

# FUN PALACES



**Press Release  
4<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

## **Thornbury Fun Palace Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 (10am-2pm)**

On Saturday 1st October Thornbury held a popular Fun Palace which brought people together to celebrate what their community has to offer. Local people, organisations and businesses shared their unique skills and passions in an event run by, for and with the community. Everyone was able to join in and discover something new with 25 fun, free activities happening across 10 locations around Thornbury High Street.

Thornbury's Mayor was in attendance at the event, welcoming in the first visitors who arrived to pick up their map and timetable from the Town Hall to help them join in with all the event had to offer.

**The Mayor of Thornbury said on the day "It is great to see the community of Thornbury coming together for the Thornbury Fun Palace event. A big thank you to JIGSAW Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Council Regeneration Team for organising such a fabulous fun, free event"**

There were over 1000 visitors to Thornbury Library which hosted 5 different activities including braille name badge making, rhymetime, read to the therapy dog, U3A family history research advice and meet a roman soldier from Thornbury and District Heritage Trust.

**One Thornbury resident commented "There is something for all ages on offer. We came out at 10am and are still here nearly four hours later!"**

St Mary Centre hosted a sparkle photo booth from Brain Tumour Support, Krunch South West youth team with glitter tatoos and stone painting, flower posies with Jolies Fleurs and Thornbury Community Composting led a recycling challenge, while JIGSAW Thornbury's Young Volunteers ran a community cafe and other fun youth-led activities.

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**Hattie Clayton, Interim CEO at JIGSAW Thornbury was part of the organising committee and says: “We are so proud of the part we played in bringing the community together. It was really exciting to see the event grow from last year with so many local people, groups, and businesses taking part in the event by sharing skills and hosting activities. A great opportunity too for us to raise awareness of the work we do with children and young people with additional needs and their families”**

Visitors could also have a try at street dance with BALPA, Music with Mummy, antenatal taster classes, Halloween crafts with South Gloucestershire Community Learning and Skills, Shrektastic crafts with Thornbury Music Group and various more physical activities such as table cricket, table tennis, triathlon and running at various pubs, church halls and even at the Mundy Playing fields where Thornbury Rotary had their Walkathon stand.

**South Gloucestershire Council cabinet member for communities, councillor Rachael Hunt said: “There was a fantastic buzz in Thornbury on Saturday and a real sense of community spirit as people chatted and spent time together taking part in the huge range of activities on offer. We are pleased to have supported the event both practically and financially, with our High Street team working as part of the organisation committee and through helping to promote the event to residents across South Gloucestershire, bringing people together in one place to enjoy an amazing day of free activities.”**

Ends-----

Information for editor:

Thornbury Fun Palace was part of Fun Palaces 2022 a free, nationwide campaign with the annual weekend of celebration taking place over the first weekend of October.

Thornbury Fun Palace was co-produced by JIGSAW Thornbury, South Gloucestershire Council with support from St Mary Centre, My Thornbury, The Swan Pub, Thornbury Rotary and the Inner Wheel.

Each Fun Palace celebrates the unique skills and passions of local people – run by, for and with the local community. Since 2014 a total of 2400 Fun Palaces have been made across the UK and worldwide by over 40,000 local people (‘Makers’) with 700,000 people taking part. This year will be the ninth Fun Palaces weekend.

Fun Palaces create events that bring together arts, science, craft, tech, digital, heritage and sports activities – but above all people – to work together, create together, have FUN together, and in doing so, connect our own communities, from the grass-roots up.

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#FUNPALACES #ThornburyFunPalace

[www.funpalaces.co.uk](http://www.funpalaces.co.uk) | <https://funpalaces.co.uk/fun-palace/thornbury-fun-palace-2/>

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Images (Credit to RichMcD Photography) & captions



Staff and volunteers at JIGSAW Thornbury with the Mayor at Thornbury Fun Palace 2022, in St Mary Centre



Visitors at Thornbury Fun Palace learning Halloween craft techniques with South Gloucestershire Community Learning and Skills Service, at Papilio



Shrektastic crafts with Thornbury Musical Theatre Group at The Swan Pub

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Braille name badge making and braille storytime at Thornbury library



Visitors trying accessible Table Top Cricket with Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation at The White Lion Pub



A crowd making flower posies with Jolies Fleurs in St Mary Centre



Reading to the therapy dog in Thornbury Library



Meet a roman soldier with Thornbury and District Heritage Trust in Thornbury Library