

Stratton Parish NEWS

Serving the Community



Published by Stratton St Margaret Parish Council

Summer 2012 Issue 11



Parish Council welcomes a new Chair

Councillor John Foley was appointed Chair of the Parish Council at the Annual Parish Council meeting held in May.

Councillor Foley said he 'looked forward to the forthcoming year and hoped the Council would continue to work proactively on behalf of the community'.

John has been a resident of Stratton for nearly 50 years and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of the local community.

Outgoing Chair, Councillor Mrs Teresa Page, thanked the council members and staff for the support she had been given over the previous year and said how "it has been a tremendous privilege to serve as Chair".

The Chair of the Council is voted for by the members of the council every year at the Annual Parish Council meeting. Councillor Foley is supported by Vice-Chair Councillor David Roberts.



Coleview Play Area gets green light

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council gives its full backing to the new play area at Coleview following an intense two months of public consultation.

The new area will serve Coleview and the recently constructed estate in the local area. The cost of the new play area is being met from the Section 106 agreement money provided by the developers.

A series of public consultations, including one with the Colebrook Junior School Council, fed into the final design. The Parish Council also completed thorough environmental studies and the drainage issues have been fully addressed.

Residents will see work commence on 8th August and be completed within 10 weeks.

More improvements across the Parish are taking place as the Council announces further investment to improve six existing play areas.

A total of £38,000 has been allocated to improve facilities at Melford Walk, Sywell Road, Greenbridge Road, Brooks Close, Grange Drive and Stephens Road play areas.

These improvements will have a positive impact on the quality of open spaces in the Parish and the quality of life for children and residents of Stratton.



Jubilee celebrations around the Parish

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It's a Knock Out for local students!

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Festival frenzy Meadowcroft

The Stratton Community Festival at the Meadowcroft Recreation Ground on 23rd June was a fantastic community event. Organised by Upper Stratton Baptist Church, it was held as part of their 150th anniversary celebrations.

With around 750 festival-goers attending the day, there was a brilliant community atmosphere. Everyone enjoyed the great range of activities, which included free bouncy castles, pillow bash and bungee runs, faith tent, fire engine display, magic and puppet shows, choir performances and the very popular 'children with dogs' show...to name but a few!

The Church is in the process of considering plans for another festival next year, so keep checking their website for updates. In the meantime, look out for other great events at www.usbc.org.uk/150

Thank you ... Thank you.... Thank you.... Thank you ... Thank you.... Thank you....

We'd like to thank everyone from the community who contributed to the success of this Festival:

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council...
Green Road Preschool... Saplings...
Air Cadets... bonsai display...
Ruskin School Choir... SYFC... BIOS..
Ruskin PTA... Scouts, Highworth Band...
Mick's ice creams... Karen Kendall face painting... SEQOL Stop Smoking campaign... Fire Brigade...
Neighbourhood Policing Team...
STL Inflatables... SBC Neighbourhood Wardens... TWB Scrap... Paul White...
Tudor Roberts Puppets...
Simon Richardson Magic.

And finally special thanks go to the organising committee and all the volunteers.



AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

Audit Commission Act 1998, sections 15 - 16

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 Regulations 13, 14 & 16

**The Council's accounts are subject to external audit by the Audit Commission of Westward House,
Lime Kiln Close, Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8SU (ref. Mr. M Robinson).**

Members of the public and local government electors have certain rights in the audit process:

1. From 30 July 2012 to 27 August 2012 between 10am and 4pm (Monday to Friday) any person may inspect the accounts of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2012 and certain related documents comprising books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts at the address given below (Ref Mr P. Russell). They may also make copies of the accounts and documents.
2. From 27 August 2012 until the conclusion of the audit process, a local government elector for the area of the Council, or his/her representative, may ask the auditor questions about the accounts. Please contact the auditor at the address given above to make arrangements to ask any questions.
3. From 27 August 2012 until the conclusion of the audit process, a local government elector for the area of the Council, or his/her representative, may object to the Council's accounts asking that the auditor issue a report in the public interest (under section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998) and/or apply to the court for a declaration that an item in the accounts is contrary to law (under section 17 of the Audit Commission Act 1998). Written notice of a proposed objection and the grounds on which it is made must be sent to the auditor at the address given above and copied to the Clerk at the address given below.

Clerk to the Council
Stratton St Margaret Parish Council
Addison Crescent
Upper Stratton
Swindon SN2 7JX

Public Consultations

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council is committed to informing and involving local Parishioners in the development of the area. To help us to do this we need to understand your views and experiences about the local area in which you live and the services you receive.

We aim to feed back any outcomes of our consultations as much as we can to show you how much your input has directly influenced local decision making.

Neighbourhood Plan - get involved and have your say in the future development of the Parish

What is a Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood plans help local communities to have a say in the future plans for their local area as well as identifying and proposing additional infrastructure requirements.

Stratton St Margaret has formally applied to submit its own Neighbourhood Plan and this is where we need your assistance. Help us shape the future of the Parish by telling us what you want to see in the future.

How you can get involved

Please complete our survey online
w: www.strattonstmargaret.gov.uk/
consultations or request a paper version by calling **t:** 01793 823761



Community Governance Review – make your views count

Swindon Borough Council is currently carrying out a Community Governance Review of the Borough of Swindon.

This review will look at all existing parish boundaries and decide whether or not they need to be changed, merged or abolished. It will also look at un-parished areas of Swindon and decide whether or not new parishes should be created.

The Borough Council has complete authority to impose any changes it considers necessary, making due allowance of any evidence or opinions submitted by parish councils and local residents.

YOUR VIEWS COUNT!



How will the Review affect you?

- Potential abolition of the current Parish
- Splitting up of communities
- Loss of services
- Loss of democratic representation

We're keen to hear your views on the future shape and size of the Parish.

Please complete our survey online
w: www.strattonstmargaret.gov.uk/
consultations or request a paper version by calling **t:** 01793 823761



Your space - your views welcomed

The Woodland Trust and Swindon Borough Council are planning entrance improvements at Stratton Wood and Stanton Country Park and they would like to hear your views on the plans. They are now looking to talk specifically with the following groups/individuals:

- Users of mobility scooters
- Cyclists
- People who take or would like to take buggies/pushchairs onto these sites

Please come along to meet The Woodland Trust and Swindon Borough Council, to hear about the plans and give your views:

Date: Tuesday 21st August
Time: 11am-1pm
Location: Stratton Wood car park, Kingsdown Lane



WOODLAND TRUST

Dog walkers

They are looking into the feasibility of installing more dog waste bins in Stratton Wood. Come along and tell them where any new bins should be located.

Date: Tuesday 21st August
Time: 9am-10.30am
Location: Stratton Wood car park, Kingsdown Lane

If you are unable to make the meeting but would like to put forward your views about the entrance improvements or dog waste bins please contact Sarah Stebbing, Site manager for Stratton Wood.

e: sarahstebbing@woodlandtrust.org.uk
t: 0845 293 5764

Stratton schools mugged for the Jubilee!

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council presented all primary school children within the Parish with a specially commissioned Jubilee Mug which bears the Jubilee logo, the Parish Council logo and the school name.

Councillor John Foley, Chair of Council, said, "The Parish Council wished to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in some special way and agreed that providing all the primary school children in the Parish with a special keepsake was an appropriate way of doing so."

See more pictures of the mug ceremonies on our Flickr site by going to our website and clicking on the icon.



Queen's



Diamond
Jubilee



It's a Knock Out for local students!

Over 480 local students took part in a two day "It's a Knockout" event at Stratton Leisure Centre. The games were based on the original BBC TV series which meant that most participants landed up getting very wet!

The event was organised to celebrate the Olympics and Jubilee saw teams of children from Kingsdown School, Grange Junior School, Ruskin Junior School and St Catherine's Catholic Primary School. Twelve teams of 10 children competed against other on a variety of obstacle courses.

It was so popular, those who took part requested that the Council hold the event again next year.



Urban Arts Project

The Urban Arts project was developed by the Parish Council and a group of urban artists.

Local schools including Grange Infant School, St Luke's School and St Catherine's Primary School and Stratton Education Centre took part in the art project to celebrate the year of the Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympic games.

The children took part in lessons which saw them learning the basic painting techniques and then they each got to work on their own

Each school contributed to a mural to be displayed around the Parish this summer.







KICK-FIT LADIES ONLY

Fun fitness incorporating
kick-boxing techniques

- Non-contact
- Burn calories for a leaner body
- Tone & shape key muscle groups
- Increase self-confidence
- Relieve stress & boost your energy levels
- Suitable for all fitness levels & abilities
- Classes held in a fun, motivational environment

Sundays 9.30am - 10.30am

Stratton Leisure Centre

Non-members £5.20

Members £4.20

Pass holders FREE

No booking necessary.

Just turn up in loose clothing
and trainers.

All equipment provided.



Stratton Leisure Centre first opened its doors in 1978 and was constructed by the Parish Council to provide local residents with local leisure facilities. The facilities include:

Grange Bar & Lounge

A comfortable, very keenly priced bar with Sky Sports, a pool table, quiz nights and a weekly meat draw. A good range of meals at great prices including Saturday and Sunday breakfast are on offers. **Now open to all Parish residents.**



Health & Fitness Suite

A start of the art health and fitness suite with 21 classes provided every week as part of the membership. Fees start at just £19.50 per month.

Main Hall

Suitable for large function and a range of sporting activities including five-a-side football, badminton, fitness classes, table tennis, trampoline activities, bouncy castle and children's parties.



Stratton Suite

An ideal function room with a capacity of up to 120 people suitable for conferences, weddings, christening parties and many other uses.

Meadowcroft Community Centre

A fantastic local facility in Addison Crescent that can cater for a wide range of events including parties, functions, meetings and fitness classes. The Centre has a fully equipped catering kitchen and bar facilities. Get in touch to discuss your event on **t:01793 825525**.

KICK-FIT KIDS

Fun martial arts classes
for children aged 5-14

Classes are run by a qualified martial arts instructor, with enhanced CRB check and certificate in 1st aid.

- Learn
- Self Control
- Self Defence
- Self Confidence

No joining fee

No contract

No Pressurised grading

No patterns/Katas to learn

FUN-FOCUSSED CLASSES!

Saturdays 10.00am - 11.00am

Stratton Leisure Centre

Non-members £3.90

Members £2.90

No booking necessary. Just turn up
in loose clothing and trainers.

All equipment provided.



Function room hire

Stratton Suite holds up to 120 people.
The Main Hall holds up to 450 people

Meadowcroft Community Centre Hall
holds up to 80 people

Call us to discuss your wedding,
conferences and party requirements.

Grange Bar

Free Wi-Fi now available

Monday - Thursday 12.00 - 23.00

Friday 12.00 - 23.30

Saturday 09.30 - 23.00

Sunday 10.00 - 22.30

Contact us

Stratton Leisure Centre

Grange Drive

Swindon

SN3 4JJ

t: 01793 825525

e: reception@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk

Forthcoming events

Leisure Centre

Seniors' lunches

Tuesdays and Thursdays £3.95
for two courses.

Meat Draw

Come and join us at 8.30pm on Fridays.
Prizes drawn at 10.00pm.
Bar closes at 11.30pm

Tea Dances

2.00pm - 4.00pm

Live music provided by Ritchie Brooks
vocals/keyboards. Parish residents £2.75
Non Parish residents £3.75

Quiz Nights

8.00pm

Be a winner with our spot prizes for "one
off" questions and for the winning team.
There is a small fee of £1.00 per person for
participating on the night.

3rd November

Majestic Dance Evening

Les Bruce Big Band +

Rockers Re-United

7.30pm

£10.00 Children, £12.50 Adults

no under 15's allowed

www.majesticdance.org.uk

29th November

Stratton Christmas Fayre

5.00pm

Free event

Festive lights switch on, Father Christmas,
market stalls and more...

Christmas Party Nights

7.00pm

£19.50 for a 3 course meal and disco

New Year's Eve Family Disco

7.30pm

Prices from £4.50 Children, £9.50 Adults

Around the Parish

Garden Open Day

11th and 12th August 2012

Come and see one of Stratton's most
stunning gardens, 13 Kingsdown Road,
Stratton. Entrance is £2 and all proceeds
will go to Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.



Young Wardens Scheme

6th August

St John Ambulance visit / games on
the grounds. Stratton Community Centre
9.30am - 1.00pm **t:** 01793 703679

13th August

Thames Water visit / games on the
grounds. Stratton Community Centre
9.30am - 1.00pm **t:** 01793 703679

20th August

Fire Station visit / games on the grounds.
Stratton Community Centre
9.30am - 1.00pm **t:** 01793 703679

25th August



Greenbridge Rugby Family Day

10.00am

The Parish Council will be there so pop
along and come and see us!

August			
Quiz Night Leisure Centre 8.00pm	11th	25th	
Tea Dance Leisure Centre 2.00pm - 4.00pm	23rd		
Garden Open Day Around the Parish	11th	12th	
Young Wardens Scheme Around the Parish 9.30am	6th	13th	20th
Greenbridge Rugby Family Day Around the Parish	25th		
September			
Tea Dance Leisure Centre 2.00pm - 4.00pm	20th		
October			
Tea Dance Leisure Centre 2.00pm - 4.00pm	18th		
November			
Tea Dance Leisure Centre 2.00pm - 4.00pm	15th		
Majestic Dance Evening Leisure Centre 7.30pm	3rd		
December			
Quiz Night Leisure Centre 8.00pm	6th		
Christmas Party Nights Leisure Centre 7.00pm	14th	15th	21st
New Year's Eve Family Disco Leisure Centre 7.30pm	31st		

£15,000 in grants awarded for local projects

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council has recently awarded over £15,000 in grants for local projects. The successful grant recipients attended a special Grant Award Ceremony on Tuesday 3 July 2012 where they were presented with their cheques, a framed certificate and got to meet the Councillors who were involved in the grant giving.

The local services receiving grants were:

- Crocodile Lunch Club - £6,345
- Thamesdown Hydrotherapy Pool - £3,500
- Swindon Stroke Support - £1,000
- Stratton Advice Point - £750 (pictured)
- Ruskin Junior School - £1,000 for their Intergenerational Project (the grant will match their existing fundraising efforts)
- Beechcroft Thursday Club - £500
- Grange Social Club - £750
- Leisure Centre hire for the USBC Stratton Community Festival - £230

6 v 6 football tournaments raises funds for charity

In June, Sean Harper from the Stratton Leisure Centre and Aaron Webb from Stratton Education organised two 6 v 6 Help for Heroes football tournaments to raise some money for the Help for Heroes charity.

The winners of the tournaments were Victoria Secret and Hungover United (pictured) – both settled on penalties. Although the weather tried to dampen spirits, the organisers battled on with a roaring BBQ, live music and bountiful raffle with prizes donated by local businesses. Over £100 was raised for the charity and a great day was had by all.



Stratton St Margaret hits the road!

We'll be hitting the road this summer because we want to hear your views on current issues affecting the Parish. As many of you know we are asking for your views on the Community Governance Review and we're starting to plan for the future development of the Parish in our Neighbourhood Plan.

Your views are important to us and we want to help deliver what you want. During the road show we'll also be running local competitions and campaigns, so come and see us to find out more! More dates will be added so keep checking our website for regular updates.

Thursday 9th August

10.00am - 12.30pm
Drove Veterinary Practice, Hobley Drive

Saturday 25th August

10.00am - 4.00pm
Greenbridge Rugby Club,
Greenbridge Road

Saturday 29th September

Macmillan Coffee Morning
10.00am - 1.00pm
Stratton Leisure Centre, Grange Drive



Vandalism in your area

The North East sector policing team is focusing on the problem of nuisance vehicles in the locality, riding off-road or in an anti-social manner.

Several tactics are being employed throughout the area to tackle this problem:

- An educational message is being deployed to young persons to show the dangers both to themselves and to others from riding vehicles illegally.
- Extra dedicated patrols are being used to both deter and detect these offences.

- Residents spotting any vehicles being ridden off-road or in a dangerous manner should take as many details as possible and let us know (without putting themselves at unnecessary risk) to help us prosecute offenders.

Together we can make our parks and streets a safer place.

PC 1847 Frank Key
Community Beat Manager
Upper Stratton North NPT
t: 0845 408 7000
frank.key@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



Wemyss Lodge

Ermin Street, Stratton St Margaret,
t. 01793 828227

Call us to find out about our services:

- Art Classes
- Craft Sessions
- Evening Events
- Christmas Choir
- Local Outings
- Community Tea Dances



Aster Living Home Help

We are a non-profit organisation supported by Swindon Borough Council. Our primary aim is to help people over the age of 60, (no matter what their financial circumstances are) and to those who are registered disabled (if they are under the age of 60), live a more comfortable life in their homes.



Our service primarily covers minor adaptations and we also cover minor plumbing and plastering works. We are able to help make homes warmer and safer in addition to various other small DIY jobs, such as, changing light bulbs, putting up curtain poles and shelving, making up flat pack furniture.

Contact us: t. 01793 940095

Thamesdown Hydrotherapy Pool

The Parish Council recently supported our charity-run facility off the Cricklade Road with a £1,000 grant to help with our fundraising efforts. We want to spread the word about what a great asset our pool is for the local community. Find out how you could benefit.

What is a hydrotherapy pool?

A warm water facility for people to use for relaxation or therapy exercises and you should be referred by your GP. There is no additional cost for your GP because we are a charity organisation.

If you'd like to come down and see this great facility then please pop in. For more information please look at our website www.thamesdownhydrotherapy.com



LINK want to hear from you

If you use a dentist, doctor, hospital, day care centre or care home then Swindon Local Involvement Network (LINK) wants to hear from you. Why? We want to hear about your experiences; good, bad or indifferent. These experiences, as well as your ideas for improvement, will be used to help improve and change services to best suit the needs of people in Swindon.

We would especially like to hear about the services you use in Stratton. We are also working on specific projects relating to care homes in Swindon and GP patient participation groups.

Contact us:

Swindon Local Involvement Network (LINK) Wat Tyler House, Beckhampton Street, Swindon, SN1 2GH

t. 01793 497777

e. enquiries@swindonlink.org

w. www.swindonlink.org

Become a Governor at Nythe Primary School

Nythe Primary School is, 'a good school with outstanding features' (OFSTED December 2007). Set in the heart of its local community, Nythe Primary School is a thriving and highly successful school, committed to achieving the highest

standards in all areas of school life. Would you like to make a difference? Nythe Primary School is looking for people in the community to join their Governing body.

If you feel you would have the skills and time to offer or just want to know more.

Contact us:

t. 01793 524024

or Paul Davis directly, Governor Support

e. pdavis@swindon.gov.uk

Contact information

Parish Councillors

Ward Key: Coleview: **C** Stratton St Margaret: **SM** St Philips: **SP** Lower Coleview & Nythe: **LCN**

SM Mrs B Acher
15 Bourton Avenue, Stratton
St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4LY
t: 822263

LCN Miss A Bridges
94B Berkley, Bruce Street, Rodbourne,
Swindon, SN2 2EN
Contact via office

SM Mr N P Chalk
5 Day's Close, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon, SN3 4PQ
t: 346165

SM Mrs A M Chalk
5 Day's Close, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon, SN3 4PQ
t: 346165

SM Mrs C Ennis
Seagulls, 6 Crispin Cl, Stratone Village,
Swindon, SN3 4XH
t: 831335

SP Mrs E A Foley
7 Dockle Way, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7LQ
t: 822110

SP Mr J Foley
7 Dockle Way, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7LQ
t: 822110

C Mr J C Foley
94B Berkley, Bruce Street, Rodbourne,
Swindon, SN2 2EN
Contact via office

SP Mr G Lawson
24 Bradley Road, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7QB
Contact via office

LCN Mr P Mane
8 Lansbury Drive, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7LF
Contact via office

SP Mrs A L Murphy
2 Orchard Grove, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7QR
t: 337144

SP Mr P J O Murphy
2 Orchard Grove, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7QR
t: 337144

SP Mr P Owen BEM
192 Meadowcroft, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7LH
t: 822164

SP Mrs T Page
13 Haig Close, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, SN2 7QN
t: 825481

SP Mrs T Cook
82 Cloche Way,
Swindon, SN2 7JN
t: 826378

C Mr D R Roberts
27 Sand Hill, Shrivenham,
Nr Swindon, SN6 8BQ
t: 782144

LCN Mrs P M Roberts
27 Sand Hill, Shrivenham,
Nr Swindon, SN6 8BQ
t: 782144

SM Mr R A Smith
39 Watermead, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon SN3 4WE
Contact via office

SM Mrs P Spry
1 Mayfield Close, Nythe,
Swindon, SN3 3NH
t: 485528

SM Mr M Spry
1 Mayfield Close, Nythe,
Swindon, SN3 3NH
t: 485528

C Mrs R Tran
44 Burden Close, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon, SN3 4HE
t: 826283

SP Mr J Tray
3 Cairndow Way, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon
t: 07813170202

LCN Mr P Watts
19 Chalford Avenue, Nythe,
Swindon, SN3 3NT
t: 529163

Swindon Borough Council Ward Members

Clerk to the Council

Mr P Russell, Council Offices,
Addison Crescent, Upper Stratton,
Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 7JX
t: 01793 823761
e: clerk@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk

Local Member of Parliament

Justin Tomlinson, MP **t:** 01793 533 393
e: justin.tomlinson.mp@parliament.uk

Stratton Community Leisure Centre

Grange Drive, Stratton St Margaret,
Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4JY
t: 01793 825 525
e: reception@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk

Gorsehill & Pinehurst

Cllr John Ballman
t: 01793 694584
e: jbswin@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Ray Ballman
t: 01793 694584
e: jbswin@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Rochelle Russell
t: 01793 701910
e: russellrochelle15@gmail.com

St Margaret & South Marston

Cllr John Haines
t: 07901 534640
e: jcthaines@hotmail.com

Cllr Colin Lovell
t: 01793 321634
e: colinlovell@gmail.com

Cllr Russell Holland
t: 07999 566623
e: rholland@swindon.gov.uk

Penhill & Upper Stratton

Cllr Paul Baker
t: 01793 334598
e: pauljbaker@ntlworld.com

Cllr Teresa Page
t: 01793 825481
e: teresapageswindon@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Joe Tray
t: 07813170202
e: j.tray@ntlworld.com

Covingham & Dorcan

Cllr Dale Heenan
t: 01793 613189
e: dale.heenan@googlemail.com

Cllr Richard Hurley
t: 0796 653 3997
e: rhurley@swindon.gov.uk

Cllr Julian Price
t: 01793 834321
e: jcp490806@hotmail.co.uk

Police Contacts

Area Sergeant

Sgt Ed Strange 2234

North East Team

Area Sergeant: Sgt Donna West 1201
Area Inspector: Insp Ducker 1009

Upper Stratton

Beat Manager: PC Frank Key 1847
PCSO Mandi Coles 6020
PCSO NAME Knott 6318

Lower Stratton, Covingham and Nythe

Beat Manager: PC Jack Newman 1966
PCSO Maria Giles 6059
PCSO Jason Wines 6315

Highworth

Beat Manager: Ben Huggins 2405
PCSO Rob Dentry 6186

email:

swindonnortheastmpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Highworth, Upper Stratton, Lower Stratton,
Covingham and Nythe

telephone:

101 for non emergencies
999 for emergency calls

Community Surgery

Swindon Garden Centre, Hyde Road
First Saturday of each month from
11.30am until 12.30pm.