

Magazine of the Knaphill Residents' Association knaphill

Autumn 2016 Issue 53

news



Photos: John Stocker and
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Knaphill News

knaphill.org

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We have a circulation of 5,000 copies and a readership of ca15,000 that reaches throughout Knaphill and the surrounding villages on a quarterly basis in March, June, September and December.

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Contact the KRA

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

By email: news@knaphill.org

Join us

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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Read & Recycle

From the Chairman



One of the most prominent buildings on the High Street, unmissable due to its striking mustard yellow, is The Anchor Pub. The Anchor was originally built in the late 1700s as a hotel with its own stables and a small thatched farmhouse, and was one of the first buildings to be built on what is now the High Street. It was converted to a public house in the 1930s. Given its prime location there are many discussions on its future on-going at time of writing; for more details, I refer you to Phil Stubbs' detailed article on page 5.

The Knaphill Village show has once again come and gone, again blessed by good weather, and with an attendance of over 2,500. It was good to see so many local organisations and businesses coming together in the grounds of Mizens Railway. The photographs on the cover and on page 6 tell the full story. A big thank you to all who organised the show and the volunteers on the day. It was a massive undertaking by a small dedicated group.

Best wishes

John Butler, KRA Chairman

chairman@knaphill.org



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Editor's Report

It's not been the best of summers weather-wise, has it, late in arriving and diffident even then, with intermittent bursts of sunshine and blue sky here and there, but hopefully we've all been able to make the best of it. But now the holiday tans are starting to fade, the children are back at school and most of us are back at work. In other words, life carries on at its usual rhythm, and indeed also despite the tumultuous political events of a few months ago. Only time will tell of course what the future holds, but hopefully we shall be able to find the resources and good humour to cope with things, just as we do with our unpredictable British weather!

Best wishes

Sue Stocker, Editor



Village Bits & Pieces



Floral decorations

The planters on the Lockfield Drive mini-roundabout were once again lovely, and the new tubs on the Coop railings have flourished after a doubtful start. The replanted bed outside Boorman's is certainly more varied and colourful, although more regular weeding and watering would be good. The posts for the new hanging baskets were only installed mid-August, and the baskets were sadly well past their best, but at least the posts are now there, and we look forward to getting the full benefit of them next year. The KRA have lobbied hard over the last couple of years for Knaphill to have these decorations similar to Woking town centre and all the other villages around the borough, and we'd like to thank our Councillors for their support in bringing this project to fruition.

Library opening hours change

As of 5th September, Knaphill library will be open during the following hours:

Monday 1.00 – 5.00 • Tuesday 10.00 – 1.00, 2.00 – 5.00

Wednesday Closed • Thursday 10.00 – 1.00, 2.00 – 5.00

Friday 10.00 – 1.00, 2.00 – 5.00 • Saturday 9.30 – 4.00

11th November Remembrance Service

The service will be led this year by Rev David Faulkner of the Methodist Church, with the participation of clergy from the other village churches. As the area outside the old library is no longer available, it will take place in Anchor Crescent, and residents are asked to be in place by 10.45am.



Farewell to flowers...

Knaphill sadly said goodbye to Caroline Howard of Autumn Leaves, who has closed down after nearly 10 years in the village. Caroline said she turned the key with a heavy heart but was unable to continue due to an unsustainable rent increase. She thanked residents for their custom over the years, and her customers wish her well for the future.

...And hello to mobile phone repairs

The new occupant of the flower shop premises, MePhone, is a mobile phone repair shop. We wish them well in their venture, and hope that customers coming to Knaphill for this specialised business will also frequent other retail outlets in the village.

Spotted in the village centre...

...two WBC Enforcement Officers on Anchor Crescent car park, who are employed by WBC to patrol the borough watching out for anti-social behaviour such as dog fouling, littering and smoking in smoke-free places, and who are empowered to hand out fixed penalty notices for such offences. Let's hope their presence has the desired effect.

Habitat and Argos leave Homebase

Since the sale of Homebase to the new Australian owner, Habitat and Argos have both been given notice on their in-store outlets. Habitat has already shut up shop, and Argos will be leaving within the next few weeks.

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STUBBS' STUBS

Town & Country Planning – Knaphill

Brookwood Farm was the last significant piece of land available for development in Knaphill. Since then, we have seen a growing number of planning applications to build single or small group of houses around the village either infilling gaps or building on domestic gardens. In March we received notification of a planning application to build a new house on what was green land in Highclere Gardens. Despite residents' objections, the Planning Officer recommended acceptance of the plans. The Residents' Association represented the residents at the Planning Committee, and I am pleased to report that the Councillors on the Planning Committee rejected the plans. There are on-going issues with the plans to build four houses behind 126 and 128 High Street. The Council approved the plans with a number of conditions, but over the months the Council's planning department has watered down or removed many of those conditions. It would appear that conditions are only added to the recommendation for approval to persuade Councillors to accept the plans, not to make the development

bearable for those residents who live close to the proposed development.

So why does it appear that the planners are on the side of the developer and not the residents? In their Core Strategy, Woking Borough Council quote from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), a document produced by Government to simplify national planning policy. Officers and Councillors in Woking, when referring to the NPPF and the way they operate in Woking, quote from the document to state that the Planning Department, in assessing a planning application, has worked with the applicant in a positive and proactive way. It would be interesting to know how WBC interpret para. 17 of NPPF which states "Planning should not simply be about scrutiny, but instead a creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve the places in which people live their lives". When launching the NPPF, the Minister stated that planning should be a collective exercise, adding that in recent years planning has tended to exclude, rather than to include, people and communities. Planning should be about quality, not quantity.

The Anchor Pub

On the 15th July 2016 The Anchor Inn was registered as an asset of community value (acv). Whilst the building is on the register it can only be used as a public house. The Anchor is one of the oldest public houses in Woking in business, and is listed locally as a landmark building, and we must congratulate both Premier Pubs Estate and Merlin Inns for maintaining the building in an excellent state, especially the hanging baskets and other floral displays. However, everyone will agree that as a business it has seen better days.

In objecting to The Anchor being registered as an acv, the Residents Association is in no way supporting the closure of a public house; however a public house is a business and Premier Pubs are looking to change the use of these premises. Our concern is that Premier Pubs can close down the pub and board it up, and it could stand empty for up to five years.

The Anchor came to our attention earlier in the year when we were contacted by a development company appointed by Premier Pubs to examine alternative uses of the building or to examine an option to demolish the building. We were given to understand that Woking Borough Council had informed the developer that they would prefer to see the building remain; the developer was working on plans on how to make best use of the building and was planning to launch a public exhibition of their plans. However, these plans were put on ice when the Surrey Hants Borders Branch of The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) submitted a request to Woking Borough Council for the pub to be made an asset

of community value, which WBC accepted.

The actions of CAMRA are well intended; we are seeing communities losing all their pubs as pub owners see more profit in turning their premises into supermarkets, fast food shops or demolishing them. This is not the case in Knaphill, where we have four other inns plus the Working Men's Club and two more pubs just outside the boundary. Where a public house becomes an acv, it does not guarantee that the pub remains open. All the registration means is that the building, whilst it remains on the register, cannot be used for anything. The Anchor will remain on the register for five years from the date it was registered.

Can anyone object? The law states that the landowner, here Premier Pubs Estates, can request a review of the decision. They have until 15th September to make such a request, and we understand that Premier Pubs will do so. If a request is received, Woking Borough Council are expected to consult local residents. Councillor Debbie Harlow, Knaphill local Councillor, is in fact building up a case to support the request for a review.

Finally, in an on-line survey carried out by The Knaphillian, only 38% of the 56 residents who voted were in favour of the Anchor being registered as an acv, with 62% against.

For full details of the case, go to Woking Borough Council's web site, enter asset of community value in the search engine and all details will be found there. The KRA will keep residents up to date via their website.

Beat the Draughts...



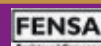
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Brookwood Farm Estate parking and pavements

We have been contacted by a resident of Brookwood Farm with a query on the above, of which we are publishing below a slightly abridged version, as these are certainly issues that affect other residents of the Estate.

"With most houses having one-car driveways, and most households having more than one car, the roads will be increasingly busy as more houses are occupied. There is already an increasing amount of on-street parking. When we moved in, we were told that the parking bays situated at various places along the road were for visitors. However, these bays have since been allocated to residents. Were visitor parking bays stipulated as part of the original planning permission? Another point that I would like to mention is that there is no pavement where Brookwood Farm Drive joins Corresbrook Way, meaning pedestrians, buggies and kids on bikes have to travel on the road. I asked a contractor why this was the case and the reply was that it was a request from the council - pedestrians in the road should help to slow the traffic down! In addition, at the entrance to the park at the top of Brookwood Farm Drive, there is an in/out car park, with the entrance being one car wide, however there are yet again no pavements. Recently, I was with two small children on bicycles when a car entered the car park. The kids had to dismount to make way for the car, and wait on the grass verge for the car to pass. Also, there don't appear to be any cycle parking bays."

Phil Stubb's response to the above, again somewhat abridged, was as follows:

"Parking is a problem on the majority of our housing areas, partly because Surrey County Council do not consider adequate parking a key priority. There are no minimum parking guidelines.

Regarding visitor parking, the parking area on the left as you enter

the estate is for residents, visitors and people using the new sporting areas. Visitor parking bays between houses may have been shown on the brochures produced by Cala Homes, but they were not subject to any detailed debate in the planning process.

The only planning condition included in the planning decision is as follows: "No new development shall be occupied until space has been laid out within the site in accordance with the approved plans for vehicles and cycles to be parked and for vehicles to turn so that they may enter and leave the site in forward gear. The vehicle parking/turning area(s) shall be retained exclusively for their designated purposes. Condition 29."

I do not have any plans detailing parking areas for vehicles and cycles, but Cllr Melanie Whitehand, who is coordinator for issues between residents of Brookwood Farm and Woking Council, could speak with those in the Planning Department who deal with such issues. It is clear from the above that if Cala Homes had designated parking bays for visitors and subsequently sold them to residents, that is outwith the above condition.

The question of sections where there is no pavement is indeed by design. The report presented to the Planning Committee by Woking Borough Council's Planning Officer states that the road layout is intended to reduce the dominance of cars and to slow down traffic speed by using shared surfaces, where pedestrians/cycle movement takes priority over vehicle movement. 'Homezone' type areas use varying materials, textures, furniture and planning to divert and slow traffic."

Cllr Whitehand is happy to respond to residents' concerns and can be contacted on email: cllrmelanie.whitehand@woking.gov.uk.

Village Show

Well, we hate to boast... but didn't it go well, again, with another record-breaking attendance at this year's Summer Wonderland show. Woking's new Mayor Anne Murray was on hand to open the proceedings and unleash the fun and entertainment on offer, from the music and dancing to the foodie treats, from the tempting shopping stalls to the children's funfair and bouncy castle, from the Beat the Goalie to the dog show, not to mention the rides on Mizen's miniature railway. Local MP Jonathan Lord drew the winning tickets in the raffle to the delight of all the winners. All profits will as usual be distributed to local charities.

Photos: John Stocker and Elizabeth Louise Bell



Email: Lizzielouisebell@hotmail.co.uk

Website: <http://elouisebell.wix.com/elbphotography>

The KRA would like to thank our main sponsor Seymours, all the local businesses who contributed in various ways, the management and staff of Mizens for their terrific hospitality and support, all the stall holders, and last but not least all the volunteers who helped out beforehand and on the day.

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THE MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL SCENE IN AND AROUND KNAPHILL

Reviews, forthcoming events and invitations to participate

Knaphill Schools News

Show-stopping Summer Production of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bongo Bandits!

On the afternoon and evening of Thursday 19th July, the Year 6 children from Knaphill School performed their summer production: Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits by Craig Hawes. Parents and children were treated to a lively and entertaining show full of singing, dancing, humour and high quality acting from the very talented cast. Lots of the parents said it was the best performance yet and that they felt like they were in a real-life theatre. Rev. Julie Levett from the Holy Trinity Church and some of the Knaphill federation Governors were amongst the audience. All in all, it was a great success and their Year 6 teachers were extremely proud of the outstanding effort all the children put in. Knaphill certainly has lots of talent! Miss Austen, Head of School, said that she was entertained from beginning to end and loved every moment! She wishes all of the Year 6 children the very best in their new secondary school and is very proud of their achievements over the year and their impressive SATs results!

By Michelle Austin



KASJOG

Knaphill and St John's Operatic Group is an enthusiastic group whose shows are staged in March at the Rhoda McGraw Theatre. Rehearsals take place at the Maybury Centre, Woking Mondays and Thursdays at 8pm. They are now rehearsing for their next production The Mikado by Gilbert and Sullivan. If you'd like to be part of this popular Savoy opera, do come and join them (tenors and sopranos especially welcome!). For further details, contact Judy on 01483 480253 or visit www.kasjog.org.uk.

Bisley Ladies Choir

We are a group of enthusiastic singers who meet every Tuesday during term time. We sing a wide variety of songs and hold concerts at Christmas and in July. Our next concert is on December 10th at 4.30pm at Knaphill Methodist Church. We also sing at the Remembrance service in Woking and at the Guide Dogs for the Blind service at St Peter's Old Woking – the owners come too!

Our music director and pianist are professional musicians; they encourage us to raise our game but we also have great fun and there is a lot of laughter. We always welcome new members and there is no audition.

If you would like to join us, come along at 7.45 on a Tuesday to Knaphill Methodist Church, or email brenda.frost@btopenworld.com

Brenda Frost, Chairperson

Methodist concert in October

DAVE BILBROUGH – LIVE & ACOUSTIC

Knaphill Methodist Church (KMC) is to conclude its celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Methodism in Knaphill, with a concert by Dave Bilbrough.

Dave is the renowned international singer-songwriter and worship leader whose well known songs include "Abba Father", "I am the New Creation", "All Hail the Lamb" and "Let there be Love".

Starting out from a folk music base, Dave now incorporates world music influences into his compositions.

This is a return visit by Dave who proved very popular when he last performed at KMC three or four years ago.

The concert is on Saturday 15th October at KMC starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10.00 (Children £5.00). Tickets can be reserved by email: 150@knaphill-methodist-church.com or telephone 01483 730761.

Tickets are likely to sell quickly so the message is don't delay in order to avoid disappointment!

Woking Symphony Orchestra concert

One of Woking's oldest musical groups (est.1897), Woking Symphony Orchestra will begin its 2016/17 concert season on Saturday November 19th at the HG Wells Centre, Church Street East in Woking, at 7.30 p.m.

The performance will begin with the Prelude to Act 1 of Wagner's Lohengrin and continue with Brahms' rich and tuneful Piano Concerto No. 2, with as soloist the current Woking Young Musician winner, Dominic Doutney. The second half of the programme will consist of Stravinsky's music for his ballet Petrushka – the 1947 version, which is a revision scored for a slightly smaller orchestra than the 1911 original.

Tickets, priced at £14 for adults and £7 for U-16s and students, are available from the HG Wells Box Office (01483 712710), from WSO's website (www.wokingso.org.uk) or on the night, subject to space. They can also be reserved by e-mailing: wokingsymphony@gmail.com for collection and payment on the night.

Jennifer Sohl, WSO



PEER Productions

The Knaphill-based charity Peer Productions recently celebrated their 10th anniversary with a special Gala Performance of their latest production, High, at the Rhoda McGraw Theatre supported by Woking Borough Council. The sell-out performance was preceded by a short play called Ten that chronicled the history of this unique Woking institution.

Peer Productions was founded by Artistic Director Nina Lemon in 2006. Each year they train a team of young actors enabling them to deliver plays and workshops in the community. Since 2006, Peer Productions has trained over 100 young people, and many have gone on to top drama schools including LAMDA, GSA, East15, LIPA, Rose Bruford, Manchester Met, and Birmingham School of Acting.

The company has reached in excess of 100,000 young audience members with hard hitting plays tackling issues such as mental health, sex and relationships and addiction. The feedback from these plays has been extraordinary, and audience members have told us how the message from our productions have helped them and their friends in dealing with the issues highlighted.

We are currently looking for young actors to become part of their 2016/17 company. If you're between 17 and 23 and serious about acting, visit our website www.peerproductions.co.uk or call our office on 01483 476825 to apply and book an audition.

By Ashton Brower, Peer Productions

WOKING CHORAL SOCIETY – 120 and still going strong!

Woking Choral Society's 120th Anniversary season starts this autumn. Musical Director Ben Palmer was appointed in 2010, continuing a long line of distinguished conductors including the composers Sir Edward Elgar and Woking resident Dame Ethel Smyth.

The choir gives three concerts each year, always with professional instrumentalists and soloists. The performances mainly take place in the H G Wells Centre, Woking but also in Guildford Cathedral and Christ Church.

The season opens with Handel's popular Messiah, on 10th December at the H G Wells Centre. Tickets are already available on the website: www.wokingchoral.org.uk.

We are one of the oldest choirs in the area, with almost 100 members from all parts of Woking and beyond, including Knaphill, and we rehearse on Monday evenings at St Andrew's Church, Goldsworth Park from 7.30pm to 9.35pm. New members are always welcome; we are a friendly choir and will be delighted if anyone wants to come to a rehearsal and try us out. Attendance is free for a few weeks' trial period, and after a short voice test (nothing alarming!), a £200 annual subscription is payable in two or four instalments on joining, with a small hire charge for the scores.

Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/wokingchoral](https://www.facebook.com/wokingchoral), Twitter: @WokingChoral

By Jenny Fowler



Mizens Oktoberfest

On Sunday 16th October, the ninth annual "Steam Trains & Fair Organs Oktoberfest" will take place at Mizens Railway in Barrs Lane, Knaphill from 12 noon until 5pm. This unique Oktoberfest has become firmly established as one of the area's premier family orientated events. The central theme is a festival of fascinating vintage mechanical fairground organs built in the early 1900s long before the invention of electronic amplified music, and which once entertained fairgoers with the popular tunes of the day. Centre stage this year will be a visiting organ from the Netherlands known as "De Lange Gavioli". Built in 1900, this beautiful fair organ is part of the famous collection of mechanical musical instruments of the National Museum Speelklok in Utrecht. Regarded by many as one of the finest in preservation, the organ will be making its first ever journey to the UK specially to attend the Knaphill event.

But the Oktoberfest is about more than the mechanical organs, featuring a host of additional attractions including an old-time children's fun fair, craft and produce stalls, a fairground models exhibition, miniature traction engine rides and a display of historic vehicles from Brooklands. Mizens Railway will be operating throughout the day, offering trips around the one-mile woodland circuit hauled by a genuine miniature steam locomotive. Refreshments available will include the traditional hot snack of the original German "Oktoberfest" - authentic Bockwurst sausages, and traditional ales will be provided by local pub The Garibaldi. Come and join in the fun and soak up the wonderful atmosphere of this terrific day out for all the family. Admission, including a full-colour souvenir programme, is £3 for adults, £2 for children and £9 for a family ticket (two adults plus up to three children). Free parking available. For more details, visit www.mizensrailway.co.uk.

By Paul Kirrage, Mizens Railway

A great day out for all the family!

Paul Kirrage and Woking Miniature Railway Society PRESENT

Oktoberfest!



A festival of vintage mechanical fairground organs

Featuring De Lange Gavioli (above) from the National Museum Speelklok in Utrecht, Holland on a first visit to the UK for over 50 years!

Plus: steam hauled passenger train rides* on the 7 1/4 ins gauge Mizens Miniature Railway

Sunday October 16th 2016

From 12 noon - 5pm at Mizens Railway, Knaphill, Nr. Woking, Surrey

- Vintage fairground organs • Old time children's fun fair • Craft, trade & produce stalls • Model fairground exhibition • Hand turned street organs festival • Model traction engine rides • Refreshments & real ale bar

Special attraction: Display of vintage vehicles by Brooklands Museum

Mizens Railway is situated in Barrs Lane, Knaphill Surrey GU21 2JW
Approx. 5miles from J11 of the M25 or J3 of the M3 nearest mainline station is Woking (10 mins by taxi).

Admission: Adults £3, Children £2, Family ticket £9 (2 adults & up to 3 children) FREE parking
For more information, visit www.mizensrailway.co.uk
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The Royal British Legion

The British Legion was formed on 15 May 1921, bringing together four National Organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves after the First World War, with the aim to care for those who had suffered as a result of service in the Armed Forces during the war. The first ever Poppy Appeal was held that year, with the first Poppy Day on 11 November 1921. Nowadays, men and women of all ages, whether they have served in the Armed Forces or not, can be members. The Royal British Legion is best known to the general public through the annual Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall and the national Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph in Whitehall; but the work of the Legion goes on quietly and steadily throughout the year.

There have been branches of The Royal British Legion in Bisley, Knaphill and West End villages for many years but, in recent years, the three former branches were obliged to amalgamate (as has been the trend all over the country). We are a thriving branch with over sixty members, most of whom take an active part in the Legion's activities. We send representatives to such events as the Brookwood Commemoration ceremony in June, the Armed Forces Day parade in Woking and of course the Poppy Appeal Launch and Remembrance Sunday Services and Armistice Day ceremonies in the three villages. Our Chairman is John Kingsbury who is well known in Knaphill and as Leader of Woking Borough Council. In 2015 we collected almost £18,000 in Bisley, Knaphill and West End for the Poppy Appeal. We meet quarterly at the Knaphill Club in Highclere Road and our next meeting is on 30th November.

We really want to keep the Branch strong and thriving and in a good position to work for the good of service men and women, past and present - but our main concern is that we need more members! If you feel that you would be interested in finding out more then please get in touch; John Kingsbury, 07967 723999, Joyce Cadwallader, 01483 833502 or Norman Holden, 01483 830282 or just come along to one of our meetings.

By John Locke

Old Soldiers



Harry Cook



Arthur Henry Trotter



Alfred Ronald Trotter

With the approaching Remembrance service and as a companion piece to the article on the British Legion, it seemed timely to reproduce, with kind permission of their families, brief summaries of the life stories of three young men from Knaphill whose names appear on the memorials set in the walls of Holy Trinity Church, namely Arthur Henry Trotter, Alfred Ronald ("Ron") Trotter and Harry Cook.

Arthur and Ron, born in 1915 and 1919 respectively, were the two youngest sons of Lucy and Charles Trotter, who owned the cycle shop on the High Street. The family were all very musical and both

boys attended school here in Knaphill.

Arthur joined the RAF at the start of WWII, and was posted to the Far East and Singapore, probably servicing fighter planes. He was captured by the Japanese and interned in the notorious Changi Prison. He was later transferred to a prison further east where he died in July 1944 aged 29. He is buried in a military cemetery on the island of Ambon, Indonesia.

Ron was a particularly gifted musician. After working as an apprentice machinist in Guildford, he joined the Army soon after the outbreak of war as a stretcher-bearer in the Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment. During the North African campaign, he was fatally shot by a sniper while recovering the wounded in October 1942 aged just 23, and is buried in El Alamein Military Cemetery in Egypt.

Harry Cook was born in 1923 and lived with his parents Nellie and Henry at 7 Victoria Road (now the flats just up from the Coop). After school Harry trained as a carpenter, and one month after his 18th birthday in January 1942 he joined the Hampshire Regiment. In October 1943 he was transferred to the 5th Battalion Hampshire Regiment in Cairo, from where he was sent to the Arab States and then to Italy to continue the advance to The Gothic Line in 1944. He saw action on a daily basis until he was killed by German artillery fire in 1944. He is buried in a Commonwealth War Cemetery in a beautiful location overlooked by Gradara Castle just south of Rimini in Italy, which his nephew Darren has visited.

Buddhist Temple

Inner Peace and Knaphill!

Strolling around our fantastic village, have you ever wondered what that church is with the long name, at the top of Redding Way, across the road from The Vyne field?! Well, our curiosity got the better of us, and so we decided to pop in one day for a visit. Wow, we are so pleased we did!

There are two temples in the UK for supporting the practice of Dhammakaya Buddhism, predominantly amongst Thai expatriates and also English speaking converts. One is in Manchester, supporting the North of England, and the other is based right here in Knaphill, and supports London and the South. The London temple was purchased in 2004; at that point the former Brookwood Hospital Chapel had been empty and derelict for 6 years. The chapel was fully refurbished by the Buddhist team and was finally opened by Woking's then Mayor Cllr. Bryan Cross in 2007.

Walk through the doors of Wat Phra Dhammakaya London, on Brushfield Way today, and you will discover a genuinely warm welcome by the temple manager and the Buddhist monks who live there, as well as a breathtakingly beautiful environment. The contemporary renovation works inside are simply stunning and are sympathetic to the buildings architecture with stained glass windows and original stripped wood floors.

The temple runs a variety of activities, centering around meditation, to enable you to escape the stresses of modern life. In this day and age, it is so hard to find some sense of peace and calm within our hectic lives, but that is exactly what the team at Wat Phra Dhammakaya are here to help you with. Chanting takes place at 6pm Monday to Friday and lasts 30 minutes and the public are very welcome (nay, encouraged!) to come along and listen. The main space holds up to 300 people which is just as well, because the key events of the Buddhist calendar are broadcast as a live feed direct from Thailand, and are very well attended.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Tuesday 7-9pm - Beginners Meditation Class:) both classes open to everyone,
- Thursday 7-9pm - Experienced Meditation Class:), free to attend, donations welcome
- One to one Meditation Session with an experienced monk – ideal for those who have never meditated using the Dhammakaya Method before. Booking required. Free to attend, donations welcome.
- Friday 7-10pm Silent Meditation Session - open to all who wish to spend extra time practicing meditation for themselves, no booking required, free to attend.

The temple is a non-profit charitable organisation, supported by donations.

Photo: John Stocker



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EVENTS AT THE VYNE

Christmas Fayre

The Vyne will be holding its Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 23rd November, 2016 from 10am till 2pm. If you are interested in having a table for the modest sum of £5, please contact Gill Waine 01483 743 557/558 for further details.

Woking Carers Choir – Discover the benefits of singing!

Woking Carers Choir is looking for enthusiastic new members with a keen interest in singing, whatever their ability, to join like-minded carers for light-hearted and fun singing sessions. All carers are welcome, whether caring for a family member or as part of a neighbourhood care scheme. The choir provides an opportunity for peer support, increased health and wellbeing, companionship and respite from caring.



Sessions are held fortnightly (during term time only) on Mondays 11-12am at the Woking Wellbeing Centre, based at The Vyne Community Centre, Knaphill, GU21 2SP. Woking Carers Choir covers folk and contemporary songs from Britain and around the world, taught by ear in luscious harmony. No previous musical experience is necessary to take part. A small fee applies.

For more information about Woking Carers Choir, please email arts@woking.gov.uk or visit www.woking.gov.uk/wokingcarerschoir

New ecumenical service

There will be a new monthly informal ecumenical Prayer and Share service at The Vyne at 10am on the first Wednesday of the month starting on Wednesday 7th September, to which all are warmly welcome.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

Knaphill Athletic Football Club



Knaphill Athletic FC are looking forward to the challenge of a new season in a new division after both their first and reserve teams were promoted to the Premier Division of the Surrey County Intermediate League (Western). First team manager Des Clark said: "We've had a good pre-season and strengthened our sides with new players, so we're hoping to make an impression. We've also appointed a new A Team manager Ben Searle, who will play a large part in bringing through lads from our successful youth section into adult football."

the Club's activities and are playing in both competitions and matches. Recently, Simon Holroyd and Stuart Brown, two of these new members, played for us in a high pressure league game for the first time and helped the Club to secure second place in the West Surrey League.

The Club will again be running Bowls for Fun "Taster Sessions" at the start of the 2017 season. Do look out for these, if you missed this year's events.

All in all, a great season enjoyed by all.
Alan Bennet

Knaphill Bowling Club

Knaphill Bowling Club are almost at the end of a very successful 90th Anniversary season, having played some highly competitive matches against the Surrey County Executive, and both West Surrey and London Scots Associations, as well as hosting a closely fought match between Surrey and Hampshire. Both Secretary Alan Bennet and Greenkeeper John Kenton were presented by the Surrey President with the prestigious Leopard Award in appreciation of their service and dedication to the game of bowls; these awards are not given lightly and it is a great County honour to receive one. The high point of this season for the Club was the intake of new members, 26 in total and all beginners to the game. Many have integrated into

Knaphill Athletic Cricket Club



KACC were unlucky with weather in this their first proper season as two of their planned four games were rained off. The first game on 17th July versus Brookwood saw the more experienced opposition romp to an unequivocal victory, followed by the charity game on 21st August versus Woking & Horsell Sunday XI where the rookie club acquitted themselves better despite losing to the visitors. Although the planned entertainment was not able to be provided due to administrative problems, the day nevertheless raised £150 for Woking & Sam Beare Hospices. A good time was nevertheless had by players and spectators on both days, and the KACC look forward to hopefully increasing both the number of games played and runs made next year!

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Let's Go Fishing

Throughout August, the Goldsworth Park Angling Club held angling teaching days, designed for beginners to the sport, at Brookwood Ponds and Goldsworth Lake; it has been a great success with everyone getting lots of bites and catching lots of fish.

Professional coaches Richard Charlton and Simon Windsor, registered with the Angling Trust, were hired by the club to deliver tuition in angling each Wednesday afternoon from 2pm to 5pm throughout August. Each participant had an hour of one-to-one teaching on the basic art of angling, after which they were given a goody bag containing a fishing pole, float and line kit, plummet, disgorging, beginner's booklet and a certificate of participation, all of which were donated by Thames Water and the Environment Agency, so many thanks to Will Barnard of TW and Adrian Bicknell of the EA for their support.

Each "trainee" was given the opportunity to bait the hook, cast the line and watch the float for bites while the coaches talked them through the process of drawing the fish to the baited area, and it was not long before the float was bobbing under; everyone caught lots of roach, rudd and bream - some good sized ones too. One young lad caught so many fish we lost count but his catch was not as big

as the smile on his face, and it's those magic moments that make fishing events like this so worthwhile. Each fish caught was carefully unhooked and the trainees were shown how to hold a large fish over a padded mat to take that special photo, before it was returned gently to the water. Some of the participants have attended three or four of the sessions, consolidating and developing their skills.

Angling these days is not just about catching fish, it's also about caring for the environment in which we fish, the wildlife and, of course, the fish themselves. That is why it's so important that we, as seasoned anglers, share our knowledge and experiences with future generations.

By Roger Westcott



Business Focus

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Autumn Market Update

With the children now back at school and the summer holidays now behind us you may well be thinking of moving.

We are delighted to report, contrary to some property media reports, that we had a record sales month in August agreeing sales on over 12 million pounds worth of property in Knaphill and surrounding villages. September has also started with a 'bang' and so we would be delighted to offer a no obligation valuation to anyone looking to sell in the local area. Please contact either of the resident partners, Simon or Andrew to discuss.

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