

Our Big Gig at Stockfield Funday

England's largest community music festival takes place across the country from 11th to 13th July. Funded by the Department for Communities & Local Government, Our Big Gig will see the country unite to celebrate local music at community events, showcase new and existing talent and give people the opportunity to have a go at making music. Thanks to the organisers of the annual Stockfield Funday this year there Our Big Gig will be in Acocks Green. Featuring talented local musician **Rich McMahon** who you may have been lucky enough to catch at the Costa Coffee music evenings.

We are also privileged to be entertained by **Kurly McGeachie** a Birmingham Poet Laureate finalist who will be performing spoken word and rap as well as holding a workshop. Come on down to Stockfield Park on Saturday 12th July 11am 'til 3pm to enjoy some free entertainment. For more info about the project check out: www.ourbiggig.co.uk



Dates For Your Diary:

Saturday 14th / Sunday 15th June (Sat 11am- 4pm, Sunday 12-2pm)
Community Festival at St Marys Church: stalls, flower and plant displays, entertainment, coffee shop and light lunches. Local information. 50p entry.

Saturday 21st June - World Cup Fever Funday in AG Village, outside Wilkos. penalty shoot outs, table top football and an Animal Man - come along and hold a snake! Also free bouncy castle, DJ and more.

Tuesday 24th June - Swansong Music Evening 7.30pm St Marys Church. presents a Selection of Music for all tastes, from Classical to Jazz. Sally Minchin (violin) and Rich Hughes (piano). Everyone welcome! Collection at end.

Saturday 5th July - Acocks Green Carnival Westley Road Recreation Ground. Acocks Green's Community Event of The Year. Over 50 stalls, entertainment, shows, parade and lots, more..!

Friday 11th July - Open Day at Stone Hall Centre Adult Education Centre. 10am-2pm Thinking about learning something new? Want to improve your skills for work? Go along and find out about the courses starting in September.

Saturday 12th July - Stockfield Funday Stockfield Park. Free family fun for local residents. Stalls, dance, sports competitions, inflatables and music (see above).

Sunday 13th July Westley Vale Millennium Green Community Clean Up 10am. Come along and help tidy our precious Green space. Last chance before the Village in Bloom judges walk through on 15th July.

Find out more at our website where you can see lots of photos and details of other organisations and activities in our area.

www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org

Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

June 2014



The next Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum Public Meeting (and AGM) is **Tuesday 17th June, 7.30pm** at the Glynn Edwards Baptist Church Hall, Yardley Road (on the corner of Alexander Road). Everyone is welcome to come along and share their views.

This is a chance to find out what is going on in the local area. There will also be a short presentation from Birmingham Friends of the Earth who will be discussing their campaign: *Lets Get Moving* about improving Bham's air quality. Our local councillors and other agencies will also be there, so you will have an opportunity to raise issues and concerns.

There will be Refreshments and a chance to talk to like-minded locals. Please come along and help make Acocks Green better for everyone.



Supported by



Lets Get Moving Campaign

At this month's Forum meeting we will be joined by representatives from Birmingham Friends of the Earth who will talk about their campaign to improve our air quality.



Last year the pressure group launched a multi-pronged campaign to raise awareness of the dangerous and sometimes illegal levels of air pollution in our city and encourage more people to start using alternative and active modes of transport.

According to Friends of the Earth, Air pollution is a UK-wide problem with the limits for nitrogen dioxide set by the European Commission's air quality directive having been exceeded in 40 of the 43 zones in the United Kingdom in 2010. Think back a couple of months to April 2014 when the combination of dust from the Sahara, weather conditions and air pollution settled over Birmingham, making a Spring day seem like a dank, foggy autumn day. The Ambulance service confirmed that there was a noticeable increase in call-outs for people suffering with respiratory problems. So this is an issue that we should all be aware of. Come along and find out what suggestions FoE have to improve on our air quality.

Election Results - May 2014

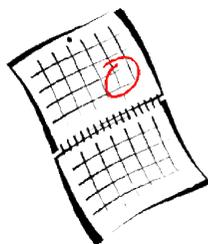
Congratulations to Roger Harmer who became our new Councillor at the local elections. Roger is an Acocks Green resident and a familiar face at our meetings and community events and, like our other councillors John O'Shea and Stewart Stacey, has always been a supporter of the Neighbourhood Forum's work.

Adult Learner's Week 14th -20th June

To celebrate Adult Learner's Week Acocks Green Library is running a free taster session for people interested in looking into Family History.

Family History Taster Session. Tues 17th June 1 - 2pm

To book a place call into the library and talk to one of the staff.



And don't forget it is **Stone Hall Adult Education Centre Open Day** on Friday 11th July 10am - 2pm. Call in to find out more about the courses that will be on offer in September.

'You either have to be part of the solution, or you're going to be part of the problem' - Eldridge Cleaver

Life Saving equipment now in Acocks Green

Thanks to community funding from various sources, the village now has two defibrillator machines that can save lives by delivering an electric shock to the heart when someone is having a cardiac arrest.

One machine is situated in Dazzle and the other in Costa Coffee. The machines are fully automatic and will only give electric shocks if required, 85% of heart attacks can be treated with machines, which prompt the user on how to use it. They have been proven to save lives so we are fortunate to have this investment in Acocks Green. Thanks to West Midlands Ambulance Service for their support with training and installation.



Village in Bloom 2014

For the third year in a row Acocks Green Village is taking part in the Village in Bloom campaign. In 2012 we received a Bronze and last year we got a Silver Award. With your help we could improve on our award again this year! The judging date is **Tuesday 15th July**. Here are some ways you might be able to help:

- * Adopt a planter or bed by keeping it tidy and watering it in dry weather.
- * Pick up litter and encourage others to keep our area tidy.
- * Help with painting jobs e.g. cable boxes and planters.
- * Strimming and tidying edges of grass around the village and in Mallard Community Orchard.
- * Meet up with other volunteers on Sundays / Wednesdays at 10am for gardening, planting and tidying.
- * Or give the Bloom team your own suggestions how you can help!

Contact Bloom Co-ordinator Fran Lee on: **0121 706 0076**
email: fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk

