

July 2020

50p

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## Editorial



This month we have an article from Val Pollitt about the history of our local post offices and it brought back memories of being at Park House School with Jack Day's son, Phil, Jack being the Woolton Hill Post Office owner at the time. On leaving Park House in 1960 Phil and I joined the RAF as Aircraft Apprentices and attended the No.1 Radio School at RAF Locking near Weston-Super-Mare, a three-year apprenticeship. When we both graduated as RAF Junior Technicians in the summer of 1963 I remember that Jack Day drove down to Locking to witness our Passing Out Parade and after the celebrations he very kindly gave my father, who had also travelled down for the day, a lift back to our family home in Hampstead Norreys. Phil and I lost touch after that as we were given different postings but I never forgot the summer of 1962 when we were on summer holiday from Locking and we collected provisions from the Woolton Hill shop for a week's stay at the Day's holiday cottage in Padstow, where we made Treyarnon Bay and Constantine Bay our playground; a welcome break from the rigorous training at RAF Locking. All of this came flooding back to me when I saw the name J. DAY imprinted in the paintwork above the window of the old shop on Trade Street during the recent renovation work. Memories, memories!

JH

### <http://www.wooltonhill.com/Spectrum.html>

Spectrum is a monthly community magazine serving East Woodhay and Woolton Hill. It is run by a committee of volunteers and is a not for profit publication.

Reports on village activities and articles of local interest are welcomed for publication subject to the discretion of the editor. Copy should reach the editor by the seventh day of the month preceding publication and should be a maximum of 500 words. In the event of pressure for space, the editor reserves the right to reduce the length of the article while attempting to maintain the style of the writer and retaining as much content as possible.

The editorial committee accepts no responsibility for the views expressed by Spectrum contributors or for the quality of goods and services provided by advertisers in this magazine.

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#### **Editor for August & September:**

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Cover photo - Rajah Iris, Chris & Graham Vane's garden

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Dear Friends,

The Clergy House, Highclere

The COVID-19 pandemic has confronted humanity with a stark truth—we are vulnerable – we are mortal. Life is fragile – our society, our way of life, our world is fragile.

Thankfully, the pandemic is having some positive effects – for example – in the kindness shown in our communities; and in the new number of volunteers who have helped make local groups even more effective in looking after community needs.

The “Thank You” to all the people who faithfully work in the N.H.S., in Care Homes, and in all kinds of ‘social service’ occupations as diverse as delivery van drivers, prison officers, council employees, shop, and supermarket personnel is heartening.

The wonderful people who work in our N.H.S. and Care Homes – the majority of whom are women – are, rightly, being valued above big business CEOs, celebs from the world of entertainment and sport, and City of London bankers.

But what of the future – what happens when, perhaps, normality returns? The following ideas (numbered simply for convenience and in no order of importance) are my own reflections on ‘post-lockdown’. If readers have comments or their own ideas do please write to the Editor.

1. Will national leaders realize there is an even greater need for international cooperation in combating disease, and other major challenges such as climate change? Will we encourage our leaders to do so?
2. Will people who have worked from home be enabled to continue to do so and hence reduce travel pollution?
3. Will those who have a frenetic life, see a way forward – as a result of lockdown experiences—to develop a better balance in daily life?
4. Will we resist the return to previous levels of air travel and so help to reduce air pollution?
5. Will business and government build on 2 and 4 by cooperating to invest in a green revolution?
6. Will the friendliness, care, and kindness shown to one another in our communities during lockdown continue to be shown?
7. Will a search for a consensus develop about N.H.S. funding; and will Social Care be tackled by an acceptance of more funding – probably through higher taxes?
8. Will all of us look in the mirror—which the pandemic has held up before our eyes – and grasp this unique opportunity to seriously consider life-style changes that could make a tremendous difference to our future?

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# Woolton Hill Junior School

## Through my lockdown lens



Hello again readers, how has this unusual lockdown time been for you? Have you discovered anything new you enjoy doing? Any game you've enjoyed playing? I have, and today I'm going to tell you about that very thing... I used to think that photography was dull and boring until recently. Then I saw a Red Robin perched on the handle of a spade. Naturally I tried to get a picture of it but once I clicked

*Red Robin in my garden*



*Greater spotted woodpecker*



the button, I realised there was no hope of me taking a decent picture of the Robin with a mobile phone. Later that day I asked my dad whether I could borrow one of his cameras. He allowed me to use his older camera and by the time the day had ended I had already captured pictures of seven different species of birds. During the last few weeks of lockdown I

have seen Kingfishers, Jays, Woodpeckers, Nuthatches and much, much more. This experience made me realise how much nature there is in your garden if you just look (though I didn't see the Kingfishers and the Jays in my garden). Just watching

*Red Kite over Beacon Hill*



*Jay in my local woods*



*Yellow Hammer with its chick*



*Stonechat at Greenham Common*



all these magnificent creatures can make your day, so let nature take over and guide you to happiness.

If you are bored during the coming days, weeks or months, why not go outside and have a look for some birds or perhaps insects, flowers or anything

else you can find in your surroundings...it's all out there for you to admire.

I hope you enjoy my bird pictures as much as I've enjoyed taking them.

Happy snapping,  
Thomas Eastwood

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# Anna's Insane Bolt

On Bank Holiday Monday, Anna de Albuquerque raised more than £7,000 for charity.

Anna, who is Autistic, challenged herself to run from her home at The Old Plough in North End, around the grass triangle in the village and back again—a distance of about 400 yards. Having struggled to run more than 10 paces initially she trained every day for five weeks and through sheer determination slowly built up sufficient stamina to overcome her physical disabilities and complete the 400 yard circuit in the bright sunshine on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The event took on a life of its own. The fabulous 'socially distanced' support from the local community, and friends from the Winchester Fusion Choir (of which Anna is a member) was a tremendous boost for Anna and made for a very joyful occasion which hopefully relieved some of the 'lockdown gloom'.



The incredible generosity and support of so many people both locally and further afield meant that Anna amassed a significant sum in excess of £7,000. This was achieved through sponsorship [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/insane-bolt2020](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/insane-bolt2020),

the sale of cards she had designed, and with other private donations. The money she has raised is for a charity called Winchester Go LD ([Winchestergold.org.uk](http://Winchestergold.org.uk)) which supports her and many other adults with assorted learning disabilities. Based at the Discovery Centre in Winchester this charity is a source of tireless and vital support to many people in Winchester and the surrounding district. Their usual fund raising activities have been curtailed by the restrictions of the Corona Virus so Anna's inspirational efforts and the generosity of many people have made a huge difference to the wellbeing of the charity and its members.

Well done Anna.



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## Virus Diseases In Agriculture *by Mike Robinson*

The effect of Corona virus across the world is unprecedented in recent times. However at a meeting some years ago at the Institute for Animal Health at Compton, the then Director was very much of the opinion that the major threat to human and animal health in the future would be virus diseases many emanating from Africa. Also he thought that Avian strains would be most likely to cross the species barrier ie from birds. That, of course, was true of Sars and the current pandemic appears to have its origin in bats. The bird flu virus is carried by wild bird migrations and remains a constant threat to our domestic poultry populations especially with the trend to large flocks outdoors.

African Swine Virus has devastated pig populations in China and the Far East and is moving west maybe encouraged by increasing populations of wild boar. The devastating outbreak of Foot & Mouth disease here in 2001 appears to have originated from imported South African beef resulting in the loss of 6,000,000 animals in the UK.

In its simplest form control of the virus is by eliminating the source of infection. Unlike bacteria the virus does not have a long life away from the host. Vaccination is always a process of catching up, but does eventually provide some answers. Fortunately and with exceptional foresight high quality research centres were established in the UK both in the universities and industry and now lead the world in the advanced bio-technology of virus research.

### Virus Diseases in plants:

Yield losses in many plants can be quite substantial. In most cases a vector is required which is usually aphids of which there are many different types. Each tends to be specific to a close range of plants and is capable of feeding on the infected sap of one plant and spreading it by feeding on another. Although millions of aphids exist only a small percentage will carry the virus, but the damage is done. Mosquitoes, ticks and midges create the same transfer mechanism in animals and humans in addition to close physical contact which is arguably the most serious.

### Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus



This disease can be devastating in most cereal crops and can cause losses of up to 50% in yield and quality. It is spread by aphids mostly in the autumn as they migrate from grasses on to newly emerged cereal crops. Application of chemicals as seed dressings are effective, but have been withdrawn from use for environmental reasons.

This disease is indicative of the many problems within agriculture and is one of many affecting a wide range of plants. Bio-technology and genetics will be at the forefront of controls in the future.

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## CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED FEDERATION BETWEEN ST THOMAS' COE INFANT SCHOOL AND WOOLTON HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

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To Whom This May Concern,

At a joint governing body meeting held on 4th June 2020, the Governing Bodies of St Thomas' CoE Infant School and Woolton Hill Junior School approved the recommendation to consult parents, staff and the local community on a proposal to create a federation of the two schools.

The consultation will run between **5th June and 17th July**.

A copy of the Consultation Letter may be obtained by contacting us via one of the e-mail addresses below or by visiting the school websites. Comments in response are welcome and should be received no later than 12pm on 17th July 2020.

**1. By email**

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St Thomas' CoE Infant School  
Woolton Hill, RG20 9XF

The outcomes will then be reported to the two Governing Bodies on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020, and a decision will be made whether or not to federate.

With best wishes,

Steve Waite (Chair of Governors, St Thomas' CoE Infant School)  
Sarah Rolls (Chair of Governors, Woolton Hill Junior School)

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amazed to see Eric legging it across the road to the Post Office and Shop, emerging minutes later with a bag that obviously contained just two rolls. Five minutes later he emerged from the kitchen and proudly placed our rolls (now plated) on the bar. Sadly, both the Coopers Arms and the Post Office in Trade Street are long gone, together with two of the other pubs we visited that day. The Axe and Compasses at East End and The Plough at Ashmansworth. We still have a picture of Eric Gill (from the NWN) on our office wall.

Nick Roffe

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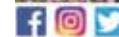
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# Woolton Hill Junior School



## Through my lockdown lens

During lockdown I have been taking part in numerous activities and hobbies.

I have found that out of all my online work my favourite projects were making a still life drawing in the style of Caravaggio and learning about parts of our body like the heart and our lungs.

I was able to get myself into a good routine with work and my leisure activities. One of the things that kept me going was being able to visit and look after my pony called Pepsi. Most days I would work out when I had free time and go up to the yard where she is stabled to groom, ride, and feed her.

Another thing I have been able to do is bake: some of the things I have baked are white choc-chip cookies, coffee and walnut cake and banana and milk choc-chip loaf. I have also made a fish pie for my mum and dad and have made an array of colourful smoothies. Whilst preparing and cooking the fish pie I was able to effectively work with my twin brother.

Having time off school and the other clubs has given me time to read and watch A LOT of books and movies some of the movies I recommend are Jumanji 1 and 2, Toy story 4 and Pitch perfect 1,2 and 3. Some of the books I recommended are a Good girls guide to murder, Good girl bad blood (which are part of a series together), Cog heart, Moon locket, Sky circus and Shadow sea (which are also part of a series).

As I am a year 6, I am now back at school and very happy to see my friends and teachers again. We all have to stay two meters apart and wash our hands regularly but even with all these changes I am very happy that I can spend these last few weeks at primary school before I go off to senior school.

I am also looking forward to getting my puppy Finnigan who is a lurcher and whippet cross.

From Erin C



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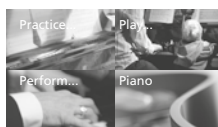
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# Showing Our Appreciation for the NHS



sign by Les Barber

# Hooray For All the Wonderful People of the NHS!



Mark Baker



Mirabelle & Tilly Puryer

# Venturing Out

They say I can drive  
But where shall I go?  
There're no cafés open  
So that's a real blow.

I've bags of green waste  
So could go for a trip.  
A wonderful outing  
To the local Tip!

I load up the car  
And I fill up the boot  
Plus bags on the back seat  
Piled high to the roof.

The queue's not too long  
With relief I can sigh.  
I get to the skip  
I'm too short; it's too high!!

Much jumping and shaking  
But still with firm grip  
The contents at last fall out  
Into the skip.

Home and exhausted  
With glass of cool wine.  
The grass needs a mowing  
But – some other time!!

28.5.2020 M.Harkness

# Garden Memories

This year will bring its memories  
Of rainy days and fair  
But at the summer's ending  
When the trees stand stripped and bare  
What shall I remember  
When winter comes anew?  
This perhaps, this little moment  
Standing here with you.  
Looking at the garden  
In the gauzy golden light  
Deep in smoky lavender  
And lilies ghostly white.

Stars like glints of heaven  
Showing thro' the quiet sky  
Roses dew wet on the wall  
And swallows swooping by.  
Silence like the silence  
Of a great cathedral hush  
Broken only by the singing  
Of an evening thrush.

Lovely, lovely memory  
I'll keep it in my mind  
And when all is dark and cold  
This treasure I shall find.  
Like a precious jewel  
That a miser hides away  
From prying eyes, to cherish  
And be thankful of someday.

Anon

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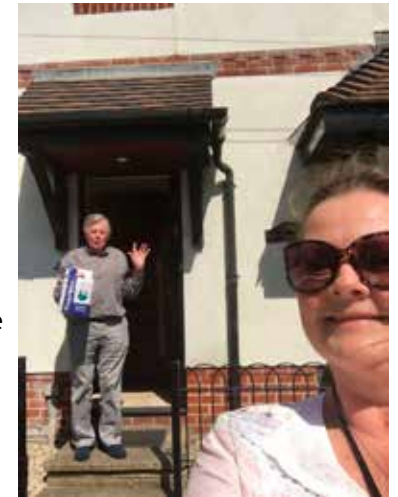
## East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



I don't think any of us knew what was in store for us over the past few months and with the onset of the Coronavirus our whole lives have been so radically changed. Indeed, 2020 almost seems to have generated a new language with the words 'pandemic', 'Coronavirus', 'Covid-19', 'PPE', 'SAGE', 'lockdown', 'self-isolating', 'vulnerable', 'distancing', 'zoom', 'contact tracing', 'face-masks', 'scrubs' and 'following the science' being in regular use and almost on nearly every news bulletin. Who now isn't an expert on the 'R-number'?

We would like to say a big 'thank you' in the way people have rallied round to help and support others during this time and also our local shops with the way they have supported the community. You will probably know many immediate cases and also have seen many examples highlighted in our weekly newsletters and on social media.

Supporting the two surgeries of Woolton Hill and Kintbury, our drivers have driven across the whole of East Woodhay, Highclere and Ashmansworth parishes as well as many other places including Hungerford, Stockcross, Wash Common, Old Burghclere, Bishop's Green and Inkpen. As of 5th June nearly 5,500 miles have been driven to deliver over 2400 prescriptions. Our team is also regularly collecting shopping for clients.



*Volunteer driver Melanie Akhurst delivering prescriptions*

Please do continue to call us if you need any help regarding delivery of prescriptions, shopping or indeed you have any other matters of concern during the current crisis:

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We are here to help you

Hopefully you are receiving our weekly newsletter; if not you can sign up via the link on the website [www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk](http://www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk) or if you are not 'online', please call us on our new number (01635 745600) and we will arrange for the newsletters to be delivered to you.

Mark Rand

(on behalf of East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support & East Woodhay Society)

# East Woodhay Post Offices



by Val Pollitt

*I was prompted to do some research into the history of the post offices in our villages by the recent changes to the Old Post Office in Woolton Hill. I think it makes an interesting story. Val*

By the end of the nineteenth century every village in Britain had its post office with a sub-postmaster or mistress. 1840 saw the introduction of the pre-paid penny postage stamp system. This in turn led to the creation of a network of post offices to deal with the collection and delivery of mail. With the growth of literacy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the sending of letters and postcards became commonplace. The post office also began to provide a savings bank, postal orders for sending money safely, and access to the electric telegraph in order to send urgent messages by telegram. This of course became particularly important during the two world wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the village post office was paying out old age pensions, family allowances, television and motor licences, dog licences, income tax and national insurance stamps.

Sub postmasters usually had other jobs as well as dealing with the mail, most commonly as shopkeepers, grocers or bakers. There was also a small army of postmen and women out in all weathers to make the daily or twice daily deliveries. In 1900 East Woodhay had three Post Offices, although there are others recorded as early as 1861, probably just in the front room of a cottage; one of them was near the bridge over the Ball Hill to Wash Water road.

The **Holmes** family of **North End** combined farming and running a carrier

business with providing the village with its post office. They lived at



*The Dower House North End, formerly North End Farm and Post Office*

North End Farm, now called The Dower House, and ran the post office there for over 60 years, from at least 1880. When Sam Holmes retired in the 1940s, the post office moved to the bakery and shop run by the **Priors** at the other end of the village. It is remembered by older residents as a typical little village shop and was run by three sisters; Molly, Daisy and Joan; the latter made deliveries on her bicycle. When the Prior sisters retired, the post office moved for a while to 1, Gravelly Close where it was run by **Cyril and Mrs Edwards**.

In **East End** the post office was located in a property which is now called Chestnut Cottage. **Henry John Adey** was the postmaster at East End from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century for many years. He was a shoe and bootmaker and postmaster. Henry and his daughter, Eveline, were still running the Post Office in 1939.

The main post office, however, was always in **Woolton Hill**. The first record of a post office there is from the 1861 census, and by 1866 the postmaster was

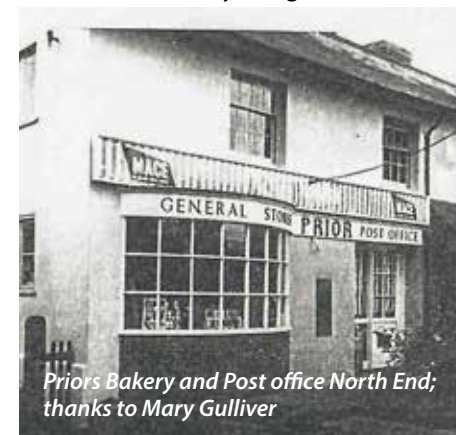
## John Dunn.

John Dunn and his wife continued to run the post office until their son, also called John, took over the business at some time between 1881 and 1891. The Duns were postmasters, bakers and grocers. They were clearly energetic



*Postcard of Woolton Hill Post Office, c.1900; thanks to Pamela King*

and successful as the Reading Mercury frequently gives their address for replies to advertisements or for the purchase of tickets; it also records that in 1872 John Dunn senior opened the first money order office and savings bank. Less than 6 months later, in April 1873, the electric telegraph was laid down to connect Woolton Hill to Newbury. This must have been highly valued by the big houses as well as the ordinary villagers.



*Priors Bakery and Post office North End; thanks to Mary Gulliver*

The post office at Woolton Hill continued to be central to the life of the village and the bakery side of the business expanded. **Ernest Hill**, who was baker and postmaster by 1911, had several delivery carts and a large staff; two of his bakers lodged with the family at the Post Office.

In 1933 **Harold Gurney** became the sub postmaster, baker, grocer and confectioner. He grew up at East Woodhay Station where his father was the station master. He was followed by **Jesse Scott**, also a local man whose sister taught at the school. Jesse started out as a carpenter but became a wonderful baker whose buns and doughnuts were greatly prized.

Jesse retired in 1953, and was followed by, among others, **Jack Day** and **John Toal**, who became postmaster in 1975.

After Jesse Scott's retirement the bakery side of the business seems to have ended but the bakery ovens survived in the outbuildings behind the post office.

We are very lucky to have kept our post office in East Woodhay. It is now in Broad Layings and is run by **Vaishali and Amit** (known to many as Su and Raj). They serve our community very well, never less so than during the recent Corona Virus crisis, when I think we have all valued their hard work and their patient and cheerful support.



*The old bread ovens at Woolton Hill Post Office; thanks to Pamela King*



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# Name That Body Part

1. Ah! Not in Bahrain, I think. (5) .....
2. Found in the body, or at a crossing. (5).....
3. Southern tree. (5) .....
4. Oliver’s got one, so have we all. (5).....
5. Holy place on either side. (6).....
6. In Rome fifty, for example. (3) .....
7. If the boy were different, we might raise this! (7) .....
8. Part of the art of clue solving? (5) .....
9. Reportedly about sea forces. (5).....
10. Healed some, but not the French. (4) .....
11. Go in to insure tumbler, looking back. (6) .....
12. A surprise, by this! (3).....
13. Army officer loses the Spanish. (5).....
14. Scarper without hesitation, changing hands. (5) .....
15. Month, not November, is around you, it’s said. (5) .....
16. Date or coconut, perhaps. (4) .....
17. Say it twice, cheers! (4) .....
18. Found in the classroom. (5).....
19. In favour of Texas, for example. (8) .....
20. In the passage, bowled endlessly and clumsily. (5).....
21. Temperature getting high. (5) .....
22. Cold start for fifty percent. (4) .....
23. Fellows, Lords, friends all get in front. (3) .....
24. Glad the German ball rolled around. (4,7) .....
25. Should go on deck when called. (4).....
26. South to the speed of sound. (7) .....
27. Southern family. (4) .....
28. Get the odds on supple Eleanor. (6).....
29. Pro ten, reportedly. (8) .....
30. Farmed, went hungry. (3).....
31. One of a pair with ten, keeping fourteen healthy! (8) .....
32. Bowl, post or print. (6) .....
33. Purchase posh mushrooms, so we hear. (6).....
34. French green Eastern support. (8).....
35. Jump into the water without fitness lesson. (4) .....
36. Jamaica takes on the West. (3).....
37. Vocal and aural affirmative vote. (3) .....

38. Soft King of Rock. (6) .....
39. In trial in East. (9) .....
40. Strike castrated bull, it’s said, with the head. (8) .....
41. New order for twenty, raised in cheers. (5).....
42. Second class individual. (4) .....
43. Etna erupts and oil splatters! (7) .....
44. Describe the interior. (3).....
45. A snake lies oddly, mind it doesn’t bite here! (5).....
46. Is it only seen in Irish eyes? (4) .....
47. Passageway, or that which is confused. (6).....
48. This answer is plucked from fresh air! (4).....
49. Spotted in a Brighton guesthouse. (6) .....
50. Found at the end! (8).....

## Name that food June quiz answers

1. Cheese 2. Prawns 3. Vinegar 4. Bacon 5. Muesli 6. Eggs 7. Shepherds Pie 8. Kipper 9. Pickled Onions 10. Chop Suey 11. Toast 12. Steak 13. Custard 14. Dumpling 15. Sago 16. Bangers and Mash 17. Porridge 18. Chicken Kiev 19. Baguette 20. Black Forest Gateau 21. Sausages 22. Couscous 23. Dates 24. Chicken 25. Pepper 26. Meatballs 27. Curry 28. Poached Eggs 29. Toad in the Hole 30. Lasagne 31. Ketchup 32. Semolina 33. Baked Beans 34. Mustard 35. Full English Breakfast 36. Self Raising Flour 37. Mashed Potatoes 38. Salt 39. Trifle 40. Spaghetti Bolognese 41. Noodles 42. Tuna 43. Cauliflower 44. Ice Cream 45. Olive Oil 46. Crackers 47. Pizza 48. Pork Pie 49. Chips 50. Quiche

*These quizzes are compiled by Sue Barnett to raise money for her local hospice. The ones appearing in Spectrum are from previous years and appear with her permission and a donation from me. If you would like to try your hand at her 2020 quiz, then go to [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chris-barnett3](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chris-barnett3) where you can make a donation, leave your email address and the quiz will be sent to you. There is a prize!*

MEG

## East Woodhay Women’s Institute



If you are a regular reader of Spectrum you will realize I am not a lady living locally. My mother was a member of the Shaw-cum –Donnington WI before the war and I have fond memories of tea in the Village Hall. My daughter is a member of East Woodhay WI and when numbers got low she asked me to join. I wondered if I would have anything to contribute but it seems I have with my needle and pen. I am really missing my new group of ladies. There is no chance I will meet them, even if I could go for a walk. Still, there are other ways to keep in touch. I would recommend any lady to come and visit us when we resume. Our programme is varied with something for everyone. Keep safe.

June Milsom.

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## From the Archives, July 1944

Revd Still's Fete report

Well, June 28<sup>th</sup> has come and gone. Any misgivings we may have entertained regarding our ability to achieve as good a result as that of Highclere last year, viz £238 18s.5d. gross takings, have gone with the wind and left us on top.

When the day dawned and we saw the clouded skies and the pouring rain our hearts sank within us. We felt, however, that under such circumstances nobody would expect us to accomplish any very startling result and we should have every excuse for failing to do so.

It was nearly 12 noon before we abandoned hope of any improvement in the weather conditions and we then set about and re-arranged our plans. The Jumble Sale and the Side Shows took place at the Vicarage but all the other Stalls were transferred to the Church School.

Although there was protection from the rain, which was more or less continuous, there was very little space available for the various stalls. One repeatedly heard the remark "you can't get at the stalls to buy anything." Be that as it may, we must judge by results.

Our gross takings at the moment amount to £250 10s.2d, and we have every reason to hope that we shall clear £250. It is not only most creditable but also most amazing.

I am bound to say that Woolton Hill merits the highest possible praise. You all rose to the occasion most nobly.

(Extract from St.Thomas' Church Magazine, precursor of Spectrum)

Note: £250 in 1944 would be worth over £11,000 today!

## Don't Miss St Thomas' Church Plant Sale

Whilst we may not be able to have our usual fete, doesn't mean that the plants have stopped growing. So on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> between 2pm & 4pm there will be a plant sale in the grounds of St Thomas' Church with some marmalade and jam as well (made pre-lockdown). Put the date in your diary - we look forward to seeing you.

Chris Vane, Jane Skyrme and Bertha Bates.



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## Children Say The Funniest Things!

Little Johnny's preschool class went on a field trip to the fire station. The fireman giving the presentation held up a smoke detector and asked the class, 'Does anyone know what this is?'

Little Johnny's hand shot up and the fireman called on him.

Little Johnny replied, 'That's how Mummy knows the supper is ready!'

Teacher: How old is your father?

Child: He is 6 years.

Teacher: What? How is this possible?

Child: He became a father only when I was born.

Teacher: Maria, go to the map and find America.

Maria: Here it is.

Teacher: Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

Class: Maria.

Teacher: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?

Glenn: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

Teacher: No, that's wrong.

Glenn: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

**CANCELLED\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*CANCELLED**

### EAST WOODHAY FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Sadly, due to the Covid19 pandemic the show will not be held this year.

The schedule of classes now online at:

[www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk](http://www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk) will be carried forward to 2021 (with the exception of Class 88) – plenty of time to be creative!

**Date for your diary Autumn Show and AGM – Thurs 24 Sept**

The schedule of classes is now online at:

[www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk](http://www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk)

Meanwhile carry on gardening, crafting and keeping well, and hopefully we will see you with your prizewinning exhibits in August.

# East End Community



With only a handful of houses and less than a 100 residents, East End has no shops, pubs or amenities. What it does have though is a fantastic community spirit and ethos, which has come together over the past few weeks since the Coronavirus outbreak.

Within a day of the lockdown we had set up a WhatsApp Group to help our neighbours, from the youngest, Rory (only 5 months old), to our more “experienced” residents – it would be churlish to mention age!

The aim of the Group was to provide a forum where we could all help each other, whatever the requirement – whether it be shopping, picking up prescriptions, sharing ideas (e.g. recipes), or a helpdesk for anyone with any problems. For those who don't have WhatsApp, we resort to the more traditional methods of knocking on doors (whilst standing back 2m of course!) and making calls.

It was not long before we'd collectively arranged for fruit, meat, fish and veg orders and deliveries to be coordinated between residents, with the odd loo roll being left on a doorstep for those truly in need in the short term.

Whenever people order and collect items from local stores they post on the Group so others can also get supplies if needed, whether that be pet food or refreshments from West Berkshire Brewery (a most popular service).

The younger members of the village have also played their part with painting displays taking pride of place outside the primary school, lifting our spirits every time we walk past.

There have been some interesting challenges requested and fulfilled, whether



that be a need for straws for mocktails (a teenagers birthday party, whilst isolated) to nail clippers for someone's dog! And of course it's a great way to distribute this newsletter, without the cost of printing and shoe leather. Our weekly gathering , (all

coordinated through our WhatsApp Group) at a suitable distance from one another, every Thursday at 8pm to clap, bang saucepans, ring bells and blow whistles in support of the NHS has also become a way of raising spirits and celebrating our wonderful community and beautiful village.

East End has always been a welcoming and inclusive Community where everyone is prepared to support and help each other – the virus has only made that spirit stronger as we continue to help each other in times of need.



Woolton Hill & District  
**Gardeners' Club**



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I wonder how many others have experience a similar series of events as we have had here at Charnwood Cottage. Great progress was being made, especially with the runner beans, and then a frost struck killing off all our runners which had been showing great promise. But Lady Luck was looking after us. Although the Yew Tree Garden Centre had been offering 'Click and Collect/Delivery', a short time later they were open to visitors. We raced down to the Centre and purchased a very healthy looking tray of replacement runners. So, from that major setback, the new ones are now growing very well and we have other success stories. The broad beans, tomatoes, gooseberry bushes, lettuce, carrots, rhubarb and potatoes are all in splendid form. Caterpillars have shredded quite a number of the gooseberry bushes' leaves but plenty remain and lots of berries are in the making. Our Hot Bin composter churns out rich nutrient content from our green and kitchen waste (sometimes up to 60°C). To put icing on the cake, our garden birds have given us fantastic song and lots of babies fluttering about. It has been great to be in the midst of it. Happy gardening to you all.

Nick

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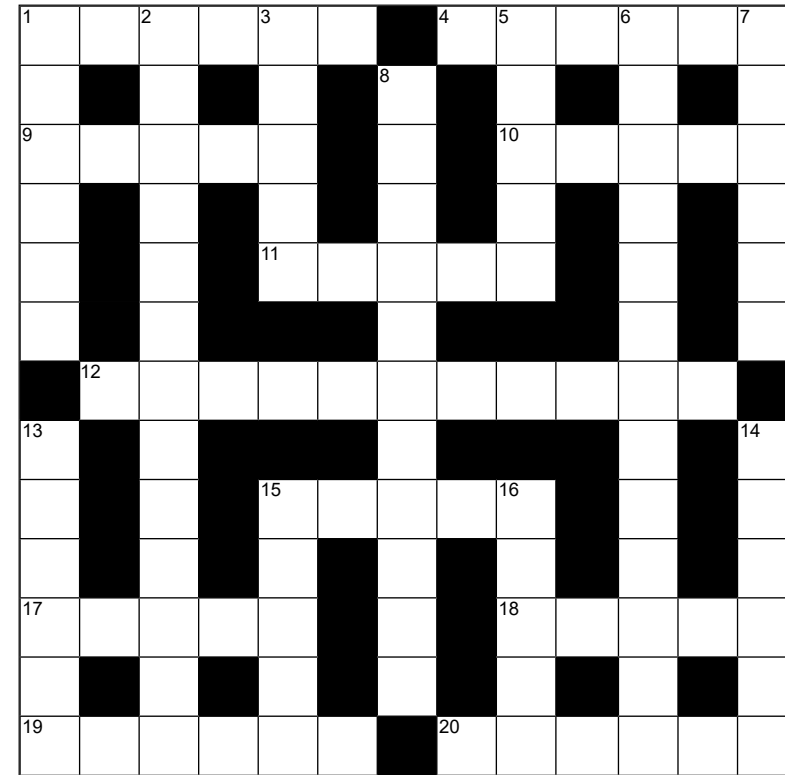
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**Across**

1. Man leaves chief news presenter to moor ship (6)
4. Filled with horror at the way silver hats turned out (6)
9. Nothing more for a confused lover (5)
10. He showed us, and her, to our seats (5)
11. How the house feels without my pet running around (5)
12. Members who watch CIA slip into parliament (11)
15. Make two businesses a bedtime drink (5)
17. Take note: hips will show if you have eaten these (5)
18. A nice piece of ham perhaps for head of state with nits (5)
19. Sounds like brother's daughters start with a joint (6)
20. Learn not so much on this perhaps (6)

**Down**

1. Can be out and about now, but unlikely to be able to holiday here for a while (6)
2. I am to move crime as a lasting memorial (13)
3. Ring area of toxic gas (5)
5. Guy hides small advertisement in case it is too showy (5)
6. When by the sea, chap in sand forgets all about his health problems (5,3,5)
7. So lethargic that we let it drop (6)
8. Cut social groups out of field patterns (4,7)
13. One cab turns out to be a shining light (6)
14. Rents a seat at the back of the boat (6)
15. Confused cats go east to find their place in society (5)
16. Walk down this first class, half sleepy, part of the church (5)

Answers crossword no 208  
**Across:** 1 Naples, 4 Orange, 9 Roses, 10 Magic, 11 Marry, 12 Incorporated, 15 Peter, 17 Tower, 18 Comic, 19 Darken, 20 Brandy  
**Down:** 1 Narnia, 2 Passion flower, 3 Epsom, 5 Rummy, 6 Nightwatchman, 7 Eccles, 8 Harry Potter, 13 Tested, 14 Outcry, 15 Purse, 16 Racer

# East Woodhay Parish Council



## EWPC News

Regretfully we have to announce that John Murdoch has decided to step down from his role as councillor after over 10 years in service. John has done a magnificent job both on the planning sub-committee and on road maintenance where he has battled mightily on our behalf to get the County to meet its obligations. On behalf of the chairman and all the councillors we give our thanks to John.

This does mean we are once again short of a councillor so this is an opportunity for anyone with time on their hands, which as I write this in mid May covers quite a lot of folk, to step forward and offer their services. Just call or email the Parish Clerk.

The council continues to hold virtual meetings albeit with the occasional technical hitch so business goes on pretty much as usual.

One point raised at a recent meeting was that our

footpath network needs to be used not only as a way of keeping it in good condition but to ensure that the paths stay open. We are thinking of a "walk the paths" event where a number small groups could walk all the paths and, significantly, record this fact by advising the Parish Clerk. This is just an idea without any details as yet but could quickly take shape so please keep an eye out for notices on the Parish website and Facebook page.



The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has moved another step closer to finality. EWPC, as the legal qualifying body for the document, approved the draft NP at the May PC meeting and this was formally minuted. This is legally known as the pre-submission stage. This enables the team to plan for the next stage which is consultation with all parishioners. We are still unsure of the precise details of how we do this under present restrictions but as soon as a plan is ready we will write to all consultees and announce it on the website and Facebook.

Since we have been blessed with a long dry hot spell of weather (at least up to the time of writing this) the fields and woods are tinder dry. We ask that bonfires should not be lit under these conditions as hot ashes can easily rise only to descend on perhaps a crop field or wooded area which then burns uncontrollably.

The recent wildfires near Wareham bear testament to what can happen. While I cannot predict what the weather will be doing by the time this copy is printed I can show a picture I took of the Parish Field on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. It was looking beautiful on the day, enough to lift the spirits. We do wish to remind you however to stick to the path through the middle and keep dogs on leads.

Phil



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# Directory of Local Organizations

## 24hr Emergency Numbers

Thames Water . . . . .0845 9200 888  
Southern Water (water supply) . . . . . 01273 606766  
Southern Electric . . . . . 105 or 08000727282

**Age Concern Hampshire Village Agent:** Sarah . . . . . 07806 659449

**Arbor Flora Group.** . . . . .Secretary: Ros Oles. . . . . 01256 896014

**Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council** Basingstoke . . . . . 844844  
member: Clive Sanders ([cldr.clive.sanders@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.clive.sanders@basingstoke.gov.uk)) . . . . . .254839

## Churches

East Woodhay, St Martin's . . . . .[www.stmartins.church](http://www.stmartins.church)  
Churchwardens . . . . . Richard Twallin . . . . . 253354  
Andrew Colville . . . . . 254017  
Woolton Hill, St Thomas' [www.wooltonhill.com/community/church/church.html](http://www.wooltonhill.com/community/church/church.html)  
Churchwardens . . . . . Chris Vane . . . . . .253707  
Bridget Wheeler . . . . . 250729

## Defibrillators

There are 3 public access defibrillators in the Parish; WH Church Hall, EW Village Hall, and the Rampant Cat public house.

**Doctors' Surgery Woolton Hill.** . . . . . 253324

Patient Participation: . . . . . Rosemary Cahill . . . . . 253306

**Ducklings** Fiona Morgan. . . . . 42080

## East Woodhay & Highclere Neighbourcare Volunteer Driving

Enquiries/Volunteers-[www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk](http://www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk).....Keith Nunn.. . . . 253888

**To collect your prescription or help collecting shopping call . 01635 745600**

**East Woodhay Charities.** . . . . .Secretary: Susan Wren . . . . . 254875

**East Woodhay Cricket Club.** . . . . .Contact Adrian Batchelor. 07810 647618

**East Woodhay Flower & Produce Show** . . . . .254114  
[www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk](http://www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk)

**East Woodhay Football Club.** . . . . .Chairman: Alan Jones . . . . . 254024

**East Woodhay Local History Society** .Sec: Christine Dalton . . . 07880 628 114

**East Woodhay Parish Council Members:** . . . . .[www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk)

Susan Cooper, 76 Harwood Rise, WH RG20 9XZ. . . . .254149  
Paul Hurst, (Vice Chairman) 31 Greenacres, Woolton Hill RG20 9TA . . . . .254363  
Phil Jarvis, Silvam, Mount Road, RG20 9QZ . . . . . 254422  
Barry Lambert, Hollebeke House, Gore End Road, Ball Hill RG20 0PD . . . 254603  
James Mitchell (Chairman) Southlawn, Church Road, WH RG20 9XQ . . . .254747  
John Morris, Corner Lea, Woolton Hill Road, RG20 9UT . . . . . 250965

# Directory of Local Organizations

## East Woodhay Parish Council *Members continued:*

Mark Rand, Lostock, Church Lane, Woolton Hill, RG20 9XG. . . . . .250898  
Karen Titcomb . . . . . 07974 011 065  
Andrew Watson . . . . . 01635 254227

## East Woodhay Parish Clerk

Amy White, Guilton Ash, Tile Barn, RG209UX. . . . . 07480 042395

**East Woodhay Village Hall** . . . . .Carol Stanley. . . . . 01635 35859  
[eastwoodvillhall@gmail.com](mailto:eastwoodvillhall@gmail.com)

**East Woodhay Short Mat Bowls Club** .Contact: Cathy Neller . . . . . 255589

**East Woodhay Silver Band** . . . . .Contact: Rosemary Gittins 07917 522180

**East Woodhay Society.** . . . . .Chairman, Mark Rand . . . . . 250898  
[eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com](mailto:eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com) . . . [www.wooltonhill/ews](http://www.wooltonhill/ews)

**East Woodhay Twinning Association** . Helen Allen, Secretary . . 01635 250776

**East Woodhay W.I.** . . . . .Secretary: Jean Ransom. . . . . 254070

**Hampshire County Council.** . . . . .Member: Tom Thacker . . 01962 771863

## Guiding-Woolton Hill

Woolton Hill Rainbows . . . . . Victoria Brackstone . . . . 07779 638622  
Woolton Hill Brownies & Guides. . . . contact: Beckie Holmes . . 07899 682628  
[2whbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:2whbrownies@gmail.com)

**Highclere Film Club.** . . . . .Secretary: Chris Martin . . . . . 253461

**Highclere Evergreens** . . . . .Leader: Mrs. V. Burge . . . . . 864584

**Litter warden** . . . . . [litterwarden@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:litterwarden@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk)

**MP** . . . . .Kit Malthouse. . . . . 01264 401401  
[kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk) . . . . 2 Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

**National Women's Register** . . . . .Contact: Vacant

## Neighbourhood Watch

Woolton Hill . . . . . John Bentham . . . . . 255582  
North End. . . . . Jack Castle . . . . . .253537

**Newbury Chamber Choir** . . . . .[info@newburychamberchoir.co.uk](mailto:info@newburychamberchoir.co.uk)

**Nwby. Wkly. News WH Correspondent** .Nicole Bentham. . . . . 255582

**Police** . . . Hampshire Constabulary . . . . . 101  
Position to be filled

**The Samaritans.** . . . . . 42452

## Schools

The Clere . . . . . 278372  
Community Office. . . . .278129  
St Martin's East Woodhay CE Primary. . [www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk) . . . .597796  
St Thomas', Woolton Hill, Infants . . . . [www.stthomasinfant.co.uk](http://www.stthomasinfant.co.uk) . . . . 253431  
Woolton Hill Juniors . . . . .[www.wooltonhilljunior.co.uk](http://www.wooltonhilljunior.co.uk) . . 253364

# Directory of Local Organizations

## Spectrum <http://www.wooltonhill.com/Spectrum.html>

Chairman . . . . . Bob King . . . . . 253378  
 Treasurer . . . . . Gill Burrows . . . . . 254301  
 Distribution . . . . . Chris Vane . . . . . 253707  
 Advertising . . . . . Michael Robinson. . . . . 253004  
 Editors: Abbie Dando [SpectrumEditorAbbie@gmail.com](mailto:SpectrumEditorAbbie@gmail.com). . . . . 07477 987943  
 Mary Gulliver . . . . . [mary@TheGullivers.co.uk](mailto:mary@TheGullivers.co.uk). . . . . 254567  
 Kathy Scott (6pm-9pm) . . . . . [spectrumwh@outlook.com](mailto:spectrumwh@outlook.com) . . . . . 254756  
 Jim Hannington . . . . . [seamusman3@gmail.com](mailto:seamusman3@gmail.com) . 07895637611

**St Martin's Guild** . . . . .Secretary: Sarah Leventhorpe . . 255293  
[info@eastwoodhayfete.org.uk](mailto:info@eastwoodhayfete.org.uk) . . . . . [www.eastwoodhayfete.org.uk](http://www.eastwoodhayfete.org.uk)

**St Thomas' Handbell Ringers** . . . . .Nicole Bentham. . . . . 255582

## Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club

Contact . . . . . Nick Harcourt . . . . . 253546

**Woolton Hill Argyle Football Club.** Jon Dennis . . [money.whafc@gmail.com](mailto:money.whafc@gmail.com)

## Woolton Hill Church Hall

Nick Harcourt, Charnwood Cottage, Broadlayings . . . . . 253546  
[hallbookings@wooltonhill.com](mailto:hallbookings@wooltonhill.com) . . . . . 07971 064087

**Woolton Hill Pre-School.** . . . . . Nicola Logan . . . . . 254721

## Woolton Hill Sports Club

(tennis, table tennis) . . . . . Alison Whitehorn . . . . . 254391

**Woolton Hill Village Market** . . . . .Claire and Sally

[www.whvm.co](http://www.whvm.co) . . . . . [whvmarket@gmail.com](mailto:whvmarket@gmail.com)

**Woolton Hill Website.** . . . . . Contact:Mark Rand. . . . . 250898

[www.WooltonHill.com](http://www.WooltonHill.com) . . . . . [eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com](mailto:eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com)

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