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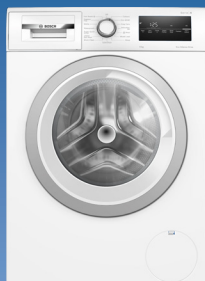
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Battling Brook Primary School surpasses fundraising target in memory of teacher

Pupils, parents and staff at Battling Brook Community Primary School in Hinckley have surpassed a fundraising target of £16,500 – raising over £25,000 – in memory of Jade Gilbert, a teacher at Battling Brook for over 10 years, who died in summer 2024.

In memory of Miss Gilbert, Battling Brook embarked on a 80-hour fundraising effort from 9th – 11th April where pupils, parents, members of the community and staff at the school racked up miles to circumnavigate the globe. Gilbert's Globetrotters, as they became known, achieved their goal and collectively cycled all 25,582 miles in under 80 hours.

The school wanted to organise something special to commemorate Miss Gilbert's life, so the school combined two of her biggest passions – aside from teaching – travelling and going to the gym. The money raised will go towards an onsite, 30-piece outdoor gym – 'Jade's Gym'.

Having surpassed the fundraising target, Battling Brook has organised for a contractor to fit the outdoor gym during the May half term.

The school partnered with Empire Gym in Hinckley, who welcomed staff and people across the area to the gym in extended opening hours to help the Gilbert's Globetrotters meet their target of over 25,000 miles.

In the evening of Thursday 10th April, pupils and parents took to Richmond Park in Hinckley for a group bike ride. Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, was asked by the school to fire the starting gun for the bike ride. Each lap of the park was 0.5 of a mile, with the riders managing to cover 849 miles on the evening helping to complete their circumnavigation of the globe.

Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, said *"It was a real pleasure to be asked by Battling Brook Primary School to start the big Gilbert's Globetrotters*



bike ride around Richmond Park in memory of Miss Gilbert, a dearly missed member of the team.

"Seeing the community come together through sport, getting fit and making a difference is really inspiring. From cycling over 25,000 miles to now having a 30-piece outdoor gym, this is a lasting legacy of fitness that will do Hinckley proud, all in memory of Jade.

"Well done to everyone involved in organising the event and to Battling Brook Primary School PTFA for running the refreshment station!"

In a message to everyone who supported their efforts, Gilbert's Globetrotters said *"As we all settle in to what an incredible achievement we have made, our thoughts turn once again to Jade. It is important to take a moment for her family and her gym community, who have been working tirelessly in the background too.*

"A huge, special thank you goes to every single person at Empire Fitness for their dedication in their mileage, staff working extended hours, donating to this amazing legacy and for Jade's family for their passion, time and support in helping us build this in memory of Jade.

"Jade will always be in our hearts, and now, a permanent reminder of Jade's gym on our school grounds will hold her in our thoughts daily."



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Prostate Testing Event a Huge Success

A prostate cancer awareness and checking event promoted by The Local Rock was a huge success when it was held in Hinckley earlier this month.

The Mary Forryan Centre, in Leicester Road, saw 167 men take a small blood test with a dedicated team of phlebotomists on Saturday, 12 April.

A spokesperson for organisers the Coventry and North Warwickshire Prostate Cancer Support Group said: *"The event was a poignant yet happy morning in memory of our chairman Brian Cooley, who sadly recently passed away.*

"His whole family were very helpful serving coffee, tea and biscuits throughout the morning.

"Also tested was the son of our founder member Brian Atkins, who also recently passed away."

Organisers said that a large majority of the men who attended had seen read about the event in The Local Rock.

They said: *"Very big thanks to The Local Rock for its amazing publicity.*



"The Local Rock's support towards awareness of prostate cancer and the annual testing events has been significant and we appreciate very much everyone's efforts.

"Thank you all most sincerely on behalf of Coventry and North Warwickshire Prostate Cancer Support Group."

Prostate support meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in Broad Street RFC, Binley woods, Coventry CV3 2AY.



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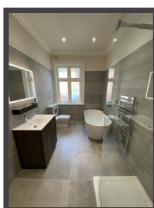
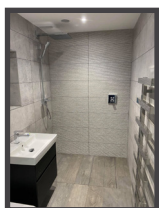
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Celebrating VE Day in Hinckley

Hinckley is all set to celebrate the beginning of the end of the Second World War and Europe's liberation from tyranny – and everyone is invited to join in!

Celebrations to mark the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe, or VE Day as it is known, were scheduled to begin in Hinckley on Monday, 5 May with Victory in the Mead in Argents Mead.

This event saw live music performance from 1pm to 3pm with Julie Sings and Rob Wilson entertaining people under the bandstand.

People were encouraged to bring a picnic along to celebrate with friends and family.

But if you missed that event there is still a wonderful opportunity to mark this historic day in Hinckley, also at Argents Mead from 10am to 11.30am.

St. Mary's Church and the Hinckley branch of the Royal British Legion with HBBC and Hinckley BID are inviting the community to attend a service and celebrations at Hinckley War Memorial to celebrate VE Day's 80th Anniversary.

There will be pre-entertainment beginning at 10:15am with a service to follow at 10:55am which is to finish at 11:30am.

Attendees are welcome to lay flowers at the



memorial for this event (but no plastic). You may also bring a fold up chair to sit and enjoy the show.

Later that day, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm at St Mary's Church, Church Walk, everyone is invited to enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with lots of entertainment on offer.

There will be Songs That Won the War sang by Sing Loud Be Proud Community Choir, the Story of The Last Evacuee in Hinckley, a 1940's Memorabilia Exhibition, a Jive Demonstrations with an option to try it yourself, 1940's Afternoon Tea and Children's Activities.

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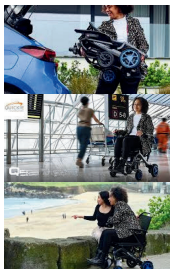
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Tuxedo Junction Offering Free Singing Lessons

A LOCAL vocal group is offering free singing lessons this summer culminating with an opportunity to perform two songs to family and friends at the end of a 5-week course.

Tuxedo Junction (Tux), a group of approximately 25 male singers get together each week in the function room at Greyhound Pub in Hinckley to sing well-known songs from films and shows.

Each Monday throughout June, there is an opportunity to join in, learn to sing, share a pint afterwards and make new friends, no matter what age or level of experience.

The group who occasionally perform in venues in Hinckley and surrounding areas also take part in an annual competition along with other Barbershop Groups across the UK.

Musical Director Tom Schofield said: *"Tux is an open space for men of all ages to come and enjoy the art of singing in harmony. We broach multiple styles and genres of music whilst applying 4-part*

harmony to bring forward some amazing sounds and interpretation to songs we all know and love."

Tuxedo Junction is growing fast, and their new members are so thrilled by what they've achieved personally. One of the members said: *"I never thought about singing in a chorus and I didn't know if I'd fit in. It's changed my life; the joy of singing is an unbelievable feeling, and it sounds amazing too. The guys are a brilliant bunch and super supportive. We laugh loads and it's nothing like what I expected and something I never knew I needed!"*

The free singing course starts on June 2nd at The Greyhound Pub, New Buildings, Hinckley, so, not matter what your background or level of experience, come and see for yourself. This is an opportunity to find your inner Freddie (Mercury), make new friends and join in the universal language of music.

The course fills up quickly so for more information and to book onto the course email sing@tuxjux.com

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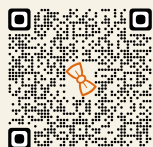
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NHS Nurse Jayne Wilson has been wild swimming for a year at Burton Hastings, Stoney Cove and Dosthill and is enthusiastic about the benefits.



Burton Hastings

matter how difficult it is dragging yourself out for a swim, you never regret coming.”

As for the mental wellbeing benefits, Jayne said: “It clears my head of any stresses or worries. There’s something about seeing nature whilst you’re actually submerged in it.

“Even if you swim at the same place you’ll always experience something new there.”

There are also social benefits. Jayne said: “It’s also a great way to meet new people. There’s something about the cold water that makes you feel alive.

“There are more venues now, and personally my favourites are Burton Hastings (complete with oystercatchers, goats and cafe) Dosthill and Stoney Cove (both are beautiful, amazing quarries, popular with divers. Dosthill is smaller but makes up for it with a bespoke changing area consisting of two shipping containers).”



Stoney Cove

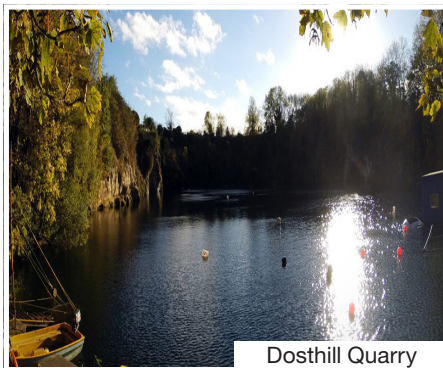
She said: “I didn’t know what to expect, so the first time it was.... Different to what I expected. Getting in literally takes your breath away.

“We all swim for different reasons, and every swim is different.”

Jayne said that all the people she swims with tend to agree on the following things:

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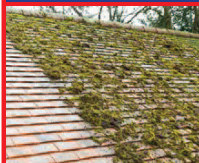


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Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in The Crescent

Visitors to The Crescent in Hinckley on Saturday, 12 April, were treated to a special theatrical spectacle.

'*Concordia In The Crescent*' presented a showcase of Concordia Youth Theatre's newest production based on the family favourite, '*Roald Dahl's Charlie And The Chocolate Factory*'!

Passing audiences were able to enjoy a taster of what is in store at The Concordia, 17th to 21st June 2025.

This delightful celebration brought the community together for a magical day of fun and entertainment.

The performance, lasting 30 minutes, enchanted attendees as talented young performers brought to life the whimsical world of Willy Wonka, complete with delightful characters and unforgettable songs.

"This event truly showcased the spirit of our community," said Hinckley BID Manager, Helen Crouch.

She added: *"We are grateful to the Concordia Theatre, all the families who joined us for the festivities, and to our local businesses for their support in making this Easter Adventure a reality."*

Tickets are now on sale at the Concordia Theatre this June. Visit <https://concordiatheatre.co.uk/>



event/charlie-and-the-chocolate-factory/

Photographs on the day in The Crescent were taken by students at North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College.

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Classic Vehicle Meets Rev Up for Summer in Hinckley



Classic car enthusiasts and the local community are invited to join us for a series of exciting Classic Vehicle Meets this summer in Hinckley. These free events will take place on Thursday evenings, providing a fantastic opportunity for car lovers to showcase their prized vehicles, connect with fellow aficionados, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of our town.

****Event Details:****

- Classic Vehicle Meets
- Thursdays 5pm to 8pm on 19 June, 17 July, and 21 August
- Market Place, Hinckley
- Free admission for all attendees

Join us as we celebrate the beauty and craftsmanship of classic cars, from vintage models to modern classics. Each meet promises an evening filled with stunning vehicles, camaraderie, and the chance to share stories and experiences with other car enthusiasts.

Whether you're a classic car owner or simply a fan, these events are the perfect opportunity to appreciate automotive history and culture.

Don't miss out on the chance to be part of this exciting summer series in Hinckley. Mark your calendars and get ready to enjoy an evening of classic automotive excellence!

For more information, please contact info@hinckleybid.co.uk

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Harmonic Voices, Burbage Community Choir

Harmonic Voices, Burbage Community Choir, is delighted to welcome back their Welsh friends, The Abertillery Orpheus Male Choir for a very special charity concert in Hinckley.

Led by Stephen Bard and accompanied by Penny Hughes, the 40 strong Abertillery choir has toured internationally, bringing powerful performances to audiences across the globe.

Harmonic Voices, singing in four-part harmony under the direction of Tim Clay, offer an eclectic mix of songs—from around the world—some familiar, some new.

While both choirs will showcase their individual repertoires, the evening will end with a shared performance celebrating the joy of music and community.

But this event is about more than just song—it's about making a real difference.

Proceeds from the concert will support two incredible local charities:

The Emma Shaw Foundation, founded in memory of Emma Shaw who bravely faced Triple Negative breast cancer, supports those affected by this aggressive illness.

The charity offers emotional support and helps create lasting memories through special outings and short breaks. Learn more at: *www.emmashawfoundation.org*

The Pierce Perspective, based in Burbage, promotes mental wellbeing through advocacy, nature-based therapies, and community engagement—encouraging open conversations and better support for mental health.

Learn more: www.thepierceperspective.com | @thepierceperspective

Join us for an evening of music, community, and friendship.



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Tickets cost £15 and include refreshments & may be purchased by using this link: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q5ES5KVN> scanning the QR code above (once per ticket please) or by contacting angelaguppy@hotmail.com

A raffle supporting local charities, The Emma Shaw Foundation & The Pierce Perspective will take place during the evening

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