

Community

60th Annual Pantomime at Pearson Centre Babes in the Wood

Wednesday, January 27 to Saturday, January 30

DRESS rehearsals were taking place last weekend for the 60th annual pantomime to be presented by the young people of the 17th Nottingham Boys and 30th Nottingham Girls' Brigades.

A cast of 18 players and a larger chorus than in previous years should ensure that the pantomime keeps its audiences well entertained with what has been described as "a feast of bad

jokes, hammy acting, lively songs and stunning sets."

The programme informs us that 'Babes in the Wood' began as a ballad 400 years ago, and was based on the ghosts of two children who haunted Wayland Wood, Norfolk.

In the 1800s, the traditional story was retold and even more recently, characters from Robin

Hood appeared in order to lengthen what was originally a short tale.

The script for this year's pantomime has been written by producer/director Sean Kane.

If you fancy a trip to see 'Babes in the Wood' (there is a Saturday matinee) contact the Pearson Centre on 925 4112 for details of times and ticket availability.

Action Against Burglary Roadshow

IN order to help protect older residents from rogue traders and distraction burglary, Age Concern Nottingham & Nottinghamshire (ACNN) will be holding a roadshow at the Broadmarsh Centre, Nottingham, on Wednesday, February 3.

The roadshow will advise older residents on doorstep crime and provide resources to help combat the problem. Nottingham City Police will also be present at the event.

In 2009, six percent of all burglaries involved the use of false pretences to gain access to the home; however, among households

headed by someone aged 60 or over, doorstep crime accounted for 13 percent of the burglaries.

In holding the Action Against Burglary event, ACNN aims to remind older people in the community of the simple actions they can take to feel safer in their homes, as well as the services available to them to help protect against rogue traders.

The project has been funded by the Home Office, responding to widespread concerns that the recession might fuel a rise in the number of burglaries. The roadshow will aim to reach

150 older people, providing 'goodie bags' to all and looking to giveaway 100 mini PIR alarms.

Just a few simple precautions can make a big difference: beat bogus callers by using your door chain, lock your back door before opening your front door, and check a caller's identity carefully. Casual thieves may be deterred by a solid wooden door with adequate locks. Protect your belongings with adequate insurance.

Musical Ribbon Dance project

A CHINESE Ribbon Dance, to be performed by pupils from Chetwynd Road Primary School in Chilwell, will form part of this year's Chinese New Year celebrations at University Park.

The Year 6 pupils have been working with dancer Du Dan and classically-trained musician Ling Peng to devise an original dance piece inspired by the fluidity and symbolism of the traditional Chinese ribbon dance, with its accompanying percussion.

The performance will take place for the crowds gathering by the Lakeside Arts Centre at Highfields Park, University Boulevard, for the Chinese New Year firework finale between 5.30pm and 6.30pm on Sunday, February 14.

Spread a little love with a unique Valentine's day gift

TREETOPS Hospice is inviting the romantics amongst us to "give our loved ones a gift that keeps on giving" with a chance for the special person in our life to win £1000 each week.

A gift of membership to the weekly Treetops Hospice Lottery draw, which takes place every Friday, could mean a prize of £1000. In addition, there are 70 cash prizes of £5. One-off tickets are available at any of the Treetops retail shops.

All proceeds of the lottery go back to Treetops Hospice.

Lottery marketing Assistant at Treetops, Fiona Wysocki said: "Much better

than chocolate, your gift of membership to the Treetops Hospice Lottery draw will support your local hospice and the many people in the community with life-limiting illnesses in the community who use its services.

"It is very simple to arrange. All you need to do is telephone the team on (0115) 939 9339 or visit the website at www.treetopshospice.org.uk/lottery, where you will find a gift membership form and a choice of card designs to choose from."

Treetops Hospice provides palliative care to adults across Nottinghamshire and southern Derbyshire.

Ladies – enjoy a spot of pampering

BACK by popular demand. Preschool 345 is holding a second Ladies Pamper Evening at the Pearson Centre, Nuart Road, Beeston, to raise funds for the group.

The first Ladies Pamper Evening, held last year, was a huge success and this follow-on event on Wednesday, February 24, will again involve massage, beauticians, aromatherapy, Virgin Vie, reflexologists, jewellery, cards, handbags, photographers, Jamie at Home, coffee and cakes, a raffle – and more!

The evening starts at 7.30pm and will finish around 10pm. The ticket price of £5 includes a complimentary glass of wine or a soft drink.

Preschool 345 is a small local charity that provides childcare for young children from all backgrounds.

Preschool spokeswoman Rosie Mao said: "Our sessions are based on play and the emphasis is on fun. Our environment is carefully planned and organised to provide the structure for teaching from within which

the children explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves, thus enabling them to learn and develop."

Preschool 345 was established more than 30 years ago, although it now operates from the 6th Beeston Scout Headquarters on Middle Street, Beeston, where it is staffed by experienced childcare professionals and managed by a voluntary committee of parents and carers.

Rosie continued: "We are currently raising money to improve our outdoor area and increase storage. We need to raise £7,000 in order to build a secure outdoor store for larger toys and vehicles, buy some educational toys and purchase a bookcase. As a non-profit making organisation, this fundraising is essential."

Any donations for the raffle or the appeal can be sent to Preschool 345 Treasurer, 6th Beeston Scout Headquarters, 5 Middle Street, Beeston, NG9 1GA.

Bowls Club raises £3000 for children at QMC

MEMBERS of a Nottingham bowling club have raised more than £3,000 to help sick children at the Queen's Medical Centre.

Nottingham Proprietary Bowling Club presented a cheque for £3,313 to Nottingham University Hospitals Charity last week after holding a series of fundraising events in 2009.

The money will go to the Bastow Laboratory, which is in the Children's Hospital at the Queen's Medical Centre, where children's gastrointestinal problems are investigated and diagnosed.

One of the things the money will be used for is to make the laboratory more child-friendly, with visual distractions to help young patients cope with the sometimes uncomfortable investigations they have to undergo.

The bowling club raised the money after choosing Nottingham University Hospitals Charity as its 'Charity of the Year' for 2009. The charity exists to support the work that takes place at the QMC and the City Hospital.