

Ikon Art Gallery visits Acocks Green
Wed 16th September 3pm - 5.30pm

A free family-friendly public event
exploring botanical themed Arts and

Crafts. Open to all local residents and canal towpath users. There will be arts activities on the boat which will be moored near to Bridge 86, next to Westley Vale Millennium Green on Woodcock Lane. There will be hands-on workshops on board the boat and guided walks around the site.

IKON

Acocks Green Neighbourhood

FORUM NEWS

September 2015

Patient Participation Groups in Acocks Green

A Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a forum run by patients on behalf of everyone using the Practice. Since the 1st of April this year all GP practices across the country have been required to set up and support PPGs. These groups comprise patients registered with that Practice who are interested in meeting with the GP



Partners and Staff to discuss the running of the practice, raise concerns and contribute ideas and suggestions about how to involve the wider patient population. Our local **Dudley Park Medical Centre (DPMC)** has been

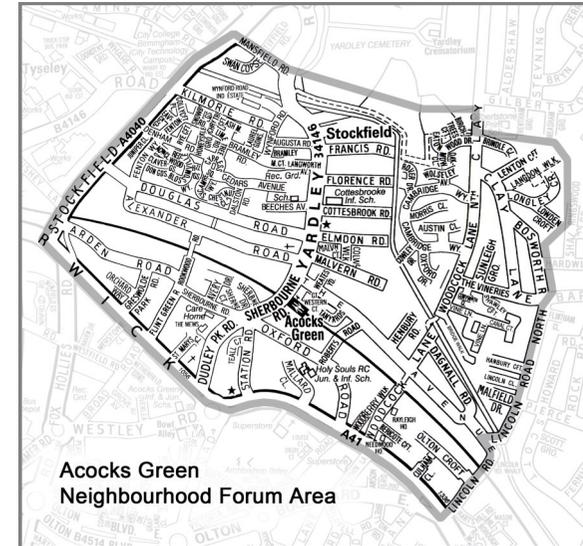
working with a PPG for a number of years. Items discussed at their most recent PPG meeting included appointment problems, the practice telephone system, staff changes, & services for carers. Previously the PPG has also been involved in patient satisfaction surveys and investigating the health of the area.

Usually, the practice is represented at the meetings by staff such as GPs, practice managers and other staff members. PPGs are not there for people to raise individual complaints but are used to provide feedback from patients to the Practice & vice versa. So, your views matter & will help to improve how your Practice works.

GP services are the crux of the NHS and this is your opportunity to make a difference at grass roots level. To find out more, or if you would like to join your local PPG, please contact the reception at your practice.

*Information provided by Anne Care & Mike Swift
(Chair & Secretary of the DPMC PPG)*

www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org



The next Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum Public Meeting (& AGM) will be on **Tuesday 15th September, at 7.30pm** in the Glynn Edwards Baptist Church Hall, Yardley Road (at the corner of Alexander Rd)

Everyone is welcome to come along, discuss local issues and share their views. Refreshments will be available and you will get the chance to talk to like-minded locals.

This meeting will welcome representatives from **Fox Hollies Forum** who will be talking about the activities that take place in their community centre. The Head Teacher from **Acocks Green Primary School** will be giving a short presentation about the school and how it functions as an academy. There will also be a quick update from the **Ikon Art Gallery** who will be bringing their canal boat to Westley Vale Millennium Green on 16th September for an Arts and Heritage event (see back page). Why not come along and find out more about what is going on in your area.

Other local representatives will be present and there will be the election of the committee and chair of the Neighbourhood Forum, as this will also be our AGM.



Supported by



What's On - a selection of local events. More on our website.

Wed 16th September - 3pm- 5.30pm Ikon Gallery at Westley Vale Millennium Green (see back page)

Thursday 17th September 10am - 12 noon Acocks Green Library. A representative from St John Ambulance will be on hand to demonstrate life-saving first aid techniques including CPR and the recovery position. Please feel free to drop in and gain some vital skills and information.

Wednesday 23rd September St Marys Church, 7.30pm *Swansong* presents: **Alma Guitar Quartet** from Birmingham Conservatoire. An evening of guitar music. Everyone welcome. Refreshments. Donations collected at the end



Tuesday 29th September 2pm Acocks Green Library - Arts and Media at the Green presents **Mary Casteleyn - Digging Up Your Irish Ancestors**. Mary is an acknowledged expert on the use of all kinds of media for the study of Irish genealogy. Donations of £3 requested. Everyone welcome.

Lots more local info at www.acocks-green-neighbourhood.forum.org sign up for our email updates

Join the Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum Team

Would you like to be more involved in your local community?

AGNF has been active for over 20 years and has been a positive influence in Acocks Green, working with other organisations and the council for the improvement of our neighbourhood, as well as keeping locals informed on key issues and events through our regular public meetings, newsletter and website.



The team has 8 or so Executive meetings each year and attends other community events and meetings. We are always happy to welcome new members. If you would like to find out more come along to our Public Meeting or contact us via the website.

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

Acocks Greener

Greening Up Grey Britain is the RHS's new Britain In Bloom theme, and the Village in Bloom team have been truly embracing this idea. They have been continuing to plant up the corner of Woodcock Lane with an array of colourful perennials and wildflowers, much praised by passers-by. Planted daisies and poppies around the popular whistles, echoing the French battlefields of WWI. The team have also been working with 3 local schools and several businesses, who have contributed in different ways to the project. With the city council onboard and Fitzgeralds, the contractors, they arranged the replacement of a missing road sign and made sure the new planters were in place just in time for the Judging Day. The results are announced on **10th September**, so come along to the meeting to find out how Acocks Green Village did. There will also be an opportunity to look at the plans of the many trees that are to be planted on Warwick Rd during the winter, to complete our Smart Route.



Adopting a Stretch of Canal

The aim of the Adopt Group is to keep our local waterway tidy and accessible with the backing and support of the Canals and Rivers Trust. The 4th working session is **Sunday 11th October**. Meet at 10am on Vineries Bridge (Woodcock Lane). All equipment and gloves are supplied. There will be tidying, sanding, painting and repairs to be done. Let us know if you would like to be on the mailing list. Or just turn up on the day.



Towpath Upgrading - with the help of funding from the Cycle Revolution Scheme, which aims to encourage more cycling in Birmingham, improvement work has reached Tyseley and it planned to continue to Acocks Green which will soon be having resurfaced towpaths to improve the route into the city centre.

New Buses in Acocks Green

Talking of transport systems, to go with the new Smart Route we have smart new buses. Built in Scarborough by a British coach-building company, the new buses are a crimson coloured livery and being used on routes **37, 71 & 72** from our local Bus Depot. They have a more environmentally-friendly Cummins Euro 6 Engines, improved heating and ventilation systems, wider isles and easier access. Altogether there are 50 buses which replace the old fleet. For all you bus spotters out there they are numbered 2201-2250!