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Matters

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issue 169, Jul/Aug2023



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Dear Readers...

Yay – summer is here! Who knows how long the sun will last – but there is plenty of activities going on locally to keep you entertained over the holidays.

As well as the regular Craft & Food markets, The Ardagh Community Trust has a selection of pop-up food and bar evenings planned for us all to enjoy.

Goldenhill Community Garden invites you to visit every Wednesday to explore the garden, and they are also pleased to be running their Family Adventure Days, for families with a child/ren with a special educational need or a disability.

Children aged 4–11 are invited to take part in the free Summer Reading Challenge – read six books they enjoy to earn a medal and certificate. Packs will be available at Bishopston Library from 8 July.

If you fancy a trip out, why not book a round of golf at Caddy Gilmore's Adventure Golf Park (pg2)? Or, Old Down Country Park has a host of activities lined up this summer (pg 6). The Bristol

Running Show has lots planned on July 16, just up the road in Filton (pg 21). For a great evening's entertainment, book your tickets for Ministry of Sound Classical concert at our local, Seat Unique Stadium (pg 25).

I very much enjoyed attending the 2023, My Community Celebration Day at Horfield Methodist Church. I arrived to a joyful performance by the Umbrella Choir, who raised everyone's spirits with their uplifting songs.

Taking part in the Brunel Field Summer School Fair was also a fun day in the sun! Bishopston Matters was pleased to sponsor the Guess the name of the Brunel Bear's competition.

There are some great Reader Offers thanks to featured businesses, please see page 48 for a full list, and do make the most of them!

I hope you enjoy a fabulous summer, home or away.

Take care until next time,

Kerry X

Email: kerry@bishopstonmatters.co.uk • www.bishopstonmatters.co.uk  [Bishopston Matters](https://www.facebook.com/BishopstonMatters)
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A Joyful day with My Community Bristol

I joined the My Community Bristol – Community Celebration Day, during a performance from the Umbrella Chorus. They were mid-way through a fabulous rendition of Harry Styles's As it was. We then all sang and waved our hands to Stand by me and they finished with the Spice Girls' classic Wannabe! The choir emitted a feeling of pure joy; members sang, danced and whooped, uninhibited and immersed in the music. I left the room energised.

The day was set up as an inclusive event for all local people. My Community Bristol is an Action Group with members in BS2/6/7/9, consisting of people with and without learning disabilities. The groups/ organisations invited to take part in the day were in response to feedback given by My Community members. There were representatives from local Police Community Support Officers, We work for Everyone Employment, Sirona social care, Family Food Action and local councillors. The Deputy Lord Mayor visited, and activities included inclusive music, singing and movement workshops.

While getting some refreshments I had a lovely chat with My Community member Simon; he told me being part of this group had been positive, and invited me to visit a Community Café at The Hub in Lockleaze every Wednesday (10.30am – 2pm); he helps run this with his friend Steve (both pictured right). The good news in the café continues throughout the summer holidays so you will be sure of a warm welcome if you go along.

While my youngest enjoyed decorating a gingerbread person (kindly supplied by Hobbs House Bakery), I chatted with Cotham resident Beth, who was there to represent the People's Voice Project (PVP). I recognised Beth from her performances with the Misfits (a theatre group that brings creativity and

inspiration to people with learning difficulties) at The Ardagh Café on Horfield Common.

Beth is a member of PVP's focus group with Edwin and R; together they have had conversations with people with learning difficulties and disabilities about speaking up and having a voice. They have discussions to discover what their issues are and what they think needs to happen in Bristol to help make things better. They have an interest group which you can join to speak up on things that you care about. If you would like further information, please email: megan.belcher@bristol.gov.uk.

My Community's Alice, shared with me her thoughts on the well-received day, "We had over 130 people come along, which created a great atmosphere and buzz! It was lovely to see friends and meet new people. We're so grateful to all the volunteers, activity providers, information stall holders, and guests for coming along and making it such a brilliant event. The singing from Bristol Umbrella Singers and Greenway Community Singers put a big smile on people's faces! People also appreciated having a quieter creative space, where they could chill out when the main hall got a bit busy or loud!"

Get in touch – If you'd like to talk to Community Partners, Alice and Jess, about any of the above, please get in touch on **07890 043 455 (Alice), 07816 295 082 (Jess)** or email mycommunity.bristol@mencap.org.



The Umbrella Chorus



Steve & Simon



PVP's Beth



My Community's Alice with the Deputy Lord Mayor



Gingerbread decorating

The 1st Bishopston Scouts Need YOU!



Are you enthusiastic, do you enjoy the outdoors, working with young people and are you available on a Friday evening (7-9pm)? If the answer is yes, the 1st Bishopston Scouts would welcome you as one of their leaders. The group, based in Bishopston (Kings Drive, BS7) are urgently looking for helpers for their Friday Scout Troop. A very experienced leader runs the section, but desperately needs more help. The Scouts are 10 to 14 years of age.

Activities range from – playing games to map reading, making pancakes to putting up tents! No experience is necessary and much fun awaits!

If you would like more information, please contact: bishopstonscouts@gmail.com.

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Brunel Field Fair Fun!

Brunel Field's Summer School Fair took place on Saturday 10 June and what a lot of fun everyone had who took part. From old school classics of Splat the Rat and Tincan Alley, to floral head-dress making, Beat the Goalie, cool sprayed hair, a visit from local police, and *Bishopston Matters* was pleased to sponsor 'Guess the name of the Brunel Bears', who both went to good new homes.

New this year was a Lego Zone, kindly supported by Bishopston Library (with Lego) and local dad and director of animation studio Red Star, Ben Smith, who runs a regular Lego Club at our local library. The area was a huge hit with all ages. Thanks too goes to Paul at Totally Toys for supplying a fab Lego set prize for the 'Guess how many bricks in a jar' competition.

This family, fun-filled day was made possible thanks to the hard-work of the PSA and the generous local businesses who supported it – we thank you all!

An amazing £4,820 was made, which will go to supporting extra projects and visits for the school. Chief organiser, parent Jo Blackburn said, "Myself and the PSA are delighted with the funds raised and thank all those involved. As importantly to me, however, it was wonderful to watch the school community come together to celebrate, have fun and make precious memories."



The fabulous Jo!

Headteacher, Mr Collins, enjoyed the afternoon that culminated with the big raffle draw, and him revealing the winning tickets! After 30 years of working as part of the Ashley Down and Brunel Field school federation, Mr Collins leaves Brunel Field at the end of this academic year; we all wish him the very best.



Wild Rosemary Florist



Mr Collins

A huge thank you to the following local businesses for supporting the fabulous raffle

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growing minds: greenhouse summer club

learning



Thinking of what to do over summer? Beat the heat with fun summer activities!

Ages 7 - 11 years old, from 24 July - 31 August, 9am - 4pm.

Dates exclude 28th August, Monday (Bank Holiday).

Held at Redland Green School (Redland Ct Rd, BS6 7EH).

Classes include:

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Wednesdays - Criminology 🕵️

Thursdays - Creative Writing 📖

Fridays - Music 🎵



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FUNdraising with Red Dragons

Saturday 5 August – date for your diary!

Red Dragons Martial Arts will be hosting our first charity event. We are planning a fun-filled few hours for the community with a variety of wonderful activities.

We are raising money for the charity Limbpower. This is a wonderful charity that supports children with limb differences. My son Fergus (pictured below) was born with a condition called fibular hemimelia, which meant that, at the age of two, we made the incredibly difficult decision to amputate his foot.

Fergus now wears a prosthetic and is a very happy, healthy and incredibly active little boy. He is currently a purple belt and will be taking his first brown belt very soon.

One of the activities we have on offer is a 100-round kumite, where I will be sparring 100 rounds with a variety of martial artists. This is going to be a challenge, and I have been in training since March. Fergus meets his challenges every day with a smile and good humour so I am trying to do the same.

The event kicks off at 11am on Saturday 5 August, at Horfield Methodist Church, 160 Gloucester Road, BS7 8NT – everyone is welcome!

Please check our social media for more information and a link to donate to this worthy cause.

Sensei Lloyd



Facebook: **Red Dragons Martial Arts**

Email: info@reddragonsmartialarts.com | Call: 07779 740 432 to book your free trial.



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BIG BUILD at The Old Library

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The Old Library, is a volunteer- and resident-run community space on Muller Road, run by the community, for the community. This fantastic venue provides a wide range of monthly activities such as – quiz nights, board game

evenings, circle dance, book club, film nights, repair café, forest school and a weekly community café – the perfect place to hang out both inside and in their wonderful outdoor space. As a family, we have enjoyed attending their annual summer parties, as well as many a kid's birthday celebration (you can

hire the space too!).

Making their inclusive venue a welcoming space to everyone who visits, is of great importance to The Old Library.



In order to support the whole community, they have launched a crowdfunder to raise money for the installation of a fully accessible toilet. The toilet room will be large enough for a wheelchair user to use independently; in addition to this, it will have a baby changing facility. The new room has also been designed with a specific colour scheme, which is particularly helpful for people with poor sight.

The dedicated team at The Old Library appeal to local people to support this project if they can. To make this project happen, 30k needs to be raised through fundraising and some possible grants. If anybody would like to help, the team would love to hear from them.

Support the BIG BUILD please! If you are able to donate, please visit – www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/olbuild23, scan the QR Code above, or donate in person at the café. Thank you.

Volunteers always welcome – the more volunteers The Old Library can recruit, the more this much-loved local space can offer to the community. They would welcome people to get involved in the garden or helping run the café, whatever you would like to offer. **Contact:** hello@theoldlibrary.org.uk. to find out more. theoldlibrary.org.uk

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Wildflower Meadow Turf

Lush, vibrant, and teeming with life, wildflower meadows have long captivated our imaginations with their natural beauty. These enchanting landscapes not only bring joy to our eyes and a touch of serenity to our souls but also play a crucial role in supporting biodiversity. Sadly, the loss of meadows in the UK has been a growing concern in recent years. However, there is hope, as the use of wildflower meadow turf offers a practical and sustainable solution for reintroducing these precious habitats into our gardens.

After using their products for a few years, we have recently become an accredited partner of Wildflower Turf Ltd, a British family-run business, and an established and respected player in the UK wildflower market.

As well as a Species Rich Turf that is suitable for city spaces, they also provide an option for creating a low growing wildflower meadow. With a maximum height of 30-40cm, this turf is a versatile choice that can be managed in different ways to suit your needs. It can be regularly mown each month during the growing season, creating a springy, scented green carpet. Alternatively, it can be allowed to grow to maturity, with an annual cut in September. Due to the nature of wildflower turf, it can be laid in your garden and immediately starts putting down roots, creating a meadow far quicker than seeding can. Using seed has of course many benefits, but can take years to perfect a meadow.

The revival of meadows brings forth a multitude of benefits, both for us and for the surrounding ecosystem. Wildflower meadows provide a rich



Freshly laid Low Grow Meadow Turf

source of nectar and pollen for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators, aiding in their survival. These habitats also attract a wide array of insects, which, in turn, act as a vital food source for birds and small mammals, fostering a diverse and thriving web of life.

Even in the confines of urban environments, we can create pockets of natural beauty by incorporating wildflower meadows into our gardens. Whether you have a large or small outdoor space, there are options available to suit your needs.

Wildflower meadows can be particularly enchanting when used around ponds, attracting wildlife and adding tranquillity. The variety of flora in freshly laid turf quickly start standing up after a day or two of watering and include plants such as; Chamomile, Thyme, Kidney vetch, Lawn daisies, Lemon balm, Marjoram, Red, White and Strawberry clover, Salad burnet, Toadflax, Wood sage, Sheeps fescue, Sweet vernal and Quaking grass, to name but a few.

While perennial wildflower meadows are relatively drought-tolerant, extreme temperatures may cause them to set seed and die back more quickly. However, you can take comfort in knowing that they will re-emerge with vigour the following spring.



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Party in the Park 2023

takes place on **Saturday 16 September, from 1pm**, at Golden Hill Sports field, Wimbledon Road, Henleaze, BS6 7YA.

This local event attracts thousands of families from

surrounding communities. Visitors can enjoy stalls with things to do and buy, information from local businesses and charities, and food to suit all tastes including vegetarians and vegans. There will be entertainment ranging from inflatables to demos from local groups, and fabulous live music all day. *Bishopston Matters* is always pleased to sponsor the Horsey Hopper activity.

Party in the Park raises money for Golden Hill Sports, a charity providing opportunities for all our community to play cricket and football, including boys and girls of all ages, men and women.

Visit www.goldenhillsports.com or social media: @GoldenHillCC

Local performing group looks for new members

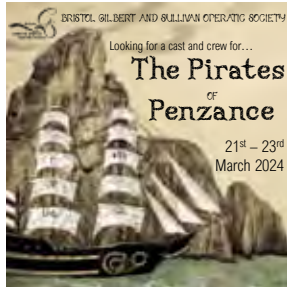
Start a new hobby, or revive an old one, with BGSOS!

Local performing group, Bristol Gilbert & Sullivan Operatic Society, is looking for people to join their ranks. The current membership includes people of all ages – from age 8 to 80 – who get together regularly to sing, act and socialise.

Chair Hannah Long, is passionate about the society, "It's a really friendly group who aren't just great performers, we are also great friends." Along with a professional orchestra, BGSOS is looking forward to its next production of *The Pirates of Penzance* at The Redgrave Theatre in Clifton in March.

BGSOS rehearses at Saint Teresa's on Gloucester Road in Filton on Tuesdays from September. BGSOS is looking for performing members, scenery builders, costume developers and technical volunteers. You can also support us as a society friend.

For details about all our roles get in touch, email secretary@bgsos.co.uk, visit www.bristolgsos.co.uk, or via our Facebook page @BristolGSOS.



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RETHINK Menopause

with Menopause Specialist
Samantha Morgan



Women are unique

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At Rethink it's always personal

Dr Sam Morgan founded Rethink Menopause based on the above statements. Sam worked as a GP in Bristol for 20 years and has resided in Bishopston for the last 15 years.

What can you expect from a Rethink Menopause consultation? As a menopause specialist, Sam's aim is to support you in understanding your experience. She tells us, "I have a compassionate, non-judgmental approach and will work with you to create a personal package of support. Book with me knowing I'll listen, I'll hear you, I'll see you."

Rethink offers consultations to women with no symptoms, women with severe symptoms and all those in between. Sign up through the website to be kept informed of when appointments are available to book.

Talks – Sam has delivered a series of sell-out local talks, with another set planned for **Monday 3, 10 and 17 July 2023 at The Ardagh on Horfield Common.**

Work is currently underway to make these sessions available as webinars, for people to watch in their own time at home. Please sign up for Sam's newsletter via the website, or follow her social media pages to be kept up to date with the launch.

Sam told us, "My talks are packed with evidence-based advice, based on the questions I have been asked by women over the past 20 years as a GP."

Sam also offers bespoke talks or training for groups or businesses. If you think your employer could benefit from menopause training to enhance the support they currently offer, please contact her.

Get in touch – rethinkmenopause.com

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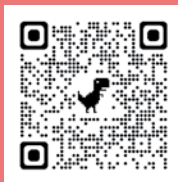
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The Bristol Running Show

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 Bristol Running Show 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. In addition, the Bristol Running Show will feature a variety of expert speakers who will offer invaluable insights into all aspects of running, from nutrition and training to injury prevention and recovery. There will be an opportunity to learn from experienced runners.

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.

"Our mission is to serve the running community by showcasing the local resources" said the event organiser Abichal Sherrington. "This event will bring runners and resources together, whether you are a seasoned athlete or just starting out."

Tickets for the Bristol Running show are available now, and are free through Eventbrite, simply click on the link on www.bristolrunningshow.com. You can also find more information, including a full list of exhibitors and speakers on the event website.

Visit: www.bristolrunningshow.com

Facebook Group: Bristol Running

Facebook: Bristol Running Show

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COTHAM SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

27th September 2023 - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Open Mornings also available on:

05, 17 and 18 October, 14 November, 06 December 2023 between 9am and 9.45am

See the admissions section on our website for more information

www.cotham.bristol.sch.uk

Achievement - Diversity - Respect

Summer performances at Cotham School

As we enter the summer term at Cotham, we look forward to a number of performances and concerts taking place to celebrate the amazing work produced by our students.

First up is our Steel Pans Summer Concert on the outdoor amphitheatre. Over 120 students from Year 7 to 10 will perform a collection of cover songs that they have learnt in their steel pans lessons over the term. This is quickly followed by the Performing Arts Summer Sharing, where Dance, Drama and Music groups from across the school will perform a selection of student-devised plays, self-penned songs and pieces of their own choreography. This



leads us into the penultimate week of term and Cotham's Whole School Summer Show – Matilda.



A cast of 100 students from Years 7 to 12, supported by a staff and student band, will perform Tim Minchin and Dennis Kelly's wonderful musical adaptation of the Roald Dahl classic. The school show is a wonderful opportunity for students of all ages to work together, make new friendships and perform live theatre to an audience of approximately 1000 people over the three nights.

Cotham's Whole School Show is a long tradition and the recent move to performing in the Summer Term, makes it a great way to finish the school year. Last year's production of Carl Grose's 'Dead Dog in a Suitcase (and other love songs)' was a roaring success and we are really excited about performing Matilda in the coming weeks.



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FFA needs donations – Family Food Action continues to collect and distribute food over the summer and school holidays. Although one partner is closed over summer (May Park Primary School), two partners (The Vench and Felix Road) see a large increase in children needing food, as they are not getting free school lunches. We aim to give the families at May Park School a larger supply of food at the end of term to help cover the school holidays, so, in July, we particularly welcome donations of food that will keep in the larder.

Feeding children in the school holidays – Over August, the Vench and Felix Road run lots of playdays and give the children attending lunches for free. We can help them with provision of ambient food and of fresh fruit and vegetables in particular, as they do not receive these from other sources. The kitchens at Felix Road use the donated food to make healthy meals for their community; the Vench provides home-cooked food and run children's cooking activities. They are masters at using some of our courgettes and carrots in their cake mixes to make the children's baking healthier! They often ask us for volunteers to help in the kitchens, so if you would like to find out more about this, do get in touch. The food clubs at the Vench, Southmead and St Paul's also continue to support their communities over the summer holidays with fruit and vegetables, ambient food and toiletries.

Growing your own produce? We are always delighted when we get allotment produce from the Gardening Club at The Ardagh, and from other donors. If you have a glut of vegetables or fruit, please donate them through your street collections, or bring them up to The Ardagh on Tuesday mornings (10.30 – midday).



Toothpaste and toiletries – You may have seen on Points West recently, how Evergreen School is tackling the problem of dental decay in their children by providing toothbrushes and toothpaste in school. Our other partners also ask for those, as well as other toiletries and nappies. Families are always grateful for soaps and shampoos too.

Find out more – If you would like to find out more about how you can help, please have a look at our website familyfoodaction.org.uk and our Facebook page. Please note we cannot accept refrigerated, homemade or unlabelled goods, or alcohol.

Family Food Action Open Day 2023. A date for your diary: Tuesday 19 September 2023.

All welcome. Last year, we held an open day at The Ardagh to showcase our charity. Nirmal came from Felix Road Adventure Playground, one of our partners with samples of food she had cooked using FFA donations, and we had a cake sale and a raffle, which raised funds for us to buy more food with. Our other partners came too and talked to visitors about how they supported their communities. We are currently putting together our programme for this year so keep an eye out for further announcements.

Get in touch

E-mail: contact@familyfoodaction.org.uk

Donate at – The Ardagh, Kellaway Avenue, BS6 7YL, open every Tuesday 10.30am – midday.

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Inheritance tax – strategies for your family

Inheritance tax (IHT) is a tax imposed on the estate of a deceased person, which can significantly reduce the amount of assets passed down to their loved ones. However, with proper estate planning, it is possible to reduce or even avoid paying IHT altogether. In this article, we will explore some of the strategies that can be used to mitigate the impact of IHT on your estate.

Nil Rate Band (NRB): The standard IHT rate in the UK is 40%, and it applies to the portion of the estate exceeding the threshold. The Nil Rate Band is the threshold up to which an estate is exempt from IHT. As of the current tax year (2023/2024), the NRB stands at £325,000 per person. Married couples and civil partners can effectively double their NRB allowance, as any unused portion of the first spouse or civil partner's NRB can be transferred to the surviving spouse or civil partner.

Residence Nil Rate Band (RNRB): The RNRB mitigates the impact of IHT on the main residence and is currently set at £175,000 per person. It only applies to estates where a residence is passed on to direct descendants and can also be transferred between spouses or civil partners.

Annual Exemptions: Every year, individuals can gift up to £3,000 tax-free, and this gift can be carried over for one year. This means that a couple can gift up to £6,000 without incurring any IHT. Gifts made to charities, political parties, and certain other organisations are also exempt.

Small Gifts Exemptions: In addition to the annual exemption, individuals can also make small gifts of up to £250 per recipient, free of IHT.

Lifetime Gifts: If a gift is made at least seven years before the donor's death, it will not be included in their estate for IHT purposes. However, if the donor passes away within seven years of making the gift, at least part of the value of the gift will be included in their estate.

Remember, you must record all gifts given to ensure it is clear they should be considered exempt.

Trusts: By placing assets into a trust, they are no longer considered part of the estate for IHT purposes. However, there may be other tax implications associated with trusts, so it is essential to seek professional advice before using this strategy.

Business Relief (BR): Investments that qualify for BR can be passed on free from IHT upon the death of



the investor, provided the shares have been owned for at least two years at that time. This is a well-established relief dating back 40 years, however, you should keep in mind that the value of an investment may go down as well as up and investors may not get back what they originally put in.

Inheritance tax can be a significant burden on an estate and is often stressful for the people dealing with paying the tax bill, which is often due before probate has been completed. Having a plan in place to mitigate this or for how the bill may be paid will be so helpful to your loved ones at an already difficult time.

As experts in later life financial planning, we are well placed to help you have clarity in confidence in your estate planning. If you would like to arrange a relaxed chat about your circumstances, please don't hesitate to get in touch by calling **0117 3636 212** or **email: office@haroldstephens.co.uk**. We are here to help.

Free advice – Harold Stephens founder, (Chartered Independent Financial Adviser), Richard Higgs records regular video updates on a range of later life financial topics – search 'Harold Stephens IFA' on YouTube.

www.haroldstephens.co.uk

50 High Street, Westbury on Trym, Bristol, BS9 3DZ





News from the Goldenhill Community Garden

Hi everyone

Come join us for summer in the garden and eat some strawberries! The raised beds are full of veg and flowers, the polytunnels are bursting with tomatoes, chillis, aubergine, cucumbers and we're ever hopeful for a proper crop of melons! And, as usual, we're growing some unusual things – you won't find an achocha or yacon in the supermarket, but they are growing merrily away in the garden, and they are delicious. **Come and get involved any Wednesday 10am – 4pm and enjoy a share of the harvest!** We always need help. No experience required and there's always a range of different jobs. You don't need to come every week or stay all day and you can just pop in for a chat. During the summer holidays you are very welcome to come along with your children – large or small – and we'll find them a job or you can just explore the garden, enjoy a picnic and have a look in the pond for newts. If it's your first time please come at 12 or 2.30pm for a tour or just come when you come:)

I'm really happy to say that we were successful in getting funding from The Bristol Water Fund, through the Quartet Foundation, to run our **Family Adventure Days** again this summer, for families with a child/ren with a special educational need or a disability, and their siblings. These are lovely relaxed days full of making, crafting, pond dipping, harvesting and eating delicious pizza from the clay oven. Everyone gets a delicious lunch with salads that the children help pick from the garden. We are running 11am–3pm on Thursdays 3 and 10 of August. It costs £5/£2 or free if that's helpful. Please book through our website or get in touch for more info.

Some less excellent news from the garden was that last month, we had an electrical fire in our beautiful Balehouse. It might have been started by a small furry visitor chewing through a wire, but Pete was on hand to call the fire brigade, and I am happy to say we are insured; fortunately it takes a lot to make a dent in our sturdy thick walls – the straw bales are so densely packed that they smouldered more than burnt. Our electrical system, which powered the pump that pumps water from the well for our watering, has been taken out but it can be replaced; the ceiling, roof, solar panels, table, chairs, the pickled frog in a jar, library books and

even nearby paperwork are all fine – everything just needed a really good clean. A small section of floor has been burnt but that can be repaired and, as some of the straw bales got a thorough soaking, they'll need to be replaced so they don't go mouldy. In summary, it's not ideal but the garden and all our activities are running as normal and we'll get it patched up – with help from the good folks at Hawkland Ecological Construction Ltd – and get the electrical system rebuilt and rodent-proofed as soon as we can.

AND a date for your diary: our Harvest Fair will be Saturday 23 September – let's hope the weather is as glorious as it was for our Spring Fair – and you can come and see our mended and better than ever Balehouse.

See you in the garden! *Lucy*

www.thegoldenhillcommunitygarden.com

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

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Ready, Set, Read!

The theme of this year's Summer Reading Challenge is Ready, Set, Read! Developed in collaboration with the Youth Sport Trust, 'Ready, Set, Read!' will celebrate play and participation and will encourage children to engage in reading, games and sports, in any way that best suits them. Children are challenged to get reading over the summer holidays. From July to September, through taking part in the **free Challenge**.

Children can join at Bishopston library from Saturday 8 July. To take part, simply pick up a free folder, collect stickers and then read at least six library books. At the end the reward is a brilliant Summer Reading Challenge medal!

Families can also take part online by visiting – summerreadingchallenge.org.uk where children can create their own profile. Kids are encouraged to read library books, digital eBooks and listen to eAudio books. With fun digital activities, digital badges and a downloadable certificate when they finish.

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Term starts on 10th January 2023

For further information contact Eileen Scott,
T: 07969 929 733 / E: scottytartois@hotmail.com

Badminton School welcomes new Head, Jessica Miles

The Badminton School Board of Governors, staff, and pupils were delighted to welcome Mrs Jessica Miles (pictured) as the new Head of the School at the end of April. Her appointment was the result of an extensive recruitment process aimed at finding an exceptional, innovative and forward-thinking educational expert who is dedicated to and passionate about girls' education.

Mr Justin Lewis, Chair of Governors at Badminton said: "Mrs Miles brings with her a wealth of experience in leading girls' boarding and day schools having previously been Head of Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls and prior to that, Head of Queen Margaret's School in York, as well as having held numerous Senior Leadership and teaching positions at some of the top independent schools in the country. She is a fierce advocate of single-sex education, in particular for girls, and we were impressed by her strong alignment to Badminton's vision and values."



Mrs Miles expressed her excitement of being the new Head at Badminton, stating:

"I am thrilled to have the great privilege of being the new Head at Badminton, a school that has a remarkable history, a vibrant community, and at which girls know their individuality will be celebrated and their learning expanded far beyond the classroom. I look forward to stewarding this great school into the next chapter of its history."

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Property planning is a must for the upcoming legislation in the PRS



- 1. EPCs (energy performance certificates) –** There are proposals that by 2025 all rented properties are going to need a band C in order to be rented out. This is quite a jump from the current minimum band of E and we are currently working on all of our managed properties to increase them ahead of time; for some properties this can be as simple as adding TRVs or thermostats, however some properties are needing further insulation in the flooring and loft spaces. We suggest that all landlords look at this early as it is likely going to be one of the bigger costs faced for some of the period properties in Bristol.
- 2. Renter's reform bill –** This is probably the biggest change coming to the lettings industry since ASTs were introduced 30 years ago. The proposals within the bill include an introduction of standard periodic tenancies, abolishing section 21s and doubling notice periods for rental increases. In principle the idea of periodic tenancies is great, as we always want good tenants to stay as long as possible in a property; however, from a planning perspective it puts the landlord at a disadvantage, as there would be a risk that the property becomes vacate over December / January which fixed terms are used to cover this period. The main obstacle would be student lettings as the lets are normally lined up 6 months in advance. Under the new proposals this would mean student lets would be turned around with 2 months' notice.

have only issued these notices when, for example a landlord is looking to move back into their property, or when they are looking to sell. The other times would be if a tenant is not looking after the property. There would still be easier routes for the landlord to take under the new rules if there were breaches of tenancy (such as rental arrears and or antisocial behaviour). Our thoughts on this would be extending the notice period which was done during COVID rules, and this worked well as it gave the tenants plenty of time to plan accordingly.

Extending notice periods for increasing rentals is good for tenants to plan accordingly and make an informed decision without having the increased pressure of limited time at the property, and would not affect a landlord who is on top of their property planning.

If you want to discuss your property and talk about how to approach the planning aspect, please reach out to book a free consultation.

Jack Stephens

Jack Stephens, Director of JBS Bristol Lettings



The abolishment of section 21 would just restrict the landlord's ability to regain possession of their property; however, as industry professionals we



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How does it work? To place an order simply visit bristolvegboxes.co.uk where you can select from a small, medium, large or custom box. You then have the option to personalise your order with extras such as sourdough, eggs and oat milk.

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News from Ardagh Community Trust

Ardagh summer events

Now that the summer is well under way, we are delighted to be able to offer more outdoor events.

Our pop-up food and bar evenings have already been really popular so we have planned more of the same! The wonderful Galley Van-Ting will return on the following dates with these amazing choices:

Friday 7 July – marvellous Moroccan feast

Friday 11 August – terrific Thai night

Friday 18 August – incredible Indian treats

All events from 4pm to 8pm

Food is served 'Street-Food' style (until it runs out) and the bar will be open for drinks throughout (see below for more on that!). We're currently working to explore whether we can host local musicians to perform too – please keep an eye on social media and/or notices on site for updates.

Trial bar opening – weekly, every Fri/Sat, 4–8pm, June – Sept 2023

Additionally, and in response to requests from local people, we will be trialling running a bar every Friday and Saturday evening through the Summer, 4–8pm, providing the chance to come and relax in the gardens with a drink and wind down in to the weekend.



The Ardagh Food & Craft Market

We are really pleased that the Ardagh Food & Craft Markets have been so well received, and are enjoying welcoming so many local small businesses and sole traders to The Ardagh, monthly, to showcase their products. There is delicious street food available to enjoy (the cooking smells wafting across the site are wonderful!) while you browse the fantastic array of local arts, crafts and food products. Upcoming dates over the summer are –

Saturday 8 July and Saturday 12 August, 10am – 3pm.

Celebrating climate action and sustainability progress!

Our new hot composter has already started to prove its worth and is producing high-quality, nutritious compost and fertiliser for use on The Ardagh gardens and food growing areas. The composter was bought – second hand – with a Climate Emergency Grant from Bristol City Council earlier in 2023. Set up by the gardening volunteers, it enables us to compost all of the food waste (raw and cooked) produced by the Café – in addition to grass cuttings, clippings and other waste from the gardens – a brilliant achievement. This means less money spent on compost for the gardens, fewer deliveries to the site meaning less traffic and fewer emissions long-term, and fewer waste collections. This reduces our costs so there is more to spend on ongoing maintenance, management and improvements!

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact across all of our activities, and to maintaining the highest level of environmental stewardship of this wonderful public asset; it's motivating to achieve this tangible step-change in our operations to support this commitment practically. We'll be updating the recycling stations on site to support this and continue to be excited by the work that the microbes are doing to retain as many nutrients as possible in the soil!

Community Plant Nursery

Thank you to all who have been supporting our new Community Plant Nursery social enterprise project which is enabling the charity to generate increased income while also providing volunteering placements, and increased opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and experience in gardening and food growing for all of our community.

The plant nursery will have a regular stall at The Ardagh Food & Craft Market (June – Sept plus Xmas Market in Dec on the second Sat of each month) ongoing, which we are really excited about. This will enable us to provide increased opportunities for volunteering and work experience for people interested in learning about gardening, plants, flowers and also community enterprise – including marketing, promotions and sales. If you are interested in getting involved, we will be running a new and additional group from September to 'grow' this project further. Get in touch for more info!

Play improvements

The new basketball nets for knockabout play at The Ardagh have been in use almost continuously since they were installed! It is brilliant to see young (and older – we see and celebrate you!) players enjoying them and to see evidence of progress in terms of improvements for play at the site.

These nets were funded through the successful crowdfunder (<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/footpaths-improvement-basketball-nets-project>) which also paid for improvements to the paths and installation of new accessibility ramps, meaning that all areas of the site could stay open for public use. If you are enjoying the improvements to date and would like to make a donation to support ACT's ongoing work to improve The Ardagh site for everyone, you can make a regular donation through the crowdfunder page – or a one-off donation via the website: www.theardagh.com. Our next small project is a mural to cheer up the basketball/play space – more info about that in the next BM!

ACT regular activities and events

Afterschool club – Mondays, 3.30–4.30pm in the Wild Play area. Delivered by www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk/bristol/

Tai Chi on Court 2 – Tuesdays (10am, 11am) and Fridays (10.30am, 11.30am); sessions are delivered by volunteers from Bristol Age UK.

Family Food Action – at The Ardagh every Tuesday, 10.30am – 12.30pm, ready to receive and sort donations of food and toiletries. (See page 24).

Interactive live music sessions – Tuesday mornings, 10.00am (term-time only), for babies and toddlers, delivered by www.rockoutbaby.com

'Sing and Sign' – Claremont students host in the Garden Room (term time only and weather permitting) a fun drop-in session from 11am – midday.

Horfield Common Young Explorers sessions – Thursday mornings (term-time only) in the Wild Play Area, 10.00am. Run by www.hideawayforest.com/pre-school-young-explorers.

Ardagh Food and Craft Market – second Saturday of the month, 10am–3pm

Horfield Common Repair Café – third Saturday of the month, 10am – midday.

Horfield Common Litter Pickers with Friends of Horfield Common, meet at The Ardagh on the last Saturday of the month, 10.00am – midday.

To keep up to date with events and news visit the ACT website or social media pages below.

To keep up to date with events and news visit the ACT website or social media pages.

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Web: stbons.uk Phone: 0117 353 2830



News from St Bon's

The sun has been shining brightly at St Bon's this summer term.

At the end of May, we enjoyed our KS2 production of Matilda (cast pictured above). The children were amazing and enjoyed every minute of their opportunity to be on stage! Staff, parents and friends of St Bon's came to watch one of our four performances which took place over a week.

Ms Rigg who was the driving force behind this year's production said "I'm so incredibly proud of what our children can achieve; they never fail to amaze me, what an inspiration."

More recently we have taken part in a whole school fundraiser to raise money for HOPE International Development Agency. One of the teachers, Mr Davis, will be running the equivalent distance of 100 miles (177km), which is the distance between Bristol and London to raise money for a water project in the village of Uba Dama, Ethiopia.

Pupils at St Bon's have also taken part in a sponsored run in school which collectively in their key stages amounts to the 177km Mr Davis will be running. The school community is aiming to raise £10,000.

Good luck Mr Davis, we know you'll do well!

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Parent



News from Fairfield High

Oracy Project set to transform the face of education

Fairfield High School is delighted to be taking part in the culture-changing Oracy Project, which aspires to challenge and transform the listening and speaking habits of students throughout the school. Encouraging young people to be empathetic, confident and mindful will have wide ranging effects not just inside the classroom, but in every walk of life, both in a professional and personal environment.

The Oracy Project focuses on individuals' body language, voice projection, tone and use of language to communicate. It also concentrates on social awareness of others including listening to and considering different opinions. Put all this together and an excellent skillset for life is born.

Three Oracy Champions at Fairfield, representing Humanities and Languages, have so far attended development days, with a visit from Voice 21 (the company supporting this initiative) on the horizon. The plan then being to trial the project and adapt the practice school-wide.

Sharon Barnes, Oracy Lead and Assistant Director for Modern Foreign Languages at Fairfield comments: “Oracy for students is incredibly important to enable students to articulate themselves better, making them aware of the

language they're using, which could also help with conflict resolution and improving whole school



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behaviour, as well as job interviews and the world of work further down the road.

“Within the classroom, I've seen first-hand the project's effectiveness for group tasks. Miss White, one of our Oracy Champions, redesigned her lesson to maximise the oracy opportunities. Rather than giving students 10 facts about a geographical feature to work through individually, she dropped in one fact at a time and then watched students work together as a team using open dialogue, listening skills and respect for one another's opinions. Although the same outcome is likely to have been achieved regardless of the process, the vital thing here is the route taken. It's really quite astonishing!”

For further information, visit: <https://voice21.org>

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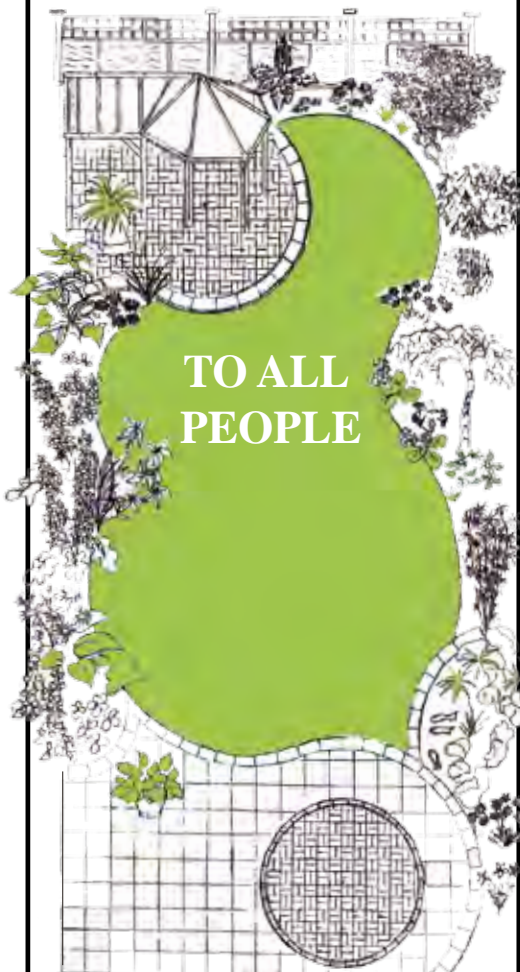
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Exciting Plans for Cryer & Coe Architects

Award-winning architects Cryer & Coe are celebrating five years in business this year and have cemented their position on Gloucester Road by buying a property that they will develop into their new office. Owners Duncan and Matt love being part of the Gloucester Road community and are really looking forward to using their talents on their own project!

As well as the many residential schemes that they design locally, commercial projects are also a large part of their work and this is a great opportunity for them to showcase their skills whilst creating a vibrant environment for their growing team. The new offices will also be much better placed to welcome clients.

The new building is in a brilliant location with great neighbours at Gloucester Road Central, and although it will be a while before the office is completed, the space has already been put to good use when Cryer & Coe let Aid Box Community use it to sell their Refutrees Christmas trees at the end of last year!

Cryer & Coe welcome enquiries for all types of architectural projects so do get in touch whether it's for your home or office!

Projects pictured below, left to right: 5 Callaghan Square, Cardiff, Bristol North Baths, Gloucester Road and Rawlings & Son Ltd HQ, Warnley

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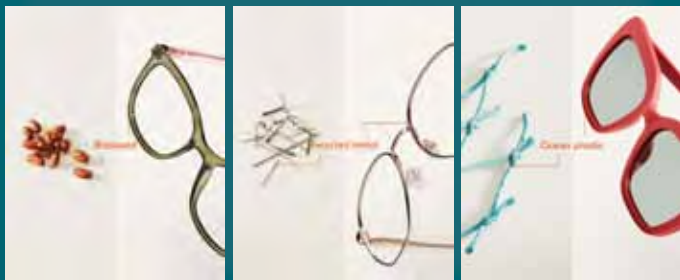
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Room 212 celebrating 10 years on Glos Rd Central

Ten years ago, Sarah Thorp took over a little pop-up gallery on Gloucester Road with the idea of turning it into a permanent exhibition space and shop for local artists. As a participant in the popular North Bristol Art Trail, Sarah felt that her fellow artists could do with a space to show their artwork for more than just one weekend, so she invited a selection to show their work in her shop. This idea proved so popular that the space rapidly expanded to offer a huge variety of paintings, prints, jewellery, lampshades, ceramics, gifts, cards and more, all by local Bristol artists and creatives.

Sarah soon became an active member of the community, helping to enliven her section of Gloucester Road, known as Glos Rd Central, putting on Mayfest, the Christmas Street Party, the Gloucester Road Art Banners and various fundraising events. She loves being one of the long-time traders on her favourite high street of independent shops!

Many of the first artists to join still sell their work at Room 212 and have become good friends. For instance, Rosie Webb brought her popular paintings of quirky animals directly to Room 212 the day it opened. Katie Johnston's beautiful enamel jewellery has evolved over the years but is still a firm favourite, and Hannah Turner's ceramics are best sellers even though they are now made by a women's cooperative in Sri Lanka. Toni Burrows' fascinating mosaics and Jenny Urquhart's beautiful paintings of Bristol always look wonderful in the windows. Many of the artists are still North Bristol Artists and have exhibited on the Art Trail with Sarah in her studio downstairs and in the Eco House in the garden round the back.



Barbara Evripidou ©



Bristol Moon, by Emma Catherine.
Room 212's most popular print



Print by Rosie Webb



Earrings by Sarah Thorp

Lockdown was a turning point for Room 212, luckily in a positive way; when Emma Catherine started displaying her beautiful teal and gold Full Moon paintings in the window – the first one was appropriately snapped up by neighbouring business Lunar Optical!

Sarah was honoured that Room 212 was selected as the only shop to feature in the bestselling book *111 Places in Bristol You Shouldn't Miss* which gave her the boost to continue during lockdown, as did the support Room 212 received through online sales.

As nearly all the artists live close by, it's likely you'll meet one or two of them popping in with their latest creations! Room 212's big windows are perfect to display original paintings by regular and guest artists, tying in with the seasons or Bristol events. For instance, there'll be a celebration of unicorns for the upcoming Unicornfest in July, and a display of balloon-related art for the Balloon Fiesta.



LtoR: Jenny Urquhart, Sarah Thorp & Emma Catherine

Barbara Evripidou ©

Sarah fondly remembers the first week Room 212 opened, when a customer walked in and exclaimed 'This is SO Gloucester Road!'. She quickly learnt how much people love unique arty cards and stocks a huge variety, which can keep the shop afloat on the quietest days; and her window displays are always a delight to behold. Her own creative output has changed over the years, from knitting and upcycling with decoupage to her current popular range of brass and copper jewellery. So, if ever you're passing, do pop in for a browse and a chat – you'll always be welcome!

For more info visit: www.room212.co.uk

Room 212 [room212gallery](https://www.instagram.com/room212gallery)



Pick up a beautiful bargain!

If you're wedding dress shopping, why not make an appointment with Tenovus Cancer Care shop at 181 Gloucester Road, BS7 8BG?

They have recently re-opened their Wedding Shop on the first floor, and it looks beautiful! There are some lovely dresses at great prices, from £50. There are also lots of bridesmaid's dresses, mother of the bride outfits, prom dresses, shoes and veils. You can book an appointment by calling the shop on 0117 942 7744.

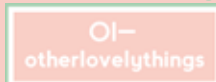
If you are interested in volunteering, then pop into the shop to pick up an application form and have a chat with the shop manager, or type in the link below for an online application form.

www.tenovuscancercare.org.uk/about-us/volunteer-with-us



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Welcoming Neo to the green room



New talent at the green room – Salon director, Jo, is delighted to welcome talented stylist Neo (pictured left) to their Gloucester Road team. Jo shares, "Neo is a fantastic stylist, boasting a wealth of experience in cutting, colouring and styling, both men and women's hair. We are so pleased to welcome fresh talent to the Green Room and are sure the people of Bishopston will be thrilled with the results this exceptional stylist can achieve."

If you like what you see in the featured images, this is just a taste of Neo's work; he comes fresh from London and you can book in with him now.

Sunscreen for your hair – We are all aware of the damage the sun can do to our skin but often forget our hair. To prevent your hair drying out and discolouring, simply apply Kevin Murphy's Everlasting with SPF; ask in salon for more information.

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Pollution from Pet Parasiticides

A recent publication (March 2023) from the Grantham Institute at Imperial College London has made sobering reading. It appears that we are now seeing an environmental impact from the use of parasiticides from small animal veterinary practice as well as across the counter preparations from pet shops and supermarkets. The study has collated evidence from waterways across England showing hot spots of pollution from pet parasiticides, even in urban areas. Parasiticides include products to protect against or treat fleas, ticks and worms.

Parasiticides are designed to be toxic – that is why they work in our pets – however, the toxicity does not stop there, it continues once in the environment. Currently there is minimal environmental risk assessment of products used in dogs and cats. This is unlike agricultural products which have strict regulation. One chemical, imidacloprid, was fully banned in UK in 2018 as an agricultural product due to environmental contamination and particularly toxic effects on aquatic life in our waterways. However, no such ban exists on its use in dogs and cats where thousands of kg are sold each year for the pet market.

Veterinary parasiticides have now been suggested as the potential primary source of contamination of our waterways by these chemicals. Not all products used are monitored by the Environment Agency, particularly the more recent compounds so the full picture is not known. However, we do know that even these small individual doses used are now applied so frequently and on an increasing population of pets that the total volumes used are considerable.

So how can we in veterinary practice help this issue and explain the consequences of using these products to our clients? First, we should be dispensing parasiticides responsibly using a risk-assessed individual basis.

We need to educate owners to help prevent further contamination of our environment, particularly our waterways. This includes not letting your dog swim and do not bath him if he has product applied; pick up all dog and cat poo as often as possible and dispose of it in dog bins for incineration. Dispose of packaging responsibly; ideally return your packaging to the veterinary practice for safe disposal as well as returning any unused products. Consider using oral products rather than collar or spot on formulations.

We still need to protect our pets from parasites as well as protecting ourselves. We do still need to use anti-parasitic products but this can be balanced with

a more sensitive environmental approach. Perhaps it is time to reconsider the treatment of entire populations of healthy animals and instead use targeted reactive treatments when necessary.

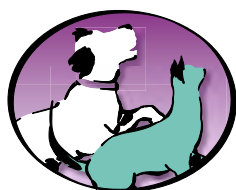
I may not have much influence over worldwide environmental concerns but by making this issue more widely known I can at



least feel I am doing my bit to increase awareness. For further information, the complete article can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/grantham/publications/are-urban-areas-hotspots-for-pollution-from-pet-parasiticides.



Nicky Bromhall MRCVS
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New feed, Natures Deli – Roxfords has a fine selection of wet and dry dog foods for you to choose from. This month they are pleased to welcome Natures Deli. This all-in-one, dry feed, is gluten-free, made with natural ingredients and promotes gut health, healthy skin and coat, joint strength, strong teeth and bones. It is a British-made dog feed with no artificial colours, flavours or preservatives. There are puppy, adult and senior feeds available. Collect your Natures Deli reward card in store, and get your 8th bag for free, as part of their loyalty scheme.



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The Moggery Rehoming Centre, in Longmead Avenue, is full of beautiful, friendly kittens looking for homes – preferably in pairs.

The Moggery was established in 1997, by Christine Bayka. The local cat charity is struggling with the furry results of the Covid years, during which time vets stopped routine neutering operations – causing a kitten explosion in the UK. The current cost-of-living crisis is unfortunately adding to the problem.

If you can offer a loving, permanent home to one or more of our current inmates, the Moggery would

love to hear from you. To find out more, please visit their website to check out the adoption criteria, and then give them a call on the number below.

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There is now a **Bristol South** group that meet at the **Knowle West Media Centre, BS4 1NL**. Any man over the age of 18 is free to attend either of these groups, with no registration, referral or booking process.

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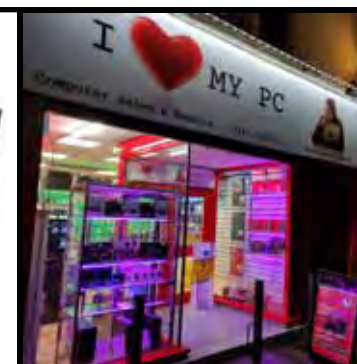
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Claremont



School



News

Amazing



DofE



so proud

Claremont's Post 16 students have been working hard this year to complete all the tasks required for the nationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are three sections to complete weekly, for three to six months, to get the award.

In the Physical section students met the award criteria by swimming quicker, dancing longer and walking further than ever before.

For the Skills section participants chose to learn a variety of new skills, such as increasing their knowledge of Makaton signs (we can all sign 'chocolate' and 'cake' and 'more' now!) or developing their switch expertise. Switches can be used in many ways, for example to activate power chairs, or to communicate, or to start whisks and microwaves while cooking lunch.

To achieve the Volunteering section, lots of exciting activities happened. One student ran a lunchtime club for younger students getting everyone active and busy bowling and dancing. Someone else collected all the recycling from around school regularly and, of course, people chose to use their amazing school council, fundraising and organising

work to complete this section as well.

During the last week of term, the post 16 students went on a residential trip to Calvert Trust in Devon, an activity holiday centre where people with disabilities can take on many challenges. The team picked abseiling, climbing, archery, pony trekking, orienteering, biking and zip wiring! The group selected all the different ways to travel and were busy all day pushing themselves to do different and exciting things to complete the award. Some students had never been away from home at all, so to do this expedition was a totally different experience in every way. Our task was to collect laughs and we definitely did that! This expedition was full of smiles. We are proud to announce that everyone successfully completed their Silver and Bronze Awards.

The School council says... Well done to everyone; you are amazing and you should be so proud!

Claremont School Council



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'Churches' in Horfield

BHA local history research – Andy Buchan ©

Horfield has probably existed in some shape or form for at least the last two thousand years, and since approximately the time of the Norman conquest until the mid-19th century, there was only one church, Horfield Parish Church, situated on the edge of the common. Since then, 'within' the boundary of the original parish of Horfield there have been at least twenty-five buildings associated with religious groups, the bulk of these being non-conformist. Many of the methodist chapels were used by different branches of the methodist church.

These were built as housing in Horfield developed from Zetland Road up towards Filton, and west to east from Westbury on Trym to Lockleaze. Others were built as congregations moved out from the city.

Starting at Filton, a gazetteer of religious buildings reads as follow:

Ebenezer Methodist Church in Eden Grove, built in 1933.

St Gregory the Great, the original church was built in c 1912 and the church we see today was later built alongside it, when Upper Horfield was built in the early 1930s.

Ebenezer Chapel on Filton Avenue, built in the 1930s.

Horfield Barracks Church, built 1857.

Horfield Parish Church, built in stone in the 1100s.

Horfield Methodist Church built 1899 – this was the 2nd Horfield Methodist Church – see below.

Salvation Army Hall, on Ashley Down Road. This was originally the Horfield Methodist Church and was built in 1838. It was renovated and a new brick front built, in the early part of the 20th century.

Methodist Chapel, approximately opposite the Friends Meeting House, built c 1889. This building was built of corrugated iron. This building served as the Friends Meeting House, before their building was built in 1908.

Friends Meeting House, built 1908.

St Edmunds, this was built as a church hall/school in 1910 and converted into a church in 1930. This was essentially a chapel-of-ease for Horfield parish church.

Horfield Baptist Church, built 1900; the congregation of this church originally used a house in Rowley Road, now Oak Road, before moving to a purpose-built building in Brynland Avenue, now the church hall, until the church was built.

Bishopston Methodist Church, built in 1893.

St Michael and All Angels, built 1862.

Gospel Hall, almost opposite St Michael and All Angels, built c 1900.

Bishopston Methodist Church, at junction of Beverley Road and Gloucester Road, built 1865. The tower was added later.

St Andrew's, Montpelier, built 1844 – the parish had been carved partly out of Horfield.



Bishopston Methodist Church Berkeley Road, 1865
(Most recently home to Nailsea Electrical)



Mission Hall Gloucester Road c1890 | Horfield Baptist Church

The Church of the Good Shephard, Bishop Road built 1927; this was a daughter church of St Michael and All Angels.

St Bonaventure's, Roman Catholic Church, top of Egerton Road, built 1900.

Horfield Gospel Hall, Ramsey Road, Upper Horfield, built 1910.

Whitfield Tabernacle (Congregational), Muller Road, built 1957; the original church, in Downend Road was built in 1933 and then became the church hall.

St Bartholomew's, St Andrews, built 1894.

David Thomas Memorial Church (Congregational), Bishopston built 1879.

St Mary Magdalen with St Francis, Lockleaze, built 1956, subsequently demolished and new church built 1997.

St James (Presbyterian), Lockleaze, built 1951.

Some of these buildings have been knocked down, some of these have been re-purposed and some have swapped congregations. Churches have been lost either because they were no longer structurally sound, or their congregations had dwindled, and no alternative use could be found for the buildings. Often the new churches in Horfield were off-shoots or replacements for churches from the city of Bristol and often when they were built, they incorporated fixtures and fittings from the original churches. Sadly, reports show that even when the buildings have been saved/repurposed many of the fixtures and fittings could not be/were not saved.

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Moving house – If you are moving out of your old home before moving into your new one to avoid losing a sale, your belongings can be safely stored.

Renovating – Areas can be cleared to protect furniture from dust or damage and valuables can be stored. Use your local self-storage facility, and come and go easily if you need any items you've stored.

Traders – Don't leave ALL your tools in your van; use our handy lockers so you can stash tools that are not used on a daily basis. You can pick them up with convenient access 7 days a week, 7am–7pm.

Garden furniture and equipment – Autumn arrives and it's time to put away all the garden furniture and equipment. You're not going to use any of the items for months so why not use self-storage?

During a divorce – Often in the madness and the emotional stress of a divorce, documents can get lost or go missing; self-storage can provide a locker for paperwork or a self-storage unit to protect the items that are yours.

Working away – You have been offered the chance to work away, maybe abroad, for a period of time. You want to leave your belongings behind for the duration of your stay away, but can't leave them at home.

Students – At the end of term you will need to change accommodation; self-storage provides an easy alternative to taking everything home. We can collect your items and deliver them back to your new accommodation ready for the start of your next term.

Local business – During seasonal times you may need to increase your stock; self-storage can be ideal for short periods of time giving the flexibility of extended space without increasing your floor space.

Document storage – Free-up office space. Storage can be shared within a secure shelved unit; we label each box with a unique code so we can withdraw the box for you quickly and efficiently, or private storage – a unit can be shelved to your own specification and is accessible 7am–7pm, 7 days a week.

Drop off points – Self-storage can provide a 'Drop Off' and storage point where persons can collect these items seven days a week, allowing businesses to operate further afield with reduced costs.

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Cycling for Southmead Hospital NICU

I was recently contacted by Robert and Debbie Laurence, who lived on Longmead Avenue, while Robert worked as catering manager at Bristol Rovers for thirty years. Since retiring, the couple have moved further into North Bristol, and Robert has dedicated a great deal of his time to volunteering and fundraising for charities. He wrote to me with news of a fundraiser close to his heart.

In 2019 Robert and Debbie became proud grandparents to twins – Olivia and Beatrice. These gorgeous sisters arrived early at 28 weeks, and stayed in Southmead's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for 76 and 108 days. Thankfully, they are now both thriving; however, the older twin (Olivia) does have challenges to overcome, including cerebral palsy and epilepsy. When Olivia was born, she particularly benefited from a procedure, which is not funded by the NHS. There is no doubt that this has enabled her to achieve much more, than if she had not undergone such a procedure.

The Laurence family are committed to raising as much money as they can for

Southmead's NICU, and in July 2023, family and friends are coming together to take on LEJOG – cycling from Land's End to John o'Groats in just 7 days! Peleton leader, uncle Dorian (who was born, raised and lived in Horfield until he went to teach in Asia), will be joined by five friends – Jon, Istvan, Mike, Ken, Sam and Mazen, to take on this epic challenge, which will see them cycling 220 km every day!

The cyclists set off on Friday 7 July, with Robert and Debbie driving the support van (kindly supplied by AutoLyne of Bristol, with funding of fuel coming from Nailsea Financial Services, and drinks and energy bars donated by Chapple and Jenkins). The family are grateful for the support of local businesses and to all those who have sponsored the team so far.

To donate, please visit their Facebook page: Friends of LEJOG for Southmead Hospital NICU or southmeadhospitalcharity.enthuse.com/pf/lejog.



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News from Ashley, Bishopston & Ashley Down & Redland Councillors



L to R: Tim, Jude & Amirah

Ashley ward

St Andrew's Park – Firstly, as summer gets into full swing, I've had a meeting with council enforcement officers and police about St Andrew's Park, who have confirmed they continue to take it seriously with PCSO patrols and a template dispersal order in place should there be serious issues. They will also be proactively looking out for semi-organised events (they were able to intervene last year when a massive free party had been organised during freshers' week).

It's a fine balance between everyone using this wonderful public space and protecting residents' rights. If you live on the park you are going to have to be happy with people making some noise but sound riggs late at night clearly really upset people.

Planning application 23/00649/P – Many people have also raised planning issues with a proposed development behind Tesco's on Gloucester Road. People are worried about the loss of trees, more pressure on parking and being overlooked by a block of nine flats. I have 'called it in' which means all the issues will be heard at planning committee. There are well-documented delays in planning at the moment so when it will be heard is unclear, but I will make sure interested residents know. Councillors are always happy to discuss legitimate planning concerns with residents and it is worth contacting us. I will be monitoring the application closely. If the recommendation is for 'approval' I will make sure that it is on the agenda for planning committee so that concerns can be raised in a public forum. In the meantime, remember that you can make comments (for or against) on the planning portal <https://pa.bristol.gov.uk/online-applications/> – then search 23/00649/P.

Tim Wye, Green Party

07584182830 | Cllr.Tim.Wye@bristol.gov.uk

Facebook: Cllr Tim Wye



Emma visiting Ashley Down Station

Bishopston & Ashley Down ward

Concorde Way – The finalised plans of the Ashley Down train station went to Cabinet in June, and Emma was disturbed to see that the final plans involve a permanent narrowing of Concorde Way. Emma challenged the cabinet member for transport, Don Alexander, about this and was told there were plans to address this at a future date. Emma has been meeting with highways officers to discuss this and push back on the decision to see if there is a way that the path can be widened at the same time. If narrowed the pathway could be very dangerous. Emma is going to continue to research this and push for a solution before the station completion. Emma also met with members of Friends of Bristol Urban Railway in June to discuss these concerns and those that have been raised in regards to bus connections as well.

Ashley Down Station – Emma was able to visit the construction site of the station this month, and is pleased to report that the construction is on track. Network rail have increased their public engagement and have been holding community drop-in sessions. If you want to find out when these are then do get in touch or raise any issues via email with Emma.

RPZs – We were concerned to hear of the administration's plans to increase the central residents' Parking Zone charges by 500% with no plans to extend the Residents' Parking Zone any further. The have heard from residents around the station and further afield in the ward about how much they would like an RPZ. Issues in the ward with abandoned vehicles, garages storing multiples cars in residential streets, new HMOs with no parking provisions, and matchday parking are all issues affecting the ward that could be tackled with an extension of the RPZ. The councillors are concerned that, by ramping up the charges in neighbouring wards by so much, the parking in Bishopston and Ashley Down will get even worse, as people move

their cars further out to avoid charges. We will be looking at ways to get data from the ward about how desired an RPZ is to see if we can use that in the future.

Low traffic neighbourhoods – One solution that people have got in contact with us about is the possibility in future for getting Low traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) into the area. These LTNs are a way of tackling rat-running and excess traffic in residential areas. While there are no plans or funds for one in the area at the moment, our new Green volunteer James has been out engaging with residents and asking their opinion on LTNs. James has been chatting to residents in Sommerville Road, Ralph Road and Ashgrove. If you have an opinion and would like to share it, you can email us and we will pass it on to James.

Brunel Field – Emma and James also recently attended Brunel Field's School for their annual summer fete, and it was great to talk to the children and parents about improvements they would like to see to the area in future. LTNs were discussed, as well as other road safety concerns and more concerns about improving cycling in the area.

Trees for Streets – Emma recently met with residents on Theresa Avenue about getting some street trees for the area. While street tree money comes from CIL funds usually, there are some schemes that might be able to help. We are looking into the different options available for Theresa, Ashgrove and Kennington Road and hope to have some good news soon.

Muller Road – A lot of people have been in touch regarding Muller Road and when it will be reopened. We have been assured that the works will be completed in July at the latest, and that delays have been primarily down to weather. Emma has been working with officers to look at ways to stop cars driving on the green at the bottom of Springfield, and has also raised concerned about the overgrown hedges on the pavement opposite.

Cllr Emma Edwards, Green Party

cllr.emma.edwards@bristol.gov.uk

Councillor Lily Fitzgibbon, Green Party

Cllr.Lily.Fitzgibbon@bristol.gov.uk

Facebook: [EmmaEdwardsLilyFitzGibbon](#)

Redland ward

Decision to go ahead with flats on former NEG site on Berkely Rd – The planning committee has now twice discussed the proposed redevelopment of the site at 102 Gloucester Rd into 17 flats. It's been a long process and the application was 'called in' by Martin so the planning decision would be made in public by a committee. Two residents and Martin



Martin & Fi

spoke at the May committee of various concerns about overdevelopment, parking, overlooking of the library flats, protection of street trees – including the one sponsored by residents – and the need to avoid lengthy closure of the busy pavement during construction.

Committee members were very concerned about space standards and overall density of a 17-flat development, road safety regarding the access for the filling station opposite, and overlooking. They compared it to the current permission already gained in 2020 for nine flats with retail and office included. After a lengthy discussion, the committee would not approve the proposal despite a recommendation from officers to accept the plan. There was therefore a follow-up report to the June committee meeting to review the decision after a 'cooling off' period. This allows officers to comment on the grounds for refusal so they can be strong enough to stand up if a planning appeal gets made to challenge rejection. In the event the officers considered the merit of objections and still recommended approval be given. The majority of the committee agreed and the application was approved with various conditions.

Pothole funds found – The poor state of roads has grown across the city. This can affect road safety – especially for vulnerable users on cycles and e-scooters. We've had complaints about the dire state of Cheltenham Road for example. Even when reported only the largest potholes are being fixed. Martin raised this at a recent meeting of the Cabinet when it was approving extra government funds for road maintenance to be spent. While the priority is preventive maintenance the extra funds can only be used for repairs. Some will be used at priority junctions but despite asking for locations these were not released. Please do make a point of reporting any damaged roads and pavements via the council website. The Residents' section has a page for reporting all types of street issues, from potholes to blocked drains and abandoned vehicles. Only when these problems get logged in the maintenance and inspection system may they be approved for treatment. Until a pothole has white lines painted around it, it will not be scheduled for repair.

Continued on next page ►

Parking charges to go up and schemes to be reviewed – Higher charges for permits and a review of the city's parking schemes has been agreed by the current Cabinet. We have some concerns about this. While permit fees have not gone up for many years, the charges are only meant to be paying for the development and management of the schemes themselves. The much higher fees – double for second cars and 2.5 times for third permits – seems designed to make money (which was always denied) and any surplus should be spent on alternative transport to help reduce dependence on vehicles. More club cars or better walking and cycling facilities could be useful. But our area is not on the list of the long-promised pilot and follow-up second low traffic neighbourhood schemes elsewhere.

Higher fees before we know what the review might conclude is worrying as there will be a new committee-led authority in place from next spring and the new administration might have their own ideas. No new schemes are likely in the short term, despite suggestions that street corners could be protected with enforceable double yellow lines, work that is sorely needed in some streets. The spillover effect of people leaving vehicles where there's free parking is already worrying residents.

Loose chippings – We've had several reports of delays in finishing off road maintenance works – 'surface dressing'. The treatment is used to extend the life of road surfaces by embedding small stones into adhesive bitumen. This often gets applied in summer but the result can be dusty unmarked roads, which are both unpleasant and present a skid risk. The final sweep is only done after the vehicles driving on the road help press the stone into the new surface. Only after this can lines and marking be put back.

Problems include confusion due to failure to put out temporary 'no parking' cones in time and delays reinstating double yellow lines and cycle tracks until there are many streets ready for the marking to be put back. This can be due to the inevitable lack of funds. Let us now if this is a problem in your area and we will try to help chase action.

Weed spraying – We've has some concerned residents after weeds were sprayed in their street, including damage to flowers around street trees. We're trying to get a clear statement from officers about whether or how a street can undertake to manage its own weeds, e.g. with hoeing, and what can be done to reduce the use of sprays in line with the council's declared Ecological Emergency commitment to reduce pesticide use in the city.

New smoke controls to be introduced – We've had notice that in the near future new smoke control regulation enforcement will be introduced in the city. Using new powers, it is likely that the council will be able to clamp down on unauthorised solid fuels and the use of non-approved appliances (e.g. stoves or open fires). We recognise growing evidence of the harm small smoke particulates are causing to public health and if there's action the council can take to reduce damaging smoke this could help those with breathing difficulties. Anyone with an unauthorised fire or fuel will have to prove their appliance or fuel is legal. However, we understand there will be minimal enforcement as officer time is very limited.

Cotham Hill changes to be made permanent – The street changes on Cotham Hill and some alterations to adjacent streets are to be made permanent. This will affect access to the area and reduce through traffic from Hampton Rd to Whiteladies Rd. Look out for new street priorities, new loading bays and added disabled parking spaces. The details are on the Ask Bristol web pages.

Fi Hance, Green Party

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Martin Fodor, Green Party

cllr.martin.fodor@bristol.gov.uk / 07884 736101

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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.

James Antony Flooring are a professional flooring company that fit Carpets, Luxury Vinyl Tiles, Laminate Flooring, Vinyl Flooring and Artificial Grass to both residential and commercial properties.

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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."

To read 5-star reviews, and view the range of projects they work on, visit their **Facebook page**: [jamesantonyflooring](https://www.facebook.com/jamesantonyflooring) or [jamesantonyflooring](https://www.facebook.com/jamesantonyflooring).
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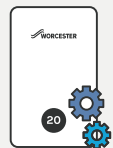
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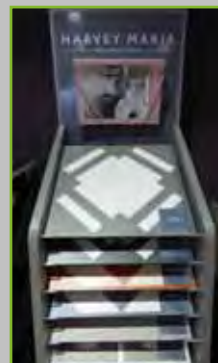
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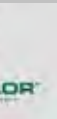
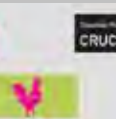
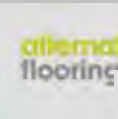
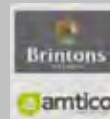
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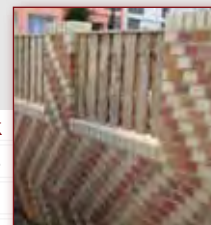
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COMMON

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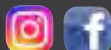
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