

The
Wootton
P A R I S H N E W S

WINTER EDITION

DECEMBER 2016



Contacts Directory



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Memorial Hall - Naomi Groves: 07722 876 252

Scout Hall - Mark Atkins: 311 386

Village Hall - Jenny Lambert: 767 488

Wootton Blue Cross Hall: 767 662

Complex (Multi Use Games Area) bookings

Sue Playford: 07531 930 788

Schools

Holywell Middle: 750 381

Marston Vale Middle: 768 224

Shelton Lower School: 768 269

Wootton Lower: 768 239

Wootton Lower PTFA Contact: 768 239

Wootton Upper: 767 123

Police

HQ: 841 212

Beat Manager: 842 433

Non Emergency: 101

Anti-Social Behaviour: 276 037

Good Neighbour Scheme: 07717 770 247

Playgroups

St Mary's - Mary: 767 158

Bizzy Bees - Laura Spavins: 767 785

Speed Watch Co-ordinator

Malcolm Chalmers: 07864 295 520

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 St: 750 234

Kempston, Cater St: 849 090

Kempston, King St: 852 222

Kempston, St John St: 851 323

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

Wootton Facilities

Pharmacy: 765 166

Post Office: 768 368

Library: 766 061

Village Club & Organisations

1st Wootton Rainbows - Elaine: 765 419

1st Wootton Boys Brigade - Allan: 319 269

1st Wootton Girls Brigade - Nicola: 319 269

Acorn Quilters - Dorothy: 409 566

Badminton Monday - Chris: 07740 939 109

Badminton Thursday - Freda: 270 638

Badminton Juniors - Colin: 270 283

Beavers - Louise Ward: 07753 811 910

Bowls Monday - Viv: 855 383

Bowls Thursday Rena: 768 012

Brownies Tuesday - Denise: 314 030

Brownies Wednesday - Tina: 768 293

Brownies Friday - Jodie: 07799 140 668

Cubs - Christopher: 304 588

County Players - Wendy: 401 460

Explorers - Kit: 07792 372 570

Group Scout Leader - Kit: 07792 372 570

Guides - Gill: 856 566

'55' Club - Arthur: 768 405

Patacake Baby/Toddlers - Chau: 07854 885 746

Royal British Legion Wootton Poppy Appeal

Organiser - Chris Ashpole: 07865 051 453

Scouts - Dave: 07780 954 307

Tang Soo Do - Andrew: 07748 653 220

Wootton Golf Soc. - Pete: 07975 596 164

Women's Institute - Kath: 765 333

Wootton Rangers FC - Steve: 751 611

Wootton Blue Cross: 767 662



- 05 Chairman's Report
- 06 Parish Clerk's Report
- 07 Dates for your Diary
- 09 Rubbish Proposal
- 10 Wootton News
- 13 Remembrance Day
- 14 Age UK
- 17 Wootton Baptist Church
- 18 Village Agent News
- 19 Forest of Marston Vale
- 20 Wootton Vale
- 22 Kimberley College
- 24 December at Wootton Library
- 25 Friendship Prescription
- 26 Busy Bees Pre-School
- 29 Let There Be Light
- 30 Wootton Vale Participation Group
- 31 St Mary's Playgroup
- 34 Robin's Nursery
- 35 Wootton Rangers U15's
- 37 Wootton Upper School
- 38 Good Neighbour Scheme
- 40 W.I



Editor in Chief - Sue Playford

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Editorial Notes:

Wootton News is overseen by an Editorial sub group of the Parish Council. While every effort has been made to ensure that 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 (£30 for black and white, or colour). If you wish to advertise then please send your details to the Editor. The advertisements are taken in good faith and we cannot except any responsibility for bad service or workmanship received.

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The Wootton News can be read online at:
woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk

If you have any comments or opinions on how to improve the Wootton News, please send them to Sue Playford (Parish Clerk):

WoottonParishClerk@gmail.com
or call on **07531 930 788**



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Do you want to increase your level of activity but feel held back by a recent or long term injury or just lack of fitness? Do you suffer from aches and pains after playing sports or after a long stressful day at work? Sports Therapy might be the solution...

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✉ email aimee-rose2010@hotmail.co.uk

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Gareth Lloyd

Why should I read this newsletter?

The parish council wants to give you all opportunity to know what is going on in the village - be it development, new facilities, or better opportunities. Members do their best to bring information to your attention - and would always encourage you to read this newsletter, visit our Facebook page and website and read the information in our noticeboards. Our noticeboards are:

- Opposite the Cock Inn PH (Bedford Road)
- Outside the lower school (Bedford Road)
- Outside Manor Road flats (Bedford Road)
- Outside the Memorial Hall (Bedford Road)
- Adjacent to the post box (Hall End Road)

We witnessed this year a vote on Brexit. This was one of the best attended polls as it had significant influence upon our lives. Polls/consultations conducted on issues within Wootton, such as speeding, Wootton in Bloom, the new village sign on Fields Road have met with a poor response. The parish council needs to know your views and opinions in order to understand what the village needs, so please don't assume someone else will respond for you! You all have a voice and an opinion, so use it - each consultation has options and advice on how to respond. Those of you have done so - thank you!

Neighbourhood Plan

Within the next 12 months you will be receiving questionnaires about how Wootton could be improved and what you like or don't like about the village or surrounding areas. Central government continues to report a lack of available housing and so will continue to pressure local planning authorities to make suitable provision (in this case, Bedford Borough Council). The questionnaires are part of a process to complete a Neighbourhood Plan which will give Wootton residents a bigger say on what they would wish for the village - better facilities, infrastructure and maybe even further development. Please use that opportunity to shape Wootton's future.

Local Council Award Scheme

The parish council recently applied for a Quality Award, as part of the nationally recognised Local Council Award Scheme, maintained by the National Association of Local Councils. So what does this mean? The scheme was designed to provide a framework of support to help local councils meet their full potential. If successful, it will show the parish council meets standards set by the sector. Further details will follow when available.

Finally

I would like to thank all those who helped with and attended the switching on of the Christmas tree lights. I would also like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.





MERRY Christmas



We're coming up to Christmas once more and I would like to thank everyone involved in the installation of the Christmas tree once more at the junction of Cause End Road/ Bedford Road. The lights were switched on, on Sunday 27th November with members from the recently formed Boys and Girls Brigade doing the honours.

I still get many complaints regarding dog mess not being picked up throughout the village. Such reports need to be directed to the Borough Council as the Local Authority with the power to issue fines. This can be done either online via their "Report It" function (http://www.bedford.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/websites/online_forms.aspx#Report) or by telephoning **01234 267422**.

The parish council operates a small grants scheme, designed to support local community initiatives. A grants policy and application form are available online – please visit: http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/files/index?folder_id=2014112. I can also provide paper copies (and advice) as needed. If you know of an organisation in need of financial assistance, do please pass

this information on or ask a representative to contact myself.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas 2016 and a peaceful New Year.



Office Location:

The Hub,
Wootton Life Methodist Church,
Cause End Road, MK43 9DE

Office Hours:

During Term Time

Monday 10am - 12pm
Wednesday 10am - 12pm

Office Hours:

During School Holidays

Monday 10am - 12pm

(Hours may be subject to change, so feel free to telephone in advance to ensure the office will be open).

Dates for your Diary 2016/17

DECEMBER 2016

14th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
14th	Full Council	7.30pm

JANUARY 2017

11th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
11th	Full Council	7.30pm
18th	Roads and footpaths committee	7.00pm
18th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group committee	7.45pm
25th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
25th	Leisure & Amenities committee	7.30pm
25th	Finance & General Purposes committee	8.00pm

FEBRUARY 2017

8th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
8th	Full Council	7.30pm
22nd	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
22nd	Leisure & Amenities committee	7.30pm
22nd	Finance & General Purposes committee	8.00pm

Please check noticeboards and the parish council website for any changes to timings and/or cancellations.

All meetings are held at the Memorial Hall on Bedford Road, with the exception of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Roads and Footpaths Safety Steering Group and Wootton Play Equipment Working Group which will be held at The Hub, Wootton New Life Methodist Church, Cause End Road
<http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/noticeboard>

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Rubbish Proposal?

Following Bedford Borough Council's decision to move to fortnightly rubbish bin collections, the parish council was recently contacted by a resident with the following suggestion:

If your household bin has spare capacity why not offer to share with a neighbour who could make good use of it?

Talk to a neighbour and see!



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Since the last edition, I have been continuing to work with the parish council to deal with issues in the village. Most of these are ongoing matters such as pot holes, damaged signs, pavements, dog fouling and bins not being emptied. Council's officers have, as a result, been out and around the Village repairing pot holes, pavements, pruning trees and clearing hedges / bushes as part of an ongoing scheme of works. The Drainage Board has also cleared the ditch from the Health Centre to Elstow brook (by the lights on Fields Road).

I am pleased to inform you that you can now report Highways issues direct to the Council by using the '**ReportIt**' tool at <https://highwaysreporting.bedford.gov.uk>. You will then be able to track your complaint / issue.

Regular speed checks have been undertaken on Fields Road but I am afraid to say that there is still an issue with speeding, which is particularly



concerning given that these checks are being done during school drop off / pick up times. The Police has promised to do spot speed checks and there are various suggestions being discussed by the Safety Steering Group at the moment to improve safety with raised toucan crossings and speed cameras, to mention a couple of ideas. I will keep you updated on this.

On a related point, the housing developer, Persimmon, has put in place a **path via Potter's Cross** which will act as a safe route to school. The route is not entirely finished, given the need for proper surfacing and lighting, but it can now be used and will allow residents at the Berryfields development to access Bedford Road and the shops, library and Wootton Lower School.

The **new Multi Use Games Area** (MUGA), football pitches and play area are well under way by the new Community Centre. Discussions are still ongoing regarding the ownership of the Community Centre and the parish council is constantly chasing Persimmon regarding this.

I have used monies from my **Council Ward Fund** to support the following schemes so far this year: Wootton Upper School to contribute to providing lights and equipment for the theatre; Wootton parish council for a mobile generator and lights for events around the village; Boys' and Girls' Brigade for equipment to assist with the setting up of the group; the Robert Lunniss Charity for help towards the cost of the Christmas lunch for Wootton senior citizens, and; Wootton Baptist Church to provide help towards upgrading toilets, a disabled ramp and equipment. I still have funds available for local organisations with schemes that would benefit the community, please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any ideas.



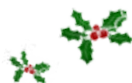
At the time of writing, the Mayor's Executive is to agree at its meeting on the 2nd November to change the way the Council's **library service** is delivered. Numerous options have been considered in 3 phases of public consultation for the future operation of the service, with the overall rationale for the changes being to assist the Council in meeting its estimated funding gap of £21.2m by the end of the decade. The new model will save £0.274m a year on a current budget of £1.295m. Following

the first 2 phases of the consultation, a digital option came forward and this is now the favoured option of the Executive, although it is to be re-branded as 'Library Plus'. The Library Plus model will be put in place in Wootton, as well as Bromham and the Central Library in the town centre. It will see a reduction, compared to the current service, in core hours where the facilities are staffed. There will, however, be an overall 50% increase in opening hours due to the use of self-service technology allowing users to access the facilities when they are unmanned or staffed by volunteers.

Winter is coming and keeping warm can be difficult, particularly for older persons. **Age UK Bedfordshire** is offering advice to help. For more information call **01234 360 510** or visit <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/bedfordshire/>

Christmas is just round the corner and there is a lot happening in Wootton over the festive period so please look out on parish council and church web sites, notice boards and newsletters for local events.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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Remembrance Day



Wootton's annual Remembrance Day Parade, service and wreath laying ceremony took place on Sunday 13th November 2016.

The parade this year, organised by Borough/ Parish Councillor John Wheeler and Parish Council Chairman Gareth Lloyd, assembled in bright sunshine on the recreation ground car park, adjacent to Church Road. The parade was extremely well supported, with the attendance of many members of the public. The Parade Commander was Flt. Lt. Steven R. Rowse of the Royal Air Force and leading the parade with the Royal British Legion flag held high was Legionnaire Bob Keech. In uniformed attendance on parade were:-

1st Wootton Scouts
Flag carried by Holly Shore
1st Wootton Guides
Maisy Hickson
1st Wootton Cubs
Jake Castleman
1st Wootton Beavers
Finlay Braisier
2nd Wootton Brownies
Devon Collier
1st Wootton Brownies
Louise Walsh
Boys Brigade
Buglers Dave Simms & Andy Gray

Borough Councillor John Wheeler and members of Wootton parish council, Wootton Upper, Wootton Lower, Holywell & Marston Vale Middle Schools, Squire Explorers, 1st and 2nd Wootton Rainbows also marched in the parade. The Bedfordshire Constabulary provide road safety supervision.

The Parade Commander advised those present of the procedure that was to be followed and then at 10.05 hrs. called the parade to attention. The parade then proceeded in good order from the recreation ground into Church Road and thence past the War Memorial (eyes left) to the entrance to St. Mary's church. The British Legion Flag bearer left the parade to take position in front of the church porch and was joined by other flag bearers.

The remembrance service, a joint service with the congregation of the Wootton New Life Methodist Church, was conducted by the Revd Lucas Durant and a more recent war hero who served and lost his life in Afghanistan. During his address the Revd Ackroyd remembered in particular those who had died 100 years ago this year. During the Act of Remembrance the list of all those whose names appear on the Wootton war memorial was read by Flt. Lt. Rowse who also asked for remembrance of those who have died in other conflicts, including the Falklands, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran & Northern Ireland. The Last Post was sounded by Buglers of the Boys Brigade and a 2 minute silence was observed.

After the service, the parade re-formed and proceeded to the War Memorial for a wreath laying ceremony. Wreaths were laid on behalf of:-

The Royal British Legion, Bedford Borough Council, Wootton parish council, the Upper & Lower schools of Wootton, Holywell Middle school, Cubs, Scouts, Guides, Brownies, Beavers and Wootton Rainbows.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Age UK Bedfordshire's Energy Efficient Homes Project

Reducing the risk of death and ill health associated with living in a cold home.

Why is there a warmer homes project?

Age UK Bedfordshire has an ambition to reduce fuel poverty and to help address ill-health and premature death amongst older people caused by fuel poverty and through living in an inadequately heated home. We currently have time limited funding from British Gas Energy Trust to offer, **FREE OF CHARGE**, information, advice and practical help

- Every winter 24,000 older people die in the UK as a result of the cold weather.
- The UK has some of the highest rates of winter deaths within Europe.
- Older people are largely unaware of the impact that cold weather has on their health.

What are the risks of cold weather?

The cold weather increases the risk of the following illnesses:

- heart attacks
- strokes
- pneumonia
- depression
- worsening arthritis
- accidents at home

What Prevents Older People from Keeping Warm?

- Fuel costs/difficulties in paying bills
- Not knowing the health risks associated with being cold
- Lacking the correct information



- Not being able to use the heating system
- Being isolated and out of touch
- Not wanting to ask for help
- Living in a property that is hard to heat
- Bereavement

How will you know if someone is at risk? How might you be able to spot someone at risk of cold related illness?

- Does the home feel warm?
- Are there any signs of damp in the home?
- Are they on a pre-payment meter?
- Are they wearing multiple layers?
- Do they have a prescription to treat lung or heart conditions, or do they complain of ill-health?
- Have they had a fall or been admitted to hospital recently?

How Age UK Bedfordshire can help

As you will know, the Government's new Fuel Poverty Strategy; the NICE guidance; and Public Health England's report (Fuel Poverty and cold home-related health problems) demonstrate that the most effective way of tackling fuel poverty is to take a holistic approach that balances

home energy efficiency measures, such as Insulation provisions and energy saving techniques together with wider welfare benefit take-up and other interventions.

We have received funding from British Gas Energy Trust (BGET), to develop and embed a holistic approach to providing older people with comprehensive advice and support, with the aim of helping address health problems exacerbated by fuel poverty.

The target groups that we will help are people who fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Over the age of 50,
- Suffering from or at risk of cardiovascular and respiratory conditions,
- Disabled,
- On low income,
- Living in properties that are hard to heat (those with solid walls, no loft space, in a state of disrepair, high rise blocks and those not connected to the gas grid), and
- With mental health conditions and dementia.
- Living alone,
- Having recently experienced sudden changes in circumstances (i.e. due to bereavement separation, loss of employment),
- With caring responsibilities,
- With literacy or numeracy difficulties, and
- With a limited knowledge/a lack of experience of the energy market.

Age UK Bedfordshire will provide:

- Provide holistic one-on-one 'Warmer Homes' checks for referred older people and self-referrals. These will include benefits entitlement checks, home energy assessments (within the older person's

home), energy efficiency advice, free supply and fitting of energy saving equipment (small measures insulation materials) and signposting to additional support, examples being from housing support; both social and private landlords.

- We will also act as advocates supporting older people through processes such as switching suppliers, smart meter installations and energy billing enquiries, as well as offering support during power cuts.

- Maximise on every encounter to provide a truly holistic support to improve emotional and physical wellbeing amongst older people, crucially, signposting into other local services, such as befriending, exercise groups and home shopping support

How you or your organisation can help

To refer someone you know, find out more information or book a presentation to your team:

Phone:

01234 360510

and ask for the Warmer Homes Advisor or

Email:

felicity.heseltine@ageukbedfordshire.org.uk and mention "Warmer Homes" in your email.



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Wootton Baptist Church

What a wonderful autumn we are having, the beauty of the colours on the trees and hedgerows is exceptional this year. Hopefully it will carry on with a reasonable Winter, although a few sharp frosts would do a lot of good.

The blessings of nature contrast greatly with the world wide problems. Thousands of displaced persons all looking for a better and more satisfactory way of life, without the danger of wars and persecution. The cruelty of man against man with women and children usually being the worst affected. Rising crime rates, homelessness, poverty and prejudice seem to be everywhere.

What has gone wrong with the world? We are blessed in this quiet village of ours, with little crime and nothing to keep us awake at nights. Yes, there are difficulties, there is old age and illness as everywhere else. But generally we are greatly privileged.

Does religion have an answer?

Generally 'No'. But the Bible gives an answer when it points out that we are 'all born in sin from birth'. As David says in Psalm 51. There is the potential in everyone to be involved in evil, but we all have a God-given conscience which pricks at times, unless we have killed it! God's answer given in the Bible is that we can all be changed, not to become sinless, but to be put right with a gracious and loving God. The door is still open, we can be changed, by God's Grace, through Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. That will give us a new perspective on life and a hatred of everything bad. There is a desperate need of that today.

We all want a peaceful life, and we hope for peace for all the peoples on the earth. How about looking into the claims of Jesus Christ that he is the Prince of Peace, one of the



many names there are for Him in the Bible. Here are a few more, 'Lamb of God', 'Light of the world', 'Living bread,' 'Only begotten Son', 'Prince of Life,' and many, many more.

Christmas is not far away, there will be many services and meetings in the three churches in the village, with extra arrangements, Carols in the Lower School, with the Salvation Army, carol singing around the village. Look out for the advertising, which will be out soon. Everyone is welcome to our Church, next door to the Lower School in Bedford Road.

A very Happy and Joyful Christmas to everyone,

Rob Stanton

On behalf of the fellowship at
Wootton Baptist Church



Wootton Village Agent News

Village Agents provide a free, confidential service and are here to help the over 60s with any issues you may have – large or small. We are a team of six who work part-time and are funded by Bedford Borough Council. Andrea is the Village Agent for Wootton.

Help for Pensioners on Low Incomes – Are you receiving the basic state pension and struggling to manage? Your Village Agent can tell you if there is any help available. In addition to Pension Credit, there may be other sources of income. You might be eligible to receive a small quarterly gratuity from the St Johns Hospital Trust if you have been living in Bedford for at least 15 years. Get in touch for a confidential review.

Do You Feel Safe in Your Own Home? – Contact Andrea if you would like a free home safety check or a door chain fitted by the Bobby Van Scheme, which is a service provided by Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust.

Free plug-in lamp timers – Don't come home to a dark house this winter. We have a limited number of timers to give away to residents over 60. First come first served.

Transport – Do you have mobility problems and find it difficult to get out? The "Wheels in Motion" project runs monthly group outings, at a reasonable fee, which includes being



picked up and dropped off at your own front door. They also run a wheelchair-assisted car/bus service in the Bedford area. Get in touch for more details.

Help completing benefits forms – Andrea can also help you complete Pension Credit, Blue Badge, Council Tax Reduction, Personal Independence Payment, Housing Benefit and Attendance Allowance forms.

Please call Andrea, your Village Agent on Freephone 0800 039 1234

This is an answerphone service, so please leave your name address & telephone number, & we aim to call you back within 48 hours



Bedford Borough
Council

Forest of Marston Vale News



December 3rd and 4th, 11am to 3pm – Christmas Festival and Farmers Market!

Come along to our annual Christmas extravaganza with stalls selling a variety of local, home-made gifts and crafts as well as fresh produce. With Santa's Grotto, crafts for kids, face painting and live music there is something for everyone.

Our Lakeside Cafe will be decked out with lots of Christmas trees and selling mulled wine, mince pies and festive lattes, to get you in the festive spirit!

Free entry and parking – donations welcome.

Tree Planting Day

Our annual tree planting day will take place this winter in Cranfield, on **February 12th**.

Come along and help us to our 6 million tree target. All tools will be supplied, as well as instructions on how to plant and protect your trees. Buses will run from the Forest Centre throughout the day, so bring the whole family and do something amazing for the Forest this winter. More details will be available nearer the date, so keep it in your diary!



Wootton Country Players

**...proudly present 'The Ever After - A Musical'
by Nathan Hartswick, music and lyrics by
Bill Francour.**

After our first successful musical, we have decided to perform another!

Snow White is looking to rebuild her relationship with The Evil Queen and the Stepsisters want to reconnect with Cinderella?

But relationships are built on trust and forgiveness and can any of them forgive past mistakes?

All parties have called for help from Jen - host of 'Totally live with Jen' to rebuild

relationships and the resident psychiatrist Jiminy Crickett will need to work hard with all involved if the relationships are going to work.

**Performance dates are 27th & 28th January
2017 and tickets will be priced at £6.50 for
adults and £5.50 for concessions.**

Tickets can be purchased via
www.countryplayers.org.uk





10 years old and a CQC Rating of 'Outstanding'.

We can scarcely believe it but Wootton Vale Healthy Living Centre turned 10 years old on 26th November 2016! The practice would like to thank all our patients and staff, past and present, for the parts they have played in enabling us to reach this historic milestone. In particular we would like to thank our PPG, again its past and present members, for the work they have done on our behalf which has played a major part in our success. They give up a lot of time freely to promoting the practice and representing you, our patients, to enable us to better meet your needs.

We also pleased and proud to announce that, as a result of innovation, high standards of care and dedication to meeting the health needs of our practice population we have been awarded a rating of 'Outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

It is very rare for the CQC to award this top rating – we believe that we are the first GP practice in Bedfordshire to have achieved this. This accolade was awarded in recognition of the services provided to our patients under the 'Responsive' CQC inspection area.

In its report, the CQC highlighted the role of our Healthcare Coordinators and how they provide the link between clinicians and patients to offer support and advice in areas such as smoking cessation, support for patients diagnosed with cancer, referring patients to secondary care and identifying and supporting carers. The report also

noted numerous examples of how the practice facilitates the provision of care and services in a community setting including the following:

- The lead GP's (Dr Mackenzie) redesign of the clinical team to ensure a quality service was provided and the development of a Women's Health Practitioner role to support women's health and provide sexual health advice to men and women.
- The practice managed Integrated Gynaecology Service, commissioned by Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG) for surrounding practices. This service allows women to receive treatment and tests in a primary care setting, reducing the need for hospital attendance with the exception of surgical procedures.

The practice achieved a rating of 'Good' in the other 4 inspection areas resulting in an overall rating of 'Good'. The full report can be viewed directly on the CQC website or by following the links from the practice website www.woottonvale.com.

Staff News

There have been several changes in our staffing of late, particularly in the Admin Team. We have employed an Admin Team Leader – Annie Kirby. Annie will work as a member of the Admin Team to support them through her vast experience gained when working at a local practice. We have two new members of the Admin/Reception Team. These are Joe Newbury and Margaret Andrews. Please join us in welcoming them to the team.

Dr Munro has retired. She is planning some adventures in some far flung parts of the world so we wish her all the best for a long retirement.

Sadly, Coren has decided not to come back to the practice following her maternity leave. The practice would like to wish Coren and her baby son all the very best for the future.

Another departure is our Healthcare Coordinator, Lucinda Meekins. Lucinda has been offered a role which meets her career aspirations. The practice is proud to have supported Lucinda in her early career and wishes her all the best for what will, no doubt, be a successful career.

Regina Ahmed has joined the team in the role of Clinical Pharmacist. This is another innovative role the practice is undertaking. This is a pilot scheme designed to utilise the skills that pharmacists can bring to GP practices. Some of you will be meeting Regina in the near future as she may be undertaking your clinical and medication reviews.

Flu Vaccinations

Please note that it is not too late to have your flu vaccination. Flu can have serious consequences on the health of certain groups in the population during the winter months. Therefore, if you are over 65, pregnant or have a medical condition that puts you in one of the 'At Risk' groups then please contact the practice to make an appointment to have your vaccination.



Over 75's Health Checks

All patients aged 75 and over are entitled to an Annual Health Check. If you visit the practice for regular Health Reviews for ongoing conditions then we will undertake this review at the same time to save you more visits to the practice. However, if this is not the case, then please contact us to arrange your Health Check. These can be booked with a general Nurse, Healthcare Assistant or Healthcare Coordinator. Alternatively, if eligible, you will receive an invitation to come in during the course of the year.

During your appointment the member of staff you see will check your blood pressure, weight and height and discuss your lifestyle; and will enquire about any health or care needs you may have so that appropriate steps may be taken to assist you.



Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2017 from all the staff at Wootton Vale!



Kimberley College

The autumn term at Kimberley College (Wootton Academy Trusts 16-19 Sixth Form College in Stewartby) has flown by. I cannot believe we are in full preparations for Christmas already – including having a 22 foot Christmas tree in our Atrium!

It doesn't seem five minutes since we welcomed our new Year 12 students. In the short time they have been with us, they have impressed immensely, setting about their studies with enthusiasm and application, completing their 'study passport' programme and settling quickly into the wonderful facilities at Kimberley College. We were very happy to see our new parents and carers at the 'meet the tutor evening' in September, where we were able to meet so many of you and begin the journey of sixth form studies by putting names to faces and show casing our state of the art campus in Stewartby.

After completing a wonderful two week of work experience in July our Year 13 students are now in full swing of life back at Kimberley. We are immensely proud of the positive feedback we have had from employers, students and parents alike. The work experience programme took our students far and wide; many students were placed in prestigious firms, getting an experience of professional life; from commuting daily to a London law firm or helping develop computer programming at Cranfield University to leading in classrooms in our local schools. Many of our students have now been offered extended employment and sponsorship as a result of the impression they made during this initiative. We are immensely grateful to the local community of employers for supporting Kimberley College in this programme. Many of the students are now in the process of applying



to university through the UCAS process. It is wonderful to see the achievements and high aspirations of the young adults in our community. I am, as always indebted to the skill and expertise of our tutors, in particular Mrs Stewart who has supported our early entry (those studying medicine and veterinary sciences) and those applying to Oxbridge. We wish them all the very best.

We are always sad to see the previous Year 13 students leave. It is always a privilege getting to know them and helping them on their 'next step'. We look forward to seeing many of them towards the end of this term on return from university. A growing number of our students have stayed local and taken up much sort after apprenticeship placements, a significant number in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Whilst the exam results for these students were excellent (the best in the history of the college), it is the collective impact the students had on the positive culture at Kimberley College that I am proudest of. From running Christmas assemblies with Wootton Parish Church or participating in the annual Kimberley College sports day. The students have created a caring and fun environment to work and learn. One legacy of this is the fantastic work undertaken by

our charities committee who have already raised in excess of £500 this year from events run in the College including, Jeans for Genes day, Oxfam, Save the Children and the British Heart Foundation charities. For information on these events and many please follow us on **twitter @STEMcollege** or by visit our new website **www.stemcollege.co.uk**

Our thoughts already turn to next year. We were overwhelmed with the number of students and their families we met at our recent open evening and look forward to working with the next intake of Kimberley College students.

If you missed the event or would like more information, please visit the college website or phone the college to make an appointment to come and visit us **01234**

762890. We welcome applications from all 15, 16 and 17 year olds. If anybody has missed the deadline for applications, don't worry – please telephone the Admissions' Secretary, Nicky Lowe.

On behalf of the student, staff and directors of Kimberley Sixth Form College, may I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous new year!

Mr Tim Detheridge

Principal, Kimberley College.



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December at Wootton Library



Monday 5th

2 - 5 pm

Christmas cards & decoration drop in craft

Wednesday 7th

10.30 - 12.30 pm
and 2 - 5 pm

Christmas cards & decoration drop in craft

Friday 9th

2 - 5 pm

Christmas cards & decoration drop in craft

Saturday 10th

10.30 - 12.30 pm

Christmas cards & decoration drop in craft

Monday 12th

2.30 - 2.50 pm

Christmas Fun time

Wednesday 14th

10.30 - 10.50 am
4.00 - 4.30 pm

Christmas story
Christmas carols in the library

Friday 16th

2 - 6 pm

Christmas colouring sheets

Monday 19th

2 - 6 pm

Christmas colouring sheets

Wednesday 21st

10 - 1 pm
and 2 - 6 pm

Christmas colouring sheets

Friday 23rd

2 - 6 pm

Christmas colouring sheets

Saturday 24th

10 - 1 pm

Christmas colouring sheets

During December we are also doing Blind Date Books for adults of any age. Cosy up in front of the fire with a good book. Choose a parcel from under the tree in Wootton Library, have it issued as normal - but don't open it until you get home. A surprise read just for you!

We also have regular activities during term time:-

Funtime for the under 5s - Mondays 2.30-2.50pm

Lego Club Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 3.45-4.45pm

Colouring Club Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 3.30-5.30pm, Saturdays 10-12.30pm.

Saturday Story at Wootton Library

Every Saturday 11am. Come listen to a story with Billie the library teddy.

For adults we have:-

Knit & Natter 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month 2-3pm

Colouring & Calm every Wednesday 11-12noon. An adult colouring club where we provide the equipment and you can have a cup of tea or coffee, too.

Friendship prescribed to keep tip top this winter

Getting outside as often as you can, especially on bright days, is one way to keep the winter blues at bay. Another, says local Society Bedford branch is a healthy dose of friendship.

It's well documented that spending time with friends is good for your health. Earlier this year the British Journal of Psychology published a study proving how social interaction can guard against depression and reduces stress. To help people stay active and in regular contact with others during the winter months, the friendship group has lined up a number of one-off and regular events that are open to everyone to attend. This includes:

Wednesday 11th January

Drop in for coffee as part of a new friendship group, The Hub, Wootton Methodist Church, 10.30 am to 12pm

Thursday 12th January,

Burns Lunch, Clapham Village Hall, 12 for 12.30 pm, £20

Tuesday 21st February,

Talk on the 'Oddfellows History and now', Kingston House, 106a Bedford Road, Wootton, 8.30pm

Saturday 25th March,

Lunch at the Tavistock Carvery, 12.30pm.



We appreciate that getting out and about may seem an easy thing to do for some, but for others, especially those who feel lonely or isolated, it could feel like a big step to take. If you feel this way, we want to let you know that there's a warm welcome waiting. You don't need to come along with someone. Many come on their own. We're a friendly, mixed bunch of members.

Based in and around Wootton and Bedford, the local Society's Bedford Branch members regularly get together to enjoy free or inexpensive social events such as talks and trips out, lunches, craft sessions and coffee mornings. The Oddfellows is one of the largest and oldest friendly societies in the UK, with over 310,000 members across 136 Branches nationwide. We're a non-profit mutual run by our members for our members, and we do our best to improve the quality of people's lives through friendship, care and charity

To find out more call

Ailie Redman on 01234 768914

or email Ailie.Redman@oddfellows.co.uk.

You can also search for events at

www.oddfellows.co.uk.





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

Bizzy Bees welcomed back children old and new for the start of the autumn term that is full of fun learning activities.

Our first topic involved painting and printing where the children explored various methods and materials to produce wonderful effects this included their interests such as making car track prints. The children have enjoyed exploring real vegetables in our green grocers role play and have been busy identifying colours, counting and weighing them. We made our own vegetable soup for snack and helped by cutting the vegetables. We also made hedgehog bread rolls this was really fun to make. We have really enjoyed exploring different scent and textured playdough and have especially loved the outdoor space including the mud kitchen and digging in the sand pit.

As autumn approaches we have had hands on experiences. We gave out an autumn treasure hunt for children to do at home and we went on small group listening walks to see what sounds we could hear. The children loved bringing in their natural objects to share with everyone. The children were able to investigate conkers in their prickly cases, leaves, pine cones and pumpkins. We made clay hedgehogs using spaghetti to make them prickly.

On Saturday 8th October, Bizzy Bees held their 3rd Annual Scarecrow Festival, inviting local organisations and families to enter the fun competition. Thank you to everyone

who helped make it another successful year with Wootton Lower School winning with 'Tim Peake' the astronaut followed by 'Stick man' from the local Forest School; well done to everyone who entered.

Next half term we will be busy celebrating Diwali, Halloween and Bonfire night. For Diwali we will be making salt dough divas, exploring sari material and dancing to authentic music. For Halloween we will be exploring pumpkins jelly play, spaghetti and making our own spider biscuits. For Bonfire night we will create bonfire and firework pictures and have a special hotdog snack. We will finish the term with lots of Christmas activities and a Christmas party.

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.





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Let There Be Light - by Rebecca Cook

In the very beginning we are told that
there was God.
And the world was all without form, and
void, and then He spoke the word.
"Let there be light" and light came in.
God spoke and it was done.
So, with the dawning of that first
morning-Creation was begun,
Then He clothed the world and He filled
the world and finally God made man
And all that He made, He found to be
good, according to His plan.
But sin came in and the Light grew dim.
A cloud came over the sun
And God as it were hid His face from
the earth and regretted the work He'd
begun.

Then Judges were sent, the Law to
present but, "Give us a king" they cried
So kings were given and some followed
God but others their God denied.
And kingdoms arose and kingdoms
were lost then prophets walked on the
earth
And some were heeded and some
were ignored when they spoke of a
Saviour's birth.

In the midst of it all, still, was God, and
again He said "Let there be Light"
And the Light of the world came down
to us on that first Christmas night
"A light to lighten the gentiles He" yet
born to a Jewish maid
In a darkened world, the only light that
has never been known to fade.

And shepherds abandoned their sheep
and went into Bethlehem to find
A Heavenly babe in human flesh who
had come to redeem mankind
And some saw the light on that winter's
night and some just went their way

But Mary cradled the Son of God and
laid Him in the hay.
Once more we celebrate Christmas
time and we sing about Peace on Earth
While around us still there is more
unrest than there was at the Saviour's
birth.

And some will pay heed to the message
we bring, but some will go their way
For the hearts of men, unreceptive then,
are much the same today.

For what is the use of singing of peace
when man still at war
What with judges and kings and
prophets and things, they've heard it all
before:

But tell it we must and sing it we must,
but the song we have to sing
The Bethlehem Babe is alive today. Our
Saviour and our King.
In the beginning was God, and unto the
end will God remain.
But the end will be the beginning when
He comes back on the earth to reign
For with Him a day is a thousand years
and a thousand years is a day
And kingdoms may rise and kingdoms
may fall, but His word will not pass
away.

So, make us a light that is shining bright
in a complicated world
Show us a star that will gleam afar like a
banner of truth unfurled.
And for those that are sitting in
darkness still, may they see Thy guiding
Light
And the peace of God, through the
Light of the world, be with us on this
Christmas night.
Isaiah 2.v.5
"Let us walk in the light of the :Lord"

Wootton Vale Healthy Living Centre Patient Participation Group



With winter upon us some of you may be suffering from colds or flu. The PPG supported the practice at a very busy flu clinic October in by giving out tea, coffee and biscuits to those who were receiving their flu jabs but if you are unlucky enough to get a cold or flu then go to local pharmacy for help with remedies to ease any symptoms. We are so lucky to have a pharmacy in the village and this is a good place to start if you need a repeat prescription. There are several ways to request a repeat, you can email the surgery using the email address on the back of your prescription, hand in your repeat form at the surgery or pharmacy or write a letter but do remember to allow plenty of time as it takes a minimum of 48

hours for a request to be processed.

While on the subject of medicines, the NHS is a wonderful asset to have, especially when it is treating serious illnesses or routine operations but we, as patients, have a duty not to abuse the system by over ordering too many drugs. Some medicines that are on prescription can also be bought over the counter which might be cheaper than the current prescription charge; your pharmacist should be able to advise you on this. In a bid to save money BCCG are looking at taking some things off prescription because of availability over the counter. It's a small start, probably not popular, but if it helps to preserve an asset that many other countries envy then we should embrace these changes in the knowledge that the NHS will be there for us in the event we face greater challenges in our futures. The NHS does not have an infinite pot of money and I for one would rather it was there to treat me if I had a serious illness than if I complained of a common cold.





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

Email: stmarys5@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01234 767158

During the autumn months the children have gathered leaves; and used them to create artwork, leaf printing and leaf collage. The children went on an autumn conker hunt and they collected and counted conkers and weighed and balanced them. The children were fascinated by the look and feel of the conkers and enjoyed learning about how scales work.

We have been celebrating Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light. The children have enjoyed wearing Indian clothes and took part in a variety of Diwali-themed craft activities, such as making diya lamps, rangoli patterns and listened to a traditional Diwali story. The emphasis of the story was about being kind and helping each other. Having a Diwali-themed week has introduced the children to different religions and cultures.

We have been celebrating Bonfire Night, with the children painting firework pictures, making rockets and learning about fire safety. They used words which described the sounds fireworks make – such as whizz and bang. The children experimented with movement and used their imagination pretending to be 'fireworks'

On 11th November, we thought about people who help us and who have been brave, and the children were all involved in creating a poppy field picture for Remembrance Sunday, which was displayed in the hall.

Our topic this term has been based on the book 'Dear Zoo'. This is a wonderful story with a fun introduction to animals and their characteristics. The book allows children to engage with the story and encourages their participation both verbally and physically. The children took part in a variety of animal themed activities, such as printing, collage, drawing, looking at animal print and playing in the zoo role play area.

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, one of whom has Qualified Teacher Status. All our staff have many years experience of working with children and their maturity and training ensure that those who come to the playgroup have a positive learning experience.

St Mary's Playgroup receives funding for early years education. It is open each week-day 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 9.00am-12.45pm

Tuesday 9.00am-15.00pm

Wednesday 9.00-15.00pm

Thursday 9.00-15.00pm

Friday 9.00am-15.00pm

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can be topped up with additional sessions. Additional sessions cost £4.00.

Our sessions run from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. and 12.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. except on Fridays when the nursery closes at 12.00.

Lunch time sessions run from 12.00 – 12.30 p.m. Monday - Thursday and are charged at £2.00 per day.

For more information about the school see our website:

www.sheltonandsouthillschool.co.uk

We warmly welcome visits. To book an appointment please email **sheltonoffice@sheltonandsouthillschool.co.uk** or telephone **01234 768269**



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Wootton Rangers U15's team

This year Wootton Rangers U15's team played their 6th memorial cup match which proved to be a great success resulting in the club raising £600.00 for MacMillan Cancer Support. The event was held at Wootton Blue FC and was really well attended. As a mark of respect all players and spectators observed 1 minute's silence after which over 40 pink helium balloons were released to the skies to remember loved one's for whom this occasion is dedicated. As we all know football is a game of 2 halves and the 1st half was a nail biter. To start with WRFC dominated Bedford Town U15's but despite having many chances none hit the target and they just couldn't get ahead. Eventually after 30 minutes play WRFC broke the deadlock and managed to score the 1st goal. BTFC reacted immediately and came straight back so at half time it was

1-1. In the dressing room the Wootton boys received stern words from Jez the manager and Panos the coach. The second half the boys dug deep and came good, they started playing football the way we know they can. On the final whistle WRFC reined victorious and finished up as 7-1 winners to retain the 'CLR Memorial Cup'. In true footballing tradition the team posed for photos with the cup and the day was a great success. The money was raised with a BBQ, cake stall and raffle. In total there were 4 teams present with a great family atmosphere which we intend to continue year on year. Finally a big thank you goes out to Jez team Manager, to Nayana & Bookers Cash & Carry for the catering, to our team sponsors, to our hosts WBX FC, to all the mums & dads for the cake bake and raffle prizes and to everyone who donated and helped with the event.





CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

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 C C L P E K A L F W O N S J N J T S H J
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 Y H T W I E F G Q F A X G F O W T N U T
 B G T K J F M D F I R E P L A C E I I H
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Call Danny on 07708 363 395

Wootton Upper School

The school has had a very busy term which has included performances at Wootton - and then in Bremen - of the musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee". We have now taken our autumn term musical to Bremen every year now for the last 20 years; this is quite an achievement. Other activities have included a visit to Cologne Christmas market and visits to The Clothes Show, a theatre trip to London to see Kinderchildren, two awards evenings, an Open Evening and an array of fund raising for charity including a Macmillan Coffee Morning, Make a Wish Foundation, The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and our annual Bedford Food Bank Collection and much more.

Students in Years 11 and 12 have completed mock examinations – actually Year 11 have completed two sets of examinations this term. Our sports teams have played lots of fixtures – the new Year 9 rugby team is particularly strong and is keen to emulate the Year 10 team – who won the county cup when they were in Year 9; the Year 10 Girls football team have got off to a great start getting through to the 3rd round of the National Cup & the U15's Girls Cross Country team have qualified for the ESSA Regional Finals.

Our two Vice Principals, Mrs McMorn, Pastoral and Inclusion, and Mr Frazer, Teaching, Learning and Assessment have made a real contribution to the school.

Mr Frazer has responded to parents' desire to have greater knowledge of the homework students are set. The school has bought a package called "Show My Homework" which enables all parents to see what homework has been set. All parents now have an individual log in. Please contact Mr Frazer or miss Bolam if you would like to know more about Show My Homework. One of Mrs McMorn's initiatives has been

our Student Leadership scheme with eight Senior Student Leaders at the top of this pyramid who represent the school in the wider community as well as meeting with senior staff and governors. One of their first responsibilities was to attend Remembrance Services in Bedford at the Mayor's Parlour (with Councillor John Wheeler), in Wootton and in some of our other feeder villages. Our Senior Student Leaders are: **Cally Costello, Theo Diedrick, Richie Knox, Lauren Marler, Erin Marrs, Karina Oka Riddy, Sophie Randall and Cameron White.** There was stiff competition for these roles and we are delighted that so many students applied for them. Richie – a Wootton resident - writes of the Senior Student Leaders' role:

"Hello! I'm Richie Knox, one of the eight Senior School Leaders chosen for Wootton Upper School. Being appointed this role is an honour and a privilege as it allows me to have an active role in the school to, hopefully, change it for the better. The others chosen to be alongside me are fantastic people and I look forward to working with them to help Wootton achieve the very excellence it pursues. They are all amazing individuals already and this role will help them, and myself, to enhance our skills as leaders and continue our education with a better understanding of the world around us. I'm extremely enthusiastic about being presented this opportunity to achieve my aims for Wootton, such as giving students a larger chance to express their individuality and making sure there are more chances for students to delve deeper into their favourite subjects with activities such as extra-curricular clubs. I look forward to working alongside my peers and helping Wootton excel as a school."

Rehearsals are at an advanced stage for the Concert on **Thursday December 8th**. It promises to be a great evening of Christmas music. Please contact the school office if you would like to come along to this musical

spectacular. In the final week of term all students and staff we will attend one of six **Christmas services** at St Mary's Church on **December 14th** and **15th** before term ends on Friday December 16th. The staff return to a Training Day on Tuesday January 3rd and the students the following day, Wednesday January 4th.

On behalf of the school's students, staff and directors may I wish everybody in the village both a very happy Christmas and, that 2017 might bring peace to those parts of the world affected so terribly by war and destruction in 2016 and good health to us all.

Michael Gleeson



Wootton Good Neighbours Scheme

We now have many new residents in the village who may not know who we are and what functions we carry out, so here is a brief outline.

The group are volunteers who make time in their busy lives to transport those requiring help to visit the doctors, hospital, vets, and friends. They normally wait for clients visiting medical establishments but visit to friends are subject to arrangement with the driver.

There is a small charge to cover the drivers running costs, this is 45p per mile but travel within village is £1 each way.

The volunteers do not sit in an office waiting for calls but carry on with their normal lives, therefore, it is helpful to have at least 2 days notice if help is needed.

All our volunteers are DBS cleared.

Our leaflets are available at Doctors, Post Office and The Library.

Having lost a 3 volunteers owing to illness, age and change of work, are seeking to hear from anyone who is prepared to help, in the mornings if possible.

For further information please
telephone 07717 770 247
Monday-Friday 9.30am-5.00pm.

The scheme will close at 5pm December 23 2016 until 9-30 am January 3 2017.

The committee wishes all a Merry Christmas a joyful New Year.





Community Café

Mon, Wed, Thur, Sat. 10.00am - 12.00pm

woottonnewlife.org.uk

PAT - A - CAKE

Join us every Thursday

1.30pm - 3.00pm

Parent/carers & toddler group.

Toys, crafts and activities for pre-school

Refreshments available in The Hub

WOOTTON NEW LIFE METHODIST CHURCH

Join us to
celebrate
Christmas



Fri 16th Dec 11.00am

- Café Carols

Christmas Eve 7.00pm

- Candlelight Carols

Christmas Day 10.00am

- Family service

Find us on Cause End Road, Wootton. MK43 9DE



Sat 10th Dec 10.00am

Messy Breakfast &

Deck the Halls

Sun 11th Dec 10.30am

Nativity & gift service

BB & GB Parade Service



Sat 17th Dec 6.00pm

Festive Family Film Night

Wootton WI – Inspiring Women

We meet every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Memorial Hall, Bedford Road, Wootton.

Visitors are always welcome, only £3.50

We've all had a brilliant year – why not come along and give us a try?

Coming soon -

16 December

The Return of Jonathan Scott

Christmas entertainment from professional entertainer Jonathan Scott

18 January

Pamper evening

Come along, chill out and relax – a great way to help get over those Christmas blues!

15 February

Victorian Superman

To infinity and beyond with Colonel Fred Burnaby



15 March

A Lifetime of Children's Entertainment

Our speaker Ernie Almond tells us all about a lifetime of children's entertainment

Please contact **Kath** on **01234 765333** if you would like to come along so we can be sure to welcome you properly!

Did you know...?

The Women's Institute (WI) was formed in 1915 to revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War.

Since then the organisation's aims have broadened and the WI is now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK.

The WI celebrated its centenary in 2015 and currently has almost 220,000 members in approximately 6,300 WIs.

The WI plays a unique role in providing women with educational opportunities and the chance to build new skills, to take part in a wide variety of activities and to campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities.



Volunteers needed for our new Bedford Volunteers Fundraising Group

**Help raise awareness of Dementia and Alzheimer's Society
in Bedford, along with raising funds to help support people
affected by dementia and research**

**Contact volscambridgeshire@alzheimers.org.uk
for more information**

Here at Alzheimer's Society we have volunteering opportunities available to join our Bedford Volunteer Fundraising Group. This is a group that's made up of entirely volunteers and led by volunteers too. How the group evolves and the different events/activities you'd like to do are all decided by volunteers of the group, with support and assistance from the Community Fundraiser (Jordan Hughes) where needed.

The aim of the group is to help raise awareness of Dementia and Alzheimer's Society in the Bedford area, along with raising vital funds that help people affected by dementia and for research into the cause, cure, care and prevention of dementia.

The group meets regularly once a month, with times and dates moved around to suit the group, so this could mean an evening/weekend meeting if volunteers are in full time education/work.

If you are interested in joining the group, and would like to hear more information before making a decision then please do feel free to email

volscambridgeshire@alzheimers.org.uk



**Knowing Jesus; Making
Jesus Known to all**
is the heartbeat of St Mary's.

Sunday Services

9am Prayer Book Service
10.30am Morning Service -
including young people's
groups.

Encompass Messy Church

Monthly on Thursdays
3.45pm Church Hall
1 Dec, 26 Jan.



Christianity Explored

Regular groups;
see our website.

Pathfinders (ages 9-13)

Weds 7pm term time Church
Hall

J@M (ages 14-18) Sundays

7.15pm term time at 52A
Church Rd.

Wrigglers Parent & toddler
group. Every Monday in term
time 10am at Wootton Baptist

Men Behaving Dadly

Group for Dads and their 0-12
year olds. Last Sat of the
month 9am. Visit the website
for details.

Lunch Club

Monthly on
Mondays, 1pm, Church Hall
12 Dec, 9 Jan.

Rev'd Peter Ackroyd: 768391

Rev'd Lucas Durant: 313122

Church Office: 765375



www.stmaryswootton.org.uk



Christmas at St. Mary's

Sun 11 Dec	4pm	Christingle
Sun 18 Dec	10.30am	Nativity Service
	6pm	Carols by Candlelight
Sat 24 Dec	4pm	Family Carols
	11pm	Midnight Communion
Sun 25 Dec	10.30am	All-Age Service

NEW! Wootton & Stewartby Churches

Carol Crawl

Tues 20 Dec

Carolling with lights through the village
singing at:

6pm The Library, Lorraine Rd

6.20pm Wootton Lower, Bedford Rd

6.40pm Payne Rd

7pm Berryfields Harris Way Roundabout
with mulled wine and festive fare



CHRISTIANITY
EXPLORED

Christianity Explored

What's the best news you've ever heard?

Explore Christianity and think through
what life's all about.

New group starting in the New Year.

More information on our website, or phone 768391.

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



**WOOTTON NEW LIFE
METHODIST CHURCH**

**Festive Family
FILM NIGHT**

Saturday 17th December 2016

**ICE AGE
COLLISION COURSE**

6.00pm: Doors open

6.15pm: Ice Age Cert U

All ages welcome.

Children under 12 must be
accompanied by an adult.

This is a **FREE** event.
Pop corn, tuck, drinks etc.
for sale in the The Hub.



Please call 768222 for further details

Wootton New Life Methodist Church. Cause End Road, Wootton. MK43 9DE

woottonnewlife.org.uk