

SPRINGBANK NEWS

Issue 27 - August 2010

EVENTS TAKING PLACE AT SPRINGBANK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE IN 2010

Sat 25th September, 11am to 2.30pm

2nd Annual "ECO FUN Day"

Together with 4th Annual Peace Week Celebrations"

Planning meetings 11th, 25th August and 8th September,
10am at Springbank Centre

If you would like to be involved with the above events, please contact Chris Green on 01242 521319

SPRINGBANK COUNCILLORS

The Springbank Ward is represented by the following:

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

John Morris: Liberal Democrat 01242 242814

email: johnmorris22@blueyonder.co.uk

Peter Jeffries: Liberal Democrat 07717 493686

email: pjeffries@blueyonder.co.uk

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Suzanne Williams: Liberal Democrat 01242 230648

email: Suzanne.Williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk



Cllr. John Morris



Cllr. Peter Jeffries



Cllr. Suzanne Williams

Volunteers Needed

Would you like to give back to your community? Springbank Community Resource Centre would like to welcome you as a volunteer. Help is needed with reception, setting up rooms and keeping the centre clean and tidy. Contact Chris on 539088 or ask at reception.

You can find us on Facebook
Springbank Community Resource Centre

Room hire rates at the centre

	Charities and local people	Statutory organisations	Businesses
Community Hall	£20 per hour +VAT	£30 per hour + VAT	£40 per hour +VAT
Youth Centre	£20 per hour +VAT	£30 per hour + VAT	£40 per hour +VAT
Meeting Room	£7.50 per hour +VAT	£12.50 per hour + VAT	£20 per hour + VAT
Interview Rooms	£5 per hour + VAT	£7.50 per hour + VAT	£10 per hour + VAT

A surcharge of £15 is levied for evening opening up to 9pm and weekends (by special arrangement only)

Audio, visual facilities and charges

Laptop £15, Data projector £15, OHP £10, flipchart stand £5

Enquiries to Yvonne Moon, 01242 521319.

HESTERS WAY
Neighbourhood Project
... run by local people for local people ...



01242 539088

www.hwnp.org

THIS WAS ONCE ALL FARMLAND

THE FARMS

The whole of the Hesters Way/Arle area had for hundreds of years been farming land. The soil, unlike other areas of the town, was sandy and ideal for agriculture. Orchards abounded and market gardens stretched along Arle Road and Alstone Lane right into Hesters Way and probably provided much of the produce needed by the fast growing town of Cheltenham. When, after much discussion, it was decided to build in this area, most of the original farms disappeared.

ARLE FARM

This farm belonged to the Gregory family who owned or leased most of the land in Arle. In the 1854 Sales Particulars, a dairy farm, known as Gregorys or Home Farm was described as 'a brick-built house with 12 rooms plus kitchen and wash-house, dairy, pantry and cellar as well as a mill room and cider store. In the grounds were a dovecote and out-buildings including a piggery, barns, stables, yard and two cottages totalling approximately 130 acres.'

In 1879 Arle House Estate was sold to James Wood for £11,000. He died in 1905 and his son, or grandson, Gershom Wood became the owner. But in 1939/40 Cheltenham Borough Council compulsorily purchased over 200 acres, but not the farmhouse. A Mr. Street lived there and he and his wife ran a riding school until February 1986. The buildings were acquired by Douglas Equipment in 1963. In February 1986 the farmhouse itself was demolished because it was unsafe, and by the end of 1996 all the outbuildings were razed to the ground.

HOPE FARM

Of all the farms that existed in Hesters Way prior to the development of the estate, only Hope Farm has survived as a working farm and is now owned by the Theyer family. It lies down a lane off Springbank and was occupied by the Kearsley family from 1902 to 1942. When they bought it, it was a single storey tumble-down house with about 3 to 4 acres of land for which they paid £200.

Mr. Kearsley then worked at the new Ash Destructor Place in Arle Road, earning 19/- (just under £1) per week to keep himself, wife and, at that time, four children. They later increased their farm to 10 acres and planted fruit trees and kept a donkey and pony. Mrs. Kearsley and her sons ran the farm but by 1906, it being too small for their growing family, Mr. Kearsley employed a man to help with laying the foundations for the house, as it now stands.

The greatest problem, however, was lack of mains water and not until two of the children contracted typhoid from their well did the Council relent and agree for mains water to be connected, at a cost to the Kearsleys of £50.

In 1912, five more acres were added in Hesters Way Lane but when war broke out and the sons were conscripted Mr. and Mrs. Kearsley ran the farm. After the war, the sons married and set up homes elsewhere and so by 1942 the farm was sold.

HESTERS WAY FARM

This farm changed owners several times and at one time was owned by Mr. Gabb who also owned Tanners Cottages. He later sold the farmhouse to Mr. Harris of The White House (off Village Road) who had it made into two houses round about 1920. Edgar Fletcher lived in one and in the other was Mr. Greening. Mr. Fletcher worked the farm until it was purchased to become part of Hesters Way Housing Estate.

FIDDLERS GREEN FARM

This farm is on the extreme edge of the estate and was a flourishing farm for many years but at the time of the commencement of Hesters Way Estate, it was owned by a Mr. James Bruton. The Old Farm House still stands but the land is leased to different people.

Two other farms in the area, namely Harthurstfield Farm occupied by Mr. F. Nunney and Elm Farm by Mr. W.H. Cock, were not originally affected by the developments of Hesters Way but the number of farms in this area show the land to have been very fruitful.

In December 1946, the Borough Surveyor submitted a preliminary layout of the Hesters Way Estate to the Housing Committee. This was only intended to indicate the general lines of development and could not be finalised until a decision had been reached regarding school sites and various amenities. It was suggested that a school site be provided close to King George V Playing Fields, thus enabling the fields to be used by the Grammar School.

Much of the land needed was acquired in large blocks - altogether perhaps ten or twelve purchases. In 1945 thirteen and a half acres from the Arle House Estate, and in 1949 sixty-seven and a half acres belonging to Hesters Way Farm were acquired - hence the name of Hesters Way. In 1952 forty-nine and a half acres from Arle Court Farm and in 1953 yet a further one hundred and fifty-six acres from Arle Farm, were acquired - some by compulsory purchase; almost all of the land having been agricultural land for centuries. Several old cottages, formerly used by farmers and market gardeners, had to be demolished.

1950 to 1965 development of flats and houses off PE Way and Marsland and Hesters Way Roads. Many of the flats built then are now being replaced by houses. From 1965, housing construction was carried on by private developers, in the Springbank area on green field sites, effectively doubling the size of Hesters Way. Further expansion outwards in this direction is however unlikely due to the proximity of the Hayden Sewage Works.

In 1977 development moved to the Fiddlers Green Lane area, with private estates at the Golden Valley end, and red brick housing association estates where Elm Farm had stood.

The latest major development was at the north end of Springbank. The social housing known as Arle Farm and Springfield went up from 1984 onwards.

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Active Lifestyles in Springbank

Leisure Cheltenham are holding a series of low intensity exercise classes on Wednesdays from 10.45 to 11.45am to help you lose weight and get fitter. The programme includes body conditioning, aerobics, body sculpt and stretch and flex. Classes cost £2. For more details phone the Healthy Lifestyles Development Officer on 775202 or just turn up at Springbank for a session.

Tai Chi

An enjoyable way to exercise your body and mind. Learn this ancient skill in a relaxed atmosphere. All welcome. Try it at a Taster session, Tuesdays 24th and 31st August or join the class on 14th September. Tuesdays 10.30 to 11.30. Classes cost just £5 (£3.50 concessions) Phone Gillian on 248663 for details.



Capoeira at Springbank Youth Festival in July

Art Classes

An art class with Community Artist, Graham Brindley takes place on Mondays from 1 to 3pm. Cost is £5 for materials for the term. Phone Shirley on 539088 for details.

Gardening group

The Springbank Garden group meets on Fridays from 2 to 4pm. If you like to do a bit of gardening, please feel free to come along. We need volunteers at the centre to help with maintenance of the garden through the summer. No experience necessary.

Play Rangers

The Play Rangers are in Springfield Park on a Monday from 4 to 6pm. They provide arts, crafts, sports, games, challenges and much more, all aimed at 8-16 year olds (younger children should be supervised by a parent or carer). Its free and you can come and go as much as you want.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings take place on Monday morning from 9.30 to 11.30am. Come along and meet others for a chat. £1 for a cuppa with cake or biscuits. Everyone welcome. The group are holding a Teddy Bears Picnic at the centre on Monday August 9th, 11am to 3pm, entry

£1 per family.

Mobile Library

Gloucestershire County Council Mobile Library calls at Springbank Community Resource Centre car park every other Wednesday from 2.10 to 2.30pm. Dates are 4th and 18th August

Line dancing

Line Dancing classes take place at the centre on Wednesdays from 7 to 8.30pm. If you are interested please call into the

is open 50 weeks of the year. Funded places are available for 3 and 4 year olds and all employer childcare vouchers are also accepted. Places are limited to 38 at any one time so please phone 01242 574511 or email info@giggles-nursery.co.uk to reserve a place or to arrange to viewing.

Alchem Pharmacy

The Alchem Pharmacy provides a full healthcare service including free prescription collection and delivery service

available.

Job Board

You can search for a job from the latest vacancies from jobcentreplus updated weekly and search their website in the foyer at the centre.

Indoor Bowls

Come along to the centre and take part in indoor bowls from 1.30 to 3.30 on Tuesdays.

Karate

Join The Black Dragon Karate

8 to 10.5) takes place on Wednesdays from 6.15 to 7.45pm at Springbank Community Centre. For more information please contact Pat Hopes on 01242 526817

Councillors Surgery

Due to an overload of commitments, the monthly surgery held by your Liberal Democrat Councillors has been suspended, but consideration will be given to its reinstatement later in the year. Meanwhile you can contact them via one

of the numbers given on the regular Focus newsletter or come along to the Litter Picks held on the last Saturday of every month in Springfield Park between 10:30 and 12, where at least one of your councillors will aim to be in attendance.

Litter Pick and Family Activities

Friends of Springbank Residents meet on the last Saturday of every

month at 10.30 for a fun litter pick around Springfield Park. Please grab as many friends as you can and come along. Refreshments will be provided. A range of family activities including Art for youngsters are available on these Saturday mornings from Septmeber.

Room Hire

You can hire the community hall or the youth centre for your function. Phone 521319 or call in for details. Other meeting rooms and interview rooms are also available.

Youth Club

Starting again in Septmeber The Youth Centre at Springbank Community Resource Centre will be open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for youth drop in sessions from 6.30 to 8.30pm for ages 13 to 19. All are welcome.

Martial Arts

Samurai Martial Arts will be holding classes for all ages from 5 to 8.30pm. Phone Brian Jarvis on 07971 584901 for details.

centre or contact Tony Waters on 01452 617430 for information.

Doctors and Dentists

The Springbank Surgery provides a full medical primary care service to local patients led by GPs and nursing staff. The Advanced Nurse Practitioner at the surgery provides services such as initial assessment (triage), treatment of minor conditions and advice and care for patients with long term conditions such as diabetes. The surgery has two consulting rooms and one treatment room available for primary care services. Opening hours are 8.30am to 6.30pm. Many of the services available during this time are Nurse Practitioner led. A dental surgery offers a full dental service and local people and patients of the surgery can come into the centre and register.

Nursery

Giggles Nursery is a family run setting which offers care for children from 3 months to 5 year olds. Morning or afternoon sessions are also available. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm and

from any GP surgery in Cheltenham, advice on weight managemnt, stopping smoking, and medicine use reviews. It is open from 9 to 6 Monday to Friday. Phone 255061.

Craft Mornings

Craft mornings are open to all adults on alternate Mondays from 10.00 am to 12 costing £2.50. Dates are 2nd and 16th August. Contact Pauline on 01242 572819.

Bingo

Friends of Springbank offer a local bingo club for everyone. Sessions take place every Tuesday at 7.30pm. There are cash prizes and it costs £6.10 for six books and flyers. They also offer a weekly bonus ball draw and a weekly raffle. Tea and coffee are



African Drumming at Springbank Youth Festival in July



Sheila Tilling and Margaret Dunease from the POPPs group enjoy an ice cream on the trip to Weston in July

Club at the centre on Mondays at 6.15 to 7.30pm for a fast, effective but traditional style of Karate. For information phone 07947744699.

Patchwork, Quilting and Embroidery Group

This is a group for experienced needleworkers who enjoy making a variety of different items from bags and cushions to Quilts and wall hangings. They meet every week on a Monday from 1 to 3pm and cost £2 per week. If you would like to join them or would like further info, please phone 576503.

Popps Project Afternoons

Tea and Coffee afternoons for the over 50s are now being held at the centre as part of the POPPs (Playtime for Older People) project. Everyone over 50 is welcome. Phone Shirley on 539088 for further information.

Cubs

A Cub Pack (boys and girls

Do you have an item of interest or story you would like to see in Springbank News? Something about the area?

Anything you would like to happen at the centre?

Pictures or photos that might be of interest?

Call into the Resource Centre or phone Chris Green on 539088.