

BROOKWOOD NEWS

October 2015

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the October issue of the Brookwood newsletter. With autumn on its way it's time to look back on those hot long days of summer. Apparently summer happened in the last week of June and the first week of July. Unfortunately I was out of the country at the time and missed the whole event. The wet weather, however, has been good for the local vegetation and there has been a good crop of berries and nuts this year for the wildlife to fatten up on. It has been a really good year for sloes and my sloe gin is coming on nicely for Christmas. If you have never tried making it before I have added a recipe below.

Ingredients

- 450g/1lb sloes
- 225g/8oz caster sugar
- 1 litre/1¾ pint gin

Preparation method

1. Prick the tough skin of the sloes all over with a clean needle and put in a large sterilised jar.
2. Pour in the sugar and the gin, seal tightly and shake well.
3. Store in a cool, dark cupboard and shake every other day for a week. Then shake once a week for at least two months.
4. Strain the sloe gin through muslin into a sterilised bottle.

Graham Hunt

WI AFTERNOON TEA

The Women's Institute (WI) is celebrating its centenary this year. The WI was formed in 1915 to revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War. Since then the organisation's aims have broadened and the WI is now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK with 212,000 members in around 6,600 WI groups.
The ladies of the Brookwood WI celebrated this milestone by holding a tea party in the Memorial Hall. The event was well attended with a mix of old and new faces from the village, and it was estimated that over 85 people turned up to enjoy the array of homemade cakes, scones, biscuits and sandwiches. All funds raised from the event will be distributed to local charities and organisations.

Thank you ladies for all your hard work.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE [DEPARTING] VICAR



Nick Grew writes…

I've been vicar of Brookwood since 1 April 2000 when it became part of the parish with Knaphill. Over these 15 years it has been an honour and delight to serve in St Saviour's church and get to know something of the unique community that fills this village. However, my time as Vicar here is now drawing to a close as I will be moving to Luton in November where I will be installed as Vicar to the parish of St Francis.

During my time here St Saviour's building has celebrated its centenary (2009) and had a major makeover (2014) to render it more relevant and useful to the village. By these means we seek to show that the church community continues to exist with a heart to serve Jesus and our neighbours in this village. For example, the church community is involved in Open the Book Assemblies in the school, Youth Café after school, and Friday morning coffee. As well as Messy and 20:20 (puppet) Church, we're just starting a Café Church on the third Sunday of the month. Do look out for advertisements and invitations.

Specific events coming up are Remembrance in the Memorial Hall (8 November), Stormy Waters band performing in St Saviour's (21 November) and Candlelit Carol Service (20 December).

As we move on we are glad to have had the opportunity to serve here and positive that the church will play an important role in the future strength and quality of the Brookwood community.

On behalf of the community I would like to say a big thanks to Nick and his wife Christine for all their hard work and commitment over the years, and to wish them all the best for the future. You will both be greatly missed.



WHAT, NO BUTCHER?

Fulks has long been one of the core businesses in this village, so many residents were distressed to learn of the closure during September. It is very strange for the shop to be shut and sad to know that Tony Ward was in hospital, but equally, good to know he is back now and feeling better. Perhaps it is a good moment to remember how lucky we are to have such a good butcher and give him a wave next time you are passing.

1ST BROOKWOOD SCOUT GROUP QUIZ NIGHT

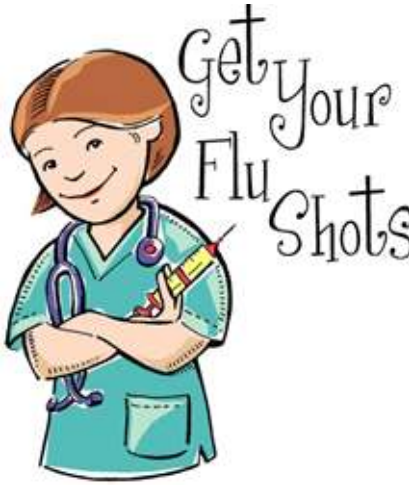
Saturday 17 October, 7.30pm for 8pm kick-off at Brookwood Memorial Hall

Teams of up to 8 people(ish!). Curry or ploughman's lunch available. Bring your own bottle. On the door, or in advance – £10/head.

Please let Nick Gair know about numbers/tables/teams in advance, so we have some idea of numbers for food etc., on 07900 902916, or nick_gair@yahoo.co.uk.

PIRBRIGHT SURGERY

Pirbright Surgery will be running a Flu Clinic at Pirbright Village Hall on Saturday 17 October from 10am to 12noon. Drop-in times will be done by surname: A–K will be 9–10am and L–Z from 11am to 12 noon.



BROOKWOOD ON THE AIR

Two Amateur (HAM) Radio Stations were active for Brookwood on the Air on Saturday 12 September at St Saviour's church and Ofcom granted a special call-sign GB4STS for the day. We were very fortunate to have Peter M0URL, an ex-Merchant Navy Radio Officer giving a superb live demonstration of Morse code communications, still in use in this century!

Radio propagation conditions were not very helpful on the day (sunspot activity) and, although a number of Russian stations were heard, the furthest two-way contact (QSO) was with Zola HG30CW in Hungary at a distance of nearly 1,500km, all in Morse code! Continental QSOs included France and Germany. Closer to home, we had a brief conversation with the National Trust at Polesden Lacy.

A number of youngsters tried their hand at a Morse Mouse computer game (usually beating parents) and sending messages using Morse code practice keys. One resident brought in a Meccano Morse key he made about 25 years ago, which he showed was still working, and walkie talkies were seen clasped in earnest young hands striding purposefully around the church.

Also on display was a large screen showing live aircraft movements in the South East as seen by Air Traffic Controllers using secondary radar signals (ADSB). This was augmented with an air-band radio feed from Farnborough Airport. A group of young boys thought this was fascinating and helpfully repeated the initial explanations to any new visitor...

A Raspberry Pi computer (credit card sized) showed a global map screen with tracks of radio satellites and the International Space Station. Cutting edge technology in the form of Software Defined Radio (SDR) was ably explained by Dave Lugton. Speaking to visitors, the common theme was 'I didn't know there was so much in radio!'

Special thanks for the primary trailer mast loaned from Simon G7HHI Woking Radio Mast Hire and secondary mast loaned from Chris 2E0FCL Farnborough Communications.

Comment for the day: for a hobby that includes the word 'wireless', there is a lot of cable involved!





NEWS FROM BROOKWOOD CLUB

There will be no bingo in October due to Rugby World Cup matches, so our next regular cash bingo evening is on Saturday 14 November, 8pm for 'eyes down' at 8.30pm. £1 per book. Everybody welcome, including non-members. Please note the change of date.

Come along to our Rugby World Cup Bonanza on Saturday 10 October. We will be showing all three matches from noon, plus a Charity BBQ from 5pm. All welcome.

Don't miss our fantastic Halloween Party on Saturday 31 October, with Gas Man Disco from 8pm. Fancy dress optional! All welcome.

Look out for our new website that is soon to be launched – see www.brookwood.club for the latest information on club events. Please enquire at the bar if you are interested in joining your village social club.

LETTERS FROM THE VILLAGE

Firstly I'd like to say thank you on behalf of my husband and I for the great work the team does with our local newsletter. We always find it an interesting and useful read.

I guess my writing this email is to lend support in a) the through traffic using our village as somewhat of a speedway at times and b) regarding the entrance and exit to our village station.

We are residents of Brookwood and have been since 2009. Our son went to Brookwood School and now attends Winston. We love it here and are very happily settled with no plans to move in the near or far future. Like many residents we have a great and genuine affection for our village and its surroundings.

The thing that does trouble us though is the amount of traffic that goes through our village; some mornings it can be a terrible pain to get in and out of our own driveway, I have even been beeped at for slowing to turn into my own driveway! Many drivers do not adhere to the speed limit and drive incredibly fast, regardless of it being residential and with the so called (poor excuse for) speed bumps. I think it is fair to say it is only a matter of time before a serious injury occurs. And sadly this will most likely involve a resident of Brookwood at the hands of someone who has little or no care for our village, our residents or the law of the road.

With regards to the entrance and exit of the station, I have had a few near misses myself. Either driving through the village with commuters either edging out (because they can't actually see) or those who couldn't care less and pull out anyway and be damned the consequences. Occasionally I will drop my husband to the station if the weather is particularly poor and not only is there a problem with motorists but bicycles too. Several times upon exiting the station they have swung round the corner to enter the station via the exit. This is not only unbelievably stupid and selfish but incredibly dangerous. Only last week I nearly collided with a fellow who zoomed around the bend and narrowly missed me. When I pointed out it was in fact an exit I was met with a rather nasty reaction from said fellow.

I wouldn't mind so much if the commuters who choose to use our village station would use it and our village with respect. As should through traffic. It's not their children walking through our village and crossing its roads yet it is our children, our residents who are put in danger by the thoughtless and wreckless driving of others.

My family would most certainly support any plans to make Brookwood a safer and a slower village.

Rachel & Paul Robbins

Rachel many thanks for your letter and kind words for the newsletter team. The traffic situation in the village seems to be a regular theme over the last year and I know that councillor Kevin Davies is working hard on the village's behalf regarding these problems. If anyone else has had a similar problem or incident that you would like us to pass on please contact us via community@brookwood.org.uk.

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

4 October Brookwood Cemetery. A military lecture and walk by Geoff Simpson. To be held at the former catholic chapel. Walk starts at 2pm.

5 October 20:20 Puppet Service, St Saviours, 9.30am. (For all ages)

17 October Brookwood Scouts Quiz Night, 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

18 October Café Church at St Saviours, 10.30am. (A new informal service for all ages)

31 October Halloween Party at Brookwood Club, from 8pm. All welcome.

1 November Brookwood Cemetery boundary walks. Led by Barry Devonshire. Walk starts at 1.30pm from the entrance to the Glades of Remembrance.



Would you like to advertise in the newsletter?

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 November issue is 20 October 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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