

BROOKWOOD NEWS

September 2019

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the September edition of Brookwood News. 1st Brookwood Scout Group has been invited to lead the contributions this month. We are a small part of the Scouting movement which comprises over 25 million members all around the world. 1st Brookwood Scouts has been a village institution for around 100 years. As a group we are very fortunate to have the excellent facilities of the Memorial Hall as our base on Friday evenings, and would like to extend our thanks to the Hall Committee and all the volunteers who help to maintain it. Hopefully we help to repay some of this through our community involvement. The mission of Scouting is to help our members develop skills for life, and contributing to the local community is a key part of this. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts engage in the wide range of activities organised by leaders. I want to thank all those who have organised and supported our fundraising activities throughout the year; this helps to keep our facilities and equipment up to date. Finally, please do consider what time and skills you could offer to support us.

Mark Kilcullen – Editor
Group Scout Leader

BEAVERS



Beavers go wild

What a year it has been for Brookwood Beavers! Our great leadership team, with help from our enthusiastic Young Leaders, has delivered a fantastic programme.

Our colony has grown from strength to strength, and we ended the term with a full complement of Beavers. This year the Beavers have been really busy doing lots of activities, including first aid, camping and craft skills, as well as attending district events such as the St George's Day parade at Woking Football Club and Science Day. This year we have been able to award loads of badges to the Beavers, who have demonstrated a range of skills, as well as an amazing number of Chief Scout Bronze Awards.

One of the biggest things our Beavers got up to this year was Beavers Go Wild Camp. This May, 340 Beavers, including 18 from 1st Brookwood group, gathered from across the county at a Surrey Scouts camp site. They enjoyed a day of activities including archery, wall climbing, catapults, crafts, camp fires and hot chocolate, followed by a night of camping. They arrived back tired, but happy. Our thanks to the County organisers and all the leaders and parents who helped.



Beavers get a visit from the Army

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cubs

Another fantastic Cub year has come to a close with the hope that the Cubs enjoyed the fun packed programme as much as the leadership team did. Over the course of the year we had a total of 10 swimming up from Beavers, 4 joining us from the waiting list and 5 moving on to Scouts. Our section currently has 28 Cubs on the books. This year the Cubs have earned over 180 badges and 6 Chief Scout Silver awards. We also welcomed 2 new leaders – Kayley and Vicky.

The winter 2018 term started in earnest with preparations for our first 1st Brookwood Cub Camp in a number of years. An enjoyable late September weekend at Bentley Copse was had by all, which was reflected during a show and tell the following evening session. Later in the term we marked Remembrance Sunday by creating Rock Poppies to commemorate Brookwood's war casualties and made hand-print wreaths to lay alongside the traditional Group wreaths during the parade. We finished the term with the tradition of subjecting local commuters to our Christmas Carols at Brookwood railway station.

Spring term began with Cubs helping with the annual Christmas tree collection. This term the Cubs also attended the District Science Day, which was a big hit. Then we ended the term with the ever-popular Chocolate Bingo.

The summer term kicked off with camping and backwoods cooking refresher sessions, all in preparation for another District Back to Basics Camp in May. We later embarked upon a mass planting in the village to support Brookwood in Bloom, strengthening the community values that underpin the Scouting movement. Then in June, 13 of our Cubs took part in the County-organised triennial SCRAM (Surrey Cubs Run Amok) event, where 2000 Cubs from all over Surrey gathered in Epsom for a day of adventure, activities and fun.

The Cub leaders would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who helped with the sessions in this year's programme. Without their help most of the above would not be possible. We are looking forward to next year, and would be delighted to see more assist when they can.



Christmas Carolling at Brookwood Station



Chocolate Bingo

Cubs on camp



heritage open days

Brookwood Cemetery



Open Day

Saturday 14 September 2019
11am – 3pm

A chance to explore the beautiful grounds and join in with guided walks and talks held by the Brookwood Cemetery Society with visits to the Columbarium and other Mausolea. View the Cemetery Historic Burial Registers. Visit St Edward Brotherhood and view their exhibition and chapel. Browse exhibition stands – The Commonwealth War Grave Commission, American Battle Monuments Commission (American Cemetery), The Trench Experience, Stonemasons, Funeral Directors, UK Owl and Raptor displays, Face Painting, and more. Refreshments Available.

Glades House, Cemetery Pales, Brookwood, GU24 0BL
Telephone No 01483-472222

www.heritageopendays.org.uk

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National Trust

PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY

Scouts

The Scout troop has had another busy year. We have a good balance across all the age ranges. This year we have had some very strong results in competitions such as coming 1st out of 21 teams in the Esher District Night Hike, 4th in the District Rifle Shooting and 2nd in the County Lightweight Expedition.

During our Friday evening meeting the Troop has continued to develop traditional Scouting skills and to meet outdoors as often as possible, including cycling, wide games, fire lighting, night hikes, incident evenings and rifle shooting. This year 5 of our Scouts have also earned their Chief Scout Gold Awards and to them we would like to say congratulations.

The camping programme has been busy this year with a Chief Scout Gold Expedition, Scarefest at Gilwell Park, May Camp, a Hike Camp and a few lightweight camps along the way. Staffing for all of these camps has not always been easy and so we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who helps to make these camps possible. Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to all of the leaders and helpers who have made it possible to run this year's programme. All help is massively appreciated and there is always room to welcome more.



Scouts day hikers

YOUNG LEADERS

Woking District Explorer Units mean that young people can continue their adventures. This also gives them the opportunity to train as Young Leaders and return to work with the adult leaders to deliver an exciting programme of activities. Our Young Leaders make a fantastic contribution and develop skills that will benefit them in the future. It would be great to welcome more of them.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Not all roles in Scouting are uniformed and we would be lost without the dedicated support of volunteers who help to keep the group functioning by running the waiting list, meetings, finances, fundraising, website and lots more. Please get in contact with us at www.brookwoodscouts.org.uk or gsl@brookwoodscouts.org.uk if you think you could spare some time.

WHERE ARE THE HEDGEHOGS IN BROOKWOOD?

The hedgehog population has declined 95% since the 1950s and they are now listed as a species of principal importance to protect. In the 35 years we have lived in Brookwood we have never seen a hedgehog in our garden – Connaught Road, canal side, Pirbright end. But friends at the other end of the road, railway side, are lucky enough to have seen them.

Can we do anything in Brookwood to encourage hedgehogs? Yes, there are lots of things we can do but first we need to find out where they are. Surrey Wildlife Trust's website has a Hedgehog Hotspot Map, as well as lots of other useful information about hedgehogs. According to their map, the nearest one recorded in our area is in Percheron Drive, Knaphill. If you have seen one – dead or alive – please can you note it on their map.

Hedgehogs can travel up to 2 kilometres per evening in their search for food. If we know that near neighbours have seen one, it would hopefully encourage us to link gardens to enable a hedgehog to travel through several gardens. To do this they need at least a 5-inch by 5-inch gap. Rather optimistically we have bought a hedgehog house and provided food and water, but currently it has only been visited by mice and voles (caught on camera). But we live in hope. Suitable houses can also be made easily from piles of logs or even bricks. It is advised to offer fresh water and food – specialist hedgehog food or dog or cat food with jelly (but not gravy). And NOT bread and milk, which are poisonous to them. They may then even be tempted to return to their sheltered feeding area to hibernate.





Hedgehog and a hedgehog house

THE WELCOME PACK

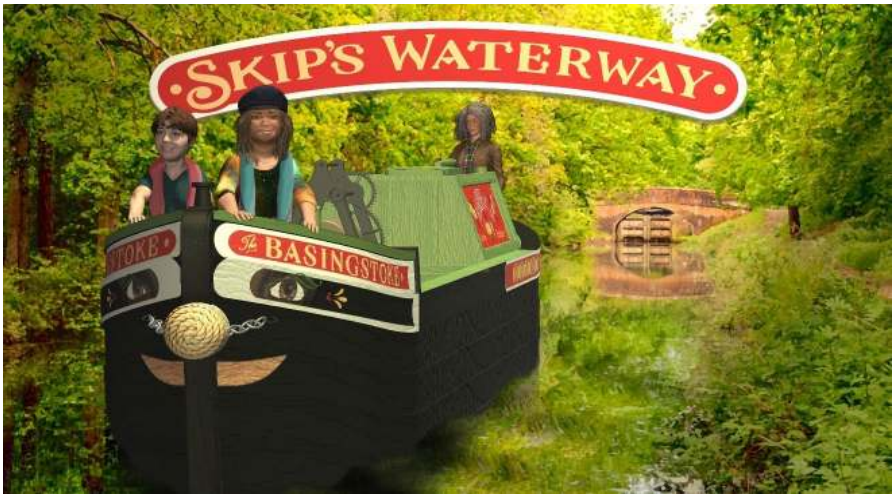
The Welcome Pack for new residents to Brookwood is now complete. It contains all sorts of useful and detailed information on everything to do with the village and beyond. It includes lists of community information, interests, local traders, health and hospitals, education, worship, sport and exercise classes, children's activities, transport and local authority information.

If you would like a Welcome Pack contact Liz Swain (liz.whizz@ntlworld.com) or pick one up from Brookwood Club. Alternatively, you can collect one from the Friday coffee morning at St Saviour's Church 10–12am.

Kath and Liz would like to thank a local resident who has generously donated the money needed to launch the Welcome Pack.

Liz Swain and Kath Brooks

CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITTEN BY LOCAL MUM, JENNY PATEMAN



A science-writer-turned-author is creating a new children's book inspired by the true story of the Basingstoke Canal. It is called Skip's Waterway. Ms Pateman has lived near the Basingstoke Canal in Odiham for 10 years. She originally wrote and illustrated the book for her two children, Joey and Emmy. The book is aimed at children aged 5 and up.

She is now in the process of raising funds via her Kickstarter page to get it printed and published, before it goes on sale more widely in shops and online. A donation from the fundraising will be made to the Basingstoke Canal Society.

Jenny Pateman lives in Odiham, Hampshire. She volunteers with the Basingstoke Canal Society as Editor of the Canal Bulletin and social media administrator (07763 152013; email: skipswaterway@gmail.com).

The Skip's Waterway Kickstarter crowdfunding page is live until Wednesday October 16 2019 (https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/jennypateman/skips-waterway/;

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/skipswaterway/?modal=admin_todo_tour).

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

Saturday 7 September	Bingo. Eyes down for 8.30pm, Brookwood Club (guests welcome with a member)
Tuesday 10 September	Talk by Christine Jarvis-Norse about 'Plant hunters and collectors', 8pm, Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall. Guests and visitors welcome. Refreshments available by donation
Wednesday 11 September	Between the Sheets; The Bedroom in Art History. The Arts Society – Woking lecture, 10.30am, Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley. New members free
Friday 13 September	Joint coffee morning for Macmillan and Age UK, 8–11.30am, Bentleys Garage
Friday 27 September	Coffee morning to raise funds for the Macmillan charity, 10am to 12pm, St Saviour's Church, Please come along to enjoy coffee and cake with friends and neighbours. Everyone welcome
Friday 27 September	Macmillan coffee afternoon, 2.30–4.30pm, Brookwood Club
Saturday 5 October	Bingo. Eyes down for 8.30pm, Brookwood Club (guests welcome with a member)
Wednesday 9 October	Food and Art through the Ages, The Arts Society – Woking lecture, 10.30am, Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley. New members free
Saturday 19 October	Charity Craft Fair in aid of Friends of Think About Them, 10.30am – 4.00pm, Lord Pirbright's Hall

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 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 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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