

Bradley Stoke Matters



July / August 2023

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Dear Readers....

Happy birthday to us!! This issue marks the 18th anniversary of the very first edition of Bradley Stoke Matters in the summer of 2005! Many of our advertisers from the initial black and white days of print are still advertising with us today including our very first advertiser, the lovely Lois from Medway Design, who has appeared in every single issue and also expanded into our neighbouring Winterbourne & Frampton Matters! In 18 years we have not missed publishing an issue, only once having to cease delivery of our April 2020 edition due to the immediate nature of the lockdown restrictions (but every subsequent issue was delivered by our fantastic and dedicated team of local deliverers!).

Over the last 18 years we have been privileged to have helped many local businesses start out and grow, and also to have seen a few retire! Residents love to keep it local and prefer to use local people where possible, which in turn has helped our advertisers' businesses thrive. We have received so much positive feedback over the years of how we have brought the community together by sharing news of community groups and events and how to make contact, and how people have subsequently found fun and friendship through our pages. The intention has always been to be a source of positive information within the community - it's too easy to focus on the bad news but there is so much more good going on around us every single day.

We have expanded this edition by 8 pages to fit everything in, so no room to list it all here (or even all articles in the index)- you will have to have a good read through to make sure you don't miss anything! But, if you love live music, make sure you enter our Reader Competition to be in with a chance of winning FREE tickets to family-friendly festival - Castell Roc! See page 33 for full details.

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 20th July. Have a great summer and enjoy the read!

Jaci

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New Mayor of Bradley Stoke, Councillor Dayley Lawrence

At Bradley Stoke Town Council's Annual Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17th May 2023, being the first meeting of the newly elected Town Council, Councillor Dayley Lawrence was elected by the Council to the position of Mayor of Bradley Stoke/Chair of the Town Council. New Councillor, Natalie Field (representing the Labour Party) was elected as Deputy Mayor/Vice-chair of the Town Council.

The Town Council comprises fifteen elected councillors (7 Labour party, 6 Conservative party, 1 Liberal Democrat party and 1 Green party representatives).

Councillor Dayley Lawrence said *"It is an absolute honour to be elected the first Labour Mayor of Bradley Stoke. Being the first citizen of Bradley Stoke is something that really makes me proud of the town where I live. I thank Cllr Jon Williams for proposing me and would also like to thank the residents of our town that voted for change on our council. I am committed to working with all councillors to make our town a great place to live and work. After a turbulent year or two, it's refreshing to see a new team around the table. A team that I believe can work together for our residents."*

Councillor Jon Williams, representing the Liberal Democrat party on the council and returning after a 12 year absence said *"It's great to be back on the council and I am looking forward to working with my fellow councillors to make the town council a more listening and responsive council than it has been for many years."*

Councillor James Nelson, representing the Green party added *"The meeting was an opportunity to turn a page and I'm glad to have been there to make use of that opportunity. I'm glad we were able to have productive discussions on issues of key interest to all of us, if we keep this up then Bradley Stoke will be better off. I understand that the changes made may not be perfect and we may need to make amendments in future. But it's worth giving change a try and that's why I supported the new team and the new amendments to the standing orders. It was an eventful evening but I hope it will be simply the start of a new and better town council for Bradley Stoke."*



New Mayor, Councillor Dayley Lawrence and new Deputy Mayor, Councillor Natalie Field

As his last action in the role of Mayor, outgoing councillor, Tony Griffiths, along with previous Deputy Mayor, Councillor Franklin Owusu-Antwi, presented cheques to the two recipients of the Mayor's Charity for 2023/23. A total of £9,289.88 has been raised for the Mayor's Charity over the past year, split equally between Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (£4,644.94) and St Peter's Hospice (£4,644.94) with the money being raised through community events including the Festival, Scarecrow Trail and Fireworks Display. The representatives from both charities accepted their ceremonial cheques and thanked everyone for their support of the charities over the past year.



HAVE YOUR SAY!

The Town Council is holding a public consultation on the proposal of a parkrun in the Three Brooks Nature Reserve on Saturday mornings.

Public Consultation available online at the Town Council website <https://www.bradleystoke.gov.uk/> or from the Town Council office at Jubilee Centre.

Consultation closing date: Sunday 30th July 2023

We will also be hosting a public drop in session between 9:30am to 12:30pm on Saturday 1st July 2023 at Baileys Court Activity Centre, Baileys Court Road, Bradley Stoke BS32 8BH



Meet your PCC – Mark Shelford

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

I hope everyone has been enjoying time outside in the sunshine and stayed safe whilst doing so during our recent spell of glorious weather.

Earlier this month, I put questions relating to knife crime and increased summer demand in police support to Chief Constable Sarah Crew at the latest Performance and Accountability Board (PAB), which livestreams every month on Facebook.

I know that the police get exceptionally busy in the summer, but local people still rightfully expect a high level of service. During PAB I asked the Chief Constable how she will ensure that officers respond in a timely way and improve on what they did last year. I also asked for an update on the week of awareness tackling knife crime – and how officers work with Violence Reduction Units to prevent knife crime. This was particularly important following the tragic death of 16-year-old Mikey Roynon from South Gloucestershire at an incident in Bath on June 10th. Two boys, one aged 15 from Dorset and another aged 16 from Wiltshire, have since been charged with possessing an offensive weapon and murder.

At the PAB we also discussed the amazing work of police volunteers, as well as rape and sexual assaults in hospitals. If you would like to listen in to the conversation, you can view our Facebook live video that was recorded and has been posted to the OPCC Facebook page.

I would like to take this time to highlight the 159 service, launched by Stop Scams UK. If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details, I urge you to stop, hang up and call 159. This is a short-code phone service that connects people safely to their bank's fraud prevention service.

This free phone service should be used when either you or someone you know may have provided an unknown person with your bank card or banking information over the phone, allowing you or your

loved one to report financial scams as fraud may be potentially taking place. Individuals should still report any suspicious calls about financial matters to Action Fraud.

I would like to mention the work of Crime Stoppers and The South West: No Place for Drugs campaign. I urge communities to help keep drugs off our streets, by spotting the signs of this activity and reporting it to Crime Stoppers, which is 100% anonymous.

Currently, Crimestoppers is appealing to the public to speak up and report cases of property being used as a grow house or farm to cultivate cannabis.

Organised crime gangs are renting properties in both urban and rural parts of the country and setting up cannabis farms. This illegal activity often brings serious violence, victims of modern slavery, and increased risks of building fires and explosions.

If you are a landlord of either residential or commercial property, I implore you to become aware of the signs of cannabis cultivation. Rented properties can be modified with barricaded windows and doors, unsafe electricity wiring and mould and water damage from hydroponics and irrigation systems.

I urge you to learn the signs to spot for cannabis cultivation and help protect yourself and your community. For more information, please visit the Crime Stoppers website:

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

I would like to thank everyone for their continued contribution to keeping our communities safe and wish you all a safe and happy week.



www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk 01278 646188

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

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Owls return to Savages Wood

Well maybe just the one owl. But as owls go she is a mighty fine one!

Our reserve already boasts some benches carved by the engaging and very talented chainsaw artist Andy O'Neil, including the half apple at the community orchard (photo far right) and the snail at the bottom of the tump path, all carved from single pieces of sweet chestnut. I have also long been an admirer of his other works that can be found dotted around the nearby Stoke Park amongst other places. So when, thanks to Covid, the group found themselves with an underspend of our Bradley Stoke Town Council grant, a plan was hatched. Very cheekily Andy was contacted and I said "I appreciate that you don't usually work this way but what could you do for £660.20p?" I feel possibly it was the 20p that swayed him and Andy agreed to see what he could do! We already had an oak in Savages Wood that had died and SGC had made 'safe'. It was an uninspiring sight and, as it turned out, not that safe as the roots were all rotted and it was top heavy making it liable to come down. Andy came up with a plan to lower the height



Report from Sara Messenger, Member of the Three Brooks Nature Conservation Committee

and suggested an owl on top, he also generously agreed to repair the apple bench, all within our budget.

Fast forward to 6th June 2023 and I was privileged to meet Andy on site to watch the transformation begin. Starting with the largest of his 4 chainsaws (well you can never have too many can you?) and having borrowed his granddaughter's rope swing to secure the tree, he very quickly reduced its height, with the remaining trunk being left in the hope he can at some point carve this into a bench. He then swiftly removed the outer levels of the tree to get to the hard wood at its centre, this was followed by a few wax crayon lines and a few minutes of standing back to decide on which direction she should face. After a quick consultation with locals Neil & Barrie, we all agreed that she should actually face the opposite direction to our original plan, as this way as you came up the path and turned the corner, there she is, beautifully framed between the trees and gazing down at you.

Andy quickly 'blocked' the wood and got back to work as I watched while nonchalantly leaning on a tree, although I did feel as though I should have had a Gaulois in my hand. For what seemed like a long time the wood stubbornly remained as 'blocks', you had an idea of what it was to become but it remained just that, an idea, an outline and then he cleared off just a couple of inches on the right of her head and suddenly she was no longer an idea but she was an owl, still a little rough around the edges but now she existed. It was like watching the reflection on a still pond become an entity in its own right and take flight and I feel very privileged to have been there at the moment her soul emerged.

Although I had to leave shortly after, I did find the time to give some off cuts to young children for them to draw on their own owls, along with the suggestion that they don't make noises like a mouse or the owl may nibble them up!

My name at Brownies is Eagle Owl although it's often pronounced as 'Evil Owl' and I'm beginning to understand why, although I wasn't the one who gave the owl her distinctive colouring with a blow torch!



She has as yet no name, although she does have the number 617 down by her foot. This isn't the number of carvings Andy has done but the number of species found on the reserve during the 36 hour BioBlitz we hosted back in 2014. Should you wish to visit her yourself she can be found approximately 30 meters in from the gate behind the leisure centre.

Andy is a local chap who used to be a graphic designer and then a tree surgeon but who has now been carving for 15 years. Although he can turn his hand, or saw, to most things his favourite subject is British wildlife, something that he has been passionate about since he was a boy. When pressed for his favourite carvings he said the ones at Riverside in Nailsea, the old cedar tree at Stoke Lodge and the king at the entrance at Yate, pictures of which I believe you can find on his Instagram account.

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#SummerTime

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Update from Jack Lopresti, MP

This month I have been very busy in our area focusing on transport, law and order and our area's heritage and role in the aerospace industry. I had a very interesting meeting with representatives from Great Western Rail, South Gloucestershire Council and Network Rail (photo right) to discuss the exciting Bristol Parkway Redevelopment Masterplan. Given the importance of Parkway, I believed it was necessary to get more information about this future infrastructure investment in our area.

It was great to see the public engagement that had been conducted and the great response received from consultation, showing a high level of local support for the project, especially with the Masterplan looking to put community at the centre of the development. This will see more investment and jobs come to the area, as well as a business park and new green spaces which will see Parkway become much more integrated into the local community. This will have the result of Parkway not only being a transport hub, but also a centre for the wider community and an even more important asset to the area.

I also had a very productive roundtable meeting (photo below) with Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Shelford, and local councillors Ben Randles, Terri Cullen and Liz Brennan where we discussed tackling local anti-social behaviour, speeding and other issues relating to our area, we were also joined by Inspector Stuart King.

Mark updated us on the ongoing developments at Avon and Somerset Police, including their significant emphasis on action against cyber fraud, working with the South West Cyber Resilience Centre.

We also discussed the expansion of Avon and Somerset Police force with 520 additional officers for the year (which was above the recruitment target set by government), and the youth engagement programs operated by Avon and Somerset Police, such as the



Mini Police based in Patchway which gets young people involved in fighting crime and enables them to work on policing operations.

I always try to emphasise the great contribution the aerospace industry makes to our region and this month I visited Rolls Royce to meet with Jim Hardy, the Head of Manufacturing at Rolls Royce's lift works. We discussed their role in providing apprenticeships to young people in our area and I met with one of their degree apprentices. I also visited Aerospace Bristol to meet with CEO Sally Cordwell, we discussed their STEM learning programme and engagement with businesses and schools. I will continue to promote the importance of STEM learning and engagement with young people for our crucial aerospace industry in our area and the opportunities which Aerospace Bristol can offer for them to achieve this.

I also had the opportunity to meet the new leadership team of the Conservative group on South Gloucestershire Council, Councillors Sam Bromiley and Liz Brennan. We discussed building more homes and improving local bus services, making sure that we hold the West of England Mayor to account on delivering this. I also had a great time at the Stoke Gifford Fete on the 29th of May, such a fantastic community event and a great day for the celebration with great weather and lots of community support.

Lastly, I should like to quash certain rumours that have been circulated during the recent local elections that I am not local. I was born in Southmead Hospital, and have lived and worked in the Bristol and South Gloucestershire area all my life. I have resided in this constituency since 2006, having lived in Filton, Frenchay and Bradley Stoke. I currently live near Almondsbury.

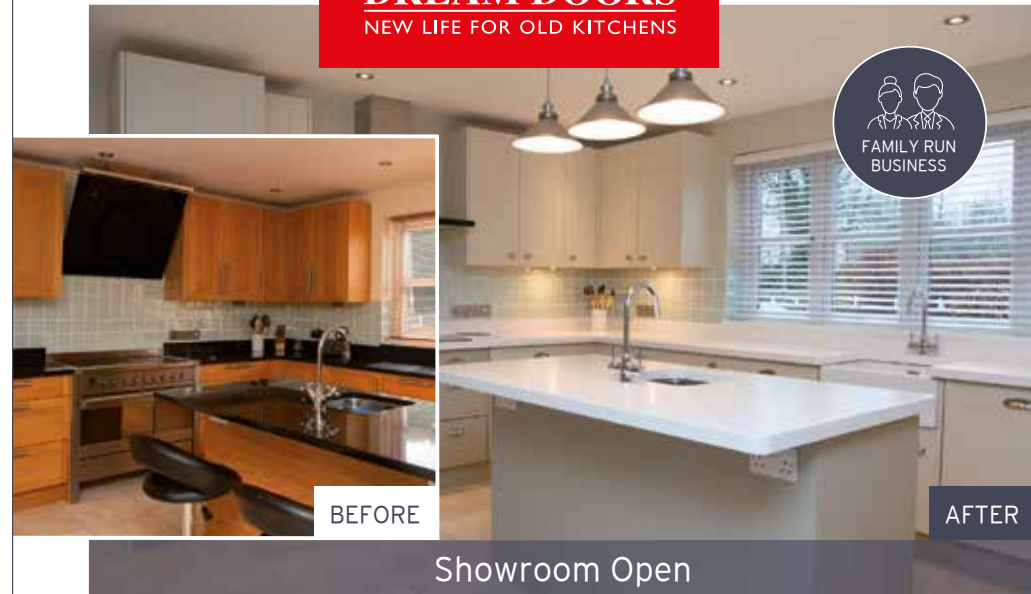
As always, should you need my help with anything, my office is open from Monday to Friday between 9am and 6pm. Please telephone me on 01454 617783 or email me at: jack.lopresti.mp@parliament.uk if I can be of assistance or to book a surgery.



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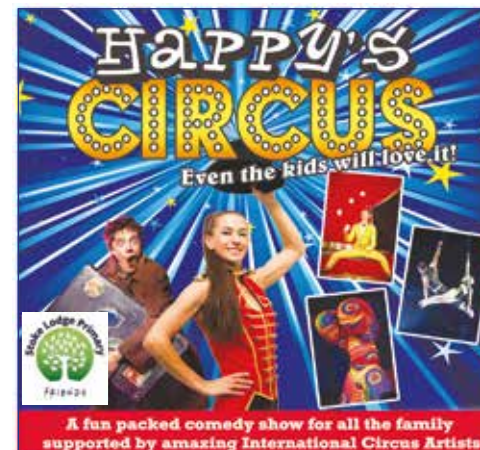
Crowds gathered at Jubilee Green, Bradley Stoke on Sunday June 11th to take part in a charity colour run organised by The Brightwell

- a charity supporting those with neurological conditions by providing therapies such as neuro-physio and Oxygen therapy.

Participating in two heats, it was an eye catching, fun filled afternoon of smiles, laughter and clouds of colour for all ages and abilities.

The Brightwell would like to thank the Mayor Dayley Lawrence and The Bradley Stoke Town Council for their support in making this fundraising dream viable. One of the members of the Centre who enjoyed the event said it was 'simply the best day ever'. The Brightwell would also like to thank all that came along to show their support, purchased tickets, sponsored the event and the amazing volunteers who made the event possible.

A huge £4,700 has been raised so far and the funds from this event are still rolling in! It is hoped to run the event again next year after its big success.



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BSTFC Update



Bradley Stoke season 2022/23 has now come to an end after a very long season. All teams across the leagues were hit with multiple weekends without football due to the wet weather over the winter months. This delayed the season causing it to overrun by a month and multiple mid-week games. It has however been a successful season for Bradley Stoke Town. Across all teams we left with no promotions and no relegations.

After last season's winning season Jon Welsh's First team started Bristol Premier Combination raring to go. There was a notable difference in this season's squad with a few players leaving due to moving out of the area, however these were replaced with new players and players from last season's reserves. Overall, it's been an enjoyable season in the Bristol Premier Combination with the firsts playing some very strong teams, and some very competitive games. Jon's team finished mid team and were unfortunate to finish higher with some very close results. Overall, it's been a good introduction to the Bristol Premier Combination with the Firsts now raring to go in the 2023/24 season.

Chris Evans saw his Reserves team promoted to the Bristol & District Senior league where they saw a big difference in standard from the Bristol & District League One. It was a frustrating season for where they narrowly missed relegation however ploughed through to the end. Manager Chris Evans has now stepped down as manager of the Reserves after 2 seasons in charge. The Reserves will be ready for a strong start in the new season. Bradley Stoke Town can't thank Chris enough for giving up his time to play and manage, we wish Chris all the best.

Andy Turner's A team started the season in Bristol & District League Two after gaining promotion from League Three. They started strong and won games against strong competition. The A team finished their season in 5th place. Andy has also stepped down from his management position however will continue to play next season. Andy is a strong manager and will be missed in his position as he really does get the best out of his players.

Kieran Jones continued his management with the B team and ended in 9th place this season. Kieran has done a fantastic job in his role and will continue in his role next season. The B team is developing and getting stronger year on year. For the upcoming

season Kieran is looking to strengthen his team and progress up the league tables.

A massive thanks go to Joe Twaites and Liam Vincent. Both took on the C team in the Bristol & Suburban Division 4. It was a difficult season, however the momentum of both managers' and players' moral kept the team going. Although frustrating at times, both managers kept the team a fun environment to play football. Now the end of the season is here the club has made the decision to disband the C team. It's been a great three seasons and many players have enjoyed playing. Both Joe Twaites and Liam Vincent will be staying at the club with Joe looking to take one of the vacancies in the higher teams.

Bradley Stoke Town FC would like to thank Bradley Stoke Matters for their continued support and Sponsorship along with the players, management committee, readers and members of Bradley Stoke who come down to show their support on match days.

Bradley Stoke Town FC plays a big part in keeping the community active with over 70+ players involved in playing every week. We are on the lookout for new players for the upcoming season. Training is on Tuesdays 6:30pm to 8pm at Patchway high school, if you are interested or know of anybody who maybe interested please get in touch via the Facebook: [@bradleystoketownfc](https://www.facebook.com/bradleystoketownfc); twitter: [@bstfc](https://twitter.com/bstfc), via the website: www.bstfc.co.uk or via e-mail: bstfc2005@gmail.com

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The Bristol Running Show

The Bristol Running Show is set to take place on July 16th 2023, 9am-3.30pm, at the BAWA leisure centre in Filton.

This exciting, free event promises to be a must-attend for runners of all levels, from complete beginners to ultrarunners.

The event will feature a wide range of exhibitors, showcasing the health benefits of running alongside an environmentally friendly approach to products and services.

Visitors will have the opportunity to browse stalls and chat to representatives of some of Bristol's top running clubs. Alongside the exhibitions and guest speakers such as specialist women's physiotherapist Claire Callaghan, and authors Robin Tetlow and Adharanand Finn, the Bristol Running Show will also host a number of interactive workshops and activities. These will include a 5k run, yoga, pilates and meditation sessions, running clinics and panel discussions to help runners of all levels improve their skills and technique.

For more information and to book your free ticket, visit – www.bristolrunningshow.com

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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
or call 07721 907780



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



Bradley Stoke Youth FC Celebrates 25th anniversary

Report by Martin Lee

On 10th June 2023 at the Jubilee Centre, Bradley Stoke Youth FC (BSYFC) celebrated their 25th anniversary with a football festival with over 350 children participating in the event. The age range of players on view was 4 to 16 years old showing their football skills and ability in front of some large crowds.

The sun was shining and the pitches were looking fantastic. The format of the day was to have fun matches with no results and some competitive matches where the results were recorded to find a winner. All the action took place between 10am to 4.30pm and afterwards the coaches even played a match until the sun (or old age) got to them.



The event results were as follows:

Reception children – fun matches with a penalty shootout with the Minion in goals (photo above).

Year 1 children – fun matches with a penalty shootout with the Minion in goals. The Year 1 children were the winners of the Luke Wheaton Memorial Cup (photo top right).

U7s and U9s - fun matches.

Mixed U9s and U10s – competitive matches with U10 Blacks winning the McDonalds Cup and the U9 Golds winning the Bradley Stoke Town Council Cup.

U11s – competitive matches with U11 B's winning the McDonalds Cup (lower photo right).

U11 Girls – fun matches and coaching session.

U13s – fun matches.

Mixed U14 and U15 – competitive matches with the U15 Oranges winning the Bradley Stoke Town Council Cup (photo above).

Mixed U15 Girls and Ladies – competitive matches with The Ladies Goals Aloud Team winning the McDonalds Cup.



Every age group had an award presentation with the Mayor of Bradley Stoke (Dayley Lawrence) and Deputy Mayor of Bradley Stoke (Natalie Field) in attendance to hand out the trophies and cups.

For the Year 1 presentation we were delighted to be joined by Matt Wheaton from the Luke Wheaton Legacy Trust (photo top right). The presentation of the Luke Wheaton Memorial Cup is an annual event at the Festival to ensure we remember Luke who played for many years with BSYFC.

The club would like to say thanks to the Bradley Stoke Town Council and the Luke Wheaton Legacy Trust for their kind donations towards the cost of the trophies which every child received at the festival. This was very much appreciated.

It is hard to believe how big the club has grown from that first training session way back in June 1998 with just one team in the League. We now have over 450 players at the club across 22 teams playing in many different Leagues!

Some highlights of BSYFC story over the years:

Sept 2005: the club started football enrichment sessions at Bradley Stoke Community School.

June 2006: the club started the first Football Festival with Bradley Stoke Town Council.

Mar 2008: the club started the School Link program providing free football coaching to Primary Schools. This grew from one school to 14 local schools.

May 2008: the club achieved the FA Charter Standard Club Award.

June 2009: the club started working with the Gloucestershire FA to address the lack of female teams in the area. Girl's football is started at BSYFC.

July 2010: The Young Coach Mentoring Program is started.



Aug 2010: the club achieved the FA Charter Standard Community Club Award. There were only 9 other clubs in the whole of South Gloucestershire that held this award.

June 2011, 2013 and 2016: the club is awarded Gloucestershire FA Community Club of the Year.

Sept 2012: the club started free community disability football sessions.

May 2015: the club created the first ever female adult team for the town of Bradley Stoke.

Nov 2022: the FA transition all clubs to the new England Football Accredited Club system with BSYFC awarded the highest 3 star level.

The club is always looking for more volunteers so if anyone would like more info, please check out our contact page on our website at www.bsyfc.co.uk

Editor's Note: Thank you Martin - what a truly wonderful job you do (and I know you will want me to thank all the other volunteers too who help bring all of this for our young people). It has been a pleasure to work with you over the last 18 years as I recognise including many of these milestones in our pages since starting Bradley Stoke Matters in summer 2005.

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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

Picturesque view from East Charente, France



Students Sarah & John practicing Reflexology

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Solo Mum Follows Her Dreams With IVF

Dental nurse Emma* was 37 years old with a naturally conceived four year old son who she was raising as a solo parent when she took the decision to try for another child through a fertility clinic. Emma said: *"I love being a mum, I knew I could parent well on my own and wanted a bigger family. I had hoped to have less of a gap between my babies, but life – and Covid – got in the way. I suddenly became very aware of my biological clock ticking so, because I'm not in a relationship, going to a fertility clinic seemed like the obvious way ahead."*

Bristol Centre for Reproductive Medicine (BCRM) was recommended to her by another solo mum who had already had a child through them.

Emma started her investigations by attending one of BCRM's open evenings. Inspired after this to get things started, her next step - a fertility check-up - gave Emma an unexpected wake-up call. *"I hadn't anticipated any problems in having a second child since I conceived naturally when I had Jack, but the check-up revealed I had a low ovarian reserve,"* said Emma. Every woman's egg count decreases as she ages, but this was happening sooner than expected for Emma and could have made it harder to get pregnant, so she decided not to delay treatment any longer.

"My consultant, Abhi Paisal was fantastic and explained everything very clearly so I really felt I knew what I was letting myself in for. We discussed the possibility of using intrauterine insemination (IUI) treatment, which would have involved donor sperm being injected into my womb when I was ovulating, but Abhi felt I would stand a better chance of success using IVF."

Solo women choosing to undergo fertility treatment are not eligible for NHS funding, and Emma would not have been eligible anyway because she already had Jack, so she was a self-funding patient. She chose to use a Danish sperm bank and says she took her time picking the right donor.

In November 2021 Emma attended the clinic to have her eggs harvested, followed by a fresh embryo transfer which resulted in a positive pregnancy test. Sadly, however, that baby miscarried in January 2022.

"I was very disappointed," said Emma, *"but I was so well supported by BCRM, especially Carrie Lomax,*

"I'm a firm believer in following your dreams, and mine definitely included another child."

Emma*
(*names changed to protect identity)

their director of nursing, who gave me the most incredible support over the phone. It was clear how much they cared – that could have been a very lonely experience otherwise."

Since Abhi Paisal had advised Emma to take the precaution of having the remaining embryos frozen, when her periods resumed in April 2022 the BCRM team were able to carry out a frozen embryo transfer, which resulted in a second pregnancy.

Emma said: *"The whole team were just lovely. When I was having the transfers and my scans it didn't feel at all invasive. Everyone was so friendly and professional, very calm and chatting to me. There was no stress at all."*

Emma's pregnancy proceeded normally and just after Christmas, with her own mum for her partner in the delivery room, Emma gave birth to 8lb 5oz baby Noah. *"Jack adores his little brother and I'm thoroughly enjoying my maternity leave with the two of them. I appreciate that babies born from donor sperm can seek contact with their natural fathers when they're 18, and I'm cool with Noah doing that if he wants to. In fact, I'm preparing a book for him with all the details in, to allow him to do it easily if he so wishes."*

Obviously being a solo mum is not something every woman would choose, but for me it's the right thing and I'm so happy we live in a time where we have that choice and I've been able to follow my dreams. I'm very grateful to the team at BCRM for enabling me to achieve this."



Carrie Lomax and Abhi Paisal with baby Noah

BCRM www.fertilitybristol.com is the longest established fertility clinic in Bristol, helping people from throughout the South West and Wales with fertility treatment for both private and NHS patients. The clinic is involved in innovative research and has one of the best success rates with IVF and other fertility treatments in the UK.



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Is your child starting
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September 2024?

Want to find out
more about the
process involved?

COME ALONG TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS

Wednesday 4 October 2023 - 4.30pm-5.30pm

Bradley Stoke Community School, Fiddlers Wood Lane,
Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS

Wednesday 11 October 2023 - 4.30pm-5.30pm

Patchway Community School, Hempton Lane,
Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4AJ

Wednesday 18 October 2023 - 4.30pm-5.30pm

Abbeywood Community School, New Road, Stoke Gifford BS34 8SF

Bring along your children and join us for a cup of tea and a biscuit. All parents and carers welcome not just those intending to apply to an Olympus Trust School!

There will be an informative presentation at the start of each event so please arrive promptly, this will be followed by questions and a chance to chat with a primary Headteacher and Admissions Co-ordinator. These events will last about an hour.

Register your interest at: olympustrust.co.uk/NewsandEvents

The Olympus Academy Trust, Fiddlers Wood Lane, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9BS

Tel: 01454 252059 ex.9265 or Option 4 | admin@olympustrust.co.uk | [@olympustrust](https://www.facebook.com/olympustrust)



Preschool Places Available from 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.

Spaces have been filling fast we still have some places available for children aged from 2½ years. Sessions are offered during term time only, Monday to Friday 9am-12pm and 12-3pm, or all day from 9am-3pm. Funded places are also available.

We have also been successfully running monthly 'Open Stay & Play sessions' for parents with their children. These have proved popular with the children really enjoying being able to explore the custom outside play area. The next sessions are Monday 11th July 11am-1pm and Monday 21st August 10-12. All are welcome!.

Employment Opportunity: Applications are still open for exceptional Early Years practitioners at all levels to join our expanding, independent and Outstanding provision - 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.



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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 also 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.

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**Our Annual Summer BBQ
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Bailey's Court Primary School's Coronation Celebration – Friday 5th May

Bradley Stoke 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.



Commemorating an Historic Moment in Time at Patchway Community School

Bradley Stoke 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.



Tree Planting for the King

At the end of May, Meadowbrook Primary School Council representatives got together to plant a tree to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. They also then scattered wildflower seeds.

The tree is very small at the moment, but the children are looking forward to seeing it grow!

Supporting the School Council representatives are Mrs Julie Jones (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs Kate Sheldon (Chair of Governors).



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Cancer Charities aided by "Calendar Girls"

"Calendar Girls" is being performed by amateur group Collaborative Productions at Rangeworthy Village Hall from 21 to 23 September, a charity event raising funds for BUST and Blood Cancer UK.

"Calendar Girls" is based on an inspiring true story of a group of friends from a Yorkshire WI who do something extraordinary and spark a global phenomenon when they persuade one another to pose for a charity calendar with a difference! The WI ladies joined forces to raise funds for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research when one of their husbands died of a form of blood cancer, wherein lies our link to Blood Cancer UK, and similarly the local breast cancer charity BUST.

BUST, was started by Simon Cawthorn and three patients in 1990 since which expenses have remained at less than 1% of donations received. BUST supports Bristol's only breast care centre based at Southmead Hospital. BUST have raised over £1.5 Million and continue to raise funds to provide the unit with state-of-the-art equipment to aid and speed up diagnosis and treatment. For further details go to www.bustbristol.co.uk or telephone Jenny Wookey on 0117 956 6522.

Blood Cancer UK funds world-class research into all blood cancers including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Their research has already helped transform treatments and taken them to the point where the day blood cancer will be beaten is now in sight.

Suitable for those 16 or over, there are three evening performances at 7.30pm and Saturday matinee at 2.30 pm. Tickets will be on sale with effect from 1st July costing £12 and £10 (concessions), also group bookings of 10+ get one free ticket.

Visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/collaborative-productions or ring TicketSource phone line 0333 666 3366 (for additional £2 fee plus regular 7% booking fee). Walk-in cash bookings also available at the Rose & Crown in Rangeworthy.



Calendar Girls

21st 22nd 23rd September
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Saturday matinee 2.30pm

A play by Tim Firth

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Also from the Rose & Crown pub in Rangeworthy, cash in person

This amateur production of "Calendar Girls" is presented by arrangement with Creative Productions Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd
www.samuel french.co.uk

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Answers to: community@mattersmagazines.co.uk by 31st July



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- 18TH AUG **MIDGE URE** Live!
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- 20TH AUG **THE BARRICADE BOYS** from London's West End
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South Glos Over 50s Forum

The Forum was formed in 1993 in order to enable people over 50 to have a voice. We listen to issues about people's local areas and communities and try and resolve these through meetings with local council, agencies and government whilst providing a safe, warm environment for people over 50 to meet and share some social time together.



At our monthly online and Face to Face meetings, we invite guest speakers to talk about issues from health to estate planning, these speakers are often discussing topics relevant to the local community. At all our meetings you will get the chance to ask questions and bring up topics and issues you would like us to get involved with from pot holes to bus cancellations and lack of GP appointments. Whatever your concerns, you have a voice and we are here to listen. We will try and help with any issues your community may have in a welcoming environment with free refreshments!

We have local meetings in Yate, Kingswood, Thornbury, Patchway and Emerson's Green on a rolling monthly basis and zoom meetings once a month.

If you care about your community and would like to be involved in helping to make it a better place please do get in contact. Membership of the Forum is completely free and can be done via our website www.southgloslover50sforum.org.uk or get in contact with our Development Worker Jess Ford for more information. Be a part of making South Gloucestershire a better ageing community!

For more information contact us at mail2southgloslover50s@gmail.com or ring 07426 862 121

The Forum became a registered charity in September 2020, number 1191820 and is supported by South Gloucestershire Council.

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Join the South Glos Dementia Meeting Centre for Afternoon Tea this July!

Alive Activities is a charity dedicated to improving the quality of life of older people and their carers. We operate in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, running one of our Dementia Meeting Centres at Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church.

We would like to invite you to join us for two open days to learn how we can support you to adjust to the changes dementia brings. Aimed at those living with mild to moderate dementia and their carers, everyone is welcome as we hear from current members, try some activities, and enjoy afternoon tea together.

Wednesday 12th July, 1-3pm and Thursday 13th July 1-3pm
Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church, Baileys Court Road, BS32 8BH

To book your free place please contact Winsome on 07377 197 893 or email winsome@aliveactivities.org



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Jane, Daughter of Resident at Beech House



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St Mary's Men's 1st XV Win Combination Vase

St Mary's Men capped off a great season with an ultimately convincing win over Bristol Saracens by 29 – 22 in the Butcombe sponsored Bristol Combination Vase at a packed Lockleaze Sports Centre. This is our second successive cup win after winning the Combination Bowl last season.

Before the game Club legend Marcus 'Village' Jenkins led out the men in Green and Black to mark his 500+ senior appearances and his last competitive game before retiring from playing at the end of the season.

Although Mary's had already beaten Sarries twice in the league campaign, they were a different and highly motivated proposition spurred on by a record crowd, including many old boys from Saracens who were dressed up for their Annual Awards Dinner scheduled immediately after the game.

Mary's took an early lead with a penalty from Will Redwood before Saracens pressured Mary's into a mistake deep in their 22 and scored smartly under the posts, moving into a 7-3 lead. Mary's struggled to get into their patterns as the Sarries defence pressed and closed down space. The forward battle was intense with strong running from Jon Booth and carries by Keith Wilkinson and Ross Littlefield, who was chopping down any Saracen's attack with gusto. Following a breakout by Mary's skipper Sheppard, the ball was recycled through

several phases and Mary's Players' 'Player of the Season' Hayden Saunders went over for a well worked try, converted by Redwood. The teams cancelled each other out for the remainder of the first half with a further penalty exchange leaving the game finely balanced at 13-10 to Mary's.

The second half saw Mary's start to exert more control through their forwards, and the kicking of centre Robbie Woodward. Key breaks in the backs by Adam Wilkins and Jordan Sheppard stretched the Saracen's defence and their players started to tire, and a couple of yellow cards didn't help. Mary's played with width and composure, a credit to the coaching of Ed Smith and Ryan Price and the crowd were delighted when Club Captain Andy Plummer raced over for a try in the corner, on the same ground that saw him rupture his cruciate ligament two years previously.

Saunders showed his quality shortly after with a crisp finish in the corner, but Redwood again was wide with the conversion. The Mary's bench made a real impact helping to close the game out. Alastair Polis, Scotty Weston, Spencer Barrowman and Emilio Lewis were relentless for Mary's continuing to pressure the Sarries line and two further penalties by Redwood resulted in stretching the lead to 29 – 10. Sarries never gave up and a late flurry saw them peg the score back to 29 – 22.



St Mary's Forward Jon Booth on the charge in the Vase Final

Our Women's team (photo below) rounded off a successful first season in Championship 2 South West following on from a promotion last season. We are looking to strengthen and widen our squad in advance of next season. Our philosophy focuses on developing players – we have already provided 3 players to Bristol Bears Women and 1 to Bath Ladies – so if you are ambitious, want to play at a high level and see how good you can be, come and join us!



Both our men's and ladies' sections are actively recruiting new players whether you have experience or not – come and join us on a Tuesday or Thursday at our Trench Lane Ground – Northwood Park, BS36 11RY you will be guaranteed game time and a very friendly welcome.

Touch Rugby at St Mary's

Our Touch Rugby sessions (photo top right) are open to everyone and no previous experience is necessary. We usually play Monday evenings at the Club however we have also been to a couple of tournaments at Caldicot and Clifton RFC. The Touch Rugby sessions run all throughout the summer and if you are looking for a way to get fit with none of the tackling involved in normal rugby then come and give our Touch Union sessions a try.



Minis and Juniors

Our minis and junior teams are also on the lookout for new players. The minis train on Sundays at 10am and all children as well as getting coaching and game time are provided with free meals after training. This is part of our commitment to our local community. We currently run teams from the ages of 6 up to Under 15s as well as tots rugby for 4-6 year olds. We have places available at all the above age groups and would be delighted to welcome you and your children to our family friendly club.



We were also pleased to see two of our long serving Junior players make their senior debut. Sion Phillips and Thomas Byrne were both fantastic in their first senior game. Gerry, who coached the boys from the minis is also Thomas's dad. A very proud day for Gerry as they all played on the same team (photo right).



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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 Whetafield 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. 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.

St. John Ambulance - 100s of volunteer roles available for 18+. Your local unit meets in Bradley Stoke on a Thursday evening. More information at www.SJA.org.uk or e-mail the New Volunteers Team at BAS-NVTeam@sja.org.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 Janice 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 Abbeywood Community School, 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 leee1@btopenworld.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 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 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

Bradley Stoke & Little Stoke Gifford Matters is delivered to 15,000 homes across the Stokes. We also produce the Winterbourne & Frampton Matters, which is delivered to 6,500 homes across the local villages. To advertise your business with us, please call 01454 300 900 or email: sales@mattersmagazines.co.uk

Local Schools

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Baileys Court Primary School, Breaches Gate BStoke, 01454 838320

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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OPEN DAYS FOR COHORT 2024



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SEPTEMBER 2023**

www.bradleystokecs.org.uk



**THURSDAY 21st
SEPTEMBER 2023**

www.winterbourneacademy.org.uk



**TUESDAY 26th
SEPTEMBER 2023**

www.abbeywoodschool.com



**THURSDAY 28th
SEPTEMBER 2023**

www.patchwaycs.org.uk

*Further details will follow regarding
timings and booking information on the
Olympus Academy website
and also on individual school websites*



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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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*Little Stoke Ladies Club
Celebrates 60 Years!*

The Little Stoke Ladies Club celebrated their 60th Anniversary earlier this year at Cadbury Court. They had a very enjoyable afternoon with a delicious three course meal, wine & a beautiful cake followed with dancing.

The members meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. The meetings are held at Little Stoke Baptist Church Kingsway at 7.30pm.

They have interesting speakers on a wide range of topics, open evenings, suppers & trips.

New members are always welcome at our friendly Ladies Club. Please come and join us after our Summer break on September 5th. Contact Julie on 0117 9315007 for more information.

THE FILTONES'

20th Annual Charity Concert

FRIDAY 7TH JULY 2023

at 7.30 p.m.

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71 Gloucester Road North, Filton, Bristol BS34 7PL

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Join our friendly weekly textile group.
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Bradley Stoke Library
Thursdays at 10am
This group is for adults only

This is a self-led session. Bring a project to work on, learn from others and catch-up with friends in our warm and welcoming library.

Why Volunteer? – by Guy

My name is Guy and I have been volunteering at The Brightwell as an Oxygen Operator since February 2022, a year or so after I retired from a career as an analyst with a large IT firm. I am in my late 50s, have lived in Bradley Stoke for 24 years. My wife and I raised our 2 daughters here.

When I am not at The Brightwell, I spend a lot of time playing Pickleball at the Jubilee Centre in Bradley Stoke or Thornbury Leisure Centre.

I found out about volunteering at The Brightwell from a post on Facebook and it struck a chord with me as a chance to give something back to the community. While the role is not as technical as my paid work had been, it appeals to me because we have to follow detailed safety procedures, as you would expect, when as many as 7 members are in a sealed chamber breathing nearly pure oxygen at pressures of up to 2 atmospheres.

I have definitely learned new skills (skills that, a year ago, I did not know I could ever need) and an insight in to a whole new area of treatment. I am pretty sociable, so an added bonus is that the staff and other volunteers are all lovely, and I have built relationships with the regulars at my weekly 4-hour shifts.

The most rewarding part of volunteering at The Brightwell, is seeing members with neurological conditions coming out of the oxygen chamber feeling better, and appreciating my work providing their treatment in a safe and secure environment.

The oxygen treatment could not continue without volunteers, so I am very proud to be a small part of the great work that it done at The Brightwell – and I would encourage others to join me in a worthwhile role which is a bit out of the ordinary. There is loads of support for newcomers and all the processes are well documented.

Would you like to volunteer for a local worthwhile charity? The Brightwell based in Bradley Stoke currently has opportunities for oxygen chamber operators and also for helpers in their new café area, serving drinks and chatting to members.

If you can spare anything from 4 hours a week, please call 01454 201686 to ask for Doro, or email doro.pasantes@thebrightwell.org.uk



Events at the Brightwell

Wednesday 19 July Charity Bingo Night

7pm (doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets £8 per person, including:

6 Prize Bingo Games, 2 Cash Games and 'Silly Bingo'

Come and enjoy a fun-filled evening of bingo, prizes and laughter! Bring your own drinks and nibbles, even a whole picnic!

Everyone welcome!

Tickets from www.thebrightwell.org.uk/events or reception at The Brightwell, Wheatfield Drive, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DB

Saturday 29 July The Brightwell Charity Summer Fete

A family fun day of carnival games, music, stalls and more! From 11am to 2pm

FREE ENTRY

Wheatfield Drive, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DB

Interested in having a stall?

Email community@thebrightwell.org.uk



Join the Summer Reading Challenge at the library for loads of fun!

Join the Summer Reading Challenge 2023, Ready, Set, Read! at a South Gloucestershire library during staffed hours from Saturday 8 July finishing by Saturday 9 September and pick up your FREE bag of goodies including Ready, Set, Read! seeds.

It's FREE and all children aged 4 – 11 are invited to take part! Children read books they enjoy over the summer holiday and collect stickers (including some stinky ones!) to complete their exclusive Ready, Set, Read! collector card and get a medal and certificate.

See the difference the Summer Reading Challenge makes to your child's reading:

'I thought the challenge was brilliant and so did my children. It was a fantastic way to get them excited about reading over the summer. The craft activities were very clever and engaging. My eldest's reading fluency noticeably increased during the challenge.' Parent, Cadbury Heath Library

Children love taking part and there are lots of fabulous FREE activities: ZooLab animal workshops, Ready, Set, Read! themed crafts and Lego™ clubs.

Find out more at www.southglos.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge or like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries for the latest updates.

Bradley Stoke Library What's-on July 2023

Staffed Opening Hours

Monday: 10:00 – 18:00
Tuesday: 10:00 – 18:00
Wednesday: CLOSED
Thursday: 10:00 – 18:00
Friday: 10:00 – 18:00
Saturday: 09:30 – 12:30
Sunday: CLOSED

A warm welcome awaits you at Bradley Stoke library where you can read the newspaper, relax, do a crossword, use a PC, use the free WiFi, have a chat, study, or read a book.

Full details of all our FREE children's events can be found here:

<https://www.southglos.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/libraries/libraries-childrens-services/>



Summer at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

The Medieval Fayre was an excellent day on Sunday 11th June – over 600 people came despite the damp weather. We felt like we were almost standing inside a cloud, but it was warm so no-one minded getting a bit wet! We hope you enjoy some of the pictures above from the day.

Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, Thursday 20th July, 7pm – "If music be the food of love, play on". The Festival Players return to the Barn with Shakespeare's famous rom-com, a tale of love hampered by disguise, mistaken identity, and a lot of roisterous and hilarious trickery. This top professional touring company brings you male actors playing all the roles, just as was done in Shakespearean times, with all the colourful cross-dressing and affectations that involves, adding to the brilliant comedy. Directed by Michael Dyer with music by Johnny Coppin. Online booking essential.

Monthly Talks

Wings over Filton, Thursday 13th July, 7pm –

Chris Bigg tells the history of aircraft manufacture at Filton since 1910. This fascinating talk includes so many well-known aircraft – Boxkite, Scout, Fighter, Bulldog, Blenheim, Beaufighter, Brabazon, Britannia and, of course, Concorde.

Joan of Arc, Thursday 10th August, 7pm –

We probably all know that Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake during the 100 Years' War and is hugely revered as a martyr in France, but what else do we know about her? The inimitable Prof Ron Hutton returns to the Barn to explore why Joan of Arc became so famous, and why she is both one of history's most spectacular successes and its failures.

Tea & Tour, Thursday 3rd August, 2pm –

Winterbourne Medieval Barn was built in 1342 for Thomas de Bradeston, and this nationally important raised-cruck structure survives as a magnificent example of the medieval builders' craft. Come and

see the superb medieval roof timbers, and find out how the Barn was built and why it is so important. The Tour is followed by tea, coffee and biscuits back in the Medieval Barn, with plenty of time to talk further and ask questions.

Bat Walk with Drink & Nibbles, Thursday 24th August, 7.30pm –

Naturalist Ed Drewitt guides an evening walk of around 1.5 hours around the nature reserve, listening and watching for bats and birds. We return to the Barn afterwards, where your ticket includes a drink from the bar (alcoholic or soft) and nibbles. Not recommended for under 12s. Numbers are strictly limited and booking is essential.

Activities Specifically for Families and Children:

Adult-and-Child Fused Glass Workshop,

Tuesday 25th July, 10am – For older children (10+) or teenagers and an adult together. You each make your own decorative fused glass item, such as a Bristol balloon, but the ticket price is reduced for under 16s. A lovely way to share the start the summer holidays, or maybe a post-exam treat.

Family Drama Hercules, Sunday 23rd July, 2pm –

IKP's unmistakable brand of "delightfully daft" family theatre returns. Travel back to the time of heroes, monsters and myths where Hercules labours for beauty, truth and love! Great fun for all the family. The performance starts in the Barn at 2pm.

Family Craft Sessions, Tuesday 8th August,

10am or 1pm – Jasmine returns to the Barn to lead these summer craft activities aimed at families with children aged 6–11. Pre-booking is essential.

All events can be booked online via the Barn website, or on Ticketsource. A Box Office is open at the Barn on 3rd August, 1–2pm for in-person ticket sales.

www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Facebook [@winterbournemedievalbarn](https://www.facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn)

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James Antony NEW SHOW ROOM

Due to popular demand, the James Antony Flooring team (James Garland and Antony Egan) have expanded from a mobile service, into a new show room at 357 Filton Avenue, BS7 0BD.

Opening in spring 2023, the business has been well-received in their new home. Keen to support their local community, James Antony are now the proud sponsors of Filton Avenue's school football team. You can see some of the happy squad modelling their fine new kit outside the showroom.

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Previously working as a mobile service, the team will still go out and visit clients at home, to professionally measure up and bring along a



selection of flooring samples if this is the best option for their customers. If you visit their showroom however, you will be able to browse a huge range of different flooring samples, while asking questions on what would work best for the project in hand.

Antony shared, "It has been hard-work getting the showroom ready to open, but it has been a labour of love. We are delighted with the finished results, and enjoy welcoming customers into our new venue to discuss their flooring needs."

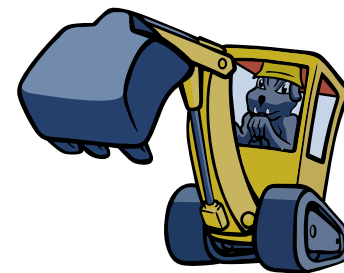
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