



Woodcote

Vol 34 No 11
November 2022

CORRESPONDENT

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

TIME FOR 20MPH?

The graphic image of a twisted 'Kill Your Speed' sign on Red Lane with a demolished telegraph pole and other debris beyond it are arguably a perfect illustration of why it may be time to reduce the speed limit throughout our village. On Saturday 1st October at about 2pm, a sunny day with perfect visibility, a single car crashed and finished up facing in the opposite direction. The accident was between the entrance to Tidmore Lane and the village hall crossroads. The cause of the accident is unknown, but it was well within the 30mph zone and the amount of devastation suggests that speed was an issue. There is no pavement on this section of Red Lane but it is regularly used by local residents. If anyone had been walking there at the time, the outcome could have been much worse.



COMMENT FROM ST LEONARD'S

Well at this time of year, with clocks having recently gone back and with the days getting so much shorter, we really know that we are now in winter. For some, that is something that fills them with dread: the dark evenings, cold weather and this year in particular, the worry of rising costs of energy, food and mortgages.

But there is a brighter side. At the latitude we live at, we do get four distinct seasons. We know that eventually winter will be followed by spring, then summer and then autumn, and so the cycle will continue. During winter we will lose our many summer flowers, but we can look forward to the early signs of spring as the snowdrops and crocuses appear followed by daffodils. We will get a change in our visiting birds. Amongst others, we've said goodbye to swallows and swifts and will be welcoming fieldfares and redwings.

Bonfire night this year will fall on a Saturday and I'm sure that many of you will be celebrating that event either in your own gardens or by going to organised firework parties.

The same day, 5th November, we will be holding our St Leonard's Fair in the Woodcote Village Hall. Doors open at 2pm; you will find more information elsewhere in this edition of the Correspondent. We have had several fundraising activities during the year but this one is the biggest and longest running. In addition to it being a fundraiser, it is also an opportunity for us all to meet each other and for us to get you in the mood for Christmas when you will find many gifts on sale.

The Fair and all the other fundraising activities that are organised by members of the church are necessary to help us with our expenses. During 2021 we paid £30,465 in what is called the parish share. This amount, which varies from parish to parish, is the levy we pay to Oxford Diocese which goes into a large pot from which the costs of providing clergy are met. (and before you ask, no we don't get a reduction when we have no vicar as at present). Our expenses are more than we can expect from the generosity of our congregation, so you will appreciate how important fundraising is to us.

The mood will change on the day after the Fair. In addition to our normal services on that day, we will be holding our 'In Loving Memory' service. Everybody is invited to join us for our annual service to remember those they have loved who are no longer with us. Those who wish can give to the sides-people at the service the names of those they wish to remember. These will be read out and a candle for each will be lit and placed on the altar in their memory. There will be hymns and times of reflection during the service. Over the years this has become a well-loved time in our busy lives.

The following week we will be meeting at the War Memorial at 10.45 for an Act of Remembrance followed by a service in church. I am advised in a circular sent from RAF Benson that *we can expect a flypast at 10.52am.*

And if you thought I wasn't going to mention Christmas again, then sorry, but I have to tell you that you're wrong. November 27th is Advent Sunday, when the church changes its season and moves into Advent for the preparation of the celebration of the coming into this world of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. You will hear more of that next month.

The Sunday before Advent, which this year will be 20th November, has traditionally been called Stir-up Sunday. It is commonly said to be so named because it was the day that everyone made and therefore stirred their Christmas puddings. However, not so, the real reason it got that name was because it was the opening of the collect for that Sunday in church:

Stir up, we beseech you O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Brian Turner

Licensed Lay Minister and PCC Vice-chairman.

Services at St. Leonard's in November

Sunday 6th November

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am Parish Communion

4.00 pm In Loving Memory service

Sunday 13th November

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.45 am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial followed by a Remembrance Service in church

Sunday 20th November

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.45 am The Open-Door Service

Sunday 27th November

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 now moved to every Tuesday at 8.30 pm.

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

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



Welcome to the November issue! Firstly, we have been truly bowled over by the number of people who have contacted us regarding the future of the Correspondent. A big thank you for all your suggestions and support; we will keep you posted.

And now on to this month's content. I'm sure I am not alone in wondering where 2022 has (nearly) gone! We have just a couple of months left but let's face it, we do pack quite a lot into them, don't we? We already have festive events being planned locally. The ever-popular St Leonard's Fair on the 5th November is the perfect place to start your shopping plus it helps support the church.

The Red Lion pub is running a Quiz Night on 16th November in support of the Royal British Legion. Do go along and support them. Plus a new *Board Game Club* has started up in the library! The perfect social activity as the nights draw in. I'm sure hot beverages and biscuits will be involved...

And finally, it is of course nearly Bonfire night. We have listed a couple of local events but as always, stay safe and be mindful that many of our pets do not appreciate the event as much as we do!

Until next month

Yvette

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

We would like to say a big thank you to the Goring and Woodcote Medical Centre. We have both had some health hiccups lately and have been very well looked after by them. When we say 'looked after', our care has been phenomenal! All the staff in the medical and admin team have gone out of their way to treat us with concern, kindness and respect no matter how busy they have been.

We are in agreement that we have the very best services from the surgeries and we're so fortunate and thankful that we live in this area

Paula and Chris Uden; Crays Pond.

PUBLISHER INFORMATION

Editor: Yvette Decmar *[via email]*

Articles for inclusion: to the editor by email to: wood-co@runbox.com, or letters may be handed in at the library. To be received by the 12th of the preceding month.

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WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE ON PROJECT CONSULTATION

Thank you again to everyone who took the time to complete a survey for our Project Consultation over the summer. We had 187 individual responses, plus information from a survey of 17 members of Woodcote Youth Club, so we are very grateful to have a lot of data to sort through.

While we sort through all the different comments and suggestions regarding the proposed projects and new ideas, we have also adopted a 'triage' approach to the responses.

This approach was taken to pick up the comments and suggestions which fall outside of the remit or control of Woodcote Parish Council (WPC) and remove them from the wider pool of comments. We also wanted to take this opportunity in many cases to explain why this falls outside of Woodcote Parish Council (WPC) remit and, where possible, provide information on who is responsible and how to contact them.

While some comments came up more than once, we have not listed duplicates here. However, a spreadsheet showing the individual comments and suggestions is available on the Woodcote Parish Council website, under the consultation tab. www.woodcote-parish-council.org.uk

The first section of the suggestions we've removed in our recent triage process are as follows. There will be a follow-up article in the next Correspondent with the remaining comments and those we are still researching responses to.

Suggestions or comments outside of WPC remit, but with another responsible body:

Public transport (improvement of and increase of frequency) - *The X40 bus that runs through the village is run by an independent company (Thames Travel, part of Go Ahead Group PLC) and as such, WPC have no control over the public transport provision within the village. However, WPC have held discussions with the bus company before to try and increase frequency and improve service. Unfortunately, responses have not previously been positive due to scheduling issues or other unsuitable alternative suggestions. However, it is something WPC continue to try and improve.*

Insulating The Community Centre - *The Community Centre is not leased by or within the ownership of WPC. The building is owned by Oxfordshire County Council and leased by an independent group (Woodcote Community Centre Association); therefore it is not the responsibility of WPC to insulate.*

Repairs & improvements to footpaths and pavements - *Pavement surfacing does not fall within the remit of WPC and is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council Highways. Oxfordshire County Council have their own funding to carry out these works. This will include a portion of council tax from each household in Woodcote. WPC encourage residents to report such sections on FixMyStreet and also to our County Councillor, Kevin Bulmer. He can be contacted at: kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk*

WPC will also write to our County Councillor Kevin Bulmer and advise him of the numerous comments about the poor pavement surfaces within the Parish.

Overhanging hedges and trees on footpaths and pavements - *WPC do not have the power to require residents to cut back hedges or trees that have overgrown onto pavements or footpaths. However, such issues can be reported online on www.fixmystreet.com. Once registered here, Oxfordshire County Council will inspect and write (if appropriate) to the owner to carry out any necessary works. Should the situation require it, work can be carried out by Oxfordshire County Council and the owner billed accordingly. WPC encourage residents to report such instances directly to FixMyStreet. If you do not have access to the internet, then please do contact the Parish Clerk to log a report on your behalf. All reports are anonymous to everyone except the employees of Oxfordshire County Council.*

WPC will produce an article advising people of this and ask the Woodcote Correspondent to publish, to try and increase awareness of what can be done.

Maintaining / improvements of path running along the rear of Langtree playing field - *This footpath is not on land that WPC own. It is understood it falls within land that is owned by Oxfordshire County Council and leased to The Langtree School Academy Trust Company. As it is a designated footpath (code 411/15/10) it is possible to report an issue on any of Oxfordshire's public rights of way. To report a problem, you need to register on the Countryside Access Map website where you can log in and report problems with any of the following:*

Bridge/crossing, Crops, Definitive map issue, Fence, Gate, Livestock, Obstacles, Post/waymark, Signs, Steps, Stile, Tree, Vegetation

<https://publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Repairs or resurfacing to damaged roads - *Road surfacing does not fall within the remit of WPC and is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council Highways. Oxfordshire County Council have their own funding to carry out these works. This will include a portion of council tax from each household in Woodcote. WPC encourage residents to report such sections on FixMyStreet and also to our County Councillor - Kevin Bulmer.*

WPC will also write to our County Councillor Kevin Bulmer and advise him of the numerous comments about damaged roads within the Parish.

The return of Community Policing would be very welcome - *Woodcote as an area is covered by the Henley Neighbourhood Policing Team. While there have been some changes to personnel over the years, Woodcote does have a PCSO – Graham Davey.*

WPC encourage all residents to report anything appropriate to the Police, either using 999 if an emergency or using 101. If all instances are reported, then the Neighbourhood Policing Team can be aware of what goes on and make additional visits as appropriate.

Community Orchard; ideally on the Green behind Croft Way and Grimmer Way (Downlands) - The land

specifically mentioned is not within WPC ownership. It belongs to South Oxfordshire District Council. As a result, a community orchard, funded by WPC, could not be placed here. However, the idea of a community orchard is something WPC have discussed and are considering. The issues to be considered are the location and maintenance of such an orchard. Watch this space...

Why was the hedge beside Medill Close slashed down to waist height? - This work was not carried out by WPC. This section of road and many houses alongside are owned by South Oxfordshire Housing Association (SOHA). Therefore it is understood that the work was carried out by them.

Inadequate street lighting in certain areas / roads - While WPC are not responsible for the siting or repair of street lights, they are aware of concerns that residents have about lack of lighting or too much lighting. There is a balance to be had between safety and light pollution and urbanization in the local environment. Hopefully the improving technology for lights (low energy and less escaping light), will allow for improved safety with additional street lights, without a detrimental effect to the environment.

Street lighting is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council. Oxfordshire County Council have their own funding to carry out these works. This will include a portion of council tax from each household in Woodcote. WPC encourage residents to report areas of concern (or broken lights) on FixMyStreet and also to our County Councillor - Kevin Bulmer.

Please stop squeezing properties onto every tiny inch of land - WPC are asked to comment on Planning Applications within the parish as a statutory consultee. Each application is looked at and measured against planning policy, which includes requirements on parking, amenity plot size and minimum distances between properties. While WPC can make objections and comments, the final decision is made by Planning Officers at South Oxfordshire District Council. The Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan, does seek to try and minimize instances where properties are built on smaller plots or 'infill plots' to minimize harm, in line with the feedback from the consultation responses for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Open up part of the Langtree playing field off Greenmore for staff parking - As the land used by Langtree is owned by OCC and rented to The Langtree School Academy Trust Company, then this sort of proposal is entirely down to their own discretion. WPC will feed back this suggestion to Langtree School to consider.

Improvements / change to bus stops to increase space available and safety for those waiting - Bus stop locations are not set by WPC. However, WPC do see your point on this. Changing side of the bus stop would require a change in the route of the bus. WPC will make enquiries with OCC Highways and Thames Travel.

Cars parking on pavements (even when the road is of standard width) causes the same issues as intruding hedges for people with pushchairs, mobility aids and wheelchairs - WPC take this comment on board and while there is nothing within our remit that we are

able to do, some encouragement / raising of awareness of the issue might help and WPC aim to put something in the Woodcote Correspondent.

WOODCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2ND VERSION.

Following the successful referendum on the Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan, the declaration of results is published on SODC referendums page and will be published on the SODC Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan page in due course. The notice is on the Parish Council website.

The plan is now part of the development plan and will be used in the determination of planning applications within the Woodcote neighbourhood area.

SODC will now progress the plan to full council in October where the decision will be taken to adopt the plan which then becomes known as made and continue to be part of the SODC development plan.

Woodcote Parish Council wish to extend their sincere thanks to all the volunteers who made up the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, the hard work, painstaking data analysis, gathering information took many hours and dedication to the task of bringing the NHP to a point to present and recommend to the Parish Council to pass to SODC.

The Parish Council is grateful for the contribution made by the Advisory group and cannot thank them enough for producing another Neighbourhood Plan, a great job well done by all!

WOODCOTE PROJECT COOL

Possible planting of more trees, shrubs, orchards, hedges to provide Woodcote with more natural beauty and to reduce heat build-up in summer. This initiative will further enhance the rural scene of the village.

The Parish Council where possible will plant more trees and shrubs on land that they own, and will approach SODC and SOHA who own of some areas of land in Woodcote to plant trees. Roadside verges will be considered and some of the larger green spaces.

The Parish Council are asking residents to come forward with ideas of where more planting could be made, and also suggesting that people with large gardens think about planting a tree. Any ideas please email the Parish Clerk. clerk@woodcoteparishcouncil.org.uk.

Planning Applications Refused by SODC

P22/S0001/O Application proposal, including any amendments : Outline planning application for the erection of 40 homes, access, parking, landscaping, open space, and associated infrastructure, including removal of existing paddock structures. All matters reserved except for means of access. (Additional information received 08 and 15 March 2022 and 07 and 11 April 2022 and 05 May 2022 and 6 June 2022 and amended plans received 29 July 2022) Site Location : Land south of Bridle Path Woodcote.

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WOODCOTE VOTES YES!

On 29th September the village voted in a referendum on the proposals in Woodcote's second Neighbourhood Plan.

In 2014 Woodcote was the smallest of the first dozen communities to get a Neighbourhood Plan approved so when the need to start to update it came about in 2016 it appeared to be a simple task. In the event the then District Council proposed a huge increase in housing across the district which included an increase of more than 17% for Woodcote. It was clear from the community input that this was not what was wanted by the village and the village's Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group (NPAG) objected strongly to the District Council's Planning Policy Team. To no avail. The community's views fell on largely deaf ears.

The Council then changed significantly following local elections and the new Council took a different view on the housing numbers, wanting fewer in the district. This produced a certain amount of confusion which, together with the challenge of convincing unreceptive planning policy officers of the inappropriateness of the increase proposed for Woodcote, meant that it took the NPAG more than five years to assemble the update and submit it to SODC in February this year, against their advice, for examination. The independent Examiner came down firmly on our side in June which, under normal circumstances meant that after making a few minor modifications suggested by the Examiner, SODC had 5 weeks to arrange the referendum. Once again, there was a delay with disappointed developers threatening a legal challenge to the examination outcome. At the end of August SODC decided that the examination was robust and scheduled the referendum for September 29th almost exactly 6 years after work on the update started.

It was, therefore, with a degree of nervousness that at 10:00pm the Chair and Secretary of the Advisory Group went to the Village Hall to watch the count. Fortunately, it rapidly became clear that the vote was overwhelmingly positive. As the votes were sorted and then allocated to baskets labelled YES and NO the pile in the YES basket began towering over the NOs.

92.4% YES!

This endorsement of the proposals means that the much lower (5%) number of new homes proposed by the Advisory Group, together with two new car parks and a formally established settlement boundary, is now official planning policy for the village and will help protect the village and our surrounding countryside from the large-scale development we saw proposed by SODC and developers in recent years.

The Advisory Group has now finished its work, the Neighbourhood Plan is now available on the Parish Council web site together with the many hundreds of pages of supporting documents, and it only remains to thank them, the many residents who contributed, the Correspondent, and those who voted for their support over the last 6 years.

THE CASE OF THE CATARACT

Recently I had an operation to remove a cataract from my left eye. It was very quick and painless: you just have to lie looking up at a bright light for a few minutes while the cataract is broken up with ultrasound and the consultant fits a new lens. The process using the ultrasonic device is called 'phacoemulsification'. It is modern, but apparently it's pretty universal now for cataract surgery in the UK. You have anaesthetic drops put in, and during the op your eye is constantly sluiced out. After the op you have to wear a shield over the eye for the rest of the day and at night; the next morning you can take it off, but you still have to wear it at night for two weeks to avoid accidentally rubbing the eye. They give you eye-drops and you have to have one drop four times a day for a month. You can't drive home from the op – I got my son to take me and collect me – but you can drive again as soon as you feel confident to do so, which I would have done the next day had I needed to.

The operation certainly seems to have worked: the next day everything seemed brighter and sharper and though I thought it was only meant to improve one's distance vision in fact it now seems much easier to read small print. And I can now read road signs before I am nearly on top of them. As you may know the legal requirement for driving is to be able to read a number-plate at 20 metres, with glasses if worn, and frankly I had been getting a bit borderline with this. The next morning I went round the village testing myself and I was managing 30 metres without glasses.

The only drawback was a ban on heavy lifting or strenuous exercise of any kind for two weeks. 'Not even an easy jog?' I asked. 'No!' said the consultant firmly, perhaps guessing that at my age there's no such thing as an easy jog. Back home I translated this for my wife's benefit into 'Very sorry, but the consultant says I'm to do no housework for a month'. 'But you never do any housework', she pointed out. 'I peel our cooking apples', I said defensively. 'Surely you can still do that'. 'I don't know, some of those apples are pretty heavy...'

Actually my wife has been very solicitous about my cataract, which has slightly surprised me. 'Solicitous' is not normally a word I would associate with my wife, at least as far as her husband goes: having herself over the years undergone various far more serious medical interventions, including four childbirths, with relative fortitude she has always taken a 'tough love' attitude to any of my own fortunately very minor health crises. 'Hold still and don't be a baby', she will say, digging a splinter out from under my fingernail with a sharp needle and sadistic relish. But this time she has been fussing round me like a mother hen: 'How's the eye now?' and 'Do be careful with that eye'. I suppose it couldn't, could it, be anything to do with the fact that she has never learnt to drive and so relies on me and my good eyesight to chauffeur her wherever? No, no, perish the unworthy thought. I am sure it is just a late blossoming of conjugal tenderness...

David Sutton

START YOUR FESTIVE SHOPPING AT ST LEONARD'S FAIR!

We are holding our annual fair from 2pm to 4pm on Saturday 5th and admission is free! It is our major fundraising event and we can guarantee that you will find plenty of bargains.

We ask you kindly to bring cash for the various stalls, raffles and tombola as an event of this nature does not lend itself easily to card payments.

The fair will give you opportunities to meet and chat with friends. The many varied stalls and attractions will provide entertainment and the opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts, home-made cakes, jams and preserves, craft items, bric-a-brac, bath and beauty, books and jewellery. Tombolas and raffles will be there as usual.

We welcome any donations for the Fair and rely on the generosity of Woodcote people to support the maintenance of the parish church. We'll find good homes for those unwanted presents!

If anyone has any donations or questions, please contact Janet Casson (681483), Sue Udell (681618), Peggy Allum (680576), or Sandy Worsfold (680574).



RBL POPPY APPEAL 2022

By the time you read this, the poppy boxes will be out and hopefully you are able to donate generously for this very worthy cause, even with the ever-increasing cost of living. Hopefully we will also be coming to you via a Door-to-Door collection, but if not please contact us.

Quiz Night

The Red Lion are running their popular Quiz Night this month - Wednesday 16th November to be precise - in aid of the Royal British Legion. So please do get a team together and join us for a bit of fun. Look forward to seeing you there!

Remembrance Sunday

This is scheduled to be Sunday 13th November.

Do let me know if you need a wreath. We also have plenty of the small wooden crosses, should you want to place a personal memory at the Memorial.

Thank you for your support.

Linda Burton, and David Jennings
POA's for Woodcote and Goring Heath
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David – 07804 433989 / 681162

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**Board Game Club
for adults**
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Please join us for our next relaxed get-together on **Tuesday 8th November at 3.00-4.30 pm**



and subsequently on the 2nd Tuesday of the month
We look forward to welcoming you!

*Please note: if you need assistance getting to the library you can contact **Woodcote Volunteers** who should be able to help with transport (01491 681171; woodcotevolunteers.org.uk)*

Please join us at our free drop-in sessions where a selection of board games and playing cards will be provided. Refreshments will also be available.

Thank you for supporting your local library
Please contact the Library Manager – Lisa Trood - if you have any queries about this event.
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...or Mastermind, Bananagrams, Rummy, the list goes on! The OWL (Our Woodcote Library) group of volunteers has organised a new monthly *Board Game Club* for adults at the Woodcote Library. The first of these relaxed get-togethers was held on Tuesday 11th October and a small group enjoyed a selection of games along with a cup of tea and good conversation!



These meetings will continue on the second Tuesday of each month, from 3 - 4.30pm, with the next two being on the *8th November and 13th December*. You can just 'drop in' with no need to pre-book. A good selection of board games will be on hand, as well as playing cards.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to the library for a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon. If you have any questions about this new club, please contact the Library Manager, Lisa Trood (Lisa.Trood@oxfordshire.gov.uk) or call Woodcote Library on: 01491 682323. For anyone who may need transport to attend these sessions, please contact Woodcote Volunteers (Tel. 01491 681171) who should be able to help.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

Friends of Woodcote Primary School (FOWPS) would like to thank all the wonderful companies that donated fantastic raffle prizes for our super-sized summer raffle as part of the Woodcote Primary Summer Fair.



We are pleased to tell you that with your help, the raffle was a great success and raised almost £2000! The proceeds have been shared between The Cabin Preschool, Woodcote Preschool and Woodcote Primary School and it will be used to purchase resources for the children.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the following wonderful local businesses:

The Booker family at Church Farm, Beale Park, Bare Foot Yoga, Caversham, The Black Lion, Blue Tin Produce, Bouchiers, Camp Bestival, The Corn Exchange, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Chandlers Farm Equipment, Checkendon Equestrian Centre, The Cherry Tree Inn, Daisy Chain Candles, Ella's Kitchen, Fairy Tale Farm, DP Gate Solutions, Goring Butchers, Ina's Brow and Beauty, Inspirations Goring, Jessie's Coffee truck, Jo Lillywhite Art, Kimberley's Hair Studio, The Handmade Baking Company, La'De Kitchen, Pangbourne, Little Bear Cake Stands, Millets Farm, Next Thing Education, OCHO Landscaping, Odds Farm, The Red Lion, Rowse Honey, Smelly Wellies, Spin Master Toys, The Sun, Supernova Scents, Virtue Gymnastics and Wellington Country Park.

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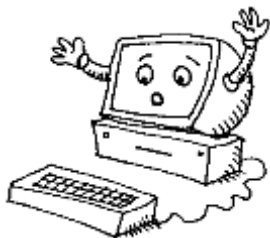
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If so, why not donate your old glasses to the recycled spectacles box that now resides in the library by the reception desk. All glasses are collected and given to a member of Lions International before being sent off to countries where eye care is significantly lacking. Simply drop them off during library opening times:

Monday: 2–7.30pm

Tuesday: 2–5pm

Thursday to Saturday: 9.30–12.30pm

WOODCOTE WI NEWS

Patricia Solomons welcomed the members to our meeting. Our speaker this month was our very own Hello Girl, Barbara George, who entertained us with tales of her life at the Telephone Exchange in Reading from her start in 1946. The numbers had to be connected by hand, then had to be sent to the accounts department...how times have changed!

We had a lovely tea thanks to Sally Lambert and Wendy Muchamore.

Winner of bloom of the month was Sally Lambert.

We held a coffee shop in the Community Centre, thank you to everyone who supported us.

This month the lunch club went to the King William at Hailey where we had a lovely lunch. Thank you to Sally Lambert for organising the lunch and for her photography skills!

In December we will be entertained by Sun Jester. The Christmas lunch will take place at Root 1 and there will a chance for some retail therapy.

Come and join us on the *3rd Wednesday of the month* in the village hall for a 2.30pm start.

Judy Williams

NOVEMBER QUIZ — GEOGRAPHY

Answers on page 23

1. Where is Winston Churchill buried?
2. In what country are the Machu Picchu ruins?
3. In what city is the Sagrada Familia?
4. In what country is the world's tallest uninterrupted waterfall?
5. In what US state is Sing Sing prison?
6. Where is Mons Olympus?
7. In what country is the Angkor Wat temple?
8. In what county is Leeds Castle?
9. In what country are the Tivoli Gardens fairgrounds?
10. What is the smallest city by area in the UK?

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9-11:45am Wednesday, 9th November, 2022

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BEAVERS ON THE 'EEF

For the Goring Heath Beavers, Autumn has always had the excitement of change – the turn of the year, new class teachers and the prospect of night hikes. Our leadership team has changed too – the ever-cheery Chris (Grasshopper), has stepped down after six brilliant years. Excitingly, we've three new leaders: Nicola (Otter), Sinaed (Wren) and Louise (after debate, Tadpole; Slug or Adder seemed likely, so she wisely decided to take pre-emptive action). Midge has been re-harnessed.

Our first meeting back was, initially, a little sombre – the Queen had just died. We focussed very young minds on the positive – after a full thirty second silence (achieved by staring at the second hand on the big clock), we moved on to making 'thank you' cards for the Royal Family. There were big hats, handbags, crowns and many giggle-worthy drawings of Paddington.

The following week the Beavers opted to have a Paddington tea party as a gentle nod to the Queen. As predicted, they demanded a fire and an undertaking that they would not be made to eat marmalade sandwiches. In Midge's woods they mashed and drank concoctions of lemon balm, pine needles, blackberries, hawthorn and sorrel etc – a 'wild' tea party! Only three didn't like their tea, either because they'd used every ingredient or had made it too weak. The gold plates piled with iced doughnuts made it all very royal.

On the following week we had a brilliant visit from Hayley and the Forensic Experience. Formerly a Met CSI, Hayley explained crime-scene techniques (the Beavers were rapt, asking great questions – "but what if the burglar's fingerprints aren't on file?"). They were particularly impressed that a burglar had been caught because he'd taken a bite from a roast chicken, leaving DNA evidence. The Beavers then had a go at taking their own fingerprints – ink EVERYWHERE!

The Money Skills badge is new, but particularly relevant at the moment. Otter used great imagination and games to explain the history and concept of money and the difference between something being 'wanted' and 'essential'. The Beavers have all been set a 'saving challenge'. Charlie and Theo were welcomed as the newest members of *The 'Eef*, as Midge still insists on calling Goring Heath.

WOODCOTE VOLUNTEERS



Winter is fast approaching and it's important to keep getting out! Did you know that we drive local residents to social and recreational activities in and around Woodcote? We have started a list of these activities on our website – www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk. Look at Events/What's On to find out more. If you are running an activity that is suitable for our client group and would like that added to our list, please contact our secretary, Jane Forde, on info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk. (Our client group are those people in Woodcote and surrounding

villages, who are without a car and unable to access public transport and are generally, although not always, people with disabilities and those in the older age bracket.)

Useful Information: We are one of Oxfordshire County Council's Good Neighbour Schemes and as such, receive weekly news from them of things that may be of interest and use for local residents. We thought that the items below were particularly relevant right now.

Better Housing, Better Health: This charity offers a Warmth and Wellbeing service where they can do home visits free of charge.

They can look at ways of reducing fuel costs, hand out hot water bottles and draft excluders amongst other things to help with rising fuel costs. As we all know, looking at ways to reduce costs does not always change anything – they can also offer grant funding for low income and social tenants.

They can also help with prepayment meters by supplying a £49 fuel voucher. These are restricted to 3 per household this winter.

Finally, they will also check that any vulnerable persons are on the correct priority services with their energy suppliers. To find out more, call 0800 107 0044. You can also find out more online.

Age UK: Age UK Oxfordshire provide a Digital Support service, offering one-to-one support to older people to get online, and use online services, help to use a digital device or help with whatever digital goal the person has. They can loan a tablet, with connectivity and data to people who live alone. The scheme is called Tech Buddy (ageuk.org.uk) Contact them on 01235 849434 or email techbuddy@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Age UK can also do benefit checks but they have many other services as well, so they are worth investigating. Call 0345 450 1276 or look at their website.

Other News: We are very pleased to welcome Dawn to our team of volunteer drivers and thank her for giving her time.

We had lots of interest at the Woodcote Village Fete, with several offers from potential volunteers, so thank you to everyone who stopped to talk to us and give us your support.

We held our fundraising coffee morning at the Community Centre on 22nd October. It was a great success and further news about the outcome and donation to our medical practice will follow!

To finish ... As usual, if you need a driver, please don't hesitate to give us a call on 01491 681171. One of our office workers will answer the phone between 9.30 and 11am on weekdays (excluding public holidays) and you can leave a message on the answerphone at other times.

Find out more about us by looking at our website: www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/woodcotevolunteers

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WOODCOTE PRESCHOOL

On October 4th we visited St Leonard's Church along with our friends from The Cabin to take part in the Harvest Festival. Thank you to all the families who were able to join us. The children enjoyed the singing and taking all the food that we had collected up to the altar. We also took along our Harvest loaf of bread that the children made. Thank you for the donations and well done to all the children for being so fantastic in the church.

On our first day back after half-term we will celebrate Halloween by dressing up, singing songs and making Halloween crafts. Following this, parents can expect an explosion of glitter as we move into celebrating Bonfire Night, lots of sparkly crafts will be going home and up on our boards!

We have taken advantage of some lovely weather and enjoyed lots of outdoor play. We have counted all the conkers we have collected, which is a lot! The children have been doing a lot of counting and number activities, they have particularly enjoyed the number puzzles and stacking cups.

During our week of Harvest, the children produced some wonderful vegetable print paintings. They also decorated Harvest baskets, made pasta necklaces and baked cakes and bread. They also played in the Greengrocers shop and counted up all the fruit and vegetables in there! The children's favourite story this week was "Pig Got Stuck"!

Look out on our Facebook pages for Pre-School and Toddler Group for our Open Morning next term. Please come and join us and have a look around if you are considering us as a setting for your child.

We have been to our allotment to check on our winter vegetables. We are growing leeks, cabbages, potatoes, onions and potatoes and they are all doing very well. We will be carving the pumpkins when they are ready and making some pumpkin soup.

Diwali is coming up and we are excited to learn the story of Sita and Rama, and make clay Diwali lamps and rangoli pictures. We will be reading our new book "The Best Diwali Ever"!

Another important day we have approaching is Remembrance Day, the children will be creating a big poppy to take to the war memorial, and we will pay our respects there.

In November we will be taking part in World Nursery Rhyme Week where we will be dressing up, sharing lots of nursery rhymes and theming crafts and activities around the rhymes.



Harvest Festival



Playing Outside



Making Pasta Necklaces



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CABIN PRESCHOOL

'Leaves are falling to the ground...' is one of our favourite songs. "Look Jayne, just like our song!" says one of our boys watching the leaves fall in the playground and demonstrating great knowledge of the world around them. Every time we see the leaves falling, this is now what we sing. Songs and rhymes are so important in the early years to develop language skills.

We walked to St Leonard's Church last Tuesday to celebrate the Harvest with our friends from Woodcote Preschool. It is so good to get all the children together, singing and bringing food to donate to a food bank in Reading. The children loved bringing their donations up to the altar. What a huge amount we collected! Thank you to all our generous families. A huge Thank you to Brian who led the service. We enjoyed the story of The Little Red Hen.

On the way to church we used the opportunity to look at our wonderful community spaces, listening to sounds and pointing out favourite areas. We have also been going on nature walks, collecting leaves which we used to make owls. We drew around leaves using the colours in the leaves to create patterns.

This term, our theme was Woodland Animals. We have made Hedgehog bread in brown week and outside is a collection of squirrels, bunnies, wood pigeons (which look a bit too life-like), foxes, loads of conkers, fir-cones, leaves, and ears of wheat – to show children where flour comes from.

We used the autumnal collection of natural items to make faces, positioning the items onto face shapes to depict their emotions. We have read The Scarecrows Wedding, The Little Red Hen, Superworm and Owl Babies; all firm favourites! I love to see the children focused at story time. Something I always say to parents is that one of the most important gifts you can give your child is the love of books. Reading to your child every day is one of the most amazing things you can do for your child. Since September, we have introduced a new book-borrowing service. The children love bringing in their new red book bags and choosing a different book each week. We try to lend out books of interest, or perhaps a social story for example – starting nursery, throwing away a dummy or a new baby joining the family.

Sadly, after 9 years, Lorna will be leaving us at the end of October. She will be moving to another preschool nearer to her home. She has been an amazing member of staff and helped so many children over the years. We are sorry to see her go! Good luck Lorna.

Places are available, please speak with Jayne for more details by calling 01491 680854 or email info@thecabinpreschool.co.uk. You can join our family at any time of the year, we accept all childcare vouchers, accept two-year funded children and 30 hours grant funding.



WOODCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As the weather turns chillier and Autumn arrives, the children at Woodcote have been as busy as ever! The highlight recently has been welcoming new families who will hopefully be joining us in September 2023! It is always a pleasure to show new families around our school. Our tours are conducted by our year 6 tour guides and they find it a privilege to show people around. If you would like to come for a tour please get in touch. We would love to show you all we do.

Last week we sent a team of year 5 children to the Oratory School for their partnership Maths Challenge. Woodcote's team of 4 came second place and we are, of course, really proud of them. They had great fun using their knowledge of decimals, percentages and estimation to solve all the problems they had to tackle throughout the morning. Well done to you all.

Last week a team of 22 children from KS2 took part in the first of the Woodcote Partnership cross country events this year, which was held in Stoke Row. It was a fabulous, dry afternoon and there were plenty of sunny faces enjoying the race over the recreation ground and through the woods. What a great start to the Cross Country season. Every one of our runners ran spectacularly well. We had some notable individual results with Martha in year 3, Charlotte and Matthew, both in year 6, all coming 1st in their categories and Asher in year 6 placed 3rd. The year 5 / 6 boys and girls' teams were both 2nd in their categories. The Woodcote Team finished 3rd overall. What great results! Well run everyone! The Olympic Value of "Determination" was awarded to Amy in year 6 and Rory in year 3.



Harvest Festival this year showed the generosity and kindness of the Woodcote Primary families. The donations this year were extremely generous and our year 6 children were very proud to deliver them across the village. Prior to packing the 41 boxes, the

children took their food to church for our Harvest Festival celebrations. We had two services, one for the younger children and a second for KS2. We learnt harvest songs, how harvest has been important through history, where our food comes from and how harvest is celebrated in different religions around the world. We were joined by parents and packed the church out for both services. It was such an enjoyable time.



We are looking forward to our initial Parent's Evenings next week followed by half term, which is already upon us! Rehearsals will then start for our Christmas performances! Lots to look forward to.

Take care and come and visit....

Mrs L. Hunt

A GREENER WOODCOTE

With ever more focus on what we can all do to mitigate against climate change and improve the environment, Woodcote Parish Council is looking into the feasibility of creating a community project to make the village greener. There is a wide variety of options for activities and when many people in a community do small things they can, together, make a big positive difference.

Woodcote Conservation Group exists to improve the diversity of flora and fauna within the village and increase the variety of wildlife habitats. As a group, we were pleased to hear that one of the options the Parish Council has been investigating is planting more trees around the village.

Parish Councillor Kevin Davies will be speaking at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th November, starting at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend to hear more about the Parish Council's ideas for Woodcote.

Come along and share your ideas. Examples of activities other villages are considering include creating community projects to supply renewable energy to power local buildings, helping householders to reduce their bills by using less energy and use sustainable forms of energy. We look forward to discussing how we can all get involved – through the Conservation Group and as individuals.

For more information about the activities of the Woodcote Conservation Group and how to become a member, see our website woodcotecg.org.uk/ or email: info@woodcotecg.org.uk

Woodcote Conservation Group

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WOODCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB

Both teams off to a good start

The last month has seen continued success for both our teams with the first team winning three games and the Development team winning two and drawing one. The first team have won two cup matches in different competitions, qualifying for the second round in both cases. They had a comfortable 6-1 away win over Taplow in the Hellenic Bluefin Cup with Ryan Corbett 2, Toby Nowell 2, Alec Curtis and Dan Wallace on the scoresheet. They began their defence of the Oxfordshire Intermediate Cup with a 3-0 home win over Watlington with Matt Ploszynski, Toby Nowell and Dan Wallace getting the goals. The one Hellenic league match played resulted in a 3-1 home win over Watlington. Toby Nowell, Ben Rusher and Dan Wallace were on target that day.

The Development team, playing in Division 2 of the North Berks League, had a successful first home match first home with a 3-2 win over East Hendred. Goals were scored by Jack Powell, Archie Clark and James Elderton. The following week they were held to a 0-0 draw at Sutton Courtenay and followed this with an impressive 3-0 win over Letcombe. Dan Wallace 2 and Charlie Wagstaff were the goal scorers. At this stage, the team was in first position in the League and were named the team-of-the-month in the North Berks League, a real feather-in-the-cap for new manager, Andy Taylor.

SP



Woodcote's Development Team



The Development Team playing East Hendred



The First Team against Watlington

The Landscape Group Oxford
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Wallingford Bonfire and Fireworks – Saturday 5th November

Checkendon Fireworks – Friday 11th November

JOIN US FOR SOME FESTIVE FUN AND SUPPORT MAGGIE'S OXFORD

Come along on *Friday 2nd December* between 11am and 8pm for a special lunch or a fun festive evening in the convivial setting of *the Coaching Barn at Little Stoke* to raise money for Maggie's Oxford. Catch up with friends and shop for Christmas gifts from an eclectic range of local craftspeople and makers, with lots of ideas to take home:

~ Gift ideas and demonstrations ~ masses to buy from jewellery to ceramics ~ live music and a festive atmosphere ~ delicious local food and drink.

Lunch Tickets £20, 11am-3.30pm – includes delicious lunch and glass of wine

Evening Tickets £10, 4pm-8pm – includes homemade mince pie and glass of mulled cider

To book tickets use this link www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maggies-kitchen-table-lunch-tickets-427879167107 or email claremhobbs@gmail.com.

Proceeds will go to Maggie's Oxford who offer amazing support for cancer patients and their families at the Churchill Hospital (www.maggies.org.uk)

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A young woman is desperate for fame and a way out. A young man is pining after the woman of his dreams. A successful writer longs for a sense of achievement. An actress wants to fight the changing of the times. In an isolated home in the countryside, dreams lie in tatters, hopes are dashed, and hearts broken. With nowhere left to turn, the only option is to turn on each other.

Following his critically acclaimed five-star production of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Jamie Lloyd brings Anya Reiss' adaptation of Anton Chekhov's classic play to stage. Filmed live in London's West End with a cast including Tom Rhys Harries (*White Lines*), Daniel Monks (*The Normal Heart*), Sophie Wu (*Fresh Meat*) and Indira Varma (*Game of Thrones*).

Tickets: £18 (adults), £15 (senior citizens), £10 (under 18s)

The Royal Ballet: A Diamond Celebration, live from Covent Garden

Wednesday, 16th November, 7:15pm

A dazzling showcase marking 60 years of the Friends of the Royal Opera House. The showcase will demonstrate the breadth and diversity of The Royal Ballet's repertory in classical, contemporary and heritage works. It will include world premieres of short ballets by choreographers Pam Tanowitz, Joseph Toonga and Valentino Zucchetti as well as The Royal Ballet's first performance of 'For Four' by Artistic Associate Christopher Wheeldon and a performance of George Balanchine's 'Diamonds'.

Tickets: £18 (adults), £15 (senior citizens), £10 (under 18s)

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Arthur Smith presents his **Edinburgh Fringe Show**

Saturday, 26th November, 7:45pm

This is Arthur Smith's love letter to the playground of the imagination that is the Edinburgh Fringe on its 75th birthday. Telling the story of this great city and its festivals and recalling some of the triumphs, disasters, love affairs and arrests of his many Augusts in Auld Reekie. Hamlet, Colditz, Leonard Cohen, Dante, dementia, Gary Lineker and the Leith Police all feature in this moving hour of revelations, songs, poems, and gags. Arthur is a regular presenter on BBC Radio 4 and 4 Extra, has appeared on Have I Got News for You, QI, Grumpy Old Men, The Unbelievable Truth and The One Show. (Age guidance 14+).

All Tickets £15

Coming Soon

The Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker, live from Covent Garden. Thursday, 8th December, 7:15pm

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READING RSPB

The Reading group's new season of indoor meetings started on Tuesday 13th September with a talk by Glenn Duggan on the hugely colourful Tanager family of birds richly illustrated by Glenn's excellent photographs. This family of birds contains more than 200 species spread throughout South and North America and thanks to DNA analysis is the subject of a major reclassification exercise. Most are found in fairly restricted areas which means that habitat loss is affecting some of these birds. Indeed, one of the rarest birds in the world, the beautiful Cherry throated Tanager is estimated to have dropped to a population of between 10 and 20 individuals. The talk was well attended and much appreciated.

On 15th November there will be a mid-week trip to Port Meadow and on Sunday 20th November, a minibus trip to the coastal RSPB reserve of Pagham Harbour.

All indoor meetings are held in Pangbourne Village Hall starting at 8pm. Visitors are very welcome. There is an entrance fee of £5 for non-members, juniors half price. New members are always welcome with annual membership set at a modest £15 (£10 for juniors).

For more information visit www.reading-rspb.org

GORING HEATH BRIDGE CLUB

Goring Heath Bridge Club started their new season on 6th September and are now looking for new members. We play Duplicate Bridge on Tuesday evenings at the Community Centre in Goring and are a small, friendly club and not affiliated to the EBU. Ideally, we are looking for 2 or 3 pairs to join but we may be able to match individual players if you don't have an established partner.

Our standard of play ranges from competent to intermediate so if you fall into this bracket (or above) you would be very welcome.

If you would like to give us a try, then please contact our treasurer, Linda, on lharris8676@gmail.com or our chairman, Tony on a.robinson278@btinternet.com or mobile no. 07836522640.

We would love to hear from you!

CHOLSEY REPAIR CAFÉ

The last Cholsey Repair Café of 2022 will be held at the Cholsey Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey, on Saturday 19th November, from 11am to 1.45pm.

All manner of broken household items can be considered, except large appliances. The café's sharpening service has been very popular and recent repairs have included clothing, clocks, hairdryers, lamps, vacuum cleaners, bicycles and much more. Volunteers ask only for a donation towards running costs, plus any spare parts required.

See www.cholseyrepaircafe.com for more information or email repaircafe@cholsey.com.

Autumn Scenes in Woodcote



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WALLINGFORD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

We are now back at Crowmarsh Pavilion for the season. Our inclusive club allows people of all ages and levels of experience to learn how to improve their photography through conversations with other members, presentations by visiting speakers, practical evenings and competitions. The club meets every Thursday at 7.30pm for an 8pm start (7.45 start on competition evenings!) and we'll have a few Zoom-only sessions during winter months.

In November we have our first competition- with a 'no set subject' contest, members submit their best work for feedback and a judge's rating. There are print and digital images categories at the session in the Pavilion and it makes for a fun and interesting evening. Then we head online (only) on 10th November for award-winning Tracey Lund's talk on wildlife photography from around the world. On 17th November we're online again for our much-anticipated talk from Jane Goodall on "The Beautiful Light". We end the month (on 24th) with our second competition which again is open, with no particular theme or topic.

SUE RYDER LIGHTS OF LOVE THAMES VALLEY

Sue Ryder is inviting people to remember and reflect upon special memories of loved ones at its Sue Ryder *Lights of Love* Thames Valley event this December.

The winter remembrance event, held at the English Martyrs Church, Reading, on the evening of Thursday 8th December, will see people come together alongside others in their community who are also living with loss to give thanks and collectively celebrate the lives of people who have died.

It will feature readings, songs and live music performances and guests are invited to make a dedication in memory of someone special, which will be displayed at the event.

Sue Ryder Lights of Love Thames Valley is free to attend and is open to anyone who wishes to commemorate a loved one, regardless of when they died or if they were a former patient of Sue Ryder.

Limited spaces are available. For more information or to register to attend visit sueryder.org/lightsthamesvalley or contact the Sue Ryder Thames Valley Fundraising Team via email thamesvalley.fundraising@sueryder.org or call 0118 9550 433.

December Daily Dash for Sue Ryder

Walk, jog, run or roll 5k every day this December and raise vital funds for Sue Ryder. Do it your own way. On your own or in a group. Fast or slow. Morning, noon or night. However you do the December Daily Dash, when you go the distance, you make the difference.

December can be a busy month. Take some time for yourself every day, whilst also helping Sue Ryder to continue to be there for people when it matters most.

It is free to take part, but it's your donations and fundraising that will make all the difference to patients and families needing Sue Ryder's specialist palliative, neurological and bereavement support.

So make December yours. Sign up now at decemberdailydash.com or email december.dailydash@sueryder.org.

HENLEY AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Sorry to tell you that Christmas will quickly be here and as the days get shorter and the nights longer, have you thought of starting a hobby? You can then join others that enjoy the hobby, meet with like-minded people.



Meetings in November

Wednesday 9th November – The Franking System of Great Britain' by Guest speaker Bob Garland.

Wednesday 23rd November - A display of 'Aspect of Gibraltar' by guest speaker Eric Holmes.

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Visitors and new members are welcome.

Further details can be obtained by phoning Brian on 01491 681739 or on our website: -

www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk

WHITCHURCH & GORING HEATH HISTORY SOCIETY

Oxford is known for many things: its architecture, its history, its alumni, and of course for the detective books and TV series: Inspector Morse. The first book, *Last Bus to Woodstock*, was published in 1975, but is probably the TV series of 1987 to 2000 starring John Thaw that most people have in mind when they hear the haunting title music. With the later Lewis and Endeavour series, the images have persisted, and our next speaker will be pinpointing the highlights. Alastair Lack, a former BBC journalist and President of the Oxford Alumni organisation, will give his talk on Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm at Goring Heath Parish Hall. He is sure to entertain and inform us.

We'd really like to involve more people in our activities. We have speakers of quality, and a good range of interests are covered both local and national. As an early Christmas present, we will waive our usual non-members' fee for this meeting, so come and join us for coffee and biscuits at 7pm, and sample our friendly meetings.

There is no meeting in December, but we re-convene on Thursday 19th January 2023 at Whitchurch Village Hall. Coffee and biscuits at 7pm, then a members' meeting where we talk of our local researches and investigate our archives.

WALLINGFORD & DISTRICT ART CLUB (WADAC)



Our visit to Stanley Spencer Gallery at Cookham included two of our Woodcote members on 12th October. The exhibition "Delight in Nature" was very enjoyable, especially having his thoughts behind each painting explained. It was also interesting to see his palette and selection of brushes, and the pram he used to wheel his equipment around the village.

The gallery provides a rare opportunity to see an artist's work in the village where he was born and spent much of his working life.

This month's Demonstration, on Tuesday 15th November 2022, is an online live demonstration entitled "An Active Street Scene" in watercolour by Brian Smith. Brian is a Sheffield-born artist and illustrator with an uncommon breadth of expertise in an unusual variety of fields. He is an inquisitive observer of all that goes on around him, he paints for the joy of it, describing in watercolour whatever takes his eye, rural and urban scenes, interiors, portraiture, people at work and at their leisure - all are ripe for record

Our demonstrations are held at 7.30pm online. To join, please 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 recommenced on the 1st November.

Tuesday social evening and non-tutored workshops at 7-9pm, drop in and have a chat with fellow artists at all levels. It's a great chance to get back to painting or starting out. All club members are willing to help new artists.

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

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



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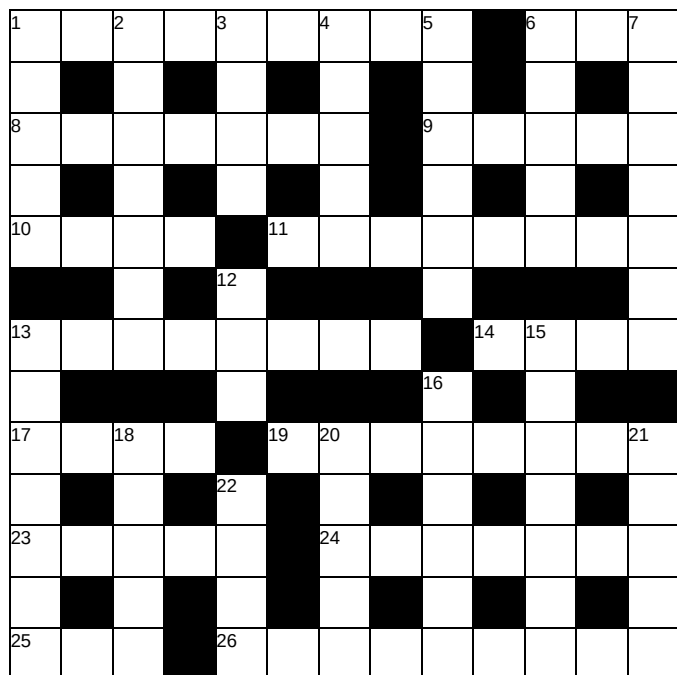
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NOVEMBER CROSSWORD



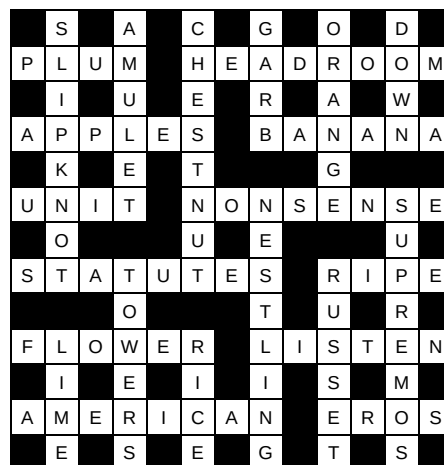
Across

- 1 Left out, ugly few ask about stuffed dummy (3,6)
 6 Forgo or not – it's confusion (3)
 8 No fibre woven into this blazer (7)
 9 Clown takes a drink (5)
 10 Want first couple's reorganised home? (4)
 11 Judges half-cut bosses trailing fools (7)
 13 Sound of mildew on heather (8)
 14 Enemies decentralised forces (4)
 17 Peak about one (4)
 19 Sends out to set a name back (8)
 23 Best put scabble piece back on last square (5)
 24 Drawback after Foreign Office initially revokes advance (7)
 25 Visit Bishop's patch (3)
 26 Guy's jewellery? (9)

Down

- 1 No bag around here (5)
 2 Bets jerk has notice set up (7)
 3 Help to keep a river dry (4)
 4 Strong points maintain direction (5)
 5 See about credit before tea, sounds hush hush! (6)
 6 Centre on a bit of bother about copper (5)
 7 Heartless gangster fools shoppers (7)
 12 Animal's a bit fickle when upset (3)
 13 Shoots up to shake aliens (7)
 15 Overtake quiet genius on middle route (7)
 16 A rich man or a king wear this (6)
 18 Playing organ around one makes a racket (5)
 20 Graduate has early, full, insurance against criminals (5)
 21 Agrees with taking fish on board (5)
 22 Seeds from fruit not right (4)

OCTOBER CROSSWORD SOLUTION



ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 10

1.	Bladen Oxon (St Martin's Churchyard)
2.	Peru
3.	Barcelona
4.	Venezuela - Angel Falls
5.	New York
6.	Mars
7.	Cambodia
8.	Kent
9.	Denmark (Copenhagen)
10.	City of London

FORTHCOMING DATES IN DECEMBER

Thur 1st	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
	*	Wallingford Photographic Club Zoom talk: 'My Photography'. 7.30pm
Sat 3rd	*	Saturday Crafts: Christmas Tree Decorations. Woodcote Library. 10.30am-11.30am
Mon 5th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Juniors (year 7's). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Tues 6th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
	*	BMMHS Zoom Talk: 'They Shoot Spies – the untold story of a remarkable female agent'. Email info@bmmhs.org . 7.30pm
Wed 7th	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club Zoom meeting: 'Route 66'. 8pm

SMALL ADS

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

DATES FOR THE DIARY — NOVEMBER

Tues 1st	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
	*	BMMHS Zoom Talk: '273 Squadron RAF'. Email info@bmmhs.org. 7.30pm
Wed 2nd	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club meeting: Digital Competition No.2. Whitchurch Village Hall. 8pm
Thur 3rd	*	Wallingford Photographic Club meeting: Competition NSS1. Crowmarsh Pavilion. 7.30pm
	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
Sat 5th	*	Saturday Crafts: Bonfire Night Fun! Woodcote Library. 10.30am-11.30am
	*	St. Leonard's Fair. Woodcote Village Hall. 2pm-4pm
Mon 7th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Juniors (year 7's). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Tues 8th	*	Board Games Club for adults. Woodcote Library. 3pm-4.30pm
	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Wed 9th	*	Henley & District Stamp Club meeting: 'The Franking System of Great Britain'. Bix Village Hall. 7.30pm
	*	BMMHS Talk: 'Who Were The Few?'. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm
	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club Zoom meeting: 'My Photographic Journey'. 8pm
Thur 10th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
	*	Woodcote Conservation Group AGM. Woodcote Community Centre. 7.30pm
	*	Wallingford Photographic Club Zoom talk: 'Wildlife Photography'. 7.30pm
Fri 11th	*	Film Night - Top Gun: Maverick. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm
Sat 12th	*	Gypsy Jazz - Mike Piggott's Hot Club Trio. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm
Mon 14th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Juniors (year 7's). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Tues 15th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
	*	Wallingford & District Art Club on-line demonstration: 'An Active Street Scene In Watercolour'. 7.30pm
Wed 16th	*	Woodcote WI meeting. Woodcote Village Hall. 2.30pm

	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club meeting: Practical Photography Meeting No. 2. Whitchurch Village Hall. 8pm
	*	Quiz Night in aid of The Royal British Legion. The Red Lion, Woodcote. 8pm
Thur 17th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
	*	Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society talk: 'The Oxford of Inspector Morse'. Goring Heath Parish Hall. 7.30pm
	*	Wallingford Photographic Club Zoom talk: 'The Beautiful Light'. 7.30pm
	*	WADS Presents: The W.I. Blues. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.45pm
Fri 18th	*	WADS Presents: The W.I. Blues. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.45pm
Sat 19th	*	Cholsey Repair Café. Cholsey Pavilion. 11am-1.45pm
	*	WADS Presents: The W.I. Blues. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.45pm
Mon 21st	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Juniors (year 7's). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Tues 22nd	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Wed 23rd	*	Henley & District Stamp Club meeting: 'Aspects of Gibraltar'. Bix Village Hall. 7.30pm
	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club Zoom meeting 8pm
Thur 24th	*	Rhymetime for pre-schoolers. Woodcote Library. 10.15am-10.45am
	*	Chance to Chat. Woodcote Community Centre Lion's Den. 2.30pm-4pm
	*	Wallingford Photographic Club meeting: Competition NSS2. Crowmarsh Pavilion. 7.30pm
Mon 28th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Juniors (year 7's). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Tues 29th	*	Woodcote Youth Club - Seniors (years 8, 9 & 10). Woodcote Village Hall. 7.15pm-8.45pm
Wed 30th	*	Children's Festival Film Night. Woodcote Village Hall. 4.30pm
	*	Whitchurch Hill Camera Club meeting: Digital Competition No. 3. Whitchurch Village Hall. 8pm

Continued on page 23

CLOSING THOUGHT

The smallest deed is better than the greatest intention.
John Burroughs
(American Naturalist, 1837-1921)