

FOOTBALL: Boldmere make a flying start to Alliance campaign, scoring eight goals in their opening two games**Sport Shorts****Villa footy schools**

ASTON Villa will be holding soccer schools in the Royal Town and surrounding areas over the next couple of weeks.

Villa will host courses at Bishop Vesey Grammar School next week from Monday to Friday (August 17-21).

They will also hold sessions the following week (August 24-28) at Moor Lane Sports Ground and St Francis of Assisi School in Erdington Road, Aldridge.

All courses are for seven to 14-year-olds and run from 10am-3pm each day. The cost is £12 a day or £50 for the week.

There will also be mini-kickers courses at the venues for four to six-year-olds from 10am-12noon. They cost £6 a day or £25 for the week.

For more details, call Bob Rickards on 07932 739253 or book online at www.avfc.co.uk.

Away day coaches

THE Sutton Coldfield branch of the Aston Villa Lions Club will be running coaches to away games this season.

The first coach will be run for the trip to Liverpool on Monday, August 24.

The coach will depart from the Halfway House in Sutton at 2pm, with further pick-ups at McDonald's (Sutton Town Centre), The Fox at Walmley, The Yenton, Blockbusters in Erdington and The Armada in Gravelly Hill.

The cost is £18 for adult and £10 per accompanied child (under-16).

For further details, call Mark Goodwin on 07815 838195.

Players needed

BOLDMERE Falcons Colts under-11s are looking for new enthusiastic players to join their team.

Anyone interested in joining the Lichfield League Division Two side should call Ivan on 07941 688711.

Sign up to play

SUTTON United FC are looking for players who are going into school Year 10 in September.

The team train on Friday evenings and for further information call Carl Yates on 07915 606483.

Sutton District under-11s. PICTURE COURTESY OF MARTIN JOHNSON PHOTOGRAPHY

**U-11s build good reputation**

THE Sutton Coldfield District Under-11s side has shown evidence of their talents over the past few weeks and months.

The 28-strong squad represented the Sutton Coldfield District Schools against regions the size of Gloucester, Leeds and Wolverhampton.

During a recent tournament in Jersey they played teams from as far as London and Newcastle.

They had a great season but just missed out on winners' medals in two cup finals.

They lost to the Solihull District in the West Midlands Brighton Clifford Shield and went down unluckily on penalties against Gloucester in the Webster Shield.

The team would like to thank Bernard Day, Jane Willis and coaches Matthew and Neil for all their hard work over the past year.

Mikes in second after back-to-back victories**Midland Alliance**

Boldmere St Michaels.....	5
Highgate United.....	0

BOLDMERE continued their 100 per cent start to the season with a convincing victory over Highgate on Tuesday and lie second in the Alliance after two games, *writes Andy Van Hagen*.

The Mikes got an early breakthrough on five minutes when a Jason Holmes pass found Ricky Baker who shot under the advancing Perry Cox in Highgate's goal.

On 11 minutes, Boldmere added a second when Baker went on a superb solo run and fired a 25-yard screamer into the corner of the Highgate net.

Highgate's best chance came on half time when Tom Thacker was through on goal but his effort was blocked by defender Adam Wood before Chris Gummy was superbly denied by Mikes' keeper Adam Jenkins.

Boldmere started the second half on the front foot and on 47 minutes a Nathan Gough cross found Jamel Fuller who fired home past the Highgate keeper to put the hosts 3-0 up.

Fuller's cross-cum-shot then rattled the Highgate crossbar before Stuart McNaught lobbed the visiting keeper but his shot was cleared off the line by the defence.

On 83 minutes it was 4-0 when Simeon Tulloch went on a solo run and fired home low before McNaught crossed for Jack Brown to complete the rout.

Midland Football Alliance

Bridgnorth Town.....	0
Boldmere St Michaels.....	3

BOLDMERE successfully launched their Alliance campaign with a blistering display on a blazingly warm August after-

noon in Shropshire, *writes Andy Van Hagen*.

After early pressure, Boldmere finally broke the deadlock on 14 minutes when a Simeon Tulloch free kick was flicked on and headed in by Holmes.

On 23 minutes, Bridgnorth had a great chance to level when a long ball put Rhys Adams through but he shot over the Mikes' bar.

The action switched to the other end as Holmes sent an effort into the side netting and Simeon Tulloch went on a great solo run before shooting over the Bridgnorth bar.

The second half started with Bridgnorth pressing for an equaliser and on 51 minutes Boldmere had a lucky escape when Stuart McNaught tried to clear a shot only to nearly put it into his own net.

Boldmere again almost doubled their lead with Lee Osbourne clear on goal but his shot was stopped by the man who was fast becoming Bridgnorth's man of the match, keeper Walters.

Minutes later, Baker's cross found Holmes who was one on one with Walters and again the keeper pulled off a great stop.

The Mikes needed the security of a second goal and on 69 minutes they got it when an Adam Wood long ball found Osbourne, who lobbed over Walters into the Bridgnorth goal.

Two minutes later, the Mikes made it 3-0 when a corner from Tom Stevenson hit the bar and was cleared off the line only for McNaught to fire home and make the game safe for the visitors.



Adam Wood helped the Mikes keep two clean sheets this week. (SI)



Ricky Baker was on the mark for Boldmere in midweek. (SI)

Fixtures**Saturday (kick off 3pm)****Southern Midlands League One**

Leighton Town v Romulus

Sutton Coldfield Town v Slough Town

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round

AFC Wulfrunians v Boldmere St Michaels

Tuesday (kick off 7.45pm unless stated)**Southern Midlands League One**

Romulus v Atherstone Town (7.30pm)

Stourport Swifts v Sutton Coldfield Town

Midland Alliance

Boldmere St Michaels v Malvern Town



Lucy Gale in action, this time in the pool. PICTURE BY STEVE HARLOW

Lucy makes a splash**Swimming**

BOLDMERE Swimming Club's Lucy Gale showed she can shine in the open water as well as the indoor pool at the recent Albert Dock Championships.

The championships were organised by Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club and took place in the Albert Dock in Liverpool on a cold wet August morning.

Gale won the Junior Ladies Championship and was only headed at the finish by the Senior Gents Champion, having beaten all the senior ladies to the finish.

Gale - the only swimmer from Boldmere taking part - was entered in the ladies' junior two-mile event and swam the perfect race, following the plan laid out by her coach Dave Marsh.

The target time was 50



Lucy Gale with coach Dave Marsh and her medal and certificate. (SI)

minutes ie 5.31 faster than her previous best achieved at Budworth Mere in May but Gale actually finished in 42.26mins, breaking her personal best by a massive 13.05mins.