

BID TIMES

May 2014



Acocks Green Village BID

WELCOME to the BID's May newsletter. We've had a busy start to the year, and this is set to continue with some great offers, training and events. Many of you have applied for the £1,000 Retail Rates Rebate that we highlighted in the last newsletter, and have now received that. There's still time so make sure you don't lose out on this little windfall!

BCR (Business Cost Reductions) - As highlighted in our last newsletter, we have been doing some great work on your behalf engaging the services of BCR. We will be

visiting you all shortly with a leaflet telling you all about the service that they provide, but the main thing to note is the massive **COST SAVINGS** that they can help you achieve.



Local business owner Chris from CJF Meats (pictured) said "As a levy payer

owning a business within the BID area, I took advantage of BCR Associates' no cost-no obligation cost review. With their knowledge of the industry they quickly returned concise solutions, establishing savings and more appropriate terms and conditions on our utility costs and usage and our insurance premiums. I would not hesitate in recommending them to fellow businesses"

The Chair of the BID Sabiha Farmer from Dazzle, also took advantage of talking to BCR and said "I was extremely impressed with their professionalism and delighted with the proposed cost savings they could make me. Their knowledge of the different services they cover, ongoing advice and assistance in a multitude of areas is unsurpassed. It's great that the BID has sourced this as a

free consultancy service on behalf of the businesses in the Village".

If you are interested in talking to BCR about everything from utility savings, telephone, insurance premiums and card charges, they will carry out a free, confidential review of your business' running costs and can make you huge savings. They can also assist you with issues relating to HR, finance and rateable values.

Email me at sandy@acocksgreenbid.com and I shall ensure that BCR gives you a call to set up a meeting to specifically discuss this with you.

IN BLOOM – The In Bloom team have been working away again this year in the lead up to the judging in July when we very much will be hoping to build on our previous success and go for a prestigious **GOLD** award. The Bloom launch was held recently and lots of volunteers turned out to help on the day as well as enjoying the many stalls and activities on offer. Pictured below is Fran Lee (far right) the Bloom Coordinator, along with other members of the team!



Also pictured overleaf are the pupils at Cottesbrooke School who are working towards their good citizen award, and have been helping to

transform the piece of land on the corner of Woodcock Lane in the Village. The children helped to make a 'Bug Hotel' to help keep the garden that is being created there healthy.



It's great to see children taking part and in turn, helping to make the Village look fantastic!

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR – The defibrillator that the BID purchased last year is finally going to have a home! This piece of life-saving equipment will be situated in Costa Coffee and after meeting with the Ambulance Service, I have managed to secure free training for anyone who wants to learn how to use this machine effectively and potentially save a life!

The first to train up were the BID team of Me, Dan, Ben and Shahir, and of course the owner of Costa, Tim Brown. The training takes around 1.5 hours, and as a result of completing the free training, you will be provided with a certificate of competence which also serves as liability insurance provided by the Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Service were so delighted that Acocks Green wants to look after its townsfolk, that they have since found us a second defibrillator free of charge, which will be cited in Dazzle. This means we will have one of these amazing boxes at either end of the Village!

Anyone wishing to do the free training, email daniel@acocksgreenbid.com and we will arrange a suitable date for you to attend.



TOWN EVENTS – The next Village Fun Day is fast approaching with the 'World Cup Fever' event on Saturday 21st June. Loads happening on the day such as the Penalty Shoot-out game and Football Table, joining us on the day is Monty the Bear football Mascot, and kids will be trying their luck to 'Beat the Bear' in goal!

Also our resident DJ Anthony is back LIVE on 107.5 FM Switch Radio between 1 and 4pm.

Back by popular demand are 'Animals in Hands', the fantastic guys with the live snakes, toads and gigantic insects that people can touch and hold!

Pictured opposite, the guys came to see us last year with the 25 foot Albino Python!

Perhaps the biggest news is that we are lucky enough to have joining us between 12-1.30pm on the day, former Aston Villa and England International, **GARY SHAW!**

Gary will be giving away signed mini footballs, an excellent way of getting that special autograph!



Gary (pictured opposite in his playing days) will be there to chat to and to sign autographs, so come on down and join in the fun, or let us know how your business would like to get involved in these events!

SNIPPETS....

- Smart Route plans for the A41 through the Village have been delayed, now anticipating work will begin in July/Aug
- Bournville College in promoting a free Smart Phone App to our Village businesses. Give me a call on 0121 706 7581 for more information
- A NEW magazine for Acocks Green, to feature advertisers, stories and features is being developed. We will be coming to see you all soon to ascertain your interest!
- Still places available on a new FREE 3-day course 'Digital High Street Skills' to help grow your business. Contact me for more details
- Election news! - Roger Harmer returns in LibDem hold for Acocks Green

Sandy Gianni, BID Manager

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