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Dear Readers....

Who can believe that it's October already? It seems just a few days ago we were planning our Summer "staycation" and now here we are turning up the central heating and adding a few more layers of clothing!

We have plenty for you to read within our pages this month with updates from the Cricket Club and Bowls Club as their seasons come to an end; and from the Bradley Stoke Town Football Club, men and ladies, as their respective seasons get underway and the same for St Mary's Rugby Club who have had a busy September - you may well have seen Bradley Bull out and about at the Willow Brook Centre, or Trench Lane Car Boot Sale recently!

We bring you a summary of the summer's fantastic Scarecrow Trail on pages 4-5 and news of 3 local authors who have covered 3 very different topics with their publishing efforts, check out - Cameron's Smile p7, Who Cares? p12-13 and Santa's Secret Agents p27 (the latter's authors are visiting some of the local primary schools over the next few weeks).

Great news that the annual fireworks display organised by the Town Council can take place this year - see the back page for information on this lovely community event. The local Rotary Club and Bradley Stoke WI are also now meeting up and invite new members to join them.

All this and much more besides!! Just before I sign off, here's a reminder that the clocks go back on 31st October - so make the most of the current sunshine as the darker evenings will soon be upon us! Until next time,

Jaci x

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*Deadline for the December edition is
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Bradley Stoke Scarecrow Trail

For two weeks from 14th-28th August local residents enjoyed hunting down 29 scarecrows around the town with the help of a trail map.

The event was run by Bradley Stoke Town Council and organised as a fundraising event for the Mayoral Charities for 2021/22, namely St Peter's Hospice and Dogs for Good.

This is the second year for this community event, with this summer's theme depicting characters from children's books, films or nursery rhymes.

Maps were sold for a £2 charity donation, with around 500 maps being sold over the fortnight.

Cllr Angela Morey, who joined BSTC as an independent councillor in May 2021, organised the event. She comments: *'I was so excited when I was asked to coordinate the scarecrow trail, having enjoyed the 2020 trail so much and with my background in fundraising. It has been wonderful seeing so many families with maps in their hands and smiles on their faces over the past 2 weeks, enjoying themselves whilst exploring our community. The weather has been pretty kind and the scarecrow designs amazed me: such creativity! We saw scarecrows with music, scarecrows with educational leaflets, and scarecrows made entirely from recycled materials, amazing!'*

I would like to thank everyone who bought maps, all the scarecrow creators and our generous event sponsors. Congratulations to the winners!'

Winners:

1st place: Mrs Tiggy-Winkle by Gina Eve Mrs Tiggy-Winkle was made with foraged sticks from the nature reserve, and sat happily on her chair next to her washing line. In front of her were some educational leaflets about hedgehog care and some pictures taken by Gina's nature camera in her garden where she has been lucky enough up to 9 hedgehogs in her garden at a time! She has now started a group if you would like to know more: @bradleystokespikyfriends Mrs Tiggy Winkle has now been donated to a Hedgehog Rescue sanctuary in Yate.)

2nd place: Super Mario By the Rajnoha family

3rd place: Mr Men by Bradley Stoke Zero Carbon community Group

Joint 4th place: Monsters Inc by Del McIntosh / 3 Little Pigs by Wildhearts Childcare



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Mayor's Favourite:

Joint winners: Cruella De Vil by Bradley Stoke Community School / Jack and the Beanstalk by Bradley Stoke in Bloom

Special mention to Erin-Rose Oram, a pupil at Stoke Lodge Primary School, for her Tin Man entry. Erin Rose made her Tin Man scarecrow as her school Stoke Lodge didn't manage to finish their's in time for the trail.

Winner of the trail map prize draw:

The Nicholson family

Awards ceremony

An award ceremony was held at The Jubilee Centre on Saturday 4th September, where winners were invited to receive their prizes from BSTC Mayor for 2021, Cllr Michael Hill.

Cllr Hill commented: *'I would like to thank Councillor Angela Morey for organising the trail, all the people who made scarecrows, all the businesses that sponsored the event and everyone who toured the town to choose their favourite. It was a great example of the town's residents having fun and raising money for good causes.'*

Next year it is hoped that the award ceremony could be a larger event with all scarecrow creators and the community invited and some scarecrows displayed. This year sadly the council buildings are still following reduced capacity rules which we hope will be lifted by next year.

Final amount raised for charity - £2000 !!

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Cameron's Smile

*Raising Awareness of Caring for a child
with Rare and Complex Needs*

Carla Golledge lives locally in Bradley Stoke and got in touch with Bradley Stoke Matters to share her story. She is a mum to three children, one of whom was born with a rare genetic condition called Norrie Disease.

Cameron was just 8 weeks old when he was diagnosed. Norrie disease usually only affects males and causes blindness and progressive hearing loss. Cameron is completely blind with no light perception whatsoever. He started to lose his hearing at the age of 3. He is non verbal, has global delays, autism, adhd, profound learning disabilities and a feeding tube. But his personality shines through all of that, and the most important thing you will remember about Cameron is his smile.

Carla told us *"It was really isolating when we first received his diagnosis, so that's when I turned to social media. I started writing a blog raising awareness of his condition and then connecting with other families in similar circumstances. This is what gave me the idea to write a book: to help others on this journey feel less alone. Raising awareness of rare and complex needs and getting our story heard felt really therapeutic and helped me deal with a lot of the anxiety I face as my son's carer."*

"I self published on amazon and was amazed at the response, overnight I went to number 1 best seller and the reviews I have recieved (see one example above) have made it feel so worth it."

Cameron's Smile: Raising a deafblind child is available on Amazon.

You can discover more of Carla and Cameron's journey on their facebook page www.facebook.com/CamSmile.

Carla has also been shortlisted for an award - 'The Bloody Awesome Parents awards' - which allows SEND bloggers to be recognised for their talents, tales and achievements. Voting is still open via the myfamilyyourneeds.co.uk website, click **Vote** and then **'Bloody Awesome Parent'** and you will see the shortlist. The ceremony takes place in November, recognising all the awareness and care people provide for disabled children.



"This book is a real insight into the difficulties faced by having a child with additional needs. A beautiful reflection of the struggles families face and have to come to terms with. Written with true love for Cameron. Loved reading this."
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on 01454 201090 or email events@aztechotelbristol.co.uk



A Roaring Success!

Dunkley's 1920s Themed Charity Ball at Bristol Museum and Art Gallery raised £9,372.76 for St Peter's Hospice!

On Friday 10th September, Dunkley's long awaited Roaring 20s Charity Ball finally took place at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery in aid of St Peter's Hospice.

After almost two years of planning and a global pandemic, it was amazing to finally welcome our colleagues, guests, and friends to the museum for a night of fun, frills, and festivities!

Our Roaring 20s Ball was inspired by the 1920s era and as it is now the 2020s, a way of celebrating the centennial anniversary of that decade.

With this inspiration at the forefront, the whole theme of the event began. From the moment our guests walked into the museum on the red carpet, to the Art Deco archways, feather centerpieces and of course our wonderful guests who dressed to kill in their finest flapper fashions and gangster attire. The outfits they adorned did not disappoint, as everyone put in so much effort and it made the whole evening spectacular.

The guests however were not the only people to make the night extra special. We had an incredible jazz band playing sets from the decade bringing the whole museum to life and three fantastic flapper dancers who performed routines to "all that jazz" and other 1920s classics.

We also welcomed Nick Cragg, from Country Property to be our live auctioneer and compare for the evening. He brought the room to life with guests bidding left right and center to claim one of the incredible lots on offer. With Nick's fantastic live auction and the silent auction prizes we had available, we raised a staggering



£5,800. This then coupled with the money raised from ticket sales, raffle sales and client donations, boosted our total to £9,372.76.

With spirits at an all-time high after being unable to party for such a long time, it was the perfect way to support St Peter's Hospice while also celebrating Dunkley's 30th year in business.

Mike Dunkley commented: "It was so lovely to have all our guests finally come together and celebrate not only Dunkley's 30th birthday but also such a worthwhile cause. After the last 18 months where we've been unable to meet up and enjoy time together, this event was the perfect way to step back out into the world and enjoy being together again"

Some of the guests from the event shared their thoughts: "Thank you for such a roaring evening last Friday. From the red-carpet glittering entrance to the grande finale it was wonderful to step back in time"

"Thank you very much for a very enjoyable evening on Friday. We all had a wonderful time, and it was great to be able to get dressed up and have a night out in a crowd!"



Holistic healing at home

With local Osteomyologist expert – Dawn Clode

Ostm, Lic MET Lic CR FAO

Would you like to be empowered with the skills and knowledge to enable you to treat minor ailments

at home, before reaching for the painkillers? Local Osteomyologist Dawn understands how many of us would prefer to try natural, holistic practices to soothe discomfort such as stomach or head aches and learn how to calm stress and anxiety.

These new workshops, with up to three people, will be run from her holistic treatment room in Stoke Gifford, and focus on either Reflexology, Reiki or Aromatherapy. Dawn is keen to point out she is not in any way suggesting people turn to these practices rather than their prescriptions or visiting their doctors, but these holistic methods are designed to promote good health and have a great success rate with minor ailments.

These soothing practices can also safely calm children down and promote good sleep, a key to well-being. The focused sessions will teach you the basic skills to put to good use on willing family and friends, no qualification will be gained to be used in a professional capacity.

The workshops will mainly be run on a weekend but can be during the week if a group of three people make this request. The day sessions will run from 10.00am to 4.30pm and cost £90 p/p. If you would like to register an interest in taking part in a workshop on either Reflexology, Reiki or Aromatherapy, please get in touch with Dawn on the contact details below.

If you would like to learn more about the effective holistic treatments she offers and get a taste for the passion Dawn has for her work and healing, **do visit her at the Bristol Holistic Festival**

(www.bristolholisticfestival.com) at The Mercure Holland House Bristol Hotel and Spa on **13th and 14th November 2021**. Dawn will be giving a talk at 10.30am on the Saturday, titled 'Bones and Structures – How Your Pelvis can Affect Your Whole Body'.

And of course, if you are experiencing pain, Dawn is available for treatment bookings at her practice in Stoke Gifford. To book in, or for more information on any of the above, please do get in touch.

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Laura Webber of AMD Solicitors Considers the Dangers of Homemade Wills

Making a Will is the only way of ensuring that your estate and assets are distributed according to your wishes. If you die without a Will, your estate will pass in accordance with the rules of intestacy. This could mean that your estate will pass to someone who you may not want to benefit.

Reasons clients have mentioned for not making a Will include not having enough time, not wanting to talk about death and the cost involved. Concerns over fees may lead someone to prepare a home made Will.

Although a Will does not need to be prepared by a Solicitor, there are inherent dangers in preparing one yourself.



statements are required from witnesses to provide evidence as to when they were signed.

1. Invalidity

A recent example of this involves a husband and wife who had each prepared identical homemade Wills. As far as they were concerned, from the time they had signed their Wills to the date they instructed us to make new ones, they had valid Wills. It was quickly spotted, however, that the Wills had only been witnessed by one person at the time of signing.

Due to this small but vital mistake, these Wills were invalid from the day they were signed.

2. Changes in circumstance

If you decide to get married and already have an existing Will, that Will will automatically be revoked on your marriage, unless it was drafted in expectation of the marriage. A professional would advise you of this but a lay person might not be aware of the affect of marriage if they are making a homemade Will. Equally, divorce affects inheritance under a Will.

3. Dates

Another situation we have come across is an undated Will. Although a date is not required for a Will to be valid, it is your last Will that must be proved on your death. If the Will does not have a date then it is difficult to prove that it is the last Will and often sworn

4. Inappropriate Clauses

If you try and take clauses from a previous will or use clauses from someone else's Will without fully understanding what those clauses mean and what their effect will be, you can end up with a Will that does not achieve what you wanted, with the result that some or all of your estate may go to someone you had not intended to benefit.

For advice on wills, inheritance tax, lasting powers of attorney administration of estates and all other private client issues please contact Laura Webber or another member of our team on 0117 962 1205, email info@amdsolicitors.com or call into one of our four Bristol offices.

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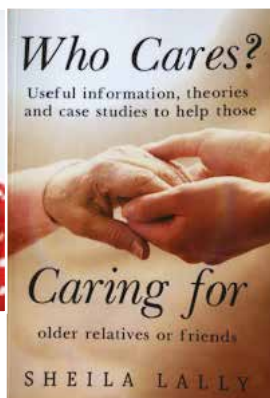
Who Cares?

by Sheila Lally

We were pleased to be contacted by local resident Sheila Lally who has lived in the area for nearly 40 years. She is married with three grown up children and four grandchildren, enjoying nothing more than getting together with family and friends for a catch up. She is a frequent user of the excellent leisure facilities in Bradley Stoke and Thornbury with her grandchildren or attending aquafit classes.

With a background in nursing at both Frenchay and Southmead Hospitals during the course of her career, Sheila found she really enjoyed working on wards caring for older people. Many older people have such interesting stories based on their life experience and she enabled her to look at aging in a more positive light. This was further consolidated by changing jobs and working as a training officer for South Gloucestershire Council helping social care staff complete vocational qualifications. As many of these worked in care homes across the county and the home care service, Sheila became a frequent visitor to care homes from Cadbury Heath to Thornbury and in between! She then went on to train as health visitor and has worked with vulnerable families including Gypsies and Travellers.

Sheila has recently published a book *Who Cares?* which contains useful information designed to help those caring for older friends and relatives. Sheila told us: "I was inspired to write the book following my experience of caring for my mother in the last few years of her life. She passed away three years ago. Even though I had experience of caring for older people as a nurse and had worked in social care, I still found it difficult to get help and support for my mother as her condition deteriorated. My aim in writing the book was to provide a practical guide to caring for an older or vulnerable person and what help is available from the government, NHS and charities. It is a positive look at aging and discusses how older people can keep



engaged within their communities and presents steps that can be taken to overcome loneliness and social isolation.

I come from a large Irish family with 7 siblings! Yet even with such a big family to support Mum, we often felt the pressure. So I know first hand how rewarding caring for a relative can be and how it can bring you closer together, but it can also be emotional draining. For this reason I have included a chapter in my book for how carers can take care of themselves and signposts them to available help"

Sheila recently retired from her latest position as a senior lecturer at UWE in community public health nursing ie school nurses and health visitors. She still does occasional work for the university but her time is mostly filled with caring for grandchildren and volunteering where she undertakes roles in a school to help with reading, in a local Rainbow group and as a befriender with AgeUK.

Who Cares? is a practical guide to caring for an older or vulnerable person and what help you can expect from the government, NHS and charities. Priced at £6.99 it is available from Amazon and to order from bookstores - ISBN: 9781800740495.

Severn Vale Flower Club

We usually meet on the second Monday of the month (unless otherwise stated)

at St. Mary's Church Hall, Eastland Close (off Eastland Road), Thornbury

The Hall has its own car park and there is a bus stop nearby.

If you are not already a member and are interested in flower arranging, you are invited to come along and join us.

**11th October 2pm
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**8th November 2pm
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**6th December
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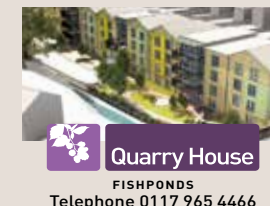
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Yoga Classes at Christ the King Church

Yoga teacher Vicky Bird who runs The Yoga Bird is pleased to have expanded her classes to Bradley Stoke this autumn.

Having had a keen interest in yoga since her early 20s and wanting to explore natural positive ways to have home births, Vicky trained and began her yoga teaching focussing initially on pregnancy and babies in 2016. She now offers a variety of classes for all ages from pregnancy, antenatal, baby, children's and adult yoga classes.

Vicky is offering classes in Baby Yoga, Yoga Shred and Relaxed Beginners Yoga on Tuesdays at Christ the King Church Hall. No yoga experience is needed for any of these classes.

Yoga Shred (starting 9.40am) is a fusion of yoga moves with high intensity interval training (HIIT). This class helps to improve cardio, strength and overall fitness. Lots of options are given during the class, so you pick your level. *"Love, love, love this class! Eat cake guilty free after this workout." "I am a beginner to yoga and love this class. I would highly recommend it."*

Baby yoga (starting 10.50am) is a gentle, relaxed exercise programme you share with your baby. This class helps you to strengthen and re-energise as well as providing lots of support for mum (whether that's

through discussions or giving you ideas on things to do at home with your baby). The class is split in two – working on Mum first, followed by baby who gets

a good stretch, encouraging baby's development through tactile stimulation, helping improve their physical development and giving guidance with some typical baby ailments. Babies from 6 weeks or 10 weeks (post Caesarean) through to 8 months are welcome. *"Absolutely wonderful class. Relaxed, fun and thoroughly enjoyable." "We both get so much out of this class."*

Relaxed beginners yoga (starting 11.50am) offers gentle stretches and moves to make you feel great with a peaceful relaxation at the end of class. You can take this class completely at your own pace. *"Vicky is a very friendly welcoming teacher, who guides you through."*

To book on any of the classes or to find out any more information, please contact vicky@theyogabird.com or call 07971407945 or visit www.theyogabird.com



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An Eventful End to Bradley Stoke Bowling Season

The bowls club season is drawing to an end. A season when adjustments were required due to Covid and the members rallied through with great support.

The President and his wife hosted a Fun Day with Lunch on the 28th August. Bowls played during the morning session with crazy bowls played after lunch.

Prizes were awarded for both sessions and a quiz was also on the menu together with a giant raffle. All monies raised during the day has gone to the club to bolster its funds. An enjoyable day was appreciated by old and new members, also past treasured members were invited as guests.

The first weekend of September saw the conclusion of the clubs internal competitions with the finals being played. The President thanked all those who had entered and congratulated the winners. He also paid tribute to the Competition Secretary for his contribution through the season and to him and his wife who provided the well received ham and cheese rolls at lunch break on both days.

The club AGM will draw the season to an end in October.



Bradley Stoke WI is back!

Janet Hunt Secretary Bradley Stoke WI

Bradley Stoke Women's Institute is back to holding monthly meetings at the Jubilee Centre after many, many months absence. Our first 'face to face' get together was on Wednesday 11th August with an indoor and outdoor picnic. It was lovely to see so many friendly faces back again and we all enjoyed catching up with each other as well as eating delicious cupcakes.

Our next WI Meeting was on Wednesday 8th September when Sally Hare gave a really interesting talk about 'Solution focused hypnotherapy' an enjoyable, relaxing way to focus on solutions and build on your own resources to help you enjoy life to fullest – perhaps something we all could do with after the last eighteen months!

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Oak Room at the Jubilee Centre on Savages Wood Road in Bradley Stoke. We always have time at our meetings for a cup of tea or coffee and catch up on any news from our members and the wider WI including details of trips out and interesting talks arranged by the Avon Federation WI and our own Bradley Stoke WI.

Our WI is a great place to make new friends and to enjoy social activities. Besides our monthly meeting we also have a table tennis club that meets every Monday at the Bradley Stoke Leisure (expertise not required, just enthusiasm!), a monthly craft club where you can spending a couple of hours doing your favourite craft in the company of WI friends, a



book club and a monthly coffee morning at a local café. We are also organising trips out for meals and ten pin bowling and are always open to good ideas for other interesting and fun things to do

We would love to see new members so if you are interested in joining us then why not pop along to our next meeting at the Jubilee Centre? You will be made very welcome.

If you would like more information then please contact me, Janet, on 07845 744351.

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2021/22 Poppy Appeal - Launches Friday 29th October

The Stoke Gifford Branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL), are hoping to return to having a normal Poppy Appeal this year.

The Branch would like to thank the public, branch members and volunteers, businesses and other organisations for their help and generosity throughout the Appeal. And of course thank you to the great local media who do so much to help us raise so much money and help us raise the profile of our welfare work so we can reach more people who need our help.

The Branch would love to repeat its previous successes for the 2021/22 Poppy Appeal. The money raised for the Poppy Appeal goes to the RBL's Welfare Fund, which is used to give help and support to current and ex- service personnel and their families.

There will be Poppies and collecting tins around the area in many shops, businesses and retail areas as well as the University of the West of England campus.

All this requires volunteers! The Branch needs more of them to look after stalls during the Poppy Fortnight from Saturday 30th October until Saturday 13th November.

If you would like to volunteer for the branch as a collector during the "Poppy Fortnight" we would love to hear from you! To volunteer to collect for the Poppy Appeal please contact us:

email: rbstokegifford@gmail.com Or 'phone Tony Peters on **0117 947 0775**

The Poppy Launch will be at Bristol Parkway Station on Friday October 29th at 2pm.

The Stoke Gifford Remembrance service in North Road will be Sunday November 14th at 10.15am.

Please note we are always looking for new branch members, not necessarily ex-service personnel. Do get in touch if you are interested in joining us by using the above contact details for further information.



Naturally Inspiring



Nursery is an important part of a child's well-being offering so many benefits, 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 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. With the arrival of Autumn the toddler group is looking forward to wrapping up warm and enjoying our regular Forest School outings to local parks and woodlands such as Blaise Castle, utilising our own Ambourne House mini-bus!

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.

Since Covid it has been difficult to allow parents/carers inside our setting. We are looking to remedy that by hosting special days over the coming term where we can welcome family members inside the building to access the nursery staff and see their child/grandchild at play to give a feel for what we do here at Ambourne. The first of these will be inviting Grandparents in for a non alcoholic brunch!

We truly believe we provide children with the best start in life!



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233 Gloucester Road, Patchway, South Glos, BS34 6ND ambournehouse@3abcare.co.uk T. 01454 615352





STOKE GIFFORD GOLDIES SINGALONG SESSIONS ARE BACK!!

On Tuesday 7th September 2021 we were very excited to relaunch our weekly Goldies singalong session at St Michael's Church Centre, Stoke Gifford. The group have been unable to meet for the last 18 months due to Covid restrictions so our first session back was full of excitement!

We had great fun singing along to Cliff Richard's 'Summer Holiday', 'Delilah' by Tom Jones, 'Take Me Home Country Roads' by John Denver plus many more favourites. The hour flew by and it was so lovely to see so many happy faces!

Goldies is a charity who provide singalong sessions for anyone who enjoys music from years gone by. We welcome anyone to come along and join us, regardless of whether you think you can sing or not. We are not a choir, we just enjoy getting together, singing along to our favourite songs and making friends along the way.

New faces are welcome to come along any time and will be guaranteed a warm welcome! We meet every Tuesday 2pm – 3pm at St Michael's Church Centre, £2 per person. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Little Stoke Primary School

Open Day visit for Parents with children starting school in September 2022

Open Day on Thursday 14th October from 9.30-10.30am and from 5.30-6.30pm.

Your child's learning adventure could begin here!

Please ring to pre-book a visit on
01454 866522

We look forward to meeting you soon!



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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For more information visit:
abbeywoodschool.com



Brilliant BMXing!

This month it was great to catch-up with two young Bristol cyclists, who are members of locally based Bristol BMX club. Arlo (7) and Aëlie (6) shared the fantastic news that they had both achieved British No.4 placements, at the recent BMX championships held in Leicester.

How did your family get involved with BMXing?

We've always enjoyed getting out and about on our bikes as a family but have no particular cycling background. A friend had spotted Arlo on his bike and commented that he was pretty speedy so should try the BMX track.

What was it like to compete at the BMX championship and what was your favourite part?

As this was our first major competition we had no idea what to expect. When we arrived there were thousands of people and hundreds of bikes so it was a little overwhelming, especially for mummy and papa who were very nervous! They had to make sure we lined up in the right pens, on time for all our races and had all our kit on properly as accidents can easily happen. Aëlie's favourite part was the parade, as each region dressed up as a theme (ours was the jungle). There were lots of balloons/costumes/face paints and we ran around the track – which we're normally not allowed to do! Arlo enjoyed the semi finals as he posted his best time...just over 47 seconds!

It's fantastic you met Olympic gold medallist Beth Shreiver and silver medallist Kye Whyte. Did they give you some words to inspire you?

They were both so happy for us and Beth said to keep going and not to give up! The BMX community is very small so you get lots of opportunities to regularly meet some awesome riders from British Champs to World Champs, even Olympic coaches! Everyone has been very encouraging and has given great tips and advice to us.

Are your BMX club looking for new members?

Yes, the Bristol BMX club always welcomes new people. It is located just off Conniston Road in

Kye Whyte leading the race in pink

Meeting Beth Shreiver, Olympic gold medallist, World & British Champion



Arlo & Aëlie celebrating their British No.4 titles!



Meeting Kye Whyte, Olympic silver medallist & British champion

Patchway, BS34 5JT.

The track is open to all but training with our coaches Jai and Dan is every Tuesday, with race night on a Wednesday. They are always looking for new members. Aëlie would especially like more girls to take part!

Can all ages get involved with BMXing and why would you recommend people take up the sport?

Yes, we have riders young and old. You can even start on a balance bike. When we started mum and papa ran behind us just incase! They have bikes and equipment you can borrow/hire if you'd like to try it out. Arlo recommends it as it's a great way to keep fit and it's much better than cycling on the flat, as you can practise tricks like manuals and jumps. Aëlie isn't as competitive so it's been a great place to meet new friends from around the country. It's lovely for children and adults to have a place to meet up and ride on a regular basis.

What is the next big event in the sport that you are looking forward to?

On 13 November, the South West Championships will be coming to Bristol, so we are looking forward to smashing it on our home track! It's free to come along and spectate and as usual there will be a fantastic raffle with some top prizes, food and a chance to shop! So if you're interested in riding get in touch or come along!

You can contact Bristol BMX Club via text:
07926 788038 | bristolbmclub.business.site
Facebook | Instagram @bristolbmclub



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Amazing Henry completes all Beaver Badges at 1st Bradley Stoke Scouts

All of our young people are amazing
but some do seem to go that extra mile.

One is Henry
who – as
a Beaver -
completed all
of the badges
he was eligible
for over a two
year period and
would have
completed
it earlier if it
hadn't been for
the pandemic.
Special thanks
to our water activity unit – the Water Rats – who
organised a sailing session and ensured Henry
completed all of the requirements of his final
badge (sailing!).



His badge haul included six challenge badges, 26
activity badges – from animal friend to sports –
and 11 staged activity badges (including six hikes)
and his Chief Scouts Bronze Award, which is the
highest award available in Scouting for a Beaver.

In addition, he used his journey to completing the
badges to raise £800 for the Shelter homelessness
charity. The Chief Scout – Bear Grylls – even got
to hear of this and Henry received a personalised
congratulatory audio message from him as well as
a golden ticket for a day out with his family at The
Bear Grylls Adventure.

*Well done Henry, a massive achievement and you
are a role model to other Beaver Scouts! Good
luck in your new Cubs section, no doubt you will
be just as epic there!*

Delivering a programme to support young people
like Henry to achieve their potential requires
committed leaders. If you are looking for a new
challenge, want to join the adventure and give
opportunities to more young people (and adult
volunteers!) please visit our website
<http://1st.bradley-stoke-scouts.org/> and click on
the "Join 1st BSS" tab.



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Meadowbrook Primary School

Outdoor Learning in Year 1!

There is lots of research about the benefits of outdoor learning, including improving emotional wellbeing, developing risk taking, engaging and immersing children in their learning, enhancing their physical fitness and much, much more! This term, our Year 1 children are using the outdoor learning environment in a variety of ways and, in addition to the benefits above, they are having lots of fun!



OPEN DAYS

We'd love to see you at one of our Open events!

Tuesday 12th October, 9.30am
Thursday 4th November, 2pm
Saturday 6th November, 10am
Tuesday 9th November, 9.30am
Thursday 11th November, 2pm
Friday 19th November, 2pm
Tuesday 30th November, 9.30am
Thursday 6th January 2022, 9.30am

To sign up please contact the scho9o9l office on
01454 868630 or
office@meadowbrookprimary.co.uk.

We look forward to meeting you!



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Primary School

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stokelodgeschool.co.uk



Come and Join the Fun at St Michael's Church Pre-School & Nursery

At St Michael's Church Preschool & Nursery, we understand that choosing a Nursery for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

We provide high quality learning environments where children receive the highest standard of care, based on effective practice. We are committed to continuous improvement through reflection and evaluation, ensuring that our setting is a safe, stimulating learning environment where children can express themselves. We value every child as an individual, who is unique and special. At St Michael's all children have equal access to opportunity regardless of age, sex, culture, religion, ability, disability or background.



At St Michael's Church Pre-School & Nursery, we understand that young children require space, indoors and outdoors, where they can be active or quiet, and where they can run, jump, cosy up, think, dream and watch others. Throughout the day children free-flow between rooms indoors and outdoors and enjoy a range of experiences.



The learning environment is organised offering a child-centred environment in which the children's needs and views are reflected in the layout, allowing them to access a range of resources and equipment. Allowing the children access to all resources empowers them to be independent and limits adult intervention so they can choose what they like to do and extend their play in a natural way.

St Michael's Church Pre-School & Nursery is an expression of the vision of St Michael's Church of 'Living to make a difference' by being 'a Christian heart at the centre of our communities'. We aim to serve our community with quality childcare that supports and encourages each child's development within a Christian environment. In line with the charitable aims of the church, the setting is 'not for profit', with any surplus reinvested back into the setting.

For further information, please contact the Manager at preschoolnursery@stmichaelsbristol.org or take a look at our website www.stmichaelsbristol.org/psn/

St Michael's Church Pre-School & Nursery

Places available for all children aged 0-3

Monday to Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm

0117 923 6395

e-mail: preschoolnursery@stmichaelsbristol.org

rated "Good" by Ofsted

"We are extremely impressed with the love and care our children have received at St Michael's Church Nursery"

"Plenty of fun activities to keep them occupied – the large garden is a tremendous asset – thank you!"



**The Old Vicarage, 24 North Road, Stoke Gifford, South Glos, BS34 8PB
(located at the entrance to Bristol Parkway Station)**



Kids learn when they are having Fun!



Scratch code 4 Kids.

Physical Computing with Lego Engineering.

Weekly sessions lasting 1-2 hours.

Looking for new members for the new school year.

KS2 and KS3 preferred, but everybody is welcome subject to numbers.

Engineering is critically important, We encourage Kids, to understand an Engineering Base in STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) in a structured fun and engaging way. The aim is to equip pupils with the skills they need for the world of work, to inspire more young people to pursue careers in computing and to help them to problem solve and become logical thinkers.

I am a STEM ambassador and am based in Winterbourne and registered with South Glos libraries as a volunteer.

Although we continued to run throughout the Covid Crisis on Zoom (and I was declared a Lockdown Legend by the STEM ambassador hub!), I am happy to say that we are now once again able to arrange face to face sessions.

I am therefore able to offer regular Lego Engineering / Robotic sessions at a venue to be decided once we have sufficient interest.

Please register your interest or book an appointment (free). I am contactable on 07651 230 894 or happy to come to see you - ML van der Heiden, Instructor SCFK

Scratch code 4 kids is a community-based STEM / Code club

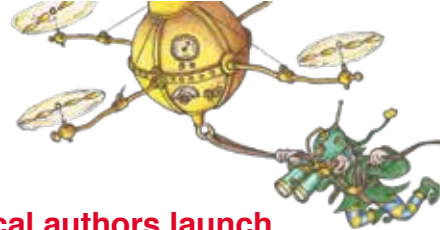


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Our aim is to ensure the academic, personal and social development of every student in our care so that they move to the next stage of their lives ready to succeed in whatever path they choose.

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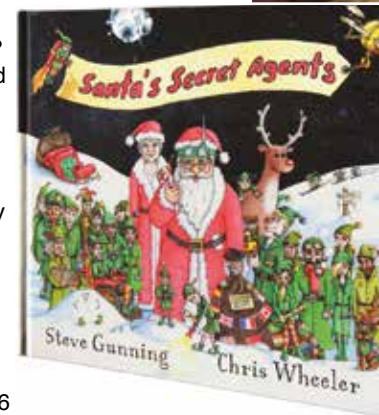
For more information visit:
winterbourneacademy.org.uk



Local authors launch new children's book for Christmas

Two Bristol-born authors, Steve Gunning and Chris Wheeler are celebrating the publication of their new Children's picture book, **'Santa's Secret Agents'** this month.

So what was the inspiration? A long car journey, two bored and misbehaving children and an exasperated father! Chris Wheeler warned that Father Christmas will know that they were being naughty because "Santa can see through the sunroof". This idea started Chris and his friend Steve on a journey to co-write the perfect Christmas gift and stocking filler aimed at children aged 6 upwards.



From Summer holidays to Halloween and everything in between, Santa's Secret Agents, under the command of Jolly Saint Nick (a.k.a. Double Ho 7) and Mrs Claus are always watching. Children and parents alike are invited to find out where are they hiding?

Joint writer and also illustrator of the book, Steve Gunning commented, "We really wanted the story's rhymes and pictures to be something children (and adults) would want to come back to over and over again, first because you would find something new and then because you just liked them. It's been a huge learning curve but with the enthusiasm and help from our publisher Carraway we are really proud that it will be on sale in bookshops, it's still a bit difficult to believe!"



Santa's Secret Agents (RRP £9.99) is published by Carraway and is available from 6th October on-line (Waterstones.com) as well as from all good bookshops.



Steve and Chris will also be doing local book-signings and performing readings at many schools in the run up to Christmas. **To book an author visit for your school please contact the publisher: jane@carrawaypublishing.co.uk**

Take a look inside Santa's Secret Agents ...



Family Craft Activity Days at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Tuesday 26th October - A Spooky Halloween Special

Saturday 13th November - Nature Crafts and Recycling Superstars

Sessions at 10am or 1pm, aimed at families with children under 12. Tickets are just £5 per family. Please book online, in advance so we can prepare materials.

All activities take place in line with government Covid guidance.

Further details of all events, and of Barn hire for meetings, classes, and weddings, can be found on the Barn website.

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

www.winterbournebarn.org.uk
Facebook @winterbournemedievalbarn

Bradley Stoke Cricket Club - End of Season Update

Seniors

The 2021 was season has been a historic season from a Senior Men's section point of view with the Club's 1st XI (pictured right) winning promotion to the West of England Premier League for the first time in the Club's history, alongside retaining the Tony Hitch T20 Knockout Cup after only winning it for the 1st time in 2019 when the cup was last held.

The club has four Saturday teams who take part in the Bristol and District Cricket Leagues (B&D) as well as two Sunday teams who are members of the North Somerset Cricket League. Due to such great availability we have even been able to field a fifth XI on occasion on Saturdays, a symbol of how far the club has come in such a short space of time.

The 4th XI is a mix of players beginning their Cricketing journey from our Strong Youth section along with older, wise heads who help guide the youth team in their first steps into adult cricket, the 4th XI play in Division 14 of the B&D and had a great season finishing 3rd in the league.

Top run scorer - Prabhu 303 Runs.

Top wicket taker—Shabbaz Hussain 22 Wickets.

Our 3rd XI who play in B&D division 10 is a further step up on the 4th XI with slightly older youth players looking to further their adult cricket experience, the team had a great season this year finishing just short of a promotion place in 4th for the 4th consecutive season!

Top run scorer - Paul Peterson 321 Runs.

Top wicket taker - Sam Hunter 26 Wickets.

Moving further up the ranks **our 2nd team** play in Division 4 of the B&D and finished the season in a respectable 4th position in what was an extremely challenging league. The team faced strong local clubs such as Golden Hill 2nd XI (Formerly YMCA), Winterbourne 2nd XI and Frenchay 2nd XI.

Top run scorer - Anthony Beaven 188 Runs. Top wicket taker - Wayne Passmore 23 Wickets.

As previously alluded to, **the 1st XI** had a memorable season retaining the Tony Hitch Knockout Cup after victory against Backwell Flax Bourton and Winning promotion to the West of



England Premier League, for the 1st time in the Club's short history. The side competed in the B&D Senior Division, the top division of B&D cricket against top sides such as Frenchay, Bedminster and Timsbury and finished 2nd behind Bedminster to earn promotion. Interest in the team even reached such a point that Captain Ash Baber appeared on BBC Radio Bristol with Geoff Twentyman to discuss the team's successes. 75% of the team have come through the club's youth system and through the ranks to play important roles in the season within the 1st team.

Top run scorer- Tom Laver 716 Runs.

Top wicket taker—Owen Onslow 41 Wickets

Youth

After a shortened and unique season in 2020, the youth section were looking hopefully forward to a full season, with the green light given for recreational outdoor sport to resume.

With a membership of just over 100, plus All Stars and Dynamos (see below), across the whole section 95 matches were played.

All Stars Cricket returned for a 3rd year at BSCC after cancellation in 2020, with 29 5-8 year olds signed up to enjoy the 10 Friday evening sessions that were delivered.

Dynamos Cricket was launched, the natural progression from All Stars for 8 to 11 year olds. BSCC took part but chose to invite girls only, as was an option, to encourage more girls to get involved in cricket, as we already have thriving Under 9s and Under 11s sections. This saw 17 girls take part, alongside the All Stars sessions.

Our Under 9s entered a new U9s league set up by the local league, the Bristol Youth Cricket League (BYCL), essentially a league of friendly games to make setting up such games easier. A squad full of potential won all 5 such games they played, and played a further 10 friendly games away from the league structure.

Our Under 11s again fielded 2 teams in the hardball league competitions, one playing an 8-a-side pairs format, the other an 11-a-side 'traditional' format. The 8-a-side team picked up a couple of league wins, and the 11-a-side team got past one round of the cup and finished in mid table in their division.

For the first time we fielded two **Under 13s** teams, as the large squad size of nearly 30 required. The BYCL introduced 3 league tiers (Performance, Participation, Foundation) in this age group that could be entered, designed to reflect the level of the teams and so that all games were more competitive.



Our new team, U13As, (above photo) entered the Foundation division and finished runners up, a creditable performance from a developing side.

We had high hopes for our U13s and accordingly entered them into the Performance division. They had a particularly strong season by winning the league stage unbeaten, only to lose in the Final in the 4 team play-offs. Prior to that they finished runners-up in the BYCL Cup, and won the Stroud and South Gloucestershire group of the National Cup, their run ending in the Gloucestershire County finals day in the Semi-Finals. They ended

the season unbeaten at home and won 13 of their first 14 games.

Our Under 15s entered the Participation tier and won their division with 6 wins from the 6 games played. They lost close games in both cups to Performance tier Thornbury both times, but not before reaching the South Gloucestershire group Semi-Finals in the National Cup.

Our Under 17s entered the BYCL Participation tier, as well as the Development tier of a County-wide Under 16s competition organised by the Gloucestershire Cricket Board (GCB). All of our Under 17s players were eligible to play Under 16s competitions.

In their BYCL league division, they finished joint 2nd, and reached the Semi-Finals of the cup.

In **the Under 16s** competition, they won the South group, and so travelled to Cirencester CC for finals day which included the North Group qualifiers, winning their Semi Final vs Hatherley & Reddings, only to find the hosts too strong in the final.

All in all, a busy and successful season, particularly so for a number of our players also playing representative age group matches for Zonal, Gloucestershire County Development and Gloucestershire Full County teams across the season, not forgetting the club senior and women's matches that a good number also played in.

As ever none of this could run smoothly without the support of the parents/carers, all of our coaches and assistants, our Safeguarding Officer, groundsman, committee, our landlords Bradley Stoke Town Council, and the competition organisers. A massive thanks goes out to all.

John Rivers
Youth Development Manager

The club is always on the lookout for offers of support/sponsorship and so if you are interested to hear more about the various packages on offer please contact chairman@bradleystoke.cc for further info



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Stoke Gifford

OUR MODERN FAMILY CLUB IS MORE THAN JUST A GYM

Recently upgraded with state-of-the-art Technogym equipment, we offer dedicated training areas, exciting new boutique classes and versatile equipment for all fitness levels. We also offer a range of fitness classes for children aged between 8-15 and a crèche for children aged from 6 weeks to 12 years.

Book a tour: 0117 974 9740



Bradley Stoke Judo Club: The Community Club on the Global Stage



Did you know Bradley Stoke Judo Club has been part of and serving the community since 1999?

In the 22 years we have seen many local residents pass through our doors and we have taken many of them to national medallists. However the competitive path is not for everyone and we are equally as proud of the number of members who have continued their judo journey for fitness and the social side.

Since the end of the lockdowns and the lifting of restrictions we have seen great interest from a whole new generation of local residents wanting to take up judo. On the Saturday novices class for the under 12s we have had great numbers with us, regularly getting up to 30 on the mat. We are also getting great interest from the 30 years plus age groups wanting to start judo for the first time. The usual question is "Am I too old to start?" and the simple response is No.

On the competitive front judoka continue to make up for lost time and have been training hard preparing for the competition circuit. In August we took a group of about 20 fighters to Scotland to train with the Scottish national u15, 18 and 21 squads at a weekend camp. Then the following week we took our u18, u21 and senior players to Croatia for a week's training camp with squads from Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Hungary, Czech Republic and Kosovo. It was great experience for everyone to train against top international fighters with Olympic and World Cup experience. The coach of Kosovo, one of the world's up and coming Judo powerhouses, was so impressed with us that he asked if he could have one of the club's training tops. He has also invited us to train in Kosovo. The coach was recently filmed in a new documentary by Eurosport and European Judo and the name of Bradley Stoke can proudly be seen being worn by the coach (photo right)!



A successful performance by Tatum Keen at a recent European Cup competition has seen Tatum being selected by Great Britain to fight at the European and World Championships this year (photo left).

On the domestic front the first major competition took place with the English Closed Championships in London. Ellie Shipp (photo below right) took gold in the u15s under 52kgs category with an excellent display of judo. Maddie Young took bronze in the under 18s under 63kgs category and has earned a place on the England national squad, joining the already long list of GB and England representatives from the Club. A big well



done to all the other players of BSJC who took part and also produced great judo. At the time of writing BSJC has sent 5 members to fight at the European Senior Open in Bosnia for GB and on day one of the competition we are delighted to report that Lele Nairne won a great bronze medal!

If you are interested in joining our ever growing club please get in touch via our facebook page or club website. Also if you are a local company and interested in sponsorship opportunities and getting your name on the European and World stage please let us know.

Bradley Stoke Ladies FC - Your Local Ladies Football Club

Bradley Stoke Ladies have finally kick started their 7th season playing in the Gloucestershire County Womens Football League, which began 5th September.

After two very strange covid-affected seasons the girls were ready to get back to the league and hope that no disruptions take place this time. With 22 league fixtures this year, it's going to be a long season (no complaints from us!)

The New Kit Is Here!

The team were very excited to unveil the new kit and jackets as a result of their sponsorships by local businesses LSI Workplace and Digital NRG - both local to the club.

Back to the club colours of black and orange, we're very grateful for the sponsors and look forward to playing in the new gear for the rest of the season. The jackets will definitely come in handy during the winter!

Results

At the time of writing this article, the girls currently sit in the table with 3 points after 1 loss and 1 win to start the season against Olveston Reserves and Whitchurch & Bristol respectively. After getting the first 3 points on the board for the season, the girls are looking forward to

pushing for more as the season goes on.

Our next 4 fixtures are as follows. All home games are at Bradley Stoke Community School with 2pm kick off so please come down and support if you can!

3rd October - BLU Dev (A)
10th October - Kingswood (H)
24th October - Tewkesbury Town (H)
31st October - Winchcombe Town (A)

For more information and regular updates:

<https://www.bradleystokeladiesfc.co.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/bradleystokeladiesfc>
<https://www.instagram.com/bradleystokeladiesfc/>
<https://twitter.com/BradleyStokeLFC>

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Bradley Stoke Town Football Club

Start of a New Season

After a long pre-season the football league has officially started! Bradley Stoke Town have eagerly awaited the start of the season and it didn't disappoint. All five teams have won their opening game with 24 goals scored and just 1 goal conceded.

Bradley Stoke First team welcomed Cribbs A to Patchway Sports Centre in a midweek fixture. The game started slowly with Cribbs making lots of opportunities however unable to find the back of the net. After the first 20 minutes Bradley Stoke took control of the game and came out 4-0 winners. A hat-trick from Steve Johnstone and Callum Sommerville converting for the firsts.

The Reserves faced Brimsham Green in what was looking to be a tough game. The Reserves pre-season efforts paid off. Looking by far the fitter team the reserves came out 9-0 winners which was a great start to the season.

The A team headed over to South Bristol to face Mendip Broadwalk at Filwood Playing Fields in a mid-week clash. Under new management The As were seeking to get 3 points on the board. With little time to warm up prior to the game, the As started very strong and could have taken the lead early on. Mendip did not make it easy for Bradley Stoke however the A team battled on and finished the 3-0 winners.

The B team drew Hallen A in the first game of the season. After seeing Hallen A over the previous season the Bs knew it was going to be a very tough game. This didn't faze newly appointed Andy Turners team where they battled home and took all 3 points with a 6-0 win.

Kieran Jones travelled over to Ashton to play FC Bristol Union where his C team were full of energy and really wanted to start the season off on the right foot. The Cs couldn't have started the season better, after sealing the win with a 2-1 victory they are looking to back this win up with another win over Eastville rangers in their second game of their campaign.

The C team are also happy to announce that Lansdown Place Wealth Management are their new sponsors for the upcoming season. Lansdown Place Wealth Management offer strategic and holistic financial planning advice focusing on your individual needs, aims and objectives, taking into consideration your lifestyle, financial goals and aspirations.

Keep an eye out on our website & social media as all details will be available: www.bstfc.co.uk / social media outlets: Facebook & Twitter @BSTFC

Upcoming Home fixtures taking place at either the Jubilee Centre (JC) or Patchway Sports Centre (PSC) - Supporters Welcome!

02/10 - BSTFC Res vs MK Lofts - 14:30 ko PSC ;
BSTFC C vs Little Stoke A - 14:00 ko at JC
09/10 - BSTFC vs St Nicholas - 14:30 ko PSC ;
BSTFC vs Roman Glass Res - 14:30 ko JC
16/10 - BSTFC Res vs Lion - 14:30 ko PSC ;
BSTFC A vs Stoke Lane - 14:30 ko JC;
BSTFC C vs Old Georgians Res - 14:00 ko PSC
23/10 - BSTFC B vs Bitton Res - 14:30 ko JC
30/10 - BSTFC Res vs Thornbury Town Res - 14:30 ko PSC
BSTFC A vs Mendip Broadwalk A - 14:30 ko JC ;
BSTFC C vs FC Union Bristol - 14:00 ko PSC

06/11 - BSTFC Res vs Lawrence Weston - 14:00 ko PSC
BSTFC vs Highridge A - 14:00 ko JC
13/11 - BSTFC vs Nicholas wanderers - 14:00 ko PSC;
BSTFC Res vs Cup fixture - 14:00 ko PSC ;
BSTFC A vs Cup fixture - 14:00 ko PSC ;
BSTFC B vs Bristol Barcelona Res - 14:00 ko JC
20/11 - BSTFC Res vs Olveston Res - 14:00 ko PSC ;
BSTFC A vs Pucklechurch Res - 14:00 ko JC ;
BSTFC C vs Cup fixture - 14:00 ko PSC
27/11 - BSTFC B vs Greyfriars - 14:00 ko JC



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Come and Join Your Community Rugby Club and Help Your Kids Have Fun !! – Free Membership

**Update by Steve Cooke, Chairman,
SMOB RFC, Trench Lane, Winterbourne**

I want to kick off this column with a big thank you to all of you who turned up and enjoyed our Pitch Up and Play Funday, organised by our Mini and Junior section on Sunday 12th September. As well as our existing members, we were delighted to welcome over 20 new families to St Mary's.

It is our Club's mission to become the best Community Rugby Club we can be, and we believe we do this by ensuring EVERYONE gets to play and have fun.

Unlike other clubs we do not have waiting lists or limited time to train - we have over 22 acres of playing area and plenty of coaching capacity to ensure there is room for everyone, whatever your age or ability. All new young players from our Micros 4 and up through to our U16s will get

- free membership this season
- enjoy playing rugby making new friends and learning our values
- high quality coaching and plenty of game time on our 22 acres of grass pitches
- player of the month awards with free stash prizes at all levels
- a great family bar and kitchen with fantastic outdoor facilities



We are especially indebted to our club mascot Bradley Bull for all the hard work getting our messages out over the weekend at the Willow Brook Shopping Centre, Trench Lane Car Boot and then meeting the new members at the Funday on Sunday.



Our Club Mascot Bradley Bull (sponsored by Bradley Stoke Matters) getting to know some of our new members. It's so great to see him out and about again!!

Keep an eye out for Bradley who promises me he will be back out and about around Bradley Stoke and Little Stoke sooner rather than later.

We rely on the goodwill, effort and support of our volunteers and sponsors. We would not have been able to have such a great day without their help and support, so I'd like to shout out to our coaches and parent volunteers. Having qualified coaches and first aiders, all DBS checked, is an important part of creating a true family atmosphere with a community feel. I'd also like to thank our sponsors on the day:

- our O2 Touch and Under 84s Mixed Ability Walking Rugby Teams
- Progressive Sports, who run our After School Active class Tuesdays 6-7pm
- Giovanni Maniglia for his fantastic Ice Creams
- Absolute Bounce for their Bouncy Castle
- SMOB Kitchen Crew for high quality bacon rolls, hot dogs and veggie burgers.

One of our sponsors, Progressive Sports, provide a great bridge to rugby skill. They organise 'Golden Touch' where they help each individual develop the core skills of all forms of rugby: evasion, handling and teamwork in a safe and fun environment. This makes it a great option for both rugby players looking to enhance their fundamental skill set or children who enjoy rugby without the contact element. These

sessions take an holistic approach to learning, implementing the ethos that sport is a vehicle to develop people as well as players.



Our Senior Sides have been in action in warm up games as they prepare for the start of League Rugby. Our Ladies team (photo above), who are celebrating 25 Years of Women's Rugby at St Mary's, kicked off their season with a warmup game away to Cullompton in North Devon. Our girls put up a spirited performance against a Cullompton side that contained no fewer than 5 players from Exeter Chiefs squad who were also looking for some game time. It was a special day for Izzy, Jess, Charlotte and Katherine who played their first game in the Green and Black shirt and absolutely smashed it! Coaches Player Lois Bird, Players Player Katherine Magowan.



Our senior men's squad have had a tough pre-season with a good set of learning points from playing against Bristol Saracens, Old Colstonians and Ashley Down Old Boys. Under coaches Ed Smith and Ryan Price we have steadily improved over these games and are looking forward to the start of competitive matches. We have progressed to the Semi Final of the Bristol

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Combination Bowl by beating Ashley Down OB 35-24 and have seen a number of debut players including Joe Tiley and Nick Fraser, who both scored tries on debut.

Finally, I'm humbled to report the success of our Gaelic Football partners St Nicks in their Fundraiser on Saturday 11th September at St Mary's, in honour of the passing of one of their young players, Conor O'Dubhain who sadly took his own life.



So far nearly £6,000 has been raised for the Charity Pieta House. This is a wonderful charity committed to helping people who feel there is nowhere turn. In 2020 Pieta delivered over 52,000 hours of intervention and counselling, managing over 70,000 calls and directly supported over 600 households devastated by the loss of a loved one by suicide.

Please remember – you are not alone – it's ok not to be ok – it's ok to talk about it.

Greetings from Bradley Stoke Rotary Club!



The club is back up and running post-Covid and we now meet in the evening on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Doubletree Hilton hotel in Bradley Stoke.

If anyone feels the urge to join us in 'giving back' to the community you'll be more than welcome! Please feel free to come along - just call our secretary Karen on 07540 458119 for more details or to let us know you're coming!

We will be holding our annual Barn Dance, which is always a great event, at St. Mary's rugby club on Friday the 8th October. Tickets can be obtained from Karen on the number above.

We're also very pleased to announce that we will be back selling our burgers at the Bradley Stoke fireworks on the 7th November!!

Finally, we making plans to plant another Crocus Wheel. Readers may have seen our last one on Baileys Court Road (opp Sherbourne Ave) this Spring (as featured in the April/May edition of Bradley Stoke Matters). Keep your eyes peeled for the next one!!

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Like A Capella? Come Sing with Us!!

The coronavirus pandemic has affected us all in different ways. For The Great Western Chorus, necessity was the mother of invention. We found ourselves having to do things a little differently in order to survive.

Singing is a wonderful hobby to keep healthy and socialise with friends. Delivering this in bucketfuls is The Great Western Chorus - one of Bristol's best kept secrets. We're the most successful male barbershop chorus in the UK, having won the national championship title a record ten times! This has meant we have represented the UK many times at the internationals in America. We've sung everywhere from St Georges and the Victoria Rooms in Bristol. We have even graced the Royal Albert Hall! And right now we're on your doorstep, but how did we get here?

In the run up to the 2020 barbershop convention competition, our rehearsals ground to a halt. Our Wednesday get-togethers at our base in Fonthill Primary School were no more. We had to figure out how to keep forty blokes singing whilst not being in the same room.

Our music team, which consists of professional musicians and teachers, had to come up with something. Fast. We tried several online applications, gadgets and gizmos, including Zoom. It was tough because if everyone sang unmuted it was a cacophony of delayed and jittery voices. This meant singing along to yourself on mute - not something that inspires many avid singers. What else could we do?

In some ways keeping this going has brought us closer together. Because of using Zoom, we were able to do other things not possible with normal in-person rehearsals. We used videos of other people's warm-ups, had slide shows about looking after your voice and how to sing better. To keep morale high, we always had a post-rehearsal drink and a quiz afterwards. Some of us also honed our editing skills to make music videos of ourselves singing. On Youtube you can find a beautiful version of Silent Night or our latest show opener - The Muppet Show theme. Now that's what I call range!

We're now back to face-to-face rehearsals (with some COVID precautions to keep



everyone safe) - rehearsing on Wednesday evenings at the St Michael's Centre in Stoke Gifford from 19:30. If you're a seasoned singer or only have a warble in the shower, why not come along and check us out? We're looking for new members on all singing parts. Our members come from all corners of life; our eldest is 93 and our youngest is 20. Whilst our roots are in barbershop singing we have a varied repertoire - as long as it's A Cappella.

If you're interested, drop us a line at contact@greatwesternchorus.com

To celebrate getting through the last year and a half, we and five other Bristol based choruses are getting together for **The Big Bristol Barbershop Bonanza on 27th November.** If we are able to go ahead with it, it'll be in your very own St Michael's Centre, Stoke Gifford. You can get tickets through our website at www.greatwesternchorus.com



Lockdown Antics!





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

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 Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Doubletree Hilton hotel in Bradley Stoke. Contact Secretary Karen on 07540 458119

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

Silverwinds Flute Choir - meet once a month on a Thursday evening 19:00 - 21:00 at Christ the King Church. For more details please visit www.silverwindsflutechoir.co.uk or email silverwinds@michellekrawiec.co.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 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, please let us know at community@mattersmagazines.co.uk and we will do our 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

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.bradleystokebowls.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 10am until 4pm.

Stoke Gifford Baptist Church 1, Rock Lane, 01454 610808

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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

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: Dan Ross, 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: 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. Mary's R.C. Primary School, Acting Head Teacher: Mrs K Burden, Webbs Wood Lane BStoke, 01454 866390,

St Michael's Primary School, Acting Head - Mrs Jo Prendergast, Ratcliffe Drive, Stoke Gifford 01454 866781. www.stmichaelssg.co.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

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

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