Sutton Coldfield Local

News for the Royal Town

Get Ollie Walking Sisters support Operation Ollie with fundraising takeaway service



The two Sutton Coldfield sisters behind the recent 24 hour tennis tournament are rolling up their sleeves once more to raise funds in aid of the Operation Ollie appeal.

Semone and Annabell Lamba, along with their mum and for one weekend only, are venturing into the world of the Indian Takeaway service.

On Friday 21st November (Sutton Coldfield) and Saturday 22nd November (Lichfield) Ollie's takeaway service will be open for business, providing authentic indian cuisine at a great price.

All orders will be delivered by Operation Ollie delivery boys and girls between 6pm – 8pm, although collection can also be arranged.

Check out the menu, which includes pakoras, Punjabi chicken curry, Saag Paneer and a side order of rice or nan bread at the Operation Ollie Does Takeout website:

olliestakeaway.wordpress.com. You'll also find prices and details on how to place your order.

A delicious homemade Indian takeaway and helping raise funds for Operation Ollie – its a win-win situation. Annabell said, "We thought it would be an innovative way to raise money while giving a great experience. Most people love a take away indian curry - this one just helps Ollie get closer to his dream of walking. Please help us by ordering a delicious meal and lets make that dream a reality.

Ollie Dodds suffers from a type of cerebral palsy known as 'spastic quadriplegic palsy' and is in need of an operation called Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR).

The operation, which is available at the St Louis Children's Hospital in the Unit-

ed States, will provide a chance for Ollie to achieve his dream of walking and his supporters are looking to raise a total of £50,000.

Donations can be made through the Operation Ollie just giving website: www.justgiving.com/teams/operationollie which currently stands at £32,615.42

Keep up to date with Operation Ollie news on the facebook page www.facebook.com/Operationollie and twitter account: @operationollie1.

suttoncoldfieldlocal.co.uk

Fashion: Autumn & Winter at the Gracechurch Centre

By Charlotte Smith



The dark nights, cold winds and chillier months ahead of us admittedly signals that summer is well and truly over, but it also marks the coming of brand new autumn and winter fashion trends to add to your 2014 wardrobe. Cue autumnal shades, faux furs, glamorous party wear, knit wear, cosy coats and attack of the 60's style of fashion. There are limitless outfit combinations to be made and trendy winter wear to be worn this season that will not only keep you warm, but also leave you looking fabulous. So don't let all that winter has to throw at us dampen your spirits when high street retail stores at the Gracechurch centre, Sutton Coldfield, have a vast variety of fashionable staples to see you through AW14. Read on to update yourself on the latest autumn/ winter collections for ladies, men's and children's wear, and what can be expected this season.

Wine, plum, burnt orange and teal are just some colours that you will find in Roman Originals this season. Such autumnal hues compliment all skin tones and can be worn by people of all ages. You will also find an assortment of faux-fur coats, fluffy jumpers and glittery party wear, including high heel shoes, to get you geared up for any upcoming Christmas events. Roman Originals are also selling an assortment of lace and leather garments, from jack-

ets to dresses to cardigans, to keep you both warm and looking great. Additionally, the high-street store has a range of footwear to suit your needs this season, including one of AW14 biggest current fashion trend, knee high boots. This chic and sophisticated style of boot, whether they be leather or suede, heel or flat, are the one accessory that can really take an outfit from basic to stylish. They can easily be dressed up or dressed down – combining them with a jumper-dress/ a dress and a blazer/ a skirt with an oversized sweater are just some suggestions. Other stores in the shopping centre such as New Look and Next also have a variety of knee-high boots.

For layered sweaters, knitted jumpers, leather biker jackets and pleated skirts, take a shopping trip to Next. These items of clothing are all in fashion at the moment as well as dark blue and green jeans and anything orange and berry coloured to give you that chic modern bohemian look. Next are also selling a fab range of party wear consisting of dresses and glittery heels. Christmas themed jumpers are hot at the moment and will be even more so in the upcoming month; Next have an array in stock that will continue to increase within the next two weeks, for women, men and children. Currently trending are long trench and waterfall coats. Not only do these style of coats keep you toasty, but when matched with a pair of long boots, a peter pan collar top and a tartan skirt creates a stylish 60's look that is all the rage this AW14.

During these cold times it is essential to buy all those winter accessories to shield you from the harsh weather. H&M are providing a selection of autumnal and pastel coloured scarves, gloves and winter hats to get your hands on. From beige knit gloves to pastel pink scarves, H&M are going all out on winter accessories this season to spruce up your outfits and give that extra finishing touch of detail to any look. Adding any of these accessories to your clothing supplies another interesting element and dimension to your look and can make a simple outfit stand out from the crowd in an instant. Knee high socks are a definite musthave, they look fantastic with more or less any kind of shoe, particularly boots, and are great accessory to layer up over any of the rich/ deep coloured tights H&M have to offer, to give you that comfy winter appearance.

If you're interested in buying yourself some cosy pyjamas this season then New Look has a collection of comfy sleep-wear including soft dressing gowns and fluffy slippers. These articles of clothing are also great stocking fillers and to give as gifts.

Phase Eight and Coast on the second floor of House Of Fraser will be bringing in even more fabulous party wear this AW14. So if you have a party coming up or just fancy treating yourself to a glittery, lacy or printed dress, then check out all the brands House Of Fraser has to offer in the women's section.

Trending menswear this season consists of statement coats, layered outerwear and sharp suits. To keep you warm and looking smart, Burton, underneath Dorothy Perkins, has a stylish

assortment of coats. Such as the parka jacket, this timeless classic, traditionally casual coat can be easily dressed up or dressed down. The pea coat is another statement staple to add to your AW14 coat collection. Pairing this hiplength, double breasted coat with a casual shirt or sweater is a sure-fire way to ensure you're looking fashionable yet refined this winter. Layering is also a big trend for men this year. It's all about un-tucking, mix-matching and playing with textures to give you that smart casual, modern look. Teaming together collar shirts and ties with a crew neck or patterned jumper are just some outfit combinations you just might want to consider wearing. Two style of suits you might also want to consider wearing and adding to your formal/party repertoire are flannel and pinstripe suits. If you're after that savvy, sartorial look then Marks and Spencers has a range of suits, including flannel and pinstripe, that don't have to only be worn in the office this season.

Next has got winter fashion covered this season for kids. For young girls, layering apple green and bubble gum pink jerseys and dresses with bold patterned leggings are in. For older girls, having a look through the Snowdust and Wonderland collections will provide all they need to get them feeling festive with Christmas themed prints and cosy coats and jumpers. Young boys can look forward to colourful and graphic tops, knitwear, denim, blue and grey quilted jackets and check shirts. From fisherman knits to padded gilets, to urban influenced clothing, browsing the Discovery Trail and Modern Edge collection for boys aged 3-16years will have them in the latest trends for kids this AW14. You will also find trendy autumnal colours and fauxfur pieces for girls in Tammy Girl at BHS; and bold blues and reds and fashionable check shirts for boys in Flipback at BHS as well.



Birmingham City Council has recently been looking at local ward committee meetings and whether they are fit for purpose.

A fair question when frequently the turnout at the Sutton Coldfield wards struggles to make double figures.

However, when there is a particular issue residents are concerned about its not unusual to see the attendance hit three figures, such as in recent New Hall meetings with the proposed development of 5,000 houses and an industrial area to the east of Walmley on the agenda.

Yesterday's meeting of the Four Oaks Ward Committee at the Mere Green Community Centre hit around the seventy or eighty mark.

Two items on the agenda were of particular concern, namely, future plans for the Mere Green Library and Community Centre and a response to a petition regarding parking problems in Jordan Road.

Mere Green library, along with Walmley library, faces an uncertain future as the District struggles to find savings in excess of £1,000,000 this financial year.

Gary Ladbrooke, Service Integration Head in Sutton Coldfield explained that there are three possible routes that may be taken:

- 1. A city wide trust that would be responsible for all Birmingham libraries:
- 2. A District wide trust that would be responsible for Sutton Coldfield libraries;

Emotions run high at Sutton Four Oaks Ward meeting

3. A Community Asset Transfer of Mere Green and Walmley libraries.

Mr Ladbrooke took time to make it clear that the first option is by far the one preferred by the Sutton Coldfield District.

If options one or two fail to materialise and the District is unable to secure Community Asset Transfers then the inevitable closure of the two libraries would result.

Gary also confirmed that a Community Asset Transfer of Wyndley would be completed on 1 April.

This transfer will handover the management of the facility to a third party.

Regarding parking issues on Jordan Road, Karl Randall read a written response from John Blakemore, Director at Highways and Resilience to the petition submitted at the Ward Committee meeting in March 2014.

As a matter of urgency the petition was delivered directly to the Highways Department who secured funding to design and consult on a scheme to address the issue.

In his response Mr Blakemore stated

that due to a number of differing views and to the planned extension to the Four Oaks train station car park nothing further would be done until the completion of that extension.

The impact on Jordan Road of the increased capacity at the train station would then be monitored.

Following the delivery of the response committee chair Cllr Maureen Cornish (Con Four Oaks) began to proceed to the next item.

This was interrupted by some of those present and a resident of Jordan Road stood up to say that those present should be allowed to speak.

An extremely vocal period from around a dozen members of the floor followed with various accusations being levied at the committee.

The question was asked why the petition had not been presented to full council.

Karl Randall explained that this was not necessary as the petition had been presented to the ward committee and as raising funds for the design of a scheme was considered a priority it was perfectly acceptable practice to pass this straight on to the Highways Department rather than wait for the next full council.

The parking problem in Jordan Road has become a very emotive issue and the group of residents at yesterday's meeting were not prepared to allow the Chair to move on without having their say.

Accusations of delaying tactics were made and that figures were being used that suited the council. When Cllr Jenkins (Con Four Oaks) referred to the fact that 120 letters had been sent out with only 56 responses and the majority of those against a scheme there were jeers from the floor.

In addition to the parking issue a resident questioned the professionalism of the councilors quoting from email exchanges that she had obtained through Freedom of Information requests.

As extracts of one of the emails were read aloud shouts of 'shameful' and 'resign' came from the floor.

To restore some order Cllr Cornish stated that the council has not said that there will not be a scheme for Jordan Road. People may have different views but an agreed way forward is something everybody wants. "The ward will continue to look forward to a resolution and there will be a solution." she concluded

At the conclusion of the item a group of around twenty-five people left the meeting.

Christmas Lights Switch on



Father Christmas will be back to switch on the lights this year.

Sutton Coldfield is in for a treat this Christmas, with The Gracechurch Centre announcing its plans for the annual light switch on.

This year's event will take place on Sunday 16 November, with Free Radio favourites, breakfast presenters Foxy and Guilliano, hosting the evening. They'll be helping Santa switch on the lights at 5pm, with the centre providing free entertainment throughout the day to get families feeling festive.

Hilarious children's entertainers Roy the Magician and Belle the Brush will be keeping the kids happy with balloon tricks, magic and face-painting from 2pm-5pm. The ever popular Happy Train, which offers free rides to families as it makes its away around the centre, also makes a return.

Santa will be ready and waiting in his grotto in Bishops Court near House of Fraser to hear the lists of little ones from Saturday 15 November. With demand always high for the grotto, online bookings are already being taken.

Late night shopping hours will also commence every Thursday from Thurs-

day 20 November-Thursday 11 December, and on 17, 18, 19, 22 and 23 December. Stores will be open til 7pm on these dates. They'll also open at 8.30pm on Christmas Eve for those last minute shoppers.

Fiona Faizey, marketing manager at The Gracechurch Centre, comments, "We're well and truly on our way to Christmas, and are very excited for what is always a lovely way to mark the start of the season – the annual light switch on!

"We're also looking forward to welcoming Santa – who's coming all the way from the North Pole to delight the youngsters of Sutton Coldfield! And once again we'll be helping our customers get all their Christmas shopping in with our extended opening hours.

"We hope shoppers take advantage of our fantastic array of stores to get Christmas all wrapped up. It's easy to forget that we have such popular retailers as Stormfront, Lakeland, Topshop/ Topman and House of Fraser – not to mention Nando's for a quick refuel!"



-Sutton Coldfield Town Hall –

UPPER CLIFTON ROAD, B73 6AB

Fundraising

200 runners take on JW Hinks runners **Sutton Park Cinder Path Run**



Jane Sixsmith (centre) with winners Natasha Izban Blunt and Thomas Dyson

The 9th Annual Cinder Path Run in aid of the Norman Laud Association took place in Sutton Park on Sunday 26 October.

Over 200 runners, athletes and people generally wanting to keep fit put their best foot forward to complete the challenging 10K run which was started by Sutton Coldfield's very own former Olympian, Jane Sixsmith at 11am.

The first man through was Thomas Dyson (21) in an incredibly competitive time of 36 minutes and 19 seconds. Local man Thomas, who did not even seem to break a sweat, is not affiliated to any local Running Club but has recently graduated from Liverpool University commented how he really enjoyed the run.

Fastest lady was Natasha Izban Blunt, formerly part of Royal Sutton Coldfield Athletics Club completed in an enviable time of 40 minutes and 2 seconds a full 3 minutes ahead of last year's ladies winning time. Natasha heads "Running Forever" in Taunton, Somerset and spoke of how much she enjoyed competing in the local runs, especially those aimed at supporting

charity.

Both were awarded trophies kindly donated from Robert Chapman Presentations based in Sutton Coldfield and presented by Jane Sixsmith. Jane Wells from the Norman Laud commented, "A big well done to everyone who ran the Cinder Path Run this year. We had participation numbers 25% up on last year, so thank you everyone who took part or helped the day to run so smoothly! Huge thanks to all the helpers and marshals who completely volunteer their own time to make sure this event takes place year in year out we couldn't do it without you.

The Norman Laud Association provides essential respite care to people with special needs and is reliant on voluntary support from the annual runs to continue to help our families. Every runner and volunteer really makes such a massive difference to the local young people and their families who we support, they really do rely on our service throughout their lives!"

To find out more about the Norman Laud Association visit their website: www.normanlaud.org.uk

raise £1400 for community hub



Kelly Round of Our Place Community Hub, Sutton Coldfield.

Sutton Coldfield's Our Place Community Hub benefited to the tune of £1,400 as teams from Birmingham business JW Hinks pounded the streets in the Bupa Great Birmingham Run.

The community facility, based in Farthing Lane, provides a range of services for children and families throughout the area and is currently JW Hinks' charity of the year.

Two teams, one all male and one all female, from the firm took to the street of Birmingham on 19 October in the Business Challenge and both came runners up in their respective categories.

Kelly Round, Director and Hub Operations Manager, told Sutton Coldfield Local: "The support we are receiving as JW Hinks' nominated charity of the year is fantastic and beyond what we expected. All the staff there are working hard and doing so many different things to fundraise for us!

"A big thank you to each and everyone of the staff and their sponsors for raising so much. The funds raised will help us continue supporting local children and families."

Audit manager, James Cruse, who helped co-ordinate the teams, said: "It was a great event and both our teams did really well to come second in their respective categories.

"Although it was a tough race, it was still extremely enjoyable and we are delighted that we have raised so much for Our Place, and hopefully there is more to come!

"As a self-sustaining and not for profit organisation, it relies completely on fundraising in order to continue to work to the benefit of children, young people and families, as well as the wider community in Sutton Coldfield.

"We would like to thank everybody who has supported us in this challenge."

JW Hinks are still accepting donations through their Local Giving page – localgiving.com/fundraising/jwhinks-ourplace-community

suttoncoldfieldlocal.co.uk

Falcon Lodge Christmas Tree fund

It's no secret that the Sutton Coldfield District needs to make substantial savings to its 2014/15 budget and has resulted there have been a number of community related funding cuts. Particularly related to community chest payments

In recent years, Sutton Trinity Ward has provided the funds for the traditional Falcon Lodge Community Christmas Tree which decorates the centre of the estate, however, it has been confirmed that funding will not be available this year.

Cllr Ewan Mackey (Con Trinity Ward) told Sutton Coldfield Local: "Yes it is sadly the case that the Falcon Lodge Christmas Tree will not be funded by the Sutton Trinity Ward this year.

"The reason for this is down to Sutton Coldfield being given a grossly unfair budget cut of 62.5% by the Labour administration in Birmingham. We have had to juggle our funds as best we can but unfortunately we have not been able to meet all our previous commitments. Should things change we will of course look at this again."

And so, in true 'Lodgers' style therefore residents and groups are pulling together to raise the required £2000 themselves.

St. Chad's raised £100 with afternoon tea at £1 per ticket and so far the community has raised an additional £400.

Georgina Whateley of the Second Thoughts Project said: "The tree is being funded by the community and we have raised about £500 so far and have applied for some funding from the Police. We need £2000 and we are taking contributions from the public in Second Thoughts."

If any local businesses would like to display their Christmas spirit and help support the Falcon Lodge community with their fundraising please contact SCL through editor@suttoncoldfieldlocal.co.uk and your details will be passed on.

Sutton Coldfield to re-home former Jewellery Quarter Information Point



A move to Sutton Coldfield has provided a reprieve for the popular pavilion which previously housed the Jewellery Quarter Information Point and which has had to make way for the new Golden Square development.

Rather than being demolished the pavilion has been carefully dismantled in preparation for its move across the city.

With its distinctive copper roof the information point was opened in 1997 by Prince Charles and was the result of a competition among students from the Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture.

Although less than twenty years old the pavilion became a popular local landmark and was described in the Hockley Flyer as "a gem" and there was some obvious disappointment over its removal.

Unfortunately, despite its connections with Prince Charles its move to the Royal Town has not met with equal enthusiasm from either the Sutton Coldfield Town Centre BID or from local councillors.

The problem lies not with the structure itself but with its location and planned

Planning permission was given in August of this year for the kiosk to be relocated next to developer Corstone's existing marquee on Upper Parade, an area that currently forms part of the only green space in the town centre.

The use of the premises as another hot food take way has also been questioned.

It is certainly a shame that the pavilion will not continue to be used as a

Tourist Information Point, something the town centre needs and would greatly benefit from.

Councillor David Pears told Sutton Coldfield Local: "I am not happy about the further loss of green space in the town centre which I believe will be a detriment to the character of the town.

"I would rather see a greener town centre square with appropriate street furniture."

Town Centre Manager, Mike Bushell, commented: "We raised objections to the move on the grounds that we don't think the town centre can support another fast food operation of any sort."

Mixed blessings then for the copper topped kiosk which is being preserved but in a rather ill-conceived, poorly thought out way.

Community Awards

The Sutton Coldfield Local Community Awards are a biennial celebration of the town's unsung heroes, from teachers to dedicated volunteers and from shop workers to community minded businesses.

The 2013 awards were presented at a sell out dinner at the Ramada Hotel and was attended by some of the cream of the Sutton Coldfield community.

Look out for nomination forms for the 2015 Awards soon.

Are you interested in working with young girls?



We are looking for caring, passionate and supportive women who want to give their time supporting young girls in the local community.

Cherished has a variety of ways you can support girls, making them feel Cherished.

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- One to one mentoring
- Blossom Groups

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For more info email: admin@vourcherished.co.uk





Julie Morris, Sue Mooney and Julie Jones

Families will come together to Light up a Life

Families will come together to remember their loved ones at John Taylor Hospice's Light up a Life.

The event takes place at Central Square in Erdington on Sunday December 14 at 6pm and is open for everybody to share their memories and experiences.

At the heart of the gathering is a large Christmas tree adorned with lights to symbolise people who have been cared for by John Taylor Hospice.

People from across the city and beyond will be at the event to celebrate the lives of loved ones and reflect upon the time that they spent together.

As well as the event itself, the Hospice offers the opportunity for families to make a dedication in the Book of Remembrance which will be at Light up a Light and on display in John Taylor's

reception.

Sue Mooney, aged 67, from Alum Rock, is set to be at Light up a Life for the second time after participating in the event last year after her husband Frank died last December.

"I really like what John Taylor Hospice puts on - it is such a simple and downto-earth way to have people come together.

"It feels like the start of the run-up to Christmas, a time of year that my husband really loved. I brought a friend along with me last time and we agreed straight away we were definitely coming again this year. I have just been waiting to hear the date as we really enjoyed it," Sue says.

Frank worked as an assistant at Calthorpe Academy in Highgate and was cared for by the staff in the Hospice's In-Patient Unit.

"I really can't sing the praises of the Hospice enough for all the help and support they offered Frank and our family," Sue says. "Everyone was so welcoming from the very first time we came in from the reception staff, to the nurses, to the chefs - they all went out of their way to help us.

"When Frank was moved to the Hospice from the hospital it felt like I got my husband back and that I was able to be a wife again. It felt like having an extended family the way the staff would talk to us and make Frank comfortable.

"I attended Light up a Life last year as I thought of it as a way to say thank you to everyone and catch up with the staff there too. It felt like being at a family do and I'm looking forward to that again."

John Taylor Hospice CEO Kate Phipps says "Our love and our yearning to belong does not diminish when death separates us,

"Light up a Life brings laughter and tears comfort and camaraderie because we celebrate together our yearning for our loved ones in the company of people who know what it is like to be lost in losing someone".

This year we will light our tree in Erdington and from that tree light a tree at the Hospice. If you have not been before, please join us, if you have been before please come again, to remember and celebrate everything that was shared and still lives on.

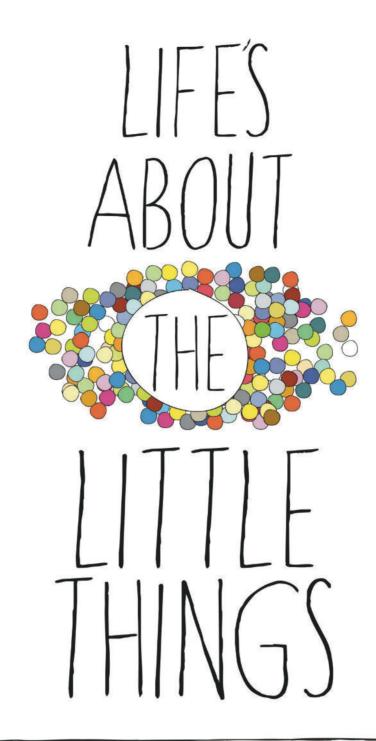
Light up a Life is open to anyone to attend and places do not need to be booked. To make a dedication in the Book of Remembrance or for more information contact the Hospice Community Investment Crew on 0121 465 2000 or see the website www.johntaylorhospice.org.uk

For more information on the Hospice see www.johntaylorhospice.org.uk



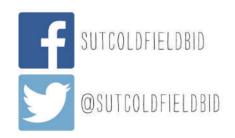
John Taylor Hospice Facts

- John Taylor Hospice receive more than 200 new referrals for their services every month.
- Their specialist community nurses help around 250 people and their families weekly.
- Their unique Multi Disciplinary Team (Senior Nurse, Dietitians, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Clinical Pharmacists, Social Worker and Patient and Family Support Worker) will be working with more than 300 people referred at any one time.
- Their Hospice at Home service can provide intensive palliative care and practical support 24 hours of the day, every day of the week so people can stay at home with their family, living their life to the end in dignity and safety.
- Each month their Wellbeing Team provides counselling and bereavement support to their patients and their relatives.
- Their Heart of the Hospice hosts a day hospice, their Fatigue, Anxiety and Breathlessness Programme and their Pari Passu Pain Clinic.
- Their In-patient Unit has 23 beds and space for family to stay.
- It costs £14,000 to run all of their services each day that's £585 each
- John Taylor Hospice is currently recruiting clinical staff. Contact the Workforce department on 0121 465 2000 or see http://www.johntaylorhospice.org.uk/work-for-us.html for the latest opportunities.



WE BELIEVE IT'S THE SUM OF LOTS OF LITTLE THINGS THAT MAKE SUTTON COLDFIELD A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, SHOP AND PLAY. OUR VISION IS TO CREATE AND PROMOTE A HIGH QUALITY, DIVERSE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT WHICH IS CUSTOMER FOCUSED AND INVESTMENT FRIENDLY.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW THE BID IS WORKING FOR YOUR TOWN CENTRE, VISIT WWW.SUTTONCOLDFIELDTOWNCENTRE.CO.UK









Sort out a sack for Santa and help children's charity this Christmas

Acorns Children's Hospice is appealing for donations of children's toys to sell at its Sutton Coldfield shops in Mere Green and Boldmere.

With Christmas not too far away when toys sales peak, the charity is asking for unwanted items to help raise vital funds to continue its work supporting children with life limiting and life



Help us fill our Toy Box! Val Hammond from Acorns Children's Hospice needs donated toys.

threatening conditions and their families.

The network of Acorns shops across the West Midlands raises around £1.5million per year, which helps to meet the running costs of the charity's three hospices, which stand at £750 per child per day.

Retail area manager at Acorns, Val Hammond, said: "The run up to Christmas is typically a busy time for us as people start to shop for toys to give as presents. To meet that demand we rely on the public's generosity.

"We need to build up our stock of jigsaws, books, board games, dolls, action figures or soft toys so why not have a clear out of any unused toys and help life limited children this Christmas."

Anyone who would like to donate toys can just take them along to the Boldmere or Mere Green shops.

Alternatively, to locate other Acorns shops outside of Sutton Coldfield visit: www.acorns.org.uk/shop-locator.

The Rotary Club of Wylde Green show their support for Troop Aid



Wylde Green Rotarians have continued their support for our injured troops by packing Grab Bags for the charity Troop Aid.

When troops are injured on exercise or return to the United Kingdom from war zones, they arrive back without their personal effects or clothing. The objective of Troop Aid is to supply them with the basic essentials in Grab Bags.

Grab Bags are currently being used in the Field Hospital in Cyprus, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham and the Ministry of Defence Hospital Units in Plymouth, Portsmouth, Frimley Park Hospital in Camberley, Medical Centre ITC Catterick Garrison and MDHU Northallerton.

Items in the Grab Bag include T-shirt and shorts, washing and shaving kit, towel, face flannel, toothpaste, toothbrush, shower mules, socks, underwear, pen and paper. Grab Bags are also provided for injured female service personnel.

In addition to the emergency pack Troop Aid also supplies on demand to the injured service personnel many other items of clothing and footwear such as tracksuits, hoodies, fleeces, trainers and a mobile phone with credit.

Feedback received from injured service personnel has been extremely positive. Get well cards from local children have been particularly well received and appreciated.

A registered charity, Troop Aid's patron is HRH The Prince of Wales.

Troop Aid is funded by donations and receives no government support. Anyone interested in finding out more about Troop Aid and to learn how they might offer support should telephone 0121 711 7215 or go to their website at www.troopaid.info. Donations can be sent to: Troop Aid, 21 Radway Road, Shirley, Solihull

Eric Dance, the Rotary Club President commented:

West Midlands, B90 4NR.

'On Remembrance Sunday we honour those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country through the years. This year we have acknowledged the start of the start of World War One, 100 years ago.

We have been very pleased to be asked again by The Royal British Legion to join their Remembrance Day Service and Parade in Sutton Coldfield and as I lay our wreath we will be remembering the lives lost over the years, but also thanking all those who have served.

In Rotary we work for communities and we've been very pleased to be able to supply some practical support to Troop Aid for nearly 6 years.'

The Wylde Green Club has a varied and interesting programme at a local, national and international level. A lively group of men and women, meetings are held each Tuesday evening at Westfield Court Hotel, Wylde Green where a warm welcome awaits anyone interested in finding out more about the work of Rotary. Additional information is available from the Club's website at www.wyldegreenrotary.org.uk or by 'phoning 0121 378 1099.

What's On

Dick Turpin by Dave Crump A traditional Pantomime

Highbury Theatre Centre, Sheffield Rd. 0121 373 2761 12 - 15 November (Matinee 2.30pm 15 November)

Royal Town Gala Concert

Holy Trinity Parish Church, Church Hill, Mill St, Sutton Coldfield Sat, November 15, 7:30pm – 10:30pm

Vaughn Singers' Macmillan Concert

Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, Upper Clifton Rd. 0121 464 8990 Sat 15 November 7:30pm – 10:00pm

Sutton Vintage & Arts Fair

Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, Upper Clifton Rd. 0121 464 8990 Sunday 16 November 11am-4pm

Sutton Arts Theatre present: Mother Goose

Sutton Arts Theatre, South Parade. 0121 355 5355 6th December - 20th December contact for times

Highbury Players present: The Ladykillers

Highbury Theatre Centre, Sheffield Rd. 0121 373 2761 9 - 20 December 7:30pm – 10:00pm

SCMT Christmas Concert

Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, Upper Clifton Rd. 0121 464 8990 Sunday 14th December 2014 4pm - 7:30pm

Just for Fun

Try your hand at our Sutton Coldfield quiz

- 1. Sutton Coldfield's Royal status was originally granted by which Tudor monach?
- 2. Which four council wards make up the parliamentry district of Sutton Coldfield?
- 3. From which building in the High Street Conservation Area is this detail taken?



- 4. At the time of the 2011 census Sutton Coldfield's population was: 65,249; 95,107; 115,095?
- 5. Can you name the following four councillors?

The District Chair?

Has a seat on the Planning
Committee?
Replaced Philip Parkin when he
stood down earlier this year?

Sutton Coldfield's only Labour councillor?

6. Name the Sutton Coldfield born singer of The Vamps?



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Light up a Life

Join us in remembering our loved ones and sharing our memories.

Dedicate a light on our tree in memory of a loved one

Light up a Life is at Erdington's Central Square on December 14th at 6pm

You don't need a ticket – just turn up and join us

For more information contact the Community Investment Crew on 0121 465 2000 or click on www.johntaylorhospice.org.uk

Complete this from to dedicate a light on our tree

Your Details Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS	
Title: First Name:	Surname:
Address:	Postcode:
Email:	Telephone:
Your Dedication I would like to donate in memory of:	
Name 1:	Message/Memory:
Name 2:	Message/Memory:
I enclose my gift of: I do not wish to Light up a Life but would like to support John Taylor Hospice and I enclose a gift of:	
How to pay I enclose a cheque made payable to John Taylor Hospice I would like to pay by Visa Mastercard Maestro Card Number: valid from: / expiry date: / issue number: : Maestro Only Date:	
Make your gift worth 25% giftaid it The power of the solution	
Name of tax payer:	No Lam not a UK tax payer Date:

Thank you for your support. Please return your form to:
JOHN TAYLOR HOSPICE, 76 GRANGE ROAD, ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM, B24 oDF