

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

AUTUMN EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2017



Contacts Directory



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John Wheeler: 07913 409 433

Parish Clerk

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Gerald Bygraves: 07792 842 601

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Bill Hall: 852 299

Bob Hensher: 767 774

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Lisa Lewis

Jeff Noakes: 07806 470 411

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Paul Quirk: 768 832

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Bob Wallace: 768 011

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John Wheeler: 07913 409 433

Hall Booking

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

Wootton Upper: 767 123

Holywell Middle: 750 381

Marston Vale Middle: 768 224

Wootton Lower: 768 239

Wootton Lower PTFA Contact: 768 239

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 295520

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

2nd Wootton Rainbows - Vickie: 602146

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 - Rebecca: 07721 686868

Brownies Friday - Jodie: 07799 140 668

Cubs - Christopher: 304 588

Country 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 Society - Pete: 07975 596 164

Women's Institute - Kath: 765 333

Wootton Rangers FC - Steve: 751 611

Wootton Blue Cross: 767 662



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Editor - Gareth Lloyd

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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 he 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 accept any responsibility for bad service or workmanship received.

Next Issue: December 2017

Copy Date: 31st October 2017

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**

Chairman's Report *Gareth Lloyd*



Gareth Lloyd



I would like to start my report by thanking **Claire Bennett** and **Naomi Groves** for the work and commitment they have given to the parish of Wootton over many years, following their resignations from the parish council. If anyone would like to join the parish council then please contact the clerk. Parish councillors are non-political volunteers who give their time freely to work towards the improvement of the parish.

The **Fun Fest** this year was the biggest and best to date and I would like to thank Mark Atkins, Claire Bennett, Brian Doggrell, Naomi Groves, Sue Playford and John Wheeler who helped with the planning and running of the day. If any local businesses would like to promote their goods, products or services at this event, do please let the clerk know.

The parish council has employed a planning professional (Andrea Pellegram Ltd) to help us in our aim to stop the proposal for a **large warehouse-style unit** (roughly the size of the John Lewis warehouses in Milton Keynes) – which is being considered by Bedford Borough Council as part of the Innovation Park adjacent to the A421. The parish council doesn't yet know if it will be successful, but we are trying everything in our powers to stop it. I would also like to thank Michelle Dyson and Dr Mike Carter-Jones for their help, support and hours of work they have put in, to the same ends.

We have had plenty of positive feedback on the **three planters** located around the village (especially now the one opposite the Cock Inn PH is in the right place!) Given their popularity, we are looking to possibly add more – so watch this newsletter (probably December) for further information.

Finally I would like to remind people that we hold a **drop in session** on the **first Saturday of the month** in the library between 10am and 12 noon. So please come along and have a chat with both a parish and borough councillor.

Police non-emergency number - **101**

Fly tipping - **01234 267422**

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Noise complaints - **01234 227266**

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Firstly a big thank you to everyone involved in putting together this year's **Fun Fest** – not least Mark Atkins who again did a sterling job before the event and on the day. Thanks also to the parish councillors and local clubs and organisations who helped to make the event another success. I wasn't able to attend this year but am told it was the busiest to date!

The parish council has a Fun Fest Committee who work throughout the year to ensure everything comes together on the day. We always welcome volunteers to join that committee – it only meets three/four times a year (most correspondence is via email). If you would like to become a member or have any ideas for 2018, please let me know. We also have a number of other committees and working groups – including a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (see elsewhere in this edition for further information on the latest Neighbourhood Plan developments). Anyone wishing to join any of the following would be most welcome:

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group;
Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group;
Wootton Play Equipment Working Group

A reminder again about the **small grants**

scheme which the parish council operates – 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, pass this information on or ask a representative to contact me.

And don't forget to use the **glass recycling bank** at the recreation ground – Wootton Church & Poor's Land will benefit from the total recycling credits received.

The parish council is working alongside residents to regenerate an area within the **recreation ground** – the wish is to install play equipment aimed at 0-5 year olds, including sensory equipment and equipment that will appeal to children within the autistic spectrum. Please take a look elsewhere in this newsletter for the design proposals. The parish council is currently seeking to upgrade CCTV cameras in that area – with the possibility of installing more.

The **ordnance survey map** as mentioned in the previous edition is still being worked on. Given it would need to be a decent size to be easily viewed, it's going to take a number of pages to publish. It might be it will be delivered separately from this newsletter for households to keep. Ongoing development is also a consideration too – no point printing it if it will immediately be out of date.

Our **year end accounts** (2016-17) are currently with the external auditors, BDO LLP and will be published online via our website once returned. I am also in the process of putting together an Annual Report which will be delivered to all households.

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 *2017*

SEPTEMBER

6th	Wootton Play Equipment	7.30pm
13th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
13th	Full Council	7.30pm
20th	Roads and footpaths committee	7.00pm
20th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group committee	8.00pm
27th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
27th	Finance & General Purposes committee	8.00pm
27th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group committee	8.00pm

OCTOBER

4th	Wootton Play Equipment	7.30pm
11th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
11th	Full Council	7.30pm
25th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
25th	Finance & General Purposes committee	8.00pm
25th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group committee	8.00pm

NOVEMBER

1st	Wootton Play Equipment	7.30pm
8th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
8th	Full Council inc precept	7.30pm
15th	Roads and footpaths committee	7.00pm
15th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group committee	8.00pm
29th	Planning & Environment committee	7.00pm
29th	Finance & General Purposes committee	8.00pm
29th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group 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>



Neighbourhood Plan

Your neighbourhood; your future

COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY

**LAUNCH EVENT: FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2017 (6.00PM - 9.00PM) AND
SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2017 (10.00AM - 5.00PM)**

WOOTTON SCOUT HUT

ST. MARY'S ROAD, WOOTTON, MK43 9HB

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

This is **your opportunity** to influence the place in which we live and how it will change in the future. Your local knowledge and sense of what needs to be protected, or changed, **will** make a real difference. The Neighbourhood Plan is essentially about having a say in:

- The use and development of the land and buildings in our village;
- What and how much is built where;
- What it will look like;
- What additional benefits it may bring;
- What land may be protected; and
- How existing buildings' use may change over time.

OUR DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

"To protect and strengthen Wootton's strong local identity and integrity as a historic rural village, working together to improve quality of life for those living, studying and working in Wootton"

SHAPING OUR NEEDS

This launch event has been organised to **raise awareness** of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan for the Village, offering **our community** the **opportunity** to give their views on the **future development of Wootton** and to gather information on the **issues** that residents and businesses are really concerned about – **as well as bringing our community together.**

Find out more by visiting www.woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk

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SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2017 (10.00AM - 5.00PM)

WOOTTON SCOUT HUT

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The proposed **new industrial park** is still an ongoing issue as at the time of writing this report at the end of July. The Parish Council has been working with a professional consultant on your behalf to try and get the best for the village; a document has been produced and presented to the Borough Council ahead of the planning meeting (which at the time of this report was Monday 21st August 2017).

The Parish Council and I have been working together regarding **footpaths, lights, speeding issues and crossings** in the village and I am pleased to say we are progressing with certain intended projects including; the widening of the pavement on Fields Road and a crossing by the Surgery (this is been financed by contributions from housing developers); installing more Speed Indicator Detectors (SIDs) and other anti-speeding measures around the village; raised bus stops at all stops to assist the elderly /disabled / parents with buggies getting on and off buses, and; plans for a zebra crossing outside the Lower School on Bedford Road and installing a traffic island by the

Manor Road flats to assist in crossing the road at that point. I will keep you updated on all of these projects.

I would like to thank the Wootton Parish Council and the **Fun Day** Committee, especially Mark Atkins, for a fantastic event in July. The weather stayed fine and it was very well supported by the village. The evening music was good with lots of people making an evening of it and staying until the end. The Committee has already met to plan the July 2018 event.

I mentioned in the last issue about the **schools helping in the community**. The Upper School is very keen to get more involved and will be helping to raise funds for the Robert Lunniss Charity lunch and helping out on the day along with the Lower School choir performing. The Upper School would welcome suggestions how it can help more around the village, whether it be at local events or helping the elderly etc. Please feel free to get in touch should you have any thoughts.

I have now received notification of my **Borough Councillor Ward Fund** for 2017/18 which allows me to make a financial contribution to local schemes benefiting the community. If you feel you have a scheme you feel could benefit, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The Royal British Legion

Alec Head, a long standing member of the Wootton Branch of The Royal British Legion sadly passed away on 23rd March of this year. Alec had done a tremendous amount of work over the years for The Royal British Legion. His funeral was very well attended and the chosen charity for donations in Alec's memory was for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Donations to date have realised £570 with money still coming in from his daughter Susan who has been doing her own fundraising.

Gill, Alec's wife has also contributed 50 years' service to the The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal as a door to door Poppy seller and was awarded a few years ago with a badge and certificate in recognition of this excellent achievement.

On Tuesday 23rd May 2017, I was privileged to attend a Buckingham Palace garden party – The invitation was given for 49 years of service (Poppy selling and assisting with the organisation of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for Wootton). Also for donating 96 pints of blood to date.

us on a delightful excursion of London after the event. The day was a most memorable occasion.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal door to door' collections will no longer be able to be carried out due to the No Cold Calling policy which is governed by the Codes of Practice from the Fundraising Regulator.

If a 'No Cold Calling Zone' has been created legitimately (i.e. within Trading Standards Institute guideline). Collectors MUST NOT cold call.

As Wootton is a No Cold Calling Zone the collection boxes etc for your convenience, will still be placed at the local Schools, Shops, Garage, Surgeries, Pubs etc. Thank you.

Chris Ashpole

(Poppy Appeal organiser)

07865051453



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Website: www.bizzybeespreschool.org

Email: bizzybeespre_school@btconnect.com

Tel: 01234 767785

This term we have explored the topic of Besides the sea. We created sea side pictures including ice creams, sunshine and boats. We role played an ice cream van and had the enjoyment of a real ice cream van visiting BB and trying an ice cream too.

We celebrated Father's day by having a Father Day stay and play session. We had lots of Dads attend and the children enjoyed having their Dads join in with indoor and outdoor activities. This as a successful morning and enjoyed by all.

Bizzy Bees enjoyed a trip to Wootton Library where they met the Book start bear. We listened to a story, sang some new rhymes and made some bunny ear to walk home in. We followed children's interests and arranged a 'superhero' day as well as a 'pirate and fairy day'. The children absolutely loved exploring the different activities on offer and especially enjoyed the fairy treasure hunt – and the surprise at the end, a fairy tea party!

We have enjoyed our sports week which included visits from MK Dons and Mini Strikers. The children really enjoyed participating in these physical activities. We hosted a sports day for our school leavers which was really successful. The children enjoyed different races and receiving a special medal.

The last few weeks of term our school leavers have been preparing for their transition to big school. We created a school role play area where the children can practice putting on uniform, mark making on white boards and carrying their own book bag. We also enjoyed a trip to our local school and met our new teachers.

Bizzy Bees will be offering 30 hour funded places from September 2017 – limited spaces available.

From September we will also be offering a **breakfast club** for 3-4 year olds 8.30 – 9am. Bizzy Bees Pre-school has been running since 1972 and serves the local community. Bizzy Bees Pre-School offers term time only day care for children aged 2 years to school age. The manager has Early Years Teacher Status and leads a team of 9 qualified and experienced staff to provide children with high standards of care and education.

Opening Times:

Monday to Friday – 9:00am to 3:45pm.

Dates for your diary:

Scarecrow Festival - Saturday 14th October

AGM Meeting – 9th October

(we are a volunteer managed pre-school and welcome persons from the community with appropriate skills to join our committee)

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For more Information Contact.
Brian Woodcock : 07795 251988,
brianwoodcock@btinternet.com

Lee Brown : 07971944114,
brownlee243@yahoo.com

Wootton Street Watch



Wootton Street Watch started in March 2016. Unfortunately, we are now reduced to three volunteers.

Street Watch is administered and funded by Bedfordshire Police.

Simply put, Street Watch aims to provide a level of reassurance to the community by patrolling the locality. It should be noted the volunteers have no powers to intervene in any incidents. All patrols are recorded on the Street Watch internet page. Volunteers must patrol in pairs, and cannot exceed 75 years of age. The volunteers are not on call. The volunteers are expected to provide 2 hours patrol time each month.

Volunteers attend a short training input at Flitwick with the co-ordinator, PCSO Juliet Wright, and are then issued with their equipment of a high visibility jacket, a notebook, a torch, a pen and a persona attack alarm. Volunteers become members of the Bedfordshire Police volunteers and are issued with an identification card.

Following on from this each volunteer is taken out on patrol by PCSO Dancer or one of the other volunteers. From then on they are free to patrol at any time.

Within Wootton, amongst other things, we

have assisted at the Bedford School Lower School in assisting with children crossing the road, have patrolled the recreation ground to prevent dog fouling and anti social behaviour and advise dog owners concerning use of the ground, have advised persons riding cycles on the pavement and have handed out Parish Council cards to those vehicles parked on the footpath.

Volunteers are always welcome. The more volunteers we have, the more patrols we can achieve. Anyone interested should contact PCSO **Juliet Wright** on 01234 842613 or 07931 293908 or by e-mail at Juliet.wright@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk.

Jeff Noakes

Wootton Street Watch Co-ordinator



Aint it a Change??

We came to Wootton in 1970 after living and working for some 10 years in large cities. Before that I was brought up in a South Wales mining town and my wife in the London suburbs. At first Wootton - although a village - didn't seem too different from where we had lived before - we had good jobs in large organisations - there was plenty of varied work around and housing, good medical and general services nearby and the smell and haze from the brickworks was comparable with many industrial areas in UK.

It was with time as our family grew and we got used to Wootton as an independent village of character - that we got to appreciate it as a real home - coupled with a steady removal of brickworks smells. Loss of certain amenities and steady growth in size didn't seem to seriously affect us because of convenience to Bedford other regional towns and UK in general. Above all as we moved into the 80's and 90's the problems of very severe change experienced by many other areas of UK - and by myself personally in my wider jobs in engineering and education - did not seem to have an affect on Wootton itself.

It is perhaps the warm protection that Wootton has given us over many years that makes the change which is now happening to the village so much harder to bear. In my home area of South Wales and in the North the brutal closings of the mining and other heavy industries forced all who lived there to change lives abruptly with associated struggles to survive and often to move for work.

Wootton's big change - now that it is coming hard - is different to other places and more difficult to understand than that of the heavy UK industrial areas - even like Luton. . Loss of employment in this area has been more gradual through the 90's - but has

nevertheless been happening steadily and remorselessly. The difference unlike other regions is that this high job loss is now very heavily associated with massive additional housing construction - placing greater and greater burdens on local services and amenities which have in no way been expanded to cope.

So what are we to look forward to as 2017 moves on to 2020 for the large extra population. Will the new employment capabilities proposed - small units - distribution centres - in any way meet out needs as did the regional engineering, automotive, electronics, materials, food industries of the past?? - will they prevent yet more traffic travelling down to London on A1 and M1 - will they help our services cope more?? Will Brexit nationally provide new opportunities for this region to develop and sell wares which it has not yet devised in industries not yet set up?? Will the new Wootton and region around - as we had hoped it was to become - be a new smaller attractive Milton Keynes with parks roundabouts shopping centres??

It is not now any use wondering whether we could have affected the change which is coming to us from 2017. We may all guess, hope, be concerned or just be apathetic - but none of us can really know - anymore than I knew in 1970 - how things will work out for us in Wootton. What is certain is that we could learn a great deal from looking at how other places have suffered, coped or benefitted with enforced change situations like this - and maybe take more active interest in our affairs in future.

The very best of luck and fortune to all my Wootton friends and neighbours in the years to come.

Mike Carter Jones

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easy

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

hard

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



Wootton Lower School

The end of the summer term proved to be a very busy but exciting time for all our children. As part of their topics, the children visited local attractions including Woburn Safari Park, the Dinosaur and Farm Park in Milton Keynes and Duxford Air Museum. In the last week of term, our PTFA arranged an end of term celebration the highlight being soaking Mr Tavener, Mr Protheroe and Mr Wheeler with water balloons! May we take this opportunity to thank all members of the PTFA who give up their time to help the children of Wootton lower School.

All the children enjoyed a morning with their new class teacher in readiness for September and our year 4 children spent two days at their new middle schools. We said a sad farewell to many wonderful year 4 children and their families on the last day of term. Over the years, we develop a very special relationship with families often spanning many years and it feels like the end of an era when the youngest child leaves us. However, our job is to prepare the children for the next stage of their school journey and we could not be prouder of the amazing year 4 children who will soon be embarking upon the fresh challenges of middle school. Our preschool children had a very special graduation ceremony dressing up in hats and gowns, marking the end of their time at preschool and the start of their time at

Wootton Lower School. These children have made amazing progress while being in preschool and it is amazing to see the skills and knowledge they already have at such a young age.

As part of our belief in delivering a wider curriculum to our children, we set up the "Fiver Challenge" for children to take part in. Classes were given £5 and they had to decide how to use the £5 to raise more money. The children could then decide what to spend the proceeds on! We are pleased to tell you we have some budding entrepreneurs at Wootton Lower School! Jewellery was made, cakes sales were held and games were run to raise money.

The new term brings exciting times ahead.

Our first event of the term will be our **Harvest Festival**. On Wednesday 11th October, we will be having our **annual Senior Citizens Tea Party** – we hope to see many of you there! Then, before we know it Christmas will be upon us and we will be knee deep in glitter!

Celebrate Friendship Month with the Bedford (Wootton) Branch of the Oddfellows!

Friendship Month is made for sharing! Good friends make life better, sharing fun times, smiles and laughs. And in those tougher times, having someone to turn to over a cuppa helps us cope. Friendship makes the good times better, the hard times easier and give us memories to cherish for a lifetime. As one of the UK's largest and oldest friendly societies, we want to remind the nation of just how important friendship is, and – through our Branches across the UK – show how proud we are to be sharing friendship to create vibrant communities bonded by companionship and care. Sharing the good times Since 2010, we've been extending invitations to all – members and non-members alike – welcoming everyone to join in with our Friendship Month events, held throughout September.

Join us at our **Friendship Coffee Morning** on **Wednesday 13th September** at The Hub, Wootton Methodist Church, Wootton MK43 9DE at 10.30am - £1 for coffee/tea - organised by Bedford branch secretary Allie Redman - 01234 768914 if you would like more details.

Other future events include meals out and interesting talks (for example a talk on how to avoid scams is planned in the next few months).

www.oddfellows.co.uk <<http://www.oddfellows.co.uk>> Facebook:
Beds & Bucks District of the Oddfellows.





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Just When You Think It Is All Over and You Can Relax !

A warm, sunny day with a gentle breeze outside, but cool in the exam hall of Wootton Academy. The stress of the last "A" level examination nearly over, exam paper completed, re-read and approved. St. Mary's time piece chimes the three quarter hour. Should Penny (not her real name) hand her paper in and wait the remaining 15 minutes for her friends outside, or stay in the hall? She waited at the exam desk.

"Time, pens down" called the invigilator. An excited buzz filled the hall as the exam papers were handed in and the hall vacated. In time honoured tradition the examinees, and others, made their way to a local hostelry to discuss the exams and celebrate the end of their school year. With great enthusiasm, excitement and good humour they chat, and sing in the sunny garden, relieving weeks of pent up study and anxious anticipation. Penny had always liked Percy (not his real name) and they found themselves seated next to each other, greatly enjoying each others conversation and company.

Percy suggested to Penny that a short stroll around the fields would be beneficial, they left the group, hand in hand, saying they were, "taking bit of exercise!" The group replied with cat calls and whistles!

At that time some 300mtrs. away a farmer was unloading the last of 7 cattle into his field. Having locked the field gate the farmer left the enclosure. He watched as the cattle "huddled" together for reassurance in their new domain. In a group they nervously moved to the field edge and started to explore.

Having cautiously clambered over a barbed wire fence (Percy, gentleman that he was, had laid his jacket over the barbs), Percy and Penny were also " huddling" under the shade of a willow tree, in the long grass and on Percy's jacket.

Oblivious to the world in a way that those engaged in deep, meaningful conversation, can be, Percy and Penny both failed to notice that the cattle had silently crept up and penned them in on three sides. With a startled scream of, "OH! MY GOD!!" Penny became aware of her predicament. "Don't worry, they are only cows," comforted Percy, but under the brash exterior he, too, was panicking.

The cattle moved forward. Penny, screaming, ran away through the unguarded 4th side closely followed by Percy. The same barbed wire, but in a different location was scrambled over causing cuts and torn clothing. The cattle continued their advance right up to the wire, causing Penny and Percy to stumble away from the wire fence and fall into a wet, slimy field ditch. The ditch base was the sort that looks firm but is treacherously gluey, Penny's feet were gripped. She tripped headlong and was provided with a coating of mud on the torn clothes, hands, head and bloody cuts. They proceed along the ditch looking for a way out.

The far side of the ditch is where this author's house is, and on hearing the commotion he went to investigate. He found what appeared to be a distressed young lady in torn clothes, visible cuts and blood showing through a layer of mud, being pursued by a young man in a similar condition. This author was unaware of the cattle who, it transpired, had lost interest and wandered away.

"What thes going on?," says he, thinking there to be serious crime in progress. "Please HELP," wailed Penny. "Is he attacking you?" he asks, "No, just help us, please."

They are helped over the garden wall and sat, distraught, dishevelled, wet, bloody and muddy on garden furniture.

What to do? The English remedy of tea being declined, Percy elected to walk home, he lived quite close by. Penny lived further away and gratefully accepted this author's offer of a car lift home. It was further suggested that Penny should wash the mud from the blood and that a shower would be most appropriate. Again she was grateful of the offer and the matter was resolved by taking off her shoes and muddy outer garments, rinsing her feet under the garden hose, then visiting the upstairs shower room, wearing an old house coat of the author's wife (who was out at that time).

So showered and shampooed, barefoot, wearing a dressing gown, drinking an

accepted cup of coffee, and sitting in the conservatory Penny was the recipient of a 2nd "What thes going on?" Asked by the author's wife, who had returned earlier than expected !!



Clever Dick

"We've arrived" said the scientist "Nothing is left
that mankind can't produce on his own

We've triumphed over space and the whole human race
can be reproduced in a clone.

God is redundant, he's no longer needed. There's nothing we humans can't do

With our pharmaceuticals man can make miracles."

"Right" said God "Over to you"

See how you get on without me at your side. Create what you like--or you can

For example, if I might just make a suggestion; Begin by creating a man"

The scientist looked quite excited at that-

And giving the Almighty a nod

Bent to pick up some soil-when a voice intervened

"No; find you own soil" said God.

By Rebecca Cook
Rebecca Cook©

Wootton Country Players

A rambunctious American family buys a haunted manor in England.

But they don't mind... they don't believe in ghosts.

As the ghost tries to scare the Americans out of his home, he finds the tables

are turned - he is being terrorised by the children in the family!

A spooky comedy with some zany scenes, Oscar Wilde's story is also a sweet tale of the power of love.

Wootton Country Players will be performing this well-known black comedy play at Wootton Village Hall.

Performance dates are 10 & 11th November, 7:30pm.

A fully licensed bar will also be available.

Tickets can be purchased via Tina Kirkup on 07788 857040.



***General Property
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Home Improvements***

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Call Paula or Paul

01234 765642 / 07887 852489

Email thelook@tiscali.co.uk

Wootton WI - INSPIRING WOMEN

For £3-50p for an evening out come and find us at Wootton Memorial Hall Bedford Road on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7-30pm. We offer interesting talks from visiting speakers, have dabble evenings and social events where you can sit with a cup of tea and chat to likeminded women. We are a friendly bunch who will give you a warm welcome. If you enjoy yourself you can pay an annual subscription and enjoy twelve meetings through the year and become part of a larger institution that helps make significant changes to the way we live our lives.



You can now find Wootton WI on Facebook – search for **Wootton Beds Women's Institute**



18th October

Tweets from an Edwardian age – Vanessa Mann collects old postcards, not for the pictures but for the writing on the postcards then imagines what the people who sent them were like.

15th November

An Evening with Fred - Fred is a retired paramedic with a huge sense of humour, come and find out about his life and maybe learn some first aid skills, you never know what Fred is going to tell us!

20th December

Christmas Celebrations

17th January

Dabble Evening – Come and see what crafts you can try.

Wootton Vale Healthy Living Centre

Changes And Staff News

We are currently surrounded by a hubbub of noise and activity as the long anticipated "Land South of Fields Road" housing development is now well and truly underway. All the noise and disturbance will inevitably lead to thousands more patients over the next few years.

Our current premises will not be able to satisfy this demand and so, we are now eagerly engaging with the local NHS (Bedfordshire CCG) and Bedford Borough Council with the aim of arriving at a solution which will enable us to meet the premises needs that these additional residents will put on our services. We will keep you abreast of any developments through our website (www.woottonvale.com) and future editions of Wootton News.

We have recently recruited some new members to our Administration Team and are expanding our nursing team. We hope you will join us in welcoming our three new Receptionist / Administrators Pam, Wendy and Lisa to Wootton Vale.

We would ask that you bear with them while they are training and learning their new roles. The role of a modern GP Receptionist / Administrator is very demanding, requiring them to master complex processes and computer systems, all whilst in a busy environment. While we can appreciate that it can, at times, be somewhat frustrating when staff do not immediately know the answer to your query, may we ask that you show understanding in these situations. We would like to emphasise that, in line with all NHS Organisations, we operate a Zero Tolerance policy with regard to abusive behaviour and this extends to verbal abuse. Anyone behaving in this manner may find themselves being removed from the practice list.

Donna has just joined our nursing team. Along with Cara, who has just completed her prescribing course, we now have two highly specialised nurses who are trained in

minor illness and so, will be able to support our GPs by running some of our Urgent Access clinics.

Many of you will remember Megan. Megan has spent the past 18 months training to be a Nurse. She has now completed her course and will also be rejoining the practice team in September.

The practice would also like to congratulate Samantha Hale in qualifying as an HCA recently. Samantha is a real success story of Wootton Vale as she has progressed quickly since joining us as an Apprentice in 2011 – Well Done Sam!

Val Illingworth – A Tribute

It is with great sadness that the surgery learnt of the passing of our Patient Partition Group (PPG) Chair – Val Illingworth. Val was a great supporter of the surgery and worked tirelessly in her role, as PPG Chair, to promote and support the development of the practice. Many of you will recognise Val from the local events attended by the PPG. The whole practice recognises the great work that Val did on our behalf. The management team are determined that Val's efforts shall not be in vain and so, we shall build on and deliver the practice that Val always wanted for Wootton, in the hope that it will provide a fitting legacy to her. Our thoughts and condolences are with Val's family and friends at this very sad time.

Urgent Access Appointments

Our Urgent Access Clinic is designed for urgent on-the-day problems which cannot wait until the next routine appointment. Unfortunately a small minority of patient's are misusing this service and are using it for convenience rather than urgency, causing delays for the patients who need to be seen on an urgent basis.

The surgery offers a wide range of pre-bookable appointments with the total available exceeding NHS England



requirements.

As well as GP's, nurses and other staff with a wide range of skillsets, we also have a Pharmaceutical advisor Regina, who can advise you with any medication queries.

Alternatively the local Pharmacy here in Wootton can help with any routine and minor illnesses such as coughs, colds etc. Routine telephone calls should be booked in the next available slot with your chosen GP. On the day telephone calls are for urgent problems and we cannot guarantee you will speak to your chosen GP.



Yes it is coming up to that time of year again! We will be getting our flu vaccinations towards the middle of September. The surgery will be holding the usual flu vaccination clinics for those patients who are eligible including a Saturday clinic for our patients who cannot attend during the week.

Flu Clinic will be held on Saturday 21st October 2017 – please take advantage of this clinic if you work full time and find it difficult to attend the practice during your working hours.

Other clinics will be held within practice opening times, so please contact the surgery near the time for an appointment.



Immunisations/Vaccinations

Babies born after 1st August will be vaccinated against Hepatitis B. The vaccination will be included in the present five in one vaccination of the routine childhood immunisation schedule. This will be given at 8, 12 and 16 weeks of age.

Public Health England has reported an increase in the incidences of measles cases. We are asking people to check that they have had two doses of the MMR vaccination. If you are between 16 years of age and 30 years of age and are not sure if you have had two MMR vaccinations please contact us to check.

Shingles vaccine

We can now offer this to all patients when they reach their 70th birthday. So please book an appointment with the nurse. All patients aged 71, 72, 73 or 78 and 79 years of age are eligible for vaccination. Once you are 80 years of age you are no longer eligible for a Shingles vaccination.



ACWY Meningitis vaccination-

These are now being given in schools to all children around the age of 14 years of age. Other groups eligible are adolescents who are 18 years of age on 31st August 2017 (ie: born between 01.09.1998 and 31.08.1999), who have not received one before, patients up to 25 years of age, patients also eligible are 19-24 year olds who are going to university for the first time. We will provide these vaccinations in the surgery. Please book an appointment with our nurses.

Whooping Cough vaccinations -

All pregnant ladies need to be vaccinated at 16 weeks or over of pregnancy. This vaccination will help protect your baby for the first 8 weeks of their life.

Prescription Changes

There have been some changes to NHS prescribing contracts made by NHS England. The result of these changes is that

GP's are not allowed to put certain over-the-counter medications on prescription. For a full list of what you will now need to buy over-the-counter please pick up a form from Reception or visit your local Pharmacist. Alternatively, you can speak to our Pharmaceutical Advisor, Regina.

Have you still not registered for our online and text services?

This service allows you to make repeat prescription requests, book appointments and access your medical records from the comfort of your living room. You can even do this on the move using the app on your tablet or Smartphone. So avoid the frustrating wait trying to get through on the phone and register for our online services. To do this, complete the form on our website or at reception. If you do this at the practice we will be able to print off a letter detailing your username and password for you to take away.

The Forest of Marston Vale

Here at the Forest of Marston Vale we are working with lower schools, to help them plant more trees in their grounds. Community Forests across the country have been awarded funding from Defra, to engage young children with trees and their natural environment. So far, two lower schools in the Forest are involved with the project, and will be planting their free trees this Autumn/Winter. They will be planting native English broadleaved trees and hedgerow shrubs, and will be able to learn about the trees as they grow.

We are also getting ready for our Forest Family Fun Day. On September 3rd we'll be welcoming Chase and Marshall from Paw Patrol to the Millennium Country Park, where they will be appearing at intervals throughout the day! There will be so many things for the whole family to do, with go karts, a climbing wall, tea

cup rides, land zorbing, a bouncy castle, giant obstacle course, kids crafts and a dog show.

The day is all about having lots of fun and helping us to raise money to keep the Forest of Marston Vale growing and thriving. Trees make life better in so many ways, which is why we want to plant 5 million more, creating new woodlands throughout the Forest for wildlife and people to enjoy.



Outstanding Parish Council Issues & Projects

Item	Location	Deadline
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Bus stop facilities

Throughout the village

Ongoing

Wootton Parish Council (WPC) agreed (9th August 2017) to spend Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies to upgrade all bus stops within the village to make them disable-friendly. This will include raised kerbing and tactile paving. The proposal will NOT extend to Fields Road at the present time due to proposed works (including footpath and road resurfacing) by Bedford Borough Council.

CCTV

Recreation Ground

Ongoing

A proposal to upgrade cameras at the recreation ground (to HD) will be put forward, to coincide with the regeneration of the Jubilee Garden area

Christmas street lighting (wrap around column lights)

To be determined expected to be Fields Rd and Bedford Rd initially

Ongoing

The Clerk is investigating other types of lighting – in addition to wrap around column lights

Community Centre

Berryfields

Ongoing

WPC is still in talks with Persimmon Homes, with the aim to be appointed its Management Entity. WPC has appointed a conveyancer to assist with the process. Until a firm proposal is received and agreed by all parties, it remains unclear if/when this will happen or when the community centre will open

Covanta Incinerator

Stewartby parish

Ongoing

WPC has previously resolved to support MMAG (Marston Moreteyne Action Group) in its fight to halt the proposed Covanta EFW Incinerator, but not in financial terms. Posters are displayed in noticeboards, Borough Councillor John Wheeler, Cllr Neera Regmi and at least one member of the public from Wootton attend MMAG meetings when possible. For fuller information please visit MMAG's website: <https://mmetag.wordpress.com/covanta-proposal/> or contact WPC.

Keeley End Pond

Bedford Road/Keeley Lane

2017

All works are complete with the exception of the duck house

Local Plan 2035

Throughout the village

Ongoing

WPC previously stated it DID NOT wish any further development to take place within the village. The Borough Council has since undertaken a call for sites which has pushed deadlines back

Marston Vale Innovation Park

Towards the A421

Ongoing

WPC has employed Andrea Pellegram Ltd (Planning Professional) and submitted a robust objection to this proposal – particularly a B8-style distribution warehouse. At the time of printing – the proposal was due for consideration by BBC's Planning Committee on 21st August 2017.

Neighbourhood Plan**The whole civil
parish of Wootton****Ongoing**

WPC has employed APC Planning (Planning Professional), Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) and Regeneration Positive (Neighbourhood Plan Professional) to aid with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan. This will give residents a greater say in the future of the village.

Parking restrictions**Several sites
within the village****Ongoing**

Some areas have now been yellow-lined but WPC continues to chase BBC as to why some areas still remain outstanding.

Recreation ground footpaths**Recreation ground****Ongoing**

Costings are being sourced to complete an entire footpath route around the recreation ground.

**Recreation ground
remodelling works
– Jubilee Gardens****Recreation ground****Ongoing**

Plans are to install additional play equipment aimed at 0-5 year olds (including sensory play equipment) and remodel the area to make it more open and accessible.

Roads and Footpaths**Throughout the village****Ongoing**

The Roads & Footpaths Safety Steering Group continues to meet every other month to raise issues for BBC to consider. Minutes to view are available at: http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/files/index?folder_id=10434511 (or request a hard copy from the Clerk)

St. Mary's churchyard footpath**St. Mary's Church****Ongoing**

Costings are being sourced to repair the footpath leading to the North Side Entrance

**St. Mary's stone and
railing cemetery wall****St. Mary's Church****Ongoing**

Funds are being earmarked to carry out repairs/replace when appropriate. Following an ash tree which fell over Christmas and caused damage to the wall in part (at the rear of the cemetery) – some works will take place in the coming months (the full extent of which is not yet known)

Street lights**Throughout the village****Ongoing**

WPC is in talks with BBC on a proposal for the ownership/maintenance of all street lights to be transferred to BBC

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
28 Sept.

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 the Church Hall

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

Men Behaving Dadly

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

Lunch Club Monthly on
Mondays, 1pm, Church Hall
11 Sept, 9 Oct, 13 Nov.

Revd Peter Ackroyd:

768391

Revd Lucas Durant: 313122

Church Office: 765375

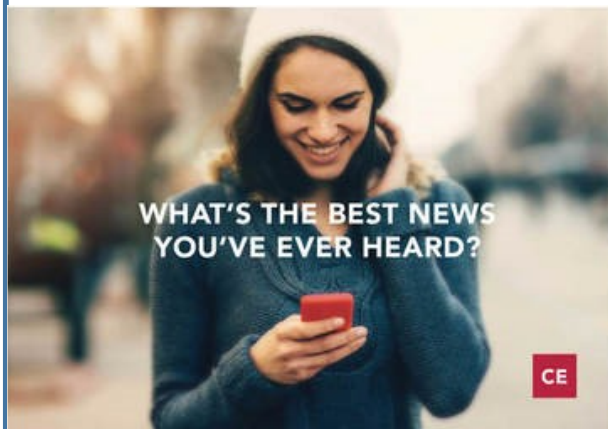


www.stmaryswootton.org.uk



Christianity Explored

New group beginning in September.
See our website for more details soon.
Come and ask any question you may have about
Christianity in a very easy, informal setting.



Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 1st October: 9am & 10.30am

Service of Remembrance

Sunday 12 November 10.30am



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





Established 1967

St. Mary's Church Hall, St. Mary's Road, Wootton, Beds MK43 9HB
Tel: 01234 767158 Email: stmarys5@hotmail.co.uk

St Mary's Preschool Celebrates 50th Anniversary

St Mary's Preschool was first opened in 1967 and this year is our 50th Anniversary!

In June the children and their parents at St. Mary Preschool celebrated our 50th Anniversary with a trip to Mead Open Farm in Leighton Buzzard. The day began with staff, parents and some very excited children boarding a Double Decker bus from preschool.

The children had the opportunity to see, learn about and interact with farm animals through activities such as bottle feeding lambs, stroking rabbits and guinea pigs and hand-feeding goats and sheep. The children were excited as they boarded the tractor and trailer ride that took them for a ride around the farm. The children finished the trip with fun on the adventure playground and jumping pillows.

We finished the term by holding a Family Fun Day at the preschool. The children and their family enjoyed a fun-packed day with a 'Pirate and Princess' themed party. The children enjoyed having a picnic in the Preschool garden, bouncing on the bouncy castle, playing on the pirate boat and the princess castle, hunting for pirate treasure in the sand, pirate and princess themed arts and crafts, ice pops and cake.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this such a wonderful celebration of our preschool!



We are looking forward to the next 50 years!

General Information

Learning Through Play To EYFS Standards

Monday 9am – 12pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday -
 9am – 4pm

Thursday 9am – 3pm

Lunch Club is available 12pm – 1pm

Ofsted registered 'Good' Free flow play
 offered Secured outdoor space Qualified
 staff

£3.75 per hour (2017/18)

**Funded hours available for children
 aged 3+ and eligible children aged 2+,
 Childcare vouchers accepted**

**To arrange a visit or for more information
 please contact Tracey or Mary on
 01234 767158**

News From Wootton Upper School

Michael Gleeson, Executive Principal, Wootton Academy Trust

Our last school year ended with a very moving production of a new play, 'I Love You Mum, I Promise I Won't Die'. This new play tells the story of a sixteen-year-old boy, who dies after taking an ecstasy tablet. The boy's parents have established the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation in his memory to educate others to the dangers of recreational drugs. The cast were all Year 9 and Year 10 students and there were some really amazing performances especially from Daniel Blunt and Leila Baxter, who played the boy's parents. At the end of the two performances a collection was taken to support the foundation. It raised £401.00. More parents wrote to the director, Mr Stevens, to comment on this production than any other we have produced. I would like to congratulate Miss Emily Kirkup, Year 13 who was the Assistant Director for all her hard work on the production.



Before the play a wide variety of end of year visits took place including:

the Music Department's bi-annual visit to Bamberg - where three concerts were performed;

the PE Department's annual visit to Blue Peris Outdoor Centre in Snowdonia where forty Year 9 students enjoyed a brilliant sunny week, kayaking, sea traversing and much more;

the Year 9 trip to Euro-Disney, where sixty-one students had a fantastic time with all the

Disney favourites.

The Geography Departments visit to Cromer where all Year 10 Geographers spent a day doing field work for their GCSE qualification.



Geography students in Cromer



Y9 students at Euro Disney

GCSE results were published on Thursday August 24th

Congratulations to all last years' Y11 students – they were a fantastic year group and we are all very proud of what they have achieved in their GCSE examinations. You will be able to read more on how well students did on the school's website.

Governor News

Our new Local Governing Body has now met three times since it was formed back in March. Our governors make regular visits to the school: Mrs Tracey Corby, is our link SEND governor. Cllr. John Wheeler, is our link Pupil Premium and Looked After Children governor. Mrs Sally Knight is our Designated Safeguarding Governor. Mr Neil Meredith and Cllr John Wheeler have visited lessons and Cllr Wheeler attended the

end of Year assembly as well as one of the Awards Evenings in July.

From September, Mr Peter Haddon, recently retired Headteacher at Holywell, has accepted an invitation from the board to join the Local Governing Body.

Keeping Children Safe in Education

Our number one priority is keeping our children safe. From September Miss Dawn Bolam is our Designated Safeguarding Lead. [e: dbolam@wootton.beds.sch.uk]. Miss Bolam is also responsible for Pupil Premium Children and Looked-After Children.

Pastoral Care for all students

Mrs McMorn, Vice Principal [Pastoral and Inclusion] has overseen a review of our pastoral support systems. From September 2017 we will have Year Leaders with overall responsibility for both the pastoral care and academic progress of children in their year. Our new Year Leaders are:

Year 9:

Mr Elvis Rughoobeer
[e: erughoobeer@wootton.beds.sch.uk]

Year 10:

Mr Phil Bailey
[e: pbailey@wootton.beds.sch.uk]

Mrs Andrea Strickland
[e: astrickland@wootton.beds.sch.uk]

Year 11:

Mrs Helen Wright
[e: hwright@wootton.beds.sch.uk]

Years Leader are supported by Form Tutors and by a Pastoral Support Officer (PSO). A vacancy for a PSO is being advertised early in September.

We appointed Mrs Holmes as our new SENDCo during the summer term; she has already proved to be very popular with students, staff, parents/carers and governors.

SENDCo:

Mrs Jess Holmes
[e:jholmes@wootton.beds.sch.uk]

At the end of the summer term we appointed an Assistant SENDCo, Mrs Laura Cross.

New Intake

We welcomed almost 300 Year 8 children to the school for a three-day induction in July. The children looked very smart in their school blazers, this change in uniform is being phased in from September. All of these Year 8 children, girls and boys, will wear the school tie as well as a blazer when they join the school officially from September. The children tell us they really enjoyed their visit and can barely wait to start in the new academic year. All of the children have made friends with children from other schools.

Some of the Year 8 children took part in a tea-time concert on the final day of their visit. It was fantastic to see these children singing in our choirs and playing in the orchestra and Jazz Band.

School Uniform

Some parents have asked for clarification on the type and style of trousers and length of skirts which are allowed in school. Skirts must be knee length. Trousers must NOT be skin-tight, or leggings or jeggings. Trousers must not be made of jean or jean type material. All of our current children have already been told what our expectations are and what action we will take if they don't meet them.

We have also written to parents and carers have as we want every one of our students to wear their uniform with pride. Just for good measure new intake children have also been told what is acceptable in one of their assemblies during their induction. We know that letters do not always get home and therefore, if any parent/carer of a child did not get the letter, please visit the school website. woottonupper.co.uk

2017 - 2018

We are very much looking forward to the new school year. Our term dates are the same as the other schools in our pyramid:

Wootton Upper School Term Dates 2017 - 2018:

Autumn Term:
Tuesday Sept 5th – Tuesday Dec 19th

Half term:
Monday 23rd - Friday Oct 27th

Staff Training Day:
Friday Nov 24th

Spring Term:
Wednesday Jan 3rd – Wed Mar 28th

Half term:
Monday 12th - Friday 16th Feb

Summer Term:
Monday Apr 16th – Friday Jul 20th

May Day Bank Holiday:
Monday May 7th

Half term:
Monday 28th May - Friday 1st Jun

Important Dates in the Autumn Term: Parents/Carers:

Study Skills Information Evening (Y9 – Y11)
Tuesday 26th September

Wootton Upper School Open Evening (Y8)
Thursday 28th September, 5:00p.m.

Meet the Tutor Evening (Y9)
Thursday 12th October

Preparing for GCSE Exams Evening (Y11)

Thursday 12th October
Musical "In the Heights" ALL
Tues. 17th – Thurs. 19th October

Kimberley College Open Evening (Y11)
Thursday 16th November

Christmas Concert ALL
Thursday 14th December

Students:
Year 11 students' photographs (Y11)
Tuesday 19th September

Non-uniform day ALL
Friday 29th September

Y10 Assessment Week (Y10)
Monday 9th – Friday 13th October

Y11 Mock Exams Series 1 (Y11)
Monday 30th – Friday 3rd November

Kimberley College Open Evening (Y11)
Thursday 16th November

Non-uniform day Children in Need (ALL)
Friday 17th November

Y9 Assessment Week (Y9)
Mon. 20th – Thurs. 23rd November

St Marys Church Christmas Assemblies (ALL)
Mon. 18th – Tues. 19th December

Please contact the school on
01234 767123 if you have any questions on
the above events.

The Pursuit of Excellence



Wootton Baptist Church

I was talking to a farmer friend of mine recently, who was getting concerned about his harvest as the weather had changed from the long sunny days to rather wetter days. I reminded him that he had always got his harvest in so far. He had to agree, but it is understandable when a years work relies on some good weather to complete the job. There are some of us who wanted the rain and our gardens are looking the better for it.

God promised in the Bible that there would always be a harvest. He hasn't failed us. It amazes me when I hear of the starvation there is in some parts of the world. It's mainly through wars or man's greediness. There is plenty of food produced but the distribution around the world is the problem. We in the rich West should not be so selfish.

The village Fun Day was blessed with good weather and good crowds. Thanks must go to the Parish Council for the excellent organisation. The Open Air Service at the Harris Way Lower School was also well attended, with Caroline Weaver as the speaker. Her subject this year was Creation. Many people prefer to accept the Scientists view of how the world came into being rather than what the Bible says. I have a great regard for Scientists, who develop huge telescopes and probes which go into space

for years to find another planet. The problem is, there seems to be no end to their searching and they also only find what is already there! Who put it there is the first place?

In the letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 11, verse 3, the writer said, 'By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command'. If we look in Luke's Gospel, Chapter 3, we see the genealogy of Jesus went back through thirty seven generations, to Adam, who is described as 'The son of God.' The Christian understanding of the Bible is that God made the world and the universe, but man ruined it by his disobedience and is now paying the price. In His love for the people He made, God has provided a way back, by faith in His son Jesus Christ, because the Bible says in Ephesians chapter 2, verses 8 & 9 'For it is by grace you have been saved, (from sin and death) through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast.' No-one can work their way to heaven.

We are a Bible believing Church and everyone is welcome to our services. On Sundays we meet at 10.30am and 6pm. Have a look at our web site: www.woottonbaptistchurch.org.uk We hope everyone is having a good Summer.

Rob Stanton.

For the fellowship at Wootton Baptist Church.

Wootton Vale Healthy Living Centre

Patient Participation Group



Did you come to the Fun Day? It was another brilliantly organised day and even the weather was kind to us. We held a children's quiz this year which proved popular, along with our skeleton game. Thank you to all who visited our stall and of course to the organisers of the Fun Day

On a sad note, I would like to pay tribute to our chairperson, Val Illingworth, who died suddenly in June. She was a true inspiration to us on the PPG and had great leadership skills and foresight into helping the practice move forward. She will be missed by all of us who knew her and our thoughts are with her family at this time.

Our practice is growing at a fast rate, there have been some staff changes throughout the year, but it continues to provide good services from the NHS. Do take the option to register with the online services as you can make appointments, view test results, and re-order your prescriptions. A time saver for a lot of people.

Also, if you have a child starting school this Autumn, please don't forget their vaccinations and boosters. Travel vaccinations are available at the surgery too so do check your travel plans to see if you need to have any before you go.

We really would like to see some more people of any age step forward to help

on the PPG. Everybody has some skill they can offer and you don't need an NHS background. We want patients who can help shape the future of our surgery, especially if we are to get a permanent building. You can give as much or as little time as you can spare, anything helps, and it is your practice and the patients that will benefit in the long term.



Don't forget we have an email address if you wish to get in touch with us,
wootton.ppg@outlook.com.



We are also on Facebook. If you wish to find out more about changes in the NHS come along to our meetings on the **1st Tuesday of the month at the surgery at 6pm.**



Wootton
GOOD NEIGHBOUR
Scheme

CAN WE OFFER YOU A HELPING HAND?

**WE ARE A LOCAL CHARITY IN WOOTTON
THAT OFFER HELP TO PEOPLE IN NEED**

**WE CAN HELP WITH ANYTHING FROM SHOPPING,
HOSPITAL, DOCTORS & VET APPOINTMENTS, SHORT TERM
DOG WALKING & GARDENING, SMALL HOUSEHOLD JOBS,
FORM FILLING AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, BEFRIENDING.**

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CALL US ON 07717 770 247
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9.30AM - 5.00PM

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Wootton Rangers Youth Football Club Presents...



QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday
16th September

WOOTTON Blue Cross

TEAMS of 6-MIN 4

£5 per person 20.00^{HRS} START

For Tickets Contact:

Tracey Kerins: 07927 765060

Jeni Creek: jencreek@hotmail.co.uk

POSTER DESIGNED BY: MILLAR

Wootton Wheelers

"A lady went past me turning into Robinson close off Folkes Road on a posh road bike wearing Castelli kit - if that was you and you fancy a ride buddy locally let me know!" is Jeni Sanderson's social media post that gave birth to Wootton Wheelers.

One of the founding members, Adam Stephens saw the need for a social cycling group for people living in and around Wootton to get out and explore the lovely Bedfordshire countryside, whilst we still had the summer to enjoy.

Wootton Wheelers is not an official cycling club, as there are many in the Bedford and Milton Keynes areas, but a bunch of like-minded people and friends coming together and organising their own cycle rides. There are no Ride Leaders and people are responsible for their own bike maintenance, directions and safety.

As the group grows, members Adam and Mark would love to see not only road cycling, but also family rides and even off-road bike events, but at the moment whilst the club is still in its infancy it is purely focussed on road cycling, so a bike capable of this is best.

Search for 'Wootton Wheelers' on Facebook or Strava and if you would like to join a social ride please get in touch, as all abilities are welcome and coffee/cake is a guaranteed part of every meet up.

As an end note, Jeni never did find the lady on the posh road bike!



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Community Café

Mon & Thursday
10.00am - 12.00pm



woottonnewlife.org.uk

PAT - A - CAKE

Join us every Thursday
during term time
1.30pm – 3.00pm
Toys, crafts and activities for pre-school
NEW FAMILIES ALWAYS WELCOME

WOOTTON NEW LIFE METHODIST CHURCH

ROCK
'n'
ROLL



For all the family. Join us for
crafts, games, activities, Bible
stories, time to chill and food.
16th Sept, 14th October, 11th Nov
3.00pm – 5.00pm

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Sunday 8th October

Come and join us for our
Harvest Celebration Service.
This is an all age service with our
Boys' & Girls' Brigades.

Breakfast from 9.45am
Service starts at 10.30am

Find us on Cause End Road, Wootton. MK43 9DE 01234 768222

Wii Drinks
Snacks Films
Table Tennis
Music Chill



YOUTH HUB

Yr 7+ alternate Friday's during term time
8th & 22nd Sept, 13th Oct, 3rd & 17th Nov
7.45pm – 9.15pm

Sundays@WNL

We have worship every
Sunday at 10.30am with
S Club for children. Once a
month we have breakfast
available from 9.45am.
Please check our website for dates.



●●● new playground

We are making some changes

Help us add something wonderful to our existing playground...



The project

The existing playground at the Recreational Ground is designed primarily for children over 5. The plan is to extend the playground to provide equipment for 0-5 year olds, children with disabilities and special needs, including those on the autistic spectrum. The aim is to fully enclose the playground and to provide surfacing under and around the new equipment, linking the equipment with pathways to make the new playground more accessible in wet and cold weather. We will seek out funding grants from various organisations based on the two proposed designs (see opposite page). Your feedback and show of support for the project is vital in securing these grants.

Your views are appreciated

Please visit our facebook page to comment and see the designs in more detail or contact Sue Playford, Clerk to the Council, at woottonparishclerk@gmail.com



Wootton Rec Ground- New Playground

Proludic's design



Caloo's design





SHELTON LOWER SCHOOL



We are pleased to announce that from September 2017 we will be taking children from 2yrs through to 9yrs. The Pre-School provision will be managed by our qualified Early Years Teacher within our Early Years Unit

Why Choose Shelton Lower School:

- ❖ Small, Rural School with big ambitions for its Children
- ❖ A continuous education from 2 to 9 years old
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- ❖ A Values based Education
- ❖ A friendly, caring school with an exciting and engaging curriculum
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- ❖ Walking bus
- ❖ Large playing and sports fields

For more information see our website: www.sheltonandsouthillschool.co.uk

Or contact Sue Welbourn (Head Teacher) on 01234 768269 to arrange a visit

We look forward to welcoming you and your Child to our School

Shelton Lower School: Serving the needs of children in Marston Moretaine, Upper & Lower Shelton, Cranfield, Wootton, Stewartby and the surrounding villages.

Nurturing Values

Inspiring Ideas

Raising Aspiration

MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION



Saturday 4th November 2017

10am – 5pm

**Kempston East Methodist Church
227 Bedford Road, Kempston
Bedfordshire
MK42 8DA**



- Great Value, with layouts in various scales , trade and support stands.
 - Admission* Adults **£5.00** - Children **£1.00** – Concessions **£3.00**
 - Under 5's FREE.
 - Thomas & Friends
 - Disabled Access
 - Refreshments
- For more information please check our [Facebook](#) Page.

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Wootton Library

Summer Reading Challenge News

The Summer Reading Challenge ends on Saturday 9th September, so it's not too late to take part. This year it has all been about Animal Agents. Have a look at it on line at **animal-agents.org.uk**, join the scheme, read the books and catch the crook!

Our Saturday Assistant Lauren left us at the end of August. She has been a joy to work with and we will miss her. We wish her every success for the future.

There will be new opening times for the library commencing in the autumn. Please look out for further details regarding our opening times and our events. Most of our regular events will be staying on the same days:-

Children's Funtime – Mondays 2.30 – 2.50pm

Colouring Club – Mon, Wed, Fri 3.30 – 4.30pm, Sat 11 – 12.30pm

Lego Club – Mon, Wed, Fri 3.45 – 4.45pm, Sat 11 – 12.30pm

Jigsaw Club – Sat 11 – 12.30pm

Are You Sitting Comfortably – Wed 2.30 – 3.30pm

Our other 2 regular events, Colouring & Calm and Baby Funtime will be changing days and times. Please look out for more information on these.

Autumn Half-Term takes place between **Sat 21st – Sat 28th October**. Look out for our activities and crafts during that week.

You can find Wootton Library at:-
Lorraine Road, Wootton
MK43 9LH

01234 766061

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 cover all the villages in the Borough and are funded by Bedford Borough Council. Andrea is the Village Agent for Wootton.

Wootton Good Neighbour Scheme if you need the occasional lift to the doctor or a bit of shopping doing if you are unwell, then ask the Good Neighbour Scheme. A group of DBS checked volunteers provide an invaluable service to the community. Call **Colin on 07717 770 247**.

Andrea can help identify which benefits you may be able to claim. She can also help you complete Pension Credit, Blue Badge, Council Tax Reduction, Personal Independence Payment, Housing Benefit and Attendance Allowance forms.

Winter Wellbeing – the sun may be shining when you read this, but the colder weather is around the corner. As usual, we will be running a campaign designed to improve the wellbeing of older people over the winter. Lots of advice and information as well as a few freebies to give away. Phone Andrea for further details.

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.



Help completing benefits forms – many older people are not claiming the benefits they are entitled to.

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- Stop Smoking & Healthy Lifestyle Advice available
- NHS Medicines Review Service: speak to ARIF or RAJ
- Digital and 135 Photo
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Closed	Saturday/Sunday/Bank Holidays	

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www.woottonpharmacy.co.uk

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

29th & 30th September

10.00am - 12.00pm

The Hub

Wootton New Life Methodist Church

Cause End Road

Wootton

MK43 9DE

woottonnewlife.org.uk

WE LIKE A CUPPA



**WE ARE
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CANCER SUPPORT**

Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039507) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.