

STOCKFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

The quarterly Newsletter from Stockfield Community Association



Stockfield
Community
Association

Issue 50
Summer 2017

SPECIAL EDITION

The Stockfield Fun Day

**The sun came out...
...and so did we!**



**Full picture story
on the centre pages**

Stockfield Community Association is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales No. 02588109. Registered Charity No. 1003108

Registered Office: C/O Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP, 134 Edmund Street, Birmingham, B3 2ES.

Back numbers of our newsletter and other useful information is available on our website www.stockfield.org

Stockfield Community Association Gardening Competition

Fran Lee - Acocks Green Village in Bloom

Mrs Meakin - 1st

The judges considered that Mrs. Meakin's garden had the edge over the others. We were met by tall hollyhocks and lots of white shasta daisies lighting up the borders. Shrubs softened the fence and the borders were very neatly edged. The 'soft furnishings' of the garden including arches and a small lighthouse added to the cosy ambiance. Day lilies were in abundance and there were the makings of the true cottage garden when rhubarb was mentioned and the possibility of growing other vegetables. We could immediately tell that she loves her garden.

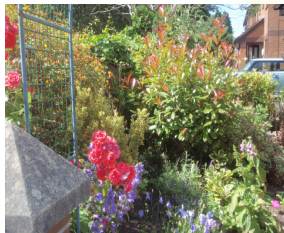


Liz Leach - 2nd

The judges were greeted with a colourful front garden - Verbena bonariensis stood tall, with the annual lobelia, blue and white (do you think she is a Birmingham City fan?). These bright colours contrasted with the dark leaved cannas. She can be described as a plantswoman whose rear garden would give all year round interest. Fuchsias, hardy geranium, alchemilla mollis, tree peonies both pink and yellow flowering and a magnolia give vibrancy to this small garden. With the outside seating, this is definitely the room to be in when the sun shines.

Sarah May - 3rd

A garden with character would be an apt description. On entering, the view is of a neatly edged lawn with round stepping stones leading to a handmade garden room. Shaped wooden pieces had been used along with an arched window, reclaimed from an old building. An old gate was at right angles with fence to hide the wheel barrow. The shaped borders featured hardy plants including Erysimum 'bowles mauve' and Japanese anemones. Sarah informed us that this garden reflects her quirky character. We would agree.



Mr. Humphries - Commendation

We were greeted by a pretty front garden with roses and campanulas. The rear garden lawn is neatly edged with box and has water butts and compost bins neatly hidden away by the shed. The display of roses is repeated in this area along with containers adorning the fence and other pots, some of which were planted with colourful fuchsias. We always enjoy viewing this garden and his pride in it definitely shines out.

EASTER EGG DESIGN COMPETITION

Competition Winners In our Spring Newsletter Issue we had a little egg design competition. Thank you to everyone who entered and to Costcutter and Post Office, Yardley Road for being our collection station. *And our winners are:*



Category - up to 7 years
Bethany Maiden
- Aged 4.5 years



Category - 11-15 years
Shawnalee Steward
- Aged 13 years



Category - 7-11 years
Haadiyah Nawaz
- Aged 10 years



Stockfield Community Association



is delighted to announce

Big Lottery Funding to support their new project, 'Making Memories Sharing Memories'

Stockfield Community Association is working with Birmingham PlayCare Network and Sport4Life to run events for residents aged 60 or over and young people 5 – 14 years to make links, share experiences and create new friendships. The project will last for 12 months and will finish with a fantastic trip to Blakesley Hall next June 2018.

We shall be running:

- Tea dances starting from October 2017 at Acocks Green Baptist Church with music, dance leader, refreshments and lots of time to chat and make new friends
- 'Heritage of Play' sessions to elderly residents and children examining their childhood play experiences growing up in Acocks Green, these will start from November 2017
- The introduction of light chair (Extend) exercise classes also at Acocks Green Baptist Church
- 1 week of open access playscheme and sports coaching during the school summer holidays in Stockfield Park **31st July – 4th August 2017, 11am – 3pm every day.**

All activity and sessions are free including the trip to Blakesley Hall. If you are interested in attending any of these sessions and want to find out more please contact either

Daphne Francis 07758459405 or email daphne@daphnefrancis.com

Emma Payne from Birmingham PlayCare Network - 0121 236 2917 or email emma@bpcn.org.uk

PLAYMAKERS AWARD

Free

Leadership Skills



Monday 24th – Thursday 27th July
4pm-6pm @ Stockfield Park & Pod
& Friday 28th July
4-6pm @ Creation Climbing Centre,
582 Moseley Road, B12 9AA

(Must complete Playmakers Award to participate)

**** A 1 hour assessment will be done with BPCN the following week ****

**For further details please contact Mark Aaron
at mark@sport4life.org.uk**

0121 456 1818 (ext 2012) or 07826406030



In partnership with Stockfield Community Association

Play in parks is coming back to Stockfield Park!

31st July – Friday 4th August at 11am – 3pm every day

*Free outdoor play activities, games, sports, arts and crafts,
have fun, get messy, make friends*

Last year was our first year at Stockfield Park – it was a great success and we are back again by popular demand! Come and join us in the park and have a great time. Don't wear your best clothes as you might get messy as we do lots of creative play Birmingham PlayCare Network (BPCN) for the last 15 years manages a scheme where teams of play workers deliver open access play provision in parks and recreation grounds. These schemes run in the school holidays throughout the year and the aim is for children and their families to reclaim the green spaces around their homes, love outdoor active play. The scheme is NOT childcare and parents retain full responsibility. Children that are coming along to play in parks are free to come and go as they please. It is an open access scheme and there is no registration process and we are not registered or inspected by Ofsted due to the nature of the scheme.

You can find out where when we will be delivering the scheme and in which parks by looking on our website www.bpcn.org.uk or call us on 0121 236 2917

Registration Form

Participant Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Contact Number: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Emergency Contact Number: _____

Medical Details: _____

Signed by parent/carer/guardian: _____ Date: _____

Please bring completed form with you on Monday 24th July (Day 1)

The Stockfield Fun Day

8th JULY

ACOCKS GREEN FOODBANK

Welcome





The support for the annual Stockfield Community Fun Day was, as usual, amazing. A massive thank you to all who took part.

We are pleased to say the sale of raffle tickets, tombola, screen printing and donations raised £430 for the Acocks Green Foodbank.

Watch out for our Christmas Event See You Soon!

'The Cottage Garden'

My grandparents lived in a terraced house in Basal Heath and looking back it would probably be described as a cottage garden. My grandfather grew lots of vegetables and the sweet peas and dianthus (pinks) he grew amongst these would feature on the living room table. The cottage garden was originally used by labourers to grow food for their family, herbs for medicinal purposes and a small amount of flowers to attract insects away from their vegetables.

It was gentrified later and ultimately the typical cottage garden became packed tight with an informal crowding of a wide variety of plants, which is a signature feature – a mix of perennials including aquilegia, lupines, foxgloves, hardy geraniums and delphiniums coupled with annuals including nigella and stocks. Pastel shades give the look but also think about scent – use lavender along with the herbs rosemary, sage and thyme. Mix these with vegetables. All these twining around each other and competing for attention provide an interesting and attractive garden.

Sow some beetroot seeds now. I saw lots of beetroot in Tewkesbury as an edge of a flower border, its red veined leaves providing an attractive surround.

Roses are a necessary feature for the summer but think about the winter and spring. You can sow primula seeds now ready for the spring, put in some bluebell, daffodil and tulip bulbs later in the year and to brighten up the early months, plant some hellebores which are available in white and a soft purple. Don't forget snowdrops!

Straight paths are not the thing – winding paths in natural stone or gravel will give access to each part of the garden. Put in a picket fence providing spaces for flowers to poke through.

In a small garden, where space is a problem, put in arches through which clematis and honeysuckle can scramble.

Remember, there are no set rules when creating the cottage garden. It is what you want it to be and what you want to see and eat from your outside space.

Each one is different just like people!

Fran Lee - Acock's Green Village in Bloom

Acocks Green
Village in Bloom



GREEN BEATS: THE FAMILY SAMBA BAND

FREE MUSIC MAKING WORKSHOPS SUITABLE FOR
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, ADULTS AND FAMILIES

ALL INSTRUMENTS AND MATERIALS PROVIDED

AUTUMN 2017 DATES: SAMBA DRUMMING & PERCUSSION

KIMICHI SCHOOL 11.30AM - 1.00PM
111 YARDLEY ROAD SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER
ACOCKS GREEN SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER
B27 6LL SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GREENBEATSSAMBA

OR EMAIL: ARTSINTHEYARD@GMAIL.COM

ARTS IN THE YARD
yardley arts forum



Animal Agents - Summer Reading Challenge 2017



Illustrations © Tony Ross
for the Reading Agency

READING AGENCY
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Reading Agency and libraries are delighted to present the 2017 Summer Reading Challenge, Animal Agents - a whole host of clever creatures, ready to solve all kinds of crimes! This band of furry, slippery and feathered friends is specially trained to use their skills and natural instincts to unravel mysteries - with a huge helping of fun along the way.

Don't be bored over summer, come and do the Animal Agents, Summer Reading Challenge 2017 at Acocks Green or South Yardley Library.

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays and it's for anyone who is between ages 4-11 years. You can sign up at your local library, and then read at least six books of your choice to collect special stickers, and other incentives along the way - **all for FREE**. There's a website to add to the fun too! www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



Congratulations appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire: MBE

David Treadwell, who has been awarded an MBE in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to the community in Acocks Green

Mrs Razia Ismail The Chair and Founder of Aaghee, a literary and cultural organisation based in Acocks Green since 1997 has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list 2017.

Calling all Photographers



Last year Village in Bloom produced the first ever calendar featuring contemporary photos of Acocks Green, which was very popular and sold out in record time. The photos included attractive scenes through the seasons including the Grand Union Canal, Westley Vale Millennium Green, the colourful planting around the village and the avenue of trees on Olton Boulevard.

This year we are asking people to send us the best photos they have taken around the area over recent years for inclusion in a full colour, professionally produced calendar for 2018. Each chosen photo will be credited to the photographer and you will be supporting Village in Bloom and all the great work they do around Acocks Green. We are especially short of winter photographs. Ask your friends and relatives to have a look through their photographs too!

Photo from this year's calendar: Mallard Community Orchard

Send photos in high quality jpg format to: ged_hughes@hotmail.com

We will notify you if we select your picture for the calendar.



Acocks Green History Society Talk

Tuesday 12th September
at 2.15pm

'A Virtual Tour
of the Outer Circle'
by David and Pam Humphries.

Get an insight into the famous no.11 bus. Every brummies favourite bus route and the longest bus route in Europe.

Everyone is welcome

£3 donation requested.



ARTS AND MEDIA AT THE GREEN

RAY STURDY

Remembering the Swinging Sixties

An amusing and nostalgic look back to life in the 1960s

ACOCKS GREEN LIBRARY

TUESDAY 25th JULY
at 2.15 p.m.

Free tickets available
from Acocks Green Library
A donation of £3 is requested after
the meeting to cover
accommodation and group costs



Investors in Pupils Award at Cottesbrooke Infant and Nursery School

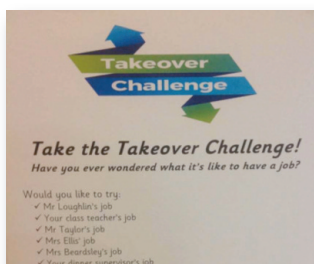


Our school has been working hard to achieve the Investors in Pupils award.

The Investors in Pupils award is all about getting children to take responsibility for making decisions and help adults run aspects of the school. It helps them become good citizens.

Our children are amazing! They have:

- Held a launch assembly where Jess Philips came to speak
- Elected Investors in Pupils Class Representatives
- Written class mission statements which everyone signed up to



- Made individual targets and class group goals which are reviewed regularly
- Written class induction books to welcome new children
- Elected School Councillors with a poster to let the councillors know what is of concern to them
- Contributed to a behaviour system where children are rewarded for good behaviour
- Introduced rules every term so that children clearly understand what is expected
- Learnt about where the school's money comes from and why we need to take such good care of our resources
- Taken part in a 'Takeover Challenge' where they applied for the adult's jobs and 34 children were chosen to takeover jobs in the school
- Learnt about training the staff go on to help them understand we are all learners
- Met with governors to fully understand their role

We also:

- Regularly celebrate and display evidence of the children's successes
- Celebrate all our staff for the contribution they make to the school
- Spend a lot of time learning about British Values and Equality to help support them in becoming good citizens within the school and within their communities

GET FIT 4 EMPLOYMENT



Get Fit 4 Employment is a sports-themed employability programme that supports young people to get back into education, employment, and training.

- Develop life skills
- Improve employability
- Gain a leadership qualification



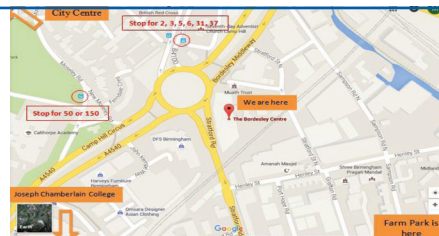
What's included?

- **FREE** accredited qualifications including: Level 1 in Sports Leadership & OCR Entry L3 in Employability
- **FREE** bus travel cards
- Up to £100 bursary on completion of the course
- 1 to 1 mentoring & employment support
- Interactive personal development workshops
- Team building trips
- Social action project & mock interviews at a local business

Who's it for? 16-29 year olds, not undertaking any training, not in education or employment

When is it? Starting Tuesday 1st August, every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for five weeks. 10am to 3pm

Where is it? The Muath Trust, Stratford Road, Sparkbrook, B11 1AR



The Muath Trust

Address: Stratford Road, Birmingham, West Midlands B11 1AR

The following buses will take you within walking distance of The Muath Trust: 50,X1, X2,5,6,2,3,31 & 37

If you require further directions or guidance, please contact Caitlin on 07519 810 918

ERG 33097 /PRO-098196



Open Tuesday and Friday - 10am to 12pm

WHO CAN WE HELP?

Anyone in crisis who lives in Acocks Green or the surrounding area can be helped. Sometimes it's just an unexpected bill. Sometimes it's illness or benefit sanctions – whatever the issue we want to help people by providing a warm

welcome and a listening ear as well as helping people to feed themselves for a few days. We want to try to help to move people on from crisis into a more positive future.

WHERE? Acocks Green Christian Centre, Rear of 100 Westley Road, Acocks Green, B27 7UL. Tel: 0121 707 2853

(*Names altered.)

Claire* looks after her grandson because her daughter has alcohol dependency issues. He's 17 now, has left school and can't find a job because he has an autistic spectrum disorder. He claims no benefits and lives off Alison's pension. She feeds them both and looks after her flat. **Abisha*** speaks very little English. Her husband has left her to raise three young children with no help from him. She worries about the noise the children make in the flat and has neighbour issues. She often goes without food so the children can eat more. **Brian*** lives on his own. He used to work until he had a breakdown. He finds it really embarrassing to ask for help. The Benefits Agency staff comes across to him as hostile and he really struggles to fill in the right forms and get to all the interviews.

Three people with one thing in common. They came into Acocks Green Foodbank and received a food package that will help to make sure they have enough to eat for three or four days. They didn't need a referral or a voucher because we have an open door policy. All three found more than a food package; they found someone to talk to. They found there's more help out there than you realise. You might hear about us and think "can I really make a difference?" You can make a difference; in a number of ways.

- Donating cash or food items to your local Foodbank really does make a difference and we are so grateful for everything we receive.
- We'd love to discuss volunteering opportunities on a Tuesday or Friday morning if you have the time.

The Stockfield Community Association is a huge contributor to the local Foodbank and through the donations of people just like you we will work together, today, to ensure that one day, there is no hunger in Acocks Green. Huge thanks for your recent help. If you would like to get involved please contact **Terry** on **07940 925950**.

Stockfield Community Association tenants have a new repairs contractor Family Housing who will attend to their 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 Trevor Orton, 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 any of your local resident Directors:

Amanda Millward - 0796 978 1999

Pam Smith - 0121 694 7128

Office Number: 0121 707 9899

(24 hours answerphone)



Dog Warden Tel: 0121 303 9900
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
- **BROMFORD TENANTS** - your Housing Manager is **Anil Gill**: **0330 1234 034 E: 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**.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL WARDENS: 0121 303 9800**
- **BULK RUBBISH COLLECTION: 0121 303 1112**
- **ACOCKS GREEN POLICE STATION: 0845 113 5000 x 7824 6587 (999 in emergency).**