

FREE MONTHLY for people and businesses in Filton

April 2026 Issue 174

filtonvoice

www.filtonvoice.co.uk

Fish and chips ... delivered by robots!
Pages 8&9



PUZZLES PAGE 14 | FILTON TOWN COUNCIL PAGES 15-18 | WHAT'S ON PAGES 28&29

New railway station for North Filton named

The new railway station being built in North Filton has been officially named: Bristol Brabazon.

It is set to serve the new Aviva Arena at YTL Live as well as the surrounding West Innovation Arc Growth Zone, including Brabazon and some of the region's world-leading engineering and technology companies. This area is the fastest growing part of the country's fastest growing region economy.

Turn to Page 6



Bristol Brabazon is announced as the new name for station being built in north Filton. (L-R): Helen Godwin, Mayor of the West of England; Colin Skellet, YTL UK Group Chief Executive; Cllr Chris Willmore, South Gloucestershire Council; Joe Graham, Business and Assurance Property for Great Western Railway; Claire Hazelgrove MP; Marcus Jones, Western Route Director for Network Rail; Cllr Heather Mack, Bristol City Council



HMO plan refused for former bank
Page 7

Extra black bins for struggling families
Page 10



Travel hub artwork appears in Filton
Page 13

Filton's bold bid to become UK Town of Culture



Pages 3-5



Tel: 0117 239 9683

	SERVICING from	£109.⁰⁰
	MOT TESTING	£49.⁰⁰
	TYRES from	£59.⁰⁰
	BRAKES from	£99.⁰⁰
	A/C REGAS from	£69.⁰⁰



Unit 4 Fairway Industrial Centre,
Golf Course Lane,
Filton, Bristol
BS34 7QS

www.LCMautomotive.co.uk

Contacts

Richard Coulter
Editor and publisher
0777 555 0607 | richard@filtonvoice.co.uk

Shane Gibson
Editorial
0770 674 1200 | shane@filtonvoice.co.uk

Lucy Frost
Advertising sales
0757 872 4747 | lucy@filtonvoice.co.uk

You can find
Filtonvoice on
Facebook

www.facebook.
com/filtonvoice



COMPLAINTS

If you have a complaint about anything in the Filtonvoice, contact the Editor using the details below. We take complaints seriously and aspire to follow the Code of Conduct of the NUJ (National Union of Journalists), which holds journalists to a high standard of behaviour.

Further details of the complaints process can be found on the Voice website www.localvoicenetwork.co.uk, or can be obtained by contacting the publisher, below.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Filtonvoice is independent. We cannot take responsibility for content or accuracy of adverts, and it is advertisers' responsibility to conform to all relevant legislation.

We cannot vouch for any services offered although we have used some of the services. Opinions are not necessarily those of the editor.

Filtonvoice is distributed each month to all Filton residents. If for some reason you do not get a copy, please get in touch or collect one from Filton Library. Feedback is welcomed, call editor Richard Coulter on 0777 555 0607 or richard@filtonvoice.co.uk.

Loft Boarding & Insulation



www.useyourloftspace.co.uk

USE YOUR LOFT SPACE

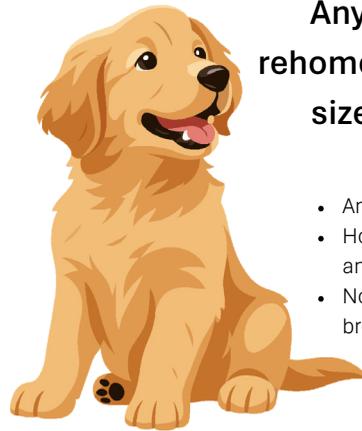
is the reliable, affordable and trusted local company for all your loft boarding, and loft insulation requirements



0117 2980810

INFO@USEYOURLOFTSPACE.CO.UK

Anyone looking to rehome a small-medium size dog in Filton?



Seeking...

- An older dog (not a puppy)
- House-trained, friendly, quiet, and able to go on shorter walks
- No preference on the dog's breed or gender.

Contact John on
0117 969 2563

C D GARDENING SERVICES

Need help in the garden?
General maintenance

- Weeding £30-£120
- Grass cutting and strimming
Small £25; Medium £40; Large £60-£70
- Hedge cutting £30-£150
- Tree trimming £40-£60
- Tree removal £25-£150
- Turfing (ask for quote)

PLUS: Fencing/fence repairs/
Patio/ Groundwork/ Painting/
Guttering cleaning (£60-£80)
Other queries, just call Cain

Call
07393 334947

**Experts in
eyes and ears**

Book an appointment
at specsavers.co.uk

Filton
13B Shield Retail Park
Tel 0117 969 3513



News

Filton launches ambitious bid to become UK Town of Culture 2028

Aerospace Bristol plays a key part in Filton's cultural identity



Filton has officially announced its intention to bid for UK Town of Culture 2028, marking the start of an exciting campaign that aims to showcase the town's rich heritage, world-leading innovation and vibrant community spirit.

The new national competition, launched by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, invites towns across the UK to celebrate their unique stories and cultural contributions. One winner will be awarded £3 million to deliver a six-month cultural programme in 2028, while shortlisted towns will receive £60,000 to develop their full bid.

Filton's proposal centres on the theme Life • Lift • Learning – a three-part celebration of the town's character and achievements:

Continued on page 4

A HOME FULL OF HEART, CARE, AND COMFORT



Field House
HORFIELD

- Inhouse physiotherapy team*
- Continuous décor upgrades*
- Automated care plans*
- 24/7 On-site nursing support*
- Adapted wheelchair car*
- Idyllic gardens & grounds*
- Amazing activities plan*

Come And See Us



0117 969 0990

CQC rating

Good



Bristol Care Homes
Providing top quality, best value, holistic care

News

Brabazon welcomed over 35,000 visitors to the neighbourhood to see 'The Birds' — a Gromit sculpture designed by Bristol artist Hannah Bone



Filton benefits from wonderful green spaces



- Life – the pride, diversity and history of Filton’s community;
 - Lift – its extraordinary aerospace heritage and engineering excellence;
 - Learning – the strength of its education and skills offer, from SGS College to UWE Bristol.
- The Town Council has confirmed that the bid will highlight Filton’s historic contributions to flight and

engineering, from Concorde to cutting-edge aerospace innovation. A planned Ambassador Scheme will recruit local residents to represent Filton’s story, sharing lived experience, local knowledge and community pride. Adding major momentum to the campaign is the long-awaited opening of the Brabazon (Aviva) Arena, expected “late 2028”,



WE TAKE THE DRAMA OUT OF MAKING A WILL.



Will Writing
Meet with a local professional and receive full guidance and support.



Family & Property Trusts
Ensure your loved ones receive the maximum benefit by protecting your estate with trusts.



Lasting Powers of Attorney
Give someone the power to make decisions on your behalf, no matter what happens.



Probate Services
Our specialists help make a difficult time as stress-free and straightforward as possible.

Contact us today
0117 952 0698



elm-online.co.uk
765 Fishponds Road, Bristol, BS16 3BS

Alpine LANDSCAPING

Established family firm with 25 years experience

25% OFF WITH THIS ADVERT

- ★ Senior Citizens Special
- ★ Garden Clearance — Regular or one-off
- ★ Patios ★ Fencing ★ Tree Work ★ Turfing
- ★ Hedgecutting ★ Planting (Shrubs etc)
- ★ Organic manure delivered — Also applied
- ★ Professional and guaranteed work
- ★ Brick & Blocklaying

CALL JOE FOR A FREE QUOTE

Tel: 0117 959 2143

Mob: 07891 253 122

www.alpine-landscaping.co.uk

News

which, if the town is successful, would become a spectacular finale to Filton’s cultural year. The Council is already in conversation with YTL about coordinating messaging, exploring event opportunities and ensuring the Arena’s opening programme aligns with the Town of Culture celebrations.



Local MP Claire Hazelgrove (pictured, right) has strongly backed the bid, describing Filton as a “distinct and vibrant community that deserves to be recognised nationally,” and offering support as the Council prepares its Expression of Interest ahead of the 31 March 2026 deadline.

If Filton reaches the longlist this spring, the £60,000 development grant will be used for community consultation, research, and co-designing events with local organisations,

artists and cultural partners. Reaching the shortlist would mean £250k for the town and the ultimate winner could be given £3m, leading to investment in places and organisations around the town. The Town Council says it hopes the bid will not only celebrate Filton’s past and present, but also build long-term cultural confidence, pride and opportunity for future generations.

A spokesperson said: “The Council is very keen that this will be a community led initiative, designed by residents, organisations, and businesses across the town. The bid will highlight the stories of working people and their dedication and skills.

“We will be seeking to engage with young people, especially those in apprenticeships and



Winners of the 2024 wildlife gardening competition at Filton Community Garden. Image: Sophie Bancroft

further education.

A Working Group is now being formed, and residents will soon be invited to share ideas and get involved in shaping the town’s

story. The programme will be fully accessible and will consist of various events from April 2026 until the end of 2028 (if successful).

G25 INSTALLER OF THE YEAR!

WINNERS!

G25
AWARDS
WINNER



THE WINDOW HUB.CO.UK

Upgrade your windows & doors with the **UK's #1** installer!

Get in-touch today for a FREE no obligation quotation

08000 219 319



Come visit our showrooms

📍 72-74 High Street, Bristol BS16 5HN 📍 208 Topsham Rd, Exeter EX2 6AA

✉ info@thewindowhub.co.uk 🔍 www.thewindowhub.co.uk



New train station for Filton officially named

From Page 1

This new station on the Henbury Line is one of five already in the pipeline for the region's growing rail network. Work is already well underway on site by contractors BAM Nuttall, with track and the first platform blocks installed over Christmas. When complete, Bristol Brabazon will see the first regular passenger services on the Henbury Line since 1964. A second

construction phase will then follow to increase the capacity of the station to support the 20,000-capacity Aviva Arena being built, which will be the third largest in the country when it opens in 2028.

Local residents are invited to attend a drop-in session on Wednesday 1 April at the Spitfire Hangar any time between 4pm and 7pm, where members of the project team will be available to answer

questions about the circa £50 million investment in both phases of new station and the station building.

The Mayor and council leaders set out an ambition last month to secure private investment to help deliver a transport network that you can trust – with rail a major part of that new transport vision for the future, both in terms of new stations and improved frequency.

More than 500 residents have already moved in at Brabazon, with

many of the new homes already inhabited and Bristol Brabazon station due to open in the autumn.

Helen Godwin, Mayor of the West of England, said: "Bristol Brabazon station is being built at the heart of the fastest growing part of the country's fastest growing regional economy"

Claire Hazelgrove, MP for Filton and Bradley Stoke, said: "Bristol Brabazon' is a fitting name for our community's new train station, as it not only pays tribute to our proud aerospace heritage and leadership today, but also welcomes our new town.

"I've long said that it's crucial we have the infrastructure we need as our community grows, and I was glad to help break ground on this station last year. Thank you to everyone involved in helping make this a reality."

New door opens for local charity



By Shane Gibson

FACE has received a lovely new front door donated and installed by Nationwide Doors and Windows.

The new door replaces the building's previous entrance, improving both the appearance and accessibility of the centre for visitors, volunteers and local groups who regularly use the facility.

Deb Teml, FACE CEO said: "We are extremely grateful for the generous support of Nationwide Doors and Windows. The new front door not only looks fantastic but also makes the entrance more secure and welcoming for everyone who uses the centre."

FACE hosts a wide range of weekly activities and events for local residents, providing space for, youth club sessions, coffee mornings, yoga, low impact fitness, Tech and Talk, Citizens Advice and much more.

This donation highlights how partnerships between businesses and community organisations can help to maintain and improve shared spaces for local residents.



YOU DESERVE CARE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Quality care you can trust, delivered in the comfort of your own home

Keeping you and your loved ones safe without the need for residential care

- Our care is person-centred - we go the extra mile
- All CareGivers are introduced to Clients in advance
- We do not wear uniforms, unless requested to
- Our care calls are never rushed
- One-hour minimum up to 24/7 live-in care

Call us for a FREE care assessment



Our services include:

- Companionship
- Transportation & errands
- Meal preparation
- Light housekeeping
- Help with washing & dressing
- Personal care
- Medical reminders
- Post-operative support
- Holiday & respite cover
- Specialist dementia care
- Hospital to home
- Live-in care

and much more...

0117 370 1710
bristol@rightathome.co.uk
www.rightathomeuk.co.uk/bristol



News

HMO plans with zero parking refused

By Alex Seabrook
LDRS reporter

Developers have refused permission for plans to replace an old bank in Filton with seven shared houses.

In total 34 bedrooms would be built with zero parking spaces on the corner of Gloucester Road North in Filton with Braemer Avenue, sparking a flurry of objections.

A lack of private living space and too many houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) in the area also led South Gloucestershire Council to deny a planning application for the site, which used to be an HSBC branch. Councillors on the development management committee voted to refuse permission on Thursday, March 5, questioning the quality of life future residents would enjoy.

They also heard from local residents who said that parking pressures on the surrounding streets have become worse with



the proliferation of HMOs in the area. But developers defended their plans, saying the site was served by a range of public transport options and cycling links too.

Ian Prowse, a neighbour, said: “The area has constant issues with parking on double yellow lines, the pavement and blocking residents’ driveways. Bin lorries have regular issues with accessing Braemer Crescent and resort to reversing and circling around to service the rest of the street. Similar issues have been experienced by local residents

with larger cars.”

However he added the area needs new housing and welcomed the empty building getting redeveloped, “but not in the proposed form”. The plans also include a bin and bicycle store, and keeping commercial space on the ground floor, potentially for a new shop to open.

Dafydd Gwilym, a planning agent representing the developers, said: “It will deliver much-needed housing to the local area, making efficient use of a vacant, brownfield site in a prominent location. The scheme does not erode existing family housing stock ... rather, it could free up existing HMOs to be turned back into family houses.”

He also said that a parking survey showed surrounding streets had “sufficient capacity” to cater for the new residents living in the proposed flats. But this failed to convince councillors, who also raised

concerns about how potential tenants would have to share their toilets with strangers. On average there would be one toilet for every two tenants living in the block, and fewer showers.

Conservative Councillor Paul Hughes said: “Even in our prisons these days, prisoners have their own bathroom.

“I just don’t get this business of forcing a load of people into very cramped conditions, and they haven’t got enough amenity space for bathing, showering and going to the toilet.

“I’m just flabbergasted that we’re allowing this kind of stuff to take place.”

The council’s rules however state that there only needs to be one toilet for every five tenants.

The committee voted to refuse permission because of the high concentration of HMOs in the area, a lack of private living space for residents, and the problems with the parking on surrounding streets.

PC / Laptop Repairs	Computer & Accessories Sales
Home Visits	Phone Repairs
Remote Support	

goto iT

Over 25 years of IT Support

goto-it.co.uk | 0117 969 8767

28 Gloucester Road North, Bristol BS7 0SJ

F Woodruff
SHEPPARD FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Local independent family funeral directors for over 50 years.

Specialists in bespoke funeral services, burials, cremations & pre-paid funeral plans.

24 Hour Phone Service
01454 773 776

sheppardfunerals.co.uk

Winterbourne 🍀 Yate 🍀 Coalpit Heath

Review

Did somebody say, fish and chips delivered by robots?

Have Just Eat robots changed the delivery industry forever? Probably not, reports Filtonvoice's **Lucy Frost**



Residents might have seen the orange, four-wheeled robots struggling to navigate the double-parked pavements of Filton, as Just Eat launched their new robotics trial in mid February.

The trial follows in the footsteps, or tyre marks, of Switzerland, where nearly 1,000 deliveries have already been completed, and Just Eat claims that robot and drone technology has significant advantages to delivering to remote areas.

Whilst I don't consider Horfield to be a remote area, unless the bus has been diverted again, I thought I would personally test the new AI technology via a mid-week chippie a mere mile and a half

down the road.

What started as an optimistic six-minute delivery estimation, painfully became 35 minutes as my stomach rumbled and my patience wore thin. I tracked my robot as it traversed junctions, pelican crossings and potholes, wondering what mayhem it might run into.

After waiting over an hour, I stared in disbelief and doubt as my phone lit up confirming my robot was nearby.

I watched the boxy machine judder down the pavement, and it quickly became apparent why my delivery had taken so long. Despite only witnessing a very small portion of its journey, it's clear that these robots take extreme precaution when it comes to any potential obstructions, consequently manoeuvring at a snail's pace.

As I saw my cod and chips inch closer to my front door, I gathered a small crowd of curious bystanders when it politely stopped at my feet and asked me to take my package from the compartment.

Unsurprisingly, the plastic,

AEROSPACE BRISTOL

WHERE YOU TAKE THE CONTROLS

Explore simulators & climb into cockpits - it's time to buckle up!

Easter Holidays (3 - 19 April)

poorly insulated robot did not result in my dinner retaining much heat.

In fact, I suspect that it spent most of its journey fighting off e-scooters, illegally parked cars and inquisitive pedestrians, but did I enjoy my experience? Yes, I would say so.

Perhaps it's the novelty, or the strange personal attachment

which grew as I monitored the robot's every move, but I don't often find myself enjoying the delivery period of a takeaway quite as much as I did this time.

I definitely wouldn't suggest opting for a robotic delivery if you're in a rush, but if you're eager for a new experience, and lukewarm chips, I'd say it's worth trying at least once.



Just Eat launched their new trial of robotic delivery vehicles in February. Image: Just Eat

News

Dog's narrow miss with delivery robot

By Alex Seabrook
LDRS reporter

New delivery robots have sparked safety fears after a Bristol councillor's dog was almost run over. Small robots have been delivering takeaways in the Gloucester Road area, including in Horfield, since February as part of a trial launched by Just Eat.

Bristol City Council was not informed about the trial in advance and does not have a policy on the use of delivery robots. It's unclear what powers the council has to manage them, if any.

The robots were raised during a member forum meeting on March 10. During the meeting it emerged that Green Councillor Emma Edwards's dog, Flora, narrowly avoided getting hit by a robot. Responding to the concerns, Just Eat said that

they had not been contacted by the council with any specific concerns, and risk assessments were carried out ahead of the trial.

Green Councillor Ed Plowden, chair of the transport policy committee, said: "Emma's dog was nearly run over by one of these a couple of days ago. It's a very small dog so it may be that the tech bros need to do some more work. But there's a wider point here. We've got people like this company dumping risk onto the people of Bristol."

The delivery robots were designed specifically for pedestrian environments and operate at low speeds on pavements. The trial is in partnership with Delivers.AI.

A Just Eat spokesperson said: "We have clear guidelines in place to ensure our independent couriers meet all licensing and insurance requirements."

Your black bin collections are changing



Find your new three-weekly collection day and set reminders in the council app.



southglos.gov.uk/app

News

Extra black bins for struggling families



By Adam Postans
LDRS reporter

Large families who struggle with the move to three-weekly black bin collections in South

Gloucestershire can apply for a second wheelie bin, council leaders have announced.

It comes as civic chiefs admitted making mistakes

during the transition to a new waste service for the first time in 25 years. The reduction from fortnightly black bin days is being accompanied by the rollout of new reusable white recycling bags for plastic, cans and foil, and a roll of small blue bags for soft plastic for the first time following a successful trial, along with a nappy and hygiene waste collection.

Council leaders were grilled by cross-party councillors at South Gloucestershire Council scrutiny commission about how the first seven months of the new contract had gone.

Opposition Conservative Cllr Paul Hughes asked: "With the change to three-weekly bin collections, have you modelled the impact on vulnerable residents and larger households, and if you have, what is the outcome of that?"

Cabinet member for communities and local place Cllr Sean Rhodes replied: "Any household that is struggling to manage with the move to three-weekly, even once they've

taken on the recycling, there is the capacity for applying for an additional black bin. They will be assessed on that, and as long as all of the appropriate levels of recycling and sorting are happening, the option of getting an additional black bin is available to people, as long as they apply through the website."

As part of the new £120million, eight-year contract, the council has taken over operating the waste transfer stations and household waste recycling centres, while kerbside collections continue to be outsourced to Suez, which held the previous long-term private finance initiative (FFI) deal.

It meant the TUPE transfer of more than 50 staff into the local authority and replacing over half the bin lorries in year one.

Cllr Rhodes told the meeting on Wednesday, March 4: "I genuinely cannot overstate the amount of work that has gone into delivering transformational change to a service which connects to almost every single one of our residents.



- A family run business with many years experience
- High Quality wide range of roofing services
- Lead working | All aspects of Slating & Tiling
- Flat Roofing | Loft Conversions
- Re-felting & Renovations
- Roof repairs and renewals
- Fascia, soffit and guttering work

- No Job too large or Small. All work Guaranteed
- Competitive Rates | Private & Commercial

www.davetrimbyroofing.co.uk
0117 904 3656 | 07899 921 338



ATLANTIS

PLUMBING AND HEATING

- ✦ BOILER REPAIRS AND SERVICING
- ✦ BOILER AND CENTRAL HEATING INSTALLATION
- ✦ UNVENTED HOT WATER SYSTEMS
- ✦ LANDLORD SAFETY CERTIFICATES
- ✦ GAS SAFETY CERTIFICATES
- ✦ BATHROOM DESIGN AND INSTALLATION
- ✦ FREE QUOTE





T: 07989396309 E: GAVIN.ATLANTIS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.ATLANTISPLUMBINGANDHEATING.CO.UK

News

“To deliver this amount of change in such a short space of time is quite frankly remarkable and we should all be very grateful to our officers.”

But a report to the commission said not everyone was aware their bin day had changed following the moveover last August, despite the authority sending two separate leaflets to every household, as well as social media posts, adverts, and information in One Stop Shops and libraries.

Cllr Hughes asked: “Do you think you could have done more on this to obtain a better result?”

Cllr Rhodes said: “The simple answer to your question is yes, there are always lessons we can learn to get our comms better.

“We want to do more. Anyone who doesn’t get the information we put out is to some extent a failing but we acknowledge that and there are lessons we have learned in terms of how we make contact with people.

“Overall a good job was done in terms of getting that information out.”

Bin and recycling app launched

**By Adam Postans
LDRS reporter**

Residents will be given new smart tech to remind them when bin day is and what waste goes in each recycling container by using their mobile phone camera.

It follows teething problems as South Gloucestershire Council moved to a new waste contract last year which included the first major changes to kerbside collection days and, in some cases, weeks, in more than 20 years, with black bin rounds reducing from two- to three-weekly from this May.

A report to the cross-party scrutiny commission, to be debated on March 4, said one of the main problems in the move from a 25-year PFI contract, which expired in August, to a new operating model was that not all householders were aware their bin day had changed.

This was despite issuing all homes with two separate

leaflets, along with stories in the media, emails and newsletters to residents, social media messaging and adverts and information in the One Stop Shops and libraries, the report said.

It said plans in place for the new service included “an updated app which will allow residents to easily identify what can and can’t be recycled and to use their camera to identify the correct container for recycling”.

The report said householders could also use a new voice-activated Alexa Skills service to ask when their kerbside collection day was and have audible notification reminders and guidance on how to dispose of specific items without the need to look up the information.

Councillors will be given an update at the meeting on the performance of the new waste contract during its first six months.

In a big change, while

waste and recycling collections continued to be outsourced to a private company, the local authority took over operating the waste transfer stations and household waste recycling centres.

That included the TUPE transfer of more than 50 staff into the council, while over half of the bin lorries are being replaced in the first year.

There is also the rollout of two new collection services – for soft plastics and hygiene and nappy waste.

The report said most residents experienced minimal disruption during the initial transition in August because additional rounds were put in place, along with changing some routes.

But it said the technology changes were more challenging than expected because they included integrating an entirely new back-office system with an existing customer service set-up.

Growing together.

COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

Working Open Morning Friday 24th April

PREP & SENIOR TOURS AVAILABLE

scan to book

News

Youth share views on social media ban

Residents from across the Filton and Bradley Stoke have shared their views on whether children under 16 should face social media restrictions, as part of a wider government consultation on children's online safety.

The event, held at the Spitfire Hangar at Brabazon on February 28, was organised by local MP Claire Hazelgrove in partnership with the charity FACE (Foundation for Active Community Engagement).

Parents, young people and community representatives attended the morning session, which forms part of Ms Hazelgrove's regular 'Coffee with Claire' meetings.

FACE director Debbie Teml helped lead the discussion, providing statistics and a range of perspectives to frame the conversation for attendees.

Ms Teml said it was "fantastic



to see so many people engaging in such an important but complex topic, and for our young people to be part of the conversation". She added: "They were grateful for the opportunity to meet with their MP and to have a voice in something that

directly affects them and future generations. It was inspiring to see young people having the chance to engage with politics on a real and local level."

Ms Hazelgrove said she is determined to ensure local voices feed into the national debate.

She added: "Thank you to fellow residents who came to this event and contributed so thoughtfully on this together, with every table working to find that right balance between safety and freedoms. I know everyone there appreciated hearing from local young people about their experiences and views, which matter in this so that we can shape the right, realistic approach."

"I'd also like to thank FACE for partnering with me on this event and bringing their expertise."

She plans to pass feedback from the event — along with responses to an online survey she is running — directly to government ministers ahead of the government's planned summer response to the consultation.



**HOLIDAY INN
BRISTOL FILTON**

THE PERFECT SPACE

Holiday Inn Bristol Filton offers 11 stylish, fully equipped rooms for meetings, celebrations, and more. From dry hire to afternoon tea, private lunches, and elegant dinners, we create the ideal setting for your event.

Whatever the occasion, we have the perfect space to make it unforgettable.

For more information or to book your event please contact
Tel: 0371 942 9014 | Email: meetingsandevents@lghhm.com

News

Travel hub artwork appears in Filton

Artwork celebrating local nature and history has been unveiled at travel hubs across the region, with Filton among the areas to benefit from the latest installations.

The Filton Church hub now features a mural by illustrator Dave Bain depicting a timeline of travellers from ancient Britain to the present day.

Other local places of interest include Horfield Library where artist 'Billy Colours' aka Alex Godwin used icons and shapes to convey movement, in Gainsborough Square in Lockleaze, artist Graft, together with Lockleaze Neighbourhood Trust and residents, created a wildlife-themed design, and in Arnside Road in Southmead, artists Anna Haydock-Wilson, Bex Glover and Luke Palmer have produced a nature-themed design based on the seasons changing.



One of the pieces of artwork at Filton Church. Image: WECA

The artwork forms part of a wider programme to transform the region's ten travel hubs into welcoming public spaces.

The hubs bring together bus services with e-bikes, e-scooters and other transport options, making it easier for residents to switch between modes of travel in

a single journey. Facilities added over the past year include new seating, phone charging points, parcel lockers and cycle parking.

Seven of the ten hubs have received gold accreditations from CoMoUK, the national charity for shared transport, recognising them as places that

bring sustainable travel options together while improving the public realm.

Helen Godwin, Mayor of the West of England, said: "It's great that people from the community have been able to get involved in this process through the creation of these new artworks, celebrating their local identity, drawing on the West's creativity, and helping to give public spaces a more welcoming feel."

Councillor Maggie Tyrrell, Leader of South Gloucestershire Council, said: "The vibrant new artwork brings a burst of colour to our public spaces, celebrating nature, the environment and the character of each community. We want to widen the reach of transport hubs in South Gloucestershire to make sustainable travel accessible to even more of our communities."

Your pace, your space, your club

0117 910 4296 | spirit@hibristolfilton.co.uk
 Holiday Inn, Filton Rd, Bristol, BS16 1QX
 Membership deals are available

3 hours free parking*

20% off drinks

Member referral scheme

4 & under swim FREE!

*Terms & conditions apply

Start your wellness journey today and sign up by scanning the QR code

H

Puzzles for all

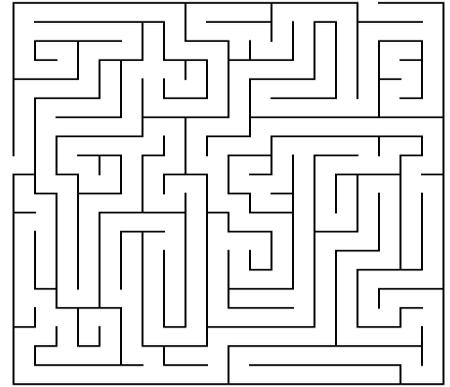
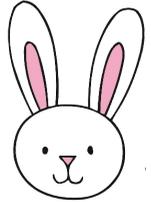
Sudoku

Each row, column and square (9 spaces each) needs to be filled out with the numbers 1-9, without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square.

			9		4		6	5
	2			6	1		3	
		7					9	
7				3	5		8	
	8					1		
5		4			7			
				4	6			2
			1		3	5		

For younger readers

Can you help the Easter Bunny find the eggs?



Solution Page 27



Copyright © www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

Txtpert

Theme: Sports

1				2				
				3			4	
			5					
6								
			7					8
9								
							10	

Use the phone keypad to decode the clues.
For example: 2 could be A, B or C... and 5678 could be LOST

1 qo	2 abc	3 def
4 ghi	5 jkl	6 mno
7 pqrs	8 tuv	9 wxyz

Across

- 1 27362 (5)
- 3 638 (3)
- 5 435638 (6)
- 6 776 (3)
- 7 546387 (6)
- 9 283 (3)
- 10 688 (3)

Down

- 1 223 (3)
- 2 2645464 (7)
- 4 833 (3)
- 5 4653 (4)
- 6 7825 (4)
- 8 748 (3)

Easier sudoku

Rules the same as the Fiend, but only four numbers in each box, row and column

		4	1
		2	
4			
	1		

Solutions

Txtpert

L	U	O						K
I		G						C
P	U	E	N	I	L	Z		U
				I		O		P
T		M	E	L	H			S
	E		G					E
	T	E	N					C
	A	N	E	R	E			V

Graham Cook

Gardener and handyman

Grass cutting, hedge and shrub trimming, weeding, planting, felling small trees, winter preparation, clearing, small painting jobs and other maintenance work.

Please call for a no-obligation chat



Call 0117 377 0644 or 07415 658 205

The Filton Barbers

Register & Book on-line @
Thefiltonbarbers.nearcut.com
Or call 0117 2393288

Follow on all social media.
@thefiltonbarbers

3 Gloucester Road North, Filton Park, BS7 0SG



Councillor Dan Boardman announces his resignation ... while long-standing member Anne also leaving council

Dan Boardman, Green councillor of the Conygre Ward, has resigned after serving five years with Filton Town Council.

CLr Boardman described his time on the council as "a pleasure" but has decided to leave as he is moving away from Filton.

He says: "With a growing family I am moving out of the ward and do not feel it is right to represent an area I will no longer live in".

Dan expresses his gratitude to the current and former Town Clerks, the office team and all the grounds-team, thanking them for their hard work, and shared appreciation for his fellow councillors.

He says: "I'm glad that despite our political variances, we've always

remained amicable and worked together to deliver for the residents of Filton."

Boardman says he is "proud of his achievements as a councillor", reflecting on his voluntary contribution to support the Town Clerk with the leisure centre redevelopment, supporting green spaces and working hard on the Planning Committee to support residents.

He added that he looks forward to the development of the 'Conygre Regeneration Project'.

He says: "We have some fantastic assets in Filton... but it is the people that really make it a community."

The Conygre ward also sees the departure of Anne Kenyon, who was

initially elected as a member of the Conservative Party in 2011.

As more than ten local electors formally requested it, a by-election will soon be held to fill the two vacant seats in the Conygre Ward.



"We have some fantastic assets in Filton... but it is the people that really make it a community."

- Dan Boardman



Commemorative Concorde 50p coins to be given to primary children in Filton

Filton Town Council have proposed to give every primary school-aged child in Filton a commemorative 50p coin, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the commercial flight of the Concorde.

Designed by Osborne Ross in partnership with British Airways and Airbus, the coin features Concorde in flight alongside the date of its first commercial journey, 21 January 1976.

The council are aiming to hand out the coins to every primary school-aged child in Filton, including those who may be homeschooled or attend schools in wider areas such as Horfield and Stoke Gifford.

The initiative intends to give every Filton primary pupil a lasting keepsake, commemorating the town's role in aviation history.



GARDENING GET-TOGETHERS

Alternate Saturdays, 10am-12pm

April Saturday 11th
Saturday 25th

May Saturday 9th
Saturday 23rd



Join the friendly volunteers and help keep the garden great for all to enjoy. No experience necessary, just turn up on the day. Tools and guidance provided.



Filton Community Garden,
Gloucester Road North, Filton BS34 7PF

Online updates at:

Facebook.com/filtoncommunitygarden
Email:communitygarden@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk



Filton planning applications in March

HM watch

Applications

35 Sixth Avenue Erection of single storey rear extension.

61 Cropthorne Road Single storey side extension and conversion of existing garage to form additional living accommodation.

17 Clyde Grove Erection of a single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation.

19 Warren Road Conversion and extension of existing outbuilding to form annexe ancillary to the main dwelling.

Nutfield House, Nutfield Grove Prior notification of the intention to demolish Nutfield House, and associated boiler house.

Decisions

8 Hollyleigh Avenue Replacement of flat roof to existing extension with pitched roof. Increase height of patio area to ground floor level with

installation of balustrade and steps. Increase height of fence between nos. 6 and 8 Hollyleigh Avenue. **Approve with conditions**

50 Gayner Road Erection of a two storey side extension to facilitate the subdivision of dwelling into 2 dwellings (Class C3) with associated works. **Refusal**

12 Rodney Crescent Erection of front a porch. **Approve with Conditions**

85 Mackie Road Continued use as a Small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4). **Approve certificate of lawfulness**

85 Mackie Road Erection of a single storey rear extension and installation of 1 rear dormer. **Refuse certificate of lawfulness**

1 Branksome Drive Variation of condition 2 (list of plans) and condition 5 (garage) attached to

planning permission P23/02882/F to improve the front driveway and parking and retain existing garage - Change of use from small HMO (class C4) to an 8 bedroom large HMO (Sui Generis) for up to 8 people including alteration to existing access, parking and associated works as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). **Approve with conditions**

666 Southmead Road Demolition of existing side and rear extension. Erection of single storey side and rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. **Approve with conditions**

27 Gloucester Road North Erection of an extension and conversion of existing building from commercial (Class E) to form 7 small Houses in Multiple Occupation (Class C4), bin and cycle store, laundry room,

and associated works. Retention of existing commercial floorspace (Class E) at the ground floor. **Refusal**

31 Rodney Crescent Change of Use of 1 dwelling (Class C3) Small HMO (Class C4) for up to 6 people as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). **Approve with conditions**

2 Gloucester Road North Discharge of conditions 2 (Parking) and 3 (cycle/bin storage) attached to planning permission P24/01247/F. Change of use of building from commercial to mixed use comprising commercial/retail (Use Class E(c)) and a 6 person house of multiple occupancy (HMO) (Class C4). As defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). **Discharge of conditions decided**



Adult & Child Swimming lessons

Designed for children from 3 months, these sessions provide a safe, engaging environment to build water confidence and initial water skills.

01174628622

Elm Park, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7PStcode

ELM PARK LEISURE CENTRE

Scan here for Swimming Lessons



at Elm Park Leisure Centre

Council responds to mystery letter writer: "We hear you - please help us to help you."

Filton Town Council has been receiving a flurry of anonymous handwritten letters in recent weeks, often several per week, raising concerns about everything from potholes and pavements to litter hotspots and local parks.

The council wants to make one thing clear: we are listening.

The letters, always unsigned and with no return details, appear to come from a resident who cares deeply about the town and is keen to highlight areas needing attention. While many of the issues raised are helpful, the Council is finding it increasingly difficult to act without knowing exactly where the problems are or being able to follow up with the person who spotted them.

A spokesperson said: "We genuinely appreciate the time and thought that goes into these messages. It's clear the writer cares about Filton, and so do we.

"But without contact details, we sometimes can't identify the

precise location or understand the full context, which means we can't always take the action we'd like to."

The Council is encouraging the resident - or anyone else who prefers not to give their name - to use the official reporting channels, where anonymity can still be maintained if preferred. These include the Council website, email, or a quick phone call to the office, where staff can record details accurately and pass them on to the correct team.

"We really want to work with this person," the spokesperson added. "If you're reading this, please get in touch — even confidentially.

"Your comments are valuable, and we want to make sure nothing gets missed. If you write again, please include date, times, and precise locations the matters were observed."

Residents can report issues at www.filtontowncouncil.gov.uk, by emailing town.clerk@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk, or by calling the Council offices.

New oak planted at Filton's Queen's Canopy as town honours heritage and community



A new oak tree has been planted at Filton's Queen's Canopy in Millennium Green, continuing a tradition that began when saplings from the late Queen Elizabeth II's estate were gifted to communities across the country.

The planting marks what would have been Her Majesty's 100th birthday year, and Filton park rangers have also taken the opportunity to tidy and refresh the plaques that commemorate each tree's place in the canopy, right. Millennium Green's growing collection now stands as a peaceful, living tribute to the Queen's environmental legacy and a further 41 trees have also recently been planted in the green.

Meanwhile, the Friends of Millennium Green have planted two further trees in memory of long-standing member Sally Lansdown, who recently passed away. Sally was a familiar and much-loved figure in the group, known for her commitment to keeping the Green welcoming, natural and well cared for. The new memorial trees, above, will stand as a lasting reminder of her contribution to the community she cherished.

In addition to the new plantings, Filton Town Council has begun a comprehensive town-wide tree survey. Every tree in Filton has now been mapped, allowing specialists to check for any signs of disease, instability or dangerous overhanging branches, particularly along busy routes such as the dual carriageway. The survey will guide maintenance work throughout the year, ensuring the town's trees remain safe, healthy and protected for the future.

Between new plantings, memorial trees and careful stewardship, Filton's commitment to its green spaces continues to grow — quite literally — rooted in history, community and care for generations to come.



SAVE THE DATE!!!
Filton Festival 2026
Sunday, July 5th

- 25th anniversary festival
- Concorde theme
- World record attempt
- ... and so much more



Raised beds installed at Filton Hill Primary

Work has begun at Filton Hill Primary to install raised flower beds and also planting on the triangle near the school.

This is part of the planned Conygre regeneration project - more next month.

Meanwhile, Filton Town Council has been handing out packets of wildflower seeds as part of their Bee Squared initiative.

Each packet contains enough seeds to cover one square metre of grass. Wildflowers provide a reliable source of nectar and pollen, helping to support bee populations and other insects.

Contact Filton Town Council

Town Clerk:
Simon Davies

Visit

The Council Office is open to the public Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm, and is located at Elm Park, Filton, BS34 7PS.

Call

01454 803918

Email

Town Clerk - town.clerk@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk
General Enquiries – office@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Website

www.filtontowncouncil.gov.uk



Meeting dates

April

- **Staffing Committee and Planning & Climate Committee**
Tuesday, 7th April at 7PM
- **Finance & Scrutiny Committee**
Tuesday, 14th April 2026 at 7PM.
- **Assets & Open Spaces Committee and Planning & Climate Committee**
Tuesday, 21st April 2026 at 7PM.
- **Full Council - Tuesday, 28th April 2026 at 7PM.**

All meetings held at council offices, Elm Park

Strong start for Filton's green top market days




Filton BioBlitz Spring 2026

Help Document Local Wildlife!

26th Apr 2026 - 2nd May 2026

Join the BioBlitz!

- 1. Download iNaturalist**
→ Get the App
- 2. Join the Project**
 - Search "Filton BioBlitz"
 - Create an account on iNaturalist
 - Click the "Join" or "Join this project" button on the webpage
- 3. Make Observations**
 - Snap Photos of Wildlife
- 4. Share Your Finds**
→ Upload & Submit

Explore & Discover Nature!

Identify Plants & Animals 🐾 Add Location & Notes 🐾 Upload Your Sightings!

Visit: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/filton-bio-blitz-2026-spring>



Filton market's debut saw an estimated 300 visitors at its launch on 21 February, a strong turnout given the heavy rain on the day of the event.

Around 25-30 stalls were set up at Elm Park, offering a mixed range of goods for residents.

Town Clerk, Simon Davies, spoke to the stallholders and reported that many of them were eager to return for later market dates, after a positive first experience.

Footfall remained steady, where a consistent 20-30 people were on site throughout the event. The carpark was very full and Elm Park cafe saw strong trade.

With sunnier weather, the second market took place on 22 March. It was estimated that 600 people were in attendance, a steady increase from the launch event. Many stallholders returned and again reported good levels of trade.

The next market will take place on 18 April.



News from our MP Claire Hazelgrove

Driving change to support local children and our community

Hi all, I hope you're well and looking forward to spring.

As always, I've been working hard for you across our entire constituency, with my team and I working on 793 new cases. I held my regular advice surgery, this time in Filton, and knocked on doors to listen in Patchway.

Doing politics differently, I held a 'Pub Politics' event in Bradley Stoke and my latest 'Coffee with Claire' event on crime and anti-social behaviour with Clare Moody, our Police and Crime Commissioner, in Emersons Green.

Knowing how broken the SEND support system is, I have collated views from local parents and schools, including through a specific 'Coffee with Claire' event and online survey, and shared these with the Education Secretary. I was pleased to receive a letter from her recognising our community's influence in shaping new significant proposals for improving SEND support.



These involve a complete overhaul of the system - unrecognisable from the failed one where parents have to battle for support for their child - with expert support as a new standard in mainstream schools, backed by £3.7 billion investment to expand specialist support.

In the House of Commons, I asked the Education Secretary how local parents and others could help further shape these proposals. She

confirmed she wants to hear your thoughts as the next step, and I will organise another local event shortly.

I was also proud to raise the experience of Stoke Gifford mum Christine Lote in the House of Commons, whose incurable stage 4 cancer diagnosis could not be considered when allocating her daughter's primary school place. The Schools Minister confirmed that a new school admissions consultation will look at this.

I also spoke in a debate on health systems in Gaza, calling for our Government to continue to do everything possible to help vulnerable children.

I believe politics and Parliament should belong to everyone, so was pleased to welcome students from UWE, Coniston Primary and those who are home-educated to Parliament.

Locally, I met with South Gloucestershire Council's Cabinet Member for Communities and

Local Place, Cllr Sean Rhodes, to discuss real progress on Hambrook Junction as part of our joined up work. Since 2019, two consecutive years of legally safe air quality data has been required for restrictions to end, but not met before now.

I've contacted Government Ministers to make sure the Council have the information they need on next steps if this is now - as we all hope - confirmed shortly. As the first woman in history to serve our community in Parliament, I joined an International Women's Day panel, chaired by Cllr Natalie Field, on women's experiences in male dominated sectors. With 40% of MPs women, but still more abuse and higher barriers, there's real progress but more to do.

It was great to visit Abbeywood Community School to hear students' priorities and see their robotics engineering workshop in action, and Winterbourne Academy for a wide-ranging Q&A session with students.

Way A Head

Way A Head is a premier Hair Salon in the Filton area. Since 1980, we've offered a wide range of services and products to give you the elegant and fabulous look that you deserve.

Give us a phone call to book an appointment or enjoy our walk-in services. Our friendly team are looking forward to seeing you

702a Filton Ave, Filton, Bristol BS34 7JX
0117 969 2701
www.wayaheadsalon.com

ERNEST TILL
SOUTH WEST & CO LTD
THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

- Electrical Test & Inspections / PAT testing
- Full and partial electrical rewires
- Consumer unit upgrade to 18th edition
- New or replacement switches / sockets / lights
- Shower installation
- Electric heating installation / Service
- Smoke detector installation & servicing
- Security lighting
- Electric vehicle charging points
- Free no obligation quotations

0117 9145400

Email: info@tills.biz / www.ernesttillsouthwest.co.uk

APPROVED CONTRACTOR

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com where reputation matters
ROLEC
 charge your car
HAS

FREE EVENTS AT FILTON LIBRARY IN APRIL

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Monday	10am-5pm
Tuesday	OPEN ACCESS
Wednesday	10am-5pm
Thursday	10am-5pm
Friday	OPEN ACCESS
Saturday	10am-1pm
Sunday	OPEN ACCESS

**WANT TO ACCESS THE LIBRARY 7 DAYS A WEEK?
FIND OUT MORE HERE: SOUTHGLOS.GOV.UK/OPENACCESS**

FREE WEEKLY EVENTS

Knit, Stitch & Natter* (for adults)	Mondays 2-4pm
Rhymetime** (for children aged 0-5)	Wednesdays 10:30-11am
Councillor Surgery (for all Filton residents)	Saturdays 10-11am

*EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS **TERM TIME ONLY

WHERE WE ARE:

Shield Retail Park, Link Rd, Bristol, BS34 7BR

CONTACT US:

Email filton.library@southglos.gov.uk or call 01454 868006



[sgloslibraries](https://www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries)

[@southgloslibs](https://twitter.com/southgloslibs)

www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

TREASURE HUNTERS



WEDS 15th 10:30-11:30

**FREE DROP-IN CRAFT ACTIVITY
MOST SUITABLE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN.**

Calling all budding archaeologists! Come along and make archaeology themed crafts during the easter holiday. Children must be accompanied by an adult. A free take-home bag will be available throughout the school holiday (while stocks last)

GO ALL IN.

National Year of Reading 2026

IF YOU'RE INTO IT, READ INTO IT

The National Year of Reading is reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around.

Joining the library is free and easy! Come along and sign up today!

FREE MONTHLY EVENTS

U3a Writing Family History (for U3a Members)	Thursday 2 nd 10.15-12
Art Club (for children aged 7-11)	Saturday 11 th 11-11:45am
Lego Club Themed building fun! (for children aged 4-11)	Saturday 18 th 11-11:45am



REDMAIDS' HIGH SCHOOL
FOR GIRLS • BRISTOL
GDST



Whole School Visiting Morning

Scan to join us on Tuesday 5 May to explore our Junior and Senior School



News

Donor plea as eye bank marks 40 years



The Bristol eye bank's longest-serving staff member Toni Woodward has urged local people to register their decision to donate on the organ donor register

A man who has worked at a Bristol eye bank for nearly three decades is appealing for more cornea donors — as he waits for his fourth transplant from the very service he helps run.

Toni Woodward, 56, from Weston-Super-Mare, joined what was then the Bristol Eye Bank in 1995 and has since received three cornea transplants, all sourced from his own workplace.

He is now on the waiting list for a fourth. Born with congenital glaucoma — a condition causing high pressure inside the eye — he underwent surgery as a child but never expected to one day need a cornea transplant.

His appeal comes as NHS

Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) marks 40 years since the eye bank first issued corneas for transplantation in 1986.

Toni, a father of two and grandfather of one, said: "Becoming a recipient myself makes me see the work that I do differently.

"I've always been in awe of the families who make that decision to donate their loved one's corneas but I also now have that personal experience and true understanding of the benefits that a cornea transplant can bring."

The bank was originally established by the University of Bristol's Department



of Ophthalmology, and quickly transformed corneal transplantation across the country.

A new storage technique extended the viable life of donated corneas from four days to four weeks, while a national distribution network meant surgeons no longer had to rely on local donors becoming available at short notice.

The procedure could, for the first time, be planned well in advance.

In its first year, the bank issued just 59 corneas. It now issues more than 4,000 every year, and has sent over 110,000 to hospitals across the country since opening. The service,

now based at NHSBT centres in Filton, Bristol and Speke, Liverpool, formally came under NHS Blood and Transplant management in 2015.

Emeritus Professor John Armitage, who helped set up the original eye bank and received an OBE for services to corneal transplantation in 2019, said: "To have been involved from the start with the setting up of Bristol Eye Bank, helping to create a service that has benefited so many patients needing corneal transplants over the last four decades, has indeed been a privilege."

Toni is urging local people to register their decision to donate. He said: "I cannot thank the families of my donors enough.

"It's because of them that I have been able to watch my granddaughter grow up, I can carry on with the activities that I enjoy and importantly, do the work that I do, to make sure that others also receive that precious gift of sight.

"Please, consider cornea donation and register your decision to donate on the Organ Donor Register.

"It means everything to people like me."

AUCTIONEERS, DEVIZES

FREE VALUATION DAY

WITH THE OPTION TO CONSIGN YOUR ITEMS TO AUCTION

JOIN HEAD OF VALUATIONS

PAUL MARTIN

SATURDAY 11 APRIL

ST ANDREWS METHODIST CHURCH
FILTON
BRISTOL, BS34 7PS

10AM - 3PM

Henry Aldridge & Son Ltd | Auctioneers & Valuers
Unit 1 Bath Road Business Centre | Bath Road | Devizes Wiltshire
| SN10 1XA @henryaldridgeauctioneers
T: 01380791929 E: office@henryaldridge.com

* Refreshments Available!

Major office block gets green light

Plans for a seven-storey, 123,000 sq ft office building at the entrance to Brabazon have been approved, as developers push ahead with a broader commercial district on the former Filton Airfield site.

YTL Developments' 'One Brabazon Gateway' will include a rooftop clubhouse, fitness studio and a ground-floor Waitrose, alongside a 1,650-space car park.

The building is designed to run entirely on renewable energy, targeting net zero status from day one.

Seb Loyn, planning and development director at YTL, said: "Securing planning approval for One Brabazon Gateway marks another major milestone for Brabazon. Rising enquiries and a growing choice of places to eat, meet and spend time here are building a critical mass of activity."

The approval comes as construction of a new railway station at Brabazon advances, with a scheduled opening later this year.

Community funds available

Local groups and charities can now apply for a monthly grant from the Brabazon Community Fund.

Each month, one organisation will receive £250 to support activities that bring people together and make a positive social impact locally.

This could include events, social groups, creative projects, wellbeing sessions, learning activities or environmental projects.

Apply online or find out more at: brabazon.co.uk/funding

The Brabazon Community Fund is managed by YTL Developments and is part of the YTL Wessex Foundation.

News

Ad placements land council in hot water

To reach 6% renewables as a percentage of local energy demand by 2028, leading to a target of 25% by 2036

Current situation: 3.6% of local energy demand

Climate Change Adaptation

To respond to new national data emerging from the UK climate projections 2018 in combination with local data and make appropriate adjustments

Current situation: Measures from the last Climate Change Adaptation plan implemented.

Delivering the strategy

In order to deliver the strategy we are developing five action plans

1. Climate Resilience
2. Carbon Emissions Reductions
3. Renewables
4. New Development
5. Low Carbon Economy

To get in touch with us please email EnvironmentalPolicy@southglos.gov.uk

[Is there anything wrong with this page?](#)

By Adam Postans
LDRS reporter

A council is set to axe adverts on its websites after inadvertently promoting fish and chips on its healthy lifestyles page, air travel to readers of its climate emergency measures, and luxury ship cruises to housing benefits claimants.

South Gloucestershire Council has admitted the ads were ‘misleading and inappropriate’.

Officers have recommended scrapping all advertising on the authority’s public-facing websites when they move to a new content management system (CMS) this year.

A report to cabinet member for corporate resources Cllr Adam Monk (Labour, Filton), who will make the decision, said: “The content of adverts displayed on our websites is an uncertainty since we do not control exactly what is shown to users (although we do exclude certain categories of adverts).”

“Adverts shown might not always accurately support the council’s values.

For example, adverts have previously appeared that promote air travel on our climate and nature emergency page, fish and chip shops on our healthy lifestyles’ website, and cruises on a page for users claiming Housing Benefit.

“In 2026, our main public websites will move to a new CMS platform.

A screen grab of the council's housing benefits page advertising cruises

“As a result some design changes will be needed.

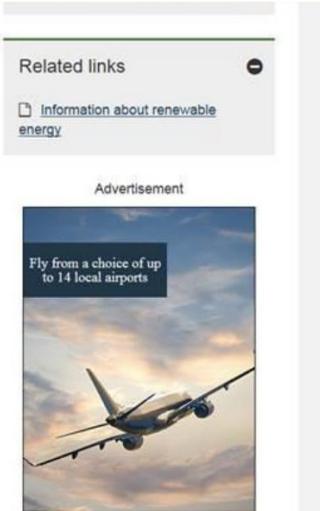
“Incorporating advertising would significantly limit the flexibility of this design and is expected to negatively impact overall user experience.

“Since most of the advertising is national and multinational companies, the removal of advertising would reduce confusion about whether the advertising links to council services.

“The financial impact is very low.”

Officers have included screengrabs in the report showing examples of inappropriate adverts on its three websites that carry them – its main site, healthy lifestyle-focused One You South Gloucestershire, and Glos Life which provides residents with information and advice on council services.

They include an advert for Marella Cruises at the top of the page for people trying to claim housing benefits.



A two-week Caribbean cruise by the operator costs up to £8,938 in total for two people sharing, based on the latest search.

A huge wipeout advert for fish and chips, as well as an ad for pub lunches, were on the same home page of One You.

And a promotion for air travel featured prominently next to information telling residents what the authority was doing to tackle climate change.

The report said: “In 2014, members approved a proposal to create a revenue stream through advertising on our public-facing websites.

“A supplier, the Council Advertising Network (CAN), was appointed.

“CAN handle all advertising sales and provide technology that enables us to display advertising on our public-facing websites.

“Before the initial contract was signed, the supplier projected estimated income to the

A screen grab of the council's climate emergency measures page advertising flights

council in the first year would be £27,425 and this would increase in subsequent years.”

It said the actual income for the first 12 months was £4,145.74, rising to a high of £7,245.65 two years later before plummeting steadily to £1,788.77 in 2023/24 and £1,301.11 last year.

The report said the shortfall was because CAN ‘admitted to overestimation of income’ and advert clicks had continued to fall since 2018, a trend accelerated by increasing use of ad-blocking software.

It said: “Council officers have expressed concern where the presence of advertising is perceived to threaten council commercial activity or recruitment activity, although there is currently no evidence of any commercial impact.

“During recent user research activities with residents, a resident was observed clicking on an advert shown on our website.

“When questioned, they indicated that they assumed it was related to council services.

“There are no current arrangements with local businesses to advertise on our website.

“Whilst we can include our own house adverts, for example to promote our resident newsletter and fostering service, these could be promoted through our other existing communication channels such as social media, website homepage promotions, and newsletters.”

Cllr Monk is required to make a decision by March 25.



News

College backs women's workplace charter



University of the West of England and City of Bristol College as signatories of the Bristol Women in Business Charter. Between them, the four institutions represent nearly 100,000 students and almost 15,000 employees.

The move comes as the charter launches a new five-year strategy and begins expanding its reach beyond Bristol into the wider region. It now supports organisations employing more than 50,000 people across the area — more than 20 per cent of the regional workforce.

David Withey, CEO and principal at SGS College, said: “At SGS College, we are proud to join the Women in Business Charter, reaffirming our commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable workplace, and celebrating that we employ a 63 per cent female workforce.

“Promoting gender equality

is particularly important in education, where we shape future leaders and role models.

“By supporting women’s progression and leadership, we aim to inspire our staff and students alike, ensuring equal opportunities for all.”

Kristal McNamara, director of the charter, said: “By strengthening these connections, the charter team can better engage young women earlier, support smoother transitions from education into employment, and help them not only enter organisations but thrive once they are there.

“This is particularly important for the most marginalised young women in Bristol and beyond, who continue to face the greatest structural barriers to opportunity. SGS joining marks the start of our regional expansion and a widening of our impact.”

L-R: Alex Haddow, head of people at SGS College, Kelly Gillett, director of people and organisational culture, Kristal McNamara, director of Bristol Women in Business Charter and David Withey, CEO and principal at SGS College

SGS College in Filton has expressed its pride after joining a regional charter aimed at improving workplace opportunities for women,

becoming the latest education provider to sign up alongside three other major institutions.

The college joins the University of Bristol, the

DREAM DOORS®
NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS

QUALITY KITCHEN MAKEOVERS

by simply replacing the doors and worktops



- MODERN
- CLASSIC
- TRADITIONAL
- CONTEMPORARY

- > Up to 50% less than a new fully fitted kitchen
- > Replacement kitchen doors
- > Cost effective made to measure solution
- > Worktops and appliances
- > Quick installation in 2-3 days by local professionals

Checkatrade.com **9.8/10**
Where reputation matters

11-12 The Promenade,
Gloucester Road,
Bristol, BS7 8AL

Call us now for a free estimate:
01179 443 223

dreamdoors.co.uk



THE UK'S #1 KITCHEN MAKEOVER COMPANY



Alison Hammond's Banana Bread

This is banana bread elevated to the Alison level! With a hint of Jamaican rum to give it some extra kick, this recipe, which she learned from her mum, is one of Alison's all-time favourites.

Method

1. Place the dried fruit in a bowl and pour over the rum and sherry. Leave for a couple of hours (or overnight if you have time) to soak in.
2. Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan. Line a 900g loaf tin with non-stick baking paper, trim any excess from the edges.
3. Beat together the butter and caster sugar until light and fluffy, then gradually beat in the eggs, one at a time.
4. Stir together the flour, baking powder and nutmeg, sieve into the batter mixture and mix in.

5. Mash together the bananas and vanilla and mix into the batter with the soaked fruit. Now spoon this into the baking tin and bake for about 25 minutes, then carefully cover with foil and continue cooking for a further 20-30 minutes until risen and golden brown.

You can test the cake is fully cooked by inserting a skewer in the centre – it should come out clean without any raw cake mixture on it.

6. Leave to cool for about 15 minutes before carefully removing from the tin. Place on a cooling rack to cool completely. Once cooled, slice and serve.

Ingredients

Serves 8-10

- 100g dried fruit
- 1 tbsp rum
- 1 tbsp sherry
- 150g soft butter
- 150g caster sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 200g self raising flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- Large pinch grated nutmeg
- 2 ripe bananas, peeled – about 150g flesh
- 1 tsp vanilla extract



Marcus Wareing's Chicken With A Creamy Mushroom Sauce

Introduction

Marcus Wareing does not hold back with his creamy chicken recipe, loaded with wine and brandy, two types of mustard, crème fraîche and plenty of butter, this is definitely special occasion food.

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
2. Heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil and 75g/2¾oz of butter in an ovenproof casserole. Once hot, add the chicken thighs skin-side down and cook for 3–4 minutes on each side until browned.
3. Add the thyme, bay leaves and garlic bulb to the casserole and cook in the oven for 15–20 minutes, or until cooked through. Check that the chicken is cooked through by making sure the juices run clear with no trace of pink when the thickest part of the meat is pierced with a skewer.
4. To make the sauce, heat

25g/1oz of butter and ½ tablespoon of oil in a frying pan and gently fry the onion, chopped garlic, mushrooms and tarragon stalks for 8–10 minutes, or until the onion and mushrooms are cooked. Pour in the brandy and white wine, stir and cook until slightly reduced. Stir in the mustards and crème fraîche. Add the tarragon leaves and wild garlic and cook until wilted. Place the cooked chicken thighs in the sauce.

5. Heat the remaining oil and butter in a separate frying pan, add the asparagus and cook for 2–3 minutes until just cooked. Stir the asparagus into the chicken mixture just before serving.

Ingredients

Serves 2

- 3 *tblsp* olive oil
- 125g/4½oz *unsalted butter*
- 4–6 *boneless chicken thighs, skin on*
- 2 *fresh thyme sprigs*
- 2 *bay leaves*
- ½ *bulb garlic, unpeeled, and 4 garlic cloves, chopped*
- 2 *small onions, finely chopped*
- 300–400g/10½–14oz *small button mushrooms*
- 1 *bunch fresh tarragon, stalks and leaves separated, leaves chopped*
- 100ml/3½fl oz *brandy*
- 250ml/9fl oz *white wine*
- 1–2 *tblsp wholegrain mustard*
- 1–2 *tblsp Dijon mustard*
- 500g/1lb 2oz *crème fraîche*
- 150g/5½oz *wild garlic (or spinach)*
- 1 *bunch asparagus, tips and stalks separated (or use broccoli florets)*

Greenfingers...

The Alan Titchmarsh Column



He's a magnificent broadcaster, gifted gardener, brilliant author and all-round horticultural visionary. This month, Alan Titchmarsh discusses how bringing Easter into your garden is about more than chocolate.

There's no denying it, chocolate is part of Easter, and I wouldn't dream of suggesting otherwise. But for a gardener, Easter's real magic lies not in foil wrappers, but in what's happening under our noses, or rather, under our feet. The garden is stirring, colours are returning and plants that have slept all winter are finally making themselves known. This all

means an Easter egg hunt can be the perfect excuse to get those of all ages out in the garden to really notice what's going on!

If you're planning a hunt in the garden, start by letting the flowers take centre stage. Early spring is one of the most rewarding times of year, and many of our best-loved plants are at their peak.

Daffodils are the obvious stars - cheerful, bold and unmistakably seasonal. Tucking an egg at the base of a clump or asking hunters to "find the treasure where the trumpets grow" immediately draws attention to them.

Tulips follow close behind, especially early varieties, offering strong blocks of colour that make excellent visual markers.

Primroses are another Easter favourite - they are low-growing, resilient and often already scattered through borders or pots, and ideal for younger hunters, as eggs can be hidden nearby without trampling precious growth. Hyacinths, too, deserve a mention - their scent alone can stop people in their tracks, and that sensory element is

what turns a simple hunt into something more memorable.

Trees and shrubs have a role to play as well. Blossom on cherry, apple or plum trees marks the true arrival of spring, and eggs hidden beneath their branches feel far more magical than those placed randomly on a lawn. Even evergreen shrubs can be used, especially if you encourage hunters to look carefully rather than rush.

Chocolate, of course, still has its place, but it doesn't need to dominate. Mixing in seed packets, plant labels or even small pots ready for sowing gently shifts the focus from consumption to cultivation. It also extends the pleasure well beyond Easter Sunday.

At the heart of it, the best Easter egg hunts aren't frantic scrambles. They're gentle wanderings that encourage observation and curiosity. And if people leave your garden noticing the flowers more than the chocolate, you've done something rather lovely. After all, spring itself is the real treat.



ADVERTORIAL

Adventure, Opportunity and Community: Woodhouse Park Shows What Scouting Makes Possible

Written by Mel Woolley – Local Growth Officer for Wiltshire and Avon Scouts.

ON the 7th & 8th of March I had the chance to visit Woodhouse Park Activity Centre while attending the Squirrels and Beavers Adventure Days, where hundreds of young people from across the area came to experience outdoor adventure.

While there, I was given a tour of the site by the centre manager, Andy Scully, and spent time speaking with volunteers who help make these experiences possible.

Hidden among rolling countryside and woodland, Woodhouse Park is an incredible space for young people to challenge themselves and experience the outdoors. Set among beautiful grounds and even home to a magnificent 450-year-old oak tree, the centre offers a huge range of activities.

Young people can take on the climbing wall, tackle Jacob's Ladder, or try the centre's new snow tubing slope. Campfire areas are dotted throughout the woodland, and the views across the countryside make it a truly special place for camps and activities.

Over the past five years, the site has been transformed into a thriving hub for outdoor adventure thanks to the passion and dedication of the team who run it. Andy, who lives on site and works closely with staff and volunteers, says his approach is simple: whenever young people or volunteers come forward with an idea or an activity they'd like to try, his aim is to find a way to say "yes."

The centre is also creating opportunities beyond adventure. Through an apprenticeship programme, young people have been able to train and develop careers in outdoor activity leadership. One apprentice has even progressed into a management role on site. A great example of how environments like this can help young people build skills for the future.

Accessibility is also a key focus. The team work hard to ensure activities can be adapted so that young people with mobility challenges or additional needs can still take part, including experiencing the climbing wall and other outdoor challenges.

But what really stood out during the visit was the role volunteers play in making experiences like this possible.

Many adults first get involved in Scouting because their children join



a group and then they stay because they discover how rewarding it can be.

One volunteer I spoke to joined when her son was a Beaver. Years later her son is now a Group Lead Volunteer, and she is still involved alongside her husband. When I asked what her favourite part of Scouting was, she didn't hesitate.

"Camping," she said. "And encouraging kids to try new things."

It's a sentiment shared by many volunteers. The County Lead Volunteer, who was also visiting the event, said he often attends activity days like this so he can be reminded of why he does what he does.

Watching young people challenge themselves, support each other and achieve things they didn't think they could do is at the heart of Scouting.

During the Adventure Days, even the youngest members of Scouting were getting involved. Squirrels as young as four years old were proudly taking on the climbing wall, supported by volunteers and instructors as they challenged themselves to reach the top. For many, it was their first time trying an activity like this, and watching their confidence grow with every step was a powerful reminder of how Scouting helps young people build resilience and believe in what they can achieve.

The team at Woodhouse Park are keen to welcome more local Scout groups from Avon to experience everything the site has to offer. They have even offered free camping opportunities for Avon groups who might otherwise struggle with the cost of camps, helping ensure that cost is never a barrier to adventure.

Experiences like those taking place at Woodhouse Park show what Scouting is all about. Adventure,

confidence, teamwork and creating opportunities for young people to grow.

But these experiences only happen because adults give their time to make them possible.

Across Avon, Scout groups are always looking for more volunteers to help create opportunities like these. From lighting campfires and sup-

porting activities to helping young people climb higher than they thought possible, volunteers are the people who make Scouting happen.

If you've ever looked at places like Woodhouse Park and thought "that looks incredible," you could be part of it.

Volunteering in Scouts isn't just about supporting young people; it's also about being part of the adventure yourself. Whether it's helping at weekly meetings, joining camps and activities, being on a trustee board or sharing skills and hobbies, there's a place for everyone.

Because Scouting isn't just for young people it's for the adults who help make the adventure possible too.

Want to be part of the adventure? Whether that is at the forefront or behind the scenes, Scout groups across Avon are always looking for volunteers.

For more information, email volunteer@avonscouts.org.uk.

ST ANDREW'S METHODIST CHURCH,
ELM PARK, FILTON



FRIDAY

3rd APR 2026

3.30 – 5.15pm

Crafts, fun and food
for all the family

Come and join us.
Entry is FREE!

** Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times **

What's on in Filton ... email shane@filtonvoice.co.uk

St Peter's Church

Monday 30 March 7pm Stations of the Cross through the eyes of Mary
Tuesday 31 March 7pm Lenten Taizé
Wednesday 1 April 7pm Said Eucharist
Thursday 2 April 7pm Foot washing and Eucharist to celebrate Maundy Thursday
Good Friday 3 April 2pm Eucharist
Easter Eve Saturday 4 April 8pm Vigil
Easter Day Sunday 5 April 8.30am and 10am Eucharist
Sunday 12 April 8.30 and 10am Eucharist
Sunday 19 April 8.30am and 10am Eucharist
Sunday 26 April 8.30am and 10am Eucharist

Midweek Said Eucharists are on Wednesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 11am.

On **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays** you can also join us for Morning Prayer at 9am and Evening Prayer at 6pm.

Community Coffee Shop

Our friendly community coffee shop is open **Mondays to Thursdays** from 10am to 1pm and all are welcome.

We have a selection of delicious homemade cakes and hot drinks available, all served by our friendly group of volunteers and we are also a designated warm space.

Please note, the Coffee Shop is currently closed on Fridays, and at the weekend.

Social and Church Groups

Our **Mothers' Union** meets on **2nd Thursday** at 2pm in the Coffee Shop. Full details on the website.

Brabazon Belles (a social group for women) meet on the **first Monday** of the month at 7pm in the church hall.

Our **Open House** group meets every **Tuesday** in the church hall from 9.30 - 11am for tea, toast, and companionship.

Our **friendly choir** meets for rehearsals every **Friday** at 7pm in the church.

Time to Grieve. Grieving the loss of a loved one? Time to Grieve offers you a

space to talk about your loved one with a retired bereavement counsellor and to meet others in a similar situation. 10.30 - 11am on the **first Wednesday** of every month in the Coffee Shop.

You can find more information at www.stpeterschurchfilton.com

St Andrew's Methodist Church

Regular services

Sundays

Morning Service 10.30 am. Little Lights: For children whose parents/carers are attending worship.

All Age Worship on the **3rd Sunday** of the month during April.

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday - 2 April 7.00 pm

Good Friday - 3 April 10.00 am

Easter day - 5 April 10.30 am

Tuesdays Wesley Guild — meets alternate Tuesdays at 2.15pm. All welcome. April meetings are 14 & 28 April.

Thursdays

Rainbows (term-time) 5.15pm

Sip 'n' Chat Coffee morning: 10am-12 noon. 2nd Thursday of every month. Enjoy a cuppa, a cake and a chat - all welcome.

Fridays

St Andrews Baby and Toddler Group, term-time, 10.00 am - 11.45 am, £2 per family, includes refreshments. Play, crafts, chat, and singing time.

Messy Church: In April we are meeting on **Good Friday 3 April**, 3.30 pm - 5.15pm.

Crafts, fun and food for all the family. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. This event is free.

Beetle Drive, **Saturday 25 April**, 2pm.

Hire of Church: Outside groups also regularly hire our newly refurbished multi-use church. For bookings email: standrewsfilton@gmail.com. For all other enquiries, please visit our website, standrewsfilton.org.uk

FACE

Mondays

9:30 - 10:30 am The Original Spinners yoga session £3.00 per session

This class is for everyone, regardless of experience or flexibility. We adapt the session to include everyone.

Wear comfortable clothing that won't restrict your movement and bring a blanket too.

12.30-1.30pm Tai Chi, £4 entry

7-9pm The Hangout youth club for young people aged 13-25, with social or learning disabilities, £2 entry

Tuesdays

10am-12pm Coffee Club (tea & coffee morning for over 60s), donations welcomed

Tom's Slimming World group will be held at Greenway Centre, Southmead, BS10 5PY every Tuesday at 5:30pm & 7:00pm from Tuesday 11th June 2024. For more information or to join Tom's group call him on 07920779270.



Filton Juniors

3.30pm - 5pm Yr 6 + 7 £2 entry

5.30pm-6.30pm Yr 3, 4 + 5 £2 entry

Wednesdays

10am - 12noon Citizens Advice drop in session Free entry

Citizens Advice South Gloucestershire face-to-face advice session. No appointment needed. Funded by Filton Town Council

7-9pm Outbreak youth club for School Years 7-13, £2 entry

Thursdays

10am-12noon Tech & Talk - IT or mobile phone support and more, whilst enjoying a cuppa and a natter, £3 entry

1.30-2.30pm Low Impact Fitness session, £3 entry

7-9pm Illuminators social club for adults aged 20+ with social or learning disabilities, £2 entry

Fridays

10am-12pm "Coffee & Chat" coffee morning for anyone who would like to come for refreshments, conversations and join in crafts and games together. Donations welcomed.

6-8pm, monthly Social Club for 8-13s with social or learning disabilities, **3rd Friday of each month.**

Contact: **FACE, Youth Centre, Elm Park, Filton, BS34 7PS. 0117 9691938 / info@facecharity.org.uk**

Girl Guiding

Rainbows - age 4 - 7 years - **Tuesday 16:45-17:45 & Thursday 17:15 - 18:15**
Brownies - age 7 - 10 years - **Tuesday 17:45-19:15**

Guides - age 10 - 14 years - **Tuesday 19:30 - 21:00**

Rangers - age 14 - 18 years - **Tuesday 19:30 - 21:00**

To register your daughter, go to Girlguiding UK website and follow the link 'Register my daughter'

1st Filton Scouts

Beavers age 6-8

Tuesday 6:00-7:00pm & **Wednesday** 5:45-6:45pm

Cubs age 8-10

Monday 6:30-7:45pm & **Thursday** 6:00-7:15pm

Scouts age 10-14

Tuesday 7:30-9:00pm & **Thursday** 7:30-

9:00pm

Kraken Explorer Scout Unit

Ages 14-18

Wednesday 7:30-9:00pm

The group is based in Scout HQ, Nutfield Grove, Filton, BS34 7LJ. All young people welcome, no previous Scouting experience necessary.

Email: joining@1stfiltonscouts.co.uk

Email: dave_buchan@hotmail.com

(Kraken Explorers)

Website: 1stfiltonscouts.co.uk

Men In Sheds Filton

The DIY group, which aims to tackle loneliness and isolation among men aged over 50, operates from the Scout hut in Nutfield Grove, providing a space to socialise, build, share skills and drink tea. The group runs every **Wednesday**, from 9.30am-12.30pm. Call John Cahill 07986053005

SHE7

Wednesday

Over 50s lunch, Cooked lunch, pudding and tea/coffee for just £4. Please ring 0117 969 5130 to book and arrive by 12.15pm.

Wednesday

Bristol Taiko - Japanese Drumming 7.00pm - 8:30pm, £5 per session

International Plastic Modellers Society Avon

Meetings are held on the **3rd Wednesday** in the month from 7:30pm for 8.00pm at: BAWA Healthcare & Leisure, 589 Southmead Rd, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. Contact: ipmsavon@gmail.com

Ukulele Filton

We are an enthusiastic group of ukulele players, who love to strum and sing every **Monday evening** in Filton. We meet at St Andrew's Methodist Church, Elm Park, from 7.30 to 9.00pm. We are always pleased to welcome new members. We have spare ukuleles for you to try, and plenty of help to get you started. We now also have members who come along just to sing! For further details, phone Sue on: 07504561831.

Bristol Sugarcraft Guild

We are a small friendly group who meet every third Saturday of the month 2pm to 4pm at St Andrews Church, Elm Park, Filton. If you would like to learn to make sugar flowers and models, we hold demonstrations and also workshops with instruction. Beginners are very welcome. For more information please contact Julia Mackay on 07563 628513

Bristol Scrabble Club

Bristol Scrabble Club meets every **Wednesday** evening from 7pm until 10pm at the Filton Community Centre. Elm Park Filton BS347PS. New members are welcome and first visit is free so come along and give us a try. For

OVER 30s DANCE PARTY at the superb BAWA Club, Filton

on the FIRST Friday of every MONTH (NO dance in August or January) It's the ideal night out for the 30-60 age range.

Come dance and socialise amongst a friendly, lively crowd. Dancing Thru' the Decades includes Motown, Soul, Club Classics... Music you can relate to. Club times are 9 'til 1. Last entry 11pm - very smart casual.

No t-shirts or trainers and gents required to wear collared shirts. Entry: £8. www.mingles.co.uk. Facebook: @Luv2mingle

What's on in Filton ... email shane@filtonvoice.co.uk

more information ring Sheila Hinett 01179570792 or 07435316458. Or email shinet@blueyonder.co.uk.

Bristol Sugarcraft Guild

We are a small friendly group who meet every third Saturday of the month 2pm to 4pm at St Andrews Church, Elm Park, Filton. If you would like to learn to make sugar flowers and models we hold demonstrations and also workshops with instruction. Beginners are very welcome. Please call Jean Kington on 01454 314178 or Carole Hyams on 0117 956 8037 for more information.

Community Garden

Alternate Saturdays, 10am-12pm

Join the friendly volunteers and help keep the garden great for all to enjoy. No experience necessary, just turn up on the day.

March: Saturday 28th (Easter egg hunt)

April: Saturday 11th & Saturday 25th

Filtones Choir

Our long-established mixed voice choir is looking to recruit new members. Adults of all ages, and all voice ranges are welcome from soprano to bass. We meet every **Wednesday** afternoon from 1.45-3.45 p.m. at the St Teresa's Community Rooms, (behind the church) at 71 Gloucester Rd North BS34 7PL. Come along and try us out for four weeks free, with no audition and no commitment. For further info. contact 07870 984760 or visit www.thefiltones.co.uk

Concord Wind Band

We are a friendly, mixed ability band, playing music for fun. We rehearse at the Beechwood Club, Beechwood Rd, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 3T **every Friday 7.30pm to 9.30pm**, with a tea break. We welcome new members. Contact Jayne on 07880724948

Filton Bookworms

Come along to the Bookworms monthly reading group at Filton Library! **1st Friday of each month** at 2pm. If you are interested in joining, please as inside the library. Phone: 01454 868006 or Email: Filton.library@southglos.gov.uk

North Avon Speakers Club

We usually meet every first and third Thursday of the month at BAWA Filton, 7:15pm to 9:30pm. We have prepared speeches, but also Table Topics, which are a fun way to help members and guests practice impromptu speaking. After our meetings some members and guests usually also go to the nearby lounge/bar at BAWA. Please email northavontm@gmail.com for more information.

Short Mat Bowls

Family fun swim with music

A fun hour session with toys, music and swim-related actions to nursery rhymes to build water confidence and have fun in the water.

Wednesday mornings, 9.30-10.30pm, £8.50 per adult and child at Elm Park Leisure Centre
More info, visit: www.leisurecentre.com/elm-park-leisure-centre/

We are a friendly group that meets **Thursdays 1:45pm to 4pm** at the Filton Community centre, Elm Park Filton, BS34 7PS. New members are welcome, and the first visit is free, then each session £3. Contact Alan Riley on 07957295287 or email alanriley73@gmail.com

RAF Association – Bristol Branch

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month we run Veterans lunch at our club, The lunch is for veterans of all services and widows of Service men.

Open from 12pm, lunch is at 1pm until 3pm. The price is £7 for two courses. Address 38 Eastfield, Westbury On Trym, BS9 4BE. Please ring 0117 9470775 to book.

Filton Pétanque Club

Come and try a game of Pétanque - the French game of boules. No equipment needed initially, just wear flat, trainer-type shoes, and dress for the weather. **Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm.** **Sunday mornings at 10.30am.** Venue: the boule piste, Elm Park, next to the community garden. Call 07925 913180 for more details. filtonpetanqueclub.my-free.website

Northavon Singers

Do you love to sing? Why not join our choir at St Peter's church hall, Filton. We meet every **Wednesday 7.30-9.30pm** and sing anything from Porter to Pop. Adults of all age and voice range welcome! northavon.singers@outlook.com or phone 0117 9699206

Functional Skills Maths Course

Free maths course for over 19s who do not hold a level 2 maths qualification. **Mondays 9:30-11:30am** at FACE. Contact Louise Gillett on 07720143 891 or louise.gillett@southglos.gov.uk

Horfield Townswomen's Guild

We are a small group meeting on the **2nd Wednesday in the month** at St Andrews Church, Elm Park, Filton between 2-4pm. We welcome new members and further details can be obtained from the Vice Chairperson, Edna Church on 07884 204621.

Probus

A members luncheon club for retired people. Held the **third Wednesday** at the BAWA Club in Filton at 12pm. Each meal is followed by a talk. Partners can attend four times per year. For more information contact the secretary on 07551503955 or email rogerbonner@gmail.com

Frenchay Folk Dance Club

We meet alternate Wednesdays for English and American Folk Dancing 7:45pm to 10:15pm at Frenchay Village Hall. Make new friends, have fun and dance to live music. New dancers are always welcome. See www.frenchayfdc.co.uk or email FFDCSecretary@gmail.com

Walking football

A new Walking Football Club, in association with WFA and UWE, is a safe and inclusive activity for those who have limited activity abilities.

Mondays 09:30 – 10:30, excluding bank holidays £4 per session plus a £5 registration fee. Held at Centre for Sport, Frenchay, Bristol You will only need a pair of trainers and the enthusiasm to join in. Carers & Partners welcome! For more information email: info.walkingfootball@uwe.ac.uk

Filton Concert Brass

Open rehearsals every 2nd Monday of the month

Join Bristol's leading championship section band for a fantastic opportunity. Young brass players of Grade 5 ability and up are encouraged to rehearse with us. Time: 7.45pm. Location: St Andrews Methodist Church, Elm Park, Filton BS34 7PS. Contact: Julie Cowell - 07876 135341 Email: filtonconcertbrass@gmail.com

RCTS Railway Society

Friday 10 April 7.30pm at St Teresa's Church Hall, 71 Gloucester Rd. North, BS34 7PL. Chris Smith will be presenting photos from the acclaimed photographer Bill Potter, both steam and diesel taken around the country from 1926 to 1985. A large selection of new and second hand books will be on sale, worth a visit just for the bookstall. For further information email: bristol@rcts.org.uk

Keep Fit Class

Want to stay active, improve your mobility and feel good? Why not try your local exercise class at St Teresa's Community Centre in Filton, **Mondays, 7.15pm-8.15pm.** Friendly class where you can work at your own level. All abilities welcome. The class is held by a registered Keep Fit Association Teacher. Come along and give it a go!

Dance Moves Keep Fit

Tuesday 2-3pm at St Peter's Church Filton. Have fun whilst improving your

general wellbeing. Suitable for all ages. Try the first session free. For further information, contact Eileen Scott: Tel. 07969929733 or email scottytartois@hotmail.com

Filton Historical Group Programme of talks

Wednesday 29 April – 7.30 pm
'Woodchester Mansion – An Unfinished Masterpiece' with Liz Davenport

These talks will be held on Wednesday evenings in St Andrews Church, Elm Park, Filton, BS34 7PS. All talks will start at 7.30pm. Free parking available in the adjacent Church car park. Membership cost covering all six talks is £20pp. Guests (or those who wish only to come to selected talks) will be asked to pay £5 per session). Yearly membership fees will be collected at the September meeting (or later if you cannot come to this one). For more information: 01179424378 or alansnook@blueyonder.co.uk

Bristol Marquetry Group

Marquetry is an ancient art form. A craft which has been around for many years dating back to Egyptians. It is the use of wood veneers and placing them into a background forming a picture or design to enhance a piece of furniture or just creating a picture of your own be it from a photograph or from your own imagination. It is a safe, inexpensive hobby which can be carried out in the comfort of your own home. We can help you in producing a simple design for coasters to start you off with materials supplied, or you can create some unique attractive coasters of your own for your table. Meetings to be held on the **third Wednesday of each month, 1pm – 3pm** at St Andrews Church, Filton. Please Telephone Brian Adams on 07590099564 for more details.

Free valuation day with Paul Martin

On Saturday April 11 join head auctioneer Paul Martin form the famous Duzices Auction House at St Andrews Methodist Church. Refreshments will be available and there will be an option to consign your items to auction! Join in the fun from 10am-3pm.

Got an event or a regular activity you would like to promote on our what's on page?

**Contact Shane:
shane@filtonvoice.co.uk**

With NHS dentists hard to find, local people are rightly concerned about their mouth health. But there might be an alternative. In her regular series of columns, Sarah-Joy Lendon, the Filton-based 'Virtual Hygienist', offers tips on how you can take steps yourself to reduce your need to visit the dentist

Raising awareness of mouth cancer



Officially, November is mouth cancer action month, but since cancer doesn't know what month it is, and because cancer is something that could affect any one of us, I thought it would be useful to raise some awareness.

Early detection is incredibly important. When caught early, mouth cancer is much more treatable, yet many cases are diagnosed later simply because the signs are missed or ignored.

So, what should you look for?

Persistent ulcers that don't heal within three weeks, red or white patches in the mouth, unusual lumps, or any ongoing pain or difficulty swallowing or speaking should all be checked.

Risk factors can include smoking, alcohol, HPV, and prolonged sun exposure to the lips—but mouth cancer can affect anyone.

The good news is there are simple things you can do: regularly check your mouth, attend dental appointments, and seek advice if something doesn't feel right.

If you'd like to learn more about this important topic, I'll be sharing more throughout the month in my free Facebook group, The Virtual Hygienist.

Your awareness could make all the difference.

Sarah-Joy Lendon
*The Virtual Hygienist and
Compassionate Coach*



**Sarah Joy
Lendon**



The World Of Words

From fame to football, witches to wild embarrassment, here's what April has to offer.

Famesick by Lena Dunham

(April 14th)

In *Famesick*, a frank, deeply personal reflection on illness, fame, sex, and everything in between, Lena Dunham – the mind behind the hit series *Girls* and *Too Much*,



and the bestselling author of *Not That Kind of Girl* – explores whether fulfilling her creative ambitions has been worth the pain it's caused.

The Book Witch by Meg Schaffer

(April 9th)

She can hop into any novel, she just can't stay there. Nor can she eat, drink, or sleep inside a fictional world, lest she will become part of the story. And falling in love with a

fictional character? Don't even think about it. Come along with the book witch Rainy March in this magical and inspiring love letter to reading.



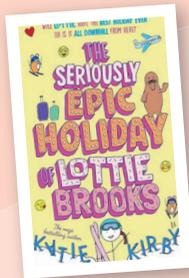
Prepare for more cringeworthy embarrassment with Lottie, our hapless heroine.

The Seriously Epic

Holiday of Lottie Brooks by Katie Kirby

(April 9th)

From hilarious bestselling author Katie Kirby comes a brand-new story from the phenomenal Lottie Brooks series!



Lottie's done with embarrassing herself, as well as being embarrassed by others – cue her annoying little brother announcing her bra size while shopping!

Tears for England by Robert Taylor

(April 14th)

The roller-coaster story of the last 50 years of England's football team, seen through the eyes of a national press journalist and obsessive fan.



This brilliant read marks the England team's occasional triumphs (plus frequent woes), starting with the *Telegraph*, *Spectator* and *Express* columnist's first memories of football in the mid-1970s, through World Cups, European Championships and much more besides.

MARKETPLACE

AERIAL SERVICES

GARDENING SERVICES

PLUMBER

THE AERIAL MAN

TV Aerial and Satellite Specialist

Poor Reception Problems Solved
OAP Discount Digital Aerials Satellites

Two Year Guarantee Free Quote

CCTV & Ring Doorbells 

Affordable Prices - Reliable Service

0117 967 9028



www.theaerialman.co.uk | info@theaerialman.co.uk

AERIAL SERVICES

H&P Aerials

Digital, Freeview and Freesat Specialists

- TV, FM & DAB • Radio Aerials
- Extra Points • Fully Guaranteed
- OAP Concessions

For a free quote

Tel: 0117 908 7232 or
Mobile: 07815 029775

AERIAL SERVICES



Andy's Aerials

- Digital Aerials Fitted
- Local Engineer
- OAP Discount
- Free Quotes

Call Andy on:

07500 702566

CARPETS AND FLOORING

T.A.K FLOORING

SUPPLY, PREP & FITTING:

- Carpets
- Cushionfloor vinyl
- Laminate flooring
- Latexing
- Hardboarding
- LVT- luxury vinyl tiles



Deal direct with fitter, call Tom on
07886 683954 - also on WhatsApp -
or email takflooring@yahoo.co.uk

GENUINELY LOW PRICES & FREE QUOTES

Stones Grass Cutting, Fencing and Decking



For friendly and professional grass cutting services within Bristol. Fully insured for regular/one-off jobs, both domestic and commercial.

Call **07867 484360**

terrystone1964@icloud.com
www.trimandstrim.co.uk

GARDENING SERVICES

D ATTWELL & SONS LANDSCAPING

Whether you're looking for new patios, garden fencing, new decking installations, or turf laying our landscapers are here to help



Call now for a free quote
07960 681921

www.dattwellandsonslandscaping.co.uk

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

SJM DECORATING

Professional Decorating
Local Qualified tradesmen
Internal & External Decorating
Fast, reliable & friendly service
Fully insured

Free Quotations

Call Scott **07515 523 623**

0117 3824411

www.sjmdecorating.freeindex.co.uk

PLUMBER

LOCAL PLUMBER



- TAPS • WASHERS
- DRIPS • LEAKS • REPAIRS
- TOILETS • BALL VALVES
- LEAD PIPES ETC

0117 9564912

****O.A.P. DISCOUNTS****

LOW COST PLUMBING



- Taps, Washers ✓
- Toilets, Cisterns ✓
- Leaks, Blockages ✓
- Tanks, Overflows ✓

Lead Pipes, Stopcocks....etc...✓

OAP DISCOUNTS and NO VAT

0117 **957 5092**

To advertise here and online from as little as £15/month, contact Rich on 0777 555 0607

ROOFING



DAVE TRIMBY ROOFING SERVICES

- All Roofing Work Undertaken
- Professional | Friendly | Local
- Independent family business
- Well established
- Roof repairs and renewals
- Fascia, soffit and guttering work

0117 904 3656 | 07899 921 338

www.davetrimbyroofing.co.uk

RUBBISH CLEARANCE



**HOUSE CLEARANCE
GARAGE CLEARANCE
GARDEN CLEARANCE
GENERAL RUBBISH CLEARANCE**

FULLY LICENSED AND INSURED

MINIMUM COLLECTION FROM £49 - FREE QUOTATIONS

Visit us: www.junkmonsters.co.uk

Email us: info@junkmonsters.co.uk

Call us: **07592 506 003**

