



Hi,

Welcome to this week's Dean Scene!

If you are looking for something to do today, head straight to Ovingdean Village Hall for the Gardening Club Show. Whether you have green fingers or simply appreciate the effort that goes into it, it is well worth a visit.

This week also marks the final chapter of our Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club spotlight as Charity of the Month, but do not worry, this is far from the last you will hear from them. They are a permanent part of this community and we will continue to celebrate everything they do. Next week we introduce a brand new charity to the spotlight, and if you would like to nominate one for the future, please get in touch with me at lisa@deanscene.co.uk.

In the History Corner, Douglas d'Enno returns with the second and final part of his fascinating feature on Woodingdean House. If you missed Part 1, it is well worth going back to read both together.

And if you have not yet made it to The Grange Gallery, the EQ Nicholson Exhibition is in full flow and is highly recommended.

As always, thank you for reading and for being part of what makes this community so special. Enjoy this week's edition!

Please note: If you'd like to contact me, please email lisa@deanscene.co.uk rather than replying directly to this newsletter, as replies are not always seen promptly.

Best Wishes,

Lisa Staples

What's Happening in the Deans This Week...

Ovingdean Gardening Club Show Saturday 25th July, 2pm **Today!**



A poster for the Ovingdean Gardening Club Show. At the top is a logo of a person digging with a spade, followed by the text 'GARDENING CLUB SHOW'. Below this, it lists 'FRUIT, VEGETABLES, FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS, COOKING & PHOTOGRAPHY'. The center features six colorful illustrations: a bouquet of yellow flowers, a green watering can, a person in a hat working with plants, a green vegetable, a bunch of green beans, and a small cake. The bottom section of the poster provides the date and time: 'Saturday 25th July at THE VILLAGE HALL, OVINGDEAN', and states 'OPEN to Public at 2.00p.m.'. It also mentions 'Teas & Home-made cakes served, Raffle and Auction of Produce'.

GARDENING CLUB SHOW

FRUIT, VEGETABLES, FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS,
COOKING & PHOTOGRAPHY

Saturday 25th July at
THE VILLAGE HALL, OVINGDEAN
OPEN to Public at 2.00p.m.

Teas & Home-made cakes served, Raffle and
Auction of Produce

Saltdean Climate Action Network

St Nicholas Church Hall

Tuesday 28th July

7pm - 8.30pm



At last, it's here! The launch of a thoroughly quantified, professional vision for Saltdean to help us move steadily towards net zero by 2050.

This is the beginning of a huge optimistic era for Saltdean. Thanks to Brighton & Hove Energy Services Co-op - BHESCO for immense hard work on our behalf. We need as many people as possible to join in. It's all about togetherness and listening, and then acting - as individuals as well as businesses and groups.

Please sign up below so we have an idea of expected numbers, or RSVP and share our Facebook Event:

:<https://fb.me/e/67pR0OwOL>

Sign Up Now!

South Coast Taxis - 01273 301111

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Scan The QR Code that will take you to our APP

The Grange Gallery

Summer Exhibition - EQ Nicholson

Now Until Saturday 29th August 2026



Our wonderful Summer Exhibition, E Q Nicholson is now open!
You'll find us on the green, opposite the pond in the beautiful Grange building, once the home of William Nicholson (EQ's father-in-law). We show the paintings she produced in the 1940s, a remarkable decade when she lived at Alderholt Mill in Dorset.

The exhibition shows some of her finest work from that period – the landscape and garden around the house and interiors with ceramics and

flowers – joyful idiosyncratic depictions of the life in the English countryside. In addition, we are including key works by the brilliant young painter John Craxton. For a while, he lived and painted alongside E.Q. at the mill, exploring landscape for the first time and embarking on his own impressive career that would earn him international distinction.

E Q Nicholson is open from Saturday 18th July until Saturday 29th August .

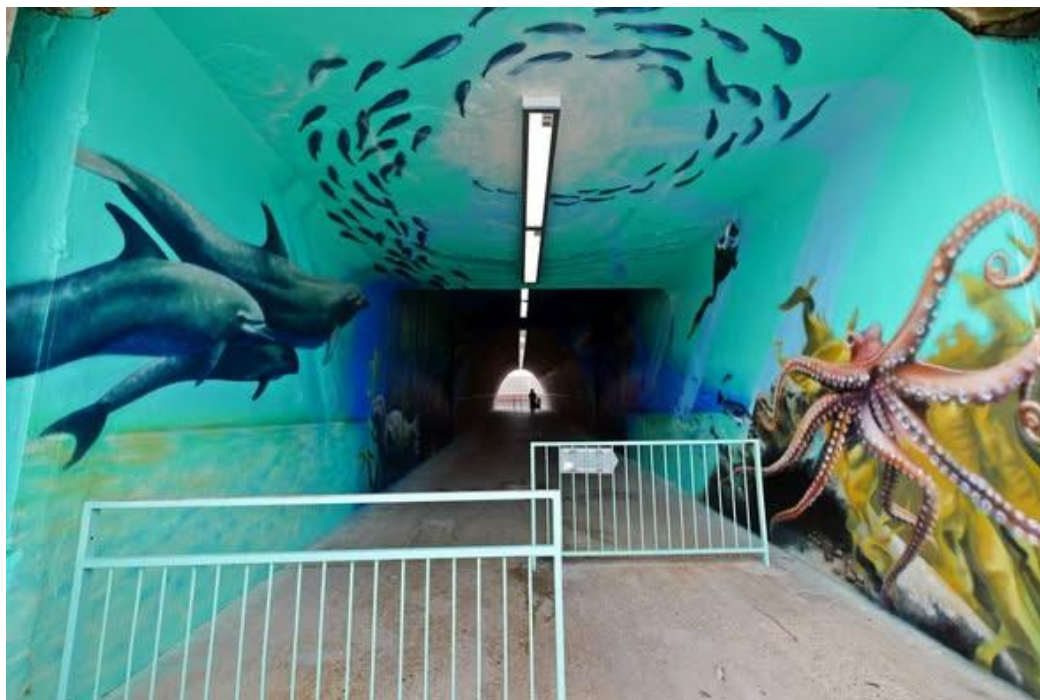
The exhibition is on the first floor (above Rottingdean Library) and a chairlift is available.

Gallery opening hours are Wednesday to Saturday 10.00 am to 4.00 pm and Sunday 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Admission free.

Rottingdean Heritage CIO is a locally run charity. Please do look at our website for information on what Rottingdean Heritage looks after in our beautiful village, and please do sign up if you'd like to receive quarterly newsletters.

Visit The Website

Saltdean Residents & Community Association Refurbishing Saltdean Tunnel's Mural



Our aim is to refurbish the mural in Saltdean tunnel and repaint the turquoise railings... and we need YOUR help!

It's been six years since the mural in Saltdean tunnel was completed. It's weathered the elements pretty well but really needs some TLC now as parts are peeling off/have faded.

If you, your family and friends love the mural then please would you contribute to our crowdfunder. The £20s, £10s and £5s will all add up and every contribution will help us restore and preserve this unique piece of community art for years to come. We have some money already from the bricks that people have bought. You can also buy a personalised brick in the tunnel for £125 for your loved ones.

If we reach our target we will also get the turquoise railings on the undercliff at West Saltdean repainted too.

The crowdfunder is being run by the Saltdean Residents and Community Association which is a charity that can claim gift aid. So every £20 donation from a UK tax payer becomes £25.

We Can Do It!

Please email, message or call if you would prefer to make a bank transfer or send a cheque, donation cash: 07946 342 903 and saltdeancommunitycharity@gmail.com

Donate Here

Saltdean Tennis Club
Mondays 10.30am - 12.00pm
Walking Tennis Sessions

Walking Tennis Session at Saltdean Tennis Club
Mondays from 10.30am - 12.00pm



An introduction to this modified, low-impact version of tennis designed for all ages and abilities and those recovering from injury. It is played with slower soft balls than usual and the key rules include no running or jumping, and allowing the ball to bounce twice.

The session is open to both tennis and bowls club members as well as the wider community, a small £3 fee for non-members payable on the day. This session run for the duration of the summer. The session will be followed by refreshments in the clubhouse.

There is no need to book a place please let us know if you intend to come by emailing saltdeantennissocial@gmail.com



Email And Let Us Know You Are Coming!

Brighton Green Spirit Group
The Memorial Gardens, Woodingdean
Friday 31st July
11.30am - 1pm



Celebrate Lammas in Woodingdean! With the Brighton GreenSpirit Group

Our next meeting will be at 11.30am - 1pm on Friday 31st July at the Memorial Gardens in Woodingdean near Brighton. We will be celebrating Lammas (or Lughnasadh) which is an ancient harvest festival celebrating the first grains of the season and it marks the midpoint between the summer solstice and the autumn equinox.

To find out more about GreenSpirit check out [About Us – GreenSpirit](#) The Brighton GreenSpirit group meets eight times a year in Woodingdean for about an hour and a half. We celebrate the ancient Celtic festivals such as equinoxes and solstices which usually involves a gentle woodland walk, a few readings or poems, and sometimes a short guided meditation.

If you'd like to join us and/or join the Brighton GreenSpirit WhatsApp group to hear about future meetings please contact Piers at

Email Piers Here

**Dirty Dancing - Outdoor Cinema
Saltdean Lido
Friday 31st July
7.30pm - 10.50pm**



Join us for the 1980's blockbuster coming of age cult classic Dirty Dancing, a true classic blockbuster film, that will leave your heart full and happy. Screened poolside under the stars at the Art Deco masterpiece of Saltdean Lido.

More Information and Tickets

Charity of the Month

Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club



A huge thank you from the Lions.....

To everyone who came along to the Lions' summer events in Rottingdean and Saltdean this year, thank you. Your support is not just appreciated, it is essential. These events are the lifeblood of the Lions' fundraising, and every pound raised goes directly towards helping the most vulnerable people in our community. You made it happen.

Some words from Robert Brand, Lions President 2026-2027....

"The Lions need you, and here is why it matters.

This year alone, the Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions have put on the Village Fayre in Rottingdean and the Gala in Saltdean, two brilliant community events that exist entirely because of the dedication of a small group of volunteers.

And the money those events raise? It goes to work immediately. Last year the club raised and spent over £12,000 on services and donations that made a real, tangible difference to people's lives right here on our doorstep:

- *£1,324 for books given to reception children in our local primary schools, every child gets to keep their own book*
- *£1,610 for Christmas parcels delivered to disadvantaged families in our community*
- *£250 to Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice*
- *£500 to Whitehawk Foodbank*
- *£500 to Rockinghorse Children's Charity*

Plus many more donations and acts of service throughout the year.

That is what the Lions do. Quietly, consistently, year after year.

But here is the difficult truth: the Lions are at risk of closing.

With too few active members to keep things going, this incredible legacy of community service is genuinely under threat. And that would be a real loss, not just for the Lions, but for every family, child, and vulnerable person who benefits from their work.

You do not need to give up your life. You give whatever time you can spare. That is it.

If you have ever thought about giving something back to the community you live in, this is your moment. Get in touch through the website and have a conversation. No pressure, no commitment, just a chat.

www.rottingdeanandsaltdeanlions.org.uk

Robert Brand

Lions President 2026-27

Visit The Website

History Corner...

Tales of Woodingdean House (Part 2)... by Douglas d'Enno



Woodingdean House & Woodingdean Farm, Ovingdean Road, Woodingdean. The little girl on the horse (Tommy) is Edna Drake, aged about 8, with her father George Drake.

From the collection of R.G.Curtis.

In 1919, Woodingdean House was purchased by William Arthur Cowley, after whom Cowley Drive is named. He and his family stayed for 10 years. The Cowleys ran the nearby Ovingdean Grange Farm for nearly 60 years. William's father, Henry, had held the lease of the Grange and its lands from around 1877 until 1893, when William took over. Alderman Cowley, as he became, was a prominent public figure, actively involved in village affairs and in local matters over an area ranging from Brighton to Newhaven.

Two of his grand-daughters, Edna Curtis and Dulcia Carnaghan, had fond memories of the rambling old house. Edna lived from 1927 in 'Woodside', a property on the Falmer Road not far from where Woodingdean House stood.

Her family lived in the mansion for more than a year while they were waiting for 'Woodside' to be built. She recalled:

'The garden in front of the house was a mass of daffodils every spring. The nuns from St Mary's Convent nearby used to come and pick some each year. There were stables - six boxes, I remember - although we kept no horses and only used the boxes for storage.'

'Near the main house on the north side was a small cottage. In the garden was a windpump in the form of wheel for water management. The part below ground later became a rubbish chute. At one point there was even an old bedstead down it. On the south side was a large conservatory, always adorned with flowers.

'There was a very big cellar, which was well-stocked and which housed the boiler and generator, for my grandfather had his own electricity supply long before the rest of the village.

'The accommodation was on three floors. The ground floor rooms included the butler's pantry, with a long larder off it with marble shelves, where food kept surprisingly well for a long time. Mrs Gander, my grandparents' housekeeper, had her room on this floor.

'On the first floor were the family's bedrooms, and on the second, dating from the Lennard days, was a ballroom! This was soon converted by grandpa into a spacious flat, into which moved my Uncle Arthur and Aunt Margaret. He had been in business in Canada but had decided to come back. They had their own metal staircase at the back which made the flat independent.

'Grandpa had Woodingdean Farm, which was his own, and Ovingdean Farm, which he rented. Dulcia Carnaghan (née Filkins), later of Standean, lived from 1919 to 1945 with her family at Ovingdean Grange, which her grandparents had occupied prior to moving to Woodingdean House. She and her cousin Edna were always visiting each other at their respective houses. She recalls:

'Woodingdean House was a lovely old place, really beautiful. It was such a happy age – we had wonderful childhoods.'

When the Cowleys left Woodingdean House in 1929, they moved to nearby 'Woodingcote.' They had sold to the enormously wealthy Violet Annie Van der Elst, (1882-1996) the ardent campaigner against capital punishment, who paid £3,700 for the house and outbuildings.

Edna remembered Mrs Van der Elst well:

'I liked her husband but she was rather peculiar. When she came to tea at 'Woodingcote' her bag was always stuffed with banknotes, which she always managed to spill onto the floor – probably to impress us. 'She had seven alsations and they were always worrying our poultry. My father had a row with her about it one day. It got rather heated and her husband came striding across the field and carried her home under his arm!'

Max Miller and his wife sold in 1945 to a company director from Shoreham, a Mr. Vanderborght. He died in 1962 having sold part of his grounds for a housing development. Three years later, his executors sold the rest of the land and the house was pulled down – a sad end for such an imposing and fondly-remembered residence with so many fascinating associations.



Mrs Van der Elst

The Open Art Cafe - Rottingdean



Hot day? We have the answer!

Wall's Ice Cream has landed at the Open Art Café, with a gorgeous range of flavours to cool you down. And because we would never leave anyone out, we have doggy ice cream for the four-legged members of the family too.

Come for the ice cream, stay for everything else. Great coffee, fresh homemade food, summer salads, homemade cake, and a menu that

works for every dietary requirement. A beautiful collection of gifts and artwork from local artists. Bold, quirky new pieces to discover and a shaded garden that is absolutely made for days like this. Come and pay us a visit. We would love to see you!

★ **Dean Scene Deal of the Week!** ★

Mention The Dean Scene and enjoy coffee and cake for just £6. Support local, discover local, and treat yourself to a visit to The Open Art Café this week.
(The Open Art Café, Nevill Road, Rottingdean)

Later In The Deans...

Saltdean Lido Kids Origami Workshop **Tuesday 4th August** **11am - 12.30pm**



Hop into the world of paper folding with this fun and interactive Lido Kids workshop!

Hop into the world of paper folding with this fun and interactive Lido Kids workshop! Children will learn simple origami techniques to create their own jumping frogs and classic paper fortune tellers. Along the way, they'll develop creativity, concentration, and fine motor skills while enjoying hands-on crafting and imaginative play. Every child will leave with their handmade creations and the skills to keep folding at home. Suitable for a range of ages, with all materials provided.

Perfect for young crafters who love making, playing, and sharing their creations with friends and family. 🐸 ✨ 📄

Get Tickets

**Saltdean Lido
Back To School Crafts
Kids Workshop
Starting Wednesday 5th August**



Get creative and design a one-of-a-kind pencil case, book mark and keyring in this fun Lido Kids workshop!

Get creative and design a one-of-a-kind pencil case in this fun Lido Kids workshop! Children will decorate a canvas pencil case using colourful fabric pens, patterns, drawings, and personalised designs to create something that reflects their own style and imagination. A wooden Book mark and a personalised keyring for their bag.

This hands-on activity encourages creativity, self-expression, and confidence while giving children the opportunity to make a practical item they can use every day. With plenty of inspiration and all materials provided, each child will leave with a unique pencil case ready for school, art supplies, or treasured keepsakes.

A fun and engaging workshop for young artists who love crafting and creating something truly their own. 🖍️ 🎨 ✨

Get Tickets

**Wild Science Presents Experiment Mix
Saltdean Lido
Thursday 6th August**



Our Science Experiment Mix workshop offers an exciting chance to engage an audience, with the wonders of science.

The carefully selected experiments are designed to amaze you, featuring experiments from Fizz, Bang, and Pop to the States of Matter and the Science of Bubbles, all packed into one exhilarating experience. We have interactive and hands-on experiments that everyone can participate in. All adults and children will require a separate ticket.

Book Tickets

**Summer Crafts
Kids Workshop
Saltdean Lido
Friday 7th August**



Join us for a fun-filled creative adventure at the beautiful Art Deco surroundings of Saltdean Lido - Brighton!

Join us for a fun-filled creative adventure at the beautiful Art Deco surroundings of Saltdean Lido - Brighton! Children can explore their imagination through a range of hands-on arts and crafts activities, including making colourful seaside themed decorations, decorating keepsakes, and creating summer-inspired masterpieces to take home.

Designed for young makers of all abilities, our friendly workshop encourages creativity, confidence and plenty of messy fun in a relaxed setting. All materials are provided—just bring your imagination!

Perfect for school holiday entertainment, this workshop offers a wonderful opportunity for children to make new friends, learn new skills and enjoy a creative day by the coast. Saltdean Lido regularly hosts community workshops and family activities alongside its swimming and leisure facilities.

Suitable for: Children (age range as specified by the organiser)

What to bring: Clothes suitable for crafting

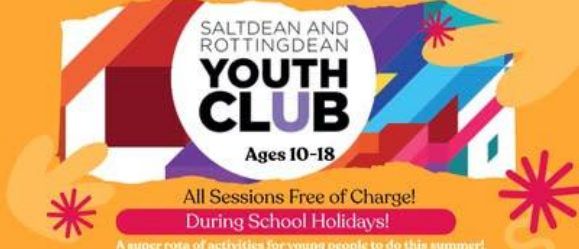
Materials: Included in the ticket price

Book Tickets

Saltdean & Rottingdean Youth Club

FREE Summer Youth Programme

ROWSLAT in partnership with the Trust for Developing Communities are delighted to present this year's FREE Summer Youth Programme which promises a diverse range of activities for young people aged 10-18. Please see above for details or visit the website



A super rota of activities for young people to do this summer!

Date	Activity Location	Planned Activity
Friday 31 st July	Saltdean Oval/MUGA Time: 4:30-6:30pm	Canvas Painting with Acrylic Paint Pens and Picnic
Friday 7 th August	Connors Court Time: 4:30-6:30pm (TBC)	Frisbee, Football, Swing ball and Archery
Friday 14 th August	Rodean Pitch and Putt Trip Time: 1:30-5:00pm	Food Provided, travel by bus (Unless young people can meet there)
Friday 21 st August	Newhaven Skatepark and Pump Track? Time: 4:30-6:30pm	Newhaven Skatepark and Pump Track
Friday 28 th August	Saltdean Lido Swim Session (Free swim voucher provided) Time: 2pm-5:45pm	Free Swim with Snacks Provided





Check the updated summer schedule on our website:
<https://trustdevcom.org.uk/project/youth-activities>

Dear Adults: Please ensure that your young person is equipped with a water bottle and sun cream if needed! Thank you!




Visit The Website

Rottingdean Village Fair
Saturday 1st August
10am - 4pm



Get ready for a spectacular celebration as the Rottingdean Village Fair returns, marking 'A Hundred and One Years of Fun!'.

Last year we celebrated our centenary with a bang, and this year, we're channeling the spirit of the 1920s with a dazzling Art Deco theme - reflecting that iconic era when our Fair was first held.

We're thrilled to bring this beloved event back to our village green, offering more stalls and food options than ever before! Prepare for a delightful array of local crafts, unique treasures, and a culinary journey to tempt every taste bud.

You'll also find diverse entertainment throughout the day, alongside a vibrant mix of commercial, community, and charity stalls, ensuring there's something for everyone. Naturally, we're all keeping our fingers crossed for good weather once again - but come rain or shine, the Fair will always still happen - even if we have to move it indoors to the various locations that are always on standby, just in case!

Join us for a 'simply spiffing day out' packed with fun, festivities, and a touch of cinematic intrigue. Let's make this year's Fair the best one ever and continue creating unforgettable community moments, knowing that profits from the fair are distributed every year to local good causes.

Rottingdean Heritage Wednesdays at One



Wednesdays at One 2026

The Final Three!

5 Aug: Cathryn Pearce : Wrecking and Smuggling

**19 Aug: Mike Laslett & Bob Smale : Tour of the Churchyard
(Meet at St Margaret's Church)**

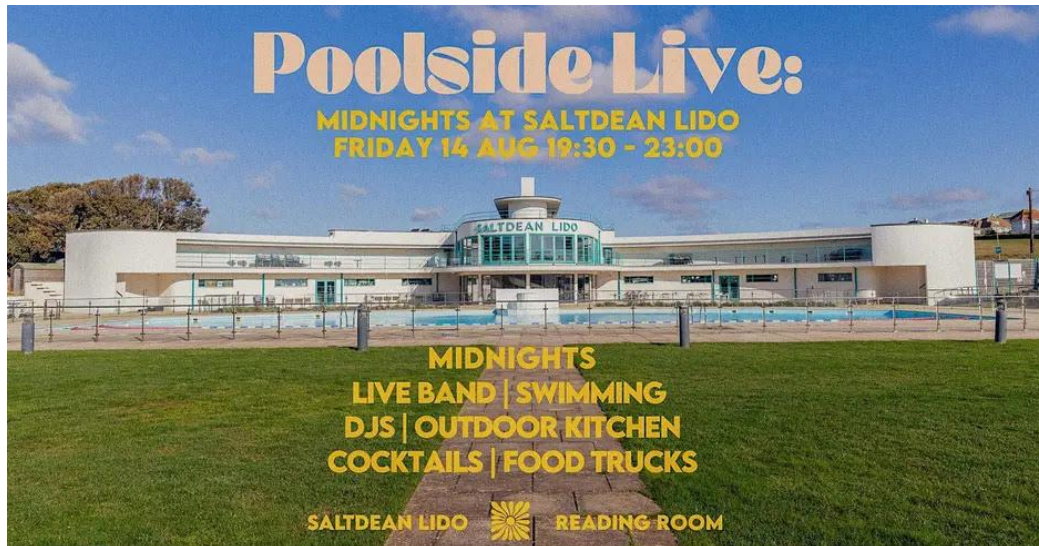
23 Sept: Tim Stevens : Tour of the Grange Gardens

Suggested donation £5

Enquiries to archivist@rottingdeanheritage.org.uk

Email For More Information

**Poolside Live
Saltdean Lido
Friday 14th August
7:30pm - 11pm**



Celebrate the biggest hits of the 80s - 2020's with an unforgettable evening of live music beside our iconic floodlit pool.

Join us for an outdoor poolside summer night of feel-good anthems as Midnights bring the soundtrack of the 80s and 90s to life, with a handful of modern favourites thrown in for good measure. Expect classic non-stop singalongs anthems from one of the South Coast's most exciting live bands.

Dance the night away to classics from Queen, George Michael, Madonna, Billy Idol, Tears for Fears, Bruce Springsteen, Tina Turner, Nirvana, Blur, Stereophonics, The Killers, Kings of Leon, plus selected favourites from artists including Harry Styles, Taylor Swift, Bruno Mars and more. Having trained at the prestigious British & Irish Modern Music Institute alongside artists including James Bay and George Ezra, Midnights have spent years perfecting their high-energy live performances.

Members of the band have shared stages with Bastille, Tom Odell, Rag'n'Bone Man and have performed at major venues and festivals including Glastonbury, Reading & Leeds Festival, Secret Garden Party, Alexandra Palace and O2 Academies across the UK.

Book Tickets!

Rottingdean Whiteway Centre Autumn Courses Launch



Dates for your diary Autumn 2026 term dates

Autumn courses launch - Friday 21 August @ 9am

In-person enrolment - Saturday 5 September 11-12 noon

Term dates - 21 September - 4 December 2026
Half term - 26 October - 30 October



As we are rapidly approaching the end of the Summer Term, we thought we'd say a big 'Thank You' to all our tutors, students and anyone else who makes the Whiteway Centre a destination for courses & events.

Save the dates for the Autumn Term, with course enrolment commencing from Friday 21 August.. We also have an in-person enrolment on Friday 5 September 11-12 noon. Keep an eye out on www.rwc.org.uk

Visit The Website

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