

Volunteer with Recom - An Acocks Green based charity

Recom's aim is to help more people benefit from being on-line, especially those who are disadvantaged, disabled or tied to the house for whatever reason. They achieve this by:

- Providing low cost reconditioned computers
- Running classes for "Silver Surfers"
- Offering IT training for charities and community groups
- Teaching people in their homes through their IT@Home Project

Volunteering is a tangible way of making a real contribution to your local community and to people's lives. There are lots of reasons why people volunteer. Do any of these sound like you?

You want to make a difference - You want to help someone

You want to make friends and get to know local people better

You want to share your skills

You want to give something back to your community

You are up for a challenge - You want to keep busy and active

Volunteers are vital to Recom's work assisting professional IT trainers in computer clubs and acting as 'buddies' who help people start to use their computers in their own homes. Recom have openings for volunteers in North and South Solihull and South-East Birmingham including Acocks Green in; Silver Surfer Clubs; Access IT courses supporting Jobseekers; Grassroots IT courses supporting community groups and IT@Home Project.

- ReCOM is looking for volunteers to give a three month commitment of one or two hours each week
- ReCOM will reimburse any expenses you incur
- Volunteers will receive an enhanced CRB check
- You will need to provide two references

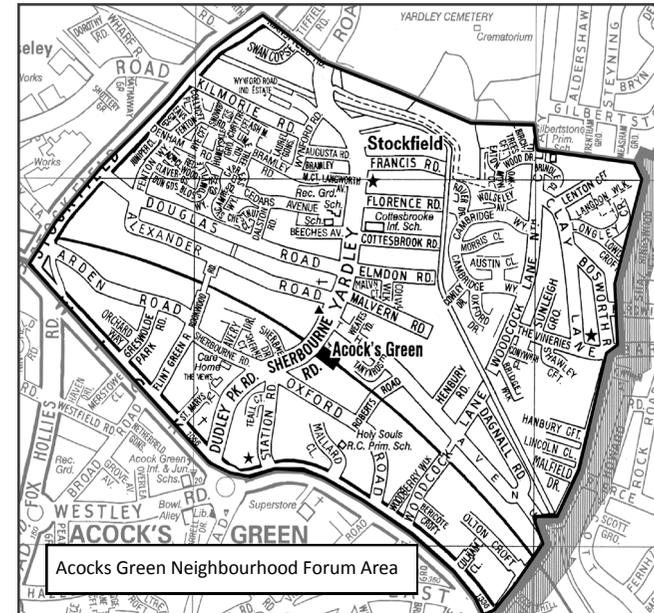
For more information about volunteering at ReCOM please call the office or see their website where you can also download a volunteering application form. Tel. 0121 663 0335 Email: itmad@recom.org.uk Website: www.recom.org.uk



Public Meeting - Tuesday 19th June - Baptist Church Hall 7.30pm - all welcome

Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

June 2012



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 : Tuesday 19th June, 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Community Hall, Yardley Road (corner of Alexander Rd).

The meeting has an informal layout to give more opportunity for discussion. There will be several organisations on hand that are relevant to issues in our area (see next page). Residents will have the chance to talk to the organisations one to one and chat with other local people whilst having a cuppa. Come along to find out more about your neighbourhood and meet some your neighbours.

Present at our next meeting on 19th June :

A member of the **West Midlands Police Authority** will be joining us on the evening to discuss and update on the developments leading to the election of a Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC), the powers that they will have and how they will work with the Police and Crime panel.

Sergeant Mark Fellows from Acocks Green Police will also be present to discuss any concerns you may want to raise.

There will also be a representative from the leading **Mental Health Charity, Mind**, who will be discussing a Community cohesion project that they would like to highlight to our community.



A representative from Birmingham City Council's **Fleet and Waste** Redfern Road Depot will also be on hand to hear any comments people may have about rubbish collection or street cleansing.

The Forum's public meeting will give you the opportunity to speak to these representatives face to face.

A message from your local Neighbourhood Police Team.



PC Manley and PCSO Large from Acocks Green Police station are looking for volunteers to start a 'Street Watch' in our local area. It provides an opportunity for civic minded individuals to empower their local community. 'Street Watch' is a community led initiative based on regulated, civilian street patrols. Groups are managed by a volunteer co-ordinator who provides advice, guidance and support in consultation with the local police. Street Watch volunteers are asked to

contribute a minimum of 2 hrs per month. All training and insurance is provided with meetings with Sgt. Fellows our Neighbourhood Supervisor.

If you are interested or would like to know more, you can email or call PC Manley for a no obligation informal chat. Tel : 101 ex 7824 6928, email: v.manley@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk



The Neighbourhood Forum also has a post box at AG library if you would like to contact us in writing.

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Acocks Green in Bloom!

Thanks to funding from **Acocks Green Business Improvement District**



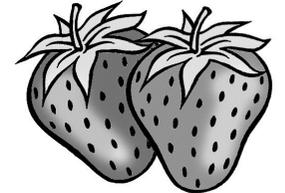
(BID) Acocks Green village is in the process of being brightened up by flourishing hanging baskets, flower beds and containers. As this newsletter

goes to press the first hanging baskets have appeared on lampposts. Also a bunch of hardy volunteers have been braving the atrocious weather to tidy up our flower beds. Sandy Gianni, the BID manager has entered the village into the Britain in Bloom 'urban' category of the competition, which focuses on community and people taking ownership of their little part of the country. All of us can play a part by keeping the village tidy by picking up litter and encouraging others to respect our environment.

You can find out more about the goings on in the village on our website: www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org and on Facebook you can type in: 'Acocks Green Village'.

Farmers Market Launch - Saturday 16th June - Fresh Local Produce

Another exciting initiative this month by the BID manager is AG's first very own Farmers Market. It will run monthly, on the third Saturday of each month. To celebrate its arrival there will be a Family Funday, featuring children's activities such as Punch & Judy, Tae Kwan Do demonstrations and music for all ages with the lively Rhythm and Blues band **King Pleasure**



and the Biscuit Boys. There will also be a community stall sharing local information, including representatives from the two Neighbourhood Forums in Acocks Green, so come along and say hello and find out what else is happening in our village.

And in July...Don't forget **Acocks Green Carnival Saturday 7th July** at the Westley Road Recreation Ground. It's the community get together of the year, stalls, shows, refreshments and demonstrations.

If you live in the Stockfield area pop along to the **Stockfield Funday** in Stockfield Park on **Saturday 14th July** . Lots of free activities for the kids and a good opportunity to meet the neighbours.

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