



The Cellar Café Newsletter Winter 2017-18

The staff, volunteers and trustees of **The Cellar** would like to wish you all a very **Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year**. For some Christmas can be a lonely or stressful time of year. We at **The Cellar** again hope to brighten the lives of those customers who need emotional and practical support, so they can enjoy some of the more special things that we often take for granted. The need is increasing and last year we distributed 51 Christmas food and gift parcels for families and individuals and 17 Christmas parcels for teenagers, plus Christmas treats for patients at Farnham Road hospital and Busbridge Halfway House. These were made up of various items according to people's particular needs and ages, and are extra to the food parcels that we distribute throughout the year.

We would be most grateful for donations of Waitrose or Sainsbury's gift vouchers, cash, and also toys or festive gifts for teenagers and adults, and seasonal foods.

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 Saturday December 16th to **The Cellar Café**, Crown Court, Godalming, GU7 1DY *Thank you so much for your support!*

Debbie Portsmouth and The Cellar Team



Come and Celebrate!

All are welcome to join **The Cellar Christmas Social** at **Godalming Baptist Church**, Queen Street, on **Wednesday 20th December**. Drop in between **10am and 2pm** for carols, readings, fellowship, and a bring and share lunch.



Our Popular Christmas wreaths

with fresh foliage and natural decorations are being created again this year by Cellar friends. They are made on a 20cm oasis base from evergreen leaves and decorated with dried orange slices, cinnamon sticks and fir cones, and can also be used as table decorations with central candle. They will keep fresh if the oasis is kept damp. You can order one to be delivered to your home on the date of your choice for **only £15**. **Please order by December 15th** by contacting on jackybeale@hotmail.com or 01483 423768.

If you have evergreen shrubs or small trees that we could prune a little for foliage, please get in touch with Jacky Beale. If you would like to come along to help make the wreaths, drop in to the River Room at **Godalming United Church** on **Wednesday 6th December** and **Wednesday 13th December between 12 noon and 5pm**. No artistic talent is required and we will show you what to do. You can also buy a wreath outside **The Cellar** on **Saturday 25th November** during the Godalming Christmas Fair.

Grants from charities and groups are an important source of income for **The Cellar**, as well as donations from individuals. We would like to thank the **Thomas Trust** for a welcome grant recently received through the **Community Foundation for Surrey**, and also for generous donations from **The Beacon Trust, Probus and Hambleton St. Peter's Church Prayer Breakfast**. *Thank you so much*

The Cellar will be one of the charities in the Godalming **Waitrose Community Matters** scheme in **January**. Don't forget to pick up your green token and pop it in **The Cellar** slot. Food can also be donated in the store.

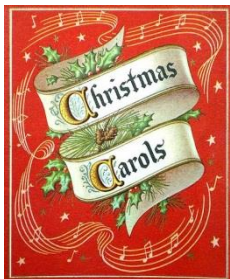


Do you or anyone you know shop online? There is an easy way to can funds for **The Cellar** by registering with **www.easyfundraising.org** . Choose **The Cellar** in the Support section. You are then linked to hundreds of online shops, including Amazon and ebay , plus supermarkets, booking a holiday, changing utility provider, or buying insurance. In fact any online purchase maybe eligible. The company donates a small percentage to **The Cellar**, and it doesn't cost you a penny extra. It's very simple to use, with just a few extra clicks of the mouse, and the donations soon add up! If you're using Google to search for an item, put it in the basket when chosen and then go to **easyfundraising** to pay at the same shop. If you persuade someone else to subscribe, there is an extra donation. Even if you don't shop online, please mention **easyfundraising** to others who might use it. It's an simple way to increase funds for **The Cellar**. So far I have raised £100 for The Cellar. So it's really worthwhile.

The Cellar team are looking forward to visiting **Godalming United Church** for a special Cellar service on Sunday 26th November at 10.30am. The Cellar is particularly grateful for all the gifts that have been donated by the congregation for many years for the special Christmas parcels. *Thank you again for your generosity.*

Volunteers are always needed at The Cellar on a regular basis, or to fill in gaps in the rota and to be available to cover for absences. If you feel you can support Debbie and Emma in any way, please phone The Cellar or come in and have a chat. Donations of cakes and food are also always much appreciated.

The Upper Room at The Cellar can be used free of charge daytime or evenings by qualified or trainee counsellors who can provide affordable or free counselling or for meetings of a charity or support group.



Last year about £500 was raised for **The Cellar** through **carol singing** inside Godalming Sainsbury's. This year we hope to get a group together again to sing there in the week before Christmas. If you would like to come along please get in touch with Jacky Beale 01483 423768, jackybeale@hotmail.com . Dates and times will be confirmed later.



Do you have a favourite Christmas carol? Mine is "In the Bleak Midwinter" as I particularly like the tune and the simple clear message of the words . It is based on a poem by the English poet Christina Rossetti and the melody was composed by Gustav Holst. The first verse gives an evocative description a snow covered scene, while the last verse considers how best to honour the Christ Child. The simple words emphasize that giving, especially at this time of year, is about intention, not cost. For many customers of **The Cellar**, Winter is a particularly difficult time, and the warm welcome they receive from staff and volunteers at the café helps them through the darkest times.

*What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give Him - Give my heart.*

This newsletter has been put together by Jacky Beale to keep you in touch with **The Cellar**. If you do not receive the newsletter by email and would like to, please contact jackybeale@hotmail.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.

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