

SPRING
2017

PERRY COMMON

MATTERS

SPRING INTO
SPRING 2017

SAT 13TH MAY
12:00 - 3:00PM
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS

#AFRIEND 4PERRY

This Spring we're looking to give a local resident a great present.

Perry 'The Owl' who lives outside Perry Common Community Hall, is always there to greet everyone. He does a great job, but we think he needs a new friend and a friend is what he shall have!

This summer, he will be meeting his new buddy; **A Bear** - who will be a great friend for Perry and a new face in our community.

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#AFRIEND 4PERRY continued

Witton Lodge Community Association is purchasing Perry's new friend, with the money raised going to the Birmingham Children's Hospital. This is part of the 'Big Sleuth Project'. These bears will form a trail around the city, so you'll be seeing quite a few of them around Birmingham this summer!

take a selfie with Perry

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A £50

voucher

Show your support by taking a selfie with Perry and using the hashtag #AFriend4Perry. Share your photo with us on our Facebook page and we will enter you into our prize draw to win a £50 Voucher for a shop of your choice. Keep checking our Facebook page to see if you have won.



Thank You to everyone who entered our Prize Draw in the last edition of Perry Common Matters. All the information you gave has been very helpful.

Congratulations to Stephen Lee (pictured) of Perry Common Road, who won £50.



“COME AND SAY HELLO TO PERRY”

“HERE ARE A FEW SELFIES SO FAR”



We're an artistic bunch here in Perry Common. To showcase this creativity, there's a new group who meet at Perry Common Library.

In March, it was really good to see all this creativity come together, with wonderful artists, a talented photographer and very innovative local sculptor – carving beautiful works from wood, breeze blocks and anything else he can get his hands on.

Dates of future sessions to be announced soon. Keep checking www.wittonlodge.org.uk

GETTING CREATIVE AT PERRY COMMON LIBRARY



Sing Up With The Ring Of Sound Choir

In February, the Ring Of Sound (Perry Common's very own Community Choir) held a live concert to raise funds to keep the group going. Ring Of Sound was set up in 2004 by local residents to bring the community together during the tremendous changes during the rebuilding of Perry Common.

The concert, held at Perry Common Community Hall, was stunning; with the passionate choir performing an array of uplifting songs.

Ring Of Sound really need new members to help keep the choir going. If you are interested in joining and need more information, call Linda on 07960 386252, or email: Linda.Hines@wittonlodge.org.uk



Slimming World: Losing Weight and Helping Out



Congratulations to Perry Common's Slimming World, who have not only been losing weight, but also raising money for local good causes.

Back in January, the generous group collected 2 car-loads of goodies for the homeless shelter at Elim Community Church on Warren Road. There were bags full of biscuits, cakes and chocolate. The group donated clothing (the thermal underwear was very useful), bed sheets, sleeping bags and even shower gel, soap, shampoo and aftershave! As Jo, Slimming World Group Leader says "It's better donating these goodies rather than eating them" – though we don't think she was referring to the aftershave and shampoo!

Then, to brighten up a wet March morning, the enthusiastic group raised an impressive

£207.60 for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity.

Slimming World gave generously towards a raffle; with a stunning artwork as the prize. This was a beautiful tiger, made entirely of coloured stones by local artist Chris Beresford.

Chris lost his leg in a motorcycle accident in 1998 and it was Midlands Air Ambulance Charity who came to his rescue. The talented artist now creates these stunning artworks to raise money for the charity.

Great news and well done to everyone!



THE REBUILDING OF PERRY COMMON LATEST UPDATE

Work is moving at a rate of knots on the redevelopment of the last phase in Perry Common. 146 new homes (a mixture of houses and apartments) are being built on Dovedale Road – including the re-landscaping of the recreation ground – creating a new park.

77 homes will be for rent and 69 will be for sale.

Work is due to start on 20 new houses on the former 'balcony site' near Enderby Park in June.

Here are a few of the latest photos of this work.



NEAR ENDERBY PARK,

“The current site next to Enderby Park, where 20 new homes are due to be built – with work starting in June”



RECREATION GROUND,

“Work has started on the re-landscaping of the 27 acre park. The grass has been cleared ready for re-seeding, improved pathways & new trees”



DOVEDALE ROAD,

“The building of homes in Dovedale Road. The first of the 146 new homes have now been let, with new residents being welcomed to Perry Common”



DOVEDALE ROAD,

“There will be a good mix of different housing styles, catering for different family sizes”



FREE HOUSING ADVICE SESSIONS



Our FREE Housing Advice Sessions take place every Friday, 1 – 3pm.

To find out more and to book an appointment call Alisha on 0121 382 1930 or email Alisha.Vale@wittonlodge.org.uk.



an active SPRING OF EVENTS

BIG SPRING CLEAN



There's nothing like a good Spring Clean! But this year we've been taking this to the next level. Not content with 'cleaning the great indoors', local people and groups have been out and about cleaning the great outdoors – as part of the Big Spring Clean.

Residents in Hales Gardens really got into the Spring Cleaning Spirit. Next it was the turn of Wyrley Birch, with local people, Dog Wardens, Kingstanding Neighbourhood Police Team and the City Council's Streetscene Team, taking part in a really good clean up.

A special Thank You to Dave Billingham, who really got his hands 'wet' at Witton Lakes. Dave got into his canoe and cleaned lots of rubbish out of the two lakes - helped by enthusiastic local people, Duckling Watch and the Friends of Witton Lakes.

This lake clean is part of Dave's 'Birmingham Lakes Litter Picks and Trips', where the keen canoeist will be visiting as many local lakes as possible, in his own time, and cleaning them.

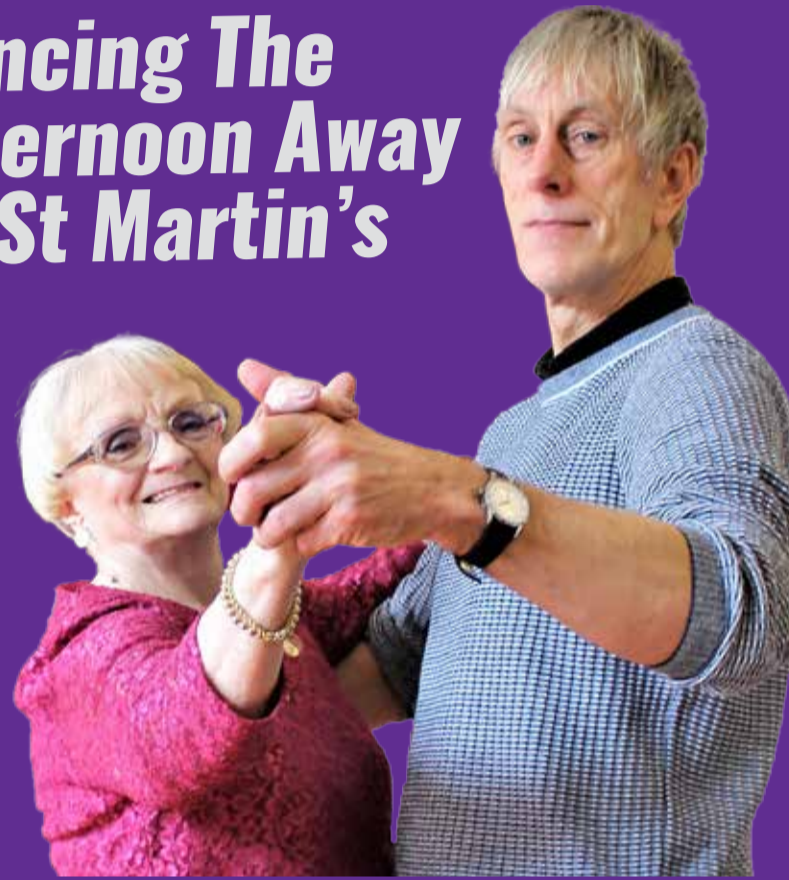
Great work Dave and everyone involved!



DAVE BILLINGHAM



Dancing The Afternoon Away At St Martin's



Since the first Tea Dance in the summer of 2015, they have become a regular event at St Martin's Church Centre. There's live music, dance, full afternoon tea and a really great crowd. There's usually a professional dance tutor to guide everyone through the steps – and a great mix of people of all abilities. It's always a fantastic atmosphere and wonderful afternoon.

The next Tea Dance will be: Thursday 25th May 1-4pm at St Martin's Church Centre, 140 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5AP.



BEST FOOT FORWARD WITH THE RED HOT CHILLI STEPPERS

If you're not a fan of dancing, but want to get fit and healthy, the Red Hot Chilli Steppers Walking Group could be just what you're looking for. Its FREE, great exercise and they're a very friendly group – so you get a really warm welcome.

The walk takes you around Perry Common, through Witton Lakes and around Brookvale Park. It's always amazing to see how much greenery is right on our doorstep!

Come along to Perry Common Community Hall, 87 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD – at 11am on Monday's (except Bank Holidays) and say hello to Linda Hackett (Walking Group Leader).



the Orchard TEA ROOM

IS NOW OPEN

If you're out and about in Witton Lakes and fancy a cup of tea, slice of cake and somewhere to relax; well now you can! There's even a Natural Play Area for the children to enjoy. It's really popular – especially now the weather is getting warmer.

We are currently opening the Orchard Tearoom every

Monday: 12 – 4pm

Friday: 9am – 12 midday

We're looking to open an extra day soon and have some exciting plans coming up.

Come along and say hello. We're through the green gates, next to the dividing path between the two lakes, B23 7XX. It's also a great opportunity to have a look at the Velvet Community Orchard.



AND THERE'S LOTS MORE EVENTS coming up



SPRING INTO spring

Saturday 13th May 12:00 – 3:00pm

The Ring, Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD

- Activities include:
- ✔ Super Slide
 - ✔ Bouncy Castle
 - ✔ The Owl Man
 - ✔ Fun Games
 - ✔ Food
 - ✔ and lots more

MACMILLAN SUMMER Delights

Friday 23rd June 1:30 – 4:30pm

Outside Perry Common Community Hall, 87 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD

Come along for a great summer street party with an Afternoon Cream Tea and help raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

TEDDY BEARS Picnic

Saturday 15th July 12:00 – 3:00pm

There'll be lots of fun at the Velvet Community Orchard, Witton Lakes by the dividing path between the two lakes B23 7XX. More details to be announced soon.

WYRLEY FESTIVAL of Fun

Saturday 9th September 12:00 – 3:00pm

Lots of fun at Witton Lakes. More information in our July edition.

As part of the Wyrley Festival Of Fun we will be holding a Giant Car Boot Sale. Places are limited.

Call Linda on 07960 386252 to find out more and to book your place.



Let Margaret Know What *you think*

The chances are that if you've been out of your house in the last few weeks, you will have seen Margaret. This super-enthusiastic lady is doing a great job, helping promote our healthy living services - letting everyone know what's going on.

If you see Margaret, stop and have a chat, let her know your thoughts and any ideas you have about anything to do with healthy living and lifestyle.

Call us on 0121 382 1930 or pop into our office between 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, to find out more



Fusion fitness with *dance shop*

Think about a fitness class with a combination of dance, a touch of yoga, pilates and lots more; then mix in Afro-Fusion - and you have 'Dance Shop'.

It's a great new fitness session and good fun! What's more, it's all completely FREE - though donations are welcome.

If you're aged 50 or over, come along at 2pm on Thursday's to Perry Common Community Hall, 87 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD, to see for yourself.

A Shed Full of Fun

spaces are kitted out for you to come along and do traditional "Man Stuff" like making furniture, fixing toasters; or anything that you fancy! Some 'sheds' even make stained glass windows!

PCWS is free and open to all. We're looking for people to help build the work benches and do the redecorating to give it a proper 'shed' feel.

Join us if you are good at, or keen to learn, practical skills. We are here on Tuesdays from 10am -2pm at St Martin's Church

Perry Common Work Shed (PCWS) is part of the exciting national movement of "Men's Sheds", where community

Centre, 140 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5AP.

Come along - and we have tea and biscuits too! Please call Alan Bale on 07813 301437.



Hire Our Community Toolkit

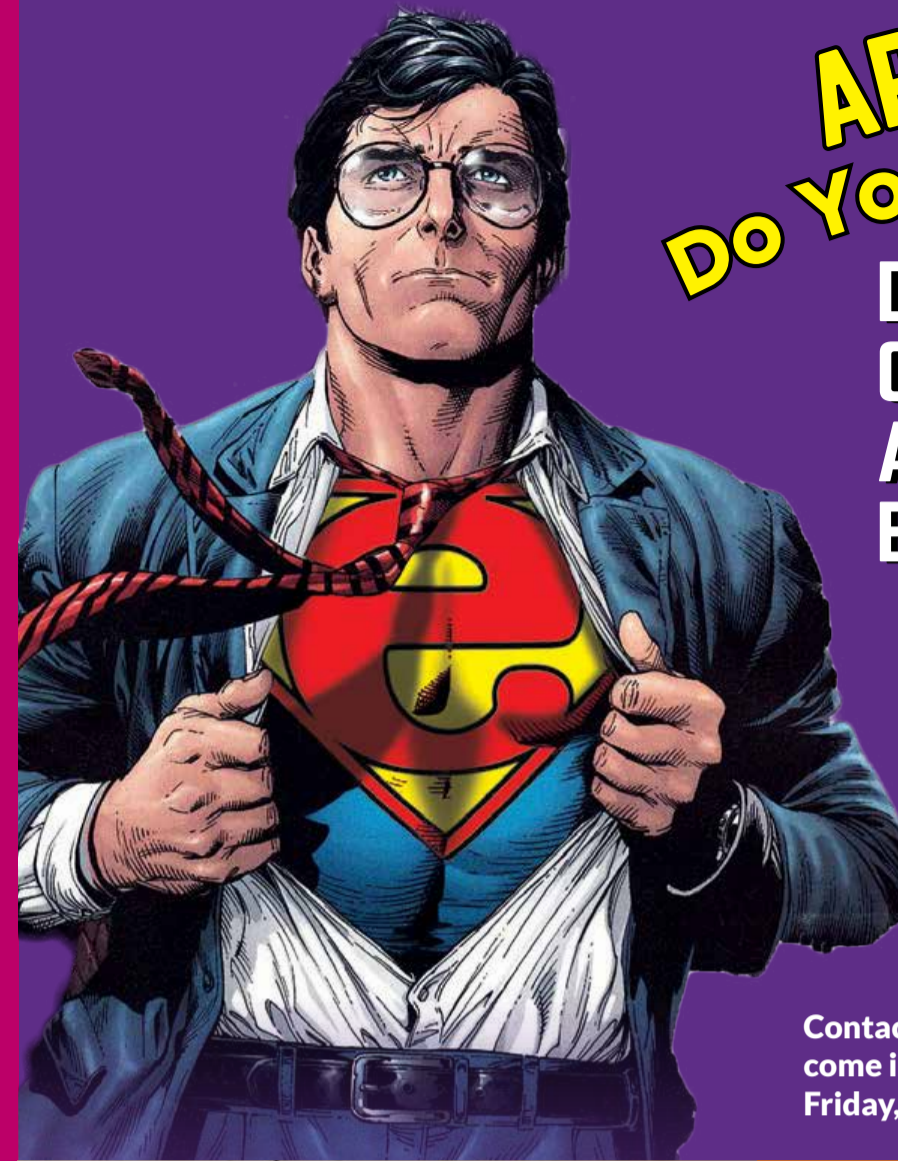
If you're thinking of doing some DIY this Spring and live in Perry Common, Kingstanding or Wyrley Birch; you can hire tools from Witton Lodge Community Association. We were delighted to receive an excellent selection of tools, including drills, saws, screwdrivers, hard hat, knee pads and lots more - donated to our community by the Kingstanding Neighbourhood Police Team. This was property that had been seized in crime raids.

It has been fully tested and yours to hire. To find out more call 0121 382 1930 or email Kay.Blundell@wittonlodge.org.uk.

Support With Health *works*

Alongside our Job Club, Paul is running 'Health Works'. This is an excellent FREE opportunity to discuss any additional health needs. These sessions focus on wider issues around employment and lifestyle - in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

To find out more call Paul on 0121 382 1930, email Paul.Tse@wittonlodge.org.uk or come into our office at Perry Common Community Hall between 9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday.



ARE YOU 15-29? Do You want a JOB?

DO YOU WANT TO GAIN NEW SKILLS AND WORK EXPERIENCE?

WE CAN HELP!

CONTACT US ON

Contact the Jobs and Skills Team on 0121 382 1930, email Iram.Fardus@wittonlodge.org.uk or come into our office at Perry Common Community Hall between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, to find out more.

JOB CLUB FOR ALL AGES

Due to popular demand, we have now started holding an extra Job Club - taking this to 3 excellent opportunities per week to support and advise with anything job related, FREE of charge.

- Job Club takes place:
- **Tuesday's: 10am - 1pm**
 - **Thursday's: 1 - 4pm**
- at Perry Common Community Hall, 87 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD
- **Wednesday's: 10am - 1pm**
- at Lakeside Children's Centre, Lakes Road, Wyrley Birch, B23 7UH.

Employer Led Information Sessions

Every month, we are hosting special information sessions, where we can explain the recruitment and selection process. These provide excellent opportunities to speak directly to employers and gain an insight into different employment areas, such as Care, Emergency Services, Retail and many more. What's more, there will be real jobs on offer!

To find out more call Iram on 0121 382 1930 or email Iram.Fardus@wittonlodge.org.uk.

Here are some of our young people benefiting from a great session to work in security, with real jobs available.



ADVICE AND A CUPPA

Come along to the Orchard Tearoom on Friday morning's between 9am - 12 midday and have a friendly chat to discuss any issues you are having. It's really informal and friendly, over tea and biscuits.

Friday's 9am - 12 midday. Just come along to the Orchard Tearoom at the Velvet Community Orchard, Witton Lakes, (through the green gates by the dividing path between the two lakes), B23 7XX.

BECOME A RESIDENT DIRECTOR AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

If you live in Kingstanding Ward and want to contribute to your local area, why not consider becoming a Resident Director on our Witton Lodge Community Association Board. You will be making a real difference.

To find out more call Afzal on 0121 382 1930 or email Afzal.Hussain@wittonlodge.org.uk.

If you're looking for employment advice and support; Melissa, our Employment Advisor, is here to help. Melissa has recently joined our Jobs and Skills Team and brings lots of experience and enthusiasm.



and here's two of the many people we have helped back into work



Luke, age 32

Now working as Enforcement Administrator Officer, Birmingham Magistrates Court

“I found the Job Club very informative and had a clear plan set out for me to get employment - CV Job sites, how to apply, interview techniques and constant encouragement from the staff in finding the right career path”



Paul, age 47

Now working as a Landscape Gardener:

“The Job Club is a really good service. Lots of employment services are very busy at the moment and they can't give you the time you need. Job Club gives you that time and all the help you need”



Volunteering Can Make A Big Difference

Just Ask Marie

If you're looking to try something new, boost your skills, build your confidence, enhance your CV, meet new people and make a difference to your community - then why not volunteer with Witton Lodge Community Association. Alongside all the experience

you'll get, we also offer a 12 week training programme.

Marie - who is on a work experience placement says: "Having been afforded the opportunity to gain some work experience with Witton Lodge Community Association, I am

working on reception at Perry Common Community Hall.

This has empowered me to feel that I am making a useful contribution to society, which is making a difference to my life and improving and progressing other people's lives too."

If you would like to volunteer with us, call Haleema on 0121 382 1930 or email Haleema.Khathoon@wittonlodge.org.uk

Perry Common Community Hall

87 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5JD
Tel: 0121 382 1930
www.wittonlodge.org.uk



Monday

Red Hot Chilli Steppers
Walking Group
11:00am

Tuesday

Job Club 10:00am – 1:00pm

Slimming World 7:00 pm

Wednesday

Aikido 7:30 - 9:30pm

Thursday

Pain Clinic (by GP appointment only)
9:30 - 1:00pm

Job Club

1:00 - 4:00pm

Dance Shop

2:00 - 3:00pm

Slimming World

5:00pm (1st Session)
7:00pm (2nd Session)

Friday

Slimming World
10:00am

Quiz Night

Every Month 7:00pm

19th May

16th June

21st July

18th August



COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

Take place each month at
Perry Common Community Hall.

• **Labour Councillor Des Hughes**
Every 2nd Wednesday of the month
7:00 - 8:00pm

• **Conservative Councillors
Gary Sambrook and Ron Storer**
Every 2nd Friday of the month
6:30 - 7:30pm

EXCLUSIVE OFFER
for Perry Common Residents

15% OFF

your next Hall Booking

Present this voucher at
Perry Common Community Hall.
(When you make your booking)



Witton Lodge Community Association, 87 Witton Lodge Rd, Perry Common, B23 5JD
www.wittonlodge.org.uk

Sycamore Court

46 Buxton Road, B23 5GA
Tel: 0121 386 4724
www.wittonlodge.org.uk



Monday

Monday Wellbeing
2:00 - 4:00pm

Tuesday

Age Concern Day Centre
10:00 - 2:00pm

Bingo
6:00 - 8:00pm

Ring Of Sound Choir
7:00 - 8:00pm

Wednesday

Knitting Group
10:30am - 12:00midday

Film Club
1:30 - 3:30pm

Thursday

Extend Exercise Class
10:00 - 11:00am

Men's Club
11:00am - 1:00pm

Fifty Shades Of
Green Gardening Club
1:30 - 3:00pm

Friday

Age Concern Day Centre
10:00am - 2:00pm

Avon Bingo
6:00 - 8:00pm (every 2 weeks)

The Net

159 Witton Lodge Road, B23 5AR
Tel: 0121 373 7406
www.thenet-church.co.uk



Monday

The Net Chat Club (Just drop in)
12:00 - 2:00pm

Tuesday

The Net Lunch Club
12:00 - 2:00pm

Perry Tree Centre

College Road, B23 5BX
(at the junction with Dovedale Road)
Tel: 0121 675 5571



Tuesday

EXTEND EXERCISE CLASS
10:00 - 11:00am

*Events may be subject to change. Please contact the venue directly to confirm details.

St Martin's Church Hall

140 Witton Lodge Road,
B23 5AP
Tel: 0121 382 7555
www.ctheking.co.uk



Monday

St Martin's Parent & Toddler Group
9:30 - 11:30am

Tuesday

Brews-Up Coffee Morning
10:00am - 12:00 midday

Perry Common Work Shed
10:00am - 2:00pm

St Martin's Lunch Club
11:30am - 2:30pm

Kick Boxing (Under Age 16)
6:00 - 7:00pm

Kick Boxing (Age 16 And Over)
7:00 - 8:00pm

Boxercise

8:00 - 9:00pm

Wednesday

St Martin's Parent & Toddler Group
9:30 - 11:30am

Creative Moments Craft Group
12:00 - 2:00pm

Thursday

Tea Dances

1:00 - 4:00pm (Bi-Monthly)

Tea Dances take place on the
following dates:

25th May & 27th July

Friday

Extend Exercise Class
11:00am - 12:00midday

St Martin's Lunch Club
11:30am - 2:30pm

Saturday

Boxercise
8:45 - 9:45am

Little Stars Dance Studio
10:00am - 3:00pm

The Orchard Tearoom

At the Velvet Community
Orchard Witton Lakes B23 7XX

Tel: 0121 382 1930
www.wittonlodge.org.uk



Monday

Orchard Tearoom Open
12:00 - 4:00pm

Friday

Orchard Tearoom
Open / Advice and A Cuppa
9:00am - 12:00midday

Urban Devotion

140 Witton Lodge Road,
B23 5AP (Next To St Martin's Church Hall)
www.urbandevotion.org



Monday

The Underground (School Years 4-6)
3:30 - 4:45pm

The Underground (School Years 7-11)
5:00 - 6:15pm

UDB Cafe (Age 16-19)
6:30 - 7:30pm (at Hope House)

Tuesday

Girls Group School Years 4-6
4:30 - 5:30pm
(At The Velvet Community Orchard, Witton Lakes)

Girls Group School Years 7-9
6:00 - 7:00pm
(At The Velvet Community Orchard, Witton Lakes)

Girls Group School Years 7-9
6:00 - 7:00pm
(At The Velvet Community Orchard, Witton Lakes)

Wednesday

Junior Club (School Years 4-6)
4:00 - 4:45pm (at Lakeside)

Senior Club (School Years 7-8)
5:00 - 5:45pm (at Lakeside)

Thursday

67 Boys (Boys In School Year 6)

4:00 - 5:00pm
(at The Underground, St Martin's Church)

Football (School Years 7-11)

5:30 - 6:30pm
at Witton Lakes (by Perry Common Road)

Perry Common Library

College Road (at The Crossways) B44 0HH
0121 464 0481
www.libraryofbirmingham.com



Monday

Knit 'n' Natter
1:00 - 3:00pm

Thursday

Ancestry Group
11:00am - 12:00midday

Reading Group
3:30 - 4:30pm
(3rd Thursday of the month)

Saturday

Young People's Tuition
2:45 - 4:45pm

WittonLodgeCommunityAssociation
wittonlodge