



# Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

**151<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

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

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**ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD  
TOWN COUNCIL**

This is the 151st edition of Gatepost and, probably, the first coloured one to be printed and produced in electronic form, I think!

The printed copy is by courtesy of Sutton Coldfield Town Council and we still have the other half of the funding in hand for the next printed edition, to coincide with the next Boldmere Festival, so thank you Sutton Coldfield Town Council for allowing us to bring the residents of Banners Gate closer to Boldmere and its Festival.

If you live in the Banners Gate area between the Shell garage and Tesco, north to south and Avery Road to Queslett Road, east to west you will receive a printed copy of Gatepost in full colour. The centre pages of the printed copy have a guide to the Boldmere Christmas Festival with Christmas Lights switch-on on 21st November. The guide is also in this emailed edition on pages 11 & 12. Let's hope the weather is kind and we all have an enjoyable day.

*Tony*



## Where Did You Get That Hat?

**Alison Jolley:** A local post box sported this unique hat to herald the Wylder and Greener Eco & Arts Festival that was organised by the United Reformed Church, Britwell Road, Boldmere. You can tell by the post box



it was a great family day, which came complete with a kiosk selling Vegan refreshments in the car park

Now that local groups and events are revving up

again, I am out and about meeting residents at community days throughout the local area and this was a brilliant, very well attended day that I thoroughly enjoyed.

This clearly illustrates climate change is continually and justifiably at the forefront of discussion in the media both locally, nationally and of course globally on an everyday basis. In addition, a rapidly and increasing number of individuals are doing the very

same and looking at how they can care for our planet

Within Sutton Coldfield alone, schools, churches and many organisations are seriously looking at their own carbon footprint. They are determined to be positive agents for change in order to influence what happens in our area and beyond.

With all this in mind I recently joined up with a Boldmere resident to discuss each other's environmental concerns; examples below.

- Sutton Coldfield breaking nationally accepted levels of particulate matter from road vehicles.
- The positive influence young people are having on waste reduction and recycling.
- Eco Sutton a local group committed to promote awareness of global issues threatening the natural world.
- The beneficial impact of growing pollinator friendly flowers on our ecosystem.

You can always contact me by email:

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



**Kath Scott:** Dear All,  
I hope you are all well, my update is brief but loaded with good news...  
To start with, our Town Rangers have been out and about providing more clean-

**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: Nov. 21<sup>th</sup>**

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ups in our Ward, and in particular have been super-fast at addressing access issues. Where hedges are over-grown and blocking the pavements, making it difficult to pass if you are a wheelchair user, the Town Rangers have been out trimming back and opening up access. I'd like to say "A Big Thank You" for all the effort from our Town Rangers and ask, if there are any other issues in the Ward you feel need addressing, please contact me.

Even Greater News: Our brilliant Vesey Ward has been awarded EXTRA MONEY to spend on our highways ambitions and this includes my accessible Vesey Ward campaign. In addition to the dropped kerbs already on the way in areas such as Banners Gate, I am now aiming to deliver EVEN MORE dropped kerbs across our Ward, ensuring greater accessibility to people with mobility issues. So, if there is a particular road/area you feel would benefit please email me.

In other news on accessibility, we are delving into a scheme ensuring our Sutton Park becomes more inclusive for anyone who has difficulty walking, through an off-road mobility scooter hire, providing safe & enjoyable access to the park. Email me to be part of this.

### Early Help for families:

Birmingham City Council has developed their Early Help Offer for any child or family with a child under 18 years (or 25 years with SEND) What is available through the Early Help Scheme?

- Employment & training support;
- Domestic violence link services;
- Under 5s support;
- Mental health advice & signposting;
- Locality prescriptions;
- Food & fuel payments;
- Bereavement support;
- Information & advice;
- Welfare benefits & money advice;
- Housing support.

Families are telling us about the many challenges they face. So partners across Birmingham are connecting together to support families who need early help.

Each area has a voluntary sector 'Locality Lead' and staff from a range of services. Our locality lead for Sutton Coldfield is [Spurgeons](#). As one of ten Locality Hubs they will have close relationships with partners and communities, so they can help

the whole family. For example: provide family support, give advice and guidance including linking to food banks, connect families to the professionals who can support them and coordinate the help, support early help assessments, connect families into the local community resources to help families to be more resilient, and give small grants for emergency food assistance.

For more information please go to [www.birmingham.gov.uk/Covid19CYPF](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/Covid19CYPF)

To contact our locality lead in Sutton Coldfield for Early help please email: [suttonEHnetwork@spurgeons.org](mailto:suttonEHnetwork@spurgeons.org)



Hoping Autumn is crisp, clear and beautiful.

All the very best, Kath.

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



**Rob Pocock:** The problem of speeding traffic has been getting out of hand recently, and I've been working with my City Council colleague Kath Scott on a number of hot spot areas. From what residents have been saying, these hotspots include Queslett Road East, Bakers Lane, Chester Road North and Monmouth Drive, amongst many others. A major issue has arisen at the part of Chester Road North around the junction with Honiley Drive, where there is a school crossing patrol and families cross daily to and from the New Oscott school. Also a lot of elderly people from around the area cross there when walking to the shops on Princess Alice retail park.

We held a site visit last month with the City Highways people and the school crossing manager. As a result, we've now got the City

**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.**



Highways Engineers to draft a scheme to cut the legal speed limit from 40 to 30mph, and also have tighter enforceable limits at school crossing times.

There will be additional signage and flashing warning signs to alert drivers of this hazardous location. We have set aside the money for this, from our local 'ward works' City Council budget to fund the project in the current financial year

The City Engineers are due to write to residents living in the vicinity of this junction, in the next week or so, with their official proposals. Depending on the mood of responses, we'll be back again later in the autumn to confirm next steps.

While on the subject of that location, we were pleased to have got the City Council's new 'mobile tip trucks' to visit the area around Welshman's Hill recently. This is a new idea, with a 'general

household rubbish' truck and a wide ranging 'recycling truck' [see pic]. The trucks come on a designated day, and it saves residents having to arrange going to the tip (or dumping it as fly tipping) – especially if they don't have their own transport. So if you have extra autumn garden waste to bring along, or large household items that won't fit in the bin (old TVs, ironing boards, chairs, mattresses etc) or anything recyclable (metal, loft clearance, batteries, clothing, carpet etc) this new facility is just the ticket!

It's in a pilot stage at the moment, to test out the scale of public demand. If it proves popular (and the one at Welshman's Hill on 21<sup>st</sup> October certainly was!) then the scheme will be extended more widely. Fly tipping is not as bad in our area as in some of the more inner-city areas, but I'm pleased to say, that our Sutton Vesey Ward is still amongst the areas that has still been included in the scheme, so we are getting our fair shares!



## Banners Gate Community Church

### Remembrance Day Commemoration

Join us for a very special afternoon of coffee, cake and chat on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November at Banners Gate Community Church, Westwood Road.

Between 2:30pm & 5:00pm we will be enjoying an afternoon of war time music along with a display of WW1 and WW2 memorabilia which including models of warships, planes and tanks. we look forward to seeing you as we remember the fallen.



*A special service of Remembering  
for all ages*

**Sunday October 31st at 10am**

**St Columba's Church**

**Banners Gate Rd,  
Sutton Coldfield B73 6TX**

On the 31st of October we are holding a Memorial Service at St Columba's Church. It will start at 10am, last for an hour, and will be accessible to people of all ages.

The past two years have seen much loss in our community and many of us have been unable to attend the funerals of family, friends, and neighbours. Quite simply we have not always been able to say 'goodbye.' This service will offer some space where we can remember those we have loved, lost, and will never forget. Do come and join us.

*Loving God*

*Give courage and faith to us who are bereaved*

*That we may have strength to face the days that lie ahead*

*Be with us in our memories*

*Those which bring sadness,*

*those that remind us of hurt or failure*

*and those that fill us with joy and laughter.*

*Grant us the wisdom we need*

*To use for the best the time that is left to each of us here on earth.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

*©Common Worship Funeral Service*

Revd Beccy Allen 0121 354 5873; [vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com)



## Friends of the Gates (Boldmere and Banners Gate – Sutton Park)

Hello, my name is Rebecca Clarke and I am the Secretary for 'Friends of the Gates' a community group focused on improving facilities for the benefit of everyone in our community.

The group formed after several community consultations in Vesey Ward highlighted the need for new and improved facilities, in part the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 have highlighted the importance of the park as a community asset and highlighted the need for investment and improvements.

To demonstrate that improving the park at the gates is a local priority we have created a petition of support you can sign so that we can gauge interest and support for the work we hope to deliver:

[Petition · Improve Facilities at Boldmere Gate - Sutton Park · Change.org](#)

By showing your support it will help to demonstrate that any projects at the gates are supported by the community, which is often an essential component when applying for funding!

Friends of the Gates has the following aims and aspirations:

- To promote, protect and enhance Boldmere & Banners Gates and the area around them as a resource to be enjoyed by the local community.
- To be open to everyone with an interest in the gates of Sutton Park, bringing together the whole community to be a voice for the area.
- To promote the conservation, protection, education and improvement of the physical, natural and social environment of the local area, in particular Boldmere and Banners Gates.
- To conserve the historic landscape.
- To encourage whole family participation and attract more users to the sites.
- To safeguard its natural beauty, biodiversity and historic heritage.
- To pursue the improvement of facilities at the gates for the benefit of Sutton Coldfield & Birmingham residents, recreational users and visitors.
- To promote art, sport and craft for the benefit of the local residents and the site users.
- To encourage cleanliness, care and safety.
- To strengthen the economic viability of Boldmere & Banners Gates and the area around them.
- To improve environmental sustainability of the sites around the gates.
- To create a family friendly environment.
- To be a non-political group.

If you would like to find out more or even better join us to help improve the gates please email me at [rchandler79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rchandler79@yahoo.co.uk)



## Useful Birmingham City Council phone numbers

Council service	Contact number
<a href="#">Adults social care</a>	0121 303 1234
Adults Out of Hours Home Care Service	0121 464 5001
<a href="#">Anti social behaviour</a>	0121 303 1111
<a href="#">Benefits</a> (includes Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support)	0121 464 7000
<a href="#">Cemeteries</a> (out of hours emergencies only)	0121 464 8728
<a href="#">Child protection</a> - concerned about a child?	0121 303 1888
<a href="#">Council tax</a>	0121 303 1113
<a href="#">Domestic violence</a>	0121 303 0368 or 0121 303 0369
<a href="#">Emergency duty team</a>	0121 675 4806
<a href="#">Environmental health</a>	0121 303 6007
Highways/Flooding/Transportation (out of hours only)	0121 303 4149
<a href="#">Homelessness</a>	0121 303 7410
<a href="#">Housing repairs</a>	0121 216 3330
<a href="#">Parks emergencies</a>	0121 464 8728
<a href="#">Planning</a>	0121 303 1115
<a href="#">Pollution of brooks and streams</a> or report an environmental incident	0800 807060
<a href="#">Register office</a>	0121 675 1000
<a href="#">Rubbish</a> (Waste and Recycling)	0121 303 1112
<a href="#">School admissions and pupil placements</a>	0121 303 1888
Switchboard	0121 303 9944
<a href="#">Transportation emergencies</a>	0121 303 4149

## SignVideo BSL interpreting service for deaf people

Read about how you can use [SignVideo BSL interpreting service for deaf people](#) to contact Birmingham City Council.

Contact Birmingham City Council using [SignVideo BSL interpreting service for deaf people](#)

## Next Generation Text

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

You can call the council's Contact Centre using your own advocate to translate for you without written notice. If you need to arrange for this service, go to [Brasshouse Translation and Interpreting Services](#)





**Topic:** The going down of the sun - the men of Wylde Green who died in the Great War

**Description:** Research into the dead of WW1 – untold millions – continues today. A complete record of those in a local area, such as Sutton Coldfield, may never be fully achieved, since 60% of all army files from WW1 were destroyed by enemy bombing during WW2.

Local amateur historian Rob Rolfe has done much work into those who were killed who are commemorated on the war memorial in Emmanuel Church in Wylde Green, and uncovered the lives of many others not on such memorials.

Rob will bring forward the stories of some of the men, talk about the research being done, and highlight what remains to be done in the future.

Rob is a retired teacher and lecturer in mathematics education, and a lay minister in the Church of England.

Time: 2021 Nov 11, 7:30 PM

For further information and the webinar registration, click [here](#).

### Sutton Coldfield in the Second World War

Saturday 27 November  
Sutton Coldfield Library  
10-1 and 2-4.30  
Free

A pop-up, drop-in,  
one-day exhibition  
featuring:

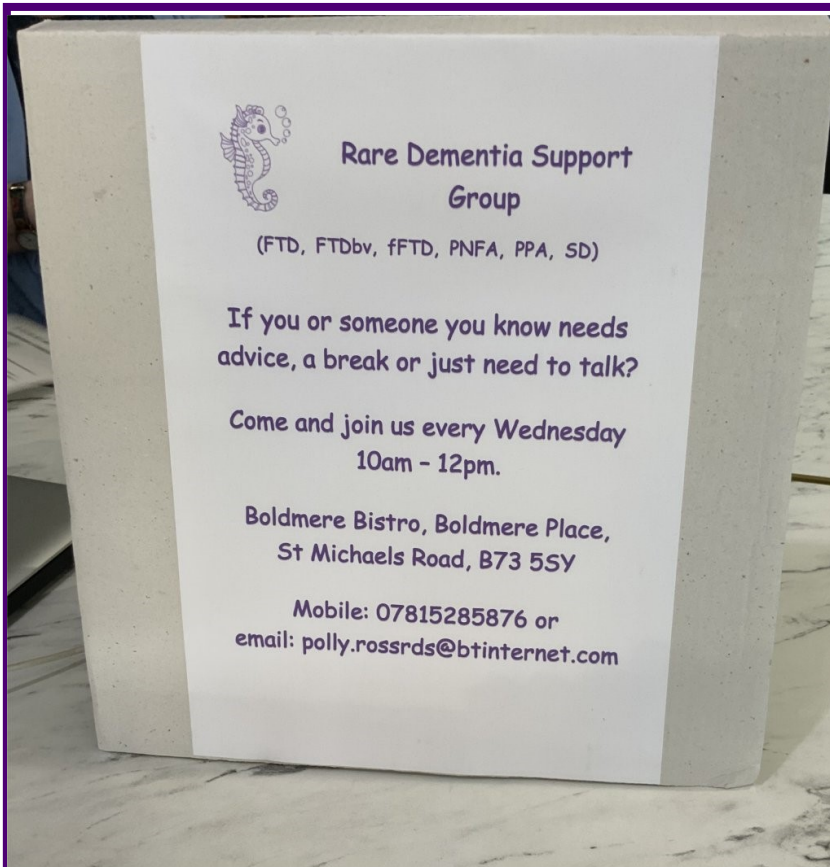
- Newspaper articles about Sutton in the war
- Research by members of Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group relating to Sutton during the war
- Maps - including an interactive map of sites where bombs were dropped on the town
  - Photos - do bring your own too!
  - Equipment used at the time
- A searchable database of Sutton's Home Guard Battalion

### Sutton Coldfield in the Second World War

on Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup> in Sutton Coldfield Library

10 o'clock – 1 o'clock and 2 o'clock – 4.30 p.m.

For further information please click [here](#).



Only recently I came across the Rare Dementia Support Group whilst talking to local people about the implications of lockdown, and also caring for loved ones with lifelong conditions. We spoke about dementia and the new support group meeting up together over coffee. Please see the details below with regards to this. A friendly welcome is assured for all those who would like to pop by and have a chat, they meet at Boldmere Bistro, Boldmere Place.

Alison Jolley

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

There is a very small chance that other cars that were parked previously were responsible for how these vehicles have managed to turn three disabled parking spaces into two - but I doubt it. The same thing can regularly be seen here, and in Boldmere, where a car is parked right in the middle of a space that could easily accommodate two vehicles.

What makes it harder to accept is that these vehicles both displayed Blue Badges, so the drivers should be well aware of a scarcity of suitable, accessible parking spaces in Sutton Coldfield.

What makes it exceptionally harder to take is that the first car is parked over a dropped kerb!

Please park up to the line, front and back, which neither did. If in doubt get out and look, it only takes a few seconds and it will help someone with the same problems you have.

Needless to say, but I'll say it anyway:

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A BLUE BADGE DO NOT PARK THERE.**





Here is the quiz - some hard, some easy.

1. What name is given to a young goose?
2. The works of which composer/conductor include "The Age of Anxiety"?
3. Which is the largest island of the Philippines?
4. In which country is the town of Prestonpans?
5. Who was the father of Tyr, the Norse god of war?
6. Of which nationality was Marie Tussaud, of waxworks fame?
7. What would be done at a 'piscary'?
8. Who was the guitarist in the group Cream?
9. Who would have been trained in "palaestras"?
10. What did the English Quaker William Penn found?
11. Of which group of countries is the Glomma the largest river?
12. Of which genus of shrub are St. John's Wort and Rose of Sharon?
13. Which is the third letter of the Greek alphabet?
14. What is the informal name for Portsmouth?
15. Which British author entitled his autobiography "My Life and Loves"?
16. Who was the Romanian king deposed by the Iron Guard in 1940?
17. How was Malcolm Little, assassinated in 1965, better known?
18. For which country is BG the international car registration?
19. To what does the adjective 'entomic' relate?
20. Which British pop singer and film actor (real name Gerald James) had a 1960 top twenty hit with "Mystery Girl"?
21. Which Italian towns are connected by the Flaminian Way?
22. Which is the deepest lake in Scotland?
23. At the foot of which range of English hills is Reigate situated?
24. What are the initials R.G.S. the abbreviation for?
25. How many players are there in an ice hockey team?

Answers on page 19.

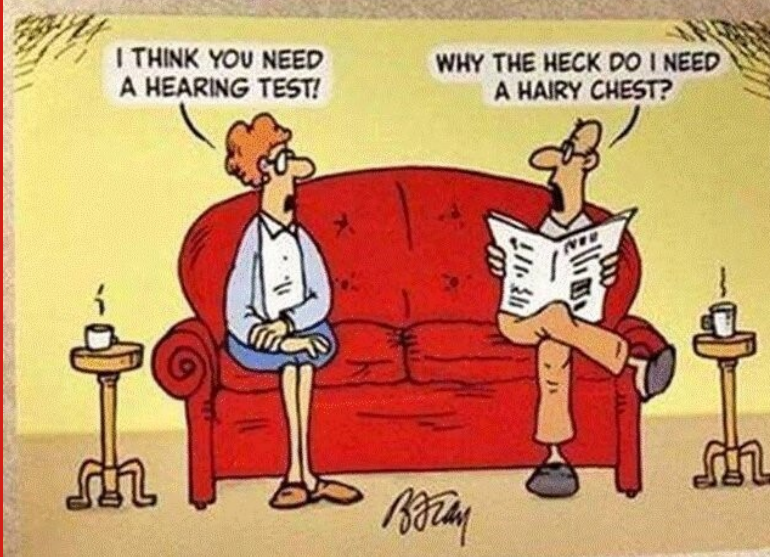


The most terrifying moment in life is when the toilet refuses to flush at someone else's house

THE Olympic Tavern  
A RESTAURANT & BAR  
BEER IS NOW  
CHEAPER THAN GAS  
DRINK. DONT DRIVE

I'm gonna quit my job and travel the world until I run out of money!

I estimate I'll be home again around 10 PM this evening...

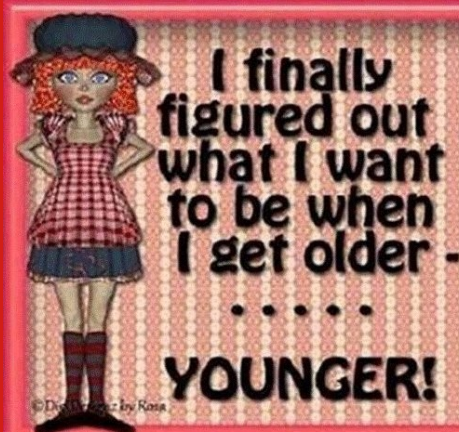


Hired a handy man and gave him a list. When I got home, only #1, 3, & 5 were done. Turns out, he only does odd jobs!

I've come to the conclusion that I'm a reasonably intelligent person who does moderately stupid things on a semi regular basis.



You know you're getting old when you have to wear your glasses in the shower to shave your legs.

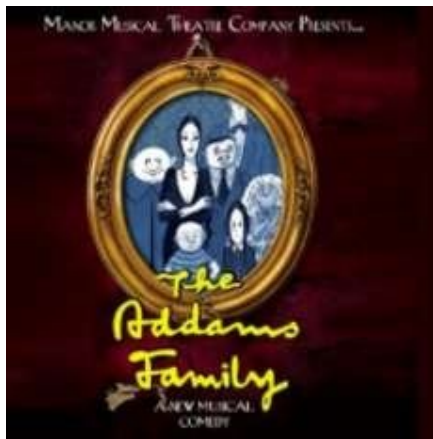


FLIRTING WITH DEATH

As I've got older, I thought I was starting to get lazy, but it turns out I am just being more energy efficient.







I was in the 2019 production at Sutton Town Hall of the brilliant production of \*The Addams Family\* with local Sutton-based Manor Musical Theatre Company. Someone was required to spend about eight minutes, the duration of the opening number of the show, in a closed coffin. However, surprisingly, there were no volunteers from any company member, ideally a young lady, which would then enable the coffin to be carried onto the stage more easily.

I stepped forward. Though a mere 12 stone in weight, castors were added to aid the coffin's movement. It was a genuine lined coffin and I put

a stop on it so that the lid was just opened about an inch or so for my comfort. As a chorus member I was one of the dead ancestors they summoned from the grave or crypt during the opening number. My role was a Victorian gentleman with a frock coat and top hat, not, I hasten to add, as the graphic shown.



Each night, for the week, from the wings I would climb in, lid sealed, and be wheeled on. I had a flip-up top hat clutched to my chest and would put talcum powder on the top of the hat. My cue came from a principal player when told to awaken the dead from the crypt. As my coffin lid was lifted, I would sit up, blow the talc that looked like dust off my hat, stretch a few times and be helped up to join the other ancestors emerging from the crypt to do a macabre dance. This was fine, except when the coffin was not in use and placed in the wings. It became a useful seat for members to sit on. Consequently, as the week wore on the stop on the coffin sunk down, so I was in complete darkness later in the week.

On the final night the backstage crew said, "Eric, we want to take a video clip of you getting into the coffin for the last time." In the semi-gloom I lifted the lid to get in and one of our props ladies, who was in there, sat up. I nearly passed out.

At the end of the show, we had a last night drink and food, and at 11.30pm I was asked if I could take the coffin, with show props, home with me and store in my garage. We put them in the back of my car and there were some garlands of flowers that were placed on the coffin lid.

On arriving home, I realised I would be playing golf early the next morning and it would not look good for members to see a coffin in the back of my car. I envisaged the police waiting for me after playing golf. The coffin was more cumbersome than heavy, so I decided, at approaching midnight, to struggle and move the coffin into my garage. As I was struggling with it half in and out of the back of the car, our neighbour offered to help me unload and was very surprised to see what it was. I hurriedly explained the situation and hoped he would not peer through his curtains, to see if I was not digging a hole in the back garden.



More mirth was had when the man came to read the gas meter and was surprised to see the coffin, positioned upright and on its end, alongside the meter. I kept a straight face and said it was a bargain on eBay and would come in useful some time in the future for me or my wife.

Eric Jones October 2021

# Boldmere Christmas Festival

## with Christmas Lights switch-on

The annual Boldmere Christmas Festival with Christmas Light switch on returns to Boldmere high street on Sunday November 21st 2021.

The event will run from 1-6pm and includes closing Boldmere Road to traffic and a stage for a variety of acts including Brad Henshaw and band, carols and a variety of local bands.

Perry the Commonwealth Games Mascot will be here to help switch the lights on.

A variety of street food traders including Project D Doughnuts, Grill Brazil steak dishes, Handmade Pizza Co, Churros, Thirsty Farmer Cider Co, Mulled Wine etc.

There will also be over 40 stalls plus fairground rides. A voluntary donation will be collected at the entrance. Organised by Boldmere Futures Partnership and stage sponsored by MACC Care.







Presented by



Funded by Royal Sutton Coldfield  
Town Council's Community Grant  
Programme



## Banners Gaters need you!!

Banners Gaters are a conservation group started in 2018 by the Park Rangers to work in the Banners Gate area of Sutton Park. For two years until Covid and lockdown put and end to our work Volunteers, mainly but not all retired, had been making a real difference, cutting back holly, nettles and brambles, clearing ditches, mending fences planting trees and other work as necessary. Unfortunately, regrowth during 18 months of lockdown means we've had to start again in many areas but our numbers are sadly depleted.



The large turnout for Rob Pocock's Sutton Park Nature Tour, where Ranger Matthew Barker explained how the woodland and heathland were being managed, shows that many residents are interested in the management of the park. If you can spare some time on Mondays, 11am to 2pm, meeting on Banners Gate car park, you would be very welcome to join the Banners Gaters. No skills are required, tools and gloves are supplied plus tea or coffee at half time. This is an opportunity to get some exercise, without paying gym fees and in the open air, whilst making a real contribution towards the upkeep of our park. Put your old clothes on and come and join us!!

If you can't make Mondays, there are other groups meeting in different areas of the park – ask at the Visitor Centre



## Nature in October

From changing colours to caching,  
it's all going on this autumn



[What's in store? >](#)

### Welcome to this week's edition of Notes on Nature

Autumn is a time of rich colours, with golden leaves, bright berries and the unexpected hues of the fungi that will soon be popping up. And jays like the one above will be much more visible as they collect food to store for winter.

Images of autumn are often serene, with gentle mists. It can be a moment of pause after the busyness of spring and summer, before the biting cold of winter. But for male deer, autumn definitely isn't serene, as it's the time they battle it out with rivals for the chance to mate with females. These deer ruts are an autumn spectacle not to be missed, albeit from a safe distance!

Autumn photographs will definitely be called for in our fantastic calendar competition, as well as other stunning images of nature. Read on for details of how your photo could take a starring role AND win you a pair of top-of-the-range binoculars

Have a great week



Jamie Wyver  
Notes on Nature Editor

## Make your garden great!

Bring your balcony, windowbox or  
garden to life with our easy tips

[Get the facts](#) >

### Welcome to this week's edition of Notes on Nature

Did you know that taken together, the UK's gardens are almost three times bigger than the RSPB's 200-plus nature reserves combined? That's a lot of space and we're here to help you make that space great for you and great for wildlife.

To do this, we've put together some short videos that will help you start your makeover. We've done it with all kinds of outdoor spaces in mind – including balconies, newbuilds and terraced gardens. We've even got special advice for new homeowners who may feel a bit lost now they've got a space of their own to prune, plant and mow. What's great is that all of our advice is simple and cheap, so it won't take forever or cost a fortune.

Elsewhere in this week's Notes on Nature, we meet some incredible wetlands engineers – Eurasian beavers, and find out more about five birds whose futures hang in the balance as the climate crisis worsens.

Have a great week.



Jamie Wyver  
Notes on Nature Editor



## SHARED READING AT SUTTON COLDFIELD LIBRARY

A weekly opportunity to get together for a short while to enjoy reading or listening to stories and poems with others



**A collaboration between FOLIO Sutton Coldfield,  
Sutton Coldfield Library and The Reader**

Everyone is welcome, there is no preparation or pre-booking required, and there is no pressure to take part on a regular basis. Come whenever you are able, to listen and participate as much as you would like.

### How Shared Reading Works

A small group of people, one of them a trained Reader Leader, reads an extract from a great novel or short story and a poem aloud. From time to time we pause to reflect on what we have read so far and exchange reflections and opinions. Nobody is obliged to say anything or read aloud, you are welcome to sit back and listen to others if that is what you want to do, or participate with your own observations if you feel you have anything to add.

Sessions are held in Sutton Coldfield Library every Thursday from 9th September 2021 at 2.15pm and last approximately 90 minutes, led on alternate Thursdays by FOLIO Sutton Coldfield volunteer Sally and by Library staff member Richard. Sessions are free, and refreshments will be provided

Come along and try it, and see if it's something you might enjoy. If you enjoy reading we think you will enjoy this! For more information, please email Sally at [sharedreading@foliosuttoncoldfield.org.uk](mailto:sharedreading@foliosuttoncoldfield.org.uk) or Library staff member Richard at [Sutton.coldfield.library@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Sutton.coldfield.library@birmingham.gov.uk), or ask to speak to Richard in person in the library.

## Sutton Coldfield Society of Artists



### Exhibition of Original Art

***Crush Hall, Town Hall, Sutton Coldfield***

***Saturday 23rd October to Sunday 31st October 2021***

***Everyday 9am to 5pm (last day 4pm closing)***

**ADMISSION FREE**

**Everyone Welcome**

***Works in all media: watercolour, pastel, oil, acrylics, ceramics and sculpture.***

EXHIBITION OF  
PAINTINGS AND CERAMICS

BY  
MARY GRIFFIN RBSA  
AND  
PETRA RÖHR ROUENDAAL RBSA

AT  
SHENSTONE COMMUNITY LIBRARY GALLERY

FROM  
TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER  
TO  
SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER

MARY AND PETRA WILL BE EXHIBITING THEIR USUAL  
HIGH STANDARD OF PAINTINGS AND CERAMICS  
AT SHENSTONE LIBRARY  
VIEW THEIR EXCELLENT WORK WHILST RELAXING IN THE CAFE

MONDAY CLOSED, TUESDAY 9-5PM WEDNESDAY 9-12 NOON  
THURSDAY 9-12 NOON FRIDAY 9-5PM SATURDAY 9-12 NOON

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[WWW.SHENSTONECOMMUNITYLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.SHENSTONECOMMUNITYLIBRARY.ORG)

## 5 KEYS

Choosing the Best Nursery  
Care for Your Child



KAYLEIGH HARPER JONES

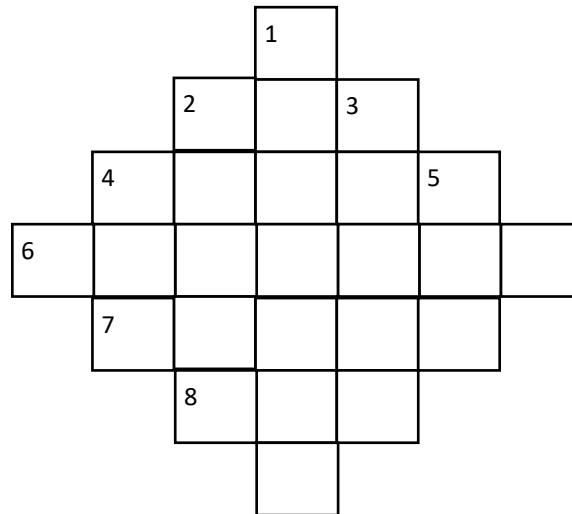
[View more](#)



Here's a quicky crossword puzzle for you.

### Across

2. Boy's name.
4. Means of transport.
6. Vegetable.
7. Elevate.
8. Well-known feature of a naval port.



### Down

1. Imposing but expensive to maintain.
2. A girl's name.
3. Dwelling place.
4. Another means of transport.
5. Could be a white one.

Intellectual nourishment .....  
 Irrespective of cost .. ...  
 Disorderly scramble .....  
 Total destruction .....  
 Submit to humiliation ... ..

Three playing cards are lying face up in a row on a table. A heart is on the left of a diamond, but not necessarily next to it. A nine is to the right of a jack. A three is to the left of a club and a club is to the left of a diamond.

What are the three cards?

**Answers, if you need them, and I remember, will be on a page next month.**

1. Gosling; 2. Leonard Bernstein; 3. Mindanao; 4. Scotland; 5. Odin; 6. Swiss; 7. Fishing; 8. Eric Clapton; 9. Wrestlers; 10. Pennsylvania; 11. Scandinavia; 12. Hypericum; 13. Gamma; 14. Pompey; 15. Frank Harris; 16. King Carol 11; 17. Malcolm X; 18. Bulgaria; 19. Insects; 20. Jess Conrad; 21. Rome and Rimini; 22. Loch Morar; 23. North Downs; 24. Royal Geographical Society; 25. Six.

## Which?

### **Fake ads rife on search engines**

Earlier this year, we reported that scammers were running riot on Google and Bing. How? Scammers pose as genuine financial services firms, paying for their ads to appear at the top of search results, and invite people to enter their contact details so that they can call them about bogus investment opportunities.

When we looked at Bing it took seconds to find an ad for a website on the Financial Conduct Authority warning list. And, while Google appears to have stamped out most rogue financial advertisers, unregulated ones are still slipping through.

[Here's what we found and what Microsoft had to say.](#)

### **Phishing alert: fake McAfee and Norton Antivirus emails**

Fake emails are currently circulating posing as McAfee and Norton Antivirus informing people that their subscriptions are at an end and need renewing. The emails ask you to click through on links in order to 'renew the subscriptions'. Some even attempt to trick you into contacting the scammers using the details at the bottom of the email.

[Here are copies of the emails.](#)

### **The Online Safety Bill**

According to the latest ONS data, adults in the UK are most likely to fall victim to fraud, and with most of us spending more time online over the past year, fraudsters have been able to exploit social media sites and search engines to target victims. The government has committed to including measures to tackle user-generated fraud in the Online Safety Bill, but does this really ensure big tech companies have a legal responsibility to protect consumers from online scams?

[Here's what we know about what the wider government agenda means for you.](#)

### **Fake supermarket emails**

Bogus marketing surveys promising gift cards of up to £100 for filling them out are landing in people's inboxes. These emails impersonate the likes of Asda, Morrisons and Tesco and contain common phishing tactics.

We've got hold of copies, so you know what to watch out for.

[Supermarket fishing](#)

### **The new 159 anti-fraud hotline Stopping impersonation scams**

Stop Scams UK and the Global Cyber Alliance have launched the '159' pilot scheme to disrupt impersonation scammers who pose as banks or other firms to trick customers into sending them money (i.e., bank transfer or authorised push payment scams).

A dedicated phone number for anti-fraud checks could be effective because it allows you to check whether a call from your bank is genuine. But will banks use this to justify even lower reimbursement rates?

[Here's how the scheme works.](#)



# Which?

There's now a much easier way to make us aware of scams directly with our [scam sharer tool](#). Tell us your experiences of phishing emails, fake texts, cold calls and other types of fraud.

Stay safe,

Which? scam alert team

PS Please share this information with your friends, family and neighbours – anyone who may find it helpful. Alternatively, they can [sign up here](#) to receive this directly to their inbox.

---

Our latest investigation has shed new light on the unscrupulous tactics businesses could use to fake their way to glowing feedback.

While many businesses work hard to provide the level of service that leads to genuine five-star reviews, **our research shows how others opt to take shortcuts to build their customer ratings.**

We set up a fake art business called Patricia's Paintings on both Facebook and Google.

Posing as the owner, we approached several review-selling websites – most of which offer a broad range of fake review 'services' for a range of platforms. Based on their advice, we bought a selection of 93 fake reviews and 500 page 'likes' to publish on our business page.

[We found that even with some tech giants such as Facebook having policies to prohibit this kind of harmful activity, it seems easy to bypass their checks.](#)

This is symptomatic of a broader issue – the failure of major online platforms to take enough responsibility, because this allows unscrupulous individuals or businesses and criminals to sell unsafe products, mislead consumers and target potential scam victims.

Our #JustNotBuyingIt campaign demands new laws to protect people from an epidemic of scams, dangerous products and fake reviews online.

**Will you sign the petition and support our call on tech giants to take more responsibility for your safety online?**

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

Best wishes

Which? Campaigns



# Sutton Coldfield TOWN HALL

## NOVEMBER 2021

Tudor Musical Comedy Society presents  
**LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL!**  
Tuesday 9th—Saturday 13th November

## COMEDY- LIVE AT THE TOWN HALL

8.00pm., Thursday 18th November  
Featuring Rosie Jones, Justin Moorhouse and  
Mrs. Barbara Nice and MC Wayne Beese

## DESI COMEDY

6.30pm., Sunday 14th November  
MC Noreen Khan (BBC Asian Network) hosts a  
strong comedy line up including BGT Golden  
Buzzer Winner Nabil Abdulrashid, Writer/Comic  
Hyde Panaswe and (TBC) Eshann Akbar (Mock  
the Week), produced by Desi Central

## WAYNE DILKS - THE GEORGE MICHAEL LEGACY

7.30., Friday 19th November

## JUKE BOX & BOBBY SOX

7.30pm., Saturday 20th November

## FORBIDDEN NIGHTS

7.30pm., Wednesday 17th November  
Ultimate 'Forbidden' night out with breath-taking  
action and seductive choreography!

## TOWN HALL

## FESTIVE PARTY NIGHT

8.00pm., Saturday 27th November



## VACCINATION INFORMATION

*Sutton Coldfield Town Hall is the NHS vaccination centre in  
Sutton Coldfield.*

*We've compiled some information & FAQ's on our [Vaccination](#)*

## Banners Gate Community Church - November Events

### Monday, Thursday, Friday - Baby Phonics

Contact email: [Jenna@robotreg.co.uk](mailto:Jenna@robotreg.co.uk) for times and availability

### Tuesday and Wednesday - Baby Sensory

Contact Tracy at email: [suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk) for times and  
availability

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** for coffee, cake and chat 2:30pm till 5:00pm

**Sunday Worship 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** from 10:30am to 11:45am





# Sleeping Beauty

Written and Directed by  
Emily Armstrong  
& Dexter Whitehead

4th - 18th  
December 2021  
Including Weekend Matinees

**GLYNNIS &  
ALLAN BRISCOE**

as

## "DANDY"

in another  
**BLACK COUNTRY  
EVENING**

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
JANUARY 2022**

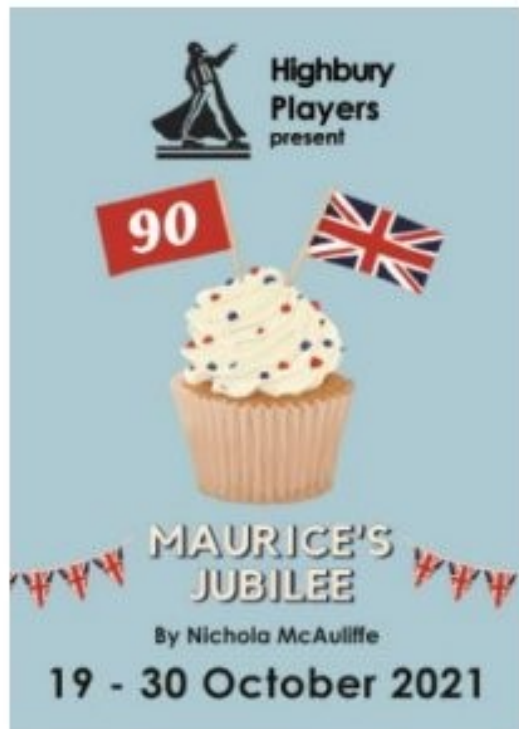
**8pm Start**



[Book online](#) or Box Office 0121 355 5355. Mon, Tues, Thursday, Fri. 7:30 - 9:00.



## What's on next at Highbury Theatre?



### Maurice's Jubilee

**19-23 & 26-30 October**

Start time 7.30pm

Moving, funny, uplifting drama.

On the eve of the coronation in 1953, Maurice met Princess Elizabeth who promised to have tea with him on his ninetieth birthday in her Jubilee year.

Approaching ninety and dying of cancer, the prospect of meeting the Queen keeps him going.

### Harriet

**24 October** Start time 7pm

Released 2019, duration 2h 5m  
certificate 12A.

The extraordinary true tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from Deep South slavery in the 1840s. Her courage and tenacity changed the course of history.



Tickets available from Highbury Theatre Box Office, Sheffield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5HD  
tel: 0121 373 2761 or book online via [TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk)

<http://highburytheatre.co.uk/>

Follow us on Facebook,  
Instagram, Twitter



## What's on next at Highbury Theatre?



### **The Dressmaker**

**20 November** Start time 7pm

Released 2015, duration 1h 59m  
certificate 12A.

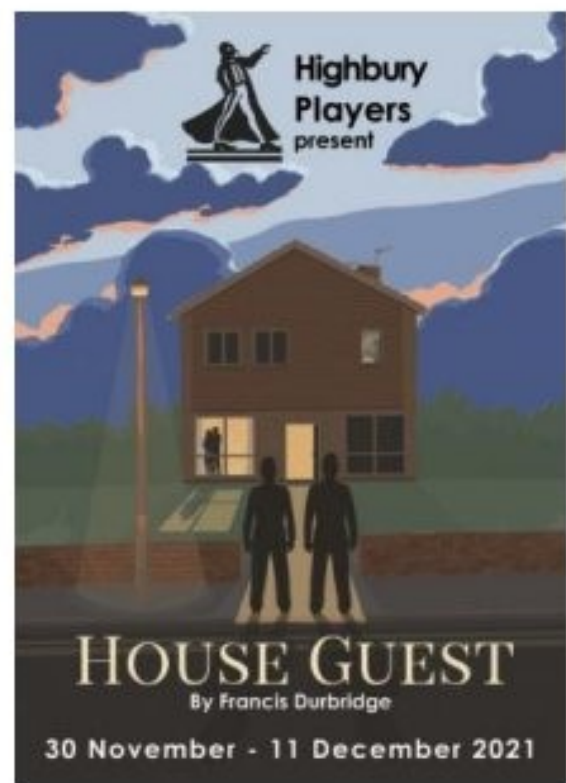
A sharp mix of light comedy, romance and revenge! Kate Winslet is the glamorous avenger armed with a sewing machine, blamed 25 years before for the death of a schoolmate.

### **House Guest**

**30 Nov-4 Dec & 7-11 Dec**

Start time 7.30pm

A tense & twisting thriller. The Drurys' son has been kidnapped & the use of their house is required rather than a ransom. Two police officers arrive. But are they really the police? Discoveries and surprises abound.



Tickets available from Highbury Theatre Box Office, Sheffield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5HD  
tel: 0121 373 2761 or book online via [TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/)

<http://highburytheatre.co.uk/>

Follow us on Facebook,  
Instagram, Twitter

The Scout Hut - Coppice View Road - Sutton Coldfield - B73 6UE.



## Tai Chi Class



Every Tuesday morning at 11.45 to 12.45.

The cost is £5 per person. Everyone is welcome and all abilities are catered for in a relaxing and enjoyable environment.

If anyone needs further details, please contact me on 01543 480151

## STREETLY FLOWER ARRANGERS' CLUB

We meet monthly 2nd Tuesday, 2.30pm.

Streetly Community Centre, Foley Rd East B74 3HR.

Why not join us - we are a friendly, enthusiastic Club "Bringing Flowers & People Together".

Next meeting Tuesday 9th November

Demonstration Emma Remington "Christmas Carols"

Further details Chris Reeves tel: 0121 354 6264.

## The Sutton Coldfield Fuchsia & Gardening Guild

Ramblings from my potting bench

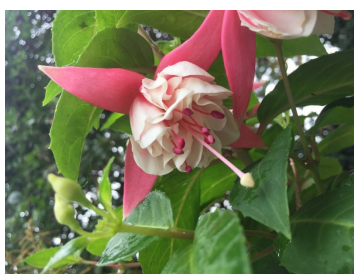
How lovely it has been to get back together with our gardening friends! Since reopening after lockdown in July, we have seen our society go from strength to strength. Our new home at Banners Gate Community Church in Westwood Road is such a lovely venue. Super large room, plenty of room to spread out and to accommodate the several new members who have come along to join us. At our last meeting in October we had a talk from a local lady, Lottie, on ecology and wildlife in our gardens. Whether we are lucky enough to have a large garden, maybe backing onto countryside, or a small modern house with a postage stamp plot, we can all do our bit for helping the wildlife around us.

Many of us have bird feeders hanging in our gardens, and what a joy it is to see the birds feasting, but we must ensure that these are kept clean and filled. The birds use energy flying into our gardens as they know the ones that will have food !! And of course, so do the squirrels!! If you are lucky enough to have hedgehogs visit you, please make sure they can move from garden to garden as they will often travel around a mile each night. Leaving out clean drinking water as well as food will ensure you are on their visiting list. The hedgehog is of course the gardeners friend as they will feast on slugs, beetles and other invertebrates. Water in the garden is such a benefit, the smallest of ponds will host all sort of bugs, and if you are lucky, frogs, toads and newts. The key is not to be too tidy! Have you room for just a small log pile, a leaf pile, compost heap? We are so more aware of what we put into our soil and spray on our plants, and how these products have an impact on the creatures who share our garden with us. We all have a part to play.

Our November meeting takes place on November 11<sup>th</sup> and will be our A.G.M. If you would like to know what we are about, please come along and see us. A visitor can come for the evening for £2, and membership for the year costs £10. After the business of the evening, we will enjoy a buffet and general social, so it's a great opportunity to get to know people. The doors open at 7.30 and the meetings kick off at 8.00. Tea and coffee are available along with a sales table selling plants and other garden related items. If you would like any other information, please give our secretary Gail a call on 0121 353 3373.



Dusky Rose





Supporting carers through loss and bereavement



## Therapeutic gardening For bereaved Carers

**THURSDAYS 10.30 – 12.00**  
**Sunnybank Road Allotments,**  
**Boldmere**

For more information

**Call: 0121 809 5902**

**Email: [caringforcarers@communitiesinsync.info](mailto:caringforcarers@communitiesinsync.info)**



### COMMUNITEA CAFÉ ALLOTMENT

## TUESDAYS 10 TILL 12

Join our friendly gardening group - enjoy gentle gardening and a good chat - and help support our café.

Meet at the green allotment gate at 10am – Sunnybank Road, B73 5RJ. Call to enroll before your first visit.

Our Neighbourhood Networker will be available to advise about community groups and services in the area. Also providing a drop in for community assets to discuss NNS support and funding opportunities.



Everyone  
welcome

Gardening  
Group

Help us grow  
fresh produce  
for the café

Sunnybank Road  
Allotments,  
Boldmere

Meet our  
Neighbourhood  
Networker

#### CONTACT

Suzy Summerfield

07940 709 314

Email: [s.summerfield@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk](mailto:s.summerfield@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk)



BIRMINGHAM PLAYCARE NETWORK  
INVITES YOU TO

## A FREE VIRTUAL TEA DANCE!

Join us as we take you through a  
fun and relaxed afternoon of  
dancing. Everyone is welcome.

If you would like to join us  
please

Email Becky Coley at:  
[becky@bpcn.org.uk](mailto:becky@bpcn.org.uk) for more  
information and to book your  
place. Booking is essential.

BOOKINGS OPEN TO OVER 50s  
SUTTON COLDFIELD RESIDENTS



Wednesday  
3rd  
November  
1.00-2.30pm

Hosted by

Faye from Xpress Yourself Dance

NO EXPERIENCE OR PARTNER NECESSARY



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



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Wellington Road North  
Stockport SK4 1AF

T +44 (0)161 480 7686

F +44 (0)161 477 6152

E [hq@sigbi.org](mailto:hq@sigbi.org)

W [www.sigbi.org](http://www.sigbi.org)

**Women inspiring action,  
transforming lives**



**Adams Central Locksmiths**  
Locksmiths Birmingham



**T: 0121 351 1720 | M: 07479 927 226**



## Looking for a JOB?

CV Writing  
Job Search  
Job Applications  
Computer Skills  
Internet Access



**CHESTER ROAD**  
Baptist Church

**Working together to get you back into WORK**

**Just drop in**

**Contact - 07918 299826**

**Location:**

Chester Road Baptist Church B73 5HU  
Six Ways Erdington Baptist Church B24 8AD  
George Road Baptist Church B23 7YR

**When:**

Thursdays - 10am – 12pm  
Wednesdays - 10am – 12pm  
Tuesdays - 12pm – 2pm

Supported by:



**Welcome to Hope Food**  
the newest food bank in your area!

**Falcon Lodge**



**Welcome to Hope Food**  
the newest food bank in your area!

**Mere Green**



What we offer... Come along and collect a free bag of essential food and then help yourselves to a selection of fresh fruit and vegetables. Some days we'll even have bread and cakes. You're welcome to stay for a hot drink and a chat... whether in Falcon Lodge or Mere Green.

**Where are we in Falcon Lodge?**

Every Wednesday, we will be at Falcon Lodge Methodist Church Hall. (rear entrance in Lingard Road) Falcon Lodge. B75 7LB

Opening times... Pop in between 2-3pm we'll be here.

The church is on the X14 bus route. This is what the front of the church looks like. Go to the rear entrance in Lingard Road.



**Where are we in Mere Green?**

Every Friday, we will be at Ark Community Church Centre, St James Road, Mere Green B75 5EH

Opening times... Pop in between 12 noon-1pm we'll be here.

From the centre of Mere Green, pass Lidl opposite Sainsbury's and turn left into St James's Road. Bus routes X3, X5 & 604 This is what the church looks like.



Email: [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk)





**Music and Sensory Play  
for 0-5 year olds**

**COME AND JOIN THE FUN!!**

**Book your child's place today!**

**sarah.stephen@musicbus.com**

**07979 755548**

## MUSIC BUS LICHFIELD & SUTTON COLDFIELD

Music & movement, percussion, baby signing and rhyme to develop confidence, co-ordination, speech, numeracy, language & social skills.



Give your child the head start they deserve. Come and see for yourself why so many parents make Music Bus their first choice!



### Lichfield

Monday AM  
St Chad's  
Church Hall,  
5 Gifford's Croft,  
WS13 7HG

### Whittington

Thursday AM  
Thomas Spencer  
Church Hall  
Church Street,  
WS14 9JX

### Sutton

Friday AM  
Banners Gate  
Community Centre  
35 Reay Nadin Dr  
B73 6UR

<https://www.facebook.com/musicbuslichfieldandsuttoncoldfield>



**Kiddibops**

## Independent Early Years Music-Play classes for children aged 0 - 5 years

All our classes are delivered by qualified and experienced early years music practitioners.



We sing, we move, we play, we explore instruments and sounds, and we give each child the freedom to express themselves musically. At Kiddibops we're passionate about music and supporting the innate musicality every child is born with.



### Our Classes September '21

**Walmley Community Hall  
Mondays**

Babies 9:45am & 11:35am  
Mixed Age 10:40am & 12:30pm

**Great Barr Community Hub  
Wednesdays**

Babies 9:45am  
Mixed Age 10:40am

**Banners Gate Community Hall  
Thursdays**

Babies 1pm  
Mixed Age 1:55pm

**Aldridge Community Centre  
Tuesdays**

Babies 1:15pm  
Mixed Age 2:05pm

**St. John's Church Hall, Shenstone  
Thursdays**

Babies 9:45am  
Mixed Age 10:40am

Streetly Classes coming soon...

To book your place go to:

<https://kiddibops.class4kids.co.uk>

or contact us at:

[info@kiddibops.co.uk](mailto:info@kiddibops.co.uk) or 07807 551661

All our classes are continuing to operate with social distancing measures for the safety of our families.

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

[www.facebook.com/kiddibops](https://www.facebook.com/kiddibops)



# Cafe Oasis

## We are OPEN!

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
& Friday - 10am - 2pm**

**Drinks, Snacks and  
Sandwiches.**

**Hot meals from 12pm**

Find us in Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church

For more information:

**Call:** 07593 718785 **Email:** [cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk](mailto:cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk)

or find us on Facebook

Cafe Oasis is supported by the Volunteers and Staff at Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church. Registered charity No. 1131424



## Imagi-Play

### Toddler Group

### Location:

**Banners Gate  
Community Hall,  
Reay Nadin Drive,  
Sutton Coldfield,  
West Midlands.  
B73 6UR**

### What's Imagi-Play?

- ✓ Role Play To Aid Imagination
- ✓ Promotes Child-Led Play
- ✓ Improves Fine Motor Skills
- ✓ Learn Self-Confidence
- ✓ Encourages Creativity
- ✓ Develop Friendships



**OPEN FOR KIDS  
AGES: 6 Months - 5  
Years**

**£4 a session  
Inc. A drink &  
Snack**

**Monday's 9.15am - 10.15am**

**Wednesday's 1.15am - 2.15am**

If you would like to  
Pre-book or have a question,  
Email:

[imagiplaytoddlergroup@gmail.com](mailto:imagiplaytoddlergroup@gmail.com)



## Are You A Carer? Do you need support and advice?

Do you provide unpaid care to a friend, neighbour, or family member who couldn't manage alone?

Age Concern Birmingham run the Carer's Contact Centre as part of the Birmingham Carers Hub partnership. Our advisors are available to help carers with help, advice and information, we register carers and also offer a Statutory Carer's Assessment, wellbeing payments if eligible and information on a wide range of wellbeing services. We also provide advice on welfare benefits and can link carers to information about grants, legal advice on wills and power of attorney and other one to one support.

If you need advice in your caring role, please call us on:

Information and Advice Line – **0333 006 9711** (low call rate)

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 9am-5.15pm / Wed: 9am-7.15pm

Saturday: 10am – 12.30pm

Email us at [info@birminghamcarershub.org.uk](mailto:info@birminghamcarershub.org.uk)

Visit our website at <https://forwardcarers.org.uk/>

### Birmingham Carers Hub Specialist Dementia Service

The Birmingham Carers Hub team have all received enhanced dementia training and we have launched a new service offering support to carers of people with dementia. We have also appointed a small team of Specialist Dementia Carer Advisors.

We offer a Dementia Specialist person-centred service, supporting Carers who provide care to someone with dementia. Our advisors understand the challenges of caring for people with dementia and are here to guide and support you throughout your caring journey. We are part of a wider partnership of organisations providing other support to dementia carers such as training and groups, find out more on the Forward Carers website: <https://forwardcarers.org.uk/>

For information, help and advice, call **0333 006 9711** and ask to speak to one of our Specialist Dementia Carer Advisors, or email: [dementiacarers@birminghamcarershub.org.uk](mailto:dementiacarers@birminghamcarershub.org.uk)

## AGE concern Birmingham



### WELCOME! OUR NEW GAS FITTER

- Install gas appliances ✓
- Heating ✓
- Hot water tanks ✓
- Showers and water heaters ✓

For more information contact one of our team on 0121 362 3650

### AGE CONCERN BIRMINGHAM'S TRUSTED TRADESPERSON SCHEME

Do you need help around the house?

We have a large range of trusted trades people throughout Birmingham these include

- Roofing
- Guttering
- Locksmith
- Pest control
- Painter and decorator
- Gardening
- Window cleaning
- Gardening
- Eye care at home
- Glazing repairs
- Handyperson repairs
- Electrician
- Gas fitter
- Plumber

For more information contact one of our team on 0121 362 3650







## Norbury Maintenance

Handyman Services, Gardening,  
Patio/Driveway Cleaning

Insured - Affordable - Reliable

T: Dave Edwards 07305931199  
E: norburymaintenance@gmail.com

## commonitea cafe

Open for takeaway hot and cold drinks,  
cakes, breakfast, jackets, and much more



Monday to Saturday 9.00am till 4.30pm  
Support your local charity in Boldmere

## LEGAL SERVICES

Legal appointments are now  
available in our Boldmere  
office on a Tuesday and  
Thursday.

We have opening offers until  
31st December

Services offered include

- Lasting Power of Attorney
- Wills

If you would like to know  
more about the legal services  
we offer, please call one of  
our team on 0121 362 3650



# Walmley Glass

& Glazing  
f @walmleyglass 0121 517 0443

## Our Services Include:

- Broken & Misted Glass Replacement
  - Traditional Putty Glazing
  - Table Top Glass
- Mirrors Supplied & Fitted
- "A" Rated Energy Saving Double Glazed glass
  - UPVC Handles & Hinges
  - Cat Flaps Fitted

GLASS  
CUT TO  
SIZE



CALL FOR  
A FREE  
QUOTE

OVER 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE



Thank you for fixing Wylde Green Neighbourhood Forum's smashed display cabinet for free.

Come & try your first class FREE



Turn back the clock with our fun and friendly exercise classes to improve your

- ✓ balance & confidence
- ✓ mobility & flexibility
- ✓ strength & independence



Banners Gate Community Hall, 35 Reay Nadin Drive. B73 6UR.  
Fridays at 1:30—2:30pm. Commencing 28th of May 2021.  
£4 per session (First session FREE) Booking Essential!  
Contact [katie.evans@moveitorloseit.co.uk](mailto:katie.evans@moveitorloseit.co.uk) or call 07592071889 for more info or to book a space.



WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER  
Quiz Night



Welcome to Autumn

We have a quiz night on Wednesday 3rd November at 8pm

For just £3 you and your family can join our 20-minute quiz.

The top 3 winners will win a cash prize, so the more people who play the more money you win

To enter all you need to do is register online ahead of the event, then log into the quiz 10 minutes before it begins.

Register at [www.virtualquizevents.com](http://www.virtualquizevents.com) or call one of our team on 0121 362 3650 to find out more.

AGEconcern  
Birmingham

Home Instead  
To us, it's personal

Memory Cafes

Do you know someone living with memory loss?

Every Monday

10am—12noon

Wylde Green URC

Britwell Road

Sutton Coldfield, B73 5SW

Every Monday

"Musical Memories"

2pm - 4pm

Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

South Parade, B72 1QY

Every Tuesday

10.30am - 12.30pm

All Saints Church Centre

Belwell Lane

Four Oaks, B74 4TR

All attendees must show proof of both covid vaccinations

Every Thursday

10am - 12noon

Streetly Methodist Church

Thornhill Road

Streetly, B74 3EH

"Friends on Fridays"

10.30am - 12.30pm

Supported by

Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church,

South Parade, B72 1QY

To book your place at any of our cafes or for further information please contact Sue  
07422 406168  
[sue.bevington@suttoncoldfield.homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:sue.bevington@suttoncoldfield.homeinstead.co.uk)

Home Instead  
2nd Floor,  
Plantsbrook House  
94 The Parade,  
Sutton Coldfield  
B72 1PH  
0121 323 4200







Our Cook and Collect takeaway service means you can collect a nutritious, vegetarian and...

# FREE MEAL!

Every Saturday  
from 3rd April  
1pm - 2pm  
610 Kingstanding  
Road

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



# Cafe Oasis

Supporting the Sutton Coldfield Community since 2010



**3 meals for £10  
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Volunteers and Staff at  
Sutton Coldfield United  
Reformed Church.  
Registered charity No.  
1131424

**AGEconcern**  
Birmingham

**Compass Support**  
Part of The Pioneer Group

## Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme

We are creating a map of all of the community assets and activities in the Sutton Coldfield constituency, which can help people aged 50+ to lead independent, happy and healthy lives.

Community assets are individuals, groups or organisations who are doing something or delivering an activity, project or service in a neighbourhood setting which older people can benefit from. This can be anything from a lunch club to a line dancing class, befriending to benefits advice, or a support group to a sewing club.

As well as mapping community assets, we are also working with them to sustain and grow the activities and services they offer to citizens aged 50+ in the local area. We can offer a range of support around issues such as marketing and promotion, volunteering, governance and fundraising, and as part of this, we have a micro and small grants scheme which can fund certain activities and projects in Sutton Coldfield.

We also have opportunities for citizens aged 50+ who have experience of social isolation or are carers (looking after someone regularly because they are older, disabled or seriously ill), or who have experience of running a community based activity to get involved in developing the Neighbourhood Network Scheme in Sutton via our co-production group.

The Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme is delivered in partnership between Age Concern Birmingham and Compass Support. For more information, or a conversation about how you can get involved, please contact us on 0121 362 3661 or email [NNS@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk](mailto:NNS@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk)

For a searchable list of community assets in Sutton Coldfield, and the wider Birmingham area, please visit:  
[Birmingham.connecttosupport.org](http://Birmingham.connecttosupport.org)





Moving into the beautifully colourful season of Autumn with the leaves turning from greens and browns to the richest of golds and deep reds and from late September to October, the sun is still shining down on us as we get back to some sort of normality at Café Oasis. The community based café is based in the Sutton Coldfield United Reform Church, Brassington Avenue and if you haven't yet paid us a visit now is a good time to pop in and taste our delicious homemade cakes and hot drinks. We are open between 10.00am and 2.00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and are a dynamic and

welcoming hub run by a chef and a terrific team of volunteers that support our services. Throughout the recent pandemic, the team of volunteers have assisted in the running of our Home Food Delivery Service, reaching out to many who have needed help during the coronavirus lockdown and continue to need support. Café Oasis offers a two course freshly made lunch menu from 12noon in the light and airy café area – try our chicken with vegetables or duck & pork meatloaf followed by a selection of desserts including fresh cherry & chocolate sponge and fruit trifle.

If you are interested in helping us at Café Oasis we have various volunteering opportunities at the café if you are looking to make a difference in your community – the various roles include; waiting tables, working in the Food Bank ( which is open every Tuesday), working as a cashier/receptionist and administration too. We support a wide range of volunteers including adults with learning difficulties. You can contact the Community and Volunteer Support Worker for more information on the email or phone number below. Additionally the United Reformed Church centre is fully opened up now and we are delighted to welcome back the various groups that use the wide selection of rooms we have available to hire. If you are looking to hire a room please contact the centre.

Moving forward and in order to keep all members of the community safe, Café Oasis and the church centre is still adhering to COVID-19 guidelines which include a track and trace and sanitising stations. We ask that all guests follow these regulations so that we can continue moving forwards in this positive way.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Volunteers needed to help our community café at

Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church.

**Monday** 10.00am – 2pm **Tuesday** 10.00am – 2pm **Thursday** 10.00 – 2pm **Friday** 10.00am – 2pm

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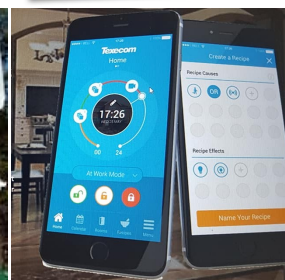
Mondays & Wednesdays

Blue Coat C.E. Academy, Birmingham Street, Walsall WS1 2ND

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We invite anyone who is living with or beyond cancer, families, friends and health care professionals to join us once a month to walk, jog, run, cheer or volunteer at a 5k Your Way, Move Against Cancer group linked to a local parkrun.

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

Do as little or as much as you want. There is no need to walk the whole 5k.

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

**Where:** Walsall Arboretum Visitor Centre steps  
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**Ambassador:** Anne Kelsall, Sarah Hinkley & Jane Ford

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

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### Almost free (£1) Coffee Mornings

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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, when we are able to re-open.

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

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

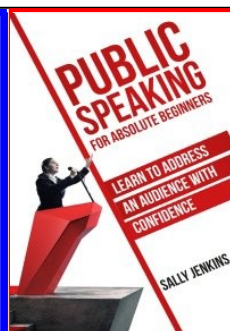
The Jarrett room is approx. 13' x 8'  
(4m x 2.5m)

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)



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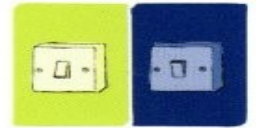
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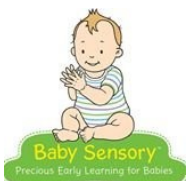
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Mon 9.00 - 10.30 11am - 1.00pm 7.30 – 8.30 pm	Imagi-play Dementia Care Line Dancing	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Ellie 07919 Barbara H-Walker Diane Pursall	58 81 54 553 6483 747 4659
Tues 9.15 - 12.00pm 6.30 – 7.30 & 7.30 – 8.30 7.45 pm	Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's	When they restart Diane Pursall Paul Murphy 07837	747 4659 39 57 89
Wed 9.30, 11.00 & 12 10.30 - 12.30 1.00 - 2.30 6 pm - 7pm 7.15 – 8.15	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Imagi-play Mid-week Service Bible Study I Yoga. Midlands	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Tracy Jones 0775 Madge Nightingale Ellie 07419 Ola Samuel 07565 Angela Brookes 07939	82 56 22 360 0286 58 81 54 65 27 62 54 73 92
Thurs 10.00 am 10.00 – 11.00 am 12.45 - 2.45 4.30 – 6.30 6.30 – 9.45 pm 7.15 – 10.15 pm (4th & 2nd alt months) 7.30 pm (1st) 8.00 pm	Holy Communion Yoga Kiddibops Teachitright Zig Zag Dance Studio Bridge Townswomen's Guild Mothers' Union	St. Columba's Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC St. Columba's	Tricia 07954 Rachel 07807 07809 Warren 01902 Sylvia Cunningham 07870 Josie Orme Judith Fennell	354 5873 40 39 43 61 43 10 55 16 61 897 900 82 98 37 352 1042
Friday 10.00 – noon 12.30 - 1.30 6.00 – 8.00pm	Music Bus Soul Yoga Fortnightly Make It Happen Dance Co	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Sarah Stephen 07979 Mario Ferko 07908	755548 51 76 84
Sat				
<b>BOOKING SECRETARIES:</b> Community Hall mobile: 075 65 54 68 21 Banners Gate CC - June Dadd 07443 22 65 30 St. Columba's - Sallyanne Rowley 693 0084 Scout Hall - 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		

## Useful telephone numbers

Sutton and Kingstanding

**Police: 101**

Good Hope: 424 2000

Outpatients: 424 2000

**NHS Health helpline:**

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Citizens Advice

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Patron HRH The Princess Royal GCVO

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**Thurs. 16th December**  
Christmas Party

**2022**  
**Thurs. 20th January**  
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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



## 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