

BROOKWOOD NEWS

July 2015

EDITORIAL

This is my first time as editor of the Newsletter. I had intended to use this editorial to tell you about what an interesting place Brookwood is to live. However, there have been so many happy, sad and serious items submitted this month that I thought it was more important to squeeze in as many as possible. I hope you find them interesting and useful.

John Power



AGGRESSIVE DOORSTEP SALES

We have heard that there have been some men trying to sell on the doorstep in the village who are quite intimidating. Please be careful who you open your door to, and if you have any concerns call Surrey Police on 101 at the time of any incident or as soon as possible afterwards.

100 YEARS OF THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Royal celebrations

2015 is the Centenary Year of the WI in England and Wales. Kath Brooks tells us that she was lucky enough to be chosen to represent Brookwood WI at the Centenary Garden Party held at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday 2 June. Two military bands provided the entertainment while afternoon tea was served, and the Duchess of Cornwall, the Countess of Wessex, the Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Alexandra mingled with the 8,000 members who had travelled from all over the country.

In addition, Ann Huggett represented Brookwood WI at the Centenary AGM, held at the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday 4 June where the Queen was present.

Afternoon Tea at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 5 September from 2.30pm

There will be more centenary celebrations later in the year when Brookwood WI hold an Afternoon Tea. This is open to anyone who would like to join them at this special time. Tickets are £5 per person and are available from Mary Cook (82 Connaught Crescent), Jean Gable (38 Connaught Crescent) and Maureen Gray (18 Heath Drive).

It will be a super homemade tea with delicious sandwiches, scones and cakes. There will be a raffle and any profit from the afternoon will be divided between the Brookwood Newsletter and BAN (Brookwood Assisting Neighbours).



LOCAL HOSPITALS: THE INSIDE STORY

Lord Pirbright's Hall, Wednesday 9 September, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start

Have you ever wondered about the 'inside story' of our local hospitals? If you have, why not spend an evening with the Friends of Pirbright Surgery and their specially invited speakers? Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available on arrival.

The speakers will include Sir Andrew Morris, Chief Executive of Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust, Nick Moberly, Chief Executive of the Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and Valerie Bartlett, Deputy Chief Executive of Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. They will explain the financial constraints, achievements and future plans for their respective hospitals, followed by a question and answer session.

This should be an interesting, informative and engaging evening so please note the date in your diary and make sure you attend if you can – you won't regret it! If you have any questions please contact Charles Stewart, Chairman of FoPS, on 01483 474992.

BARBARA GRAVES, 1928–2015

Maureen Gray, a friend and neighbour of Barbara Graves, has provided this lovely tribute about Barbara who sadly passed away at the end of May.

'Barbara moved to Brookwood with her husband Fred when Heath Drive was first built. They had two children, Sally and Philip (Pip). She was devoted to her family which eventually grew to include grandchildren and great grandchildren. For many years Barbara worked at Brookwood School serving lunches to the children. As a neighbour and friend Barbara was one of the best, and one year won the best neighbour award. She was always cheerful and rarely complained. Barbara was both a valued long-standing member of Brookwood WI, serving on the committee and organising many enjoyable outings, and a producer for Pirbright WI market selling her renowned sponge and fruit cakes. Barbara also helped the local visually impaired group, as a sighted helper, at their craft meetings and on their holidays.

Fred died many years ago and sadly Sally died last year. Barbara spent her last two years in the Kingsclear Nursing home in Camberley.'



CANAL CAPERS

Duckling watch

Following on from last month's sighting of three ducklings on the canal, a further eight have been spotted in the last couple of weeks. They are being closely watched by a very aggressive mother! We haven't had any photographs yet so get out there with your cameras and let's see if we can have a picture or two of some ducklings in next month's edition.

Timber!

On Tuesday 9 June a tree came down by the canal completely blocking Sheets Heath Bridge. Neighbours were soon out with saws and had the bridge reopened, and the Council then sent tree surgeons who finished the job.



CRICKET

Brookwood Cricket Club is looking for new players. They play every Sunday and welcome all ages (from 16 upwards) and abilities. They only play friendly games with local villages so the emphasis is very much on the social side. If you are interested in playing, please contact Adrian on 07909 873187.

REMIX VOICES AND CHOIR REMIX

Electric Theatre, Guildford, from Wednesday 8 to Friday 10 July

Choir Remix is a mixed voice choir which includes at least four Brookwood residents. The choir of about 80 people will be performing Choir Magic, a concert of popular upbeat songs and ballads from the 60s to the present day. Tickets are £12.50 (£11 concessions), available from the Electric Theatre Box Office on 01483 444789 or online. The music starts at 8pm each night.

BROOKWOOD FAIR

We were delighted to welcome one and all to the Brookwood Fair, held at Brookwood School on Saturday 13 June. This year it really felt like the whole community came together on this warm (if not particularly sunny) afternoon. Held at the end of the school's Art Week, the fair started with an Art Attack where the children recreated the school logo out of items scavenged from around school – including our famous Hi-Viz jackets and the teachers' coats! They also sang a rousing rendition of a favourite song 'We're So Proud of Our School'. The art theme continued with an exhibition of children's work, the Brookwood Art Group display and sale, and an opportunity for people to have their portrait drawn. Councillor Kevin Davis is arranging for some of the children's work to be on display for a few weeks in the telephone box Art Gallery near the station.



We welcomed The Winston Churchill School Session Band for the first time this year – a brilliant group of talented students who entertained us twice during the afternoon – and very much hope they will come again in the future. As is tradition, Messy Church attended, bringing their 20:20 Puppets for a show, the WI (who won the Best Dressed Stall Award this year) celebrated their centenary with us, St Saviour's Pre-School had a stall, and the Scouts supplemented their ever-popular crockery smash with a candy floss stall. Two 'Army Dads' designed and ran an assault course which was very popular with the children.



The Brookwood Club were ever-generous in manning the beer tent all afternoon and raising £375 for us; it looks like the local beer on offer went down very well! Brookwood Sainsbury's allowed the school space to sell raffle tickets and ticket sales were further boosted with help from the St Saviour's congregation. Fulks' finest meats were served from the barbecue and many other local businesses supported the Fair by donating raffle prizes. Friends of Brookwood School (FOBS) ran the event smoothly and efficiently.



I would like to thank everyone who donated, helped and attended the Fair. Your collective generosity raised an astonishing £4,195.71, which will be spent very wisely on things to make the children's learning even better. Thank you.

Jo Green, Head Teacher of Brookwood School

SPEEDING CONCERNS

A letter from a Connaught Road resident

'In the last 6 years of living on the road the number of vehicles speeding has increased significantly, and this has become a dangerous road for all who live here. What concerns me most is that people speeding along the road have no due care or attention to the fact there is a school on this road and some use as it their own personal race track.

One of the main problems I believe is that Connaught Road has become more of a through-road for people travelling to work towards Frimley, Bagshot and beyond, and they have no connection or care when driving through Brookwood. I regularly see cars speeding through here at above 40mph with the bumps not deterring many people. The motorbikes on a weekend and cars with interesting exhaust sounds are of particular concern speeding through.

I contacted the council 2 years ago and asked about speed restriction signage, and I was told there wasn't any budget available. I contacted the police who sent a speed camera and sat for 2 hours at 11am on a week day and then said there is no problem. But there is, and it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously hurt or killed.

We need to ensure that all motorists, not just those passing through, respect the 30mph limit through the village as they may have missed the one sign we have telling them that. Maybe we could start a petition to put to the council or police?'

We have passed the letter on to Kevin Davis who will be writing an article in the August edition of the Newsletter with an update on action he has been investigating to address speeding and traffic concerns in Brookwood.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

Important news from Kevin Davis, our local Councillor

'Woking Borough Council has published its suggestions for the delivery of future housing across the borough. This has been a lengthy process spanning over two years. There now follows a six-week consultation process which began on 18 June 2015. The proposals affect Brookwood and it is imperative that as many people as possible respond. The next 25 years of development will be influenced by the next few months.

In Brookwood, proposals suggest that Coblands and Five Acres will be taken out of the Green Belt, which I support. Coblands is earmarked for 37 homes and Five Acres subject to an expansion of over 50%. I have concerns over how the officers have reached their conclusions and will be responding to the consultation.

You can download the documents from http://www.woking2027.info. The proposals affecting Brookwood are referenced by GB1, GB2 and GB3 from Section B. It should be obvious when you reach the site, but if not please contact me on 01483 488109 or preferably email me at cllrkevin.davis@woking.gov.uk. My approach can be read at http://www.windowonwoking.org.uk/sites/cllr.kevindavis.

This really falls into the category of 'speak now or forever hold your peace'.



Singing lessons in Brookwood with teacher from West End, has spaces available.

www.nlstuition.com for more information or call Nathan Lubbock-Smith on 07818 060 365

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

3 July Italian Night, from 7 pm, at Brookwood Club. Fresh DIY pizzas on sale, with all profits going to Woking Hospice.

4 July Bingo, 8pm for 'eyes down' at 8.30pm, at Brookwood Club. Everybody, including non-members, welcome to these 'first Saturday' cash bingo evenings where you can get six books for £5.

5 July Brookwood Cemetery Open Day, from 2pm. Members of the society will be available to highlight the history, notable monuments and memorials within the cemetery. Refreshments available. Meet at the Glades of Remembrance car park.

8–10 July Choir Magic, 8pm, Electric Theatre, Guildford.

19 July East Clandon Walk arranged by Brookwood Club, from 10.45am. Please sign up in the bar if you are interested in this walk of around four miles through stunning Surrey countryside. Meet at the Club, wear sensible footwear, and bring a drink and snack for the walk. Accompanied children and dogs are also welcome.

26 July Rustic Sunday at the Rural Life Centre in Farnham. A family day out with country crafts, country musicians and the ambience of a vanished way of life, plus a market selling local produce.

Would you like to sponsor a newsletter, or advertise?

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in sponsoring the newsletter. The cost is £100 per edition with a mention and acknowledgement on the front page. Adverts are £25 for an ⅛ page, or £45 for ¼ page. For more information on advertising please contact us on community@brookwood.org.uk.

Deadline for the August issue is 20 July 2015

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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