



April 2024 Newsletter

The Forum School

Upcoming Events in May

4th – May The Fourth Be With You

5th – International Family Equality Day

6th – May Day & Coronation Day

11th – Fair Trade Day

12th – International Nurses Day

13th – Mental Health Awareness Week

16th – Global Accessibility Awareness Day

19th – Three Oaks Steam Rally in Shillingstone

20th – National Rescue Dog Day

23rd – St George's Day

27th – Bank Holiday

27th – 31st School Holiday's



**International
Family
Equality
Day**



Happy
St George's Day!!



Upcoming Events in May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
		Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. School Council	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. TFS Cinema - Theatre	May the Fourth be with you! Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	International Family Equality Day
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
School Holiday Bank Holiday Coronation Day	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. TFS Cinema - Theatre	Fair Trade Day Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	International Nurses Day
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mental Health Awareness Week Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Global Accessibility Awareness Day Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 Three Okeford's Steam Rally in Shillingstone DISCO in the theatre	Three Okeford's Steam Rally in Shillingstone
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
National Rescue Dog Day Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building. TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
School Holiday						
Bank Holiday	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena		Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	TFS Cinema - Theatre	DISCO in the theatre	



The Forum Stars are back!

Shout out a staff member that has gone above and beyond for a young person, yourself, your team or the school.
Email Forum.Stars@cambiangroup.com with a sentence about why a colleague is amazing and they'll be entered into a draw. There will be 3 winners. 1 from Care, 1 from Education and 1 from everyone else! The winners will receive a £10 Love2Shop voucher and Employee of the month for your department!

Upcoming Birthdays

May

Hannah Everard
Soumya Anthony

Dawn Storey

David Cox

Lynn Fox

Happy Ngulube

Naomi Wilson

Manjusha Abraham

Vineesh Valiyaparambil

Divya Kuriakose



Happy
Birthday



Training Opportunities

We are eagerly looking for staff members across all departments to train in;

Lifeguarding

OT Swing Room contact Bridget Townsend

This training would be paid for by the company and would look great on your CV.

Please let Melissa McCarthy know if you are interested.





Moments



Great to do your bit for the community, followed by a picnic...scrummy!





Moments



Great fun at the arcade.
Practicing his driving, so he can drive us
home... beep beep!





Moments



I might be a Pirate, but I needs to tend to me garden from time to time... arrgh





Moments with the animals

Ollie has been venturing to the stables to meet the small animals, using his kind hands and feet while visiting the yard.

Anyone who knows Ollie will know this is a massive achievement!



Pretending to be Whisper the Rabbit





Success in PSHE



In the PSHE lesson, the topic of the week was the versatility and wonder of our hands—a subject that often goes unnoticed in the rush of daily life. Yet, for Lola, it is a huge thing as he loves to use her hands for positive and sometimes negative experiences. With focused intent, Lola dipped her hand in vibrant hues of paint and placed it on the paper to create different prints. As Lola carefully examined her creation, a sense of pride illuminated her face. In that moment, it was evident that the PSHE lesson had transcended mere instruction, fostering a deeper understanding and connection to the world around her. Next, Lola followed some symbols and signs to communicate all those things that hands can do, e.g. shake, stroke, pat, clap, point, touch, and hold.





Success in English

ENGLISH story The very Hungry Caterpillar



Jake is participating in the world of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' lesson activities as he engaged in a variety of activities inspired by the story. At the fruit shop play area, Jake had fun role-playing both customer and the and shopkeeper. He carefully arranged different fruits, counted and sorted and, creating his own narrative inspired by the illustrations. As the week unfolded, Jake settled down with the story book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," he pointed at the familiar words and images. With each turn of the page, he followed the caterpillar's path, through the act of sharing the story, he not only strengthens his reading skills but also gained a deeper understanding with the themes of growth, transformation, and the importance of eating a variety of different foods. Jake always enjoys the sensory exploration with play activities inspired by the story themes. With bowls of brightly coloured food items and textured objects spread before him, he happily engaged his senses, exploring the different shapes, colours, and textures. With each tactile experience, he deepened his connection to the story, forging a sensory memory that will linger long after the day's activities have ended. Through play, creativity, and exploration, he has continued developing imagination and learning, inspired by the timeless magic of a traditional stories.





Success in English

English (The three Billy Goats gruff)

The students gathered around the sensory tray filled with the story props, bridge, animals, troll and green grass. I introduced the classic tale of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" and as the story unfolded, Ollie's imagination was ignited by the vivid descriptions of the troll under the bridge and the brave goats on their journey. He responded with full engagement to the activities set for him.

In this multisensory learning adventure, Ollie not only explored the world of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" but also developed essential cognitive, language, and social-emotional skills. Through hands-on exploration, imaginative play, and active listening, he embarked on a journey of discovery that will stay with him long after the story ends.





Easter Fun at TFS

The therapy team provided an Easter Egg hunt during the school holidays. We had real fun watching the young people run around the grounds searching for the 'eggs' with letters on, in order to solve the puzzle. Some of the young people were able to complete their own forms too (as seen below). Thankfully the weather was kind and.... Even a little sunny. Nearly all students who were here for the holidays completed the hunt and were rewarded with some chocolate and a fidget toy. It's our hope to provide more activities for young people during the holidays, as it was fun for us too



Sensory room has a makeover



The sensory room in the therapy block has recently been updated and equipment has been added.

The maintenance team have enhanced the room with equipment from the Purbeck View and the room looks amazing. Some of the students already access it during their educational day, but I am not sure that it is accessed much outside of school hours.

Can I encourage you to explore the space with your students? If you need any help or advice, please contact me and I will be happy to support you.

Please ensure you are aware of the young person's sensory needs and preferences before cranking up the tunes and turning all the lights on! To help with this: Sensory plans are in young people's folders online or in their care plan.

Finally, a big thank you to the maintenance team for such a smashing job. The young people use it more and we always smile to ourselves upstairs when we hear the music through our floor.

Have fun and enjoy the space
Bridget Townsend

The Waters End chefs are at it again



What time would you like us there?

That looks so scummy!



Holi Festival of colour





Holi Festival of colour ... continued...





Go shorty it's ya birthday, we're gonna party like it's ya birthday!



Too cool for skool!



Easter Fun!

This Easter holiday's we were lucky enough to have the inflatable obstacle course back!

We had this for 5 whole days, giving all our residential young people a chance to use it. And boy did they use it!

Thanks to www.bounceabout.me.uk we had a huge discount, we cannot thank them enough for their generosity.

Date for your diaries'... We will have it back week commencing 12 August!

BOUNCEABOUT
BOUNCY CASTLE - INFLATABLE HIRE



Hambledon's Easter Fun!



Easter Disco, Inflatable
Obstacle Course,
Swimming, Shopping,
Cooking, Walking,
Gardening & Leaflet drop
for our open day!

Hambledon's Easter Fun!



Inflatable Obstacle Course, Swimming, Shopping, Cooking, & Leaflet drop for our open day!

Willow's Easter Fun!



Baking, Gym, Yoga, Arts & Crafts, Swings, Easter disco, Swimming, Bouncy castle & Puzzles!





NOMINEES FOR EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Jemma Grove
Carol Tickner
Aspen Parsons
Anju Mathai
Mark Speller
Claire Legg
Kelly Foster
Alex White
Simon Twilley

John Lane
Chloe Beevers
Carissa Ealson
Georgia Strowbridge
Julie Walker
Alice Bagwell
Claire Dominy
Mark Harvey

*Keep Up the
Good Work!*



CONGRATULATIONS – EMPLOYEE'S OF THE MONTH!



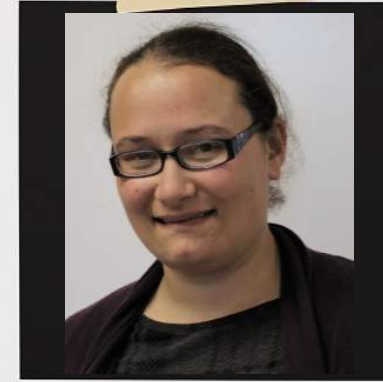
Education



Core



Care/Nights



Shout Outs!

*Shout out to Julie Walker,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Alice Bagwell,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Claire Legg,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Mark Speller,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Mark Harvey,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Kelly Foster,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Alex White,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Claire Dominy,
Thank you so very much for all your support during the successful recruitment day!*

Thank you Melissa McCarthy

*Shout out to Simon Twilley,
I'd like to express my thanks to Simon Twilley for his resilience and enduring positive attitude. He persistently 'goes the extra mile' in performing his duties and supporting all the children, young adults and team at TFS (and beyond!). He is a great example of flexibility, solution focus and passion for being the best.*

Thank you Simon!

Dan Pitt

*Shout out to Simon Twilley
Thank you so much for all you do for the school and always having the young peoples best interests at heart!
Thank you Melissa McCarthy*

OUTDOOR LEARNING!

April – Child & Nature Awareness Month

April 15th - April 30th

Frog Pond Building & Bird Boxes.



Frog Pond Building

Students can build a frog pond in the sensory garden, this activity will be led by either Renea/Sam. They can chose to decorate their ponds with natural resources.

Bird Boxes

Students can build a bird box using the wooden slats or plastic bottles. They can decorate them as they like, they can then show a member of staff where they would like to put them, it could be in the school grounds, the woods or outside their home/class.

Learning Matters

Be more like Renea and Sam!

This is the section in *Learning Matters* that I hope to get out of the habit of writing. It's where I make my half-terribly plea for contributors and I keep writing it because you're such a humble and modest bunch of people that you probably don't

feel that what you do is worth shouting about. Well, you're wrong! I hope that Renea Gascoigne and Sam Fry from *The Forum School* can convince you otherwise by reading their excellent piece in this edition. I was so impressed with the work

they are doing that Mel McCarthy persuaded them to put pen to paper, and I'm so glad they did.

Contributions to jarlath.o'brien@caretech-uk.com.

Learning Matters

Page 5

The Forum School Farm by Renea Gascoigne and Sam Fry

The Team

We are a very busy team of two at the Forum Farm – myself, Renea, the animal lead and qualified animal assisted therapist and Sam, my right-hand woman, the animal therapy assistant. We have two horses, eight guinea pigs, three rabbits and a bearded dragon based on a 28-acre site.

Variety

The very busy timetable includes one-to-one sessions, outdoor learning, lunchtime club and after school activities. We encourage drop-in sessions at any time. We have our Guinea Pig Gang where students can sit with the guinea pigs. This has two chairs, a bookcase and fairy lights. Our Warren has our rabbits. There is a table for students to work at, as well as homemade rabbit games for them to play.

Courses

We have four different courses, all

with 12 stages to complete, with each stage broken down into 10 smaller sections. When students complete a stage, they are presented with a booklet and certificate acknowledging their achievements.

1. Horse Riding

This is for students to experience horse-riding which helps to improve core muscle groups, coordination, balance and sense of wellbeing.

2. Yard Management

This is for students who are not keen on riding horses but enjoy the yard environment. They learn skills such as feeding, grooming and basic first aid for all of the animals in our care.

3. Equine Adventures

Some of our students enjoy being around the horses on the ground rather than riding them. This allows students to learn about care of equines and how to

interact with them. This is the students' first steps into horse care and leads onto Stable Management.

4. Stable Management

This is similar to Equine Adventures however it focuses more on the horse's health and wellbeing, including tack care, vet responsibilities, etc.

Outdoor Learning

We believe that outdoor learning has a valuable impact on our students' learning and there has been many studies that place a high importance on its many positive values, including social skills, spatial awareness, ownership of work and overall mental wellbeing.



Renea (left) and Sam (right)

Learning Matters

Page 6

The Forum School Farm contd.

Outdoor Learning

(contd.) We have designed a yearly planner that ties in with our curriculum, with myself and Sam working closely with the teachers and TAs. It has improved ties with local businesses, with some of them donating supplies and creating a wider community spirit.

Drop-in sessions

Some of our students from time to time need a place to reflect or relax. They are always encouraged to visit whenever they feel the need to and we have found that some of our students like to just pop in to say hello to either myself and Sam or the animals. It is always

nice to see the students on the yard and we understand the importance of them being able to do so.

Lunchtime Club

This is our latest idea for the yard and we wanted to give our students a place to blow off some steam or be creative and make different arts and crafts. It is held in the indoor arena every day and is for all students to drop in as they wish.

After School Activities

Our indoor arena is always accessible to our residential students. Mondays are our sensory play activities and Wednesdays are for

arts and crafts, however, we are happy for any student to enjoy the facilities at any time.

Calendar of activities

January 29th to February 9th
Building bug houses, Year of the Dragon - making dragons from plates and egg boxes

February 20th to March 15th
Building bug houses, making seed feeders, making wind chimes

March 18th to 29th
Nest building, bird boxes, tree planting (inc. March 21st International Day of Forests: bark rubbing, wood walk to recognise different trees, tree planting

April 15th to 30th
Child and nature awareness month, frog pond building, bird boxes

May 1st to 24th
Wind chimes, frog ponds, sensory garden building

June 3rd to 21st
Scarecrow making

June 24th to 28th
Insect week: minibeast hunt, habitat hunt, bug art

July 1st to July 23rd
Creating water feature, making a music tree, *making a dream tree to run alongside all activities



Thank you for allowing us to show what we do here at the Forum School Farm, we are always busy and exhausted but we do have a great time here. If you would like any more information please do contact us at any time.

Renea (Renea.Gascoigne@cambiargroup.com) and Sam (samantha.fry@cambiargroup.com)



SVG PNG DXF

The Forum Farm

Hi.

We are a very busy team of two at the Forum Farm that consists of myself - Renea, I am the animal lead and a qualified animal assisted therapist and Sam, who is my right hand woman and is the animal therapy assistant. I would like to introduce you to the many ways we work with the students here at the Forum School. We currently have two horses, eight guinea pigs, three rabbits and a bearded dragon and we are based on a 28 acre site.



We have a very busy timetable including student 1-1 sessions, outdoor learning, lunchtime club, after school activities, we also encourage drop in sessions at any time. We have our 'Guinea Pig gang' where students can sit with the guinea pigs. This has two bucket seat chairs, a bookcase and fairy lights. Our 'Warren' has our rabbits. There is a table for students to work at, as well as homemade rabbit games for them to play!



SVG PNG DXF



The Forum Farm... Continued

We have four different curriculum-based courses, all of these have 12 stages to complete and each stage is broken down into 10 bite sized achievable sections. When the students complete a stage, they are presented with a booklet and certificate acknowledging their achievements.

Horse Riding – This is for students to experience our horse-riding sessions which helps to improve their core muscle groups, coordination, balance and sense of wellbeing.

Yard Management – This is designed for our students who are not keen on riding the horses but enjoy the yard environment. They learn skills such as feeding, grooming and basic first aid for all of the animals in our care.

Equine Adventures – Some of our students enjoy being around the horses on the ground rather than riding them. This allows students to learn about care of equines and how to interact with them. This is the students first steps into horse care and leads onto Stable Management.

Stable Management – This is similar to Equine Adventures however it focuses more on the horse's health and wellbeing, including tack care, vet responsibilities etc.

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Thank you for allowing us to show what we do here at the Forum School Farm, we are always busy and exhausted but we do have a great time here. If you would like any more information please do contact us at any time. Renea and Sam xxxx

Renea.Gascoigne@cambianguroup.com

Samantha.fry@cambianguroup.com

Outdoor Learning

Dates for your diary

January 29th – February 9th: Building bug houses, Year of the dragon making dragons from plates and egg boxes.

February 20th – March 15th: Building bug houses, Making seed feeders, Making wind chimes.

March 18th – March 29th; **run up to Easter** : Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting.

March 21st: International day of forests : Bark rubbing, wood walk to recognise different trees, tree planting.

April 15th – April 30th: **Child and nature awareness month** : Frog pond building, Bird boxes.

May 1st – May 24th : Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.

June 3rd – June 21st : scarecrow making

June 24th – June 28th: **Insect week** : mini beast hunt, Habitat Hunt, Bug art

July 1st – July 23rd: Creating water feature, Making a music tree.

**** making a wishing tree to run alongside all activities.**



Congratulations

To our new Deputy Home Managers

Congratulations to Yadu Kulambil and Arun Sajeev in gaining Deputy Home Manager positions.

Waters End:

Deputy Home Manager: Yadu Kulambil

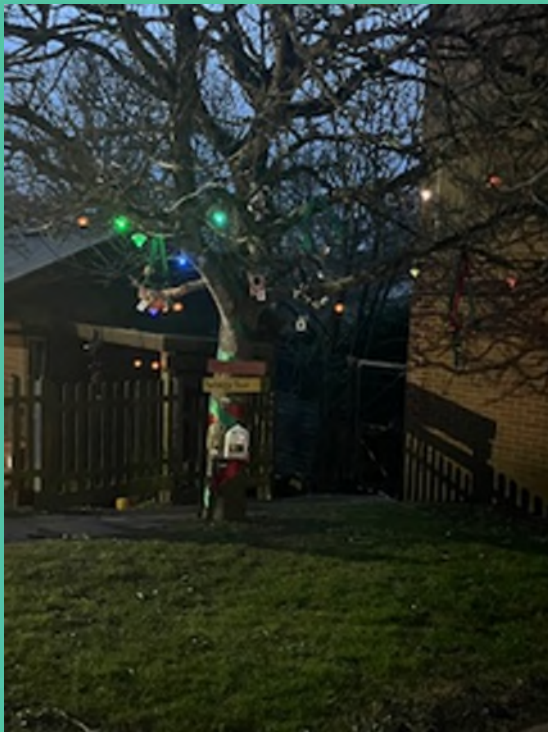
Laurels:

Deputy Home Manager: Arun Sajeev





TFS WISHING TREE!



The wishing tree is starting to come together slowly.

The more beautiful things we have on it the better.

Any wishes the young people may have can be added too!

The tree is starting to look less tired as it is springing into life with fresh buds.



TFS Wellbeing Walk

Wellbeing Walks

Dan & I went for a walk during the Easter holiday's.

The ground is still very wet in places, so we would recommend your wellies or walking boots.

I personally have never really been in the grounds and I was surprised of all the space we have! I know we have 28 acres, but seriously seeing it and walking bits of it was lovely. I mean bee hives on site! Who knew?

Come join me for a 15 / 20 minute walk.

Contact Claire.Legg@cambiagroup.com



Staff Engagement Survey



Hello, today sees the start of the Employee engagement survey.
We want to hear your views about your place of work.
So please, please click on the link to access the survey.
Please do it today and get your colleagues to do the same.
Thank you in advance for your contribution.
The most importantly, thank you in advance for all that you do each and every day.

<https://surveys2.surveyinitiative.co.uk/caretech-engagement-survey-2024>



A video player interface for a message from Jeremy Wiles. The video frame shows the CareTech logo at the top left, followed by a grid of partner logos including FSG, Inspire, Wales Learning, Branäs, Saf, Cambian, ACAD, spark of genius, Greenfields, and Services. Below these are logos for Park Foster Care, Y Care, and the National Health Service. At the bottom of the video frame, there is a blue bar with a play button icon, the text 'Click to play (will open a new window)', and another play button icon. The name 'Jeremy Wiles' is visible in the bottom left corner of the video frame.



Staff Discounts

<https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/>

Discount service for the emergency services, NHS, social care sector and armed forces - [£4.99 for 2 years](#)

Members of the Blue Light community can register for access to more than 15,000 discounts from large national retailers to local businesses across categories such as holidays, cars, days out, fashion, gifts, insurance, phones, and many more.

<https://discountsforcarers.com/>

Carer & Care Worker Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Carers & Care Workers.
For care assistants, live-in carers, those that care for loved ones, and everyone in between.

<https://www.discountsforteachers.co.uk/>


Teacher & Education Staff Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Teachers & Education Staff.
For teaching assistants, headteachers, administrators, and everyone in between.

<https://www.carerscarduk.co.uk/discounts-for-carers>

Your carer ID card unlocks access to a wide range of online discounts, savings, benefits, perks and offers, for carers. - [£8 for 2 years](#)

Our team constantly work on creating partnerships with big name brands so that we can provide carers with discounts on all aspects of life, from food to fashion, fitness to electrical, technology to travel, home utilities to entertainment and much more





Staff Discounts Continued

<https://carers.org/grants-and-discounts/carersmart-discount-club>

Joining is simple and **free**. And once you're a member, you'll be able to benefit from a wide range of offers, including:

- Cash back on shopping from numerous high street retailers
- Reductions on insurance renewals
- Discounts on holidays and travel arrangements
- Reduced price lifestyle activities
- Free and discounted legal advice services

<https://www.frontlinestaffdiscounts.co.uk/>

Frontline Staff Discounts is **FREE** to all Members, we charge no fees to join & never will

We aim to save you and all of our members as much money as possible on all of your purchases online.

<https://www.teacherperks.co.uk/>

Free membership for school staff and schools to access incredible perks from high street brands and edu-suppliers.





A message from Mel

What another great month, full of wonderful and amazing memories and activities for our young people and the adults that educate and care. The Easter festivities and the Holi festival of colour were well enjoyed by all.

This month we have seen further improvements in the recordings we keep regarding our young peoples lives and all the amazing support the team offer. Though the paperwork is new, we are already seeing the improvements of the capturing of the days young people are experiencing.

We have now had a number of adults take their lifeguard training and this means that our young people can access our amazing swimming pool more frequently.


We had an Education Ofsted monitoring visit this month. Once the report is published this will be shared with all.

We have had a visit to the school from the company owner Farouq Sheik this month. Farouq spent the day looking at our amazing school, grounds and homes and is eager to put a plan in place to make the school an even better place to be. Once the plans have been finalised this will be shared with you all. This is very exciting 😊

The staff survey has now finished and we as the SLT are now evaluating all of your views. As stated we will provide a 'You said' 'We did' action plan this month to show how your views have been considered and actioned.

Holidays are fast approaching, please spend some time with your young people gathering their views so we can look at arranging some great breaks and days out.

Thank you all for your wonderful contributions to the newsletter and sharing extraordinary days



Thank You!