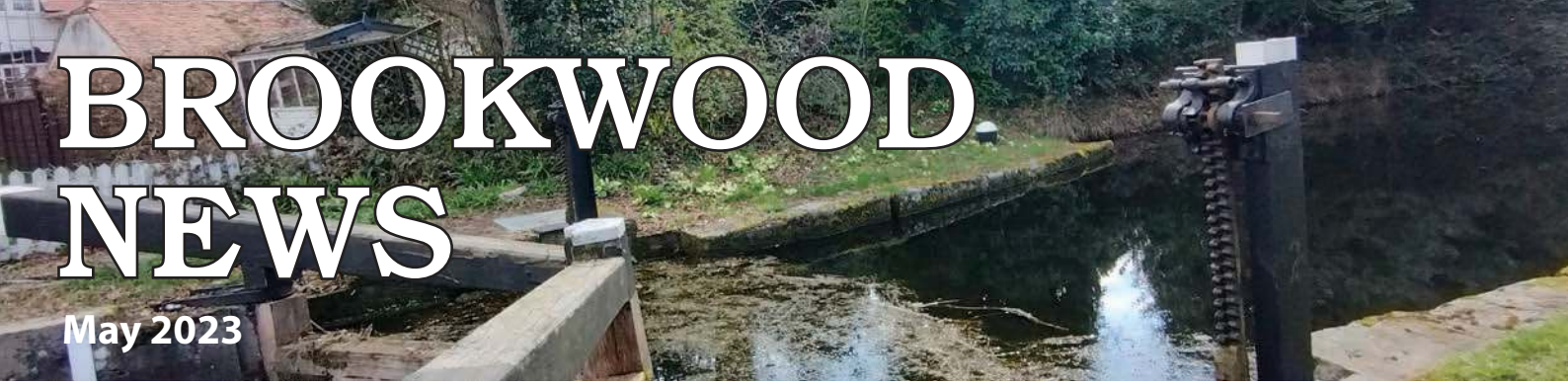


BROOKWOOD NEWS

May 2023

EDITORIAL

I hope everyone has finally been enjoying the few dry and sunny days we've had in recent weeks. It's been wonderful seeing flowers bloom in gardens, and lots of dogs taking their humans out for walks along the canal and through the heath!

May not only brings us the joys of spring but also the Coronation of King Charles III crowned alongside the Queen Consort. Brookwood News would love to see some of your celebrations in photos and we'll see how many we can include in the next newsletter.

As always, we'd love to hear from any businesses that would like to advertise in future, and any organisations or individuals that feel they might be able to make a donation to help with our costs. If you'd like to advertise or donate (or both!), or have any other thoughts on other funding sources, please email us at community@brookwood.org.uk. Thank you all for your continued support.

Ciará Nasseri-Chahpar – Editor

BROOKWOOD CLUB

Brookwood Club are opening their doors to the village (non-members welcome) for a DJ Disco on the evening of the Coronation of King Charles III. Come one, come all. DJ set starts 7.45 to 12.30pm.

Regular events at the Club are:
Sundays – Pub Quiz at 8.45pm
Mondays – Brookwood Poker nights
Fridays – Brookwood Meat Raffle
First Saturday of every month – Bingo

More information can be found on notices in the Club, on Facebook, Twitter and at www.brookwood.club.

BROOKWOOD LYE – UPDATE

Brookwood Lye continues to cause me immense frustration and stress because, as we know, no decision has been made on how the site will proceed.

Some residents asked questions at the Executive meetings late last year and the beginning of this, and I believed some of the answers were deliberately intended to confuse. This obfuscatory approach by the Leader of the Council led to two of the questions being asked again with minor tweaks at the next Executive meeting because the answers could deliberately be left open to interpretation. Not much use when you are trying to establish facts and not particularly open and honest. Anyway, the key take away was that no decisions had been made.

As you head down Brookwood Lye towards St Johns, the final house of four on the right seems to be being refurbished. This seems strange for a house that is due to be demolished. As this picture shows, new windows have been installed in the property.

Further, the property has had new fencing put up round the perimeter of the plot. From the photo above it looks like a heat pump of some sort may have been installed.

The image below shows the original vision for the site that I have effectively been working on since around 2013, including the Traveller site and the 128 properties that make up the completed development. It also has a blue line running through it. That blue line represents

continues on back page



Seymours. Successfully selling houses in Brookwood.

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to arrange a **FREE, no obligation valuation**.

seymours-estates.co.uk

Seymours

BROOKWOOD KNOTTERS

The lovely Lauren, a local resident, recently set up a Brookwood Knotters, a knitting and crochet circle held in Brookwood Memorial Halls. The first meeting was held on Tuesday 18 May and the plan is to repeat every two weeks. This is for any level to join (including absolute beginners who wish to learn). There was a great turn out with everyone fed (with homemade delicious cakes) and watered (with tea and coffee). What a great way to take some time for yourself, relax, knot and chat with your neighbours.









PIRBRIGHT CHURCH

Pirbright Church is organising a Plant Sale on Saturday 13 May. Come along for plants, cakes, garden paraphernalia and sausages sizzling in the garden.



PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS

Pirbright Players will perform Caught in the Act, A Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre on Saturday 10 June 2023 at 7pm at Lord Pirbright's Hall, Pirbright. Tickets at £22 will include a three-course dinner.



HOLY TRINITY PRE-SCHOOL







Come and visit the newest pre-school in Brookwood. Holy Trinity Pre-School, Brookwood are having an open afternoon on Saturday 20 May, 2–4pm at St Saviour's church hall, Connaught Road, Brookwood. If you are looking for fantastic early years care and education for your child, come along and visit us to see what we can offer you. Meet the team and view our wonderful pre-school. We are open term time between 7.30am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, for children aged 2–5 years . We have places available for September 2023 – put your child's name on our waiting list NOW!



BROOKWOOD SCOUTS

Summer term is finally here! For us in Scouting, that brings an opportunity to get back outdoors and enjoy the activities Scouting offers us in the lighter evenings.

This term, our youngest section, Beavers, will be exploring the heathland we have on our doorstep as they work towards their Explore badge. Pond dipping, outdoor games and den building are among some of the activities planned.

Our Cubs have SCRAM to look forward to – an event bringing together 3,000 young people from the district. There will be over 100 activities on offer, from kite making to water rockets, highland games to grass skis; it's an event that is always popular. The usual Friday programme of activities is set to include cooking, campfire songs, and a visit to Woking fire station.

The highlight of the Scout term will be summer camp, where they have the opportunity to try zip wire, archery, canoeing, kayaking, rifle shooting, Jacob's ladder, and gladiator challenge over their weekend camp. As well as this, there will be the usual programme of hiking, campfire cooking, and other fun activities we run every week.

1st Brookwood is a thriving local Scout group, but we urgently need more leaders to keep things going. We run loads of superb events and activities, and our goal is to teach life skills to the young people of Brookwood, Pirbright and the surrounding area. If you think you'd like to get involved – or even have a casual chat or a visit to see what we're about – get in touch (Joe gsl@brookwoodscouts.org.uk; 07930 988936; http://1stbrookwood.scoutsites.org.uk/).

The Basingstoke Canal Society

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Now is your time to help keep your canal alive for your health, habitat and local economy. We need you to help share the word of the current challenges with your friends, family, neighbours and colleagues. Anyone can help support us, whether that's by becoming a member, donating through our website, following us on social media, or simply by forwarding an email or having a conversation over the garden fence.

Some council budgets are being cut, and specifically being reduced and removed from the Basingstoke Canal. The canal is a beautiful space for us all to enjoy but funding is needed to keep it this way and to ensure the 32-mile stretch of waterway can continue to be enjoyed by all, both now and for future generations.

So how can you help now?

1. Forward this email to your friends and family
2. If you would like to help us with putting up posters in your local area, please do email us at enquiries@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
3. Follow us on social media; if you have Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or are on LinkedIn
4. Look out for future emails on contacting your local MP and how this can help in your area

Visit https://basingstoke-canal.org.uk/keep-your-canal-alive/ for more information on our current Keep Your Canal Alive campaign.

e welcome. Please contact community@brookwood.org.uk before the 20th of the month

Brookwood Lye continues from front page

a new fence that is similar to the fence that fronts on to the road. The only opportunity to see this is from a train as it's not visible from the road. That has been installed very recently and funnily enough is in the place where the expanded Traveller site was planned to expand to. Note the new size of the area given over to the Traveller site. My non-scientific view is that it is far in excess of double the size.

No decision has been made (apparently), but I think we can see that, with the house being renovated and the blue fence being installed, that the decisions have been made and the concept of neighbourhood consultation or even caring about what residents think has gone out of the window.

It seems obvious to me that the current Liberal Democrat administration at WBC have informally made the decisions. I guess formally they will make the decisions after the election (conveniently) and then use a sham consultation process via a planning application to push this through once the decisions can't be reversed.

Make no mistake, this will lead to far fewer homes than originally visioned, a tripling in size of the area managed by the Travellers, and no opportunity to widen the crossroads or provide on-street electric charging at that point as was planned. It's particularly galling after the Leader of the Council publicly stated last year that I was misleading residents after my October blog post (https://cllrkevindavis.me/2023/04/). It seems like I wasn't misleading residents.

I don't think WBC is being honest with the residents of Brookwood, has not intended on being so since last year, and will continue to treat the residents as fools.

Cllr Kevin Davis



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

Thursday 4 May	Local election voting, 9am to 10pm, Small Memorial Hall
Saturday 6 May	The Coronation
Monday 8 May	The Big Help Out
Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 May	Pirbright Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale, from 10am, 5 West Heath, Pirbright GU24 0JQ
Saturday 10 June	Pirbright Players Murder Mystery evening, Lord Pirbright's Hall

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 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.

Printed by Knaphill Print and delivered to your door by a very lovely person.