BROOKWOOD NEWS

September 2022

HEATHLAND FIRES!



The dry period has brought a number of devastating fires to the local heaths around Ash and Pirbright. The fires on Ash Ranges moved quickly, fanned by 27–30 mph winds. Although the fire brigade had good access, the speed of the fire meant they had to keep all their resources back to protect life and property. Approximately 300 hectares of heathland were lost. The fire services were on site for 5 days. At present, no root cause has been identified.

Firefighters were back in action tackling a huge wildfire at Bisley Ranges which first started on Monday night, 4 July. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) said it received multiple calls alerting

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the September edition of Brookwood News.

I hope you all survived the heatwave and are prepared for any deluge that's likely to follow – I'm sure we can rely on the UK weather for that. For those of us of a certain age it's all very reminiscent of 1976. Heatwave, a government in crisis, fuel prices and inflation going through the roof. School dinners were any kind of meat battered and lumpy mash. At home I survived on fish fingers, beans and Angel Delight. Most of us made it unscathed – just the odd black out and my mum fumbling about in the dark for candles. The heatwave was rare for that decade. The average maximum temperature in July in the 1970s was 18.7°C. In the 2010s, it was more than 20°C.

If you have any stories, events or news you would like to share, please send a copy or get in touch with us at Community@brookwood.org.uk

Graham Hunt, Editor

Seymours. Successfully selling houses in Brookwood.

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Seymours

it to the incident. The exact location of the fire was initially unclear, with some calls to the fire service suggesting it was at Stickleton Ranges on the NRA, and others suggesting it was around Bisley Ranges.

The nature and history of the Pirbright Ranges (once a mortar and anti-tank range) meant that the fire services had no access to the range and heathland floors, and, although the fire was slower moving, the risk of unexploded ordnance being detonated meant the fire brigades could only fight the fires from the range fence line.

SFRS tweeted shortly before 12.20am: "Firefighters are currently dealing with a large wildfire at Bisley Ranges. Six fire engines are at the incident and are expected to be there throughout the night". In reality they were in attendance on site for 2 weeks and were still attending break out fires until the last week in August.

Surrey Wildlife Trust is urgently asking for donations for Pirbright Ranges, one of the largest areas of lowland heath in Surrey. July's fire severely burned over 650 acres of heathland. The land was home to 200 red deer and other rare and threatened species. The wildlife organisation called it a "climate and nature emergency". The red deer carry out a vital role by grazing the heathland to prevent scrub, including Scots pine, common gorse and silver birch, from taking over the site, according to the wildlife trust. Following the fire, hundreds of metres of fencing and heavy-duty sleepers that keep the deer safely on site now need to be replaced.

The immediate impact includes the potential loss of hundreds of recently fledged rare ground-nesting birds, including European nightjars, Dartford warblers and woodlark, which may have been too young to fly away from the fire. Reptiles like slow worms, grass snakes and adders have been unable to escape the fire.





BROOKWOOD WELCOMES A NEW CURATE TO ST SAVIOUR'S

Hello! I'm Dawn and I'm the new curate at St Saviour's Church here in Brookwood (as well as at Holy Trinity, Knaphill). Basically, that means I've recently completed my academic training at theological college and have been ordained but I'm not yet a vicar; but when I leave in three years' time, I will be fully fledged! In the meantime, I will be serving the parish, working alongside the wonderful staff team at Holy Trinity and St Saviour's to share the good news of Jesus. By the time you read this, my family and I will have moved into the area from Dorking and we are really looking forward to settling into this community. I have two sons, one of whom will be starting college in September and the other is still waiting for a primary school place locally. I love people and have a particular heart for those who are hurting, bereaved or otherwise finding life hard. I also enjoy cycling and I am always up for a cup of tea and a natter! So do say hello when you see me around. Even better, come and see us at church. We're there every Sunday at 10am with services



for everyone; there's all sorts going on including puppets and craft, food and drink, singing (worship) and prayer – whether you normally attend church or not, want to find out what the Christian faith is all about or are just visiting, you will be warmly welcomed, just as you are. Find out more at htandstschurch.org.



The lunches start again at St Saviour's Church after the summer break.

If you would like to sit down with friends or take a break from your work you are very welcome.

We will provide a simple lunch, including dessert and coffee for a small donation to charity.

Tuesday September 27th, October 25th, November 22nd and December 20th
12-2pm

To book a place and let us know of any dietary requirement, please call Ros on 01483 831881 or email lunchwithfriends4@gmail.com

BROOKWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Thank You

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank John Thornton, who is stepping down as Chair. John has been the lifeblood of Brookwood Memorial Halls for 32 years and will be sorely missed. Thank you for your selfless commitment; it made such a difference to the village and is much appreciated.

Brookwood Memorial Halls Committee

Wanted
We are looking for a Caretaker for the Brookwood Memorial Halls, part-time (5 hours).

The Caretaker will be responsible for the upkeep of Brookwood Memorial Halls, ensuring that safety and maintenance standards are upheld for all our hirers.

Our Caretaker must be able to work responsibly and flexibly, consistent with the day-to-day use of the Hall. They will need to manage systems, liaise with third-party suppliers, and respond to unexpected maintenance issues.

If you are interested, please email management@bmhalls.org.uk for full job description.

Hiring Brookwood memorial hall
There are two halls, and hirers share a 30-capacity car park. Discounts on hire rates are available for Brookwood residents, registered charities and regular hirers.

Please go to our website (www.bmhalls.org.uk) for more information.

BROOKWOOD BABIES AND TODDLERS PLAYGROUP



Brookwood Babies and Toddlers Playgroup has now broken up for the summer holiday. The last session was on one of the hottest days of the year, but continued as normal without the sunny baby group, but with the back garden opened up so the children could enjoy a sprinkler and water toys.

The playgroup and baby group will return to hopefully cooler weather on Monday 12 September at 9.45 am. Contact brookwoodbabies@gmail.com for further information.



CHRISTMAS FOODBANK APPEAL 2022

Brookwood Christmas Foodbank Campaign will commence this year on Saturday 29 October and will run through to Saturday 10 December for donations of non-perishables. More details in next month's edition including QR code for ease of donating. Thank you as usual.

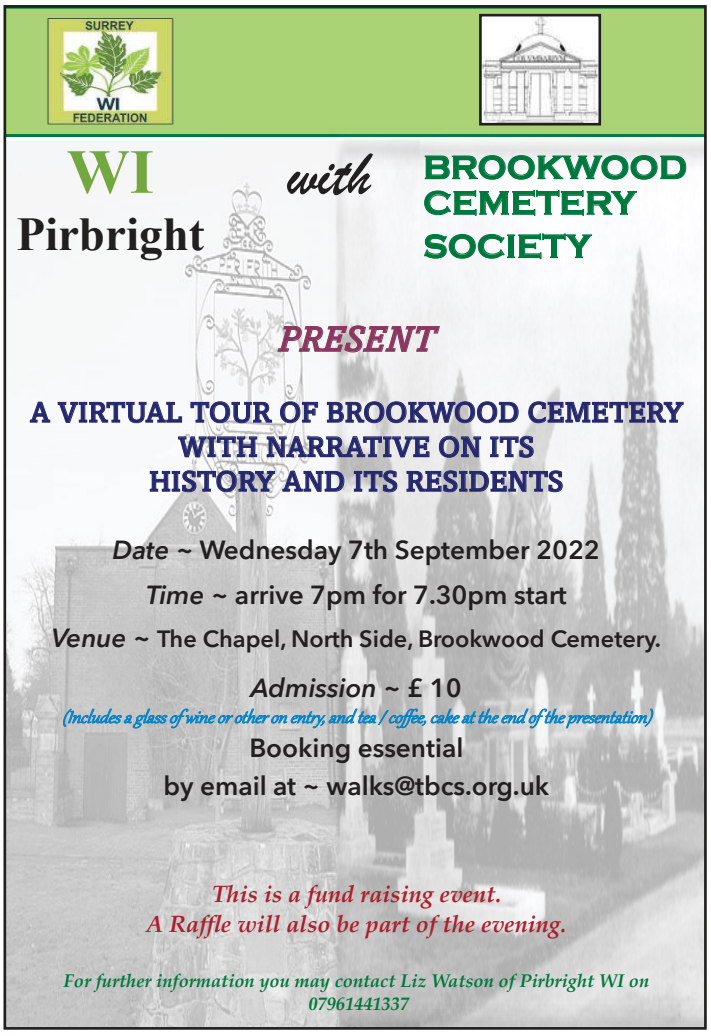
Trudi & Darren.

FULKS BUTCHERS

Still no news on the future of Fulks butchers. I have written to Jo Fulks for any update she could pass on, but as yet we have had no response. It will be a real shame if we lose yet another great facility from the village. I will keep trying to get some answers from the Fulks family.

BROOKWOOD POST OFFICE

Sean in the post office/bakers has asked me to reassure Brookwood residents that the post office has not applied for a change of use and will not be shutting. The confusion has come about as the owners of the old post buildings/sorting office at the rear of the old shop have applied for planning permission.



PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW



It was wonderful to have our Annual Show back on 30 July after 3 years. Although there were fewer entries than in 2019, all our judges said the quality of exhibits was high, in spite of a difficult growing season with very little rain and very high temperatures. Well done to all exhibitors and thanks to everyone involved in putting on this show. We had in excess of 250 people through the door. The results of 2022 horticultural show classes are listed below.

Section A – Cut Flowers
Brian Perpetual Cup – Highest number of points in all of Section A
Awarded to Mary Straker

Section B – Vegetables
Dowling Perpetual Cup – Highest number of points in all of Section B
Awarded to Molly Beagley

Jim Rice Trophy – Best collection of vegetables in Class 45 or 46
Awarded to David Burch

Section C – Soft Fruit
Rawlins Perpetual Cup – Highest number of points in all of Section C
Awarded jointly to Nic Sands and Pauline Allen

Section D – Pot Plants
The Sayers Centenary Cup – Highest number of points in all of Section D
Awarded to Philip Barralet

British Fuchsia Society Blue Ribbon
Awarded to Lou Major

Banksian Medal – Highest number of points in whole of Horticultural Classes
Awarded to Mary Straker

Bernard Rose Perpetual Salver – Best single entry in whole of Horticultural Classes
Awarded to David Burch

Floral Art
Fairs Perpetual Cup – Highest number of points in Classes 72–77
Awarded to Anne Bowles

Muriel Slorick Trophy – Best single entry in Classes 72–77
Awarded to Helen Whitworth

Mamie Grover Trophy – People's Choice in Floral Art
Awarded to Anne Bowles

Handicraft and Photography Fairs Trophy – Highest number of points in Classes 79–91
Awarded to Irene Price

Godwin Austen Cup – Best single entry in Classes 79–91
Awarded to Anne Hawkins

Cookery and Produce Moonrakers' Cup – Highest number of points in Classes 92–104
Awarded to Pauline Allen

Ron Douglas Challenge Cup – Best entry in Class 105 – Men only
Awarded to Nic Sands

Boys and Girls Classes: 8–14 years old Lyle Perpetual Cup – Highest number of points in this Section
Awarded to Olive Lynch

Forgetter Cup – First place in Class 116
Awarded to Archie Evans

Marguerite Suter Trophy – Best single entry in Classes 111–115
Awarded to Emilia Woodhouse

Our next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday 12 September at 8pm in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall, when our speaker will be Tim Woodland who will be talking on 'Planting Autumn Bulbs'. We will also distributing daffodil bulbs for our daffodil competition to be judged in March/April 2023.

Do come and join us for another informative evening. Guests and visitors most welcome.

Philip Barralet

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 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20 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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