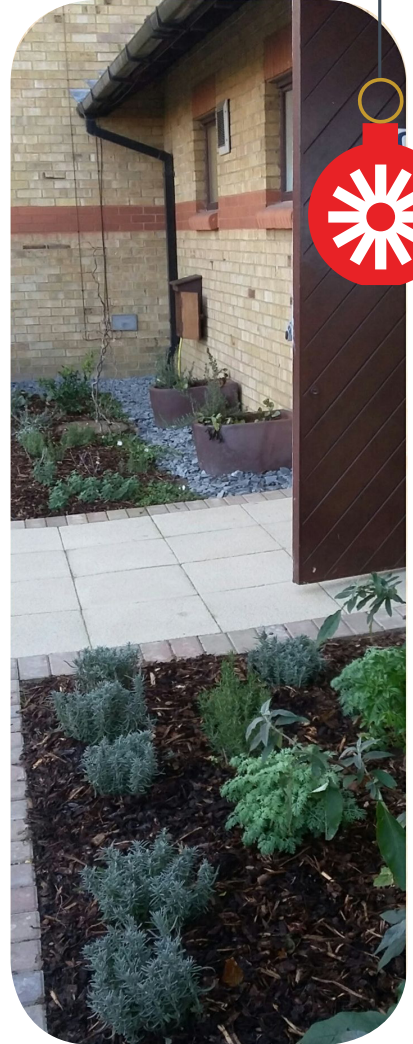




WINTER NEWSLETTER



BUSHMEAD COMMUNITY HUB

Charity No. 1169398

PRINTING KINDLY DONATED BY



A WARM FESTIVE WELCOME

As Chair of Trustees it is my pleasure to welcome you to the first winter newsletter for Bushmead Community Hub. It is a little over 18 months ago that local people heard the news that there were plans to close the community centre. Within a matter of weeks, an action group turned passionate protest into a well-oiled organisational machine that formed a charity to manage the centre BY the community FOR the continued benefit of local people.

This transformation of fortunes was brought about through partnerships with the National Health Service, community organisations, LBC officers, local councillors and faith groups, drawing upon the efforts and expertise of dozens of volunteers from the estate and beyond.

Six months on from the April 1 2017 handover the Centre has been a tremendous success. The number and breadth of new local groups hiring the Centre has taken everyone by surprise, the finances are in a healthy position and local funding organisations have been attracted by the Centre's compelling business plan.

There has been a large increase in the number of community groups using our facility thanks to the state of the art website www.bushmeadhub.co.uk and our innovative use of social media. These range from a model boat club, Muslim and Christian prayer groups, a wildlife group, 2 karate groups, exercise classes and after school clubs. The 50+ bowls group continues from before and the Friday night youth group continues to attract in excess of forty 7-11 year olds per week.

Most importantly of all, local people have rediscovered their confidence in being able to challenge a seemingly 'done deal' when it comes to running down a prime community asset. This project has shown that such facilities can be managed in a fashion that combines innovation, collective action and profitability.

As we look forward the Hub has plans to expand provision through becoming much more than a series of rooms to hire. We aim to promote our own events and initiatives that recapture the Centre's original role in community development. In order to do that we need more "hands on deck" and as such we would welcome any time and expertise that you could offer to lend a hand. Please get in touch through emailing us on ask@bushmead.co.uk or calling the centre on 01582 422818.

We hope you enjoy the many items in this newsletter and hope you feel inspired to get in touch!

Paul

Paul Hammond, Chair of Trustees, Bushmead Community Hub.

HUB GARDEN OPENS

Saturday saw the formal opening of THE HUB's new ecological garden. This was possible through some money from the Tesco bags grant. The work was carried out by Luton Youth Offending Service and Groundwork Luton & Bedfordshire.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved and Cllr Rachel Hopkins and Cllr David Franks for cutting the ribbon.

This space will be available from spring to rent out for different groups and events.

Contact the hub for more information



Great fun for all

We set out three mats on the main hall floor and bowl at a smaller white bowl known as the Jack but the special feature is the block of wood placed in the middle of the mat so that you have to bowl round it! Those whose bowls get nearest the Jack secure the most points also known as 'good wood'.

You do not need to have played before, we have people on hand who are only too willing to introduce you to the game and provide all the help that you need. You do not even need at the initial stages your own bowls – we have sets on hand that you can use, our only requirement is that you wear flat shoes on the mats.

BUSH HUB BOWLS
INDOOR MAT BOWLING AT BUSHMEAD COMMUNITY HUB

Thursday: 10am – 12 midday
Friday: 12.30pm – 2.30pm

This activity is run by the centre so all our staff will be able to help you call 01582 422818 (Bushmead Community Hub) E-mail: ask@bushmeadhub.co.uk

LOTS HAPPENING AT THE HUB

Since April we have seen a number of new hirers who have decided to make the Hub their home, plus our long-term hirers staying with us.

Drama group, **The Griffin Players**, were one of the first new groups through the door and now make up one of long term anchor tenants. Meeting three times a week at the hub they have brought some glitz and glam on a Monday, Thursday and Sunday. You can catch them in pantomime (both children friendly and adult) at the library theatre. Look out for auditions for future productions on Facebook.

We are delighted that we now have two different karate clubs, **Shintai Karate** and **Kojo Karate Kai**, both offering sessions for all ages and abilities. For the under 5s our new hirer **Cha Char Chimps** brings high energy fun, excitement and bubbles for preschool entertainment on a Monday morning plus there's cake too! **Cha Char Chimps** are complimented by **Stay & Play** which still takes place on a Wednesday morning.

If you are looking for extra help with learning then we have two groups - **Kumon Maths** on a Saturday morning and **First Class Learning** Wednesday after school.

It's great that Dave's **Boxfit**, Abbey's **Pilates** and Helen's **Yoga** are still enjoying the hubs hospitality as well as **Weight Watchers** who meet on a Thursday.

As a community run charity we felt it was important to still offer a youth club on a Friday and over indoor mat bowls twice a week. Both are well attended and always looking for new members. Ask at reception for details.

A number of diverse interest groups meet monthly at our CLUB HUB and include **Friends of Bradgers Hill**, **Luton & District Model Boat club**, **Luton & Dunstable historical society** and **AMA**. We are also delighted to welcome a new church group who are now using the hub on a Sunday morning.

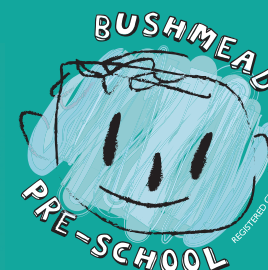
We of course have our two permanent tenants, the **NHS** and **Bushmead Pre-School** who use the hub daily.

From January we are delighted to be welcoming **Luton Slot Car Club** as a long term hirer to the hub on a Wednesday evening.

All information and contact details for each of our hirers is available on our website. **Bushmeadhub.co.uk** where we also keep you up-to-date with special events and activities via facebook and twitter.

 Bushmead Community Hub  Bushmead_Hub

Luton



COME & TAKE
A PEEK
AT ALL THE FUN



AM & PM
(TERM TIME ONLY)
BUSHMEAD COMMUNITY HUB
SESSIONS AVAILABLE



BUSHMEAD PRE-SCHOOL
For more information call 01582 485505 or
email bushmead.preschool@gogglemail.com



CHA CHAR CHIMPS
Mondays 10 - 11am

Do you and your little one like music, dancing, props, bubbles, drinks and cake?

The come along to Cha Char Chimps for all of this and more!

STAY & PLAY
Wednesday 10 - 11.30am

For children under five years and their parents, Stay & Play is fun, friendly and inclusive. Join in messy play activities, story and song time session.



Children's Birthday
party coming up?

Why not hold it at Bushmead Community Hub!
Children's Birthday parties (ages 3 to 13)
£75 for 3 hours hall use*
(including 30 minutes clean up time)
Free use of the kitchen.
Call the centre on 01582 422818
or go online at bushmeadhub.co.uk
to book your party now.

*Excludes Friday and Saturday evenings from 5pm onwards.



WHAT'S ON

MONDAY

10-11am
Manning Hall



6.30-7.30pm
Manning Hall



8-10pm
Manning Hall



8-10pm
Bradgers Room



EVERY WEEK DAY



WEEKDAYS
Appointment only



WEEKDAYS
9.15am - 3.45pm
Term time only

TUESDAY

Pilates 2-3pm
with ABBEY HICKS
Manning Hall



18.15-19.45pm
Manning Hall



8-9pm
Manning Hall



8-9.30pm
Bradgers Room



WEDNESDAY

10-11.30am
Manning Hall



4.15 - 6pm
Manning Hall



6.30-7.30pm
Manning Hall




THURSDAY

10am-12noon
Manning Hall



7-8pm
Manning Hall



8-9.30pm
Manning Hall



6-7pm
Bradgers Room



8-10pm
Bradgers Room



FRIDAY

12.30-2.30pm
Manning Hall



6-8.30pm
Manning Hall




SATURDAY

10-11.30am
Bradgers Room



9am-12noon
Manning Hall



SUNDAY
9am-12noon
Manning Hall



10am-2pm
Bradgers Room



AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE

MONTHLY GROUPS

Every second Monday
7.30-9.45pm



Every third Monday
7.30 pm



Every Second Wednesday
7.30pm



Last Saturday
11am-1pm



COMING JANUARY



FIND MORE INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS OF ALL OUR HIRERS @ BUSHMEADHUB.CO.UK

INTERESTED IN HIRING A ROOM



PLEASE CONTACT OUR TEAM TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS ON 01582 422818 OR EMAIL ASK@BUSHMEADHUB.CO.UK



UNVEILING OF NEW INFORMATION SIGNS



When the 'Friends of Bradgers Hill' (FoBH) came together in late 2015 one of our aims was to install some eye catching new interpretation signs to help turn Bradgers Hill into an attraction enjoyed by all of the community.

With the support and funding from Your Say Your Way and Luton Borough Council we were able to transform this vision into two new signs, which were installed by volunteers in November 2017, located on the green on Gleneagles Drive and near to the steps on Bennington Close.

The signs aim to tell the story of Bradgers Hill including maps and most spotted wildlife. We hope these signs will be appealing, easy to read and will inspire both young and old to get active outdoors. All upcoming Friends of Bradgers Hill events will also be displayed on the signs.

The signs are made of suitable, hard wearing materials which should stand up to the British weather and will hopefully be a feature on Bradgers Hill for many years to come.



Luton

Would you like to get involved with conservation in Bushmead? Find out how at bradgershill.org. FoBH meet every second Wednesday in every month between 7pm – 8.30pm



Calling all 7 – 11 year olds that are looking to make friends in a fun, safe environment. Come along to Bushmead Youth Club 6–8.30pm every term time Friday.

We aim to instil in young people a sense of responsibility and ownership for the actions they undertake, to develop their citizenship and involvement in their local community. We help them build self-esteem and self-confidence while having a lot of fun and making friends. Every term we organise all kinds of activities such as art, cooking, games, music and more. We organise trips out to theatre and the seaside.

If you have a youngster who would like to join in please contact the Bushmead hub.



This activity is run by the centre so all our staff will be able to help you call 01582 422818 (Bushmead Community Hub) E-mail: ask@bushmeadhub.co.uk



We are a designated collection point for Luton Food Bank
Drop you food items into reception and we will place them into the collection box.
www.lutonfoodbank.org.uk

POOL, XBOX, GROUP GAMES, DISCUSSION, TABLE TENNIS AND MORE...

N:gage is a youth group open to all young people in Year 7 - 13.

For more info, please contact Lee Pinner :

07712 390345
lee@christchurch-bushmead.org.uk

N:GAGE

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,
CHRISTCHURCH BUSHMEAD, 7.30 - 9PM

IF YOU ARE YEAR 7 - 13
YOU ARE VERY WELCOME

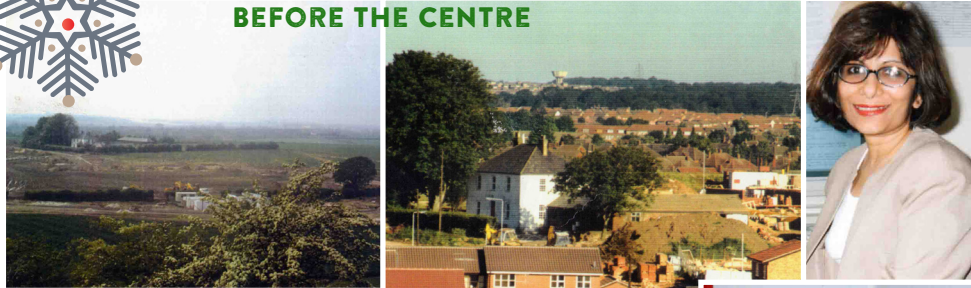


DRINKS +
CHAT
GAMES +
MUSIC

REMEMBER ANY OF THESE



BEFORE THE CENTRE



Inter-centre Half-term 14/under and 11/under 5-a-side Tournament Oct 1990

FIVE-A-SIDE CHAMPS



LUTON Town star Kingsley Black is pictured above (centre) with the winning teams from this week's Inter-Sports Centre five-a-side football tournament. The competition, at under 11 and under 14 levels, was held at the Stopsley Regional Sports Centre on Monday and Tuesday, with the hosts (pictured above left) taking the under 14 title, and Bushmead Community Centre (above right) winning the under 11 section.



Another sausage anyone



● Bushmead Diddy folk from Diana Knight School of Dance.

Debut community festival a success

MORE than 700 people turned up to the first Bushmead Festival on Saturday to make it a huge success. The event, held at the community centre, offered a host of attractions, including stalls, displays and a fancy-dress competition. Children were kept amused with a bouncy castle and pony rides and a barbecue in the evening ensured all tastes were catered for. The centre's youth club members raised £100 toward general funds. "It went very well," said centre manager Simon Antrobus.



HELP US MAKE MEMORABLE EVENTS IN THE FUTURE

We aim to promote our own events and initiatives that recapture the Centre's original role – organising activities that bring our community together. In order to do that we need your help. If you can spare some time we are looking for an organisation group to focus on Community role. If you're interested in getting involved please email ask@bushmead.co.uk or call 01582 422818.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

'Tis the season to get browsing



Boxing Day to New Year is the peak period for property searches online*...

...so give your property a head start and let us get you ready to take advantage of those potential buyers now.

Visit our website at harrisonmurray.co.uk

*Source: Rightmove

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