

YOUTH

Farnham funds for free fun

YOUNGER people in a Surrey town enjoyed a summer of free activities, thanks to funding from **Farnham Town Council's School Holiday Grant scheme.**

A total of £18,055 was awarded to eight organisations to deliver free creative, sporting and social activities during the school summer holidays.

Grants were awarded to 40 Degreez (£4,000), Farnham Maltings (£4,000), Hale Community Centre (£4,000), Rural Life Living Museum (£3,000), The Chantries

Community Association (£1,500), Bethel Baptist Church (£750), Farnham Baptist Church (£500) and Hive Helpers (£305).

Activities included trips to aquariums, nature walks, theatre visits, sports coaching, arts and crafts and hands-on nature experiences.

Council leader Graham White said: "For some children, the summer holidays are long and unexciting with no opportunity to do anything.

"We've recognised this and through the school holiday grant, aimed to make sure all younger



The Mayor of Farnham with councillors and representatives from 40 Degreez, Hale Community Centre & Youth Centre and the Jubilee Hub.

people in Farnham had access to fun, safe, and inspiring school holiday activities, particularly those that may be from financially

disadvantaged households."

The council has also committed £60,000 to youth hubs and engagement.



A baby dinosaur at Sevenoaks.

Getting their skates on in Sandy

SANDY Town Council, in partnership with Amplius Youth Services, hosted a successful Skate Jam at the Bedfordshire town's Sunderland Road Recreation Ground.

The event focused on promoting friendly competition and offering expert instructions and guidance on safe and appropriate use of the skate park.

Skaters, scooter riders, and BMX enthusiasts ranging in age from just five up to 40 showcased their skills and passion for the sport.



Sandy Mayor Joanna Hewitt presents one of the prizes. Picture: Carlos Santini/smooth.photography.

Learning, entertainment and creativity to the fore in a summer of activities

A RANGE of exciting activities for young people was run by **Sevenoaks Town Council** across the Kent town over the summer.

Free events engaged hundreds of families and offered opportunities for learning, entertainment and creativity.

Skate Jam at Greatness

Recreation Ground attracted between 150-200 young people, who enjoyed skateboarding, BMX, scootering demos and coaching sessions.

Families gathered at the Vine to listen to free Music on the Bandstand concerts, with a free Play Place bouncy

castle for kids to enjoy.

The popular Family Fun Day at Greatness Recreation Ground saw Quest 4 Entertainment delight kids with their fascinating baby dinosaurs.

The free summer events concluded with children's theatre shows.



Aphra Brandreth MP tries out the new zip wire at Christleton.

Refurbished park adds zip

CHESTER South and Eddisbury MP Aphra Brandreth zipped along to celebrate the opening of a refurbished Cheshire play area.

Christleton Parish Council's Little Heath Play Area at King George's Field was reopened by the MP, who joined in the fun by trying out the new zip wire.

The event included children's games, a scavenger hunt, and refreshments provided by Christleton Cricket &

Football Club, along with a visit from an ice cream van.

Pupils from Christleton Primary School pupils helped shape the design by voting on the new equipment, ensuring the space is exciting, inclusive and fun for children of all ages.

Thanks were expressed to the FCC Communities Foundation and local residents whose support, donations and encouragement made the project possible.

KidFest proves a roaring hit

A **BERKSHIRE** town centre was transformed into a prehistoric playground as KidsFest returned for a second year, entertaining families with a free dinosaur-themed day of fun.

Organised by **Thatcham Town Council**, the event brought the community together for a Jurassic-sized celebration, filled with entertainment, activities and fun.

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 activities.

A Dinosaur Trail saw families hunting for hidden letters in shop windows and racing to unscramble them into a mystery word, while the town's library was brimming with excited young readers enjoying dinosaur stories, colouring sessions and mask-making.

SKATERS, scooters and BMX riders will benefit from a major refurbishment of Peg Hill Skate Park, thanks to £450,000 funding secured by Yate Town Council.

As the Gloucestershire skate park reaches its 25-year milestone, the refurbishment will transform the facility into a modern, inclusive, and accessible

space for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy, ensuring it meets the needs of the growing skate and wheeled-sports community, for many years to come.