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December 2020

Community

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Beautiful Robin drawn by local Stokes artist

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St Michael's Church living to make a difference



A Christian heart at the centre of the community

Dear Readers....



WHAT A YEAR!! A huge thank you to our many advertisers and supporters who have interacted with us throughout this crazy year. It has been very tough for all of us and we absolutely couldn't do it without all of you.

Usually this December issue would be bringing you news of all the Christmas Services and Events taking place locally. Sadly this cannot be the case this year, but local churches are doing their best to take Christmas Services and Carol Services on line where they can. Some actual services are taking place but you need to book a place as numbers are very limited. See page 12 for a bit more information.

We still have lots for you to read and enjoy in this issue, from a look at the way local Remembrance took place this year, to an update from St Michael's Church on the latest renovation plans. Updates from our local primary schools and scouting groups and ways you can help those in need this season (check out Blonde Angels and the Moggerly). We have sporting updates from our sponsored football team Bradley Stoke Town FC and well as from Stoke Lane FC and Bradley Stoke Bowls.

We also hear from local talented artist Ben Mitchell - did you notice his beautiful robin on the front cover?

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas & a Happy & Healthy 2021!



Jaci x

PS: Please remember to mention Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters whenever you can and keep liking and sharing our posts on facebook.

It really does help!

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If you are a business looking to promote your services across the Stokes in 2021 do get in touch with us and we will be happy to help.

Deadline for the Jan/Feb edition is 10th December.

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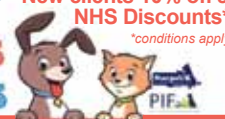
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Remembrance Day in Lockdown

Rev. Rod Symmons led the service at Christ the King on Sunday 8th November, remembering with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives in world wars and conflicts, past and present have been given and taken away. Reflecting on the gifts that so many gave of their lives, often at a very young age, Rev. Symmons reminded the congregation watching in their homes, of the gift of Christ for us, reflecting on His love for us, in the words of the song 'Here is love vast as the Ocean', played on the guitar and sang beautifully by Pat Barter.

Words from the Sermon on the Mount were read as well as Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen," written from a cliff-top in Cornwall in September 1914, was read out to remind us that: **"They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."**

The 11 chimes of Big Ben were played in the church to lead into a two minutes silence, joining people across the nation.

The church of Christ the King was delighted to be joined by the Mayor of Bradley Stoke, Cllr Tony Griffiths and a warm welcome was extended to him.

The bugles of the last post were played through speakers in the church to mark the end of the two minute silence and this was followed by the laying of wreaths by Rev. Rod and Mayor Griffiths. **"We will remember them."**

Mayor Tony Griffiths shared briefly about what Remembrance Sunday means to him, with active service in the Far East, he served with the Royal Observer Corp. The service ended with prayer for all those who suffer as a result of conflict.



Three days later, on Remembrance Day, Harry Woods (photo) placed the wreath on behalf of the church, at the war memorial at the Willowbrook Centre in Bradley Stoke.

Harry joined the Army as a boy soldier, when National Service required everyone at the age of eighteen to join the Army, Navy or Royal Air Force. He was sent to the 16th 5th Lancers, a cavalry regiment and toured all over Europe. In 1963, after 4 years in Germany he was posted to 653 Squadron Army Air Corps to form the nucleus of the regiments Air Troop. During his time with 15 flight he was posted to Radfan, an area very close to the Yemen border, where the local Arabs were robbing pilgrims going to Mecca for their religious ceremony. The local government asked the army for help, resulting in a brigade of soldiers being sent to the Wadi Tame where an airfield was established. Harry's squadron sent 3 Scout helicopters and a field detachment of about 35 men. Harry helped refuel and service the helicopters as well as flying casualty missions to bring back to Base camp, not only the wounded, but also his dead comrades.

Sharing his experience after laying the wreath, Harry explained that it was too gruesome to go into detail but that he did all in his power to keep service men, from the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force alive. In a very moving conclusion, Harry said, **"My only regret is we could not save them all. To my fallen Comrades, Rest in Peace, Duty Done."**

report provided by Katy Mitchell



Lockdown doorstep Remembrance Day 8th November 2020 for OSR Scouts

So this year just gets odder and odder. No Remembrance Day parade this weekend for Old School Rooms Scouts, no marching down to the memorial on The Green, North Road in Stoke Gifford. So what to do?

Joining in with Avon County Scouts all over the South West in a 2 minute doorstep silence to remember the fallen and the sacrifices they made for us was a fitting tribute, and the OSR scouts made special Poppy paracord woggles to make it more memorable.

All the scouts and leaders in full uniform asked members of their families to take a photo or two so they could be put on the scouts website plus the County wanted a photo of scouts participating for a large collage, as was done for St. George's day.

It's important we honour the soldiers, sailors and airmen from the past that died in conflicts to protect our freedoms today.

The scouts are more informed nowadays as it's taught in lessons, but there's still room to learn about the roles scouts made during the great wars plus the role of animals and why we wear poppies. This will be covered on a zoom session now there's no face to face scouting during this second English lockdown.

The woggle takes about 40 minutes to make and any scouts that would like to make one please follow;

<https://youtu.be/0o-ROVTIIQ>

LEST WE FORGET



A socially distanced Remembrance on the Green in Stoke Gifford on Sunday 8th November, lead by St Michael's Church with representatives from the local community, marking the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII.

The Toy Library was also aptly decorated for Remembrance by the local guiding group.



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Church for Changing Times

The church building at St Michael's in Stoke Gifford is important to the community and to worship for church members. They are now planning improvements to the fourteenth century building, making it fit for worship for now and in the future.

Rev. Canon Simon Jones, Rector of St Michael's says: *"We are committed to protecting, preserving and enhancing the building as our legacy for generations to come. We've spent a considerable sum past two years on building work to the tower, stonework, boundary wall and new roofs. We are now looking to improve safety, visibility and accessibility."*

This will be done by:

- Removing the raised platform at the altar, and levelling the entire floor of the church replacing the existing worn and uneven flooring.
- Removing the two large, square pillars between the north aisle and the nave and reducing the size of the roof support at the east end of the chancel (in front of the organ).
- Providing two toilets in the vestry, one accessed from the inside and one accessed from the outside.
- Replace the pews with comfortable and flexible seating which will enable a wider range of activities to take place within the building.
- Replace the external vestry door with approved fire escape door.

Rev. Canon Jones said *"we are excited to move forward on this, making our church building, fit for generations to come, whilst honouring its history."*

This is just one of the four key ambitions for the Heart of the Community project which was launched in 2012. Those ambitions are:

1. Create a spacious modern meeting place in the centre of the community



2. Restore the historic church building for generations to come.
3. Upgrade the existing community rooms
4. Fund outreach and anti-poverty projects locally, nationally and internationally

The first of those ambitions was seen with the opening of St Michael's Centre on North Road, which boasts a 550 seater auditorium and hosts the larger Sunday gatherings at St Michael's, as well as conferences and events throughout the week. More updates to this have been achieved with the completion of the last phase of St Michael's Centre this month, with additional rooms and a new kitchen.

St Michael's are now keen to keep the momentum going with the plans for the church building:

The Revd Canon Jones said *"The church building is still very much in use on Sundays and during the week (present lockdown excluded!) and is always packed at Christmas, Easter and other popular services. Last Christmas we were in the unfortunate position of having to turn people away from our afternoon carol service as we ran out of room. These plans will not only give us extra space and more seating, but also greater flexibility on how we use that seating."*

For those in the local community who want to see the plans for the church building and find out more, these can be seen via the church website www.stmichaelsbristol.org.

Blonde Angel Street Team Christmas Appeal

Blonde Angel Street Team is a growing local community movement bringing supplies to people living on the streets and hostels in the Bristol and Yate area. They would love you to support their Christmas appeal to fill a Christmassy shoebox, stocking or bag with useful supplies and treats to bring comfort and spread some much-needed Christmas cheer to some of those members of our community who need it most.

Please wrap or decorate your box, stocking or bag, include a Christmas card (with a warm message), and write on a label/tag whether its for a man or a woman (and if appropriate what clothing size).

Ideas for the contents: Woolly hat, scarf, gloves, warm socks, thermals (new or clean good condition second hand), new undies, small torch and battery, baby wipes, toiletries, chocolates, sweets, snacks, pot noodle, hot choc sachet, other Christmas treat foods, notebook, pen, small game, small book, face mask, hand sanitiser, gift card for warm food or hot drink or food shop.

Prepare one or more – all contributions very much appreciated, on or before the deadline of Friday 11 December.

Our local collection point is in Bradley Stoke, please contact **Debbie Ellacott 07877 781660** to arrange. [#blondeangelstreetteam](https://www.instagram.com/blondeangelstreetteam)



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If this has happened to you, North Bristol Advice Centre can help.

Our experienced advisers can provide one-to-one support through the appeals process. This includes gathering evidence and preparing the paperwork for your case. They can even be there with you at the tribunal hearing, which are currently being done by telephone, making it less stressful. North Bristol Advice Centre's overall success rate at appeal is around 90%.

For some, challenging the decisions of the DWP and gaining the benefits which they are entitled to can be the difference between living in poverty and having enough to support themselves and their family.

If you or anyone you know is struggling to challenge an unfair decision regarding a PIP or ESA claim, please contact North Bristol Advice Centre at

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Getting Creative in Lockdown

Ben Mitchell, Bradley Stoke



Social distancing, lockdowns and self-isolations have resulted in many of us having much more time on our hands this year than normal. Where events have been cancelled, meetings with friends put on hold and holidays postponed, we have had to think differently about how to spend our time. It's been amazing how many creative pursuits have gained popularity as we look for positive ways to focus our minds. Many have immersed themselves in baking, gardening or knitting. For me, I have taken the opportunity to prioritise my love of painting. I have always enjoyed painting, but it does demand a lot of time and in the busyness of life I have never been able to devote as much time to it as I would like, until this extraordinary year.

Creative arts such as painting or drawing are great mindfulness activities, that can have a really positive impact on our mental health. They force us slow down, relax and to focus our minds on something positive, reducing the stress and anxiety that our current circumstances can bring. It is also so rewarding when a piece you have spent many hours working away on is finally complete.

I love painting British wildlife, and can easily spend hours focusing on the detail of a bird's feathers. Nature is so good for us, and greatly benefits our physical and mental health. Going out for a walk in the fresh air, looking at trees and flowers, and listening to the variety of bird songs is a nourishing feast for the senses and can be so calming. Many of us have spent much more time in our gardens this year. As we approach winter and the nights draw in however, it's harder to get outside as much as we would like. Painting the natural world is a fantastic way to stay connected to nature when getting out and about isn't as easy. As I paint wildlife, I love the idea of bringing a small reflection of the beauty of nature into people's homes.

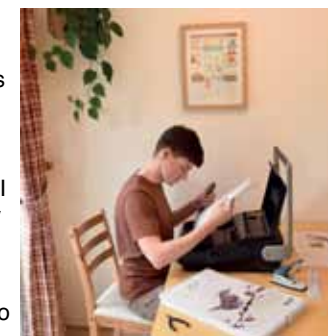
It is important not to feel like you need to 'achieve' anything with the unexpected free time we may have. But I am always more motivated to bring myself to an activity that is constructive. I greatly enjoy spending time producing greetings cards and prints out of my paintings, and this year I have taken it upon myself to produce wall calendars for 2021.

My wife and I approached the gift shop at Westonbirt Arboretum and were thrilled when they said they would like to stock our greetings cards and calendars! Incidentally, I would really recommend getting over to the Arboretum if you can, the woods are beautiful this time of year!

I love seeing the creativity that has arisen through lockdown. If there is a creative pursuit that you've always been meaning to try, now is a fantastic time to start!

If you would like a British Birds 2021 Calendar, they make an ideal Christmas gift for nature lovers! We'll hand deliver any local orders in the Stokes.

Please take a look online at: mitchellwildlifeart.etsy.com



Your Village Shop, a new shop in Stoke Gifford Retirement Village

*Lucy and Richard Smith
are the owners behind
'Your Village Shop',
a new local shop with
ambitions to become
a dementia and autism
friendly shop.*



Your Village Shop opened in March this year and is based in Stoke Gifford Retirement Village, just off Coldharbour Lane. Whilst Lucy & Rich have had to do things a bit differently because of COVID19 they always set out with an ambition to create an environment that is welcoming and friendly for customers. Lucy explains: *"Shopping isn't just about clicking online or self scanning, it's also a social experience but many people will avoid shopping because it is difficult or confusing or stressful. It doesn't have to be that way."*

"At Your Village Shop you can get extra help if you need it and it is a place where you can feel safe using mobility aids or where you won't be overwhelmed by the environment."

"The welcome we have had at Stoke Gifford Retirement Village has been incredible and we are looking forward to serving the local community as we grow and get a chance to return to some normality after COVID19."

The team at Your Village Shop offer a range of services including home delivery of fresh fruit & veg boxes and were able to help many families throughout lockdown.

On top of the usual groceries and snacks, Your Village Shop stocks produce from local suppliers including meat and pies from Gales Farm Butchers and fresh bread and cakes from The Cottage Bakery. They also have a growing range of gifts and seasonal items.

If you would like to find out more about Your Village Shop visit their website yourvillageshop.com where you will find details of their Extra Help Services, delivery services and Online Shop.

You can also follow them on facebook and instagram using [@yourvillageshop](https://www.facebook.com/yourvillageshop)

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Bradley Stoke Zero Carbon Community Group

Hello from us here at Bradley Stoke Zero Carbon Community Group. We have asked Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters to give us a bit of space to tell you about our 'newish' group and what we do.

The group was kick started by South Gloucestershire Council passing a climate emergency motion on the 17th July 2019. Our chair and founding member Lorna was inspired by a conference she attended called Zero Carbon Britain at the wonderful Centre for Alternative Technology. The group was formed just over a year ago and as the name suggests we aim to give local people a space to come together, take action to reduce carbon emissions and take care of the land around us.

Initially our chair posted a link asking for local Bradley Stoke people who cared about all things 'green' to join a Facebook group for sharing 'green' ideas. From there we started holding meetings in August 2019, setting up the group formally with a constitution and also started planning events with other local groups. Due to the pandemic we are now holding these meetings online. Some of our planned events were also put on hold however we are dreaming up new ways to share information on what every individual can do to do their bit for the planet. Bradley Stoke Town Council provided financial assistance to the group to support our work in the coming year. We plan to put this to good use for the benefit of local people and the environment.

We have a small committee group, all of whom live in Bradley Stoke, and are always looking for more people to get involved, share ideas or simply learn so please get in touch, join our facebook group or have a look at the website.

Find out more:

Join us on Facebook: Search for Bradley Stoke Zero Carbon Community Group

Website: <https://bszerocarbon.co.uk/who-are-we/>

Contact us: bradleystokezerocarbon@gmail.com

Each month the group posts an idea for helping its members to reduce personal carbon footprints or benefit the natural environment. The tips are designed with the local area in mind and we try to get things as local as possible. Here is a tip for the Christmas season.

Christmas 2020 is likely to be a Christmas like no other we have known. Let's make it a little more 'green' and special.



Thinking Differently about Christmas Gifts this year



Planning Christmas this year has been very difficult for our local Churches!

Here is what they were planning when we went to print mid-November - this may change and we will update our website if we hear of any changes as we get closer to Christmas !

Christmas Services



Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church

We hope to be able to run a carol service in our building. Due to regulations we will only be able to fit a certain number of people into the building at any one time and so we will be running up to 4 services and ask people to book in advance.

We will be holding services on

Tuesday 22nd December at 6pm & 8pm and
Thursday 24th December at 6pm & 8pm.

More details on line. www.bsec.org.uk

Holy Family Catholic Church

We anticipate to have the following Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

6pm Christmas Family Mass
11.15pm Hymns and Readings to welcome Christmas

Christmas Day

12.00am Christmas Midnight Mass
8.30am Christmas Mass
10.00am Christmas Mass

All seats will be bookable via Eventbrite.

All Masses will be online via
www.pscp.tv/holyfamilybs345

For up to date information:
www.holyfamilyrcchurchpatchway.co.uk

Little Stoke Baptist Church

Sunday 20th December

11.00 am - Carols in the car park.

Christmas Day

a zoom service at 10.00am

Call 0117 969 1011 for more information.



Are you stuck for a Christmas gift idea for an animal loving friend or relative?

Why not make a donation to the Moggery in their name?

Call the Moggery on 0117 9243128 and we will send a beautiful Christmas card to the name and address you specify, detailing your gift.

Like all charities we have not been able to hold any fundraising events in 2020 and our 'Kitty' is greatly reduced.

Please help us to continue our much-needed work rescuing Bristol's abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens.

Thank you, Christine Bayka 'Chair'

The Moggery Rescue & Rehoming Centre Bishopston

Jingle all the way!



Keeping up the theme of us all coming together safely at this magical time of year. The **Facebook page: Worldwide Christmas Eve Jingle 2020** is encouraging everyone to come outside and **ring a bell at 6pm on Christmas Eve** for 2 minutes to spread Christmas spirit and to help Santa fly the sleigh. After a tough year for everyone it would be lovely if we could all take part, raise some community spirit and put a smile on children and adults faces.



Over 30 stalls offering a variety of things from dog treats, to luxury skin care, to beautiful clothing and accessories, and many other wonderful Christmas items.

All you have to do is join our FB group, grab your favourite drink and enjoy strolling through our fabulous stalls in the safety and comfort of your own home!

All funds raised are for school purchases.

Comfort and Joy



The Coronavirus pandemic is the crisis of our generation. The long-term scale of its impact is, as yet, unknown. Though we may not have been infected, we are all affected. Some have felt isolated, lonely or anxious. All of us forced to change, by circumstances beyond our control.

We all need a little comfort and joy! It's why we've chosen this as our Christmas theme for 2020. It's a line borrowed from the old carol "God rest you merry gentlemen" (yes I know, inclusive language wasn't a 'thing' in 1760!).

We'd all welcome some 'tidings' of comfort and joy! The angel, delivering the news of Jesus' birth says: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10 (King James version)

Comfort and Joy arrived in the person of Jesus. He brings comfort to a broken world. He brings joy to all people.

The Bible summarises this saying: 'Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever'. Whatever our anxieties, fears or concerns, Jesus still meets them person to person. The carol continues, 'let nothing you dismay, remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day'.

May the 'tidings' of Jesus' comfort and joy meet you person to person this Christmas

Revd. Canon Simon Jones, St Michael's Church, Stoke Gifford

Christmas at St Michael's



Comfort and Joy

During December, our Christmas float will visit streets in the parish bringing much Christmas cheer as we pray for Comfort and Joy in the community.

www.stmichaelsbristol.org/Christmas2020

Sunday 20 December

18.30 & 20.00 Drive-in Carols (book in advance)

Christmas Eve

15:00 Christingle Service (online)

23:15 Midnight Communion (online)

Christmas Day

10:00 Family Worship (online)

Please see our website for the most up to date details

www.stmichaelsbristol.org/Christmas2020



St Michael's Church
Stoke Gifford



Tell people you saw them in Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters

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We begin by exploring the positive things in your life, establishing positive thought patterns, which help us cope better with life.

We explore how these positive moments, using visualisation techniques to focus on the small steps towards success, in a manageable and achievable way.

The process helps us think using our Intellectual Brain. When we think from this part of our brain, we generally get things right in life; it's logical and makes a proper assessment of situations in life. We can't always change the events in our life, but with practice, we can change the way we choose to think about them, and in turn how we cope.

Time for relaxation!

We consolidate the talking therapy part of sessions with hypnosis, a state of focused attention and deep relaxation which we call trance.

It's a misconception that hypnosis can make us say or do things against our will. Please be reassured it's an entirely safe and natural state. In this state, your mind is more responsive to suggestions that are designed to be beneficial to help you change unhelpful thought patterns.

During hypnosis we can access the subconscious,



I went to see Laura during a particularly stressful time in my life. I was anxious and in a constant state of panic. Laura really helped me put things into perspective and calm down enough to work through everything that was going on... and this is the important bit - she helped ME work through it. Laura didn't solve my problems for me, but she helped me focus, helped me ask myself tough questions and be honest with myself.

I will be forever grateful to Laura for two things:
a) helping me through one of the biggest lows of my life
b) giving me the ability to take the learnings I had with her that help me to not only cope, but thrive every day

One of the best things with Laura is that you get a sense that she really cares about helping you. She really wants to see you succeed - you do have to want to help yourself though - that's the only thing I'd say - it's the key to working with Laura and making life happier, healthier and calmer. I'd recommend working with Laura - she's amazing, solving the climate crisis, and there are ways we can all help. We just need to start listening and taking action. We have to face the fact that each of us has a lot of cleaning up to do, but there's still hope.

GRATEFUL CLIENT - JULY 2020

it helps us calmly look and think about those responses, and decide which are needed and which are unwanted, so we can find solutions and move forward towards a preferred future.

It's wonderful to see positive changes as clients benefit from Solution Focused Hypnotherapy. It's such an uplifting therapy for a wide range of psychological issues empowering you towards lasting change.

Connect with me ~ **Laura Jane Hypnotherapy**

Call me – 07807 936 080 | Email me - justimagine@laurajanehypnotherapy.com

Visit me www.laurajanehypnotherapy.com

Are you in need of some pain relief and support?

Contact Osteomyology expert – Dawn Clode Ostm, Lic MET, Lic CR, FAO

This has undoubtedly been a challenging year for us all. We are now several months in to dealing with the negative implications of Covid-19 and for many of us it is starting to take its toll. If you need some help with any kind of emotional or physical pain please do get in touch with Dawn Clode.

When I spoke with Osteomyologist Dawn, she told me these were indeed tough times for everybody, but she was pleased to be able to use her skills as a therapist to help individuals in their time of need. People who had never previously suffered with shoulder and neck pain or an aching lower back, were finding themselves enduring pain due to a change in work circumstances, balancing a laptop while working from the sofa or dining room table is far from ideal! She has been able to help with their discomfort and advise on better working practice from home.

As well as the physical pain, un-surprisingly, an increasing number of people are suffering with emotional problems. Dawn is an excellent listener and inspirator and can deliver treatments for emotional health via Zoom if people feel more comfortable meeting this way.

Dawn practices a wide range of treatment modalities to effectively address each individual's pain. These



Dawn Clode
Ostm, Lic MET, Lic CR, FAO

Vouchers to receive pain-relieving treatments from Dawn, from her local practice in Little Stoke, make an excellent Christmas gift to a loved one.

include; Acupuncture, Aromatherapy, Confidence and Self Esteem Coaching, Cranial Sacral Therapy, Manipulation (HVT), Massage, Muscle Energy Technique (MET), NeuroLinguistic Programming (NLP), Reflexology and Reiki.

Dawn works from her Holistic Health Practice in Little Stoke. She will remain closed during lockdown for treatments in person (you can pre-book now) but can offer support online or over the phone.

She is happy for you to get in touch for further information. Please call: **0795 1099 491**
Visit: life-and-soul-empowerment.co.uk

The Foot Lady

My name is Donna and I am a fully qualified Foot Health Professional providing a high quality and caring foot care service. I have a mobile clinic and visit you in the comfort and convenience of your own home.

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The Foot Lady

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Foot Health Professional

Donna Scott-Cottrell

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Clinical Hypnotherapist
Catherine Smart DHP MNCH CHBP

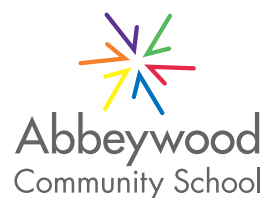
Hypnotherapy can help you:

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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**
E: Catherine@smarthypnotherapist.co.uk
www.smarthypnotherapist.co.uk



Abbeywood Community School is totally committed to inclusiveness and providing the highest quality of education in the broadest sense. We aim to develop each individual through excellent teaching and a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, to ensure each student can become a confident, well-rounded citizen, ready to take their place in society.

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News from St Michael's

As I write this we are entering another period of National Lockdown and, as winter approaches, we thought we would share some of the great things that have been going on at St Michael's. It's certainly not all gloom here in school, where almost all children have returned and are full of positivity. The things they mostly say they missed while school was closed were their friends and their teachers. This reinforces how important social contact is to all of us. The other things children value most are all of the activities children get to do in school, whether it's art, music, sport – or English and maths!

Here are a selection of pictures showing off some of the fantastic art work children have been doing during Term 1. There are lots more on our website: www.stmichaelssg.org.uk. We are particularly proud of our wings: every child in the school made a feather, which were then made into a giant set of wings. This was the focus for our annual 'St Michael's Day' celebration.

We look forward to you visiting us on our website. If you have a child due to start school in 2021 there is a section just for you, where you will find virtual tours of the school and lots of additional information. You can also meet the Headteacher at one of our online sessions: the dates are on the website.

Best wishes to everyone from St Michael's School.

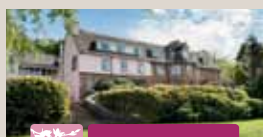


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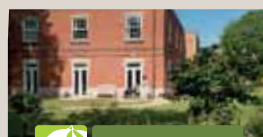
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Ambourne House Day Nursery & Preschool

Ambourne House is a small family run nursery, located on the Gloucester Road close to Aztec West. We have been providing high quality childcare at our nursery since 1991 and the emphasis has always been placed upon the security, happiness, education and individual needs of each child. In 2019 we introduced the **Montessori** ethos and equipment to our nursery. With our highly qualified staff and dedication to on-going training, we are proud to be a truly unique provider.

There is never a dull moment at our nursery! We are so proud here at Ambourne to be able to provide the best apparatus for our children to explore all areas of their learning. We are so blessed to have a beautiful large garden for our children to not only burn off some energy but to extend their learning in the outdoor environment. We have also been pleased to be able to resume our weekly Forest School outings!



Our fantastic resources and amazing staff help set the foundations for early learning in Geography, Mathematics, Science, Sensorial Life and many more. This will follow them not only for school but inspire a love for learning for the rest of their lives.

We truly do believe we provide children the best start in life! If you are interested in your child joining in the fun at Ambourne House, please come and see us. We are only holding visits for new parents between 5-6pm at present to reduce footfall in the current times.

If you would like to arrange a viewing please call us on 01454 615352.

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FOREST SCHOOL FOCUS!

The staff and pupils at Holy Family Catholic Primary School were really glad to be back at school in September. The children were so pleased to be with their friends again and all of them were eager to get back to their learning.

We have focused on Forest School with all classes spending as much time as possible outside exploring the flora and fauna of the school site. We planted trees from the Woodland Trust over a large area at the bottom of our field ten years ago and these have now grown into a fabulous wooded area with a giant storytelling chair buried deep in the 'forest'.

The photos show our children taking part in Forest School - playing outdoor team games, building hedgehog homes, making pictures, Forest School crowns and miniature gardens. Sometimes it was a very, very wet day but the children dressed for the weather and enjoyed exploring with their friends and getting muddy!

Dawn Summers-Breeze, November 2020



Mama Bear's Children Support Children In Need With Lockdown-Friendly Fun

Children at Mama Bear's Day Nursery and Pre-Schools across Bristol have had to get creative with their Children in Need fundraising efforts this year in order to abide by coronavirus rules. Instead of the usual bake sales, raffles, teddy bear picnics and spare change collections, the tots have enjoyed pyjama days, crazy hair days, bear hunts and Pudsey crafts to mark the important cause. And instead of donating cash parents and carers supported the charity via an online link raising over £1000!

Tony Driffield, co-owner of the family-run Mama Bear's group, said: "We are great supporters of Children in Need every year and each one of our nurseries took part in some activity to raise money for the charity, albeit in a different way this year. As with most things in 2020 we got creative to ensure we still raised a fantastic amount for the cause and gave the children a week of fun activities to enjoy and remember.

"Every day was a dressing up day with a couple of crazy hair days thrown in as well. The nursery managers also organised a host of additional activities including arts and crafts, games and story time sessions. This charity has always been close to our hearts as it is all about helping children. We're so pleased to have raised such a fantastic amount, especially under the circumstances of this year, and we hope it makes a small difference to those in need."

To donate visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/erica-cross2>

For more information about Mama Bear's visit www.mamabear.co.uk



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Run for Robotics!

With the challenges of trying to raise money during a global pandemic on everyone's minds, the children of Little Stoke Primary School decided to combine their love of exercise with raising money for their school.

The challenge was set – to run laps of the school field during the month of October with the aim of running the equivalent distance from their school in Bristol to the London Science Museum (a distance of 116 miles).

Children from all year groups took part, clocking up the miles whenever they could and asking friends and family to sponsor their efforts. In total, 3,082 laps were run – surpassing their target. Thanks to their amazing efforts, they raised a staggering £1,208 towards new STEM equipment for the school!

And what's more, when the London Science Museum heard of their quest, they donated some wonderful STEM equipment to the school to acknowledge this outstanding achievement.

Miss Southcott, STEM lead at Little Stoke Primary School said *"it was great to see such wonderful team spirit as each year group tackled this challenge. The children were outside running, whatever the weather and were really committed to raising sponsorship for the school. We were delighted to receive a parcel of STEM equipment from the London Science Museum and hope we can make it there for a visit when lockdown is over so that we can thank them in person."*



St Chad's Patchway C of E Primary School

It's been a busy time for the children of St Chad's and they have thrived being back in the classroom. Fantastic learning has taken place across the school with the children creating pieces of work to be proud of. In Curriculum time, the children have excelled and have developed and deepened their knowledge across a range of different units of learning.

Reception

The children have settled in well and have really enjoyed getting to know our classroom and outdoor area. The children have already been amazing the adults with how well they are learning the sounds and starting to read. We have been learning all about the human skeleton using the story "Funnybones" and even found a skeleton in our sandpit! The children really enjoy being outside exploring the mud kitchen and playing on the adventure playground. This term we are all looking forward to learning song for the Christmas play!

Year 1 and 2

In Key Stage One, the children have been concentrating on the unit titled 'Bristol'. As geographers in Year 1, the children have been out exploring the environment around the school finding different physical and human features. They had a huge amount of fun in doing this. As historians, the children have been developing their knowledge of Bristol. They have been investigating some of the different landmarks in Bristol and comparing photos from the past with photos of the present. In Year 2, the children have even gone a step further and identified similarities and differences in the human and physical features between living in Bristol and a rural area in Uganda.



Year 3 and 4

As scientists, children have focused their learning on the human body. In Year 3, the children have been understanding about the role that the skeleton plays within their body. They had a fantastic time working in teams outside to use the school environment to creating skeletons. In Year 4, children produced a brilliant experiment when learning all about the digestive system. To demonstrate the digestive system, the children created an experiment using tights (small intestine), a plastic bag (stomach), orange juice (stomach acid), water (saliva), and a cup (large intestine). They wrote up the experiment and completed a pop up model of a digestive system to explain how it works.



Year 5 and 6

The children have been really enjoying developing their understanding of Bristol and specifically the slave trade. As historians, within their learning journey, the children have been showing great knowledge and understanding of how slaves were treated during the Middle Passage and when they were working on plantations. They have been using a tremendous amount of research to embed knowledge and understanding by using different sources and have been considering the reliability of these. The children have been working on understanding the role of ports in the slave trade. Within this, the children have discovered how Bristol harbour has changed. Finishing off the unit of learning, the children focused on famous Bristolians who were involved in the slave trade and why the legacy of the slave trade is complex.



Top: A pupil displaying her work whilst studying Bristol landmarks.

Middle: Pupils investigating the digestive system.

Bottom: An example of the human skeleton created by resources from the school field.

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Can't stop me zooming at 1st Little Stoke Scouts

The start of a new term saw all the sections continuing with an online program. These sessions have been a brilliant way for all the members involved in Scouting to get together, share their experiences and love of Scouting.

The Beaver section have continued to work hard on achieving a wide variety of badges and thoroughly enjoyed their online zoom session with the local astronomer, the 45 minute session whizzed by and after an hour the Beavers were still really enjoying themselves and learning all about the world around them.

As they move towards Christmas they are looking forward to an online bingo session and a zoom Christmas party.



The Cub section have been extremely busy this term, new leaders Elaine and Aimee have planned a busy program, aiming to award over 10 different badges. The Cubs started the term working towards the Local Knowledge badge and the International badge. The Cubs really enjoyed making their own compasses, learning to map read and learning about different countries around the world. Each cub then selected their own country and found out a few facts about the country presenting it to the other cubs. The cubs then each painted a rock with a country's flag on. These rocks will be displayed in the Little Stoke Scout Hut for everyone to enjoy.

The Cubs have also been focusing on different celebrations, they learnt all about Harvest and made scarecrows, they recently learnt about Halloween and the Day of the Dead, during the session they made paper skulls and milk carton ghosts.

The Scout section launched this term with the extremely exciting and popular 'Escape room'. The Scouts demonstrated their skills of collaboration and problem solving to escape from the Scout hut as quickly as possible. Both teams made it out successfully, with one team escaping with seconds to spare. Leader Simon then organised a nail biting 'Who dares wins' style quiz. During which each Scout was challenged to write down as many items matching the question as possible in 60 seconds. This session was extremely high paced and exciting with the Scouts fighting it out to list more things than each other. The Scouts demonstrated a wide range of knowledge, with one Scout able to name 8 local train stations in Bristol and another recalling 10 Rivers of the world.

As we look towards Christmas all the sections are trying to organise the best way to celebrate as a group, while being apart.

1st Little Stoke now have an exciting website, recently updated by Beaver leader Gemma.

<http://1stlittlestokescouts.org.uk>

If you would like any more information on getting involved with 1st Little Stoke Scout Group, please use the contact forms on the website alternatively you can contact Group Scout Leader Tony Edmonds by email tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com



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OFSTED November 2019

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If you are unable to make the dates/times above, please contact us and we will find an alternative time to show you around.

A warm welcome awaits at Field House Nursing Home

Field House is a 55 room Nursing Home in Blakeney Road, Horfield. They are part of the Bristol Care Homes Group, a small group of four nursing homes in and around Bristol, well known locally for high standards and good quality care.

Field House has a 'Good' rating from the CQC, and are working hard to keep developing this - aiming towards an 'Outstanding' rating, which two of the homes in the group already have.

They strongly believe in delivering high quality care in a holistic way, which means they look after the mind and spirit as well as the body. Bristol Care Homes focus as much on social engagement, activities and well-being as on the physical needs of their residents.

Bristol Care Homes ensure that every aspect of the care they deliver is of a high standard. This

includes the building itself, the food they cook, the care they deliver and daily life in the home. Bristol Care Homes has a varied menu created by top chefs from the choices their residents make. Their care plans are tailored to each individual. This is put together with the resident when they are admitted and reviewed regularly to ensure they keep up with any changes needed. Daily life in the home is socially engaging with an activities schedule which is based on the wishes of the residents. They have individual activity sessions and group activities for everyone to enjoy and make sure everyone lives a safe and fulfilling life at Field House.

They would love to hear from you and would be very happy to give you a virtual tour of the home. To find out more, call **0117 969 0990** or visit **bristolcarehomes.co.uk**



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"Field House remains a place of happy daily life and excellent nursing care."

Dee, Nurse Manager



Field House



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Please go to our website, www.hannahsmusic.co.uk - if there is anything you need, get in touch, we can send out to you.



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For lessons on - piano, keyboard, flute, clarinet, saxophone, ukulele, drums & bass guitar or to book the

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The dog ate my tax return....! by Lisa Entwistle

If you had any other income in the tax year to 5 April 2020 aside from pensions or PAYE (where taxes are deducted automatically by an employer) then it is highly likely that you will need to complete a self-assessment tax return and file it online by 31 January 2021.

By this date, HMRC expect not only to receive your tax return but also payment in full of any tax due. While that deadline may seem like a lifetime away right now, don't forget there's the small matter of the festive frivolities to contend with between now and then... On which note, 2019 was a record-breaking year for taxpayers filing their self-assessments on Christmas Day itself, with over 3000 successful submissions... 248 of which were actually filed before 8am, while the rest of us were only just ripping off wrapping paper and pouring our breakfast Bucks Fizz!!!

So, to avoid feverishly gathering paperwork over the festive period in a bid to avoid the automatic £100 late filing penalty, our advice is always to get your return in as early as possible, the advantage being that you will then know the exact amount of tax you need to pay - and if paying that sum might cause you any financial hardship, especially in the current Covid-clouded climate, then you still have time to

consider your options. As part of the government's Winter Economy Plan, the Chancellor advised that self-assessment taxpayers may defer tax due on 31 January 2021 for up to 12 months via HMRC's Time to Pay scheme, meaning you can pay tax due in smaller instalments to reduce the impact on your day-to-day cashflow.

But while deferring payment is an option, delaying filing the return itself by 31 January 2021 is not - and when it comes to excuses on that front, HMRC have pretty much heard it all - from late filing 'because my mother-in-law is a witch and put a curse on me' or 'I'm too short to reach the post-box' to the taxpayer who tried to claim pet food for his guard dog - a fearsome Shih Tzu, no less (I kid you not) - as a tax-deductible expense.

So unless you want to feature prominently in HMRC's classic annual 'Top 10 Worst Late Filing Excuses' (which let's face it, is hardly a BAFTA nomination) then it's time to start thinking about tackling that tax return paperwork pile - and we're here for any advice you need in that regard.



Lisa Entwistle is a Partner at Evans Entwistle, a practice of Chartered Management Accountants & Tax Advisors at 432 Gloucester Road.

A little reminder!

The self-assessment tax return
filing deadline is 31 January 2021

As a local practice of CIMA Chartered Management Accountants and Tax Advisors, we can assist you to minimise your tax liabilities, however simple or complex your affairs may be. Contact us today to arrange a free no obligation consultation

EvansEntwistle

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Who We Are

Established in Bristol in 1973, Henriques Griffiths are a community-focused law firm with over 45 years' experience helping our clients plan for the future. With offices in central Bristol and Winterbourne we aim to deliver excellent legal services within the local community.

Estate Administration

When a friend or family member dies, it can be a very distressing time. We have years of experience in applying for Probate and administering estates. Let us guide you through this difficult time. We can handle every aspect of the estate administration process on your behalf, including completing the Inheritance Tax return, obtaining the Grant of Probate and ultimately distributing the estate to the Beneficiaries:

- **No obligation** initial consultation
- **A direct line** with a specialist member of our team
- **Regular updates** on the progress of your case

Wills and Inheritance Tax

Without a valid Will, you risk your property being distributed according to the Rules of Intestacy, which may be completely at odds with your wishes. We offer practical legal advice, ensuring your final wishes are accurately recorded, your assets safeguarded, and your interests protected.

We can also assist you with Inheritance Tax planning, ensuring you understand and take advantage of the available Inheritance Tax allowances to preserve as much of your wealth as possible so it can be passed down to the next generation.

Pricing: standard Wills start from **£180 +VAT** or **£300 +VAT** for a mirror Will (for a couple).

Lasting Powers of Attorney

It can be difficult to imagine not having full mental capacity to make decisions for yourself, but many people do lose the ability to run their day to day lives and have to rely on others to manage their affairs. A Lasting Power of Attorney allows you to choose a trusted person to help you manage your finances and/or health and welfare if you become unable to do so in the future. We are highly experienced in supporting individuals and their loved ones with the issues surrounding mental capacity and can assist with drawing up a Lasting Power of Attorney and registering the same with the Court.

Pricing:

- 1 LPA: **£450 +VAT**
- 2 LPAs: **£650 + VAT**
- 4 LPAs: **£950 +VAT**

Disputed Wills

Nowadays disputes about a deceased person's final wishes are common amongst grieving loved ones. We'll provide sensitive and practical advice and help you resolve the matter as quickly and amicably as possible.

Get in touch to arrange your no obligation initial consultation



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Lasting Power of Attorney

It's never a pleasant thought to think about getting older and what comes with it. Most of us are guilty of forever trying to avoid the wrinkles and grey hair by investing in the next beauty trend. All the while we do not consider what may be ageing on the inside.

It is not uncommon that as we get older, our ability to make our own decisions in life may become harder or impossible for reasons of mental or physical decline. Many of us do not want to consider what would happen if we did not have the capacity to make decisions about our affairs ourselves.

This is why arranging a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is part of good planning and safeguarding against such eventuality.


An LPA gives your 'attorney(s)', a person of your choice over the age of 18, the authority to make decisions about your health and welfare and/or your property and financial affairs on your behalf. You can choose to create one for finance only or for health as well or both LPAs and appoint the same people or different people under each power.

The cost per LPA for registration at the court is £82 and the process can be relatively straightforward if you are familiar with the government website and do not have specific preferences as to how or when decisions are made.

It is important that you are aware of the significant power under an LPA. Unless you state to the contrary, your attorneys can be in full control of your health and living arrangements and also be able to give (limited) gifts on your behalf to relatives, friends, charities.

If you have significant assets or detailed wishes on your care as you get older it would be best to seek legal advice and ensure your best interests are protected, and any wishes you have are followed.

For example, if you have a managed share portfolio, or if your attorneys may wish to



invest your funds in one in the future, it will be necessary to include specific power for your attorneys to delegate the management of your investments to a discretionary fund manager. You may also wish to provide your opinion on going into care and how you are to be looked after. These can be as explicit as what you are to be fed to whether you wish to be resuscitated.

Alternatively, if you have particular health issues where certain medication or a certain diet that you have adopted ensures that you are comfortable. Then this would be an example of specific details that would be essential in adding to your LPA.

In summary, if your independence and decision making ability is important to you, consider taking professional advice to complete an LPA formally appointing those people that you feel are suitable to manage your affairs if you are not able to do so, and to ensure that any wishes or instructions you have are clearly laid out and followed.

For further advice on Lasting Powers of Attorney, the administration of estates, and Wills and other private client matters, contact us on 0117 962 1205 or info@amdsolicitors.com

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WILLOW BROOK
BRADLEY STOKE SHOPPING



Harvester



COSTA

GREGGS



Domino's



Bradley Stoke Town FC have had a busy start to the season.

The club launched its first ever fifth team into the Bristol & Suburban league and it has been going well. With lots of new faces to the club, it has been an enjoyable start to the season.

Due to national lockdown restrictions football has now stopped again for the next month. Within the two months of the 2020/21 season, we have seen all five teams compete in 33 games. Some good results, some not so good results.

Current standings

- Bradley Stoke 1st – 5th
- Bradley Stoke Res – 6th
- Bradley Stoke A – 4th
- Bradley Stoke B – 9th
- Bradley Stoke C – 11th

John Welsh has seen his first team get back to winning ways after the last two back to back wins with clean sheets. The start of the season hasn't been so rosy due to injuries and unavailability; however, the first team have bounced back and look forward to climbing the table. The Firsts sit 4 points behind league leaders Wick who look to be in good form this season being yet to lose. With lockdown in progress, all players will be ready to go once sport is back up and running.

George Haskins and the Reserves have won 5 out of their 8 games. A strong start to the season. The top half of the Bristol & District division 1 is looking very tough already with 8 of the 15 teams already separated with a big gap in points. The Reserves still have 20 games to play in their promotion campaign.

Chris Evens, Manager of the A team, up until two weeks ago had a 100% win record this season, however Winterbourne and Shaftesbury put a stop to this. The A team have again started really strong this season and have played some fantastic football. It's looking to be A great season for Chris and his lads.

Ratib Ahmed's B team have had a mixed start to the season. The B team have won some very tough and challenging games already, although have also let some games slip away. The B team have a great team of talented footballers and will be looking to capitalise on games once they restart in December.

Kieron Jones made Bradley Stoke Town FC history by winning the club's first fifth team win against Bristol Phoenix Reserves, beating them 6-2 in a great game. Since then, the C team have only gone on to win one more game out of the 6, but there have been some extremely close games. The C team is still a very new team and are still finding their feet in the Bristol & Suburban Division 4. The C's look to take 3 more points home with them once the season restarts.

If you are free Saturdays and would like to spectate, our First, Reserve & Fifth (C) team play at Patchway Sports Centre and our Third (A) and Fourth (B) team play at the Jubilee Centre. All games until February are a 14:00 ko.

All our teams' fixtures can be found on our home page at www.bstfc.co.uk

If you are local to the area, and are the age of 18 and over and interested in playing football, please get in touch via our website, or contact via e-mail: bstfc2005@gmail.com as we are always on the lookout for new players.



Stoke Lane AFC

Enabling community participation in football for over forty years, chartered standard football club Stoke Lane was formed in 1979. Affiliated to the Gloucestershire Football Association, our core values are based on being a family oriented club - with over 20 teams playing local league football between the ages of 6 to adult – and helping players fulfil their footballing potential, grow in confidence and build team spirit in a safe and positive environment.

Home matches are split across our teams between Little Stoke Park & the Mike Gallivan Memorial Field on Little Stoke Lane and Scott Park in Patchway and a special thanks to the grounds team who keep our pitches as playable as possible all year.

We are always looking for new players across the age groups, so if you or your child is interested please contact our Club Secretary Steve Payne (07972 039413) who will put you in touch with the appropriate team manager and coaching team.

We are currently recruiting for a Girls team which will be managed by an FA Level 2 qualified coach with training and matches at the venues highlighted above. We are looking for girls in school years 5, 6 and 7 initially. If you're interested please contact Steve for more details.

Stoke Lane AFC on pause

At the time of writing it was with some disappointment although understandable that we have had to pause all football across our 22 teams in line with the latest Government guidelines. Regular readers to this column will recall the evolution for the club throughout the summer, adapting its operations across its squads from early July with no contact to something approaching normality from August.

Stoke Lane has regularly been seen as the benchmark in terms of creation of risk assessments and safe operation so much so that we have been able to share this with some of our fellow clubs. This has been led by our Assistant Secretary Steve Coward and the diligence of our Managers and Coaches in making Stoke Lane a Covid secure environment.

When we have the green light to resume we have a great foundation to be able to quickly adapt to

Stoke Lane Athletic A.F.C



Stoke Lane Athletic FC

whatever is required to ensure our young people can resume their football again with adherence and safety uppermost in our thoughts.

The season so far

Before the lockdown was announced we were fortunate that all teams were able to fulfil most of their matches with only one weekend's round of home matches postponed due to the weather. 129 games have been played across our 22 teams with the usual mixed bag of results, but it's fair to say that everyone was delighted to be back involved in the sport they love.

No child should go hungry

Following the news that the government were not supporting free school lunches for children across the October half term, the Stoke Lane AFC fundraising team swung into action. Inspired by Marcus Rashford's tireless efforts to ensure #nochildshouldgohungry, we kicked off our own campaign locally, spearheaded by our Head of Fundraising Siobhan Chorley. All of our teams and their families were urged to get in touch if they were struggling and Stoke Lane would provide a free packed lunch for their children. We accelerated this further by reaching out to community groups to support those who really need assistance and were honoured to provide meals to Brentry and Henbury Children's Centre during October half term. The



success of the campaign and good feeling it has brought to our club has seen us extend this into the Christmas holidays where amongst others, we will be working with Southern Brooks to help drive their Christmas appeal to bring toys and hampers to families in need.

Club Chairman John Underhill commented

"We're so proud to be doing this and having a positive impact on kids that just need that extra bit of support. The club are giving back to the community who we rely on throughout the year and it demonstrates that we really are a family oriented club. We've got 450 players and 22 teams and everyone is behind this."

A special thanks to Club President Ian Sweeten whose company Aspens, along with former Stoke Lane Manager Larry Steventon's company Enterprise Business Services for sponsoring our campaign.

If you would like to know more, please contact Siobhan directly (siobhans_78@hotmail.com), Club Secretary Steve Payne (on the number mentioned earlier) or via the Facebook page.

NEXT STOP THE CITY!!

Just as we were going to print the Club was delighted to learn that 2 of our former U13 players have been offered professional contracts with Bristol City! We wish Louis Sweeten and Cavali Walker all the best for the future.

Keep in touch ...

If you like what you've heard and want to keep tabs on us, follow us on Facebook:

Stoke Lane AFC Youth Football Club

Photo left: Club Chairman John Underhill and Siobhan Chorley at Brentry & Henbury Children's Centre

Photo above: Brentry & Henbury Children's Centre bagging up the Stoke Lane donations

Bradley Stoke Bowlers Win Cup at Thornbury



Michael Cove and Dennis Overton

The competition finals at Thornbury Indoor Bowls Club should have been played in March, but were delayed due to the Coronavirus outbreak. The Men's Pairs event was eventually played on the 11th October between Michael Cove and Dennis Overton, of Bradley Stoke Bowling Club, and their opponents David Quick and James Wood.

By the 15th (of the 21 ends played) the Bradley Stoke Players had a lead of 22 shots to 8. However, their opponents pressed hard to cut the score to 22 - 18 with three ends left. Eventually the Bradley Stoke team won 24-19 after a 3 hour game.

Dennis revealed after the game that, to avoid COVID exposure, he had not played bowls for seven months, and that having lost one of his bowls, he was playing with a borrowed set a size larger than usual!



Bradley Avenue: Winterbourne
Open 9.00am to 5.30pm Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri
Saturday 8.00am to 1.00pm
closed Wednesdays
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY



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

BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS

Beehive Baby and Toddler Group, The Old School Rooms, Stoke Gifford. Thursdays 10-11.30, term time only. Church office 0117 9692486.

Bright Sparks Toddler Group Monday afternoons 1-3pm term time only All new families welcome phone : 01454 615577

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 Bradley Stoke Library Mondays 10.45-11.15am 01454 868006 bradleystoke.library@southglos.gov.uk

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

North Bristol Twins Group - Fridays from 10-12 noon during term time (including half terms) at Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church £3 per family, northbristoltwinsgroup@googlemail.com northbristoltwinsgroup.co.uk

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

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 - 1st Little Stoke Scout Group, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. To enquire about your child joining or to volunteer call Tony Edmonds (Group Scout Leader) 07957880503, or email tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com

Bradley Stoke Book Club 'Bookaholics' meet at Soho Coffee in Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre on the 2nd Wed of each month at 7:30pm. Geoff Stobbart 07714 101354 geoffrey.stobbart@btinternet.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 every 2nd Monday in the Willowbrook Centre, 1st floor conference room at 7.30 pm 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 Rotary Club. Breakfast club meeting 4 Fridays per month, 7.15-7.30am start, 8.30am finish, Bristol Golf Club, Blackhorse Hill, Almondsbury, Bristol. BS10 7TP. Contact the Secretary rotarybradleystoke@gmail.com

Bradley Stoke Sew and So's - New members welcome! 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

Sevenside Ramblers - 'Friday Ambles' start in the Aldi car park on alternate Fridays at 10am. Weekend & evening walks -start in the Aztec West blue zone car park. Check site for details.www.sevenside-ramblers.org.uk

Stokes Art Group - All ability Painting Sessions held at Christ The King Church, Bradley Stoke Thursday mornings.

E: stokesart2@gmail.com
W: [stokesart0.wix.com](https://www.stokesart0.wix.com) [facebook.com/stokesartgroup](https://www.facebook.com/stokesartgroup)

Stokes Crafters - Every Thursday evening 7.30-9.30pm at Poplar Rooms, North Road, Stoke Gifford. £4 charge includes refreshments. Contact via Facebook page or Zoe Coggon - zoecoggon@gmail.com or 07815 662446

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 Gillian on 0779 0909 726 for further details.

Willowbrook Townswomen's Guild - Jubilee Centre – 7:30 – 9:30pm the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Ros Gallear - rosalindg@tiscali.co.uk

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 Janet 07845 744351.

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

Almondsbury and Bradley Stoke Tennis Club - Opportunities for all levels, inc pay and play lessons for all on Saturday mornings, no booking needed. [almondsburytennis.org.uk](http://www.almondsburytennis.org.uk)

Aretians Rugby Club for Cubs, Juniors and Seniors Station Road, Little Stoke www.aretiansrfc.co.uk

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.bsbc.webs.com.

Bradley Stoke Cricket Club - throughout the cricket season, we run 6 adult teams and five youth teams. All contacts are on our website at bradleystokecc.play-cricket.com

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 U12's 4.30pm-5.30pm, U14 and U16's 5.30pm-7.00pm. Please 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 - FA Charter Standard Community Club, Adult training, Tuesdays at Patchway Sports Centre. For more info visit www.bstfc.co.uk or contact bstfc2005@gmail.com

Bradley Stoke United Football Club - Football from U7's to U16's 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/northbristoljuniorsrfc/

North Bristol Running Group friendly group, 3 evenings per week, Tues, Weds, Thurs, in the Bradley Stoke area. Tuesday evening is aimed at Beginners whilst all levels are welcome on any of the evenings. Alan 0789 0182387. Find us on FB.

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

South Glos Hockey Club Trains Tuesday evenings at Bradley Stoke Community School 8pm-9.30pm with league games played on Saturdays and mixed on Sundays. <http://www.sghc.org.uk>, Facebook - South Gloucestershire Hockey Club

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 0117 9791807 or email sgsmbc@outlook.com.

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>

CHURCHES / COFFEE MORNINGS

Amberley Road Baptist / Cafe Church, Patchway, 01454 610808

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

Christ the King Church Mautravers 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.

Stoke Gifford Baptist Church 1, Rock Lane, 01454 610808





Sadly, this year's popular Mummies Play has had to be cancelled due to 'you know what'.

NOT TO BE ENTIRELY DEFEATED we have decided to still support our charity 'Pauls Place' again this year by producing a film which we performed in our local, The Cross Hands.

The film can be seen via a 'Just Giving' YouTube link which we hope you will support.

The proceeds will make an enormous difference and allow them to continue with their wonderful work.

To view, simply click on

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wdbm

The Winterbourne Down Christmas Boys will miss performing after 40 years of keeping up this annual tradition!

We wish all our followers and friends a Merry Christmas in the circumstances and what must surely be followed by a better New Year!

Winterbourn Down
Mummies Play
Boxing Day
The Christmas Boys
&
Morris Dancers

Cancelled

Go to our "Just Giving Page"
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wdbm

to see our
 "Youtube" film



1st Stoke Gifford Scout Group are (were!) back to face-to-face meetings

At the start of October the beavers, cubs and scouts from 1st Stoke Gifford were finally able to meet up face to face. Since the lockdown many of the sections have been working hard to keep the young members involved in scouting but there's nothing like meeting up in person.

The Old School Rooms Scouts, having completed 30+ zoom sessions, weekly challenges and camping at home, had their risk assessments signed off to meet up and took the opportunity to hike across to Wales and back across the Severn Bridge in three groups of no more than 15 scouts and up to 3 leaders per group. Having 41 scouts in the troop has made logistics difficult but, keeping socially distant outside and wearing masks inside, they've prepared a programme to cover sections of the scouts Gold Challenge Award.

The Old School Rooms helped facilitate the 3 groups meeting back up in the building and supplied antibacterial and alcohol based materials and a clean space to set up in. A great big thank you for all their help and support.

This has been a difficult time over lockdown but all the hard work behind the schemes has got us all back together. The OSR scouts have planned all the way up to Christmas, learning all about how good it is to have a healthy diet, lots of sleep and keep fit plus, on the flip side, how bad it is for our young bodies to get involved in alcohol, drugs and tobacco plus scouting skills and Xmas crafts.

The best bit was just being all back together - all the scouts have grown so much. Their smiles and excitement in being back was contagious and the hike across into Wales and back to Aust services was a great icebreaker and a chance to get used to their new groups.

Back inside the hall meant face masks, hand gels and social distancing but we managed and the scouts parents will be overjoyed at all the badges they have to sew on after all the things we did on zoom etc from April to October!

During the first session back in the hall we invested 3 new scouts into the troop then presented Ollie, Oliver and Emily with their Gold Chief Scouts Awards, socially distanced cake cutting and badge/ certificate presentations. The rest of the troop loved the cake and realising that

even in lockdown the 3 scouts managed to attain the highest award in the scout section was inspirational.



It's difficult playing games that involve no contact, especially when that's the bit the scouts enjoy the most but we found games that they used to play in beavers and cubs which seem to be a great alternative, splat, jump ball and wink murder to name but a few.

At the end of October 20 scouts braved the wet and windy weather to litter pick around the three parks in Stoke Gifford. They were joined at the start by local councillor Brian Allinson who thanked them on behalf of the residents.

Off up to the Trust Hall field first and an hour later with 2 full sacks of litter left by the bin area the scouts moved on to Meade park. At this park dodging the down pour they filled another sack full of rubbish left next to the bin at the carpark entrance then on to 40 Acres.

The heavens opened again but the scouts managed to fill another sack full of litter which they carried back to the OSR before meeting parents and making their way home. A great effort by all. The parks were quite clean of litter compared to previous years and that's a great thing really.

Big thank you to the council for donating the hoops, pickers, bags and gloves.

It sounds weird but everyone had a fab time and the scouts kept each other entertained and morale up during the session. Four full sacks of rubbish removed from the parks makes the village look tidier and shows the scouts aren't afraid of a bit of hard work.

Unfortunately, another lockdown in November is going to once again spoil our fun but at least we are all experts on Zoom now!

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 Teachers: Michelle Engley, Ellicks Close BStoke, 01454 866766, bowlandgreen.org.uk

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

Holy Trinity Primary School, Headteacher: Janet Dickson, Broad Croft BStoke, 01454 866735, holytrinity-pri-s-gloucs.sch.uk

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

Meadowbrook Primary School, Head Teacher: Nicola Bailey, Three Brooks Lane BStoke BS32 8TA, 01454 868630, meadowbrookprimary.co.uk

Stoke Lodge Primary School, Headteacher: Mr Will Ferris, School Close Bourton Avenue, Stoke Lodge, Patchway BS34 6DW 01454 866772

St Chad's Patchway C of E Primary School, Head Teacher Mrs Steph Jenkins, Cranham Drive, Stoke Lodge, Patchway 01454 866523

St. Marys R.C. Primary School, Acting Head Teacher: Mrs K Burden, Webbs Wood Lane BStoke, 01454 866390,

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

Wheatfield Primary School, Head Teacher: Phil Winterburn 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

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