.

The Council has also been shortlisted in the Planning Awards 2019 for our work on neighbourhood planning, with the winners being announced in June.

High-tech fitness boost at gyms

There are exciting developments afoot with work underway to install new, state-of-the-art gym equipment at Lutterworth and Market Harborough leisure centres.

Gym users will benefit from a combination of cutting edge Technogym cardiovascular and resistance equipment including modernised treadmills, exercise bikes, cross-trainers and resistance machinery.

There will also be a full-range of free-weights and a new online fitness tracking system that helps users achieve sporting, fitness and health goals in a fast, easy and fun way.

A temporary gym is available, whilst the new equipment is being installed, in the Studio at Market Harborough Leisure Centre, which includes a wide range of state-of-the-art Technogym equipment.

The gym re-opened at Lutterworth Sports Centre on 4 April 2019, and at Harborough Leisure Centre on 15 April 2019.
Boosting tourism across the district

The first week of April is English Tourism Week which campaigns to raise the profile of the industry and celebrate the value and quality of tourism in England.

With this in mind, the Council has set out proposals to boost tourism and support businesses involved in the tourism and hospitality sector – as well as promote the District as a key destination to attract visitors.

Read more here

Safe and secure in your own home

Many people want to retain their independence and enjoy the comforts of their own home, but there's always the worry that living independently could mean living at risk.

Harborough Lifeline is an emergency telephone service available to anyone who feels vulnerable or alone, whatever their age or needs. It offers reassurance and support 24/7, 365 days per year!

Our lifeline units are quick to install and easy to use in an emergency. Customers are provided with a pendant which allows the user to summon help from anywhere in their property at the touch of a button.

Call 01858 464499 and one of our friendly team will be happy to talk to you! Or drop us an email at lifeline@harborough.gov.uk to find out more.

Make sure you register to vote

And finally...you have just two weeks left to register to vote in the forthcoming District and Parish Council elections being held in the Harborough District on Thursday 2 May 2019.

The closing date to be registered to vote in these elections is Friday 12 April 2019, or to ask for a postal vote is 15 April 2019.

There are 34 District Council seats across 19 wards within Harborough District. You can find out about the elections in your area and about ward boundaries on our website.

Remember you must be included on the electoral register to vote in these elections. If you are not already registered, or have recently moved house, you can either register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or you can contact the elections team by emailing e.services@harborough.gov.uk or calling 01858 821049.
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