



A Summer of Activities

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Booking
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Welcome

to the Summer 2016 edition of Perry Common Matters. It's been a busy Spring and there's an even busier Summer ahead.

If history is your 'cup of tea', then we are delighted to launch the Perry Common History Website and Perry Common's very own interactive Heritage Trail.

There's been loads going on, with lots of activities taking place every week at Perry Common Community Hall and some big events: Enderby Park Fun Day and Spring Into Spring – where the fantastic weather really brought out the crowds.

We had a fabulous turnout at Perry Common Community Hall, raised £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support at a lovely Afternoon Tea Street Party and have had some fantastic Quiz Nights.

But that's not all; this summer there will be something for all the family, with everything from pottery and family fun sessions, your chance to join a new football team and another Enderby Park Fun Day (at the end of the summer holidays).

Keep reading on to find out more.

The Witton Lodge
Community Association
Team



Congratulations to Volunteer Mary

Devoted local resident and Witton Lodge Director, Mary Harvey, age 94, has been awarded the 'Long Term Volunteer Achievement Award' from Birmingham Voluntary Service Council at a ceremony held at Blakesley Hall; being presented with a beautiful trophy, certificate and bouquet of flowers.

Mary started volunteering sixteen years ago, following the death of her husband Dennis. Since then, she has volunteered over 19,000 hours, having limitless energy and seems to be doing more and more every year – getting involved in everything from being a Resident Director of Witton Lodge Community Association, working on reception and

in the busy offices at Perry Common Community Hall and putting her 'green fingered' skills to good use with local gardening projects.

Mary is an active member of Perry Common Community Watch; she takes schoolchildren to keep a watchful eye on the local wildlife with Duckling Watch, helps promote safe driving with Community Speed Watch and more.

Mary says: "It's absolutely fabulous to win the award and I am still on cloud nine. Volunteering has given me a new lease of life. It's been wonderful showing my award to family and friends."

Congratulations Mary.

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Improving Our Green Spaces With 'The Parks Where I Live'

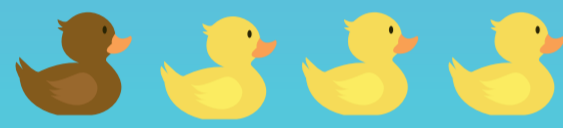
In April, Witton Lodge Community Association launched the 'Parks Where I Live' project at Perry Common Community Hall. This exciting project links 9 of our local parks and green spaces, along the North Birmingham Cycle Route. Starting at Brookvale Park, the parks include: Witton Lakes, Perry Common Recreation Ground, The Ring, Enderby Park, Hurstway, Bleak Hill, Twickenham Road and Finchley Road Park.

The project aims to improve all of these local parks, by sharing resources and expertise that have really improved some of these parks already, for everyone to enjoy.

For more information and to get involved, please call Sabrina on 0121 382 1930 or email Sabrina.Jaques@wittonlodge.org.uk.



DUCKLING WATCH



It's been a busy spring for the wildlife at Witton Lakes.

- 5 Cynnets (baby Swans) have been born to proud parents
- 7 Goslings (baby Canadian Geese) have been born to two families.

The Canadian Geese parents have formed a crèche to look after and protect each other's young, who are all growing up fast and doing really well.

If you want to help protect these birds and other wildlife at Witton Lakes, join Duckling Watch. It's a great way to get outdoors, learn about the amazing creatures on our doorstep and help protect them.

To get involved call Linda on 07960 386252 or email Linda at Linda.Hines@wittonlodge.org.uk.



Guerrilla Gardening In Hales Gardens

Who said that there's no community spirit these days! There certainly is in Hales Gardens, where local residents have come together to spruce up the green space at the centre of their cul-de-sac.

Resident, Linda Hackett and her neighbours thought that the green area in their road was looking a bit shabby, so decided to tidy it up, planting new shrubs and bedding plants.

Linda says "I am a keen gardener and have been looking to start this project. My next door neighbour Barry suggested we do it together and since starting, the feedback has been fantastic. Neighbours, friends, local children and even people who do not live on our road have donated plants. This will be an ongoing project, as we are looking to improve more of the shrub and flower beds in the area."

It will look beautiful throughout the summer!



A BIG Thank You To Patrice

A BIG, BIG Thank You to Patrice Johnson, who has co-ordinated the Perry Common History Project for the past year. You will probably have seen Patrice out and about at local events and you may have shared your memories with him. Without Patrice's hard work and limitless enthusiasm, the project would not have been the success that it is.

We wish Patrice success with his social enterprise, Tribal Soul, CIC.

... Perry Common ... HISTORY PROJECT



WELCOME TO THE PERRY COMMON AUDIO TRAIL

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 PERRY COMMON COMMUNITY HALL | 5 BROOMHILL ROAD | 9 MARTINS WAY |
| 2 PHOENIX RISE | 6 MONKSHOOD MEWS | 10 SYCAMORE COURT |
| 3 THE ROAD TO NOWHERE | 7 ENDERBY PARK | 11 THE RING |
| 4 MALLOW RISE | 8 DOVEDALE ROAD | A WITTON LAKES |

Check Out The New Perry Common History Website

Great news! The new website has now been launched.

It has been a year of collecting: memories, photos, videos and all sorts of interesting material.

Take a look and let us know what you think.

PerryCommon.com



If you didn't think Perry Common was an interesting area, this will definitely make you change your mind.

We are delighted to say that the Perry Common Audio Trail is now live. The walk lasts 45 minutes and takes you on a route starting at Perry Common Community Hall, weaving your way in a circle, following the 11 audio trail points. There's memories, history and interesting facts galore.

TO DOWNLOAD:

To Take The Trail By Using Your Mobile Phone

- Click www.perrycommon.com
- Click on 'Listen To The Audio Trail'
- Follow the map on the website or in our newsletter
- When you reach each plaque, click on that plaque's number on the website (or MP3 track) to go round the trail

Headphones and MP3 players can be collected from Perry Common Community Hall, if you don't have your own mobile and headphones.

You can also take the trail from the comfort of your own home, by clicking www.perrycommon.com

Spring into SUMMER



Spring into Spring

Over 500 people came along to the Spring Into Spring Festival on Saturday 14th May to enjoy a fun filled afternoon and glorious weather.

With everything from a bouncy castle and giant mega-slide, market stalls, martial arts demonstrations and sack racing – it was an afternoon to remember.

There was a Caribbean BBQ, cakes and music. Perry Common Community Fire Station brought their Rapid Response Vehicle and the police came with their Mobile Police Station.

Thank You to everyone who came along and made the event a big success. Please let us know your thoughts and any suggestions for future events.



There's been lots going on in Perry Common this Spring, with a wide range of events – and lots more planned for the Summer too!



£300 Raised At Macmillan Summer Light's Afternoon Tea

An impressive £300 was raised and everyone had a fun time at an Afternoon Tea to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. With really good weather and being outside, there was a real street party atmosphere, with everyone enjoying themselves.

We had a great turnout and a big Thank You to volunteer Margaret, who organised the event from start to finish; doing everything from distributing leaflets and inviting guests, to preparing the cream tea's in the very busy kitchen.

A big Thank You also goes to local supermarkets who were very supportive and donated toward the event. Tesco at New Oscott donated luxury scones, clotted

cream, strawberries, milk and flowers; Aldi on College Road donated clotted cream and walnut cakes and Farmfoods at Kingstanding Circle donated a selection of cakes, jam and strawberries.

Margaret says "The weather was so good, we could have been on holiday. Being a street party, everyone who walked past wanted to join in the fun. The support of our local supermarkets was amazing and it was fantastic being able to help such a good cause. We're looking forward to the next event."

Congratulations to Ugonna, age 4, and mum Oby, who won our teddy bear, after guessing his name. 'James The Bear' is now happy in his new home!

A ROYAL CELEBRATION

Residents of Sycamore Court celebrated Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday with an Afternoon Tea fit for a Queen. Enjoying sandwiches – with the crusts cut off – jam and cream scones and cakes, what was there not to enjoy!

Sponsored Litter Pick Raises Over £200 For The Velvet Community Orchard



200 schoolchildren from Oasis Academy got their hands dirty and had great fun, raising £220.00 with a sponsored litter pick. This money will be used to fund a new bench for the Velvet Community Orchard.

To add to the excitement, the youngsters planted primulas,

built bug hotels and were enthusiastic bug detectives – learning about the different types of insects and the importance of nature.

The weather stayed dry and a great experience was had by everyone.



Enderby Park FunDay

The rain finally eased-off on Wednesday 6th April for the Enderby Park Fun Day. There was lots going on in the park, with zorbing (rolling around inside a large inflatable ball), archery, steel-drum playing, games and use of the park's Outdoor Gym Equipment.

The fun afternoon was organised by the Friends Of Perry Common in partnership with Birmingham Play Care Network.

The next Enderby Park Fun Day will be on Tuesday 30th August, 11am – 3pm.



QUIZ NIGHT

If you haven't come along to one of our Quiz Nights yet, now is the ideal time.

There's always an enthusiastic crowd ready to get their brains working, with questions from Quizmaster John - who doubles as our Finance Officer! Its great fun and a good laugh at the same time. The music round is always a treat, with it almost turning into a karaoke session. And all this after a Fish and Chip Supper.

The dates for coming Quiz Nights are:

- Friday 19th August
- Friday 23rd September
- Friday 21st October
- Friday 18th November
- Friday 16th December

All start 7pm at Perry Common Community Hall. Tickets are £5 (including Fish and Chips) or £2 for the Quiz Only. Please book your Fish and Chip order in advance by calling Jess on 0121 382 1930 or email Jessica.Blenkiron@wittonlodge.org.uk.



Car Boot Sales At Witton Lakes

Lots of people have been busy selling all those unwanted items at the Witton Lakes Car Boot Sales, which are located off Perry Common Road, opposite St Margaret Mary Church. At just £7 per car and £10 for a van, this is a great chance to make some space and money.

The next Car Boots are

- Saturday 20th August: 10am – 1pm
- Saturday 8th October: 10am – 1pm

To book your place contact Linda on 07960 386252 or email Linda.Hines@wittonlodge.org.uk.



VOLUNTEER MICHAEL CELEBRATES 2 YEARS

with Witton Lodge Community Association

This September sees an important volunteering milestone, with Michael having given up his valuable time to Witton Lodge for the past two years.

Michael helps every week at our reception desk, taking calls, helping with admin duties and being a friendly face to everyone who comes into Perry Common Community Hall.

Michael says "I love volunteering. The staff at Witton Lodge are really friendly and I enjoy getting out of the house and talking to people. Volunteering is well worth the effort!"

Congratulations Michael

Learning More About Our Neighbourhood

During July and August, you will see members of our team out and about carrying out neighbourhood surveys. This is to see what you think Witton Lodge Community Association can do to further improve our neighbourhood.

We also want to find out what would make you feel better personally and in your community.

The findings will help us shape our services for the coming two years so we hope you will take part.



CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS AT WITTON LODGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Friday 13th May certainly wasn't an unlucky day for volunteers with Witton Lodge. To say Thank You for all their hard work and enthusiasm, we held a party, with stunning purple cupcakes, live music by the Ring Of Sound Choir, quiz and certificates – a little token of our appreciation.

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



COOK CLUB

There have been some tasty dishes cooked at Sycamore Court over the last few weeks. The Cook Club has really stirred things up; with local residents preparing tasty and healthy meals, including: lasagne, healthy spring soups (Chinese Chicken and Caribbean Corn Soup) and Greek Mezze (Kebabs and homemade dips).

We would love to hear your ideas for new tasty dishes. The Cook Club is a FREE 6 week programme that will run on Tuesdays between 10am – 12noon and is aimed at adults aged 55+, of all abilities and there is no experience needed to take part!

Please call Laura on 0121 386 4724 or email Laura.Keane@wittonlodge.org.uk.

Witton Lodge Community Association Wins Birmingham Chamber Of Commerce Award

We were delighted to win the 'Excellence In Contributing To The Community' award from Birmingham Chamber Of Commerce, presented at a spectacular ceremony at the ICC in Birmingham on Thursday 28th April.

Witton Lodge joined big name winners such as Selfridges, Arup and Unity Trust Bank.

The award recognises the wide ranging work that we do, including

very popular festivals such as Spring Into Spring and Christmas On The Ring; employment support, volunteering opportunities, health and wellbeing initiatives and a wide range of exciting environmental opportunities – alongside the 187 properties we own and manage.

Thank You to everyone who has supported us in our work and made this award possible.



A BIG BOOST TO Wellbeing This Summer

Witton Lodge Community Association has secured a grant through Birmingham Better Care to deliver a 12 month project to support older residents in Kingstanding, Perry Common and Wyrley Birch, to help improve their health and wellbeing.

The grant has enabled Witton Lodge to recruit a full time 'Wellbeing Coordinator', a part time 'Wellbeing Administrator' and a team of Volunteer Community Wellbeing Champions and Befriender's, who will provide outreach, social and community engagement.

We are seeking volunteers to help us achieve this and have an excellent training package to offer.

To find out more contact Sarah on 0121 382 1930 or email Sarah.Blackstock@wittonlodge.org.uk.



Witton Lodge Community Association Achieves MATRIX Accreditation

We are delighted to achieve full Matrix Accreditation. This was awarded for our work in leadership and development, management of resources, our continuous quality improvement and service delivery. This is a mark of quality and we will keep building on this, so that everyone receives the best possible service from us.

MONEY MANAGEMENT ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Financial Guru Martin Lewis gives good advice. But here in Perry Common we have really useful FREE Money Management sessions coming up.

The Birmingham Tribunals Union will be running the sessions at Sycamore Court on:

- 10:30am to 1:00pm on Thursday 8th September.
- 10:30am to 1:00pm on Tuesday 13th September.

To book call Iram on 0121 382 1930 or email Iram.Fardus@wittonlodge.org.uk.



ADVICE WITH JOE FROM TALENT MATCH

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS

Our Talent Match Employment and Advice Sessions are really popular.

If you are aged between 18 and 24, looking for work or want to discuss anything about employment and skills, Joe is here to help.

He will be at Perry Common Community Hall, every Tuesday between 9am and 5pm.

The sessions are completely FREE. Please call Iram on 0121 382 1930 or email Iram.Fardus@wittonlodge.org.uk, to find out more.

"I have taken something positive from each lesson. With Talent Match it is a different experience. My coach Joe gets to know me on a personal level. He also offers a wide range of personal challenges to help me achieve my goals for the future."
Donovan, Age 22.



Dellano Uses His Experience To Help Others

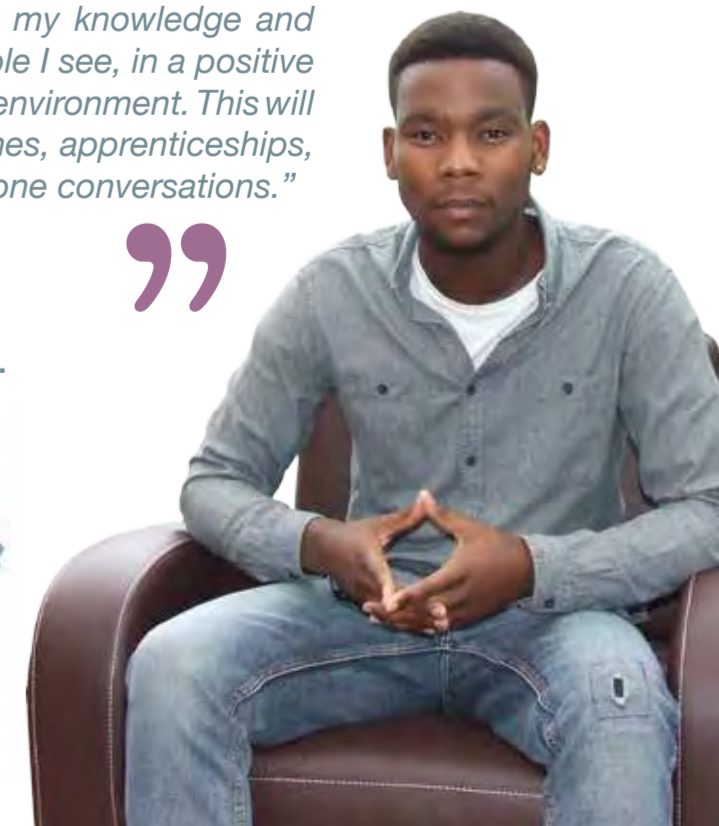
Dellano, age 23, has been taken on through a paid placement, as our Trainee Youth Employment Worker. He will be helping people aged 16-29 access employment, training and gain skills.

“

Dellano says "I will be using my knowledge and skills to guide the young people I see, in a positive direction and into the working environment. This will be through training programmes, apprenticeships, work experience and one-to-one conversations."

”

To get this FREE advice, contact Iram on 0121 382 1930 or email Iram.Fardus@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

Zumba
6:00pm – 7:00pm

Tuesday

Job Club
10:00am – 1:00pm

Slimming World
7:00 - 9:00pm

Wednesday

Zumba
6:00 - 7:00pm

Aikido
7:30 - 9:30pm

Thursday

Pain Clinic
9:30 - 1:00pm

Job Club
1:00 – 4:00pm

Slimming World
5:00 - 7:00pm (1st Session)
7:00 - 9:00pm (2nd Session)

Red Hot Chilli Steppers
Walking Group
6:00pm

Friday

Slimming World
10:00am - 12:00noon

Quiz Night
Every Month 7:00pm
(Next Quiz Night
Friday 19th August)

Sycamore Court

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



Monday

Monday Wellbeing
1:30 – 3:00pm

Tuesday

Ring Of Sound Choir
7:00 - 8:00pm
(Sessions start again 13th September)

Thursday

Extend Exercise Class
10:00 - 11:00am

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

The Net

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



Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Perry Tree Centre

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



Tuesday

EXTEND EXERCISE CLASS
10:00 - 11:00AM

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

FRIENDS OF PERRY COMMON

The group meet at 1pm on the
second Tuesday of the month in
the community room at St Martin's
Church for coffee and chat, with ideas
to continue to make Perry Common
a fun and lively place to live. **Contact
Teresa Compton on 07913 323 645.**

St Martin's Church Hall

140 Witton Lodge Road,
B23 5AP
Tel: 0121 382 7555



Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Kick Boxing Under Age 16
6:00 – 7:00pm

Kick Boxing 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

Friday

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

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

Saturday

Boxercise
8:45am – 9:45am

Urban Devotion

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



UDB Weekly Activities (at The
Underground, St Martin's Church unless
otherwise stated)

Monday

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

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

Tuesday

Girls Group (School Years 6-8)
4:30pm - 5:45pm

Girls Group (School Years 9-11)
6:15pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday

Junior Club (School Years 4-6)
3:45pm - 5:00pm (at Lakeside)

Senior Club (School Years 7-9)
5:15pm - 6:00pm (at Lakeside)

Thursday

BOOM! (Boys in School Years 6-8)
4:15pm - 5:30pm

Football (School Years 7-11)
6:00pm - 7:00pm (on the Rec)

Summer Activities at Perry Common Community Hall

EXPRESS YOURSELF

every fortnight (Friday's)
3:30pm - 6pm
(Starting Friday 5th August)
Come and join us for an evening
of creative arts, music and dance.

FAMILY FUN WEEK

Monday 15th to Saturday 20th August
Morning Sessions: 10am-12pm
Afternoon Sessions: 1pm-3pm
Fun activities for all the family with
Dance, Eco Crafts, Parent Pampering,
Music, Bike Rides and lots more.

ART ATTACK POTTERY SESSIONS

1pm - 3pm
Family learning – every
**Wednesday from 3rd to 31st
August**

FREE FOOTBALL SESSIONS

With Diamond Academy
To book your place call Dean on
07880 793 527 or email
Dean@diamond-coaching.org

FIND OUT MORE

Contact Jess and Haleema on
0121 382 1930 or email

Jessica.Blenkiron@wittonlodge.org.uk
Haleema.Khathoon@wittonlodge.org.uk

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)

