

Shaping the future of **Buckskin & South Ham**

Your Community Newsletter - July 2024



**A great read
for everyone**



**Sovereign
Network
Group**



**Sovereign Hill
Partnership**

Keeping you up to date

We are warming up to a busy summer, getting out to talk to you about shaping the future of Buckskin and South Ham.

Over the last month, we shared our community insight report with you, welcomed new skilled professionals to our team, held our first discovery walk and talks, and began the important process of recruiting a team of local residents to become Community Co-design Associates.

Looking ahead, we've got some exciting opportunities to get involved, including our community social day, summer holiday Young Design Academy and summer pop-up events.

We hope you'll join us to shape our shared aims for the future.

Community Insight Report

We hope you've had the chance to read the Community Insights summary, which highlighted the feedback you gave us during the autumn listening events and online surveys.

If you'd like to know more about the research insights, you can chat to the team during the summer activities or read the full report by scanning the QR code with your smart phone camera. Or visit the website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is/



Community Co-design Associates (CDAs)

We had an amazing response to our call-out for the Community Co-design Associates (CDAs) programme. And we've selected a team of local people passionate about bringing meaningful change to the neighbourhoods. Our aim is to work with a variety of people of all ages who live in different parts of the community, to make sure thoughts and ideas are well balanced. You can read more about the team in the 'Spotlight' section of this newsletter.

If you'd like to register your interest for future workshops, get in touch with the team.

Discovery Walk and Talks

Thanks to those who joined us for a stroll around the neighbourhoods. We held two walks, one exploring South Ham, the other exploring Buckskin.

These walks helped us to understand your insight into the areas as they are today - guided by your expert local knowledge, this is what we heard:

- There are lots of green spaces, some useful, some not. There are challenges and concerns around safety in particular areas.

- There's a feeling of loss of local community facilities and social spaces. People tend to go off the estates to socialise, for example to the leisure park.
- Walking and getting around can be difficult with footways missing, bins blocking routes and some areas are only accessible by steps.
- You like the 'village-like' feel of certain areas, with quiet walkways, front doors and green spaces. However, it can be hard to find your way around if don't know the area.
- You'd like to see more services locally within a short walk from your home.
- Some people would like more opportunity to cycle and be less dependent on their cars.



What's next



Summer activities launch

Summer activities programme

Will you be joining the fun? Our summer events programme starts with a community social day on Saturday, 27 July at Russell Howard Pavilion.

There's lots happening so check out page 14 for details and pop the dates in your calendar.



Westside new community space opening

Opening of Westside community shop and café

We're thrilled to announce the new premises are nearing completion and will open in the summer. The children at Park View Primary have named the former Turners Butchers shop the 'Kings Café'. Westside Community Association are excited to welcome local residents to join them in celebrating their new venture in the premises on Kings Road, which will host the food pantry and café, and other new opportunities.

This is a huge step forward in the support provided by SNG and the council to offer alternative solutions following the closure of the community centre. The SNG Commercial Services team have been working hard to refurbish the premises, and we hope this will become a much-valued new facility for everyone to enjoy.

We'll keep you updated on the opening event so you can join the celebrations.



Specialist team to look at new opportunities

A new specialist landscaping team

We're happy to introduce you to LDA Design, to look at how the green spaces and parks within Buckskin and South Ham work and how they might be enhanced. They'll be looking at how to make the green spaces more sociable through play, sport, planting, and seating, to improve health and wellbeing - along with how to bring in nature by creating different types of habitats. To understand this better they'll be considering how people move through the neighbourhoods and what changes to streets and green spaces could make them safer, clear, active and more inclusive.

LDA Design have started carrying out surveys to understand what the area is like now. They'd love to hear your views of what you value most, where your favourite spot to walk is, as well as what you'd like to see happen - through to what potentially prevents you from using your green spaces.

You will have the opportunity to share your thoughts at upcoming summer activities which will help the team to design spaces that your community will love, cherish, and care for.



You said, we're doing...

Burnaby Bees Gardening Project

Over 100 people voted for the garden they'd like to see created next to the shops. Option 3 was chosen by the community and the beautiful garden designed by the Beardy Gardener is now complete.

Thank you to everyone who came and gave a helping hand to create a lovely space with colourful blooms for pollinators like bees and butterflies to rest and revive.

House surveys for SNG homes

During the autumn 2023 engagement, some of you told us that you're finding your home expensive to run, especially with the increased cost of living. We want all of our homes to be comfortable and cost effective to live in, but we know that isn't always the case. So, we're completing surveys on a large sample of the homes SNG owns to give us a better picture.

This work has already started and will take a few months. We're using experts from a company called Ridge and Partners. This information will help us to shape future options, especially for the homes that don't meet the high standards we aim for, such as the

potential for improvement and refurbishment, or future opportunities where renewal of the homes may be a possibility.

Working together to make a difference

During April and May, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Making A Difference (MAD) team and SNG's Places Impact Team were out and about in Buckskin and South Ham tidying up green spaces and cutting back overgrown shrubbery to brighten up the neighbourhoods.

Local residents joined the team on walkabouts to spot areas which needed a little makeover. You'll see improvements around The Bunny Hole in Buckskin as well as green spaces off Dibley Close and Brewer Close in South Ham. Areas along Wellspring, Darcy, Reynolds and Winterbourne Houses along Pinkerton Road had fencing repaired and bin stores spruced up.

Big help out

The community and teams from across SNG came out to lend a hand in Buckskin on the 13 June, to join one of the biggest mass volunteering days of the year. The community litter pick filled 15 bags of rubbish to clean up the neighbourhood.





In the spotlight

Something Collective and the Community Co-design Associates team

SNG and Sovereign Hill Partnership (SHP) are starting a new journey supported by engagement specialists Something Collective by working together with a team of local residents known as Community Co-design Associates (CDAs), to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of your neighbourhoods.

The 10 CDAs were selected following an application process. Each has lived experience of the area, is passionate about making a difference, and will act as a community voice, contributing ideas and working with our team to develop better and shared solutions on how to improve Buckskin and South Ham.

Why are we running this programme?

You are the experts in your neighbourhoods, and we want to make sure we really involve you, the community, as partners in decision-making. Great co-design processes allow different people - professional designers and local residents - to combine their knowledge and experience. It's a collaborative approach where everyday insight is valued alongside professional expertise. It means working together, using skills such as mapping, discussion, analysis and site visits.

By doing this we can create designs and improvements that really work for the area, not just for homes but also for well-being, the environment, public spaces and movement, opportunities for young people, and better options for everyone who lives here for years to come.

What's next for the Community Co-design team

We'll be providing our CDAs with support and training. This will add to their local knowledge, equipping them to help us improve places. They'll help establish a set of principles for Buckskin and South Ham and inform decision-making processes and will be a core part of developing options and opportunities for investment.

We'll have much more to tell you about their work and what's happening next in future editions of the newsletter.



Your community notice board

With the school summer holidays just around the corner, we've added a few ways to help you save money and keep the kids entertained, as well as other great activities happening locally. Add the dates to your diary and pop along.

Fri-YAY

A programme of **FREE** events this summer holidays, every Friday in August

Starting Friday 2 August,
Top of the Town from 11am to 3pm

Love Basingstoke will also be bringing free activities to the Ridgeway Community Centre on Thursday 22 August and Russell Howard Park on Wednesday 28 August.

To find out more: www.lovebasingstoke.co.uk/news/fri-yay-fun



Buckskin Evangelical Church

Buckskin Evangelical Church,
Chiltern Way RG22 5BB.



Festival Place

Take a trip to Festival Place for a whole lot of family fun with many free events throughout the summer.

Check out the website to stay up to date: www.festivalplace.co.uk/events

Hampshire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) information



Providing support to families across the county throughout the school holiday period.

<https://bit.ly/3VHs2ID>

Buckskin Foodbank



Friday 10.30am to 12.30pm

As well as food parcel collections, you can also receive support from Citizens Advice every week, and an Andover Mind wellbeing drop-in every fortnight.

Ridgeway Community Centre

Blackdown Close, Buckskin, RG22 5BW.

Eco-food market pantry

Wednesday and Friday 10am to 1pm
(12 food items for £5, bring your own containers and boxes).

Parent Toddler Group

Tuesday 10am to 12 noon (£1.50 per child, includes refreshments).

Ridgeway Ravers

Wednesday 10am to 12 noon (Over 55's club, new members welcome).

Lunch Club

Thursday 12 noon to 12.30pm (all ages, £6 for dinner and pudding, tea/coffee)
To book call 01256 470665.

Discounted places kids can eat this summer

Morrisons: Kids Eat Free all day, every day. One free kids' meal with one adult's meal £5 and over.

ASDA: Kids eat for £1, no adult spend required.

CGHB Surgeries -

News from the Patients Participation Group (PPG)



For details of what's on and to get a copy of the latest newsletter visit: www.cgppg.weebly.com/news

Email: cggb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com

St Andrew's Methodist Church



Western Way, Basingstoke
RG22 6ER.

Mug and Biscuit

Tuesday 10am to 1.30pm
Wednesday 10am to 1.30pm
Thursday 10am to 1.30pm
(hot food served Tue-Thu until 1pm)

Mums and Toddlers

Thursday 10am to 11am

Boys' Brigade (from age 5 to 18)
Friday 6.30pm onwards.

Basingstoke Community Pantry



Paddock Road, South Ham
RG22 6QD.

The pantry is currently running from the blue container in the Westside Community Centre car park:

Tuesday 10am to 1pm

Wednesday 10am to 1pm

The Pantry is a membership scheme aimed at helping people make their money go further. Members will be able to get 12 food items for £5.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Community Safety Patrol Officers (CSPOs)

The council's Community Safety Patrol Officers (CSPOs) aim to improve the wellbeing of local residents by helping to create a feeling of safety across the borough and the team can often be seen on patrol in Buckskin and South Ham.

For more information visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/CSPO-team
Email cspo@basingstoke.gov.uk or call 01256 844844 and ask for the CSPOs.

To report antisocial behaviour, call 101 or report online at www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report. In an emergency or to report a crime, call 999.

Let's Talk Community Survey



Let's Talk is a new community survey initiative that aims to understand the needs of our local communities and enables you to share any concerns with officers.

What Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary want to know

They want to know what it's like to live in your area - what issues you face and how can we work with others to make our communities safer and stronger.

If you see one of their officers or PCSOs knocking at your door, please spare a few minutes to talk to them or fill in the survey online.

Find out more: www.hampshire.police.uk/police-forces/hampshire-constabulary/areas/campaigns/lets-talk/

Inspero



Kempshott Village Hall,
Pack Lane, Basingstoke RG22 5HN.

Inspero Food Bank, Community Shop and Fridge:

Tuesdays 9.30am to 12.30pm

(Note: open 3 days per week Monday, Tuesday and Fridays for emergency food parcels upon referral).

Provides a range of food, hygiene items, cleaning products and pet food. A small donation is requested.

Wellness'N'Wellies:

Community programme to support good mental, physical and emotional well-being by working together in a community garden, growing organic food for our charity food bank.

Mondays and Fridays - 10am to 3pm,
charity community garden, beside Kempshott Village Hall.

Contact Inspero for further information:

Phone: 07950 686614

Email: catherine@inspero.org.uk

We want to hear from other local groups about their forthcoming events, what services they provide, when and where they meet - anything which may be of interest to others.

Use this bi-monthly newsletter to publicise your events and provide details of local support that's available. We'd also love your thoughts about this edition and what you'd like to see included in the future. Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk



What we've done so far

- ✓ Developed Your Community Newsletter
- ✓ Neighbourhood clean-up
- ✓ Support for Westside Community Association
- ✓ Burnaby Bees community garden
- ✓ Recruited Community Co-design Associates
- ✓ First discovery walk and talks



What's coming up and how to get involved

- ✓ Westside new community shop opening
- ✓ Burnaby shops shutters and arts project (watch this space)
- ✓ The councils MAD team and SNG's Places Impact Team will follow-up with some' street cleansing work in Buckskin during September
- ✓ Summer events
- ✓ Community Co-design workshops
- ✓ Young Design Academy

Summer activities launch

Community social

Come along to celebrate the start of the summer holidays!

Alongside the fun, have a chat with our team, see what we've learnt so far through our community insight report and get the latest on the next steps to shape the future of Buckskin and South Ham together.

There will be plenty of activities to keep everyone entertained and (fingers crossed) enjoy the sunshine.

Saturday 27 July, 11am - 3pm
Location: Russell Howard Pavilion

Young Design Academy

Do you know a young person with a love for creativity?

Monday 29 July to
Thursday 1 August

10am to 2pm

Location: Ridgeway Centre

We're running a 4-day programme with young people aged 16-23 living in South Ham and Buckskin to help shape future improvements to the area.

Young people will be given training and get hands on designing and building their ideas. This will be a fun way to spend the holiday, meeting others and gathering skills and experience to improve their future career opportunities.

Lunch and refreshments will be on us and a goody bag to take away.

Sign-up!

To sign-up, and find out more please visit our dedicated website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is/

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Find out more

Do you know someone else who would like to receive this community newsletter? We're using a doorstep distribution company to deliver these newsletters to your home, but you can also find a copy on our website. You'll also find lots of other information to keep you up to date with what's happening.

Anyone can sign-up to receive regular news updates electronically, via our website.

Website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Phone: 0300 7771010

Please contact us if you'd like a copy of this information in another language or format. Or visit our highly accessible website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is

Polish

Prosimy o kontakt, jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tych informacji w innym języku lub formie. Są one również dostępne na naszej stronie internetowej.

Portuguese

Entre em contacto conosco se desejar uma cópia destas informações noutro idioma ou formato. Ou visite o nosso website, totalmente acessível.

Nepali

कृपया यदि तपाईं यो जानकारीको प्रतिलिपि अन्य भाषा वा ढाँचामा चाहनुहुन्छ भने हामीलाई सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस् । वा हाम्रो पूर्ण रूपमा पहुँच योग्य वेबसाइटमा जानुहोस्।

Hindi

अगर आप इस जानकारी की कॉपी किसी और भाषा या फॉर्मेट में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमसे संपर्क करें। या हमारी पूरी तरह से ऐक्सेसिबिल वेबसाइट पर जाएँ।

Urdu

اگر آپ کسی دوسری زبان یا فارمیٹ میں اس معلومات کی کاپی چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔ یا ہماری مکمل طور پر قابل رسائی ویب سائٹ پر جائیں۔

Arabic

يُرجى الاتصال بنا إذا كنتم ترغبون في الحصول على نسخة من هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو في تنسيق آخر، أو بإمكانكم زيارة موقعنا الإلكتروني بكل سهولة ويسر.

Romanian

Vă rugăm să ne contactați dacă doriți o copie a acestor informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format. Sau vizitați website-ul nostru complet accesibil.



