



# KNAPHILL Baptist Church

*Caring Christians at the Heart of the Community*



## Church Profile

88 High Street, Knaphill. Woking GU21 2PZ

[www.KnaphillBaptist.org.uk](http://www.KnaphillBaptist.org.uk)

# **The Church**

## **Overview**

Knaphill Baptist Church is a small, friendly and growing fellowship, meeting in a chapel close to the centre of a rapidly expanding village with a manse nearby.

The church draws great strength from its unity and Bible based teaching. Over recent years we have built some good relationships in the community and moved “outside” the building, although we feel called to do more. We need to answer two closely linked questions

- How do the church and minister become “gifts” to the community?
- How do we enable the community to make more use of our building?

and then wrap it all up in God’s love for all people.

## **Beliefs**

As a Member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union’s Declaration of Principle:

- “That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.
- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who ‘died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day’.
- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.”

## The Family of the church



As a Baptist church we are part of the local association of Baptist Churches, the South Eastern Baptist Association, a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and we work closely with the Anglican, Methodist and Catholic churches in the village through 'Church for Knaphill (C4K)'.

### Worship

Worship is informal and varied, using a wide range of modern and traditional music. Multimedia content and practical activities are often used, as are times of quiet reflection, whether in family or adult worship.

Communion is held twice a month and is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.



## Activities

The following activities are undertaken on a regular basis:

- 2 House groups, one daytime (Thursday) and one evening (Monday)
- Parent & Toddler group.

The Junior Church ministries comprise of:

- Crèche – 0-3yrs
- Jigsaw – Creative play and learning about God for 3+ yrs

Each summer we take a stall at our village show (see right).

The church shares in many activities in the village with the other main denominations, including joint services, Good Friday Walk of Witness through an informal partnership called C4K (Church 4 Knaphill) and Remembrance Day which we were instrumental in getting on the local agenda some years ago and is now a staple of village life each year.



## The church, and its Vision and Values

The church has significant strengths in its membership, enjoying a wide range of skills and willing workers. Its size is both a benefit and a hindrance, enabling it to care well for all the family, but often having to balance its ambitions with the ability to resource activities. The building, its location, excellent local contacts and good working relationship with the other Knaphill Churches through C4K are definitely to be celebrated, but far more could be done to make use of the premises during the week. We believe we are called to exploit the value in the building, making it available to the community as a resource to support those that work with the marginalised, disadvantaged, or hurting in the community, or to those who provide services to strengthen and unite the community. We must do that in a way that is open to all and is greater than the ability of the membership alone.

The church sees great opportunity in an incoming minister challenging, enabling and focussing the church and is making very practical steps to ensure that as little momentum as possible is lost whilst that person is sought. Much time has been spent in prayer, but there could always be more!

Over recent months the church has invested time, prayer, preaching, listening and discussion to formulate a clear vision. This vision is uniting the church behind a common purpose, although there is still much to be done.

Serving the risen Lord, serving our community and serving each other,  
We aim to make the good news of Jesus known in word and deed,  
To grow His Kingdom, care for all people, and equip and support His disciples

There are many in the fellowship who already do much in the community, through Street Angels, Foodbank, refugee support, Scouts, hospital visiting, etc. We'd love to be able to support them in their work and recognise more fully that it is a major part of their service to the Lord. We need to ask the question about how best to do that, and how to exploit it for the Lord.

## **Minister Sought**

The church seeks an evangelical minister to help develop and realise that vision, building on the changes in focus and approach of recent years, and help the church continue to grow. The minister will be one who can help equip the church through strongly bible-based teaching, encouragement and open-minded listening, and who is prepared to step out *with* the church and serve the community with the church. A heart for the prayer life of the church, and firm interest in external mission organisations will be important.

We believe that our ability to support full time ministry should be as much for the community around us as it is for the church itself. We therefore believe we're looking for somebody who shares our vision for care for the community, can enable the church's members to continue existing community work, and developing it into the work of the church, and who will be able to help share the burdens, whether specifically church activities or not

We're a small church, so we recognise that the minister needs to be a generalist, usually leading worship and preaching / teaching, as well as providing encouragement to the deacons and fellowship, able to support the pastoral network in place, and drawing out the gifts in others. The church understands it has an important role in supporting the minister in this. It is hoped that there will be experience both of secular work and prior experience in Church Leadership in some form, although not necessarily in a full-time role. Affinity with families is important, but an ability to build relationships with people of all ages is essential. An appreciation of the place of music in worship would be appreciated.

The minister is not expected to "do everything" but be part of all that we are doing; the church is looking forward to being challenged, motivated and strengthened.

### **Church Leadership**

The Church is administered and managed by its Deacons who act in the capacity of Trustees. They are elected by members of the Church, usually for a renewable three-year term, at the Annual General Meeting.

The deaconate comprises:

Secretary: Sohan Singh

Treasurer: Eric Moore

Deacons: Sue and Craig Braisby

### *Sohan*



Although he was brought up in Sikh household Sohan became a Christian when he saw the difference in 2 fellow students which they attributed to their belief in Jesus. Being a Christian hasn't always been easy, certainly not at university and then when work took him to Dubai for 4 years, where Churches were not allowed.

Sohan now runs his own media advertising agency and finds trying to apply Christian principles in a working environment brings its own challenges, but also rewards.

Socially he enjoys all sports and tries to spend as much time with his family as possible – who, incidentally, are not Christian.

### *Eric*

Now Treasurer for rather more years than he'd care to remember, Eric also plays the piano in services and looks after the PA. He was brought up in a church going family but met Jesus personally whilst at University when at a weekend retreat in North Wales. He was baptised in Knaphill in 1990 having been a member of the URC before moving to Knaphill.



An engineer by training, he now works for a national recruitment firm as an IT Architect and enjoys the company of his wife Ruth and son Stephen.

### *Susan*

Susan is a lifelong Christian, originally taken to Church of Scotland by her parents she found her way to a local Baptist Church in her early teens where she made a home. Sue has been worshipping at KBC for some 20 years with Craig and their growing family. Taking on the Sunday school several years ago, she joined the deaconate more recently with focus on child support within the church.



Sue has had 2 sides to her professional life: medical as a pharmacy technician and now technical as a software tester, a role she got after breaking the software in the pharmacy so often that the company that wrote it offered her a job, leading to 20 years in the field and work across multiple industries. Socially Sue likes comedy, sci-fi and sewing as well as long walks in the country.

### *Craig*



Craig has been a Christian from his childhood. Originally from a CofE background he was introduced to the Baptist Church some 20 years ago by Susan. Baptised and married at KBC a short while later he has served a few times on the deaconate, cooked at the men's breakfasts and taught a good few ministers balloon modelling at the village fairs. Currently Craig is studying at Spurgeon's on the equipped to minister course.

Craig is an enterprise software project manager by trade, coming from a technical background in support. In his "youth" Craig has been a professional magician, a cleaner, barman and a few other things. These days he enjoys riding his 1600cc trike, live action roleplay and cosplay for charity as a Ghostbuster. In his spare time, he is a Scout leader.

## **Constitution**

The church adopted the BU model constitution in 2016, choosing to move to an open membership, where Baptism by full immersion continues to be held in high regard.

## **Charitable Status**

Knaphill Baptist is an 'excepted charity' under the Charities Act 1993. The Church derives its exception because Baptist Union of Great Britain takes responsibility as custodian trustee for the church and manse properties. Excepted charities are not required to register with the Charity Commissioners where annual income is less than £100,000 and therefore does not have a registration number, but in other respects are fully within their jurisdiction.

## **Finance**

The church is strong financially, despite its small size and high proportion of retired members.

The Church teaches the principle of tithing, and tithes at least 10% of its own income for Home Mission, BMS and other Christian charities.

The accounts for 2018 are reproduced in Appendix 1 and have been signed off unconditionally by the Independent Examiner, Stewardship.

## **Practical Matters**

### **Manse**

The church owns a manse within a 2-3-minute walk from the church. It is an end terrace 1970s property set in a quiet residential close. It has 3 bedrooms, a main living room and kitchen, and part of the garage has been converted into a storage room that could be further converted into a study if necessary. It is currently commercially let on a short-term assured tenancy.

### **Schooling**

Knaphill has a Lower and Middle school within 5 minutes' walk of the church, with other schools close by. Secondary schooling is provided by two establishments both within 10 minutes' drive. Sixth form education is available in Central Woking. The closest for each age range are listed here by distance:

School	Address	Ages
Knaphill	High Street, Knaphill	7-11
Knaphill Lower	Chobham Road, Knaphill	4-7 and Nursery
St Johns Primary	Victoria Road, Knaphill	4-11 and Nursery
St Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary School	Five Oaks Close - St Johns	4-11
Oaktree	Gorsewood Road, St Johns	4-7
Hermitage	Oakwood Road, St Johns	7-11
Brookwood Primary	Connaught Road, Brookwood	4-11
Winston Churchill School	Hermitage Road, St Johns	11-16
Beaufort Primary School	Kirkland Ave, Goldsworth Park	3-11
Woking High School	Morton Road, Woking	11-16
Hoe Valley School	Egley Road, Woking	11-16
Bishop David Brown School	Albert Drive, Sheerwater	11-18
Woking College	Rydens Way, Old Woking	16-18

## Facts and Figures

### The Church building

Church building is over 100 years old but in good shape, centrally heated, and updated to provide access for the disabled. There is no room for expansion. It is located just off the centre of the village, on the busy High Street, but suffers from a lack of good parking. The village has expanded rapidly as new housing has been built on the site of the Brookwood Mental Hospital and at Brookwood Farm (both of which are actually in Knaphill). Facilities include:

- A main hall that seats 80, with a concealed Baptistry, PA and projector, Keyboard
- 3 classrooms / meeting rooms on 2 floors, PC and Photocopier/printer
- Kitchen and 3 cloakrooms

## Church makeup

### *Church Membership*

Current Membership: 27.

Male: 8, Female : 19

Plus 7 – 10 additional regular worshippers

### *Congregation Age Profiles:*

Ages:	
0 – 15	4
15 – 30	2
30 – 45	9
45 – 60	6
60+	18

## Knaphill

Knaphill is part of, and located to the west of, the expanding town of Woking and has its own Ward within Woking Borough Council. Hermitage is located to the south east of Knaphill village centre and has its own Ward. The A324 runs between the two parts of the area, with the Basingstoke Canal forming the southern edge of Hermitage and the main railway line immediately to the south of that.

Knaphill was one of the original pre-Victorian villages present prior to Woking's rapid expansion as the railway arrived. It was separate from the main area of Woking until Goldsworth Park was built in the 1970s and 80s. Knaphill grew in a piecemeal way, being too far from the railway to benefit from the large-scale expansion undergone elsewhere in the Borough in the Victorian era. After 1950 there was a large amount of slum clearance in Knaphill, with the village subsequently expanding in the Post War period.

The High Street and associated properties form the centre of the old Knaphill village and create a focal point. There are also several Listed and Locally Listed buildings that form localised landmarks. The area has seen much change since the Victorian era, but particularly so in the 1970s and 80s when it became part of the main urban area of Woking.

Almost all the retail units in the village are occupied, but with a high proportion of Take-Aways and hairdressers, and more than our fair share of undertakers. The village's retailers face significant competition from Sainsbury's and Homebase located nearby.

There is a successful Council operated community centre, the Vyne, 5 churches, and number of community groups including Scouts and Guides.

These figures are based on 2011 Census figures for Knaphill

The population was 9,958; approximately 50% females and 50% males.

The average age of people in is 37; the median age is also 37.

Some more Statistics are included in an appendix.

The church's demographics match the ethnic and language diversity of Knaphill , but have a higher age demographic, and higher proportion of retirees than the community.

## **Wider Woking Area**

Woking is situated in the heart of Surrey, in the green and leafy South East, and benefits from a beautiful and diverse countryside and attractive waterways on its doorstep.

It has much to offer those who are looking for peace and tranquillity, but it doesn't take long to find the Borough's bustling centre with its sparkling mix of entertainment, convenient shopping and special town centre events. Easily reached via excellent transport links, visitors will find the pedestrianized centre easy to get around.

Woking is one of the most economically active (75%) boroughs in the county and country and has the highest percentage of males being economically active (82%) and with unemployment below 4%. Central Woking is undergoing a massive redevelopment now, with new 400-unit tower-block housing, 189 room hotel and 125,00 sq. ft of retail units being built under the council's sponsorship. Opinion is divided as to its merits!

A very diverse range of companies and organisations have their HQ and offices in Woking, including Maclaren, WWF-UK, Petrofac and Mouchel, and opportunities exist for all types of work, from manufacturing, through IT, Education, Social Care, specialised consultancy etc.

More information about Woking area is available at [www.woking.gov.uk](http://www.woking.gov.uk).

## Church History

Knaphill Baptist Church was founded in June 1867 by Robert Lloyd who came to Knaphill to be Head Gardener at the newly opened Brookwood Hospital. Robert Lloyd was a committed Christian with a passion for sharing his faith, and a member of the Churches of Christ, a reform movement which originated in Scotland in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.



When the present church was built in 1882, at a cost of £370, "Hope Chapel" as it was called was the most modern building in Knaphill! It is thought that the land was given by John Potts, who was governor of the women's prison on the site of what became the Inkerman Barracks. Three generations of the Lloyd family were closely involved with the church, and all continued to work at Brookwood Hospital.

Conditions in the church were somewhat spartan initially: no musical instrument was allowed for many years, although finally a grand piano was introduced followed by a harmonium in 1931, and the water in the baptistry was unheated until the 1970's!

In the 60s and 70s, closer links were established with local Baptist churches, and in 1973 the church changed its name to the Knaphill Baptist Church and joined the Baptist Union. Membership and activities subsequently increased, and cooperation was fostered with other neighbouring churches. Today Knaphill Baptist Church has a thriving and lively congregation, and a wide programme of faith and community activities and events for all ages.

The actual fabric of the building has stood the test of time well, but over the years the facilities have naturally been updated: neon lighting, central heating, stacking chairs, classroom and kitchen facilities, and the chapel was redecorated and carpeted, and the manse was acquired.

Recent ministers have helpfully challenged our thinking, approach, worship and lifted our eyes from ourselves to the needs outside the church. We've done much work on making the church known and begun some more serious exploration on our place serving the community in which God has placed us.

The church's full history can be found on the Web-site: <http://www.knaphillbaptistchurch.org.uk/more-information/our-history>

## Appendix 1 – Finance

### Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the Period Ended 31-Dec-18

	2017	2018	BUDGET	Variance
<b>Section A</b>				
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				

#### Receipts

Donations, Legacies and Similar Offerings	38,779	36,275	43,835	(7,560)
Donations	1,555	3,854	-	3,854
Income Tax Refunds	8,915	9,574	7,827	1,747
Other Activities				
Other Income	197	1,132	300	832
Organisations	314	390		
Investment Income				
Interest	67	122	100	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,827</b>	<b>51,346</b>	<b>52,062</b>	<b>(716)</b>

#### Payments

Payments for Generating Funds	-	-	-	-
Grants made	6,298	5,149	5,206	(57)
Charitable Activities				
Payroll and expenses	31,049	26,807	31,602	(4,795) <sup>1</sup>
Manse Fabric	2,438	2,186	3,725	(1,539)
Church Fabric	2,133	2,546	3,352	(806)
Ministry and Training	1,376	1,817	1,725	92
Management and Administration				
Advertising	816	645	1,185	(540)
Office and other expenses	815	434	1,157	(723)
Subs / memberships / Fees	1,078	1,125	1,110	15
Other Activities				
Other Payments	-	-	3,000	(3,000)
Organisations	298	406		
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,303</b>	<b>41,115</b>	<b>52,062</b>	<b>(10,947)</b>
Surplus / (Deficit)	3,524	10,231	(0)	10,231

#### Balances

Beginning 2018	40,115
End 2018	50,346

<sup>1</sup> Previous Minister left mid-year

## Section B Restricted Funds

Building Fund			
Receipts	750	1/01/2018	25
Payments	959	31/12/2018	-184
Net	-209	Tax refund not received	
Music Fund			
Receipts	-	1/01/2018	464
Payments	-	31/12/2018	464
Net	-		
For Others			
Receipts	2,110	1/01/2018	215
Payments	2,256	31/12/2018	69
Net	-146		

## Section C Assets and Liabilities

	01-Jan-18	31-Dec-18
General Funds	39,991	50,238
Restricted Funds	704	349
Organisations	124	108
TOTAL	40,819	50,695

## Section D Further Information

### Money to Other Organisations

	Receipts	Payments
Against Malaria	57	50
MAF	19	15
BMS	3	
BMS Medical	430	430
BUGB	3	
Christian Aid	277	578
OCC	468	508
Op Agri	322	343
Spurgeons	200	
	2,110	2,256

### Donations and Subscriptions Made

BUGB	2,540
MAF	300
Christian Aid	300
Street Angels	50
BMS	1,779
Tear Fund	180
	5,149

## Appendix 1 – Knaphill’s Demographics

Top Places of birth	UK & Ireland	86%
	South Africa	2%
	Asia	3%

Top First Languages	English	94%
	Other European	1%
	Asian	2%

Top Declared religions	Christian	60%
	Muslim	3%
	Hindu	1%
	Buddhist	1%
	None	26%
	Jedi Knight!	36 people

Marriage status	Married	52%
	Cohabit	12%
	Same sex partner	1%
	Always Single	22%
	Separated etc	7%
	Widowed	4%