



Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

204th May 2026

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. You can cancel at any time by email with "Stop Gatepost" in the subject line. Alternatively, you can click on the address under the date above, or put **Gatepost Forum Newsletter** in Google scroll down to **40 pages Gatepost** or **Gatepost** and **Gatepost Supplement**.



Councillor John Cooper:

John.cooper@birmingham.gov.uk

I wrote last month in Gatepost of the need for change and that has resulted in Anja Pawson and myself being elected as Councillors to both Birmingham City and Sutton Coldfield Town councils for the Sutton Vesey Ward.

We are both quite honoured to be appointed to both councils and look forward to serving all people in Sutton Vesey with determination, care and improvement for the ward and ALL residents in this ward.

There are many issues already raised with us and we are currently organising ourselves to accommodate all these issues and more we are sure. I don't think that we

should have fixed priorities but there are certain matters that are close to our hearts. Speaking for myself our park and all our green spaces are the fundamental to my ambition, in this connection the Town Council has a proposal on the table to take the park into a trust, something the previous administration has flatly rejected. We will endeavour to complete the programme of transfer of assets the Town has proposed and seek a decisive change for our Sutton Vesey Ward and Town as a whole.

We mourn the loss of some of our colleagues but look to the future with great enthusiasm.

John.cooper@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

New look Gatepost

As and from April's edition there will be a rearrangement of Gatepost content.

Most of Gatepost and the Supplement is static, that is, little changes each month. I have therefore decided to extract the items that do change from month to month and put them in the **40 pages printed edition**.

I will leave Gatepost and the Supplement on the internet because I have been thanked several times for leaving, for example, adverts for treatment of dementia when a relative is diagnosed and the associated advert was remembered and looked up.



Anja Pawson

City Councillor & Town Councillor for Sutton Vesey

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

Thank you!



At the recent local elections, community campaigners **Anja Pawson** and **John Cooper** got elected as City Councillors and Town Councillors for Sutton Vesey. Anja said, "We managed to get so much done before being elected, let's see what we can get done now! What a privilege it is to be serving you as Sutton Vesey Councillors and we will continue to work hard for you every day."

Anja and John attended some civic events, such as the ceremony to appoint the Lord Mayor in Birmingham, and the Mayor in Sutton Coldfield. They also continued to solve problems in the ward, e.g. via litter-picks, hedge trimming, and reporting issues.



Email us: veseyward@gmail.com

Follow us on Fb: VeseyNews



**Rob Pocock, still campaigning locally
LOCAL POLICE SET UP 'OPERATION GREENWAY'!**

Troublesome off-road motorbikes have been a persistent problem on The Greenway for many years, Both things have worsened over the last year or so. Residents have been persistently plagued by nuisance from a particular group of organised local troublemakers, mainly from the Kingstanding side of The

Greenway.

I've had great difficulty getting the local Neighbourhood Police to take an interest, and to get the Council Departments to play ball too. But the good news is that we now have a new and larger Sutton Vesey Neighbourhood Policing team, led by Sgt Charlotte Price and PC Ben Cordell. They have been out on site recently talking to residents and getting a grip on the problem at last.

I've been working alongside their enthusiastic new leadership and they have agreed to mount a coordinated action under the banner of 'Operation Greenway' involving both the Kingstanding and Sutton Vesey neighbourhood teams. Last week we had a further joint meeting between myself, the police, and Council officers from Housing, Youth Offending, Parks and Highways departments. All these agencies need to be part of a long-term solution. Operation Greenway will involve not just a police patrolling operation, it involves tracking down and dealing with the offenders long term. And also possible physical measures to deter bikes from getting onto the Greenway too.

The recent problems were apparently triggered by the accidental death of one young driver in a police incident which has led to a 'shrine' being created on the site too. Thanks to the networking done by the Police, it now appears family members of the deceased are now calling on the troublemakers to call it a day and quit their nuisance activities too.

If problems continue please log them with the Police under the special dedicated incident number that's now been established, 20/174969/26, using either the 101 call line or the chat icon on West Midlands Police website. Hopefully this concerted effort by a range of authorities will get on top of the problem. It may take some time to fully bear fruit, but the good news is that there is strong leadership being shown over the problem now.

We all hope that many warm summer evenings are shortly on the way, let's hope they will be quiet and peaceful evenings too!

Boldmere Summer Festival 2028

Sunday 7th June 1-6pm

Children's rides:
Large rides TBC
Mini Dodgems
Bungee Trampolines
Mini Miami (up & down ride)
Planes & Teacups

Perry the Bull

**Over 40 Artisan
Market Stalls**

30 Street Food Stalls
Hot and cold food
Delicious desserts
Ice cream vans

Live Entertainment

**Large range of
alcoholic and
non-alcoholic drinks**

**Suggested
Donations**

Adults £3.00
Children £1.50
Family (5) £7.50

The festival is run by a dedicated group of volunteers. To be able to continue putting on festivals in the future we kindly ask that you would donate a nominal entrance fee.

**1:00 Sutton Coldfield
Musical Theatre Company**
Local theatre group performing songs

2:00 Rosie O'Sullivan
Local soulful vocalists and
Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist

3:00 The Reggullites
Birmingham reggae collective performing
roots and reggae selections

4:00 The Mockingjays
Superb group spinning soul, funk
and rock hits

5:00 LUNAFALL
Local trio covering chart topping classics

Full details of our festival at boldmere.org

Presented by:

Hire Banners Gate Community Hall



*A Center of Excellence within Banners Gate Community,
For Children's Parties, Meetings, Seminars, Dance Classes and more !
Banners Gate Community Hall has a fully equipped Kitchen, Disabled facilities,
A Music and entertainment Hub*

Book with us as below.

35 Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield B73 6UR, Tel: Jessica 07538794120

The Banners Gate Community Association, who run the Community Hall, will be holding their AGM, to be held in the Hall, at 6.00 pm on 6th July.

All residents welcome to attend and exchange ideas.

The film opposite will be shown in the Forum meeting on Thursday, 30th July at the hall at 7.30pm.



People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

Coming soon to Banners Gate
Neighbourhood Forum

www.nebriefing.org

16

Dear Residents of Vesey Ward and the Wider Sutton Coldfield areas.

We Trustees at Banners Gate Community Association and Community Hall had applied to Birmingham City Council and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for a grant to renovate the Community Hall with Ceiling Baffles in order to reduce echo within the Hall, a new Kitchen and grab bars within the disabled toilets and repairs to the rear fence and rear fire door.

The grant was awarded through our Chairperson Margaret Dilloway and works implemented by the Banners Gate Community Trust team.

We are pleased to say all work has now been completed to a high standard and the Hall is now a more pleasant facility to hire and use. We have had an abundance of positive feedback from our users in the form of our user survey.

The Hall is now available for hire for Children’s Parties, Classes, Meetings or Seminars.

If you have a general enquiry for Banners Gate Community Association, please telephone: 07513 184845

Banners Gate Community Hall & Association, Sutton Coldfield | General Enquiries

As our Hall is run by local volunteers who work during the daytime, please leave a voice message or preferably, if you are able, send a text message indicating the nature of your enquiry if your initial call is unanswered. Your call will be returned the same day unless it is picked up unsociably late, in which case it will be returned the following day.

Thank you for your interest in Banners Gate Community Association.

Business Secretary , Kind Regards, Gary Hall



Est. 1962

T. Baker & Co. Roadshow

**VINTAGE VALUATION & BUYING
DAY COMING TO YOU**

TUESDAY 9TH JUNE

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH
BANNERS GATE ROAD
SUTTON COLDFIELD
B73 6TX**

11.00AM - 3.00PM

WORKING WITH OVER 5,000 VALUED CUSTOMERS



Oxfordshire 01865 238346
For immediate enquiries call

07814 492917

www.tbakerroadshow.co.uk
info@tbakerroadshow.co.uk

Older adults Day care in Sutton Coldfield

Our Day Centres are all about enriching the lives of older adults — we're dedicated to meeting the individual care and support

needs of our citizens while providing a friendly, engaging space where they can truly feel part of a community. Every day, we aim to

create a positive, stimulating environment that promotes wellbeing, independence, and connection.

We're proud to provide welcoming, well-established Day Centres for individuals aged 50 and over, located in Mere Green and Boldmere.

With over 14 years of experience, our team is passionate about supporting older adults to live fulfilling lives through personalised

care, engaging activities, and meaningful social connections.

Our daily rate is currently £45.50, which includes a light breakfast, a freshly prepared two-course lunch, and regular refreshments throughout

the day. Each day is shaped by the citizens themselves — with activities chosen to reflect their interests and abilities — ensuring

everyone can participate in something that brings them joy and purpose.

We understand that joining a new setting can be a big step, so we warmly offer a free trial session. You're welcome to attend with

a family member or carer to get a real feel for what we do and to see whether it's the right fit for your loved one.

Additionally, as a day centre service we are extending our current offers as we understand the demand and need in more flexibility

for both the cared-for and unpaid carers involved. I have put some more information regarding this below:

- **Flexi Days** – For those who find set days difficult, there will now be an option to book more flexible attendance to better suit individual needs.

- **Rest n Refresh Sessions** – New 2.5-hour sessions that can be booked the evening before or on the morning of attendance.

These shorter visits are perfect for carers who need time for appointments, shopping, or a short break. Cost: £25 (optional

lunch £6 and pudding £1.50).

- **Pay as You Go** – We are aware that citizens and their families may be hesitant to commit to contracts straight away. To

support this, we are offering a pay-as-you-go option for up to 4 weeks, giving people time to decide whether regular

attendance is right for them.

Please find our current venues and days of operation below:

Days	Venue	Location
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday	The Laurels	Grange Lane, Mere Green, Sutton Coldfield, B75 5JX
Wednesday	Sutton Rose	ST Michaels Road, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5FU

St Columba's Hall Hire

Tables & chairs to accommodate 80 people in comfort

Hall 12m x 12m

Adjoining Kitchen 4.7m x 3.2m is also available for hire when booking hall

Ideal venue for leisure activities e.g., dance groups, keep fit, etc.

Available for one-off events as well as regular bookings

Bookings available 52 weeks of the year including Saturdays

Facilities

Large easy access car park with 32 spaces

Ground level wheelchair access to all areas

Male / female/ disabled toilets

A Kitchen is available for hire. Suitable for light refreshments

Please contact Alison Jolley, email: st.columbahall@yahoo.com

for further details.





Age Concern Birmingham
is now
Age Connects West Midlands.

While our name has changed, our services, values, staff, and commitment to supporting our communities remain exactly the same.

The new name better reflects who we are today - a modern charity bringing people and communities together and celebrating ageing as a positive part of life.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the team.

Check our socials below



communittea cafe

What's On June 2026



Opening Times
Monday to Saturday 8:30am - 4.15pm

Call us on 0121 362 3650
For bookings, call us on 0121 630 2462
communittea@ageconnectswm.org.uk



Communittea Cafe is owned and managed by
Age Connects West Midlands

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.

Warm Welcome: 9:30am until 12pm - weekly
Come and join us in our cosy cafe!

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 Communittea 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 - 9th and 23rd Only
Bringing together friends and families who have experienced the impact of stroke through our supportive group.

Warm Welcome: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Come and join us in our cosy cafe!

Friends For Life Veterans Group: 12pm 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 - 10th and 24th 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

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

Parkinson's UK: 10am until 12pm - 4th And 18th Only
A group welcoming those with Parkinson's and their families and carers.

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 slice of cake.

Friday

Art Group: 10am until 11.30pm - weekly - Waiting list to join
A friendly art group working with various mediums from charcoal and acrylic paints to lino printing. We create artwork in a relaxed positive environment. Contact Angie for availability 07789 408956 or email angie@therecoveryfoundation.org.uk

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 June 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!

AWOCs and Community Champions: 1pm until 4pm - 13th Only
Information drop in for our Ageing Without Children Support Group and our Community Champions initiative.

Sunday

Boldmere Festival: 1pm until 5pm - 7th Only
Open for light refreshments - coffee tea and cake. No other food.

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 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday 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!

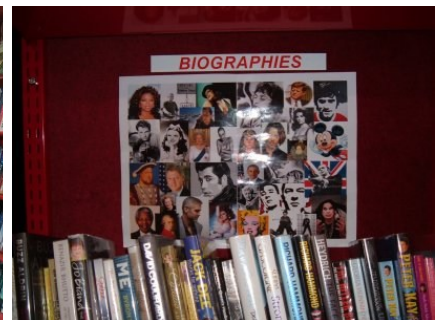
For more information, please use one of the methods detailed below -

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



What's On at Streetly Community Library Spring/Summer 2026

Tuesday 19th May 11-12 Crime Club Reading Group

Wednesday 20th May 10-12 Knit, Stitch & Chat

Saturday 23rd May 2-3 Drop-in Help with your Mobile Phone

Tuesday 26th May 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Wednesday 27th May 10.30-11.30 Drop-in Half Term Crafts

Wednesday 3rd June 11-12 Adult Reading Group

Saturday 6th June 10.30-12 Lego Fun

Tuesday 9th June 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Wednesday 10th June 10.30-12 Poetry Group

Tuesday 16th June 11-12 Crime Club Reading Group

Wednesday 17th June 10-12 Knit, Stitch & Chat

Saturday 20th June 9.30-10.30 Mental Health Drop-in - *no appointment needed*

Tuesday 23rd June 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Plus

Reading Friends Social Group every Friday 10-11.30 - *join us for a cuppa and a chat*

Story & Rhyme Time for pre-school children every Friday in term time 10.30-11

Blackwood Road, Streetly, B74 3PL

01922 654864 streetlylibrary@walsall.gov.uk

Sutton Coldfield Family Hub at Holland House Children's Centre

Holland House Children's Centre

Holland Road, B72 1RE
Telephone, 0121 752 1860
Open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Limited parking is
Pay and Display

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

Car park available

Falcon Lodge Methodist Church

Newdigate Road, B75 7ER

Street parking only



In association with
Spurgeons



Sutton Coldfield Family Hub at Holland House Children's Centre

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!



In association with
Spurgeons



Sutton Coldfield Repair Cafe



This Repair Cafe is a free community meeting event where skilled volunteer fixers will help repair various items, give advice, skill share or you can just come along for a cuppa and a chat. The event is to bring people together to reduce waste and help the environment.

The Repair Cafe is held at Wylde Green United Reformed Church 72 Britwell Road, Boldmere, B73 5SW on the **Second Saturday of each month** between 10:00am to 1:00pm, last repairs at 12:30

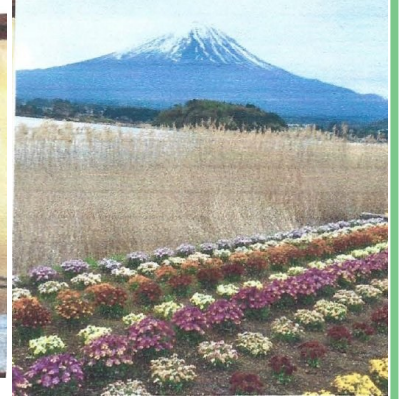
See Facebook for more details (Search "Sutton Coldfield Repair Cafe").

Next events:-

11th October at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.

8th November at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.

13th December at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.



An Adventure in Japan

MY wife and I thought long and hard about travelling to Japan, we are both of a certain age and we thought the travelling might be too much for us. However, we "took the plunge " and we were more than rewarded with such a magnificent Country and People.

We decided to travel in April to see the Cherry Blossoms in bloom, we were more than rewarded with the magnificent blossoms and we also witnessed the start of the Apple Blossom season.

Japan is a cultural paradox, a rich history of emperors, samurais and martial arts contrasting with a place of tranquillity of geishas, colourful kimonos and exquisite gardens, palaces, temples and shrines.

We travelled on the Bullet Train (Shinkansen) between Tokyo and Osaka and then onto Hiroshima. The train travels at more than 200mph without you noticing the speed because of the amazing smooth ride. The only negative is that you only have 2minutes to get on/off the train. The train doesn't wait and is never more than 20 seconds late and the timetable is guaranteed.

We saw the famous sites of Tokyo including the world-famous Shibuya pedestrian crossing, Tokyo's most photographed road intersection and rumoured to be the busiest in the World. The Tokyo Tower and a boat trip around Tokyo Bay.

We enjoyed astonishing views of Mount Fuji, Lake Kawaguchi and the hot spring Mountain Spa of Hakone. Onto the City of Hiroshima and the horrors of war and the atomic bomb, numbing.

A Japanese Tea ceremony, where a cup of green tea takes 45 minutes to make! But what a ceremony to witness with all the exquisite detail and art.

The shops are bright, and colourful, the restaurants and places to eat cater for tastes from all around the World. The longest escalators I have ever seen at Kyoto Railway Station, they seem to go to Heaven.

My overwhelming memory is one of a wonderful clean Country of extremely polite people, no litter, graffiti. No one eats in the Street, and no loud voices are heard.

And so, a return to UK, what a shock in the contrast between the two Countries.

Saving the Heather

Purple Horizons Nature Recovery Project was launched by Lichfield and Walsall Councils, funded by Natural England and supported by various other agencies. The aim is to restore as much of the ancient heathland that once covered the area between Cannock Chase in South Staffordshire and Sutton Park. Small areas still exist and it is hoped to preserve and improve these, creating a corridor for wildlife between the two main sites.

In August 2022 I noticed an area of heather King George V Playing Field off Sutton Oak Rd, close to the Millenium Wood, which is in direct line between Sutton Park and Barr Beacon, one of the main sites in the corridor. We've since heard that it was always there, but persistent mowing has almost eliminated it. Since then Friends of King George V Playing Field have been trying to stop BCC mowing the heather but, in spite of messages to the Wildlife Trust (who were keen to preserve the heather), the BCC Parks Services Manager, our local councillors and anyone else we thought could help, the message never got to the man driving the mower, nothing happened and the heather continued to be mown – until 15th April this year that is. On that date a meeting was held on the field between the Friends group, a city councillor, one of the BCC parks managers and the man in charge of mowing. Finally, the situation could be explained to the person actually doing the work and, this week, the field was mown but the heather wasn't. We look forward to seeing a small Purple Horizon on our field. Watch this space!!!

For more information on the [Purple Horizon project](#) click or just Google it, there's a lot of information online. It's also well worth going to Barr Beacon to see what they're doing to improve their heathland.

The heather as it is now and how we hope to see it in the future.



Act on Energy is a local charity which partners with **Local Authorities** to offer a full home energy support service and free, impartial advice.



We can offer **expert advice** on:

- Energy efficiency tips to reduce your bills
- Grants and funding for energy efficiency measures
- Grants for broken heating systems
- Help with fuel bills and energy debt
- Billing issues with your supplier



for more info go to

www.actonenergy.org.uk

or call our free phone

0800 988 2881

Notes:



@actonenergy

@actonenergyuk

@actonenergy_uk

Act on Energy is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales, number 3621022 and a registered charity number 1075679.
Registered address: Unit 2 Lauriston Business Park, Pitchill, Salford Priors, Warwickshire, WR11 8SN vs

Cartoons from Chris. Thank you Chris W



I ORDERED A DYSON



WHEN I WAS A KID, YOU COULD GO INTO A CORNER SHOP WITH £1 AND COME OUT WITH 2 COKES, 3 FREDDOS, AND A MAGAZINE.

NOWADAYS, CCTV EVERYWHERE.



The CEO of IKEA was just elected Prime Minister in Sweden.

He should have his cabinet together by the end of the weekend.



It took me way too long to realise that is a shower and not a Dalek.

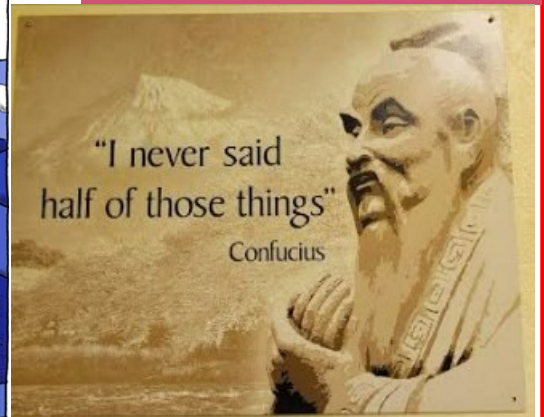
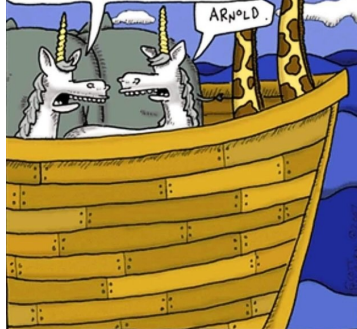


I decided to trace my pet frog's ancestry...

Turns out he's part Irish, part English, and a tad Pole



HEY SEXY - LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONNA BE UP TO YOU AND ME TO RE-POPULATE THE EARTH WITH UNICORNS, HUH? BY THE WAY, I'M CREG - WHAT WAS YOUR NAME, SWEETHEART?



Here's your quiz - some hard, but look upon it as education.

1. Which of the English Kings named Henry reigned for the longest period?
2. Who in 1981, became the first Australian cricketer to take 300 test wickets?
3. At which station in Paris does the Eurostar train terminate?
4. In which month of the year is Beaujolais Nouveau launched?
5. What songs with "Over" in the title were UK Top five hits for the following artists, [a] Johnny Kidd and the Pirates (1963), [b] The Saturdays (2009), [c] Lisa Maffia (2003), [d] John Lennon (1980) and [e] The New Seekers (1974)?
6. What is the national bird of India?
7. What is the minimum age at which someone can stand for US President?
8. In the TV soap "Eastenders", what character is played by the actor Adam Woodyatt?
9. Which THREE countries have an English name that begins with the letter "H"?
10. What is the name of the largest moon of Neptune?
11. Who wrote the "What Katy Did" series of children's books?
12. What title was traditionally bestowed on the eldest sons of French Kings?
13. Who played the title characters in the 2016 movie "Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice"?
14. Who are the FIVE British Formula One World Champions whose surnames begin with the letter "H"?
15. On which of The Beatles albums would you find the songs "Taxman", "Eleanor Rigby" and "Good Day Sunshine"?
16. What is the State Capital of the US State of North Carolina?
17. Which country won the first ever Eurovision Song Contest in 1956?
18. Which English Kings were married to the following [a] Eleanor of Aquitaine, [b] Adelaide of Saxe-Coburg, [c] Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, [d] Catherine of Braganza and [e] Elizabeth Woodville?
19. Which is the only country crossed by both the Equator and the Tropic of Capricorn?
Of which see was Justin Welby Bishop immediately prior to becoming Archbishop of Canterbury?

Answers 1. Henry III. 2. Denis Lillie. 3. Gard du Nord. 4. November. 5. [a] "I'll Never Get Over You", reached no4, [b] "Forever is Over", no2, [c] "All Over", no2, [d] "(Just Like) Starting Over", no1 and [e] "I Get a Little Sentimental Over You", no5. 6. Peacock. 7. Thirty-Five. 8. Ian Beale. 9. Haiti, Honduras and Hungary. 10. Triton. 11. Susan Coolidge. 12. Dauphin. 13. Ben Affleck (Batman) and Henry Cavill (Superman). 14. Mike Hawthorn, Graham Hill, James Hunt, Damon Hill and Lewis Hamilton. 15. Revolver. 16. Raleigh. 17. Switzerland (Lys Assia with "Refrain"). 18. [a] Henry II, [b] William IV, [c] George VI, [d] Charles II and [e] Edward IV. 19. Brazil. 20. Durham.



Have you read our ASB action plan yet?

You might remember that we reached out to you earlier in the year asking you to complete our antisocial behaviour (ASB) survey.

We want to thank every single person who responded to the survey or replied to our WMNow messages. All your responses have now been collated, analysed and fed into local policing ASB plans that has now been shared with your Commander. Every police force across England and Wales creates an ASB action plan. The plans explain how each police force intends to reduce and prevent ASB.

You can find our force-wide ASB plan [here](#). We've also attached a simple infographic on the 10-points of our plan below.

The aim of the plan is to make your communities safer by stopping, preventing, and responding to ASB more effectively.

The action plan details how we will work with partners, like the Council, to identify issues. We've also included how we intend to solve these challenges from 2026 onwards. A key objective of the plan is to have a victim and harm-focused approach to ASB. This means that the victims' needs are always put first. To do this, we want to create strong partnerships that allow us to gather and use local knowledge better.

Superintendent Simon Inglis, the force's lead for antisocial behaviour, said: "Thank you to everyone who shared or filled in our *Action on ASB* survey. We had just under 13K responses from across the West Midlands, which is a staggering amount and believed to be the highest response rate for any force across the UK.

"While we may know where and when it is occurring, we now know more about how ASB makes people feel, the impact it has on local communities, and how we can deal with it more effectively.

"Our ASB plan is here, and we want you to use it. We encourage you to continually talk to your local police officers about ASB concerns or issues in your area.

"I will be updating the ASB plan with specific actions, operations, and processes the force has done to work towards each of the 10-points on the plan, so do check back in via our website for updates.

"Thank you again for contributing to our ASB plan. Remember you can always report ASB to us in-person, online, and via 101."

For more information about ASB and how to report, [click here](#). You can also view the ASB plan [here](#).

**Tackling Anti-Social
Behaviour (ASB) across
the West Midlands**





New Deputy Chief for West Midlands Fire Service



West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority's Appointments, Standards and Appeal Committee, has recommended that Deputy Assistant Commissioner Paul Askew of London Fire Brigade be appointed as West Midlands Fire Service's Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

Paul has served with the London Fire Brigade (LFB) since 2001, following earlier service in the British Army. He has been Deputy Assistant Commissioner since 2023, initially leading the development and implementation of operational fire tactics, policies, and capabilities in response to emerging environmental risks. This role included

responsibility for hazardous materials policy, specialist teams, and research and development activity.

He subsequently assumed command of the North West area, with responsibility for the safety of 2.7 million residents across 28 fire stations serving nine London boroughs.

Chief Fire Officer Simon Tuhill said: "During a competitive process, Paul's experience, attitude and track record of making considered and effective decisions stood out and will be a great asset to our brigade.

"Our paths crossed at LFB, and I know him to be an excellent professional, a great commander and someone who will be a huge asset to the West Midlands.

"It would be remiss of me not to thank our interim Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Simon Barry, for the calm and meaningful leadership, support and guidance he has given the service in both difficult and transitional periods for us."

DAC Askew said: "It is a real privilege to be appointed to such a vital role in West Midlands Fire Service. I know some excellent leaders have taken this role on before, and I hope to have the same positive impact on the service and the West Midlands as they did."

DAC Askew will join West Midlands Fire Service in the Spring.

You

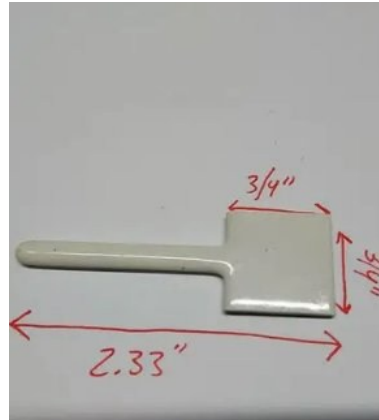


Message Sent By
West Midlands Fire Service

can read the full announcement on our website: <https://wmfs.link/4qYrvtk>

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

**This small bendable
item with one
adhesive side.**



1

**This little, tiny pocket
on the back of this shirt.**



2

**This large piece of
playground
equipment with
chained-down swings.**



3

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 last page

1. It is a cable manager



2. It's a vestigial device deliberately installed into a great number of imported shirts so that they classify as a specific article of clothing which avoids a tariff.



3. Apparently, they are '[mini-hammocks](#)' for toddlers.

Things you may not know in Wales

Deep Sleep runs generally once per week on a Saturday night through to Sunday morning, all year round. During the summer we typically run an additional trip each week on a Friday night. We also offer a number of special dates for our Xclusive trip.

Your trip leader will be waiting to meet you at 5PM at our [Tanygrisiau](#) Base, near Blaenau Ffestiniog. From here we begin a 45 minute walk up into the mountains, steep at times, but remote and very beautiful at the top!

Here we stop at a little cottage to kit up with a helmet, headtorch, harness and Wellington boots. Then it's time to say goodbye to the outside world and head into the depths of the worlds largest and deepest abandoned slate mine.

The route down through the old workings is steep and challenging. There are ancient miners stairways, decaying bridges and scrambles to negotiate. Your instructor will provide plenty of historical information about the fascinating environment - there is no rush. After around an hour, you'll be 1,375 feet underground - and a large steel door tells you that you've arrived at Deep Sleep!

A warm drink and some information will be provided - then it's time to relax for the rest of the evening. We'll provide you with a complimentary expedition-style meal (meat, vegan and vegetarian options available) to enjoy at our large covered picnic table. Then you are welcome to retire to your bed for a very deep sleep!

Your instructor will remain in their own cabin in the Deep Sleep chamber with you for the night (you won't be left alone in the mine!). Then we wake for 8am, to a warm drink and some simple breakfast snacks before starting the long ascent up to the surface and daylight again. Your party can expect to be back down to the cars around 10am - 10:30am, roughly.

Total Price for Two in Private Cabin £399 (standard)

Total Price for Two in Grotto £599

Total Price for Two in Grotto £799 (Xclusive experience)

This includes evening expedition-style meal, all hot drinks, and breakfast snacks in the morning. All bedding provided. These prices are for the whole cabin/grotto.





Simply School Supplies C.I.C is a community interest company committed to reducing inequalities in the school environment. In our first six months of operating, we have helped over 300 children with school uniforms. We do this by collecting and sorting pre-loved school uniforms and making them available through pop-ups, an online second-hand uniform shop, partnerships with local schools, and a referral scheme for local children's charities. Everything we do is to promote equal opportunities in the school environment for all children.

This year, we aim to support 500 children, and we can only do this with your support. To meet our target, we need to raise £2,500 to purchase the branded items we do not have in stock. In the coming months, we will be fundraising at local craft fairs, conducting bucket collections at Asda Queslett, and partnering with local schools and charities to reach as many families as possible.

This is your invitation to join our appeal, whether by simply following us on Facebook to help spread the word or by donating your old uniform at one of our donation points. More information about our events, donation points and volunteering opportunities can be found on our website at www.simplyschoolsupplies.co.uk.

Any support is greatly appreciated.

Nearest Donation Points:

- St Columbas Church Hall Entrance - Friday and Sunday mornings.
- ASDA Queslett - Trolley by Cafe Entrance, open 24 hours.

Hi all,
Nighttime at the junction town of Bebra on the East West German border and like many railway main lines the trains run all through the night. East German Pacific oil burner 01-0523 had just arrived in the station with an express from the east and now stands waiting to be turned on the depot turntable before returning later with a train to Leipzig. All the trains working across the border into the east were manned by West German crews based here at Bebra.
Sunday 20th February 1972.
Regards
Ledg.



Hi all,

Nighttime at Wernigerode, all the engines that are here have been disposed, fires and smoke boxes cleaned and are now at rest until the morning service. There were probably 7 or 8 of these 2-10-2 tank engines at rest here at Wernigerode in the Hartz mountain region of what used to be East Germany. What a great railway it was and still is to this day to visit I managed to get there on 5 occasions. These huge narrow-gauge engines were built to climb the hilly terrain of the area and are still masters of the job if you wish to see them at work. Other engines of the class would be overnighting at various locations on the system also waiting for the night to pass.

Wednesday 27th February 1991.

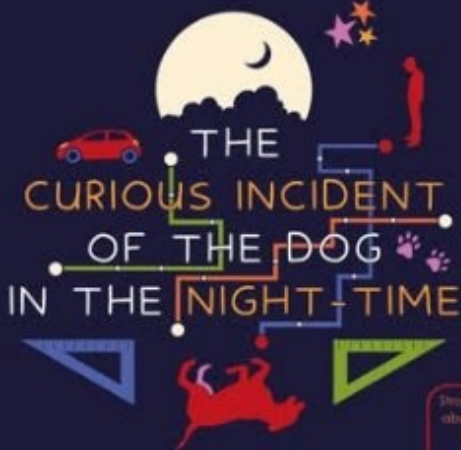
Regards Ledg.



What's on next at Highbury Theatre?

DRAMA

Highbury Players Present
 an amateur production by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd
 on behalf of Samuel French Ltd




THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

By Mark Haddon / Simon Stephens
 Directed by Maura Judges

Who killed Wellington?

Strong language, abuse of people & animals. For 14+

9 - 20 June 2026, 7:30pm
 at Highbury Theatre, Sheffield Road, B73 5HD
 0121 373 2761 / highburytheatre.co.uk



Street Katz Theatre and Film presents:
100 YEARS OF WINNIE THE POOH





Saturday 27th June: 6pm
 Highbury Theatre Centre

SCRIPT YOUTH
 Musical Theatre Company

NODA

Highbury Theatre
 Sheffield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5HD

SIX
 TEEN EDITION




30th June 2026 to 4th July 2026
 Tuesday- Friday 7:30pm
 Saturday 2:30pm & 7:30pm

SIX: TEEN EDITION
 By Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss

This amateur production of SIX: TEEN EDITION is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

FAMILY

Highbury Youth Theatre performs
 An amateur production by arrangement with Nick Hern Books




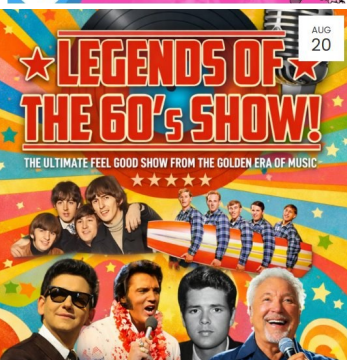
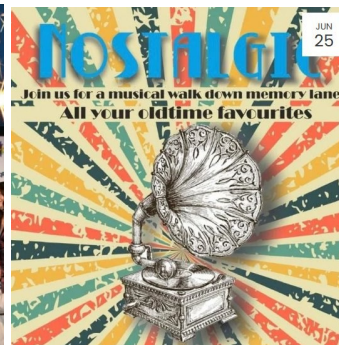
THE JUNGLE BOOK

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES

An enchanting adventure full of surprises
 by RUDYARD KIPLING
 adapted for the stage by STUART PATERSON

9 & 10 July 2026, 7:30pm
11 July 2026, 2:30pm & 7:30pm





SUPPORT US

On the 3rd April 2019, Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Hall was transferred back to the people of Sutton Coldfield and gave management of the building to Royal Sutton Coldfield Community Town Hall Trust. Now a fully-fledged charity-run venue, with your support we can continue to transform and build Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Hall back to its former glory...

<https://suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com/events/>

WELCOME TO SUTTON ARTS THEATRE 2025-26 SEASON



RENT

25 JUNE - 4 JULY 2026

LA VIE BOHÈME, RENT HEADS!

Jonathan Larson's smash-hit rock musical, *Rent* follows a group of young artists living in Manhattan's East Village as they navigate love, loss, and the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS. *Rent* beautifully captures the ultimate sacrifice of a life of stability for the sake of art. It's an inspiring story that reminds us of the importance of following our passions and taking risks to pursue our dreams.

Featuring iconic numbers including, 'Seasons of Love', 'La Vie Bohème', 'Take Me or Leave Me', 'One Song Glory', and title song 'Rent'.

Loosely based on Puccini's opera, *La Bohème*, the multi-award-winning musical, including 4 Tony's and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama is a must-see for anyone who appreciates great music and powerful storytelling.

Please note: This production contains strong language and adult themes.
Age recommendation 14+.

Books, Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson
Directed by Dexter Whitehead & Emily Armstrong

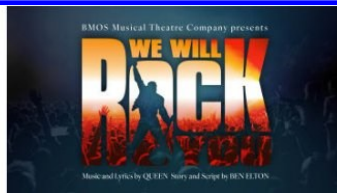
ALEXANDRA THEATRE BIRMINGHAM



Tue 26 May - Sat 30 May 2026



Tue 2 Jun - Sat 6 Jun 2026



Tue 9 Jun - Sat 13 Jun 2026



Sun 14 Jun 2026



Tue 16 Jun - Wed 17 Jun 2026



Thu 18 Jun 2026



Fri 19 Jun 2026



Sat 20 Jun 2026



Sun 21 Jun 2026



Thu 25 Jun 2026



Sun 28 Jun 2026



Tue 30 Jun - Sat 4 Jul 2026



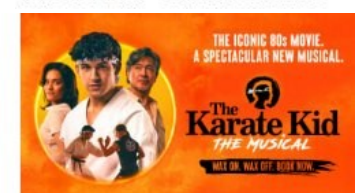
Sat 4 Jul - Sat 7 Nov 2026



Mon 6 Jul - Sat 11 Jul 2026



Sat 4 Jul - Sat 7 Nov 2026



Mon 6 Jul - Sat 11 Jul 2026



Sun 26 Jul 2026



Tue 18 Aug - Sat 22 Aug 2026



Thu 27 Aug 2026



Thu 3 Sep - Sat 12 Sep 2026



PROFESSOR KATE WILLIAMS: THE TRUTH ABOUT ROYAL WOMEN: SECRETS & SCANDALS, POLITICS & POWER

Tue 2 Jun



AN EVENING WITH ALISON JACKSON: FAKING FAMOUS

Wed 3 Jun



LICHFIELD ARTS INTRODUCING: SSC INTRODUCING NIGHT

Thu 4 Jun



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING OSCAR

Presented by Original Theatre & Reading Rep Theatre

Thu 4 – Fri 5 Jun



MEET FRED

Hijinx in association with Blind Summit present

Fri 5 Jun



ERIC & ERN

Sat 6 Jun



MANFORD'S COMEDY CLUB

6 Jun | 31 Oct



LIPSTICK ON YOUR COLLAR

Sun 7 Jun



MOVING TOGETHER

Gentle Dance & Creative Sessions
Mondays at 10.30am



**STILL POINTLESS:
BALLETBOYZ AT 25**

Tue 9 Jun



MONEY FOR NOTHING

Wed 10 Jun



**LICHFIELD GOTTA
SING**

Thu 11 Jun



ROCK FOR HEROES

Fri 12 Jun



**DONE TO DEATH, BY
JOVE!**

Fri 12 Jun



TOTALLY TINA

Sat 13 Jun



**LICHFIELD CONCERT
BAND PRESENTS
MUSIC IN SPACE!**

Sun 14 Jun



**TOP HAT OPEN MIC
NIGHT**

Tue 16 Jun – Tue 22 Sept



**BEYOND THE
BARRICADE**

Wed 17 Jun



**P*SSSED UP PANTO:
CINDERELLA**

Thu 18 – Fri 19 Jun



ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Thu 18 Jun



COSI FAN TUTTE

Performed by the Merry Opera
Theatre Company

Fri 19 Jun



*Sunday Mornings
at St Columba's*

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

The service lasts about an hour with tea, coffee and a chat in the hall afterwards. All are welcome: everything is explained as we go along and is on a big screen at the front. Come exactly as you are - full of questions, full of faith, full of doubts or completely empty and in need of an hour of peace.

You are welcome.

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




Slimming World
taste the freedom

FREE membership
when you lose a stone or more!

eat out and lose weight!

St Columbas Church hall
Banners Gate Road
Wednesdays 7pm
☎ Karen 07759170289
Or just come along!

[slimmingworld.co.uk](https://www.slimmingworld.co.uk)




Coffee Morning

every Friday 10:00 -12:00
St Columba's Church Hall
Banners Gate (Sutton Park Corner)

Not on Friday 29th December

All welcome for Coffee. Tea. friendly chat. warm space

Church open for anyone who wants a peaceful moment or quiet chat

Classes at St Columba's Church

Monday	Brownies	6 o'clock
Tuesday	Brownies	6 o'clock
Thursday	Rainbows	
Friday	Coffee Morning, see above	
Sunday	Morning Worship	10 o'clock



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):

<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



MEN WALKING AND TALKING
Est. 2021



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

mind | Birmingham
for better mental health

NHS
Birmingham and Solihull
Mental Health
NHS Foundation Trust

‘Talking Space’

Are You Having a Difficult Time ? We can help with ...

Low Mood Struggling to Cope

Mental Health Crisis Suicidal Thoughts

Just drop in between 6pm - 11pm (Over 18 only)
Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

In Partnership with
creative SUPPORT
ForwardThinking Birmingham

Beechcroft Centre
Rear of 501 Slade Road, Erdington, B23 7JG

mind | Birmingham
for better mental health

NHS
Birmingham and Solihull
Mental Health
NHS Foundation Trust

‘Talking Space’

Are You Having a Difficult Time ? We can help with ...

Low Mood Struggling to Cope

Mental Health Crisis Suicidal Thoughts

Just drop in between 6pm - 11pm (Over 18 only)
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

In Partnership with
creative SUPPORT
ForwardThinking Birmingham

Handsworth Hub
9 Park Avenue, Hockley, Birmingham B18 5NE

Sing me Sunshine

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.

Tuesdays 2 - 3pm | **Thursdays 2 - 3pm**

St Columba's Church hall | **All Saints' Church Centre**
Banners Gate Road/ | **Belwell Lane, Four Oaks,**
Chester Road North | **Sutton Coldfield B74 4TR**
Sutton Coldfield B73 6TX

£5
PER PERSON

If you are looking to do something new, feeling a bit lonely or living with health issues, I'd love you to come along and let Sing Me Sunshine brighten your day.
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

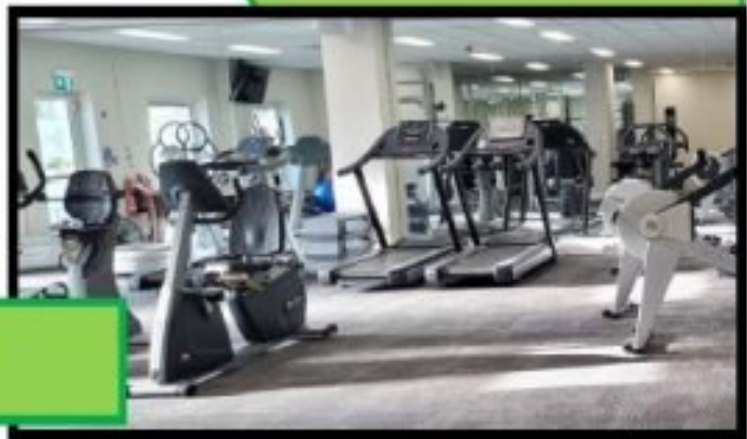
New Oscott Village **SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!**

*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

START TRAINING TODAY



Why Choose Us?

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.



0121 377 5000

Jackie.Taylor@extracare.org.uk

New Oscott Village, Fossey Drive, Chester Road, B23 5LD

JOIN THE MEN'S HEALTH & WELLBEING GROUP

Fourth Tuesday in the Month **7pm - 9pm**



Safe Space
Welcome "Safe Space" to meet, chat & discuss

Regular Meetings
Meeting regularly to discuss enhancing wellbeing

Men Networking
Networking personally & professionally

Guest Speakers
Specialist Guest Speakers

Physical Activities
Engaging in a variety of fun physical activities



£ No costs to attend

"Men's Health Is Their Wealth"

Visit our website

Highcroft Community Centre, 485 Slade Road, Erdington, Birmingham, West Midlands, B23 7JG

07493 397272
info@menshealth-wellbeing.co.uk
www.menshealth-wellbeing.co.uk

Birmingham City Council



Sutton Social

Join us for a chance to socialise with other visually impaired adults!

£2 per session

Every Tuesday 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

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

If you'd like to know more, please contact
Hayley Phillips on 0121 281 5811
or **0121 393 4849**

FOCUS Birmingham



The United Reformed Church

SUTTON COLDFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK SCHEME

Carers Support Group

SUTTON COLDFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

WE MEET 2ND AND 4TH TUESDAY EVERY MONTH 10.30-12.30




2 Course Hot Meal £2

Free Massages

All Welcome

1 Brassington Avenue, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6AA
cafe.oasis@scurc.org.uk

Free monthly activity sessions for people aged 75 and over



Please register in advance by calling 0800 716 543

Activity: Boccia/Indoor bowl
Starting: Monday 11th March
Date: Every second Monday of the month
Time: 10:30am - 12pm
Venue: Oasis United reformed church hub
1 Brassington Avenue Sutton Coldfield B73 6AA

Bringing generations together

Reengage

Re-engage is a registered charity in England and Wales (1146149) and in Scotland (SC039377)
visit www.reengage.org.uk for more information

Please Bring Donations to:

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



Urgent!
Food Donations Needed!
Now!

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.

We save food that is headed for the bin and turn it into tasty, vegetarian meals for anyone who might be feeling hungry or lonely.



“Everyone is very friendly and I've met loads of new people. I love the flexibility that FoodCycle offers. There's no regular commitment, so it fits around my schedule.”

Whether you want to **collect food** from local shops, get **creative in the kitchen**, or provide a warm **welcome to our guests** - we've got the volunteering role for you!

Scan me to find your nearest location and sign up!



🔗 **Connect** with your community

👥 **Meet** like-minded people

👉 **Gain** new skills

We are an equal opportunity organisation and welcome volunteers with diverse abilities.

foodcycle.org.uk/volunteer/
Registered Charity Number: 1134423



Love cooking? Enjoy hosting?

Want to meet new people?

Join our volunteer team and help us provide hearty, cooked meals and great conversation 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



BSWA

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, with fantastic bargains awaiting 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.

So what'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 you to shop for a cause!

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



Are you a woman passionate about 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 volunteering@bswaid.org to learn more about our volunteering roles. Whether you're donating, volunteering or shopping, your contribution makes a meaningful impact.



EASY LIVING MOBILITY®



EASY LIVING MOBILITY®

Louise Pugh
Store Manager

0121 350 7415
wyde.green@easylivingmobility.co.uk
www.easylivingmobility.co.uk
167 Sutton Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, B23 5TN

LIVE EVERY MOMENT

Stay in your home forever



Great British Furniture



Journey with us



ASK ABOUT OUR HOME DEMONSTRATIONS - 0121 350 7415



STORES ACROSS MIDLANDS
OPEN 6 DAYS PER WEEK

SUPPORT US AND



WE WILL SUPPORT YOU

Trustpilot



Motability



FREE DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £100

LEAP - The Energy and Money Saving Service

FREE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

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*

(Freephone) to book your appointment, or apply online:

www.applyforleap.org.uk

LeapService *8:45am-5:30pm Monday to Friday

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

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

- have a low income
- receive tax credits
- receive Housing Benefit
- receive an income or disability related benefit



LOVE TO PLAY ROLE PLAY SESSION ALL AGES WELCOME



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
LOVEFORBABIES



Banners Gate Community Association

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



[welcome](#)

[what's on](#)

[hire our hall](#)

[view our hall](#)

[committee](#)

[contact](#)

[links](#)



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 19th May - at 9.30 to noon, please note new times.**

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 07837 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 07825 Shakila Kosar 07825 Shakila Kosar 07825 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 June 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
St. Columba's - Alison Jolley st.columbahall@yahoo.com
Scout Hall - A & R Talliss 353 8166

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

Banners Gate Ladies Circle

This is the name of the previously named
Townswomen's Guild. Contact details,
meeting days and times remain the same.
Hopefully next month will let you know how
we will be going forward as our new group.

Thurs 18th June—Ukulele Group
Thurs.16th July - Retro Clothes by Joanne

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

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



Girlguiding gives girls and young women a voice....has done so for 100 years....be part of the next 100

Could you spare 1½ hours a week to help with the St Columba's Guide unit? Gain real satisfaction in volunteering and helping to ensure
girls in Banners Gate aged 10 – 14 can continue to enjoy games, projects, badges and outings at Guides.

There are also places available in both Brownie units in September for girls aged 7 or 8.

For more information contact Carol Gardner on 350 7191.



Girlguiding UK

Day/Time	Activity	Venue	Contact	Tel
Mon 6.00 - 7.30pm	39th Brownies	St Columba's Hall		354 5873
Tues 6.00 - 7.30pm	45th Brownies	St Columba's Hall	Carol Gardner	350 7191
Thurs 5.00 - 6.00pm	39th Rainbows	St Columba's Hall		354 5873