

BROOKWOOD NEWS

January 2023

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the January issue of Brookwood News. I would like to start by wishing you all a happy new year from the newsletter team, and thanking all who sent in articles, pictures, adverts and so much more. Without this input from the community, the newsletter would not be the same.

If you are interested in joining the small but energetic team of editors and distributors, please go to community@brookwood.org.uk for more information. Here's looking forward to another year in the village, with all that it may bring, from concerts to fetes, births and marriages. And who knows what new excitement lays ahead in the new year.

Graham Hunt – Editor

BROOKWOOD LYE ROAD – UPDATE FROM KEVIN

With Woking Borough Council looking to change the proposed plans at Brookwood Lye, the improvements to Brookwood crossroads are likely to be scrapped. This junction was acknowledged to be beyond capacity in the 2017 A322 Corridor Study and one of the junctions to be taken forward for improvements if funding could be identified.

The funding was planned to come from the Brookwood Lye development and won't happen if the required number of houses are not built. Brookwood Village Association has launched a petition which you can sign electronically on the Council website, or alternatively pop into the Post Office and sign the paper copy. We need as may people as possible to sign this so we can present the petition to the Council at its February meeting.

RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH



The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch is coming... on the weekend of 27–28 January. This is the world's biggest wildlife survey. If you're feeding the birds over the festive period, why not continue through January? All it takes is an hour of your time to watch the birds that use your garden – then just tell the RSPB what you saw. Go to www.rspb.org.uk for more details and to register.

At this time of year, life can be tough for birds on the heath and in gardens. A cold snap can mean they need more energy just to keep warm, and the short days leave less time to find food. You can give them a helping hand, whether you have a big garden or a small window box. Here are few tips for feeding at this time of year. Know your birds. Different species eat different things. Sparrows and finches like seeds; tits like fat; and thrushes and robins like fruit and worms. Starlings will eat just about anything. Make sure you're providing the right menu for your diners. Look out for leftovers. Some of our own food can be good for birds – for example, fruit cake or mince pies, dried fruit, unsalted nuts, or apples and pears past their best. Try sprinkling grated mild cheese under trees and bushes for more timid birds like wrens and dunnocks. Birds probably won't eat your unwanted Christmas day sprouts, and putting out turkey fat is a big no-no – it's so soft it'll stick to birds' feathers and stop them from keeping waterproof and warm. Too much salt is poisonous to small birds. Don't poison your pets! Birds love dried fruit, but, if you have a dog, don't put grapes, currants, raisins or sultanas within their reach. Vine fruits can be toxic to dogs. Keep water in bird baths and ponds unfrozen. Birds need to drink and bathe every day, even when it's really cold outside. A pond or bird bath is great, but even an upturned bin lid or plant saucer can give birds the water they need.

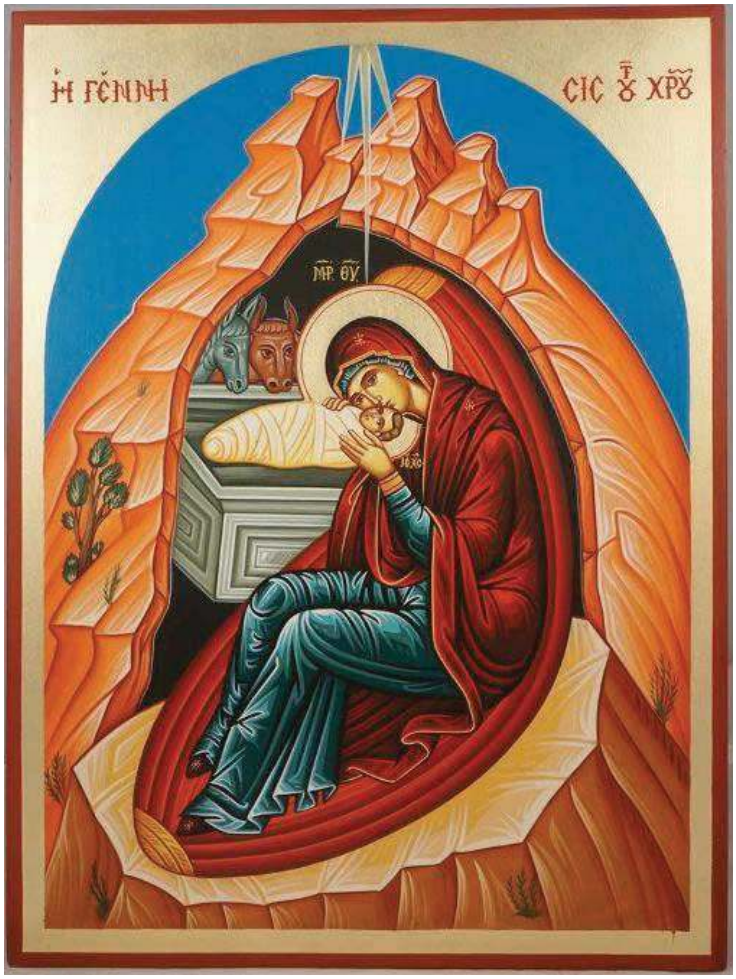
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A NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM SAINT EDWARD BROTHERHOOD, BROOKWOOD



We greet you all for the Nativity of our Saviour, hoping that He will bless you throughout the Coming Year.

Fr Alexis and Brotherhood

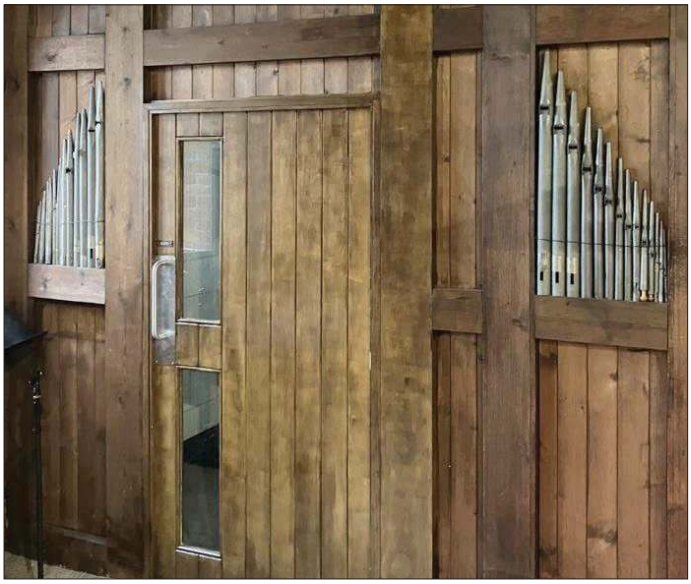
SAINT SAVIOUR'S OPENS ITS DOORS AS WARM PLACE



WHAT HAPPENED TO ST SAVIOUR'S ORGAN PIPES?

The organ at St Saviour's Church was originally installed in 1936 during the curacy of Henry Wyatt. The organ was dismantled in 2019 to create access and space for a much-needed disabled toilet.

Where possible, organ wood was upcycled into many things, from shelving to bird boxes; even the organ stoppers were reused as cupboard door knobs. The church received a total of £450 in donations from people who came to collect the redundant pipes, which were put to many different uses – a big thank you to all who donated.











PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy 2023.

Our first meeting is on Tuesday 10 January 2023 when our speaker will be Pamela Holt, who will be talking on the History of Kew. Our meeting will be starting at the earlier time of 7pm in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's hall, The Green, Pirbright GU24 0JE. Refreshments will be available as usual. Guests and visitors are most welcome as are residents of neighbouring parishes.

A very kind donation from our friends in Pirbright

At our AGM last night, we voted to make a donation of £30 to the running cost of your paper. You are very kind in including our monthly programme in your paper.

Philip Barralet

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Ring out the old, and ring in the new,
Another year passes, but one thing is true,
A thousand small blessings have slipped through my hands,
Moments uncountable, vast as the sands.
Ordinary days that have come,
And then gone,
A sunrise, a sunset,
A whisper,
A song.

Times spent with family,
Long summer days,
Here for a moment,
Then gone in a haze.
I wish I could hold all these moments forever,
Time marches onward,
But love ceases never.

So I'm thankful, so thankful,
For all that has been,
For the highs and the lows,
And the bits in between,
This journey of life
With its ups and its downs,
The trials and the triumphs,
The joys and the frowns,
This life I've been given,
I long to embrace,
To cherish each moment,
Each dear, precious face,
Yet to live in surrender,
Not grasping too tight,
To live for eternity
To walk in the light,
Knowing this life is a gift from above,
That it all comes from you,
Oh great Father of love.

ANOTHER GREAT YEAR FOR THE FOODBANK APPEAL



What an amazing and very humbling Brookwood Village Foodbank Campaign it has been this year. We never know whether we are doing the right thing by running the campaign as we are aware that times are tough for us all at the moment.

It's been a remarkable campaign, with local companies contacting us to offer their help in any way possible. We have delivered two vanloads to the Foodbank warehouse already in very good time for Christmas. As of September this year, the Foodbank had over 3000 service users through its door; that's a lot of people from our community.

At the time of going to print, we have raised a staggering £3,125 and have accepted in excess of 70 parcels from you lovely people. We cannot express our gratitude enough for your help with the campaign; it's a massive achievement, especially given the current cost of living crisis.

And of course, a huge thank you to the newsletter team for always taking the time to include the appeal in the last few newsletters.

With best wishes for a healthy 2023

Darren and Trudi



OCTAVIAN SINGERS



Octavians, like most other choirs, have been singing lots of different carols for years, but some don't fit neatly into a pre-Christmas concert. Laura their director likes to extend her own celebrations for as long as she can get away with! So we decided to have a late season concert and enjoy the other parts of the Christmas story that aren't always included.

We will start with celebrating the reason for Christ's birth in the carols The Truth From Above and Adam Lay Ybounden, then we will celebrate St Stephen's Day with Good King Wenceslas, and move through the Flight into Egypt and the Massacre of the Innocents. New Year's Day is marked with a carol by Benjamin Britten and we'll finish the performance with the Arrival of the Three Kings in pieces by Cornelius and Mendelssohn. There will be carols for all and some lovely poems, all accompanied by mulled wine and mince pies.

Entry is free, but please would you register using Eventbrite if you can (via our website www.theoctaviansingers.org) so that we can ensure there's enough seating. There will be a retiring collection afterwards.

WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Woking Borough Council Affordable Housing Delivery Supplementary Planning Document November 2022 has been revised. Please follow the link for more information: https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/revisedAHDSPDconsultation.

BROOKWOOD CLUB

The next bingo will be on Saturday 7 January 2023.

All memberships run from 1 January to 31 December annually. Please drop in and ask about becoming a member. A reminder to all members that this year renewals are due by 31 January.

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Would you like to advertise in the newsletter?

The cost of advertising is £30.00. 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 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER IS MIDDAY 20 JANUARY 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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