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issue 109, July/Aug 2017



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Dear Readers...

I write this shortly after returning from a fabulous afternoon of community cheer at the Sefton Park Fair / 63rd Scout Open Day. This year a 7.3m climbing wall was installed for the event and what fun everybody had tackling it! I was thankful to take in the scenes from the ground, you too can share in the adventure on the centre pages.

Details of forthcoming, local school fairs can be found on the Community Noticeboard, along with other local activities taking place over the coming months.

SENDawelcome enjoyed their Summer Social recently, you can read an account of the day and find out more about this fantastic group, working hard to make our community an inclusive one.

The new Bishopston Library has been embraced by our community, you can learn

more about how to get involved and their summer activities within the magazine.

We have news from both the Friends of St Andrews Park and Horfield Common, who continue to work hard to keep our green spaces the special places that they are. Do get the FOHC Summer Party marked in your diary, to celebrate the start of the holiday on Friday 28 July, 4.30-7.30pm.

As always, the Golden Hill Community Garden have been busy bees this month, read all their latest news along with details of their seasonal events. Everyone is welcome to visit this precious local resource.

I hope you enjoy this summer issue jam-packed with local news and activities - far more than I can mention here!

Have a wonderful holiday season,

Kerry x

Email: kerry@bishopstonmatters.co.uk • www.bishopstonmatters.co.uk Bishopston Matters
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SENdaWelcome - Summer Social



Inclusive family events are few and far between in our corner of Bristol, as they are, sadly, in most cities across the UK. At SENdaWelcome we're trying to change this. Our aim is to make BS7 an inclusive community, where children with

special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can access the same activities and groups as other kids their own age. With this in mind, we invited local activity providers to come along to our summer social and give taster sessions of classes and hobbies that aren't always open to children with SEND.

Circomedia, OpenUp Music and Annette Adams School of Dancing were all keen to get on board and so, on Sunday 11 June, they turned up at St Michael's Church on Gloucester Road. The lovely people at Circomedia, the centre for contemporary circus based in St Paul's, showed us how to spin plates, walk the tightrope and use a diabolo. OpenUp Music, an organisation which builds inclusive orchestras with young disabled musicians, gave us the chance to try out lots of instruments, while Annette Adams School of Dancing helped us to channel our inner ballerina.

Local party entertainers The Adventure Team were also on hand to take the children off on a fantastical journey, while Musii brought along its interactive music system designed for play and sensory therapy. Childcare cooperative Sparks were kind enough to paint faces and oversee the obligatory gloop bath and Amy, from cookery workshop company Baby Bites, let everyone unleash their cake decorating skills.

From our conversations with local families, we know that there is a real desire for more of these inclusive activities. Circomedia, OpenUp Music and Annette Adams School of Dancing, who very kindly gave up their Sunday afternoons to take part, could see this



for themselves. As you can see from the photos, everyone got involved and kids with SEND got the chance to try things out alongside their brothers, sisters and peers.

We're now working in partnership with these providers to develop new projects. As well as ongoing conversations with Circomedia and Annette Adams, we're hoping to get some after school music sessions off the ground. For the long summer holidays, always a challenge for parents, we're aiming to run a programme of inclusive activities. Thanks to the painter Russell Haines, who came to the social to meet some of the families, there's also the possibility of a series of artwork focusing on children with SEND and their siblings. It's safe to say we've got exciting (and busy) times ahead.

If you run an activity class or group and would like to discuss ways to make them inclusive, please contact us at sendawelcome@gmail.com.

SENdaWelcome have a regular monthly meet-up at Boston Tea Party on the last Friday of every month between 3.30pm and 6pm. And in partnership with Golden Hill Community Garden, a series of Inclusive Family Adventure Days will take place over the summer holidays, see page 51 for full information.

For more info go @SENdaWelcome Bristol on Facebook & @SENdaWelcome on Twitter



Golden Hill Sports – a Success Story after 10 years!

Back in 2007, the Bristol YMCA cricket club (now under the auspices of Golden Hill Sports Ltd, a registered charity formed at that time) bought the playing fields and pavilion at Golden Hill outright from the then owners Bristol YMCA by a combination grants and generous donations, plus a sizeable loan from the English Cricket Board (ECB). It is now held in perpetuity for sporting use only, saving the ground from possible urban development. Now 10 years later when we are almost at the end of the loan repayments, we can reflect on our achievements and look to the future with confidence.

Since purchasing the ground, we have extended its use to many others in the community. As a sporting organisation, we have gained charitable status and have been extremely successful in our fundraising, thanks to the fantastic support of the local community – both helping us organise and run events and in turning up in their thousands to our annual Party in the Park. We have literally raised hundreds of thousands of pounds and we are now in a position to pay off our last bit of a loan from the ECB.

We have been very active in locating possible sources of funds, and the money has come from many areas, including organisations Biffa, Ibstock Cory, the English Cricket Board, Football Foundation, members of the local community, Henleaze Society, Fields in Trust, Aviva Insurance, the Sonics football, the annual Party in the Park and more recently, one local anonymous donor who donated a four-figure sum! For this, we are very grateful. You might then ask what it has been spent on!

Apart from the initial ground purchase, we have: built two outstanding quality outdoor cricket nets; acquired covers for both cricket squares; improved our machinery for maintaining the quality of the ground; employed ground staff to enable us to make full use of the facilities all year-round. Two bridge clubs use the clubhouse several times a week; the clubhouse is hired out for family parties; several barbecues are held during the summer; and protective fencing has been installed around parts of the ground.

All of this has enabled many people to be part of the club and enjoy the facilities. We have five senior cricket sides and seven junior sides. We have a ladies' cricket team and are running a girls' cricket fun evening to teach them skills when they are young and to support the national campaign 'This Girl Can'. The Sonics footballers use the rest of the field during the winter months with several teams of different age groups. We also hire out the field to Shine Sports, a company that specialises in involving children in fun sporting activities.

When I walk down the lane between our ground and that of Henleaze Juniors, it



gladdens me to see so many youngsters enjoying themselves – on summer evenings and on Saturday mornings throughout the year. I feel we have achieved a lot in a short space of time and that we have given pleasure to so many.

If you would like to join in our next huge community celebration, please come along for the popular **Party in the Park**, on **Saturday 16 September**, from 1pm. We also host friendly, **community barbecues**, please join us on **Friday 21 July** from 5pm and **Saturday 2 September** from 6pm. You can find out more about these events and how to join in our sporting/community activities at – www.goldenhillsports.com *Gerry Mulholland*

President, Bristol YMCA Cricket Club

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Krafty Cuts



This month it was great to catch up with talented, local hairdresser, Matt Dawes of Krafty Cuts. Matt lives with his wife Emma (pictured left) and two young sons on Bishop Road. Out the back of their house is a funky, mobile salon in the form of a refurbished library truck!

Matt has been cutting hair for over twenty years and has worked at many top salons in Bristol. Eight years ago he decided it was time to go it alone, and he launched the successful Krafty Cuts.

Matt was a car mechanic when he first left school, so set himself the challenge of renovating the truck into a fully working, comfy salon in the back. He has been cutting hair at the back of his house but soon the truck will take to the road, offering the best cuts at various locations around Bristol.

Matt offers mobile hairdressing for ladies, gents and children. He has a portfolio of long-term happy customers, including Daddy G (Grant Marshall) of Massive Attack and his family. A highlight for Matt last year was being on hand to cut and style the band's hair at their Massive Attack gig on the Downs (pictured bottom right).

I asked Matt why readers should choose Krafty Cuts. "As well as enjoying the unique experience of having your hair styled in the Krafty Cuts truck, you will receive great service and a fantastic cut. There is always good music being played, whilst you sit back and relax with a delicious coffee from local Two Day coffee roasters of St Michaels Hill, or you can choose from a wide selection of Pukka Teas, who are also Bristol based. You can call me to book an appointment and I ensure I take plenty of time over every cut."

If you would to book Matt's services, please get in touch by calling – 07773 752 324 ■ www.kraftycuts.co.uk

Krafty Cuts



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Keep the kids active this summer!

Soccer Shooters provides local football coaching, football birthday parties and after school clubs.

This summer they will be offering their ever popular 'Football Fundays' for girls and boys of all ages and abilities, leaving you to go to work in the safe knowledge your kids are keeping active, getting fresh air and having fun! Clubs run from 24 July at Redland Green School and will be running throughout the summer here and at Clifton College. It's a full day – from 8:30am to 4:00pm – of football, mini matches, round robins, quizzes and also games chosen by the kids. If your job dictates an earlier start just let James know in advance and he'll be happy to accommodate an earlier drop off and pick up.

The story of Soccer Shooters

James Wilson, a qualified FA coach, is the drive and enthusiasm behind this football club with a focus on fun. Soccer Shooters has run for over 10 years now in various locations across Bristol. During that time James worked full time in IT, but last year he took the plunge and dedicated himself full time to the programme. And it flew.

"I had always felt a calling to teach and over 10 years ago I founded and coached Clifton United. It all went up from there. I'm now working in a role that I'm absolutely passionate about and the fantastic feedback from both children and parents makes it all worthwhile."

To find out more information on Fundays, birthday parties and after school clubs or to book your space, please contact – **James Wilson on 07814 500 589 / 0117 969 1341**

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Gurt Lush Choir sings Bowie (and Sex, Death and Poultry!)



Bristol's Gurt Lush Choir, set up nine years ago in St Bart's Church Hall, by local resident Sam Burns. This music maestro, has just achieved yet another first – filming an 8-minute pop video medley of Bowie classics as a tribute to both Bowie and Bristol, which will be released on YouTube very shortly. The 'Mighty Lush' are well known in Bristol not only for their annual concerts at Colston Hall but also for their exciting collaborations with other choirs, local composers and performers, including Bristol Schools Philharmonia, Andy Sheppard, Sam Lee, Project Zulu, Opera Anywhere, The Fantasy Orchestra, The Gypsy Stars, Russian vocal ensemble Lyra, brass bands and many more...

Much of this astonishing creative output is due to Sam himself, an inspirational and engaging leader. Sam grew up in Bristol in a musical family, and

was a classically trained member of Avon Youth orchestra, before at age 15 taking up the saxophone and joining what he calls a "famously unsuccessful rock band, best known for performing naked at Ashton Court Festival".

After 15 years of teaching music in schools in rural France, Sam moved back to Bishopston in 2007, and it was then that his grand plan was born to set up a big open access community choir that was also musically and artistically challenging. "I believe Gurt Lush is like very few other community choirs in that we bring together the diversity and accessibility of a community choir with the more ambitious harmony and vocal technique of a good choral society." Not satisfied with running one of the largest community choirs in the country, 18 months ago, Sam also set up Bristol MAN Chorus, to encourage more men to take up singing.

To see Gurt Lush and MAN Chorus in action, come to their next concert, 'Sex, Death and Poultry', on 8 July at Colston Hall – a joyous ramble through Elizabethan and Victorian song, folk tunes, shanties and spirituals. Or come to three free taster sessions when the new term starts in September. Full details at gurtlushchoir.com or bristolmanchorus.com.

"One day, all this will be dust."

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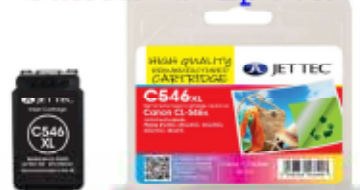
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Horfield Methodist Playgroup

Henry and I recently spent a wonderful morning visiting Horfield Methodist Playgroup, based at the Methodist Church Hall, at the top of Gloucester Road/Churchways Avenue junction.

This friendly, happy organisation was formed back in 1968, so playleader – Rachel Canning informed me; Rachel herself has been with the group for over 20 years and loves her job. Fellow play worker Cherry Arnal has also been with the group for several years and they were pleased to welcome Mandy Rees to the team last year.

We entered to find all the children happily at play, in this large hall, geared up with numerous different activities on offer. Areas include – craft tables, music, a huge Duplo mat, home corner, water play and a reading area with soft cushions. The children also have access to a well-equipped outdoor area.

The pre-school facility is open to children below school age and over the age of two and a half. Following term times, it runs Monday to Friday, 9am to 12 noon. Children book in for a minimum of two – and up to five –



"Both of my children have loved their time here. It is great preparation for school, and feels like a safe and nurturing environment. They have grown in confidence and skills and made great lasting friendships, as have I!"

Roxanne Moore, local parent



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www.horfieldmethodist.org.uk/cyp/playgroup

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sessions per week. Each morning costs £11, or early years vouchers for over 3 year olds.

Each day the children have time to free play, join in group activities, outdoor play, story time and a mid-morning drink with fruit, as well as a late morning bread and butter snack. The group recently enjoyed a visit to St Werburgh's Farm and frequently take outings to local green spaces and Gloucester Road.

The group was recently visited by Ofsted and awarded 'Good' in all areas, they also participate in a nationally recognised Quality Assurance Scheme 'The Bristol Standard'. The team are committed to continually monitoring and improving the sessions. The group works hard to assist in the preparation of little ones taking their next step onto school.

Henry and I found the space and people to be inviting and a lovely place to spend some time. All the children appeared to be happy, comfortable in each other's company and generally having a great time!

Pre-School places are currently available, so do get in touch if you would like more information or to arrange a visit.

Tel/Text: 07903 350 214

www.horfieldmethodist.org.uk/cyp/playgroup

News from the GRBID

The Gloucester Road Business Improvement District (GRBID) starts from the Co-op at the bottom of Pigsty Hill, runs down Gloucester Rd and then splits off to the right onto Zetland Rd (as far up as Harikrishnan's Kitchen) and left onto Cheltenham Rd (as far as Cox and Baloney).

It was great to meet up with the GRBID team recently. There is much work going on behind the scenes and projects in the planning that they look forward to sharing with you in future issues. In the meantime, they are keen for people with a passion for our community to get in touch with them by e-mailing: grbidoffice@gmail.com. They are interested in collaborating with local charities, artists, community groups, or anybody who has a good idea for something they would like to see or bring to the area. The BID raised £426 for St Mungo's over the Christmas period and are committed to further fundraising for local charities.

The GRBID are delighted to see the opening of the new Bishopston Library; do take part in their free summer activities (see page 19 for more details). They are also pleased to welcome new businesses Co-LAB (123 Gloucester Rd), Green Woods Furniture (27 Zetland Rd), Industry Bar & Kitchen Ltd (141 Gloucester Rd), Lana Barbers (133

Gloucester Rd) and Bomboloni (225 Gloucester Rd). Owner and talented chef Andrew

Griffin (who used to own Tart), has worked tirelessly with his team to create Bomboloni (meaning Italian filled doughnuts) on the site that was previously occupied by Biblos. Your taste buds are for a treat with this Italian family kitchen inspired cafe and restaurant. www.instagram.com/bombolonibristol. Cafe Lazz – Bishopston has also opened its doors at 163 Gloucester Rd after the devastating fire at their Horfield venue (thankfully this site is also due to re-open soon). Hobbs House Bakery hopes to open in the middle of July (on the site that was previously Kindle). The new business to our local area, are really looking forward to coming home to Bristol. The shop will celebrate all their finest produce – their award-winning bread, finest organic bread and sourdough made with our 62-year-old sourdough. All of their cakes will be made in house and they will be using their special extract roasted coffee. There will be an area to eat in and they will be serving breakfasts and lunches too.

Congratulations goes to Vincenzo who is celebrating 50 years of barbering on Gloucester Rd. His sons Franco and Giuseppe now join him (from their Barbering Emporium further up Gloucester Rd) at the newly renovated Vincenzo & Sons Barbering Emporium.



7th Sea, Handmade Emporium (198 Cheltenham Rd), are celebrating their 5th birthday. To mark the occasion, simply take this copy of **Bishopston Matters** into the creative gift shop and receive **10% off**

your purchase, throughout July 2017.

The GRBID are pleased to support the work of the Gloucester Rd Street Scene Group – a team of volunteers who work hard to clean graffiti, re-paint walls and shop fronts, clear litter and flyers, etc. The team give their time for free but money is needed for equipment. Previously supported by the BCR Neighbourhood Partnership, the GRBID have now taken over the funding to secure the future of this important Street Scene Group after council cuts.



Vincenzo & Sons Barbering Emporium Celebrating 50 Years on Gloucester Road

There have been many changes in the last 50 years, but one thing has stayed the same – the presence of Vincenzo & Son Barbershop holding a prominent position on Gloucester Road.

Vincenzo brought his barbering expertise over from Sicily in 1963. Sons, Franco and Giuseppe grew up in the barbershop observing their Father, where his skills were passed on to them both.

Throughout that time, there have been three shops (Vincenzo & Son, Franco's Unisex Salon and The Barbering Emporium), but it has always been the same family – Vincenzo, his wife Pierina, sons Franco and Giuseppe, assisted by Pino who has worked with the family for over 25 years.

At the beginning of Vincenzo's 50th year of trading, the time was right to merge the two shops; Vincenzo & Son (where Vincenzo and Pino worked) and The Barbering Emporium of 316 Gloucester Rd (where Giuseppe and Franco worked); and for the family to be brought back together under one roof, as was always intended. And so was born, a newly renovated Vincenzo & Sons Barbering Emporium on the site of the old Vincenzo & Son at 76 Gloucester Road on the corner of Shadwell Road.

The new barbershop was created to provide a place

of escapism which they hope will appeal to men from all walks of life and of any age, in a relaxing and friendly environment. Using an integrated approach to both modern and traditional barbering skills they cater to all their clients' requirements.

The family are delighted with their new shop and have been overwhelmed with the support and kind wishes from their clients and local traders, who they would like to extend their gratitude to. This sense of community is what makes Gloucester Road the great place that it is!

If you haven't been down to visit the new shop yet, check the website for opening times. The family team look forward to seeing you soon.

www.thebarberingemporium.co.uk



Giuseppe, Pino, Vincenzo & Franco



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Out of the Fire Emerges a Turkish Delight

A month ago I was off to meet brothers Serkan and Erkan, but upon my arrival I was greeted by fire engines and subsequently learnt they had suffered every business's worst nightmare...a devastating fire that forced the closure (temporary) of a much-loved meeting place for many – Café Lazz.

So it was with great pleasure that I met them both again at their new location this month a bit further down Gloucester Road – smiling and friendly as ever – for a catch-up on the future of Café Lazz.

Seated in the sun on the Turkish-style terrace Serkan told me that following the fire an opportunity came up to take on 163 Gloucester Road and, though a daunting challenge, with the support of local people the new Café Lazz – Bishopston was able to open less than a month later. Serkan is quick to offer their family's gratitude to the community whose collaborative spirit helped make it happen.

Loyal customers to the original Café Lazz will be pleased to see that the latest Café has kept its Turkish style and continues to offer favourites such as mezzes and their popular

Turkish breakfasts. They've added a new extended menu too – including freshly prepared sandwiches, salads, jacket potatoes and plenty of desserts, including homemade baklava. Plans are afoot too for the opening of a back garden which will be very family-friendly – a place to sit back and relax. Café Lazz – Bishopston is also offering catering for all occasions. The venue is open daily, 8am to 6pm, so do pop in soon.

And what about Café Lazz at the top of Gloucester Road – good news – it's re-opening very soon! It's being renamed as Café Lazz – Horfield.

"Love the place. Food is excellent & good value. 100% independent"
Happy local customer

Café Lazz – Bishopston, 163 Gloucester Rd T: 0117 401 1154

**Café Lazz – Horfield (re-opening soon),
272 Gloucester Rd T: 0117 942 2233**

Food Style – Turkish, Mediterranean and European

Keep up to date and follow them on

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cafelazzbristol



Serkan, Efehan next to dad Erkan



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The Gloucester Road Improvement District hopes you will enjoy some of their seasonal suggestions, support local and make your summer special!



1. Enjoy Strawberries & cream

Gardeners Patch 159 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BA
Gloucester Rd Fruits 135 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AX



3. Alfresco dining on the Prom

Spicer & Cole 16 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AE, 0117 9247 628; The Blue Lagoon 18-20 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AE, 0117 942 7471; The Gallimaufry 26-28 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AL, 0117 9427319



5. Pick up top produce for a BBQ

Fayre Game 230 Cheltenham Rd, BS6 5QU, 07565 035140; Murray's Butchers & Deli* 153 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BA, 0117 942 4025; The Fish Shop 143 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BA, 0117 924 1988



7. Relax in a local beer garden

Hobgoblin 69-71 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AS, 0117 330 2997; Industry Bar & Kitchen 141 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BA, 0117 942 2735 The Bristol Flyer 96 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BN, 0117 944 1658; The Grace 197 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8BG, 0117 924 4334



2. Indulge in a delicious icecream

The Parlour 243 Cheltenham Rd, BS6 5QP, 0117 3293 620



4. Classic holiday – Fish & Chips

Arches Fish Bar 226 Cheltenham Rd, BS6 5QU, 0117 942 8844; Soul Fish Cafe Ltd 4A Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AE, 0117 9244 942



6. Select delicacies for a picnic

El Colmado 57 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AD; Harvest 11 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AA, 0117 942 5997; La Ruca 89 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AS, 0117 944 6810; *Murray's Butchers & Deli



8. Take Afternoon Tea

Cox & Baloney Tearoom and Bar 182 & 184 Cheltenham Rd, BS6 5RB, 0117 944 3100

Relax & Revive at Grove Farm

If you are looking to escape to peace and quiet in idyllic countryside surroundings, just 45 minutes away from Bristol – I cannot recommend Grove Farm Bed & Breakfast highly enough.

Over the Easter holidays, James, young Henry, Monty dog and I enjoyed a full day's walking in the Forest of Dean and then retreated to Grove Farm, where we were welcomed by friendly owner, Penny Hill.

The venue has two rooms available to book, one with en-suite shower and bathroom and one with a private bathroom and bath. Visitors also have access to the large, guest drawing room with log fire and television.

There are stunning views from every angle of the house, you really feel you have escaped to the country. It is a working, organic dairy farm, with fields and woodland surrounding the B&B. The building is a traditional farmhouse with classic, complementary decor.

Penny and David could not have been more accommodating to 15-month-old Henry, they had a proper cot ready, toys for the bath and high chair with feeding accessories.

There was a wide range of delicious options available for breakfast: after cereal, stewed fruit and yoghurt, James opted for the Farmhouse breakfast and I had smoked salmon with scrambled eggs. Kippers and devilled kidneys were also on the menu. Tea arrived in a tea pot and was taken in china cups and saucers, with linen serviettes – all lovely touches. A range of hot drinks were also available in your room.

If you fancy a relaxing getaway, with easy access to wonderful walking and wildlife, without spending hours in the car, I recommend you book in with Grove Farm. Contact Penny & David Hill –

Tel: 01594 516 304 • davidaghill48@gmail.com • www.grovefarmbnb.co.uk



Visit the NEW Bishopston Library

It was with great delight that Henry and I attended the opening of our new Bishopston Library in May. The opening was of course hugely overdue (by some years!) but it is nonetheless, fantastic to see it open and already well used by our local community.

As well as books, there are a good number of computers for public use along with work space, enabling people to grab a coffee from their favourite Gloucester Road cafe, plug their laptop in and get working. There is free Wi-Fi and plenty of seating areas to sit and enjoy a good book or magazine. There is a meeting room that will be available for hire over the coming months; speak to a member of staff if you would like to express an interest.

Young Henry loved the children's area at the far end of the library and we had great fun joining in with **Baby Bounce** – a good singalong and stories. This group takes place every **Wednesday** (during term-time), **11.30am to 12pm**, no booking is necessary. There is also a weekly **Story Time** (during term-time) on **Saturdays, 11.30am to 12pm**. It was wonderful to see so many little people embracing the new space, picking out books to take home.



Summer Reading Challenge: Meet the Animal Agents, and join the Summer Reading Challenge – it's your chance to solve a mystery and catch a crafty crook! Local children are challenged to read six books over the holidays – those that take part will receive stickers as rewards for reading their books, and once they have completed the challenge, a certificate and medal. Sign up at Bishopston library where you'll receive a collector folder to start you off.

Story Telling & Craft Sessions: The library is running a Craft workshop on **Friday 4 August 2017, 1.30–2.30pm**. This is a free event but please book your place in the library. There will be other free children's events over the holidays, keep an eye out in the library for more details.

Membership: If you are a member of a different library in Bristol or the southwest, you can use your membership card here. If you would like to join the library, membership is free – simply take a utility bill or form of ID that details your name and address.

Would you like to become a Friend of Bishopston Library? At the end of May, 21 residents met at Bishopston Library to discuss the idea of setting up a Friends group to work with and help develop the facilities and activities at the new venue. Group services Manager Chris Brown outlined how the new facility had been developing since opening and the range of activities already on offer. The meeting was fortunate to have a member of Friends of Henleaze Library, who gave an idea of how their group operates, the range of events that they have been able to put on and some of the resources that they have been able to purchase for the library as a result of their fundraising. There was a good discussion from those present about how to communicate with and involve the wider community, some of the nitty-gritty of running

an organisation and the need to ensure that the voice of everyone, particularly young people, is heard. If anyone is interested in learning more about the Friends of Bishopston Library please contact: denis.wise@bristol.gov.uk

Bishopston Library, 100 Gloucester Road, BS7 8BN • Tel: 0117 357 6220

Website: www.bristol.gov.uk/libraries
E-mail: bishopston.library@bristol.gov.uk

Opening Hours: Mon 1–7pm; Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat 11am – 5pm.



"We are delighted with the space and so pleased to be finally open! We are keen to receive feedback, if people tell us what they want to see or would like to the use space for, we will do our best to give it a go."

Kate Murray
 Head of Libraries in Bristol

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLIMBING CLUBS

FOR KIDS AGED 5 - 16

Looking for something **active, social and fun** for the kids to take part in this summer? Our **Summer Holiday Climbing Clubs** are exciting for children of all ages, encouraging them to **learn new skills, explore local and famous climbing spots and make new friends.**

Spaces are limited! Visit our website below to find out more and book dates that suit you.

WWW.UNDERCOVER-ROCK.COM/KIDS/HOLIDAY-ACTIVITIES/SUMMER-HOLIDAY-CLUB

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Did you know, you can experience your favourite music through your speakers via the SoundTouch app? I didn't but the helpful team at Paul Roberts informed me the app is free to download and allows you to take control of your sound via your phone, tablet or PC – you can even personalise the presets, and control one or many speakers around your home and garden.

What does this mean for your home? You can have a sound system with its individual units to either connect rooms or have bespoke music room by room. Imagine – barbecuing in the garden, with music playing from a hidden waterproof speaker. At the same time, the kids in their rooms listening to Grime, and your partner is in the kitchen marinating chicken, toe tapping to their beloved summer playlist. All controlled from the SoundTouch app.

What else could I use this for? This system also works well for Home Cinema and Multi room sound.

Where can I have speakers installed? Speakers can be wired up to any system you have (or of course take a look at music systems sold in-store at Paul Roberts Hi-Fi). Because speakers purchased at Paul Roberts are weather proof, they can go anywhere you like – either indoors or out, ceilings, walls or even showers! As well as houses and flats, the local team have fitted systems into – garages, extensions, conservatories, gardens, boats, camper vans and even swimming pools!

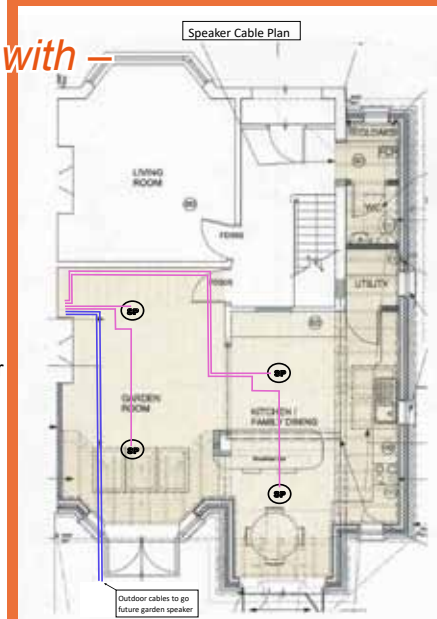
No unsightly wires please! Paul and Martin are masters at concealment – they will ensure the ugly bits are well and truly hidden. You can even paint over these speakers to colour match with your walls or ceilings.

When is the best time to install this fantastic new sound system? Paul and Martin recommend if you are planning any building or paint work, this is an ideal time. However, with their understanding and technical know-how, they are able to install systems any time you like.

Here to help! The local team can visit you to advise and draw up the bespoke cabling and wiring diagrams – making it clear how it will look (or not – as it will be so well out of sight!). If helpful, they are happy to share their diagrams (as above) with your electrician – so they know exactly what to do.

Interested? Why not visit Paul Roberts Hi-Fi on Gloucester Road where they will invite you to listen to their quality systems for yourself, offer great advice to suit your requirement with no obligation. By the time you walk out you'll be envisioning yourself in the shower singing to your favourite tunes!

31–33 Gloucester Rd, BS7 8AA • 0117 329 2460 / 07710 435 254 • www.paulrobertshi-fi.co.uk



"When redecorating our lounge, they provided support in planning the installation, which involved the cabling into the walls before they were plastered, but also, they went the extra mile. Even though they didn't supply our TV, they helped us install cables, connecting the TV directly to our router so that we didn't suffer the dreaded buffering from a wifi connection, and they helped sort out the wifi issues we initially had with our Bose Soundlink system."

*Installation was smooth and efficient, making sure the system was set up making it simple and easy to use. **Their after sales service is second to none**"*

Very satisfied, local homeowner



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News from the Friends of St Andrews Park

The council's announced spending freeze on park budgets this spring, has been high on the agenda at recent FoSAP meetings, and has generated some lively and vigorous debate, as well as some creative ideas.

At their AGM, over 30 'friends' and park users attended, including a number of parents from Sefton Park and other local schools, who were particularly concerned about the possible closure of the much-loved paddling pool. But other issues were also the source of some strongly expressed views, including the early closure of the toilets and the general level of litter collection.

As Chair John Mayne explained, in order to make drastic saving in its expenditure, the council is striving to achieve 'cost neutral' budgets for its parks. This has meant, for the time being at least, a freeze on the payment of overtime for hard-working park staff, who are responsible for services such as the closing of toilets in the evenings, the essential cleaning of the paddling pool and the collection of rubbish after the crowds have left on warm evenings. None of this, John assured the audience, reflects on the hard work and dedication of our wonderful park keeper Micky!

Local people were particularly worried recently that the freeze on overtime would result in the paddling pool being closed at weekends, one of the most popular times for visitors from across the city and beyond. The pool became the object of local community action during April and many children, as well as their parents and carers, hung touching messages of concern on the temporary fence calling for the council to keep the paddling pool open seven days a week over spring and summer.

Many of those attending the meeting offered positive suggestions and imaginative solutions to overcome the potential impact of the freeze. These included volunteers closing the toilets on a rota basis as well as helping with the cleaning of the paddling pool which, in hot weather, needs daily treatment. Crowd funding to cover the cost of paying workers for essential overtime was also discussed.



The pool did reopen on 1 May and has continued to be in use, seven days a week since then. We are thankfully not aware of any threat to cease this operating routine for the rest of the summer. Although the situation for next year and beyond is less certain. The toilets are still closing early on weekday afternoons but stay open until 7.30pm at weekends. Other options such as a timer self-closing mechanism are being considered by the council but it may be that for this, and many other park services, the effort of volunteers will be needed to maintain St Andrews Park and all Bristol's beautiful parks and public open spaces.

We are pleased to share the good news, that the flower beds were prepared on the bottom slopes of the park at the end of May, so we can look forward to some gorgeous flowering meadow displays over the coming weeks.

At time of writing the Friends are busy preparing for Summer Shakespeare in St Andrews Park on Sunday 25 June, 7pm. 'The Pantaloons', a touring theatre company renowned for their riotous and family-friendly interpretations of the classics will give a very special performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. If you are reading this in time, you can book tickets via: www.thepantaloons.co.uk or Tel: 0117 9245 200. Look out for a review of this wonderful evening in the September issue.

As a result of the original threat to the pool, some new members have joined the FoSAP and we have been very pleased to welcome them. If you would like to join this active community group and help safe-guard the future of all the wonderful facilities at our park, please go along to the next meeting on **Tuesday 4 July, 7.30pm in Bristol St Andrews Bowling Club, Derby Road**. Alternatively, please contact me, the Secretary, at paulbullivant@gmail.com and check for notice of our meetings and events at –

www.friendsofstandrewspark.com

Facebook: Friends of St Andrews Park, Bristol



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Since 1994, Niche has developed a friendly and knowledgeable framing team with years of experience behind them. Whether a signed football shirt or an original Banksy, they can offer you the best advice whatever the project – from a conservation standpoint or just aesthetically.

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Also available are their made-in-house, readymade frames, which are available in six different colours and style ranges. These are a particularly attractive choice for artists framing for exhibitions, helping to keep costs down; they can also be assembled with or without mounts.

Niche welcomes new and returning customers who will be helpfully advised by our framing front-of-house team; Joe, Abi, Helen, Nick and Steve's, guidance is always free and customers can leave with a printed quote for their project. They have numerous framing examples around their premises to help inspire your choices. Please pop in at any time for a chat or a quote.

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Shared commuting service Slide celebrates one year

Slide, Bristol's shared commuting service is celebrating its first birthday this July and to celebrate they'll be giving away free ice creams around busy workplaces - keep your eyes peeled from Monday 17th July!

Slide launched in July last year as a smart and simple travel solution for Bristol's commuters and has gone from strength to strength. We all know what the city's traffic can get like at peak times, and it's no secret that we don't have the best relationship with our buses! Only recently the Great Bristol Survey found that on the whole we're a pretty happy city but when asked about public transport, buses were chosen as the form that needed most improvement!

So, with that in mind, Slide decided that there should be a better way of getting to work, one that gives you more time in the mornings, a more relaxed journey where you can use free WiFi, and one which is cashless, all controlled using a clever app. You can even track where your ride is and when it's going to arrive!

Slide has really taken the hassle of people's journeys to work, like local Bishopston resident Hannah Page, *"I used to commute by bus and it was a very frustrating experience: long queues on the bus stop, buses not stopping because they were full, standing room only, people coughing on you. Now I have my own comfy seat, radio to listen to and drivers that know when to chat and when to leave you to zone out. Slide has given me the gift of time! Commuting with Slide saves me around an hour every day which, as a working mum, is priceless."*

Over the last 12 months Slide has doubled its number of vehicles and has also expanded into new areas of Bristol. They've also introduced some great offers: you can choose whether you pay-as-you-go or buy Slide credit saving up to 40% on your fare so you can travel to and from work every day for as little as £120, the more credit you buy, the cheaper it becomes! All summer you can also take up to 2 friends free of charge when you book as a group, perfect for an after work get together with colleagues or an early evening trip into town!

We think Slide is the future and in a few years we'll wonder why we ever used to stand waiting at a bus stop! It's sustainable, efficient and friendly too. Drivers always welcome you by name and pride themselves on having their passengers leave with a smile, Slide is a bus you'll actually want to get on!

*Slide are kindly giving readers of Bishopston Matters a special offer of **20% off a day's commute**, just enter the promo code **'MATTERS20'** when you book to and from work.*

Find out more and download the app at www.slidebristol.com.

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Goodbye hassle, hello Slide

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News from Glos Rd Central

The best news about Glos Rd Central this month, is how the planters are blooming and looking so fantastic on our high street. Traders have been working really hard to keep Gloucester Road looking colourful and the bees are enjoying it too!

Bishopston Library recently opened to great success. Room 212 has offered to create canvases of artwork by North Bristol Artists to go on the walls in the two computer areas and the children's section. The artwork will brighten up the walls and will feature images of the Gloucester Road area or books by local authors such as the much-loved Bristol Giants book by Oliver Ribgy.

Sarah Thorp, owner of Room 212 and driving force behind events and happenings at Glos Rd Central, was recently a finalist in the High Street Hero category of the National 'Small Awards'. The Awards ceremony took place at Spitalfields. Sarah had a lovely chat with compare Sue Perkins (celebrity from the Great British Bake Off). Sue told her that she has friends in Bristol, loves to visit Gloucester Road and is a big champion of small independent retailers. Of course Sarah invited Sue to visit Room 212 and Glos Rd Central whenever she's next in town!

To keep up to date with Glos Rd Central activity, visit: www.glosrdcentral.co.uk



KARA – A New Colourful Home

What do you do when you have a desire to let people in on your favourite things? You open a shop! That's just what Nuala has done. Kara opened its doors in late April. Nestled amongst the Gloucester Road Central shops, Kara brings a fresh, colourful selection of hip, affordable design-led products, including home and kitchenware, bath, beauty and body, chocolate, Cambridge satchels and handbags, accessories for pooch, garden-ware, toys and lots of inspiring gift ideas for women, men and children.

You get the sense of youth and fun the minute you step into Kara onto the Astroturf flooring. Lush, green and soft underfoot and apparently with a daily vacuum it's like new everyday. Quirky and stylish this sets the scene for Kara's products – which change on a regular basis as Nuala discovers fresh things to share with you.

With something for all budgets – you'll find beautiful things here at affordable prices. From handmade bath bombs and organic soaps and make-up, to suave bow ties to spruce up the man you love, fashionable collars for beloved pets and cool knick-knacks for the pocket money brigade. I leave with a spinner for my son. Then there are the things to make your home ready for a shoot for any interiors magazine – including ceramics, lighting, picture frames made from whisky barrels, barbecues (better for the garden!) and scented candles galore – including brands Roam and Vineyard.

It's reassuring to know that to get the right products, the team at Kara tested at least 20 candles before finding the scents they thought we would like and reluctantly they had to test a lot of chocolate and fudge before settling on Bristol-based Zara's Chocolate and The Fudge Kitchen. And their favourite thing at the moment is the range of handbags made by the Cambridge Satchel Company – high quality leather bags expertly hand-crafted by artisans.

On top of this when you do purchase something as a present, the team offer a complimentary gift wrap – and very lovely it looks too (see parcel above).

So what deep meaning does the name Kara have for the owner? Well, it was a name she liked while flicking through a baby name book. Meaning 'beloved' this is definitely an apt choice!

This sums up this new shop perfectly – simple beloved things.

Kara, 208 Gloucester Road, BS7 8NU • www.karaltd.co.uk



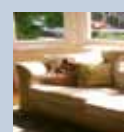
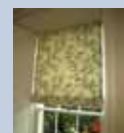
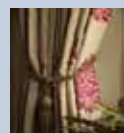
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Room 212 Success Leads to Online Shop

Four years ago, Room 212 was a tiny one

room pop up gallery showing work by a handful of local artists, on a quieter part of Gloucester Road. Since then it has grown into a much loved, well-known Bristol gallery, a treasure trove of art and creativity and the hub of Gloucester Road Central. Out on the wide pavement planters overflowing with flowers jostle for space with browsers full of prints. Up on the front of the building Cary Grant, who went to school around the corner, waves cheerfully to passers-by, drawn to the ever-changing colourful window displays reflecting the seasons or Bristol events. Inside there is a huge variety of original artwork and cards to suit every taste and occasion.

The success of **Room 212** stems from many factors: the immense drive and enthusiasm of owner Sarah Thorp, the amazing array of artwork on offer and the appreciative customers who enjoy spending time in this treasure trove. Sarah is a member of the North Bristol Artists, who show work in their homes during the last weekend of November. She conceived Room 212 as a place for fellow artists to show their work on a more permanent basis. By visiting other Art Trails and Open Studios Sarah invites a wide variety of artists to show their work at Room 212. Artists take it in turns to run the shop and the different themes encourage creativity and a continual supply of new work. This positive combination puts Room 212 at the centre of the **arty section of Gloucester Road**,

now known as **Glos Rd Central**. Other businesses in the area are flourishing and people are happy to walk up Pigsty Hill, from the traditionally more popular part of Gloucester Road, knowing that they can spend hours looking at art and

relaxing at some fantastic cafes and restaurants. **Room 212 now opens on Sundays, 10.30am – 4pm** to give those who work during the week a chance to have a leisurely browse of the art on offer.

Room 212 Online Shop This year Room 212 has gained an array of awards and prizes, most recently at the Small Business Awards, hosted in London by celebrity Sue Perkins. This national success has prompted the launch of a **Room 212 online shop**. Sarah's partner Mark Hayward is a photographer based in Stanton Drew and he has offered to take on the job of overseeing online sales. Existing Room 212 customers can now benefit from being able to make choices

at home. Being online means if you see something you like in the shop and can't make up your mind, would like it in a different size, or sent to a friend or relative elsewhere, you can. Also, if you can't see what you're looking for then you can make specific requests or even commission an original piece of work. There are plans for a **Wish List** so that customers can give hints to their friends and families – this will be especially helpful for birthdays, weddings and Christmas. It will also be possible to represent artists based

a little outside Bristol, such as Natasha Clutterbuck, who is the Yeo Valley artist in residence and paints amazing giant vegetables using natural clays and pigments. There's so much potential and Room 212 values your feedback as the online shop develops.

Themes for Summer Room 212 is renowned for its creative window displays. This summer artists will be contributing to a Marine theme to tie in with the Bristol Harbourside Festival in July and a Balloon theme for the Balloon Fiesta in August. Following the popularity of her mosaic Fox in June, **Toni Burrows** will be showing her mermaid mosaic. Toni's amazing mosaics are normally only on display all over her house during the North Bristol Art Trail, but Room 212 has persuaded her to bring them out onto Gloucester Road – a rare treat. The originals aren't for sale but prints and cards are available. Penguin or sailing fans will love work by **Anna Duckworth** and **Holly Collage** while others will enjoy classic Bristol images of the Suspension Bridge or Bristol Harbour by artists



Hannah Bailey



such as **Dee Miles** and **Hannah Bailey**. Popular artist **Jenny Urquhart** will be creating a new original painting for the Balloon theme and other artists will be contributing a wide variety of bright and uplifting artwork

212 Productions Two years ago Sarah partnered up with artist and professional printer Neil Roberts to launch a high quality printing company, **212 Productions**. Neil has been in the printing industry for over 12 years, specialising in c-type, giclée and dye-sublimation. Artists and photographers are always looking for good quality, reasonably priced prints so Sarah and Neil decided to invest in a printer to help them out. They have recently taken on a printing studio in St Werburghs while maintaining a printer in Bishopston. **Room 212** artists get special discounts but the printing services are open to everyone and 212 Productions creates prints for a diverse range of artists and photographers from locals to well-known Bristol Artists. **www.212productions.co.uk**

212 Eco House Last year saw the completion of the beautiful 212 Eco House round the back of Room 212. This house is made from sustainable



Holly Collage

and recycled materials, with a living roof and straw walls, set in a lovely sunny garden. The house (and Gloucester Road) was given a glowing review in the *Guardian* (see online article British Boltholes Nov 2016). You will be able to take a look around during **Bristol Doors Open Day** on Sunday 10 Sept and when artists use it as a venue during the **North Bristol Art Trail 25–26 Nov**. In the meantime, this self-contained one bed house can be rented out short or long term (Bishopston Matters readers get 10% discount on all bookings).

Room 212 remains as fresh, vibrant and welcoming as the day the door first opened, and now there's a virtual door into this wonderful world of art as well!

www.room212.co.uk

During July and August Bishopston Matters Readers are offered a 10% discount on their first online purchase with Room 212, using code BMsummer17



Stay in an oasis of calm just off Gloucester Rd.

A lovely, self contained two-storey house, built from sustainable materials. Set in a sunny garden full of flowers. Sleeps up to 5 people.

10% discount to Bishopston Matters Readers
Tel: 07702 598 090
www.room212.co.uk/212-eco-house



Sarah with partner Mark (who is running the new online shop) at the Small Awards

News from The Ardagh Community Trust



The Ardagh Community Trust

application for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) for the Ardagh site has now been formally submitted by Ardagh Community Trust (ACT).

ACT was established in February 2017 as the organisation which will take on responsibility for managing the Ardagh site for 35+ years, assuming that the CAT is a success!

ACT has seven new Trustees who live locally and who bring with them a range of professional skills, experience, enthusiasm and a commitment to ensuring that the Ardagh serves the needs of local people into the future.

While we wait to hear the outcome to the CAT

Community Asset Transfer

We are delighted to report that after seven years work by local volunteers, our

application from Bristol City Council (it is worth noting that negotiations over leases can take several months), we are really pleased to be moving on with plans to develop opportunities and activities at the Ardagh for an increasingly wide range of local people.

Horfield Common Repair Café

We are thrilled to announce that we have successfully secured funding from the People's Health Trust to establish a Repair Café and skills development project over two years, which will enable us to support the reduction of household bills, reduction of waste going into landfill, and provide brilliant opportunities for skills-sharing and development for local residents. We have been working with the 'Repair Café' network across Bristol (thank you!) to plan our new project and are currently recruiting volunteer fixers who are happy to join our database and to come along once a month or every other month to help neighbours repair things.

We need new, handy volunteers to act as repair experts during the Repair Café meetings. We are especially looking for people who are handy with clothing/textiles, electrical appliances, bicycles, computers, furniture/wooden objects and who like to share their skills with neighbours.

We are also recruiting volunteers who would like to act as host or hostess. In this role, you'll help new visitors at the reception table and act as a contact for both the repairers and visitors to the Repair Café.

You can sign up as a volunteer by sending a message to info@theardagh.com or pop in to the Café & leave your details with Sara.

The Horfield Common Repair Café will be running a 'pop-up' session as part of Manor Farm Community Hub's Fun Day at Horfield CofE School on 8 July 2017, where our repairers will also be joined by the Ardagh ShedMen who will be on tour for the day.

The Ardagh ShedMen

The Ardagh ShedMen have now secured further funding from The St Monica Trust and Bristol Ageing Better to enable this brilliant project to expand. The Ardagh Shed was set up to provide a space for older men living locally to get together, share and learn new skills, and support improvements to the Ardagh and the wider Horfield Common area.

THE ARDAGH SHEDMEN

FROM 1ST JULY 2017
Weekly Sessions

Come and join this brilliant practical, making project for older local residents! Share your skills & learn new ones! Tues & Thurs mornings, 9am - 1pm - ALL WELCOME!

The Ardagh, Horfield Common, BS6 7YL
FFI: www.theardagh.com



Activities to date have included woodworking (see the wonderful planters now displaying flowers at the Ardagh) and inter-generational skills-sharing (learning new skills and developing and socialising). In response to demand from participants, the Ardagh ShedMen sessions will now run twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Ardagh, throughout the summer.

If you – or someone you know – would enjoy being part of this great group – please get in touch via info@theardagh.com or pop in to see the group in action from 1 July 9.00–1.00pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

HORFIELD COMMON
2017

REPAIR CAFE

people's health trust

The Ardagh Community Trust

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Everyone Active at Horfield Leisure Centre is launching a new Walking Football Initiative for people over 50.

Walking football has taken off in Britain and whatever your ability or age it has something to offer everyone. It runs at a manageable pace in a safe environment and is widely

regarded as a fun and sociable way of staying active. The rules of walking football are much the same as its speedier cousin, however there are some differences. The squads are smaller (between five and seven-a-side), free kicks are indirect, kick-ins replace throws, there are no off-sides, the ball must be kept below head height and, of course, anything so much as a jog is prohibited. The new facilities at Horfield Leisure Centre are perfect for walking football, where their well-maintained artificial 3g pitches ensure that the pitch is always smooth and flat, whatever the weather.

These sessions are run by Barry Dymianczuk who is a fully qualified FA coach from 'Smart Sports Coaching' based at Manor Farm and has made a great success of walking football in other areas of the city. Barry will guide players who have previously played and had to stop because of injury,

ill health or any other reason and get back into the game, when they have perhaps enjoy being a couch pundit more than getting up off the sofa and playing. These sessions are tailored to the players and so all abilities are welcome, for some people its entirely possible their best playing successes are yet to come! These are Gloucester FA affiliated sessions and we would love Horfield to eventually get a team together so Barry can take them to play competitively in the GFA Walking Football League where there is a wide variety of games played regularly.

Walking Football sessions at Horfield Leisure Centre will run on Tuesday mornings from 10 – 11am and the first session on 11 July will be FREE to everyone, so if you just want to try it out to see how you get on then come down and give it a try!

Smart Sports Coaching will be leading the sessions and so you will need to see Barry on the pitches to pay – it's only £3 per session after the free taster session. If you have any questions then feel free to give Barry a call on 07809 483 191 for more information.

New Local Community Navigators

Are you over 50? Would you like to link up with others? Find out what's happening in your local community? Community Navigators is a new service that can help you to stay connected, improve your wellbeing or help you get involved in your community. The project is part of the Bristol Ageing Better programme designed to combat isolation and loneliness among older people in Bristol.

Community Navigators, Laura and Jenny, are working in Bishopston, Ashley Down and Horfield and will be recruiting a team of volunteers to help them provide one-to-one support through home visits. Based on your interests, Navigators can recommend activities or volunteering opportunities in your local area. They can help you overcome any barriers, such as problems with transport that keep you from getting out. If you lack the confidence to try a new activity on your own, they can even accompany you on a first visit.

The project is led by North Bristol Advice Centre, working in partnership with Southmead Development Trust, Ambition Lawrence Weston, Avonmouth Community Centre and Shirehampton Community Action Forum. They cover Bishopston, Ashley Down, Horfield, Lockleaze, Cotham,

Redland, Stoke Bishop, Sea Mills, Southmead, Shirehampton, Westbury-on-

Trym, Henleaze, Avonmouth, Lawrence Weston, Henbury and Brentley.

Community Navigators are out and about in the community, at events and visiting local groups, to find out the full range of activities on offer in every local area. We would love to hear from you if there is an event or local organisation you think we should know about in Bishopston, Horfield or Ashley Down.

If you have a passion for tackling loneliness and would like to volunteer in your local area, please get in touch with us to find out how you can get involved.

To find out more about Community Navigators, or to refer someone into the service, contact us on 0117 951 5751 or visit www.northbristoladvice.org.uk



Local navigators – Jenny & Laura



everyone ACTIVE

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Starts
11th July

Walking Football

at Horfield Leisure Centre **Tuesday 10-11am**

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“Beyond academic learning, the children at Fairfield learn and display wonderful social skills, tolerance, acceptance of diversity and camaraderie. They look out for one another. The school has a lovely energy” - Parent



www.fairfield.bristol.sch.uk



Celebrating the talent of Fairfield High student - Toby Maddix

Toby Maddix, a Year 7 student at Fairfield High School (FHS) has helped build a programmable mini arcade cabinet, which will shortly be donated to FHS and used by hundreds of students at the school

He built the arcade cabinet in a workshop at Digimakers (<http://www.digimakers.co.uk/>) a technology event run by Bristol University and hosted at @Bristol. Toby was chosen, together with two Year 6 students from Ashton Gate Primary School, to take part in this fantastic project.

The project was run as part of a collaboration between the Royal Academy of Engineering

and Cotham School and aims to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects within schools.

Terry Watts, STEM teacher Co-ordinator for the Royal Academy of Engineering and Teacher at Cotham School comments: *“Toby was a real credit to your school and worked really well throughout the whole day. You should be really proud of him. We had a fantastic day.”*

Toby Maddix adds: *“The day was really interesting, well run and well delivered. I really enjoyed taking part in something which will be used for many years. It was fast paced and really fun!”*

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Update from Archfield House Nursery – Government Childcare Funding



Are you aware of the changes to childcare vouchers and the 30 hours funding for 3–4 year olds?

Tax-free childcare is a new government scheme to help working parents with the cost of childcare for children under the age of 12 or under 17 for children with disabilities.

Parents are now able to open an online account. For every £8 a parent pays in, the government will pay in an extra £2. Each year, parents can receive up to £2000 per child towards childcare costs, or £4000 for disabled children.

30 hours 'free' childcare – From September 2017, many parents of 3–4 year olds will be eligible for 30 hours of 'free' childcare rather than the current 15 hours.

The 30 hours are only paid for 38 weeks of the year, so some nurseries will 'stretch' these hours across more weeks of the year.

When you have applied for the additional funding, you will receive an 11 digit code which you will then need to give to your childcare setting, such as a nursery who will then follow their admissions policy.

For further information and to check eligibility you can visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

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News from the Friends of Horfield Common



Accessible Pathway across the common

We are meeting with BCC's Parks Liaison Officer for this area at the end of June to confirm when installation of the new accessible footpath will be installed. We hope that this will be happening through July and August and will keep BM readers updated as soon as we have news!

Volunteering with FoHC

We are running volunteering sessions on the First Fridays and last Sundays of every month for anyone who would like to come along and lend a hand with a range of projects. These sessions have proved popular to date, but there is always lots to do, so if you would like to get involved in activities that will help to keep the common lovely for everyone – please do come along and get stuck in! First Fridays are our Gardening Club days, which begin at 10am and run through to the afternoon (you can come for an hour or stay all day – it's entirely flexible). Sessions on the last Sunday of the month are for our 'Tidy Team', who are undertaking a wide range of jobs including graffiti removal, litter picking and small enhancement projects. As Bristol City Council continues to work towards reducing the Parks Maintenance budget for the city to zero by 2019 – meaning significant reductions in capacity in BCC Parks, the role played by 'Friends of' groups citywide is increasingly crucial if we want to continue to enjoy good quality parks and green spaces – including Horfield Common. All of FoHC's work is done by local volunteers who value this wonderful green space. If you'd like to get involved and support our work – please come along.

Petition: Protect our Parks

Bristol Parks Forum has recently launched a petition on BCC's website calling for the council to review its stated aim to reduce funding for Bristol's parks to zero by 2019.

The petition's wording reads: Bristol City Council's published budget proposals show that they will stop funding our parks from April 2019, relying

instead on revenue generated from parks events and other outside sources. Bristol Parks Forum believes this is impossible to achieve in such a short timescale. Many other big cities have explored this option and decided it simply won't work; this was also the conclusion of last year's Select Committee of the House of Commons.

We, the undersigned, call on Bristol City Council to withdraw this budget plan and work with the Parks Forum and others to develop a realistic alternative.

Bristol's parks are the most highly used leisure facility in the city; more than 92% of Bristol's residents use their local park for a wide range of activities which support health and wellbeing. Please consider adding your voice to the petition, and help Bristol Parks Forum to raise awareness of the issues facing Bristol's parks, as well as their importance in the lives of the city's residents.

You can find the petition on BCC's website, or via a search engine – it takes less than 2 minutes to add your name to it.

friendsofhorfieldcommon.weebly.com



Reaching new heights at Sefton Park with the 63rd Scouts



What a fabulous family afternoon, thanks to Sefton Park Primary and the 63rd Scouts. Basked in glorious sunshine, their summer fayre was a huge hit, the star attraction being a 7.3m climbing wall!

The PTA decided to bring the wall to their school to give every child the chance to climb. Over the two days prior to the event, the wall was installed and each class from Year 1 to Year 6 had a session on the wall. They all had several goes on the wall, trying out each of the four different climbs.

PTA Chair, Corrie Bell told me, "The excitement and buzz within school as a result of the experience has been palpable. Encouraging calls and cheers from the children as they watched their friends climb could be heard all over the school compound!"

Each class recorded how high they climbed, to see which of the world's tallest building they could reach collectively. Perhaps, as a school they may have climbed as high as Everest! At time of writing (the day after the event), results were yet to be calibrated.

The school has sought to have a joint event with the Scouts for some time, and linking the Summer Fair with a Scout Open day was the obvious choice. Sharing the climbing wall with the scouts was the icing on the cake, enabling more children to have access to the experience. Both local groups are incredibly grateful for the generous sponsorship they received from CJ Hole and Barcan & Kirby.

The climbing wall showcased what is best about children – the opportunity to show perseverance and resilience, test boundaries, support friends and peers but most of all, have a really fun time. The children have really enjoyed it.

Dan Smith – Deputy Head

My class absolutely LOVED IT! It was a joy to watch so many children overcome their fears and push themselves to achieve their best. They were all really encouraging towards each other and as a result we all left our session with uplifted spirits and a pride in our achievements. Just brilliant!

Helen Thorpe – Y4 teacher

It was great to chat with the legend who is, Mike Evans, Scout leader extraordinaire, on the day of the fayre. He told me, "We are delighted to be successfully working in collaboration with Sefton Park School. The climbing wall has proven to be a huge hit with all our scouting groups."

Thank you Sefton Park for inviting me to share in such a brilliant event.

Vintage enterprise launched to help people out of homelessness

A social enterprise vintage shop has just opened on Gloucester Road where customers' purchases help raise money for homeless people in Bristol.

Emmaus Vintage at 332 Gloucester Road not only ploughs its profits into local homeless charity Emmaus Bristol but also supports formerly homeless people through work opportunities on its shop floor.

With rates of homelessness in Bristol up by a shocking 128% over the past three years, it's clear more needs to be done to support the growing numbers of people caught out by rising rents and insecure employment. Mark, a formerly homeless member of the Emmaus community says: "When you've been unemployed, when you're in hostels, no one wants to take you on. Emmaus gives you a chance."

Emmaus Vintage has been launched to give more people like Mark a new opportunity in life through positive work experience in a professional shop.

Shop manager Xanne Carey (pictured left) said of Emmaus Vintage, "We get beautiful vintage

stock donated to us all of the time, and our collections throw up so many classic gems and treasures, we really needed a specialist shop to showcase them all."

She added, "Emmaus Vintage gives our customers the chance to browse our classic stock in a stylish and inspirational atmosphere – as well as the satisfaction of knowing their custom goes to supporting a good cause."

The shop itself caters for lovers of all things vintage – from furniture to classic chinaware and clothing. It is full of domestic treasures, but the fact that all of its profits go directly to helping Bristol's homeless makes this little gem shine even more brightly. Customers can expect a friendly welcome and some excellent style tips, from the staff and volunteers alike, and are warmly invited to pop by for a chat and a browse.

The shop is only a few weeks old but is already getting involved with other local businesses and is looking forward to upcoming trading developments on Gloucester Road.

Instagram / @emmausvintagebristol



News from the green room Organic Hair Salon

Fancy a change this summer? Why not have a colour transformation under the skilful hands of the Green Room? Not only will your hair look fabulous but using only the highest quality products from Kevin Murphy and the Organics colouring system, they can create any style or look without damaging your hair with strong chemicals. You can see by the images below what fantastic results the team can achieve. Go on – book in for a consultation now!

If you are heading off to any festivals or travelling, braiding is becoming increasingly popular and could be a great alternative for a new style. Stylist Jess will be pleased to create a funky and practical look for plenty of summer fun and celebration. Book in for an appointment today!



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