

Magazine of the Knaphill Residents' Association knaphill

Autumn 2015 Issue 49

news



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
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Knaphill News

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We have a circulation of 5,000 copies and a readership of c15,000 that reach throughout Knaphill and the surrounding villages on a quarterly basis in March, June, September and December.

Please submit articles for the next issue to Sue Stocker at editor@knaphill.org

To promote your business, please get in touch via paul@websterconsultancy.co.uk

Contact the KRA

By post: c/o Knaphill Post Office, 1-2 Anchor Crescent, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2PD

By email: news@knaphill.org

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Have you ever thought of giving some of your time to help out the KRA to make your home village even better? We'd love to have you on board and need your continued support to run projects, events and the annual village show.

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From the Chairman



Anyone for cricket?! Knaphill has an excellent cricket pitch maintained by Woking Council at Waterers Park, but until now no cricket team. For this reason, the Knaphill Residents Association (KRA) organised a charity cricket match in August pitching a select team of veterans against a local youth team. This drew a good crowd who enjoyed the event on a pleasant summer's day, including a BBQ and refreshments organised by the Garibaldi Pub.

Due to the substantial interest, the hope is to get a regular Knaphill Cricket team off the ground with the support of the KRA (see more details on this under the match write-up in the sports section on page 10).

You'll see some cricket photos in the magazine, as well as a selection of photos from this year's Village Show at Mizens Railway which the KRA organise each year. We were delighted with the success of this year's show which, blessed by good weather and with a host of entertainment, both musical and dancing, a dog show, children's entertainment (and of course the Mizens steam trains), drew an attendance of around 2,500, a record! Can you spot anyone you know in the photos?

Very best wishes,

John Butler, KRA Chairman

chairman@knaphill.org



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Editor's Report

And the seasons come and go... though you could be forgiven for not having noticed summer this year, not one of our best efforts overall. So we were particularly lucky with the weather on the day of the Village Show, wall-to-wall sunshine, and wall-to-wall visitors too – definitely one of our best efforts overall!

It's been rightly pointed out to us that our magazine has tended to be lacking in articles aimed at families, so to rectify that we have a contribution in this issue of particular interest to those residents with younger children, written by somebody representative of that younger generation of Knaphill residents – take a bow, Phillippa Pluess! Phillippa has also joined the committee of the KRA as a co-opted member, and will be helping us ensure our content has a more multi-generational relevance in future, with another article suggested by her already in the pipeline for the next issue. In this connection, we also welcome suggestions from readers for articles aimed at younger families, so please let us have your ideas.

As you'll see on the Pinboard and the more detailed articles in the body of the magazine, we have various activities and events coming up in the Village in the next couple of months for residents of all ages, so we hope to see many of you there enjoying yourselves and helping to keep the community spirit thriving.



with best wishes,
Sue Stocker, Editor

Village Bits & Pieces

New library opening times

For anybody who doesn't yet know, or who needs a reminder, the new library opening times are as follows:

Monday	1pm – 5pm
Tuesday	10am – 5pm
Wednesday	Close
Thursday	10am – 5pm
Friday	10am – 5pm
Saturday	9.30am – 4pm

Litter Pick

The autumn village litter-pick will take place on Saturday 7th November from 10.30 to 12.00, to ensure the village is as clean and tidy as possible for the Remembrance Day ceremony. As many hands make light work, volunteer pickers are very welcome to meet up at 10.00 in front of the library, where all equipment will be provided by WBC.

Remembrance Day

The traditional Remembrance Day ceremony will be held on Wednesday 11th November outside the old library building in the High Street. The ceremony will be led this year by Father Alexander Lucie-Smith of St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church, with readings by local schoolchildren, in the presence of Jonathan Lord MP, the Knaphill Councillors, representatives of the British Legion and military personnel from Pirbright camp. Please be numerous to come and pay your respects.



Knaphill Scouts Fireworks

The annual bonfire night event will be taking place this year on Saturday 7th November in the Vyne Field. Gates open at 6pm, the giant bonfire will be lit at 7pm, and the scintillating firework display will be at 7.30pm. In addition, there will be children's rides and a kids' tombola, hot dogs and burgers and drinks. Entry costs £4 for adults and £3 for children. This is the Scouts main fundraiser, so come along and support them as well as having a good time!

Improvements to Knaphill village centre (and a bit off-centre..)

You may have noticed that most of the very old and dilapidated waste bins in the village centre have been removed, and replaced by more modern models with a recycling facility. Moreover, if your route takes you somewhat away from the centre and round the Sussex Road green, you will also note an additional bench installed and a new and properly-functioning dog-waste bin. Two additional trees will also be planted shortly, and we also hope eventually to see a couple of wooden picnic tables and benches, all this with a view to making this area more attractive and user-friendly. These actions were initiated by the KRA as part of our efforts to improve the street scene and general amenities in Knaphill, and our thanks go to our WBC Neighbourhood Officer Kate Wilson who facilitates these works, and to Serco who carry them out.

Knaphill Care Fundraising Event

We do not yet have a definite date for this event, but we do know that it will be a musical soiree of Music from the Shows, complete as usual with a supper, some time at the end of November. Keep an eye out for posters around the Village and on our website.

Lorenzo's Restaurant & Deli

We're pleased to welcome Lorenzo and his restaurant and deli recently installed at 5 High Street. See more in our Business Focus section.

New footpath

Although not officially opened as we go to press, the new fully-surfaced footpath linking Knaphill and Brookwood is now accessible, as the barrier at the canal end has been removed. It runs from Brookwood Farm Way to the towpath on the Basingstoke Canal, which is good news for the many people who walk or cycle to and from Brookwood station, albeit it comes to an abrupt end at the new sports changing rooms on the Brookwood Farm estate.

Holy Trinity Preschool

Holy Trinity Preschool still has a few spaces in its 3-5 year old room. Please call 07920 714310 for further information and to register.

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Firstly, if you enjoy reading our publication (Ed.: which hopefully you do, but if not let me know and I'll try to do something about it, within reason of course!), could you help with delivering the magazine in your neighbourhood once every three months? If so, please contact the Editor with your details on editor@knaphill.org.

And all you professional and gifted amateur photographers out there, would you like to see one of your photos on the cover of our magazine? We're always on the lookout for a good cover picture, and you'll be credited of course, so some free publicity into the bargain. Again please contact the editor.

Last but by no means least, we are urgently looking for a webmaster to look after the KRA website, as well as our Twitter account and Facebook page. Expenses will be paid. If you can help, please email our Chairman on chairman@knaphill.org.

STUBBS' STUBS

The Meadows

The Meadows on Bagshot Road, next to The Nags Head PH has stood empty for over 12 months and there has been a complete silence on what is planned for the building/site. Last year there was an issue when travellers moved onto the car park but since then complete silence from both the owners of the building, the NHS and WBC. Any building that stands empty for a considerable period of time deteriorates and eventually will become unusable. There are already signs on the front of the building of water damage from blocked/broken drain pipes. According to police reports the entire building has been stripped of its internal fittings. What a disgrace; if it had been privately owned there would be a requirement on the Council to bring the building back into use, it would make good flats, but as it is owned by the NHS they can just allow it to stand empty and deteriorate.

This may be the plan, to allow the building to fall into disrepair then submit a planning



application to demolish the building and build houses. If the building is demolished, should the site not be added to the country park that is being constructed at the rear

of the building?

Given that the building has stood empty for such a long period, one wonders if the Council are receiving any business rates?

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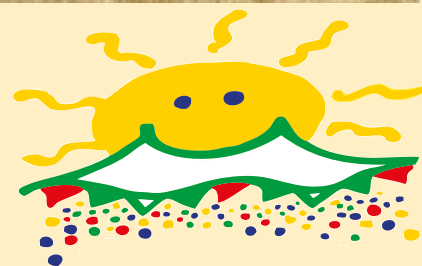
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2015 KNAPHILL VILLAGE SHOW



Well, what can we say, apart from "didn't it go well"?! An unbeatable combination of terrific entertainment and activities and glorious weather attracted a record crowd of over 2,500 people to this year's show which was kindly opened by local MP Jonathan Lord – even the dog show participants more than doubled!

Mizens Miniature Railway proved once again to be the ideal location, the different musical and dance acts, the football activities from Knaphill Athletic and Knaphill FC, all the various stalls, children's attractions and rides, and the refreshments available meant there really was something for everyone. The organisers of the show, the Knaphill Residents' Association, would like to say a big thank you again to all the Show's sponsors and local retailers who as always supported the event so generously, and helped raise a record amount of funds which have been distributed to local charities as follows: Face the Future, The Knaphill Cabin and Knaphill CAB. In addition, Peer Productions received the proceeds of Knaphill Athletic's "Beat the Goalie" competition at the show."

Mizens Oktoberfest

Mizens annual Oktoberfest will be taking place from midday to 5pm on Sunday 17th October. Come along and admire the collection of fascinating vintage fairground organs and steam trains, fairground models show, craft and produce stalls, a display by Brooklands Museum, and enjoy the vintage children's funfair and refreshments including a beer and sausage tent – Prosit!

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PICKING THE PERFECT PRE-SCHOOL

If you have a child aged 0-4 years, pre-school is bound to be something that has crossed your mind. Here in Knaphill, we have a wide range of options right on our doorstep, so the following background might be useful to help you to make the right choice right for you and your child. "Pre school" is the term given to the gentle learning environment that youngsters attend without parents to prepare them primary school. Many pre-schools accept new starters from 2 years and they can keep going until aged 5. Sessions are often quite short, just 3 hours at a time. Some pre-schools accept names on waiting lists from birth, so if you have somewhere specific in mind, it's best not to delay getting in touch. You can ask

for a tour around every provider, and they will know the main points of concern for new parents, so should address these without you needing to ask. Spend time looking into each option, so you can be sure you made the best decision for you and your child.

Traditional style pre-schools tend to offer similar opening times to schools; they operate for 38 weeks of the year and close during all Surrey County Council school holidays. They tend to provide children with a smaller and more intimate environment for their first time away from parental care. You'll need to provide a packed lunch for the lunchtime sessions, although snacks and drinks are normally included.

Pied Piper Pre School

Knaphill Methodist Church, Broadway,
GU21 2DR
07946 28 46 36
Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, 9-12,
plus optional lunch session to 1pm on
Thurs & Fri
www.piedpiperpreschool.wix.com/piedpiper

Holy Trinity Pre School

Holy Trinity Church Hall, Chobham Road,
GU21 2SX
07920 714310
Open: Mon-Fri 9-12, plus optional lunch
session to 1pm, plus afternoon session
Wed & Fri to 2.30
www.knaphillchurch.co.uk/holytrinity-pre-school.htm

Knaphill Pre School

Brookwood Country Pavillion,
Off Redding Way, GU21 2AY
07914 70 78 02
Open: Mon-Fri 9-12, lunch session
to 12.30, afternoon session 12.30-3.30
(excl. Weds)
www.knaphillpreschool.co.uk

Nurseries operate all day, Monday to Friday, throughout the year, providing full childcare support for working parents. The children are divided up according to age, and children move into the dedicated pre-school rooms as they reach the appropriate age. They provide all meals, drinks and snacks.

Nursery classes attached to schools also offer a great starting point for your child to adapt to school life, as they are attached to the primary school that your child might attend in the future (although it should be noted that entry to the nursery is not linked to ensuring a place at the school). They also follow the SCC term times opening structure, and are open throughout the school day so will include lunchtime sessions.

BusyBees Day Nursery

50 Cavell Way, GU21 2TJ
01483 256739
Open: Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm
www.busybeeschildcare.co.uk/nursery/working

Knaphill Lower School Nursery

Chobham Road, GU21 2SX
01483 473282
www.knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk/nursery.asp

St John's Nursery and Primary School

Victoria Road, GU21 2AS
01483 476450
www.stjohnsknaphill.co.uk/nursery.html

Finally, Montessori pre-school is a slightly different style, which encourages children to learn through discovery and making their own choices, at their own pace. There is a Montessori school next to Brookwood Primary School, which also follows the SCC term times opening structure.

Blossom Montessori School

Connaught Road, Brookwood, GU24 0HF
01483 488292
www.blossom-montessori.co.uk/brookwood/

A Word on Funding

The great news is that in England, all 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early learning for 38 weeks of the year, funded by the government. There is no complicated process involved; at the start of each term, your provider will simply give you a form to sign and they do all the rest. This early education can take place in pre-schools, nurseries or with childminders, and parents can spread the allocation across more than one provider (for example, 6 hours with a pre-school, plus 9 hours with a childminder) so that you can be sure you're getting the best option for you and your child.

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A busy year at the Knaphill Cabin

The year 2014/15 was one of the busiest ever for The Cabin Youth Club. By June 2015 the club had over 110 members on their books, with an average attendance on a Monday night of 33, with the highest attendance being 38, probably close to the building's maximum. During the year the volunteers were able to open on two additional nights per week. Monday remains the club's most popular night, on Tuesday the Cabin offers football training with an official FA coach, and Thursday night is given over to computer studies.

One of the highlights of the year for the volunteers who run and manage the Cabin was when they received recognition for their work from the High Sheriff of Surrey, Mrs Elizabeth Kennedy, who made an official visit to the club and talked with both volunteers and members.

Following her visit the club received a youth award. The citation on the certificate reads:

'This Award is presented by the High Sheriff of Surrey to recognise the valuable and imaginative work of Knaphill Cabin Youth Club. It also conveys the gratitude of all those who live in Surrey for the way your project contributes towards making the community safer and stronger.' Manager Donna O'Donoghue said that receiving this recognition made all the effort worthwhile.

The Cabin management team are keen to recruit new volunteers, and currently have vacancies for a cafe operator, club night volunteers and backroom staff such as treasurer or secretary. If you are interested, please visit the club's website www.knaphillcabin.org.uk.



Knaphill Schools' PTA

In the school year September 2014 to July 2015, the commitment and hard work of the PTA raised the phenomenal amount of over £22,000. This money is destined to fund iPads and educational trips for the Lower School, and for the Junior School also iPads and new playground equipment.

The Knaphill Schools' PTA Christmas Fair will be taking place on



12th December at the Junior School. The organisers welcome suitable stallholders to swell the number of attractions, so if you are interested please contact them on chair@knaphillschoolspta.org.uk for further information.

A new PTA committee in place as of September chaired jointly by Lisa Childs and Beth Hall.

The fair is open to the public, so come along and pick up some goodies for Christmas and help the PTA in its on-going fundraising efforts!

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH 150th ANNIVERSARY

In November this year Knaphill Methodists are beginning an important year of celebrations to mark the arrival of Methodism in the village 150 years ago and the story of the church community since then. A number of special events are being planned, and a hearty welcome is extended to all who would like to attend any of these events. In addition, various documents which tell the story from the beginnings to the present day will be updated and republished.

A key event in the year will be a flower festival at the church over the weekend of 11th and 12th June 2016, with special services on Sunday 12th June, including a Songs of Praise style service.

The first event of this year of celebration is a Victorian-themed Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 28th November, from 10am to 2pm on the church premises in the Broadway, and we hope as many as possible will be able to attend.

Details of later events will be published in our winter edition and are of course available on the website <http://www.knaphill-methodist-church.com>.

Bees on the Allotment

At one time or another on a warm summer's day, we've all have watched honey bees busily going about their business, tripping from flower to flower collecting nectar, and by their very industry they set an example to us all. The thought of having a hive full of these industrious creatures, and thus supplying me with an almost limitless quantity of honey with no effort on my part, was a most appealing prospect. But, as is usually the case, the true story of beekeeping isn't really anything like that.

I became a beekeeper by default. Following a discussion at our allotment committee, (Sheets Heath allotments at Brookwood) it was decided it would be a good idea to keep bees, and thereby increase the rate of propagation of our plants, thus improving the yields on the allotments. Following the meeting, I came home and in a weak moment was telling my family all about the joys of keeping bees. Unbeknown to me, they decided amongst themselves that they now knew what to buy their father for Christmas – send him off on a beekeeping course! I mean, what else do you buy dad for Christmas? I foolishly told my fellow allotment committee members about this unusual Christmas present, so before you could say "Jiminy Cricket" I had become the local beekeeper for the Brookwood allotments.

So, fired up with a ridiculous amount of enthusiasm, off I went on my course at Black Horse Apiary, which was very practical and hands-on, and I mean that quite literally, as a consequence of which I was hooked.

Obviously the first thing I needed was a hive, so being a practical sort of chap, off I went to my shed with a large selection of timber, a couple of photographs and a quick sketch. After various disasters, I produced my first hive (looking, in hindsight, a bit Heath Robinson). I then decided to paint it, using various colours of paint left over from other jobs, thus ending up with a very psychedelic hive!

After gazing longingly at the trade catalogues, I sent off my order, clasping my somewhat overworked credit card in hand, to the supplier of beekeeping equipment. This of course included the pristine white overall, the funny hat, Marigold gloves, and sundry pieces of equipment, which five years later I have never used, and I suspect never will.

With an arrogant stance and a glint in my eye, and surrounded by my hive and various other sundry equipment, I was ready to become beekeeper to the world, and of course making my fortune on the way. Little did I know.... (to be continued)

Martin Dunham



BUSINESS FOCUS

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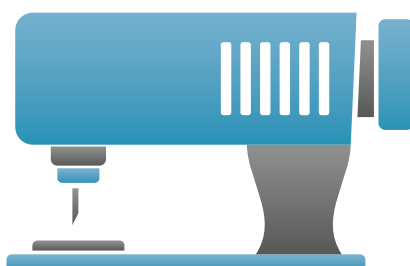
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It is my pleasure to provide you with highest quality food and service at reasonable prices. If you have any special wishes, I am happy to create the dish for you. All my recipes are simple and tasty and only natural ingredients are used, everything is home-made. All dishes are done in a very traditional way. Pizza and bread are made in Neapolitan style using only sourdough starter (no chemical yeast at all).

There is a piece of Italy at Lorenzo's Deli Restaurant in the heart of Knaphill village at 5 High Street, tel.: 01483 808360. Everyone is always welcome, especially families!"

Lorenzo is offering all customers a 10% reduction on their food bill through October and November on presentation of this article.



SEWING MACHINE SALES AND REPAIRS

Richard Rendall traded from the Singer Sewing Machine shop in Chertsey Road, Woking for 37 years until its closure in May this year. He now offers his expert service, both in sales and repairs, from his home at 49 Robin Hood Road in Knaphill.

Richard can be contacted on 01483 773 595, 07766 461429, Richard@singer-woking.co.uk, or see his website www.singer-woking.co.uk.

Richard is pleased to offer a 10% discount on presentation of this article throughout October and November.

If you have a new business you'd like to promote in this feature, please contact the Editor with your details and get yourself some free publicity; all we ask in return is a bit of a special offer to our readers to tempt them through your door!



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SPORTS NEWS



Knaphill FC

We kicked off the season on 8th August with a 1-0 win over Bedfont Sports, and the following week we hosted Highworth Town from Wiltshire in the FA Cup. Sadly we couldn't repeat our mini-run in the competition last season as we suffered a 3-1 defeat. The First team currently sit in seventh position in the league with four wins, two defeats and one draw. Our Reserves league season is well under way, they are currently in second place, unbeaten after four games with three wins and one draw. Our U18's kicked off their season with a 3-1 defeat to Sandhurst Town. We have a new management team of Barry Losty and Steve Hobbs, who both have a wealth of experience in youth football.

Away from the pitch, we had a successful day at the Knaphill Village Show where we revealed our new club mascot Fergie The Fox. We set up a competition for youngsters to name our new mascot and the winner was Ellis Thomas. Ellis is pictured here with Fergie, his parents and grandma. The club have also appointed local Knaphill businessman Jim Ahmed as Community Co-Coordinator.

It would be good to get more local support at the club, so come on down and cheer on your real local team!

Twitter – @KnaphillFC, Website – www.pitchero.com/clubs/knaphillfootballclub – Instagram – [knaphill_fc](https://www.instagram.com/knaphill_fc)



Knaphill Cricket

Knaphill's first charity cricket match organised by the Residents Association took place on Sunday 16th August at Waterer's Park, pitting the experience of a senior team captained by Cllr Saj Hussain against the fitness of the juniors captained by Neil Thomas, the KRA's match coordinator. An entertaining and fun afternoon was enjoyed by the spectators, aided by the fine weather and food and refreshments provided in the park by the Garibaldi Pub, while the neighbouring Royal Oak Pub lowered its garden drawbridge to allow easy access for players and spectators to quench their thirst.

Both players and spectators expressed their enthusiasm to make this inaugural game, which was won by the youth team by a tight margin of 4 runs, an annual event. Plans are already under consideration for next year, with the support of the KRA, possibly on a somewhat larger scale including the setting up of a regular Knaphill Cricket Club with games against other local clubs over the season, with a chosen charity to benefit from funds raised. The first step would be to set up a subcommittee, and our coordinator, Neil Thomas, is very keen to hear from those of you who have an interest and to organise an initial meet up. Neil can be contacted by email at neilthomas_11@hotmail.co.uk.

As the military at Pirbright kindly donated cricket equipment for the match, the KRA was more than happy to donate the £100 raised on match day by a raffle organised by Neil and his wife to an army charity. It was suggested that this be Fisher House, which provides accommodation for service families who have a relative admitted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, the receiving unit for all wounded British military personnel.

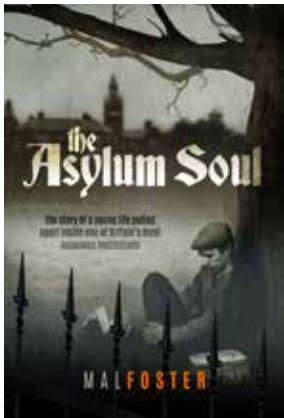
Chobham RFC

Well, the rugby season is now in full swing, with the Rugby World Cup fixtures on-going at various venues throughout the land, and the country fully behind the England team.

Meanwhile, Chobham First XV have kicked off their season and their assault on National League rugby after last season's promotion play-off disappointment. The team have adopted the hashtag mantra #oneclub #onebetter to emphasise their collective desire to lead the club to first rather than second position in the league and guaranteed promotion this time. Their opening fixture saw them tear into a shell-shocked Gosport & Fareham, scoring at times at will, and the result and healthy points difference sees them leading the pack after one round of matches. It will be a long, hard season and the support of the local community on the touch line and behind the scenes will be needed to see them over the line.

Minis and Youth Rugby has also started a new season, and ladies' touch rugby and girls' rugby continues to flourish at the club. The latest addition to the portfolio of rugby at Chobham is Little Cannons. The Little Cannons group is for our youngest members aged 2 to 5. With an emphasis on fun, our focus is to enhance the physical and social development of children through rugby-themed activities to start their career at Chobham. Little Cannon sessions run on Tuesdays mornings and more details can be had from contacting the clubs Youth Development Officer, Liam Cranford (ydo@chobham-rugby.co.uk). Whatever your age, there's now a rugby format for you at Chobham.

As always, visit the club's website to learn more about Chobham Rugby Club, and get in touch and support your local club. www.chobhamrugby.co.uk



OUT NOW! – The Asylum Soul – a novel by local author Mal Foster

Lunatic asylums were an inescapable hangover of Victorian Britain and they harnessed a certain stigma borne from an environment of fear and shame as well as the great unknown.

For many families the asylum system helped create their darkest 'skeletons', and for Thomas (Tommy) Compton, it was unforgiving. In 1929 he was twenty three years old when his mother had him sent to the Brookwood Lunatic Asylum in Surrey, his only ailment – a simple speech defect.

Based on Tommy's own diary notes, The Asylum Soul is a disturbing account of an innocent young life ripped apart by unthinkable institutional failings, false hope and ultimate family betrayal.

Available from Amazon.co.uk (Paperback and Kindle) or by order from any good bookshop. More information at www.malfoster.co.uk



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BURPHAM



HORSELL



No Autumn chill in site for the housing market!

2015 has been another busy year with the lack of stock still driving the housing market.

This is particularly evident in the three/four bedroom family home sector as many at this time of the year wish to move before Christmas. The lower end of the market is as strong as ever with investment buyers keen to get into the area as rentals are remaining strong. All in all a great time to sell, so please call Knaphill's busiest estate agent if you are thinking of moving.

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