The views and opinions expressed within Viewpoint are not necessarily those of the Hesters Way Partnership.
‘There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven’, says the writer of Ecclesiastes. For the past 14 1/2 years I have had the amazing privilege of being the Vicar of Hesters Way & Springbank, and the bits in between, the Vicar of St. Aidan & St. Silas. It’s a great place to be. Well my season comes to an end on April 10th, as the West Cheltenham Team Ministry reverts to being a single parish.

I have met some amazing people and grateful for all they have taught me to be a better human being. To the many baptism and wedding families I have met, thank you for being able to share your joyous days. And to those who I had the honour to take a family funeral, though often I never knew your loved one, each occasion was very precious.

If I could turn back time I would have fought harder to retain our two buildings, one demolished and one repurposed, yet now our Church Family move forward, and for the past three years serving out of the Oasis Centre on Coronation Square. We often say ‘it’s good to come to church, but it’s better to be church’, so most of our church life takes place in the community seven days a week.

But what if we could turn back time for a moment and knew what our predecessors thought or wished to pass on to us. On Good Friday March 30th at 1pm on the old St. Aidan site we are going to open up the Time Capsule that was discovered when St. Aidan was demolished. You are most welcome to join us. Before that we have our Annual Good Friday Service on Coronation Square Market at 11.30am. Please come along to either or both and say ‘hello and goodbye’.

Keep the faith, but never ever to yourselves. Love Philip & Lucy Smith x
EA eggs
Saturday
St Mark's

Indian street food
FREE raffle with children's arts and craft, live music
Explore Learning, Boys Brigade to visit
Crafty Crafters, Watch, Bike to School, Scouts more

FREE entry and prize draw

FOR INFORMATION
ASTER stravaganza

24th March 11—1pm

Gos Community Centre

Attractions:

Street food, coffee & cakes, BBQ, ice cream van,

with the Mayor, Puddles and Giggles Nurseries

lucky dip, face painting, egg hunt, meditation,

Bug, police car, RNLI, fire engine, Aston Project,

ombola, shabby chic clothes sale, bric-a-brac,

HWP, Create on the Square, Neighbourhood

Swim with Cheltenham Trust and Sustrans

key bridge and the St John's Ambulance

CALL US ON 01242 228262 or andyhayes@hwpartnership.org.uk
Regular Activities:

**Baby Bounce & Rhyme** takes place every Tuesday 11 till 11.30 in term time and every Saturday 10.30 till 11 (babies, feel free to bring your siblings too!)

**Knit & Natter** happens every Tuesday 2.30 till 4 p.m.

**Library Club** meets the first Wednesday of the month 10.15 till 12

**Toddler Club** Active Stories, Rhymes and colouring/craft **FREE** for pre-school children from 11 till 11.30 a.m. on these days;

- **Wednesday 18th April**: Don’t wake the Yeti
- **Wednesday 16th May**: Fingers and Toes
- **Wednesday 13th June**: TBC

**Hire the Library** If you want a space for an event or a meeting we offer very reasonable rates. Please call or drop in for details.

---

**Shelf Help**

**Shelf Help** are free to join self help books aimed at 13 to 18 year olds. Every library has a collection of thirty five titles, covering topics such as mental health wellbeing, anxiety, body image and confidence and self esteem.

For information about the titles in our collections, please visit www.reading-well.org.uk/shelfhelp

Want to reserve a Shelf Help title? Please visit online www.capitadiscovery.co.uk/gloslibraries/ or visit the library in person.

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**Library Information**

Check out your local library - you’ll be surprised at the range of activities on offer. It could be the first step to the new you! For further information [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries)

**OPENING TIMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1 - 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10 – 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10 – 1</td>
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<td>Thursday Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2 – 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10 – 1</td>
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Contact Hesters Way Library on 01242 514969
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Time Out for Mums (invitation only)</td>
<td>10am – 12pm</td>
<td>01242 580812 <a href="mailto:timeout@familyspace.org.uk">timeout@familyspace.org.uk</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Parents Drop In</td>
<td>Term Time 10am – 12pm</td>
<td>01242 580812 <a href="mailto:timeout@familyspace.org.uk">timeout@familyspace.org.uk</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Gentle Pilates</td>
<td>Term Time 1 – 2pm</td>
<td>07934 977171 <a href="mailto:ABCpilates@btinternet.com">ABCpilates@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zest for Life</strong></td>
<td>Balance &amp; Exercise for the less mobile</td>
<td>10.30 - 11.30am</td>
<td>07817 851214 <a href="mailto:zest.forlife@yahoo.co.uk">zest.forlife@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wacky Wednesday Children’s afterschool club</td>
<td>Term Time 4.30 – 5.30pm</td>
<td>01242 524408 <a href="mailto:office@yfcgloucestershire.co.uk">office@yfcgloucestershire.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yoga</strong></td>
<td>Yoga with Sara</td>
<td>5.30 – 6.30pm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarphil@hotmail.com">sarphil@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Stay &amp; Play</td>
<td>Term Time 10am – 11.30am</td>
<td>01242 580812 <a href="http://www.familyspace.org.uk">www.familyspace.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baby Group (By invitation only)</td>
<td>12-2pm</td>
<td>01242 580812 <a href="http://www.familyspace.org.uk">www.familyspace.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clubbercise Exercise Class</td>
<td>6 – 7pm</td>
<td>07896 786 135 <a href="mailto:Heath_Jackson_clubbercise@hotmail.com">Heath_Jackson_clubbercise@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zumba Exercise Class</td>
<td>7.15 – 8pm</td>
<td>07896 786 135 <a href="mailto:cjjackos@yahoo.co.uk">cjjackos@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Coffee Shop &amp; Family Drop-in</td>
<td>10am – 12pm (first Friday of the month open til 1pm)</td>
<td>01242 580022 <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas">www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas</a> <a href="mailto:Aidanandsilas@thevonsmiths.co.uk">Aidanandsilas@thevonsmiths.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Cinema / Bistro night</td>
<td>Contact for info</td>
<td>01242 580022 <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas">www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td>Family Activities</td>
<td>10am – 12pm</td>
<td>@familyspaceglos <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas">www.achurchnearyou.com/aidanandsilas</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cheltenham Child Contact Centre (By referral only)</td>
<td>1 – 3pm</td>
<td>01242 580812 <a href="http://www.family.space.org.uk">www.family.space.org.uk</a> Cheltenhamcontact @familyspace.org.uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Church Services Parish Tea Service</td>
<td>10.30am 4pm (5th Sunday)</td>
<td>01242 580022 <a href="mailto:aidanandsilas@thevonsmiths.co.uk">aidanandsilas@thevonsmiths.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oasis can be hired for parties, in the afternoon subject to availability</td>
<td></td>
<td>01242 580022 <a href="mailto:admin@oasischeltenham.org">admin@oasischeltenham.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality Child Care
at Giggles and Puddles

- Highly Trained Staff
- Dedicated rooms and staff for all age groups
- Healthy Meals
- Flexible Child Care

Contact us to find out more about your children coming play at Desirable Childcare

Opening Times: 8.00-18.00

Puddles Nursery
Hesters Way Community Resource Centre
Cassin Drive, Princess Elizabeth Way
Cheltenham, Glos GL51 7SU
Tel: 01242 527545

Giggles Nursery
Springbank Community Resource Centre
Springbank Way, Springbank
Cheltenham, Glos GL51 0LG
Tel: 01242 574511
The benefits of nursery and using the two-year-old funding for your child are proven and exceptional.

The two-year-old funding is available for parents who meet certain criteria set out by the Government. **Giggles and Puddles** have two-year-old funding spaces available and are about to expand at **Giggles Nursery**. At Giggles and Puddles we reinvest in the nursery providing a variety of resources and equipment and have recently given our garden a makeover at Puddles, Giggles will be done soon too!

Going to nursery can have a positive impact on your child and you as a parent or carer. Children have engaging equipment to play with every day and a variety of activities to meet their interests and support their development. Alongside this the staff team has a passion for training and development ensuring everyone has the knowledge and skills they need to deliver outstanding care and education.

Nursery can help improve children’s social skills as children play alongside each other so developing their confidence and language skills. One day they may be building a rocket ship and the next being little chefs making their own soup. The nurseries want children to have as many experiences as they can including learning about healthy eating. A recent investment in soup making machines allows the children make their own soup; choosing the vegetables, cutting them up and even making their own bread to go with it!

Using a nursery can have a positive impact for parents or carers as they will meet others with children the same age. Information is available on a variety of topics such as potty training routines or how you can support your child in preparing for school. At **Giggles and Puddles** having a good relationship with the parents and carers is as important as having good relationships with the children.

For more information, please call and come for a visit where we can show you round the nursery settings and answer any questions you may have.

For info see the advert opposite
About a year ago Bart Nowicki approached Create on the Square regarding setting up a community board gaming group, through which he intended to bring together local families and friends on a Sunday afternoon. Open to all ages, all backgrounds, all board gaming styles and abilities, the group would provide an opportunity for the local community to integrate.

During the first few months at Create on the Square the group slowly gathered a core group of regulars including Lauren, Faye and Lucy, who along with Bart, began to see that this group could grow to play a much bigger part in the community. What it needed was a new, bigger venue to allow the group to continue growing as it had been. A new venue could accommodate the younger children who weren't quite at the sitting-still-at-a-table stage, whilst older children and adults would be able to have some fun of their own too. So the group approached the Oasis community centre with their vision of how their community board game group could become an asset to the local area. Oasis were keen to help, and with connections with Family Space and local churches they felt that a community group such as Cheltenham Family Board Games would be great addition at the venue.

Feel free to go along alone or with family or friends, whether you bring your own game or join in with one already set up, there's plenty of fun to be had. Child friendly games are available as well as games for grown-ups, and even a play area for those too young to join in with board games. Entry is £2 per family for 3 hours of board game fun plus refreshments are provided free of charge.

Cheltenham Family Board Games meets regularly once a month, usually on the first Sunday, between 1pm-4pm. See their Facebook page Cheltenham Family Board Games for upcoming dates: https://facebook.com/CheltenhamFamilyBoardGames

Whether you want to chill out over a classic board game, or you fancy exercising your mind by learning a new one, come and join the fun at Cheltenham Family Board Games at Oasis.
In response to the phenomenal popularity of the LEGO workshops during half term, where over 450 people visited the science centre, Cheltenham Science Group is launching a robot club at their science centre in Coronation Square in April.

Dave Watson, director, explains: “We thought that our new programmable Lego and robots would be popular but we were overwhelmed by quite how much so. We tried to make sure that everybody had a chance to play and are very grateful for everyone’s patience. We hope that this new robot club will allow more people to have the time to fully explore the possibilities.”

The ever popular drop-in STEM club continues on Saturdays too!

**Robot club**

We will have our robots and LEGO out on the following term-time Friday afternoons (2pm-5pm)

- March 2nd and 16th
- April 20th
- May 4th and 13th
- June 15th and 29th
All Saints’ Academy officially Cheltenham’s 2nd best non-selective secondary school

All Saints’ Academy continues to make great progress in overall GCSE and A Level performance climbing up the recently published school performance tables to become the second best non-selective secondary school in Cheltenham for overall GCSE performance.

The Principal, Dermot McNiffe, puts this rapid progress down to the high expectations that are set for all students at All Saints’ Academy.

“High expectations of student discipline for learning and an expected studious approach to lessons and homework has been the key to our success. The ethos for learning during school hours and outside of school hours, whether in the Academy or at home, has dramatically improved and as a result we are securing excellence in student achievement. This now puts us right at the top of the non-selective schools serving the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury area.”

“We have heavily invested in good quality staffing and leadership to ensure that the highest standards of teaching and learning are consistent right across the Academy.” “Despite the national challenges with the GCSE reforms this year, we have bucked the trend and our results will continue to improve. We are incredibly proud of our students and their determination to learn and succeed. Evidence of this great work is highlighted in the significant improvement in our GCSE and A Level results in 2017”.

“At All Saints’ Academy there is a real desire to achieve excellence in all that we do whilst living out our Christian values of love, peace, justice, respect, reconciliation and service to others. Our Academy is open to serve all young people living in the Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Gloucester area. We are have brilliant modern facilities with a talented staff team who focus on providing a caring, enriching, academic learning environment. It is not by chance that we are a successful Academy, it is down to our ambition, passion and drive to provide an excellent education for all our students.

Most improved non-selective school in Cheltenham & Tewkesbury

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Type of school</th>
<th>Progress 6(5+) or above</th>
<th>Progress 5(4+) or above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Belcane School</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Better than average</td>
<td>Better than average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>All Saints' Academy</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Teacher average</td>
<td>Teacher average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cheltenham Roundside School and Sixth Form Centre</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Winchcombe School</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Better than average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rihula School</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Better than average</td>
<td>Above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tewkesbury School</td>
<td>Academy</td>
<td>Above average</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gloucestershire</td>
<td></td>
<td>Below average</td>
<td>Below average</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Saints' Academy is where students' achievements keep improving year on year!
Cheltenham POPPs (Springbank) aims to bring together older people locally for fun and companionship. We hold fortnightly meetings on a Wednesday afternoon (2 p.m. till 4 p.m.) at the Springbank Community Resource Centre, Springbank Way, GL51 0LG. Sometimes we have a guest speaker and sometimes we participate in an activity together. The afternoon charge is 50p for members or £1 for non-members and tea and coffee is provided.

POPPs (Springbank) Summer Diary 2018

4th April      “Purple Shoots” – Lesley Dodwell
12th April     POPPS Outing TBC 11 till 3 p.m.
18th April     POPPS AGM followed by bulb planting with Giggles Nursery
2nd May        Morea School of Performing Arts (+ egg hatching in Giggles)
16th May       Decorating Plant Pots with Giggles
30th May       Working Abroad - Peter De Gucci
13th June      “Eating Well” Cheltenham Trust - Chris Davis
27th June      “Should have gone to Specsavers!” Emily Ashma
11th July      Egyptian Spirit - Ann Malloy
19th July      POPPS Outing – TBC
25th July      Strawberry Tea with Alex Chalk MP and Giggles Nursery

For more information contact:
Liz Penwill on 01242 698146
Or Doreen Spiers on 01242 226890

This programme is provisional and may be subject to alteration.
With *your help* the new local Neighbourhood Forum will produce a plan for the improvement of the Hesters Way Ward.

Residents can help to choose what and where development takes place.

The plan can deal with:

- **Housing and health**
- **Business and employment**
- **Environment and parks**
- **Transport and parking**

**Interested?**

Then come along and help shape **our** community!

**THE NEXT FORUM WILL BE AT:**

**Hesters Way Community Centre**

**Monday 26th March 5.30pm—7pm**

*Refreshments and snacks available*
GET INVOLVED

◊ talking to neighbours and friends
◊ helping with consultation
◊ distributing flyers to your road
◊ sharing ideas
◊ advertising and publicity
◊ technical data analysis or environmental assessment

STAY IN TOUCH

◊ For future meetings and project updates
  www.hesterswayforum.co.uk
◊ Comment on twitter
  @hesterswayforum
◊ Or facebook hesterswayforum

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Easter Eggstravaganza
St Marks Community Centre
Saturday 24th March

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Hesters Way Community Resource Centre
all Mondays 5.30—7.00pm
23rd April, 21st May, 25th June and 23rd July

COMMENTS WELCOME

If you would like to comment on the project feel free to contact the Chair, Charmian Sheppard on
info@hesterswayforum.co.uk
01242 575638
UPDATE:

You said...

In the last edition of this newsletter we told you about an exciting new project called Cheltenham West Vision. Launched by Cheltenham Borough Homes (CBH) and Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC), the aim of this project is to find out how people living in Cheltenham West would like to see their neighbourhood look and work for them in the future. These ideas are helping to inform a masterplan for the area which will shape any future development of buildings and public spaces.

To help create this masterplan a number of workshops with local residents and key community representatives have been held. There has been some really interesting and varied feedback including:

- Great local facilities; dentist, library, doctors, police station, childcare centres, schools
- Close, ethnically diverse community, where people from all ethnic backgrounds are actively involved
- No real centre to the community, few things for people to do, not many places for people to meet
- Reduce social isolation, particularly for older people
- Create a more diverse range of housing in the area

This feedback has been used to develop some affordable and achievable options to improve the area.

CBH is now asking for the community’s feedback on these initial ideas before a final plan is created.

Local residents came along to a drop-in workshop on 13 March and a further community workshop to gather local people’s ideas will be held on 22 May from 2pm-8pm at Hester’s Way Community Resource Centre. You can also comment online at www.cbh.org/cheltwest
Contact information:

By telephone
Please call 0800 408 0000 (free from a landline)

By post
Cheltenham Borough Homes
Hester’s Way Community Resource Centre
Cassin Drive
Cheltenham
GL51 7SU

By email
Send an email to regen@cbh.org

You can keep up-to-date with all the latest news at www.cbh.org/cheltwest
A Vision for West Cheltenham

Following the adoption of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) for Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury and the allocation of the West Cheltenham site for an employment-led, mixed use development, the West Cheltenham Consortium is preparing plans for the site. A public exhibition was held on Friday 23 February 2018 at Springbank Community Centre which presented the latest masterplan and sought the community’s views on the proposals. (see opposite)

The event was well attended and demonstrated how the proposals for the site have developed since plans were first presented at a public exhibition in June 2017.

The Vision

The masterplan illustrates how this site can deliver a 132 hectare mixed use development comprising 46 hectare Cyber Park, up to 1,200 new homes, a local centre providing shops and facilities and a primary school in addition to 49 hectares of public open space and recreational areas.

The delivery of a Cyber Park at West Cheltenham has been a longstanding aim of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Councils and the government to establish a national centre for cyber security. Together with the Gfirst LEP, the Cheltenham Task Force has successfully secured £22 million to deliver infrastructure to unlock the site. The Cyber Park would benefit from its proximity to GCHQ and would act as a magnet for cyber security and high-tech supply chain businesses by providing a range of accommodation from start-up firms to international organisation and academia.

In addition to the Cyber Park, the site would deliver 1,200 new homes; a mix of market and affordable housing in a range of sizes from flats to larger detached properties to address a range of housing needs.

All homes would have good access to a network of open space throughout the development from formal children’s play area and sports facilities to allotments and informal natural spaces. Pedestrian and cycle links will maximise connectivity within the site and the surrounding areas to ensure the site is fully accessible and connected to its surroundings. A bus service would be provided through the site offering sustainable travel options.

The local centre would offer shops and services and together with a primary school provide a focal point for the new community.

To find out more about the development please visit www.WestCheltenham.com to view the latest plans and comments can be emailed to info@westcheltenham.com

The planning application will be submitted in early summer and there will be a further opportunity for the public to comment when the applications are pending with Cheltenham Borough and Tewkesbury Councils.
Local Centre
Convenience retail and other services at the heart of the development surrounded by formal areas of Play and Public Open Space.

Lower Density Living
Lower density, low impact family housing opening out onto landscaped buffer, drainage basins and ponds offering sensitive boundary to adjacent countryside.

Green Infrastructure
A network of high quality green routes including Local Green Space, play and recreation, and wildlife habitats running through the development to connect with the surrounding landscape.

Cyber Park
High quality business space consisting of B1 and other potential complimentary employment uses located within a landscaped parkland setting.

Higher Density Living
Higher density family housing reflecting existing urban neighbourhoods and in close proximity to existing and proposed services and facilities.
Family Space Stay & Play
Hesters Way Baptist Church, Ashlands Road, GL51 0DR

Spaces for new members
NOW AVAILABLE!
£2 per family

Term Time; Tuesday 10.00-11.30am, Wednesday 9.15-11.00am

2 weeks FREE with this voucher.
One additional free week if you bring a friend.

For more information please contact Lindsey on stayandplay@familyspace.org.uk or 07880993176
www.familyspace.org.uk
St. Barnabas church hosted another lunch using only surplus perfectly edible food – otherwise wasted- from Aldi. More than 100 people attended and enjoyed a free and very nutritious meal. The very talented head chef from The Fire Station restaurant, Seedy Faal cooked for us making sure that nothing would go to waste and all the surplus food stored in advance would be used in creative ways. The result was very tasteful and people could choose from a variety of options; a broccoli with blue cheese soup, a carrot with coriander soup and a main dish of turkey curry with rice. It was a farewell lunch for our loving Revd. Rob Crofton, who held his last service at the church on Sunday the 28th of January.

Surplus lunches are part of the Food Impact Project Cheltenham that saves, distributes and processes surplus food for the benefit of those in need. We are inspired by the initiative of the recently launched community kitchen in London, “Refettorio Felix”, which offers a welcoming lunchtime food service to vulnerable members of the local community, creating delicious three-course meals only from surplus ingredients that would otherwise be wasted. Since its opening in June 2017, more than 50 leading renowned British and international chefs have already cooked at Refettorio to highlight the value of the space, the surplus ingredients and its daily lunchtime guests.

For more information visit and follow us on Facebook at;
https://www.facebook.com/ FoodImpactCheltenham/
Hester's Way Community Fund

What is it?

In 2015, People’s Health Trust and TCV teamed up to deliver the Local People Programme and The Hesters Way Community Fund. We have invested £47,000 toward: regeneration of Coronation Square, increasing activities for older people, and increasing activities/opportunities for older children. Do you agree with these priorities? What do you think we should be focusing on? Have you got any ideas? Get in touch!

How does it work?

Residents of the project area pictured here can make decisions on how funding is spent. Decisions are made by the Steering Group (of local residents) who meet once per month, to discuss activities/events/grant applications. Local people and organisations may apply to the steering group to fund their idea/community project/activities/event.

Interested?
Get in Touch!

We welcome anyone to put forth ideas! The steering group can support you to develop your idea into an activity/project/
event or campaign. It is a very informal process and we encourage applications / enquiries from people of all backgrounds.

Please contact Hope Thornton (facebook, email, or phone) if you have any questions, ideas, or want to get involved with the steering group.

Facebook: Hester’s Way Community Fund

Email: h.thornton@tcv.org.uk

Mobile: 07818 511 658
The Easter Story

Christmas is really for the children... begins a poem by Steve Turner. It goes on with the familiar stuff of Christmas that makes it so appealing, before taking an unexpected turn – Easter is not really for the children unless accompanied by a cream filled egg. It has whips, blood, nails, a spear and allegations of body snatching. It involves politics, God and the sins of the world. The poem ends with the invitation to wonder whether there is any connection between the two seasons – apart from the school holidays, that is.

The story begins promisingly enough with Jesus being cheered into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey. A king riding a donkey was a sign of peace in the ancient world. But it did not take long for darkness to descend. Jesus was furious at the abuse of the Temple prioritising the market over the welcome for the outsider, and prayer. One of Jesus’ closest friends betrayed him to the authorities; shortly after sharing a meal with his friends, Jesus, who was at prayer in a garden, was arrested and overnight tried and condemned. It was clearly a stitch-up. Jesus was the victim of political expediency. The Romans executed by crucifixion; such a public death was a useful deterrent. It took place outside the city walls. On Friday afternoon Jesus died, was taken down and buried. His friends and family were lost and scattered. Then early on the Sunday rumours began – the tomb is empty and then more rumours about meeting Jesus risen and still bearing the scars of crucifixion, alive and even more than alive, if such a thing can be imagined. In the evening he came to his friends who were in a locked room and said to them, Peace be with you.

It is just the most amazing story, incredible in so many ways, and yet this is the story that is at the heart of Christian faith. If this story is not true, the rest crumbles. But if it is true then, as Steve Turner intimated, it has implications for the world of politics and a messy world – and God himself. I invite you to explore this story this Easter time – perhaps visiting a church near you in West Cheltenham. Here are our services – you are most welcome to come along and see...

Tudor Griffiths
Easter Events
West Cheltenham Parish

Maundy Thursday
St Aidan & St Silas
7pm – Informal Communion followed by ‘The Mission’

St Barnabas
7:30pm – Informal Last Supper

Good Friday
St Aidan & St Silas
• 10:30am – All-Age Worship
• 11:30am – Witness at Coronation Square
  Followed by Hot Cross Buns at St Aidan & St Silas

St Mark
• 10:30am – All-Age Worship
• 2pm – Hour at the Cross

Easter Day
St Aidan & St Silas
10:30am – Easter Communion

St Barnabas
10:30am – Easter Communion

St Mark
• 9am – Easter Communion
• 10:30am – All-Age Easter Communion

St Aidan & St Silas
Oasis Centre, Cassin Drive
GL51 7SY

St Barnabas
Orchard Way
GL51 7JY

St Mark
Church Road
GL51 7AL

Parish Office 01242 580022 parish.admin@stmarkonline.org
### Hesters Way Community Resource Centre

“...run by local people for local people...”

**Activities, Groups & Services include:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Money Advice Service</td>
<td>09.30 - 15.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Job Club with CBH</td>
<td>11.00 - 13.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>19.00 - 20.30</td>
<td>Donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Health Walking Group</td>
<td>Meet at 10.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>AL ANON</td>
<td>10.30 - 12.00</td>
<td>Donation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writers Group</td>
<td>11.00 - 12.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Job Club with CBH</td>
<td>11.00 - 13.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Drop In Class</td>
<td>13.30 - 16.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Computer Drop In Class</td>
<td>10.00 - 12.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P3 Welfare Support</td>
<td>13.30 - 15.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>English Speaking Club</td>
<td>18.00 - 19.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<td><strong>NEW</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>18.30—19.30</td>
<td>Charges apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>11.30 - 13.15</td>
<td>Donation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cheltenham West Carers Group</td>
<td>16.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon - Fri</td>
<td>JT’s Café (eat in or take away)</td>
<td>08.00 - 16.00</td>
<td>Charges apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon - Fri</td>
<td>Lobby Computer &amp; WiFi</td>
<td>08.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon - Fri</td>
<td>Cosy Corner (sit and relax)</td>
<td>08.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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**The Neighbourhood Charity Shop**

16—18 Hesters Way Road (next to the Co-Op and Post Office)

Open Mon to Fri 9am to 3pm, 01242 252325

Bargains Galore!

Save money, help to recycle and raise funds for local projects

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, THANK YOU
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<tr>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Craft Club (fortnightly)</td>
<td>10.00 - 12.00</td>
<td>£2.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Art with Graham</td>
<td>13.00 - 15.00</td>
<td>£5 per term</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Samurai Martial Arts - 3 classes</td>
<td>17.30 - 20.30</td>
<td>Ring Brian 07971584901</td>
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<td></td>
<td>for different age groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Infinite Tai Chi with Gillian</td>
<td>10.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>£5/£3.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Indoor Bowls</td>
<td>13.00 - 15.30</td>
<td>Small charge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Springbank Little Steps</td>
<td>10.00 - 12.00</td>
<td>£1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Active Fitness - gentle exercise</td>
<td>11.00 - 13.00</td>
<td>£3</td>
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<td>POPPS (over 50’s fun &amp; health)</td>
<td>13.30 - 15.30</td>
<td>50p</td>
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<td>Majorettes</td>
<td>16.30 - 18.30</td>
<td>Ring Hayley 07813911245</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Line Dancing</td>
<td>19.00 - 20.30</td>
<td>£5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>HEALTH WALKING GROUP</td>
<td>Meet 10.30</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samurai Martial Arts - 3 classes</td>
<td>17.30 - 20.30</td>
<td>Ring Brian 07971584901</td>
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<td>for different age groups</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Table Tennis—interested?</td>
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<td>Ring Helen 539088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Smart Art with Graham</td>
<td>10.00 - 12.30</td>
<td>£5 per term</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Springbank Garden Group</td>
<td>14.00 - 16.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon—Fri</td>
<td>Lobby Computer &amp; WiFi</td>
<td>08.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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**The Living Room**

12 Devon Avenue, Rowanfield Exchange, 01242 263420

Rowanfields very own community hub.

Activities Mon to Fri including Parent & Toddler Group,

Revival Room, Job Search, IT Drop In’s and Social evenings
Jesse Mary Chambers
Almshouses a local gem!

You might have passed by the roundabout at the junction of Tennyson and Brooklyn Roads and noticed the lovely cottages on the corner? Well they are Almshouses built in 1924 under the will of Mr. Henry David Gregory Chambers, in memory of his sister, Jesse Mary. As far as we know, Miss Chambers, who in 1886 was one of the first female graduates of London University, may never have lived in Cheltenham but her uncle Richard appears to have lived in Lansdown Terrace and attended Cheltenham College in 1855.

The properties are now owned and managed by the Cheltenham Almshouses & Aid Trust whose aim is to provide affordable accommodation to more mature members of the local community who have limited financial means. The Trust also manages four other Almshouses in Cheltenham; Hays Cottages in Naunton Park, Caroline Strickland Homes off Hales Road and Sunset Homes in Carleton Street.

If you are aged 60 years or over, have lived in Cheltenham for at least five years, have proven total assets and savings of less than £25,000 and are of good character then you could qualify for residency in one their Almshouses. Residents are expected to live independently but are offered an annual grant award form the Turner Long Fund which is also managed by the Trust.

For more information or to be added to the waiting list, please visit www.cheltenhamalms.org.uk for an application form or call The Trust office on 01242 522180, and they will be happy to assist you.
Humans are social animals and as such we need to live and work together. Sadly, some people in our community are becoming more isolated. It is an increasing curse of our modern society, which in some cases, it has led to people to lose touch altogether with the people that surround them.

Medical research shows that there is a direct link between how much a person feels connected to others and their physical and mental health. It is Vision 21’s aim to make Gloucestershire more sustainable, but this means more than just helping the environment, because sustainability is just as much about helping people and creating both vibrant and healthy communities. Sustainability takes on many forms and includes improving individual self-esteem and building confidence or taking pride in neighbourhoods or looking after neighbours, older people and the weaker members of the community. It can be small individual actions or form part of larger council or corporate delivered services.

The UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 concerns Sustainable Cities and Communities and, in line with this goal, Vision 21’s has designed a new project to help strengthen our community and we want to get people talking and meeting again. So, with the support of The Big Lottery Fund, we have recently set up a series of healthy, community based and locally delivered free activities such as:

**Sewing/Crafts club at Create on the Square** at which people will learn how to sew, stitch, how to use a sewing machine and chose materials, as well as to repair and upcycle clothing (Call 07494341781).

**Gentle Pilates at the Oasis Centre**, where stretching exercises will help people become more mobile. All materials supplied (Call 07934 977171 email ABCpilates@btinternet.com).

Also, we also provide on the job training to volunteers at the Reclaim furniture re-use scheme (Call 01242 228823). We have volunteer vacancies open with our van crew. All Personal Protective Equipment provided. For the latest information about all our projects, follow us on **Twitter @Vision21Glos** or **Facebook Vision21.org** or visit our website **www.vision21.org.uk**
EASTER FAIR

FRIDAY 30TH MARCH

11AM TO 2PM

SPRINGBANK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

EASTER BONNET PARADE

CHANGING FACES

BOYS BRIGADE

CHELTENHAM BOUNCY CASTLE

SHOWTIME SHANE

MUSIC FUN WITH ELSA

REFRESHMENTS & CHARITY STALLS

HESTERS WAY Neighbourhood Project

... run by local people for local people ...
Hesters Way Neighbourhood Project
“...run by local people for local people...”

No internet access? Need help with computers? Then come along to

“FREE” IT DROP-IN CLASSES

Learn:
- Keyboard basics
- Mouse basics
- Using emails
- Online searches
- Using public services
- Social media and Skype

Our skilled and friendly Volunteer Team would love to help you

Wednesday 1.30 - 4pm
Thursday 10am - 12.30pm

In the DIGI DEN at Hesters Way Community Resource Centre, GL51 7SU
01242 521319 www.hwnp.org
Providing NHS Services

- ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS FOR NHS CARE
- SHORT WAIT FOR GP APPOINTMENTS
- EXPERIENCED LOCAL GP’s
- MODERN PREMISES WITH FREE PARKING
- ON SITE PHARMACY

Open Times:
Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 6.30pm

Register on our website or call our practice number
www.springbank-surgery.nhs.uk

Tel: 01242 507111
Springbank Community Resource Centre
Springbank Way, Springbank Cheltenham, GL51 0LG