

# Treloar's Today

THE NEWSLETTER  
FOR FRIENDS  
OF TRELOAR'S

BBC  
TWO



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**TRELOAR'S STUDENT IS BBC TWO TV STAR**

**Inside this Issue** • Don't Forget The Driver • Woodlarks visit • National Open Youth Orchestra • **September 2019**

A visit from our Royal Patron, HRH The Countess of Wessex GCMG • Nina's Story • Sophie's gift for Rory Bremner

Image courtesy of BBC/Sister Pictures

# About Treloar's

Founded in 1907, Treloar's is a School and College for children and young adults aged 2-25 with physical disabilities. Every year we have to raise over £2 million to provide all our students with access to the specialist staff, equipment and opportunities needed to give them the confidence and skills to realise their full potential. With your support, we can help all our young people enjoy the chance to achieve so much more than they, or their parents, could ever have imagined possible. Thank you.

## Autumn edition of Treloar's Today

A warm welcome to you, in my first edition of Treloar's Today. I would like to thank Homes Estate Agents for continuing to sponsor Treloar's Today – we are very grateful for your generous support.

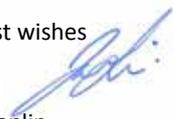


Since joining earlier this year I have enjoyed the most amazing welcome from students, parents, colleagues, governors, trustees and supporters alike. I would also like to make a special mention to Tony Reid, for his insight and support passing over the leadership of the Trust to me and to our Principal, Martin Ingram, for his warm welcome and sharing of knowledge.

As we refine our new strategy the Trust is focused on remaining true to Sir William's original aims and ever cognisant of the evolving needs of young people with disabilities and the changing nature of those disabilities. I am honoured to have been entrusted with the leadership of the Trust and crucially working with and in support of the Board to establish and deliver our next strategic vision. Now we look to the future, whilst safeguarding the present and consider how we need to adapt to meet the changing demands of the next decade. Reiterating and defining the vision, mission and values that will drive us and set the outcomes that will steer all our actions over the next decade.

Please don't be a stranger – come and visit us, meet our wonderful young people and find out how you can support the Trust in all we do. You will be supporting young people with highly complex disabilities and in turn helping us grow our services and outreach.

With best wishes



Jessica Taplin  
Chief Executive, Treloar Trust



*“Great things happen when all the little things come together.”*

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## Cover story: Treloar's College student stars in BBC Two comedy 'Don't Forget The Driver'

Stardom beckons for 20-year old Treloar College student Will, who has landed a starring role as Kieran in BBC Two new comedy series 'Don't Forget The Driver'.

Written and created by internationally acclaimed BAFTA nominated actor Toby Jones, and Obie award winning playwright and experimental theatre maker Tim Crouch, 'Don't Forget The Driver' stars Toby Jones in a dark comedy set in the sunny, seaside town of Bognor Regis.

Commissioned by Patrick Holland (Controller of BBC Two) and Shane Allen, (Controller of BBC Comedy), it tells the story of coach driver and single father Peter Green (Jones).

His is a life of monotonous routine, clip-on ties, soggy packed lunches, vehicle checks, round-trip coach journeys ferrying church groups to donkey sanctuaries, and shuttling Japanese tourists to Canterbury Cathedral.

But his humdrum existence is turned upside down when he reluctantly becomes

a good Samaritan after making a shocking discovery on his local beach, which he ignores and walks away from. Cryptic? Watch the show and all will be revealed!

As for Will, he was drawn to his character because he was confident, cheeky and foul-mouthed. As Will put it:

*"He suited my personality! Plus he was never patronised. I made absolutely sure that I spoke clearly – we retook scenes if I didn't – and I'd use different words if needed."*

*Above all, I wanted to show that disabled people can act. 'Don't Forget The Driver' was a fantastic opportunity for me and my acting career and I made lots of new friends, particularly Neil. I'll never forget this experience and hope there'll be a second series, as well as some more acting offers for me. I also hope I was a good role model for other actors with disabilities."*

## Woodlarks visit

At Treloar's we understand that learning doesn't just take place in the classroom. Socialising and non-classroom activities play a huge role in any young person's development, and often provide our students with priceless life experiences.

In May 2019, 10 Treloar College students spent a couple of nights away at the Woodlarks camp site.

Set in 12 acres of bucolic Surrey woodland, Woodlarks allows anyone, whatever their disability, to enjoy the experience of a lifetime, thanks to accessible purpose-built support buildings and state-of-the-art showers and toilets. Our students enjoyed activities ranging from a bonfire and barbecue, to an exhilarating aerial display by a bird of prey. They also had fun cooking for themselves (but less fun washing up afterwards!) and listened to live music from a local band. The weather was fabulous, if a bit cold in the evenings, and our students and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### What our students thought...

*"Thank you for taking me to Woodlarks. I loved going there with my friends."*  
Corey

*"It was an amazing two days, and for me the highlight was the bonfire. I enjoyed being with other students and spending time with my key worker outside the college."* Bex

### What our staff thought...

*"I loved every minute I was there, supporting the students in a completely different setting! Thanks again for two lovely shifts at Woodlarks. It was so nice to be there with the students and staff."*  
Nick



# Royal Patron, HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO, visit

We were honoured to receive a Royal visit from HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO, who came to visit in June to 'meet the students'.

The Countess was welcomed by the Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Rear Admiral Iain Henderson CB CBE, as well as the Chairman of Hampshire County Council, East Hampshire District Council and Alton's Town Mayor. Her Royal Highness also met our new Patron, Bob Barrett (a.k.a. Dr Sasha Levy in the BBC One drama series, *Holby City*), as well as staff and students who gave The Countess a very warm welcome.

The Royal party then proceeded on a tour of Treloar School, enjoying various classroom activities including Science, Design & Technology, and PE lessons, and The Countess took part in a game of table cricket with the students. She also met some of our younger pupils during a Sensory story session, directed by Treloar's in-house Speech & Language, Occupational Therapy and Music Therapy staff.

*"We're honoured to enjoy Her Royal Highness's long-standing Patronage. It means a great deal for our students and hard-working team to have her visit us. They were all overjoyed to meet Her Royal Highness and be able to show her what they could achieve."* said Jessica Taplin, CEO of Treloar Trust.



## Treloar's students join National Open Youth Orchestra

Treloar School and College are delighted to announce that five students have been accepted to join the National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO). Open Orchestra works to improve ensemble music-making for young disabled people nationwide, and has 34 partner organisations delivering 52 Open Orchestras across the U.K., enabling young people to take part in music-making and play in real time and with intent.

**Treloar's has been part of Open Orchestra since 2017 and our School and College orchestra is set to increase in size. We have five young people taking part in NOYO, four of whom use Clarion, a technological instrument adaptable to the needs of the students and accessed through touch-screen, eye gaze or smart navigation technology, where the student can use any body movement to create music.**

Students Ella, Sherwin, Sally, Leo and Alessandro auditioned in early May and have all been accepted to join NOYO, which provides orchestral training at weekends as well as 1:1 tuition with professional musicians. Ella, Sherwin, Leo and Alessandro play Clarion and Sally sings and plays the keyboard.

Students who have taken part in the orchestras this year have told us how much they enjoy being able to play a musical instrument independently, "I like it because I can do it on my own" and staff have said how being in an orchestra supports well-being and community spirit: "It's great that the group can work together even though they didn't know each other before, they are a proper team and bring

out the best in each other". Open Orchestra and Clarion technology allow students to express themselves musically, demonstrate their skills and take part in activities that bring a host of long-term benefits, from emotional well-being to taking part in a team.

**More details are available at:**  
<http://noyo.org.uk/>





**Former student Gemma Mitchell:**

A key feature of the BBC's Get Inspired initiative is to highlight the tireless work of "Unsung Heroes" people who run sports clubs across the U.K. So hearty congratulations to former Treloar's student Gemma Mitchell, who has been named as the South's BBC Unsung Hero. Since leaving Treloar's, Gemma has founded and runs Victoria Community Boccia Club, and earned this prestigious award due to her hard work and dedication. Well done Gemma!

**Sophie's gift for Rory Bremner:** Sophie, our Student Governor, recently created a beautiful piece of artwork as part of her College Enterprise course. The artwork was presented to the comedian and impressionist, Rory Bremner, as a thank you gift for entertaining supporters at a recent fundraising evening at Froyle Park, (previously the home of Treloar School). Rory was delighted with his gift, which was made even more special because it was presented to him by Sophie's Mum Krista, who spoke at the event about how Treloar's has supported Sophie and her family over the years.



**National Garden Scheme (NGS):**

We were delighted to welcome the NGS to Treloar's in April, where representatives spent time with one of our School classes enjoying the wonders of outdoor learning.



The class garden has a courtyard with raised beds for ease of access; there is one part with flowers and scented plants, another with herbs, and the third with vegetables used to make organic soups and bakes. During the morning our students weeded the raised beds, replenished the bird feeders, sorted the plant pots and pressed flowers to create bunting for their forthcoming tea party.

NGS has generously granted funding towards our incredible new Outdoor Learning Centre (due to open in 2020), which will create new and exciting learning opportunities for all our students and the wider disabled community.

*Student Round-Up*



**A day trip to London:** As part of our activities during a recent respite weekend, we organised a trip to London.

The students took the train from Alton to London Waterloo, and then made the short journey to the London Eye for a quick 'spin in the sky' – definitely the highlight of their day!

After a picnic lunch on the South Bank, and taking in some more culture courtesy of the living statues along the Thames, they headed back home. All our students enjoyed the experience and loved travelling further from Treloar's on a longer trip.

Your support made this possible – thank you!

**Thank you for "giving me a life":**

At Treloar's, not only do we provide a School and College for physically disabled young people, but also a number of independent living flats for young adults up to the age of 35.

These young adults live in Campbell Court for around two years, during which time they receive specialised training to help them live more independently in the future.

So a big thank you to all our donors, whose generosity has enabled us to refurbish the flats with new hoists, a door access system, create sleep-in carer rooms, and upgrade the car park.

One of the Campbell Court residents who recently moved into the local community said: *"Thank you to everyone for supporting me over the years – you've given me an opportunity which I never thought I'd have when I was growing up – thank you for making my new life possible."*



**Students take part in Channel 4's 'Come Dine with Me' cookery show:**

The well-known TV competition was run over three evenings where teams of students cooked meals for their peers. The students planned and cooked their menus which the judges rated. Plenty of gourmet delights were on offer, including meatballs with tomato sauce, rocky road, chocolate ganache pots. The students really enjoyed it, mostly the eating part! Congratulations to the winners - Arlo, Poppy and Ella.

# Treloar's experience

In the first of what we hope will become a regular feature, College student Nina and her parents spoke to us about their 'Treloar's experience' and its positive impact on their lives...

## Nina's story

Hi - My name's Nina. I came all the way from Cheshire to study at Treloar's near Alton. I was so determined to come here that we took our local authority to a tribunal and we won. I mention that partly because one of the tribunal panel really focused on my visual impairment needs as much as my mobility needs to show that the local college in Cheshire couldn't provide this.

Anyway, here I am two years later, going to Keele University in September 2019 to study Counselling and Psychology.

The fantastic thing about being here is the access to specialist support and mainstream education through Treloar's and Alton College's partnership. I wanted to increase my independence, and in my second year moved into a shared 'independence flat' with someone who's become one of my best friends. We do the cooking, tidying and laundry, all within a weekly budget. But it's not all chores...

We've been on theatre trips, to rugby matches at Twickenham, clothes shopping, music festivals, and regular visits to The Queens Head, so never a dull moment!

Going back to my visual impairment, I can't speak highly enough of Pretty's (Pretty Jetwani; Visual Impairment Advisor, seen in the photo with Nina) support. When I started I was nervous being away from home for the first time and my vision deteriorated. Pretty made sure there was nothing seriously wrong, and we just needed to make a few changes, putting more colourful visual markers in my room and practicing my regular routes so they became familiar. Pretty arranged special staff training for everyone working with me at Treloar's and Alton, and my vision returned to previous levels. Sally, my Occupational Therapist, is brilliant too: she's worked closely with Pretty to take into consideration my visual condition. One of the brilliant things about Treloar's



is the support I've needed - therapists, house staff, IT, nurses and doctors - have always been available. I'll miss everyone at Treloar's, and being able to move around safely in a friendly place, but I'm now well-equipped to move onto the next stage of my life. Nina, Evans House.

## Nina's parents' story

What attracted us to Treloar's was the arrangement with Alton College to allow Nina to study Level 3 Health & Social Care, receive support with therapies and increasing her independence. When we visited, we were impressed with the professionalism, facilities and friendliness at both colleges.



It was a big step for Nina, and for us, as it would be the first time that she would live away from home and we did see the distance (200 miles) as an obstacle, but we all agreed that she should go for the best option and Treloar's / Alton was it!

Due to the inadequate level of knowledge and resources and fragmentation of adult services in our local area, we were worried that Nina wouldn't make any progress. So after a year's delay, when we had to take our local authority to tribunal which we won, thankfully, Nina started at Treloar's in September 2017.

From our point of view, it's been a thoroughly rewarding two years and fully justified our decision to choose Treloar's. Nina has done really well in her studies and is starting university at Keele in September this year, studying Psychology and Counselling. It's been so encouraging to see her confidence grow and watch her mature into a young adult while she's been away. She's come to terms with her visual impairment, in addition to her mobility restrictions, and has received extremely valuable input and support from Pretty Jetwani. Nina probably didn't realise how much her visual issues impacted on her life before meeting Pretty, who was able to explain, empathise and help with this so that Nina could direct her support, both domestic and academic, to best effect.

Nina is now able to have confidence for the future, as she's proved that she can live independently with support, and can look forward to continuing her studies much nearer to home thanks to the skills, knowledge and dedication of the people at Treloar's and Alton Colleges. We're so grateful that she's had the opportunity to experience the last two years. We'll always feel a connection to this place and will continue to support Treloar's and stay in contact.

Best wishes, Tim & Jane (pictured with Nina)

# Become a Christmas Card Angel

Would you like to become a Christmas Card Angel this season? Here's how...



Can you help us to raise essential funds for our young people at Treloar's, by promoting and selling our range of Christmas cards and gifts amongst your friends and family? You could invite them round for tea, coffee and cake, or a drink & nibbles in the evening, and share what we have to offer.

We'll supply you with a Christmas Card Angel Pack, which includes samples of our Christmas cards, some of our Christmas products, a Christmas brochure, order forms and plenty of other information about Treloar's.

**Every purchase you make from the Treloar's shop has a direct benefit to the students. Please call Karen Sanderson direct on 01420 547478 to order your copy of the brochure or place your order online: [www.treloar.org.uk/support-us/shop](http://www.treloar.org.uk/support-us/shop)**



## Christmas card and gift brochure

It's fast approaching that festive time of year again, so please find enclosed a copy of our 2019 Christmas card and gift brochure so you can start planning your Christmas gifts and cards.

This year we have a wide selection of beautiful Christmas cards including some from our students and a series of unique prints from Jessica Hogarth Designs.

The brochure is also jam-packed with gift ideas from Nadiya Hussain's ceramics, artist and designer Roger la Borde, award-winning paper designers Meri Meri, Jessica Hogarth and of course Treloar gifts.

[www.treloar.org.uk/support-us/shop](http://www.treloar.org.uk/support-us/shop)



## Cards for Good Causes

Cards for Good Causes supports more than 250 UK national charities by selling a wide choice of Christmas cards online and through 300 seasonal 'pop-up' shops.

We are delighted to announce that Treloar's, has been accepted again as a guest charity in Cards for Good Causes outlets for 2019 in the following locations:

**Hampshire/Surrey:** Alton • Farnham • Fleet • Lymington • Petersfield

**Central London/Greater London:** Barnes • Covent Garden • Islington • Piccadilly • Putney • Sloane Street • Westminster

**Essex:** Brentwood

Or buy online at the Cards for Good Causes website: [www.cardsforcharity.co.uk](http://www.cardsforcharity.co.uk)



## Festive singing and signing

On Thursday 12th December 18:30 - 22:00 Treloar's will host its annual Christmas concert in Florence Treloar Hall at Treloar's.

Treloar's students and the Hart Male Voice Choir will join forces to perform a melody of Christmas songs and festive favourites such as 'We Wish you a Merry Christmas', 'Silent Night' and 'In the Bleak Mid Winter'.

Mulled wine and mince pies will be available, with the opportunity for some last minute Christmas card and gift shopping. So please do come along between 18:30 - 22:00 and get in the Christmas spirit with Treloar's!

We would love to see you there [www.treloar.org.uk/events-challenges](http://www.treloar.org.uk/events-challenges)

# Calendar of Events

We have some amazing events lined up before the end of the year. Alternatively, if you are looking for a different way to raise funds why not consider taking part in some of our Challenge Events. There is something for everyone's taste and fitness level, ranging from treks, runs and swims to triathlons and parachute jumps. [www.treloarevents.org.uk](http://www.treloarevents.org.uk)



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**Mansion House Gala Dinner**

**Mansion House, London**

By permission of the RT Hon The Lord Mayor of The City of London. Tickets: £140 includes a 3 course dinner & wine



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OCT

**Dummer Fair Preview Evening  
17:30 Opening**

**Dummer Cricket Club, Basingstoke**

95 fabulous gift stalls, clothing, homewares and freshly-made food. Tickets: £10 on the evening (£8 if purchased in advance). Inc. wine



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OCT

**Dummer Fair Daytime  
09:30 – 15:30**

**Dummer Cricket Club, Basingstoke**

All profits from the Fair will be donated to Treloar's. Entry: £7 on the day (or £5 if purchased in advance)



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OCT

**The Treloar's Autumn Art Lecture  
09:30 – 15:30**

**Treloar's Campus, Holybourne**

Two great collectors of art and one dastardly Disperser: Kings Charles I & II and Oliver Cromwell. Entry: £25



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NOV

**Treloar's Christmas Shopping Event  
09:00 – 13:00**

**Caffe Nero, High Street, Alton**

Enjoy Christmas with a delicious coffee (and more) thanks to the joint Treloar's / Caffe Nero Product Launch. Entry: Free



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DEC

**Treloar's Christmas Fair  
Friday afternoon**

**Treloar's Campus, Holybourne**

Stalls, crafts, games and fun, all in aid of Treloar's. Entry: Free



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DEC

**Treloar's Christmas Concert  
18:30 – 22:00**

**Treloar's Campus, Holybourne**

Enjoy the Treloar's student magical Christmas concert. Entry: £10 for adults, £5 for children under 12.



[www.treloar.org.uk](http://www.treloar.org.uk)

Keep Up-To-Date Check our website and social media regularly.

