

BROCKWORTH PARISH

Welcome to the Brockworth pages of the magazine. This is the fourth edition that Brockworth Parish Council has delivered to residents in Brockworth. We hope you have enjoyed reading these pages and receiving information about Brockworth village and events that are taking place in Brockworth.

Please send your stories, articles or information about Brockworth to the Clerk at Brockworth Parish Council (address below) so that we can include in the next edition of the magazine. The deadline for the next edition is 10th January, and the magazines will be delivered at the start of February. For advertising requests, please contact the publishers of the magazine (details inside front cover page).

For parish council information, meeting dates, minutes of meetings, please see the Brockworth Parish Council website

www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be offering a drop-in session on Tuesday afternoons 1.30 to 4.30pm at Brockworth Community Centre.

This once-weekly service is initially on a 3 month trial to see if it is useful to our residents. Come and talk to advisors about Housing, Debt, Benefits, Employment, Discrimination, Family matters and much more. No bookings needed, just call in and wait to be seen. The CAB hopes to see up to 9 people in the 3 hour session. Please see www.adviceguide.org.uk for further advice and information.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT BROCKWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Regular weekly activities:

Monday

5.30pm to 10pm Youth Club (via Youth Centre)

Tuesday

10am to 12pm Community Project English

12.30pm to 2.30pm Community Project Maths

Wednesday

9am to 2pm (every 4th week) Chiropody

2pm to 4pm (every 2 weeks) Linda's Tea Dance

Thursday

9.30am to 12.30pm Brockworth CC Art Class

12.45pm to 2.45pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Club

2pm to 4pm Walking Club (meets at 2pm)

3.45pm to 7.45pm Slimming World

Friday

12pm to 2pm Over-60s luncheon

3.30pm to 6.30pm Street Dance

STOP PRESS.... STOP PRESS....STOP PRESS....STOP PRESS

Brockworth Parish Council is offering Brockworth residents 20% discount on the hire of the main hall and kitchen facilities at Brockworth Community Centre for Saturdays and Sundays 10am to 5pm from 1st November 2010 to 28th February 2011. There is a 2-hour minimum booking. This is aimed at local residents who would like to hold a family-event such as a child's birthday party or christening celebration. For all enquiries please contact 01452 863123 or email admin@brockworth-pc.gov.uk

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL ADVICE SERVICE

Tewkesbury Borough Advice & Information is still available at Brockworth Community Centre on Tuesdays 9am to 12pm and Thursdays 2pm to 4pm. To contact Tewkesbury Borough Council at any other time, please telephone 01684 295010

LUNCH CLUB AT BROCKWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

The over-60s lunch club at Brockworth Community Centre has been a great success. The lunch is run weekly on Fridays and we have approx 25 people attend each week. Booking is essential or there might not be enough food to go around! Two-course lunch with a drink is £3.00. To reserve your place, please ring the Community Centre on 01452 863123.

Brockworth Parish Council Offices, Brockworth Community Centre, Court Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4ET
Tel: 01452 863123 Email: clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk

Community Centre Opening Times: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (Parish Office open Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm)

Light lunches and refreshments available at the Centre on Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 2pm.

COMMUNITY CENTRE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

Friday 24-Dec 9am to midday
Monday 27-Dec CLOSED
Tuesday 28-Dec CLOSED
Wednesday 29-Dec 9am to 5pm
Thursday 30-Dec 9am to 5pm
Friday 31-Dec 9am to midday

Normal hours resume Tuesday
4th January 2011

FIRST AID TRAINING

Are you interested in learning Emergency Aid? We can run 3-hour sessions at the Community Centre with St John's Ambulance. It will cost £25.50 per person attending the course. Please contact the Brockworth Parish Council offices to register your interest.

STROKE ASSOCIATION COMMISSIONED TO PROVIDE NEW COUNTYWIDE SERVICE BY GLOUCESTERSHIRE PCT

Looking to improve the Long Term Support available to Stroke Survivors and their Carers the Stroke Association has been commissioned to facilitate the set up of Stroke Clubs across the county as well as providing support for existing clubs, which are located in Gloucester, Cirencester, Lydney and Stroud. The Stroke Association will be working with volunteers, who themselves may have been directly affected by stroke, to assist with the long-term sustainable support of the groups. The Stroke Association will be working closely with organisations across Gloucestershire in order for patients to access the service. Other funding has also been secured to enable the Stroke Association to monitor and evaluate the service and its effect on patients over the next three years. To find out more about the service please contact the Gloucestershire Stroke Association Stroke Club Coordinator, Caroline Seguro on 01452 520723 or email caroline.seguro@stroke.org.uk

OPEN SPACE FUNDING AVAILABLE

There is a lottery fund called Community Spaces. This fund will give grants up to £49,999 unmatched to Community Groups wishing to improve a space in their area. Parish and Town Councils can't apply themselves; it has to be a community group. This is a fantastic fund which is not over subscribed. The deadline for applications to be in is the 7th January. Gloucestershire Playing Field Association is happy to talk to any community group interested in applying for this funding. This is the link to details about the funding <http://www.community-spaces.org.uk/> The Glos Playing Field Association can be contacted by emailing glospfa@blueyonder.co.uk

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY - BROCKWORTH SAFER COMMUNITY TEAM

The Brockworth Safer Community Team is made up of 3 officers from the Cheltenham Road East Police Station. We are based in Westfield Road, Brockworth. The team is PC Rob Guest, PCSO Jenny Norris and PCSO Dan Mitchell.

We are pleased to inform you that crime in this area has fallen considerably compared to recent years and our aim is to continue this downward trend, however with the nights drawing in and Christmas is approaching we would like to warn against any complacency. This time of year often sees a rise in offences such as theft from motor vehicle; criminal damage and dwelling burglaries as the public forget to take simple preventative measures.

Please remember NOT to leave ANYTHING on view in vehicles. Please make sure your doors and windows are locked even when you are at home. If you are going out for the evening leaving the premises unoccupied, timer switches for lights are a very useful deterrent and easily available from any DIY store. If you require any further crime prevention advice please do not hesitate to contact us on the numbers below.

In recent weeks there has been a small number of reports of "bogus" callers in the area. They often target the elderly so please keep an eye out if you have elderly neighbours. ALWAYS ask for ID from ANYONE calling at your home and take time to check they are calling for legitimate reasons. Anyone who does not carry ID or fails to show is almost certainly bogus and should be refused entry and please call us straight away. No genuine caller will object to being asked to produce identification. There have been incidents where offenders have pretended to be plain clothed Police Officers, so don't be afraid to ask to see a Warrant Card, we ALL have them. We would rather be called and check someone's ID than deal with the consequences of a crime.

Please report any anti-social behaviour and we will do our best to address any persistent problems. We spend at least 80% of our time out in the community and are here to support you and keep the community safe. Don't let crime ruin your Christmas.

To contact us please call 0845 090 1234 or 999 in an emergency.

Visit us at: www.gloucestershire.police.uk

BROCKWORTH PARISH PLAN

We have had a lot of feedback from the 3 public sessions that were held this week; we hope that you were able to come to one of them. The Saturday morning at the Community Centre was the most popular session.

The general feeling was very positive and here are some quotes from residents:

"I've lived here 55 years, seen a lot of changes and I still like living here".

"I moved here because it's such a nice place to live".

"We need an NHS Dentist here in Brockworth".

A wide variety of issues were raised and some positive suggestions on how to improve Brockworth were put forward. Issues varied from parking, litter, benches, housing, green belt, policing and much much more. All the comments are now being analysed by themes ready for the next stage. If you missed a drop-in session then it's not too late to comment or find out more, please email clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk or join the Facebook group "Brockworth Parish Plan" and look out for information on the website www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk or the parish magazine.

*"Brockworth Parish Plan: Proud of the Past,
Improving the Future for Everyone"*

BROCKWORTH ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB

Brockworth Albion has started training for children, both boys and girls, various ages from school year 1.

If you would like more information please visit our webpage at <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/brockworthalbion/> Brockworth Albion has qualified level 1 coaching staff and are first aid qualified. Come and make new friends, play regular football and become part of a team.

We look forward from hearing from you. Call us on 01452 551789

COMMUNITY TREE
PLANTING EVENT
SATURDAY 4 DECEMBER



(due to the newsletter printing timescales, the tree planting event may have already happened)

The Woodland Trust has given the parish 105 trees for planting in Brockworth. To celebrate National Tree Week, we are having a Community Tree Planting event. Please come along with a garden spade, to the land behind the Shell garage in Brockworth on Saturday 4th December at 10am and join in with the tree planting. Wear stout shoes and warm clothing. There will be help on the day if you're not very green fingered.

Do you need help with planning?

South West Planning Aid offers free, independent and professional advice and support on planning applications and development plans to individuals and community groups who cannot afford professional fees. Need help with planning application? Call the Casework Helpline on 0870 850 9807. Want to get your point of view across to the planners? Contact the Community Planning Helpline on 0117 929 7292

CLEARING SNOW AND ICE YOURSELF - NEW GUIDANCE PUBLISHED FROM DIRECT.GOV

Last winter many people helped keep pavements and public spaces around their homes clear of snow. However, many people were put off doing so because of fears of being sued. Read on for advice on your rights and responsibilities when clearing snow and ice from public areas.

The law on clearing snow and ice from public spaces

There is no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your property, pathways to your property or public spaces.

If an accident did happen, it's highly unlikely that you would be sued as long as you:

- are careful
- use common sense to make sure that you don't make the pavement or pathway clearly more dangerous than before.

People using areas affected by snow and ice also have responsibility to be careful themselves.

Tips and advice on clearing snow and ice

- start early - it's much easier to clear fresh, loose snow compared to compacted ice that has been compressed by people walking on it
- don't use hot water - this will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury
- be a good neighbour - some people may be unable to clear snow and ice on paths from their property
- if shovelling snow, think where you are going to put it so that it doesn't block people's paths or drainage channels
- make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on

- spreading some salt on the area you have cleared will help stop ice forming - table salt or dishwasher salt will work, but avoid spreading on plants or grass as they may be damaged by it
- pay particular care and attention to steps and steep gradients
- use the sun to your advantage - removing the top layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath; however you will need to cover any ice with salt to stop it refreezing overnight
- if there's no salt available, sand or ash are good alternatives

DO YOU RECOGNISE YOURSELF IN THIS PHOTO?

This photo was emailed to the parish council by a Brockworth resident now living in New Zealand. We have put names to about 16 of the faces, are you there? The photo was taken around 1953 at Witcombe Youth Club in Robinson's Memorial Hall.

(photo has been removed from the website version of this newsletter due to size constraints. Copies of the full newsletter can be collected from the Community Centre)

INTERESTED IN BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

The parish council elections are due to take place May 2011. If you are thinking about how to get more involved with the community and help shape the future of Brockworth, then now you have the opportunity to become a parish councillor.

Cllr John Shellswell is the newest member of Brockworth Parish Council and here is his article on life as a parish councillor:

MY FIRST TIME AS A PARISH COUNCILLOR

I was co-opted on to the Parish Council in March 2008 after the Kennel Lane Public Consultation. I am the youngest councillor and started with a novice head in terms of how a Parish is maintained and managed – it isn't as simple as we all think.

My first impression of the Parish Council was and still is that there is a lot of experience and knowledge within the group - the age range tends to be mixed with more of the retired generation.

There are many people out there, myself included, who think "why can't the Council achieve, do, and plan what is going on in and around our village". As a parish council, we get involved in local plans, Tewkesbury Borough Council planning for Brockworth, issues on flooding, highways, crime prevention, Coopers Edge, village events, our schools, the village sports clubs, our financial position and management of the community centre.

If you are like I used to be – you feel frustrated or annoyed about issues surrounding Brockworth, or you would like to get more involved and think that you could make a difference to the village then have a chat or call the Parish Council to find out more.

The parish council meets on the first Wednesday night of each month starting at 7pm until about 10pm. Pop along and see what it's all about. The Parish office is located in the Brockworth Community Centre. *John Shellswell*

Brockworth Sports Centre information is on this page in the printed newsletter. Due to size constraints, it has been removed so that the newsletter can be uploaded to the website. Copies of the full newsletter can be collected from the Community Centre

CASTLE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we start back to school after the half term holiday it is with a feeling of excitement and pride. We have a number of activities we can look forward to and are especially proud of those we can share within our community.

We are preparing for 'Britain's Biggest Lunch.' An event when all our helpers are being invited to lunch with the children. This is the children's way of saying a big thank you to the team of 'Open the Book' from St. Georges Church, our Governors and invaluable individuals who regularly give their time to read with our children. We hope they all enjoy their feast and the conversation that will accompany the occasion.

Rehearsals and preparations are also underway for the Key Stage 2 children to take part in a concert at Gloucester Cathedral. What a wonderful opportunity awaits our young singers as they marvel at the wonderful surroundings and can later to have claimed to have performed there.

There will be all sorts of buzzing with Christmas parties, fayres, pantomimes, singalongs, Christmas lunch and more.....

Happy Christmas to everyone from Castle Hill Primary School.

Parent & Toddlers

@ The Church Centre, Court Road, Brockworth

Every Monday 10 am – 11.45 am

(Excluding school holidays)

£1.50 per session to include refreshments for the children

To register contact Judy Baldwin on 01452 862840

BROCKWORTH YOUTH CENTRE

WEEKLY PROGRAMME 2010

Day	Time	SESSION	School Year
Mon	4:00-6:00	FOOTBALL	7-11
	4:45-6:30	INTERMEDIATES	8-11
	7:00-9:00	BROCKWORTH YOUTH COLLECTIVE	11+
Tues			
Weds	1:00-3:00	BROCKWORTH SCHOOL SUPPORT	8-11
	7:00-9:00	SENIORS	11+
Thurs	4:30-6:30	JUNIORS	6 + 7
	6:30-8:30	INTERMEDIATES	8-11
Fri	6:00-9:00	OPEN YOUTH CLUB	7-13

We now have 3 age groups:

SENIORS – school year 11 upwards (age 16+);
INTERMEDIATES – school years 8-11 (age 12-16);
and JUNIORS – school years 6+7 (age 10-12)

Children's Centre Timetable on this page in the printed newsletter. Due to size constraints, it has been removed so that the newsletter can be uploaded to the website. The timetable can be viewed on the Youth Activities page.

Brockworth Children's Centre

Brockworth Children's Centre would like to welcome all the members of AARC Forces and their families that have recently moved in to the area.

Don't forget that if you live in Coopers Edge you can catch the Number 4 Bus and it will drop you off 2 minutes walk away from the centre, the Centre Staff welcome all new and existing registered families to join in the Activities/Groups that are available.

Those of you who don't know where we are, "We are located within the grounds of the Brockworth Primary School on Moorfield Road". The centre has a reputation as a place of opportunity, education and fun for children and adults alike.

The main sessions available on a weekly basis include; **Monday** - Baby Group (am) and Child Minders Drop In (pm) **Tuesday** - Toddler Time 0-2 yrs (am) and Baby Clinic /Health Visitor Drop In (pm) **Wednesday** - Polish Group (am), **Friday** - Stay and Play 0-5yrs (am), Parents Group (pm alternate weeks).

The centre staff can also offer help and advice on more specific support groups available to access such as Ante Natal Classes, Parenting, Weaning, Baby Massage, Smoking Cessation, Teenage Pregnancy, Helping with Debt & Financial matters whilst promoting emotional health and wellbeing on a one to one basis if required.

For those of you that are interested in seeking employment, training or both then why not make an appointment to speak to Danielle Turner our new Journeys to Work Advisor.

If you would like any further information about any of our groups/sessions please call in for a chat and a cuppa or alternatively please contact us on 01452 863617 or via email on Brockworthcc@gloucestershire.gov.uk and we can send out timetables and leaflets of the services and groups available.

My exciting life at Rose Hill Farm-The apple chronicles

I started out as a little apple making my way to the top of the tree. Growing and growing reaching the top one day ready to be sold!

My dreams have come true this was the day I was going to be picked! I packed my pips and wore my best shine and was taken away to the superstore to sit in the fruit area with everyone else waiting their turn. All the different smells and sounds got me peering around in excitement, lots of people walked past me occasionally peering at me making me blush my cherry red. Even though I knew they weren't my rightful owner, I would know my owner in one glance.

Two miracles in one day? I was hoping for this dream to come true immediately. As I was thinking about being bought, the delight and joy, someone picked me up by surprise and nursed me in her hands, checking for bruises on my new shine. In the same motion she put me in her trolley carefully settling me down next to the lemons. We talked a bit but I dozed off the moment we passed the sweet corn.

I woke up to yelling and screaming children running around looking through the plastic bags, squishing me to the side of the bag. Eventually they stopped when they found their toys; a shiny new plastic action figures, one pink one blue.

I was placed in my new home the food bowl. It was a china pot filled with many different fruits, many different friends!

Even though the next thing I knew I was being munched away by a hungry dad. He nibbled on my skin and crunched on my soft insides concentrating on his newspaper. When he was done with me, he placed me into a little strange food bin with lots of rough potato hats and remains of pea shoes. It smelt much better in here, a warmer and cozy feeling to my new surroundings of the food caddy!

I loved it in my food caddy but of course I moved onto my next step in life, I was being thrown around the caddy like a bouncy ball being bumped and bruised but no shiny coat to brake, I was ready to take on my new challenge waiting for me even if it hurt.

The sun hit me like a bolt of lightning making me squint and hide from this burning sensation, on my warm gooey skin. In front of me was the biggest thing I had ever seen in my life time of being an apple, the recycling lorry!

The darkness inside this lorry of power was like no other, I couldn't even see my feet right in my face or anything else in sight, so I trusted my other senses to tackle my flat tire in my adventure road.

Sniffing and feeling my way through the dark I found the door to my freedom, I knew I must wait for it to open until I can get out so I will know where this metal travel lorry is taking me.

Feeling like years past, my pips were starting to break and crumble away but I was not to worry because I was here. Rumors said it was Rose Hill Farm, the sweetest place there was for fruit! I had to see it for my own eyes to believe it.

The door opened letting in the sweet smell of flowers and vegetables; my two favourite things! I walked past lots of smoking piles of funny smelling stuff wondering what it was; I wanted to wander closer but was pushed with the rest of the crowd into a composting room.

Emptied, searched, sent away, it was like an airport here! Lots of busy food and metal detectors everywhere you looked, it was all too much for my little eyes!

The rest was easier; being so smelly and sticky the people did us a favour and melted us down into a relaxed and toasty pile of

warm compost all together so no one ever got lonely at Rose Hill Farm.

Now I am gone into the soil, helping grow other fruits, apples maybe, then some other brave apple will make the journey like I did, to Rose Hill Farm and back.

Rose Hill Farm is the place to be!

By Chloe Perez age 12

Would you like to write a story for the parish magazine? Please send to clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk by 10th January 2011 for the next magazine edition.

News from Local Borough Councillors Jude Perez 01452 863070, Maureen Rowcliffe-Quarry 01452 531223 and Mike Collins 01452 731978

Local Issues - At the County Council Traffic regulation committee on 13th Oct, after a very full consideration of the issues and hearing the views of many residents and councillors, it was decided not to close Green Bank/Green Street. Kennel Lane Perry pear trees – no further news

Mike has been meeting with residents concerned about the proposed pizza takeaway and café at Ermin Parade. He has requested that the applications go to the planning committee, rather than be decided by officers.

Litter Pick - The last evening litter pick for the year was held in October 13th. The group of litter pickers have been nominated for a Citizen 10:10 award for environmental service to the community.

Community Policing – Key Individual Networks (KINS) - The next meeting is on Dec 2nd at Witcombe Village Hall at 6.30pm.

TBC NEWS Joint Core Strategy (JCS) - Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury to continue working together on development planning. They are currently doing a comparative assessment on the possible sites for development including Brockworth. There will be employment land review training for members in November. The next public consultation will be in summer 2011; the one planned for this autumn has been cancelled.

Your councillors have been made aware that Hunter Page Planning are promoting Greenbelt land along A417 behind the rugby club, Tithe Barn. They are at the early stages of a master plan for a large development possibly 1,500 houses. They are seeking to consult with the Parish Council and local community. This is totally premature to the JCS being finalised.

What Happens to your Recycling? - With the success of Tewkesbury Borough's new recycling scheme many people have been asking what happens to the recycled materials once they are collected in the waste lorries. All the recyclable materials are taken to the Swindon Road depot in Cheltenham and then they are collected by Pure Recycling (based near Evesham) who take them to one of their Materials Recycling Facilities (MRF) where they are mechanically sorted and baled. The bales are then sent to different manufacturers who produce a wide variety of products from them.

The **plastics** go to a company in Rutland where they are sorted into different grades and then granulated. Milk containers are used to make high quality underground pipes for gas/water, new waste wheelie bins and carrier bags. Clear bottles are made into fibre which is used to make clothing (fleeces) and carpets. Coloured plastic is made into pallet strapping and coloured fibre for carpet and clothing manufacture.

The **glass** goes to a company in Essex where it is sorted into colours, clear, brown and green and then turned into grains to be used to produce new bottles and other glass products. **Cans** are sorted into either aluminium or steel. The steel cans go to be melted down and reused in steelworks to make new steel and the aluminium cans are processed to make new cans.

All the **paper** is pulped (some in Norwich and some in Sweden) to be converted into new paper for newspapers and magazines. The **cardboard** is taken to a company in Nottingham where it is pulped and then made into cardboard boxes.

The **food waste** in the green food caddies along with the brown bin **garden waste** is taken to Rosehill Farm Composting Unit, Dymock. Maureen and Jude visited the farm and saw the process of how the waste is turned into compost. It is all very strictly controlled and has to remain at over 60 degrees for 96 hours to ensure all the harmful bacteria are killed. They use magnets to remove all the metal, eg cutlery that gets dropped in by mistake, and this is also recycled. The worst part of the process is where the workers have to do shifts picking out by hand all the bits of plastic that have gone into it, Tesco's carrier bags are the worst culprits – please spread the word – NO plastic.

As you can see recycling is saving a large number of natural resources, so it is well worth keeping up the effort to recycle even more in the future.

Climate Change - The Environmental Policy and Climate Change Strategy has been considered by TBC Executive Committee on Nov 3rd and then to Full Council. Other topics including Biodiversity, Own House in Order, are still to be completed. Energy monitors can now be borrowed from Brockworth Library to enable residents to see how much electricity they are using as well as exactly how much it is costing. A great incentive to turn off your lights! There is a charge of £1 for 3 weeks.

Community Public Art at Whittle Square - Discussions have taken place with the Jet Age Museum and further consultation with the community groups are to happen in the near future.

Councillor Advice Surgeries - Brockworth Councillors hold local surgeries on the first Saturday of each month at Brockworth Community Centre, Court Road 10-11.30am. Please come along if there is any issue you would like to raise with us. No appointment necessary.