

BROOKWOOD NEWS

July 2020

PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART

Thinesh from Brookwood News and Wine has been out regularly taking photographs of wildlife around Brookwood and has kindly agreed to us including this wonderful image of a roe deer.



The artists of Brookwood Art Group have also been continuing to pursue their hobby during the recent weeks since art is an activity that can be followed whilst confined to home, or on one's own. Each week they have been sending photographs of pictures produced by the membership for them all to enjoy.

Following the government's relaxation of restrictions on meetings out of doors, they recently held a socially distanced meeting at Pirbright Green. It was an enjoyable and sociable morning for those who attended, and gave the opportunity to see friends for the first time in many weeks and to talk about matters artistic.

The club membership is looking forward to resuming normal club activities on Friday mornings at Brookwood Memorial Hall when conditions permit us to do so safely. In the meantime we will continue painting at home. If you feel you might be interested in joining the group when they resume normal activities, please feel free to get in touch for more details at www.brookwoodart.wordpress.com, art.brookwood@outlook.com, or 07775 297938.

EDITORIAL

This month we look at how some people's hobbies in and around Brookwood have helped them cope with the current restrictions, provide information on help for those who may be coping less well, and look at how local businesses and services have adapted, or are planning to adapt, to life after lockdown.
Stay safe everyone.

John Power – Editor





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LOVING OUR NEIGHBOURS

The church family of Holy Trinity in Knaphill, and St Saviour's in Brookwood, wanted to recognise keyworkers who have kept our local areas going these past couple of months. So with prayerful and financial contributions from other Knaphill churches, they have recently delivered a variety of sweet and pampering blessings to 800 keyworkers in the area, ranging from postal workers and supermarket staff, to care home staff.

In addition, the church recognises that the pandemic has affected many in our neighbourhood, in particular those who have suffered personal loss and are experiencing uncertainty. Holy Trinity and St Saviour's have set up two initiatives in response – Bereavement Friends and Prayer 4 U. If you are grieving the loss of a family member, friend or colleague, then please contact the Bereavement Friends; they will listen and it's a safe space to talk. Likewise, if you are unwell, uncertain or unfulfilled, and feel you would like someone to pray with you, one of the Prayer 4 U team would gladly do that for you.

You can contact Bereavement Friends at loss@htandstschurch.org or on 07761 666866 and Prayer 4 U at prayer@htandstschurch.org or on 07783 320817.





BROOKWOOD MEMORIAL HALLS



It is planned, subject to any changes to the government guidance, to reopen the Halls for small groups on Monday 6 July. The lockdown time has been used to bring the Halls back up to a high standard. The larger Memorial Hall floor has been resealed, the stage and kitchen lighting improved, and paintwork touched up. The smaller Community Hall entrance and toilet floors have been replaced, and paintwork touched up throughout.

The COVID-19 risk management policy and guidance outlining the plans and safeguards are available at www.bmhalls.org.uk. The Halls' management team will email all the regular hirers as things change and the Annual General Meeting is deferred pending the return of public assemblies. Meanwhile, they would welcome hearing from anyone who wishes to help the voluntary Charity Trustees manage the Halls, particularly to bring the social media presence and website up to date. Please contact Louise about this or any other enquiries at secretary@bmhalls.org.uk.

PIRBRIGHT SURGERY

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to make substantial changes to the way we work at the surgery. However, our opening hours remain the same and we continue to provide medical and nursing care. Please note that Monday and Thursday morning appointments at the surgery are reserved for patients who are shielding or who are vulnerable.

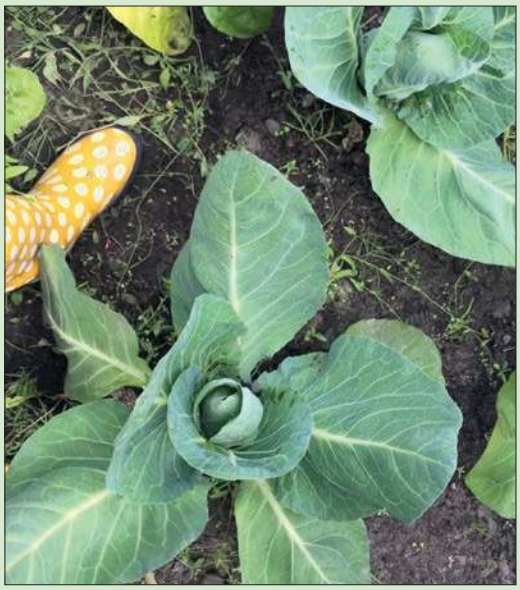
All requests for a consultation with a doctor are now telephone appointments. If the doctor needs to see you in person they will arrange this for you. You may be offered a video consultation. Our nurses have appointments for blood tests, ECGs, wound dressings, smears and immunisations/injections. Medication and letters can be collected from the window. Please follow social distancing guidelines and wear a face covering when coming into the surgery if you have one.

The surgery would also like to let you know about Surrey Care Record. This is a local, digital shared care record for health and care professionals across Surrey Heartlands that allows the secure sharing of your health and care data between authorised health and care professionals for the purposes of delivering safer, quicker, more personalised and more coordinated local health and care services. In practice this means improved sharing of information such as tests and results (preventing duplicate tests and unnecessary appointments), improved knowledge of your allergies and medication by care providers, and reduced risk of errors or misinformation. If you would like to opt out please contact the Practice Manager.

You can contact the surgery on 01483 474743, at pirbright.surgery@nhs.net or the new website http://www.pirbrightsurgery.co.uk. You can use the website to contact the surgery for reception, administration, health or medication queries.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

We'd like to express thanks to Elizabeth who has delivered the newsletter to approximately 40 houses on Sheets Heath for the last 6 years and is now taking a well-earned rest. If anyone could help delivery to these houses continue please contact community@brookwood.org.uk or call Barbara Lugton on 01483 476774.



ALLOTMENT JOY

Liz Swain has been in touch to let us know the joy she's had working on her allotment.

I began my allotment in February last year without any knowledge or experience. I dug over the allotment a bit at a time, and just bought seeds of vegetables I like and followed the instructions on the packet. I soon began to make allotment buddies and realised that there is a great allotment community in Brookwood with which you can share ideas and ask for advice.

Half of the allotment, my husband's domain, is given over to three different types of apple trees, a pear tree, a cherry tree, blueberries and raspberries. I am growing onions, leeks, beans, parsnips, rhubarb, potatoes, broccoli, cabbages, carrots, cauliflowers, chard, kale, courgettes, aubergines, beetroot, peppers, chillies and sweetcorn. I am harvesting peas and mangetout now. There is nothing like picking and eating fresh vegetables on the same day.

To watch things grow from seed, having tended to the weeding and watering, all the way to harvesting my produce is so exciting. The fresh air, exercise and sense of achievement are extremely therapeutic. I absolutely love my allotment. It's my haven. I have a table and chairs arranged so that during my coffee and sandwich breaks I can reflect on my achievements. I can truly say that I'm addicted to my allotment and it has become my passion.





The Committee is continuing to meet on a regular basis to review how and when the club may reopen. The health and safety of the club members and staff is our top priority and this will mean major changes to the way the club will operate when it reopens.

We have rearranged the tables and chairs to comply with a minimum of 1m distancing and will use floor markings to allow a one way system for people to move around. Hand sanitisers will be in place for use on arrival and at key locations inside the club, and additional cleaning will be carried out while the club is open. The regular club activities (e.g. bingo, quizzes and entertainment events) will not resume straightaway as they are not compatible with these arrangements.

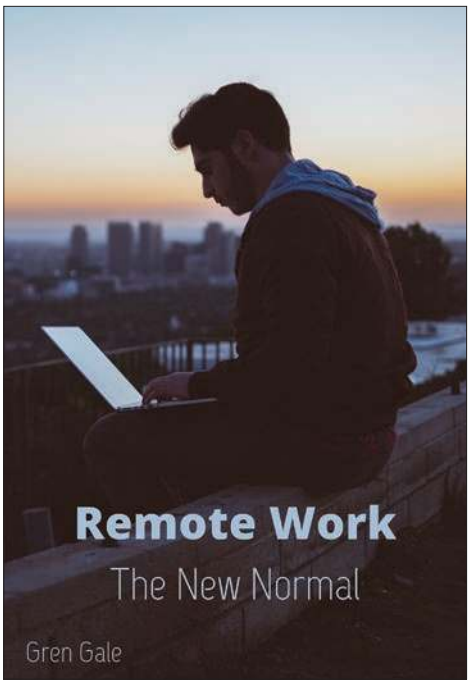
Before the club reopens it will undergo professional deep cleaning and be COVID-19 sanitised but the committee will continue to revise all other aspects of the reopening plans in the light of changing government advice. More details on when the club will reopen and the new operating procedures will be provided on the club Facebook page, on notices in the club window and of course this newsletter, when they are known. In the meantime please enjoy the new flowers as you go past!

BROOKWOOD: IDEAL FOR WORK AND LIFE

Gren Gale who lives in Brookwood has recently published his third book, 'Remote Work The New Normal'. In the book he forecasts that there will be a permanent increase in home working as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic, and that places like Brookwood will become a popular location for remote workers who can enjoy more space, a better quality of life and still have easy access to London both for work and entertainment.

He points out that the types of role most likely to be suited to remote working are predominantly based in cities, e.g. finance, marketing and IT, as are the people who fill those roles. Accommodation in big cities is usually pricey and so tight for space that it doesn't rate as the ideal home-working environment. However, once people know that they can reliably work from home they should be able to locate themselves in more spacious and more pleasant accommodation out of town.

The book is packed full of useful advice on the pluses and minuses of remote working, how to find a remote job and pass a remote interview, as well as the challenges of putting together fully remote teams and how to communicate when you lose so much of the non-verbal feedback that forms so much of our normal communication. The technology to support remote working is also covered. If you're interested in the book it can be purchased on Amazon.





LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS

Please continue to support our local shops and businesses as they are all grateful for the support you've shown to date. Here's a quick reminder of what they offer and their opening hours.

Bakers Dozen continues to sell a range of fruit, vegetables and other produce alongside their bakery products, and has recently added some specialist flours (French bread, pizza and pasta and spelt bread flour) to the existing flour range. They are open 8am to 5.30pm on Monday to Friday, 8am to 3pm on Saturday (the Post Office closes at 2pm), and 10am to 2pm on Sunday for the shop only.

Bakers Dozen is also the village **Post Office** and, in my view, provides excellent service. If you would like to provide feedback on them to the Post Office, then please go online to www.postoffice.co.uk/feedback, enter the branch code 3804585 and answer a few questions; you could win a gift card worth £100!

Bentleys Garage reopened in June with all staff following social distancing measures, using personal protective equipment and all vehicles sanitized before collection. Please call on 01483 489100 to book any of their services.

Brookwood Barber Box will be reopening on Saturday 4 July strictly by appointment only. Appointments can be made on 07913 060627.

Brookwood Fisheries is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. They will open on more nights when staffing permits it to happen.

Brookwood Food and Wine is open Monday to Saturday from 8.30am to 11pm and 9am to 9pm on Sundays.

Tudor News is open on Monday to Friday from 7am to 8pm, 7am to 9pm on Saturday and 8am to 8pm on Sunday.

East West is open every day from 5 to 10pm for collection or delivery of food. They are looking forward to fully opening as soon as government advice permits it.

Embellish Hair and Beauty is currently closed but will be providing information on reopening plans on its Facebook and Instagram pages.

The **Fulk Brothers Butchers** shop in Pirbright is open from 8am to 1pm on Tuesday to Saturday. You can order by telephone and collect in the shop or just pop in. The Brookwood shop remains closed for now, other than for call and collect orders, so that Tony and the team can prepare orders for delivery.

They also continue to offer a free local delivery service for meat and, in conjunction with Bakers Dozen, boxes of fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs and bread. Please contact them on 01483 472175 or 01483 473187 to find out more about the call and collect service or arrange for a delivery. More information is available at www.fulkbros.co.uk.

Surrey Drycleaners is open on Monday to Saturday from 8.30am to 5pm and providing its usual range of services.

WOKING & SAM BEARE HOSPICES: WAREHOUSE SALE

There will be a clearance sale at the warehouse on the Lansbury Business Estate on Saturday 4 July, from 9am to 3pm. This will be to clear a mountain of brilliant summer stock bargains to create space ready for when the warehouse reopens in July to take donations of items again. The sale will help raise vital funds towards providing free end-of-life care to some 2,000 people across North West Surrey each year, and their families and carers.

There is a huge range of men's, children's and ladies' clothing, bags, shoes, accessories and bric-a-brac, toys and tools. Many of the clothes, including quite a few brand new garments with labels and a rail of dresses and other garments for special occasions, are from quality high-street brands.

If you'd like to pick up a summer bargain and help this great cause, please park in bays that are not marked for other businesses, and queue and shop in accordance with social distancing guidance. You can pay both with cash and contactless donations.

Further information can be found at: https://www.wsbhospices.co.uk/event/great-summer-clothing-clearance-sale-2/

PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

To celebrate the 50th year of Pirbright Players we hope, subject to government restrictions, to put on a celebration show at the end of November 2020 instead of our usual panto or festive production. The show will take the form of an Old Time Music Hall with revivals of some of our best loved songs, sketches, dances etc. from previous productions.

We hope that the show will be great fun for all. It will take place on one Saturday night and tickets will include food. There will of course be a licensed bar available to help with the fun. Further details will be made available when possible.



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 AUGUST NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20th JULY

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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