

Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council



Christmas tree lights switch on

Following the enormous success of last year's Christmas Tree Lights switch on, this year's celebration promises to be another well attended evening with a raft of events to entertain the whole family. Come along to the Horseshoe public house car park on Downend Road on Friday 26th November for the festivities. The evening will include:

- Tree Lights Switch on – 6.30pm
- Carol Singing
- Staple Hill Salvation Army Band playing from 6.00 pm with carol singing
- FREE Santa's Grotto
- Children's Festive Treasure Hunt – with FREE Prize Draw
- Late Night Shops
- FREE Mince Pies and more!

During the evening, collectors will also be taking donations for the chosen charity – the Frenchay After Burns Children's Club – please do give generously.



Check the Parish website for more details nearer the time: www.downendbromleyheath.org

Downend businesses are 'switched on' too!

Downend Bromley Heath Parish Council is delighted to welcome the recently formed Downend Business Community (DBC) Chamber of Commerce who are also taking part in this year's festivities.

A number of the shops along Downend Road and Badminton Road will be opening late especially for the evening and setting up stalls to coincide with the event. This is a chance to meet your local businesses (including those that don't have a high street presence), and cadge the odd mince pie or warming drink!

Some of the shops will also be running a Festive Treasure Hunt. Children (along with their parents/guardians), will be given 'Passport to Santa' cards and, once they have collected a full set of stamps from participating shops, they simply drop their card in the box at Santa's Grotto for entry into the Free Prize Draw. Passport to Santa cards will be available to pick up in advance from participating shops

or as a download from the DBC website from mid-November.

In addition, many of the businesses along the high street will be 'switching on' their own Christmas icicle lights to add to the festive cheer.

What is the Downend Business Community?

The Downend Business Community (DBC) represents the interests of all businesses in the area, including local traders, shops, professional services and those working from home. Working in conjunction with the Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council, it seeks to help create a vibrant, sustainable business community that both serves the residents of the Parish and brings in shoppers and trade from further afield.

The DBC currently has 30+ members, and provides members with support through sharing best practice at our regular meetings and social events, marketing opportunities, business profiles on the DBC website, information and advice from various trade and council bodies.

Additionally, our members have a voice and can help shape the business community we all work in.

I run a local business. How do I join?

Visit our website for an online application form, or come along to our next meeting on November 9th. We look forward to seeing you.

Business Owners. Want to get involved?

If you're a business that would like to get involved with the late night opening on 26 November, or would like to order some icicle lights, please contact the DBC Secretary Hazel Lynes on 0117 957 0977 or pop into Hazel Holly Florists on Badminton Road.

No Shop?

If, like many of our local businesses, you don't have a shop on the high street we would be more than happy to accommodate you at one of the shops that are participating in the fun. Again, please contact Hazel as above.

Website: www.downendbusiness.org

Can you help?

Kingswood Heritage Museum is mounting a display to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Kingsfield School (formerly known as Kingswood Grammar School and more recently as The Kingsfield School). This event is not just to celebrate the milestone in the school's history but also will be a tribute to Bunty Hinder, curator of Kingswood Heritage Museum, who tragically died earlier this year. Bunty was both a pupil and teacher at the school.

As part of the process of mounting this display the Museum is looking for artefacts to be put into the display cabinets. Anything would be appreciated, for example an old school blazer, school reports, exercise books, badges, caps, berets or hats, you know the sort of thing, those things that we all throw away at the end of our school years.

If you are able to help, please contact Richard Law at Kingswood Heritage Museum at www.kingswoodmuseum.org.uk. They are happy for items to be either loaned or donated to the museum.

Planning

The Parish Council's Planning Committee continues to meet every 2 weeks on a Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock at Lincombe Barn. We welcome members of the public at these meetings, in particular if they have concerns that a potential development may affect them.

All current planning applications can be accessed via www.southglos.gov.uk/planning

Please see our Parish Council notice boards for dates of meetings or contact the Parish Clerk, Angela Hocking on 0117 9567001, email dandbhparish@btinternet.com or look on our website at www.downendbromleyheath.org

● A reminder – it is now possible to carry out some minor alterations to your home that do not require planning permission: for further details go to www.planningportal.gov.uk. The web site shows a picture of a house. Click on "launch the guide" and hey presto – you're there! Just hold the mouse over the area you have a query about and it explains in some detail whether or not planning permission is usually required. It also gives an indication as to the various criteria that need to be applied.

Night bus

N50 Bristol City Centre to Chipping Sodbury via Coalpit Heath and Yate

If you are going into Bristol for the evening, why not leave the car at home, go in on the scheduled buses and return late at night on the N50 "night bus". This bus runs each Friday night and Saturday night from Bristol to Chipping Sodbury. The bus is financed by Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council along with our neighbouring Parish Councils. See timetable below for times leaving Bristol.

Saturday and Sunday Mornings

Bristol, Colston Street, stop Ce	00.15	01.45	03.15
Bristol, Nelson Street, stop Hc	00.17	01.47	03.17
Bristol, The Haymarket, stop Rh	00.19	01.49	03.19
Bristol, Bond Street, Cabot Circus, stop C	00.20	01.50	03.20

There are bus stops in our Parish at Bromley Heath Road, Quakers Road, Downend Horseshoe, Blackhorse Lane and Beaufort Road. It then travels to Coalpit Heath, Frampton Cotterell, Yate and on to Chipping Sodbury.



Census 2011

I know next March may seem a long way away but the countdown has begun for the next census for England and Wales which takes place on SUNDAY 27TH MARCH 2011.

Did you know – The amount of public service funding your council and primary care trust gets from the Government is based on the number and characteristics of the people who live in the area, hence it is crucial that the census includes everyone to help make sure our council receives sufficient funding to provide the services that residents need.

It will therefore be important that you complete your census questionnaire on or soon after that date.

To find out everything you need to know about the census and why it matters to you go to www.2011.census.gov.uk

A new website

North Bristol NHS Trust recently launched its new website at www.nbt.nhs.uk which covers Southmead and Frenchay Hospitals, plus the community health services provided for Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.

The new website has been developed with the significant involvement of and contribution from our patients, staff and GP colleagues.

It provides immediate information for patients and visitors, as well as GPs and other NHS organisations, such as finding out more about our services, what to do in an emergency, visiting hours and what it is like to come to hospital.

On some pages there is Google translate, for those where English is not their first language. Videos have also been included which bring to life what it is like to be a patient in one of the hospitals managed by North Bristol NHS Trust.

Southmead Hospital

The landscape at Southmead Hospital has changed beyond all recognition over the past few months.

Buildings have been demolished and services moved

around on site in order to clear the area where the new £430million hospital will actually be built.

For more information on the new hospital and to keep up with the latest developments, log on to www.nbt.nhs.uk and follow the links to the new hospital web pages.



Cossham Hospital

Now that the contract has been signed with the builder and the builders have started work at Cossham, the project has moved into a new phase. The hospital will reopen to patients by Spring 2012 to allow new management arrangements to commission the services that will be provided there.

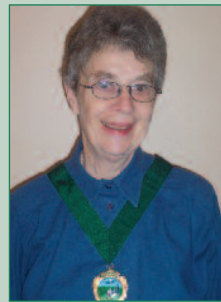
However, opening Autumn 2011 at Cossham Hospital will be the area's first free standing midwife-led birth centre which will be a home from home for couples welcoming their bundles of joy into the world.

Bookings from women who want to give birth there will be taken from Spring next year.

For more information, go to www.nbt.nhs.uk/maternity

EDITORIAL

Welcome to our Autumn 2010 edition of the Parish Council Newsletter



Since the summer “recess” your Parish Councillors have again been busy as can be seen from the articles on King George V playing fields and the successful introduction of an additional bus service.

The main event we have to look forward to for the autumn is our annual switching on of the lights on the Christmas tree in Downend Centre – to be performed this year by the Chair of South Gloucestershire Council who also happens to be one of our Parish Councillors – Councillor Janet Biggin. As you will already have read on page 1 this year's event promises to be bigger and better than ever and we are delighted that the Downend Business Community is set to take a leading role in proceedings.

Thank you to those residents who responded to the article in the summer newsletter on “Street Light Switch Off” and contacted our Clerk with their views. So far opinion is evenly divided between those in favour of some form of street light switch off and those against. I look forward to hearing more of your views.

I hope you were able to visit 29 Fouracre Avenue on 27th June when Ann and Lyndon Heal again opened their stunning garden under the National Garden Scheme.

With this Newsletter is a flyer from the Community Plan Steering Group which gives you a flavour of what residents feel about living in Downend and Bromley Heath and what they would like in the future. Obviously the Steering Group still have a lot of work to do before the final document is produced in the first half of next year.

Finally, have you ever thought about becoming a parish councillor? Well the opportunity to stand comes your way next May when the term of office of the current Parish Council comes to an end. If you would like more information on becoming a parish councillor, I suggest you contact Natalie Carr, Democratic Services Group Manager at South Gloucestershire Council, email Electoral.Services@southglos.gov.uk or tel. 01454 863030.

ELIZABETH SHEPHERD
Chair, Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council

Improved sports facilities in the area!

The Pomphrey Hill Community Sports Association is now established at Pomphrey Hill, Mangotsfield and work is well underway to completing a new purpose built pavilion from which the association will operate. Although located within the Parish of Mangotsfield, the Association is made up of clubs from the wider local area including Bromley Heath Utd. FC, Downend Boxing Club, Mangotsfield and Carsons Cricket Club, Downend Flyers Ladies FC and Mangotsfield Utd Junior FC as well as Mangotsfield School. The building is scheduled to be handed over to the Association just before Christmas this year and is currently on target.

The building of this facility and the facilities already in use on the Emersons Green site of the project have been made possible through large grants from South Gloucestershire Council, Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council, Mangotsfield Rural Parish Council and the Football Foundation, as well as fundraising and pledges of money from the clubs involved.

When completed the new pavilion will boast a function room and bar, gymnasium for use by the boxing club and other sports including judo and Tae Kwondo as well as being suitable for activities such as circuit training; changing rooms will be built to high specifications to comply with the requirements of the Football Foundation; there will be football pitches, a cricket square as well as plenty of open space. All of the facilities will be available for hire once the building is formally handed over to the newly formed Trust at the end of the year. The football pitches are already in full use both by the clubs who form a part of the Association and also Mangotsfield School, who have also been making use of the space for cross country running and other outdoor activities.

Alan Maggs, Chairman of the trust said "Everyone is



working in a friendly atmosphere and with great enthusiasm to establish their sporting activity. There's a great community spirit. We're all working on the same side and looking forward to the handover around Christmas time. Thank you to all the adult coaches looking after their junior members". He also gave thanks to S. Glos. Council and especially those officers who have given up a lot of their time to aid the smooth running of the project as well as local Parish Councils for their enthusiastic support. "This is a great public investment aiming to keep kids off the street and channelling their energies into something constructive as well as to encouraging them to adopt healthier lifestyles.

The Association still needs to raise additional finance to enable completion of the project and are fundraising to this end.

● Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council have pledged £10,000 over three years to support this project.

If any local businesses or individuals are interested in investing in a project for the future or if anyone requires any further information about the Association please contact Alan on 0117 9496063.

The Friends of Bromley Heath Playing Fields

It's been a good year so far. The long awaited refurbishment of the tennis courts has taken place and we got the Lottery grant for the new footpath. We had to modify the proposed route of the new footpath after taking advice from South Gloucestershire Council which delayed construction until September but it should be completed mid October.

There seems to be a reduction in anti-social behaviour (some issues

with scooters) but the Police are making regular visits to the playing fields which is definitely helping.



I would like to thank the Parish Council and AXA Sunlife for their donations towards the footpath as without them we might not have managed to secure the Lottery funding.

KEVIN CHAPMAN



Things are happening at George V Park and playing field

To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the opening of St Augustine's Catholic Primary School the children will be helping to plant some trees and shrubs in the Park. Through the Community Plan consultation, local people said they wanted more seating in George V Park and young people said they wanted more colour.

On 26th November, 4 trees and 40 colourful shrubs, which the School have donated, will be planted near the car park at the Westerleigh Road entrance as part of a ceremony celebrating the Anniversary. Two bench seats will also be installed thanks to funding from South Gloucestershire Council and the Parish Council. People will then be able to sit there and enjoy the new planting, the football, the cricket and the view.



Have you seen one of these in the Park?

Some research shows that young people are more likely to put litter into a brightly coloured bin. We are testing this out with 2 of the bins that are the main route through to Downend School. It is really important that we encourage EVERYONE to bin litter. At the moment our Council Tax has to pay for litter to be picked up along Westerleigh Road twice a week, in the Park once a week and in Downend Village twice a day!

Our next challenge is to get some better play equipment into the Children's Play Area. If you care about the Park and are interested in joining a Friends Group for George V please contact the Parish Clerk, Angela Hocking on 0117 956 7001 or email dandbparish@btinternet.com



BUS NEWS

Shoppers Express Bus – additional journey on route 462

We reported in our Summer Newsletter that we hoped an additional mid-morning journey may be added to the current 462 time table – well this now operates, passing through Bromley Heath between 10.25 and 10.30 Monday to Friday. The bus arrives at Haymarket 10.53, the Centre 10.55 and terminates at Temple Meads at 10.58. On the bus you will be welcomed by Wendy, the regular driver.

The 462 route provides buses which are cheap, reliable and fast.

The South Gloucestershire Bus &



Early starts with a Bus Pass

As reported in an earlier Parish magazine, certain bus companies charge pensioners only £1 on presentation of their bus pass for journeys made before 9.00. If you need to be out early the possibilities are:

- Wessex Connect service 518 Monday to Friday operates a half hourly service from 6.00 starting at Sainsbury's Emersons Green to Avonmouth via Downend Horseshoe, Bromley Heath Queensholm Drive and on to Frenchay Hospital, U.W.E. Frenchay Campus, Parkway Station, Filton, Southmead Hospital and on to Avonmouth.

- South Gloucestershire service 462 Monday to Friday see timetable on this page.

- South Gloucestershire service 462A Monday to Friday starting from Downend Horseshoe at 7.30 and arriving at The Haymarket City Centre at 7.55.

For full timetable details of the above services, check their websites:

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/NR/exeres/fc4c5153-6d97-4df2-9d04-abf2055e1c34>

<http://www.wessexconnect.net>

Coach Co. have previously operated only seven journeys between 7.00 and 9.00 on a morning, aimed at commuters. This eighth journey is provided principally for shoppers. Concession Cards are welcome on all 462 services (with £1 to pay before 9.00am).

Additionally a 462A journey starts at Downend Horseshoe at 7.30 and goes via Cleeve Hill and Bromley Heath Road (7.35 by Quakers Road junction) to arrive at Broad Quay 7.57 and Temple Meads 7.59.

Return Fares are available on all journeys, and are only £3.50 (Single £2.50), with £1 reduction for children.

Return buses leave the City Centre at approx. 4.20, 4.50, 5.20, 5.50, plus the 462A at 5.07. Timetable leaflets are available at libraries, and some local newspapers.

This service is being provided thanks to co-operation between South Gloucestershire Bus and Coach Company and Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council, who are providing an initial subsidy.

462 Timetable details are:

Emersons Green	6.45	7.00	7.15	7.45	8.25	8.55	10.15
The Leap	6.57	7.12	7.27	7.57	8.37	9.05	10.25
Queensholm Drive	7.01	7.16	7.31	8.01	8.41	9.08	10.28
Quakers Road	7.03	7.18	7.33	8.03	8.42	9.09	10.29
Haymarket	7.36	7.51	8.06	8.36	9.07	9.40	10.53
Broad Quay	7.38	7.53	8.08	8.38	9.07	9.40	10.55
Temple Meads	7.41	7.57	**	8.40	9.10	9.43	10.58

** terminates at Clifton Triangle at 8.11

Future events at Lincombe Barn

CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 27 NOVEMBER

10.00am to 3.30pm

LOTS OF STALLS FOR YOUNG AND OLD ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

COME AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DECORATIONS

TRY YOUR HAND AT TOMBOLA

VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS!

LIGHT LUNCHES WILL BE SERVED

ADMISSION 50p

[CHILDREN UNDER 11 FREE]

PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE

**For further details contact 0117 956 2367
or visit their website at <http://www.downendfolkhouse.org.uk>**



DOWNEND FLOWER CLUB
PRESENT

A FANTASTIC FLORAL DEMONSTRATION

WEDNESDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2010



TICKETS £6.00

FROM MRS. JOYCE BISHOP

TEL. NO. 0117 956 8978

DOWNEND FOLK HOUSE ASSOCIATION
LINCOMBE BARN, OVERNDALE ROAD

Carol Concerts

The Barn Christmas Concerts will be held on Friday and Saturday 17 & 18 December. These are always very happy occasions with lots of audience participation in singing well loved carols.

There will be a retiring collection for a well known charity on each evening.

Tickets: £1.50 to include tea/coffee/squash during the interval.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**For further information visit
<http://www.downendfolkhouse.org.uk>**

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council

DOWNEND WEST WARD

(Cassell Road, Downend Road, Christchurch areas, Croomes Hill and surrounding roads and Overndale Road)

Mike Baker 0117 910 9053
Craig Whittaker 0117 956 6252

DOWNEND EAST WARD

(Around Downend School, Westerleigh Road, Peache Road, Cleeve Road, Downend Park Road, Hillhouse Road, North Street, Park Road, Salisbury Road etc.)

Bob Jarvis 0117 956 0726 or 07792 849516
Alan Richardson 0117 940 0311
Gordon Wells 0117 940 6412

LEAP BROOK WARD

(Around Fouracre Road/Crescent, Badminton Road, David Wilson estate)

Mary Lewis 0117 956 8596

BROMLEY HEATH EAST WARD

(Part Fouracre Road/Badminton Road, Oakdale/Quakers/Queensholm/Sandringham areas)

Janet Biggin 0117 957 6987 or 07966 204260
Martyn Poole 0117 957 0805
Bob Pedwell 0117 957 2515

BROMLEY HEATH WEST WARD

(Cleeve Hill/Cleevewood areas, Bromley Heath Road, Heath Road etc.)

Elizabeth Shepherd 0117 904 8769
Ian Smith 0117 956 9946
VACANCY

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Angela Hocking 0117 956 7001
email: dandbparish@btinternet.com
Website: www.downendbromleyheath.org

DATES OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

(All meetings are held at 7pm at Downend Baptist Church, Salisbury Road)

18 November 2010

20 January 2011

18 December 2010

17 February 2011

