

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

AUTUMN EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2021



www.wootton-pc.gov.uk

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Bob Wallace: 768 011

Claire Watson: 07851 237 394

John Wheeler: 07913 409 433

Bedford Borough Councillor

John Wheeler: 07913 409 433

Hall Booking

Memorial Hall - Naomi Ward: 07722 876 252

Scout Hall - Mark Atkins: 311 386

Village Hall - Jenny Lambert: 767 488

Wootton Blue Cross Hall: 767 662

Wootton Community Centre -

email: bookings@wootton.cc

Complex (Multi Use Games Area) bookings

Church Road only - Sue Edgar 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

Bizzy Bees - Paula Bannell: 767 185

St Mary's - Tracey Kerins: 767 158

Wootton Community Nursery -

Kayleigh: 07534 308 632

Speed Watch Co-ordinator

Juliet Wright: 07590 449815

St Mary's Church

Canon Peter Ackroyd: 768 391

Church Hall: 767 158

Wootton New Life Methodist Church

Rev Michael Giles: 930 882

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

NHS111: Online www.111.nhs.uk or Freephone 111

Wootton Facilities

Pharmacy: 765 166

Post Office: 768 368

Library: 766 061

Village Club & Organisations

1st Wootton Rainbows - Naomi: 07722 876252

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: 07753 811 910

Bowls Monday - Viv: 855 383

Bowls Thursday - Rena: 768 012

Brennan School of Dance: 822 831

Brownies Tuesday - Denise: 314 030

Brownies Wednesday - Becky: 07876 766050

Cubs - Christopher: 304 588

Country Players - Tina Kirkup -

Tina.Kirkup@hotmail.co.uk

Explorers - Kit: 07792 372 570

Group Scout Leader - Kit: 07792 372 570

Guides - Gill: 856 566

Marston Vale Forest School: 07811 087 322

Royal British Legion Wootton Poppy Appeal

Organiser - Chris: 07865 051 453

Scouts - Dave: 07780 954 307

Stewartby Operatic Society - 01908 616213

Tang Soo Do - Pat: 07917 805 863

Wootton Golf Society - Pete: 07975 596 164

Women's Institute - Kath: 765 333

Wootton Rangers FC - Jeremy: 07446 770193

Wootton Blue Cross: 767 662





Front cover of Stewartby chimneys which we believe are being demolished in September 2021

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Editor in Chief - Sue Edgar Playford

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t. 01234 720105

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 Lloyd at wootton_news@wootton-pc.gov.uk 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

Copy Date: 1st November

The Wootton News can be read online at:
www.wootton-pc.gov.uk

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

clerk@wootton-pc.gov.uk
or call on 07531 930 788

Chairman's Report *Gareth Lloyd*



Gareth Lloyd



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The parish council is looking at the possibility of installing a beacon on Lorraine Road Green to celebrate the above milestone, with an event also on Saturday 4th June 2022. More information will be available closer to the time. In the same vein, the parish council is also seeking to organise a community tree planting event at Lorraine Road cemetery. The intention is to plant a tree canopy with 70 trees to represent The Queen's 70 years on the throne.

By the time you read this report, the parish council's **Neighbourhood Plan** will have completed its Regulation 16 Public Consultation. The parish council and Bedford Borough Council will most likely be in the process of answering questions raised from that public consultation and by an independent examiner, appointed to scrutinise the plan ahead of referendum. Once at the referendum stage, we will then see if the plan is accepted by the residents of Wootton.

The parish council is still awaiting police approval to install **average speed cameras** along Cranfield Road. Myself and Borough

Councillor John Wheeler have met with the newly elected police commissioner Festus Akinbusoye in the hope that he can help us to resolve this issue. Before the average speed cameras were installed on Fields Road, 80% of journeys along that road were within the speed limit, yet over 200 tickets were issued within the first three months. Police data for Cranfield Road details only 25% of journeys have been within the speed limit, and we are somewhat frustrated that support for our proposal has not been freely given.

I am pleased that Bedford Borough Council have **resurfaced Church Road**, yet somewhat puzzled they painted white lines along the same stretch of road, just a few weeks before resurfacing works started! The first half of September will see Fields Road (Bedford Road to Summerfield Drive) being resurfaced to fix defects that have arisen.

The adoption and handover of the **Berryfields Estate** (from Persimmon Homes Ltd to Bedford Borough Council) appears to have stalled and workers nowhere to be seen. Members of the parish council recently undertook their own infrastructure audit (looking at roads, pavements, lighting and crossings) and passed a report of findings to Bedford Borough Council's Highways Department. It is hoped all findings will be remedied before Bedford Borough Council complete the adoption and handover and the report should help them achieve the best outcome for Berryfields residents.

Why is it that a very small minority of dog owners, have given the rest a bad name?

Dogs are not permitted on the recreation ground at Church Road. This decision was taken back in 2014 when the local football teams were having to check the pitches and pick up dog mess before being able to train or play. This led to a blanket ban of dogs on the recreation ground (grassed area only) in order to keep the grounds clear – not just for the footballers but for all users of the facilities there, including young children). Although some individuals have historically removed signage, that does not then make it legal to take dogs into that area and those that do so risk prosecution by Bedford Borough Council's enforcement officers. Anyone who witnesses this happening should seek to get photographic evidence and report it to Bedford Borough

Council. A link to their website is available via Wootton Parish Council's website: (<https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/>). We can only make a difference by working together to stop the small minority that are both inconsiderate and selfish. Change will only be effected through witness reports.

Useful Numbers

Fly tipping - **01234 267422**

Anti-Social behaviour - **01234 276037 & 101**

Police non-emergency number - **101**

Noise complaints - **01234 227266**

Dog fouling/Being walked on the recreation ground - **01234 718060**

Needing help? Local charity could help

A Wootton charity is able to offer modest financial help in cases of genuine social need for which benefits are not available. In the past we have assisted with the cost of essential furniture, hospital visits, medical and mobility equipment, etc.

(Residents of Wootton and Stewartby only).

For more information, please contact in confidence

wootton.poorsland@gmail.com

or

Peter Ackroyd 768391

Wootton Poors Land Charity,
Registered charity number 200216



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Clerk to the Council's Report *Sue Edgar Playford*



clerk@wootton-pc.gov.uk
07531 930 788

This summer I have had to deal with a number of **vandalism issues to play equipment** at the recreation ground on Church Road. What may seem like a bit of fun when graffitiing this equipment is actually anything but. If our caretaker is unable to remove it (offensive graffiti is removed almost instantly for obvious reasons), I have to call out Bedford Borough Council's Street Cleansing Team. This costs. So does damage to the equipment (which this summer includes burns to the surface of the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area – CCTV images are currently with the police in that respect). Last year we spent £2,000 on repairs to damaged equipment and/or graffiti removal – this year we have already spent £480 with a further £900 needed for the MUGA surface repair, and we are barely half way through the year. If anyone has any information on these events, please let the police know.

On a lighter note, we have had some interesting **design suggestions for the Berryfields/Fields Roundabout**, following our articles in March and June this year. We need to look at them all before turning them over to residents to determine their favourite.

The parish council employs two part-time members of staff who help with the **litter** in the village. Charlotte is our caretaker and looks after the recreation ground at Church Road. Lorna, our litter picker covers the rest of the village (within the 30MPH limit), with the exception of the new developments at Berryfields, Berry Wood and Little Wootton. During times of sickness or annual leave, I again call out Bedford Borough Council's Street Cleansing Team to help. Both do a sterling job, but litter is a never-ending plague. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with this, Bedford Borough Council run a **Community Champion Scheme** to support residents. Signing up to this scheme ensures volunteers receive guidance and the appropriate PPE, plus equipment and can be done via this link: www.bedford.gov.uk/volunteering.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer as we move towards the autumn months.



Wootton Parish Council

Office Location:

Wootton Community Centre,
Harris Way, MK43 9FZ

Office Hours:

Currently closed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Dates for your Diary 2021

SEPTEMBER

8th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
8th	Full Council	7.30pm
15th	Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group	7.00pm
15th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	8.00pm
29th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
29th	Finance & General Purposes Committee	7.30pm
29th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	8.00pm **

OCTOBER

13th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
13th	Full Council	7.30pm
27th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
27th	Finance & General Purposes Committee	7.30pm
27th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	8.00pm **

NOVEMBER

210th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
10th	Full Council inc precept	7.30pm
17th	Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group	7.00pm
17th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	8.00pm **
24th	Planning & Environment Committee	7.00pm
24th	Finance & General Purposes Committee	7.30pm
24th	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	8.00pm **

All meetings are held at Wootton Community Centre, Harris Way, Wootton.

Please check noticeboards and the parish council website for any cancellations or changes to timings and/or venue: <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/wp-admin/admin.php?page=ee-simple-file-list-pro&eeFolder=Meetings>.

**Please note all Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meetings are currently suspended pending the outcome of the latest Regulation 16 Public Consultation.

Please contact the Clerk to the Council if you would like to attend any meeting as the parish council is still adhering to social distancing practices where possible and the Community Centre meeting room can only accommodate limited numbers.



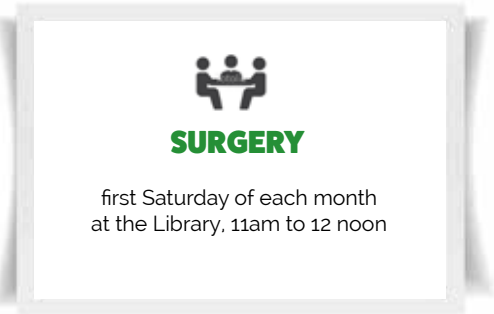
Email: john.wheeler@bedford.gov.uk

Phone: 07913 409 433

Facebook: search Cllr John Wheeler

Hopefully by the time you are reading this most of you will have had both Covid vaccinations and getting back to a near normal life (as best as you can in these strange times), hopefully meeting up with friends and families and getting out and about for walks, meals, socialising etc. However do please keep an eye out for those who may be struggling at this time – be it financially, or with ill health/mental health issues. Some may just need someone to talk to. I have listed below a few useful contact numbers which can be passed on as needed. It's good to see some of the local clubs back up and running again – and events also. It's hoped the Bob Lunniss **Christmas lunch** will take place again this year – Tuesday 30th November has been earmarked. Please look for the publicity posters nearer the time.

I am pleased to report we had a very successful **Police day** in Wootton on the 16th June. Festus Akinbusoye, the new Police Crime Commissioner came to start the day off and spoke to some local residents. We now have a regular police patrols around the



village during the day and night but please continue to report issues directly to the **police on 101**, via email: www.bedfordshire.police.uk/report or **Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111**.



Church Road should have been **resurfaced** by the time you read this. The majority of pavements within the Berry Woods estate should also have been completed, alongside works on Cranfield Road. Yellow and white lining is still being completed around the village and the first section of Burgoyne Avenue (near the Amazon roundabout) adopted by Bedford Borough Council.

I have arranged for a selection of **bulbs** to be planted on Popes Way green to match those planted last year outside Lorraine Road cemetery, and am hoping for a nice display next year.



Bedford Borough Report

There are currently two sets of road works occurring in Bedford.

Works started on the 'Northern Gateway' as part of the Transporting Bedford project on Monday 28th June. Clapham Road between Paula Radcliffe Way and Manton Lane will be widened to create an extra lane for traffic, and a specific left turn filter lane to allow traffic heading up Manton Lane to bypass the roundabout. Work for this is expected to be complete in Spring 2022.

Phase Two of **High Street improvement** works has also begun, and traffic calming measures are in place. These works stretch from Mill Street down to St Paul's Square and are expected to last until November 2021.

There will be further **investment in Bedford** thanks to £22.6 million from the Government, following a successful bid for a Town Deal. The projects submitted in the plan include regeneration of the Station Quarter and Midland Road, public realm improvements to St. Paul's Square, improvements to town centre junctions and local pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and investment in Health, Science and Digital Skills and Full Fibre broadband.

I will once again be starting my **monthly surgery** at the library on Lorraine Road – first Saturday of each month starting in September from 11am until 12 noon.



DID YOU KNOW?

Mental Health helpline:

01234 315691

Bedford Council:

01234 267422

Bedfordshire Police:

01234 841212

Greenbelt:

0800 028 1749

Environmental incident hotline:

0800 80 70 60

School admission appeals:

school.appeals@bedford.gov.uk

Highways Helpdesk:

highways.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk

Borough Housing advice:

housing.advice@bedford.gov.uk



ST MARY'S PRESCHOOL

Established 1967

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

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

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



Gardening – this term the children have enjoyed growing herbs, potatoes, runner beans, tomatoes, sunflowers, marigolds, lavender and sweet peas.

On Monday 19 July, the children harvested and washed the potatoes and then stayed at preschool for a delicious lunch of sausages, baked beans, peas and their freshly dug new potatoes. Followed by jelly and ice cream.

Outdoor Learning – this past year St Mary's Preschool has been open throughout the pandemic and these have been very scary times for everyone here - with rigorous new hygiene regimes and overwhelming guidance bombardments. Our ethos of outdoor learning and the Forest School has certainly come into its own! We have created natural wonderlands where children can submerge themselves in creativity, imagination and exploration. Some of our forest school highlights are the mid kitchen; bug hunting area; log circle where children can eat snacks and listen to stories and rhymes; tool area where children can use hammers and nails, bow saws and drills; outdoor stage where the children can perform, dance and sing; and hammock and tyre swing.



Herrings Green Farm - On Friday 2nd

July, the children, staff and parents went on a coach trip to Herrings Green Farm. The children learnt about lots of the animals and birds on the farm and they even had the opportunity to feed and hold some of them. We had a brilliant time and they enjoyed playing in the park at the end of the day.



Graduation –

on Thursday 22 July, we sadly had to say a fond farewell to a number of our preschool children as they took their next steps onto 'big school'.



To celebrate the occasion we held a preschool graduation ceremony where all the preschool parents were invited. Each child proudly took to the stage wearing a mortar board hat and gown. Children were presented with a certificate and framed photograph.

After the tears were wiped away and the certificates were presented it was time for everyone to enjoy the day with refreshments, cake, fruit platter, giant bubbles, games, picnics and even a magician!

Good luck to all our preschool children during their next big step. We hope you enjoy your new adventures!

General Information

St Mary's Preschool 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 Preschool supports children with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The Preschool is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and is registered by Ofsted. St Mary's Preschool receives funding for early years education. It is open each weekday during term-time only; and offers all day care. If you would like to put your child's name down for a preschool place, or require any further information please phone Tracey on **01234 767158**.

Children not eligible for funding – Fees are £4.25 per hour (£12.75 for a 3-hour session).

Term time opening hours:

Mon 9.00 - 12.00
Tues, Wed and Fri 9.00 - 16.00
Thurs 9.00 - 15.00

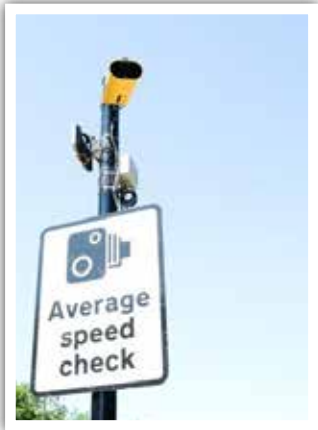
** St Mary's Preschool is now full for September 2021 however, we are accepting applications for September 2022.

Average Speed Cameras in Wootton

	April	May	June
Fields Road	32	82	15

Those that live on or walk along Fields Road will have noticed the impact these cameras have had. Vehicles are moving more slowly and the noise levels have reduced also.

Moving forward, the next road to have cameras installed will be Cranfield Road. The parish council has to work with Bedfordshire Police and Bedford Borough Council to get them installed. The parish council is aware that other roads have been suggested (and agrees with most), however nothing can move forward without police backing. The hope is the successful installation of cameras along Fields Road (and subsequently Cranfield Road) will enable the parish council to keep pushing for those other areas also.



For latest information on Average Speed Cameras,
go to our website <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/>
and look for this button on the right hand side.

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Mobile: 07939 395423

Wootton Baptist Church - Bedford Road

It's the beginning of August as I write this, and the Olympics have about a week to go. All the training, all the effort and cost to the individuals have gone into taking part in the **Olympic Games**. I felt particularly sorry for the Skullers who missed getting a medal by 1/100 second! But a miss is a miss and that's it. We can be proud of the number of medals the GB teams have won.

Paul, writing in the **New Testament of the Bible** talks about racing and winning the race of life. In **1 Corinthians 9: verses 24** to 27 he talks about training to win a crown, not a crown which will not last, but one which will last for ever. Then I see the race is mentioned again in **Hebrew 12 verse 1**, where the writer talks about running the race and fixing our eyes on the prize, but the prize is **Jesus Christ**, who won the prize for us by his death on the cross and his resurrection to eternal life.

I was looking at a 1928 map of Wootton recently, which was printed when the **Wootton House Estate** was sold. It was interesting to see the field names and who were the farmers at that time. Much of the land of which the present estate South of Fields road is being built on, was farmed by Mr Chennells, whose farm house and yard were opposite the Village Hall in Church Road. I remember visiting there with my father who farmed Hoo Farm, Wootton Green. Just 57 acres where Dad brought up four children. It couldn't be done today.

There are so many changes going on, things which we would never have thought could be changed, are being undermined, look at the restrictions which Covid 19 has brought about. Who would have thought that it would become illegal to meet in a church? Thankfully many of the restrictions are being lifted, or at least reduced. There continues to be attacks on **freedom of speech**. It is said that we do not appreciate freedom until



it is taken away. I see that some open air preachers have been arrested, but I notice that all of them have been released without charge.

As the restrictions reduce we are now able to meet at church on Sunday mornings and although some will want to be careful and still wear a mask and socially distance, we are more free now to worship in our usual manner. You may have seen the **Book Stall** out at the front of the church on days when the weather is good enough. **The Bibles** and other books are still free to take and read. Nearly eighty Bibles and New Testaments have already gone.

We are celebrating the goodness of God with a **Harvest Thanksgiving**, which will be on the weekend of the **4th/5th September**. We plan to open the church on Saturday 4th and then for the services on Sunday. I know traditions are not always helpful, but we should give thanks for God's provision of food. We are a very blessed country. The church will be open for everyone.

I hope everyone will get a holiday this year. It may not be abroad, but there are some beautiful places in this country to visit. Thanks to everyone who makes our village a very pleasant place in which to live.

Rob Stanton.

For the fellowship at Wootton Baptist Church.

Collection Calendar

1

Please ensure that your bins are out for collection by 6am on your collection day. Missed collections must be reported within 48 hours of your scheduled collection. Visit www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling to report a missed collection.



Remember! Garden waste collections are suspended from 1st December to 1st March.

December 2020 and January 2021 Date Changes

Rubbish only

21 Dec	no change
22 Dec	no change
23 Dec	no change
24 Dec	no change
25 Dec	moves to 29 Dec

Recycling only

28 Dec	moves to 30 Dec
29 Dec	moves to 31 Dec
30 Dec	moves to Sat 2 Jan
31 Dec	moves to 4 Jan
1 Jan	moves to 5 Jan

Rubbish only

4 Jan	moves to 6 Jan
5 Jan	moves to 7 Jan
6 Jan	moves to 8 Jan
7 Jan	moves to Sat 9 Jan
8 Jan	moves to 11 Jan

Recycling only

11 Jan	moves to 12 Jan
12 Jan	moves to 13 Jan
13 Jan	moves to 14 Jan
14 Jan	moves to 15 Jan
15 Jan	moves to Sat 16 Jan

Key

Red Outline =
Date Change

Orange =
Recycling Only

Purple =
Recycling and Garden

Grey =
General Rubbish

December 2020

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	See above

January 2021

M	T	W	T	F
See above				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

February 2021

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

March 2021

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

April 2021

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

May 2021

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

June 2021

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

July 2021

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

August 2021

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

September 2021

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

October 2021

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

November 2021

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

Let's sort it...

...and recycle even more at home!



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Use your **Orange Lidded Bin** for plastic, paper and card, cans, foil, cartons and aerosols

Empty and **rinse** all containers before putting them in the recycling bin.

Tear up large cardboard boxes before putting them in the recycling bin.

Do not use black sacks. Please put recycling into the recycling bin loose.



Remember!

If in doubt, please leave it out of the recycling bin

YES PLEASE ✓



Plastic bottles



Plastic tubs, trays and containers



Plastic bags and wrap



Tins, cans, clean foil and aerosols



Clean, dry paper and card



Tetra Pak and cartons

NO THANKS ✗



Food waste



Textiles and clothes
please take to your local charity shop or mini recycling site



Nappies



Black sacks



Glass bottles and jars

Use your **Green Lidded Bin** for garden waste

YES PLEASE ✓



Leaves, plants, cut flowers, cut grass

NO THANKS ✗



General waste and soil

Alternatively take any garden waste to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane, Bedford.

Remember! Garden waste collections are suspended from 1st December to 1st March.

To find your collection day and even more about recycling visit www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

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www.pipshouse.co.uk

 [PipsHolidayLodge](https://www.facebook.com/PipsHolidayLodge)

We look forward to welcoming your little furries or birds on their holiday

Outstanding Parish Council Issues & Projects

Item

Location

Deadline

Average Speed Cameras

All major routes within the village

Ongoing

A need for Average Speed Cameras was identified during the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire process by residents. BBC has now installed a pair of cameras on Fields Road. These have been financed by s106 Developer Contributions. WPC intends to use the data to push for police support in installing systems on all other main routes in/through the village and will use Community Infrastructure Levy funding to finance future schemes. Given police support is needed for each area, WPC is taking a piecemeal approach and is currently taking forward the next area of installation – Cranfield Road
Fuller information can be found here: <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/average-speed-cameras/>

Community Centre

Berryfields

Ongoing

Please address all booking enquiries to: bookings@wootton.cc or general enquiries to woottoncommunitycentre@gmail.com Alternatively, visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Wootton-Community-Centre-373702299872573/>

Covanta Incinerator

Stewartby parish

Ongoing

Please visit the following links for fuller information: BACI 's (4) website: <https://bedsagainstincinerator.wordpress.com/>; BACI's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/residentsagainstcovanta/?ref=bookmarks>; WPC's website: <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/>

Local Plan 2040

Throughout the village

Ongoing

BBC's Local Plan 2030 has now been formally adopted and works have begun on BBC's Local Plan 2040.
Fuller information can be found here: <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy-its-purpose/local-plan-review/>

Lorraine Road

Lorraine Road cemetery

Ongoing

Cemetery extension

WPC is ringfencing money annually and will approach the Crown Estate (adjoining landowners) to request it be permitted to purchase an area of land adjacent to the existing cemetery in order to extend it.

Marston Vale Innovation Park

Towards the A421

Ongoing

(now Bedford Commercial Park)

The larger unit is now operational, having been taken on by Amazon. The parish council is aware of issues regarding lorries travelling through the village and into private estates. This is still an issue and both BBC and Amazon are still working to resolve it. Works on the remaining units are still ongoing.

Neighbourhood Plan

The whole civil parish of Wootton

2021

At the time of producing this report, the Neighbourhood Plan is currently subject to the Regulation 16 Public Consultation. Fuller information on the different stages to a Neighbourhood Plan can be found here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/contents>

Real Time Passenger Information (bus stops)

Four bus stop sites within the village

2021

Four electronic real time passenger information units are now installed. WPC has put in a request for additional units but works (to be undertaken by BBC) have been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions and issues with power supplies. WPC continues to chase for the additional units to be installed.

Roads and Pavements

Throughout the village

Ongoing

The Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group continues to meet every other month to raise issues for BBC to consider. Residents are welcome to attend those meetings. Minutes to view are available at: <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/minutes/?eeFolder=Meetings/Minutes/Roads-and-Pavements&eeFront=1> (or request a hard copy from the clerk).

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. The project has been delayed as BBC have had numerous similar requests from other parish and town councils, so need to agree how best to proceed. All columns have been inspected and information passed to BBC to enable the transfer.

Key:

1. Bedford Borough Council
2. Wootton Parish Council
3. For further information on what Community Infrastructure Levy funding and s106 Developer Contributions are please visit: <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy-its-purpose/community-infrastructure-levy/>
4. Bedfordshire Against Covanta Incinerator

Please note this is a brief overview of ongoing/proposed projects and the list is not exhaustive as changes can occur before the next newsletter edition goes to print. For fuller information on these or other projects, please contact the Clerk to the Council.



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surrounding
area



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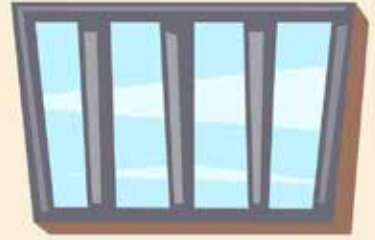


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FREE AT LAST!



How terrible this last period of time has been! I had no idea how difficult it would be, to spend all that time on my own.

No contact with anyone else, except for a couple of people who were designated to be in my "bubble". I wouldn't have chosen to socialise with them, anyway!

I suppose, looking back on it, this length of time in isolation was almost certainly inevitable. It's easy to be clever in hindsight though, isn't it?

Would I have planned things differently, if I had known what would happen? You bet I would!

It's come to an end at last, though. I don't have to be constrained to being in only the one place from tomorrow.

The frustration of not being in control of the timescales has been unbearable, especially for me. I realise it's been the same for everyone else here too, but I'm not really bothered about them.

I can imagine the meetings that have taken place that would have such a huge effect on affect my situation.

The so-called experts, giving their opinions on the outcome, if this date was selected for the release of restrictions, rather than that one. The senior men, claiming to be studying data, not the date, before making their pronouncement.

And none of them really was considering ME!

Still, those decisions have been made now, and I can start planning what I'm going to do about being able to get together with people again.

I can't just go rushing off to see everyone I want to, all at once. There are still some restrictions in place – there will be for a long time ahead, I suppose. Maybe some of them will remain for ever. I've heard quite a few people saying it'll never go back completely to

how it was before. They reckon that there'll be a new "normal" after what's happened. So I need to prioritise the order in which I'll see the people I need to.

The first will have to be my brother, of course. Not just because he's family. He'll be able to show me where he put stuff to keep for me before the lock down started. Once I've got my hands on that, I'll be able to move forward, and start to live properly again.

I'll need to find a new place to live, somewhere in a much safer area. I don't need a big place; I'm on my own after all. But I don't want so many people living so close around me as before. It'll be safer, and I'll have more freedom to come and go without everyone knowing my business.

I'll keep to a modest budget. I don't want anyone deciding to look into how I could afford an expensive house.

After that's in hand, there are two people who I'm going to be calling on. They wouldn't welcome a visit from me, so I'll have to surprise them. I do want them to know that it was ME who called though. That will be the main part of my pleasure.

Peters will be the first of them. I know it was him who leaked the details to the authorities. He's going to suffer, and quickly, before he has a chance to warn his partner, Nicholls. And then I'll sort him out, too.

I don't want anyone other than those two to know it was me, though. Just as well I'm so forensically aware. I don't want to come back inside again. They'd throw the book at me if they knew it was me who got my revenge, by despatching them to Hell.

They'll die regretting that they grassed me up for that bank job!

Colin Zardin



Stewartby Amateur Dramatic & Operatic Society



Singing Together Again! Hurray!

On Thursday evening 22nd July SAODS were delighted to get together again after the long months of Lockdown, in order to meet and sing.

With due caution, members met at Stewartby Church Hall as usual. Chairs were suitably spaced out and members remained seated or standing in place throughout the rehearsal. Despite the endless months of inactivity, it didn't take long before enthusiastic singing raised the rafters.

The rehearsal was taken by our Vice Chairman, John Epton, with musical accompaniment by our faithful pianist of many years, Pam Rodgers.

The repertoire was chosen from a

selection of Gilbert and Sullivan favourites and that old classic, Over The Rainbow, which raised our spirits as you can imagine.

We plan to produce The Mikado in 2022 to celebrate 70 years of the Society's existence. You may know this wonderful work which is full of drama, colour and excitement, so watch this space. Depending on continuing conditions the company may also be able to present an intermediate smaller scale concert before that.

The evening ended on a high note, getting together, albeit with caution being preferable to any amount of Zooming.

Keep Singing Everyone!

Carol Wallman

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Wootton WI - INSPIRING WOMEN

Thinking we would be able to hold a meeting in July, we invited members to a **"bring your own picnic"** picnic at the Rec in June to re-acquaint ourselves. It was a great occasion to be able to meet up and chat to friends we hadn't seen for such a long time and three quarters of our membership turned up for a long awaited catch up.

With restrictions easing on the 19th July we made the decision it was too close to our meeting night on the 21st July to have a face-to-face meeting so held one last Zoom social evening with a Handbag Bingo night. You would be surprised what our ladies carry around in their bags.

Some of our members independently held a cake sale and tea for Breast Cancer Awareness in August, which raised a decent amount for the charity.

At the moment, our meetings are running on an ad hoc basis as it is difficult to know if regulations will change in an instant. It is hard to plan ahead, as we would normally do, when the best speakers are usually booked far in advance but we hope we can continue to have a good mix of entertainment to keep our members happy. It feels as if a little bit of normality is returning to our lives, so long as we all follow sensible precautions.

Looking back on what has been a difficult eighteen months for so many, it would appear that a lot of patience and kindness has come out of the lockdowns. People



have looked out for each other and helped one another. Some have taken up challenges to learn new skills and crafts, been lucky enough to have the time to stop and recharge and appreciate our surroundings and what we have.

We can never thank enough, those on the frontline and our amazing **NHS staff** that have kept us going during this time. It would be sad to lose the camaraderie that has become the new normal in our lives. Long may it continue.



Sundays at St. Mary's



In Person

10am every Sunday morning.
Booking is essential for the time
being; visit our website or email
services@stmaryswootton.org.uk



Online

You can stream our services live
on our YouTube channel each Sunday
from 10am.

Young People at St. Mary's

Pathfinders

School Years 5-8

Starting in September, every Wednesday,
7-8pm. With loads of fun and games and
time to think about what the Bible says
about life.

JAM

School Years 9-13

Every Sunday, 7:30-8:45pm.
We meet to chat, learn who Jesus is
and play games!



Holiday Club

24th - 27th August

Join us this summer for
Mission21:Secret Agents!
Booking essential via our website.

st mary's
wootton



www.stmaryswootton.org.uk

Contact 01234 768391

info@stmaryswootton.org.uk

Wootton Tang Soo Do

**Hello lovely folks of Wootton, me again!
For those of you who have managed to
avoid me up until now, my name is Pat
Bradley and I am the Instructor for the
Wootton Tang Soo Do club which runs
on a Thursday night in the Village Hall.**

Tang Soo Do or TSD for short is a Korean Martial Art with its roots originating several thousand years ago. Most people will recognise Karate and TSD is very similar to that with an emphasis on kicking, punching, blocking techniques and self defence techniques. Above and beyond the kicks and punches you would expect TSD is a very traditional martial art, with a strong emphasis on mutual respect, integrity, self-discipline, concentration. In fact these are part of the seven tenets we follow, which are Integrity, Concentration, Perseverance, Respect and Obedience, Self Control, Humility and Indomitable Spirit. Some benefits of studying TSD include: increased confidence and awareness, better concentration, mental stimulation, increased fitness and stamina, greater respect for yourself and others, an activity that can be undertaken on your own or as a group and an opportunity to travel and compete all over the world.

Wootton TSD is part of the Dal Poon Academy which has classes in both the Village Hall and Community Centre in Wootton, Wixams, Thurleigh, Newport Pagnell, Bedford, Steeple Claydon in Buckinghamshire, Durham and even a class in Finland. The Dal Poon Academy is part of the European TSD Federation with



classes throughout London, in Ireland and Northern Ireland and in Malta. Finally the European TSD Federation is part of the International Martial Arts Association with clubs throughout North America and Brazil. So as you will see there is a fantastic opportunity to be part of an international family of martial artists with opportunities to travel to many countries in order to compete in tournaments.

TSD is suitable for all abilities and most ages, normally accept students from about age 6 and up, due to the need to be able to concentrate for over an hour. Current class has students ranging from 5 to mid-50s, male and female, with no barriers to participation. A normal class will start off with a mini-meditation, roughly 10 – 15 seconds of taking in some deep breaths. We use this as an opportunity to put to one side all of the annoyances and frustrations experienced during the day and start the session calm and focussed, this mini-meditation will be repeated at the end of the class to clear the mind again. We will then do a five to ten minute warm up involving lots of stretching in order to warm muscles and joints up

to prevent injuries, and some physical including jogging on the spot, jumping jacks, sit ups, press ups etc. These exercises are tailored to the capabilities of the individual and will help with stamina and power when kicking and punching.

TSD focusses on self-defence! It provides strategies for individuals to defence themselves and, if at all possible, avoid dangerous situations. This will start off with situational awareness, identifying warning signs, such as dark streets or alleys. If out late at night make sure you can hear properly, remove at least one headphone if listening to music so you can hear people approaching from behind. Try to talk your way out of the situation, if that doesn't work, shout loudly for help, run away if you can, but if you have no other option, block and counter strike as hard as you can to deter continued attack.

To finish off a wee bit about me, I have been studying TSD for 15 years, i have been a Black Belt for 11 years, and have held my 3rd Dan Black Belt since 20015. I am an experienced Martial Arts Instructor with Personal Liability Insurance, First Aid qualified and also hold a DBS Enhanced certificate, I have instructed in Wootton for many years and in that time I have taken quite a few people from beginner status to Black Belt.

If interested please come and pay a visit on a Thursday evening at 18.30, class finishes at 2000 and have a look or better still come and take part, all you need are some comfy leisure clothes, a bottle of water (it gets hot) and a big bag



of enthusiasm, you never know, you might enjoy it!

Very best wishes

Mr Pat Bradley
3rd Dan Instructor
Wootton Tang Soo Do

The hub

KNIT AND NATTER

Mondays

10:00 – 12:00

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

WOOTTON NEW LIFE METHODIST CHURCH

Cause End Road, Wootton MK43 9FE



From London to Wootton - What a journey!

Dear Friend,

This last year has seen all our lives changed in many different ways, in fact it's the biggest world event (other than wars) to have taken place. In the context of a pandemic we moved to Wootton in August 2020 from Finchley, North London having served there for 13 years. Usually during the first year of ministry in a new posting I try to visit as many church people and activities to get to know the congregation. However when we arrived society was reopening, then lock down in November, reopen in December, lock down from January to March and a gradual re-opening since then.

The change has been dramatic from London to Wootton during the pandemic.

Finchley

We lived 100 metres from Ballards Lane a main road, with restaurants reflecting cultures around the world, Iranian, Greek, Indian, West Indian, Italian, Vietnamese, KFC, Turkish. We heard Fire engines and

Police sirens everyday, plus the occasional helicopter. It was a 8 minute walk to the tube and then 22 minutes later you got out at Leicester Square. Hampstead Heath with its large expanse of woods, lakes, open spaces and views of central London was only a 12 minute drive away. The area had 15-25% Jewish, 12% Hindu, 10% Muslim and 25% no-faith, Christianity was only about 35%.

Wootton

Quiet and friendly with good access to A421 and M1/ A1M. Several great pub restaurants with food sourced locally, one of our favourites is The Chequers at Hall End. We rarely hear a siren or see an ambulance or Police car. It takes 30 minutes to cycle into Bedford and the countryside is only a 5 minute walk away. The main faiths are Christianity with small numbers from Sikh, Hindu and Muslim faith and about 25%- 30% no-faith. We have taken up cycling and love the country walks plus visits to local towns and villages. Like the Thames the Great Ouse river dominates the landscape in so many ways.

The ministry of Jesus was spent in village, town and city locations and churches in those areas will each require a different focus and ministry. I remember from my first church appointment in Saffron Walden that for small village churches harvest was always more important than Christmas, so what is the most important Christian Festival in the year in Wootton?

Part of living in a community is learning

about what makes it tick, the cultural heart, its beliefs, how it welcomes newcomers and new ideas, is it an 'Open village' or 'Closed village' in sociological terms? I think it takes about two years to settle into a new community and establish familiar routines like your local newsagent, garage, quick and big shops, Doctors, hairdresser, DIY. What we miss a lot from London is having a choice of several cafés within walking distance. Thankfully Wootton New Life Methodist Church does run a café with proper coffee on a Monday from 10am to 12noon.

Just as Jesus watched, listened and entered into dialogue with people from all backgrounds, we as the church are called to continue that ministry. Love God and Love thy neighbour are core Christian values. The Church has re-opened for worship, prayer, fellowship and user groups so may we re-open our lives to God's loving and peaceful presence.

I hope that Wootton as a growing village will continue to be the welcoming and friendly community that we experienced since we arrived here a year ago.

Rev Michael Giles

Minister of
Wootton New Life
Methodist Church



OVER AND OUT

"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, as he gave the Almighty a nod
Bent to pick up some soil--till a voice
intervened
"No. Find your own soil" said God.

RebeccaCook©

Wootton's Royal Anniversary Roundel

PLANTED 26TH NOVEMBER 1992

'To celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 40th Anniversary of her succession to the throne'.

Next year in 2022 it will be 30 years since the planting of the trees in a Roundel (part of an area of 40,725 hectares south of Fields Road) now partly covered by some 600 houses - but with our Roundel - now referred to as Berry Wood sort of in the middle. The trees were originally enclosed by a post and wire fence, to protect them from rabbits and a very young hawthorn hedge - Within 20 years the fence became invisible and the hawthorn hedge is looking wonderful!

With a certain amount of pleading and badgering we just hope that future local councils, the ever present Developers and even more important our own Parish Council allow Berry Wood to remain forever. We may have to fight to keep said Roundel - Wootton has tried - 'for years' to preserve what little bit of land the 'powers that be' have allowed us to keep



So, all those wonderful villagers of Wootton from 30 years ago who helped to plant the trees and SOMETIMES BROUGHT THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM!!!! I am told that there is a footpath that will lead you to the Roundel..... and therefore what a story for the grand children!!!!!!.....

.....AND SO BEFORE 'COVID'..... I thought that as a long time retired Parish Councillor and Tree Warden I should give you all the chance to see yourselves30 years ago! remember? - and for a year or so now the Reference Library (at our beautiful Wootton Library) has all my files, photographs and slides - 'to see yourselves as others see you!' Sadly on contacting the staff I find that nobody is allowed to touch or see anything in the Reference area. Should the Covid problem carry on for even longer it will be the great grand-children who might see what us Ancient Brits once did!!!

Unfortunately due to 'duff knees' I can no longer inspect the site myself - until someone tells me that 'all roads' lead to Berry Wood or I see a recent photo (the one here was taken in 2014!!!!)

Pamela Stevenson

240 Trees were planted in that cold November of 1992!!!!

80 x Oak

Extra special specimen trees planted included:-

36 x Hazel

3 x Crab-Apple

2 x Wild Service Trees

64 x Ash

1 x Indian Horse-Chestnut

60 x Field Maple

1 x Acer (hirsii - special Maple)

2 x Walnut



Wootton
GOOD NEIGHBOUR
Scheme

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MONDAY - FRIDAY 9.30AM - 5.00PM

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Wootton GOOD NEIGHBOURS



Wootton Good Neighbour Scheme

During lockdown Wootton Good Neighbour Scheme has carried on taking clients for all sorts of appointments and not forgetting their covid jabs!!!

We also get some lovely feedback and here are a couple from people we have taken to appointments.

"I cannot sing the praises of Wootton Good Neighbour Scheme neighbour enough. They are so friendly and helpful I would be absolutely lost without them nothing seems to be too much trouble."

"Cheery lady on the phone arranged the transport to the hospital for me and also for my Covid jab's they will also wait with you if you wish whilst at the appointment and then bring you back home. They are very friendly and it is also easy to arrange the appointment through them."

So if you are in need of any help to appointments then please call our co ordinator on 07717 770247.



**The Hub
Wootton New Life Church**

**Fri 24th & Sat 25th
September 2021
10:00 - 12:00**

Coffee, cakes and more.

Come and support this great cause.
Cause End Road, Wootton. MK43 9DE
woottonnewlife.org.uk



The hub
COFFEE SHOP
NOW OPEN
MONDAYS
10:00 - 12:00

All are welcome



Closed Bank holidays

Wootton New Life Methodist Church, Cause End Road, Wootton MK43 9FE

Wootton Upper School, Hall End Road, Wootton, MK43 9HT

"This year will be a better year and ... tomorrow will be a good day"

As I write this article for Wootton news –during the opening ceremony for the Tokyo Olympics - I am **reflecting on many of the things our pupils and students – as well as our staff - have lost since March 2020**, when COVID-19 imposed its vice-like grip on the world. Our last overseas trip was in February 2020, a Ski Trip. Since then we have had to cancel visits to Blue Peris, an outward bound centre in North Wales, trips to Euro Disney, cultural exchanges to Bamberg and Bremen and other events, all of which contribute to the Wootton and Kimberley education. During the last sixteen months there have been very few Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and virtually no sports fixtures or music and drama clubs - and therefore, no concerts and productions. "D of E", the arts and sports play such a crucial role in the wider education of our pupils and students and it really galls me and the staff that so much has been lost. Of course, the wider curriculum losses represent the tip of an iceberg when the two lockdowns which kept children out of school from the end of March to mid-June 2020 and from the start of January to mid-March in 2021 are included. Whilst many pupils and students have become more skilful

and adept at accessing learning on line ... and countless teachers up and down the country have shown great resilience in acquiring new skills to deliver learning on-line, there has been a heavy cost, despite the willingness of so many to help.

It is almost certainly the case that every family in Wootton and, for that matter every town and village in our country can report a similar tale of what they have lost: overseas holidays- sometimes holidays to mark very special events in an individual's or family's life, the agonizing separation from friends and family – to keep elderly and other vulnerable relations safe, the inability to attend weddings, christenings and funerals, and/or the loss of employment and loss of physical and/or mental health.

In 2020, I was inspired by **Captain Sir Tom Moore's** – mantra, "Tomorrow will be a good day", it kept me going. As a new school and college year starts I hope you like me are optimistic that "this year will be a better year" ... although it is unlikely to go back to exactly how it was before.

The school and the college go back to a 3:00 pm finish as opposed to the 2:30 pm finish they operated since March 2020. Whilst this is not universally popular with

all pupils and students, it does enable the school to have both a thirty-minute tutor period per day to cover our Personal, Social and Health Education Programme as well as all pupils, students and staff having a thirty-minute lunch break, rather than the twenty minutes everyone had to survive on for the last sixteen months.

In my spirit of optimism, I hope we will be able to report on our "opening-up" of clubs and activities and report on sporting success across the school and college in future editions of Wootton News.

I hope that I am not being too optimistic that the Wootton **Open Evening** on Thursday 23 September will be a real event, rather than a virtual experience. Only time will tell!

In my last article I highlighted a really **positive development** in how our local schools, Wootton Lower, Wootton Upper, Broadmead Lower and Marston Vale Middle are all working closely together meeting fortnightly to agree a cohesive and mutually supportive approach which will impact positively on children and families in Wootton and Stewartby. Since March 17 2021, Mrs McMorn, Head of School and Mrs Enser, Deputy Head of School at Wootton Upper School, Mr Tavener, Head of Wootton Lower School, Mrs Jennings Head of Marston Vale Middle School, Mrs Horobin, Head of Broadmead Lower School and their respective Senior Leadership Team

have focussed on moving forward in four key areas, namely sharing resources, attendance, safeguarding and families, and curriculum. Each of the four schools is really positive about the steps forward that are being made, so much so that the schools have added a fifth area, namely values and ethos. Further the schools are keen to extend their work supporting each other in approaches to teaching and learning. This partnership work is really positive for children in Wootton and Stewartby and also for their families.

goodbye

At the end of the summer term, we said **farewell to staff** moving on to new challenges both within and beyond school/college settings. Amongst the staff leaving were: Mrs Michelle Gaishauer who established Wootton as a centre of excellence for Dance in her twenty-seven years at the school; Mrs Carol Stewart who, as well as teaching English at Wootton Upper School for twenty-three years, also oversaw the applications of thousands of Kimberley College and Wootton Upper School students university applications (nearly two hundred Kimberley students applied for a university place in 2021 alone!); Mrs Andrea Strickland, who over twenty-years as a teacher of PE and then Head of Year kept countless numerous pupils on track encouraging them to make making the

right choices; and, Mrs Kath York who made the decision to retire from her role preparing and serving schools meals and drinks for our pupils and staff after more than twenty-five years at Wootton Upper School. To all of the staff who have moved on, Wootton Academy Trust offers its sincere thanks for all you have done.

Welcome

In September, the Trust **welcomed new teaching and support staff:** whilst a few will teach only at Kimberley, most will work across the school and the college. Amongst our new teaching staff we welcomed back two former pupils, Dr. Rob Edinburgh who joins our Science Team and Miss Lydia Halliwell, who joins the PE department. We know that our pupils and students and parents and carers will give all our new colleagues a warm welcome.

Mrs Ashby, our Head of Careers, is seeking to identify two recent graduates [who graduated in 2021 or 2020] to work at Wootton Upper School from October 2021 through to July 2022 as "interns". I wrote to all former Kimberley students who we believe graduated in 2020 or 2021, to let them know about the opportunity. The Connolly Foundation is funding two interns in its partner secondary and upper schools to support pupils to close gaps in their learning especially in literacy and numeracy. Wootton Upper and Kimberley are partner schools in the Connolly

Foundation. If you know anybody who might be interested, please encourage them to email Mrs Ashby yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk

A Level, BTEC and GCSE **results days** were earlier this year on August 10 and August 12 respectively; we are delighted with the outcomes our pupils and students achieved and wish all of them success as they move forward in the new academic year. For all of the Kimberley students starting university courses, we hope that 2021 – 2022 is a better year where they, as well as students who started their degree courses in September 2020, can benefit from face-to-face tuition, campus life and living independently away from home.

Excellence, friendship and respect are the three values of **Olympism**. The same values could easily apply to the NHS which has been magnificent throughout COVID 19 and indeed, before it. Moving forward, if we all keep these values at the forefront of our minds ... whatever else happens the coming year will be a better year.

Michael Gleeson

Executive Principal
Wootton Academy Trust

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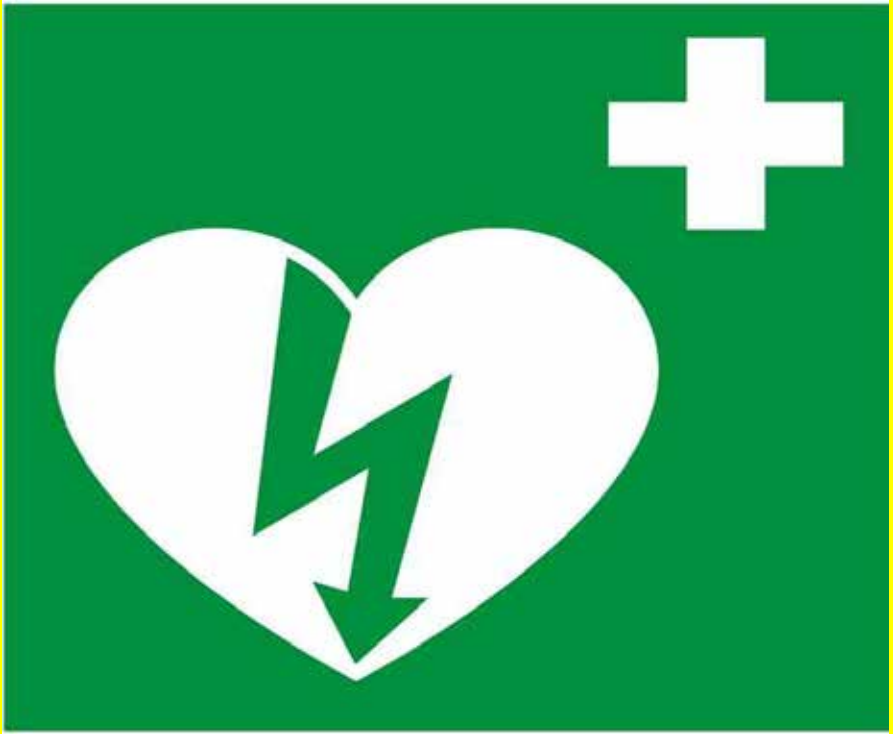
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