What's On....What's On....What's On....What's On....What's On....

Oh Yes it is - Pantomime in AG!

Fri 27th / Sat 28th January - Stage 27 presents The Wicked Witches of Oz! Methodist Church Hall, Botteville Road. A real family treat on our doorstep. Join Dorothy as she takes a perilous journey across Oz to reach the famous Wizard with her friends Toto, Scarecrow, Tinman and... Aslan the Lion! (yes he's in the wrong story), whilst trying to dodge two hairy old witches and get back home to Aunty Em and her stinky chicken farm. Why not come dressed up as your favourite character? Witches-of-Oz style or otherwise! Tickets £6/£19 Family.

More info at www.stage27.co.uk or phone 0751 212 6594.

Tuesday 14th February 2pm. Acocks Green Library *Acocks Green Local History Society presents*: Mary Bodfish: Beer, bets and bull-baiting. New people always welcome for an insight into our local history.

Saturday 11th March, 10am Tree Planting at Acocks Green Recreation Ground - planting fruit trees and a jam hedge with Birmingham Trees for Life and the 260th Birmingham Scout Group. All helpers welcome.

Acocks Green Carnival Saturday 1st July - Get Involved and Keep it Going! Did you know Acocks Green Carnival is over 40 years old? In the last four decades the carnival has seen many changes and developments, but 2017 could see some of its biggest challenges yet. In austere times how does Acocks Green fund a large scale community celebration? The Big Lottery has awarded Acocks Green Carnival a small grant to explore these challenges and hopefully develop solutions to ensure the carnival continues to takes place in 2017 and beyond. The Carnival team are looking for individuals who have an interest in Acocks Green to join them and share their views. You could be a local resident, run a local charity or community group or just want to get more involved in this local celebration in some way. Get in touch if you would like to play a part or find out more: Acocks Green Carnival - acocksgreencarnival@yahoo.com

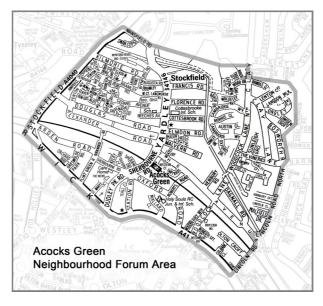
Saturday 4th February - AG Carnival 'New Logo' Creative Session Feeling creative? or know creative young people? Help the AG Carnival team Design a New Logo! A family-friendly creative session to help design and choose a new logo for our Carnival. Acocks Green Library: 2.00-4.00pm. Everyone welcome.



For more local news and information subscribe to www.acocks-neighbourhood-forum.org.uk

Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

January 2017



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 other organisations for the good of Acocks Green.

We also aim to inform local people about what is happening in the area and encourage involvement in actiivities within our community.

We hold regular public meetings and warmly welcome local people to come along and find out more about local issues and what is going on in our neighbourhood.

The next **Public Meeting** is on **Tuesday 24th January at 7.30pm** at the Glynn Edwards Baptist Church Hall, Yardley Road. There will be a presentation by West Midlands Fire Service. The Neighbourhood Police Team will also be present as well as other representatives, including local councillors. There will be an opportunity for people to share their views and any concerns.

Refreshments will also be served, so why not come along and find out more about what is going on in your local area?



West Midlands Fire Service Presentation

The Neighbourhood Forum welcome a presentation from the fire service which will look at fire safety and risks within the home. They also offer Safe and Well visits where they visit individuals at home to carry out an assessment and also talk about a variety of subjects related to the well-being of that person.

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

They aso offer the chance for people to become community members where they will receive

regular updates of what the fire service are doing and provide the opportunity to attend events and have their say in how the service works with the community.

Neighbourhood Concerts and Community Celebration Project

At our meeting Nicola Toms from *Arts in the Yard* will give an update on an exciting new project involving our local music school Kimichi and a series of musical events that are planned for Acocks Green this year. Come along to find out more.



Are You a Litter-Hater ???

Why not make 2017 the year you help to do something about it! At the Neighbourhood Forum we definitely hate litter and hope that we can all rally against the wave of litter on our streets and the inconsiderate people who drop it.

Birmingham City Council will support community litter picks by supplying equipment and arranging for rubbish to be taken away. So why not talk to your neighbours and work together to tidy up your street or area that you care about?



Email: wasteprevention@birmingham.gov.uk for information.

You could also join the **People Against Litter (PAL)** group. Pledge to pick up at least one piece of litter a week and sign up at www.peopleagainstlitter.org.

STOP PRESSFriends of Acocks Green Recreation Ground have just started a monthly litter pick at the park. The next is Sat 4th Feb at 10am. Equipment provided. New people VERY welcome.

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)

Another Bloomin' Good Night! Sat 4th March Westley Hotel 7.30pm Tickets £12

Following the sell-out success of last year's Village in Bloom Fund Raising Social Evening, all systems are go for another great night out. The popular 4 piece **Canoe** will be playing some great tunes from across the decades to the current day. There will be a light-hearted quiz, a raffle



with lots of top prizes as well as a buffet. The night will be compèred by George 'Mad Jocks' Gallagher. Come along for a great social night.

Tickets £12 available from **Jeffries Hardware** and **S&H Jewellers**. All profits go to the continued work of Village in Bloom.

For more info about Bloom or if want to offer help or need advice then contact the co-ordinator: **Fran Lee** on **0121 706 0076** or email **fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk**

Adopt a Stretch of Canal Clean Up. Saturday 29th January 10am Meet at Vineries Bridge, Woodcock Lane.

A group of volunteers meet up a few times a year to help improve the local canal, working with the support of the Canals and Rivers Trust who

supply all the equipment needed and lots of support and guidance on what to do. At the last meeting the volunteers planted around 500 spring bulbs. This time there is debris to clear out of the brook that feeds



Keeping people, nature & history connected

into the canal as well as other tidying up, painting signs, graffiti removal etc. Why not come along and find out how you can help improve our area as well as meet some friendly people. New volunteers are always welcome. And you might even spot our local kingfisher!

Food Bank Open Tuesday & Friday 10 am - 12 noon.

Who do they help? Anyone in crisis who lives in or around Acocks Green. Sometimes it's just an unexpected bill. Sometimes it's illness or benefit sanctions. Whatever the issue they want to help people by providing a warm welcome and a listening ear as well as helping people to feed themselves for a few days.

Their aim is to try to help to move people on from crisis into a more positive future.



Where? Acocks Green Christian Centre, Rear of 100 Westley Road, Acocks Green, B27 7UL Tel: 0121 707 2853