

BROOKWOOD NEWS

December 2017

WILDLIFE CALENDAR 2018

Our gifted wildlife photographer, Thinesh, has produced a stunning wildlife calendar for 2018, including pictures of one of the Brookwood barn owls and a cormorant on the canal. The calendar is available for £15 from Thinesh at Brookwood Food and Wine or by email (thinessh@yahoo.com). He has kindly donated one to Brookwood School and the Memorial Hall. If you can't get to the shop, Thinesh will deliver, but supplies are limited. The calendars will make lovely Christmas presents!



FOOD BANK IS STOCKING UP



Jon Andrews from Radio Woking, Trudi Fletcher, Penny Collyer, Keri Riches, Mandi Parish and Shaun Roker

Trudi Fletcher has been collecting for Woking food bank since last month and has been delighted at the huge response so far. She publicised the collection in last month's newsletter and was also interviewed by Radio Woking (based at Winston Churchill School). Donations can be taken to her house (which is filling up fast), to the Baker's Dozen, or she can collect the food from you if you send her an email (trudi.fletcher@rocketmail.com). Hurry though, the deadline is 7 December, as Trudi will be arranging for everything to go to the food bank to be distributed between families in the Woking area. Well done Trudi and her helpers, and many thanks to all who have donated so far.

EDITORIAL *Yvonne Craven – Editor*

There have been some amazing things happening in Brookwood over the past month. Read about the generosity of local people for Woking food bank, marvel at the talent of a local wildlife photographer and visiting performers, and discover how many things will be happening in Brookwood this Christmas that you can join in with. Keep the village diary dates to hand so that you don't miss out on carol singing, fairs, special church services and the Christmas tree illuminations event.

The Brookwood News team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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CHRISTMAS SCOUTING ACTIVITIES

1st Brookwood Scouts will be carol singing at Brookwood station in the evening on Friday 15 December. The collection is in aid of Woking Hospice, so please support them if you are passing.

They will again be collecting Christmas trees for recycling. This year it will be on the morning of Sunday 7 January. Please look out for the flyer and use the gift aid form if possible. Advance requests can be emailed to gsl@brookwoodscouts.org.uk.

Brookwood Scouts is for boys and girls from ages 6 to 14 and enthusiastic adults of any age. For details of how to get involved please visit www.brookwoodscouts.org.uk.

1st Brookwood Scouts would like to thank all the villagers for their support throughout the year and wish them a very Happy Christmas.

BABY JUNE



Brookwood News would like to announce the arrival of June Rose Cummins, daughter of Rob and Jennifer, who was born on 24 July 2017. Congratulations to the proud parents!

A MOVING PARADE



Beavers, Cubs and Scouts preparing to join the Remembrance parade

There was a big turnout for Remembrance Sunday on 12 November, when the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts joined the Army, Brookwood School children and parents, and local residents in Brookwood Military Cemetery. There was a moving service to commemorate this day, while others attended the service at St Saviour's Church.

LAST POSTING DATES

A reminder from Shaun at the Post Office that you need to get those cards written and parcels wrapped soon. Pick up a leaflet from the Post Office for more details. Meanwhile, here are some of the latest recommended posting dates:

International

Weds 6 December	Cyprus, Malta, Asia, some Eastern Europe
Thurs 7 December	Caribbean, Central & South America
Sat 9 December	Greece, Turkey, Australia, New Zealand
Weds 13 December	Czech Repub., Germany, Italy, Poland
Thurs 14 December	Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA
Fri 15 December	Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Sat 16 December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

UK

Weds 20 December	2nd class
Thurs 21 December	1st class
Fri 22 December	Special delivery

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

We were privileged to hear the voice of singer Mary-Jess at last month's concert. Her stunning, powerful voice filled the church with popular classical songs and you would have been hard pushed to hear a better voice at a major venue in London. There was also a guest singer, Liberty Grant, whose unusual rendition of recent pop numbers had us all riveted, especially when we learned she was only 15. If you missed the concert, look out for Mary-Jess, who appears as a soloist on BBC television's 'Big Sing' from the Royal Albert Hall, to be broadcast on New Year's Eve.

Everyone is welcome to the special Christmas services:

Saturday 9 December	Messy Church (with tea), 3.30pm
Sunday 17 December	Café Church, 10.30am
Sunday 17 December	Carols by Candlelight, 7pm
Sunday 24 December	Puppet Crib Services, 3.30pm and 4.45pm
Sunday 24 December	Midnight Communion Service, 11.15pm
Monday 25 December	Christmas Day Family Service, 10am

For further details contact welcome@htandstschurch.org or 01483 473489.

MAURICE FARRIES (1925–2017)



We are sad to report the death of Maurice Farries on 13 October 2017. He moved to Brookwood with his wife, Margaret, and three children, Terri, Mark, Tim and Kathy (soon to be born), in 1966. He first lived in Connaught Crescent, then moved to the west end of Connaught Road and finally near Brookwood School. Maurice was very involved in the Brookwood community. He became treasurer of the Scout group and helped raise funds for equipment and the minibus. His involvement with the Scouts lead him to start the Woad shop, which provided equipment and uniforms for the Scouts and also raised funds for the Scout groups in Woking. All four children were pupils at Brookwood School and Maurice often helped to run stalls at the Brookwood Fete. Maurice took his family to St Saviour's church, where he served as treasurer and church warden. He was a handy carpenter and when the cross on the spire fell down on to a car, Maurice made a new one, which is still there. He trained as a Lay Reader and inspired many of the churchgoers with anecdotes of his time in the RAF at the end of the war.

Maurice and Margaret loved being part of the community in Brookwood and were well known for walking their border collie up to Sheets Heath. Maurice is remembered by Brookwood residents as a true, kind gentleman who enjoyed helping people. He will be greatly missed by his neighbours and friends.

BROOKWOOD CEMETERY SOCIETY

Please note that there will be no monthly walks until 4 March 2018, which will be an introductory walk in the former Anglican section, and will include the Glades of Remembrance and the Pauper areas. More details next year.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy Birthday to Roy Venn, one of Brookwood's longest serving residents who is 80 in December. Having been born in the village and lived here all his life, Roy is well known to many Brookwood residents on Connaught Road and is a familiar sight working in his garden throughout the year. Always up for a friendly chat, his neighbours have learnt much about the history of the village, such as his memories of attending Brookwood primary school during World War II and dashing to the protection of the shelters in the school grounds during air raids. He also remembers the immense changes in Brookwood with the 'new' housing in the woodland near the canal, as well as the parts of Brookwood that have remained the same through the years: Brookwood Club, of which he was a member for many years; the butcher's; and of course the station and the once regular steam trains. He still has a wonderful memory of the people and characters who have lived here in the village. Having worked for many years at Brooklands, where he assisted with building and maintaining VC10s, and building part of Concorde, Roy enjoys revisiting the museum to follow his interest in old racing cars. He also loves keeping up to date with his neighbours and maintaining his garden throughout the year. Happy Birthday Roy!

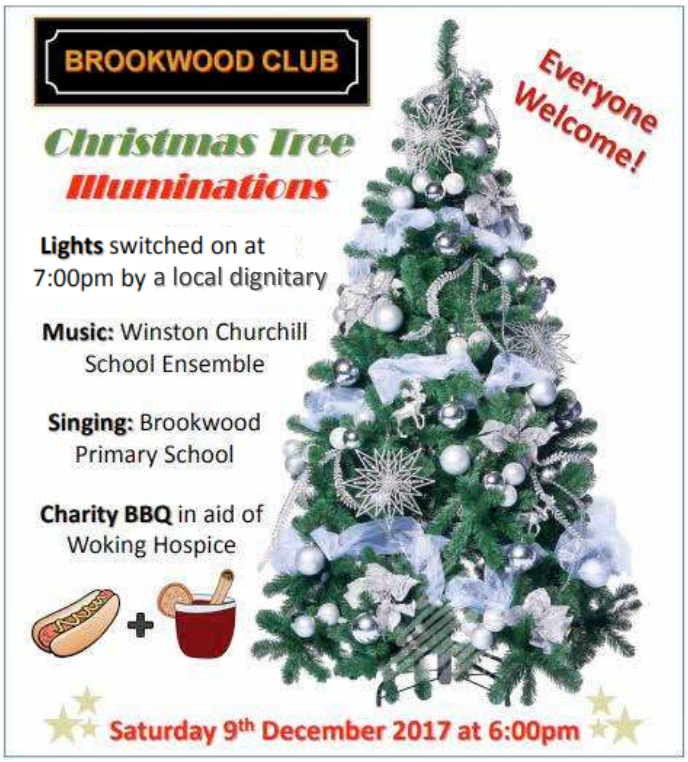
BROOKWOOD LYE UPDATE FROM CLLR KEVIN DAVIES

I was told today (20 November) that the planning application for Brookwood Lye has gone in. The traveller site is compressed significantly in size and the number of pitches increased to nineteen. There will also be a manager's building and possibly a single transit pitch. The bungalow will form part of the site and will probably be rebuilt as a house. The housing on the rest of the site will be predominantly one or two bedrooms made up of both flats and houses. A few three- and four-bedroom houses will be built nearer the crossroads. The flats will be three storeys high and mainly up by the railway line. I do have some concerns about the block nearer the road, which I think will be overbearing. However, I intend on pushing for a good level of screening at that point. In total, there will be 126 dwellings. Sixty percent of the dwellings will be affordable, with the rest sold at market value. Selling at market value subsidises the affordable, and provides capital to fund the improvements to Brookwood crossroads. As you know, Brookwood crossroads was one of the three junctions from the September consultation to be accepted, and detailed plans are being worked up, taking into consideration comments received. There will be a local-first policy on the affordable which will give nearby residents a shot at the dwellings first. There is still a lot of detail to still be developed on this policy and I'm working with the Leader of the Council, and the portfolio holder for housing to develop this. Once the application is live on the portal, I shall write a further post. Finally, this eyesore is going to be sorted. The village of Brookwood will benefit from it, primarily by having a well-designed traveller site that has no room for further expansion, improvements to the local traffic flow at Brookwood crossroads, and a local-first policy giving people in the village local housing options. (To read the full version of Kevin's blog, go to www.brookwood.org.uk and click on his link.)

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Works to create a new Garden of Remembrance and burial plots within Brookwood Cemetery will start soon. The works will transform a previously overgrown area of the cemetery into a beautiful, tranquil and serene area of remembrance. The landscaped garden will feature 100 individual burial plots. Extensive new planting and structural landscaping with carefully selected trees and shrubs, including a specimen Cedar of Lebanon, will reflect the historic nature of the Grade 1 listed cemetery. Cllr Ayesha Azad of Woking Borough Council said, 'Investment in this project demonstrates the Council's commitment to restoring and improving Brookwood Cemetery as a unique and special location for those seeking a final resting place for their loved ones.'

Please call 01483 472222, email info@brookwoodcemetery.com or visit www.brookwoodcemetery.com for more information about the new burial plots, and other services available at Brookwood Cemetery.



BROOKWOOD CLUB DIARY

Saturday 2 December	Bingo. Eyes down 8.30pm
Saturday 9 December	Christmas lights turn on. Open to all
Friday 15 December	Christmas meat raffle
Friday 22 December	Grand Christmas raffle draw, 8.00pm
Saturday 23 December	Stormy Waters band, 8.30pm. Open to all

ART SOCIETY LECTURES

The Arts Society (previously NADFAS) is holding further lectures at 10.30am at the Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley, with free entry for new members.

Wednesday 13 December	'Fun & Games: Victorians at Play'
Wednesday 10 January	'Caravaggio's Final Years'

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Friday 1 December
Brookwood School Christmas Fair, 3.15–5.15pm

Saturday 2 December
Christmas Cash Bingo, 8pm, Brookwood Club

Thursday 7 December
Woking food bank deadline

Saturday 9 December
Christmas Tree Event, 7pm, Brookwood Club

Wednesday 13 December
The Arts Society lecture 'Fun & Games: Victorians at Play', 10.30am, The Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley

Friday 15 December
Scouts carol singing, evening, Brookwood Station

Sunday 17 December
Carols by Candlelight, 7pm, St Saviour's Church

Saturday 23 December
Stormy Waters, 8.30pm till late, Brookwood Club

Friday 5 January
Whist Drive, 7.30pm, Memorial Halls. All welcome

If you are arranging an event in the village, don't forget to check the village calendar for potential clashes and let us know your date. You can find it on the village website (www.brookwood.org.uk).

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NB: DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER IS 18 DECEMBER

preferably by e-mail to community@brookwood.org.uk or telephone 01483 480273 or a note through the door of 78 Connaught Road.

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