

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Youngsters enjoy pond-dipping event

THE Friends of Dunorlan Park hosted a pond-dipping event on Tuesday, June 17, from 1.30pm to 3pm. Fortunately the weather was glorious and pupils from Barnardo's Schools were able to enjoy the event.

Pond dipping is an outdoor event where individuals, usually children, use nets to explore the little creatures living in the shallows of a pond.

Ten children from Barnardo's schools, supervised by adults, spent time catching, looking at, noting and then carefully replacing, any creatures they found. Nothing sensational was caught, but there were lots of little wriggly things! The event was led by Scott Hudson and Kent High Weald Partnership (KHWP) so a big thank you to them for making it so enjoyable.

Meadows Schools, one in Southborough and one in Tunbridge Wells, believe that every child is unique and deserves a personalised education which acknowledges their strengths, challenges and interests. They are proud of their rich history with Barnardo's and are excited to work with their students, parents/carers and community partners to create a future filled with promise and possibility.

The students spend time in the park, when they can, helping out with jobs such as litter-picking and tidying up, which helps the regular staff and volunteers enormously.

Joan Hamilton-Smith



Pupils at the Pond Dipping event

All the latest community news from Hawkenbury

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■ TRAIL WITH A TALE

From today, Friday, to Monday, September 8, large and small animal sculptures, designed by local schools and community groups, will form a unique, family-friendly trail around Tunbridge Wells for all ages to enjoy. Demelza Charity, who care for extraordinary children with serious or life-limiting illnesses, are calling on all trail explorers to join them and tag any photos with them @trailwithatale!

■ ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Wadhurst and Tunbridge Wells Astronomical Society's next meeting is on Wednesday at 7.30pm in Beechwood School, Pembury Road. Doors open at 7pm. There will be the most up-to-date information on the Gaia Mission by Dr George Seabroke, Principal Research Fellow for the UCL working at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory. Following the refreshment break, Mark Waller will tackle the interesting topic of Space Law. Everyone is welcome. There is no meeting in August. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 17.

■ TWU3A

Tunbridge Wells u3a will have a coffee morning on Monday in The Old Auction House, Linden Park

Road from 10.30am to noon. This is a social get-together and everyone is welcome. On Thursday, the group will have its monthly meeting at The Wells Church, Hanover Road, TN1 1EY and Jenny Mallin will talk on A Grandmother's legacy, My Great Aunt Constance. For more details about the group, visit the website www.tunbridgewellsu3a.org.

■ DUNORLAN FRIENDS

Friends of Dunorlan Park recently hosted a Walk in the Park around Dunorlan and as well as being a glorious day, it was well attended with around 30 people joining Friends' Chair Siobhan and Events Organiser Peter. The Friends will have a model boat exhibition on Sunday, July 20, where model Lifeboats will be on show and in the water at the jetty-side of the park from 12.30pm to 3pm, thanks to Trev Boston. Why not bring a picnic and watch the boats whilst enjoying lunch.

■ ST GEORGE'S

St George's Childcare on Chilston Road recently had their Summer Fair and raised an amazing total of over £2,500 through the event and their Summer Raffle. All proceeds go towards key fundraising projects for the year, sourcing new play equipment and learning resources, making necessary playground and building updates, and providing funds for subsidised childcare

places to support 20+ families.

St George's is a charity and can offer low-cost childcare sessions to families which are struggling for any reason. Families, friends of families, support services and healthcare professions can contact them on 01892 543982 and ask to speak confidentially to a Childcare Manager to discuss how they might be able to help.

■ NEDRA

The New Edenbridge and District Residents' Association will host a question time forum on Wednesday, July 30, at 7pm in the Edenbridge WI Village Hall. This is to discuss changes ahead in local government and the merging of district councils into a single West Kent Authority. This is a public meeting and everyone is welcome.

■ SOUTHBOROUGH LIONS

Southborough and District Lions Club's annual Art and Craft Fair will be held on Southborough Common over the August Bank Holiday, Saturday, August 23 to Monday, August 25 inclusive, from 10am to 4pm. Meadows School has kindly made their car park available to exhibitors and visitors, and also their toilet facilities. Southborough's Mayor, John Francis, will open the event at 10.30am on the Saturday. For more details, email southboroughlions@105se.org, or

give them a call on 03458 337485.

■ MOTORING FESTIVAL

A Festival of Motoring will take place on the Pantiles on Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3, when more than 20 of the greatest cars and motorcycles of the past 130 years will be displayed. More details about this free event can be found at www.rtwmotorfest.com and on Instagram @rtwmotorfest.

■ LOCAL & LIVE

Local & Live is celebrating its 20th year and will centre on Calverley Grounds from Friday, August 22 to Sunday, August 24.

■ DFC

A Dementia Friendly Community is very active in Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells with many groups and clubs to join in with. Fridays, is Dementia Day Care at Age UK, Wood Street. Also accessible bowling from 9.30am at the Angel indoor bowls club in Tonbridge. On Tuesdays, the Tuesday Group is in Paddock Wood Day Centre at 10.30am. Wednesdays is seated moving to music at 2pm in Tonbridge Baptist Church, followed by singing. For more details about the group, visit the website www.tonbridgedfc.org.uk.

■ RTWOMVC

The Royal Tunbridge Wells

Orpheus Male Voice Choir will have its final rehearsal on Thursday, prior to their summer break. They will have various events from mid-October onwards, including a Sing-along, Remembrance Service and concerts.

■ SPA VALLEY RAILWAY

The railway attraction has launched a fundraising campaign to replace a bridge at a cost of £300,000. The steel bridge between High Rocks and Groombridge carries passengers over Broom Lane. A speed restriction is currently in place and it has been found that replacing the bridge is the most cost-effective option. If you can help with a donation, please visit www.tinyurl.com/spavalleyappeal.

■ LACE WELLS

The next lace-making group in Hawkenbury URC's small hall is on Saturday, July 19 from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Everyone is welcome to call in and see the lace being made.

■ TW ROTARY

The Rotary Club of Tunbridge Wells meets at the Royal Wells Hotel on the second and fourth Mondays at 6.30pm for 7pm. You are invited to go along and meet them to see what they do to help communities at home and abroad. For more details, visit www.rotarygbi.org/about-rotary/membership/