

# Our Place

## Issue 41



# February Workshops...

## Happy New Year!



All of the staff, volunteers and Trustees wish all of our visitors and supporters all the very best for 2022 and we hope to see you here at Thomley very soon.

2021 was a very challenging year for so many people and as a Charity we were no exception. But we thank those who have attended events, participated in challenges and generously donated to Thomley. Your support has really helped us to continue developing the site, cover some of our day-to-day activity costs and generally thrive throughout a hard time.

We have made every effort possible in 2021 to remain open, continue to offer additional activities and improve our ever-growing site. We will endeavour to continue that in this coming year and welcome anyone who wants to help us on that journey.

### What is there to look out for at Thomley in 2022?

New gym equipment - New go kart track - New accessible bikes & trikes - New bed swing - Imagination room refurb - Forestry area - the return of popular first time events such as; car boot, fireworks and Charity Ball.



**Giant Bubbles**  
**19th February, 12th March**  
Always popular, with the parents as much as the children!

**Roast Dinner Day**  
**Sunday 20th February**  
Our accessible roast days are very popular, enjoy a roast in a safe, familiar and secure setting.

**Paul's wood workshop**  
**Tuesday 22nd February**  
Get creative and design your own woodwork, then paint it and take it home!

**Crocodiles of the World are back!**  
**Wednesday 23rd February**  
It's always amazing to see a few animals from Crocodiles of the World at Thomley. A very popular workshop.

**Thame Music Academy**  
**Thur 24th & Sat 26th February**  
A great opportunity to make music and perhaps learn the basics of a new instrument.

**Lionel the Train**  
**Friday 25th February 11:30am**  
Take a tour of the field on our very own land train.

**Mother's Day Meal**  
**Sunday 20th March**  
Another opportunity for a lovely meal in an accessible setting, making Mother's Day less stressful for the whole family.

**PLUS LOTS more happening in January, including:**  
Slime making, sensory bottles, Lego workshops, silent discos, archery, cooking workshops and more!



# February half term...



We are delighted to welcome some of our most popular workshops to Thomley this February half term and we can't wait to see you all!

Kick off half term the right way by attending our roast dinner day on Sunday 20th February. Then, back by popular request are Crocodiles of the World, it's always fascinating to see some of these animals up close and learn more about them. We know many of you missed out on this workshop in October. We also welcome Thame Music Academy and the creative Paul with his wood workshop during the week of half term. Be sure to book your sensory room sessions in advance, to avoid missing out on the day.

Throughout February, Thomley staff will continue to wear masks and follow procedures on site to reduce the risk of spreading Covid 19, regardless of the Government relaxing any national guidelines.

To book for half term email reception or visit the calendar on our website: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk) / [www.thomley.org.uk/calendar](http://www.thomley.org.uk/calendar)

# Birthday party availability...



Our Sunday birthday parties are very popular, where you can hire the centre for your party, gathering or event. Only you will be on site (with possibly a family or two who may be staying in the pods), so you have the run of the place!

We have some availability in March on: 6th, 13th or 27th - either an all day party, 10am-1pm party or 2pm-5pm party. Children with or without a disability can book a party.

To book yours or for further information, please contact our bookings team on: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)

# Easter Camping Pod offers...

We hope to see lots of you over Easter, but why not make it extra special and stay with us too! Every night you stay includes a free day visit to the main centre.

**10% off  
Mon-Thurs**

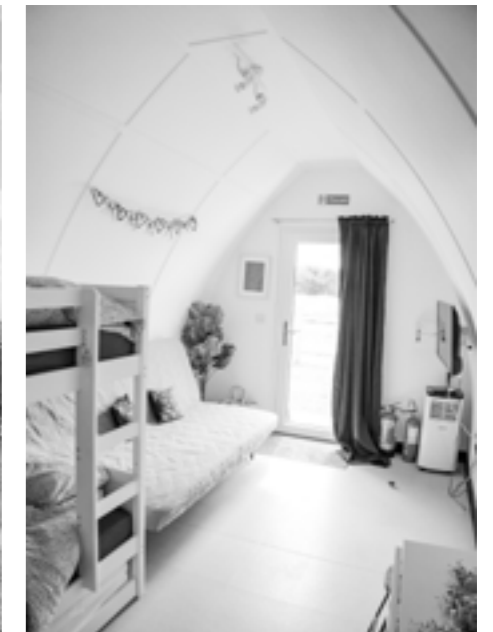
**Book a  
one-night  
stay**

**20% off  
bank holiday**

\* 10% off of all Monday to Thursday bookings in the Easter holidays - Code 'Aprilweekday'

\* We are accepting one-night stays on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th April - no code required. We had to make the decision to change to two-night minimum bookings for the pods, to help our staff with the cleaning and maintaining of the area. If your family would really struggle to cope with more than one-night away, then please contact us.

\* If you book all three nights over the bank holiday weekend (15th, 16th and 17th) you receive 20% off of your stay 'Bankholiday20'



## Win a stay in a pod this Easter!

Look out for our Easter competition where you will win a chance to stay in our camping pods for a one-night stay this April! The competition will run from February 1st - 15th on our Facebook page, all you have to do is SHARE the post with your friends to enter!

**TO BOOK or for more information please visit the website:**  
[www.thomley.org.uk/visit-us/camping-pods/](http://www.thomley.org.uk/visit-us/camping-pods/)

# Site changes...

The barn in our car park (pictured) is due to be knocked down, with the area being fenced off. The project will start on Monday 24th January. This will take between 3-4 weeks to complete and should not have any major impact on your visit.



There will be a section of the car park cordoned off and machinery within the fenced off area for the duration of the project, which of course may make more noise than you are used to when at Thomley.

What Thomley will do with the area is currently being discussed and we will of course communicate with visitors as and when we know more. Any work on the area is not likely to take place until 2023.

If you have any problems on the day of your visit please go to reception where someone will be able to help.

The mini-gym has been in need of a refresh. Look out in the coming month or two as we will be adding lots to the room. Items will include: A new gym floor, a TV, a new treadmill, a new exercise bike, a new rowing machine, a weights rack with weights and bench. Plus we have bought items to run fitness sessions such as ropes, ab wheels, medicine balls and lots more!



## Office rental

One of our smaller serviced offices is now available to rent. Low rental, all of which goes to directly supporting our services for disabled people. The office includes access all week, parking, communal coffee area and toilets. If you would like to have a visit or rent the office, please contact Operations Manager Joe:

[joekitchen@thomley.org.uk](mailto:joekitchen@thomley.org.uk)



# Thomley's "Visitor Voice"...



We are delighted to offer an opportunity to visitors of Thomley to have their say, on the future development of Thomley. We are looking for between 10 and 15 visitors to join our panel and attend one meeting every 6 months, to help shape a specific part of Thomley's development. The first project will be specifically about developing our field and outdoors space. The maximum length serving on the forum will be two years, to ensure we get a good variety of people contributing.

This will be led by our Operations Manager Joe, who would love to hear from you if you would be interested in joining the forum. All experience of Thomley is relevant, but it is essential you have a strong awareness of disability. We would like to select 10 visitors initially to join the forum and attend an initial meeting towards the end of March at Thomley. This will be an opportunity to all meet, go through some of Thomley's current ideas and get the first forum meeting officially booked in the diary, for mid-2022.

**Please contact Joe if you wish to apply: [joekitchen@thomley.org.uk](mailto:joekitchen@thomley.org.uk)**

Visit our Instagram page and be sure to tag us in your Instagram stories, we love to see your Thomley photos!



**@Thomley\_**

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with the latest news, activities and visitor information:



**@thomleypublic**

# The Cafe menu changes...

One of the areas we asked visitors about in our survey last year was the café. We are pleased to be adding some new items as a consequence. We are also bringing back some items that came off the menu when we had to limit the offering after lockdown.



Some of the changes include:

- \* Mozzarella, sun-dried tomato and pesto panini
- \* Houmous, rocket and tomato sandwich
- \* Bacon and egg sandwich on the breakfast menu
- \* Jam or Chocolate spread sandwiches always available
- \* More vegetarian options added
- \* Full English Breakfast
- \* Bigger variety of crisps

If you have dietary requirements and want something different to our normal menu, please feel free to contact our Catering Coordinator to request something for the day of your visit: [catering@thomley.org.uk](mailto:catering@thomley.org.uk)

# Buy a balloon!



Join the fun and enter a balloon (or more than one) in our fundraising balloon race!

The race kicks off on Friday 28th January. Select your balloon colour and style and every day throughout the two week race you can check in and see where

your balloon is in the race! Balloons are £5 each to enter. The winner of the race will win a £100 cash prize OR a 6 month membership to Thomley (worth £180). The money raised will go towards our core running costs, supporting disabled people.

Please share with your friends, enter a balloon, and enjoy the race! Enter here: <https://www.balloonrace.com/Thomley2022>

# Fundraising - join in!

## Windsor Half Marathon

Sunday 27th February



A fantastic half marathon route around the 2012 Olympics lake. Release your inner Olympian and take on the Windsor Lakeside Half Marathon.

Great for runners of all levels, the flat course loops around Dorney Lake, the site for the 2012 Olympic rowing events.

## Car boot

Sunday 3rd April and Sunday 3rd July, 10am-2pm



Who doesn't love a car boot? Book yourself a car, van or inside stall here:

<https://thomley.org.uk/events/thomley-car-boot-sale/>

## Milton Keynes Marathon

Monday 2nd May (bank holiday)



- \* A distance for everyone
- \* Fantastic race reviews
- \* Amazing stadium finish
- \* Scenic route

Be one of the first people to run a marathon for Thomley! We would love for you to join our marathon team and make Thomley history.

## Football Tournament

Sunday 8th May - 11am-5pm



The Thomley 6 a side tournament has successfully raised thousands of pounds for Thomley across the three tournaments we've already held. Enter a team to take part in this annual event and take home the trophy as Thomley champions.

Teams are a maximum of 8 players which includes six starters and rolling subs.

£80 per team to enter. All day BBQ and bar available.

To register your interest in any of the above, please contact us: [fundraising@thomley.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@thomley.org.uk)

Visit our fundraising page for more fundraising inspiration: <https://thomley.org.uk/fundraise/>