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est. 1997

SATURDAY 5TH JULY 2025  
FROM 12 NOON



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## WELCOME TO COCOMAD 2025

Starting life as a thank you to the local community in 1997, CoCoMAD has become a well loved festival of music, art, dance, science, circus, food and celebration. You don't need a ticket, and can bring the whole family. But without donations from you, your neighbours and the businesses that you use, CoCoMAD wouldn't exist. Thank you to our sponsors for helping us make the magic happen.

Look out for our volunteers at the festival with donation buckets and card machines. If everyone donated at least £3, the festival is almost paid for.

CoCoMAD is run by Friends of Cotteridge Park (FoCP), a group of dedicated volunteers and registered charity in England and Wales (charity number: 1181644). If you want to know more about FoCP, or join the team, get in touch.

**Best wishes for a happy CoCoMAD from all the volunteers.**



*Thank you to everyone who helps make CoCoMAD happen. Not just the volunteers you see on the day - marquee erectors, litter pickers, gate monitors, stewards and lost children finders - also the months of work done by the fundraisers, planners, stall and music programmers. Thanks to the artists and performers, stallholders and food and drink providers who make the day such a pleasure. Thanks to OPUS, a women-led arts and events producing house, who have created CoCoCorner. Thanks to Birmingham City Council Parks for all the help and support throughout the year.*

*And thanks to the community of Cotteridge. Without your support, this wonderful festival wouldn't be possible.*

*Editorial: Emma Woolf and Kelly Baber,  
Design: Ang Hui Qing and Kerry Leslie, Illustrations: Edie Woolf,  
Photos: TheBrumReaper. Print: The Newspaper Club.*



FoCP has been a member of Birmingham Open Spaces Forum (BOSF) since it started in 2005. Our volunteers, and the community who use the park, have benefited hugely from the support of working with other open spaces volunteers across the city.

In 2005 we were one of only 25 groups, 20 years later we are one of over 130 groups looking after Birmingham's parks, nature reserves, allotments, cemeteries and more.

As members we benefit from free insurance from Birmingham City Council, access to fund raising support, and the chance to share ideas and knowledge with other groups. It's great to be part of something bigger.

Happy 20th anniversary BOSF, here's to many more years working together!



5 JULY 2025  
FROM 12NOON



[www.cotteridgepark.org.uk](http://www.cotteridgepark.org.uk)

Join us on Instagram: @CotteridgePark

### Festival Safety information, please read

Please don't sit in the areas marked with white lines. These make getting around the main field easier, and are safe evacuation routes. You will be asked to move.

Don't put tents or gazebos in the main field - they block the view for audiences and stewards and block exits. You can set up camp in the family gazebo area.

No BBQs or camping stoves are permitted on site.

We have wristbands for children at The Shed and the FOCP stall. Write your phone number on your child's wristband. Lost children (and people) will be looked after at The Shed.

First Aid is by the main entrance on Franklin Road.

Report crime at the time: Call 101 or dial 999 if life is in danger or a crime is in progress.

**Please don't drive to CoCoMAD as there is no parking available.**

Due to the residential location, we ask you to use public transport, walk or cycle. You can lock up your bikes at your own risk at the courts. There are a small number of spaces for drivers with limited mobility. These are available on a first come first served basis. Chairs are available for those waiting at the entrance for collection and drop offs.

## MAIN STAGE



### 12pm – The Middle Eastern Sessions

A collaboration of middle eastern melodies, led by award winning viola player Raghad Haddad (Syria), tanbur player Babak Aria (Kurdistan) and Aida Khakizadeh (Iran), plus more.

### 1pm – Annemarie Allen

BBC Introducing singer-songwriter and band whose unique musical style does not confine itself to one specific genre, and songs telling stories of freedom, capitalism, and human connection.

### 2pm – Sohaib's Collective

Four-piece, chill-vibe gone festival mashup from seasoned guitarist Sohaib's Collective. Loops of lushness with incredible musicians.

### 3pm – Grandma's Biscuit Tin

Like a biscuit tin, you never know what you are going to get! Classic swing numbers rub shoulders with eclectic takes on modern songs, and original numbers in older styles.

### 4pm – Dystopia Gently

Alternative rock band, led by queer singer songwriter Katherine Christie Evans. Inspired by Joni Mitchell, Jeff Buckley and Nirvana, expect dreamy vocals and catchy melodies.

### 5pm – Atlantic Players

Returning once again, the brilliant Atlantic Players! Nine-piece soul band based in Birmingham. Delivering a southern soul sound circa 1960's Memphis.

### 6pm - Retro Beat

An ultimate journey through the annals of rock and pop music history. This dynamic covers band is your passport to a sonic adventure that spans decades and transcends generations.



### CoCoMAD After Party at Attic (18+ only)

Head to Attic Brew Co on Mary Vale Road (opposite Bournville Station) for the official CoCoMAD after party.

This event is not suitable for children.

Please note timings are approximate!



## CoCoAcoustica

1pm–7pm, By The Shed

Get in touch, book a slot and plug in and play. It's your chance to perform! Here at CoCoAcoustica - we offer a warm and encouraging welcome to all performers.

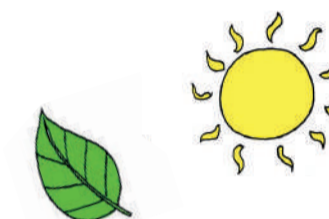
Whether you play covers or original material, you'll love playing for our friendly audience. If you'd like to book a slot in advance or want more info, then please email us at [info@cotteridgepark.org.uk](mailto:info@cotteridgepark.org.uk)

## CoCoLounge

1pm–6pm, The Orchard

Sit back and relax in our very own indoor-outdoor space at CoCoLounge in the Orchard. Here you will find mellow jazz, yoga and relaxation to calm the mind, celebrate differences and raise a giggle.

Birmingham Opera Company brings Opera to CoCoMAD! Come to the orchard to listen to some opera and have a go at singing yourself! Open to all!



## Secret Life: In The Trees

Phil Dockerty and Murray McKee bring Secret Life to a beautiful new setting. Expect laid-back DJ sets of Balearic beats and sun-kissed grooves, the perfect soundtrack for relaxing in the trees.

## CoCoLounge Silent Disco

Boogie on down in your own little world - or rave with mates.



## Festivals make a mess

Festivals like ours produce a lot of waste, even when we try to reduce it. We all have a responsibility to protect the Earth's precious resources by dealing with our waste responsibly.

Please take your rubbish home with you - empty cans are much easier to take home than full ones.

Rubbish bags will be available, and please keep dangerous waste types, such as batteries, vapes, gas canisters, etc., out of the waste and recycling bins to prevent fires and safeguard the health and safety of everyone involved.

Thanks to Veolia who are kindly donating help to deal with the rest of the waste reduced by CoCoMAD.



Thank you to ESB, the car charger people, for their generous support to help make CoCoMAD greener and safer.



## Be less wasteful - re-use for CoCoMAD

When you go to the bar they will charge you an extra £2 with your first drink for a reusable pint "glass" - and then you have a CoCoMAD souvenir.



## Stalls: Food, drink, crafts & more

Always ones to champion local independent businesses, you will find an array of stars from our local community. From street food legends and breweries, to the array of producers available at the stalls in our market, there's something for everyone.

Our market proudly features some of Birmingham's best makers, artists and artisans. You'll find crafts, clothing, accessories, homewares, condiments, sweet treats and more.

We recommend turning up hungry, and grabbing a CoCoMAD tote bag from the information stall in the main field to carry your new goodies home in.

Two of Birmingham's best breweries are on bar duties. You can find Birmingham Brewery and Attic in the courts. There they will be serving up a selection of drinks, including non-alcoholic cold drinks.

## Swing and Sing At Sarah's Place

1pm-5pm, between the willow and the wood

Have you tried SwingFit yet? There will be mini dance classes for partners and those flying solo. A selection of music to suit all tastes whether you want

to dance or just sit and listen. Listen out for some fantastic choirs too!



## CoCoCorner

12pm-6pm, Cloudscapes

Look up... what do you see?

Join us at CoCoMAD for a special edition of Cloudscapes - a gentle, sky-gazing adventure created by Lorna Rees of Gobbledegook Theatre. Part storytelling, part science, part daydream - Cloudscapes blends fascinating facts about the sky with personal tales and the simple joy of cloud-watching.

As you lie back, you'll listen on headphones to a story all

about the clouds, the sky and Lorna's journey of a lifetime. You'll be provided with a headset to listen to the story but if you prefer to use your own headphones and device, you will be able to listen by scanning a QR code on site.

No booking needed - just come and look up!



CoCoWood - the festival in the wood - celebrates all things wood.

Join Pathcarvers for spoon carving and breathing space in a busy festival, get creative

and learn a new skill.

The forest school team will also be there with activities for young and old to get you back in touch with nature.

Plus, in The Dell

A tiny world of BIG adventure - especially for the littlest explorers who love bugs, beetles, and all things beautifully beastly!

**Meet the Bugs! - 12.00pm, 1.20pm, 3.00pm & 4.20pm**

Watch out for the larger-than-life insect characters on our woodland dance floor - expect insect-inspired beats to get the party started!!

**Poetry Workshops - 12.30pm & 3.30pm**

Get inspired by the wildlife! These creative family sessions

are perfect for sparking young imaginations and discovering the joy of words.

**The Lady Bugs Ball - 12.50pm & 3.50pm**

This aristocratic bunch of outrageous characters can be found causing mischief and mayhem wherever they fly in!



## CircusMASH

*We are excited to have CircusMASH back at CoCoMAD again! They are always a big hit and we love having them at the festival. They will be also be running aerial and circus workshops all day so make sure you come and join in.*

## Hullabaloo - a new immersive outdoor musical...

Hullabaloo is a vibrant, whimsical series of micro-circus-musicals that invite family audiences into the bustling, magical world of tiny creatures. This charming performance follows the adventures of ants, bees, and droplets as they navigate their small but mighty worlds. In our second year of development, each segment is a self-contained mini

musical that brings to life the fascinating lives of these creatures, filled with humor, heart, and fun. Funded by Arts Council England.

Community Groups that are part of Hullabaloo: CircusMASH, SOTE, Class Act Theatre, Bfourteen, FPS Fitness, Jewels Academy, CDC Dance.

## The House of MASH

A performance company from Birmingham that produces fun, joyously immersive shows with a participatory edge for all occasions. On a mission to bring creative arts and education to underrepresented and unreachable communities, and create safe spaces for people to engage with us socially, educationally and professionally.

Their motto - Dream way too big and forget not your purpose... but live every day like your life is a circus!



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



## Parade

Get yourselves to the Circus Field for 2.50pm where the CoCoMad Parade will set off on a journey around the park, led by the fabulous Bostin Brass and performers from Hullabaloo!

## Bostin Brass

Bostin Brass have played soul-music through the streets of Birmingham for the best part of a decade.

From their beginnings as a New Orleans style marching brass band in Digbeth, Birmingham,

the group have taken their own brand of Brummie infused second-line around the country to wow audiences in school playgrounds, mardi gras parades, concert halls and international jazz festivals. Gumbo with extra HP sauce



## Science

The CoCoMAD scientists are back with their science busking. With exciting and hands-on demonstrations up their sleeves, they will have plenty to wow you with!

## Volunteers make Cotteridge Park

From the team of 50+ volunteers that make CoCoMAD happen to the daily litter pickers, Cotteridge Park couldn't be what it is without the hard work of the amazing volunteers. Last year they donated a total of 7886 hours. At the Real Living Wage that means the volunteers donated £99,370 of their time.



### Can you help keep Cotteridge Park wonderful and volunteer?

Here's some of the things you could do:

- Update the noticeboards
- Design posters
- Help at forest school
- Do The Shed's washing
- Be a trustee
- Contribute to the website or social media
- Run an activity session or lead a group
- Be a barista at The Shed
- Be handy person - help fix things
- Be creative - make park art
- Raise funds
- Gardening
- Help to organise CoCoMAD

Whether you can give two hours once a year at CoCoMAD, garden once a month or help at The Shed - all offers of help are very welcome. Volunteering can also bring you lots of benefits so everyone benefits.

If you love Cotteridge Park, and can spare some time, please think about volunteering - especially if you want The Shed open more often.



Email: [info@cotteridgepark.org.uk](mailto:info@cotteridgepark.org.uk), pop into The Shed or visit the FoCP stall at CoCoMAD.

## How is it 'FREE'?

Like everything we do in Cotteridge Park CoCoMAD is "free at the point of delivery", so no one is excluded if money is tight. But that doesn't mean it's free to put on. This year's festival is costing around £34k, much cheaper than many other festivals because almost all of the hard work is done by volunteers.

The cost of the festival is paid for by a mix of:

- Local businesses sponsoring the festival programme (see them listed in the programme and feel warm about what lovely people they are)
- The traders paying fees for their pitches
- Grants from trusts and funders (but applying to them takes lots of volunteer time)
- And donations, big and small, made on the day from everyone who can afford to

## Please chip in -

- via textgiving. Text CoCoMAD plus the amount you'd like to donate to 70085 e.g CoCoMAD 10 to donate £10.
- donation buckets and card readers on the day
- Becoming a regular donor - [www.justgiving.com/fo-cotteridgepark](http://www.justgiving.com/fo-cotteridgepark)



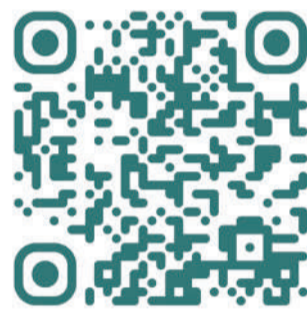
.. And BRING CASH to CoCoMAD!



## What's on for free in Cotteridge Park



For more of what's on at Cotteridge Park



The weekly activities that take place in Cotteridge Park are free at the point of use. We made it this way so that anyone can get involved, regardless of personal circumstances.

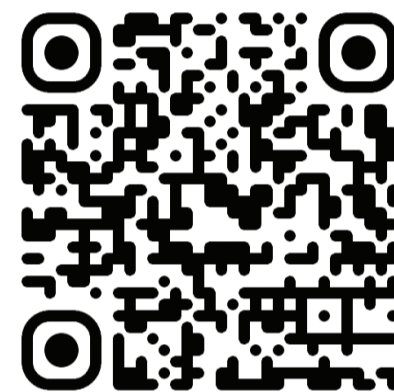
From meet-ups for new parents, space for crafts and chatting, exercise sessions to get everyone moving a bit more, youth workers and forest school - there's something for everyone.

While we don't charge for the activities, each of the sessions have costs associated with them. Whether it's to pay for the teacher, or purchase essential equipment, we have to find the funds to make the activity happen.

As a charity, we rely on a combination of donations, funding and grants. The funds and grants are becoming harder to come by, meaning we're around £5,000 short this year! We're very proud of the variety of free activities we are able to offer, and we would love to keep it that way.

If you are in a position where you could help us financially, a monthly Direct Debit donation via our Just Giving page is the best way to help us keep all activities running for the community.

Follow this QR code to support us



## Dates for your diary

### Summer Holiday Forest School and Youth Club

Thanks to funding from The National Lottery we are able to run a programme of free activities for children and young people over the Summer

Paperback Theatre are bringing their brilliant tour to Cotteridge Park this August, tickets available from mid July.

### Wind in the Willows, 3rd August

Mole has been stuck inside for far too long. Finally escaping their underground home they team up with good friends Ratty, Badger and the loveably roguish Toad on an adventure to blow away the winter cobwebs. Mole and the gang must go head-to-head with a motor-car, Her Majesty's Constabulary and a legion of Weasels, Ferrets and Stoats taking up residence in Toad Hall. Can our plucky band of heroes save the day?



### Wizard of Oz, 17th August

Dot just wants everyone to shut up and leave her alone. Sick of her annoying new foster family she longs to be somewhere else, somewhere far away, somewhere over the rainbow...

Paperback Theatre's new adaptation of The Wizard of Oz brings the classic well-loved story bang-up-to-date. Whether it's brains, heart or courage you want, this action-packed adventure has got you covered.

So strap in to your ruby slippers for a saunter down the yellow brick road.



### CoCoCamp, 23rd-24th August

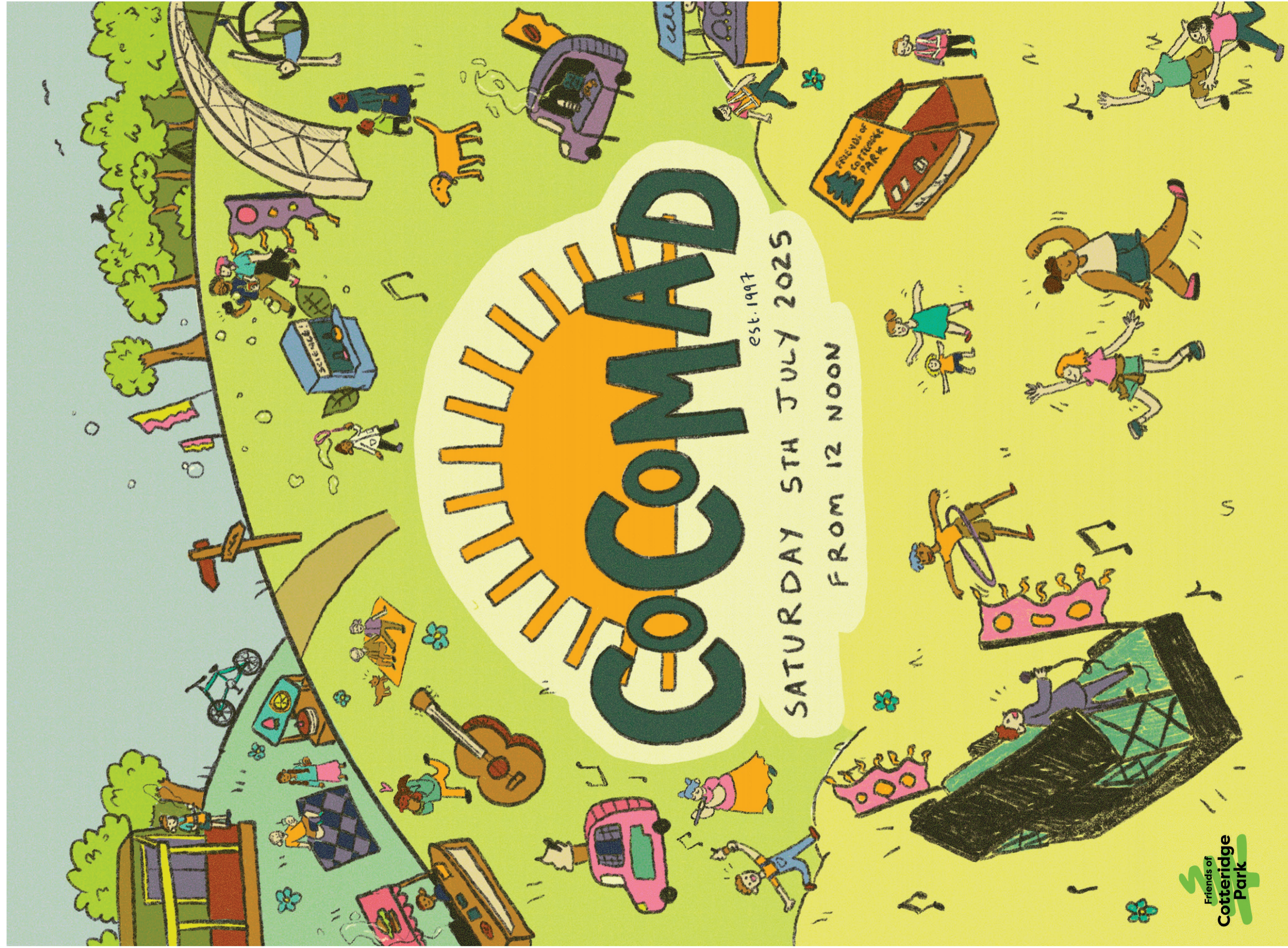
CoCoCamp is back - did you know you can camp in the park overnight?

For one special night every few years you can join your neighbours for a magical

night in the park - followed by a lovely hot breakfast courtesy of Bournville Scouts. Unfortunately CoCoCamp does have to charge a small fee.

Sign up for the newsletter to get early booking information for all these events.





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**Shenley Lane Community Association & Sports Centre**  
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**Weoley Hill Village Hall**  
[www.weoleyhill.uk/village-hall](http://www.weoleyhill.uk/village-hall)

**Woodlands Park Hall**  
[www.bvt.org.uk/your-neighbourhood/ways-to-get-involved/community-centres-and-places](http://www.bvt.org.uk/your-neighbourhood/ways-to-get-involved/community-centres-and-places)

To find out more about what's on offer, visit Halls or Centres' websites or join our BVT Communities Group on Facebook by scanning the QR code.

### Shenley Out of School Club

Established in 2002, the Shenley Out of School Club has over 20 years of experience in providing high quality child-centered care.

The Ofsted-registered club, for children aged 4-11, is based at Shenley Court Hall, and offers:

- Excellent flexibility, with no set hours or restrictions.
- Fully trained staff.
- A fun, diverse and educational programme of activities.
- Great value for money, including nutritious and tasty hand-made meals prepared onsite.
- Drop-off/collection from your child's school (Green Meadow Primary School or Northfield Manor Primary Academy).

To find out more, call us on 0121 475 7521 or email [jobickerstaff@bvt.org.uk](mailto:jobickerstaff@bvt.org.uk)



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