WOOTTON MAG

Serving the community of Wootton Parish

Summer 2024





Making Wootton Parish a Better Place to Live, Work and Play



WOOTTON MAG



From the Chairman

Dear Residents

Thank you to so many of you who attended our Annual Parish Meeting in May, it was lovely to hear from so many of our community groups who contributed and I look forward to seeing you around the Parish this summer.

We've been busy behind the scenes making sure that we have some wonderful activities lined up for you over the course of the year. Look out for our Family Fun day which is taking place on Wednesday 14th August. It will be a great free to attend event with lots of activities for the whole family!

I'd like to offer special thanks to our wonderful Bar & Functions Manager Gemma, who worked incredibly hard to put on a wonderful D-Day 80 event this year to remember 80 years since the Normandy Invasion. The event was well attended and supported by Northamptonshire's Deputy Lord Lieutenant which is an incredible honour.

On a different note, this Magazine will be the last one which is overseen by our fabulous Clerk Tina who will be taking early retirement at the end of July. She will be incredibly missed and has truly been the most amazing Clerk we could have wished for over the last nine

years. Tina loves Wootton, and has fought so many battles on our residents behalf. Mostly behind the scenes, and never giving up. Tina, I want to congratulate you on a fabulous nine years at Wootton Parish Council, you will be enormously missed and we are so very grateful to you for your achievements and dedication.

We will be having a collection for Tina in order to get her a fitting retirement gift (and many of you have already asked about donations) so if you would like to contribute, please feel free to do so - we will have a collection set up in the Library.

Finally, please join me in welcoming Alison to Wootton as our new Clerk, Alison has a wealth of experience and we are delighted to have her on board with us. We will look forward to introducing you to her in our next issue but please do feel free to pop into the Parish office to say hello, she will be working with Tina from now until the end of summer to ensure continuity of Parish business and keep things running smoothly.

I look forward to seeing you all this summer Many Thanks

Emma Fisher

Chairman, Wootton Parish Council

Cover

CCS Cadets contingent and the Northampton Bagpiper.



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Lots has happened at Wootton Library since our last update in January's mag.

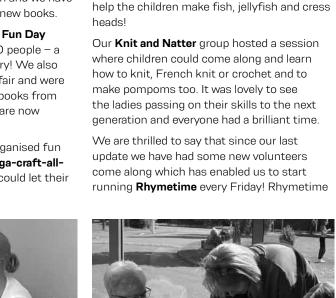
Thanks to the money raised from book and jigsaw sales and the knit and natter stall at the Christmas fair, we have been able to purchase a new shelving bay! This means that the library has had a bit of a re-organisation and we have more space for lots more lovely new books.

In the Spring, we held an Easter Fun Day which was attended by over 400 people - a record number for our little library! We also hosted the Northants Authors' fair and were pleased to accept donations of books from some of the local writers which are now available for you to borrow.

During the May half term, we organised fun events every day including a mega-craft-allday session where the children could let their imaginations run wild.

We also had extra storytime sessions with fun things for little ones to make and we were pleased to be able to welcome Julie Bainbridge, a local author who came to read her book to us and talk about her Bertie Bottle Campaign encouraging children to look after the environment. She was kind enough to help the children make fish, jellyfish and cress heads!







is a super session aimed at little ones (under 4s) and their grown-ups. It's fantastic to see the same faces each week and to see the tiny tots engaging with the music. There is no need to book and It's FREE so if you need a place to go to meet other parents and give your baby some musical stimulation please come and join us every Friday at 11am.

We have also started a monthly Lego Construction Club for 5s and over. Our first session was great and some fantastic models were made. The children were challenged to build bridges across the tables and there was some amazing engineering on show with bridges holding big stacks of books and even water bottles! If you would like to join in with the Lego fun, join us on a Saturday morning





from 10.30 - 12 noon. The next sessions are on June 22nd and July 27th.

Our Kids' Book Club meets monthly on a Saturday at 11am. All primary aged bookworms are welcome to attend to talk about their love of reading and enjoy some creative time together. Next sessions are on June 8th, July 13th and August 10th.



We have teamed up with Wild about Wootton to offer an event called 'Wild Wednesday' on July 31st from 11am. Bring your children along to investigate the nature found on our doorstep and have some fun making a bug hotel. Once again, the event is FREE!

We are pleased to say that we are now in a position to be able to help with applications for Older Persons' Bus Passes. At the moment, this will be available on a TUESDAY and you will need to bring some ID to prove your date of birth and address. Pop into the library and speak to a volunteer for more information.

And finally, it will soon be the summer holidays and the library will be buzzing with the legendary Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge. This year's theme is 'Marvellous Makers' and I will be visiting all the local primary schools to run assemblies publicising the event. Children will be able to sign up from Saturday July 6th, however we will be running a Great Big Summer Reading Challenge Launch Party on Saturday morning, July 20th

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so come along, sign up and get reading! All you have to do is read six books during the holidays to receive stickers, a certificate and a medal (and maybe some other free gifts along the way!!) We will also be running Marvellous Mondays during the holidays with fun FREE workshops every week so look out on our socials and in the library for more information.

Thank you to everyone who supports our lovely library - our amazing team of volunteers, everyone who attends our regular events and anvone who donates their resources to keep us going. We are always in need of wool for

our knitters and if you can help with this or if you any have pre-read books in good condition that you no longer need, we are always delighted to receive them - every little helps to keep the library alive for our community!

For more information about everything that goes on at the library, visit our website www.woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk or follow us on Facebook (Wootton Community Library) or Instagram (woottonlibrary).

LibraryPlus

Summer Reading Challenge 2024 Delivered in partnership with libraries Marvellous Makers THE READING Celebrating Illustrations by Natelle Quek and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024.

Teamwork at its finest

As you may know, Wootton Parish Council received a grant from UTCF to support our community tree planting project last year with the help from our previous councillor Helen Hodakinson.

The total of 78 trees were bought and planted with the help from Russell our tree planting project consultant, students from Caroline Chisholm School and volunteers from Wild about Wootton.

The trees have been watered regularly and been maintained since last year.

This year Wootton Parish Council tried to claim the funds awarded but were told that in order to receive the money, the tree beds needed to be cleared of weeds and overgrown vegetation.

Some 30 plus trees were cleared by the environmental maintenance team at Wootton Parish Council (tree avenue leading to CCS roundabout) and the next day I managed to clear a further 20 trees beds.

The volunteers from Wild about Wootton came to rescue on the third day and finished off the remaining tree beds by the path leading to CO-OP.

The Simpson Manor Memorial Garden tree beds were also cleared.

Hopefully now the UTCF will come and inspect the tree beds and pay this instalment of the awarded grant

This was another fantastic example of teamwork which hopefully we all will benefit from in the future.

Cllr Sohrab Ghavami





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Clerk's Update



Parish Clerk, **Tina Charteress**, keeps us up to date with Council matters



As Clerk to Wootton Parish Council, I am often asked to participate in working groups with West Northants Council looking at how we can best improve services to our residents.

One such group centres on Highways, specifically looking at communication with parish and town councils and more importantly residents.

Northants Highways have developed a new system which they are looking to implement in September this year which will enable us all to register defects easier and also to obtain updates on those problems easier – in other words the standard response of "repair in 26 weeks" message, will be more realistic!

The information on the new system has shown that the repair costs for all the highway defects in West Northants currently sits at $\mathfrak{L}291.8$ m. An enormous figure and there are currently 8,477 schemes of work waiting to be carried out. The repair bill alone for Wootton is $\mathfrak{L}1.5$ m.

This system is in its infancy and should be taken with a very large pinch of salt, but it does put into perspective the massive job of keeping our roads in order, which is why I wanted to share the information with you.

Anti-social behaviour

I am sorry to have to report to you that yet again we are subject so many incidents of anti-social behaviour in and around the community centre. We have a group of year 7's who are causing problems in the coffee shop and Atrium, a number of whom have been extremely insulting to some of our library volunteers. We regularly get our toilets trashed, the entrance to our building flooded and have had our van damaged.

All these incidents have been captured on CCTV and information has been shared with the police. We know who a number of these young people are and have a zero-tolerance policy towards this sort of behaviour.

The parish council are currently in discussion with the police on how to manage this problem going forward.

New Parish Councillors

We welcome two new parish councillors: Cllr Jane Revill and Cllr Benedict Churchus. Jane answered our "SOS" call asking for parish council representation in Turners Court. Benedict lives in Simpson Manor. Both councillor profiles can be found on our website, and we welcome them to Wootton Parish Council.



Annual Parish Meeting

We were delighted with the number of people who attended the Annual Parish Meeting. We welcomed a number of representatives from our local community groups and organisations. Our local community police Sergeant also read a report along with Ward Members from West Northants Council.

Wootton Village - we need you!

We currently have two vacancies for the position of parish councillor within Wootton parish and whilst most areas of our parish are covered by councillors, we do not have anyone representing Wootton Village:

Do you:

- love tree planting
- have an opinion on highways
- have a "way with spreadsheets & budgets"
- be annoyed with overgrown vegetation
- want a new play area
- simply love where you live?

Whatever your interest, you will be very welcome to join our team of community enthusiasts making a different to the parish of Wootton.

If you would like to get involved in all sorts of interesting matters concerning where you live or work please contact me for more information.

Community Governance Review

A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a way for councils to make sure that, at the parish level, governance arrangements are working as efficiently and effectively as they should be. This is achieved by asking the public, parish councils and any interested parties whether they feel their communities are suitably represented and whether parish councils would like to see any changes made to their current governance arrangements.

Following the change in the local government structure and the creation of West Northants
Council (WNC) a CGR has been commissioned

A Community Governance Review can make a number of changes to parish councils when there is clear evidence to do so:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- Change electoral arrangements for parishes including the ordinary year of an election, number of parish councillors and changes to parish wards

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- Convert a parish council to a parish meeting
- Change the name or the style of a new parish/town council or parish meeting
- Group parishes together under a common parish

The consultation process is underway for this CGR and Wootton Parish Council have responded to WNC informing them that wish for a change in the parish boundary to ensure all houses using Wootton's services fall within the new boundary area.

The next stage of the consultation is now out and finishes on the 28th July. Residents can have their say by using the link below:

https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/community-governance-review-phase2/

Thank you for having me!

And so, after nine years working at Wootton Parish Council it's time for me to depart taking a "very early retirement"!

I arrived as Clerk to Wootton Parish Council in 2015 following the split with Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council. Over those nine years I have worked with some truly fabulous people who have championed community service.

We have built the residents of Wootton a fabulous outdoor gym, a shiny new library with a coffee shop and large Atrium. The Community Centre has been completely renovated and is always busy. It has become a wonderful hub.

It was a great honour to be awarded NCALC Council of the Year 2020/21 in recognition of our hard work and dedication during the lockdown, including our efforts with Covid and the Community Centre build.

The staff working from the Community Centre deliver extremely high levels of customer service and with our open-door policy, we hope you agree.

On a personal level I am very proud to have been able to help local residents and will always have very fond memories of my time at Wootton.

I am handing over the reigns to a new Clerk, Alison Reynolds. Alison is fully qualified and has come to us from Roade Parish Council. She is really looking forward to serving the community of Wootton and will introduce herself in the next edition of this Parish Mag.

My last day is on the 1st August so do please pop into the Community Centre to say goodbye and to meet your new Clerk.

I wish you all the very best in the future and thank you for all the wonderful times I have enjoyed!

Tina Charteress

Useful Information

The Parish Council website is always up to date and contains the Minutes of the Council meetings amongst many other items. You can look up planning applications, financial information, find your local Councillor and check out any news relating to the Parish at:

www.woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Wootton & Hardingstone Girl Guiding







Girls can do anything. We help them know that, whether they're 4 or 18 or in between.

All girls have a home at Girlguiding – whoever they are, and wherever they are.

It's been over 100 years since Girlguiding was established and our members are still pushing boundaries and continue to do amazing things. As the needs of girls have changed, Girlguiding has listened and evolved. In 2018 there was the biggest refresh of the badges and awards that Girlguiding had ever seen. Led by the skills and passions of girls today, we created six themes for our members to explore and introduced over 800 new badges and activities. Source: www.girlguiding.uk

Within the Wootton & Hardingstone District we have 3 Rainbow Units, 4 Brownie Units and 2 Guide Units. Our young members meet regularly and take part in numerous activities, experiences and opportunities that are planned and delivered by our team of 33 dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers.

Some of the activities our members are taking part in this year include residential weekends, sleepovers at Gulliver's Land, camping at Whipsnade, bowling, climbing, trips to theatre, Stanwick Lakes including pond dipping, den building and assault courses to name but a few

"Girls are challenged, inspired and empowered through our programme – and have loads of fun!"

Whether your daughter wants to join Rainbows (5-7), Brownies (7-10), or Guides (10-14) she can start her Girlguiding journey here. Begin by registering her interest and finding out about units in your area by visiting the Girl Guiding website https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/

Also, if you'd be interested in volunteering to support your local Guiding Units and becoming part of our fantastic District Team, please contact your local District Commissioners:

Sarah GoodeTel: 07775 728076

Ann JohnsonTel: 07890 938488







www.girlguiding.org.uk

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Celebrating a Season of Community Spirit

As the football season draws to a close, we at Wootton St. George Youth FC reflect on a year filled with excitement, challenges, and a strong sense of community. Our season began in September 2023 with great enthusiasm, as we welcomed 13 teams to the field, including three new teams. Notably, two of these new teams were our very first girls' football teams, marking a significant milestone for our club. This season, we had around 170 children playing football, demonstrating the vibrant and growing interest in the sport within our community.

Despite our high spirits, the weather was not on our side. We experienced what felt like five months of continuous rain on Saturdays and Sundays, leading to numerous game cancellations. Yet, the resilience and determination of our players and coaches shone through, making the most of every opportunity to play and improve.

Celebrating Achievements and Looking Forward

We are eagerly looking forward to our Awards Presentation on June 15th. This event is a highlight of our calendar, offering a chance for all our players and their families to come together and celebrate the season's achievements. The day will be filled with fun, including inter-club games, awards, and team photography. It's a perfect occasion to recognise the hard work and dedication of our young athletes and the invaluable support of their families.

Another exciting event on our calendar is our Annual Tournament, scheduled for July 13th and 14th. This tournament is not just a fantastic footballing event but also a crucial fundraiser for our club. The funds raised help us maintain and grow our programs, ensuring we can continue to provide excellent





opportunities for local children. We expect a weekend of thrilling matches across different age groups, along with food and beverages to keep everyone energised. We invite everyone in the community to come down, enjoy the games, and support our club.

New Beginnings and Continued Growth

Looking ahead to the next season, we are thrilled to announce the addition of two new teams. Our new U7 team will be starting their football journey, and we are also forming a new U10 girls' team, bringing the total number of girls' teams at our club to three. This growth is a testament to the increasing popularity of football among girls in our community, and we are proud to support and nurture this interest.

In addition to the new teams, we have several exciting updates. We have created a new club crest that symbolizes our spirit and values. Alongside the crest, we will be unveiling a whole new kit, thanks to our new sponsor. These updates represent our commitment to providing our players with the best possible experience and fostering a sense of pride and unity within the club.

A Season of Success and Gratitude

Our Under 13s team had a particularly memorable season, reaching the cup final. Although they narrowly missed out on the cup, losing on penalties, their performance was outstanding. Congratulations to Paul de Board and the U13s team for their hard work and determination.

None of these achievements would be possible without the incredible dedication of our volunteers. A big thank you to all our committee members, managers, and coaches who generously give their time and energy. Their commitment ensures that our children have a safe, fun, and supportive environment to enjoy football.

As we wrap up this season, we encourage everyone in the community to stay connected with us. Follow us on our **Facebook** page, Wootton St George Youth FC, and visit our website at **www.wsgfcyouth.co.uk** for the latest news and updates.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another fantastic season ahead!

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Wootton St George Football Club

2023/24 Season Review

After finishing 5th last year with a young team, we used this as a building block to really kick on this season, leading to an excellent campaign for us 23/24. We spent the majority of the season at the top of the league winning 20 of our 24 games, however unfortunately we were unable to get over the line and ended up missing the title by two points following a title decider at Wootton Rec where we drew with AFC Towcester, who only lost one game all season, which was against Wootton earlier in the year.

However, we also had success in the cups this year, making it to both the Gorrell Barnes and League cup finals. Unfortunately we had a depleted side going into the Gorrell Barnes







final and lost comfortably to Earls Barton in the league above. However we did manage to get our hands on some Silverware beating title rivals Towcester in the league cup final 2-1 in front of a massive Wootton crowd at Cogenhoe!

Overall it was a great season for Wootton, finishing 2nd in the league and making it to two cup finals, winning one of them. Our



focus now turns to next season and we wait to see whether we will be promoted to the Prem or stay in Division 1. We are on the lookout for new players with a few our lads retiring or moving onto pastures new, preseason training will start on the 26th June at Far Cotton Rec so anyone who is interested is welcome to join in and potentially help us out in the 2024/25 season!

Up The George!!

Nick Bradshaw Club Secretary



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Free Mature Drivers Roadshow

Are you a mature driver (aged 60+)? Live in Northamptonshire? Rely on being able to drive? This FREE roadshow is for you!

Driving is an important part of our everyday life and we (Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA)) are keen to help to keep mature drivers driving safer for longer.

Our driving ability to drive changes over time for different reasons, especially as we get older. It's important that we recognise whether and how our driving is changing so we can stay safe and protect both ourselves and those around us.

This Mature Drivers Roadshow is aimed at drivers 60+, and will cover all different aspects of driving. There will be a short talk and then plenty of time to meet informally with our many stand holders. Free advice will be available on car adaptions, eyesight, how your prescription medications may affect you, and much more.

There will be FREE hints and tips drives available to book, delivered Northampton Advanced Motorists

Our aim is to keep mature drivers driving safer, for longer.

Book vour Free tickets via Universe:

https://www.universe.com/mature-drivers-Northampton-2024

The event is being held at:

Moulton Community Centre, Sandy Hill Lane, Moulton, NN3 7AX (https://what3words.com/grit.bunch.busy) with one session starting prompt at 9.00am.





There's a lot going on!

It is always a pleasure to write an article for the Parish Magazine as it enables us to reflect on the wonderful things which take place at our school

Something which we pride ourselves on at Preston Hedges, is giving the children exceptional personal development opportunities, both in and outside of the classroom, and the last two terms were certainly no exception.

Multiple sporting events took place, with tournaments held across the Trust for children Year 1 – Year 6 in different disciplines, including multi-skills, hockey and tag-rugby. We were also delighted to be invited to Northampton High School to take part in a Sports Festival – a special thank you to them for hosting the event, the children had a great time.

Class assemblies and performances, including a Rock concert, were held as well as assemblies from special visitors. There were also numerous celebration days linked to curriculum topics, religion and the arts, not to mention our fifth Worldly-Wise week, this time dedicated to 'Pride in Ourselves'.

You would be forgiven for thinking that there was not time for anything else, however there were also a number of trips which took place, including to Hazard Alley, The Mosque and Think Tank. We should also mention that Year 6 children were taken to Oxford University, where they had the chance to look around the

'Harry Potter' dining hall and historic library, as well as the Oxford Botanic gardens. Although University is a little way off, it certainly sparked interest in the children and aspirations to be able to attend such a prestigious institution.

Amazingly, thirty of our Year 5 children visited 10 Downing Street, which was such a treat! The children received a tour and even got to have lunch in a particularly famous room. We were really proud of the way the children conducted themselves and of course how they showed their excellent knowledge, including of historical events and key political figures portrayed in the many portraits hung on the walls. We hope that the visit will live long in their memories

Throughout the final term of the academic year, there will continue to be further opportunities to build on personal development, with: STEM workshops, residential for our Year 6 children, a visit from Huxlow Academy to lead Olympic event to celebrate the up-coming 2024 Olympics, trips to the Gurdwara, Buddhist temple, Space Centre and Milton Keynes Museum, our final Worldly Wise week of the term (focused on disability) and further celebrations days to celebrate Eid and our final term's topics. With all this going on, be sure to check out our Facebook page.



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Northampton Litter Wombles



Cllr Sohrab Ghavami is full of admiration for these litter picking superheroes

I recently met with Mel from Northampton Litter Wombles to discuss ways to improve our current arrangement.

We are fortunate to have these dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to keep the roads, streets, pavements, parks, and footpaths of Wootton free of the rubbish left behind.

These volunteers venture out in all weathers, quietly, selflessly, and regularly, ensuring that Wootton remains clean and is a point of pride for our community, admired by visitors from further afield.

We were pleased to host a reception event in February to thank these incredible volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

Anyone wishing to join Northampton Litter Wombles by volunteering to help keeping Wootton clean, please get in touch with the team at Wootton Parish Council.

Cllr Sohrab Ghavami









Memorial Hall, High Street, Wootton

It's the summer term

We are playing outside as much as possible and our older children are getting ready for moving up to 'big school'. At lunch times we are sitting with the children that are going to the same primary school as us and behaving as we will need to at school, and we are also now quite good at independently changing our shoes and coats and sitting quietly on the carpet at register and story time.

It's a very busy term for our children, they are looking after their sunflowers and recording how tall they are growing!

We are going on our **annual summer trip** to **Mini Meadows Farm Centre** where the children will be able to feed and learn all about the animals. We all go on a big coach – so it is very exciting and we have our fingers crossed for a sunny day!

We also have our **sports day** morning to look forward to and our end of term party with a bouncy castle to play on, we will be ready for the summer holidays after all this activity!

Our older children have all had their 'graduation' photographs taken and are busy practicing their singing for the **Leavers Show**.

It is always sad to say goodbye to the children that are moving onto primary school, but remember that we always love to see you in your new school uniform so do pop by in September! We are also looking forward to meeting our new children at our open afternoon on 12th July

If you would like to know any more about our pre-school then please visit our website at **www.woottonplaygroup.co.uk** where you will find out all about us – or drop in to see us!

We do have a limited number of places available from September

Children are very welcome to come to us from the surrounding areas and villages.

All the details about our events are in our regular parent's newsletter and can also be found on our website:

www.woottonplaygroup.co.uk

You can contact us:

Telephone: 07840 822476

Email: woottonplaygroup@btconnect.com

Message us via face book: Wootton Pre-School Playgroup @preschoolwootton

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Something for everyone!

Wootton WI meet on the second Wednesday of the month in the Memorial Hall in the High Street at 7.30 pm – except August.

Come along to any meeting as a visitor for $\pounds 4$ to find out more. No need to let us know in advance – just turn up. We will be pleased to see you.

So far this year we have learnt from the police on how to protect ourselves against cyber security and fraud, made birthday cards, celebrated our annual birthday with a buffet and a quiz, learnt how to trace our family history and supported Wootton Heritage Organisation at the May Festival providing tea and cake, raising £255 which will go to local groups in Wootton. We also donated to Crusader Community Boating. We have enjoyed coffee mornings, lunches, dinners and country walks. Something for everyone.

We are looking forward to playing croquet, hearing from the Frank Bruno Foundation, enjoying an evening with the Shireen Belly Dancers and hearing about the experiences of a TV and film extra

We do hope you will join us for an evening.

Contact:

Liz GoramPresident
07772 896491

Christine Ansell

Secretary 07984 427673

Calling Local Businesses

Fantastic Business Opportunity

Do you live in Wootton? Do you have a business in Wootton?

Wootton Parish Council is keen to support local businesses and would like to invite you to make use of our new Atrium in the new extension to Wootton Community Centre.

The Parish Council will be holding awareness weeks in the new space and would like local businesses to set up "popup" shops when the space isn't being used.

If you are a local businessperson who can advertise or set up a shop in the Community Centre please get in touch with our Community & Functions Manager, Gem Johnson who will be able to help you.

bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk 01604 705055



Wild About Wootton

Fruits of our labour

Over the winter and into early spring the wonderful volunteers that make up the Wild About Wootton group have been quietly carrying out a variety of maintenance jobs around the parish. Saplings that had failed in the hedgerow along the top of the recreation ground and Wooldale Road have been replaced. Bizarrely while the spiral guards have remained many of the supporting canes have disappeared! Grass and weeds growing around the base of the trees in Elm Tree Avenue and the new saplings have been cleared. For the saplings this means they get more light, less competition for water and nutrients, and a better chance to grow. Weeding and pruning has also been carried out at the memorial garden, just off Hermitage Way.

With these tasks now completed it is great to see the fruits of the winter work paying off and wildlife flourishing. If you haven't visited the memorial garden recently then I highly recommend taking a look. Having had a couple of years to grow the garden looks stunning and while it has been weeded some poppy plants were left, emphasising the memorial element of the garden. The efforts are certainly being appreciated by the local wildlife with White-tailed bumblebees and Common carder bees buzzing over the Lavender and Nepeta. These plants produce nectar, essentially a sugary water, that gives them energy to fly, find a mate or start a nest. Did you know that every time nectar is taken from a flower it is replaced by the plant, a process that can take from two to twenty minutes depending on the species. The pollen they collect is packed with protein and other

nutrients and is fed to their young enabling them to grow. As they fly from flower to flower some pollen is transferred and pollination takes place, a vital process, enabling fruits and seeds to form.

The recently planted hedgerows are a mix of native species including Hawthorn, Rowan and Dog roses providing a wildlife corridor and a habitat for many different insects. The stretch along Wooldale Road has acquired a number of wildlife admirers. Ladybirds, Damselflies, Caterpillars and Butterflies have all been seen. These are a very important food resource for the various species of birds that inhabit the local area. With the bird breeding season drawing to a close many birds now have guieter songs but the Robin can still be heard singing sweetly from the trees and hedgerows. Being a very territorial bird the more hedgerows we have, the more Robin songs we will hear.

The natural environment has been proven to have major positive benefits for our mental health and wellbeing, just a short walk outside can reveal small delights from bird song to flowers and insects. In collaboration with the fabulous library team, we are co-hosting a Wild Wednesday session. On July 31st from 11am – 1pm, meeting at the library, we aim to take a closer look at the amazing wildlife we have on our doorstep along with the opportunity to make a bug hotel to take home. We hope this will inspire the next generation to develop an interest and love of our precious wildlife.



SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST 2024 - MIDDAY UNTIL 3PM WOOTTON RECREATIONAL GROUND, NN4 GED

Classes Include.... Cutest Pup, Prettiest Girl, Handsomest Boy, Waggiest Tail, Judges Favourite, Prettiest Eyes, Golden Oldie, Best Rescue, Best Child Handler, Best In Show - Only £2 per class & No Need to Book.

Also - Raffle, Saleables & Tombola

Al proceeds go to providing care & treatment for animals until they can go to a loving home of their own Registered Charity 1068222 - www.animals-in-need.org - Tel 01933 2780





Start your healthy weight journey with Gro Health

West Northamptonshire council is giving anyone who lives in West Northamptonshire FREE access to a leading NHS-certified programme to help you reach and maintain a healthy weight.





12 weeks to a healthy weight

Learn about the biology of a healthy diet with weekly education, face-to-face support groups, recipes, meal plans and shopping lists.



Mental wellbeing support

Find your headspace and manage stress with on-demand meditation, mindfulness and yoga.



One-to-one and group coaching

Speak to an accredited health coach for private support at any time, or join our face-to-face sessions.

What could I achieve?



6.5%

Average weight loss



32%

Improvement in anxiety symptoms



18%

Reduction in chronic pain symptoms



8%

Improvement in quality of life

To get started

- 1 Scan the QR code, or go to grohealth.com/west-northants
- 2 Complete the form to see if you're eligible
- 3 Sign up and get started with face-to-face or digital sessions





Prefer to speak to someone?

- Call us on 0330 133 0307 (8am-6pm Mon-Fri)
- Email us at support@grohealth.com

















WOOTTON PARISH MAG 22 Summer 2024 C E 2 D

Finding Healing and Purpose Through Dance

My Journey of Resilience

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life, it's easy to get lost in the chaos of obligations and responsibilities. For me, life was a whirlwind of motherhood, executive duties in a leading pharmaceutical company, and navigating personal family challenges. However, last year, life threw me a curveball that brought everything to a standstill.

Amidst the chaos, I experienced extreme health challenges that forced me to confront the neglect of my own well-being. The relentless stress and constant juggling of tasks had taken a toll on my body, manifesting in severe nerve pain in my face. Despite countless medical tests and treatments, the road to recovery seemed elusive.

Then, serendipity intervened, leading me to discover an unexpected source of healing — dancing. Venturing into the vibrant world of Zumba classes, I found solace in the simple act of moving to music. It was a revelation, breathing vitality back into my life and igniting a newfound sense of resilience.

Dancing became my lifeline, propelling me towards a remarkable recovery. With each step and sway, I regained strength and reclaimed ownership of my health. The transformative power of dance not only healed my body but also nourished my soul, reminding me of the importance of self-care and finding joy in the midst of adversity.

Inspired by my journey of healing, I seized the opportunity to give back to others in need. This year, I'm honored to participate in the Strictly Northampton dance competition,





raising funds for the local air ambulance.
As I prepare to take the stage at the Royal &
Derngate Theatre, I am filled with gratitude
for the chance to share my story and make a
meaningful impact in the lives of others.

The initiative, led by the dedicated team at Step by Step Dance School, embodies the spirit of community and compassion. Together, we're not just raising money but also raising awareness about the importance of prioritizing both physical and mental well-being in today's fast-paced world.

Life's challenges have a way of reshaping our priorities and guiding us towards our true purpose. For me, it meant taking a leap of faith and embarking on a new journey as the founder of Rosendale Academy. Here, I'm able to channel my passion for personal development and create a culture that values work-life balance and psychological safety.

As I reflect on my journey, I'm reminded that sometimes, the greatest transformations arise from the most unexpected places. Through dance, I found healing, purpose, and the courage to embrace change. So, let us all remember to prioritize our well-being, for in nurturing ourselves, we pave the way for a brighter, more resilient future.

Nina Kaloti





Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance

Scan QR code to visit Nina's JustGiving Page

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What is the Precept?



Cllr Malcolm Callan explains

What is a Parish Council Precept? It is a tax that Wootton Parish Council charges local residents in order to cover service spending within the local community. These services can include dog litter bins, grass cutting, play equipment, outdoor gym and events to name just a few.

Parish Councils do not receive any direct funding from central government, so to provide services for the community, they have to rely on any generated income, grants, funding and the Precept

The Precept is calculated as part of the Parish Council's budget. Towards the end of the year, the Finance committee will meet to review the current year's budget and forecast a budget for the following year. The committee will look at all generated income and expenditure, taking into account inflation, known price increases for services and increases in staffing costs. They may also look to build a reserve for future projects. When all decided, they will look at the gap between expenses and income. This gap becomes the Precept.

The budget with Precept is then shown to council for approval and published for public comment

This current year's precept is £315,576. This will be paid to Wootton Parish Council in two instalments. One in April and one in October.

The Precept total is apportioned per household according to Council Tax band and is presented in terms of a Band D equivalent. The 2024-25 precept of £315,576 will cost a band D household £106.61 per year or £2.05p per week.

There are 172 Parish Councils that come under West Northamptonshire Council, of which 148 charge a Precept. Wootton ranks 47th on the highest amount charged. When you consider that Wootton Parish sits on the Larger Council Forum, along with 19 other larger parishes, yet sits at 47th on the list, we believe demonstrates good value for money.

Precepts are often an emotive or controversial subject. It is always a fine balancing act. Increase too much, we run the risk of upsetting or alienating the electorate. Not enough, then services suffer which will also risk upsetting and alienating the electorate. Wootton Parish Council strives to get the balance as best it can.

I hope this article debunks some of the mysteries of the Precept.

Clir Malcolm Callan

Wootton Seniors Club

Our thirteenth year

The club continues to flourish with the support of Wootton Parish Council and our dedicated volunteer committee.

Our fortnightly activities since the last magazine issue have been: A history of canals in Northamptonshire by a local village researcher, some great music from the U3A Ukulele Band, Hot cross buns and an Easter egg raffle and our annual St George's Day celebrations with a Buffet, bar and Wootton Primary School choir.

We have also enjoyed a music quiz from Cathy and Dave and Yoga with Jean. Our men members are able to play Pool every other week although lady members could join them to play or for a chat!

Looking forward to the next six months we have planned a coach trip to Ely, a quiz with Derreck, our own Antiques Road Show, an outing to Cogenhoe Bowls Club and a speaker on 'The History of Rugby in Northampton'.

And onto Christmas! We have booked an entertainer/ magician, our annual Christmas lunch at a restaurant and a Singalong with mince pies and mulled wine.

Please join us

If you are new to Wootton Parish, want to get out, meet new people in a safe friendly environment we welcome you. Phone Jean on 01604 762323 or Cathy on 07895 197493 or just come along at 2 pm on alternate Wednesdays.

2024 Programme

3rd July

Coach trip to Ely

17th July

Chair and dance exercise with Rebecca

31st July

Wootton Seniors Antiques Roadshow

14th August

Boule or Tai Chi

28th August

Cathy's Quiz

11th September

Yoga with Jean, plus Pool

25th September

A talk by Graham Mckechnie, BBC Radio Sports presenter

9th October

Autumn Raffle and/or Yoga with Jean, plus Pool

23rd October

Wootton Seniors AGM

6th November

Chair and dance exercise with Rebecca

20th November

Entertainment by magician

4th December

Christmas sing along plus Pool

11th December

Christmas meal at the Walnut Tree

18th December

Christmas chat, fun and mince pies plus Pool





Exciting Exhibitions and Events

It's all change across our exhibition galleries as we enter flaming June!

Saturday 22 June - Sunday 15 September

TITANIC - HONOUR & GLORY

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

This exciting exhibition brings to life the history of the legendary ocean liner, the Royal Mail Steamer Titanic. From her conception to her premature demise, Titanic has become one of the most famous ocean liners in the world, displaying artefacts from the disaster and props from the blockbuster film, Titanic.



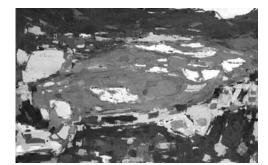


Until Sunday 30 June

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

An art exhibition with a difference. There is no theme, no one artist, no particular artistic period but a whole mixture of artworks from across our Fine Art Collection, all of which have been chosen by our wonderful team of Guest Curators. Our 30 plus curators have chosen everything from small, detailed embroidery, to papier-mâché dog sculptures, to large scale colourful canvases. Come see what has been chosen, would you have made the same choices?







Until Sunday 1 September

FROM THE COLLECTION: ABSTRACT ART

Northampton Museum and Art Gallery

A celebration of the 20th century paintings, prints and sculptures in our collection that all share an abstraction of form, from large oil on canvas paintings to angular metal sculptures. This exhibition is a presentation of this central stream of modern art production, investigating abstract art's unique voice, freedom of expression and artistic origins.

1 June - 30 September

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY: POPPY PROJECT

Abington Park Museum

The poppies in the display have all been crafted by local craft groups, individuals and community organisations including the Museum Craft and Chatter group. Each knitted or crocheted poppy represents an individual with a Northamptonshire connection, who was a casualty of the D-Day landings in June and the subsequent battles through to September of 1944. The casualties include members of the Northamptonshire Yeomanry, people from the Northamptonshire airfields and Northamptonshire people serving in the armed forces.

8 June - 1 September

BRILLIANT BIRDS: THE LOVE BIRDS WEDDING

Abington Park Museum

Owls, a penguin, cranes, and storks along with many other birds all feature in The Lovebirds Wedding by Henry Stacy Marks. Their stories and myths, facts

and imagery will all be explored in this family friendly exhibition.





D-Day Remembered

On the 6th June the Parish of Wootton gathered at Wootton Recreation Ground to stand together for the D-Day 80th Commemoration.

The event began with pupils from Wootton Primary School singing songs that reminded us of why we were all there. The pupils ended their well received contribution with a couple of poems.

Whilst the sound bites played, the aroma of fish and chips filled the air carried across the Park from the Chip van parked on the perimeter of the event. Sam then entertained the audience with some well choosen songs reflecting the evenings event. The moment then arrived when the piper in front of the CCS Cadets led the march with pride over to the beacon area where they stopped and stood in formation in readines for the speech from the Deputy Lord-Lieutentant of Northampton who kindly accepted the council's invitation to

attend the evening's event. This was followed by Jeff Servant Vice Chairman of the Parish Council who stood in heroically for our poorly Chairman giving a powerful speech hitting home the reason for the event.

With the sound bites again in the background and another song from Sam we then filled the air with the sound of bagpipes adding a magical touch to the evening. The Reverent Lakshmi then spoke to everyone that had now gathered together for the lighting of the beacon. The CCS Cadets then formed a Guard of honour around the beacon, along with the Deputy Lord Lieutenant as the moment arrived for the beacon to be lit, paragraphs of tribute and remembrance were read out one by one by the volunteers happy to contribute. Then the





Last Post was then heard echoing across the park followed by a two minutes silenced which was made that little bit more special with the church bells ringing in the distance as if it was deliberately planned. Reveille ended the silence then the evening drew to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.

Photographs were taken of the Beacon flickering in the late evening Sky as everyone started to filter home. A touching tribute to all those who took part in the events 80 years ago that helped shape the world we are now a part of. Finally a big Well Done to Gemma Johnson, Bar and Events Manager for organising the evening's events, Also thank you to all those who contributed to the evening one way or the other.



Simon Burnell







Crime levels low, but no time for complacency

Dear residents,

Crime levels remain low within the parish of Wootton and over the last two years overall crime has fallen 19% with burglary offences having fallen by 30% in the last year which is fantastic news.

My team and I are not complacent, and we are keen for this downward trend to continue moving forwards and we want to engage with as many of you within the community as we possibly can so we can focus on what matters to you.

We are looking to set up a regular police surgery at the community centre over the next few months so that you can come along and see your policing team for advice, support or a general chit chat so look out for further details on this.

We also have our Northamptonshire talking platform which allows us to keep you up to date via messages about matters within your area and for you to communicate with us. Please speak to any of the team for details of how you can get access to this service.

As we move into the summer months I am hopeful that the warmer weather may make an appearance at some point!

Please bear in mind that with warmer weather we often see a spike in certain crime types such as burglary when criminals take advantage of windows and doors being left open. Please be mindful of this and speak to any of my team if you wish for further crime prevention advice.

We often see a rise in anti-social behaviour as well, particularly amongst youths, and so a plea from your policing team would be to please be aware of where your children are what they may be getting up to.

As ever if you have any concerns and wish to speak to your neighbourhood team regarding them then please get in touch with us.



Kindest regards

Sgt Danny Morris

A dream come true!

When local girl Olivia was selected to represent England in the Dance World Cup it was a dream come true! Olivia has been dancing since the age of three at Oncore Dance Academy. Over the years Olivia has watched other students, including her sister, be selected as part of Team England in the biggest Dance competition in the world... and now it's finally her turn.

Olivia is off to Prague in June with 29 other students from her dance school. Oncore Dance Academy have successfully qualified four dances through to the finals. Olivia will be competing in two group dances, one junior musical theatre group 'whistle down the wind' and one modern group dance 'let's go crazy'. Both of these dances have had huge success at local festivals so it will be amazing for them to perform the dances on a global stage! It's an incredible opportunity for Olivia to be flying the flag for England along with her friends, she feels very excited and honoured to be representing her country.

66 other countries compete a the Dance World Cup, making it the greatest all-genre dance competition in the world for children and young adults.

A few local businesses have been very supportive and have sponsored Olivia on this fabulous journey. Olivia would like to say a huge thank you to Merrys Estate Agents, Bosclad Roofing Services, both in Wootton, and MB Civil Engineering for their sponsorships.

We would like to wish Olivia and her dance friends the very best of luck in this exciting adventure!









Wootton Primary School

Year 6 pupils, CG and SH, bring us this report from Wootton Primary School

Our 152-year-old Primary School has all the necessary qualities needed to be a perfect place for education and fun. Our school motto ('Be the best you can be') encourages our students to use our school values, which are: Courage, Friendship, Co-operation, Honesty, Respect, Caring and Responsibility.

These values are not just shown in school, but out of school too, including during the 'D-day celebration' in Wootton Community centre, 6th June: this is where multiple Year 6 members sing and read poetry in front of a mesmerised crowd each year.

Wootton Primary School is famous for participating in numerous sporting events, as shown on display with proudly-standing trophies on show as you enter the school.

Some of which are from Dance competitions, rugby tournaments, football matches between us and other competing schools, and overall our distinguished, accomplished community of enjoyable learning.

If us or one of our peers behaves spectacularly, we can get various rewards, the minor one being house points. House Points can lead to Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and possibly

even Rainbow certificates, though it is very rare for a child to achieve their Rainbow reward; however, it has been accomplished before.

Children can also receive Star Of The Week if the Teacher deems their work and behaviour satisfactory above all throughout the week. Do not fret, every child gets Star Of The Week at least once a year.

Coming up is our yearly Summer Fair. In Wootton Primary School summer fairs, Year 6's are able to participate in running their own stalls, with this year's theme being, 'Arcade.'

If some decide not to do this, they can take part in their peer's stalls or ones that have been already organised.

Interestingly, our students are sorted into houses (Woodpeckers, Robins, Goldfinches and Kingfishers), and their aim is to get their house to remain top of the charts in terms of house points each week. At the end of each term, our headmaster – who is Mr Crilly – or any other staff member running the Celebration Assembly will announce the house who earned the most house points throughout the term. Please do note that every house



point counts for each house, and this is a relatively competitive feature in our school.

Further down the school in Year 2, pupils have an upcoming sleepover in the school to look forward to. As this is only the second year of doing this event, staff that are working on the night of the slumber can, also, not wait for it.

In addition, Year 6 is soon going on a trip to The Isle Of Wight for a whole school week — this will include many thrilling activities such as going to the beach and Laser Tag. However, this will only take place if the children are well-behaved throughout the whole school year and show respect to their classmates and staff. Do not worry if your child is not going to the Isle of Wight, for each child staying behind can help out the teachers and possibly even help Mr Crilly in an assembly.

What's more, Year 4 has recently come back from a trip to Condover, which lasted for 3 days. In Condover, pupils normally share large dormitories with their peers that are the same gender as them. This usually takes place in April, and is a very exciting event that can potentially help prepare you for The Isle Of Wight.

Each Friday, either Mr Crilly or another member of staff announce to the school what individual pupils have achieved and celebrate their accomplishments in what we call a 'Celebration Assembly'. Alongside this, they also sing Happy Birthday to pupils that have had their birthdays through the week or are about to have their birthday on the Weekend. At the end of the term, the staff member holding the assembly will read out the names of children that teachers have selected to be Values Ambassadors. To be a Values Ambassador, you must consistently show the value of the term while on the playground, in assemblies and in class. There can only be one Values Ambassador per class, though a different child is selected every term.

If a student would like to be their class's Values Ambassador for that current term, they will need to especially show respect for themselves, others and the world around them, even if respect is not that term's Value.

Some teacher's and student's previews on the school have been included in this article, one of which has been said by E Andrews – a Year 6 teacher who currently teaches the class 6A.

'I've worked at Wootton Primary School for 16 years. It is such a wonderful place to work with fantastic pupils and staff.' She stated.

One of Mrs E Andrews's students, Coral Goodwin, adds, 'Having been here for 7 years, I have found out one thing about this school. It is fantastic! From respectful pupils to helpful staff, I have found my time in this primary school thrilling and extremely enjoyable.'

Sirvana Hickman, another Year 6 student, said, 'I love this school. All teachers make the learning enjoyable and I wake up in the mornings excited to see them and my friends again. I, personally, really enjoy playing sports and here, at Wootton Primary School, they offer you a range of sports clubs from street-dance to after-school football. Overall, I have loved my time here, and thanks to the staff, I am passionate about my education.'

Year 6 has a school play coming up at the end of Term 6, the last term. As this year's theme is 'The Lion King', most Year 6 pupils are excited about performing in front of a crowd. Do not worry if you are a child who hates being in the spotlight, teachers will take note of your preferences and give you a more minor role. Each year has a different theme, with last year's theme being 'Star Warts' – a variation of the all-time classic 'Star Wars'.

We love Wootton Primary School! Thank you for reading.

CG and SH

Simply put, we all want to be the best we can be!



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As we enjoy the final few weeks of the academic year, it's been wonderful to see all the progress and growth within the students

Year 7 Open Evening

Looking forward to the next academic year, we are pleased to confirm our Year 7 Open Evening for 2025-26 intake will take place on Thursday 26 September 2024. Tickets will go live in early September, after the start of the new academic year. Visit the link to join us here:

https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/ admissions/year-7-secondary-phase/year-7-open-evening

We hope to see you there!

Wellbeing Award



We are delighted to announce our successful Wellbeing Award for Schools accreditation. Following 18 months of work towards the Award, supported by Optimus Education, this certification

is testament to the hard work of our school staff and students, who have helped us to review all that we do to support our students and their mental health, and adopt best practices.

The Wellbeing Award for Schools is created by the National Children's Bureau and helps



schools by reviewing their wellbeing practices and sharing expert guidance to improve.

Our latest survey showed this work is having a very positive impact on wellbeing at CCS and we are excited to carry on with more improvements guided by this scheme.

Join our Foundation Stage - September 2024

Book a tour today! Come view our Ofsted rated Outstanding Foundation Stage. Places available from September 2024. "Children thrive in Reception and settle into school well." - Ofsted, 2020

Gardening club

We are incredibly proud to share four of our Year 6 students have launched a lunch time gardening club, bringing together students from Years 1 to 3 in a shared loved for nature and learning. It's been wonderful to watch the students flourish as they mentor and guide the younger students imparting not only gardening skills, but also values of teamwork, responsibility, and resilience. The year 6



to learn about gardening... When the younger years grow up, they will be able to use these skills and maybe even create clubs of their own." Our Vice Principal, Mr Fisher shared, "Every day our students impress me with their use of the High Performance Learning skills that underpin our approach here at Caroline Chisholm School. Our Year 6 students have shown how creative and enterprising, confident, and concerned for society they are with this project, and I am immensely proud of them."

Year 8 girls' football - cup winners!

Our Year 8 girls' football team played incredibly well in the Northampton Town FC Community Trust tournament, with 11 schools from across Northamptonshire in the mix. We are so proud to share, the Year 8 team won the tournament!! The girls displayed fantastic skill and team work throughout and came home cup winners! Our Year 8 player, M Wittich-Jackson, not only shined on the field, but also earned well-deserved recognition from NTFC for player of the tournament! Congratulations to all!

students shared, "Everyone deserves a chance

(I)) WE NEED YOU!

Parish Councillors!

Would you like to help your community?

Come and join us

We currently have two Parish Council vacancies

Contact the Parish Clerk for details:

01604705055





Making Wootton Parish a Better Place to Live, Work and Play



WOOL!

Any amount gratefully received at the Community Centre



As always, to stay regularly updated on all the goings-on of the school, please check out our school website or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



01604 344744



www.ccs.northants.sch.uk



@CarolineChisholmSchool

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St George the Martyr Church

Gambling on God

If all goes to plan, you will read this before the general election on Thursday 4th July. You and I have some agency in how government is conducted, so, it is important that each person eligible to vote does so. Of course, I would say this. After all, the Bible places store on praying for political leaders. (In Roman times people who governed ranged from fallible to utterly immoral and even despotic. What about today?) It is my Christian duty, as the Lord's Prayer urges, to do what I can, within the world as it is, to work with God for God's kingdom to come.

You see, it is just possible that there is a God who created and loves the world; that Jesus lived, died and was raised from death to show God's power and love. Most Christians (I include myself) live with doubts or confusion about God, but seek to trust anyway. About 400 years ago, the scientist Blaise Pascal considered gambling on God. The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin (a bishop who supports survivors of the Grenfell Tower fire) explains Pascal's wager:

Pascal's argument runs like this: If you were strictly speaking betting rationally on the odds, then you'd always bet on God. If you bet on God not existing, and there is no life after this one, and you're right, you don't gain a great deal – just a few brief years' pleasure while you're young and fit enough to enjoy it. But if you bet on God existing, and there is a life beyond the here and now, and you end up being right, you stand to gain a huge dividend – eternal happiness in the presence of God –

If you would like to join us, whatever you currently feel or believe, you are welcome:

Sunday 10.30am church service – for all ages followed by refreshments

Monday 9.30am during school term – Little Stars – service for under-5s and adult carers

Tuesday 9.00am service of Holy Communion followed by 9.40am drop-in café (an opportunity to meet people who live locally)

If you are interested in the church building, **The Wootton Heritage Organisation** will be offering a tour in the evening on **Wednesday 17th July**. For more information email: christineansell@aol.com

On Saturday 14th September 10am – 3pm join us for refreshments and activities as we support The Historic Churches' Annual Ride and Stride. You will hear more about this in the coming weeks, but if you would like to contribute a homemade cake or have ideas, be in touch with John (07975 790591)

For more information about these and other events and occasions during the summer, check the church Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgeWootton or contact me directly.

all this for the sake of a tiny stake – a life of discipline and self-denial for a few years here on earth. So looking objectively and rationally at the odds on offer, a betting [person] would always bet on belief. But Pascal knows that we don't think that way...because belief is inconvenient, we would rather there was no God, it costs too much, and we just don't want to believe.

So if the evidence is inconclusive, and you're aware that your own motives are mixed, then what do you do? Pascal thinks we are creatures formed by habit. So his advice is to start living as if it's all true even if you're not sure whether it is... Start practising the habit of daily prayer to God even if you're not sure whether he's listening or not. Start treating each person you meet each day as if they're not just another inconvenience in your path

but someone precious, loved by God and created in his image. Start going to a church regularly meeting with other Christians for that kind of mutual strengthening of faith that only being with others can bring. Take the bread and wine of Holy Communion as if they really are the gift of Christ's presence to you. And see what happens.

(See full article www.seenandunseen.com/how-escape-sole-cause-unhappiness.)

Finally, why not pray before, during and after the election? It can't harm and God might respond...

Rev Lakshmi Jeffreys

wootton.vicar@outlook.com 07960 264196



Regular Activities at the Centre

Brought to you by Wootton Parish Council at Wootton Community & Sports Centre



Classes		Contact Details
MONDAY		
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp Train outside – feel great inside	6.30am — 7.30am	Patrick Jelly Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates Improve your posture & flatten your tummy	9.30am — 10.30am	Nikki Freeman Tel: 07903 500734 nikkifreeman181@gmail.com
Chair Yoga	11.00am — 12.00pm	Julie Jones Tel: 07719844090 hello@juliejonesyoga.com
Pilates	6.00pm — 7.00pm 7.00pm — 9.00pm	Lucy Pringle Tel: 07957 541478 alignedpilates@yahoo.co.uk
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp Train outside — feel great inside	7.00pm — 8.00pm	Patrick Jelley Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk
TUESDAY		
Boogie Beanies Children's group party and entertainment	10.00am — 11.00am	Amanda Balneaves Tel: 07766 731542 info@boogiebeanies.com www.boogiebeanies.com
Sing &Sign Helping babies communicate before speech	1.15pm — 3.15pm	Tan Brient tanbrient@singandsign.co.uk www.singandsign.co.uk
Pilates	6.00pm — 7.00pm	Jan Blaber Janmodernpilates-@hotmail.co.uk
Mancave UK Men's Mental Health Support Group	7.00pm — 9.00pm	follow @THEMANCAVE_UK
WEDNESDAY		
Get Up & Go Strength and balance exercises	11:15am — 12.00pm	Michelle Lewis Tel: 07423 074891 stepforwardwithlewis@gmail.com
Wootton Seniors Club Wootton Senior Residents — Weekly meet-up	2.00pm — 3.30pm	Jean Penny Tel: 01604 762323 jeanpenny42@icloud.com
Evolve Weight Loss Relaxed approach, no announcing results	5.30pm — 6.30pm	Sylvia Paget slimwithsly@virginmedia.com evolveweightloss.co.uk
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp Train outside – feel great inside	7.00pm — 8.00pm	Patrick Jelly Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk

Wootton Community and Sports Centre

Rooms are available for hire: To discuss your booking requirements and further information:

Telephone: 01604 705055

Email: bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Main Office Hours: Monday — Friday 10.00am — 3.00pm

Classes		Contact Details
THURSDAY		
Yoga Beginners and Returners	9.15am — 10.15am	Julie Jones 07719 844090 hello@juliejonesyoga.com
BeFit Pilates Great for stretching and exercise (Booking Essential)	2.00pm — 3.00pm	SHEvolution Fitness shevolutionfit@gmail.com
Art Class (u3a) Jubilee Room — All Welcome	2.00pm — 4.00pm	Colin Brown Tel: 07746 593670
Step by Step Dance Class Get fit, get healthy, get dancing	5.00pm - 8.00pm	Andrzej Mialkowski 07849 331430 info@danceschool-stepbystep.com
Wootton Road Runners Friendly running club — all levels	7.00pm — 9.00pm	Carrie Carruthers info@woottonroadrunners.co.uk www.woottonroadrunners.co.uk
FRIDAY		
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp	6.30am — 7.30am	Patrick jelley Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk
Cha Char Chimps Award winning, interactive musical fun show for pre-school children	10.00am — 11.00am	Helen Ryan helen@ccchimps.com
Low Impact Dance-fit class Come and have fun while getting fit	11.30pm — 12.30pm	Denise Hutchinson Tel: 07779 606077 fondemi1@yahoo.co.uk
Get Up & Go Strength and balance exercises (45 min)	1.10pm — 2.00pm	Michelle Lewis Tel: 07423 074891 stepforwardwithlewis@gmail.com
Private Hire Bookings	400pm - 00.00	
SATURDAY		
Socatots Play based activity programme, specifically designed for children aged between 1 - 5 years old.	09.15am — 11.30am	Paul Darton/George Quinn mklb@socatots.co.uk https://socatots.co.uk/
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp Train outside — feel great inside	9.30am — 10.30am	Patrick Jelley Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk
Private Hire Bookings	10.00am - 00.00	
SUNDAY		
Wootton Warriors Bootcamp Train outside – feel great inside	8.30am — 9.30am	Patrick Jelley Tel: 07905 564221 jelley1@hotmail.co.uk
GKR Karate For all ages, self-defence, fitness & confidence	10.00am — 11.00am	Daniel Freer Tel: 07931 504712 admin@gkrkarate.com info.uk@gkrkarate.com
Wootton St George Youth Teams Football for all ages	Weekend Football	wsgfcfootballclub@gmail.com
Northants All Stars Adult Football Team	Weekend Football	Reece Prigg reeceprigg2@gmail.com
Wootton Wanderers Adult Football	Weekend Football	Danny Armsby Tel: 07737 1999661 d armsby11@yahoo.co.uk

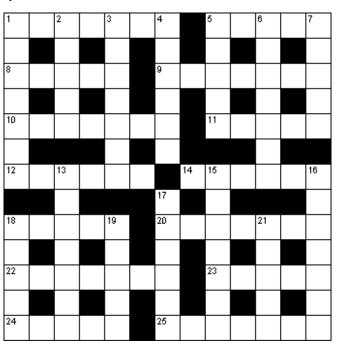


Take a Break

Put the kettle on, make yourself a brew, settle down in your favourite chair and take a break with these puzzles.

Solutions in next month's Mag – so no cheating, you've just got to persevere until you've finished them!

Quick Crossword



Across

- 1 Local language variation (7)
- 5 Type of parrot (5)
- 8 Harmonious sounds (5)
- 9 Race-meeting for boats (7)
- 10 Roman sea god (7)
- 11 Soft white limestone (5)
- 12 Mollycoddle (6)
- 14 Customer (6)
- 18 Back of a boat (5)
- 20 Nuclear energy producer (7)
- 22 Place to lie low (7)
- 23 Magnanimous (5)
- 24 Endured (5)
- 25 Most difficult (7)

Down

- 1 Devilish (7)
- 2 Author of many fables (5)
- 3 Keep out (7)
- 4 Large soup dish (6)
- 5 Conjuring (5)
- 6 Humble dwelling (7)
- 7 Resounding blow (5)
- 13 Gracefully slim (7)
- 15 Novice (7)
- 16 Anguish (7)
- 17 Despicable person (6)
- 18 Term of respect in India (5)
- 19 Hangman's loop (5)
- 21 Data arranged in rows and columns (5)

All puzzles courtesy of Simply Daily Puzzles

More online puzzles can be found at **simplydailypuzzles.com**

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Across

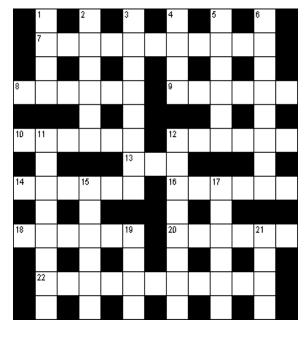
7 Art or love, it is material for an opera (2,9)

The Less Quick Cryptic Crossword

- 8 Play in small village (6)
- 9 Money spent on proscribed amateur (6)
- 10 Composer making connection in Georgia (6)
- 12 Fan out to see ranch (6)
- 13 Sheep heard in tree? (3)
- 14 Strike-leader makes fun of shifts (6)
- 16 Fliers remain in motion (6)
- 18 Drink while producing works for the theatre
- 20 Parts of a fish used for balance (6)
- 22 He'd epic plan to reform furniture designer (11)

Down

- 1 Female resident of Britain (4)
- 2 Communist leader in last revolution (6)
- 3 Graphically describes harbour lights? (8)
- 4 One getting a turn on stage in Othello (4)
- Builder's requisite a bit of mustard or salt(6)
- 6 In parts see a part apart (8)
- Rhyme about milk and rice (8)
- 12 Actress Gloria comes to Gateshead to make final appearance (4,4)
- 15 Entered for a mince pie? (4,2)
- 7 Artist has a turn to speak on Scottish isle (6)
- 19 Fools pass out (4)
- 21 Regular on the day before the first of November (4)



Sudoku

The object of the puzzle is to insert the numbers in the boxes to satisfy only one condition: each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 through 9 exactly once.

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

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So far so good . . .

We have delivered the programme for the first half of the year successfully with healthy attendances at the monthly meetings and a very buoyant May Festival held at Wootton Primary School.

WHO Chair **Christine Ansell** gave an interesting, informative and organised talk on the deserted villages of Northamptonshire in February. Its focus on local history, its revisionist view of what caused villages to disappear, the diligent research into individual cases and the provision of visual evidence of locations all combined to present an interesting, informative and well received session.

In March came a detailed and knowledgeable survey of Georgian eating habits from **Alison Eskriett** who was able to talk not only about what was on the 18th century menu but also how the food was sourced and prepared. I'm not certain there were any regrets about the absence of samples though!

April's presentation, fluently presented by **Andrew Tennet**, was an innovative take on the funeral procession of Queen Eleanor, wife of Edward 1, from Lincolnshire to London. In addition to background details of the circumstances the speaker drew extensively on his part in a charity bike ride that followed the route. This which used visual material to illustrate the route created a sense of that odd and protracted 13th century journey.

The annual May Festival took place at

Wootton Primary School and organised by the WHO. In decent weather there was a good attendance, the entertainment was fun and the cakes were delectable. The WHO's existence rests on the aim of raising money to help village institutions and this year we were pleased with the surplus we generated. Most of it will be funnelled back to various community institutions; however in many ways the most satisfying feature as always was the way in which community organisations collectively support the event in various ways. It's also gratifying that the school plays such a central role by providing facilities and the pupils who are central to the festival

Finally, later in May we had a fascinating talk on a silent movie version of the **Battle of Waterloo** with Northamptonshire small town Irthlingborough a little improbably representing Belgium. Excerpts from the film generated a good deal interest in what was quite a famous small piece of early cinema history.

The programme for the rest of 2024 is now in place. On June 19th the scheduled speaker has had to cancel for health reasons. We're very grateful that **Keith Fossey** a WHO member has agreed to speak at short notice on Swaziland and his charitable activities there. Keith is a very experienced charity organiser and worker and has interesting things to say about specific projects as well as his more general thoughts on working in Africa.

... and there's more:

July 17

A tour of St George's Church led by Paul Ansell followed by refreshments. This will focus on the history and architecture of a building whose origins date back to the 13th century and which is a Grade 1 Listed Building. Refreshments will be available.

July 28

The annual WHO Summer Event will this year be a Garden Party at 34 High Street hosted by Mike and Jean Penny. Tickets are available from Committee members.

August 21

Summer Walk. Destination to be finalised.

September 18

AGM followed by distribution of charitable funds

October 16

Quiz with the inimitable Derrick Baxter

November 20

Fred Myers 'The Grand Union Canal in Northamptonshire'

All events unless otherwise specified will be at the Memorial Hall with a 19:30 start. Nonmembers are welcome at all events.

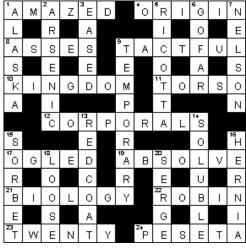
Join Us

All meetings are at the Memorial Hall and start at 19.30. Entrance is £3.00 for members, £4.00 for visitors. Light refreshments are included.

If you're not a member or unaware of the WHO come along and give it a try. The programme is varied, sometimes quirky and always informative and interesting with the sociability of the audience extending beyond the talks.

Solutions to last month's puzzles.

Ouick



Cryptic



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



VACANCY Facilities & Operations Manager

Wootton Parish Council has a vacancy for a part-time Facilities & Operations Manager to work at Wootton Community Centre & Library. The role requires flexible working and will include some evening and weekend work.

Duties are varied but the main functions of the Facilities & Operations Manager role are:

- To effectively manage all Parish Council's property and asset portfolio reporting to the Clerk
- Co-ordinate and oversee repairs, maintenance, improvement works, cleaning and inspections to ensure the general upkeep and maintenance of the Parish Council's property portfolio
- Responsibility for delivery of operation services (e.g. Vehicle activated signs, community defibrillators, benches, bins)
- Responsibility for the management of the council owned van
- To be responsible for Health & Safety by ensuring all buildings, property, equipment and land conform to Health & Safety legislation
- Line manage all Facilities and Operations Staff

Rate of pay: £17.64 per hour Hours per week: 30 hour

Closing date: 9am on 29th July 2024

Contact the Parish Clerk, Mrs Alison Reynolds, for full job description and application form.

Help make Wootton Parish a Better Place to Live, Work and Play



Woodland burial is a practice that has gone on for centuries and is today enjoying a revival. It allows us to choose where our ultimate resting place will be and the peace of mind that you will rest in scenic surroundings forever, connected to nature where family and friends can return and see the landscape grow with each passing year.







Contact: Jo Painter Tel: 07891214564

info@windmillnaturalgreenburial.co.uk

Office opening times: Mon-Fri 10:00 -16:00







open countryside is our award winning natural green burial ground providing a haven of peace and tranquillity

Our commitment is to create a funeral that it unique and meaningful as your loved one's life. We understand that everyone's is different, we collaborate closely with local funeral directors and florists to ensure that every aspect of the service reflects your preferences and honours the memory of your loved one.

A natural burial allows us to minimise our eventual impact on the environment by committing the body to rest in natural materials that will biodegrade and leave no harmful substances behind

The site is simple and natural and we only use sustainable methods in maintaining the site to encourage biodiversity. We work closely with our local council. Woodland Trust and Wildlife Trust to ensure we create an environment that is long-lasting and suitable to the indigenous flora

Plots are available in our newly developing woodland. Here at The Windmills we facilitate full coffin and ash interments and graves can be demarcated with memorial trees and wooden plaques.

For more information please contact Jo Paint Telephone: 07891 214564

Fmail: info@windmillnaturalgreenburial.co.uk Website: www.windmillnaturalgreenburial.co.uk What3words: ///safe.huddled.morphing

Open: Mon-Fri 9am - 4pm





The Sat Nav will take you to Ashton Lodge. To get to the site from Junction 15 of the M1 head towards Roade

Take your first turn on the left hand side.

Drive through the village, past the primary school which will be located on your left hand side.

Turn left on to the Hartwell Road The entrance to The Windmills is approximately 1 and a half miles on the left hand side







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References available

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- External decoration
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Public Liability

WOOTTON PARISH MAG



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Stay Local **Local opportunities** for local businesses! Advertise your business where it matters! This space could be working for your business is delivered direct to every household in the parish See the Application Form in this Mag or

WOOTTON MAG Application Form

Contact details Company / Group:

Commercial Advertising

Please complete this form when submitting community articles or commercial adverts. Technical data overleaf

App	licaton	Type
------------	---------	-------------

	Commercial Advertising
	☐ 1/4 page - £40 + VAT / issue
Title:	1/2 page - £70 + VAT / issue
Title.	☐ Full page – £120 + VAT / issue
First Name:	Back page (colour gloss)
	£500 + VAT / issue
Last Name:	Confirmation for Commercial Advertising
	I have read and accepted the terms &
Telephone:	conditions for advertising in Wootton Mag
Mobile:	Payment will be paid by BACs with this
	application for advertising
Address:	Artwork has been forwarded to the
	following email address: bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk
	in accordance with the technical data
	and terms & conditions.
	Payment Terms
Postcode:	All payments to be made by BACs payment upon receipt of invoice.
Energy Control of the	
Email:	Community Group Article
Preferred method(s) of contact:	(non-commercial)
Telephone	I have read and accepted the terms &
☐ Email	conditions for featuring in Wootton Mag
Post	Artwork has been forwarded to the
	following email address:
Please return completed application form	bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk
to:	in accordance with the technical data
Wootton Community & Sports Centre	and terms & conditions.
Curtlee Hill, Wootton,	

Northampton NN4 6ED

Invoice / payment queries:

Advertising / editorial queries:

bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk

bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Email bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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WOOTTONMAG Technical Data

Commercial Advertisements

Artwork to be provided full-size

Preferred format:

High resolution PDF or EPS Embedded images at least 300dpi

All fonts embedded or converted to outlines

Alternative format:

High resolution bitmap (TIF, JPG or PNG) At least 300dpi

Mechanical data

	Trim (mm)	Type (mm)	Bleed (mm)
¼-page	64 x 93	-	-
½-page	132 x 93	-	-
½-page	64 x 190	-	-
Full-page	132 x 190	-	-
Back cover	148 x 210	132 x 194	154 x 216

Please follow these guidelines when providing your material for inclusion in Wootton Mag

Community Group Articles

Text

To be supplied as MS Word document or text only file or email text.

The word count for reports from community groups is a maximum of 500 words or 250 words if an image is supplied.

Photographic images

High resolution bitmap (PSD, TIF, JPG)

At least 300dpi (at reproduction size)

Other illustrations / graphics / logos

Preferred format:

EPS (vector-based)

All fonts embedded or converted to outlines

Alternative format:

High resolution bitmap (PSD, TIF, JPG or PNG). At least 300dpi (at reproduction size)

Company/Community Group Logos

Preferred format:

EPS (vector-based)

All fonts embedded or converted to outlines

Alternative format:

High resolution bitmap (PSD, TIF, JPG or PNG). At least 300dpi (at reproduction size)

We are here to help

Following these guidelines will help ensure successful reproduction of all supplied material.

For further information regarding the supply of digital material, please contact:

Wootton Parish Council

Tel: 01604 705055

Email: bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk



The perfect space for every occasion

Looking for a fantastic space to hold regular clubs or classes? Or a quiet venue for meetings and training courses?

> **Wootton Community Centre** can cater for every occasion.

- A variety of rooms suitable for 16 to 200 people
- Catering options provided by our on site Coffee Shop
- Free onsite parking
- Advertising on our Website and Social Media Pages

Email bookings@woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk for further details



FREE

WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST FROM 11AM-3PM

AT WOOTTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

JOIN US FOR OUR

FAMILY FUN DAY





BBQ PROVIDED BY NUMBER 50 COFFEE LOUNGE (FEES APPLY)