FREE



THE DERBYSHIRE HANDBOOK FOR FAMILIES WITH 0-11'S

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ISSUE 29

JULY / AUGUST 2023





Offering more than just award-winning mortgage advice!

Peak can now also assist with: life insurance, pensions, investments, will-writing, estate-planning, bridging and commercial finance...









and of course, we still have complimentary beers and puppies to play with at our Milford office.

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP WITH REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.

BOOM... summer has arrived!

We have jam packed this edition with so many ideas for days out this summer from **local attractions** to visit, themed days and **festivals** to attend to **family walks** and **free activities** on offer! We've updated the **Timetable of Groups and Classes** to indicate which are still running through the summer holidays too!

We have taken note of the rise in pet owners since covid times, especially dogs, and so for the first time we have themed an issue around animals and pets with some top tips on caring for them. **Vetcare@ home** our long-standing Boom sponsors have some great recommendations for pet care in their article **'Is Prevention Better Than A Cure?'** and local company **Pet First Aid** have shared their top tips to prevent **Pet Heatstroke.**

Continuing with the animal theme we have a great **craft activit**y based on the artist **Henri Matisse** and local language teacher Jenny Moses has a fun page that will teach your kids some new **foreign language words!** Local historian **Adrian Farmer** gives us insight into some unexpected animal visitors to the area in the past.

Latest Boom News: After 7 years on this incredible journey as a Boom director, I am looking to pass the baton on to a new owner. So, watch this space and follow us on social media for an update soon! What a privilege and joy it's been sharing all this useful information with my local community. A massive thanks to all our readers and sponsors for your continued interest & support!

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Editor of Boom Magazine & local mum info@boommagazine.co.uk www.boomderbyshire.co.uk





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We are very much an **online magazine** as well as print so don't forget to share our mag with friends: **www.boomderbyshire.co.uk** Follow us: Boom Magazine Derbyshire

You can pick up a copy of Boom at many places around Amber Valley INCLUDING:

Nurseries, Pre-schools and Reception classes, in Belper, Ripley, Allestree, Ambergate, Holbrook, Kilburn, Little Eaton, Darley Abbey, Quarndon, Codnor Turnditch, Denby, Duffield, Milford & Crich. Also baby & toddler groups, gyms, soft plays and cafes & shops around Belper town.

Magazine design by:

45 Degrees Design & Print 01773 880 365 info@fortyfivedegrees.co.uk



Front cover:

With thanks to our cover stars Benjamin, Matthew & Esme the Vetcare@home kids and their gorgeous pet guinea pigs Winnie, Sarah & Chunky Russell

Special thanks to local photographer Peter Hurst from Immersive Productions.

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Boom Magazine Derbyshire is looking for a new director!

Would you like to own this small thriving business? You can support the Derbyshire community, whilst at the same time enjoy flexible hours that work around your family with lots of added perks and opportunities!

No experience or expertise needed, just a confidence to engage with local families, businesses, attractions and writers.

A fantastic opportunity to expand your skill set and earn a living in a really fun way!

Get in touch with Jo at info@boommagazine.co.uk to find out more!

Groups & Classes for 0-11's AROUND DERWENT VALLEY, AMBER VALLEY, DERBY AND BEYOND!

Derbyshire Toy Library Stay & Play Belper Community Hall:

Wed 9:30-1 Iam Kilburn Village Hall:

Thurs 9.30 - 11am (Term-time only) Glebe Field Centre, Crich Mon 9.30 - 11am (Term-time only)

Strutts Centre, Belper

Multiples Playgroup (for carers of twins/triplets) 2nd Sat of Month – 9:30-1 I am (Term-time only) Book via website-PAYG: Card/ Cash/ BACS/Paypal

Toy Hire Click & Collect or Click & Browse Service: Strutts Community Centre, Belper:

Wed 10am–12pm, Fri 9.30 - 11am, Sat 9am -11:30am (We welcome donations of Toys - Books - Soft Toys) See fb page for ideas and to book a slot for pick up. Database available: www.derbyshiretoylibraries.org/shop

Strong Mums Pre & Postnatal Exercise Class (babies 0-12 mths) (Continues through summer) Cross Fit Deviant, Mansfield Rd Derby Tues 1-2pm & Fri 1-2pm Evolution Kickboxing, Derby Tues 11am-12pm

1:1 sessions & online group workouts available too! jemma.shaw@hotmail.com

Muck Out Mornings (0-4yrs) Old Farm Bus - DE5 8JB

Tues, Fri, Sun 9:30-11:30am Messy play, soft play bus, farm animals -£5 per child/ £1 per adult Book at Eventbrite and search Muck Out Mornings or pay on arrival

Emily Doula Number 28, Market Place Belper

Baby Massage (4 wks-6 mth) Tues, 10-11.15am

Tabitha Yoga Studio Belper Mother and Baby Yoga (0-toddling)

Weds I Iam-12pm **Postnatal yoga (mothers up to I year postpartum)** Tues 7.15-8.15pm **Pregnancy Yoga (14wks-birth)** Thurs 6.30-7.30pm info@emilydoula.co.uk/ 07816653812 www.emilydoula.co.uk BOOK

Acorns Toddler Group (0-4's) Woodlands Church, Allestree

Mon - 9:30-11:15am (Term-time only) Free play, snacks, singing and a Bible story. 01332 551336/ www.woodlandschurch.org.uk

B.E.A.R.S.

Breastfeeding Support Group Belper Early Years Centre, Alder Road:

Fri 1:15-2:15pm (weekly) Heanor Children's Centre: Tues 9:30-11am (fortnightly)

Alfreton Children's Centre: Thurs 10:30-11:30am (fortnightly) Refreshments, social and breastfeeding support, meet other parents, toys and entertainment for the little ones. See FB page for breastfeeding support and details of antenatal sessions Call/text 07776 495900 or fb messenger

Twistin Tinies Adventures (0-18m - non-walkers) (Term-time only)

Belper Community Hall: Mon 12:30-1:30pm Tues 11:15am-12:15pm Community Room, Arc Leisure, Matlock

Weds 11.15am - 12.15pm St Joseph's RC Church Hall, Ripley: Fri 10:45-11:45am

Innovative Sensory Adventures to help your baby grow! Block bookings - 4 Trial Classes £20 for new customers. www.twistintots.co.uk 07977 578 359 Jacqui@twistintots.co.uk @twistintiniesadventures

Twistin Tots (0-5yrs) (Term-time only)

Belper Community Hall: Mon 9.45am - 11.20am (Music & Play) Tues 9.45am - 10.30am Community Room, Arc Leisure, Matlock VVeds 9.45 - 10.30am Darley Abbey Village Hall: Thurs 9.45am - 10.30am St Joseph's RC Church Hall, Ripley: Fri 9.30am - 10.15am Magical music and movement classes for Under 5's and their grown-ups. Weekly or Block Bookings - 4 Trial Classes £20 for new customers Jacqui@twistintots.co.uk /07977 578 359

www.twistintots.co.uk/ @twistintots

Story and Rhyme Time Belper Library

Story and Rhyme Time Weds 11-11.30am (under 5s) Rhyme Time Fri 11-11.30am (under 5s) For more info contact Belper Library on 01629 533192

Yellow Daisies Stay & Play (0-5's)

The Village Hall, Heage Mon, Wed & Fri- 9-11am Thurs 1 to 3pm Fb (Term-time only)

Pregnancy & Post Natal Pilates (babies welcome) Belper Pilates Studio, East Mill

Physio-Led Classes **Mat work:** Weds 8:15pm **Reformer:** Thurs 9:45am & Fri 10:20am BOOK - 07703 116284 https://belperpilates.co.uk

Edward Praise & Play with Mini Bears (0-5's)

St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne Thurs - 9:30-11:30am (Term-time only) Ashbournechurch@gmail.com 01335 343052

Wirksworth Stay and Play Baby & Toddler Group (0-5 yrs) The Memorial Hall, Wirksworth

Thurs 9:45-11:15am (Term-time only) 0-6m £1.50, 6m+ £3 per family A friendly, welcoming community playgroup with lots of toys, a craft activity, a messy/sensory tray and snack for the children. Hot drinks and biscuits for the adults.

Baby Sensory (0-13m) (Term-time only)

Lion Hotel, Belper: Wed, 10-11am (Birth-6m) 11:30am-12:30pm (6m-13m)

I-2pm (Birth-I3m) Ripley Leisure Centre:

Thurs, 10-11am (Birth-6m) 11:30am-12:30pm (6m-13m) 1-2pm (Birth-13m) BOOK 07989 443734 babysensory.com/centralderbyshire

Prams & First Shoes Meet-Up (0-2.5s) St Mark's Church, Openwoodgate Thurs 9:30-11:30am (Term-time only)

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Moo Music Alfreton (0-5 yrs) Genesis Centre, Alfreton: Mon & Tues

Baby Moo (0-walking) – 9:30-10am Mixed Moo (0-5) 10:20-11am Scout Hut, Swanwick:

Wed -**Mixed Moo** (0-5) 10-10:40am Fri - **Moo & Brew** (0-5) 10am -11.30, free tea and coffee, from birth to 5 years

Village Hall, Somercotes: Thurs - Mixed Moo (0-5)

10-10:40am Fun, interactive sessions with a different theme each week including dress-up, props, original Moo Music songs and lots of sensory stimulation. 07970664282 www.moomusic.co.uk /alfreton (Term-time only but look out for our summer specials)

Sensory Imagination (0-5 yrs) Unit 405, Via Gellia Mill, Bonsall

Tues - Baby Messy Play 10.30am-12pm Messy Play 1-2.30pm Wed - Sensory Story Time 10-11.30 Messy Play 12.30-2pm Saturday - Messy Play 10.30am-12pm Experience the magic of Sensory Imagination! Our inclusive environment embraces children of all abilities, whether neurodiverse or neurotypical. Join us for our delightful messy play sessions, where children can freely express themselves, fostering their growth and development. Come witness their remarkable journey first hand! Hello@sensoryimaginaion. com/07375871477

www.sensoryimagination.com

Little Starz Parent & Toddler class Splitz Dance Centre Belper Thurs I lam-12pm

Little Church (0-5's) St Peter's Church Belper Wed 10am-12pm (Term-time only)

Belper Early Years Centre Alder Road, Belper

Natural World Group (6m-5yrs) Fri 10-11:30am (Term-time only) Toys, sing-alongs & sensory room No need to book (£1 donation) Special Friends Coffee Morning

& **Playgroup** (for children with additional needs and their families) 2nd Weds of Month 9:45-11:45am. belperearlyyearsfun@gmail.com 01773 821288 Messy Church (all ages) St Swithun's Church, Belper 2nd Sat in the month 4-6pm.

St Mark's Church, Openwoodgate 4th Sat in the month 4-6pm (Term-time only)

TinyTalk (0-2 yrs)

Vanessa's Dance Studio, Belper Tues 10-11am Fri 10-11am bookwhen.com/tinytalkdc www.tinytalk.co.uk/kathgreaves

St John's Methodist Church, Allestree

Mon 10am-11am **The Church on Oakwood** Tues 10am – 11am **Mickleover Memorial Hall**

Weds 10am – 11am (Toddler class)

Weds 11.30am - 12.30pm bookwhen.com/tinytalkderbynorth www.tinytalk.co.uk/emilyreeve Communicate with your baby before they can speak! At TinyTalk we sign, bounce and giggle through each class, while you learn a handful of useful BSL signs with action songs, stories and familiar nursery rhymes. Enjoy social time and a nice hot cuppa and biscuits after every class.All class sizes are limited. See Events Calendar for Summer Specials

Little Baby Sanctuary Baby Yoga & Massage (0 – active crawling)

Sage Yoga Studio, Belper: Thurs - Yoga & Massage 10-11am & 1.30-2.30pm Fusion Yoga Well-being Centre, Ripley:

Tues - Yoga & Massage 10:30-11:30am & 1-2pm Anna Michelle's School of

Dance, Darley Abbey: Fri - Massage - 10.30-11.30am

Breadsall Priory:

Fri - Yoga & Massage – 1:30- 2:30pm 07739 551379 / Book online www.thelittlebabysanctuary.co.uk Gentle, interactive strokes and movement supporting common ailments, concerns and baby milestones with Nicky, qualified NNEB, baby massage & baby yoga instructor.

Rhyme Time Allestree Library

Free pre-school song session Tues 2.30 -3pm 01332 559761

Kilburn Baby & Toddler Drop In Kilburn Village Hall

Fortnightly on Sundays 9.30 – I 1:.30am (FREE) Welcoming all families, babies & toddlers to our play, colouring, reading & sensory areas area. Hot/cold drinks and cakes provided. FB/ 078773 56262 Kilburnbaby@gmail.com www.facebook.com/ KilburnBabyAndToddlers

Nest & Nurture Nest & Nurture Studio, Belper North Mill

Hatchlings (Term-time only) BOOK (Baby Massage & Postnatal Yoga (6wks-5m) Mon 12 - 1pm & Tues 1-2pm **Nestlings Baby Yoga** (Term-time only) (4/5m – crawling) BOOK Mon 10-11am & Thurs 1.15-2.15pm **Fledglings - Messy/sensory play and yoga** (Term-time only) (9/10 months - 2 years) Thur 10.30am-11.30am **Tree Babies** (Term-time only) (birth to around 12 months) BOOK

(birth to around 12 months) BOOK Outdoors mindfulness and babywearing group. Fri 10am-11am

Nest & Nurture Tea Club (running through summer) Weekly social and support drop-in session for expectant and new parents in Belper and surrounding area. Tues 10.30am - 12.30pm

Yoga for Pregnancy & Birth (running through summer) (from 14 wks of pregnancy onwards+) Sun 6pm-8pm

Derby and Notts Sling Library

(running through summer) 2nd Tuesday of the month tara@nestnurture.co.uk 07817 649409

Pre-school Yoga: Movement, breathing, relaxation (2-5 yrs) Sage Yoga Studio, Belper

Tues 10-1 Iam (Term-time only) More classes coming soon! BLOCK BOOKING: 4 wks laurastherapies@gmail.com

Primrose Art Club (4-13 yrs) Strutts Community Centre

Mon 4-5pm (4-9 yrs) Wed 4:30-5:30pm (7-9 yrs) Thurs 4-5pm (4-6 yrs) Thurs 5.15-6.15pm (10-13) Fri 4-5pm (10-13 yrs) BOOK | primroseartclub@gmail.com 07387 962150 | https://primroseart. club/

Online Junior Chef's Kitchen (8+) Online with Three Bears Cookery Club

Wed - 4.30 – 6pm -

Learn to cook in their own home! You will receive a recipe card ahead of time and be guided through the whole Zoom cookery session. At the end of the I.5 hours your tea will be cooked and ready to eat! Quizzes and journal cards will also be posted out to your fabulous Junior Chef. Check the Events Calendar for Summer specials. Website: https://threebearscookeryclub. com/derby-classes/

Burnett Academy Martial Arts (3+) Fitpit Belper: Sun 10.15-11:05am

Kilburn Village Hall: Tues 4pm A family run martial arts school with 14 years teaching experience. Teaching kids self discipline, self confidence & self control. enquiries. burnettacademy@hotmail.com | 07779 521141

Taekwondo Maestros & Masters Academy (4+) Little Eaton Village Hall

Tues 6:30- 8:30pm (8+) Sat 9-10am (4-7) Sat 10am-12pm (8+) **A Korean martial arts** -Taekwondo improves fitness, flexibility, balance, confidence, discipline and moral values; courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control and indomitable spirit. admin@mandm.academy / 07818 559309 www.mandm.academy

Derwent Karate (3 Yrs +) Heage Village Hall

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Weds 5:30 -6pm - younger children 6-8pm for older children and adults A family friendly martial arts club training in traditional wado ryu karate with over 20 years experience. Contact details: 07896532264 FB: derwent karate

Peak Ballet - Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Classes (2.5 – 17yrs) (Term Time only) Wirksworth Memorial Hall:

Mon **Preschool** - 9.40-10.20am **Reception** – Y3 - From 4pm – 7pm **Middleton Village Hall: Thurs Y4+** - From 5pm – 8.30pm

Friendly, fun and inclusive ballet classes peakballet@outlook.com / 07776 236007/www.peakballet.co.uk

Mini Sportz (2-7 yrs) (Term-time only) Duffield Methodist Church Fri – 9:30-10:15am (3 - 4 yrs)t

St Alkmunds, Duffield Thurs – 4-4:45pm (R & y1)

Teaching young children a variety of sport based activities & creating a love for physical activity. 07935600027/ www.minisportz.co.uk minisportzuk@gmail.com

Deda Academy Classes (18 mnths to 19 yrs (25 for disabled young people) Deda - Chapel St, Derby

(Term-Time only) 9am – 4pm (Or until shows or classes have finished) Academy classes run term time on Wednesdays and Saturdays: Play Dance Move; Movers and Shakers; Ballet; Contemporary; Street Jazz; Street Dance; Young Company classes; Aerial www.deda.co.uk/01332 370911

Splitz Dance Centre (All ages welcome) 8a King St, Belper

Mon-Thurs & Sat (see current timetable for timings) Class genres: ballet, tap, modern, acrobatics, contemporary, commercial, street, musical theatre, adult jazz & tap and pre school classes. PLUS NEW DRAMA class for all ages Thurs 6:30pm www.splitzdancecentre.com /07403010116

Vanessa's School of Dance (3-18 yrs) (Term-Time only) Vanessa's School of Dance, Belper

Mon-Fri 4pm onwards Sat 8.45am-6.30pm **Dance genres:** Ballet, tap, modern, contemporary, musical theatre, singing, acrobatics, street dance Adult classes offered in tap, ballet & fitness www.vsdance.co.uk BOOK 01773 823309/ 07581228557

AVP Theatre & Arts Academy (2 – 16 yrs) (Term-time only) St Johns Church Hall, Mickleover

Tues 6:15 -7:15pm Juniors, 7:15 – 8:15pm Seniors Fri 4:30 – 5:15pm Minis, 5:15pm – 6:15pm Juniors Join our drama classes, meet and make new friends. Working with a professional actor and theatre-maker, children will create performances, learn new skills, and build confidence, all whilst having fun! There's opportunities to perform in two shows a year, as well as having the chance to create films, develop scripts, and help to make props. We also offer LAMDA training and exams for those interested in developing their performance skills further. avptheatre@gmail.com/ 07462 549429. avp-theatre-arts-academy.class4kids.co.uk/ www.avptheatre.com

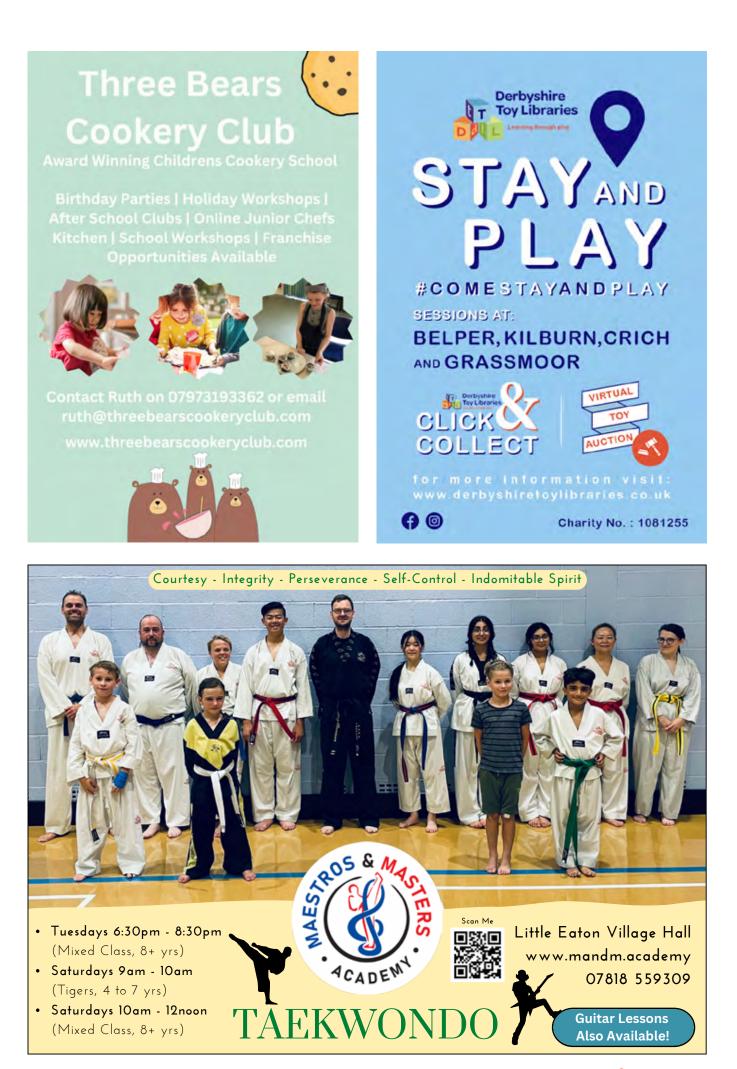
DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HEALTH SERVICE

Tel: 01246 515100

All this information can be accessed online at: www.boomderbyshire.co.uk







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alookofbeautyA look of beauty at the woodland



IS PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE?

by Louise Reeder, Registered Veterinary Nurse, Vetcare@home

Sharing your life with a pet can bring so much joy but what can we do to keep them happy and healthy? There are many ways we can do this, here are some of our top preventative care tips.

Feeding a good quality diet, suitable for the species and life stage of your pet is one of the most important things we can do. Kittens and puppies, for example, require a different diet to a very active or senior pet. Feeding a complete, balanced diet will ensure the correct balance of nutrients is present.

Rabbits, guinea pigs, rodents and exotic pets all require very specific diets so it is important to research this and be prepared before taking one on.

UK Pet Food are an organisation striving to improve standards in animal nutrition. Their members are food manufacturers who have chosen to sign up to the UK Pet Food Charter and Codes of Practice annually, which detail the legal requirements and safety & quality standards they must meet.

For more information see www.ukpetfood.org

Obesity is a growing problem in companion animals, A large proportion of animals presented to a vet are overweight. A study by UK pet food indicated that 51% of dogs, 44% of cats and 29% of small mammals are overweight or obese.

Being overweight can contribute to a multitude of medical issues, in all ages of pets. Increased pressure on the joints can cause arthritis and can predispose dogs to other issues such as cruciate



ligament rupture or tears. Overweight cats may be more prone to developing diabetes and heart conditions can be made worse.

Obesity can be easily reversed with diet and exercise, ask your veterinary practice for advice.

Dental disease is a common problem and can be very costly to treat. Like we brush our own teeth every

day, we should be looking after our pet's teeth too.

Rabbits, guinea pigs and rodents have teeth that continually grow so need the correct diet and access to chewing to ensure they do not become overgrown. Overgrown teeth can prevent them from eating, drinking and grooming themselves.

Cats and dogs will start to build up hard tartar on their teeth which leads to gum recession, gingivitis and loss of teeth. This process can be very painful and lead to infections.

Diet and chews can help to prevent some of the build-up of tartar but the very best way to prevent dental disease is daily brushing. Using a pet specific toothpaste and a small brush, finger brush or microfibre cloth, building it into your daily routine will give you the best possible chance of success.

The only way to remove the hard tartar and treat the dental disease is cleaning the teeth under a general anaesthetic at your pet's veterinary practice.

Brachycephalic, or short nosed breeds such as pugs and bulldogs, may be more at risk of dental disease due to overcrowding of the teeth.

It isn't just our long-haired pets that need regular grooming. Grooming is a good opportunity to look at your pet's skin, eyes, ears and nails, and feet. Looking for signs of skin irritation or waxy ears, for example, may help to stop any problems escalating. Dogs more at risk of ear infections (spaniels, dogs that swim or have allergies) can have their ears cleaned on a regular basis.

Vaccinations are very important to protect our pets from infectious diseases, some of which can be fatal. Your pet will usually require a course of vaccinations when they are young and you will then be advised when they need a booster, which is usually yearly.

Vaccinations are very safe but if you are concerned about overvaccination then ask your vet if they follow the WSAVA guidelines for vaccination. These guidelines advise which vaccines need to be given yearly and which can be done less frequently.

Dogs for example should be vaccinated against leptospirosis yearly, but the components that cover

against distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus have been proven to provide immunity for longer so can be given every third year.

Like vaccinations, preventative parasite control is also important to protect our pets against parasites and the illnesses they can cause. We commonly protect against fleas, ticks, mites and lice, roundworm, tapeworm and lungworm.

Following a risk assessment, your vet can help you decide what protocol is best for you and your pet. Where you live, walk, travel, what you feed etc, can all help make a decision on the best products to use and the frequency needed.

Lastly- home and enrichment. Providing a safe and stimulating home will help to ensure your pet is happy and stress free.

Whilst dogs will enjoy walks of varying lengths and terrain, they also need opportunities for stimulation at home. Chews, feeding puzzles, snuffle mats and at home training will all help them to engage their brain and keep them occupied.

Most cats thrive if allowed access to the outside, where as for some cats this isn't possible. Providing enrichment such as high scratch posts, company and

We hope you find this advice useful for your lovely pets. We at vetcare@home are happy to offer any further advice or information you need. We are currently in the Belper Derbyshire area, High peak area, Milton Keynes area and Buxton.

We do consultations in the comfort of your own home and have a veterinary ambulance if your pet requires surgery. This includes neutering, dentals or surgery that may be required. Our ambulance is driven to your home address and surgery carried out on your drive. Please give us a call or

drop us an email if you require further information. You can also follow us on Facebook and see what adventures we get up to visiting your lovely animals.



John the vet and team.

01773302220 | info@vetcarehome.co.uk www.vetcarehome.co.uk

opportunities for play will help to reduce stress. In multi-cat households, it is especially important to ensure that there is no competition for resources such as food, water and litter trays.

Rabbits and guinea pigs can live indoors or outdoors but need

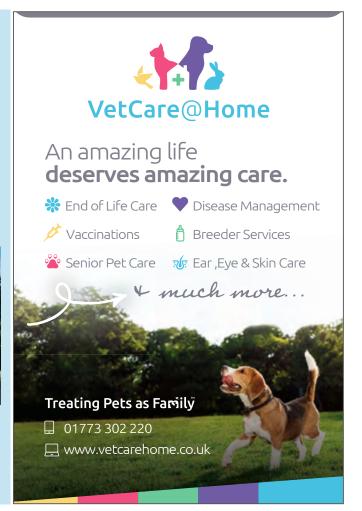


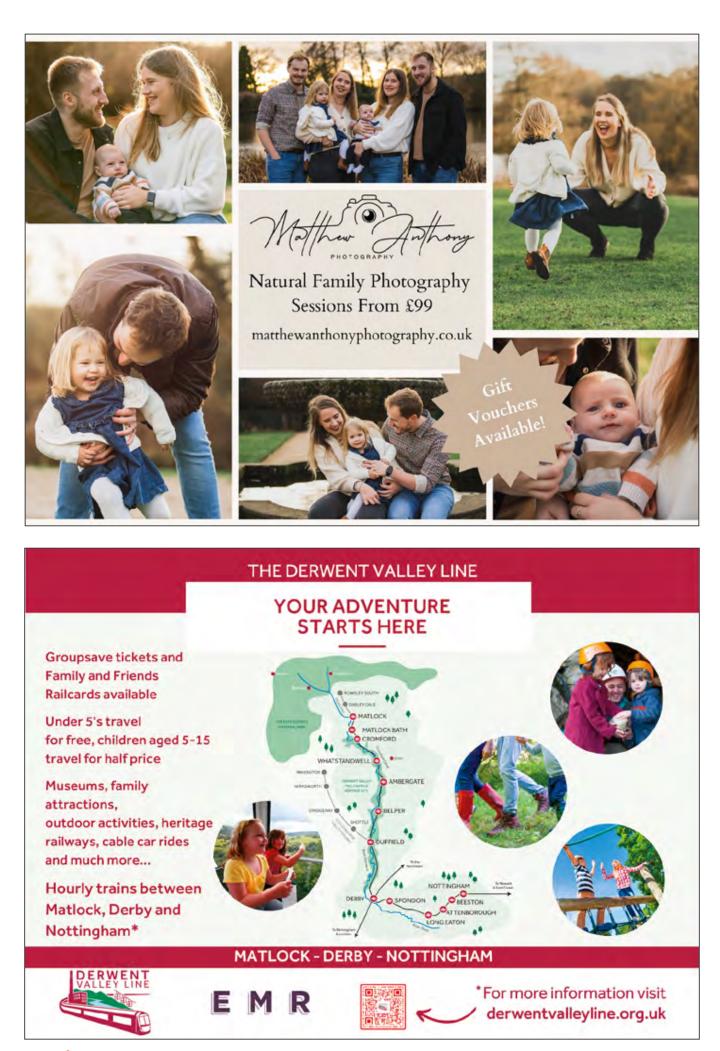
a lot more space than expected and should not be kept alone.

Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund run a campaign called 'A hutch is not enough', aimed to improve welfare of rabbits and guinea pigs, often kept in small hutches.

https://rabbitwelfare.co.uk/a-hutch-is-not-enough/

Whatever pet you decide to share your life with, big, small, fluffy or scaly, we can do so much to keep them happy and healthy. Your veterinary practice will be more than happy to help you implement the right care for your pet.





To advertise please email us on: info@boommagazine.co.uk

LET'S LEARN LANGUAGES



by J Moses, from Languages for All.

Children love learning new languages and really enjoy it too! Why not have a go at learning the names of these animals with your child today! **BREA**ISH Erench Chat GERMAN SPANISH gato [gahtoe] Katze [catzer] chat [sha] Hung Beffe epien perro [perro] Hund [huhnt] chien [shen] 11 kaninepen eonejo apin A conejo [conecho] Kaninchen [caneenshen] lapin [lap-an] j as in 'ch' in Scottish loch ch as in 'ch' in Scottish loch SED VOISING TOECHITT leeh Fisch [fish] pez [peth] poisson [pwa-son] Bland all a caballo [cabayo] cheval [sheval] Pferd [p-faird] serpiente Schlange [shlanger] serpent [sairpon] [sair-pee-en-tay] tortuga Schildkröte [shildcruhter] tortue [tor-too] [tor -too- gah] Frugerauter perruche [peh-ruche] loro [lohro] Papagei [papa-guy]

If you or your child is interested in learning another language, then I would love to hear from you! My name is Jennifer Moses and I run Languages for All, a small, local company of dedicated and experienced language teachers. We offer French, German, Russian and Spanish lessons to people of all abilities. I will be setting up some Spanish classes for children aged 7 and above in the Autumn, so if you are interested then please get in touch!



Please mention Boom when responding to adverts!

DOOM 13

MAPPERLEY RESERVOIR

This is a fantastic loop around a nature reserve, along the Nutbrook trail at the edge of Shipley Park with a café stop midway. There are lots of interesting extra off-shoots to explore. It can get muddy in parts but still manageable with an-off road set of wheels. Allow 2 -4 hours to explore and stop for refreshments.

Start point: Mapperley Reservoir, Shipley Country Park, Shipley Lane, Heanor, DE7 6BR

- I. Park at Mapperley Reservoir car park (£4.50 for 4 hrs). Walk back to the entrance of the car park (the way you drove in and towards the bridge over the reservoir). Ignore the tarmac road up the hill behind the Shipley Park sign and instead go down the wide bridle path that runs parallel to the bridge.
- 2. Carry on until the path bears right and crosses two bridges. Shortly after you will see a metal gate on your right, this is an extra horseshoe loop that

you can do bringing you back out on the same path and a nice extra rambly area great for den building and a snack stop.

3. Continue on until you join the farmers track, turn left passing through fields either side. Follow the track around to the left, pass the farm and fields and over a stream.

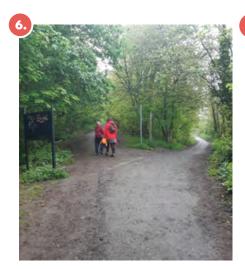
***Look out for the Education Wildlife Garden on your right alongside the large shelter; this is a lovely place to explore and has a pond sometimes with newts.

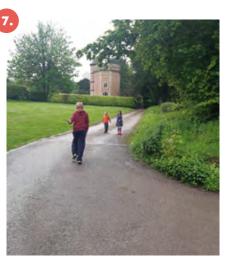
- 4. Carry on along the track; as it bends around to the right you will pass Abraham Home and then you'll reach the Nutbrook Coffee shop on your left. It is open on Fridays 9:30am-2:30pm and at weekends 9am-4pm. It serves as a great alfresco pit stop serving light lunches and cakes dogs welcome.
- Bearing left after the coffee shop, continuing along the trail, you will reach a bend where you fork off to the left signposted to Heanor & Shipley Park.





14









Cross the bridge bypassing the lake on your right and look out for the new housing estate on the remains of what was once the American Adventure Theme Park.

- 6. Carry on up the hill and bear left where the path splits. Continuing up you will arrive at a red bin and signposts, carry on forwards to follow the sign to Derby Lodge Tea Rooms passing a beautiful old house.
- 7. Continue along until the wall on your left ends and then turn left on to the driveway where it has a sign for blue badge holders (if you want to visit the tea rooms continue on another couple 100 yards instead). Follow the drive up and around and then you will arrive at the foundations of the old Shipley Manor House to your left. You may wish to explore this, but at this point you turn right to walk around the old water tower, now a residency.
- 8. Carry on the path and bear right or cut through the trees to the driveway leading back down to the car park.

Place of Interest

Road

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15

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EVENTS JULY & AUGUST 2023



Events happening locally for all ages!

Derby LIVE Oakfest

Sun 2 Jul @ Oakwood Park Oakfest is a fun filled family day out – Free entry

Orienteering at Allestree Park Sat 8 July

Have fun exploring the park with a special map and a timing chip or 'dibber'

Much Ado About Nothing Thu 13 - Sat 15 Jul Markeaton Park Craft Village -

Oddsocks productions brings to life Shakespeare's hilarious Much Ado About Nothing

Alvaston Park Community Fun Day Sun 23 Jul - Free Superhero Picnic Wed 26 - Thu 27 July. Chaddesden Park & Darley Park. All you need to do to take part in the fun is dress up like a superhero and bring a picnic! Free entry Markeaton Park Food &

Drink Fair

Sat 12 - Sun 13 Aug Locally sourced food & drink producers, to take home or eat at the fair

Festival of Music & Flowers

Sun 13 Aug @ Markeaton Park Relax and enjoy the colourful flower displays in the Walled Garden, whilst listening to a wide range of music from local performers.

The Darley Park Weekender

Fri 25 Aug - Ultimate 90s Sat 26 Aug - 80s Mix Tape 2023 Sun 27 Aug – Darley Park Concert: an evening of classical music and fireworks

Ambergate Carnival

Sat 8 July Parade procession at 12:15pm from Ambergate Recreation Ground to Hurt Arms. Red barrows, pig racing, welly wanging, inflatables, live music, stalls, rides, food & drink, games. Entry £2, kids free. After Party Ceildh in evening - tickets on Eventbrite.

Cathedral Quarter Derby Celebrate Sadler Gate

Sat I July, I I am- late (FREE) The business community will be out in force to bring a vibrant day and night of activities and entertainment You can expect DJ's, music, shopping, food & drink

A Jurassic Day Out

Sat 22 July, I Iam-4pm Step back in time and meet Zeus the giant T-Rex, Emily Bronty & friends! **Cathedral Quarter Carnival** Sat 19 Aug, I Iam-4pm Fantastic street theatre entertainment for all on Derby

Market Place. Free to attend www.derbycathedralquarter.co.uk

Quad Derby

Create My World: Nature 22 July – 3 Sept

A FREE exhibition, journey into the natural world, exploring and celebrating nature and creativity. Make your own creation see it come alive in QUAD Gallery. A family friendly exhibition on the theme of nature. Participants of all ages are encouraged to come and create their own beetles, bugs, butterflies and more, then see them come to life in the ecosystem of QUAD's main Gallery.

Quad Cinema

Cine Kids & Cine Babies: Cine Kids are family-focused film screenings every weekend and during the school holidays.All tickets are £5.00 per person for Cine Kids Club members. Membership is FREE and available to families with one or more children under 16. Upcoming family-friendly screenings this summer holidays include; Elemental, Barbie, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Derbyquad.co.uk



St Peter's Quarter Derby The emccan Derby Caribbean Carnival

Caribbean Carnival Sun 16 July A colourful procession passing through St Peters Quarter on the way to Osmaston Park!! Bluey Meet & Greet St Peters Church, Derby Sat 5 Aug at intervals between I Iam-3:30pm A FREE event – don't forget to bring your camera! Book: www. stpetersquarter.co.uk/events/

Seaside Without The Sea!

Heights of Abraham 22 – 30 July, 10am - 5pm each day Grab a giant deck chair, a bucket and spade, a delicious ice cream and enjoy the 'seaside' in the middle of the country, on top of Masson Hill at the Heights of Abraham! There will be sand to play in, a classic Punch and Judy show, a summer I-Spy trail for the children and much more!

The Eyes Have It Music Festival

Eyes Meadow, Duffield 6pm Fri 7 July – 9pm Sun 9 July. (Camping arrival from 10am Fri 7) A 3 day family friendly music festival. 23 acts throughout the weekend with free circus and art workshops for children. All event information including full line-up and tickets at: www.tehi.co.uk

Family Board Games Night

Distinct Gaming, Belper Last Saturday of each Month, 5-11 pm A library of games for all ages to enjoy (or bring your own) plus a quiz from 8pm with prizes for winners. Bring the whole family and learn some new games with staff on hand to help with the rules. Family ticket - £20 (2 adults, 2 children) Adult - £10 Child - £5 Get ticktes at: www.distinct-gaming.com

To advertise please email us on: info@boommagazine.co.uk

Denby Pottery Village

Pottery Village Summer Fete Sun 23 July

Fun and traditional games, meet the animals, face painting, food and drink (Free entry).

Toddler Tuesdays

Every Tues in term time, 10 – 11am A creative group craft session for toddler or pre-schooler plus a free hot drink

Pottery Painting

Open every day, 10am - 4pm Get creative in our Craft Studio with a choice of fun pottery painting and clay craft activities for everyone

The Denby Museum

Open every day - £10 per adult / £8.00 per child / £8.80 concession/ ('Museum Mondays' entry fee if 50% off)

The Denby Pottery Tour Tues, Weds & Thurs £15 per adult / £13.00 per Child

over 6 / £13.30 concessions Children's Parties

Celebrate your child's special day with a Crafty & Arty Denby Pottery Party! Weekends between 11.50am-2pm and 1.50pm-4pm denbypottery.digitickets.co.uk/tickets

Three Bears Cookery Club

Junior Chef Workshops (8+): Making Pizza & Rocky Road Wed 2 Aug, 10am - 1pm St Matthews Church, Darley Abbey **Making Cheese Twists & Fruit Kebabs** Mon 7 Aug, 10am - 1pm Melbourne Assembly Rooms **Budding Bakers Workshops (2+): Making Funfetti Iced Biscuits** Fri 4 Aug SI: 10am - 12noon S2: 1.30 - 3.30pm St Matthews Church, Darley Abbey **Making Chocolate Butterfly** Cakes Fri I Sept SI: 10am - 12noon S2: 1.30 - 3.30pm St Matthews Church, Darley Abbey http://www.threebearscookeryclub.

***** 🔨

ruth@threebearscookeryclub.com

com/ 07973 193362

Belper Town Events

Larks in the Park @ Belper River Gardens

2 – 4 pm, Sun: 2, 9, 23,30 July & 6, I 3, 20 & 27 Aug

Belper Farmers Market @ Market Place

Sat 8 July& Sat 12 Aug, 8.30am – I pm

Vegan Market @ Market Place Sun 9 July, 10am – 3pm

Summer Food Festival @ Memorial Gardens Sun 16 July, 9.30am to 4pm with entertainment

Sunny Sunday Market & Youth Market @ Market Sun 13 Aug, 10am – 3pm Belper Repair Café @No.28 on the Market Place Sat 23rd July, 10am-1pm Pride in Belper Fest 2023

Belper Market Place /Memorial

Gardens Sat 5 Aug- Parade starts at 12pm, live music, stalls and activities

Fleet Arts

Lark in the Park @ Belper River Gardens, Sun 6 Aug, 2-4pm Art, music & face painting Family Lego No.28 Market Place, Belper Sat 29 July, 10am-12pm (adults to stay/join in) Book: www.fleet-arts.org

Ritz Cinema, Belper

Enjoy a summer of films including: Trolls, Elemental, Indiana Jones, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem, Teenage Kraken, Blue Beetle, Mission Impossible www.ritz-belper.co.uk

Sunshine Forest School Holiday Club

High Woods Belper. 25, 26, 27 July, 10am-3pm. https://bookwhen.com/ sunshineforestschool

Woodland Connections Forest School

Upcoming themed children's days in July and August. See Facebook or Eventbrite page for details coming soonFb:Woodlands connections https://woodlandconnections. eventbrite.com

https://woodlandconnections.com

Belper Library

Upcoming story times, craft and family events in July & Aug, please check for further details: FB: DerbyshireLibraries/Twitter: @ DerbyshireLibs/Tel: 01629 533192 https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/ leisure/libraries/find-your-locallibrary

Allestree Library Rhyme Time

Free pre-school song session Tues 2.30 -3pm 01332 559761

Ripley Music Festival @ Crossley Park

Sat 15 July 1pm Party In The Park returns this summer with a fantastic line-up of live music

Matlock Farm Park

Exotic Animal Funday with Jungle Jo

Sun 2 July — get up close with a variety of reptiles and creepy critters, expertly guided by the fabulous Jungle Jo!

The **BIG Bubbleman**

Sat 8 July & Sun 6 Aug & Mon 29 Aug— BIG bubbles, car-sized bubbles and clouds of tiny bubbles, it's bubbles galore for the kids to enjoy!

Jurassic Funday

Sun 23 July & Sat 26 Aug— Meet mini dinosaurs at five shows during the day, plus Rita the giant T-Rex as she wanders around the park! (Sat 26 Aig includes Vintage Vehicle display and procession!

Superhero Funday

Sun 13 – Meet the Bat, the Neighbourhood Spider and Girl of Steel at five shows through the day, with opportunity for meet and greets!

The Peak District Highland Games 2023!

Sun 27 –Come and see the country's leading strongmen and strongwomen compete in this amazing regional event, as they take part in events such as the Eight Tonne Tractor Pull, Tossing of the Caber and more... PRE-BOOKING ONLY via MFP website: matlockfarmpark.co.uk



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Crich Tramway Village Woolly Week

Mon 24 – Fri 28 July Join in this creative, fun activity to help yarn bomb the site. Learn French knitting.

No experience necessary.

Dinosaur Day Sat 29 July

Meet a T-Rex, a triceratops, a velociraptor, and some dinosaur babies. Join the dinosaur trail through the woods.

Children's Outdoor Theatre

Mon 31 July - Fri 4 Aug Follow Alice on her adventures through our woodland Wonderland, meeting some of the story's most iconic characters.

Build It

Mon 7 - Tues 8 Aug Come and help build an amazing LEGO® mosaic under the guidance of Fairy Bricks. Brick Pits in the Exhibition Hall for the children.

Discovery Week

Mon 14 - Fri 18 Aug Experiments and discovery with Science Boffins. History, science, and craft activities – a fun learning week for all.

Woodland Week

Mon 21- Fri 25 Aug

Taking you back to nature with willow weaving, storytelling and woodland crafts and trails.

Teddy Bears Picnic

Sun 27 - Mon 28 Aug Follow the teddy bear trail. Enjoy a picnic show with Amy Zing. Music for everyone on the bandstand & make bears ears. The first 300 children to bring their bears will receive a badge. See website for daily activities:

www.tramway.co.uk

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Virtual Toy Sales

Thurs 13 July & Thurs 10 Aug Buy preloved toys at a bargain and raise vital funds. Go to Derbyshire Toy Libraries Selling and Fundraising FB Group and message them if you have toys & books to donate. www. derbyshiretoylibraries.org



Cromford Mills Vikings of Middle England

Sat 5 - Sun Aug 6, 10am - 4pm Vikings takeover the mill! Experience what life was like over 1,000

years ago with Viking camps, demonstrations, weapons display, battle skirmishes and family activities.

The Chesterfield Railway Modellers

8th – 25th Aug The exhibition is raising funds for the Special Care Baby Unit at Sheffield and Chesterfield Hospitals.The exhibition will be in Cromford Wharf (Gothic Warehouse)

Cromford Mills Comic Con Sun 13 Aug, 10am - 4pm

The Ist Comic Con is sure to be an epic celebration of all things Sci fi & Fantasy. Don't miss an intergalactic display of models, props, puppets and costumes from classic sci fi and beyond.

Cromford Mills Adventure Weekend

Sun 26- Mon 28 Aug, I 0am-5pm Free activities for children of all ages including Kayaking and climbing https://www.cromfordmills.org.uk

Wirksworth Heritage Centre

Look out for **Woolly the** Wirksworth Heritage Centre Mascot as he travels around Derbyshire this summer! Children's Taster Animation Workshops:

Storyboarding for beginners & Stop Motion for beginners Thurs 3 Aug, 1:30-3pm (aimed at 10-14 yrs)

Introduction to Early Animation Techniques

Thurs 27 July, 2-3:30pm Learn about early animation techniques and the early animation devices that produce the illusion of motion.

Croots Farm

Derbyshire Shire Horse Society Shire Horse show

Sun 7 Aug, 1 Iam until 4pm Horse Classes, Shire Horse Ridden and Turnout Demonstrations, Trade Stands, BBQ Adults £4 Children £1 https:// croots.co.uk

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Carsington Water Visitor Centre **Nature Tots** 0-5yrs 10am-12pm Mondays in July & August: 3,17,31 July & 1, 14, 28 Aug www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/ education-activities/nature-tots

Wildflower Family Event

(Free family drop-in event) | Aug, I0am – 3pm

www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org. uk/things-to-do

The Grand Pavilion, Matlock

Cinema Club – Singalong Saturday Sat 15 July Encanto – 3pm The Greatest Showman – 7pm Tickets: £5 kids/ £7.50 adults

Matlock Bath Pirate Mutiny

Sat 5- Sun 6 Aug Expect lots of pirate mayhem and fun family activities!

Character Door Knocks

Invite your favourite character from 'Alicia's Magical Moments' to knock at your door for a birthday surprise! Prices start from £30 and party packages availableoo! Get in touch with Alicia at: magicalmoments22@ outlook.com/ 07523971717

TinyTalk Baby Signing Summer Specials

(Suitable for babies up to 2 years) Tues 22 Aug, 10-1 Iam: Belper Thurs 24 Aug, 10-11 am: Matlock Enjoy a summer-themed lesson. Sign, bounce and giggle along with action songs, stories and familiar nursery rhymes all centred on a fun family trip to the seaside. This class is perfect whether you're a TinyTalk regular or brand new to class and trying it on for size! Play instruments to develop co-ordination and motor skills; Develop sharing, turn-taking and other social skills; Enjoy social time and the grown-ups can have a nice hot cuppa and biscuit, all in a friendly, welcoming and inclusive environment. All class sizes are limited. £7 per family ticket(bookwhen.com/tinytalkdc www.tinytalk.co.uk/kathgreaves)

Half Term Drama Workshop with Learning Through

Drama Mon 24 July, 10am-3pm-Sawmills Village hall. A Musical Theatre Special for 5-12yrs No experience needed just lots of enthusiasm, a love of musicals and an active imagination! For enrolment and more details Email – helen@learningthroughdrama.co.uk /What's App – 07981214160

The Old Goat's Grumble a family-friendly weekend festival

Salterwood Meadows, Street Lane, Denby Fri 25 & Sat 26 Aug Tickets are available via website: https://oldgoatsgrumble.com

Charity Event: 100 World Legends

Sat 29 July, I Iam - 6pm Derby Rugby club, Haslam's Lane, Derby Running for it's 4th consecutive year this Family Fun Day event is open to the public with everything from children's giant board games, old fashioned seaside stands including coconut shire, tin can alley, food stalls, deckchairs, inflatable assault course, and lots more. There will be an emphasis on fitness, sport and how this impacts upon health. There will be a wellness expert, children's training boot camp, dancers and an aerobics instructor.

Children will be encouraged to join in with the activities and there will also be an opportunity to take part in a group exercise with the ex-national and international Rugby legends themselves, and get their autographs on 100WLT- shirts, Rugby conversions with the legends will also be something the kids can try. The purpose of this charity is to tackle poverty, exploitation and human trafficking, by applying rugby's values of teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship

(£5.00 gate ticket per family with 2 x children or per person visiting) https://100worldlegends.com

COMING UP this Autumn: Derby Festé 2023

5pm Fri 22- 9pm Sat 23 Sept Spectacular outdoor circus and dance, dazzling acrobatics, and the return of its iconic procession, across Derby City locations. Festé is packed full of immersive, innovative, and ground-breaking work showcased across the city of Derby for a whole range of audiences of all ages. Brought together by Déda, with support from Derby's key cultural partners, Festé 23 returns with acts that dance vertically down the Silk Mill tower; 20ft high figures; giant wheels and whales; stunning visual projections; fire breakdancing, and the return of community procession, only bigger and with some surprises along the way for visitors. See the full line up of activities at: https://www.derbyfeste. com







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Derby's Cultural Hub



V T E S

Family-friendly cinema screenings during the six-weeks holiday, including *Elemental*, *Barbie* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem*!

Cine Kids tickets £5 per family member



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HEATSTROKE -KEEPING ANIMALS SAFE



Dani Hickman of Dog First Aid Training

As we move into the summer months, our dogs can be at risk of heatstroke. In this article Dani Hickman of Dog First Aid Training shares her top tips for avoiding heat stroke, recognising the signs and the different risk factors.

"Our dogs are at more risk of heat stress and heatstroke than us humans. Dogs don't sweat from the areas covered in fur – only from paw pads and their noses. This means that they are less well equipped to cool themselves down. Panting helps but sometimes it simply isn't enough.

There is no "safe temperature" for every dog as their ability to deal with heat depends on several risk factors. The types of dogs at higher risk are:

- Puppies and senior dogs
- Dark coloured dogs
- Overweight dogs
- Flat faced (Brachycephalic) breeds such as Pugs, French Bulldogs, Boxers, English Bulldogs and Boxers.

Any combination of these risk factors puts a dog a greater risk.

SIGNS OF HEATSTROKE

One of the very early signs is that the dog's gums will become dark red in colour and be sticky to the touch. It is at this point that we should be getting our dog into shade, providing them with a drink and actively cooling them. If the dog continues to heat up and dehydrate the symptoms may progress to:

- Excessive panting
- Uncoordinated walking
- Vomiting
- Seizures
- Collapse
- Bloody diarrhoea



COOLING YOUR DOG

Depending on where you are and what you have available to you, you can:

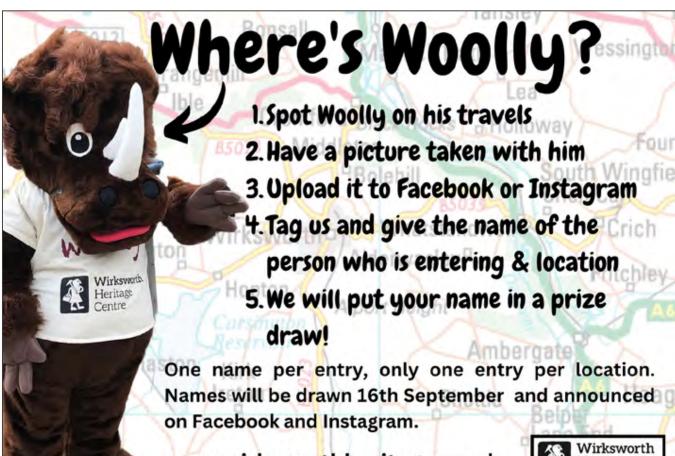
- Get your dog into a shaded area if you are outdoors or bring them into the house
- Lie them on a tiled floor or grass if away from home
- Wet them with tepid water and direct a fan onto them or fan them with your hands or a magazine
- Push the fur back on their neck and pour tepid water directly onto their skin in this area
- Turn on the air con in the car, or open the windows to transport them
- Lie them on a wet towel do not cover them with a wet towel as this will create a barrier to heat leaving the body
- Give them access to drinking water
- Get them to the vet asap

AVOIDING HEATSTROKE

- Walk your dog when it is cool go by temperature and remember it can still be very warm at 8-9pm
- Skip the walk! There are lots of ways to mentally stimulate your dog indoors. Try trick training or look up ideas for canine enrichment.
- Ensure you keep their cooling coat wet. As soon as it dries out, it is ineffective. Take the coat off the dog to allow heat to leave the body, re-wet the coat and pop it back on. NEVER leave your dog unattended in a cooling coat.
- Cooling mats are great but don't leave your dog unattended with a cooling mat.
- NEVER leave your dog in the car."

Dani delivers CPD accredited Dog First Aid Courses for dog owners across the Derbyshire area. You can find one near you at dog-first-aid.com/finder.





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Offer for July/Aug:

Why not treat yourself to a bit of pampering over the Summer holidays?

Book a 1 hour luxury Temple Spa facial and a 60 minute back and shoulder or full body massage for just £50 and save yourself £20!!

Bookings must be made before end of August



ANIMAL ENTERTAINMENT OF THE PAST



by Adrian Farmer, Chair, Belper Historical Society

With summer events happening throughout July & August let's look further back to see what has entertained us in the past. There are certainly some curious events that have long since disappeared off the local calendars (and perhaps it's just as well).

Donkey races were a popular attraction in Derbyshire towns during the 19th century. There were races at Wirksworth, Bakewell, Ripley and Matlock. Traditionally, the Belper one started on Market Street Lane (now called Green Lane). There was a barrel of beer to win if you were first, and on one occasion, after a donkey refused to budge, its rider took a substantial shortcut to avoid some of the route. But the fastest rider, returning up Long Row and arriving back at the start line, knew very well that no-one had passed him, so when he heard he was second, he picked a fight with the other rider. It was a messy end to the race, and it was decided not to have any more in the town, despite their popularity.



Another curious event involving animals was the clowns vs elephants football match held in the field next to the Lion Hotel Belper in March 1899, and repeated in 1900. Sadly, there's no known photographs of the match, organised by circus owners Lord John Sanger and Sons, but there is an illustration from an advert in the Belper News, the week before. A highlight was a penalty shoot-out between the elephants' best player and the best player from Belper Town Football Club. Perhaps it's no surprise that by filling the goal so completely as keeper, it was the elephant that scored more goals.

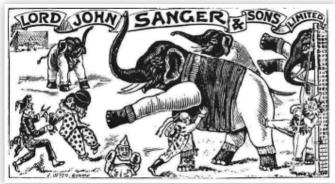
Lord John Sanger's circus were making regular trips to this area at that time. On each occasion,

the elephants and other animals were paraded around the streets, in scenes you would never see today. On one occasion, after the parade left Belper Market Place, and with the procession stretching out, a few Belper boys saw their



chance and knocked the

elephant's rider off his perch. They tried to grab the elephant and get it to leave the procession, but the elephant held firm, and helped its rider up from where he had fallen. Unable to move it, the boys gave up and ran off, and the elephant and handler re-joined the parade. That's the only known attempted elephant-napping the area has ever seen. Or is ever likely to.



You can find out more about local history on the Belper Historical Society website – www.belperhistoricalsociety.co.uk



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ANIMALS IN CHILDREN'S STORIES

Written by Sarah Nicholls



Animals abound in children's books and stories. From Aesop's Fables and traditional fairytales, to Beatrix Potter, Winnie-the-Pooh and The Gruffalo, storytellers and authors have used animals to educate and entertain children for a long time. But it's not just that animals appear in these stories, they often feature as central characters who talk and behave like we do! This is anthropomorphism which simply means assigning human characteristics to animals or objects. These stories are often the first we hear and read as children, therefore, we're familiar with talking animals from an early age.

So why use animals in children's books? Most children find animals appealing but there are historical and psychological reasons why they are an important part of storytelling too.

Aesop's Fables

Written thousands of years ago, Aesop's fables are short stories with a moral message or life lesson and provide an opportunity for self-reflection.

It is thought Aesop used animal characters rather than human characters to make it clear the story was fictitious and the listener could learn in an entertained, engaged and non-threatening way. Using animals was also a way of making coded points about human behaviour without being directly critical about people and society!

Aesop's reasons for using animals are some of the same reasons they are used in children's stories today.

Emotional Distance & Difficult Themes

Animals enable us to experience and process themes and emotions viewed through non-human eyes and safe in the knowledge these are stories. They make it clear this is not the real world which is particularly important when the story goes to painful places, such as grief, loss, bullying or discrimination. The Ugly Duckling, for example, would make for an upsetting and uncomfortable read for children if it featured a child rather than a cygnet. Using an animal enables children to develop empathy with the character, rather than become frightened.

Death is a traumatic theme. When a human character dies, it's particularly traumatic because we can imagine what that would be like. It relates to our own lives.

When an animal character dies, it is very sad but the distance makes it less painful. The death of the spider, Charlotte, in the story, 'Charlotte's Web' is indeed very sad but not traumatic. Charlotte teaches us death is part of her life cycle. She enables us to think about grief and loss from a safe place.

Inclusivity

Animal characters are inclusive. They have no race, faith or ethnicity and, as such, all children can identify with them. The messaging is less cluttered, there are no preconceptions and the story becomes universal.

It is also easier to make animals gender-neutral or at least be more nuanced about gender. By removing these barriers, animal stories can teach children who we are is more important than our differences.

Animal characters help us feel emotion, build empathy and provide enough distance to explore difficult subjects from a safe place. Stories with animals are great all round!

Sarah Nicholls is the creator of **Another World Costumes** which celebrates the magic of everyday imaginative play and storytelling through beautiful and unique child-centred dressing up. If you went along to The Belper Children's Book Festival this year you may have seen her lovely costumes on display.

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ANIMAL ART

Created by Amy at Primrose Art Club.

Henri Matisse created colourful abstract collages using cut out paper shapes. This simple and effective style using limited resources is perfect for an impromptu rainy day craft during the Summer Holidays. We thought we could make it even more fun by creating colourful and imaginative jungle scenes!

What you will need:

- Assorted pieces of colourful scrap paper (we used plain but you can use patterned)
- Glue Scissors Pencil/Pen (optional)

Method:

- I. Collect together assorted pieces of paper, you can use any scrap paper from around the house, not just purpose bought sheets. We used some leftover pieces from other crafts.
- 2. Choose what colour you want for the background and plan what shapes you wish to cut out (animals and plants)
- 3. Use a pencil to draw the animals and plants on each of the different coloured pieces of paper before cutting them out. Alternatively, you can cut the shapes out without drawing them first. The plants in the example were cut out freehand, while the parrot and the tiger were drawn first.
- 4. Choose where you want the shapes to go on the background and see if anywhere needs extra pieces.
- 5. Using glue stick your shapes down.

You now have your own fantastic Matisse inspired Collage!







About Henri Matisse

Matisse was a French Artist who lived from 1869-1954, he was friends with Pablo Picasso. Matisse was originally a painter and sculptor until 1941 when due to ill health he found the physical demands of both difficult. With the help of his assistants, he continued creating art by making paper cut collages.

This craft activity was created by Primrose Art Club check out their website: **www.primroseart.club** to see what arts & crafts the children create during their weekly sessions.





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Welcome to





Interactive role play centres based in South Perbyshire

Titchy Town and Hero Town are both indoor play villages designed especially for little ones up to 8 years of age. Children can freely explore the many different play zones in both villages. The villages are designed to allow children's imagination to run wild whilst they role play in a safe environment.

Grown-ups can participate in their child's play, or just sit back and watch them learn whilst enjoying a mug of freshly brewed tea or coffee and an amazing homemade cake from our little coffee shop.



Where are we?

Titchy Town is based on the site of Scallywags Private Day Nursey in Chellaston (Rowallan Way, DE73 5WX). Hero Town is based on the site of Scallywags Private Day Nursery in Melbourne (Castle Lane, DE73 8JB). Please use Scallywags car park at both sites. You will find signage in both car parks on how to access the centres.

How it works?

Both role play centres work on a pre-book via our website and pay on arrival basis with sessions lasting 90 minutes. On your first entry you will be issued a loyalty card and for every nine sessions you attend you will receive your 10th entry free of charge! Loyalty cards can be used across both sites. Payment is cash only.

Titchy Town Play Village

Castle Store Town House Vets 'n' Pets Anabelle's Café Wash 'n' go Harry's Yard

Hero Town Play Village

Dolly Dogs Grooming Parlour George's Garage Simon's Shed Foston's Fire Station Mrs Potts tearoom The Land Where Dreams Come True Castle Lane clinic Baby Zone

To find out more or to book into a play session...

Visit our websites: titchytown.com or hero-town.co.uk