



## Calthorpe Residents Society Newsletter

February 2023

In response to members' feedback, we highlight in this month's newsletter two local charities that CRS are involved with, and to which you may contribute if you so wish. These are the Birmingham-based charity 'Suited for Success' and an Edgbaston-based food bank initiative.

### Suited For Success



CRS have been working with the 'Suited for Success' charity to organize an event in March for our members.

'Suited for Success' is based in Ladywood. It provides free interview clothes, styling advice and interview presentation skills for unemployed men and women looking for work.

They take donations of new or gently worn suits and smart clothing (shirts, skirts, shoes, dresses etc) which are suitable to wear for a job interview. They also run workshops, coaching sessions and a job club, all with the aim of tackling the barriers that the unemployed in Birmingham face on their journey to employment.

**Chapter** in Greenfield Crescent have kindly agreed to host a coffee morning on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March** where you will be able to drop off your donations, talk to the charity about their activities and enjoy a complimentary coffee courtesy of CRS. So please save the date in your diaries and, before then, take a look through your wardrobes to see if you have any suitable clothes that you would be willing to donate. More detailed information on this event will be circulated nearer the date.

### Edgbaston Community Centre Food Bank

CRS are also happy to provide details of the 'Food Drive' run by **Edgbaston Community Centre** located on the edge of the Calthorpe Estate.

The food drive is run in partnership with the food retailers **Co-op** and **Pret**, and with organisations including **Fair Share** and **The Community Fund**.

Whilst they receive deliveries of perishable items from local supermarkets etc, they are also particularly in need of tinned food items, toiletries, toilet rolls, and shampoo.

CRS members may drop off their donations at the Community Centre (40 Woodview Drive, Edgbaston B15 2HU) between 10am and 4pm on any weekday.

### First Port Walk In Surgeries

A reminder that First Port (ex-Mainstay) are holding fortnightly 'come and meet the team' surgeries at the Boston Tea Party at 30 Harborne Road Edgbaston B15 3AA.

The surgeries commenced on 10<sup>th</sup> January and are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 1430 to 1630. They have proved very popular to date.

These meetings give Calthorpe Estate residents an opportunity to meet face-to-face the key members of First Port's team on the Estate, to discuss any aspect of the service provided by First Port to residents.

CRS will be using these meetings to pass on any issues we have come across ourselves, or which have been communicated to us by any of our members who cannot attend these meetings. Accordingly, any members who would like any matters to be raised with First Port and cannot make these surgeries, please send your issues to [here](#)

### CRS Litter Picking



A very successful first litter pick of 2023 took place on 28<sup>th</sup> January, with teams from Chad and Templefields enjoying the fine weather and collecting a total of 20 bags of rubbish.

As usual, this was followed by a complimentary beverage at a local pub. A big thanks to all the litter pickers, local councillors who joined in and to Birmingham City Council for collecting the full bin bags.

As a reminder, CRS currently have three regular litter picking teams: Chad Square, Templefield Square and St James Road, in addition to several ad hoc litter pickers.

For further details and for anyone wishing to join in and/or set up a team for their road, please use this [email address](#).

### Meeting with Haydn Cooper, CEO Calthorpe Estates

CRS will have their regular quarterly meeting with the CEO of Calthorpe Estates at the end of March. As usual we would ask any residents with questions or issues they want us to raise with Haydn, to send these in to us over the next two weeks.

While the apparent lack of Calthorpe Estate's responses to our concerns can sometimes feel frustrating, it is important that CRS continue to raise residents' concerns with them, and our regular meeting with the CEO gives us a good opportunity to do so at the highest level of the organisation. Please keep providing us with all of your questions or concerns affecting the Estate and its residents by using this [email address](#).

## University of Birmingham Events

Two upcoming events organized by the University that our members may be interested in, are as follows.



The **Barber Institute of Fine Arts** is organizing drop in 'Family Workshops' during half term on 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February. These are aimed at families with children aged 2-12 years old. For more details, please click on [familyevents](#)



CRS members interested in literature and creative writing may be interested in attending the inaugural lecture by **Professor Ruth Gilligan**, who, in addition to being Professor in Creative Writing at the University, is a best selling author and journalist. The lecture titled '**Shakespeare, The Simpsons and difficult sixth novels: creative writing after the apocalypse**', is taking place at the University on **9<sup>th</sup> March (6.15-7.15pm)**. For more details and to register please click on [lecture](#)

## Harborne Market Returns



Although not strictly on the Calthorpe Estate, many residents will be pleased to learn of the return of the popular monthly Harborne Market.

The new venue for the market will be in the car park behind **Home Bargains** on the High Street, with the next market taking place on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February (9am-3pm)**.

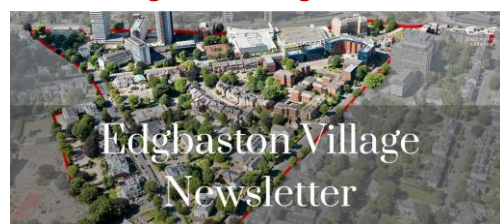
## Edgbaston Cricket Stadium



Having previously detailed in our newsletter the bid by Edgbaston Cricket Ground for access to monies from the Government's Levelling up Fund, CRS were disappointed to hear, earlier this month, that the bid had been rejected.

This will obviously be a set back for some of the exciting community developments that were included in the bid, but hopefully the Ground may still be able to go ahead with some of these initiatives. We will keep you informed on his matter.

## Edgbaston Village News



You may be unaware that Calthorpe Estates produces a regular e-mail newsletter covering shopping and entertainment activities in and around the Edgbaston Village (Greenfield Crescent). Anyone wanting to receive these newsletters or find out more about them, please click on [villagenews](#)

## Dates for your diary



The **CRS AGM for 2023** will be held at **7pm** on **Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup>**. We are also pleased to confirm that the speakers at the event will be Sue Beardsmore (Chair) and Sara Blair-Manning (CEO) of Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

The next **Artisan Fair** at Greenfield Crescent will be on **April 8<sup>th</sup>** and, as always, we will be more than pleased to meet our current members and prospective members there to discuss any issues they may wish to raise.

## And finally ...

A reminder for any members who have yet to pay the 2023 annual membership fee of £10 details of how to pay by bank transfer or cheque are to be found at [membership](#)

Once again, we hope you have enjoyed this issue and look forward to your feedback. Please send us any local news by [email](#).