



Woodcote

Vol 34 No 8
August 2022

CORRESPONDENT

Delivered free to homes in Woodcote, Exlade Street and Crays Pond

A WOODCOTE WINNER!

The Goring and Woodcote Medical Practice is thrilled to have a superstar amongst the team! Jenny O'Connor, the lead nurse, was selected to compete in *the World Masters Athletics Competition* in Finland recently. The competition is a huge international event involving 4500 competitors from 91 countries. Jenny was competing in the Heptathlon (7 events over 2 days) and came a hugely impressive 3rd! She achieved personal best scores in hurdles, shot put and long jump. A massive congratulations to Jenny...don't forget to congratulate her in person when you next book an appointment!



COMMENT FROM THE VICARAGE

Recently, in church, we have been thinking about the parable of The Good Samaritan. I'm guessing that many of you will remember it from early school years or from Sunday School. It's the story Jesus told of an injured man lying by the roadside who was ignored by two 'good' people but helped by someone who everyone else would have thought of as bad. The idea of 'good' and 'Samaritan' being together in a sentence was unheard of as the Jews of the time were sworn enemies, and yet Jesus in his customary fashion turns all that upside down in telling his listeners, who were respectable and powerful Jewish leaders, that if they truly wanted to obey God, they should be showing love and respect even to a Samaritan.

I often remind people that a parable is structured and told in order to disrupt our thinking at both an intellectual and visceral level. The teaching within the parable is such that it breaks down our defences and breaks through our prejudices. It should be like a punch to the gut! Some of this effect is lost when the stories become so familiar or where they have been simplified in order to be easily digested by children as moral tales. We tend to think we understand them when in reality we don't. In fact, the Bible as a whole is a disruptive text, just as Jesus himself was a disruptive presence. Forget the gentle Jesus meek and mild, and instead think of Jesus the revolutionary, Jesus the wisdom teacher, Jesus nothing less than the incarnate Son of God, fully human and yet fully divine, no-one like him before or since. The Bible is the living and disruptive word of God, and whilst it also contains words that offer reassurance and healing, it will turn your world upside down if you are prepared to wrestle with it and come to it with 'ears to hear and eyes to see'.

So, the parable of the Good Samaritan is not quite what it seems and was told to unsettle those who thought they had all the answers, to disrupt and challenge their thinking and their teaching. In recent weeks we've heard of a sermon that was preached at a breakfast service in the Houses of Parliament and which caused one listener to resign from his post in government, thereby beginning a chain of events that have succeeded in unseating a serving Prime Minister. Talk about disruption! I have heard also of a sermon where the preacher told the congregation in no uncertain terms that if they chose to turn their back on anyone in need, even if it was someone they judged to be 'beyond the pale', someone they believed to be immoral and objectionable before God, they would be failing to follow the commandment of God to love their neighbour. That's tough preaching! But it hits home and takes the breath away just as the parable itself does. We might want to go and discuss just what that love might look like, and how we might go about helping one another to overcome our fear of those who do not fit our idea of a good person. Even so the parable and the preaching will have done its job in beginning to change us and the world around us.

It's not easy in our current culture to have an alternative opinion to that which is deemed right by the media and the majority. It's even harder to be different, to look and sound different, to not fit in and to know the rules as well as everyone else does. We see people being trolled on social media because they voice an opinion or look to share a different way of being. I can't help but wonder what Jesus would have to say to those who point the finger and assert themselves as guardians of the truth. I'm pretty sure that their puffed-up self-righteousness would soon be gone. At the end of the parable Jesus says to the one who questioned him, 'go and do likewise'. I wonder as I read it again if he meant just to go and be kind, a good neighbour to all. Or whether he also meant that we too should do what we can to bring down the self-appointed mighty ones.

With all blessings

Linda

Revd. Linda Smith, Tel. 01491 680979

Email: woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com

Services at St. Leonard's in August

Sunday 7th August

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am Worshipping Together

Sunday 14th August

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am Parish Communion

Sunday 21st August

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am The Open-Door Service

Sunday 28th August

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am Parish Communion

The church is usually open for private prayer each day between 10am and 4pm.

Online Services

We will continue with our online service of Night Prayer every Wednesday at 8.30 pm.

This follows the ancient monastic pattern of Compline and lasts about 20 minutes.

We'd love people to feel that they can join us at any time – we are a very friendly and relaxed bunch! So please do email me if you would like details of how to join this online service.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in this paper, the Editor and Committee cannot accept responsibility for the contents of advertisements or any errors that may occur. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or Committee.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



As I write this, it's scorching hot outside. One positive side-effect of dry weather is that horseflies and mosquitoes don't seem to be biting as much...hooray!

Anyway, back to business...it's good to see that the Village Hall has been a hive of activity recently; the *Woodcote Cinema* and the first *Woodcote Food Fair* will be coming soon...watch this space for exciting announcements!

You'll see lots of kids' activities in this issue if you're looking for ideas. Plus of course, there is the *Summer Reading Challenge* run by the Woodcote library. It has already started but it's not too late to get involved! And local resident Jackie Comrie reminds us that it is nearly Blackberry season! So go out foraging and freeze some for those autumn crumbles...

And finally, why not try out the second of our new quiz (see back pages) if you fancy exercising the grey matter.

Have a great summer and see you next month!

Yvette

PUBLISHER INFORMATION

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Note: The Woodcote Correspondent is edited, produced and distributed by volunteers.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

At the Woodcote Parish Council meeting on 4th May, a secret ballot was held to elect the Chairman for 2022/23. Although it is not illegal to hold secret ballots, it is not recommended and the Standing Orders (the rules by which Councils should operate) require votes to be held by a show of hands. I challenged the validity of an election held this way, but it was eventually deemed to be valid and the result stood.

The actions of Councillors should be governed by the Nolan Principles which require, among other behaviours, openness in all Council deliberations and decisions. Secret ballots are not open and reflect a growing atmosphere of distrust and secrecy on the Council.

Because of the atmosphere prevailing in the Parish Council, I felt that I could no longer continue as a Parish Councillor, so it was with deep regret that I resigned at the meeting held on the 6th July. Two other Councillors shared my concerns and also resigned, which means that four Councillors in total have resigned since the meeting on the 4th May. This also meant that two of the most experienced Councillors (who were mostly responsible for the preparation of the latest Neighbourhood Plan) are no longer members of the Parish Council.

I am proud of what has been achieved by the Parish Council in the nine years I have served the village – not least the provision of the zebra crossing and the updated Neighbourhood Plan – and I am proud of the contribution I made to those achievements. The updated Neighbourhood Plan (which will go to referendum later this year) has policies to protect the AONB and village from unwanted development – a significant achievement with the pressure from SODC to take more houses and the pressure from developers.

However, I did not feel that I could, in all conscience, remain on the Parish Council with the current atmosphere.

Yours Sincerely
Malcolm Smith

CAROLE GRIFFITHS RIP



Everyone in the local area who knew Carole Griffiths will have been shocked and saddened to hear of her death at only 71. Carole was known widely for her

continuous pursuit of physical fitness and, as many will attest, her dedication to health and well-being was not just a personal pursuit. Carole's encouragement of physical activity throughout the community started when she arrived in the village and continued for the rest of her life.

The main vehicle for encouraging health and well-being was the Woodcote Swimming Club of which she was the founder member and her loyalty and commitment to the club never waned. It is for this above all that Carole will be remembered with great affection by the generations of people she taught to swim, helped to improve their swimming, or who learned, through her, to love swimming as a lifelong and life-affirming activity. In Carole's book, you were never too young or too old to learn to swim and once she taught you to love swimming, you went on enjoying it.

Carole was born in Ealing, London in 1950 and first met husband, Den, when she was sixteen. They were married in 1971 and moved to Tilehurst. At the time Carole was working in the Finance Department at Ealing Studios. She gave up work when Paul their eldest son was born in 1973. Neil, their second son, was born in 1977. Carole and Den moved to Wayside Green in 1981 and then on to their lovely home in Behoes Lane in 1995, where Carole devoted herself lovingly to creating a stunningly beautiful garden.

It was not long after they came to Woodcote that Carole decided to share her passion for swimming and fitness with those in the community who might wish to follow her example. Initially, she led Aerobics classes in the Village Hall and then Aqua-Aerobics classes as part of the Adult Education (Evening Classes) run from Langtree School. Her next venture, her greatest legacy to the village, was to start the Woodcote Swimming Club, having gained her ASA Teacher's qualification in 1986 and her ASA Advanced in 1988. The rest, as they say, is history. The Swimming Club grew and grew and continues to thrive to this day, with classes held at the Oratory School and more recently, the Oratory Prep School. It is reassuring to know that the Swimming Club continues in the capable hands of Trevor Back, Lisa Whittingham and Viv Woods.

Carole's interests in physical fitness and teaching, did not end with swimming. She held qualifications in a range of other activities, such as weightlifting instructor and open-water lifesaving. Nobody could ever say that Carole did not practice what she preached; she completed the London Marathon on three occasions, 1989, 1990 and 1992.

Of course, the much-loved family holidays had to be full of activity. The many trips to Wales, the Lake District, North Devon and Cornwall inevitably involved swimming, canoeing and walking. Carole bobsleigh down the Olympic course in Norway, and bungee-jumped and sky-dived while on holiday in New Zealand. Together, Carole and Den sailed across the English Channel to Cherbourg and as Den puts it, 'We marvelled simultaneously at the serenity of night sailing in one of the busiest shipping channels in the world'.

Carole gave so generously of her time that she managed to cram into her lifetime what it would take several lifetimes for most of us to achieve. We can add to an already lengthy list the time she loved to spend with her four grandchildren, plus her charitable works raising thousands of pounds for Leukaemia research, in memory of her father, and the Air Ambulance.

News of Carole's death brought many moving tributes from members of the Swimming Club:

'Carole has been inspirational to both my children in their swimming journey'.

'Carole and the Swimming Club have been a big part of my life and my children's early life'.

'I am so sorry to hear the news. We are just one of hundreds of families who have benefited so much from the Swimming Club.'

'Woodcote Swimming Club is the best in the area and we will continue to recommend it to others in Carole's memory.'

'What a remarkable person Carole was and what an amazing legacy she leaves.'

'She has created an amazing Swimming Club and left a great legacy.'

'Carole will be sadly missed by all the swimmers she has helped to support over many years.'

Of course, there have been many other tributes to Carol including one from the Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University, where Carole volunteered for a number of research projects. Donations to charities in lieu of funeral flowers raised over £1600 in Carole's memory.

Carole's death is a major loss to our village community, but what an inspiration she has been!

Sam Peates.

AUGUST UPDATE FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

It's been a busy couple of weeks at the hall. The Woodcote Volunteers were rewarded for all their hard work with a social gathering in the Pavilion complete with food, music and a quiz. The WADS performances of 'An Ill Wind' were sold out both nights and the Village Jazz night was a huge success. The hall was transformed into an intimate, atmospheric venue and the music was enjoyed by all (as was the cider which apparently was a little on the strong side)!

The *Village Hall Charity* is currently working on some new events for the autumn: Sunday 30th October will be the first Woodcote Food Fair (11am-3pm) so do save the date. And, if you are a food business who would like to get involved, now's the time to get in touch!

We are also planning the launch of the Woodcote Cinema. As soon as the early film release dates become available, we will publish further details.

It's always worth keeping an eye on the Village Hall website to keep up to date with what's happening, www.woodcotevillagehall.com. You can also check availability of the hall's various spaces from the 'Book Now' page, and check the details of the different rooms and their rates if you are looking for a venue to hire. Alternatively, just drop an email to woodcotevillagehall@outlook.com or call Louisa on 07929 203096.

Saturday Crafts!

Woodcote Library
10.30-11:30am



Saturday 13th August – A Visit to the Zoo
We look forward to welcoming you at our family friendly drop in sessions!

COVID-19 restrictions in operation

Craft sessions are free, however donations are gratefully accepted to fund further library events.
Thank you for supporting your local library.
Please contact the Library Manager – Lisa Trood if you have any queries about Saturday crafts.
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EXAMINER BACKS THE WOODCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

In February this year, Woodcote's second Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to SODC for formal examination by an independent external Examiner. This second Neighbourhood Plan, a necessary response to proposals in the new SODC plan for the District, must satisfy the appropriate legislation before being allowed to go to referendum.

The Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group (NPAG) had hoped this update would be a relatively quick and simple modification of our current Neighbourhood Plan but, because of major delays at SODC in the production of their new Local Plan and serious differences of opinion with the District's Planning Policy team about the number of new homes to be built in Woodcote, the update has occupied the NPAG for six years!

Consultations in the village that date back to the first Village Appraisal in 1983 have consistently shown considerable opposition to the significant expansion of Woodcote but, despite this, SODC's Planning Policy team's original proposal was for a 17.5% increase, on top of the development already planned, in the number of homes in the village.

The NPAG challenged this huge increase and managed to get a small reduction in the proposed growth to 15%. This still came nowhere close to meeting the wishes of the majority of Woodcote residents and could only be met with large developments in the surrounding countryside so, following extensive research and the assessment of potential sites, the NPAG proposed a growth of slightly less than 5%, a number that both SODC and developers strongly objected to.

The NPAG believed the village had a strong case and decided, again, against the advice of SODC, to submit the plan, with substantial supporting evidence, for examination in February. It was, therefore, with considerable nervousness that the NPAG then waited until June for the Examiner's decision.

In the event the NPAG need not have worried. The Examiner came down firmly on the side of the community by approving the NPAG's proposed growth of 5%. In addition, the Examiner also:

- approved the creation of a settlement boundary to limit future incursion of development into the countryside surrounding Woodcote
- approved the protection of local green spaces and views
- recommended that the Plan go to referendum, subject to some minor amendments, to clarify the wording of some of our policies, for final approval by the community.

This represents a major success for Woodcote's Neighbourhood Plan team and the community. It is hoped, therefore, that there will be another substantial endorsement of the plan by the community in the early autumn when the referendum is likely to be held.

Copies of the Neighbourhood Plan, and the many supporting documents, can be found on the SODC website by searching for Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan.

VISIT THE LIBRARY THIS SUMMER!

At a coffee morning with the library volunteer helpers, Vicky Jordan, Jerry Green and Roger Hadaway were thanked and given a token of appreciation for their work in setting up the volunteer scheme and for long service on the OWL executive from which they recently retired.



Did you know...

...for a small charge, you can book a library computer or use the photocopier for copying, printing or scanning?

Did you also know...

...that Library membership allows you to access online, from home, a broad range of major reference resources more authoritative and reliable than Wikipedia, as well as eBooks, eAudio and a current range of newspapers and magazines?

The library also has facilities for doing research into your ancestors, weekly Rhyme time sessions for pre-schoolers every Thursday morning, monthly Saturday Art and Craft sessions for all the family and a mobile service for those physically unable to get to the library.

So come along and find out what else we can offer to locals. Our opening hours are:

Mondays 2pm – 7.30pm

Tuesdays 2pm – 5pm

Thursday/Friday/Saturday 9.30am – 12.30pm

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Take part in the library's popular Summer Reading Challenge which runs from 9th July to 10th September 2022.

This year the Challenge is celebrating science and innovation. As they read, children will discover how the Gadgeteers are using their skills to come up with amazing inventions to plan an epic summer party for their community.

Children will be encouraged to read at least six library books of their choice over the summer holidays. As they read, they collect stickers (some

smelly) and rewards. If they complete the Challenge, they will be rewarded with a Gadgeteers medal and certificate.

Everyone who completes the Challenge will also be entered into a countywide prize draw with many amazing prizes!

It's fun - it's free - it's local!

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Lisa Trood – Woodcote Library Manager

HELP OUR TREES GROW



The new trees that the Parish Council planted on the Village Green need regular watering, especially in these dry conditions.

The Parish Council welcomes volunteers to come and help and you could get the children involved too over the summer! If you can help, send us your name, a contact telephone number

and email and we'll add you to the list. For more details, contact the Parish Clerk on 01491 681861 or email clerk@woodcoteparishcouncil.org.uk

To help with this task, the Parish Council have purchased a hose trolley...meet *Harley the Hose Trolley* above!

PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED BY SODC

P22/S0590/FUL Application proposal, including any amendments: Construction of four detached dwellings. Site Location: Land Adjacent to The Black Lion PH Greenmore Woodcote

CAN YOU HELP MAKE WOODCOTE SPECIAL?

Become a Parish Councillor

If you have a positive outlook and can-do attitude, you can help shape Woodcote's future in a very tangible way by volunteering as a Parish Councillor.

As a Councillor you can become a real voice for the community and make a difference to the local area.

No experience is necessary. Training is available and you will be supported in your role by fellow Councillors and the Parish Clerk.

The typical level of commitment is attendance at two Council meetings a month, plus possibly serving on other committees. Equally important is getting involved in things you care about between meetings.

If you are a British Citizen, over 18 and live in or within 3 miles to Woodcote (or own a business in the village), you can put yourself forward as a prospective Councillor.

For more details please contact the Clerk on clerk@woodcoteparishcouncil.org.uk or call 01491 681861.

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WADS MURDER MYSTERY - AN ILL WIND



The old proverb, An ill wind blows nobody any good, might have been an apt description of the plot in Rosemary House's murder mystery, performed by the WADs on 18th and 19th June; but it turned out to be a favourable wind which blew in an appreciative audience who left thoroughly entertained, still discussing how they failed to piece the clues together correctly. To perform this particular play in the round added to the atmosphere – it was like actually being in the play and this feeling was enhanced when, between scenes, the actors (still in character) moved around the tables to answer our questions.

All the sinister ingredients of a dark deed and its aftermath were evident from the start, but though it was *Murder Most Foul* it was a light-hearted piece and the actors wasted no opportunity to make us laugh. There was a tyrannical, philandering, irascible family patriarch, Sir Henry, played with aplomb by John Worsfold. Was it any wonder that his was a truly dysfunctional family? Every member had good reason to kill him and, of course, the inevitable happened.

His wife, Lady Gloria (Heather Simpson), played nicely with the diffidence of a wronged wife, pretending not to care, but cut to the quick by his affair with her sister. Was this the last straw?

Excelsia, Lady Gloria's sister, was forced to realise she was just another conquest and never likely to replace her sister as Sir Henry's wife. Susan Clark gave a plausible performance in this part.

The Cook, Doris, whose husband had died in an accident at work as the result of Sir Henry's arrogance and negligence, had a strong revenge

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motive. A credible Irish accent enhanced a strong performance by Helen Coyne.

The star turns came from the prime suspects, Sir Henry's son, Percival and his fiancée, Lucretia. Terry Sopp used the full range of his undoubted skills to give us the foppish, naïve, love-struck Percival and Natalia Ruiz-Moreno was marvellous, complete with authentic accent, as the mysterious and scheming Russian beauty.

Why did Sir Henry threaten to cut Percival from his will if he married Lucretia? Had the chance meeting which led to the romance really been coincidental? Did she truly love Percival or was she just seeking an opportunity for revenge over a wrong done to her father, Boris, by Sir Henry? Was there any significance in the murder weapon, a Russian sword? Also, in a late twist to the plot we found out that Excelsia was actually Lucretia's mother. Confused? So were we!

There had to be a full investigation, enter Marcia Spiers with a tongue-in-cheek performance as Inspector Cleverley, whose stock phrase to each character in true British crime fiction tradition was, 'I put it to you that'!

Then came the time for each group to deliberate. Which of these characters murdered Sir Henry and what was the most compelling piece of evidence to support our conclusion? Most of us got it wrong and we kicked ourselves for somehow ignoring what we had earlier identified as a really obvious clue.

It didn't matter anyway! As ever, we went home smiling, still discussing the pros and cons of the case and singing the praises of the wonderful WADs. What a great group for the village to call its own. Long may they prosper, they must not be allowed to fade away.

Whodunnit? You don't think I'm going to tell you that, do you? They might want to do it again in a few years-time. I hope so!

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WOODCOTE VILLAGE FETE 2022

It's nearly time!



There's not long to go now until the Woodcote Village fete, on Saturday 10 September 12pm - 5pm! It promises to be a fun-filled day for all and a chance for everybody to relax, socialise, and enjoy the sunshine (fingers crossed!) The fete team are busy making preparations so that the local community can enjoy this popular event once more.

Hopefully you have all pulled out the competition guide from last month's Correspondent. If you haven't, it's now also available on our Woodcote Village Fete Facebook page or at the Woodcote library. Please do enter! We have a wonderful collection of awards now.

There's no need to go hungry or thirsty on the day as there will be a variety of food and drink on offer. James Tomlinson is kindly running the bar again. Soleluna Pizza, Jessecco Prosecco & Pancakes, Jess's Coffee bar and an ice cream van will be at the fete. The Goring Heath Scout and Guide Group are running their fantastic tea and cake stall and The Red Lion pub will be offering bacon baps, hotdogs and burgers all day.

Please note that most of the stalls at the fete will now accept contactless payment but it would also be helpful to have some cash available for those that don't. Chana's in Woodcote have an ATM and the Co-op in Woodcote provide cash back if anyone is short of cash on the day.

There will be entertainment for all, including live music from Only Ukes (first time performing at the fete), Tug of War and of course the traditional Dog Show and competition entry exhibits. Woodcote Pre-School will also be running a bottle Tombola. Children will have plenty to occupy them as Woodcote Youth Club will have a tuck shop stall and a giant inflatable hungry hippo game. The Cabin Pre-school will have a bouncy castle and will be organising their famous silly races. The ever-popular Jester Giggles will be putting on a show at 3pm for the little ones and Woodcote Preschool will be offering face painting.

Please do come along to enjoy this fabulous community event. It's always so lovely to bring everyone together. After the success of the Spring Fair and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic this year, it's great to be able to put on another event for you all to enjoy.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

The Fete Team

THE CASE OF THE NON-WORKING WIFE

Returning to the theme of major social changes that I have seen in my lifetime, let us consider married women in the workplace. It is hard to believe now, but in the case of my father's generation, very few married women had jobs. There were two reasons for this. Firstly, it was viewed as somewhat shameful for a man not to be able to support his wife, and for a woman not to look after her own children. Secondly, many employers simply refused to employ married women. When my elder sister got married in the early 1950's, she was immediately sacked from her job as office secretary, at which she was perfectly competent and in which she would have been perfectly happy to continue. 'Sorry to lose you, but you know, company rules...' she was told.

This general workplace policy had of course been suspended during the war, when it suited the government to draft in married women without children to cover the jobs left by the men. But with the end of hostilities and the return of the men, the good old patriarchal status quo was rapidly restored, leading to not a little marital friction as the women, many of whom had quite enjoyed a taste of freedom and financial independence, had to accept a subservient domestic role again.

By the time my wife and I got married in 1966, a good deal had changed and married women were increasingly going out to work, even after having children, though childcare provision was limited. Nowadays, of course, with house prices what they are, it is virtually impossible for a young couple to survive and pay off a mortgage on a single average income; back then it was just about possible. My wife worked as a teacher for four years till our first child was born in 1970, and then we had to make a choice. In our case this was for her to stay at home and look after this and our subsequent three children, though it meant that for a long while things were very tight indeed financially. The choice was admittedly made a little easier by the fact that back then, there were no maternity grants and no subsidised childcare to be tempted by.

Was ours the right choice? We still think so, but maybe it is the children who should be asked. Or maybe not, since it is pretty much guaranteed that whatever choice a parent makes will in a child's eyes

be wrong. Child rearing, as I'm sure many of you will have discovered, is governed by something akin to the three laws of thermodynamics, which I have seen summarised as 1) you can't win, 2) you can't break even, 3) you can't get out of the game. So, if a mother works she will be accused, when the children reach adolescence, of stunting their emotional growth by desertion. If she doesn't work, she will be accused of ruining their lives through penury, as in our case. When mine were teenagers, I once asked them plaintively 'Would you really have wanted Mum to go out to work just so you could have had a bigger house and a posher car and expensive holidays?' 'Yes', they replied with elemental simplicity. I tried to point out that we had actually been quite well off compared with, say, a Calcutta slum-dweller, but by their standards of comparison, which inevitably involved friends in Henley with million-pound houses who got Porsches as seventeenth birthday presents, the distinction was hardly worth considering.

Well, pardon us for living, I felt like saying. But then, as Death, my favourite Terry Pratchett character, observes: 'NO-ONE IS PARDONED FOR LIVING'...

Incidentally my wife is not too happy about being described as 'non-working'. 'Lady of leisure' didn't go down too well either...

David Sutton



CABIN PRESCHOOL

It's hard to believe another year has come and gone and the wheel keeps turning. We are getting ready to say a fond farewell to an exceptional cohort of young learners.

They have had some transition visits and Mrs James, the new Reception teacher at Woodcote Primary, has given some excellent feedback. She commented on what lovely manners they have and their love of the outdoors as they all headed outside to explore.

We had a lovely treat this term, as the school

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organised a touring professional theatre production from the Oxford Playhouse. We were kindly invited to take in a performance and the children loved it. We were also able to watch sports day from Cabin – we had a great view and could safely watch from our fence. As part of our usual transition activities we have even joined in with PE on the field, Being on site makes it so easy, and we know they are all ready to move up to Big School. It will be lovely to still see them over the fence though.

We have also been jolly busy in Cabin. We started the term with a topic of transport, so we went on a bus ride around the village. We hopped on the X40 at Londis, and the driver was very friendly and allowed us plenty of time to climb the huge stairs up to the top deck. The children looked for local landmarks and some spotted their own houses. We then got back off at the Red Lion and used our feet to walk across the Rec to see the trees we planted for the Queen's Jubilee.

We also visited the Post Office Van to send a postcard to Mrs James. On hotter days, we have been washing our toy cars as well as heading to the school field to play in the shade of the trees, and the guinea pigs enjoy this too.

We made a harbour for the boats but the tide had gone out, so the children had to find a way to move the water from the ocean back to save the boats. Such good fun wet play – they do love water!

The sweet peas have been so fragrant and lovely and we look forward to whoever collects them as a special little treat. We have grown some mange tout, although they did not last long; they were scoffed straight from the bushes grown in our little garden!

We enjoyed the return of yet another annual celebration, our Fathers' Day Lunch. We invited Daddies, Grandads, Stepdads etc to come into Cabin, meet each other and get spoiled by the children. They had pork pies and pickled onions, washed down with ginger beer, which was a lot of fun and a lovely start to the weekend. Thank you to all who made it, it was lovely to spend some time with you all and the children loved showing you around and introducing their friends.

We are still welcoming new children. Don't worry if you have not applied for your space, we have some spaces on most days, even if you want to start later in the year, let us know and we can save a space for your little ones.

Telephone us on 01491 680854 or email info@thecabinpreschool.co.uk (this will be monitored during the holidays but you might not get an instant reply) We take all ages from 2 years up to starting school, you can start at any time throughout the school year.

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WOODCOTE (IF THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST).

CHECKENDON PRESCHOOL

This term the children have been enjoying the outdoors investigating nature, looking and investigating the world around them. Nature provides countless opportunities for discovery, creativity and problem-solving. The children have been collecting lots of different items of interest that they have found during their walks in the woods and local areas and have been using these to create some beautiful 'Outdoor Art'. Outdoor art is a great way to engage children with the world outside and encourage them to appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature.

As we see our summer term come to a close, we look forward to leavers' celebrations and end-of-year party celebrating with our children who will be leaving for Primary school in September and welcoming our new families, who will be joining us in September. We are very excited about our up-and-coming Sports Day, where the children will partake in some well-loved races, which will finish with a family picnic.

We would like to thank everyone who helped, supported and participated in Checkendon Pre-School's 'Checkendon Run'. We will let you know how much was raised and what the funds will be used for when we have a total. We hope you all have a lovely summer!

For all enquiries please contact:
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682589 www.checkendonpreschool.co.uk

WOODCOTE PRESCHOOL

Our last term before the summer holidays and what a very busy, exciting, fun-filled and emotional term it has been.

The children have had lots of fun playing in the outdoor area, camping, making obstacle courses, taking their babies for walks, mark-making on the walls with paintbrushes, enjoying all the fun from the sports boxes.

Indoors they have enjoyed lots of arts and crafts, small world play, various role-play including Primary School role-play with lots of school dressing up, stories, rhymes, movement to music and musical instruments. We have visited our allotment and picked our peas, rhubarb, courgettes, strawberries and by the time this goes to print our potatoes. It's so great to have our own allotment so the children can learn about growing their own produce, tasting their own produce and all about healthy lifestyles.

We joined in with *Brakes Kids Walk*. We had a lovely walk across the green, crossing the road by Chana's Cafe and then again by Kimberley's Hair Studio. We walked through to Wayside Green, past the Doctors Surgery, along past the Church and then across the zebra crossing back to Pre-School!

The children were all very well behaved, listening to the teachers, walking cautiously along the paths - stopping, listening and looking both ways before crossing the roads.

Brake's Kids Walk is run by Brake, the road safety charity, with the help of Aardman's *Shaun the Sheep*.



for an extra charge. We still have spaces available if you are looking for summer fun childcare by fully experienced and trained staff. Please contact Pre-School on 01491 682300 to book or for more information.

We still have spaces available from September for children aged 18months to 5 years. If you are interested in your child joining us, please contact Wendy Powell on 01491 682300, email woodcote.preschool@hotmail.co.uk or via our website woodcotepreschool.co.uk

The ever-popular character is helping children ask grown-ups to keep them safe near roads and help them make safe and healthy journeys every day children of all ages are at risk of being hurt or killed when walking near roads.

In other news, we were all very excited and looking forward to our trip to Beale Park this year and the children and parents had a lovely day out. We saw lots of animals, played in the park, went on the train, enjoyed a picnic lunch together and some children even braved the pool!

Sports Day was a great success, lots of parents and carers came and watched the children enjoy their Sports Day. There was lots of laughter and a few tears, the children were great with all their races. All the children received a medal and a certificate. The Mum's and Dad's also braved the parents' races. Well done to everyone!

We would like to say a big thank you to Housing who provided us with a grant to buy some new toys and equipment for the children. So far we have bought some maths activities and a fantastic new water tray which the children really enjoy using and a balance board. We will keep you posted on any more purchases.

It is a very emotional, sad and really exciting time of year for us at Pre-School as we prepare to say goodbye to our Foxes who will be leaving us to transition to 'Big School' in September. They have been going over to visit Woodcote Primary for their transition visits and are really looking forward to starting in September. When we break up at the end of term, I'm sure there will be lots of tears as we say goodbye. So goodbye and good luck to Frances, Keira, Nellie, Keianna, Roana and Jacob we will really miss you!

We are running Summer Holiday Club again this summer for the first 3 weeks of the holidays. Dates are from Monday 25th July – Friday 12th August. Children aged 2-8 years can attend. Times are 9am-4pm with the option of an early drop-off at 8.30am



Our school leavers



Our school trip to Beale Park



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WOODCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Another school year draws to a close and what a mixed bag it has been! We began the year with many Covid restrictions still in place which made it difficult to plan and get out and about. Since restrictions lifted thoroughly in March, we have really pulled out all the stops!

My last newsletter mentioned our year 6 residential week in Torquay, our trip to the O2 Arena in London to sing, a visit from Dr Niall McCann, explorer and conservationist, dancing with Andy from Urban Strides Street Dance crew and a whole-school trip to Waddesdon Manor. You might think we would be out of energy – but our children deserve so much more! We have not let the year fade out yet...

This month our year 4 class took a trip to Fishbourne Manor Palace to see the Roman ruins. It was a long day but so worth it. They came back full of information and produced some fabulous writing.

Year 1 needed to have a very quiet morning recently when they were joined by a Tawny Owl and a Barn Owl at school. They learnt all about their habitat, how to recognise them by sight and also their calls. Excitingly, they also spent some of the morning dissecting owl pellets and discovering all sorts of bones that gave them clues as to what the owls eat!

The Oxford Playhouse Plays Out tent was pitched at our school for 4 days at the beginning of this month. Every class was treated to a performance of "Animal Rocks" and also a workshop with the actors. The characters were giving a resounding message of the celebration of possibilities despite our differences. This fits perfectly with the ethos here at Woodcote Primary where we believe that everyone should have a go at anything they want to in life, and not be put off by stereotypes. We invited fourteen local schools to join us for performances but unfortunately none was able to attend. They missed an absolute treat!

Years 3 and 4 put on their own theatrical number with two evening performances of "Dragon Days". They thrilled the audience with their singing, acting and dancing. There was even some cheerleading thrown in! The solos and duets were magical and everyone had a fabulous time. They are already looking forward to next year when they can do it all again. For those of you who are perhaps not familiar with the way we promote the arts, every child has a chance to perform to an audience every year. Our work across the arts is quite broad and we are therefore applying for a National Accreditation for the Arts Mark Award. I will explain more in a later newsletter.

Year 5 have also been out and about. They were invited to Langtree School to watch Matilda. They had a wonderful time and are now really looking forward to being able to join in when they move up to secondary school. They also attended an African Day at The Oratory Prep school where they learnt African poetry, dances and drumming. This ended with a performance for parents. They have had a really busy time this month!

Along with year 6, year 5 have also put on their own two-night performances of "The Pirates of the Curry Bean". After so long without the possibility of

performing to an audience, they have risen to the occasion and outshone the best of the West End! These young people have matured so much since we last saw them on the stage. Their ability to deliver a punchline had the audience in fits of giggles and their singing was so beautiful. Well done to you all.

Sports Day was a great success! The weather was gorgeous. We held our KS1 sports in the afternoon following a morning of KS2 sports. Parents joined us and the parent race was well represented! All our children had the most wonderful time: they ran, jumped, hurdled, threw javelins and carried those eggs with real determination and pride. Well done everyone!

Still to come this term.....year 2, Beech Class, will be going Swan Upping once more. Mr Barber, the Queen's Swan Upper has invited us, once again, to join him by The Thames to watch him count and tag the swans. He always spends so much time explaining all about the swans and the children are able to stroke them safely, whilst learning about the history of the occasion and the health and protection of the swans. More to follow in the autumn.

Congratulations to all our children who took national SAT tests this term. Our school was at or above national figures in every subject and this is a testament to the team at the school. Our lockdown was not wasted time – our staff and children worked hard, there was little negative impact for our pupils and these wonderful results show this! *Well done children. You have all worked hard.*

Our grateful thanks to Anna Bartlett as she leaves the Governing Board after 8 years although Anna will still be around helping with a couple of projects. Thank you for everything you have done for the children of Woodcote, Anna.

And finally, it is the time of year we must say farewell to our wonderful year 6! They have had such an odd time over the last few years. They have shown great resolve and resilience. They have worked hard individually and as a team. They leave us as well-rounded individuals ready to take on the next stage of their education. We will miss them all so much. Good luck to you all – whether going to Langtree, The Oratory School or Abingdon Boys. Please keep in touch; we would love to hear how you are getting on. Take care and have a wonderful summer everyone.

Mrs L. Hunt



Sports Day



Fishbourne



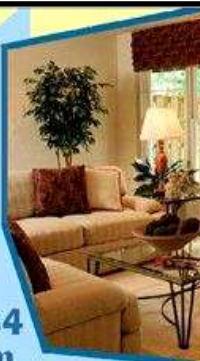
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WOODCOTE CRICKET CLUB



League Winners 2021, Cup Winners 2022

SCOTT GORE SHINES IN FIVE-STAR WOODCOTE PERFORMANCE.

On Sunday Woodcote added the Berkshire League T20 Cup to their 2021 League triumph with an emphatic win by 93 runs over Silchester, who had the misfortune to come up against a team playing at the top of their form. The Final was played at Peppard Stoke Row's ground on Peppard Common.

Batting first, Woodcote scored 183 for 4 in their twenty overs, with Scott Gore (68) giving a master-class in how to bat in this format. He received excellent support from Joe Webber (33 not out) in a partnership worth 78 runs. A feature of this partnership was the excellent running between the wickets.

When Silchester batted, they knew they had a mountain to climb and an exemplary bowling and fielding performance by Woodcote only made the incline steeper. The tone was set with Jonny Aldridge's superb catch off Mark Pearson's bowling, a feat which was repeated soon afterwards as Silchester slumped to 25 for 3. Skipper, Mark Pearson led by example, bowling a fearsome spell (3 for 18 in 3 overs) and claiming a direct-hit run-out. James Worsfold (2 for 12), the Vice-captain, also proved his worth as did Steve Henderson (2 for 33).

The all-round fielding was outstanding with Alec Curtis claiming two difficult catches in the deep and Joe Webber, saving countless runs with his speed and safe-hands in the outfield. In the end, Silchester managed only 90 all-out in less than 16 overs.

League Chairman, Eddie Lunn, presented the trophies and Scott Gore was named player-of-the match.

This win qualifies Woodcote for the national ECB Plate Competition with the next round an away match against the Dorset Cup winners.

NEW CARE PROVIDER COMING TO WOODCOTE

None of us are getting any younger and many people whatever their age can have times when extra health care help is needed. Experienced registered nurse, Sarah, has been coming to Woodcote during the last year to help a village resident. She has decided she likes the village so much that she plans to set up her own care provider service for Woodcote and the

neighbouring villages, based in Woodcote Community Centre.

Sarah's staff will be fully trained and competent in accordance with CQC requirements and best practice. Services will be nurse-led and staff fully supported.

The aim of the service will be to provide the highest standard of care so people can stay in the comfort of their own home. This could be through domiciliary visits or as live-in care. Sarah's service can be for short or long-term and can include personal care, companionship, post-surgery or illness recovery. She and her staff also have experience with long-term conditions including neurological and dementia as well as palliative care.

Sarah has now opened her office in Woodcote. Look for her advertisement in this month's Correspondent for contact details whether you are looking for care or interested in joining her team.

Frances Cork

THE CHILTERN SOCIETY PATH MAINTENANCE

The Chiltern Society is a registered charity dedicated to maintaining the character and uniqueness of the Chilterns. Several different groups of volunteers help the Society deliver this objective, one group being the South Chilterns Path Maintenance Volunteers (SCPMV) which oversees the care and maintenance of footpaths and other rights of way between Chinnor and the Thames at Henley and Goring.

The SCPMV team has over thirty active volunteers, five of whom are residents of Woodcote. The team has its own 4WD truck and trailer, and a store of tools and materials required for their maintenance work.

With so many people exploring the countryside near where they live, the team continued working during 2020, subject to Covid restrictions in place at the time and albeit at a reduced level, and last year their level of activity had pretty much returned to pre-pandemic levels (see table below):

SCPMV ACTIVITY			
	2019	2020	2021
Achievements			
Gates Installed	26	9	24
Stiles/Repairs/Steps/Sleeving	19	36	13
Waymark Posts Installed	37	30	50
Trees Cleared	38	57	40
Metres cleared and mowed	15680	8661	12461
Attendance			
Volunteer Appearances	487	344	333
Workday Hours Spent	2342	1415	2605
Total Hours including Admin	6702	5475	5015

Our legal right to use footpaths and bridleways can date back hundreds of years. Anyone who has

recently walked paths around Woodcote and the adjacent parishes will have seen evidence of SCPMV's work. For instance, almost all the stiles have been replaced with gates, and the stiles that remain are awaiting landowners' approval for their replacement. Recently, overgrown footpaths have been cleared around the edge of Dean Wood.

Any clearance work, or replacing a stile with a gate, generally involves negotiations between the landowner and a Field Officer at Oxfordshire County Council first. The Chiltern Society has established a process whereby volunteer Path Representatives regularly inspect paths in their locality and report any problems back through their Area Co-ordinators to the County Council. Once permissions have been granted, the cost of new gates is often met by grants from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment or donations via The Chiltern Society's 'Donate a Gate' scheme.

Over recent years Area Co-ordinators in the South Chilterns have taken on an increased role liaising directly with landowners to secure their agreement to carry out improvements to public rights of way that cross their land. One of these Area Co-ordinators is a Woodcote resident and three local Path Representatives also live in the village.

There's more information about Path Maintenance on The Chiltern Society's website www.chilternsociety.org.uk

Woodcote Conservation Group

Pictures of recent clearance of a Woodcote footpath:



View 1 (before)



View 1 (after)



View 2 (before)



View 2 (after)

"the kids absolutely LOVED going! They were made to feel so welcome... it was home from home"



WOODCOTE HOLIDAY CLUB
Summer 2022

Running for 3 weeks in Summer 2022

Venue: Woodcote Village Hall

Week 1: 25th to 29th July
Week 2: 1st to 5th August
Week 3: 8th to 12th August

9.00am—4.00pm, early drop off at 8.30am available

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JOIN IN THE FUN AT SMELLY WELLIES!

We are excited to announce that we have a professional print artist coming to Smelly Wellies!!

During the sessions the children are taught the skills to make and take home a piece of creative art that they have designed themselves. A local print making artist will be offering mono-printing workshops. After creating a mono print the children will be able to use collage and rubber stamping to add decoration to their designs. This is a really fun process and suitable for all abilities. There will also be a 30-minute opportunity included in the price to meet all the animals at Smelly Wellies.

We recommend this for children aged 7 and above.

Limited availability so book your space quickly!!

Monday 8th August 10.30-11.45am

Wednesday 24th August 10.30-11.45am

Price per child £25 to include a drink

**Other events to add to your diary

Toddler sessions 10-11am

£5 for a child and parent/carer

£5 per additional adult

£3 per additional child

Adults-only session (18 plus)

MONO PRINT ART WORKSHOP AND MEET THE ANIMALS

Using collage and rubber stamps to create designs

Monday 8th August 10.30-11.45am

Wednesday 24th August 10.30-11.45am

Family session

Tuesday 9th August 10.30-11.30am

Wednesday 24th August 2.00-3.00pm

Child Send Session (Limited spaces)

Wednesday 10th August 10.30-11.30am

SUMMER HOLIDAY ANIMAL RANGERS

Monday 15th August 10-11am

One hour animal experience for 5- and 6-year-olds

Monday 15th August 3.00-4.30pm

* One hour animal experience for 7 to 10-year-olds

Tuesday 16th August 2.00-3.30pm

* 10+ years

We are also still holding our yoga sessions, private group sessions, animal assisted learning, birthday parties etc

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CANCEL SESSIONS IF NOT ENOUGH INTEREST OR UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.

FORAGING IN AUGUST

King Alfred's Cakes



These can be found locally on dead and decaying wood. Not edible but great as tinder for camp fire and BBQ lighting. I found these in the woods at Long Toll. Named after King Alfred who, on the run from the Vikings in the 9th century,

was asked to mind some cakes by a local woman, but distracted by his problems, let them burn.

Elderberries



This season brings elderberries. These little beauties are packed with antioxidants and a boost to the immune system. Although not recommended for children or pregnant women, cooked they are perfectly safe and can be used to make syrup or

wine. This photo is from my garden though they are found in hedgerows and roadsides locally.

Dryad's Saddle



Fungi time. These are pretty fungi also edible. Great roasted, sautéed or used in stews and soups, or dried to use as mushroom stock. It grows on dead or dying deciduous trees and is found locally. This one was in the Long Toll area. Also known as Pheasant's Back.

Evening Primrose

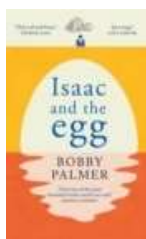


Also known as Evening Star, known for helping to balance hormonal symptoms and to treat skin disorders. Also found near Long Toll. The new roots are edible, raw and the flowers and stems taste great tossed in a salad.

Don't forget it's Blackberry season too...get picking and jamming!

BOOKS TO READ IN AUGUST

Isaac And The Egg by Bobby Palmer



We meet Isaac at his lowest point. As he howls in anguish into the abyss, someone (or something) howls back. And so we meet Egg, who comes into Isaac's life to help him to heal. This is a tender, sensitive portrayal of grief, that both packs a punch and is full of hope.

Isaac and Egg will probably make you laugh and may make you cry...possibly both at the same time (guilty as charged!), and both characters will stay with you for a long time. You'll never look at a can of beans or a toaster in quite the same way again either...! Perfect for fans of Truly, Madly Deeply and Eleanor Oliphant. We are hoping that Bobby will be joining us to discuss Isaac and the Egg at our October book club, more info shortly!

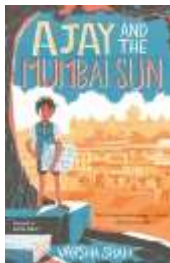
Isaac And The Egg is published in hardback by Headline on 18th August at £14.99.

Non-Fiction: Frozen in Time: Fossils of the United Kingdom and Where to Find Them by Charles Rhys



It's summer! And to us that means messing about mud larking and fossil hunting by the river and at the beach in the sunshine. This book is a guide to where to find all sorts of fossils throughout the United Kingdom. The perfect partner to last year's Field Guide to Mud larking by Lara Maiklem.

Children's Fiction: Ajay and the Mumbai Sun by Varsha Shah



Ajay is an orphan in Mumbai who wants nothing more than to become a journalist. With the help of his friends and an old abandoned printing press, he starts up *The Mumbai Sun* and is determined to make his wish come true. Whilst investigating stories for the paper, he uncovers a web of corruption, that may lead to his home being destroyed. Can Ajay uncover the truth and save the day? You'll have to read this fabulous book to find out. Perfect for fans of *The Highland Falcon Thief* and *Murder Most Unladylike*!

Children's Non-Fiction: I-Spy My First Minibeasts



This is a relatively new series edition to the I-Spy books, designed for pre-schoolers. There are four books to collect (Farm, Minibeasts, Things that Go and Wildlife). Each book has over 100 stickers, things to spot and fun age-appropriate facts. Once your toddler has finished the book you can even send off for a Super Spotter poster for them. Perfect for walks in the sunshine and keeping them busy in the holidays.

Visit us at the Wallingford Bookshop for more inspiration and ideas!

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WOODCOTE WI NEWS

Patricia Solomons welcomed the members to our meeting. We welcomed new member Debbie Emmett.

Celebrating her birthday this month is Gillian Seymour.

The speaker this month was Jane Abbott, who told us about the history of papermaking and all the materials which were used. She brought some of her beautifully illustrated books, which she had made, to give us inspiration for when we made our own books.

We had a lovely tea thank you to Sandra Dickson, Connie Vickery and Wendy Muchamore.

Our lunch group went to the Maltsters Arms at Rotherfield Greys for lunch and then Connie Vickery led us to St Nicholas Church to see the magnificent Monument to Sir Frances and Lady Knollys who lived at Greys Court.

Winner of the homemade craft item was Judy Williams and Bloom of the month winner was Carole Shelley – Allen.

In September Martyn Harrison will give us a talk on the entertainer Harry Secombe and the competition will be for a celebrity photograph

We hope to see you soon on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall at 2.30pm in September.

Judy Williams.

‘GLIMPSES OF THE FALKLANDS WAR’ NOW AVAILABLE



The British Modern Military History Society (BMMHS), based in Woodcote, South Oxfordshire, has just published its third charity book in the *Glimpses of War* series. Well known locally for its wide-ranging live meetings in Woodcote and Zoom talks to an international audience on military topics of the last 150 years, BMMHS continues to raise substantial funds for military charities. *Glimpses of the Falklands War* continues this journey for BMMHS.

The Task Force's victory in the Falkland Islands gave freedom back to the Islanders, releasing a vibrant energy to develop their lives. This fascinating compendium is another triumph in the "Glimpses" series! Major General Dair Farrar-Hockley MC, 2 Para in the Falklands

Glimpses of the Falklands War, from the British Modern Military History Society, recounts some of the personal experiences and stories of over 100 service men and women, Falkland Islanders and others who were involved in the Falklands War, 40 years ago. These range from the early stages with the Argentine invasion and occupation, the Task Force heading south, to the recapture and liberation of Stanley 74 days later. This book tells tales of heroism and tragedy, of fear and resilience, of sadness and joy, many graphically and emotionally told, not least by the Falkland Islanders who lived under a strict occupation during that time.

These stories are from many unsung heroes – the dockworkers who prepared the ships in record time,

the helicopter pilots who rescued casualties from blazing vessels, freezing waters and mountainsides, the medics and padres who tended to the wounded both friend and foe alike, to the teenagers who manned the defence systems on the ships, the courage of the bomb disposal teams, or the ground troops which yomped across rugged terrain to Stanley and the final victory. Each and every one made an important contribution to the victory against an unwanted aggressor.

This is a unique book with many stories previously untold. Every sale generates a donation to Blind Veterans UK, as with the previous two volumes of *Glimpses of War*.

For more details, contact Andy Cockeram, Chairman BMMHS on andy.cockeram@bmmhs.org or visit Amazon!

SOME SPECTACTULAR SUNSETS OVER WOODCOTE



THE CORN EXCHANGE, WALLINGFORD

Cinema

All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise.

Tickets £8 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

The theatre will be closed for Annual Maintenance from Saturday 20th August to Sunday 28th August (inclusive).

McEnroe (15)

Monday, 1st August, 7:30pm

Brian and Charles (PG)

Tuesday, 2nd August, 7:30pm

The Railway Children original version (U)

Wednesday, 3rd August, 7:30pm

Brian and Charles

Thursday, 4th August, 7:30pm

The Railway Children Return

Friday, 5th August, 7:30pm

Saturday, 6th August, 2:30pm

Sunday, 7th August, 7:30pm

Monday, 8th August, 7:30pm

Tuesday, 9th August, 7:30pm

Top Gun (12A) 2 for 1 offer

Wednesday, 10th August, 7:30pm

Thursday, 11th August, 7:30pm

Where the Crawdads Sing (15)

Friday, 12th August, 7:30pm

Saturday, 13th August, 7:30pm

Sunday, 14th August, 7:30pm

Monday, 15th August, 7:30pm

Notre Dame on Fire (12A)

Tuesday, 16th August, 7:30pm

Wednesday, 17th August, 7:30pm

Drawn to War (PG)

Thursday, 18th August, 7:30pm

Eiffel (15)

Friday, 19th August, 7:30pm

Live Screenings

Westlife from Wembley

Saturday, 6th August, 8:30pm

The UK's biggest-selling album group of the 21st century, Westlife will be broadcasting their first ever show from Wembley Stadium, in front of a sell-out

crowd of 90,000 fans. This spectacular show is going to be their biggest yet! With 20 years of hits, a staggering 14 number one UK singles and selling over 55 million records worldwide, Westlife will deliver an unmissable night for fans. Performing all of their hits from their highly anticipated Wild Dreams tour, including 'Uptown Girl', 'Flying Without Wings', 'You Raise Me Up' and 'If I Let You Go'. Irish heart-throbs Shane, Nicky, Mark and Kian invite fans everywhere to come together in their local cinema and share in this unforgettable live experience, up close and personal.

Coming Soon

Bunkfest comes to the Corn Exchange, in the foyer and auditorium

Friday, 2nd September and Saturday, 3rd September

Much Ado about Nothing, live from the National Theatre

Thursday, 8th September, 7pm

The Simon and Garfunkel Story, live on stage at the Corn Exchange

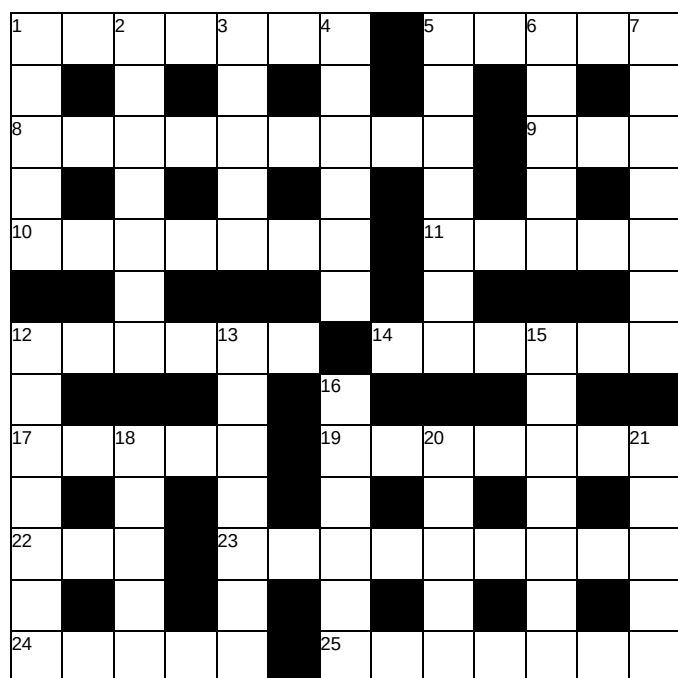
Saturday, 10th September, 7:45pm

Critically acclaimed as one of the greatest tribute shows in the world, Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years has toured extensively in the UK, Europe, Australia and USA. Fronted by Dan Haynes and Pete Richards, the show is a "masterpiece" (BBC Radio) in musicianship, which perfectly recreates the unmistakable sound of Simon & Garfunkel. Featuring all the iconic songs, including The Sound of Silence, Mrs Robinson, The Boxer and the smash hit Bridge Over Troubled Water. This is without a doubt the most authentic tribute to Simon & Garfunkel touring the world today.

ELEMENTARY — Quiz (Answers p23)

1. What gaseous element shares its name with the home planet of a superhero?
2. Which element was formally known as Brimstone?
3. What gas was discovered on, and named after, the sun?
4. What metallic element melts at minus 38.8C?
5. What was the subject of Euclid's 'Elements'?
6. What element is named after the moon?
7. Which precious metal has the same name as a well-known theatre?
8. Which metal's name is derived from the Greek word meaning colour?
9. What element takes its name from Cyprus?
10. Strontium is named after a village in what European country?

AUGUST CROSSWORD



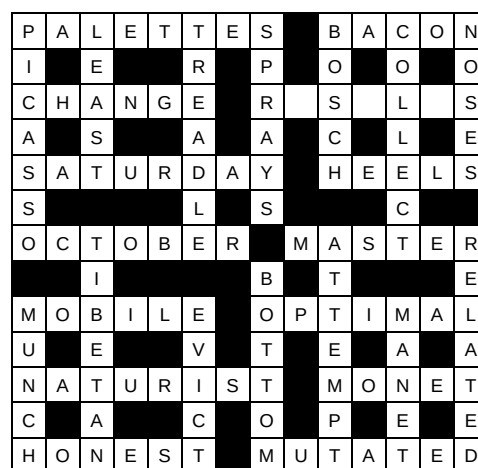
Across

- 1 Under cover of defendant I guard island (7)
- 5 Article on barley product from island (5)
- 8 The German takes on actors here (9)
- 9 Fellow starts making alumni nervous (3)
- 10 The rest live around university (7)
- 11 Shapes of small round cake back to front (5)
- 12 Sadly, Kenya ends in the US (6)
- 14 Lad has colour bay (6)
- 17 Dress circle actress (5)
- 19 Time to argue for subversion (7)
- 22 Sneak on backward matelot (3)
- 23 Hotlines stirs home reform (9)
- 24 Amidst rotten mango (5)
- 25 Bug goes to any country (7)

Down

- 1 Communist lawyer backs the snake (5)
- 2 Fish has endless visit here (7)
3. Watch over short guy on a highway (5)
4. Learnt to play small horn (6)
- 5 Oxfordshire County Council held in untidy room here (7)
- 6 Fruit starters leave every meal optimally nutritious (5)
- 7 Pardon for girl hiding broken gun (7)
- 12 State of some unusual geriatrics (7)
- 13 Cunning external ruler won over (7)
- 15 Its aura us unusual here (7)
- 16 Powerful air about heartless teenager (6)
- 18 Fraction of reduced allocation (5)
- 20 Monarch has the number (5)
- 21 Unpleasant ends of main opera singers disappoint today (5)

JULY CROSSWORD SOLUTION



NEW CARE PROVIDER COMING TO WOODCOTE

None of us are getting any younger and many people whatever their age can have times when extra health care help is needed. Experienced registered nurse, Sarah, has been coming to Woodcote during the last year to help a village resident. She has decided she likes the village so much that she plans to set up her own care provider service for Woodcote and the neighbouring villages, based in Woodcote Community Centre.

Sarah's staff will be fully trained and competent in accordance with CQC requirements and best practice. Services will be nurse-led and staff fully supported.

The aim of the service will be to provide the highest standard of care so people can stay in the comfort of their own home. This could be through domiciliary visits or as live-in care. Sarah's service can be for short or long-term and can include personal care, companionship, post-surgery or illness recovery. She and her staff also have experience with long-term conditions including neurological and dementia as well as palliative care.

Sarah has now opened her office in Woodcote. Look for her advertisement in this month's Correspondent for contact details whether you are looking for care or interested in joining her team.

Frances Cork

Answers to Quiz on page 22

1.	Krypton
2.	Sulphur
3.	Helium
4.	Mercury
5.	Mathematics
6.	Selenium
7.	Palladium
8.	Chromium
9.	Copper
10.	Scotland (Strontian)

DATES FOR THE DIARY — AUGUST

Details of the St. Leonard's Church services for July can be found on page 2.

Thur 4th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Thur 11th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Sat 13th	*	Saturday Crafts - 'A Visit to the Zoo'. Woodcote Library. 10.30am-11.30am
Tues 16th	*	Wallingford & District Art Club on-line demonstration: 'People in Urban Township'. Email admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk. 7.30pm
Wed 17th	*	Woodcote WI meeting. The Maker Space at The Crown, Nuffield. 2.30pm
Thur 18th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Thur 25th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Sat 27th		Cholsey Village Show, Cholsey Recreation Ground. www.cholseyhortsoc.co.uk 12 – 5pm
Mon 29th	*	South Stoke Open Gardens. South Stoke. 1pm-5pm

FORTHCOMING DATES IN SEPTEMBER

Thur 1st	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Tues 6th	*	BMMHS Zoom Talk: 'The Mesopotamia Campaign in the First World War'. Email info@bmmhs.org. 7.30pm
Thur 8th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Sat 10th	*	Woodcote Village Fete. Woodcote Village Green. 12pm-5pm
Wed 14th	*	BMMHS Talk: 'Dudley Pound and the decision to scatter convoy PQ17 – July 1942'. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm

SMALL ADS

LOCAL HANDYMAN :: No job too small. DIY jobs in and around the home. Kitchen and bathroom renovations undertaken. Call James 07961 882281

WALLINGFORD & DISTRICT ART CLUB (WADAC)



This month's demonstration, on Tuesday 16th August 2022, is an online live demonstration entitled "People in Urban Township" in acrylics by Joel Wareing.

Joel's practice is focused on body language and the interaction of people within urban environments. Capturing sunlight in paintings is also a key feature of his work. His paintings are made from sketches and photographs taken on location and created out of a desire to translate an atmosphere within the painted image. Paint is used as a way to get closer to an actual experience of a place, a vehicle for transferring emotions that a photograph might not give you.



Our demonstrations are held at 7.30pm online. To join, email: admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk or davidbooth7@outlook.com for zoom link etc. All viewing is free to members, friends of the club and local artists/clubs, as part of our "Art into the Community" project.

Tuesday morning and afternoon art classes are having a summer break and recommence on 13th September.

Tuesday social evening and non-tutored workshops at 7-9pm, drop in and have a chat with fellow artists at all levels. Great chance to get back to painting or starting out. All club members are willing to help new artists. There will be a chance to try out various mediums, oil, watercolours, acrylics, charcoal etc, that you have not experienced; material is available at no cost, but donations welcomed.

A tutored plein air sketching and painting Saturday by a lake is being organised for August 6th.

If you are interested in joining us on any of our events or the club, please contact davidbooth7@outlook.com or admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk or tel. 01491 681400.

The club meets at Centre 70, Kincroft, off Goldsmith's Lane, Wallingford, OX10 0DN

CLOSING THOUGHT

When all else fails, take a vacation.

Betty Williams (American writer 1896-1972)