

# STOCKFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

The quarterly Newsletter from Stockfield Community Association



Stockfield  
Community  
Association

**Issue 55**  
**Spring 2019**

SUMMER 2019



Save  
the  
Date

## Summer Fun Day 2019

Saturday - 13 July 2019  
11:30am - 4:30pm  
Stockfield Park, Cedars Avenue, B27 6JL

### Easter Competitions

See the centre pages for  
two fabulous competitions

#### Easter Colouring    Writing Competition

**Ages**

**0-7**

**7-11**

**11-16**

**Ages**

**7-11**

**11-16**

Deliver your entry for either competition to:

**Cost Cutter and Post Office**  
**61-63 Yardley Road, Acocks Green, B27 6LL**

A free packet of Cadbury's Mini Eggs for all entries  
Closing Date: 26 April 2019



# STOCKFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WEBSITE LAUNCH

Stockfield Community Association is very excited to announce the launch of its newly designed website.

You'll find it at **[www.stockfield.org](http://www.stockfield.org)**

Please check it out, we hope that the new website will be easy to use and be a great source of information for Stockfield tenants and the wider area.

Please let us have your feedback at [stockfieldca@gmail.com](mailto:stockfieldca@gmail.com) so we can tailor the website to your needs



## Safety information for residents from PCSO 30087 Kevin Large



A distraction burglary has recently been reported in the Stockfield Estate area. Please be aware of Bogus 'workmen' who may say that they need to come in to check something or make urgent repairs.

Be careful also of callers who offer to make building repairs or tarmac your drive.

Often they'll ask for money in advance; they may even offer to drive you to the bank to withdraw money to pay them.

If you need any building work done, get several written quotes from reputable firms, then decide which one is best. If in doubt, talk it through with a neighbour or someone in your family. Genuine callers will normally make an appointment first and will carry identification with their photograph on.

**ALWAYS PUT THE CHAIN ON BEFORE OPENING YOUR FRONT DOOR.**

## Binding Pages

### Arts Activities for the Over 50s

A social prescribing referral\* scheme for residents in the Yardley district who might be feeling lonely or isolated

A great opportunity for residents to attend a 6 week creativity course, meet others and make local connections

\*Referrals to include carers and residents who are able to participate independently or with pre-arranged support

#### Activities may include

- PERFORMING:** drumming, singing, drama
- WRITING:** creative writing, poetry, autobiography
- VISUAL ARTS:** pottery, drawing, painting
- MAKING:** jewellery, sewing, knitting
- CREATING:** crafts, lanterns, recycled arts

**2019 Start Dates:** 20 March                      1 May  
    12 June    24 July  
    11 September                                      23 October

Wednesdays 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm  
Acocks Green Library, Shirley Road B27 7XH

To find out more or book a place please contact Claire Starmer:

e: [Claire.Starmer@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Starmer@birmingham.gov.uk)  
t: 0121 464 9277



Birmingham City Council



# WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE CAMPAIGNS

## Advice to keep you safe



**KEEPING YOU SAFE AND WELL**

**LET US HELP!**

**ASK STAFF OR 0800 389 5525**

For further information:  
[www.wmfs.net](http://www.wmfs.net)  WestMidsFire  WestMidsFire

### SAFE AND WELL CAMPAIGN

Why not try this service free of charge. Get a home visit where the fire service will either check or fit smoke alarms. They will also offer fire safety advice about the property and talk about what you should do in the event of a fire.



**Watch what you heat**

**This building has a high number of cooking fires**

**Think it can't happen to you? THINK AGAIN!**

**Take care in the kitchen**



### "WATCH WHAT YOU HEAT"

This Campaign is to encourage people to be careful whilst cooking. The Fire Service have had a rise in kitchen fires in the Acocks Green area due to either unattended cooking or ovens and cookers not being cleaned and the grease catching fire. This campaign is to reiterate the importance of not leaving cooking unattended, and the need to regularly clean our ovens.

If you do discover a fire in their oven or on the hob **NOT** attempt to extinguish the fire yourself.

**PLEASE LEAVE THE PROPERTY, SHUTTING THE KITCHEN DOOR ON THE WAY OUT, GET EVERYONE OUT THE OF PROPERTY AND STAY OUT. THEN CALL 999**



**Birmingham Youth Services**



**YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE**  
100 HOLDER ROAD, SOUTH YARDLEY  
BIRMINGHAM B25 8AS

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 11 - 25**

RECORDING STUDIO • GREEN SCREEN PHOTOGRAPHY  
VINYL CLOTHES PRINTING • SUPPORT, GUIDANCE & ADVICE  
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT • SEXUAL HEALTH INFORMATION

**OPEN ACCESS YOUTH SESSIONS**

**SPACE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT  
DAVE BARRETT ON 0121 303 6224

**Birmingham Youth Service**  
Projects / Open Access Youth Clubs

**Birmingham Career Service**

**National Trust - The Vibe Urban Rangers**  
(Partnership Conservation Project)

**Scouts**  
187th Bierton Scout Group

**Beavers**

**Yin Yang**  
Kick Boxing

**JDC Dance**  
Modern and Contemporary Dance Lessons

**Silver Threads**  
Mature Dance Group & Social Events

**Child Minders, Parents & Toddlers Group**

**Women's Institute**

# FREE MEALS

## for families during the school holidays

**Acocks Green Baptist Church (39 Yardley Road B27 6HG)** in association with FareShare West Midlands and Birmingham City Council will be providing meals free of charge to families who have difficulty providing food during the school holidays.

The food will be provided by FareShare and a meal will be prepared every week day (except Bank Holidays) during school holidays for families in need. Although this is held in the Baptist Church Hall it is open to all families who need help irrespective of beliefs or religion.



*This service will be running during the Easter Holiday from Monday 15th April to Thursday 18th April (closed Friday 19th April – Good Friday) and Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 26th April (closed Monday 22nd April – Easter Monday) and subsequent school holidays. Meals will be served from 12.00 pm to 12.30 pm.*

In order to get an idea of numbers to ensure that all are catered for, please contact: **Pastor Graham George** with your name, contact telephone number and number of meals required; email [graham.george5@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.george5@btinternet.com) or 'phone 07918 706888 no later than Friday 12th April.



**We have seen a huge increase in people seeking help not just from Acocks Green but from all over Birmingham in the last few months.**

*Universal Credit continues to be a driving factor with the six week wait for benefits coupled with poor administration meaning more and more people, even with families, are left with no help and support.*

**Our vision** is to see an end to hunger and poverty in Acocks Green and Birmingham so we don't want to send anyone away hungry. We are continually under pressure to increase our food stocks and Acocks Green Food bank relies on the goodwill and support of local people - we can't do this without YOU.

We want to focus help for people in crisis, particularly families, in Acocks Green and close by providing them with a crisis pack. Crisis packs are for those people who can show they live in Acocks Green or the surrounding area and they have particular circumstances that they need help with. We aim to provide everyone in crisis a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

If someone does not qualify for a crisis pack we will always make sure they go away with a small pack regardless of their circumstances.

All of the food we distribute is donated by the public. All of the money we collect is spent on food – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to operate. Through the continuing support of churches, schools, scouts and individuals we can see an end to hunger in Acocks Green.

You can help in a number of ways. If you would like more information please contact Terry on 07853 638291. It's usually an answer-phone so please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

1. **Donate money** Every penny is spent on food-bank supplies.
2. **Donate food** We're open on Tuesday and Friday to collect it.
3. **Volunteer** to look for and manage new sources of food (schools, supermarkets, shops etc)

**Please be a part of supporting your local food-bank. We can't operate without you.  
Thank you for your continued support - from all the volunteers at food-bank.**

# What's on at Fox Hollies Forum

(Reg Charity No 1174330)  
Greenwood Avenue, Acocks Green B27 7RA

## For over 50's Social, Fitness and Wellbeing

### Monday



#### Carpet Bowls for beginners

1.00pm -2.30pm  
Gentle exercise play carpet bowls.  
All abilities welcome a chance to meet new friends  
Cost: **£2.00**

### Tuesday



#### Yarn & Yarn

12.00noon – 2.30pm  
Get together with like minded people Who enjoy being creative. Share your craft skills and ideas whilst making new friends over a cuppa  
Cost **£1.00**

### Wednesday Line Dancing



10.30am-12.noon  
For fun and fitness  
Cost **£1.50**



#### Lite Bite Club

12.00noon-1.00pm  
Join us for a sandwich, cuppa and chat.  
Cost **£1.50**



#### Social Club

1.00pm-2.45pm  
Social club for older people offering bingo, Raffles and quizzes over a cup of tea. Facilitate group holidays and days out. It's a great chance to meet people and make new friends.  
Facilitate group holidays and days out.  
Cost **£1.00**

### Wednesday Acocks Green Men's Shed



12.00noon - 3.00pm  
Help us get the Shed up and running! We're in the process of turning two empty spaces at Fox Hollies Forum into a community shed and a comfy restroom. Whether you have woodworking skills or are just keen to help and be part of this exciting new initiative, come along for a couple of hours and meet other likeminded shedders!

### Friday



#### Lunch Club

10.30am to 2.30pm  
An adult club for anyone who is housebound. disabled or feels socially isolated. It's a great way to meet people and have fun in a friendly supportive atmosphere. On arrival you will receive toast and tea and coffee. Lunch consists of a 2 course meal, freshly cooked. Vegetarian alternative are available. We provide gentle exercise, quizzes, games and sometimes live entertainment. A pleasant way to pass the hours in good company and lovely homemade food.  
Cost **£6.00**

*We can help you register with ring and ride to attend our clubs.*

*All our staff and volunteers are D.B.S.*

*For further details telephone 0121 706 0652 or email [foxholliescommassoc@gmail.com](mailto:foxholliescommassoc@gmail.com)*



search fox hollies forum



If you shop at:



Vote for:  
Fox Hollies Community Association CIO  
'Get Active Mash-Up Project'

To help us get £4000 towards youth work in Acocks Green.

Tesco Extra  
Yardley - the Swan

Tesco Superstore Sheldon,  
Cov Road

Tesco Express Olton -  
Warwick Rd

Tesco Express Hobs Moat -  
Hobs Moat Rd

**GET A BLUE TOKEN  
EVERYTIME YOU SHOP  
AND VOTE FOR OUR  
PROJECT AT THE EXIT**

HEY  
BRUM  
YOUTH!

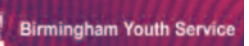
Need help finding a job,  
college course, training  
or apprenticeship?

If you are aged 16 or over, live in Birmingham, have the right to work in the UK and currently not in education, employment or training then Youth Promise Plus can help you!

Visit us at The Vibe

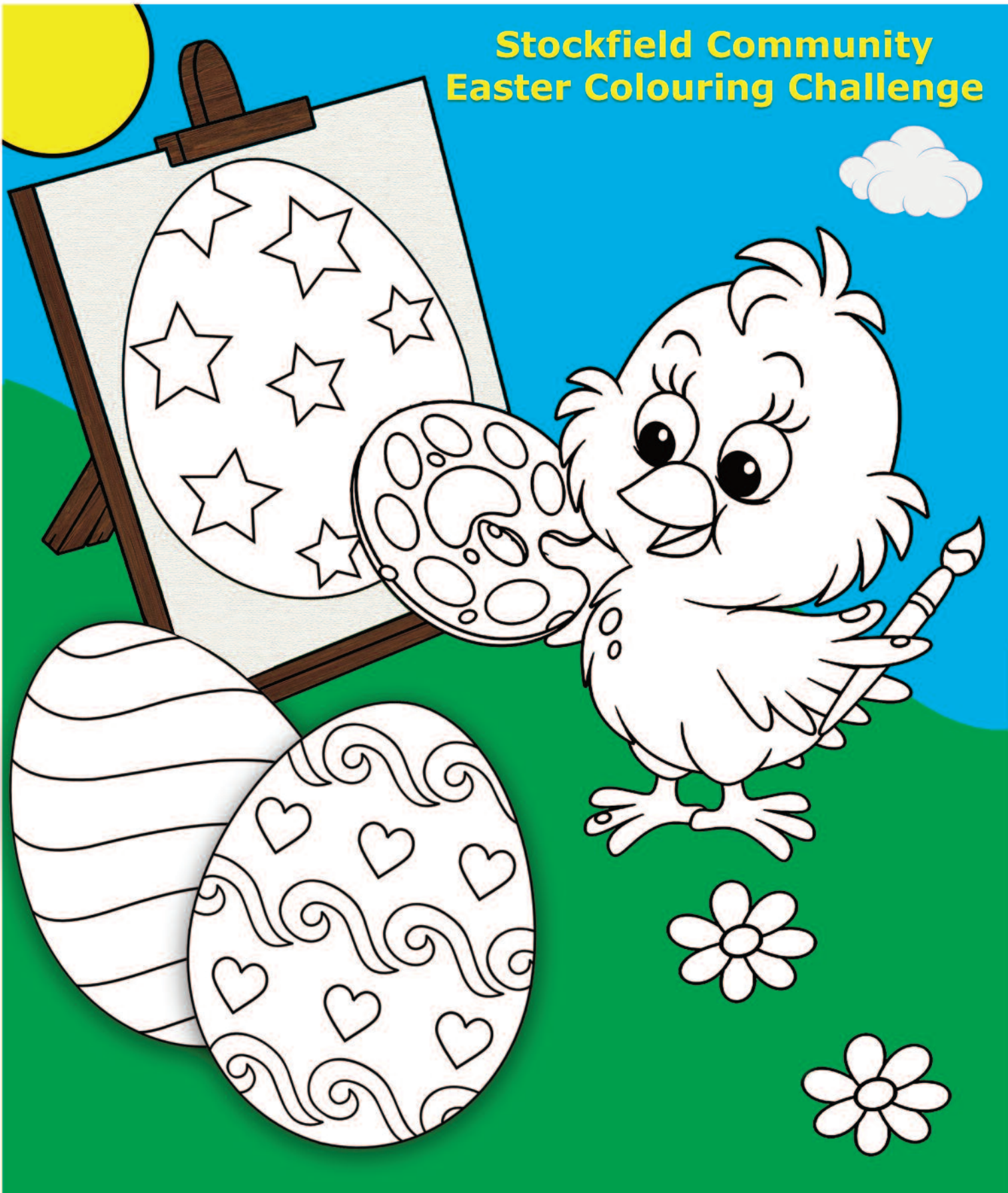
100 Holder Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8AS

Drop in and visit an adviser, Wednesdays 1pm-4.30pm  
[www.heybrumyouth.co.uk](http://www.heybrumyouth.co.uk)



Youth Promise Plus is a Birmingham and Edgbaston employment pathway project supported by the European Social Fund and the Youth Employment Initiative

# Stockfield Community Easter Colouring Challenge



Stockfield Community Association

**Entry Form**

Name.....Age.....

Contact Details/Address.....

.....  
.....

# My Neighbourhood... My Voice

Using our special 'StocksApp'

why not write a

**short poem** or **rap** or **verse**

about why living in the Acocks Green area is so special

**Name**

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**Age**

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**Contact**

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## Introducing the Disability Resource Centre!

Disability Resource Centre (DRC) is a charity run by disabled people, for disabled people. Through a range of services, we support people with long-term health conditions, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, learning disabilities and mental ill health, their families and their carers.

Our Information, Health and Wellbeing Centre is based in Kitts Green and we support people across Birmingham, Solihull and the wider West Midlands. All our services are free of charge and include:

### Information and Advice Services

- Benefits advice
- Fuel and energy advice
- Debt advice
- Housing advice
- Independent Living support
- Safe and Sound workshops



### Employment and Training Services

- Opportunities for Life workshops
- CV writing and job search
- Volunteering opportunities
- Confidence building and IT training



### Health and Well-being Services

- Walking groups
- Fit for Life workshops
- Coffee morning socials
- Arts and crafts groups
- Counselling and psychological support

To find out more, please phone us on

**03030 40 20 40**

like us on Facebook or visit our website

**[www.disability.co.uk](http://www.disability.co.uk)**

*Disability Resource Centre is a registered charity, number 1034581. Registered address: Unit 18, Ace Business Park, Mackadown Lane, Kitts Green, Birmingham, B33 0LD.*

## ManMade

upcycling sessions for men

**Are you retired?  
Are you over 50?  
Hate waste & love the planet?**

**Come and join us at the Scrapstore!**

10 free, friendly, upcycling sessions for men over 50, will be taking place between May & July, primarily at the Yardley Scrapstore.

For more info, contact Sylvia: [artsintheyard@gmail.com](mailto:artsintheyard@gmail.com), 07428 00 83 79



The Scrapstore, Unit 6 Swan Courtyard,  
Charles Edward Road, South Yardley,  
Birmingham, B26 1BU





Both teams showed great skills. Technically and tactically, the passing and the defence

## Netball team in action

*On the 12th February Cedars Netball team played at home against Yardley Wood and what a game!*



were outstanding. It was a game full of intensity, passion and fair play.

The final score was a draw of 4-4. Well done to everyone who took part in this game, special mention, to Miss Hodgins for coaching the pupils and all the staff and parents that came to support the team. What a great atmosphere!

## LONDON VISIT

*On Tuesday 12th March, Cedars Academy school councillors had an amazing opportunity to visit London for a tour of the Houses of Parliament and the Natural History Museum.*

Our first stop was The Natural History Museum, which was filled with incredible artifacts such as lots of wild animals, fossils and dinosaur bones!

After lunch, we travelled to the Houses of Parliament for a grand tour! We had to go through lots of security check points before we entered a VERY grand building. We split into 2 groups for a tour where we learnt all about how our country's laws are made and discussed in the House of Commons and House of Lords. We saw experts in the House of Lords discussing dental hygiene for children, something which actually affects us, and were VERY lucky to see the Prime Minister in action in the House of Commons. We visited on an important day in the history of our country and saw all the MPs debating about Brexit!

Then to top off an already exciting day, our local MP, Jess Phillips from the Labour Party came to meet with us to answer some of our questions. She shared with us how she got into politics and what her job is like on a day to day basis.



***All in all, a fantastic day!***

# Acocks Green Village in Bloom



in  
partnership  
with



## Spring Newsletter 2019

I hope that by the time you read this that the winds and rain brought by hurricane Gareth will be just a distant memory.

### Update

The Bloom team as usual has been working throughout the winter. At the 'Triabout' area, which forms the entrance into our wonderful city from Solihull, the wall for the raised bed is progressing and we have a plan for the shrub planting to be carried out soon. Close your eyes and try to imagine a yellow leaved central plant, surrounded by purple and red shrubs which are going flanked by contrasting grey and purple leaved plants. In the centre of the raised bed, we intend to plant a variegated holly which in turn will be surrounded by a ring of Pieris 'Forest Flame.' All these shrubs retain their leaves throughout the year thus providing ongoing interest.

We have also repaired turf beds and worked on all the other beds to prepare them for the final planting before the judges descend upon us on 1st July.

### The Use of Water

This year the theme from the Royal Horticultural Society will be 'The Use of Water.' Unfortunately, Acocks Green does not have the space of Chatsworth House with its mountainous fountains and lakes but we have installed a small pond next to our Bug hotel on Woodcock Lane. We are hoping that our resident toads and all the surrounding birds will make good use of it. We have various water butts tucked away in parts of the village but are on the look out for more downpipes to add to them.

### Anti-Litter Campaign - 'Keep the Green Clean'

I think that you all know that we loathe litter and wish that people did not drop it and we are continually litter picking when working in the village. However, in our quest to do more to alleviate this problem, we have initiated a campaign with the slogan 'Keep the Green Clean.' We needed a poster to promote this and therefore invited our local schools to ask their pupils to produce one which depicted this campaign, and the one selected was created by Meenu from Acocks Green School. I am sure you will agree it is beautiful. We hope that it highlighted the problem of litter to children who will in turn help us to 'Keep the Green Clean' - or so we hope.



### Thoughts for Spring

Now is the time for preparation work for the flowering year ahead. If the drought we have been promised arrives, it is wise to mulch your flower and vegetable beds. This can be achieved by adding nutrient rich garden compost and slow release fertiliser including pelleted chicken manure or blood, fish and bone and then layering leaf mould on top.

It is now a good time to bring out your dahlia tubers and pot them on, leaving them in a frost free environment to develop ready for planting out during late May; the same applies to begonias. This year we have bought some trailing geranium plug plants to grow on again in frost free areas; many of them are to be planted in hanging baskets and the 22 planters all along the main Warwick Road. You can do this with petunias and any other annuals.

You may like to remember to pinch out the tips of fuchsia shoots and sweet pea plants to encourage a more bushy plant.

## A special note for daffodils

The common daffodils which people plant should be deadheaded but leaving the plant to put the energy back into the bulb.

However, I do not know if like us, you have planted any of the English native daffodils – (pseudo narcissus lobularia lent lily). Because these are different and spread by seed, you should not dead head these and they will spread really well. I love their natural look and they are not too tall which prevents them from being blown over by the wind. You can buy them 'in the green' (I do not mean the village) in huge quantities for a very small amount of expenditure – the same can be said for snowdrops and many other Spring flowering plants.

## Back to Nature

I have always been an organic gardener and have had no problem with getting my plants to grow and thrive. If people would avoid using slug pellets, it would be to the benefit of small creatures such as hedgehogs, frogs and birds that live on slugs and will die if they eat slugs which have digested the pellets. The use of weedkiller and chemical aphid control is not good for wildlife. Spraying plants to rid them of aphids' means there is less food for birds such as blue tits. Let's get back to Nature's healthy balance! If you must spray, then I would ask you to please consider non chemical controls.

**Fran Lee**

Co-ordinator - Acocks Green Village in Bloom

## SPRINGFEST!

*Put the date on your calendars. Village in Bloom will be holding a festival to celebrate Springtime with live music, bargain plants, stalls, local crafts and lots more. All proceeds go towards supporting Village in Bloom's continued success.*

Acocks Green Village in Bloom



# Springfest!

**Saturday 11th May 11am - 3pm**

**Mallard Close, Acocks Green, B27 6BN**

**Live Music**   **Bargain**   **Lots of Stalls**

*Local band **Canoe** playing  
hits across the decades  
+ **Barry The Busker** and guests!*

**Plants!**

**Local Crafts**

**Hot Food by 260th Scouts** ★ **Raffle** ★ **Meet the Beekeeper & Bees**  
**Seed Sowing** ★ **Local Trader Stalls** ★ **Local Honey**

For more information contact Co-ordinator Fran Lee 0121 706 0076—[fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk)

# STOCKFIELD ESTATE NEWS



**Stockfield Community Watch** continues to bring residents and the Police together on walkabouts of the neighbourhood. Co-ordinated by Ann Ross, Community Watch is open to all Stockfield Estate residents to join in – so if you want to get involved, or find out more about helping to keep Stockfield a safe place to live please get in touch. For more info, or to join us, please contact:

**Ann Ross on 537 9326 or Daphne Francis on 07847 788647**

## HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN

Do you live on the Stockfield Estate? Do you take pride in where you live?  
Do you get infuriated and uncomfortable about litter in areas you frequently pass?

**Help clean up our streets. Please join us in organising a litter picking group and actively encourage people to keep our community clean.**

For more information please contact  
**Daphne Francis on 07847 788647**



## FITCAP



**FOLLOW US!**

 @FITCAPCIC

 facebook.com/FITCAPCIC

 www.fitcap.co.uk

## Stockfield Youth Provision

*We are excited to introduce from the 1st April 2019 (Fitness in the Community & Active Play) FITCAP as the new providers of youth activities on the Stockfield Estate.*

FITCAP are a Non-profit Community Interest Company who work in the local community for the community.

Local People are involved in our project and its plans to not only provide activities to encourage a healthy lifestyle and get Children & Young People off the streets but to provide training and volunteering opportunities.

**Stockfield Community Association tenants, repair contractor Family Housing will attend to urgent, routine and out of hours repairs. Their contact number is 0121 766 1115. This is a direct line to their contact centre and should also be used for out of hours calls.**

*Emergencies are attended to within 24 hours*

*Urgent Jobs are attended to within 7 days*

*Routine jobs are attended to within 31 days*

When you call please give all relevant information so that the contact centre can pass the repair request to Family Housing with the minimum of delay.

The Stockfield dedicated Officers are  
Sgt Darren Brown, Sgt Anna Wilson and PCSO Large

To make direct contact with us call

**0845 113 5000**

and dial extension number 7824 6928.

Alternatively email us at:

e3 nhp acocksgreen@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk  
the neighbourhood team website is:

<http://www.west-midlands.police.uk/np/belgraveroad/n17.asp>

Contact your local resident Director:

Amanda Millward - 0796 978 1999

**Office Number: 0121 707 9899**

(24 hours answerphone)



Dog Warden Tel: 0121 303 6007  
to report any problems  
with dogs and fouling.

## ☎ Useful Telephone Numbers ☎

- **STOCKFIELD CA TENANTS** - your Housing Officer is **Anil Gill** of Bromford Housing.  
NEW NUMBER FOR THIS TEAM: 07793 902971 or email: [anil.gill@bromford.co.uk](mailto:anil.gill@bromford.co.uk)
- **BROMFORD TENANTS** - your Housing Manager is **Anil Gill**: **0330 1234 034 E: [anil.gill@bromford.co.uk](mailto:anil.gill@bromford.co.uk)**
- **DEBT & BENEFITS ADVICE** - For **Debt Advice**, please call the helpline on **303 2087**.  
For **Benefits Advice**, contact the Neighbourhood Office on **303 0596**.
- **STOCKFIELD CA TENANTS - REPAIRS** - Family Housing is the repair contractor - **0121 766 1115**.
- **BULK RUBBISH COLLECTION: 0121 303 1112**
- **ACOCKS GREEN POLICE STATION: 0845 113 5000 x 7824 6587 (999 in emergency).**