

BROOKWOOD NEWS

April 2018

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the April edition of Brookwood News. As I write this in March, we have just suffered a late blast of Arctic weather and our garden is still covered in snow, but I hope that as you read it, the spring flowers are blossoming in warm sunshine.

Many thanks to all the contributors this month. News and articles are always welcome, so why don't you write something for our next newsletter.

David Lugton – Editor

BROOKWOOD CLUB

If you often walk past Brookwood Club but have never thought about dropping in maybe now is the time. We are always pleased to see new potential members. There is always lots going on from quiz nights, bingo, live music and coverage of most sporting events. We are always keen to support local talent, so if you play in a band or are a solo performer and would like to play at the Club please drop in and speak to any staff or committee members. This month we have Bingo on Saturday 7 April, the Club AGM on Monday 30 April and a Quiz Night every Sunday. For news on further upcoming events please keep an eye on the information boards at the Club.

RED KITES OVER BROOKWOOD



Once upon a time red kites were a very common sight. In Tudor times they were one of the most common birds in London, living on carrion and rubbish and cleaning up the streets. But by 1930 they had all but disappeared due largely to egg collectors and poisoning. At that time only two pairs survived in Wales. In 1989 they were reintroduced to the Chilterns, and now if you drive up to Oxford on the M40 you will usually see dozens of them circling slowly over the motorway.

During the last few years they have reached Brookwood and I believe a pair is now nesting on Sheets Heath. They are huge birds with a wingspan of nearly 2 metres, and have a deeply forked tail which flexes and twists as they float buoyantly in the air. In the allotment I have looked up many times to see one flying high above, apparently effortlessly, whilst keeping a sharp eye on anything that might provide supper. The harsh weather in the last month or so has driven them lower and into the village itself. One snowy morning a red kite made an appearance just above my kitchen window so close that, for a brief moment, I could look straight into its yellow eye – then with a languid flap, it was off.

If you see a very large bird with a forked tail in the skies over Brookwood, the chances are you are looking at this spectacular come-back – the red kite.

Judith Male

LOCAL ELECTIONS



On Thursday 3 May elections will be held for Councillors to Woking Borough Council. As usual, the Brookwood polling station will be in the Small Memorial Hall, but there is an important change this year. Woking is one of five Councils working with the Cabinet Office to trial the use of photo ID in polling stations. So to vote on 3 May you must take an approved type of photo ID and show it at the polling station. Many types of official ID are acceptable (e.g. passport, photo driver's licence, bus pass, rail card, etc.). The full list is available at https://www.woking.gov.uk/VoterID, along with what to do if you don't have any of them. Postal voters will not be affected.

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BROOKWOOD SCOUTS QUIZ NIGHT

The Scouts would like to thank all those from the village and beyond who supported another fantastic annual quiz that was held at the Brookwood Memorial Hall on Saturday 10 March 2018, with over 80 people taking part. We raised just over £1000 to support the activities of the Group. Many thanks to everyone who came along, and to those who helped organise and deliver a great evening. Congratulations to the winning team. We look forward to next year's event.

Friday 16 March saw the return of our pre-Easter Chocolate Bingo. A packed Memorial Hall competed for a mountain of chocolate; no one left empty handed. Thanks to Brookwood Club for the loan of their bingo machine.





GOLDEN WEDDING

On Friday 30 March, long-time Brookwood residents Roger and Pam James celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They first met each other when Roger and his family moved into their house at 142 Hawthorn Road, Barnsbury Estate. The family had moved up from Swansea and lived in a mobile home in Byfleet. He was 11 years old and had just started senior school at West Byfleet. Opposite at number 143 Pam lived with her mother and brother Brian. They soon became friends, until Roger joined the Royal Air Force after leaving school at 16 years. They used to write occasionally, Roger more than Pam, and after 4 years he was posted to RAF Seletar in Singapore. You may think absence makes the heart grow fonder, but Pam in the meantime met someone else, got engaged and sent Roger a 'dear John' letter.

Two and a half years later Roger completed his overseas tour and returned home. At the time his Father was very ill and died soon after. Pam had become friendly with Mr and Mrs James while Roger was away, and continued her twice weekly visits to 142. Roger always made sure that he was at home when Pam arrived, and made every effort to encourage his mother to go to bed early! Their friendship was soon rekindled. Pam broke off her engagement, and they were married on Saturday 30 March 1968 in St Peter's Church, Old Woking.

They have lived in the village since 1972. Pam is still working part-time for Age UK Surrey, while Roger continues with his hobby of pine table refurbishment, and was recently made a life member of Brookwood Club.

PIRBRIGHT CHURCH PLANT SALE AND GARDEN WALK

St Michael's Church in Pirbright will be holding its annual Plant Sale from 11am to 2pm on Saturday 12 May. There will be the usual wide selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets and vegetables – all home grown. The cake stall will have a selection of home-made goodies for you to enjoy, and teas and coffees will be available all day. Stay for a lunch of barbequed Fulk's sausages. Donations of cakes will be greatly appreciated.

A new feature this year will be the Garden Walk from 1pm until 4pm. Five cottage gardens in close proximity to the village green will be open for your enjoyment. Enjoy a leisurely stroll through village spring gardens. Information sheets and tickets at £5 each will be available at the first garden you visit, and will be available at the plant sale. Cream teas will be available at the church during the afternoon.



NEWS FROM THE ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

At long last Spring is officially here, although the recent weather hasn't been exactly spring-like. Down on the allotments in Brookwood the weeds have hardly grown, but they will no doubt romp away in the next week or two. Everything is ready to burst forth and the first rhubarb is coming through, already 6 inches high on some plots.

We now have three vacancies due to people's changing circumstances. Now is a good time to take on a plot as there is still time to get it dug over before the main sowing and planting season starts.
If you are interested, please contact Yvette Ness, Vice-Chairman, at vicechairman@gpasbrookwood.co.uk, or phone 01483 762995 or 07421 234679.

BROOKWOOD BELLYTRICKS



BellyTricks Bellydance, based at Brookwood Memorial Hall, have once again been invited to perform at the Joining Forces show at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in Woking. This will be their fourth appearance in this show which gives local dance groups the opportunity to experience the bright lights of the theatre stage. Joining Forces will run from 16 to 19 May and is hosted by Woking Dance Space, who provide classes in many dance styles from their studio in Mayford. Visit http://www.wokingdancespace.org.uk/ for tickets.

BellyTricks meet on Monday evenings at the Memorial Hall and are taught by Melissa Hoare. They love learning choreographies to perform in and around the Woking area, including events like Party in the Park and Knaphill Fete. This year BellyTricks will be bringing a folkloric stick dance from Upper Egypt as well as a piece inspired by both Oriental veil and American Tribal Style® Bellydance. Visit www.bellytricks.co.uk for more info on BellyTricks.

BROOKWOOD WI NEWS

Brookwood WI has enjoyed a lovely few months. Last month we had a very interesting talk by David Rose, a local historian, based around bottles and glassware from the past. We have all come across old glassware whilst digging in the garden, so it was very interesting to hear where it is likely to have come from, along with some extra local history.

We celebrated our birthday on the evening of 20 March, with a special meal at our meeting. We were lucky to be joined by members from other local WIs who came and celebrated with us. We were also entertained by a local musical duo called Adeste. I lost count of how many instruments they played between them, but I got to at least six!

New members are always welcome; we meet on the third Tuesday of each month in the Small Memorial Hall. Please call our president, Mary Cook, on 01483 831832 for more information.

VILLAGE WHIST DRIVE

For anyone who enjoys a game of cards, why not join the Whist Drive, which is held in the Small Memorial Hall on the first Friday of every month at 7.30pm? For further details, telephone Trina Sellers on 01483 831143. The next Whist Drive is Friday 6 April.

BROOKWOOD SCHOOL – END OF TERM REPORT

We come to the end of a second busy term at Brookwood School, excited by the learning taking place and by the work which our brilliant pupils are producing. As well as learning lots in their maths and English lessons, the children have embarked on some exciting projects this year including 'The Magic Toymaker', 'Chocolate' and 'The Great, The Bold and The Brave'. All the Brookwood projects are launched and end with a special event – known as Entry Points and Exit Points. As an example, our youngest pupils visited the Butterfly House at Kew Gardens in February, gaining some first-hand experience about life-cycles, and Years 3 and 4 made haute couture from recycled materials, hosting their own fashion show.

Earlier this term, we were delighted to find out that the Multi Academy Trust to which Brookwood School belongs – the Bourne Education Trust – is ranked 1st in Surrey and



3rd in England for pupil progress in reading, writing and mathematics at key stage 2. The Brookwood children's results contributed to this success; we are all very proud of their achievements. The Trust has also helped us afford some upgrades to the building recently, with replacement roofing and some beautiful internal fire doors.

Our Summer Fair this year will be a little earlier than usual, on Saturday 9 June, 12 noon to 3pm. As always, everyone is very welcome to come along, and we are happy to try and host local businesses and enterprises as part of our fair. If you are interested, please contact the school.

Jo Green, Headteacher,
Brookwood Primary School



The Brookwood Cemetery Society has a walk on Easter Day, Sunday 1 April, called 'Christianity and Symbolism with an Easter surprise'. The walk will start at 2pm and will last about 90 minutes. Meet at the society lodge adjacent to the Cemetery Office. Parking in the Garden of Remembrance car park (off Cemetery Pales). Refreshments and toilet facilities are available at the society lodge. We ask for a donation of £3 per person to help with cemetery restoration. No booking is necessary – just turn up and enjoy!

NEW EXHIBITION AT BROOKWOOD MILITARY CEMETERY

A new exhibition called 'Brookwood: The Commonwealth Story' will open on 9 April in the Canadian Records Building at Brookwood Military Cemetery. The exhibition will be open from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, and 9am to 4.30pm at weekends. It will provide a fascinating insight into the contribution of communities from around the world, who served and lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars.

Natus Physiotherapy

NEW physiotherapy service Mondays and Tuesdays with a clinic base at the Brookwood Farm pavilion or home visits available. We also run:

Mums and Babes Pilates Fitness Class Mondays 10am – a 45minute fun and friendly Pilates based fitness class where you can bring your baby along. Book in for your FREE trial session today.

Physiotherapy Antenatal Classes – learn about the third trimester of pregnancy and how it effects your body, labour and how to aid recovery after birth. Next Class May 14th

Pilates Classes – for beginners and improvers Monday evenings 7.30pm and 8.30pm. Book your FREE trial session today.

Feel free to contact us for more information about any of our services or to book an appointment today.

www.natus-physiotherapy.co.uk

07756 143634

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Sunday 1 April	Brookwood Cemetery Walk, 2pm, Garden of Remembrance car park
Sunday 1 April	Quiz Night, 8.30pm, Brookwood Club
Friday 6 April	Whist Drive, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
Saturday 7 April	Bingo, 8pm, Brookwood Club
Sunday 8 April	Semaphore Tower Open Day, 10am to 3pm, Ockham Common
Sunday 8 April	Quiz Night, 8.30pm, Brookwood Club
Monday 9 April	Opening day of CWGC Exhibition, Brookwood Military Cemetery
Sunday 15 April	Quiz Night, 8.30pm, Brookwood Club
Sunday 22 April	Quiz Night, 8.30pm, Brookwood Club
Sunday 29 April	Quiz Night, 8.30pm, Brookwood Club
Monday 30 April	Club AGM, Brookwood Club
Thursday 3 May	Local Elections for Woking Borough Council, Memorial Hall
Friday 4 May	Whist Drive, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
Saturday 12 May	Plant Sale, St Michael's Church, Pirbright, 11am to 2pm. Free entry
Saturday 12 May	Garden Walk, Pirbright Village Green, 1–4pm
Saturday 9 June	Brookwood Summer Fair, 12 noon to 3pm, Brookwood School

WELCOME TO BROOKWOOD



Welcome to Max Henry Simon, born on 19 June 2017

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

NB: DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWSLETTER IS 20th APRIL

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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