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Merry Christmas!



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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.

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

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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

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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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Read & Recycle

From the Chairman



You will have noticed that the old library site is currently boarded up for development work to start. Unfortunately, because of that, at time of writing we have lost our Community Notice Board which sits behind it. However, it has to be said that it is looking rather the worse for wear, and it is hoped to replace it after the building works are completed. Phil Stubbs gives us the latest on the closure of the Knaphill Ambulance station, which may well herald other development works.

The Knaphill Residents Association works very closely with our Councillors. When we receive feedback from Residents, we try our best to follow up ourselves if possible or to pass on to our Councillors when necessary. We are also working with them on a Christmas tree and lights in the Village, something rather different this year. On that note, you will find on the back page details of the services of all the local churches over the Christmas period, and I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Best wishes

John Butler, KRA Chairman

chairman@knaphill.org



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Editor's Report

Well, here we are with the final publication of 2016 – and also my final publication. Yes, this winter edition of the KRA magazine is the last which I have the pleasure of editing, after three years in the position. It's not good to let things become stale or too familiar, and I have other irons in the fire, so it's time for me to hand over to a new Editor – step forward Jim Binney! Jim is Community Minister at the Knaphill Baptist Church (his wife Julia is head honcho there!). Since they arrived in Knaphill ten months ago, Jim has become very active in various community activities, including the Knaphill Athletic Cricket Club, the Bowling Club, and not least the committee of the Residents' Association. Jim is also the author of several blogs and a keen photographer, very useful attributes to fill the post successfully.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the magazine during my tenure and in village matters in general, and to wish you a happy Christmas and a great 2017 with continued enjoyment of our publication.

Best wishes

Sue Stocker, Editor



Village Bits & Pieces

Metal structure outside Barclays

The eyesore that was the ugly rusty metal structure which has stood without signage outside Barclays Bank in the High Street for... well, who can actually remember how many years?... has been removed. The KRA would like to thank the landlord of the carpark, Barclays management and our Cllr Saj Hussain for their kind help in resolving this.

Christmas Lights

There are no plans to have Christmas trees above the shops this year, mainly because sadly very few retailers have shown interest, but there will be a large Christmas tree in front of the old library site and lights around Anchor Crescent. In addition, WBC is trialling a new initiative – lanterns on the posts recently installed for the hanging baskets. These will be lit by solar power, and working from 5pm until 10pm. We look forward to seeing these lights in action, and hope that as many retailers as possible will also make the effort to have festive-looking shop-windows.

Carols at the Gari

And speaking of festive, come along and join in with the church choir and possibly the Morris dancers for the now traditional Christmas carol sing-along at the Garibaldi pub on Wednesday 21st December at 7.30pm. There'll be home-made mulled wine and mince pies, and plenty of jollification to get the season off to a good start!

Streetlife

Have you heard of streetlife.com? Just type the name in your web browser and join! It's very easy and there's no charge. It's a local self-help service covering all sorts of subjects from lost cats and local bird life to

needing a good carpenter or wanting to borrow a ladder, from looking for a recommendation for a restaurant or dog-walker to letting out a room, from publicising a community event to giving away an unwanted garden plant! It seems to bring out helpful actions and kindness from people all around the neighbourhood, thereby spreading a lot of good will. (Thanks to our reader Wendy for suggesting to give this a mention!)

Yellow lines Chobham Road

The long-awaited yellow lines have recently been applied here, so residents and all Chobham Road users will be hoping that the traffic flow will be easier around the entrances to the schools where inconsiderate parking often caused dangerous congestion at school start and end times. Hopefully the parking situation in this area is also somewhat eased by the fact that the barrier to the additional parking spaces off Sussex Road is now opened at these times.

Closure of Robin Hood Road Sorting Office

There is talk of the sorting office on Robin Hood Road closing as the lease is coming to an end and the sorting of our mail being done at their premises on Goldsworth Park. The sorting office is where you have to go to collect your post if the postman is unable to deliver it. However, we have been given to understand that there is no public access to the Goldsworth Park premises. One possibility would be for undelivered mail to be returned to the Woking sorting office close to Woking station, which would hardly be convenient to Knaphill residents. We are therefore suggesting to Royal Mail that an eminently sensible solution would be for undelivered mail to be taken to the Post Office in Anchor Crescent, Knaphill for collection by residents.

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The Cabin Youth Club needs you!

Last summer the Cabin Youth Club closed for its summer break but it could have very easily have closed for good. The reason? A lack of volunteers to both manage and run the club.

The Cabin was established 10 years ago by the Residents' Association in association with Woking Borough Council and meets on a Monday evening at the Vyne Community Centre. The Cabin is one of the largest youth clubs in Woking and is the largest voluntary-run youth club.

The club has a new leader, Ben Barnes, and a small team of

volunteers but we are looking for more. We are looking for people who can either help out on a Monday night or join the management team.

For those who would like to help on a Monday night, we ask to commit for one Monday a month.

Think back to your days attending a youth club and the good fun you had, and let's offer this safe and friendly experience for the young people of today.



Charity event at the Royal Oak Pub



On Wednesday October 19th, the Royal Oak Pub had a night of celebration to raise money for the Woking & Sam Beare Hospices.

The evening's events included two live music acts including local performer Robbie Lee, the Pilgrim Morris Men, a raffle and an auction. The Mayor of Woking was there to enjoy the evening, and sportingly took part in the Morris dancing! The pub was packed to the rafters, and over £900 was raised in the evening.

The evening also saw a presentation from CAMRA Surrey/Hants Borders branch to the Royal Oak for Pub of the Season for Summer 2016. The pub also gained entry into the Good Beer Guide 2017, came second in the Woking in Bloom Category for Best Beer Garden and won Regional Winners of Enterprise for 'Service to Local Charities'. All in all, a great year for the Royal Oak!



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KRA Website

Yes, we know, it was looking rather tired and out of date. However, our Committee member Phillippa, who has also been this magazine's assistant editor over the last year and a half, has taken over the task of redesigning/updating/rejuvenating it, to make it more user-friendly, complete and relevant. She has

already done a sterling job in certain areas, and will be working on the rest over the coming months. So if you've not had a look for a while, check it out now and see what you think, and of course if you have any comments or suggestions, please do be sure and let us know via any of our contact email addresses.

Closure of Knaphill Ambulance Station

By the time you read this article, the ambulance station based on Bagshot Road, Knaphill will almost certainly have closed, and the staff and vehicles transferred to the ambulance station in Ottershaw.

On 20th September, South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb) issued a statement headed 'Chertsey Make Ready Centre to incorporate more ambulance crews'. In this article, SECAmb announced the closure of the ambulance station in Knaphill for the following reasons:

Knaphill station not in the right location for current patient demand;
Plans are part of a rolling programme to move all the Trust's station estate to the central-reporting Make Ready system.

However, neither of the above reasons stands up to close scrutiny. Regarding the plan to introduce a central-reporting Make Ready system, this makes a lot of sense. SECAmb are establishing a number of large centres where they employ a dedicated group of staff who are responsible for cleaning and restocking ambulances once they have delivered their patient to hospital. This should minimise the risk of cross-infection, and means that front-line crews are always ready for the next call, all good reasons for this system. So the station in Ottershaw (named Chertsey by SECAmb) becomes the Make Ready centre for our part of Surrey. But why close the Knaphill station? Elsewhere in the region where Make Ready centres have been established, ambulance stations have been converted into Ambulance Community Response Posts. Crews report to the Make Ready Centre to pick up their ambulance, then position to a Community Response Post where staff can rest between calls, and also be nearer the community they serve.

The main concern of the KRA is the impact this closure will have on ambulance response times to urgent 999 calls. It should

be noted that SECAmb has one of the worst records in England for meeting national targets in responding to urgent 999 calls. Lengthening the journey time will not help the ambulance services with their recovery plan. The Residents' Association has raised its concerns with the North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which is the responsible body that decides which ambulance trust will serve Surrey. The KRA will continue to monitor the situation and lobby the CCG, our MP and Councillors. We will use our website, www.knaphill.org, to update residents. Please let us know your opinion on this subject, since the KRA can only speak for the residents if residents let us know their views.

Phil Stubbs



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'Tis the Season to be... Eco

The countdown has begun. And never too soon apparently: I think I saw my first mince pies of the year sometime in August, and every year I feel like those Facebook posts telling me it's just "56 Fridays till Christmas" appear on my notifications earlier and earlier.

In previous issues, I have spoken about the sense of community, how different communities celebrate and what the true meaning of Christmas is. This year I'd like to talk again about how we should 'give something back to the community' in the spirit of selflessness, but by focusing on something a little different. I wanted to bring to light just how much we consume over Christmas (in terms of actual food, drink and merchandise), and that while the statistics I will share show it to be a season of gluttony, it is actually gratitude we want to celebrate.

First of all, we wrap our presents in sheets and sheets of gift paper, and of course there would be no surprises if you didn't wrap presents up. That amazing feeling of tearing the paper off boxes (or carefully peeling off the sticky tape and then folding up the paper), that feeling of joy, is irreplaceable. However, what you do with your paper is another story. In 2011, I read that Britain would bin 227,000 miles of Christmas paper! Now, whilst those people who fold their wrapping paper with such precision and care could reuse their wrapping, others may find it easier to simply recycle.

Another thing we can recycle, though it may seem harsh or insensitive, is Christmas cards. We send an average of 31 Christmas cards per person (and in some cases a lot more, I'm sure) which is a wonderful thing to do. To show appreciation for another person and wish them a lovely festive season is a sign of friendship. However, I can guarantee they won't ask if you kept their Christmas cards, so you have every right to throw it in the recycling bin after the festive season. Seeing as we write so many cards, we could also help our



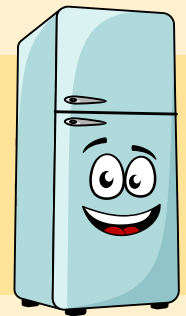
local charities by buying some of their own Christmas cards, where payments go towards a good cause.

And whilst I am not saying we waste Christmas cards (we can keep any left over for next year), something we do waste a lot of is food. Perhaps this is because we cannot estimate accurately how much our family can eat, but I think this stems from our mentality to take things for granted. From another article regarding waste over the festive season, I figured that on average we would throw away the equivalent of two million turkeys, five million Christmas puddings, 74 million mince pies and all our dignity. How can we let so many in the world starve, whilst we not only feed ourselves so extravagantly, but also with complete disregard? Hopefully this Christmas, we can deny ourselves those extra goodies our supermarkets tempt us with at the counter, and rationalise how much we can really eat (even if you have teenage boys in the house who seem to devour everything!), which will allow us to remember that even if we think we have little, there is always someone who has less.

Vivienne Mathews

A Chilling Thought...

One day, fridges will take their revenge.
They will burst into your bedroom in the
middle of the night, switch the light on,
stare at you for a few minutes and then leave...



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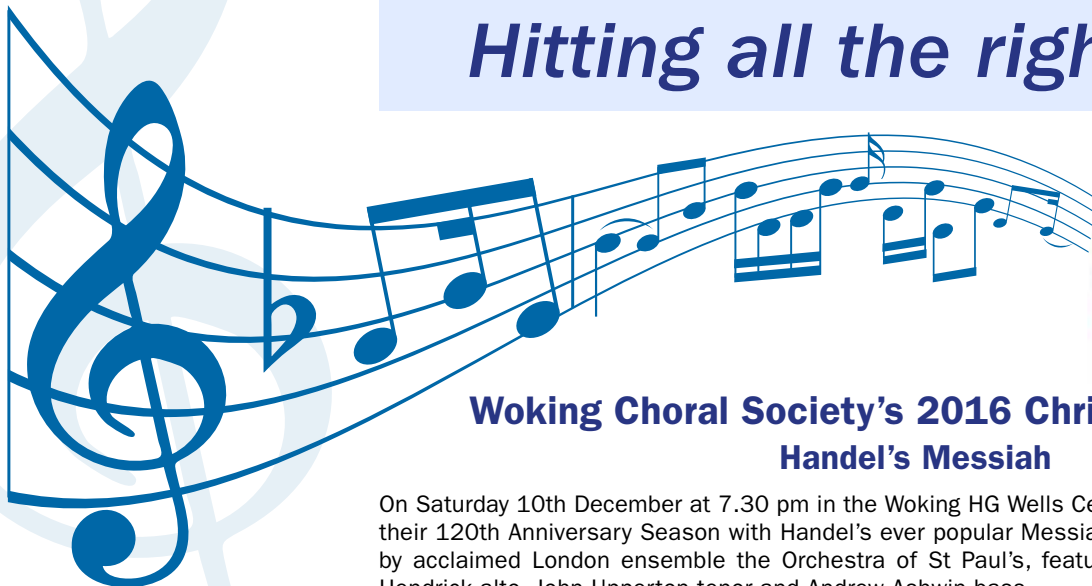
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Hitting all the right notes



Woking Choral Society's 2016 Christmas Concert Handel's Messiah

On Saturday 10th December at 7.30 pm in the Woking HG Wells Centre, Woking Choral Society open their 120th Anniversary Season with Handel's ever popular Messiah. The choir will be accompanied by acclaimed London ensemble the Orchestra of St Paul's, featuring Nina Bennet soprano, Ciara Hendrick alto, John Upperton tenor and Andrew Ashwin bass.

Messiah begins in Part I with prophecies by Isaiah and moves to the angel appearing to the shepherds. In Part II, Handel concentrates on the Passion and ends with the "Hallelujah" chorus. In Part III he covers the resurrection of the dead and Christ's adoration in heaven.

Tickets cost £20, £5 for students in full time education, and £19 for Woking Key card holders and groups of 10 or more. They are available at www.wokingchoral.org.uk, from H G Wells Centre Box Office, the Lightbox, Christ Church Shop, or Britten's Music, 13 The Broadway, Woodham.

Almac Bisley Brass Band celebrates Christmas



Almac Bisley Brass Band invites you to celebrate Christmas at its concert in Bisley Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 10th December. As well as enjoying listening to the band, you will have plenty of opportunities to sing your favourite carols. And you will be served with mince pies and mulled wine! To reserve tickets email grahamdavey6@aol.com or ring or text him on 07753 672778.

The Band itself is this year celebrating 50 years since moving to Bisley from Chobham. It has been a valued part of the village and

of the wider local area ever since. The Christmas Concert is one of four concerts the band performs in the village each year: three in Bisley Village Hall – in May, September and December -and one on the Village Green in July.

The Band is busy in other ways too. This year the full band of about 25 players has performed at a number of local events, including the Knaphill Village Show and a concert at the Methodist Church. Smaller ensembles have played for remembrance events and to less advantaged people in the North West Surrey community. Christmas will, of course, be very busy for the band.

Almac Bisley Brass Band is very much a part of the local community and is a friendly and supportive community in itself. It is a concert, rather than contesting, band and welcomes people of all ages and abilities. At the moment, it is engaged in a big effort to build for the future - to ensure that there will be a brass band in Bisley for many more years. If you would like to know more get in touch with Graham or visit the Band's website at www.almacbisleybrassband.co.uk or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/almacbisleybrassband

Graham Davey

CONCERT AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IN MARCH 2017

On Saturday 18th March 2017 at 6.30pm, there will be a concert at the Holy Trinity Church, Chobham Road given by Sarah Jane-Lewis, Soprano and Eralys Fernandez, Piano. The programme includes opera arias and solo piano music by F. Chopin. Tickets will be available on the door.

For more information, please visit the website www.eralysfernandez.com



KASJOG'S got The Mikado on its list!

First on the list in a busy start to 2016 for Knaphill & St Johns Operatic Group was to provide extras for productions of Carmen and Tosca at the New Victoria Theatre: nuns, monks, factory girls and matadors were the order of the day. Secondly, we serenaded Woking shoppers with a medley of tunes by Gilbert and Sullivan in Jubilee Square in aid of Woking & Sam Beare Hospices, and thirdly, staged our production of The Yeomen of the Guard at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in March.

From the Tower of London and high drama to the Far East and high comedy. We now find ourselves in Japanese mood, rehearsing for our 2017 show, The Mikado, a satirical look at British politics set in the faraway town of Titipu. The hapless Lord High Executioner, Ko-Ko, has a dilemma concerning his profession: he can't execute anyone until he's cut off his own head! Only G&S could entertain audiences with the themes of death and cruelty in such an irreverent manner with phrases such as 'take the top off it' and 'such a stuffy death' referring to decapitation and burial alive!

Some of the classic tunes of the Savoy operas come from this show: I've Got a Little List (suitably updated to feature modern-day transgressors!), Willow, Tit-Willow and My Object All Sublime, which contains that well-known phrase, 'Let the Punishment Fit the Crime'.

Gloria Smith directs this traditionally staged production and Mark Turvill is Musical Director. The venue is the Rhoda McGaw Theatre and the show runs from Wednesday 8th March to Saturday 11th March 2017 with a Saturday matinee. Tickets are available from the box office (01483 473657) and for further information, visit our website www.kasjog.org.uk

By Hilary Witts



Knaphill Care needs you!

You may well know Knaphill Care: we're an organisation that helps people who have difficulties getting to hospital, the doctors or the dentists. You've possibly already seen our previous requests for more volunteer drivers.

Well, this plea for help is a bit different. At the moment we're short of duty officers, who also play a vital role within our organization. They're the people who answer the phone when the client rings, and then arrange the transport to and from the client's destination.

The task is not onerous, as the care phone is only operative weekdays from 10am to midday, and it's rare to have more than

three calls a morning. The task is quite simple: having got the client's name and requirements, you look at the list of driver volunteers and contact them to see if they are available to help, and pass on the details. It's a great way to get involved with the local community. So, if you'd like to know more, please give me a ring on 01483 475341, I'd love to hear from YOU, and maybe YOU can help us to help others.

Martin Dunham
Chairman Knaphill Care



Incredible Edible

The Incredible Edible Knaphill project started small this year but we are already planning for next year.

With two small sites, we've grown climbing French beans and runner beans, tomatoes, rocket, courgettes and more. Next year we're hoping to expand and get local shops and business involved. During the autumn, we'll be visiting them to find out who's interested so we can start planning much earlier.

We're also already potting up our strawberry runners ready to go for next year. It would be lovely if we could get strawberries growing around the village so that anyone can help themselves to perfectly fresh local strawberries. Our main limitation to growing the scheme further is time available to the small band of volunteers, so if you are interested please do get in touch; however small amount a time you have to give, it all helps.

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/Incredible-Edible-Knaphill-1015706398522110/?fref=ts

By Kate Kett





Bees at the bottom of my Garden

By Martin Dunham

I have been talking generally about bees and the make-up of a hive, but how does this start out? In the spring when the Queen is laying about 2,000 eggs a day, the swarm (all the workers) may decide that their hive is too crowded/small/big/cold/hot, or they may just get fed up with living there. In this case, they may decide that they need another Queen; she may not be laying sufficient eggs or – pc alert! - she may just be too old. To produce the next Queen, the swarm create five or six special extra-large cells into which an egg is placed. The larvae will then be fed Queen Jelly, a mixture of pollen and honey, as a result of which your standard larvae turn into Queens.

The first job the Queen must do is to destroy the competition, after which by an unknown process half of the hive will decide to go with the new Queen. So on a bright sunny morning in April/May, 20-30,000 bees will emerge from the hive and set out to look for a new home. Now, books tell you that all we beekeepers need do is entrap this mass into a cardboard box, wait for them to calm down and put them into their new hive. What actually happens is that the bees leave the hive and fly about 20 or 30 feet, usually vertically, deciding where to locate their new home.

My first encounter with such an occurrence, following a call from a concerned allotment holder, was with a swarm rising vertically on the other side of a six-foot chain-link fence and coming to rest at the top of a very thin silver birch tree. I rushed off to the field with my equipment and a ladder, and proceeded to climb said ladder. However, I am not the slimmest of people nor in the first flush of youth, and the further I climbed, the more the tree bent until I was level with the bees but they were now beyond reach of my arms. In theory, you place something like a cardboard box under the swarm, shake the branch gently and the bees drop into the box. However, by this time I was balanced on the ladder with one hand and leg, and waving a cardboard box at an uncooperative swarm of bees. My assistant (my good lady wife) was offering less than helpful comments such as “be careful” and “don’t fall down”, and as these thoughts were also uppermost in my mind, I decided to try another approach. Down the tree I went, over the fence to collect a saw, back over the fence and up the tree, and with one leg wrapped firmly around the ladder, one hand holding the cardboard box and the other

sawing away at the bough to which the swarm were attached, I managed to dislodge the swarm into the box. However, I was now in a position where I still had my leg wrapped around the ladder, a branch partly sawed through and, most worryingly, a cardboard box full of very unhappy bees. I’m not quite sure how, but somehow I managed to get down, turned the box over and retreated very rapidly from my very angry swarm to await results. Later that evening I looked inside the box, and there they were, as happy as you like, so I took them off to a new hive where they quickly settled down and turned out to be very good and productive girls.



Nothing Changes 17th Century beekeepers

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Woking Borough Council's Community Alarm service is part of the Living Well scheme designed to help older and vulnerable residents to stay safe and secure in their own homes.

Careline is an alarm unit installed in your home that is activated by an alarm button worn discreetly on your wrist or around your neck. Care and support is available day and night throughout the year, indoors or in the garden. It's quick and easy to install and costs from as little as £4.10 a week. Discounts are available for people in receipt of means tested benefits and our Careline staff can advise whether you may be eligible for an Attendance Allowance to help pay for the service. A free 12-week trial is available for people who have recently been in hospital (installation of a community alarm can help to speed up early discharge from hospital) or have been victims of distraction burglary.

The charge includes free installation, servicing and maintenance as well as customer care visits from our Careline staff who are all experienced and security checked by Woking Borough Council.



June learnt about the Careline alarm through her Homelink advisor. She has neck and back problems, and when she falls finds it really hard to get back up again. She has used the service three times in the two years she's had it. She tells us: "A voice came through the speaker and said 'Hello Miss Brine, how can I help you?' I felt so relieved to be able to tell someone what had happened. They called the paramedics who used a key from the key safe to enter the house. They picked me up and made sure I was okay before they left."

June also values the regular customer care visits too, as she lives alone. She says: "One time I was feeling quite miserable because I don't have any family and no-one else had remembered my birthday, but the Careline lady came with some flowers and a card and it made my year!"

Careline also supports a range of telecare sensors such as smoke alarms, incontinence alerts and gas detectors.

For a free no-obligation demonstration in your home or to arrange installation for a relative or friend, please call the Careline Team on 01483 743647, email careline@woking.gov.uk or visit www.woking.gov.uk/livingwell.

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Policing in Knaphill

Surrey Police have recently sent us the following information on the modified situation in Knaphill following the change in delivery of their front line service in April.

"This has resulted in a new model called Policing in your Neighbourhood (PIYN), which means that each area now has its own uniformed team who are locally led. The old Safer Neighbourhood Team has become smaller and focuses on tackling repeat issues in the borough.

For Knaphill, PCSO Sultan Khan is still the point of contact for the area. He is managed by PS Emmie Harris and both of them form

part of the wider team that looks after Woking.

With regard to numbers to contact, for an emergency 999 will provide the fastest response. If the incident is not an emergency, call 101. This will ensure that your call is logged and details can be passed onto the team. This reduces the risk of the matter being missed should the officer be away, on leave for example. Residents can also contact the local team on woking@surrey.pnn.police.uk, but this should not be used to report crime. The public can also consult the Facebook page Wokingbeat and Twitter page @wokingbeat, which both allow local residents to see what the team are currently involved with."

The KRA are looking at the possibility of organising an open meeting with Inspector Nolan Heather to provide more details on these changes, as well as give residents a forum to ask questions. We will let you know as and when this is finalised.

WENCESLAS PROJECT

Citizens Advice Woking and Woking Lions Club have launched their annual Wenceslas Project to assist those in the community who face fuel poverty this winter.

Many local residents struggle to meet fuel bills during the winter months but don't qualify for statutory payments. These two organisations are again encouraging residents who are in

receipt of a Winter Fuel Allowance and can afford to donate all or part of their allowance to the project to help those who are less fortunate. Last year the project raised over £4,500, and it is hoped to help even more people this year.

For more information, or to donate, please visit Citizens Advice Woking, 26 Commercial Way, Woking, email margaret.gower@wokingcab.org or call 01483 541610. Cheques should be made payable to "Woking Lions Club/Citizens' Advice Woking".

www.stjohnsknaphillchildrenscentre.co.uk
childrenscentre@stjohnsknaphill.co.uk
 01483 476450



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New home for Tench at Brookwood Ponds

On the 25th October, Goldsworth Park Angling Club introduced 50 beautiful Green Tench into ponds 2 and 4 (25 in each). These young fish will be a great addition to the already present stocks, ranging between eight and ten inches long, and will in time grow, we hope, into fine specimens of more than double the size and weighing several pounds, offering anglers the opportunity of a prize catch.

It is important we point out that all anglers when fishing the ponds MUST follow all club rules. Please read notice boards on site or on the WBC web site Goldsworth Lake and Brookwood Ponds Fishing: take great care when handling any fish and return to the water immediately after capture unharmed; always respect the sport of angling but most importantly respect the fish we catch and the environment in which we fish.

On the subject of the environment, our head bailiff Les has, over the past few weeks and with the help of a number of regular anglers, been busy on and around the ponds litter picking, trimming overhanging branches and thinning out some of the reed beds, etc. before winter sets in.

If you are a regular visitor to the park, you may also have noticed that we have had a small triangle of grass cut short just beyond the western end of Pond 2, in readiness for some experimental wild flower planting. Les has managed to acquire, donated by the organization Friends of the Earth, several packs of bee-friendly wild flower seeds such as Yarrow, Common Poppy, Lady's Bedstraw, Red



Campion and Crested Dogstail to name just a few. We have all in recent times heard much of the plight of our bees, a great deal of which is a man-made issue, and how important they are for our very existence, and that we need somehow to try to reverse.

Over past few years, over 90% of wild meadow has been lost and twenty bee species in Britain have become extinct, with many more species under threat. A few packets of seeds won't save the planet, but it's a start. If our little triangle is a success, then we will continue to expand on what could be, with a little help, a great community project.

If you would like to know more or to get involved, please do contact Les on 07766 04951. He's a hive of information!

By Roger Westcott, Goldsworth Park Angling Club

Chobham Rugby Club

The Chobham First XV can probably best describe their start to the season as inconsistent, with some good performances and victories interspersed with some very average performances and inevitable losses. The squad are working hard to put it right but improvement isn't always simply about training harder; sometimes the coaching team must think outside the box. Recently the squad took an opportunity to raise morale and do some team bonding by replacing a regular Thursday night training session with supporting Harlequins in their European match against French club Stade Francais. A few beers and bit of team banter can often work wonders to lift the spirits, and the team have certainly responded by subsequently winning four games in a row, seemingly rejuvenated.

If fireworks have sometimes been lacking on the pitch, the same cannot be said off the pitch, as once again Chobham RFC played hosts to the local community for a stunning fireworks display set to music. This season the fireworks extravaganza was extra special as the club is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The fireworks are an excellent example of how the club positions itself at the heart of the local community, and building on this is a wonderful new initiative trialling Mixed Ability Rugby. Mixed Ability Rugby Union teams have able-bodied players alongside team mates with learning and/or physical disabilities. Players and

Action from the Mixed Ability Rugby match between Letchworth and Chobham at Fowlers Wells in October



supporters recently enjoyed a great game of Mixed Ability Rugby under the Chobham floodlights, with the Letchworth Bravehearts narrowly defeating a Chobham Select XV team 33 – 31 at full time. The club is launching training sessions from mid-November with further games scheduled. Anyone wishing to take part, find out how you can help or for more information please telephone Mike O'Regan on 07808 630053.

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.

By Mark Spinner

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FOOTBALL ROUND-UP



CHARTER STANDARD
CLUB



At the time of writing, nearly eight weeks into the season, things are looking bright for the club after a decent start to the season for all three adult Saturday sides. The first team are holding their own just 3 points off the top spot in the Surrey Intermediate after promotion to the Premier Division and currently have 4 players in the top 10 scorers in the division. The reserves are carrying on where they left off after winning the title last season, with striker Joe Roberts leading the goalscoring charts, and the A's have already amassed more points in Division 4 of the Guildford & Woking Alliance than they did in the whole of last year including a club record score of 12-1 against Farncombe Athletic!

Continued sponsorship from our friends at Trident Honda has seen four new kits, including a return to green & white for our away strip in a nod to Knaphill Wanderers, who merged with Knaphill Athletic in 2012, with the club returning the support by taking part in the Woking Swimathon, also sponsored by Trident, raising over £850 for local causes.

The youth section is also going strong with nine sides ranging from U8's to U17's playing on Sundays at both The Vyne and Waterers Park, although players, coaches and volunteers are always welcome to join our growing community-focused club.

Web: www.knaphillathletic.co.uk

Email: info@knaphillathletic.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/knaphillathletic

Twitter: @KnaphillAFC

Des Clark, Secretary / First Team Manager

M: 07985 650908 H: 01483 489893

Knaphill Athletic Football Club

- Surrey County Intermediate League
- Guildford & Woking Alliance League
- Surrey & Hants Border League
- Surrey Youth League
- Surrey Primary League

MISSING CHRISTMAS?

by the Rev Jim Binney



There is a painting by the Flemish Renaissance artist Pieter Bruegel the Elder called *The Numbering in Bethlehem*. It is typical of Bruegel's work – the picture is full of people. The scene depicts the census which took place in Bethlehem at the time when Jesus was born. In one corner there is a frozen pond on which children are playing. A man is fishing in a hole in the ice. In the background a house is being built. A long queue of people are lined up to be enrolled and to pay taxes. People are tending their pigs and hens. Life goes on in a flurry of activity. No one notices the figure on the donkey or the man walking beside her. In fact, only the tell-tale carpenter's saw over Joseph's shoulder gives him away. You really have to search for them in the crowd. Unless you know what to look for, you would probably miss them. Certainly, none of the people in the painting are taking any notice of Joseph and Mary, still less the unborn Son of God within her. In the hustle and

bustle of everyday life, there were many in Bethlehem that first Christmas who had no idea that something very special was about to happen.

This painting parallels many people's lives today. They miss Christmas. Caught up in a society which has largely forgotten about Jesus, there are many who will again 'celebrate' Christmas this December without a thought for the Saviour whose birth we commemorate. And yet ... recognising what God has done for us all in sending his Son to be born amongst us that first Christmas has the power to transform our lives for the better. So ... in all the hustle and bustle that Christmas has become today ... take a few moments to ponder the fact that the One whose birth we celebrate at Christmas is none other than 'Emmanuel – God with us!' and that his 'given name' was 'Jesus – because he will save his people from their sins' (Matthew 1:21,23).

The **Rev Jim Binney** is the Community Minister at Knaphill Baptist Church and Network Pastor for the North Downs Network of Baptist Churches belonging to the South Eastern Baptist Association. This article is written on behalf of Holy Trinity and St Saviour's Anglican Church, Knaphill Baptist Church, Knaphill Methodist Church & St Hugh of Lincoln Roman Catholic Church



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

from

Holy Trinity & St Saviour's Church

Chobham Road, Knaphill & Connaught Road, Brookwood Tel. 473489

St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

Victoria Road, Knaphill Tel. 472404

Knaphill Methodist Church

The Broadway, Knaphill Tel. 472524

Knaphill Baptist Church

88 High Street, Knaphill Tel. 474083

CAROL SERVICES

Holy Trinity: 18 December at 5.00 p.m.

Baptist: 18 December (Candlelight) at 5.30 p.m.

Methodist: 18 December at 6.30 p.m.

St Saviour's: 18 December (Candlelight) at 7.00 p.m.

**C4K Joint Service (St Hugh's): 22
December at 7.00 p.m.**

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

Methodist: 24 December at 3.00 p.m.

Holy Trinity: 17 December at 4.30 p.m.

NATIVITY FROM SCRATCH

Baptist: 18 December at 11.00 a.m.

CRIB SERVICE WITH PUPPETS

St Saviour's: 24 December at 3.30 & 4.45 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION/MASS

St Hugh's: Vigil Mass (KS1) at 5.30 p.m.

St Hugh's: Vigil Mass (KS2) at 7.00 p.m.

St Hugh's: Carols & Readings at 11.30 p.m.

St Hugh's: Midnight Mass at 12.00 p.m.

Holy Trinity: Communion at 11.15 p.m.

St Saviour's: Communion at 11.15 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

St Hugh's: Dawn Mass at 9.30 a.m.

St Hugh's: Day Mass at 11.30 a.m.

Methodist: Family Service at 10.00 a.m.

Baptist: Family Service at 10.30 a.m.

Holy Trinity: Family Service at 10.30 a.m.

St Saviour's: Family Service at 10.30 a.m.

*'For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and his
name will be ... Jesus, & he will save his people from their sins'*

