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## Dear Readers....

Spring is on its way! We hope you all have been keeping safe and well; this latest lockdown does seem to be lasting forever and every day does feel a little like 'groundhog day' (which was officially 2nd February if anyone is interested!). Hopefully we shall have brighter news soon as the vaccine continues to roll out across our communities.

Connecting with nature is well documented to be good for our wellbeing and we are lucky to have some green spaces and woodland areas on our doorsteps to explore. In this issue we also bring you an article from the Avon Wildlife Trust, who have some ideas you can get involved with over the coming months.

We have caught up with some of our local schools again in this issue, and it is great to hear all the positive things that the children across the area are achieving, even in lockdown. The artwork is fantastic.

The Winterbourne Medieval Barn are always busy organising events for the whole community to enjoy, this has been tricky over recent months but they have a selection of activities lined up that will take place whether we are in lockdown or not.

There hasn't been any local sport taking place so far this year this year, but we bring you updates from our sponsored football team Bradley Stoke Town FC and also St Mary's Old Boys RFC, who both look forward to returning to sport as soon as we are all allowed.

There is much more besides, including my own plea for fundraising for Dementia UK (see overleaf)! Let's hope that we can all return to a little bit of normality soon. In the meantime, please stay safe and well and don't forget to let our advertisers know where you have seen them too!

Jaci x

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*Deadline for the April edition is 12th March.*

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## Easter Family Fun!

Keep your kids busy in the fresh air over the Easter holidays by joining in the hunt for some letters hidden in Easter eggs around Bradley Stoke.

Following a trail map, you will need to collect the letters displayed on each egg which will spell out an Easter message. Once you have solved the puzzle, return your trail map and enjoy a yummy chocolate egg. Each completed form will be entered into a prize draw to win even more Easter treats!!

All proceeds from the Easter egg hunt will be donated to The Brightwell in Bradley Stoke, a charity which provides therapies and support to local people living with neurological conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis, Fibromyalgia, Stroke, Chronic Fatigue and Cerebral Palsy.

After a very difficult year when all our events were cancelled owing to Covid-19, your support is greatly appreciated.

Trail maps will be available to download online at [www.thebrightwell.org.uk](http://www.thebrightwell.org.uk) from Monday 29th March.

For further information, please contact [claire.wingate@thebrightwell.org.uk](mailto:claire.wingate@thebrightwell.org.uk)

**BRADLEY STOKE**

# EASTER EGG HUNT

Fri 2nd April - Fri 16th April

Can you help the Easter Bunny find letters hidden in Easter eggs around Bradley Stoke to spell out an Easter message?

All proceeds from this event will support: **the brightwell**

Trail Maps £2 available online [www.thebrightwell.org.uk](http://www.thebrightwell.org.uk)

All completed trail forms will win a chocolate egg. Each entry will be put into a prize draw to win more Easter treats.

## #Walk1000 Miles

In our January/February edition of Bradley Stoke Matters, we shared the story of local 12 (now 13) year old Thom who last year walked 1000 miles raising funds for Ronald McDonald House in Bristol. If you didn't see it, you can read Thom's story via the on-line version of the magazine via [BradleyStokeMatters.co.uk](http://BradleyStokeMatters.co.uk).

As I put in the Editor's note at the end of the article, Thom really inspired me and I'm pleased to say that I signed up to complete the challenge in 2021. As I write this, half way through February, I have already completed 150 miles (which is about 150 miles further than I would usually walk)! Hopefully as the weather improves and the days get lighter (and fingers crossed we can walk a bit further afield than from our own front door!), my mileage will increase.

**For March I have signed up to walk 100 miles for Dementia UK.** This is a charity close to my heart, not just because none of us are getting any younger, but also because this horrid disease stole the last couple of years of my lovely Nan's life and I would love to see more progress being made into understanding more about Dementia and how we can defeat it.

If anybody would like to support me in my fundraising efforts, I have a fundraising page via facebook from which all proceeds go directly to the cause. It's a bit of a complicated link so I'm happy for anyone to contact me via the Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters facebook page and I can share the link that way too! <https://www.facebook.com/donate/257337942455362/>

Thank you!  
JaCi x



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# Easter GREATER LOVE

The unbelievable story of our rescue

It's an understatement to say that it's been a tough year! We've grown accustomed to regular news updates mentioning the 'C' word. The spread of a virus has led to Lockdown, isolation and wariness of others.

And yet there have been glimpses of good news. Stories of hope, sacrifice and rescue. Every day we are reminded of the key workers who staff our NHS, and serve us. Many of us will have received a 'hope filled' vaccine borne out of the amazing work of scientific research. And who could forget captain Tom and his charitable heroics in raising over £2million for the NHS.

One of the great sayings of Jesus is, "greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends" John 15:13. Every day I try to find a story of someone who lives life 'preferring the other'. A glimpse of good news.

The Easter story of Jesus' death & resurrection was the ultimate fulfilment of 'greater love'. Where we feel isolated, he became isolated. Where we feel separated from God, He became separated. Where we feel shame, He endured the shame of public crucifixion. Jesus took responsibility of laying down His life for His friends...us! Three days later the risen Jesus demonstrated that the 'laying down of His life' was not the final chapter.

In a painful, frustrating and sometimes cruel world, Jesus' words stand the test of time. Because He is alive, he offers His love in us. His love helps when we are confused, desperate, lonely, upset, angry or frustrated. Our life, His love, the preferred match.

Jesus' love is the ultimate, unconditional love. The greatest love of one who lay down his life for his friends. God's plan was always Jesus.

From the beginning of time, this incredible love was prophesied then delivered to end the tyranny of darkness. Jesus bore the sins of the world so that we may be forever loved and forgiven.

I'd say that was more than a 'glimpse' of good news!

God bless,

Revd Canon Simon Jones,  
Team Rector St Michael's Stoke Gifford

## Practising Silence for Lent - 4 sessions on zoom starting 7.30pm Thursday 4th March

Life can be busy. So busy that it is difficult to find space and time to pray. And when we do find the time, our minds can be so cluttered with Twitter feeds, distractions and to-do lists that the prospect of spending time in silence seems daunting. To help us during Lent, Tom will be holding 4 evening sessions on zoom. Whatever your spirituality or worshipping preference, chorus or choral, incense or stadium haze, hands clasped or hands aloft, the way of Jesus necessitates times of silence and solitude. This is an opportunity to learn together, develop simple ways to help us remain in a place of stillness, and ultimately deepen our relationship with God during Lent and beyond. See for more information on how to join in. [stmichaelsbristol.org/lent2021](http://stmichaelsbristol.org/lent2021)

### Maundy Thursday 1 April

Communion Online 7.30pm

### Good Friday 2 April

Good Friday Reflections Online 12pm

PLUS! Special online event for Children and Families  
- up to date info on the website

### Easter Day 4 April

Online services at  
9.00/10.30/17.00 and 18.30

[www.stmichaelsbristol.org/easter2021](http://www.stmichaelsbristol.org/easter2021)



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## Young Carers' Action Day: Protect young carers' futures

*Did you know that many local children and young people are caring for someone at home?*

Young carers are just kids, yet they care for someone at home who could not do without their help. The average age of a young carer is just 13 years old, and some are as young as 8.

**Local charity, Carers Support Centre, is raising awareness for Young Carers Action Day, which is on 16th March.** The charity supports young carers with assessments, one-to-one and family support, groups and activities. Young carers carry a heavy responsibility, caring for sick and disabled family members. They are often anxious, isolated and lonely; fall behind with school work and are bullied.

Local carer Tasha was supported by Carers Support Centre's young carers service when she was a young carer. She said: *"The support and respite were incredible, and everyone was so encouraging. Without Carers Support Centre, my life would have taken a completely different path. They gave me a voice and made me feel listened to. The charity gave a lot to me and I wanted to give back, so I now volunteer for the young carers service."*

## YOUNG CARERS ACTION DAY

16 MARCH 2021

Protect  
Young Carers'

This year, young carers want the day to be about their futures. They aim to highlight the incredible skills they have developed through being a carer – like resilience, time-management, organisational skills and empathy. These are all important skills, not just for young people moving into higher education – but also for those looking to enter the workplace. What's more, they are skills highly sought after by employers.

To mark Young Carers Action Day, Carers Support Centre is making a short film for local schools. In the film, those who were once young carers will share their experiences of caring and how they have achieved their goals. The films will highlight the skills of young carers, and inspire them to follow their aspirations.

If you know a young person who looks after someone at home, please visit the Carers Support Centre website to learn more about their services and how to make a young carer referral:

[www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk](http://www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk)

## Your Village Shop raises £500 for South West Dementia Brain Bank while continuing to delight customers with deliveries throughout lockdown

Your Village Shop is an independent shop based in Stoke Gifford Retirement Village. It was established in March 2020 by husband and wife Lucy & Richard who set out to create a dementia friendly community store.

During the first year the team and residents at Your Village Shop have already raised £500 for a charity based in Southmead Hospital that has missed out on donations during the pandemic. Lucy explains "South West Dementia Brain Bank carries out vital work to support worldwide research into Dementia and is a little known charity within our community; £500 will make a huge difference to them."

Your Village Shop continues to provide a delivery service to the local community which helps with their fundraising, Lucy tells us "One of the ways in which we have been raising funds for South West Dementia Brain Bank is through the sales of our delicious own brand products in hampers and gifts. Customers give us great feedback when we deliver to their families or to teachers and key workers as a thank you for their work."

If you would like to find out more about Your Village Shop visit their website [yourvillageshop.com](http://yourvillageshop.com) where you will find out about the range of products on offer and can order through their online shop. You can also find them on facebook @yourvillageshop



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## E-scooter rental expands to South Gloucestershire and new areas in North Bristol

**Residents in parts of South Gloucestershire, as well as new areas in North Bristol are able to use rental e-scooters to access essential work and services.**

Following the successful launch of the West of England e-scooter trial, the trial area for the 'hop-on hop-off' e-scooters is expanding to include Bradley Stoke, Stoke Gifford and Filton in South Gloucestershire.

While the lockdown is in place the e-scooter operator, Voi Technology, is offering free rides to NHS workers, emergency service personnel and the armed forces, providing these key workers with a green and socially distanced alternative to commute to and from work.

With the trial expansion, the numbers of scooters will increase to 400 in Bristol and 200 in South Gloucestershire, giving more residents access to a green and flexible way to move around the city.

Since launch, back in October 2020, there have been over 100,000 rides taken, and over 246,948km travelled in the region. Mayor of the West of England Tim Bowles said: *"The West of England has really embraced our e-scooter trial and I'm pleased that many more people will now have a chance to benefit from this low-carbon alternative to the car for short journeys to access essential work and services."*

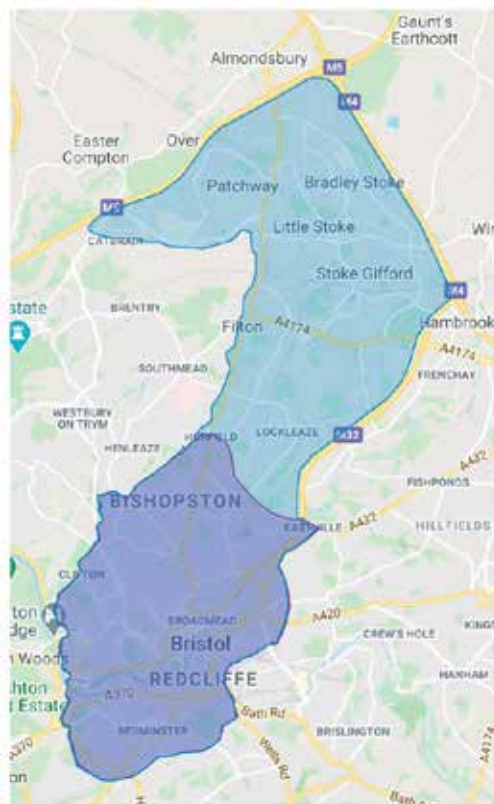
*"E-scooters are part of our transport plans for the region alongside metrobus, MetroWest rail network and plans for a regional mass transit, to make it easier to get to the jobs and training opportunities that will secure our recovery."*

E-scooters are available to unlock for £0.99 and cost 14p per minute. There are also various discounts available and passes for students, key workers, and those on low-incomes.

To unlock an e-scooter, riders can download the Voi app, (available for free on iOS and Android) must be 18 years old or over and have a valid UK provisional driving licence (full or provisional). Safety measures to protect riders against Covid-19 include equipping all handlebars with anti-bacterial tape and ensuring the vehicles are regularly disinfected.



The West of England Combined Authority has also recently introduced long-term e-scooter rentals that can be stored at home and used by residents across the whole of Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire giving unlimited access to cost-effective and socially distanced transport, within the entire geofenced WECA area.



Richard Corbett, Regional General Manager of UK, Ireland and Benelux for Voi, said:

*"It's a pleasure to continue to work with the West of England Combined Authority to continue to expand the number of scooters and operating areas in the region. As more people adopt this green mode of transport, ditching short-car journeys, we will certainly see improvements in congestion and in air quality in the region."*

The following rules and safety measures apply for the e-scooter trials:

- Only e-scooters that are hired or leased through the West of England's trial can be used legally on roads, cycle lanes or cycle tracks.
- E-scooters cannot be used on pavements or parked in a way that disrupts pedestrians or causes nuisance.
- Using GPS technology, there will be no-ride zones and slow-speed zones for some areas.
- All e-scooters will have clear number plates to help identify riders.
- Driving licence and identity checks will be required.
- Voi ambassadors will be present on the streets to enforce safe behaviour.
- Ambassadors will work with Avon and Somerset Police to restrict or ban non-compliant users.
- Privately owned e-scooters remain illegal to use on roads, pavements, parks and any other areas. The only place that privately owned e-scooters can legally be used is on private land with the permission of the landowner.

The trial forms part of the West of England's £28m plans for a Future Transport Zone in the region that will improve access to public transport for local communities through trialling innovative new transport technologies.

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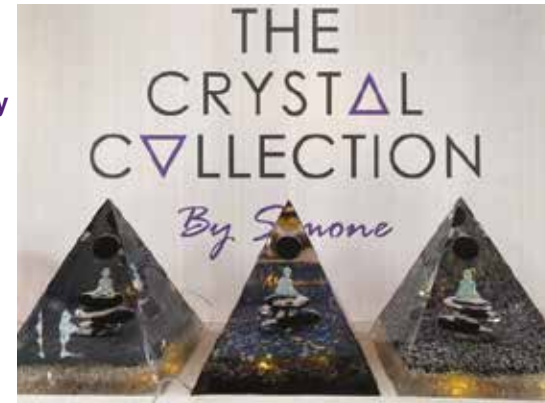
Creator of all things beautiful, with the added bonus of feel good energy, Simone Jones has innovated a handmade small business called 'The Crystal Collection by Simone'. Previously the proprietor a holistic spiritual centre and gift shop 'Love & Light' in Chepstow, Simone has been working as a Psychic Medium for over twenty years and is an Ordained Minister to boot; running her own popular spiritual church. Reiki Master and Teacher Simone brings a wealth of healing experience to her business.

"I wanted to be able to reach out to as many people as I could, to help them find a peaceful and harmonious space at home and to lift their mood on an everyday basis. I came up with the idea to make Reiki Candles, handmade candles infused with this relaxing, harmonious energy. This idea has grown over the years to incorporate crystals. More recently I found out about the powerful energy cleanser Orgonite and have been making beautiful handcrafted items filled with healing crystals inside pyramids, hearts, merkabas and even light up crystal embedded signs to have at your desk and around the home to balance out the energies. I am happy to make- to-order and have made beautiful pyramids with Buddhas and even dolphins encased inside them. The feedback I get is wonderful."

Simone is excited at the launch of her new range 'The Zodiac Collection'. These candles are scented with a sacred scent Nag Champa and are embedded with birthstones for each month of the

**'I can't thank Simone enough for the beautiful protection orgonite pyramid that she has made for me. This pyramid is particularly special because it has some of my Dad's ashes in. Thank you so much for making sure that this was here for Christmas'.**

**A recent review for a memorial light up pyramid**



zodiac. They arrive in a beautiful giftbox and make a wonderful birthday gift.

As an Ordained Minister and Medium, Simone wanted to create keepsakes for people who have lost loved ones. She has been incorporating her handmade pyramids, hearts and merkabas into memorials incorporating cremation ashes. This is a bespoke service and she will create with you to find

the perfect remembrance of loved ones to keep forever. She says the reviews she has had so far are heartwarming and she is so pleased to be able to support her customers in this special way; her most recent piece being a beloved dog's ashes encased in a heart.

There is something for everyone in her online shop from chakra balancing candles and pyramids, to feather and Wicca handmade plates; gifts small and large to suit any pocket.

Visit <https://thecrystalcollectionbysimone.co.uk> for all the details including a video all about Orgonite and how Simone makes these beautiful gifts. You can also find her on Facebook or Instagram where she often has surprise giveaways and competitions to win items from her range.



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

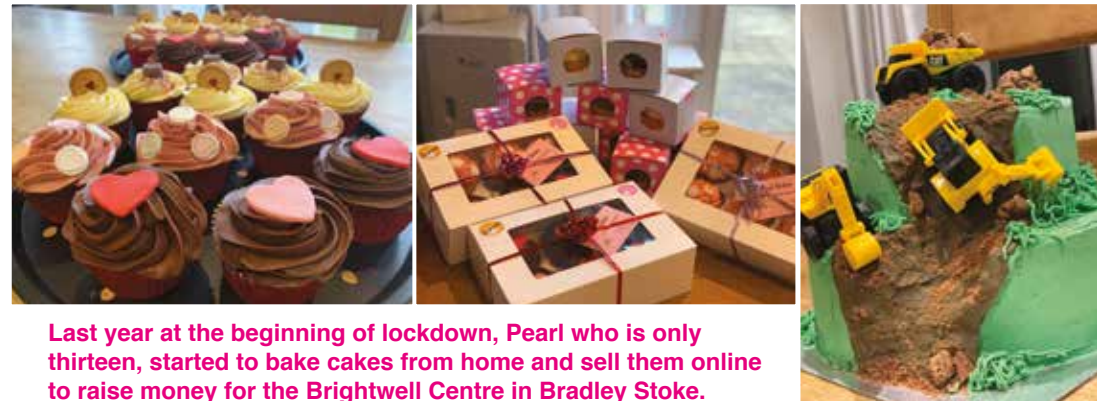


# Sparkling Sunday Lunch & Afternoon Teas

Afternoon teas 7 days a week and Sparkling Sunday Lunch on Sundays are being served in our Curious Kitchen and on our al fresco terrace. Afternoon teas and children's afternoon teas available at £24 for adults and £14 for children. Sunday Lunch is £27 for 3 courses.

For more information or to book call the events team on 01454 201090 or email [events@aztechotelbristol.co.uk](mailto:events@aztechotelbristol.co.uk) or visit [aztechotelbristol.co.uk/food-drink](http://aztechotelbristol.co.uk/food-drink)

Subject to availability. Afternoon tea is pre paid at time of booking.



**Last year at the beginning of lockdown, Pearl who is only thirteen, started to bake cakes from home and sell them online to raise money for the Brightwell Centre in Bradley Stoke.**

Each month Pearl posted a menu on local Facebook pages and people ordered from her - since May 2020 she has baked over three hundred cakes and for the 100th, 200th and 300th order she gave away a free cake. For her fundraising Pearl baked coffee cakes, Victoria sponges, chocolate cakes, chocolate brownies, sausage rolls, cheese and onion pasties, cupcakes, scones with jam portions, cinnamon rolls and lemon drizzle cakes and made two different types of crumble using homegrown fruit.

To end the year, Pearl made a lot of Christmas themed cakes ranging from Christmas cupcakes, chocolate Bundt cakes and Christmas pudding cakes.

In total Pearl was able to raise £800 for the Brightwell Centre which when gifted was a total of £1000! She has decided to continue baking cakes again this year and has chosen the Brightwell Centre again as a charity that she would like to support, with the hope of beating last year's total.

Pearl now has her own website which showcases the cakes she has made for fundraising, celebrations and competitions that she has entered, as well as details of how you can contact her for an order - [www.pearlbakes.com](http://www.pearlbakes.com).

She can also be found on Facebook **Pearl Bakes** and you can also message her mum on **07779 025 082** if you would like to order a cake.

Pearl is currently taking orders for Mother's Day and has a selection of cakes available which can be found on her Facebook page and her 'monthly menu' page on her website. 50% of all profits will be given to charity.

## Pearl Bakes

### Mother's Day

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It's been a great five years but now I would like to retire and start my house renovation project.



## Struggling with life? Receive some online support

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

As we fast approach a year of living with a pandemic and all the detrimental effects this has on our lives, it is no wonder there is a general sense of exhaustion as a nation. For some, the emotional impact goes beyond tiredness and they are struggling to get through this time. If this is you, or a friend or family member that needs help, get in touch with local therapist Dawn Clode who is well equipped to help.

I have visited Dawn for many years now to receive treatment for back and shoulder problems but her skills go far beyond delivering physical treatments that are not available at this time.

Dawn is an excellent listener and inspirator. She can deliver emotional healing via zoom. Techniques she can teach include –

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- Business & Life Coaching
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Dawn told us,

**"It is my job, and privilege to support you in your journey to wellness in every way I can. It is my aim by working together we can ensure you become the best you possibly can be in Mind, Body and Soul!"**



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.

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





## Little Stoke Scout Group look forward to a post covid world

The last year has been a difficult time for all of us and that has included youth organisations such as Scouting who have been unable to meet face to face for nearly a year. The group have been meeting via Zoom and this has provided contact between leaders and young people. Whilst we have maintained contact the boys and girls have missed out on so much normal Scouting including Camps, Sleepovers and exciting activities that are highlights of their young lives.

Little Stoke Scout Group now looks forward to restarting face to face Scouting as soon as is prudent and allowed. This cannot come too soon for all of the children.

During the lockdowns of the last year our waiting list of young people wishing to join have continued to grow. We have boys and girls wishing to join Beavers (5.9 years to 8 years), Cubs (8-10 years), and Scouts (10-14 years). The only thing that prevents us letting them join is us not having enough volunteer leaders to help them with our programme of activities.

Our leaders are ordinary people who do an extraordinary job of helping young people reach

their full potential. Currently we have leaders who come from a wide range of backgrounds, these include a Transport Manager, Building Site Manager, Police Officer, Teacher, Pharmacist, Teaching Assistant, Accountant, MOD workers and a Uniform Maker.



We are now offering places to all children in all of the sections if a parent is willing to come along with them and join our leadership team. This means helping run the evenings and activities, currently when permitted Beavers meet on a Tuesday evening 5.45pm until 6.45pm. Cubs on a Wednesday evening 6.45 until 8.15pm, and Scouts on a Tuesday evening 7.00pm until 9.00pm.

We are a friendly group of individuals and full training will be offered along with uniform. Scouting will not cost you anything to be involved but will add a huge amount to you and your children's lives.

**As our Chief Scout Bear Grylls says "What Scouting says to people is: Every child has a right to have an adventure. Life is about grabbing opportunities"**

If you think you can help young people enjoy all that Scouting offers please contact Tony Edmonds Group Scout Leader to learn more. [tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyedmonds108@yahoo.com) or telephone 07957 880 503.

Applications are welcome from all from 18 years to 108 years, everybody is welcome and those with children can avoid their children having to join our long waiting list. You do not have to help in the section in which your children join if that is your preference.

**This is a great opportunity to get involved with an organisation that will change your and your child's life for the better. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you into the Scouting family.**



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# Keeping the show on the road

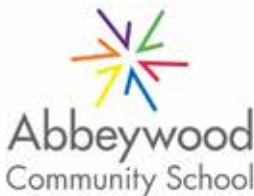
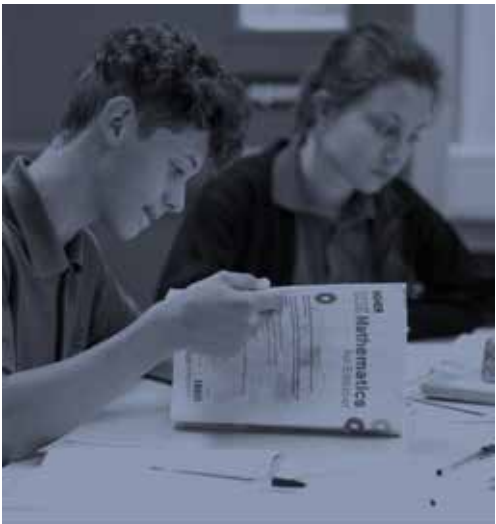
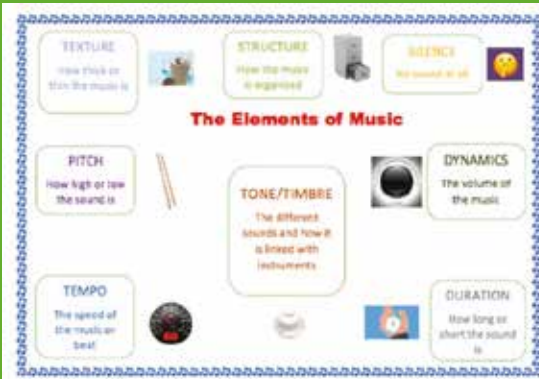
**Dave Howe, Head Teacher, Abbeywood Community School**

Since the start of this year we have been in a third period of national lockdown and the second time where schools have been closed to everyone except the children of key workers or vulnerable students. This has meant that at Abbeywood Community School we have had around 900 students learning from home with another 100 or so with us in school each day - a pattern replicated in the majority of schools up and down the country since the start of the new year.

What has been astonishing yet again is the resilience shown by our staff and students in so readily adapting their daily routines to remote learning and quickly upskilling in the use of google classrooms. Our amazing teaching staff have run our full curriculum remotely, including assemblies, tutorials and PE lessons, along with lessons in all other subjects. While globally this has gone really well, we all agree it is no substitute for high-quality learning in school. Running alongside the curriculum has been weekly calls to every Abbeywood family as well as specific support for those in need. This help has included the school loaning out nearly 200 laptops to ensure all our students can access our online curriculum, as well as countless visits each week to support any of our families in need.

Throughout this term we have also set up a Covid-19 lateral-flow testing facility which has been successfully run by our wonderful Abbeywood Support Staff together with some kind volunteers from our local community. Again, it has been incredible how people have stepped up to play their part in helping us get through the pandemic.

It is acknowledged that we are not yet 'through the woods' as there feels like so much still to get through before we are able to reflect on the personal and collective impact of the past 12 months, but what is clear is that we will get through this together as our collective school community's resilience and spirit is stronger than ever.



*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.*

[@AbbeywoodSchool](#)  
[@AbbeywoodSchool](#)

For more information visit:  
[abbeywoodschool.com](http://abbeywoodschool.com)



## Introducing Michelle Hall, new Deputy Head at Abbeywood Community School

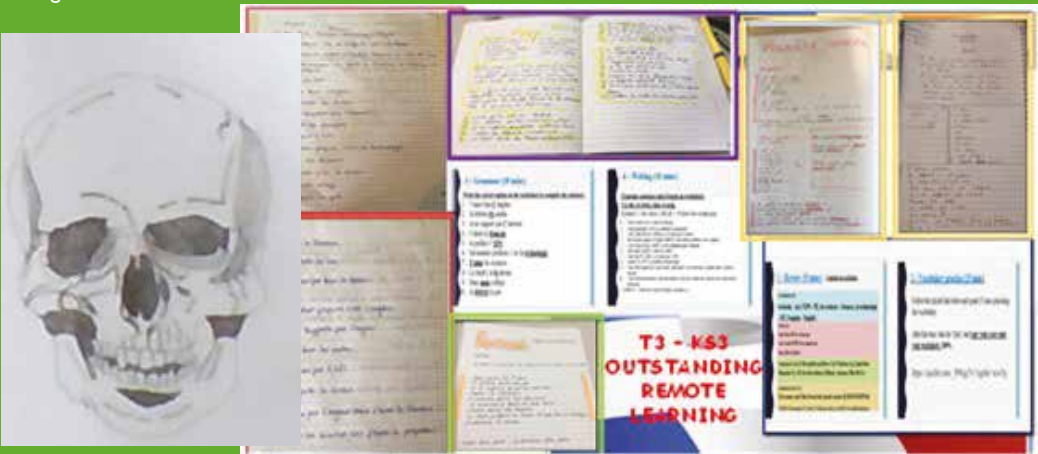
*"I am so thrilled to be taking this opportunity to introduce myself to you all at Abbeywood!"*

*I've worked within the Olympus Trust for the past 15 years (in numerous guises!), so I'm starting at Abbeywood from the perspective of someone who has been involved with many aspects of life at the school throughout the years, so I am familiar with the values and the vision of the school.*

*My background is as an English teacher – before being a head of department and then leading on teaching and learning across schools – and more recently for the entire Olympus Trust.*

*Teaching and learning is my absolute passion; I applied for the role because I was so impressed with the sense of community, camaraderie and forward thinking the school embodies and am really looking forward to working with students, parents and staff moving forward. I am excited to be welcoming back and getting to know the students either remotely, or as we plan to reintegrate students back into school. I'm also looking forward to meeting parents and carers of the students at Abbeywood.*

*I'm writing as a parent, who (like many of you) are navigating the perils of working from home, whilst simultaneously trying to supporting the learning and wellbeing of young people – which I know first-hand is not an easy feat! I do hope you had the opportunity to have some semblance of a relaxing half term and I look forward to being in post after Easter..."*





## View from Trench Lane, *Update from Steve Cooke, Chair, SMOB RFC* New Year Return to Rugby Delayed

Unsurprisingly there has been no Return to Rugby for St Mary's as the country continues to battle COVID and we all face understandable restrictions on our usual activities. At the time of writing, we are looking forward to hearing from the Prime Minister and his advisors on what the roadmap out of this current lockdown will look like.

It seems that one of the first activities that will be allowed, alongside or shortly after a return to school for all our young people, will be a return to training and playing of outdoor sports. This will be a great relief to our players, and also I expect, to the Mums and Dads who have been challenged to keep those in our Mini and Junior age groups (6-16) fit and healthy, both physically and mentally.

We should not underestimate the impact not being able to play with friends has on our young people and rest assured that St Mary's will be open for training and playing as soon as the government decides it is safe to do.

Hopefully it will not be long before we are able to play rugby and to help remember the better times, here's our O2 Touch team in the sunshine. For those of you wanting a new challenge – the O2 Group is a great way to socialise and have fun playing touch rugby to music. The St Mary's O2 touch team is always welcoming to new recruits – the games mix women and men, girls and boys of all abilities and is a fun non-contact version of Rugby.



**O2 Touch: Joanne Winter:** [joannewinter88@googlemail.com](mailto:joannewinter88@googlemail.com)



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## Scouting in Stoke Gifford's OSR troop isn't just fun and games



Since the start of the New Year where we were all hoping for a change to 2020 and more face to face scouting, we shouldn't have been too surprised when the government announced a third lockdown. The scouts in the Old School Rooms Troop quickly changed their program and once again started up zoom sessions but this time instead of just fun and games they've thrown in some activity badges and outside speakers to keep the scouts records ticking over.

Photography and local knowledge went together well and the scouts and their families loved getting out into the fresh air, learning new cut throughs and digitally photographing some of the better known local landmarks.

Then came the chef badge - we all need to eat of course so the scouts cooked up a three course meal for their families which all went down very well.

The leaders threw in the RSPB big bird watch weekend, the countryside charity Star Count and an evening of escape rooms for the scouts as well as the hobbies badge before spending an evening with a volunteer from the Julian Trust who explained why the charity is needed and why people sleep rough. This led up to the troop sleeping in their own gardens at near freezing temperatures with a cardboard box shelter to keep them warm and dry (ish). The scouts love sleeping out and this gave them a taste of just what a homeless person has to go through each night out under the stars.

Still to come as we approach the end of this term is an evening with a weather girl teaching them all about the meteorologist activity badge plus Swedish pancakes and the scouts entertainer and artist badges.

As always we are keeping busy but really looking forward to getting back together at the Old School Rooms and keeping our hopes up that we may be able to do some camping in the summer.





## Back to School...Minus the Students!

*By Bonnie, school dog at Abbeywood Community School*

As you know, myself and Jake love coming into school every week so our lovely Paw Leaders, Miss Land and Mrs Harding, didn't want us to miss out on all fun whilst the majority of students are remote learning!

Jake has been attending school every Wednesday and I have been attending school every Friday. We love walking up the path to school and it is so great to see some students smiling and waving at us as we enter the building!



Our days currently look a bit different... we no longer do our Duty first thing in the morning, instead, we patrol the corridors to make sure everyone is doing ok and the students are keeping to their correct bubble classrooms. We spend the majority of our time in Inclusion classrooms where we love to visit students and support them in their learning. It is great to see how quickly motivation to succeed and work cooperatively on Google Meet lessons increases when we are around. I know the teachers are very grateful for this too!

We have been known to attend Reward sessions too – this is where students, if they've worked very hard, can do a creative activity or play board games. I played Uno with some students last week – I wasn't too good at it but I did enjoy my numerous hugs and strokes!

Not only are we brilliant at supporting students, we are also fantastic at supporting staff too. Jake has enjoyed his walks with Mr Howe and lots of the lovely Office staff and I particularly love my cuddles from Mrs Lopeman, Miss Jones and Miss Driscoll. An animal can really do wonders for wellbeing and it is so brilliant to see staff benefit from K9@ACS too.

Whilst we are loving our time in school, we are super excited to see more students when we return to school! We are ready and waiting for you and can't wait to see you all very soon :)



## Ambourne House Day Nursery & Preschool

### We are Open!

It was so exciting to re-open our doors last summer and welcome our children back to their familiar nursery setting. We were very pleased that 99% of families were happy for their children to be able to come back and join us in our Risk Assessed, Covid-safe setting.

There are so many benefits to your child coming back to nursery, such as helping to build vital social skills, giving them a routine and restoring a sense of normality by being able to come in and see their friends once again and just have fun!

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.

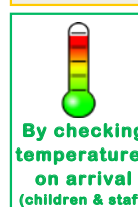
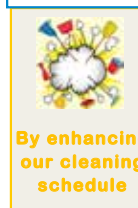
We are proud to be a Montessori nursery. Montessori is a child led form of education; the materials are specifically designed to meet each of the children's developmental needs and interests and they have full access to the Montessori equipment throughout the whole day at their leisure or within a planned activity.

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 believe we provide children with the best start in life!*

**If you are interested in your child joining in the fun at Ambourne House, you are very welcome to come and see us. We are only holding visits for new parents by prior arrangement in the present circumstances, so please just give us a call on 01454 615352 and we can arrange a time for you to safely come in.**

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## All change at Holy Family School!

On April 1st, I will be retiring from the Headship at Holy Family School.



I have been teaching since 1986, pre National Curriculum, SATs and Ofsted! I have had a wonderful time at Holy Family, working with some amazing children and great staff and wish the school every success for the future.

The Governors have asked the children for some advice in seeking a new Headteacher and asked them the following questions: What qualities does the Headteacher of Holy Family need? What does a new Headteacher need to know about Holy Family School?

Here are some of the responses from the pupils:

### What qualities does the Headteacher of Holy Family School need?

*Smiley, nice, friendly, listens to us, kind, hard-working, caring, says Good Morning to everyone, helps us when we need it, reads us stories, happy, keeps the whole school safe, protects the school, teaches us things, interested in the problems of others, knows Jesus, a hard-worker with a good heart and good qualifications, honest, sharing, a kind and happy person and she needs to wear a red dress and have yellow hair, they should bring happiness to the school.*



### What does a new Headteacher need to know about Holy Family School?

*We pray and love each other. We are all kind to each other, we take care of each other. My school is happy. My school is fun. My school is amazing. The school has great teachers. The school is happy, friendly, kind. We treat everyone equally. We learn all about God and Jesus and Joseph and Mary and the three Wise kings and the shepherds. They should know how old we are, and that we are all different.*

Some great responses that clearly show what is important to our children when they are at school. I hope that someone with a red dress applies!

**Dawn Summers-Breeze, Headteacher**

*Editor's Note: We wish Dawn a very happy retirement and would like to thank her for her interaction with us at Little Stoke Gifford Matters over many years.*



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## Lockdown Art at BSCS

by Laura Westgate, Head of Dept

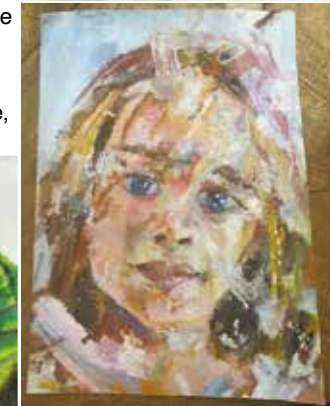
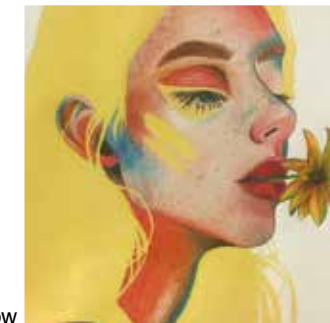
As lockdown was announced at Christmas we knew as a department we wanted to make sure our students were given the best experience possible. We wanted to make sure we could still provide opportunities for them to be creative, to record and observe as well as experiment with materials. We also knew that a lot of time was going to be spent on computer screens and that an hour away from a computer to complete some practical art work would be hugely beneficial to the wellbeing and mental health of our students, so we made a plan!

In the first week of the January term we prepared and sent out an Art pack to each of our year 7 and 8 students. In the pack was a printed booklet that contained resources for the whole term as well as some coloured reference images and a 2b pencil. We wanted to make sure every student had the equipment and resources to be successful.

We also organised resource packs for our year 10 and 11 students that were sent home, they included coloured photographs, images of Artist work and lots of cartridge paper and pencils to work with. Students were also given the opportunity to borrow paint and brushes and 100s of mini art packs have been made up and given out to students. Our GCSE textiles students have also had packs of resources sent home including fabric, wool, needles etc.

It is a critical time for our exam students as they are in their final stages of their coursework, we wanted to give them every opportunity to be successful so each student has been given a bespoke curriculum to follow each week and have each had an individual pack of resources sent home to support them with their learning.

As a department we are so impressed with our students. Despite everything going on in the world right now they are still turning in creative, unique and inspiring art work. We have been utilising social media to share some of the amazing work our students have been producing and have built up quite a following during this lock down in particular. If you would like to follow us, our Instagram account is **bscs\_\_art** (2 underscores!). We hope the work our young people are producing can brighten your day as much as it does ours!



**Editor's Note: The artwork produced is fantastic, I'm in awe of you all! It was very hard to pick just a few to include, these are a few favourites. Artists clockwise starting top left - Naomi, y8; Dheeya, y11; Kaitlyn y11; Amanda y11; Elle y11; Katie y11; Anja y13**





Pictured above:  
Key Stage 1 Critical Worker bubble working collaboratively to build a den  
Year 6 challenge – paint or draw a picture of a mammal. Painting by Max

## Lockdown Update from Elm Park

by Mrs Carol Bond – Head Teacher

On Monday 4th January, my staff and I began our INSET day with a great deal of excitement. The plans were set in place for our children to return for the start of a hopeful new year. At 8pm, we sat and listened to the latest update, hearing the news that many had feared – schools were closed.

As a team, we felt a mixture of emotions but one thing was certain. We were ready! Our remote learning offer had been ready since September, it had been shared with all of our families and had a successful test run when we closed a bubble during term 2. The Kindles we had purchased were charged and ready to support families without technology at home. The portable Wi-Fi was also ready for those families who required it. Our critical worker questionnaire was sent out to parents and our lessons began to be moved to our remote learning platforms – Seesaw and Tapestry. Teachers worked tirelessly to make adaptations, record lessons and prepare for live teaching during our morning meetings. Teaching Assistants set up Critical Worker bubbles to support our frontline workers and vulnerable families. Everything that we had planned began to slot together.

At the time of writing this, we have 70 children in total coming to our Critical Worker provision. This is roughly a third of our children on roll. All children, whether they are using the provision or remote learning, are accessing the same high quality provision. Learning continues to progress with all

planned learning for Term 3 being adapted to suit remote learning.

We have been thrilled with the feedback we have had from our families about how the changes we have made to our offer since the last lockdown have impact on their children's learning. Some of these changes include:

- online learning
- daily class meetings and live learning with teachers
- instant feedback and marking
- recorded lessons, delivered by the class teacher

Our kitchen staff have been incredible by continuing to provide meals for our Critical Worker provision and have also been supplying our families, who are eligible for free school meals, with fantastic food parcels, which include a variety fresh produce every week.

We have been able to ensure, where possible, that staff are able to work remotely, in keeping with the latest Government Guidelines. During a 'lockdown' school day, we have approximately 15 members of staff on the school site to ensure a smooth running of the critical worker provision, whilst the other 20 staff members work remotely.

We have been truly impressed with the incredible commitment our children have shown in completing their remote learning. It is wonderful to see, on a daily basis, the high quality writing, maths and connected curriculum learning taking place. We are grateful to all families for working with the school to support our children with this.

We have also been very blessed to be part of the wider community, that of the village of Winterbourne. We have received a laptop from a hospital matron and a mini iPad from another member of the local community to help us support our families with our learning offer. Additionally, we have also been very fortunate to work so closely with The Fromside Churches, who kindly donated £1,500 to our school to support families most in need.

As part of our plan for a hopeful 2021, we have set our families a challenge to spread a bit of cheer. As you take your daily exercise, please do look in people's windows to see if you can spot an Elm Leaf. It may be decorated and have an uplifting message to brighten your day from all at Elm Park.



## Little Stoke Primary School

We were pleased to hear from Mr Dan Ross (photo right), the new Head Teacher at Little Stoke Primary School, who was happy to share a little information with us as way of introduction to our community.

*"Despite these very challenge times, I am very proud and excited to be headteacher of Little Stoke Primary School."*

*I have seventeen years' experience of teaching and leadership across a variety of schools in Gloucestershire and Bristol, in Key Stages One and Two. Previous to this role, I was in the role of Assistant Principal at The Kingfisher School Bristol.*

*I am passionate about providing children with a wide range of opportunities so that all pupils are able to thrive. I was drawn to the role at Little Stoke Primary School because of the incredible opportunities the school can offer with its amazing site, superb staff team and supportive community around the school. During the pandemic education has had to make significant changes to the way it works with its community and, here at Little Stoke, the school vision of 'Dream, Plan, Achieve' has been seen in abundance. Staff and families alike have risen to the demands of this new way of working with so much resilience and the work produced both at home and school shows the community's unwavering commitment to achieve. Looking to the future, I am excited about leading the school to continue to build on the incredible work that has gone into making this school a place where "all children from all backgrounds are able to dream, plan and achieve."*

Mr Ross has been overwhelmed by the recent support from the community in response to the 'donate a laptop' appeal.

The laptops donated have made a real difference to the pupils in receipt of a device, who are now able to participate in the school's home learning provision. Now having the benefit such a device, children who were previously without can now participate in live teaching and respond to learning set by their teachers, who are then able to provide the children with feedback. The Friday celebration assembly has become a whole community event and the participation has been fantastic!

The children and families of the school have responded amazingly well despite the challenges that children learning at home presents. Staff have been so impressed with the work the children are completing at home, as you can see in these photos showing some of the year 3s who have been learning about the Romans!





## Are You Lonely? Are You Isolated?

Four Towns Community Transport was founded in 1999 and merged with Vale Link Community Transport in 2005. We are a registered charity controlled by an unpaid board of Trustees. We provide transport to those members of the community who, for whatever reason, cannot use existing transport services.

Our aim is to promote social inclusion within South Gloucestershire by helping residents to be self-sufficient and maintain their personal independence. We provide essential travel (supported by South Gloucestershire Council) for Diamond Travel Card holders as well as social trips for leisure. If you do not have a Diamond Travel Card you may still be able to become a member of 4T&VL and pay to use our services.

We make over 90,000 trips each year taking people to:

- The supermarket and other shops
- Work or education
- Lunches, on social visits and local trips
- GP and hospital appointments

### Who can use our services?

You need to live in the Four Towns and Vale Link area: Almondsbury, Alveston, Aust, Bradley Stoke, Charfield, Cromhall, Falfield, Filton, Frampton Cotterell, Hallen, Hill, Oldbury on Severn, Olveston, Patchway, Pilning, Severn Beach, Rockhampton, Stoke Gifford, Thornbury, Tortworth, Tytherington, Winterbourne

### ONE or more of the following must apply:

- Aged 60 years or more
- Have special needs
- Be on benefits
- Have access problems
- Be a Diamond Travel Card Holder

### You'll need to become a member

Four Towns and Vale Link will be offering free membership for the year from April 2021. This will be for our existing members (who paid last year.) From the April renewal date.

For each new member there will be no change in fee this year. Its only £15.00 to join, with group membership remaining at only £20.00 for a full year.



Diamond Travel Card holders travel with a £2 charge per single journey and £4 per return journey, payable to the driver on local journeys with us. For more information about obtaining a Diamond Travel card contact South Gloucestershire Council.

If your journey takes you over certain boundaries, charges will apply. We will advise you of this at the time of booking.

### Social Car Scheme

If we can't get you onto one of our Ring-and-Ride services we will try to get you transport with one of our volunteer drivers in their own car. This costs 45p per mile from your drivers starting point to your destination and return to the drivers starting point.

**PLEASE CALL ON 01454 250500/510 TO BOOK YOUR TRAVEL**

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## Property fraud – are you protected?

Millions of pounds are lost each year to Property fraud in the UK, which unfortunately is a serious ongoing issue with fraudsters continuing to target property owners regardless of whether owners are individuals or companies, and leaving you to deal with the consequences.

The most common types of frauds are typically where criminals steal a property owner's identity and then attempt to sell or mortgage their property by pretending to be them.

In particular, fraudsters are more likely to target properties where:

- the property is rented out
- the property is empty
- the property is not mortgaged
- the property is not registered with HM Land Registry; or
- you live overseas

If you have a property which you rent out, a second home or live somewhere else for all or part of the year, you should consider registering a Restriction against the property. The benefit of taking this additional step means it will prevent the Land Registry registering any sale or mortgage on your property unless a conveyancer or solicitor certifies that the application was made by you.

### The Land Registry's Free Property Alert Service

The Land Registry offers a free 'Property Alert Service' for properties registered in England and Wales. This is an essential tool that should be considered by anyone wishing to take steps to protect a registered property from risk of fraud.

To sign up, all you need to provide is a valid email address and the postcode or title number of the property(ies) you want HM Land Registry to monitor (can be up to ten properties). Once you have signed up to the service, you will receive email alerts from the Land Registry when certain activity occurs on your monitored properties, allowing you to take swift action if these activities are suspicious. The alert email you receive, will signpost you to who you need to contact if you are suspicious.



### Keep your contact details up to date!

Please remember to update the Land Registry in writing if your contact details change while you own the property to ensure you receive any such correspondence. For added peace of mind, the Land Registry can hold up to three contact addresses for you, including an email address and an address abroad.

### What if my property is unregistered?

If your property is not registered at the Land Registry, you should consider making an application for voluntary first registration because it helps protect against fraud, gives you proof of ownership and makes it easier to buy and sell.

If you are unsure whether your property is unregistered or would like to discuss making a voluntary application, our experienced Property Team will be able to assist you.

**If you would like any advice or assistance in connection with the above, please get in touch by emailing [info@amdsolicitors.com](mailto:info@amdsolicitors.com), calling our Property Team on 0117 962 1205 or fill out our Contact Us form by visiting <https://amdsolicitors.com/contact/>**

## Advice Making a Difference



Telephone us on **(0117) 962 1205** or visit our website [www.amdsolicitors.com](http://www.amdsolicitors.com)





The Avon Wildlife Trust is the largest local charity working to protect wildlife and inspire people in the West of England. They care for 30 nature reserves – from ancient bluebell woods to Iron Age forts, nationally important wetlands which are a haven for rare, wading birds, and wildflower meadows. They have run numerous fun and informative wildlife events at Says Court.

Their educational and community programmes help people of all ages connect with and benefit from the natural world around them – and take action themselves to help nature's recovery.

2020 was tough on all charities so I know anything we can do to support them will be much appreciated.

And getting involved with The Avon Wildlife Trust is good for our too; it ticks all of the boxes for the Five Ways to Wellbeing: it enables people to **Connect** – with nature and people; **Be active** – get outside to garden and walk; **Take notice** – observe plants growing and the natural changes in season; **Learn** – all about our local natural world and how we can support it, and there are plenty of new skills to be learnt too; **Give** – your time and/or money to support the charity. In truth, the list of benefits with connecting to the natural world is endless.

Below are some ideas of activities that you may like to get involved with this year, but if none of these take your fancy, please do visit [www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk) as there is sure to be something there that will inspire you to get involved.

**Get planting!** Planting wildflowers in gardens is a great way to connect with nature. Seeds or plants can be purchased from Grow Wilder online store [www.growwilder.co.uk](http://www.growwilder.co.uk) or at their site in Stapleton.

**Volunteer!** COVID-allowing, the trust is planning to reboot their volunteer opportunities in 2021 with new openings in food growing,

wildlife gardening, habitat management and also for their café which should hopefully be opening in spring. People can sign up for announcements at [www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/form/sign-up-to-volunteer](http://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/form/sign-up-to-volunteer) or by following the **Facebook page: AWTGrowWilder**

**Introduction to UK Amphibians –online course** – Learn all about the ecology and history of amphibians in the UK on this online short course. Covering both practical ID and survey skills, you will learn the best ways to confidently identify each species and the places you're most likely to find them. You'll also discover the best ways to take action for amphibians and hear our top tips for creating suitable habitat in your garden and local green spaces. 2 hour interactive online course with Matt Collis. Monday 8 March 2021, 6–8pm, £15.

Email: [learning@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:learning@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk)



**My Wild Child video sessions** – Unable to run their usual outdoor sessions with little ones due to COVID, Avon Wildlife Trust quickly adapted and created My Wild Child nature connection video sessions instead. Each of the videos incorporates something for every kind of learner – so far those viewing the videos have learnt about the importance of trees, looked at leaf shape and colour, followed a magical story about rainbows, made their own pair of owl eyes, and met Crinkle the friendly leaf. There is so much just waiting out there for everyone to explore, and it's more important than ever to get outside and connect with nature during this time of uncertainty.

To watch these free video sessions, and get some ideas about connecting with nature with your little ones visit: [avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/mywildchild](http://avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/mywildchild).

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/groups/mywildchild](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mywildchild).

## A great accountant is there all year round...not just at year end!



There's a common misconception that accountants are only there to 'do the books' at year end, but as Damian Evans, Partner at Evans Entwistle explains, Chartered Management Accountants have had a far wider role to play in the recent pandemic.

Coronavirus has had a deep and profound effect on the economy but in these trying times we hope that we have been a sounding board – an agony aunt even – for local businesses affected.

We have seen clients who had put their life into their business, only to suddenly find themselves with no revenue stream, and no income. We listened to their concerns, and then proactively signposted each one towards the most appropriate way forwards for their circumstances, be that one of the national government funded schemes, or more tailored grant support offered for their specific sector. When it comes to such grant applications, knowing how to 'present the case' is often half the battle, and that's where our experience has meant we have assisted clients to tap into all Covid-19 funding streams.

Cashflow has also been a common topic of conversation with clients lately; when cash is tight, your customers may take longer to pay, meaning that you take longer to pay your suppliers – a domino effect on

the whole economy. Added to that is the fact that many businesses took HMRC up on the opportunity last year to defer taxes such as VAT – but of course those dues are set to be repaid this year, despite the fact that the country is by no means out of the 'lockdown' woods yet. On that front, we've been negotiating Time To Pay arrangements with HMRC to ease clients' immediate cashflow woes and helped SMEs to secure Bounce Back loans and other forms of finance to manage working capital.

On the general taxation front, we expect to see a sharp rise in tax investigations this year– the Government has spent in excess of £300 billion tackling the crisis, and with immediate tax hikes being rather unpalatable, HMRC may well instead look towards investigations to start to repair the fiscal deficit.

But it's not all doom and gloom – for us it has been heartwarming to see how so many businesses have positively evolved during the pandemic, from taking their businesses wholly online, starting home delivery services, or pivoting entirely to take their company into a different direction, and we've been proud to assist here again with the development of strategic plans and financial forecasts to support their new ideas.

What our years of experience tell us is that SME business owners are resilient...and we very much see our remit helping them not just survive these trying times, but also to recover and thrive again.

Here's a  
bright idea...

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Bristol BS7 8TX

e: [mail@evansentwistle.co.uk](mailto:mail@evansentwistle.co.uk)



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## Early 2021 at the Barn

The Barn has been shut since November because of covid, but the Trust has learnt how to run some of their activities online, and this will be the plan until at least late February.

The traditional Carols in the Barn was filmed by Fromeside churches without an audience, and has been watched on the Barn and Churches websites by over 720 families all over the world! We certainly couldn't have fitted all those people into the Barn in person, so at least more folk were able to be part of this traditional favourite in the restricted festive season of 2020.

Whilst we remain in lockdown, the Trust has tried to come up with some online activities that anyone can join in:

### Building Architects' talk/video on the website



Barn before renovation

Most of the Barn site was closed for a year from March 2019 while major restoration and refurbishment work was carried out, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The plan to re-open to the public in spring 2020 was of course thwarted by covid19, and due to subsequent restrictions on crowds only a limited number of people have been able to see the transformation so far.

In this online video the architects and builders will show what they have done to bring the whole of this heritage site into use with modern standards while preserving its important historical features.



Barn after renovation

### Medieval Dinner Party at Home!

A wonderful opportunity for the whole family to try some living history!

Join in on the website or Facebook where the Trust has uploaded videos showing you how to create different elements for your very own Medieval family dinner party. There is a full list of all the materials and ingredients you'll need.

The five videos show:

- Medieval Fancy Dress
- Making Music, Medieval Style
- Decorate the Table
- Baking Medieval Bread
- All in a Stew...Cooking up the Pottage!



As we write this in early February, we are still in national lockdown, making it very difficult to plan community activities for the next few months, so please keep looking on the Barn website and social media to see what the Trust will be offering this spring. All events will be bookable online and numbers will be limited.

Some dates are now fixed, and more will be added as soon as possible:

### Monday 1st - Friday 5th March - Medieval Movement Week!

Ever wanted to know what dance was like back in medieval times? Now's your chance to find out as we move like medieval folk!



Each day at 10am a video will go up on the Barn's YouTube channel showing a section of a medieval dance. Join us each day, and we'll put it all together at the end of the week. You don't need experience or specialist equipment, just bring your bodies. We'll show you standing and seated versions, so however you move, we can do it together!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsPaGMnmK1vX5r5wOUOcIJg/videos>

You can also join in on our Facebook page and website.

### Saturday 6 March - Online Decoupage Lampshade Workshop, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Decorate a beautiful lampshade using decoupage techniques. We'll explore adding textiles, colours, and embellishments to

transform a plain standard lampshade into a unique feature for your home. This fun and informal workshop will be run by Jasmine, our Community Engagement Officer. No previous experience is needed. All materials are provided - we'll post a pack of materials to you in advance, and when we meet online at 10.30am Jasmine will show you how to put together your creations. She will be in touch before the workshop to discuss material choices so that we can send you colours and patterns that would fit your personality and your home.

£30 per person for full tuition and materials. Book a ticket through the Barn website.

### Tuesday 30th March - Talk : 180 Years of Glos Constabulary, 7pm.



Force Archivist Sue Webb will reveal the history of the police in the historic county of Gloucestershire (which also covered what is now South Glos). It is hoped that a live audience will be allowed into the Barn for this talk, but it will also be live-streamed anyway. All tickets cost £5 via the Barn website and must be booked in advance.

Other community activities we hope to run for the early spring include an online Corn Dollies workshop and a Birdsong Early Walk & Breakfast. Dates will be put on the website as soon as possible.

Winterbourne Medieval Barn,  
Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

For further details see

[www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk](http://www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk)

or Facebook: **Winterbourne Medieval Barn**

WMBT Registered Charity number 1112908





## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ambyoung29@yahoo.com)

**Bradley Stoke Radio** - The Activity Centre Brook Way, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 9DS, 01454 616055 [bradleystokeradio.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:admingirlguidingbsg.org.uk), [girlguidingbsg.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:stokesart2@gmail.com)  
W: [stokesart0.wix.com](https://www.stokesart0.wix.com) [facebook.com/stokesartgroup](https://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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://almondsburytennis.org.uk)

**Aretians Rugby Club for Cubs, Juniors and Seniors** Station Road, Little Stoke [www.aretiansrfc.co.uk](http://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](http://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](http://bradleystokecc.play-cricket.com)

**Bradley Stoke Jiu Jitsu Club** - Chris Harris, [maru.jiujitsu@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:bsncjuniors@yahoo.co.uk)

**Bradley Stoke Judo** - Various days and times, Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, [www.bradleystokejudoclub.com](http://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](http://www.bstfc.co.uk) or contact [bstfc2005@gmail.com](mailto:bstfc2005@gmail.com)

**Bradley Stoke United Football Club** - Football from U7's to U16's see website [bsufc.co.uk](http://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](http://www.bsyfc.co.uk) or contact [mlee1@btpenworld.com](mailto: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](http://www.smobrugby.com), 01454 250489 email: [clubhouse@smobrugby.co.uk](mailto:clubhouse@smobrugby.co.uk)

**Bristol Extreme Allstar Cheerleaders** - Wednesdays 7-9pm Little Stoke Primary School, [bristolxtreme@gmail.com](mailto:bristolxtreme@gmail.com)

**North Bristol Rugby Club**, Rugby teams from 4+ [www.pitchero.com/clubs/northbristoljuniorsrfc/](http://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](http://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](http://www.stokescyclingclub.org.uk) [stokescyclingclub@googlemail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.stokelane.co.uk) or email Club Sect 'steve' [pspayne@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.bridgecommunitychurch.org)

**Edge Church International**. 1160 Park Avenue, Aztec West Business Park, BS32 4TL. Tel 01454 837990. [www.edgechurch.co.uk](http://www.edgechurch.co.uk)

**Holy Family Catholic Church** Southsea Road, Patchway 0117 9081247 [www.holyfamilyrcchurchpatchway.co.uk](http://www.holyfamilyrcchurchpatchway.co.uk)

**Holy Trinity Church** Broadcroft, Bradley Stoke 01454 620975 [www.htcbradleystoke.co.uk](http://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





## BSTFC v Greyfriars, Stoke Gifford

BSTFC have followed the UK Government's announcement that was made on Monday 4 January with regards to the new national COVID-19 restrictions and lockdown.

As a result of the announcement, the impact on 'non-elite' football in England included the suspension of fixtures and training. Therefore since the start of January 2021 BSTFC have only played one fixture.

On Saturday 2nd January, Bradley Stoke Town first team kicked off 2021 with a short journey to the Mile Straight club located in Stoke Gifford to face local club Greyfriars. BSTFC knew that this was going to be a tough game as both teams were eager to start the new year off with a win.

Greyfriars started the first half well and took advantage of mistakes made by Bradley Stoke with striker Matthew Troth scoring from close range taking Greyfriars into the half 1-0 up.

Bradley Stoke started the second half extremely well and continued battling which ultimately paid off with Tom Harris scoring a brace (photo). The match finished 2-1 to Bradley Stoke. It was a good game to watch and both teams played good football. The win

moved Bradley Stoke into top position in the Bristol & Combination league.

Since this fixture, no more games have been played across the five teams due to the government announcements. BSTFC are now waiting for an announcement from the Government/FA to see how the season is to be progressed.

**As you can imagine, all players and committee are looking forward to when football can commence under the set guidelines and once football is back, we will continue to play safe environment.**

**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](mailto:bstfc2005@gmail.com) as we are always on the lookout for new players.**



BSTFC Double Goal Scorer Tom Harris

## 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

**Bowlsland Green Primary School**, Head Teachers: Michelle Engley, Ellicks Close BStoke, 01454 866766, [bowlslandgreen.org.uk](http://bowlslandgreen.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://abbeywoodschool.com)

**Bradley Stoke Community School**, Head Teacher: Steve Moir Fiddlers Wood Lane Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS, 01454 868840, [bradleystokecs.org.uk](http://bradleystokecs.org.uk)

**Patchway Community College**, Head Teacher: Karen Cornick, Hempton Lane Almondsbury BS32 4AJ, 01454 862020, [patchwaycc.com](http://patchwaycc.com)

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