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In this issue...

KRA NEW CHAIRMAN

KNAPHILL VILLAGE SHOW

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The Team

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 DEPUTY EDITOR **Sue Stocker**
 DESIGN & ARTWORK **Tim Burdett**
 ADVERTISING **Jon Davies**

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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 two times a year, in June and December.

Please submit articles for the next issue to Hetty Lalleman at editor@knaphill.org

To promote your business, please get in touch via jon@knaphillprint.com

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. You will receive regular updates by email.

Title	Surname
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Please email the membership secretary with your details above to membership@knaphill.org who will be in touch. There is no charge.



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Chairman's Report



At our AGM in May 2023 we agreed a number of changes to the KRA Constitution. Our new Constitution can be found at <https://knaphill.org/about-our-association/proposed-constitution/>

One of the changes is no longer to ask members for a yearly membership fee. Over the years the cost and effort in collecting small fees has become prohibitive. We will however continue to keep a membership database of local residents and invite members to our annual AGM. New members are invited to sign up

by emailing: membership@knaphill.org

As I am sure you are aware, the KRA organises the annual Knaphill Village Show which this year is on Saturday 15th July at Mizens Railway. In recent years profits from the show have been distributed to local good causes and charities after recovering the show operating costs. We have also distributed some show profits to the KRA to fund its activities. In future years we plan to continue this and ensure the KRA is funded without the need to ask members to contribute a small fee, as well as to support local good causes. We will be pleased to continue to accept small donations to help fund the KRA activities.

John Butler (outgoing chair)



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Community matters...

In May the AGM of the Knaphill Residents' Association took place. AGMs are not my favourite things, because my impression of them is usually of long discussions about details. But this one was an exception, because we heard a very interesting talk by Oli Walker, the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for Woking. He discussed many important issues, but three stuck in my mind.

The first is that Knaphill is a good place to live. Compared to other areas, crime levels are low. That is not to say that some issues cannot be very annoying, such as cars parked everywhere where they shouldn't, or young people playing loud music while smoking something they shouldn't..., but on the whole we can be happy to live in a good place!

Second, the importance of reporting. People like Oli cannot

guess what's going on if nobody tells them, so he encouraged people to report Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) to Woking Borough Council online, or directly to **Oli.Walker@woking.gov.uk**. I think it's a great thing to have someone you can address when you are troubled about things going on in your area. So often we see things but don't know what to do about them.

Third, the importance of community. It's important that we, as Knaphill residents, work together to be a village where people support each other and make sure that this is a place where everyone can feel safe and happy.

So: the above things are 'matters about our community', but they also mean that 'community matters'. Play your part in it!

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John Butler, outgoing chairman

For 12 years I was chairman of the Knaphill Residents' Association, combining the role with my full-time work, including looking after my local accounting practice and voluntary work as treasurer and trustee of Woking's Citizens Advice. This was only possible thanks to the support of other KRA committee members.

The aim of the KRA is to help residents, businesses and community groups share ideas and work together, to raise awareness of, and campaign on, key local issues, and to organise events which bring people together and benefit our village. The KRA committee holds regular meetings to which our councillors are invited, to share information and discuss issues and try to resolve them within the village. We inform the community of news and events, including key planning applications, via our Facebook page and our bi-annual free magazine distributed to 5,000 addresses.

Looking back over the last dozen years, on the positive side, we had a solid nucleus of committee members at a time when organisations struggled to find volunteers. Our councillors have

also been very supportive of the work we do, and I am pleased they have regularly attended our meetings. Keeping the High Street tidy, providing extra benches and Christmas decorations have been some of the initiatives we have focussed on.

The big positive is that we have run the annual Knaphill Show for 14 years, only defaulting due to Covid. This has required all my project management skills, with a dedicated show committee. The shows have always been a resounding success with attendances of over 2000.

The main negative aspect is the traffic, specifically the increasing volume of vehicles passing through the High Street and surrounding roads, without new speeding restrictions, as well as hazardous parking with little enforcement. Villages such as Horsell and Pirbright have introduced 20 mph speed restrictions and traffic calming measures.

At our recent AGM in May, I handed over the role of chair to Phil Stubbs, to whom I wish every success. I am pleased to say I shall continue as a KRA Committee member and as chair of the Knaphill Show Committee.

Phil Stubbs, incoming chairman



I moved to Knaphill with my family in 1984, when Brookwood hospital was still open and Goldsworth Park was being planned – much change has taken place since then! We moved because of my job: I was with British Airways for 38 years and promotion brought me from Manchester to Heathrow.

I have always been interested in local politics. When the Brookwood hospital site was being developed, I noticed the lack of residents' representation, especially regarding the implications of the building of a large Sainsbury's and Homebase, and the road changes.

When I retired, my first voluntary position was with the National Trust at Dapdune Wharf in Guildford. I attended KRA meetings and later joined the committee. I was heavily involved in planning and tried to represent residents' views on key applications. I also got involved with the 'Cabin', a youth project based at the Vyne. I left the KRA committee when I became a trustee with Citizens Advice Woking, where I served for 12 years. After retiring from Citizens Advice, I offered my services as chair of the KRA. As I said earlier, I have seen major changes in Knaphill and especially

in the village centre. The opening and then the extending of Sainsbury's had a strong influence on the village's retail mix. The largest footfall is now on Friday evenings as people queue at the various take-aways. Knaphill is now made up of various communities: Birds Estate, Brookwood Farm, Hospital site, etc. The role of the KRA is to try and represent these communities on issues like traffic, planning and waste collection.

In the centre of the village, most retail properties are privately owned, so residents have little say in the type of business that moves in. Do we need four undertakers? Over the years various fruit & veg shops were unsuccessful, usually through a lack of buyers. Another role of the KRA is to work with local Councillors, irrespective of party or independent, and with police and other authorities.

One of my aims will be to retain historic buildings in and around Knaphill, which can be adapted to today's needs.



Youth Drop-In

On Monday evenings between 7.15 and 9.15 pm young people aged 11 – 19 years are welcome to play games, table tennis, get advice, be involved in arts, and so on in the Youth Centre in Trinity Road, Knaphill. The charity that organizes these evenings is 'Woking Youth'.

Adam and Briony, both well-educated in youth work and community, are the enthusiastic leaders who are there for everyone to give advice or get engaged themselves in games with visitors. Both are Woking residents and love the work

in (more or less) local Knaphill. Adam and Briony started the charity in 2022.

How is the work funded? Surrey County Council provides the building for free during the sessions, while the Knaphill Residents' Association and Woking Borough Council funded the work as well. 'Just turn up,' Adam and Briony say, 'every young person between 11-19 is welcome!'

(For those living in Goldsworth Park, there are sessions on Wednesday evening from 6.30 – 8.30 at the Lakeview Community Centre.)

Hetty Lalleman



Knaphill VILLAGE SHOW 2023

MUSIC TENT

Ukejam	1.15
Knaphill & St Johns Operatic Group (KASJOG)	2.00
Scott No Fans	2.25
Ukeaholics	2.50
Knaphill & St Johns Operatic Group (KASJOG)	3.15
Scott No Fans	3.40
Ukeaholics	4.05

Fun Dog Show from Dotty Doodles Dog Care

Registration 1.30 for 2.30 start

FRONT FIELD

Alexandra Dance Company	1.30
Punch & Judy	2.15
Punch & Judy	3.40
Koala Kids Parties	4.00
Belly Tricks	various times
Chobham Morris Dancers	various times

Garibaldi Beer Tent & BBQ

Mizens Train Rides from 1.00

Other activities

Ghostbusters on site	
Beat the Goalie	
Knaphill Athletic	from 1.00

Over 35 stalls will be present, selling a wide variety of goods and produce with local charities represented.

The 12th Knaphill Village Show returns on
Saturday 15th July 2023 at Mizens Miniature Railway,
 Barrs Lane GU21 2JW from 1.00 to 5.00pm.

This year's show promises to be full of entertainments for all the family in helping to bring the Knaphill community together.

If interested in **booking a stall** – please email stalls@knaphill.org – do not leave it too late as we are now getting very full. Last year we made a donation to the local PTA for equipment for our primary schools.

Getting to the Show

A **free minibus shuttle service** will operate on the day from the Vyne to Mizens & back from 12.45 to 5.15 pm.

Car parking at Mizens is free but can get full at peak times. Why not consider a gentle walk through Waterers Park to Mizens?



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Street Angels and rucksacks



Woking Street Angels are trained volunteers who, for over 12 years, have walked the streets of Woking town centre every Friday and Saturday night, from 10pm till 4am. They offer help, or a listening ear, wherever it may be needed. Typically, they help those who are intoxicated, lonely, sick, vulnerable, troubled or sleeping rough. Working with police, door staff, CCTV, Council and medical services, Street Angels help night-time visitors have a safe experience in the town. Their presence makes the town centre a more pleasant place for both night-time revellers and those working in the town.

The Street Angels can be easily recognised by their jackets and bright orange rucksacks. But what do they have in the bag? The contents include:

Bottles of water, flipflops (for sore feet), dustpan and brush (to clear broken glass),

sickbags (for car journeys), blankets (for warmth), first aid kit, tissues and wet-wipes, hair ties, a mobile phone-charger and their trademark lollipops (a good source of sugar but also a great conversation starter).

There is no such thing as a 'typical' shift. The Street Angels may be called on to help someone who is unwell or who has become separated from their friends, to navigate a visitor to the town back to their carpark or hotel or to arrange for a family member or friend to give someone a lift home. Every night is different, but they make a difference to someone every night, even if it is just giving them a lollipop!

If you would like to volunteer or to find out more, visit <https://www.wokingstreetangels.org.uk>

Linda Parsons (Street Angel from Knaphill)



Community Fridge Knaphill founder honoured at Buckingham Palace

Over the last four years, Knaphill Community Fridge has redirected over 170 tons of good quality food and drink that would have otherwise gone into the bin, back into our local community for free. The aim has always been twofold, to stop rotting food emitting methane into our atmosphere and warming our beautiful planet, and secondly stopping food that can be used from going to waste.

It has been a wonderful success story with over 60 regular volunteers collecting from 8 different supermarkets 6 days of the week. Great partnerships with Coop Local Cause, Neighbourly and charities like FareShare have allowed KCF to access grants throughout the pandemic and into the Cost of Living Crisis, and this winter supporting the Warm Hub at Holy Trinity Church.

This year Jules Hopkins, founder and project manager at Knaphill Community Fridge was recognised for her voluntary work in the New Years Honours List with a British Empire Medal. Attending the Royal Garden Party in May, at Buckingham Palace, Jules said: 'It was an honour to be invited to a Royal Garden Party in recognition of voluntary work. So many people give so much of their precious time behind the scenes to run the Community Fridge, we wouldn't be where we are today without every single one of them, past and present.'

There is much to be thankful for and still lots that can be done, so if you want to give back to your community, please contact Jules Hopkins via email knaphillcommunityfridge@htandstschurch.org

Knaphill Community Fridge is open Monday – Friday 11am-3.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Chobham Road, GU21 2SX – follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



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In the past year, Saj Hussain acted as Mayor of Woking. Here he looks back over this time:

'This has truly been an amazing year for me, after serving as Deputy Mayor for 3 years during the Pandemic and beyond. It has been a great honour and the privilege of my life to meet so many Woking residents, volunteers and business people who all do so much to make Woking such a special place. An early highlight of my Mayoral Year was the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, and the lighting of Woking's Community Beacon, one of hundreds across the country, in front of a huge crowd in Jubilee Square. The whole atmosphere was brilliant and thankfully the weather was also kind! Her Majesty the Queen's passing in September was a sad time as we recalled the late Queen's life and legacy. Once again, Jubilee Square was the focus for our community to come together for the National Moment of Reflection.

During the same month, the Proclamation of His Majesty King Charles III was also held in Jubilee Square, a historic moment in our calendar and one I was so privileged to have been part of! I was very

glad I could participate in celebrations around the Coronation, such as cutting a coronation cake at a street party in Knaphill.

We all know that volunteers play an enormous part in many of Woking's community groups, and I have been so impressed to see first-hand the work they do and the difference they make to the lives of so many. The Woking Voluntary Sector Fair returned in November, showcasing volunteering opportunities and offering residents the chance to find out more about what community support is available to them.

As a proud member of the Royal British Legion, I have also enjoyed meeting former and current armed services personnel. In fact, another highlight of my year was the Re-signing of Woking's Military Covenant on behalf of Woking Borough Council. Woking's drop-in sessions for ex-servicemen at Woking Fire Station have really taken off this past year, and I would like to thank the Fire Service team for all they are doing to support our Veterans.

This past year has been both thrilling and humbling, with memories I will always treasure.'

Saj has now been elected as Chairman of Surrey County Council.



New Councillor Stephen Greentree

Who is Knaphill's newly elected LibDem Councillor? We asked him to introduce himself.

My wife and I moved to Knaphill with our daughter just ahead of the millennium in 1999 and were joined by our adopted, youngest daughter three years later. Both our girls have now left home and have families of their own.

I had a short academic career after receiving my doctorate and before joining the pharmaceutical industry where I held a variety of roles in a number of companies over 35 years. A native of Altrincham, Cheshire, we moved to Woking in 1994 when I was relocated with Sanofi, the French Pharmaceutical company based in Guildford.

Along the way, I spent six years commuting between Woking and Amsterdam, then Zürich (I'm afraid my Dutch is almost non-existent although I did take lessons to improve my German). The job has always involved working very closely with patients, their carers, health care professionals and the regulators who approve new medicines to ensure their safety and effectiveness. Whilst it was enormously rewarding, last year I decided it was time to step back and spend more time with my wife and family, especially my grandchildren.

Having taken the decision to retire, I was looking for an opportunity to give something back to the community where we have been so happy living over the last 23 years. Being a local Councillor for Knaphill will give me that opportunity. My number one priority is to represent the interests of Knaphill residents, acting as a vocal advocate for Knaphill on the Borough Council. The vision is simple, it is for a thriving and vibrant village that all of us who live or work here can take great pride in.

Stephen Greentree (LibDem Councillor)

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Knaphill Athletic

Knaphill Athletic U16 Ninjas have had an outstanding season, winning the League title with three matches to spare and remaining unbeaten throughout the campaign. Coach Paul Howse said: 'This season has been our best ever. I'm delighted with the effort from the lads; their hard work and dedication this season has paid off and they thoroughly deserve their success. The way they've played this season has been nothing short of outstanding. We've worked together as a team, supported each other, and shown real determination and commitment to the cause which, as a coach, is all you can hope for.' The team also narrowly lost the League Cup final 2-1 to Curley Park Rangers despite dominating the match, and Paul is confident they can keep on improving at U17 level next season as they begin the transition into adult football.

The club continues to encourage players at all age groups from youth to adult, as well as anybody who would be interested in a role at the club or any potential sponsors and partners, so please get in touch:

W: www.knaphillathletic.co.uk
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Knaphill Bowling Club

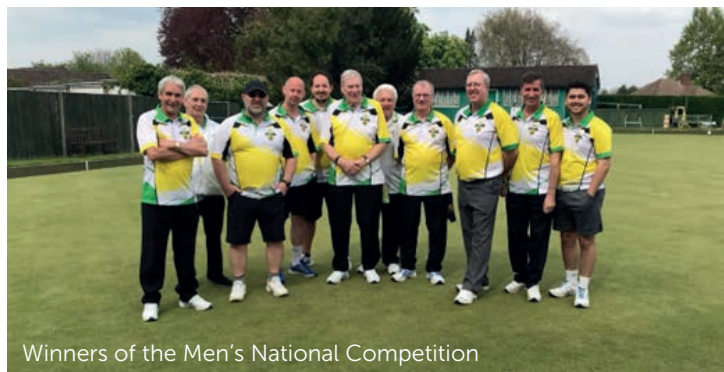
Knaphill Bowling Club was established in 1926, it is a hidden gem which is situated at Sussex Road Recreation Ground.

We are a friendly and sociable club with excellent facilities, a first class green and ample parking.

The club plays at all levels of the game, e.g. friendly, competitive matches and leagues, we also have a club night on a Wednesday evening from 18.00 to 20.00, where our friendly coaches are always on hand to assist.

Everyone is welcome to come along and give bowls a try, all you need are some flat soled shoes as all equipment and help is provided free of charge.

For further information, please contact Keith Smith **07779 046771** or knaphillbowlsclub@yahoo.com.



Winners of the Men's National Competition

A 'thank you' from Melanie Whitehand

I would like to thank everyone who kindly voted for me at the recent Borough elections. To have lost was a deep disappointment but I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to represent Knaphill as a Ward Councillor over the last 16 years.

During that time I was able to deliver, at the request of many residents, some large projects that have enhanced the village and will continue to be to the benefit of residents as well as, too many to mention, the everyday issues that residents needed help with. It was an honour and a privilege to have been representing Knaphill. I have always been in post to serve residents as they were my priority and my role was without doubt to respond to concerns raised and to, wherever possible, settle those concerns.

Thank you again for your support over the last 16 years and my very good wishes to everyone.

Melanie Whitehand

New book by local author

Local author David Faulkner just had his first book published with the intriguing title: Odd One Out. I met with the author for a fascinating conversation. Asking David about the content of the book, he tells me that it reflects his own experiences as a young person, when he always felt a bit awkward in the company of others of his age. Being left-handed and an introvert, he has never found it easy 'to fit in'.

He knows that this applies to many people, so decided to write his experiences down and give some advice on how to lead a healthy, balanced life. David lives with depression, which is common in his family, and he recognizes that there are many like himself. His book can be a help and offer hope to those who find life not easy. It does not give easy answers, because life

is not always easy. For David his Christian faith is a great support and can be a great help to others, as he explains in the book.

Writing a book was a new experience for David. He loved writing, but it was a writing course that stimulated him in finishing his first book and having it published. The reactions of others in the group helped him to finish this important project.

David is the minister of the Methodist Church in Knaphill, but will move to Liphook this summer, where he will serve the church there. Apart from writing, he loves photography and develops his gifts in that area by taking part in special Nikon events. The book 'Odd One Out' is available from Amazon: bit.ly/OddOneOutBook. A signed copy is also available from the author by sending £9.99 via PayPal to revddf@gmail.com.

I look forward to reading my own copy!

Hetty Lalleman



New development Meadows site



It was with a great deal of hope, application and a strong case that I managed to have the WBC's Planning officer's decision to refuse the Planning submission for the Meadows site overturned and have the Planning committee vote for approval.

The Meadows site had been an eyesore and prone to vandalism and anti-social behaviour since its last tenants moved out several years ago. Residents were keen to have the site

redeveloped, and I pressed the case with them in mind, that the site needed developing and the proposal for crucial care facilities on our side of the Borough was wanted and viable.

The new development will deliver much needed residencies for senior members of our community and enable them to stay locally rather than have to move away from where they have lived for many years...

Melanie Whitehand

Brookwood ponds

Hello, Roger Westcott here again, Chairman of the Goldsworth Park Angling Club who manage the ponds in Brookwood Country Park for the purpose of angling under licence with WBC. Our key roles are to oversee fishing on the ponds, keep them safe and tidy and help care for the wildlife on the site which at this time of year is very busy. Many waterfowl nest on and near the ponds, frogs, toads and newts spawned some weeks ago, and we are now looking at a successful breeding season.

Once the water reaches 18-20C, we also expect the fish to start their spawning season. For this reason, can I remind dog walkers to please not allow their dogs to go into the ponds as this may well interfere with the breeding process taking place. Ideally dogs should not enter or drink from the ponds anyway, as they are by design balancing pools, taking road run-off through the drainage system from the surrounding areas, so foul waste sometimes comes with it. This has

been particularly noted a number of times on pond 4 (close to Percheron Drive), where sadly on occasion we have had a number of fish die. With the help and guidance of Thames Water and the Environment Agency, we are working hard to improve the situation, deploying aeration pumps when the dissolved oxygen level falls dangerously low. Apologies to nearby residents for having to run the generators for days at a time, we do try to keep it to a minimum.

Last year we placed wattle fencing round the margins to prevent access to the water; sadly this has been broken down, and we will be replacing it in the coming weeks, but in the meantime please keep yourselves and pets safe by not entering the water. It is also planned over the coming weeks to refurbish some of the platforms on pond 4 along with the wattling and to put new platforms on pond 2, so if you see some of our volunteers working up a sweat, do say "hi!" and stop for a chat.

Over and above the new life arriving in the animal world, trees and shrubs are bursting



into leaf, marsh plants are all in bud and the top meadow is yellow with cowslip and primrose, soon to be followed by an abundance of wild flowers, as well as all the insect life, butterflies, moths, bees and so on.

And finally, if all goes according to plan, we will be holding our 'LET'S GO FISHING' event on the ponds throughout this August. This is an introduction into the art of angling for beginners of all ages over 7years, all for FREE, but you will need to book a place. Nearer the time we will be advertising this on notice boards on site, local newspapers and on our website at: www.goldsworthparkanglingclub.com



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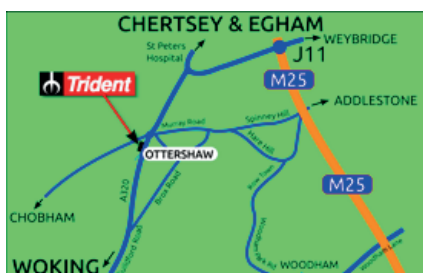


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