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December 2017

Community

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*Terms apply. Ask in club for details.



Spirit Health Club is part of the Holiday Inn Bristol Filton, Filton Road BS16 1QX (by UWE)

Dear Residents....

We have an incredibly jam packed issue for you this month! We have been very busy out and about gathering news and information to bring you for this festive issue.

We re-visited a lovely couple now celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary - just like the Queen and Duke - a fantastic milestone to reach and still going strong. Read about Betty and Jim on page 8. We also bring you news of the Community Library now open in Stoke Gifford, as well as two local groups for our older readers 'Goldies' in Stoke Gifford (p5) and the Stokes Phoenix Club in Little Stoke (p17). If you would like to get out and meet new friends in the locality, both of these Clubs would love to meet you.

We have done our best to collate together all the local church services and carol concerts to give you plenty of opportunity to join in with the local festive spirit this month. See our Christmas activity section on pages 38-45.

We also bring you news from other local groups - 2nd Stoke Lodge Brownies celebrated their 40th anniversary in October (p6) and we have sporting successes from our local young people on pages 24

(Creation Twirlers), p20 (Bambino Karting) and p25 (Gymnastics).

Age UK are looking for volunteers for their befriending service, there is currently a need for three individuals in Little Stoke - could you help with this?

Fancy something different in 2018? Chepstow's Castell Roc Music Festival has just released information on its first acts (see p18).

Have a fabulous Festive Season, however you choose to celebrate this year. I will see more of you in 2018!

JaCi x

As ever a huge shout out to all the businesses who support us and enable us to bring you your community magazine.

Don't forget you can keep up with each edition of Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters via www.bradleystokematters.co.uk





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Matters Magazines Ltd, 130 Aztec West, BS32 4UB

Co Regn No: 8490434

The Bradley Stoke, Little Stoke and Stoke Gifford community matters magazines are independently published and delivered FREE to every home (c 16,000 copies) in Bradley Stoke, Little Stoke, Stoke Gifford, Stoke Lodge and the edges of Patchway (to the A38 border) and Harry Stoke. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editor (unless it is a personal review of a service that we have participated in). We cannot vouch for every advertiser personally (although since starting in August of 2005 we have used many of the services ourselves). Any feedback or experience is welcomed.

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Sing & Smile at Weekly Sing-a-long with the Goldies

Whilst visiting the gorgeous Stoke Gifford Coffee Shop this month, I was drawn to peak through the doors of the hall by the sounds of jolly music and singing. I had stumbled across a lovely group of people who make up the 'Golden Oldies' (Goldies for short).

'Goldies' Sing & Smile Charity was founded by Bath-based choir leader Grenville Jones and inspired by the social issues and loneliness facing older people. Getting together, making friends and having fun are the basis of this Charity and its simple ethos is to give people events they can look forward to. The Charity is based on the well documented fact that singing is good for you, it encourages good breathing, helps your memory, brightens up your day and gives you a chance to meet other people. In short it puts a SMILE on your face!

The songs are carefully chosen and based on the well known sing-along hits of the 50s, 60s & 70s. Songs like Bring me Sunshine – Summer Holiday – Magic Moments – Downtown – Hi Ho Silver Lining and many more, encourage people to clap in rhythm to the music, tap their feet, smile and if the mood takes you ... get up and dance!

The Stoke Gifford Goldies is run by Adele Hooper who lives locally in the village. "We are a very welcoming group with a relaxed atmosphere. It is always lovely to see people enjoy themselves and leave with a smile on their face." A great benefit of running in the Old School Rooms is that people are welcome to stay on and have a tea or coffee together in the Coffee Shop too.

"Sometimes it can take a bit of courage to come along on your own for the first time, but we are a small group and you will be made to feel very welcome and, in no time at all, you will have made new friends" Adele continued. Goldies is not a choir and you do not need to be able to sing, or even feel you have to sing along if you don't want to! There are 3 different song books, including ones with large size print. It is a very all-inclusive group and any one who would like to join in is very welcome, the current age range is from 60s-90s!

Goldies runs at the Old School Rooms, Stoke Gifford every Tuesday from 2.00-3.00pm.

Weekly costs are £2 per person. This group has also received funding from the Stoke Gifford Parish Council to help it continue to run on a weekly basis.

For more information you can call Adele on 0117 979 0029 or email adele@golden-oldies.org.uk



"The ethos of this Charity is very simple - it is to give people something to look forward to, a REASON to get out of their homes and be with others."

"Singing should be on prescription,"

*founder
Grenville Jones*

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2nd Stoke Lodge Brownies Celebrate 40 Years

In our last edition we mentioned that the 2nd Stoke Lodge Brownies were celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2017 and how they have been doing lots of '40' themed events throughout the year to celebrate, such as a 40 minute danceathon, picking up 40 pieces of litter, 'around the word in 40 minutes', climbing 40 meters and lots of other ingenious ideas!

In October we were pleased to be invited along to their party to celebrate. The event was really well supported with both former leaders and Brownies that had attended the unit in years gone by present, as well as current brownies and their families. The pack were delighted that the Mayor of Bradley Stoke, Andy Ward, also supported the event. The evening started with a slide show of the history of Second Stoke Lodge Brownies. It was lovely to see Pat Hutton, one of the original leaders of the unit, who came along and presented the Brownies and current leaders with a special 40th Birthday Badge, designed especially for the event. Top photo shows Rachel (Peacock) the current leader receiving her 40th celebration badge from former leader, Pat Hutton.

The unit are grateful to Kate for the 40th birthday cake that she made, based on the design of the badge and featuring the characters of the current leaders, such as Hedgehog, Peacock, Snowy Owl, Magpie, Kookaburra, Hummingbird, Little Owl and Cuckoo.

The Brownies and visiting Guides really enjoyed a time of balloon modelling, organised by Katy Mitchell, helped by her daughter Abby (photo right). The Brownies all had a go at making their own balloon animal as you can see in the main picture!

I loved looking at the display boards and all the old photos from the Unit's history archives as well as all the pictures and writing the current brownies had prepared to celebrate the special anniversary. It doesn't feel that long ago I was wearing that uniform on the right!!



Stoke Gifford Community Library

Little Stoke Gifford Matters was pleased to visit the new community library, situated on the mezzanine floor above the Old School Rooms Coffee Shop.

With the cutback of library services seeing the cessation of the fortnightly mobile library in October, Cllr Ernie Brown approached St Michaels with the concept of opening up a library in the premises (see pages 32-33 for more on this). On behalf of the church, which is keen to provide as many community activities within its community buildings as possible, Chris Bradley was instrumental in setting this up from the Church's end, in conjunction with the funding obtained by Cllr Brown.



I met up with the three volunteers currently enabling the library to happen, Carol, Jack and Peter, who have each undergone training from the South Gloucestershire Library Service so that they can run the facility in the same way as other libraries in the area. The new library is an extension of the South Gloucestershire libraries; you can therefore use your current South Gloucestershire Library card to loan books, or if you don't currently have a card you can register for one with Carol, Peter or Jack.

The new facility is currently open every other Tuesday from 2-4pm. It offers a range of fiction books, including large print books, as well as DVDs (small charge of £1/week), and a small section of non-fiction reading material. You can order books online from librarieswest.org.uk and they can be delivered to the Stoke Gifford library for your convenience (as the newest library they are currently last on the list on website SGSG). Books are regularly swapped and updated and you can also put in requests for books to the library volunteers. One benefit of the library opening every other week is that you get to loan the books for 4 weeks instead of 3!

With more volunteers on board the library may be able to open more frequently. The facility would therefore welcome additional volunteers to come forward - there is another training date coming up at the start of 2018 if anyone is interested. **Please contact Carol Clare on osrlibrary@gmail.com if you are interested or have any other queries about the library.**

Opening Times: Tuesdays 2-4pm 5th & 19th December; 2nd, 16th & 30th January; 13th & 27th February

Library volunteer Jack told me "We are here to serve, we recognise that there is a need for a library service here in Stoke Gifford and we are here to fulfil that need"

Peter added "Even in the digital age, I still very much believe that books are relevant"

Carol: "Having the coffee shop downstairs is a real bonus - come and browse for a book then sit with a hot drink downstairs to start enjoying it! We are also fully accessible with lift available"

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70 years of Marriage! Congratulations to Betty & Jim

Little Stoke Gifford Matters first visited Jim and Betty Wyatt at their home 5 years ago to celebrate their 65 wedding anniversary - a tremendous achievement.

I was even more delighted to pay another visit in their home last month to catch up with them as they celebrated their Platinum Wedding Anniversary in October.

"70 years!" Jim joked with me ...
"that's more than two life sentences for murder!"

Betty and Jim were still teenagers when they got married back in 1947, having had their first date when they were just 15. They have had a happy married life, not without it's adventures as one of the first things they did was give living in Australia a go in 1951! It was a hard year though and having had enough of the bugs and creatures they came back home to Little Stoke where Jim returned to work with Farmer Howard Davis at Little Stoke Farm.

Betty and Jim have 5 daughters, who all still live locally, the furthest away being just Coalpit Heath. They also have 14 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren (which is 3 more than when we last met!). They remain a very close family, "We've never interfered" Jim told me, "they've made their own decisions and we've always been here to give love and support whenever needed. We are so lucky to have such a close family". "They all come round and visit, we have a good laugh" Betty told me, "there was 18 of us here on bonfire night to watch the fireworks at the Jubilee Green - it was a bit of squash but we managed!"

Secrets of a happy marriage?: "Tolerance, you have to give and take in a relationship, and keep talking to one another" said Jim. "Always kiss and make up before you go to bed" said Betty "you can't always agree on everything, sometimes you just have to get on with it".

You may have seen Betty and Jim on the BBC on 20th November, the 70th wedding anniversary of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. They were interviewed at home and also at their Anniversary Party for sharing the same wedding anniversary as the Queen and Duke. This is not the first time this has happened: 20 years ago they were invited to the Palace for tea, along with other couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1997.

Best wishes to this lovely couple, who are still plenty young enough to enjoy many more anniversaries yet to come.

Jim and Betty Wyatt Celebrating 65 Years of Marriage

The wife delighted to receive an email from local newspaper (Stoke) showing a picture of her parents celebrating 65th Wedding Anniversary!

After a chat to the press, we I happened upon to the fact that to meet with Jim and Betty Wyatt was 15 years ago, and in the last issue for the majority of their married life.

Betty was in their eighth. She thought it was a bit odd to be asked to write about her parents who were 15 years old when they were married. She was born on 11 October 1947. Her father was a farmer and her mother was a housewife. They were married for 65 years and had 5 children. Betty was a housewife and her husband was a farmer. They were married for 65 years and had 5 children.

The couple met while working for the same employer, who was a farmer. They were married for 65 years and had 5 children.

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Photos; our 2-page spread on Jim and Betty back in the Oct 2012 edition (time really does fly!); Jim and Betty on their wedding day in 1947 and to the left, Jim and Betty when they revisited the church they were married in a couple of years ago. Below that is Jim and Betty on their Gold Wedding Anniversary to the Palace and bottom photo is Jim and Betty today.

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Filton Golf Club Winter Warmer



Local North Bristol secret revealed!
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We have a growing Junior Section and a thriving Ladies Section and the Club supports teams at all levels. The Club also hosts lots of competitions throughout the year.

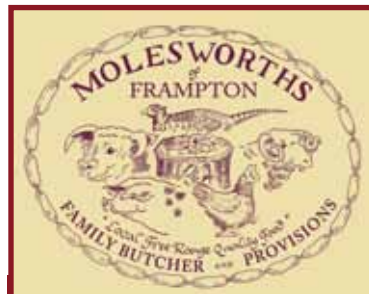


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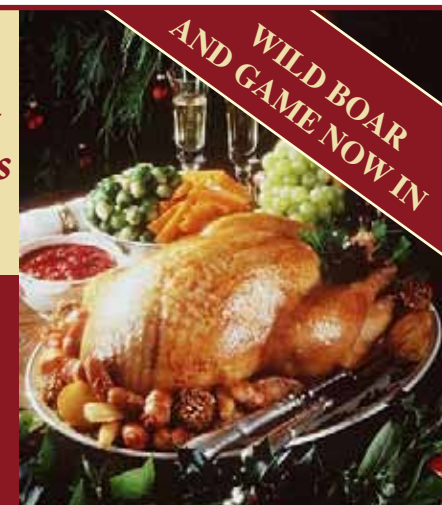


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I personally discovered Solution Focused Hypnotherapy following my own journey through life. I suffered with anxiety and depression following my marriage breakdown, and the isolation and responsibility that comes with bringing up children alone. Struggling to manage my work / life balance, as many of us do today, I took the brave step to ask for help.



Overwhelmed by the power and potential of hypnotherapy, I came to realise it was time to re-evaluate what was truly important to me. Fuelled by a long-standing interest in people (I have a BSc (hons) degree in Psychology) and a passion to help them to be the absolute best they can be, it seemed a natural step to qualify and progress my career in this direction.

I can honestly say that I love my work, and am delighted with the amazing results that hypnotherapy allows me to achieve, in helping people take control of their lives.

The key aspect to my work is that I'm solution focused. Whatever your situation, whatever you'd like to change and whatever your age, (children and teens can be particularly receptive) this relaxing, calm and enjoyable therapy can help you to improve your life and become the person you want to be.

"Laura is able to calm and focus your mind and really brings you forward in whatever your goal may be. Her approach is caring, matter of fact and practical. You can tell her anything without feeling judged and I often marvel at how she can make you see challenges in a simple way, so you are more in control of your own decisions. She challenges enough to make you more honest in your outlook, without making you feel negative."

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It's important to understand that you don't have to 'believe' you can change, you just need to 'want' to change, the belief will come when the change starts to happen. However, this is not 'stage hypnosis', I do not have a magic wand and you will need to work with me.

"I have been in a very dark place for a long time. With the help from Laura each week, I am now emerging from the darkness and out into the light."

On a personal note, I've been able to apply what I learnt to help myself, to realise what I want in my own life, and to become a more efficient, happier and relaxed person. As a busy working single mum to two growing boys, life is definitely not boring...

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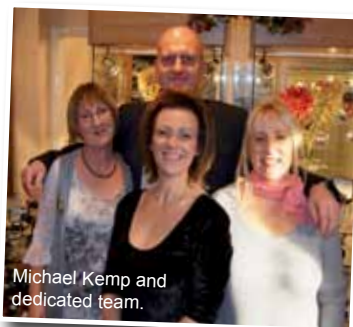
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Many of us live with pain of some sort – aching lower back, stiff shoulders, sore joints, repetitive stress injuries from hours at the computer! But few of us find the time or resources to rectify these problems, which would enable us to live a happier, healthier life! Now is the time to take action and Osteomyologist Dawn Clode is here to help!

From her Holistic Health Practice in Little Stoke, Dawn treats people of all ages, suffering with numerous different types of physical or emotional pain.

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For some people one session is enough to rectify their pain completely; for others a few sessions are required. Dawn told me, "The ideal is to balance the patient, get them moving in tune with themselves, and then see them every few months for a check up to ensure that you are on track".



Dawn with her Osteomyologist of the Year award

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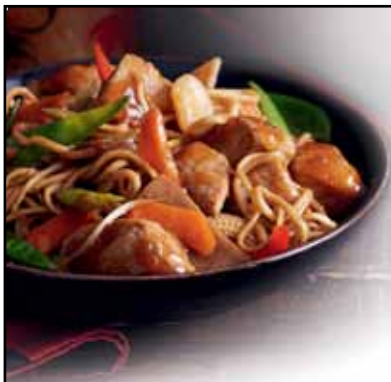
Based in Winterbourne

Hypnotherapy is widely used for all psychosomatic disorders (mental and emotional states which actually produce physical symptoms). In a nutshell, hypnotherapy can generally help with any problem you're finding hard to handle on your own - thoughts and actions you'd like to banish or acquire, or emotional suffering that is too overwhelming or has gone on too long.

Call me on: 07964 991689

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Thursday - Little Stoke
Little Stoke Community Hall,
9.30 & 11.30am
Tel Sharron: 07947 064711

Thursday - Patchway
Callicroft Primary School
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tel Janice: 07860 444647

Thursday - Stoke Gifford
St Michael's School
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel: Amber: 07500 113000

Friday - Bradley Stoke
Holy Trinity Church
9.30am & 11.30am
Tel Frankie: 07519 347243

Saturday - Bradley Stoke
Wheatfield Primary School.
9am & 11am
Tel Dawn: 07905 852413

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You are not alone

Margaret Gibbard, Counsellor at Bradley Stoke Physio & Health, explores the support that's available for you during this busy and emotional season.

This time of year, amidst the dark nights and end of year festive preparation and recovery, can often trigger a number of emotional issues for us.

When we find these issues difficult to process, they can begin to impact our lives. Sometimes seeking and asking for help can be tricky and precarious as we often feel we are the only ones not coping, or that this is a sign of weakness. Thankfully, stories about people living with depression, anxiety, stress and other mental health issues, have been very prominent in the media recently, helping to dispel these myths.

Consequently, more of us are beginning to share our own accounts of mental health within family and friendship groups. In some instances, as with Lady GaGa, these stories come out publically. People are realising that they are not alone in their struggles and mental illnesses do not discriminate as they affect anyone.

Men are also now finding it easier to vocalise their own struggles. As with famous footballers (Rio Ferdinand and Chris Kirkland) and royalty (HRH Prince William and Prince Harry), men, as well as women, are benefitting from getting support through talking therapies, such as counselling.

The most important thing is that it doesn't matter who you are, or what you do. Just like physical illness, mental health issues can affect anyone and there is no shame in this. You are not alone and there is help out there.

Bradley Stoke Physio and Health provide support for mental as well as physical health, as we believe both are equally important, and our qualified counsellor, Margaret, offers a safe and confidential space to enable you to work through your mental health concerns. Impartial and non-judgemental, Margaret will listen and support you through what can quite often be difficult, and sometimes, painful worries and experiences. Highly competent, Margaret knows that no two people are alike, and so will use approaches to therapy that best suit you.

To book an appointment with Margaret, or to find out more about how counselling could help you, you can contact Margaret on 01454 618 525 or go to www.bradleystokephysio.co.uk.



Making you feel better

Bradley Stoke Physio & Health - find us in Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, BS32 9BS
01454 618 525 info@bradleystokephysio.co.uk www.bradleystokephysio.co.uk

In the UK, 1 million older people go a month or more without seeing or speaking to a friend, family member or neighbour. We need to change that.

We need to make sure help is available for all older people who find their lives adversely affected by loneliness, illness or poverty, whatever the time of year.

Could you spare some of your precious time to help us reach more people in need living in our community?

We are facing an unprecedented demand for our Befriending service across the county and one of your neighbours may be in need of help. We are in need of 3 volunteers in Little Stoke for our Befriending Service. We also have people waiting in neighbouring communities. Could you visit a neighbour?

Befriending is simple but very rewarding. Our volunteers pop in for a chat once a week for around an hour and talk about everything and anything. It is simple but means so much to the older person.

"Sometimes the only time I laugh is when Sue (Befriending Volunteer) comes around" Joan; a Befriending service recipient.

Our volunteers benefit from the visits as much as our clients, as Emily explains *"I feel needed! When I visit my client it's obvious she's pleased to see me. With a child who is now self-sufficient and a very busy husband, it's quite nice to be appreciated so much when I have my weekly visits with my client"*

You can help to change the lives of local people and make sure no one has no one, especially with winter coming.

For more information call 01454 411707 option 2 or e-mail volunteering@ageuksouthglos.org.uk



The Stokes Phoenix Club Needs YOU!!

New members needed, please get in touch!

So that the Phoenix Club can continue to flourish we are looking for new members. We are a small friendly group of ladies, we have a programme of monthly events and talks, with time to meet and make friends over tea, coffee and biscuits. For members, we also have a Craft sub-group which meets fortnightly on alternate Thursday mornings to the meeting dates.



Club meets are held the first Tuesday of each month, 10.00am-12.00 noon at the Community Hall, Little Stoke Park, Little Stoke. [Please note until early 2018 whilst building work is taking place at the Community Hall we are meeting at Little Stoke Scout Hut, Little Stoke Park]

Programme for 2017/18

5th December	Christmas Buffet and Knutty Knitters
2nd January	Around Bristol by Horse Tram
6th February	Our Beautiful Marine Life
6th March	Annual lunch at the Park Hotel
3rd April	Hives, Herbs and Candle Making

Yearly membership is £15. Monthly subs £2.00. We would love you to come along to one of our monthly sessions – get in touch on the phone number below or just come along to one of our meetings, we would love to see you!

For more information please get in touch with Rosemary Davis, Chair Tel: 01454 614474

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The Festival continues to go from strength to strength, gaining national praise and recognition for not only great entertainment but for its relaxed atmosphere, enchanting location and superb acoustics.

Castell Roc Festival is now pleased to release details of the first of its star studded 2018 shows, held inside Chepstow Castle.

Friday 17th August 2018 - "Alabama3". The band are notable for their fusion of styles, ironic lyrics, intentionally humorous personae, and outrageous live performances. Oh. and of course they wrote the intro music to the hit TV show 'The Sopranos'.

Saturday 18th August 2018 - the incredible **"Dr Hook"** starring Dennis Locorriere. All the hit singles including Sylvia's Mother, A Little Bit More, When You're in Love with a Beautiful Woman and Sexy Eyes, plus many, many more.

Friday 24th August 2018 sees the welcome return of a 2017 sell-out show: back by popular demand **"The Magic Of Motown"** bring top Motown hits, glittering costumes, dazzling dance routines and an incredible party atmosphere to the castle.

Sunday 26th August 2018 flying in from Australia is none other than the Grammy award winning, International chart topping, British music legend **"Leo Sayer"**! Also including support from **"Mari Wilson & The New Wilsations"** an amazing evening awaits!

Monday 27th August 2018 is a unique chance to see two full theatrical show's in one evening with **"Return Of The King meets Prince Experience"**. Leading tributes to Prince & Michael Jackson, both Artist's with their full bands and backing singers in a show never seen before.

Will they perform together, in a duo?


Saturday 1st September 2018, fresh from the big theatres is **"Fastlove"**. An opportunity to re-live the passion, flare and the unique sensitivity of **George Michael**. Accurate, captivating and heart-warming, with all the big hits.

If you haven't checked out Castell Roc before, you really should!

Make memories ... Show tickets make great Christmas present too!!

All shows are standing. Guests are welcome to bring foldable chairs or blankets (for use in dedicated areas). Limited tickets are on sale now (with special "earlybird prices") from Hannah's Music, Chepstow (01291 627122), or online via the Festival website at www.castellroc.co.uk. All we suggest is 'be quick or miss out'.....


More shows to be announced soon...



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New Member of Staff at BSCS has Four Legs not Two!

Bradley Stoke Community School have introduced a very important new member of the school community- Wally the dog! Wally is a Cocker Spaniel puppy.

A growing number of schools, colleges and universities are now recognising the benefits of introducing a pet into their organisation.

Studies show that a school dog can have a very positive effect on students and there are many examples of how they can support a school community, including: helping to reduce anxiety; encouraging students to attend school; helping students to cope with examination stress; helping to foster a sense of responsibility; improving reading confidence by having students read to them and generally bringing a warmth to the school which makes the place feel happier. Costs associated with Wally are covered by a generous benefactor so school funds are not used.

Naturally there were a few students who are worried or anxious about being near dogs or who have allergies to dogs. Students were assured that they do not have to have close or direct contact with Wally unless they wish to, and before being introduced to the school parents were encouraged to raise any concerns. A full risk assessment was completed before the decision was taken and staff and students were briefed fully before Wally was introduced to students.

Wally was introduced to students in an assembly and, in consultation with an animal behaviourist, a set of guidelines has been agreed, such as not to crowd Wally and to remain calm around him with no sudden movements or loud noises, definitely not to feed him snacks!

Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters thinks Wally is absolutely gorgeous and can't wait to meet him!!

P.S As you can see from the photo Wally quite enjoys posing for a camera!



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A Lewis Hamilton of the Future?!

We were pleased to hear from local Dad Matt Davis whose son, currently just 6 years old, will be taking part in the MSA Bambino Championship in 2018. This is a national competition for Bambino racers in which the best drivers compete all around the country. The age range for this Championship is between 6-8 years old and the karts themselves reach over 40mph!

Matt told us "We have tried to keep Jacob active from a young age, attending 'Soccer Tots' at 2 years old for a couple of years before trying golf, but the latter only lasted for a few months. We then tried karting in Gloucester on electric karts, he was 4 at the time and really enjoyed it. We started to look around for places that caters for karting at this age but found it hard to come by, many places only starting at 8 years old. We managed to find an indoor circuit locally which races petrol karts and within a few sessions Jacob had picked it up and ended up breaking the lap record, which he still holds! After this, we started looking into outdoor karting and larger tracks; we did a 'Lets Go Karting' taster session at Shennington where we hired a kart. This session is aimed at what they class as 'Bambinos' ages 6-8 year... and this is where we knew he really enjoyed the sport. Jacob completed half a season in the UK Kart Series this year finishing in 6th position overall, and 4th in the last two races of the season. He will be going to the final presentation at Silverstone in December. Following the large improvements he's been making, Jacob will now be entering the MSA Bambino Championship next year."

Little Stoke Gifford Matters was pleased to hear that Jacob's favourite F1 driver is Lewis Hamilton. Here's hoping he gets to follow in his idol's footsteps - racing under number 88 perhaps Jacob will go on to score double the famous 44 driver's achievements!! **You can follow Jacob on his Social media account:** <https://www.instagram.com/jsdavisracing/> which currently has over 15k Followers!



Abbeywood celebrates E-Safety Award

Abbeywood Community School has been recognised for the high quality of its work on e-safety, having been awarded the e-safety 360 award, following a site visit by an external assessor.

The award acknowledges a range of aspects including:

- how well the school prepares students to make safe and legal use of the Internet and Social Media, to recognise threats and what to do if anything goes wrong.
- the protection offered by school Internet access so that inappropriate materials are not accessible.
- response to any e-safety and e-bullying incidents that occur both within and outside of school.

Students, staff and parents were all quizzed and confirmed the key message that the whole of the school "does e-safety". This is reflected in the assessor's report to the school, which is full of positive reflections on what she saw during the day and includes praise for all aspects of e-safety.

"This award is nationally recognized as the highest benchmark of e-safety that requires schools to meet demanding criteria across a range of areas. Abbeywood is only the second secondary school in South Gloucestershire to have achieved this award and recognises our commitment to allow our students to thrive in an inclusive and caring learning community." David Howe, Headteacher



Swimming Lessons

Here at Filton Sports & Leisure we love swimming! We love to teach children to swim, and we teach lots of them. It's very rewarding for them to achieve this important life skill, but more than anything we want them to have great fun while they are learning.

We currently have vacancies in some of our swimming classes. We cater for all ages from young to old and all abilities. If you feel you would like for your little ones to learn, or if you would like some help with your stroke then please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of our swim team.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

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Meadowbrook Primary School celebrates new library

Staff and pupils at Meadowbrook Primary School have completed an ambitious project to revamp their school library, with impressive results!

With money set aside from the school budget, and a little help from the Friends of school, a brand new stock of books has been purchased and the layout of the library has also been completely re-organised to make it a more versatile and enjoyable space for pupils to learn.

The new library was officially opened with a ribbon cutting, and children also enjoyed a visit from Winnie the Witch (a very friendly and kind witch!), who read a story about dinosaurs to all pupils in Key stage 1 and let the children see some dinosaur fossils.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 have helped to develop new roles as Junior Librarians that give them extra responsibilities and to promote a love of reading across the school. Ten pupils were selected in total and received certificates and badges to recognize their success. To be part of the library team and help with running the library children will be issuing and returning books, helping younger pupils to access the library, shelving books, and using the computers.

"Developing a love of reading in young children has a significant impact on their longer-term educational outcomes. It is therefore important that we immerse children in an environment that excites them and ignites their passion and love of reading. The new library at Meadowbrook creates a wonderful ambiance that encourages all children to curl up and explore new and exciting worlds of knowledge. It is fantastic to see that pupils are already exploring new texts and extending their reading repertoire independently." Claire Banks, Executive Headteacher

"In addition to the percentage of pupils meeting the 'expected standard' in Reading this year, 29% of our Yr6 pupils achieved the very highest grade in their KS2 Reading SATs, which is an incredible achievement given the 2017 national average achieving these top grades is 19%. We hope that these numbers will only increase with our new library now in place." Sharon Bishop, Deputy Headteacher.



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Fab Results for Creation Twirlers at European Championships!

Local baton twirling group Creation Twirlers had a fantastic weekend in Holland in October representing England at the European Majorette Championships.

Teams competed from 14 nations for the crown of European Champion and over a thousand athletes took part.

Creation Twirlers, who compete throughout the year at National Association of Majorettes England (NAME) competitions, gained first place in three team events in Finals in July which entitled 16 members to compete against some very strong opposition in Europe. Three of the group's duets and four of the soloists also were asked to form part of the England team.

Anne Collins, one of the trainers at Creation Twirlers told us "We are very proud of our members gaining two Bronze trophies and a 4th place, as well as one of our duets being placed 3rd and another 6th. Our members have come back excited and eager to start learning new routines in readiness for the first NAME competition in March and the possibility of being selected to represent England at next year's championships in Croatia."

Creation Twirlers have members from across the North Bristol area and train in Patchway and are currently recruiting new members – anyone who is interested can contact them via their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CreationTwirlers/>. No previous experience necessary.



Fantastic Gymnastics!

A proud, local mum would like to share with you the staggering achievements of her son Jack McManus and Fromeside gymnast George Collins-Beckett.

My son started gymnastics 3 years ago at Fromeside, and was invited to join Bristol Hawks last August. Jack and Fromeside gymnast, George, both ranked in the top 6 at September's annual South West grading competition, held in Barnstaple.

Consequently they were invited to compete at the National Grades Final at the GMAC arena in Birmingham, on 4 November 2017. The boys competed with 66 other boys, all who were ranked in the top 6 of each UK region.

Although the boys now train at different local clubs, they are united in representing the South West squad with 4 other boys from the City of Bristol, Exeter and Barnstaple's gymnastic clubs. As well as significant club training, they train one Sunday a month with the South West coaches and alternate this days training between the Barnstaple and Exeter gym clubs.

The boys competition involved a mixture of strength, flexibility and capabilities demonstrated on each of the apparatus: Rings, Floor, Vault, Pommel Horse, High Bar, Parallel Bars and PPP (flexibility). All boys in the South West region held their nerve and had a confident competition.

At the concluding medal ceremony the South West team were recognised as achieving the highest regional combined score, and were awarded a glass trophy with their Regional coach.

The South West team also won Bronze medals as their top 3 scores on each apparatus ranked them 3rd in the UK just behind the North West and London teams.

Individually, Jack McManus (Bristol Hawks) ranked 4th in the UK, with George Collins-Beckett (Fromeside) ranking 18th, and fellow team mate, Thomas Hammond (City of Bristol) ranking 2nd! Consequently, the top 10 UK ranked boys are invited to attend an elite 4-day residential training in Staffordshire next month, at Lilleshaw National Sports Centre. This means Jack will be trained by the GB coaches, along with the other qualifying gymnasts.

Recognition and thanks go to all the club coaches for their tireless training, motivation and trailing around the UK to support the boys.

Little Stoke Gifford Matters congratulates these talented gymnasts on all they have already achieved, and looks forward to bringing you details of further success in the future.

If you have been inspired by this story, why not contact local Fromeside Gymnastics Club – www.fromesidegym.co.uk or call: 01454 776873.



Jack proudly holding his bronze medal & certificate



The South West team receiving a glass trophy with their Regional coach



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Watleys End Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1PW



Bowls Club Donates to Jessie May Charity

At their 2017 AGM, Bob Wilkins, Captain of the Bradley Stoke Bowls Club, presented a cheque for £1150 to the Jessie May charity. Receiving the cheque, Helen Mackie thanked the Club and explained how the money would be spent to give spells of respite to the carers of the needy children.

The members observed a short silence in honour of Jim Humphries and Dave Shergold, two past members who have died during the year.

The AGM proceeded along customary lines with most posts being filled.

The retiring President, Bill Plank, was thanked for the conscientious and gracious manner in which he had performed his duties, ably supported by his wife Kanta. The Club elected Brian Newman to be the new president.

The chairman, Robert Bertram, reported succinctly on past events, expressing the hope that the green would be brought back to good health in time for next season, which will commence with the Spring Meeting on Thursday the 15th March at 6.00pm.

The meeting closed with an acclamation of thanks for all the work of Club officials during the past year. (For more details visit the Club website bsbc.webs.com).



Changing Times at Ambourne House

It was lovely to pop back to visit Ambourne House Day Nursery on the Gloucester Road in late November to meet Nursery Manager Lorraine Doyle and her Deputy Jenni Greenow. With both my children now at Secondary school, the days when I used to be a regular visitor at this lovely nursery seem quite distant now!

The nursery has been running for over 25 years and Lorraine took over as Manager in the early part of this year. Lorraine is a former Montessori teacher and a mother of 3, with a degree in Early Education and Professional Practice and 17 years experience in the childcare sector. She is very excited to take over as Nursery Manager at Ambourne House and has already introduced many changes, such as taking the children on outings to the duck pond. Also having her Level 3 Forest School training, Lorraine plans to start weekly Forest School sessions for the nursery children in the local woodlands of Savages Wood in Bradley Stoke, Blaise Castle and Leigh Woods. "We shall bring snacks and everything we need with us on our outings" Lorraine told me, "We are fully equipped with a 'wee tree' and a 'wee tent', so can continue with toilet training whilst out and about! We also have a flora and fauna research book which we plan to utilise on our excursions and will fully encourage our children to revisit our Forest School sites with their parents at weekends, so they can show off what they have been learning".

Lorraine is also pleased to introduce an expansion in the nursery's opening hours from 7.30am-6pm with a breakfast club operating from 7.30-8am. "This is especially helpful to our parents who start work at Aztec West at 8am". Another introduction to help working parents, is the 'medication policy'. The nursery is now happy to accept children on the mend from illness or injury, but still on medication, back into the nursery and parents can be confident that whilst they get back to work their child will be cared for and medicines administered as if they were at home.

Deputy Manager Jenni lives in the Stokes and has worked in child care since 2004 also obtaining her degree in Early Education and Professional Practice. Jenni is a keen touch rugby participant, a skill which she brings into the garden and encourages the children to join in with her in active play. Another new initiative to entertain the children at Ambourne House is the extra curricular activities brought in by weekly visitors such as Jo Jingles, Hart Beep, Balance Buddies, Debut Tots and the like.

The nursery currently has spaces available for all age groups. If you are interested in a place for your child, you are very welcome to call on **01454 615352** to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time, or feel free to pop in on 'Welcome Wednesdays' - when either Lorraine or Jenni will be able to show you around the nursery with no need to book in advance.



Lorraine Doyle and Jenni Greenow outside Ambourne House Day Nursery

"It is a really exciting time at Ambourne House Day Nursery. We have had a change of management team, have completely revamped all facilities in line with our "Naturally Inspiring" logo which has seen us changing our resources back to wood, as well as the introduction of regular outings and weekly Forest School. With all of this, plus expanded hours to include breakfast club, we are really proud of what we can now offer our children and their parents"
Lorraine Doyle,
Nursery Manager

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Commonwealth Gold Medallist Inspires Children at Little Stoke Primary

On the 8th November, the school was very excited to host the British Commonwealth Judo gold medalist Megan Fletcher. Megan was in school to promote healthy lifestyles through 'Sports for Champions' while raising money for both the school and her ongoing training to represent team GB.

All of the children participated in a high energy circuit where they did a variety of exercises; including spotty dogs and press ups. The children enjoyed all of the energetic activities that they were presented with and each year group got to join in. We were then treated to a fantastic and exciting assembly, where Megan spoke about her achievements and did some demonstrations!

A huge thank you to all of the children who raised funds for the event.



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Meningitis

Meningococcal disease outbreaks often generate high levels of public alarm. However, Public Health England state *"We need to be measured. We've had seven cases of meningitis since the beginning of the year [in Bristol] and that is in a population of 500,000 people. There is nothing unusual about that number. We are not seeing an increase in cases in the Bristol area"*.

Meningococcal bacteria are carried in the back of the throat of about 1:10 people at any one time and very rarely causes illness. Most people who carry the bacteria become immune to them. The infected person's throat secretions, like phlegm and saliva, contain bacteria and are only spread by air when that person coughs or sneezes or when the infected person kisses another person on the mouth. The bacteria do not spread easily. Risk is highest in the 7 days after a case is confirmed and falls rapidly during the following weeks. To put this in perspective after one case in a school group at any year, the absolute risks to each child/pupil in the same institution of becoming a case within the next 4 weeks were approximately 1:1,500 - source Health Protection Agency Guidance for public health management of meningococcal disease in the UK.

There are five main groups of bacterium that commonly cause Meningococcal disease – A, B, C, W and Y. Vaccinations offer some protection against certain causes of meningitis. These include the:

- Meningitis B vaccine – offered to babies aged 8 weeks, followed by a second dose at 16 weeks, and a booster at 1 year. The MEN B vaccine is not currently available on the NHS to other groups but can be purchased privately through other providers. If contact has created a risk of exposure, a course of antibiotics is prescribed.
- 6-in-1 vaccine – offered to babies at 8, 12 and 16 weeks of age
- Pneumococcal vaccine – offered to babies at 8 weeks, 16 weeks and 1 year old
- Meningitis C vaccine – offered at 12 weeks of age, 1 year, and to teenagers and first-time university students
- MMR vaccine – offered to babies at 1 year and a second dose at 3 years and 4 months
- Meningitis ACWY vaccine – offered to teenagers, sixth formers and "fresher" students going to university for the first time.

Please make sure you and members of your family have had the relevant vaccinations.

For information about the SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF MENINGITIS/SEPTICAEMIA please visit: <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Meningitis/Pages/Symptoms.aspx>

Further information can also be found on our website stokegiffordmedical.co.uk



Brookfield Mobility Solutions

Brookfield Mobility Solutions continues to deliver high quality customer focused service.

We offer a bespoke car adaptation fitment service.

- **Push-Pull hand controls** ▪ **Left foot throttles**
- **Scooter and wheel chair hoists**
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It is our aim to provide a personalised solution to all our customers in conjunction with our high class suppliers of adaptations.

Brookfield Mobility Solutions can fit your adaptations at your convenience either at your supplying dealer, home address or place of work. We can also fit at our fully equipped workshop which is situated in the north of Bristol.

All our engineers have the highest possible training and all the latest equipment which enables us to provide a quick and efficient fitment service to all our customers.

Brookfield Mobility Solutions are proud to be a Motability Scheme partner.



For full details of our services and product range visit

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**BROOKFIELD
GARAGES**

In association with Brookfield Garage
140 Ashley Down Road
Horfield, Bristol BS7 9JS

AMD Solicitors, Law Firm of the Year 2017

We were delighted to be named 'Law Firm of the Year for 2017' (up to 15 partners) at the Bristol Law Society's Annual Awards Dinner on 19th October.

The Bristol Law Society Annual Awards recognise the best of the Bristol legal profession so we are extremely proud to receive this award from the independent judging panel. This award recognises excellence in the provision of legal services and a firm that has seen significant development during the year.

This honour coincides with our celebrating 20 years as AMD Solicitors (from 1st September 2017) so, this has become an extra special birthday for AMD!

We are positioned today between a small high street practice and a medium sized commercial law firm with 4 offices and over 45 staff. This balance enables us to comprehensively meet our clients' needs which could range from meeting a client's first need for a solicitor for legal support, such as a will or first house purchase, right through to acting for the commercially sophisticated client looking to appoint a legal team competent to handle a larger company and commercial transaction, such as an acquisition or merger.

Our structure also means that we are able to ensure that almost all of our services are provided one to one by a solicitor or fee earner (or by a small team of solicitors for commercial services).

In October 2016 we were pleased to be able to take advantage of the opportunity to acquire and develop easily accessible and prominent premises at 139 Whiteladies Road. Our new office replaces Thomas Cook on the corner of Imperial Road in the heart of the Bristol restaurant / new cinema quarter. We are proud to remain active and provide work opportunities in the more traditional heart and residential parts of the city.

Our new office marks our 4th office at ground floor level providing convenience for our clients together with ease of roadside parking or access from Clifton Down train station just opposite.



Advice Making a Difference



Telephone us on **(0117) 962 1205** or visit our website www.amdsolicitors.com

We would like to thank all of our clients, associates and friends for your continued support and for the kind feedback we have received since receiving the award.



STOKE GIFFORD

PARISH COUNCIL



New Street Furniture (above photos)

The Parish Council continue to be successful in obtaining external funding from a variety of sources which have included funding from South Gloucestershire Member Award and Tesco's Bags of Help. New street furniture has included a new table tennis table in Meade Park, new bins and benches in Little Stoke Park and Meade Park, with a floral planter in Little Stoke Park.

Little Stoke Community Hall Enhancements



The completion date has been delayed until 17th March 2018, but it is planned that regular user groups will be able to access the existing main hall from January 2018, subject to the necessary heating and electrical certifications being obtained for the building. Some Saturday working on site is anticipated between now and the end of the project in line with the approved planning conditions for the building work.

Parish Office

During the building works, the temporary Parish Council Office is situated at The Stokes Youth and Community Centre, Little Stoke Lane, Little Stoke, BS34 6HY, Tel: 01454 865202). The same public access times apply as shown on the right.

Newly Established User Group

Gymtastic is a newly established organisation based at The Stokes Youth and Community Centre.

Gymtastic
'Stay & Play' Classes
THE STOKES YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
 Little Stoke Lane, Little Stoke - Next to the Primary School

stay play

- Tuesday's from 1.00pm – 2.15pm
- Wednesday's from 11am – 12.45pm. Bouncy Castle inflated 1st Wednesday of the month
- Arrive when you like and stay as long as you fancy within the above time
- Pay as you go
- £5 (£3 for siblings & 2nd mindee)
- No need to book in advance

Traveller Encampment in Forty Acres

The recent traveller encampment in Forty Acres left the Parish Council with costs exceeding £8,000 for legal fees, clear up works, and additional security measures across open spaces in the parish. Following many issues about traveller encampments across South Gloucestershire, it is understood that the Government will be reviewing the current law on illegal traveller camps after listening to concerns from around the country.

New Stoke Gifford Community Library

A new community library is now meeting above the Old Schoolrooms Coffee Shop on The Green in Stoke Gifford. The opening hours are fortnightly on a Tuesday between 2pm to 4pm. Forthcoming sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, 5th December and 19th December 2017.

Cllr Ernie Brown (Parish Chairman and SGC Member for Stoke Gifford) approached SGlos when he heard the mobile library to the area was closing, and he discussed with St Michaels the proposal of holding it on the mezzanine level above the cafeteria.

Cllr Brown was then able to progress the funding of the library set-up costs, amounting to £1050, through South Gloucestershire Member Award funding, which included the purchase of new IT equipment, new furniture, a publicity banner and new library bookshelves and fitting. Running costs totalling £750 per annum have also been funded through this funding stream towards insurance, electricity, space hire, cleaning provision and consumables.

A changing collection of adults and children's books, large print, spoken word and DVD's have been made available. Full reservation and collection facilities are available. The community library is run by local voluntary groups with the support of South Gloucestershire Council who provide stock and advice. It is linked to the library network which means you can use the South Gloucestershire library membership card to access these services.

A replacement new Basket Swing recently purchased for Meade Park.



Parish Council Office Public Access Times

Please contact the office if you wish to arrange an appointment outside of the public access times.

MONDAY : 9am – 12 noon & 2pm - 4pm

TUESDAY - FRIDAY : 9am – 12 noon

Telephone: **01454 865202**, or Email: clerk@stokegifford.org.uk

Website: www.stokegifford.org.uk

Tennis Courts

Now available for hire
at

**Stoke Gifford Trust
Ground**

North Rd, BS34 8PE

Cost : £5 per hr

Booking Contact
Stoke Gifford Parish Council
 Tel 01454 865202
 Email clerk@stokegifford.org.uk

STOKE GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2017

(All meetings to take place at the Little Stoke Community Hall at 7pm unless stated but may be subject to change so please refer to noticeboards and Parish Council Website)

FULL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 9th January 2018
 Tuesday, 13th February 2018

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE

Tuesday 12th December 2017
 Tuesday, 13th March 2018

RECREATION & LEISURE

Future dates to be agreed by Council

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 23rd January 2018
 Tuesday, 27th February 2018
 Tuesday, 27th March 2018

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Future dates to be agreed by Council

Dazzling Day Tripping

At Holy Family we are always keen to expand our horizons and whenever possible organise some marvellous new experiences for our children. Our creative curriculum topics are always exciting places to start and each teacher ensures that they plan a range of WOW experiences and mind-blowing trips for each curriculum focus. Many of these experiences take place within the school. For example, pupils in Year Two are studying the Great Fire of London – they participated in a workshop in which they met and interviewed an eyewitness from the time. Similarly, when learning about Now and Then in history, Year One pupils spent an exciting afternoon using a metal detector to find a lost time capsule; buried inside they found toys and games from the past.

However, there are also lots of opportunities to supplement our classroom learning elsewhere in the south-west area. We endeavour to provide each class with at least one visit for every topic they study and the autumn term has been no exception. Already, classes have been spreading their wings and exploring all kinds of places. Children have returned to school fired with enthusiasm time and time again.

One of the first trips in the new school year was taken by The Hedgehog class in Year 5. To further develop their topic on Brazil, they visited Bristol Zoo where they not only saw the normal display of animals but also took part in a special hands-on workshop. Staff and children were able to view all kinds of creatures, from giant snails to snakes, but a firm favourite were the hissing cockroaches that many people were actually brave enough to hold.

Local museums have also been a popular place to visit. The Grasshoppers of Year One have studied toys through the ages during their day out at Blaise Castle museum. Whereas, Year Four, The Meerkats, have enjoyed a trip into central Bristol to visit the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery. Here their focus was on the Egyptian artefacts. Having learned a lot about Egyptian history in school and made their own mummified oranges, they were really excited to see a real mummy for the first time.

However, this week Year Three have undertaken a new trip for the first ever time. They set off early to visit the world's largest stone circle at Avebury. Although it was a chilly day the children were fascinated to learn all about this prehistoric landmark. Assistant Head, Gary Risdale, reflected upon their day, *"The children were all spell-bound as they listened to the expert guides – it was a totally enthralling trip which the children will never forget."*



Wonderful Welcome for Reception Parents

October 17th was an exceptionally busy day at Holy Family, as the school was open for potential new parents to take a first look around. As Holy Family Primary School goes from strength to strength, demand for places in the foundation stage has never been higher and we were pleased to welcome a record number of families to share in a guided tour of our splendid school.

Open Day means a great deal of extra responsibility for our new Year Six pupils, as they are wholly responsible for guiding parents around the school and grounds. The children work in pairs to escort parents, explaining all they know about Holy Family School: from teacher's names and facilities available - to who studies what in the school curriculum. Parents

can then stay for a cup of tea and have chat with members of the teaching team to answer any questions which may arise.

Head of School, Caroline Carter, was very pleased with the over-whelming response to this year's first Open Day. *"It was so exciting to have so many people to look around our lovely school. I was especially proud of our Year Six pupils, who were very articulate and spoke with such confidence. They were super representatives of our school and did an amazing job of showing our guests around."*

Holy Family held a second Open Day on Monday 27th of November. However, if you were unable to attend either, appointments can still be made to view the school by telephoning on 01454 866786. As this year's Reception is currently full we anticipate high demand for places in 2018. **Don't forget applications must be in by January 15th at the very latest.**

Partnership with Parents at Holy Family

Staff and pupils at Holy Family Primary School, Stoke Lodge have thrown open the doors this term and welcomed parents into school for some special activities. The school already prides itself on its effective partnership with parents and was keen to extend this through new initiatives. The focus began in September when new Head of School, Caroline Carter, asked parents to join her at the revitalised Parents' Forum to review how things were going at Holy Family. There was lots of discussion over coffee and biscuits, and plans were made to build even stronger relationships between school and home and to develop communication. This meeting paved the way for other ways of working in collaboration.



Since the beginning of the autumn term homework assignments have changed – pupils work alongside their families



on a practical task linked with their topic work in school. The aim is to make learning at home a more imaginative and exciting experience for our children. Pupils at Holy Family are offered a selection of homework activities and they get to show their independence by choosing the project they would enjoy most. We have seen the most amazing creations, from stone circles to Anderson shelters, from models of Pudding Lane to the death mask of Tutankhamun. Pupils are loving the freedom to carry out their missions in the most innovative ways and parents are keen too. One parent commented, "It is a great time together, lots of fun. You share experiences and memories."

In addition to this the school has held 'Stay and Play' sessions for every class. On these mornings parents are invited to remain in school once the morning bell rings and participate in the first lesson of the day, before joining the children on the playground for fun and games at break time. The children really enjoyed the chance to show off their skills and amaze their parents with the quality of their learning. These sessions were so well received we will be repeating them each term.

However, the highlight of term one for many parents was the chance to share a social evening with the staff, when Mr Risdale, Assistant Headteacher, joined his rock band, Blaxar, to perform in the school hall. Parents danced the night away, while teachers took turns to supervise the children, who were having a whale of a time eating popcorn and watching movies. A great night was truly had by all and we look forward to hearing Blaxar perform again at our Summer Fair.



Osteomyology

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For: - Musculo-skeletal therapies

- Energy medicine

- Muscle energy techniques

- Trigger point therapy NLP

& the more esoteric arts

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New regional course coming to your area

Almondsbury, Bristol

The course is a foundation in Osteomyology.

By the end of 2018 you will be able to:

• Set up your own clinic

• Treat your patients effectively and above all safely

Course starts 25th February 2018

9 Monthly Courses - Flexible Payments

During the year you will learn Basic body work, Manipulation, Anatomy, Physiology, and many other techniques earning recognised qualifications

To Enroll or Enquire

Call: 07951 099 491

or 07415 858 450

Course includes: All lectures. Course notes. Anatomy & Physiology Text Books. Static Couch. 1st year Free Membership to "The Association of Osteomyology" www.osteomyology.co.uk

Royal British Legion

Stoke Gifford Branch of the Royal British Legion held its Poppy Appeal Launch in October at Bristol Parkway Station. Attended by Chelsea Pensioner Micheal Allen ; WWII veteran Mike Kendall; Standard Bearers; Cadets; Scouts; youth groups; members of the RBL Riders Branch with bikes; members and supporters of the RBL Stoke Gifford and Patchway Branches. The Last Post and Reveille were played by Air Cadet Finley Norton.



The Stoke Gifford Branch held it's Remembrance Sunday Service at the War Memorial on the Green in North Road, Stoke Gifford on Remembrance Sunday 12th November, with Church Services following at St Micheal's Church and the Baptist Church in Rock Lane off North Road.

University of the West of England graduate Zak Ajjane received a special award for his four years of student volunteering with the Stoke Gifford RBL. He was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by RBL Gloucestershire County. He was presented with the certificate by RBL Glos. County President Air Vice Marshal Ian Corbitt.



If you or someone you know needs help from the Royal British Legion please contact the RBL national helpline - 0808 802 8080.

Please follow and share the Stoke Gifford Branch Facebook Page. Contact the Stoke Gifford Branch at - rblstokegifford@gmail.com

ECO ARTS WEEK at St Michael's CE VC Primary School

Report from Mark Freeman, Head Teacher

At St Michael's we enjoy our whole-school themed weeks and this term our focus was on developing an appreciation of our environment by exploring artists, including musicians, who have been inspired by the natural world and environmental issues. We then used both the visual and performing arts as a means of celebrating our environment and raising awareness of the need to look after it. In art, we developed specific art skills across a variety of media and in music we developed skills in exploring, creating and performing.

Buddy Class Art Activity - Bristol Rocks

We started off our exciting week by children working with other children from their buddy classes. This coming together on a collaborative project is always enjoyed by staff and children as it brings our school community together. The task this time was for children to work with their buddy to design and decorate a rock. Each child decorated one which was then varnished. The children then took them home at the end of the week to hide within the community. Lots of them have already been found, photos taken and placed on Facebook.



ART

Classes throughout the school explored different artists and different media. Children in reception looked at the art of Michael Hanson. Year 1 investigated the artist Marina Debris who creates wearable art from recycled material. Children in Year 2 looked at the beautiful shapes and colours created by Richard Shilling out of leaves and other natural objects. Year 3 explored a range of artists from Andrew Rogers, a landscape artist; Amanda Schachter and Alexander Lewis, who create spheres within the natural environment and Jeff Hong, who joins Disney characters with scenes of mans' impact on the environment. They also created leaf prints during the week. Edith Meusnier, a textiles artist, inspired Year 4 to create installations to hang in trees. Year 5 children explored Andrew Goldsworthy and Year 6 created sculptures from recycled materials inspired by Aurora Robson. The children enjoyed their Eco Art sessions.



MUSIC

In music we sang environmental songs and Cara Clark from the Music Hub came in to sing with Year 3. We were really lucky to have Allan Kerr (a professional percussionist) in school for 3 days. He led junk percussion workshops for Years 4 to 6. At the end of each day the children performed. Reception to Year 3 were invited to these performances where they were also able to join in with the exciting rhythmic pieces. At the end of the week, a group of children who had attended extra lunchtime sessions, performed on the playground as children went home.



Reception and Year 3 enjoyed finding out about the Wombles in the school music room. Reception discovered how different junk materials have different timbres and then explored rhythm on a variety of junk percussion. Year 3 pretended to be Wombles and composed a piece of junk band music to be performed on Wimbledon Common.

At the end of the week the children enjoyed watching a performance of The Wind in the Willows. It was a wonderful end to a wonderful week.



Carols in the Barn

**Saturday 16 &
Sunday 17 December, 3.30pm**

**A group of busy angels are making
sure everything for the birth of
Jesus goes to plan....but does it?**

Members of St Michael's Church, Winterbourne, young and old, will again present their own light-hearted dramatic take on the familiar Nativity story, in what has become a very popular annual community event in a very atmospheric setting. It is not hard to imagine the biblical stable when you are gathered in a wonderful medieval barn! The drama will be interspersed with traditional carols for everyone to join in, so come along and let the harmonies float up into the magnificent medieval roof timbers. The afternoon is suitable for all ages.

Gates open at 3.30pm and the carols start at 4pm.

Ticket prices include a cup of mulled wine or fruit juice and a mince pie to enjoy before the drama begins.

Tickets cost £2 adult, £1 child, and are available from Daisy's Coffee Shop on Flaxpits Lane, or ring Gill on 01454 774479. There may be some tickets available on the gate, but numbers are limited so it is advisable to buy in advance.

Please remember the Barn is an unheated medieval agricultural building so wrap up warm, and wear shoes/boots suitable for uneven floors. Parking is very limited so please walk along Church Lane if you possibly can. If you do need to bring a car, please enter Church Lane from the Beacon Lane end only (ie. one-way system) to avoid congestion.

**Winterbourne Medieval Barn,
Church Lane, BS36 1SE**



Apple Grafting Workshop – Saturday 3 March, 10am–4pm

A one day course which explains why and how we graft fruit trees. It is run by Ben Raskin, Head of Horticulture at the Soil Association who is a very experienced horticulturalist and an excellent tutor. Learn to sharpen knives, cut the wood correctly and prepare it for grafting, and then make your own graft from start to finish, ending up with a new apple tree. There will be the opportunity to make at least three grafts to take home. With this skill, you will have the whole world of apple varieties available to you to be able to grow yourself.

The workshop costs £45 for the day and could make an excellent and unusual Christmas present for a keen gardener. Limited to eight people – advanced booking essential. More details on the website www.winterbournebarn.org.uk/events.html or ring 0117 957 4921.

**Winterbourne Medieval Barn,
Church Lane, BS36 1SE**



**This message comes in the
hope that Christmas will be
a time of peace
and joy in the local
community.**



Jesus was given several 'titles'.

'Prince of Peace' is perhaps the
least well known.

How "peaceful" will your house be this
Christmas? How 'peaceful' will the world be
this festive season? Why isn't the 'Prince of
peace' doing his thing!

Exhaustion and stress have been part of
Christmas from the very start. Not only did
Mary and Joseph have to travel for days to
visit their in-laws, they ended up sleeping
rough in a farm building. The Saviour born in
a shelter. Peace-less!

In English, the word "peace" conjures
up a passive picture. An absence of civil
disturbance or hostilities. The biblical concept
of peace starts small and then has worldwide
implications. It is summarized in a word still
used by Jewish communities. Shalom. Jesus
is the prince of 'Shalom', peace brought
between two parties.

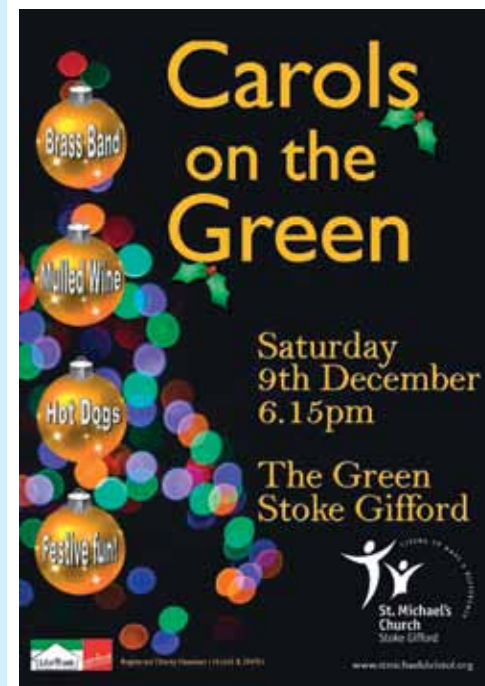
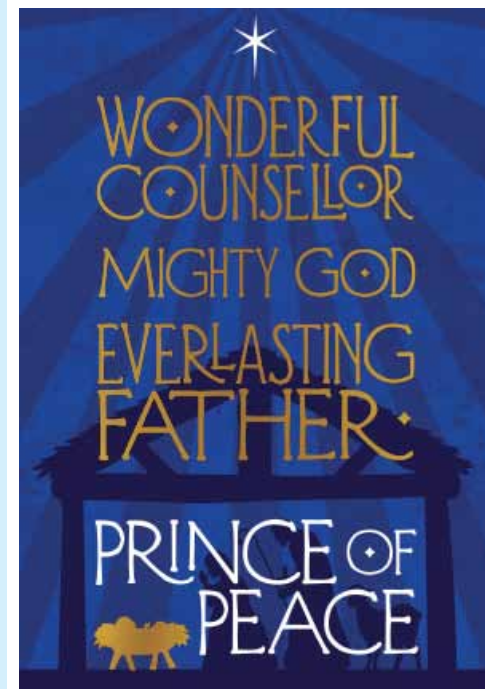
Jesus still brings peace into lives. When we
invite Him, he brings God's peace into our
lives. Feel ashamed, receive the peace of
forgiveness. Feel lonely, know the peace of
friendship. Feel troubled, know the peace of
stillness.

When my life encounters the Peace of God, I
am then strengthened to 'live peace out'.

The world really can become more peaceful
one person at a time.

Have a lovely, peace filled Christmas time,

**Revd Canon Simon Jones
Rector St Michael's Stoke Gifford**



Christmas Across

Amberley Road Baptist Church

Sunday 10th December

11am 'Sleepy Shepherds' by the
Kid's of Amberley Road Baptist Church

Sunday 17th December

4pm Carol Service

Sunday 24th December

4pm Christingle Carol Service

Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Day Celebrations

City Church: Bradley Stoke

(formerly Bridge Community church)
at Bradley Stoke Community School

Saturday 2nd December

Make your Own Christmas Pudding! Tickets £6
from www.citychurch.org.uk

Sunday 10th December

10am Family Carol Service - songs, games,
stories for all the family

Sunday 17th December

7pm City Carols - Celebrating the Christmas
story through carols and readings. Mulled wine
and mince pies will be served. We will also be
raising money and collecting sleeping bags for
the homeless across Bristol.

Christ the King, Maltravers Close, Bradley Stoke

Sunday 17th December

6.30pm Carols and Candles

Christmas Eve

3.30pm Crib Service

11.15pm Midnight Communion Service

Christmas Day

10am All Age Christmas Celebration

**Monday 18th, Wednesday 20th,
Friday 22nd December**

**Christmas Winter
Wonderland**

at Church Cafe, Amberley Road,
Stoke Lodge (10am - 2pm)

Father Christmas is paying a special
visit on Monday 18th!

Edge Church

Saturday 16th December

6pm Carol Concert followed by food and
festive family fun everyone welcome

Sunday 17th December

6pm Carol Concert followed by food and
festive family fun everyone welcome

Christmas Eve

10am Family Service

Holy Family Catholic Church

Christmas Eve

9.30am Parish Mass

11am Parish Mass

6.00pm Christmas Family Mass

11.15pm Hymns and Readings to welcome
Christmas

Christmas Day

12.00am Christmas Mass at Midnight

9.30am Christmas Mass

11.00am Christmas Mass

www.holyfamilyrcchurchpatchway.co.uk

Community Carol Service

at the Willow Brook Centre

Wednesday 13th December

Music from 6pm with

Carol Service to follow at 6.30pm

(organised by local Churches)

**Come and Celebrate the
Reason for the Season!**

Wrap up warm and enjoy local school choirs,
a festive brass band, traditional readings and
carols, refreshments and plenty of
Christmas spirit
- All For FREE!



The Stokes



Holy Trinity Church, Bradley Stoke

Sunday 17th December

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve

4.30pm Christingle Service

Christmas Day

10am All Age Christmas Celebration &
Communion

Little Stoke Baptist Church

Sunday 17th December

4.30pm Christmas Tea followed by a Carol
Service at 6pm

Christmas Eve

10.30am Church Service

Christmas Day

10.30am Short Christmas Day service

Stoke Gifford Baptist Church

Sunday 10th December

4pm Carol Service

Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Day Celebrations

St. Michael's Church, The Green, Stoke Gifford

Thursday 7th December

6pm Carols at Cheswick

Wallscourt Farm Academy, Cheswick

Saturday 9 December

Carols on the Green

6.15pm The Green, Stoke Gifford

Sunday 10th December

10.30 am Duggie Dug Dug "The Christmas
Angel"

St Michael's Centre

Sunday 17th December

4pm and 6.30pm Carol Services

St Michael's Church

with St Michael's Church Choir

Christmas Eve

9am Holy Communion - St Michael's Church

10.30am Family Celebration - St Michael's Centre

3pm Crib Service - St Michael's Centre

11.15pm Midnight Communion - St Michael's
Church

Christmas Day

10am Family Communion
in St Michael's Centre

Go on a Christmas adventure as you follow in the
footsteps of the greatest journey ever.
Feel free to dress up as a Nativity character, or as
someone traveling on a journey.

Sunday 17th December
10.30am

at Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church

Join us afterwards for some refreshments
and mince pies!

'TIS THE SEASON!
*Why not join us as we celebrate
the reason for the season?*

Community Carol Service
Wednesday 13th December
at The Willow Brook Centre
Music from 6pm. Service from 6.30pm

Happening at
**BRADLEY STOKES
EVANGELICAL CHURCH**
Baileys Court Road, Bradley Stoke, BS32 8BH

The Greatest Journey
Sunday 17th December at 10.30am
Christmas Eve Family Service
Sunday 24th December at 10.30am
Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 24th December at 6pm
Christmas Morning Service
Monday 25th December at 10.30am

Christmas Market on Saturday 9th December 2017 12noon-4pm

Spend a wonderful afternoon with us browsing our unique stalls including pottery, handcrafts, silk marbling, tie dye and our Children's Corner with face painting, candle dipping and much more. There will be our usual wonderful Winter Cafe serving fresh soups, cakes, and drinks. Warm up in Avalon garden around the fire and enjoy freshly baked Wood Fired Pizzas, and hot berry juice! Raffle, Auction.... Live music... and many other exciting stalls.

We are aiming to raise money to fund new projects that will directly benefit our pupils.

The Sheiling School is an independent residential school for children and young people aged 6-19 with special educational needs. We offer residential placements for termly and weekly boarders, day placements and short-term breaks.

For more information please contact reception at: mail@sheilingschool.org.uk - Tel. 01454 412 194 www.sheilingschool.org.uk



Sheiling School Thornbury

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Stalls	Winter Café	Attractions
Craftwork	Wood Filled Pizzas	Tombola
Pottery	Homemade cakes	Raffle
Silk Marbling	Hot & cold drinks	Music
Tie Dye	Soup & Rolls	Auction
Greetings Cards		Face Painting
Books & DVDs		Winter Nature Trail

Saturday 9th December
12:00pm - 4:00pm

Free Entry! Everyone welcome

Sheiling School • Park Road • next to Thornbury Castle

Bristol Cabot Choir Christmas Concert

Monday 11th December 2017 at 7.30 pm

Bristol Cathedral – a performance of the Messe de Minuit pour Noël by Marc-Antoine Charpentier and other lovely Christmas music for choir and audience. Conducted by Rebecca Holdeman, with Andrew Kirk, Organ, and soloists.

Charity No. 116260.

Tickets: Reserved £15 - Unreserved £10/£5 (NUS card/under 18s) –

On line: www.opus13.co.uk - Ticket Line: 0117 923 0164/0117 9626521.

www.bristolcabotchoir.org.

Supporting 'Off the Record Bristol' Charity.



BRISTOL CABOT CHOIR

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

MESSE DE MINUIT POUR NOËL

and other Christmas music for Choir and Audience

Monday 11 December 2017, 7.30pm
Bristol Cathedral, College Green, BS1 1TJ

Conductor – Rebecca Holdeman
Organist – Andrew Kirk
and The Choir's 40th Anniversary

TICKETS: Reserved: £15 Unreserved: £10 (NUS card/under 18s) - £5;
From Open, 14 St Michael's Hill, Bristol BS2 2DT
On Line: www.opus13.co.uk Ticket Line: 0117 923 0164 or 0117 9626521

Bristol Cabot Choir • Charity No 116260
bristolcabotchoir.org

Retiring Collection
Off The Record Bristol
Charity No 103030



Charity Christmas Fair

On Sunday 3rd December we are holding our Christmas Fair from 11am-3pm; all proceeds will be coming direct to the MS Therapy Centre.

Our members and volunteers will be running the stalls, many of which will be hand crafted items so the perfect chance to stock up on those socking fillers and presents.



Our Oxygen Chamber will become Santa's Grotto so bring the kids along to meet Mr and Mrs Christmas and some of their Elves. Santa will have a little present for all the children and there will be a photographer on the day to send out a complimentary photograph!

Why not try out our Wine or Water stall, this one is always good for a giggle, or for a sweeter tooth try our chocolate tombola. Pick up some books, gift sets, Christmas crafts, Bric a Brac, jewellery and enter our raffle. After all of that why not sit down and enjoy some well-deserved tea and homemade cakes!

The West of England MS Therapy Centre has been caring for people with Multiple Sclerosis, their families and carers since 1985. MS is a disease affecting the central nervous system and is the most common cause of disability in young people in the UK today.

It costs around £380,000 to keep the Centre running every year and currently less than 1% is received from statutory funding so events like this are essential for the continued success of the centre.

Grab your family and friends and join us in the festive fun on Sunday 3rd December from 11am-3pm at The West of England MS Therapy Centre, Wheatfield Drive, Bradley Stoke.



MS Matters - to the Ring O Bells Pub

On Saturday 5 August, the Ring O Bells Pub in Coalpit Heath put on an all-day Charity Family Fundraiser, as they have been doing for over 15 years.

The pub likes to find local charities to support during the annual event and the West of England MS Therapy Centre was suggested as a charity by one of our members, Liz Lippiatt who is also a regular at the Ring O Bell.

Landlady Pat Andrews, and member of bar staff Becky Wileman, organised a fantastic event! Roughly 250 people were in attendance to see the three live bands playing during the day; Pipedreams, Dreamscape and Sick notes, all of whom were excellent.

For the children there was a bouncy castle with a slide, face-painting and a sweet stall. This went down well, as did the BBQ stall and to quote the landlady "Drinks were flowing".

All of this made for an amazing event which, with the entrance fees and other facilities available facilities, raised an incredible £1,550!

A huge thanks to everyone involved including Mike and Andy who donated the generator to power the electronics, Mark Cater from OPEX who donated the trailer off of which the bands performed and lastly to CML who set up the outside bar.

Bradley Stoke Library

Patchway Library
Wednesday 20th December
10.30am – 11.30am

Bradley Stoke Library
Thursday 21st December
10:30 – 12:00



Winter Wonderland

Join us for children's Christmas crafts! Make your own reindeer antlers, winter unicorn, 3D tree, baubles & more!

It's FREE to come along

All children must be accompanied by a grown-up



Open Access hours are:

Monday: 8:00 – 10:00 then 18:15 - 21:30
Tuesday: 8:00 – 10:00 then 18:15 - 21:30
Wednesday: 8:00 – 21:30
Thursday: 8:00 – 10:00 then 18:15 - 21:30
Friday: 8:00 – 10:00 then 18:15 - 21:30
Saturday: 8:00 – 9:30 then 12:45 - 18:00
Sunday: 8:00 – 18:00

Staffed opening hours are:

Monday: 10:00 - 18:00
Tuesday: 10:00 - 18:00
Wednesday: Open Access Only
Thursday: 10:00 - 18:00
Friday: 10:00 - 18:00
Saturday: 9:30 - 12:30
Sunday: Open Access Only



Rhymetime (Term time only)

Monday 4th December 10:30 - 11:00
Monday 11th December 10:30 - 11:00

Storytime (Term time only)

Thursday 7th December
10:30 - 11:00
Thursday 14th December
10:30 - 11:00



Volunteer Drop in Session

Thursday 14th December

Craft Group

Saturday 9th December 10:30-12:00

BiggerBooks

Friday 8th December 16:30-17:30

'Winter Wonderland' Craft Activity
Thursday 21st December 10:30 – 12:00
(Suitable for children aged 4-11 years)
*Adult supervision required

Spanish Rhymetime (Term time only)

Every Wednesday at 16:15 - 16:45
(Must have Open Access membership to attend – speak to library for details)

Code 4 Kids Scratch

Saturday 9:30 - 14:30 drop in sessions
Please contact the organiser for further information: scratch.code4kids@gmail.com
Or visit the website www.code4-kids.com

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 868 006

email: bradleystoke.library@southglos.gov.uk
Website: www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

Stokes Singers Bring a Jingle for Christmas



After a very busy Autumn, Stokes Singers are putting the finishing touches to preparations for our annual Christmas concert.

'Bring a Silver Jingle' will be at the Church of Christ the King, Mautravers Close, Bradley Stoke at 7.30pm on Saturday 9th December. We are delighted to welcome our special guests Barn Ringers from Lincombe Barn, Downend who will bring their own distinctive blend of handbells and chimes to a packed festive programme. There will also be a raffle and interval refreshments in aid of Thornbury based charity, Brain Tumour Support. Tickets (£5 Adults and £2 children 5-16 years) will be available on the door or in advance from Liz on 01454 614 148. Of course the evening would not be complete without the opportunity to join together in singing some traditional Christmas carols.

If you love to sing at any time of year, why not join the choir in 2018?

January is a great time to start something new and the singers and their Musical Directors Sian Walters and Philip Lawrence assure you of a warm welcome to our weekly rehearsals. There are no auditions and the first 2 rehearsals are free of charge. We meet each Thursday during term times from 7.30 - 9.30pm at Coniston Community Centre, Patchway and there is currently room for all voices, particularly men and ladies able to sing tenor and bass. Liz would be happy to give you more information on 01454 614 148.



2018 will be a busy and exciting year for Stokes Singers as we celebrate the 25th birthday of the choir. Having set ourselves a challenge of performing in 25 singing events, we recently presented our 9th event, a 'Voices for Hospices' concert, when we joined forces with Apollo Wind Band from Yate to raise funds for St Peter's Hospice. Local florist Tiger Lily from Chelford Grove, Stoke Lodge gave a bouquet as the prize for a quiz which was won by Carol Green from Frampton Cottrell. Our Christmas concert will be the 12th event, closely followed by Event 13 at 7.00pm on Thursday 14th December when we will be part of the Christmas Buskathon at Southmead Hospital. Plans are in hand for more events at the start of the year, including an opportunity to sing at Temple Meads Station in March.

We look forward to seeing you soon at a performance or at rehearsal in 2018!

PANTO TIME: Dick Whittington and His Cat

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group, in its 50th Anniversary year, is very pleased to be performing the pantomime 'Dick Whittington and his Cat' at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th February with two matinées.

Written by Chris Denys and Chris Harris, and directed by Dorothy Wrench, 'Dick Whittington and his Cat' is packed with all the traditional fun. Dick Whittington comes to London with his feline companion Tommy to seek his fortune. Dick and Tommy embark upon an adventure which takes them far from London and its streets paved with gold, to Morocco where he makes good with the help of Fairy Bowbells, Tommy and Sarah the Cook, despite the evil schemes of King Rat. With the usual old favourites, and a few new friends, this is sure to be a family favourite.

There is music for everyone and all the fun and frolics of a traditional family pantomime – audience participation, hilarious comedy, catchy music, drama and romance.

Performances are 7.30 pm nightly and matinées at 2.30 pm on the Friday and Saturday.

Tickets will be available in the new year and are bookable online at www.tmtg.org.uk with no booking fee. £12.50 Adults, Senior Citizens £11.50 and only £5 for children as a special 50th Anniversary offer price. Group discounts of 10% for 10+ seats. For enquiries call Angie at the Box Office on 07516 270140.

For more information about 'Dick Whittington and his Cat' and the group generally, take a look at www.tmtg.org.uk. You can also follow them on Facebook.

Carols in the Barn

Saturday 10th December
&
Sunday 11th December



4pm

Gates open at 3.30

at

Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

To ensure your place...

Tickets £2 (£1 for children) to include mulled wine, fruit juice & mince pies

from

Daisy's Coffee Shop, Flaxpits Lane, Winterbourne
 or phone 01454 774479
 or see www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk



**LIMITED PARKING, PLEASE WALK IF YOU CAN
 APPROACH BY CAR FROM BEACON LANE ONLY**

Wrap up warm!

Bring a torch Uneven floors



Filton Concert Brass Community Band (non-contesting) are looking for new players.

All brass banding instruments considered, particularly interested in cornet, euphonium and bass players.

We practice once a week on a Wednesday, 8pm in Kingswood, Bristol.

Fun, but a good standard. We play at local events in Bristol throughout the year. We'd love to hear from you!

Contact Jon via
filtonf2@gmail.com

Christmas Concert, by the City of Bristol Brass Band

Sat 2nd December 7 – 9pm

Church Centre (Auditorium),
 North Road, Stoke Gifford

£8 Adults, £4 U16/Retired; available from the Church office
 on 0117 969 2486

Featuring music from the movies, pop music, classical music,
 and some seasonal items...

Raising money for the band and the church centre

South Glos Decorative and Fine Arts Society

Thursday December 7th at
 Bradley Stoke Community School, Fiddlers Lane,
 Bradley Stoke, (near the Sports Centre)

Anna Hallett, will be giving an illustrated lecture
Have you seen my Hobby Horse?

A magical mystery tour of some of Britain's
 Ancient Customs

Refreshments at 7.00pm and lecture at 7.30pm
 All Welcome

SATURDAY • 2 DECEMBER 2017 • 11AM TO 1:30PM

HOLY TRINITY •CHRISTMAS• FAYRE!

COME ALONG FOR A FUN FILLED DAY.
 ENJOY SOME HOT FOOD & DRINKS WHILE
 THE CHILDREN PLAY



SOP ENTRY - PRE-SCHOOLERS ARE FREE

GIFTED Drama Group's Christmas Performance of

"A Christmas Carol"

Saturday 9th December
 10.30am Holy Trinity church.

Free Entry

Tea/coffee and cake in aid of
 St Peter's Hospice from 9.30am.



Stokes Singers

with guests

Barn Ringers

BRING A SILVER JINGLE

Join us for an evening of Christmas bells, songs and carols
 to put you in the festive mood

7.30pm Saturday 9th December 2017

Church of Christ the King

Mautraviers Close, Bradley Stoke, BS32 8EE

Adults - £5.00 Children £2.00 (5 - 16 years)

Raffle and Refreshments proceeds donated to Brain Tumour Support

Tickets available at the door or call Liz on 01454 614148

For more information visit www.stokessingers.org.uk



St Peter's Hospice

Knitvity On Tour!

LIFE-SIZED KNITTED NATIVITY TABLEAU



Knitvity Tour Dates 2017

18 November	St Peter's Hospice Christmas Market
2 December	Sainsbury's Portishead
3-6 December	St Peter's Hospice
7 December	Sainsbury's Emersons Green
14 - 17 December	The Mall, Cribbs Causeway
18-20 December	Tesco Brislington
21-23 December	Tesco Eastville

In memory of
 Christine Walsh RIP
 To raise funds for St
 Peter's Hospice

For more details, or to donate, go to:
www.jagging.com/knityenters2017
<https://www.facebook.com/knityvity2017>

Community band, **WESTERLY SHOWBAND**,
 first event will be a **Christmas Concert** at
St Andrews church, Filton
 Tuesday 5th December at 7.30 pm.. Tickets
 £5 from 0117 9872143;
standrewsfilton@live.co.uk or at the door.

The **Willowbrook Centre at Bradly Stoke** is
 to be the centre of operations for its
 Christmas Carol festivities starting with an
 afternoon concert on
 Sunday 3rd Dec. from 1.30- 3.30pm.
 Followed by carol sessions on
 Tues 12th Dec at 7pm and
 Wed 20th Dec 10.30am-12.30 pm.
 The final session will be on Christmas Eve
 from 10.30am to 1 pm.

**Everyone is welcome to come along and
 join in the fun.**

Looking ahead to 2018 there are concerts
 planned in Winterbourne, Stoke Gifford, Yate
 and Chipping Sodbury. Details of these will be
 published shortly.

Westerly Showband continues to offer places
 for new players, both in its main and training
 bands. It particularly welcomes musicians who
 wish to return to playing after a fallow interval.

Anyone requiring more information on the band,
 be they a musician or potential booker, can refer
 to the band website on www.westlyshowband.com
 or ring Chris Harris on 0117 9561950.

WOMANKIND HELPLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Womankind Helpline offers confidential listening
 support to women on any issue including depression,
 anxiety, domestic and sexual abuse.

We are seeking volunteers for our next training
 course which will run over four weekends during
 February and March 2018 – the training and the
 Helpline are run from our offices in central Bristol.

We offer:

- High quality training programme
- Experience of volunteering using listening skills
- Support and supervision
- Expenses
- An opportunity to meet and socialise with other
 volunteers

For further information or an application pack contact
 Suzi at suzi@womankindbristol.org.uk
 Tel: 0345 4582914 or 0117 9166461

email: jaci@mattersmagazines.co.uk to list your event for FREE

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



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

Busy Bees baby and toddler group Bradley Stoke Evangelical church Tuesday 10-11.30 (Term time) 07747 45212
<https://www.facebook.com/busybeesbsec/>

Trinity Tots - Mondays 9:30 - 11:30 during term time.
Contact Holy Trinity Church Office on 01454 620975

First Steps Toddler Group - Christ the King Church, Bradley Stoke Thursdays 10.00 am-11.30 am term times. Phone 0117 9312304

Little Hedgehogs (0-5's) - Wednesday mornings, 10am-12noon school term time only. Edge Church Bristol, 1160 Park Avenue, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4TF. 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. puddleducktoddlers@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

1st Bradley Stoke Scouts - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and our marching band meet at Brook Way Activity Centre and Holy Trinity school. Please have a look on our website for further information for both young people and adult volunteers at www.bradley-stoke-scouts.org.uk/join

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

Afternoon Social Club 55+, every Wednesday from 2pm – 3.30pm at the Baileys Court Activity Centre.

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@btpenworld.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

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

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 Phoenix Club - meets 1st Tuesday of the month, 10am-12noon at Little Stoke Community Hall, Little Stoke Lane. Contact Rosemary Davis 01454 614474

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

Winterbourne Wind Band - Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm at Greenfield Centre, Park Avenue, Winterbourne BS36 1NJ. Brass, woodwind, percussion, bass players wanted. Loan Instruments available. Contact Dan 01172 395210.

Women's Institute (WI) - Bradley Stoke: Jubilee Centre 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2pm contact Bev - 01454 625855.

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 BS34 8PF contact Sue Grimsted 0117 9793409

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

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!

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, <http://www.theblackandblues.co.uk/> or find us on Facebook 'Black & Blues Netball'.

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 Briddon 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 Squash Club - For adults, Juniors and Children. Welcoming new players from beginners to advanced. Club night Sunday nights for all From 6pm. Children's coaching on Sat Mornings. Contact Mark Stone for details 07786 911580

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

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

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.solesistersrc.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 Lane Athletic Football Club – FA Charter Standard Community Club, u6 to u16 ; U18 Colts and two senior men's teams; FA accredited coaches; contact via www.stokelane.co.uk or email Club Sect 'steve' pspayne@blueyonder.co.uk or Club Mobile 07972 039413

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.bsec.org.uk

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

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

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



Local Schools in and around the Stokes

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Baileys Court Primary School, Head Teacher: Andrew Lynham, Breaches Gate BStoke, 01454 838320

Bradley Stoke Community School Primary Phase, Head Teacher Sharon Clark Fiddlers Wood Lane BStoke BS32 9BS 01454 868840

Bowland Green Primary School, Head Teacher: Faye Kitchen, Ellicks Close BStoke, 01454 866766, bowlandgreen.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 BStoke, 01454 866735, holytrinity-pri.s-gloucs.sch.uk

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

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

Stoke Lodge Primary School, Headteacher: Sharon Bishop, School Close Bourton Avenue, Stoke Lodge, 01454 866390

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 BStoke, 01454 866390,

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

Wheatfield Primary School, Acting Head: Lois Haydon, Wheatfield Drive BStoke, 01454 868610

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

Bradley Stoke Community School, Head Teacher: Steve Moir Fiddlers Wood Lane Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS, 01454 868840, bradleystokecs.org.uk

Patchway Community College, Head Teacher: Karen Cornick, Hempton Lane Almondsbury BS32 4AJ, 01454 862020, patchwaycc.com



Bridge Community Church - who have been meeting in Bradley Stoke since 2002 - have now re-united with a church in Cotham to become **City Church**.

In 1997, a small group of people moved from Brighton to Bristol to start a new church. They initially met in a pub on Gloucester Road and quickly grew, launching out another new church into Bradley Stoke five years later. Last month, the two churches re-united at a celebration party at We the Curious (formerly At Bristol). The new City Church will continue to meet on Sundays at two locations in Bradley Stoke and Cotham, but will be one church with one name, one purpose, and one vision.

City Church is passionate about being a church for everyone in Bristol. Over the next few years our vision is to start new sites in different parts of the city that reflect the diversity of the place we live. We will also be significantly expanding on the work we do with the elderly, the homeless and helping those in financial need.

City Church: Bradley Stoke meets every Sunday, 10am at Bradley Stoke Community School. You can find out more information at www.citychurch.org.uk

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www.ovenclean.com

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Kevin: **07501 042880**
 Chris: **07717 672737**

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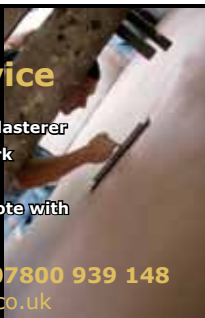
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INDEX OF LOCAL ADVERTISERS

Accountancy/Book-keeping

LAC Accounting 24

Architectural Services -

Alexandra Cork Home Designs 56

Bathrooms

All Works Bathrooms Installations 57

Inspired Bathroom Design 58

Butcher -

Molesworth of Frampton 9

Builders / Building

Ashford Building Contractors 60

BluePrint Construction 59

Cox Builders 57

Fascia Lift 54

RJM Design & Build 53

Vizard and Son 55

Cakes -

Medway Designs 24

Car Maintenance / Sales

Brookfield Garage 30

BS Auto Maintenance 19

Care / Elderly

Bristol Care Homes 16

Brunel Care 17

McCarthy Stone Retirement Appts 4

Carpentry

Clive Bradford 59

Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning

Bonne Fresh Clean Ltd 58

Central Heating

All Works Plumbing & Heating 57

Baines Heating 59

Gregor Heating 1

Richard Taylor 55

Child Care/ Preschools

Ambourne House Day Nursery 26-27

Bright Sparks 28

Children's Activities

Fromeside Gym Club 25

Swimming Lessons 20

Cleaning & Domestic Services

Claire's Cleans 21

Clover Ovensclean 55

OvenClean 51

Oven Wizards 60

Community Noticeboard 46-47

Community Groups & Clubs 48-50

Computers

Wicked Imp 24

Electrician

Aquasafe 53

Bradley Stoke Electrical 60

CMG Electrical 61

Gary Smart Electrical 59

Lifestyle Electrical Solutions 53

Price Electrical 51

Employment Opportunities

Brunel Care 17

Estate Agent / Homes-

Andrews 1

McCarthy Stone Retirement Appts 4

Ocean 3,10

Events -

Castell Roc Music Festival 18

Christmas event information 38-45

Library Activities 44

Food / Takeaway

Molesworth of Frampton Butchers 9

Foot Health

Funeral Directors

MW Funeral Directors 10

Garden Design/Landscaping/

Maintenance

Almondsbury Landscaping 52

Alpine Landscapes 57

Front Row Fencing 58

JDS Garden Services 53

Golf - Filton Golf Club 9

Hair & Beauty

Just You Holistics 7

Handyman / Home Services

Alan's Handyman Services 56

K&C Home Improvements 51

Health, Diet & Fitness

Bradley Stoke Physio 15

Filton Leisure Centre 20

LivingWell 63

Me Time 21

Slimmingworld 14

Spirit Health Club 2

House / Home

Bedlam Beds 52

Brunel Doors 58

Thornbury Stairlifts 55

Jewellers - Kemps 12

Locksmith

Dale Clements Locksmiths 57

Lock Stuck & Barrells 61

Medical / Therapist

Bradley Stoke Physio 15

Dawn Clode, Osteomyologist 13

Just You Holistics 7

Laura Jane Hypnotherapy 11

Smart Hypnotherapy 13

Stoke Gifford Medical 29

Music/Music Lessons -

Hannah's Music (Shop) 18

Hilary,Music Lesson 22

Opticians

Harbord Opticians 5

Specsavers 64

Painter & Decorator

Decor8 56

GJS Painting & Decorating 55

Keith Usher Painter & Decorator 57

South Gloss Decorating 54

Parish Council 32-33

Plasterer

B&D Plastering 61

CPH Plastering 53

Jon Drake 54

Plumber

All Works Plumbing & Heating 57

Capricorn Plumbing 51

Home Care Plumbing & Heating 54

K J Barton Plumbing & Heating 60

Low Cost Plumbing 59

R H Plumbing 52

Stokes Plumbing Service 60

Property Maintenance -

Brunel Doors 58

Repairs

D-CR Domestic Appliance Repairs 59

Roofing -

Rooftech 53

Vizards Roofing 55

Rooms/Facilities for Hire

North Bristol RFC 22

Schools/Schooling

Abbeywood Community School 21,23

Bradley Stoke Comm School 19,23

Holy Family Catholic Primary 34-35

Little Stoke Primary 28

Meadowbrook Primary School 22

St Michael's Primary 37

Security -

Technisys 61

Sewing / Alterations -

Medway Designs 24

Solicitors -

AMD Solicitors 31

Taxi's/Transport

ACE Taxis 13

Avanti Cars 13

Tiling -

Paul Bartley Ceramic Tiling 55

Trades & Services - 51-61

Trusted Traders 56

Training/Tuition

Train to be an Osteomyologist 36

Tree Surgeon

Collins Trees Services 58

Front Row Fencing 58

TV & Aerials

A1 Aerials 60

Aerial Man - Dan Grace 59

M D Aerials 53

Windows - 1st Aztec Windows 61



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