

viewpoint

Volume 42 - Summer 2021

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West Cheltenham's
FREE magazine
VIEWPOINT ONLINE
hwpartnership/viewpoint

VIEWPOINT

Summer 2021

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News, events, activities and stories
from the west of Cheltenham in
SUMMER 2021

For electronic copies see
hwpartnership.org.uk/viewpoint
Call 01242 575638 for info

Defibrillator Mapping

Many Viewpoint readers will have witnessed the distressing scenes at the recent Euros football match at which Christian Eriksen the former Spurs and Denmark footballer collapsed with a suspected cardiac arrest. The speed at which medical support was received was impressive and the availability of a defibrillator was critical in helping to save Christian's life.

Dr Iqbal, head of sports medicine at Crystal Palace Football Club says it was crucial that CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) was started straight away on Mr Eriksen, followed by use of an AED (automated external defibrillator), and it is a technique everyone should know how to do.

Every week in the UK, 12 people aged under 35 die from sudden cardiac arrest. And in the UK each year, 30,000 cardiac arrests happen outside of hospitals - all requiring emergency resuscitation, with just one in 10 people surviving.

With this in mind we would like to promote the availability of defibrillators locally and to encourage organisations who have one to register these with

[heartsafe.org.uk](https://www.heartsafe.org.uk) So if your

organisation has an accessible defibrillator please log on and register.

We would also like to include these details in the [West Cheltenham Directory](#) so please let us know.

The Hesters Way Partnership (HWP) is keen to offer a new fully accessible defibrillator at the Community Centre for anyone in need. The purchase and installation will be approximately £2,500 and HWP will match fund any contributions from organisations willing to help with cost.

**Defibrillator
Heart Restarter**

Anyone can use it
No training necessary

For an unconscious person
NOT breathing normally

Call 999 Start CPR Switch on defibrillator Follow its instructions

**If you'd like to sponsor the project please contact
Andy Hayes on 01242 575638.**

NC Nurseries

Offering the Natural Choice for Childcare

Puddles & Giggles



- Flexible childcare (8am - 6pm)
- Qualified, caring staff
- Fantastic outdoor spaces
- Inspiring indoor rooms & resources
- Healthy meals
- Learning through play
- Engaging and exciting activities

Puddles Nursery

Cassin Drive
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 7SU
01242 527545

 www.facebook.com/PuddlesNursery

Giggles Nursery

Springbank Way
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 0LG
01242 574511

 www.facebook.com/GigglesNurseryDC



www.NCNurseries.co.uk

SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION

The **Hesters Way Partnership** has invested in a new solar energy project on the roof of the Community Resource Centre with the support of a Target 2030 grant from Severn Wye Energy Agency ([SWEA](#)).

[Target 2030](#) is a business energy efficiency project that aims to support small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire to achieve a change in their energy consumption, putting them on a more sustainable footing for the future.

The service is funded through the European Regional Development Fund and delivered by Severn Wye Energy Agency, a sustainability charity with 20 years of experience supporting local businesses.

The programme is an extension of the Target 2020 scheme (2017-2020), which part funded a LED lighting scheme at the centre and offered 30% of the cost of purchase and installation subject to meeting a minimum carbon saving.

The new 188 panel scheme was designed, supplied and installed by [MyPower](#), a highly experienced Gloucestershire based company. The system will help HWP secure our energy, future-proof electricity costs and reduce the carbon footprint.

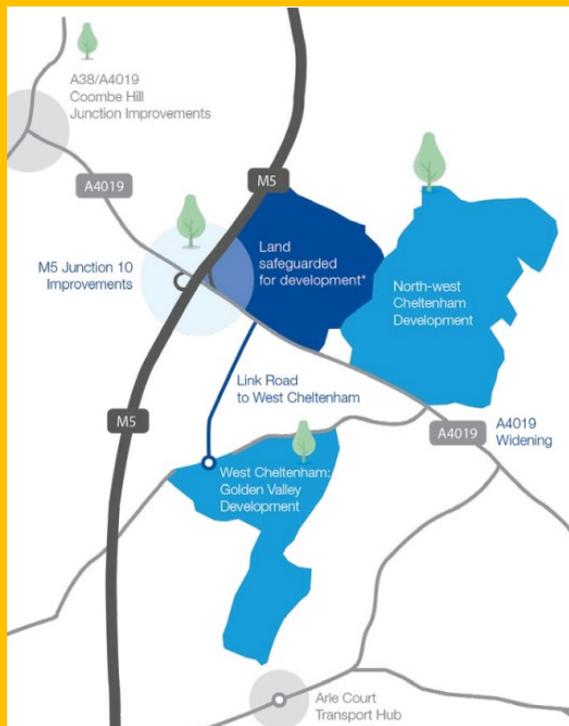
The system will supply green energy for tenants at the centres and the income will support local community projects.



View from the roof at Hesters Way Community Resource Centre—June 2021

UPGRADE OF M5 JUNCTION 10

Currently M5 Junction 10 only has slip roads to and from the north (north facing). This puts extra pressure on already congested local roads including Princess Elizabeth Way and Junction 11, which provides access to and from Cheltenham on the A40.



The new proposals would see slip roads go in both directions, providing improved access to west and north west Cheltenham. The preferred option would upgrade the junction with a roundabout constructed above the motorway, centred on the existing junction and connecting the motorway slip roads to the local highway network.

Following a bid to Homes England's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) in March 2019, the county council has successfully secured £249 million for the proposed scheme.

The M5 is managed by Highways England who have been working closely with the county council to develop the proposals for the motorway junction and support the project as it moves forward.

As well as proposals to improve Junction 10, an options consultation, held in the autumn last year, also asked for views on plans for a new road linking Junction 10 to west Cheltenham, an upgraded A38/A4019 junction at Coombe Hill and widening of the A4019 east of the new link road towards Cheltenham.

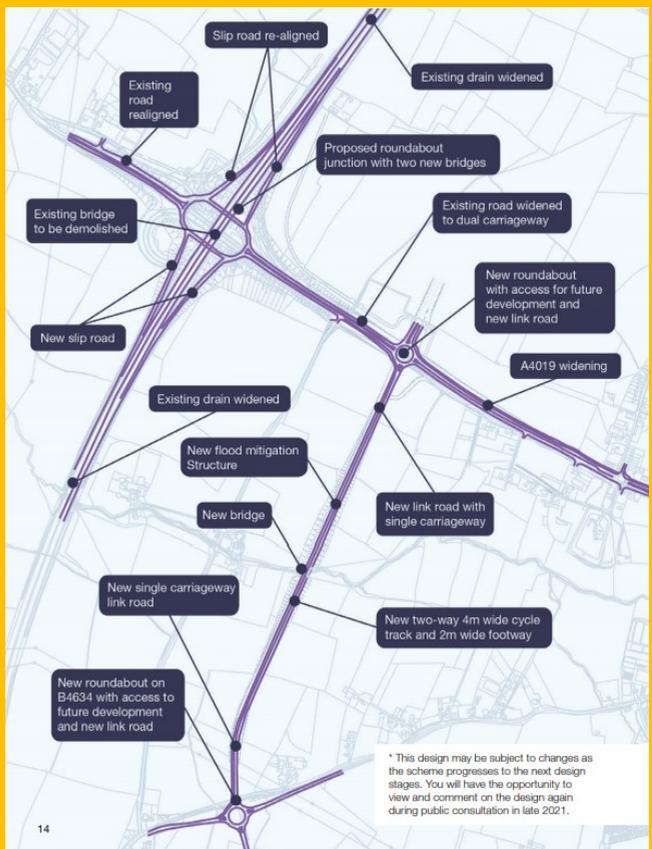
The scheme elements will now be developed further before an opportunity to give feedback on the detailed proposals in a statutory consultation expected to be towards the end of 2021. Further work will follow to confirm the scheme before applying for planning consent. It is currently anticipated that the upgraded junction will be open in 2024.

The Homes England funding for Junction 10 also includes the provision of an expanded park and ride facility at Arle Court to help to ease congestion further by taking traffic off local roads. Consultation and planning on this scheme element, now known as Arle Court Transport Hub, will take place later this year with construction anticipated to follow in 2022.

Councillor David Gray, cabinet member for environment and planning, said: "this scheme ... will greatly improve access to and from west Cheltenham, improve air quality by easing congestion on local roads and provide a boost to jobs and the county's economy. I'm pleased that the options consultation was so well supported and that there is an excellent level of public backing for these proposals."

More information about the M5 Junction 10 Improvement Scheme, including the Consultation Report and the Preferred Route Announcement can be found online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/J10.

You can also email M5Junction10@atkinsglobal.com if you have any questions regarding the proposed scheme.



WEST CHELTENHAM PANTRY

The **West Cheltenham Community Pantry will be open soon!** Set up by the Hesters Way Partnership, the WCCP will support local individuals and families who are struggling to pay for their weekly shop.

The **pantry is a membership scheme** which will offer donated and in-date waste food to members who will pay a weekly fee and be able to shop for non-perishable and fresh food plus household items.

Members will also benefit from additional services including things like benefits guidance, debt advice and mental health support.

Get Help

At the **West Cheltenham Community Pantry** will offer food, household goods and support to help families or individuals in need. This could be anyone who has suddenly found themselves facing poverty and hunger due to loss of salary, change in benefits, unexpected large bills, illness or family breakdown. Whatever the crisis WCCP will be there for them.



If you are struggling to pay for your weekly shop, your bills or council tax please give WCCP a call or fill in our registration form online . WCCP look forward to speaking with you. www.westchetenhampantry/get-help

Once signed up via a registration process **pantry members will be invited to the shop to choose from fresh and tinned food, household items and fruit and vegetables, to the value of approximately £15, for a £3.50 a week membership fee.** The WCCP opening days and times are yet to be confirmed but its likely to be Wednesdays-Fridays

The weekly pantry visits the will allow members to develop a relationship with the support workers who can signpost them to other appropriate services that can provide debt, housing, mental health and family support.

Get Involved

How to donate

In order for the Community Pantry to work we rely on donations from generous supporters. We are keen to accept tins, pasta, rice, cereals and any other longer life goods. Please also consider household goods like washing powder/ liquid, washing up liquid, deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap,



toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand wipes. Other useful products like sanitary towels and tampons, nappies, baby wipes and baby food are also invaluable. In addition we call out to anybody who maintains an allotment – Do you have any excess fruit and/or vegetables that you can donate to the Pantry? All donations can be dropped to our Unit at Hesters Way Community Resource Centre or at the main reception if the unit is closed.

Help fund raise

We will be running campaigns to promote donations at specific times of the year and especially at Christmas and during the school holidays. Marketing our plans across social media and through local networks are important to maintain supply of food at these busy times.

Corporate Support

If your organisation would like to help with volunteer support, drivers to deliver to vulnerable members or to make financial donations we'd be happy to hear from you!



How to volunteer

We will be recruiting for volunteers to help with the pantry. Jobs will include helping stack the shelves, stock checks, meeting and greeting members and general shop duties.

Please contact the team on [redacted] or on 01242 575638 if you need a collection or for any further information. We are very grateful for any fresh or long-life produce you can give

Cheltenham Rotary Sets New Fund Raising Record

Cheltenham Rotary have been helping charities and good causes for a hundred years, and many of their fund raising efforts have had excellent support from the people of Cheltenham, with activities like bucket collections at The Cheltenham Festival and a mile of coins in aid of End Polio which raised a magnificent £14,000.

When they conceived their latest campaign, asking the good folk of Cheltenham to donate the cost of their Covid-19 vaccination so that people in poorer countries can also be protected, they knew that the current restrictions would present significant difficulties. All the customary face-to-face interaction that Rotarians have become accustomed to were not possible, and there were no fetes or fairs to attend.



Nevertheless, they were determined to pursue this humanitarian project with energy, determination and imagination, so they designed and printed posters and leaflets which were distributed as widely as possible and they've created a new website which provides a bounty of information about [Cheltenham Rotary](http://www.cheltenhamrotary.org.uk) and their past and present involvement in vaccination appeals.

The campaign got off to a good start and within a few weeks had

raised a very impressive £5,000 which is enough to pay for sixteen hundred Astra Zeneca vaccinations, and if they achieved nothing further than that, they would consider the campaign a success.

They continued their efforts however, and the huge support they're receiving from our town and further afield kept driving the effort forward and soon they had passed the ten thousand pound milestone, so they increased the target to fifteen thousand, and then to twenty thousand pounds, and still the donations kept pouring in. They are now closing in on their new target of thirty thousand pounds; that amount will pay for 10,000 vaccinations in African and Asian countries.

They have sent the first payment of £20,000 to the GAVI Foundation. The photograph of Cheltenham Rotary members holding a sample of the cheque was taken symbolically in front of The Pittville Pump Room which is topped by statues of the classical figures, Asclepius, Hygeia and Hippocrates which were chosen to demonstrate that the Pump Room building and its spa waters are dedicated to promoting health and well-being.

If you would like to make a donation to this fund or help to spread the word about it, you can see all the details of how to donate and contact information on their website: www.cheltenhamrotary.org.uk. Maybe we can help them raise the target further. It's already almost double the amount brought in by any of their previous projects and no reason why it shouldn't keep rising.

Pathways to Recovery

Anybody can be affected by drug and/or alcohol use, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, beliefs, class, age, sexuality, disability or lifestyle. If you have concerns about drugs and alcohol we can help. We provide confidential information, advice, treatment options and support all adults, families and communities across Gloucestershire.



**Change
Grow
Live**

Gloucestershire CGL offers a for adults challenged by the use of drugs or alcohol. We provide a range of intensive community-based support, treatment and rehabilitation services that are designed to meet individual needs.



The service is free and confidential and available to anyone 18 or over who lives, or is registered with a GP, in Gloucestershire. The services work out of three central hubs in Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud, with remote working in locations in the Forest of Dean, Tewkesbury and Cirencester.

"Reconnecting again gives me hope"

Referring in to CGL Gloucestershire has never been easier. We have created an online referral form which can be used to make a self-referral or by anyone referring on someone else's behalf. The referral will be picked up by our admin team and someone from our hub will make contact.

"When you are at your most vulnerable, that's when the support given is vital"

Cheltenham Hub

Bramery House, Alstone Lane
Cheltenham GL51 8HE

www.changegrowlive.org/drug-alcohol-recovery-service-gloucestershire

Email address for queries and questions is:

Gloucestershire.Info@cgl.org.uk

You can also call 01452 223014





Come and join Brownies

Girls age 7-10

Your nearest Brownie unit is

16th, 25th & 34th

Cheltenham Brownies

Tuesdays / Wednesdays
St Barnabas / Springbank

Register your interest by visiting

www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

or you can ring

Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901



You can be creative!



Do you want to learn new skills?



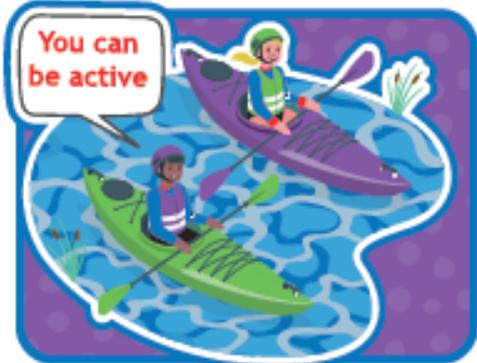
COME AND JOIN US

Girls age 10-14

You can make friends and have adventures



You can be active



Your nearest Guide unit is

16th Cheltenham Guides

Wednesdays at
St Barnabas church hall

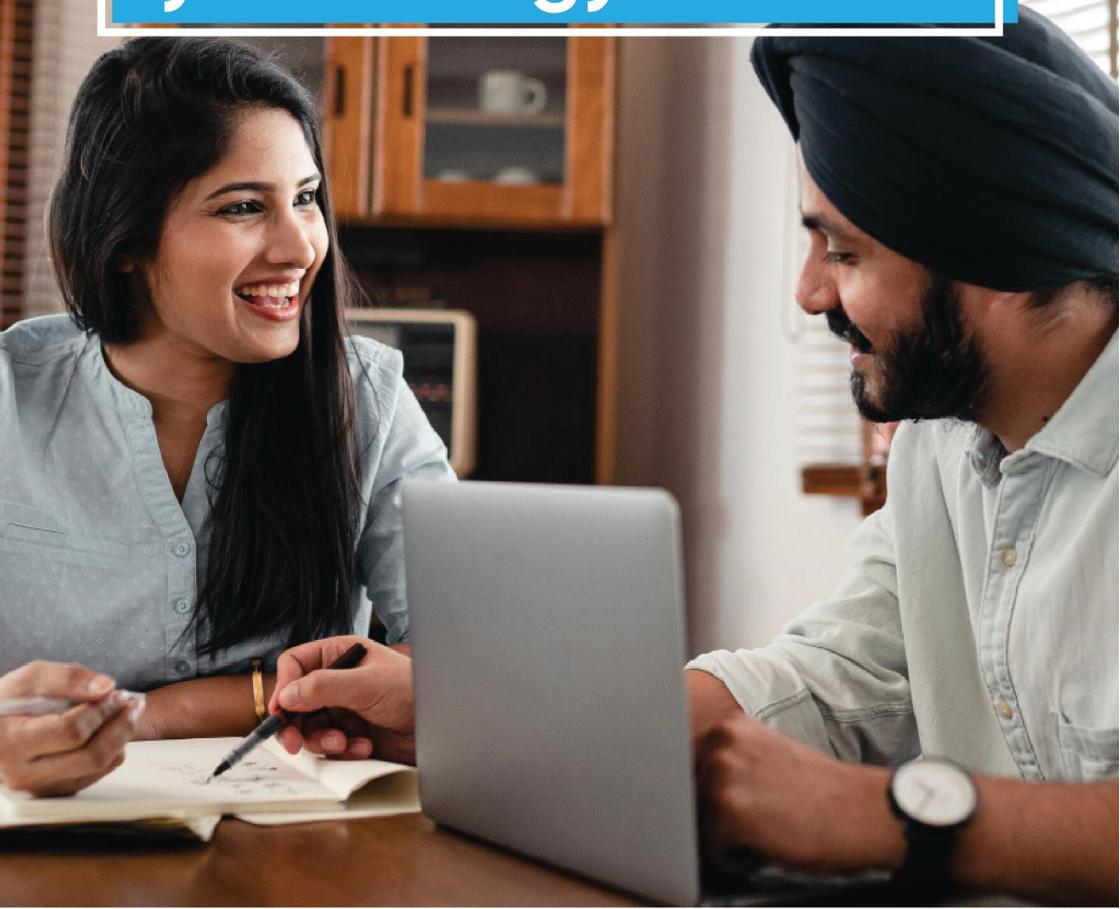
Register your interest by visiting

www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
or you can ring
Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

You can make a change



Is it difficult to pay your energy bills?



call the Warm & Well advice line to arrange a visit

 0800 500 3076

 warmandwell.co.uk



A helping hand with your energy

Meet Sharon, the friendly neighbourhood Energy Advocate working in Hester's Way and across Cheltenham.

The thing about home energy is that we all need it – but that doesn't mean it's easy to understand. Maybe your bills come in and go out automatically. Or maybe you top up your meter every time the money gets low. But it can be tricky to know what you are actually paying for and understanding your energy usage.

This is the story in thousands of households all over Cheltenham – but for households with very high energy costs, it can be hard to know what to do about spiralling bills that feel impossible to control.

That's where our Cheltenham's Energy Advocate comes in.

Local charity Severn Wye has a team of professional 'Energy Advocates' that can help you get back in control of your energy. They offer free, personalised advice about how to reduce your energy bills, negotiate with your energy provider or compare tariffs to get you the best deal. They also help with funding and financial support for your energy.

In Cheltenham, Sharon works with households in the community as their local Energy Advocate, supporting them every step of the way towards overcoming fuel debt, managing their energy use and access to services and funding. Through her support Sharon wishes for her households to feel confident and in control of their home energy.

One family had built up fuel debt and were receiving worrying letters about large bills and high electricity use. Sharon worked with them to explore where their costs were coming from and understand their lifestyle and the specific challenges they faced.

She liaised with the energy supplier to get their bill re-calculated at a better rate, reducing it by £270. She helped to set up a direct debit payment plan, so they could pay off their debt in manageable chunks. After receiving this energy advocate support, the resident said, "*Thanks for everything. Getting the new agreement set up has helped reduce my stress – thanks very much!*"

If you or someone you know is struggling with their energy, get in touch with us! Whether you need support with fuel debt, tariff switching, energy efficiency or any other energy-related issue, we can help.

If you are in a similar situation or finding managing your energy difficult for any other reason, let us know. You can get in touch with us by calling our Warm and Well advice line on **0800 500 3076**, or by visiting warmandwell.co.uk/advocate.



SUMMER 2021 ACTIVITIES

Sports Holiday Club

Four days of coached sports activities for children in school years 3-6 aimed to develop sporting skills with an exploration of the Christian faith. Sponsored by Psalms and St Aidan and St Silas at

Oasis Centre 3rd / 4th August and YMCA Arle Road 10th / 11th August 10am—3pm £12 per child / £8 per family / per day.

Book Online: psalms.uk.net/bookings or return the form to lydia.holloway@psalms.uk.net



Street Art Workshop

Paint a street art mural with Slaz who'll show you how to use spray paints to complete the mural at Oasis. Take home your own art work board!! Healthy snacks and drinks provided.

MUGA, Oasis, Coronation Square FREE

1 to 5.00pm August 16th– 20th full day on the 20th Call 01242 575638 to book your place

Sports Coaching at MUGAs

Oasis / Springfield Park / KGV

Drop in for football and basketball coaching for **ages 9-16** from **The Bridge Football Academy** at the multi use games area (MUGA) @ **Oasis, Coronation Square / Springfield Park / King George Fifth**

Every weekday from August 2nd —August 26th **FREE**

Healthy snacks and drinks provided.

You will need tell us your full name and school on site to get involved.





HELP PAYING FOR CHILDCARE



MONEY TOWARDS CHILDCARE

Any **one** of the following schemes...

Age

0-11

Or 16 if disabled

Get up to
£2000 per child

For working families

TAX-FREE CHILDCARE

Age

0-16

Claim back up
to **85%** of costs

For working families

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Age

0-15

Or 16 if disabled

Claim back up
to **70%** of costs

For working families

TAX CREDITS



AVAILABLE IN UK

... **can** be used with

FREE HOURS OF CHILDCARE

Age

2

For families getting
**certain government
support**

15 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE

Age

3&4

For **all** families

15 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE

Age

3&4

For **working** families

30 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE



AVAILABLE IN ENGLAND

For offers in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland check childcarechoices.gov.uk
Speak to your provider about any additional charges that may apply

For full details visit

childcarechoices.gov.uk

Getting childcare vouchers?

Go to GOV.UK to find out more

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

HELPING SHAPE THE FUTURE OF WEST CHELTENHAM

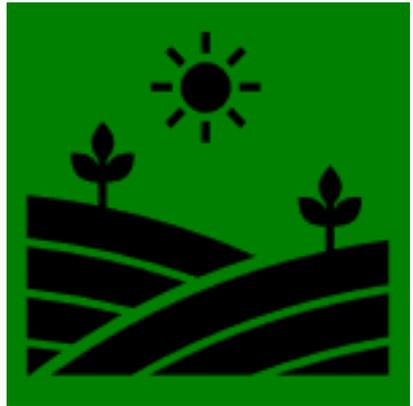
The Hesters Way Forum would like to thank residents for completing the parks survey sent out at Easter. A particular shout out to the year 7 and 9 students of All Saints Academy and Pates nearly all of whom responded. The results give the Forum strong evidence for inclusion of some fantastic features in our local parks.

With such a successful response the Forum are now keen to conduct further surveys to ensure that the new Neighbourhood Plan really does represent what local people think.

Advice from advisers at Locality, the government department which oversees Neighbourhood Planning, has suggested that the Forum gather information on the following topics;

- Sustainability and renewable energy
- Transport and parking
- Retail and leisure

The Forum will be devising questionnaires over the summer ready for sharing with the community. If you see a link on the @hesterswayforum Facebook page then please take a few minutes to answer the questions. It will help prove the case for a better Hesters Way.



One further topic which has raised a lot of interest is how the new Golden Valley Project at Fiddlers Green and Springbank will integrate with the existing housing. The Borough Council is keen to hear the views of local people about how this boundary will be designed and the Forum will be conducting a local survey door to door on the streets nearby. This is particularly interesting as an announcement of the developer for the project is imminent. If you would like to voice our opinion please let the Forum know.

If you want to take a look at the neighbourhood plan in more detail and some of the other ideas the community has come up with it can be found at www.hesterswayforum.co.uk/documents. Important sections are 5—Policies and 6 Community Projects.

For information please contact Hesters Way Forum —they'd love to hear from you!

CONTACT the FORUM

info@hesterswayforum.co.uk / www.hesterswayforum.co.uk
 Facebook; @hesterswayforum 01242 575638

Friends of KGV Cheltenham

A well maintained and healthy park can be a focal point for the whole community. In St Mark's we are blessed with the second largest park in Cheltenham, second only to Pittville park, with seven full-size football pitches, 2 rugby fields and a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).

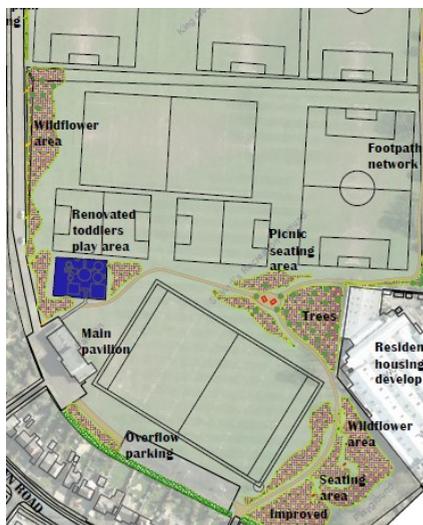
Since 2014, the Hesters Way Partnership in collaboration with Cheltenham Borough Council's Green Spaces team have been working to implement a plan (see below). Now that the borough council elections are over, Councillor Richard Pineger is very keen to get working on this plan once more.

"A well-used and well serviced park at the heart of our community brings people together and can improve the quality of life for all of our residents." Although we are quite some way from applying to be a green flag park, like several other parks in Cheltenham, we can only ever achieve that ambition as a tight -knit community of helpers and volunteers.



Cllr Richard Pineger at KGV

The good news is, if we can build a Friends of KGV Cheltenham group, then that is the first step to getting grants to make these improvements. If you want to join up and be there at the start then imagine how proud you would feel when we finally get our circular path, lighting, wildflower areas and tidy new trees without too many brambles! We can turn our park of bare fields into an interesting place to visit with multiple compartments that make us feel closer to nature. Provided that we retain and improve the pitches you can be in control of the future of the park!



Part of the KGV masterplan

As a first step to achieving this vision, Councillor Pineger wants to set up Friends of KGV Cheltenham by setting up a website, a constitution, and a weekly walk and talk group at 7:00 PM on Wednesday evenings meeting by the Bedford Avenue entrance.

To get involved, get in touch, email cllr.richard.pineger@cheltenham.gov.uk and start your email subject with KGV.



The Boys Are Back in Town

4th Cheltenham Boys Brigade are delighted to be back meeting face to face and have had a great few weeks enjoying regular sessions and outdoor activities.

The Boys Brigade run sessions every week from Hester's Way Baptist Church. Boys are split into 3 age groups from reception to age 18 years.

More details available by contacting Captain Jacquie Boyer on 07775986949







Specialists in family law

DS Legal is an experienced, highly regarded forward-looking law practice, specialising in family law. We are committed to offering a first-class service and we pride ourselves on our no-nonsense and practical approach.

We provide clear and effective advice, whilst at the same time understanding just how difficult family breakdowns can be. We offer our clients professional and informed advice at every step.

Divorce & Separation

Financial Remedies

Children

Domestic Abuse

Will & Probate

Civil Partnerships

Social Services Involvement

Domestic abuse

Domestic abuse isn't just about violent behaviour, victims can also experience verbal abuse and feel intimidated and controlled. In fact, the definition of domestic violence has recently been updated to include reference to emotional abuse.

If you are a parent, you won't be the only victim – your children will have to live through the abuse with you. When there are children in the household, they witness the violence that is occurring, and in eighty per cent of cases, they are in the same or the next room. In about half of all domestic violence situations, the children are also being directly abused themselves.



Costs and Legal Aid

If you are a victim of abuse, whether it is physical, emotional, psychological or financial you may be eligible for legal aid. We can make a quick assessment and if appropriate ensure that you get the protection you need when you need it including whether you are eligible for legal aid. If you own your own home or have additional assets we will advise on whether the statutory charge is likely to come into effect and provide you with an estimate of what that charge may be. Alternatively, we will endeavour to provide you with a fixed fee, so that you do not have to worry about ongoing legal costs.

Can we help you?



Mark Saunders

enquiries@ds-legal.co.uk

01242 517949

**Eagle Tower
Montpellier Drive
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire**

CONTACT PROTECTION

Going to court in respect of your children is always daunting, especially if you are the victim of domestic abuse perpetrated by the other party in the case.

There are, however, particular rules the court has to follow in cases concerning children where there has been domestic violence. These rules are set out in what is known as Practice Direction 12J, which is part of the Family Procedure Rules.

Practice Direction 12J places responsibility on the court to think about whether domestic violence is an issue in a case. If there has been domestic violence in the relationship the court has to go on to think about what happened and whether the perpetrator accepts that it happened.

In such cases a court should only order contact between children and the perpetrator if it is satisfied that the victim and the children will not be exposed to the risk of harm by contact taking place.

If you are a victim of Domestic Violence then it is essential that you raise these concerns as soon as possible. Prior to any court hearing a CAFCASS officer will usually speak to both parties over the telephone in order to prepare the safeguarding enquiries letter for the court. This telephonic appointment is the ideal opportunity to raise the issue of Domestic Violence because CAFCASS provide the court with preliminary advice in the letter they prepare.

It is highly likely that the perpetrator will deny the abuse and in those circumstances the court will consider listing the matter for what is known as a Fact Find Hearing, at which the court will make findings as to whether the Domestic Violence took place. These findings will then impact upon the court's decision-making as to whether it is safe for contact to take place.

For further help please see the information on the opposite page.



legal

Neighbourhood Charity Shop

Save money, recycle and help raise funds for local project

Bargains Galore!

Donations Welcomed!

Shop Opening Times

The Hesters Way Road shop is open

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3pm

Contact 01242 252325

Photo by [Artificial Photography](#) on [Unsplash](#)

WEST CHELTENHAM DIRECTORY 2021



If you want to find out what's available in west Cheltenham then why not try looking in the West Cheltenham Directory?

Hesters Way Partnership updated the directory in May . It attractively lists details of all that's great in the area including parks and gardens, churches and venues, medical services, shops, children's services, schools, youth groups, sports teams, and a section on local gems including contact details for the Council and local councillors

A hard copy will soon be available, in the meantime you can view it online here;

westcheltenham.org/directory



HESTERS WAY
PARTNERSHIP

PLAY TODAY & WIN A STAY

Support Our Lottery
This Summer



WIN A Luxury Forest
Staycation!

- **£25,000 jackpot!**
- **Sign up from £1 per week**
- **Help our cause help the community**
- **Don't miss the special draw!**

To start supporting, visit:

www.cheltenhamlottery.co.uk

and search for: **Hesters Way**



Ready Steady Garden

Lilian Faithfull Care in Bloom

Lilian Faithfull Care have launched their very own summer garden competition across their five care homes and two adult day care hubs in Gloucestershire. The care home Charity is on the lookout for donations of garden items and for people to judge the patches in August.

As the care sector steers it's our way out of what has been surreal times during Covid-19, this garden project gives their staff and those they care for the chance to have some fun together in their lovely green spaces. The project was inspired and created by Rita Harris their new Care Quality Manager, and will be led by each Manager – with a little healthy competition.



The care homes and day hubs will create and grow a patch in their garden using everyone's talents, skills and team work. There will be ways that everyone can contribute whether indoors, by helping with planning, research and seed sowing, or outdoors with planting, watering and nurturing. Those with garden experience will teach those that haven't gardened before.

The project is encouraging innovation and different elements of conservation

including wonderful plants, creative upcycling, and encouraging more birds, bees and butterflies into their beautiful gardens. The project also includes an edible element, with suggestions from their catering teams of vegetables and herbs to grow which can be included in future menus. Some are expected to be really competitive with trying to grow the largest vegetables.

Lilian Faithfull Care's residents, day guests and staff will all take great joy from creating, planting, nurturing and watching their garden grow – and possibly eating some of it.

Being a Charity, Lilian Faithfull Care are welcoming resources and support towards their garden projects. Would you or a local group, school or company like to donate any gardening items, cuttings, seeds or equipment? Or do you know someone up for the role of garden judging in August? If you can help please contact their Marketing and Fundraising Manager via email at Kelly.richardson@lilianfaithfull.co.uk

The garden patches will be judged in August, and you can follow their progress until then via their social media pages @Lilian Faithfull. You can view all their care homes and day hubs here:

www.lilianfaithfull.co.uk/contact

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CIO no: 1173349



PROTECT YOUR POOCH

Dog theft is on the rise and we are urging the public to keep their dogs **SECURE**, **IN SIGHT** and **SEARCHABLE**, and to help make pet theft a **SPECIFIC OFFENCE**.

Keep them:

- 1. SECURE** (pets are easily stolen from unsecured gardens if left unattended)
- 2. IN SIGHT** (when out and about keep them close and practice good recall)
- 3. SEARCHABLE** (to support quicker recovery if they go missing keep them microchipped, tagged and up to date photos)

AND HELP MAKE PET THEFT
A SPECIFIC OFFENCE

Find out more on all of the
above and more at
ourwatch.org.uk/ProtectYourPooch





Gloucestershire Nightstop provides emergency accommodation across the county, on a night-by-night basis. Homeless young people stay in the homes of trained and vetted volunteer hosts and are supported to find more permanent accommodation.

The "Supported Lodgings" scheme is a new project that will provide settled placements in the homes of trained and vetted Landlord Providers. The aim is to offer safe, supported, longer term accommodation to provide a steppingstone to independence.

Nightstop are now looking for people who can offer accommodation and support to a 16–25-year-old as part of the Supported lodgings scheme.

They are looking for people who:

- are single or a couple, with or without children and live anywhere in Gloucestershire.
- have a spare bedroom.
- have some experience with young people (this could be your own children)
- are patient and understanding but able to set boundaries
- have the time and desire to support a young person.
- would like the opportunity to develop new skills.
- can provide a safe and secure environment.

Placements may be just for a few months or could last up to a year.

Landlord Providers do not require specific qualifications, it is all about having the right qualities to work with young adults.

You will receive:

Initial and ongoing training

- The opportunity to meet other providers and build up a support network.
- Regular contact from a member of the team plus 24/7 emergency contact.
- Regular supervision to discuss how the placement is going, address any issues and provide general advice.
- Rent and support payments of around £140 weekly

Please contact Gloucestershire Nightstop for an informal chat and further details.

Jo Stenner: Advice and Support Coordinator 01452 331330 [Email:advice@glosns.uk](mailto:advice@glosns.uk)

Thanks to the Freemasons and Gloucestershire Community Foundation

The Future is Bright

Nursing degree students from University of Gloucestershire impress their Lilian Faithfull Care placement hosts.

Lilian Faithful Care's Cheltenham nursing home, St Faith's, has been working in partnership with the University of Gloucestershire for over five years offering placements to student nurses studying for their nursing degrees. The latest cohort of students were just coming to the end of their fourteen week placement at St Faith's when four of them shared their experiences. Pictured Kira, Monika, Becca and Takudza, alongside our nurse, Karen Barry who was one of three nurses to mentor the students.

Monika explains; *"We have really enjoyed every moment. We have learnt so much. The team has been amazing - supporting us every single day. Being a student during the pandemic has been hard but those lovely girls [their nurse mentors], Sally, Pauline and Karen have kept us safe, they look after us and our mental health. It was the best placement I've ever had. I have felt very valued. We've seen how the nurses provide good leadership and we are learning every single day. The knowledge I have absorbed is mind blowing."*

Takudza continues, *"What I wasn't expecting was the support we also got from other health professionals. The [visiting] Doctors have also taken time to actually explain everything to us, whatever they were doing. It might be explaining the signs of deterioration or talking us through what they are prescribing."*

Becca adds, *"I hadn't had any experience of end of life care before coming here and it has opened my eyes as to what can be done and what there is to offer."*

Nurse and mentor Karen Barry explains, *"When the students arrive, for some of them it is their first time in a nursing home, whereas others have plenty of experience."* The students echo this and Becca comments

"When I started I didn't know how to communicate with the residents, I was nervous but I have learnt so much and now know lots of different ways you can communicate."

Takudza added, *"Yes, you learn different ways to communicate, we have pictures residents can point to - it wasn't something I had when working in a previous nursing home."*

Nurse Mentor Karen's final words encapsulates what a true partnership it is between Lilian Faithfull Care and the University of Gloucestershire; *"We are really proud to be teaching and supporting the future nursing workforce. It's very rewarding to see them develop and grow in confidence and skill. It definitely enhances the care we provide."*

The nursing students continue to be an inspiration. All the St Faith's staff wish them every success in the future and look forward to giving a warm welcome to the next group





WHAT IS FIXMYSTREET?

FixMyStreet is an independent website, built by the charity MySociety who wanted to make it easier to report problems in your community, even if you don't know who those reports should go to. So they made FixMyStreet.

All you have to do is type in a postcode – or let the site locate you automatically – and describe your problem. Then they send your report to the people whose job it is to fix it.

FixMyStreet covers the whole of the UK. No matter where you are, the only thing you ever have to remember is the web address – FixMyStreet.com

Do councils read or act on FixMyStreet reports? They certainly do. Reports sent through FixMyStreet go into the same council email inboxes as reports sent through by any other means.

How can you contact them? You can use this form [Contact Us :: FixMyStreet](#) – make sure you see whether the FAQs answer your question first, because that saves your time and theirs.

What can I report? FixMyStreet is primarily for reporting things which are broken or dirty or damaged or dumped, and need fixing, cleaning or clearing, like graffiti, dog fouling, potholes or street lights that don't work. It creates a snapshot for local communities, so it's easy to see what the common problems are in a given area, and how quickly they get fixed. Other local residents can browse, read and comment on problems – and perhaps even offer a solution.

Why not report an issue today!

**TIRED OF POTHOLES
DOG POOP VANDALISM
BROKEN STREET LIGHTING
FLY-TIPPING LOOSE PAVING?**

The Story of Family Space

Holiday Play schemes, Family Days Out and Stay and Play began in 1995 and formed the genesis of what was to become Family Space which turns 25 this year!!

Sarah Avery and the team are keen to celebrate a quarter century of activities and community support and would love to gather the stories of families who have been impacted by Family Space over the years. If you've been involved with Family Space as a supporter or volunteer they want to hear from you no matter how long ago it was!!



To jog your memory here are some of the great projects Family Space have run over the years. The original work described above led to the development of the Time Out for Mums support group and the befriending work. The Cheltenham Child Contact Centre began in 2000 and is still running; open every Saturday for supported and supervised contact. It also supports parents to work out future contact arrangements for their children through its 'Resolve' programme.

Over the years Family Space has run many other activities reacting to the changing needs in its community and beyond, including a shopper's crèche, a twins group, Saturday clubs, street youth work, and for some years supported a Family Centre in Vaslui, in North East Romania.

In 2015 Family Space moved to the Oasis Centre, built originally as a youth centre, it has provided greater potential to work in partnership with other local organisations and improves its visibility of services in the community. From here Family Space serves over 800 people a year in West Cheltenham.

Family Space seeks to be a safe place to build relationships with families where they can come and get support for whatever situation their family is facing. More recently over the Covid pandemic they began the #FeedCheltenham campaign and developed a partnership of food network providers across Cheltenham to feed people over this past 16 months.

Sarah is looking to collect good news stories about Family Space over the years and is looking for people to get in touch to talk to her. Please contact Sarah Avery, Manager on sarah@familyspace.org.uk.



For more information, to get involved or for support for yourself, please see www.familyspace.org.uk

Summer Holiday Drop-In Sessions

Football and Basketball



Multi Use Games Areas @

OASIS / SPRINGBANK / KGV

Mondays to Thursdays afternoons

AUGUST 2^{to} 26

Coached football and basketball sessions

#HAF @hwpartnership 01242 575638

**NO CHILD
LEFT BEHIND**

 Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

 Department
for Education

 BRIDGE
FOOTBALL ACADEMY

 HESTERS WAY
PARTNERSHIP

 STADANS