VANDALISM ON THE CANAL

It's lovely to have a garden which backs onto the canal, but we returned from holiday on Friday (19 August) to find that we'd had some very unwelcome intruders. Vandals had come into the garden and stolen the rowing boat that we keep tied up next to the water. They took it a few hundred metres down the canal, then smashed a hole in it, turned it over and tried to sink it. I found it capsized and half-submerged in the middle of the channel. Our friends in the village say they spotted 'kids in hoodies' on the boat on Tuesday (16 August) and called the Police, but I'm not aware of any arrests. I have since retrieved the boat and will have to now try to make some repairs to it. I've also strengthened the perimeter fencing to try to prevent any repeat of the intrusion into our garden.

Meanwhile, please can residents keep a watchful eye out for such vandals and report any suspicious activity to the Police.

KIDS' LIBRARY

On a happier note, the new Kids' Library has opened in Heath Drive. This is a fantastic concept and well worth a visit.

VILLAGE WHIST DRIVE

For anyone who enjoys a game of cards, are you aware that a Whist Drive is held in the Small Memorial Hall on the first Friday of the month at 7.30pm. Charge is £2.00. For further details, telephone 01483 831143. Next Whist Drive is Friday 2 September.



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

Saturday 3 September	Cash Bingo evening at Brookwood Club, 8pm for eyes down at 8.30
Sunday 4 September	20:20 Puppet Service at St Saviour's, 10.30am
Saturday 10 September	Messy Church at St Saviour's, 3.30 to 5.30pm
Wednesday 14 September	Friends of Pirbright Surgery Open Meeting, Lord Pirbright's Hall, 7 for 7.30pm
Saturday 17 September	Celtic Evening at St Saviour's, 7.30pm
Saturday 24 September	Testimonial event at Brookwood Club, BBQ from 6pm, music from 8.30pm
Sunday 25 September	Café Church at St Saviour's, 10.30am
Tuesday 27 September	AGM of Neighbourhood Forum, St Saviour's Church Hall, 7.30pm
Friday 30 September	Macmillan Coffee Morning, St Saviour's Church, 10am to 12 noon
Friday 30 September	Macmillan Afternoon Tea and Cakes and Fizz, Brookwood Club, 2 to 5pm
Saturday 1 October	Harvest Supper at St Saviour's, 7pm
Sunday 2 October	20:20 Puppet Service at St Saviour's, 10.30am

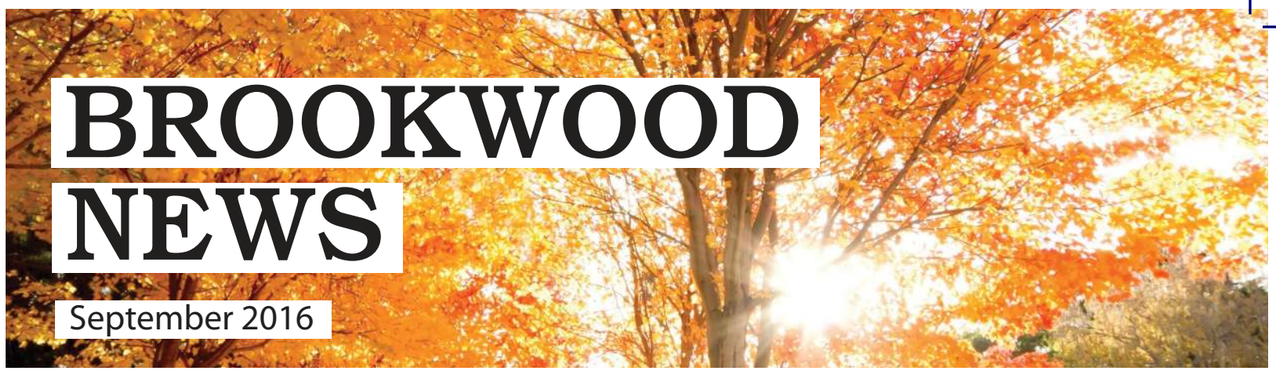
Would you like to advertise in the newsletter?

Adverts are £25 for an 1/8 page advert or £45 for ¼ page. For more information on advertising please contact us on community@brookwood.org.uk

Deadline for copy for the next issue is the 20th of this month,

preferably by e-mail 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



BROOKWOOD NEWS

September 2016

EDITORIAL



Welcome to the September issue of the Brookwood newsletter. Things have quietened down a bit in the village after the summer events around the Queen's birthday. There doesn't seem to be much activity on the old Wesson site. However, the station improvements seem to be nearing completion (more on that later).

There has been a fair bit of movement on the canal over the summer. I have seen a number of barges going up and down through the Brookwood stretch, and reports of more to come. Some of this was tied into the Woking Canal Festival. If anyone has any pictures please forward them to us (community@brookwood.org.uk).

Now the evenings are starting to draw in it's a great time for any budding or ageing naturalist to get out and do a bit of bat spotting. The canal and ponds on the heath provide bats with the water to rehydrate – and they also attract midges and other flying insects, which congregate in their thousands and provide a ready feast for bats. The trees on the woodland's edge and their associated shrubbery attract a wide variety of insects for bats to prey on as well. These open linear stretches allow the bats to feed safely and travel between roosts. They're a bit like a bat motorway and service station.

More good news on the wildlife front – the young swift that was rescued and reported in last month's newsletter was successfully released last week from the animal hospital in Leatherhead.

Graham Hunt – Editor

SKATESTATION

There's a new shop in the village. SkateStation has moved into a new showroom next door to the car wash. They have had a warehouse on the site for a number of years and have now merged the two. They specialise in skates for skate hockey but have a wide range of stock for all ages.

FRIENDS OF PIRBRIGHT SURGERY

The Friends of Pirbright Surgery, in partnership with North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group, invite you to this year's Open Meeting – 'Mental Health and Dementia', at 7 for 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 September in Lord Pirbright's Hall. This is a rare opportunity to hear a line-up of specialist speakers on this subject, enabling you to enhance your knowledge and understanding of these important issues, together with specialist advice on encouraging and supporting individuals to achieve better health and well-being outcomes. The meeting will be supported by displays and advice stalls and is open to everyone – not just patients of the Pirbright Practice.

Charles Stewart, Chairman

IN–OUT–IN–OUT TURN IT ALL ABOUT



It's all change at the station. The long planned improvements to the entrance and exit at the station have now been put in place. This has led to some confusion and a number of bewildered drivers going round in circles. However, a very helpful young man named Mohamhud has been stationed (excuse the pun) at the entrance from 07.30am to 4pm to help ease the situation.

Seymours. Successfully selling houses in Brookwood.

Interested in finding out what your property is worth?
Contact **Andrew** or **Simon** on **01483 798969**
to arrange a **FREE, no obligation valuation**.

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Independent Estate Agents

A CELTIC EVENING AT ST SAVIOUR'S
Saturday 17 September, 7.30pm



Siobhan Owen, a young professional Celtic singer and harpist from Australia, is performing with the local Octavian Singers. Born in Wales, but brought up in Australia, Siobhan has recently been performing throughout Europe.

A classically trained singer from the age of 9, she started performing Celtic songs aged 12 and added harp to the mix 3 years later. Siobhan has won awards for both her classical and Celtic singing, and has released 5 CDs, including her award-winning 'Storybook Journey' and her latest album 'Entwined'.

Also, don't forget to book your table for the Harvest Supper on Saturday 1 October, 7pm, when opera singer, Lizzie Fulleylove, will be entertaining us between courses. Tickets £10. For further information, please contact Yvonne Craven (yvonne.brookwood@gmail.com, or 01483 480273).

TESTIMONIAL

John Moore, a well known village local, sadly passed away in Woking Hospice on Wednesday 6 July surrounded by his loving family. He was a beloved husband, father and wonderful friend to all who had the honour of his company. John was a Brookwood man through and through after living in the village for over 40 years, installing bathrooms in the majority of Brookwood homes, drinking in the Club and moaning about Connaught Road traffic like the rest of us. John was wonderfully caring and loving to his family and friends, unconditionally generous, diligent and a perfectionist in all he did in life. But by far and away his greatest quality of all was his warm, friendly, humorous and infectious personality. He touched so many people's hearts and you'd only need to spend a few minutes in his company to realise how special he was. His gentle nature and wonderful smile left all who met him in awe and admiration. John was courageous in his fight, and the one thing he had in abundance was humour and he made sure we all had a smile on our face cherishing the moments we had with him. In amongst all the grief and sorrow John would want us all to see the brightness of his life and to remember the good times and wonderful memories he made with those lucky enough to know him. John and the whole of the family were cared for brilliantly by the amazing team at Woking Hospice. In light of this there will be a fundraiser for the Hospice and memorial night for John at Brookwood Club on Saturday 24 September. Hopefully you can join us to enjoy a drink and share your memories of John.

You may have left this world behind, but you will never leave our hearts and mind.



NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BROOKWOOD & BRIDLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

The AGM of the Neighbourhood Forum will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 27 September 2016 in St Saviour's Church Hall, Connaught Rd, Brookwood GU24 0AS. Our local Councillor, Kevin Davis, will be attending and available to advise on current hot topics. Please do attend if you are able to do so (there will be refreshments). A copy of the Agenda for the meeting will be posted on the Forum's website (www.bbnf.org.uk). Any questions can be emailed to chair@bbnf.org.uk before the AGM.

BROOKWOOD CLUB

Please note that the Club will be open from 1pm on Bank Holiday Monday, 29 August.

Our next regular Cash Bingo evening is on Saturday 3 September, 8pm for 'eyes down' at 8.30pm. £1 per book. Everybody welcome, including non-members.

We will be holding a testimonial event on Saturday 24 September in memory of John Moore, with a charity BBQ for Woking Hospice from 6pm, and music by Irish band Foxy and Friends from 8.30pm until late. Everybody welcome, including non-members.

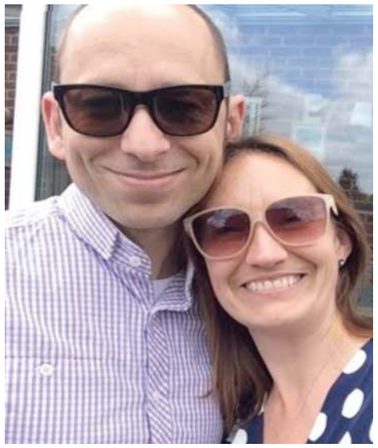
Do join us for our Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising event on Friday 30 September. We shall be offering coffee and cake or cream teas with Prosecco at the Club from 2pm until 5pm. Everybody welcome, including children and non-members!

Please enquire at the bar if you are interested in joining your village social club.

NEW VICAR

As you may already be aware, the Rev Nick Grew was called to a new Parish in Luton last November and, since then, Holy Trinity with St Saviour's Church has been without a vicar. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that we announce that a new appointment has been made. Neil Hopkins, a former curate at Highfield Church in Southampton, will be installed as vicar at our church on Wednesday 7 September.

Neil and his wife Jules have three children, and will aim to get involved in local life. They have great enthusiasm for developing stronger relationships with our community, as our church family in Knaphill and Brookwood has existing strong connections with the schools in Knaphill and Brookwood, and Neil is excited about building on those in the years ahead.



Holy Trinity and St Saviour's Church members are really excited about what God has in store for the Parish, and we are all very much looking forward to September and the beginning of a new era in our Parish.



BROOKWOOD SUPPORTING MACMILLAN

As usual in the village we don't do things by half. There will be two events on Friday 30 September to support the Macmillan coffee morning fundraiser. The first event is a Coffee Morning at St Saviour's church, 10am to 12 noon. This will be followed by Afternoon Tea and Cake and Fizz at the Brookwood Club, 2 to 5pm. All welcome to both events. Please come and join us in supporting such a good cause.



The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer. We ask people all over the UK to host their own Coffee Mornings and donations on the day are made to Macmillan. Last year alone we raised £25 million and this year we are aiming to raise even more.

The first ever Coffee Morning happened way back in 1990. It was a rather small affair with a simple idea: guests would gather over coffee and donate the cost of their cuppa to Macmillan in the process. It was so effective, we did it again the next year – only this time nationally. Since then, Coffee Morning has raised over £138 million for Macmillan.

Guitar Lessons!



Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced students welcome. Rock, Blues, Pop, Jazz & Classical. 10 years West End and touring experience. Learn new techniques. Learn your favourite songs. Learn to read music. Learn Grades.

Call or email for more information!
Christian Sutherland BMus Hons
07956419870
sutherlandcf@googlemail.com