

## Fratton Big Local



# Fratton Big Local Newsletter

December 2015

## Festival of Light

The Festival of Light was a great success - around 300 people took part.

Due to predicted bad weather the parade was held in St Mary's Churchyard with the Dolphin Marching Band leading the way, playing a variety of Christmas songs.

There were projections outside of the church and entertainment and activities inside, including performances by Top Banana Circus, The Urban Vocal Group Choir, and St Mary's Church choir.



*The big fox lantern was really spectacular!*

A big **Thank You** to everyone who helped make the event a success - we look forward to next year's Festival!

## ESOL sessions in 2016

Following the success of our pilot ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) sessions earlier this year, our next programme of sessions starts on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January (10am to 11.30am).

These friendly and informal sessions are for women living in Fratton whose first language is not English, and they will be run by a qualified female tutor. For more information and to book a place, please contact Anna on 07841 341 969.

## Quick Note!

Fratton Community Association has asked us to inform everyone that, contrary to rumours, Fratton Community Centre will remain open in 2016. The Centre will close for the Christmas period at noon on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016.



## Christmas Lights and tree update

The Christmas lights are now switched on along Fratton Road. We hope you like them!

At our last Partnership Board meeting we awarded a grant to Buckland United Reformed Church to fund lights for their Christmas tree. We'd like to say 'thank you' to A G Stapleford and Sons for providing the tree.



It's great to see that the Royal British Legion Club has put up a tree this year – it all helps to make Fratton look more festive!

If you want to find out more about our Community Chest grants, please see <http://frattonbiglocal.org.uk/index.php/community-grants/about-grants>. Or contact Anna on 07841 341 969 or [community@frattonbiglocal.org.uk](mailto:community@frattonbiglocal.org.uk).

## Dates for Your Diary in 2016:

- May Fayre: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016
- The Big Lunch Picnic: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- Fratton Family Festival: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016
- Festival of Light: early December 2016 (date to be confirmed)

**Season's greetings and best wishes for the New Year!**

**Thank you for supporting Fratton Big Local in 2015.**

**We look forward to 2016...**





If you have some spare time and would like to help us with any of our projects, please contact us:

T: 07841 341 969

E: [community@frattonbiglocal.org.uk](mailto:community@frattonbiglocal.org.uk) or contact us via our Facebook page.

**Local Trust** | **Big Local**

**Fratton Big Local**

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