

blurb!

The regular newsletter of



Brookvale
Community Association

ISSUE 30
August 2005

In this issue: Picnic in the Park • Public meeting on crime and safety • Upcoming events • Lottery winners • and more...

Picnic in the Park

Saturday 3rd September, 12 midday onwards
King George V Playing Fields (off Deep Lane)

See summer off in style with the rest of your community!
Bring your picnic food, a blanket, maybe a good novel, maybe a walkman
and DEFINITELY your friends, neighbours and families.

• Picnic from 12 - 2pm • "Sports day" style games afterwards




**Bouncy castle for
kids and adults!**

Live music!

**Free advice and
demonstrations
from the
Fire Brigade!**

Crime & Safety in Our Community

A public meeting to discuss issues that affect us all



Wednesday 14th September
7:15pm, for a 7:30 prompt start
Brookvale Village Hall (Lower Brook Street)

See page 2 for more details >

Following on from our lead article in the July issue of Blurb, we are pleased to announce this special public meeting which will be of interest to every Brookvale resident and business. Join our local PC and other local crime reduction agencies to hear about how we can all work together to combat the current increase in crime. ***There will be plenty of time to pose any questions.***



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

www.brookvale.org.uk

Public meeting on crime

As you will have already seen on the front page, we are pleased to announce a public meeting on crime and safety.

We have managed to gather together our local beat bobby (PC Lee Stanbrook), the Hampshire County Council ACSOs (or Accredited Community Safety Officers), representatives from Basingstoke & Deane's Community Safety team and representatives from the Basingstoke Neighbourhood Watch Association.

Each of our guests will give a short presentation on how they perceive the current situation, and suggest ways in which we can help.

We hope to establish a Neighbourhood Watch scheme following this meeting, and it is essential you come along to show your support.

There will be plenty of opportunities to have your points of view aired, and to have questions answered.

Please put **Wednesday 14th September** in your diary now. The meeting will commence at 7:30pm promptly. Join us at 7:15 for welcome drinks and nibbles.

Reminders from the last issue

Please keep this number for Hampshire Police close to your telephone, and store it in your mobile phone's address book: **0845 045 45 45**.

It is essential that every incidence of crime or anti-social behaviour is reported to Hampshire Police. We will not get the resources our area deserves and requires if crimes are not reported.

Even if nothing has actually been stolen, but there is evidence of a break-in, please report it. Even if the incident is no longer in progress. You are not wasting police time by reporting incidents – you could be helping police to collect intelligence into when these crimes occur and who might be perpetrating them.

Also, don't forget to keep an eye out for anyone you see acting suspiciously, or anyone that shouldn't be wherever they are – kids or adults. If you discover kids loitering around the back of your home, tell them that they are trespassing on private property. If, for example, you find someone posing as a tradesperson in a neighbour's back garden when you're not aware of any work being carried out, challenge them. Make a note of their

vehicle registration numbers. You never know when information like that might be required by the police.

One thing is for certain; the crime situation has got worse in recent months and it is up to every single one of us to pull together to fight it.

Would you like there to be a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme?

We cannot run a local scheme unless there is widespread support.

Come along to our public meeting on 14th September to show your support and interest.

Playing just a small part in a local scheme could save you 5% off your household insurance premiums.

Further development at site west of Victory Hill

We have been informed by the new Head of Property Services at Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, Helen Harbour, that the council has now completed its feasibility studies on the land west of the current Victory Hill development.

It's early days yet, there are no firm plans for any development at the site yet, but the council is actively looking for developers who are interested in the site.

They expect to receive tenders back from suitable developers within the next few months and will then meet with BCA representatives to discuss the proposals.

We will keep you updated with any information provided to us.

Planning issues

Please remember that if you wish to undertake ANY work to the front of your property, most of the buildings in Brookvale are covered by the Conservation Order which came into effect in 1999. Work must be preceded by an approved planning application. Contact Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (844844) for further information.

Here are a couple of local planning issues you should be aware of:

Queens Road Post Office

Work had started at Queens Road

Post Office to turn this commercial unit into a residential property. No planning application had been submitted and so the council advised the owner that permission would be required before any further development took place.

A yellow planning application poster has suddenly turned up on the door of the old Post Office!

We strongly believe that this is a commercially viable unit, and should stay that way. We are rapidly losing the local street corner businesses that once flourished in our neighbourhood.

We urge you write in to object to the conversion of the old Post Office. You can view the application on the council's website at:

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning and following the links to the "Planning Applications Register". The application number is BDB/61428. Please write to: Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, Development Control, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH. Don't forget to quote the application number in your letter.

May Street Building

You may have noticed quite a bit of work taking place to the old DriveTime building on the corner of May Street and Lower Brook Street, including new signage for another business.

Whilst we are keen to see this building get a new lease of life and encourage new businesses into the area, it is important to note that no planning application or change of use has been filed with the council for this development.

We are purely concerned about representing local residents on any change of use. There was some talk on the grapevine of a business owner opening a bistro/takeaway at this site. We are concerned that there might be an increase in noise, food smells, traffic etc.

The council is keeping a close eye on this development and will step in if any breach takes place. We also have the full support of our local councillors, both for encouraging local businesses into the area and for ensuring applications are properly filed.

Upcoming enforcement action

Everyone residing in the the Conservation Area has received a letter from the council, advising that a major enforcement campaign is about to take

place. We would like to stress the point that the council has the power to force property owners to undo work that has not had full planning consent.

Satellite dishes on front elevations, replaced walls, windows and doors and removal of period features will all be up for scrutiny by the enforcement team. We advise that, if you have undertaken work without getting prior planning permission, that you file a retrospective application. Satellite dishes must be relocated so that they are not visible from the street.

Pride of Place grants

A new grant scheme has been announced by the council. The Pride of Place Partnership Initiative (POPPI) might be able to provide the Brookvale area with a grant for regeneration. If you have any ideas for suggestions, we would love to hear from you. Our contact details are on the back page. We will be meeting with council representatives at our August Committee Meeting to discuss the scheme.

Proposals to alter Deep Lane junctions and traffic priorities

Clr Doris Jones has advised us that the council has plans to alter portions of Deep Lane. We will keep you updated as soon as we have further information.

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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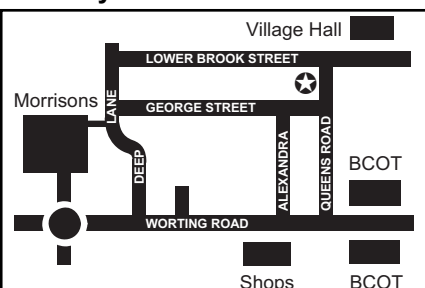


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Meg Green is now practicing from Healthworks at Worting House, Basingstoke

Brookvale Village Hall is available to rent at very reasonable hourly rates.

Ideal for parties, small scale theatre productions, lectures, presentations and social groups.

Day	09:-17:00	17:-23:00
Mon-Thur	£12 /hour	£14 /hour
Fri-Sat	£12 /hour	£18 /hour
Sun	£10 /hour	£10 /hour

For more information, contact our Hall Bookings Agent, Cathy, on (01256) 413993 or email cathy.elford@brookvale.org.uk

Lottery Winners

July 2005

1st (£50) J Griggs (Southend Rd)
 2nd (£30) M Howells (George St)
 3rd (£20) Mrs Jesshope (Alexandra)

Congratulations to this month's winners! It is both easy and fun to play the Brookvale Lottery and support your local Community Association at the same time.

Information on how to play the Brookvale Lottery can be found on our website:

www.brookvale.org.uk/lottery

Alternatively, please contact our Lottery Agent, Pam Mansfield (see details in the right hand column).

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 to book tickets for BCA events, please contact:

Cathy Elford,
 Hall Management Team
 (01256) 413993
cathy.elford@brookvale.org.uk

For information on Blurb or Brookvale.org.uk, please contact:

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

For information on the Brookvale Lottery, please contact:

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

For any information on local disability/mobility related issues, please contact:

Chris Hall,
 Disability & Mobility Co-ordinator
 (07981) 250573
chris.hall@brookvale.org.uk

To get in touch with your Street Rep, please contact:

Karin Joseph,
 Street Rep Co-ordinator
 (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

Your county councillor is:

County Cllr Jo Kelly
 (01256) 328702
jo.kelly@hants.gov.uk

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

Upcoming Events

Brookvale Baby & Toddler Group

Every Wednesday during term time, 1:15pm - 2:45pm, Village Hall
 See our website for more details or call Helen on 421141. New members are always welcome...

3Cs Coffee Morning

Saturday 3rd September, 10am-midday, King George V Playing Fields
 Join us for a very special al fresco 3Cs Morning before the Picnic in the Park event.

End of Summer Picnic in the Park

Saturday 3rd September, from midday, King George V Playing Fields
 This event was a huge success in 2004 and we're delighted to be bringing it back in 2005!

The kids will have the back to school blues, but there's one more opportunity to celebrate the end of summer in style!

Bring along your own picnic, a blanket, some sunscreen, maybe a book, definitely all your friends and family, and join us for this great fun day out.

We will have sports day style events and races, live music, demonstrations and advice from Hampshire Fire Service, a rounders tournament and even a bouncy castle -

for both children and adults!

This is also a great opportunity to meet neighbours and find out more about your local community. *(Please note: dogs must be kept on leads and children must be supervised at all times)*

Crime and Safety in Our Community

Wednesday 14th September, 7:15pm, Village Hall
 Please see page 2 for more info.

3Cs Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st October, 10am-midday, Village Hall
 Don't feel like you're part of your community? Meet your neighbours and find out more about what's going on in your local area. Join us for Coffee, Cakes and Chat at 3Cs! Your newly appointed County Councillor, Jo Kelly, will be present at 3Cs Mornings to conduct open surgeries.

Halloween Event

Saturday 29th October, evening, Throughout the community
 We are busy organising a Halloween event for the end of October. Children will be able to participate in a parent-supervised trick-or-treat activity followed by a grisly, ghoulish party at the Village Hall!

Further details will be published in the September/October issue of Blurb.