



Arborfield Green

BERKSHIRE
— A NEW GARDEN VILLAGE —



Crest
NICHOLSON

Arborfield Green Community Newsletter

Welcome to the Winter Newsletter

This is your guide to what's been going on in Arborfield Green over the last few months. Keep reading for more information about our recent community events and updates on the development.

Celebrating our community

On Friday 30th November 2018, Arborfield Green was treated to its annual Christmas fair and lights switch on at their local Community Centre. The event was a great opportunity for all Arborfield Green residents to come together at the start of the festive season at the historical military site. Highlights of the evening included Saint Sebastian Wokingham Band playing Christmas carols and a visit from Santa.

The fair culminated with the Christmas tree lights switch on outside the Community Centre. The Mayor of Wokingham Borough Council, Councillor John Kaiser, was present to give a speech and initiate the countdown to Christmas.

Our next event will be this spring, with Arborfield Green's Easter fête taking place on Saturday 30th March from 10am to 1pm at the Community Centre. Keep an eye out for more information nearer the time.



Sammie Bryans,

Development Director for Crest Nicholson said:

"We are very proud to have hosted this exciting Christmas event for both the new and existing community at Arborfield Green. This is the third year we have celebrated Christmas at Arborfield, and the event has developed over those years. We are keen to involve local people in our event planning, and are now looking forward to developing an Easter event with local families."

Arborfield Green: A Timeline of Development

1904

Land in Arborfield acquired by the War Office for the Arborfield Remount Depot. Land was part of the Bearwood Estate, which was owned by the Walter Family of the Times Newspaper. Land is first rented from Walter family and then purchased.

1914

Acreage increases beyond eastern boundary. Temporary stabling is constructed to accommodate more than 600 horses. Several thousand animals passed through the Depot during World War 1.

1937

Land in Arborfield acquired by the War Office when the Arborfield Remount Depot closes. The site now covers 500 acres. In the years it was open, nearly 100,000 horses passed through the Depot. The Depot was one the largest employers in the local area.

1938

Reopens as Arborfield Garrison

1939

Army Technical School opens and Poperinghe Barracks is built to accommodate two Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiments of the Royal Artillery.

1942

Garrison becomes home to the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers of the British Army (REME).

What's been happening in your community?

Running for REME

On Tuesday 23rd October, four military personnel began an ambitious 100km run from Arborfield to Lyneham to celebrate 100 years since Armistice Day and to raise money for the Royal British Legion and Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME) Charity.

The runners and support members gathered at Arborfield Green Community Centre for photographs and a hot drink before setting off at 9am. The REME Association connects officers who serve or have served in the Royal Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers with a network of branches, groups and communities to support them throughout their military careers, civilian careers and retirement. Both REME and the Royal British Legion were very grateful to the four volunteers for taking on such a major challenge in the name of raising money for them. The exhausted runners arrived into Lyneham the following morning at 7:30am, where they were greeted with cheers by the soldiers and officers of 8 Training Battalion REME.



Reverse Advent celebration

On Sunday 16th November, Church@TheGreen held its first ever Reverse Advent celebration. Reverse Advent Calendars are based on the idea of donating something every day, rather than opening a door on a traditional advent calendar. Participants in Arborfield Green were encouraged to set aside one item each day from 1st to 16th December, and bring their boxes to the Community Centre on Sunday afternoon.

The goodies were then delivered by the Arborfield Green Communities Team, working on behalf of Crest Nicholson, to Wokingham Food Bank and Christian Community Action in Reading on Monday morning. Sammie Bryans, Development Director for Crest Nicholson said: *"We are very proud to have this fantastic event held at our Community Centre and to have a part to play in Reverse Advent at Arborfield Green. It's a great way to help those less fortunate at Christmas."*



A Timeline of Development

1944 - 1946

Garrison serves as a medical centre and accommodation for troops before the Normandy landings and those off to service in northwest Europe. School renamed to Army Apprentice School.

1990

Original barracks replaced by modern, state of the art facilities

2004

The decision was taken to cease apprentice training at Arborfield. Over 50,000 men and women began their army careers as apprentice soldiers and tradesmen at Arborfield Garrison.

2010

Wokingham Borough Council allocates Arborfield Garrison in its Local Plan.

2013

Crest Nicholson appointed as Development Manager for the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) the Army's property and land arm.

2016

Vacation of Arborfield Garrison completed and Crest Nicholson take over management

Remembrance Sunday Parade

On Sunday 11th November, the Arborfield branch of the Royal British Legion organised a Remembrance Sunday parade at Arborfield Cross and laid poppy wreaths. It was a moving and respectful way to commemorate 100 years since World War One and the military history of Arborfield.

Arborfield is steeped in military heritage - this area of Berkshire was originally used in 1904 as a Remount Depot, supplying the military with horses for operational use and acting as a Horse Infirmary. It remained open through the Second World War before becoming home to army technical schools. It is estimated that 50,000 trainees completed apprenticeships at the Garrison.

Crest Nicholson were proud to be able to support the parade and honour the history of the site with the surrounding communities and the Royal British Legion.



Crest Nicholson signs Armed Forces Covenant

On 13th November, Crest Nicholson formalised its ongoing support for members of the Armed Forces and their families by signing the Armed Forces Covenant. The new agreement means that Crest Nicholson can offer those that are leaving or who have left the military, an opportunity to build a second career in the housebuilding sector through a dedicated training scheme.

The Covenant was signed by Patrick Bergin, CEO of Crest Nicholson, and Colonel Simon Browne, Deputy Commander of the 11th Division. Speaking at the event, Patrick Bergin commented:

"As a nation, we owe a great deal to our armed forces for their service and bravery. It gives me great pride to sign the Armed Forces Covenant today and to formalise our ongoing commitment to supporting these brave men and women as they embark on their next adventure."



2016 - Autumn

Bohunt School officially opened their doors to Year 7 pupils in two former military buildings made available by Crest Nicholson

2017 - Autumn

Crest Nicholson took over the management of the former Garrison Community Centre on behalf of the DIO

Early 2018

Arborfield Green becomes the first scheme within Wokingham Borough to include consent for a development solely for the Private Rented Sector (PRS)

2017 - Summer

The Nine Mile Ride Extension (NMRE) opened, providing access off the A327 to Arborfield Green and Bohunt School

2017 - Autumn

Local artist, Amy Goodman, appointed to create three horse sculptures at the entrance to the new NMRE

2020

Start of the District Centre development planned

Emergency Services Fun Day at Arborfield

On Thursday 25th October, parents and children from the local area visited Arborfield Green Community Centre for Emergency Services Fun Day. The annual event, organised by Thames Valley Police, proved incredibly popular as families braved the brisk autumnal weather to take part in activities and learn about the role of different emergency services.

The wide variety of attendees included Swallowfield Community Responders and Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue. The event is crucial for raising awareness of the vital work that these organisations do in local communities and familiarise children with these services from a young age. Stalls provided information on keeping safe and healthy in the community and on what to do in case of an emergency.

Crest Nicholson also made use of the opportunity to engage with the local community, asking children and their parents what they liked most about their local area and promoting upcoming events in Arborfield Green.



Arborfield Green's first new play park officially opens

The first new play park at Arborfield Green has officially opened its gates to the local community. Situated next to Crest Nicholson's Nightingale Fields, the park is within close proximity to some of the latest new homes at Arborfield Green and can be seen from the Nine Mile Ride Extension road.

Crest Nicholson held an opening event and welcomed local families to join them for a slice of cake and to try out some of the exciting new equipment.

Facilities at the park include a zip wire, slide, swings and climbing frame, and will be an exciting place for children to play in the coming years.



Would you like to get more involved in your community?

Drop us a line and we can talk about the opportunities available on your doorstep. From helping the local Royal British Legion marshal their Remembrance Sunday parade to lending a hand at the Christmas lights switch-on, there is always something happening. In particular we are looking for parents with young families to begin a weekend group at the community centre. If you'd like to get involved with this, or any other events, please email community@arborfieldgreen.co.uk



What has Crest Nicholson provided so far?



HAZEBROUCK MEADOWS

This green area is a great place to relax in nature with 35 acres of open space and 2.3kms of public footpaths.



BOHUNT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Opened in 2016, the school is run by one of the leading academy trusts and boasts unrivalled facilities locally.



RENOVATED STABLES

The renovation of the old infirmary stables will see the historically significant buildings saved for future generations.



GARRISON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Crest Nicholson are managing the former Garrison Community Centre until a new facility is built at the District Centre.

What is still to come?



A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

There is always something happening in the community - look out for our upcoming Easter event!



NEW DISTRICT CENTRE

Potential for a convenience store, retail units, restaurant/pub and extra care housing. Keep an eye out for updates in 2019.



FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS

Continued construction of new footpaths and cycleways, linking with the borough wide network of walking and cycle routes.



A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

This is being developed by Wokingham Borough Council and is expected to open in September 2020.



NEW PLAY PARK

Located near the Nightingale Fields development, the park is complete with a slide, swings and a zipwire.



GARRISON CRICKET AND SPORT PITCHES

These spaces are open for use by the local community as well as sports groups.



NEW FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS

The first phase of a network of footpaths and cycleways has been introduced as part of a borough-wide network.



LEISURE CENTRE

Under the management of Places Leisure this has been welcomed into the community as a much needed provider of local leisure facilities.



HORSE SCULPTURES

Installation of the horse sculptures, designed by local artist Amy Goodman, is expected in 2019.



ADDITIONAL PLAY PARKS

Additional play parks to be delivered across the development.



PRIVATE RENTED HOUSING

New high quality homes for rent.



NATURE TRAIL

Coming soon to Hazebrouck Meadows.



New homes at Waterman's Reach

Crest Nicholson's latest phase of new homes are available at Waterman's Reach in Arborfield Green. With sweeping views across Waterman's Lake, a selection of contemporary apartments and 2, 3 & 4 bedroom houses are now available.

Visit the Sales & Marketing Suite in Barkham Place to find out more.

Bewley Homes consult on plans in Arborfield Green

Bewley Homes has purchased a site in Arborfield Green. The proposal is for around 70 properties including 1, 2 and 3 bedroom affordable homes. Sammie Bryans, Development Director at Crest Nicholson, adds: *"Having a range of different offers on-site means that not only can we speed up overall delivery, but also we hope that the wider housing mix being created will come together in time to establish a really strong, sustainable community for the future."*



Katy Bennett

Community Liaison Officer

Introducing Katy Bennett, your new Community Liaison Officer.

Katy is working alongside Gemma Gallant, Community Liaison Manager, and brings to the team strong communication and problem-solving skills developed through her degree and background in law and marketing.



Contact the Communities Team

If you have any questions or queries regarding the Arborfield Green development or any of the information listed on this newsletter, please email: community@arborfieldgreen.co.uk

For more information about the development including plans for each of the phases, and details of any upcoming events, please visit our website: www.arborfieldgreen.co.uk