

MAY
2017

Gm2Lf
a formula for change

BIG
LOCAL
WORKING
FOR YOU.

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Big Local 2
AGM and
New Plan

Big Local in 3
Bloom 2018

What's 4/5
Going on?

Volunteer 7
Celebration

What's 7
happening
in Lion Fam

Money 8
Matters -
Loans &
Savings

Changing Times

SPRING EDITION

New Outdoor Gym Opens in Lion Farm



In March 2017, a new six-piece outdoor gym was installed at the base of Harry Price House and next to Whiteheath Medical Centre in the Lion Farm Estate.

The gym is free to use, open all the time and includes an air walker, ski stepper, parallel rails, a rower, a bike, a lateral pull and chest press.

Since its recent opening it has been great to see that the new gym has already been used by lots of residents. It is a fun and free way to improve your fitness at a time that suits you.

The £15,000 leisure facility has been funded by Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF) Big Local, with a grant from Sandwell Council and support from the Oldbury and Rowley Community Activity Network Development Officers.

GM2LF in partnership with Sandwell Leisure Trust will be holding an open event on Tuesday 13th June 2017, 3.15pm - 4.30pm pop along and find out more and how to use the gym.

Have You Got an Idea?

If you know of somewhere in the GM2LF Big Local area that could benefit from such a facility or maybe you would like to see a play area, please do get in touch and the partnership can explore the idea further. GM2LF Big Local is about making changes locally and is driven by you the local people.

AGM & Community Event

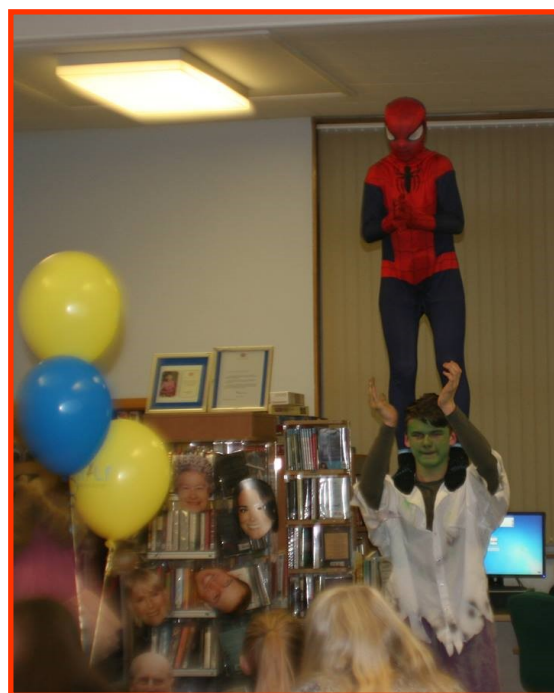
On 15th March 2017, Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF) Big Local held their AGM and Community event at Rounds Green Library.

Thank you to everyone that came along, supported or took part at the event. With almost 100 people there, it was amazing to see such a big turnout. It was an opportunity for everyone to see the incredible talent the area has with performances from the Lion Farm Dance Group and Choir Group and Jack and Charlotte Lowe.

It was also a time for people to see what GM2LF Big Local has achieved and to have their say in helping Big Local move forward in the coming years. (please see a new plan for GM2LF Big Local below).

We are also pleased to announce the election results; Chris Sale, St James Church (Chair), Fr. Martin Ennis, Holy Cross Church (Vice Chair) and Tracy Lowe, Wallace Youth Project and local resident (Secretary). Thank you to Kate Cross, Sharon Offley and Vicky Jones who volunteered in these roles previously. Deborah Worley from Rounds Green Library was also elected onto the board.

Finally thank you to Mayor, Councilor Julie Webb for her support in attending. Also thank you to Les Cross for the photography, Lisa from the Phoenix for the catering, Memories Balloons and Mascots for the decorations, Half Penny Farm, Oldbury for donating the meal voucher and Rounds Green Library for the venue.



Please like the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF) Facebook page, check out the other photos and keep up to date with what is going on

A New Plan for GM2LF Big Local

The GM2LF Big Local Partnership are excited to announce that Big Local plan has been endorsed and the funding for the next 3 years has been approved by the funder, Local Trust.

The plan runs from April 2017 -March 2020 and summaries and full copies of the plan are available on the GM2LF website: www.gm2lf.org. Alternatively, for a copy please contact Helen Trueman by email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Local Trust | Big Local

Big Local in Bloom 2017

Following the success of the GM2LF Big Local in Bloom competitions last year, the competitions for 2017 have now been launched.

The competitions are open to everyone living in the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local area.

Gardening Competition

Enter your front garden, back garden or balcony

- First Prize £150
- Second Prize £100
- Third Prize £50 Homebase voucher

Closing date for applications: Friday 26th May 2017

Poster Design Competition

Open to all children living in, or attending school or a club in the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local area

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third and the winning poster will be used to publicise Big Local in Bloom 2018.

Closing date for applications: Friday 14th July 2017

For more information contact:

Kate Cross or Helen Trueman
Lion Farm Action Centre
Harry Price House
Hartlebury Road
Oldbury
B69 1EQ
Tel: 0121 544 3094
Email: kate.lfac@yahoo.co.uk



Poster Design Competition Winner

2016

William Parker

Enter
To Win!

Suggest a Big Local Clean – Win a Day Out!

Do you know of somewhere in the Big Local area that could do with a clean-up? If yes would you be willing to help by getting involved in the clean up? If yes, you will be entitled to a free day out! Make it a family affair and get the kids involved too, everyone who joins in gets a voucher. Those that don't miss out!

Even if you don't suggest an area but would still like to be involved in a clean-up, register your interest and we will let you know where the clean ups will be taking place.



To suggest an area and or register your interest please do so by emailing Helen Trueman at helen.gm2lf@outlook.com or calling 07724 584241.

What's on each week in and around our Big Local Area

Monday

Oakham Library 10:15-11am Story and Rhyme Time . (Under 5's a morning story and rhyme).

St James Church 1-3pm Indoor Carpet bowls
Open to all within the Big Local area, competitive fun for all.

Lion Farm Action Centre 1pm-3pm Art Group
Open to all within the Big Local area, Art Tuition for both the beginners and experts.

Lion Farm Action Centre 3:30pm - 5pm. After School Club Dance session also held on a Friday and midweek activities (Age 8—12).

Oakham Library 3:30-pm - 4:30pm Art Club.
Children can come and be creative with a variety of materials.

Oakham Library from 4pm Family Film Club
Families and Children invited to come and watch our family films.

Holy Cross Church. 6pm - 7.30pm Karate (all ages).

St James Church 7—8.30pm Slimming World
A friendly group for those that want to lose weight or feel better about themselves.

Tuesday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30—11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church 9:15am Carer and Toddlers. Pre-school play, make new friends and Carers get a chance to meet.

St James Church 9am - 11am Parent and Toddlers . A play and stay toddler group. 9am—12pm. Place of Welcome.

Lion Farm Action Centre 1pm—3pm Over 50s Friendship Club.
Quizzes, craft and chat and fun.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Holy Cross Church 4.30pm—5.30pm Dance House for age 11 and under. 5.30pm - 6.30pm Dance House age 12 plus.

Wallace Youth Cub Tuesdays 5.30pm-7.30pm 8-16 years old . Great opportunities and activities for young people.

Oakham Evangelical Church 7pm Tuesday Crew Activities include Pool, table tennis, games, and art sand crafts. Tuck shop

Wednesday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find

Rounds Green Library 10.30am - 12pm Knit and Natter.

Oakham Library 11am-12:30pm Theory test Pro and Go Citizen.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 1.30pm—3.30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Holy Cross Church 5.45pm - 6.45pm. Rainbow Guides.

Holy Cross Church 6pm - 7.30pm. Brownie Guides.

St James Church 6 - 7.30pm Tividale Shotokan Karate Club (Age 5+). Also held on a Friday 6-7.30pm.

Thursday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church 10.30am. TLC Club for senior citizens, meet up, chat and take part in activities. Lunch provided.

Hope Church 10:30am-12:30pm Indoor Bowling for over 50s. Great activity for unwinding and getting rid of stress.

Lion Farm Action Centre 11:30am-1:30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Portway Lifestyle Centre 7pm-8pm Karate for Beginners.

Portway Lifestyle Centre 8pm - 9pm Karate for those aged 18 plus unless accompanied by an adult

St James Church 7-9pm RE:Act Youth Club
Offering a range of craft, sports and a place relax and meet up with friends.

Friday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Holy Cross Church 8.30am - 9.30am Tea and Toast.

Holy Cross Church 11am. Mass – short simple said service. 12pm - 1.30pm Free lunch at "Fathers Kitchen".

St James Church 1.30-3.30pm Bingo
A locally run social group for all residents, join the fun of an afternoon of Bingo.

Lion Farm Action Centre 1:30pm-3:30pm Multi Crafts. Try your hand at something a little crafty.

Holy Cross Church 1.30pm Bingo
A great get together for all residents 2.30pm Cards and Dominos. A social gathering for all.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Oakham Evangelical Church 7pm Friday Youth Club. Activities and chance to meet friends. For young people aged 11 plus.

Saturday

Rounds Green Library 10-11am
Councillor Surgeries Bring your ideas and concerns to your local councillors

Portway lifestyle Centre 10.30-2:30pm Eminence Dance Works
Creative Dance Group for all

Oakham Library 10:30-12pm
Breakfast Club for Children 8 and over. Free Toast and drinks

Rounds Green Library 11-11:45am
Colouring and Craft Club
Colouring sheets and puzzles

Wallace Youth Project 5pm—6pm.
Lowes Combat Academy Fitness, Free Kickboxing (Age 8 - 16).

Darley House, Wallace Close 5.30pm.
Get Motivated to Lose Fat Lose Fat, slimming and fitness club

Sunday

Oakham Evangelical Church
10am Communion Service a time to stop , reflect and refresh
6:00pm Evening Family Celebration,

St James CofE Church 10-11am
Morning Worship and Sunday School
A friendly traditional Church, sharing God's love to all

Holy Cross CofE Church
6pm Sunday Mass. A friendly group meeting for relaxed worship and prayer. Chat and cuppa afterwards.

Newbury Lane Methodist Church
10:45am Morning Service and Junior Church
6pm Sunday Evening Service every

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Get Motivated to Lose Fat	07817 175998
Holy Cross Church	01384 257888
Lion Farm Action Centre	0121 544 3094
Newbury Lane Methodist Church	0121 552 2145
Portway Lifestyle Centre	0300 012 0121
Oakham Evangelical Church	01384 859012
Oakham Library	01384 255563
Rounds Green Library	0121 552 2879
St James Church	0121 552 5491
Wallace Youth Club	07817 175998

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion on the website or in this newsletter please email Helen Trueman: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Mention of products or services in this newsletter should not be construed as an endorsement or recommendation by GM2LF Big Local Partnership.

Celebrating Our Volunteers

As part of the UK's National Volunteers' Week which runs from 1st - 7th June 2017, GM2LF Big Local are holding a party to celebrate our volunteers on Tuesday 6th June 2017, 1pm - 3pm at Rounds Green Library, Martley Road, Oldbury, B69 1DZ.

The party is being held as a way to say 'Thank You' and to recognise the outstanding contribution which is made by volunteers in the area. These people are a shining example of how we can all make a big difference to other people and the communities we live in every day.

Nominate a Volunteer

If you know of someone who volunteers in the area you can nominate them for an award and help to celebrate the difference they make. For a nomination form or more information please contact Kate Cross on 0121 544 3094 or email: kate.lfac@yahoo.co.uk



The party is free and everyone is welcome!
Come join the celebration, enjoy a light lunch and find out more about volunteering.




Contact GM2LF Big Local

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 Visit our website: www.gm2lf.org

 Like us: Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF)

 Follow us: @GM2LF_Official

General Enquiries

Helen Trueman, GM2LF Big Local Development Co-ordinator

Email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Tel: 07724 5842411

Post: Lion Farm Action Centre, Harry Price House, Hartlebury Road, Oldbury.B69 1EQ.

If you would like to be added to the Big Local mailing list please contact Helen Trueman using the details above.

What's Happening in Lion Farm

Are you coming out to play?



Indoor Bowls every Monday 1pm - 3pm, at St James Church Lion Farm Estate.

A fun and social interactive afternoon while getting a bit of light exercise. There's music and a friendly atmosphere with plenty of time to have a chat. Come along and show us you're bowling skills or come along and learn a new skill. All new members are welcome. Tea coffee and biscuits included. The session costs £2.

Please contact Sharon Offley on 0121 544 3094.

Over 50's Group

Every Tuesday 1pm - 3pm at the Lion Farm Action Centre.

The Group is for those aged 50'ish+ and is all about social interaction - getting out and about, having fun and making new friends. Don't want to sit around the house all the time just wishing you had somewhere to go. Come and join us we play quizzes, board games and have a chat and giggle with a nice cup of tea and biscuits.

Please contact Sharon Offley on 0121 544 3094.



Talent Show



For the past couple of years Lion Farm Action Centre After School Club have put on a Talent Show for family, friends and local community.

This year is no different Talent Show will be held on Thursday 25th May at 4pm at St James Church on the Lion Farm Estate.

The children have been working really hard learning dances choreographed by our dance coach Vicky Jones and learning new songs at our new choir session. Some of these will be showcased at the Talent Show plus children will be showcasing their own talents too.

Raffle, tombola and refreshments will be available.

Tickets cost £1. Please contact Sharon Offley on 0121 544 3094.

Money Matters

Working in partnership with GM2LF Big Local 6Towns Credit Union are holding drop in sessions every Tuesday at St James Church, 9.00am to 11.00am and Rounds Green Library every Monday from 2.00pm till 4.00pm.

Please ask for Danielle or Angela and they can assist you applying for a 6Towns;

- Current Account and Debit Card with your own sort code and account number.
- Savings Account you can save from just a £1.00 per week.
- Personal loans and loans for Co-op electrical items including TV's washing machines and games consoles.

Drop in to one the sessions for a chat or give 6 Towns a call on 0121 553 3110 business hours 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday.



Don't miss out on the Junior Savings Account - Savings matched up to £25

GM2LF Big Local in partnership with 6Towns Credit Union are offering pupils who attend schools in the Big Local area (St James Primary, Grace Mary Primary and Oakham Primary) a fantastic savings opportunity.

So, what's the deal?

- Children open a Junior Savers account with a minimum of 50p and the required identification
- Whatever children can save from now up until 30th November 2017, GM2LF Big Local will match this amount, up to the maximum of **£25**
- The savings and match money is administered directly into the pupils 6Towns account
- To be eligible for the match money children must have saved a minimum of £5 and not made any withdrawals from their savings, from the time when they opened the account up until the end of November 2017

Savings Accounts are available to all children the **first 300** pupils to open an account can take up the £25.00 savings opportunity.

What is the catch?

There is none, GM2LF Big Local is about providing opportunities and making a difference to the people who live, work or volunteer in the area. This exciting opportunity is funded by the Big Lottery and money has been invested in the area for 10 years. For more information please visit: www.gm2lf.org

For more information please drop in to one the sessions above for a chat or call 0121 553 3110. You can also check out 6 Towns Facebook page 6Towns Credit Union.



Thank you for the Donation

GM2LF Big Local Partnership would like to thank Halfpenny Farm, Oldbury, who kindly donated a £25 meal voucher as a raffle prize at the Gm2Lf Big Local AGM and Community event which was held on the 15th March 2017.

Halfpenny Farm, Joseph Street, Oldbury B69 2AQ.
Visit: www.farmhouseinns.co.uk/locations/half-penny-farm

