

BROOKWOOD NEWS

December 2014

THE NEWSLETTER TEAM WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

EDITORIAL

This month we bring you items from further afield, which are particularly relevant to Remembrance Day and Brookwood. Some of the newsletter team were recently away together for a weekend in Devon and got talking to a man in a pub (as you do!). On hearing we came from Brookwood, he said he knew the cemetery, as a close friend of his had been killed in Afghanistan in 2009 while on duty there, and was buried near the American Cemetery. His friend, Major Sean Birchall, was killed whilst on patrol in Basharan, near Lashkar Gah, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. The man spoke of his close friendship with him, as they had trained together at Sandhurst, and what a wonderful leader he had been. He was involved in the reopening of a school at Lashkar Gah, when he was killed by a roadside bomb. On reading the commemoration details for this soldier on the MOD website, it really brings home the great sacrifice that these soldiers have made to try and make this world a better place. Two of our newsletter team set out to find the grave stone which is shown here.

Also in connection with remembrance day, the newsletter team received an interesting email from a cousin of Laura Dowton, Sondra Tilley Casse, who lives in Canada, an extract of which is printed below:-



During the war, my mum and her family, all lived in the Brookwood area and I have many happy memories of visiting this area. Recently, I received a package in the mail. On opening it I discovered plastic poppies and a letter from my Brookwood British friend and her husband, Wendy and Brian. The letter stated the following: "I am sending these poppies on behalf of Brookwood village to Canada. We have them on all our lamp posts and community buildings. They were put up to commemorate the centenary of World War I and will stay in place until 11th November. We also remember the part played by many Canadian servicemen." Wendy and Brian sent the poppies to me because my mother is a British war bride and, during the war, my father was stationed in Britain too. My husband and I were equally honoured to have received the poppies and display them in our town of Glencoe, Ontario, Canada. Our mayor welcomed the opportunity to help us attach the poppies to sites near our war memorial. Members from the local Royal Canadian Legion, including the current President, were also very pleased to assist us. Many years ago, Glencoe was originally settled by British pioneers, mostly Scottish immigrants. Not very long ago, I was told that the site which is now home to our local fairground was, during wartime, the site of a German POW camp. So, these 'Brookwood' poppies will hold a special place in our hearts as we remember our brave service men and women this November 11th, as we do every year, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. What a lovely gift you sent us. Thank you Wendy and Brian, and thank you Brookwood.

Sondra Tilley Sasse, a proud and grateful daughter of a Canadian WW II veteran and a British war bride.

Yvonne Craven

This month's issue of the newsletter is kindly sponsored by

BAKER'S DOZEN CAFÉ & POST OFFICE

The Baker's Dozen would like to thank all their customers for supporting them throughout 2014.
Our Christmas opening hours are:-

22 & 23 December	7.30am to 5.30pm	31 December	8am to 1pm
24 December	8am to 1pm	1 January 2015	CLOSED
25 & 26 December	CLOSED	2 January	normal opening hours resume (7.30am to 5.30pm)
27 December	8am to 2pm		
29 & 30 December	8am to 5.30pm		

Last posting date – 2nd class	18 December
Last posting date – 1st class	20 December

Pop in and pick up a leaflet for last posting dates abroad.
Don't forget to put your order in for bread, rolls and mince pies over the Christmas period.

NO MORE MUDDY WALKS!

If you have a dog, you probably know about this already. If not, you may be interested to know that the stretch of bridleway that joins Sheets Heath with Stafford Lake has now been improved and has just re-opened. Over recent years, this route became a quagmire and impassable by walkers and cyclists, but the Worplesdon & District Bridleways Association (WDBA), after two years of fundraising and volunteer work, have just completed a safe and accessible route for riders, walkers and cyclists alike. A new route for those who like to explore our local countryside. www.wdba.org.uk



BROOKWOOD TELEPHONE BOX

Just a reminder that Brookwood telephone box is available for anyone who wishes to create a display, advertise an event, or encourage members to an organisation. Kevin and Alan became custodians the telephone box when it was being taken out of operation a few years ago. They spent many hours restoring it, including painting the gold crown so that it can be used by the village. It was so attractive that, when they had finished, some individuals tried to steal it using a pick-up truck. If it hadn't been for the sharp eyes of a Brookwood Club member who challenged them, then it would no longer be a landmark of our village. So come on everyone, use your imagination and let's make more use of it. Contact Kevin Davis on 01483 48810 with your ideas.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES at ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

All welcome.

Sun 7 December	9.30am	Advent 20:20 Puppet Service
Sat 13 December	3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church (crafts & tea for all the family)
Sun 21 December	7.00pm	Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	3.30pm & 4.45pm	Crib Service with Puppets
	11.15pm	Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 28 December	10.30am	Family Communion

If anyone would like to receive Holy Communion at home over the Christmas period, please contact the church office, Monday-Friday 9am-1pm, 01483 473489

Future fund raising event: **24 January 2015, Winter Warmer Quiz**, St Saviour's Church
www.brookwoodchurch.co.uk

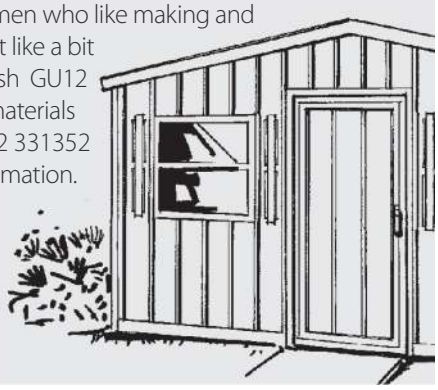
CHRISTMAS AT BROOKWOOD SCHOOL

A letter from Jo Green, Head Teacher

Excitement builds towards the festive season in school. Of course, we are still doing lots of work, but the rehearsals for the younger children's Christmas Production are well underway. This year it is called 'Baubles' and, as always, is a modern twist on the Nativity. We are inviting friends and the wider community to the production at 9am on Thursday 11 December. Call Mrs Cook in the office to book your seat, cost £2 for a programme. (01483 473315). We are also building up to the annual Christmas Fair at 3.15pm on Friday 5 December and, again, all are welcome. If you have a pre-school child who would like to visit Santa, it is by pre-booked appointment only. Mrs Cook will know if we have any spaces so give her a ring. As always, our children will perform Community Carols outside school at 1.30pm on the last day of term (Friday 19 December) with mulled juice and mince pies on offer. Finally, a reminder of all the ways you can help us out at school. We raise lots of money recycling your old clothes, shoes and textiles (e.g. curtains, duvet covers, sheets, towels). Drop off contributions just outside the car park gates at any time (tied up in bags). We can collect if it helps. We can also recycle your unwanted gifts through our raffles and tombolas. If you have anything new that you could pass on, please drop it into school. Things of value become 'Star Raffle Prizes', so don't hold back! We very much hope to see many of you in and around school in the near future. If you always wanted to know what happens our side of the doors, please let us know. I would be delighted to show you around by appointment.

JOIN OUR SHED

In the early 1990s at an Australian Health Conference, it was identified that retired men had little opportunity for getting together and socialising and that doing so helps their health and well-being, as well as being somewhere to learn new skills. Since then, shed clubs have grown worldwide. Initiated by Age UK, the shed club is for men who like making and repairing stuff, trying out new skills or who would just like a bit of company. A local one is held at Shawfield Road, Ash GU12 6QX. There is no charge but contributions towards materials are always welcome. Contact 07722 753074 / 01252 331352 or email: john.fairs@ageuksurrey.org.uk for more information.



CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Cubs and Scouts will be collecting 'real' trees for recycling on the morning of Saturday 10 January 2015. If you would like your tree to be collected, please call Nick Gair, Group Scout Leader, 07900 902916, or email nick gair@yahoo.co.uk, to book a slot.
Only trees that have been booked will be collected. A small donation would be appreciated to cover costs – fill in the form below to gift aid your donation (suggested amount £3) and leave it with your tree on the day. Any profits will go to 1st Brookwood Scout Group Funds.

I enclose £ _____ as my donation to 1st Brookwood Scout Group.

Name: _____

Address: _____

If you currently pay UK tax, sign below and the Scouts will receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate at no cost to you.

GIFT AID DECLARATION: I would like 1st Brookwood Scout Group to reclaim tax on all qualifying donations made this year or 4 years prior to this year. I confirm that I am a UK tax payer and have paid UK income tax or capital gains equal to the tax reclaimed by the charity on the donation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SOME BROOKWOOD BABIES BORN 2014

Jessica Rodgers
born 28 February

Jasper Thomas Cummins
born 4 July

Jessica Vera Watson
born 18 July

Olivia Jane Pickett
born 19 July

Isla Diane Slade
born 23 July

Isabel Niamh Daly
born 27 August

If you would like to announce your baby's birth to the village let us know.

CAROL SERVICE IN AID OF AGE UK

There will be a carol service held at Guildford Cathedral on Friday 19 December at 2pm, with Jonathan Veira as guest reader, Soloist Jane Searle, Surrey Cantata Choir and Rydes Hill Preparatory School Choir. Free entry and no booking is required but donations welcome in aid of Age UK Surrey.

LADIES' FITNESS CLASSES

Mondays 7 to 8pm,
St Saviour's Church Hall

Improve your fitness, flexibility, co-ordination and balance at this established class.

Only £5 per class, pay as you go.
Classes running until 15th December and begin again after Christmas on 12th January 2015. Come and join us!
For more information contact :
Gabriele Schwan 07881 236363

VILLAGE DIARY FOR DECEMBER

Also see the village website at www.brookwood.org.uk

Friday 5 December, 3.15 to 5.30pm
Brookwood School Christmas Fair.

Saturday 6 December, 8pm
Prize Bingo at Brookwood Club. Tickets on sale from 8pm, with 'eyes down' at 8.30pm.

Thursday 11 December, 9am
Brookwood School 'Baubles' Production. Tickets from school office 01483 473315.

Friday 12 December, 7pm
Village Christmas Tree Charity Event at Brookwood Club, with the Bisley Band, local singers and hot refreshments.

Friday 19 December, 1.30pm
Christmas Carols at the School to raise money for Childline.

Sunday 21 December, 7pm
Candlelit Carol Service, St Saviour's Church (see separate list for other Christmas services).

Saturday 10 January
Christmas Tree collection by Scouts for recycling (by arrangement only).

KEVIN'S COMMENTS



Thank you to everyone for the generous donations to the Poppy Appeal. The grand total for the 14 boxes throughout the village came to a brilliant £304.37.

Bin collection
Don't forget the change of day over the Christmas period:

Saturday 27 December (Blue)

Saturday 3 January (Black)

Friday 9 January (Blue)

No garden waste collection for 2 weeks from 22 December

Collections resume as normal on 8 January



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 the January issue is 20 December

Preferably by email to: community@brookwood.org.uk or telephone 01483 480273 or a note through the door of 78 Connaught Road.

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