

STOCKFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

The quarterly Newsletter from Stockfield Community Association



Stockfield
Community
Association

April 2026



**Save
the
Date**

**Dessert & Dance
22 May 2026
Stockfield Family Fun Day
11 July 2026**

**Youth Activities
Acocks Green in Bloom
Fun Day Competition
Arts Cafe
and much more!**

Acocks Green Community Allotment - A C Baker

Have you ever wanted to grow some of the food you eat, perhaps herbs, salads, soft fruit or veg? Are you an experienced gardener but short of time, energy or company with which to garden? Would you like to help get fresh, locally grown veg and fruit, hand-cooked in Acock's Green three times per week, out to people who are struggling to eat healthy food? These are just some of the reasons why, in October 2024, AC and the team set up the Acock's Green Community Allotment.

Whatever your reason, we invite you to visit the project, in a green oasis of calm in our part of the city. Everyone is welcome, whether to sit on our accessible bench and soak up the atmosphere; or to tour the site and the plot; or to learn in more detail about how we're trying to grow food in harmony with the natural world; or if you'd like to put on a pair of gloves and help out; or if you have any other interest or questions; in any case, please get in touch!



Acock's Green Community Allotment - hosted by South Yardley Allotments Association, supported by Acock's Greener, and distributing food to the community - welcomes visitors by appointment, and is always seeking new gardeners of any level of experience or none.

Please contact AC c/o Acock's Greener on Info@AcocksGreener.com or 07807 327 239 (on Signal app, Telegram app, WhatsApp as well as RCS/SMS text or phone) to find out more.

(Photo, of a community member who with their young family has discovered a passion for food growing through the project this last year.)

 **BIRMINGHAM TALKING NEWSPAPERS** FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN'T READ THIS POSTER?

 **Print difficult to see?**  **Listen to it instead** 

FREE weekly local news, information and items of interest

We provide a **FREE** player for you to listen and enjoy

For more information contact: **0300 330 1404**
email: **info@btbvi.org**
website: **www.btbvi.org**

SOUTH YARDLEY LIBRARY

BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB TAKES PLACE ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

CALL 0121 464 1944 FOR MORE DETAILS



For You. By You.

STOCKFIELD YOUTH CLUB

Stockfield Youth Club has continued to grow from strength to strength this quarter, with a range of exciting activities and workshops designed to support and empower our young people. Alongside our regular games, sports, music, creative sessions and monthly hot food days, we've introduced some impactful learning opportunities that have been extremely well received.

We were pleased to welcome Street Doctors, who delivered an engaging and practical workshop on "What to do when someone is bleeding." The session gave young people vital first aid knowledge and the confidence to respond in an emergency situation. The group showed great maturity and enthusiasm, asking thoughtful questions and fully participating in the activities.



In addition, we delivered both a mental health workshop and an online safety workshop. These sessions created safe spaces for open discussions around wellbeing, managing emotions, and staying safe in the digital world. The young people contributed positively, sharing their thoughts and demonstrating a growing awareness of how to look after themselves and others.

Over the Christmas period, our youth groups came together to celebrate with a fantastic Christmas party. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring everyone together, reflect on achievements, and celebrate progress made throughout the year. The children enjoyed party games, food, prizes, and a special awards presentation recognising their effort, attendance, and positive contributions. It was a joyful event that truly highlighted the sense of community and belonging within Stockfield Youth Club.

As always, the club remains a welcoming and supportive space where young people can have fun, build friendships, develop new skills, and grow in confidence. We are incredibly proud of their continued engagement and look forward to another positive and productive term ahead.

Are you aged 7-15 and live in the B27 6 area?
Join us at Stockfield Youth Club!
Enjoy fun activities like games, sports & music.
Sign up by scanning the QR code, then come along every
Thursday at 16:20-18:20.
We can't wait to see you there! 🎉



Stockfield
Community
Association



Sport
Birmingham



ACOCKS GREEN & SOUTH BIRMINGHAM CARERS GROUP

If you care for a family member, friend or neighbour we would love to welcome you to our friendly and informal group.

Come and have a cuppa & chat

We offer friendship, information, games and music.

We meet 1st Tuesday of each month
12:30 – 3:00 pm

AT

Acocks Green Baptist Church
39 Yardley Road, Birmingham B27 6HG

Why not pop in next month and find out more.



LETTERBOX



PENPAL
BEFRIENDING

LETTERBOX is a free penpal befriending service for socially isolated and lonely people.

Our clients are carefully matched to volunteer befrienders. They exchange supportive, friendly letters to share stories about their lives, families, interests, or whatever they wish.

Omega...

ENDING ISOLATION | ENDING LONELINESS

Reg. Charity No.1120322 | Reg. Company No.6196052



www.omega.uk.net | info@omega.uk.net

   OmegaConnected

01743 245 088

To get started, go to www.omega.uk.net/letterbox and complete an online referral form, for yourself or for someone you know. To find out more, or to request a paper copy of the form, call 01743 245 088 or email letterbox@omega.uk.net.

HOW OMEGA CAN HELP YOU



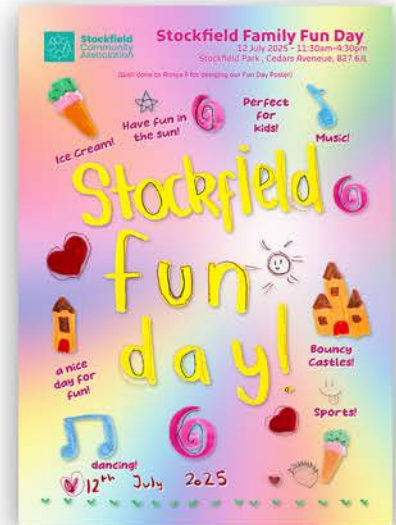


**Stockfield
Community
Association**

Can you help us to design a poster for the Stockfield Fun Day on 11 July 2026?

We are looking for a vibrant, colourful image to advertise our brilliant community event. Your artwork will be featured on notice boards and online and you will become a local hero!

Your design could include elements of the Fun Day such as face painting, bouncy castles, dancing, sports, ice cream and the whole community getting together for a day of fun. The winning design will be digitised and seen throughout the community. Good luck!



Last year's poster by Annya

Draw your design overleaf.

The competition is open for entries in two categories - under 10 and over 10 years of age

Don't forget to include your name, your age, and your parental contact details so we can let you know if you have won a prize.

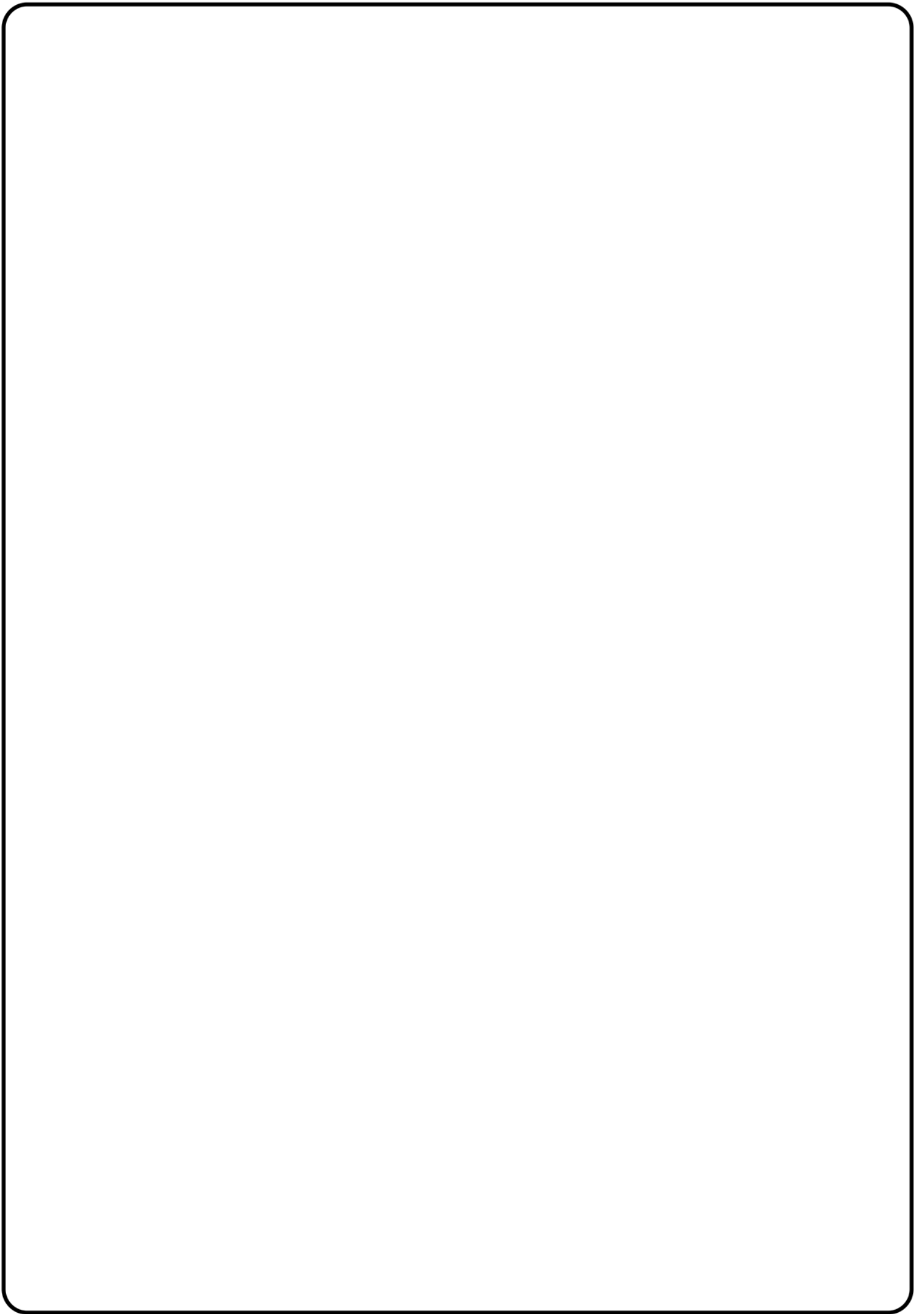
Entry Form Fun Day Poster Design Competition

Name

Age

Contact Details/Address

Please post your entry through the letterbox of the black door at 2A Alexander Road, B27 by **Friday 12 June 2026** - Good Luck!





WMFS

West Midlands Fire Service

#FastFierceFatal



Lithium-ion battery fires are one of the fastest-growing fire risks in homes today. Lithium-ion batteries are in everyday products such as laptops, phones, vapes and E-bikes/scooters, these battery fires start suddenly, burn fiercely, and often leave little chance to escape, and they're on the rise. The fires they can cause can be devastating:

FAST: they can start suddenly, often without warning, and spread within seconds.

FIERCE: such fires burn at extreme temperatures. They release toxic fumes and explosive vapours and can quickly fill a home with flames.

FATAL: People have died in such fires, typically with little chance to escape

Safe use of products with these batteries is important, always buy from trusted retailers and look for UK safety marks, avoid cheap, unbranded e-bike conversion kits that may include unregulated batteries or chargers, avoid buying any electricals from third-party sellers on online marketplace and similar market sites. Make sure you only charge devices with the correct charger for your device. Only charge your devices in the day and never charge when you are out of the property or asleep.

Damaged or faulty lithium-ion batteries are a fire risk. Look out for these warning signs:

- feels unusually hot when charging or in use
- swelling, bulging, or leaking liquid
- burning or acrid smell
- hissing sound
- device won't hold a charge properly.
- damage to the casing, such as a dent, that could have affected the battery on the inside.

West Midlands Fire Service offer Safe and Wells. If you are unsure about anything safety wise in your home, we can attend and fit you FREE smoke alarms and carry out a safety check of your home.

You can book by either calling **0800 389 5525** or on our website **www.wmfs.net**

Free Tai Chi exercise



You are very welcome to join us for our social and gentle exercises held in the open air in a natural setting.

Whatever the weather, come along to The Avenue entrance, Westley Vale Millennium Green, Acocks Green, B27 6NL (map overleaf):

Monday afternoons from 15:15 to 16:15
Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00

The sessions are easy to follow Tai Chi exercises, delivered by a fully qualified instructor. Everyone is welcome, including beginners and especially people aged 50+.

There is no need to book, and no special equipment or clothing is required.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

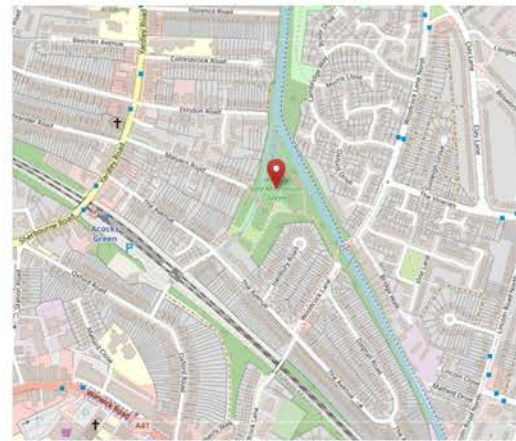
More information over the page or contact: westley.vale.mg@gmail.com



Tai Chi is a series of gentle, low impact, flowing movements. Our participants report benefits including:

- improved balance, flexibility and mobility;
- increases in muscular strength and mental focus;
- enhanced physical and mental wellbeing; and
- meeting local people.

Westley Vale Millennium Green (see map below) is an open space of grass and woodland in Acocks Green. It is home to a wide range of birds and other wildlife, as well as a lovely display of snowdrops early in the year. It adjoins the Grand Union canal and provides a link to other green spaces such as Oak Meadow and Lyndon Playing Fields.



© OpenStreetMap



Child poverty in Birmingham has reached crisis levels – **46% of children, over 104,000 of our residents are living in poverty.** The Safe Sleep Scheme helps families with children under 5 in crisis and many professionals working with families are asking for help and support to access buggies and prams.

How can you help?

Donate a Preloved Buggy. Donate your preloved buggy or pram. Our charity partners will repair and refresh it if necessary. Double buggies and newborn prams are especially needed. Share this initiative with your network!

Make a Financial Contribution: Help us buy new buggies in bulk. Your donation also supports jobs for people back into employment.

How it works:



Outcomes Supported:

- Child Safety and Health
- Social Inclusion
- Parental Wellbeing
- Wider community benefit
- Reduced long-term costs
- Circular economy of reused items

Further information please contact Emma Payne, Birmingham Play Care Network emma@bpcn.org.uk Or visit <https://thrive-together-birmingham.org/buggies>



Check and Connect

Reducing Learning Disability Health Inequalities in Birmingham

Do you or someone you care for have a Learning Disability?

If you are aged 14 or over, you have the right to a **FREE Annual Health Check!**



An Annual Health Check is a chance to:

- ✓ Talk about your health
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Make a plan to help you stay well

Ask your GP to add you to the Learning Disability Register to request your free Annual Health Check.

Midland Mencap can connect you to support to get your health check.

Call: 0121 442 2944

Email: checkandconnect@midlandmencap.org.uk

Visit: midlandmencap.org.uk/check-and-connect/



In partnership with:



Acocks Green Village in Bloom



@AGVillageinBloom



@Franinbloom

Fran Lee
Co-ordinator –
Acocks Green Village in Bloom

0121 706 0076:
e mail: fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk

A Wonderful Team Effort in Cypress Square



The young people of Stockfield wanted to resurrect the gardens in Cypress Square and it was also suggested that I should be involved in the project. The whole area was cleared of weeds and the shrubs we did not want, and then the cavalry arrived in the form of the youth team organised by Joe Kahigi. All four beds were dug over. Then the topsoil arrived.

The team effort came to the fore when Terry a woodworking genius came along and stripped out the wooden railway sleepers which had decayed so badly that ants' nests had been created in them.

We obtained more railway sleepers which were quite heavy and Terry aided by the strength of the youths installed the replacements. Mick from the Bloom team was also involved in putting back into place the trip rails which had been pushed out.



Meanwhile, Fran had ordered the plants which were thought to be suitable. Evergreen, drought tolerant shrubs and plants were required. Some had stood the test of time by being used in Acocks Green village. Euonymus was a shrub placed in each corner of the wooden sleepers. When each is pruned and made round, it would be a contrast to the square wooden shapes. Also around the sleepers, Nepeta 'Walkers Low' was planted. This is virtually evergreen with small blue flowers which have a wonderful aroma and will hang over the top, softening the edges.



Noting the square shapes of the edge of the beds, it was thought that arranging the plants in semi circles around these wooden squares would look quite effective. We used the pretty pink flowering shrub Abelia on two of the beds and on the other two the red leaved Nandina 'Domestica.' These are deemed to be more shade tolerant as these two beds are both under a tree canopy. These were flanked by heuchera, some of the 'marmalade' variety. The colours should all look effective together. We have infilled with the evergreen, grey/green colouring Euphorbia and Bergenia known as 'elephants' ears' which if you use your imagination when spreading and forming large ground cover would stop the weeds from taking over.







In each bed, we had reserved a space for the youths to grow colourful annuals each summer. One of the youths had suggested planting sunflowers – so we did just this.

Fran also experimented by sowing wildflower seeds in Autumn as usually in Acocks Green these are sown in Spring. The photo shows the Sunflowers and the sowing of the wildflower bed.

Can't wait to see how it turns out!

We also decided to paint the wooden surrounds of the beds and started this going into Winter. We still have three to finish but the weather has put a stop to this. Joe sanded down the wood, prior to painting. If anyone likes painting, please give us a hand. Nicole, one of the Bloom team is helping to maintain the beds but again more people would be of great help. Please contact me.

It was great fun to do this project with the young people, dodging the footballs and the loud banter between the youths – I did not need a hearing aid – we do need help though keeping the weeds at bay until the plants mature.



Christmas Cracker

We also had good fun here. Three of us brought along lots of plants and pots in which to plant tulip bulbs, the low growing species variety which are ideal for small plant pots and over planting with seasonal annuals. We also obtained some plain red pots which we encourage people to paint with their own designs before planting up.

We met with Father Christmas who gave us a selection box. We did not, however, wish to inform people when the last time was, we might have received one of these!

Dates for future events:

Tulip/Spring Festival

Saturday 16th May in Acocks Green Village in front of shops starting Betfred

New stallholders welcome – we do not charge for stalls. Donations can be made to Village in Bloom





Check and Connect

Reducing Learning Disability Health Inequalities in Birmingham

Do you or someone you care for have a Learning Disability?

If you are aged 14 or over, you have the right to a **FREE** Annual Health Check!



An Annual Health Check is a chance to:

- ✓ Talk about your health
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Make a plan to help you stay well

Ask your GP to add you to the Learning Disability Register to request your free Annual Health Check.

Midland Mencap can connect you to support to get your health check.

Call: 0121 442 2944

Email: checkandconnect@midlandmencap.org.uk

Visit: midlandmencap.org.uk/check-and-connect/



In partnership with:



Mindful Movers to music

Physical & Cognitive Activity for people with Dementia, Parkinsons & Long Term Health Conditions or risk of a fall.

Whats involved:

Seated activities to improve your strength, balance, coordination and cognitive function all through moving to your favourite songs, tailored for adults with Dementia. Ideal for anyone wishing to live more independently and healthier in later life including carers. Sessions particularly tailored for adults living with Dementia or other Long term health conditions.



FREE
to attend

Find out more:



Or phone: 07979 707967

Just turn up and join in.
Carers join in for FREE!

EVERY Monday 2pm - 3pm

Fox Hollies Leisure Centre,
Yardley B27 7NS



Fox Hollies
Leisure Centre



PAL - Purposeful Active Living

www.purposefulactiveliving.org.uk

Email: Info@palcharity.org.uk | Charity Number: 1208566

Social Action Project

FREE

Community and Belonging

The Community Senior's Citizen Club provides a welcoming space for seniors aged 50 and over, offering a range of activities to foster connections and friendships among community members.



Every Tuesday 11:30 am to 3:30 pm



Activities Offered

Get involved and discover new friendships, activities, and a sense of belonging in our club!

The activities include Exercise classes, sewing, Knitting, Arts and Crafts, Dominos, Day trips etc.

At

The Church of God of Prophecy, Broad Road
Acocks Green, Birmingham

B27 7UZ

For more info please email Rose,
rosejones648@gmail.com



Connecting People. Improving Lives

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR:

- NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATIONS
- COMMUNITY GROUPS
- CHARITIES
- CICs

If you can improve the lives of adults in the Yardley Constituency with disabilities or over the age of 50, we can help you!

GRANTS AVAILABLE NOW!

For more information, contact the team on
YNNsGrants@disability.co.uk
or call 07799 904269



Stockfield Community Association

Get Involved: Help Shape Our Community Events!

Have you ever been to one of our local events, enjoyed the atmosphere — and thought, “I’d love to be part of making this happen”?

Well... now’s your chance!

We’re inviting local residents to join our **Events Planning Group** — a welcoming, friendly group that brings exciting activities and celebrations to life in our community. Whether it’s supporting our current events or dreaming up brand-new ideas, we’d love to have you involved.

Why Get Involved?

You don’t need experience. You don’t need special skills.

All you need is enthusiasm, a few ideas (or just an interest), and a willingness to work alongside others who care about our community.

Whether you're full of creative concepts or simply want to have a say in what happens locally, your voice truly matters.

What to Expect?

- 📅 Monthly meetings (around 2 hours each)
- 🎉 A fun, relaxed and supportive atmosphere
- 🤝 The chance to meet new people
- 💡 Opportunities to share ideas and shape local events

There’s no pressure — just positive energy, collaboration, and a promise that includes plenty of shared laughs along the way.

Who Should Join?

- Long-time residents and newcomers alike
- Creative thinkers and practical planners
- Anyone who cares about our community
- Anyone who simply wants to get more involved

Your time commitment is small, but your impact can be huge.

Together, we can make our events even more vibrant, inclusive and enjoyable for everyone. ***Interested?***


Come along to our next meeting (*13 May 2025 @ 10:30 – 2A Alexander Road*) and see what it’s all about — no pressure, just possibilities!

Or, for more information (or just to have a friendly chat about what’s involved), please get in touch with Daphne Francis email daphne@daphnefrancis.com we’d love to hear from you.

Let’s work together and continue to make great things happen! 🌞

Just a few of the happy faces you'll help to make by joining the Events Group Team






DEMENTIA CARERS GROUP

Support Group
Yardley

**Are you supporting someone living with dementia?
We are here to help.**



We know that supporting someone can be difficult, however, you are not alone.

The group provides the chance to meet others on a similar journey, as well as directing you to relevant and practical support.


**Every Thursday at
South Yardley
Library
11am till 1pm**

MORE INFO

dementiacarershub@ageukbirmingham.org.uk

0121 437 0033, press option 2

Scan QR code for more support for dementia carers



Birmingham Carers Hub offers a range of support to those who look after someone living with dementia. We have three delivery partners: Age Concern Birmingham, Age UK Birmingham and Dementia Carers' Count who together form the Dementia Carers Hub.



Inclusion, Insight & Wellbeing Day

a FREE day of fun and information for all adults with additional needs, their families and carers and professionals working in the sector

Thursday 16 April 2026
10.30am to 2.30pm
Midlands Arts Centre
Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH

JOIN US FOR FREE:

- wellbeing activities - arts and crafts
- movement, music, performances and health
- local services and support zone
- Autism Reality Experience Bus
- free lunch and refreshments

nnsedgbaston@ageukbirmingham.org.uk

funded by **Birmingham City Council**



scan the QR code to book online limited places

[@ENNS](#)



Acocks Green and South Yardley Library News

At the end of last year Acocks Green Library closed at short notice due to serious weather damage to the roof, and the building was declared unsafe. There were already plans and funding put aside for a scheduled replacement of the roof.

This essential work will start this summer, and a timescale plan is being drawn up. Other improvements to lighting, windows and heating, with an important aim to make it more fuel efficient and sustainable will also be considered.



To compensate for this temporary loss of library services in Acocks Green, South Yardley Library is now open 5 days a week (closed Friday and Sunday). Some of the regular activities from Acocks Green library have temporarily moved to South Yardley Library, or to Acocks Green Methodist Church on Shirley Road. (e.g. Thursday's Coffee Morning and Saturday's Nifty Needles). Both the libraries are on Facebook for news updates.

Outstanding books from Acocks Green Library can be returned to any Birmingham library and you can always use your library card at any Birmingham library.

So, keep supporting our precious libraries and the great services they provide to all our local community.

South Yardley Library Activity Time-

Mondays

Swan Coffee Bar - 10:00-12:00. Come for the coffee, stay for the chats.

South Yardley History Society - Every 2nd Monday each month - Doors at 2pm. A friendly and welcoming group for all with an interest in history. £3, includes light refreshments.

Tuesdays

Yoga - 10:00-11:00 & 11:30-12:30. Join Anne's wonderful yoga classes, £5 per class. To book on the session contact Anne at annewilkes7@gmail.com.

Stay and Play for Under 5s. 2.15pm - 3.15pm. Join us for this fun and relaxed Under 5s session including crafts, music and story time! Drop-in. All children must be supervised by an adult.

Nifty Needles. Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. 2pm - 4.15pm. A warm and welcoming needlecrafts group.

Wednesdays

Craft Session. 10am - 11.30am. Drop-in. All children must be supervised by an adult.

Active in Art Wellbeing Workshop CIC. 11am - 12.45pm. Free drop-in arts session for 16+. All abilities welcome.

Community Crochet Club. Every Wednesday. 2pm - 4pm. Starts 25th February 2026.

Thursdays

Dementia Carer Support Group with Age Concern. 10.30 am - 12.15pm. A friendly, drop-in group to support those caring for loved ones with dementia. Free with refreshments provided.

Crafternoon - 14:00-16:30. A friendly and relaxed group open to anyone ages 16 and over. All needlecrafts welcome, small charges apply.

Saturdays

Arts and Craft Workshops, 2.15pm - 3.45pm. Drop-in session of art, creativity, fun and friendship at this FREE and relaxed crafts session run by Ways for Wellbeing. All children must be supervised by an adult.

Lego Builder's Club - Every 1st Saturday of the month. 10:00-12:30 & 14:00-16:00. Drop in session, no need to book. Children must be supervised throughout the session.

Birmingham Millennium Lacemakers - 14th 10:00-15:30. £5, includes refreshments. Bring your own lunch. New members welcome, please enquire.

Table-Top Games -Every 3rd Saturday of the month 10:00-12:30 & 14:00-16:00. Drop in session, no need to book. Children must be supervised throughout the session.

Book Club - Every last Saturday of the month 14:15-15:15. A collection of titles are available to pick up from South Yardley Library. All welcome, bring your books, views and opinions.



Applications NOW OPEN

Apply now
for
September
2026

for Nursery and Reception in our

"AMAZING" school!



★ Real parent feedback, 2025 questionnaire

"Kind and caring teachers"

"My child is coming on leaps and bounds I'm so happy 10/10"

"The school has a friendly, family feel to it. They celebrate everyone and are supportive."

"The school is such a great school. My children love coming to school."

**Cottesbrooke Infant
& Nursery School**



0121 706 2742

www.cottesbrooke-inf.bham.sch.uk

Yardley Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6LG

Seated Exercise Class

If getting out of the house is a challenge, our Wednesday online social and seated exercise session is perfect for you. Whether you're looking for a friendly chat or want to join a 20-minute seated exercise routine, we've got you covered.

All delivered over Zoom



Wednesdays

11:00am - 12:00pm

Contact Roy for
more information

07799 904 256

rkimberley@disability.co.uk

dc

YARN & YARN

EVERY TUESDAY

12pm-2:30pm

@Fox Hollies Forum, Greenwood
Ave, Acocks Green

Knitting, crafting and crocheting

Teas and Coffees available

£1 PER SESSION + £1 RAFFLE



FOX HOLLIES
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
CO.



FOX HOLLIES FORUM
GREENWOOD AVE, ACOCKS GREEN, B27 7RA

0121 706 0652

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia & Age UK

What is GAIN and who do we support?

Funded by Birmingham City Council & Public Health

Disadvantaged Vulnerable Adults & their pets

Aged 25+

No dependent children

Deliver strength based advice at an early stage

Avoid crisis

Enable clients



AI

Eligibility

GAIN's support is available to adults aged 25+ with no dependent children living in the Birmingham Local Authority Area, including singles, couples and their pets.

Health & wellbeing

Financial inclusion & money management

Social, community & family engagement

Accommodation & housing

Digital skills

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER'S

ARTS CAFÉ

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

THURSDAYS 11AM - 1PM

© Cris Wong

January 8th
February 12th
March 12th
April 9th
May 14th
June 11th
July 9th



NO BOOKING REQUIRED

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

www.bctproject.org
www.facebook.com/buildingct
Email: hello@artsintheyard.org



Stockfield
Community
Association

