

# blurb!

The regular newsletter of



**Brookvale**  
Community Association

**ISSUE 100**  
**Oct 2024**

Community Ward Residents' news: \* Brookvale Conservation Area \* Kings Furlong \*

## Family Halloween Tea Party

**Saturday 19th Oct 2:30-3:30pm ticket only!**

**Brookvale Village Hall, Lower Brook Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7RP**

**Fancy dress party for families. We'll have a disco, tuck shop, snacks and prizes for kids.  
Fancy dress – anything you like.  
(Kids 3-7yrs £2 each – under 3 & adult free but still need a ticket)**



**Email: [Booking@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:Booking@brookvale.org.uk)**

**Online: [www.wegottickets.com/event/629088/](http://www.wegottickets.com/event/629088/)**

## April 2025 Celebrate 50 Years of BCA!

**councillors**

**birthdays**

**consultations**

murder-mystery sing-along barn-dance jumble  
fete open-mic may-pole fashion-show craft  
your-say youth-activities games  
parties fitness residents-column singing  
talks kickboxing snacks art memories mum football  
poetry banquet baby cafe hiring charity recipes  
quiz bingo volunteers non-profit cookery  
tai-chi playscheme suggestions history skittles  
cards hall-facilities workshops sitters play  
dancing slimming coffee gardening dance  
bazaar sports carnival flower-show panto day-trip  
market choir surveys newsletter plans  
committee events

For local news , events and information:



**HeartOfBrookvale**  
[www.brookvale.org.uk](http://www.brookvale.org.uk)

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## Looking Back & Forward!

### Blurb 100 & 50 years of BCA

The front page shows some of the 100 activities which regularly involve volunteers holding events and running a community building for you!

Past newsletters show many favourite events that are not being held at present.

We could run more events with volunteers coming forward to help, especially to support under represented and difficult to contact groups., please complete our survey here:

<https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/PJQBLK>

Or email: [malcolm@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:malcolm@brookvale.org.uk)

Although people have been nagged over the decades to step forward to run our Community Association, manage our Community Building and hold events for our residents; we have found that over the years people are even more busy coping with all the demands of housing, family, friends, social, education, work, job-hunting, finance, illness, sport, hobbies, instant messaging, and chasing bargains-celebrities-entertainment. Some of our tasks are listed below which you are more than welcome to volunteer for and start "small and simple".

Any ability from any background can join in as a helper all the way upwards to responsible roles:

**Secretary, Lottery Co-Ordinator,  
Cafe Server, Care Taker,  
Researcher, Event  
Host, Committee  
Members, Social  
Media Responder,  
Funder Chaser,  
Project Assistant,  
Newsletter Delivery &  
Street Reps.**



**Increasing skills & CV Opportunities**  
[malcolm@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:malcolm@brookvale.org.uk) ☐->

### Bygones

Our early newsletters were hand typed on this manual typewriter without any inbuilt correction. The Tippex paper is placed over the mis-typed character which is typed again to "erase" it from the typing.

A brush was also provided to "dust" the keys and the machine sat on a rubber pad to soak up some of the "key clatter."

Multiple copies were typed using multiple paper sheets layered with intermediate carbon sheets.

All this has gone away' within 50 years:



### Brookvale moving forward!

Brookvale Community Association is planning to replace gas with electric units, future-proofing by anticipating the future and developing methods of minimising the effects of shocks and stresses of future events

The work will reduce carbon emissions, lower energy bills and support the Councils Climate Emergency Action Plan. This will enable existing facilities to be enhanced, improved, modernised and made more efficient, greener, less expensive and more welcoming, to better meet the needs of our community, now and in the future.

These physical additions will help us to develop a hub featuring activities, activity, information, awareness, skills work and learning. In developing this Hub, we will be working with multiple agencies and professionals such as CAB, Age Concern and local youth and learning providers.

The Hub will increase the number of users, widen our community reach, and address support gaps.

### Ward Cllr Report

I'm delighted to contribute to the 100th edition of our cherished community newsletter. It's hard to believe that this tradition has been going strong since the 1970s, a testament to the dedication of our volunteers. I feel both proud and fortunate to be part of such an engaged and resilient community.

In terms of local updates, I'm pleased to share that the groundworks for the Sinclair Drive play park are nearing completion. Once finished, the installation of the play area will begin shortly. Additionally, I'm happy to report that the long-awaited cladding works at Crown Heights are set to commence at the end of September, with Barratts having secured all the necessary permissions from the authorities.

As always, I'm keen to hear your views on local issues. I invite you to participate in my survey on the upcoming changes to bin collections by following this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YB9JKNQ>

Lastly, I want to remind you that I hold regular surgeries at the Crown Heights community centre on the first Friday of every month from 5 pm to 7 pm.

If you'd like to discuss any concerns or ideas, please don't hesitate to call me on +447894708983.

Thank you for your continued support, and here's to many more editions of our wonderful newsletter! Regards,  
Cllr Arun Mummalaneni  
Brookvale & Kings Furlong Conservative

☐->

### County Cllr Report General Election month

Saw the historic local election of Basingstoke's first Labour MP, Luke Murphy.

Luke popped into the Councillor Chat at the Brookvale Village Hall and residents were able to ask him lots of burning questions. I'm sure he will be making more drop-in visits so do come along on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month if you have questions or issues to raise.

At county level I have already been getting support from our new MP on issues like the Hospital and the performance of our GPs locally. This is really welcome. I am still collecting information from residents with my big GP survey and you can take part here:

<https://basingstokelabour.org/gp-feedback-survey/>

### Problems with your Landlord?

Most of the time tenants and landlords have good relationships and properties are maintained to a good level. But when things go wrong it can be difficult to know where to turn.

Landlords are expected to be responsible for most major repairs in the property such as the structure of the property like windows doors, roofs, pipes and wiring. They should also be responsible for sinks, baths, toilets, heating, hot water, boilers and gas and electric appliance safety.

You can often get your problem solved quickly by speaking to your housing association, landlord or their letting agent first. Explain what you are unhappy about (take pictures if you can) and ask them to sort out the problem. If there is no action you can then make a formal complaint which is best done in writing.

Nearly all Housing Associations are signed up to the Housing Ombudsman scheme and have to have a formal complaints procedure. The Ombudsman has recently introduced tougher requirements on complaints, and they must be acknowledged within five days and resolved ten days after that. If you're not happy with the response they **must** provide a stage 2 complaint after which you can complain to the Ombudsman.

It is now possible for a third party to make the complaints on your behalf, this could be a Local Councillor or Citizens Advice or even a friend.

Any problem that affects your health or safety like mould, lack of heating or water, gas leaks or pest infestations, can be reported to the Council's Environmental Health Department who have legal powers to deal with landlords, including Housing associations.

The Citizens Advice are a great place to start if you need some friendly advice and you're not sure where to start or if you have an unresponsive private landlord.

Find out more about how this works, and download a complaints template here:

<https://www.housing-ombudsman.org.uk/residents/make-a-complaint/how-to-complain-to-your-landlord/>

Cllr Kim Taylor Basingstoke Central, Leader Labour Hampshire Group.

[Cllr.kim.taylor@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.kim.taylor@hants.gov.uk) ☐



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### Brookvale In Bloom Garden Competition 2024

We were very pleased to welcome new entrants for 2024, The prize presentation was on 28th July

All the gardens looked fantastic, A result of hard work!

#### SMALL FRONT GARDEN

**1 Gold** Petra Leandro Fernandes

**2 Silver** Susie Roger

**3 Bronze** Claudia Luca

**3 Bronze** Charlotte Norris

**Runners up**, Norah Wright, Barry Berryman Adrimar and Adriana Duran Delgado Ada Basingstoke Samaritans, Brian Mockford, Sarah Golding Priyanthi Roberts,

**Highly Commended** Deborah Johnson, Stephen Pashley, Jacquelyn Kaile Helen Camper, Pri's guerrilla garden

#### SINGLE CONTAINER

**1 Gold** Nicola and Michael Bishop

**2 Silver** Adam Whyte

**3 Bronze** Winston Poulter

**Runners up** Deborah Johnson, Barry Berryman, Paul & Sarah, Adrimar Duran Delgado,

**Highly Commended** Jacquelyn Kaile Stephen Pashley

#### STANDARD FRONT GARDEN

**1 Gold** Nicola and Michael Bishop

**2 Silver** Janine Stone

**3 Bronze** Gavin Rham,

**Runners up** Lucy Whyte, Ruth Morris, Kathy & Barry Chandler

**Space for wildlife winners** Gavin Rham,, Kathy & Barry Chandler

Congratulations to all the entrants, old & new. We look forward to seeing you next year!



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**Activities****3Cs Lottery Winners:****Subscription: £12-10 pa**

Includes annual membership fee.

See column 3 to enquire &amp; help.

**Jan 2024**

£50 902 Southend Road

£20 799 Solby's Road

£10 601 Rayleigh Road

**Feb 2024**

£50 237 George Street

£20 364 Alexandra Road

£10 509 Highfield Chase

**Mar 2024**

£50 1234 Longcroft Close

£20 460 Lower Brook Street

£10 337 Queen's Road

**Apr 2024**

£50 844 Southend Road

£20 14 Queen's Road

£10 950 Worting Road

**Poet's Corner (Anon)****Basingstoke Part 2:**

Wind of change and a new town was planned  
 We lived through five years of cement and sand  
 Raging fires, noise, dust and litter  
 Homes were demolished, folks were bitter  
 Now we have stores and wide new roads  
 Rows and rows of new abode  
 A centre for sport, a library to  
 What progress from the "old gent's loo"  
 It's nice to shop in our new town  
 Where traffic cannot run you down  
 I'm glad we have the old Town hall  
 and wonder as I now recall  
 Did they have to build that hideous wall  
 It's high and ugly and too much brick  
 The view from Cross Street makes one sick  
 Progress is there for all to see  
 But give me the loo and the spreading tree

**Where was this?**

**Neighbourhood Watch** Queens Rd:  
 Phil & Val **01256-421621**

**National Neighbourhood Watch Guide:**  
**Crime Prevention & Safety:**  
<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/crime-prevention/crime-prevention-advice>

**Hands-Face-Space-Ventilate****Meetings & Events****Committee Meetings:****Management Committee:****Monthly 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7:30pm**[info@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:info@brookvale.org.uk)**Development Sub-Committee:****Meetings TBA****Malcolm 01256-364498****Brookvale Village Hall activities:****Brookvale Toddler Group**

Play &amp; support

**Mondays: 10am (term time)**[brookvaltetdoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:brookvaltetdoddlers@gmail.com)**Slimming World**

Meal plans &amp; activity

**Every Tuesday: 5:30pm, 7pm**[rebeccabatty@outlook.com](mailto:rebeccabatty@outlook.com)**Brookvale Guiding**

Guides and Rangers

Rainbows and Brownies

**Wednesdays term-time 5:30-9pm**[brookvaleguiding@outlook.com](mailto:brookvaleguiding@outlook.com)**Caterpillar Music**

Music &amp; Sensory sessions: 0-4yrs

**Thurs: 9:45, 10:40, 11:35 am**[nicky.moore@caterpillarmusic.com](mailto:nicky.moore@caterpillarmusic.com)**NCT Bumps & Babies**

Play and support 0-5 years

**Fri: 10am-11:30am**[branch.basingstoke@nct.org.uk](mailto:branch.basingstoke@nct.org.uk)**Wu Shu Kwan**

Fitness, confidence, self-defence:

**Sundays: 5pm-7pm****07449 673036****BCA Events:****Christmas Market****Saturday 23rd November 2pm**

Stocking fillers, food, drink &amp; gifts

[booking@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:booking@brookvale.org.uk)**Santa Grotto****Saturday 14th December 2:30pm**

\* £4 per kid visiting Santa

\* Free if not visiting Santa

\* Games &amp; refreshments

[wegottickets.com/event/629077/](https://wegottickets.com/event/629077/)**Community Coffee Morning****Every Thur: 10:30-Midday**

50p cuppas includes cake

**Cllr Community Coffee Morning****2nd Sat: 10:30-12:30 am**

50p cuppas includes biscuits

**Warm Hub****Thursdays: Midday-1pm**

Free/Low cost snacks

Soup, toasties, fruit—£1 donation

**Information****Brookvale Website:**[www.brookvale.org.uk](http://www.brookvale.org.uk)**Brookvale Village Hall Enquiries:**[info@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:info@brookvale.org.uk)**Hall Booking Agent:**[booking@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:booking@brookvale.org.uk)**Brookvale Lottery:**

Cathy Mawer,

Lottery Promoter

[lottery@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:lottery@brookvale.org.uk)**Local Development issues:**

Malcolm MacInnes,

Chair, Development-Sub Committee

**(01256) 364498**[malcolm@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:malcolm@brookvale.org.uk)**Your Ward Councillors are:**

Councillor Arun Mumalaneni

**07894 708983**[cilarunmumalaneni@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cilarunmumalaneni@basingsstoke.gov.uk)

Councillor Abdel Ibrahim

**07900 272294**[Cllr.Abdel.Ibrahim@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Abdel.Ibrahim@basingsstoke.gov.uk)

Councillor Michael Howard Sorrell

**07869 262129**[cllr.michael.howard-sorrell@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.michael.howard-sorrell@basingsstoke.gov.uk)**Your County Councillor is:**

Councillor Kim Taylor

**07738 289861**[cllr.kim.taylor@hants.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.kim.taylor@hants.gov.uk)**Your Town MP is:**

Luke Murphy MP

**07946 617981**[luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk)**Police Safer Neighbourhood Team: 101**[Basingstoke.Town.Police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Basingstoke.Town.Police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)**01256 845700****CSPO Shead:**[kayleigh.shead@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:kayleigh.shead@basingsstoke.gov.uk)**PCSO Wilson:**[alana.wilson2@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:alana.wilson2@hampshire.police.uk)**PC Warhurst:**[charlotte.warhurst.28189@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:charlotte.warhurst.28189@hampshire.police.uk)**Police Website for online reporting:**<https://www.hampshirepolice.uk/>**Police Let's Talk:**[https://](https://survey.hampshirealert.co.uk/)[survey.hampshirealert.co.uk/](https://survey.hampshirealert.co.uk/)**Crime Stoppers:****0800 555 111****Child Line:****0800 1111****BCA:**

Informing, Supporting, Entertaining,

Representing residents since 1973:

[info@Brookvale.org.uk](mailto:info@Brookvale.org.uk) (E&OE)

Brookvale Community Association

(BCA) registered CIO 1174719.

Hampshire, RG21 7RP.

**What 3 Words:///punk.safe.large****Non Profit, run by unpaid volunteers****Free Newsletter**