

Bournville, Stirchley, Cotteridge & Kings Norton

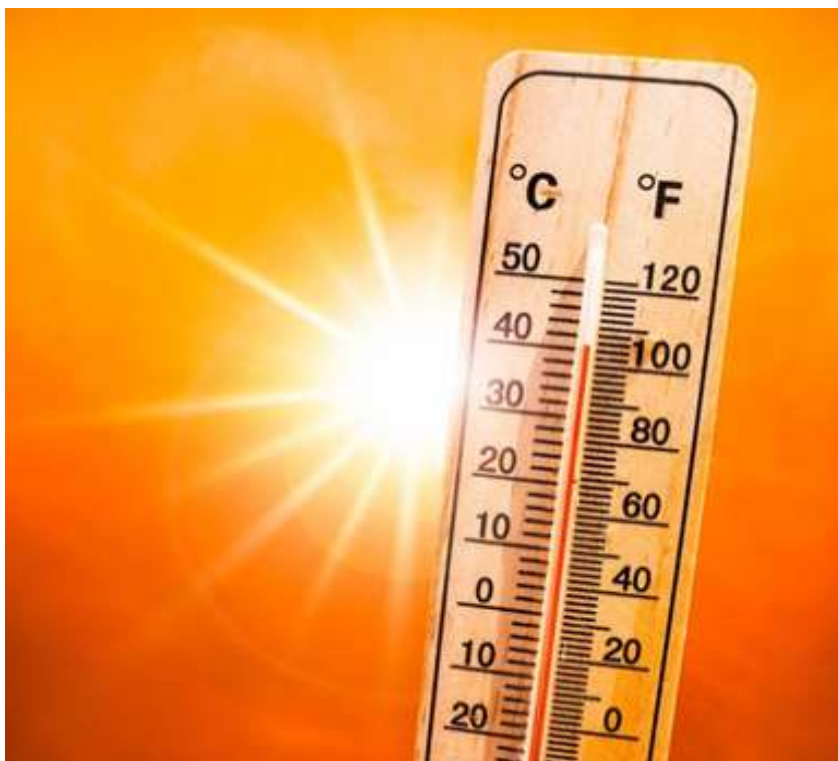


Points



The bi-monthly mini-magazine of Churches Together in Birmingham 30

The Weather



The Impact of Changing Weather in the UK

Most of us would recognise that the weather in the United Kingdom is changing as a result of climate change. Although the UK should continue to experience its traditional changeable weather, temperatures are rising and extreme weather events are becoming more likely. The Met Office projects that the UK will generally experience warmer and wetter winters, hotter and drier summers, and more frequent or intense weather extremes.



One of the most significant impacts is increasing temperatures and heatwaves. Hot weather can be dangerous, particularly for older people and those with existing health problems. The UK Health Security Agency reports that climate change is making extreme heat more significant as a public-health risk. Heatwaves can increase pressure on hospitals and other health services, while also affecting people's mental health and wellbeing.



Another major impact is increased rainfall and flooding. Climate projections indicate that heavy rainfall is likely to become more intense, particularly during winter. This increases the risk of river, surface-water and coastal flooding. Flooding can damage homes, businesses, roads and railway lines, causing major financial costs and disruption to communities. It can also have long-term effects

on people's mental health because residents may experience stress, anxiety and displacement after losing or damaging their homes.

Agriculture is also being affected by changing weather. Warmer temperatures and longer growing seasons could allow farmers to grow some crops that were previously difficult to produce in the UK. However, droughts, heatwaves, heavy rainfall and flooding can damage crops, reduce yields and make farming less predictable. Recent government evidence highlights the risks that flooding poses to farmland, including

damage to soil, crops and livestock.

Changing weather can also affect the UK's natural environment.



Warmer temperatures may allow some plants, insects and pests to spread into new areas, while species that depend on cooler conditions may struggle. Drought and heat can increase the risk of wildfires, while changing rainfall patterns can put pressure on water supplies. Rising sea levels also increase the long-term risk of coastal flooding.

There are also important economic and infrastructure impacts. Extreme heat can damage roads and railway tracks, while storms and floods can disrupt transport and businesses. Local authorities and the government therefore need to invest in flood defences, resilient buildings, improved drainage and better emergency planning. At the same time, reducing greenhouse-gas emissions is essential to limit the scale of future climate change.



Changing weather is already having significant effects across the UK. Hotter summers, wetter winters, heavier rainfall and more extreme weather can affect health, agriculture, the environment, homes and the economy. Although some changes may create opportunities, the overall risks are serious. The UK will need to adapt to unavoidable changes while continuing to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. Effective planning and investment today can help protect communities and reduce the impacts of increasingly unpredictable weather in the future

Drought Tolerant Planting

The big shift is to stop thinking purely in terms of “**drought-tolerant plants**”. In much of the UK, the really useful plants now are those that can handle **wet, cold winters followed by hot, dry summers**. The RHS specifically recommends selecting plants for these fluctuating conditions rather than simply choosing Mediterranean plants, which can suffer badly if their roots sit in wet winter soil.

Top choices for the changing UK climate

Plant	Hot/dry summer	Wet winter	Notes
Iris sibirica	☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆	One of the best all-rounders
Bistorta amplexicaulis	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Long-flowering, very tough
Cornus alba (dogwood)	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆	Excellent winter stems
Physocarpus	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Attractive foliage + flowers
Rosa rugosa	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Extremely tough rose
Astrantia	☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆	Excellent for heavier/moist soil
Hy-lotelephium (sedum)	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆	Loves heat once established
Deciduous Agapanthus	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Excellent summer flowers
Apple/pear	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Good fruit-tree choices
Blackcurrant	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	Particularly reliable
Thyme/oregano/sage	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆	Fantastic in well-drained soil
Rosemary	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆	Needs excellent drainage

The RHS's own recommendations for soils that swing from wet to dry include

Iris sibirica, Bistorta, Euphorbia palustris, Lythrum, and deciduous Agapanthus, while its shrub recommendations include **Cornus, Physocarpus** and **Rosa rugosa**.

🌿 If you want shrubs that basically look after themselves

Here are some recommendations:

- **Cornus alba 'Sibirica'** — brilliant red stems in winter, flowers and berries in summer.
- **Physocarpus opulifolius** — tough, attractive foliage and flowers.
- **Rosa rugosa** — exceptionally hardy, fragrant flowers and hips for wildlife.
- **Hydrangea paniculata** — a better choice than the traditional mophead hydrangeas if you have a sunny, moisture-retentive garden. The RHS has recently highlighted how badly many hydrangeas are suffering in hotter, drier summers.

Apple and pear trees — among the fruit trees the RHS considers best suited to fluctuating wet/dry conditions.



For a colourful perennial border

You could build a border around:

Iris sibirica + Bistorta + Astrantia + Hylotelephium + deciduous Agapanthus

That gives a nice mixture of plants that tolerate moisture, cope with summer dryness once

established, and flower at different times. The RHS specifically identifies these sorts of plants for seasonally wet/dry soils.

For a sunny, drier section, add **thyme, sage, oregano, rosemary and sedums**. Mediterranean herbs are particularly good at coping with hot, dry weather.

One important warning: don't automatically plant lavender, rosemary, cistus, santolina and other Mediterranean plants in a wet clay border. They're excellent

in drought but often hate having wet roots through winter. If your soil is heavy, put them on a **raised mound/raised bed with excellent drainage**. The RHS specifically recommends raised beds where winter waterlogging is a problem.



For vegetables and fruit

For a future-proof UK edible garden, consider:

- **Blackcurrants**
- **Apples**
- **Pears**
- **Runner beans** — with irrigation/mulch during hot spells
- **Courgettes**
- **Squashes/pumpkins**



- **Thyme, sage, rosemary and oregano**
- **Perpetual spinach/chard**
- **Kale**

For particularly hot summers, the RHS is currently recommending Mediterranean herbs such as **thyme, rosemary, sage and oregano**, which cope considerably better with heat and drought than soft-leaved herbs such as coriander and parsley.

When to plant.

September is actually a **very good time** in the UK. The soil is still warm, while autumn rain gives new plants a chance to establish roots before next summer. The RHS recommends autumn planting for hardy plants in these wet-winter/dry-summer conditions.

So if I were planting a UK garden this autumn, my shortlist would be: **Cornus alba** → **Physocarpus** → **Rosa rugosa** → **Iris sibirica** → **Bistorta** → **Astrantia** → **Hylotelephium** → **deciduous Agapanthus** → **apple/pear** → **blackcurrant**.



And I'd mulch heavily with good compost, because improving the soil's structure helps it cope with both extremes — holding moisture during drought while improving conditions for roots.



Feeling under the weather?



During this summer of 2026 we certainly felt the weather.

What will you remember?

5 heatwaves. No rain for 2 months. Scary wildfires. Scorched earth parks. Streams run dry. Worried farmers.

Or.....beautiful daily blue skies and sunshine. Eating outside every evening. Paddling pools and excited children. Huge crops of strawberries and tomatoes. Not having to even think about coats!

I'm on the scary side.

Last week I went to watch the "People's Emergency Briefing" which is a 50 minute climate emergency documentary presented by Chris Packham, (<https://www.nebriefing.org/the-film>) screened widely across the UK to explain the physical, societal, and security risks of climate and nature breakdown. It supports the broader campaign for a televised national emergency briefing to mobilize a wartime scale response to the climate and nature crisis. What it shows is the connection between weather and climate. Between our daily experience and our future existence.

Do you remember the hymn with the lines

"After the sun the rain. After the rain the sun"?

Except our world isn't as delightfully predictable as that any more.

Our abuse of this wonderful planet – the only planet that we know that supports life in our universe - has meant that our weather will no longer be divided into the predictable seasons that we learnt about and sang about as children.



Weather is Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Climate is the wet season and the dry season. Weather is what we see out of the window each morning. Climate is the Floods and the Droughts. Weather is slugs on my cabbages. Climate is the UK being one of the most nature depleted countries on the globe,



We still have time to slow the pace of climate heating, to cut carbon emissions, to shift to clean energy, and support those who are most vulnerable to climate change in rising temperatures and rising seas. But very little time.

Every little helps.

Every church with solar panels on its roof, heat pumps installed, electric vehicles for staff. But. BUT.....the depressing thing about that climate film was that most people know most of it already.

The most depressing thing was that the politicians aren't moving faster doing the things we can't do as individuals. We have to support those politicians who will leave fossil fuels in the ground.

Then, and only then, can we sing the first line of the hymn quoted above, "Glad that I live am I and the sky is blue."

Helen Gale



St Christophers church Roseville, MS



St Michael and All Angels in Withington, Gloucestershire, claims to be the country's first zero-carbon church with solar panels mounted on the hidden section of the flat roof

Water Water Everywhere...

It was said that Queen Elizabeth had a bath once a month whether she needed one or not.

Our grandparents had a bath once a week and the bathwater was shared so there was a strict rotation with the father first and the youngest child last. Can you imagine the colour of the water? and the temperature would have been cold!

Otherwise, people generally washed their hands and face, sometimes with scented water. Hair was rarely cleaned. In the bible

it was important to be presentable at the meal table which meant hands



and feet had to be clean following a strict procedure which Jesus railed against on many occasions.

In recent years we have become obsessed with washing. We shower in the morning. We shower in the evening. We shower after playing sports. We have a hot tub in the garden. We have multiple bathrooms and toilets in our houses whereas our grandparents had outside shared toilets and a zinc bath. Our grandparents used about 15 gallons of water

each day. We use about 36 gallons of water each day!

We complain about our water bills. Yet we buy bottled water. Bottled water costs between £2.00 to £15.00 per gallon, whereas tap water costs £0.003 (one third of a penny). Bottled water uses single use plastics and has a major environmental impact compared to tap water at zero cost. Bottled water has to undergo very few tests whereas tap water undergoes more than forty tests. You don't like the taste of tap water, I hear you say? then why not keep a jug of tap water for drinking chilled in your fridge.

John Slevin

The Wind of the Spirit

Listen to the wind jostling autumnal leaves,
rustling a trail of movement across the valley,
unmistakable in its passing.

Watch the branches, gently waving in the breeze,
stillness, trembling, then a dancing dynamic.

Unseen power inducing movement,
encountered as a gentle caress on the cheek,
ruffling hair,
stirring the air,

An undoubted existence,
feather-gentle or raging gusts.

So with God's Spirit,
a gentle murmuring or a forceful gale,
unseen, yet tracking through our lives,
blowing where it will.

Be still.

listen for the wind of the Spirit.
Watch its impact passing through life after life,
enabling the seemingly impossible.

Be still and know
that the Spirit of God has blown this way,
unmistakable in its journeying

Rev Ros Murphy

The Weather and Me

Whether the weather be fine,
Or whether the weather be not,
Whether the weather be cold,
Or whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather,
Whatever the weather,
Whether we like it or not!

Enough cliché - Let's begin with the Bible:

It is estimated that there are over 1,400 references to 'the weather' mentioned in the Bible. Needless to say, I am not going to try and summarise them, but here are two well-known ones:

Genesis 7:11-12 Firstly, a reference regarding weather in the Old Testament begins:

'In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.'



Luke 8:23–25 Secondly, a reference in the New Testament:

'Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. But as they sailed, he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, 'Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.'



KJV quotes

The pub

In England, at least, the weather is unpredictable and is often the subject of discussion and speculation, particularly in pubs. Patrons normally live quite close to each other and so experience more or less the same weather, so have at least that in common. We all know (or think we know) a bit about the weather, so it's an easy topic of conversation. Unlike politics, money, or religion, talking about a sudden storm or the temperature change is unlikely to cause offence. And finally, it is of course - the ultimate icebreaker.

The weather forecast

We always watch the News and the Weather Forecast – they invariably go together. We like to see the presenters. Mrs Mowgli and I often discuss their dress sense. Something along the lines: 'They had that dress on last week, that dress looks 'busy'. That jacket's short and no tie! We also comment on how nice they look. And yes, we do listen to the weather forecast and plan our days accordingly. A question which often arises in our house is: Do the weather presenters get a clothing allowance?



DIY forecast

As well as watching the professional weather forecasters, we try to do a bit of forecasting ourselves. I wish I knew more about clouds and how they can be used to predict the weather. We can do the obvious like – looking for a dark cloud to see if it's going to rain. We also have an aneroid barometer on the wall. It's about 100 years old and belonged to my grandad. Each day I give the glass a little tap, so the blue pointer shows the current barometric pressure. Then I turn the central knob to move the silver arrow over the blue pointer. The next day I can see if the pressure has gone up or down. A rising pressure means the forecast is good. A falling pressure means bad weather is on the way.



What's the news

When I wake up in the morning, I ask the smart speaker, 'What's the news' and 'What's the weather forecast'. It listens to my question and tells me the answer. Then I go back to sleep!

Mowgli

THE LONG HOT SUMMER OF '76 by Jack Finch

Many years on we look back to that summer,
And, with fond memory, recall
The long unending weeks of blue skies and sun -
That blazing sun, that golden ball.

It seemed to be quite endless, and we relished
That summer of 'seventy six',
The ever open windows, and outdoor life,
Holiday, sea and country mix.

A break of a week or two could bring relief
To children with family stress,
Also to those with asthma or bronchitis,
Deafness, or with any illness.

How can we begin to heal and understand?
Simple things have their part to play -
Good food, sound sleeps, fun, sand in the sandals,
Games in the field, wades in the bay.

Thirteen pairs of socks in the washing machine,
As thirteen heads on pillows lay.
Thirteen pairs of shoes waiting each morning, then
Thirteen breakfasts, another day.

Musical instruments, with no skill required,
Feeding rabbits and guinea pigs,
Playing in rock pools, and peering into caves,
Beach ball games, and sand castle digs.

Collecting hens' eggs, climbing the House on Stilts,
Puppet theatre, sand pit play;
Minibus visits to other seaside towns,
Quizzes and singing on the way.

Cleaning ducks' houses, table football,
Painting posters, and daily walks;
Gardening for older children, stilts for all,
Roller skating, crayons, and chalks.

At chilton Farmhouse, on hot summer evenings,
And Kent beaches, on winter days,
Memories linger still of sounds of children.
Always may they linger – always.

Not Sunshine again!!

Last summer it was sweltering! The greenhouse lay empty as it was too warm to grow the usual summer veg. The nights were challenging. Generally it was too hot to do very much apart from an afternoon siesta.

The weather people have noticed that El Nino will create another long, wet winter and another hot dry summer next year

What can we do to mitigate the effects of the changing weather pattern? - Winterwise

Winter and heavy downpours can cause flash flooding. In Cumbria more native trees were planted on the hills to prevent the torrents of water eroding the hillside; this concept can be encouraged on any hillside. But Birmingham is a conurbation and it doesn't have a major river like many cities.

Birmingham's location in the middle of the country means we tend to get the tail end of rain coming in from the west and snow coming in from the East. So should we feel relatively secure?

Unfortunately, block paving and tarmac cover huge swathes of the city; this is particularly prominent in new housing developments where the footprint of houses tends to be much smaller with a garden to match, only big enough (if you're lucky) for a barbeque and a trampoline!



Tarmac and block paving cause water to run off into the streets and can fill the drains in minutes.

Instead of block paving we could consider installing permeable paving topped with grass or chippings which you can drive and walk on and at the same time allow the rainwater to percolate into the ground and minimise the flooding.

Would we still need to consider flood alleviation schemes and creating a reservoir in Bournville Park

or Manor Farm Park? Serious consideration needs to be given to grey water capture and recycling.

Watering plants and washing cars with treated water pumped into your house is a relatively expensive way of using water. But imagine a water tank below your garden or your permeable drive, which collected rainwater in the rainy months. This could be used to flush the toilets, wash the car, water the plants; and if a UV lamp was installed to neutralise the bacteria, you could also use rainwater in your washing machine to clean your clothes. Such scenarios already exist in other parts of the world, in particular Australia and the US.



What can we do to mitigate the effects of the changing weather pattern? – Summer

Initially we basked in the fine hot weather. But most of us can only tolerate extreme heat for two weeks a year on holiday where, if we are lucky, a coastal location will keep us cool with

gentle sea breezes.

There are some basic things we can do:
Keep all internal doors, windows and curtains closed during the day. This will prevent the warmer spaces heating up the cooler spaces. Purchase a temperature monitor which has a remote sensor, this allows you to check outside (in the shade) and inside (bedroom) temperatures. In the evening when the outside temperature drops below the inside temperature then you can open all the curtains, blinds and windows and generate a draught which will help you achieve a good night's sleep.



We could consider changing our habits, an earlier start in the cooler part of the day allows us to avoid the sun. Ask yourself why people in hot countries take a siesta? Traditionally they went to bed late and got up early. So they were actually having two lots of four hours of sleep which the body is happy doing. So perhaps we need to

emulate them. Having said all that, siestas are less common since the arrival of air conditioning because siestas were not practical from a business perspective.

But is air conditioning an expensive luxury! Well, from October to April we use our heating systems! But those people living in hotter climates rarely need additional heating. Should keeping your house warm or cool be considered a luxury or for many elderly a medical necessity. Installing solar panels would give you energy to heat your house in winter, and then, when there is plenty of summer energy available, to run an aircon unit to keep your bedroom cool at night!



Gardens suffered badly this summer in the dry conditions. Here are some simple water capture hints to think about: Install water barrels and keep them topped up during the wet months.

Always use a washing up bowl and stop

using the dishwasher. The washing up water can be used in the garden.

Modify the water outlet pipe from your washing machine and capture the water for the garden, the plants don't mind the bubbles and the soapy detergent can help eliminate the greenfly.

Consider drought resistant planting, although not necessarily mediterranean planting.

Mulch the top soil which minimises the moisture evaporation from the soil.

Water in the evening when it is cooler.

Keep the weeds down.



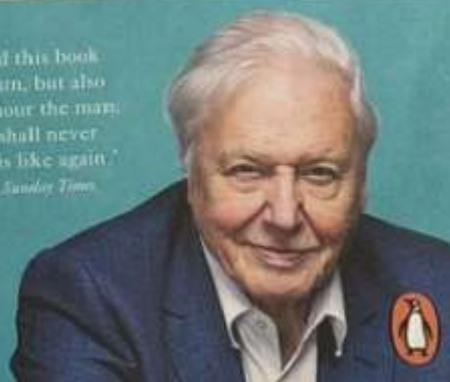
THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

A Life on Our Planet

My Witness Statement and
a Vision for the Future

David
Attenborough

'Read this book
to learn, but also
to honour the man.
We shall never
see his like again.'
The Sunday Times



I've had an extraordinary life. It's only now that I appreciate how extraordinary.

As a young man, I felt I was out there in the wild, experiencing the untouched natural world – but it was an illusion. The tragedy of our time has been happening all around us, the loss of our planet's biodiversity.

I have been witness to this decline. *A Life on Our Planet* contains the story of how we came to make this, our greatest mistake, and how, if we act now, we can yet put it right.

Bournville Lunchtime Concerts - Fridays at 1pm

Coming up this Autumn ...

2 October

Frank Stubbs (trumpet) & Darren Hogg (piano)
Featuring music by Purcell, Vivaldi, Beethoven, Alexander
Arutiunian and Harry James

16 October

Duncan Honeybourne (piano)

6 November

Noor Bhatia (soprano) & Thomas Hawkey-Soar (tenor)

20 November

Emma Capp (cello) & Liz Larner (guitar)

4 December

Keith Hearnshaw (organ)

18 December

James Brawn (piano)

Join our Concerts mailing list!

Scan here or send an email to
bournvillelunchtimeconcerts@gmail.com



What's On



Bournville
Village Trust

Shenley Court Hall

MONDAY

Harborne Heartbeat - 9:30 - 10:30am
Gentle circuit training call John 0121 624 2540

Lunch Club (also on Wednesday's)
Home cooked 2 course meals - social and play games 11am - 1pm
Booking required £7.50 each - cash only
call 0121 475 7521

TUESDAY

Xpress Yourself FREE
Free, fun dance class 1:15 - 2:15pm
Call Faye 07984 423 534

St Johns Ambulance
First Aid training for ages 10 - 17
8:30pm
Booking essential - visit www.sja.org.uk

WEDNESDAY

CapFit Classes Morning and evening
class 9:30am - 10:30am & 7:30 - 8:30pm
Beginner friendly circuit training class
First class free, £7 per session thereafter.
Call Caprice on 07561 701 023

Easy Yoga

A slow paced Hatha Yoga class aimed
at beginners and intermediate
To book, call Mike on 07922 293 850

Thrive - FREE Seated Exercise Class
(From September 2026)

Improve mobility and strength with our
seated exercise class - 1:30 - 2:30pm
(limited time only) for more info 0121
805 3444

THURSDAY

Art club - Relaxed painting with company
10am - 12pm

Shenley Seniors - A social group for over
50's 12pm - 2pm. No need to book £2pp

Youth Club FREE - 6:15 - 8:15pm - to book
call Felicha on 07564554512

FRIDAY

Minikidz - FREE stay and play group 9:45 -
11:30pm. Suitable for babies and pre-
schoolers

Shenley Welcomes FREE - 1:30 - 3:30pm
Free group to practise speaking English -
conversation cafe with refreshments. All
welcome

SATURDAY/SUNDAY

Slimming World - Saturday

A supportive weight loss group 8:30am -
11am for more information call Denise
07973 899 274

Sewing Sessions FREE - Saturday 11am -
1pm/1:30 - 3:30pm contact
kafibab@gmail.com 07448 172 792

Shenley Community Church - Sunday
10:15 - 12:30pm
www.shenleycommunitychurch.org.uk

For hall enquiries
Sch@bvt.org.uk
0121 475 7521



Find out more about
activities in the area,
follow Bournville Village
Trust Communities
group page

Community Coffee Morning

Come along for a chat, a cuppa
and some good company

Every 1st Wednesday of the month from
10 am till 12 noon
at



St Joseph's Parish Hall
Station Rd, Kings Norton.
B30 1JG

No need to be alone.
Friendly conversation

A supportive, informal atmosphere for carers and their
family, those bereaved or alone and a chance to meet
others.

Tea, Coffee, Biscuits, maybe some Cake!

All welcome no need to book.
1st session Wednesday October 7th
10-12

For further information contact
comostjo@gmail.co

Bournville Folk Dance Club presents

A BARN DANCE/CEILIDH

Saturday 7th November 2026

7.30-10.30 pm

**ST Francis Church, Sycamore Road
Bournville B30 2AA**

Music by Fiddlers Elbow

Caller Mandy Nayak

Bring and Share Supper

Adults £10 Children £5 Family £22

Tickets on the door

or call Mandy 07531661066





AGES
50+
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Good company,
Great conversations,
Happy days!

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FRIENDLY COMPANY**

Friendly people, fun activities
and a warm welcome every week!



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& BISCUITS
Always
served!

WHAT'S ON?



MEET
Make friends
and lasting
connections



HAVE FUN
Enjoy a variety of
activities and
hobbies



INTERACT
Enjoy, chat and
learn from
others



ACTIVITIES
A diverse program
of activities
and hobbies

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME • FRIENDLY & INCLUSIVE



**SHENLEY
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

A place to meet, relax
and enjoy together.

WE MEET
EVERY THURSDAY!



12-2pm



SHENLEY COURT HALL
200 GREEN MEADOW ROAD
B29 4ED



Easily accessible with local
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available.

COMMUNITY & FUN!



We'd love
to see
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& GREAT
MEMORIES!

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BOURNVILLE PARISH CHURCH

COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

A GIFT TO OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026

12PM - 3PM

SYCAMORE ROAD B302AA

BOUNCY CASTLE CANDY FLOSS GLITTER
TATTOOS CRAFTS LIVE MUSIC FACE
PAINTING



BOURNVILLE
PARISH CHURCH



Inclusive
Church

Scouts

1st Kings Norton



1st Kings Norton Sea Scout Group

Scouts are do-ers and give-it-a-go-ers. Yes, we go camping, powerboating, swimming, climbing, hiking and kayaking.

But, we also find new adventures indoors too - hanging out with our friends every week, having fun, playing games, working in a team and taking on new challenges.

BEAVERS

6-8 years
Mondays, 5.00-6.00pm

cubs

8-10½ years
Mondays, 6.30-8.00pm

SCOUTS

10½-14 years
Tuesdays, 7.00-9.00pm

EXPLORERS

14-18 years
Wednesdays, 7.00-9.00pm

Volunteer



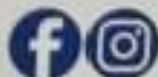
18+ years
Whatever time you can give!



Sign up and help your young person discover their 'thing': from paddleboarding to coding to performance art - and **everything** in between.

Meeting place:
Woodlands Park Hall,
B30 1AH

Find out more:
www.1stkingsnorton.org.uk
enquiries@1stkingsnorton.org.uk



*Looking for some ideas for reading?
Want to share your books with friends?*

The Cotteridge Book Group

*(members are current or previous members
of the Cotteridge Church)*

meets in the evening about once every 6 -8 weeks in
one of our own homes to discuss a selection of books –
mostly fiction, both classics and modern.

If you are interested and would like a look at this year's programme, please
email Helen Gale at
helenmgale@gmail.com



Foodbank

Urgently Needed

- Tinned/carton instant custard
- Small jars of instant coffee (not decaf)
- UHT long-life fruit juice (not needing refrigeration)
- Liquid/bars of soap/shampoo
- Tinned spaghetti
- Jam and honey
- Sugar (500g)
- Tinned fruit in juice (not rhubarb, prunes or grapefruit)
- Tinned meat /meat products
- Tinned fish
- Tinned soup
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned baked beans
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned tomatoes
- Pasta
- Rice
- Instant noodles
- Cereal (not greater than 500)
- Toothpaste
- Biscuits
- Sanitary towels

Lower in Stock

- Tinned rice pudding
- Rice (500g)
- Tinned fish (mackerel, tuna, sardines, salmon)
- Squash
- Tea bags (40's or 80's)
- tinned or packet vegetarian meals
- Toilet Rolls
- Tinned soup
- Washing up liquid
- Instant hot chocolate (not cocoa powder)
- Laundry powder/liquid
- Gender neutral shampoo and shower gel
- Chocolate bars
- Pastas shapes
- Instant potato
- Instant noodles
- Gender neutral shampoo and shower gel.
- UHT semi-skimmed milk
- UHT whole milk

Donations welcome

B30 and South Birmingham Foodbank
Charity Number 1197620
Lloyds Bank
Sort code 30 - 98- 97
account no. 68010562

HELPING LOCAL
PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Since January 2022 over 50,000 have been fed
with donated food
by over 100 volunteers and **NO** paid staff

Research has revealed the concerning signs of hardship deepening and becoming normalised in communities across the UK. 14.1 million people in the UK, including 3.8 million children, faced hunger in 2024 simply because they didn't have enough money to afford the essentials.

Clients needing food are referred to the foodbank by e-voucher through a referral agent or Citizens Advice 0808 208 2138 or call Birmingham City Council on 0121 216 3030

Distribution of food, Clients or their representatives will need to collect the parcels from B30 Foodbank Quaker Friends Meeting House 23a Watford Road B30 1JB on Tuesday and Friday between 1.30 and 3.30 pm

Enquiries info@b30.foodbank.org.uk

Donations to the B30 Foodbank at the Warehouse 17 Castle Road B30 3HZ on Tuesdays and Fridays between 2.00 and 4.00p

Phone lines for clients 07582 143 972 and for donations 07985 629 201

Or scan the QR code below and make a donation





● Drum ● Brass ● Woodwind ● Glockenspiel ●

Affordable low cost Music Group Group Performance Music Tuition

No experience required

Instrument provided

Age 8 to Adult

(No upper age limit)



07855520489

kingsnortonymb@gmail.com

Members of



Kings Norton Youth Marching Band

West Heath Community Centre, Condoval Road, Birmingham B31 3QY



BOURNVILLE
PARISH CHURCH



**PLACES OF
WELCOME**

**Free adult arts and crafts workshops
during Places of Welcome**



**1st October, 12th November,
10th December and 14th
January 10:30-12:30pm**

**Everyone welcome to join us
for arts and craft activities
and gentle conversations**



Free refreshments available

**At St Francis Church
Bournville**

**Any questions please contact
Helen on 07436021333**



**Birmingham Irish
ASSOCIATION**



Rowheath
Pavilion

FRIDAY NIGHT QUIZ

2ND & 4TH
FRIDAY OF
EVERY MONTH

CANCELLATIONS ANNOUNCED
ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

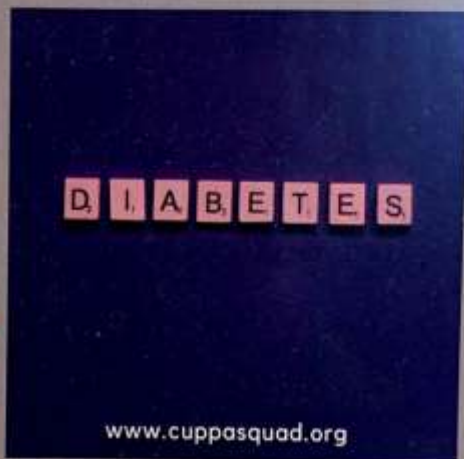
- ☐ ARRIVE FROM 6:30PM FOR 7PM START
 - ☐ £2 EACH (CASH PAYMENT ON THE DAY)
 - ☐ MAX TEAMS OF 6 - MUST PRE-BOOK
- ENJOY FOOD, DRINKS AND SNACKS FROM
THE BAR OPEN TIL 10PM!



SECURE YOUR
PLACE NOW



ANY OUTSIDE ALCOHOL IS PROHIBITED
AND WILL BE CONFISCATED.



LET'S GET MOTIVATED TO MANAGE OUR HEALTH & WELLBEING

Every 3rd Thursday from
12:30pm - 1:30pm

VISIT US AT

THE HUB ON THE GREEN

27 SYCAMORE ROAD, BOURNVILLE, B30 2AA

One More Challenge  #justmore

One More Challenge  #justmore

 **Cuppa Squad**
Where healthy gets happy



THE BOURNVILLE SOCIETY

PROGRAMME FOR 2026/2027

Meetings held in Dame Elizabeth Hall,
off Oak Tree Lane, B30 1UA, Bournville
on Wednesday evenings

7 Oct 2026	7.30pm	The Close, past, present and future Sue Smye
4 Nov 2026	7.30pm	Jewellery Quarter Regeneration Andy Murro
2 Dec 2026	7.30pm	Circus Days Alec Powell
3 Feb 2027	7.30pm	Celebrating Bournville: Legacy, Reflection, Inspiration Catherine Pinnock & Julie Farr
3 Mar 2027	7.45pm	William Bloye - Bir- mingham sculptor Viv Astling
7 Apr 2027	7.30pm	AGM
		The life of Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Caroline Cadbury
5 May 2027	Later start time 7.45pm	Brummagem Boats Julian Stanton
Date tba	Outing	William Bloye City Walk Viv Astling

Membership £15

Visitors Welcome £5 per meeting

For details contact

rosemaryshutt@talktalk.net or

jenny.shardlow@gmail.com

Tim, Mel & Friends Spirit Of Rosa

Are you interested in having a
musical group play at your
Community space or venue ?



If you are interested please
contact:

Tim - 07708382391



Read Easy

Birmingham South West
Helping adults to read

"Before I learned to read I could never have done the things I can do now, like reading signs, filling in forms, understanding labels at the supermarket, reading to my children."
Lucy - Graduate reader

Can you help us?

Volunteer with us as a coordinator or reading coach

Read Easy is a volunteer organisation which provides free and confidential one-to-one reading coaching for adults, usually in a public library. We have opportunities for volunteers to join the team in this area of Birmingham. We provide free training.

CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE FOR THE BETTER!

To find out more please contact:
Maigread: bswrecruiter@readeasy.org.uk
07969 169 696

© Read Easy UK. All Read Easy groups are legally and financially independent local organisations, affiliated to Read Easy UK (Registered Charity: 1151288)

Place of Welcome

Pavilion has a session every Friday morning with refreshments in the Rowheath Terrace Room.

There's lively conversation, drinks and snacks every Friday morning in Rowheath hall.



How do you join?

You just walk in anytime between 10.30 and 12.00 on Friday! But for Covid safety you must give contact details.

Why is this group happening?

The Places of Welcome network was set up in 2012 because of concerns about loneliness and isolation. We are proud to be part of this great initiative.



Musical Director
JAMES LLEWELYN-JONES



Christmas Concert

A Gift of Hope

Voices United against Breast Cancer

Thursday December 17th 7pm
Birmingham Town Hall

GUEST ARTISTES:

Samantha Oxborough

MEZZO SOPRANO

RGS Dodderhill School Choir

Ladies Fighting Breast
Cancer Choir

Gemini Brass

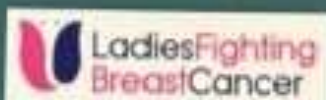
ENSEMBLE

Richard Dawson

ORGAN



Tickets
£8-£28



B:Music

An abstract painting with a dark blue background, featuring swirling, textured strokes of teal, green, yellow, and pink. The painting is mounted on a dark blue surface, possibly a book cover or a wall.

Bournville Art Club

In the heart of Bournville
Paint and relax in a creative
calm environment.
Adult beginners and advanced
painters welcome
Every Thursday 2pm-3.30pm
£35 all materials included
Refreshments available

Contact: Emma Richter
emmarichterarty@gmail.com
Mobile: 07549988474

The Cotteridge Church

You are invited ...



WORK SPACES AVAILABLE

BOARD GAMES

WELCOMING

FAMILY FILMS



24 Pershore Road South
Cotteridge
Birmingham
B30 3EJ

The Cotteridge Church

0121-433-5518

 administrator@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

#warmwelcome #wearecotteridge #community #thecotteridgechurch

Christmas Fayre



5th December 10.00 am— 1.00 pm



Warm Spaces

where people can gather for free in a warm, safe, welcoming place and enjoy a hot drink and some company.

Cotteridge Church

Monday -Friday

9.30 am –1.30 pm



Click on the different links below to find out what's happening in your church

(Ctrl + click on link)

<https://www.facebook.com/rowheath.pavilion/>

<https://ssjandh.org>

<https://bournvilleparishchurch.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/BournvilleParishChurchStFrancisOfAssisi/>

www.ascensionstirchley.com

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1AcRNVQWxJ/?mibextid=LQQJ4d>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Religious-Organization/Bournville-Quaker-Meeting/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Cotteridge-Quaker>

<https://cotteridgequakers.org.uk/>

<https://www.thecotteridgechurch.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCotteridgeChurch/>

<https://www.birminghammethodistcircuit.org.uk/church-page/st-andrews-b30>

<https://www.weoleyhillchurch.org.uk/links.php>

<https://www.birminghamvineyard.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/vineyardbham/>

<https://b30.foodbank.org.uk/>

<https://www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/news/>

<https://ctb30.org.uk/>

CHURCH CONTACTS

For further details of worship and/or activities at any of the churches please contact the people below:

- St. Andrew's Methodist Church
Rev Ping Ting Chen 448 9619
- Society of Friends, Bournville
Claire Bowman - 07753 635438
Room Hire,
bqmroombookings@gmail.com
<https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/room-bookings/bournville>
- St. Francis Church, Bournville
Rev Canon Richard Wharton - 472 7215
- Rowheath Pavilion Church
Office - 458 1711.
- Society of Friends, Cotteridge
Chris Martin - 475 2088
- The Cotteridge Church
Revd Tariro Mukoja - 443 1371
Revd. Roger Collins - 459 4009
or Church Office - 433 5518
- Ch of the Ascension Stirchley
Revd Tariro Mukoja - 443 1371
- Catholic Church of Ss Joseph and Helen
- Catholic Church of St Paul's
Father David Barry - 458 1236

“Points” is published by Churches Together in Birmingham 30 for the exchange of ideas and news. Opinions do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the churches as a group or individually.

Contact **“Points”**: c/o Mr John Slevin (Editor) 54 Bunbury Road, Northfield Birmingham, B31 2DW. E-mail: jslevin54@gmail.com Or ring the Editor, Mr John Slevin on 0121 476 1942.

Roger Bunce

Gill Broadhead

Editorial Committee:

Linda Mann

Next Issue's Focus will be

Making Things

All are invited to submit an article. If you wish to do so please send to the Editor by:

20 November