

15:47 Tuesday 16 February 2016 Written by Grace Witherden

## The Voice star and Cookham mum take leap of faith to promote charity day

A leap of faith was taken by Cookham volunteers to raise awareness of a special charity event.



Beth Morris, a contestant on BBC's *The Voice* and Cookham mum Bridget King made the jump at Longridge Activity Centre on Friday to promote Leap for Africa day which takes place on leap day, Monday, February 29.

The leap of faith involves climbing up a 13-metre pole and then leaping from the platform to grab a trapeze at the top.

It has been organised by Cookham's Social Action Committee and will involve pupils from Cookham Rise and Holy Trinity schools taking part in sponsored jumps to raise money for two charities.



Money will go towards Partners for Change Ethiopia (PFCE) and the New Brainstorm School (NBS) in Uganda.

Sarah Parfitt, an ambassador for Partners for Change Ethiopia said: "I'm so excited for the day and I hope that people will really embrace the idea and change children's lives in Ethiopia and Uganda this leap year.

"We're asking people to jump the leap of faith or they can do sponsored star jumps or leaps."

There will be 100 spaces at Longridge on the day for people to sign up to take the leap of faith.

Richard Rhodes, deputy head of Cookham Rise Primary School said: “Knowing that our fundraising efforts would start in earnest in 2016, a leap year, it occurred to me that that jumping into action represented a great starting point.

“A little brainstorming with my colleagues in the social action committee gave rise to Cookham leaping for Africa with the hope that everyone in the area will find a way of leaping to the aid of the unfortunate.”

Beth said: “I was so petrified when I was stood up there, but I just had to go through it and get in the zone.

“It just made me think that I can’t complain because all I’m doing is jumping off a high pole, compared to children that are suffering.”

Visit [www.longridge.co.uk](http://www.longridge.co.uk) to sign up.

**Watch a video of Beth's leap by Holden Media Pro below:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27hS8f954eE>