

The background of the cover is a photograph of a stone church tower with a clock face and a spire, partially obscured by a large cluster of yellow daffodils in the foreground. The title 'THE WOOTTON PARISH NEWS' is overlaid on the top half of the image. 'THE' is in black, 'WOOTTON' is in large red letters with a black outline, and 'PARISH NEWS' is in black. The date 'June 2013' is in black below the title.

THE WOOTTON PARISH NEWS

June 2013



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Wootton News

- Next issue September 2013
- Copydate 1st August



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

Front Cover

Picture taken by Gareth Lloyd

We are always looking for new pictures to go into the Wootton News. Please send your pictures to: WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com



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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.lloyd@googlemail.com) by the copydate.

Advertisements are usually half page (£25 black & white, £40 Colour). If you wish to advertise then please send your details to the Editor (gareth.t.lloyd@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/>)



Homemade Spicy Barbecue Sauce

Yield: 12 ounces

- 1 cup ketchup
- 2 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard
- 1 tablespoon Tabasco sauce
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon ground oregano

Combine all ingredients in a small saucepan over medium low heat. Stir to combine and simmer 5 minutes. Use warm or let cool, pour into a jar and refrigerate until needed. Enjoy!

Chicken Tikka Skewers - Easy to do, Prep 20 min, cook 20 min servers 4

- 150g low-fat natural yogurt
- 2 tbsp hot curry paste
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cubed
- 250g cherry tomatoes
- 4 wholemeal chapatis, warmed, to server

Cucumber Salad

- ½ Cucumber, halved lengthways, deseeded and sliced
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- Handful chopped coriander leaves
- Lemon juice
- 50g lamb's lettuce or pea shoots

- 1 Put 8 wooden skewers in a bowl of water to soak. Mix the yogurt and curry paste together in a bowl, then add the chicken (if you have time, marinate for an hour or so). In a large bowl, toss together the cucumber, red onion, coriander and lemon juice. Chill until ready to serve.
- 2 Shake off any excess marinade, then thread the chicken pieces and cherry tomatoes onto the pre-soaked skewers. Cook under a medium grill for 15-20 mins, turning from time to time, until cooked through and nicely browned.
- 3 Stir the lettuce or pea shoots into the salad, then divide between 4 plates. Top each serving with 2 chicken tikka skewers and serve with the warm chapatis.



Outgoing Chairman's Report Annual Parish Meeting



John Wheeler
Outgoing Chairman

I am delighted to inform you that Sue Playford has passed her CiLCA portfolio, and is now fully qualified in Local Council Administration.

The provision of facilities and activities for all people of Wootton still continues to be a high priority with the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) now fully refurbished and available for free and bookable play. A summer play scheme is being arranged by Bedford Borough Council and ongoing negotiations with Persimmon regarding new football pitches and community hall will hopefully be completed by the end of 2016.

Last year I mentioned Wootton Ramps & Riders, who had requested a skate park at the recreation ground. I am very pleased to say that as a result of their very hard work and persistence, and with help from parish councillors led by Cllr Bygraves, they have successfully gained outside funding in full - in one year. This is fantastic! Tenders will have been submitted by the time this goes to print and a village consultation was undertaken with overwhelming support, meaning that the skate park could be up and running by the end of this year. Well done to all involved.

The lights in Tithe Barn Road were upgraded this year, and other areas in need will be looked at over the coming months.

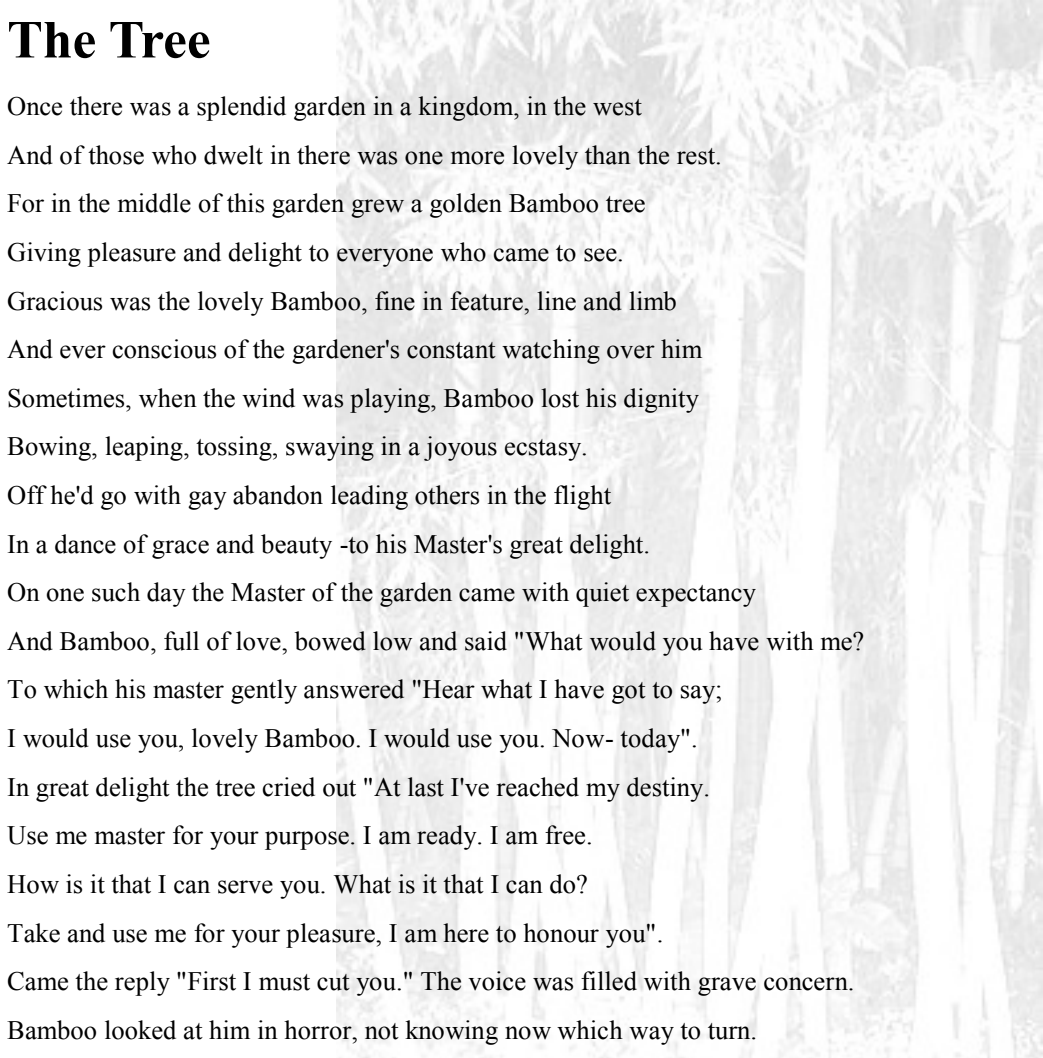
The parish council continues with its obligations with regard to village maintenance – grass cutting, dog and litter bin provision, litter picking, maintenance of trees and cemetery – to name but a few. During the course of the last 12 months a litter picker and handy man was appointed – Andy is doing a fantastic job in all areas. I must also thank Charlotte for her hard work in keeping the recreation ground tidy.

Cont....

The parish is in good running order and we continue to work to achieve higher levels of efficiency and structured governance.

By the time you read this report, I will have stood down as Chairman. I felt the time was right to make way for new blood. I would like to thank all members of Wootton Parish Council, Sue Playford and Sue Bolton for all their hard work, dedication and support they gave me during my tenure. It was a challenging role at times, but one I enjoyed. I am proud to have been Chairman for the parish council over the last few years and will continue to give the village my full support.

The Tree



Once there was a splendid garden in a kingdom, in the west
And of those who dwelt in there was one more lovely than the rest.
For in the middle of this garden grew a golden Bamboo tree
Giving pleasure and delight to everyone who came to see.
Gracious was the lovely Bamboo, fine in feature, line and limb
And ever conscious of the gardener's constant watching over him
Sometimes, when the wind was playing, Bamboo lost his dignity
Bowing, leaping, tossing, swaying in a joyous ecstasy.
Off he'd go with gay abandon leading others in the flight
In a dance of grace and beauty -to his Master's great delight.
On one such day the Master of the garden came with quiet expectancy
And Bamboo, full of love, bowed low and said "What would you have with me?
To which his master gently answered "Hear what I have got to say;
I would use you, lovely Bamboo. I would use you. Now- today".
In great delight the tree cried out "At last I've reached my destiny.
Use me master for your purpose. I am ready. I am free.
How is it that I can serve you. What is it that I can do?
Take and use me for your pleasure, I am here to honour you".
Came the reply "First I must cut you." The voice was filled with grave concern.
Bamboo looked at him in horror, not knowing now which way to turn.

"Cut me?" he faltered, unbelieving. "Am I hearing what you say?
Use me for your joy good Master. But- use me in some other way".
I would use you" said the gardener for you are the one I need
In fact I had my plans for you right from the time you were a seed
"But if I cannot cut you down, why then you can't be used by me".
"Then I have no other choice. Do what you will" cried Bamboo tree.
"Beloved" carried on the master" I must cut your branches too
And the very leaves from off them in the use I have for you
"Spare me. Spare me" wept the Bamboo "Why must I be so bereft
Lay me in the dust but let me have a little beauty left."
The gardener sadly shook his head. The sun's beams slowly slipped away
Said Bamboo "If this must be done before I'm used, then cut away".
Went on the Master of the garden" Bamboo, I must sever you
Your very heart must be removed and you divided into two"
"I must be used, so let it be. So let it be " the Bamboo cried
And then the Master of the garden took his knife up to divide.
He cut the noble Bamboo down. Hacked off it's branches. Stripped it bare
Split the body down the centre. Removed the heart whilst lying there

Gently then, he took the pieces in his arms so tenderly
To a place where living water sparkled, yearning to be free.
One end of the broken body in this spring he gently lay
The other, down towards a channel so the water ran that way.
The spring sang out in joyous rapture. The arid field looked up to see
Bamboo's torn and broken body used to set the water free:
Rice was planted. Days went by. The sun shone, ripening the grain
And Bamboo, once a stately beauty in his brokenness became
A channel of abundant life, made greater in humility
More useful in his Master's garden-*than as a perfect* Bamboo tree.



Parish Clerk's Report

Plans are continuing for our Fun Day – Saturday 6th July – noon to 4pm. Do let myself or Gareth Lloyd know if you would like to be involved, or help in any way. There is always room for stall holders, so if you would like to have a stall (for free this year), or you know of someone who might, please get in touch.

A number of residents have asked why there isn't a regular bus service to serve Fields Road. The parish council are looking into this and a meeting is being arranged with the Borough Council's Transport Services Manager to push this forward. The bus companies are also aware of this request.

Angela Williamson - Anti Social Behaviour co-ordinator, Bedford Borough Council, recently attended a meeting of the parish council and gave a presentation on anti-social behaviour and how to deal with and report it. She stressed the need for residents to report all such incidents – and further details can be obtained either by telephoning 01234 267422 or by visiting their website:

www.bedford.gov.uk/community_and_living/community_services/community_safety/anti-social_behaviour.



Sue Playford

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Report from Cllr Paul Prescod, May 2013

It has been a busy start to municipal year, with some exciting news from a recent ward fund project: the Wootton Upper School Phonics DVD, to which I donated over £2000 last year. This is a brilliant project, which will soon be available to help parents understand new methods of phonics teaching, so they can then get involved more easily with their kids education.

Work done with last years ward fund also included donations to Wootton Brownies and Rainbow groups, and to Wootton Blue Cross Football Club for their clubhouse and for new kit. Wootton Lower School also received ward fund money for new IT and garden equipment. If any groups or organisations have a project or need new equipment etc, please do get in touch about a donation from this years ward fund.

In local ward news I am pleased to report that following my report to the Council, the rubbish caused by fly tipping in Berry Wood has now been cleared. If you see anyone fly-tipping please either get in touch, or ring Bedford Borough Council directly on 01234 718060. I am also pleased to report that the Manor Road and Fields Road signs have been fixed. I am looking into introducing 'no verge parking' areas in Wootton, following complaints about severe damage to grass; please get in touch if you would welcome this in your area.

Dates for your diary

12 th Jun 2013	Planning & Environment
26 th Jun 2013	Planning & Environment
26 th Jun 2013	Finance & General purposes
6 th Jul 2013	Fun Day
10 th Jul 2013	Planning & Environment
10 th Jul 2013	Full Council
24 th Jul 2013	Planning & Environment
24 th Jul 2013	Leisure & Amenities
7 th Aug 2013	Planning & Environment
7 th Aug 2013	Communications
28 th Aug 2013	Planning & Environment

New Lower School

We are pleased to confirm that the new school to be built on the development at the end of Fields road will now become an extension of Wootton Lower School with the same Head Teacher and Governing Body; this is expected to be opening in September 2015. The funding for this School has come from 106 monies provided by the developers Persimmon.

We are all excited about this project as it will provide better educational facilities for the children of Wootton and surrounding areas, I will keep you updated with any further developments.

St. Mary's Playgroup

Established 1967

St. Mary's Church Hall, St. Mary's Road, Wootton, Beds MK43 9HB

Tel: 01234 767158

The children at St Mary's Playgroup have had another busy term experiencing lots of fun activities.

On Thursday 14th February the children celebrated St. Valentine's Day. The children made cards and heart-shaped pizzas to eat for lunch, selecting from a choice of topping, tomato paste, heart-shaped ham, pineapple, and cheese. The children (and staff!) all appeared to enjoy their pizza at lunchtime, and this was followed by raspberry ripple ice cream with heart shaped sprinkles.

We have been learning about 'People Who Help Us'. The children have been gaining an awareness of the world around us, the people who support us and the jobs they do. On March 7th we had a policeman visit Playgroup. Officer Mike presented a special discussion about what the police do, what they wear, how they help people and the cars they drive. Officer Mike demonstrated how to use handcuffs. The children took turns to sit in the police car. The children had great fun in our Police station role play area. They wore police tabards and hats and used their imagination to make a police car from rows of chairs.

Finally we have been learning about spring and the natural world around us, the children have been exploring and investigating the Playgroup garden. They've found flowers, feathers and mini-beasts giving the children plenty of opportunities to talk about and describe what they see. The children have also been responsible for watering Playgroups pansies and have been looking every day at how the flowers grow from bud to bloom. This growing theme will continue through to next term with cress growing, real live frogspawn and the planting of potatoes!

General Information

St Mary's Playgroup operates from the Church Hall and has been serving the local community since 1967. The Playgroup is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance. We are staffed by fully qualified play leaders. We can take preschool children from 2 years upwards. We accept childcare vouchers and can apply for Nursery education grant funding for 3 and 4 year olds.

If you would like to put your child's name down for a playgroup place, or require any further information please phone Mary on 01234 767158. Alternatively you can call in to pick up an enrolment form.

Term time opening hours:

Monday 9.00am-12.45pm

Thursday 9.00-15.00pm

Tuesday 9.00am-15.45pm

Friday 9.00am-15.45pm

Wednesday 9.00-15.00pm

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to children but also to adults.

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and digest with the brain but:-

DO NOT EAT!!

Nature Detectives Family Event 8 June 2013

Nature Detectives wanted!

What's happening in your neck of the woods?

The Wildlife Trust is inviting families to become Nature Detectives and join them to uncover clues to find out who lives at Randalls Farm Nature Reserve in Stewartby, between 10.00am – 2.30pm on Saturday 8th June 2013.

Get face to face with wildlife as you navigate your way through the nature trail and explore different habitats:

- Pond dip to discover what alien looking creatures lurk in the depths of the pond
- Become a forensic investigator and uncover the mystery of the owl's dinner by dissecting owl pellets and identifying skeleton remains
- Be a wildlife adventurer with our nature explorer's kit and hunt for minibeasts in our wild woodland and meadow
- Learn the latest buzz about busy bees

Previous investigations have uncovered fierce water scorpions, lizards lounging in the sun and the skeletons of weasels and water voles!

What will you discover?

The event will take place at Randalls Farm Nature Reserve and Environmental Education Centre, Broadmead Road, Stewartby, Beds. MK43 9NE. Places are limited and booking essential. For more information and to book, please contact the team on 01234 768542 or email randallsfarm@wildlifebcn.org.

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Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club

Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club is celebrating its 35th Anniversary in 2013! We are holding a Fun Day, open to all, on the recreation ground from 2.35pm on Saturday 15th June. There'll be inflatables (Human Subbuteo & obstacle course), tuck, tea room, BBQ, target shoot, raffle, drinks

lottery and much more. Come along, have fun and help us raise money to ensure children of all ages in the village can continue to access football coaching at a low cost.

Following the fun day, we are holding our annual awards event, but on a much grander scale than in previous years (partly due to the much increased number of enrolled children!) and would like to invite any founding members of the club to contact to attend - please contact our event organisers, The Happening events management, on 07734 158050 or 07788 857040 for further details.



Wootton New Life Methodist Church

A summer approaches we hope to make use of the terrace area outside The Hub, so please do drop in sometime.

The Café @ The Hub is open every morning except Tuesday from 10.00am – 12.00pm. We have an ethical buying policy for coffee and cold drinks supplied through Kingdom Coffee and a range of biscuits, crisps, cakes and snacks are always available. If you're looking for somewhere quite to meet up with friends or on your own and want to pop in for a chat you'll always get a warm welcome.

Please let any young people in your life know about Hubbub our Youth Cafe that is open every Friday during term time from 3.00pm – 5.00pm for school year 7 and above. It's a safe place to come and relax after a hard week at school and either just sit and chat or play on the Wii, have a game of table tennis or snooker. We have trained youth workers on duty and all are welcome.

If that sounds good, why don't you come down to 'Knit & Natter' on a Monday or we have 'Games@The Hub' on a Wednesday so if you fancy a game of cards, a board game, table tennis or a play on the Wii and enjoy a freshly ground cappuccino or latte or a traditional filter coffee, why not give it a try. EVERYONE welcome and for men we have 'Man Friday' – a grown up 'youth club' that meets in The Hub at 7.30pm on the last Friday of each month and 'Girls' Night In at the same time – check our website to see where this is being held. All are welcome.

Coming Up.....

Friday 14 th June	7.00pm	An evening of prayer – feel free to drop in
Sunday 23 rd June	1.00pm	Family Picnic in the Park
Sunday 7 th July	10.30am	Wootton & Stewartby Churches open air service on The Green at Lorraine Road.

Come and join us any Sunday morning at 10.30am. We have an all age service on the second Sunday of each month with breakfast in The Hub from 9.45am and Cafe Church every Wednesday from 7.45pm. Every Sunday from 28th July – 1st September we have 'Cafe Church' - informal worship, praise and activities for all ages – free refreshments served.

Find us on Facebook (Wootton New Life Methodist Church), see our web site for details of our regular activities or call us on 01234 768 222 and keep up to date with what's going on, we hope that you'll join us when you can.

www.woottonnewlife.org.uk

TUBING THE YAMPA

Have you ever been there done that? Does the title whet your appetite?

Just under four years to go before the Brazilian Olympics in Rio and I think I have the answer to a sport us 'also rans' would be good at!.....ready?

I am in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in the USA and today my hosts Carol, Tom, Cheryl, Zak and I are going to 'test the waters' - get ready to 'Tube the Yampa'.

Have I got your absolute attention?

The tube is an inner-tube and the Yampa is a river, put the two together and you have the 'poor man's Grand Canyon' we are *shooting the rapids*. After donning our cozzies and paying our money we each receive in exchange a rather large inner-tube made especially for the sport and measuring 44" to 48" complete with a canvas 'seat' and handles attached around the outside (the importance of the handles will no doubt become clear to us...after sometime) We all leap into a Transit Van after having 'thrown' each inner-tube up onto a luggage rack and then we drive 'up-river' for a few miles.

We off-load the inner-tubes and then add a few items of necessary clothing like a hat (to keep the sun off) a T-shirt (to keep from burning) and thick sandals (for walking in).....

WALKING IN?

What we are not told is: a) there is a drought – therefore the river is very shallow: b) the boulders are very high – therefore they are mostly OUT of or just UNDER the water. Strictly speaking I was not really light enough for these conditions – too late now to turn back, the Transit has gone – too far to walk – so come on folk let's Tube the Yampa.

Now I am not one to give up easily and to make life a bit cosier I LIE across the inner-tube rather than sit in it, a good idea, especially if your legs are a little on the short side since they would end up.....end up - as it were. It also saves bits of me being left stuck on each boulder that I keep hitting or desperately try to ride OVER as we set off at a fast pace down river. I use my arms as paddles and the burn marks are already forming nicely, thanks to the friction of skin against rubber.

We are now moving along quite nicely – the boulders are a little smaller, the rapids a little faster, the burn marks are maturing beautifully until we gradually start going round in circles and out of control. Immediately in front of me are two huge boulders that are definitely more narrowly spaced together than my inner-tube could cope with and I swear every drop of water in

the Yampa is pouring through between the boulders, by this time my arms are nearly smoking – they burn so much, but, like they say ‘you can’t mess about with nature’ – sure as hell I am not going to be beaten either and since I have made up my mind that I will NOT get out of the inner-tube for anything – here I am, me against the boulders and the water.

There is another saying ‘may the force be with you’ so that is what I use – brute force! I knew the handles would be useful (she lied) – HOLD THEM AND PULL UPWARDS which proves to be just enough for me to ‘fold’ up said inner-tube sufficiently to squeeze through, although the awful screeching of rubber against boulder is frightening to say the least, a puncture at this stage is not a good idea (although it might answer the question of sandals for walking!)

It is getting worse – the water is shallower, the boulders larger and the burns a real pretty colour, strange as it may seem it is all great fun I am really enjoying it, except my lovely straw hat has just left without me and is sailing on down the river, luckily Cheryl is far enough ahead to rescue it and so we proceed, we are now racing towards a huge waterfall, Cheryl and Zak negotiate it, so for me, who is next, well it is simple.....isn’t it?

I cannot believe that the two huge boulders that I met earlier on could have got here before me but here are two more looking almost identical and since I cannot control my ‘craft’ - here I go again ready to do the ‘squeeze’.....when I surface at the bottom of the enormous 3ft waterfall having completed a somersault, I am clever enough to hang on to the handles of the inner-tube and I am able to leap back in again and think up words to describe the bruises I can feel where the bottom of me collides with the bottom of the river!

Carol manages to do the ‘squeeze’ I watch her moving crab-wise but not exactly falling out, Tom, is not so lucky he did one of my sort of somersaults and loses his sunglasses AND the inner-tube. The inner-tube we caught, the sun-glasses were never to be seen again.

I do not think I have ever worked so hard for so long – I am now ‘rock-bound’ yet again and I still refuse to get out, as I find I can usually bounce the b..... thing off the boulders (this must be awfully good for the figure) sure enough, I am floating again and as I look ahead the ‘end’ is nigh – I cannot feel my end at all I am just a mass of bruises and burns, who else would pay for such self inflicted agony.

As we ‘wheel’ our inner-tubes back to the HQ, the owner tells us that the water is a bit shallow etc. etc. and he told us that it usually takes, maybe, one hour (give or take a few minutes) to Tube the Yampa – it has taken us THREE – but it has been fantastic, a terrific experience,

See you in Brazil then? bring your own inner-tube- we’ll show ‘em

Pamela Stevenson



We need your photographs

We are always looking for more photographs for the front cover of the Wootton News. If you have any pictures about Wootton or the people in Wootton can you please email them to WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com The Wootton News comes out in March, June, September & December.

Danielle's Climbing Kili for Kids

Hello Woottonians. I am a village resident and student of Mathematics at the University of Bath. I am heading to Tanzania in September to climb Mount Kilimanjaro (the highest freestanding mountain in the world!) in order to raise money for a very worthy cause – Childreach International.

Childreach International is a UK registered grass-roots charity which operates in Tanzania, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Cambodia and Bangladesh through "un-sung heroes", that is, people living within their communities making a real difference. The charity's vision is "a world where all children have the opportunity to unlock their full potential in life" and in order to achieve this, they are working towards improving children's access to education and healthcare and restoring their rights.

I am currently in the process of trying to reach my fundraising target of £2,450 before 17th July and am almost there on £1,766.21 currently. I've been busy fundraising since December – holding pub quizzes, selling donuts, car washing, tutoring, trading in old CDs and DVDs – and if you would like to help at all, I would be extremely grateful for sponsorship, a donation of old CDs/DVDs or any other fundraising ideas!

You can donate online at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/daniellenorman1#>, text UNLOCK 111594 to 70007 to donate £3 or contact me on 07749144116. I will also be at the Village Fete on 6th July.

All support is greatly appreciated and I will provide an account of how I got on in a Wootton News to follow!

Thank you, Danielle

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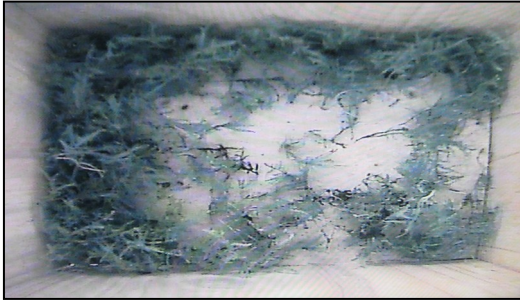
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A HAPPY STORY

by Jenny Hall



I read with interest the 'Open Letter from a Concerned Resident' and agree it was indeed a funny old year. I was so very sorry to hear of the tragic tale of the blue tit family and felt I had to write and tell of a happier one (though this too might have ended in disaster).

We too had a box with a camera in it and watched the blue tit pair bring all the building materials into the box, and make their nest

a fascinating event and one, which lasted 2 - 3 weeks.



Nine eggs were laid and the female sat patiently whilst being fed all the while by her mate. Eventually 7 tiny pink babies hatched and the diligent pair begin their feeding - quite a massive task for them.



However, tragedy struck a few days later when we discovered a blue tit in the conservatory and as I went in it flew out in a panic before I even realised what it was. It

flew out at great speed into the lounge and crashed into the patio doors in a vain attempt to get out. It lay dying on the carpet and I tried very hard to save it but to no avail. I was really distraught when I realised this was the male bird and thought that there was no way the mother bird could raise all 7 hungry chicks without help.



Blue tits feed their young on live food - insects or mainly caterpillars so for the next 20 days we visited the fishing tackle shop in Kempston every morning and bought fresh live maggots!! These we placed in a window feeder, which was situated right next door to the box. Hey presto, she soon found them and was very busy hopping in and

out taking the maggots to feed the babies. All 7 chicks survived and although the little runt went in the evening of the day the rest of them flew the nest; they were all in the garden for the whole of the next week, still being fed by our maggots until they all flew off. We were so delighted that there was a happy ending to what could have been a really disastrous one.

Now two blue tits are back investigating the box as a possible 'des.res.' and we do hope they will settle on it. We will look forward eagerly to watching another brood being reared, and hope that the weather is kinder this year.



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Library Corner

NEW at the library: DVDs to rent

Responding to everyone who has asked, we now have a range of DVDs available to rent for £2.40 per week or less. Come in and have a browse!

Enthusiastic response to evening talk

Following the huge success of our evening local history talk in April we are planning a different talk for the Autumn (dates to be confirmed).

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

Children's Activities

Join us on Mondays between 2.50 and 3.10 for stories, rhymes and crafts for the under 5's. (term time only).

Drop in craft activities every month for children of all ages- more details from the library.

The summer reading challenge starts in July – and Magic Dave will be coming.

Wootton library is open on:

Monday 2-6

Wednesday 10-1 & 2-6

Friday 2-6

Saturday 10-1

If you have any questions
just pop in or ring us on
01234 766 061.

Heather, Library Manager.

Wootton Women's Institute

Do you wonder what goes on at the Ark Wildlife Hospital? Why not come along to our meeting on the 19th JUNE where you will be made very welcome. Have you ever looked at a painting and wondered what the artist was thinking when he or she painted that picture? Well, on the 17th JULY we have Sue Edwards as our speaker who will give us an insight on this very subject. On the 21st AUGUST our speaker Judy Oliver is going to talk about Colourful Personalities – why some people get up your nose! Now doesn't that sound interesting? For those "crafty people" our speaker on the 18th SEPTEMBER is Wendy Smith on the History and Art of Knotting. All visitors are welcome, tea, coffee and biscuits provided – a good evening out for £3.50 at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall, Wootton. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month.

INSPIRING WOMEN

Details of events

Churches Together Open Air Service

Sun 7 July
10.30am on The Green,
Lorraine Road

Encompass (Messy Church)

Thursdays: 23 May, 27 June,
3.45pm at the Church Hall.

Lunch Club

Mondays: 13 May, 10 June,
8 July
1pm at the Church Hall

Men Behaving Dadly

Saturdays: 25 May, 29 June
10am at Wootton Baptist
Church

Wrigglers

Every Monday in term time
10am at Wootton Baptist
Church

Space Academy

Thurs 29 Aug - Sun 1 Sept
Registration forms from St.
Mary's, Wootton Lower School
office or our website.



We'd love to see you at our
regular services or events—
everyone is welcome!

Visit our website or facebook
page to find out more
www.stmaryswootton.org.uk



St. Mary's and you - this summer

At St. Mary's we have lots of events planned. Currently, we are planning a Ladies Craft evening: 'Here Come the Girls Summertime' on the vicarage lawn. The first craft evening in November 2012 was a big success and we welcomed lots of friends, old and new.

There will be a summer holiday club, this year it will be on the church hall site and the title is 'Space Academy' so expect all things galactic!

Each month we run events such as Wrigglers—our parent and toddler group, every Monday during term time at Wootton Baptist Church. We have seen numbers growing and good friendships are being made. And then, once a month on a Saturday (usually the last Sat in each month) Men Behaving Dadly is a toddler group for Dad's. Its great fun for the kids - and for dads there are newspapers and bacon butties.

St. Mary's Church—the building

Wootton Parish Church dates from the early 14th century. Constant upkeep and preservation results in a well loved, well used church building. Recently we have discovered a fairly large hole in the roof just below St. Mary's famous church spire - work is being carried out shortly to repair this work.

Over the summer we will be installing new projection and amplification facilities, which will be a huge asset.

After great support a few years ago, we were able to carry out repair work to the stonework on the church tower. One of our next projects will be to continue repairs to the stonework on the south side of the building, which is in need of our attention. If you would like to be part of a 'Friends of St. Mary's' body to help us raise funds, apply for grants etc, we would love to hear from you!

Bedford Foodbank St. Mary's is linking up with the Bedford Foodbank for people in crisis. There will be a box in church for tinned/dried food donations. More info next month!



Rev'd Peter Ackroyd: 768391 Rev'd Sam Haigh: 766317 Church Office: 765375

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Rethinking the Green Gateway

Sometimes ideas sound great but after a deal of time, work and effort, not much results. To avoid becoming downhearted one must take an optimistic view, rethink and perhaps come up with a better plan. I invited lots of people to a meeting in the Memorial Hall in early April but very few people made it. I drank two cups of tea, chatted to colleagues and our lovely volunteers and ate too many biscuits!

I had wanted to talk about the new woodlands that make up the Green Gateway between Wootton and Kempston. But that wasn't to be. It was the first warm and sunny Sunday of the year and although it would have been a great day for the second part of the planned morning, a short walk around some of the woods, it's not hard to imagine that most people had better things to do.



So the plan has changed. My aim in Wootton remains: to persuade local people to visit the new woods, and although I know lots of you already visit the woods; many don't. We will be at the Wootton Fun Day on 6 July to spread the word and then on Tuesday 9 July there will be a guided walk through the Gateway – a chance to meet us again and see the new woods at close quarters. Much of the walk will be on level, surfaced paths and we will walk about 2 miles all together. Meet us outside the old Black Horse in Potters Cross. We'll return by 9pm. If you drive, please don't park in Potters Cross.

In the future there will be opportunities for local people to get involved in looking after the sites, perhaps by litter-picking, carrying out simple repairs and contacting us if there are problems. If this appeals, why not come over and see as at the Fun Day or join us for a walk on 9 July?

We look forward to seeing you. For more information, call 01234 762608
guy.lambourne@marstonvale.org

Guy Lambourne, Marston Vale Trust, The Forest Centre, Station Road, Marston Moretaine,
Bedford, MK43 0PR

Wootton Golf Society

Is a local, friendly local Golf Society with about 35 members.

Based in Wootton and surrounding areas, we are a very friendly group of golfers of all standards. We meet on a monthly basis at local golf clubs and play a variety of golfing formats including singles and doubles knockouts.



Our golfing programme is booked a year in advance so you can plan when you would like to attend, apart from playing locally we also have an annual weekend away somewhere in the UK. Wootton Golf Society have members a variety of golfing standards and welcome anyone who wishes to join to play the beautiful game amongst a very friendly group. At the end of the year we hold a well attended Turkey Trot as well as our Presentation Evening. If you require any further information about us or wish to join – please visit our website www.woottingolfsociety.com or ring Peter on 07975596164



Responsible Financial Officer report May 2013

Sue Playford, May 2013

In summary, the 2012/13 accounts of Wootton Parish Council are given below. Comments are as follows:

Income

Wootton Parish Council obtains its income from the precept, charges for burial plots, hire of the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and newsletter advertising. The precept is the part of the council tax collected, on behalf of the council. Wootton Parish Council budgets all its needs towards the end of the calendar year, and advises Bedford Borough Council of the figures required to meet its entire obligation. In 2012/13 this was £105,120. The parish council has requested the figure of £107,222 for the 2013/14 financial year.

The parish council also receives a grant (agency services) for cutting the highway verges in the parish on behalf of Bedford Borough Council. In 2012/13 this was £1,567 although the parish had extra cuts made to ensure the parish looked tidy.

Two grants from Bedford Borough Council were received - £10,625 to upgrade the CCTV equipment at the recreation ground, and £10,895 to replace the damaged MUGA fencing.

The newsletter has proved as popular as ever, with £2,800 received from advertisers. This is delivered to all households in Wootton and is also available on the Wootton Parish Council website.

Income from Lorraine Road cemetery totalled £6,590.

There was limited income from the hire of the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) of £70, as the facility was not available for hire until mid-way through the financial year.

Expenditure

The Parish Council employs a full time Clerk, a part time Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) who resigned at the end of 2012, a part time parks & complex caretaker, a part time litter picker and handyman and a contract bus shelter cleaner. The Clerk now undertakes all financial aspects for the Parish Council.

Spending on grass cutting for 2012/13 was £7,185 and cemetery ground maintenance was £12,700. Newsletter costs were £4,110. Monies are being earmarked for 2013/14 to undertake a further programme of street light replacements, traffic signage and other projects.

Annual Audit

The RFO has contacted an external audit provider who will carry out our independent examination of the 2012/13 accounts as required for the Annual Return.

Purpose and Summary

The purpose of the above is to continue to improve the financial controls and accounting procedures of Wootton Parish Council, whilst being open and accountable to our parishioners. It is the council's intention to work towards becoming a quality status council. In summary I am happy to report that Wootton Parish Council is in a good financial position and will continue to work for the good of our parishioners.

WOOTTON IS GETTING A COMMUNITY PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR

Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service, in conjunction with Bedford Borough Council, has purchased a number of public access defibrillators, and Wootton has been selected to have one installed in early June – on an external wall at the changing rooms, on the recreation ground.

The Clerk will be contacted by a training manager from Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service to arrange a one-off awareness session, and this is open to all residents of Wootton. The date is not yet known, however, if you would like to be considered, please let Sue know and she will contact all interested parties again, when further information is available.



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Wootton Baptist Church

By the time you read this, we will have forgotten all the cold east winds which brought snow and frost during March and early April. We will have forgotten the ceremonial funerals and the earthquakes in China the terrorist atrocities in the U.S and the Measles. All of which have caused problems in this and other parts of the world. The sun is shining and Spring has come, the gardens in Wootton are now looking as if there was never a Winter.

The world seems to be changing, or is it just that people are changing? Do we live in a better world than our forefathers did a century ago, or is it just that information travels so much faster these days. I suspect that man has always been cruel towards his fellow man, be it through religion, politics greed or any other cause.

There is one thing we can always be sure of: God has never changed. His love has always been the same. In the Bible we see that his offer of forgiveness and salvation has never changed. The invitation to, 'Come unto me all you who are heavy laden and I will give you rest,' is still the same today. You may ask how that is possible. Jesus said, 'I am the Way the Truth and the Life, no man comes to the Father but by me,' and it's still the same today.

If you want to see what we are doing at the Baptist Church, look on line at our Website, www.woottonbaptistchurch.org.uk Our main meetings on Sunday are still at 10.30am and 6pm., with other meetings in the week. The Coffee Morning is at 10.30 to Mid-day on Tuesdays. Just come and go as you wish.

You will find a welcome whenever you come and we will be pleased to see you.

Rob Stanton. (Deacon.)

Tel: 766293

Wootton Scout Group Members Collect Awards

Wootton Scout Group were really proud of these boys on 28th April when they were each presented with their Chief Scout Awards at the District St Georges Day Parade in Bedford by District Commissioner Graeme Watt.

Cubs James Bloomer, Travis O'Connell and Aidan Page all spent 2 ½ years working towards their Silver and Beaver Charlie Bloomer spent 2 years earning his Bronze. A lot of hard work goes into these awards and the boys all deserve their reward, which is a trip to the Harry Potter Studios in half term.

Well done boys!

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Wootton Vale Healthy Living Centre

Top Quality Services from Wootton Vale

We have just completed another NHS year in March and Wootton Vale scored 999.77 out of a possible 1000 points in the GP Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) system. QOF was set up in order to ensure that GP practices provide a high quality of clinical care to their patients and that the practice is managed well. A score of 999 shows that Wootton Vale is delivering a good service to our patients.

Changes in the NHS Nationally and Locally

As reported previously, there have recently been big changes in the structure of the NHS. As a result the Primary care trust, NHS bedfordshire, has now been dissolved and has been replaced by the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG). The BCCG is led by Bedfordshire GPs nurses and hospital doctors, including Wootton Vale, and they are responsible for planning, organising and purchasing NHS funded Healthcare services. BCCG was one of the first Clinical Commissioning Groups in the Country to be awarded full authorisation to take over these responsibilities from the PCT.

Dr Mackenzie is the Clinical Director for North Bedfordshire of BCCG. In this role she is making improvements to local health services by finding ways in which GP practices, councils and Hospitals can work in a more integrated way. This means that she is currently spending time out of the practice to concentrate on these activities. Dr Mackenzie will continue in her role as the clinical director providing support, advice and backup to the team including participating in an appointment, should this be deemed appropriate by the clinician seeing the patient, and her specialist clinics providing minor surgery, gynaecology and joint injection therapies.

Staff Changes

We are happy to welcome Dr John Richards back to the practice as a part time sessional GP. Dr Richards worked for us as a regular locum, when we first opened, before leaving to work in a practice in Milton Keynes. He has now returned and will work for us for half the week. Dr Richards was born in the UK and grew up and trained as a doctor in Johannesburg, South Africa. He has a broad experience of NHS hospital medicine and general practice over the past 20 years. Dr Richards also works at the walk-in centre, the A&E Department at Milton Keynes Hospital and provides matchday medical cover for the MK Dons football club.

Mrs Christine Jarratt has also joined us. Christine is an experienced Practice Nurse and Manager and so will be splitting her time between admin and clinical work. She will help out on the Urgent Access Clinics during busy periods to triage patients and thereby ensure that waits are kept to a minimum, and will help out on the immunisations and vaccinations clinics.

Sadly, as some of you may already be aware, Dr Murray is away on long term sickness. Her absence will be covered by the other doctors, increasing the number of sessions, and we have

engaged Dr Nikunj Patel, our current locum, on a long term basis. We all wish Dr Murray a speedy recovery.

PPG

The surgery would like to thank the Patient Participation Group (PPG) for all their hard work. The PPG exists to represent the views of our patients and so you can contact them if you have any comments or suggestions about the practice.

The PPG have recently been undertaking a survey to discover what you, our patients, think of the practice and how it can be better run. The results of this latest survey can now be seen on the practice website.

New Services

Part of the changes to the NHS, mentioned above, involves changing the way care is provided. This sometimes means that there are changes to WHERE services are provided from. We are always keen to welcome new services to the practice as, being semi-rural, we appreciate that you sometimes have difficulty getting to clinics or the hospitals in Bedford or Milton Keynes and then face problems parking when you arrive.

We are pleased to announce that we are in collaboration with other providers to provide additional services such as diagnostics and scanning from the surgery. By the time of writing, some of these should be up and running. Please ask for details at reception. We hope you find these useful.

Self-referral to CBT and Physio services

Please note that you can self-refer yourself to these services thereby saving yourself time and delay making an appointment.

Repeat Prescriptions

Please remember that you should allow 48 hours when requesting your repeat prescriptions and longer leading up to holidays such as Christmas, Easter and bank holidays. Also remember to check, in advance, to make sure that you will have sufficient medicines to cover these long holiday breaks. We process a great many prescriptions each day and they have to go through our administrative processes then to a doctor to be checked and signed. If these processes are not followed correctly, or they are rushed, this can lead to mistakes. We therefore ask you to adhere to this rule for this reason.

Another situation that arises, usually because patients have left requesting their repeat prescription to the last minute, is we receive requests for repeat medication by phone. Please note that, due to the potential for mistakes, or mishearing drug names and doses, NHS prescribing policy forbids practices to process repeat prescription requests in this way. All repeat prescription requests must be in writing: We can take requests by fax 01234 762501; email woottonvale.info@nhs.net; or in writing to the post box or left at reception (N.B. forms are also available at reception).

Hearing Advisory Service The Upcoming visit dates for our practice are 11th June & 9th July

General Property Maintenance & Home Improvements



The Look

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**Call Paula or Paul 01234 765 642
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E-mail thelook@tiscali.co.uk**

Wootton Open Gardens

**29th and 30th June 2013
1pm until 5pm**

Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Support charities

22 Elmsdale Road, Wootton, MK43 9JN and The Old Post Office, Church Road, Wootton, MK43 9EU. Admission £3.50 - children free (tea and homemade cakes available at both venues).

Elmsdale Road

Topiary garden greets visitors before they enter a genuine Japanese Feng Shui garden, including bonsais. Every plant is Japanese – there is also a large Koi pond with bamboo bridge and Tea House. The garden was created from scratch by the owners and has many interesting features.

The Old Post Office

There are large front and rear gardens, the front primarily a restored Georgian box-edged layout with cottage style planting. The rear garden is totally walled and divided into packed rooms with path terrace and pergola, a well, fruit trees including apple, mulberry, medlar, pear, fig, grapevine and peach. There is also a gravel pathway and drive.

(Elmsdale Road will also be open on the 6th & 7th July from 1pm until 5pm.

For further information contact Dianne Richards on 01234 766107 or 07776163372.

Kimberley 16-19 STEM College



Wootton Academy Trust is delighted to announce that the schedule to open Kimberley 16-19 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) College in September 2013 is on track.

In recent weeks the Trust has moved forward in a range of key areas:

Michael Gleeson has been appointed as Principal of the college.

Two Assistant Principals for the college have been appointed, namely Sarah Chick (currently STEM Co-ordinator at Wootton Upper School) and Adrian Miller (currently Assistant Principal at Samuel Whitbread Specialist Engineering College).

The Department for Education has reached agreement with Hanson U.K. regarding the purchase of Kimberley and additional funding for the refurbishment of the college is being agreed.

Kier Construction has been appointed as the contractor with responsibility for refurbishing the building - Phase 1 will enable the college to open in September and Phase 2 will be completed during the autumn term.

Prospective students and their parents were able to visit the college - the overwhelming response being 'WOW'!

Discussions are proceeding regarding planning and highways and key contracts including state-of-the-art ICT are being finalised.

'This is an absolutely outstanding addition to the learning opportunities for all students in Bedfordshire' said Michael Gleeson - 'truly, Kimberley is an iconic building and the Trust has the opportunity to develop a truly marvellous facility for our admissions area.'

A.R. Withell,
Headteacher, Wootton Upper School

Booking the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

If you would like to book the MUGA behind the village hall, please send you requests to WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com before 1st July. The current rate is £10/hour.

Wootton Ramps & Riders would like to say a huge “thank you” to Mrs Dorothy Warman who made a stunning skateboard quilt. This was raffled at the Wootton Lower May Fayre and raised an additional £128 towards the skate park.



It is with this support from residents in addition to grants that we have been successful obtaining, that we have now raised sufficient funds for the skate park to be built. We very much look forward to using what will be a fabulous addition to the play facilities in Wootton.

WOOTTON PET CARE

Telephone 01234 767213 or Mobile 07702 514100



Are you too busy during the day or do you work full time but would like your pet exercised or checked?



Weekends Away
Holidays

If you feel that I can help,
please ring Kelly on either of
the above numbers.

Days Out
Exercising

Contacts Directory

Wootton Village Website

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

Parish Council Chairman

Gareth Lloyd: 07808 391 204

Parish Council Vice Chairman

Malcolm Chalmers: 07864 295 520

Parish Clerk

Sue Playford: 07531 930 788

3 Longden Close, Haynes, Bedfordshire, MK45 3PJ

WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com

Parish Councillors

Claire Bennett: 07876 637 938

Gerald Bygraves: 07792 842 601

Stephen Cruse: 07888 899 915

Dee Dillistone: 07968 199 006

Brian Doggrell: 767 445

Naomi Groves: 07722 876 252

Bill Hall: 852 299

Paul Prescod: 768 251

David Price: 07534 006 012

Paul Quirk: 768 832

Steve Rowse: 07813 007 797

Bob Wallace: 768 011

John Wheeler: 07979 998 206

Tree Warden

Pamela Stevenson: 764 337

Bedford Borough Councillor

Paul Prescod: 768 251

Hall Booking

Memorial Hall Naomi Groves: 07722 876 252

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 Vale Middle: 768 224

Wootton Lower School: 768 239

Wootton Lower PTFA Contact School: 768 239

Police - HQ: 841 212

Beat Manager: 842 433

Non emergency: 101

Anti-Social Behaviour: 276 037

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: 767 865

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: 849 090

Kempston - King Street: 852 222

Kempston - St Johns Street: 851 323

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

Wootton Facilities

Pharmacy: 765 166

Post Office: 768 368

Library: 766 061

Village Clubs and Organisations

1st Wootton Rainbows - *Elaine*: 765 419

Acorn Quilters - *Dorothy*: 409 566

Badminton Monday - *Chris*: 07740 939 109

Thursday - *Joan*: 825 047

Beavers - *Sam*: 768 794

Bowls - Monday - *Keith*: 768 149

Thursday - *Rena*: 768 012

Brownies - Tuesday - *Denise*: 314 030

Wednesday - *Tina*: 768 293

Cubs - *Christopher*: 304 588

Country Players - *Wendy*: 401 460

Explorers - *Kit*: 07792 372 570

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 330 169

Tang Soo Do - *Andrew*: 07748 653 220

Wootton Golf Society - *Pete*: 07724 812 403

Women's Institute - *Eileen*: 768 235

Wootton Rangers FC - *Steve*: 751 611

Wootton Blue Cross: 767 662

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Please provide as much information as you can – days, times, locations and descriptions of dog and owner will all help.

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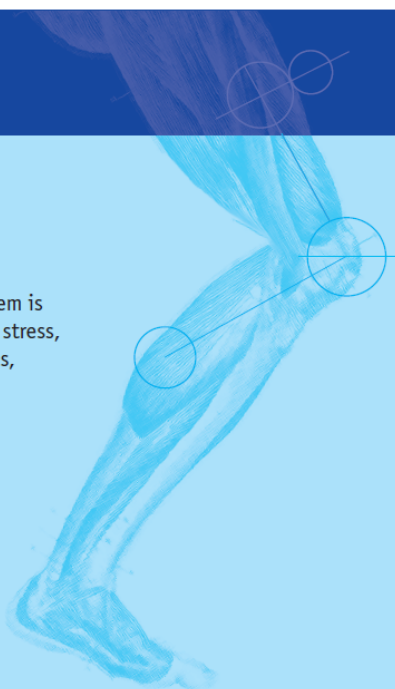
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