In this week’s issue ......

20 mph speed limit for Keynsham & Saltford ... pages 6 & 7
Still time to have your say

Kingswood actor lands ‘Casualty’ role ... page 8
Busy time for Adrian

Dog theft rumours ... page 21
All down to Facebook?
Bristol Airport Service starts

The new A4 Airport Shuttle service commences operation next week. From 24 March Keynsham and Saltford will have an hourly service almost throughout the day and night. The first departure leaves Saltford (Crown) at 3.28am (Keynsham Church at 3.36am) with the last service returning from Bristol Airport to arrive just after midnight. Journey time is approximately 40 minutes and the service, which originates in Bath, will also call at Hengrove Park en route. The adult return fare is £17 but there are discounts for children, students and seniors.

A special Family Return (2 adults and 3 children) costs £45. For more details and timetable visit: www.bathbuscompany.com

Keynsham Labour wins Town Council by-election

Tony Biddleston won the by-election for the vacant seat representing Keynsham South Ward on the Town Council. The turnout of 19.2% was less than half of the last Town Council poll in 2011 which was held at the same time as the B&NES District elections. The full result was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>% vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Biddleston</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>39.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carole Duckett</td>
<td>Cons</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>31.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Halliday</td>
<td>LibDem</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>27.92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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A special Family Return (2 adults and 3 children) costs £45. For more details and timetable visit: www.bathbuscompany.com

Accidents can happen...

...be it at work or simply walking down the street. They can happen at any time and any place and sometimes there can be severe consequences as a result. Whether you have suffered cuts and bruises or a life-changing injury, if the accident was not your fault it is essential that you get the right advice as early as possible.

FDC Law are specialists in Personal Injury Law and will assess whether you have a claim and, if so, against whom.

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Handy hints...
Three men were arrested within minutes of a member of the public calling the police last week to report suspicious behaviour. The incident occurred last Thursday (14th March) just after 1am when the witness saw three men pull up in a car and walk down a lane behind a detached house in Kingswood. Two men then came back to the car and drove off. In less than a minute, patrolling officers had stopped a car and arrested two men. They woke the householders and found that a distinctive high-value push bike had been taken from an outbuilding. The third man was arrested at about 1.30am in Kingswood High Street. The bike was recovered and returned to the owner by 1.45am. The three men aged 18, 19 and 23 were held in police custody today pending further enquiries.

Neighbourhood PC Dom Pickett said: “We’re really grateful to the person who called us to report their suspicions. Thanks to them we were able to return a stolen bicycle to its rightful owner. It’s always worth giving us a ring if you see something that doesn’t seem right.”

Neighbourhood PC Dom Pickett said: “We’re really grateful to the person who called us to report their suspicions. Thanks to them we were able to return a stolen bicycle to its rightful owner. It’s always worth giving us a ring if you see something that doesn’t seem right.”

The successful candidates will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure check.

Neighbourhood PC Dom Pickett said: “We’re really grateful to the person who called us to report their suspicions. Thanks to them we were able to return a stolen bicycle to its rightful owner. It’s always worth giving us a ring if you see something that doesn’t seem right.”
The seemingly endless saga of the access ramp to the Bristol bound platform at Keynsham Station may be moving forward again. The company awarded the contract has just applied to B&NES Council for planning permission to make temporary changes to the footpath from Station Road so that it can be used for construction vehicles and deliveries during the build period. While it was originally hoped to have the ramp in place in Autumn 2012, the project has been bogged down by negotiations with residents of Abbey Park which runs adjacent to the footpath. The road is not maintained by the Council and is the joint responsibility of each of the householders. Now contractors Mott MacDonald are pressing ahead with an alternative scheme which will involve the temporary removal of a stone wall on Station Road as well as diversion of the footpath, bus stop and traffic management over part of the road width. Passengers travelling to Bristol or arriving from Bath will have to use the footbridge and car park entrance on the opposite side of the station. While no date has yet been fixed for completion, work is scheduled to take just short of 6 months.

The story of the station ramp is older than The Week In itself and closely accompanied by controversy. Having had one request for government funding rejected in 2008, the go ahead was finally given a year later with the balance of the costs coming from B&NES and First. Eyebrows were raised at the overall cost of the project, understood finally to be just short of £1/2m. Once complete, the ramp will benefit wheelchair users, who currently cannot make return journeys to Bristol or Bath, as well as families with push chairs and prams.

**Kingswood**

**History Society hears about Channel Steamers**

Kingswood History Society’s first meeting of the year saw a presentation on the “Campbell’s White Funnel Fleet” - one of the major fleets for Paddle Steamer operations in the UK. Nigel Coombs of the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society gave a brief history of P&A Campbell’s fleet from 1887 and the establishment of their Bristol Channel operations.

The Society meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the Park Centre, High Street. On 2nd April the subject will be “The Whitchurch Airport Story.” For more information visit: www.kingswoodhistorysociety.org
Keynsham & Saltford

Still time to have your say on 20mph speed limit

Residents wanting to comment on plans for a blanket 20 mph speed limit on almost every road in Keynsham and Saltford have until next Thursday (28th March) to let the Council know what they think. B&NES has issued a Speed Limit Order for the controversial scheme following an initial consultation process last year. Having written to residents in the affected areas, the Council only received 1550 responses (approx 22%) of which the majority in favour was a slender 51%. Although the original proposal excluded the arterial roads through the town (Bath Road, Bath Hill, Wellsway, Charlton Road, Keynsham Road & Bristol Road) a number of amendments have been made to the TRO. These include Charlton Road extending from the High Street to Park Close junction, Bath Road extending from Bath Hill to Chandag Road junction, Wellsway extending from Bath Hill to 70 metres north of its junction with Chewton Road, and Avon Mill Lane. In Saltford, only the A4 is exempt from the 20 mph limit. See the map opposite.

Full details of the scheme are available on the B&NES Council website www.bathnes.gov.uk/20mphspeedlimit and responses can be made by e-mail to: transportation@bathnes.gov.uk or in writing to Transportation Team, Floor 2, Riverside, Temple Street, Keynsham, BS31 1LA.

The Week In on line
Keep up to date with local news as it happens at www.theweekin.co.uk
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The original, largest and still the best network of performing arts schools in the world. Nurturing and developing young people’s potential through dance, drama and singing.

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email: bristoleast@stagecoach.co.uk
www.stagecoach.co.uk/bristolkeynsham

Stagcoach Bristol, Keynsham

Theatre Arts Schools
Stagecoach

‘New session at the SBL Sports Centre, Oldland Common now available’
Local actor Adrian Harris is very busy these days. He runs Brass Works Theatre in Warmley, the only professional theatre in South Gloucestershire, but more recently, has also become a regular face in Saturday night’s BBC 1 drama ‘Casualty’ as Norman Burnton, a quirky yet sympathetic paramedic. Adrian has lived in Kingswood all his life and has over the last 15 years emerged as not only an actor appearing in such programmes as Coronation Street and Waking the Dead but also a writer. He is a member of Southwest Scriptwriters, and The Writers Forum at The Tobacco Factory Theatre. His first theatre play ‘Shoes’ was staged as part of Start Nights at Hampstead Theatre in 2005. In 2007 the double-bill of ‘Call Me’ and ‘Post Box’ were premiered at the Alma theatre in Clifton, followed by ‘Tommy’s Wait,’ at Plays for the Pro Cathedral in Bristol. During that year Adrian’s feature length screenplay was runner up in the South West Screen Scriptwriter Competition. In 2011 Adrian was commissioned by the Writers’ Forum at the Ustinov Theatre in Bath to write ‘The Fairer Race’ for Game Play, with Bath Spa University, which was performed at February’s Script Factory.

When Adrian opened the Brass Works Theatre last year, he wrote, directed and took the leading role in Engineers’ Blue, a tale set during World War II, involving workers at the local Douglas Engineering factory in Kingswood. Since then he has directed the latest version of The Hound of the Baskervilles at Brass Works, and is set to involve himself in another production at the theatre in April. With so much happening for Adrian, we can only wish him success in his acting career as the well-meaning Norman in Casualty, and in the real world as the founder of Brass Works Theatre at Warmley.
Planning Applications

The following is a resume of recent planning applications which have been decided by B&NES and South Gloucestershire Councils. For a full report, including any grant conditions or reasons for refusal go to www.bathnes.gov.uk or www.southglos.gov.uk

Decisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>PROPOSAL</th>
<th>DECISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 WILLOW WALK, KEYNSHAM, BS31 2TR</td>
<td>Erection of a rear conservatory</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 DOWNSWAY, PAULTON, BS39 7XH</td>
<td>Erection of a single storey rear extension</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29A CHARLTON PARK, KEYNSHAM, BS31 2ND</td>
<td>Erection of two storey side extension</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAIRFELD HSE, WOOLLARD LN, PUBLLOW, BS14 0QT</td>
<td>Alterations and extensions to front and rear dormers</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 HOME MEAD, CORSTON LANE, CORSTON, BA2 9AE</td>
<td>Erection of a front porch to replace existing porch (retrospective)</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 QUEENSLAND DRIVE, DOWEND BS16 8LQ</td>
<td>Demolition of existing rear extension. Erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152 BATH ROAD LONGWELL GREEN BS30 9DB</td>
<td>Erection of two storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>196 BATH ROAD LONGWELL GREEN BS30 9DB</td>
<td>Erection of two storey rear extension and installation of 2no. front dormer windows to form additional living accommodation</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 DUCIE ROAD STAPLE HILL BS16 5JY</td>
<td>Erection of rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. Erection of 2no. dwellings with cycle store, access and associated works.</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAND ADJ 1 BARRINGTON CL KINGSWOOD BS15 4QD</td>
<td>Erection of single storey rear extension. Erection of raised deck</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321 SOUNDWELL ROAD SOUNDWELL BS15 1JH</td>
<td>Erection of two storey side extension to form 1no. dwelling with parking</td>
<td>PERMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 KINGSLEY PARK KINGSWOOD BS15 9PJ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>PROPOSAL</th>
<th>DECISION</th>
<th>Ref No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>107 CHANDAG ROAD, KEYNSHAM, BS31 1OE</td>
<td>Erection of a single storey extension to rear and erection of conservatory. Conversion of barn to form 1no. holiday accommodation unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>13/00636/FUL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE FATNING SHED BEACH FARM WICK BS30 9IW</td>
<td>Demolition of existing conservatory to facilitate erection of garden room</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0774/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 HEATHFIELDS DOWNEND HS5</td>
<td>Erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0759/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 CERES CLOSE LONGWELL GREEN BS30 9AR</td>
<td>Change of use of residential and erection of single storey residential annexe</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0716/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74 HILL STREET KINGSWOOD BS15 4EX</td>
<td>Erection of single storey side extension to form residential annexe</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0333/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9A GRIMSBURY ROAD KINGSWOOD BS15 9RZ</td>
<td>Change of use from (Class A1) retail to (Class D1) Chiropractic exercise rehabilitation centre</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0555/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 COSHAM STREET MANGOTSFIELD BRISTOL BS16 9EN</td>
<td>Erection of two storey front extension and single storey rear extension with balconies over and single storey rear extension. Alterations to roofline to facilitate loft conversion</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0669/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 WILLSBRIDGE HILL WILLSBRIDGE BS30 6EX</td>
<td>Construction of all weather riding arena. Change of use of land to residential curtilage and demolition of existing outbuilding to facilitate the erection of single storey extension.</td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0735/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAND AT REDEFT LANE PUCKLECHURCH BS16 9NS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0812/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOONS LODGE SISTON HILL SISTON BS30 5LU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PK13/0731/F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sudoku

1-Easy

2 -Hard

CHEMISTS WEEKEND

Sunday 24th March

Co-operative Pharmacy, Superstore, Broadmead Lane, Keynsham
(10am-4pm)

Boots, Gallagher Retail Park, Longwell Green (10.30am-4pm)

Asda Store Longwell Green
(10am-4pm)

Boots, Emersons Green Retail Park
(10.30am-4pm)

Sainsbury's, Emersons Green
(11am-4pm)

Co-operative Pharmacy, Halls Road, Kingswood (10am-4pm)
**Letters**

**Bypass and 5000 homes in Saltford**

**Dear Editor,**

Last week, Liberal Democrat Leader of B&NES Council, Cllr Paul Crossley, claimed the he and his party played no part in plans which could have seen 5,000 built on Saltford’s Greenbelt. I am afraid I find this claim very hard to accept, given the fact that the Liberal Democrats run B&NES, and it was B&NES who proposed this in the first place.

As a former Leader of the Council myself, I feel I can speak with some insight on this matter. I fail to believe that the Council’s planning officers would not have run this idea past the Liberal Democrat administration and sought their seal of approval before presenting it to Saltford Parish Council. For the Liberal Democrats to try and shirk responsibility for their own plans and claim ‘it was nothing to do with us’ is not just misleading, but unhealthy for democracy. The Party running the Council must take responsibility for the actions of the Council. Claims of ignorance will not wash with the electorate, and will simply smack of incompetence.

The Council’s initial proposals for the revised Core Strategy were based almost entirely around building thousands of new homes all along the A4 corridor. There is no doubt in my mind that, had it not been for the robust arguments presented by Conservative councillors and Saltford Parish Council, this prospect could have become a reality. Thankfully, this immediate threat has now passed. But we will continue to keep a watchful eye on the Council’s plans to ensure Saltford is never swallowed up by a ‘Bristol and Bath’ conurbation.

Your faithfully,

Cllr Francine Haeberling, Cons, Saltford

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**Landlords could do more to help traders**

**Dear Editor,**

We see shops closing in the High Street and some people blame B&NES - but for once they are not to blame. The traders say that they are hit by supermarkets in Longwell Green etc. and that free parking would help; that the regeneration of the Civic Centre has an effect and, of course, the general financial situation and its effect on all.

There is, however, one big factor that is not mentioned. Landlords. Some traders’ rents are increasing by over 25%. This leaves the traders with few options; increase their prices which will slow down trade, reduce staff or cut their hours or ultimately, the last nail in the coffin, shut up shop. If the landlords took a more empathic and community minded approach I am sure it would save our High Street and endear themselves to the traders, their tenants, and the public in general.

Roy Staddon (Cllr), by e-mail

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**Write to us**

The Week In is independent of any political or commercial interest. We aim to produce a balanced and accurate view of local news and welcome comments from our readers. Normally, we will publish letters in full but reserve the right to shorten or clarify the contents or to refuse publication. Please try to keep letters under 300 words and supply your full name and address for reasons of authentication. Only the name and district where you live will be reproduced. Anonymity is possible under certain circumstances.

**Copy can be sent by post or, preferably, e-mail and should arrive at our offices no later than 5.30pm on the Monday of each week. E-mail to: admin@theweekin.co.uk**
Letters

WOMEN CAN’T PARK??

Dear Editor,
I felt I had to respond to the Motoring article by Ollie, in particular the paragraph concerning “Parking,” and the ineptitude of women to accomplish this manoeuvre. Opposite me there are several parking bays and I frequently see people attempting to park their cars, both women and men! I find their incompetence totally unbelievable, bumping parked cars, hitting the kerb, backwards and forwards half a dozen times. Not only are some of them unable to park, some are almost unable to even open the door to get out. They struggle to stand, heaving themselves out of the seat by pulling themselves up on the door. They then proceed to hobble down the road with a walking stick. On their return, they pull away with complete disregard for oncoming traffic without no thought of looking in their mirror. There comes a time when a decision must be made as to when it is time to give up driving, and for many of these people, it is NOW PLEASE. These people should not be allowed on the road.

Carol Jennings, Keynsham

Dear Stephen
Your new correspondent ‘Ollie’? - sack him! How dare he say that women can’t park. Don’t judge us all by your 2 hour experience Ollie! I am quite capable of parking. I challenge him to get into some of the small parking spaces lined out in some of the car parks. Oh, and by the way - my husband always puts the toilet seat down so I wouldn’t generalise men either!

Mrs G Punter, Oldland Common (38 years’ driving experience)

Scambuster Musical

Dear Editor,
I would like to say how entertaining and useful I found the musical production put on at Saltford Hall last week which was advertised in your publication. Almost 200 people saw the show which was specially written and then performed by the Solomon Theatre Group to warn people of the dangers of bogus callers and tricksters calling at their homes. The idea for the show came originally from Constable Andy Saunders MBE of the Dorset Police Partnership and the performance by the Solomon Theatre Group have everyone entertained but nevertheless conveyed a very clear message on the dangers of telephone fraud and deception burglary.

R Eastaugh, Keynsham

Keynsham South By-election

Dear Editor,
I am writing to thank all the people who cast their vote in support of myself in the recent by-election. Although not successful, I would like to re-assure them, other residents and my neighbours in Keynsham South, that I remain committed to continue the campaigns I identified in my pre-election visits and in our literature. I am appreciative of the kind messages received prior to the day and words of support offered directly at the Polling Station.

Kind Regards,
Andy Halliday, Town Council Candidate
Keynsham South Ward.

Lost gift cards?

Dear Sir,
I regularly clear litter from my front garden in Keynsham and yesterday found a silver card envelope containing “Next” gift cards to the value of £30.00. “Next” at Longwell Green is? In my front garden? My wife and I were a bit surprised. If a community clock does transpire, please contact us via e-mail at admin@theweekin.co.uk with your details.

S Watkins, Keynsham

A Clock for Keynsham Town Centre

Dear Editor,
As I have not seen, or heard of any statement from the ‘powers that be’ that a public timepiece is being considered for the town centre development, I wonder if anyone could enlighten the community of any discussions that have taken place regarding this? I am aware that a community clock was discussed at an early workshop, attended by local organisations/groups and run by representatives of the developer. It was suggested that a clock could be installed on one of the new blocks and maybe ideas for its design coming from the local community, possibly by way of a competition. If a community clock does transpire, please can it be maintained in good order so that we actually know what time of day (or night) it is?

S Watkins, Keynsham
Letters

Speed can kill or maim!

Dear Editor,

Oldland Community Speed Watch is now operating throughout the Oldland Parish area. Speed checks will take place randomly during the hours of daylight throughout the Parish. The monitoring teams will be visible at all times that they are on duty.

In response to Craven Way residents, who felt that vehicle speeds were excessive, South Gloucestershire Council carried out a speed survey between (Monday to Friday) 31 January 2013 to 8 February 2013. During this period 7,047 vehicles were recorded, of which 1,735 vehicles (24.6%) were recorded with speeds in excess of the 30mph speed limit. During the daylight hours of 8am to 6pm, 230 vehicles registered speeds in between 36 to 51mph. During 3-4pm, when children were going home from school, one driver was recorded at a speed between 46 to 51 mph. Craven Way is not a straight road it has bends, left and right, and chicanes.

The Community Speed Watch is required to report all drivers who have exceeded the speed limit to the Police. For the first report the driver will receive a letter advising them that they had broken the speed limit. For a second report the driver will receive a further letter. For a third report they will be visited by the Police.

Community Speed Watches are in operation throughout the Avon and Somerset Constabulary area. Beware, if you do not keep an eye on your speed, you may pick up three strikes in one day. The object of the Community Speed Watch is to deter motorists from speeding. This has been substantiated when the teams have been out monitoring.

If any Oldland Parish resident has concerns about traffic speed in their locality, they can do something about it. Oldland Community Speed Watch is looking for volunteers, who are willing to spend a few hours a week/month, please contact the Parish Clerk by telephone: 0117 961 5021 or Email: mgrvhicks@tiscali.co.uk. The training will be given by the Police, followed by a period of accompanying a team for ‘on the ground’ familiarisation.

Graham Downing, Co-ordinator, Oldland Community Speed Watch

Dishwasher re-call

Dear Stephen,

I don’t normally have a daily newspaper so I only noticed on the radio and TV that there was a problem with certain Bosch dishwashers and some have caught fire.

I have had one for 11 or 12 years, so I emailed them and as a result an engineer is coming to carry out a ‘one hour repair’ on 25th March. The problem applies to items sold between 1999 and 2006 I believe. If you want to ascertain that your Bosch dishwasher is safe, you may ring 0800 023 4881 and tell them the model number (which you will find inside the top of the door). If there is a problem, an engineer will visit and carry out a one hour repair.

M. Harris, Keynsham

Oldland Youth Club

Dear Editor,

Well done to Oldland Parish Council and Cadbury Heath Youth Club Support group for listening to their young people and securing funding for Youth facilities. This is also happening in Oldland Common. Despite Oldland Youth Club being well supported with its contributions recognised by both the Police and the wider community it was under threat of closure.

Young people came to the South Glos Children and Young People Committee and eloquently told Councillors the value of their club to them not only as a safe place to meet but where they had the opportunity to share their issues with the dedicated Youth Workers in the light of this Bitton Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the continuation of youth activities. It has for some years paid for Friday night provision at the Club. This is a time when youngsters are at their most vulnerable. However the building where the Youth Club meets is very old and no longer fit for purpose. It was decided that it is necessary to replace it with a new building. This will not only secure a long term future for Youth facilities but will benefit the existing playgroup and wider community.

Oldland Youth Club Support Group and Bitton Parish are working to secure the funding to ensure this valuable service continues in Oldland Common.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Marc Scawen, S Glos member Oldland Common, Cllr Jane Allinson, Chair of Oldland Youth Club support Group and S Glos member Oldland Common

Council Leader incommunicado

Dear Stephen,

A recent letter in Issue 260 of the Week In dated 14 March, indicates that BANES Lib Dem leader Paul Crossley is very much alive and kicking. It remains shameful of course that Paul Crossley still refuses to meet Keynsham traders who are being completely destroyed by the closure of the Civic Centre car park and the loss of 150 parking spaces.

As one of the most seriously affected traders I have personally been trying to set up a meeting with Paul Crossley, way back since 6 December 2012 to discuss our dilemma. Since demolition work started in November 2012 Temple Street traders are suffering huge losses some reported as being between 30% and 50% on turnover. BANES continues to demolish and smash the living daylights out of Keynsham and Paul Crossley remains incommunicado.

Derek Curnow,

Keynsham Snooker Centre
Bristol’s much loved charity St Peter’s Hospice has launched its annual Midnight Walk and is asking women from all over the city to join them in walking to raise vital funds. The Midnight Walk, now in its fourth year, will take place on Saturday 13 July where it is hoped that thousands of women will come together to support Bristol’s only adult hospice. The fun walk kicks off as always at 10.30pm from Ashton Gate Stadium, with participants walking through the midnight hour and taking in all the sights of Bristol including the ss Great Britain, the Clifton Suspension Bridge and Harbourside.

Offering both a five-mile and a ten-mile option the event is suitable for all and has become one of the most popular fundraising events in the calendar. Organisers are encouraging women to dress in pink for the fun, girls night out. St Peter’s Hospice events fundraiser Louisa James said: “This year’s Midnight Walk is going to be bigger and better than ever – it’s our 35th anniversary year and we’re determined to make it a fab one!” Registration for the Midnight Walk is just £15 with walkers receiving an events pack, including a t-shirt.

For more information on St Peter’s Hospice or the Midnight Walk visit: www.stpetershospice.org

Red Cross Healthy Homes

Do you know someone who would benefit from help to stay warm and prevent falls, fire and social isolation? Could you benefit? If so, contact the Red Cross Healthy Homes team to arrange a friendly home visit. (Visits are available to residents of Glos, S. Glos, Wiltshire and Bath&North East Somerset. Contact The Red Cross Healthy Homes team on 0117 3012611 or at H&SCWAG@redcross.org.uk)
Keynsham Leisure Centre has become one of the first venues in the area to offer Balanceability® courses, the UK’s only accredited ‘learn to cycle’ programme for children aged 2½ to 6 years old. Balanceability® develops confidence, dynamic balance and the skills to ride a bicycle without stabilisers. Using balance bikes and other equipment, sessions are constructed around games, challenges and new experiences. Keynsham Leisure Centre provides all equipment, including helmets and bikes.

Steve Williams, Manager at Keynsham Leisure Centre said: “We’re delighted to be able to provide a unique opportunity for local children to develop these essential skills. Courses have already proved very popular with children and parents and we’ll be running more six week courses starting 8, 11 and 13 April – sign up now.” Balanceability founder Maria Yates said: “Some parents teach their children to cycle and that’s brilliant, but sadly many don’t and with 43% of six year olds not able to ride a bike, it is essential that learn to cycle courses are accessible to all children. Cycling is a life skill and we are thrilled that Aquaterra is now offering the programme and playing a part in making a real difference to the lives of children in the area.”

The next six week courses run: Monday 8 April - 20 May (excluding 6 May) Level 1 (2½ - 4yrs) 3.45pm - 4.30pm. Level 2 (4 - 6yrs) 4.30pm - 5.15pm. Thursday 11 April - 16 May Level 1 (2½ - 4yrs) 10.30am - 11.15am. Saturday 13 April – 18 May. Level 1 (2½ - 4yrs) 10.15am - 11am Level 2 (4 - 6yrs) 11 – 11.45m. Course prices are £24 for non-members, £21 for members and £18 for member concessions. Parents can register their child for a course by telephoning 01225 395164 or visiting reception at the leisure centre.

Local artist creates historic postage stamps

To coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Football Association, the Royal Mail is launching a set of special footballer stamps painted by Andrew Kinsman. Now a successful artist and musician living in London, Andrew grew up in Oldland Common and attended Sir Bernard Lovell School. The ‘football hero’ stamps include some of the great players of recent times including Booby Moore, George Best, Kevin Keegan and Jimmy Greaves.

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Focus on Fairtrade Fortnight at Wellsway

The powerful combination of the Olympic and school value of ‘Equality’ and Fairtrade Fortnight gave some thought-provoking assemblies to students at Wellsway School during Fairtrade Fortnight. Over the last two weeks students have taken part in a number of awareness and fund-raising activities including a break-time tuck shop, making cakes at a lunchtime cookery club, a poster project using Fairtrade wrappers, running their own cake sale and ‘give your mug a hug’ decorated mug warmers! Funds raised have purchased Gift for Life supporting schools vouchers to educate children in the developing world. Fairtrade is highlighted in a number of subjects across the curriculum including Philosophy and Belief, Geography, Food Technology, ICT, Business Studies and Citizenship.
The 3rd Saltford Brownies were transported back in time last Friday when their Brownie hut was turned into a 1940's air raid shelter for a sleepover. The theme followed what the girls had been studying in school and so they all came dressed as evacuees, bringing only the basics with them. No 21st century gadgets were allowed. The girls had a choice of cards, marbles, dominoes and board games from that period to play with. Rations had been saved up for the girls to make cheese or sweet scones to enjoy with hot chocolate. In true style there was a visit from an Air Raid Warner who came to check that everything was in order and no rules had been broken.

In the morning the girls again enjoyed a basic breakfast but drank their milk from half pint glass milk bottles. Then it was time for a few more group games before pick up time, transporting them back to 2013. If you would like to get involved or register a girl to join Rainbows, Brownies or Guilds visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and click ‘Get Involved’. Guiding is very rewarding and good fun for girls and adults alike.
Alesha Hickman who is 14 years of age, took it upon herself to do a sponsored cycle ride to raise funds for the community farm. Under her own steam, she organised a sponsor form and cycle route and set off on a 30 mile journey on Saturday 9th March despite awful weather conditions. Donations for her excellent achievement totalled £120.00 and all the ‘Friends of Grimsbury Farm’ would like to send her a huge thank you. They are to put the money towards improving the community farm for all to enjoy. Maggie Hamblin, Secretary of Grimsbury Farm said “Alesha organised everything herself and we feel it is a huge achievement for someone of her age. Well done Alesha.”

Groups and community events in Staple Hill are set to benefit from £8,000 of small grants agreed by South Gloucestershire Council’s Chase Area Forum. The funding is part of a £30,000 package which will also benefit groups in Kingswood, Downend and Mangotsfield. Staple Hill groups due to benefit include the Friends of Page Park which will receive £1600 to pay for performers at the newly restored bandstand. The Our Place Community Flat also receives £1625 to help with running costs and the ever popular Christmas on the Hill Festival gets £1525. The Staple Hill Regeneration Partnership, Methodist Youth Project and Citizens’ Advice Bureau also have been awarded vital grants.

Reacting to the news, the local ward councillors Ian Boulton and Shirley Potts said: “The number and variety of community groups that have submitted a bid for a grant shows that there is vibrant community interest within Staple Hill. We support all of our locally-based groups with our time, energy and encouragement, and we are pleased to be able to support them by voting through this financial aid as well.”
Sainsbury’s staff go the extra mile for Red Nose Day

Sainsbury’s staff, including Kingswood Store Manager Paul Morrison are set to raise money for Red Nose Day by taking part in a two day charity bike ride over 185 miles. The sponsored cycle is in memory of colleague Paul Morgan, who died last year, and who was a committed and passionate supporter of Comic Relief. The bike ride will be taking place this weekend (March 22nd and 23rd) and will run from the Sainsbury’s at Midsomer Norton and will cover 185 miles to end in Street. Sainsbury’s colleagues will be taking part at each stage of the race and raising funds at each store.

Paul Morrison said, “Our colleagues and customers are all very passionate about raising money for Red Nose Day and we felt that undertaking the bike ride this year was a great way to continue the fundraising initiative that Paul had been part of.”

Meanwhile, at the Kingswood store last week, two members of staff ‘got their hair off’ literally in aid of the cause. On line grocery workers Sam Lovell and Dave Andrews had their heads shaved as part of a day of different fundraising activities.
**Saltford**

**Argus Explorers visit Kandersteg**

Scouts from the Argus Explorer Unit based in Saltford have recently returned from a skiing adventure in Switzerland. The party was made up of 35 Scouts and leaders from Saltford and 17 from Bath District. They arrived after dark at the International Scout Centre in Kandersteg after a flight and two-hour coach journey from the UK but awoke the following morning to discover stunning alpine scenery.

Everyone completed the red and blue ski runs at Kandersteg, then moved on to more challenging runs at nearby Lauchernalp. In addition to skiing, the young people enjoyed a variety of other activities during their week, ranging from curling, tobogganing, to making snow angels. Tom aged fifteen, said, “We had a sauna night in the centre’s wood-fired sauna. Twenty-five of us crammed in, got all sweaty, then went and ‘swam’ in the snow, it was freezing!!” Seventeen year-old Alice said, “What an amazing week at Kandersteg: one of the best weeks of my life!” Anyone wishing to find out more about Explorer Scouting in Saltford should visit the Unit’s website: http://argusexplorers.tk

**Emersons Green**

**Police cadets help tackle anti-social behaviour**

Teenage volunteers have been helping neighbourhood police tackle problems with anti-social behaviour in the Emmersons Green Retail Park area. New Neighbourhood Sergeant Andy Hucker said: “There have been incidents where staff working at the library, retail outlets and local pub have been abused by groups of young people. There have also been reports of other nuisance including stone throwing, riding scooters into the shops and using abusive language. It’s important to report these incidents to us, ideally as they happen, so we have the whole picture.”

Last month South Gloucestershire Council’s Anti-Social Behaviour team and neighbourhood police met with retailers, library staff and others to agree a way forward. Avon and Somerset Volunteer Police Cadets also joined patrols in the area. PS Hucker said: “We want to show the community that not all young people are involved in anti-social behaviour. They gave up their own free time to join us, trying to engage with young people in the area to deter them from getting involved in nuisance behaviour.”

As well as the high-profile patrols and visits from the mobile police station, officers are working to identify and tackle those responsible for the problems by carrying out plain clothes patrols. PS Hucker said: “When we identify young people involved in anti-social behaviour, we work with the council’s ASB team to contact their parents or carers and let them know what’s been going on. So far this year 36 warning letters have been sent home. If those young people carry on causing nuisance, we and the council will take further action.”
PETS CORNER

Dog thefts - it's just Facebook hype

Social media is to blame for baseless stories of dog thefts locally in the last couple of weeks. Reports of highly organised gangs stealing dogs from public places for use in dog baiting contests started appearing on Facebook around two weeks ago. Areas including Kingswood, Warmley, Siston, Willsbridge and Bishopsworth were supposedly affected and local vets and the police, concerned by recent events. Warning signs started appearing in shop windows, reports appeared in some local news media and even Kingswood MP Chris Skidmore got dragged into the affair.

In reality, the veterinary practice named in many of the Facebook reports, knew nothing about any dog thefts and Avon and Somerset Police posted a disclaimer on their own Facebook page. A police statement read: "There’s not been a rise in dog thefts across the force area and rumours on Facebook are causing unnecessary worry to dog owners. We have no reason to believe dog baiting and fighting is occurring but we will investigate any reports made to us. If you do have information about this or any type of crime, or if you believe your dog has been stolen, please call 101 or report it online www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report. Please share this with your friends and fellow dog owners."

Of course, there may also be a good reason for the story going viral at the time it did. Pet Theft Awareness Week this year is from 14th -21st March when a lot of animal welfare organisations try to remind owners to take good care of their pets. So is it just coincidence that such a story creates panic among dog owners or is it clever use of social media to promote a message?

The sun shone for the Absolute Bull Terriers Training day on Saturday 2nd March at Latchets Kennels in Keynsham, where 24 English Bull Terriers took part for the title of Best Trained Bullie. The Trainer, Ian Martin, demonstrated dog training techniques and gave dog owners advice on how to have the perfect dog. People travelled far & wide to support the event, which was in aid of Absolute Bull Terriers, an organisation that rescues and rehomes English Bull Terriers nationwide and a grand total of £138.80 was raised. The winner of the Best Trained Bullie award was Viv Payne and her dog Bodger who won a trophy for his progress.

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The Week in • Thursday 21 March 2013
**Keynsham**

**Music in Times of War and Peace**

It has always seemed to me that being present at a live performance of any sort of music is much to be preferred to any other way; and so it was on the evening of March 9th, when Keynsham Orchestra joined forces with St. John’s Church Choir in a wonderful mixture of music celebrating the Triumph of Peace over the Horror of War.

Beethoven’s exciting and also majestic Leonore Overture No 3 got us off to a lively start, followed in complete contrast by one of Stanford’s Three Motets beautifully sung by the unaccompanied choir. The well-known (and much-loved) Karelia Suite showed how proud Sibelius was of his country’s history and folk music. Two movements from Faure’s Requiem gave an opportunity for baritone Will Stevens to show the solemnity of the Libera Me movement and In Paradisum brought the choir to sing of the promise of eternal life after death. Choir and Orchestra then took us up to the interval with a moving performance of Hymn to the Fallen by John Williams, where music of great beauty and poignancy is used to convey the horrors of war and its effect on the human race.

How better to end the evening than listening to Haydn’s Nelson Mass, written to commemorate Nelson’s victory at the Battle of Trafalgar. Choir, orchestra and solo quartet came together in a stirring performance of what is by any standards a powerful and solemn warning that war is a time of anguish, as the original title “Missa in angustiis” tells us. On a personal note it seems a shame that musical talent of such quality is not supported by a greater part of our community. Why not come and listen to them in the Park 7.30pm 6th July?

*Morris Powe*

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**Whitchurch**

**Annual fete takes shape**

The Whitchurch Village Fete Committee is currently seeking Sponsors for this year’s Fete to be held over the August Bank Holiday weekend 24th-26th August. Traditionally, more than 3,000 people turn out support events such as a Dog Show, Flower Show and the ever popular Horse Show. Bookings are also being taken now for prime stall positions round the main arena with discounts for early bookers. Contact Mike Squire (01275) 836742 or Ashton Broad (01275) 832148.
Easter plans at St James' Church

St James Church Vicar Teresa Taylor is this year hosting a variety of religious events which will involve the local community. For two weeks the church will try to convey to children and adults the true meaning of Easter. In the first week, the church will have five slots per day when over 700 children from Mangotsfield C of E, Barley Close and Emerson Green Primaries, visit St James. A selection of the children’s artwork will also be on display. The idea is to present the events of Holy week in an interactive way for all to reflect upon. In order to convey this there will be various stations around the church to depict scenes such as; The Last Supper, The Garden of Gethsemane, The Crucifixion and other religious events. Children will be asked to write prayers and have their feet washed as part of these activities. Sound effects and music will help to provide the appropriate atmosphere.

The following week will have a different slant and the whole community is invited to take part in the visual and interactive displays at the church. There will also be refreshments and children’s craft activities. On Saturday the 23rd March there will be a free event which will be 'The Joseph Story' written by John Dowie and performed by John Sibley. This will begin at 7.30pm and after this 80 minute performance refreshments will be served and there will be a discussion regarding the play. Anyone wishing to know more about any of the above events should contact Sally Sibley on 0773256372.

Keynsham Combined choirs return to St John's

The Avon and Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir have given many concerts before in Keynsham and on April 6th they return to St John's Church but this time with an added extra! Last year, the choir visited Tenby to sing with the Tenby Male Choir and the concert there was an absolute delight. The two choirs complement each other perfectly and it gives the audience a wider choice of songs and the power of 100 voices singing together.

Next month, the Tenby choir are making the return journey to sing with the police choir and each choir will sing some of their own songs as well as combine in other well known pieces. Tickets for the concert are £6 each and are available from the Parish Church, Smith the Jewellers, Keynsham High Street, from G. Shemwell on 07989 910787 or at the door on the evening. All profits from the concert will be donated to help combat Motor Neurone disease.
SALTFORD FLORAL CLUB

26th March - Practice Class "Spring is Sprung" with Ruth Alliban, 2 pm at Saltford Hall. Visitors welcome £3.50 incl. tea.

More information from 01225 873380.

Dart Valley Stompers

The Dart Valley Stompers six piece line-up, featuring some of the top musicians in the UK, has appeared at clubs and festivals throughout the UK and abroad as well as on radio and national TV. They are playing at Conygre Hall Timsbury on Friday March 22nd (8-11pm). Jeremy Huggett, founder and leader of the band, is renowned for his masterly playing of his instruments, his arranging and composing skills and his vocal renditions. Their gigs are amazing, great for dancing and always give a great mixture of first class traditional jazz and mainstream numbers. They have everything - excellent musicians, two very good singers and a real comic in John ‘Jethro’ Whitlock.

For tickets at £8 ring Kate 01761471245 see www.mendipmusic.com
Pucklechurch

Emergency vote on Ashfield changes

An emergency vote was due to be held this week by South Gloucestershire Councillors on plans to convert Pucklechurch’s Ashfield Young Offenders Institution into an adult sex offenders prison. Boyd Valley councillors Steve Reade and Ben Stokes, who represent Pucklechurch, tabled the emergency motion at this week’s full Council meeting (Wednesday 20th March).

The two councillors commented: “This is an opportunity for South Gloucestershire Council to show that it’s on the side of local people and to do what it can to apply pressure onto the National Offender Management Service to listen to the concerns and anxieties of both residents and the council. Events are moving very quickly with the National Offender Management Service already in negotiations with Serco Group plc, the contractors who manage and operate the establishment, about the change of use. This means we have a small window of opportunity to try and influence things. The Ashfield facility is an important local employer and so we want the Coalition Government to revisit their plans and make changes that are acceptable to the local community.”

The full text of Emergency Motion was as follows:

“This Council:
• Believes that Her Majesty’s Prison and Young Offender Institute Ashfield in Pucklechurch is an important local employer;
• Expresses its serious concern about the way in which the recently-announced plans to convert the Ashfield facility into an adult male Category C sex offenders prison has been handled by the National Offender Management Service;
• Expresses its dismay that such a potentially controversial change was announced without any public consultation and has left local residents feeling anxious;
• Expresses concern that this change has been announced without any regard to the safeguarding implications for this council;
• Expresses its dismay that there is not to be public consultation on the plans and that contractual negotiations between the National Offender Management Service and Serco Plc, as the owner and operator of the facility, are ongoing;
• Resolves to urge the Coalition Government to urgently revisit their plans for Ashfield and approach any future suggested changes in a more open and transparent manner.”
Bristol Deaf Football Club

It’s only two years since Bristol Deaf Football Club started up but they have been more than eventful ones. The first full season ended in triumph when they won the National Plate Final, beating Everton at Keynsham’s Crown Field. This season they are on track to go one step further, having reached the semi final of the National Challenge Cup. This coming weekend they face St Johns Arsenal DFC for the chance to play in the final at the Sixfields Stadium, home to Northampton Town FC.

When not involved in cup competitions the team also plays in the Deaf Southern League as well as playing weekly matches against hearing peers in the Bristol District League. The team is entirely self funded and the cup competitions in particular involve a serious amount of travelling. In an effort to raise funds, several players and supporters are taking part in a sponsored bike ride from Bristol to Lands End. They are also looking for help with kit sponsorship. Anyone who wants to help with sponsorship for the bike ride or shirt advertising can contact Team Manager Russell by e-mail at: bdfcmanager@hotmail.com.

Junior Golf coaching

Lansdown Golf Club is offering juniors the opportunity to take up golf and be awarded FREE Membership of its excellent Academy golf course. Resident PGA Teaching Professional Bev New is offering a taster session for juniors during the coming school holiday.

The first session will be on Wednesday 27th March, 2pm for 10 years and younger and 3pm from 11 years and older for 1 hour sessions. The session will cost £5 per child including all equipment. Then she is running a 5 x 1 hour course commencing Sunday 14th April. The cost of the whole course will be £25 per child. Free Academy Golf membership is on offer to juniors taking up this coaching session.

Lansdown Golf Club has acquired the GOLFMARK, High Achiever award, which shows that the club is a safe environment for youngsters to play and learn golf. More details available from the Pro Shop 01225 420242 or directly from Bev on 07549701243 or bev.new@aol.co.uk

Keynsham Snooker Centre

Danny Hawkins defeated Oliver Hilborne in the final to win Keynsham’s open snooker event on Sunday 10th March.

In earlier matches Danny Hawkins beat Thomas Hilborne, Mitchell Hooper, Jamie Hawkins and John Hilborne.

Jamie Hawkins defeated Jacob Wardle in the final of Keynsham’s junior snooker event on Saturday 9th March. Jamie Wilkes defeated Conor Mitchell 8-4 in the final of the junior pool event also played on Saturday, 9 March.

Sudoku Solutions

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find out what's happening - as it happens
The Week in • Thursday 21 March 2013

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
SPECIAL EVENT - CORONATION FESTIVAL

Sat 13 / Sun 14 July - Buy fantastic goods from over 200 Royal Warranty Holders
Adult £59.95, 60Plus £57.95
Also Aug/Sept - Huge varied selection of Stateroom & London Attractions

IDEAL HOME SHOW
March 27, March 28 - £34.95
Also Sat 23 March - £37.95

RIVER DART STEAM & CRUISE
FATHERS DAY SPECIAL
Sunday 16th June
Adult £59.95
60Plus £57.95
Child £45.95

NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM
Sun 4 Aug - Adult £23.95 60Plus £21.95

DISNEY ON ICE
NIA Birmingham - Nov 3 - Adults £52.95
60Plus £49.95, Child £47.95

AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL
NIGHT OF A 1000 STARS
Sun 5 May - Adults £102.95 60Plus £98.95
Celebrates the works of Broadway producer ‘Hal Prince’, including West Side Story / Evita / Phantom of the Opera / Cabaret etc. Hosted by Alan Titchmarsh with performers from London & New York, The City of London Philharmonia & West End Chorus for the benefit of the Sir John Moncrieff Foundation.

DISNEY FANTASIA
Sat 16 Nov, Adult £79.95, 60Plus £77.95

BRITANNY 3 DAY MINI-CRUISE
Departs May 6 Bank Holiday Monday
Visiting San Malo, Dinard, Dinard (On market day), plus hypermarket visit. Includes: ensuite cabin, 3 or 4 sharing from £89.99pp, 2 sharing from £95.99pp, Single occupying £139.99 (2 berth inside only).
Supplements for outside cabins.

WEST END THEATRE
LUXURY ESCORTED DAYS
SATURDAY EVENING PERFORMANCES
TOP PRICE SEATS • CARVERY LUNCH
TRANSFERS TO AND FROM THEATRES
Billy Elliot / Bodyguard / Lion King
Mamma Mia / Top Hat / Wicked / War Horse

Available: April 13 / May 11 / June

Jersey Boys / Les Misérables / Matilda

Chorus Line / Phantom of the Opera / Singing in the Rain
Viva Forever (Also Mousetrap - £119.95)

Available: April 27 / May 18 / June

COMING SOON - FROM HERE TO ETERNITY
Adult £142.95, 60Plus £139.95

WIMBLEDON TENNIS
From 24 June
Coach Only.
 Guaranted Daily Departures
Adult £30.95, 60Plus £34.95

BLETCHLEY PARK
Sat 27 April
Adult £54.95
60Plus £51.95

CHESSINGTON
Thu 4 Nov
Adult £43.95
Child (4-11) £34.95
Student £39.95
60Plus £41.95

LEGOLAND
Wed 27 March
Adult £43.95
Child (4-11) £34.95
Student £39.95
60Plus £41.95

THORPE PARK
4 April - Adult £44.95
Child (4-11) £29.95

REGULAR LONDON VISITS
WEDS, THURS, SUN & SOME SATS
Transfers to and from all our advertised venues including:

LONDON EYE & FREE TIME - £96.95
Departs: 4 April

LONDON EYE & RIVER CRUISE - £95.95
Departs: 7 April, 28 April

LONDON EYE & MADAME TUSSAUDS
£99.95 - Departs: 24 March, 14 April, 29 May

MADAME TUSSAUDS - £49.95
Departs: 24 March, 14 April, 29 May

CHURCHILL WAR ROOMS - £44.95
Departs: 26 May, 8 Aug

TOWER OF LONDON - £46.95
Departs: 30 May

VIEW FROM THE SHARKS, W. EUROPE'S TALLEST BUILDING - £53.95
Departs: 18 April, 30 May

BBC BROADCASTING HOUSE TOUR £39.95 - Departs: 10 May

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM (SCIENCE/MA) - £23.95
Departs: 3 April, 10 April, 9 June

GREENWICH RIVER CRUISE £37.95 - Departs: July 21
(Le Misérables Film Location)

NATIONAL GALLERY - £23.95
Departs: 11 April

COVENT GARDEN SHOPPING - £32.95
Departs: 11 April, 16 May

CELEBRITIES ON ICE
A brand new FAMILY VARIETY SHOW ON ICE.
Beth Tweddle, Matt Lapinskas, Chico, Gareth Thomas, Kyran Bracken etc
Plus RENOWNED INTERNATIONAL ICE STARS

Fathers Day
Sun 16th June
Bournemouth International Centre
Adults £62.95
60Plus £59.95

For more information call: 01275 839 839 or visit www.petercarol.co.uk