



## BANNERS GATE & PARKLANDS

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

136TH ISSUE FEBRUARY - MARCH 2020

[www.bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com](http://www.bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com)

The dates of the next three meetings are to be arranged.

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](mailto:bgatepost@gmail.com) with "Email Gatepost" in the subject line.

I am, or so I thought, a very savvy user of the internet, having been involved with computers since 1973. However, I was recently conned out of £155. It hurt. Not because I could not afford to lose the money, nobody can afford to lose £155. No, it was not £155 I lost, it was my pride.

So I thought of all the users out there: you, your friends, your family members, your neighbours, those people you bump into every now and then - everyone who uses a computer, or a laptop, or a tablet, or a phone, or any other device that you use for emails, messaging, shopping, social media or anything to do with the internet. So, I thought, who can help us avoid the perils of the internet, the hoaxes, the cons, the scams, the criminals out to make easy money from the unwary.

In 1962 I started with the Midland Bank, who became HSBC and First Direct and I trust them. I asked if they could help and they said, "Yes."



# HSBC

Five representatives of HSBC are coming to the next forum meeting at the Community Hall, Reay Nadin Drive, on Monday, 30th March, to give advice on the subject of **Avoiding Being Conned.**

Tony



The Tablet Course is in its final month, or is it? There is a possibility that additional funds can be made available to continue into April. At the moment we are meeting on Thursdays in March, as usual at 2.30 to 4 o'clock in the Commutea Café at AgeConcern, Boldmere. Since September we have covered everything possible to do with the internet via phones, tablets, iPads and Androids, even the odd laptop. If you are interested, and many are and have been, please call the editor whose number is at the bottom of the page. You do not need your own equipment, thanks to the generosity of [Birmingham Airport](#) who funded tablets, covers and insurance.



## SAVE THE DATE - Boldmere Summer Festival - Sunday 7th June

Because of the current covid-19 situation we have considered the average age of residents who attend our Gatepost folding sessions, and those who attend our forum meetings, and have made the decision to cancel the events, so no foldings or forums until further notice.

Meanwhile, Nicky had a great idea of returning to the 'cottage industry' setup. The first six residents we called agreed to fold, etc., at home so we are back on track - thank you all for your efforts.

If you know of any other cancellations please let us know and we'll put them on the blog.

[bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com](http://bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com)



**Rob Pocock:** I've been continuing to battle to get our roads and pavements improved, following the end of the 'Amey contract' with the City Council. It's now been agreed the job will be taken on, for the next 18 months at least, by Kier Highways Limited. The Amey contract finally ends on 31 March and as from 1 April, Kier will be in charge. They will be responsible for potholes, streetlights and everyday repairs. The City Council will also be re-starting the longer-term re-construction of roads and pavements that need a full-scale overhaul, using Tarmac Construction to do these major jobs. There's a huge backlog of this work to catch up on, because of what was not done for several years by....

## 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: April 30th.**

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Amey! There will be a list of backlogs published after April, of the roads and pavements now scheduled to be upgraded in the next year or two. It needs to be a real 'roads rescue' job. Once I hear more about this, I'll make sure Gatepost is the first to know. Kier are also going to have a new Highways Steward looking after our area, and I'm assured he will be keen to get out to residents meetings, so hopefully he will be able to come to the Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum meeting when we get towards the summer. It's certainly about time we got some proper work done, on pavements, in particular, which are getting to be real trip hazards.

Finally, residents of Banners Gate and Parkwood will be interested to hear that a new community group is now up and running to do with Sutton Park. This is the 'Friends of the Gates' of Boldmere and Banners Gate. They are looking to get some further improvements to these two major entranceways to the Park. Hopefully there should also be some more wildflower seeds being planted in the area too, very soon, to add to the recent colour that Banners Gate Forum and Friends of King George Playing Fields have achieved. All in all, our neighbourhood should soon be looking even better!



**Kath Scott:** I have been working to develop a new City Council scheme to support the over-50s and help families who have highly dependent elders living at home. It's all part of what I set out to do a couple of years ago which is supporting people who provide care to friends and relatives – 'caring for the people who care'. The new service is called the Neighbourhood Network Scheme and it is now operating across Sutton Coldfield, including the Banners Gate and Parklands area. It is run by the charity 'Compass Support' and led by a lively lady from Age Concern called Kate Gomez. I had a long meeting with her along with Rob this week, where we planned the next steps in their work. Kate is keen to get out and about, and she gave a very impressive report at our most recent 'Sutton Vesey Ward Forum' public meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February. I hope she'll also be free to attend a future meeting of the Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum.

They have a new budget to invest in advice and support services. One part of this, is that you can now go along and meet a professional social care worker to chat about the support you need, or that of an older relative. Just drop in to the United Reformed Church, Sutton town centre any Tuesday morning between 11am and 1pm. It's all very informal and you can check out what's around that might help. They are also funding a 'befriending service' which helps people living at home avoid being left alone, and this is also soon to be extended to cover the Banners

Gate and Parklands area. If you're interested in what's on offer just email me

on [kath.scott@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:kath.scott@birmingham.gov.uk).

I'm keenly aware that a lot of people lose their partner and are left living alone, and sometimes end up at a loss to know how best to get by. Often their younger family have moved away to other towns and can't get back for visits as often as they'd like. The Council can't replace the love of family, but the social care service is trying new ways to plug the gap and help people avoid being left alone and without support. If you think you know anyone in that situation, either email me or call our office on 0121 303 2039 where we'll have someone who can take your call"



**Alison Jolley:** The Sutton Coldfield flower beds around the town are showing the first signs of spring. One of the main objectives of the Sutton in Bloom working party is to help support all our residents, local businesses and school communities to enjoy, value and also improve their local environment.

As environmental issues are at the top of the town council agenda, we are proud that our town is part of the Britain in Bloom competition again this year, particularly as last summer the Royal Horticultural Society judges awarded a Gold award.

We are keen to have as many local groups, residents and schools etc., to get involved again this year. It's the many volunteers who get involved that make such a difference in ensuring our green spaces, allotments, park spaces etc look their best all year round. Please do get in touch with me if you or a community group would like to get involved this year.

[alison.jolley@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:alison.jolley@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)



**Jan Cairns:** Hi All, I hope that you have had a good Winter season and that the forthcoming Spring finds you well especially as we are currently blighted by the threat of COVID 19. Please stay safe and well.

During the Winter months as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership I have been working with our local GP's to understand where SCTC can support the introduction of Social Prescribing in the years to come where the Community in particular works with the health service to support patients in different ways where the community helps each other. SCTC know that they are positioned to support effective working between the community groups and healthcare. We will update you as partnerships progress.

Please see the outcome of the public consultation where you had your say about what you would like to see in the Regeneration of our Town Centre. All information on the SCTC website.

**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.

**Cllr. Kath Scott,** [kath.scott@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto: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.



**Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum**  
**Minutes held at Banners Gate Community Hall**  
**on January 27th 2020**

**Apologies:** Jan Cairns, Hazel Pollock.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes were agreed to be correct. Proposed by Harold Jones and seconded by David Fleming.

**Matters arising:** Tablet course – the last Monday session was 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

**Future Gateposts** – to acquire funding for a colour issue in May to help advertise the Boldmere Summer Festival.

**Correspondence:** Letter from West Midlands police - there is a new police inspector for Sutton Coldfield and Erdington, Haroon Chughtai – go on line and take a look.

Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council has created a free online resource for the community called “Discover Sutton Coldfield” which aims to connect local activity groups, volunteers, charity groups and community organisations.

<https://discoversuttoncoldfield.co.uk> The website is free and you can register your details to share information.

**The Vesey Ward meeting:** The meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January was cancelled and will take place on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February at the Carpenters’ Arms at 7.00 pm.

**Buying on the Internet:** You can buy an item very cheaply or even just have to pay the Postage and Packing for under £5 but if you don’t read the small print and untick the right boxes then you could find that you’ve signed up to a repeat order of about £80 at the full price. It’s important to be able to cancel your order within 14 days and contact your bank.

**Tablet course progress report:** There will be four more sessions on Tuesdays in February and four more on Thursdays in March. Come with smart phones, tablets and laptops. The course can provide the use of Androids and Apple’s iPads.

**Coffee mornings:** Coffee mornings in the hall are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the month when you can have cakes, pies and drinks with a free raffle ticket. The next one will be on 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**Blog:** Read the blog at [bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com](http://bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com) instead of the website, for local news.

**AOB:** Let Tony Willis know if you have any ideas for a speaker.

**Date of next meeting is:** the AGM on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Next folding is 7th May at 11.30 a.m.**

The speakers will be from HSBC to help us stay safe on the internet. So come along with your questions and find out what you could do if you are conned.

**Claire Hickman from Wiltshire Farm Foods was our visiting speaker.**

She cooked a variety of the meals from their range for us all to taste. Claire works from the local branch at Brierley Hill and it is an established company of 28 years. She emphasised that the

food was not just for old people but suitable for everyone. Her busy family love them and find them very convenient to cook from frozen and they are nutritionally balanced.


They can be delivered to your door five days per week free of charge. All the drivers are DBS checked. They provide the convenience of a variety of food with no waste or wasted effort. They supply hospitals and nurseries alike with meals such as cottage pie, fish pie and chicken curry. Their range includes vegetarian meals and they are now developing vegan ones. The mini meals are only 500 calories but the regular and hearty meals are very popular. Soups are about 99p and meals in the Chef’s favourite range are about £6.00. The company works with the Diabetic Society and uses the signpost system to highlight the contents such as reduced sugar in the custard.

The cakes, such as, Golden Syrup, Cherry and Almond and Lemon Drizzle, all keep for about five days (unless eaten of course). In order to obtain vouchers for free meals, email Tony Willis and there will be £5 off your first order for £20. There is no charge for delivery and usually no minimum order.

Claire said that she would love to return and demonstrate the new summer menu and also the Christmas menu later in the year. Everyone went home very satisfied with the food tasting and especially the cakes.

For further information please go to:

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



**SUTTON COLDFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK SCHEME**

Do you run a community activity, service or project that people living in Sutton Coldfield aged 50+ can benefit from?

**WE CAN HELP!**

We can offer a range of support around issues such as marketing and promotion, volunteering, governance and fundraising, and we have a micro and small grants scheme to commission activities.

- ⇒ Promote existing activities
- ⇒ Develop new activities
- ⇒ Networking opportunities
- ⇒ Build skills and capacity
- ⇒ Improve accessibility
- ⇒ Funding advice

To find out more or have a conversation about how we could help, contact the NNS team on:

NNS@AGECONCERNBIRMINGHAM.ORG.UK  
01213623661

AGE concern Birmingham

SUTTON COLDFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK SCHEME

Compass Support  
Passion for people

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Phone no. 0121 386 2639

Email: [info@cw-sec.co.uk](mailto:info@cw-sec.co.uk) Website: [www.cw-sec.co.uk](http://www.cw-sec.co.uk)

## Town Council encourages community to join Great British Spring Clean



Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council is once again backing a national campaign to get over half a million people out and about cleaning up their local communities. The Great British Spring Clean Campaign for 2020, organised by Keep Britain Tidy, will take place from 20th March to 13th April. As in previous years the Town Council is looking for individuals, community groups and businesses across the town to support the campaign by organising their own clean up event.

Anyone wanting to help Sutton Coldfield be a cleaner and greener place in which to live and work is encouraged to contact the Town Council, who can help by providing litter pickers, gloves and bags to use.

For more information or to take part please call Caitlin Morgan at the Town Council on 0121 663 1765 or you can email [enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Join the Great British Spring Clean

Be part of the pick

20 MARCH -  
13 APRIL 2020  
#GBSpringClean



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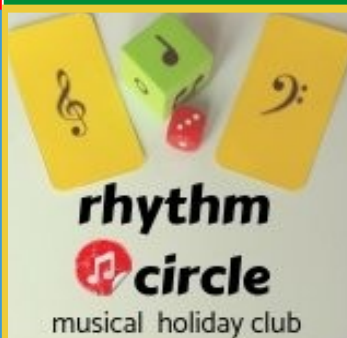
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[www.rhythmcircle.co.uk](http://www.rhythmcircle.co.uk)

## Friends of the Gates

This new group, started by Councillor Pocock for those interested in Boldmere and Banners Gates is currently discussing what improvements we, as residents, would like to see in our side of the park. At the same time Sutton Coldfield Town Council have commissioned Land Use Consultants to advise on the future of Sutton Park. If you would like to suggest any changes you would like to see in the Boldmere and Banners Gate area of the park that would enhance your experience e.g., more waste bins, maintained paths, filled potholes, improved accessibility, sports facilities or anything else, the group would be very pleased to receive your input. We have to bear in mind that the park is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a National Nature Reserve and part of it is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and also that there is little or no money available unless special grants can be obtained.

Any suggestions can be emailed to [parkideas@btinternet.com](mailto:parkideas@btinternet.com).

Gillian Chant

## Banners Gate Community Choir

Mondays 7.30pm -9.00pm

A community choir for all abilities.

- No experience necessary
- No fees
- Age 16+
- Traditional and contemporary music



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

Banners Gate Community Church, Westwood Rd,  
B73 6UH

For more info, find us on Facebook @bgcchoir





## TOWN HALL Sutton Coldfield

Upper Clifton Road, B73 6AB 0121 296 9543

20 Mar TOWN HALL TALKS: AN EVENING WITH JEREMY VINE 'What the Hell's Going On?' Jeremy Vine (BBC R2, Channel 5) tries to make sense of the world in his entertaining talk, plus audience interaction session! Book signing 6pm, Show 7pm £17

21 Mar SINGALONG 80s Second in our singalong season with live 80s band, 'Back to the 80s' and big screen lyrics. Fancy dress encouraged! £14

24-28 Mar LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

TUDOR MUSICAL COMEDY SOCIETY Join Harvard's beloved blonde Elle Woods in a fabulously fun award-winning musical based on the hit film. £14-£19

Coming soon! See website for details

5 Apr EASY SINGALONG 2pm £8 Chilled Sunday songs, featuring piano & vocals, big screen lyrics and cosy singalong classics from Manilow to The Carpenters. Bar open from 1pm.

8 Apr THE LITTLE MIX SHOW 'Woman Like Me' They're back with their latest tribute show! £15

12 Apr PETER & PAT'S SPRING DANCE Call 01926 511 966 for tickets and information

17 Apr DEFINITELY MIGHTBE (OASIS) PLUS TRIBUTE TO THE JAM £14

19 Apr SUTTON VINTAGE AND ARTS FAIR

29 April - 2 May CRAZY FOR YOU (MANOR) [www.manormusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk](http://www.manormusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk)

5 - 9 May JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (SUTTON COLDIFIELD MUSICAL YOUTH THEATRE) On sale

9 - 17 May SUTTON COLDIFIELD SOCIETY OF ARTISTS Exhibition. Free entry

7 May MATINEE: VE DAY TEA DANCE On sale soon

10 May SUTTON COLDIFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY Joseph Haydn: The Creation

11 May TOWN HALL TALKS: DAVID STARKEY 'Henry VIII: Man, Monster and the Maker of England' 7pm with book signing in the bar beforehand. £17.50

15 May KNIGHTMARE LIVE! Comedy Stage adaptation of the cult TV show. 8pm £12.50 + fee



## What's on next at Highbury Theatre?

Deep Cut from 17-21 then 24-28 March

Written by Philip Ralph and directed by Liz Parry. A docu-drama based on real life events. Some strong language.

Free glass of wine on 18 March!

FILM - Ice Cold in Alex (cert PG) 22 March

Epic journey across the Egyptian desert during WW2.

FILM - Tommy (cert 15) 18 April

Cult classic based on The Who's 1969 album.

The Children from 28 April-2 May then 5-9 May

Written by Lucy Kirkwood and directed by Anne Bravey.

This is a thought provoking drama about collective responsibility. Some strong language.

Free glass of wine on 29 April!

FILM - Commitments (cert 15) 3 May

Forming a band on a Dublin council estate.

All performances start at 7.30pm. Tickets available from Highbury Theatre Box Office, Sheffield Road, Sutton Coldfield,

B73 5HD tel: 0121 373 2761 or book online at

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/highburytheatre/events>

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

For more information, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter

## HOLY TRINITY PARISH CHURCH

Tel: 0121 321 1144 Email: [friends@htsc.org.uk](mailto:friends@htsc.org.uk)

SATURDAY // MARCH 21ST 2020 // 7.30PM

Down for the Count Motown Collective present a spectacular live music experience, bringing some of the best music of the 20th Century back to life. The band has appeared at Sutton Coldfield 'Concerts in the Park', Boisdale Restaurants, Pizza Express Jazz Club and many more. Expect to hear classics from the likes of Stevie Wonder, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, Marvin Gaye and many others.



## CITY OF LICHFIELD CONCERT BAND

SATURDAY // MAY 16TH 2020 // 7.30PM



100 years on from its foundation, the City of Lichfield Concert Band has a special relationship with the City of Lichfield and plays for civic events and other public ceremonies. Several concerts are given in the Guildhall each year and the band also play at the annual 'Proms in Beacon Park'. In April 2016 the band performed at the finals of the National Concert Band Festival at the Royal Northern College of Music Manchester.



## MOVE AGAINST CANCER 5K YOUR WAY

We are inviting anyone who is living with or beyond cancer, families, friends and healthcare professionals to join us once a month to walk, jog, run, cheer or volunteer at a 5k Your Way, Move Against Cancer parkrun.

All ages and abilities are encouraged and welcome.  
Lots of us will be walking.

**When:** The last Saturday of every month. 9.00am parkrun start.  
See below for meeting point and time.

**Where:**

Walsall Arboretum Visitor Centre steps  
(meet at 8.45am)

**Ambassador:** Anne Kelsall, Wendy Cole & Sarah Hinkley

**It's Free!**

Get in touch and let us know you will be coming.

5k your way: move against cancer | @cancer5kYourWay  
info@5kyourway.org | www.5kyourway.org

[www.5kyourway.org/register](http://www.5kyourway.org/register)

Don't forget to register with parkrun to get your barcode







Plastic free – eco-friendly -  
zero waste – **organic** -  
**vegan** – sustainable - ethical  
- **non-profit** - social  
enterprise - **community  
interest company** - small -  
local – independent - run by  
**unpaid volunteers.**

Bring your plastic bottles and containers -  
household cleaning & toiletry liquid **refills** -  
toiletries & household cleaning tools. Fresh fruit &  
veg - dried whole foods herbs, spices and nuts.

**Coming soon:** vegan cheese - - bread &  
other baked goods. See us at **The Indoor  
Market, South Parade and on Facebook.**



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**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:

**23 March** - Strategy & Resources

**31 March** - Town Council Meeting

**1 April** - Planning & Highways Committee

**22 April** - Strategy & Resources

**28 April** - Town Council Meeting

**5 May** - Planning & Highways Committee

**13 May** - Town Council Meeting

**14 May** - Amenities, Leisure & Community

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



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or email [chong.fouroaks@gmail.com](mailto:chong.fouroaks@gmail.com)



Monday & Wednesday

Blue Coats School Gym

WS1 2ND

Kids: 6.00pm—7.00pm

Tuesday

Mere Green

Community Centre

Adults & Juniors:  
7.00pm—8.30pm

Wednesday

Sutton Girls' School

(Dance Studio at the  
Back of the building)  
Adults & Juniors (12+):  
7.00pm—8.30pm

Thursday

All Saints' Church Hall

Kids: 6.00pm—7.00pm

Adults: 7.00pm—8.30pm

## MANOR MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS

# CRAZY FOR YOU

THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL

'I Got Rhythm'

'Someone to Watch  
Over Me'

'Slap That Bass'

'They Can't Take  
That Away From  
Me'

'Embraceable You'

Co-Conception by Ken  
Ludwig & Mike  
Ockrent

Inspired by Material by  
Guy Bolton & John  
McGowan

Originally produced on  
Broadway by Roger  
Horchow & Elizabeth  
Williams

Music and Lyrics by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin  
Book by Ken Ludwig

**Dates: 29th April 2020 – 2nd May 2020**

**Evening: 7.30 pm | Saturday matinee: 2.30pm**

**Venue: Sutton Coldfield Town Hall**

**Tickets: [www.manormusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk](http://www.manormusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk)**

**or call 07742 046039**

The worldwide copyrights in the music of George and Ira Gershwin for this presentation are licensed by the Gershwin Family.  
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BANNERS GATE COMMUNITY HALL, REAY NADIN DRIVE, SUTTON COLDFIELD, B73 6UR



f @IKASUTTON  
@IKASUTTON

## St. George's Day

## QUIZ

Banners Gate Community Association invites you to our annual

## St. George's Day Quiz with Fish & Chip Supper

at Banners Gate **Community Church** Hall,  
Westwood Road on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

Tickets are **£8 each** (includes fish supper, a condiments, rolls and butter, and unlimited tea and coffee) and are available from Tracy on **0780 329 2351**.

Tickets MUST be booked and paid for in advance (so that the food can be ordered) and your tickets will be delivered to you in the week before the quiz so that money can be collected; a table to match the size of your team will then be allocated and reserved for you.

Please note that the venue will again be the **Community Church Hall** this year due to the popularity of this event. **Sincere thanks** to the Community Church for their generosity in offering their lovely hall for this event once again, and to our loyal core of regular quizzers for your support.

**PLEASE**, to allow us sufficient time to set up in our guest venue, **DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 6:45;**

your seats will be reserved at a table with your team name on it, and we look forward to seeing you there!

**Doors open at 6:45pm to start at 7:15pm.**

Bring your own booze, and glasses if possible.

## Sutton Coldfield Disability Action Group - SCDAG



Sutton Coldfield Disability Action Group (SCDAG) has been very proud to have hosted a very successful networking event in January at the Town Hall for local service providers for people with disabilities as well as service users and community support services. It is clear that services for the support for young and older adults is less consistent outside of the education structure as a result of funding and most certainly in Sutton Coldfield there are improvements required to enable disabled people to have equal access to work,

education, leisure, sport and everyday life needs and pleasures.

SCDAG will continue to promote positive change for disabled people in Sutton Coldfield by supporting service providers, lobbying statutory bodies to enable positive change and to create a platform to highlight inequalities for disabled people.

There will be future events and those dates will be advertised via our website and social media later in the year.

We can be contacted on 07706 971966. It is not manned 24/7 so please leave a message and we will return your call.

## CRIME REPORTING

**Sue Atkins is the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator  
for the Banners Gate area.**

**Tel: 0121 354 6571**

**or email: sue\_atkins@blueyonder.co.uk**



The new Police Inspector, Haroon Chughtai promised a monthly update on the activities of the police. For his latest update for March please visit the link below which will take you to the Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum blog, as will [www.bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com](http://www.bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com)

**[March Update from Inspector Haroon Chughtai, 2020 March 10th](#)**

## COFFEE MORNINGS St. Columba's Church Hall

Coffee morning on 2nd Thursday each month (except August) from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. No Coffee Morning in April - Easter Holidays - so just May 14th. Coffee, cakes and chat, Book swap, A warm welcome to all is assured.



### Messy Church @ 4 p.m. in the Church Hall, 19th July 2020

Come and join us as we make things together, eat, have fun and hear a story from the bible.

For more information see our website:

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

We are now on Facebook too – search for us

“St Columba's Banners Gate”

### 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



St Columba's Church

Banners Gate Road



# SPRING FAYRE

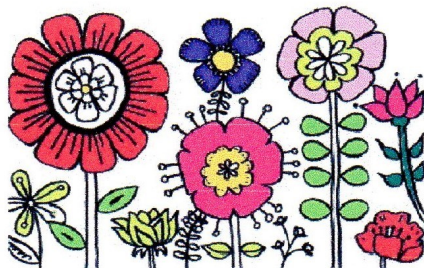
16th May 2020 @ 11.00am—2.00pm

in the Church Hall

LUNCHES & 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



Christian Fellowship (Pheasey)

Worship and Communion Service  
Sunday 10:00am

We are a small evangelical group who meet for worship every  
Sunday morning at the Beacon Church, Collingwood Drive,  
Pheasey Estate, Great Barr B43 7JL [kingswaypheasey@gmail.com](mailto:kingswaypheasey@gmail.com)

Please look for the Beacon Room – Everyone welcome

### WHAT'S ON

@ BANNERS GATE COMMUNITY CHURCH

#### MONDAY

Move It or Lose It, (now finished, lack of support)

Mornings 10.00 – 11.00

Contact Heather on 07913820653

**Banners Gate Community Choir**

Evenings 7.30 – 8.45 (term time only)

Contact Beth on 07719857450

#### TUESDAY

Dance, Dance,

Mornings 10.30 - 12.30. Ballroom, Latin, Modern

Contact Dawn on 0121 783 5584

**Vital Physiotherapy**

Afternoon/evenings: contact Eric on 07896419167

Camera Club

Evenings 8.00 - 10.00 on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in month

Contact Graham on 07506969233

#### WEDNESDAY

Baby Sensory

Morning sessions at 9.30, 11.00 & 12.30

Contact Tracy on 07753825622

#### THURSDAY

Art Class

Afternoons 2.00 – 4.00

Contact Dave on 0121 353 5338

**Townswomen's Guild**

Evenings at 7.30 (4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate months)

Contact Josie Orme 0121 352 1042

#### FRIDAY

Pre School Phonics Class

Mornings 10.30 - 11.15

Contact Jenna on 07540583283

#### SATURDAY

RugbyTots

Mornings for children aged 2 – 7.

Contact Matthew on 0345 313 0803

#### SUNDAY

Morning Family Worship 10.30 to 11.45

Contact Church Office on 0121 353 0230



# 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  
[stephleesosteopathy@hotmail.com](mailto:stephleesosteopathy@hotmail.com)



The Clarence Spa, 312 Clarence Road, B74 4LT

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LISA LANCASTER

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- Microneedling & Mesotherapy
- Chemical Skin Peels • Dermaplaning Facials

Free Consultations Available



LISA LANCASTER  
MOBILE PRACTITIONER

07944005867

[llaesthetics@outlook.com](mailto:llaesthetics@outlook.com)

Instagram: @ll\_aesthetics  
Facebook: fllaesthetic

## 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 & Inform!

### 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

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](mailto:info@angeldentalclinic.co.uk)

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



## The Pit Stop Cafe @ St Columba's.

9am - 12 noon 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month - March 7<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Just run the 5K? Need a pit stop? Just woken up, got dressed and wondering what to do next? Whatever your morning has involved why not come and join us. Tea, coffee and space for conversation at St Columba's Church Hall, Banners Gate Road, B73 6TX.

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





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## ERDINGTON OPERATIC SOCIETY

Presents  
Gilbert and Sullivan's

# IOLANTHE



This very popular show is being presented next Autumn at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall and the Society needs 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.

## 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 at Banners Gate Community Hall.

There is **plenty of tea & coffee and usually some cake.**

Please call **Kathy 077 06 64 51 37** for details or just come along when we are next there and have a look at what we do.

## Banners Gate Community Hall

### Almost free (£1) Coffee Mornings

From 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
on the following dates:

**17th March, 21 April and 19th May**

## Hall's Gardens

Garden Maintenance Services

Gary Hall

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

garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk



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](http://www.newhorizonscounselling.org).

**The Banners Gate Community Hall is available at times during the week, including weekends.**

**The hall is approx. 38' x 21' (11.6m x 6.4m)**

**The kitchen is approx. 11' x 7' (3.4m x 2.2m)**

**The Jarrett room is approx. 13' x 8' (4m x 2.5m)**

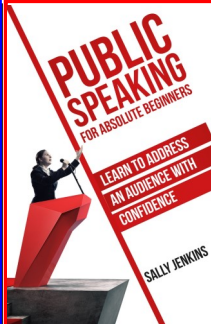
**The ladies has 2 cubicles and a nappy changing table.**

**There is a gents/disabled toilet.**

**The building is step-free.**

**For further booking information go to:**

**[www.bannersgatecommunityassociation.org](http://www.bannersgatecommunityassociation.org)**



**Public Speaking for Absolute Beginners**  
by Sally Jenkins

**Tips on constructing and presenting all types of speeches.**

**Available on Amazon or direct from the author:**

**sallysjenkins@btinternet.com 0121 354 9941**

## Sutton Coldfield Speakers' Club at New Venue

The next meetings will be Thursdays, **9th & 23rd April and 14th & 28th May.** at Boldmere St, Michael's Football Club. We meet at 7:30 p.m. for 7:45 p.m. start - Visitors always welcome.

**Build Confidence - Make New Friends, Have Fun.**

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



0777 333 9214

[admin@luckybuntys.co.uk](mailto: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.**



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[www.gcdtec.co.uk](http://www.gcdtec.co.uk) help@gcdtec.co.uk

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**



## 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

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## PetStay

*Would you like to be one of our dog carers?*

- \* Are you at home during the day?
- \* Have a very secure garden?
- \* Do you love dogs?
- \* Want to earn a little extra?
- \* Very flexible and fits into your lifestyle
- \* We are THE alternative to kennels in the area.
- \* Want to join a professional service?
- \* Then maybe being one of our many loving dog carers would be ideal for you!



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[www.petstay.net](http://www.petstay.net) [sue@petstay.net](mailto:sue@petstay.net)  
**0121 769 2706 07724 212204**  
**West Midlands North Branch**

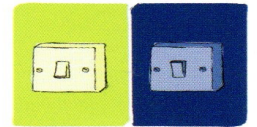
## Paul White Electrical

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Electrician

111 Wandsworth Road  
Birmingham  
B44 9LY  
07403445651

[p.white.electrical@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## From Lent to Easter at St Columba's 2020.

Our Lent Group will meet on **Wednesday evenings @7.30pm** in Upper Room and **Thursday afternoons @1pm** in Church Hall. Do come and join us on the following dates if you are able.

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Wed 25<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> and Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

We then continue our journey through Lent with short prayer meetings on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April @7.30pm** in the Upper Room.

Our **Maundy Thursday Service** is on the **9<sup>th</sup> April @7.30pm**.

Our **Good Friday Vigil** is on the **10<sup>th</sup> April @2pm**

We celebrate **Easter Day** on **April 12th @10am**. Please come and join us as we journey through Lent and Easter together.

If you have any questions speak to Rev. Beccy: 0121 354 5873 or email her: [vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com)



**You'd be barking not to come to Streetly Vets**

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Tel: 0121 572 6527 | [streetlyvets.co.uk](http://streetlyvets.co.uk) | @streetlyvets

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for ages 4 and upwards:  
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**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](mailto:suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk)

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**Lee Nugent**

36 Banners Gate Road  
Sutton Coldfield B73 6RX  
Office: 0121 354 5446  
Mobile: 07934 15 19 20  
[Lee.nugent1@virginmedia.com](mailto:Lee.nugent1@virginmedia.com)

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## HOME TUITION

Key Stage Two SATs tuition:  
English comprehension, spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Spanish and French: leisure courses and exam preparation to GCSE and A-level.

Tracy: 0780 329 3351



DAY/TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE	CONTACT	TEL.	<b>Useful telephone numbers</b> <b>Sutton and Kingstanding</b> <b>Police: 101</b> <b>Good Hope: 424 2000</b> <b>Outpatients: 424 2000</b> <b>NHS Health helpline:</b> <b>Call 111 it's 24/7</b> <b>Citizens Advice</b> <b>03444 111 444</b>
Sun (1st) 11.00 – 2.00 pm (1st) 4 – 7pm (1st) 7.00pm – 8.00pm 10.00 am 9.00 am – 11.00am 10.30 am 11.00 am	Create at Gate with K & S Global Communion Soul Yoga Family Communion For details see website at <a href="http://www.saintcolumbasbannersgate.co.uk">www.saintcolumbasbannersgate.co.uk</a>	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's	Kathy Weston Pastor Chris 07565	628 6651 65 27 62  354 5873	
Mon 6.15am – 7.15am 11am – 7.15pm 5.30 – 7.00pm 7.30 – 8.30 pm	Stay in Focus Fitness Dementia Care The Girls' Society Line Dancing	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Barbara H-Walker 07872 98 76 10 Diane Pursall	553 6483  747 4659	
Tues 9.15 – 12.00pm 6.15 am – 7.15am 4.30 – 5.25 & 5.30 – 6.25 6.30 – 7.30 & 7.30 – 8.30 7.45 pm	Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Stay in Focus Fitness IKA Sutton Kickboxing Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's	Chris Brown 07914 Joe 07864 Diane Pursall Paul Murphy 07837	79 44 56 84 22 99 747 4659 39 57 89	
Wed 9.30, 11.00 & 12.30 10.30 – 12.30 6 pm – 7pm 7.15 – 8.15	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Mid-week Service Bible Study I Yoga. Midlands	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Tracy Jones 0775 Madge Nightingale Ola Samuel 07565 Angela Brookes 07939	82 56 22 360 0286 65 27 62 547392	<b>BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE</b>  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
Thurs 6.15am – 7.15am 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	Stay in Focus Fitness Holy Communion Yoga Zig Zag Dance Studio Bridge Townswomen's Guild Mothers' Union	Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC St. Columba's	Tricia 07954 Warren 01902 Sylvia Cunningham 07870 Josie Orme Judith Fennell	354 5873 40 39 43 897 900 82 98 37 352 1042 354 4390	
Fri 6.00 – 8.00pm	Make It Happen Dance Co	Community Hall	Mario Ferko 07908	51 76 84	
Sat					
<b>BOOKING SECRETARIES:</b> <b>Community Hall mobile:</b> 075 65 54 68 21 <b>Banners Gate CC</b> - June Dadd 07443 22 65 30 <b>St. Columba's</b> - Sallyanne Rowley 693 0084 <b>Scout Hall</b> - A & R Talliss 353 8166		<b>UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS:</b> <b>Scouts:</b> Margaret Drummond, 33rd GSL 353 5203 <b>Girlguiding:</b> Carol Gardner, Vesey West District Commissioner 350 7191			<b>Gatepost always needs volunteers, to cover illness and holidays, for deliveries of Gatepost - just 20 minutes every other month. Please call 605 4947 for further details if you think you can help us.</b>



Patron HRH The Princess Royal GCVO

**Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> March** A.G.M. - Main Guild Meet  
**Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> April** 50th Birthday Party  
**Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> April** A Taste of Burlesque - Main Guild Meeting  
**Thurs. 14<sup>th</sup> May** Little Aston Bell Ringers - Simply Social Meeting  
**Thurs. 28<sup>th</sup> May** Mandate Discussion - Main Guild Meeting  
 New members welcome.  
 If you wish to join our vibrant Guild please get in touch with Josie Orme 0121 352 1042.



**LoveWorld SUTTON COLDFIELD**

Specially invite you to

# Worship WITH US

EVERY WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY

**LoveWorld Sutton Coldfield:** Banners Gate Community Hall  
 35 Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield B73 6UR

**Contact Details:** 07565652762  
[loveworldsuttoncoldfield@gmail.com](mailto:loveworldsuttoncoldfield@gmail.com)

Every Sunday 9am - 11am    Every Wednesday 6pm - 7pm    Communion service with Pastor Chris Every 1st Sunday of the month.

**Wanted, a Vice-Chair for the Forum**

The job: mainly to stand in for the Chair, if absent, but also to help with new ideas and to assist in maintaining the wide range of speakers we have for each meeting. For further details please call 605 4947.

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

**33<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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.



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