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July 2026 Issue 177

filtonvoice

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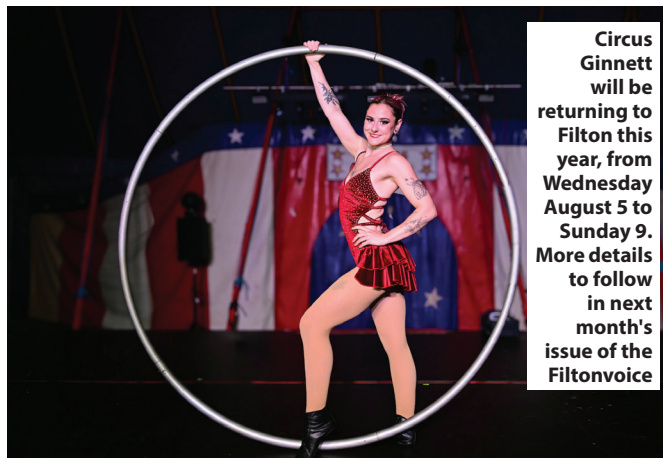
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News

Filton Festival prepares for take-off

A drone shot of last year's festival. Image: Matthew Faux



By Lucy Frost

High-flying fun — and a World Record attempt — can be expected at this year's Filton Festival as it prepares to mark 50 years since the first commercial flight of the Concorde and 25 years of the popular community event.

On Sunday, July 5, festival-goers can enjoy a packed day of live music, family activities and aptly themed activities such as an RC plane display and airshow, birds of prey and hot air balloons (weather dependent). The festival is free to attend.

Organisers, Deryncoch, have also planned to break a World Record for the most people pretending to be an aeroplane at the same time.

Town clerk Simon Davies said: "Deryncoch is going to deliver a fantastic festival, which everyone is welcome to attend."

Local kickboxing champion,

Continued on pages 4-5



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News

Continued from page 3

Liam Holden, will be kicking off the festival at 11am.

With such a jam-packed line-up, the festival has been split into two stages, a main stage and a second stage with lots of local talent.

Festival line-up

Main stage

■ **12:30-13:15: Bristol Reggae Orchestra** — The first musical performance hits the main stage at 12:30pm. Bristol Reggae Orchestra will perform until 1.15pm, drawing on influences from reggae, ska, jazz and classical music. They said: "Our ensemble reflects the multicultural fabric of Bristol. We celebrate diversity through our music and performances, fostering a sense of unity and inclusivity."

■ **14:00-15:00: Party Peeps**

— The soulful performance will be followed by a more chaotic activity at 2pm. Party Peeps, the highest-rated children's entertainment in the South West, will be hosting a family foam party.

■ **15:30-16:30: Brass Junkies** — Later in the day, Brass Junkies will soundtrack the main stage with their diverse set covering classics from Amy Winehouse, Stevie Wonder and Prince.



■ **17:00-18:00: The Longshots** — To close the festival, four-piece cover band 'The Longshots' will keep everyone dancing with their energetic set.

Second Stage

■ **11:00-12:00: Party Peeps** — Without a minute to spare, Party Peeps will begin the family celebrations on the second stage after Liam Holden concludes the festival opening.

■ **12:00-12:30: Filton Ukulele** — Following the high-energy family entertainment are Filton Ukulele, a local group who have been running for nine years. The group, who practice every Monday at St Andrew's Methodist Church, said: "Our repertoire consists of popular songs that are fun to play, even for beginners. Our audience can sing along too! We look forward to entertaining the festival goers at Filton. Let's hope the weather is as good as it was last year!"

■ **12:30-13:15: Kickboxing Demonstration** — At 12:30, Liam Holden will make a second appearance. The local kickboxing legend has been decorated in gold medals alongside his teammates at GB Fit.

■ **13:15-14:00: Filton Concert Brass** — Filton Concert Brass have long associations with Filton, focussing on enjoying their music and creating an opportunity for audiences to



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News



Festival-goers enjoying the entertainment
Image: Rosie Butler-Hall

appreciate a traditional brass band. The group originated as Avon School of Music in the early 70s; some members even played at Elm Park to celebrate the twinning of Filton with St Vallier-sur-Rhône!

■ **15:00-15:30: Bristol Male Voice Choir** — Closing the

second stage, Bristol Male Voice Choir will serenade the crowd with their diverse setlist of timeless classics. Originating in 1968, what began as a small group from the British Aircraft Company has evolved into the Filton Male Voice Choir, who have gained recognition for their performances.

World record attempt

■ **16:30-17:00:** As part of the celebrations, festival organisers, Deryncoch have planned a first-class world record attempt. Musical performances will be briefly halted as festival attendees are encouraged to set the record for the most people pretending to be an aeroplane at the same time.

Activities

Beyond the stages, the festival site will be packed with hands-on activities and aviation-themed attractions.

Included in the activities are a workshop tent, consisting of aeronautical-themed activities including paper plane making and costume building.

■ **11:00- 16:00** — Nature's Aeronauts (Birds of Prey Static

and Aerial Show)

■ **11:00-18:00** — RC plane models on display

■ **12:30, 13:30 & 15:30** — RC plane static line displays

■ **11:00- 15:00** — Zorb Football and games

■ **15:00-16:00** — Zorb football tournament

Stallholders

Dozens of local stallholders will be present at the festival, such as: FACE charity, South West Ambulance, Avon and Somerset Police and the Fire and Rescue team.

There will be plenty of opportunities to grab a bite to eat from the likes of 'Cherry Bakes Well' and 'In the Mood for Food'.

A full list of stallholders will be confirmed closer to the date.

Keep up with the latest information via www.facebook.com/filtonfestival

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News

Town's largest project in years set for approval



By Lucy Frost

Filton Town Council was expected to sign off on the long-awaited Conygre Regeneration Project at its next full council meeting after

Filtonvoice went to print.

The proposal follows a recent Finance and Scrutiny Committee meeting, where councillors agreed to recommend that the full council apply for a loan from

The council plans to fully refurbish Blenheim play area, pictured left, which has been poorly maintained under previous ownership. Image: Google Maps

the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to fund the project.

The application has already been approved by the Avon Local Councils Association, marking the first formal step forward.

The project is the largest undertaken by the council in recent years, with a budget of £500,000 to revitalise the area.

Key sites earmarked for improvement include Blenheim play area, Filton Hill School, the Conygre Triangle, and surrounding community spaces.

The council plans to fully refurbish and modernise Blenheim play area, which has been poorly maintained under

previous ownership.

Additional works are proposed around Filton Hill School, including new fencing and refurbished bollards. The improvements intend to promote safety, accessibility and community use across the area.

The project was initially introduced in January when the council proposed to increase the precept by 2.99 per cent for 2026-2027.

In the long-term budget, the council said the increase was necessary to improve key areas while maintaining reserves above the minimum level to avoid larger tax increases in the future. The project was unanimously agreed amongst councillors in January. A launch event on the Conygre Triangle is also being proposed, with further details to be confirmed.

The council aims to go out to tender by September.

Heatwave puts a lid on bin collections

By Adam Postans, LDRS reporter

Thousands of households in South Gloucestershire had their bin collections missed during the recent extreme heatwave.

A combination of staff ending shifts at 1pm because of the record-breaking temperatures, bin lorries breaking down, and employee sickness created a massive backlog, with rubbish overflowing.

Council chiefs have apologised and are taking steps to be better prepared in future, including crews starting earlier when the weather is forecast to be sweltering and bringing in vehicles from elsewhere from the authority's contractor Suez ahead of a fleet replacement next year.

But opposition Conservatives have branded the failures 'unacceptable' and are demanding answers.

They say about 3,000 homes had their bin collections missed in a 'significant failure' by the Lib Dem/Labour administration.

Tory group leader Cllr Liz Brennan said: "This situation is completely unacceptable.

"While we recognise that extreme weather can put pressure on services, residents



rightly expect contingency plans to be in place.

"Thousands of households have been left dealing with the consequences of poor preparation and a lack of resilience in the system."

She said the areas most affected by the disruptions were Alveston, Bromley Heath, Patchway, Pucklechurch, Staple Hill, Severn Beach and Yate.

The Conservative group has also urged the council to consider whether investment decisions, fleet management, and operational planning are fit for purpose in the face of increasingly frequent extreme weather conditions.

In response, a South Gloucestershire Council spokesperson said: "We recognise that some residents

experienced missed recycling and waste collections recently and we apologise for the disruption this caused.

"Suez, our waste contractor, worked extended hours including weekends to minimise the disruption and, in most cases, collections took place within two working days of the scheduled date. However, some collections had to be cancelled so crews could prioritise the wider backlog.

"A combination of factors led to the disruption.

"This included extreme heat preventing crews from working at their normal speed, and staff sickness.

"Crews were also adjusting to new routes and service changes, which added to the challenge.

"During the extreme heat, we agreed with Suez to stop collections at 1pm due to crew safety and welfare.

"This led to a larger-than-usual amount of recycling the following week, starting June 1.

"In line with contingency planning, we prioritised black bin collections as these impact residents the most.

"Extra vehicles and staff were

brought in to clear the recycling backlog.

"This was completed by the end of last week.

"We are reviewing contingency plans with Suez to minimise future disruption.

"This includes considering agreeing earlier start times during periods of extreme heat.

"The current recycling fleet is in its final year before replacement and plans are in place to manage reliability issues ahead of the new vehicles arriving. This includes bringing in vehicles from other Suez contracts."

They said the council provided updates to residents through online channels.

"We added notices to our web pages which received 83,000 visits," the spokesperson said.

"On social media, posts about the disruption reached 116,000. Where possible, we sent council app notifications to update residents on affected routes.

"Around 20,000 residents received app notifications about the disruption. We encourage residents to download the council app to receive direct and timely service updates."

News

Landlord fined over hazardous rental



A photograph taken inside the property in Hunters Way

A landlord has been fined £17,500 for failing to improve a seriously hazardous rental property in Filton.

South Gloucestershire Council's private sector housing team issued the penalty notice

to the landlord, who has not been named, after they failed to comply with a statutory improvement notice at the property in Hunters Way.

Serious hazards were identified at the house by officers

on September 16, 2025, which included structural collapse, electrical hazards, risk of falls on stairs, excess cold and poor domestic hygiene and refuse. Three of these were classified as category 1 hazards — the most serious housing health and safety rating, and two were category 2.

The landlord was required to complete the works within two months, but failed to carry out the improvements within the timeframe, so the council progressed the civil penalty notice.

Previous complaints relating to the same address forced the council to take direct enforcement action.

The council's HomeChoice team is working with the affected tenants to support them in securing alternative accommodation.

Councillor Sean Rhodes, cabinet member responsible for environmental enforcement at

South Gloucestershire Council, said: "We are committed to supporting tenants living in poor housing conditions and improving standards across the private rented sector."

"Landlords have a legal duty to ensure their properties are safe, and where they fail to do so, we will not hesitate to use the full range of enforcement powers available to us, particularly where there is a history of non-compliance and tenants' health and wellbeing are at risk."

Further information on tenants' rights and the Renters' Rights Act can be found by visiting: beta.southglos.gov.uk/renters-rights-act/

Residents concerned about the condition of their rented property that their landlord is not addressing, or concerns about landlords not complying with new tenancy reforms, are encouraged to contact psechousing@southglos.gov.uk

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News

Kickboxer's knockout success

By Lucy Frost

Local kickboxer Liam Holden has made a highly successful debut for the combat sports promotion, Total Kombat, marking an important milestone in his already impressive career.

On June 13 the kickboxer from Filton took to the stage at Liverpool Olympia.

Holden put up a good fight against Tom Davies, a former marine who had plans to shock the favourite.

Despite the pressure, Holden kept his composure and won his debut fight in the second round.

Describing his fighting style as "fast, explosive and showreel", Liam certainly lived up to expectations and earned his place at the high-level tournament.

Holden has proven himself on the international stage, consistently winning gold medals in kickboxing.

In the past year, the sport has taken Liam internationally, competing in tournaments in



Venice, Abu Dhabi and Croatia.

The well-decorated champion trains at GB Fit, Horfield, with coach Sharon Gill, who is also from Filton. With his Total

Kombat debut now behind him, Holden's focus turns to the next challenge, and on current form, he looks set to make an even bigger impact on the national stage.

Foster carer celebrated

A foster carer from Filton was among 13 recognised by South Glos Council last month.

The dedication of Sue Hollingsbee, who has been a foster carer for 13 years, was celebrated at a special awards ceremony held during Foster Care Fortnight at Eastwood Park.

Around 80 guests attended the event to recognise and thank foster carers for the vital role they play in transforming children's lives.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of long-service awards to 13 of the districts foster carers with more than 10 years' experience who attended the ceremony.

Twenty-five carers have passed this milestone, and together they represent a remarkable 356 years of fostering, working with local children.

Cllr Simon Johnson, cabinet member for Children and Young People, said: "I'm incredibly proud of our foster carers and grateful for everything they do to help children and young people thrive."

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WHERE IMAGINATION TAKES OFF

News

Pizza chain bids for all-night opening hours

By Lucy Frost

Papa Johns in Filton has applied for a licence to serve food and non-alcoholic drinks through the night, from 11pm-4am.

If the application is successful, the pizza delivery store in Gloucester Road North will be permitted to serve hot meals, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

In the application, the pizzeria states that extending operating hours "will meet the demand of late-night diners, boosting customer satisfaction and revenue."

In the bid, under the Licensing Act 2003, the takeaway chain states that it is situated amongst other late-night businesses in an area that already experiences high footfall.

As part of the application process Papa Johns has outlined the steps it will take to ensure it meets the licensing rules.

For instance, Papa Johns states that it will "implement

security measures such as CCTV surveillance and trained staff to deter any potential criminal activity."

It adds that it "will prioritise the safety of customers and staff by adhering to fire safety regulations and providing clear emergency exit routes."

And it will manage noise levels, ensure proper waste disposal and manage queues at all times.

Papa Johns said in its application: "Staff will monitor the frontage to prevent loitering excessive noise or anti-social behaviour, and any customers causing disturbance will be asked to leave immediately."

It was acknowledged that opening through the night could result in deliveries and pick-ups in the early hours.

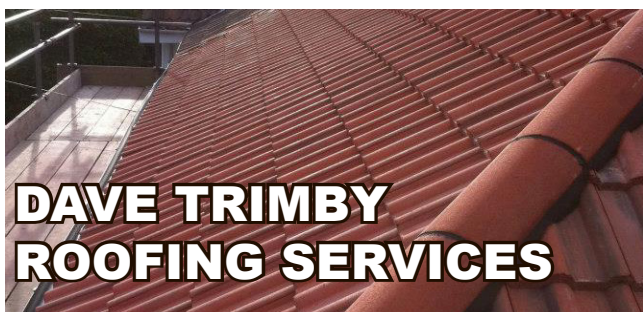
Residents who may be affected by this must have made a representation to South Gloucestershire Council by



June 18. At the time of going to print, no public comments had been made about the application.

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News

Store to open 24/7 despite noise fears

By Alex Seabrook, LDRS reporter

An off licence in Filton can stay open 24-7 despite fears from locals that noisy customers late at night could cause a nuisance. South Gloucestershire Council has granted permission for the new hours to Bargain Liquor and Wine on Gloucester Road North.

The shop previously had a premises licence which allowed the sale of alcohol from 8am to 11pm. The service after midnight will be from a hatch, for security reasons. Councillors on a licensing hearing voted to grant permission for the extension of the hours on Monday, June 1.

Bill Donne, a licensing consultant representing the applicant Harpreet Singh Sandhar, said: "This will be his third premises and he has been in the industry for many years. The industry has changed and the economy has changed, and people work shifts. My wife is a nurse who regularly comes home



at 2am. So there is a market for it. It's a busy highway and there are other businesses there. We don't think, with the conditions and the use of the hatch, that this particular premises should cause any issues."

However locals said that the new late-night hours could cause a problem. Other shops in the area don't stay open overnight, so there was a concern that Bargain Liquor and Wine could act as a magnet attracting people who

have been drinking alcohol to the shop.

Alan Bird, from Filton Town Council, said: "It will attract people to the area who would otherwise have no interest in being there between the hours 11pm to 8am. We have health concerns for those suffering from alcohol abuse and the ease of access this will provide to those individuals."

He added the town council was also concerned about the

potential for obstructive parking outside the shop. And there are concerns about a group of men regularly drinking alcohol on the street near the shop, who would be able to buy alcohol from the shop at 3am.

Students drinking late at night was another complaint. The wider area has recently seen a vast rise in the number of students living there. Many landlords have converted family homes into shared houses, and Filton is close to the University of the West of England's Frenchay campus.

Writing to the council, a local resident said: "I have serious concerns about the impact that such an extension would have on those living nearby. Operating throughout the night is likely to increase anti-social behaviour, noise disturbance, and general nuisance, particularly during late night and early morning hours when such issues are most disruptive."

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News

Welsh Wizard Byron pulls out the stops for

By Shane Gibson

Local celebrity the Welsh Wizard Byron Jones BEM celebrates his 60th career anniversary this year and coincidentally his organ's 100th birthday.

Byron began working as an organist at the age of 17, in a working men's club.

"I was working three nights a week for £9 which all those years ago was a lot of money," Byron recalls.

He began playing in between bingo games and as his career progressed, he would add more to his repertoire, playing at bigger clubs for larger audiences whilst improving his craft and learning how to play for dancers, cabaret acts, and comedians.

Byron would eventually find himself playing at a Cardiff nightclub with such esteemed singers as Donald Peers and Ruby Murray, before leaving for America.

He said: "I had developed into playing for concerts and so... I went to America; I have played 12 tours across America over the years. I played in the big theatres that held 2,000 to 3,000 people."

Crafting his own style of performance, Byron stood out from the other organists.

"I'm a people's person. Before the show, I'll have a little chat with them and then maybe ask them what type of music they like and what songs would they like to hear.

"If I know it, I'll put it in. Some of the old girls would have their own seats and would come back each year and I would say, 'oh no not you again' and they loved it.

"The American organists would just play one piece of music, explain who composed it and then bore the pants off the audience."

One of the organs that Byron

played over the decades was the DX style Wurlitzer Opus 1230.

It was one of around 57 deluxe models with twin-chamber pipe work.

The Opus was shipped from the Tonawanda factory on December 31, 1925 to Gowanda, New York State, 48 miles away. It would be installed in the Hollywood Theatre on West Main Street. This was a new 990-seat state-of-the-art movie theatre, which would become a cultural hub hosting not only silent films but also live performances, community events, and concerts with the Opus as the beating heart at the centre.

The rise of talkies and films with synchronised sound in the late 1920s brought new challenges and opportunities. The Opus, originally designed for silent film accompaniment, adapted to new roles, including intermission entertainment and

special event performances.

Despite periods of decline and disrepair, the organ remained intact. Restoration efforts in the late 20th and early 21st centuries brought renewed attention to its historical value. Volunteers and preservationists worked tirelessly to restore both the theatre and the organ to their former glory.

Today, the organ stands fully working in Byron's home.

After many concerts including at the Bristol Beacon, formerly Colston Hall, and at the age of 77, Byron continues to put on concerts for attentive fans and new audiences alike.

"Naturally, I don't do so much because of the driving, and I lost my partner around nine years ago. I still go out and ask everyone if they are having a good time, and then I come home alone. But the show goes on.

"He was the organiser and I am the organist. Now I must

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News

60 years at the organ

deal with the office work and deal with the computers, I hate the things," laughed Byron.

Looking back over his career, Byron said that the highlight was being invited to play at Blackpool Tower.

"I played a number of concerts there and then I played one or two dances that upset the older audience members - they said that I was playing it too fast! So, I told 'em next year we can have a geriatrics jive.

"You should have seen their faces; they looked as if the devil himself had just appeared."

Of course, not all of Byron's audiences took things so seriously.

"I was at St David's Hall in Cardiff for a big celebrity concert. I played a bit of a sing-along at the end, when someone dared me to play the Birdie Song. I said you dare me, do you? So, I played the song and a quarter

of the audience stood up and did the dance. The conductor was spitting feathers. Then I played Dambusters, and you can imagine what happened next!"

Byron's entertaining performances have allowed him to stay popular with audiences. And it is Byron's efforts to connect with people after the show that keep them coming back.

"Some of the people that come to my shows aren't well. But afterwards I go and speak to them, and they tell me how much better they are feeling.

"You know I don't play 'BANG, BANG, BANG' it's gentle stuff, its opera, a little bit of jazz, sing-along stuff, I give the people what they want. As we say, you play to the balcony lot."

Byron was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in 2018 for his contributions to community life and his



Byron Jones with his Opus organ

dedication to music and charity. He still performs regular concerts with one scheduled for August and you can see him weekly on

his live streams on YouTube at tinyurl.com/byron-jones-youtube

See Byron's concert details on Page 30

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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.

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

For younger readers

Summer Sports Boggler Puzzle

How many words of 3 letters or more can you find using the letters below? Words are formed from adjoining letters. Letters must join in the proper sequence to spell a word and may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, to the left, right, or up-and-down. No letter square, however, may be used more than once within a single word. You may use plurals if available. Score 1 point for each 3 letter word; 2 points for 4 letter words; 3 points for 5 letter words and so on. Score an extra 2 points for every summer sports word that you make!

A	T	C	S
H	T	I	N
L	E	N	C
K	C	I	R



My points _____

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Activity
village

Txtpert

Theme: Cooking

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

Across

- 1 38243773 (8)
6 288 (3)
7 748 (3)
8 645 (3)
10 3987228 (7)

1 q o	2 a b c	3 d e f
4 g h i	5 j k l	6 m n o
7 p q r s	8 t u v	9 w x y z

Down

- 2 86266533 (8)
3 46875283 (8)
4 7728852 (7)
5 344 (3)
9 768 (3)

Easier sudoku

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

	1	6	3		
	2	3		4	
1			5		2
			4		
		2			6
6					

Solutions

Txtpert

				E		D
L	C	V	R	I	X	E
O	T	V	I	O	K	
d	u	n	t	I	O	
		I	I	d	O	
G	V		I	n	C	
G	d	O	N			
E	S	S	E	H	C	n

Graham Cook

Gardener and handyman

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3 Gloucester Road North, Filton Park, BS7 0SG

Commemorative Concorde coins presented to Filton primary pupils

Primary school children across Filton have now been presented with special commemorative 50p coins marking a key moment in the town's aviation history.

Filton Town Council arranged for every primary-aged child in the town to receive the coin, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Concorde's first commercial flight on 21 January 1976.

The coins, designed by Osborne Ross in partnership with British Airways and Airbus, feature Concorde in flight alongside the historic date of its first passenger journey.

In recent weeks, the coins have been distributed to pupils at Filton's three primary schools - Filton Hill, Shield Rd and Charborough Rd - ensuring local children receive a lasting keepsake linked to the town's proud aerospace heritage.

The initiative was designed to recognise Filton's pivotal role in the development of Concorde and to give young residents a tangible connection to that legacy.

The council also ensured provision for children educated outside the town, including those who are home-schooled or attend nearby schools in areas such as Horfield and Stoke Gifford. The commemorative coins serve as both a celebration of the past and an inspiration for future generations growing up in a community shaped by innovation and engineering excellence.



Do you need advice? We can help

Citizens Advice South Gloucestershire is running free face-to-face advice sessions for Filton residents.

Our advisers can help in a wide range of areas including benefits, debt and housing. No appointment is necessary.

Come to: **FACE, Elm Park, Filton BS34 7PS**
(What3Words location - ///grain.racing.online)

Every Wednesday, 10am to 12 noon - from 3rd Sept 2025 onwards.



Filton planning applications in June

Applications

18 Holmdale Road Replacement of garage doors with 2 windows and infill external wall to match existing render to facilitate conversion of existing garage to form garden room.

Brabazon At The Former Filton Airfield Non material amendment to permission P25/02839/O to amend the 'meanwhile use' proposals, changing the single two storey buildings to 2 single storey buildings.

The Annex 168 Station Road Use of building as self-contained dwelling (Class C3).

11 Sixth Avenue Variation of condition 2 attached to P23/00920/F to make amendments to the proposed driveway - Change

of use from a small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4) to a seven-bedroom large House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Sui Generis) for up to seven people including vehicle parking, bin storage and cycle parking.

Decisions

634 Southmead Road Erection of hip to gable roof extension and installation of 1 rear dormer to facilitate loft conversion and erection of single storey rear extension. **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

34 Charles Road Erection of single storey rear extension and installation of 1 rear dormer to facilitate loft conversion including external wall insulation. **Approve**

Certificate of Lawfulness

37 Dunkeld Avenue Erection of hip to gable roof extension and installation of 1 rear dormer to facilitate loft conversion. **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

19 Clyde Grove The erection of a single storey rear extension, which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 4.50m, for which the maximum height would be 3.60m, and for which the height of the eaves would be 2.60m. **Prior Approval Not Required**

14 Station Road Continued use as a Small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4). **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

506 Filton Avenue Continued use as a Small House in Multiple

HM watch

Occupation (HMO) (Class C4)
Approve Certificate of Lawfulness

39 Blenheim Drive Change of use from residential dwelling (Class C3) to 6 person HMO (Class C4) as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) with parking and associated works. **Approve with Conditions**

■ **These planning applications and decisions were up to date at the time Filtonvoice went to print, but they may be subject to change. We recommend visiting beta.southglos.gov.uk/search-planning-applications to keep up to date with the latest planning applications and decisions.**

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

Recycle box amnesty

Filton Town Council will be offering a recycle box amnesty, that saves residents of Filton having to drive outside of town to dispose of their old recycling containers and bags following the introduction of the new ones.

The service will be available for two weeks from 29th June until 13th July.

Residents can contact office@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk to book an appointment and simply need to come to Elm Park with proof of address and the Ranger Team will take it from there.



Student Isobel's mural brightens up entrance

We are pleased to reveal the mural by the entrance to Elm Park which was designed and created by student Isobel from SGS, above, who undertook work experience at Elm Park.

The mural features a veteran with a new elm tree to plant, Concorde flying overhead and sports being played that symbolise the significance of the park and area.



Play area

The play area at Elm Park is being repainted, meaning bits will be out of action in July as different areas will be closed off whilst this is done. This will be from w/c 6th July for 2 weeks

'Happy to Chat' benches launched in Filton to tackle loneliness

Filton Town Council has launched a new pilot scheme to help bring people together and tackle loneliness in the community.

Timed to coincide with Loneliness Awareness Week, which began on 15 June, two 'Happy to Chat' benches have been installed in Elm Park (what3words: falls.assist.latest) and Millennium Green (what3words: rival.bronze.quick).

The benches are designed to encourage conversation, offering a simple way for residents to connect with others when out and about. The initiative forms part of the council's wider programme to support community activities that reduce isolation and build stronger social connections.

Alongside the outdoor benches, the council also hosts a 'Chatty Café' session at Elm Park Café, providing a welcoming indoor space for people to meet and talk.

The council is now seeking volunteers to support both the Chatty Café and the new Chatty Benches initiative. Anyone interested in getting involved is encouraged to contact the council office for more information.

If the pilot proves successful, Filton Town Council plans to expand the scheme and make the 'Happy to Chat' benches a permanent feature in local parks.



Dogs of Elm Park display

Here you can see the finished Dogs of Elm Park Display which has been put up in Elm Park Leisure Centre's Cafe space.

This initiative was delivered collaboratively by the Support Officer, Peach Jones, and Park Ranger, Daniel Thomas, building on his community engagement work during National Pet Day. On Saturday, 11th April, the Park Ranger dedicated part of his shift to meeting local dog walkers, distributing complimentary dog treats and capturing photographs of some of Filton's much-loved canine residents.

The Council would be delighted to hear from any pet owners who would still like their pets to be included in the display.

While this year's theme focused on dogs, reflecting the high number of dog walkers who frequently visit Elm Park. We hope to broaden future displays to feature a wider range of pets.

The Council would also like to take this opportunity to remind all pet owners of the importance of responsible pet ownership while using Elm Park, ensuring that any waste is cleared. This remains an ongoing issue and support in promoting good practice is greatly appreciated.

Contact Filton Town Council

Town Clerk:
Simon Davies

Visit

The Council office is open to the public 9am-5pm
Monday to Thursday & 9am- 4:30pm on Fridays only.
Offices located within Elm Park Leisure Centre.
Address: Filton Town Council, 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

July

- **Staffing Committee, Tuesday, 7th July at 7PM**
- **Planning & Climate Committee, Tuesday, 7th & 21st July at 7PM**
- **Finance & Scrutiny Committee, Tuesday, 14th July at 7PM**
- **Assets & Open Spaces Committee, Tuesday, 21st July at 7PM**
- **Full council, Tuesday, 28th July at 7PM**

All meetings held at council offices, Elm Park



FREE EVENTS AT FILTON LIBRARY IN JULY

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

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Thursday	10am-5pm
Friday	OPEN ACCESS
Saturday	10am-1pm
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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

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**READ
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Join the **Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat** at a South Gloucestershire library during staffed hours from Saturday 4 July finishing by Saturday 12 September, and pick up your FREE activity bag. Look out for loads of free fun activities to do this summer!

WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY 10:30 - 11:30AM

WEST AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP WITH BATCH GUEYE

Children attending must be 6+ and accompanied by an adult. Places are limited for this activity. Book your FREE ticket at sglibraries.eventbrite.com. Tickets available from July 1st.

Read to the Beat illustrations by Harry Woodgate, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2026

SUMMER OF SOCKS!

Look out for the **Lost Sock Mystery** trail around Filton! Get your trail sheets from the Library starting on the 20th of July.

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

**Active
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TRINITY ACADEMY OPEN EVENTS

OPEN EVENINGS

Y7: Tuesday 22nd September 2026 / Post16: Tuesday 20th October 2026



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Teaching & Learning: Outstanding
Leadership & Management: Outstanding

INSPIRING THE HEAD, HEART AND SOUL

News from our MP Claire Hazelgrove

Making local voices heard on a national level

Last month, my team and I worked on 549 new cases for residents – including collaborating with the council, a housing association and the police to secure priority housing for a local family who urgently needed it.

I held my advice surgery in Emersons Green, hosted my 'Coffee with Claire' in Bradley Stoke on experiences of mental health services, and brought people together for 'Pub Politics' at Frenchay's fantastic White Lion. I believe in doing politics differently and these events have been invaluable for hearing directly from fellow residents.

Great news for local commuters: GWR will enter public ownership on December 13, following our Labour government's action to set up Great British Railways to improve services and passenger experience.

In Parliament, I welcomed the government's 'Great British summer savings' for local families, cutting



VAT on days out from 20 per cent to 5 per cent and making buses free for every child aged 5–15 this summer. In a debate, I raised the importance of community pharmacies with Health Minister Stephen Kinnock MP following his visit to Concord Pharmacy in Little Stoke.

I also spoke in the Commons on the Milburn Report, on the 1 in 8 young people not earning or learning, pushing policy

recommendations to also focus on prevention. Opportunities should be open to all ages, and I was delighted to see SGS and UWE among the first institutions approved to offer flexible, bite-sized courses through our government's new 'Lifelong Learning Entitlement'.

Continuing my push for improved SEND support, I met with the Schools Minister again to share local feedback following my recent 'Coffee with Claire' event on this, and to ask local parents' questions. I also sat down with the Technology Secretary and Online Safety Minister to share local views on social media access for under-16s, ahead of the policy announcement, following my event and online survey on this. Thank you again to all who shared your views.

I was honoured to attend the King's Speech, where His Majesty set out 37 bills for our second parliamentary session, including on energy independence to

protect families from volatile global impacts, landmark NHS reform to cut waiting times, and a National Police Service to tackle serious crime. Locally, South Gloucestershire Armed Forces Day was a powerful celebration of service. Thank you to all involved.

Coming from an RAF family, I'm proud our Armed Forces Bill will give those who serve a legal entitlement to the housing, healthcare and education they deserve.

I was pleased to join one of Bristol City FC's Robins Foundation's pan-disability football sessions at Bradley Stoke Community School, and visit Bristol Dental School to discuss how we can continue to boost NHS dentistry — a priority I'm pushing on for us. I was also glad to cheer all runners on taking part in the Bradley Stoke 10K – congratulations to you all!

Please get in touch anytime: claire.hazelgrove.mp@parliament.uk

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Advertorial

Test drive experience draws strong interest



Global new energy vehicle leader BYD, together with its long-term retail partner Harmony Auto, hosted a customer experience and test drive event at BYD Bristol North, marking a further expansion of the brand's presence in the Bristol region.

As Harmony Auto's second BYD showroom in Bristol, BYD Bristol North works alongside the existing Bristol South location to create a comprehensive sales and service network covering both sides of the city. The dual-site strategy further enhances customer access to vehicle demonstrations, test drives and aftersales support, while contributing to the continued growth of new energy vehicle adoption across South West England.

This regional expansion aligns closely with Harmony Auto's wider UK network development strategy, complementing its established locations in Canary Wharf, Mayfair, Lakeside, Warwick and Bristol South. As a retailer focused on intelligent new energy mobility, Harmony Auto remains committed to working alongside BYD to make zero-emission driving more accessible and to promote a more sustainable future for motorists across the UK.

The event attracted more than 100 guests, including local consumers, media representatives and automotive enthusiasts. Test drive demand remained strong throughout the day, with more than 50 in-depth vehicle demonstrations completed across the BYD range.

Through real-world driving experiences and hands-on

product demonstrations, visitors were able to explore BYD's latest developments in electrification, intelligent vehicle technology and driver-focused innovation. Positive customer feedback and strong participation levels further highlighted the growing interest in new energy vehicles among UK consumers.

Commenting on the event, Benny Li, head of marketing at BYD UK, said: "The launch of BYD Bristol North will enable us to better serve the growing demand for new energy vehicles in the region. We remain highly confident in the future potential of the Bristol market and look forward to introducing even more customers to the benefits of electric and hybrid mobility."

Martyn Webb, chief business controller of Harmony Auto UK, added: "BYD has become the world's largest manufacturer of new energy vehicles through a unique commitment to innovation and technological development. Its growth has been remarkable and represents a success story worth celebrating. By combining our established Bristol South operation with this new Bristol North facility, we have created a highly effective retail network that will serve as a benchmark for customer service and EV education across the South West."

During the event, Bristol manager of Harmony Auto UK, Sing Cheung shared an overview of Bristol North's services, future plans and current model lineup. He highlighted the showroom's commitment to delivering exceptional customer service and ensuring a seamless ownership

experience from initial enquiry through to vehicle handover and aftersales support.

Across BYD Bristol South and North, customers can explore BYD's full range of battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. The electric vehicle lineup includes BYD Dolphin, Dolphin Surf, ATTO 2, ATTO 3 EVO, SEAL and SEALION 7, while the plug-in hybrid range includes BYD SEAL 6 DM-i, SEAL 6 DM-i Touring, SEALION 5 DM-i and SEALU DM-i. Customers will also be among the first to experience the upcoming BYD ATTO2 DM i, which is scheduled to arrive in the showroom next week.

Among the most popular vehicles at the event were the BYD SEAL U DM-i and BYD Dolphin Surf, both of which attracted significant interest from attendees.

Following an extended test drive, customer Mr Taylor commented: "The level of refinement, premium interior design, impressive driving range and exceptionally smooth driving experience completely exceeded my expectations of a family vehicle."

Meanwhile, the BYD Dolphin Surf proved particularly popular thanks to its competitive finance offers, practicality and compact design. After experiencing the vehicle and reviewing available finance packages, Mrs Abby commented: "The BYD Dolphin Surf's agility and attractive pricing make it a perfect fit for my daily urban driving needs."

BYD Bristol North combines vehicle sales, test drive facilities and aftersales support under one roof, providing customers with a comprehensive new energy vehicle ownership experience. Through expert guidance and hands-on

demonstrations, visitors can gain a deeper understanding of BYD's latest developments in vehicle technology, intelligent features and electrified mobility solutions.

The opening of BYD Bristol North represents another important milestone in the growing partnership between BYD and Harmony Auto. As additional locations continue to be established and customer demand grows, the partnership continues to strengthen BYD's position within the UK market and support the increasing adoption of new energy vehicles nationwide.

As one of BYD's key retail partners in the UK, Harmony Auto remains committed to expanding its sales and service network, bringing innovative and sustainable mobility solutions to more customers across the country.

Looking ahead, BYD and Harmony Auto will continue working together to deliver innovative products, advanced technology and outstanding customer service, supporting the continued growth of new energy vehicle adoption across the UK.

About BYD

BYD is a multinational high-tech company devoted to leveraging technological innovations for a better life. Founded in 1995 as a rechargeable battery maker, BYD now boasts a diverse business scope covering automobiles, rail transit, new energy, and electronics, with over 30 industrial parks globally. BYD is dedicated to providing zero-emission energy solutions that reduce global reliance on fossil fuels.

To book a test drive, visit: www.byd.com/uk/test-drive



News

Deal 'will enhance affordable homes'

YTL Developments has partnered with Bromford Flagship LiveWest (BFL) to enhance the delivery of high-quality affordable homes at Brabazon and the wider West Innovation Arc in the West of England, it has been announced.

YTL Developments is transforming one of the largest brownfield sites in the UK into Brabazon, a 450-acre new town north of Bristol that will eventually include 6,500 homes. The site is one of seven shortlisted by the government for New Town status, a designation expected to unlock thousands of homes and jobs alongside new transport and infrastructure.

Bristol Brabazon railway station is due to open this autumn, alongside a new m4 Metrobus service. The wider scheme is expected to support up to 30,000 jobs, along with 2,000 student accommodation beds, schools, community facilities



and 86 acres of green space, including a 15-acre park and three-acre lake. The development will also house the YTL Live entertainment complex, featuring the 20,000-capacity Aviva Arena.

BFL, the UK's largest provider of new affordable homes, delivers more than 3,000 homes annually and already manages around 10,000 affordable homes across South Gloucestershire, including in Patchway, Little Stoke and Filton.

Seb Loyn, director of planning and development at YTL Developments, said: "Working with the team at BFL is a great example of a partnership-led response to national housing ambitions. Brabazon is a major new town of genuine scale and ambition."

Robert Nettleton, chief executive officer at BFL (pictured), said: "Brabazon

demonstrates what's possible when ambition is matched with the capacity to deliver at scale. Our partnership with YTL reflects the kind of collaboration needed to support delivery of the government's 1.5 million homes target and enable long-term growth."

Helen Godwin, mayor of the West of England, welcomed the partnership, saying: "We know that people want the right homes built in the right places, with the right services and connections, and that's

what we're determined to help deliver – working with our local councils and developers like YTL and BFL."

The partnership will also see both organisations invest in local skills development to build a construction workforce pipeline for the project.



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News

Council appoints new chair and vice chair

A new chair and vice chair have been elected to South Gloucestershire Council.

Liberal Democrat councillor for Chipping Sodbury Adrian Rush has been appointed as chair and Conservative councillor for Bradley Stoke Terri Cullen as vice chair after being picked by councillors at May's full council meeting.

Councillor Rush moves into the role after serving as vice chair last year and takes over from councillor Katie Cooper.

The chair and vice chair perform important ambassadorial roles, including representing the council at civic functions and chairing council meetings.

Each year, the new chair selects a charity to support for the year ahead, with donations received during that time presented at the end of the chair's term of office.

Chair of the council, councillor Adrian Rush, said: "It is an honour to be elected as Chair of South Gloucestershire Council and I look forward to representing the authority across



South Gloucestershire Council's new chair and vice chair councillors Adrian Rush (left) and Terri Cullen

our area and beyond during the year ahead. I welcome the opportunity to meet with the many residents, volunteers and

community groups who work to make South Gloucestershire such a fantastic place.

"One of the great privileges

of being Chair is being able to support a chosen charity for my year in office, which I will formally announce at the next meeting of Full Council. I must pass on my special thanks to councillor Katie Cooper for serving as chair last year with such joy, dedication and enthusiasm."

Speaking of her previous year in office, councillor Katie Cooper said: "The last year has been one of the most extraordinary of my life. The experience has been truly magical. One moment that moved me deeply was the annual Chair's Community Awards. Being able to recognise those who quietly and consistently support others, without any expectation of thanks, was a special honour."

"My chosen charity for the year was Ignite Life, a truly remarkable organisation undertaking life-changing work with young people who need someone to believe in them. Together we raised £3,700 and every penny will make a meaningful difference to the young people they support."

'Keep flags off streets', council warns

By Alex Seabrook, LDRS reporter

South Gloucestershire Council has reaffirmed its commitment to remove flags put up on lampposts, railings and other public property during the World Cup.

It follows a statement in recent weeks from Bristol City Council leader Cllr Tony Dyer who urged football fans to fly flags on their own homes.

He welcomed the 'usual colour and pride' expected across the city with the tournament having kicked off on Thursday, June 11, but said the local authority would continue to take down flags hung from street furniture, in 'sensitive locations', and where they caused a health and safety issue.

South Gloucestershire Council has taken a more hardline approach to flags tied to lampposts, calling them divisive and introducing a policy to remove them after St George and Union Flags started appearing with the launch of a far-right



campaign last autumn.

In its weekly email newsletter to residents, the authority said: "We know many residents will want to show their support for teams and countries competing in the World Cup."

"To make sure this is done safely and lawfully, any items, including flags, should only be displayed on your own private property and must not cause obstruction, damage, or concern to others."

It directed people to a page on its website outlining the rules on flying flags on public land or council infrastructure, which said: "These rules are not about limiting expression."

"They exist to protect public safety, prevent damage to public assets, ensure the highway remains safe and usable for everyone, and maintain a welcoming and cohesive community feel."

"Any flags or other items displayed without permission on public land or council property will be removed by the council."

"You can usually fly flags on your own property without needing permission, provided you follow national guidance."

It said flags at residents' homes must be secure and safely installed, did not obstruct roads, pavements or sightlines, and avoided causing damage to property or distress to others.

The council said: "Attaching flags, banners, or any other items to highway infrastructure such

as lampposts, traffic signs or street furniture is not permitted without authorisation and may constitute a criminal offence."

"We will treat all flags attached to highway infrastructure as unauthorised."

"These items will be removed within a reasonable timeframe and without prior notice."

"Where it is in the public interest, we will pursue enforcement action including prosecution under highways legislation and where appropriate, anti-social behaviour legislation."

"We may also seek to recover the costs of removal from those responsible."

It urged people not to attempt to remove flags themselves but to report concerns online at tinyurl.com/flag-reporting

Bristol residents can report flags on public property through FixMyStreet: www.fixmystreet.com/

The World Cup concludes in North America on July 19.



Filton Community Garden

COME & JOIN US FOR OUR

SUMMER FETE

SUNDAY 19 JULY **FILTON COMMUNITY GARDEN** (top of elm park)

12PM-4PM

FREE ENTRY

Events

Punch and Judy
Cakes and refreshments
Plant sale

Traditional games
Raffle and much more!



All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the garden for all to enjoy! Online updates at:
[Facebook.com/filtoncommunitygarden](https://www.facebook.com/filtoncommunitygarden)



Greenfingers... the Alan Titchmarsh Column

He's a magnificent broadcaster, gifted gardener, brilliant author and all-round horticultural visionary. This month, Alan Titchmarsh discusses the importance of watering.

There is something deeply reassuring about watering a garden on a warm summer's evening. Hose in hand, the scent of warm soil rising as the first droplets hit, it feels like an act of kindness. I've spent many such evenings in my own Hampshire garden, convinced I was doing exactly the right thing.

Yet experience has a way of gently correcting us. In truth, during the height of summer, it is not how much we water, but how we water, that really matters.

I recall one particularly dry spell when I watered diligently every evening, giving everything a light spray. The borders looked revived for a time, but beneath the surface the soil remained stubbornly dry. It was a useful lesson: plants need more than a passing refresh - they need a proper drink.

Timing is crucial. Early morning is ideal, when the air is cool and moisture has time to soak in before the day warms up. Evening can work too, though it's best not to leave plants sitting damp for too long. What's rarely effective is watering in the middle of the day, when much of it simply evaporates before it reaches the roots.

Remember as well, it's the roots that matter most. A quick sprinkle over leaves may look pleasing, but it does little for long-term health. Water applied slowly at the base encourages roots to travel deeper into the soil, making plants more resilient when conditions turn dry.

One of the simplest ways to support this is through mulching - that gorgeous layer of compost or bark spread over the soil acts like a protective

blanket, locking in moisture and improving structure over time.

Collecting rainwater is another simple habit that pays dividends. A water butt may not be the most exciting feature, but it provides a supply that plants seem to relish, and there is something quietly satisfying about using what nature provides.

It's also worth remembering that a garden is a living system. Too much water can be just as harmful as too little, encouraging shallow roots and occasional disease. Allowing soil to dry slightly between waterings often results in stronger, healthier plants.

In the end, summer gardening is about observation and restraint. By paying attention and watering with care, we not only conserve a precious resource, but create gardens that are better equipped to thrive - whatever the weather brings.



All children must be
accompanied by an adult
throughout the event



EVENT OPEN TO
ALL LOCAL RESIDENTS

SHIELD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
**SUMMER
FESTIVAL**
2026

5PM TO 7PM

FRIDAY 10th July

SHIELDS AVENUE NORTHVILLE BRISTOL BS7 0RR

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- TOMBOLAS • DANCE AND RUGBY DEMOS • AND MORE •



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Clare Smyth's Michelin Starred Chocolate Tartlets

The afternoon snack takes on a whole new dimension, enlivening Clare Smyth's 3-Michelin-starred petit fours. As an aromatic twist, subtle hints of lavender perfume the chocolate.

Method

Step One

Mix the butter, flour, and salt until you have a grainy mixture. Beat the egg yolks with the icing sugar using a hand blender.

Step Two

Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix until you have a smooth dough. Roll out the dough between sheets of baking paper to a thickness of 5mm.

Step Three

Next, cut the dough into 6cm diameter discs. Then, using round 5x2cm molds, place a disc between two molds and press down. (Trim off any excess dough with a small knife.) Bake in the oven at 160°C for 6 minutes.

Step Four

Break the chocolate into pieces. In a small saucepan,

heat the cream to 80°C, add the lavender and leave to infuse for 4 minutes.

Step Five

Next, remove from the heat and strain the cream through a sieve into a bowl. Add the chocolate and stir to create a ganache.

Store at room temperature. Using an electric whisk, beat the eggs and sugar until the mixture is light and fluffy, similar to a zabaglione.

Step Six

Finally, slowly pour the ganache into the egg mixture with a spatula, stirring until a slightly golden mousse forms. Transfer the mixture to a piping bag.

Preparation of the tart

For each tartlet, calculate 30g of chocolate filling. Pour the chocolate mixture into the

Ingredients

Serves 15

For the shortcrust pastry

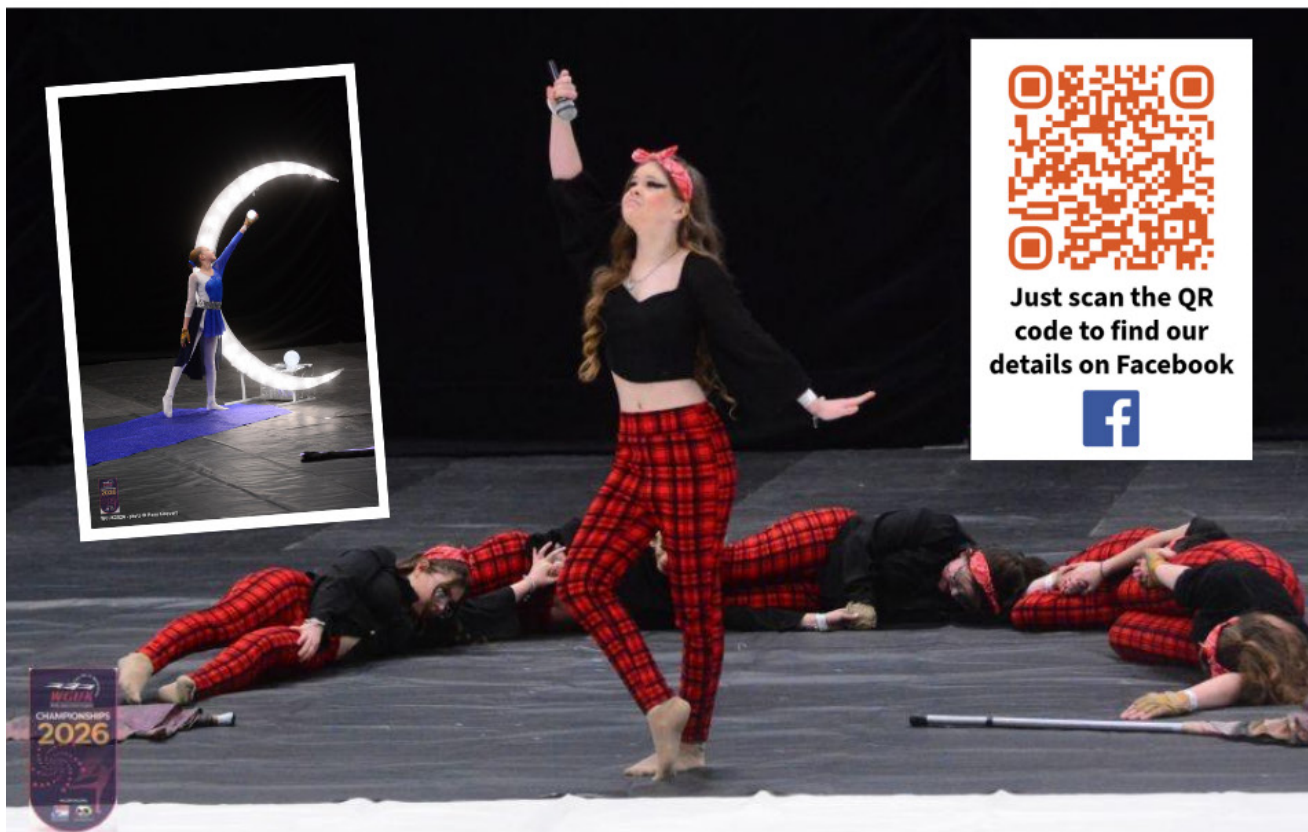
- 150g icing sugar
- 90g egg yolks
- 375g plain flour
- 188g unsalted butter
- 5g sea salt

For the chocolate filling

- 108g Udzungwa 70% dark chocolate
- 125g cream
- 1g dried lavender
- 2 whole eggs
- 52g pasteurized egg yolks
- 50g caster sugar

pastry base until it reaches the edge. Bake in a preheated oven at 180°C for 4 minutes.

The tart should have a slightly set but creamy centre. If it is too runny, bake for another 30 seconds, then remove from the oven and leave to rest.



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07889 409012 to find out more**



North Bristol **Independent**
NBI
Colour Guard

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

St Peter's Church

Sunday 28 June 8.30am and 10am Eucharist to celebrate St Peter's Day

St Peter's Summer Fayre will be from 10am to 2pm on **Saturday, 27th June**. Come and join in the fun!

Sunday 5 July 10am Eucharist

Sunday 12 July 8.30 and 10am Eucharist

Sunday 19 July 8.30am and 10am Eucharist

Sunday 26 July 8.30am and 10am Eucharist

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

Do be sure to check Facebook to see if there has been a change to regular services while we are in vacancy.

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.

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

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 usually 2nd Sunday of the month.

Tuesdays Wesley Guild — meets alternate Tuesdays at 2.15pm. All welcome.

There will be no Wesley Guild meetings over the Summer. Meetings will resume on 8 September.

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

Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month, 3.30-5.15pm. There is no Messy Church in July or August.

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

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

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

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.



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**.

Prize Bingo Session - Fun For All Ages

Looking for a fun, friendly way to spend your time while supporting a great cause? Whether you're a seasoned bingo pro or trying it for the first time, everyone is welcome - bring your friends, family or come along and meet new people!

Prizes to be won. Join us on the last Friday of the month 1pm-3pm at FACE, Youth Centre. 1.00-3.00pm. £4 entry

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

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

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 more information ring Sheila Hinett 01179570792 or 07435316458. Or email shinett@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 Kingston on 01454 314178 or Carole Hyams on 0117 956 8037 for more information.

Filton 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.

July
Saturday 6th
Saturday 20th

August
Saturday 1st
Saturday 15th
Saturday 29th

Summer Fete
Sunday July 19th, 12pm-4pm

All Proceeds go towards the upkeep of the garden for all to enjoy!

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 pm. 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

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/

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

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

Northavon Singers Presents Guys and Dolls, Lads and Lasses

Well-loved music from the shows and hits through song titles. On **Wednesday July 8th** at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church Hall Filton. Tickets: £7 including refreshments. The concert is in support of the Audio-Visual Tech Fund for the Church.

For more info please call: 07939 982382

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

Filton Ladies Social Club

We are a small group and meet at St Andrews Church, Elm Park Filton, BS34 7PS, on the **second Wednesday** between 2-4pm each month except August. We enjoy a range of activities including speakers, a Christmas lunch and in house entertainments.
For more details, please contact the chairperson Hilary Gardener on 07979 453508.

Probuss

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

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 scotttyartois@hotmail.com

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 are held every **third Wednesday** of the month 9.30 am to 12.30 pm at Men in Sheds (Filton Group), The Scout Hout, Nutfield Grove. Please Telephone Brian Adams on 07590099564 for more details.

Last Night of the Proms

Celebrating 60 years of music with Byron Jones BEM

Saturday 22nd August at St Andrews Church Filton

Concert starts at 7pm. Doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets £10 cash only. Contact 07917 573891

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

Keeping information on oral health simple



As these articles begin reaching a wider audience, I thought this month would be the perfect opportunity to introduce myself and explain what The Virtual Hygienist is all about.

I'm Sarah-Joy Lendon, a dental hygienist and dental therapist with a passion for helping people understand their mouths and feel empowered to take control of their oral health.

Throughout my career, I've

noticed that many people leave dental appointments with unanswered questions. They may have been told they have bleeding or receding gums, gum disease, tooth wear, or a high risk of tooth decay, but don't fully understand what it means or what they can do about it.

That's where The Virtual Hygienist comes in.

My aim is to make oral health information simple, accessible, and easy to apply in everyday life, empowering you to take control of your own smile. Whether it's understanding how to care for your gums, navigating the changes that come with midlife and menopause, or learning how oral health connects to overall wellbeing, my goal is to help people feel informed rather than overwhelmed, away from the dental surgery and in the

comfort of their own home.

Because a healthy smile is about so much more than teeth. It's about confidence, health, wellbeing, and living life with a smile that shines from the inside out.

If you're curious to find out more, I'd love to welcome you into The Virtual Hygienist free Facebook group:

Sarah-Joy Lendon
The Virtual Hygienist and
Compassionate Coach



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St Andrew's Church, Filton BS34 7PS

🎵 Celebrating 🎵
🎵 60 Years of Music with
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B.E.M.

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Orchestral Keyboard

Saturday 22nd August 2026

🎵 Concert starts at 7.0 pm
🎵 Doors Open at 6.30 pm
🎵 Entry by ticket £10
🎵 Cash Only

Contact: 07917 573891

Filton Community Garden

GARDENING GET-TOGETHERS

Alternate Saturdays, 10am-12pm

July	Saturday 4th	
	Saturday 18th	
August	Saturday 1st	
	Saturday 15th	
	Saturday 29 th	

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

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FILTON FESTIVAL

2026

Up, up and away!

SUNDAY 5TH JULY, 11^{AM}-6^{PM}, ELM PARK

FREE FAMILY FESTIVAL
LIVE MUSIC HIGH-FLYING FUN
ACTIVITIES STALLS FOOD & DRINK

BRASS JUNKIES • PARTY PEEPS • THE LONGSHOTS •
BRISTOL REGGAE ORCHESTRA • BRISTOL MALE
VOICE CHOIR • FILTON COMMUNITY BRASS •
FILTON UKULELE

WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT • ZORB FOOTBALL
• BIRDS OF PREY • HOT AIR BALLOONS
• FAIRGROUND RIDES • MODEL AEROPLANES
• CLASSIC CARS
...and more



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