

# myknaphill



WINTER 2022 ISSUE 74



## *In this issue...*

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## ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE!

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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**By email:** [news@knaphill.org](mailto:news@knaphill.org)

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# Chairman's Report

## Christmas 2022



The Knaphill Residents Association is 21 years old this year. Our Founder Arthur Raynes would have been pleased that the Association has carried on to such an age. We have of course had to adapt and change along the way, including the use of new technology to adapt to the needs of our Residents. We are pleased though to still distribute a paper version of this magazine to over 5,000 Knaphill Residents.

KRA Committee members meet every month or two and invite our three Councillors to join us to discuss a wide range of matters and issues concerning Knaphill. We are currently looking for a Secretary to help organise and take the minutes of our meetings and act as a point of contact with our Residents. If you might be interested, please contact me on [chairman@knaphill.org](mailto:chairman@knaphill.org) for further details. We are also very keen to have some younger residents join us to bring a different viewpoint (and some new energy!), and gain experience in being involved in our activities.

On a more general note, it is very pleasing to see that after the restrictions due to Covid, community events have started happening again, such as the PTA Summer Fair, the Village Show and the Scouts' bonfire night/firework display in November.

With my very best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

**John Butler**



## Knaphill Fireworks Extravaganza

After missing two years, Knaphill Scouts' Fireworks Extravaganza was back with a bang, and over 2,000 Knaphillians turned out in force to enjoy it. The team, ably led by Dave Francis, Knaphill Scout Group Chairman and assisted by about 50 volunteers, put on their usual excellent show, and the weather cooperated, despite having threatened to spoil the event earlier in the day. Knaphill Scouts would like to offer their heartfelt thanks to all who supported them this year; they'll be back on 4th November 2023. Book the date now; tickets will go on sale in early October. **Eric Moore**



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# Where has the year gone...?

Is it just me, or do you also think time goes quicker each year? Is New Year's Eve 2021 that many months ago and are we already nearing the end of 2022?

I remember how far away the year 2000 sounded in the seventies and eighties, something from a different world. It sounded like a science fiction title: 'The year 2000.' And now we are nearly in 2023...

When I was a child, time went so slow... It took ages before it was my birthday and Christmas was far away... When I was a child, my sisters and I each got a new dress for Christmas. It would be hanging there, waiting for the Big Day. The anticipation of the festive season was nearly as exciting as the days themselves. And then... I would wake up and knew: today it's Christmas day, hurrah!

I read somewhere that new things seem to last longer than things you've done many times. You get so used to them that they 'fly away', as it were. For young children everything is new, but when you get older things become familiar and tend to be less exciting.

Yet... the Christmas message is Good News, every year, and I still have a feeling of excitement about it. And maybe this year we can make Christmas special for someone else, who doesn't have the luxury of a warm house and a tasty Christmas dinner. Especially this year people are struggling to make ends meet. So, if you are able, why not donate to the Foodbank or the Community fridge at Holy Trinity church in Knaphill?

Giving makes someone else happy, but the one who gives benefits as well. It can give you a feeling of excitement to share with others when you have plenty. Giving is not always easy, and receiving may even be more difficult. We don't like to be dependent on others. Yet don't be ashamed if you need emotional, physical or material help. People need each other!

Enjoy reading this magazine, have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Hetty Lalleman

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Can you please answer the following questions: **1.** What do you enjoy about being a councillor (for Saj: about being the mayor)? **2.** What improvements would you like to see in Knaphill? **3.** What is your New Year's wish for the Knaphill residents?

## From Cllr Melanie Whitehand:

1. Being able to help residents and deliver on their trust to do so when they voted for me.
2. More local independent shops, the Anchor and Robin Hood pubs to be converted into something useful for the community, and less speeding through the main roads of the village.
3. Happy, peaceful and healthy lives.



Cllr Melanie Whitehand and her dog Clementine



Cllr Hassan Akberali

## From Cllr Hassan Akberali:

1. As a community-led individual, not a party-affiliated politician, I aim to focus on the issues which matter most to residents.
2. Projects involving local schools and the RHS to grow vegetables on wasteland, engaging Woking youth to take ownership of their local spaces, including naming paths after local WW veterans subject to the availability of volunteers and funding.
3. I wish all residents a peaceful, healthy and prosperous New Year, and may their hope for trust and accountability in local democracy always be realised.

## From the Mayor, Cllr Saj Hussain:

My mayoral year began with the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, including the tremendous privilege of lighting the beacon in the Jubilee Square. More recently, following the sad demise of our beloved Queen, I was then tasked with delivering the proclamation to the residents of Woking, who filled the town Square, to welcome King Charles III. Following the week of mourning, we once again gathered in the town centre to light candles and lay flowers in memory of our late Queen. My sincere thanks to all the council officials and emergency services for organising this.

Woking is a very diverse borough, and I am extremely touched to see the number of volunteer groups and charitable organisations that help the less fortunate.

As regards my council duties, I am very pleased that several long-awaited roadworks have been carried out, and that a survey has been undertaken on certain busy roads to address the issue of speeding in the village. Numerous parking restrictions are due to be introduced to stop antisocial parking. Unfortunately, this year for the first time I missed the 11th November Remembrance Service in Knaphill, because as Mayor I led the service in Woking, but I am glad that my fellow councillors Melanie Whitehand and Hassan Akberali were present.

Season's greetings to everyone!



Mayor, Cllr Saj Hussain

## What is Andy's Man Club?

We are a national group for men providing a place for them to come together to talk about issues or problems that they are facing or have faced. The process is about bringing together men who have been in similar situations, to help each other on a peer to peer basis, sharing experiences on how they have dealt with situations. We are open nationally every Monday from 6.30 to 9pm apart from bank holidays.

We ask five questions which are designed to encourage talking, we start to focus on positives and how best to keep going forward. We are available to men over the age of 18.

Why did I want to do this? I lost a colleague at work, a guy who you would never know was struggling. That had a real impact on me and I decided I wanted to/needed to do something to support men in a similar situation. I had many meetings, spoke with three good friends who were interested in helping and then approached AMC to see if they would support us opening and running the first AMC in Surrey. After training we opened our

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doors at The Vyne Centre in July and have welcomed many men to share their stories.

**Blair Parrott**

## Visit to Oberammergau Passion Play

In July this year, we were a group of sixteen from Knaphill who went to the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany – sadly four from the group went down with Covid just before departure. Due to problems with the coach and the original flight being cancelled, we finally arrived in Munich 13 hours late, so had to drive through Germany at night and arrived at our hotel in the lovely alpine village of Strobl in Austria near

the German border at 3 am! From there we visited various locations around the lake, including Salzburg, and whilst in that city we attended an organ recital in the cathedral, which has six different organs which Mozart had played on during the time he lived there.

After these five pleasant days in Strobl, we moved on to Oberammergau for the Passion Play performance. This is an event that takes place every 10 years since 1633, when the village elders promised to enact the passion of our Lord by way of thanks for the village having been spared from the worst ravages of the plague which had struck Bavaria.

The Play takes place five days a week; the first part is in the afternoon for 2½ hours, then there is a break for dinner, and then it resumes in the evening. The enormous open-air stage takes up to 500 people, all of whom have to be born in Oberammergau, with two people taking alternately each of the two main parts of Jesus and Mary. There is a retractable roof with underfloor heating in case of inclement weather, and the seating area is under cover. The Play tells the story of the Passion of Christ, from his arrival into Jerusalem on the donkey, finishing with the crucifixion and the empty tomb. The performance takes place in German, but a script translation is provided. The audience of 5,000 includes people from countries all around the world.

The group left the day after the beautiful and moving performance, driving back to Munich airport past the stadium where the European Games had recently taken place. After the difficult outward journey, we thought we'd be ok on the way back, but found that the M25 was closed due to a lorry fire. However, we all agreed that the experience was well worth the travel complication and was something we would never forget.

**Dee Roberts**



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The finalists in the Jubilee Pairs competition held this year at Knaphill Bowling Club

Knaphill Bowling Club has had another successful season winning trophies in the Men's, Ladies and Junior competitions, as well as having matches in the West Surrey and Sapphire Leagues and a number of friendlies against other local clubs.

We offer a wide range of events, such as Club Nights every Wednesday where there are always coaches on hand, all free of charge, and there might even be the smell of burgers being prepared, plus there is Short Mat during the winter.

If you are interested please let the undersigned know, or look out for our posters next year advertising our open days, usually the first week in May. You can play as little or as much as you wish, it's up to you, there is no pressure, so give bowls a try at our friendly club.

For more information contact Keith Smith on 07779 046771 or e-mail [knaphillbowlsclub@yahoo.com](mailto:knaphillbowlsclub@yahoo.com)

Also see our Facebook Page at Knaphill Bowls Club or visit our Web Site at [www.knaphillbowls.online](http://www.knaphillbowls.online).

**Keith Smith**

## Who plays the 'Last Post'?

My name is Ruth Moore. I play the Bb Cornet, Bb Trumpet, & D/Eb Trumpet. I play regularly with the Bagshot Concert Band and am a member of the British Association of Christian Bands, an organisation that brings together Christian Brass Band players a couple of times a year.

I first played 'Last Post' for the Brookwood Last Post Association on the 3rd April 2017 which was, by coincidence, 100 years to the day from the death of one of my Great Uncles, Alex Stocker, in World War I. Remembering his life and service during the Ceremony was the start of the tradition of an 'Individual Remembrance' during the Ceremony. The 'Last Post' Ceremony was first held in Brookwood Military Cemetery during World War 2 when it couldn't take place at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium and it still takes place on the first Sunday of every month at 3pm at the RAF Shelter. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

Bugles have been used by the Military since early Biblical times to play short tunes to signal events throughout the day and to communicate manoeuvres on a battlefield. 'Last Post' signals the end of the day's activities. It is also sounded at military funerals to signal that the soldier has gone to his final rest. It is played at commemorative services such as the one above and Remembrance Day and Sunday. I am sometimes asked to play 'Last Post' at the funerals of former soldiers, and it is an honour to be able to do this.

Remembrance Sunday gives us the opportunity to remember and be grateful to all those who have lost their lives fighting for the freedom of others – whether a long time ago in World Wars I & II or in more recent conflicts such as in Syria or Ukraine. We must never take our freedom for granted and need to be thankful that we are living in a relatively peaceful country.

Ruth Moore



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## KASJOG's Foray into Fairyland

Knaphill & St Johns Operatic Group (KASJOG) are busy rehearsing their 2023 production of Iolanthe (or The Peer and the Peri). Having swashbuckled our way through a successful run of The Pirates of Penzance earlier this year, we have swapped pirates for peers and entered into the realm of the fantastic.

Or have we? The Queen of the Fairies sends Strephon, the half-mortal, half-fairy son of Iolanthe into Parliament where he wreaks havoc by means of a fairy spell to make all the peers pass any bills he chooses, including entry dependent on intelligence, rather than class.

Gilbert and Sullivan's light and humorous potshot at a 19th century government has a familiar ring to it and translates very well into contemporary events occurring now in our political system. Although our previous production of Iolanthe was over 10 years ago, nothing much has changed, it seems, and '...peers will be peers and youth will have its fling...'

Iolanthe is regarded by some as one of Gilbert and Sullivan's perfect collaborations, therefore we at KASJOG intend to provide our audiences with a performance that is magical!

The show runs from 1st – 4th March 2023 at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre. Further information is on our website ([www.kasjog.co.uk](http://www.kasjog.co.uk)) and tickets can be booked at [atgtickets.com/venues/rhoda-mcgaw-theatre-woking](http://atgtickets.com/venues/rhoda-mcgaw-theatre-woking) or ring 0333 009 6690.

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## A 'thank you' from Debbie Harlow

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Knaphill for your support over the last 8 years when I had the honour of being your Councillor.

Knaphill is a very special Village, with lots going on and many special people, among them many volunteers who work tirelessly for all the residents. I have been lucky to work with many of them from the Churches 4 Knaphill, local sports teams, schools and educators, the KRA and some special individuals who put themselves out there again and again to help their neighbours.

I was also very lucky to work with some amazing people in different departments at the Council Offices including Housing, Health & Well-being, Community Safety and Licencing.

In the Housing team, we ensured that during COVID there were no homeless people living on the street in our Borough. As lead member of the Sheerwater Development team, I was proud that we were successful in providing sustainable homes for residents of our Borough as well as the new award-winning Hale End Court Assisted Living Development.

The Health & Well-being and Community Safety teams were a fantastic support in introducing the new Youth Club at the WYAC in Knaphill on a Monday night.

I look forward to continuing to work with all Knaphill residents in any way I can, and particularly with regard to the Knaphill Village Show, which is very close to my heart as a founding member.

Don't ever change, Knaphill, you are unique and wonderful.

Debbie Harlow





Wishing all Knaphill residents a  
**Happy Christmas!**  
and a better New Year...

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Since July, Holy Trinity Knaphill and St. Saviour's Brookwood have a new curate in their team of ministers. She is the Reverend Dawn Lucas. Who is she?

**(H)** First of all: what is a curate?

**(D)** As a curate I am someone who finished my theological training to be a vicar, but now I am training in the practical work of a parish. It means I will be working in the Anglican church in Knaphill and Brookwood for the next three years.

**(H)** So you moved here?

**(D)** Yes, we moved from Dorking to Brookwood this summer.

**(H)** Who is 'we'?

**(D)** That is me and my two boys. Sadly, I am a widow. One of my boys is still in primary school. That means I get to do the school run which gives me the opportunity to get to know other parents. The boys have settled in really well.

**(H)** What did you do before you did your theological training?

**(D)** I worked as a civilian in the Metropolitan Police for twenty years. The last role I held there was a strategic HR business partner.

**(H)** So that's a big change. What is your passion when you think of your current new position?

**(D)** I have a deep compassion for people who are broken, who are hurt. I have had a challenging life myself and I know what it is to feel hurt. I have a passion for getting alongside people in their brokenness. I know what it is to be healed from traumas.

**(H)** What are you looking forward to in the next few years?

**(D)** I look forward to continuing loving people into the church and seeing God's kingdom grow. I also think it's important to show that our Christian faith is still relevant today.

**(H)** Thank you so much for your time and we look forward to hearing more from you!

**Hetty Lalleman**



## The New Team at St. Hugh's

St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church on Victoria Road has a new clergy team, with Deacon Rob Wellbelove being joined by Canon Rob Esdaile and Fr. Nick Harden, following the move of Fr. Gerard Hatton to a new ministry in Edinburgh. Fr. Rob arrives from the East (well, Epsom, anyway), while Fr. Nick hails from a little further west (Farnborough, to be precise).

Fr. Rob was parish priest at Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton, for the last 16 years. A love of music is expressed by playing the piano badly. A love of nature is expressed by walks in the country and campaigning on ecological issues. (He is also priest adviser on Social Action for the Catholic diocese.)

Fr. Nick summarises his own story so far: "Following six years studying Chemistry at university and three years of academic research, I spent twelve happy years teaching in secondary schools. It is very easy to ignore the call to priesthood when things are going



Father Rob (left) and Father Nick (right)

well, but I did eventually listen and respond. I was ordained on July 2nd of this year, so everything is new to me, but there is a genuine sense of joy in the community of St Hugh's, and it is both a privilege and a delight to be part of the parish."

While Fr. Rob has more miles on the clock as a cleric, Fr. Nick has the advantage of having already spent a year in Woking, as a deacon based at St. Dunstan's during the last year. And, while St. Hugh's remains a distinct and very distinctive community, Fr. Rob and Fr. Nick are also responsible for the town centre parish. "We certainly won't die of boredom," says Fr. Rob, "but joining such a friendly and welcoming community gives us great hope for what we can do together, working alongside other friends and neighbours in Knaphill."

**Father Rob**

## Christmassy customs...

### Did you know...

... that most of our Christmas customs of today come from Victorian times, but that there were Christmas trees already in the sixteenth Century in Germany? The earliest date for a Christmas tree in England is 1800.

... that prince Albert, the German husband of Queen Victoria, made the Christmas tree popular in Britain? By the way, the huge Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square is about 70 feet high and is given each year by the people of Oslo, Norway, as a 'thank you' to the British people for helping their country in the Second World War.

### Did you know...

... that the custom of sending printed Christmas cards also originated in Victorian times? A busy businessman, Sir Henry Cole, ordered an artist to design a card to be

printed and sent to his many family members and friends because he didn't have time to write them himself.

... that the colour red for letter boxes was chosen because it was regarded a royal colour and carrying royal messages was the origin of post offices and letter boxes? Because of this, and because the robin is an early visitor of bird tables at the beginning of the winter, this bird with its red breast is often pictured on Christmas cards.

### Did you know...

... that the oldest carol is probably from the twelfth century and that it is 'O come, o come Emmanuel'?

... that Carols were sung by groups of 'watchmen' who watched over the security of a town? They would go round to make sure everyone and everything was safe for



the night and at Christmas time would sing carols, hoping they were invited into homes to receive some food or even money. In the 19th century, the police took over the security tasks, but the custom of singing carols in groups remained, often done for charity.

**Hetty Lalleman**

## Brookwood Park ponds

Hello again, Roger Westcott back after two years absence. I'm secretary of the Goldsworth Park Angling Club, licenced via WBC to manage angling on the ponds at Brookwood Country Park.

The site contains four ponds. No. 1 nearest the car park by Knaphill FC acts as a wildlife sanctuary, as does pond 3, which was probably originally a beautiful estate lake on the Brookwood hospital grounds. Today it's in a poor state, with only a few Mallard ducks calling it home. So, no fishing allowed on these two ponds.

Ponds 2 and 4 are managed by the club for angling, stocked with a wide variety of fish and offering excellent sport to our members and visitors. Our bailiffs patrol several times a day, and permits and day tickets can be purchased from them. More details on fishing the ponds are on our website at [www.goldsworthparkanglingclub.com](http://www.goldsworthparkanglingclub.com).

Pond 2 has seven fishing areas, two with purpose-built platforms, with five more scheduled to be built ready for our new season which starts on 1st April 2023. Pond 4, that's the one close to Percheron Drive with the big platform at the far end, is our most popular pond.

Sadly, pond 4 lost some 200 fish in early summer of 2021 due to an oxygen crash – in small shallow ponds, oxygen levels can rise and fall rapidly in hot or stormy weather. Deploying aeration pumps fortunately saved most of the stock, which luckily has recovered very well. We have even seen a marked improvement in numbers and health of the fish; nature has an uncanny way of rebalancing itself to ensure its survival.

Our free Let's Go Fishing event which we ran every August had to go on hold due to Covid, but we plan on running it again as of August 2023, so keep an eye on local media and our website nearer the time for all the information you will need to take part.

Finally, a message to all our anglers and other park users: PLEASE use the main car park where possible, as Percheron Drive is residential with limited parking and should only be used by the elderly or disabled.

**THANKYOU!**

Roger Westcott



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# News from Knaphill Athletic

It's been an exciting start to the season for two of the age groups at Knaphill Athletic as their managers start to shape their squads and continue the development of their players. U11 Blues coach, Pete Mathews, was thrilled to see his side triumph in a recent Cup game vs Sandhurst. Leading 3-1 with 10 minutes to go, the opposition missed a penalty but still managed to pull back two goals to take the game to penalties with the Blues taking the spoils 6-5 to delight their coaches. "It was a well fought game by both teams and was a great experience for both the boys and managers to be part of a Cup run after playing some great football," said Pete. "We've got 18 players in the squad and everybody plays their part."

Meanwhile, U9 Falcons coach, Chris Gore, is equally pleased with how his team is progressing. "We have a squad of 16 players who are all learning and developing well. They're a committed and talented group of players who've worked really hard preparing for this season." Chris was also keen to acknowledge the generosity of Elite Environmental Services who have supplied the team with sponsored kits and training tops adding: "It's very much appreciated during these difficult times and the boys love their new equipment."

The club are always looking for players for all age groups as well as anybody who would be interested at a role at the club or any potential sponsors. So, please get in touch:

W: [www.knaphillathletic.co.uk](http://www.knaphillathletic.co.uk)  
 E: [info@knaphillathletic.co.uk](mailto:info@knaphillathletic.co.uk)  
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Des Clark, Chairman



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## The Shepherd's Dog

Out on the windy hill  
 Under that sudden star  
 A blaze of radiant light  
 Frightened my master.

He got up, left our sheep,  
 Tramped over the moor.  
 And I, following,  
 Came to this open door,

Sidled in, settled down,  
 Head on my paws,  
 Glad to be here, away  
 From the wind's sharpness.

Such warmth is in this shed,  
 Such comfort from this Child,  
 That I forget my hard life,  
 Ignore the harsh world,

And see on my master's face  
 The same joy I possess,  
 The knowledge of peace,  
 True happiness.

**By: Leslie Norris**

(Found on:  
[www.poemhunter.com](http://www.poemhunter.com);  
 accessed 11/10/2022)



# Your Village Show needs YOU!!



Punch and Judy fascinate young and old. Photo: John Stocker

The Knaphill Village Show has been running successfully for the past eleven years thanks to a dedicated committee of the Knaphill Residents' Association. It has regularly brought together the local community for a fun family day – we had over 2,000 satisfied customers this year! – as well as contributing tens of thousands of pounds to local charities and good causes. For example, this year the KRA has donated £400 from the show proceeds to the Knaphill Schools PTA.

But... some of the show committee members are getting older (well, we are all getting older but some of us started off older in the first place!), and some members have moved away from the village, meaning that we are getting low on numbers and/or availability, and we really could do with some extra help to keep this wonderful event going.

Specifically, we have a couple of roles to fill to help with planning and organising next year's show, as always at Mizens Miniature Railway, on Saturday 15th July 2023. The first is to coordinate and manage

the Show plans across our committee members and volunteers. The second is to help book the entertainers – musicians, singers, dancers, balloon artists, stilt-walkers, etc., maybe it's something you do, or you know someone who does?! – as well as attractions such as bouncy castle, roundabout, etc. This activity involves just a few hours a month as of the end of the year, a bit more in the period May to July leading up to the show date. Full support will be provided. Some extra help with general admin support and hands-on help on the day is also always appreciated. If you'd be interested to help out in either capacity, please contact me on [chairman@knaphill.org](mailto:chairman@knaphill.org).

The show committee members always enjoy being part of the team working to put together a successful show for Knaphill, and it would be great to have a few more residents join us.

**John Butler**  
KRA Chairman



Morris dancers, plus the 'oss... Photo: John Stocker

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The club was founded in 1924 and originally played its home games at Waterer's Park, Knaphill.

Over the years the club have been one of the most successful sides in Surrey and many players have gone onto to play at higher levels of football. In 2004 we moved to our present home of Redding Way, Knaphill and in 2007 we won promotion to the Combined Counties Football League where our first team currently compete in the Southern Premier Division.

We are an FA Standard Charter Club. Accomplished on the field and professionally organised behind the scenes, we are rightly proud of our highly regarded set-up and football achievements down the years. Our ambition to compete successfully at the highest levels of the amateur game is underpinned by a young and exciting squad, a talented and hard-working staff and the ceaseless efforts of our management committee through whose vision and dedicated service we are constantly striving to improve every aspect of the club's operations.

While there is much that is both contemporary and progressive about our set-up, our fiercely competitive spirit on the pitch and the warm and friendly welcome extended to all in our ground are traditions which have been handed down from generation to generation through the best and worst of times since our earliest beginnings in 1924.

Today, we are proud to carry on these traditions and long may they continue to be the things by which we are known. Towards the end of the 2010/11 season the new floodlights and seated stand were installed which enabled us to continue in our leagues and to compete in the FA Cup, FA Vase, Surrey Senior Cup and FA Youth Cup. Since then,

we have added a further 50-seater stand as well as additional covered standing areas.

Despite the turbulent seasons of 2020/21 and 2021/22 the new management team and now in 2022/23 me as new chairman, we are committed to firstly lifting this local club to the highest level the facility can host – with an eye of blending experienced seasoned players at this level with exciting younger players we are hoping to have a successful season.

We base this success on being self-sustainable, through our hard-earned sponsorship deals and dedicated staff providing a top-class experience of level five semi pro football.

For a small village club, we will continue to grow from strength to strength with help from the local businesses and supporters. We look forward to many new faces coming down to Redding Way to see what we are all about.

**Chris Drane, Chairman Knaphill FC**



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# As her late Majesty the Queen said

At the end of the year in which our queen died, it is appropriate to quote from some of her Christmas messages.

## In 1966 she said:

I am sure the custom of giving presents at Christmas will never die out, but I hope it will never overshadow the far more important presents we can give for the benefit of the future of the world. ... Let our prayers be for a personal strength and conviction to play our own small part to bring that day nearer.

## In 2013 her words were:

For Christians, as for all people of faith, reflection, meditation and prayer help us to renew ourselves in God's love, as we strive daily to become better people. The Christmas message shows us that this love is for everyone. There is no one beyond its reach.

## In 2014 she spoke as follows:

For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people, of whatever faith or none.

## In 2016 she said:

Billions of people now follow Christ's teaching and find in him the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them because Christ's example helps me see the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe.

## Whereas her final Christmas message in 2021 contained these words:

For me and my family, even with one familiar laugh missing this year, there will be joy in Christmas, as we have the chance to reminisce, and see anew the wonder of the festive season through the eyes of our young children, of whom we were delighted to welcome four more this year.

They teach us all a lesson – just as the Christmas story does – that in the birth of a child, there is a new dawn with endless potential. It is this simplicity of the Christmas story that makes it so universally appealing: simple happenings that formed the starting point of the life of Jesus – a man whose teachings have been handed down from generation to generation, and have been the bedrock of my faith. His birth marked a new beginning. As the carol says, "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight".

I wish you all a very happy Christmas!

**On behalf of Churches 4 Knaphill (C4K),  
Revd Pieter J. Lalleman, Baptist Church**



# Christmas Church Services

## KNAPHILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Saturday	10th December	11.00am and 2pm	Santa visits the Baptist Church
Sunday	11th December	11.00am	Pop-Up Nativity
Sunday	18th December	11.00am	Christingle Service
Sunday	18th December	5.00pm	Carols by Candlelight
Sunday	25th December	10.30am	Christmas Day Celebration

## KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday	11th December	3.00pm	Christmas party for elderly people and those living on their own - please ring 01483 472524
Sunday	18th December	6.30pm	Carol Service
Sunday	25th December	10.00am	Christmas morning service for all the family - bring a present to show everyone

## HOLY TRINITY KNAPHILL AND ST SAVIOUR'S BROOKWOOD

Sunday	11th December	7.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service at St Saviour's
Monday	12th December	2.00pm	Carol Praise at Holy Trinity
Saturday	17th December	7.00pm	Camp Fire Carols at Holy Trinity
Sunday	18th December	10.00am	Nativity Service at Holy Trinity
Saturday	24th December	4.00pm	Puppet Christingle Service at St Saviour's
Saturday	24th December	11.15pm	Christmas Eve Holy Communion at St Saviour's
Sunday	25th December	10.00am	Christmas Day Celebration at Holy Trinity

## ST HUGH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Please see <https://sthughoflincoln.com> or <https://st-dunstans.org> for details of the Christmas services.

## CHURCHES 4 KNAPHILL

[knaphillbaptist.org.uk](http://knaphillbaptist.org.uk) | [knaphill-methodist-church.com](http://knaphill-methodist-church.com) | [htandstschurch.org](http://htandstschurch.org) | [sthughoflincoln.com](http://sthughoflincoln.com)