



NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP TIMES

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Kingswood Foundation reopens refurbished Kingsway Youth Centre!



New state of the art Computer Suite thanks to Bristol City Council Funding

Wednesday 17th November Councillor Simon Cook from Bristol City Council cut the ribbon and declared the newly refurbished Kingsway Youth Centre in Kingswood officially open. The building, now with a 25 year lease for the Kingswood Foundation from Bristol City Council has been given a £200,000 renovation and represents a unique partnership offering a state of the art building for use by young people in the community 7 days a week.

As well as Councillor Simon Cook, representatives from the Cabot Learning Federation and the Kingswood Foundation were there to celebrate the end of the building work and the beginning of a wonderful multi-purpose resource for young people in the area. The Centre is now available to hire for community groups and will be used by neighbouring John Cabot Academy. In addition it will be used as a venue to supplement the creative youth activities that the Kingswood Foundation create and manage on the adjacent estate like Arts4Life, Urban Academy or the Youth4Youth project.



“This place is great said a young person, before, the toilets were rubbish and the doors didn't lock properly, and now there is a plasma TV, the place is clean and new and there's going to be a BMX track outside.”

A Brighter Future for St. George

In the 2009 'Quality of Life' Survey St George came second bottom of all 14 Neighbourhood Partnership areas in Bristol when people were asked whether they were satisfied with the appearance of the streets & public places in their area. The St George NP Environment Sub-Group is starting to address this by working in partnership with council officers from Parks, Street Cleaning and Bristol Clean & Green. The group, which is lead by residents, has put together a list of priorities for improving the appearance of St George. Some of these will be funded from money allocated to St George by the Clean & Green team and an application has also been submitted for additional funds. Items include the installation of hanging baskets and planting of new trees to replace tree stumps that have been left where old trees have been felled.

The group has also been asked by the St George Neighbourhood Partnership to take the lead in 'influencing' the council's work in street cleansing, provision and maintenance of recycling banks and parks and grounds maintenance. All streets in St George should be cleaned at least every three weeks; those most used by pedestrians are cleaned more frequently. Glass and plastic recycling banks should be emptied once or twice a week. If you think your street needs cleaning more frequently or your bottle bank is always full please let us know and we will get the frequency changed.

You can also help us improve the appearance of St George by reporting fly-tipping and graffiti. Fly-tipping should be removed within two working days of it being reported and graffiti within five days. If you see any please let the council know on

☎ **0117 922 2100** or fill in the form on:

📄 **www.bristol.gov.uk/flytipping**

The Environment Sub-Group holds meetings four times a year and anyone who lives in St George and cares about their environment is welcome to come along. To get in touch and to find out more about the group please contact:

Abdulrazak Dahir ☎ **0117 903 6409**

✉ **abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk**

or Denis Wise ☎ **0117 903 6443**

✉ **denis.wise@bristol.gov.uk**

Kingsway Youth Centre cont...

Thanks to the generous £5,000 funding from Bristol City Council the Centre now boasts a state of the art computer suite that can be used by young people attending the youth club in the evenings. The equipment is a significant upgrade to the facilities it had before and allows the young people to work on film and animation projects as well as keeping up to date with all things online.

Other funders include the Social Enterprise Investment Fund who gave money for the refurbishment of the building and the Youth Opportunity Fund and the St George Neighbourhood Partnership Small Grants Fund for new equipment to go inside. As well as the computer suite the new Centre has an activities hall, seminar rooms, a lounge area, a boxing ring, offices and a kitchen. There is also a hard court area which will be used for basket ball, five a side football and other outdoor activities.

Sandy Hore-Ruthven, Chief Executive of the Kingswood Foundation said "We are extremely grateful to the Council for their contribution to this major building project and we are very excited about what this means to young people in the area. There will be loads of opportunities for them to get involved with activities out of school time and hopefully actively engage in its development as a youth resource for them themselves."

If you would like to find out more information about the space available to hire at the Kingswood Foundation or further information about projects for young people visit

📄 **www.kingswood-foundation.org.uk** or call

☎ **0117 947 7948.**





Communication Matters

It might be a bit of a cliché but it's also true, and it's especially true about the Neighbourhood Partnership. We want to make it as easy as possible for any resident in the area to be informed about what the Partnership is doing and let us know your views and concerns.

Some of you will already be aware of our quarterly Neighbourhood Forums, (open meetings where residents can talk directly to local service providers such as the Police and the City Council). We advertise these in local shops and community venues as well as through the Police www.avonandsomerset.police.uk put your postcode in the In Your Neighbourhood box, the City Council www.bristolpartnership.org/neighbourhood-partnerships, and locally run web-sites such as Friends of Troopers Hill and St George Community Centre. www.troopers-hill.org.uk/stgeorgenp www.stgeorgecc.co.uk

However, there are also people who don't want to or can't attend meetings but who still wish to be engaged either by simply raising an issue as an individual or as a part of a group. We can be contacted at the following e-mail addresses and telephone numbers:

 neighbourhood.partnerships@bristol.gov.uk	
 abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk	 0117 9036409
 denis.wise@bristol.gov.uk	 0117 9036443

If you are a member of any local group who would like to raise any issues or concerns, we want to hear from you.

Above all, we want to know your ideas for how we can make it easier for all residents to be part of the Partnership.

For more information about the Neighbourhood Partnership or Forums please contact:

Abdulrazak Dahir – Area Co-ordinator	
 abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk	 0117 9036409
Denis Wise – Community Development	
 denis.wise@bristol.gov.uk	 0117 9036443

Tackling Overgrown Hedges

Over the last couple of months, over 50 hedges have been reduced in size, in the Speedwell Pride area.

The work was carried out, thanks to a joint initiative between the St George Neighbourhood Partnership and Grounds4Change (a local not for profit, gardening organisation). Residents had a one-off opportunity to have their large hedges reduced in both height and breadth, making them easier to maintain in the future.

The scheme was very well received by the local community as many residents were not physically able to carry out the work. A resident from Ventnor Road.

"It was an absolutely Godsend to have the Grounds4Change team round my garden, I just couldn't afford it, I am over the moon". Another resident from Crown Hill Road stated *"The estate looked a bit of a mess before it now looks a lot more presentable".*

The Grounds4Change team is hopeful that this will be the start of a revived interest in gardening in the Speedwell area.

If you would like any further information about this or advice please call Grounds4Change on **0117 9693185**.

Becky Johnson – Grounds4Change
 becky@grounds4change.co.uk

Meadow Vale Community Centre

Days	Activities	Times
Mondays	Art Classes	9.45 - 12pm
	Card Club	2pm - 4pm
Tuesdays	Available for hire	7.30pm - 9pm
Wednesdays	Available for hire	
Thursdays	Craft Club	1pm - 3pm
	Bingo	7pm - 9pm
Fridays	Mums and tots	10.00 - 12pm
Saturdays	Indian dance classes	11am - 1pm (fortnightly from Feb 12th)
Sundays	Available for hire	

For more information or to book for private parties contact Ann ☎ **0117 960 5350**



Computer and English for Work Courses

Learn how to type letters, use the internet & send emails for work. Improve your English skills and gain a FREE adult Literacy Certificate! Do you want to come and enjoy learning in a small group?

A **FREE** course run by the Learning Communities Team.

Starts: Fri 11th March for 6 weeks till Fri 8th April

Time: 10.00-2.30 (half hour lunch break)

At: Crofts End Church, Crofts End Road, St. George, BS5 7UW

A course for anyone over 19 who is unemployed or who works for Bristol City Council. To book contact Shani ☎ shani.smith@bristol.gov.uk

☎ **0117 9145476**

What's stopping you? If you need help taking part let us know!



What's On!

Meeting schedules for 2011

St. George Neighbourhood Forum meetings – bring your priorities

No.	Date	Venue
1	Tuesday 22nd March 2011	Air Balloon Hill Primary school
2	Tuesday 14th June 2011	Bristol Brunel Academy Speedwell Rd BS15 1NU
3	Tuesday 6th September 2011	Air Balloon Hill Primary School Hillside Rd BS5 7PB
4	Tuesday 29th November 2011	Bristol Brunel Academy Speedwell Rd BS15 1NU

St. George Neighbourhood Partnership meetings – watch your neighbourhood partnership in action! These meetings deal with the workings of the partnership. Public statements must be submitted in advance.

No.	Date	Venue
1	Tuesday 8th March 2011	St Aidans Church Hall
2	Tuesday 28th June 2011	Padmore Court
3	Tuesday 13th September 2011	Hillside Court
4	Tuesday 6th December 2011	Meadow Vale Community Centre



Youth4Youth run monthly small gigs at the Kingswood Foundation on the first Friday of the month.

7:30pm - 10pm

The Kingswood Foundation, 20 Old School House, Britannia Road, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 8DB

£1.50 entry

Dates: Friday Feb 4th Friday March 4th Friday April 1st

These are no alcohol, no drugs events.

For more information or if you would like to perform contact:

☎ info@youth4youth.co.uk





Friends of Troopers Hill Events 2011

www.troopers-hill.org.uk ☎ 0117 947 5037

April		
Saturday, 2	Work Party	10.00am
Saturday, 9	Dawn Chorus Walk	6.30 – 8.00am
Friday, 22	Good Friday Service	11.30am
May		
Saturday, 7	Work Party	10.00am
Thursday, 12	Meeting	7.15pm
Sunday, 22	Avon Valley Walk	10.00am – 4.00pm
June		
Saturday, 4	Work Party	10.00am
Saturday, 25	Music on the Hill	6.00pm
July		
Saturday, 2	Work Party	10.00am
Thursday, 7	Meeting	7.15pm
Sunday, 17	Tai Chi on the Hill	10.30am
Friday, 22	Purple Prowl	7.00 – 8.30pm
August		
Saturday, 6	Work Party	10.00am
Saturday, 13	Family Fun Picnic	3.00pm

A Sure Start Children's Centre



The Limes Nursery School and Children's Centre are now running a drop in play session at Crofts End Church.

Come and join Jane and Nia on Tuesday mornings 9.30-11am.

The group is open to all parents and carers in the local area, it's free to attend (voluntary contribution of £1 per family)

For more information please contact The Limes on ☎ 0117 9030317

Arts at St Aidan's



PROGRAMME JANUARY TO JUNE 2011

All Concerts Start at 7.30pm

Tuesday 11th January: Alan Spedding's Jazzmen
The jazz and swing band back by popular demand.

www.alansjazzmen.com

Tuesday 8th February: Flanders and Swann
James Mitchell and Grahame O'Conner present their popular tribute to the classic comic revue duo.

www.twoblokes.com

Tuesday 8th March: The Sweenies Barbershop Quartet with special guest Nicky Johns –singer-songwriter. www.nickyjohns.co.uk

Tuesday 12th April: The Arabic and Balkan Gypsy Band Middle Eastern melodies and exotic dance – a real hit from last year! www.arabicdrum.co.uk

Tuesday 10th May: The Smithy Singers 'Water, water everywhere!' Popular songs from musicals and Operetta.

Tuesday 14th June: Bristol Georgian Choir Folk songs and sacred chants from the Republic of Georgia. www.realvoice.co.uk

Tickets cost £7 or £6 concessions (students, over 60's, under 16's, claiming benefits). St Aidan's Church has been hosting successful monthly concerts and other arts events under the banner of 'Arts at St Aidan's' for eight years. This 100 year old church building features vibrant acoustics and a friendly club atmosphere for the concerts. We look forward to welcoming you in the upcoming season!

Become a Friend of Arts at St Aidan's: Membership is only £2.50 for twelve months! Come to any 5 concerts during your membership and get a FREE voucher for any concert of your choice. Membership can begin at any time of the year. Your membership card will be stamped at each concert that you attend.

Please send a cheque with an S.A.E. to Mark Gartside and Karl Stewart, 7 Chelsea Road, Easton, Bristol, BS5 6AR

St. George Community Fair

A Fair organised for Community Groups will take place at St Aidan with St George Church and Hall Fir Tree Lane/Nags Head Hill St George on

**Saturday 26th
March 2011
11.00am – 2.00pm**

Local Groups are invited to come and publicise what you do, attract new members, carry out some fund raising, and meet up with other Groups.

In 2010, the first Community Fair was opened by Kerry McCarthy MP for Bristol East, and included Groups representing Education, Young people, older residents, Leisure and Recreation, Local History, Faith Groups, Community based City Council Services, Local Councillors representing the St George Wards, Community based Police, and in addition, supported Children's Hospice South West by also raising more than £350

If you are involved with a Community based group or Organisation operating in the St George area, and are interested in finding out more, please contact Jim Donaldson by phone 0117 9600213 or email bycl@blueyonder.co.uk. The Fair will again be supporting Children's Hospice South West.

Did you know victims and witnesses of crime can get free confidential support and information across Bristol and Avon?

We are

**victim
support**



We provide free and confidential help to victims of crime, witnesses, and their families. We are not a government agency or part of the police, and you don't have to have reported a crime to the police to get our help. You can call us any time after the crime has happened, whether it was yesterday, last week or several years ago.

If you have been a victim of any crime or have been affected by a crime committed against someone you know, we can help you to come through the experience.

If you're upset or worried about a crime, it can really help to talk to someone. Maybe someone is harassing you, hurting you or has stolen something from you? Perhaps you're not the victim but you know that a friend or someone in your family is having problems. If so then Victim Support can help you.

If you have not reported the crime, we can help you make a decision about whether to report the crime by discussing with you the benefits and consequences of informing the police. That way you have the information you need to make a decision that's right for you.

Did you know – If you become a victim of crime, you may be able to get financial compensation?

Court-awarded compensation

If an offender is convicted of a crime against you, the court may order them to pay you compensation.

Criminal injuries compensation

If you have been injured by a violent crime, you can apply for compensation under the government's criminal injuries compensation scheme.

It does not matter whether the offender has been caught, but there are other rules which affect your chances of getting any money. We will be able to explain the eligibility criteria and give you guidance on how to make a claim. Many legal firms offer to help with claims for criminal injuries compensation but most charge a fee - we'll help you free of charge.

Do you want to help us?

Our trained volunteers offer:

- someone to talk to **in confidence**
- information on police and court procedures
- help in dealing with other organisation
- information about **compensation and insurance**
- Support when giving evidence in court
- links to **other sources of help**

Volunteers are extremely important to the services that Victim Support and the Witness Service provide. Volunteers outnumber staff in Victim Support and the Witness Service by about four to one, and are vital to the work of our charity

As a volunteer you could help in a number of ways:

1. Working with victims in your community

You'll be trained in how to support a victim from their initial meeting with you until they feel strong enough to move forward themselves. You'll listen to their concerns and needs and work, if needed, with other agencies to make sure that victims can find solutions.

2. Supporting witnesses at court

Going to court can be a daunting and scary experience. You'll be trained to deal sensitively with both defence and prosecution witnesses to be able to provide a friendly face, support and information during a trial.

3. and... other ways to help

We would love to hear from you if you would like to help us give talks to local groups and schools, or help us with our much needed fundraising. Whatever your interest, we have a role which will suit you.

We welcome people from all sections of our communities to help us in our work. You don't need qualifications or previous experience to volunteer for Victim Support. All you need is willingness to help and a little time. We will do the rest.

Contact us now

However you want to help, we'd like to hear from you. Call Victim Support on ☎ **0117 9631114**

If you have been a victim of crime and would like support, call us on

☎ **0845 4566 099** or email ✉ admin.avonvale@victimsupport.org.uk



Money, Money, Money!



Urgent use it or lose it!

Over £20,000 is available for projects to benefit people in St George

Get details from:

✉ abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk or phone him on ☎ **0117 903 6409**

Some successful applications we have supported:

£420 - a weekly wheelchair accessible bus service taking people from Hillside Court to shops

£1,500 to design a new skate park in St George and look at ideas for a bandstand

£500 - Meadow Vale Community Fun Day

£500 - Chairs at Summerhill Methodist Church for community use



Walking can be fun!

Do you enjoy walking but would like company to go with?

Would you like to walk but need to try out short walks first? Have you been told that walking would improve your health but don't really relish the idea? A group will soon be starting up in St George that may be just the thing for you!

'Walking for Health Bristol' is a health walks programme which provides people with the opportunity to take part in short, safe, sociable walks within local communities.

It is part of a nationwide scheme and there is a cluster of groups already operating around Bristol. Now, thanks to a grant from the Quartet Community Foundation and Active Bristol and with the support of Friends of Troopers Hill, we will be launching our group in May with two 'tasters'.

Walk 1 will be on Wednesday May 11th starting from St George Labour Club in Beaconsfield Road, and walking around St George Park and Avon View cemetery.

Walk 2 will follow on Monday May 23rd starting from Wesley Memorial Church Hall, Bryant's Hill, and exploring Magpie Bottom.

Each event will start at 10 am with a welcome and after our walk we will return to the venue for refreshments.

These walks are FREE and OPEN to EVERYONE so please come and join us! If you have concerns about health issues or anything else, you can call our health walks officer, Nicola on ☎ **0117 352 1283** or email ✉ nicola.ferris@bristol.gov.uk or your local contact Clare on ☎ **0117 941 4514** or email ✉ clarewillott15@googlemail.com

Secure Your Property

Have you looked at your house with security in mind? Are there ways to help prevent a burglary in your home?

Most burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves. In one quarter of all burglaries committed they don't even have to use force - they get in through an open door or window.

The most common items stolen are laptops, mobile phones, MP3 players, games consoles, money and jewellery. A third of all burglaries involve the theft of a laptop.

Look at your home through the burglar's eyes - are there places where they could break in unseen? Have you fitted strong locks on your windows? Would they have to make a lot of noise by breaking glass?

Take simple precautions such as locking windows and doors when you go out even if just stepping next door or out in the garden. Also use a light timer and do not leave large amounts of cash around your home.

Look at your house to identify places where you can deter the thief by improving the security.

You will find on the Avon and Somerset Web-site a wide range of useful information to help you in when looking at your home security.

Your local neighbourhood policing Team would of course be very happy to provide any assistance towards making your home more secure. Please feel free to contact us on ☎ **0845 4567000**, via the local pages on the Avon and Somerset Constabulary Web-Site or by email at ✉ SSNbristoleastnpt@avonandsomerset.police.uk

We are dedicated to making you safe and feel safe In St George.

PS Darren Warr. St George Neighbourhood Policing Team

Design – npcreative • ✉ random_nightclub@yahoo.co.uk