

# blurb!

The regular newsletter of



**Brookvale**  
Community Association

**ISSUE 103**  
**Aug 2025**

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

## **Jane Austen in Basingstoke & Basingstoke in Jane Austen's time**

**Thursday 21st August 2025**

**7-30pm Free! Brookvale Village Hall RG21 7RP**



**This talk by Bob Clarke is to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Jane Austen. Jane was born in 1775 at Steventon and lived there until moving to Bath in 1801. From 1796 she wrote a series of letters to her sister, Cassandra, who was living in Kent, some of which describe her visits to Basingstoke. Bob will describe what Basingstoke was like during those years Jane was living here and writing to Cassandra, and what Jane did and who she met on her visits to Basingstoke.**

**Light refreshments available**

Victoria County History (VCH) : <https://vchhampshire.org/vch/>

To book free tickets in advance: [www.wegottickets.com/event/661102/](http://www.wegottickets.com/event/661102/)



**Brookvale**  
Community Association

(BCA) registered CIO 1174719  
Final V3a

For local news, events and information:



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

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### Cranbourne News

The Business School gave £200 to BCOT students who turned it into £800!



Students at BCoT turned our £200 seed money to £800 donated to the 2 supporting charities St Michaels Hospice and Hampshire Hospitals Charity.

### BCA News

Welcome to Marian who joined us a Hub Coordinator to facilitate more activities helping to ease the pressure of our core roles and our covering of the vacancies:

#### Volunteers Needed:

Event Host, Social Media Responder, Booking Agent, Lettings Host, Care Taker, Handy Person (small tasks), Committee Members, Administrator, Secretary, Newsletter Delivery, Street Reps, [malcolm@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:malcolm@brookvale.org.uk)



#### Increasing skills & CV Opportunities

Any ability from any background can join in initially as a helper, all the way up to responsible roles.

#### Thornycroft Clock Project:

Saturday 6th September 2025 at 2:30pm

Celebrate the inauguration of our replica clock tower which we will officially celebrate with the cutting of a ribbon:



**The Countdown begins -**

Lookout for our latest clock celebration news on socials, noticeboards, & website.

More Clock History See Page 4

### Patient Participation Group (PPG) for Camrose, Gillies, Hackwood & Beggarwood

The PPG were given a presentation on Phone & Continuity of Care Improvements. Last month the practice introduced their new team working and phone routing system. Each patient should now have been informed by letter or text who their named GP is and which team they work in. If you don't know please ask next time you contact the surgery. Stephen Collier the practice manager has reassured us that if you get through to the wrong team, the staff member will still deal with your enquiry without having to transfer you. Continuity of care should improve as you will be dealing with the same team each time you contact the practice. Keep a note of your GP and the team colour name. We knew this would cause some disruption, but the practice has minimized this. Many patients report a better and faster experience contacting the practice, but some are still experiencing issues, with long wait times on the phone and routine appointments being booked 28 days or more from contacting the practice. Although this may not be ideal, it enables more clinically urgent appointments to be available when needed. If the allocation to a particular team is causing significant issues for you please use the complaints system to discuss a solution. The Practice complaints process The process is detailed on the practice website or you can send a letter to The Manager at Gillies Health Centre or: [hiowidhsiohpartnershipcomplaints@rsh.nhs.uk](mailto:hiowidhsiohpartnershipcomplaints@rsh.nhs.uk) Membership of the Patient Participation Group is open to all patients of the practice. We meet once a month alternating between face-to-face meetings and using the on-line tool Zoom with meetings lasting around 60-90 minutes starting around 7 pm. We discuss patient issue trends to be raised with practice management to enable improvements. We are particularly interested in anyone who would be willing to not only attend our meetings, but to take an active part in running the group or getting involved in our patient facing support events. Our volunteers are supported to 'Make Every Contact Count' and the current 'work' includes:

- Improving Patient access to Health Services.
- Improving take up of cancer screening.
- Improving support for Carers
- Improving Dementia support access.
- Ageing Well information provision.
- Responding to calls for help on social media by signposting services and helping patients navigate the healthcare system.
- Providing vaccination clinic marshalling. You can join the PPG at:

[www.cohppg.weebly.com/join-the-ppg](http://www.cohppg.weebly.com/join-the-ppg) ☐

### County & Borough News

HCC & BDBC are working on the Central Govt demanded, Devolution & Local Govt re-organisation options to be consulted. Our residents are asked to ensure everyone responds to both consultations (or to their Ward/County Cllrs): [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/future-councils](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/future-councils)

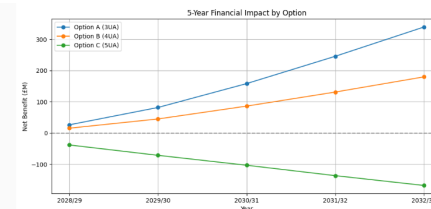


The good news is the **Borough** could gain more funding importance as County strategic matters come one layer down, nearer to residents, if in a new Unitary with Hart & Rushmoor; but the bad news is that we may have pay more Council Tax, because Hart and Rushmoor residents currently pay higher Council Tax!

The **County** options are summarised in:

[www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250709LGRoptionproposal](http://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250709LGRoptionproposal)

The **researched data** (PWC) shows most likely financially stable & robust impact in Option B (3 mainland+loW) against UK Gov criteria: people first, population, boundaries, administration, efficiency, savings, continuity, costing, payback & risk, would be: BDBC, Hart, Rushmore, Winchester, & East Hampshire as a combined authority:



[https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s136088/Appendix%20A\\_Strategic%20Business%20Case.pdf](https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s136088/Appendix%20A_Strategic%20Business%20Case.pdf)

The **County** considers the 4 unitaries (3 mainland+loW) option a simpler, stronger & secure council option for the new Hampshire & Solent-Hampshire County Combined Mayoral Council.

Their **financial analysis** showed 5 New Councils (4 mainland +loW) is the most risky, costs the most to implement, makes no savings and would cost more to run in the future (risking bankruptcy).

The **County decisions** are scheduled 17th July (Cllrs) & 18th (Cabinet) July.

If approved then the public will be consulted from **21 July—17 August**.

**Hampshire Councils** then submit their preferred option to central government by 26th September 2025.

**Report** (white paper + 8 appendices):

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?Ild=68591&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI76145> ☐



# British Hedgehog Preservation Society

info@britishhedgehogs.org.uk www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk Tel: 01584 890801

## GARDEN DANGERS TO HEDGEHOGS



Hedgehog House, Dhustone, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 3PL  
Registered Charity Number 1164542 (formerly 326885)



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## Activities

### Clock History:

The Clock (in Milestones) looks like this:



The Clock on the factory (under Morrison's) looked like this:



The vehicles are from the Thornycroft 100 Road Run from Chiswick to Basingstoke in 1996.

### Recycle used Blister Packs

Download the Recycle at Boots App. Log your empty blister packs in the app and wait for up to 24 hours for validation.

Bring your empty packs into a participating Boots store and scan the QR code on the blister pack deposit box. To receive a 100 Advantage Card points reward, customers need to recycle five empty blister packs in one deposit and spend £5 in-store:

<https://www.boots-uk.com/newsroom/news/boots-rolls-out-national-blister-pack-recycling-scheme/>

**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)

**AGM: Sat 6th Sept 7:30pm**

Graham Hatcher (CEO):

**The work of the CAB**

**Sat 6th Sept 8pm**

### Brookvale Village Hall activities:

**Brookvale Toddler Group**

Play & support

**Mondays: 10am (term time)**

[brookvaletoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:brookvaletoddlers@gmail.com)

### Slimming World

Meal plans & 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 & 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 Free to attend Events:

**Brookvale In Bloom**

**Sunday 20th July 2pm**

**Mayor's Prize giving Tea Party**

Garden Horticulture Competition

[info@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:info@brookvale.org.uk)

**Basingstoke & Jane Austen**

**Thursday 21st August 7:30pm**

[booking@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:booking@brookvale.org.uk)

**Christmas Market**

**Saturday 23rd November 2pm**

Stocking fillers, food, drink & gifts

[booking@brookvale.org.uk](mailto:booking@brookvale.org.uk)

**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

## 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:**

**Lottery now closed**

[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

[cllr.arunmumalaneni@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.arunmumalaneni@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)

[hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

01256 845700

**CSPO Shead:**

[kayleigh.shead@basingsstoke.gov.uk](mailto:kayleigh.shead@basingsstoke.gov.uk)

**PCSO Wilson 18513:**

[alana.wilson2@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:alana.wilson2@hampshire.police.uk)

**PCSO Port 18564:**

[jess.port@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:jess.port@hampshire.police.uk)

**Brookvale Bobby:**

[ralph.frostick@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:ralph.frostick@hampshire.police.uk)

[uk](mailto:uk)

[tom.hickman-tait@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:tom.hickman-tait@hampshire.police.uk)

**Police website for online reporting:**

<https://www.hampshirepolice.uk/>

**Police Let's Talk:**

<https://survey.hampshirealert.co.uk/>

**Crime Stoppers: Child Line:**

**0800 555 111 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**