

Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

196th August 2025

bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com

If you want **Gatepost** emailed to you, including cartoons and puzzles, in full colour, wherever you live, **free** of charge, every month, please send an email to bgatepost@gmail.com with "Email Gatepost" in the subject line. Alternatively, you can click on the address under the date above.

Cancer screening bus is coming to Tesco, New Oscott, on Wednesday 10th September, 9.30am - 3.30pm



Rob Pocock: SUTTON PARK AUTUMN NATURE AND WILDLIFE TOUR

I'm writing this Gatepost piece this month from sunny Swanage on the

Dorset coast – my favourite summer holiday hideaway! Looking ahead to autumn however it's already time to plan for the annual woodland and heathland wildlife walk that I have arranged for several years now in Sutton Park, led by Matthew, our amazingly knowledgeable Senior Park Ranger. This year it's scheduled for the morning of Saturday 27th September, starting 11am from the Visitors Centre. If you're interested in coming along it's by invitation to control numbers, so just drop me an email to rob.pocock@birmingham.gov.uk

I started these tours when the felling started in the holly woods, and then moved on to overgrowth and silver birch woods on the heathland area. "What's going on?" I kept getting asked. "Birmingham Council is trashing our precious woodlands!". Well nothing is further from the truth, as is now becoming ever more apparent as the years go by. The work is part of the long-term restoration of the 'medieval managed landscape' which has its history stretching back to the Tudor period. Don't forget, Sutton Park is not a natural open space, it is man-made, everything from the pools to the woodlands to the heathland, all was created by land management in the medieval period and even stretching back to the first human

inhabitants who took up residence here 6,000 years ago.

So the annual tour is a brilliant showcase for how, after a century or more of neglect, the original managed landscape is now being restored through a planned schedule of woodland and heathland restoration. On the walks we can now see sunny woodland glades springing up where once the woodland floor was dark and dead. New undergrowth is sprouting with saplings of rowan trees and bilberries, and on the heath there is new scrub and gorse where excessive birch cover had removed this valuable habitat.

So come and witness the rebirth of a world first created many years ago! It's just 90 minutes with the excellent guide ranger Matt, a trip you will never forget.

A LAST WORD ON FLAGS...

Finally, as I have said before, I keep party politics out of these Gatepost articles, this is not a place for all that. So, in regard to the current discussion about 'flags', all I want to say is to clarify any misunderstandings about the Council's position. Anyone is free and welcome to display a national flag on their property. Flags or posters can indeed also be put on to Council items such as lamp posts if a recognised community group applies for permission in the proper way – as is done for the Sutton Fun Run, scouts' events,

Editor: Tony Willis, Tel: 0121 605 4947, or bgatepost@gmail.com Next deadline: September 25th

Boldmere Futures signage etc. The permissions state which posts can be used and the safe attachment of the item. Random residents putting up random flags without approval is not permitted, whoever they are and whatever the item.



Max Hatton: Hello Gatepost Readers!

I hope you're all soaking up the last few days of the summer holidays - whether you're making the most of the sunshine or enjoying some well-earned rest

you can even get the train direct at a reasonable price! In fact, the train passes through a section of the Cambrian Coast, a beautiful part of our country.

before the busy autumn season begins. We've had some excellent weather over the last few weeks, I've put my BBQ to good use! I also enjoyed a few days in Barmouth, North Wales at the start of August, a holiday hotspot close to many Brummies hearts! Barmouth beach is only a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Birmingham, or

students who've recently received their results! No matter what grades you achieved, be proud of the hard work you've put in. And if things didn't go exactly to plan - don't be disheartened. I didn't get into my first-choice university either, but my insurance choice turned out to be a far better fit in the end. Sometimes, life's detours lead us exactly where we need to be.

In local news, we're excited to share that the Sutton Coldfield Farmers Market is back on Sunday, 31st August! It's a fantastic opportunity to support local producers, sample fresh seasonal goods, and enjoy the vibrant community atmosphere. Whether you're after artisan bread, locally grown veg, or a treat or two, there'll be plenty to explore.

Our next Full Town Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd September from 7pm at the Trinity Centre, hope to see you there. Until then Gatepost readers, have a great month!

A huge congratulations to all GCSE and A Level

The next Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum meeting is on Thursday, 25th September, 7.30pm at the Community Hall in Reay Nadin Drive, B73 6UR. It is an open meeting and all are welcome. Coffee/tea and nibbles provided.

BANNERS GATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Together with

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

ARE ORGANSING A FASHION SHOW OF OVERMAKES OF HIGH STREET STORES. PRICES OF GARMENTS ARE REASONABLE.

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 1-30 AT

THE COMMUNITY HALL, REAY NADIN DRIVE.

TICKETS ARE LIMITED. COST OF £5 ENTRY TO INCLUDE A GLASS OF WINE. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO GUIDE DOGS.

TO OBTAIN TICKETS PLEASE TEXT 07964 213 229, STATING NUMBER REQUIRED. YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR SIX MODELS FOR THIS EVENT, WHICH IS A VERY RELAXED, FUN AFTERNOON.

John Cooper: John.cooper@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk



Another month passes and another matter comes to the fore, presenting residents of the Town with yet another invasion into our lives. This time it is Labour BCC charging to park your car in Sutton Park, the fact that there are very few suitable parking places in the park doesn't seem to matter. Until 29 August Labour BCC is running a consultation* to get a feel for your thoughts on this proposal, hoping I assume that we will all be very happy to

pay to park in our park. On the 26th August they plan a Teams* (on Line) meeting to allow us all to raise questions and offer views. The last time they introduced this plan they held a face to face meeting at the Town Hall, in the words of the officer who headed the meeting they got "Roasted" when the financial madness was illustrated and withdrew the whole idea.

Parks are a place to take your leisure, to play games with children, to meet friends, to walk your dog, or just walk or run with friends or in many cases just sit and enjoy the views, nature and wildlife, not to mention it being contrary to BCCs "Well Being" policy. Do they presume that everyone walks to hire a bicycle at Banners Gate to exercise in the park?

As an individual if I "max out" my credit card the solution does not improve by getting another card to borrow more. In this case we have a Bankrupt Labour City Council and its solution is to take a loan of £700,000 to equip the park in some way to allow us to pay for parking. They plan to pay this back over two years and then they just might spend a few pennies on the park, desperately in need of maintenance following 50 years of neglect. They have already illustrated to us all they are financially incompetent, they really don't need to keep proving it.

I would urge you all to express your views on this unwanted madness by opposing the plan or of course support the plan if you feel it to be a good plan. Whether Labour BCC will have taken any of this into account must be viewed as doubtful, as it seems minds were made up and closed to any other views long ago.

It must be clear that Labour BCC see RSC as over privileged and undeserving, they have raised over £10m in the last two Council Tax rises and not one penny of which has been spent in our Town, this absence of investment following the closure of the Red Rose Library with two of our remaining libraries in Boldmere and Walmley, under threat of closing soon. We have also lost our Nursery on Coleshill Road, our Police Station reduced to a cottage facility to cover our 100,000 population. The Town Council has taken on all florals throughout the Town, which it now has to buy outside and also cover planting and maintenance of same. After eight long years negotiating with Labour BCC the Town Council is nearing the end of taking over ten allotment sites in Sutton Coldfield, these he been progressively invested in to make improvements, so very neglected by Labour BCC. The Town generally looks good because of the work of the Town Rangers, often unnoticed and taken for granted. Your Precept is wholly spent to the good of our Town.

Time for change May '26

*Sorry to say that by the time you read this, both the Teams meeting and the consultation period will have ended, I sincerely hope that you expressed your view for or agin.

<u>John.cooper@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk</u>

John Cooper August '25

https://suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Strategic-Plan-Consultation.pdf

townrangers@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk johncooper@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk



Anja Pawson

Local Campaigner in Sutton Vesey

Vice-Chair of Friends of Boldmere Spinney, Primary School Teacher, School Governor, busy Mum of two

Our Community Action across Sutton Vesey





Fly-tipping reported and cleared in Sutton Park.

Some highlights from our hands-on action in August — from graffiti clean-ups and litter picks to working with PCSOs to keep Sutton Vesey safe and welcoming.





Graffiti removed from substation fence in Sutton Park by National Grid.



'Cuppa with a Copper' with our PCSOs in our local Communitea Café in **Boldmere**.



Raising
awareness of the
City Council's
consultation on
parking charges
in Sutton Park,
which we are
campaigning
against.





Anja and John meeting residents at Banners Gate Community
Hall on Reay Nadin Drive.

If we can assist you with any issues, please email us at: veseyward@gmail.com

and

follow us on Facebook/Instagram via VeseyNews





Monday

Carers Hub drop-in: 9.30am until 12pm - weekly

Our advisors can provide information and advice today. Pop in and have a chat, no appointment necessary.

Knit and Natter: 10am until 12pm - weekly

Join our team of knitters and enjoy some great company along with a cuppa and maybe even a slice of cake.

Tuesday

Allotment Group: 10am until 12pm - weekly

Talk all things gardening with the Communitea Allotment group, you will find us at the allotment if the weather is nice.

Dementia Carers drop-in: 10am until 12pm - weekly

Drop in advice and information for unpaid dementia carers.

Stroke Support Group: 10am - 2nd and 16th Only

Bringing together friends and families who have experienced the impact of stroke through our supportive group.

Friends For Life Veterans Group: 1pm until 3pm - weekly

Our group aims to bring together all ex service personnel to make new friends.

Wednesday

Community Police drop-in: 11am until 12pm- 3rd and 17th Only Come along to meet and chat to a Police officer

Advice Cafe: 11am until 1pm - weekly
From benefits advice to saving energy at home. No need to book, just drop in.

Friendship Group: 11am until 1pm - weekly

Come down for a chat and a cuppa - everyone welcome!

Digital Inclusion 3pm until 4pm - weekly

Joe will be in the cafe lending a hand for all your tech needs!

Thursday

Parkinson's UK: 10am until 12pm - 4th and 18th Only

A group welcoming those with Parkinson's and their families and

Social Worker drop-in: 10am until 1pm - weekly
Come along to meet and chat to a social worker - ask us anything

Knit and Natter: 2pm until 3:30pm - weekly

Join our team of knitters and enjoy some great company along with a cuppa and maybe even a slice of cake.

Craft and Knit Group: 10am until 12pm - weekly

Come along to our new craft group, previously held at the Sutton Library. Don't forget to get yourself a cuppa and maybe even a

Friday

Art Group: 10am until 11.30pm - weekly

A friendly art group working with various mediums from charcoal and acrylic paints to lino printing. We create artwork in a relaxed positive environment.

Advice Cafe: 11am until 2pm - weekly

One of our friendly Advice and Information team will be on hand to help with your queries - from benefits advice to saving energy at home. No need to book, just drop in.

Chatty Cafe: 2pm until 4pm - weekly

Come down for a chat and a cuppa - everyone welcome!

Saturday

Legal Services Drop In: 10am until 12pm - 6th September Only Drop in to speak to our legal partner Jane from Wills Made Clear if you need advice on a will, lasting power of attorney or trusts!

Sutton Coldfield's new police station opens to serve community



Sutton Coldfield's newly re-developed police station opened today (Tuesday 22 July), to serve the community for years to come.

Existing police buildings on the Anchorage Road side of the site, have now been redeveloped with the addition of a former small business property next door.

This has created a bespoke new location for neighbourhood teams, emergency response officers, local crime investigators, offender management and other policing functions which were dispersed around the site previously.

One of the key developments was the creation of a public contact office where people can talk to us if they prefer face to face over telephone and online options.

Cash from the sale of the old site – which will also pay for the new station - will be reinvested into policing, safeguarding officer numbers and services at a time when budgets are under continued pressure locally and nationally. The sale of our surplus buildings on the Lichfield Road side of the site provides good value for the public purse and local people.

The old station cost over of £500,000 each year to run, excluding annual maintenance costs and essential upgrades such as those needed to its 66-year-old heating system as well as critical safety and security systems.

The decision to close the former station on Lichfield Road was made in March 2018 following careful scrutiny at a public meeting of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

As part of that decision, a pledge was made to maintain a police presence in the town.

The re-development was delivered on time and to a tight budget, using local businesses employing local people.

The old station was largely vacant due the way we work in the 21st century and my commitment to keep officers out on the streets serving their communities. The building was also very expensive to run.

Instead, we made use of the land and buildings we already had, and thanks to the purchase of an adjoining property, we've been able to create good, modern facilities for our officers and a public contact office.

There's no doubt that the redeveloped footprint is smaller than the old facility but there is no reduction in officer numbers serving the town. It is people with the right skills and equipment which keep people safe, not bricks and expensive empty rooms which cost a fortune to heat and maintain.

The new building benefits from new CCTV, solar panels, electric vehicle charging and LED lights to reduce energy costs.

Some officers had already moved into the new space ahead of the official opening.

The independent website <u>crimerate.co.uk</u> shows that Sutton Coldfield the safest place in the West Midlands.

<u>Current priorities for police in the area</u> include reducing business crime, stopping antisocial behaviour and increasing their visibility.

The Police and Crime Commissioner owns all West Midlands Police buildings. The Chief Constable is responsible for how we use those buildings, to enable police officers to keep people safe.

The decision to acquire or dispose of sites is made by the PCC, based on operational policing recommendations made by the Chief Constable. The recommendations are fully scrutinised in public meetings with the relevant documents published on the PCC's website.

You can watch a film of the new station on our YouTube channel.



Sent By jan s Police, Communications Manager, Corporate Communications)



Holland House Children's Centre

Holland Road, B72 IRE Telephone, O121 752 1860 Open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

> Limited parking is Pay and Display

> > Falcon Lodge Methodist Church

Newdigate Road, B75 7ER

Street parking only







Emmanuel Church

Corner of Little Green Lane and Birmingham Road, B72 1YG

Car park available



18/08/2025 - 22/08/2025



Tuesday

Music and Movement

1:30pm-2:30pm (0-5 years)

Holland House CC



Wednesday

Play and Learn

9:45am -11:15am (0-8 years)

Emmanuel Church



Thank you for spending the summer with us!









amy.millichope@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE -

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA -

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN -

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BEEFEATER -

Kids Eat FREE with Newsletter Voucher this Summer

BELLA ITALIA -

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BILLS -

Kids Eat Free weekdays, 21st July - 29th Sept

BREWERS FAYRE -

Kids Eat FREE with Newsletter Voucher this Summer

BREWDOG -

2 Kids eat free with 1 adult, 19th July - 31st August

BURGER KING -

From 28th July - 31st August, Kids Eat Free (via app)

CHIQUITO -

Kids eat FREE Daily Until August 31st

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES -

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FRANKIE & BENNY'S -

Kids Eat Free from 14th July - 31st August 2025

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS -

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HARVESTER -

Kids eat for £1, Mon - Fri via the App

HUNGRY HORSE-

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

LAS IGUANAS -

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

IKEA -

Kids get a meal for 95p daily from 11 am

MARCO PIERRE WHITE -

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS -

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM -

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

PREMIER INN & TRAVELODGE -

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO-

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA-

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS -

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS -

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE -

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TESCO -

Kids Eat FREE with a 60p spend until Aug 31st

TGI FRIDAYS -

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK -

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TOBY CARVERY -

Kids eat for £1 all day (weekdays) until Aug 29th

WHITBREAD INNS -

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI -

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI -

Kids eat free this summer holidays (ex Saturdays)



amy.millichope@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

PHOTO COMPETITION



SOUL OF SUTTON - CALL FOR ENTRIES







THEMES

FIND OUT MORE:

- 1 CREATIVITY AND CULTURE
- 2 SUTTON THROUGH THE SEASONS
- 3 LIFE IN SUTTON COLDFIELD



Deadline:

Midday 10 September 2025

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTO











Simply School Supplies



Simply School Supplies is the new trading name of Uniform Reborn. Our mission is to distribute donated school uniform and supplies from the local community to families in the North Birmingham and surrounding areas.

Upcoming Events

Every 3rd Sunday of each month a scheduled pop up is held in conjunction with St Columbas C of E Church, Banners Gate, B73 6TX – 'Crafternoon' session that runs between 4 and 5pm.

Other pop ups will be advertised as and when they occur in the lead up to the new school year.

More Information can be found at www.simplyschoolsupplies.co.uk or contact us directly at enquiries@simplyschoolsupplies.co.uk



The Allotment Year

Managing an allotment is hard work but very rewarding especially when you eat freshly harvested fruit and vegetables. The secret of managing an allotment is planning, noting that climate change and weather can alter that plan. Every year is different but starting an '1 annual plan" each year is the start of managing your allotment. Generally, the following basic monthly guide is the start of the plan.

<u>January:</u> Plan the planting for the coming Spring/ Summer seasons, thinking about crop rotation and companion gardening. Tidy up the allotment, build new raised beds if you use them. Plant Garlic, Rhubarb, Brussel Sprouts, young Apple, Pear and Plum trees and fruit bushes but don't dig the soil if there is a heavy frost.

<u>February:</u> If it is a mild winter think about digging in compost into the existing soil and adding nutrients ready for the coming Spring. Plant Broad Beans, Carrots, Leeks, Onions, Peas, Cabbage if the weather is right.

<u>March:</u> Soil should be warming now but don't start too early, it's better to be late if the soil is cold, crops will always catch up. Sow Brassicas, Beetroot, Lettuce, Parsnips, Radish Kale and plant early potatoes.

April: Earth up potatoes by covering up the soil to the top leaves. Rhubarb should be ready to harvest; the first crop is always the best!

May: Main planting season for vegetables, sweetcorn etc., Plant second early and main

crop potatoes.

<u>June:</u> Summers now appear to be hotter and drier than in previous years, careful watering of crops in the early morning or late afternoon. Plants won't grow without water.

July and August: Start to harvest your crops and enjoy what you have grown.

September and October: Start to dig over harvested plots in preparation for the next year.

November: Plant fruit trees, add manure or compost to the soil and cover any plants with fleece to protect them from frost.

<u>December:</u> Always remember the wildlife. Birds and small animals will need some help with food and water.

<u>And then it all starts again!</u> Happy Gardening, it keeps you fit, you don't need Gym membership.

Birmingham Male Voice Choir

Featuring

Guest Artistes

Blue Sky Brass



Saturday 18th October 2025

Start 7.00 pm

St Columba's Church, Banners Gate Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6TX

Tickets £15 (to include light refreshments)

Available from

Meirion Bowen: 07766 301677

Warren Woodcock: 07305 971506

Francis Beirne: 07502 021179



WELCOME TO BIRMINGHAM BULLETIN

The latest news and events from Birmingham City Council.







Improving standards in privately rented homes



£450K in fines issued as Birmingham City Council cracks down on unlicensed rental properties

We are encouraging landlords to act urgently and apply for a relevant licence or face fines of up to £30,000

FALCON LODGE COMMUNITY FORUM



ဥ္ကည္မွ COMMUNITY EVENT ဥည္က





Join us for a friendly and informative event bringing together a range of local organisations that provide services and support to the Falcon Lodge community.



FALCON LODGE METHODIST CHURCH

NEWDIGATE RD, B75 7LB



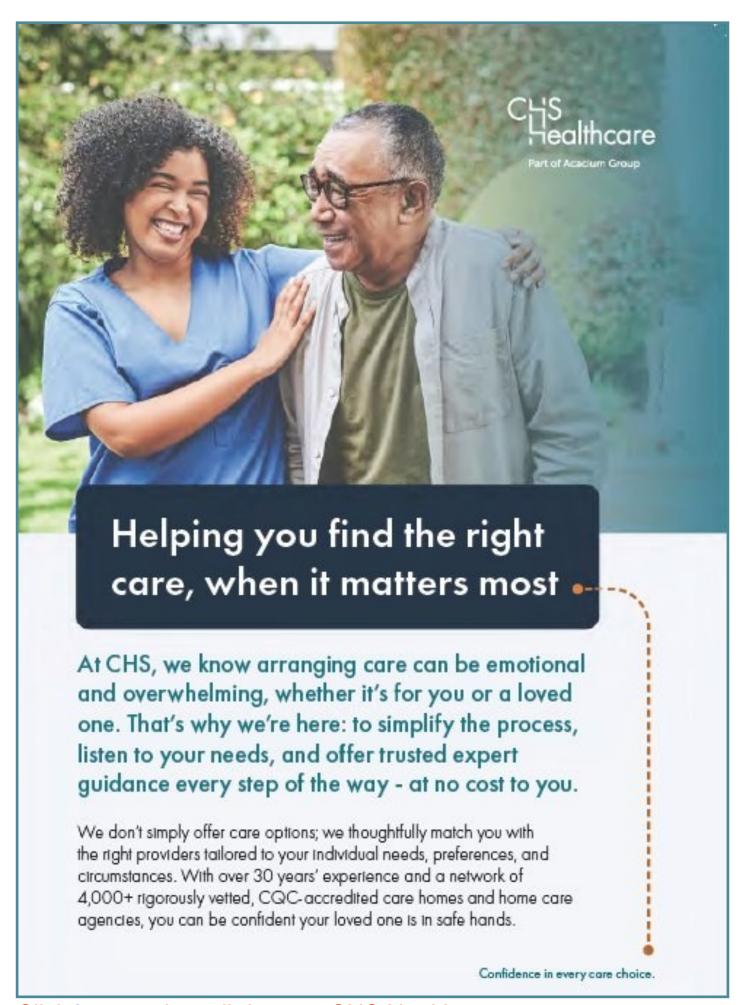
WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER



4:00PM - 7:00PM



For more information, please email enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk or call 0121 663 1765



Click here and scroll down to CHS Healthcare.

Visitors should read the full information on our website even if there is no need to book for a particular event, so that they avoid a wasted journey to an event that is perhaps not suited to them.

Visitors and participants in any of these activities must be aware of access arrangements, the nature of some historic buildings and the need to wear appropriate clothing and footwea

Sutton Coldfield Heritage Network (SCHN) was formally constituted in 2023. The current committee members are: Marian Baxter, Claire Bridges, Benjamin Parker and Stella Thebridge (Hon. Secretary)

SCHN is a gathering of heritage and historical societies, venues and individuals currently including:

- Bishop Vesey's Grammar School
- Emmanuel Church, Wylde Green

- Friends of Wylde Green Station
- Holy Cross and St Francis' Church, Walmley
- New Hall Hotel
- No.s 46 and 52 High Street
- South Parade Methodist Church
- St Mary's College, Oscoti
- St Michael's Church, Boldmere
- St Peter's Church, Maney
- Sutton Coldfield Archaeological Society
- Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church
- Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group
- Sutton Coldfield Masjid
- Sutton Coldfield Masonic Hall
- The Driffold Gallery (The Smithy)
- The Highbury Theatr The Royal Cinema



500

Plans are shaping up to celebrate the 500th anniversary of royal charters secured by Bishop John Vesey from Henry VIII, which established what we now know as Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in 1527 and the establishment of local government together with the formal handover of Sutton Park to the Town in 1528.

We will be offering opportunities during Birmingham Heritage Week in September for you to tell us your stories of living in Sutton Coldfield - however long or short a time you have lived here, so we build up a picture of our Town and its people and places today.

You can also let us know at any time your thoughts about ways you would like our community to celebrate during the period May 2027 to Dec 2028 and any legacy you would like to see as a result.

We would also love to hear from you if you are thinking of running a particular project as part of a local group or would like to support other events as a volunteer, so that we can collate all the activity that might be going on and enable good communication across the Town.

We would like to hear from people of all ages

Contact us on: sutton cold field her it agenetwork@gmail.com Birmingham Heritage Week





What's on

Buildings open

From the mediaeval Smithy and compact offices in Coleshill St to the Royal Cinema

1111

Talks

From aspects of architecture to sweet-making

Film shows

Sutton Coldfield Moviemakers at The Town Hall and **Highbury Theatre**

Railway exhibition

The Spaghetti Line is celebrated in the 200th anniversary year of the first train journey

Open Days

Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, Masonic Hall and New Hall Mill

In Sutton Park

Three led walks and a Bronze Age sweat lodge experience

New for 2025

More churches are opening than ever before

5 Church of England, 2 Roman Catholic, Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church and South Parade Methodist Church

Costumed characters from Sutton Coldfield's past Meet these people at Open Days on Sat 13th Sept.

Agnes Bracken (historian), Lt-Col Richard Holbeche (diarist), WH Bidlake (architect) and Mary Brancker (pioneer vet)







Buildings trail in High Street Conservation Area Follow the buildings of interest between the Town Hall and Holy Trinity Parish Church



How to book

Go to the SCHN website for full information on each event, and to avoid a wasted journey on the day

The website entry will then take you to Eventbrite, where this is essential because of limited numbers, and where an event incurs an admission charge.

For Open Day sessions (as identified in the calendar in this brochure) and any other events where there is good capacity and no admission charge, there will not be any Eventbrite booking option.

You just attend on the day as advertised.

Events marked with the symbol must be booked in advance.



These and others where an entrance charge is levied can be booked from Saturday 9th August at 12 noon when the main Birmingham Heritage Week website also goes live.

A link to Eventbrite will become available at that time from the SCHN website.



It is time to use the magnifying icons at the bottom right of the screen.







Book a household recycling centre appointment

Unite the Union is currently taking industrial action, which may impact collections and waste disposal.

See how this may affect your bin collections and what you can do with your waste.

If you would like to know more, you can find more details on our <u>Waste</u> and recycling industrial action - FAQ for residents page.

Sutton Coldfield

Norris Way, B75 7BB

Monday to Friday: 7:00am to 9:00pm Saturday and Sunday: 8:00am to 6:00pm

Booking

You can book:

- not less than 2 hours before the time you want to attend the HRC
- no more than 3 days before your visit

2 visits at the same time - these could be on the same day or in the same week

Your confirmation should be emailed to you within an hour. This email will tell you the 15-minute slot that you have been allocated. If you cannot see this email in your inbox, check your spam or junk folder.

When you have 2 visits booked, you can book further visits from the day after you have attended the first visit. For example, if you book for Monday and Thursday then you can book your next visit from Tuesday.

From Monday 12 May, the booking system will be temporarily removed from the Castle Bromwich HRC, and a pre-booked slot won't be required to visit the site. This is subject to change. You still need to bring proof of address to show you live in Birmingham. The booking system remains in place for the other 4 HRCs.

Book an appointment

You need to bring proof of address to show you live in Birmingham. This evidence could be:

- driving licence
- utility bill

Council tax bill - paper or digital

Read the instructions on the booking website carefully. For example, there are height restrictions at some sites.



"

There must be a lot of people entitled to Pension Credit who just don't know they are. I'm grateful to Independent Age – they've made my life better. Making that call to them was one of the best things I've done.

Call our Helpline for free on **0800 319 6789** (Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.30pm) quoting 'Free Guide 468', or email helpline@independentage.org to arrange a benefits check.

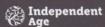
Our advisers will help work out what you're entitled to. You might qualify for:

- Pension Credit
- Attendance Allowance
- · Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Support.

Even if you think you're getting everything you're entitled to, it's always worth checking.

Find out what you could claim and get help to apply.





Independent Age is a national charity providing support for older people facing financial hardship. We offer free, impartial advice and information on what matters most: money, housing and care.

independentage.org

Registered charity number 210729 (England and Wales) SC047184 (Scotland

StreetSafe

Reports on StreetSafe can help identify problem areas and focus work in your community.

The online tool allows you to drop a pin to the exact location where you don't feel safe.

You can anonymously report behavioural or environmental concerns such as:

- Poor lighting
- Lack of CCTV
- · Signs of drug use
- Feeling of being followed/ have previously been followed
- · Verbal harassment

Visit Police.uk/StreetSafe

StreetSafe is not a crime reporting tool.

To report a crime visit: www.west-midlands.police.uk







For design / print enquiries email: creative.hub@nhs.net Correct at time of printing: 10th January 2025 • Ref: 02278





YOUR LOCAL AUDIO NEWSPAPER - a real lifeline for hundreds, yes hundreds! of people across Birmingham.

Birmingham Talking Newspaper For The Blind And Visually Impaired

btnbvi.org

When my own mother-in-law's health was fading, we discovered this remarkable service and it gave her a new lease of life at 93!

Do you know anyone who is partially sighted or blind? If so, they may benefit from listening to a local audio newspaper. Or indeed a monthly magazine and a history talk? This is a completely free of charge service, including the loan of equipment to allow you to listen to these articles. It is enjoyed by many people of all ages, some of whom are housebound.

Blind and visually impaired people in the wider Birmingham area can obtain audio versions of local newspaper articles and a range of weekly and monthly audio magazines. These are provided free of charge for listeners who have registered with our service.

You can apply by filling out the registration form which can be found at www.btnbvi.org. Or by contacting 0300 330 1404 for more information. We will then explain the service that we provide, all completely free of charge.

Please note that we never pass your information to anyone else and you can unsubscribe from our service at any time.

Heart and circulatory diseases kill 1 in 4 people in the UK.

Heart and circulatory diseases can affect anyone and everyone. Your donations will help fund the research breakthroughs needed to beat the heartbreak these conditions cause, forever.

| W | e pa | rticu | larly | need g | good o | uality | / : |
|---|------|-------|--|--|--------|---------------------|------------|
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Clothes and Shoes

Bags and Accessories

Books, CDs and DVDs

Homewares

Toys and Games

Drop your donations direct to your local shop or call to book a FREE home collection.

British Heart Foundation

Units 6-7, Red Rose Centre, The Parade, Sutton Coldfield B72 1XX

0121 355 5848

For furniture collections visit: bhf.org.uk/collection

giftaid it

(DBritish Heart Foundation 2019, registered charity in England and Wales (225971) and in Scotland (SC039426). #HDS372

SQUARE PEG ACTIVITIES

A disability leisure centre in North Birmingham



We deliver activities at our friendly and secure centre as well as providing tickets for day trips etc. Our centre has two gardens, indoor play space, a sensory room, youth den and a gaming room as well as a changing table and hoist.

Mondays:

Gaming Club 4-6pm (Monthly, dates advertised online)



Tuesdays: Home Ed Group 12-2pm Lego Club 4-6pm



Thursdays:

Pre-School Lil Club 9.30-11am Disabled Adult Social Session 1-3pm



Fridays:

Story time Home Ed Group 1-3pm Youth Club (11+) 5-6.45pm (email for waitlist)



Monthly Parent Carer Breakfast Meetups and Coffee Mornings

During the school holidays we run stay and play sessions with different activities which are bookable though our website.

SQUARE PEG Activities

MERE COLUMN Number 1185040

www.squarepegactivities.org

info@squarepegactivities.org Square Peg Activities Limited, 37-39 Gate Lane, B73 5TR



- · Chill out den
- Laptop area
- Air hockey
- Hot drinks
- Outdoor space
- Sensory room



£3 suggested donation

To book please email:
info@squarepegactivities.org

SQUARE PEG Activities Where square pegs fit in

37-39 Gate Lane, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5TR







Friends First

Safe local spaces to make new friends

- ✓ Looking to get out more and meet like-minded people?
- ✓ Feeling bored and not sure how to fill your time?
- ✓ Does it feel like you don't talk to people a lot?

Our Friends First Community Groups are a great way to get out and socialise with other people.





Not feeling confident enough to go out and meet new people?

We can support you to start to build your confidence and social network:

- Finding local activities that match your interests.
- Support from a friendly volunteer; from telephone calls to accompanying you to groups and even just going for a walk around your neighbourhood.



If you would like to find out more about our groups for yourself or someone you know, please get in touch:

Call on 0121 362 3650 or email at info@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk







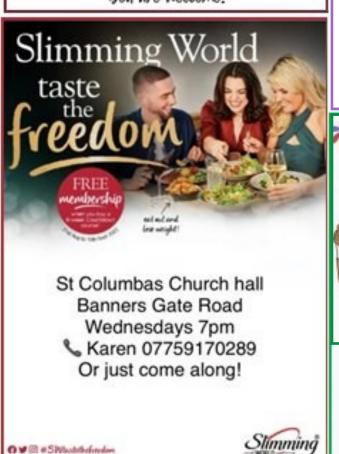
Under the new Friends First Project, Age Concern Birmingham are now able to offer their Befriending Service across Birmingham city.

On an assessed basis, our Community Reconnectors can provide up to 10 weeks support to individuals who may be isolated/vulnerable or feeling unconfident about accessing/engaging in the wider community. This project also offers new social experiences/encourages new friendships through our tailored support. Further support is also offered through our new friendship groups situated in Sutton Coldfield and across the city.

Please contact 0121 362 3650 for more information if:

- *You are feeling isolated, or would welcome the chance to meet new people in your community.
- *Maybe you already run a coffee morning/community group and would like to work with us to widen your reach.
- *You would like to increase your social opportunities.





St Columba's Church Hall

Hall letting for St Columba's Church.

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

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

Male, Female and disabled toilet facilities

All enquiries to Alison via email please.

st.columbahall@yahoo.com



Classes at St Columba's Church

Monday Brownies 6 o'clock
Tuesday Brownies 6 o'clock
Thursday Rainbows
Friday Coffee Morning, see above

Friday Sunday Coffee Morning, see above Morning Worship 10 o'clock



slimmingworld.co.uk

Hope Food North Birmingham are currently looking for a new base in/around Sutton Coldfield. We need it to store food and prepare food bags. We would need access in the day and evening Monday to Friday. We run 3 food banks weekly in Erdington, Falcon Lodge and Mere Green. If anyone has any premises with vehicle access that they would think would suit us, please get in touch. Thank you.

T: 07869 822502 E: info@hopefood.org.uk

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK PLEASE MAKE A DONATION USING THIS LINK:

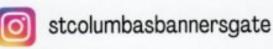
https://www.justgiving.com/hopefoodnb

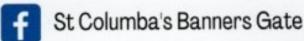
Hope Food – North Birmingham. A charitable incorporated organisation registered in England. Charity registration number 1195019. Registered office 407 Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5XH

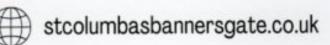
Church@4 a relaxed time for adults and children together

Second Sunday of the month St Columba's Church Hall from 4pm for about 45 mins

Make things, play games, eat pizza and wonder about God through activities for adults and children to enjoy together







All are welcome - there is no charge for anything

"Keeping your body active & healthy is the most important thing you can do for yourself.

Both physically & mentally, especially as we get older"



At New Oscott Village Gym, we believe that age is just a number, and everyone deserves a fitness haven tailored to their unique needs. Our gym is not just a place to exercise; it's a community where friendly faces encourage and support you.

Tailored Programs for Every Level: Our expert trainer understands the diverse needs of older individuals. We offer personalized fitness programs catering to various fitness levels, ensuring everyone feels comfortable and supported on their wellness journey.

Flexible Membership Options: We understand that everyone has different schedules, preferences, and budgets, so you can choose from our flexible membership options. To make fitness fit seamlessly into your lifestyle, we are open 7 days a week.

Caring and Knowledgeable Staff: We are committed to providing personalized attention and support. Whether you're a fitness enthusiast or just starting, our Fitness Instructor is here to guide you every step of the way.

New Oscott Village Gym

Fosseway Drive, Chester Road, New Oscott, B23 5LD

Contact us for prices and more information: Jackie.Taylor@extracare.org.uk





A few funny WhatsApp received recently to give you a smile:

R.I.P. Steve whose wife sent him out to buy some sewing thread, but he ended up in the pub all day. Gone but not for cotton.

I got pulled over by police last night. I was told it was a spot check. I said I've got two blackheads and a boil on my bum.

The hardest pitch I ever played on made of crushed brick rubble and concrete, we won 3 2 on aggregate

A few years ago, I invented beach footwear for people with one leg. It was a flop.

I was thrown out of the staff room of my local Tesco yesterday. They asked me what I was doing there. Told them I was on a break. They said you do not work here. I said I have just finished using the self-service till so clearly, I do.

I hooked all my wrist watches together and made a belt. Turned out to be a waist of time.

Beverley does not want to date me because I only have 9 toes. It's true she's lack toes intolerant.

First date: Hi, I am 32 and a politician and I am honest. "Hi, I'm 29 a prostitute and I'm a virgin!"

The plumber called today and asked why I haven't paid my bill for the work he did last Friday. 'I told him it's what you quoted". He said I didn't give you a quote. 'Yes, you did I said when I called to ask when you could fix it, you said you were free on Friday"

Eric Aug 2025

Thank you, Eric







SUTTON COLDFIELD GROUP MEETING POINT - SUTTON COLDFIELD TOWN HALL ENTRANCE WEDNESDAY'S @7:00PM

GIVING MEN A SAFE SPACE TO OPEN UP ABOUT THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

- ✓ NO NEED TO BOOK AND NO FEE
- **✓ NON JUDGEMENTAL, PEER SUPPORT**
- **▼ PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH**
- **✓ WEEKLY GROUPS LOCATED AROUND THE COUNTRY ✓ ONLINE PEER SUPPORT GROUP AVAILABLE**
 - MENWALKINGANDTALKING.CO.UK







Sing Me Sunshine is my lovely singing group for all!

Join me and spend a carefree afternoon of singing, laughter and chat in Sutton Coldfield.



St Columba's Church hall All Saints' Church Centre **Banners Gate Road/ Chester Road North** Sutton Coldfield B73 6TX



living with health issues, I'd love you to come along and let

Make new friends, feel positive and have some fun!

Come on your own, bring a friend, family member or caregiver.

For more information, please contact Helen on 07981 957061 or email helenwilliamsmusic@gmail.com

New Oscott Village SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!

Special offer for Banners Gate forum subscribers

Get 7 months for the price of 6 or 14 months for the price of 12

Monthly memberships also available

Come and have a look around

Why Choose Us?

START TRAINING TODAY



At New Oscott Village Gym, we believe that age is just a number, and everyone deserves a fitness haven tailored to their unique needs. Our gym is not just a place to exercise; it's a community where friendly faces encourage and support you.

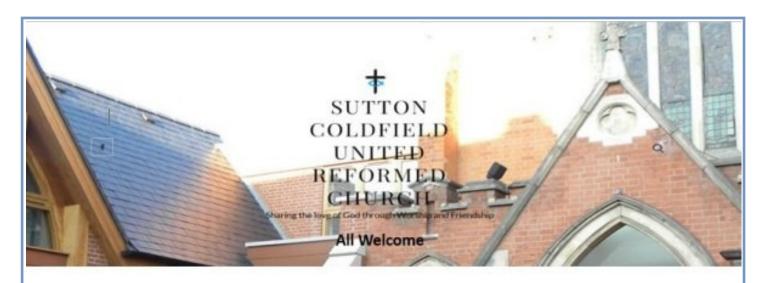
- ☆ Tailored Programs for Every Level: Our expert trainer understands the diverse needs of individuals. We offer personalized fitness programs catering to various fitness levels, ensuring everyone feels comfortable and supported on their wellness journey.
- Flexible Membership Options: We understand that everyone has different schedules, preferences, and budgets, so you can choose from our flexible membership options. To make fitness fit seamlessly into your lifestyle, we are open 7 days a week.
- Caring and Knowledgeable Staff: We are committed to providing personalized attention and support. Whether you're a fitness enthusiast or just starting, our Fitness Instructor is here to guide you every step of the way.

ExtraCare
Charitable Trust

0121 377 5000

Jackie.Taylor@extracare.org.uk

New Oscott Village, Fosseway Drive, Chester Road, B23 SLD



GROWING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER



CAFÉ OASIS

Our community café open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.30am – 2.00pm



So many Activities and Services for you!

- Parish Nurse onsite 3 days per week
- SCURC 'Keep Moving' exercise class
- Badminton
- Occupational Therapy Drop In
- Adult Social Care Drop In
- Diabetes Advice and Support
- Stroke Club
- Boardgames and Wellbeing group
- (Starting in March 2024)
- Indoor Bowling for over 75s
- Meals on Wheels delivery
- Many, many more!

FOOD4U FOODBANK

Every Tuesday from 10.30am, a warm welcome with free tea and coffee and lots of advice and support from our partner organisations

food4u@scurc.org.uk

Telephone or email us at:

0121 355 1217

cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk

Find out more by visiting us:

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

Or at out website: WWW.SCUrc.org.uk









13 Fascinating & Funny UK Facts to Know Before Your Working Holiday in the UK — for Canadians



So many reasons to do a Working Holiday in the UK as a Canadian, but we are giving you here some very curious facts that will help you look like an expert before you even start your working holiday in the UK! Yes, as a Canadian you can work in the UK for up to 3 years – yes! 3 years, how amazing is that? Besides speaking the same language, you will be ready to not only experience a working holiday in such a strategic location to visit so many European countries but also to be allowed to stay for a long enough period that many Canadians even are able to work in their careers or field of study there. Did you know this is the longest you can stay in a country working as a Canadian under the International Experience Canada program? Let's take advantage of it!

At Stepabroad we want to prepare you for your experience so even before landing, you are an expert about UK – we will help you look as a local pretty much

To start, did you know that the UK is the union of 4 different countries: England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland? Ok, good start, let's know bring some cool facts that you will not forget!

1. French was the official language of the nation for 300 years, ending almost 700 years ago.

Even when French is not spoken anymore in England, well, during your working holiday in the UK you will be so close to France, that we can foresee a few trips that you can arrange to France. The Channel Tunnel (often called the 'Chunnel' for short) is an undersea tunnel linking southern England and northern France, so you can do a road trip! But also you can fly for approximately 1 hour and you will be in Paris through a low cost airline for as little as CAD 80 onwards! Yes, flights in the Schengen zone can be very cheap and everything is very well connected!

2. Soccer, rugby, golf, boxing, and cricket were ALL invented in the United Kingdom.

Did you know that there are lots of sports groups you could join while in the UK during your working holiday and that way you can meet lots of locals! Well, now you know that these sports were invented there! Best way to start your conversation when you join the first Soccer team practice! Icebreaker maybe to meet people from the UK?

3. Stonehenge is older than the pyramids!

A must-visit during your working holiday!



- 1. For which MLS side did Lionel Messi sign in July 2023?
- 2. In which book might you find Bigwig, Hazel and Fiver?
- 3. Canada's capital city, Ottawa, can be found in which province?
- 4. What flavour is the liqueur, Tia Maria?
- 5. Who played Rodney Trotter in the long running series "Only Fools and Horses"?
- 6. What was the name of the 80's musical duo that consisted of Andy Bell and Vince Clarke?
- 7. Which fashion designer popularised the Mini-skirt in the 1960's?
- 8. Who featured on the rear of a £10 from 1975 to 1992?
- 9. Which British explorer was the first to see Victoria Falls?
- 10. Which band had UK no.1 hits in the 1970s with "Rivers Of Babylon" and "Mary's Boy Child"?
- 11. How many DIFFERENT chess pieces does each player start a game of chess with?
- 12. Which novel has the opening line "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again"?
- 13.In the TV series what musical instrument does Lisa Simpson play?
- 14.By what name do we know the English dish of sausages in batter?
- 15. What tree is the symbol in the centre of the Lebanese flag?
- 16. What was the best selling Scotch whisky brand in the world in 2022?
- 17. Which of Henry VIII's wives was known as "The Flanders Mare"?
- 18.By what name is artist Domenikos Theotokopoulos better known?
- 19. Which blood group is known as "The Universal Donor"?
- 20. What is the name of the restaurant in which SpongeBob SquarePants works as a cook?

I. INTER MIGMI. 2. WATERSHIP DOWN. 3. ONTARIO. 4. COFFEE. 5 NICHOLAS.

18. El Greco. 19. Group 'O'. 20. The Krusty Krab.

18. El Greco. 19. Group 'O'. 20. The Krusty Krab.

Are you a good guesser? What are these objects. Answers on the bottom of page 43

What are these five identical, thin, wooden planks with 3 level steps.



1

What are these pieces of black, corrugated plastic with a fabric cover, in the Gower peninsula.



2

What is this metal hatch in a garden in South Wales, attached to a neighbour's wall.





3



Our Food Supplies are running out but people still need our help. We urgently need food, especially, all tins; soup, baked beans, tuna; breakfast cereals; long life milk; tea; rice and pasta.





to people in your community.



Volunteer with FoodCycle!

02077 292 775 | foodcycle.org.uk/volunteer/



Location

Falcon Lodge Chapel, 265 Reddicap Heath Road, B75 7ES



When

Monday



Time

1:00 pm



Contact

falconlodge@foodcycle.org.uk



Family Friendly

Yes



Accessibility - Disabled Toilet

Yes



Accessibility - Disabled Parking

Yes



Accessibility - Flat

Yes

DANCE ARGENTINE TANGO



with Franco & Julia

Now at: Oscott Social Club Witton Lodge Road. B23 5LX

Thursdays 8.30—8.45pm

Fundamentals and techniques with practise time

8.45-10pm

With practise time Improvers / intermediate level Taking your tango to the next level

Please wear non-rubber sole shoes



Contact: Julia 0779 008 4218

Answers from page 35

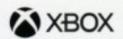
- 1. These are for old sash windows that don't stay up. Each step is a level for how high you want the window...The joys of living in an old home!
- 2. These are used to survey for small animals, typically newts, frogs, snakes, etc., which will shelter under the plastic, making it easy to count them.
- 3. It's a cleanout to their flue pipe/chimney. Plus, for chimneys with cooking ranges connected to them via horizontal flues, one could also light a very small fire in one of these things just to get the updraft in the chimney started so that the main fire in the grate would then draw properly.

Tech Giant

BUY • SELL • REPAIR • EXCHANGE



Apple SAMSUNG XBOX G Pixel 2 75







Free screen protector with any screen replacement!

OUR SERVICES

- Mobile Phone Screen Replacement & Repairs
- Ipad & Tablet Repairs
- Laptop Screen Replacement
- Laptop Windows Installation
- Mobile Phone Accessories
- Mobile Phone & Tablets Software Installations
- Playstation Repairs
- X Box Repairs
- We Sell Mobile Phones
- We Sell Game Consoles









0121 824 7741



www.techgiantonline.co.uk



25 Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5UY







Are you interested in Art?

The SCSA was set up over 70 years ago with the primary aim to promote and encourage art in Sutton Coldfield. We hold regular meetings from demonstrations and practical art sessions, to sketching days out in the summer, as well as exhibitions twice a year.

We are always delighted to welcome new artists of all abilities, from beginners to the more experienced and if you are interested in joining us, more information can be found on our website:

www.suttoncoldfieldsocietyofartists.co.uk www.suttoncoldfieldsocietyofartists.co.uk

suttoncoldfieldsocietyartists







If you are of a different bent, you may be interested in the two links below, sent in by John S.

http://messybeast.com/dragonqueen/real-haynes.htm

Also, I'm going to assume you've heard this but just in case: https://www.airliners.net/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1113747



- FUN, EASY, STEP-BY-STEP
- Develop impressive new skills in a warm and friendly atmosphere
- 3 hour sessions, morning or afternoon, for 3½ months
- Learn how to make Art you can give as gifts or sell at craft fairs
- Get Arty and make The Seasons your favourite day of the week!







"The comprehensive introduction to a wide range of techniques means everyone can find their medium" Gerry, Burford Branch



'I recommend the Seasons Art Classes to all my friends!' Mr. Kazim, Woodford



"Art class is my favourite part of the week." Sue, Maidenhead



0330 122 6 143 Sutton Coldfield Cricket & Hockey Club, B75 7RS

STRICTLY LIMITED PLACES
CALL NOW

SIP 'N PAINT

Enjoy a free creative painting session with unlimited tea, coffee, and some delicious cakes and biscuits.



Location:

St James Church Centre 59 Mere Green Road B75 5BW

Every Thursday Morning At 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

This will be an event held at the above location every Thursdays at the same time.







Sutton Coldfield Photography Club





The friendly club

All visitors and new members welcome at any level of experience. We have a varied programme of talks, competitions and activities.





We meet on Friday evenings from September to April at: South Parade Methodist Centre Sutton Coldfield B72 1RB

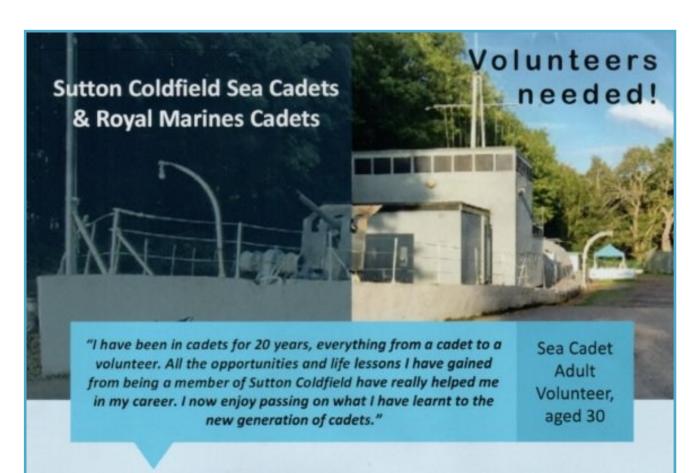
Contact us at
mail@suttonphoto.club
Find us at
www.suttonphoto.club
or scan the Flowcode here

Photos above are by Catherine Nicholls, Steve West, John Cresswell & Malcolm Imhoff

Just in case you missed it, see page 10 for a competition.



It is time to use the magnifying icons at the bottom right of the screen.







Gain new skills and qualifications.





Develop leadership and teamwork abilities.





Make a positive impact on young lives.



admin@suttoncoldfieldseacadets.com



www.sea-cadets.org/suttoncoldfield





Tyler Shaw (She/Her)

Delivery and Outreach Coordinator

Square Peg Activities is a leisure space for children and adults with disabilities and their families in the West Midlands and surrounding areas.

tyler@squarepegactivities.org

0121 824 0508 07782 171 954

37-39 Gate Lane, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5TR

www.squarepegactivities.org

f @squarepegcharity

Square Peg Activities Ltd is registered with the Independent Commissioners Office (ICO) and Fundraising Regulator.

Funded by











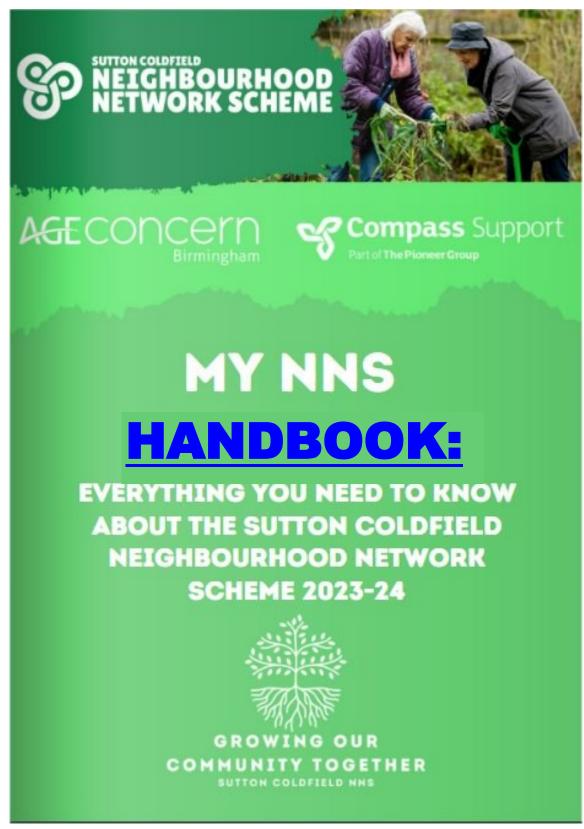
Edward Gostling, Barbara Ward Children's Charity & Happy Days

Working in conjunction with









https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086596932293

https://birmingham.connecttosupport.org/



UPDATES AT WOMEN'S AID CHARITY SHOP BOLDMERE

Hello Sutton Coldfield Community!

As the vibrant energy of spring fills the air, we're excited to share a few updates from the BSWA charity shop, nestled in the heart of Boldmere. As usual our dedicated team of volunteers keep the shop bustling with activity, offering an extensive selection of quality items and clothing, bargains discovery. We're proud to be part of the vibrant charity community in Boldmere, with our shop offering an extensive selection of women's and men's clothing, bric-a-brac, books, toys and more. Whether you're searching for unique treasures or everyday essentials, you'll find it at our lovely shop.

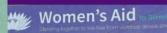
Sowhat's new?

Earlier in the year we hosted a delightful 'Coffee and Cake Volunteer Morning,' where we welcomed guests to learn about our volunteering opportunities while indulging in some delicious treats!

Our Easter celebrations were a great success, with a lucky raffle winner taking home fantastic prizes, including gifts handknitted by BSWA volunteers, as well as a huge chocolate egg! A big thank you to everyone who participated and supported our Easter raffle.

We are also delighted to announce that we are now open on Sundays, even more opportunity for

Supporting Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid, we're dedicated to tackling domestic abuse and empowering survivors in our community. With every purchase and donation, you're contributing to this important cause. Pop in and say hello, and look out for our upcoming events and sale



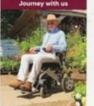


making a difference in your community?
Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or new to the world of charity work, we welcome you to join us. Pop in or reach out to <u>volunteering@bswaid.org</u> to learn more about our volunteering roles. Whether you're donating, volunteering or shopping, your contribution makes meaningful impact.









ASK ABOUT OUR HOME DEMONSTRATIONS -

0121 350 7415











We are offering local residents a completely FREE OF CHARGE service called LEAP (Local Energy Advice Partnership). LEAP can reduce your energy usage and keep you warm and cosy.

HOW IT WORKS:

If you are eligible, we will book you an appointment with one of our friendly, qualified advisers. LEAP can:

Check your energy bills to ensure you are not paying too much for your energy

Provide FREE, simple energy saving measures which can save the average household £30 on their energy bills a year.

Give you day-to-day energy efficiency hints and tips and ensure your heating system is set up to keep you warm and save money.

Arrange a FREE telephone advice service to help with benefits, debt and other money problems.

Refer you for further funded energy efficiency improvements, such as insulation and efficient heating systems.

Call us now on 0800 060 7567

www.applyforleap.org.uk

LeapService 18:45am-5:30pm Monday to Friday



ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible for the LEAP service if one of the below apply. If you:

• receive Housing Benefit

disability related benefit

· receive an income or

· have a low income

· receive tax credits



LOVE TO PLAY

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH **BANNERS GATE** WEDNESDAYS (TERM TIME ONLY) 10.15AM-11.30AM

£6.50 PER CHILD **INCLUDES SNACK & DRINK**

CONTACT BECKY- 07940547492 BECKY@LOVEFORBABIES.CO.UK







Spitfire Advice and Support Services

At Falcon Lodge Community Hub

Every other Monday

From Monday 13th November 2023

10 onwards

Please contact Lorraine on: 0121 747 5932 or 07939—320—363.

We can help with Benefits, Debts, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Support and Benefit

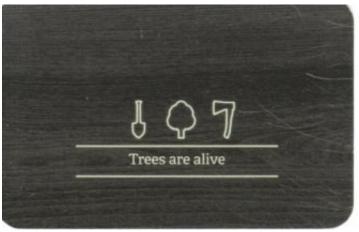
Tribunal Representation

















Investigation continues after fatal collision in Sutton Coldfield

Our investigation is continuing following a fatal collision in Sutton Coldfield this weekend.

Officers investigating after a woman was killed in Brassington Avenue are appealing for any witnesses who may have seen the collision to come forward.

Two pedestrians were hit by a car shortly before midnight on Friday.

A 21-year-old woman sadly died from her injuries at the scene, while another suffered a leg injury.

Two men were arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving, with one released with no further action.

The other man has been bailed with strict conditions while our enquiries continue.

Detective Sergeant Paul Hughes, from our Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: "I would like to thank all those who have contacted us so far and all those that went to the aid of the two young women on the night.

"Our investigation is continuing, and we would particularly like to hear from anyone who saw the car involved, a silver Toyota Corolla immediately before the collision happened.

"If you have any CCTV from the surrounding area, you should get in touch with us to share what you know.

"This was a heartbreaking incident which has robbed a young woman of her life.

"Our officers are working with her family, who remain in our thoughts at this desperately sad time, and I would ask that their privacy is respected".

If you have any further information which could help with our enquiries, call 101 quoting log number 5911 of 22 August or email detectives directly at sciu@westmidlands.police.uk.

We would really appreciate your support in helping share this message with your contacts and on local community pages.

Thank you.



Message Sent By

West Midlands Police, Corporate Communications







Keeping kids safe online this summer

Today's children are growing up in a connected world – but that doesn't mean they always know how to stay safe in it. As a parent, grandparent or guardian, your guidance can make a huge difference. Our new leaflet, attached, provides some practical ways to help your child explore the internet with confidence and care this summer holiday.

Alternatively, take a look at the advice on the Get Safe Online website: Are you in touch with what your kids do online? - Get Safe Online

Many thanks, The Get Safe Online team

Attachments

July25 Parents Leaflet.pdf







Steelhouse Lane Museum - Trot on Regardless

Visit the West Midlands Police Museum, to join the ride with **Stefan Wild** as he trots through the brief history of police horses patrolling West Midland streets.

From Victorian ceremonial duties, to shocking scenes of 1980's football violence, Stefan tells the story of how a department evolved from a regimented, military style male bastion, to a modern-day operational, inclusive unit. Brought to life through pictures, colourful characters both equine and human, join us for a light-hearted talk, using handed down tales, and personal anecdotes.

Stefan Wild served with West Midlands Police between 1972 and 2005, working proudly, as a mounted officer from 1979 until 1991. During retirement he has written several short stories for police and historical publications, before publishing 'Longest Way Up Shortest Way Down', a five-star rated book about his time with the horses. Stef, writes with humour and always with tongue planted firmly in cheek.

Monday 11th August. Doors open at 17:30 for a 18:00 start.

Trot on Regardless - A History of the Mounted Police - (west-midlands.police.uk)





Message Sent By Stefanie Sadler

(West Midlands Police, Engagement & Consultation Officer, Birmingham Partnerships)







Dozens of arrests in Birmingham as part of Operation Advance

You're receiving this message following yesterday's update about Operation Advance arriving in Birmingham.

We wanted to share progress and results, demonstrating that we're not only listening, but actively taking action on the issues that matter most to our communities.



More than 40 people were arrested, vehicles were seized, and drugs recovered as Operation Advance came to Birmingham to drive down crime and make communities safer. More than 40 people were arrested, vehicles were seized, and drugs recovered as Operation Advance came to Birmingham to drive down crime and make communities safer.

More than 300 officers took part in Advance yesterday, starting with dawn raids on suspects and running into the night with armed patrols targeting people linked to gangs and serious and organised crime.

We tackled a wide range of the crimes that impact communities the most – working with partners including the city council, Network Rail, business improvement district staff and more – resulting in more than 40 arrests. These arrests contributed to a total of 209 arrests made across West Midlands Police in the last 24 hours.



More results from Op Advance below:

- · Stopped and searched 20 people
- Seized more than 10 vehicles
- · Seized nine illegal e-bikes
- Targeted off-road bikes in Acocks Green, seizing three of them and arresting two people
- Arrested three people on Erdington High Street for drugs offences

- Worked with British Transport Police and immigration officials to disrupt and arrest those involved in County Lines at the city's train stations
- Recovered 30 cans of nitrous oxide from a shop and arrested a man for possession with intent to supply
- · Ran patrols with gangs and firearms officers
- Used a drone to help arrest two suspected drug dealers
- Arrested three people for theft in Selly Oak
- Targeted dangerous drivers in Northfield

Ch Supt Tom Joyce, of Birmingham Police, said: "This was a fantastic day of really highprofile activity, using everyone from neighbourhood officers, to intelligence, traffic, firearms, gangs officers, investigators and more.

"The activity is designed to be really visible and reassuring, while making a real impact in communities across the whole city.

"This is all about making our town centres safe and welcoming for everyone, while making them hostile places for anyone wanting to commit crime.

"Advance will be returning to Birmingham later in the year when we will be out in full force again to have that significant impact that using teams from across the West Midlands brings.

"In the meantime, Birmingham officers will continue working 24/7 to make the city safer and help and support people when they need us most."



Thanks for taking the time to read. Please keep reporting crime through the right channels. It really does help us take action and make your community safer. If you need to report a crime, call us on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency.

Want to be part of the action? We're recruiting more police officers to join us. <u>Find out more and apply now</u>







Phone Scams

Do you know that nearly a third of all fraud is committed over the telephone?

Criminals are experts at impersonating people or organisations (like banks, the tax office or even the police).

They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. **Stop and think**. It could protect you and your money.

Stop: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's OK to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud here: <u>Action Fraud</u>

For more information please click on the link below or see the attached Phone Scams Booklet

<u>45788196-0bc9-42a4-87cc-371f2710914e.pdf</u> (neighbourhoodalert.co.uk)

Attachments

Phone Scams Booklet - Final.pdf



Message Sent By

Stefanie Sadler

West Midlands Police, Engagement & Consultation Officer, Birmingham

Partnerships)







New quishing alert: £3.5 million lost last year to fraudulent QR codes

Action Fraud is urging people to look out for rogue QR codes, after 784 reports of 'quishing' were made to Action Fraud between April 2024 and



April 2025, with almost £3.5 million lost.

A new alert has been issued by Action Fraud, warning about quishing, a form of phishing where a fraudulent QR code is scanned, designed to steal personal and financial information. The warning encourages people to stay vigilant and double check QR codes to see if they are malicious, or have been tampered with, before scanning them online or in public spaces.

Claire Webb, Acting Director of Action Fraud, said:

"QR codes are becoming increasingly common in everyday life, whether it's scanning one to pay for parking, or receiving an email asking to verify an online account. However, reporting shows cyber criminals are increasingly using quishing as a way to trick the public out of their personal and financial information.

"We're urging people to stop and check before scanning QR codes, to avoid becoming a victim of quishing. Look out for QR codes that may have been tampered with in open spaces, or emails and texts that might include

...continued from last page

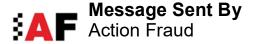
rogue codes. If you're in doubt, contact the organisation directly. You can follow our advice on quishing, on our website at www.actionfraud.police.uk to help protect yourself."

Action Fraud can reveal that quishing happens most frequently in car parks, with criminals using stickers to tamper with QR codes on parking machines. Quishing also occurred on online shopping platforms, where sellers received a QR code via email to either verify accounts or to receive payment for sold items.

Reports also showed phishing attacks were taking place impersonating HMRC, or other UK government schemes, targeting people with QR codes designed to steal personal and financial details.

What can you do avoid being a victim of quishing?

- QR codes used in pubs or restaurants are usually safe to scan.
- Scanning QR codes in open spaces (like stations and car parks) might pose a greater risk. Check for signs that codes may have been tampered with (usually by a sticker placed over the legitimate QR code).
 If in doubt, do not scan them: use a search engine to find the official website or app for the organisation you need to make a payment to.
- If you receive an email with a QR code in it, and you're asked to scan it, you should be cautious due to an increase in these types of 'quishing' attacks.
- Finally, we recommend that you use the QR-scanner that comes with your phone, rather than using an app downloaded from an app store.
- If you receive a suspicious email, report it by forwarding it to phishing@report.gov.uk
- Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk
- If you've been a victim of fraud, report it at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, contact Police Scotland on 101.









Come along to our coffee, cake and friendship cafe! Meet Alzheimer's Society Dementia Advisors and gain valuable support and advice. Join like-minded members of the community, make new friends and enjoy a selection of home-baked treats in our warm cafe. We also have a dementiafriendly barbour on hand to provide your loved one with a unique pampering experience.

Experience a tour of our beautiful care home, whilst our friendly team are always on-hand to provide help and guidance.

Trusted to care.



To attend please call 01214 682 684 or email rachel.mackay@careuk.com





Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme (SCNNS) are pleased to launch their new monthly email newsletter. Please sign up to the mailing list by emailing nns@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk to receive updates on newly supported projects, asset news and training opportunities.

To discover everything you need to know about the Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme as a whole, you can also read our NNS Handbook at https://www.calameo.com/read/00067546760ea7e9396a0

What's On at Streetly Community Library Summer 2025



Summer Reading Challenge starts Saturday 5th July!

New: Tuesdays 22nd July, 5th & 19th August, 10-12-Chess Club for Adults

1st Wednesday of each month 11-12 Adult Reading Group
2nd Wednesday of each month 10.30-12 Poetry Group
3rd Tuesday of each month 11-12 Crime Club Reading Group
3rd Wednesday of each month 10-12 Knit, Stitch and Chat

Every Wednesday 10-12 Knit, Stitch & Chat Extra—drop in with your current project or just enjoy some company

Every Friday during term time 10.30-11 Story & Rhyme Time

Every Friday 10-11.30 Reading Friends Social Group—join us for a cuppa and a chat

Every Saturday 1-3 Board Games Afternoon—something for all, drop in and play

3rd Saturday of each month 9.30-11.30 and other Saturdays 11-1 Local Councillors' Surgery—

no appointment needed

3rd Tuesday of each month 2-4 Resilient Communities Advice Surgery for Voluntary & Community Organisations - no appointment needed

Tuesday 23rd July 10-11, 11-12 & 12-1 Family Bookmark Craft with Walsall College—

booking essential

Saturdays 26th July, 16th August & 27th September 10-12 Mental Health drop-in no appointment needed, just ask for John or Carrie when you arrive

Saturdays 26th July, 6th & 20th September 2.30-3 Saturday Story Time

Tuesday 19th August 9.30-1 Citizens' Advice Bus on Library Car Park—no appointment needed

Tuesday 19th August 8.30-4.30 Walsall Council Adult Social Care Advice Surgery—
no appointment needed

Friday 22nd August 10.30-11 Story & Ryme Time (Summer Adventure Passport)

Saturday 30th August 10-11 Become a Dementia Friend—a free and informal session, no booking needed

Saturdays 30th August & 27th September 11-12.30 Lego Fun

Drop-in Craft Sessions throughout the summer holidays—see separate flyer for details

Blackwood Road, Streetly, B74 3PL 01922 654864 <u>streetlylibrary@walsall.gov.uk</u>



Summer Fun at Streetly Community Library



Wednesday 23rd July 10-11, 11-12 & 12-1 Family Bookmark Craft Session with Walsall College—booking essential

Saturday 26th July 2.30-3 Story Time—under 5s get a Summer Adventure

Passport stamp

Tuesday 29th July 10-12 Drop-in Craft - make a paper plate spider

Tuesday 5th August 10-12 Drop-in Craft — make a recycled watering can

Wednesday 13th August 10-12 Drop-in Craft — make a paper butterfly

Wednesday 20th August 10-12 Drop-in Craft — make a gnome

Friday 22nd August 10.30-11 Story & Rhyme Time — under 5s get a Summer

Adventure Passport stamp

Wednesday 27th August 10-12 Drop-in Craft — decorate a pot and grow some cress

Saturday 30th August 11-12.30 Lego Fun

Don't forget to sign up for Story Garden, this year's Summer Reading
Challenge!

Under 5s can collect a Summer Adventure Passport from the library





Blackwood Road, Streetly, B74 3PL streetlylibrary@walsall.gov.uk 01922 654864

Birmingham's Mobile Library Service

For over 30 years the Mobile Library has taken library services out into many diverse communities across the city.

Everyone is welcome to join the Mobile Library. You can register with us, or you can use your existing Birmingham library card on the vehicle. You can borrow a maximum of 10 items at any one time (including items borrowed from our other libraries). The Mobile Library vehicle carries over 3,500 items of stock for adults, young people and children of all ages. The stock is changed frequently, and new items are added regularly.

The Mobile Library has access to the full library catalogue. It operates a free reservation service for any items you may wish to order. You can return items from other Birmingham libraries at any Mobile Library stop too. The Mobile Library vehicle is also fitted with a lift allowing for easy access.

Did you know that the service comes into the heart of our community?

It currently operates **every Tuesday between 10.00 – 11.00 parked** outside Sutton Park Academy on Coppice View Road, B73 6UE.

Go along and see what's on board. Use it - Or lose it!

For more information, please use one of the methods detailed below -

Phone: 0121 464 6171 Mobile: 07766 923344

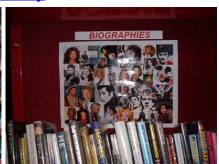
Email: mobile.library.service@birmingham.gov.uk

FaceBook: Mobile Library Service - Birmingham UK Twitter: bhammobilelib

www.birmingham.gov.uk/mobile-library













Kingstanding Library



Employability and Digital Skills Programme

Are you unemployed and looking for work?
We can help!

Our Employability and Digital Skills Programme offers support in:

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

We provide an effective programme of support offering specialist advice to help you find a job and develop useful career skills, taking place at our centres in Aston and Kingstanding.

If you would like to have a chat or book a place, please contact Nasar on 07885 210 369, or email nasar.mahmood@bsettlement.org.uk



Scan to learn more about our services:



hv't se sa wolfe

Finding work can be difficult on your own, Birmingham Settlement offer welcoming spaces and support. We'd love to hear from you - please get in touch to find out more!

Find us:

Birmingham Settlement Aston Centre, 359-361 Witton Road, Birmingham, B6 6NS Birmingham Settlement Kingstanding Centre, 610 Kingstanding Road, Birmingham, B44 9SH

Active Wellb

* active



Like us on Facebook at Birmingham Settlement Follow us on Twitter at @BSettlement

www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk

DROP-IN TO KINGSTANDING LIBRARY FOR HELP AND ADVICE

v.birminghamsettlement.org.uk Registered Charity: 517303



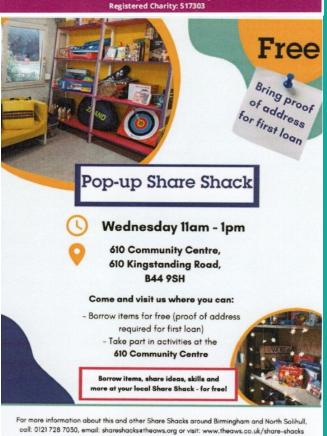
OPEN ALTERNATE TUESDAYS (from 18 April 2023) 10.15AM – 12.30PM

▼ | Eliminghum | Cay Council

If you need help and support with any issues, such as benefits, housing, debt, isolation, etc., a Community Network Support Officer will be available to provide information and signposting.

If your family is struggling financially and you would like some help with a food parcel, this can also be arranged. OR CONTACT ELIZABETH: 07597 012 598

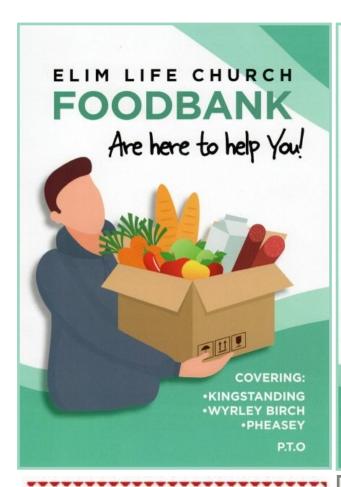
It's Free!



SPORT ENGLAND

See next page

Share Shack



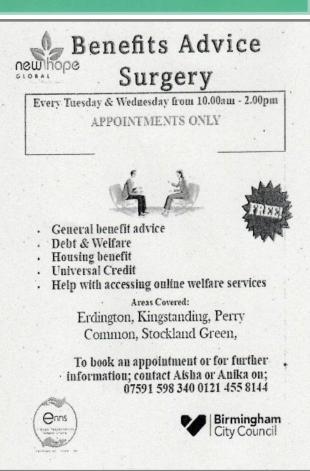


Need help with your daily housework chores?

Contact me for an informal chat/meeting to discuss your needs.

Flexible, reliable, trustworthy and with complete discretion.

Call Jackie, local ex-carer. Telephone 07847 501696





Find Help In Brum Are you concerned about the rise in cost of living?

Find some helpful contact details for advice and support.

Birmingham City Council and partners are working to support and offer guidance to our residents during the cost of living crisis in the UK.

We want to support as many of our residents as possible across key areas which are outlined in this leaflet.

Warm Welcome:

We are working with the local community and a partnership of voluntary and community sector organisations to expand a network of warm spaces. These spaces will be available for people to use and visit during the winter eriod and beyond.

There are several existing Warm Welcome Spaces within local communities across the city. Warm Welcome Spaces are:

- inclusive and non-judgmental
- heated and free to access

The services at each space will vary but may include:

- information on further support and available guidance opportunities to participate in activities and learn new things free internet access, computers and charging points a friendly environment to connect with others within the community

You can find details of our current Birmingham Warm Welcome Spaces at

www.birmingham.gov.uk/warmwelcome

Keeping checking back online as more spaces will be launched weekly.

Benefits and Money Advice:

During the cost of living crisis, it is also important to ensure you have access to the right benefits and money advice for you. There are several information portals below which can help.

To find out what benefits you are entitled to, it is best to use the Benefits Calculator provided by the Government. Find out more by using this link

www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support

Birmingham City Council has also developed several support factsheets which provide useful information on a range of debt related issues. You can view and download Information on www.birmingham.gov.uk/debtadviceteam
If you are struccling with debt and need advice and support you can also www.birmingham.gov.uk/helpinbrum

to the right information.

There are also other services who offer free and confidential advice:

- The Project Benefit, debt and housing advice 0121 453 0606 www.theprojectbirmingham.org
- Citizens Advice Birmingham Advice on benefits, debt, housing and more 0344 477 1010 | www.bcabs.org.uk
- Disability Resource Centre Advice and advocacy services for disabled people 03030 402 040 | www.disability.co.uk

Energy Efficiency:

As energy costs rise we are committed to reducing energy bills and helping everyone to keep warm as we head into the winter months.

There are several schemes already available for residents, with full information and guidance available at

www.birmingham.gov.uk/energyhelp

There has been a significant rise in energy scams linked to the cost of living crisis.

There is some helpful support on the Birmingham City Council website to avoid these scams

www.birmingham.gov.uk/energyscam

Food Support:

The cost of living crisis has made it much more difficult for many people to afford food. If this is something you are experiencing, there are severa information points below which can help.

We know that accessing a foodbank or other projects for the first time can be dauting. However, the volunteers do their utmost to make visitors feel welcome.

With one visitor saying "It was just a small personal touch that made you feel welcome and on the occasions where I was on a tiny budget, it also felt like somebody did care that times were tough."

To find a foodbank or other food support please visit

http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/foodhelp

Healthy Start card

If you are 10 weeks pregnant or more, have a child under four years old, you or your family get certain benefits, you may be able to qualify for a

The card has money on it to be used in shops to buy: plain liquid cow's milk; fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables; fresh, dried, and tinned pulses; and infant formula milk based on cow's milk. You can also get free vitamins.

To find out more and way to apply visit

www.birmingham.gov.uk/healthystart

Free School Meals

You can also check if your child can get free school meals,

visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-meals to see if you are eligible. (This will also automatically register you for the Holidays, Activities and Food Programme.)

More Information Available

Even more information is available on the Birmingham City Council website www.birmingham.gov.uk/helpinbrum which can guide you to various organisations depending on the help you may require. Alternatively, phone 0121 303 9944 and one of our customer service team will be able to help you.

Other Support Available

There is also a lot of support at a local and national level. Here are some key contacts if you need information or guidance:

Age UK Birmingham Information, advice and helpline services for older people (50+), their families and carers 0121 437 0479 | www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham

Providing advice, information and signoosting for people affected by mental health issues 0121 262 3555 |www.birminghammind.org

Advice to help improve your finances 0800 138 7777 | www.moneyhelper.org.uk

Stop Loan Sharks

Investigates and prosecutes illegal money lenders and provides support for borrowers 0300 555 2222 | www.stoploansharks.co.uk

Turn2Us

Information and financial support 0808 802 2000 |www.turn2us.org.uk

Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid

en affected by domestic violence and abuse 0800 800 0028 | www.bswaid.org

Shelter Housing advice 0808 800 4444 | england.shelter.org.uk

The Active Wellbeing Society

Listen and Connect support people to feel heard, connect with others, be active, live well and access information 0121 728 7030 www.theaws.co.uk/listen-connect

The Refugee and Migrant Centre
Advice on immigration, housing & destitution, welfare & health, employment &
education, resettlement and citizenshio education, resettlement and citizenship 0121 374 0140 | www.rmcentre.org.uk

Spitfire Services

0121 747 5932 | www.spitfireservices.org.uk

69



Could you help a mate if they were hurt?

Learn first aid to keep you and your friends safe

"Make a difference today!

Hands-on frst aid sessions for 14 - 25s



For more information visit www.sja.org.uk



FREE first aid sessions in your local area

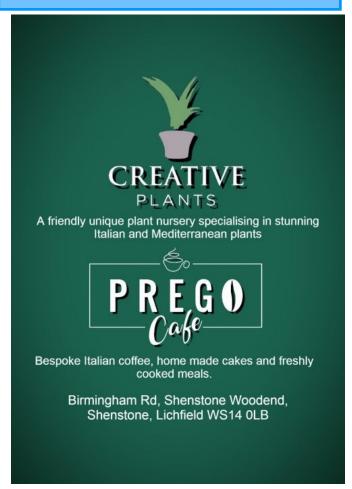
















Let your inner beauty emerge

Heal & Transform

Reiki Practitioner Transformational Mindset & Trauma-Informed Coach







In the last 24 hours have you paused, taken a break and allowed you'r mind, body and soul to be relaxed and calm?

Have you set aside some time to be still, to reflect on your life and its direction?

Are you looking to make positive changes to your life but don't know how?

Are you struggling to find a meaning or purpose to your life?

Are you struggling with feeling stuck and unable to move forward?

Do you need guidance to a problem you are facing?

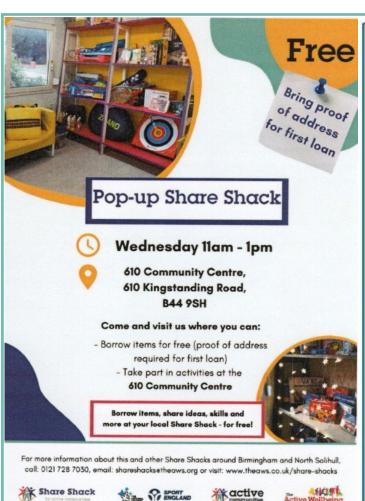
Would you like help to identify and set life goals?

If these questions resonate with how you are feeling, Heal and Transform can offer you a number of services to help support and guide you to reach your goals.

Heal and Transform is a place where the focus is on you and what you need. It's your time to focus on making positive changes in your life. Whether you are stressed or just looking to recharge, Heal & Transform can help.

To find out more please get in touch.

Telephone: 07773845454
Email: healandtransform@yahoo.com
Website: www.healandtransform.co.uk







Come and have your blood pressure checked here at Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church by Sue our Parish Nurse, Tuesdays between 10-12.





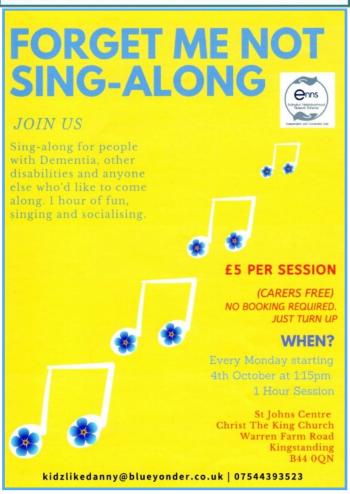
Home visiting Podiatrist



Ms Dawn Jarrett BSc [Hons] Podiatry HCPC Registered CH1417 Tel 07884471164

Visits to Sutton & all Birmingham In the comfort of your own home. Over 23 years NHS experience Same day appointments available.

Foot/care/wear/advice given
Treatment of ingrown toenails,
Thick overgrown & involuted nails,
fungal nails, athletes foot,
Corns, callouses, verruca's,
Cracked heels, dry skin conditions.
Insole therapy for flat feet etc.





Shop

Join

August's bird mysteries, solved

Missing garden birds, roof-nesting Starlings and travelling Cuckoos – our expert answers your most asked questions this August.

Our expert explains



Ever wondered why your garden seems quieter in late summer? Our expert, India James, explains why you might be spotting fewer feathered friends and answers your top August nature questions.

We're also celebrating the news that a pair of the UK's rarest breeding birds, the Montagu's Harrier, have successfully raised four chicks. Discover how a dedicated farmer and RSPB conservation work helped them fledge safely.

Happy wildlife watching!



What to do if your email gets hacked

If you suspect a hacker has infiltrated your email inbox, you need to act immediately. With access to your emails, they could potentially take over your other online accounts by resetting your passwords.

We explain how to recover your inbox, and even if you're not currently dealing with a security threat, it's still worth reading our advice to make sure you're prepared.

Steer clear of Apple iCloud scams

Watch out for four new scam emails impersonating Apple's iCloud service and using various claims to convince recipients to click on malicious links within the message.

These sneaky fake emails look like they're from iCloud and claim that your storage is full, your payment method is outdated or that there's suspicious activity on your account. Find out how to spot and avoid this type of scam email.

Age verification checks: what are they, and is your data safe?

Under the new Online Safety Act regulations, websites hosting content which could be harmful to those under 18 must now carry out robust age verification checks.

This has led to a spike in people downloading virtual private networks (VPNs) to bypass checks. Reports of scam websites offering services to dodge the new checks are also on the rise. We explain the age verification checks, what it means for your data and what risks you should be aware of.

Scam sharer tool

There's an easy way to make us aware of scams directly with our <u>scam sharer tool</u>. Tell us your experiences of phishing emails, fake texts, cold calls and other types of fraud.

New parking fine scam texts

Convincing parking charge scam text messages continue to circulate, targeting people with warnings about a non-existent unpaid fine.

A recent example of this scam involves a copycat government website that aims to earn your trust by mimicking Gov.uk. We examine this scam text and explain how you can identify it.

Debt collection scam warning

Debt demands can be alarming, which makes them an effective scam. In recent weeks, there has been a spike in reports of dodgy debt collection letters and cold calls claiming to be from HM Courts & Tribunals Service.

If you receive a demand you're not sure about, don't pay it – <u>find out how to verify a genuine debt collection letter and spot the fakes.</u>

Mystery shopping job scams exposed

Scam victims are being hired as mystery shoppers by fake research companies and dumped with the bill.

We heard from a student who faced debts in the thousands when he took out expensive phone contracts as a 'secret shopper' for a sham agency – <u>find out how we helped him get his money back.</u>

Scam sharer tool

There's an easy way to make us aware of scams directly with our <u>scam sharer tool</u>. Tell us your experiences of phishing emails, fake texts, cold calls and other types of fraud.

Convincing WhatsApp delivery scams

Watch out for WhatsApp messages from compromised verified business accounts, telling you that your delivery has 'failed' with links to copycat Evri websites.

We've recently found four new examples. So find out what these delivery scams look like – and how to spot and avoid them.

How vulnerable are you to scams?

Any of us can end up becoming a victim of a scam. While some might seem obvious to you, one could catch you out

We reveal the traits, factors and triggers that make us all susceptible to scams.

Copycat Which? website taken down

A fake Which? website featuring a bogus article about the best debit cards was set up by scammers looking to steal contact details.

Which? is no stranger to impersonation attempts and we caught this one early, but we're warning the public to be on high alert for scammers impersonating our brand.

Scam sharer tool

There's an easy way to make us aware of scams directly with our <u>scam</u> <u>sharer tool</u>. Tell us your experiences of phishing emails, fake texts, cold calls and other types of fraud

Stay safe,

Which? Scam Alert Team

P.S. 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.

The scale of Booking.com scams

Nearly one in 10 Booking.com customers in our survey believe they have been sent scam messages. These are often dangerously convincing messages sent by third-party scammers but which appear to come from Booking.com itself.

We're calling on Ofcom to investigate whether the site is doing enough to remove illegal content and protect users. Find out how these scams work so you can protect yourself.

Pension scam victims owed compensation

Around £81.5m in compensation has been paid out to victims of pension scams – and thousands more could still be eligible for a payout.

We explain how the compensation scheme works, who might qualify and how to spot the warning signs and avoid falling victim to a pension scam.

What are screen-sharing scams?

Santander's latest app feature aims to protect customers from scams involving remote access or screen-sharing tools by blurring their screens when the software is detected.

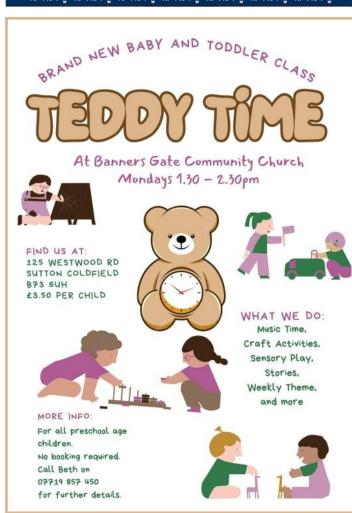
We look at what banks are doing to combat fraud <u>and give you tips</u> to stay safe from screen-sharing scams.

Scam sharer tool

There's an easy way to make us aware of scams directly with our <u>scam sharer tool</u>. Tell us your experiences of phishing emails, fake texts, cold calls and other types of fraud.











G&T hire are available for all events. We have bouncy castles including disco castle, sumo suits, giant boxing gloves, popcorn and Candy Floss makers. We also have a soft play for the 0-2 years old. To find out available dates please contact us on the following:

Facebook: Gandt party-hire

Facebook: Gandt party-hire Instagram: gandt_partyhire Email: Gandtpartyhire@hot mail.com



Sunday running club

A RUN CLUB LIKE NO OTHER



Sunday running dub was started in January 2022 with a few friends running to get fit for football. In June they started a 5am run and ever since the numbers of the club has just got bigger and bigger. We now have over 200 active members.

The run club is totally free of charge offering social events and weekly coffee momings. We are more than just your normal run club. We do not care about times, we do not care about how fast you run, we just want to help you along your fitness journey.

With over 200 active members you will never run alone because our members are lovely and caring. Sunday running club is open to all abilities we hope you join us soon.

Best wishes,

Grant & Natasha

Erica's Puppy Training Classes

FOR PUPPIES FROM 3 TO 6 MONTHS









TO BOOK YOUR PLACE PLEASE CONTACT











"W" (Double-u)

(an abbreviated term for a win)

Founded in 2020, W was created for winners and the winning mentality that we stand for. Whatever you are winning at in life, whether that's in work. sport or your own business, we want to celebrate that!

To us, having that winning mentality is giving everything you've got in the face of adversity.

Join the Winners Circle!

Peter Wilson - Director & Founder

double-u.co.uk

Caroline Howell MSc PGCE MCP

01675 470105 07796 546172

caroline@putertutor.co.uk www.putertutor.co.uk

Blythe Cottage, Dexter Lane Hurley, Atherstone CV9 2JQ

01675 470 105 / 077965 46172





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Computers, Mobiles, Websites, Smart TV, VOIP Security, Wifi, Printers





Who will come to visit me?

An Occupational therapist (OT) will visit you at your home to talk to you about enablement and what it means to you.

An OT is a person who listens to what you want to achieve and empowers you to reach your goals. OTs work with people across all age groups to do the things they want to do and need to do in their lives.

An OT will ask you how you are managing your daily tasks and will work with you to be as independent as you can be.

This could mean giving you tips on how to make tasks easier or giving you equipment or adaptations around your home.



What is the Learning Disability Enablement Team ?

We are a team of enthusiastic people who teach daily living skills to people with a learning disability aged over 17 plus in their own homes and outside, we provide a weekly service, to visit you at home and work on tasks you need and want to do. Our team is made up of occupational therapists (OT), enablement assistants and enablement officers.



Your visiting OTs

Please contact:

ASC 0121 303 1234

CSAdultSocialCare@birmingham.gov.uk

Ask for Learning Disabilities Enablement team

Birmingham City Council

Learning Disabilities Enablement Service



Empowering you to live your life to its fullest by supporting your health and wellbeing.

Your journey with the Learning Disabilities Enablement Team:



Our team is made up of occupational therapists (OT), enablement assistants and enablement officers.

An OT will:

- Contact you and arrange to meet you to talk to you about what you want/need to do more independently at home or when outside in your local community
- Talk to you about how you can work together to achieve your goals
- Design a step by step plan with you to achieve your goals
- See if you need equipment or home adaptations to make you safe
- · and any further support you may need

The enablement team will:

- Introduce you to a weekly enablement assistant, who is the same person each week who will work with you on your goals for up to 6 months
- Each week your enablement assistant will visit you at home normally at the same time and day, to work on your goals using your step by step

Some examples of the goals we work on:



Cookery skills



Money management/ budgeting



Personal care/ Dressing yourself



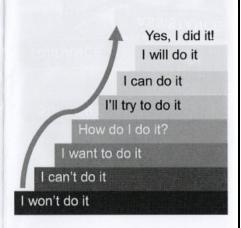
Laundry/Cleaning



Shopping and more....

Steps to self empowerment:

We realise that everyone is at different steps to feeling empowered, but working together we will support you through your journey



Please contact:

ASC 0121 303 1234

CSAdultSocialCare@birmingham.gov.uk

Ask for Learning Disabilities Enablement team



developing communities, changing lives

Employability and Digital Skills Programme

Are you unemployed and looking for work?
We can help!

We provide an effective programme of support offering specialist advice to help you find a job and develop useful career skills, taking place at our centres in Aston and Kingstanding.

If you would like to have a chat or book a place, please contact Nasar on 07885 210 369, or email nasar.mahmood@bsettlement.org.uk



Scan to learn more about our services:



www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk

Our Employability and Digital Skills Programme offers support in:

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

Finding work can be difficult on your own, Birmingham Settlement offer welcoming spaces and support. We'd love to hear from you - please get in touch to find out more!

610 Kingstanding



| SUN | мом | TUE | WED | тнυ | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| | Birmingham Mind Women's Group 10am-2.30pm Ageing Well Tai Chi 11am-12pm Little Settlers Baby Massage (Stay, Learn & Play) 12.30-2.30pm Men's Cuppa Club 1-3pm | Dance Fit (50+) 10-11.30am Dog Training Group 10.30am-12.30pm Panthers Judo Club 6-8.30pm | Ageing Well Arts Group 10am-12.30pm Learning Disability Group 7-9pm BCC Junior Youth Club 4.30-6.30pm | Little Settlers (Stay, Learn & Play) 10am-1pm Ageing Well Bowls Group 10am-12.30pm Walking Group 10am-1pm Yoga 1.30-2.30pm Girls Club 4-5.30pm Sports Thursdays 5-8pm | Ageing Well Cuppa & Chatter 10.30am-12.30pm Zumba 1.30-2.30pm Learning Disability Group 7-9pm | Foodcycle 1pm (serving time) |

www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk

Registered Charity: 517303







THE WALKING GROUP IS BACK!



Blackroot Bistro, Sutton Park every Monday at 10:30am.

Anyone affected by Cancer is welcome.

All abilities catered for.

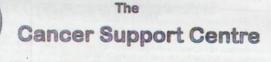
To register please call 0121 378 6295 or email info@suttoncancersupport.org.











Welcome to Lindridge Road ...

Your Journey Our Support Your Choice



Come and learn new things about yourself, learn ways of helping yourself to stay well, have fun and meet new people!

Working to provide a place of sanctuary and support to all those affected by cancer

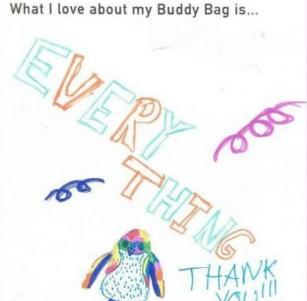
The Cancer Support Centre, Lindridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, B75 6JB

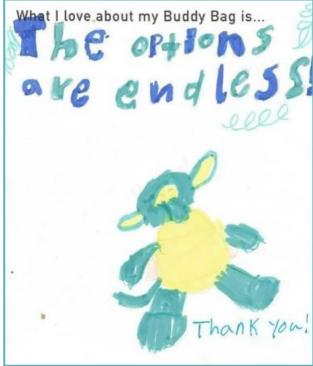
Website: www.suttoncancersupport.org

Telephone: 0300 012 0245 email: info@suttoncancersupport.org











Ask your Four Oaks Financial Services Ltd adviser about our Lifestyle Financial Planning Service - we will be happy to show you how our cash flow modelling software can predict your financial future.



Four Oaks Financial Services Ltd, 168 Birmingham Rd, Shenstone Woodend, Lichfield, WS14 ONX

Tel: 0121 323 2070 www.fouroaksfs.com

Please note that all our telephone calls are recorded for mpliance and training purposes.

Proud to support our nominated charity foundation

TOP 100 FINANCIAL ADVISERS MEMBER 2021 buddy bag

FT ADVISER

Four Oaks Financial Services Limited is an appointed representative of Quilter Financial Services Limited and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited, which are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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Registered Address: 168 Birmingham Rd, Shenstone Woodend, Lichfield, WS14 ONX.

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NEW FRIENDS, NEW INTERESTS A WARM WELCOME

THE TUDOR CLUB

Speakers, Music, Meals
Meet Mondays 7.30-9.00pm £4
The Garden Room
FOUR OAKS METHODIST CHURCH

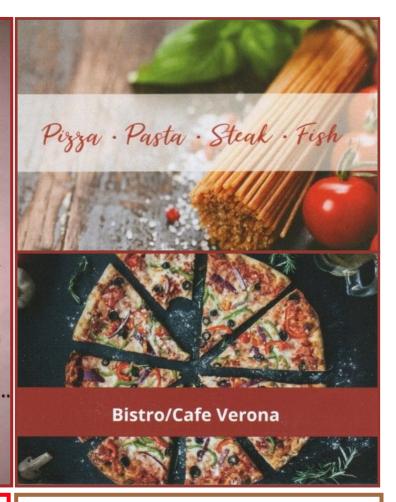
NOSTALGIC MUSIC CIRCLE

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



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:

SCCT

Contact: Colin - 07966-745741

https:/

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.

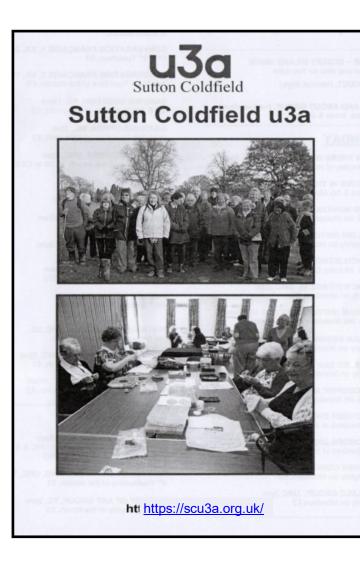


For more details, please see our Facebook Page as listed below: https://www.facebook.com/The-Sutton-Coldfield-Acoustic-Guitar-Club-109012558287876/

Or Contact: Sandra on 07932-395158









Who do you think you are?

At a U3A Genealogy/Family History Group you will get lots of advice to help you start on your path to discover your family's past...

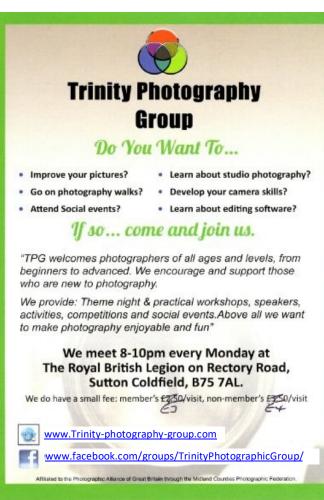
Family History can be a lonely activity and you may prefer the companionship of others on the trail of their ancestors' past. If that's the case, our U3A Genealogy Group is a great place to share tips, find help and get advice!

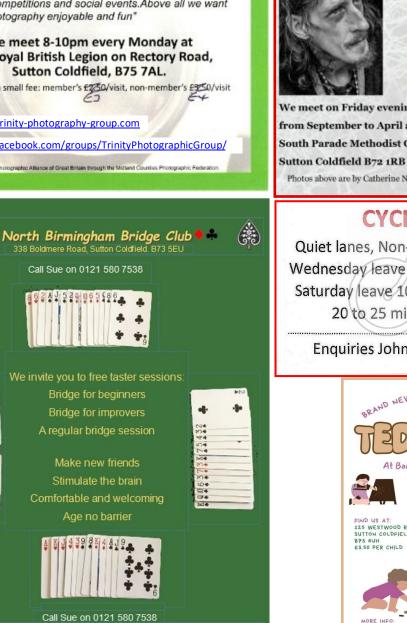
Why not contact:

Sutton Coldfield U3A Genealogy Group

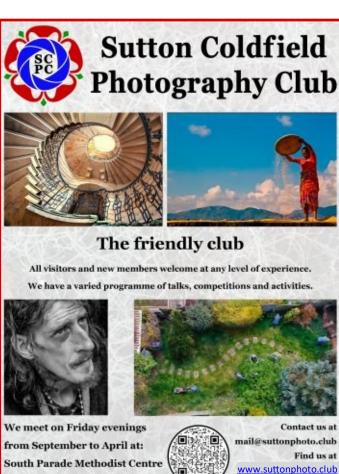
we meet the third Tuesday of the month at the United Reformed Church Centre, Brassington Avenue in Sutton at 2.00pm

For more information go to: www.scu3a.org.uk





North Birmingham Bridge Club
338 Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield. B73 5EU



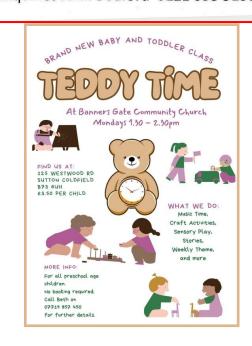
CYCLE-WITH US

Photos above are by Catherine Nicholls, Steve West, John Cresswell & Malcolm Imhoff

or scan the Flowcode here

Quiet lanes, Non-competitive, Very sociable. Wednesday leave 1.30pm, back about 4.30pm Saturday leave 10.00am, back about 1.00pm 20 to 25 miles, 10 mph. Café stop

Enquiries John Bedford 0121 353 5136



BIRMINGHAM COMPUTERS & COMPONENTS

Professional supply and support for Business and Home in the Birmingham area.

Check our web site for details of our services and products. We supply Desktops, Laptops – both new & high quality refurbished - Gaming Computers, Accessories, Web Design.

0121 270 6180

www.birminghamcomputershop.co.uk

We look forward to being of service to you

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







STREETLY FLOWER ARRANGERS' CLUB



We meet monthly second Tuesday 2.15pm - All Saints Church Hall, Foley Rd East, Streetly B74 3EX.

Next meeting - Tuesday 9th September - Workshop with popular tutor Margaret Rumens

'A Horizontal Design'.

We are a friendly, enthusiastic Club and visitors are always welcome - why not join us - we'd be delighted to see you.

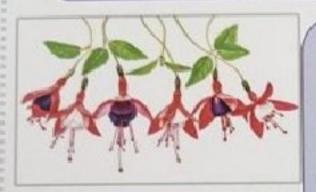
Further details Chris Reeves tel 0121 354 6264.



Do you love plants? Enjoy looking at gardens? Spending time with like-minded people?

Come and join us at

"The Royal Sutton Coldfield Fuchsia & Gardening Guild"



We have speakers each month on all aspects of gardening & wildlife, often bringing plants for sale. Fuchsias are always available including varieties not widely available.

Have a look at our Facebook page and website 'www.suttonfuchsia.co.uk' or telephone our secretary Gail on 0121 353 3373 for more information. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding January) at

Banners Gate Community Church, Westwood Rd, B73 6UH

Doors open at 7:30pm for an 8:00pm kick off.

Refreshments available.



We are a growing society, please come and join us!

The Sutton Coldfield Fuchsia Society & Gardening Guild.

Our annual show took place on August 9th. And what a lovely afternoon was had by all. The weather was warm and sunny, and many people sat in the sunshine drinking tea and eating cake!! Hopefully they also took the time to look at some of the



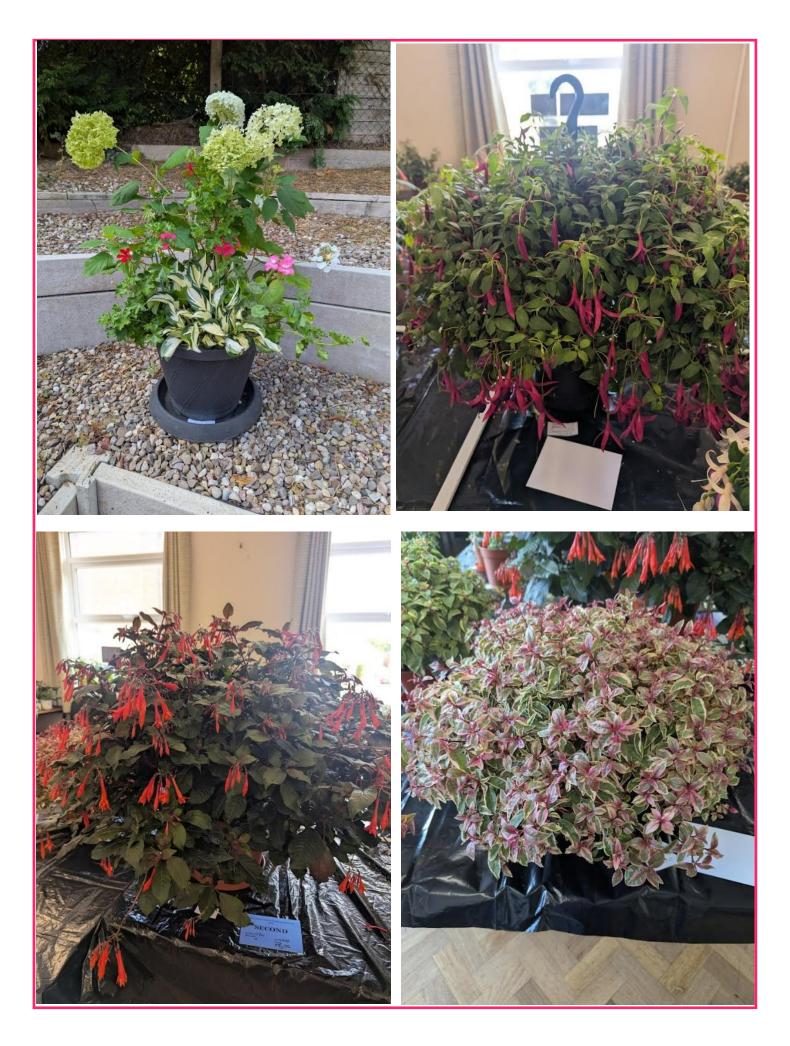
fabulous displays. In total, there were 19 classes of fuchsias, including hanging pots, beginners' class, species, and novelty classes including 'a fuchsia grown in an unusual container '& 'depict the name'. The size of some of these plants took your breath away, and the skill of growing plants, especially during the hot conditions of this summer cannot be underestimated!

In the open section there were eight classes, something for everyone! From flowers arrangements in a cup and saucer, to succulent displays, roses, dahlias, house plants, and outside a fabulous display of Hostas and patio pots.

The idea is that even if you are no longer able to physically garden, there are still classes that you can enter. We can allow ourselves a short rest before we start planning for next year!!



If you would like to join us, we meet on the second Thursday of each month at Banners Gate Community Church in Westwood Rd. Take a look at our Facebook page or website for all the information, or give our secretary, Gail, a call on 07307857440



Sutton Coldfield

Trinity Quilters



Interested in Quilting?

Novice, Experienced or Curious about quilting......

Everyone will receive a warm, friendly welcome

Join us for Quilting Inspired.....

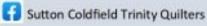
Talks, Demonstrations, Workshops by Professional Quilters & Textile Artists

Annual Coach Trips

Malvern Spring Quilt Show Summer Outing to Fabric Outlet



Email: trinity.quilters@gmail.com



Monthly Meetings (except Aug/Dec)

2rd Tuesday 7.30pm (except Jan) 4th Wednesday 2.30pm (including Jan)

Guests Welcome

Non-members £6 entry

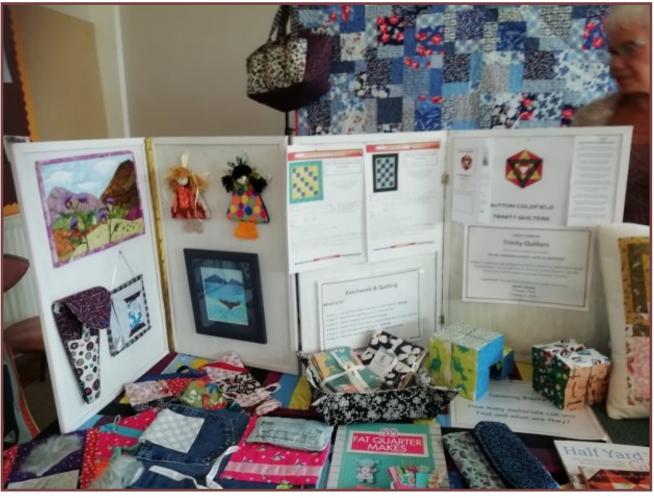
Membership includes

Access to an extensive library of quilting books, monthly newsletter, reduced admission fee and discounts at local participating fabric outlets

> Trinity Centre Off Mill Street Sutton Coldfield B72 1TF









These ladies meet in the Botanico Café in House of Fraser every Wednesday at noon for a couple of hours of knitting, crocheting and other gentle sports. Full instruction given to beginners. Go on, give it a try, you may enjoy it, at least you'll learn something.





COMMUNITEA CAFÉ ALLOTMENT

TUESDAYS 10 TILL 12

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

NEIGHBOURHOOD AGE CONCERN

Everyone welcome

Gardening Group

Help us grow fresh produce for the cafe

Sunnybank Road Allotments, **Boldmere**

Meet our Neighbourhood Networker

CONTACT

Suzy Summerfield

07940 709 314

Email: s.summerfield@ageconcernbirmingham.org.uk





Angel beads ltd

Melanie Wright

07490133151

www.angelbeads.co.uk Facebook: @angelbeadsuk Instragram: angelbeadsltd





Other Support

Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid

Support for women and children affected by domestic violence and abuse 0800 800 0028 | www.bswaid.org

Housing advice 0808 800 4444 | england.shelter.org.uk

Advice to help improve your finances 0800 138 7777 07701 342 744 (WhatsApp) ww.moneyhelper.org.u

Step Change

Debt charity offering debt advice and money management 0800 138 1111 | www.stepchange.org

Information and financial support 0808 802 2000 | www.turn2us.org.uk benefits-calculator-2.turn2us.org.uk

The Active Wellbeing Society

Listen and Connect support people to feel heard, connect with others, be active, live well and access information 0121 728 7030 listenandconnect@theaws.org

www.theaws.co.uk/listen-connect Healthy Start Vouchers

To help buy fruit, vegetables and milk if you're on a low income and pregnant or have a child under 4.

Apply online: www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Support is available in Birmingham

money?

about

Worrying



Three steps to find options and places to get help

Step 1: What's the problem?

I suddenly have no money

- · Lost job or reduced hours
- · Money stopped
- Lost money
 Unexpected expense
- · Disaster (e.g. flood or fire) · Relationship breakdown
- Sanctioned (see option: 6)

See options @@ @

My money doesn't stretch far enough

- · Deciding between food, fuel, and mobile credit
- · Low income
- · Zero hours contract
- · Statutory Sick Pay too low
- Facing redundancy
- Not sure if eligible for support
 Change of circumstance

See option 00



I have debt

- · Rent or Council Tax
- · Gas and electricity
- · Payday loans
- · Owe friends or family
- · Benefit repayments

See option (3)

I am waiting on a benefit payment or advance

- · New claim for benefit
- Payment delayed
- · Waiting for decision

See options @ @



For Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Central England Law Centre

Accredited immigration and asylum advice. Legal advice to access services and financial support 0121 227 6540

enquiries@centralenglandlc.org.uk www.centralenglandlc.org.uk

Advice on immigration and support options for people facing destitution because of the precarity of their immigration status 0121 213 5893 | www.asirt.org.uk

Asylum helpline available 24/7/365 and accessible to all asylum seekers in the UK Asylum helpline: 0808 8010 503 ASCorrespondence@migranthelpuk.org www.migranthelpuk.org (Webchat available)

e Refugee and Migrant Centre

Advice on immigration, housing & destitution, welfare & health, employment & education, resettlement and citizenship 0121 374 0140 | infobham@rmcentre.org.uk www.rmcentre.org.uk

About this leaflet

This leaflet is based on learning from Scotland's A Menu for Change project and has been developed with support from the organisations below. You can access the 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets online at www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets. The information on this leaflet was last updated on 06/12/21

Feedback? What did you find useful about this guide? www.bit.ly/moneyadvicefeedback

























Council Support Schemes

People on low incomes may be eligible for **Housing Benefit**, **Council Tax Support** and **Discretionary Housing Payment** from the council. This will depend on your current You may also be eligible for a Council Tax Discretionary Hardship Payment, Crisis Grant or Community Support Grant Payment.

Find out more at: www.birmingham.gov.uk/benefits

Step 2: What are some options?

Maximise Your Income

Anyone who is struggling financially can get a benefit check and speak to an advisor for free and confidential advice. A benefit check can ensure that you are receiving all the money you're entitled to, especially if your circumstances have changed recently. Speaking to an advisor could also help you find cheaper deals on things like gas and electricity and make sure you're not missing out on things like school clothing grants or free school meals.

Debt can happen to anyone. Free advice and support can help you find ways to manage your debts and reduce how much you pay each month.

Benefit Advance

If you have made a new claim for benefit and are in financial hardship while you wait for your first payment, you may be able to get an advance to afford things like rent or food. It's important to get advice before taking out an advance. Benefit advances must be paid back, and the money will be taken from your future benefit payments (a loan).

Hardship Payment

If you have been sanctioned, you may be able to request a hardship payment from the Jobcentre. Hardship payments are not always paid immediately, and they're not available to everyone. Hardship payments of Universal Credit need to be paid back (a loan), but hardship payments of Job Seekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance do not (not a loan).

Challenge a Decision

You can challenge a benefit decision if your benefit has been stopped / sanctioned / reduced / refused or you have been overpaid. Most benefit decisions need to be challenged

Step 3: Where can I get help? Each of these services offer free and confidential advice

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

enquiries@bcabs.cabnet.org.uk

ighbourhood Advice Servic Advice on benefits, debt, housing and other money-related issues 0121 216 3030

Help with options: 1 2 6 6

www.bcabs.org.uk



Advice on benefits, debt, housing and more

Help with options: 1 2 3 4 6 6

Help with options: 1 2 3 4 6 6

Benefit, debt and housing advice

0121 453 0606 www.theprojectbirmingham.org



(West Birmingham) Advice service on benefits, debt and managing your money 0121 250 0765 money.advice@bsettlement.org.uk

www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk

BIRMINGHAM SETTLEMENT





SPITFIRE SERVICES

Advice on money, benefit, housing and employment issues 0121 747 5932 | info@castlevale.org.uk www.spitfireservices.org.uk

Help with options: 1 2 3 4 6 6







CENTRAL ENGLAND LAW CENTRE

Advice and representation to challenge a benefit decision, housing entitlement, and access to services incl. social care support 0121 227 6540

enquiries@centralenglandlc.org.uk www.centralenglandlc.org.uk

Help with options: (3)

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE

Advice and advocacy services for disabled people 03030 402 040 | drc@disability.co.uk

www.disability.co.uk Help with options: 1 2 3 6

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Free, nationwide debt counselling service for people in financial difficulty 0800 328 0006

Help with options: (6)

WARMER HOMES WEST MIDLANDS

Personalised energy advice service to households struggling to heat their home 0808 196 8298 (option 1) www.warmerhomesWM.org.uk



Stop Loan Sharks

Investigates and prosecutes illegal money lenders and provides support for borrowers 0300 555 2222 | www.stoploansharks.co.uk reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.co.uk

Energy and money saving service 0800 060 7567 | support@applyforleap.org.uk www.applyforleap.org.uk

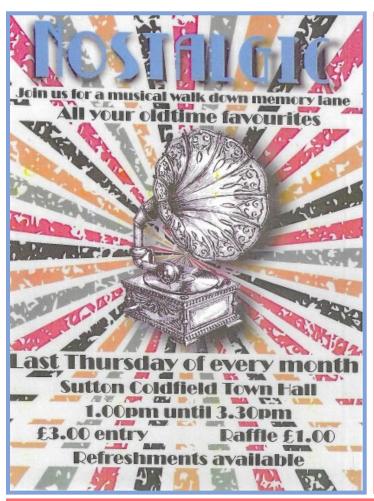
Age UK Birminghan

Information, advice and helpline services for older people (50+), their families and carers 0121 437 0479 | info@ageukbirmingham.org.uk www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham

Providing advice, information and signposting for people affected by mental health issues

0121 262 3555 | help@birminghammind.org www.birminghammind.org





Hope Food North Birmingham are currently looking for a new base in/around Sutton

Coldfield. We need it to store

food and prepare food bags. We would need access in the day and evening Monday to Friday. We run 3 food banks weekly in Erdington, Falcon Lodge and Mere Green. If anyone has any premises with vehicle access that they would think would suit us, please get in touch. Thank you.

T: 07869 822502 E: info@hopefood.org.uk

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK, PLEASE MAKE A DONATION USING THIS LINK.

https://link.justgiving.com/v1/charity/donate/charityId/3143929?

tipScheme=TipJar2.1&reference=givingcheckout_tj
21

Hope Food – North Birmingham. A charitable incorporated organisation registered in England. Charity registration number 1195019.

Registered office 407 Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5XH





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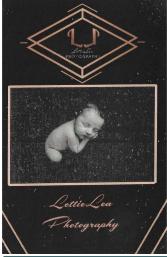


FREE LOCAL DELIVERY OR COLLECTION



Contact Lisa Marie on 07765 135497









KARATE

Mon 6-7pm 10yr + Wed 5-545pm 7-9yrs Wed 6-7pm 10yrs + Booking Required 07886089473 www.chishiki.co.uk







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Our Trusted Tradesperson Scheme has
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No Rogue Traders Here works in partnership with Trading Standards to keep a list of traders across the West Midlands who have been interviewed and quality checked.

Click <u>here</u> for the link that takes you through the Birmingham City Council website for additional confirmation.

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Memory Cafes

Do you know someone living with memory loss?

Every Monday 10am-12noon

Erdington Methodist Church,

Station Road

Every Tuesday 10.30am - 12.30pm

All Saints Church Centre Belwell Lane Four Oaks, B74 4TR

All attendees must show proof of both covid vaccinations

> Every Thursday 10am - 12noon

Streetly Methodist Church Thornhill Road Streetly, B74 3EH

Every Monday "Musical Memories"

2pm - 4pm Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

South Parade, B72 1QY

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

"Friends on Fridays" 10.30am - 12.30pm

Supported by Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church. South Parade, B72 1QY

To book your place at any of our cafes or for further information please contact Sue 07422 406168

sue.bevington@suttoncoldfield.homeinstead.co.uk

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



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 o-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
Kingstanding
Birmingham
B44 95H





Cafe Oasis

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- Online with zoom (face-to-face if CV19 allows)
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- · Semi-retired maths teacher
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- jsw7fr@hotmail.co.uk



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1.5 hour session 2 hour session 250 (Under £27 per hour) (£25 per hour)

*Groups (5 to 10 people)

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

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

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Contact Gary on 07921 132 860

or email: chong.fouroaks@gmail.com



Mondays & Wednesdays Blue Coat C.E. Academy, Birmingham Street, Walsall WS1 2ND Kids 6.00pm - 7.00pm Adults 7.00pm - 8.30pm



5K YOUR W

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.

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

Where:

Walsall Arboretum Visitor Centre steps

Ambassador:

Anne Kelsall, Sarah Hinkley & Jane Ford

It's Free!

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

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

Don't forget to register with us her www.5kyourway.org/register

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The Loft Pilates & Yoga Studio







Pregnancy YogaLates



THE LOFT PILATES & YOGA STUDIO



Pregnancy YogaLates

> Suitable for 2nd & 3rd Trimester or non pregnant beginners. Cimspa L4 Instructor Pre/Post Natal Qualified

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

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 - Muscle spasms
 - Neuralgia
 - Sports injuries

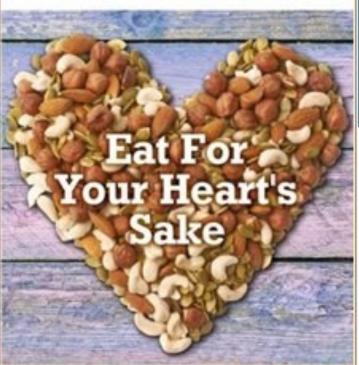
Call or email me for any questions or appointments on; 07855389528 or stephiescoteopathy@hotmail.com

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Worship and Communion Service Sunday 10:00am

We are a small evangelical group who meet for worship every Sunday morning at the Beacon Church, Collingwood Drive, Pheasey Estate, Great Barr 843 7/L kingswaypheasey@gmail.com

Please look for the <u>Beacon Room</u> - Everyone welcome

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

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at the Gate with K & S CREatE

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 16th September and will be from 9.30 a.m. to noon - note new times.





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.

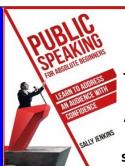
The hall is approx. 38' x 21' $(11.6m \times 6.4m)$

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

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



Public Speaking for Absolute Beginners by Sally Jenkins Tips on constructing and presenting all types of speeches. Available on Amazon or direct from the author:

sallysjenkins@btinternet.com 0121





HATHA YOGA

Banners Gate

Community Hall,

Thursdays 10.00 -11.00 a.m.

Beginners class £5.50 per session

Please call Tricia on 07954 403943.



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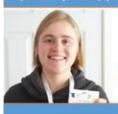
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Looking to lose weight? Improve your fitness? Improve your diet?

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

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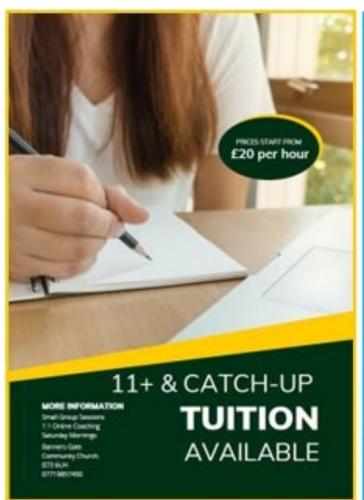
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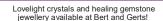






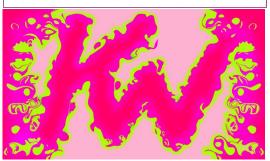








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Hall letting for St Columba's Church.

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

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All enquiries to Alison via email please.

st.columbahall@yahoo.com

Banners Gate Community Church - Events

Monday, Thursday, Friday - Baby Phonics
Contact email: <u>Jenna@robotreg.co.uk</u> for times and availability

Tuesday and Wednesday - Baby Sensory

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

Please visit our website at

https://www.bannersgatechurch.com/

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



Banners Gate Community Association

Our Community Hall in Sutton Coldfield is the perfect venue for your club, regular class, meeting and much more!



<u>welcome</u>

what's on

hire our hall

view our hall

committee

contact

<u>links</u>



Welcome to Banners Gate Community Hall & Association

Run by a team of volunteers and situated in Sutton Coldfield, Banners Gate Community Hall is the perfect venue for your club or regular class. Our room hire rates are very reasonable and come with refreshment making facilities. The Hall has the capacity to hold up to 70 people, it is level throughout with a wheelchair accessible toilet and all of our facilities are fully insured and risk assessed.

If you are looking for a venue, simply telephone our Bookings Secretary on 0751 318 4845.

There's always lots going on at Banners Gate Community Hall. Newcomers are always very welcome! We cater for all needs no matter what your background, including young people, senior citizens, mother and baby. The hall is situated on the junction of Reay Nadin Drive and Coppice View Road (B73 6UR). On street parking is available.

As a community hall we are trying to create activities for the benefit of the community so if you have any ideas in that direction, please get in touch and share those ideas with us—no obligation.

If you need any information please message on 07964 213 229





Banners Gate Community Hall - Coffee Mornings, third Tuesday of the month The next is on 16th September - at 9.30 to noon, please note new times.

| · | or details see website at <u>www.st</u> | oorambaobannorogato. | .co.uk <u>www.bannersgatecr</u> | idron.oom |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| DAY/TIME | ACTIVITY | VENUE | CONTACT | TEL. |
| Sun (last) 10.30 –2.30 pm 10.00 am 10.30 am (fortnightly) 11.00 am 7.30—8.30pm | Create at Gate with K & S Family Communion Sunday Gathering Chikara Karate Kai Soul Yoga –last Sunday | Community Hall St. Columba's Banners Gate CC Scout Hall Community Hall | Kathy Weston Nigel Willis Paul Murphy Cath Hussey | 628 6651 354 5873 353 0230 39 57 89 |
| Mon 11.00 to 6.45pm 7.30 – 9.00 pm | Sign Language Classes Sign Language Classes Sign Language Classes Line Dancing | Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall | Shakila Kosar Shakila Kosar Shakila Kosar Diane Pursall | 255042 255042 255042 747 4659 |
| Tues 6.00—7.00 9.15 - 2.00pm. 3rd Tues 9.15 - 12.00pm 11.45am - 12.45pm 6.30 - 9.00 7.45 pm | Soul Yoga Born to Spa, Baby Spa Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Tai Chi Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai | Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Scout Hut Community Hall St. Columba's | Anna Madge 07833 Dave Cockbill Neil Rankine 07721 Diane Pursall Paul Murphy 07837 | 45 70 74 67 09 13 747 4659 39 57 89 |
| Wed 9.30, 11.00 &12 10.30 - 12.00 6.30 — 7.30 7.00 pm | Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Dance Fitness SlimmingWorld | Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall St Columba's | Tracy Jones 0775 Madge Nightingale Karen 07759 | 82 56 22 360 0286 17 02 89 |
| Thurs 10.00—11.00 am 7.30 on last Thursday 6.30 – 9.45 pm (3rd of each month) 7.00 pm | Yoga Neighbourhood Forum Zig Zag Dance Studio Townswomen's Guild | Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's Banners Gate CC | Tricia 07954 Tony Willis Warren 01902 Janice Jones 07955 | 40 39 43 605 4947 897 900 65 59 10 |
| Fri 11.30 - 3.30 5.00—6.30pm 7.00 - 8.00 pm | Sign language Classes Repertoire Dance Studio Sign Language Classes | Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall | Shakila Kosar 07825 Chloe Lloyd 07729 Shakila Kosar 07825 | 25 50 42 47 79 46 25 50 42 |
| Saturday 9—10am | Soul Yoga | Community Hall | | |

Useful telephone numbers

Sutton and Kingstanding

Police: 101

Good Hope: 424 2000 Outpatients: 424 2000 NHS Health helpline: Call 111 it's 24/7 Citizens Advice 03444 111 444

BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE

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

Banners Gate Community hall Coffee Mornings The next is on 16th September starting at 9.30a.m. until noon, please note new times.

BOOKING SECRETARIES: Community Hall mobile: 075 65 54 68 21 Banners Gate CC - Nigel Willis 07711 284562

- Alison Jolley st.columbahall@yahoo.com - A & R Talliss 353 8166 St. Columba's Scout Hall

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS:

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

The Townswomen's Guild

Thurs. 18th Sept. Quiz - Tombola Thurs. 16th Oct. Don't Fret - Guitarists

Our vibrant Guild meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7.00 - 10.00 in the Westwood Hall, Banners Gate Community Church.

Janice Jones 07955 65 59 10

Monday

Banners Gate Community Church

Westwood Road, B73 6UH

We meet weekly on Sunday mornings from 10.30am for fellowship, worship, prayer and learning together in an informal setting, with other gatherings throughout the week.

To find out more visit our website at

www.bannersgatechurch.com.

St Columba's Church

Coffee Morning

Every Friday of the month

10.00 - Noon

All Welcome

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

Beavers 5.30 p.m. - 6.45 p.m. ages 6 - 8 years

Scouts 7.00 p.m. -9.00 p.m. ages $10\frac{1}{2} - 14$ years

Beavers 5.40 p.m. - 6.40 p.m. ages 6 - 8 years Tuesday

7.00 p.m. -8.30 p.m. ages $8-10\frac{1}{2}$ years 7.00 p.m. -8.30 p.m. ages $8-10\frac{1}{2}$ years Thursday Cubs

Contact 0121 353 5203

Email: margaretdrummond1@btinternet.com

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

| Girlguiding UK | Day/Time Mon 6.00 - 7.30pm | Activity 39th Brownies | Venue St Columba's Hall | Contact | Tel 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 |