

## Acocks Green Carnival - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

The Acocks Green Community Event of the Year is busy taking shape. As ever there will be lots to see and do for all the family at this year's Carnival. For more information on how to be part of the event go to our website. [www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org](http://www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org)

The Forum will be there with a stall selling plants and giving out information. If you would like to contribute spare plants all donations will be gratefully accepted.

## Thank You & Farewell

Head Librarian **Mike Byrne** retired from Acocks Green Library last month. Over the years he has been a great asset and support to the local community and made Acocks Green Library a vibrant and successful community hub. He is also author of the local History book *Acocks Green* published by Tempus. Mike studied at Birmingham University and completed 34 years service with City of Birmingham Libraries including 18 years at Acocks Green Library. Mike will be staying on as a member of the 'Friends of Acocks Green Library'; to update the local history website <http://aghs.jimdo.com> and organise the *Swan Song* concerts.

Also thanks and farewell goes to another very supportive council worker; **John Green**, our Environmental & Waste Ward Manager from Fleet & Waste. John has now been posted to Hodge Hill Ward. He gave us much support and co-operation with refuse and litter control, and was a regular attendee at our public meetings, personally taking up local concerns. We welcome the new Ward Manager - Sandy Deol who takes John's place.

## Library Events

Acocks Green Library continues to host a variety of interesting talks, musical evenings as well as a book club which meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm Janet Brisland from the **Library of Birmingham** project will be giving a talk on the exciting new library that is being built in the city centre.

For more information of What's On in the library call in or email them to ask to join their mailing list: [Acocks.green.library@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Acocks.green.library@birmingham.gov.uk)

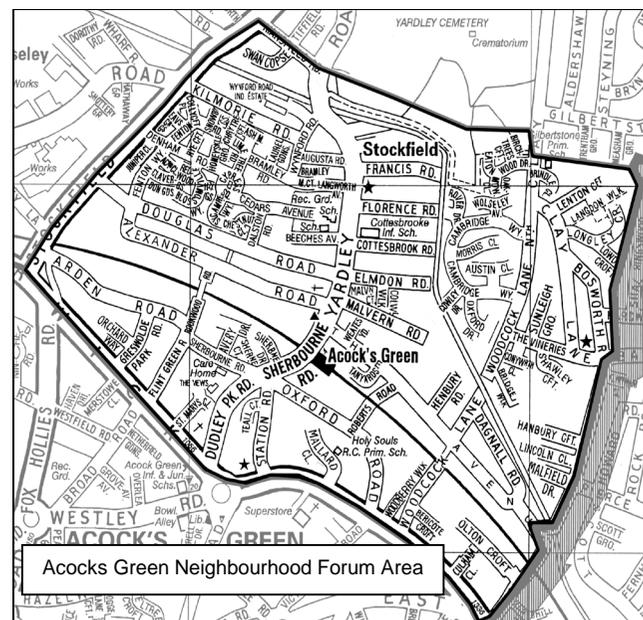


**South Yardley Library** also offers an array of community events, including Yardley Local History Group, a coffee bar and the Cygnet Club for 2 to 5 year olds. Find out more by calling in, emailing: [south.yardley.library@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:south.yardley.library@birmingham.gov.uk) or you can phone them on 464 1944.

**AG Forum Next Public Meeting (& AGM) Baptist Church Hall**  
19<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm. Refreshments available. Everyone Welcome.

# Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

May 2011



**Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum** is a community organisation run by local residents. Its aim is to enhance the area that we live in. The Forum holds regular meetings to share and inform the local community. Everyone in the area is welcome to come along to our next Public Meeting and AGM:

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Community Hall, Yardley Road** (corner of Alexander Rd). There will be a guest speaker from **The Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust** which covers our area. This will provide an overview of the trust, how it serves the community and how we can influence the decisions it makes.

There will also be an up-date from the **Village Partnership** on the progress being made with Acocks Green Village becoming a **Business Improvement District (BID)**.

## Local Updates



**Cottesbrooke Walking Group** meets every Wednesday at 9am for a healthy walk for up to 1 hour. Everyone is welcome (including pushchairs) meet at Cottesbrooke school entrance on Cedars Avenue.

The Health Exchange now supports this walking group. They promote and support walks all over Birmingham and understand how walking groups can improve people's well-being by increasing activity, getting more involved in the local community and making new friends. So why not come along and see how you can benefit from taking part in the walking group.

### Coffee Shop at the Baptist Church Hall

The Baptist Church Hall (on the corner of Alexander Rd and Yardley Rd) has a friendly coffee shop open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9.30am until 12.30pm. The Church Hall has 3 rooms where people can meet for light refreshments including home made cakes and breakfasts and light lunches. On Wednesdays you will usually find the Cottesbrooke Walking Group having a well-deserved cup of coffee after their walk!



### Recom Buddies - Can You Help?

- Do you use the internet?
- Can you send an email?
- Have you got good communication skills?
- Do you live in B27 and have a couple of hours spare per week?

Recom, the Acocks Green based computer charity, is looking for 'Buddies' to help people who are tied to the house for whatever reason, to use a computer. For example, to keep in touch with friends, write a letter or shop online.

To find out more phone Recom on : 0121 765 5282 or send an email to [itmad@recom.org.uk](mailto:itmad@recom.org.uk). The charity also runs IT classes for the over 55s. Give them a ring for more information.

## History Preserved

Seventeenth Century Pinfold House on Mansfield Road is generally regarded as the oldest building in Acocks Green. It is great to see that this Grade II listed house, which has been empty for a long time, has now been sold privately. The owners are carefully renovating it in order to return it to use as a family residence.

## Electoral Results

Did you vote in the local election? You may have heard that we now have a new Councillor to join Liberal Democrats Roger Harmer and Iain Bowen. **Stewart Stacey** from the Labour Party won the recent council seat for Acocks Green Ward. If you would like to meet with a local councillor they work on rotation offering a Drop-In Surgery every Monday evening at Acocks Green Library between 7pm and 8pm.



## Be Active Scheme

With the Public Service cutbacks happening all around us it is good to hear that the BeActive scheme is continuing in our area. This is an opportunity to use the local leisure centre for free if you sign up for a Leisure card. For more details on the scheme and availability of activities call in to the local leisure centre.

To apply for your card you need to be a Birmingham resident & produce two documents showing your name and address. That's it! Phone **Fox Hollies Leisure Centre** on 0121 464 4112 or go to [www.birmingham.gov.uk/beactive](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/beactive) for more information.

## AG Neighbourhood Forum Post Box Now at Acocks Green Library

If you would like to share your views or contact the Neighbourhood Forum for any reason then you can now drop us a note via our new post box in Acocks Green Library. The Green box is clearly labelled and is situated on the left hand side of the electronic doors. Or, if you have internet access, you can also contact us via our website: click on 'Contact Us'.  
[www.acocks-green-neighbourhoodforum.org](http://www.acocks-green-neighbourhoodforum.org)



## Allotments

Acocks Green has many allotments where people enjoy growing their own, getting fresh air, exercise and an having the opportunity to meet other gardeners. If you fancy 'digging in' and growing your own produce phone the city council allotments directly on 303 3038. Annual charges vary from £22 to £39,( half price to over 60s).

