

THATCHAM NEWS

Dino-tastic day for families

Town centre buzzing with activity as the Jurassic-sized celebration KidsFest returns

THATCHAM town centre was transformed into a prehistoric playground as KidsFest returned for its second year on Thursday, reports John Garvey.

The event, organised by Thatcham Town Council, brought the community together for a Jurassic-sized celebration filled with entertainment, activities and fun for all ages.

Despite forecasts of rain, the skies stayed clear and the town was buzzing with activity throughout the day.

At Turnfields Recreation Ground, children became mini circus stars with Juggling Jake's circus workshops, while the Broadway and High Street were transformed into a prehistoric paradise packed with arts, crafts, and hands-on activities.

Highlights included a lively Dino Disco with Kenet Radio, the Travelling Natural History Museum, interactive sessions with Boogie Mites, sunbazing fun with the Newbury Astronomical Club, plus the



Mayor Petra Pemberton and stegosaurus friend



Park Ranger

One of the biggest hits of the day was the Dinosaur Trail, which saw families hunting for hidden letters in shop windows and racing to unscramble them into a mystery word

chance to explore a real fire engine and police car.

Charity and community stalls added to the vibrant atmosphere.

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Meanwhile, Thatcham Library was brimming with excited young readers enjoying dinosaur stories, colouring sessions and mask-making.

A spokeswoman for the council said afterwards: "Thatcham Town Council would like to extend a huge thank you to Picture It Framed and Gardner Leader, the generous

sponsors of KidsFest 2025, as well as to the many volunteers and local businesses who made the Dinosaur Trail and activities possible."

Next on Thatcham's community calendar is Thatcham Festival, running from October 10 to 19, featuring more than 40 events across the town in a 10-day celebration of arts, culture and community.

THATCHAM

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New dog waste bin for Lawrences Lane

A NEW dog waste bin has been installed on Lawrences Lane.

It is in response to feedback from residents, who said the old bin was filling up too quickly.

Thatcham Town Council said it hopes this larger bin "should help keep the area cleaner and more convenient for everyone".

"A big thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts with us – your feedback really helps us make improvements where they're most needed," it added.



Hungerford Food Kitchen



Mayor Petra Pemberton and pterodactyl



He looks like a friendly dino



Junior archaeologist



Festival volunteers



Circus skills

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