

Little Stoke Gifford *Matters*



June / July 2023

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Dear Readers....

Well, what a wonderful couple of weekends the start of May had in store for us! Firstly celebrating King Charles III's Coronation and then at the wonderful Foodies Festival at Little Stoke Park, which proved very popular in the lovely sunshine. We have included a selection of articles of the King's Coronation Celebrations in this issue - it is great to see the community join in and celebrate this historic occasion.

We welcome Caddy Gilmore's Adventure Golf Park to the magazine for this issue (see opposite). Bristol Energy Cooperative are again opening up their investment window opportunity this month - see p12. We also welcome on board a new contributor - Tip the Balance (p15) - who will be offering Wellbeing tips and insights in our future editions. Aztec Hotel & Spa are offering some lovely Spa packages this month (p16-17), including for the men, which is useful as this month sees Men's Health Awareness week and Father's Day - a great excuse to treat the men in your life!

There is plenty more to look forward to this month - Little Stoke Garden Society have their annual open day (see overleaf); Bradley Stoke is hosting a Community Picnic and other events over the weekend of 10/11 June. The Circus is coming to Stoke Lodge Primary this summer and there are some fabulous music events for your entertainment as well.

Don't forget if you are a business looking to promote your services across the Stokes do get in touch - deadline for the next edition is 12th June. Enjoy the read!

Jaci x

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Please let people know you saw them in Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters!

Little Stoke Garden Society

Allotment Open Morning

Sunday 4th June 2023

10.00am ~ 12.30am

At the Allotments (behind Bush Avenue)

All are welcome

Are you interested in having an Allotment? Come and take a look for yourself, talk to our members about the pleasure and benefits of having an Allotment

* Teas and coffee *

* Bacon Butties *

* Raffle *

* Plant sales and swaps *

* Craft stall *

* Cards *

* Ask our gardeners for advice *



If you have any surplus plants or seedlings, please bring them along to the Open Day. All monies collected are reinvested in the Allotments for the benefit of Garden Society members

Please come and join our membership of the Little Stoke Garden Society, this will enable you to buy gardening items at our allotment shop at low prices and the amount you need.

For further information on the Society visit our website

www.littlestokegardenandallotmentsociety2018.co.uk



Stoke Gifford Retirement Village had an unforgettable three-day Coronation weekend filled with fun, music, and community spirit!

On day one, the Coronation was screened for everyone to watch together and an incredible day was enjoyed, with bubbly, cake, royals, Stoke Gifford Community Choir and a strong sense of community. It was heart-warming to see everyone come together!

Day two was the Coronation Big Lunch hosted by Filton Concert Brass band. Guests to the Village brought their own picnics, and quiches, sandwiches, crisps, dips, and savouries of every kind were enjoyed. There was also yummy cream teas from the bistro. It was an amazing time with friends, family, and loved ones!

Finally, on day three, for the Big Help Out residents and the wider community came together for a litter pick, and afterward enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments. There was live music by The Shucks, face painting, arts and crafts, a make-your-own smoothie station, delicious cakes, and a variety of drinks.

Following on from our coverage of the knitted solider last autumn, it was great to see that the talented ladies knitting group have had another busy four months creating a knitted version of King Charles III - isn't he just amazing!

Stoke Gifford Retirement Village would like to thank everyone who helped make the weekend event such a success!





Bradley Stoke Youth FC Football Festival 10th June 2023 at The Jubilee Centre

The BSYFC Football Festival has been running for an incredible 17 years since it first started in June 2006 when just 48 players were involved. The Football Festival has always been a large part of the annual Bradley Stoke Town Festival. Sadly the latter will not be happening this year, but the good news is that the Football Festival will therefore be even bigger this year with Bradley Stoke Youth FC also celebrating their 25th Anniversary since their formation back in June 1998.

This year's Football Festival will showcase many of the BSYFC players both current and past. The age range of children participating in the Festival will range from Reception to 15 year olds, with the number of players involved being over 300! The matches will start at 10am and run throughout the day across the 5 pitches.

Refreshments will be available on the day so come along and support your local community grassroots football club.

Taking Place Sunday 11th June:

Sole Sisters 10K Run

Starting and finishing at the Jubilee Centre Sunday 11th June @ 9.30am, the Bradley Stoke 10K is a fully marshalled, mixed terrain event with a fantastic atmosphere and support! Visit www.solesistersrc.co.uk for further information.

The Brightwell Charity Colour Run

Sunday 11th June @ 1.30pm
Jubilee Playing Fields, Bradley Stoke

Walk, run, wheel or stroll, 3k family friendly course. This run is all about having FUN! It isn't the competitive type in the slightest. In fact, you're unlikely to run that much at all, unless you're a pro at running & laughing at the same time!!! Up to 3K family-friendly route! Fun warm up session. 5 colour stations. Music around the course. Fun photo opportunity. Free t-shirt, paint sachet & goody bag with every ticket. There will also be a variety of refreshments available to purchase on the day.

Visit www.thebrightwell.org.uk for further information and to book tickets.



COMMUNITY PICNIC

Saturday 10th June 2023
12 noon - 3.00pm
Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood Road, BS32 8HL

Come and join us in supporting Bradley Stoke Youth Football Club's 25th Anniversary Celebration matches



Bring a Picnic Lunch



Refreshments available



Free face painting and giant bubbles



Bradley Stoke Youth Football Club matches



Music provided by Bradley Stoke Radio



BSLFC Secure Safety In Division 2 Following Promotion

With the GCWFL season ending as late as 21st May, the ladies have secured a mid-table finish after returning to division 2. Following promotion after winning the division 3 league title last season, it was always going to be a mixed season against established and experienced teams across Gloucestershire.

The club has now been going since 2015 which is a great achievement seeing as so many teams fold after just a few seasons, particularly in the women's game which is still growing. The club also took on 3 of last season's BSYFC U16's girls players to the ladies team for this season - we look forward to seeing their continued development in the women's game.

Bradley Stoke Youth Festival - Saturday 10th June

The ladies will also be present at the football festival celebrations for the 25th anniversary of Bradley Stoke Youth, which was first set up in 1998. Current ladies manager Martin Lee (pictured far right above) was one of the development team to help set the club up initially.

The festival is being held Saturday 10th June at the Jubilee Centre, with the football tournament being held across the day. The ladies will be running their annual cake stall to raise vital funds for the club so please come down and support if you can, the support goes a long way.

Recruiting For Experienced Players

The club is now looking for new players to improve the squad for the new 2023/24 season which will be starting in September. Training carries on throughout summer every Tuesday, with pre-season friendlies also starting in July in preparation for the new season. If you have experience in football and are looking for a team to join, we'd love to hear from you!

Coaching Opportunity

The club is also looking for coaches to support with training and match days. If you're looking for a new opportunity to support a local and friendly ladies team then please get in contact. Grassroots football is nothing without its volunteers who kindly give up their free time to support the game and is really appreciated by everyone throughout the club.

For more information regarding any of the above please contact us:

T: 07785 384618 (Martin Lee - manager)

E: bradleystokeladiesfc@hotmail.com

W: bradleystokeladiesfc.co.uk

A final big thank you to the Baileys Court Inn for supporting us with post-match hospitality again this season after all our home games!

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Commemorating an Historic Moment in Time at Patchway Community School

Little Stoke Gifford Matters was pleased to hear from Miss Haines, Head of Humanities at Patchway Community School, sharing the story of their commemoration of King Charles III's Coronation by way of planting a time capsule and tree.

Together with the PCS team and the year 7s, a small ceremony was arranged to mark the coronation. The pupils received a lesson educating them about the history of coronations, how they have been celebrated over time and why they're considered a significant moment in history – one we are all living through right now! The pupils then wrote letters to the future, recounting experiences of what it is like to live in 2023, significant events etc as well as predictions and hopes for what life might be like in the future. Some students also added drawings to the capsule - flags, crowns and Victoria sponges aplenty!

Following the expressed wishes of King Charles III, a tree was also chosen to be planted to mark the occasion. We chose an apple tree for its beautiful blossoms, role in supporting pollinators and the opportunity to provide fresh fruit (it has been planted only a short walk from our Home Tech rooms). It was wonderful to read how many students had included climate change and sustainability within their letters; they've learnt about this topic this year and showed a real understanding of how the planting of the tree linked to ideas of sustainability and caring for our environment.

The pupils themselves were very hands on! We had many volunteering to dig the holes with a shovel, some happily removing the dirt with their hands and getting involved with planting the tree. The tree was planted within our nature reserve, this area is going to be protected whilst our new school is being built, meaning our time capsule will not be disturbed until we choose to do so long into the future.





Use your savings as a force for good

If you're seeking to be more environmentally friendly, it's worth considering the impact your savings can have. One positive and impactful option is to invest in renewable, community-owned energy.

With the launch of their new share offer, Bristol Energy Cooperative aims to bring people together to tackle the climate emergency and the energy crisis. The not-for-profit is seeking to raise £1million to develop more green, clean energy projects across the region, at speed.

When you invest in the energy cooperative, your money will:

- Tackle climate change by funding the delivery of pioneering clean energy projects such as rooftop solar panels on community buildings
- Support local community with cheaper energy bills for host buildings, and raising community benefit funds for local initiatives
- Democratise energy ownership, allowing communities and individuals to feel the benefit of renewable energy generation
- Earn a potential financial return, with a projected 5% in this share offer

BEC's business model of raising funds has proved very successful so far. Since it was set up in 2011, the co-op has raised over £15 million, and developed over 10MWp of solar and battery assets, enough to power roughly 3,250 homes. The organisation is an important contributor of renewable energy in the South West, generating roughly the equivalent of 30% of Bristol's solar energy.



It's not only BEC's members that gain from a return on investment. Over the past 10 years, the cooperative has channelled over £350,000 of community benefit payments into local sustainability initiatives, such as community gardens, education and biodiversity programmes. Also, community spaces such as Easton Community Centre and Knowle West Media Centre have benefitted from cheaper energy rates thanks to the solar installations by BEC, meaning they have more funds to spend on their vital services. In December 2022 BEC completed a 1MW rooftop PV install at the second Bottleyard Film studios (TBY2). This is by far its largest rooftop scheme to date, and BEC believes it's the largest community rooftop solar array in the UK.

The cooperative currently has 1,500 members, and is looking to grow and diversify its membership to help create a just energy transition.

Anyone can invest in BEC's withdrawable shares, from as little as £100. Investors are projected to receive a 5% annual return. The share offer is open until 17th July 2023. For more information please see: <https://bristolenergy.coop/share-offer-2023/>

Photos: BEC Staff at TBY2 installation; Easton Community Centre solar array; BEC Members mingle at 2022 event

Meet your PCC – Mark Shelford

Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Mark Shelford was elected as Conservative PCC in 2021.

I would like to start with a huge thank you to all the police officers who ensured that The King's Coronation Bank Holiday weekend was enjoyed safely by all across Avon and Somerset, as well as in the capital.

There was also so much good work happening as part of the Big Help Out Coronation celebration that it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge all the community spirit and dedicated citizens across our area who volunteer their time all year round to create safer and better neighbourhoods for everyone.

On that note, I am pleased to inform you all that the Commissioner's Crime Prevention Fund grant has officially opened. This grant, set up by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in partnership with Somerset Community Foundation and Quartet Community Foundation, aims to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through community projects and activities across the region.

I would like to congratulate and thank all the local community groups and organisations previously awarded this grant. They have delivered some fantastic crime-reducing initiatives and activities.

I implore local organisations and community groups to apply for this worthwhile funding to reduce anti-social behaviour and make our communities safe.

In our most recent Performance and Accountability Board (PAB), the Chief Constable (CC) and I discussed the quarterly performance report, which looks at Avon and Somerset Police's (ASP) performance against the national policing priorities and ASP's Police and Crime Plan.

The data from the quarterly performance report provided an opportunity to reflect on the police's current performance and ask questions regarding what steps are being taken to make necessary improvements for our communities.

If you missed this month's meeting, you can now watch it back via the link on the Avon and Somerset PCC's Facebook page (@AandSPCC), our website and

our YouTube channel.

Our next PAB will take place on 14 June at 10:30 am and be streamed live on our Facebook page.



May 15th marked the start of Operation Sceptre, a national initiative to combat knife crime. This targeted initiative aims to reduce the prevalence of knife-related violence, increase public safety, and engage communities in the fight against this issue.

Proactively tackling knife crime is central to my Police and Crime Plan. I encourage people to safely discard any weapons or knives they may carry in the weapons surrender bins installed by Avon and Somerset Police.

Last month, new surrender bins were installed in areas where we know they are needed to offer people a safe and anonymous way of getting rid of a weapon. If you know someone who carries a weapon, we ask you to encourage them to surrender it. Find your nearest weapon surrender bin on the ASP website under Crime Prevention Advice.

ASP and its partners already carry out a large range of activities to raise awareness of and combat knife crime, and the work of the Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) is at the heart of this. The Police work closely with the VRUs and help to deliver talks to young people in primary and secondary schools, running Blunt Truth workshops in partnership with the NHS and hosting pop-up information stands around various local areas.

While we have seen a reduction in street-based knife crime across Avon and Somerset, more still needs to be done to ensure people feel safe in their communities. Knife crime ruins lives. Let's raise awareness, educate, and stand against knife crime.

www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk 01278 646188

Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, Avon & Somerset Police HQ, Valley Road, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 8JJ

St Michael's Church were thrilled to host their Big Coronation Picnic and Barbecue on Sunday 7th May.

The 1st Stoke Gifford Scouts cooked burgers and hot dogs, and there were games and activities including a bouncy castle. The weather was a real blessing, and a fun time was had by all!



A Great Day for a Coronation Celebration Picnic!



Wellbeing Matters!

I'm absolutely delighted to be joining the 'Matters' team as your regular Wellbeing contributor.

Blogging, podcasting and LIVE social media form a big part of our education and contribution here at **Tip the Balance Wellbeing**, but I am also driven by 'community' in all its forms. I cannot wait to celebrate the topics we are exploring in our world of Wellbeing over the coming months and support you with your wellbeing after a fascinating few years!

I've lived in Winterbourne for nearly 20 years, taught in local schools, and am blessed to have raised my boys here in our wonderful community. I've built my business from our home since 2011 and have seen it evolve from a home-based, product-led business to the '**Clinic Without Walls**'™ that we now operate, drawing in professional expertise from over 30 different wellbeing referral partners in the area (and beyond) to support our clients with their varied wellbeing needs. I'm excited to showcase some of the brilliantly talented and passionate people I work with and how they might help you too.

As an experienced post-graduate biological scientist, my passion has always been the human body – when it works well and especially when it doesn't! So, we take a very holistic approach to the wellbeing needs of our many clients.

After a global pandemic, we are all much more aware of the value of our own physical, mental and emotional health. Despite initiatives to support mental health in particular, all too often we lack the courage to tap into them or the time to build the relationships and trust that supports and encourages us to ask for the help we might need.

Our Wellbeing Clinic is centred around building those relationships with you, so you feel safe to explore whatever you need to rebalance your sense of wellbeing. This is one of the things I love about working within our community. Many of our clients are people I've known for some time, in other walks of life – parents in the playground, teammates from clubs, former members at



Tip the Balance

slimming group, past pupils and/or their parents, fellow walkers from our local walking groups or referrals from happy clients or family and friends.

The Nutrition Clinic has been running for nearly 6 years and taps into my love of all things food, digestion and performance. Whether it's families or individuals, we support a wide

variety of challenges, so also created a very supportive online community to tap into for both accountability and inspiration.

The Workplace Wellbeing Clinic evolved after a referral from a teammate 5 years ago and now supports the wellbeing of teams in organisations across the country, stretching from the Midlands, down to London and across the South Coast.

As a Nordic Walking Instructor for about 4 years, I've led Tip the Balance Fitness, Wellbeing and Adventure walks in the local area. At Christmas we hatched plans to grow a community-based, social walking group and '**Walk Mates Winterbourne**' was founded on 6th January – a group of locals who meet every Wednesday night, to walk, chat and support each other to 'Move More and Make Friends'. A winter launch did mean we have walked in the pitch dark, howling wind and monsoon-like rain, but we are finally enjoying a few lighter brighter evenings! I'm proud to witness the blossoming friendships developing every time we meet - What 'Community' is all about!



So, see you next time for our first Wellbeing Blog and the latest news from **Tip the Balance – The Clinic Without Walls**™

Becca

Our contact links can be found at
www.linktr.ee/tipthebalance
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A NEW Menopause Relief Treatment

The Aztec Hotel & Spa is delighted to announce the launch of a NEW Menopause Relief treatment from TEMPLESPA, Your Best You (£98 for 80 minutes), which will be available from 1st June 2023.



Created by luxury British brand TEMPLESPA, the treatment has been carefully designed to help ease the symptoms of those going through menopause or peri-menopause.

Visiting a spa can help alleviate some of these symptoms and provide a relaxing and rejuvenating experience, with a tailored treatment like the 'Your Best You' helping to bring the body back into balance and ease issues such as easing joint pain, clearing brain fog and improving fatigue.

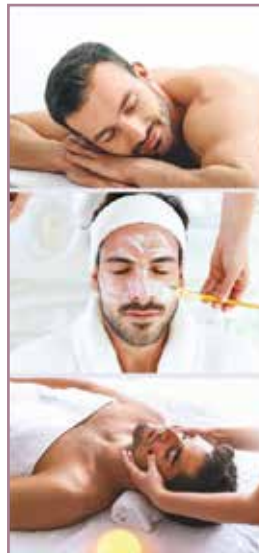
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This unique top-to-toe treatment is bespoke to the individual, supporting them fully during their second spring, no matter the stage they're at. The hour-long treatment will leave guests energised yet nurtured, at ease. Guest can choose from either a warm or cool treatment but can also change their mind during the

This gentle, caring massage uses a combination of the Spa's expert therapist hands and Himalayan Salt stones with TEMPLESPA nurturing skincare. These healing stones produce negative ions to support stress relief, increase energy, and positively boost the mood.

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Guests will step off the bed feeling fresh, calm and content knowing that they have done something good for themselves, 'Your best you once again'!



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And don't Forget Father's Day - 18th June!

The 35-minute Temple Spa Soul Soother treatment, provides instant relief for tired over-worked muscles caused by the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Starting off with an exfoliation of the lower legs and a cooling, refreshing massage, moving onto the shoulders and neck to remove any deep-set knots and finishing off at the scalp with a deeply relaxing scalp massage, men are left feeling truly soothed and refreshed! RRP: from £59

The 50-minute Temple Spa My Kinda treatment, is a serene escape that provides tranquillity and alleviate the restless mind. Infused with the invigorating blend of Ginger, Lemon, and Bergamot will leave the skin, body and mind revitalised. This combination guarantees a new sense of vitality. Enhance the bodies circulation, banish knots and tensions and promote detoxifying effect. Prepare for a blissful release and embrace the detox-licious experience! RRP: from £78

Make it into a spa afternoon, from £110!



Please let people know you saw them in Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters!



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Dawn is offering a wide range of Holistic Learning Courses in North Bristol during 2023, and soon holistic holidays in East Charente, France. The courses will equip you with the knowledge to treat yourself, family and friends. Day courses start from £90. Select the holistic discipline you are interest in learning about from the list below.

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www.life-and-soul-empowerment.co.uk



Students Sarah & John practicing Reflexology

Dawn is an amazing Reiki teacher and practitioner! She made me feel completely at ease from the first moment; outlining all the key principles succinctly and encouraged us to ask questions before getting stuck in. By guiding us through the hands on part we developed our own intuitive feel for the techniques and gained confidence quickly. I feel extremely lucky and grateful to have been taught by such a wonderful master. Thank you!

John Seaward

Dawn is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic teacher. I have studied several different topics with her including reflexology. She is able to present the information in a positive and accessible manner.

Student Sarah Cox

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Your Own Personal Holiday Operator - Here in Bradley Stoke!

Local resident Andy Cunningham has an amazing story to tell! He's been globe-trotting, having lived in several different countries including south and central America, the Caribbean, Papua New Guinea as well as the UK, but he's also spent years on long-haul flights around the world in several previous careers including furniture retail. Now Andy is the proud owner of a travel agency business right here in the Stokes!

At the start of last year Andy, who lives in Little Stoke, decided to set up his own travel shop and is now actively booking more than 50 holidays a month for local people from his base in the Willow Brook Centre, Bradley Stoke.

Why book a holiday through Andy?

"I grew up in a world where the customer is key, as is attention to detail – and when you are arranging someone's holiday, this is what really counts." says Andy, who regularly receives five-star reviews on Trust Pilot (see a few snippets right).

"As a travel agent I have access to 60% more offers than people can access for themselves online - and with me you obviously get full ATOL and ABTA protection and a one-point contact. I look after every aspect of your holiday from travel advice, booking options and insurance, to checking in and issue of boarding passes. My focus is on a very personal service, with the goal of making my clients happy and helping them make the best memories."

"Customers receive a completely different level of service when travelling with me. I make sure my customers get the absolute best value for every penny they spend. I regularly speak to and build relationships with the tour operators and suppliers to enable me to source the absolute best seats, rooms, flights and to build bespoke itineraries for everyone."

"Excellent service, saving me time, hassle & money!"

"I am so impressed with the dedication and service provided, I can't recommend him highly enough. Will always use Andy from now onwards. He knows he is now my favourite Travel guru."

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Andy has so much passion and drive - he loves his job so much he considers it a hobby - and enjoys every minute that he spends creating memorable experiences for customers, tailor-making each holiday and providing round-the-clock personal support, if needed.

He has now expanded his team with Stokes resident Lisa Hanley and they are both looking forward to helping more local residents plan your holiday outings - whether it be a bespoke trip of a lifetime, your annual two weeks in the sun, or indeed the ski slopes!



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www.fertilitybristol.com

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Pioneering Clinic for Recurrent Miscarriage

With around 15% of women experiencing miscarriage at least once in their lives and one in a hundred suffering recurrent miscarriage, the opening of a pioneering clinic locally offering a unique combination of treatments not previously available in the region will give new hope to those affected.

Fertility expert and gynaecologist Hajeb Kamali (pictured) said: *"All other considerations aside, miscarriage and particularly recurrent miscarriage is associated with an increased risk of developing depression, anxiety and even PTSDs."*

In the UK the definition of recurrent miscarriage is three or more miscarriages, whereas in the US and across Europe the threshold is two miscarriages, which means that investigations start at a later point in this country.

An important expert review of miscarriages globally, published recently in the Lancet, recommends that a new model of care should be adopted around miscarriage care and prevention, but - largely due to resource restrictions - the NHS's approach means currently there is no referral for specialist care until after a third miscarriage, and even after a referral there can often be a long wait to be seen by a specialist consultant. In around half of cases, investigations may reveal a cause which could include a blood clotting disorder, hormonal disfunction such as thyroid problems, polycystic ovarian syndrome, uterine problems such as fibroids or scar tissue in the womb.

Hajeb Kamali said: *"There are often lifestyle factors that can be optimised to improve the chances of a successful pregnancy in the future even following a first miscarriage. This means anyone who has experienced miscarriage, whether it be a first or more than one, could benefit from a review because this could provide an insight into their personal or medical history that may alter and reduce their risk of losing a future pregnancy."*

In addition some couples may simply want reassurance and support in moving forward with their attempts to build a family."

Mr Kamali, who has been lead consultant at North Bristol Trust for their recurrent miscarriage service, has joined Bristol Centre for Reproductive Medicine (BCRM) at Aztec West, where he is launching a brand new private clinic for recurrent miscarriage which will provide investigations, tests and treatments.

Diagnostic options at BCRM's new clinic include hysteroscopy and a 3D scanner as well as advanced male investigations such as sperm DNA fragmentation.

Mr Kamali said: *"The services we offer are cutting edge and comprehensive and simply not available on the NHS, nor privately elsewhere in the region. What we're launching is a genuinely stand-out clinic, the only one in the region to offer a more advanced range of investigations and a dedicated bespoke service. What's more, as part of the wider BCRM fertility service, we are able to offer our patients more advanced assisted conception treatments options where appropriate such as preimplantation genetic screening (PGS), a recognised treatment for recurrent miscarriage."*

Hajeb Kamali concluded: *"We are also actively involved in ongoing research into miscarriage, and there is ongoing and fascinating work being done in this area, such as research into the role of the maternal immune response in miscarriage."*

BCRM www.fertilitybristol.com is involved in innovative research covering a range of fertility issues and has one of the best success rates with IVF and other fertility treatments in the UK.



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New Pre-School Opening September 2023

As existing 'Outstanding' Childcare Facility is expanded

Play House has been offering after-school care and holiday care for children since 2005. Recognised by Ofsted as an Outstanding Provider and located next to St Michael's School in Stoke Gifford, Play House offers a safe and stimulating environment, focusing on a play-based approach to encourage children to explore, create and thrive. Situated in a dedicated one storey building Play House, has a wonderful play-space inside and out with a secure, custom built, large private garden.

Play House excitedly announced at Easter that it would be expanding its fabulous, outstanding childcare provision from September 2023 to also offer a preschool! After subsequent feedback from parents it has now been decided to expand our offer to include spaces for 2½ year old children, alongside those for children aged 3 and 4.

Sessions will be term time only, Monday to Friday 9am-12pm and 12-3pm, or all day from 9am-3pm, with a number of funded places available. We have also offered a monthly 'open session' for parents and children, which has been greatly enjoyed thus far. Next sessions are Wednesday 7th June 12-2pm and Monday 3rd July 11am-1pm. All Welcome!.

Employment Opportunity: Applications are still open for exceptional Early Years practitioners at all levels to join our dedicated, enthusiastic and creative team, find out more on our website.

If you would like more information or to enrol your child from September get in touch with the lovely team at Play House on **01179 314 154**, email info@playhouse.ltd or complete the form on the website www.playhouse.ltd.

"Amazing place ... I feel safe and secure knowing they are well cared for and happy"

"I feel lucky to have him so well cared for and love the fact he has fantastic play time"

Parent Feedback



ENROL NOW FOR SEPT 2023!!



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Bradley Stoke Youth FC: Supporting Teams Further Afield

By James Teague

Bradley Stoke Youth FC recently moved their kit back to the traditional Orange and Black club colours, following a period in blue and white stripes. We're now delighted to confirm that our old blue and white stripe kit is now getting a new lease of life in South Africa!

Our kit was collected in by Mark Pickering who was keen to see the quality kit reused rather than go to landfill, supporting our clubs approach to sustainability. It was then mixed with other teams and taken to Thula Thula, a private game reserve which is dedicated to the conservation, protection and survival of endangered species. Aside from the work that they do with the animals they are heavily involved in the local communities that surround them especially in terms of education. They arranged several villages to get together for a mini football tournament where they handed out some kit to the teams involved.

Kim Mcleod who works on the reserve commented "Thank you so much for this kind donation, there was so much happiness and fun on the village soccer field this morning. Vusi had arranged one team from each village to the play off and we also had volunteers there who brought gifts which we used for the winning team! All in all everyone had a wonderful time and we will keep it up, there were actually some really talented children playing today! Some bare foot and some with one shoe but they just have so much fun playing it is a pleasure to watch."



Nursery is such 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 coming in to see their friends and just have fun!

At Ambourne House we love getting the children in our care out and about whatever the weather (taking relevant precautions of course!). We have our own minibus to transport us to regular forest and beach sessions, and have also introduced inter-generational visits to local care homes, which has included participating in singing and dance sessions with the likes of Jo Jingles.

Seeing how children change in our beautiful outdoor settings is such a wonderful sight and a joy to be a part of. Running free in the open air, feeling the sand beneath their feet encourages their confidence to grow, not to mention their language development. These different environments not only offer the children an opportunity to explore, it gives us the practitioners another insight into their development.

To this end we are thrilled to say that through our fundraising efforts we have been able to purchase a yearly community entrance pass so that the staff and children at Ambourne House can enjoy lots of trips to the brilliant Wildplace, as well as some additional resources for our own garden.

There is certainly never a dull moment at our nursery! If you would like your child to join in the fun, we do have limited spaces available, so please call Lorraine or Roberta to book in a visit.

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

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
Spaces for Sept 2023 filling up fast!! Also booking in for Jan 2024 -
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Bailey's Court Primary School's Coronation Celebration – Friday 5th May

Little Stoke Gifford Matters was delighted to be invited along to Bailey's Court Primary School to see their Coronation Celebration in full swing. The cacophony of 400+ very excited voices was music to my ears!

I heard how in the lead up to the celebrations, all classes from Reception to Year 6 had spent time in lessons learning about the history and significance of the Coronation. Teachers had fielded many questions from the interested children and they had also prepared crowns, bunting, flags and streamers ready to celebrate the big day. I even learned something new myself as Headteacher Mr Lynham recounted telling the children about such things as the Stone of Scone (Stone of Destiny).

On Friday 5th May children were invited into school wearing combinations of red, white and blue. Some children came to school wearing Union Flag hats and flags around their shoulders. A few children even dyed their hair for the day and had their face painted!

The playground looked very celebratory having been decorated with bunting and red, white and blue ribbons around posts and pillars.

A whole school Coronation-themed assembly led by Mr Lynham and Mr Telfer (Deputy Head) was held in the morning, during which a special Coronation song - The Sound Of Trumpets (The Coronation Song) - was sung by everyone. This fun, regal, celebration song was specially



produced for schools by Out of the Ark Music.

The children had been invited to bring in a party packed lunch or they could order a special party lunch from the school kitchen. The original idea was that the whole school would sit outside for their picnics. However, due to the unpredictable weather and threat of rain, children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a special Coronation party picnic in the school hall. Children from Year 3 to Year 6 sat under the school's covered area and enjoyed their party lunches outdoors.

The children enjoyed dancing to party music during the lunch break and other fun Coronation activities during the afternoon. All children also enjoyed a special party cookie prepared by the school kitchen mid afternoon.

At the end of the day every member of the school – both children and staff – were given a Coronation commemorative badge to remember a very special occasion in our country's history.



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It's all go at Old School Rooms Scouts!

The end of the Spring term at Easter saw three of our Scouts receive their Gold Chief Scouts Awards from Clive Sandrey the Acting County Commissioner whilst at Ninja Warrior, Cribbs Causeway near Bristol. Big Congratulations to Charlotte, Charlie and Leuan. Also big thank you to Ninja Warrior for a fab two hour session where all the scouts had a lot of fun as a reward for doing their best during the term.

We've done so much in a short space of time this Spring and the scouts have had fun taking part in their scouting. From planting trees, to litter picking around the village. Astronomy, forestry, orienteering and communicator activity badges. Problem solving and walking the Severn Bridge, winning the Brunel District Quiz and watching the lionesses to caving under the Mendip Hills. We even entered a team in the Avon County Scouts Cooking Competition.

The Summer term starts with a splash! The OSR troop of 1st Stoke Gifford scouts have started the summer term with a program full of water activities. The second week saw the scouts visit the RNLI station in Portishead where they were shown all the equipment and received a water safety presentation from Keith and Malcolm teaching them about Floating, using anything boy-ant to keep their heads out of the water and to raise the alarm by holding a fist as high as they can to wave for help. It was a great visit and the scouts learnt a lot.

The week afterwards saw the troop attend Saltford marina where they were treated to a dragon boating session from the Bristol Empire Dragons club. The scouts went through the dragon boating activity badge after a safety talk and carrying the boats to the water! Nervous at the start but full of achievement when they got back to the dockside. The club members were brilliant and taught the scouts how to paddle correctly, how to keep time and most important how to keep the boat steady. Lots of laughter at the end of the session, very wet sleeves and of course they had to help put the boat away. Big thank you to the Bristol Empire Dragons.

Thanks to Olveston Scouts for letting the troop camp at the headquarters for a weekend where the scouts had 48 hours of learning scouting skills like pioneering, axe/knife/saw, firelighting, cooking and most importantly how to leave the place as if we had never been there!

The rest of the half term will see the scouts kayaking, beach cleaning at Kewstoke (Sand Bay), crazy golf at Pirate Bay, raft building and racing at West Country Water Park and a presentation from Water Aid plus a visit to the water treatment plant in Avonmouth.

As a troop we are always busy and are always on the lookout for new members and adult volunteers. If you're interested please visit 1st Stoke Gifford Scouts website and see the waiting list or 'become an adult volunteer' sections.





Aretians RFC: Summer Update

Although we are now heading into the summer, there is a lot on and planning for season 2023/2024 is already underway. We are on the hunt for a new physiotherapist which is our key goal prior to the September restart and would welcome potential candidates to apply through our website (www.aretiansrfc.co.uk).

The mens and ladies pre-season training will be re-starting come July, in anticipation of pre-season friendlies during August and the rugby leagues resuming in September. We are always on the hunt for new players and would welcome anyone that wishes to get into or even resume playing rugby. Men's training is typically held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm, with our ladies team training on Wednesdays from 7pm.

We also are extremely excited to be offering a number of fun and completely FREE, junior rugby sessions during the summer holidays.

Each session is not only designed to get children active, but also building a love for rugby and most importantly, having fun! Having previously ran a successful junior set up, we have a strong passion for youth

engagement and cannot wait to welcome the kids during June, July and August for what we are sure will be a fun packed few hours. More information and registration information can be found below and also on our website.

As mentioned, with the new season ahead, we are always looking for sponsorship and are lucky enough to have a couple of local businesses come forward, enabling us to look at some new kit for our men's senior team. If you would like to sponsor a local community rugby club, please do get in touch with us (aretiansrfc@hotmail.com).

We were extremely proud to watch our club captain Billy play in a Bristol Combination game against Bristol Bears recently. The Bristol Combination team is a selection of players from various Bristol teams and leagues, so being selected is a huge achievement for Billy and for the club. With many members past and present going to support Billy, they were not disappointed when he scored a try, which gained rather a loud celebration from the supporters along the sidelines.

Despite lots of plans in the diary, our pitches on Little Stoke playing field can be a little lonely during the off season, therefore we are overjoyed to welcome back The Bristol Dockers, an Australian rules football club, with training held every Thursday evening. We wish them well in their season over the course of the summer.

With the long nights and hopefully a little more sun, we would love to welcome any in the local community to pop in and enjoy all we have on offer.

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Community Support Vital in Restoring Local Woodlands

Restoration of the Splatts Abbey Wood and Sims Hill woodlands has only been possible via help from the local communities and University students, and in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council.

Faith Terry-Doyle of the SU at UWE said - *"It has been absolutely fantastic to work with the dedicated volunteers from the woodland committees. Student volunteers from UWE Bristol and the University of Bristol have given hours of their time transforming these local woodlands to enhance biodiversity and wildlife. We have a small group of inspirational Student Project Leaders here at UWE Bristol, who help to run and organise workdays for students to learn practical skills in woodland management, as well as giving them a chance to spend time outdoors and meet like-minded people."*

UWE Student Project leaders Will Bearne; John Hoyos; Stefan Bigsby; Tom Day said: - *"It has been great to see the progress we have made over the academic year. Over the winter period we have been removing the old tree stakes and coppicing the woodland to allow the wildflowers to grow, as well as building a new bog garden, which we have finished just in time for spring. Volunteers have been learning many new skills including tree planting and tree maintenance. As project leaders we greatly appreciate the help UWE and UoB student volunteers provide every workday, without them we wouldn't be able to complete the work we set out at the beginning of each academic year. So far there are close to 50 student volunteers who have come at different workdays to help, it's a big number and shows Conservation Volunteering is of great interest to them, we look forward to welcoming other student volunteers and encourage anyone with an interest to become a conservation volunteer."*

On behalf of the community representatives on the Splatts Abbey Wood committee, (Andy Ward, Jenny James, David Bell, Isabelle Plummer) - Fred Hillberg said - *"I remember Splatts Abbey Wood when you had to fight your way from one end to the other and was a bit of an adventure playground for the little gang I was in with my schoolmates. There was also an adjoining Woodland which later disappeared. It was therefore of great interest to me when, about twenty years ago, I read that South Gloucestershire Council were looking for volunteers to help manage and renovate and preserve this Ancient Woodland for the benefit of the community. The Woodland is now owned by the MOD and leased to South Glos Council. It was hard work initially for the local volunteers, which included staff from the MOD, to open up the woodland by Coppicing and establishing pathways. Progress was very slow for a number of years, until we were joined by volunteers from the UWE, and this made a tremendous difference. Projects were achieved in months which previously had taken years, and thankfully that partnership continues to flourish today, giving the local community a facility of flora and fauna that we can all enjoy and protect for the future."*

Splatts Abbey Wood Conservation group can be contacted at - splattsabw@gmail.com

Please Follow us on Facebook (Splatts Abbey Wood Conservation Group) and Twitter (@SplattsG) for the latest updates and to get involved.



Sims Hill Community Woodland Group, including new members from Stoke Gifford Retirement Village, were recently joined by the UWE Student Greenspace Group at Sims Hill Wood for a tour and practical task.

The wood is behind Bristol Business Park and the Scholars Chase development. We looked at different species in the wood and discussed ash dieback and future plans for the wood including thinning and replanting with a more diverse species mix, and improving the paths.

To find out more about the group and get involved in managing Sims Hill Wood join our public Facebook page (search on Facebook for Sims Hill Community Woodland) or email simshillcw@gmail.com.

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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.

Busy Bees Toddler Group Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church Tuesdays from 10 till 11.30 during school term time phone 0117 931 4716

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

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 Whetfield Primary 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

Arts Appreciation Group - Join us on third Thursday of month at Bradley Stoke Community School, 7 for 7.30pm, for illustrated talks on all aspects of the Arts. More details from Sally - 01454 774401

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

Gifford Ensemble - A small and friendly group looking to grow to a full orchestra. We rehearse Sunday evenings from 7.15 to 8.45pm at The Trust Hall, Stoke Gifford during Term Time. We are particularly looking for string players at grade 6 or above standard. For more information find us on our Facebook page: Gifford Ensemble or e-mail secretary@giffordensemble.uk

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. 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.

Knit, Stitch & Natter Bradley Stoke Library Thursdays 10am, bring your own project, just turn up and join our friendly group. Adults only.

Little Stoke Ladies Club - meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7.30pm at Little Stoke Baptist Church, Kingsway. T: 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.

Stoke Gifford Community Choir We are a friendly mixed choir singing a wide range of music. No auditions. You do not need to know how to read music. We rehearse at Stoke Gifford Retirement Village Hall, BS16 1YG, on Tuesdays, 7.00-8.30 pm. For further details, email natasheya.archer@extracare.org.uk.

Stoke Gifford Royal British Legion Looking for members and volunteers. We meet 3rd Mon of each month 7:30pm Little Stoke Park Hall. Contact Ray: sgbinfo@gmail.com See us on Facebook . or <http://www.britishlegion.org>

U3A - Bristol U3A - For retired or semi-retired. Meet new friends and enjoy an amazing range of interests and activities. See us at <https://www.u3asites.org.uk/bristol/welcome> . Our "Stokes" Social Group welcomes new members. Email Andy: andyclarke2@pm.me

Willowbrook Townswomen's Guild - Jubilee Centre – 7:30 – 9:30pm the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Call Jannice on 01454 615040 or email Ros - 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 07887 373924

Young At Heart Club meets at the Christ the King Church, Bradley Stoke every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2pm - 4pm. Set up 20 years ago and aimed at people over the age of 50 who would like to make new friends, enjoy games, speakers, outings.

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 your details have changed, please let us know at community@mattersmagazines.co.uk and we will update it 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, contact: blackandblues_netball@outlook.com.

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 - Meet at the Jubilee Centre every Wednesday U12's - 5.15pm - 6.15pm - U14 & U16's - 5.45pm -7.15pm bsncjuniors@yahoo.co.uk <http://bradleystokenetballjuniors.org.uk/>

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

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, bristolxtreme@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.

North Bristol Triathlon Club: Swim, Bike and Run sessions throughout the week around North Bristol/South Gloucestershire. Suitable for all levels. Find us on Facebook or email membership@northbristoltri.co.uk.

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 -- All ages and abilities welcome at a real community club. Contact Mark Stephens on 07816 962503.

Stoke Gifford Short Mat Bowls Club - Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoons. For more information please contact 0117 330 5487.

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

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 Mautraviers 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 924 3322 www.citychurch/visit/bradley-stoke-site

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 9am-noon. 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

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

Bowlsland Green Primary School, Ellicks Close BStoke, 01454 866766, bowlslandgreen.org.uk

Holy Family R.C. Primary School, Amberley Road Patchway, 01454 866786

Holy Trinity Primary School, Broad Croft BStoke, 01454 866735, www.holytrinitypri.com

Little Stoke Primary School, Little Stoke, 01454 866522, http://www.littlestokeps.co.uk

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

Stoke Lodge Primary School, School Close, Bourton Avenue, Stoke Lodge, Patchway BS34 6DW 01454 866772

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

St. Mary's R.C. Primary School, Webbs Wood Lane BStoke, 01454 866390,

St Michael's Primary School, Ratcliffe Drive, Stoke Gifford 01454 866781. www.stmichaelsg.co.uk

Wheatfield Primary School, Wheatfield Drive BStoke, 01454 868610

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Abbeywood Community School, New Road Stoke Gifford BS34 8QT, 0117 307 5660, abbeywoodschool.com

Bradley Stoke Community School, Fiddlers Wood Lane Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS, 01454 868840, bradleystokecs.org.uk

Patchway Community College, Hempton Lane Almondsbury BS32 4AJ, 01454 862020, patchwaycc.com

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How To Protect Your Home From Property Fraud

Rachel Dickinson, solicitor at AMD Solicitors, discusses how to protect your home from property fraud.

One of the issues which is currently in the media is the risk of property fraud whereby individuals use various means to obtain money or property using properties at risk. This is often to benefit other criminal activity.

What properties are at high risk?

- Empty properties
- Tenanted properties
- Properties which could become empty
- Properties not subject to a mortgage
- Unregistered properties
- Properties which are not occupied all the time

How can you protect your home?

- Register your unregistered property
- Add a Restriction to your property which sets out certain requirements which need to be met before registration of a transaction takes place.
- Keeping your contact details up to date with the land registry (free service – complete and send COG1 form to the Land Registry)
- Use the New Property Alert Service to notify you of any applications that have been made against your property. (free service – www.gov.uk/property-alert)

There are benefits associated with all these alternatives but there are also some pitfalls. If you would like advice on which option fits your circumstances or assistance with completing the necessary forms please contact us.

Property Alert

Using the Property Alert service is very simple.

- Go to the website address above
- Complete your details including your email address and a safe password and register
- Add the property(ies) you wish to monitor (maximum 10)
- Monitor your emails
- Keep your details up to date



The

service notifies you if anyone makes an application to register something against the title. It relies on you to check that the transaction is legitimate. If it is not you can then contact the Land Registry fraud line on 0300 006 7030 or at reportafraud@landregistry.gov.uk. It does not prevent transactions being registered but it enables you to be warned and take action.

If you find you are notified and do not know what to do next, first contact the Land Registry.

The writer, Rachel Dickinson, is a Solicitor at AMD Solicitors having recently joined our Shirehampton office as a Conveyancer.

Rachel assists clients in their property transactions including buying, selling and transferring between individuals and has been conveyancing for over 20 years, bringing a varied insight into the intricacies of property transactions.

Sorting out your property affairs could cost less than you think and can give you peace of mind. If you need any assistance relating to the ownership of your property please do not hesitate to contact Rachel or our conveyancing team for a quote on **0117 923 5562** or email info@amdsolicitors.com

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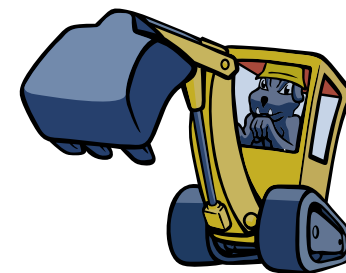
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