

# Our Place

## Issue 15

### Paul Isaacs next talk,

Paul will be at Thomley on Friday 19th May to talk about 'Autism and Education'. The talk aims to help professionals, parents, friends and everyone else the common difficulties that people with Autism face throughout education. Paul speaks with great personal experience and gives a fine example of how he coped, which could help with your family or someone you work with.



It's a recommended donation of £5 to attend the talk, which will start at 6pm and finish at 7pm, with a chance to ask Paul questions from 7-7:30pm. There will be hot dogs, cake, tea and coffee available on the night also. Please book by emailing reception on: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)



# Upcoming workshops...

### Archery

**Monday 29th May, 1st June, 15th July**  
Practice your target skills and become the real-life Robin Hood!

### Woodwork, football coaching and music therapy sessions with Dave Noble

**Tue 30th May**  
Loads to do on this day in half term, Joe's football coaching is back, Paul's woodwork is always popular and join in with a music workshop for all ages - recording your own song!

### Hockey workshop, multi-sports workshop and music session with Nick Cope

**Friday 2nd June**  
Amy and Luke will take the hockey, whilst Tom will take his inclusive multi-sports session. Nick Cope returns to provide a brilliant singing experience!

### Chinnor Rugby Club

**Saturday 3rd June, 11am**  
Get physical and join our local professional rugby club, as they provide a brilliant rugby workshop

### Ignite Sport

**Saturday 3rd June, 1pm**  
Ignite will take a tennis session, to get you in the mood for Wimbledon!

### Henry's base guitar fun!

**Saturday 10th June**  
Henry will be jamming in the music room, he may even teach you how to play...

### Umbanda Drumming Workshop

**Saturday 17th June, all day**  
Drum to the Umbanda beat! Pete is back!



## More new equipment...

You will see the trampoline is now installed, and it's very popular - we apologise that it's been difficult to get a turn (or more than one turn) in a day.

We are looking at ways of getting a second one to give you all more time bouncing! We are also still looking to add to our ever-growing service, and two more pieces of equipment are on the way...



## Wheelchair swing...

With thanks to Vikki Smith and family who fundraised for this, we now have planning permission and over the next couple of months will get this delivered and installed, near to our current park area. How exciting!

## Cross-trainer...

We had the cross-trainer on trial for a couple of weeks and loved it! The cross-trainer will soon be here permanently in the Mini Gym, so teens and adults can continue to keep fit! The cross-trainer is specifically designed so that people of all abilities can use it, including adjustable seats, leg and arm supports and more...For an induction of how to use it just ask at reception!

## Reception has nearly moved!

We said in our last edition of Our Place that reception would 'hopefully' move. Well we are 50% of the way there! You will see on your next visit that the desk is just inside the pavilion and it may even be fully functioning by then!

Please be aware that when the change is made, the teenage building will be strictly for teenagers and adults only (except for use of the accessible toilets)

## With thanks...

To Daniel Bleasdale, who enjoys his visits to Thomley so much that he decided to do everything he can to help. He has been saving up loose change and made a donation of £20 to us. Thanks Daniel - we really appreciate your efforts.



Thanks also go to everyone who has kindly supported the charity ball, by donating prizes to the raffle and auction. We are really grateful as all the money raised will be put back in to the services and equipment that we offer.

And special thanks to Angela and Mark Lum, who have made a generous donation towards the ball - the money will be used to support our adult days by offering external workshops such as drumming and woodwork which we've never been able to do before, due to funding.

To buy tickets for the raffle, ask at reception when you are next here.

# Eggcellent Easter Fun...

What an eggciting Easter! It was a record breaking Easter too, as we had more people attend than ever before, partly due to opening over the bank holiday weekend - we hope you liked the extra availability.

Activities ranged from football coaching, to an amazing animal workshop, to archery and lots more! Here are a couple of our favourite photos from Easter...



# May half term...

We can't wait to see you all over the May half term, and we are now taking bookings for all of our 'Film' themed half term activities.

You will see that for the first time we are open for the whole seven days! The Sunday will be a 'Quiet Day' and hopefully spreading our opening hours will prevent each day from being too busy. Be sure to book quickly to avoid missing out.

# Camping at Thomley...



We still have a few spaces for campers this month on May 26th. Although you will see on our June-July planner that the second camping of the year is only a month after, on Friday 23rd June.

Get in touch to book for either session: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)

# Parent training...

We heard about SCERTS training from a parent who said it has changed her life. Her enthusiasm for this to be shared with other parents was so great that we have contacted the trainer, Dee (Autism Consultant and Trainer for Autism Champions), and she has agreed to come to Thomley to provide a talk on the SCERTS model.

This talk will be suitable for all, parents, carers and professionals. The idea of SCERTS is to build up Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support. Finding the things that matter most to the individual and the best forms of communication. It can be used for anyone, with a wide range of abilities and ages. It can be used at home, school and in the community. As if this wasn't enough will be providing you with tea, coffee and homemade cake!

Limited spaces available so get booked in now. 6pm till 8pm July 7th. £10 recommended donation per adult including tea, coffee and cake.

For more information please email: [annacapitani@thomley.org.uk](mailto:annacapitani@thomley.org.uk)



We are now on Instagram! Share your photos and experiences with us by tagging us in your photos. Our Instagram handle is: '@thomley\_'



# Welcome to our new staff...

We would like to welcome two new members to the team, who both started with us at the beginning of May.

Firstly, many of you will see that Faye is our new receptionist - you may have already met her before reading this. Faye had this to say:

*“Hi, I’m looking forward to meeting you all on your next visit!”*

*I previously worked at a junior school in Aylesbury as a Teaching Assistant for 3 years and (in case you were interested) in my spare time I enjoy being with family, as I have a young niece and nephew. See you all very soon - hopefully in the new reception area!”*



Our second new addition is Kate Weir, who has joined as our Fundraising Marketing Officer on the 8th May. Kate will be concentrating on developing our social media and associated activities with particular emphasis on connecting with new and existing supporters.

If you have any fundraising ideas, great stories or need us to help promote your event then Kate would love to hear from you: [kateweir@thomley.org.uk](mailto:kateweir@thomley.org.uk)

Kate has been a visitor to Thomley before and has friends who are regulars, *“Thomley is a very special place. I am thrilled to join the team here & play a part in Thomley’s future.”*

# The Handlebards are back...

Join the HandleBards’ all-male troupe at Thomley for ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ as you’ve never seen it before!

What’s the play about? Well - Four young lovers find themselves enveloped in the dream-like arms of a magical forest full of sprites, where a feuding Fairy King and Queen are at war over the possession of an Indian boy. A group of amateur actors



share the same forest. They’re rehearsing for a play. Fairies and humans collide. Hilarity ensues. Visit: [www.handlebards.com](http://www.handlebards.com) to find out more!

Tickets are £10 per adult, and £8 per child under 16 (children under 2 go free). To book, please email: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)

# Jay Rawlings Magic Show...

As a walkabout magician, resplendent in top hat and tails and carrying a miniature theatre, Jay will entertain and delight any audience with his enchanting theatre of magic and illusion.

His eye catching and original costume creates a warm and friendly atmosphere that always attracts a crowd, and his skills in the arts of Magic and Illusion are guaranteed to leave his audience happily mystified and thoroughly entertained!

Jay has been working with great success at a wide range of events from corporate evenings and private parties, to fairs, fetes and festivals. He has even performed at Rick Wakemans’ outdoor rock concert at Hampton Court Palace.



We welcome Jay on Friday 21st July, starting at 6pm until 7:30pm. He will do a 45 minute performance, followed by 45 minutes of his walkabout magic. We will also provide refreshments on the evening too.

It’s a recommended donation of £5 per person to attend, and you must book, by emailing: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)