

BROOKWOOD NEWS

January 2020

EDITORIAL

So, that's it then, Christmas is done and dusted for another year! Doesn't it always seem to go so fast? So much planning and over in a flash! But the new year does mean then that we can start looking forward to a fresh start. How are you with new year's resolutions? Do you make them and keep them? Or break them by the end of January? Or simply not see the point in them? Maybe your new year's resolutions are too tough to keep? Maybe as a village we should make our resolutions more local, more beneficial to the community. How about helping out a neighbour who needs some help? Maybe add an extra few items to your shopping basket for the local foodbanks? New year's resolutions shouldn't make your life hard, they should make your life better. Good luck!

Jackie Kenny – Editor

PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

Pirbright Players have been hard at work rehearsing their new production. 'The Plotters of Cabbage Patch Corner' is a musical play about the insects that live in the garden, and their battle against The Big Ones. It promises to be an entertaining performance which the whole family can enjoy. Performances are on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 January at 1.30 and 6.30pm at Lord Pirbright's Hall, Pirbright. Tickets are £18 for 14 years and above, and £8 for anyone under 14. Please visit www.spanglefish.com/pirbrightplayers to book tickets.



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**.

seymours-estates.co.uk

SEYMOURS
Independent Estate Agents

FROM BROOKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We celebrated a fantastic term at school with a fun-filled week of festivities. Christmas lunch, pantomime, nativity singalong and an outdoor carol service (despite the rain!) were just a few items on the menu. It was a fitting way to end a very successful term. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank all the families for their support and positivity, and a big thank you to the wonderful children who have worked incredibly hard and settled in their new classes so smoothly. I would like to wish the whole community of Brookwood a very merry Christmas break and a happy 2020!

David Gunning - Head of Brookwood School

FROM SAINT EDWARD BROTHERHOOD

God became man, and heaven and earth were joined.
The angels drew near above the shepherds,
and the shepherds were enlightened by the angels,
and they rejoiced at the great announcement,
and they saw the good and gracious Shepherd
as an immaculate Lamb born in a cave.
Earth learned the praise of heaven,
and those in heaven rejoiced at the peace of earth
and good will toward men.

Ven. Maximus the Confessor

Greetings from the fathers of Saint Edward Brotherhood, Brookwood, on the festival. May the blessings of the Saviour, born in Bethlehem of Judea, be yours throughout the coming year.

Archimandrite Alexis

EDITOR'S CHALLENGE

As editor of the first village newsletter of the year, I'd like to set you all a challenge! I challenge you all to do one thing each month that either challenges yourself or is for the benefit of others. As an example, I have entered the Surrey Half Marathon in March, but I don't enjoy running and it definitely doesn't come naturally. Training has already started in earnest, but it's not a pretty sight! Let's see what happens in March!

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?

We would love to hear from you if you have done something amazing and want to celebrate it. Please drop us a line at community@brookwood.org and we will do our very best to include it in the newsletter. The editors would like to thank all contributors over the past year, and everybody who makes this newsletter successful.

CHRISTMAS HELPLINES

December and January are tough months. There is always someone who can help.



STATION UPDATE

The new entrance barriers are up and working now at Brookwood station. There has been some vandalism to the big red doors, with someone breaking the lock and opening the doors as they were prior to the refurbishment. The British Transport Police have been in, and should this happen again they will be looking into it further. Tony, our station master, is retiring soon and hopes to leave the station in a good state.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



A big well done, and thank you to all the households that have decorated the front of their houses for Christmas. For those few short weeks the village has literally sparkled!

ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH



The village church has also been busy over the past month with visits from the Octavian Singers and a Messy nativity.





NINE THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2020

A year of sports
Everyone loves the Olympics! Due to be held in Tokyo at the end of July, when else can you get genuinely excited about beach volleyball? The 2020 games will feature five new sports: karate, baseball/softball, skateboarding, sports climbing and surfing. In a tech-savvy, culturally rich city like Tokyo, the games are bound to be particularly spellbinding.

The UEFA Championships will be all around Europe this summer, culminating in a final game at Wembley Stadium in London in July. In South America, the Copa América will take over the continent at the same time. These two major international championships don't usually fall in the same year (though they did in 2016), but going forward, they'll happen together every four years.

A medley of new movies
If you are anything like my husband and love a trip to the cinema, I'm sure you will be checking out The Informer, Like A Boss, The Gentlemen, The Invisible Man, Peter Rabbit 2 and, in June, Top Gun: Maverick.

American elections
Just when we had had enough of our elections, here come the USA elections! This promises to be a closely watched fight across the world.

Fancy an evening in?
There is nothing better than sitting down in the evening to a good programme. 2020 is due to bring us Dracula (BBC), Glass House (ITV), The North Water (BBC), Doctor Who (BBC), and the 8th and final season of Homeland (Ch4).

Historical anniversaries
While 2020 might be a great year to make history, it's a good year to observe history as well.

January 10 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles, which officially ended World War 1.

September 6 will mark 400 years since the sailing of the Mayflower.

December will mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of legendary German composer Ludwig van Beethoven.

A bevy of new books
For those quieter moments, there are some very highly anticipated new books due out in 2020. The Ballard of Songbirds and Snakes is the prequel to The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. Jim Butcher's latest instalment of The Dresden Files about the Wizard Harry Dresden living in New York is also due out and is called Peace Talks. For those of us who love a thriller, Kathy Reichs is releasing A Conspiracy of Bones, the 19th novel in her Temperance Brennan series.

A menagerie of new music
2019 has been an amazing year for music, with some brilliant new artists bursting on to the scene. From Billie Eilish to Sam Fender to Jade Bird to Gerry Cinnamon. And 2020 promises to be no different. Alongside some much anticipated tours (Ed Sheeran, Coldplay, Celine Dion, Taylor Swift and Elton John) and festivals, it is surely a year to get excited about!

A bustling theatre scene
Movies are being made into musicals! There are many stage adaptations; some or all of them plan to see a 2020 première. These include romances 13 Going on 30, The Bodyguard, The Devil Wears Prada and Some Like It Hot, amongst others.

A new decade
If a new year means a new beginning, then imagine what we can do with a decade! We have a whole 10 years to shape the trends, events and questionable hairstyle choices that will always be associated with the 2020s. We are the makers of our own destiny.

VILLAGE LIGHT SWITCH ON

The village Christmas tree lights were turned on during the evening of 7 December. It had been a wet and blustery day, but the weather held off whilst David Gunning, Head of Brookwood Primary School, turned the lights on. Students from Winston Churchill Band entertained us with Christmas songs and children from Brookwood School sang some of their Christmas songs. Thank you to Brookwood Club for organising the event and running the BBQ. It was the perfect start to the festive season!



WI

Brookwood WI have had a very busy 2019: from day trips, to picnics, to an interesting selection of speakers at our meetings. We have not been short of things to talk about at our monthly meetings. We finished off this year on the evening of 17 December with our Christmas party. We enjoyed a buffet meal and entertainment by the Woking Ukulele Group, who got us singing along to Christmas songs old and new. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21 January 2020, 7.45pm, in the Small Memorial Hall. Please feel free to pop along if you are interested, or call Maureen on 01483 475543 for more, details

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT JANUARY

1. The Anglo-Saxons called January "Wulfmonath" as it was the month hungry wolves came scavenging at people's doors.
2. The Romans named it January after Janus, the God of gateways.
3. Janus had two heads so he could look in both directions, back at the old year and forward towards the new year, at the same time.
4. According to the International Standard Organisation's ISO 8601, week 1 of any year is the week including January 4.
5. Daytime temperatures in January make it the coldest month of the year in the UK. February nights are colder in England (but not Scotland).
6. The only Shakespeare plays that mention January are Much Ado About Nothin and Winter's Tale.
7. The birthstone for January is the garnet; the flower is the carnation.
8. The first recorded reference to a "January sale" in the UK was in 1865.
9. There is a variety of cold-tolerant winter cabbage grown in England known as January King.
10. There are 31 days, 744 hours, 44,640 minutes and 2,678,400 seconds in January.

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Friday 3 January	Village Whist Drive, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
Saturday 4 January	Brookwood Club monthly Bingo, 8.30pm; guests welcome with a member to all monthly bingo sessions
Saturday 11 January	Brookwood Club monthly Bingo, 8.30pm
Saturday 18 January	Brookwood Club monthly Bingo, 8.30pm
Tuesday 21 January	WI meeting, Small Memorial Hall, 7.45pm
Saturday 25 January	Brookwood Club monthly Bingo, 8.30pm
Saturday/Sunday 25/26 January	'The Plotters of Cabbage Patch Corner' by Pirbright Players, 1.30 and 6.30pm, Lord Pirbright's Hall

CHILDREN'S BOOK RAISES MONEY FOR LOCAL BEAUTY SPOT

Skip's Waterway is a new adventure story written by a local Mum to help raise money for the Basingstoke Canal. The story follows the adventures of two children aboard "Baisey" the talking narrowboat, as they try to save the canal from closure by navigating all the way to the end at Basingstoke. Along the way they discover the waterway's natural wonders and learn all about its impressive engineering.

The author of the book is Jenny Pateman, a volunteer on the canal and Odiham mum of two. She was inspired to write the story after reading about the last attempted full navigation of the canal, which took place in 1913. A donation from book sales goes to the Basingstoke Canal Society to help preserve the canal for future generations.

Jenny said: *"I'd just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the project so far. It's been great fun for me and I hope your little ones enjoy it too. My hope is that the book will help raise the profile of our beautiful waterway among the younger generations – encouraging more visitors to come and raising some much needed funds."*

You can find out more and order a copy of the book by visiting www.skipswaterway.co.uk or emailing Jenny at skipswaterway@gmail.com.

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 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20th JANUARY

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