



BANNERS GATE & PARKLANDS

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

128TH ISSUE OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2018

Our new blog - bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com - replaces the website. Suggestions for content are welcome.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR HELPERS, SUPPORTERS, READERS AND ADVERTISERS.

The dates of the next three meetings are: 26th November, 28th January and 25th March

If you want Gatepost emailed to you, in full colour, before it is printed, usually in black and white, please send an email to bgatepost@gmail.com with "Email Gatepost" in the subject line.

Our speakers at the meeting on Monday, 26th November at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Hall are Bob Green and Richard Larkin. They have written a sketch which they are hoping to perform, wherever and whenever they can, to raise funds for Good Hope Hospital. All residents of any age are welcome.

There are proposals to charge for car entry to Sutton Park on a daily and hourly basis. How do you feel about this? Come and have your say at the forum meeting on Monday, 26th November in the Community Hall.



Defibrillator at the Community Hall



Thanks to the generosity of Sutton Coldfield Town Council the Community Hall will soon be host to a defibrillator. The Town Council is in the process of finalising the host arrangements with the hall. It is then the intention to offer leaders of classes at the hall, the participants in the classes and other residents, a demonstration by Community Heartbeat Trust. The Neighbourhood Forum has offered its Forum meeting on 28th January as a possible occasion for the demonstration, but it could be any time, any place, early next year.



AGE concern
Birmingham



Make the most of this coloured edition, it may well be the first and last. When we applied to The Big Lottery for funding for a Social Media Awareness Course we included two coloured editions to report on how the course progressed. We are pleased to say that, to date, we have had three runs of 6 weeks, one on Mondays, one on Thursdays and one on Tuesdays. Some residents have attended several sessions, others just the one or two. What we have experienced are a continuous stream of new attendees as the word has spread. The topics covered have been varied and have involved connecting phones to laptops / desktops and Fitbits, as well as connecting to Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, LinkedIn and reading the news and watching films and TV on phones and tablets. It has lead us to believe that a second course may be necessary for those residents who may, or may not, have a smartphone, desktop or laptop. We are currently working on a course for the use of tablets, which are the cheapest items of equipment to introduce residents to the internet. Once on the internet they can keep in touch with friends and relatives, wherever they are. Also, they can take advantage of lower prices on the internet and access government websites, e.g., renewing road tax. **If you have an interest in such a course please get in touch either through the phone number or email address at the bottom of this page.**

From your Town and City Councillors

Just in case you've forgotten what they look like, here are your Town and City Councillors in glorious colour. From left to right: Janet Cairns, Alison Jolley, Louise Passey, Rob Pocock, Manish Puri and Kath Scott



Alison Jolley: After one of the hottest summers on record and the new autumn term in full swing, I attended the Sutton Coldfield Fire Station open day on 15th September. This event gave all who visited a valuable insight into how today's fire and rescue service operate and this occasion certainly didn't disappoint with lots of fun events for the whole family. I enjoy accepting invitations for events like this as I also gain a lot of useful information which I regularly use in my day to day role as a Councillor. Different local clubs and groups were invited to show-case their part in the community, I was particularly keen to chat to the Guides, Scouts and also their leaders whose presence is certainly alive and well in Sutton Coldfield. Around 2000 people came along to share the fun, informative and educational activities, look out for this event

AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT. TEL: EDITOR AT 605 4947

Editor: Tony Willis, 44 Hollyhurst Road. B73 6SY Tel: 605 4947, or bgatepost@gmail.com Next deadline: January 10th.

Printed by NEWTON PRINT The Complete Print Service, Sutton Coldfield. Tel: 07786 93 36 96

next year.

Harvest is the old English word meaning autumn. The recent harvest festival at St Columba's Church brought seasonal flowers into the Church from local gardens together with many gifts of non-perishable food donated by parishioners and also children from both a local primary school and a children's nursery. After the service food items were donated to a local food bank, a vital place for many people.

The Brownies enjoyed taking part in the service as did the whole of the congregation which was rounded off by a delicious Harvest lunch! Thank you Becky for a lovely service, we all enjoyed it.

Louise Passey: Unfortunately due to a number of commitments I won't be contributing this month. I will put a piece in for next time.

Kath Scott: Kath is also overwhelmed at the moment and has asked to remind residents of the Advice Bureau which is at Boldmere Library on the last Thursday of each month, from 2.00 - 3.00 p.m.

Rob Pocock: Once again I seem to have spent a lot of the last month chasing up missed rubbish bin collections. I am definitely becoming the bin-man expert! I thought things had settled down pretty well after last year's bin strike, but this autumn there have been some new changes to the routes that the trucks are taking, and there are also some new crewmen and drivers covering our area. This has slowed them down for a while, and some days they have not been able to complete the new round by the end of the day, so the stuff gets left. The recycling collections seem the most affected. The worst part about the recent problems, has been the delay in coming back and collecting what they have missed. This has taken far too long. I have been chasing the Depot about this and will continue to do so until the situation improves.

Another lively topic that Kath and I have been taking up, is the move to charge cars for parking in Sutton Park. This will be an item at our next Public Ward Meeting on Tues 13th Nov, 7pm in the Carpenters Arms. As a Sutton Town Councillor, I am pressing the Town Council to re-introduce the Sutton Free Pass, which used to exist when the former Sutton Town Council charged for parking in the Park pre 1974. The Town Council has a large surplus of £3 million un-spent money, which residents pay in their supplementary precept – so here is an excellent opportunity to make proper use of it!

Manish Puri: This month I've been working with my fellow Vesey Councillors to develop our program of public meetings. I have been giving some thought to the future of Sutton Coldfield Town Centre in light of future opportunities from potential investment by HS2, Birmingham City Council's plans and the developments in Minworth and Langley. Against this there is the challenge of reimagining the Town Centre in light of the revolution in shopping, business, living and entertainment that the internet continues to present.

Locally I follow with interest plans for a Multi-Academy Trust involving Boldmere Schools and parental reaction and am petitioning Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council to create a safer crossing into Sutton Park at Boldmere Gate.

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/a-zebra-crossing-for-monmouth-drive-for-safer-entry-to-sutton-park>

Janet Cairns: I am very excited about the news that Sutton Coldfield Town Council have welcomed the social inclusion report for Sutton Coldfield from consultant Alison Seabrook and will be creating a health and well-being committee.

We are holding town council surgeries on the second Wednesday of every month at 11am at the Communita Café. Please come along, we want to hear your views and what residents want for Sutton Coldfield. I am also strongly in support of giving the park back to Sutton Coldfield residents and not charging for parking in the park.

Minutes of the Banners Gate (Sutton Vesey) Neighbourhood Forum meeting held at Banners Gate Community Hall on Monday 24th September, 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Apologies. Hazel Pollock, Moira Ashford, Margaret Adams, Cllr. Alison Jolley, Cllr. Jan Cairns

Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting on July 30th 2018 were agreed as correct. Proposed by Rick Solley, seconded by Harold Jones

Matters Arising.

Photos from the sim card found in the drone have been passed on to Harold. The images seem to be those of a Polish family.

The Big Lottery Social Awareness computer course is continuing Tuesday evenings. Part of the bid is to have two newsletter issues in full colour, one of which will be the November issue. A blog is now being built instead of the website which was more difficult to manage.

Correspondence.

Scam awareness – Birmingham Connect – be absolutely sure that any links that you click on are safe.

Vesey Ward Community Conference.

On 29th September there will be a conference at the Carpenter's Arms in Boldmere, 2.30 – 4.30 pm. You can

drop in and have your say.

Tasking Meeting.

On 4th October in The Harvester in Boldmere, the police will be holding a tasking meeting for representatives of Forums and Residents groups. Crimes are being committed under the guise of stolen number plates. New unscrewable screws were given out by the Chair from the police for residents to secure their glued on or screwed on number plates. More can be obtained from Halfords - £3.40 per pack. Please give the Chair any information for the tasking meeting.

Social Media.

There are six meetings now running on a Tuesday evening at the Communita Café in Boldmere from 5.30 – 7.00 pm. and maybe more can be arranged if there is a demand. The Chair is now working on the idea that there is a need to obtain tablets for those who have no laptops or computers at home. Together with a dongle in order to access the internet (price £30 - £35), people could talk to relatives who live anywhere – such as Australia. They would also be able to take advantage of lower prices by buying online.

Friends of King George V Playing Fields.

Cllr. Robert Pocock, 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.
Cllr. Kath Scott, kath.scott@birmingham.gov.uk tel: 0121 303 2039 (Labour Group Office), Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB. Advice Bureau: Boldmere Library, LAST Thursday of each month from 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. at Boldmere Library.

The Council can put a prohibition on travellers accessing public land so long as there are other sites to offer them. The Council has two sites and one more needs to be organised.

Recycling and Rubbish.

A resident stated that her block of flats has only one bin. As the recycling bin has been removed from Tesco's, she walked three times to the main tip and the fourth time she was told that she could not recycle her rubbish there without arriving in a vehicle. At the same time, she was also told that she could be fined if she did not recycle her rubbish.

Cllr Rob Pocock stated that this is National Recycling Week. There is a National Directory for recycle bins to tell you where they are. Please see www.wrap.org.uk The Waste and Resources Action Plan intends to standardise the types of plastic that can be recycled. At the moment black plastic trays cannot be recycled because they cannot be seen by the machinery sorting the waste. For enquiries contact 01295 819619 or email:

media.enquiries@wrap.org.uk

Town Council meeting.

The next full T.C. meeting is 25th September at 7.00 pm at the Town Hall. There are 20 minutes at the start of the meeting for residents to ask questions, they are allowed three minutes.

Speakers in November meeting.

Bob Green and Richard Larkin with their sketch, written to be performed to raise funds in aid of Good Hope Hospital.

AOB. The Scouts leader, Margaret Drummond, announced that the 15th GSL and the 18th GSL will become the 33rd Scout Troop and will meet at the Scout Hall in Coppice View Road on the same days as usual. This involves about 100 children, 6 – 14 years old. New recruits are very welcome.

Question, – Do the police come to the forum meetings?

Answer – Sometimes when they have the time. There are thousands fewer police now than there were 10 years ago.

According to Martin Pedley who chairs the shop keepers and traders in Boldmere, there is a WhatsApp communication system around Boldmere which gives advance warnings about various misdemeanours happening in the area. Perhaps there should be something similar in the Banners Gate area which could be sent to the blog.

Conclusion - The Chairman thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and announced that the next forum meeting will be on November 26th 2018.

Talk from Bob Green – a member of the Sutton Coldfield Speaker's Club – all about the 1950s

Three years ago, he was seriously ill and spent 57 nights in Heartlands and Good Hope hospitals. To thank the medical staff for his care he decided to join the Friends of Good Hope and raise money for all the things that the NHS does not cover, such as a toiletry pack if you suddenly need to spend the night.

"I was a war baby. These days the kids have iphones, ipods and ipads, we had 'hide and seek'. I grew up in a street of girls and was always outvoted when wanting to play "doctors and nurses".

We had a wireless with three channels – Light, Home and Third programmes. There was also Radio Luxembourg, and can you remember Horace Bachelor and how to spell K-e-y-n-s-h-a-m?

Then there was Uncle Mac at 9 o'clock on a Saturday morning who played all the old songs like; Puff the Magic Dragon and the Laughing Policeman. Do you remember the Billy Cotton Band Show and Educating Archie (who was better on radio than television)? Today, they say it is

an age of austerity. The 50s were austere. There were queues along the pavements with ration books; all cars were black; photos and TVs were black and white and programmes closed down between 5 o'clock and 7 o'clock each evening for tea time and to allow the children to be put to bed. Toilet paper was white (or just black and white because it was newspaper on a string).

I started school in 1950 at the Infants' school. I walked there, walked back for lunch and then back again and then back at the end of the day, whether it was raining, snowing or sun shining. I was not driven to school in a 4x4. On a rainy day there would be 40 pairs of wellies all around the boiler. The crates of milk (one third of a pint) for break time refreshment would be frozen in winter and often rancid in summer and on Friday morning you could buy a stamp with a picture of one of the Royal Family.

May Day was not a Bank Holiday, but you had to dance around a maypole to make patterns with the ribbons.

When I moved up to the Primary school, I had to walk one and a half miles across fields and along lanes to get there. Now the route is covered by the Lichfield by-pass. We all used to pick wild flowers and press them; tell the time with dandelions and see whether you liked butter with a buttercup. Very often most children went off to play for the day with a bottle of water and some jam sandwiches.

In the autumn everyone played conkers. Nowadays this is banned in schools because of Health and Safety rules.

In winter, on any incline, we made slides in the snow and ice and bruised a lot of ourselves. I was a sickly child and had to go to the clinic to sit by a sunray lamp to "build myself up" because I caught all the usual childhood illnesses. I had to have two teaspoonfuls of medicine every four hours and so my mother used to cycle all the way to school and give it to me through the railings. I started secondary school in short trousers and a cap. It seemed to take three years to make my pencil case in woodwork lessons which gave me the skills to make a wardrobe when I was married and moved into our first home.

I was friends at school with a fat boy called Carlos. I was the second fattest boy in the class. We both hated Wednesdays because it was Games day. I was no good at cricket and was always the last to be picked for a team. I couldn't run, couldn't throw, couldn't bat, couldn't catch, but I could put away the equipment. I was quite successful with swimming which we did at a council owned pool. I won the 50 metres butterfly because everyone else was disqualified. The changing rooms were communal and had saloon type doors (no top or bottom). Your clothes were left in a heap and were often pretty damp when you came to put them on again. In winter you were expected to do a six miles cross country runs in shorts, a vest and black Dunlop plimsolls. No one had fancy trainers costing £90. I used to get my mother to write a letter to school excusing me from doing exercise like this.

Sports Day for all the children consisted of the sack race, egg and spoon race, wheelbarrow race and obstacle race. Many people bought a TV set because of the Coronation on 2nd June 1953. The screen was tiny and most of the street came in to watch one TV. The popular programmes then for children were Muffin the Mule, Andy Pandy and the Flower Pot Men. Only 40 hours of television was allowed per week and when ATV started there were numerous advertising tunes and slogans that I can remember even today, such as the Murray Mint's tune and 'Go to Work on an Egg'." Bob came up with many, many jokes but for "copyright" reasons we are not including them here and because you may be lucky enough to attend one of his talks and they are funnier spoken than written.



Vesey Ward Town Councillors Public Meeting
7 – 9pm Thursday 6th December 2018
Communita Café, Boldmere High Street

**Cllr Janet Cairns, Cllr Alison Jolley, Cllr Louise Passey,
Cllr Rob Pocock, Cllr Manish Puri**

Agenda

1. Welcome to the new Vesey Ward Town Council Team:
2. Introduction and update from your Councillors
3. Update on the Big issues that affects Sutton Coldfield that Sutton Coldfield Town Council are consulting on to get the best possible deal for our Residents:
 - * Sutton Coldfield Town Centre Regeneration: Manish Puri
 - * Sutton Coldfield Transport Model/Plan: Rob Pocock
 - * Langley and Pedimore Development: Jan Cairns
 - * Library: Manish Puri
 - * Town Hall: Jan Cairns
 - * Britain in Bloom: Alison Jolley
 - * Sutton Park: Jan Cairns/Rob Pocock
4. Sutton Coldfield Town Council Strategic Plan update
5. Next Year's Budget for Sutton Coldfield Town Council
6. Community Grants update for Vesey Ward
7. Vesey Ward Community/Neighbourhood Form Updates
8. Boldmere Futures update: CIC
9. Feedback from our Residents: What are your priorities for Vesey Ward in the next 12 months?
10. AOB

Date and Time of the upcoming Vesey Ward Town Council Public Meetings:

Thursday 4th April 2019, Communita Café
Thursday 6th June 2019, Communita Café
Thursday 3rd October 2019, Communita Café
Thursday 7th December 2019, Communita Café

Thank you for your support from all of your Vesey Ward Town Councillors

Be alert, this old one, or something similar, may come around again. Please note and make all your family, friends and neighbours aware.

Christmas is fast approaching; Royal Mail & The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam: A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a Premium rate number). If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call. If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655.

The new trees on the Greenway - how did they get there?

With the help of Cllr Rob Pocock and John Porter, Banners Gate were offered beech trees from a site in Perry Barr being cleared for the Commonwealth Games. They are the trees you see at the Greenway. The "tree spade" delivered the tree and placed it in the hole it had previously created. One by one the blades were withdrawn. When they were all withdrawn, the frame opened. The "tree spade" was then removed and off it went to fetch the next tree, which it collected by reversing these steps.





CRIME REPORTING

Sue Atkins is the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. Tel: 0121 354 6571,
or email: sue_atkins@blueyonder.co.uk

From the last police tasking meeting

PCSO Ian Willets took the chair and over the course of two hours we learned several interesting facts.

First: Change the locks on your plastic doors to anti-snap locks, if you haven't already done so. The following link is to a short YouTube example of what the difference is between an ordinary euro cylinder and an anti-snap lock. This video is not a recommendation, just an example. There are local tradesmen who can sell you the locks or even fit them for you. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPtLKjRtR7U>

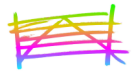
Second: there have been car key thefts, but they have reduced from 9 in June to 7 in July, just 2 in August and zero in September. That does not mean they have stopped forever, maybe the thieves have gone on holidays!! If you have a keyless fob keep it in a tin or wrap it in foil so that it cannot be "read" by someone, with the right equipment, at your front door. Do not keep ordinary car keys where they can be seen if someone looks through the letterbox. It has been known for them to be picked up with a fishing rod, or something similar.

Third: cars parked on pavements can be very, very annoying. I know, I use a wheelchair! If this is a problem that you are frequently up against then this may solve your problem – but there are catches.

Take a photograph of the offending vehicle showing the gap left between the vehicle and the wall or hedge. The registration plate must also be on the photo. Include time and date of when the photo was taken. West Midlands Police receive many such photos so, to be considered, it must be a cast iron example of obstructive parking. Any doubt and it will not be considered. There are two catches: your photo will not be acknowledged due to lack of man/womanpower; you must include your name and address just in case it goes to court when you may have to state that it was you who took the photo. Email to i.willetts@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk. Please remember, there must be no doubt that the vehicle is obstructing the pavement, otherwise you will be wasting your time and Ian's time.

Last: there's Street Watch as well as Neighbourhood Watch. Street Watch volunteers are expected to give 2 hours each month. You patrol in pairs wearing hi-vis jackets. Here's the link: <https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/get-involved>. TW

Banners Gate Primary School



Welcome Back after Half Term

It's now the countdown to Christmas!

Just a short one this month in terms of news but we start with a safety message.

We trust you all had an enjoyable and safe bonfire night with plenty of fireworks. The children had a visit from the local Police before half term to tell them about the dangers associated with fireworks and bonfires.



You may have seen the fantastic article in the Sutton Coldfield Observer on Friday 2nd November concerning the sponsorship of the reading corners by PK Education. The article is on the WOW board in reception if



you would like a closer look. The children will benefit from having gazebos and books in the classrooms along with staff from PK Education joining them for reading sessions.

Banners Gate Primary School will be observing a two minute silence on Friday 9th November to remember all those who gave so much for our future.



Keep an eye out for the range of events going on at Banners Gate in the run up to Christmas. There will also be a Newsletter out shortly with all the relevant dates and times for your diary.

From 1st November, Winter opening hours will be in operation across all Household Recycling Centres in Birmingham.

Address: Norris Way, Sutton Coldfield, B75 7BB

Operating times:

November to end of March

Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm

Saturday to Sunday: 8am to 4:30pm (No vans after 4:00 pm)
(Except Christmas Day & Boxing Day)

April to end of October

Monday to Friday: 8am to 8pm

Saturday to Sunday: 8am to 4:30pm (No vans after 4:00 pm)

The re-use shop at Norris Way is open from 9.00am until 4pm from Monday to Saturday. Sundays 10am - 4pm. Open bank holidays except - Easter Sunday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Please do not leave donation outside the gates.

Recycling facilities

We are able to recycle/re-use the following items:

Green garden waste, Cardboard, Paper, Glass, Metal, Wood and wood-based products (MDF, chipboard etc), Engine Oil, Car Batteries, Fridges & Freezers, Textiles, Shoes, TVs & CRT Monitors, Fluorescent tubes, Gas bottles, Soil, Hardcore & Rubble. Please do not put gas bottles (full or empty) into the metals skip. Please use the special area provided for gas bottles. If in doubt, please speak to the staff on site who can advise.



Useful telephone numbers

Report issues, request council services and find information by using some of these useful numbers and links below.

Adults and Communities Access Point (ACAP) 0121 303 1234

Monday to Thursday, 8:45am to 5.15pm

Friday, 8:45am to 4:15pm

[Adults Out of Hours Home Care Service 0121 464 5001](#)

Anti-social behaviour 0121 303 1111

[Benefits \(includes Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support 0121 464 7000](#)

Cemeteries (out of hours emergencies only) 0121 464 8728

[Child protection - concerned about a child? 0121 303 1888](#)

Council tax 0121 303 1113

[Domestic violence 0121 303 0368 or 0121 303 0369](#)

Emergency duty team 0121 675 4806

[Environmental health 0121 303 6007](#)

Highways/Flooding/Transportation (out of hours only) 0121 303 4149

[Homelessness 0121 303 7410](#)

Housing repairs 0121 216 3330

[Parks emergencies 0121 464 8728](#)

Planning 0121 303 1115

[Pollution of brooks and streams or report an environmental incident 0800 807060](#)

Register office 0121 675 1000

[Rubbish \(Waste and Recycling\) 0121 303 1112](#)

School admissions and pupil placements 0121 303 1888

[Transportation emergencies 0121 303 4149](#)

If you have a speech impairment, are deaf or hard of hearing you can contact Birmingham City Council by Next Generation Text (also known as Text Relay and TypeTalk).

Dial 18001 before the full national phone number.

Minicom: 0121 303 1119 or 0121 675 8221



Friends of King George V Playing Fields



Through the generosity of Tesco, we have funding to plant bulbs. Here are some of the suggested sites, if you have any ideas for flowers please let us know:- between the service Road and Banners Gate Road; the area between Chester Road North and the service road, just passed St. Columba's Church; the grass verge at the end of Reay Nadin Drive; the grass verge opposite the Shell Garage by the island on the Sutton Park Surgery side. The display at the Banners Gate entrance to Sutton Park was so lovely, we would like ours to look similar, i.e., with changes of colour when one planting dies and another grows to take its place. The committee are also considering benches and we wondered what the availability would be for the off-cuts from any oak trees in Sutton Park. We would then fund their construction with a local group. Also being mindful of the security, we would like to place these strategically to try and make it more difficult to drive unwanted vehicles onto the field. It would be ideal to place the trees in the areas of the bund where there are gaps. If you have any ideas for trees please let us know.



WWW.CREATIVEWEDDINGIDEAS.CO.UK



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
Call on 07730666897

Instructor's Training

Develop skills for life

Resources
available to
download from the
Touchline Training
website.

Adults attend a one-day IMPACT
Wellbeing Programme training course.

Instructors teach individuals and groups,
using one-off sessions, or a series of
workshops to deliver the programme.

"I've been really
happy to join in
the sessions
and enjoyed
every moment."

Parent

"Breathing and relaxation very
good. Enjoyed the massage."

Stroke Survivor

Make wellbeing YOUR concern!

For further details visit:
www.impact4wellbeing.co.uk

For your local instructor please contact:

Loretto Cattell
07732 474 470
email: loretto-cattell@virginmedia.com

www.touchlinetraining.co.uk
© Touchline Training Limited.
Registered in England No: 06346041

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 - www.discbirmingham.org

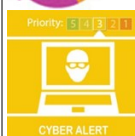
Residents are always welcome to attend the meetings of the Town Council and its committees.



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

- 20 Nov** - Strategy & Resources
- 26 Nov** - Town Council Meeting
- 4 Dec** - Planning & Highways Committee
- 10 Dec** - Strategy & Resources
- 19 Dec** - Town Council Meeting
- 8 Jan** - Planning & Highways Committee
- 17 Jan** - Amenities, Leisure & Community Committee

They are usually held at the Town Hall but check on
the Town Council website before setting off!



Cyber Scam Alert & How to Keep Them Out

Dear Residents, Please read and share with friends and family
members:

Extortion Scam

Cyber criminals send victims their own passwords.
Cyber criminals are attempting to blackmail unsuspecting
victims by claiming to have used the victims' password to
install spying malware on the victims' computer. The criminals
claim they've recorded videos of the victim watching adult
material by activating their webcam when they visit these
websites. What makes this scam so convincing is that the email
usually includes a genuine password the victim has used for
one of their online accounts. We believe criminals obtain the
passwords from data breaches.

What to do if you get one of these emails?

Don't reply to the email or be pressured into paying. The
police advise that you do not pay criminals. Try flagging the
email as spam/junk if you receive it multiple times. Perform a
password reset as soon as possible on any accounts where
you've used the password mentioned in the email. Always use
a strong, separate password for important accounts, such as
your email. Where available, enable two-factor authentication
(2FA). Always install the latest software and app updates.
Install, or enable, anti-virus software on your laptops and
computers and keep it updated.

If you receive one of these emails, report it to Action Fraud's
phishing reporting tool. If you have received one of these
emails and paid the ransom, report it to your local police force
on 101 providing all the relevant details.

How To Keep The Cyber-Criminals Out

Cyber-criminals use weaknesses in software and apps to attack
your devices and steal your identity. Software updates are
designed to fix these weaknesses and installing them as soon as
possible will keep your devices & data secure.
Software updates don't have to get in the way of what you're
doing. You can choose to install them at night, when your
device is plugged in and connected to wi-fi. You can also
configure most devices to automatically install software and
app updates.

For more information on how to stay secure online,
visit www.cyberaware.gov.uk or follow @Cyberprotectuk on
Twitter.

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 two will be on 13th December and 10th January. Coffee, cakes and chat, Book swap, A warm welcome to all is assured.



Messy Church,
St Columba's Church Hall,
Banners Gate Road,
25th November and 13th January
4.00—6.00 p.m. includes high tea.

Christmas at St Columba's,

Banners Gate. B73 6TX.

Come join us as we celebrate Christmas at the following services.

December 9th **Family Christingle @ 10.00 am**

December 16th **9 Lessons and Carols @ 6.30pm**

December 24th **Crib Service @ 4pm**

December 24th **Midnight Communion @ 11.30pm**

December 25th **Christmas Day Communion @ 10am**



Christmas Fayre Saturday 17th November



St Columba's Church Hall
Banners Gate Road
11.00 a.m.—2.00 p.m.

Christmas Gifts, Toys, Books, CDs, DVDs,

Bric-a-Brac, Tombola, Bran Tub

Homemade Cakes and Preserves

Ethnic Food Stall

Refreshments and Lunches

Admission 50p. Children Free

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 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.



St Columba's Church Hall is for hire Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Call Sally Rowley on 0121 693 0084 for further information. Banners Gate Rd, Sutton Coldfield B73 6TX

Sutton Park Surgery

www.suttonparksurgery.nhs.uk

Flu jabs

There isn't a flu clinic at the surgery this year. If you want the flu jab just book an appointment on 353 2586.



NHS

SUTTON PARK SURGERY

Free NHS Health Check

We can help you manage your risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease.

If you receive an offer of an NHS Health Check – take it!

You must be over 44

Stroke

Heart disease

Diabetes

Kidney disease

STEPH LEES

O S T E O P A T H Y

Osteopathy appointments available, with myself, based in the heart of Four Oaks.

Osteopathic Treatment can help with the following;

- Generalised aches and pains
- Joint Pains
- Osteoarthritis / Arthritic pain
- General, acute & chronic backache
- Neck pain
- Frozen shoulder / Tennis elbow
- Sciatica
- Muscle spasms
- Neuralgia
- Sports injuries



Call or email me for any questions or appointments on:
07855389528 or
stephleeosteopathy@hotmail.com



The Clarence Spa, 312 Clarence Road, B74 4LT

Free NHS Health Check

Helping you prevent heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease.

Angel Dental Clinic has a Membership Plan which registers you here and covers your Essential Dental needs:

Regular check-ups, small radiographs, scaling and polishing, and 10% discount off any treatments you may need. This plan also has a World Wide Dental Trauma and Emergency Callout Insurance Policy. The plan is very affordable and paid for on a monthly basis. Registration numbers are limited. For more information please discuss this with our team who are more than happy to explain the benefits of Membership.

To discuss your treatment and appointment needs, please contact our Receptionist on:
0121 353 0483



Free street parking available.
Ground floor surgery with disabled access.



Angel Dental Clinic provides:

- Family Dental Care
- Urgent Dental Treatments
- Gum and Periodontal Care
- Restorative Dentistry
- White fillings
- Veneers, Crowns & Bridges
- Denture work and Repairs
- Dental Implants
- Orthodontic Services
- Cosmetic Treatments
- Teeth Whitening
- Sports Mouthguards
- Oral Health Products

1 Sutton Oak Corner, Bakers Lane
Sutton Coldfield, B74 2DH
Email: info@angeldentalclinic.co.uk

Angel Dental Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday 08.30am - 5.00pm
Evening and Saturday appointments are available



Offering Anti-Wrinkle & Dermal Filler Treatments by an Insured & NMC registered medical practitioner.

Flexible evening & weekend appointments.

Call or Text Lisa for more information on current offers
(07944 005867 / llaesthetics@outlook.com)

Follow: *llaesthetics*



Personal Training 360

Exercise/Nutrition for all: Health+Fitness

One off & regular session options

Free Consultation & no gym fee!

Google & FB 4 reviews

Amy Johnson 0770-7006802



+ Massage 360

PT: *Bicicelo, B74 2UG & Sutton Park*

Sports Massage: 10 Jevons Rd, B73 6QP

The Chemist, M.W. Phillips, now at Sutton Park Surgery – 0121 353 9027

Do you have any of these items?



Coins



Medals



Postcards



Badges/Tokens

Stamps - Books

Free evaluations.

Should you wish to sell I can advise on this also.



Cigarette cards

Joe Dyke

0121 686 6491

The Banners Gate Community Hall is available at times during the week, including weekends. For further information go to: www.bannersgatecommunityassociation.org

WDC Service Solutions Ltd

Complete Door Security and Access Solutions

WDC can repair the following products: UPVC WINDOWS, HANDLES, HINGES, LOCKS, ROLLERS FOR PATIO DOORS, SECURITY, UPGRADES, REPAIRS TO UPVC DOORS, TIMBER DOOR REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT DOORS, GARAGE DOOR REPAIRS, REPAIR OR REPLACE, FAULTY CABLES, HANDLES AND LOCKS, REMOTE CONTROLS, REPLACEMENT FOBS, NEW GARAGE DOOR SYSTEMS, FREE QUOTATIONS.

www.wdcservicesolutions.com service@wdcservicesolutions.com
sales@wdcservicesolutions.com T: 0121 285 3222

Unit 16 C, Maybrook Business Park, Maybrook Road, Minworth. B76 1AL

Double Glazing Repairs

Misted units - problem handles - hinges - mechanisms - uPVC door adjustment. Anti-snap cylinders fitted. No job too small - emergency call out available.

KN Locks and Maintenance (Streetly)

Tel: 0121 353 2214 or 07971 375 080



we are here to listen, call today

Val: 07964 213 229 / Kellyanne: 07986 952 546

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.

Hall's Gardens

Garden Maintenance Services

Gary Hall

54, Coppice View Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6UF
07833720015

garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk



Scooby's GROOMING SALON

CALL JADE TODAY

07957 349478

www.scoobysgroomingsalon.co.uk

PUPPY TRIMSBATH & BRUSH***FULL DOGGY GROOM***DE-SHEDDING TREATMENT***NAIL CLIPPING***



0777 333 9214

admin@luckybuntys.co.uk



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.



Mac and PC, Computer Repairs, System Setup, Anti-Virus, Backup and Networking, CCTV or any other Techno Device (TV, Mobile Phones etc.). We provide a one to one engineer service. With over 20 years experience.

GCDtec Limited - Computer Repair and Maintenance - IT Support and Help.

Gavin C. Dodds - Mobile: 07966 274 713 - Office: 0845 074 5702
www.gcdtec.co.uk help@gcdtec.co.uk

Sutton Coldfield Speakers' Club

The next two meetings will be 13th December and 10th January at Mere Green Community Centre. We meet at

7:30 pm for 7:45 start— Visitors always welcome

Build Confidence - Make New Friends, Have Fun

Tel: Sally 0121 354 9941 <http://www.suttonspeakers.co.uk/>

40% OFF
coaching

PUBLISHING
EDITING



CPS

(020)7622-0436
claphampublishing.com

*Balloons for every occasion.
Sweet Cones/Pick n Mix Stand
Santa home visits, from £15
(DBS Cert held)*



*For more information:
07906 023 999*

www.brummiekids.co.uk

Create the best party possible for your little ones

Birthdays, Weddings, Christenings, Fetes, School Workshops, Plays and much more

We can cater for anything including: Full Party Entertainment, Mascots, Soft Play, Bouncy Castles, Face Painting, and Pamper Parties

Facebook: Lucky Buntys Twitter: @LuckyBuntys



All of our Entertainers are Enhanced DBS checked and we have full liability insurance 0777 333 9214 admin@luckybuntys.co.uk

sue@petstay.net

Would you like to be one of our dog carers?
Are you at home during the day? Have
a very secure garden? Love dogs?
Want to earn a little extra? Then
maybe being one of our many loving
dog carers would be ideal for you.

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



Ring Sue or Simon for
a chat on
07724 212204 or
0121 769 2766

PetStay

streetlyvets.co.uk

0121 572 6527

**Streetly Vets is the
cat's whiskers!**



Streetly Vets
Where pets are family

89 Blackwood Road, Sutton Coldfield B74 3PW



**Banners Gate Community Hall
Coffee Mornings**



From 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on the following dates:
20th November, 11th December and 15th January.

SWIMMING LESSONS

for ages 4 and upwards:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
Evenings

Local Pools ~ All Abilities

Badge Work ~ Qualified Instructors

0121 353 6616

www.swimminglessonsinsuttoncoldfield.co.uk



0 - 13 months

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



Plastering internal & external
specialist
Includes: Dry lining - Plaster
boarding - Artex re-skimming -
Replacement walls & ceilings -
Painting / Decorating - Carpentry

Lee Nugent

36 Banners Gate Road

Sutton Coldfield B73 6RX

Office: 0121 354 5446

Mobile: 07934 15 19 20

Lee.nugent1@virginmedia.com



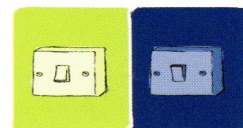
Paul White Electrical

No Job too small

Paul Andrew White
Electrician

111 Wandsworth Road
Birmingham
B44 9LY
07403445651

p.white.electrical@gmail.com
Part P reg 58023 PAT Testing



A promise made behind bars must be kept on the
outside!

'Jenkins weaves a web of intrigue' – Judith Cutler.

The Promise is dark fiction set in Birmingham.
Available via book shops, Amazon etc.

AGE concern
Birmingham

**Are you a Carer in North
Birmingham?**



Are you caring for your spouse, relative or
friend?

We can offer 1-1 support planning sessions
to support your wellbeing within your home
or a venue of your choice

Age Concern Birmingham

76 - 78 Boldmere Road

Sutton Coldfield

B73 5TJ

01213623650

**Support, Inspire &
Transform!**

FREE service

- A weekly home visit, support & befriending service for all Carers
- Receive information & advice on benefits, services & local activities
- Book respite at local well-being day centres
- Build friendships & network with other Carers at upcoming support groups



**Opening
Hours**

**Monday –
Friday
9am – 5 pm**



HOME TUITION
ENGLISH FRENCH SPANISH
Leisure Courses and Exams to
GCSE



all materials provided



Tracy: 07803 29 33 51

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 www.saintcolumbas.co.uk 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 7.30 – 8.30	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training I Yoga. Midlands	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall	Tracy Jones 07753 Madge Nightingale Angela Brookes 07939	82 56 22 360 0286 547392
Thurs 10.00 am 10.00 – 11.00 am 1.45 – 2.45 6.30 – 9.45 pm 7.15 – 10.15 pm (4th & 2nd alt months) (1st) 8.00 pm 7.00 – 8.30 pm	Holy Communion Yoga Yoga Stars (Children) Zig Zag Dance Studio Bridge Townswomen's Guild Mothers' Union Cub Scouts 15th Group	St. Columba's Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC St. Columba's The Scout Hut	Tricia 07954 Warren 01902 Sylvia Cunningham 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 9.30 – 10.30 4.30 – 6.00	Mums & Toddlers Group Yoga Stars (Children) Yoga	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall	Elizabeth Parkes 07595	353 0230 711984
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: Margaret Drummond, 33rd GSL 353 5203 Girlguiding: Carol Gardner, Vesey West District Commissioner 350 7191		

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

BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE

Accessible and Affordable
Counselling to Adults in the
Community.
The Upper Room
St. Michael's House
198 Boldmere Road
Sutton Coldfield
Tel : 0121 354 6544
For information or an appointment
please ring after 10 a.m. daily,
except Wednesday

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.

Gatepost always needs volunteers
for delivering. On average it takes
just 20 minutes, six times a year.
We also need volunteers to fold
and collate Gatepost for 90
minutes, six times a year when we
provide tea/coffee and biscuits/
cake. If you can help please ring
605 4947. Your help would be
much appreciated.

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. 22nd November The History of
Perfume - Anita Murphy
Thurs. 13th December Christmas Party
Thurs. 10th January Bingo, Fish & Chips
Thurs. 24th January Laurel & Hardy - John
Ullah
Thurs 28th February Gardening Mishaps and
Disasters - Graham & Judy White
Enquiries: Josie Orme 0121 352 1042

The 18th Sutton Coldfield West
Scout Group and the 15th
Sutton Coldfield West Scout
Group have merged and are
now named the 33rd
Headquarters are at the Scout
Hut, Coppice View Road.
B73 6UE.

33rd Sutton Coldfield Scout Group,

H.Q. Coppice View Road

Monday Beavers 5.30 p.m. – 6.45 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
Scouts 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. ages 10 ½ – 14 years
Tuesday Beavers 5.40 p.m. – 6.40 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years
Thursday Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years

Contact 0121 353 5203

Email: margaretdrummond1@btinternet.com



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.



Girlguiding UK

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



Girlguiding UK