

What's On in Acocks Green?

Saturday 24th November Acocks Green Christmas Lights Switch On 11am to 5pm

Top local band Revolver playing popular hits, face-painting, stalls, bouncy castle, Santa Claus, lots more and a fireworks finale! Come down to the village for some community spirit.

Friday 7th December from 5pm **Christmas Fayre at Fox Hollies Forum**. 50p per family. Santa's Grotto, Tombola, Animal Lady - see snakes for free, homemade gifts and so much more.

Thursday 13th December Christmas Fair at Cottesbrooke Infants School from 3.30pm. Lots of family fun and everyone welcome.

Check out your local Library—for lots going on - its not just books!

Regular Informative and interesting talks at Acocks Green Library

by *Local History Society* and *Arts & Media in the Green*.

2.15pm start - All Welcome Donations requested.

- **Tues 27th November** *Arts and Media in the Green*
Mike Byrne: Art, Design and Marketing in the Creation of the Heritage Trail
- **Tues 11th December** *Local History*
David Hess: Out of the frying pan, my parents' escape from Nazi Germany in 1938
- **Tues 8th January:** *Local History*
Canon Dr. Terry Slater: Medieval towns of the West Midlands

Don't forget the Over 50s coffee mornings on Tuesday and Thursdays. Drop in for a natter and the cheapest cup of tea in town!



Fox Hollies Forum, Greenwood Avenue B27 7RA

Lots going on at our local community centre:

Tuesdays and Thursdays: Stay and Play 9.30am to 11.30am £1.75 (additional siblings 50p each) snack provided. A great way to prepare your child for nursery and meet other parents in the area. (Term time only).

Tuesdays: Yarn and Yarn 12 - 2.30pm £1. Enjoy being creative with other like-minded people, sharing ideas and skills and make new friends over a cuppa.

Wednesdays: Line Dancing 10.30am to 12 noon £1.50 and Lite Bite Club 12-1pm. Join us for a snack £1.50.

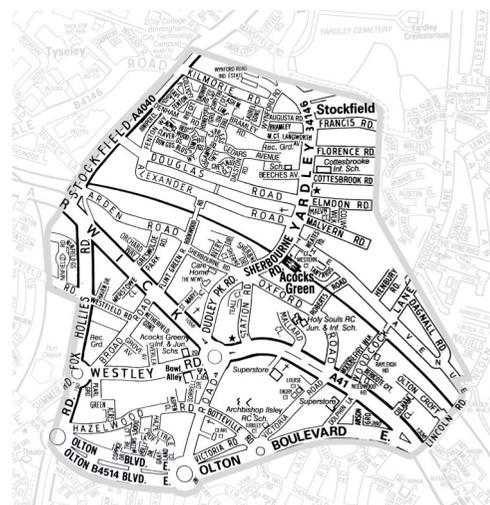
Social Club 1pm to 2.45pm. Join us for a game of Bingo, raffles, quizzes and days out..

Fridays: Lunch Club 10.30-2.30pm £6. Tea/coffee & toast on arrival. Quizzes, light exercise, bingo. Home cooked 2 course lunch and good company!

For more info call 0121 706 0652 or email: foxholliescommassoc@gmail.com or just call in!

Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

November 2018



We are a long-established community group covering around 4,000 households within Acocks Green. We work with the council and other groups to improve the area and support organisations for the good of Acocks Green.

We aim to inform local people about what is happening in the area and encourage involvement in activities that benefit our community. We hold regular public meetings and warmly welcome local people to come along and find out more about relevant issues and what is going on in our neighbourhood.

Our next **Public Meeting** is on **Tuesday 27th November 7.30pm** at the Glynn Edwards Baptist Church Hall, Yardley Road (corner of Alexander Road). Refreshments will be provided, together with an opportunity to raise your concerns. Our local councillors usually join us and the local Neighbourhood Police Team have confirmed they will attend.

We are privileged to have a very special guest speaker with us this time:

The **Police and Crime Commissioner - David Jamieson**. So come along and find out more about his influential role and perhaps get a chance to ask him a question. Everyone is welcome.



Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum
For the Community by the Community



Supported by



Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson joins us for our Public Meeting this month.

David was born and bred in the West Midlands. He attended Tudor Grange Grammar School in Solihull and later qualified as a teacher of Mathematics from St Peter's C of E College, Saltley. He has a degree in Social Science and Management from the Open University and taught in schools across the Midlands before moving to Plymouth as a Vice Principal of a large community college. David also served as an MP from 1992 to 2005 including his role as a Government Minister from 1997 to 2005. He was originally elected Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands on 21 August 2014 and was re-elected in 2016.

What is a Police and Crime Commissioner?

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner is the local governing body for policing in our area. The PCC has an over-arching duty to secure an effective and efficient police force. The PCC has three main roles, which are to:

- Set the priorities for policing
- Decide the budget for West Midlands Police
- Hold the Chief Constable of West Midlands Police to account

In order to fulfil these roles, the PCC has a range of powers and responsibilities. The PCC:

- Must produce a Police and Crime Plan that sets out:
 - Their policing objectives
 - The policing that is to be provided
 - The financial resources that are to be available for policing
 - How policing performance will be measured
- Must set the policing "precept": the part of the council tax that goes to policing
- Can appoint and, if necessary, dismiss the Chief Constable
- Can make Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants
- Has an oversight role in how complaints against the police are managed
- Must keep under review opportunities for collaboration
- Has duties relating to national criminal threats, safeguarding of children, and consulting the public
- Has a role in ensuring the effectiveness of the wider criminal justice system

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, like other PCCs, is scrutinised and supported by a separate Police and Crime Panel. The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel is made up of twelve councillors from across the West Midlands and two independent members.

Come along to our next **Public Meeting** on **Tuesday 27th November 7.30pm** to find out more from David at the Glynn Edwards Baptist Church Hall, Yardley Road (corner of Alexander Rd).

"You either have to be part of the solution or you're going to be part of the problem"
Eldridge Cleaver (American political activist, 1935-1998)

Gold for a Fourth Time!

We are pleased to say that our Village in Bloom Team gained Gold again this year, for the fourth time running! The icing on the cake came from the judges' comments:

'Is Acocks Green simply another suburb of Birmingham? Certainly not! Simply driving through the main road gives you a feeling of something unique. Acocks Green is a village nurtured by the ethos of bloom by the 'Bloomers' A well-deserved Gold award.'



The matching street furniture was praised along with the planted railing baskets. The fact that everyone pulled together impressed the judges. Fox Hollies Park earned the team ten out of ten for creating areas of conservation, biodiversity and natural habitat.

In September Acocks Green hosted the Heart of England in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards at St Mary's Church. The AG Bloom Team were awarded the honour of hosting and organising this event

because of the high regard the RHS organisers have for our suburban village. Groups from all over the Midlands area came to Acocks Green. Our local entrants also did extremely well with **Fox Hollies Forum** gained a 'Level 4 - Thriving' the **260th Scout Troop** and **St. Mary's Close** picking up the top award of 'Level 5—Outstanding'. Well done. Perhaps more places will enter the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Award next year?

Springtime Bulbs

Look out for extra daffodils flowering in the Village next spring and a beautiful display of Tulips in April and May. Last year we planted 1,000 bulbs and we are planting even more this year! In our busy schedule we prepared our village War Memorial for the very well-attended Armistice Day Commemorations. We also cleared a 'grot spot' which we called the 'car lot' an area between the Dolphin Fish Bar and the terraced houses on Warwick Road.

The Bloom entries shown on the BBC TV programme make it look as though groups only start work in April. Well this group works all through the year and doesn't it show?!

- Fran Lee – Co-ordinator – Acocks Green Village in Bloom

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www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org/villageinbloom

Exclusive Acocks Green Wall Calendar 2019

Pop into our favourite hardware store—Jeffries or the friendly S & H Jewellers to pick up a copy of Acocks Green 2019 Calendar with photos by local people capturing AG at its best. It is a limited edition produced by Acocks Green Village Partnership, so get them while you can. All funds raised go back into the local community. At just £7 the calendar makes a great gift to send to people who are homesick for the old country or to make you appreciate your own neighbourhood a little more. The calendar will also be available of the Village in Bloom stall at the Acocks Green Christmas Lights Switch On.

