

Keep Talking



Around the groups: Tuesday afternoon

The Group finished off the year with a Christmas Celebration. Two visitors, with guitar and clarinet, played seasonal music and led us in carols. After tea the recoverers were given presents of biscuits or chocolates of their choice, bought with Richard Cleaver's generous gift. They also took home the items they had decorated and which had been fired.

Daphne Bell

Knaphill

During the autumn term the Knaphill Group has welcomed two recoverers: Ken Yard and 'Chippy' Green, and three Volunteers: Yvonne Larter, Grace Goodchild, and Jeffrey Shaw, who has himself recovered well from a stroke.

Sandy Netley, Chairperson of Godalming Flower Arranging Club, gave a group of our recoverers a practical session on preparing a floral arrangement with roses which they were then able to take home. We are grateful to Guildford Lions for sponsoring this session. It is hoped that the one man who participated will inspire more of his gender to take part in this art form in future, which should not be a ladies' preserve! Despite the intense concentration, much conversation was provoked.

The Mayor of Woking, Cllr Bryan Cross, dropped in unexpectedly during a tour of The Vyne and chatted to several of our members. We finished the term with a musical session featuring 'The 12 days of Christmas' and recitations of limericks in small groups chosen 'at random' by passing the 'bomb' (but 'organised' so that everyone performed!)

Ben Parker

Tuesday morning

We have continued with our usual varied programme of activities, with everyone taking an active part. Kazoo classes are very popular, although there are some who may be tone deaf. Thanks to Penny Farbridge on the piano and Peter Drew on the guitar the village hall at times resembles a high-class musical soiree.

We are gradually arousing interest in the computers, mainly at present among those who have had previous keyboard experience. We have a number of trial programs specially designed to help dysphasia sufferers and we hope that we will eventually spark the interest of a larger number.

The arrival of the new fleet of Guildford council's Dial-a-Ride buses brought with it a special treat for our oldest recover, 93-year-old "Wooli" Wooliston, who comes from Ashley Park nursing home in West Clandon. Wooli arrived at ten o'clock only to find that the tailgate of the bus would not lower. The driver was unable to mend the problem and so had to send out to Dennis at Slyfield in Guildford for a mechanic. Poor Wooli was stuck there for almost three quarters of an hour, during which time we kept her warm with cups of tea.

We welcomed Daphne Stoddart to our recoverer membership and said goodbye to a long-serving volunteer, Diana Butcher. Our thanks to Diana for her fantastic contribution to TALK.

Like the other groups, we were indebted to Richard Cleaver for his generous donation which enabled us to celebrate Christmas in style. Thanks again, Richard.

Peter Walker

The Great Charity Golf Day 2ND MAY 2008

Golfers from far and wide will be converging on Clandon Regis golf club on Friday 2nd May to take part in TALK's charity golf day. Thanks to the efforts of the small organising team, led by Brian and Sylvia Wheeler and our own Duncan Maskell we are close to reaching our target of 100 golfers.

Prizes are an essential part of the competition and there will be a number of these. Naturally we will need some for the winners of the main competition but there will be a number of subsidiary contests. If you are able to help we would love to hear from you. If you have contacts in the golfing world who might be able to help please let us know. One of the contests involves seeing who can get nearest to the pin at a certain hole and for this we need a supply of golf balls. Ideas and contributions for the Grand Raffle would also be very welcome —if you have a special connection with local businesses or professional organizations, perhaps you could employ some gentle persuasion! Offers of help on the day would also be very welcome!

And one more thing....We have promised that all golfers, as well as enjoying a fine dinner will be entertained by a celebrity speaker. As we went to print we were still desperately seeking such a celebrity. If you have a direct line to such a person **please** let me know.

Peter Walker, Grantley House, Warwicks Bench, Guildford
GU1 3SZ. 01483 539500 peter@peteriris.freemove.co.uk

In praise of Freecycle

Have you ever wondered what to do with that sofa/cupboard/wardrobe that is in good condition, but you no longer want? Or perhaps you have had your kitchen refitted, and don't want to re-use some of the appliances? You may well find that there is a Freecycle member who would be delighted to take such things off your hands. The aim of Freecycle is to save things from going into landfill, when there is still some useful life left in them.

You can also ask for items. At Knaphill we recently decided to reorganise all our files and worksheets, and from various Freecycle members we have acquired enough lever arch files to last us for a long time.

Why not sign up now – and start de-cluttering your home?

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/guildfordfreecycle/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wokingfreecycle/>

Our thanks to the following have given to TALK recently

SC Johnson Sons Ltd
Guildford Lions
Allianz
Ursula Cook
Sheila Blow
John & Bridget Franklin
Philip Golding
Walton Methodist Friendship Club - Beryl Hazledine
Talk Collection Box East Horsley - John Lazarus
Glaxo SmithKline

Oatlands Over 60's Club - Entertainment by Susan Ireson
Richard Cleaver's Christmas Donation
Alan Gray
P C Gaunt
Hydra Active Women's Challenge
Tuppence for Talk Collection
Glove Sale - John Langley
Mrs S H Whitley
Chris & Mark Ridsdale - Smith
Clive Bishop - Sale of Furniture Items

Thanks to the generosity of the Parish of Worplesdon, we have purchased a projector, which will enable computer presentations to be made to groups, both by volunteers and visitors. Previously, when our training sessions have been accompanied by presentations requiring a computer and projector we have had to rely upon the generosity of the training organisation or borrow the equipment from friends. The projector is available to all groups, and may well provide an opportunity for many of you to show off your holiday pictures in a professional manner. There are many other ways in which we can improve our weekly offerings by using this device and you are urged to put it to the test. One word of caution: the heart of the system appears to be a very expensive light bulb. It costs around £200 to replace, so please handle the equipment with the utmost care and follow the instructions for using it. Contact Peter Walker if you want to use it.

10th Anniversary diary notes: 15th May 4pm, Tea at Guildford Cathedral Refectory, followed by Service.
(Contact Chris Ridsdale-Smith)
22nd May Grand Celebration Lunch at Normandy Village Hall—details to follow.