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September 2026 Issue 179

filtonvoice

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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.

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News

Defence site set for £100m boost

Rolls-Royce has announced a major investment of more than £100 million to transform its Filton site into a "world-class" defence aerospace campus.

The customer-funded project will deliver a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the research, development and assembly of combat air technologies.

Belfast-based construction firm McLaughlin & Harvey has been appointed as main contractor, with groundbreaking scheduled

for later in 2026.

Rolls-Royce says the expansion secures the future of the 100-year-old defence hub, providing engineering teams with testing capabilities to support advanced flight programmes, including the UK's future combat air strategies.

It says the facility would help protect the roughly 3,000 engineering and manufacturing jobs currently based at the campus.

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News

'Summer of chaos' as 71,000 bins uncollected

By Adam Postans, LDRS reporter

More than 71,000 bin collections across South Gloucestershire were missed over just six weeks this summer – an average of almost 12,000 households a week.

Opposition Conservatives have accused the council's Lib Dem/Labour ruling coalition of running a waste service in 'chaos'.

They say residents have suffered months of problems with kerbside rubbish and recycling rounds since the administration introduced three-weekly black bin days and hiked green waste charges in May.

South Gloucestershire Council's latest briefing to councillors, based on data from mid-June to the end of July, revealed the scale of disruption.

Officers told members: "Across the period covered by the service breakdown, there were 71,000 recorded missed



collections."

The figures represent the total number of properties that did not have their rubbish collected during a round – a huge 60 per cent of the 118,000 homes in the district as of the 2021 Census, although many households are likely to have had their bin day missed on multiple occasions, so the proportion affected would be lower.

The council has apologised and said a combination of factors, including extreme heat, had caused the issues.

In July, the council fined its kerbside collections contractor Suez for its 'appalling' service.

The authority said at the time that the company was in breach

of its contract as waste, including nappies, piled up on the streets.

Successive heatwaves over the summer, combined with new collection routes and reduced black bin collections, have caused confusion and missed bin days.

The previous month, the councillor in charge of waste and recycling, cabinet member for communities and local place Cllr Sean Rhodes, resigned as he defected from Labour to become the Green Party's first ever South Gloucestershire unitary authority councillor.

Speaking about the 71,000 missed collections, Tory group leader Cllr Liz Brennan said: "Residents have endured a summer of chaos. The administration has failed to deliver even the basic services people pay for.

"Residents deserve better than missed collections, higher charges and excuses."

She said the new cabinet

member for communities and local place, Labour Cllr John Bradbury, confirmed that residents would not receive any refund or rebate for the weeks of missed collections, despite paying more for green bin services and receiving reduced black bin collections.

A council spokesperson said: "Although the vast majority of waste and recycling collections went ahead as planned on their scheduled day, the prolonged periods of extreme heat this summer have had a significant impact across South Gloucestershire.

"We recognise that some residents have experienced missed or delayed collections and apologise for the disruption caused. We continue to work closely with Suez every day to improve reliability, resolve outstanding issues and restore normal service as quickly as possible."



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News

Pride as editor returns to the drum corps field

By Rebecca Carter

Not one for blowing his own trumpet - or tuba, in this case - Filtonvoice's editor and publisher has something to be immensely proud of.

Nearly 40 years after he last picked up the instrument for the world-renowned Phantom Regiment, Rich Coulter returned to the field, this time at Indianapolis's Lucas Oil Stadium.

It was a "once in a lifetime" opportunity for Rich to play with nearly 600 Phantom Regiment Alumni in front of a 22,000-strong audience on August 7.

He first performed with the competitive world class drum and bugle corps in the 1980s, having studied in America and been involved in the activity

in the UK, and was thrilled to return all these years later to perform with them once again.

The performance marked the Regiment's 70th anniversary, in a night filled with powerful music repertoires and theatrical storytelling, with predominantly classical music arrangements including Nutcracker, New World Symphony and the ballet Spartacus, all selections from key Regiment shows down the decades and firm fan favourites.

The spectacular performance followed the Drum Corps International World Championship Semifinals, before closing with the age-out ceremony for this year's graduating class of corps members.

A keen musician who also

Images from the performance and below right, Rich during rehearsals at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis



plays the piano, Rich became aware of the alumni opportunity three years ago, and has since been busy practising the tuba again in preparation for the prestigious event.

Rich was joined by his family, including his wife Bridget and two sons, Fin and Rory, who proudly cheered from their seats.

He said they were all wearing red T-shirts, and "there was no better moment" than spotting them during the performance.

The Lucas Oil Stadium is the home of NFL team the Indianapolis Colts, and to perform there in front of such a huge and lively crowd was a "once in a lifetime opportunity", Rich said.

He described it as an emotional experience for everyone involved, particularly when, for an encore, the alumni were joined by the current Phantom Regiment cohort for a performance of the corps song, a favourite for brass musicians,

Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral.

He said: "For many of the 580 performers, our time with Phantom Regiment was a significant period in our lives and I feel so grateful to have been able to reconnect with people I hadn't seen in decades and share in this experience."

Prior to the performance, Richard spent a week in Indianapolis rehearsing with the band. To watch the full performance, visit: tinyurl.com/phantom-alumni



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News

Council moves to block travellers from park

By Lucy Frost

Robust security measures have been proposed to deter unauthorised vehicle access to Elm Park after travellers set up an encampment on the field last month.

South Gloucestershire Council served a notice under section 77 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994, requesting the travellers leave the land owned by Filton Town Council.

On July 27, the council requested a court hearing, which was granted two days later, as a complaint that persons and the vehicles in Elm Park were in contravention of the Act.

The courts made an order in accordance with section 78 of the Act for all vehicles, and those living in them, to be removed.

Bailiffs attended Elm Park on July 30 July and the travellers left.

At a recent council meeting, Filton Town councillors discussed potential measures to secure Elm Park from future incidents and unauthorised activities which may damage the park.

A motion proposed by Cllr Mac Elmsorsey intends to counter common issues including unauthorised vehicle access, damage to grassed areas, informal access routes being created, weaknesses in park boundary protection and ongoing maintenance requirements following incidents.

Suggested reinforcements to the park include replacing existing access bollards with more robust security measures, wooden boundary fencing and accessible kissing gates.

The proposal was passed over to the Assets and Open Spaces committee to discuss in further detail.

Throughout the month of August, several other unauthorised encampments were established throughout South Gloucestershire. Affected sites included the Jubilee Centre in Bradley Stoke, Pomphrey Hill Playing Fields, Emersons Green and Little Stoke Park.

Each encampment was resolved by the respective parish or town councils and Avon and Somerset Police.

Claire Hazelgrove, MP for Filton and Bradley Stoke, said: "Thank you to fellow residents for reporting these unauthorised encampments, and to South Glos Council, our diligent town and parish councils, police, and all involved in responding to them.

"I'm glad we've then been seeing the right outcome in each instance, but that doesn't mean there isn't impact on our community - there very much is.

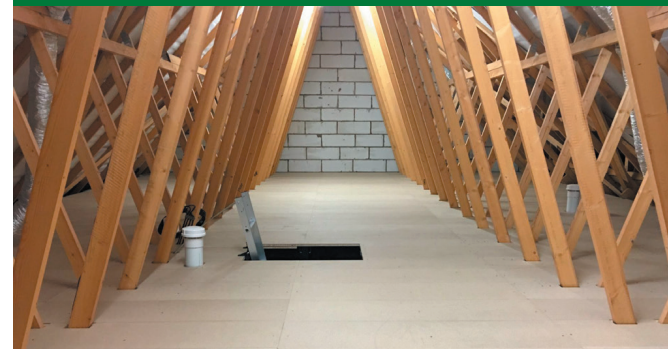
"We're seeing this disruption affect local businesses, and families and individuals who can't use community spaces that should be available to everyone.

"There are appropriate ways of locating and securing suitable sites, and this is not that. I fully support the authorities to continue in their approach to challenging unauthorised encampments.

"The sooner this consistent and strong approach is accepted by those involved, the better for everyone — certainly our local community".

To report an unauthorised encampment, contact South Glos Council via travellerunit@southglos.gov.uk or 01454 868009. Please include the specific location of the encampment, how many caravans are involved and details of the enquiry or complaint.

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News

Twinning event marks decades of friendship



MP Claire Hazelgrove, pictured second left, meeting residents involved in the twinning programme

Visitors from France and Germany were welcomed to a special event in Filton to celebrate lasting links with its respective twin towns St Vallier-sur-Rhône and Witzenhausen – forged through Concorde.

Filton and Bradley Stoke MP Claire Hazelgrove attended the

Filton Twinning Association event at BAWA to hear more about the programme, which has been running since the 1970s.

The event culminated a week-long exchange, which saw members from both partner towns visiting Filton between July 25 and 30, hosted by local families volunteering their home and time.

At the celebration event, Ms Hazelgrove met with Carole Duckett, who has served as hospitality officer at the Filton Twinning Association for over 40 years, alongside members of the association and delegates from St Vallier-sur-Rhône in France and Witzenhausen in Germany, and everyone enjoyed music performed by members of the association.

Twinning with Filton started when the Mayor of St Vallier, Mr Witzen, visited the German town Witzenhausen that shared his name. Those two towns became twinned.

Not long after this, Sarma in St Vallier and BAC in Filton collaborated on the Concorde project and Filton joined to form a tripartite twinning linking the three towns.

Claire Hazelgrove, MP for the Filton and Bradley Stoke constituency, said: "I was glad to support the Filton Twinning Association's event and exchange programme with our visitors from St Vallier-sur-Rhône in France and Witzenhausen in Germany.

"Forged through Concorde, these ties and friendships have been built and maintained between our communities over many years. This was lovely to see and hear stories firsthand.

"It was also a real pleasure to enjoy the music from members of the association, and to hear about the warm welcome our visitors received from host families right across Filton this week.

"Thank you to the Filton Twinning Association and to all local families who opened their doors to continue to build this decades-long friendship."

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News

Filton man fined for bus-stop number twos

A Filton man has been slapped with a hefty fine and community order after using a bus stop as a toilet.

The resident was brought before Bristol Crown Court after he had been found repeatedly using a bus stop in Badminton Road in Mayhill to defecate, leaving behind used tissue paper.

Recordings also showed him smoking, discarding cigarette ends and urinating inside the bus stop.

After pleading guilty to charges of criminal damage and littering, the man was ordered to carry out 12 months of community service, including 10 days of rehabilitation, fined £80 and ordered to pay £990 in compensation to the council, plus costs of £1,000, totalling £2,070.

The court heard that from early September 2025, South Gloucestershire Council began receiving reports that the Mayhill bus stop was being used as a toilet.

The council's cleansing team started attending the site to



deep clean and sanitise it, which required large quantities of strong disinfectant.

Between September 5 and November 21 2025, human waste was found in and around the bus stop on 10 occasions.

The council installed a warning poster inside the bus stop, advising it was monitoring the location. However, incidents continued and CCTV footage from a nearby resident captured several of the offences during late September and early October.

On October 7 2025, a council dog warden observed a man pulling up his trousers at the bus stop.

Before she was able to turn around to challenge him, he left the area. It was later found that

human waste was again left inside the bus stop. Further incidents were recorded during October, leading the council to remove the bus stop's bench seating and later install CCTV nearby.

Footage captured showed a man arriving at the bus stop in the early hours of the morning on a push bike, travelling from Frampton Cotterell towards Yate.

It recorded him smoking, discarding cigarette ends and tissues, and on three occasions between November 10 and 21 defecating outside the shelter.

On two of those occasions, he also urinated inside the bus stop.

Due to the frequency of events and the difficulty identifying the offender, environmental enforcement officers carried out an early-morning surveillance operation.

On November 21, officers observed a man littering cigarettes and tissues before cycling away towards Yate.

They discreetly followed the

man as he cycled to his workplace in Yate, where he was stopped and identified himself, providing a Filton address.

The man was then later interviewed, where he accepted responsibility and was advised he would be reported for summons for the offences of criminal damage and littering.

Councillor John Bradbury, cabinet member responsible for environmental enforcement at South Gloucestershire Council, said: "This man's actions had a huge impact on nearby residents and the council's cleansing team, and significant resources went into the numerous clean-ups.

"The investigation required investment of considerable time and resources by South Gloucestershire Council and I am grateful for the determination and diligence of our investigation team in bringing the offender to justice."

Editor's note: Filtonvoice has decided not to identify the man.



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News

Community groups benefit from cash boost



Filton's community garden and its popular annual festival are among the first grassroots organisations to benefit from a new fund awarded by the developer behind the Brabazon project.

Each of the four recipients, which also include a community kitchen and a community centre in Patchway, receive a slice of a £1,000 grant from the Brabazon Community Fund, established to help local groups that are having a positive social impact across the region.

Launched earlier this year by

YTL Developments — which is transforming the former Filton Airfield into Brabazon — the fund awards £250 each month to initiatives helping strengthen community connections, tackle isolation, and support residents.

Filton Community Garden was one of the recipients of the award, which allowed them to purchase a hot composter bin to accelerate compost production throughout the year.

Jason Young, chair, said: "It takes the garden around a year to produce decent compost for

use around the garden. It is vital now with the hotter and drier summers, and for protecting plants during cold spells.

"The hot composter will create the nutrient-rich compost we need in just 30-90 days. It will also save us money as there'll be no need to buy bags of compost, mulch or liquid plant feed."

Filton Festival used the funds to make this year's event even bigger and better.

Jacob Gough, director of DC Event Production, which organised the event this year,



Pictured left, Filton Community Garden, and below, Filton Festival

said: "This funding is incredibly important to the delivery of Filton Festival 2026. It has helped us to provide children and youth activities for free at the event but also has started a new relationship with Brabazon, a major development for the area. All of which shows how important the festival is to the local community."

Also benefiting were the Aura Ion Foundation, a project supporting people on low incomes in Patchway and the Coniston Community Centre.

Jon McDiarmid, director of sales and marketing at YTL Developments, said: "It is fantastic to see the money awarded already being put to such practical use across these four important projects. We look forward to working with many more local projects in the coming months."

For more information on the fund and to apply visit: www.brabazon.co.uk/funding



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WHERE IMAGINATION TAKES OFF

Abbeywood Community School A-level results

Achievements aplenty at Abbeywood



Post-16 students open their A-level results at Abbeywood Community School

Abbeywood Community School is celebrating outstanding post-16 success with students progressing to top universities and apprenticeships with leading employers.

Headteacher Ben Dilley spoke of his immense pride in the students' achievements. He said: "These results are a source of great pride for the entire Abbeywood community. They reflect the hard work, ambition and perseverance of our students, supported every step of the way by our committed staff and families. Alongside record numbers of applications for Abbeywood in 2026, they provide further evidence of the strength of the education and opportunities we offer.

"As a school, we are proud to serve our community by delivering an education that prepares young people not only for future study and employment, but also to play an active and positive role in the life of our local area. Our students leave Abbeywood with the confidence, knowledge and values needed to succeed and contribute meaningfully to society. We congratulate every student on their achievements and wish them every success for the future."

Commenting on the outcomes, director of post-16 Rich Williams said he was delighted by the students' achievements: "We celebrate the incredible achievements of our students, whose hard work and determination have led to well-deserved success, and high-quality post-18 destinations. It is a real pleasure to see such a diverse range of degree pathways across many universities, reflecting the ambition and individuality of each student. We are also thrilled that a number of our students will be moving onto ambitious and challenging

Abbeywood Community School A-level results



advanced apprenticeships with leading companies in the Engineering industry."

Some particularly notable individual achievements include:

- Will W - A*s in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and A in Further Maths, going on to study Physics at the University of Birmingham
- James V - A*s in Mathematic and Physics, A in Further Maths and Economics, going on to start an apprenticeship with Burgess Salmon
- Emma C - A* in Geography, Distinction * in Business Studies, A in Design Technology, going on to study Geography at



Loughborough University

- Oyindamola A - As in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics, going on to study Natural Sciences at the University of Bath
- Matteo D - A* in Mathematics, As in Biology and History, going on to study Mathematics, Statistics and Data at the University of Bath
- Rebecca F - A* in English Literature, As in Mathematics and Drama and Theatre, going on to study English and Drama at

the University of Exeter

Other notable achievements include Ethan B (Double Distinction * in Engineering and beginning an apprenticeship with MACH Machines); Tallulah W (A in Art); Wes D (Distinction in Games Design); Lewis L (A* in both Criminology and Sociology); Sam C (B in Design Technology and C in Art).

Claire Moloney-Banks, CEO of Olympus Academy Trust, celebrated the students' accomplishments and recognised the collective efforts that underpin the school's high standards of education and support. She said: "At Olympus Academy Trust, we are committed to ensuring every young person can fulfil their potential, and these results demonstrate what can be achieved through hard work, excellent teaching and strong support. We are delighted for Abbeywood's students as they take their next steps and wish them every success in the exciting opportunities that lie ahead."



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Abbeywood Community School GCSE results

Students 'set the bar' with strong GCSEs

Students at Abbeywood Community School are celebrating a strong set of GCSE results, with more than 70 per cent of students achieving Grade 4 and above in English and maths.

This year's outcomes demonstrate the continued strength of teaching and learning at Abbeywood Community School, with students achieving impressive results across English, mathematics and many other subjects.

In English 74 per cent of students achieved Grade 4 or above in English.

In maths, 72 per cent achieved Grade 4 or above in Maths.

Sixty-five per cent achieved at least five grades 9-5.

An average attainment grade of 4.8, which is a school record.

Headteacher Benjamin Dille said: "We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students and the excellent GCSE results they have achieved. Following last week's outstanding A-level outcomes, where over 20 per cent of students securing A* and A grades, these results reflect the ambition that defines Abbeywood.

"These results are a testament to the hard work of our students, the commitment of our staff, and the support of parents and carers. Every set of results tells a different story, but together they show what can be achieved when a community of students, staff and parents work as one to help young people thrive. The success



Smiles all round as students open their GCSE results at Abbeywood Community School

of our students continues to build confidence in Abbeywood, with a record number of families applying to join us this September. We are delighted that this Year 11 cohort has raised the bar once again, and I look forward to seeing them, along with the next generation

of Abbeywood students, continue to flourish and achieve great things."

Among this year's highest-achieving students were:

- George H: 8 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 1 grade 6
- Leo R: 7 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 7

Abbeywood Community School GCSE results



of the resilience, maturity and determination our students have shown throughout their time at Abbeywood. It has been wonderful to see so many students leave with the qualifications, confidence and aspirations to take their next steps successfully.

"I'd like to thank our staff, parents and carers for the role they have played in supporting this fantastic year group. These achievements are the result of a genuine partnership, and we look forward to seeing what our students go on to achieve."

Raising standards lead James Sisson said: "These results are a reflection of the hard work and effort of students during their time at Abbeywood. As they enter the next stage of their lives whether that be at Abbeywood, College or an Apprenticeship we know that the skills students have shown during their time at Abbeywood will set them up for success moving forward and we wish them the best."

- Matilda W: 5 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 1 grade 7
- Abby M: 4 grade 9s, 1 distinction star, 5 grade 8s
- Can C: 5 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s
- Josh C: 4 grade 9s, 1

distinction star, 3 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s

Assistant headteacher Anna Sims said: "Results Day is always one of the highlights of the school year. It's a privilege to celebrate alongside our

students and families as they see the rewards of years of dedication and hard work.

"We know that success looks different for every young person, and we are proud not only of the grades achieved but

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Charborough Road Primary School
Thursday 8th October / 5:30pm
www.charboroughroadprimary.org.uk

Bradley Stoke Community School
Tuesday 13th October / 5:00pm
www.bradleystokes.org.uk

Callicroft Primary Academy
Wednesday 14th October / 5:00pm
www.callicroftprimary.org.uk

Stoke Lodge Primary School
Thursday 15th October / 5:30pm
www.stokelodgeschool.co.uk

Book your place via the Olympus Academy website or individual school websites.

admin@olympustrust.co.uk
www.olympustrust.co.uk

POST 16

OPEN EVENTS

FOR SEPTEMBER 2027 ENTRY

Abbeywood Community School
Tuesday 3rd November / 5:30pm - 7:30pm
www.abbeywoodschool.com

Bradley Stoke Community School
Wednesday 4th November / 5:30pm - 7:30pm
www.bradleystokes.org.uk

Winterbourne Academy
Thursday 5th November / 5:30pm - 7:30pm
www.winterbourneacademy.org.uk

Subject staff will have stalls on the night for students to talk through the different courses on offer.
Information about courses can be found here:
www.olympustrust.co.uk/post-16/

Further information on booking talk times and attendance can be found on the Olympus Academy Trust website and also on individual school websites

admin@olympustrust.co.uk
www.olympustrust.co.uk

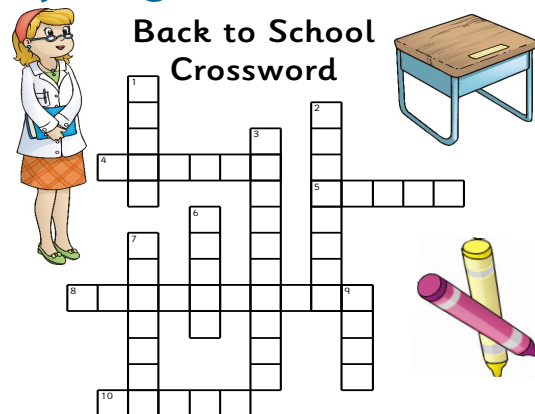
Puzzles for all

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

For younger readers



Back to School Crossword

Across

- Do you need to sharpen yours?
- Write or draw on this.
- You write on this with chalk.
- Please _____ your name on your work.

Down

- Draw straight lines with this.
- It has a keyboard and a screen.
- Where you go to play at break (recess)
- Read these at home or school.
- They help you learn new things.
- The teacher sits here.

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

Txtpert

Theme: Sports

1		2		3		4
5				6		
				7		8
9			10			
				11		
12						

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

Across

- 1 228 (3)
- 3 7868 (4)
- 5 52276773 (8)
- 7 879 (3)
- 9 24368 (5)
- 11 824 (3)
- 12 32787 (5)

Down

- 1 24554273 (8)
- 2 822553 (6)
- 3 776 (3)
- 4 833 (3)
- 6 738 (3)
- 8 9642 (4)
- 10 638 (3)



Easier sudoku

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

	5		2	6	
		1			3
4					
				5	2
	6		4		

Solutions

Txtpert

V		S	T	R	A	D
G	A	T	E		R	
O		T	N	O	G	A
A	R	T			I	
E	S	O	R	C	V	L
E		R	A		I	
T	N	U	P	Z	A	T

Back to school crossword

Across: 4 pencil, 5 paper, 8 blackboard, 10 playground, 6 books, 7 teacher, 9 desk. Down: 1 ruler, 2 computer, 3 playgroup, 6 books, 7 teacher, 9 desk.

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.

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Community Garden news

A wonderful day at the summer fête

by Shane Gibson

Filton Community Garden's Summer Fête, held on 19 July, was a fantastic success, with hundreds of people coming along to support the garden and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon.

There was something for everyone, with stalls including a popular plant sale, cake stand and tombola, as well as Punch and Judy, face painting, and a visit from the Blood Bikes. It was wonderful to see so many people from the local community coming together and enjoying the garden.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended and supported the event, more than £900 was raised. The money will go directly back into maintaining and improving Filton Community Garden, helping to keep it as a welcoming and enjoyable space for everyone to use.

A huge thank you goes to

all the volunteers, stallholders, supporters, and visitors who helped make the day such a success. The fantastic turnout showed just how much the garden means to the local community.

£250 grant for new hot composter

Filton Community Garden has been awarded £250 from the Brabazon Community Fund, helping the community garden invest in a new Hot Composter bin.

The new equipment will significantly speed up the production of nutrient-rich compost, allowing the garden to produce usable compost in just 30–90 days, compared with around a year using traditional methods.

Jason Young, Chair of Filton



Community Garden, said the investment will be particularly valuable as the garden faces hotter, drier summers and colder spells.

"The Hot Composter will create the nutrient rich compost we need in just 30–90 days.

It will also save us money as there will be no need to buy bags of compost, mulch, or liquid plant feed."

The project will help the garden become more sustainable while reducing costs and making better use of its own garden waste.

The Brabazon Community Fund, part of the YTL UK Foundation, provides grants to projects that strengthen local communities and benefit the environment.

Pictured left, members of the community garden team with the new hot composter

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Got a story or any other inquiry? Call Richard on 0777 555 0607 or email richard@filtonvoice.co.uk

Filton planning applications in August

Applications

5 Fourth Avenue
Conversion of existing garden room to 1 bedroom to facilitate increase from a 7-bed/person House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) to a 8-bed/person HMO (sui generis).

28 Mackie Avenue 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 3m, and for which the height of the eaves would be 2.93m.

28 Mackie Avenue
Installation of 1 rear dormer to facilitate loft conversion. Erection of 2 outbuildings.

Decisions

42 Elm Park Continued use as a Small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4).

Elm Park Leisure Centre tender

Filton Town Council are appointing a professional leisure operator to run Elm Park Leisure Centre from 2027, with a clear focus on community access, safety, inclusivity and long-term stability.

The chosen operator will be paid to operate

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Approve Certificate of Lawfulness

Building 01AB, Airbus Filton
Replacement of 1 fascia sign to south elevation with 1 externally illuminated fascia sign and display of 1 externally illuminated fascia sign to east elevation. **Advert Approve with Conditions**

5 Fourth Avenue Erection of garden room/outbuilding - confirmation required that works carried out constitute as permitted development under Part1, Class E of General Permitted Development Order. **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

32 Stanley Avenue Continued use as a Small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4). **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

1A New Road, Stoke Gifford
Continued use as a Small House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Class C4). **Approve Certificate of Lawfulness**

26 Kenmore Crescent
Demolition of garage and conservatory and erection of single storey side extension to facilitate a change of use from a small house in multiple occupation (HMO) (Use Class C4) to an 8-bed/person HMO (Sui Generis use) with associated works. As defined in the Town and Country Planning Order 1987. **Approve with Conditions**

129 Northville Road Erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and installation of hip to gable roof extension to facilitate change of use from dwelling (Class C3) to large 7 bedroom, 7 person House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Sui Generis). **Approve with Conditions**

26 Bude Road Erection of a single storey rear extension, installation of hip-to-gable roof extension and 1 rear dormer to facilitate change of use from a dwelling (Class C3a)

HM watch

to large 8 bedroom, 8 person House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Sui Generis). **Approve with Conditions**

65 Northville Road
Erection of single-storey rear extension, installation of hip-to-gable and rear dormer roof extension, the erection of an ancillary annexe to facilitate Change of Use from dwellinghouse (Class C3) to a large HMO for a maximum of 9no. people (sui generis) as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended), with new vehicular access 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. Visit beta.southglos.gov.uk/search-planning-applications to keep up to date with the latest planning applications and decisions.**

the leisure centre day-to-day while regularly reporting to the council.

The long-term contract will appoint an operator for the next 15 years.

Long-term contracts such as this are typically chosen to provide stability and sustained investment. The tender outlines that the operator must deliver community-focused

services such as inclusive programming, a diverse programme of activities, transparent pricing and effective marketing. Operational details will be confirmed once an operator has been selected.

The tender is available on the council website if anyone wishes to view it. <https://filtontowncouncil.gov.uk/>



Blenheim Drive update: plans under way to transform area

Blenheim Drive play area has recently transferred to Filton Town Council from South Glos, providing an opportunity to carry out the next steps in delivering a high-quality facility for the local community. The council is now seeking to appoint a suitably experienced play area designer and contractor to undertake the design, supply and installation.

Named after the Bristol Blenheim aircraft, which was designed and manufactured in Filton, the council is seeking to transform the existing play area into a modern, inclusive and engaging aviation-themed play space.

The Council anticipates that the contract will commence on 1 November 2026, with construction works expected to begin in January 2027. The successful supplier will be required to develop a programme that achieves practical completion, including any necessary snagging works, no later than 1 July 2027.

The estimated value of the contract is up to £300,000 excluding VAT.

After considerable consultation with local schools, young people, residents and the wider community, a clear preference for an aviation-themed play space was established.

The successful tenderer will be expected to develop a cohesive design which balances imaginative play, physical challenge, accessibility, visual appeal, safety, durability and ease of maintenance.

The completed play area should provide



meaningful opportunities for children with different ages, abilities and mobility needs to play alongside one another. Consultation specifically identified accessible swings, a wheelchair-accessible roundabout and accessible play equipment as important requirements.

It is expected of bidders to demonstrate

within their proposals how the design will encourage shared and inclusive play, rather than providing isolated accessible items.

Tenderers should demonstrate how their proposed design delivers these priorities while providing a coherent, exciting and high-quality play environment that is practical to maintain and welcome the whole community.

Elm Park Survey

Filton Town Council are encouraging residents to fill out a survey to gather feedback and recommendations to Elm Park. All responses are anonymous and will be utilised to propose suggested improvements to the community space.

Please see the QR code to fill out the survey.

Elm Park Survey



Filton Markets

Filton Markets have been cancelled for the second month in a row due to low stallholder attendance. The Saturday market, operated by Green Top Markets, has seen reduced footfall since its launch earlier this year.

Filton Town Council has confirmed it is open to residents' suggestions regarding the future of the market. Councillors will discuss next steps at the Full Council meeting in September.

September meetings

Tuesday 1st
Planning & Climate

Tuesday 8th
Finance & Scrutiny

Tuesday 15th
Assets & Open Spaces

Tuesday 22nd
Planning & Climate

Tuesday 29th
Full Council

All meetings 7pm at council offices, Elm Park



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



Filton Town Council

Filton Athletic - consultation aimed to give residents chance to raise questions about improvements



Filton Town Council recently held a consultation on proposed pitch upgrades for Filton Athletics Football Club.

As the club continues to grow and aims to progress through the football leagues, improvements may be required to meet Football Association standards. The club must submit its promotion application, along with a plan for the necessary upgrades, by the end of the year. Without these changes, Filton Athletics FC may be forced to relocate away from Elm Park.

The potential upgrades include floodlights, fencing, turnstiles and improved changing facilities - developments that may affect nearby residents.

The consultation offered residents an early opportunity to raise concerns. Most attendees were supportive of the club's ambitions, though some questioned the loss of open space, parking pressures and the impact of floodlights.

Filton Athletics FC explained that the treeline behind neighbouring homes should help reduce light spill, and reassured residents that floodlights would be switched off by 10pm.

The club currently uses the Elm Park car park and intends to continue doing so if the upgrades proceed. It was noted that match-day attendance typically ranges between 30 and 40 people, and no issues have been reported with parking arrangements to date.

Councillor Doyle asked whether the grounds could remain open during the day to offset the loss of informal open space. The idea was considered, though the club highlighted the high cost of maintaining a football pitch. It was suggested that the area could be made available for occasional community events, such as school sports days.

The meeting held in July was the first stage of the consultation process, where the proposed developments are in very early stages. Residents with any further questions or concerns can contact Filton Town Council.

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.



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News from our MP Claire Hazelgrove

Share your experiences of local dental services

Hi all, I hope you've had a good summer and been able to have a bit of a break at points. This month, my small team and I worked on 747 new cases supporting local people. I held my regular advice surgery, this time in Downend and knocked on doors to listen to fellow residents in Stoke Gifford.

Summer can be a great time to make lifelong memories, but it can also be expensive and not always easy to know what support's available. So, I brought local organisations together in one room at my free community advice drop-in, held at Patchway's Coniston Community Centre. I'm grateful to North Bristol Advice Centre, Avon and Somerset Police, Severn Wye Energy Agency, Wessex Water and DWP for joining this impactful event, and to all the local people who came by.

Ahead of Parliament going into recess - which means MPs can be in and work from the places



we actually live more for a bit, rather than Westminster - I spoke on a number of topics including reliable bus access in villages like Winterbourne, our important local defence industry, and financial education for young people.

Locally, I visited Emerson's Green Library (see photo) to see how they are supporting our younger residents with this

year's summer reading challenge, 'Reading to the Beat'. It was great to see so many names on the progress board!

I also joined the Filton Twinning Association at the end of a week's exchange visit from residents from St Vallier-sur-Rhône in France and Wittenhausen in Germany. These links and friendships were forged during the Concorde years, and it is good to see them still going strong. **Turn to Page 6 to read more.**

It was useful to meet with the North Bristol and South Glos Foodbank team again to hear about their latest priorities, how long-term donations help, and to talk about the further action our new PM has set out to help ease the cost of living. From October, our government will cap bus fares at £2 and remove VAT on energy bills, saving households another £45 on average. This builds on our existing action cutting energy bills by an average £117, fuel duty by 5p, and providing 30 hours of

funded childcare a week. More long-term support is needed too, and I will always push for this for our community.

Before I was elected, I ran a survey on local experiences of accessing NHS dentists, given how hard this had become. I've used your responses to push for change and shared your experiences in the Commons and with health ministers. Two years on, we've secured more urgent appointments locally, and changes are being made to NHS dentists' contracts to encourage more to stay in the NHS. I'm running a new survey to find out what has improved and what hasn't, so I can keep pushing for what we need. Please share your experiences: clairehazelgrove.co.uk/survey-dental-services

As Parliament returns, I look forward to continuing to be a strong voice for us in Westminster. As always, please get in touch anytime: claire.hazelgrove.mp@parliament.uk

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Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

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Rhymetime** (for children aged 0-5)	Wednesdays 10:30-11am
Councillor Surgery (for all Filton residents)	Saturdays 10-11am

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THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE FINISHES!
There's still time! Finish your **Summer Reading Challenge**
2026: Read to the Beat at a South Gloucestershire library
during staffed hours until Saturday 12 September, get your
medal and certificate before it's too late!

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



RHYMETIME RETURNS!
EVERY WEDNESDAY 10:30
Restarts from 2nd September: Have fun and
learn new rhymes to share with your little one.
Drop-in, FREE event!
Suitable for all children 0-5. Term time only.

FREE MONTHLY EVENTS

U3a Writing Family History (for U3a Members)	Thursday 3 rd 10:15-12
Art Club (for children aged 7-11)	Saturday 12 th 11-11:45am
Lego Club (for children aged 4-11)	Saturday 19 th 11-11:45am



National
Year of
Reading
2026

News from your local councillor Adam Monk

Long summers, play and the future of Blenheim Road Park

Many of us have fond memories of long summer days as children: scraped knees, ice creams, and jumpers for goalposts. I grew up in Little Stoke, and my local park was a huge part of my childhood. Like those endless summers, we often assume these spaces will always be there.

Sadly, that is not always the case.

Since 2012, more than 400 playgrounds across the UK have closed, making it increasingly difficult for children to enjoy the freedom and opportunities that play provides.

Play is a vital part of childhood. It helps children learn, develop and build confidence. The lack of facilities and activities for children and young people in Filton was one of the reasons I decided to become a councillor.

I strongly believe that the people best placed to protect and improve these important community spaces are the



Cllr Alex Doyle and Cllr Adam Monk

communities themselves. As cabinet member for resources, I have worked over the last few years to transfer valued local assets across South

Gloucestershire into the hands of those best placed to care for them. We are also working with Town and Parish Councils to give them greater control over the

management and maintenance of local spaces.

I am therefore delighted that Blenheim Road Park has now been transferred from South Gloucestershire Council to Filton Town Council.

The town council is beginning an exciting journey to make the park the very best it can be for local children, families and the wider community.

If you would like to help shape the future of the play area, please contact Filton Town Council.

My colleague, Cllr Alex Doyle, and I also hold a councillor surgery at Filton Library every Saturday from 10am to 11am.

These will resume in September, and we would be delighted to see you, whether you have an issue you'd like to discuss or simply want to say hello.

We will both be writing a monthly column for the Filton Voice and will do our best to cover the issues that matter most to you.

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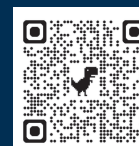
Open Evening

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5:45pm - 8pm

Welcome briefing from
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News

First students set to move into Brabazon

A new milestone is being marked in the development of Brabazon as students prepare to move into its new accommodation in September.

The purpose-built student accommodation, known as The Propeller Quarter, is now complete and will be welcoming its first residents at the start of this academic year.

The accommodation combines high-quality rooms with amenities including study areas, social spaces, fitness facilities and all-inclusive bills. Further leisure facilities — including padel courts, pickleball, a sauna, golf pods and social games — are also due to open at Brabazon this autumn, alongside a growing mix of cafés, green spaces and the Spitfire Hangar community hub.

Transport links are also progressing, with train drivers already in training ahead of the new Bristol Brabazon railway station, which is set to open later



The Propeller Quarter will be welcoming its first students in September. Image: YTL Developments

this year. Students will also be able to use frequent Metrobus services connecting Brabazon to Bristol city centre.

Brabazon new town is being

delivered by YTL Developments.

CEO Baldip Singh, said: "The arrival of students at The Propeller Quarter is another important milestone in the

creation of Brabazon new town.

"Students bring energy, creativity and diversity, helping to create the vibrant neighbourhoods that make great places thrive.

"With new transport connections, growing amenities and a strong sense of community, Brabazon is becoming one of the most exciting places to live in the West of England."

The accommodation, built by YTL Construction UK, is positioned for students attending UWE Bristol, the University of Bristol, the University of Law, BIMM Music Institute, SGS WISE Campus, University Centre Weston and The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

UWE's Frenchay Campus is located just 15 minutes away.

Developers say the arrival of the first residents will bring new energy to the growing new town, helping to establish a diverse community from day one.

Sumptuous September

The books worth looking out for this month.

How I've Tried to Save the World by Alexei Sayle (September 3rd)

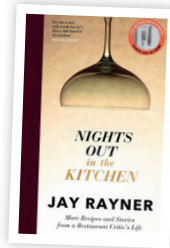
Comedy legend and lifelong socialist Alexei Sayle delivers a bracing, polemical and absolutely hilarious chronicle of his life on the Left, covering marches, miners and Marxist ideology with wit and infectious passion.



A memoir of his life on the Left, it covers seven decades of social history told through key marches and rallies.

Nights Out in the Kitchen by Jay Rayner (September 3rd)

In *Nights Out in the Kitchen*, readers will encounter Jay in his kitchen, with 40 cleverly reverse-engineered recipes, taking inspiration from restaurants and chefs across the UK, alongside 20 of his very own recipes, including meatballs with braised spaghetti, shaved fennel and lemon zest salad,



tartiflette tart and slow cooked tandoori lamb shoulder.

Gruffalo Granny by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (September 10th)

Return to the deep dark wood with the first new Gruffalo story in over 20 years, and meet Gruffalo Granny as she visits the Gruffalo family.



This, the eagerly-anticipated third picture book in Donaldson and Scheffler's iconic series, brings about a fresh and exciting new Gruffalo adventure features the return of much-loved characters and is destined to become a classic.

Let Dem Know by Benjamin Zephaniah (September 10th)

A playful, funny and thought-provoking collection from the iconic Benjamin Zephaniah. Poems packed with wisdom and laughter, poems that cherish and challenge our world, poems that delight in our differences and similarities.



Looking for a Year 7 Place for September 2027?

CHOOSE



E-ACT Montpelier
High School

Open Evening
6pm - 8pm

Tuesday 22 September 2026

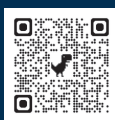
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Wednesday 7 October 2026

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To advertise, contact shane@filtonvoice.co.uk and on 0770 674 1200 or Richard on 0777 555 0607

Aged 17–21 and could use some extra support?

SGC Youth Guarantee is here to provide personalised support for young people with additional needs; including SEND, emotional and mental health.

Get FREE help into work, training or interviews...



- Up to 4 weeks of careers coaching and job matching
- An 8-week supported work placement with a 1:1 job coach
- Tailored mental health support
- A free bus pass and vouchers

YOUTH GUARANTEE
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South Gloucestershire Council

Sign up for this employability programme, designed to give you the very best help into work!



If you want to take part you need to...

- Be aged 17–21
- Not be in work, education or training
- Live in South Gloucestershire

How it works...

When you've signed up, you'll get...

- Help to understand your interests and goals
- Matched to a work placement that suits you – with full support from a job coach
- Up to 4 weeks of personalised coaching
- Ongoing support once you're in work
- A free bus pass

To find out more and sign up...

Scan the QR code, call 0117 332 1500 or email skills.connect@southglos.gov.uk



YOUTH GUARANTEE
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WEST MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY
skills CONNECT

South Gloucestershire Council

Nigella Lawson's Turkey Meatballs In Tomato Sauce



Nigella's turkey meatballs are light and succulent, as well as being low in fat. Make a batch – half for tea and half to be frozen for future outings.

Crispy and comforting!

Step One

For the sauce, put the onion and celery into a food processor and blitz to a mush. (Or you can chop as finely as humanly possible by hand.) Reserve 2 tablespoons of the mixture for the meatballs.

Step Two

Warm the garlic oil in a large, heavy-based saucepan or casserole, add the onion and celery mixture, along with the thyme, and cook at a moderate to low heat, stirring every now and again, for about 10 minutes.

Step Three

Add the cans of plum tomatoes, filling up each empty can with water to add to the pan. Season with the sugar, salt and pepper, stir well and let the mixture come to a bubble, then turn the heat down and simmer the sauce gently while you get on with the meatballs.

Step Four

For the meatballs, put all the ingredients for the meatballs,

including the reserved chopped onion and celery, and salt according to preference, into a large bowl and gently mix together with your hands. Don't overmix, as that will make the meatballs dense-textured and heavy.

Step Five

When all the meatball ingredients are not too officiously amalgamated, start rolling them into balls. The easiest way is to pinch out an amount about the size of a generously heaped teaspoon and roll it into a ball between the palms of your hands. Put each meatball onto a baking tray lined with baking parchment or greaseproof paper. You should get about 50 little meatballs.

Step Six

Drop the meatballs gently into the simmering sauce; I try to let these fall in concentric circles working round the pan from the outside edge inwards, in the vaguest of fashions.

Ingredients

Serves 4

- 1 onion, peeled
- 1 stick celery
- 2 tbsp garlic oil
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- 2 x 400g/14oz tins chopped tomatoes, plus approximately 2 full cans of water
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 tsp sea salt flakes or ½ tsp pouring salt
- Black pepper, to taste

For the meatballs

- 500g/1lb 2oz turkey mince
- 1 free-range egg
- 3 tbsp breadcrumbs
- 3 tbsp grated parmesan
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- ½ tsp dried thyme

Step Seven

Let the meatballs simmer in the sauce for 30 minutes, or until cooked through. Serve with rice, pasta, couscous or however you so please.

Greenfingers... the Alan Titchmarsh Column

He's a magnificent broadcaster, gifted gardener, brilliant author and all-round horticultural visionary. This month, Alan Titchmarsh reveals why September is his favourite month.

hand, brings its own pressures: watering, deadheading, mowing and trying to keep everything looking its best.

There is a widespread assumption among non-gardeners that spring is every greenfingered friend's favourite season. After all, that's when everything begins, isn't it.

And yet, if I'm honest, September has always held a special place in my heart. In fact, if someone were to ask me to choose a single month in the gardening calendar, September would probably win.

Part of the reason is that by this point in the year, the garden has stopped showing off. Spring can be frantic - there are jobs to do, seeds to sow, weeds to tackle and endless plans to make. Summer, on the other

September feels different. The hard work has largely been done and you can finally take a step back so as to enjoy what has been created.

Firstly, the light changes. There is a softness to sunshine in the month that is impossible to replicate in June or July.

Then we see early mornings arriving, draped in dew giving way to so much colour! Many gardens are arguably at their most vibrant in September. Dahlias are often reaching their peak, producing blooms with extraordinary richness and intensity; Michaelmas daisies begin their annual display of purples and pinks; Sedums attract clouds of bees; ornamental grasses catch the lower sunlight and seem almost to glow.

One of my favourite gardening rituals is simply walking through the garden on a September morning with a cup of tea in hand!

September is, of course, also harvest season. Even if you only grow a few herbs in pots

or a small patch of tomatoes, there is enormous satisfaction in gathering something you have nurtured yourself.

Of course, not every crop succeeds, and not every plant thrives. Yet the rewards, when they arrive, feel genuinely earned, and reflection is, of course, very important, so the chance to take stock is really key. We need to ask ourselves what worked, what failed, which plants deserve another chance, and which corners of the garden need rethinking? It is a month of learning rather than rushing.

There is practical work to do, of course, but in total, the garden becomes quieter (thanks in no small part to the frantic energy of summer easing and children returning to school!)

September has all this and more, so get out there and enjoy it!



E IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

Explore what a sumptuous September of entertainment has on offer, with some brilliant cinema, music, gaming and theatre options below.



Cinema

Practical Magic 2

(Sept 11th, in cinemas)

A full 25 years after the original, the second film features Nicole Kidman returning as Gillian Owens alongside Sandra Bullock as Sally.

The plot follows the next generation of the family, where Sally's daughter begins to uncover dark family secrets that threaten to permanently break the centuries-old love curse.

With the potential to be a big box office hit, the movie also stars Maisie Williams and Joey King.

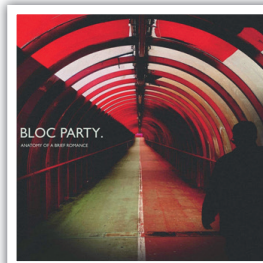
Music

Bloc Party - Anatomy of a Brief Romance

(Sept 11th)
Anatomy Of A Brief Romance is Bloc Party's seventh studio album, acting as a chronological post-mortem of a brief but intense love affair. The record traces the lifecycle of the fling from the very first glances to the eventual heartbreak and farewell.

The album serves as arguably the most confessional and personal record in the band's catalogue,

with enigmatic frontman Kele Okereke writing the project as a direct response to a major life shift.



Gaming

The Blood of Dawnwalker

(Sept 3rd on PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X/S, and PC)
The Blood of Dawnwalker follows Coen, a man in a gothic, 14th-century Carpathian valley.

Desperate to save his plague-stricken sister, Coen gets entangled with an ancient vampire lord named Brencis. Cursed to become a Dawnwalker – human by day, vampire by night – Coen must navigate political rebellion and moral ambiguity to rescue his family within 30 days.



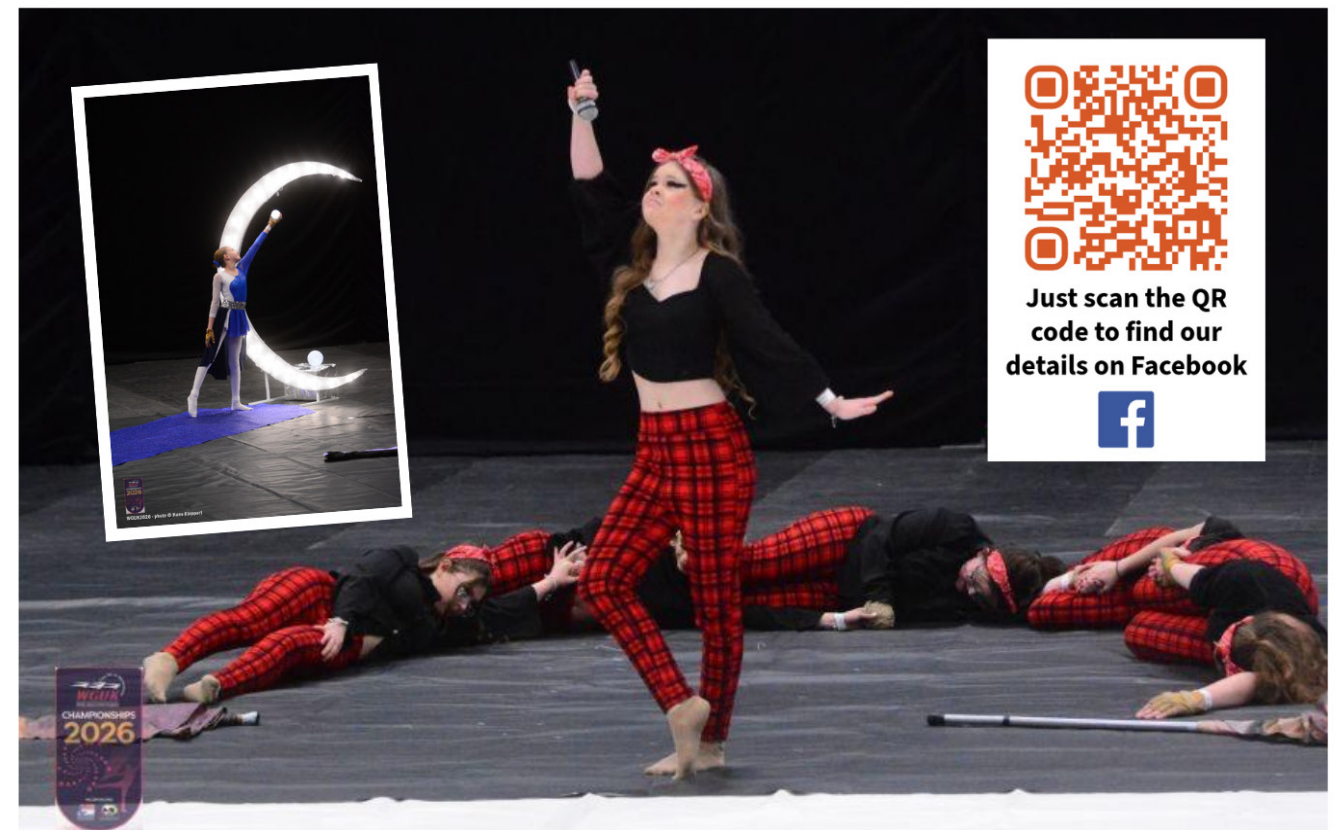
Theatre

The Standard of Living

(Theatre Royal, Haymarket, from Sept 21st)

Can you put a price on happiness, beauty and love? A brand-new world premiere play from the Olivier Award-winning playwright James Graham (Punch, Dear England, Labour of Love) explodes into the West End for a strictly limited 12-week run, and aims to find out.

Directed by multi award-winner Nicholas Hytner (The History Boys, One Man, Two Guvnors, Giant) and starring Olivier Award winner Rory Kinnear (Skyfall, The Diplomat) and Royal Ballet principal Natalia Osipova in her West End debut, this blazing new play tells the astonishing story of rebel economist and member of the Bloomsbury Group, John Maynard Keynes.



Love performing?

- We welcome all children aged 7-15
- Compete across the UK at exciting events and competitions
- No experience needed – training provided for all abilities
- Rehearsals every Saturday from 10.30am, starting 5th September
- Based at Dings Rugby Club Sports Centre, Shaftesbury Park, Frenchay, BS16 1LG
- Led by a team of experienced instructors

**Call or text/WhatsApp Bridget on
07889 409012 to find out more**



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

St Peter’s Church

Sunday 30 August 10am Eucharist

Sunday 6 September 10am Eucharist

Sunday 13 September 8.30 and 10am Eucharist

Sunday 20 September 8.30am and 10am Harvest Festival with Church Parade

Sunday 27 September 8.30am and 10am Eucharist

Midweek Said Services 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.

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.

You can find more information at www.stpeterschurchfilton.com

St Andrew's Methodist Church

Regular services

Sundays

Morning Service 10.30am. Little Lights: For children whose parents/carers are attending worship. All age worship usually **2nd Sunday** of the month. Starts back **6 September**. Quiet activities e.g. drawing, wordsearches etc on the Sundays during August.

Tuesdays Wesley Guild — meets alternate Tuesdays at 2.15pm. All welcome. Meetings will resume on **8 September**.

Thursdays

Rainbows (term-time) 5.15pm

Sip 'n' chat coffee morning: 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, **2nd Thursday** of every month. Enjoy a cuppa, a cake and a chat — all are welcome.

Fridays

St Andrew's 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. This event is free. Starts back **12 September**.

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 forever 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

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.

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.

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

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 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.

September

Saturday 12th

Saturday 26th

October

Saturday 10th

Saturday 24th

September, 2026

E: richard@filtonvoice.co.uk

www.filtonvoice.co.uk

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

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

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.

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/

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. 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.

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

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

Chatty Table

Provides an opportunity for people on their own to meet with others over a cup of tea or coffee for a chat. The event takes place every **Thursday,** 11am-1pm in the cafe at Elm Park Leisure Centre. Stay for as long or little as you wish. Look out for tables marked with Chatty Table and a fully trained volunteer with a yellow lanyard.

RCTS Railway Society

Friday 4 September 7.30pm at St Teresa's Church Hall, BS34 7PL Stephen Gay will present 'Railways in a Cornish Landscape'. Join Stephen and his German Shepherd dog Wrawby on their journeys exploring the railways of Cornwall. Using recently taken slides, the show will also include historical facts, poetry readings and many laughs along the way. For further information email: bristol@rcts.org.uk

'The Physiology of Sleep': The Brain at Bedtime!

Thursday, 17 September 2-4pm St Andrew's Methodist Church, Elm Park With Prof Stephen Gomez award-winning neuroscientist and educator. Why do we need sleep? What happens to the brain and body during sleep? Do we need 8 hours of continuous sleep per night? Why do we wake up at night? These and other questions about sleep will be explored. Open to u3a members. If not a member, come along to this taster session.

Filton Historical Group Programme of talks – autumn 2026 to spring 2027

Please note that all talks will now be on Tuesday Afternoons. These will be held in St. Andrew's Church, Elm Park, Filton. All talks will start at 2.00 pm. There is free parking available in the adjacent Church car park. The cost of membership covering all six talks will be £15 person. 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). Please pass the information on these talks to anyone you feel might be interested. We welcome all-comers, especially new members. **e-mail: alansnook@blueyonder.co.uk**

Tuesday 29 September 2026 - 2.00 pm

Starting prompt at 1.45 pm to allow collection of yearly membership subscriptions 'Bristol Revisited - BAE, Concorde, Brabazon' and Edwards Guide to Bristol: 200 year old books describing Bristol - Gordon Young **Tuesday 27 October 2026 – 2.00 pm** 'Finding Eliza Carr – the West Country Girl behind an 1865 needlework sampler' - Terry Ransome

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

Helping people understand their oral health



Did you know that much of the dental disease we see is preventable?

I think we can sometimes feel that our dental health is simply something that happens to us. Perhaps we believe we have “bad teeth”, that gum disease is inevitable because our parents had it, or that once a problem starts there is nothing we can do.

But whilst there are things outside our control, there is also a huge amount that we can

influence. Tooth decay, gum disease and sensitivity are largely caused by preventable factors, and understanding what causes them gives us the opportunity to make different choices.

The challenge is that knowing what to do isn't always as simple as it sounds.

We need the right information, practical guidance and, sometimes, someone to support us in making changes.

That is something I feel particularly passionate about through The Virtual Hygienist: helping people understand their oral health so they feel empowered rather than helpless.

Prevention isn't about being perfect. It's about having the knowledge and support to make small, consistent changes that protect our teeth and gums for the

future. Your dental health isn't completely out of your hands. You have more influence than you might think.

If you're curious to find out more, or you'd like some help with your dental health, you can book a free online appointment here: www.thevirtualhygienist.co.uk



Sarah-Joy Lendon
The Virtual Hygienist and Compassionate Coach

Sunday 27/9/26

10am-4pm

SUPPORTING

PROSTATE CANCER UK

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ONE DAY. ONE RETRO BANGER.

ONE GREAT CAUSE

Learn and perform an iconic mystery hit

No singing experience needed

All voices aged 18+ welcome

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Refreshments • Raffle • Bar

FREE ticket + suggested donation

For info and sign up

contactus@thebristolmix.com

Prostate Cancer UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1009541) and in Scotland (SC039321). Registered company 02653887

Filton Community Garden

GARDENING GET-TOGETHERS

Alternate Saturdays, 10am-12pm

September Saturday 12th

Saturday 26th

October Saturday 10th

Saturday 24th

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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