



SUTTON COLDFIELD

NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK SCHEME

SEPT. 2026

WELCOME TO OUR

September Newsletter

HELLO FROM SUTTON COLDFIELD NNS!

Welcome to our monthly Newsletter



Hello All!

Hope you are well and had a lovely Summer. With September being the season of new beginnings Sutton Coldfield NNS have developed a fresh set of gaps to give us a renewed focus, conceived on our Away Day, in July (details below). There will be changes in our team too as we'll be saying farewell to Neighbourhood Networker, Joe who will be leaving us for pastures new. We will miss him, but I'm sure you will join us in wishing him well.

Looking back at the Summer, July saw a fabulous Minworth Community Engagement Day – an NNS event organised in partnership with St. George the Martyr Church, bringing together the local community and assets to explore potential new activities and services which could be brought into the area in the future. Do have a look at photos below!

THANK YOU!

From Pete, Rachel, Suzy, Joe, Manjit,
Kamleish and Cathy

As usual, If you have any relevant snippets for our October newsletter, or would like to share an NNS 'Story of Difference' please get in touch at nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Screwfix Foundation

The Screwfix Foundation currently offers local registered charities and not for profit organisations funding in the region of £5,000. All applications are reviewed individually by their team on a quarterly basis. Please see their [Full eligibility criteria](#).

Your organisation MUST:

- Be a registered charity or not for profit organisation.
- Help those in need. This could be by reason of financial hardship, sickness, distress or other disadvantages in the UK.
- Be looking for funding to support projects that relate to the repair, maintenance, improvement or construction of homes, community buildings and other buildings.

Minworth Community Engagement Day



In late July we held a Community Engagement Day in partnership with St. George the Martyr Church in Minworth, the Birmingham Irish Association, Our Place CIC, and the Young Stars Meet and Move group. The day was supported by 13 provider organisations and attended by 80 individuals. There was lots to do through-out the day including live music and singing, playing the Bodhrun (Irish drum), bell-boating, tai chi, Irish mythology and crafts, Indian harmonium and tabla playing, Irish and local treats and stalls providing information about their services.

Held in St. George's Church Hall, Chapel and the canal opposite, the day was filled with positivity, fun and community connections. The Sutton Coldfield NNS Team and partners designed the event to bring the Minworth community and local assets together providing the opportunity to collaborate and discuss what activities and services the community would like to see in Minworth.

We were all delighted to welcome our Mayor, Dr Nitish Raut to the day and see him enjoying many conversations. We were particularly heartened to hear his speech and commitment to Minworth where he coined the phrase #MinworthMatters!

We would like to thank the following groups, services and partners for making the day a great success: Age Connects WM, Asda Minworth, Birmingham Irish Association, Bonnie and Chi Tai Chi, Ceol Creatives, Community Environmental Trust, Drumatised, Ek Therapy, Our Place CIC, Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council, Councillors and Mayor, Spitfire Advice Services, St George the Martyr Church, St John's Ambulance, Successful Ageing, Young Stars Meet and Move, and of course the wonderful people of Minworth.

Across 6th & 7th October 2026, Get Grants are leading a FREE Virtual Conference full of celebration, inspiration, and practical advice and support. Bringing together thousands of fundraisers from across the UK every year, this fun and heart-warming event with lots of practical advice is not your typical fundraising conference! Expect expert advice, top tips, Q&As, networking, peer-support, and lots of chat! Over 2 days, sessions will cover a mix of practical support, wellbeing, and funder insights that you can take away and put into practice. To find out more please visit <https://www.getgrants.org.uk/free-virtual-conference/>

If you're a not-for-profit community group or organisation working with older adults or disabled adults, we have free training opportunities, available to you.

FREE – Safeguarding Awareness – CPD Approved Course



We can offer two free places per organisation (subject to availability) on a Safeguarding Awareness Training course, run by Our Place Support. The course is designed to provide essential knowledge for individuals working with children, young people, and adults. This course covers the fundamentals of safeguarding, including recognising the different forms of abuse, identifying physical and behavioural signs, and learning how to respond effectively to safeguarding concerns.

 Wed 4 Nov 2026  10am – 2pm
 Online, interactive using Zoom

To book please email nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk and we will provide you with a code to book online.

FREE – Dementia Awareness



This lived-experience-informed course will help participants increase their understanding of dementia and develop greater awareness and confidence when supporting people living with dementia and those around them.

 Thursday 26th Nov 2026  10am – 12.30pm
 Sutton Coldfield based venue t.b.c.

To book please email nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk and we will provide you with a code to book online.

FREE – Data Protection Training – On Demand

Sutton Coldfield NNS have commissioned Datum Longevitus to produce a training package for local community groups on Data Protection (GDPR). **The training pack is in an accessible electronic format with speech, text and pictures which is ideal for individuals or small groups to watch on a laptop.** The training has 13 modules on MP4 which each take about 5 minutes, making it easy to do all in one go, or in bite sized parts. It is pitched at volunteer board members, managers and paid staff of small community groups. The training pack is free to assets in Sutton Coldfield who identify as not-for-profit community/voluntary sector groups.

If you are interested in completing our Data Protection training for free, please send an email at nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk. Tell us the name of your not-for-profit community organisation and location. Please also give us an idea how many people will benefit from the training, also their roles in the organisation.

Sutton Coldfield NNS – Gap analysis

As a result of our ongoing gap analysis of Sutton Coldfield, Sutton Coldfield NNS have decided to focus on the following prevention gaps.

- Brain Health (all ages)
- Transition from child to adult services
- Older people through prevention activities

We would also like to renew our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, when commissioning new projects.

If you would like to develop a project, or discuss grant funding around the following, please get in touch.

Grant Panel Deadline for applications

The deadline for submitting applications for our next upcoming Grants Panel is coming up soon.

The last day to submit an application will be Wednesday 11th November.

SPREAD THE WORD Birmingham Waterfest



Birmingham Waterfest is happening soon. There will be boat races and kayaking to get involved with.

Get in touch to book in a team and time slot.
(8 paddlers per team)

 Saturday 3rd October 2026

 10am–4.20pm

 The Boat Inn car park, Old Kingsbury Rd.
Sutton Coldfield B76 9AE

To book visit Eventbrite: Birmingham Waterfest 2026

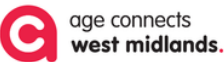
For further information please contact:
alicia@environmentaltrust.org.uk

SPREAD THE WORD

**Join our team! Neighbourhood Networker
& Digital Support Officer**

Make a Difference in Your Community! Age Connects West Midlands is looking for a Neighbourhood Networker & Digital Support Officer to support local people, community groups and organisations across Sutton Coldfield. This is an exciting opportunity to join our innovative team and help strengthen community connections while promoting digital inclusion.

To find out more, please visit [here](#)



age connects
west midlands.

Could you be the next person
to make a difference with us?

**WE'RE
HIRING!**

Neighbourhood Networker and
Digital Support Officer
£16,176.16 | 22 Hours
 Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield

SPREAD THE WORD

Soothing Stitches – Creative Sessions

The Art of Craft

Join us to enjoy workshops using textiles, stitch, clay and paper craft to promote wellness and creativity.

Communita Cafe, 78 Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5TJ

Time: Mondays 2-4pm

21st September, 5th & 19th October, 9th & 23rd November, 7th December.

No experience needed, for people 50+

FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK A FREE PLACE:
PLEASE CONTACT SALLY AT
SOOTHINGSTITCHES@BTINTERNET.COM 07808 988945
DIANE AT COMMUNITA CAFE:
D.MCCARRON@AGECONNECTSWM.ORG.UK

The Art of Craft

Join us to enjoy workshops using textiles, stitch, clay and paper craft to promote wellness and creativity.

Wylde Green URC Church, Britwell Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5SW

Taster Workshop: 5th August 11.30am-12.30pm
Time: Tuesdays 11am - 1pm

15th & 29th September, 13th October, 10th & 24th November, 8th December.

No experience needed, for people 50+

FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK A FREE PLACE:
PLEASE CONTACT SALLY AT
SOOTHINGSTITCHES@BTINTERNET.COM 07808 988945
BEV LYNE AT
WGURCFUN@PROTONMAIL.COM 07428430093

Soothing Stitches have been recently funded by Sutton Coldfield NNS to provide a series of creative workshops, starting mid September, for people aged over 50, utilising stitch, clay and paper craft.

They will be taking place on alternate weeks in the following locations:

- Communita Cafe, 76-78 Boldmere Rd B73 5TJ
Alternate Mondays, 2-4pm
- Wylde Green URC Church, Britwell Rd, B73 5SW
Alternate Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

To book email Sally at soothingstitches@btinternet.com

SPREAD THE WORD

Sutton Park Challenge – Midland Mencap

SUTTON PARK CHALLENGE

1km • 5km • 10km

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2026, 10:30AM
SUTTON PARK, SUTTON COLDFIELD, B74 2YT

SIGN UP VISIT:
MIDLANDMENCAP.ORG.UK/GET-INVOLVED/SUTTON-PARK-CHALLENGE/
OR SCAN HERE:

Take on the challenge and support people with a learning disability in the West Midlands.

What to expect:

- 1km, 5km, or 10km challenge
- Walk, jog, run or wheel your way around Sutton Park
- Water and medical support
- Medal for everyone
- Free parking

Who can join:

- Everyone welcome (Dogs and pushchairs too)
- Children under 11 must come with an adult
- You must be 14+ for the 10km

Cost:

- 1k: £5
- 5k: £15
- 10k: £17

Where:

- Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2YT

Date and time:

- Sunday 4th October 2026 (Registration from 9:30am)
- 1km starts 10am. The 5km & 10km starts 10:30am

How can I book this?
Scan the QR code or visit our website:
midlandmencap.org.uk/get-involved/sutton-park-challenge/

For more information, please contact:
Email: engage@midlandmencap.org.uk
Phone: 0121 442 2944

Get involved in the Midlands Mencap – Sutton Park Challenge. Take on the challenge of 1km, 5km or 10km, walking, jogging or wheeling your way around Sutton Park and support people with a learning disability in the West Midlands at the same time

Sunday 4th October (registration starts from 10am)

To book, please visit
www.midlandmencap.org.uk/getinvolved/sutton-park-challenge/

Centres for Warmth – Age Connects West Midlands

Centres for Warmth

WHEN?
The 3rd Friday of Each Month
From 10am - 12pm
19th June
17th July
21st August
18th September
16th October
20th November
18th December

WHERE?
Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church,
Trinity Hill,
The Parade,
Sutton Coldfield,
B72 1TA

WHAT IS A CENTRE FOR WARMTH?
A Centre for Warmth is a free drop in session where you can get:

- Home energy advice to reduce energy use, save money, stay warm and comfortable and reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change;
- Information about how the Priority Services Register can help you and support to sign up to it;
- Benefits and debt advice and support;
- Free slow cookers and BrumEnergy warm home items;
- Gas Safety support and advice.




CONTACT US
0121 362 3650
energy@ageconnectswm.org.uk



Centres for Warmth

WHEN?
The last Tuesday of every month
From 10.00am - 12.00pm
27th May
30th June
28th July
25th August
29th September
27th October
24th November
29th December

WHERE?
Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church,
1 Brasington Avenue,
Sutton Coldfield,
B73 6AA

WHAT IS A CENTRE FOR WARMTH?
A Centre for Warmth is a free drop in session where you can get:

- Home energy advice to reduce energy use, save money, stay warm and comfortable and reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change;
- Information about how the Priority Services Register can help you and support to sign up to it;
- Benefits and debt advice and support;
- Free slow cookers and BrumEnergy warm home items;
- Gas Safety support and advice.




CONTACT US
0121 362 3650
energy@ageconnectswm.org.uk



Age Connects West Midlands' 'Centres for Warmth' are currently operating at Sutton Coldfield URC and Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church. **A Centre for Warmth is a free, welcoming drop-in session designed to help you stay warm, save money, and get the support you need.**

When you visit, you can access:

- Advice on reducing energy bills and keeping your home warm
- Information and support with the Priority Services Register
- Benefits and debt advice
- Free energy-saving items (like slow cookers and warm home essentials)
- Gas safety advice and support

It's a friendly space where you can get practical help, speak to advisors, and feel supported. Open to everyone – no booking needed. Just drop in!

Do you offer activities for older people or adults with additional needs?

Please get in touch to discover how we can support your local community group or organisation!

To find out more about the Sutton Coldfield NNS you can visit

 <https://suttoncoldfieldnns.blogspot.com/>

 0121 362 3650

 nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk

 [Sutton Coldfield NNS](#)