

VILLAGE VOICES

INFORMATION UPDATE 10th September 2020

This week's update includes information about Birmingham Heritage Week, The Great British September Clean Campaign, Spring to Life projects, plus more Bournville Stars shine in our community

Keep visiting BVT's website for updates about support available

<https://www.bvt.org.uk/our-communities/community-services-coronavirus/>

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please contact carolelowe@bvt.org.uk

Birmingham Heritage Week 10th -20th September

Eleven days of varied and fascinating events, from displays, walks and talks to open days. This year they invite you, for the first time, to explore Birmingham's heritage through virtual events as well as in person (social distance) visits. You can test your Birmingham knowledge with their Brummie Quiz and take the post box challenge; what do you know about your local post-box?



**Birmingham
Heritage
Week**



As part of Heritage Week, why not have a closer look at your local post box (or any other), take a photo and post it on social media with street location and tagged with #BHeritageWeek. Your record will be uploaded to help create a map showing post boxes in Birmingham from the reign of Queen Victoria to Elizabeth II.

Enjoy discovering Birmingham's history and heritage, in person or from the comfort of your home. For more information visit

<https://birminghamheritageweek.co.uk/>

<https://www.instagram.com/BHeritageWeek/>

The Sweet Life of Bournville is one of Birmingham Heritage events



<https://birminghamheritageweek.co.uk/10-sept/the-sweet-life-of-bournville-exhibition/>

Bournville Walking Tours is one of Birmingham Heritage events

<https://birminghamheritageweek.co.uk/10-sept/bournville-walking-tour/>

Other events include: The Birmingham Buddhist Vihara (learn about Buddhism), Northfield Heritage Trail, Cannon Hill Park, a cycling tour of late 60s Birmingham and much more across the city.

To find out what events are going on and when in Birmingham visit

<https://birminghamheritageweek.co.uk/10-sept/>

Please note that the organisations and activities listed here are used at your own discretion and choice. BVT cannot endorse services or activities provided by third parties and shared here. All information correct at time of production



Great British September Clean 11-27 September 2020



Make a difference to the environment in your local area by joining the national campaign, 11-27 September 2020

Here's how you can get involved and show support for the Great British September Clean:

1. **Organise a private clean-up** with up to five other family and friends. <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/user/register>
2. **Pledge to do your own individual clean-up**, you can give as little as 15 minutes to the campaign. <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/pledge-to-pick>

If you are cleaning a street / park or part of a school campaign, access resources like posters and risk assessments from this website <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/resources>

If you are a BVT resident cleaning up in a BVT area and have collected 10 bin bags of rubbish or more by taking part in the campaign, email Theresa Gordon theresagordon@bvt.org.uk who will arrange for collection and disposal. You will need to provide proof that you have registered for the campaign and carried out the litter picking or clean up.

We would love to see and share photos of your clean up in the Bournville areas, so please send them to communityadmin@bvt.org.uk or share them on BVT's Facebook page.

For more information about general community litter picking visit the city council webpage. https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20009/waste_and_recycling/1769/community_litter_picking



Mother Gardens project

This information has been contributed by one of our residents, Fred Collins.

Mother Gardens is a scheme developed by Food Forest Brum and its parent organisation Spring to Life CIC to promote community resilience and mutual aid within and across communities in Birmingham and surrounding areas.

The idea is to work with community food growing groups (as well as individuals) to grow, propagate and share beneficial plants with one another. As people develop their own Mother Gardens, they are encouraged to make connections through plant sharing with other Mother Gardens in the region as well as with groups and people in their own communities. Many plants shared with the central Mother Garden hub are given to Food Forest Brum and Fruit and Nut Village sites to be planted out in public spaces. Plants will also go towards plant share and swap events.

There are different aspects of a Mother Garden which people may opt for their garden: 1) A nursery bed for propagating plants, 2) a space for raising young plants before being planted out in their permanent site, 3) a garden of mother plants used to take cuttings and seeds for creating new plants. Or all the above.

Anyone with a garden – however big or small and regardless of skill level or available time – can have a Mother Garden. All you must do is be willing to share and receive plants. Some groups may choose to set up nurseries on their site, but others may just allow beneficial plants to spread and multiply themselves. Then all people do is dig up, pot up, and share. (social distance measures will be in place)

Interested visit <http://springtolife.org/mother-gardens/>

Fruit and Nut Village Stirchley

A project bringing food growing into the lives of residents, a Spring to Life partnership project between Food Forrest Brum and Let's Grow Together

For more information about this project visit <http://springtolife.org/fruit-and-nut-village/> or e mail fruitandnutvillage@gmail.com or phone Doctor Rob Tilling Director of Let's Grow Together 07895692446



Bournville Stars There are more wonderful stars to congratulate this week. You can still nominate a star in your community until the end of September 2020 Visit <https://www.bvt.org.uk/news-and-events/have-you-seen-stars-shining-in-bournville/> for more information and to complete the nomination form.



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Helen Crisp

Helen started work at St Francis church as an over 50's development worker the week before the nation was put into lockdown so she was not given the chance to meet anybody face to face. During lockdown Helen facilitated a befrienders scheme looking after other volunteer befrienders and keeping in contact with many people via the telephone herself. She called one resident on many occasions (weekly for 4 months), listening to her, encouraging her, offering help and support where she could, she even organised a food parcel and shopping for her. This all arrived in time for her 80th birthday making it an incredibly special day. Even though this resident and Helen have never met, the resident feels like she is her friend and many other people in the neighbourhood feel the same. Helen may be new to this community, but she has gone above and beyond. She is a Bournville Star to the resident who nominated her for the award and many other people.



Let's hope she gets to meet them in person over the next few months.



Sarah Mullen

Sarah has given endless energy and dedicated support to the local community ever since the crisis hit our city. She started and coordinated projects that have had a direct positive impact on the local community. Understanding a sudden need for help, Sarah managed to secure funding to offer and run a weekly emergency food parcel service. The successful service was supported by a coordinated team of volunteers, led by Sarah, who delivered to shielding people of Bournville. In the early days this was done from her family home and with Sarah making deliveries herself! For VE day Sarah arranged for the over 50's in Bournville to be given a surprise celebratory cake parcel, which meant that literally 100's of cakes needing to be sourced and baked!

