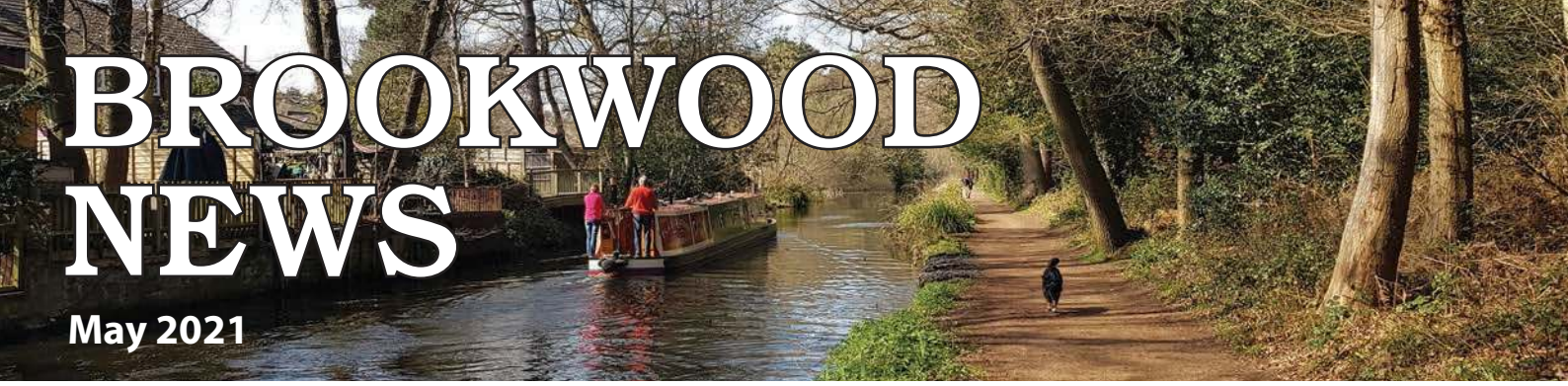


BROOKWOOD NEWS

May 2021

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the May edition of Brookwood News. Many thanks to all our contributors and apologies if I have had to edit your article, but there is so much to report; Brookwood is clearly re-awakening! I have re-introduced the village diary and I hope that in future months it will become full again with our regular events. Please bear in mind that many of the activities will depend on the COVID roadmap continuing as planned, and please maintain your social distancing for a bit longer.

David Lugton – Editor

KEVIN'S BLOG - *Cllr Kevin Davis*

"After the Traveller site was granted permission in February, I received notification that the existing housing application for the site at the crossroads had been withdrawn.

"A new application has now been submitted and subsequently validated. The application is PLAN/2021/0248, and is for the demolition of the four existing houses and the building of new 128 residential units. All houses are two storeys, with four small apartment blocks that are three storeys. The site will deliver 64 affordable units, with 20 of those being for sale, and the remaining 44 for rent. The remaining 64 units will be sold at the market price, and this will effectively support the affordable units.

"The design and access statement is worth reading as it gives a good overview of what is being proposed; it can be accessed on the planning website (https://caps.woking.gov.uk/online-applications/) using PLAN/2021/0248 as the search string.

"Is it perfect? Not quite. Is it a good use of the site? Absolutely and I am very much in support of it as it achieves things people have spoken to me about over the past few years."



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BROOKWOOD BABIES AND TODDLERS PLAYGROUP



Exactly 6 months since our last session, Brookwood Babies and Toddlers Playgroup reopened on the 19 April. It was wonderful to see some new and some familiar faces, and amazing to see how much the children have all grown in six months! For some of the children, this was their first group activity in a long time and, although some looked slightly startled at the beginning, everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The playgroup is currently running on a waiting list system to keep to the permitted numbers. If you would like to attend, or would like some more information, please email brookwoodbabies@gmail.com or message Natalie on 07980 618040. We also have a Facebook page – Brookwood Babies and Toddlers Playgroup. We run on Monday mornings during term time from 9.45 to 11.30am. All children from new-born to school age, and their grownups, are welcome.



Scouts
1st Brookwood

BEAVERS' UPDATE



This Easter our thoughts turned to the community, and how much we have missed getting out and doing helpful things for our neighbours and community friends. We also thought about how tough the last year must have been for residents of care homes. Our Beavers decided to try and offer some Easter cheer to one such local home with seasonal decorations to display in their windows. Our Beavers got busy with their coloured pens and pencils and produced a range of lovely designs, which our Beaver Leader delivered to Cunningham House in Pirbright in time for the Easter weekend. We hope that the residents enjoyed their decorations!

BROOKWOOD MEMORIAL HALLS RE-OPENED

The halls re-opened in April for supervised children's activities. From 17 May we plan to reopen for indoor adult exercise, sport and social gatherings up to six persons or two households. Returning hirers include dance tuition, badminton, Pilates, craft group, art group and dog training. From 21 June we hope that our other regulars will return: yoga, belly dancing, WI, whist, etc. For further details see www.bmhalls.org.uk or search Facebook for "bmhalls".

Dog training hope to resume from 2 June with places available for Puppies (under 5 months) and Beginners (6 months and older). Contact Claire Woodard at brookwoodnormandydogtraining@gmail.com or 07803 294263.

AndDance have started back at the hall for private lessons and children's classes, which take place on Saturday mornings. Socially distanced adult classes will start from 17 May, and we hope to be back and running as normal from 21 June. Website is www.anddance.co.uk and email address is enquiries@anddance.co.uk or contact for Anita Kelly on 07584 068232.



BADMINTON NEWS

We are hoping to return to playing on Wednesday 19 May in the Memorial Hall, but we will be limited to a group of six. We expect to be full for a while, but if anybody is desperate to play then please send an email to Mike Griffiths at mikegriffiths1949@gmail.com. We are a friendly group and you will be very welcome, but please note that we do not play league games any more.

UPDATE ON MANDY'S MARATHONS

I have been amazed and delighted by the kind and generous support I have received from so many people; thank you all very much. My first marathon was due to be held in April, but it was rescheduled because of COVID restrictions. The Fox marathon will now be on 18 September and the Beachy Head marathon on 23 October.

This news came as a bit of a blow to me as my training had been going well and I knew I could do the distance. With thanks

Mandy and Beamish

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

The CWGC is launching its first national awareness week this May. The War Graves Week will shine a light on our work and the people who keep remembrance of our war dead alive. The first event of War Graves Week is to be held at Brookwood Military Cemetery on Saturday 22 May. You will be able to book a free ticket for a tour of the cemetery with one of the volunteer tour guides and learn about the stories of the casualties commemorated. You must book a ticket to attend this event. Go to www.cwgc.org for more information.



PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

Pirbright Players have arranged a summer BBQ for all of our friends and members on Saturday 17 July from 1pm onwards at The Cedars, Vapery Lane, Pirbright. Everyone is welcome to join us; please bring something to cook on the BBQ, something to drink, and plates, cutlery, glasses, etc.

At our BBQ we will discuss our plans for the year. We plan to perform a short piece for the Pirbright Village Day in September and to put on a quiz night in the Autumn. In addition, we are planning to put on a pantomime in Lord Pirbright's Hall in January 2022. The production will be Dick Whittington and we plan to start rehearsals in September.

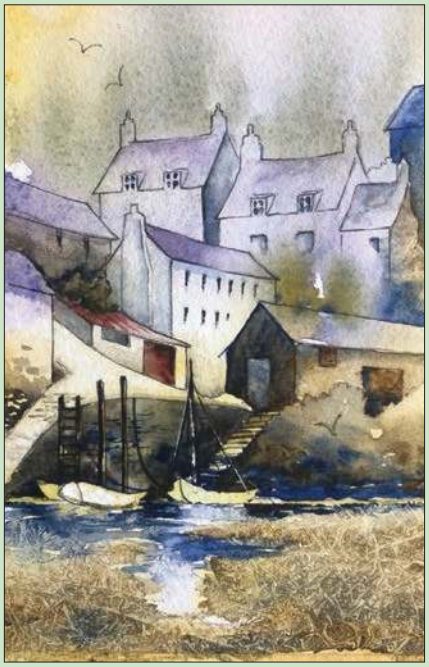
If you want to hear about our plans or want to be involved in our future productions, please come along to our BBQ, or contact Gerry Baker at gerryb4@gmail.com or on 07775 678148.

SAFE ROUTE PIRBRIGHT BROOKWOOD

Thank you to all those who have already shown your support for Safe Route Pirbright Brookwood. Safe Route wants to see safety improvements for pedestrians made to the tunnel route at the end of Connaught Road that links to Pirbright. The last safety improvement was over a decade ago, where a walkway was added inside the tunnel. Safety improvements in line with current standards are well overdue. Representatives of Woking Borough Council and Pirbright Parish Council are supportive of such safety improvements, and the next step is to get improvements approved by Surrey County Council and the Highways Agency. For this to happen, we need your support and for you to share your experiences of the current route. Further information can be found at https://saferoute.wixsite.com/pirbrightbrookwood, or go direct to the petition (http://chng.it/fgF6CWVbpP).

BROOKWOOD ART GROUP

The Brookwood Art Group will be resuming weekly meetings in the Memorial Hall on Friday 21 May from 9.30am to 12.30pm. We will also be holding our AGM in June at which members can discuss the running of the club as well as enjoying a pleasant social morning. We always welcome anyone who thinks they might like to join us. Please get in touch at art.brookwood@outlook.com or phone 07775 297938 or visit www.brookwoodart.wordpress.com for more details.









PIRBRIGHT CHURCH PLANT SALE

On Saturday 8 May 11am to 2pm in the churchyard. Come and stock up on locally grown bedding plants, hanging baskets, perennials and vegetables at the church plant sale. As well as plants, you can sample the famous Fulk's sausage sizzle, and buy homemade cakes and preserves. Everything will be well-spaced in the churchyard and numbers will be limited at any one time, so please observe signs and take notice of marshals to help keep everyone safe.

KEEPING CONNECTED @ ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

Even though we've been unable to meet in person for much of the past year (apart from a brief interval from September to November when we were able to meet in person at our larger parish church, Holy Trinity in Knaphill), all of our Sunday services, weekday prayer meetings and Bible studies have either been on YouTube or in a Zoom room.



As restrictions eased slightly, we were able to hold a Covid-safe Easter Treasure Trail using QR codes which families could scan on their phones, and hear more about the Easter Story from our puppets Zip and Zap. Treasure awaited them at the end of their trail with links to a special sing-along and craft-along service on YouTube.

Keeping connected is vital to our emotional and physical well-being. As we approach the final bend of this emotional rollercoaster that we've all been on, we pray that, despite all of the heartache and sadness experienced by so many of us, we will be able to emerge wiser, thankful for all that we've each been blessed with and more united than ever.

If you would like to join us, you can contact us via email (welcome@htandstschurch.org) or search for our Holy Trinity & St Saviour's YouTube channel. Contact me at jo@htandstschurch.org to find out more about our family services and the delivery of accompanying packs, helping families to explore faith together.

SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST

Surrey Wildlife Trust invites you to join the UK's biggest nature challenge, 30 Days Wild, with a Big Wild Breakfast outdoors on 1 June. Start your day the wild way with butterflies and bagels or toads and toast, see how much wildlife you can spot in your garden, and then tell us at https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/big-wild-breakfast.

Every year, thousands of people sign up to do a 'random act of wildness' every day in June. Popular activities include listening to birdsong, smelling the flowers, planting seeds and feeding the birds. 30 Days Wild is proven to boost your health, happiness and sense of connection to nature – a natural post-lockdown antidote!

Sign up now at https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30-days-wild-2021-sign-your-pack for your FREE pack.

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Saturday 8 May	Plant sale,11am to 2pm, Pirbright Church
Monday 17 May	Memorial Halls re-open for groups of six or two households
Monday 17 May	AndDance adult classes re-start in the Memorial Hall
Monday 17 May	Brookwood Club re-opens
Wednesday 19 May	Badminton re-starts in the Memorial Hall
Friday 21 May	Brookwood Art Group re-starts, 9.30am, Memorial Hall
Saturday 22 May	War Graves Week, Brookwood Military Cemetery
Tuesday 1 June	SWT Big Wild Breakfast in your garden
Wednesday 2 June	Dog Training re-starts in the Memorial Hall
Monday 21 June	Memorial Halls re-open for all activities
Saturday 17 July	Pirbright Players summer BBQ

BROOKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER TERM

It is with great excitement we begin the summer term at school. Following a smooth and successful full return to school, we are looking forward to some warmer weather and lots of exciting opportunities ahead! While we are still adhering to strict measures, we hope that we can still enjoy lots of our usual festivities, albeit in a slightly different way and within year group bubbles. Sports Day, Raising Aspirations Week and a Year 6 production are just a few of the events on the menu.

However, the main talking point at the moment is the Just Move event organised by the Friends of Brookwood School (FOBS) team. The event, which takes place over the weekend of 24 and 25 April, was set up to bring the community together in a bid to collectively 'move' as many miles as we can. In addition, we have used the opportunity to raise money to enhance our brand new Wellbeing Centre. The Wellbeing Centre will be used to support the mental and physical health of our children, staff and families, and the funds raised will help turn the centre into a first-class environment full of effective resources and soft furnishings. I look forward to updating you on the progress of 'Just Move'.

On behalf of the school, I wish you all a very happy and healthy summer.

David Gunning - Head of School

BROOKWOOD CLUB

In light of the Government proposals for the reopening of hospitality, we have liaised with Woking Borough Council's Licensing Department, but have been advised that our licence does not allow us to use the car park for outdoor service. We therefore look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 17 May when we will also begin the membership renewal process; it will run to the end of June. See notices on the club's Facebook page and in the window of the club for further details closer to the time.

Would you like to advertise in the newsletter?

The cost of advertising is £40.00. The advert will feature on the back of the newsletter and will be no less than a 1/4 of a page. We do not normally put advertising anywhere else in the newsletter. For more information on advertising please contact us on community@brookwood.org.uk

NB: DEADLINE FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20 MAY 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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