

# BROOKWOOD NEWS

January 2018

## 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 those 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, then please go to [community@brookwood.org.uk](mailto: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, maybe the flats on the old Wesson site might get finished.

*Graham Hunt – Editor*

## CHRISTMAS TREE ILLUMINATIONS



There was a good turnout for this year's Brookwood Club Christmas tree lights turn on. This event was supported again by the band from Winston Churchill School and carols sung by Brookwood Primary School. The charity BBQ and mulled wine raised over £400 for the Club's charities FOBS and Woking Hospice. Well done to all those who helped to organise the event and those who turned up to support it on a very cold night.

## Seymours. Successfully selling houses in Brookwood.

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

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**SEYMOURS**  
Independent Estate Agents

# THE GARDEN OF THE GALAXY

This book by David Pennant, to be published in January 2018, is reviewed here by Yvonne Craven.

If you have an interest in Arabic, or parenting, or physics, or science fiction, then you will really enjoy this book. It is a quick read with an unusual format that takes us on a journey into a future world, where the characters are having the same human difficulties as the present day, but in different circumstances. The story begins with George and his son Tom maintaining the 'Big Gun' in space, and their relationship and personalities are soon apparent. All begins well, but the tension builds as danger is never far away and a sudden incident catapults us back to earth and sets George off on a series of events that changes his life dramatically.

David Pennant punctuates the story with theories and illustrations of how some of the equipment and structures described could actually be built. However, if the physics seems daunting, he gives you the option of skipping a couple of pages, although I found I didn't because it was fascinating to try and understand what might be possible in the year 3000 and beyond, and the explanations were simple and clear.

The other unusual aspect to this story is its origins. David was having lessons with an Arabic speaker, Abram, and it was their common interest in the future that led to David writing down Abram's dreams and theories about how humanity and the universe might develop, so this book is a result of Abram's ideas as well. David also introduces his character to God towards the end of the story, giving an interesting conflict between religion and science.

I enjoyed this book and found it a welcome diversion from my usual reading genre of modern novels. Although the story is halted with diagrams and facts, it was easy to pick up the story of George and Tom again, and I was keen to find out what happened to them. This book would also appeal to teenagers as they would relate to the parent-child relationship and it is a light read with interesting, thought-provoking ideas.

*David Pennant was Curate in Charge at St Saviour's Church, Brookwood, from 1988 to 1993. He now lives in Woking and is a writer and music teacher. 'The Garden of the Galaxy' is published by Silver Lining Books and is available at [www.pennantpublishing.co.uk/order.htm](http://www.pennantpublishing.co.uk/order.htm).*

## A BIG THANK YOU

Now that our Woking Christmas Foodbank Campaign has finished for this year, we wish to express our huge thanks to all who have donated. You are all awesome; we couldn't have done it without your help. It's fair to say that the campaign has been a massive success this year, with Brookwood village coming together as a community and really embracing the spirit of Christmas by giving.

Massive thanks to the following who in their own right have either helped with drop-off points, food parcels, cash donations or in some cases all three:

- Brookwood Club
- Baker's Dozen & Post Office
- Brookwood Primary School
- Brookwood Pre-School
- Decor Mate – painting and decorating
- Brookwood Cars
- Tudor News
- Glassmaster
- Pizza Plus
- Surrey Drycleaners
- East West Indian Restaurant

Just so you all know, we actually managed to get a few other places involved too, including CSG International and Swinton Insurance, both in Woking, Don't Just Sit There Sell Something in Guildford and the Welsh Guards at Pirbright Camp.

We would like to thank Jon Andrews



of Radio Woking (most of you didn't even know we had a radio station in Woking, but we do; it's based at Winston Churchill School in St John's) who joined us right from the start and helped with social media through Facebook, Twitter and Airtime (Jon very kindly did interviews each week and sometimes on location including Bakers Dozen and Brookwood Club). You can catch him on [www.radiowoking.co.uk](http://www.radiowoking.co.uk) or DAB.

With your help, and you should all be so proud of yourselves, we delivered in excess of 30 very large containers completely full of food, which is some achievement we think, and hopefully will go a long way to help those families struggling at this time of the year.

Once again, many thanks for your support. Here's wishing you all an absolute blast for 2018.

Love, Trudi and Darren



**NEW SERVICES**  
for **ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, BROOKWOOD**  
STARTING ON 7TH JANUARY 2018 at 10am

- 1st Sunday** Puppet Church (for all ages)
- 2nd Sunday** Holy Communion Service (time and space to reflect)
- 3rd Sunday** Café Church (with breakfast, newspapers and chat)
- 4th Sunday** Worship at 10 (new informal service for all the family)

GET IN TOUCH  
[WWW.H1ANDSTCCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.H1ANDSTCCHURCH.ORG)  
ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, COMPAIGNT  
ROAD, BROOKWOOD, GU24 8AE

HOLY TRINITY  
ST SAVIOUR'S

# RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH



The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch is coming... on the weekend of 27–29 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](http://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 (also see [http://ww2.rspb.org.uk/our-work/rspb-feed&utm\\_campaign=News#Vk01jZd8xPCDrAu.99](http://ww2.rspb.org.uk/our-work/rspb-feed&utm_campaign=News#Vk01jZd8xPCDrAu.99)).

## 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.

# TRAIN TIMETABLE CHANGES

Ed Huntsman wrote an excellent letter to SWR regarding the timetable changes. The reply from SWR, however, was not quite so informative. See below.

*Dear SWR Team,*

*Firstly I would like to commend the approach to amend the timetabling to reflect the changing dynamic of commuters into London over longer distances as more and more people move away from the capital.*

*Through what has been a very challenging and frustrating few months for us since the transition from SWT, it is good to see that fast line services which consume time at Clapham have been rationalised in order to shorten journey times into London.*

*My main concern naturally focuses around Brookwood as that is the area I live. There has been significant investment in improving the capacity of the car park which as a resident is frustrating (busier platforms and less seats!) but we understand the vital role Brookwood plays in reducing congestion at both Farnborough and Woking stations.*

*The morning schedule to me looks sensible and will reduce commuting times from the village so I'm supportive.*

*The concern I and many of my fellow commuters have regarded the service home at peak hours in the evening. Currently we have 3 fast trains where the first stop is Brookwood, namely: 17.41, 18.12 and 18.41. The timetable, if I read correctly, has removed all these fast trains and added a stop at Woking for all*

*trains. These 3 trains are extremely popular within the village and it would be painful to see them all removed so I would request a review of this to take the above into consideration.*

*Another factor that you may not be aware of is that 29 new flats are almost at the stage of completion opposite the station entrance, and a developer has just procured land and is working on delivering further housing on the Coblands site which is a 5 min walk from the station. Also, Brookwood Farm has delivered 297 new homes over the last couple of years. All of these people are highly dependent on the station, so I hope you can take this into consideration and work out a way to keep our fast service home.*

*I have copied our local Councillor Kevin Davis, our community newsletter team and Brian Watson, who are all key stakeholders for the village, and do a great job keeping us all informed and helping out in our community.*

*Best regards, Ed Huntsman*

And SWR's reply was:

*Thank you for your email. We log all responses and will be reviewing comments before creating the final proposal. Unfortunately we are not able to respond to specific questions due to the sheer volume of emails we receive and would refer you to the consultation website where updates will be posted.*

*Kind regards, SWR Railway.*

Say no more. Thanks anyway – Ed.

# WELCOME TO BROOKWOOD



Welcome to baby Henry Floodgate, born 23rd August.

A special welcome to all the babies born here in the past 12 months. We wish you and your families much joy as you grow up in this community.

# BROOKWOOD BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The February issue of

Brookwood News will include

the business directory. If

you wish to be included (at

no cost!), please contact

[community@brookwood.org](mailto:community@brookwood.org).

uk with basic details and a

contact number/email.

are welcome. Please contact [community@brookwood.org.uk](mailto:community@brookwood.org.uk) by the 20th of this month

## BROOKWOOD CLUB

Thanks to everybody for supporting the Village Christmas Tree Event last month – a great community event, which raised a whopping total of £400 for our charities Woking Hospice and FOBS!

Our next regular Cash Bingo evenings are on Saturday 6 January and Saturday 3 February, both 8pm for 'eyes down' at 8.30pm. £1 per book. All welcome.

Saturday 13 January is our next live music night, featuring classic rock anthems from local band Broken Bones, from 8.30 to 11pm. All welcome.

We are looking for permanent/flexible part time bar staff. Please pop in the Club and speak to Lee the Steward if you would like to find out more. Please enquire at the bar if you are interested in joining your village social club. Current members don't forget that Club membership subscription renewals are due by 31 January 2018.

### VILLAGE DIARY DATES

(also see the village website at [www.brookwood.org.uk](http://www.brookwood.org.uk))

#### Saturday 6 January

Cash Bingo, Brookwood Club, eyes down 8.30pm

#### Sunday 7 January

Puppet Church, St Saviour's, 10 am

#### Saturday 13 January

Band, Broken Bones, Brookwood Club, 8.30pm, all welcome

#### Sunday 21 January

Café Church (breakfast, papers and chat), St Saviour's, 10am

## SCOOP YOUR POOP!

There is no Poop Fairy ...



A reminder for people to pick up after their dog? The verges and the paths have sometimes had dog poo left on them. Getting dog poo on your shoes and treading it into the house is just the worst. So please, please, observe if your dog has been, and pick it up.



Natus Physiotherapy

**NEW Pilates Classes in Brookwood**

**Fun and friendly mixed level classes run by a chartered physiotherapist**

Monday evenings at 7.30pm and 8.30pm

At the Brookwood Farm pavilion

For more information or to book a FREE trial class please email [Rebecca.natusphysio@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Rebecca.natusphysio@yahoo.co.uk)



THE  
PERSONAL  
TRAINING  
WAY

## NEW Pirbright Bootcamp

**Wednesday 06.30am  
(village green)**



Prebook your class:-  
[iancopp@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iancopp@yahoo.co.uk)  
or 07855 368364

### Would you like to advertise in the newsletter?

Adverts are £25 for an 1/8 page advert or £45 for 1/4 page. For more information on advertising please contact us on [community@brookwood.org.uk](mailto:community@brookwood.org.uk)

**NB: DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER IS 20th JANUARY** preferably by e-mail to [community@brookwood.org.uk](mailto:community@brookwood.org.uk) or telephone 01483 480273 or a note through the door of 78 Connaught Road.

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