Brookwood News

October 2014 This month's editor: Graham Hunt

Welcome to the October issue of the Brookwood News. We seem to be blessed at present with some fine weather, and the heaths and commons around the village are looking at their best this time of year with the purple and mauves of the heather and the silvery cobwebs on the gorse. If you can get out for an early morning walk, you won't be disappointed.

The roadworks on the A322 caused some problems for residents trying to get back into the village after 8pm, but I think we all survived. However there were quite a lot of drivers who didn't seem to believe the 'road closed' signs and carried on regardless until being politely turned around by a man in a fluorescent jacket**.**

1ST BROOKWOOD SCOUT GROUP QUIZ NIGHT!
Saturday 11th October, 7.30pm for 8pm kick-off!
Brookwood Memorial Hall

Teams of up to 8 people(ish!)
Curry or ploughman's supper available.
Bring your own bottle. £10 per head.

Please let Nick Gair know about numbers/ tables/teams in advance, so we have some idea of numbers for food, etc.

Please phone 07900 902916 or email **nick_gair@yahoo.co.uk**

Prizes! Music! Head-scratching!

BROOKWOOD ASSISTING NEIGHBOURS

BAN are doing some really good work in our community. They are not just here to help senior citizens in the village but all members of the community young and old. So if you have a problem and need help or would like to volunteer, call 07931 239365, Monday to Friday, 10am to 12noon.

IS IT A BIRD? IS IT A PLANE?
NO, IT'S WOKING'S EVERYDAY RECYCLING HEROES!



The Borough's 'Everyday Heroes' have joined forces to highlight the battle against everyday waste, which can be recycled and saved from expensive landfill sites. During 2014, the Super-heroes aim is to inspire recycling practices and show how easy it is for everyone to be an everyday hero and recycle for Woking; check them out on the website.
www.woking.gov.uk/environment/ wasterecycle/everydayheroes

BROOKWOOD CLUB

Brookwood Club is hosting two open events in October. On Saturday 4th we have Bingo. Tickets on sale from 8pm, 'eyes down' at 8.30pm.

On Friday 31st we have a Halloween Party (fancy dress optional) with disco from 8.30 to 11pm. All welcome.

BROOKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
SHARING OUR RESULTS AND SUCCESSES

The latest from school is that the hard work of our pupils and their teachers has created some headline news on pupil results and successes.

Over the past year we have radically updated how we educate the very youngest in school. Using the most recent academic research on what makes the biggest impact on learning, we have transformed our teaching. Last year, across England, 52% of children in reception classes achieved a 'Good Level of Development'. This year, 73% of Brookwood children did!

For various reasons, a significant number of Brookwood children arrive in our school below nationally expected levels in reading, writing, number, and in terms of their social and emotional maturity. We work hard to help them catch up throughout their first three years with us. So much so that, by the end of the Infants, this year our pupils well exceeded last year's national levels in reading, writing and maths. In fact, they were, on average, towards a term ahead in reading and writing.

As far as the Juniors go, we have been working very hard to make sure that our Year 6 leavers have achieved a good rate of progress from whatever their starting point was in Year 3. This year, pupils have matched the 'expected' rate of progress in all subjects, and reached 'accelerated' progress in reading and exceeded (by miles) 'accelerated' progress in writing.

Individually, pupils met (and often exceeded) their own ambitious targets. Two pupils achieved the national 'gold standard' of Level 6 in maths and one a Level 6 in writing. Having said this, we are just as proud of the other results pupils achieved which, for each of them, represented their personal gold standard.

On a different note, three teachers left school at the end of the summer term. Mrs Alison Good (nee Beale) has taken a post as Deputy Headteacher and part-time Acting Headteacher at a school in Farnborough. Miss Anna Readman has changed schools to a growing primary school near Guildford where she can use her leadership skills to great effect, and Mr Adam White has left to explore new opportunities. Mrs Chris Hunt left school in July for a career change; she will be supporting much older children who have left secondary school into work or further education or training. We wish all of them success in their ongoing ventures.

There are a number of community events scheduled for the Autumn Term. Keep an eye on the notice board for further events and dates – including a Quiz Night, Bingo Night and, of course, the Christmas Fair.

We would love to see any of you who have not yet visited our lovely school – or anyone who's not been in for a while. The welcome will always be warm!

Jo Green, Headteacher

BROOKWOOD SCHOOL CRAFT FAIR
Thursday 16th October 2014, 7.15 to 9.30pm

Please join us for an enjoyable and sociable evening to do a spot of pre-Christmas shopping. We have good variety of independent stallholders. The entry is £2 including a glass of wine/soft drink and nibbles.

All proceeds go to Friends of Brookwood School. We are very grateful for Foundations, Independent Estate Agents for sponsoring the event.

LOST KEYS?

A set of keys was found in Heath Drive on Wednesday 24th September. If you think they may be yours please contact:

community@brookwood.org.uk

and we will to get them back to you.

HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

If you are interested in writing an article or advertising an event we would be delighted to hear from you. We like to try and keep articles to between 100 and 200 words as we have limited space available in the newsletter.

Please send all enquiries and articles to:

community@brookwood.org.uk

PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Great War we present Joan Littlewood and Theatre Workshop's '**Oh, What a Lovely War'.** Our production, directed by Graham Carr, will be shown at the Lord Pirbright Hall on Pirbright Green. Performances will be at 7.30pm on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th October, and at 2.30pm on Sunday 19th October 2014. Seating will be in rows and tickets will cost £10 each. There will be a bar serving wine and soft drinks, and a collection will be held for donations to the Royal British Legion.

Tickets can be obtained from David Greenland, 10 Pirbright Terrace, Guildford Road, Pirbright, Surrey GU24 0LR. Alternatively there will be a link on our website: **www.spanglefish.com/pirbrightplayers**. A booking fee will apply for online bookings.

THE LOVEDAY SINGERS.

Saturday 18th October 7.30pm, St Saviour's Church

The Loveday Singers return to Brookwood to give another concert at St Saviour's Church in aid of the Re-Generation project. This young choir have been singing together for six years throughout Surrey and competing at many music festivals. Their concerts include classical and contemporary music, and there will be something for everyone at this very enjoyable evening.

Tickets are £10 in advance from Yvonne Craven (01483 480273, **yvonne.brookwood@gmail.com**) or some may be available on the door. However numbers will be limited.

DR PAUL VAN DEN BOSCH WRITES

As most people are aware, I will be leaving Pirbright Surgery in September. I do so with many regrets but there are other opportunities for me before I finally hang up my stethoscope.

I was fortunate to join this excellent practice nearly twelve years ago and I feel confident that its future is secure in the hands of Dr Alexandra Henderson and Dr Sarah Jackson, as well as Dr Aaron Guard who is replacing me. He is an experienced (but much younger) GP who has skills and qualities which will, I am sure, rapidly earn your confidence and respect.

It has been a privilege for me to work here and my very best wishes to all.

Paul van den Bosch

NEWCOMERS' REPORT ON THE VILLAGE

Anesa and Jamie moved into the village 12 months ago, and point out some hidden gems of village life.

When we moved to Surrey last year, Brookwood attracted us because of its village setting and mainline train station; we won't lie, but it has grown on us to mean much more. Other Surrey villages often lacked amenities, social facilities or shops but in Brookwood we can visit Fulks for some lamb chops, buy fish and chips or pop into shops. Where else in rural Surrey can you post a parcel, order a doughnut, and buy a birthday card at the same time?

One area of Brookwood life we love is the allotments beyond the canal. This was a new experience for us, having not even had a garden before, but we found the peaceful cultivation, the reassuring advice from fellow gardeners and the gradual improvement in the state of our plot a source of satisfaction, even if the bindweed and the squirrels got the better of our efforts this year!

For a small village, so close to the community-less behemoth of London, there were quite a range of activities to get involved in community life and meet people, such as the school quiz, puppet church, village book club, the christmas party and the allotment show at the Memorial Hall. If it wasn't for these events we probably wouldn't be writing this article (!).

An unforeseen advantage we discovered was that both Heathrow and Gatwick are highly convenient – anyone else gone from customs queue to home in 1 hour? We have (just!).

Lastly, we mention the local nature walks of the canal towpath and heath. We are yet to come across an adder, but we've eaten many a wild blackberry and seen many jumping fish. Behind the cemetery silence, with occasional pops of gunfire, we have found Brookwood to be a far-from-sleepy village community that is both active and friendly.

Anesa and Jamie: thank you for this article. You have discovered what most incomers have also discovered, that Brookwood is a real hidden gem and, once you are involved in village life, it's very hard to leave.



WDBA

WORPLESDON & DISTRICT BRIDLEWAYS ASSOCIATION
www.wdba.org.uk

Bridleways and routes between Sheets Heath, Brookwood and Stafford Lake, Knaphill, restored by the Worplesdon and District Bridleways Association (WDBA), will be getting a further facelift in October with help from the Phoenix Explorer Scouts from the Runnymede District Scout Group. They will be rolling up their sleeves and getting their hands dirty alongside WDBA members.

If you would like to join us please come along between 10am and 4pm on Sunday 5th October. Around ten Scouts will join WDBA members in clearing drainage ditches which were created when the bridleways and routes were restored. The Scouts will also clear vegetation from along the stream and surrounding areas. The work they do is vital in order to keep the routes open to all users. This area floods easily and, by clearing the ditches/stream and removing surrounding vegetation, the flow of water will be maintained and flooding prevented.

OCTOBER DIARY DATES (also see the village website at www.brookwood.org.uk)

Sunday 5th October, 2pm. Geology walk, led by Di Smith, to look at the kind of stones used in memorials.

Sunday 2nd November,1.30pm. Military walk led by Paul Rason in the military cemetery.

For more information please contact The Brookwood Cemetery Society at **www.tbcs.org.uk.**

Would you like to sponsor a newsletter?

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in sponsoring the newsletter. Please contact us by email:

community@brookwood.org.uk

Deadline for copy for the November issue is 20th October 2014
Preferably by email to: community@brookwood.org.uk or telephone 01483 480273 or a note through the door of 78 Connaught Road.

Printed by Knaphill Print and delivered to your door by a very lovely person