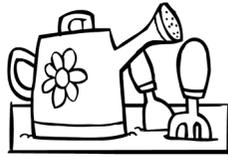


## Grow Your Own - Allotments available in Acocks Green

There is nothing to beat picking your own fruit and vegetables, fresh and free from pesticides. Just one allotment plot this year has produced an abundance of strawberries, redcurrants, blackcurrants, gooseberries, rhubarb, potatoes, chard, sweetcorn, cabbage, cauliflower, fennel, beetroot, leeks, runner beans, french beans, broad beans, parsnips, lettuce, rocket, carrots, onions, courgettes, asparagus, broccoli, kale, tomatoes, melons, cucumbers and aubergines!



You can do the same. There are vacant plots available to rent in Acocks Green on the Wharf Land Allotments off the Yardley Road near Francis Road and on the Clay Lane Allotments. This is the perfect time to take on a new allotment so it can be prepared for next Spring.

If you are interested, or would like to view the site, or want to find out more please contact Stephen Cox at Clay Lane and Wharf Land Allotments Committee [claylaneallotments@gmail.com](mailto:claylaneallotments@gmail.com)

## Opinions Needed at a Local Health Fayre

The Dudley Park Medical Centre Patient Participation Group is a local voluntary organisation. It has two jobs; to represent the patients' views on current services provided by the Practice; and to advise the Practice and the local health service commissioners on future healthcare changes & developments in Acocks Green.

To help it do this the Group needs to hear opinions from Acocks Green residents, so it has organised a **'Come and talk to us' Health Fayre on Saturday 19th October**. Drop in between 11.00 am & 2.00pm at the Methodist Church Hall, corner of Botteville Rd and let them hear your views. There will be a number of voluntary groups attending to inform people about the services they provide including, Diabetes UK, Birmingham Drug & Alcohol Services, Birmingham Institute for the Deaf and the Alzheimers' Society. There will also be free tea, coffee & squash!

*Please note, the Fayre isn't designed to discuss individual complaints about healthcare. All health care organisations have their own complaint procedures.*

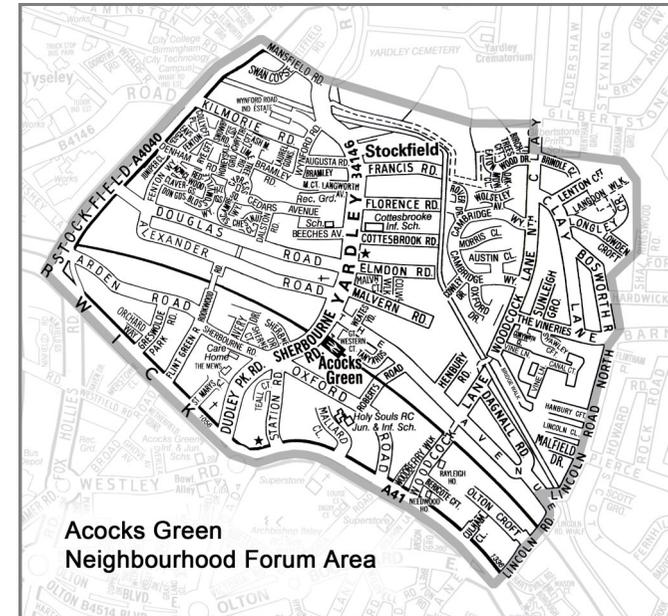


## Don't Forget the Free Green Bag Collection finishes in November.

There will be no green bag collections in 2014. If you wish your green waste to be collected next year the Council are introducing a new paid for green recycling services from Spring. You can sign up for the new services from October, contact [birmingham.gov.uk/greenrecycling](http://birmingham.gov.uk/greenrecycling) or call 0121 303 1112. Other options are to use a compost bin, make a compost heap or take green waste to the tip yourself.

# Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

September 2013



**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. We also have a lively website: [www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org](http://www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org) full of relevant information. Everyone in the area is welcome to come to our next...

**Public Meeting: Tuesday 1st October 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Community Hall, Yardley Road (corner of Alexander Rd).**

Come along to find out more about your neighbourhood and meet some of your neighbours. There will be refreshments and discussion as well as a guest speaker - Bham City Council's District Engineer for our area **Paul Wilkinson** who is responsible for road layout and traffic management. There will also be representatives from the **Local Police**, updating us on policing issues and Noel Delaney from Waste Management. Why not come along for a cuppa and find out what's going on in our area?



### Acocks Green Library & Neighbourhood Office Temporary Closure

As we wait patiently for Acocks Green Library to reopen following essential repairs to the roof, our other local Library in South Yardley has extended its opening hours to compensate.

**South Yardley Library** is now open 6 days a week and until 7pm on Mondays and Thursdays. So here is a great opportunity to become familiar with this lively library, only a short journey from Acocks Green village. South Yardley Library is also a great community hub. They have a coffee shop on Mondays and Fridays mornings and hold a Keep Fit class on a Friday mornings as well as reading groups for teenagers and adults, a Public Speaking Club, Local History Meetings and much more.

There are new plans to set up a Pop-Up Cinema at the library. To find out more call in or phone 464 1944 or check them out online.

[www.birmingham.gov.uk/southyardleylibrary](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/southyardleylibrary). It is easy to get a library card, you just need to show some ID with your name and address. You can use the card in all Birmingham Libraries including the exciting new Library of Birmingham in the city centre! You can also return any books that you borrow to any other Birmingham Library.

### Saving the Trees in Oak Meadow - Acocks Green

Oak Meadow is a public open space next to the canal, just past the allotments. Last winter the Council planted 10 large oak saplings at the site. Unfortunately a couple were vandalised and the rest shrivelled and virtually died because of a very dry spell in the summer. Thankfully some community-spirited local people noticed the leaves going brown and started to water the trees just in time to keep them alive. Following a site meeting with the Parks Manager this month, these trees (apart from one) have been saved and will be pruned and secured, so they can establish themselves properly next growing season.

### Free After School and Saturday Morning Activities for Young People

Award-winning Birmingham Charity Sport4Life have started their programme of free activities in the Stockfield area for young people and children this month. This includes after school Sports Coaching, Street Dance and Saturday morning activities in Stockfield Park. Full timetable of activities is on our website. or phone 0121 456 1818 or email : [matthew@sport4life.org.uk](mailto:matthew@sport4life.org.uk)



[www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org.uk](http://www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org.uk)



### Wild about Gardens Week 25th-31st October

After the success of Acocks Green's entry into the 2013 **Village in Bloom** where we achieved a **Silver Award**, the Bloom team are not becoming complacent. Acocks Green village is a 'garden' for the local people so the Village in Bloom team are organising a special event of mass bulb planting throughout the village as part of the Wild about

Gardens Week.

**What:** Bulb Planting through Acocks Green village

**When:** 10am Sunday 27th October

**Where:** Mallard Community Orchard (opposite Sainsburys)

This autumn event will go towards brightening up our village next spring and help our entry for Village in Bloom 2014. The team will distribute bulbs and give planting instructions. If you can spare an hour or so and want to make a real difference to the village then you will be made very welcome. If you have garden tools and gloves bring them along but if not, there will be spares you can borrow. More information from the Village in Bloom Co-ordinator Fran Lee: [fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone 0121 706 0076

### Musical Highlights in the Village

On **Wednesday 2nd October, 7.30pm** Swansong presents The CBSO Players at St Marys Church, Warwick Road, playing **Haydn** and **Mozart**. An opportunity to experience a evening of classical delights played live by professional musicians. Everyone welcome. Donations at the end of the evening to help keep these events going on in Acocks Green. Refreshments available.

### Music @ The Coffee House

If you prefer more contemporary musical delights then this may be for you: **Friday 11th October** sees a live music night at Costa Coffee, Acocks Green from 7.15pm to 9.30pm Live acoustic music by four fantastic acts, compered by Rich McMahon. £3 on the door, under 16's Free.



*Next Public Meeting - Tuesday 1st October- Baptist Church Hall*