

October 2020

50p

Spectrum



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Editorial

Hello Everyone!

I can't imagine what sort of year you are having, so I hope we can keep looking forward and deal with the new and unexpected challenges as they arrive.

It is very strange to put a Spectrum together without a Diary page. I gather that many meetings are taking place by Zoom and that you are managing to keep the wheels turning. I hope it won't be too long before the page returns to its rightful place and we can all resume meeting together and enjoy a cosy chinwag once again!

Never mind, perhaps the pages of Spectrum will make you smile a little—and if you are intrigued with the phone box front cover, look a little further for more information about that on page 3

SO, get your cup of tea – or glass of wine – settle down and prepare for some local news and a pleasant read.

Kathy



<https://www.wooltonhill.com/spectrum>

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 November and December

Kathy Scott
'Bowood' Gore End Road,
Ball Hill,
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Cover photo - former telephone box in Ball Hill

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The answer to the riddle on the front cover is of course:

'When the phone box is a free library'!

I first noticed this when going for a walk one day and my eyes nearly popped out of my head! I just had to dive in and inspect the goods – and I didn't leave empty handed I assure you! Since then I have been back half a dozen times, but always make sure to take the book(s) back and have even added one or two more.

The question remains though – Who is the wonderful person to have the idea and to start this off with the first consignment of books? I hope we can find out and give them the recognition they deserve. Do come forward whoever you are, we would love to know!

It does appear that people understand how it works and the books seem to keep a steady stream of new titles that

keep the wheels turning. If you have never visited this phone box in Ball Hill and fancy seeing what is on offer, do pop over – and of course bring a few books to put in there with you.

It has made me wonder if you would like to share a brief report of a book that you have particularly liked recently – something very short, maybe 60 words or thereabouts. We could then have Spectrum's very own BOOK CLUB PAGE.

If you like the idea just let me have your brief report by 7th October and it can be in our November edition.

For November and December, send to spectrumwh@outlook.com

Do take part; I look forward to hearing from you!

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National Women's Register



Our first meeting was held in the Church Hall and started with a thank you and bon voyage to Jean Brown for her commitment to the NWR group in her role as Local Organiser over the last three years. Jean is leaving the village to move near her daughter and family. She wished our NWR group all the best for the future.

The main subject for the evening was a book review which has become our staple first meeting topic. Our book of choice, from the NWR Big Read 2020, was Palm Beach Finland, by Antti Tuomainen which fitted neatly with the NWR 2020 theme country of Finland.

A straw poll identified that the majority of the group had both read and enjoyed the book. We then considered three questions.

Firstly; Did we like the book and why? Most people liked it for the comedy situations, ease of reading, writing style and characters who developed throughout the story. On the other hand some thought that the translation didn't quite flow and found it hard to track the narrative. As an audio book it came across well and was compared to an Ealing Comedy. Secondly; Who was your favourite character, who did you not really like? On balance the group liked all the characters, apart from two ladies who appeared who didn't add anything to the story. Characters were generally liked for their own individual traits, Robin and Chico being likened to the Chuckle Brothers!

Lastly; Is there a particular episode in the book that stands out for you? The scene where Chico and Robin buried Leivo in the sand was mentioned, but overall, the book was enjoyed as a whole. Beyond this, the group thought that the book conveyed a strong sense of colour, with easily visualised scenes that sometimes made the reader laugh out loud.

After this we talked about other good reads and here are some good recommendations:

The Other Wife by *Michael Robotham*.

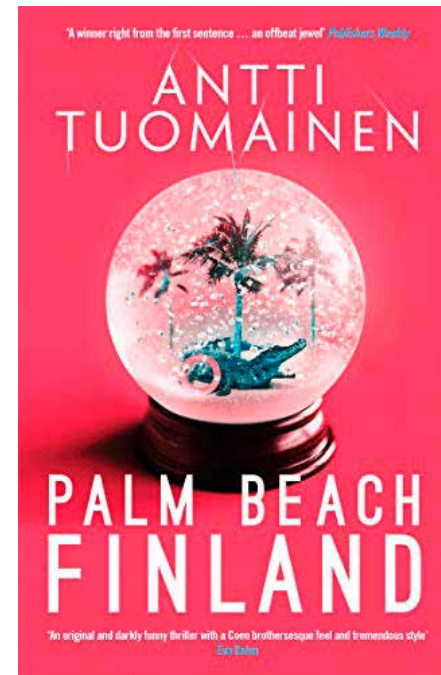
The Beekeeper Of Aleppo by *Christy Lefteri*.

The Woman In The Window by *AJ Finn*

Cartes Postales From Greece by *Victoria Hislop*.

We are looking forward to meeting in the hall again in October and will also continue to meet using Zoom.

If you'd like to know more about our meetings, please contact Val Burfield on 255168.



East Woodhay Village Hall

After nearly 3 years of planning, raising finance and arranging for work to be done, we are virtually complete, with only a few small jobs remaining. Within our budget of just over £78,000 we have delivered all the planned improvements that were thought to be necessary.

I intend to describe the details of the improvements shortly when all is complete, but for the moment Spectrum readers might appreciate a few photographs showing just two of the main changes.

The first photo is a reminder of the original hall originally built in 1939. The second shows the new layout, with high level LED lighting, and the stage replaced with storage rooms. The third photo shows the chair and table storage on wheeled trolleys, (no more lifting from underneath the stage) The fourth shows the new hard standing car park area, replacing puddles and soft ground.

As of this week, from 2nd September, the Hall is open once again operating strictly to Government guidelines and law.

Peter Stanley.

Chair, East Woodhay Village Hall Management Committee



From the Archives

At Harvest time when Cider is scarce, try the following substitute: gather the windfall appeals; cut them into small sections without removing the peel or core; cut out any defective portions; put the sliced apples into a large jug; pour boiling water into the jug; add saccharine to taste—about six tablets to a quart jug; let the mixture soak all night; strain the liquid off in the morning. If you are not agreeably surprised with the result, you are difficult to please.

P.S. Some apples offer better results than others.

October 1943

Local crops

Five inches of rain in August were followed by another 3 1/2 inches in the first nine days of September. Even some standing corn has grown out and the loss of wheat in stock is at a conservative estimate not less than 30%. There is likely to be a serious shortage of seed. The apple crop is bulky enough, but the fruit is inclined to be dirty and has clearly suffered from lack of sun. Those who have made a start in getting potatoes up report a heavy crop and so far not much sign of disease.

October 1946



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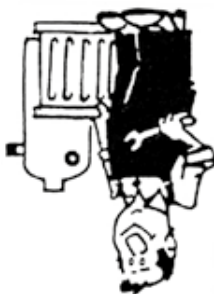


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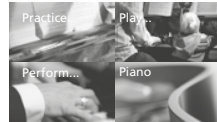
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Stoically I suffer thorns

My fingers purple stained.

Undeterred, there's so much fruit

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I delve into the bushes

Though my hands are scratched and sore.

Large delicious bunches beckon me.

I'm tempted to pick more.

Delighted with my bounty

But with thorns in sock and shoe

I hobble home—collapse in heap

With glass of last year's brew.

30.08.2002 Moyra Harkness

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St Martin's Guild - Autumn Sale - 10 October 2020

Sadly, the Autumn Fete that St Martin's Guild was planning to hold on 10 October, at East Woodhay Village Hall, has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

However, we are going ahead with a smaller **Autumn Sale** which will include a Cake Sale, our usual excellent Raffle and a Sale of beautiful items made during the summer by the EW Artisans. This event will take place *outside* St Martin's Church in East Woodhay from 2-4pm on Saturday, 10 October. This event will raise money for the Church as well as local groups and projects in the Parish.

Please walk, cycle or drive over to support St Martin's Guild. We would love to see you.

The event will be following Covid-19 Government regulations which hopefully won't change before our event! But look out for Sale Signage and check the website www.eastwoodhayfete.org.uk in early October.

If anyone would like to be involved, please contact Sarah Leventhorpe on 01635 255293.

St Martin's Guild – Plants Sale Success

Over the summer Sarah Porter has been selling plants outside her house in Gore End for St Martin's Guild. These sales have raised over £2,000 for St Martin's Guild. The Committee would like to thank Sarah for all her hard work as well as those who helped provide plants for her stall, especially Joanna and Kevin, and those who came to buy plants.

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On the Bike Where We Live

Editor's intro

I was pleased to receive from Sandie Ball a lovely description of an early morning bike ride around our parish. As a strong WI member one of the reasons that Sandie makes this journey is to deliver by hand WI news and internal dialogue items to members not on email.

As with many other groups in the parish who would normally have all their meeting dates listed in this magazine for the month, the WI has not meant since March, and use electronic methods to keep in touch and also, the personal touch as previously mentioned.

If you are part of a group in similar situation do let editors know if there is any news/information that Spectrum can help to pass along for you.

The circular ride is from East End taking in the hamlets of North End, Gore End and Heath End. The first part ends in North End and the second continues from North End.

The route passes two lovely gardens where the WI have held their Coffee Mornings October Spectrum) and East Woodhay Village Hall (November Spectrum) where their regular meetings are held.

Part One:

Temperatures are set to climb today so an early rise is on the cards. It is not really the crack of dawn but early enough. Brakes and tyres checked and all okay. I mount and pedal through the hamlet, round the bends and past the orchard with its ripening fruit. I walk up the steepest part of the hill then ride again. Over the gate the horses are grazing in one field and further on the alpacas look aloof as I ride by. They are used to walkers and cyclists, this is a popular ride. Past the church and the sign on the gate warning of free range chickens where sheep often graze.

Two cyclists pass from the opposite direction. "Morning," we all say and carry on pushing the pedals round. Another steep hill and I dismount to walk to the top. I do not mind as it allows me to have a closer inspection of the banks and hedges. Not so many wild flowers now but the blackberries are ripe and I will return and pick some for the freezer and delicious delights for darker days.

At the top three lanes meet and there is the beech tree planted a few years ago. No one has trimmed the branches and the signpost is now obscure. I look closer and it tells me I have travelled one and half miles so if I return it will be three but I choose to continue along the familiar route. A horse and rider are in the distance so I slow down. "Morning," we say as the horse pricks his ears to the human voice. His ears are masked with yellow hoods to keep the flies away. Nearby is a favourite stopping place with a stile to rest and a view to admire. I pass the cottage where a cartoonist used to live in seclusion and the opposite banks are awash with snowdrops at the beginning of the year.

Further on I look up to see a squirrel running along the branches of a large beech tree. Round the bend on the bank is a road closure notice but not for me I hope as I pedal on. A large lorry comes my way but the driver has seen me and waits. I move to a safe spot and thank him as he winds his way past.

Further ahead I see a fluorescent moving form and guess it is a workman associated

with the closure notice. Yes, two more lorries are ahead but they wave me past and all is well. The oldest cottage in the Parish has a newly tarmacked road next to its entrance in such contrast to its earlier days. Past the wood and more cottages and houses on the left some with past history of when they were a bakery, a pub or a farm house. All private dwellings now but still with their scenic views of fields, woods, horses, sheep and lambs now almost fully grown.

Sandie B

(To be continued)



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East Woodhay Charities

In 1969 a Charity Commission Scheme brought together the charities of Elizabeth Goddard (1732), The Poor's Allotment (1819) and The Public Watering Place (1908). These became the East Woodhay Charities: Relief in Sickness and Relief in Need, to be administered alongside the Wakefield Charity (1753). In 1994 permission was granted to wind up the Wakefield Charity which had become difficult to administer due to its small assets.

The Scheme provides for a board of five Trustees, served by a clerk, meeting twice per year to administer the charities. The Trustees include: one Ex-officio Trustee (the Rector of the ecclesiastical parish of St Martin, East Woodhay); two Nominative Trustees (appointed by the civil Parish Council of East Woodhay serving for four year terms); and two Co-optative Trustees (local people co-opted for terms of five years). The object of the Charities is to offer relief in cases of sickness or need 'persons resident in the area of benefit' (ie. the civil Parish of East Woodhay) from income from investments and the rental of charities' land (formerly the Poor's Allotments) in Hatt Common. Any resident in the civil parish may apply in time of need or sickness to the Trustees for support. The Trustees advertise this through Spectrum, notices at the Post Office and Surgery, Parish Council website and by word of mouth.

During a succession of short-term tenancies, the condition of the land at Hatt Common has deteriorated and management of it had become a drain on Charities' income reducing the amount available for distribution. The Trustees explored other tenancy options before deciding in 2019 to sell the land: it being clear that investing the sale proceeds would yield a significant positive return for the Charities' objectives going forward. The Charity Commission Scheme permits the Trustees to manage the Charities' assets accordingly.

By long tradition the Trustees have reported on their activities to the Annual Meeting of Parishioners arranged by the civil Parish Council. The Trustees have thus reported over several years the challenges of managing and the condition of the land followed by the intention and decision to sell. The sale of the land is now a work in progress. In accordance with the Charities' Scheme the Trustees are taking advice as to how best to invest net proceeds for income.

East Woodhay Charities' Trustees, October 2020.

East Woodhay Parish Council



Clarification.

The Parish Council wish to clarify that the Charities Field referred to in the letter from Peter Mason in the September issue is not the Parish Field in the heart of our village but is a field between Ball Hill and the Yew Tree Garden centre owned by the Parish Charities and has no connection with the Parish Council. The Parish Field in most definitely not for sale.

October 2020
The Rectory, Woolton Hill

Dear Friends,

Usually in October in our churches we are celebrating Harvest Festival with sheaves of wheat and sunflowers, offerings of home grown produce, collecting groceries for charitable purposes and reminding ourselves of our dependence on the turning of the seasons and the gifts of creation. It continues to be the case that even our festival services must be somewhat quieter affairs—without joyfully raised voices singing in thanksgiving: so ‘we plough the fields and scatter’ and ‘come ye thankful people come’ must this year be food for our inner personal reflection and meditation.

However, one of the blessings of this year is surely that, despite restrictions imposed on our human activity, the natural world has carried on regardless. The seasons have turned, and our fields and gardens have produced their blossoms, fruit and grains. So we can indeed still be thankful for the harvest: we can be inspired afresh by the message of hope offered through the annual expression of the cycle of all life; and we can still make a response through donating to local foodbanks and charities. Such generosity in these challenging times is needed more than ever.

As it seems new ways of living in relation to one another are here to stay for a while then let us do our best to also hear afresh the ongoing challenge to care for creation. Environmental concerns have perhaps been put on the backburner in the face of the pandemic. Plastic and disposable items have become prevalent again and it is such a sadness to see some of these in roadside litter. As we become more used to new ways of living may we also renew our resolve to return to using natural, sustainable and reusable fabrics and items.

Psalm 65 verse 11 begins ‘You crown the year with your bounty’ and is the inspiration for the prayer we use at Harvest Thanksgiving every year:

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

With every blessing to you all,
Canon Christine

From the Church Registers: August 2020		
Wedding: may God bless their lives together		
29 th August	James Twallin & Sarah Mason	East Woodhay
Funeral: may they rest in peace		
10 th August	Richard Swithun Skilbeck	Ashmansworth / Highclere
17 th August	Frederick (Fred) John Anstie	Highclere
25 th August	Jenny Austin	Woolton Hill

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Church Services OCTOBER into November 2020

A note about worship: we are continuing to offer a mix of online and ‘in church’ services during October. If you would like details about the **online services** please ask to join the Rector’s regular e-mail update for details by sending your e-mail to coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com. Please note that worship ‘in church’ continues to be a bit different as we observe current regulations, wearing a face covering in church is mandatory. Despite all these things most importantly our prayer continues... and everyone is welcome... please join us!

SUN 4th <i>Harvest</i>	Harvest Family Service Harvest Benefice Communion	<i>online ‘zoom’</i> Highclere	9.30am 11.00am
SUN 11th <i>Trinity 18</i>	Benefice Communion Morning Worship Harvest Evensong	Woolton Hill <i>online ‘zoom’</i> Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 18th <i>Luke the Evangelist</i>	Morning Worship Benefice Communion Harvest Evensong	<i>online ‘zoom’</i> East Woodhay Crux Easton	9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm
SUN 25th <i>Bible Sunday</i>	Holy Communion Benefice Communion Evensong	Highclere <i>online ‘zoom’</i> East Woodhay	8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm
SUN 1st Nov <i>All Saints</i>	Family Service Benefice Communion	<i>online ‘zoom’</i> East Woodhay	9.30am 11.00am

2nd and 4th WED (14th, 28th Oct) 10.00am Holy Communion Woolton Hill

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East Woodhay Society



Recently we had a day of heavy rainfall and Woolton Hill Road near the junior school became flooded again. I know this is a frustration, not only of those using the school but of people generally moving about in Woolton Hill; pedestrians are splashed, some cars try to avoid the water and drive on the wrong side of the road and passing through it can be impossible for cyclists. This issue has been raised with Hampshire County Council and Stuart Jarvis

Director of Economy, Transport and Environment has confirmed that 'this is an issue the Highways team are aware of, and there is currently an order placed with our contractor for a jetter to clear the system.' Hopefully, this action will be undertaken shortly.

However, the question often arises as to how to contact the councils to have an issue raised or addressed and it is so often difficult to know how to do this. Consequently, we have created a 'how do I' page on the Woolton Hill website for exactly this reason.

<https://www.wooltonhill.com/how-do-i>

Alongside is a screenshot of the page and it includes the common questions which I have received: flooding, potholes, fly tipping, litter, reporting a missing bin collection, booking the church hall, contacting the councils and how to contact our village agent.

Just send me a note if you would like anything else included.

Sometimes it may seem that being on the north east corner of the county we can be



'out of sight' for main decisions and so the more being reported, the better. Recently, many potholes were repaired on the road between East End and East Woodhay and it was also resurfaced. This does show that we can all have an impact and it is worth reporting issues to the relevant authorities.

Mark Rand – Chair EWS

Email – eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com

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Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club



Italian Gardens

A few years ago, a trip to Italy included daily excursions to amazing gardens situated in the countryside surrounding Rome. These botanical delights are often set on hillsides amongst olive groves and magnificent trees. There are no bedding plants, no fragrant roses or colourful dahlias to be seen. The main features in these stunning gardens are water features and statuary. There are cascades, fountains, spouts and waterfalls galore, all manner of statues, especially sea creatures, nymphs and sprites inhabit grottoes, caves and caverns. Very popular is a statue of Neptune trident in hand astride a dolphin which appears in a stone chamber with water cascading over the scene.

Three gardens stand out. All were created in the 16th century at the behest of influential papal cardinals and were financed by their wealthy families. Highlights at one include a spectacular water clock and a hydraulic system which plays music, the innards of which are hidden from view by fountains on steep terraces. Visitors to the other two were likely to be victims of practical jokes. At one garden walkers would suddenly be deluged by underground water jets rising from pathways. At the third garden many of the fountains would, without warning, sprinkle water over onlookers. As one commentator wrote "frivolous luxury indeed!"

Ann



fountains at Villa d'Este



Garden Stories

Bella Bee's First Day Out

by Kathryn H Scott

It was a wonderful warm and sunny day. The beehive was humming as worker bees flew in and out in their search for pollen to store safely in the hive.

Bella was very excited and buzzed and bounced up and down like a fuzzy vibrating brown ball as she awaited first visit into the big, wide and unknown world of enticing smells, beautiful colours and warm breezes that nudged you along from flower to flower.

The green light glowed and Bella took off like a speeding bullet. Neeeeooooowww.... She was gone out into the blue and golden air. She flew high then low, turned somersaults and flew upside down. Wheeee! What with excitement and the speed of the air rushing past, Bella eventually had to land on fence post for a breather, where with eyes bright and fur all a-fluff she took stock of where she was. 'Oh!', she thought, 'This is sooo beautiful', and indeed it was. The garden she lived in was well stocked with flowers; sweet peas, snapdragons, petunias and hollyhocks, lawns edged with lavender, rosemary and buddleia; and just below her on the ground Bella could see a small herb garden with chives, thyme, marjoram and lemon balm....oh....it just went on and on! For sheer joy Bella buzzed bouncily up and down a little, took a couple of deep breaths and took another look around her.

Bella decided to start work amongst the herbs. It was warm work but the smells and tastes were delicious. In no time Bella had her pollen sacks full and smiling to herself Bella flew heavily back to her vantage spot on the fence post. 'OK, back to the hive!' With a gasp and a jump Bella was off and arriving at the hive in the old tree in the corner of the garden she was directed by one of the warehouse bees to the pollen collection depot .

With her very first load safely delivered she was ready for the off once more. Taking careful note of where home lay, she set off for the raspberry patch and worked industriously for a long time, to-ing and fro-ing from the hive until the shadows were beginning to lengthen as the sun began its descent to bed.

When she buzzed back into the hive and had dropped the last load of fragrant pollen for the day, she found her pals Lizzie and Chummy waiting for her. They had also had a first day out today and were bouncing up and down with

excitement, waiting to share their experiences with Bella. What an evening they had telling stories and twizzling round and round. They had some serious moments too when they told of some of the dangers they had come across. Chummy had managed to get lost and took ages to find the hive; Lizzie had nearly fallen into a fruity fizzy drink and Bella had overfilled her pollen sacs and had a small spillage. Lessons to be learnt!

As they talked their eyelids drooped and they started to yawn uncontrollably. It wasn't long before they were sound asleep and it seemed like the whole hive was vibrating gently with thousands of little snoring bees worn out after a long day gathering pollen.

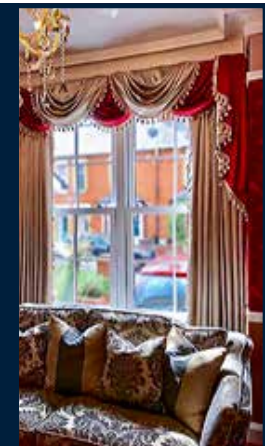
For now we will leave them to their dreams and slumbers. Good night Bella and all your friends!



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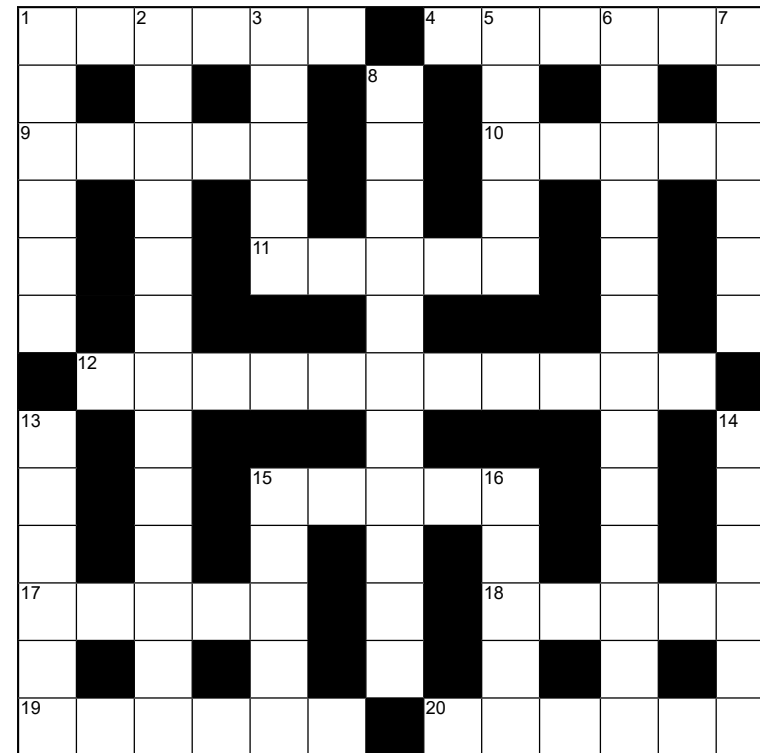
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212

Answers crossword no 211
Across: 1. Nimrod, 4. Rasher, 9. Gecko, 10. Hippo, 11. Raven, 12. Alfred Noyes, 15. Night, 17. Cider, 18. Blind, 19. Daybed, 20. Damon
Down: 1. Nugget, 2. Michaelmas Day, 3. Odour, 5. Ashen, 6. Happy memories, 7. Rookie, 8. Grave digger, 13. Spiced, 14. Linden, 15. Nurse, 16. Tibia

Across

1. Time raven turned up at the inn (6)
4. Stone from Canadian national park (6)
9. Bounder leaves car and sees curious shrub (5)
10. Bert wanders round the east seeking a suitable hat (5)
11. Terse comment about quality of citrus fruit (5)
12. Prefer company man to put on an act (11)
15. Come on time to see icy body (5)
17. Play card game with fire iron (5)
18. Used to write about chartered accountant initially, but turned out to be a nut (5)
19. Tested intense dislike (6)
20. Discovered with zeal, a small rhododendron! (6)

Down

1. Turn to wall for candle making (6)
2. Will Marge talk live at this event? (7,6)
3. Summary about hat (5)
5. Little Abigail has gone to live with the nuns we hear (5)
6. It is Carol I punch, being a part of local government (6,7)
7. Come back to tune Rolls Royce (6)
8. This month in Soho, men turn to celestial body when full (7,4)
13. Vital piece of soft material for operating equipment (6)
14. List age and subjects for discussion (6)
15. Play them right at Christmas, Birthdays, and many other occasions (5)
16. This stone from the top ends with a little sleep (5)



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Churchwardens Richard Twallin 253354
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East Woodhay Football Club.Chairman: Alan Jones 254024

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

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Susan Cooper, *susan.cooper@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk*01635 254149
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Mark Rand *mark.rand@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 250898
Karen Titcomb *karen.titcomb@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk*07974 011065
Andrew Watson *andrew.watson@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk*
Amy White (Clerk) *clerk@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 07480 042395

East Woodhay Village HallCarol Stanley. 01635 35859
eastwoodvillhall@gmail.com

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

East Woodhay Silver BandContact: Rosemary Gittins 07917 522180

East Woodhay Society.Chairman, Mark Rand 250898
eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com . . . *www.wooltonhill/ews*

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