



# Banners Gate & Parklands

Community & Neighbourhood Forum

## 125th Issue April & May 2018

[www.gatepostbannersgate.co.uk](http://www.gatepostbannersgate.co.uk)

**The dates of the next three meetings are: 21st May, 30th July and 24th September.**

Letters had been delivered by hand to all the candidates standing in the Town and City elections on May 3rd., cordially inviting the successful candidates to come to our forum meeting on Monday, 21st May, at 7.30 p.m., to give us a flavour of how they wish to serve Sutton Vesey and, in particular, the residents of Banners Gate. The new councillors will have the same amount of time to have their say, how long will depend on how many turn up. We will then have our free coffee break when new councillors, and the residents present, will have the opportunity to informally chat. **All residents are welcome.**

### From our newly elected Town & City Councillors

**Cllr. Rob Pocock:** "I want to thank the residents of Banners Gate and Parklands for the tremendous vote of confidence at the recent elections. Topping the poll is a very generous level of public endorsement, and I'm very grateful for the support. But there is now a lot to be done to make the Town Council work more effectively for local residents. I have been increasingly critical of the priorities they have shown over the first two years, and from my conversations with residents during the elections I'm aware many local people also share this view. Too much time and money has gone onto vanity projects like the concert in the Park, ceremonials and the like. Not enough has been done to provide the basic Town Council services to residents. This needs to be corrected. I will do all I can to lobby and pressurise the Town Council leadership to change tack.

Another thing that has gone wrong, is that there is too much political control from the centre. The money from the Precept needs to be devolved more locally, to neighbourhoods like ours, so that local residents can have more say in what is done with THEIR money. Finally, it needs to be made more clear, as to what the Town Council does, and what the City Council does. People are confused about this. The Councils of Birmingham and Sutton need to work better together, and not be at loggerheads all the time. That does no-one any good. As I am now elected both as your City and Town Councillor, I will be making a major priority to improve these relationships in the coming period. With many thanks again for your great vote of support."

**Cllr. Louise Passey:** "The only message from myself is a massive big thank you to the residents of Vesey for electing me to Town Council. I'm delighted and very honoured to serve Vesey Ward for the next four years! Looking forward to making great progress to make Vesey Ward and Sutton Coldfield an even better place to live!"

**Cllr. Kath Scott:** "It is a great honour to have been selected to represent the Sutton Vesey Ward, alongside Rob Pocock, at Birmingham City Council. I would like to thank each and every person that voted. I promise to repay the huge public support fully and robustly over the next 4 years. With labour now having full control over the Ward I'm looking forward to a really positive future where Rob and I WILL make a huge difference. We will get things done. We will fully represent residents with honour and integrity because we are a team you can trust."

**Cllr. Alison Jolley:** "I am excited at my new post of Conservative Councillor for Vesey Ward and I would like to thank all those who voted for me at the very recent local elections. I know Boldmere particularly well as I have lived and worked in and around the area for many years. Last summer I started to become involved with local issues

by joining Councillor Louise Passey on a regular basis when she has been working hard on projects that affect residents in Boldmere and other areas of Vesey Ward. I now look forward to developing this work further as we continue to work together over the next four years. As I live locally I enjoy walking from home to Boldmere high street on a frequent and regular basis to use the shops and eating places, so I am sure it won't be long before you get to know me if you have not met me before."

**Cllr. Manish Puri:** "So, it seems the good residents of Sutton Vesey weren't too displeased with my performance over the last two years and have again bestowed the great privilege, and honour, of representing them in Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council. I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who assisted, supported and voted to make this happen. Congratulations also to my fellow Labour councillors: Rob Pocock, Kath Scott and Julie Ashley-Higgins. I look forward to meeting and working with all my fellow Town Councillors.

I hope this will be an opportunity to reset how the Royal Sutton Town Council operates for the benefit of the town as a whole. With four years till the next City and Town Council elections we can all hopefully set aside political manoeuvring and make progress on delivering the promise with which the Town Council was set up – to make life better for those who live and work in our communities. I am optimistic that the next few years will see the Town Council start to achieve its full potential and ask you all to work with us to make this possible. Finally, thanks again to all of you, the Banners Gate Forum and Tony Willis for all your support over the past two years."

**Cllr. Janet Cairns:** "I have been busy campaigning for a City and Town Council seat for Vesey and although I was able to retain my Town Council seat I very narrowly missed out on a city seat coming third to Rob Pocock and Kath Scott. Many congratulations to them both and thank you very much to all of you residents who voted for me, I really appreciate it.

In the meantime, we are now all steam ahead with the planning of a Social Inclusion Conference for the summer, for Sutton Coldfield Town Council that will bring our local voluntary groups together to share information and to network. The date for this will be soon advised via our Town Clerk.

I have also led an application to the Charities Commission and to date the Sutton Coldfield Disability Action Group are waiting to confirm status this month. Also, we have an application to Awards for All to fund associated activities and again we will know if we have been successful this coming month."

**AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT. TEL: EDITOR AT 605 4947**

Editor: Tony Willis, 44 Hollyhurst Road. B73 6SY Tel: 605 4947, or [bgatepost@gmail.com](mailto:bgatepost@gmail.com) Next deadline: July 12<sup>th</sup>.

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**Minutes of the Banners Gate (Sutton Vesey) Neighbourhood Forum AGM meeting  
held in Banners Gate Community Hall on Monday 26<sup>h</sup> March, 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

**1. Apologies.** Jean & Tony Smith; Hazel Pollock; Carole Smith; Harold Jones; Mike Hughes  
**2. Minutes of last meeting.** These were passed in the May 2017 meeting  
**3. Annual Reports.** Gatepost is more popular than ever but more adverts need more space and sheets of paper. There are 39 deliverers covering 44 streets. There has been a successful bid for extra money and £600 was given by the Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council which adds to the usual £500 grant from Birmingham City Council. The forum has also secured £9,686 for a Social Media Awareness Course which is ongoing and delivered at the Age Concern Communita room in Boldmere Road. A separate account has been set up for this grant for the course. Some of the grant for the Social Media Awareness Course is also to be spent on one coloured and stapled issue of the Gatepost newsletter.

There have been six speakers during the year but John Porter has missed a few times due to various reasons. The annual income from the adverts is £440; Standing Orders give £160 and donations coming in as cheques give £620, which totals to £1220. Sixteen years ago there was a very different situation when the forum was able to give a donation of money towards the Banners Gate playground in the park.

Jean Smith, who has been our excellent Minutes Secretary for many years has had to retire due to illness and so we need someone to volunteer for the role.

**4. Nominations.**

Chairman—Tony Willis, proposed by Rick Solly; seconded by Penny Solly.

Secretary—vacant

Treasurer—Nicky Turner, proposed by Janet Sharp; seconded by Sandra Hughes.

Committee—16 members voted on block, proposed by Rick Solly; seconded by Penny Solly.

Auditor—Harold Jones, proposed by Janet Sharp; seconded by Joyce Glendenning.

**5. Standing Orders**

Meetings take place bi-monthly on the last Monday of the month except for May when it is the penultimate Monday. The meetings start at 7.30 pm. with a speaker, then a free coffee break and then the official meeting. The meeting usually finishes at 9.30 pm.

**Minutes of the Banners Gate (Sutton Vesey)  
Neighbourhood Forum ordinary meeting  
held in Banners Gate Community Hall on Monday  
26<sup>h</sup> March, 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

Unfortunately, due to a diary error, for which he has fully apologised, Karl Randall, the expected speaker, did not appear.

**Questions that were raised for Karl Randall.**

The queuing of traffic along Banners Gate Road has improved but is still causing concern. There was a suggestion of a possible three way system at the traffic lights from Banners Gate Road to Monmouth Drive and Chester Road, like the one from Monmouth Drive to Banners Gate Road and Chester Road, and white lines to show how far forward to move when turning right onto Chester Road from Banners Gate Road. A similar traffic lights is to be found at the top of Bellwell Lane near the Four Oaks Pub at Mere Green. Councillor Pocock stated that there is a study going on by B.C.C. and Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council to survey traffic flow into Sutton Coldfield in order to look for pinch points. The results will generate a grant from Central Government to resolve issues highlighted by the research.

**The service road in Queslett Road East:** Access needs to be blocked off downhill to stop traffic from turning right into the service road which is a very dangerous manoeuvre. The white painted directions also need to be re-done.

Concern was expressed that the proposed Changing Places in Royal Sutton Coldfield would be in the wrong place. To access the facility there would need to be a larger lift space and tall vehicles, that disabled people often use, cannot park in Gracechurch multi-storey car park. Other problems for disabled parking spots are in Holland Street and outside Halifax Bank where the space needs to be marked out to encourage better parking. The dropped kerb there is often covered by parked cars.

The road surfaces in Somerville Road and along the top of Westwood Road from George Frederick Road are in a very bad state. Councillor Pocock advised that they should be back on the to-do list at the start of the financial year. Someone asked whether Amey would use plastic in the asphalt.

**Apologies:** Jean & Tony Smith; Hazel Pollock; Carole Smith; Harold Jones; Mike Hughes

**Minutes of last meeting:** they were a true record, proposed by Joyce Glendenning and seconded by Janet Sharpe.

**Matters Arising:** tasking meetings are being re-arranged and dates and venue will be announced.

**Correspondence:** Birmingham Connect - [www.birmingham.gov.uk/connected](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/connected)

**The Social Media Awareness Course** is concentrating now on the specific needs of the attendees. On 26 03 2018 there were five people and two experts training them. Eleven more sessions are booked including five more Mondays, then Thursdays.

**Your Local Councillors**

Cllr. Lyn Collin and Cllr. Andrew Hardie - We now hold appointments in residents' homes and in the Sutton Office which can be made on 0121 354 2999 NOT at The Carpenters Arms.

Cllr. Robert Pocock, [rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk), tel: 0121 303 2039 (Labour Group Office), Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB. Advice Bureau: Boldmere Library, 11.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. First Saturday of the Month.

**Crime check:** On 29th August 2017 a car broke down near the King George V playing fields and was left there until February 2018 when the tax and insurance ran out. Unfortunately, there is no legislation that allowed it to be removed before then.

Please see the Birmingham City website [www.birmingham.gov.uk](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk) for information about parking, roadworks and transport matters. There has been an increase in crime in the area; 36 in the local area and most were shoplifting at Princess Alice Shopping Centre. For burglary please make sure that small top windows are kept locked along with other windows as they can make access too easy.

**Vehicle safety:** There have been 9 vehicle crimes and, according to the RAC, it is a good idea to use a deterrent such as a steering lock to make stealing more difficult. There have been 2 criminal damage crimes, 2 robberies and 4 incidents of violence and sex crimes. In future a blog will be started to highlight these problems in the area

**Scams:** Information has come from Trading Standards. £10 billion is lost to scammers each year and it is important to remember that an offer of money is always too good to be true, for example: prizes and telephone scams. Never pay in advance. Avoid doorstep scams by never agreeing to cold calling. Always ask for identification and put a chain on the door. Internet and phone scams - do not give your details nor your bank details.

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20108/trading\\_standards/343/scams\\_and\\_hoaxes](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20108/trading_standards/343/scams_and_hoaxes)

**Friends of King George V playing fields:**

Tesco donated £6000 to build the bund and plant flowers. John Porter is to send an invoice and then Tesco will give £2000 more to make it up to the full funding of £8000.

**The next Town Council meeting:** On 19th May the Town Council will meet in the Town hall 6.15—8.00 pm.

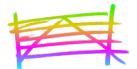
**At the next Forum meeting on 21st May:** All five new Town Councillors and both City Councillors are invited to attend. The speakers will be Bob Green and Richard Larkin. They will give a short dress rehearsal as part of Sutton Coldfield Speakers' Club to raise money for Good Hope Hospital.

**AOB:** On polling day the Polling Station will be in the usual place of Banners Gate Primary School.

**Smart Water:** It consists of a fluid with many very, very small 'dots' that have your details printed and they can be read by suitable microscopes held by the police. Put this on any precious object which it will stick to and then the police can identify it. You can place a sticker on your front door to show that you have used Smart Water. Use your Post Code and the number of your house for identification purposes. Post Codes are not necessarily related to place names. For example, the post code beginning 'B' extends outside the Birmingham area.

**Date of next meeting is 21st May 2018**

## Banners Gate Primary School



### More fun this term at Banners Gate.....

Firstly a huge thankyou and congratulations to everyone in Banners Gate Primary who raised an astonishing £1200 for KIDS. KIDS is a Nursery in Wylde Green providing nursery provision for children aged 0-5. They specialise in Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) and offer a learning environment that is

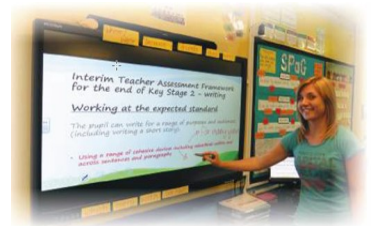


inclusive, professional, safe and stimulating. The fundraising event over the week included football matches, penalty shoot outs, a dance off and an 'all in yellow day' to name but a few. You may have seen the photo in the Sutton Coldfield Observer? Well done to all and a thankyou to Mr Barrett for organising the events. We also had Banners Gate Primary represented in a 9 school football competition in April held at the

fantastic Boldmere St Michael's ground. The team did themselves and the school proud with their performance finishing in a creditable 4<sup>th</sup> place. Many thanks to the parents and carers who came to support in the rain!

Years Six and Two have been hard at work preparing for the SATS tests due later this month. Keep going, it will be worth it!

Banners Gate Primary have recently invested in the latest technology and equipped every classroom with a state of the art 65" interactive TV. These



have replaced the ageing and outdated whiteboards with projectors. This is part of an ongoing programme to improve the learning environments for all our pupils.

***Banners Gate Primary School only have a few spaces left in its Reception classes for September 2018. Contact the school if you would like further information as quickly as possible so your child doesn't miss out. Don't forget the EYFS results at Banners Gate are***

***above both National and Birmingham targets:***

***Results for 2017***

***Banners Gate Primary School - 72%***

***National - 71%***

***Birmingham - 66%***

## BGCA St. George's Day Quiz:

Our sincerest thanks to Banners Gate Community Church for their community-minded generosity in lending their hall free of charge for this year's quiz: the increased capacity enabled everyone to participate who wanted to AND a significant increase in funds raised with a whopping £510 this year, almost double the usual amount. This means that next year we expect to tip the half-way point towards the fundraising target for the Platinum Jubilee Community Street Party in [2022](#)! Thanks to everyone who attended to support the event and eat lots of fish and chips, everyone who contributed prizes and helped with setting up, and above all for the generous loan of the church hall which enabled us to maximise the fundraising capacity from our annual quiz. We hope all of our bumper 84 quizzers had a great night.



37 artists will show and demonstrate their work-painters, potters, sculptors, textile artists, printers, jewellery makers, illustrators and photographers.

**23th and 24th June from 10am-4pm**

Admission Free

- Gracechurch Shopping Centre B72 1PH
- 71 Britwell Road B 73 5SW
- 20 Allesley Close B74 2NF
- St. James Church Centre B75 5BW
- Banners Gate Community Hall B73 6UR
- 12 Somerville Road B73 6JA
- 68 Highbridge Road B73 5QE
- Bedford Suite Town Hall B73 6AB
- 14 Mulroy Road B74 2PY
- 16 Knighton Drive B74 4QP



website: [suttoncoldfieldarttrail.wordpress.com](http://suttoncoldfieldarttrail.wordpress.com)

# One life. What's it all about?

*Christianity Explored* gives you time and space to consider the big questions of life and to explore the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith - Jesus Christ

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible
- You won't be asked to read aloud, pray or sing
- You can ask any question you want, or just listen

Thursdays - Meal at 7.30pm till 9.30pm

May 10th, 17th & 31st

June 7th, 14th & 21st

July 5th

Banners Gate Community Church will be hosting a *Christianity Explored* course, and would love you to join us for a meal followed by a short video and discussion

Banners Gate Community Church  
125 Westwood Road  
Banners Gate  
B73 6UH

Please email us for more information at:  
[bannersgatechurch@gmail.com](mailto:bannersgatechurch@gmail.com)  
and we'll get back to you asap

[www.christianityexplored.org](http://www.christianityexplored.org)

*Christianity*  
**EXPLORED**



Operated by West Midlands Trains

**URGENT** West Midlands Trains are working with a partner, Viaqqio, to deliver a **free** journey planning service for older people in the West Midlands – to plan journeys by bus, train or taxi – personalised to people's needs. The service will also aim to provide advice on travel discounts. The service hasn't launched yet but, in the meantime, they are looking for volunteers to help plan how the service will work. These volunteers will be paid £50 to attend the occasional meeting and test the service before it launches this Summer.

If you are over 65, live in Birmingham, have a concessionary bus pass and can attend a focus group on **Wednesday 9 May 2018** please call David Smith on **0131 473 1594**.

We realise that the above date is before the black and white Gatepost is delivered, but over 250 residents will receive the coloured edition by email before that date and you can also call to register your interest in the service in preparation for after it has launched.

**URGENT**



## CRIME REPORTING

Sue Atkins is the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. Tel: 0121 354 6571, or email: [sue\\_atkins@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sue_atkins@blueyonder.co.uk)

Late on Sunday afternoon, 22nd April, the fully-glazed back door of a house in Hollyhurst Road was smashed. The culprits first broke into a shed by removing a pane of glass, presumably to look for tools and may have used one to break the glass. The occupiers assume that the thieves must have been disturbed as nothing was taken. The security arrangements have been improved, including an inexpensive alarm that adheres to the glass and is set off if the glass is knocked or broken. Although nothing was taken it cost £237 to secure the door for the night and another £259 to replace the glass. Additional money has also been spent to improve security. All in all an expensive Sunday afternoon.

It is difficult to know what else you can do after changing to anti snap locks, but at less than £5 each you can buy a set of alarm and vibration sensors which is a comparatively inexpensive way of feeling more secure. Of course, if the doors are unlocked or windows are left open then your only hope is to buy a very large dog!



## Social Media Awareness Course

We have now completed the first six Monday sessions of the more intimate parts of the course where residents' specific needs and wants have been addressed. The next six sessions will be held on Thursdays starting on Thursday, 10th May and finishing on Thursday, 14th June. Book in now for your session.

Participants have had a wide range of topics for the experts to cover but Nick, James and Robin have shown much width in their expertise and have not been stumped by anyone.

The topics include setting up an email address and sending a message; setting up a blog; setting up a website; instructions on what to do to comply with the new GDPR (*General Data Protection Regulation*) becoming law this month; synchronising desktop to laptop to tablet to mobile phone; setting up/leaving and/or changing options in Facebook; joining and/or leaving LinkedIn; password problem with Virgin account; linking Android phone to Apple iPad and tethering from phones to laptops. From one of the participants, "It has provided an opportunity for me to find out about social media and which, if any, are suitable for me. The flexible and individualized nature of the sessions supports learning. The venue and the instructors are great too."

Thanks to Nick and his team for their expertise and thanks to Age Concern, Communita Café, for the use of their room. Also, thanks to Dawn and her staff for their assistance with the furniture and drinks, and also for their contributions to the proceedings.



## Have you seen Holly?

My beautiful, adorable little Holly has gone missing from home in The Greenway.. She went out at about 7:00 ish on Friday night 6th April and we haven't seen her since. She is very inquisitive and could be locked in a shed or garage. Thank you to all those people who have been helping me look for her.

If you have seen her or taken her in please contact me 07796 906602 or 0121 354 6571. I miss her so much and want her to come home safe.

Sue



**FOLIO** FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OUR SUTTON COLDFIELD

Do you run a choir? Bridge club? Chess group? Reading club? Craft group? Maybe you run a bowling group or a tennis club or dance group?

### Would your club/group like help recruiting new members?

On June 2 FOLIO Sutton Coldfield is hosting a clubs and activities fair in Sutton Coldfield Library. The aim of the fair is to help raise awareness of the variety of activity groups (for adults and/or for children) in Sutton Coldfield and to help them recruit new members.

Would your group like to attend i.e. have a stall (a table provided by FOLIO Sutton Coldfield) where you can provide information about your group/club and speak to potential new members?

This event is FREE (no cost to groups/clubs wishing to be represented), but groups/clubs would need to commit to attending the fair (2-4pm on June 2, up to 2 representatives), bringing with them whatever publicity material they wish. If you are interested please email [clubfair@foliosuttoncoldfield.org.uk](mailto:clubfair@foliosuttoncoldfield.org.uk)

**URGENT**

## Vacancies at The Bridge School



The Bridge School, Coppice View Road, Sutton Coldfield,  
Birmingham, B73 6UE  
Tel: 0121 464 8265 Email: [enquiry@bridge.fet.ac](mailto:enquiry@bridge.fet.ac)  
Head Teacher: Sarah Kelly

### PPA & Cover Supervisor Role

Grade 4 TTO 32.5hrs per week £26,470 - £33,136 pro rata £20,663 – £25,867 actual  
Required September 2018

### Lunch-Time Supervisor

12.00pm to 1.30pm Mon to Fri 7.5 hours per week term time only  
Grade 2 £17,007 - £19,446 pro rata £3063 – £3503 actual  
Required ASAP

**URGENT**

### Teacher for Children with Special Educational Needs

ASD/PMLD/SLD Specialist  
MPR/ UPR + 1 point SEN  
Required September 2018

Forward Education Trust is a newly formed Multi Academy Trust comprising of Brays School, The Bridge School and Hallmoor School in Birmingham, which academised on the 1st April 2017.

The Bridge School educates 90 children with complex and multiple needs. Children may have Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD), Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) or a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Some children have additional needs including visual impairment and hearing impairment and behaviour difficulties. Children attending our school will usually require augmented and modified curriculum opportunities including an overarching mobility curriculum and a sensory experiential curriculum for our more profound learners.

**Closing date for all vacancies: Friday 11 May 2018, 12.00pm**  
**Interview Dates TBC**

For further details and an application form, please email [recruitment@bridge.fet.ac](mailto:recruitment@bridge.fet.ac)

Please note that only Forward Education Trust Teaching Application forms will be accepted, we will not read accompanying Curriculum Vitae (CV) or accept them instead of an application form.

The Bridge School is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate must promote this ethos. Enhanced DBS clearance is required for this post.

This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent spoken English is an essential requirement for this role.



Recent letter to Karl Randall regarding dog mess.

Good morning Karl

I spoke to you in February regarding the ongoing problems with dog mess in our lovely Playing Field.

You kindly sent me a poster, which we have now displayed on our notice board. We are also in the Process of acquiring another bin which we are funding ourselves, to

be placed near the Kingstanding Gate. We are hoping that this will stop the bagging up of the dog mess and discarding it on the ground.

However, it would be very helpful if you could ask the dog wardens to attend. I know that it is a small minority, but the field is a mess. We could do with some stickers for the trees, and also some help.

The field is busy all day really, however, I would say that around the 8.30 to 10.30 and 5.30 to 7.30 are the really busy times. Is there anything you can do for us please Karl?

*Carole Smith*



From £1.50 per cover and sash. Flowers- table plans-balloons-  
sweet cart- post box- love letters- invites-placecards - email me  
on [cordellane@btinternet.com](mailto:cordellane@btinternet.com)  
Call on 07730666897

Presents a Diamond Jubilee Production of

Gilbert and Sullivan's

## THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE



This very popular show is being presented next Autumn at  
Sutton Coldfield Town Hall and the Society is on the look-out  
for new members of all voices to join us.

The Society meets each Wednesday evening at Blackwood  
Road Methodist Church in Streetly. We do not hold auditions.

All we ask is commitment and enthusiasm.

If you are interested in having a good sing and being  
involved in a first-rate production, telephone 355 2542  
or visit our website ([www.erdington-operatic.co.uk](http://www.erdington-operatic.co.uk)) for  
further information.



St Columba's Church  
Banners Gate Road



# SPRING FAIRE

12<sup>th</sup> May 2018 @ 11am -1.30pm  
in the Church Hall

LUNCHESS & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS: INCLUDING  
PLOUGHMAN'S & HOMEMADE DESSERTS  
PLANT STALL

CAKE STALL, GIFTS, GAMES, BOOKS,  
BRIC-A-BRAC, TOYS AND TOMBOLA  
IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS



Our Church Hall is for hire Saturday and Sunday afternoons.  
Call Sally Rowley on 0121 693 0084 for enquiries.

Residents are always welcome to  
attend the meetings of the Town  
Council and its committees.



The next meetings are being held at  
7.00p.m. as follows:

- 15 May - Town Council meeting
  - 5 June - Planning & Highways Committee
  - 12 June - Amenities, Leisure & Community Committee
  - 19 June - Finance and General Purposes Committee
  - 26 June - Town Council meeting
  - 3 July - Planning & Highways Committee
  - 10 July - Amenities, Leisure & Community Committee
- They are usually held at the Town Hall but check on the  
Town Council website before setting off!



[www.facebook.com/brummiekids](http://www.facebook.com/brummiekids)

*Balloons for all Occasions  
Sweet Cones / Pick n Mix  
Free Local Delivery  
Also Facepainting*



*Ron 07906023999*



St Columba's Church, Banners Gate, May 20<sup>th</sup> 4.00 - 6.00 p.m.

Messy Church is for families with children of primary school age.  
We craft together, we play together and we explore some of the best  
loved Bible stories. The afternoon finishes with high tea for all.

We do not charge, but donations are welcome.



The theme for May's Messy church is 'Moses has quail  
for dinner', so come build from bricks, make 'manna'  
biscuits and build a sandcastle. Hear the story of why  
Moses and his friends ate quail and manna for dinner  
in the desert.



## COFFEE MORNINGS St. Columba's Church Hall

Coffee morning on 2nd Thursday each month (except August) from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. The next three will be on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> June and 12<sup>th</sup> July. Coffee, cakes and chat, Book swap, A warm welcome to all is assured.



**AGE concern**  
Birmingham

### Community Handyperson

When DIY isn't an option, we are here to help

Our community handyperson service gives you peace of mind offering a reliable and trustworthy service from changing light bulbs, putting up shelves to assembling, fixing and mending items around the home.

We can help you to keep your home safe and secure by adding grab rails, key safes and other small home adaptations.

Whatever your job just give us a call

Our staff are police and quality checked.

Quotations are provided free of charge.

Service is currently offered in and around the Sutton Coldfield area

Costs? Initial hour £30 then £25 per hour

Call us on 0121 362 3650

Service supported by:  
**SOCT**  
Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

### NEW MEMBERS WANTED!!

## Banners Gate Community Choir



Mondays, 7.30 -8.30pm  
at Banners Gate Community Church,  
Westwood Rd, B73 6UH

- No joining fee
- No auditions
- No experience necessary
- Traditional and popular music.
- Age 14+

If you love singing then we'd love to see you!

For more info, visit [www.bannersgatechoir.co.uk](http://www.bannersgatechoir.co.uk) or call Beth on 07724 678 030

### Stay and Play Toddler Group and Mums' coffee mornings

**Who?** Parents and children of all age groups and

Parents /carers - with or without children are welcome.

Come along to the coffee morning and enjoy tea, coffee and toast / biscuits, while having an opportunity to meet new friends and other parents in the community!!

**When?** Every Wednesday term time only.

**Time:** 9.15 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

**Where?** St Columba's Church Hall.

**Enquiries-** Sharon 07552 75 71 77



### CREATE at the Gate with K & S

We are a small group of crafters who meet on the first Sunday of every month, between 11.30am and 2.30pm. If you are interested in getting away for a few hours where you can bring whatever craft you wish, come and join us. There is a wealth of knowledge between us and we usually learn something new each month from each other.

There is plenty of tea & coffee and usually some cake. Please call Kathy 077 06 64 51 37 for more details or just come along when we are next there and have a look at what we do.

### Mums and Toddlers group

Tiddlers' Time Stay and Play Toddler Group

**Banners Gate Community Church,**  
Westwood Road B73 6UH

**Fridays 9:15 a.m. till 11:15 a.m.**

All children between 0 - 4 years old are welcome. We are a friendly group; come along and meet other parents/carers and enjoy a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits.

Contact: 0121 353 0230



### Mindfulness Meditation

Reduce stress and anxiety through meditation, breath and a guided practice.

Banners Gate Community Hall  
Sundays 3:30p.m.-5:30p.m.

Contact: Mettaminds on 07882 438 652

Email: [lovetmettaminds@gmail.com](mailto:lovetmettaminds@gmail.com)



Fully qualified and DBS practitioner

Struggling with the demands of modern life?

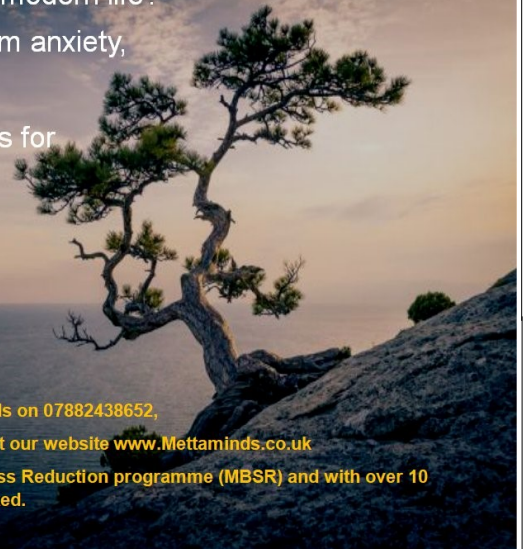
Do you want to free yourself from anxiety, stress and unhappiness?

Then come along to Mindfulness for Beginners at;

- Banners Gate Community Hall,
- 35 Reay Nadin Dr, Sutton Coldfield B73 6UR
- On Sunday's from 3:30pm-5:30pm

For more information please contact Mettaminds on 07882438652, or email on [lovetmettaminds@gmail.com](mailto:lovetmettaminds@gmail.com), or visit our website [www.Mettaminds.co.uk](http://www.Mettaminds.co.uk)

Trained in teaching the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction programme (MBSR) and with over 10 years experience in Education, fully DBS checked.







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### Wednesday Evening Yoga Class

Beginner friendly Yoga and Relaxation Practice  
7.00pm - 8.15pm

Banners Gate Community Hall,  
Reay Nadin Drive, B73 6UR  
£6.00 per lesson, mats provided

To book text 07939547392 or message

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Sports Massage: 10 Jevons Rd, B73 6QP

## New Beginners Adult Ballroom, Latin and Sequence Dance Classes

- Tuesdays -

Banners Gate  
Community Church  
Westwood Road.  
B73 6UH



10.30 a.m. Ballroom and Latin American  
11.30 a.m. Modern Sequence

St. Clements, Green Lane, Castle Bromwich B36 0BY

7.00 p.m. Ballroom and Latin American  
8.00 p.m. Modern Sequence  
8.30 p.m. Advanced Ballroom and Latin

- Thursdays -

Emmanuel Church, Wylde Green. B72 1YG

10.30 a.m. – 12 Modern Sequence

Don't like going to the Gym, but want to stay fit at the same time. Come and have some fun and make new friends. All ages welcome, no partner needed.

Contact Dawn for more details  
0121 783 5584 or 07847093070



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**New Horizons Counselling Services.**

The Community Hall, Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield.

If you would like to know about our service ring the number above

Or visit our web site [www.newhorizonscounselling.org](http://www.newhorizonscounselling.org).

**Hall's Gardens**

Garden Maintenance Services

**Gary Hall**

54,  
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Sutton Coldfield, B73 6UF  
07833720015

[garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk)



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Monday to Friday



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**HATHA YOGA**

Banners Gate Community Hall,  
Thursdays 10.00 -11.00 a.m.

Beginners class £5.50 per session  
Please call Tricia on 07954 403943.

Do you look  
after someone  
with Dementia?



Join us every Monday. 11am—1pm  
**Banners Gate Community Hall, Reay Nadin Drive**  
Sutton Coldfield. B73 6UR

For more information contact us:  
0121 553 6483  
[carers@discbirmingham.org](mailto:carers@discbirmingham.org) - [www.discbirmingham.org](http://www.discbirmingham.org)



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**Earn from £84 to £133 p/w looking after dogs in your own home**

Ring Sue or Simon for a chat on  
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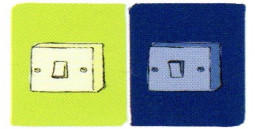
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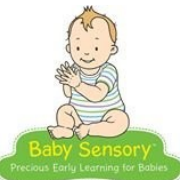
**Baby Development Class**

Wednesdays 9.30, 11.00 and 12.30

Music, singing, exercise, massage, signing, light shows, bubbles, bells, tickly feathers and many more!! For more details:

Call Tracy Jones on 07753 82 56 22

Email: [suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk)

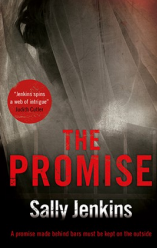


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DAY/TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE	CONTACT	TEL.
Sun (1st) 11.30 – 2.30 pm 10.00 am For details see website 10.30 am 11.00 am 3.30 to 5.30	Create at Gate with K & S Family Communion <a href="http://www.saintcolumbas.co.uk">www.saintcolumbas.co.uk</a> Family Worship Chikara Karate Kai Mindfulness	Community Hall St. Columba's  Banners Gate CC Scout Hall Community Hall	Kathy Weston  Terry Lockyer Paul Murphy 07837 Sarbjit 07882	628 6651 354 5873  353 0230 39 57 89 43 86 52
Mon 11am - 1.00pm 5.30 – 6.45 pm 7.00 – 9.00 pm 7.30 – 8.30 pm	Dementia Care Beavers 15th Group Scouts 15th Group Line Dancing	Community Hall The Scout Hut The Scout Hut Community Hall	Barbara H-Walker Jayne Poole Jayne Poole Diane Pursall	553 6483 355 2831 355 2831 747 4659
Tues 6.30 – 7.30 & 7.30 – 8.30 7.45 pm	Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	Community Hall St. Columba's	Diane Pursall Paul Murphy 07837	747 4659 39 57 89
Wed 9.30, 11.00 & 12.30 Every other wk 10.30 - 12.30 7.00—8.15	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Yoga & Relaxation	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall	Tracy Jones 07753 Madge Nightingale 07939	82 56 22 360 0286 547392
Thurs 10.00 am 10.00—11.00 am 6.30 – 9.45 pm 7.15 – 10.15 pm (4th & 2nd alt months) 7.30 pm (1st) 8.00 pm 7.00 - 8.30 pm	Holy Communion Yoga Zig Zag Dance Studio Bridge Townswomen's Guild Mothers' Union Cub Scouts 15th Group	St. Columba's Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC St. Columba's The Scout Hut	Tricia 07954 Warren 01902 Sylvia Cunnington 07870 Josie Orme Judith Fennell Alice Wood 07902	354 5873 40 39 43 897 900 82 98 37 352 1042 354 4390 90 73 44
Fri 9.15 — 11.15 am 6.30 - 9.30	Mums & Toddlers Group Aromatherapy	Banners Gate CC Community Hall	Ellen Lindley 07446	353 0230 710253
Sat				

### Useful telephone numbers Sutton and Kingstanding

**Police: 0345 113 5000**

Good Hope: 424 2000  
Outpatients: 424 2000  
Freephone Health helpline:  
0800 66 55 44 10 am - 5 pm  
CAB: 354 8344

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except Wednesday

**BOOKING SECRETARIES:**  
Community Hall - Anne Craven 249 7852  
Banners Gate CC - June Dadd 07443 22 65 30  
St. Columba's - Sallyanne Rowley 693 0084  
Scout Hall - A & R Talliss 353 8166

**UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS:**  
Scouts: Ann Millington, 15th GSL 384 2684  
Margaret Drummond, 18th GSL 353 5203  
Girlguiding: Carol Gardner, Vesey West District

### BGs

Child care based at, and run  
by, Banners Gate Primary  
School. The club opens  
7.45 - 8.45 a.m. &  
3.30 - 6.00 p.m. weekdays  
during term time.  
Call Una Coleman on 675  
3937 before school, and after  
school until 6.00 p.m.

**NEW!** The Forum needs a new  
Secretary  
The Forum needs a new minute  
secretary to replace Jean who has  
retired through ill-health. We meet  
six times a year, every other month,  
on the last Monday of the month  
starting in January, except in May  
when it is the last but one Monday  
because of the Bank Holiday. There  
is no rush to produce the printed  
minutes because they are not needed  
to be included in the next newsletter  
for at least four weeks.

  
Patron HRH The Princess Royal GCVO

Thurs. **24th May** Celebrations  
Thurs. **28th June** Ruth Lowe - Mary Quant,  
her life and career.  
Thurs. **12th July** Move it or lose it.  
Thurs. **26th July** Neil Roberts - Secret Life of  
the Magician.  
**Enquiries:** Josie Orme 0121 352 1042

Gatepost always needs  
volunteers for delivering, to  
cover holidays and sickness and  
to fold and collate Gatepost. If  
you can help please ring 605  
4947. Your help would be  
much appreciated.

**15<sup>th</sup> Sutton Coldfield Scout Group,**  
H.Q. Coppice View Road  
Beavers 6 – 8 Years Monday 5.30 - 6.45  
Cubs 8 – 10.5 Years Thursday 7.00 - 8.30.  
Scouts 10.5 – 14 Years Mondays 7.00 - 9.00.  
Explorers 14 - 18 Years Mondays 7.00 - 9.00.  
Contact 0121 384 2684  
Email: awmillington@blueyonder.co.uk



**18<sup>th</sup> Sutton Coldfield Scout Group**  
at Banners Gate Community Church, formerly URC  
**Monday 7 – 9 p.m.**  
Scouts 10½ -14 GSL 353 5203 SL 353 5329  
**Tuesday 5.30 – 6.30 p.m.**  
Beaver Scouts 6 – 8 GSL 353 5203  
**Tuesday 6.45 – 8.15 p.m.**  
Cub Scouts 8 – 10½  
GSL 353 5203 CSL 243 5061

**Girlguiding gives girls and young women a voice.....has done so for 100 years.....be part of the next 100**  
Could you spare 1½ hours a week to help with the St Columba's Guide unit? Gain real satisfaction in volunteering and helping to ensure girls in  
Banners Gate aged 10 – 14 can continue to enjoy games, projects, badges and outings at Guides.  
There are also places available in both Brownie units in September for girls aged 7 or 8.  
For more information contact Carol Gardner on 350 7191.



Day/Time	Activity	Venue	Contact	Tel
Mon 6.00 - 7.30pm	39th Brownies	St Columba's Hall		354 5873
Tues 6.00 - 7.30pm	45th Brownies	St Columba's Hall	Carol Gardner	350 7191
Thurs 5.00 - 6.00pm	39th Rainbows	St Columba's Hall		354 5873

