

THE WOOTTON PARISH NEWS

October 2012



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If you have any comments or opinions on how to improve the Wootton News. These should be sent to Sue Playford (Parish Clerk)
WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com
or call on 07531 930 788.



Contents



Wootton News

- Next issue December 2012
- Copydate 1st November

Chairman’s Report	Page 5
Come and Plant Trees in Wiles Wood	Page 6
Parish Clerk’s Report	Page 8
Wootton Playing Field	Page 10
Wootton Rangers YFC	Page 13
Library	Page 15
Wootton Lower School PTFA	Page 16
Proposed Skate Park	Page 18
Kimberly Sixth Form College	Page 26
Wootton Vale Health Living Centre	Page 30
Wootton Country Players	Page 32
Contacts Directory	Page 33

Wootton News Editorial Notes

Wootton News is overseen by an Editorial subgroup of the Parish Council. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this newsletter is accurate, the Parish Council accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions. It should be noted that articles written by individuals do not necessarily represent the views of the Council. Please send all articles to the Wootton News Editor (gareth.t.loyd@googlemail.com) by the copydate. Advertisements are usually half page (£25 black & white, £40 Colour) and restricted to local residents. If you wish to advertise then please send your details to the Editor (gareth.t.loyd@googlemail.com) . The advertisements are taken in good faith, and we cannot accept any responsibility for bad service or workmanship received.

A pdf copy of the Wootton News can be found at the bottom of the Parish council’s home page (<http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/>)

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Acorn quilters and craft group

Now that the nights have drawn in and you can't get out in the garden, why not come along to our craft group and perhaps learn a new skill? We meet at the Memorial Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm. Just come along and you will be made very welcome.



Wootton Parish Council Annual Report

It has been fairly quiet since my last report; ongoing projects are running along as planned.



John Wheeler - Chairman

The next edition of this newsletter will be in early December, so my traditional Christmas report will feature then. If you have any December/Christmas events that you would like to advertise do let the clerk or Gareth Lloyd know.

An important event upcoming which I must mention is this year's Remembrance Sunday service which will take place on 11th November. The usual parade and service at St. Mary's will take place – do please come along and take this opportunity to recognise the sacrifices made by past residents of Wootton and around the world in all wars. Notices will be circulated nearer the date with relevant timings.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer holiday, and here's hoping for a late Indian summer!

It has come to my attention that some parishioners believe the entire cost of the skate park will be borne by the parish council. The parish council has received confirmation from Bedford Borough Council that s106 monies may be used towards this project (this is money generated by the building of the Bellway homes in Fields Road). Members of the council and Wootton Ramps & Riders are currently seeking funding from other organisations, including grants and fund raising events.

DID YOU KNOW



Originally parishes were ecclesiastical areas coinciding with manors. Neither parishes nor manors covered the whole of the country, and because many of them were very large, sub-divisions were recognised from the earliest times. These sub-divisions were known as chapelries and

townships. Civil administration made use of the boundaries which the church had drawn; sometimes there was no boundary and parishes shared (and still share) lands in common.

Dates for your Diary

Parish council meetings

10 th October 2012	Planning & Environment Communications
31 st October 2012	Planning & Environment
14 th November 2012	Planning & Environment Full council
28 th November 2012	Planning & Environment Finance & General purposes
12 th December 2012	Planning & Environment Leisure & Amenities Finance & General purposes

Please check noticeboards and the website for any cancellations and timings.



COME AND PLANT TREES IN WILES WOOD WOOTTON



The Forest of Marston Vale's 2012 Winter Community Tree Planting will take place at Wiles Wood, Wootton on **SUNDAY DECEMBER 2nd from 11am to 4pm.** All Parishioners of Wootton, young and old, will be most welcome to plant trees in Bedford's Green Gateway.

The Marston Vale Trust now owns or manages 60 hectares of land between Wootton and Kempston which has either already been planted or will be used to create new woodland in coming years. This Green Gateway will provide a 2km long swathe of accessible woodland along the eastern edge of Wootton, between Wood End and the A421. Sites at Button's Ramsey (1), Ridgeway Wood (3) and Van Diemen's Land (5) were planted between 2001 and 2004 and 10,000 trees were planted in the The Kill (2) and part of Wiles Wood (4) in 2006/7. Funds have now become available to complete the planting at Wiles Wood.

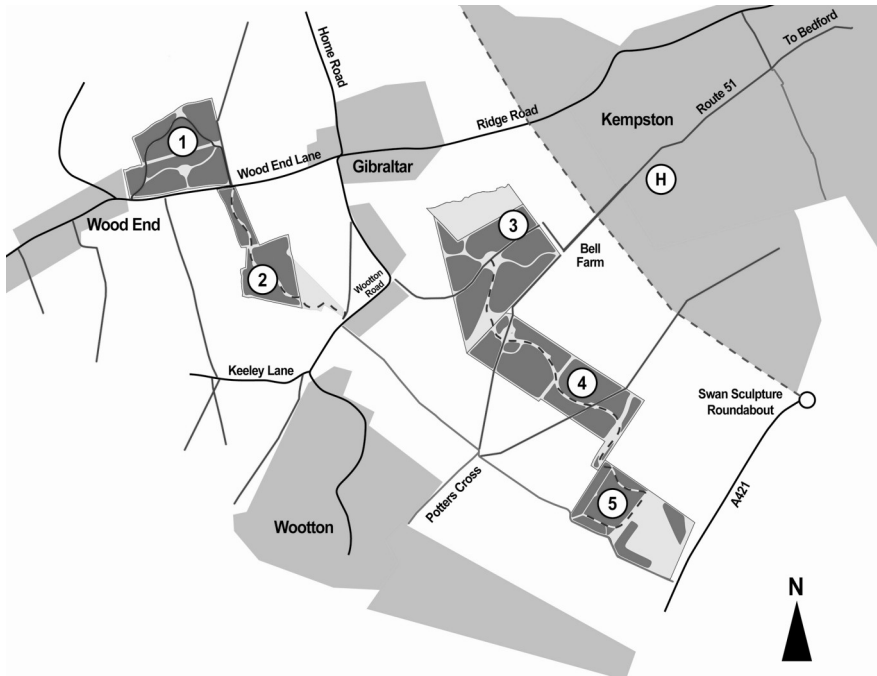
The whole area is available for everyone to enjoy, with surfaced and mown trails throughout for pedestrians and cyclists, routes for horse riders, areas to picnic and play, benches to rest and take in the view and information to help people make the most of their visit.

Help create the newest part of Wiles Wood

Please join the Forest Team to plant trees on Sunday 2 December. Tree planting is really worthwhile, fun and an experience you'll remember for years. Everyone is welcome. Wrap up warm in something waterproof. The only other thing you need is enthusiasm – the Team will provide trees, tools, a toilet and even a cup of tea.

Walk all the way down Potters Cross and you'll see the tents and flags. Or you can reach the site from Wootton Road, through Ridgeway Wood.

If you don't want to walk, there will be a free bus shuttle service running from the Forest Centre to the planting site (between 10.45am and 2.15pm), but please don't drive to the site, there will be no access for cars.



Like to know more?

All details will be published in Commentree, the Forest's newsletter, and on line at www.marstonvale.org/news. To make sure you receive all the latest information, the Forest Team will deliver Commentree straight to your letter box or inbox if you sign up on-line. Watch out for posters around Wootton and information dropping through your letterbox later in the year.

Seed Collecting – 14th October 2-4pm

Tree planting – 2nd December

For more information contact Guy Lambourne 01234 762608 guy.lambourne@marstonvale.org

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Parish Clerk's Report

The summer holidays are truly behind us now as we head into autumn and towards winter. I am pleased to say that the CCTV is now up and running – new signs are being prepared for the recreation ground as this article goes to print.

Matters are moving forward with the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) refurbishment, and it is hoped that this will be completed soon (possibly before this article goes to print).

Our handyman Andy is continuing with his good work around the village and it is pleasing that he has been thanked on more than one occasion for his efforts to date.

A number of parishioners have contacted me with regard to the poor state of the footpath on Hall End Road, particularly near the upper school. The parish council was concerned that this had been left for some time, and contacted both the Mayor and Nadine Dorries MP to request that this be given priority for repair works. I am pleased to say that this has now been programmed for 2012-13 by Bedford Borough Council.



Sue Playford

WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com

07531 930 788.

The hot topic over summer had to be grass cutting – no doubt caused by the wet weather at the beginning of the season. Several uncut areas came to my attention – some of which had traditionally been maintained by developers of local housing. Cllr Quirk and I decided it was time to have a major review of all areas, and the hope is that these 'problem' areas will not continue to be an issue. The task however, is proving to be quite involved and lengthy!

Sale of Keeley Farm, Wootton

In response to several enquiries regarding the above sale, the parish council received the response below from Bedford Borough Council, who have kindly given permission for it to be reproduced in this newsletter.

“From speaking to colleagues in both the policy and development management teams I understand that we have also had a number of queries from local parish councillors and residents about the marketing of the sites that you have identified and the suggestion that the land may be suitable for residential development. I hope the following information is helpful and will enable you to reassure residents of the current position.

The adopted proposals map shows both Lot 1 and Lot 2 outside the Settlement Policy Area for Wootton and therefore in policy terms they are treated as open countryside. In addition, Lot 2 is within the current Area of Special Restraint which is a policy specifically to prevent coalescence, in this case between Wootton and Kempston.

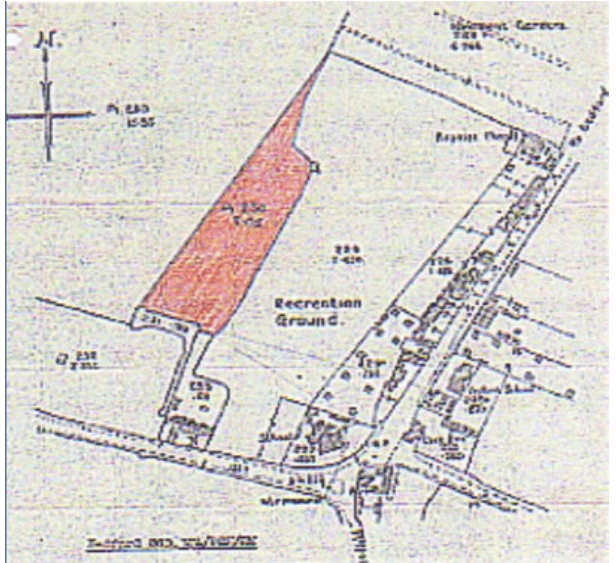
Both Lot 1 and Lot 2 were put forward as potential development sites during the 'call for sites' phase of the preparation of the emerging Allocations and Designations Plan. Both were rejected by the council and neither appears in the Allocations and Designations Plan now submitted to the secretary of State for formal examination. Through the Allocations and Designations Plan, the Area of Special Restraint is being replaced by a more focused Local Gaps policy and the draft maps for that plan show such a gap between the edge of Wootton and Kempston - over Lot 2. This means that even development that would normally be acceptable in the countryside but that would compromise that gap, would not be permitted (see Allocations and Designation Plan Policy AD44). On that note I can confirm that both Plot 1 and Plot 2 remain in the open countryside in planning policy terms if the Allocations and Designations Plan is adopted as submitted.

In terms of timing, current policies and plans make provision for development up to 2021. Once work on the Allocations and Designations Plan reduces, the council will pick up momentum on a plan to roll forward that date to either 2031 or maybe even 2036. Such a plan may or may not retain the current growth area as a focus for new development allocations. As you can imagine there will need to be a good deal of consultation and discussion before such issues are decided. It may be that the two sites come forward again at that time but until then I can reassure you that neither site is identified within adopted or emerging plans for residential development”.

Wootton Playing Fields

Q. What have an equal mix of Chewings Fescue, Crested Dogstail, Poa Trivialis & Agrostis Tensis added to an equal volume of Irish Rye Grass to do with Wootton?

A. That was the seed mix for the recreation ground when it was developed in 1954.



The information was found in papers relating to the ground when the Author was investigating the history of Wootton Playing Field.

In 1925 the National Playing Fields Associations (NPFA) was founded by Brigadier-General R. Kentish with the intention of ensuring that nationwide there should be sports facilities for everyone. The association received Royal Patronage in 1933 and was able to persuade the then Government that an area of 4 acres per 1000 head of population should be available for “games”. The ratio has since increased to 6 acres per 1000.

It was to the Association that in 1949 Wootton parish council made an application for a grant to purchase land within Wootton for the purpose of providing a recreational area. The land identified forms 4/5ths of the current recreational ground and was in the possession of the London Brick Company (LBC). Fortunately for Wootton the LBC were corporate members of the NPFA and prompted by Lord Stewart, LBC agreed to gift the land to Wootton parish. This occurred in 1950 when LBC also generously paid Wootton’s legal fees. The land had an area of 7.65 acres.

The remaining 1/5th of the current ground belonged to Mrs. Doyne-Ditmas of Cause End cottage who declined to sell the land to the parish, selling eventually to Mr. Chennels of Berry Farm. Mr Chennels also declined to sell but wrote that if at a public meeting the majority thought he should sell, he would reconsider. The meeting of parishioners held in November 1950 heard arguments for and against (despite grants being available some cost would fall to

the ratepayers). Those present voted 36 for, 3 against & 5 abstained. However Mr Chennels changed his mind and kept the land, some 2.05 acres. This led to a design problem - the original intention was to provide an open space with 4 football pitches, a cricket table and a running track around the perimeter. The track would not meet the athletic standards unless it was symmetrical. The parish council took advice and were informed that they could, under Section 168 of the local Government Act 1933, seek compulsory purchase. Compulsory purchase was not necessary, in 1952 Mr Chennels sold the land to the parish. The grounds were then levelled, drained & seeded.

The football pitches and cricket table were laid out and a cricket pavilion was constructed near the present day lower school grounds. A children's play area with swings, roundabout and a slide were installed. At a later date Wootton Blue Cross were given permission to erect a wooden changing room which the parish council purchased for £175 in 1973 and later (1968) replaced with the brick structure now in place. At the same time a requirement for toilet facilities for the use of those attending football matches was identified & met.

In 1978 the need for a village hall saw the site where the hall stands being leased to the Village Hall charity for £10 p.a. When owned by LBC part of the area was leased for £1 p.a. as a garden for "the school master" of the old lower school.

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Beavers

Well, the Beavers were very busy this summer earning the Fitness Challenge Badge by taking part in several different activities, like the photo treasure hunt, chariot racing, golf lessons at Mowsbury Golf Club and making bee hotels as well as earning their Adventure and Healthy Eating Badges.

This coming term is always exciting for the children as it ends with Christmas, but this year it is even more exciting as we are going to have a sleepover! As usual we will be earning more badges along the way. We are working towards the Creative Challenge Badge which means designing and making things. The Beavers will be taking part in the annual village clean up and the Remembrance Parade and service at St Marys Church. We will be asking the Beavers to design and make a model for their Creative Badge and planting a seed and keeping a diary to show its growth for their Experiment Badge.

Beavers are aged between 6 and 8, so if you would like to put your child on the Beaver waiting list please contact Sam on 768794 or 07778 610061 or alternatively send an email to sam.bloomer@hotmail.co.uk. Finally, we would like to thank all our Beaver parents who support us by helping out on our parent rota and helping the children with their badge work.

Thank you.

Sam (Otter) and Sally (Squirrel)

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Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club –

Looking to the future

It was with huge thanks that we wished Paul and Rodelle Brookes a happy football free retirement after some 15 years at Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club at our AGM in May. We will miss them and the challenge for the Club is to retain and improve upon what they have achieved for Wootton Rangers.

Wootton Rangers Youth FC is an FA registered Standard Charter club that was formed in 1978 to provide opportunities for kids aged 7 to 17 in Wootton and the surrounding area to play football. In recent years the Club has developed and grown such that for the 2012/2013 Season we will be running 10 teams in 4 different Leagues; The Chiltern Youth League (9 and 11 a side), The Milton Keynes and Border Counties League (11 a side), The Beds Mini Soccer League (7 a side) and Chiltern Junior 7s (11 a side) including a newly established Under 14 girls team, enabling c125+ kids to play football.

We have a new and enlarged Committee comprising 15 parents, managers and coaches dedicated to supporting the Club and ensuring that the kids who play for Wootton Rangers Youth enjoy their football.

We are also hugely fortunate to have supportive sponsors who provide kit and equipment with particular thanks to Fulbourne Medical for new kits this season and to Gary Moore for supplying topsoil to enable us to repair the pitches at Wootton Recreation ground.

Our season commenced on Saturday 8th September 2012 when our newly formed Under 14 girls team kicked off in their first game. The remainder of our teams kicked off their season on Sunday 9th September 2012 playing at Wootton Recreation ground or at Wootton Upper School.

Check out our website woottonrangers.co.uk for contact details of our Managers and Committee Members if you have a child who would be interested in joining the club or want to get involved in youth football.

Steve Thomson
Chairman
Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club

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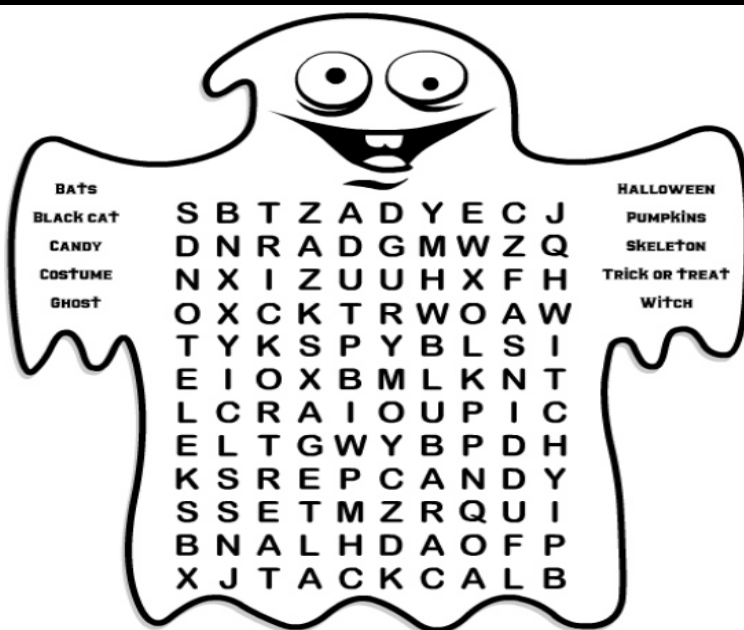
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Sudoku

			5	1	3	9		7
				6		1	5	
								4
	9	5					2	3
		4				7		
6	1					5	8	
5								
	6	3		4				
2		8	1	3	9			

			3	2		
6						
				4	1	
1	5					
						5
	4	3				

Library Corner

We have lots of **family fun days** coming up.

Wed 31st Oct – Halloween crafts – drop in between 3 and 5. Spooky story time at 5.15.
Dress up if you dare.

Sat 17th Nov – Drop in craft activities between 10 and 12 – monsters and aliens.

Sat 8th Dec – Christmas crafts – drop in between 10 and 12.

Mon 17th Dec – Christmas story at 5.15 – bring your teddy.

Our **Chatterbooks** reading group for 8-13 year olds meets once a month on Wednesdays at 4.30 – joining is free, just ask!

Wed 17th Oct – 11am – 12. Coffee morning – Remember the 1960's.

Don't forget our next **Antiques Valuation Day** on Wed 10 Oct. Bring up to two antiques to the library between noon and 4pm for complimentary, no-obligation auction advice from Peacocks Auctioneers.

Knit & Natter meets from 2pm on the 1st and 3rd Friday.

Wootton library is open on Monday from 2-6, on Wednesday from 10-1 and 2-6, on Friday from 2-6 and on Saturday from 10-1. If you have any questions just pop in or ring us on 01234 766 061.

Heather, Library Manager.

Wootton Lower School PTFA

Registered Charity Number 1024170

I would like to start by thanking everyone who turned up and supported a very wet but very successful Summer Fayre. The children all looked wonderful in their pirate and fairy costumes! Our Sponsored Carry the Olympic Torch on the 13th June was great fun and we are still having sponsor money trickle in! We said a sad farewell to our Year 4's with a Leavers Assembly where they were all presented with a personalised dictionary from the PTFA and on the 20th July we paid for them to have exclusive use of Kids World. By the time you read this they will have already started at their new schools and we wish them all the very best.

This term we will have our usual Winter Term Disco and we will also be having a black sack collection of clothes on the 16th November. So if you have anything you can donate please bring it along on the morning of the 16th. It is also with regret that I will be saying goodbye to the PTFA at the AGM in October. I have been chairperson for 8 years and I feel that it is time for someone with new ideas and fresh enthusiasm to take over. Secretary/Treasurer Sam Bloomer is also stepping down after 5 years with the PTFA and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her and everyone else on the committee who have helped make such a success of Wootton Lower School PTFA. I have no doubt that you will all continue to support the new committee as much as you supported us, please call into school and speak to Mr Tavener if you think you would like to be involved at all.

Fun raising funds for our little ones!

Tina Kirkup
PTFA Chairperson

Wootton Women's Institute

Thought about coming to along to the W.I?

Don't laugh! but too many people have the wrong idea of what the W.I. is all about.

Oct. 17th	Variety Theatres and Old Time Musical Hall	Barry Wolseley
Nov. 21st	The Secret Illness and Bring & Buy	Vivien Hepworth
Nov.25th	Wootton WI Craft Fair held in the Village Hall	

We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at the Memorial Hall in Bedford Road at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome at a charge of £3.

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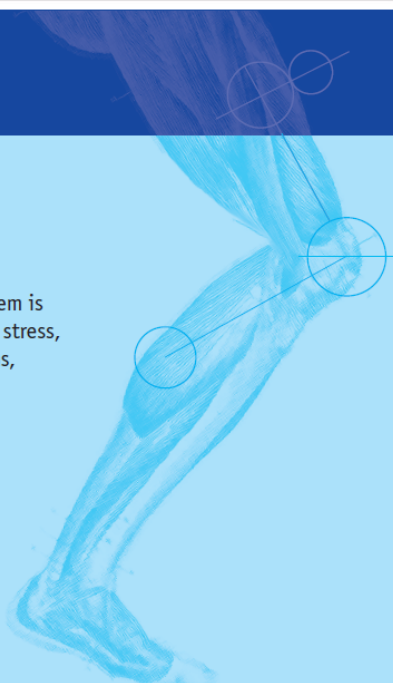
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½ hr appointment: £25

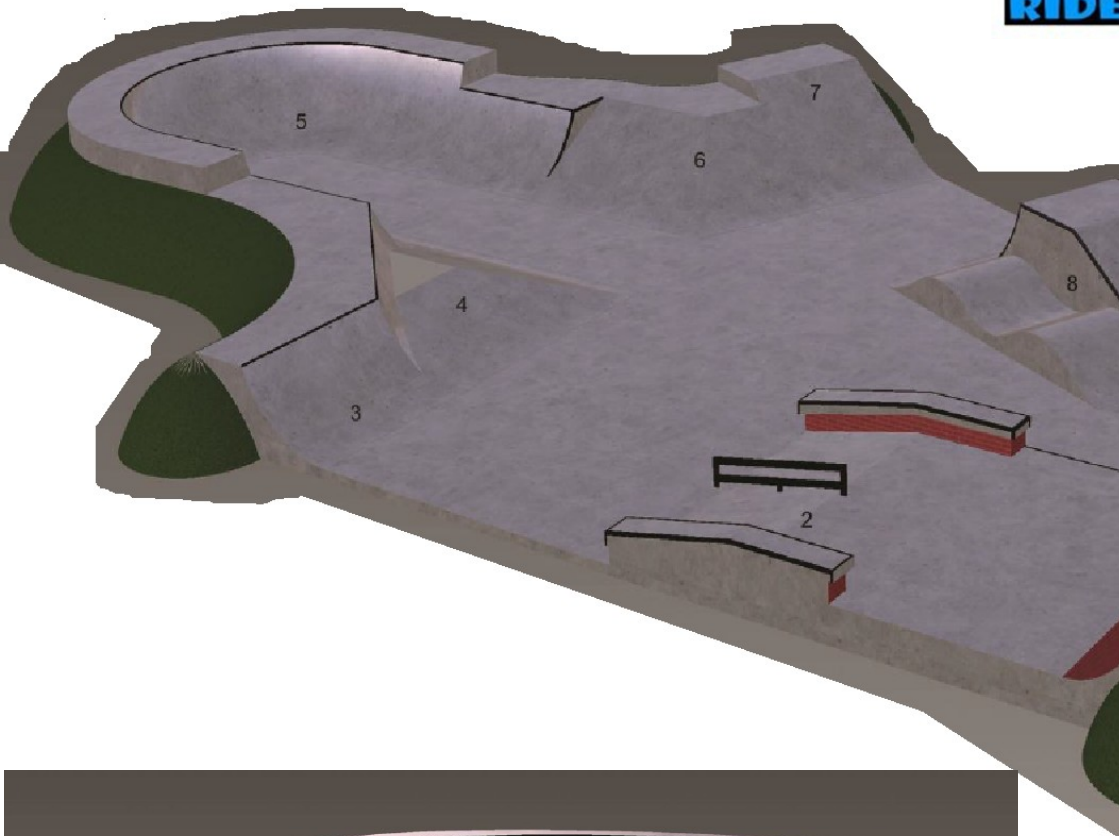
1 hr appointment: £35

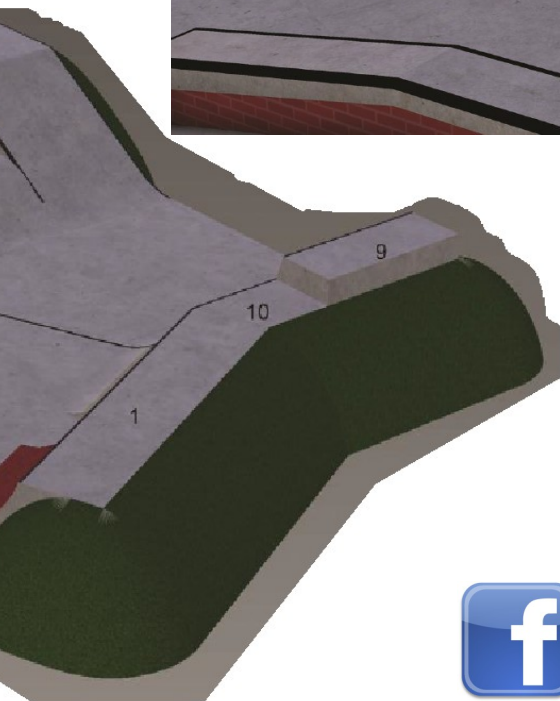
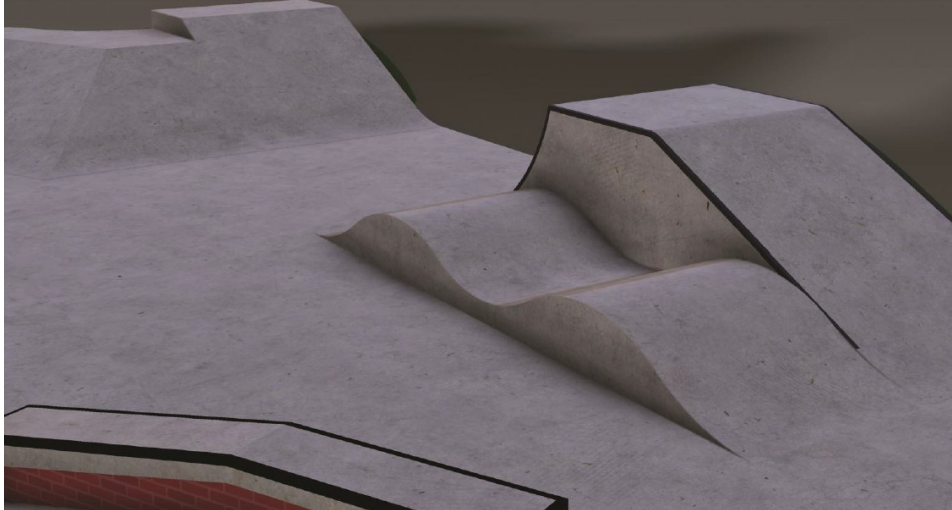
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Proposed Skate Park.

WOOTTON
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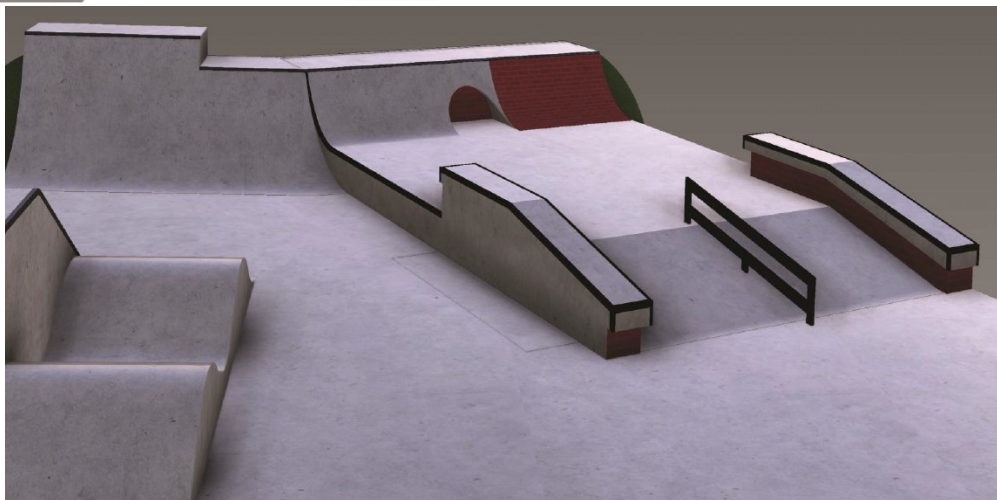




Wootton Parish Council is working with Wootton Ramps & Riders to raise money for this skate park. If successful, it is anticipated the location will be near the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and youth shelters at the recreation ground. Whilst the recent consultation showed an 82% in favour of this proposal, the parish council and Wootton Ramps & Riders are aware not all were in favour, and an open evening will be held as soon as practicable for parishioners to put forward their concerns.



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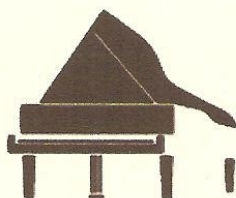
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Thanks for all your support for
The BSG
(our 2012 Bronze, Silver & Gold holiday club).
A great time was had by all!



The Olympic Torch in Wootton!

What a shame!!

You may have heard that our planned Big Screen showing of the Olympic Opening Ceremony didn't happen due to a missing cable from the big screen's wagon.

But...our thanks to all who came and made the evening a very happy occasion!
And thank you to our sponsors.

Remembrance Sunday

Sun 11 Nov 10.30am

Christmas at St. Mary's will include....

Sun 23 Dec	6pm	Lessons & Carols <i>by candle light</i>
Sat 24 Dec	4pm	Family Carols
	11pm	Midnight Communion
Sun 25 Dec	10.30am	Family Service

Look out for more details early in December!



St Mary's - Autumn 2012

St. Mary's is at your service!

- * **Monday's Lunch Club** for senior citizens friendship, chat & a hot meal. 1.15pm at the Church Hall: 08 Oct, 12 Nov, 10 Dec.
- * **Encompass 'Church with a Difference'** Messy Church' crafts & games, a hot meal and short Bible story **for all the family.**
3.45pm at the Hall: 25 Oct, 22 Nov.
- * **Men Behaving Dadly** a monthly toddler group for Dad's & their 0-5's on Sat 10am at the Hall: 29 Sept, 27 Oct, 24 Nov.
- * **Wrigglers Coffee Morning** a weekly parent & toddler group 10am held at Wotton Baptist Church in term time.
- * **Knit & Knatter** fresh coffee, cake & good company, monthly on Friday am in church.
- * **Young People's groups (including Pathfinders** for school years 5-8 (Every Weds during term time) at the Hall.
- * **Christianity Explored** a short course to discover more about what Christians believe.
- * **Mid-week Bible study groups**

Regular Sunday Services

9am The Lord's Supper/Morning Prayer
10.30am Morning Service *with groups for young people*
and crèche 6pm Evening Service

Knowing Jesus; Making Jesus Known to All'

Vicar: Peter Ackroyd 768391 vicar@stmaryswootton.org.uk
Curate: Sam Haigh 766317 curate@stmaryswootton.org.uk
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Our monthly magazine 'Focus' is available in the Post Office & Library.



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Hypnotherapy allows you to tap into your subconscious thoughts and change them. During the session/s you will experience a real sense of deep relaxation. You will be aware of what is happening and what I am saying. **Hypnotherapy** will leave you feeling relaxed, positive and can free you of your unwanted habit.

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To make an appointment or for general enquiries please contact:

Manjit Sangha - 07974484759

Email: manjsskk@yahoo.co.uk



**East Anglian
Air Ambulance**

Air Ambulance Looks For More Horse Power

East Anglian Air Ambulance already uses a powerful Eurocopter Ec135P2 helicopter to provide the emergency

service for Bedfordshire, but it's on the look-out for even more horse power.

The county's air ambulance fundraisers have once again joined forces with the British Horse Society (Bedfordshire) in holding a sponsored horse ride through the private and picturesque grounds of Southill Park, near Old Warden.

The bi-annual horse ride, takes place on Sunday October 7 2012 by kind permission of Whitbread Farms Limited and Mr Charles Whitbread, and for the first time this year has an option of 5, 10 or 15 mile routes over private tracks, headlands and parkland in the central Bedfordshire countryside. It is a favourite course with many riders due to very limited roadwork.

The entry fee of £15 plus a minimum of £10 sponsorship – split between the two charities – is being kept as low as possible to encourage a full turnout. Early registration is recommended however as the number of horses taking part has been restricted to 150. Once again there are special awards for the entrants who raise as much as they can for the two charities, children raising more than £15 in sponsorship will receive an air ambulance teddy bear, and all riders raising more than £75 will receive a bear and a commemorative ride mug. All horses will receive a rosette, kindly sponsored once again by NFU Mutual.

2012 is special for all kinds of reasons – not least for the 5th Anniversary of East Anglian Air Ambulance providing a vital service for Bedfordshire, but also being the year that it aspires to be the first UK air ambulance to fly at night. Without Government funding, it relies on the generous support of its supporters to keep saving lives in the county we live. Please bring your horse power to the BHS-EAAA Southill Park ride and show your support for both the BHS and EAAA. If you haven't got a horse, but would like to be involved, please contact the organisers and offer your support as a volunteer Marshall!

For more information about the ride, registration forms and rules, please contact 01234 709960, or email bhs.beds@gmail.com.

Despite receiving no direct government or lottery funding, the East Anglian Air Ambulance Charity saves lives every day of the year. We are a local charity, owned and funded by the people of East Anglia.

- We perform three essential roles:
- We treat patients at the scene of their accident or emergency (we take the emergency department to the patient)
- We transfer patients to hospital rapidly, when appropriate
- We can fly to the most inaccessible places and to anywhere in East Anglia within 25 minutes

We operate two dedicated air ambulances, 365 days a year, across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. By January 2014 fundraising target will be £6million a year to maintain our fleet of helicopters and the extended service into the hours of darkness. We work in partnership with the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST) and with Essex and Hertfordshire Air Ambulance to provide a comprehensive service across all six counties. Our crew are specially trained NHS doctors and critical care paramedics and we play a crucial role in the provision of trauma care throughout the region.

For more information about the East Anglian Air Ambulance Charity, contact the charity on 0845 066 9999 or visit our website at www.eaaa.org.uk, or follow us on Facebook: East Anglian Air Ambulance Charity and Twitter: @EastAngliAirAmb. EAAA's Bedfordshire office is located in Flitwick, contact 01525 718517 or email paul.airton@eaaa.org.uk

WI Craft Fair

The Craft Fair this year will be held on Sunday November 25th, from 10am to 4 pm in the Village Hall. We have lots of new stalls and some old favourites. The profits from the Craft Fair will be divided between WI funds and Wootton Ramps and Riders.

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Jack Hooper has been

awarded a full scholarship by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation for his place at Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts. Established by Sir Paul McCartney, LIPA is one of the finest performing arts schools in the country and Jack is the third student from Wootton to go there but the first to receive this most prestigious award. Jack, who you may have seen in many of Wootton's productions over the years, had to audition for Lord Lloyd Webber's casting agent before hearing the very good news that all his fees for the B.A. (Hons) Acting will now be met.

Many congratulations to Jack.'



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**Days Out
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Kimberley Sixth Form College

Last February, Wootton Academy Trust submitted an application to the Department for Education (DfE) to open a brand new Sixth form College, specializing in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics – the so called STEM subjects. The Trust was interviewed in May at the DfE and learned of its success on Friday July 13th!

The Trust will open one of just four new Sixth Form Colleges (with a focus on STEM) in the country as part of the DfE's Free Schools Programme, meaning that there will be even more educational opportunities for Sixth Form students in the future. Planning is still at an early stage but a lot of work has already been going on behind the scenes with meetings taking place at the DfE during the summer holidays and with our broad group of supporters from local universities and the business sector.

When will it open? Kimberley Sixth Form College will open in September 2013 for students who are moving into Year 12 at that point. The Trust is working on the admissions criteria at the current time so that it can provide places to the most qualified students.

Will there still be Sixth Form lessons at Wootton Upper School? The Trust intends that it will still be possible to study in the Sixth Form at Wootton Upper School. We have some excellent facilities here and it would be silly not to continue using these. Where it makes sense, arrangements will be made to move students between sites, either from Kimberley to Wootton or vice versa. We envisage that a large number of current Wootton Upper School Sixth Form students will wish to consider studying at the new college.

Where will the new college be located? Some of the next meetings scheduled with DfE officials will look at this very issue! We do have a preferred site within the catchment area which the DfE is looking at with us; we are also looking at other suitable local sites. One of our considerations in site selection will be how easy is it for students to get to and from the college. The DfE hope that the site is agreed by November 2012.

A location along the Bedford to Bletchley railway line is our preferred location making it possible for students to attend the college from across a really wide geographical area.

Where else will students come from who will attend the college? Any sixteen year old student could in theory apply for a place at the college. In reality where students come from will depend on where the final site is located. However as a general rule of thumb we would envisage students coming to Kimberley from Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and beyond.

Who is Wootton Academy Trust working with to develop the new College? The Trust is committed to establishing this STEM Sixth Form College as a regional centre of excellence. Therefore, support from many partners in industry and higher education, as well as from local and national politicians will be required to achieve this goal. In particular, the Trust already has support from Cranfield University and also from the University of Bedfordshire and both universities will take on roles in governance of the new college. The Trust is approaching other universities for their support also.

The college's reputation for excellence will also be built through the relationships it is developing with industry both locally and regionally and we are especially pleased that Nissan Technology Centre Europe, Millbrook Proving Ground, Lockheed Martin, Aircraft Research Association and Swiss Precision Diagnostics among many others are actively supporting our project. Employers will also be represented on the Governing Body.

How will the new College be different to school sixth forms? The Trust plans that the new college will have a real Sixth Form College ethos and provide a half-way house to life at school and life at university. The College will have a slightly longer day and academic year than a traditional school sixth form.

Students at the college will spend time applying the academic skills they learn participating in projects set by employers to develop transferable skills which employers and higher education often find students lack when they leave school aged eighteen to go to university or into employment. There are lots of other ways in which the college will be different and we will publicise these over the coming months.

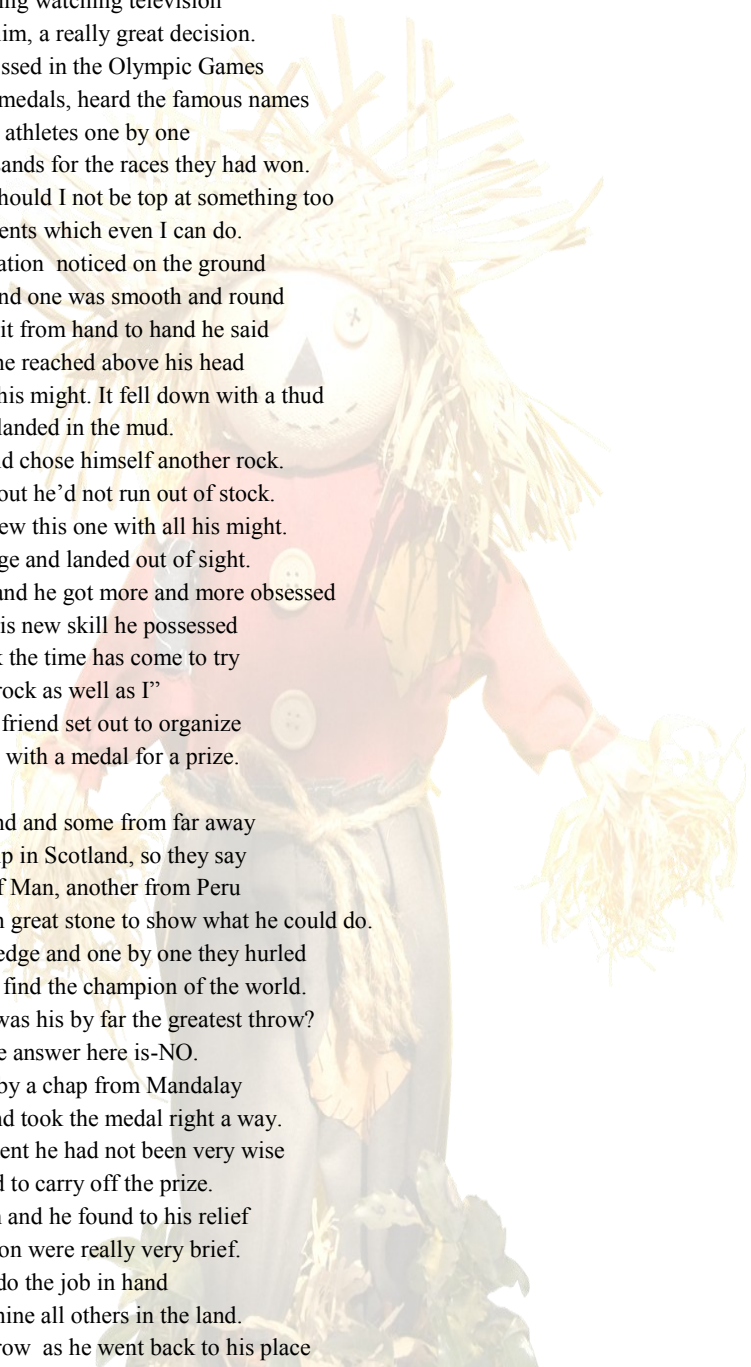
Scarecrow and the Olympic Games

By Rebecca Cook

www.rebeccacookpoetry.com

Scarecrow sat one rainy evening watching television
When suddenly he made-for him, a really great decision.
All that week he'd been engrossed in the Olympic Games
He'd seen the gold and silver medals, heard the famous names
And felt a pang of envy as the athletes one by one
Received th' applause of thousands for the races they had won.
"Why" thought scarecrow "Should I not be top at something too
There must be one of these events which even I can do.
Then looking round for inspiration noticed on the ground
Several boulders lying there and one was smooth and round
He picked it up and weighing it from hand to hand he said
"How far can I throw it" and he reached above his head
And hurled the stone with all his might. It fell down with a thud
About a dozen feet away and landed in the mud.
"Not too good" he thought and chose himself another rock.
There were so many round about he'd not run out of stock.
And taking greater care he threw this one with all his might.
It sailed away beyond the hedge and landed out of sight.
The days and weeks went by and he got more and more obsessed
With continually practicing this new skill he possessed
Until at length he said "I think the time has come to try
To see if anyone can throw a rock as well as I"
And thereupon our scarecrow friend set out to organize
A great rock-throwing contest with a medal for a prize.

People came from close at hand and some from far away
Enormous kilted chaps from up in Scotland, so they say
And one came from the Isle of Man, another from Peru
And each one brought his own great stone to show what he could do.
They all lined up beside the hedge and one by one they hurled
Their rocks across the field to find the champion of the world.
And did our Scarecrow win? was his by far the greatest throw?
Alas, I have to tell you that the answer here is-NO.
He was well and truly beaten by a chap from Mandalay
Who triumphantly came up and took the medal right a way.
And Scarecrow saw that moment he had not been very wise
In expecting to be greatest and to carry off the prize.
The pressure then was off him and he found to his relief
That the joys of being champion were really very brief.
It was more important just to do the job in hand
As best he could and not outshine all others in the land.
"For anyway" thought Scarecrow as he went back to his place





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Wootton Vale Ranks 'Alongside the Best in England'

Patient Satisfaction and Access Survey

The results from the 2012 MORI Patient Satisfaction and Access Survey have just been released. Wootton Vale have been congratulated by the Board of the NHS Bedfordshire and Luton PCT Cluster for achieving high scores which ranks us alongside the best GP practices in England.

The GP Patient Survey is run every year by MORI who send random questionnaires designed to give patients the opportunity to comment on their experience of their GP practice. We would like to thank our patients, who received these questionnaires, for taking the time to complete and return the forms and for their positive input about the practice.

Please note, however, that we constantly strive to maintain and improve our standards, so please feel free to use the suggestions box to give feedback as to ways in which we can improve the services and patient experience at the practice. Furthermore, our Patient Participation Group (PPG) would be delighted to receive any comments or suggestions you may have to make (see their suggestion box in the waiting room).

Flu vaccination clinic dates

The practice will be starting the annual campaign to vaccinate all our patients over 65 and those who are deemed to be in an 'At Risk' group as defined by the Department of Health, these are patients who suffer from one or more of the following conditions:

Pregnant women

People who are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person

Chronic (long-term) respiratory disease such as **severe** asthma, COPD or bronchitis

Chronic heart disease, such as heart failure

Chronic kidney disease

Chronic liver disease such as hepatitis

Chronic neurological disease, such as stroke TAI or post-polio syndrome

Diabetes

A weakened immune system due to conditions such as HIV, or treatments that suppress the immune system such as chemotherapy

People who live with someone with a weakened immune system

If you fall into any of the above groups please contact the practice to book an appointment to receive your vaccination. The dates of our flu clinics are given below. If you are in any doubt if you are in any of the 'At Risk' groups please call the practice for clarification.

Thursday 4th October 2012 – 8.30am to 12.00pm and 2pm to 7.00pm
Wednesday 10th October 2012 - 8.30am to 12.00pm (transport available)
Thursday 18th October 2010 – 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Out of Hours Services

One thing that has been highlighted by the aforementioned survey is that our patients are uncertain how to use the 'Out of Hours' services. Wootton Vale are responsible for the primary care needs of our patients between the hours of 8 am and 6:30 pm Monday to Friday. Since 2004 GPs were no longer contracted to provide 'Out of Hours' (OOH) care and the local OOH provider is Bedoc. Therefore, if you need to see a GP out of practice opening hours then you should contact Bedoc on 0845 850 0734.

Bedoc are based in the fracture department near the A&E department at Bedford Hospital and are able to deal with most conditions and save you a lengthy wait in the Accident & Emergency and they have the same access to the hospital speciality teams.

Another option to consider, should you require treatment when the practice is closed, is a Walk-in Centre. Walk-in Centres are able to deal with: Minor illnesses; cuts and grazes; minor scalds/burns; strains/sprains; bites/stings; emergency contraception; minor skin infections/rashes; minor eye conditions; stomach upsets; coughs colds flu-like symptoms; common illnesses; asthma attacks; abdominal and back pain; urine infections / genital symptoms; symptoms of recent onset (less than 2 weeks). There are two local walk-in centres who cater for patients at Wootton Vale:

Putnoe Walk-in Centre, Bedford, MK41 9JE, 8.00am – 6.30pm, 7 days a week including Bank Holidays

The Practice Broughton Gate, Milton Keynes, MK10 7EF, 8.00am – 8.00pm, 7 days a week including Bank Holidays

Other care options, when the practice is closed, include: NHS Direct, a telephone advice service that can be reached on 0845 46 46; your pharmacist; self-care or; Accident and Emergency. Please note that A&E and 999 are for emergencies ONLY. If you go to A&E with a relatively minor, or inappropriate, condition then you are likely to have a long wait as the staff prioritise people with serious ailments and is an inappropriate use of NHS resources.

If you are unsure whether your condition needs A&E treatment call NHS Direct on 0845 46 47. More information on NHS care options can be found at www.choosewell.org.uk.

News

There is some staff news at the surgery. Michele left us in September to return to nursing and the practice wishes her well for the future. Shannon is returning from maternity leave at the beginning of October and the staff and patients look forward to welcoming her back.

We would just like to make patients aware of two self-referral services. These are the Physiotherapy and Step-by-Step Cognitive Behavioural Therapy services. To access these, you do not need to see a clinician at Wootton Vale, just pick up a form from reception or download them from our website www.woottonvale.com to save you the inconvenience of coming to the surgery.

Change of Computer system

Please note that we shall be changing our computer system at the end of October. We will therefore be running only Urgent clinics at this time to reduce the disruption as we switch to the new system. This will be quite traumatic and will no doubt lead to some patient disruption so we ask you to bear with us at this difficult time. **Please note, if you have a repeat prescription, please request 3 months supply of medication to cover us over the switchover.**

Wootton Country Players

Last Christmas Wootton Country Players performed Cinderella at the Wootton Village Hall, and provided entertainment for a range of ages. Cinderella was another outstanding performance directed by Graham Pavey and starred many residents of Wootton.

Audience members provided some great feedback ‘Another excellent performance by Wootton Country Players. A great night of laughter for the whole family. The ‘ugly sisters’ were extremely funny and provided excellent comical moments’.

Photograph from Cinderella performance.



This year Wootton Country Players are performing **Jack and the Beanstalk** at the Wootton Village Hall. Performance dates are 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th January. For Ticket information, including great value group and family bookings please contact Tina Kirkup on 07788857040.

Contacts Directory

Wootton Village Website

<http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk>

Parish Council Chairman

John Wheeler: 07979 998 206

Parish Council Vice Chairman

Gareth Lloyd: 07808 391 204

Parish Clerk

Sue Playford: 07531 930 788

3 Longden Close, Haynes, Bedfordshire, MK45 3PJ

WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com

Parish Accountant

Sue Bolton: 741 492

Parish Councillors

Claire Bennett 07876 637 938

Gerald Bygraves: 07792 842 601

Malcolm Chalmers: 07864 295 520

Stephen Cruse: 07888 899 915

Brian Doggrell: 767 445

Naomi Groves: 07722 876 252

Bill Hall: 852 299

Paul Prescod: 768251

David Price 07534 006 012

Steve Rowse: 07813 007 797

Paul Quirk: 768 832

Bob Wallace: 768 011

Tree Warden

Pamela Stevenson: 764 337

Bedford Borough Councillor

Paul Prescod: 768251

Hall Booking

Memorial Hall Sue Playford: 07531 930 788

Village Hall Jenny: 767 488

Wootton Blue Cross Hall: 767 662

Complex Booking

Sue Playford: 07531 930 788

Schools

Wootton Upper: 767 123

Holywell Middle: 750 381

Marston Middle: 768 224

Wootton Lower School: 768 239

Wootton Lower PTFA Contact School: 768 239

Playgroups

St Mary's Mary: 767 158

Bizzy Bees Ann: 767 785

St Mary's Church

Rev Peter Ackroyd: 768 391

Church Hall: 767 158

Wootton New Life Methodist Church

Rev Caroline Weaver: 767865

Baptist Church

Mr Rob Stanton: 766 293

Roman Catholic Church

Father Seamus Keenan: 352 569

Doctor's Surgeries

Wootton Vale: 762 500

Cranfield - High Street: 750 234

Kempston - Cater Street: 0844 815 1222

Kempston - King Street: 852 222

Kempston - St Johns Street 851 323

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

Wootton Pharmacy: 765 166

Wootton Post Office:: 768 368

Wootton Library: 766 061

Police - HQ: 841 212

Beat Manager: 842 433

Non emergency 101

Village Clubs and Organisations

1st Wootton Rainbows - *Elaine*: 765 419

Acorn Quilters - *Dorothy*: 409 566

Badminton - *Chris*: 07740 939 109

Beavers - *Sam*: 768 794

Bowls - Monday - *Keith*: 768149

Thursday - *Rena*: 768 012

Brownies - Tuesday - *Denise*: 314 030

Wednesday - *Tina*: 768 293

Cubs - *Christopher*: 304 588

Country Players - *Wendy*: 401 460

Explorers - *Kit*: 216 883

Group Scout Leader - *Jenny*: 767 488

Guides - *Gill*: 856 566

'55' Club - *Arthur*: 768 405

Patacake Baby/Toddlers - *Chau*: 07854 885 746

Royal British Legion - *Alec*: 767 126

Scouts - *Mark*: 07772 330169

Tang Soo Do - *Andrew*: 07748 653 220

Women's Institute - *Eileen*: 768 235

Wootton Rangers FC - *Steve*: 751 611

Wootton Blue Cross: 767 662

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Wootton Scout Race Team U12s go into the last race of the season with a 35 point lead after great performances at Shenington (Oxfordshire) and Blackbushe (Hampshire). The 24 hour race at Shenington saw the Wootton team dominate the U12 group by beating second place by over 84 miles and 10 miles short of taking 3rd place in the U14 class. Next on the calendar was the Solihull race where second place team failed to score points.

The Blackbushe 100 mile race was set on a damp track with a few high speed corners and a very slippery chicane. Another great race saw the team pick up first place in U12s, second place in U14s, and 4th place in the U16 group.

Good luck to Jamie Lloyd, Jack Cheney, Luke Fisher and Adam Hollins at the Curborough 150 mile race, who will hopefully come back as U12 British Pedal Car Champions and 3rd in the U14 Championship. If you wish to be part of next years race team, come along and join scouts.

Anyone for rounders?

Bedfordshire Rounders League are looking for players / teams to join our mixed adult rounders league. During the winter we will be playing rounders indoors. During the summer we will be playing rounders outside on the grass.



If you are 14 and over and want to play rounders (no previous experience required), please contact Samantha Jones on 07593 606987 or vicechair.bedsroundersleague@gmail.com

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