BROOKWOOD NEWS

May 2022

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the May edition of Brookwood News and many thanks to all our contributors. We have a busy time ahead with a wide range of activities in the village and further afield. In particular, we are looking forward to the celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee at the Memorial Hall in early June. The Newsletter Team will have a table at the event, so we hope to see you there. And finally, do remember to vote in our local elections on 5 May.

David Lugton – Editor

WOKING & SAM BEARE HOSPICES

ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

St Saviour's Church Coffee and Cake Morning on Friday 6 May will be in aid of Woking & Sam Beare Hospice. We will be open from 9am till 12noon. All are very welcome to pop in. We look forward to seeing you.



BROOKWOOD MEMORIAL HALL – PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The Memorial Hall will be hosting a celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday, 5 June from 12 to 4pm. Everyone is welcome and we invite all village groups, individuals and traders to get involved, and to join the coordinating team. We will provide tables, chairs, decorations, soft refreshments, and good weather of course – indoors if necessary. We hope to put on stalls with Pimm's, teas and coffees, maybe even a BBQ. Our regular hirers will put on some entertainment, and children's games too. Feel free to bring along your own picnic.

To make this a memorable community event, and one we can all look back on with fond memories, please do join in the community spirit, and get involved where you can by volunteering. Please get in touch with Am at streetparty@bmhalls.org.uk – we will be arranging a meeting to discuss the event in the near future.



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GUILDFORD OPERA COMPANY – DIE FLEDERMAUS



Guildford Opera's version of Johann Strauss's best-loved operetta retains the traditional setting and all his wonderful music – though be prepared for an overture with a difference! The production is fully staged, presented in English with surtitles, and accompanied by a chamber orchestra. There's a free pre-show talk at 6.30pm before Friday's performance by directors Lewis Gaston and Peter Melville. From Wednesday 18 May until Saturday 21 May 2022 (https://electric.theatre/shows/guildford-opera-company-die-fledermaus/). Local resident, Mr Richard Johnson, will be playing one of the leading characters, Alfred. It promises to be a fun show and it will give Brookwood residents an opportunity to see one of their own performing on stage and singing some great music. Should you wish to purchase tickets, Richard can obtain a discount of £4 off any tickets for any night so please email him (johnsonjrichard@sky.com).

BROOKWOOD BABIES AND TODDLERS PLAYGROUP





Brookwood playgroup is well back into the swing of things, and the new baby group that runs alongside the main playgroup is proving very popular.

The sad closure of Brookwood's Sure Start Centre meant that there was no longer a local place/drop-in for new parents and carers, and the volunteers at the playgroup have been working hard to try and fill this gap. Although unable to offer professional support and advice, they have certainly created a lovely quiet, colourful space for new babies, along with tea/coffee and chat as well as the opportunity to link up with other local new families.

The playgroup itself continues to run in the main hall, with crafts, toys and ride-ons. In the last few months there has been a visit from Father Christmas and the Easter bunny, as well as face-painting and themed crafts.

This playgroup has actually been in Brookwood for decades and it is wonderful that our village tradition continues. Please do drop by with your babies and pre-school children and meet the lovely team of volunteers, and other local families. Term-time Mondays 9.45–11.30am in the Memorial Hall. Email brookwoodbabies@gmail.com or message Natalie on 07980 618040 for more information.

BROOKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The month of May is all about 'Moving' at Brookwood Primary School. Similar to this time last year, we are launching our 'Just Move' event, aimed at the whole of Brookwood community. Together with our Friends of Brookwood School (FOBS) team, we are aiming to bring the community together to run, walk, swim or cycle to improve our physical and mental health. As well as encouraging fitness and togetherness, we are asking the school and wider community to consider donating towards our Library Project. While the children have bounced back after a challenging 2 years through Covid-19 and are making excellent progress in school, we want to help the children recover from school closures and missed opportunities by developing our curriculum and improving reading at Brookwood. Our aim is to do this by transforming our school library into a multi-purpose room to really reflect our new curriculum. In addition, we want to develop our reading areas in school and develop an outdoor library. This is an incredibly ambitious project, but we hope with the support of the school and wider community we could raise £10,000 to make an enormous difference to our children's education.

More information and ways to donate can be found at www.justgiving.com/campaign/JustMove2022 and there will be regular updates on our school Facebook page. Thank you for your continued support!

David Gunning - Head of School

BROOKWOOD CEMETERY SOCIETY GUIDED WALKS

On Sunday 1 May at 1pm there will be three walks:

- People from the Indian Sub-Continent – North Cemetery. Led by Barry Devonshire.
- Nurses and Doctors. Led by Kim Lowe.
- Mausoleum Walk. Led by Jon Leech.

On Sunday 5 June at 1pm there will be three walks:

- Towards Freedom – North Cemetery. Led by Barry Devonshire.
- Mausoleum Walk. Led by Jon Leech.
- Scientists and Academics. Led by Alison Leech.

And coming in July:

- They Served the Empire – Part I
- Low Water, High
- Introductory Walk (South side)

Visit the society's website for details of the walks and how to book (https://www.tbcs.org.uk/walks.htm).

PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

Following a very successful production of Dick Whittington in January (our first show for 2 years), we are planning a production of two one-act plays in June 2022.

On 18 and 19 June, we will be producing a show at Lord Pirbright's Hall which will consist of 'TWO', a drama by Jim Cartwright set in a pub, and, after the interval, 'Gosforth's Fete' by Alan Ayckbourn, a comedy which depicts a disastrous fete. We are sure that this will be a fun evening, especially as we will run a bar during the interval between the two plays. Further details will follow in next month's newsletter.

PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our May meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 May at 8pm in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall. The speaker will be Graham Pattison who will be talking on 'Plant collecting on the Equator'. Members, visitors and guests all welcome. Subscriptions are now due, £20 for an individual or £25 for a family.

Our plant sale will be held at 5 West Heath, Pirbright, on 21 and 22 May from 10am each day, so please get growing for this important fundraiser. Plants should be good quality, labelled and in clean pots. For more information on the sale please contact Pauline Allen (Pauline.allen48@btinternet.com). Our annual show will be held on Saturday 30 July.

PIRBRIGHT SINGERS

The Pirbright Singers and friends will be performing Puccini's 'Messa Di Gloria' accompanied by The Crane Ensemble at St Michael and All Angels Church, Pirbright, on Saturday, 14 May at 7.30pm.

Tickets will be available on the door (cash/card) at £15 per adult (under 18 years free). The concert is in memory of our much-missed bass, David Davies, who brought the beautiful tones of the Welsh valley to Pirbright for many years. We are raising money towards his family's chosen charity, the Teenage and Young Adult Cancer Service at St Luke's Cancer Centre (RSCH). Wine and nibbles will be served afterwards. For further information, contact Lisa Williams (ljwoodhead@yahoo.co.uk) or Jennie Burtsell (jennieburtsell@gmail.com).

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

The CWGC will be presenting an 'Evening at Brookwood' on Thursday 26 May from 5–9pm at the 1939–1945 Memorial in the Brookwood Military Cemetery. We've put together a memorable programme based on commemoration and remembrance, including:

- Live performances from the award-winning Harp & a Monkey, the Military Wives Choir Sandhurst, Gordon's School Pipes and Drums, and The Purcell School of Music
- Guided tours around the cemetery
- Stalls detailing the commemorative work we do at the Foundation and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Military vehicles (TBC)

All the musical acts are linked with our shared remembrance and commemoration of the Commonwealth's war dead, either through a direct link to military institutions or through singing songs and stories of remembrance. By coming along, you will be helping us keep the memories of those who died during the World Wars alive, as all proceeds from the evening will be going to the CWGF.

Tickets are available now (https://foundation.cwgc.org/get-involved/events/an-evening-at-brookwood/). Book yours to avoid disappointment! All proceeds will support the work of the CWGF. We hope to see you there.

MAPPING THE OLD CEMETERY RAILWAY LINE



The old dismantled cemetery railway line ran from Brookwood railway station, outside platform 2 with short section remaining, past a North station near Long Avenue. It continued to the old South station where St Edwards Brotherhood Monastery now stands.

Young villager Aaran Harle-Hosein (aged 6) and his dad recently explored the old track route. Aaran created this map, to help others follow the route. Aaran was rewarded for his efforts by a tour of the little known London Necropolis Railway exhibit within the monastery, kindly hosted by the brotherhood.

So, one sunny afternoon this summer, why not take a walk through local history and retrace the lost route?

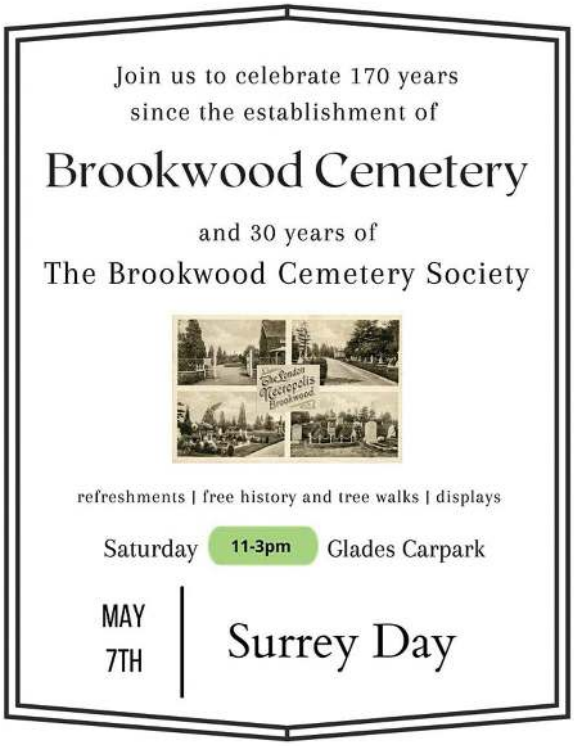


SAINT EDWARD BROTHERHOOD

On Saturday 4 April, new gates were installed at the entrance to our property, replacing the old bar which had been irretrievably broken. It being the Platinum Jubilee year of Her Majesty the Queen, we ordered 'Jubilee' gates. They were custom-made and installed by Wesson Fencing, a firm which used to be centred in Brookwood village, but is now working from Chobham. They did an excellent job.

On 20 April we were able to send £300 to His Eminence Metropolitan Agafangel, the presiding hierarch of the continuing Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, for the help of our churches in Ukraine, and received a thank-you from him.

BROOKWOOD CEMETERY – SURREY DAY



This Surrey Day on Saturday 7 May between 11am and 3pm, the society and the cemetery management will be celebrating 170 years since the establishment of Brookwood Cemetery and 30 years of the Brookwood Cemetery Society. Join us at the Glades car park (off Cemetery Pales) for refreshments, information displays and a series of walking tours. No booking required. The chapel and mausoleums will be open, and there will be local history societies present, with the society leading short walks (https://www.visitsurrey.com/whats-on/surrey-day-celebration-at-brookwood-cemetery-p2020811).

WOMEN'S CRICKET ON PIRBRIGHT GREEN

Pirbright Cricket Club's 'Team Phoenix' is inviting women of all ages and abilities – including complete beginners – to come and have a go at softball cricket on Tuesday nights. The women's cricket team had its first season last year and has already had more fun than any traditional cricket team in the past 800 years! The format of the matches is simple and they are played with a soft cricket ball, so no pads needed.

Training begins Tuesday 26 April, 6.45pm on Pirbright Green, and continues every Tuesday evening throughout the summer, with occasional matches on Sunday afternoons. Come and join us to play softball cricket in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, and for a drink at the pub afterwards! Contact Emily (07554 433687) for more information.

BROOKWOOD CLUB

On Saturday 7 May there will be Bingo from 8pm. There will be no Bingo in June. On Saturday 4 June there will be a Jubilee BBQ from 5pm, with Tom's Sister playing at 8pm.

Jubilee opening hours are:

Thursday 2 June 2pm to 12am

Friday 3 June 12pm to 12am

Saturday 4 June 12pm to 12am

Sunday 5 June 12–11pm

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Sunday 1 May	Three guided walks at 1pm in Brookwood Cemetery
Tuesday 3 May	Women's Cricket 6.45pm on Pirbright Green (every Tuesday)
Thursday 5 May	Local Election voting 9am to 10pm in the Small Memorial Hall
Friday 6 May	Coffee and Cake Morning from 9am in St Saviour's Church
Saturday 7 May	Surrey Day 11am to 3pm at Brookwood Cemetery
Saturday 7 May	Brookwood Club Bingo from 8pm
Monday 9 May	Brookwood Playgroup 9.45–11.30am in the Memorial Hall (every Monday)
Tuesday 10 May	Pirbright Horticultural Society at 8pm in Pirbright Hall clubroom
Saturday 14 May	Pirbright Singers 'Messa Di Gloria' at 7.30pm in Pirbright Church
Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 May	Pirbright Horticultural Society plant sale from 10am at 5 West Heath Pirbright
Thursday 26 May	CWGC 'Evening at Brookwood' from 5–9pm at the Military Cemetery
Saturday 4 June	Brookwood Club Jubilee BBQ from 5pm with Tom's Sister at 8pm
Sunday 1 May	Three guided walks at 1pm in Brookwood Cemetery
Sunday 5 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration in the Memorial Hall
Saturday 18	Brookwood Primary School Summer Fayre
Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 June	Pirbright Players double bill in Pirbright Hall

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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