

# STOCKFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

The quarterly Newsletter from Stockfield Community Association

**Easter 2022 - FREE**

**Read ALL  
About It!**

**Issue 62  
Spring 2022**



**Stockfield  
Community  
Association**

# WE'RE BACK!!

## 3 Years On - We've Missed **YOU**

Stockfield Fun Day the annual celebration of Community coming together with something for the whole family

The free event hosted by Stockfield Community Association will take place in Stockfield Park, on

**Saturday 4 June  
11:30 - 4:30pm**

Featuring on the day  
The Man in the Orange Jacket  
Alternative Therapies  
Animal Man  
Youth Activities  
Art and Crafts  
Face painting  
Inflatable  
Dance Group



## **JOIN US!**

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](http://www.stockfield.org)

# 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



Making West Midlands Safer  
WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE  
[www.wmfs.net](http://www.wmfs.net)

## WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

West Midlands Fire and Rescue service are able to carry out Safe and Wells at your property.

Our aim is to make you safer, stronger and healthier. We can visit your house to fit FREE smoke alarms, we also discuss fire safety within the home and can design you an escape plan to help you exit your property safely in the event of a fire.

If you have Covid concerns, we can also carry this out remotely. Just call the free phone number 0800 309 5525 or visit

[WWW.WMFS.NET](http://WWW.WMFS.NET)

and book your free Safe and Well appointment today.

## Be an Acocks Green Litter Champion!

The number of local people who are getting involved in keeping our area clean and tidy is growing.

As well as organised monthly litter-picks in Oaklands Park, Acocks Green Recreation Ground and Fox Hollies Park, local residents have been going out as individuals or with others to help tidy and keep their streets clean.

If you fancy being one of these active citizens, making a difference to your local neighbourhood, Councillor John O'Shea has blue council bin bags (designated for volunteers), bag hoops and litter-picking sticks available at Jess Philips office on Yardley Road.



Just pop in and say you want to be an Acocks Green Litter Champion. It would be great to see more volunteers coming forward from the Stockfield area.

Also check out the Facebook page which has 280 members: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/acocksgreenlitterchampions/>

# Making A Difference

## Include Summit 2022

On the 9th of March representing MAD Birmingham and Stockfield Community Association; members of the Youth group attended the 2022 Include Summit REP in Birmingham City Centre. The Include Summit is the UK's largest conference focussed on equality, diversity and inclusion in sport.

The group attended as speakers and were part of a panel discussion outlining what would make things easier for young people to get into both playing and working in sport.



### What do young people want?

The young people spoke in front of professionals from different sectors across the UK about:

- How did you first get involved with MAD and Stockfield?
- How long have you been an apprentice/ young coach? And what kind of things do you do?
- Can you share some of your experiences around engaging young people into sport?
- What would make things easier for you to do your job?
- What do some of the young people you work with want?
- What else can be done to help more young people to work in sport?





# WOOD AND METAL WORK VOLUNTEERS WANTED



Acocks Green Men's Shed is looking forward to opening its doors again to the local community offering a warm welcome to older men and women who are interested in developing their woodworking or metalworking skills, who want to mend things, share their own skills with others, or who simply want somewhere to go to meet up with other like-minded people.

The Shed at Fox Hollies Forum are restricted in the number of people we can accommodate at any one time. More volunteers means more sessions per week to help us ensure a safe working environment.

If you have woodworking or metalworking skills, time on your hands and would like to help out we look forward to hearing from you!

If you think this could be you, please get in touch on

0121 706 0652

ptlptlptl@yahoo.co.uk



# GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

- Social Gatherings
- Cafe - Tea Coffee Board Games
- Food Pantry
- Cooking and Crafts
- Local Nature Walks

To get involved, contact Nik on 07393487914

toweringcommunities@yahoo.com



## Citizen Community Support

Do you need support, help or advice?

We are here to help you with.....

- Benefits Advice
- Debt Advice
- Bills/Energy Advice
- Internet Skills
- Form Filling
- Befriending
- Social Activities
- Feeling lonely, isolated
- Setting up a Social Group Advice/Groups/Activitie
- Employment/Volunteering
- Other



Supporting the Community in Partnership



Contact Manjeet Birdi on 07799 904 269 mbirdi@disability.co.uk



### Criteria:

- 18yrs plus and older adults
- Living in the the Yardley Constituency (Greet, Sheldon, North Hall Green, Haymills, Stechford, South Yardley, Tyseley, Glebe Farm, /Tile Cross, Garrets Green, Acocks Green).

Address: Disability Resource Centre, Unit 18 Ace Business Park, Mackadown Lane, Birmingham B33 0LD Main Switchboard 0303 402040 Option 6 Website: www.disability.co.uk



FACEBOOK.COM/YARDLEYWALKINGFOOTBALL

YARDLEY WALKING FOOTBALL



MONDAYS 11AM

LOVED THE EUROS? YOUR CHANCE TO TRY A GENTLE VARIATION OF THE BEAUTIFUL GAME.

MALES AND FEMALES WELCOME. £5 PER SESSION (1ST SESSION FREE).

FOR MORE DETAILS 07393 327094

SEDGEMERE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, 21-25 SEDGEMERE RD, BIRMINGHAM B26 2AX

## World Book Day at Cottesbrooke

On Thursday 3rd March the children and staff at Cottesbrooke Infant & Nursery School celebrated the 25th Anniversary World Book Day. Children and staff dressed as their favourite book characters and shared stories throughout the day. As Covid restrictions have lifted, children enjoyed reading books with friends in other year groups. Year 2 staff all dressed as characters from Julia Donaldson and Alex Scheffler's Room on the Broom.

Mr Loughlin, the school's head teacher said, "It was wonderful to be able to celebrate World Book Day again. Last year, most children were at home learning because of lockdown. The children and staff had a fantastic day."

World Book Day is celebrated in over 100 countries. The children all receive a £1 book voucher to spend on specially printed World Book Day books written by famous children's authors or it can be used towards the cost of any book.

Cottesbrooke Infant & Nursery School was recently awarded a "Good" grade from Ofsted – their third in a row. The school's nursery places for September are currently being allocated.

If you are interested in a place, please contact the school on 0121 706 2742 or visit

**[www.cottesbrooke-inf.bham.sch.uk](http://www.cottesbrooke-inf.bham.sch.uk)**



## Lavender and Laughs!

It has been wonderful to see so many residents attend our Heritage of Play workshops and Lavender club sessions at Blakesley Hall. We have talked about toys, tasted sweets and reminisced about School days, all accompanied by lovely cakes, tea and coffee!



**BLAKESLEY HALL**

COME AND JOIN THE BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER PROJECT AT BLAKESLEY HALL'S LAVENDER CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACE PLEASE CONTACT BECKY COLEY ON: [BECKY@BPCN.ORG.UK](mailto:becky@bpcn.org.uk)

TAKE PART IN A RANGE OF FREE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES HELD AT THE HALL; INCLUDING BCT'S HERITAGE OF PLAY WORKSHOPS!

DATES:  
WED 16TH MARCH-10-12PM  
TUES 22ND MARCH- 10-12PM

ACTIVITIES ARE FOR THE OVER 60S

THE BCT PROJECT WILL PROVIDE FREE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM BLAKESLEY HALL FROM THE STOCKFIELD ESTATE.

Stockfield Community Association | ARTS IN THE HALL | bpcn Birmingham PlayCare Network

## FREE SPRING HAS SPRUNG TEA DANCE!

It's time to Spring clean your dancing shoes and join us for our Free Spring Tea Dance.

Come and join us on:

Wednesday 4th May 1-2.30pm

for our first Tea dance of the New Year!

The dance will be held at Arthur Moore Hall, facilitated by Xpress-Yourself dance.

No experience or partner necessary and the dance is followed up with a beautiful afternoon tea made by local business, Smithy's café and a quiz.

Booking is essential if you would like to attend, please contact

Becky Coley at: [becky@bpcn.org.uk](mailto:becky@bpcn.org.uk)

See you there!

Becky

The Building Community Together Project invites you to

A free Spring Tea Dance!

Acocks Green Baptist Church

Arthur Moore Hall

entrance on Alexander Road

Join us as we take you through a fun and relaxed afternoon of dancing. Everyone is welcome!

If you would like to join us please email: Becky Coley at [becky@bpcn.org.uk](mailto:becky@bpcn.org.uk) for more information and to book your place. Booking is essential.

Free Afternoon Tea provided.

WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 1-2.30PM

Hosted by Faye from Xpress-Yourself Dance

No experience or partner necessary

bpcn | ARTS IN THE HALL | Stockfield Community Association | proudly supported by COMMUNITY FUND

Made with PosterMyWall.com

# Building Community Together

It's great to be able to write about my new role as a Resident Engagement Officer with the **Building Community Together (BCT) Project**.

- Watch this space coming in April - I am excited to announce the re-opening of the Acocks green library coffee morning. We will be offering a place to meet and enjoy tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes. I am hoping this will be the start of community projects making use of the library space, collaborating with Arts and hobby groups.
- There is an opportunity to start a new allotment in the summer that can be used by local residents. I am looking forward to growing flowers and plants for Acocks green in bloom as well as planting a variety of vegetables, herbs and fruit. I'll keep you updated.
- Pastor Graham at Acocks Green Baptist Church (Yardley Road) has welcomed me into his kitchen. It's a good place to meet other volunteers while helping to prepare meals for local residents.

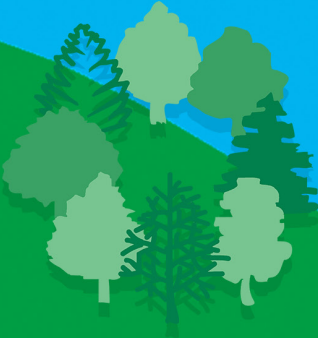
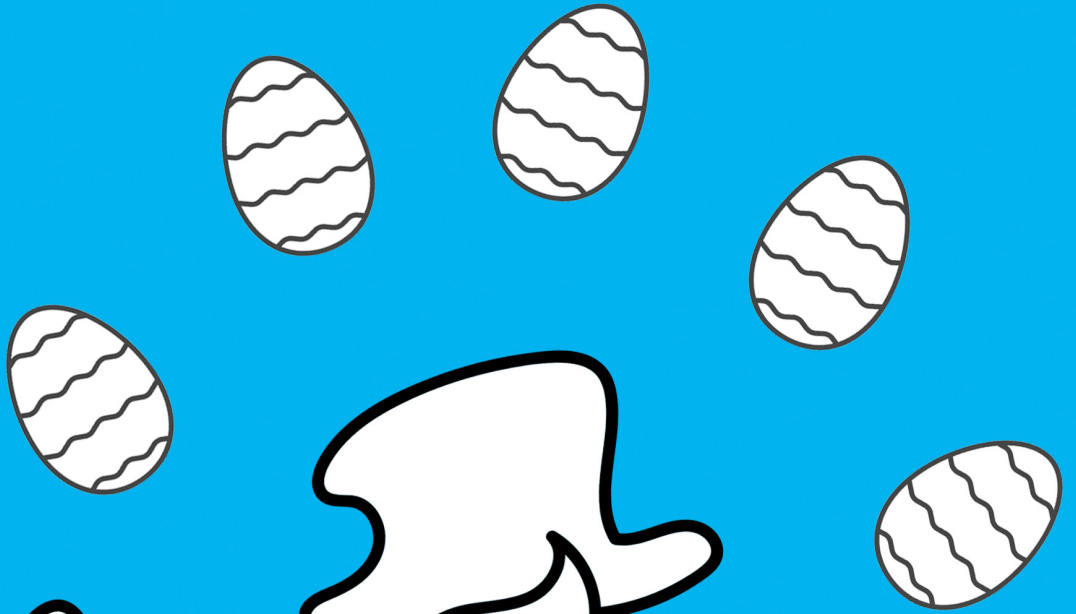
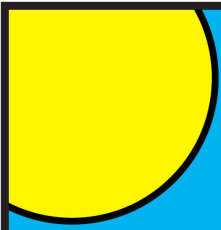
I am looking forward to all the new projects we have coming up as well as meeting residents' business owners and shop keepers over the next few months. If you see me out do, please say hello.

If you are interested in joining me in any of the above or just want to have a coffee and chat, please contact me on **07488 332 240**.

Wishing everyone a Happy Easter.

**Estelle Dukes-Hogan**

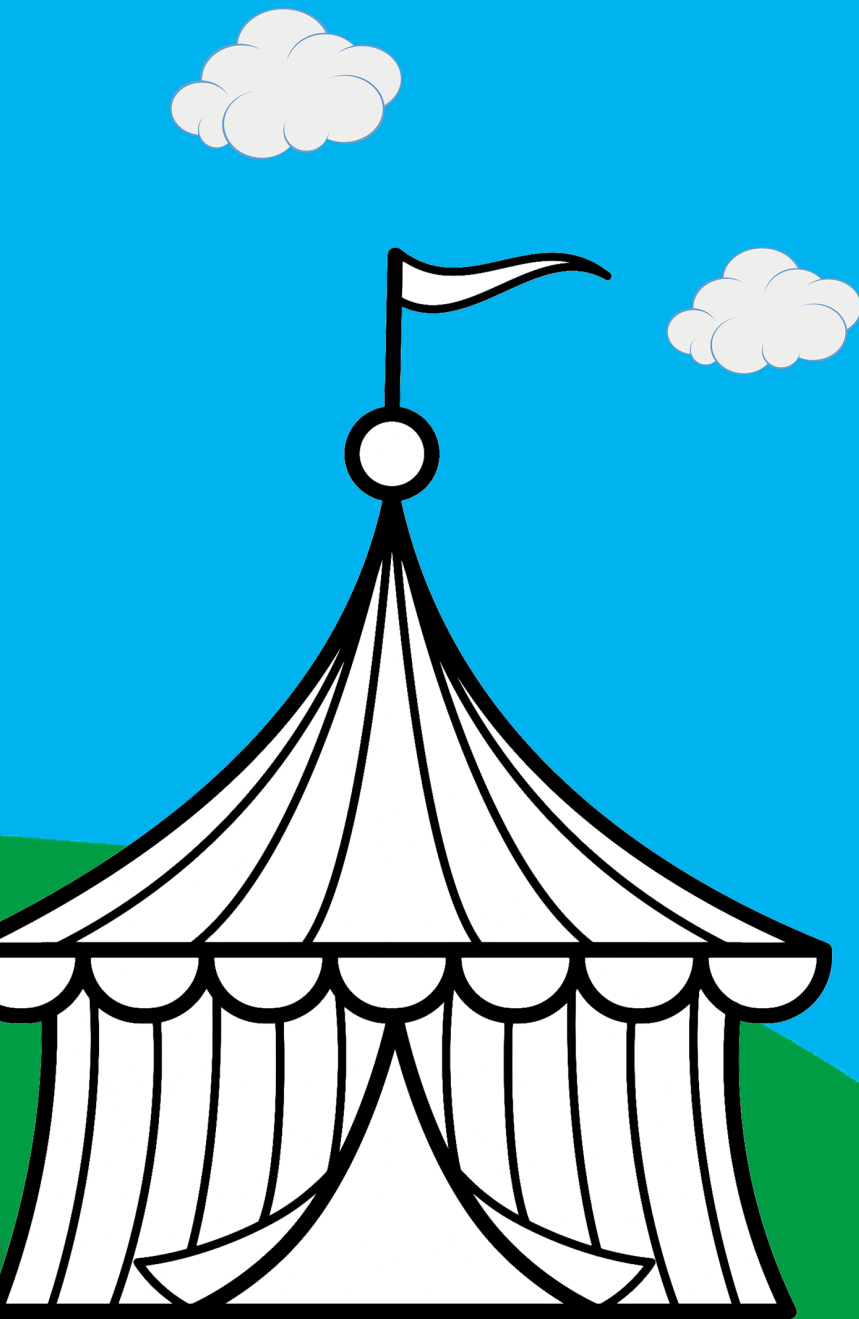




Eas

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# Stockfield Community Easter Colouring Challenge

How many eggs are hidden  
in this picture?

Clue: it's not just the eggs in  
the air!

Submit Your Entries by Sunday 24 April 2022

## Entry Form

Stockfield Community Association

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

Contact Details / Address.....

.....

.....

Take your entries to: Yardley Road Post Office, 61-63 Yardley Road, Acocks Green, B27 6LL

# Stockweave



Over the last 12 months, local residents have come together and contributed to a collaborative art piece. Installed at Stockfield Park the 'Stockweave' artwork represents many individuals' creative expressions. Each individual CD weave is totally unique and together the separate pieces form a larger piece of community artwork.

Lead artist Kelly Towle, who is part of the team at Arts In The Yard, designed, developed and curated the project - creating a vibrant and colourful addition to the park -

—“—

Stockweave has given me the opportunity to see how Stockfield and Acocks Green appreciate the arts. It has also given me the chance to interact with many local residents who appreciate the combined effort from lots of their neighbours. They like the colour and character it brings to the park. The feedback from residents is that it makes the park feel more welcoming - Kelly

—”—

# Acocks Green Village in Bloom



## Acocks Green Village in Bloom – Springtime Update

We know Spring is here with the daffodils, primroses and crocuses appearing following the early snowdrops – the light at the end of winter’s tunnel.

Coupled with nature, our plans are starting to come to fruition for the coming Bloom year. We have secured a grant from the ‘Celebrating Communities’ funding made available as a result of the Commonwealth Games coming to Birmingham this year. Here are some of our plans for the year ahead:

### Find the Flags Trail



There are 54 countries that belong to the Commonwealth. As a fun and interesting way to celebrate the different countries, Village in Bloom will be launching a ‘Find the Flags Trail’ around Acocks Green village.

Starting in June, you will be able to pick up a Trail Sheet from one of the participating businesses and go on a hunt around shops and businesses in the village to locate the 54 flags. When you find one of the flags, just write down where you saw it. Will you be able to you find all 54?!

Completed forms can be returned to collection points around the village and everyone who completes at least 50% of the flag trail will receive a commemorative souvenir. All entries will also go into a prize draw to have a chance of winning our Top Prize! As well as finding the flags participants will learn an interesting fact about each country.

The trail will be launched at the celebration Street Party on 4th June (see below). The form will also be available online to print out at home. The Flag Trail will be in place from the beginning of June until just before the start of the Commonwealth Games on 28th July. Everyone in the area is welcome to enter - children and adults too!

As well as the Flag Trail, some of the funds will go towards sourcing plants that are native to some of the Commonwealth countries to incorporate into planting in Acocks Green. We will of course have to choose plants appropriate for our climate. One example is Agapanthus from South Africa, known as African lily, which we will plant amongst the grey foliage of the Staccys Byzantina in the Triabout flowerbed (on the large island at the entry to the village from Olton). Another is Camellia Sinensis var. Assamica, which is a shrub from India. You might know it as the plant that produces tea! We hope to plant this in our herb bed at the Orchard in Mallard Close. With its white flowers it will look pretty as well as make you feel good!

# Street Party



Our third plan is a celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This will be held in the village on Saturday 4th June from 11am. The Village in Bloom team will be based around Mallard Close Community Orchard, selling plants, seed-sowing, giving gardening advice and will be joined by our local Beekeeper. There will be live music from popular rock band Canoe – playing tunes that span the reign of Elizabeth II. Kimichi Music school will be performing some classical tunes with our very own 'Britannia' performing Rule Britannia, and other Last Night of the Proms classics.

The service road in front the shops near Mallard Close will be closed to traffic for an array of interesting stalls. If you would like to have a stall, please get in touch. We are looking for crafts, vintage and plenty of plants and produce. Let's make the day go with a zing!

Dressing up for the occasion will be encouraged - we hope to see clothes from the fifties and sixties or other classic eras of our Queen's reign. What about seventies heels and flares? Perhaps someone would like to dress up as Churchill who was Prime Minister when the Queen first came to the throne! Have we got a Queen lookalike in the village?!

## Yardley Road Clean Up

As part of the improvement plan, we spoke with our councillors and suggested that a combined effort involving volunteers and the might of the council to carry out the deep cleaning and removal of more graffiti along the Yardley Road. Councillor John O'Shea has organised this for Tuesday 5th April. Do come along and help.

## Yardley Road Improvement Project

Mike Nash, a super local volunteer has been painting the BT & Virgin utility cabinets on the Yardley Road, to c

We have also been working with Building Community Together (Stockfield Community Association and Arts in Douglas Road, again to cover over lots of graffiti. The plan is for a colourful professional mural to be painted h



Before

Last year we transformed a piece of waste ground on Yardley Road in front of the three billboards, close to the canal access. After lots of digging, wildflower seeds were sown to form a meadow which looked beautiful in the summer. We have dug over the site again this year to rid it of excess weeds and will be sowing more wildflower seeds in April. We've also planted lots of daffodil bulbs at this site and in the beds by The Great Western Pub, which will flower each year. It really makes people proud when they see the results, such an improvement on what was there before. You can feel this pride too - if you would like to help, do get in touch.

## April Seed Sowing!

If you haven't already sown some seeds, then why not give it a go this year. Popular vegetables to start growing in April are cucumber, pepper, chilli, tomato, cabbage, beetroot, carrot, parsnip or how about herbs like basil? If you like flowers, easy seeds to try are marigolds, cosmos, sweet peas, sunflowers and nasturtium.



Bring a bit of colour to your neighbourhood. Follow the instructions on the back of the packets or go to Acocks Green or Yardley Library where they have an array of books full of gardening advice.

If you want to get involved with Village in Bloom events/activities then please contact me: Fran Lee, Co-ordinator – Acocks Green Village in Bloom. Even if you can only help occasionally, you are very welcome.

email: [fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk): Telephone: 0121 706 0076

over over unsightly graffiti.

the Yard) to improve the area from Mansfield Road to the Station. We have painted the wall at the end of ere. Planters are also going to be installed along the Yardley Road.

After



# CAREERS ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Aged 16-19 (up to 25 with SEND) and not in education, employment or training?

Our Careers Advisers Can help you



Advice  
Guidance  
Education  
Apprenticeships  
Traineeships  
Jobs

[www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk](http://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk)

**BIRMINGHAM**  
CAREERS SERVICE  
guiding young people

 Birmingham  
City Council

YOUR CHOICE  
YOUR FUTURE

## Free Tai Chi Sessions Westley Vale

Every Monday | 3.15pm – 4:15pm

Every Thursday | 10:00am – 11:00am

All ages and abilities welcome

Please email [info@bosf.org.uk](mailto:info@bosf.org.uk) for more info



## In need of computing skills?



**Look no further!**

Learn  
**Essential Digital  
Skills**

at Acocks Green  
library every  
Wednesday from  
09:45 to 12:45.

For more information about the **FREE** six-week course, speak to a member of the library team.

## News from Morrisons



A big **Thank You** to Morrisons and their Community Champion Danielle seen here presenting to Sam from FITCAP the monies collected in store by the young people from Stockfield Estate.

Stockfield Community Association commission FITCAP to provide activities for the young people who meet and play football twice weekly in Stockfield park with their FITCAP coach. They enjoy sometimes taking part in tournaments.



After achieving some success in these tournaments, the young people enjoyed the challenge and wanted to progress by joining a local football league, they also wanted to be able to contribute in some way to the purchase of their new football kits.



After receiving permission from Morrisons our young people volunteered over 3 days to collect in store and were able to raise **£413.94**. Thank you to everyone who donated.

## WELL DONE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER'S

# ARTS CAFÉ

Join us for free arts and crafts activities plus a light lunch and refreshments

THURSDAY 24TH MARCH 11AM - 1PM

THURSDAY 5TH MAY 11AM - 1PM

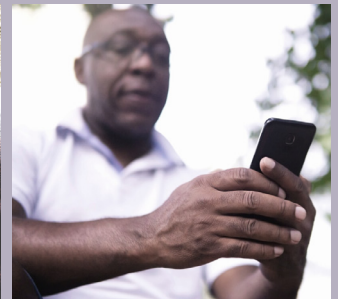
THURSDAY 9TH JUNE 11AM - 1PM

THURSDAY 30TH JUNE 11AM - 1PM



www.bctproject.org  
Email: hello@artsintheyard.org  
Call: 0121 339 5029

Acocks Green Baptist Church Hall  
next to 2b Alexander Road  
Acocks Green, B27 6ER



Fancy joining an uplifting support group

## ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO MANAGE YOUR DIABETES?

Join our free monthly session at Digbeth in the Fields URC,  
Moat Ln, Yardley, Birmingham B26 1TW

STARTING WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH 1:30-2:30PM

hello@cuppasquad.org Tel.0300 4 66 66 66 www.cuppasquad.org



Stockfield  
Community  
Association



**JOIN US!**



**Stockfield  
Community  
Association**

**FITCAP**



# GIRLS AGED 11-16

**MORRISONS, ACOCKS GREEN**



## **DROP IN SESSION**

Come and tell us what activities you'd like to do; cooking, sport, music, art

Refreshments provided

Led by a qualified Youth Worker

Wednesday

**13TH**

April 2022

**12PM-2PM**

For more information, email [INFO@FITCAP.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@FITCAP.CO.UK)

Calling all young ladies aged 11-16!

Come along to Morrisons at Acocks Green on Wednesday 13th April 12-2pm enjoy pizza and tell us what activities you'd like to take part in.

Have you got a passion for sport, do you fancy exploring your musical side, would you like to learn to cook? We're all ears and want to hear what you would like to do after school and at weekends.

So, on 13 April 13 come to the front desk at Morrisons and you will be directed to the Function Room. You don't need to stay for the full 2 hours; you can drop in whenever you can.

We just really want to hear your views. For more information, email [info@fitcap.co.uk](mailto:info@fitcap.co.uk)



**Stockfield  
Community  
Association**

*The Board of Stockfield Community Association would like to wish all residents a Happy Easter*

Some useful information for the holiday season

Number for reporting day to day routine and urgent repairs - **0300 561 0040**

Out of Hours Emergency - **0300 790 6533**

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

**THANK YOU**