

# together



STEVEN BISHTON (LEFT)  
AND ALEX DAVIS (RIGHT)  
HELP MIDSOMER NORTON  
TRADERS AND RESIDENTS



Save £££

Save money across  
the region with our  
cut-out vouchers!



### PULLING TOGETHER

Discover some of the ways that you can help communities across the region (Page 8)



### PULL-OUT CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY

Find out what's going on for the next three months (Page 20)

# Your smile means the world

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# Welcome

Winter 2018

Over the last few issues of B&NES Together we've shown how many people across the region are helping neighbours far and wide with a range of activities. This issue we show how you can be a part of that force for good. Take a look at page 8 for details of some of the volunteering opportunities across Bath and North East Somerset.

We also have a round up of the different festive events and shopping experiences you can get involved in this Christmas on page 11.

On page 12 there's a report on the brilliant market town of Midsomer Norton, a destination with a fascinating history and an eye to the future with some exciting plans in the pipeline.

As ever, if you have an event you'd like us to feature in the calendar on page 20 then please email us - we really want to reflect your activities on these pages - BATHNESTogether@futurenet.com.

Have a very Merry Christmas!

**Councillor Tim Warren**  
Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council



“  
*People across the region are helping neighbours far and wide with a range of activities. This issue we show how you can be a part of that force for good.*  
”

If you have problems reading this magazine, please contact Bath & North East Somerset Council for a braille or larger print version on **01225 477495**

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### Newsdesk

We update you on the council's financial proposals for the new year.

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### Winter Events

Find out what's going on across the region this Christmas.

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### Pulling together

Helping out your friends and neighbours is a great way to feel good about yourself.

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### Stay safe

Advice on rogue traders in the region.

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### Christmas in BANES

Here's a quick round-up of fun and festive events and activities.

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### Collection changes

An update on your new service and Christmas collections.

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### Local Focus: Midsomer Norton

The region's ancient market town is going through changes in the next few years and has an eye on the future.

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### B&NES Business People

The Sue Hill Dance School has made its mark in Radstock.

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### Vouchers

Save money on roller skating, swimming and more with our voucher page.

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### Service Directory

Take a look at just a few of the services that are on offer for you from the council.

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### My Community

Meet Louise Thacker the super volunteer student who has made Bath her home.



Protecting and caring for the vulnerable is the Council priority.

## Working with you

Managing our budget commitments to safeguard essential services.

**B** &NES Council has been working with the local community as it looks for ways to help meet the pressures on its budget. Like every other council in the country, B&NES faces unprecedented challenges due to increasing demand for services and reduced funding.

The Council is assessing how it can save a further £16 million by 2020 – on top of the £27 million that is in the process of being saved, and the £15 million announced in the previous budget – while continuing to deliver essential services. This will help to close a growing funding gap, due in part to the increasing demand and rising cost for both adult and child social care.

Members of the Council visited local area forums over the last few

weeks to set out its priorities to put residents first; protecting and caring for its most vulnerable residents, nurturing people's health, safety and well-being, and providing ways for everyone in the community to reach their full potential. Over the next 12 months, the Council is committed to working closely with the local community to help reduce demand and to make our money go further.

### Pressures faced

There are many reasons why the authority is under financial pressure and it forecasts that by the end of this year 80p in every £1 will be spent on social care.

An increasing number of people are living longer with complex conditions that require support which is costly;

more children and young adults are living with complex care and educational needs – some costing up to £250,000 per person – and there are 14% more children in Bath & North East Somerset Council's care than there were last year.

The Council is paying a fair price for good quality care services; it is meeting the national living wage, it has more responsibility for children with special educational needs and disabilities, and it is helping more families struggling with low income. Of course all of this adds greater pressures onto the system in terms of both social care and accommodation costs.

The Council remains committed to working with the community to face the challenges ahead, and will publish further details in early 2018. ●



Security barriers are being introduced to Bath's Christmas Market.

## Making for a happy Christmas Market

Traffic barriers improve safety for shoppers.

**T**eams in Bath are pulling together to help ensure that anyone visiting the city this Christmas and beyond can enjoy a safe and pleasant experience.

In line with similar events all around the country, this year's popular Christmas Market in Bath is protected by enhanced security measures. These include the protective barriers that were installed in November by B&NES Council, Visit Bath, Southgate Bath and Bath BID, who are all working in partnership to help things run smoothly.

The barriers are designed to restrict access for vehicles, and enable pedestrians to make their way around the city centre freely.

This year's Bath Christmas Market is open from Thursday 23 November to Sunday 10 December. ●

## Have your say

Residents are invited to comment on B&NES and West of England plans that will shape the region's future.

**T**wo large-scale plans that will cover the future of housing, employment and infrastructure all the way to 2036 are being prepared and residents are being asked to review and comment on them.

One is the West of England's Joint Spatial Plan (JSP), this addresses the region's severe shortage of housing, the need to generate jobs and the provision of critical infrastructure. The plan proposes significant housing in locations at Whitchurch and to the north of Keynsham. Residents are encouraged to go to [www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk](http://www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk) to see the plan and have your say.

B&NES Council's new Local Plan works alongside the JSP and is at the options stage which seeks to encourage discussion and comment on key issues and alternative approaches. Find out more and have your say at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/LocalPlan](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/LocalPlan)

The deadline for responses to both of the consultations is on Wednesday 10 January. ●



1000 Words / Shutterstock

## Council action on HMOs

New property ruling.

**P**lans to manage the growth and distribution of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in Bath have been published by Bath & North East Somerset Council and were unanimously approved by the Council's Cabinet on November 8.

The recommendations will mean that new applications to convert properties into HMOs will be refused if more than 10% of properties in the local area are already Houses of Multiple Occupation. The Council also plans to adopt a policy that would prevent a residential non-HMO property from being 'sandwiched' between two HMOs.

The move follows six weeks of public consultation and was in response to concerns among residents about the continuing concentration and growth of HMOs in some areas of the city.

Alongside the new policy on HMOs, the Council is also currently undertaking a piece of work looking at the issue of Dedicated Student Accommodation in the city, including an assessment of the need and supply of student accommodation in the city.

Of those consulted by the Council 98 per cent agreed with a reduction in the current threshold of 25 per cent HMOs, while 49 per cent thought that the new figure should be set at 10 per cent. Some of those consulted who lived in areas such as Oldfield Park, where there are a large number of HMOs, said that they felt they had "lost their communities."

Further concerns raised through the consultation by residents about HMOs included noise, rubbish and untended gardens which were seen as reducing the attractiveness of an area. ●

• What's on – see [bathnes.gov.uk/events](http://bathnes.gov.uk/events) for a list of upcoming events.

## Your BATHNES

Tag your pictures with **#BATHNESTogether** on social media and we'll feature our favourites. Follow us on Instagram: **@BATHNESCouncil** and Twitter: **@Bathnes**



This shot of brilliant, dappled light in the Circus in Bath was taken by [@kateauthors](#)



[@webkin1979](#) Took this shot of Radstock's wheel with a Remembrance wreath.



You can't beat [@normanmarks](#) amazing autumnal woods.



## Are you flood prepared?

As the weather turns wetter, it's vital to understand the risks and make sure you're ready to cope.

**N**ext July marks 50 years since the great flood of 1968, when Bath, Keynsham and the Chew Valley suffered significant damage, disruption and even loss of life. Parts of Bath and North East Somerset have faced flooding more recently, with Chew Magna last year escaping damage on the scale of the devastating floods of 2012 thanks partly to initiatives such as the local Flood Wardens scheme.

At this time of year, however, it's important to be alert to the risks of flooding wherever you live and particularly when you're travelling.

The AA advise that it can take as little as six inches of water to knock you off your feet and only a foot of water to move a family-sized car. Also, one-third of flood-related deaths in the UK involve drivers taking unnecessary risks – so don't try to drive through floodwater!

One great tool you can use is the Met Office weather app, which includes alerts for expected severe weather. You can even use it to plan your journeys when the weather has turned. Just go to [metoffice.gov.uk](http://metoffice.gov.uk) and search for 'App'. ●

### Flood safety checklist

Protect yourself from flood risks this winter.

- ✓ Check live flood warnings, sign up for flood alerts and make sure you know where the water, gas and electricity isolation points are in your property, so that you can act quickly. If you are in danger, call 999.
- ✓ If you think your property is at risk buy appropriate bags and sand from builders' merchants ready for making sandbags and remove important documents and belongings and store them at a safe location.
- ✓ Turn off utilities if floodwater is about to enter your home, but don't touch electricity sources if you are standing in water. Flood water can rise rapidly, so move people and pets upstairs if there is a means of escape.

**i** For help and advice, call Floodline on **0345 988 1188**. To report flooding call **01225 394041, 01225477477** for out of hours emergencies or email [councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk)

West of England **Works**  **Employment Support**

Are you looking to get back into work, training volunteering or education, if so we can help you.

One to one employment support, career planning and guidance for unemployed people who have support needs and a local connection to Bath & North East Somerset.

We would like to hear from people who are economically inactive or have been unemployed for at least 12 months. Anyone can make a referral to this service including individuals, friends, family and agencies.

We work with clients to make personalised plans, taking into account their immediate needs and longer-term goals. We also hold work related workshops and run a wellbeing activity program.

We are based in Bath City Centre and run drop-ins in Midsomer Norton and Twerton, we are also able to hold one to ones in Keynsham and throughout B&NES.

woew@julianhouse.org.uk | 01225 354 660



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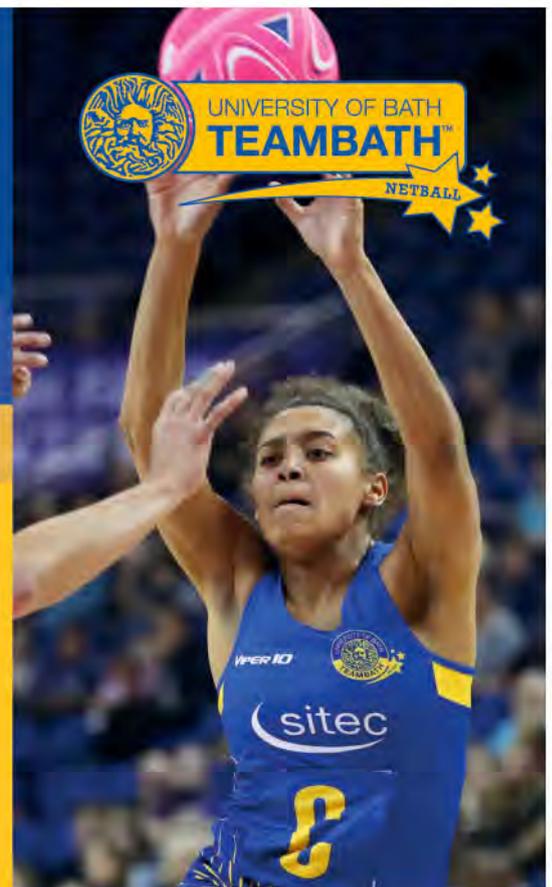
# Team Bath Netball

## Superleague tickets now on sale for the 2018 season!

*There's more than one ball game in Bath...*

### Home Fixtures:

23 Feb	v	Surrey Storm	7.30pm
2 Mar	v	Sirens	7.30pm
9 Mar	v	Manchester Thunder	7.30pm
4 May	v	Celtic Dragons	7.30pm
7 May	v	Severn Stars (TV Game)	5pm
21 May	v	Team Northumbria (TV Game)	7pm
1 Jun	v	Hertfordshire Mavericks	7.30pm
8 Jun	v	Loughborough Lightning	7.30pm
15 Jun	v	Wasps	7.30pm



For information or to buy tickets: [www.teambath.com/events/ticketline](http://www.teambath.com/events/ticketline)  
All matches are played at the Team Bath Arena, Sports Training Village, University of Bath

[www.teambath.com/netball](http://www.teambath.com/netball)

# Pulling Together

With belts being tightened all across the region, we need to know what we can do to help...

**A**s reported in the news (see page 3) our budgets are under serious pressure, and as part of ongoing discussions with the public, we're looking at how the community can help our money go further. Maybe it's time we all stepped up a little and found out what we can do to help make ends meet. We'll soon find have a great future together.

Volunteering can make a big difference to our community, providing vital services and saving money in unexpected ways. More than that, volunteering is good for us; getting actively involved in the community can improve mental and physical health. Studies have shown that volunteering increases our self-worth, skills and the size of our social network.

Most of us probably already know of somewhere we could volunteer but to get us all thinking here are just 10 ways you can make a change in BANES...

**i Volunteer Centre:** To get some inspiration drop into the Volunteer Centre in Bath Central Library on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 9.30am - 3.30pm. [vol-centre.org.uk](http://vol-centre.org.uk)



## IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT

There are a number of ways to improve your local environment, from litter-picking in the park or other public areas and more ambitious projects too.

Why not: pick a target, form a local group and apply to Curo for a community grant of up to £500 [www.curo-group.co.uk/residents/get-involved/curo-grants/](http://www.curo-group.co.uk/residents/get-involved/curo-grants/)



## SNOW PROBLEM

Across the region we have volunteer Snow Wardens who really make a difference to the community in the winter months.

Search 'Snow Warden' on [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk) for more details.



## BACK TO SCHOOL

Our local schools are among the best in the South West, but they need us - and there are plenty of things to do.

Drop your local school a line, and let them know you're interested in helping them out.



## SUPPORT THE ELDERLY

Delivering meals, befriending a neighbour or just helping out at day centres, anything we do relieves the pressure on care services and can brighten an old person's day.

Contact Chris Hart, Age UK Bath 01225 466135 [volunteering@ageukbanes.co.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageukbanes.co.uk)



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### GIVE A YOUNG PERSON A BED FOR THE NIGHT

The YMCA's Nightstop initiative encourages host volunteers to provide emergency accommodation to a young person in need.

Contact Bath YMCA on [www.bathymca.co.uk](http://www.bathymca.co.uk)

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### SUPPORT THE SUPPORTERS

The Carer's Centre offers support for people who find themselves caring for a relative or loved one, and they always need more helpers.

Visit [banescarerscentre.org.uk/volunteer/volunteer-with-us/](http://banescarerscentre.org.uk/volunteer/volunteer-with-us/)

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### KEEP CITIZENS ADVISED

Citizens Advice is a part of our national landscape. They are often on the lookout for trustees, fundraisers, advisors, reception staff and much more besides.

Contact [www.citizensadvicebanes.org.uk/volunteering/](http://www.citizensadvicebanes.org.uk/volunteering/)

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### ALL ABOARD!

Community transport initiatives help get vulnerable people out and about, whether, for vital hospital appointments or a trip to a day centre. Currently BANES has 20 different services that you could help with.

Look up the local schemes here [www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/parking-and-travel/community-transport/list-schemes](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/parking-and-travel/community-transport/list-schemes)

### GET PEOPLE FIT AND ACTIVE

Sports clubs across our area are desperate for more volunteers. And we don't have to be super-fit or talented, they need administrators too! Not to mention people who'll simply make a cup of tea...

Contact your local sports club and offer to help

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### SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

Government figures suggest that just over 40% of children (aged 5-16) in Bath and North East Somerset usually walk to school - among the lowest rates in the country. If more children did so, it would help in terms of health, congestion and even road pollution.

As part of its Safer Routes to Schools programme, Bath & North East Somerset Council is reviewing key routes to and from schools to identify what improvements would encourage more families to walk or cycle instead of taking their car.

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DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF  
**BATH**  
THIS CHRISTMAS  
[visitbath.co.uk/christmas](http://visitbath.co.uk/christmas)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BATH

Late Night Shopping  
Nov - Dec

Bath Christmas Market  
23<sup>rd</sup> Nov - 10<sup>th</sup> Dec

Street Food & Artisan Markets  
Nov - Dec

Bath On Ice & Glow in the Dark Mini Golf  
17<sup>th</sup> Nov - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan

Victorian Carousel  
14<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Dec

Dickensian Christmas at The Corridor  
7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Dec

In partnership with



Great Western Railway



Business Improvement District



# Out and about this Festive Season

With shopping to do, and family members to keep happy, the run up to Christmas can feel like a juggling act. But why not combine the two? Take a look at these superb festive events.

**T**here's shopping to be done across BANES starting with the renowned Bath Christmas Market – which fills visitors with a festive thrill. Now in its 17th year and with more than 200 chalets this year, the market keeps going from strength to strength. It's on until 10 December offering all the usual gifts, sausages and fun.

Bath also has its now traditional Bath on Ice (and Glow-in-the-Dark Mini Golf) at the Royal Victoria Park, every day until 2 January 2018, 10.30am to 9.30pm.

The Corridors are having a Dickensian Christmas on 7, 14 and 21 December with lots of your favourite characters to meet from 5 – 7.30pm.

Keynsham Library has an exhibition of local artists' works celebrating the Winter Festival until 15 December and there'll be a carol concert at the Methodist Church on Tuesday 12 December 2pm – 3.15pm while Avon Valley Adventure & Wildlife Park is offering a "magical journey" to meet Santa up until 24 December.

Midsomer Norton has a Christmas Carol concert in the Methodist church

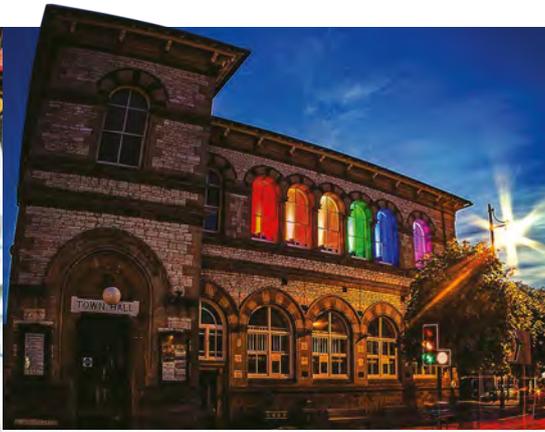
too, on 17 December at 7.30pm, and with the lights already up the high street will be a festive haven.

Paulton will have a festive Christingle service at 6pm on 15 December at the Holy Trinity Church, and there are carols by candlelight there on 17 December, also at 6pm.

Meanwhile, Avon Valley Railway will be running its ever-popular Santa Steam Specials on 9-10, 16-17, 23-24 December, plus Thursday-Friday 21-22 December. First train 10.20am, last 3.40pm, for more details visit [www.avonvalleyrailway.org](http://www.avonvalleyrailway.org) ●

## Avon Valley Adventure

Christmas Experience Star Day is on Friday 15 December for families of children with disabilities or those who may need more time in the attraction.



local focus

# MIDSOMER

## NORTON

For almost 800 years this has been the principal shopping centre for the Somer Valley.

**W**ith independent shops and businesses, an amazing community spirit and the picturesque River Somer meandering alongside the High Street: Midsomer Norton is on the rise.

### Town centre shopping

Whether it's the DIY store or the traditional haberdashery, shopkeepers on the High Street go the extra mile for customers. Don't just take our word for it though: a recent shopper survey had an excellent response rate and showed that good customer service was one of the town's key strengths.

The Somer Valley Chamber of Commerce is working with the Town Council to promote the town, which will soon welcome JD Wetherspoon. As Steve Bishton (above left) head of the chamber says, "The high street is thriving. Customers come in and say how fantastic it is to be able to come somewhere and buy something and be

able to chat with someone and ask advice. It's this personal touch that keeps people coming back."

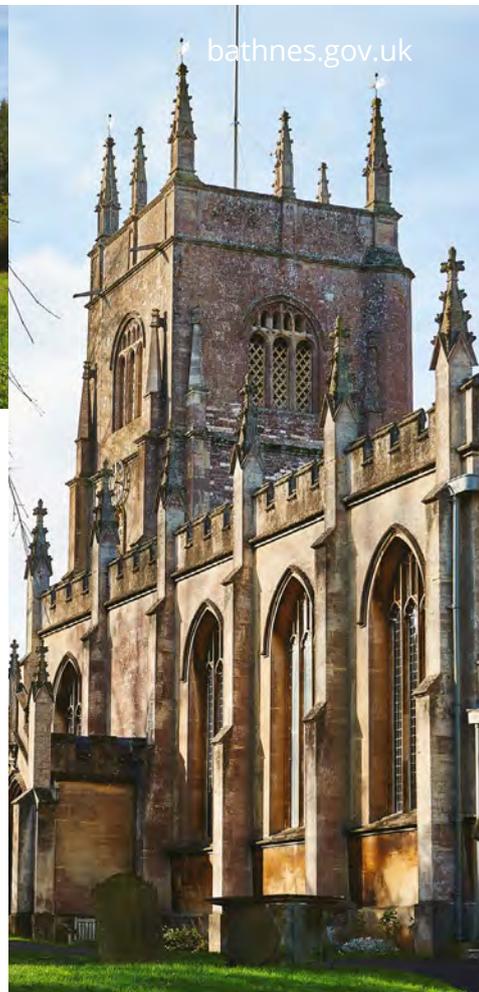
### What's on in Midsomer Norton

We also asked Alex Davis, Community Trust Manager (bottom right) what's going on in the town: "These days there's usually live music, a band, concert, theatre drama or a film on at the Town Hall each week. The Community Trust really provides the lead and makes it possible through its volunteers to put on an arts programme many larger towns envy."

And it's true: the year-round events feature an arts festival, Midsomer Norton Town Fayre, the M-Fest free music festival, a Christmas event and even Wassailing.

A farmers market is held in the Hollies Gardens on the first Saturday of each month. It has a great selection of local produce and local musicians play along to entertain the shoppers.





Photography by Joby Sessions, Richard Sykes and Alamy

Midsomer Norton has also joined some of the UK's major cities in hosting its own Pride festival with live music, film screenings, comedy and art.

**Heritage**

The town began to develop under Hugh de Vivonia in the 13th century when he was granted a Royal Charter for a Thursday Market by Henry III in 1242. A second Royal Charter in 1248 for a Fayre on Midsummer's Day most likely inspired the name of the town.

The Midsomer Norton Knight, a wooden tomb effigy from the 14th century and the 15th-century Tithe Barn, built by the Augustinian Monks, are the only two survivors from those early days.

Midsomer Norton has always had its fair share of celebrity association. Not many communities used to have world-famous authors delivering their kerosene, but in the 1930s a young Roald Dahl did just that, as he mentioned in his memoirs. More recently Game of Throne's own Maisie Williams ('Arya Stark') is an alumnus of the high school. And finally yes, the town did lend its name to TV's famous detective series Midsomer Murders.

**Future regeneration plans**

In its drive to provide green spaces, the Town Council is developing a new park. This is located close to the very successful and well-used play area that includes a series of spaces focusing on climbing, swinging, water play, high slide, trampoline & zip wire and a skate

*Henry III granted a Royal Charter for a Thursday Market way back in 1242.*

park. And while the play area (and soon the new park) attracts a lot of visitors from the surrounding area so does the fact that car parking is free throughout the town.

As well as attracting visitors, the town is also set to bring in new business in the near future. The Somer Valley Enterprise Zone is a key pillar of B&NES Council's regeneration plans for Midsomer Norton and the local area. Established in April the site will become a commercial and employment hub and help to replace jobs lost from the industrial closures of recent years by attracting businesses to the area, partly by offering rates incentives. The 33-acre site aims to create 1,700 new jobs. Development is anticipated to begin in 2018.

Finally, a Neighbourhood Development Plan is being written to allow the community to shape future development in the town.

**i** Upcoming articles will focus on Radstock, Chew Valley, and Bath and its wider districts. If you have any ideas for things to be included email [BATHNESTogether@futurenet.com](mailto:BATHNESTogether@futurenet.com)



# It's time to get cosy!



Make sure your home is ready for the colder weather.

Contact **Energy at Home** today!

**energy**  
*at* home

For energy saving  
home improvements

**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**

Bath & North East Somerset Council's **Energy at Home Scheme** provides free home energy advice, and access to grants and loans to help install energy saving improvements.

**FREE  
home  
survey!**

#### **Improvements currently available include:**

<b>Insulation</b>	Internal, external, or cavity wall insulation, loft insulation and room-in-roof insulation.
<b>Heating systems</b>	Boilers including gas, oil and LPG, and efficient electric storage heaters.
<b>Renewable technologies</b>	Solar panels (electric or hot water) and air source heat pumps.

#### **Grants available** ✓

Home owners, private tenants and private landlords can access grants to help towards the cost of installing insulation.

Extra grant support may be available to those meeting eligibility criteria for heating and insulation improvements.

#### **Loans available** ✓

If you would like to spread out the cost of your chosen improvements, you can apply for a Home Energy Loan from Wessex Resolutions

*Grants and loans are subject to terms and conditions*



Speak to one of our friendly energy advisors to arrange a **FREE** home survey today!

Freephone 0800 038 5680 | [advice@energyathome.org.uk](mailto:advice@energyathome.org.uk) | [www.energyathome.org.uk](http://www.energyathome.org.uk)

In partnership with:

**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**



**Wessex  
Resolutions CIC**  
*People First and Foremost*



**I bike it.**  
*I like it.*



**Saskia** | Orange Grove

## Discover scenic bath *on two wheels*

When you find yourself in one of the most beautiful cities in the world, it's hard to imagine how you could appreciate it more – but the answer is you can – by bike! Whether you're here for a day or you're lucky enough to live here, cycling is a fun way to discover more of the city and the surrounding countryside.

If you don't have a bike, you can hire one from the multiple shops and on-street hire stations in the city centre. On two wheels you are under your own steam, riding at your own pace, and reducing your carbon footprint too!

Sign up for on-street cycle rental at [www.nextbike.co.uk](http://www.nextbike.co.uk)

For more information on routes, cycle hire and facilities in Bath and the South West visit [www.betterbybike.info](http://www.betterbybike.info)

**[betterbybike.info](http://www.betterbybike.info)**



**[Maps and rides](#) | [Shops and Hire](#) | [Bike Repairs](#) | [News](#) | [Events](#)**

**Our vision is**  
a thriving and  
supportive  
community in the  
Bath area where  
everyone has hope  
and a future.



**We can only do it** with the support,  
love and energy of local people.

This year you gave incredibly generously...  
time, furniture, food, clothing and money.

**THANK YOU**

[genesistrust.org.uk](http://genesistrust.org.uk)

“ When I was desperate,  
homeless and despairing of  
life Genesis stepped into that  
gap and supported me with  
love and kindness. ”

# Needing help with essential repairs to your home?



Damp walls, leaking roof and outdated electrics - just some of the repairs we may be able to help you with...

Over recent years a growing number of homeowners have benefited from a fantastic but little known loan scheme, run by Bath and North east Somerset Council who work with two not-for-profit companies: Wessex Resolutions who can arrange a low cost loan with tailored repayment plans and WE Care & Repair who will oversee and make sure that the work is done professionally.

Call **01823 461099**  
to find out more



www.wecr.org.uk



www.wrcic.org.uk

Loans have a fixed interest rate with 4.2% APR and are subject to status. Missing payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future. Wessex Resolutions CIC may insist on loans being protected at the Land Registry by a Title Restriction. Wessex Resolutions C.I.C. a community interest company limited by guarantee, registered in England, company number 4512225. Registered address: Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton TA4 1EU. Wessex Loans and Wessex Home Improvement. Loans are trading names used by this company. Wessex Resolutions C.I.C is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (675263) for credit and debt-related regulated activities. West of England Care & Repair Waterloo Road, Bristol BS2 0BH

## Our survey results

In the last issue we asked for your thoughts and opinions on the new B&NES council magazine Together and here are the results:



On average each reader spends 25 mins with Together magazine

**83%**

of readers rate Together magazine good, very good or excellent for keeping residents informed about what is going on in their area



**3/4**

Upcoming events in the region is the most interesting topic in Together for three quarters of readers



Main articles on B&NES initiatives and services across the area and Recycling News are the other key topics for two thirds of readers

*"For such a large area it provides a good update on what's going on; it's got all the relevant information about the council and a bit more." - Together Reader*

**Christmas Eve**  
Family Disco  
at Somerdale Pavilion

24.12.2017 | 5 - 10PM | EVERY CHILD GETS A SMALL PRESENT FROM SANTA!  
MEMBERS: ADULTS £5 / CHILDREN £6 | NON MEMBERS: ADULTS £6 / CHILDREN £7  
CUSTOMERS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO BRING IN THEIR OWN FOOD. HOT CUPBOARD AVAILABLE FOR HOT SNACKS. COLD MIDDLES PLATTER AVAILABLE FOR PRE ORDER. FOOD : COLD PLATTER - SERVES 4 (SLICED MEATS/CHEESE/BREAD/OLIVES/CRISPS) MEMBER - £20, NON MEMBER - £22  
SOMERDALE PAVILION | TIBERIUS ROAD | KEYNESHAM | BRISTOL | BS31 2FF | 01179 065 787

**New Year's Eve**  
Family Disco  
at Somerdale Pavilion

SUNDAY, 31st DECEMBER  
7.30PM - 12.30AM (BAR CLOSES 12.15AM)

TICKETS :  
MEMBERS : ADULTS & CHILDREN OVER 9 £5  
NON MEMBERS : ADULTS & CHILDREN OVER 9 £6  
(DRINK, PARTY POPPERS AND HATS INCLUDED)

CUSTOMERS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO BRING IN THEIR OWN FOOD.  
HOT CUPBOARD AVAILABLE FOR HOT SNACKS.  
COLD MIDDLES PLATTER AVAILABLE FOR PRE ORDER.  
FOOD :  
COLD PLATTER - SERVES 4 (SLICED MEATS/CHEESE/BREAD/OLIVES/CRISPS)  
MEMBER - £20 - NON MEMBER - £22  
BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT DUE TO LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

TIBERIUS ROAD | KEYNESHAM | BRISTOL | BS31 2FF | 01179 065 787

SOMERDALE PAVILION COMMUNITY

SOMERDALE PAVILION  
**CHRISTMAS DISNEY SHOW**  
17th DECEMBER 2017  
12.00 - 1.45pm | 2.00 - 3.45pm | 4.00 - 5.45pm

SINGALONG WITH MATERIAL FROM FROZEN | MEET & GREET CHARACTERS | RECEIVE A SMALL GIFT FROM SANJA | CHRISTMAS BAR MENU AVAILABLE  
CHILDREN UNDER 12 : £8 (ADULT MEMBERS) | £10 (NON MEMBERS)  
ADULTS (MAXIMUM 2 ADULTS TO ACCOMPANY 1 CHILD) : £2 (MEMBERS) | £3 (NON MEMBERS)

BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT AS LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE PER SHOW. BOOK TICKETS AT RECEPTION OR VIA PHONE ON 01179-865-787  
SOMERDALE PAVILION | KEYNESHAM | TIBERIUS ROAD | BS31 2FF

# Service Directory

Do you need some information about a Council-run service? Help is at hand with this useful guide. To be put through to someone who can help, call the Council switchboard on **01225 477000** or visit **bathnes.gov.uk** for further information.



## WINTER HEALTH ADVICE

Everything you need to know about flu and the flu vaccine, keeping warm and staying well in very cold weather, as well as coping with common winter illnesses.

 Go to **bathnes.gov.uk** and search 'winter health advice'

## SEND LOCAL OFFER



## Special Educational Needs & Disability

SEND has published a Local Offer of all the services and support available for young people aged 0 – 25 with Special Educational Needs or Disability. The Local Offer provides information about education, health and care services, leisure activities and support groups.

 Go to **bathnes.gov.uk** and search 'SEND Local offer'

## CYCLING RESOURCES



The Council offers free cycle training for all ages, with Level 1 and Level 2 Bikeability training offered through schools, as well as one-to-one training for adults. There are lots of other resources for cyclists in and around BANES:

**Better By Bike**  
[betterbybike.info](http://betterbybike.info)  
**Bike Training**  
[lifecycleuk.org.uk/cycle-training-bath-and-north-east-somerset](http://lifecycleuk.org.uk/cycle-training-bath-and-north-east-somerset)  
**Nextbike**  
[nextbike.co.uk/en/bath](http://nextbike.co.uk/en/bath)  
**Wheels for All**  
[cycling.org.uk/wheels-for-all](http://cycling.org.uk/wheels-for-all)  
**Cycle Bath**  
[cyclebath.org.uk](http://cyclebath.org.uk)

 Or go to **bathnes.gov.uk** and search 'cycling'

## ROADWORKS

[View live updates on incidents, road closures and diversions as well as current roadworks.](#)

 for more please visit **bathnes.roadworks.org**



## SERVICES

*These pages showcase just a few of the services that are on offer from the Council. Go online to find out about hundreds more.*



 Visit **bathnes.gov.uk** and click on A-Z Services at the top left of the page

## READING CLUBS

There are nine reading groups across BATHNES including at Midsomer Norton, Chew Stoke, Keynsham and Bath Central Library.

 Visit **bathnes.gov.uk** and click on A-Z Services at the top left of the page



# Winter Events

Your **pull-out-and-pin-up** guide to some of the great things to do in the region.

## Avon Wildlife Jumble Sale

At the Old School Room, Chew Magna.  
[chewmagnaold.schoolroom.org.uk](http://chewmagnaold.schoolroom.org.uk)

## Cut, Pattern and Mosaic with Paper Workshop

Create your own Op Art using specialist papercutting and collage techniques. A full day workshop for adults with illustrator Jessica Palmer.  
[holburne.org/events/cut-pattern-and-mosaic-with-paper/](http://holburne.org/events/cut-pattern-and-mosaic-with-paper/)

## Night of the Hunter

A special screening of Charles Laughton's haunting 1955 film noir starring Robert Mitchum as a terrifying preacher.  
[keynshamfilmworks.co.uk](http://keynshamfilmworks.co.uk)

January

4th

13th

## BikeLive Demo Day

Try out a range of road bikes and e-bikes from top manufacturers at Bath's Odd Down circuit.  
[bit.ly/2yBnBzD](http://bit.ly/2yBnBzD)



## Keynsham Farmers' Market

Head to Keynsham on the second Saturday of the month for various traders of traditional and artisan products, such as handmade jewellery, award-winning cheese and delicious bakes. The market also welcomes musicians and bands to keep you entertained while shopping.  
[somersefarmersmarkets.co.uk/markets/keynsham](http://somersefarmersmarkets.co.uk/markets/keynsham)

## Engineered Equanimity

This is your last chance to see this major exhibition by one of the UK's most inventive artists. Get yourself down to The Edge before it's too late.  
[edgearts.org/whats-on/visual-arts/](http://edgearts.org/whats-on/visual-arts/)

February

Jan - 3rd

18th

10th

## Bath Half Marathon

One of the longest established and most popular city centre road events in the UK.  
[bathhalf.co.uk](http://bathhalf.co.uk)

## Keynsham Orchestra concert

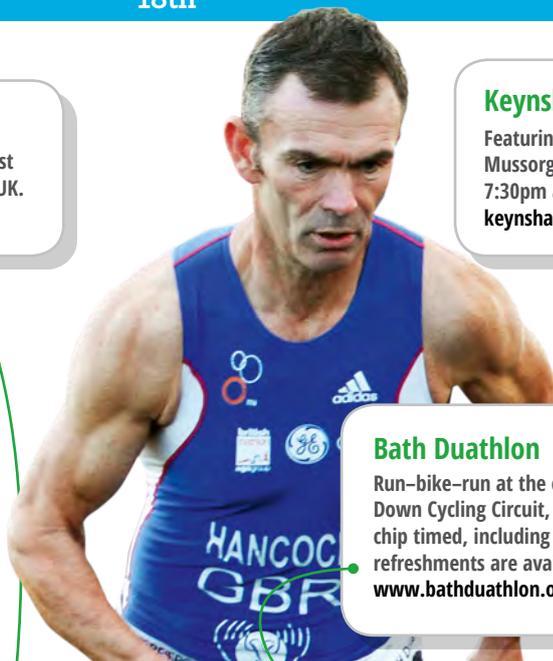
Featuring three piece including Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition  
 7:30pm at St John's Church, Keynsham  
[keynshamorchestra.org.uk](http://keynshamorchestra.org.uk)

## Terror On The Tracks, Radstock

Journey back to the days of steam in this original stage adaptation of Dickens's "The Signal-Man" and other tales of menace and melodrama, written and performed by acclaimed actor Jonathan Goodwin.  
[victoriahallradstock.co.uk/event/terror-on-the-tracks/](http://victoriahallradstock.co.uk/event/terror-on-the-tracks/)

## Bath Duathlon

Run-bike-run at the off-road Odd Down Cycling Circuit, The event is chip timed, including cycle laps and refreshments are available.  
[www.bathduathlon.org.uk](http://www.bathduathlon.org.uk)



March

3rd

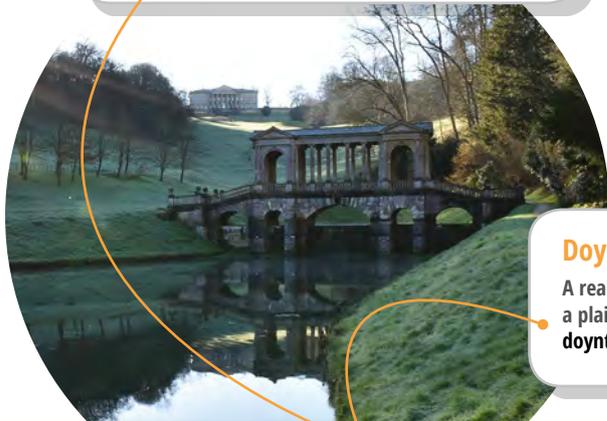
4th

10th

10th

### Winter Wellness Walk

Slow down and take a morning walk through the peaceful Prior Park landscape garden with head gardener Alice, finishing with light refreshments in the tea garden. Booking essential. [bit.ly/2h51Yld](http://bit.ly/2h51Yld)



21st

### Hats and Headdresses Workshop

Be the first to attend a workshop in V V Rouleaux's new Bath shop. [vvrouleaux.com/hats-headdresses-workshop-bath-260118](http://vvrouleaux.com/hats-headdresses-workshop-bath-260118)



### Bath Wedding Show

Meet up to 50 of the top wedding suppliers in Bath and Somerset and get help organising everything from the gowns and flowers to the venue. With free cake tastings. [thebathweddingshow.co.uk](http://thebathweddingshow.co.uk)

26th

28th

### Doynton Hard Half Marathon

A really tough cross-country race, when a plain old half just isn't hard enough. [doyntonhardhalfmarathon.co.uk](http://doyntonhardhalfmarathon.co.uk)

### Bath Bachfest

Enjoy the music of the greatest composer of the Baroque period with a selection of splendid concerts. Programme details to be confirmed. [bathbachfest.co.uk](http://bathbachfest.co.uk)



22nd – 24th



### Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Midsomer Norton

A live feed of the National Theatre's bold reimagining of Tennessee Williams' classic play, starring Sienna Miller, Jack O'Connell and Colm Meaney. Midsomer Norton Town Hall, Odeon Bath and Trowbridge, and Little Theatre Bath. [midsomernortoncommunitytrust.co.uk/ntlive](http://midsomernortoncommunitytrust.co.uk/ntlive)

22nd



### Winter Birds Of Chew Valley Lake

A day trip with Avon Wildlife Trust. Bring sturdy shoes and waterproofs. Booking required for minibus from Wellsway School, Keynsham. [wildlifetrusts.org/](http://wildlifetrusts.org/)

Avon Wildlife Trust

24th

### Bath Comic-Con

Bath's first ever Comic-Con event, with artists, guests from film and TV, and dealers galore, at the Pavilion, 10am-5pm. [facebook.com/bathcon](https://facebook.com/bathcon)



### Julius Caesar, Radstock

A live feed from the Bridge Theatre of Shakespeare's play in a new production by the National Theatre starring David Calder, Michelle Fairley, David Morrissey and Ben Whishaw. Midsomer Norton Town Hall. [midsomernortoncommunitytrust.co.uk/ntlive](http://midsomernortoncommunitytrust.co.uk/ntlive)



22nd

### WWI: Side by Side

2018 is the centenary of America's first major military action during WW1. This exhibition explores attitudes to the involvement of America, and how it helped bring an end to the stalemate. [www.1914.org/events-calendar/?id=EVENT575563](http://www.1914.org/events-calendar/?id=EVENT575563)



17th

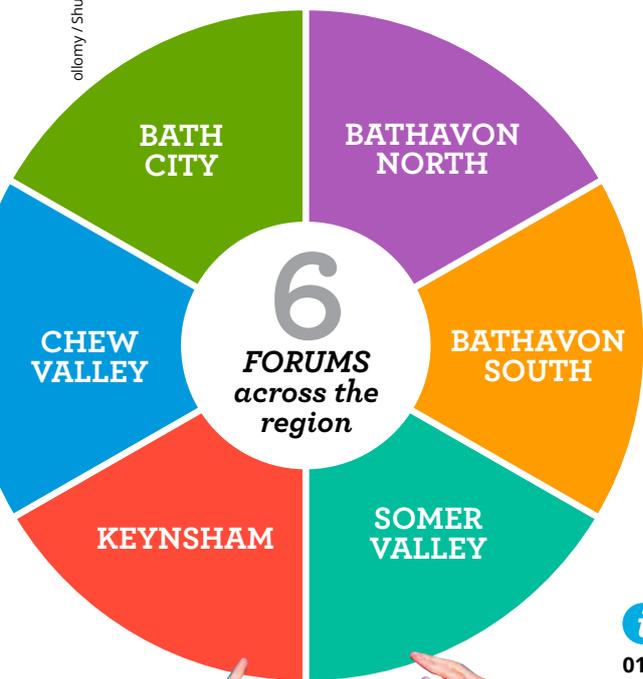
17th

## Find out about even more local events – or list your own!

To see even more events happening this summer go to [bathnes.gov.uk/events](http://bathnes.gov.uk/events) – you can even add your own events to the calendar.

[Bath & North East Somerset Council](http://Bath & North East Somerset Council)

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES



**Area Forums help public services and local residents work better together and address areas of local concern.**

**i** Search 'Connecting Communities' on [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk) or call 01225 396975

CHILDREN'S CENTRES



Find out about nurseries, family support and other services available for families with children.

**i** Go to [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk) and search 'children's centres'



LEISURE CENTRES AND SPORTS FACILITIES

**Bath Sports & Leisure Centre**  
Call 01225 486905

**Bath Pavilion**  
Call 01225 486 902

**Odd Down Sports Ground**  
Call 01225 300420

**Keynsham Leisure Centre**  
Call 01225 439680

**Culverhay Sports Centre**  
Call 01225 480882

**Chew Valley Sports Centre**  
Call 01275 333375

**Entry Hill Golf Course**  
Call 01225 834248

**Bath Approach Golf Course**  
Call 01225 331162

**i** For more information search 'Leisure Centres' at [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk)



LOCAL FAMILY INFORMATION

**1 Big Database**

Discover Organisations and Events in Bath and North East Somerset for a range of family issues, childcare, parenting support, benefits, school and much, much more.

**i** Go to [bathnes1bd.org.uk](http://bathnes1bd.org.uk) for more information

FOSTERING



**Anyone who feels they have something to offer children can apply to be a foster carer. It could be right for you!**

**i** Go to [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk) and search 'fostering'.

GET IN TOUCH

*Council Connect help with enquiries about waste, recycling, roads and highways, and general library and planning*

**i** Go to [bathnes.gov.uk/reportit](http://bathnes.gov.uk/reportit) email: [councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk) Twitter [@ccbathnes](https://twitter.com/ccbathnes) call 01225 394041 text 07797 806545

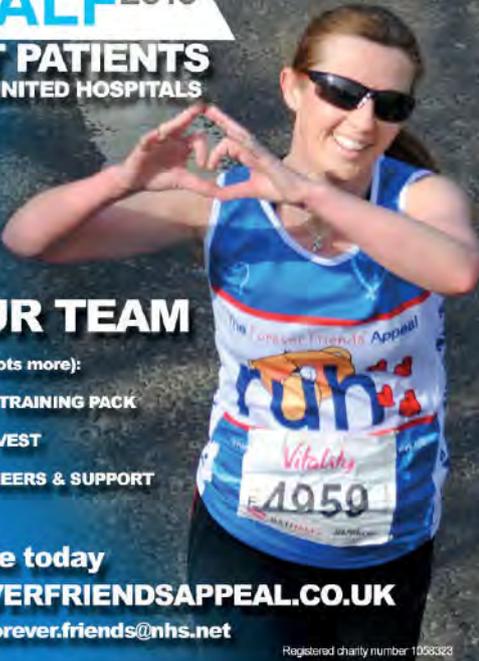


The Forever Friends Appeal

# ruh RUN

**BATH HALF 2018**

**SUPPORT PATIENTS  
AT THE ROYAL UNITED HOSPITALS**



**JOIN OUR TEAM**

You will receive (plus lots more):

-  FUNDRAISING & TRAINING PACK
-  TEAM RUNNING VEST
-  THE BIGGEST CHEERS & SUPPORT

Sign up online today  
[WWW.FOREVERFRIENDSAPPEAL.CO.UK](http://WWW.FOREVERFRIENDSAPPEAL.CO.UK)  
 01225 825691 / forever.friends@nhs.net

Registered charity number 1008323

**A spectacular family pantomime!**

Martin Dodd for UK Productions in association with Theatre Royal Bath proudly presents

from **ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS**  
**HARRIET THORPE**  
 as **THE WICKED QUEEN**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**  
**JON MONIE**  
 as **MUDDLES**

from **EASTENDERS**  
**NICK WILTON**  
 as **DAME DOLLY**

# Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

**WEST END STAR**  
**DEVON-ELISE JOHNSON**  
 as **SNOW WHITE**

**MICHAEL QUINN**  
 as **THE PRINCE**

featuring **THE DOROTHY COLEBORN SCHOOL OF DANCE**

**THEATRE ROYAL BATH** Main House

**7th Dec '17  
to 7th Jan '18**

Box Office: **01225 448844** | [www.theatreroyal.org.uk](http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk)

Theatre Sponsor  
**BATH CHRONICLE**  
 Goody Bag Sponsor  
**MOORE STEPHENS**



## How can we help you?

We have a vast experience in supporting individuals to retain their independence and remain in their own home. Services ranging from ad-hoc pop in visits, more structured care services to Live-in Care.

Call us now for more details and a **FREE** consultation

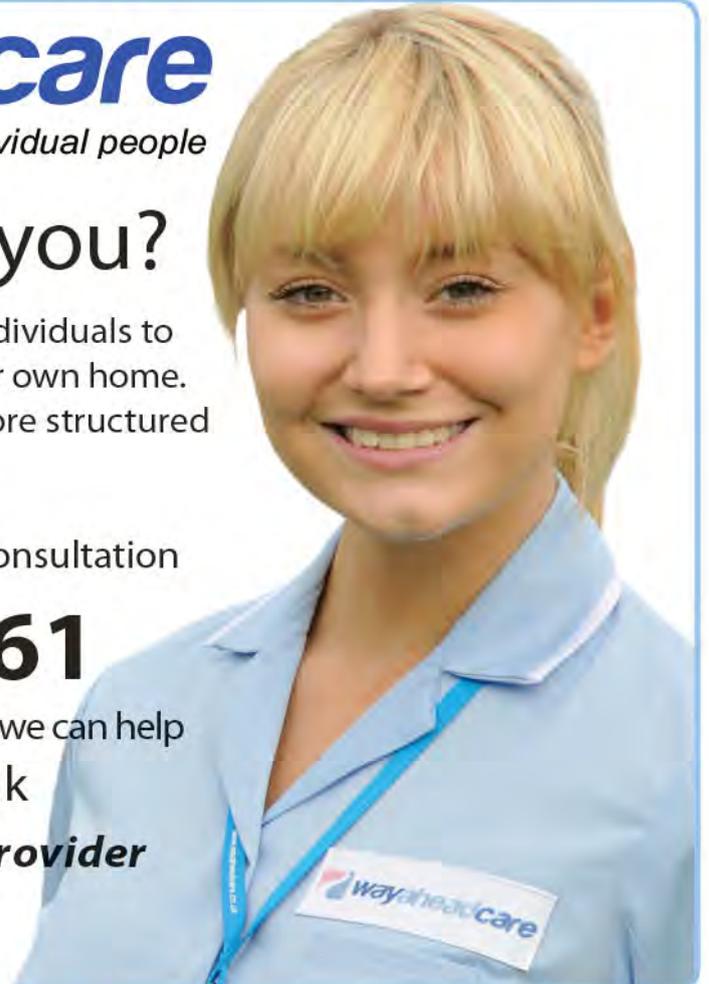
# 01225 789161

Or visit our website to learn more about how we can help

[www.wayaheadcare.co.uk](http://www.wayaheadcare.co.uk)

**Care by your local family run provider**

Way Ahead Care. Chameleon Court, Lower Bristol Road, Bath, BA2 9ES  
 Way Ahead Community Services Ltd is registered with the Care Quality Commission  
 Way Ahead Community Services Ltd, Registered in England - 3116636



# Staying safe from rogue traders

Remaining vigilant against fraudsters and scam artists is, sadly, a feature of modern life. We look at the ways you can keep yourself safe from unscrupulous traders.

**I**t sounded like a great opportunity – the chance to improve a Bath family's home with stylish bi-fold doors for a fraction of the usual price. Sadly, it wasn't what it seemed, and a rogue trader took a deposit from an unsuspecting customer without ever intending to supply the doors.

## Rogue traders

In the end, Bath & North East Somerset Council's Trading Standards Team helped secure compensation – but it's all too easy to fall victim to the unscrupulous actions of rogue traders.

We've all opened our doors to sellers – often offering roofing, driveway or gardening services at a reduced price.

But the work is often unnecessary or badly done, and scam artists often target the vulnerable: an elderly Bath lady recently paid £600 in cash for two small trees to be pruned.

So how do you protect yourself? First, look at the checklist below and, as it says, never agree to pay someone in advance of the work. Most reputable contractors should have business accounts that don't require immediate payment. Then get a copy of *Buy With Confidence*, a directory produced by the Trading Standards Team with a list of vetted and approved traders.

Sometimes, though, a seemingly official letter can be very persuasive, not to say convincing. Recently a

company offering free energy-saving measures sent mailshots to local residents over the summer with the Council's logo on – but without ever gaining permission to do so. The Trading Standards Team issued a warning to the company, but if you're unsure about any offer claiming to be backed by the Council, e-mail [councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk).

## Top Tips

The Trading Standards Team's tips on how to stay safe in your own home...

### Check ID

Check the identification of callers – ask to see their ID card, then check it by independently verifying the number in the phone book and then phoning the company.

### Don't pay cash

Pay with a cheque (which can be traced if necessary) or, if the service or goods cost more than £100 in total, then use a credit card for all or just part of the payment as this offers extra protection.

### Don't sign a contract

Don't sign a contract until you are completely happy with it, and don't pay a deposit unless you have to. If you do have to then only ever pay a very small amount.

### Don't pay in advance

Don't pay for the work or materials in advance. Most reputable builders have trade accounts and do not need payment in advance. Don't pay the final bill unless you are fully satisfied.



Never be persuaded to pay doorstep traders in advance for any work they say they'll do.

### Stay safe from scams

From saving scam-mail victims thousands of pounds to seizing dangerous and unpackaged fidget spinners from shops and stalls in Bath, Trading Standards work tirelessly to ensure that the services and goods you pay for are legal, honest and fair.

And while you might think you'd never fall for a scam which involved

asking for payment for a fake utility bill in the form of iTunes vouchers, a Bath lady was tricked out of £500 in just that way earlier this year.

So never be embarrassed to tell cold callers 'no', or to speak to Citizens Advice or Trading Standards about any 'deal' that doesn't quite add up. As the saying goes: if it seems too good to be true, it probably is. ●

**i** **For further information:** Contact the B&NES Trading Standards Team on **01225 396753**, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on **03454 040506** or go to **[bathnes.gov.uk/services/trading-standards/buy-confidence](https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/trading-standards/buy-confidence)**

### No 'snap' decisions

Never be persuaded by the argument that this is 'the only opportunity because this offer ends tomorrow' or 'we are only in the area this week'. High pressure sales are a key feature of doorstep scams.

### Say 'no thank you'

If you have any doubts about the person on your doorstep simply say 'No thank you' and then close the door. If they refuse to go away tell them that you will call the police and dial 999 if they refuse to do so.

### Re-arrange

If you are alone, ask the caller to come back and arrange for someone else to be present. If you have any evidence that workmen are using scams in your area, we would like to hear from you.

### Don't confront them

If you are sure you are dealing with a scam then get as much information as you can and contact either your local Trading Standards Team or the police. Never confront the scammers or tell them your plans.

20 OCTOBER 2017  
TO 21 JANUARY 2018



Exhibition organised by  
Compton Verney

THE  
HOLBURNE  
MUSEUM

'...dazzling' – The Sunday Times

SEURAT  
TO RILEY  
  
THE ART OF  
PERCEPTION

Under 16s go  
**FREE**

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Great Pulteney Street, Bath

Principal sponsor



# Local NHS seeks views on services

Have your say on proposals to restrict access to fertility treatment and two other non-urgent services.



**T**he organisation responsible for planning and commissioning NHS services in Bath and North East Somerset has begun engaging with the public on proposals to restrict access to three non-urgent services.

Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (BaNES CCG) is seeking views on plans to restrict access to fertility treatment, vasectomies and female sterilisations.

The proposals come during a time of significant financial challenge for many CCGs around the country as NHS budgets are stretched by an unprecedented demand for services and changing needs among the population.

BaNES CCG is proposing to remove NHS funding for vasectomies and female sterilisations in all but exceptional circumstances.

It is also proposing to continue providing one cycle of IVF for individuals who qualify for NHS-funded fertility treatment, but that to qualify, women need to be aged 23-35 years, men under 55 years and couples need to have been trying for a baby for at least two years.

As with vasectomies and sterilisations, the CCG will still consider funding IVF treatment for people who do not meet these criteria but for whom there are exceptional circumstances. ●

## Living within our means



“When we announced our financial position in June, we were open about the fact that we would need to make difficult decisions about the best way to fairly distribute NHS resources in B&NES,” said Dr Ruth Grabham, the CCG’s Medical Director and a GP in Bath.

“None of these decisions have been taken lightly, and throughout the process we have – and continue to – question the best way to commission services that are of the greatest benefit to the most patients.

“We have considered a long list of non-urgent services already and earlier this year we took the decision to stop funding for gluten-free foods and over-the-counter medicines for short-term ailments for all but the most vulnerable patients.

“However, to fulfil our duty to live within the budget we’ve been given for B&NES, we now have to consider other ways we could save money and that includes looking at non-urgent services.”

As part of the consultation which is open until 27 December, the CCG is interested in hearing other ideas for how to make financial savings over the coming years.

 Find out more and complete the surveys at [banescg.nhs.uk](https://banescg.nhs.uk) Alternatively, email [banes.yourvoice@nhs.net](mailto:banes.yourvoice@nhs.net) with your comments or call **01225 831 800** to ask for a copy of the surveys to be sent to you.

**Together** we can  
all **make a difference**

# Welcome to your new service

The service change to every other week collection of rubbish began from 6 November.

**W**e'd really like to thank residents for getting involved in the new service and for recycling so much more – as well as for their patience while waiting for new recycling containers.

The change has meant new collection routes and collection days, training our crews to use the new recycling and rubbish vehicles, and all staff have been working hard to make the changes go as smoothly as possible. It's still early days, so please be patient while everyone is getting used to the new service.

Please make sure you put your rubbish and recycling out by **7am** on your correct collection day or after 8pm the previous evening. Putting it out by 7am is really important as our crews have been following new routes and you may find your collection times have changed. Remember to bring your empty containers back in as soon as

possible on your collection day, to help keep our streets clean and tidy. It's not too late to sign up for texts for the first few months to remind you when your collection is due – please register at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/recycle](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/recycle)

Please don't put extra bags next to your bin/re-usable rubbish bag. Instead, on occasions where you may have extra rubbish such as at Christmas, or when having a clear out, please take it to one of our Recycling Centres – before you visit check that you have recycled everything you can. Remember that by recycling more and putting less out for your rubbish collection, you are helping to keep our service affordable. ●

**i** Check our website for the latest updates. Any questions? Have a look at 30 Frequently Asked Questions at: [bathnes.gov.uk/recycle](http://bathnes.gov.uk/recycle)



Emma recycles all she can she and now doesn't need to put out her new bin for every collection.

## Christmas collections and tips

**Happy Christmas and thank you for all you have recycled this year** – There are NO collections on these bank holidays. Our Recycling Centres are also closed.

**Christmas day** – Mon 25 December

**Boxing day** – Tues 26 December

**New year's Day** – Mon 1 January

Please check your revised collection dates on your calendar or enter your address on our website.

**Garden waste collections** – There are NO garden waste collections from Monday 25 December 2017 to Monday 8 January 2018 inclusive. Garden waste collections start again on Tuesday 9 January.

To check your revised collection dates go to Services in Your Area [www.bathnes.gov.uk](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk)

For bad weather updates check our website, local radio, Facebook and Twitter.





### Box 1 Christmas recycling reminders glass and paper

- **Paper** – Greetings cards, wrapping paper (white backed, non-foil) and gift tags
- **Clothes** – all clothes, shoes, accessories – any condition but they must be clean and dry so put in a plastic bag in your green box
- **Batteries** – all types in a tied plastic bag on top of your box
- **Small electricals** – broken fairy lights and other small electricals - place in an open carrier bag by your green box
- **Glass jars** – just rinse



### Box 2 Christmas recycling reminders tins, cans and plastic

- **Foil** – clean foil including mince pie, quiche and meat cases
- **Tins** – metal and plastic biscuit and sweet tins
- **Aerosols** – Empty aerosols including cream, shaving foam, deodorant, air freshener

## Ordering free recycling containers

We're delighted the free recycling containers have been so popular. You can order them online but if you need them quickly, especially with the festive time approaching, you can now pick one up at your local Recycling Centre.

Look out for more information in the next issue to see how your efforts are already making a big difference across the region.

## No black plastic

We cannot currently collect this for recycling so please put it in your rubbish. We can collect all other colours such as blue, brown and clear. Try to avoid buying black plastic packaging if possible.

Each year, over 1.3 billion black plastic trays are used in ready meal packaging in the UK. Black plastic packaging is coloured using carbon black pigments, which means that they can't be sorted by the existing optical sorting systems used by the industry.

The good news is that Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has trialled a new kind of black plastic tray using a special colourant which is detectable to infra-red sorting systems. So far, these new solutions have not been widely adopted by the plastic industry (largely due to cost). The industry also needs to find markets for recycled black plastic.

For us to collect black plastic in the future, it would need to be economically viable. We would also need to be confident that there was a sustainable market for this plastic to be recycled into new products.

If you feel strongly about this then you can lobby your local supermarkets to stop using black plastic in products until it can be widely recycled. Tweet or write to their head office expressing your view.



**Free Christmas tree collections** – From 9 to 31 January 2018 we will collect your real Christmas tree for composting, as part of our every other week garden waste collection service.

- Cut up your tree if it is more than 1.2 metres tall so it can fit in our vehicles
- Remove the pot and any decoration
- Put it at the edge of your property on your garden waste collection day so our crews can see it

**Recycle more this Christmas** – We're likely to throw away more over Christmas so it is important to recycle all you can and ensure you have space in your new rubbish container. Make use of your food recycling collection for all of your food waste including meat and fish bones, peelings, teabags and plate scrapings.

See Christmas green box recycling reminders above (box 1 and 2).

# Need information about local activities, clubs, help at home or care and support?

Wellbeing Options can help you find what you need



Mr B cares for his mother who is living with dementia. Mr B's health own has recently worsened and he is finding it harder to cope. He needs support with his caring role and information on what support there is locally for people living with dementia. Wellbeing Options provided Mr B with both carer and dementia support information.

Miss S is home from hospital and wants to know what care and support is available to help her remain at home and stay independent. Wellbeing Options has a wealth of information about home care and support, handyman and repairs and approved trader information. Miss S was also pleased to find, in the Wellbeing Options calendar, a wide range of social activities, lunch clubs and other events happening in her local area.



Find out more at [www.wellbeingoptions.co.uk](http://www.wellbeingoptions.co.uk) or [www.facebook.com/wellbeingoptions](https://www.facebook.com/wellbeingoptions)

Bath & North East  
Somerset Council

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Options ●●●●●



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guarantee  
on Worcester  
boilers\***

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\*Terms and Conditions Apply.



**BATH FARMERS MARKET LTD**

**at Green Park Station, Bath**  
**Every Saturday morning between 9am - 1.30pm**

At Bath Farmers Market you will find a range of stalls selling fresh, local and seasonal produce at a fair price, including:

- Meat - organic and non organic
- Charcuterie
- Game and venison
- Fresh and smoked fish, including an Oyster Bar
- Seasonal organic and non-organic fruit and vegetables, including tomatoes, mushrooms, strawberries, raspberries and asparagus
- Various shoots including wheatgrass
- Quinoa
- Hummus
- Hot food prepared within the market
- Gluten free stall
- Olives
- Award-winning cheeses, including local soft, Cheddar, goats, ewes and Guernsey
- Milk, yoghurt, cream, butter and fresh farm eggs
- Award-winning jams, marmalades and chutneys
- Meat pies, quiches and Scotch eggs
- Breads including speciality breads, pastries, fruit pies and gluten-free items
- Speciality cakes and desserts
- Apple juice, cider and honey
- Specialist coffees
- Rapeseed oil and mayonnaise
- Vegetarian stalls
- Local herbalist
- Plants and herbs
- Various speciality stalls selling handmade chocolates and fudge

**Most importantly, enjoy the pleasurable experience of shopping at Bath Farmers Market:**

- ✓ It is leisurely
- ✓ You can interact with the producer and ask questions
- ✓ Plenty of free tasters
- ✓ GM free
- ✓ No unnecessary packaging



Bath Farmers Market Ltd was the first farmers market in the UK, established in September 1997 in response to Local Agenda 21. One of its aims was to provide a producer-managed marketplace for local producers to sell their own produce to local people.

**For more information contact Laura Loxton on 07779 697278**

**NOW ON SALE**

**BATH CITY FC  
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**On sale at BCFC Club Shop, Twerton Park, Bath**  
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 A contribution of all sales to Bath City Supporters Club



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Well-appointed properties, beautiful surroundings and a stunning location make Avonpark Village the perfect choice for those seeking an active retirement lifestyle.

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- Full range of living options

Prices from £135,000\*

\*Other charges apply and leases are subject to an assignment fee. Please ask for details.



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# Get ready for winter

Winter can be very bad for our health but there are a number of things you can do to keep you and your family well this winter. Here are some tips to help, or visit [www.nhs.uk/staywell](http://www.nhs.uk/staywell) for more information.



## Get your flu jab

If you are over 65, pregnant or living with a health condition (particularly heart or lung disease) you are eligible for a free flu vaccination.

Children aged two, three and four, or in school years one, two and three are also eligible and receive their vaccination as a nasal spray instead of a needle injection.

Flu can turn serious very quickly for high risk groups and in some extreme cases it can even be fatal. So don't delay, book an appointment with your GP or see your local pharmacist. Even though there have already been outbreaks of flu this winter it is still worth getting vaccinated now.



## Keep warm

It is important to keep warm in winter – both inside and outdoors as it can help to prevent colds, flu and more serious health problems, such as heart attacks, strokes pneumonia and depression. Heat your home to at least 18°C (65°F).



## See a pharmacist early

If you start to feel unwell, even if it is just a cough or cold, don't wait until it gets more serious, get help from your pharmacist. They are highly trained healthcare experts and can offer advice on a wide range of long-term conditions and common illnesses. You don't need an appointment and many have private consultation areas, so they are a good first port of call.



## Stock up on medicines

If you've been prescribed antibiotics or other medication, don't forget to pick up your prescription before the Christmas holidays start. Many GPs and pharmacies will close over the holidays. It's also a good idea to have a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home to help you with pain relief and minor injuries.



## Call 111 for medical advice

If you do need help over the holiday period when your GP surgery or pharmacy is closed, but it's not life threatening, call 111 and an advisor will assess you and direct you to the best placed service in your area. NHS 111 is free to call from landlines and mobiles and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week all year round.



## Book an appointment with your GP

GPs assess, treat and manage a whole range of health problems and will arrange a referral to a hospital specialist should you need it. If you have a minor illness or injury (infection, vomiting, stomach ache) that can't wait until your GP surgery is open then you can book an out-of-hours appointment at the Urgent Care Centre by calling 111.



## A&E is for emergencies only

A&E departments provide vital care for life-threatening emergencies, such as loss of consciousness, suspected heart attacks, breathing difficulties, or severe bleeding.



**STAY WELL  
THIS WINTER**



Photography by Joby Sessions

# Radstock's ready to rhumba

Sue Hill's dance school has helped transform the much-loved Victoria Hall.

**A**fter ten months the 2013 refurbishment of the much-loved Victoria Hall in Radstock was a great success.

The key to making it all work was to find a renewed purpose for the old building, and a tenant who would put it back at the heart of the community it serves. Step forward Sue Hill. With a well-established School of Dancing and a specialist 6th Form college for performing arts students both in need of a good home, Sue and the Victoria Hall were perfect for each other.

It was all thanks to the intervention by the Council and Radstock Town Council that the building was saved, there was a distinct possibility that it could have been demolished. Today the Victoria Hall is home to art and cultural activities across the board. From ballet classes to late-night stand-up, from live music to theatre, if something's happening in Radstock, the



*"It is with great honour that we have brought one of Radstock's finest buildings back into the forefront of our society."*

**Sue Hill**  
Owner Susan Hill School of  
Dancing, Radstock

chances are it's happening here. And it's probably Sue who's making it happen.

The relationship has worked for Sue too, as her business has gone from strength to strength in the new surroundings. In 2014 Sue launched a talent agency called Shh, which represents actors and musical theatre artists providing talent for several West End musicals and major television commercials. And her dance school and college continue to thrive too, offering local children and 6th formers, from across the country, the chance to hone their performing skills. ●

**i** If your organisation wants to support the community, contact Mike Plows or Amanda Stone at the Volunteer Centre: [vol-centre.org.uk](http://vol-centre.org.uk) or call **01225 338105**

## MY HIGH STREET STANTON DREW



**Ticki Toogood**, is an Organisation Development Manager in BANES. She lives in Stanton Drew very close to the beautiful Stone circles.

◆ **MY YOGA SPACE**  
Wick Rd, Bishop Sutton  
This is a Yoga studio in Bishop Sutton run by Ann See and Mr Kim which is a great way to unwind and build strength in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

◆ **THE DRUIDS ARMS**  
Bromley Road, Stanton Drew  
There is always a friendly and lively atmosphere at the Druids Arms and they serve a lovely Sunday lunch.

◆ **SALT & MALT**  
Walley Ln, Chew Stoke  
The Fish supper is just delicious, Josh and the team have created a really lively restaurant and take away and the view is lovely too.





# Business Giving Back

These brilliant Bath and North East Somerset businesses are offering you a discount. Pop in with a voucher and say hello!

If you'd like to offer a discount voucher to our readers contact: [helen.cooke@futurenet.com](mailto:helen.cooke@futurenet.com)



## Better Leisure Centre

Web: [better.org.uk/banes](http://better.org.uk/banes)

### Free swim

Bring a friend to a Swim for All session for free at Culverhay and Keynsham

Terms and conditions: Offer available until 31st March 2018. One free entry into a Swim for All session at Culverhay Leisure Centre and Keynsham Leisure Centre with one full paid adult. For use for this specific activity only. Please visit [better.org.uk/banes](http://better.org.uk/banes) for timetable.



## Better Leisure Centre

Web: [bettervenues.org.uk/upcoming-events](http://bettervenues.org.uk/upcoming-events)

### Free Roller Skating

Bring a friend to roller skating at Bath Pavilion for free with this voucher

Terms and conditions: Offer available until 31st March 2018. One free entry to roller skating with one full paid entry ticket. For use for this specific activity only; cannot be exchanged for cash or any other goods or services.



## Bath Nordic Walking

Royal Victoria Pavilion Cafe, Royal Victoria Park, BA1 2NR  
Tel: 07886885213 Web: [bristolnordicwalking.co.uk](http://bristolnordicwalking.co.uk)

### Free walk

One hour-long Nordic walk for free after purchasing a Beginner Workshop

Terms and conditions: Present this voucher to the instructor on your Beginner Workshop



## 73Degrees Bicycle Shop

22 Temple St, Keynsham, BS31 1EH  
Tel: 0117 986 6885 Web: [73degreesbicycleshop.com](http://73degreesbicycleshop.com)

### 10% off

Get 10% off everything in store including servicing

Terms and conditions: Valid to: 31st December. Offer excludes bikes bought through the Cycle To Work Scheme. One voucher per person.



## Perfect Fit

50 Temple Street, Keynsham, BS31 1EH  
Tel: 0117 9860950 Web: [perfectfit.uk.com](http://perfectfit.uk.com)

### 10% off

Enjoy 10% off all sports bras

Terms and conditions: Offer valid until 31st January. Not including sale items. One voucher per person.



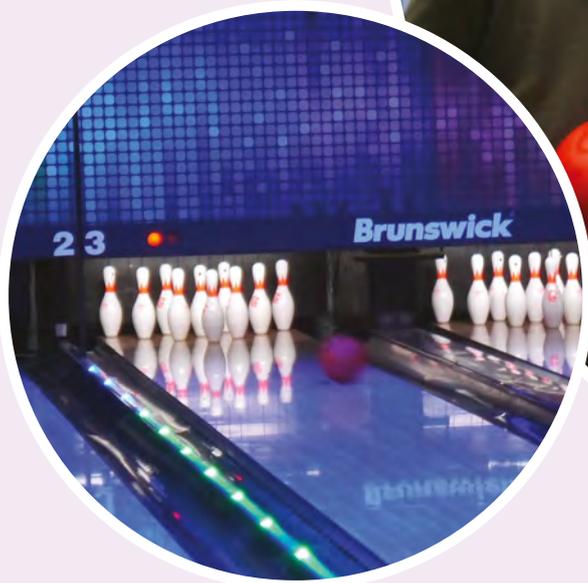
## Boogie Bounce

Unit 23 Westfield Industrial Estate, Midsomer Norton, BA3 4AB  
Web: [www.funky-fitness.co.uk](http://www.funky-fitness.co.uk)

### Free class

Get your first Boogie Bounce class free

Terms and conditions: Only one person per voucher. New customers only. Valid from 1st December 2017 - March 31st 2018



# ALL-NEW BATH SPORTS AND LEISURE CENTRE IS NOW OPEN!

**T**he wait is over – the doors to the all new Bath Sports and Leisure Centre are now open and Better invite you in to take a look and enjoy Bath's very first Trampoline Park, Ten Pin Bowling, Soft play and Diner!

The opening of the all new facilities marks the end of phase two of the leisure centre's £10 million refurbishment, in partnership with Bath and North East Somerset Council, delivered by the highly regarded design and construction company, Createability Ltd.

Phase two consisted of 11 months of work to include brand-new products which has transformed Bath Sports and Leisure Centre into a hot spot for the local community as well as adding to the ever buzzing tourism that frequently descends on the beautiful and UNESCO World Heritage city.

## **New soft play**

Replacing the previous Zany Zone soft play facility, the brand-new fully

enclosed five storey Better play structure allows children under 12 to climb, crawl and hang about and parents can relax in the knowledge that they are in a safe and fun environment. With an additional baby area for children from 3 months – 3 years, it's perfect for families of all ages.

## **New ten pin bowling**

The eight lane ten pin bowling complex is also something to be very excited about and a first for Bath!

Open seven days a week with loads of activities for friends and family of all ages the centre will offer birthday parties, family play, student deals and corporate event; the ideal venue for any occasion!

## **New trampoline park**

Plus, due to open January 2018, Bath's very first Trampoline Park too! With over 62 trampolines, you can bounce, dodge, balance and dive into a whole heap of fun. With unique features like

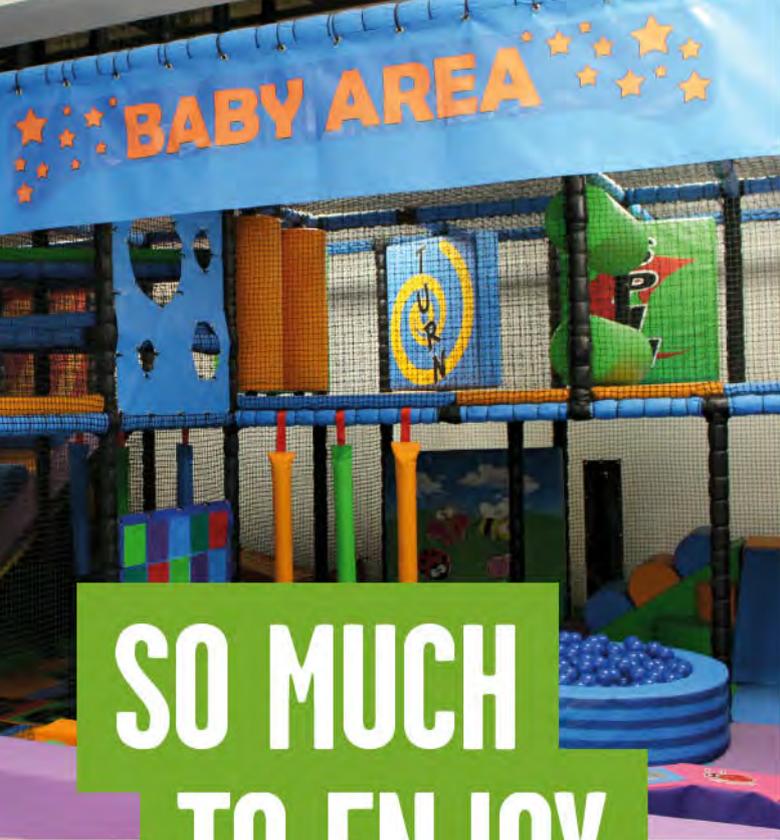
the wipe out, dunk hoops, foam pits, diving boards and dodge ball, there really is something to keep children and adults of all ages active and entertained.

Finally, at the centre of the leisure area you will be able to find a brand-new Better Diner. In a fun American diner style, you can enjoy hot and cold beverages, pastries and healthy snacks selections. Our delicious full food menu, including freshly cooked pizzas, burgers, hot dogs will soon be available.

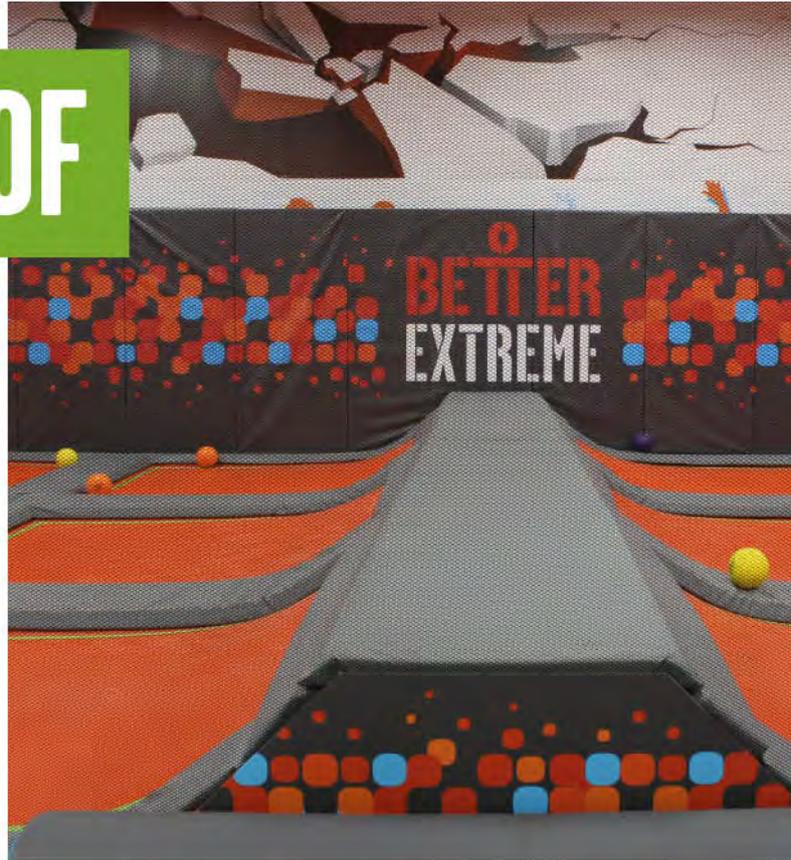
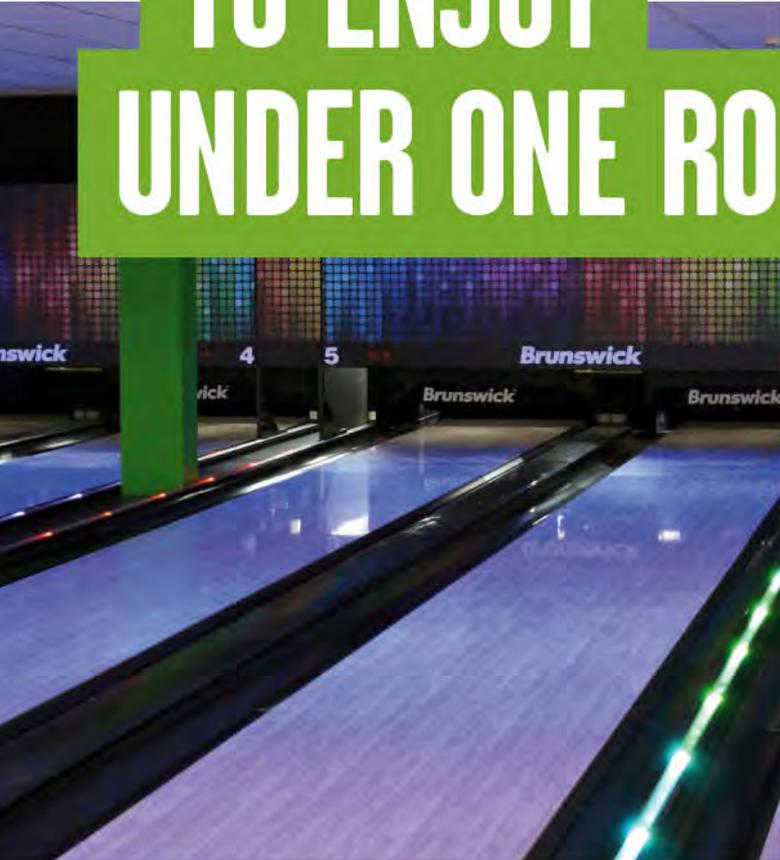
This American style diner will offer you the classics whilst you enjoy bowling with friends and family, after a good jump around in the Extreme trampoline park or if you're waiting for your little ones in the soft play.

You don't have to look any further; get yourself down to the all-new Bath Sports and Leisure Centre today!

Find out more or book online by visiting [better.org.uk/bath-highlights](http://better.org.uk/bath-highlights)



**SO MUCH  
TO ENJOY  
UNDER ONE ROOF**



Bath Sports and Leisure Centre's all new trampoline park, ten pin bowling, soft play and diner is now open! There's such a wide range of indoor activities to enjoy, whatever the weather. With something for everyone, there's never been a better time to visit.

Find out more  
[better.org.uk/bath-highlights](https://better.org.uk/bath-highlights)

Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 277938. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE16 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XR43398



**BETTER**  
the feel good place

# My Community: SCP – Good Neighbours

**Louise Thacker** is a Bath Spa student and volunteer with SCP's Good Neighbour initiative – among others.



## 20% COMMITMENT

.....

*"When I came to Bath I wanted to do more in the community, and make networks that would help my degree and personal development. Good Neighbours helps that."*

## 30% HELPING OUT

.....

*"This summer I got to help out with Wild Walcot every Thursday and helped to improve the garden that they've got on Walcot Street – that was really fun."*

## 30% MAKING CONNECTIONS

.....

*"Being connected to people and projects gives me a sense of belonging, and knowing you're helping out your community, giving your time and the skills you have to try and make something better... I think if anyone does that it gives you a sense of happiness and peace of mind."*

## 10% LOVING YOUR SURROUNDINGS

.....

*"I've just kind of fallen in love with Bath. I don't have a bad thing to say about it. I've been here since last September and since then it really does feel like home, and there are so many great projects going on in the city and in the surrounding areas."*

## 10% BRAVERY

.....

*"A few weeks ago I went from Moorland road and circled that area on a door knocking event. It was quite terrifying as you don't know if people are going to be a bit funny about it. So that was scary but the majority of people we met were really, really nice so there was nothing to worry about."*

To find out more about the Student Community Partnership Good Neighbour campaign go to [www.townandgown.org.uk](http://www.townandgown.org.uk)

 **Want to volunteer?** To find a charity near you go to [vol-centre.org.uk/localdirectory](http://vol-centre.org.uk/localdirectory)

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[www.TheChocolateQuarter.org.uk](http://www.TheChocolateQuarter.org.uk)



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Tom Kerridge

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14.12.17 to 07.01.18

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