



Headteacher's Message

Feeling you belong!



Welcome to our latest Fearnfile. There is lots of great news in this edition and I have to start with an update on our **family of ducks**, as everyone is enjoying watching them develop. They are getting lots of love and attention and are growing very well, as you can see! We have taken advice from the RSPB and they will be staying with us until they decide they are ready to fly; if they struggle at that point, we will be offering support as needed. Clearly they love living with us and feel they belong, which is what we are aiming for with every member of our school community! Our recent **student survey** revealed that 97% of them feel their teacher helps them to do their best, and 93% feel the school encourages respect for everyone. There will be more information on the survey in the next edition but it has given us lots of valuable feedback to work with.

Inside you will find reports on the latest **Science Club** activity involving catapults, a **Book Club** update and more from the **Library**, photos and a report on the recent **Year 9 'End of Key Stage 3' party** and some of our students' thoughts on their recent reward trip to **Airspace**. Herts Catering have recently funded a facelift



for our **canteen signage**, and we are now planning our **summer BBQ** for students on **Friday 13th July** at lunchtime. Take a look at the report. **Sajinth**, our Year 9 badminton star, won more trophies recently at the **Surrey Smashers Badminton Tournament** – well done Sajinth!

The **Year 11 leavers assembly** took place on Friday 25th May and the full story is inside. Most of their exams are now over and they have been superb in their focus and determination to succeed. Now we are looking ahead to them starting in the Sixth Form. Meanwhile Year 13 are also coming to the end of their A Level exams and looking towards their next adventure. Last week we had some visitors in school who **interviewed staff and students** about their views on Fearnhill. Their comments will shortly be featured on our **Facebook page**, so keep an eye out for more info on that!

I will finish on even more positive news. Three Fearnhill students, **Chephra, Marli Su and Tia**, are all **representing GB** at the IDO European Hip Hop, Break Dance and Electric Boogie Championships in Germany at the end of this month. We wish them well and look forward to hearing all about their experience!

Thank you for your support as always and enjoy the sunshine.

Liz Ellis
Headteacher



Year 11 into 12 Students

Congratulations to those students who have been offered a place to stay on and study at KS5. We wish them every success in their exams and look forward to welcoming them to the Year 12 Induction Days on Monday 2nd July.



Success at School

Take a look at the following information from the Success at School website www.successatschool.org as it states, 'Success at School is the place for young people to explore careers, get the lowdown on top employers, and search for the latest jobs, courses and advice. Get career smart and **register today!**'

So we're a week into school with less than one half term to go! That means exams are nearly over and it's time to start thinking about the future. The Success at School team pulled together some of their favourites to keep you going over the next few months - from last-minute exam tips to advice for the summer and some articles to prepare you for next year.



1. Get through your exams - Your exam-day questions answered

Q&A to calm those last-minute nerves and prevent an exam-day crisis. If things feel tough right now, remember - the stress, worry and long days of revision will soon be a distant memory!



2. Plan your summer - Using summer to boost your prospects

It's not too late to plan a summer work placement. And what about having a real, deep think about what you want to do in your career - and how you can get there? When it comes to making the most of summer, Success at School have it covered.



Got a summer job? Struggling to find one?

Whether you've got something lined up or don't know where to start in your job search, Success at School have advice for you. From knowing where to look to proactively hunting and making it count in your grand career plan, they have your must-read guide to summer jobs.

3. Think about next year

If you're heading in to Year 13, next year holds some big decisions. Or maybe you're entering Year 11 in September, and you're not sure whether you should be applying for A-levels or an apprenticeship next year. Success at School have some advance info to get you thinking...



Should I go to uni?

If you're not sure whether uni's for you after Year 13, check out this guide to the things to think about when deciding whether to go on to university after school or college. Oh, and there's a bonus link to a 'uni pros and cons' article.





Learn about apprenticeships

A paid job with training and qualifications - maybe even a degree! Intermediate or advanced apprenticeships are for anyone with GCSEs, while for higher and degree you'll need A-levels/equivalent. Definitely worth thinking about if you're unsure about A-levels or uni.

Consider a gap year

If you think you're going to need some time out after another year in education to think about what you want to do next, a gap year could be for you. Also worth checking out if you're in Year 13 now but unsure about the options you've chosen.



Important Dates for your Diary

Calling all Year 9 Students & Parents/Carers
Year 10 Work Experience week
has now been confirmed as
Monday 11th - Friday 15th March 2019
more details to follow in September

Ms Balchin
Director of Teaching & Learning in Careers

Happily Ever After

A huge congratulations to Fearnhill childhood sweethearts Bradley and Ellie who have been together 8 years and tied the knot on Saturday 9th June!



We would like to wish them both every happiness in their future together.

Performing & Expressive Arts

Students of the Month - May



Mia-Grace 7U



Excellent ATL & development of work throughout this academic year so far

Scarlett 7Q



Dedicated practice at lunchtimes, working hard & organising group to perform a piece for their assessment

Callum 7R



Working incredibly hard to improve javelin PB & showing great commitment

Chloe 11U



Worked very hard & diligently on portfolio unit, shown excellent commitment to studies

Charlie 10U



Consistent hard work & focus in GCSE music

Zoe 10U



Continued hard work & outstanding effort in GCSE PE

**We are collecting used stamps for
The Garden House Hospice**



If you have any then please send them in to school in an envelope for the attention of the Main Office

We have made a number of deliveries already and the staff at the hospice



Good Luck to Chephra, Marli-Su and Tia



We are delighted to be able to wish Chephra, Marli-Su (Year 8) and Tia (Year 7), the very best of luck. Chephra, Marli-Su and Tia are all members of BX Dance, a dance academy that specialises in Street Dance and Hip Hop. At the end of June they will all be competing in the IDO European Hip Hop, Break Dance and Electric Boogie Championships in Bremerhaven, Germany.

Chephra, Marli-Su and Tia

attend classes at BX Dance twice a week. They are extremely committed to their dance and, as a result, the hard work and dedication has paid off. Best of luck girls! We look forward to hearing about the Championships when you return from Germany.



Another Victory for Sajinth

Sajinth Thayaparan has done it again! Another successful badminton tournament - here's his report:

On Sunday 3rd June, I participated in the Surrey Smashers badminton tournament. I entered Under 14 boys singles and Under 16 boys doubles category. The match was up to 21 points, best of three sets.

I first had to play boys doubles with my partner Ragu. As soon as I saw the opponents, I thought to myself I should have entered in the Under 14 doubles category. I would have won easily, but I wanted to push myself beyond my level. I never wanted to win easily. The opponents were tall, strong and big, almost like grown men. Their size didn't bother me as all I needed was good tactics, planning ahead and looking out for their weakness. As we started playing and the score was 5-3, they were not getting my powerful smash but if they did it would be really weak return and high return so I can just smash it again. My partner and I won the first set 21-16 then the second set was 21-18. My second game was a little bit easier so we won 21-9 and 21-6. The third game was also easier because they didn't get my tight net shots, so we won 21-12 and 21-8. My fourth game was very easy as I kept pinning them to their backhand. We won that 21-3 and 21-54. Since we won all our matches, we came first.

After doubles I had to play singles. My first game was a little bit tough but that did not stop me from winning this game 21-16 and 21-12. The second game was against a tough opponent, but I won 21-19 and 21-19. The third game I won 21-12 and 21-15. I played the quarter final and then the semi final. I was through to the final. In the final I won 21-13 and 21-14. Since I won all my matches, I came first!

Now I am looking forward to playing in the tournament in July. I am still continuing to train three times a week.



The annual five-a-side football tournament took place on Sunday 10th June.

An impressive £1,200 was raised on the day for a fantastic cause in memory of ex-student James Harpur.

Well done to his brother and sister, Adam and Laura, for organising yet another



Year 11 Prom

7.30pm—11pm (Arrival from 7pm)

Friday, 29th June 2018

The Ballroom, The Broadway Hotel

Letchworth Garden City

Tickets £15 - available from the Pastoral Office

Year 11 Goodies

Yearbook: £18 Leavers Hoodies: £18

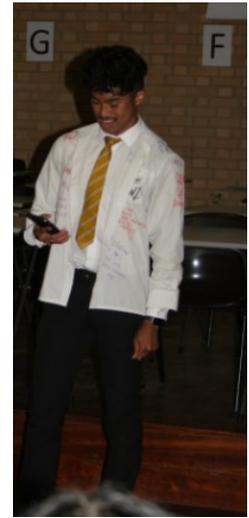
These are both available to order from Mrs Brown
in the Pastoral Office

Orders must be received by Monday, 18th June 2018

Year 11 Leavers Assembly

For a couple of hours during the afternoon of Friday, 25th May our Year 11s were allowed to forget their exams and have some fun. The tables in the hall were pushed to the back and the chairs put out for the students who gathered in the hall for their Year 11 Leavers Assembly.

There were speeches from Mr Wakeling and the Year 11 form tutors. Charles Bumanglag gave a heart felt speech to his peers about their time at Fearnhill which resulted in much laughter. A very big thank you was given to Mrs Brown for her pastoral care over the past two years. The highlight though was the fantastic visual presentation put together by Mr Wakeling reminding the students of their time at Fearnhill, this resulted in even more laughter. Staff and students then gathered in the canteen for refreshments and more shirt signing!



**Mr Wakeling
Head of KS4**

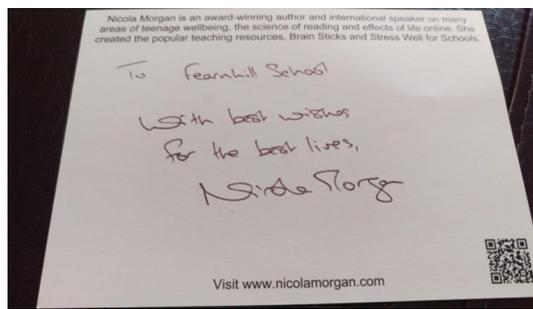
Read to Succeed

What if Being Me, Excludes Me? (Asking for a Friend)

Nicola Morgan is the author of 100 books and an international authority on teenage wellbeing, the science of reading and the effects of life online.

To celebrate the launch of her latest two books, 'Positively Teenage' and 'The Teenage Guide to Life Online', she launched a #AskNicolaMorgan competition, inviting students to ask questions about being a teenager, or about teenage life online.

We asked one of our Year 8 Library classes to come up with questions for the author, and one of our students came up with the corker, "What if being me, excludes me?" We were thrilled that the author published a thorough answer to this question on her website, and as we were one of the first five schools to enter the competition, we received a signed copy of 'The Teenage Guide to Life Online', postcards and posters.



"With best wishes, for the best lives."

Here is the full response as published on her website at <https://www.nicolamorgan.com/adolescent-brains-and-lives/asknicolamorgan-4-what-if-being-me-excludes-me/>

"Today I'm answering a question from the fourth school to enter the [AskNicolaMorgan competition](#). Today's question comes from **Year 8 students at Fearnhill School** and once again I found it very difficult to choose which of their questions to answer. But fear not: I plan to answer lots more questions once I've answered one from each school.

"What if being me, excludes me?"

I've interpreted the question as meaning, "What if the way I am makes me different and makes people exclude me but I'm trying to follow the common advice to 'be myself'? How do I cope with that?" (I hope I've got that right.)

This question made me feel a little sad, as it make me think that the questioner might be feeling rather alone, an outsider. But I could be quite wrong about that: what if the person actually feels empowered, individual, standing tall and strong and confident in his/her difference?

But I'm guessing the questioner doesn't feel too good, at least most of the time.

Being "different" is tough for anyone and it can happen in lots of ways. People feel secure when they fit in, when they conform to the groups around them, and that's a very natural thing to do. We get safety and support from fitting in but sometimes we can't fit in, either because there is something quite unusual about us and the people around us don't like or accept that, or because we are unlucky enough to be in an environment where most people happen to have different lives or happen to be closed-minded and intolerant of difference. (They need educating!)

It's really important to feel that you can "be yourself" so you don't have to pretend. But it's also psychologically and emotionally important to have a support network – or even one or two people – who you do feel connected to. The active feeling of standing out is anxiety-making and discomforting. We may sometimes like being noticed but some of the time we want to be ignored – specifically, we want to be noticed when we want to be noticed and we want to be left alone when we want to be left alone! People who are "different" don't usually get that choice.

There are some things to think about, which I think will help:

- **Be patient:** being at school is tough, partly because everyone around you is wrapped up in their own problems and struggles for identity, but one day soon you'll have left school and will have many more choices about your friendship groups. You will be able to find people who *are* like you or who genuinely respect and like you for who you are.
- **Be strong:** know what's important to you and stick with it. It's OK to conform to the people around you if you want to but not if that's going to make you feel bad or guilty or get you into trouble. Better to be a good person than popular. (Popularity is like icing. The good person is the cake.)
- **Be realistic:** no one is liked by everyone. Even if you bent over backwards to fit in with everyone, you couldn't. Focus on being accepted by the people you think are worth it.
- **Don't be self-obsessed:** not everyone is actually looking at you. They have their own worries anyway. You think that your "difference" is super-obvious to everyone else – actually some people are probably really not noticing at all and you don't actually know what they think.
- **Be outward-looking:** your school and family are very tiny worlds and there's much more out there. You can find like-minded people outside, through clubs, groups, classes and activities. Seek out people you identify with.

We can try to conform/change a bit, maybe some of the time – it's quite natural and OK to make an effort to fit in, if we want to. It's self-preservation and a natural human instinct. So I wouldn't condemn someone who chooses to do this. But if you decide to "be yourself", good for you! You'll get tons of respect once the people you're with grow up and learn to value your individuality. I think being yourself is the best way, even if it does hurt when you're excluded. I think that makes you a stronger, more fulfilled and confident person later, especially once you do find other people just like you.

If you do that, I have the greatest amount of respect for you. When I was a teenager I was definitely not that strong. I was an outsider, desperately trying to conform and not knowing how to. (I was a girl in a boys' school till I was 11 and then an 11 year old girl in a year group of 13 year old girls.) As an adult, I've found how to be myself but it's not difficult because I mix with lots of people like me anyway so I don't really have to make that choice. And, let's face it, I now don't have something about me that excludes me; I'm not an outsider (though I do prefer being a bit on the edge rather than in the centre, to be honest). But in school it can be really hard – so much going on that you can't control, and so many pressures from people around you. And there is a large extra element of self-consciousness for adolescence so you can *feel* more "different" than you actually are.

So, my best advice is: be patient, be strong and look for a few people you identify with. They are out there, I promise, even if you haven't found them yet. No one is really alone, even if it sometimes feels like that.

Thank you, Y8 Fearnhill, for your ace questions and good luck in the competition!"

The author will be announcing an overall winning question from all entries received. The winning school will receive further books, goodies and a visit or Skype Q&A session with Nicola herself.

You can see other schools' entries at <https://www.nicolamorgan.com/life-online/8426/>



Nicola Morgan

Word Millionaire Update

Congratulations to Year 7s Harriet and Lara who achieved word millionaire status this month. They become our 5th and 6th millionaires of the year.

Both will receive certificates, a golden ticket to our AR party, and a postcard home too.



There are only a few more golden tickets up for grabs so now is the time to raise your game and get reading!

New I.T Kit

A huge thank you to the Library at the University of Hertfordshire who have very kindly donated 120 PCs, keyboards and mice to Fearnhill.

These became available as part of an upgrade to the hardware in their Learning Resource Centre. Our I.T Manager, Mr Beer, took delivery of the kit this week and will be working on making them Fearnhill-ready for the autumn.

University of
Hertfordshire **UH**



Thank you to all the staff at the University of Hertfordshire's Library and Computing Services Department who were involved in making the donation happen, in particular Mr Hunt, Project Office Manager, for coming up with the idea and coordinating the process.



Please follow us on Twitter [@FearnhillLib](https://twitter.com/FearnhillLib)



Email us at library@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Hunt
Librarian & Learning Resource Manager

Science Club

In Science Club we have been exploring the whats and whys. The aim was to build a catapult. This was the easy bit, even though we were only using; lolly sticks, elastic bands and bottle tops. We then had to work out why we could fire ping pong balls different distances even though we used the same materials. What was making them different? Did it matter where the elastic bands were placed and how many lolly sticks were used? We are still in the testing stages but hope to have an answer soon.

Coming soon to science club, 20 minute kites and snail investigations!



Science Club

Open to all
Students

Tuesdays
1.30pm-2.00pm
In S13

*Miss Jennings
Teacher of Science*

Sixth Form Dates



Dates for your Diary

Monday 25th June – Year 12 End of Year Exams Start
Timetabled exams in the hall

Friday 29th June – UCAS Convention
All Year 12 students to attend this event

Monday 2nd July – Year 11 Sixth Form Induction
A day of information and preparation for sixth form

Friday 6th July – Sports Day
A whole school activity to join in and to cheer on your House

Thursday 12th July – Sixth Form Summer Ball
Time for the whole sixth form to celebrate with a party at Hitchin Priory – ticket entry only

Friday 13th July – Year 12 Celebration of Achievement
Acknowledgement of your hard work and achievements this year

Monday 16th July - WEX
Year 12 work experience week. Don't forget to complete your Log Book!

A level Results

Year 12 & 13

THURSDAY 16th AUGUST 2018

You will be able to collect your 2018
A level results at school from

08:00am – 10:00am

If you cannot collect them on the 16th
August, please provide a stamped self-
addressed envelope for your results to be
posted home in or if you would prefer a
nominated person to collect them on
your behalf then please speak to the
Data & Exams staff.

End of Key Stage 3 Party

Party Time

To mark Year 9 reaching the end of Key Stage 3 a party was held on the field for the students and their form tutors. Games were played and pizzas, sweets and soft drinks provided. When students were not playing games or eating they were relaxing and chatting to their friends! The weather was kind and great fun was had by all. They have been a pleasure to work with this year and it has been a joy to see the many that have grown as individuals both academically and personally (not to mention vertically). We wish all Year 9s lots of luck as they embark upon their important GCSE years.



*Mr Turner
Head of KS3
(Years 8 and 9)*

Please ensure that we have your current email address, address and telephone numbers. Any updates should be sent to the main office.

Thank you.



Year 9 Reward Trip

Year 9 had their reward trip to Airpace in Stevenage on Thursday, 7th June. Here are some of the photos taken and a few of the students' thoughts:

"Airspace was a very pleasant trip as everything about it was good. First we went to the train station and then we went on the train down to Airspace. It was nice. It was good." Thomas

"It was good to be rewarded for attitude to learning." Emily

"It was a really great opportunity and trip. It was fun and we got to go around the retail park, buying McDonalds or going to the arcade. Many of us bought slush puppies and we all laughed and had a really great time." Maegan



"It was fun to bounce. A fun day out!" Ben



"I enjoyed bouncing and trying new tricks." Ellie

"I enjoyed it and it was nice to hang out with everyone." Ellie



"I had an amazing time at Airspace. I enjoyed being with my friends. If it happened again I would go." Charlotte



"I enjoyed bouncing and I had fun." Leosha

"Air space was really fun we relaxed and did cool tricks but it was tiring. Over all it was a fun experience." Ben

Mr Turner
Head of KS3
(Years 8 and 9)

Book Club

Book Club aims to give our keen readers a forum in which to share and discuss both their favourite books, and also to push students out of their comfort zones, reading books they wouldn't normally pick up. This broadens their horizons and often leads to students discovering new authors and genres that may have otherwise passed them by.

We also read and discuss the shortlisted books for various young adult fiction awards. Last year and this year, we took a group to the North Herts Book Awards, where our members were able to meet the winning author and take part in a Q&A session. Next year, we will be hosting this at Fearnhill which is very exciting.

Following is the link to the BookClub: <http://fearnhillbookclub.blogspot.com/>

This is one of the recent posts:



What the Dickens?

Year 8 have begun reading 'Great Expectations' in English this term - for the vast majority, it's their first encounter with Charles Dickens' writing.

So what do our BOOKClub members think about it?

Well, one of them loves it so much, she's getting her own copy to read ahead - with VERY strict instructions to keep spoilers firmly to herself of course!

The students are loving the characterisation of Pip, Mr Pumblechook, Mrs Joe and, of course, Miss Havisham: "She must smell!" - yes, indeed she must! Yuck. But why does she want Pip to befriend Estella? Where's the story going?



Calling all Key Stage 3 students!

Do you enjoy reading?
talking about books?
writing and blogging?

Then Fearnhill BOOKClub needs you!

Friday lunchtime
E5 (Miss Corbishley's room)

WHAT? WHO? WHEN? WHERE?

Short Story

BLOG

BOOK REVIEW



Ms A Corbishley
Acting Head of English

Cooks Corner



Over half term, Herts Catering kindly funded and installed some new canteen signage. From now on the canteen will be known as 'Fearnhill Food Hall'. The new sign is proving to be very popular with the students.



Summer BBQ

Get your tickets now!

Celebrate the end of term in style with a BBQ lunch.

Friday, 13th July.

Cheese burger, hotdog or vegetarian burger option with salads and an ice lolly.

All for only £2.50!

Tickets must be pre-booked and paid for in advance.

Tickets are available for purchase from the school canteen from Monday, 18th June. **Payment will not be accepted on the day itself.**

Students in receipt of free school meals will also need to obtain a ticket. If you pay for school meals on line, via School Gateway, you will still need to book and pay in advance to obtain a ticket.



Ms Hatch
Catering Manager



Hitchin Belles FC

FA Charter Standard Club & Arsenal Women Platinum Sister Club

The largest girls only football club in North Herts, Hitchin Belles, are looking for more players!

**Come try us out...
Open session for U14s (Season 18-19)
Friday 22nd June 6:30pm – 8pm
St Christopher School, Barrington Rd,
Letchworth SG6 3JZ**

Players Needed!

For more information on joining call or text Stu Nellis; 07922 196725

All our coaches hold CRC, FA safeguarding Children & Emergency 1st Aid & are minimum FA Level 1 qualified

↑ Training takes place at St Christopher School - LGC ↑



BEDWELL RANGERS FC GIRLS FOOTBALL

Arsenal Platinum Sister Club

REGISTERED CHARITY 1131242



PLAYERS WANTED

**We are keen to add a few more
School Year 9, 10 & 11 girls
to strengthen our
Under 14, 15 & 16 teams playing in the
Hertfordshire Girls Football
Partnership League**

We are an FA Charter Standard Development Club
with a priority of child protection, quality coaching &
Implementation of the FA Respect Programme

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.bedwellrangersfc.com

bedwellrangersfc@gmail.com

[Bedwell Rangers F.C.](https://www.facebook.com/BedwellRangers)

Neil Finch 07985 338356

[@BedwellRangers](https://twitter.com/BedwellRangers)



COOKERY Camps

Holiday cookery camp for boys & girls aged 4-11 featuring unique food adventures each day!

Summer 2018 Camp in HITCHIN
Week 1: 23-25 July | Week 2: 30 July - 01 Aug
Monday - Wednesday | 9am - 5pm

Kitchen skills • Science experiments • Ingredient talks
Seasonal decoration • Visitors & trips • Planting & growing
Food art • Flavour mixing • Star bakes • Lots of tasting!

Please DON'T pack a lunch (or tea) - all meals included!

Adventure Time!

- **Food Focus** - Always learning, always trying | portable foods | Sandwiches reinvented (3 layers, baked, veg for bread, toasties, open faced) | learn a new skill (individual learning opportunity)
- **Tackle it** - reusable food packaging | food storage & safety | holiday time eating (new places)



£40 per cook per day

Get in touch to book your child's place:
www.cookeryeatery.co.uk
info@cookeryeatery.co.uk
07795 627 492



COOKERY Camps

Holiday cookery camp for boys & girls aged 8-16 featuring unique food adventures each day!

Summer Camp in LETCHWORTH
26-27 July & 2-3 August 2018
Thursday & Friday | 9am - 5pm

Kitchen skills • Science experiments • Ingredient talks
Seasonal decoration • Visitors & trips • Planting & growing
Food art • Flavour mixing • Star bakes • Lots of tasting!

Please DON'T pack a lunch (or tea) - all meals included!

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FLECHWORTH FESTIVAL

JUNE 16TH - 1ST JULY

PLUS 90 MORE EVENTS

Be part of something special

PARK LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL • CHILLI FESTIVAL • COMMUNITY DAY
CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION • RUN ROUND THE GARDEN
ARMED FORCES DAY • ELECTRIC MOTOR SHOW • OPEN GARDENS

© www.lechworthfestival.org

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR

ARMED FORCES DAY

Organised By the Royal British Legion Letchworth

Letchworth Garden City

Saturday 30th June 2018
1000 - 1600

BROADWAY GARDENS – SG6 3PF

Military Bands – WWII Vintage Military Vehicles
Food - Stalls - Fun Fair - Angel Wings Dove Release
Cadets Challenge Cup - Soap Box Challenge
RBL Riders, Military Boot Camp
Crystalites Majorettes, Garden City Singers, Lindy Hop

#Armistice100 #RAF100
#WomenAtWar100

Proceeds to local Armed Forces charities

Support your Armed Forces

