



*the*  
**LONDON ROAD**  
*and* **SNOW HILL**  
*partnership*



## **Autumn/Winter News 2016**

### **LRSH Partnership Annual General Meeting**

We're meeting at the Salisbury Club, London Road, at 7pm on Monday 28 November. All welcome. Join us to hear about last year's activities, vote for our new Committee and contribute to our plans for next year. Tim Rawlings from the Council will give a talk on the new Bath wheelie bins.

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Front Cover Drawing © Susan Traill

**LRSH Partnership is a community partnership working for positive change  
in the London Road and Snow Hill areas.**

**LRSH Partnership Chairman: Alex Schlesinger Tel 01225 338813**

**Company No 3569239 Email [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)**

**16 Walcot Buildings, London Road, Bath BA1 6AD**

**EDITORIAL:** We have a lot more shops in the London Road than we did before. We need the Council to support this strengthening of our community and not to dump us with ever more traffic.

Your views, subject line **London Road community** to [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)

## **CAR CLUB MAKES ME A LITTLE BIT GREENER AND IT COSTS LESS**

Settled into my new flat in Grosvenor, happy to be back in the city, I was leaving the house when I spotted my trusty old VW. I thought, "I really must take that car for a drive." What??

When I was working and had to get to Swindon or Oxford several times a week, I needed it, but since retiring, I really don't. There is reasonably good public transport here. Walking into the centre is only about 15 minutes at my pace and pretty flat, or you could cycle if you have nerves of steel – IF you can stand breathing in vehicle fumes at a faster pace.

The number of cars on the road, especially those with only one person inside, adds to the incredible pollution in the London Road. Living here I've become a little bit greener than I used to be.

Google introduced me to Enterprise Car Club (formerly City Car Club), a national group. You can borrow a car in any of the 19 cities where they operate. Their network is expanding and they will sometimes deliver elsewhere. Membership was quick to complete online, followed up by a phone call to check my ID and I was off.

Booking a car or a van is straightforward. Within reason, it's easy to either cancel or change timing. My membership card opens and locks the car and the on-board computer logs the mileage. When I get back, the car has its reserved parking space. I lock it and walk away. When I couldn't find the right button to press, someone on the 24/7 helpline talked me through it.

Cars are parked all over the city – they are mainly hybrid, which I like, and some are automatics, which I'm used to. Borrow a car for anything from half an hour upwards. My membership fee is £60 per year and I pay per mile for the car. There is no separate insurance or tax (all included), no cleaning!, and no searching for a parking space – what's not to like?

So, several years on, I don't really use a car much, but I do borrow a van from time to time, to collect stuff or sometimes to deliver other items to the recycling centre. AND I don't feel guilty when I leave the flat and notice a forlorn car waiting to be taken out! **AN**

More info <https://www.enterpriseclub.co.uk/> Tel: 0345 2669290

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## **BUSINESS COMMUNITY VIEWPOINT**

### **INDEPENDENT RETAILERS LIGHT UP THE LONDON ROAD**

**B**usinesses in the London Road are thriving. New ones keep opening and now we have Walcot Winterfest to showcase what our local shops have to offer, not only for Christmas, but for the whole year round. There will be Christmas lights continuing down the London Road from Walcot Street to Cleveland Place – is this a first? – and a definite party ambiance with free children’s events, food and drink and more (see page 5).

Antiques and collectibles, interior design, home wares, furniture and art feature strongly among new and established shops. Quirkiness, for those who like it. Individuality – who doesn’t want that? The Bath Frammer and Verve both celebrated their first anniversary this year, and business is good. For some others also sharing that anniversary, it’s so good, the only sign they seem to need is “Open”! The London Road is truly an extension of the Walcot Artisan district.

There are plenty of services too, new and established, all with their local clientele. Hairdressing, barbering, beauty and health treatment salons are plying a brisk trade. Our five pubs are very popular, the ones under new landlords quickly attracting their “regulars”. The Salisbury Club, too, has new members. Our fast food outlets supply a constant demand.

The moan for many years from some working in the London Road was, “Where’s the barrista coffee first thing in the mornings!” Problem now solved: the Cheeky Bean at the Ballustrade and the In and Out at the Coachworks.

The London Road improvement scheme was the trigger for new business to arrive in a revived community. The Council, despite all its promises, has still not finished the project. Some of its thinking and decisions still regard the London Road as the A4, a through route, not one where people live and work and contribute a lot to Bath’s economy.

Send us your views on business and shopping in the London Road, subject line **London Road Business** to [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)

### **FAIRFIELD PARK & LARKHALL ARE CUT OFF FROM LONDON ROAD**

In September the Council withdrew subsidies from First Bus’s 6 and 7 routes linking Fairfield Park, Larkhall and the London Road. Anyone in Fairfield or Larkhall who finds it difficult to walk or carry shopping, now cannot reach GPs at Grosvenor Place Surgery or the London Road shops, including Morrison’s supermarket. Some people may have been forced into cars as a result, undermining the present policy to get cars off the road to reduce congestion and pollution. A petition of over 2,500 signatures was presented to the Council on 10 November to restore these links. The online petition is here <https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/save-our-6-7-bus.html>





## WALCOT WINTERFEST HAS FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Walcot Street Traders Association and businesses in the London Road, Nelson Place and Cleveland Place are taking part in the new Walcot Winterfest from Friday 18 through Sunday 20 November. There are evening and daytime events and a special free programme for children.

In addition The Piano Shop is lending a piano to the Walcot Chapel Piano Bar for the duration of the Fest. Home ware and décor shop Verve is also contributing to the Piano Bar. There will be Christmas lights in the Nelson Place and Cleveland Place section of the London Road.

- ◆ Friday 18 Nov from 6pm **The Curfew** 11 Cleveland Place West: spicy food stall, 7.30pm Live music
- ◆ Friday 18 Nov 7.30pm **Nexus Methodist Church** Nelson Place  
Walcot State Choir & The Wiltshire Wailers
- ◆ Saturday 19 Nov 3-6pm **Verve** at **The Curfew** Try wire sculpture preview
- ◆ Sunday 20 Nov 10am-1pm, 2-5pm or 6-9pm wire sculpture workshops
- ◆ Saturday 19 Nov 11am-6pm **Bath Auctioneers** Nelson Place Auction
- ◆ Sunday 20 Nov 10am-1pm Antiques & collectibles valuation day

### Free events for children

- ◆ Friday 18 November 1-3pm **Pencil Tree** 5 Cleveland Place Face painting
- ◆ Saturday 19 November 3-4.45 pm Face painting
- ◆ Saturday 19 November 2.30pm **Lane House Arts** 5 Nelson Place East  
Storytelling followed by drawing and drinks and chocolate
- ◆ Saturday 19 November 4 for 4.30pm **Nexus Methodist Church** Secret Film on a winter theme, 100 free tickets from Jenny Pollitt 07767498403

The full Walcot Winterfest programme is available in the local shops. Also follow on [www.facebook.com/walcotwinterfest](http://www.facebook.com/walcotwinterfest)



Winterfest at Pencil Tree



The Curfew



Lane House Arts



Bath Auctioneers

## YOUR VIEWS ON KENSINGTON MEADOWS

Many thanks to everyone who sent us views on Kensington Meadows and what improvements you would like to see there. We had 35 replies to our survey, mostly from regular KM users. In addition, we received these beautiful photos of KM's mini wildlife from Debbie Picken.

From the responses we received, the experience of KM is mostly positive. The main purpose for going there is to take regular exercise and a breath of fresh air– either with or without children and dogs. It also makes a scenic walk to Morrisons.

Most of you would like the development of events with an educational bias, such as wildlife walks, celebrating local history, and wildlife planting.

You also embraced the idea of activities which promote keeping fit, including the presence of outdoor gym equipment and organised walks for health.

A strong minority of respondents severely criticised dog mess and lack of dog discipline. Human mess was also fiercely disliked. About half of the replies indicated people are not against organised litter picks. Whether it's dog or human mess, this is an important reason for people NOT using KM.

We have tried to address these problems in the past and clearly we need to continue to do so with the Council's help. We will take your views to the Council and ask for action on both the negatives and the positives.

If you have more views about KM or would like to receive the survey on email, please email with subject line **KM Survey** [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)  
Please send us more photos! subject line **Art and More** [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)



© Debbie Picken

## SUPPORT VEGMEAD TO CONTINUE AT HEDGEMEAD PARK

Out of the blue in the summer, the Council told Vegmead Community Garden that they could no longer use their organic fruit and veg plot at Hedgemead Park, where they have been for the last 5 years.

LRSHP and Friends of Kensington Meadows joined the storm of protest and we were delighted when the Council changed its mind. Vegmead has been so successful in providing gardening activity and food for volunteers as well as supplying Foodcycle for Bath's neediest people. Even after 5 years of success, the Council still wants more proof or Vegmead may face eviction again next year. So Vegmead still needs our support.

There are volunteer gardening sessions on Sundays 10am-1pm at Hedgemead Park on the London Road/St Margaret's Hill side (BA1 5NG). Contact Adam Jukes [adam.jukes@hotmail.com](mailto:adam.jukes@hotmail.com) or Tel 07971387019  
[www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vegmead%20community%20garden](http://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vegmead%20community%20garden)

## CLEVELAND POOLS NEED YOU TO MAKE HISTORY HAPPEN !



The Cleveland Pools Trust still faces a real challenge if we are to save the Pools. The ever increasing number of events there shows how much the Pools are loved and what a wonderful venue they are for films, story-telling, photography and art, music and performance, reunions and weddings. How much better will they be when you can also don your togs and take a swim!

You can help by taking the Cleveland Pools Tour which is led by Trustee Sally Helvey, who learnt to swim there. We aim to continue the tour through the restoration of the Pools. Come and make history happen! The tour departs from the large tree in Abbey Green, close to Bath Visitor Centre, every Tuesday at 11am. Tickets £6 per person from the Visitor Centre. All proceeds go to the Cleveland Pools campaign.

If you want an enchanting venue for wedding celebrations, photo and film shoots, corporate events and team building, the Pools can be hired at reasonable rates. Basic facilities include running water, toilets and electricity.

Our volunteers work hard behind the scenes to make these events possible. There are fortnightly gardening and maintenance sessions on Mondays 11am-1pm, next session 21 November. Volunteers will be manning our Christmas Market stall in Orange Grove on 8 December 10am-8.30pm, where we will be selling Christmas cards, puddings, pens and posters. Come and help us sell or help us by buying.

We also welcome all sorts of skills from event organisers, photographers, fundraisers, promotion and marketing.

The Trust needs to raise £530,000 match funding in order to secure the Heritage Lottery Fund Stage II capital grant of £3.7million (due March 2017) to enable us to start building and restoring the Pools. The good news is that thanks to the generosity of B&NES and others we are well over halfway, having raised £302,000 to date. But that leaves the Trust urgently needing a further £228,000 (either in cash or pledges) over the next four to five months.



For info on the tour, event hire and talks  
<http://www.clevelandpools.org.uk/venue-hire-tours-talks/>

To volunteer

<http://www.clevelandpools.org.uk/volunteer/>

To donate

<http://www.clevelandpools.org.uk/Appeal/>



## FRIENDS AND ACTIVITIES AT ALICE PARK

The Council has set up the Charitable Trust Board to manage Alice Park and some other parks. Local residents are seeking to form an Alice Park 'Friends' group to ensure their views are heard by the Board. The next meeting is on Wednesday 23 November at 7.30pm at New Oriel Hall.

The proposal to build a new skate park at Alice Park is going through a second round of consultation. The online petition has gained over 1,000 signatures so far. The

skate park would provide a much needed facility for young people in eastern Bath. To sign the petition, go to <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/a-skatepark-for-alice-park>



**Alice Park Café** is organising the Larkhall Real Christmas Market featuring local businesses on the weekends of 26-27 November and 3-4 December. More information for businesses and shoppers from [info@alicepark.co.uk](mailto:info@alicepark.co.uk)

**Alice Park Community Garden** is already preparing for next spring, planting early produce such as garlic, onions, broad beans and sweet peas. There are volunteer gardening sessions on Sundays 11am-1pm.

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Tel: 01225 329949 [www.gardenalia.co.uk](http://www.gardenalia.co.uk)

## DEFIBRILLATOR AT MORRISONS

The defibrillator at Morrison's has instructions on how to use it to keep a heart attack victim alive until the ambulance arrives.

The equipment was installed following fundraising by Morrison's staff, customers, and a Council grant from Cllr Lisa Brett.

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3 Walcot Buildings, London Road, Bath BA1 6AD  
Tel/fax 01225 315857 email [michael.saffell@virgin.net](mailto:michael.saffell@virgin.net)

## EAST BATH PARK & RIDE IS THE WRONG SOLUTION

The Council wants to decide on the East Bath Park and Ride site or sites by the end of this year. It is generally admitted that this P&R will not reduce pollution or congestion on the London Road. If it goes ahead, more long-distance lorries are likely to use the London Road, hauliers assuming there will be fewer cars. But with bus services, such as the 6 and 7, being cut, local residents might decide to drive to the P&R just to catch a bus into town.

It's surely nonsense to spend £9.7 million of taxpayers' money on a P&R which does not take account of these problems. Council forecasts of increased demand for car parking are not borne out at Odd Down P&R. Bathampton Meadows Alliance's video of a visit there shows weeds have taken over row after row of parking bays only four years after the Council expanded capacity. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOcq6MCdDUM>

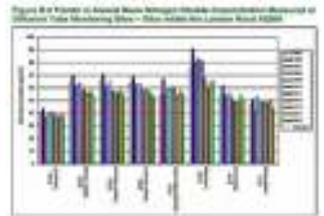
We need better air quality and less traffic congestion in the London Road and in Bath. We need through traffic off the London Road and out of Bath. There should be more investment in electric and hybrid vehicles for local traffic and on expanding local buses services, not on a Park & Ride.

Your views please, subject **East Bath P and R**, to [lrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:lrshp@hotmail.com)

## LONDON ROAD AIR QUALITY LIVE

The Council has automatic air quality monitoring equipment close to the Snow Hill pedestrian crossing and non-automatic monitors elsewhere along the London Road. The results from these monitors show that, apart from Dorchester Street and Broad Street in the centre of town, the London Road is the most polluted place in B&NES, well above the national safety limit.

The Council's 2016 Air Quality Annual Status report gives the average levels of pollutants for 2015 and for the previous 9 years. In this graph for the main traffic-generated pollutant, NO<sub>x</sub> (nitrogen dioxide), the red horizontal line indicates the safe limit for human health. Pollution has been reduced in our area, but much more needs to be done.



Now Bath: Hacked, a joint Council and community initiative to make more effective use of public data, offers Council air quality information live as the numbers feed in. The Bath: Hacked team are all volunteers with an award winning record for producing useful apps, eg the live parking spaces app for car parks and Park & Rides. Perhaps they will develop an air quality app.

There are tutorials on the Bath: Hacked website and the team hold Learning sessions on how to use the available data, whether on air quality, parking spaces, traffic flow conditions, or a large range of other subjects.

The live Air Quality data is here

<https://data.bathhacked.org/Environment/-Live-Air-Quality-Sensor-Data/hqr9-djir/data>

## PLACES TO MEET, GROUPS AND EVENTS

- ✦ **Riverside Youth & Community Centre**, York Place, London Rd, BA1 6AE  
Contact Gemma Parsons Tel: 337844 [Gemma\\_Parsons@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Gemma_Parsons@bathnes.gov.uk)  
Tue 7-9pm National Autistic Society, Wed 10am-3pm Mosaic lunch group; 6.30-8.30pm Open Youth Club; Thurs 10am-12noon Bath Toy Library (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs each month); 6.30-8.30pm Open Youth Club. Music project at Youth Club & at other times if pre-booked. More info [clive\\_gordon@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:clive_gordon@bathnes.gov.uk).
- ✦ **Bath Toy Library** at Riverside (see above) Contact T: 07425562565  
[bathtoylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:bathtoylibrary@gmail.com) Info [www.bathtoylibrary.co.uk](http://www.bathtoylibrary.co.uk)
- ✦ **The Gateway Community Centre** Snow Hill, Bath BA1 6DH (corner with London Rd). Many community-led projects & activities; partnership with outside organisations delivering community services; room hire for social activities; autumn/winter and Christmas events. Contact Domenica on 07736045942 See the noticeboard or follow on facebook [www.facebook.com/The-Gateway-Community-Centre-Bath-212638518774446/](http://www.facebook.com/The-Gateway-Community-Centre-Bath-212638518774446/) .
- ✦ **The Salisbury Club**, Hawthorn House, London Rd, BA1 6AB  
Membership club open Monday to Friday 6.30-12pm, Saturday 12am-12pm, Sunday 12 noon to 5.30pm. Bars, TV, skittle alley, pool & matched snooker tables, wifi. Large function room and private riverside garden available for hire. Membership £15 per year (seniors £10). Tel: 01225 425651
- ✦ **Nexus Methodist Church** Nelson Place, Bath BA1 5DA Tel 461509 (Wed & Thurs 10am-2pm) [www.nexusbath.org.uk](http://www.nexusbath.org.uk) Genesis Sun lunch 1pm; Mon lunch club 11am, Wed & Fri 10-11.45am parents & toddlers, see Walcot Winterfest, p5.
- ✦ **Claremont Methodist Centre**, Eastbourne Ave, Bath BA1 6EA  
Thurs 10.30am-12noon Coffee and chat; ACE arts & craft fortnightly Wed 10.30am-12.30pm; Sat 3 Dec Christmas Fayre, Sun 11 Dec Christmas Concert, Sat 17 Dec Christingle party; room hire. Contact as above.
-  **New Oriol Hall** Brookleaze Buildings, Bath BA1 6RA Tel 466606  
9am-3pm 7 days a week Classes, events for all age groups, room hire, library Mon-Fri 10am-3pm. Film Club fortnightly Fridays at 7.30pm, next on 25 Nov. Xmas clothes sale Fri 2 Dec 7-10.30pm. Larks in Larkhall festive event Fri 9 Dec 5-9 pm. Info <http://neworielhall.org.uk>
-  **Alice Park Community Garden** Alice Park, Gloucester Rd (& London Rd) Sunday volunteer gardening sessions 11am-1pm. Join at <http://apcg.co.uk> or [info@aliceparkcommunitygarden.org](mailto:info@aliceparkcommunitygarden.org).
- ✦ **Transition Larkhall** Community group furthering local sustainability, including safer cycling, clean air, Alice Park Community Garden, Alice Park skate park, Bristol Credit Union branch. More info, join at <http://transitionlarkhall.uk/>
- ✦ **Morrisons** London Rd, Bath BA1 6AE Tel: 789617 Office room free for community groups daytime on an *ad hoc* basis. Must book, info from Kate Edwards by letter (hand in to customer services desk) or phone. We apologise for getting Kate Edwards' name wrong in the summer issue.

## COUNCILLORS - COUNCIL - POLICE - ESSENTIAL SERVICES

**Walcot Ward** Cllr Fiona Darey T 07966441820 [fiona\\_darey@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:fiona_darey@bathnes.gov.uk)  
Cllr Lisa Brett T 07787314094 [lisa\\_brett@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:lisa_brett@bathnes.gov.uk)  
**Lambridge Ward** Cllr Lin Patterson T 311163 [lin\\_patterson@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:lin_patterson@bathnes.gov.uk)  
Cllr Rob Appleyard T 07527 577186 [rob\\_appleyard@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:rob_appleyard@bathnes.gov.uk)

### **B&NES Council One Stop Shop**

**(all Council services (including complaints & appointments for the Citizens Advice Bureau))**

Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath BA1 1JG

Tel: 01225 394041 Text (SMS): 07797 806545

8am-6pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 9.30am-6pm Wednesday

Email: [councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk) Web: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/reportit)

### **Police Neighbourhood Beat Manager Bath City Outer (our area)**

PC Gary Peters Non-emergencies Tel 101

Crimestoppers (anonymously report crime) 0800 555 111

**Avon Fire & Rescue Service** Non-emergencies 0117 926 2061

**National Health Service** Non-emergencies 111

**Police, Fire and Ambulance** Emergencies Tel 999

**Power Cut Hotline** Tel 105 or visit [www.powercut105.com](http://www.powercut105.com)



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## ATTENTION! RIVERSIDE YOUNG POETS SPEAK OUT



Riverside Youth Hub's young poets led the launch of a new poetry book by young people in B&NES called **Attention!**

Bethany Tavener and Marcello Fraser (pictured) read their poems to an entranced audience. Their ability to convey heart-rending emotion, hope and determination on a journey through very challenging circumstances was arresting. Their love of exploring language and its musicality was

inspiring. These are young people with a lot of experience and a wealth of ideas. Their performance was from the heart. All the poems in the book are like that, very clear, very strong. MC for the event was Riverside Youth Hub member Jamie Jean-Francios, who presented the evening in engaging style.

Renowned film maker Ken Loach wrote a foreword to the book, in which he encourages us to listen carefully. I want to read this book again and again.

**Attention!** is available for £3 at Mr B's Emporium of Reading Delights in John Street, Bath, or from the Youth Connect office Tel: 01225 396980 or [youthconnect\\_supportservices@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:youthconnect_supportservices@bathnes.gov.uk)

◆ The revamp of the Riverside facilities has been postponed from last September to January or February 2017. The Hub will be closed for two weeks when the work is under way. Once it is finished, Mentoring Plus, which mentors young people, will join the other groups. Current activities, p10.

### **MORE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENTS**

◆ **Kilter Theatre** is doing *Unsung* interviews to be broadcast on Bath Hospital Radio from January 2017. Contact [kilterolly@gmail.com](mailto:kilterolly@gmail.com)

◆ **Walcot State Choir** at Claremont Methodist Centre, Eastbourne Ave, Bath BA1 6EA Tues at 7.15-9.15pm. Fri 18 Nov, see p5. Tue 13 Dec Choir Party at BRLSI, Join us, first session is free. Info <http://www.walcotstatechoir.com>  
Listen to the choir <http://www.walcotstatechoir.com/music/babaall.mp3>

◆ **Rondo Theatre** St Saviours Rd, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6RT  
Community & professional performances of plays, music, poetry.  
Info <http://www.rondotheatre.co.uk> Tickets 0333 666 3366



◆ **Burdall's Yard (Bath Spa University)** 7A Anglo Terrace, Bath BA1 5NH. New theatre, comedy, music, dance, poetry performed by students and professionals. Tickets: [www.bathspalive.com](http://www.bathspalive.com)

◆ **Story Fridays** at Burdall's Yard. 13 January 2017, 7.30 for 8pm, short stories performed on the theme of Ice. Submit stories by Mon 2 Jan 2017. Writers' workshop Sat 3 Dec 10am-1pm Bath Central Library. Essential info [www.awordinyourear.org.uk](http://www.awordinyourear.org.uk) contact: [clare.reddaway@btinternet.com](mailto:clare.reddaway@btinternet.com)