





Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

158th May 2022

bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com

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It has been a whole week and I haven't heard of anyone going down with Covid. Maybe we should restart Forum meetings in this new age of living with it.

As we used to start the meetings with a speaker that seems like a good way to continue, so I have contacted Julian Routh, the master beekeeper, to fill the position with his interesting and entertaining talk, and his pots of honey - yum yum.

The meeting will be at the usual venue, Banners Gate Community Hall, on Monday, 25th July at the usual time (if you can remember that far back) of 7.30 p.m. and I, for one, am looking forward to it.

If we have fully settled by that date, there will be the usual refreshment break for the chats and the opportunity to put a question to Julian that you were too shy to ask during the meeting, or you have only just thought of it, whichever explanation suits you best!

Tony

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 are reading it on a phone or tablet, by placing two fingers on the screen and parting them to enlarge and bringing them together to shrink.



Rob Pocock: MORE CASH FOR PARK POOLS INVESTMENT

The City Council have announced another new £280,000 restoration project for Sutton Park. This time it's for

environment improvement works around the park's historic Pools. There are six pools across the Park, originally man-made, created by dams being built several hundred years ago for largely industrial reasons (fish ponds, milling, grinding of iron implement etc). For example, Longmoor Pool was built in 1735 to power an industrial-scale watermill at the site, which was used in the manufacture of buttons!

The restoration fund will be used to upgrade the infrastructure of the ponds – including improved sluices, dam protection, brickwork surrounds, and bank erosion. This is not exactly glamorous work, but it is essential in the long-term maintenance of the Park's historic landscape. Often in life it is the invisible stuff that goes on behind the scenes, that does not grab headlines but we all depend on it.

'TIP TRUCK' TRIUMPH!

Many thanks for all Banners Gate and Parklands residents who brought rubbish and recycling to the City Council 'mobile tip truck' visit to Reay Nadin Drive last month. They collected a full truck load – 10

tonnes – in the morning visit! I went to see the crew as they were finishing their shift and they were full of praise for the courteous way residents had approached the service, sticking to the rules on what to bring and making sure nothing was dumped before or after the visit. They told me this is not always the case in other parts of the City they visit, so a big thank-you to our great neighbourhood – you have done us proud! By the same token, a lot of residents contacted me to congratulate the cheerful helpfulness of the crewmen. They often offered to take stuff out of people's car boots etc so people did not even have to get out of their cars!

The mobile waste and recycling trucks are a new idea that's proving very popular. The next one is due to return again to Welshman's Hill, as they did on their first visit here last autumn, probably later in June. I've got an email list of anyone wanting to be notified directly in advance of the visit when the dates and times are finalised – if you want to be on the notification list just email me on rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk

... AND A THANK-YOU

Finally, many thanks to all residents who re-elected me and my Councillor colleagues at May's elections. As always I'll be happy to continue working for the whole community, whoever you voted for, during the next 4 year term of office.

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Max Hatton: Questions I've been asked.

What is your backstory?

Hello, I'm Max Hatton your new Labour Councillor for Sutton Vesey Ward! I have lived in the Sutton Vesey ward all my life apart from 4 years away at university. I attended New Oscott Primary and the Streetly School and sixth form, both excellent schools with great teachers! I went on to study American Studies at Swansea University with a year abroad at San Francisco State University, my time away really shaped me as a person. After graduating I thought of no other place to return than my hometown. My family and friends are here and it's truly a great place to live.

I've had a few jobs around the Sutton Vesey ward, my very first job was delivering the Sutton Coldfield News at the age of 15. At age 17 I had my first part time job at Halls Garden Centre working in the Aquatics Centre, I loved working at Halls especially in the summer! After returning from university I spent some time working in the kitchens and behind the bar of the Sutton Park Hotel, another fun place to work!

In the last few years I've worked for Legal and General in the sales and customer services departments, and at present I'm a Candidate Support Coordinator for the RICS helping our future surveyors.

What made you decide to run for Councillor?

I've been passionate about politics for most of my life. I remember the election of '97 and having the day off school as New Oscott Primary was used as a polling station (the same polling station I've recently used to vote for myself!), and I remember how excited my parents were to have a Labour government back in power. From that day I understood the importance of politics and how having a caring government impacts people's standards of living. Growing up, at times, my family relied on the state to help with our living costs, that same level of support is not available to families nowadays.

Recently I've helped deliver the Community Action newsletter since 2020 but I've always wanted to do more to support the local community; there are some excellent community lead groups around Sutton Vesey to get involved with, as Councillor I want to highlight the great work these groups are doing. Rob, Kath and Manish are an excellent team to join and I'm very eager to help our local Labour team make Sutton Vesey a truly special place to live.

What do you love about Sutton Vesey?

What's not to love? As somebody who doesn't drive I like having easy access to public transport. With our bus and train links we have numerous destinations to visit. I can catch a train from Wylde Green station and after a few changes end up in sunny Barmouth!

We also have great parking facilities around New Oscott and Sutton so shopping local becomes less of a task than shopping in Birmingham.

I love the history of our area; we have the ancient roman road of Icknield Street on our doorstep in the beautiful Sutton Park. Even the Romans knew Sutton Vesey was a great place to be! I've spent many days of my childhood in Sutton Park, not many other communities in the city have access to their own piece of wilderness where you can spend the morning walking through ancient woodlands and then go shopping on your way home.



Kath Scott:

Dear Gatepost Readers,

It is marvellous to be back following on from the local elections. I would like to express my thanks to those that voted for me to represent them on both Birmingham City Council and Sutton Coldfield Town Council. You can expect the same level of service and commitment from me as you have had for the past four years and more.

Now, as we know, it will soon be time to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee; this year many of our wonderful Vesey Ward residents are holding street parties. I have, so far, counted seven street closures where celebrations will be held and I very much look forward to stopping by to say hello, grab a cuppa and have a chat.



(Knitting & Crochet Topper on Britwell Road Post Box, this is courtesy of Members & Friends of Wylde Green United Reform Church).

Finally, I recently attended another streetwatch session with the ever-vigilant AntroBuddies who were joined by our local Vesey Ward Police Team, including PCSO Satpal who is our main StreetWatch contact and our Local Sergeant who stopped by to thank all the volunteers for their hard work. I would like to encourage residents to grow their own streetwatch groups.



Get in touch if this is something you are keen on, we always have more room for SpeedWatch groups. too. Email kath.scott@birmingham.gov.uk



Sunday Mornings at St Columba's

Rev Beccy invites you to a warm and welcoming
service at 10am

*The service lasts about an hour
with tea, coffee and a chat in the hall afterwards.*

All are welcome: everything is explained as we go
along and is on a big screen at the front.

Come exactly as you are - full of questions, full of faith,
full of doubts or completely empty and in need of an
hour of peace.

You are welcome.

There will be a plants sale during the Coffee Morning. It is probably
only a small sale and will be composed of whatever anyone brings
along!



If you know of anyone with spare plants, we would be very pleased to
receive them, but there will be, at the very least, tomato plants on
sale.

Hope to see you there.
Last Friday of every month.

Coffee Morning



*Last Friday of every month
10.30 - 12pm*

*St Columba's
Church Hall
Banners Gate Rd,
Sutton Coldfield,
B13 6TX*





Queen Elizabeth was crowned on 2 June 1953 in Westminster Abbey, the setting for every Coronation since 1066, using words which descend directly from those used at the Coronation of King Edgar in 973. There were 8,251 guests waiting to welcome her into the Abbey, representing 129 nations and territories. 27 million people in the UK watched the ceremony on television and 11 million listened on the radio. My Nan once described it to me as 'a bit of a do' which always makes me smile – A 'bit of a do' indeed!

Something that is often forgotten is that Elizabeth II was not born to be Queen, neither would she have expected to be crowned at the age of 27 as her father was just 56 when he died. Whatever your opinion of the Royal Family, there is no doubt that The Queen has been a fixed-point in our recent history, a constant during periods of huge upheaval and change. She has always considered her role to be one of service and has continually acknowledged that it is a role could not be done alone.

When I spoke to you last... I asked you all, whatever your religion, to pray for me on the day of my Coronation - to pray that God would give me wisdom and strength to carry out the promises that I should then be making... I have been uplifted and sustained by the knowledge that your thoughts and prayers were with me.

Elizabeth II at her Coronation on the 2 June 1953

I know just how much I rely on my own faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning, I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God. Like others of you who draw inspiration from your own faith, I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.

Elizabeth II Christmas Day 2002

The Unknown Warrior was not exceptional. That's the point. He represents millions like him who throughout our history have put the lives of others above their own, and will be doing so today. For me, this is a source of enduring hope in difficult and unpredictable times.

Elizabeth II, reflecting on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior during the Covid Pandemic 2020

So, at 10am on Sunday June 5 at St Columba's Church, we will be saying special prayers for our longest reigning monarch, giving thanks for her long reign and her life of service. However, we will also be praying for a woman who is a faithful witness, a follower of Jesus and who has been able to live an extraordinary life rooted and grounded in the love of God.

You are very welcome to join us.

Revd Beccy: 0121 354 5873/ vicar.bannersgate@gmail.com

0121 354 5873



The Queen's Jubilee 2022

In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on the 6th February 1952.

Throughout the celebration year Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family will travel around the Country to undertake a variety of engagements to mark this historic occasion.

The focal point of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations will be the Jubilee Weekend in June 2022.

There will be an extended bank holiday from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June.

This Bank Holiday Weekend will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate this historic milestone.

Details of the official arrangements can be found at ;

<https://www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend>.

But briefly the arrangements are as follows;

Thursday 2nd June

The Queen's Birthday Parade - **Trooping the Colour**. 1400 Soldiers, 200 Horses and 400 Musicians will parade from Buckingham Palace along the Mall to Horse Guards Parade.

There will be a number of Jubilee Beacons lit across the Country as well as in the Capital Cities of Commonwealth Countries.

Friday 3rd June

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving in St Pauls Cathedral.

Saturday 4th June

The Queen will attend the Derby at Epsom Downs.

Later there will be a Platinum Party at Buckingham Palace.

The BBC will produce a live concert to celebrate the most significant and joyous events in the Queen's seventy year reign.

Sunday 5th June The BIG JUBILEE LUNCH

People are invited to share friendship, food and fun with neighbours by holding local street parties.

Lunch can be big or small, with street parties, picnics, tea and cakes, barbeques.

The culmination of the Celebratory Weekend will be a Platinum Jubilee Pageant.

This will feature over 5000 people from across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth and will be held against the backdrop of Buckingham Palace. The Pageant will feature Street Art/ Theatre / Circus/Carnival and costume.

I hope everyone in our Royal Town will get involved and start planning now for this wonderful occasion.

Cllr Terry Wood

Lance Cpl. Harold Fund Raising for Motor Neurone Disease Association

Total Sum Raised till 3rd May 2022, including anonymous donation of £10,000, when I reached £10,000: = **£20,027.76**

What has it involved since the first 'Lock Down'?

Walking along back of my bungalow, down one side and back equals one Circuit. 40 times each day, with help of invalid tricycle. Total Circuits walked - 24,150 or 384 miles (618 km). Equivalent to Sutton Coldfield to Lands End (291 miles) and 93 miles on return journey.

Why have I done it?

Because I have now lost three friends with this terrible disease and there is need to: **Help Sufferers - Research the Cause - Find Treatment - -Discover a Cure.**

An extract from a TV Midlands News film and report can be found by going to `

["BBC Captain Sir Thomas Moore inspires Sutton Coldfield man."](#)

There is a 'JustGiving' account at www.lusigiving.com/Harold-Jones4

Always Remember 'Age is a Number' - God willing, I will be entering my 100th year in July 2022

Best Wishes to Everyone,

Lance CpL Harold



Halfway around



Now for a rest

Neighbourhood Action Co-ordinators

Birmingham City Council's Neighbourhoods Division- NDSU is looking for 10 Neighbourhood Action Co-ordinators as part of a new programme of work seeking to develop new ways of working with the residents, community groups and local partners such as the police. The work will focus on 20 areas of the city with the highest concentration of local environmental/ neighbourhood issues. The focus will be on partnership development and community capacity building to tackle neighbourhood priorities such as street scene and community safety issues as set out in ward plans etc.

The role will require the successful candidates to work closely with the police, ward councillors, residents and relevant stakeholders to link together groups, task council services and develop constructive solutions to the presenting issues. A small grants pot will also be available to support groups in developing ongoing solutions.

You will need the ability to engage with a wide variety of people and be action orientated.

The roles will initially be for a fixed 12 month period, however if the scheme delivers successful outcomes and future years budgets are confirmed there will be an option to make the roles permanent.

You will be required to develop, plan, organise and manage service responses, community activities, programme initiatives and ensure active participation of residents/communities. This will involve close working with the police and developing a neighbourhood tasking approach. You will need to negotiate and liaise with elected members, neighbourhoods forums, committees and voluntary groups to ensure all stakeholders have an input into the events/activities within their area.

You will write reports, action plans and strategies as well as identify and apply for external funding and support residents with grant applications.

You will be committed to motivate, support and influence at all levels through positive relationship building both internally and externally with neighbourhood and community groups to enable Birmingham's neighbourhoods to be thriving, optimistic and resilient.

You will have project development, co-ordination and management skills and have the ability to activate multi agency and community responses to priorities.

An understanding of community work, community safety and street scene issues is desirable. You will have an understanding of equal opportunities in practice and the community cohesion agenda.

You will be able to promote and develop governance arrangements at a local level and be able to communicate and negotiate with a wide variety of people.

You will have the ability to manage small budgets with the pilot having a £10k grant pot per area, as well as be able to draw up and deliver reports/presentations to local audiences.

You must be able to create and maintain effective working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders including elected members and senior officers. You will be able to plan and elevate work carried out.

Informal enquiries to Claire Hardwick, Community Support & Development Officer on 07594 509 938 or email claire.s.hardwick@birmingham.gov.uk

Full information - press the link below

Neighbourhoods Action Co-ordinator in Various Locations - 120486 | WMJobs Internal Opportunities

<https://internal.wmjobs.co.uk/job/120486/neighbourhoods-action-co-ordinator/>

Commonwealth Games Update

In the last issue of Gate Post, I reported (correctly at the time) that the Familiarisation session 1 would be on Wednesday 27th July. This has since changed to Thursday 28th July.

As you will see from the graphic, the Triathlon takes place on Friday 29th July and Sunday 31st July. The triathletes will also be out cycling the route for familiarisation on Thursday 28th July and Saturday 30th July early in the morning.

There will be 2,000 ticketed spectators at Boldmere Gate on each of the Triathlon days and an estimated 20-30,000 non-ticketed spectators, most of whom will be around the cycling route.

Day 1 Friday 29 th July 11am to 4pm Men's Individual Women's Individual	Day 2 Sunday 31 st July 11am to 4pm Men's Para Women's Para Mixed Team Relay
Familiarisation 1 Thursday 28 th July early morning Rolling road closure	Familiarisation 2 Saturday 30 th July early morning Rolling road closure

We now know that the events will start at 11am and that the 'field of play' roads (those which the cyclists will be using) will be fully closed from 9am which means even permit holders won't be able to gain access from this time. All roads due to be closed (see last Gatepost) will be closed from 6am on each event day. The roads will re-open at the end of each day and during Saturday 30th July. 'No stopping' restrictions will be implemented from 6pm on the evening before each event day (Thursday 28th July and Saturday 31st July) and any vehicles remaining at 3am on the event day will be towed away. Streets will also be cleaned overnight.

Flying the Flag for Boldmere Project

We have now started to promote our Flying the Flag for Boldmere Project which is going to be a trail of flags around the Boldmere area. This will incorporate 54 small hard-wearing flags of the Commonwealth on lampposts together with a full-sized flag in the heart of Boldmere and a commemorative plaque at Boldmere Gate in Sutton Park.

We would like to welcome residents and local organisations to adopt a flag. This simply means nominating a lamppost for the flag and promising to check and clean it twice a year and report any faults to us. There is no cost involved and the flags will be installed professionally. This is your chance to 'own' a small part of Boldmere's history. The lamppost (or other proposal if you wish to make one) does not need to be outside your house, in fact it's best if it's not near residential properties as it may upset your neighbours. Examples of good locations are a lamppost by a fence on the corner of a road, a lamppost by a park, a lamppost by a bus stop etc. We welcome adoptions from Banners Gate and New Oscott for those who have a connection with Boldmere. If you would like to adopt a flag, please complete the form at www.boldmere.org/flags by Sunday 8th May 2022. If you're interested in sponsoring the trail, please contact paul@boldmere.org

Be Bold be Boldmere

We are also able to let you know a bit more about the Be Bold Be Boldmere project. This is going to include professional street bunting on Station Road between Sunnybank Road / Western Road and Wylde Green station which will include flags of The Commonwealth and will be installed in time for the Queen's Jubilee as well as being a welcoming feature to the thousands of visitors that will be arriving by train for the Triathlon. We are also progressing with the plans for cross-street banners across Boldmere Road, but as you can imagine, negotiations with landlords and Birmingham City Council take time.

To stay up-to-date with information about the Commonwealth Games and other news in Boldmere, please sign up to our newsletter at www.boldmere.org/newsletter and if you would like to volunteer to join our Commonwealth Games working party then please drop Paul Long an email to paul@boldmere.org indicating how you think you could help with preparations and how you could help on Triathlon days.

This once in a lifetime event where Boldmere is on the world stage will inevitably cause some disruption. I

can now share with you an overview of roads that will be affected by road closures and other restrictions.



Other closed roads:

Boldmere Road (part)
Carnwrath Road
Corbridge Road
Dakeith Road
Denholm Road
Falstone Road
Fir Tree Grove
Gate Lane
Halton Road
Heathlands Crescent
Heathlands Road
Highbridge Road (at Wrekin Road)
Ivy Road
Matfen Avenue
Melrose Avenue
Monmouth Drive (part)
Redacre Road
Stirling Road
Union Drive

All roads on the Triathlon route will be closed. In addition to this, the roads highlighted in red will also be closed:

All residents in these roads will be contacted and given details of how to apply for a permit to exit their road before and after the events. Emergency services will still have access

and registered carers will be able to gain access by showing their ID. Residents will need to apply for permits for non-registered carers.

Permit access only:

Monmouth Drive
(between Stonehouse Road & Somerville Road)
Morven Road
(between Monmouth Drive & Roxburgh Road)
Stonehouse Road (Boldmere Gate)

No stopping:

Braemar Road
(between Roxburgh Road & Somerville Road)

Jockey Road
(between Somerville Road & Birmingham Road)

Roxburgh Road

Somerville Road
(between Jockey Road & Braemar Road)

Continued ...

... continued

There will be a diversion that runs from the Chester Road North at Banners Gate, along Chester Road, then Birmingham Road at The Yenton, through to Jockey Road at The Horse and Jockey. As locals, you will of course be able to work out some of the quicker routes that avoid the junctions at Chester Road Baptist Church and The Yenton, or you'll be leaving your car on the drive and enjoying the fun of the Triathlon.

In future updates, I'd like to let you know about exciting projects that will be delivered through Commonwealth Games funding, details of how you can brighten up your front gardens to celebrate the Commonwealth Games, the Queen's Baton Relay and further details relating to times and restrictions for those affected by road closures.

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If you thought Harold (page 6) sounds like a kind, generous and pleasant man, here's something to change your mind, Darcey. Some "puns for the educated minds" from him!

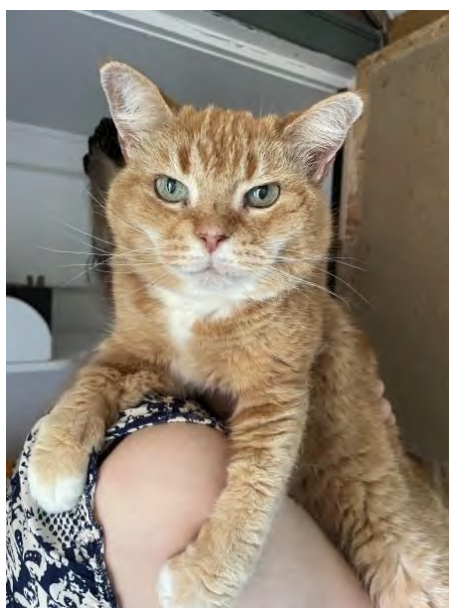
1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
4. If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.
5. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
8. Two silkworms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A backward poet writes inverse.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
11. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
12. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'
13. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab centre said, 'Keep off the Grass.'
14. The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
15. The soldier who survived mustard gas *and* pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.
16. When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
17. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft, unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it.

COULD YOU OFFER A NEEDY CAT A HOME?

A local cat charity – Team Cat Rescue – is appealing for those thinking of adopting a cat or kitten this Summer to check out their catchat.org page or website and see for themselves the needy felines who are currently desperate for a home.

Lynne Buffery, local Coordinator of Team Cat Rescue, is 'puzzled' as to why enquiries to adopt has dried-up – and would so welcome calls to adopt rather than relinquish much-loved pets.

Says Lynne: *"Myself, our fosterers and volunteers, are wondering where all the would-be cat and kitten adopters have gone? We're really puzzled here at Team Cat Rescue as we've not had a single enquiry for a moggie to make life complete for several weeks now. We've checked the telephone line (0121 373 4596), and we know it's working because we've had so many calls from people wanting to relinquish a cat rather than take one on."*



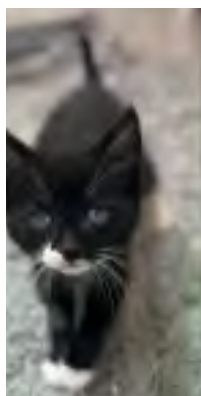
The charity, based in Erdington but covering the whole of North Birmingham and beyond, explained they cannot take a cat into foster care until an in-care cat goes off to its new home.

Adds Lynne: *"We know times are hard for some, what with energy bills and the cost-of-living. But let's not forget the joy-of-loving. Cats bring so much happiness into peoples' lives. I'd like to appeal to all who know us already – and those who don't – to ask friends, family, neighbours and colleagues to consider adopting NOW! The world worries us all – but all a cat needs is a warm space at the heart of a welcoming home."*

** See cats and kittens for adoption on the Team Cat Rescue website and on catchat.org/teamcatrescue. The charity ensures all cats are neutered, chipped, vaccinated and vet-checked prior to adoption. TCR always welcome more volunteers and fosterers. Call Lynne to discuss roles that need covering – from transport to helping at fundraising sales. Donations welcomed too. See the FB page for how to donate.



Penny



Pudding



Jane & Sally



Sally & Jane



Whisper

Trust reveals plans for Sutton Coldfield thanks to grant approvals

[Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust](#), which strives to improve the quality of life in Sutton Coldfield, has announced that eight beneficiaries will receive grants from the Trust this month.

The Trust, which has been in existence for almost 500 years, offers a range of grant programmes to benefit the area and its residents – with a total of £133,490 being awarded to Sutton Coldfield Grammar Schools for Girls, Walmley Tennis Club, Walmley Junior School, Salus Fatigue Foundation, Harvest Fields Community Centre, Town Junior School, Memory Café in Walmley and Sutton Coldfield Acoustic Guitar Club.

The funds will help towards a number of initiatives such as improving playing courts, equipment and venue hire space, as well as a 'Daily Mile' track creation for Town Junior School and funding local support for Salus Fatigue Foundation, to help sufferers of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Over the past few years, the Trust has granted well over £1,000,000 in grants to organisations and individuals across Sutton Coldfield, with plans to continue making vital improvements and helping those in need, in the area.

Tina Swani, chief executive of Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust, said: "It's always great to see the impact that our grants have on the local community. We're dedicated to improving the quality of life in Sutton Coldfield and these grants will help to achieve that."

David Cole, grants manager at Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust, said: "We're proud to support organisations and individuals in need of funds. For those who would like to apply for a grant, it must be for the benefit of residents and organisations within the Borough of Sutton Coldfield.

"For an individual, this can be anyone who is currently a resident in and has lived in one of the council wards of Birmingham City Council known as the Sutton Coldfield constituency for at least five years and is in need."

"We've received a high volume of grant applications in the last year, which is the biggest the Trust has ever seen, and we're proud to have invested more than £423,000 in the past seven months, to support the local community."

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust supports individuals in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, or other disadvantage, and anyone in these categories can make an application for items such as domestic equipment, further education, childcare costs, school clothing grants and to meet other needs.

The Trust also provides school clothing grants, with application forms available through its website and uniforms can also be picked up from a local school. The closing date for receipt of applications is 12pm on Thursday 30 June 2022.

To find out more information about how to apply for a grant or Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust, please visit: www.suttoncoldfieldcharitabletrust.com/alms-houses.htm



Yep, its Eric again!!

During our first time in Venice some years ago, we were approached in St Mark's Square, and offered a free launch ride across the bay, to the island where they make the famous Murano glass.



We were whisked off, my wife and I, in this speedy launch feeling like royalty. At the factory showroom I was very taken with a wonderful chandelier, so encouraged my wife to part with her hard earned Christmas bonus from work, and we bought it for our dining room. We assumed after a hefty purchase the launch would be waiting to return us, but no, we had to wait for the public water bus. The chandelier duly arrived, very well boxed, some weeks later, all in component parts down to the last crystal dropper, no picture and no instructions. I spent the next few weeks with it suspended from a rafter in our garage with frequent enquiries from my wife on whether the various components were correctly located. After several amendments it

was finally installed in our dining room, a constant reminder of an eventful visit to Venice.

Some years later, knowing we had visited Venice, a work colleague asked, my advice? He said, "You and your wife have travelled extensively, what can you advise on a site-seeing?" It transpired that his wife had a big birthday coming up and he wanted to surprise her with a weekend break abroad. He had told her just to have her passport handy, and the destination would be a surprise. I told him we had enjoyed our visit so much the first time, that we were returning. As we talked, coincidentally we were going to be there at the same time. As always one for some fun, I said, "OK, leave it to me, we will meet up there and I'll create a surprise for her. Don't tell her we will be there."

We checked the city map and found their hotel was just a 10 minute stroll away from ours. So I spoke to my friend before we went, and asked him to be in the residents' bar at 8.00pm and not before. He nervously responded, "Why, what are you up to?"

My wife and I went to their hotel the night before they arrived. I spoke to the manager explaining one of their residents would be celebrating a big birthday the next day, and could I don one of the hotel's waiter jackets in the evening, and carry out a tray with champagne and glasses to them. He thought it a wonderful idea and said, "Come into reception when you are ready and we will sort it for you." We then spent most of the next day trying not to be too conspicuous anywhere in Venice and the Grand Canal in case they spotted us. So my wife and I duly arrived at the hotel around 7.30pm and sorted the jacket out with the manager. When I appeared at their table with the champagne and a straight face my colleague's wife, in particular, nearly fainted. She said, "He looks like Eric." to which I replied "Non capisco." (I do not understand). We all fell about laughing.



The favour was returned on the following night when my friend and his wife whisked us on to a gondola for the tourists trip around the back canals and past busy local bars. As a chorister I could not resist standing up and rendering in my brummy tenor voice, "Just One Cornetto." to the tune of you know what, loud applause from all local bars and a wry smirk from our gondolier with what looked like, "Not another one." on his lips.

Eric Jones 2022

*In the directory of phoneses there's a whole host of Joneses.
There are Evanses galore but of Joneses there are more.
I've a feeling in my boneses you can't keep up with the Joneses*

*There are Joneses keeping pubs. there are Joneses teaching cubs,
As they do their grand howell in the steps of Baden-Powell.
You can state it without temerity the knees of Jones will go down to posterity*

Eric, one of the many Joneses

Someone once said that good news doesn't sell newspapers. When I was told this story I certainly bought it, I hope it does something for you.

Rotor Club of Erdington have members in Sutton Coldfield, even one in Monmouth Drive. Here's to more power to their collective elbows.

Click on the link for the full story. <https://www.whatsonlive.co.uk/birmingham/news/rotarians-help-get-homeless-back-on-their-feet/53426>

Local Rotarians have joined forces with a Birmingham charity to help the homeless get back on their feet again – quite literally.

The Rotary Club of Erdington is working with Have A Hart, Help The Homeless to provide chiropody, headed up by Coventry Podiatrist Gary Dancer and NHS footcare assistant Tracey Launchbury from Erdington.

The volunteer team provide nail cutting, hard skin removal and general care and advice as well as handing out free socks at their city centre base in Temple Row. Now they're appealing to the public for more socks donations.



Gary Dancer, who runs Gary Dancer Chiropody, said: "I have done clinics for the homeless for years, often with the Salvation Army. I asked the charity whether this was something that they'd like to introduce as part of their outreach program. They were very enthusiastic and the club wanted to

support it.

"We have partnered with Have a Hart because we have supported their work for a long time. We know that they are a trusted organisation that share our values as Rotarians.

"We provide a basic Chiropody service such as nail cutting, hard skin removal and general care and advice - although we have also needed to provide first aid a couple of times, such as getting glass out of one person's foot. Everyone we treat gets a pair of socks before they go."

He added: "The simple fact is that homeless people have many problems with their feet because of poor shoes and often wet feet for days at a time. This can be very dangerous because it can lead to ulcers and other conditions. The other problem is undiagnosed diabetes combined with drug and alcohol abuse can be lethal. I can detect and give advice about this which hopefully saves big problems later on."

Have A Hart is a non-profit outreach service run by volunteers and takes place at the rear of House of Fraser between 6-9pm on the last Saturday of the month.

Further information at: hartoutreach.org. Men's and women's socks can be donated to Gary by contacting him at: garydancer902@gmail.com

BIRMINGHAM

Bulletin



Welcome to Birmingham Bulletin, with the latest news and events from Birmingham City Council.



Save the date: The Queen's Baton to arrive in Birmingham 27-28 July!

Birmingham 2022 has unveiled the hotly-anticipated route the Queen's Baton Relay will take in the West Midlands, and the rest of the host nation, this summer. Travelling via land, air and sea, more than 180 communities will experience the relay on a route spanning 2,500 miles.

[Find out more about the Queen's Baton Relay route.](#)

Here is something from Ed in California who was in Borneo in the Peace Corp in the 60s the same time as I was there with VSO. The following is from a fellow Peace Corp volunteer of Ed's. Thanks Ed, it brings back happy memories, except for the humidity and the heat and the mosquitoes and ...

We all sent letters home from far-flung Peace Corps locations.

In my case, 50 years later, I decided to combine unique camel hand shadows, dubbing them Humpy, Lumpy and Bumpy - into a video of the song I'd composed in Libya and sent home on tape. (Please click on the link below).

Reactions? "Very clever!" "Hilarious!" "What a total delight!" "It's very funny and really brightened my day." "Five stars." "That is a hoot!" "Thanks for a wonderful laugh." "Wow, what a video!"



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEEuRazE66E>

Here's one from someone a little closer to home, Graham A in fact, in Boldmere.

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a donkey lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the local police station.

The conversation went like this:

"Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?"

"And the best of the day te yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic Church. There's a donkey lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?" Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit and recognizing the Irish accent, thought he would have a little fun with the good father, replied, "Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!"

There was dead silence on the line for a moment . . .

Father O'Malley then replied, "Aye, 'tis certainly true, but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for me call."

Graham A

...and here's one from even closer to home, Hazel P from Banners Gate

A man sees a sign outside a house - 'Talking Dog for Sale.'

He rings the bell; the owner appears and tells him the dog can be viewed in the back garden. The man goes into the garden and sees a very nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

"Do you really talk?" he asks the dog.

"Yes," the Labrador replies.

After recovering from the shock of hearing the dog talk, the man asks, "So, tell me your story."

The Labrador looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I was sold to MI5.

In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one imagined that a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years".

"But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger, so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at Heathrow Airport to do some undercover security work, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded several medals".

"Then I met this amazing bitch, we had a few puppies, and now I've just retired."

The man is amazed. He goes back into the house and asks the owner how much he wants for the dog. "Ten quid," the owner says.

"£10! But your dog is absolutely amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheaply?"

"Because I'm sick of his lying, he's never even been out of the garden."

Hazel P

Lawyers believe a man is innocent until proven broke.

~ Robin Hall

Kill one man and you're a murderer, kill a million and you're a conqueror.

~ Jean Rostand

Having more money doesn't make you happier. I have 50 million dollars but I was just as happy as when I had 48 million.

~ Arnold Schwarzenegger.

We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea.

~ WH Auden

In hotel rooms I worry. Am I the only guy who sits on the furniture naked.

~ Jonathan Katz

If life were fair Elvis would still be alive today and all the impersonators would be dead.

~ Johnny Carson

I don't believe in astrology. I am a Sagittarius and we're very sceptical.

~ Arthur C. Clarke

Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap.

~ Steve Martin

Home cooking. Where many a man thinks his wife is.

~ Jimmy Durante

America is so advanced that even the chairs are electric.

~ Doug Hamwell

The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone.

~ George Roberts

If God had intended us to fly he would have made it easier to get to the airport.

~ Jonathan Winters

Thank you John S



28 artists will show and demonstrate their work – paintings, jewellery, prints, pottery, sculptures, textiles, collages and photography. **Admission Free.**

11th and 12th June 2022

10am – 4pm

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ● 14 Mulroy Road, B74 2PY | ● Sutton Sailing Club, B73 6JL |
| ● Gracechurch Centre, B72 1PH | ● 71 Britwell Road, B73 5SW |
| ● The Duke Pub, 12 Duke Street, B72 1RJ | ● 68 Highbridge Road, B73 5QE |
| ● 12 Somerville Road, B73 6JA | ● 21 Highbridge Road, B73 5QB |



www.suttoncoldfieldarttrail.wordpress.com



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City Council



WEST MIDLANDS
HISTORY
PEOPLE OF BIRMINGHAM AND THE REGION



EVERYTHING TO EVERYBODY

Using Birmingham's forgotten past to inspire our future:

Unlocking the world's first great people's Shakespeare Library for all

What's On | 2022

First Folio Tours

23 rd April	Sutton Coldfield Library
14 th May	Black Country Living Museum
26 th May	Sense Touchbase Pears
11 th June	Selly Manor Museum
18 th September	Highbury Hall
8 th October	Gap Arts
26 th October	The Hive

Family Days in the Library of Birmingham

27 th July with K'antu Ensemble
1 st October Everything to Everybody Fun Palace
Date TBC Promenade Piece by Parrabbola

Exhibitions

Everything to Everybody:
Your Shakespeare, Your Culture
22 July - 5 November
The Gallery, Floor 3, Library of Birmingham

Co-curated exhibitions with project partners, including Stan's
Cafe, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, DESIBlitz, The Hive
Throughout the year
Shakespeare Memorial Room, Library of Birmingham

and other events to be announced!

All information correct at time of printing, please refer to our website and social media pages for up to date project activity. To find out more and how to get involved, visit everythingtoeverybody.bham.ac.uk



Vacancies...

If you have a couple of hours to spare, once a month, to attend our friendly local meetings, and discuss ways to make a difference in our community, we would love to hear from you. You may have expertise such as IT, or just enthusiasm to support our team, which will be great, especially now Covid restrictions have been lifted for us all.

Contact the secretary at: P.Brown148@btinternet.com

Also, look out for our next PUBLIC MEETING, which we are delighted can now resume, face to face, with our friends and neighbours, as before, in our Community Hall, Emscote Drive, Wylde Green, 673 SNE. It will be good to see everyone again and share community matters, hopefully this May, date to be arranged. Watch *this space*.



The little robin on the above right, has lost his/her colour, here is the text that came with the photo.

[chester road station friends](#)

Whilst we were litter picking on Saturday, this little fella followed us around with his red-breasted pal. [@rspca_official](#) have advised that he is indeed a Robin but with a genetic condition called Leucism which is why his colouring appears diluted. Read more about it here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/birdwatching/how-to-identify-birds/abnormal-colouration-of-birds/>. [#wyldegreen](#) [#robinredbreast](#) [#leucism](#)



This Saturday (14 May) is World Migratory Bird Day, and what better way to mark it than looking up to see which wild wanderers you can spot. For some ID expertise, take a look at our short video to learn about swifts, swallows and house martins.

We're also excited to bring you a nest cam special that includes the most majestic of migrants: ospreys (pictured above). These fish-eating birds of prey were once extinct from the UK until a pair returned to Loch Garten in Scotland in the 1950s.

Thanks to dedicated conservation efforts and ongoing support from people like you, ospreys are making a come-back, and this year there are eggs on the nest at RSPB Loch Garten once more. Tune in to our live cam to enjoy all the drama from the comfort of your own home.

As well as **ospreys**, you can also watch nesting **puffins**, **barn owls** and **goshawks** from across our nature reserves.

Have a wonderful wildlife-filled week.



Siân Duncan
Notes on Nature editor

Scam Alert service

How to block nuisance calls

The scourge of cold-calling scammers are forever doing the rounds - either interrupting our evenings or causing us anxiety so we don't even want to pick up the phone. However, there is good news, most of the major landline phone providers now offer a free service to reduce the number of nuisance calls that you receive.

[In this guide, we'll look at how they work and what your options are.](#)

Push payment scams

When a large sum of unsolicited money appeared in Oscar's account, alarm bells started ringing. The money had come from a family member, but they did not make the transfer. After piecing together what happened, they believed scammers had gained access to the family member's account, then selected an existing payee to transfer money out to. Their goal was for Oscar to follow instructions to send it on to the fraudster's own account.

[Here's how the scam worked and how you can stop it.](#)

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.

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DEAD LIES
BY BEST SELLING CRIME WRITER
HILARY BONNER



24-29 MAY 2022
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

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Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

7-11 June 2022

Sutton Coldfield Town Hall | www.trinityplayers.com
Upper Clifton Road, B73 6DA

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GARRICK
ESCAPE ROOM

Escape Room

LG, See webpage for dates

RETURN TO THE MAGIC
SECRETS OF JUMBLEDORE
WILL OF WISDOM
APRIL 8 2022



FILM: Fantastic Beasts 3: The Secrets...

Studio, Friday 20th May & Tuesday 31st May

WALK RIGHT BACK
Selling Fast
THE EVERLY BROTHERS STORY
HARMONIES FROM HEAVEN



Walk Right Back

Main Auditorium, Saturday 21st May - 2.30pm & 7.30pm

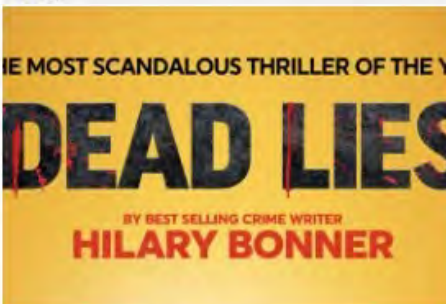


Cult Figure: Kenneth Williams

Studio, Saturday 21st May - 7.45pm

THE MOST SCANDALOUS THRILLER OF THE YEAR


DEAD LIES
BY BEST SELLING CRIME WRITER
HILARY BONNER



Dead Lies

Main Auditorium, Tuesday 24th - Sunday 29th May

I THOUGHT I HEARD A RUSTLING
PLAYWRIGHT: ALAN R. HUGHES
DIRECTOR: GARY COMPTON



I Thought I Heard A Rustling

Studio, Tuesday 24th - Saturday 28th May

Comedy & Talent Workshops
Young Community Drop-In Sessions

Wed 27 Apr – Wed 29 Jun
FREE

YOUNG
COMMUNITY

Birmingham Hippodrome's new Young Community Drop-In Sessions have been developed by our [Young Advocates](#).

The sessions will run on the **last Wednesday of the month, 5.30 – 7.30pm**.

Suitable for anyone aged 14+, these sessions have been designed to be creative outlets for young people and offer spaces to relax, connect with others **and** feel welcome.

The sessions are open to young people of all levels and abilities and our Young Advocates are ready to support anyone who would like a buddy during the session or to have a chat in advance to find out more about the sessions. Please email participation@birminghamhippodrome.com

Back with their biggest comedy catastrophe to date, multi award-winning Mischief (The Play That Goes Wrong, BBC One's The Goes Wrong Show) return to Birmingham Hippodrome with their hilarious new show created with magic legends, Penn & Teller.

A hapless gang of magicians are staging an evening of grand illusion to raise cash for charity. But as the magic turns to mayhem, accidents spiral out of control and so does their fundraising target!

Raising the bar with their dare-devil stunts, jaw-dropping feats an irresistible comedy genius, Mischief's Magic Goes Wrong comes to Birmingham Hippodrome direct from the West End. Book your tickets now, before they vanish out of sight (or sellout!).

Penn & Teller are co-creators of the show and won't be appearing on stage.

Comedy, Drama, Main House
Magic Goes Wrong

Back with their biggest comedy catastrophe to date.

Tue 14 May – Sat 29 May

Tickets from £20

[Book Now](#) [View Trailer](#)

MAGIC
GOES
WRONG

by MISCHIEF and PENN & TELLER



Musicals, Main House
Singin' In The Rain

What a glorious feeling...

Mon 6 Jun – Sat 11 Jun

Tickets from £28

[Book Now](#) [View Trailer](#)



Sam Lips, Charlotte Gooch, Ross McLaren & Jenny Gayner star in Jonathan Church's critically acclaimed production of **Singin' in the Rain**, making a splash in 2022!

Journey back to the glamour of Hollywood during the roaring 20's. Silent movie star *Don Lockwood* has it all, a string of hit films and a studio-engineered romance with the most beautiful actress in town. What Don doesn't know is that the silver screen is about to find its voice, and a chance meeting with a talented young chorus girl set to steal his heart promises to change both Don, and Hollywood, forever.

Andrew Wright's high-energy choreography and Simon Higlett's sumptuous set design (including over 14,000 litres of water on stage every night) combine with the charm, romance and wit of one of the world's best-loved films. *Singin' in the Rain* features the glorious MGM score including *Good Morning*, *Make 'em Laugh*, *Moses Supposes* and the legendary *Singin' in the Rain*.

Don't save it for a rainy day, book your tickets now!

Production photograph by Manuel Harlan

Comedy, Music, Visual Arts
B-SIDE Hip-Hop Festival 2022

Presented as part of the Birmingham 2022 Festival, Birmingham Hippodrome in partnership with Building & Grand Central.

Sat 11 Jun – Sun 19 Jun

FREE



Comedy, Main House
Russell Kane Live: The Essex Variant!

He's back again

Sat 12 Jun

Tickets £28

[Limited Availability](#)



Russell Kane's bringing to town his gut-punch funny, searing, award-winning take on the two years we've just gone through. Hailed as the **Number 1 comedy performance to come out of 2020** (The Guardian are miserable and usually hate everything) – this high-octane show brings nuclear-energy belly laughs and pant-wetting observations which prove laughter really is the best medicine* (*actually, it's probably hospital medicine).

Russell Kane has two chart-topping, award-bagging podcasts: **Man Baggage** and BBC Radio 4's **Evil Genius**. He is a regular on Channel 4, BBC, and ITV: all the usual shows you see funny people on. He's also a writer, actor, and presenter. He drinks lots of coffee and is 'like that in real life'.

He was the first ever comedian to bag the two most prestigious comedy awards on earth in the same year, for the same show: **The Dave's Edinburgh Comedy Awards** (formerly The Perrier), and **The Melbourne International Comedy Festival Award**, (formerly known as the Barry Award). He's also a raving bighead that likes listing his achievements.

Rob Beckett is back on tour with a brand-new stand-up show. It's been a busy few years for the Mouth of the South and he's coming to see you to fill you in and make you laugh. Host of BBC One's *All Together Now* and team captain on Channel 4's *8 Out Of 10 Cats*. He is also the star of BBC One's *Live At The Apollo*, *Would I Lie To You?*, Channel 4's *8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown*, BBC Two's *Mock The Week*, ITV's *Play To The Whistle*, ITV2's *Celebrity Juice* and Sky's *A League of Their Own*. And he is a host of Dave's podcast, *The Magic Sponge*, alongside Jimmy Bullard and Ian Smith.

Comedy, Main House
Rob Beckett - Wallop

He's back on tour

Tue 14 Jun

Tickets £28

[Limited Availability](#)



Dance, Patrick Studio
Desiring God by Mavin Khoo & Akshay Sharma

Stories of love, lust, desire and heartbreak

Wed 22 Jun

Tickets £12

[Book Now](#)



An experiential evening of dance opens with dancer **Akshay Sharma** showcasing a site specific work based on improvisational ideas framed by notions of emotional dislocation told through the lens of desire.

Celebrated international dance artist **Mavin Khoo** then offers his own exploration of these ideas in the format of a chamber concert recital – a *baithak* – within the genre of expressional dance – *abhinaya*. Interweaving personal stories of love, lust, desire and heartbreak, he creates a synthesis between a personal queer narrative and the majestic legacy of Indian classical compositions.

Presented as part of Birmingham International Dance Festival 2022.

All eyes are on Birmingham this summer for the Commonwealth Games – and to mark the moment, BRB's Director Carlos Acosta is bringing together three thrilling works for a triple bill presented as part of Birmingham International Dance Festival 2022. *On Your Marks* celebrates the expressive energy and gravity-defying athleticism of the company's world-class dancers.

Jorge Crezis created the dazzling *12* for Acosta Danza, Carlos Acosta's company – and dancers from BRB and Acosta Danza will be teaming up for the first time to premiere a new version of this 'dance-sport' dive into the power of teamwork, retitled *24*. There'll be a **new work** inspired by the Games from brilliant young Brazilian choreographer Juliano Nunes, whose recent pieces include commissions for NDT2 and Marie-Agnès Gillot. And to close, a dynamic, ecstatic ode to the power of nature and the glory of movement: Will Tuckett's *Lazuli Sky*, set to John Adams's irresistible *Shaker Loops* and premiered by BRB to great acclaim in 2020. No false starts here!

Dance, Main House
Birmingham Royal Ballet - On Your Marks

No false starts here!

Thu 23 Jun – Sat 25 Jun

Tickets from £16

[Book Now](#) [View Trailer](#)





Sutton Coldfield TOWN HALL



0121 296 9543



enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com



TUESDAY 31st MAY - SATURDAY



TUESDAY 7TH JUNE - SATURDAY
11TH JUNE 2022



SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 2022



SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2022



MONDAY 18TH JULY 2022



TUESDAY 16TH AND
WEDNESDAY 17TH AUGUST
2022



SATURDAY 20TH AUGUST 2022



SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER
2022

If you live in England, you can use this service to find a walk-in coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination site. You can get a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine from a walk-in site without an appointment. You do not need to be registered with a GP.

<https://www.nhs.uk/vaccine-walk-in>

You can get these at walk-in sites:

- ✓ 1st and 2nd doses for people aged 5 years old and over
- ✓ boosters for people aged 16 years old and over, plus at-risk children aged 12 to 15 years old
- ✓ spring boosters for people aged 75 years old and over, plus people aged 12 years old and over with a weakened immune system
- ✓ additional primary doses for people with a severely weakened immune system aged 12 years old and over



NATIONAL BLOOD DONATION
Returns on 11 & 19 May, 15 June, 25 & 26 July, 31 August 2022
Appointment only: Tel: 0300 123 2323



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ABOUT LOVE & MARRIAGE

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INCLUDING SATURDAY MATINEES

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**EMILY ARMSTRONG
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book by
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DO YOU KNOW THAT FOR EACH PRODUCTION WE DO IT TAKES A MINIMUM OF
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Dressmaking, Front of House, Fundraising, Publicity, Lighting, Sound
IF YOU ARE A MEMBER AND ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING US WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE PLEASE LET US KNOW.

What's on next at Highbury Theatre?



My Left Foot

7 May 2022 Start time 7pm
Released 1989, duration 1h 43m,
certificate 15

The true story of Christy Brown, born with cerebral palsy into a family of 15. He learns to paint and write with his only controllable limb and becomes a writer and artist.

Are you sorry you missed it? — keep an eye on this page.

Northanger Abbey

7-18 June 2022

Start time 7.30pm

Jane Austen's sparkling satire on fashionable manners and Gothic horror adapted by Tim Luscombe. Catherine Morland is so excited to think she is going to a house where foul crimes and dark secrets may be discovered.

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?



Portrait of a Lady on Fire
25 June 2022 Start time 7pm
Released 2019
Duration 2h
Certificate 15

Classy, subtle, romantic slow burn drama. Artist Marianne and her aristocrat subject Heloise. A love story

Nomadland

16 July 2022 Start time 7pm
Released 2020
Duration 1h, 48m
Certificate 12A

Could well be the best film released in 2020. Frances McDormand is Fern: recently widowed, out of work, and now on the road.

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/>

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Twitter



MMTC are looking for children
to take part in...



OLIVER!

Children's workshop for children aged 8-14:

5th June. 2-4pm.

Moor Hall Primary School, B75 6RE

followed by 'Oliver' workshop for boys aged 8-11.

4-5pm

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www.manormusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk

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Exploring music from 1930s to 70s

Last Thursday of month, 1.00 to 3.30pm. £3.00

SUTTON COLDFIELD TOWN HALL

For further details contact John Bedford
0121 353 5136 or parkcycles@yahoo.co.uk

NOSTALGIC

Join us for a musical walk down memory lane
All your oldtime favourites



Last Thursday of every month
Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
1.00pm until 3.30pm
£3.00 entry Raffle £1.00
Refreshments available

SUTTON COLDFIELD JAZZ CLUB

At Boldmere Sports & Social Club

323, Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield

West Midlands B73 5HQ

Every Wednesday night: 8pm to 10.30pm (Doors open 7pm)

All Welcome-Pay at the Door (No Club Membership Fee)

Live Jazz Bands, Bar, Parking, Dancing & Socialising

We look forward to seeing you to be entertained
for a great night out.



For details of the Bands playing and entrance price, please
see our Facebook Page as listed below:

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

SCCT
Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Contact: Colin – 07966-745741

SUTTON COLDFIELD ACOUSTIC GUITAR CLUB

At The Legion Club, Rectory Road, Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands B75 7AL

The First Tuesday of every month: 8pm to 10.30pm
(Doors open 7.30pm)

All Welcome- Guitarists, Guitar singers, and Listeners.

Pay at the Door (No Club Membership Fee) £3.00 entrance fee

Live Music, Bar, Parking, & Socialising

We look forward to seeing you to be entertained
for a great night out.



For more details, please see our Facebook Page as listed below:

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Sutton-Coldfield-Acoustic-Guitar-Club-109012558287876/>

Or Contact: Sandra on 07932-395158

Or Gary J. ON 07799-111843

SCCT
Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust



Female Barbershop
and Close Harmony
Chorus

FREE SINGING COURSE

Every Monday in March (7th/14th/21st/28th)
At Collingwood Community Centre,
Collingwood Drive B43 7NF
7.45pm - 9.00pm

- 🎵 Do you enjoy singing or want to find out if you do?
- 🎵 Come and have fun with a friendly group
- 🎵 Singing has health benefits so "Sing your way happy"



Contact Elaine
0121 384 4729

E: members@secondcitysound.org.uk
www.secondcitysound.org.uk

f facebook.com/secondcitysound.org.uk
Charity No. 1153445

Community Coffee Morning:

Every Wednesday 10:30am – 12:00noon

At South Parade Methodist Centre

Sutton Coldfield, B72 1QY

Do drop in. **Open to all.** Arrive in the 1st hour
to socialise with friends.



By car: the church centre is approached from
Upper Holland Road (Plantsbrook School) and
using postcode B72 1RB in SatNavs. There is
parking (incl. disabled spaces) around church.

By bus or by train: it is just a short walk across
the ring road, from the town centre.

Whether you're into machine
or hand embroidery, mixed
media or any other form of
textile art, we are here for
you.....!

We have entertaining and
informative speakers, both
local and internationally
renowned, and hold regular
Saturday workshops.



We meet at 7.30, on the first
Thursday of every month at:

Trinity Centre,
Church Hill, (off Mill Street),
Sutton Coldfield.
B72 1TF

See our programme on our
website:

www.suttoncoldfieldcreativestitchers.co.uk



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*for any queries or to book in
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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 People & Flowers Together'.

Next meeting June 14th demonstration
"Woodstock" - Alison Suffolk.

Further details: Chris Reeves 0121 354 6264.

The Sutton Coldfield Fuchsia Society & Gardening Guild.

At our May meeting, we were very pleased to welcome Neil Tyers, a specialist auricular grower. Auriculars are members of the primula family that grow in the mountain ranges of central Europe. This makes them more than hardy for our gardens. They will happily grow in free draining soil in the border, but are often displayed in clay pots, and housed in auricula theatres. With so very many varieties, they are the ideal plant for the collector, as there is always a new variety to be found. Much to the members delight, Neil bought along a selection of plants for sale! At next month's meeting we will be welcoming Robert Barlow talking about hostas, a very popular garden plant. Hopefully he will have some inside tips on how to keep the slugs and snails from our precious plants. Again, there will be plants for sale. I am delighted to report, that since reopening in August last year, our numbers are creeping up, each month we see new faces. In August we are putting on a show, at Banners Gate Community Church, and will hopefully be displaying lots of fuchsias along with many other garden plants. There are a couple of classes for house plants, and flower arranging, so even if you no longer get your hands mucky, there is something for you. Please come along and join us, we meet the second Thursday of each month, from 7.30 till 9.45, and I guarantee you a warm welcome. If you would like any more information please gibe Gail, our secretary, a ring on 0121 353 3373



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Birmingham



Summer is around the corner
and now is the time to get
your garden ready.

Whatever your garden needs
we have vetted and DBS
checked gardeners. Call one
of the team on 0121 362 3650
to find out more.



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

Suzu Summerfield

07940 709 314

Email: s.summerfield@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk



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2nd Saturday of the Month

Tamworth Ankerside
4th Saturday of the Month

Plus scan here
for a full list of
additional dates..



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07305 564 108



Digital Future- Learn Digital Skills For Free!

Age Concern Birmingham will be working alongside Good Things Foundation in an exciting new project. As part of the Government funded Community Renewal Fund, many 18-65 year olds living in the West Midlands will be eligible to receive free digital skills sessions at Age Concern Birmingham on Boldmere Road.

Over half of participants will also be eligible for a tablet that they may keep free of charge. If you would like to develop employability skills, progress to further education or simply learn more online skills and you meet the following criteria then please get in touch!

Eligibility criteria:


Between 18-65 years old - Live in West Midlands - In insecure employment, such as part time or zero hour contracts, unemployed or a carer - Are not currently enrolled on a further education course - Have low skills or experience on a technological device.


Then get in touch with us via: **Phone-** 07432739018

Email- joe.millington@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk



DEVELOP SKILLS WITH DIGITAL FUTURE





AGE CONCERN BIRMINGHAM ARE WORKING WITH GOOD THINGS FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE FREE AND ACCESSIBLE TRAINING SESSIONS TO HELP YOU REACH YOUR DIGITAL GOALS


THE SESSIONS ARE AIMED AT PEOPLE WHO WANT TO PROGRESS TO FURTHER EDUCATION, GAIN EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS OR SIMPLY WANT TO LEARN BASIC DIGITAL SKILLS

OVER HALF OF PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A NEW TABLET FREE OF CHARGE

THE PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE UK GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND

IF YOU ARE BETWEEN 18 AND 65 AND COULD BENEFIT FROM THIS TRAINING THEN CONTACT US

Get In Touch


Address

76-78 Boldmere Road,
Sutton Coldfield, B73 6TJ

Phone

07432739018

Email Address

joe.millington@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk





We are sorry that we could not publish the items below sooner, but reading them will give you some idea of what is on offer locally. Hopefully, the next time we receive such an item it will coincide with our publication date. Watch this space, as they say!



Birmingham 2022 Common Wealth Events May

Boxer Beat Premier Thursday 12th May 2022, Sutton Coldfield Town Hall

We have been working on a collaboration project between local musicians, videographers, photographers and members of Rectory Amateur Boxing Club. We have created a short film exploring the relationship between rhythm and boxing and allowing Rectory's boxers to collaborate with musicians to create some electronic music.

There will be a screening taking place Thursday 12th May at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, alongside a DJ, videos and the bar will be open. This is a free event you just need to book a ticket via Eventbrite. Come along and support a truly unique project and support your local arts community and sports hubs.

Ticket Link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/boxer-beat-tickets-329785987767>

Other Isles Saturday 21st May 2022, Midlands Greek and Cypriot Centre

We've also supported a project taking place in Stockland Green Erdington. Other Isles is an evening of poetry, live music, films and food all featuring artists from the Maltese and Cypriot Diaspora. We are also putting on a free beginners Maltese language workshop for anyone who is interested in learning this unique language. We have artists from across the midlands and special commissions from Malta and Cyprus being showcased on the night.

Tickets are free to both the event and the workshop you just need to book a place.

Maltese Language Workshop - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/other-isles-maltese-language-workshop-tickets-324139599267?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Event Ticket Link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/other-isles-21-may-tickets-324211995807?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Hope Food North Birmingham

Hope Food have taken over the management of the food donation point at the Town Hall.

The driving force behind the donation point set up two years ago was Town Hall volunteer Terry Dockery, pictured here holding the Tesco sign with Town Hall manager Julie Rennison.

Terry and Julie were on hand to meet Hope Food trustees and local residents who regularly donate food at the Town Hall point.

The main picture shows Joan James (who collects food from her neighbours and donates weekly) and Hope Food trustees Teresa Clements, Brian Woolcock and Deb Middleton. Another regular food donor, Nikki Wright, was also on hand to see the handover.

Moving forwards Hope Food will oversee the distribution of food donations to the same existing local foodbanks who already benefit from the donations, including Hope Food itself.

The Town Hall donation point will be open every Friday from 10am to 2pm. If you can drop off any of the following it would be most appreciated by those in need in our community: tinned food, rice, pasta, noodles, sauce jars, cereals, squash, long life milk, tinned fruit and desserts and biscuits.

Thank you.



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
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
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FREE
fruit, veg, milk
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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
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



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,
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West Midlands.
B73 6RR

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

NO BOOKING NEEDED!
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imagiplaytoddlergroup@gmail.com  .com/imagiplaytoddlergroup



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

Streety Classes coming soon...

To book your place go to:
<https://kiddibops.class4kids.co.uk>
or contact us at:
info@kiddibops.co.uk or 07807 551661
www.kiddibops.co.uk www.facebook.com/kiddibops

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

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Contact number above if interested.

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AGE concern Birmingham

Do you have any jobs around the home that need some attention?

Spring is the perfect time to get the little jobs done.

Our Trusted Tradesperson Scheme has the right trade, whatever your job. From builders to plumbers and electricians all of our tradespeople are vetted, DBS checked and working to current guidelines.

We also work with many partners including legal and independent financial advice and are a Stannah Stairlift demonstration centre.

So whatever your need, call the team on 0121 362 3650 to find out more.



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
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

communit^{ea} cafe AGEconcern Birmingham

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Free refreshments

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Every Monday

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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

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Thornhill Road

Streetly, B74 3EH

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sue.bevington@suttoncoldfield.homeinstead.co.uk

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Sutton Coldfield
B72 1PH

0121 323 4200



www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk
Charity no: 517303

FREE WEEKLY WOMEN'S GROUP AT 610 COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Starting Monday 7th March 2022, 12.30pm – 2.00pm
- Come along for conversation and fitness: meet new friends and build your confidence.
- Share your voice, help us to shape this group and have fun getting a little bit fitter. We'd love to meet you!
- Refreshments and creche provided for 0-5years – limited spaces, will be booked on first come first served basis.
- Please wear comfortable clothing and rubber soled footwear
- For further information or to book your place please contact Shantel Carty on 07305 056450



610 Community Centre
Kingstanding Road
Birmingham
B44 9SH

birmingham settlement
developing communities, changing lives



birmingham settlement
developing communities, changing lives

Digital Skills Job Club & Employment Support

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and looking
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nasar.mahmood@bsettlement.org.uk

Job Club offers:

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610 Community Centre
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Birmingham
B44 9SH



www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk
Charity no.: 517303



Cafe Oasis

We are now OPEN !!

**Monday, Tuesday,
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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

or find us on Facebook

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



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Cafe Oasis supported by Volunteers and Staff at Sutton
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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

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

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Email: dementiacarers@birminghamcarershub.org.uk

birmingham
carers hub

AGE concern

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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
info@5kyourway.org | www.5kyourway.org | @5kyourway

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




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

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

The next is on 21st June

at 10 o'clock.

Hall's Gardens

Garden Maintenance Services

Gary Hall

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

garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk



we are here to listen, call today

Val: 07964 213 229 / Kellyanne: 07986 952 546

New Horizons Counselling Services.

The Community Hall, Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield.

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

Or visit our web site www.newhorizonscounselling.org.

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)

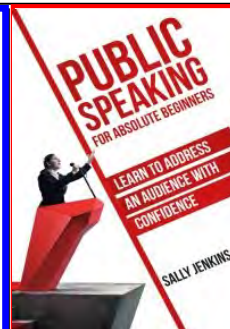
The Jarrett room is approx. 13' x 8'
(4m x 2.5m)

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



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sallysjenkins@btinternet.com 0121

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Banners Gate

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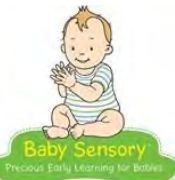


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BERT & GERT'S
We are not just one independent shop, we are a collection of small independents. We are local businesses that have greater strength in working together.
The products we sell include items we have designed, made or sourced ourselves. Whether handmade with love or chosen with great care, shopping with Bert & Gert's will always be a different, unique experience.
Our aim is to support, encourage & promote small local businesses.
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Calebs Rainbows is the dream of Rosemary Ferrell a great grandmother with a passion for making beautiful dolls with a story. "Every doll is different". Rosemary loves all things creative, be it sewing, knitting, drawing, or baking and she has, having been to college, decided to turn her hobby into a business as there is a demand for her products. Initially, her hand drawn cards and posters sold quickly, then she was asked to make some Bible Characters for a friend, having seen these people requested more. This also gave Rosemary the incentive to start making Rag Dolls, which she makes with love and care and each one comes with its own story on a scroll.
at Bert & Gerts

St Columba's Church Hall

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st.columbahall@yahoo.com

Banners Gate Community Church - Events

Monday, Thursday, Friday - Baby Phonics

Contact email: Jenna@robotreg.co.uk for times and availability

Tuesday and Wednesday - Baby Sensory

Contact Tracy at email: suttoncoldfield@babysensory.co.uk for times and availability



Coffee & Cake

Friends bring happiness into your life best friends bring coffee

Our brand new Coffee & Cake event is happening every alternating Friday (Please check the events for dates). Join us for a cup of coffee or tea, a cake, and a friendly chat.

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



DAY/TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE	CONTACT	TEL.
Sun (1st) 11.00 –2.00 pm 3 - 7pm 10.00 am 1st Sunday of month 9.00-11 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 3.00—7.00 pm 7.30—8.30pm	Create at Gate with K & S Global Communion Family Communion Loveworld Church Family Worship Chikara Karate Kai Love world Church Soul Yoga	Community Hall Banners Gate CC St. Columba's Community Hall Banners Gate CC Scout Hall Community 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
For details see website at www.stcolumbasbannersgate.co.uk www.bannersgatechurch.com				
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 3rd in month 9.15 - 12.00pm 6.30 – 7.30 & 7.30 – 9.00 7.45 pm	Stay in Focus Fitness Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	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 - 7 pm 7.15—8.15 7.00 pm	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Imagi-Play Mid-week Service Bible Study I 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—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 Cunnington 07870 Josie Orme	40 39 43 55 16 61 61 43 10 897 900 82 98 37 352 1042
Friday 7.00 - 8.00 pm Saturday 8.30—9.30 am	Sign Language Classes Soul Yoga	Community Hall	Shakila Kosar	
BOOKING SECRETARIES: 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

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BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE

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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. 16th June Queen's Jubilee Celebration

Thurs. 21st July Howard Drury - Gardens

No meeting in August

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

29 MAY Living Content. Philippians 4:10-23
 Sunday, May 29, 2022
 10:30am-12:00pm
 Westwood Hall

Small Groups
For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them

Our ladies group is up and running and we are hoping to start a men's group shortly. Make new friends and learn about the bible in a more social and informal setting.

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

33rd Sutton Coldfield Scout Group,
 H.Q. Coppice View Road

Monday Beavers 5.30 p.m. – 6.45 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
 Scouts 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. ages 10 ½ – 14 years
 Tuesday Beavers 5.40 p.m. – 6.40 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
 Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years
 Thursday Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years
Contact 0121 353 5203
 Email: margaretdrummond1@btinternet.com



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

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