BROOKWOOD NEWS

December 2023

EDITORIAL

I am so pleased that there were so many items to include this month which proves that the village is busy with activities, and residents are getting involved with village life. Of course, Christmas is a hectic time of year, but I hope that you can join in with some of the events listed in the Village Diary on the back page. The editorial team are taking a break for January, so there will be no issue next month, but please continue to contact us with your news and photos. In the meantime, we would like to wish everyone a very peaceful Christmas and a very happy new year.

Yvonne Craven – Editor

LAST CALL FOR FOODBANK

This year's campaign finishes on 8 December. Anything you can give will be an absolute bonus, especially some luxury items for the kiddies such as chocolate selection packs. More people than ever in Woking are struggling to afford food, and this situation will only worsen as the current cost of living crisis intensifies and leaves so many people in dire situations. Posters are clearly displayed at our drop-off points, Brookwood Club, Bakers Dozen/Post Office, during opening hours. There is also a JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tf2023. You can scan the QR code displayed on the poster which will take you directly to the fundraising page. To get in touch, email trudifletcher@rocketmail.com, ring 07887 565163, or leave a message at one of our drop-off points if you would like us to collect your parcel.

The website for Woking Foodbank is https://woking.foodbank.org.uk

Trudi & Darren Fletcher

BROOKWOOD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Get into the Christmas mood and pop along to Brookwood School for their annual fair on Friday 1 December. In addition to the stalls and refreshments, there will be games and a Santa's grotto, as well as a Christmas online auction when artwork for each class will be on sale.



Seymours. Successfully selling houses in Brookwood.

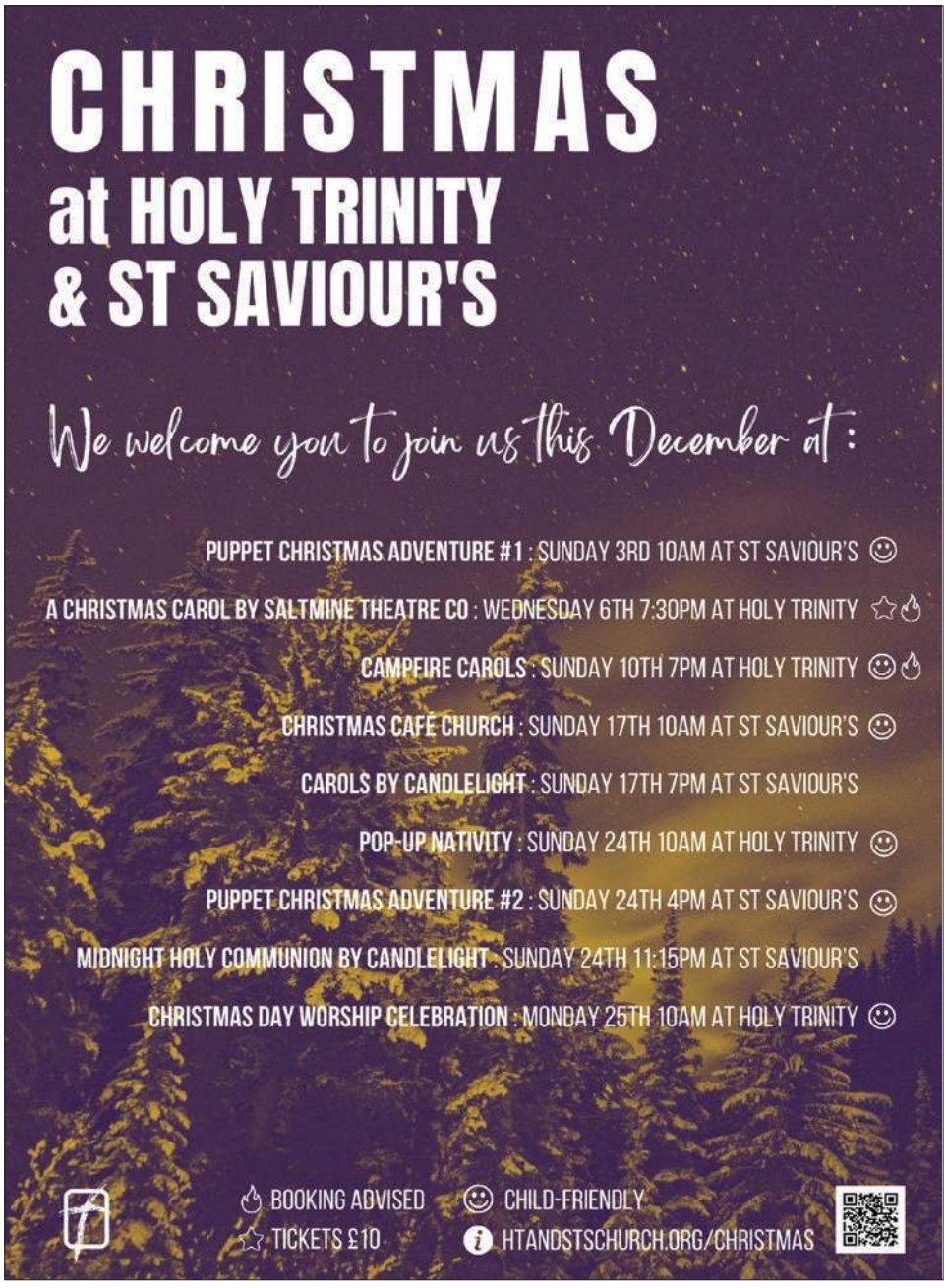
Interested in finding out what your property is worth?
Contact **Andrew, Simon** or **Mark** on **01483 798969**
to arrange a **FREE, no obligation valuation**.

seymours-estates.co.uk

Seymours

A WARM WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There is so much going on at St Saviour's and Holy Trinity, your local churches, so come and join us as we celebrate this special time of year.



HEATHLAND HABITAT HELPERS

If you enjoy the great outdoors, there is still time to sign up to one of the heathland project days and help clear scrubland and other tasks that need doing. More details of the project were reported in November's Brookwood News. These dates are still to happen:

Saturday 2 December
at Sheets Heath GU24 0NU

Wednesday 13 December
at Sheets Heath GU24 0NU

Wednesday 20 December
at Brookwood Heath, Chapel Lane, Pirbright GU24 0JY

Email heathlandproject@surreycc.gov.uk, or call 07974 864295.

BROOKWOOD CLUB

FESTIVITIES:

Saturday 2 December – Christmas tree lights switch on, from 6pm (mince pies, mulled wine and carol singing).

Friday 15 December – Christmas raffle night, tickets on sale at the bar, £1 a square.

Sunday 31 December – New Year's Disco from 8pm.

Saturday 6 January – Bingo, evening. Don't forget to renew your membership by 31 January.

BABIES & TODDLERS GEAR UP

Brookwood Babies and Toddlers Playgroup are gearing up for Christmas with a Christmas party at the end of term on 18 December. There will be crafts, songs and a visit from Father Christmas, so this will be a good opportunity for your toddler to meet him in a familiar setting. Places are limited for the party, and you can book a place at a regular session; Mondays 9.45am at Brookwood Memorial Hall. Regular sessions are on a 'turn up' basis, so no need to book for those. If you haven't been before, you are sure of a warm welcome from the lovely volunteers who run the group, and your first session is free. There is a quieter room for babies within the large Memorial Hall building, so all pre-school children and babies are catered for brookwoodbabies@gmail.com



AND DANCE!



There are plenty of activities held at the Memorial Halls but for many years dancing has been one of them. I have been going to group classes with my husband Mark for some of those years, and we have had such fun learning to dance and discovering that it isn't always as easy as it looks. Memory is one of our main problems, but Anita and Darren Kelly, our teachers, have such patience with all of us and there is plenty of laughter when things go wrong, and applause and cheering when it goes right. Anita and Darren are ex-residents of the village and continue to teach in Brookwood and elsewhere, both having 25 years of experience and qualifications with the IDTA (International Dance Teachers Association). As well as being professional teachers, they are adjudicators and lecturers, and in 2019 won the IDTA Inventive Dance competition (Latin Section) for a sequence dance Salsa Sizzle. Darren has served on the IDTA South East Ballroom committee for 17 years and has been chairman for six years. Anita has recently been elected on to the committee. In addition, Darren is on the IDTA board of directors, overseeing the running of association business, as well as promoting dance to wider audiences. As a social dance school, they teach adults and children ballroom and latin, from beginners to more experienced dancers, and provide the option of taking awards and medals. This is something we haven't done, but we enjoy the music, exercise and fun of learning and re-learning our dances, whilst making new friends.

If you are interested in knowing more, contact Anita and Darren at hello@anddance.co.uk or look at the website: https://www.anddance.co.uk

Yvonne Craven



OCTAVIAN SINGERS' CONCERT

This delightful choir will be performing again at St Saviour's Church on Saturday 16 December, 6pm. They are presenting a lighter programme of Christmas music, and you can relax with a drink as they work their way through a selection of seasonal favourites, and maybe join in with a few! There will be traditional carols, some festive solos and familiar jazzy songs. There is something for everyone, so come along for an entertaining evening of 'Winter Wonderland' fun. No tickets are needed but there will be a retiring collection.





CHRISTMAS TRAIL



After a successful event last year, Brookwood Memorial Halls are re-running their Christmas trail from 9 to 16 December. This year, the pictures are of zoomed in Christmas images, like the one below. Follow the trail around the village to find all 24. You can download a map and answer sheet from our website https://www.brookwoodmemorialhalls.org.uk/christmas or by scanning the QR code below. It would be great to see as many Brookwood villagers as possible on the last day of the trail for our Holly Jolly Gathering on 16 December, 4– 6pm, for mince pies, mulled wine and hot chocolate. If you have found all the pictures then you can enter our competition, where three entries will be drawn to win a Christmas prize. We wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.



CHRISTMAS MINGLE

This is the first of more free community events hosted by Brookwood Cemetery, Brookwood Cemetery Society, The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, American Battle Monument Commission and The Trench Experience. Brookwood residents are very welcome to come along. Event link is https://brookwood-christmas-mingle-23.eventbrite.co.uk for further information.



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

BROOKWOOD WI

It has been a very busy few months at Brookwood WI. We have had a talk from a local horse rescue charity called Mane Chance and learned how the charity has gone from a telephone call to the actress Jenny Seagrove in 2011, to a large 67- acre sanctuary based in Compton, Guildford. We were treated to stories of how the horses came to live there and how their characters have developed now that they are safe and healthy. We are about to have our AGM, to nominate our committee members and plan for 2024. We welcome visitors and new members to our friendly group meetings every third Tuesday for a 7.45pm start, in the small Memorial Hall. If you are interested, please call Maureen on 01483 475543 or just turn up!

VILLAGE DIARY DATES

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

Every Monday	Brookwood Babies and Toddlers Playgroup, 9.45am, Brookwood Memorial Hall
Every Friday	Brookwood Art Group, 9.30am to 12.30pm, Brookwood Memorial Hall
Every Friday	Pop-up Coffee, 10am to 12pm, St Saviour's
Friday 1 December	Christmas Fair, Brookwood School, 3.30pm
Saturday 2 December	Christmas tree switch on, Brookwood Club, 6pm
Sunday 3 December	Puppet Christmas adventure, St Saviour's, 10am
Friday 8 December	Foodbank collection deadline
Saturday 9 December	Memorial Halls Christmas Trail begins
Thursday 14 December	Christmas Mingle, Brookwood Cemetery, 6.30–8.30pm
Friday 15 December	Christmas raffle, Brookwood Club, evening
Saturday 16 December	Holly Jolly Gathering, Brookwood Memorial Halls, 4–6pm
Saturday 16 December	Octavian Singers concert, St Saviour's, 6pm
Sunday 17 December	Christmas Café Church, St Saviour's, 10am
Sunday 17 December	Carols by Candlelight, St Saviour's, 7pm
Monday 18 December	Christmas Party, Babies & Toddlers, Memorial Hall, 9.45am
Sunday 24 December	Puppet Christmas Adventure Nativity, St Saviour's, 4pm
Sunday 24 December	Midnight Communion service, St Saviour's, 11.15pm
Monday 25 December	Christmas Day worship, Holy Trinity, 10am
Sunday 31 December	New Year's Disco, Brookwood Club, 8pm
Sunday 7 January	Christmas tree collection, Brookwood Scouts

1st BROOKWOOD SCOUT GROUP
Registered Charity Number 1019247

Scouts

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

1st Brookwood Scouts will be collecting real trees for recycling on the morning of SUNDAY 7 January 2024

If you would like your tree to be collected, please visit our website 1stbrookwood.scoutsites.org.uk and complete the form, or scan the code below:

SCAN ME

In what has become an annual tradition, Brookwood Scouts will, once again, be collecting real Christmas trees from the local area to be recycled in exchange for a donation. Brookwood Scouts is a charity, meaning we rely on donations to continue to offer a varied, exciting and valuable programme for our local children and young people. Therefore, a small donation (suggested amount £4) would be appreciated to cover our Christmas tree collection costs and to help raise additional funds for the group. Last year we received fantastic support and raised £800, with half the amount raised going to Woking & Sam Beare Hospice. This year we'll again be fundraising for the hospice and the group. New camping equipment is needed as some of our tents are older than our Scouts!
For further information, please contact gsl@brookwoodscouts.org.uk. Book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Cunningham House Pirbright

Supported housing for older people who:

- value their independence
- love good food
- enjoy being sociable



Tel: 01483 488751

Website: www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk

Email: cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.com

Abbeyfield Pirbright & District Society

Cunningham House is the operating name of Abbeyfield Pirbright and District Society Limited, a registered society under the Co-Operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014, registration number 22478R

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 20th JANUARY 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.