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January/February 2016

Community

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Dear Residents....



We hope you have all enjoyed a joyful Christmas and have managed to find some time to rest, recuperate and spend time with friends and loved ones.

We continue to be busy in the community and are pleased to be supporting more local groups this year. We currently sponsor the Bradley Stoke Town Football Club Reserves Team and now also the St Mary's Rugby Club as well. We were also pleased to support Bradley Stoke Cricket Club with their 25th Anniversary programme this autumn. As we enter our 11th year, this magazine is testament to how much Community Matters and we are pleased to keep on doing whatever we can to support our local community, both on-line and in print. Overleaf we introduce the launch of our new website which will go live later this month. Do take a look at our fresh approach - we hope you like it!

If you haven't connected with us on Twitter or Facebook, then we would love you to join us in 2016, we are still relative newcomers but we continue to grow in this area!

If you belong to a club or local organisation that you would like featured - please do get in touch with us. As always, we must give a massive thank you to all our advertisers who, by supporting this community magazine, enable us to keep bringing you so much news and information. Please do support them and give them your business when you have a need. Alternatively if you have a business that you would like to see feature in our pages, then please do give us a call. Many of our advertisers have been with us for much of our 10+ years: advertising with Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters really does work!

Enough from me, I hope you get chance to grab a cuppa, sit down and enjoy the read. The deadline for our next edition will be 10th February, do get in touch if you would like to be featured!

We hope you have a Happy and Healthy New Year and look forward to bringing you more community news and information in 2016.

Jaci x

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We are pleased to welcome you to the new, improved Bradley Stoke Matters website. Still with all your local community news, events, business directory and magazine downloads, but now even easier to use!

There are a few additions that we hope you will find helpful; you can quickly locate the business or community group you are looking for by entering the name into the 'Search the site' field.

You will also find a Google map attached to each event listing so it is clear where things are taking place, useful for those that are new to the area or exploring new venues.

With the new site you can also download not only the most recent issues of Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters, but every issue will now be archived. If you think you missed anything from last year, do take a look!

We hope you enjoy exploring the new site

www.bradleystokematters.co.uk

Community Matters: Local Police Team

It was good to catch up with local PCSO Alicia Harvey again recently to hear about recent updates to the team and any current issues in the community.

Claire Fletcher and Jamie Shiels work opposite shifts as Neighbourhood Beat Managers, ably assisted by PCSO's Alicia Harvey and Chris Baker. An additional PCSO has now joined the team - welcome to Tom Allen.

Since the last update the beat team have been busy on the beat, supporting Halloween events and the Bradley Stoke Community Firework display.

PC Claire Fletcher and PCSO Alicia Harvey have also been on Bradley Stoke Radio in recent weeks promoting different things from crime prevention advice to staying safe at Halloween.

New changes on the beat -

All the Neighbourhood Watch Residents in the area have been split up into groups and have been assigned one of the PCSOs to make it easier to report their concerns and for the team to monitor these concerns.

The schools have also been assigned a PCSO as a first point of contact to help tackle parking and ASB issues.



Contact details:

Beat Manager – Claire Fletcher (07889 656334)

Beat Manager – Jamie Shiels

PCSO – Chris Baker (07889 656560)

PCSO – Alicia Harvey (101)
Alicia.harvey@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO – Tom Allen (101)
Thomas.allen@avonandsomerset.police.uk

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Following the festive season don't recycle all your electrical boxes outside, reverse them or take them directly to the WillowBrook and deposit them in the blue bins.

Whilst you are at the WillowBrook you can pick up a property marking pen at one of our beat surgeries!

If you need to contact any of the beat team please go onto the Avon and Somerset website, select My Area and type in Bradley Stoke.

Or call 101 and ask for one of the beat team.

Working out of the new Patchway Police Centre on Gloucester Road (where the enquiry office is open from 0800hrs - 2000hrs Monday-Sunday), the Bradley Stoke team host drop-in surgeries at the Willowbrook Centre, lunch time sessions every fortnight at Bradley Stoke Community School and also take the mobile station to Woodlands Park in Woodlands Lane, North Bradley Stoke.





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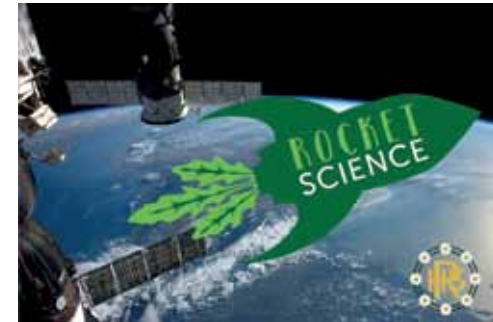
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Redland High School to grow seeds from space!

Pupils at Redland High School are preparing to become space biologists and embark on a voyage of discovery by growing seeds that have been into space.

In September, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 44S where they will spend several months in microgravity before returning to Earth in March 2016. The seeds have been sent as part of Rocket Science, an educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency.

Redland High School will be one of up to 10,000 schools to receive a packet of 100 seeds from space, which they will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences over seven weeks. The pupils won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians. The out-of-this-world, science experiment will enable the pupils to think more about how we could preserve human life on another planet in the future, what astronauts need to survive long-term missions in space and the difficulties surrounding growing fresh food in challenging climates.



Mr Sloan, Science Teacher at Redland High School for Girls, says "We are delighted to be taking part in *Rocket Science*. It is an exciting way for our young scientists to contribute to a National experiment and share their learning with the whole school community. We hope that their experience with *Rocket Science* will inspire them to get involved with gardening and also motivate them to find out more about careers such as horticulture, plant science and the space industry as a whole."

Rocket Science is just one educational project from a programme developed by the UK Space Agency to celebrate British ESA astronaut Tim Peake's Principia mission to the ISS and inspire young people to look into careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects, including horticulture.



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Bradley Stoke Cricket Club Celebrates 25 Years!

In the middle of winter it may be strange to be talking cricket but 2016 sees a major landmark for the Town's cricket club.

Based at Baileys Court Activity Centre in Baileys Court Road, Bradley Stoke Cricket Club celebrates its 25th anniversary this year!

During the preceding 25 years the Club has grown into one of the largest in the local Bristol & District league. It operates six adult teams each weekend and also plays some midweek games. It also has a thriving youth section with five teams playing in the B & D Youth league.

Youth training with qualified coaches takes place during the season on Sunday mornings and ages range from five to eighteen. Congratulations go to the under 15 team (photo) who won their league last season winning all of their games.

BSCC plans to mark its 25th anniversary by staging a very special event involving the former England and Gloucestershire wicketkeeper JACK RUSSELL MBE, who will be present at the clubhouse on Sunday 5th June.

In an illustrious career from 1981 to 2004, Jack made over 500 first class appearances including 54 tests and 40 one day internationals for England. He scored over 18,000 runs including over 2,000 for England. He also took nearly 1,400 catches and almost 150 stumpings.

Outside of cricket, Jack is a very talented and renowned artist and indeed has been commissioned to paint many landscapes, cricket related subjects and well known celebrities including Sir Norman Wisdom, Sir Bobby Charlton, Eric Clapton and even HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.

He will spend a few hours with the Club and the public, who through the purchase of a souvenir programme, will be able to meet him and obtain his autograph/photograph if desired. There will also be the opportunity to purchase one of his books, sketches or paintings which will be on display.

Entrance to the event is by souvenir programme only. Each programme is individually numbered



and includes a prize draw entry form inside. The entry form gives each programme buyer the chance to win one of six major prizes on the day.

The Club has purchased three of Jack's paintings (prints), plus three other prizes of a full sized cricket bat signed by the 2015 Australian test squad, a full sized cricket bat (retail value £250) and a family ticket to a T20 match involving Gloucestershire CCC this coming season.

Jack will personally make the draw during the afternoon and present the prizes to the lucky winners. (It is not essential to be there on the day to win, as entry forms can be posted prior to the day).

On the same day and at the same venue, the Club also plan to have a charity auction of sporting memorabilia, a youth T20 match, followed by a T20 match involving some local celebrities. The club bar will also be open and Radio Bristol will be there too.

Programmes are now available at only £3 each which admits one adult, or one adult and one child (under 16) free, into the event.

You can purchase one by sending a cheque/postal order for £3 (made payable to Bradley Stoke Cricket Club) along with an A5 stamped addressed envelope to Mr. M Mundy, Bradley Stoke Cricket Club, Baileys Court Activity Centre, Bailey Court Road, Bradley Stoke, Bristol. BS32 8BH.

25th ANNIVERSARY PROGRAMME BRADLEY STOKE CRICKET CLUB

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Jack will be exhibiting some of his paintings, sketches & books which will be available to purchase. He will also be available for book signings and autographs.

Prize draw including three Jack Russell limited edition prints will be made at 3.30pm.

Admission is free for one child under 16 with one adult.

£3

Bradley Stoke
CRICKET CLUB

No 000

Baileys Court Activity Centre, Baileys Court Road,
Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 8BH



Brighten up someone's CHRISTMAS

Bradley Stoke Matters was delighted to catch up with Claire Day, initiator of the SLS facebook group for helping the homeless, to gain feedback on their campaign for Christmas presents for the homeless. Bradley Stoke Matters was very pleased to donate presents to this campaign and has also covered the SLS group in previous editions. They started just over a year ago as a pipeline of food and needed items for the Edge Assist Street Life project which feeds the homeless in Bristol every Saturday night, and now the Group also supports many more homeless projects the other side of the bridge too. Claire gave us the following report:

"WOW! SLS wants to say a WHOPPING thank you to everyone that has donated to our SLS Christmas present campaign. We aimed to help 8 centres and collect 400 presents, which would double last year's achievement. However, this year a phenomenal 1,288 presents were collected! As a result of this fantastic response we have been able to help a total of 19 centres/projects!"

"Thank you to all the work places, clubs and individuals for getting on board, to our members that make SLS so special and to our fantastic depot organisers across 2 hubs. Together we touch many lives positively. Thank you for making this happen. We do not change a life around but we do make those we help smile, make a difference, boost them to tackle another day and show them they are loved, cared for. We have helped to make it a little brighter for them this Christmas."

Bradley Stoke Matters was also pleased to hear from local Stokes resident Richard Townsend who runs the Edge Assist Street Life project following their Christmas run on Saturday 12th December:

"Wow, what a fantastic evening. A huge thank you to everyone involved! The Edge Church Young Adults provided the music and carol singing. It was superb. It was so encouraging to see all the Edge Church Pastors on the street



with their wives and children. Their support over the years has been central to all we do for the homeless. We had well over a hundred guests on Saturday night, who came for food and clothing and who also received a Christmas present.

Faith Mildren (aged 9-years) had raised £250 from her family and friends, in order to provide Christmas presents for homeless women. Five of the Bristol Barbarian's rugby team turned up to help serve. Some of them gave our Christmas presents out, alongside Faith.

Thank you to everyone who gave the Christmas presents - over 160 to this project alone. Well done. Your great kindness and love was very much appreciated by all".

We were delighted to speak to young Faith and find out more about her generous act:

Having lived close to the city centre for 9 months Faith told us she often spoke to the homeless people she saw, bringing a smile to their faces as she said hello. Faith, just 9 years old and living in Patchway, wanted to do something different this Christmas and help those less fortunate.

The only help she had was in setting up her GoFundMe page with a £50 target. However, proud of her initiative, friends, family and others rallied to support her and she exceeded her goal, raising a staggering £250! With this amount, she was able to purchase and wrap presents intended for women on the streets. Each bag included a body spray, deodorant, tissues, socks, a luxury item of chocolate/sweets and wet wipes. Faith also included a warm jumper and trousers too. When shopping she realised she was slightly short of money so, wanting all the boxes to be the same, Faith donated her own pocket money too to meet the shortfall.



Photos: top left Bristol Barabrian's rugby team help give out donated presents; inset cars loaded with presents arrive from SLS; above 9 year old Faith with her presents for the homeless women. Below, photo Faith posted on her GoFundMe page to say thank you to all those who donated.

Faith told us: "we were wrapping presents until Saturday morning. Then we put them in nice gift bags donated to me and met Richard to give them out. I was very pleased to make people so happy".

She recounted one lady showing her friends and hearing her say "Look how many presents I've got!". Mum Helen told us that Faith's fundraising was completely independent and praised her daughter's initiative and attitude.

What a wonderful story from an amazing young girl at a time when many children's sole focus is what they themselves will be receiving at Christmas.

The work doesn't stop at Christmas however so keep seeking out those blankets, warm footwear, socks/underwear, sleeping bags, roll mats, flasks, torches, waterproof coats, joggers, jeans and rucksacks in the New Year. There are people out there who need them desperately!

email: sls.homeless@gmail.com for more information.



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St Mary's Old Boys RFC

Already sponsors of the Bradley Stoke Bull for the local Bradley Stoke Youth Rugby at SMOB, Bradley Stoke Matters is now pleased to be new sponsors of the team shirts and pitchboard too for St Mary's Old Boys. We took the opportunity to catch up with Steve Miller, who gave us this report on the local Club.

St Mary's Old Boys Rugby Football Club has been resident in the Bradley Stoke area for nearly 25 years. Previously situated at the Filton Combination Grounds, then temporarily between Woodlands Lane and Bowsland Way the Club began developing the site at Trench Lane in 1991 and started playing there in 1992.

The Club has extended its reach into Bradley Stoke by forming relationships with local primary schools and BSCS, its membership now being formed by many Bradley Stokers and they love showing the Green and Black colours around the town.

2014 and 2015 have been seasons of consolidation for the club building on its historic strength and reputation of developing players from within. More than 80% of the current senior squad have progressed from the Mini and Junior ranks and are committed to the Green Army.

Currently St Mary's fields four teams. Three mens rugby and our SMOB Ladies squad. The First IV play in the Gloucester Premier League at venues between Bristol, the Eastern Cotswolds, Forest of Dean and Cheltenham and Gloucester, winning 5 out of their 9 games so far this season. The Seconds and Third IV's play in the Bristol and Gloucestershire Reserve Leagues and have even more enviable reputations always seeking to take local bragging rights. Recent accolades include winning the Bristol Combination Bowl in the 2014/1015 season. Our ambition is to rise up the league levels using the home grown conveyor belt of up and coming Minis and Juniors. The ladies squad are strong in numbers and on the field, and have a great camaraderie amongst the squad.

Our Mini and Junior sections are healthy and have been helped by the affiliation of Bradley Stoke Youth Rugby (at St Mary's). The Club are seeking opportunities to extend the tie with the town while preserving the 120 year history of the club and its founding institution, St Mary's On The Quay in the Bristol City Centre. There is also a well supported dedicated girls section offering progression through the ranks from minis to junior, and then onto ladies.

Sponsorship is an important part of our club survival and this season we have been blessed with the involvement of local businesses Matters Magazines Ltd, C&M Accountancy Services, GBuild Construction and the national company LV= (which has a local call centre at Aztec West). Our main sponsor is Kings Heavy Haulage, keep an eye out for them on TV with the second upcoming series of Supertrucks! For links to all our sponsors and their services please see the sponsors page at www.smobrugby.co.uk.

We are always seeking new players and volunteers to keep the club progressing and opportunities exist for anyone to become involved as little or as much as you want. From simply cheering your children or grandchildren along, to playing yourself or helping out with club activities.

Come along and try us out...

Facebook: St. Mary's Old Boys RFC
Twitter: SMOBRugby

SMOB RFC, Northwood Park, Trench Lane,
Bradley Stoke, BS36 1RY

01454 250489

eMail: clubhouse@smobrugby.co.uk
Web: www.smobrugby.co.uk



Joint effort enables 180 Christmas Hampers for local families

Bradley Stoke Rotary Club have this year helped the Edge Church and Southern Brooks with the packing and delivery of 180 Christmas hampers.

Their extra manpower and generous donation enabled an increase in the number of local deserving individuals and families to be able to receive one this year. This is an annual event organised by the church and distributed to families known to the Southern Brooks Community Partnership.

Each hamper was made up with donations of staple foods as well as a few luxury items, with a small gift for each member of the family.

The morning was well organised ensuring the correct amount of items were included in each hamper and prepared for delivery or collection.

The finished hampers looked very appealing and we are sure they have put a smile on each recipient's face this Christmas.

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What do Bradley Stoke Matters, Bradley Stoke Community School, Bradley Stoke Town Football Club and Circadian Trust (Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre) all have in common?



Other than being pivotal to Bradley Stoke, we all celebrated our **10 Year Anniversaries** in 2015!

The last of these to celebrate their ten years of an Active lifestyle at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre was the Circadian Trust which held a celebration event at the end of November.

Key employees, clubs, trustees and local councillors came together at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre to mark the anniversary and look ahead to the next ten years.

Since becoming a Trust in 2005, Circadian has successfully transformed the community leisure space in the region through innovation and sustained re-investment, bringing lasting benefits to its local communities. It has seen:

- 18% increase in customer uptake to 2.5 million customer visits per year since 2010
- Growth in turnover by 7.6% to £11million in the last financial year
- Since 2006, Circadian has re-invested more than £7million into initiatives including new sports and leisure facilities and technology such as the 'MyWellness' cloud-based platform which allows users to track activity at home

To mark the special anniversary, the first Bradley Stoke Triathlon was held in August and proved very popular so it is hoped that this will now become an annual event.

Amongst staff invited to the celebratory event was Senior Finance Officer at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, Cath Bloomer who has been working with the organisation since 1987. From working in the bar, reception and now finance at a number of the centres, Cath is a valued member of staff.

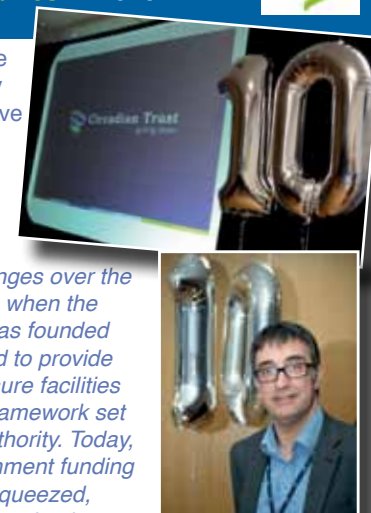
She said: "I love the team I work with and the atmosphere that the Leisure Centres create, both friendly and inviting. It's great to be celebrating together after a wonderful 10 years as a Trust."

Chief Executive Mark Crutchley (inset), who gave a speech at the celebration event, said:

"We have experienced significant changes over the past ten years: when the organisation was founded it was designed to provide community leisure facilities within a tight framework set by the local authority. Today, as local government funding is continually squeezed, Circadian has evolved to become more commercial and able to respond to significantly changing customer requirements, while continuing to deliver a social impact."

"I would like to thank everyone who has been through the doors of all our leisure centres, whether they be staff or customers for their commitment to a healthy lifestyle. We've seen so many success stories over the years, and I'd like to thank you all for being a part of it. We can't wait for the next ten years."

Working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council, any profit made by the Trust is reinvested to improve facilities, equipment and services for its customers.



Staff that have worked at Circadian Trust for 10 years or more

Local Football Update by BSTFC & BSFYC Chairman Ian Drew

Bradley Stoke Town FC

It has been a most interesting start to our eleventh year of football for Bradley Stoke Town FC.

After what could be called a very successful previous ten years, our First team now play in the Senior Division of the Bristol & District League, with the Reserves in Div 3 & A Team in Div 5.

Check out our website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/bradleystoketownfc, for regular updates for match days etc.

All three teams have had differing starts and now that they have settled into their respective new divisions, results are starting to come their way. The First team presently lie fourth with yet another promotion within grasp. It is not beyond hope and expectation that all three of our teams are able to gain promotion again this season.

Unfortunately the weather of late has meant that matches have had to be postponed, but one of the Reserves team's most recent matches on 21st November was an away match at DRG which resulted in an impressive 7 – 1 win, with goals scored by Mo Amin (2), Tom Bakewell (2), Adam Sykes, Charles Moore, Duncan Reade.

Our home games fixture list in short is as follows –

2nd January
1st team v Wick Reserves,

9th January
1st team v Longwell Green Sports & Reserves v Westerleigh,

16th January
1st team v Patchway Reserves & Reserves v Lloyd United.

Good luck to all those taking part for the remainder of the season!

Bradley Stoke Youth FC

Bradley Stoke Youth FC teams have been well attended again, with the formation of the new Ladies team, which truth be said, have started their campaign better than expected and hopefully will go from strength to strength.

We believe that with teamwork, hardwork, with a few laughs thrown in, success can come to all at whatever level of football they play.

We were pleased to attend the Bristol Post Sport awards in October, being one of the finalists in the Community Club section, unfortunately we did not win this time but proud to be in attendance of all those other Bristol sporting greats both past and present.

Good luck to all those representing Bradley Stoke Town in whatever sport they enjoy.



1st Team Update by Team Manager Jon Welsh

Bradley Stoke Town 1st team have made a strong start in the Bristol & District Senior Division. After promotion last season the team sits in the top four with a third of the season gone. Although the weather has postponed a few games of late, manager Jon Welsh believes that he has the squad to achieve back-to-back promotions. A busy fixture list from January to April will test the players but he believes that his team have what it takes to take the town higher.

Great wins against Patchway Town, Lebeq and promotion rivals De Veys, show that anything is possible.

Please come along to support the lads at the Jubilee Centre. January home games are listed on the left and all fixtures are on the website -

www.pitchero.com/clubs/bradleystoketownfc



Vicky Sets Her Sights on London this April

Bradley Stoke Matters was pleased to hear from local resident Vicky Lovell who is undertaking a variety of fundraising activities - including running the London Marathon this April - for the charity "Ambitious about Autism".

"I feel inspired every year watching the London Marathon, and have always dreamed about being part of it, now I'm ready to make it reality with the added incentive of doing it before I reach 40! Some might say it's a bit ambitious to try running 26.2 miles as I am probably considered a bit of a seasonal runner. This last year has been different, I kept on training and entered a few 10k events progressing to my first Half Marathon in September.

"I am running to raise money and awareness for Ambitious about Autism - I've pledged to raise at least £2,000. This is a national charity for children and young people with autism, providing services, raising awareness and understanding for Autism, as well as campaigning for change.

"Running has got me through some really stressful times and gives me the time and space I need to be the best person I can be to support my 9 year old son Alex and our family. Alex has had a very difficult start to his life, not only was he born with CTEV bilateral clubfoot, but he has also had to change schools 3 times as a result of being misdiagnosed. As a family, we have had a real battle to get Alex properly diagnosed, it took about 4 - 5 years, despite our hardest efforts, and we had to really complain to get him assessed and to get the right professionals involved. Eventually, Alex was formally diagnosed following an ADOS assessment at the end of December 2014 as having Autistic Spectrum Disorder with traits of ADHD. This has made an enormous difference to Alex as we have been able to access the right support for him within his Educational Health Care Plan. Since September, Alex has attended a specialist independent school and things are looking much brighter."

Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopmental disability which affects the way you communicate and interact with others. It is known as a spectrum condition, therefore, whilst people with autism share the same difficulties, their condition will affect them in different ways. Over 2 million people are affected by autism on a daily basis,

yet autism is still misunderstood, leading to individuals and families not getting the level of support they need.

A Charity Race Night held at Aretians Rugby Club at the end of November raised an amazing £900. Vicky would like to thank everyone who came along and supported, donated prizes and sponsored the races. It was a really successful evening. In the run up to Christmas Vicky has been busy preparing and selling Christmas Crafts including reindeer food, snowman soup and Christmas Eve Activity packs as well as offering a Christmas present wrapping service, all for donations to her fundraising.

Alongside the fundraising Vicky is training hard and beginning to build on her distances, planning to take on the Bath Half in March, in preparation for the big event in April.

If you would like to support Vicky in her fundraising efforts, you can do so via her fundraising page -

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/VickyLovell>



"Our ambition is to make the ordinary possible for more children and young people with autism."



Ambitious about Autism is the national charity for children and young people with autism. They provide services, raise awareness and understanding, and campaign for change. Through TreeHouse School and Ambitious Support they offer specialist education and support.

Registered: Ambitious About Autism, School House
Woodside Avenue, London N10 3JA
Tel: 020 8815 5136
Email: fundraising@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk
Website: <https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk>
Charity number: 1063184

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Report from the Bradley Stoke Bowls Club

by Arthur Allan



The AGM of the Bradley Stoke Bowls Club was held at the Baileys Court Activity Centre on Thursday 22nd October. Some sixty members were welcomed by Chair Steve Lee

Prior to events members stood in silence to respect memory of Beryl Parsons.

The Captain George Eland then presented a cheque for £750.00 to Isobel Gelder, the representative from the charity BRACE, who addressed the meeting with a brief outline of what BRACE does and its hopes and aspirations.



Isobel Gelder receiving the cheque for £750 from George Eland

Mike Mundy, from the Bradley Stoke Cricket Club, then addressed the members regarding the 25th anniversary of the Cricket Club next year.

The secretary Sue Arnold reported, inter alia, that the committee had worked well together and had brought the club forward. Meeting monthly had ensured that all areas were looked at and issues resolved quickly, smoothly and efficiently. The club had a superb Captain's charity day, thanks to all those who organised and ensured everything ran smoothly, yet again through the members generosity a large sum was raised for Brace. The website has photographs of that day and of the final weekend. Sue then expressed a big thank you to Mark Arnold for maintaining the website. The club hosted another City & County game which had gone very well and had received very good feedback about the excellent state of the green. Reports were received from

all other office-bearers, including the treasurer reporting on a generally satisfactory year. The playing record in friendlies and leagues had been satisfactory. Particularly encouraging had been the involvement of new members, 17 of whom took part in a new Novices Cup competition

This year several key positions became vacant: viz Chair Steve Lee, Vice Chair Mark Arnold, Captain George Eland, Competitions Secretary Denise Eland, Secretary Sue Arnold and raffle organizer Pat Wilkins all retiring after staunch service to the Club. The Club President Bill Plank thanked them warmly on behalf of the Club, stimulating prolonged applause from the many members present.

New occupants were voted in to most of these positions and some new ones created.

In addition to away days to Bridport and Sydmouth, a short tour to Torquay is planned for 12th to 16th September 2016.

The next formal meeting of Club members is scheduled for the 17th March, at the usual venue commencing at 6 pm, probably with a short EGM.

For more detailed information refer to the Club website <http://www.bradleystokebc.co.nr/>



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Western Area Judo Team Champions!



Last month the Western Area Judo Team Championships took place in Weston Super Mare. This brought together all 7 counties, as far down as Cornwall, to compete for 5 Shields / Trophies.

Gloucestershire had 4 Teams involved with 17 players from Bradley Stoke Judo Club. After a day of epic battles the 4 teams of Gloucestershire came away triumphant with all four teams winning GOLD!

The U12s team won Gold by 1 fight. The team of Boys 13-17 year olds won their Gold 7-1. The Girls Team 13-17 year olds won their final 4-0 (all of these were B.S.J.C Players) and finally the Senior Men's Team beat Bristol in the final 5-0.

This feat has never been achieved by one county in the 60 years of holding the Teams event!

As a Club B.S.J.C filled over half of the places in these teams.

Bradley Stoke Judo Club Enjoy Medal Haul at British Championships

Two weeks after helping Gloucestershire dominate the Western Area Judo Team Championships, members of the Bradley Stoke Judo travelled north to the city of Sheffield over the first 2 weekends in December to take part in the British Judo Championships for under 15s, 18s, 21s and senior groups.

On the first weekend it was the turn of the pre-cadets (u15) and cadets (u18) players to compete against the best the UK had to offer. The club took 14 players and achieved an amazing 2 golds, 2 silvers, 3 bronze and 3 5th places. This was the most successful British Championships in the Club's history and left the Club in 2nd in the medal table. The kids produced some fantastic judo and confirmed that Bradley Stoke are not only the premier club in the South West but also in the UK.



Bradley Stoke Judo Club

Congratulations to the following players:

GOLD

Tatum Keen u15 u48kg
Ethan Nairne u15 u46kg

SILVER

Millie Orledge u15 +63kg
Chloe Gowen u18 u52kg

BRONZE

Alex Rijksen Salman u15 u46kg
Ryan Rijksen Salman u15 u55kg
Kye Orledge u18 u60kg

5th PLACES -

Ozzy Gowen, Joseph Andrews and Ellen Holder.

The following players achieved:

Pete Miles u60kg GOLD In Juniors and Seniors

Steph Walker u52kgs SILVER in Juniors and BRONZE in Seniors

James Hayes u73kgs BRONZE in Juniors and Seniors.

5th Places in Juniors for Chloe Gowen and BSCS pupil Eleanor Young.

This finished off another fantastic year for the club which continues to break its own records. Planning for 2016 has already begun and trips to Croatia for our under 12s, 15s and u18s are already booked in.

On the Following weekend it was the turn of the juniors (u21) and seniors (+21) to fight for national honours.

Due to injuries took only 6 players to the juniors and 3 for the seniors. Despite this the club again achieved a fantastic set of results by winning 1 gold, 1 silver, 1 bronze and 2 5th places in the u21 competition. In the seniors the club achieved 1 gold and 2 bronzes.

People are always welcome to come along to learn Judo at Bradley Stoke Judo Club. Based at the Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre all ages from 4 to 70 are welcome.

For more information check out the Club's website on www.bradleystokejudoclub.com or find them on Facebook -

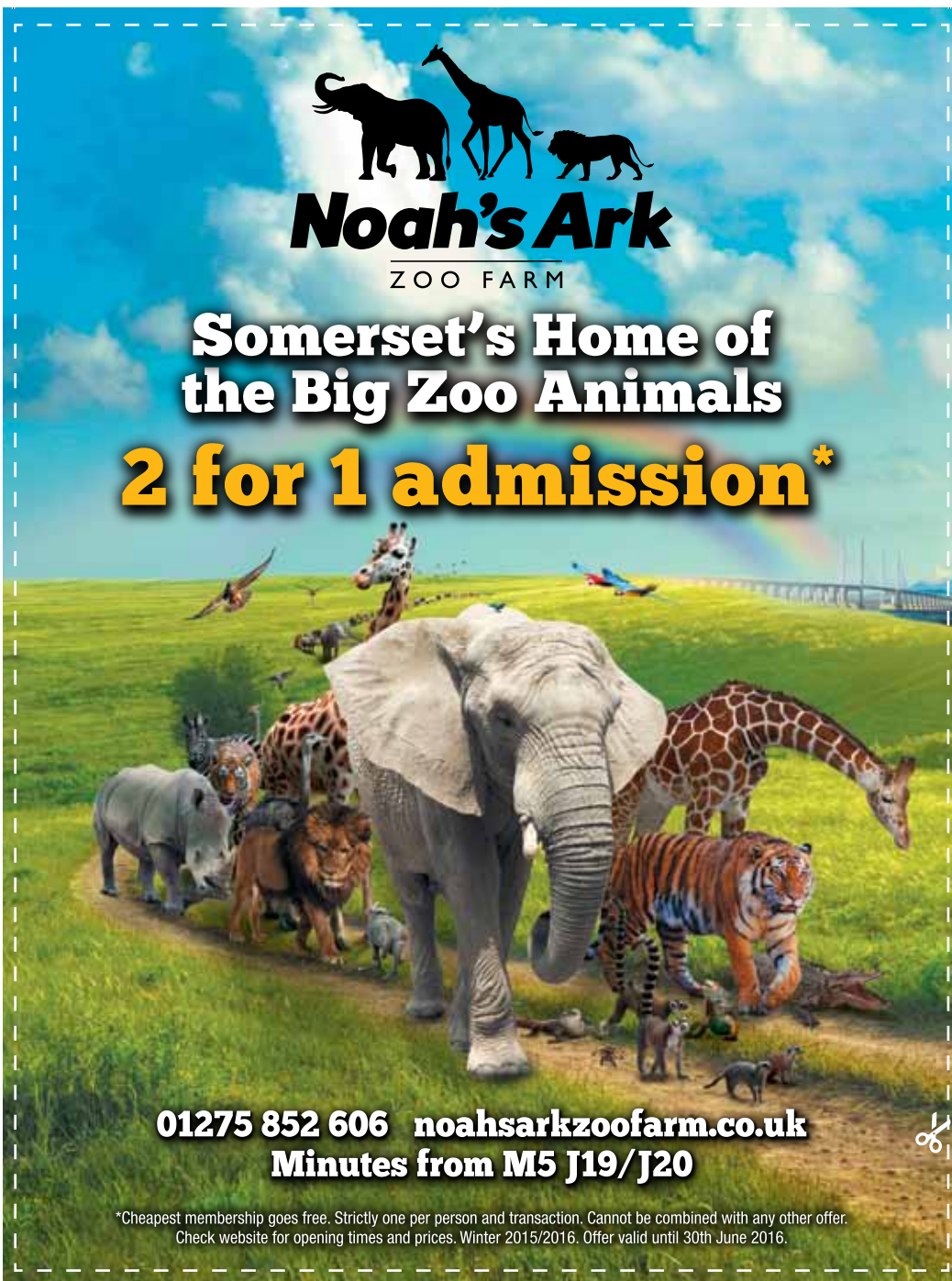
Bradley Stoke Judo Club.

Pete Miles, British Champion

Congratulations to our new British Champion Pete Miles from Bradley Stoke Judo Club. Pete won Gold in both the Junior and Senior British Championships held in Sheffield on Saturday 12th/Sunday 13th December in the Men's U60kg category.

This ends a mixed year for Pete who sustained a fractured ankle earlier in the year which kept him from competing at the European Championships. Fortunately Pete is now back to form, ending the year on a high, having won the Welsh Open Championships a few weeks ago and now the British Championship. He is seeded No 1 in the country and looks forward to qualifying again for the European Championships in 2016.





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Plenty of Winter Fun at Noah's Ark!

Although Winter days don't lend themselves to great weather, a visit to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm in Bristol doesn't rely on warm sunshine – come and see what we offer this season!

With a host of impressive animals indoors and outdoors, including our African elephants, white rhino, feisty big cats and family of gentle giraffes you'll be amazed at the variety of nature you'll see within the biggest zoo in the South West. Raining outside? No problem – enjoy seeing the big animals from our public viewing galleries in their heated houses, like Elephant Eden and our Giraffe House.

During the cold spells you can also enjoy our large, warm undercover play barns, now fully heated for all indoor play and eating areas! Bring the family along today to Bristol's award-winning 'all day, all weather' attraction and explore 12 exciting adventure play areas, an indoor Animal Village and covered Animal Show Pens. We now offer over 25,000 square feet of heated areas around the park to make your visit enjoyable whatever the weather.

Visiting as part of a group or school trip?

We offer great value group rates to make your day cheaper if you come together. Groups of 10 people or more are eligible for discounted entry, see our website for prices. Bring your birthday party and the birthday child goes free, the rest of your group enjoys our cheap birthday group rate. Want a fun educational trip for your class or year group? We host over 20,000 school children in organised educational trips each year, a popular choice of South West schools. Check out the Education section on our website to start planning your trip.

Part of every great day out is of course stopping for a relaxing snack, a chance to rest the legs



and enjoy a tasty lunch or warm drink. With outstanding views from our popular café veranda, we offer an excellent menu at great value with locally sourced food, handmade cakes and a range of hot and cold drinks. Along with our main café, Noah's Ark offers 3 further kiosks around site for drinks, snacks and ice creams perfect for family pit-stops whilst you walk around the park.

We know that although the stars of the zoo are our animals and kids will love the play areas; for busy parents

you'll want to ensure the chosen venue for your day out offers top facilities and services for your convenience. Knowledgeable staff, clean toilets, a well-stocked café, free parking – we're confident you'll find we tick all those boxes which

make a great day out.

Want to feed our animals as you walk round the park? Grab a bag of animal feed from our farm Shop and the kids can hand feed some of the farmyard favourites.

To help you save the pennies at this time of year, make the most of 20% off standard Day Ticket Admission until 31st January. Buy your tickets online any time of year and save 5% with quicker entry on arrival. Or the voucher alongside is valid until the end of June 2016.

For a fantastic family day out, walk beside nature's giants at Noah's Ark this season!

www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk

Green light for £3.6 million redevelopment of Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre

Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre will undergo a £3.6 million re-development enabling it to offer exciting new activities for all ages and meet a growing demand for its use.

South Gloucestershire Council Communities Committee which met on 4th November approved plans that will re-develop the site that will enable the centre to meet increased demand from planned new housing and offer improved facilities.

Plans include:

- A 17-adventure climbing experience
- Enhanced soft play facility and designated party rooms
- A major expansion of the fitness suite from 85 to 106 stations
- Bigger group and multi-purpose exercise studios
- A new 12-station toning suite

The redevelopment will also focus on improving customer experience and sustainability with other changes including:

- 130 additional parking spaces
- Refurbished changing areas
- A café extension

Councillor Heather Goddard, chair of the Communities Committee, said: *"The agreed re-development of Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre is very good news for existing and potential new users of the centre customers who will benefit from improved facilities and more choice of activities. It will allow the centre to meet new demand in the future and reflects our commitment to encouraging active lifestyles."*

"We are pleased to be able to make these improvements which will expand what the centre offers and 'grows' the business, rather than cuts back. We recognise there will be some inevitable disruption during the works and the loss of the squash courts in the new design. But we believe that the new-look centre will provide better choices across all age ranges and increase customer use."



Mark Crutchley, Chief Executive of Circadian Trust, said:

"We are delighted with the result from tonight's committee meeting. As a not-for-profit organisation our core aim is to improve sports and leisure provision across South Gloucestershire, whilst creating a fun and inspiring, active environment for all ages. The redevelopment will bring a wealth of new activities to the area that we believe will increase the numbers of people taking part in physical activity locally."

"Work is planned to start in spring 2016 and we hope the public will join our excitement in anticipating a new look for Bradley Stoke"

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Clifton High School – Nursery School and Reception

Clifton High School is based in the heart of Clifton Village teaching boys and girls from 3-18.

The Nursery and Reception classes are happy, vibrant and caring with a warm welcoming feel that is friendly and reassuring for both parents and children. Class sizes are small and children are taught by specialist teachers and experienced, well qualified teaching assistants. The School is set in the most beautiful grounds, with a south facing aspect it is leafy and sunny, and it puts a real emphasis on its environment. As well as dedicated outdoor playspace, Nursery and Reception children enjoy the wildflower meadow, the School has developed a mature wildlife garden, has its own pond for supervised wildlife encounters and also keeps its own bees. Indoors the facilities are just as good, with both Reception and Nursery classes having recently had a full refurbishment.

For many parents, the beauty of Clifton High is that it is mid-sized. With a total of 500 pupils, the school is well known for its outstanding pastoral care and the emphasis it puts on getting to know each individual child.

Clifton High School will be holding an Open Morning on Thursday 21st April and individual tours and taster days are also available at any time during the school term.

If you would like to find out more about the Nursery School and Reception please contact Mrs Melanie Johnson, Admissions Registrar on 0117 933 9087 or email admissions@cliftonhigh.bristol.sch.uk. You can also find further information on the school website www.cliftonhigh.bristol.sch.uk and Facebook page.




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"Students show a great deal of pride in their school. The atmosphere is one of respect, sharing and learning together." Ofsted December 2014



First Nativity at BSCS Primary Phase

Pupils at Bradley Stoke's newest primary school have celebrated the end of their inaugural term with a traditional nativity performance. Pupils treated their audience to a selection of songs and beautifully read lines, with an array of shepherds, angels, a baby Jesus and of course a star!

The schools membership of The Olympus Academy Trust meant that pupils enjoyed a visit to another Trust school, Meadowbrook Primary, to watch their dress rehearsals. Meadowbrook pupils returned to enjoy the BSCS dress rehearsal and provided a lovely confidence boost ahead of the much anticipated performance to families.

Thank you to those parents and carers who attended the event!

Head Teacher Sharon Clarke commented: "We are exceptionally proud of our pupils who have thoroughly enjoyed their performances. They have demonstrated confidence, creativity and enthusiasm no matter how big or small their part."



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Cherish Childhood

Life can feel like a treadmill from the moment you take that massive decision that you want a baby. How long will it take to get pregnant? And when you are trying to get pregnant all you see are pregnant people around you and babies in buggies everywhere. I'm not one known for my patience. Each month that ticked past was another month lost, and the anxiety of when this baby (after 30 years of not wanting one) was going to be conceived was all consuming. It felt like an age but in the end it was only a few months!

It's typical of most Mums, desperate for their baby to reach the next milestone. We yearn for our baby to make their first smile and question, was it a real smile or was it wind? We're desperate for them to sit unaided because we feel this will free us ever so slightly from the demands for our new born baby. As the months go by we look enviously at those babies who can crawl, while our baby is frustrated by only being able to sit up. Some of us question how many years it will be until we get an uninterrupted night's sleep. In my case it took 6 years with 2 baby boys who were terrible sleepers! Then our baby crawls and we want him to walk. Our toddler starts to toddle and we want him to be able to run. We want our toddler's speech to develop so we can understand what's wrong when he cries so we can understand him better.

Then the pre-school years beckon and if we have been at home all this time with our child, we are desperate for a few hours each day to ourselves. Then we realise that these 3 precious hours vanish quicker than an ice-cream in the hand of a toddler, and we long for the school years so we get double the time to ourselves. Suddenly our baby is dressed in their school uniform and we are kissing them good bye at the classroom door and that's when it struck me. School routine for the next 14 years...

That's when I took the conscious decision to stop focusing on the next milestone and to enjoy the right here, right now. I don't beat myself up about wishing those years away, I found the first 4 years incredibly difficult and find myself a much happier Mum now. I do look back however and wish I'd not been so milestone focused, easier said than done when you are sleep deprived for years!

Now I tell my children, don't hurry to grow up and I tell myself enjoy every single minute. Right now

I wish time would stand still. They seem to be to be the perfect age, 4 yrs and 6 yrs. Young enough to still be totally dependent on me for emotional support and cuddles, yet old enough to sleep through the night, dress and feed themselves and play fairly independently. I asked my friend's 16 year old son what's the best thing about being a "child". His reply, "not having to pay bills".

Let's Cherish Childhood today because the reality of the real world will kick in soon enough. Let's hold onto childhood, at least for today.

Cath Hammond is Director of Gymboree Play & Music Bristol. To find out more about opportunities to play and cherish childhood with Gymboree, visit www.gymboree-uk.com/bristol





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Update from the Children at St Mary's

Pupils at St Mary's have prepared the following for us to share with you, our readers ...

FORENSIC SCIENCE WEEK (see opposite)

On Monday 16th of November, 8 forensic science activities were dotted around the school. We needed to solve the crime. The year sixes were with their Reception buddies so they could explain the mysteries. We had to use the evidence from the crime scenes and use the suspect sheets to identify who committed the crime. The suspects were all from some well known children's books.

Hockey Tournament

On the 25th of November six children took part in a hockey tournament at St Paul's Primary School against five other Catholic schools. Each team played each other to move forwards in the league. St Mary's won all of their games except one against Christ the King. Even though they lost in the final they did come second. Each team received a certificate for their achievement. The teams that came in first and second place received a medal. Christ the King school were presented with a gold medal and St Mary's were given a silver medal; Christ the King also were given a gold trophy.

★ St Mary's Christmas Play ★

On December the 10th, KS1 will be presenting a Baa-rillicant Christmas play called "Hey Ewe" by Antony Copus, for all to enjoy and realise the true meaning of Christmas; not presents!

This term Miss Simpson, has organised a Drama Club to help the children improve their acting skills for the Christmas play.

The whole of KS1 have been working extremely hard and we hope the play will be a smashing success!

Have a Sheepstastic Christmas from the whole of St Mary's!



Scholastic Book Fair

On Tuesday 24th of November – Friday 27th November, the Scholastic Book Fair was held. There was a wide variety of new award - winning books from popular authors, suitable for all ages in our school!

As well as amazing books there were posters and stationery to be purchased too! Overall, the school raised £463.88 to spend on new books!



Science Week – Forensics

Strange events have been occurring at St Mary's this week. Posters have appeared all over the school.



A number of areas have been sealed off as crime scenes.



The children have to use the evidence at the crime scenes and suspect sheets to identify who has committed each crime.

The suspects are all well-known children's book characters.



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Gold Primary Science Quality Mark Awarded to Meadowbrook Primary

Bradley Stoke Matters was pleased to hear from Ms Qureshi, Science Leader at Meadowbrook Primary School following the school being awarded its Gold Award for Primary Science.

The Primary Science Quality Mark is an award scheme to enable primary schools across the UK to evaluate, strengthen and celebrate their science provision. Schools can achieve bronze, silver and gold awards.

The PSQM Process

The Primary Science Quality Mark award involved following a rigorous process of self evaluation which included completing a subject leader log, CPD logs, a calendar of events, a portfolio of evidence, an audit of the existing provision in science, an action plan and a reflective submission with key pieces of evidence to demonstrate the impact of the leadership.

Last year Meadowbrook took part in a wide range of activities. They held a few whole school events for example the SAW project linking science with art and poetry and a whole school investigation on maths and developing 'Working Scientifically' skills. Children in Years 4 and 5 took part in a PE and Science activity from 'In the Zone' in which they had to investigate the effects of exercise on the heart rate. There was a 'Playground Science' event in which the pupils recorded their science learning on the playground using chalk.

Pupils also went on a variety of science trips and, during Science week, focused on Bristol as the 'Green capital' where children took part in forest schools activities and learnt about green issues.

Meadowbrook were the winners in three competitions; The 'I'm a Scientist get me out of here' competition, the Green City Design Challenge and the British Wildlife Award - primary category.



Year 5 and 6 STEM Ambassadors with the award. From front: Raina Lele, Zach Diallo, Evan Downes, Katie Williams. From back: Maisie Shinton, Charlie Prewett, Kshirin Naveen Kumar, Steven Marling

Inset: Ms Qureshi and Mr Petrucco after receiving the Gold PSQM Award on November 14th.



Why take part in PSQM?

Taking part in the PSQM raises the profile of science in school and helps the evaluations and development of all aspects of science teaching and learning.

Ms Qureshi told us:

"We are delighted to have won the award as it recognises all the hard work that the staff at Meadowbrook have put in to raise the profile of science."

Pupils have been enthused and engaged with engineering opportunities, cross curricular links and the opportunities to take part in real life science. This has given them aspirations for the future many now wanting to pursue a STEM career!

I look forward to continuing to promote science teaching across the Olympus Academy Trust."

Fantastic Win For Meadowbrook!

Netball Match Meadowbrook vs Charborough Road home game on 9th December 2015

On Wednesday 9th December Meadowbrook Primary School played their first league match of the season against Charborough Road Primary School. Our team demonstrated great defence and attack all the way down the court, varied passes and good movement throughout the game. Due to excellent team work and decision making we managed to win by one goal, resulting in a win for Meadowbrook.

A fantastic start to the season and enjoyed by all, the Players Player was Gracie.

Final score:- Meadowbrook 4 Charborough Road 3. Well done to both teams.

The Meadowbrook team players were: Zoe, Alba, Chloe, Gracie, Bethan, Alex, Jack, Tom
Written by Zoe and Chloe



The Skoolbo World Cup!

In December, Meadowbrook took part in the annual Skoolbo World Cup.

As part of Team GB, they took on Australia, New Zealand and USA, trying to answer as many English and Maths questions as possible. Despite leading the Schools' leader board for the entire week, both Meadowbrook and Team GB were pipped to the post by Team Australia. A huge well done to all of the students who took part!

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1st Little Stoke Scout Group – Offering Scouting in the “Stokes” since 1952

Update from David Hutton

The Group held its AGM in September and it was good to see that several of our adult members were presented with awards by Jenny Turner, our Deputy District Commissioner. They were:

- Helen Whitfield and Samantha Ashford - 5 years' service
- Sally Alford, Brian Bird and Bob Smyth - 25 years' service
- Coralie Thompson - Chief Scout's Award for Good Service and a Wood Badge

We congratulate them and all our Leaders and Helpers for all the work they put in to give our young people super Scouting.

During the summer holidays most of the Beavers followed the Shaun in the City trail around Bristol to raise funds for The Grand Appeal to raise money for Bristol Children's Hospital. Since then the Beavers and their families have been making pompom sheep and selling them to friends and family and at school. They are still collecting money and hope to raise lots more with a Christmas decoration range.

The Beavers toured the Tesco Store in Bradley Stoke. They saw the machinery in the bakery department and experienced the temperature in the freezers and met the fishmonger who demonstrated how to dissect a fish. The tour ended with lots of food tasting before being awarded their Farm to Fork badges. Later they also had an exciting evening at Patchway Fire Station.

The Cubs have done a variety of exciting things including shooting, carrying out experiments as part of the Scientist Activity Badge and taking part in the Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI). They were able to contact Scouts in Germany, the Middle East and others closer to home. They also put in a guest appearance on JOTI Radio, an internet radio station just for Scouts!

The dark evenings enabled the Cubs to play games in the dark including Frisbee! Yes, they used a light up Frisbee and glow sticks – you can only do that at Cubs!

The Scouts trip to Germany was a great success and they came home with many memories that are being put together as part of the Group history.



The Group attended the Remembrance Parade and Service at Bradley Stoke and held its Annual Carol Service in December. All the young people had a part to play and “The 4-Tenors” (only 3, as one had gone walkabout) gave an Australian version of Jingle Bells! Group Scout Leader Tony Edmonds then presented Brian Wood and David Hutton with 25 and 40 years' service awards respectively. Their wives were also presented with flowers for all the support that they give behind the scenes.

A retiring collection at the service raised £106.50 and will be split 50/50 for the “Shaun in the City” appeal and “Ambitious about Autism”. Assistant Beaver Scout Leader Vicky Lovell will be running the London Marathon in April for “Ambitious about Autism” and we wish her luck.

Can you help?

We are always looking for additional Leaders and Helpers to support our Group. There is no minimum amount of time required to commit and we can always work around work and other commitments. Volunteer today and join our friendly enthusiastic team. For more information or to book a place please contact Tony Edmonds, Group Scout Leader, on 01454 772005 or email him at tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com

You can also follow us on twitter @1stlittlestoke or at www.1stlittlestokescouts.org.uk

Hugh Vickers, D.O.

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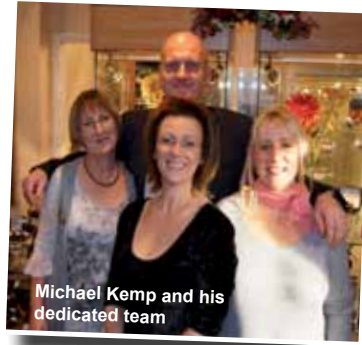
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Commercial Property - Entering in Haste

Tony Moore Specialist Commercial Property Solicitor with AMD Solicitors examines the pros and cons of taking or giving occupation of a commercial property, before a lease is finalised.



Vacant properties are expensive for Landlords. Whilst empty they earn money for neither the Landlord nor a Tenant Business. It is not surprising therefore for one party or the other to be 'champing at the bit' to have a property occupied.

To complete the legal formalities of granting or assigning a lease will often take weeks, perhaps much longer. Understandably both the landlord and the tenant may become frustrated at the uncertain timescale. So why not just hand over the keys and let the formalities follow?

There are substantial risks for both Landlord and Tenant in allowing occupation before appropriate documents have been signed. For a landlord, there is the danger that the tenant may start on making alterations to the premises and then simply change his mind and walk away, leaving behind an unlettable and expensive mess.

For the Tenant, he may invest large sums in fitting out premises for his business, only for the Landlord to change his mind and refuse to grant the lease, leaving the tenant without premises and out of pocket.

Where a current Tenant wants to assign a lease, he must not allow a new tenant in before the Landlord has consented. Otherwise there will be a breach of the terms of the lease. This might result in the unhappy outcome of the lease being forfeited ie the Landlord taking back the lease and allowing neither the old nor new tenant to have the premises.

Without a written agreement it will not be clear who will be responsible for repairs and outgoings at the property, who is to insure both the building and its contents and how long the lease will last. A Landlord may also unwittingly allow an occupier to obtain full rights of security of tenure under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

Having said this, the commercial reality is that people do want to move in before completion of the paperwork. So what are the options?

It is possible to enter into a written agreement which will provide certainty and a degree of protection for both Landlord and Tenant for the interim period before the final Lease is ready to be completed. This can be by either what is called a 'tenancy at will' or a short term licence to occupy. Both a tenancy at will and a licence come with a 'health warning' as neither presents a complete solution and carry their own significant risks. As a solicitor, I would usually advise both parties to wait for completion of the legal formalities, and not give possession or enter into occupation of commercial premises without proper advice.

Tony is a member of the Commercial Property Team at AMD Solicitors. The team will be pleased to advise or answer queries. Telephone 0117 9621205 or e-mail tonymoore@amdsolicitors.com or janineharris@amdsolicitors.com.

AMD have offices at Henleaze, Clifton, and Shirehampton.

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Plan as your garden sleeps for Winter

Now the winter is in full swing, the days are short and trees bare, it is time to make sure your garden is tidy and put to bed for the season.

Make sure all the leaves have been raked from your lawn; if you leave them, they will not only become slippery as they rot away, but will also leave your lawn with bare patches that will need to be repaired.

All your summer beds should be cleared away and plants cut back so that their foliage doesn't rot over winter.

If you haven't already, move any less hardy plants to a more sheltered spot out of harm's way until spring. Why not look at adding some winter colour to your empty beds by planting a Hellebore; there are lots of different varieties available, or a winter jasmine to brighten up a trellis or wall.

Once the garden is cleared and tidied, it's a good time to look at your hard landscaping. Make sure all your patios and decks are in good repair. You can then consider if you need any new additions, like a path to the washing line, any raised beds for the coming year to grow some vegetables in or a new seating area with a pergola to add a bit of shade on a really hot day.

At Secret Garden Landscaping, we try and design gardens so you can get the most out of it for each season. One way we have done this is to create and plant hedges. In the Autumn, hedges can really



stand out in the garden. With less daylight, leaves turn to beautiful fiery colours, giving a garden a colourful background. Many hedge plants produce fruits and nuts. These are good in the kitchen, as well as providing a feast for wildlife. It's great to see the different types of birds attracted to the nuts

and berries. Native hedge plants, such as hazel and hawthorn, are good, as more local wildlife use these plants. Now until late winter is the right time to plant Deciduous hedges.

This time of year is definitely a good time to start planning any changes, however large or small, so that everything is ready and done in time for the start of spring, when we will all be out enjoying our outdoor space again.

If you need any advice or would like a free quotation, please get in touch with us and we will be happy to help.

Ali

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Community Noticeboard

to promote your event for
FREE contact
Jaci@mattersmagazines.co.uk

South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group



Coal mining in the Brislington Area A talk by SGMRG member David Hardwick

Wednesday 6 January 2016
at 7:30pm for 8:00pm

in the Miners Institute (aka Coalpit Heath Village Hall), 214 Badminton Road, Coalpit Heath, BS36 2QB



Brislington Engine House



Part of an old map, showing the Engine House and "Coleworks" locations

Non members welcome - £2 each
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There is more information on the group at www.sgmrg.co.uk

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Next drop-in sessions
Bradley Stoke Library
Thursdays 2.30 - 4.30pm

7th Jan
3rd Feb
4th March
7th April

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Opening Times at Bradley Stoke Library

Monday: 10:30am – 18:00pm
Tuesday: 10:30am – 20:00pm
Wednesday: closed
Thursday: 10:30am – 18:00pm
Friday: 10:30am – 20:00pm
Saturday: 09:30am – 17:00pm
Sunday: 11:00am – 15:00pm

For this month's library events see p48.

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E.mail: peter.orford@gmail.com
Tel. 01454 415346

Imperial Purple to Denim Blue: The Colourful History of Textiles

Thursday 21st January, 7.30pm

Bradley Stoke Community School

On Thursday 21st January, South Glos Decorative & Fine Arts Society start the New Year by welcoming Dr Susan Kay-Williams, with her slide illustrated lecture on the story of textiles and dyeing, ranging across time periods and continents from pre history to the mid 19th Century and from Europe to India, China and South America. Susan is Chief Executive of the Royal School of Needlework at Hampton Court and has lectured worldwide.

Meeting at Bradley Stoke Community School BS32 7BS (near Bradley Stoke Library and Leisure Centre), we are a friendly group welcoming Guests and new Members. Refreshments from 7.00 pm, lecture at 7.30 pm. Good parking & easy access.

To join us please call Sally Kitching on 01454 77440 sallykitching@googlemail.com <http://sgdfas.org.uk>

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Thursday 14th January

@

Oak Hall, Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre
Please call in between 10:30am-12:30pm

Everyone welcome to attend.

For more information please contact the Griffiths
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To find out if you are eligible and for more details visit: www.southglos.gov.uk/goonline

Holy Trinity Church QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 6th February 2016 at 7pm.

Tickets £2 available from the church office.

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Check out www.bradleystokematters.co.uk for MORE community events!

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Wednesday 29th June - Summer Barbecue with Head Chef Mike Riordan
Wednesday 24th August - Beauty Master class with the Spa Team
Wednesday 26th October - Halloween-themed lunch with Head Chef Mike Riordan
Wednesday 30th November - Festive Cooking with Head Chef Mike

To make a booking please call Lauren Manning our
Events Manager on 01454 201090

Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4TS t: 01454 201090
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Aladdin

The Thornbury Musical Theatre Group will be performing 'Aladdin' at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from Wednesday 10th to Saturday 13th February.

This traditional pantomime of the famous Oriental rags to riches tale has jokes galore, provides ample opportunity for audience participation, slapstick and a vibrant mix of singing and dancing - a perfect pick you up for mid-February, suitable for all ages.

The refreshingly new script, written by Alan P. Frayn, is a laugh-a-minute and adds another dimension to the great panto classic. Join Aladdin as he falls in love with the beautiful Princess, seeks out his fortune and returns to claim her hand in marriage. Along the way, Aladdin will shirk from his duties in the laundry, hide from a dodgy pair of policemen, overcome the trickery of a deceitful "Uncle" and benefit from the powers of the genie of the lamp. When all seems lost, along comes the good Spirit to right all wrongs, ensuring a happy ending.

Performances start at 7.30 pm nightly and there will also be matinees at 2.30 pm on the Friday and Saturday. Tickets are bookable online at www.tmtg.org.uk. £12 Adults, £10 Concessions and a family ticket for 4 costs £36. Group discounts of 10% can be arranged via our Box Office for 10+ seats. For enquiries call Angie at the Box Office on 07516 270140. Tickets are also available at Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings at 53 High Street, Thornbury from the beginning of January.

For more information about 'Aladdin' and our group generally, take a look at www.tmtg.org.uk or contact us by e-mail at membership@tmtg.org.uk. You can also follow us on Facebook.

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Local Clubs and Groups in and around Bradley Stoke, Little Stoke and Stoke Gifford

BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS

Bouncing Babies - Tuesdays 1-3pm at Jubilee Centre for babies under 1. Cheryl Godsell 01454 868570 CGdsll@aol.com

Bradley Stoke 0-5's - Mondays 10am to 12 noon during term time. Jean Higgins on 07999 866188 or Holy Trinity Church office 01454 620975.

First Steps Toddler Group - Mondays and Thursdays 10-11.30am term time Christ the King Church, Bradley Stoke tel : 07590 369 935

Little Hedgehogs (0-5's) - Friday mornings 10am-12noon, Edge Church International 1160 Park Avenue, Aztec West Business Park, BS32 4TL. Tel 01454 837990.

Pre-School Rhyme time and Story time Bradley Stoke Library Mondays 10.30-11am and Thursdays 11-11.30am 01454 868006 bradleystoke.library@southglos.gov.uk

Puddle Ducks - Mondays 10am to 12 noon during term time Brook Way Activity Centre. puddleduckstoddlers@hotmail.co.uk

North Bristol Twins Group - Fridays 10-12am Evangelical Church in Bradley Stoke, northbristoltwinsgroup@googlemail.com

Tuesday Tots 10-1130am with safe outdoor play area at Little Stoke Baptist Church. All welcome. Contact Barbi Britton 0117 9695249

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Afternoon Social Club 55+, every Wednesday from 2pm – 3pm at the Jubilee Centre, Bradley Stoke.

Bradley Stoke Book Club 'Bookaholics' meet at Starbucks, Aztec West on the 2nd Wed of each month at 7:30pm. Geoff Stobbart 07714101354 geoffrey.stobbart@btopenworld.com

Bradley Stoke Community Singers - Tuesdays term time only at Bradley Stoke Community School 7.15-8.30pm. Free and open to all info@bscsingers.co.uk or call 07743 333837 / 07599 252176

Bradley Stoke Lions meet at the Hilton Hotel on 2nd Wed of each month at 7.30pm. Ailsa Young, 07737 106836 ambyoung29@yahoo.com

Bradley Stoke Radio - The Activity Centre Brook Way, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 9DS, 01454 616055 bradleystokeradio.org.uk

Bradley Stoke Sew and So's - Patchwork and Quilting Group, 3rd Monday in the month 1.30-3.30pm at the Jubilee Centre, Bradleystokesewandsos.weebly.com

Bradley Stoke Small Business Forum - meets 2nd Monday of the **Gifted drama group** Saturday 10-11.30am. Term time at Holy Trinity church. Ages 8-12 years. Contact Hayley Thomas via church office 01454 620975

Girl Guides, Brownies & Rainbows - admingirlguidingbsg.org.uk, girlguidingbsg.org.uk

Goldies - a light hearted weekly fun sing along session for those who enjoy the songs from the 50s, 60s and 70s. We're not a choir but a group of local people who enjoy getting together and having fun. We meet every Tuesday 2-3pm The Old School Rooms, Stoke Gifford. £2 per session. All welcome.

Little Stoke Ladies Club - meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7.30pm at the Community Hall, Little Stoke Lane. Julie 0117 931 5007

Plug In - weekly 7.30-9.30 at Coniston Community Centre,

Coniston Road, Patchway. Free, live music entertainment where people can relax, chill out, drink coffee, listen to music, chat and meet other folk their own age. Building Community for 18-30's.

1st Bradley Stoke Scouts - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers meet at Brook Way Activity Centre. If interested please have a look at our website which has details of days and times and contact Clive Mason, Group Scout Leader. gsl@bradley-stoke-scouts.org.uk. www.bradley-stoke-scouts.org.uk

1st Little Stoke Scouts - contact tony Edmonds, Group Scout Leader 01454 772005 email: tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com

Stokes Art Group - Tuesday evening and Thursday morning at Christ the King. Everyone welcome. www.stokesartists.co.uk

Stokes Crafters - every Thursday evening between 8pm to 10pm at the Poplar Rooms, North Road, Stoke Gifford BS34 8PE with a small charge of just £3.00

Stokes Singers - Thursdays in term time at Coniston Community Centre, Coniston Road, Patchway 7.30-9.30pm. We are a mixed choir and do not hold auditions. Contact Liz Gazzard on 01454 614148 for further details.

Thursday Ladies Group meets 3rd Thursday of month at 2pm. Community Hall, Little Stoke Lane contact Julie 0117 931 5007

Willowbrook Townswomen's Guild - Jubilee Centre – 7:30 – 9:30 the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Janine Smith 01454-617645

Women's Institute (WI) - Bradley Stoke: Jubilee Centre 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2pm contact Barbara - 0117 9470340.

Women's Institute (WI) - Stoke Gifford WI meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at Trust Hall, North Road, Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8PF contact Sue Grimsted 01454 613016.

Woodcraft Folk - children's 6+ activity group Wednesdays 6-7pm Jenny on 0117 9093969

SPORTS CLUBS

Aretians Rugby Club for Cubs, Juniors and Seniors Station Road, Little Stoke www.pitchero.com/clubs/aretiansrfc

Black and Blues Netball - Non-League Social Netball Wednesdays 7.30-9pm BSCS, Laura Blumire – 01454 851075

Bradley Stoke Bowls Club - Baileys Court Activity Centre www.bradleysstokebc.com. Val Nicholls 0117 9311203

Bradley Stoke Cricket Club - throughout the cricket season, we run 6 adult teams and five youth teams. All contacts are on our website at http://bradleystokecc.co.uk

Bradley Stoke Jiu Jitsu Club - Chris Harris, maru.jiujitsu@gmail.com We train at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre Tues & Fri evenings, classes for children and adults

Bradley Stoke Junior Netball Club - The Jubilee Centre Every Wednesday 5.30–7.00pm. Siân Bridon on 07920 745965 (after 6pm) or email bsncjuniors@yahoo.co.uk

Bradley Stoke Judo - Various days and times, Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, www.bradleystokejudoclub.com

Bradley Stoke Town Football Club - Adult training Tuesdays at Bradley Stoke Community School, For more info see website at bstfc.co.uk

Bradley Stoke United Football Club - Football from U7's to U16's Various contacts, dependent on age, see website bsufc.co.uk

Bradley Stoke Youth FC (BSYFC) – FA Charter Standard Community

On these pages we have tried to collate many of the non-profit making groups, clubs and organisations that regularly meet across the Five Stokes area, along with Church and School information. If we have got your details wrong, or missed out your club completely, please let us know **community@mattersmagazines.co.uk** and we will do my best to put it right for you!

Club, U7s to U18s, disability football, mentoring, in-school coaching and football festival. Visit web site www.bsyfc.co.uk or contact mlee1@btopenworld.com

Bradley Stoke Youth Rugby at St Marys Old Boys Rugby Club for Minis, Juniors and Seniors - Trench Lane, Almondsbury website: www.smobrugby.com, 01454 250489 email: clubhouse@smobrugby.co.uk

Bristol Extreme Allstar Cheerleaders - Wednesdays 7-9pm Little Stoke Primary School, bristolextreme@gmail.com

Little Stoke Park Run - Every Saturday at 9am, a 5k run in the park, littlestokehelpers@parkrun.com

North Bristol Rugby Club, Rugby teams from 4+ www.pitchero.com/clubs/northbristoljuniorsrfc/ .

North Bristol Running Group friendly group of recreational runners, 3 evenings per week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, in the Bradley Stoke area. Tuesday evening is aimed at Beginners whilst all levels are welcome on any of the evenings. For further information please see our Face Book page or text Alan Wilcox on 0789 0182387.

Severnside Ramblers - www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk All walks meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke

Sole Sisters - ladies only running group, meets Monday evenings in various locations Bradley Stoke & North Bristol, www.solesistersrsc.co.uk

Stokes Cycling Club - Cycling club in and around Bradley Stoke area as well as long distance rides, for adults and families - www.stokescyclingclub.org.uk stokescyclingclub@googlemail.com

Stoke Gifford Cricket Club – We 2 Saturday league teams, occasional Sunday friendlies and club days. All ages and abilities welcome at a real community club. Winter nets start spring 2016. Contact Mark Stephens on 07816962503.

Stoke Gifford Short Mat Bowls Club -Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. For more information please contact George Lord on 0117 3523 or email beryl.smith@talktalk.net

Stoke Gifford Tennis Club - Tennis for Adults, Teenagers and Juniors all year round! Club night is on Monday's from 19:30. For further information about membership and coaching visit our website http://www.stokegiffordtennisclub.co.uk

Stoke Striders Running Club - A free recreational running group, Mondays 6-7pm Little Stoke Park, https://www.facebook.com/stokesstriders

TAGB Tae Kwon Do - Thursdays and Sundays Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, Russ Martin Russ@Tkdbristol.com 07778 421875 www.tkdbristol.com

CHURCH CONTACTS AND COFFEE MORNINGS

Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church Baileys Court Road 0117 9314716 www.bscc.org.uk

Bridge Community Church Bradley Stoke Community School 0117 2303330. Community Coffee Morning Brook Way Activity Centre Thursdays 10-12 www.bridgecommunitychurch.org

Christ the King Church Mautravers Close, Bradley Stoke 0117 931 2304. Coffee mornings with bacon butties Fridays at 9-11am. www.ctkchurch.org.uk

Edge Church International. 1160 Park Avenue, Aztec West Business Park, BS32 4TL. Tel 01454 837990. www.edgechurch.co.uk

Holy Family Catholic Church Southsea Road, Patchway 0117 9081247 www.holyfamilyrcchurchpatchway.co.uk

Holy Trinity Church Broadcroft, Bradley Stoke 01454 620975 www.htcbradleystoke.co.uk

Little Stoke Baptist Church, Kingsway, 0117 969 6060. Coffee & Cakes Thursday mornings 10-12pm All Welcome.

St.Michaels Church, The Green, Stoke Gifford 0117 9692486 welcome@stmichaelsbristol.org. Coffee shop open Mon to Fri 9.30 until 4pm, and Saturdays 10-12.

Trinity Network -www.trinitynetwork.org
Amberley Road Baptist Church, Patchway, 01454 610808
Stoke Gifford Baptist Church 1, Rock Lane, 01454 610808

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Baileys Court Primary School, Head Teacher: Andrew Lynham, Breaches Gate Bradley Stoke, 01454 866666

Bradley StokCommunity School Primary Phase, Head Teacher Sharon Clarke 01454 868840

Bowsland Green Primary School, Head Teacher: Faye Kitchen, Ellicks Close Bradley Stoke, 01454 866766, bowslandgreen.org.uk

Holy Family R.C. Primary School, Head Teacher: Dawn Breeze, Amberley Road Patchway, 01454 866786

Holy Trinity Primary School, Headteacher: Jane Johns, Broad Croft Bradley Stoke, 01454 866735, holytrinity-pri.s-gloucs.sch.uk

Little Stoke Primary School, Headteacher: Scott Howes, Little Stoke, 01454 866522, http://www.littlestokeys.co.uk

Meadowbrook Primary School, Headteacher: Jon Barr, Three Brooks Lane Bradley Stoke BS32 8TA, 01454 868630, meadowbrookprimary.co.uk

Stoke Lodge Primary School, Headteacher: Richard Clark, School Close Bourton Avenue, stoke lodge, 01454 866772

St Chad's Patchway C of E Primary School, Head Teacher Darren Brown, Cranham Drive, Stoke Lodge, 01454 866523

St. Marys R.C. Primary School, Head Teacher: Paula Marsh, Webbs Wood Lane Bradley Stoke, 01454 866390,

St Michael's Primary School, Head Teacher Mark Freeman, Ratcliffe Drive, Stoke Gifford 01454 866781. www.stmichaelssg.co.uk

Wheatfield Primary School, Headteacher: Christine Dursley, Wheatfield Drive Bradley Stoke, 01454 868610

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Abbeywood Community School, Exec Head: Dave Baker, Assoc Head: Dave Howe, New Road Stoke Gifford BS34 8QT, 0117 307 5660, abbeywoodschool.com

Bradley Stoke Community School, Exec Head: Mr Dave Baker, Assoc Head: Steve Muir Fiddlers Wood Lane Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS, 01454 868840, bradleystokecs.org.uk

Patchway Community College, Headteacher: Mrs J Millicent, Hempton Lane Almondsbury BS32 4AJ, 01454 862020, patchwaycc.com

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January at Bradley Stoke Library

Rhymetime: Rhymes and songs for parents and babies/toddlers to enjoy together Monday mornings term time only 10:30am - 11:00am

Pre School Storytime: Thursdays 11:00am - 11:30am for stories and crafts term time only

Chatterbooks group for young people in Years 5 and 6 meeting on Saturday 9th January at 14:30pm - 15:30pm. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like to join!

BIGGERbooks for young people in Years 7-9 will be meeting on 22nd January 18:00pm - 19:00pm. There is still time to sign up - please speak to a member of staff if you would like to join!

Volunteer drop in session Thursday 7th January 2:30-4:30pm for any enquiries about volunteering.

Become a Reading Hack Volunteer and meet new people, learn new skills and inspire others to read. South Gloucestershire Libraries are seeking young people aged 13 to 24 to take part in their exciting new volunteer scheme. This new, year round volunteering scheme is part of Reading Hack, a programme led by young people who do reading activities and volunteering to gain skills and experience. For an application form or more information, ask a member of staff at any South Gloucestershire library, visit www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries or email emma.fisher@southglos.gov.uk.

Our **IT volunteer is here every Tuesday and Friday morning to help with all IT enquiries** including getting online, setting up an email account, basic computing skills, Universal Jobmatch, as well as help to download free ebooks and e-audio books from the LibrariesWest website. Just speak to a member of staff who will be happy to book you a free one hour session.

Other facilities at Bradley Stoke library include daily papers, laminating and fax services (charges apply), free internet access and free WiFi.

Did you know that you can reserve and renew books online? You can also download e-books, e-audiobooks and e-magazines. Find out all that's on offer at www.librarieswest.org.uk

For any more information follow the contacts below:

Tel: 01454 868006

email: bradleystoke.library@southglos.gov.uk
website: www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries
twitter: www.twitter.com@southgloslibs

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