



# Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

154<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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

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I wrote recently, talking about Christmas and New Year being close together, that I would rather at least a couple of months between the two, to get over the first before the second hits – or am I getting old – or am I old?

That brought a reply from Liz Parry who told me that she had recently heard the term Crimbo Limbo for That Gap which I thought was a great description of it! I have decided to adopt it and suggest that we move Christmas Day, as it was placed in December for political reason anyway way back in time, and place it where there is a much better chance of decent weather, say June 25th. It will be like having the sort of Christmas our antipodean friends enjoy, barbies and a dip in the warm sea.

Of course, that means that they'll have to have the sort of Christmas we get, ice, snow and a bit of wind, but fair's fair, they've had hot Christmases for a long time. I may just do it anyway, with or without help. Roll on Christmas Day June 25th 2022. I may as well enjoy it as soon as I can while I have the time.

Please be reminded that this edition of Gatepost is in pdf format. If the text or photos are too small, you can enlarge them at least five times if you use the - & + buttons at the centre of the top of the screen.



**Alison Jolley:**

**Frozen in Time**

**Curling on a frozen pool in Sutton Park around 1890!**



This fascinating photograph by Sir Benjamin Stone shows at least two individuals wearing ice skates, suggesting that the park pools regularly iced over during winter months. National winter records of 1890 show exceptionally cold months that lasted from the end of November 1890 to late January 1891 with rivers, lakes and pools thick

with ice.

Benjamin Stone was a prominent national figure who lived at The Grange in Erdington, the same building which was to become the well-known John Taylor Hospice. He was a local Conservative politician and a Birmingham MP for over ten years. Prior to this he was the first Mayor of Sutton Coldfield, a post he held for over four years.

Stone was a prolific photographer and wrote of his role in life as being, "to portray for the benefit of future generations, the manners and customs, the festivals and pageants, the historic places of our times." He certainly did achieve many things, by the end of his life he had taken 26,000 photographs which are of course, of huge interest today.

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



**Rob Pocock:**

**QUAD BIKES ON THE RAMPAGE AGAIN**

It's been going on periodically for some years, but it seems a new surge of quad bikes and motorcycle 'scrambling' has sprung up again since the New Year. The main areas

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

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affected recently are the Greenway, and to a lesser extent the King George VI Playing Fields. The local Sutton Vesey Neighbourhood Police have been patrolling, with our sergeant Zulf Ali. However, they can't be there 24/7 and so the culprits are still getting away with it. I'm checking with the City Council Parks Department as to whether there can be improvements to fencing and barriers, as the main offenders appear to be getting onto the Greenway from the Kingstanding end. There are funds available for this sort of thing, but the main issue is whether a suitable form of added fencing is feasible given that grass mowers and litter collector vehicles also still have to be able to get onto these sites.

While on the subject of King George VI Playing Fields, we need to be alert to the possibility of the Family Funfair that came last summer, may want to return this summer. We don't want to be caught unawares as happened last year, so anyone with views on this possibility please email me your opinions either way, to [rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk).

## SPEEDING TRAFFIC LATEST

I'm glad to report that the City Highways department has accepted the request, made by Kath Scott and myself on behalf of residents, for a reduction in traffic speeds on Chester Road North in the vicinity of the school crossing patrol between Honiley Drive and the pathway to New Oscott school down Avery Road. This will go down from 40 to 30mph. The Highways people are doing the legal consultations as I write, and hopefully it will be agreed and in force within the current financial year. At the same time, the tatty wooden fencing beside the pathway to Avery Road has been removed and will be replaced with a proper and secure set of

metal safety rails, like the ones at road crossings. This will remove a tacky eyesore and make it safer too. That's more welcome good news!



### Alison Jolley:

Returning to our previous way of spending free time has taken a real hit. Many of you know that I take a keen interest in the local community groups that flourish in Vesey Ward. As many organisations are now starting to open up again since lockdown, I am going along to find out how they are progressing with any resulting changes and challenges.

I have recently caught up with a local stay and play toddler group that has only just started up again, such a valuable resource for our youngest children and their families or friends who bring them along.

This particular group now meets at St Columbas Church Hall twice a week in order to run around, ride a tricycle and play with other toddlers who enjoy these fun events.

They meet twice a week during term time, Mondays 09.15 for an hour, and Wednesday afternoons at 1.15 for an hour.

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.

## Hello from St Columba's Church



St Columba's Church.  
Banners Gate.

Last week St Columba's Church had a visit from The Bishop of Birmingham. It was a wonderful way to start 2022. Whilst with us Bishop David preached on John 2: 1-11, which tells of Jesus's first miracle, when Jesus was at a wedding with his family and turned water into wine.

(The bishop assured us that he would have known that he was at a party and that it wasn't a 'Bring Your Own Bottle' occasion either!)

As the wedding celebrations continued the supply of wine began to run dry, not only a cause for concern for the party goers but also a problem for the host. A wedding where the supplies ran out would be seen as very bad form and a slight not easily forgotten.



Into the spotlight steps Jesus who starts his ministry by turning water into wine. Not just any old wine, very good wine, and lots of it too. It's estimated that about 150 gallons of wine were produced, for a visual learner that is about 3 wheelie bins full! All that wine, saved till last.

On the surface it may seem to be an odd miracle to begin a world changing ministry with, BUT Jesus was pronouncing something about the Kingdom of Heaven. Things were on the move, life would be changed, and this new way of living would involve love, celebration, generosity, and abundance.

Now, those words may be hard to hear or to accept in our current climate. 2022 has already brought challenges. Celebration and abundance might not be the first things that spring to mind as we face rising costs, try to pay our current bills whilst preparing for fuel bill rises, whilst many of us still face uncertainty about jobs and our futures.

One of the Bishop's encouragements was that Jesus steps in towards the end of the wedding. In the midst of the anxiety about things not going to plan, he created the best wine and offered it to everyone. We are being offered that hope too, that in the midst of all that we face, the best is yet to come, and that Jesus is in it with us.

At St Columba's we hold onto that truth as we pray for our community and ourselves. You are always welcome at St Columba's. Our service begins at 10am on a Sunday and last for about one hour. Why not try us out? If you have general questions or would like to enquire about a baptism, a wedding or funeral, you could also come along and join us then and we can chat after the service.

With prayers and all good wishes, Revd Beccy ([vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com))

### A prayer for the start of 2022.

Jesus, we pray for hope and healing.

A holy healing which will not just make things nice but will make things possible.

A holy healing that holds our disappointment and our worries  
and promises new beginnings.

And we pray for surprising blessings, that will encourage us all in the year ahead. Amen.



We've had a busy start to the new year at Sutton Park Primary School and it has been wonderful to welcome our families and pupils back after the festive break.

This term has seen the launch of our new non-core curriculum 'Cornerstones'. Pupils are excited to learn more about their new topics for the term and curriculum overviews can be found on our website.

We hosted our first parent coffee morning at the start of this new term, where we shared our improvement journey so far, our priorities for the year ahead and requested feedback from parents. It was amazing to hear the positive feedback they shared! It continues to be a real honour and privilege to lead our school.

*Mrs Middleton, Head of School*

### Spotlight on... EYES

We have a 26 place Nursery and 60 place Reception on site at Sutton Park Primary. Children

learn through play in both our indoor and outdoor classrooms. We place high focus on communication and language, encouraging our children to be confident communicators from the beginning!



### Come and join us!

If you are interested in applying for a place for your child at our school, then please get in touch. We are able to offer visits to school and also have a range of useful resources on our website which will help you to understand our school, our values and our mission!

We do have some pupil spaces in some of our year groups.

Phone: 01214647355

Email: [enquiry@suttonparkprimary.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@suttonparkprimary.co.uk)

[WWW.SUTTONPARKPRIMARY.CO.UK](http://WWW.SUTTONPARKPRIMARY.CO.UK)

You can also find a 360 degree tour of our school site on our website. This allows you to explore our classrooms, library and reading garden from the comfort of your own home.



### What do our parents think?

"Sutton Park Primary is a place that my son wants to come to each and everyday! Thank you for changing his perceptions of school."

"There are vast improvements all around school."

"A huge thank you to each and every staff member who has worked so hard to ensure our children are happy, safe and learning at Sutton Park Primary School. It hasn't gone unnoticed and it is very much appreciated."

"It is a lovely feeling to drop my son off at school and know that he will have a good day full of laughter, learning, friendship and safety."



## St Columba's Church Hall

Hall letting for St Columba's Church.

Weekday lettings are available for the large Church Hall which includes a well equipped kitchen.

Entrance to the hall is step free and is suitable for wheel chair access throughout the premises.

Male, Female and disabled toilet facilities

All enquiries to Alison via email please.

[st.columbahall@yahoo.com](mailto:st.columbahall@yahoo.com)

## Banners Gate Community Church - 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



Coffee & Fellowship

Friday, February 4, 2022

2:30pm-5:00pm



Living as Citizens of Heaven

Sunday, February 13, 2022

10:30am-5:00pm

Show more

**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**





At the gap\* we exist to engage, identify and invest in the lives of marginalised young people in Sutton Coldfield and surrounding areas. We look to step into the gap between exclusion and acceptance, between apathy and hope. We seek to demonstrate that actions really do speak louder than words!

Our mission statement at the gap\* as a Christian charity is to be committed to improving opportunities for excluded and marginalised young people by helping them develop their skills and abilities irrespective of their circumstances, backgrounds or situations.

Two of our main projects at the moment include Venue and HeadSpace. Venue is our drop-in and is the major point of contact with the young people in the area. We

are open three times a week – Monday, Wednesday and Friday 15.30-17.30pm. It is a safe space for young people to chill, relax, hang-out with friends, meet new people or just get a free hot chocolate. The Venue drop-in offers a pool table, Xbox One, air hockey table and a listening ear. These weekly sessions allow for relationships to be built through conversations. These in turn provide a way for us to work more specifically with individuals that need help in changing behaviours, moving forward through education, dealing with personal issues and obstacles they may be facing.

We also have the HeadSpace project which was set up in 2015 as a result of recognising a growing need to support young people experiencing issues and difficulties with their mental and emotional well-being. We aspire to work with young people between the ages of 11-22 as we believe there is limited support available for this age group, particularly those transitioning into adulthood. HeadSpace is currently working in a number of secondary schools in and around the Sutton Coldfield area, offering one-to-one sessions with students. This space gives young people the opportunity to share and explore any thoughts or feelings, to get advice and guidance or to just be alone with their thoughts. In addition to working in secondary schools, we also work independently with individual students and young people, meeting in a safe neutral environment. HeadSpace works via a group of staff and volunteers who are trained in up to Level 3 in Mentoring practice. Our other projects include Out There, our detached street work, and Studio, for the musically minded!

At the gap\* we work underground meeting the needs of the young people we come into contact with, we are ever changing and ever growing. If you want to know more about us or are interested by what you have read and want to get involved in supporting us however you feel best you can email us at: [gap.huboffice@gmail.com](mailto:gap.huboffice@gmail.com)

You can also check out our Facebook page to see all the cool fun stuff we get up to: [@thagapchairty.suttoncoldfield](https://www.facebook.com/thagapchairty.suttoncoldfield)

We also have an Instagram page: [@thegapsuttoncoldfield](https://www.instagram.com/thegapsuttoncoldfield)

We look forward to connecting with you.





E-mail!

Message for Sgt Ali and the Vesey team please.

[suttonvesey@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:suttonvesey@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk)

Thank you for your contact call several weeks ago, Sergeant Ali, following the Community Safety meeting held in Boldmere and attended by Simon Foster the PCC and local Councillors.

The problem of youths riding unregistered scrambler style motor cycles in Sutton Park and along Chester Road onto Banners Gate Road and The Greenway continues to cause great concern to local residents. The riders have no regard for the law or indeed personal safety. Whilst the machines churn up the beautiful open space of Sutton Park and The Greenway, causing extensive damage to the grassed area, they also ride at speeds in excess of 40mph along the pathway of the North Birmingham Cycle route.

Their illegal actions of course are now becoming so dangerous that it is the potential death of an innocent cyclist or dog walking pedestrian or child playing ball games, waiting to happen. Some of the motor cyclists are even riding at speed towards pedestrians in a threatening manner, and at the last moment, veering their machines away. They think this action is great fun and video footage is available by at least one resident of this dangerous practice.

Sergeant Ali did call me to discuss my concerns raised at the Community Safety meeting and stated he would call me again, once he had the opportunity to fully investigate the problem. I await that call.

I have a video recording the illegal motorcyclists, as indeed have many other residents, and we now feel that action must be taken immediately to prevent a death occurring. The youths, numbering as many as five riders use the Greenway at various times of the day and various days of the week, but appear from my own observations to use the Park and Greenway every Saturday afternoon for the last four Saturday's, and even when the ground has been covered in ice or heavy frost, making their threatening actions even more dangerous to public users.

It seems that the riders all reside in the Kingstanding area and in close proximity to Kings Road and Tottenham Crescent, but their exact addresses are currently unknown to me. None of the machines bear registration plates, and the riders wear no helmets, but mainly conceal their faces by wearing black balaclavas.

The evidence of damage caused to both the grassed areas and tarmac cycle route is now considerable and plain to see, and is becoming worse each time the area is used like a grass track meeting. The activities continue even in the dark and sometimes with machines with no lighting.

Perhaps Sergeant Ali or a member of the Vesey Neighbourhood team could contact me to update me on their enquiries to help prevent this illegal action, and take action to help prevent a possible death occurring. I am aware that one of the illegal motor cyclists was killed on Monmouth Drive in Oct/ Nov which unfortunately also involved an innocent motorist using that road.

I look forward to your response.



## *Not Eric again!!*

The community choir Phoenix Singers Birmingham, to which I belong traditionally have an annual celebration mid-January to avoid the date clash with other Christmas activities. Taking the form of an evening meal, with family and friends invited, followed by a cabaret from choir members: small singing groups, duets, comedy sketches. One of our sopranos asked me prior to the event if we could do a duet. I asked what she had in mind, and she said she was thinking of an Abi and Esther Offarim, husband and wife duet called "Cinderella Rockefeller" I replied "sure it is OK but let us have some fun with it, what about I play the wife and you do hubby" I donned a terrible long black wig and a posh skirt from my wife, and my sister's high heel size seven shoes. On seeing me with the full makeup on my wife said "Heavens you look like Ozzy Osborne"



Husband Abi (our soprano) wearing Panama hat, trendy jacket and slacks and looking the part entered first, mentioning my wife will be along very shortly, as she was adjusting her makeup. Meanwhile outside whilst in the resident's bar I sidled up behind two men seated with their backs to me up at the bar, saying in a falsetto voice "any chance of buying a girl a drink, fella's" They turned and nearly fell off their bar stools in shock.

The funniest part of the act after the audience recognised me as 'Ozzy Esther,' was when husband, Abi's small moustache kept blowing off every time she sang, even funnier when she proceeded to pick it up and stick it back in place. I must admit afterwards I felt quite comfortable in my sisters' high heels ummm!!!

On another choir occasion guess who was Honey Bun? We were in Italy on one of our tours and once again I was able to use my feminine side? Four of our ladies had made



American sailor outfits and from the stage in our hotel sang 'Honey Bun' from the musical '**South Pacific**' part way through they stopped singing and one said "Where's Honey Bun" others said "I thought she was with you" another replied "You know how shy she is" I was waiting outside complete with coconuts and grass skirt, just across from the hotel reception area, too much mirth as people checked in. A couple of the ladies from the stage led me in and on to the front to sing with them. As I was reluctantly being escorted to the stage by the lady sailors, I heard

comments from the audience, "We might have known it was Eric" The things they push me into and me so shy and retiring!!! *(Picture not me but just to show you where the coconuts go!!!)*



If you were born after 1970 this is not for you. This is an £.s.d quiz.

Look at the following and turn each one into a sum of money. To start you off, the answer to the second one is Penny Farthing. Answers on page 21.

1. A stone. 2. A bicycle. 3. A singer. 4. A man's name. 5. Kind of pig. 6. Leather worker. 7. Royal headdress. 8. A thief. 9. Five policemen. 10. A score of birds. 11. Sing a song. 12. King or Queen. 13. Double Robert. 14. Hit repeatedly. 15. 50% of panties. 16. Unwell sea creature. 17. Part of an ape's leg. 18. Sun, Mars and Pluto.

Here are some jumbled English towns:

1. HANG TRAM 2. STEEL RICE 3. FINDS MALE 4. NO STORY 5. BUNDLE SAT 6. SWORD IN 7. DRAGS EVEN 8. MODEST IAN 9. SO SANK EVE 10. WON'T DO 'ERB 11. RED FROTH 12. TIN VOTER

Here's a crossword.

Across

4. Slight blow

6. Ultimate

7. Contrivances

8. Exposed

9. Cover

Down

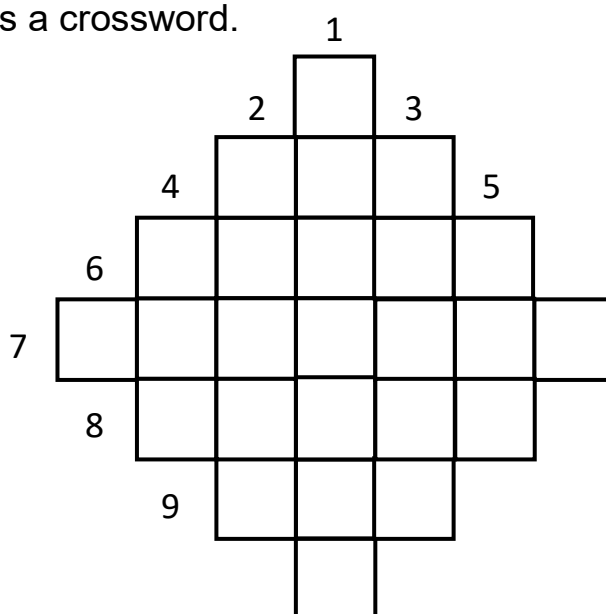
1. A very small man

2. Contestant

3. Measured

4. Marshland

5. Guided



In a saloon bar five men - **A**, **B**, **C**, **D** and **E** - sat in a row along the bar.

The man in a brown suit sat next to **B**.

The man on **C**'s right drank port.

The man who drank whisky had a red tie.

**A** wore a brown suit and didn't drink ale.

The man who wore a Guards' tie drank gin.

Gold-coloured tie was worn by a man who drank ale.

The man on **B**'s right wore a blue suit.

**D** didn't wear a pin-stripe suit but sported a club tie.

The man in a grey suit had a black tie.

The man wearing a club tie sat next to a man drinking ale.

The man who drank ale sat next to a man wearing a blazer.

**B** drank Guinness and didn't have a red tie.

The man who wore a pin-stripe suit drank whisky.

From the foregoing can you deduce what the five men were wearing and drinking?

Answers on page 21.

What a year it's been!

Hope Food North Birmingham was established at the end of May last year and has only been up and running for just over seven months.

During this time Hope Food has:

- \* Run 93 weekly Hope Food banks events in Falcon Lodge, Mere Green and Erdington
- \* Supported over 6700 adults and children access fresh fruit, vegetables, bread and long life food
- \* Made 140 hostel drops at night supplying over 1,000 crates of food that was within hours of expiring to support the border-line homeless and most vulnerable members of our community.
- \* Provided 922 food crates to 14 other foodbanks and organisations which support those suffering from food poverty.
- \* Over 60 active volunteers provide over 200 hours of time each week to make sure the charity runs and supports the most vulnerable of our local community – that's equivalent to 6 full time employees. And this doesn't include a lot of ad hoc work and support these and other volunteers give.

Deb Middleton, lead co-ordinator and Trustee of Hope Food said 'On behalf of the trustees we would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers for their tireless efforts, and to members of the public, schools, businesses and organizations who have donated either financially or with food to make all of this possible throughout the past seven months and in our Christmas Appeal. We couldn't have done it without you. Here's to the next twelve months!'

**Hope Food has a number of drop off points around Sutton Coldfield for individual or small collections of food. These can be found on Hope Food North Birmingham's Facebook and Instagram pages. If you have a large collection of items to donate then please contact Hope Food to arrange collection or delivery, by email to [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk).**

**If anyone would like to make a monetary donation, you can visit our JustGiving page. <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hopefoodcountdowntochristmas2021>**

**Anyone interested in organising a collection for Hope Food should email [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk) or call 07887 522624 to receive a support pack containing posters**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK PLEASE MAKE A DONATION USING THIS LINK: [https://link.justgiving.com/v1/charity/donate/charityId/3143929?tipScheme=TipJar2.1&reference=givingcheckout\\_tj21](https://link.justgiving.com/v1/charity/donate/charityId/3143929?tipScheme=TipJar2.1&reference=givingcheckout_tj21) or this QR link:**



Donations can be taken to one of our drop off points below, if you are unable to reach one of these or have a larger quantity to donate then please contact us on 07887 522624 or email [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk) to make alternative arrangements.

**Donate food drop off points**  
(as at November 2021)

- Co-op, Clarence Road, B74 4LU
- Co-op, Slade Road, B75 5PF College
- Co-op, Thornhill Road, B74 3EH
- Co-op, Rectory Road (The Boot Inn) B75 7RU
- On the Breadline, Worcester Lane, Four Oaks B75 5QS
- Sutton Coldfield Library - First Floor
- Varam Food & Wine, High Street near Sutton College
- One Stop, Springfield Road - near Anvil Pub
- Walmley Convenience, Walmley Road
- Ark Community Church only Wednesday 10-12

**Hope Food Storage Base**  
**Monday - Friday 9am to 12 noon**

Hope Food Base,  
Upper Room,  
Wilmcote Drive,  
Sutton Coldfield B75 5ED

E: [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk)  
Charity reg 1195019

Hope Food operates 3 weekly food banks across Sutton Coldfield and North Birmingham for anyone experiencing hardship. No referral or voucher is required you just turn up. You will be given a standard food bag containing 1-2 days worth of long life food such as milk, cereal, pasta, tins and you can then help yourself to bread, fresh fruit and vegetables that we have collected from local supermarkets.

**WHERE YOU WILL FIND OUR WEEKLY FOOD BANKS**

**Erdington**  
Tuesday 10.00 am - 10.30 am  
Stockland Green Methodist Church,  
Slade Road, B23 7JH  
\*we do not currently offer food bags here but are hoping to change this in the future\*

**Falcon Lodge**  
Wednesday 2pm - 3 pm  
the rear of Falcon Lodge Methodist Church,  
Lingard Road, B75 7LB

**Mere Green**  
Friday 12 - 1pm  
Ark Community Church Centre,  
St James Road, B75 5EH

T: 07869 820025  
E: [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk)  
Charity reg 1195019

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





I'm always disappointed when a liar's pants don't actually catch on fire.

**MOST PEOPLE  
DON'T THINK I'M  
AS OLD AS I AM  
UNTIL THEY HEAR  
ME STAND UP**

Like I was saying, the circus is just one of my careers. The real money comes from frosted flakes



FOR THOSE THAT HAVE NEVER SEEN A CATFISH !!



**DO YOU EVER GET UP  
IN THE MORNING,**



**LOOK AT YOURSELF IN  
THE MIRROR AND  
THINK... "THAT CAN'T  
BE ACCURATE."**

Day 12 of Coronavirus quarantine... I found a new hobby "toilet paper art."



**I KNEW ITALIANS WOULDN'T STAY  
QUIET MUCH LONGER**

Are you drinking more alcohol than usual during quarantine?

Yes ☐

No ☐



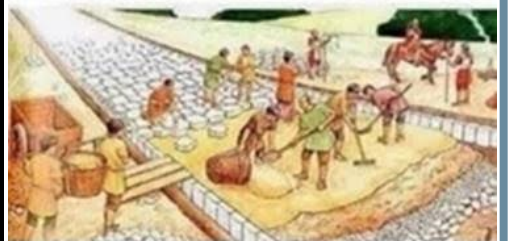
**GETTING OLDER IS  
JUST ONE BODY PART  
AFTER ANOTHER  
SAYING, 'HA HA, YOU  
THINK THAT'S BAD?  
WATCH THIS.'**



The best times in our lives were not about what we had, but who we were with.

**AND SO ENDS  
ANOTHER WEEK  
WITHOUT ME  
BECOMING  
UNEXPECTEDLY  
RICH.**

WITHOUT A SINGLE DEGREE, THEY BUILT US ROADS THAT HAVE LASTED AN ETERNITY...



**AND THEN, THE ENGINEERS ARRIVED!!!**





**WELCOME TO CANADA**  
Don't try to change it!  
If you don't like it  
turn around!

**MORE CANADIAN VANDALISM !!**

**In other news, today:**  
2 feet of snow fell this morning.

**WILL IT RAIN?  
WILL IT SNOW?**  
**I LIVE IN CANADA**  
**I DO NOT KNOW!**

**Canadian shoes**

**Somewhere near you**

**Meanwhile in Canada**

**MEANWHILE IN CANADA**

**CANADIAN DOLPHIN**

**Canada**

**Where any sport can be a winter sport.**

**My friend's mailbox was buried so far under the snow they couldn't dig it out. So he improvised...**

**CANADIAN MAILBOX**

**The Canadian White House**

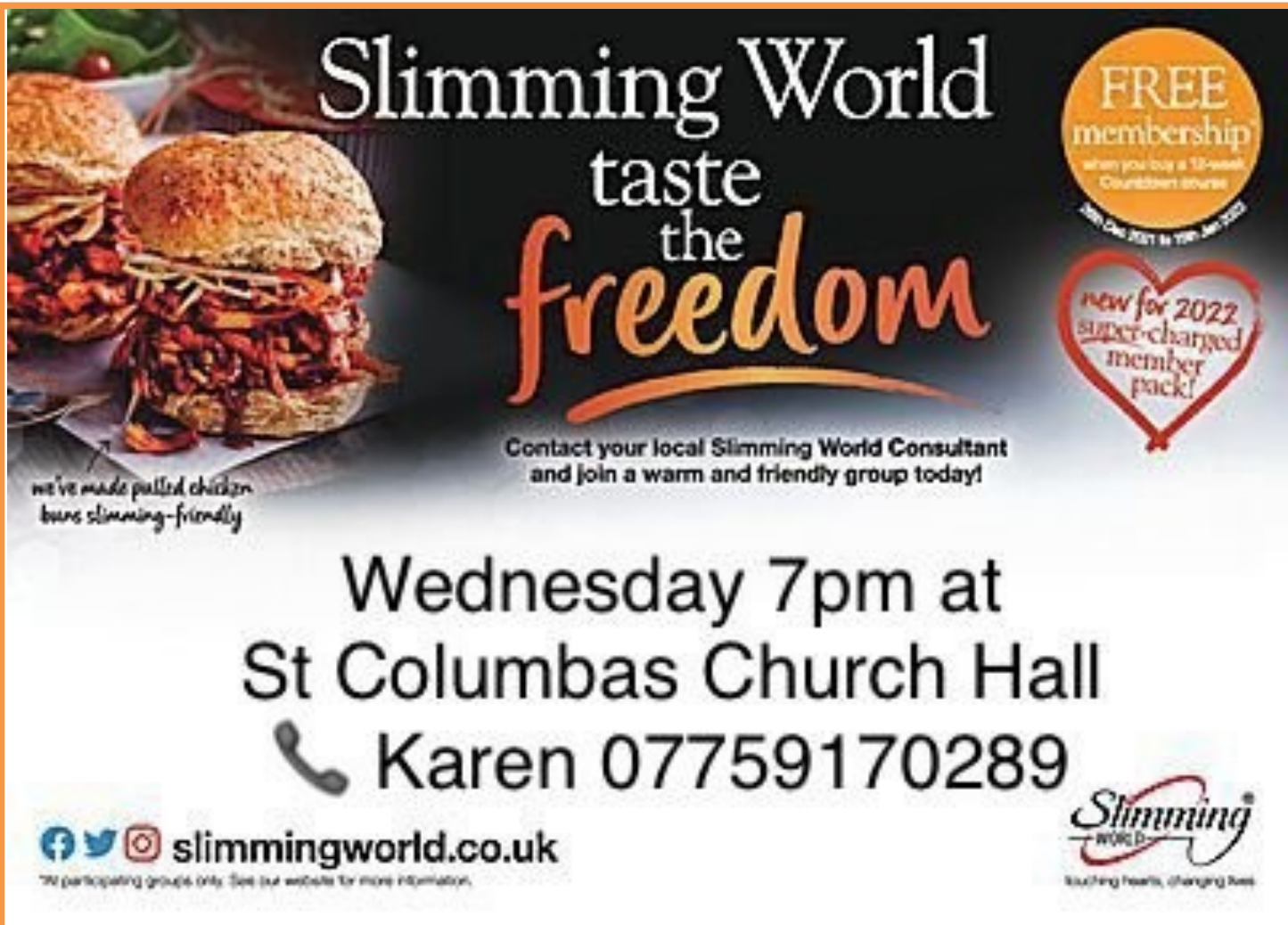
**FLAT TIRE IN CANADA**

**LEAVING YOUR WINDOW OPEN IN CANADA.**

**Funny Canadian Memes**

**echtlast**





# Slimming World taste the freedom

we've made pulled chicken buns slimming-friendly

FREE membership when you buy a 12-week Countdown course

new for 2022 super-charged member pack!

Contact your local Slimming World Consultant and join a warm and friendly group today!

Wednesday 7pm at  
St Columbas Church Hall  
Karen 07759170289

slimmingworld.co.uk

700 participating groups only. See our website for more information.

*Touching hearts, changing lives*



## sealed with a quiche

**breakfast**  
grilled brekkie stacks  
SP 120kcal  
serves 1 / ready in 15 minutes

Grill some portobello mushrooms and halved tomatoes. Put the mushrooms on a plate, top with the tomatoes and scatter over a few fresh basil leaves. Follow with an orange.

**lunch**  
chicken pitta SP  
serves 1 / ready in 10 minutes

Grill a 60g wholemeal pitta bread (Healthy Extra 'b') and stuff it with sliced cooked skinless chicken breast, sliced peppers and shredded lettuce. Mix some plain quark with a little mustard powder and spoon it over the filling. Follow with fresh plums.

**dinner**  
baked bean crustless quiche 12  
serves 4 / ready in 1 hour

Preheat your oven to 180°C/fan 160°C/gas 4. Put 1 finely chopped red onion, 1 chopped garlic clove, 100g chopped cauliflower florets and 150g thickly sliced Brussels sprouts in a deep quiche dish or round ovenproof dish. Spray with low-calorie cooking spray and bake for 20 minutes or until almost tender. Meanwhile, whisk 8 large eggs and 100g fat-free natural cottage cheese in a jug and stir in ½ x 400g can baked beans and a little seasoning. Remove the dish from the oven, pour over the egg mixture and gently stir. Spoon the rest of the can of beans on top, poke in 6 halved cherry tomatoes and bake for 30 minutes or until set and golden. Scatter with chopped fresh parsley and serve with salad and Slimming World chips.

Find this daily menu and 60 others in Slimming World's Happy Days FREE when you commit to your slimming success with a 6-week Countdown before between 4th and 24th July 2021 (pay upfront for 5 weeks and get 1 week for free).

Slimming World Free Food range

For a quick-chip fix, pick up a bag of Slimming World Chips from Iceland



# Can you tell a wren from a robin?

The countdown is on

[Sign up today](#) ➔

It's the time for resolutions, so if you haven't signed up already, why not resolve to take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch? It could become the wildlife highlight of your year. There's still time to register before the big weekend (28-30 January) and our countdown clock will tell you exactly how long there is to go

Remember, it's free to take part and really easy. Simply:

1. Register for Big Garden Birdwatch using our online form
2. Get to know your garden birds
3. Sit back, relax and watch your local birds for an hour between 28-30 January

Now's a fantastic time to get to know your garden birds. It's a bit of a favour to future you, as then you'll have time to enjoy their antics without having to identify them 'on the fly'. Visit our website for loads of advice: [www.rspb.org.uk/birds-to-spot](http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-to-spot).

The best way to ensure you have the best Birdwatch ever is to start putting food out for your garden visitors now. That way, the birds will have plenty of time to learn that yours is the place to come to for a tasty snack. Last year's top four birds were the house sparrow, blue tit, blackbird and starling

Do you know what foods they like to eat? Visit [www.rspb.org.uk/feedthebirds](http://www.rspb.org.uk/feedthebirds) to find out. Remember that it's really important to keep your feeders and birdbaths clean, to help garden birds stay healthy – you'll find lots of useful advice at [www.rspb.org.uk/keep-your-bird-table-healthy](http://www.rspb.org.uk/keep-your-bird-table-healthy)

As an extra treat on the weekend, you can also take part in Birdwatch LIVE through YouTube or on our social media channels. We'd also love you to share your Big Garden Birdwatch hints, top tips and sightings using #BigGardenBirdWatch.

As a charity, it's the support from people like you that makes a difference to birds and other wildlife. If you enjoy taking part in Big Garden Birdwatch, please remember to make a donation.

But above all, enjoy your Birdwatch! What will you see?

Kirsty and Tash

On behalf of the Big Garden Birdwatch team

## Let nature light up your new year

What wildlife to see now

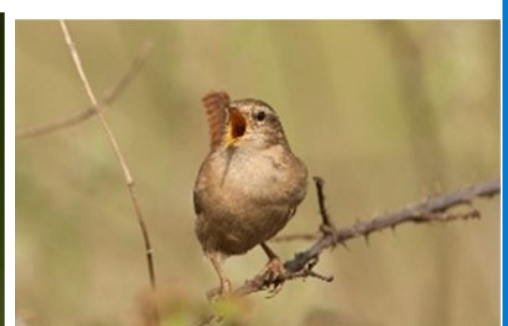
[Show me](#) ➔

What better way to start the new year than by enjoying time with nature. It's a great time to watch garden birds, as the colder weather means that more birds will take advantage of any food you put out for them. Read on for our top tips on what to feed your hungry visitors.

Out and about, you can also be treated to fantastic sights. Be sure to keep an eye out for two tiny jewel-like birds, goldcrests and firecrests. Our local populations are often joined by flocks from Scandinavia in winter

If the weather is putting you off, you can simply settle back and enjoy nature from your own home with our live feeder camera at RSPB Arne

Whatever you choose to do, we hope you have a wonderful wildlife-filled week







Parking enforcement operators have sparked fury after insisting that fines should be increased to £120 – the equivalent of almost two days' pay for a key worker on the minimum wage. The British Parking Association (BPA), which represents traffic management firms, is calling for the current maximum charge of £100 for parking illegally to be raised to £120. However, this is at odds with plans from the Government.

Ministers are proposing to reduce the maximum [parking fine](#) to £50, but this

has caused concern for BPA leaders, who fear this would make drivers more likely to ignore the rules and lead to millions more fines being dished out.

A £50 fine would be discounted to £25 if paid within 14 days, which the BPA says will encourage some drivers to just to pay the fine and not worry about breaking parking rules.

The BPA's chief executive Andrew Pester said: "We are calling on the Government to reconsider its proposal to reduce the level of parking charge and to further engage with landowners and parking operators to ensure a sufficient deterrent, which is effective and improves compliance with parking rules."

But critics have pointed out that it would take someone on £8.91-an-hour minimum wage contract two days to pay off a £120 ticket, even if they work full time, the Daily Mail reports.

RAC head of roads policy Nicholas Lyes said: "No driver ever tries to get a parking charge notice, so the idea a lower penalty cap will mean more fines being dished out is baseless. The majority simply want to park, abide by the rules, do their business and leave the car park without incident.

"If drivers are flagrantly breaching terms and conditions, then it's right they suffer the consequences, but parking operators should always be following the standards set out. If a driver feels they've been treated unfairly then they should appeal, and ideally their case should be reviewed by a single, independent appeals system which will hopefully be part of the new Parking Code of Practice due later this year."

- [Parking guide](#) – where you can and can't park
- [Parking on the pavement](#) – is it illegal?
- [Parent and child parking bays](#) – the law and who can use them

The BPA's call comes after the PA news agency revealed earlier this week that private parking firms issued more than 22,000 tickets to drivers every day in the first six months of the 2021/22 financial year.

Separate research from the RAC Foundation in November found that the number of private parking firms issuing tickets to drivers has increased by nearly [two-thirds](#) in just five years.

The Government has pledged a crackdown on 'cowboy' firms with a new Code of Practice for the private parking industry.

The proposed legislation is still awaiting ministerial sign-off, but it aims to clamp down on some of the ruthless firms that run thousands of car parks at hospitals, shopping centres and train stations.

## Bovine Protest

The Sutton Coldfield Pensioners' Action Group grinned from their individual Zoom windows. Cedric felt as though he was starring in an old episode of *Celebrity Squares*.

"Are we ready?" he asked.

"Absolutely." His vice chair, Shirley, gave a thumbs up.

"Over to you, Nate."

The sixteen-year-old flicked his floppy fringe and attacked his smartphone. Nate had explained the technology several times but it was still smoke and mirrors to his granddad. Cedric couldn't comprehend what was happening up in the clouds and behind the virtual fences or whatever the terminology was that Nate had used. It was something to do with the cows' orange collars.

On screen Nate was looking through a curtain of hair and checking off the actions:

1. Computer controlling virtual fencing hacked.
2. Virtual fencing changed to funnel cows towards Banners Gate.
3. Banners Gate entrance unsecured.
4. Sutton Coldfield Youth Action Group in position with banners.
5. Traffic stopped.

"Now!" Excitement flashed across the teenager's face and he was replaced by a webcam view of the Monmouth Drive/Chester Road junction. Cows plodded into the road as if guided by an unseen hand. The camera panned to the teenagers with placards.

"Save our Planet – No More Beef Cattle!" "Veg not Steak!" "No More Global Warming!"

"Hooray!" Shirley sounded like an over-excited football fan, her wheelchair coming into shot as she swayed from side to side. "Even in the winter of our years we can still help ensure the next generation enjoy their spring."

*by Sally Jenkins*

*This piece was runner-up in the recent FOLIO competition for flash fiction on a Sutton Coldfield theme.*



**Piano and Clarinet Tuition**  
Children and adults

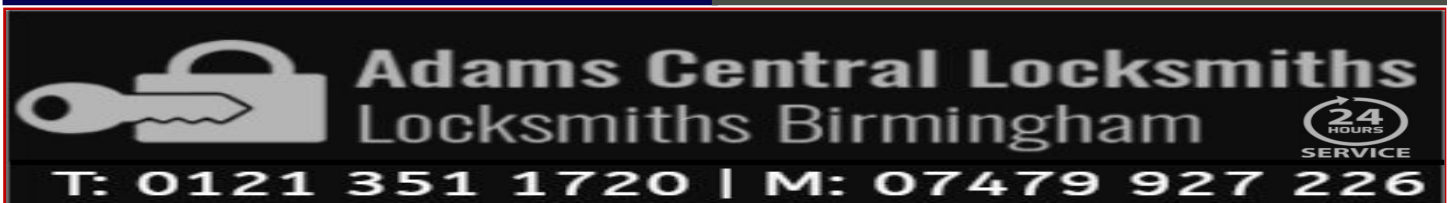
*Josephine Hughes*  
B.Ed (Hons)

Tel: 0121 3557355  
email: sutton.piano.teacher@gmail.com



**Banners Gate Beauty**  
Beauty Therapist in Sutton Coldfield  
Fully qualified and insured

Eliza Hardy | 07568381321



**Adams Central Locksmiths**  
Locksmiths Birmingham

T: 0121 351 1720 | M: 07479 927 226

24 HOURS SERVICE



We hope you had a wonderful Christmas.

Between Christmas and the new year, we've taken some time to reflect on the past year and **how together, even during a tough time for many, we've achieved some amazing successes.**

From the government's commitment to make [reimbursement mandatory for scam victims](#) to securing the return of around £8 million in refunds to let-down travellers, **we have a lot to be proud of. And it's people like you who make the difference.** By sharing your stories, challenging big businesses and signing petitions, it all helps **towards our mission: we're here to make life simpler, fairer and safer for everyone.**

So thank you.

Neena Bhati, our head of campaigns, has reflected on [her proudest moments and what's next for 2022](#). *\*Spoiler alert\** it could be our biggest challenge yet.

[Our campaign successes](#)

Best Wishes

Which? Campaigns

## The strangest scams of 2021

Even as we were enjoying the relative freedoms of summer – with some of us even jetting off on holiday – fraudsters didn't take a single day off. We continued to receive hundreds of scam reports every month and, sadly, some from victims who lost substantial sums of money. But for every sophisticated scheme spun by scammers, there are the more preposterous attempts that are capable of raising a smile even in these worrying times.

From the parcel prowler with pruning shears to a mysterious windfall from James Bond, here are the most [peculiar scam attempts](#) we've come across this year.

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.

Wishing you a safe 2022,

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.



# Which?



## Is Twitter fuelling Amazon's fake review problem?

Facebook and Twitter are failing to tackle a fake and incentivised reviews industry that is easily infiltrating both online platforms. Thousands of Amazon sellers are using Twitter to gain five-star reviews on more than 130 brands by incentivising shoppers with refunds, a Which? investigation has found.

[We went undercover to find out more](#)



## Five ways to help garden wildlife this winter

Winter is the toughest time of year for garden wildlife as natural food resources start to become scarce. There are plenty of practical ways you can help the creatures in your garden without spending a fortune – from putting out a dish of water to feeding birds. Find out what you can do.

[Offer a helping hand](#)



## Seven steps to get a great car insurance deal

From black boxes and multi-car insurance to paying annually instead of making monthly payments, here are seven steps you can take to get the best deal this year. Plus, find out about the new rules protecting consumers from paying more for loyalty.

[See our top tips](#)

### Big news

The government has committed to make it **mandatory** for banks to reimburse victims of bank transfer scams.

This is a [huge win for our campaign](#). Currently, only banks signed up to a voluntary code must give victims their money back – but even then, the majority are doing a shoddy job.

**This legislative change will force the banks to do more to protect their customers from fraud, or rightfully return the victim's money when they fail to do so.**

Thank you so much for your continued support. Whether you signed our petition, called out the banks publicly or shared a personal experience of being scammed, with people like you by our side we can achieve these huge wins for UK consumers.

**Please share the good news with your family and friends.**

# Life is Precious

## Borderline Personality Disorder talking support group

In collaboration with Birmingham MIND

Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church  
1 Brassington Avenue  
Sutton Coldfield  
B73 6AA

Every Friday - 2pm-3pm

A mixed open discussion adult group in a safe  
and accepting environment

Free refreshments

For more information or to attend please contact

Phone number: 07734 959909

Email: [lifeisprecious1234@outlook.com](mailto:lifeisprecious1234@outlook.com)



**Sutton Coldfield**  
**TOWN HALL**



0121 296 9543



enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com



## OH! WHAT A NIGHT

Oh! What A Night takes you back in time on a musical journey through the incredible career of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons!

SATURDAY 5TH FEBRUARY  
2022



## SOUNDCLASH: SKA vs NORTHERN SOUL

DJ plays classic Northern Soul tunes in between 2 live sets of foot stomping ska!

FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY  
2022

# NHS

## VACCINATION INFORMATION

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

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

### Answers from page 9

1. 14 pounds, 2. Penny Farthing, 3. Tenor (tenner), 4. Bob (one shilling), 5. Guinea (21 shillings), 6. Tanner (sixpence), 7. Crown (5 shillings), 8. Nicker (one pound), 9. 5 coppers (5 pennies) 10. 20 pen(ce), 11. of sixpence. 12. Sovereign (one pound), 13. 2 Bob (2 shillings), 14. Pound, 15. Half a knicker (ten shillings), 16. Sick squid (six pounds), 17. Ape knee (halfpenny), 18. Three far things (3 farthings). The whole lot comes to £35 2s 3½d. Check it, I dare you! Ok, so some of the answers are iffy, sorry.

Unjumbled English towns: 1. Grantham 2. Leicester 3. Mansfield 4. Royston 5. Dunstable 6. Windsor 7. Gravesend 8. Maidstone 9. Sevenoaks 10. Brentwood 11. Hertford 12. Tiverton

Across: 4. Rap 6. Final 7. Devices 8. Naked 9. Lid  
Lid

Down: 1. Manikin 2. Rival 3. Paced 4. Fen 5.

Drink	A Gin	B Guinness	C Ale	D Port	E Whisky
Suit	Brown	Grey	Blue	Blazer	Pin-stripe
Tie	Guards	Black	Gold	Club	Red





# The Deep Blue Sea

24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022

written by  
TERENCE RATTIGAN

directed by  
FAYE HATCH



*A flat in Ladbroke Grove, West London. 1952. When Hester Collyer is found by her neighbours in the aftermath of a failed suicide attempt, the story of her tempestuous affair with a former RAF pilot and the breakdown of her marriage to a High Court judge begins to emerge. With it comes a portrait of need, loneliness and long-repressed passion. Behind the fragile veneer burns a brutal sense of loss and desire in Terence Rattigan's devastating masterpiece.*

Written by Terence Rattigan

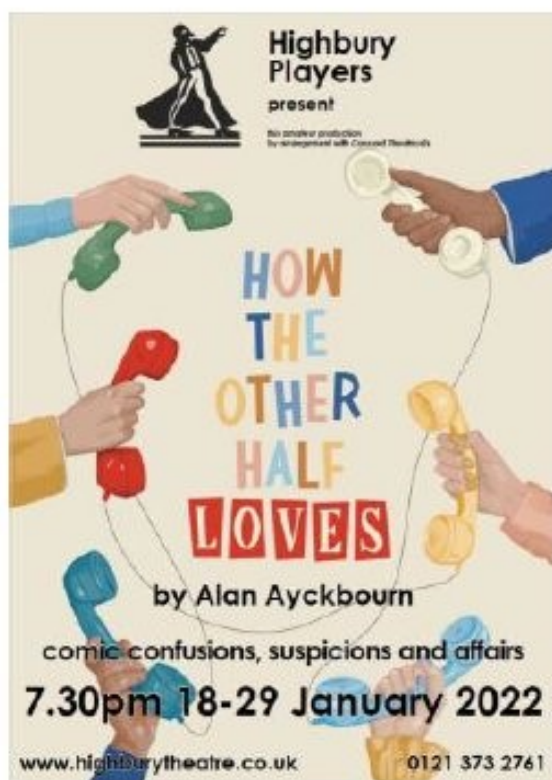
Directed by Faye Hatch

Box Office: 0121 355 5355

Email: [info@suttonartstheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@suttonartstheatre.co.uk)

[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [BOOKING](#) [JOIN US](#) [LINKS](#) [PRODUCTION REVIEWS](#)

## What's on next at Highbury Theatre?



### Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

**23 January** Start time 7pm  
Released 2017, duration 1h 55m, certificate 15.

Acclaimed black comedy with electrifying performance from Frances McDormand seeking justice for the murder of her daughter.

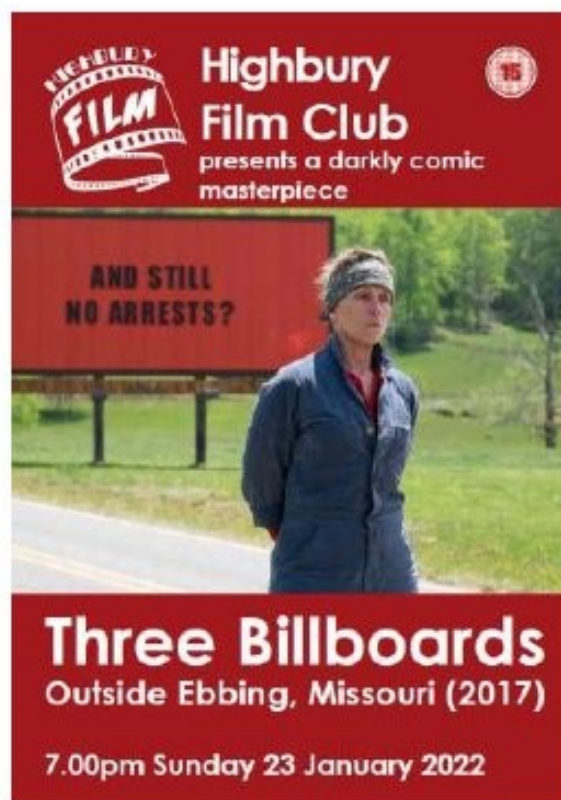
Tickets available from Highbury Theatre Box Office, Sheffield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5HD  
tel: 0121 373 2761 or book online via [TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk)



### How the Other Half Loves 18-22 & 25-29 January 2022

Start time 7.30pm

Possibly Ayckbourn's funniest play. Three couples: Frank and Fiona, posh; Bob and Teresa, socially a notch below them; William, wanting to better himself, and Mary, humble and nervous.



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

Follow us on Facebook,  
Instagram, Twitter



## What's on next at Highbury Theatre?



**Handbagged**  
**22-26 Feb & 1-5 March 2022**  
 Start time 7.30pm  
 What really happened  
 between the Queen and  
 Margaret Thatcher during their  
 weekly meetings?

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)



**I, Daniel Blake**  
**12 February Start time 7pm**  
 Released 2016, duration 1h 40m,  
 certificate 15.  
 Classic social drama from Ken  
 Loach. 59 year old carpenter  
 Daniel fights for benefits after a  
 devastating heart attack.



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

Follow us on Facebook,  
 Instagram, Twitter

Family & Pantomime, Main House

## Goldilocks and the Three Bears

The Greatest Panto on Earth!

Fri 14 Jan – Sun 30 Jan

Tickets from £16



Dance, Main House

## Motionhouse: Nobody

A dance-circus adventure!

Fri 4 Feb

Tickets from £15



Comedy, Main House

## Jack Dee: Off The Telly

Sat 5 Feb

Tickets £26



Ballet, Dance, Main House

## Matthew Bourne's Nutcracker!

The sweetest of all treats!

Tue 8 Feb – Sat 12 Feb

Tickets from £22.50



Comedy, Main House

## Stewart Lee - Snowflake/Tornado

Sun 13 Feb

Tickets £28



Ballet, Main House

## Birmingham Royal Ballet - Don Quixote

Fri 18 Feb – Sat 26 Feb

Tickets from £22



Ballet, Family & Pantomime, Main House

## BRB - First Steps: Cinderella's Storybook

Fri 25 Feb

Tickets £14





## STREETLY FLOWER ARRANGERS' CLUB

We meet monthly 2nd Tuesday 2.30 pm  
at Streetly Community Centre, Foley Rd. East, B74 3HR.

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

Next meeting Tuesday 8th February 2022 -

- Demonstration Alan Smith 'Winter Symphony'.

Further details : Chris Reeves tel: - 0121 354 6264.

## The Sutton Coldfield Fuchsia & Gardening Guild

Happy New Year to you.

Our first meeting of 2022 takes place on Thursday February 10th and our speaker will be RHS judge Mike Hinton. Mike is a district parks manager for Birmingham City Council, based at Kings Heath Park. For many years Mike was involved with Birmingham City Council's entry into The Chelsea Flower Show, Gardeners World, and the RHS Tatton Flower Shows, but three years ago Mike was invited to be an RHS judge, and now judges at all the major shows around the country.

This kicks off a very varied program of speakers booked for 2022, but alongside we will be getting many practical demonstrations on aspects of growing, in particular growing plants to be on display at our annual show in August.

Although our society has been running for many years, over the past few months we have welcomed many new members, ranging from experienced gardeners to those just starting out on their gardening journey. If you no longer garden, but still like your houseplants, we have a couple of classes just for you, so please come along and join us, you will be made very welcome.

**We meet on the second Thursday of each month, excluding January, at Banners Gate Community Church, in Westwood Road.** We have a lovely large and spacious room with a car park directly outside. Doors open at 7.30 and the meeting lasts from 8.00 till 9.45. Our membership charge is £10 for the year, or you can come along as a visitor for £2. Refreshments are always on sale, alongside gardening paraphernalia including plants when in season.

If you would like any more information, please give our secretary Gail a call on 0121 353 3373 and please have a look at our Facebook page.



**Groups are back at the  
Communita Cafe**



**Would you like to put on a group for your  
community?**

**We have spaces available**

**For more information call 0121 362 3650**



## **COMMUNITA 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 cafe**

**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)



## **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 operates 3 weekly food banks across Sutton Coldfield and North Birmingham for anyone experiencing hardship. No referral or voucher is required you just turn up. You will be given a standard food bag containing 1-2 days worth of long life food such as milk, cereal, pasta, tins and you can then help yourself to bread, fresh fruit and vegetables that we have collected from local supermarkets.

#### WHERE YOU WILL FIND OUR WEEKLY FOOD BANKS

##### Erdington

Tuesday 10.00 am - 10.30 am

Stockland Green Methodist Church,  
Slade Road, B23 7JH

\*we do not currently offer food bags here but are hoping to change this in the future\*

##### Falcon Lodge

Wednesday 2pm - 3 pm

the rear of Falcon Lodge Methodist Church,  
Lingard Road, B75 7LB

##### Mere Green

Friday 12 - 1pm

Ark Community Church Centre,  
St James Road, B75 5EH

T:07869 820025  
E: [info@hopefood.org.uk](mailto:info@hopefood.org.uk)  
Charity reg 1195019



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

## Pregnant? Children under four?

Don't miss out on **HEALTHY START**  
food and vitamin vouchers worth  
**over £900 per child\***

**FREE**  
fruit, veg, milk  
and vitamins for  
you and your family.  
Worth up to  
**£8.50**  
per week\*\*



You may qualify for Healthy Start vouchers if you're **at least 10 weeks pregnant** or have **a child under four years old**. Your family must also receive one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (with a family income of £16,190 or less per year)
- Universal Credit (with a family take-home pay of £408 or less per month).

You also qualify if you are under 18 and pregnant, even if you don't get any of the above benefits.



Sign up today [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)  
or telephone 0345 607 6823

\* If you sign up at the first opportunity, when you are ten weeks pregnant  
\*\* If your child is under one, you'll receive two £4.25 vouchers per week.  
If your child is 1-4 years old, you will receive one £4.25 voucher per week.

**Healthy Start**

Give your family a Healthy Start



**Birmingham City Council**

**HEALTHY START NHS**

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>



## 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 10:40am

#### 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)

## Pregnant? Children under four?

Don't miss out on **HEALTHY START**  
food and vitamin vouchers worth  
**over £900 per child\***

### FREE

fruit, veg, milk  
and vitamins for  
you and your family.  
Worth up to  
**£8.50**  
per week\*\*

You may qualify for Healthy Start vouchers if you're **at least 10 weeks pregnant** or have **a child under four years old**. Your family must also receive one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (with a family income of £16,190 or less per year)
- Universal Credit (with a family take-home pay of £408 or less per month).

You also qualify if you are under 18 and pregnant, even if you don't get any of the above benefits.

Sign up today [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)  
or telephone 0345 607 6823

### Healthy Start

Give your family a Healthy Start

\* If you sign up at the first opportunity, when you are ten weeks pregnant  
\*\* If your child is under one, you'll receive two £4.25 vouchers per week.  
If your child is 1-4 years old, you will receive one £4.25 voucher per week.

Birmingham City Council

HEALTHY  
START

NHS

## Imagi-Play Toddler Group

### STAY & PLAY FOR KIDS AGED 6 MONTHS- 5 YEARS

Term time:

**Mondays 9.15am-  
10.15am**

**Wednesdays  
1.15pm- 2.15pm**

### Location:

**St Columba's  
Church Hall,  
Banners Gate Road,  
Sutton Coldfield,  
West Midlands.  
B73 6RR**

**£4 Per session  
Including a FREE  
Drink & Snack**



## NO BOOKING NEEDED!

PAY BY CASH OR CARD ON ARRIVAL



[imagiplaytoddlergroup@gmail.com](mailto:imagiplaytoddlergroup@gmail.com) [.com/imagiplaytoddlergroup](https://www.facebook.com/imagiplaytoddlergroup)





## 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)

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these include

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- 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



## communittea cafe AGEconcern Birmingham

Groups are back at the  
Communittea Cafe



Would you like to put on a group for your  
community?

We have spaces available

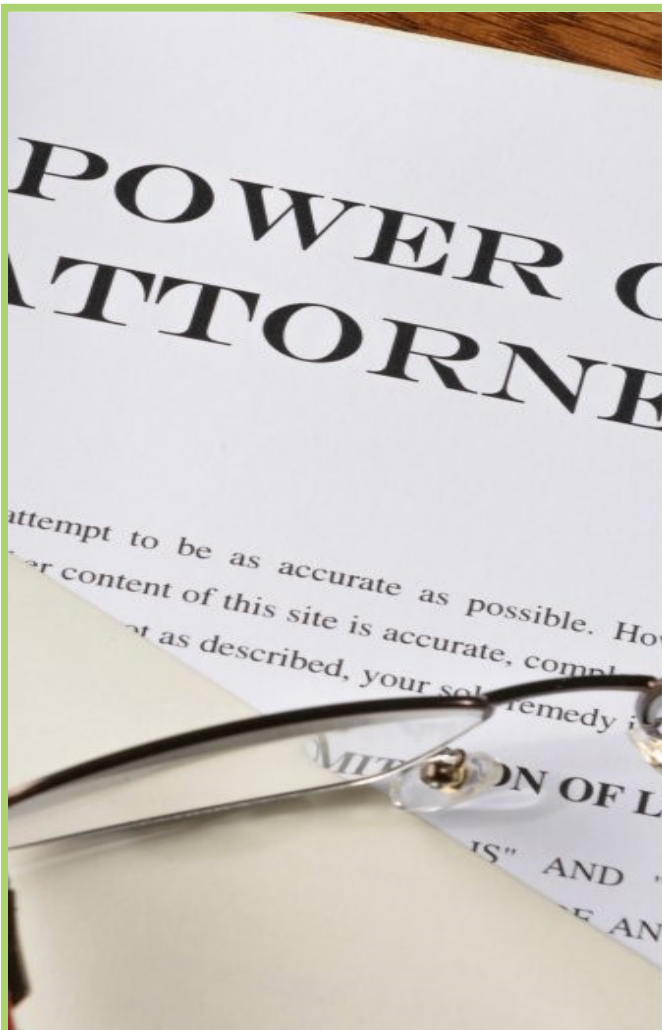
For more information call 0121 362 3650

## communittea 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

We have Legal appointments in our  
Boldmere office on Tuesday and  
Thursday.

Services offered include

- Lasting Power of Attorney
- Wills

We now have **Saturday** appointments  
available.

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



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& Glazing

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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.



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## Memory Cafes

Do you know someone living with memory loss?

**Every Monday**

**10am—12noon**

Wyld 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

Join us at one of our memory cafes  
- a safe place where people living  
with dementia, along with their  
family member / friend / carer  
can meet, make friends, have fun,  
interact and be stimulated.

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  
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Plantsbrook House  
94 The Parade,  
Sutton Coldfield  
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## DEMENTIA CAFE

Activities and advice for un-paid Dementia Carers and their cared for.  
Come along, socialize and join in stimulating activities whilst also being able to access support and advice from our friendly advisors.

10am-11:30am every Tuesday  
Commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

Communita Café  
76-78 Boldmere Road  
B73 5TJ

Tel: 07876 826006  
Email: [dementiacarers@birminghamcarershub.org.uk](mailto:dementiacarers@birminghamcarershub.org.uk)





### Digital Skills Job Club & Employment Support

Are you unemployed and looking for work?

We can help!

Weekly face to face I.T and Job Clubs at the Birmingham Settlement Aston  
If you would like to have a chat or book a place, please contact Nasar on:

07885 210 369  
[nasar.mahmood@bsettlement.org.uk](mailto:nasar.mahmood@bsettlement.org.uk)



[www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk](http://www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk)  
Charity no.: 517303



### Job Club offers:

- Career information, advice & guidance
- Employability skills workshops
- Job search support
- CVs, cover letters & job applications
- Interview skills
- Computer skills & internet search techniques
- Resources & ongoing support

Finding work can be difficult on your own, Birmingham Settlement offer welcoming support which is currently available face to face and through Zoom & WhatsApp. We'd love to hear from you - please get in touch to find out more!

### Find us here:

610 Community Centre  
610 Kingstanding Road  
Birmingham  
B44 9SH







# Cafe Oasis

**We are now OPEN !!**

**Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday & Friday**

**10.00am - 2pm**

**Main course 12.00 - 2.00**

Drinks, snacks and sandwiches  
and Hot meals from 12pm

Find us in Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church

**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



# Cafe Oasis

## Home deliveries

New menu every Friday

Deliveries made on Tuesday and Friday

**3 meals for £10 or 3  
meals and 3 puddings  
£15**

For more information contact Jess on:  
[cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk](mailto:cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk) or 07713 970096

Cafe Oasis 1 Brassington Avenue, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6AA

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



# 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**

**\*FLEXIBLE SHIFTS – ANY TIME, ANY SHIFT\***

**POSITIONS INCLUDE:** Front of House/Reception. Waiter/Waitress **Cashier**

**Volunteer drivers needed for deliveries — Expenses covered**

For more information, contact: **Call: 07593 718785**

**Email:** [cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk](mailto:cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk) **Website:** <https://scurc.org.uk/cafe-oasis/> **OR** find us on Facebook





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**Specialist Mandarin Teacher Available online (or in the Sutton Coldfield area)**

*Private 1-to-1 classes		
1 hour session £30	1.5 hour session £35 (£23.3 per hour)	2 hour session £40 (£20 per hour)
*Small groups (2 to 4 people)		
1 hour session £35	1.5 hour session £40 (Under £27 per hour)	2 hour session £50 (£25 per hour)
*Groups (5 to 10 people)		
1 hour session £40	1.5 hour session £45 (£30 per hour)	2 hour session £55 (£27.5 per hour)

\*5% discount for advance payment of five or more sessions  
\*10% for advance payment of 10 or more sessions

Happy to do exam preparation classes such as GCSE for an extra £5 per hour

**Reliable, diligent & highly experienced teacher with background in memory, learning methods, learning technology & languages. Fluent in Mandarin & English with Masters degree in Applied Linguistics (distinction) & a PCET level 5 teaching Qualification. Various certificates including a full enhanced DBS available upon request. All levels & all ages are all welcome!**

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Contact Gary on 07921 132 860

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



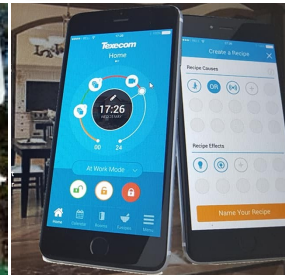
Mondays & Wednesdays

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

Kids 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Adults 7.00pm - 8.30pm

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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)



# 5K YOUR WAY MOVE AGAINST CANCER

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 (meet at 8.45am)

**Ambassador:** Anne Kelsall, Sarah Hinkley & Jane Ford

**It's Free!**  
Get in touch and let us know you will be coming.  
5k your way: move against cancer | [@cancer5kYourWay](https://www.facebook.com/cancer5kYourWay)  
[info@5kyourway.org](mailto:info@5kyourway.org) | [www.5kyourway.org](http://www.5kyourway.org) | [@5kyourway](https://www.instagram.com/5kyourway)

Don't forget to register with us here:  
[www.5kyourway.org/register](http://www.5kyourway.org/register)  
And register with parkrun to get your barcode





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- Neuralgia
- Sports injuries



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Sunday 10:00am

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Please look for the **Beacon Room** – Everyone welcome

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



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# Worship WITH US

EVERY WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY

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

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

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

## 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

Coffee Mornings will resume when it is safe to do so.

Dave will do the rounds to let you know.

Meanwhile, Happy New Year

### Hall's Gardens Garden Maintenance Services Gary Hall

54,  
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[garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto: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 various 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)

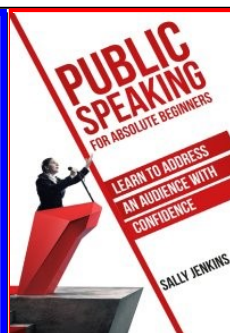
The Jarrett room is approx. 13' x 8'  
(4m x 2.5m)

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](mailto:sallysjenkins@btinternet.com) 0121



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## HATHA YOGA

Banners Gate

Community Hall,

Thursdays 10.00 -11.00 a.m.

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www.petstay.net sue@petstay.net  
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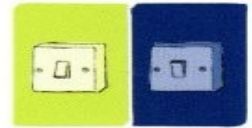
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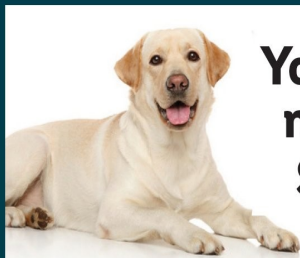
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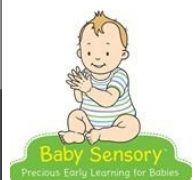
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Email: [suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk)

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

## Lee Nugent

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



## Personal Training

Looking to lose weight?  
Improve your fitness?  
Improve your diet?

## Katie Ingle

T: 0788 886 7850  
E: [kiltrfitness@outlook.com](mailto:kiltrfitness@outlook.com)  
IG: @kiltrfitness  
FB: kiltrfitness

Personal training sessions available from £30 p/h at Pure Gym, Sutton Coldfield (+£5.99 for a day pass). Free consultation & monthly packages also available!

Muscle tightness / strains, Joint pain, Sciatica.  
Shoulder & neck tension, headaches.  
Sports Injuries (specialized in running injuries).



Sports  
Massage 360

Amy Johnson (Bsc). Recommended since 2014.  
12 Chester Gardens, B73 5BF 0770 7006802



## 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.
Sun (1st) 11.00 – 2.00 pm 3 - 7pm (1st) 7.30pm – 8.30pm 10.00 am 1st Sunday of month 10.00-12 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 3.00 – 7.00 pm	Create at Gate with K & S Global Communion Soul Yoga Family Communion For details see website at <a href="http://www.stcolumbasbannersgate.co.uk">www.stcolumbasbannersgate.co.uk</a> Loveworld Church Family Worship <a href="http://www.bannersgatechurch.com">www.bannersgatechurch.com</a> Chikara Karate Kai Love world Church	Community Hall Banners Gate CC Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC Scout Hall Community Hall	Kathy Weston Pastor Chris 07565 Ola Samuel 07565 Nigel Willis Paul Murphy 07837 Ola Samuel 07565	628 6651 65 27 62 354 5873 65 27 62 353 0230 39 57 89 65 27 62
Mon 6.15am - 7.15am 9.15 - 10.15 11am - 1.00pm 7.30 – 9.00 pm	Stay in Focus Fitness Imagi-Play Dementia Care Line Dancing	Community Hall St Columbas Community Hall Community Hall	Ellie Smith Barbara H-Walker Diane Pursall	553 6483 747 4659
Tues 6.15 am – 7.15am 1st Tuesday in month 9 - 1.00 3rd in month 9.15 - 12.00pm 6.30 – 7.30 & 7.30 – 9.00 7.45 pm	Stay in Focus Fitness Mess around Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	Community Hall Community Hall 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 1.15 - 2.15 6 pm - 7pm 7.15 – 8.15 7.00 pm	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Imagi-Play Mid-week Service Bible Study Yoga, Midlands SlimmingWorld	Banners Gate CC Community Hall St Columbas Community Hall Community Hall St Columba's	Tracy Jones 0775 Madge Nightingale Ellie Smith Ola Samuel 07565 Angela Brookes 07939 Karen 07759	82 56 22 360 0286 65 27 62 54 73 92 17 02 89
Thurs 6.15 am - 7.15am 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 (3rd of each month) 7.30 pm	Stay in Focus Fitness Holy Communion Yoga Kiddibops Teachitright Zig Zag Dance Studio Bridge Townswomen's Guild	Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC	Tricia 07954 Rachel 07807 07809 Warren 01902 Sylvia Cunningham 07870 Josie Orme	354 5873 40 39 43 61 43 10 55 16 61 897 900 352 1042
Friday 10.30 - noon	Music Bus	Community Hall	Sarah Stephen 07979	755548
Updated on Thursday 2022 01 20				

**BOOKING SECRETRIES:**  
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

**UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS:**  
**Scouts:** Margaret Drummond, 33rd GSL  
353 5203 **Girlguiding:** Carol Gardner,  
Vesey West District Commissioner 350 7191

### Useful telephone numbers

Sutton and Kingstanding  
**Police: 101**  
Good Hope: 424 2000  
Outpatients: 424 2000  
NHS Health helpline:  
Call 111 it's 24/7  
Citizens Advice  
03444 111 444

### BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE

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

**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, when we  
are back to normal  
(whatever that turns out to  
be).**

**The Townswomen's Guild**  
Patron HRH The Princess Royal GCVO  
**Thurs. 17th February** - Richard Jefferies -  
Church Hill Fellowship, the Power of Music.  
**Thurs. 17th March** AGM & Alison Jolley  
- Sutton in Bloom  
**Thurs. 21st April** Chris Lowe, Storyteller  
Our vibrant Guild meets on the 3rd  
Thursday of the month in the Westwood  
Hall, Banners Gate Community Church at  
7.30pm.  
Contact Sue nation on 353 4114

## Banners Gate Community Church, Westwood Road

4  
FEB

Coffee & Fellowship

Friday, February 4, 2022

2:30pm-5:00pm

13  
FEB

Living as Citizens of Heaven

Sunday, February 13, 2022

10:30am-5:00pm

Show more

### 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



### 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