

PRESS RELEASE

Nov 2023



Harbour House is taking part in Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas presenting Rhys Morgan's *Seaweed in the Fruitlocker*, a performance from a local LGBTQIA+ Sea Shanty Choir and offering free mulled apple juice and dried fruit from food waste activities in the gallery courtesy of social art collective JarSquad

Performance: Saturday 2nd Dec (1:45 -2:30pm) Main Stage, St Luke's Hospice, Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas.

Exhibition: Saturday 2nd Dec (10am-5pm) - Saturday 19th Jan (10am-5pm)

Please note Harbour House is closed for Xmas from Thurs 21st Dec - Mon 1st Jan

[Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas](#) takes place across Kingsbridge, with Harbour House presenting Plymouth-based artist Rhys Morgan's LGBTQIA+ sea shanty choir project *Seaweed in the Fruitlocker* performing on the main stage, outside St.Lukes Hospice, Fore Street at 13:45 - 14:30 as part of the new socially engaged art programme

As part of the all-day event, Harbour House will have an exhibition open to the public featuring more information about the choir as well as offering free mulled apple juice and dried fruit products from food waste served by JarSquad, a local social art collective.

Harbour House is delighted to be part of the most festive day in the Kingsbridge calendar: hosting a festive sea shanty performance by 'Seaweed in the Fruitlocker' choir, opening the gallery as a resource center with more information about the choir as well as serving the community mulled apple juice.

During Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas, Harbour House will be offering homemade mulled apple juice made by [JarSquad](#). JarSquad is a local, ongoing social art project turning surplus food into different preserves and jams; connecting the dots between food waste, climate action and combating social isolation. They will be sharing their dried fruit produce and local mulled apple juice as part of Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas.



'Seaweed in the Fruit Locker' is an LGBTQIA+ sea shanty choir formed by Plymouth based artist [Rhys Morgan](#) in 2022 as part of a commission for [MIRROR](#) gallery in Plymouth. The choir explores queer motifs within maritime history and collective performance in marginalised communities through the tradition of shanty singing. The choir uses their lived experience to rework existing shanties and inspire new ones to respond to local histories. 'Seaweed in the Fruit Locker' has received press from; [The Rolling Stone Magazine](#), [The Daily Telegraph](#) and [BBC Radio 4](#).

Harbour House have commissioned the choir to produce a new shanty based on local histories and this will be performed for the first time at Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas. Rhys and the choir will be offering workshops to local LGBTQIA+ youth groups in Kingsbridge to create and sing their own takes on sea shanties, celebrating their lived experiences in joyful and musical ways.

The exhibition and performance from the choir was sparked from a conversation between the Harbour House team, and the Kingsbridge Community College's Young Curators, a group of committed young people who wanted to use their creativity to make positive community change. Young Curator / KCC alumni says [insert name of YC] ; 'It is very important to create a safe space for the LGBTQIA+ community within Kingsbridge and beyond'

The exhibition in the gallery will evolve over the course of its duration. For the first week the show will display documentary works of the Sea Shanty Choir's project so far. After the second week of the show the films will then change and include a film work 'Manticore' by Rhys Morgan as well as a documentary film of the Choir interacting with local histories of Kingsbridge and their performance at Kingsbridge Celebrates Xmas.

Performance: Saturday 2nd Dec, 13:45-14:30 in Kingsbridge Town Square Stage

Exhibition: Saturday 2nd Dec - Saturday 19th Jan

Xmas Closure: Friday 22nd Dec - Mon 1st Jan

>>END<<

NOTES TO EDITORS

Dates to Note:

Performance: Saturday 2nd Dec, 13:45-14:30 on Band Stand, Kingsbridge Town Square

Exhibition: Saturday 2nd Dec - Saturday 19th Jan

Xmas Closure: Friday 22nd Dec - Mon 1st Jan

ADDITIONAL INFO:

MIRROR gallery, give and take over <https://mirrorplymouth.com/whats-on/give-and-takeover-commission>

Seaweed in the Fruit Locker

Rhys Morgan www.rhysmorganartist.com

Instagram www.instagram.com/seaweedshanties

FILM ABOUT THE PROJECT: [Rhy Morgan - Seaweed in the Fruitlocker - Give and Takeover Commission](#)

PRESS [Seaweed In The Fruitlocker Press Clippings](#)

JarSquad <https://jarsquad.com/>

Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas <https://www.kingsbridgecelebrateschristmas.com/>

List of Collaborators

-Kingsbridge Town Council

-Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas

About Harbour House

Harbour House is a welcoming contemporary art and wellbeing centre within the heart of Kingsbridge, South Devon. We use the power of art, creativity and wellbeing practices to enrich the lives of the people of our town and surrounding communities.

Our ambitious projects respond to Kingsbridge's challenges and opportunities as well as engaging with the broader issues of our time. We do this through an inspiring and inclusive exhibitions and performance programme, outreach, learning and engagement activities.

We also provide a range of flexible spaces dedicated to yoga, movement, and mindfulness to support and improve wellbeing.

For further information/images or interview requests please contact:

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