

# NEW FRANKLEY COMMUNITY NEWS

December 2012  
Produced by The Frankley  
Neighbourhood Forum

## Editorial Comment

The Frankley Neighbourhood Forum took the decision to cancel the production of the Frankley Neighbourhood News when the costs became far too high, over £7000 per year. After discussions with other community groups we are to try a much cheaper production method. This product will be limited by space but not by content.

*Let us start by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas*

**It is clear that this year will be a difficult one financially for many people, let us try to help where we can. A little gift or just a word to those who are on their own.**

## Christmas Events at

St Christopher's Frankley

9th December 4pm Christingle Service

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14th Friday 2pm

### Carol Singing Fun

practice [for Thurs 20th] with  
mince pies and coffee

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Thursday 20th at Holly Hill Shops

Carols Around the Christmas Tree

3.15pm

With local schools everyone is welcome  
to come and have a great sing

## Christmas events at

St Leonard's Frankley

Christmas Eve

5.30 pm Family Carols and Nativity

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

11.15 am Family service

There is also a Christingle Service at St Leonard's on the 2nd of December but the editor apologises that this newsletter will not have reach many of you by then.

**What do you know about Frankley?  
What goes on, who meets where and  
when. It is hoped that in a future  
New Frankley Community News  
we can explore life on Frankley.**

## Friends of Balaam's Wood LNR

We have a very exciting project starting soon!

We are going to turn the small area of overgrown land between the local nature reserve and the bus stop on Arden Road into a community orchard.

Following consultation funding was secured to clear the land; this will happen in the next few months.

This will be the first sign the project is underway. Thanks to our local police team we have now applied for further funding to buy fruit trees, benches and an information panel.

We hope to seed the orchard with grass and wildflowers in the spring and plant the fruit trees next autumn.

The new community space for everyone to enjoy. If you would like to be involved contact us on 0121 453 3396

Www: [Balaamswoodlnr.btck.com](http://Balaamswoodlnr.btck.com) — Twitter : @balaamswood

## Holly Hill Infants School

At Holly Hill Infants School, pupils are looking forward to being able to make full use of their fantastic outdoor environment.

The children already have daily access to the two large playgrounds, football area, spiritual garden, activity trails, gazebo and tyre park. They use lots of lovely outdoor resources including bikes, sports equipment and toys. However, teachers have been reluctant to use the large school field because of safety concerns.

The old wooden fence was broken and damaged in places, which meant that little children might wander off, and strangers might wander on. The school has now secured funding for the purchase and installation of a brand new fence to enclose the field. The teachers are already brimming with exciting ideas to bring creative learning in all areas of the curriculum into the outdoors. They hope to make use of the school's wellies and full body waterproofs with some really muddy

Activities!

It is hoped that over 2013 this additional outdoor learning space can be developed to create the perfect environment for child-led out-of-classroom learning to take place where children have the place where children have a chance to build

### **Frankley Guitar Club**

Every other Wednesday at

St Christopher's Church, Holly Hill

6:45-10pm

[Beginners to Intermediate]

Contact David 0121 733 6066

# Forestdale Primary School

By the time you read this we will be getting ready for Christmas! We will be having a Christmas Fayre, Christmas Lunch and Christmas Performances. At the end of term KS2 children are going to the theatre to see James & the Giant Peach.

During the term we have held a Halloween disco, Workshops for parents and Open sessions for prospective Parents & Pupils. We had assemblies with visits from the Police "Bike It" and the Blue Cross to talk about safety and also the Birmingham City Mission.

Children and parents have donated money to support the following charities: McMillan Cancer Support, Children in Need and our Harvest Appeal raised money to send "Send a Cow" to Africa.

The children have had the opportunity to take part in several clubs, including, Choir, Gardening and Multi-Sports. Children have also played Basketball in a school team against other local schools.

We have had several changes of staff and welcome Ms M Graham as our new Deputy Headteacher Forestdale is now able to offer paid afternoon Nursery places to our part time pupils.

PARENT GOVERNOR, we currently have 1 vacancy, if you are interested and require more details please contact the school on 464 8659

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## FRANKEY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

### HALLOWEEN EVENT

We had a fantastic turn out at the Halloween event, thank you to all who participated, helpers and visitors alike. A special thanks to Penny. Thank you to Steve the ranger from the Lickey hills who was there for the whole event and stayed with the rest of us in the pouring rain packing away the marquee.

I was a bit disappointed in the fact we put this event on for FREE including a craft table which the kids thoroughly enjoyed to find things had disappeared at the end of the night.

The value of these things is not important but it does mean they will have to be replaced reducing the funds available for future events.

Thank you Spoz for your readings very well done,

Linda Coates \_\_\_\_\_

My granddaughter was enthralled by the story teller and cuddled up to me when "Bettlejuice" made an appearance, but soon overcame any fear and laughed at his costume. She also enjoyed the crafting and was delighted with her mask. All in all a thoroughly good time was had by all . Sylvia Davis

## ALLOTMENTS

Are you on the waiting list for an allotment ? There are several available at the Clunbury Road Site West Heath ,call Margaret on

478 2721

## **Grace Community Church**

### **Acoustic Café**

St Christopher's Church Centre

Last Friday of each month

7.30 –9.30 Admission £2

16 years old + join us for live music and refreshments

Open mic session ring or email David

0121 733 6066 if you would like to

perform

# WHAT'S ON IN FRANKLEY

FRANKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

FRANKLEY STREET CHAMPIONS

FRANKLEY COMMUNITY WATCH

Now have a joint open forum meeting at

the Parish Office Holly Hill on the third

Thursday of the month at 7.30

all are welcome

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New Frankley in Birmingham

Parish Council

Meet on the third MONDAY of each month

at St Christopher's Church Centre

This an opportunity to make yourselves

aware of how local democracy works

## IMPORTANT NEWS UPDATE

Since June of this year there has been a

hedge cutting program funded by

Birmingham City Council.

This has now been extended until the end of

March 2013 and covers the whole of the

Longbridge area as well

If you live in Frankley and are elderly, disabled or have special needs and you have a hedge or pathway to your property that you cannot look after and need help then please contact the Parish Council Office on

**0121 457 9410**

And you will be visited by Ian Bruckshaw to assess what we can do to help you

Frankley will soon reach its fortieth year would you like to be involved in a celebration as we did with Frankley 21. Have you any ideas? Perhaps you would like to write an article with memories of events or people. If you would, leave your name and contact number for the Forum c/o Parish Council Office

## Birmingham South Police

## Leave a light on campaign

Protect your home against opportunist burglars by remembering to **"Lock up, Lights On, Key Safe"**

The dark evenings can provide perfect cover for a sneak burglar who spots an open window in an unoccupied room; sees your valuables through open curtains or blinds and tries their luck with an unlocked door

Here are FIVE simple steps to help reduce the chance of your home becoming the target for a burglar:

- ( 1) Always lock your doors and all accessible windows
- (2) Use a timer switch to turn lights and radio on when you are out or away to give the impression that your house is occupied
- (3) Close curtains and blinds after dark so that your valuables can't be seen from outside
- (4) Install a visible burglar alarm\_ **and turn it on.** If it has zones, turn on the alarm downstairs while you are upstairs asleep.