

THE **WOOTTON**



PARISH NEWS

March 2015



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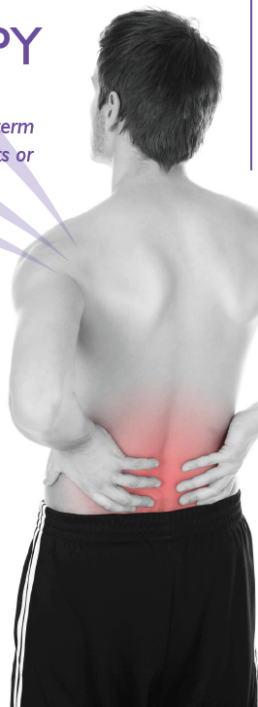
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Wootton News

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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

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/>)



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Wootton Women's Institute

Following our report in the last Wootton Parish News, I am pleased to let you know that a cheque for £460 was presented to a representative from the MAGPAS Air Ambulance during our February meeting. Thanks once again to all who came to our November Craft Fair to make this possible.

The subject of Dementia could be something you don't want to think about affecting anyone in your family but, of course, it can happen and Sarah Harris, our speaker on **19 March**, could help you understand this condition and guide you in the right direction

April 15 is our Annual Meeting. It doesn't have to be a boring evening as we are having a Beetle Drive with home-made cakes to help make it more social and light-hearted.

On **May 20** Jenny Moody is our speaker. She founded the Luton Women's Aid Group and has met many famous people in her time including Princess Diana. She sounds a very interesting speaker, please try and join us on this evening.

Don't forget, we are always happy to welcome visitors at The Memorial Hall, Wootton when we meet on the third Wednesday of each month. The cost is £3.50 to include refreshments – come along and join in the fun!



Wootton Parish Council Chairman's



Gareth Lloyd - Chairman

Parish Tax remains the same.

Each year the Parish Council produces a budget (called a precept), which is included in your council tax bill as raised by the Borough Council. For the third year running we have been able to keep this amount the same, a Band D property will continue to pay just £75.43 a year. We have managed to leave the precept unchanged due to good budget management, fair negotiation of contracts (such as grass cutting) and the excellent work put in by all voluntary parish councillors for the benefit of the community.

I am pleased to welcome Kenneth Harkett as a recently appointed member of the Parish Council. Kenneth and family live in Ashpole Avenue.

Have your say!

Parish councillors will be running drop-in sessions in the library – on the first Saturday of the month (10am until noon). This is your opportunity to pop in and have a chat. Maybe you have a suggestion to benefit the village, or are unsure whether your issue is one for the Parish Council or Borough Council. Do come along – we, like you, are residents of this village and want to live in a nice place.

May elections and New Councillor.

By now you will be aware of the elections in May, for all three levels of Government. Members of Parliament, Borough Council and Parish Council. Unlike the other levels, the Parish Council is non-political and cares about local issues within the village. The Parish Council will be holding a workshop for anyone wanting to learn more about the role of a Parish Councillor and how to become one. If you would like to know more, then please contact either myself, the Clerk Sue Playford or pop along to the library (first Saturday monthly as above).

Finally

I would like to welcome Kit as the new Group Scout Leader for Wootton. If anyone is interesting in helping out at Scouts or standing on the Scout committee, please pick up the phone and call Kit on 07792 372 570 or email: wootton@bedfordscouts.org.uk.

Only working together can we make Wootton a great place.

POWER STATION PROJECT UPDATE – February 6th 2015

I am writing to update you on Millbrook Power's proposal to construct and operate a gas-fired power station on a site at Rookery South Pit together with an integral gas connection and electrical connection.

As you know, Millbrook Power (MPL) undertook statutory public consultation regarding the Project last autumn (October/November). Since then, MPL has considered the responses, carried out further technical and environment studies and refined its proposals in anticipation of submitting its application for a Development Consent Order for the Project before the end of March.

We wanted to update you on how MPL has refined its proposals in response to the feedback received during the consultation process.

One key area of feedback has related to the proposed Electrical Connection. As you may recall, the proposed Project includes the construction, operation and maintenance of a new electrical connection together with a new substation to connect the power generation plant to the existing overhead power line nearby.

Our work over recent months, carried out in consultation with National Grid, had pointed us towards an electrical connection comprising two overhead lines and up to seven new transmission towers. However after further consideration by the MPL team of various factors (including perceived impact, engineering issues and cost), and acknowledging the views expressed by local people, we have taken the decision to underground the connection as much as possible.

This means that no new transmission towers for the Project will be built (one existing tower, which stands 46m high, will be replaced by one that is 48m). In order for the underground cable connection to connect into the National Grid, there will be a need for either one or two "connection areas" known as Sealing End Compounds to be built adjacent to the existing transmission lines. Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough councillors as well as local parish councillors have welcomed MPL's decision to underground the necessary electrical connection.

The location of the sub-station remains within Rookery South Pit, next to the generation plant.

We have also made some other adjustments to the Project since the autumn consultation including the route of the underground of the gas pipeline connection and the Project's boundary lines. The height of the chimney stacks (up to five) has been reduced to no more than 35 metres high from the base of Rookery South Pit, which is approximately 15m deep.



Parish Clerk's Report

Christmas came and went and spring is now with us. A big thank you to all involved with the Christmas tree. I received some very positive feedback from residents who commented on how the lights cheered them up during the grey winter days.



I am still waiting for further information regarding Bedford Borough Council's Call for Sites (as featured in September 2014's edition). As soon as further information is received it will be placed on our website, Facebook page and noticeboards. The timescales may not suit our quarterly newsletter however. It's also worth keeping an eye on the public notices as detailed in the local press.

I would like to add to Gareth Lloyd's welcome and say the same to Kenneth Harkett. I look forward to working with him on village and parish matters.

Sue Playford

WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com

07531 930 788.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place at the Memorial Hall this year on Wednesday 1st April. This meeting differs from the usual Parish Council meetings in that the format is informal and clubs and organisations from the village are invited to attend and give a report on their previous years' activities. Matters for consideration by the Parish Council can be discussed but are then carried forward to a future meeting of the Parish Council or its committee(s). Please contact me if your club or organisation would welcome the opportunity to report on its achievements over the past 12 months and its aims for the next 12. A brief 5 minute report will suffice – it's an informal gathering and refreshments will be provided.

Pamela Stevenson has asked me to pass on her thanks following a recent presentation at which she received a certificate from the parish council in recognition of her 35 years as tree warden. A garden bench was presented last year and has pride of place in her garden.

For anyone interested, I am currently in receipt of a number of files which Pamela has carefully put together detailing those 35 years of tree planting. They contain several

articles and many photographs too, plus a DVD. They will eventually be housed at the library once I have all the relevant information safely online and will be freely available for anyone wishing to take a look and maybe reminisce.

I would like to say a personal thank you to Pamela Stevenson for the help and advice she has given me during my now (just over) 4 years as Clerk. I'm sure it won't end there either – she assures me she will be on hand for any queries I may have and I'm pleased – I will probably need her! Thank you Pamela – your help has been invaluable and your cups of tea are pretty good too!



Cllr Paul Quirk, presents Pamela Stevenson with her 35 year award

Office Location : - The Hub, Wootton New Life Methodist Church, Cause End Road, MK43 9DE

Office Hours: - Monday morning 10-12 and Wednesday morning 10-12 (term time only)

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St. Mary's Playgroup

Established 1967

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

Tel: 01234 767158



As always St Mary's Playgroup has been a hive of activity, and this last term has been particularly busy.

During November the children participated in various play and learning experiences provided throughout our Guy Fawkes week. The children enjoyed creating firework pictures, discussing firework sounds and making a wall display. Crackle, crackle, BANG using sounds and movement we pretended to be fireworks and made our very own Fireworks Display. The children also learned how to stay safe around bonfires and fireworks.

On Friday 14th November, the children and staff supported the Children In Need appeal by coming to playgroup dressed in their pyjamas. The children coloured in Pudsey Bear pictures, sang bear themed songs and ate bear shaped jam sandwiches and bear shaped crisps at snack time. Everyone had a BEARilliant day!

During December the children were busy making Christmas decorations, cards and calendars to take home. The children went to St Mary's Church for a short service to celebrate Christmas; and three children were invited to light advent candles. Raw talent was out in force on Friday 12th December when the children proudly donned their costumes and performed their version of 'The Christmas Nativity' to a captive audience of family and friends. The children had a Christmas party and were very excited when Father Christmas dropped by to deliver some presents. On the last day of term the children stayed for a festive Christmas dinner with crackers and hats. All the children had a great time before breaking up for the Christmas holidays.

General Information

St Mary's Playgroup opened in 1967 and operates from the main room within the Church Hall. Children have access to a fully enclosed, grassed outdoor play area.

St Mary's Playgroup supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. The Playgroup is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and is registered by Ofsted. *St Mary's Playgroup has six members of staff, three of whom have been at the playgroup for over twenty years. All members of staff regularly attend training courses, are police checked and all hold current First Aid certificates.*

St Mary's Playgroup receives funding for early years education. It is open each weekday during term-time only; and offers all day care. The playgroup is registered on the Early Years Register to provide 32 places a session. The setting serves the local and neighbouring community.

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

Term time opening hours:

Monday 9:00-12:45

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00-15:00

Library Corner - Heather, Library Manager

Why not use Wootton Library without leaving the comfort of your armchair!

Check out our on-line resources including new downloadable e-books.

www.bedford.gov.uk click on Libraries

However we would also love to see you at the library – why not pop in and say hello – we have lots going on.

Monday 2nd March - Bookstart bear will be visiting us at 2.50 for Rhymetime.

Saturday 7th March – Awesome Astrosaurs crafts – drop in between 10.30 and 12.

Friday 20th March – from 2 – 3 - Join us for afternoon tea and cakes to celebrate 21 years of Acorn Quilters.

Tuesday 24th March – 2pm - Bedford Highlanders – local history talk by Richard Galley - £2 each (includes refreshments) - tickets available from the library.

Monday 30th March – Easter crafts – drop in between 2.30 and 4.30

We are 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.

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MICROCHIPPING SERVICE

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde.

“A Trivial Comedy for Serious People”.

The Wootton Country Players are bringing this much loved classic to Wootton. It's about Jack Worthing who lives in the country with his pretty ward Cecily Cardew. But in the city, he goes by the name of Earnest and is in love with Gwendolyn Fairfax. Miss Fairfax's cousin is Algernon Moncrieff, who, also using the name Earnest, goes to the country and falls in love with Jack's ward Cecily. When they all come together, we have two men who claim to be Earnest and aren't and two girls who are in love with men named Earnest who aren't Earnest.

Starring Wendy Field as Lady Bracknell, Joyce Halpin as Miss Prism, Victoria Warren as Gwendolyn, Alice Grandidge as Cecily, Stephen Johnson as Jack and James Doughty as Algy. Also Graham Pavey as Dr Chasuble, Roy Taylor as Lane and Alan Gilmore as Merriman. (Directed by Fiona Williams).

Thursday 23, Friday 24 and Saturday 25 April. All start at 7.30. Prices £8 (conc. £7). Tickets from Tina on 07788857040, The Cock Inn, Wootton or online at www.countryplayers.org.uk.

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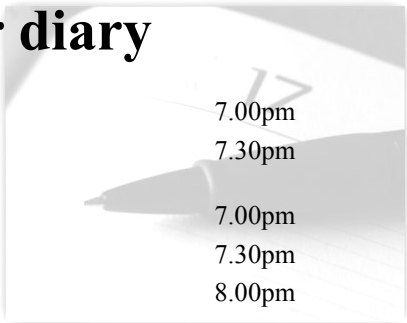
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Dates for your diary



11 th Mar 2015	Planning & Environment	7.00pm
11 th Mar 2015	Full Council	7.30pm
25 th Mar 2015	Planning & Environment	7.00pm
25 th Mar 2015	Leisure & Amenities	7.30pm
25 th Mar 2015	Finance & General Purposes	8.00pm
1 st Apr 2015	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm
8 th Apr 2015	Planning & Environment	7.00pm
8 th Apr 2015	Full Council	7.30pm
29 th Apr 2015	Planning & Environment	7.00pm
29 th Apr 2015	Leisure & Amenities	7.30pm
29 th Apr 2015	Finance & General Purposes	8.00pm
20 th May 2015	Annual Council Meeting (at The Hub)	7.30pm
20 th May 2015	Full Council (at The Hub, Cause End Road)	8.00pm
27 th May 2015	Planning & Environment	7.00pm
27 th May 2015	Leisure & Amenities	7.30pm
27 th May 2015	Finance & General Purposes	8.00pm

Please check noticeboards and the Parish Council website for any changes to timings and/or cancellations. (<http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/noticeboard>)

Wootton Patient Participation Group

Something unique is happening in Wootton on the 16th May 2015

Put it in your diary, you really don't want to miss this. We all know that we're fortunate enough to have our own Library, one of the best there is. As someone said, a wondrous paradise where you can be transported to a world of knowledge, dreams and adventure with a flick of a page. Okay that was me, I just made it up. The point is it's FREE, it has an amazing collection of books and great activities for kids. If you've not been there, go now. I promise, it could be life changing.

Well, the WoottonVale Patient Participation Group, can't compete with that, but we can enhance it. We're selling cake! At the Library! On the 16th May 2015, all day, or until the cake runs out.

Cake and books, it can't get better than that. Don't miss out, pop in and say hello. We'd love to chat about what you think of the local health services, and give advice if we can. See you there?

Easter



at the Forest Centre

Easter Trail (5/6th April) 11am- 4pm

Join us this Easter and take a trip around the Millennium Country Park, for our Easter Trail. Just £2 per child, and includes a chocolate prize! Get some fresh air and see the sights of the Park. No need to book!

Rabbits and Hares (7th April)

Kids' Indoor Crafts. Can you tell the difference between rabbit and hare? Come and find out and make a rabbit or hare mask to wear when you hop home. Sessions cost £3 per child and run for approx. 45 minutes at 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm. Booking essential!

Activities suitable for ages 4-10

Parental Supervision required

The Forest Centre

Station Road, Marston Moretaine

MK43 0PS tel. 01234 767037

www.marstonvale.org/events



Not into politics!!!

Nor are we. We are a group of individuals from all walks of life who live in the village and want to improve the parish.

- ⇒ We help organise the village Fun Day in July;
- ⇒ We produce the quarterly newsletter;
- ⇒ We run projects like the skate park;
- ⇒ We ensure the play equipment in the village is safe;
- ⇒ We maintain the three cemeteries in the village;
- ⇒ We help new groups like the Good Neighbour Scheme and Community Speed Watch group get off the ground.



We work with the Borough Council and other local organisations to help make Wootton a better, safer more interesting place to live. We are the Parish Council and if you would like more information on what else is involved (the above is by no means an exhaustive list!) or on becoming a parish councillor, please contact the

Chairman Gareth Lloyd (Gareth.t.lloyd@googlemail.com) or the Clerk Sue Playford (WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com). We will explain what we do and what we can't do.

If you are over 18, live in the parish and care about the village - send us an email, pick up the phone (see page 37) or come and talk to us at the library (first Saturday of the month 10-12).

Only working together can we make Wootton a great place.

“Masquerade,” Entertain Local Groups for Charity.

We've got rhythm, we've got music – who could ask for anything more?

For the past two years we have been presenting tailor made programmes of musical theatre to local groups and organisations across Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire. Our aim is to raise money for local charities. Last year we donated to the Sue Ryder Hospice at Moggerhanger and this year we are supporting Papworth Hospital in Cambridgeshire.

We are a group of enthusiastic amateur performers. Our shows are designed to suit each occasion. We integrate songs from the shows, contrasting different periods and styles. Our programmes combine song, dance and drama. We are fortunate to have inspiring, live keyboard accompaniment in all our shows. We enjoy using simple costume to enhance our presentations. To date we have performed to a variety of community groups for special occasions including charity organisations, celebrations, WI groups and in residential homes.

If you would like to find out more or make a booking, please contact; Wendy Field.
01234 401460 email-wanddfield@yahoo.com

Speedwatch Scheme-Wootton village



The Speedwatch scheme in Wootton is run by Bedfordshire Police, using volunteers from the community who live or work in the village. The purpose of the scheme is to educate drivers and riders that speed is against the law, is anti-social and can be contributory to serious injury or death in the worst scenario.

The scheme has been running in Wootton for over 12 months now, and has highlighted speed concerns in several areas in the village. Volunteers use the **Speed Indicator Device (SID)** to detect the speed of vehicles, and record the details of the vehicle to be passed to the Police Speedwatch Administration. When the regis-

tered owner details have been identified a letter is sent with an official police warning. If the vehicle is detected speeding again within three months a second letter is usually accompanied by a visit to identify the reason for persistent offending. If the offender is subsequently caught by police officers committing a speed offence in a police speed check, or on a fixed speed camera, previous warnings may be taken into account.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to assist in the scheme will be trained and then join the team, which will help to make the village roads a safer place to travel on. Training is very simple, and can be carried out locally. New recruits would then accompany more experienced members to gain experience and knowledge. If we are able to carry out at least one check per month in the village, we may be recognised as good candidates for permanent Speedwatch signs to be erected at entrances to the village so that road users will know they could encounter our **SID** device at any time, and will hopefully drive within the speed limit more regularly.

If you would like to join the scheme you can initially contact the Coordinator, Bill Brady, either by email at: mr.roadsafety@btinternet.com or tel: 07767013222.



Speeding, have your say!

Is speeding in Wootton a problem?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Some villages have average speed cameras installed. Should we have them along Fields Road and Bedford Road.

Yes

☐

No

☐

Please return the completed questionnaire to the Clerk

By post to: - Wootton Parish Council, 3 Longden Close, Haynes, Bedfordshire, MK45 3PJ

By e-mail: - WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com

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Izzy, wizzy, let's get Bizzy making learning fun!

Bizzy Bees returned in January to crisp, cold weather which was quite appropriate as we have been learning all about 'Winter'. The children became mini chefs and under close adult supervision they used peelers and real knives to prepare and chop vegetables to help make their own vegetable soup. This was then served at the snack table and was voted

'delicious' 'yum yum'!

We have also experienced winter with messy play including cornflour gloop and shaving foam and have used glitter and other media to make icicles and snowy, icy pictures.

We froze Peppa Pig characters in large tubs and investigated the properties of ice. Maths skills were used to compare and sequence our footprint sizes with penguin and polar bear prints. We have learnt new rhymes and have enjoyed stories about winter animals and weather.

On Saturday 24th January we held our 4th 'Stay and Play' session, sharing our learning with parents, looking at our files and development and sharing cakes, tea and coffee – making friends and connections. This once again proved to be extremely popular and was very well attended.

Next half term we will be learning about Space, celebrating Mothers Day and learning about our saints 'St David' and 'St Patrick' with pictures of daffodils and shamrocks. We will also be raising money for Red Nose Day on Friday 13th March.

Our Spring Term will end with lots of 'Eggcellent' fun and learning and the singing of our favourite Easter tunes at a sing-a-long for parents. Not to forget our annual fund-raising 'Eggstravaganza' which will take place on Friday 27th March from 3.45pm. All welcome to come along and join in with the fun!

Bizzy Bees Pre-School offers term time only day care for children aged 2 years to school age. To find out more please visit our website at www.bizzybeespreschool.org, visit us at the Memorial Hall or telephone us on 01234 767785 for a prospectus.



We are very pleased to have welcomed several new members in the last three months, bringing new skills to the group. The floor quilt for Keech Cottage Children's Hospice music room is nearing completion, and members are either working on that, or on their own projects. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm in the Memorial hall, and new members are always welcome.

SCOUTS ONLY GO CAMPING?

think again...



wootton@bedfordscouts.org.uk

TAKE THE VOLUNTEERING CHALLENGE.



wootton@bedfordscouts.org.uk

Volunteering for Scouting is easier than you think. Whether you can spare an hour a week, month or a day a year, we have hundreds of opportunities both behind the scenes and working with young people. With full support and training, you can experience the fun, friendship and adventure of Scouting for yourself, all on a flexible basis.

Volunteer today and make a positive impact in your community.

Wootton Scout Group are looking for new adult members to step forward and get involved in anyway they can!



Bear

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hub



Community Café

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woottonnewlife.org.uk

EASTER 2015

Good Friday Service : 11.30am

Easter Sunday

9.45am : Breakfast

10.30am : Family Communion

WOOTTON NEW LIFE METHODIST CHURCH



Friday 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Years 9+

JUST DROP IN

Wii Drinks Snacks
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YOUTH HUB SPECIAL

Friday 20th March

7.00pm - 9.00pm

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ROCK

Thurs 5.30pm - 6.30pm

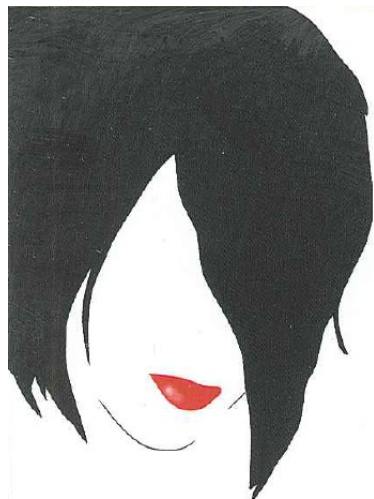
Years 1 - 4

Rock On!

Thurs 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Years 5 - 8

We have places available and look forward to welcoming new children next term. For more details Contact Jo 852614



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“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people rebuild lives after injury”

Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 15th May 2015

Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May 2015 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA’s vital services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 8 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £40.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2015 we want to make the batter matter and raise £40,000 from everyone holding suppers. Last year we raised £20,000 from the suppers.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild lives after spinal cord injury.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk



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Wootton Baptist Church.



I suppose this Magazine gets read by people of all ages in the village, but as I am one of the older generation, I am often with folk of my own age. It's not unusual for someone to say, 'Do you remember when,'or 'do you remember so and so.' We love to look back, particularly at the good things we have experienced. The bad things get forgotten.

We can look back to Christmas and the New Year, and they seem ages away now. But we look forward, as best we can, to Spring and Easter. We

sometimes sing that old Hymn, 'I do not know what lies ahead, the way I cannot see, but One stands near to be my guide, He'll show the way to me.' As Christians, we believe that God will guide our lives if we trust Him and read and understand His word, the Bible.

When Easter comes, what will it mean to you? Will it be just another Good Friday and Easter Monday Bank Holiday? Will it be the one time you go to a Church this year. Will it be just a holiday, without thinking of why we have it. I'm sure to some people it will be all of these. But, what does the Bible say about Easter. In the Gospels, there is the account of Jesus being arrested, tried before an illegal court, sentenced to death and crucified 'outside a city wall'. The place where criminals were executed. After he had died, He was placed in a tomb, which was a cave with a stone over the entrance, and as the people who executed Him were so afraid that His body would be moved, they put guards at the entrance to the cave. That was what we call Good Friday.

Before this happened Jesus had said that he would be killed and after three days he would be raised from the dead. Probably that was the reason the guards were put on His tomb. Three days later, the tomb was empty and Jesus was seen by many people fully alive, speaking, eating and walking with His disciples. This is what we call Easter Monday. Have you ever read the book, 'Who moved the Stone.' By Frank Morison.

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead, is the point when the power of death was defeated. It was so important that we divide history from that time. And the reason was God's love towards us and to give hope to lost people. Unfortunately none of us are good enough for God but because Jesus died in our place and through His love for us, He made an uncomplicated way to have Eternal Life. That's why Christians often quote John 3: verse 16, from the Bible. It says, 'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him, will not perish but have everlasting life.' Only believe, because we can't work our way to heaven.

How about going to a Church this Easter? All the details are in this magazine and our church has services on Good Friday at 6.30pm and on Sunday at 10.30am and 6.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

Rob Stanton.

For the deacons.



News Item

Marston Vale Forest School
Berry Wood, Wootton Green



We have been running our Saturday and holiday sessions at Berry Wood for about 18 months and in that time have been lucky enough to give lots of children the chance to take place in a range of activities such as den building, fire lighting, cooking and tool use in a woodland environment. They come along every week in all seasons and in all weathers to build, create, explore and make new friends.

Come along and **CREATE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE!**

SATURDAY CLUB - 10.00 – 12.00 and 1.00 – 3.00

HOLIDAY CLUB - 9.30 – 3.30 (2 or 3 days a week)

NEW –TREELINGS TODDLER CLUB -Thursday mornings 9.30 – 11.30

More information can be found at www.marstonvaleforestschoool.co.uk and also on our facebook page.

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WOOTTON

Please take your domestic waste to the following locations:

Saturday 18th April 2015

Tithe Barn Road	8.30am until 10.30am
Hall End	10.30am until 12.30pm
Lorraine Road	12.30pm until 2.00pm
Manor Road	2.00pm until 3.30pm

Sunday 19th April 2015

Bedford Road	8.30am until 10.00am
Fields Road	10.00am until 11.30am
Cause End Road	11.30am until 1.00pm
Wootton Green	1.00pm until 2.30pm

Times are approximate to allow for travel between sites

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE RUBBISH AT
THE SITE IF THE COLLECTION
VEHICLES ARE NOT THERE**

Knowing Jesus and Making Jesus Known

is the heartbeat of St Mary's. All are welcome as we explore this week by week in church and at the events listed here.

Sunday Services

9am Prayer Book Service

10.30am Morning Service

Christianity Explored

One life. Regular groups. See website.
What's it all about?

Young people's Groups

See website for details

Pathfinders (ages 9-13)

Weds 7pm in term time at the Church Hall

Encompass Messy Church

Monthly on Thursdays

3.45pm Church Hall

26 Feb, 26 March, 23 April

Lunch Club Monthly on Mondays

1pm, Church Hall

10 March, 11 May

Men Behaving Dadly

Last Sat of the month

10am at Wootton Baptist

Wrigglers Parent & toddler group.

Every Monday in term

time 10am at Wootton Baptist

Rev'd Peter Ackroyd: 768391

Church Office: 765375

We are a referring agent for the Bedford Foodbank. If you know of anyone in crisis contact us in confidence.



st mary's
wootton

HELP SAVE OUR STONES

St Mary's south wall is falling down! Well, crumbling away. Before the second world war, cement was used to point the walls. The outcome : long term damage to the stonework. The ravages are especially deep and acute on the south side.

We need to act **NOW**. Nine years ago we restored the tower. This year we finish the job. The cost? A total of £84,000 – an average £250 for each square metre of wall. The prize: Wootton's finest architecture preserved for future generations.

We are applying for grants but need to raise a good chunk of this target locally. (St Mary's receives no public or Church of England funds.) Do **join with us** in saving our beautiful heritage. Donations and other offers of help are most welcome. And look out for a series of enjoyable fundraising events in the coming months. We start at 5pm on Friday 20 March with a sponsored 24 hour non-stop music marathon by churchwarden Andy Snelson – including on Saturday 21 March tower tours, breakfast butties and cream teas.

Take a Break: Mon 30 & Tues 31 March

Holiday club for ages 50+ at St. Mary's Church Hall. Craft, puzzles, knitting, newspapers; cakes and tea. Hot meal on both days. Contact the office for more details and to book.

Epic Explorers: Tues 25 – Fri 28 August

Brilliant summer holiday club for young people. More details soon on our website.

Mothering Sunday Service

10.30am Sunday 15 March

Easter Services

Palm Sunday 10.30am Sunday 29 March

Good Friday 10.30am Family Service

3 April 2pm An Hour at the Cross

Easter Day 6.30am Sunrise Service (Hall End Rd)

Sun 5 April 10.30am Family Communion

www.stmaryswootton.org.uk



ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?



General and Local Elections will take place on Thursday May 7th 2015

To have your say on how the country and Bedford Borough is run you must be on the Electoral Register. Make sure you can have your say - act now!

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YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



Registration & Records Unit



For more information, please visit the Council's Customer Services Centre, Horne Lane, Bedford, MK40 1SJ.

Alternatively contact the local electoral registration staff on **01234 276922** or via email at **electoralservices@bedford.gov.uk**



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Masterpiece

"I will paint a new picture" the artist declared,
"It will be of the Christ child at play;
But who can I use as a likeness for Him
And when will such a child come my way?".
He wandered through cities and markets and halls
In search of a face that portrayed
In his eyes, the Messiah, till he came to a place
Where a group of young ruffians played.
There was one stood apart from the others, and he
Had no shoes on his little bare feet.
He held in his fingers a small silver flute
And he piped out a melody sweet.
The other lads played all around him, but he
With a faraway look in his eyes
Went on with his tune, seemingly quite immune
To the sound of their laughter and cries.
"This is he" said the artist. Approaching the boy,
"Would you sit for me please, for a while
As I sketch you" he asked. The boy put down his flute
"Why yes" he replied with a smile.
The artist drew swiftly. In front of him grew
His impression of Christ as a boy.
His model, the child with the beautiful face
Reflecting both sadness and joy.

The picture was hung and the crowds flocked to see.
It was claimed as a Master by all.
And year after year, young and old paused to gaze
Upon "Jesus at Play" on the wall.

Fifty years had passed by; the young artist grown old
When he picked up his brush once again
He was painting the scene outside Calvary's hill
And he searched for a model in vain.
This time it was Judas, the one who betrayed
A face that was cruel and sly
"When he noticed a man in the shade of the wall
And he stopped him before he passed by.
"Will you wait, my good man, while I sketch you" he asked
"Why; who are you painting?" said he
"It is Judas Iscariot, Disciple of Christ

I was hoping you'd model for me."
 The old man looked up with a face which was hard
 And that bitter and twisted had grown.
 Until all at once, with a low cry of pain
 He buried his face with a moan.
 "You, you are the man who I met long ago
 And his voice rang with sorrow and shame;
 "Don't say you've forgotten the lad with the flute"
 And he called to the artist by name.
 "I was used as a model for "Jesus at Play"
 O sir, I remember you well;
 Is there hope for a creature in whom once you saw Heaven
 But in whom you see now - only Hell?

The artist then took up his canvas and brush
 Saying softly, "There's hope for you still"
 And he painted the man, with his hands open wide
 And his face turned to Calvary's hill.

Rebecca Cook ©
 Psalm 95 v.8 "Today, if you hear His voice, do

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A MISCELLANY OF FACTS RELATING TO OLD WOOTTON on the road from Tinkers Corner to the new development on the old Little Brook Lane.



The cluster of houses at the junction of Keeley Lane & Hall End Road is known as Tinker's Corner. It was in this vicinity that Gypsies used to pitch caravan for a day or two. The length of Hall End Road from Tinker's to the Chequers public house was known as Mile End Road, it being exactly one mile from the junction of Church & Bedford Roads to Tinkers. The Road opposite the Chequers leading to Bourne End is known as Hilly Lane.

"The Brickyard" is the name of a residence at Tinkers Corner, not surprisingly the name comes from where Oxford clay was extracted, processed and turned into bricks. The bricks were then moved to Kiln Pits (the area up the slope by the bend in Hall End Road just near the upper school and name of the bridleway which leads to Bourne End) for firing. On their journey to the firing pit the bricks would have passed Hall End common which existed in the vicinity of Hall End Road and The Causey (the unadopted road between houses 61 & 79). In 1838 the enclosure awards Act passed the Common land into the ownership of the Monoux Family. The Common, as was, is now the site of residential development.

The pond outside of the entrance to the stable yard/coach house of Wootton House still holds the title " The Horse Pond ". A little further on towards, but before the Church yard, another piece of common land was, under the same 1838 enclosure award act, given to the Monoux Family. In 1898 the magnificent horse chestnut trees were planted. Sadly they are coming to the end of their life.

The railings of the church yard delineate a patch of land which was a small holding. When the church yard no longer had room for burials the yard was extended by the enclosure of the small holding.

The vicarage used to stand near the junction of Church Road & Church Row and was next to a 16th century farmhouse which still bears the title "The Old Post Office" for it was in the 1860s the location of Wootton's first post office.

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Overnight Stays

At the junction of Church Road and Bedford Road stands the development of new houses on the site of Wootton's first junior school building. The site of the first infant school in Wootton is beside the Cock public house, the wall separating the cock and the modern house is the original school wall. When the school was in use education was initially compulsory until the age of 12 !

Opposite the cock is a parish notice board which stands on the site of "The Pound" which was a brick enclosure wherein stray animals were impounded. Should their owners not claim them the animals would be sold at auction and the money given to the Poors Charity.

Fields Road was previously known as Little Brook Lane, the brook which the Lane crossed is still there but is commonly referred to as a ditch, The proper title of the ditch is Elstow Brook for it runs from Wootton through Elstow to the River Ouse. It is worthy of note that the new development off Fields Road features Road names which relate to those who gave their lives in the world wars and are remembered on Wootton's War Memorial.

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

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

The Royal British Legion Wootton Poppy Appeal Collection 2014

Grateful thanks and appreciation should go to the following collectors, who, between them raised an excellent total of £5,674.45.

Mesdames: C.Ashpole, S.Billington, A.Bochaton, L.Cochrane, T.Corby, L & S.Chapillon, M.Demuth, N.Franklin, C.Handscombe, J.Kavanagh, V.Minney, J.Nurse, A.Stapleton, D.Sullivan, E.Sullivan, R.Syson, A.Reed-Thomsett.

Rev.P.Stephens, Messrs: M.Brown, B.Burraway, A.Head, D.Minney,

Blue Cross F.C, Busy Bees & St Mary's Playgroups, Chemist, Chequers Inn, Club 2000

Bingo, Cock Inn, Co-Part Stewartby, Fox & Duck, Garage, Healthy Living Centre (Dr's),

Kimberley College, Legstraps, One Stop, Only You, The Open University MK, Kempston &

Wootton Post Offices, St Mary's Church, Stewartby Church/Club/S.M.S.Common Room,

Travel Lodge Kempston, Wootton Lower and Upper Schools,

Also....

(Chris Ashpole), was invited by Mike Gleeson, Executive Principal of Wootton Upper School, to attend a Carol Service @ St Mary's Church to receive a £600 cheque for the Royal British Legion.

This money was raised from a trip organised by the local schools to the First World War battlefields last September. The travel company agreed to a refund as the coach carrying the students got delayed and therefore all sights on the schedule were not seen. Parents were informed of the part refund and agreed that the money be used for the RBL. It will be used locally as part of the RBL's welfare fund.

Another excellent collection going to this very worthwhile charity.

Many thanks again to all concerned.

(Chris)tine Ashpole, The RBL branch poppy organiser, Wootton.

Wootton Good Neighbours Scheme

We have been in operation for one year and my - hasn't the year passed quickly! We are told by BRCC that we are doing an excellent job. During the year we have completed 288 tasks and most of those who have requested our services have expressed their satisfaction with the services provided.

Rumours have been doing the rounds that the scheme is on the brink of closing down which, of course, like most rumours is not correct. We are still here and will remain so to assist anyone who makes a request for our services. Please, remember that all our volunteers are just that and are giving their time free of charge.

Come the summer we intend to have a stall at the village fun day to raise funds to help us to continue this service.

We are still seeking gentlemen volunteers to assist the present members. If you are able to help – please contact Colin (Chairman of WGNS) on 07717 770247.

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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
Bill Brady: 07767 013 222
Gerald Bygraves: 07792 842 601
Dee Dillistone: 07968 199 006
Brian Doggrell: 767 445
Naomi Groves: 07722 876 252
Bill Hall: 852 299
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Paul Prescod: 768 251

Hall Booking
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Scout Hall Mark Atkins 311 386
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

Speed Watch Coordinator
Bill Brady: 07767 013 222

Good Neighbour Scheme - 0771 777 0247

Contacts Directory

Playgroups
St Mary's Mary: 767 158
Bizzy Bees Maggie: 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
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Women's Institute - *Eileen*: 768 235
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A	32p
B	37p
C	42p
D*	48p
E	58p
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G	79p
H	95p

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- Re-introduction of police officers to neighbourhood policing teams in each area
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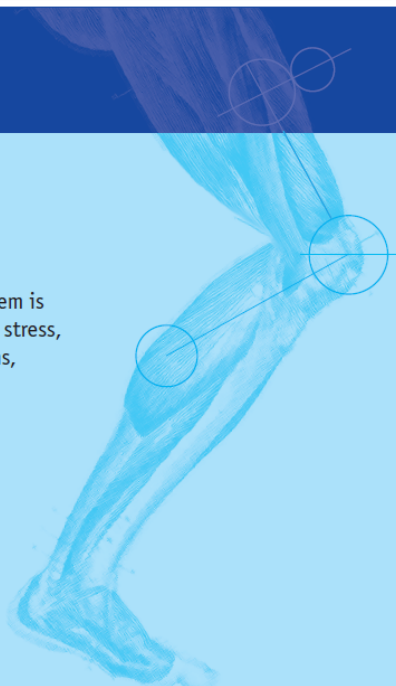
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- New Builds & Extensions
- Electric showers
- Garden Supplies
- Smoke Alarms

Commercial & Industrial

- PAT Testing
- 3 Phase Supplies
- Panel Building
- Fire Alarms
- Emergency Lighting
- Consumer Unit (Fuse box) Changes

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