



The Cellar Café

Newsletter

Autumn/Winter

2018/19

The staff, volunteers and trustees of **The Cellar** would like to wish you all a very **Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year**. Unfortunately for some, Christmas can be a lonely or stressful time. Here is a message from Debbie.

Cellar Christmas Appeal 2018

It's nearly Christmas and we at *The Cellar* again hope to be able to brighten the lives of those of our customers who need emotional and practical support at this time of year. Along with the social activities we have planned, we would love to help these people enjoy some of the more special things that we often take for granted.

For many years our Christmas Appeal has enabled us to put together more than 40 Christmas parcels for adults, teenagers and families. These have been made up of various items according to people's particular needs and age, and make a real difference to people and are much appreciated.

We would be most grateful for donations of *Waitrose or Sainsbury's* gift vouchers, cash, and also festive gifts for all ages, toys and special seasonal foods suitable for distribution in our Christmas parcels..

The financial climate we have all been experiencing through recent years has meant that we have continued to welcome new customers in need of comfort. This trend is not going to suddenly disappear in the coming months and we would love to be able to extend our gifts as far as possible. These special Christmas parcels of seasonal food and gifts are extra to the food parcels that we distribute throughout the year.

We truly value your ongoing support and would be grateful for whatever you feel you can spare.

Please bring or send donations of any of the above gifts by **Friday December 14th** to:
The Cellar Café, Crown Court, Godalming, GU7 1DY

We express our grateful thanks to you in anticipation. *Thank you very much for your support!*

Debbie Portsmouth and The Cellar Team



The Cellar relies on regular donations from individuals, for which we are most grateful. Grants from charities and groups are also an important source of core funding for the day to day running of **The Cellar**. We would like to thank **Loseley Christian Trust, Golo** and **Godalming Round Table** for grants recently received.

Thank you so much!

Order your beautiful unique Christmas wreath to raise funds for The Cellar Café



Christmas wreaths
 with fresh foliage and natural decorations are being created again this year to raise funds for The Cellar Café .

They are made on a 20cm oasis base to keep fresh, and also can be used as table decorations.

You can order one **to be delivered** to your home from **The Cellar Café** for only **£15**, or contact 01483 423768
jackybeale@hotmail.com



Volunteers are most welcome to help to make the wreaths – it isn't difficult! We will be at Godalming United Church River Room from 2pm to 5pm on December 5th and 12th if you would like to join us. Also lots of foliage is always needed if you have a shrub or tree that can be pruned a little. The foliage needs to have thin strong stems with clusters of small leaves, such as choisya or euonymus. (Most holly and ivy and don't work very well, and berries tend to fall off.) Please contact Jacky Beale if you can help in any way. Thankyou.



Silent Night - Stille Nacht

We have recently commemorated the 100 years since the end of WW1 – the Great War. The following account is a poignant reminder of the power of singing Christmas carols at a time of terrible warfare.

At the start of the war in 1914, the British soldiers, exhausted after months of vicious fighting, settled into the routine of life in the trenches. They naturally began to think of the enemy – sometimes a few feet away – doing the same as them.

By December 1914 it was clear that the war would not be 'over by Christmas'. For the men at the front, months of tough combat in appalling conditions would be followed by a Christmas away from home. The authorities were keen to maintain morale and bring some festive cheer to the front. Throughout December, 460,000 parcels and 2.5 million letters were sent to British soldiers in France. The German soldiers also received gifts and small Christmas trees and festive wreaths from their families and government.

On Christmas Eve itself, the main night of celebration in Germany, candles and trees went up along parts of the German line. When darkness fell, the entrenched German and British soldiers both sang the same well-known carol in their own language. In a few places some men on both sides tentatively emerged from their trenches into No Man's Land to share Christmas Day together, exchanging gifts and taking photos. For a brief time the opposing troops were united through the message of peace which speaks to us all at Christmas.



This newsletter has been put together to keep you in touch with **The Cellar**. If you do not receive the newsletter by email and would like to, please contact thecellarnews@gmail.com to save printing and postage costs.

Also get in touch if you know someone who would like to receive it, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

We would like to thank Craddocks of Godalming for producing the printed versions of the newsletter.