blurb!

The bi-monthly newsletter of the Brookvale Community Association

ISSUE 17

November 2002

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EVENTS SUCCESS

The trip to Calais was a success thanks to the hard work of its organizers, who battled against apathy to fill 41 places on the 52-seat coach. If the small band of local supporters had not been supplemented by a 50% contingent from outside the area this trip would not have been viable. Those who went had a great time. See photo below and write up on page 3.



The French Murder Evening at 'Café du Chat Noir' was great fun and those who came along had a thoroughly enjoyable, hilarious evening and wanted to know when the next one will be planned. Again the small loyal core of local supporters came along and numbers were boosted by committee members friends and families from outside the area, without whom the evening wouldn't have taken place. It took a great deal of planning, organization and hard work which its organizers enjoyed doing to make it a successful evening. The hard, frustrating part was trying to engender more enthusiasm and support in the local community.

APATHY IS A KILLER ...!

Brookvale Community Association has a small committee that needs your support, help and time to keep it running. We are desperate for more committee members to help spread the load. We have a good hall-bookings base again, but there doesn't seem to be much point carrying on if all we seem to be achieving is a hall for bookings only. Folk from other areas have remarked how lucky we are having such a lovely hall for local use. The hall is there for all of the community. SO .. If you have time, even a small amount to help please come forward and tell us. We would like to put on events for the whole range of the community and with extra help and support maybe we can still do so. The current committee has decided to continue until May's AGM, but we are seriously reviewing the situation and the future of the hall.

Pam Banks (Chairperson)

<u>l n s i d e</u>

- 2 Blurb News continued
- 3 Events Round-up
- 4 Contacts & dates

Distributed to Local households and businesses

25 years Service

Congratulations Esther

For 25 years Esther Thumwood has seen the

- school children of Brookvale across the
- busy Worting Road.
- Rain, snow or shine
- Esther is always there with a cheery smile and
- a kind word.
- THANK YOU ESTHER
- with love from us all in
- Brookvale.

DON'T MISSALAN TURTON

Giving a fascinating insight into the history of Basing House.

Tuesday December 10th at 8:00 pm Brookvale Village Hall

See events diary

CRIME PREVENTION

Simon Bottom, Crime Prevention Officer for Basingstoke, was the guest speaker at the Brookvale Ladies Club on Tuesday 10th September. Simon said that being a victim of crime can have a devastating effect on the young and old alike and explained many ways in which we can help ourselves.

In the home he advised:
Strong locks on doors and windows.
Do not leave keys in locks.
Have good outside lighting.
Use time switches to turn on lights etc.

Get a neighbour to look after your home whilst you are away.
Lock ladders away or keep them chained to a sturdy bracket.
Think about a burglar alarm.

He said there are many ways to safeguard yourself when out:
Get a personal alarm
Don't go through dark alleys or across waste ground.
Don't hitch-hike
Cover up expensive looking jewellery.

There are many other ways of protecting yourself and your home—the list is endless - but the main thing is to be aware of the dangers and to take adequate precautions to deter them.

Most of us were surprised to be told that the most vulnerable persons were 18-25 year old males who tend to wear expensive watches, have mobiles and have money.

It was a very enlightening evening and I'm sure that we all went home and checked our locks and windows.

There are leaflets available from the Police.

Diane Anderson

Kings Furlong Infant School Christmas Fayre Thursday Nov. 28th at 2:30 pm

Scrutiny Committee Report

Main points from the meeting on 10th October:

- I. No decision had yet been taken on the provision of safe pedestrian crossings.
- 2. Traffic control signals to be added to the roundabout. (Installation 12-15 mths from Oct 2002) 3. HCC would consider the provision of infrastructure to provide an emergency crossing from Timberlake Road into Glebe Gardens. 4. It was noted that the contraflow bus lane was to go ahead.
- 5. Cyclists requests for a nondismount route was noted.
- 6. The BCA's survey sheets and maintenance schedules were noted by BDBC and HCC.
- 7. OSCOM panel were to recommend to cabinet that their decision to infill the subways be reversed and that the underpasses are reinstated as the preferred option.

Pam Mansfield—Scrutiny Panel

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CLEANER

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LOTTERY WINNERS for September

	Date	Lottery No.	Winner	Address
	07/09/02	141	Nora Wright	7 George St.
,	14/09/02	850	Esther Thumwoo	d 18 Southend Rd
7	21/09/02	1000	Diane Anderson	2 Chester Place
	28/09/02	58	Mr Wallace	147 Lower Brook St

WANTED

CARETAKER/CLEANER for Brookvale Village Hall

We are looking for a reliable person, prepared to work some unsocial hours. Good rate of pay for the right person. We will consider 2 people wishing to job share. Tel: 329475 or 352078

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BROOKVALE TEAZER by Lin Chandler

Friday 27th September saw the 9th Teazer, formally the Quiz, take place at the hall.

Twelve teams competed for the September title. 'Death buy Chocolate' and 'The Deep Chasers' were both missing some members of their original teams. Together they became 'The Combined Forces' and after a hard fought battle against 'The Bridesmaids' they eventually won. Perhaps 'the Bridesmaids' will get there next time!

DAY TRIP TO CALAIS by Elsbeth Macdonald

Forty-one people from Brookvale enjoyed a day trip to Calais on October 5th. The day began with a notat all-bright and early start at 5.30 am, enabling the coach to arrive at the Dover ferry terminal in time for breakfast during the crossing.

The first stop was Calais old town, starting from the extravagant town hall with its elaborate clock tower. The municipal gardens were in top form-the plants were the envy of several gardeners on board. There was time to inspect the famous Rodin sculpture "The Burghers of Calais" - the centre piece of the gardens. With an hour to enjoy the atmosphere and take in the French ambience, the crowd fanned out to look at architecture and window shop, but many opted to have coffee at a sidewalk café to take advantage of the warm weather.

From the old town the group went to City Europe for more French experience and some heavy duty shopping. Some parts of the shopping centre were reminiscent of English shopping centres and there were one or two shops straight out of an American mall, but there was no mistaking the food court was entirely French with a great variety of eating places and beautiful food-with wine or beer to accompany.

A great deal of browsing and shopping was done. In the best tradition of booze cruises, wine, beers and spirits were the most popular purchases. Food, china, baby clothes and a roof rack were also amongst the bounty brought back.

The day was judged an unqualified success and another is being planned for March. Notices advising details will be posted on the hall notice board nearer the date.

INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE by Julie Morris

On Tuesday 8th October Brookvale Ladies welcomed back Claire Farley, who is a practitioner of Indian Head Massage. Clare described how this can be used to help relax, focus, relieve stress and give energy, improve circulation and balance and tone the body. The procedure has been passed down through generations of families. Clare then did a demonstration and explained the techniques involved.

I can thoroughly recommend Indian Head Massage as I was selected for Clare's demonstration. I went home feeling very relaxed and stress free. Clare kindly said she would do treatments on anyone else who wished to experience Indian Head Massage while the rest of us chatted and enjoyed a cuppa.

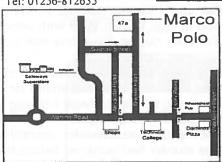
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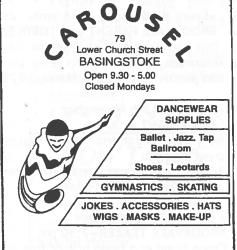
7 Deep Lane, Basingstoke Telephone 01256 468727

CHINESE KICKBOXING BE THE BEST

All classes for mixed ages Beginners welcome

Brookvale Village Hall Mondays 7:15-9:30pm

£6-00 Per lesson 武術館 Contact: Wu Shu Kwan 01256-477200



FANCY DRESS HIRE Tel: 01256 466113

'MURDER' tres terrible au Café du Chat Noir

- by Ted Blackmore-Squires

The entente cordial was very "entente" on Friday 18th October. A hilarious evening was enjoyed by the local Francophiles at the Village Hall.

The hall was set out as a French café and street scene with 'Arri's Bar and a flower stall set in Montmatre, Paris. The tables were laid in true French style with wine flowing freely from the start. Everyone dug up those few words of French which remained from 'O' level (failed!!)

The home cooked menu was superb; soupe a l'oignon, coq au vin avec haricots verts et pommes de terre nouvelles ou legumes au four avec salade, tarte ou fromage avec biscuits.

The Mesdames e Messieurs had dressed for the occasion: ladies of the night, onion salesmen, country urchins to raving 'simpaticos' The murder had occurred before the evening had started and the witnesses and suspects introduced themselves to each table, plying the diners with facts and half truths. Clues appeared between courses. Finally the few clear headed amongst us were able to identify the evil Fifi Lebon as the murderess.

A great evening was had by all. If you were not there you missed another great treat. Go on promise yourself to come to the next event and be a part of the community in which you live. See you there!

Thank you to the BCA committee and all who came to 'Le Chat Noir'

Give us the blurb! Your comments and views

NOISE FROM CHURCHILL WAY

I am a Lower Brook Street resident who is very concerned about the amount of traffic and noise it creates speeding along the Churchill Way dual carriage way to and from the town centre. With the opening of Festival Place the noise will only increase with more cars visiting from other areas and daily deliveries by heavy goods vehicles.

No lazy days relaxing in the garden. NO SILENCE.

BCA Contacts

Pam Banks (Chairperson)
3 Deep Lane — 352078
Diane Anderson (Secretary)
2 Chester Place — 351459
Maggie Dee (Treasurer)
28 Queens Road — 414708
Lin Chandler (Hall Booking Agent)
26 George Street — 329475
Pam Mansfield (Lottery Agent)
20 Southend Road — 324313

Blurb Magazine

Pam Banks (Editor)
3 Deep Lane-01256- 352078
DEADLINE for JANUARY ISSUE
December 17th 2002

NOISE FROM CHURCHILL WAY

cont.

By lunchtime over 1000 cars had sped by per hour increasing to over 2000 in the rush hour. On Sunday afternoons the motor cycles join in the noise.

If only we could have a barrier between us and the road.

What do other Lower Brook Street residents think? (name and address supplied)

We have passed this resident's comments on to our local councillors John Shaw and Doris Jones. Please, let us have your views on this intrusive noise nuisance and if you would like to add your voice to the call for a barrier being erected.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

•Every Wednesday 1:15 pm — 2:45 pm BROOKVALE PARENT and TODDLER GROUP This friendly group resumed on the first Wednesday of the Autumn term. Do come along and join us. For details: Mandy 0778-7158479

• Tuesday 12th November LADIES NIGHT 8:00 pm Mary-Jane Creations. How to make your own greeting cards All welcome. If you need a lift please contact: 329475 or 352078

• Friday 15th November BROOKVALE TEAZER—7:30 pm Come along as a team of 6 or join others to make a team of 6. Bring along your own drinks, glasses and banquet. Great fun!

Tickets £3-00 Contact: 329475 or 352078

Tuesday 10th December LADIES NIGHT - 8:00 pm

Alan Turton will give a talk about the History of Basing House. He has the reputation for being a very interesting, informative speaker and this event is open to all. So come along with husbands, partners and friends—the more the merrier. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and some fascinating listening. There will be a raffle and all proceeds will be given to St. Michael's Hospice.

Remember if you need a lift please contact: Tel 329475 or 352078

Sunday 26th January 2003
'AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS'

Is being presented by the Proteus Theatre Company at 3:00 pm. An enjoyable entertainment for all. Their previous productions have been very popular so watch for more details.