**St Dunstan’s Mothers’ Union**

At our last meeting on 7th November, Saskia Harris and fellow botanist Pauline Horne gave us an excellent demonstration in the Japanese art of “Kokedama” (moss ball).

Saskia showed how to put together the special mix of composts, add water and then mould a couple of handfuls of it into what looked like a mud pie, encasing the roots of the plant and finally wrapping it round with moss and string to make a ball.

Like all good gardeners Pauline offered an alternative technique, still using the mud pie system but wrapping the ball in sacking instead of moss. They both looked beautiful.

Kokedama is an excellent alternative way of displaying plants – the Kokedama can either sit on a pretty plate on a table in the house or hang from a branch or hook in the garden.

Unlike the frantic video I watched on YouTube, Saskia and Pauline were very relaxing to listen to and watch and as with Japanese gardens, exuded an atmosphere of peace and calm.

Thank you both for providing us with such an entertaining and enjoyable afternoon.

Coming up on our programme – on Monday, 5th December we have as usual in early Advent, our “Preparation for Christmas” meeting which this year, we’re pleased to say will be led by our Mission Priest, Felicity Norris.

Our first meeting of the New Year on 9th January we’ve called “Happy New Year!” More details will be emerging shortly but do come along and join us – sounds like it’s going to be quite a party!

On Thursday, 26th January we’re holding our New Year’s Lunch at the Prince of Wales, Cheam Village - time 12 noon for 12.30 pm. If you want further details – please contact a member of the committee. We’re hoping to book a separate room so we should be able to make as much noise as we like! Do hope you can come along and join us.

On behalf of all the members of St Dunstan’s MU Committee may I wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

**Sue Wass**