

Dear All

I have sent this Community Support Alert to all those on either the TWRA or Neighbourhood Watch distribution lists. It contains details of the Lighting Up Walton event on Dec 6th; details of the Tadworth Litter Picking event on December 10<sup>th</sup>; a letter from the Royal British Legion thanking all those that contributed to the Poppy Appeal and a message for those in Tadworth & Walton expecting to be alone over Christmas who might like to join others on Christmas Day for a lunch at St Mark's in Tattenham.

I will also pass on regrets from Barrie Gilbert that he was unable to display his Dutch Street Organ at the Tadworth Lighting event and will not be able to do so for Walton either, due to the expected cold and damp conditions.

#### **Walton Lighting Event details from Mo Atkins**

We are looking forward to lighting up Walton tomorrow December 6th!

The lights at Mereside, the 'House on the Pond' will switch on at **5.00 pm**.

Please gather, **CAREFULLY**, preferably on the Remembrance / seat side of the pond to view in safety.

Reverend Christopher Hancock, will lead procession to St. Peter's Churchyard, for live music from band 'Low Key Affair', from **5.15 pm**.

Tree lighting at 5.30 pm, followed by carols, led by St. Peter's Choir, mince pies, mulled wine and spiced apple juice.

Alternatively gather directly in the churchyard, from 5.15 pm.

Donations for TWOAT (Tadworth and Walton Overseas Aid Trust) will be welcomed.

Many thanks to everyone who has worked to make this possible.

See you there!

Best wishes,

**Mo'**

#### **Tadworth Litter Picking Event**

TWRA and the local Litter Picking Group are inviting volunteers to join a Tadworth Litter Pick on **December 10<sup>th</sup>** from 11am to 12.15pm. Please come to Jubilee Woodland where you will be issued litter sacks and allocated an area to pick and a location to leave your used sack. Those taking part are invited to return to the Jubilee Woodland at 12.30pm to enjoy drinks and mince pies. Please see a link to a poster giving further details by my signature below.

**Please note that the usual Carol Singing event in Jubilee Woodland is not taking place this year.**

#### **Letter of thanks from The Royal British Legion**

Banstead & District

Remembrance 2022

The Banstead Remembrance Parades were as well attended as usual and our community has again done the Legion proud. Our shorter Friday Parade (11am/11/11) was led by our Mayor, Councillor Kelly who laid a wreath on behalf of Reigate & Banstead Council. Our Sunday Parade on 13<sup>th</sup> November was led by the Surrey Legion President, Brigadier Evans, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, our deputy Mayor, Councillor Absalom with Crispin Blunt MP, and included large numbers of children and many groups. Over 30 wreaths were laid and will remain for the next few weeks as evidence of Remembrance. This is a major event with the Service conducted by members of Banstead 5 Churches, led by our Chaplain the Rev Phil Maudsley, and one of the largest Remembrance Sunday Parades in Surrey. The attendance is wonderful and we are so proud and grateful for the communities' support.

And for the Poppy Appeal our communities have responded famously over the years and we have regularly collected over £40,000. Last year was exceptional as we received over £11,000 from the Banstead May Queen Parade and our total was about £53,000, the biggest in Surrey. This year, despite the economic gloom, **we received over £45,000** – a most amazing amount in the circumstances, so thank you to all involved, especially those who gave up their time to collect at Asda and Waitrose. And especially to our local schools which between them raised about £3,500!

Again the Lamppost poppies set the scene, so thanks to all who put them up each year. I have asked the Legion to produce plastic-free ones for the future, but the present ones will have to soldier on (sorry!) for the time being.

Our Councillors and Residents' Associations give us so much support and we owe them a great debt of gratitude. And in the New Year this will again be demonstrated as our County Councillors (Cllrs Luke Bennett and Frank Kelly) and the BVRA have agreed to fund a new flagpole that we hope will be installed by the War Memorial in the early spring.

A huge thank you to all who helped us again this year.

As always I would be grateful for any photos of these events to pass on to County and London, and would of course ask more people to contact me to join our large band of helpers for next year's appeal.

**Mike Sawyer** ([nms.brbl@virginmedia.com](mailto:nms.brbl@virginmedia.com))

### **Offer for those alone on Christmas Day**

If you expect to be alone on Christmas Day but would prefer to share the hours between 11am and 3.30pm with others attending church, enjoying a (free) Christmas Lunch and watching the King's Christmas Message at St Mark's church in Tattenham then please reply to this email. I can provide further details and pass your name to the organisers. Lifts can be provided for those without transport. If you are aware of someone else who does not have email who might wish to take advantage of this offer please tell them about it and they can phone me on the number below, however, they must be a resident of Tadworth or Walton or live not further than here from St Mark's.

Keep well

Mike Fox

For Community Support

01737 350452