

# It's exceedingly good for kids!

Children at two popular kids clubs have been enjoying themselves at Dame Elizabeth Hall, off Oak Tree Lane, Bournville.

On Thursday evenings during term time the cool kids club, X:Seed, springs to life from 6.15pm to 7.45pm.



• Kids went animal crackers

Recent special surprise visitors at the club have included Abraham the bearded lizard, and the Bournville Model Boat and Power Boat Club. At the last Jubilee Kids Club meeting, children had met the last surviving Time Lady "Doctor Why" and there were trips in the Tardis, sports, craft and music for the lucky time travellers.

**For more details on the X:Seed club or the Jubilee Kids Club, please call Tony or Anna on 0121 244 8987.**



• The Model Boat and Power Boat Club paid a visit

## Tudor theme runs through events at Selly Manor

A host of fantastic events take place at Selly Manor over the summer months.

The Tudors put their stamp on proceedings at the Mighty Monarchs from Tudor Times event, which runs from July 24 to August 10. Here people can learn all about the Tudor kings and queens through a wide range of great activities, find out about "Funny Money" and play some great games. There is also the chance to take part in Dainty Dancing and to look like a Tudor, with marvellous make-up and dazzling dressing up!

The event takes place from Tuesdays to Fridays, 10am to 5pm and Saturdays and Sundays 2pm to 5pm.

From August 14 to September 2 there is an exhibition by the Castle Arts Society.\*

This will be a showcase for the work of local artists in a mixed media exhibition and is on from Tuesdays to Fridays from 10am to 5pm and on Sundays 2pm to 5pm.

Summer Fun afternoon sessions take place at 1pm and again at 3pm. On August 15 you can learn juggling and diabolo skills at the Jester Skills event.

On August 23 you can make a pomander - a Tudor style air freshener - with orange and spices. And on August 31 you can create your own Tudor-inspired portrait.

Tudor times will also be brought to life in our History Alive event on August 26 and 27. Go back in time through the talents of the young re-enactors of the Living History Group. Get to see them over the two days between 11am and 4pm.

**Admission prices for all the sessions at Selly Manor are as follows:**

**Adults £3.50**

**Concessions and Children £2**

\*Castle Arts Society - Children £1.50.



• There are loads of activities going on at Selly Manor.

# Festival atmosphere blends the traditional and modern

In the last edition of **Outlook** we appealed for a roving reporter.

**Josephine Flunder** (pictured below) took up the challenge and takes a look back at more than a century of the **Bournville Festival**.



For over 100 years, people of all generations have come together and enjoyed taking part in the annual Bournville Festival, which holds a unique atmosphere and charm with its blend of the traditional and modern.

Originally called the

'Children's Festival' it first took place in 1902 to commemorate a double celebration. This was the coronation of Edward VII and the birthday of Dame Elizabeth Cadbury on June 24. Although it was renamed the Bournville Village Festival in 1968, it has never lost sight of being first and foremost a festival for children.



**Feature by our roving reporter Josephine Flunder**



From the Victorian era to the present day, the crowning of the Queen and the children dancing around the Maypole has been the centrepiece and main event of the festival. The enchanting display of colour and music has changed little over the years and is still enjoyed as much today as yesteryear. It used to take six strong men to heave the wooden pole into position but in 1973 it was replaced by a lighter alloy material. The young girls who lined the route for the queen were called Petal Girls and the dancers were called String Girls, though today boys now take part in the dancing. The ribbons are still the same colours: red, green, blue, white and yellow. In 1913 the other entertainment by the children included a play, singing, athletic competition, and a 'pig sticking' contest.

Since 1903 the festival has been organised by the Bournville Village Council, and it is their dedication that has made the festival what it is today.

Over the years they have caringly introduced different forms of entertainment. What was once a parochial festival now incorporates a funfair with its sideshows and bumper cars.

The grand finale at the end of the day is the firework display and as it lights up the night sky it also reminds us that we must come again next year.

This year's festival took place on Saturday June 30 at the Cadbury's Sports Ground and included a spectacular firework display. Our photos show highlights from this year's event.

