

blurb!

The regular newsletter of
 **Brookvale**
Community Association

ISSUE 25
October 2004

In this issue: Picnic • Panto • Victory Park Incident • Welcome to Victory Hill • Lottery • Upcoming Events • and more...

Picnic in the Park

A review of our Community Picnic event held in September, by Victoria Lee (aged 8).

On Saturday 4th September, the weather was so beautiful for a picnic day. The sun was out, and that made us all happy!

Lots of residents from Brookvale brought food and drink and a rug to sit on to the park in Lower Brook Street, where I live. We had lemonade and coke and juice. To eat, we had sandwiches and sausage rolls, and other things.

There was a children's game and an adults game of rounders. In the children's game, the blue team won. In the adults team, the red team won. It was fun!

We all enjoyed the afternoon. IT WAS FAB!!!

More pictures can be found on our website: www.brookvale.org.uk >



Brookvale residents for two reasons; firstly, to warn other mobility vehicle users that there are kids out there with the intent to intimidate and potentially injure disabled people (please take care, especially late at night, with the darker evenings now upon us), and secondly to request that parents of local teenagers discuss this incident with their children.

The kids involved most certainly didn't think about the consequences of their actions and probably thought they were having a bit of fun, but it's far from a joke. Not only do incidents like this threaten to take away a person's independence, but mobility vehicles are also very expensive to replace.

If something similar happens to you, please contact Hampshire Constabulary on 0845 045 4545 as soon as the incident takes place.

Welcome to Victory Hill!

This is the first issue of Blurb that is being circulated to the entire Victory Hill area. We have been advised by Rialto (the developers) that there are now approximately 200 occupied residences at the new development, which now comes under the Brookvale ward. So we would like to extend a warm welcome to Victory Hill residences - welcome to Brookvale!

We are very keen to involve our new neighbours in "all things Brookvale" - news, local issues etc. In order to do this, we need to find one or two Street Reps to cover the Victory Hill area. Do you have an hour or so a month free to do some good for your local area? We need you to deliver Blurb (which isn't so bad at Victory Hill as all the letter boxes are together in each block) and also help to promote the Brookvale Lottery which raises money for the Community Association. Informal Street Rep

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Panto Season Approaches

Following an excellent turn out at last year's performance of "Colonel Cody", Proteus Theatre Group returns to Brookvale Village Hall on 23rd January to perform their current Winter production, "Four Dames in Search of a Panto".

The new show is an unashamed homage to that great theatrical tradition - the panto! One dame is usually plenty, two might be pushing it. But imagine four, glamourously gracing the stage, each searching for the ultimate starring role! Four Dames is an irresistible cocktail of gags, songs and men in frocks - seasonal slapstick silliness for the whole family.

A flyer has been included with this month's issue of Blurb. For more information on the production, visit

Proteus Theatre Group's website at www.proteustheatre.com

Make sure you book your tickets soon, as the hall is only so big and there are limited seats available! For more information or to book tickets, please contact Cathy Elford on (01256) 413993 or email cathy.elford@brookvale.org.uk

Serious Consequences

Around two weeks ago, an incident took place in Victory Park in which a disabled mobility vehicle user's safety was put at risk. The Brookvale resident was riding through the park at around 9pm when a group of adolescents approached them and attempted to set fire to the scooter with a lighter.

We hope this is an isolated incident, but we wanted to report this directly to

For all the latest local news, events and information, visit our website:

www.brookvale.org.uk

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get-togethers are held every so often which allow our Reps to get to know each other and discuss local issues.

If you are interested in becoming a Street Rep for Victory Hill, please contact our Street Rep Co-ordinator, Karin Joseph (contact details on the back page).

Baby & Toddler Group

The Brookvale Baby & Toddler Group is slowly and steadily expanding; it's great to welcome lots of new faces this term!

A new programme for the Autumn term has been compiled and each session will now include an art, craft or simple cooking activity. There are plenty of toys and activities for all babies and toddlers and each session ends with a song and refreshments (included in the £1 entrance fee). The group meets every Wednesday (excluding school holidays) from 1:15pm to 2:45. For more information, please contact Helen on (01256) 421141. New members are always welcome. If you've not tried the group before, why not come along to the Christmas Party on the 15th December?

The Baby & Toddler Group is also looking to acquire a few additional pieces of equipment and toys. In particular, they need: children's chairs, a vacuum cleaner, a dustpan and brush, an iron and ironing board, workbench, dressing-up clothes and accessories, push or pull-along toys, jigsaws or shape sorter puzzles, books, an art easel and small musical instruments.

The group relies on donations, so if you have any second-hand items on the list above that you don't need any more, please give Helen a call on the number above. Thank you for your help!

Brookvale Lottery Changes

A number of changes are planned for the Brookvale Lottery from 1st January, to make it more worthwhile to play and easier to run.

We want to get your feedback on the changes that will affect you, the players. So, in short:

- The playing charge is to increase to £12.10 per year (equivalent to £1 per month plus a 10p membership fee).
- Every month, three subscriber numbers will be drawn randomly at a 3Cs Coffee Morning or at a Committee Meeting.

- The prizes will increase to: £50 for first prize, £30 for second and £20 for third. The monthly prize fund will never exceed 50% of the preceding month's lottery income.
- Prize winners will be advertised in Blurb and on the BCA website. If prizes are unclaimed after six months, they will be returned to the lottery fund.
- Any profits or unclaimed prizes after expenses have been deducted will be spent to further the objectives of the BCA. Priority of spending lies with the upkeep and development of the Brookvale Village Hall.

If you would like to make any comments on the new proposals for the Brookvale Lottery, please address them to our Lottery Agent, Pam Mansfield (contact details can be found on the back page) by 1st November 2004.

Fireworks

You may have read in the last edition of Blurb or on our website that we were planning the return of the fantastic Brookvale fireworks event this year.

Unfortunately, we simply haven't been able to get the resources together to facilitate the display, so we regret that 2004 will be another year without this favourite and often asked about event. However, we now have a full year to plan the 2005 event - so it really should come back with a BANG!

College Football

We have received reports from users of our Village Hall that BCOT students are continuing to play football up against our building. This can be very intimidating for our users, and unintentional damage could be caused to our community's building.

If you see students engaged in this activity, please immediately contact Tom Herring at BCOT who has agreed to do everything he can to get over to the Hall whilst it is taking place and give the youngsters an ear-bashing! His number is 306265. If there is no reply, please try Margaret Jenner on 306202.

Evolve at BCOT

BCOT is pleased to announce the opening of its newly refurbished "Evolve" salons; the perfect place to relax and be pampered. Clients can choose from a wide range of hair, massage, holistic and

beauty therapy treatments. All the therapies available are competitively priced and there are also a range of treatments especially designed for men.

The salons are open Monday to Friday during term time with late evening opening hours from Mondays to Thursdays. For further details or to make an appointment please contact 01256 306321 (for hair) or 01256 306322 (for beauty).

Bistro Lunch

BCOT's Robert Newman Restaurant is pleased to announce a new one-course Bistro Menu for people who would like to sample the fine dining of the college's training restaurant but may be unable to spare the time to enjoy the full three-course lunch that is also available. Customers can choose from a selection of meat, fish and vegetarian dishes prepared by hospitality students.

The restaurant is open for lunches between midday and 2pm Tuesdays to Fridays (last food orders by 1pm) and for a four-course dinner 6:30 - 9:30pm Tuesdays to Thursdays.

If you would like to book a table for lunch or dinner please contact the restaurant on (01256) 306306. Early booking is recommended although walk-ins are welcome, subject to availability.

Out of Space!

We have simply run out of space in this issue of Blurb! You can find more articles of interest to Brookvale residents on our website including:

- Victory Hill parking problems
- an informative article from the Council on recycling
- pictures from our recent Skittles evening
- information from the local branches of two charities, The Gingerbread Group (supporting lone parent families - both Mums and Dads) and The Alzheimer's Society.

We also have a picture of the proposed further development area adjacent to the Victory Hill site and an aerial picture of Brookvale, which was kindly sent in by Brenda Kent, taken on a recent hot air balloon ride (her son lives in Solbys Road, if you're wondering why she was aiming her camera at Brookvale!).

So take a look at our website which can be found at: www.brookvale.org.uk

Lottery Results

Draw	Number	Name
25 Sept	137	Pat A'Court
18 Sept	285	Carol Jackson
11 Sept	193	Loveday Jones
4 Sept	124	Mr Skuse
29 Aug	489	Mrs Legrys
22 Aug	577	E Alexander
15 Aug	752	Claire & Gavin Jones
7 Aug	752	Claire & Gavin Jones

For older winners, and for details on how to play the Brookvale Lottery, consult our website: www.brookvale.org.uk or contact Pam Mansfield, our Lottery Co-ordinator (details on the back page).

Apologies to our advertiser:

We incorrectly printed the telephone number for Transformation Yoga & Relaxation in the August edition of Blurb.

Transformation Yoga & Relaxation

Learn how to move, breath and relax from within.

7 week course beginning Wednesday 15th September at Brookvale Village Hall (7:00-8:15pm)

For more information call Melanie Pickard on (01420) 549886

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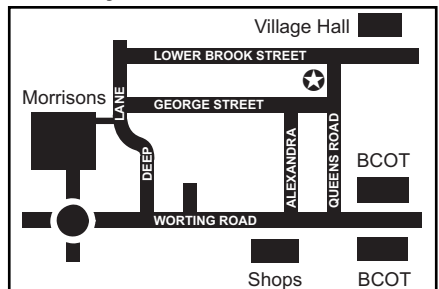
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01256 841005 or email jo@joyoga.co.uk

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Non-smoking disabled person **requires a room for rent** within the Brookvale area.

Requirements:

- Room and facility to store and recharge a mobility scooter
- Payment via housing benefit

Please contact Chris Hall on:
07981 250573 or email
chris.hall@brookvale.org.uk

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Practicing at The Hackwood Partnership

Meet... Chris Hall, our Disability & Mobility Co-ordinator

Hello, I would like to introduce myself as Brookvale Community Association's Disability and Mobility Co-ordinator. As a user of both a mobility scooter and powered wheelchair, I am well aware of the mobility problems that face Brookvale residents - not only for disabled people but also for other forgotten residents with mobility and access issues, such as parents with pushchairs.

I cannot always sort out all mobility problems (eg. poor cambers on our roads) but if enough people come forward with comments and complaints for the council to address, the greater the likelihood we will have of getting our issues resolved. I can also provide advice on disability and mobility issues.

There are two specific issues at the moment which we need feedback on. Firstly, Victory Roundabout will be seeing some much needed improvements for pedestrian users at the end of 2004, so now is the time for us to present our views to the council on what is needed specifically for people with special mobility requirements. Secondly, Hampshire County Council are assessing pedestrian access routes to the town centre. If you have any concerns or issues you would like to report eg. slopes being too steep, unsafe pavements etc., please get in touch.

I am available by e-mail on chris.hall@brookvale.org.uk or you can contact me on my mobile, 07981 250573 (please leave a message if there is no answer).



BCA Information

More up-to-date information can always be found on our website: www.brookvale.org.uk

For information on the Village Hall or BCA event bookings, please contact our Hall Bookings Agent:

Louise Rham
(01256) 325193
louise.rham@brookvale.org.uk

For information on Blurb or Brookvale.org.uk, or to report local problems, please contact our Communications Officer:

Simon Brunger
(01256) 331962
simon.brunger@brookvale.org.uk

For information on the Brookvale Lottery, please contact our Lottery Agent:

Pam Mansfield
(01256) 324313
pam.mansfield@brookvale.org.uk

For any information on local disability/mobility related issues, please contact our Disability & Mobility Co-ordinator:

Chris Hall
(07981) 250573
chris.hall@brookvale.org.uk

To get in touch with your Street Rep, please call our Street Rep Co-ordinator:

Karin Joseph
(01256) 356116
karin.joseph@brookvale.org.uk

For any other information, please email:

info@brookvale.org.uk

Your local councillors are:

Cllr John Shaw
(01256) 461776
cllr.john.shaw@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Doris Jones
(01256) 415062
cllr.doris.jones@basingstoke.gov.uk

Brookvale Community Association (BCA) is a registered charity. Reg. charity no. 269386.

Upcoming Events

Brookvale Teazer

Friday 22nd October, 8pm, Village Hall (on Lower Brook Street)

We aren't sure that you'll get this copy of Blurb in time, but just in case - there might be a few remaining tickets for our Quiz Night - it's a great evening out! Call Lin on (01256) 329475 or email linda.chandler@brookvale.org.uk

Brookvale Baby & Toddler Group

Every Wednesday during term time, 1:15pm - 2:45pm, Village Hall
See page 2 for more details.

3Cs Coffee Mornings

Saturday 6th November and 4th December, 12midday - 2pm, Village Hall
Join your neighbours for Coffee, Cake and a Chat at a 3Cs Coffee Morning!

Ladies Night

Tuesday 9th November, 8pm, Village Hall
November meeting: greetings cards, with an opportunity to purchase handmade Christmas cards.
December meeting: we will be visiting The Body Shop in Basingstoke. More details to follow. For more information, contact Lin on (01256) 329475 or email linda.chandler@brookvale.org.uk

Casino Night

Friday 26th November, 8pm, Village Hall
Following the success of a previous event, we are glad to announce another Casino Night! Play with "funny money" on the roulette wheel and two blackjack tables. The evening is James Bond themed, so feel free to dress up in your best suit or cocktail dress (or come as you are if you prefer!). Adults only. Contact Lin for tickets on (01256) 329475 or email linda.chandler@brookvale.org.uk

Christmas Party

Saturday 11th December, 1pm, Village Hall
Christmas is on its way, and what better way to kick off the celebrations than a friendly get-together with your friends, families and neighbours at our Village Hall? There will be fun and games for both children and adults as well as a craft area for children and a quiet area for those who just want to sit down to have a mince pie, a drink and a chat! See our website or December Blurb for more information.

Four Dames in Search of a Panto

Sunday 23rd January, 3pm, Village Hall
For more information and booking details, see the front page.