



# The BIG Top on Sunday

The daily newsletter of The BIG Top Holiday Club for Sunday 31 August 2008  
 The BIG Top Holiday Club is run by Teddington Baptist Church  
 with help from other Teddington Churches and Acts 88;  
 The BIG Top Office tel: 020 8977 8000; website: [www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk](http://www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk)

## Finding the Hidden Treasure

### News Headlines

#### Meet the Leaders



Claire

Claire Fletcher has been the main Leader all week in The Arena (8-10s).

Outside of The BIG Top, Claire is a school teacher. She is a member of Teddington Baptist Church and leads the Thursday evening group for children in school years 3, 4 and 5 which is called Livewires.

#### The Talent Show

Yesterday the children had a Talent Show with lots of fabulous acts including singing, dancing, and poetry readings.

#### The BIG Top Drama

During today's Celebration we have the final episode of The BIG Top drama in which the Landlubbers discover all the good things about becoming part of the King's navy. Thanks to the actors – Candice Maudlin, Charlotte Blyth, Tom Chapman, Luke Littledale, Geoff Hawkins, Richard Littledale plus Monkey and Parrot. They gave us lots of fun each day as we learnt how to become Landlubbers rather than pirates.

**The BIG Top says:** *Why be lost at sea when you can be safe and sound in the King's service?*

#### Pirated Joke of the Day

We have been enjoying retelling pirated jokes and here is today's final one: Q: "Which letter of the alphabet is a pirate's favourite?" A: "arrrr!"

#### Sponsoring Churches

The churches helping to run The BIG Top this year have been Teddington Baptist Church, St Peter's and St Paul's, and Teddington Methodist Church. Candice Maudlin (Acts 88) has helped all week and is also helping to lead the Celebration today.

The theme for The BIG Top was Landlubbers: pirates searching for hidden treasure. We had treasure maps, golden eggs, treasure chests and golden medallions. But the real treasure was found on the back of a golden medallion in the words of the memory verse which many of the children learnt off by heart:

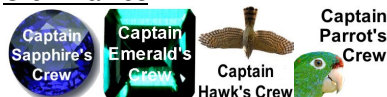
Paul said ***"Nothing is as wonderful as knowing Jesus Christ my Lord. I have given up everything else and count it all as rubbish. All I want is Christ."*** (Philippians 3:8)

**The BIG Top says:** *Jesus is the real treasure. Knowing him makes even a golden medallion look like rubbish!*

#### Castaway Paul

Our talk this morning is by Castaway Paul who has been sharing his real life adventures all week with the children in The Ring. He told them how he had met Jesus on the road to Damascus and had come to love him Paul said "All I want is Christ".

#### Crew Names



Our pirate crews had Captains with unusual names. Some crew logos have already been featured in The BIG Top. Here are the others (above and below):



#### Thanks to our Sponsors

We are really grateful to The Fun Factory, Homebase, Johnson's Shoes, Sainsbury's, Tesco's and Avenue Coatings (Slough) all of whom donated vouchers, materials or gave discounts for things we needed. This included materials to make the pirate galleon, treasure chests, treasure eggs, lighthouse cookies, and treasure maps. Samples of craft made during the week are on display at The BIG Top Celebration today.

### Don't Forget

#### Today is our Celebration Day

If you would like to join us for the fun, inflatables and BBQ after the Celebration, the suggested donation for those who have not already got a family ticket is: Family ticket £5; Individual £3.

#### Thank You!



Colin

Colin Hicks, this year's organiser for The BIG Top, sends a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped

create The BIG Top 2008. There were over 100 helpers involved in one way or another in The BIG Top and Rock Café/The Event (the evening sessions for those 11 and over). They all helped make it yet another great week for everyone, young and old, to enjoy.

#### How Many Attended?

The morning sessions of The BIG Top 2008 were attended at one time or another by over 150 children. We hope to see lots of the children again throughout the coming year at the children's activities of the sponsoring churches (see over page).

#### The BIG Top Website

The BIG Top website has photos and newsletters from all the 9 years of The BIG Top including this one. More material will be added during this coming week including more photos from this year. You can relive the week at: [www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk](http://www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk)

#### Next Year?

This was our ninth year of running The BIG Top. But we don't plan to stop there. Pencil The BIG Top 2009 into your diaries for the same week next year (25-30 August). Watch out for an announcement early next year confirming the dates and theme.