

# Welcome Pack



## Welcome to Waterman's Gate

May 2024



[www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)

## About This Booklet

Welcome to your new home in Arborfield Green. This pack has been produced by the My Journey team to provide you with information about planning journeys from your new home.

My Journey Wokingham promotes travel which helps keep our residents healthy and safe and our borough cleaner and greener.

Within this pack you will find reference to local walking and cycle routes, information about local bus and rail services, and where to find your nearest electric car charging points.

We are also pleased to be able to provide you with information on discounted travel and travel related items, some of which are exclusively for new residents of Waterman's Gate.

## My Developer Details

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## My Journey Wokingham

As well as welcoming new residents to the borough, My Journey Wokingham provides a series of travel related events and training courses.

For further information about the My Journey Wokingham programme please visit the My Journey Wokingham website.

Additionally, you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter to find out about our latest offers, events, competitions and training programmes.

Website:

**[www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)**

Facebook:

**[www.facebook.com/MJWokingham](https://www.facebook.com/MJWokingham)**

Twitter:

**[@MJWokingham](https://twitter.com/MJWokingham)**

## Feedback

We are always looking to improve the information provided in our welcome packs. If you have any comments about the pack or any questions around travel in Wokingham you can contact us.

Email:

**[myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk)**





### Brief History

Steeped in history, the Arborfield Green site was originally used in 1904 as a Remount Depot in Arborfield Garrison, supplying the military with horses for operational use. Over 100,000 horses are said to have passed through the Depot, which remained open throughout the Second World War. After the eventual closure of the Depot, the Garrison became home to a number of army technical schools where approximately 50,000 trainees completed their apprenticeships.

Over a century since its inception, the Garrison is being lovingly regenerated into a new sustainable village, which will see the creation of up to 2,000 new homes, schools, shops and country parks.

### Some ways the history of Arborfield Green will be preserved

- The Horse Infirmary Stables, a listed monument, will form the heart of the new community
- Three life-size horse sculptures have been installed on site
- The Moat House, the former Garrison HQ, will eventually be converted into offices
- Nature Trail sculptures will be made from horseshoe, as a nod to the use of the site as a Remount Depot during World War One
- Poperinghe Nursery was named in recognition of the previous Poperinghe Barracks where the REME were housed
- The other nursery is called Hazebrouck in reference to the Hazebrouck Barracks where the REME School of Electronic and Aeronautical Engineering was based
- The meadows were renamed from Hazebrook to Hazebrouck Meadows

### Schools nearby

- Farley Hill Primary School
- The Coombes Primary School
- Nine Mile Ride Primary School
- Gorse Ride Infant/Junior Schools
- Bohunt Secondary School.

### Parks in/near Arborfield Green

- Hazebrouck Meadows, Biggs Lane and Commonfield Lane, Arborfield, RG2 9LS
- Finchwood Park SANG, Sheerlands Road, Finchampstead
- California Country Park, Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4HU – can be accessed via the greenway off Commonfield Lane
- Finchampstead Baptist Centre/Children's Play Park/ Multi-Use Games Area - Gorse Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4ES – can be accessed via the greenway off Commonfield Lane
- Rooks Nest Wood, Barkham Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4EU.

Hazebrouck Meadows is a 14 hectare natural greenspace set across both sides of Biggs Lane on the former Arborfield Garrison site. It comprises hay meadow grasslands, habitat ponds and woodland, and even a bat barn. With over 2.3km of footpath meandering through the site, it's a great place for a countryside walk.

Hazebrouck Meadows has rough surfaced paths throughout the site. There are some steep inclines in areas of the site, however the majority is flat. All gates on the site are wheelchair accessible.

### Arborfield Green Leisure Centre

There is a leisure centre at Arborfield Green on Sheerlands Road, Arborfield, RG2 9NN. They run various classes and activities. For full details and membership details visit their website:

[www.placesleisure.org](http://www.placesleisure.org)









## Walking is simple, free and one of the easiest ways to get more active, lose weight and become healthier

Cambridge University researchers have found that a brisk walk every day has substantial health benefits.

Incorporating walking into your lifestyle will go a long way in helping your health and well-being.

The My Journey Wokingham website can be used to discover walking routes in your local area or to plan walks to your local shops and walking groups, services and other amenities.

Visit: [www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)

### Thames Basin Heaths Partnership

To find greenspaces on your doorstep and get outside for some fresh air and exercise.

Visit: [www.tbhpartnership.org.uk](http://www.tbhpartnership.org.uk)

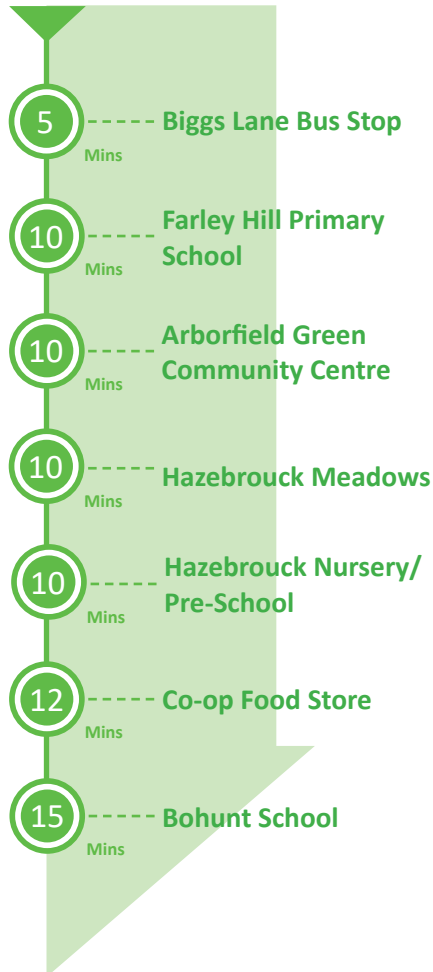
### Health Walks

There are a number of health walks that take place across the borough. The walks are a great way to meet new friends and keep active.

Visit:

[www.wokingham.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk)

### Places to Walk to



## Cycling is a low impact type of exercise which can help you lose weight, reduce stress and improve your fitness

It is often quicker to cycle than travel by car for local journeys in Wokingham, particularly during busier times.

The cycle network in Wokingham Borough is continually being improved and there is a greenway (for cyclists/walkers) between Commonfield Lane, Arborfield and Finchampstead Baptist Centre.

Cycling is one of the easiest ways to fit exercise into your daily routine. For example you could cycle to work or Wokingham station a few days a week.

Visit the My Journey website for the latest copy of the Western Area Cycle Map, information on local bike events, training courses for adults and children as well as discounts at local retailers and much more.

Visit:

[www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)

### Wokingham Bikeathon

The Bikeathon is an annual family event that takes place around Wokingham every June. The date of the event will be shared on the My Journey website once it is announced.

### Love to Ride

If you ride for more than 10 minutes, log your ride at [www.lovetoride.net/wokingham](http://www.lovetoride.net/wokingham) for a chance to win cycle related prizes. Encourage friends and family for even more chances to win.

### Places to Cycle to



LOVE TO RIDE







Forget about the parking costs and rising fuel prices and let someone else do the driving

## Buses to Wokingham

The Leopard 3 serves the stop on Biggs Lane the same side as the Waterman's Gate development and travels hourly to Wokingham. The bus stops at Wokingham train station before it goes into the town centre. It takes approximately 5 minutes to walk to the bus stop.

## Buses to Reading

Your nearest bus stop is on the opposite side of Biggs Lane approximately 5 minutes' walk from Waterman's Gate. There are 3 buses an hour to Reading train station via the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

For fares and for further information on all these bus services visit:

[www.reading-buses.co.uk](http://www.reading-buses.co.uk)

You can also plan your journey using our journey planner:

[www.myjourneywokingham.com/journey-planner](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com/journey-planner) or download the Reading Buses mobile application from your providers' app store.

## FREE bus Travel

There are a limited number of free weekly bus passes available for Waterman's Gate residents. Please contact us to receive your free voucher:

Email: [myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk)

## Winnersh Triangle Park & Ride

Winnersh Park & Ride operates a park and ride bus service every 20 minutes into Reading on Saturdays only. The car park on the ground floor of Winnersh Triangle Park & Ride has disabled spaces, electric vehicle chargers and allows access to allow rail users to park closer to the station. Those wishing to travel into Reading can use the train or the nearby Lion 4/X4 bus to central Reading.

## MereOak Park & Ride

A park and ride service operates from MereOak Park & Ride at MereOak Lane, Grazeley. The site provides nearly 600 parking spaces, plus cycle and motorcycle parking. Reading Buses, Greenwave service provides a fast and frequent service between the site and Reading town centre and Reading train station. A parking fee of £1.00 per day applies to MereOak Park & Ride users. Concessionary passes are valid for bus travel in accordance with the scheme conditions, but pass-holders will be asked to pay a £1.00 parking fee.

## Long Distances Coaches

National Express Coaches call at MereOak Park & Ride going onto London Victoria or London Heathrow.

For more information visit:

[www.nationalexpress.com/en](http://www.nationalexpress.com/en)

FlixBus also operate coaches from MereOak Park & Ride to London Hammersmith or London Victoria Coach Station.

For further information and tickets please visit their website:

[www.flixbus.co.uk](http://www.flixbus.co.uk)



**Rail travel is a faster, more relaxing and less stressful way to travel on business, and it's easy and hassle-free for leisure trips with your family and friends**

Wokingham is the nearest station to Arborfield Green. Your nearest bus stop is 10 minutes walk from Waterman's Gate. The Leopard 5 services travels hourly between Arborfield Green and Wokingham train station. It takes approximately 25 minutes to cycle to Wokingham Station from Arborfield Green.

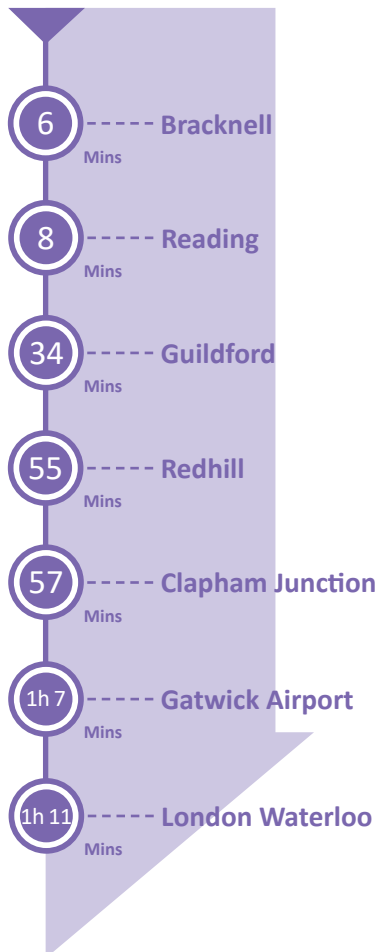
Four trains an hour depart for Reading Station, two direct trains an hour to London Waterloo and two direct trains an hour to Guildford, Redhill and Gatwick Airport. Some additional services are provided at peak times.

The station is located on Station Approach, RG40 2AP. It has a cafe, 118 sheltered cycle storage spaces and 531 parking spaces.

For further information on train times visit:  
[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

For information on tickets and discounted rail travel visit:  
[www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)

### Approximate Journey Times









Arrange to travel together and share the cost, whilst reducing congestion and pollution at the same time

## Electric Vehicles

Pure electric vehicles have zero exhaust emissions, which means they do not emit any harmful exhaust emissions in the local environment. For more information about electric vehicles please visit **Energy Saving Trust**

**Energy Saving Trust** presents ways to EV drivers to reduce the cost of recharging their vehicles. Among the info provided, there is a table with cost comparisons for different ways of charging and how this is compared to the cost of filling up a petrol or diesel car.

Although the upfront cost of purchasing an electric vehicle is higher, savings are made in the longer term with lower running costs. Electric vehicles have lower servicing and maintenance costs due to having fewer mechanical components. Home chargers continue to be the cheapest method. To find out the costs for electric charging please visit **RAC Charge Watch**

For locations of electric car charge points please visit:

[www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com)

## Car Share

Car sharing is a great way to reduce the costs of travelling by car. It is also a great way to meet new people and help the environment.

There is a public car share database available to search for other people looking to car share around your area.

Visit: [www.liftshare.com](http://www.liftshare.com)

## Smarter Driving

Smarter driving can help keep you safe and cost you less. Here are some tips for smarter driving:

- Check your tyres are at the correct pressure to help the car run more efficiently
- Remove unnecessary weight from your car like heavy equipment, roof racks or items in your boot
- Make sure your car is serviced regularly to ensure it is running as efficiently as possible
- Avoid wasteful fuel consumption with engine idling or air conditioning

## Electric Car Charge Points





[www.wokingham.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk)



[www.myjourneywokingham.com](http://www.myjourneywokingham.com)



[myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk)



[www.facebook.com/MJWokingham](https://www.facebook.com/MJWokingham)



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**WOKINGHAM**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL