

# **Brookwood Memorial Halls**

*Registered charity number 304981*

## **Report for the year ending 31st December 2019**

The Halls are managed by a Committee constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 20th February 1950 for the benefit of all Brookwood residents, elected each April at the Annual General Meeting open to residents. The Committee comprises 4 members elected by qualifying inhabitants and up to 14 members representing recognised Village organisations. A further 6 members may be co-opted by the Management Committee. The Management Committee currently comprises Mr. J. Thornton (Chair), Ms. L. Norris (Secretary), Mr. A. Male (Treasurer), Mr C. Greenwood (Lettings Officer), Mrs. M. Cook (WI representative), Mr. P. Goold (Scouts Association representative) and Mrs J. Grimshaw (Art Groups representative) and Mr. A. Gray. The Hall's banker is the Charities Aid Foundation, West Malling, Kent. We maintained financial reserves throughout the year adequate to remain solvent in case the Halls become unlettable should major insured damage need repair. We review this policy annually.

The Halls continue to be actively used by regular hirers and village organisations, and are a popular venue for children's parties. During the year we redecorated the Memorial Hall, replaced the Community Hall front door, improved car park drainage, undertook an asbestos safety inspection, and installed bicycle racks, We completed compiling a Book of Remembrance of those commemorated on the plaque inside the Hall who died as a result of the two World Wars for the freedoms we enjoy today. The Book is displayed annually at the Remembrance Service held at the village Church. The Hall also serves as the local Election venue.

We continue to manage expenditure closely, whilst ensuring that the Halls remain in good and attractive order, safe for our hirers and their guests. We adhere diligently to all relevant guidance and requirements for our activities and facilities, and maintain licenses for entertainment and sporting activities, reproduction of music, provision of catering facilities (to 100 table seated guests) and stage shows (to 220 seated audience). The Halls are a popular venue for dance and exercise, music and social activities. The Halls provide WiFi and Bluetooth music speakers in both Halls, and voice distribution through wireless microphones and an induction loop system. The Memorial Hall provides press-button, wide access to wheelchairs and buggies, with a toilet for disabled guests.

The objects of our Trust are to maintain and improve the facilities of the Halls for the benefit of the residents of Brookwood and its immediate vicinity without discrimination. Our volunteer Trustees again delivered on this trust diligently. On behalf of the village residents, I thank them all for their efforts. The Management Committee seeks new, younger volunteers with appropriate skills and interests to join us as Trustees and to assist in the development of the Halls. We invite interested parties to contact us for further information.

John Thornton, Chair - on behalf of the Trustees and Management Committee, Brookwood Memorial Halls

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**[www.bmhalls.org.uk](http://www.bmhalls.org.uk)**

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