

November 2020

50p

Spectrum

A photograph of a residential street. In the foreground, there is a large, dense green bush. To the left, a paved road leads into the distance. On the right side of the road, there is a utility pole with a sign. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage under a cloudy sky.



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Editorial

Welcome to November.

I wonder if the front cover with the sculptured hedges of little pig-dogs made you smile? Many of you may have seen them as you have walked or driven past them on the main Ball Hill Road. Considering how much time we have had to spend in the garden this year, I wondered if anyone else has anything they would like to show off with us all? Maybe a flower display, bumper vegetable crop, or anything really that may catch your eye and make you smile? Please help me to fill December edition with memories of summer and those beautiful warm days full of sunshine that, despite the problems, we all enjoyed?

Talking of 'the problems', I hope you are all well and managing with all your needs and shopping etc. Don't forget that if you have any problems that you cannot find help with, you can call our local Neighbour Care who would be happy to talk to you and help you: 01635 745600. This is a wonderful group to have locally and besides asking for help, I'm sure they would be pleased to accept any help that you may like to offer, so do get in touch with them.

Not least I have news for you about the phone box mystery! Please turn to page 11 and all will be revealed. Amazing what you can do if you are prepared to put some time and effort and enthusiasm into a project. Many thanks to this small group of people!

I look forward to receiving your happy images and will use as many as possible!

Kathy

Message from our Chairman

Dear Reader

During these uncertain times we are living through at the moment I would just like to register my appreciation for the editors of Spectrum. With many local events being cancelled they have used their ingenuity and imagination to fill the pages of the magazine. I hope you have found recent editions interesting, I have.

Like many organisations Coronavirus has thrown us new challenges not least financial. Spectrum is run on a tight budget and I thank all those who support the magazine through their advertising and their subscriptions. Understandably collection of annual subscriptions that were due in April have not come in as quickly as previous years and with the current increase in coronavirus cases this note is probably ill timed, but if your subscription is outstanding for this year please try and get it to your distributor.

Thank you and stay safe

Bob King

Editor for December

Kathy Scott

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Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club



Being optimistic, I was hoping that the Gardeners Club would be returning to running evening meetings, if somewhat limited in scope, but along with the History Club, we have not been able to do so. Our AGM was conducted by seeking the usual reports from the Committee Members, and drawing them all into a Report, which was then circulated to all our 100 members. So, in truth, it is quite probable that everyone 'attended' the AGM, if only by reading the reports. Normally we have about 30 members attending the exciting aspect of an AGM.


We have renewed the membership cards and it is good to see that 85 determined individuals have either received or are waiting to pick up their card. We are going to explore the possibility of arranging a Zoom meeting with one of our planned speakers. I shall be exploring how this could be done and see how many of our membership would want to join in.

From our small garden, 'garden produce' has been plentiful. The Runner Beans are still providing excellent cropping; The Tomato plants have been tasty and plentiful; Our Freezer now holds a huge amount of prepared apples from our tree, in addition to those kindly given to us from Chatsworth. The latter will go very well with all kinds of dishes, and I am looking forward to the Blackberry and Apple pies, which Mary will launch into over the next few months. Apple puree with our Pork Roasts; cooked and served with ice cream; the possibilities are endless.

I hope that your gardens have been good to you as well. Should there be anyone out there, who would like to join the Club, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Mary or me.

Nick Harcourt nick@harcourt2.co.uk







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East Woodhay Parish Council



The peaceful countryside! During the recent warm sunny weather the temptation to sit outside and relax with a cup of tea on the patio was irresistible. After the first sip I noted the sound of a distant mower which very quickly was joined by another much closer but I could still hear the birds twittering. Very soon the sound level went up again as the unmistakable sound of a chain saw joined in to be followed shortly after by the raucous sound of an angle grinder. Birdsong had by now grown inaudible. Perhaps the peace of the countryside is an illusion but in any case what remained of it was lost as a military helicopter appeared and commenced some noisy exercise over my house which set the cup rattling on the table. I gave up and went inside. While it is obvious that gardens need attention it would be a considerate act not to use noisy machinery at all times of the day so that neighbours might have some peace particularly at weekends.

The spirit of good-neighbourliness also extends to bonfires. If they must be lit then after dusk would be best. If anyone is seriously affected by noise or smoke then the reporting sites are as follows:

<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bonfires> and <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/noise>

The recent prolonged rainfall has again thrown up the flooding problem near the school on Woolton Hill Road. The Parish Council continues to press Hants CC for a resolution of this problem without, alas, a solution having appeared to date.

We welcome the addition of a new Councillor to the team in the form of John Heritage. More details to follow but this brings the council to full strength again.

Phil

Dear Editor,

I have just battled through the floods & rain (Oct 3rd) in Woolton Hill to go for a flu jab. I must thank all involved for a really well organised & efficient system at Thorngrove School. This includes the volunteers on parking & direction duties; the surgery staff & the school itself. I think it would be a good idea to have the sessions there every year as much more space for parking & waiting.

Chris Dalton

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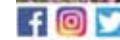
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When is a phone box not a phone box?

The answer to last month's riddle:

I know you are all looking forward to the answer to this, and I am really pleased to be able to say that I have the answer, and delighted to be able to share this with you all. I had a lovely email (see below) and image of the re-modelling from Beth at Coach House Vets which will explain it all. Thanks to all the team at Coach House for continuing to care for our pets through this year, even though it is in the carpark instead of indoors.

Hi there,
We have just seen your article in the October issue of the Spectrum!
It was not down to a singular person, but our team at Coach House Vets and the community!
The idea came about after one of our nurses had read a book titled "The Telephone Box Library" by Rachael Lucas and as the nursing team; Beth, Tara and Amber, walk past the phone box each day walking our dogs, it seemed like a great idea for the community to use and come together.

We were in contact with the local parish earlier this year to gain permission to put shelving into the phone box. We then had to generate a project plan and get the wheels moving! Once we had cleaned the box out of all the big spiders(!) and put the shelving up (thanks to a lot of hard work from our vet Phill), we then hit a snagging point with lockdown! But, the local community had spotted what we were up to during this time and put the books in themselves after we didn't get the chance! There are so many books in there now that we still have lots of the practice that won't fit in!

We are so chuffed that everybody has started using it and can not believe how many books are in there now! We thought we would struggle to fill it!
Many thanks

Beth
Beth Frankum RVN FdSc RVN CC CertDang VNA



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On the Bike Where We Live

The circular ride is from East End taking in the hamlets of North End, Gore End and Heath End.

The first part of the ride ends in North End (see October's Spectrum). The second part that you can read here, continues from North End.

The route passes two lovely gardens where the WI have held their Coffee and East Woodhay Village Hall where their regular meetings are held (in normal circumstances of course!).

On the right the old telephone kiosk stands just a monument now of days gone by. Perhaps it has been listed and bought by the parish. A fitting tribute to an age when it was necessary to carry the coins to fit the slot.

The temperature is beginning to rise but I carry on making my own breeze. No pedalling for a while as I descend to the adjoining road and finally stop. This is a staggered crossroads with a bend to the left. Not my favourite as I hasten across to the other side. Another hill but I almost make it to the top where I will cross and ride on the loop road to my final route. This road is wider and I choose to get off and walk to enjoy the views across the field, woods and hills beyond. Stepping around a flattened pygmy shrew I admire its simple form and pointed nose. It is still complete, just a casualty of modern age. They are the smallest of all our wild creatures and not often seen. I mount the bike, start to pedal and look up as a buzzard lands on the high branches of an oak tree. Slowly I try to retrieve my phone to take a photo but alas it has spotted me and flies off

across the field. My grandchildren also on bikes spotted a similar bird when we were out for a ride a couple of weeks ago. Could it be the same bird landing on his favourite branch?

Cycling further on the dry, dusty road more cyclists pass in the opposite direction with the customary "Morning, morning." Although it is warm the sun only peeps through the clouds now and then so the temperature is bearable.

Brimstone butterflies and the cabbage white dance before me. The latter is not the gardener's friend as they lay their eggs on cabbage leaves and the green caterpillars strip the plants leaving lacy patterns. Not far to the end now so I decide to walk and exercise more muscles. In the ditch shines the bright red berry of the cuckoo pint. Unfortunately it is poisonous so I only look and carry on. High in the hedgerow on the other side more red berries can be seen. These are the smaller and less bright spindle berry. Wood from the Spindle bush was originally used for making spindles hence its name.

Past the deserted cricket pitch, where there is no sound of leather on willow today, more blackberry flowers have given way to the bubbly looking fruit. A different variety here and will be visited in the Autumn by birds and humans alike. Turning the corner the war memorial comes into view along with the fenced green to stop the parking of cars and ruining of the grass. Soon be home and the day will take another form.

Sandie B



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Devastating Dieback

I was saddened to discover that our protected ash tree in the conservation area of North End has Ash Dieback and must be felled, but even worse was the realisation that almost all the ash trees along the lane and in neighbours' gardens seem to be affected.

Having spoken with a local tree surgeon and done some of my own research, I have discovered how the fungus spores spread in the air, affecting new shoots and younger trees more easily. I found much evidence of this on my walk around the hamlet. The fungus attacks trees through the leaves at tips of the youngest branches, so the tree appears to be failing from the "outside" in. There are other symptoms that I'm not qualified or experienced enough to identify, but basically the fungus travels from the twigs into the small branches, on to the larger branches, then to the trunk. It's a one-way process and there is no hope of a "cure". All we can do is fell the trees before they fall causing damage, taking down power lines and/or blocking the road. It's frightening to think that inaction even might cause death or injury if an affected tree were to fall on a car, walker, cyclist or rider.

So, here is my appeal to everyone across the parish (including owners of agricultural land with trees on the verge)... PLEASE check any ash trees you own, get some professional advice if you're concerned, and make arrangements to have affected ash trees professionally felled (with the necessary permissions if you are in a conservation area), before they do any harm. Please check again in the Spring, as not every ash tree is showing signs just yet.

The Woodland Trust website says "it's thought that we are going to lose around 80% of our ash trees in the UK. This is going to have a devastating impact on the landscape and the biodiversity of our woodlands, as well as a major loss in connections between habitats as we lose hedges and individual trees outside of woods". Please—if you can—minimise the long term impact on our beautiful parish by planting another native tree, or even two, for each one felled.

Lisa King



Healthy tree



Failing tree



Young Tree

East Woodhay Society



Normally we would be writing about a forthcoming wine quiz which is, for many, a highlight of the year's events. John Angle's descriptions of the wines together with a fair bit of creative license from the three 'judges' at the front have become quite infamous in the local area. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the wine quiz, alongside many other events, has had to be cancelled. Not only do we have a fun time at these wine quizzes but it also is one of our major fundraising events of the year and we are conscious that charities, especially local ones, are struggling with a lack of revenue this year.

Fortunately, we are very grateful to the Spectrum committee for working with East Woodhay Society to also include the Spectrum advertisements on the www.wooltonhill.com website. Money raised this way goes to the EWS nominated local charity, which in 2020 has been Young People & Children First which helps to change the lives of local disadvantaged youngsters.

What this means is you can find local advertisers either within Spectrum or on the website <https://www.wooltonhill.com/businesses>. You can search by type of service required on that page or on the home page.

It would seem that, due to national restrictions, our Walking for Health Friday walks

will not be able to start up again for a while but do take the opportunity to walk around the area; it is a great way to keep the mind and body healthy.

November is a fantastic month to see the changing colours of our wonderful trees.

Looking towards Hollington Triangle

We will be holding our AGM via Zoom on 17th November, where we will agree on our charity for 2021. I will send details to EWS members via the monthly newsletter. If you would like to join EWS, it is just £10 for a couple/family or £6 for an individual. All the details are on the wooltonhill website under EWS.

Mark Rand – Chair EWS

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Hollington Triangle

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If government guidelines change we will have to change accordingly

East Woodhay Flower & Produce Show

This year's Autumn Show and AGM unfortunately had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions. However our flagship event, the Flower & Produce Show will be back next year and with a surge in Growing your Own we are introducing a Newcomer's category in the Fruit and Veg section.

Here are some dates for your 2021 calendar

Thursday 4th March–Committee meeting 7.30pm East Woodhay Village Hall

Saturday 15 May–Annual Plant sale and Jumble sale 2pm EWWH

Thursday 27 May–Evening Committee meeting

Saturday 21st August – FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW 2pm EWWH

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Dear Friends,

A month of remembering...

By custom November is a month of Remembrance for both church and community. All Saints Day, November 1st, is when we give thanks to God for the many saints who, over the centuries, have been faithful in witnessing to their faith – for some of these it meant giving up their lives.

All Souls Day, November 2nd, is when we remember those who have died and especially those who are dear to us. Locally in past years we have held a special service of thanksgiving, in our benefice, to which relatives and friends of local people who have died have been invited – due to current restrictions this has been postponed.

Remembrance Sunday is when we remember the casualties of two World Wars and other more recent conflicts. There were over 60 million casualties across the world in WW2; and over 40 million casualties in WW1. Our traditional Remembrance services and commemorations will be different this year (please see the services list). Keeping of the two minutes silence on Remembrance Day – Wednesday November 11th at 11.00am is a focus of national remembrance and there will still be a National Service of Remembrance on Sunday November 8th at the Cenotaph on Whitehall in London. During 2020 there have been a number of significant national and international anniversaries. The 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in both Europe, the Far East, and indeed across the globe. We have recently observed the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain; which was followed by the Blitz which caused such damage to many of our cities.

2020 is also the 75th anniversary of the founding of The United Nations organisation. The U.N. was conceived out of the ashes of World War Two as an international forum to increase political and economic cooperation across the globe. It was one of several international organisations established following WW2 to aid recovery; and over the past 75 years have facilitated an increase in global cooperation among the nations of our world – much remains to be done, but we should be thankful that much has been achieved in the past 75 years.

Canon Marvin Bamforth
Associate Priest

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Register entries for November 2020 magazine | | |
| From the Church Registers: September 2020 | | |
| Wedding: may God bless their lives together | | |
| 5 th September | Matthew Kuschala & Anna Malone | Highclere |
| 25 th September | Ashley Harfield & Abby Rawlings | Highclere |
| 26 th September | Tom Ward & Alex Lowe | East Woodhay |
| Funeral: may they rest in peace | | |
| 8 th September | Kenneth Edward Richardson | Woolton Hill |
| | West Berkshire Crematorium | |
| 21 st September | Geoffrey Kenneth Dodd | Highclere |

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Church Services: NOVEMBER 2020

A note about worship: we are offering a mix of online and 'in church' services during November. If you would like details about the **online services** please send your e-mail to coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com and ask to join the Rector's regular e-mail update. Please note that worship 'in church' is held according to current regulations and wearing a face covering in church is mandatory. Despite this most importantly our prayer continues... everyone is welcome... please join us!

A note about Remembrance Sunday: to comply with current regulations, we have had to make adjustments to our usual schedule for this solemn day. Please see details below.

| | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| SUN 1st <i>All Saints</i> | All Together / Family Service Benefice Communion | online 'zoom' East Woodhay | 9.30am 11.00am |
| SUN 8th <i>Remembrance</i> <i>3rd before Advent</i> | Benefice Communion | Woolton Hill | 9.30am |
| | Act of Remembrance <i>(outside in churchyard)</i> | Highclere | 10.55am |
| | Remembrance Service <i>(in church)</i> | East Woodhay | 10.55am |
| | Act of Remembrance <i>(outside in churchyard)</i> | Woolton Hill | 3.30pm |
| | Evensong for Remembrance | Ashmansworth | 6.00pm |
| SUN 15th <i>2nd before Advent</i> | Morning Worship Benefice Communion Evensong | online 'zoom' Highclere Crux Easton | 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm |
| SAT 21st | Confirmation Service <i>(booking to attend this service will be required)</i> | Woolton Hill | 4.00pm |
| SUN 22nd <i>Christ the King</i> | Holy Communion Benefice Communion Evensong | Highclere online 'zoom' East Woodhay | 8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm |
| SUN 29th Nov <i>Advent Sunday</i> | Benefice Communion Advent carols and readings | Woolton Hill online 'zoom' | 10.00am 4.00pm |
| 2nd and 4th WED (11 th , 25 th Nov) 10.00am Holy Communion Woolton Hill | | | |
| <p>Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale (<i>Rest day: Friday</i>) The Rectory, The Mount, Woolton Hill, Newbury RG20 9QZ 253323</p> <p>Associate Priest: Revd Canon Marvin Bamforth 254718</p> <p>Readers: Mary Herbert 255700, Horace Mitchell 254677, Mike Sarson 07913 943504</p> <p>Reader Emeritus: Rosemary Cahill 253306 Lay preacher: Angela Myers 254559</p> | | | |

Woolton Hill

St Thomas' Church

Churchyard paths – at last!!!

It is with great relief that we are able to write this article for Spectrum, and to say at last the new paths in the lower graveyard at St. Thomas' have been completed. The whole process started in December 2019 (it was originally agreed by the PCC to proceed in July 2019) when we applied to the Diocese for a faculty to install the paths. As many people will be aware the lower graveyard is extremely wet and very difficult for attending a grave or burial.

We were advised by the Diocese to enquire from Basingstoke & Deane council if we would need planning permission – it was not thought to be a problem. Not so, the planning department wanted us to apply for permission, so at that point we had to ask our architect to draw plans and submit them. All went well for a while, then we were hit with the request for a tree survey – just as Covid arrived. We did manage to get the survey complete, but it added a lot more work to the construction. We had to install Geoweb under the paths at the top of the graveyard, to protect the tree roots. The date for the result of the planning passed and we had to wait a further ten days before it was decided we could go ahead.

Our contractors AWG construction from Salisbury fitted the project in when we had some fine weather, so it was all completed within a week. They very kindly tidied the bank on the right of the graveyard, taking away the clay soil left by the grave digger over many years, and made a very nice bank which is being planted with many spare plants and seeds from our gardens. Also to the left of the top path we are planting wild flowers, with the hope that they will flourish in time.

The cost of all this work went far beyond the original quotation (from AWG). In the end the planning application fees, with the tree survey and expensive materials specified by Basingstoke & Deane, resulting in more work for our architect, meant that the cost of the whole project actually doubled. With the final cost being £12,072, we have received a donation from the Parish Council of £500. So please have a look at our latest project, and walk on our lovely new paths.

Chris Vane (Church Warden) & Bertha Bates (Project Manager)

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From The Archives

Prisoners of War

We are more than delighted to welcome back home two who have endured a long captivity in the Far East, Alexander Leslie Archer and Edward Frederick Harris. We sincerely hope that the relief and joy of their home-coming will help to efface from their memories some, at least, of their bitter experiences.

St.Thomas' magazine, November 1945

Rector's letter

The Harvest Festival Services were very well attended (o, si sic omnes—which means, come on other Sundays too) and the bus that evening really full. It has been decided to run the bus on the first Sundays of December, January, February, leaving North End at 3 p.m. for the afternoon service which will be at 3.30 p.m. during these dark months. I should like to thank Mrs. Fremantle and the Choir for their rendering of the harvest anthem, which had to be settled at very short notice.....

When are the bells coming back? I, like you, wish I knew; but I am again trying to find out.

St. Martin's magazine, November 1951

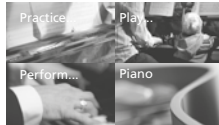
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Community Café

Update

The Community Café team wanted to update you on what has been happening over the last few months.

Because of the corona virus lockdown, in the summer we had to move our regular Friday morning Cafe from inside the church to an open air socially-distanced Cafe venue on the recreation ground instead.

This meant that our "regulars" could still keep in touch and we were able to enjoy many very sunny Friday mornings catching up with each other over BYO refreshments.

Passers by, out for a stroll, would stop for a chat as well. We enjoyed hearing about each others' news and stories and of particular note is the newly published book of one of our regulars which will be on sale soon; also, another member's invitation to conduct a special MS orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall which was televised via zoom.

Unfortunately, now though, the weather has become a bit too chilly to continue to meet outdoors so reluctantly, we have had to put the Cafe on hold until further notice. I know though that some of you are still continuing to meet up for a coffee when you can so that we don't lose touch with each other.

The initial aim of the Café was to provide a regular meeting place to relax, enjoy refreshments and allow for friendships to be made. These things have become even more important in current times.

We'll keep you posted and hope that normal service can be resumed as soon as possible!

Community Café Team



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National Women's Register



Local Wildlife We Love

Whilst David Attenborough continues to raise awareness of the plight of our world in his new film 'A life on our planet' we have all become much more aware of nature around us and the wildlife, particularly in our gardens and close to where we live.

Across the world there are threats to wildlife including wildfires and rising sea levels. Locally, the loss of hedgerows, trees, smaller field margins, use of pesticides and pollution of water courses by plastics, threatens the habitats of local wildlife.

Our Zoom meeting in September focussed largely on wildlife we come across in our everyday lives. From the soaring kites with their magnificent appearance to the butterflies such as the Brimstone and Orange tip which frequent vegetation in our gardens, we are amazed by such variety.

Others such as the pheasant and Muntjac deer visit our gardens making themselves at home foraging for food. Down at ground level there are grass snakes laying their eggs in compost heaps and adders enjoying the meadows. In ponds, frogs and toads return each year to breed. Hedgehogs can often be seen locally ambling between gardens, being fed to encourage their futures. However, they mustn't be given milk as they are lactose intolerant.

Have you noticed more ladybirds around, particularly in window frames as they look for warmth to hibernate? Our native species has been threatened by the arrival of the Harlequin ladybird

which is both bigger and competes for the same aphids as food. Bats frequently can be seen at dusk, with the pipistrelle being the most common. The loss of many of their habitats has led to them being a protected species.

Further south on the Isle of Wight, red squirrels flourish as they are not exposed to squirrel pox. These small creatures with tufty ears are a great favourite and the island is one of the last havens for them in England.

Wildlife locally and worldwide is in much need of protection, particularly its natural habitat and sources of food. Individual acts of conservation can help our wildlife flourish in our local, natural environment.

During November, we are due to take part in the NWR Telephone Treasure



Trail, this year using Zoom as we are now unable to meet in a larger group. For details of our future meetings, please contact Val Burfield on 255168



Conkers with Grandpa

The kids collect conkers
All shiny and round.
Their pockets stuffed full with
So many they've found.

Now hugely excited
And ready to fight,
Your grandson swings conker
With all of his might.

His aim is not perfect.
"Ouch!"- many bruised hands.
Defiant he plays on
With scheming and plans.

You ask "When you miss
Then do I have my go?"
"Oh no grandpa, I swing again
Don't you know."

"But where is the rule book
Which says what to do?"
"Stop panicking Grandpa
You're scared I'll beat you."

It's no use complaining,
He'll sulk and get cross.
You meekly continue;
As normal – you've lost!

Moyra Harkness, September 2020



How can you walk past a conker and not smile or even pick it up and take it home?

I know I can't and there is nearly always a conker or two sitting on a window sill in our house. Nowadays the game of conkers often perceived as rather dangerous, but that didn't stop us playing when we were young; hardening them up, threading them onto string and walloping the opponent's conker and trying to crack it. If you sometimes hit the opponent's hand instead, well we soon got over it and carried on regardless.

If you want to know more about conkers have a look online; you will find information about the World Conker Championships, how to harden them up – and also their very real good uses against frostbite, malaria and even ringworm. So – who will be the Conkerer in your home this year?!

The English Country Garden.

by Kathryn Scott

Mr. and Mrs. Thwaites lived in the quiet village of Postlebridge which no one ever finds because it is in the middle of nowhere. It was a summery evening and they had both just arrived home after a busy day at work. With happy sighs they carried their cups of tea onto the patio. As they sprawled lazily in their chairs, they remarked how quiet it was; just the sound of the birds in the trees that surrounded the edge of the garden. The blackbird was particularly tuneful and peaceful and the pigeons nesting in the wisteria behind them cooed gently. It must be said that after a few moments this cooing began to be a little irritating, but for now it was restful and perfectly idyllic.

As she sipped her tea Mrs. Thwaites cast her expert eyes over the flower beds. All her hard work was paying off and the flowers were looking beautiful. Buddleias, dahlias, lupins, begonias, you name it, Mrs. T had planted it and the colours were dazzling; reds and blues, yellows and lilacs, greens whites and cream and all the shades in between. The bees loved the feast of pollen and were very busy going back and forth to their hive, high up in the branches of one of the largest trees at the bottom of the garden. Butterflies too were flitting and dancing. 'How beautiful they are, especially that bright blue one', thought Mrs. Thwaites. A ladybird landed on her arm and Mrs. T stood up to put it on the roses where it could eat those nasty aphids. 'Another cup of tea, dear?' she asked her husband. 'Seeing as I'm up'.

'What a good idea', said Mr. T, holding out his empty cup. 'Thank you wife'. As Mrs. T returned with more tea (and some chocolate biscuits), Mr. T was studying his vegetable garden. 'Hmm, the beans are coming on', he said, 'they are nearly at the top of the beanpoles already! And look at those lettuces, perfect for picking leaves for salads and I'm sure I can see the squashes and courgettes growing as I'm watching! Must be all the worms and manure that I've dug into it this year.'

Mrs. T sat down and gazed at the garden again, 'Ah look, I can see Diddums hiding under that bush. Diddums!' she shouted, 'Come here and see Mummy. Come on poppet!' He ran over and rubbed his body against her legs, purring loudly, looking at her with large adoring eyes and a sly grin on his black and whiskery face. It ought to be said that most of the animals and birds in the garden would have liked it very much if something very nasty happened to Diddums. They mostly referred to him as Maggot, but for this moment whilst Mr. and Mrs. T. kept an eye on him, they felt reasonably safe to go about their business.

Frowning slightly Mr. T said, 'We really must do something about the wilderness over in that corner of the garden. The garden is



looking lovely, but that area over there under the lime trees does look very messy doesn't it?

'That' said Mrs. T 'is my wildlife habitat because I don't have time to sort it out properly. I'm being very eco-friendly don't you think?'

So Mr. and Mrs. T rested as the bees were busy on their pollen hunt, ladybirds were enjoying aphid feasts, the birds raised their young and insects and seeds were easy pickings, butterflies danced and hedgehogs grubbed and squirrels leapt from tree to tree.

After a while Mr. and Mrs. T went inside to watch TV before bedtime, and left the garden to settle down for the night. Sleep well little creatures; you never know what adventures tomorrow will bring!

Woolton Hill Junior School



Hello, we're back again!

We are back. I am now in year 6 and ecstatic to be back at school! Being back at school is very different and odd, but after the past few weeks back, it has begun to feel normal. At school I usually get to go to the food hall to eat lunch, but as we can't break the bubbles with other classes and lower school (year 3 and 4) we can't go in there anymore. So, we eat our lunch in the classrooms which is unusual. Also, the tables have changed in the classrooms so they face the front now which is odd because I am used to having the tables in different directions. Another reason that it is a bit weird is because of socially distancing (where possible), I am finding it very hard to social distance especially with my friends or when we play at break or lunch. I am just very happy to be back at school and to play my favourite sports! Instead of calling it different, weird, unusual or odd we can now call it the new normal. I hope it won't be for too long!

Stay safe and thank you for reading!
Daisy Humphrey, Student of Woolton Hill Junior School.

<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.

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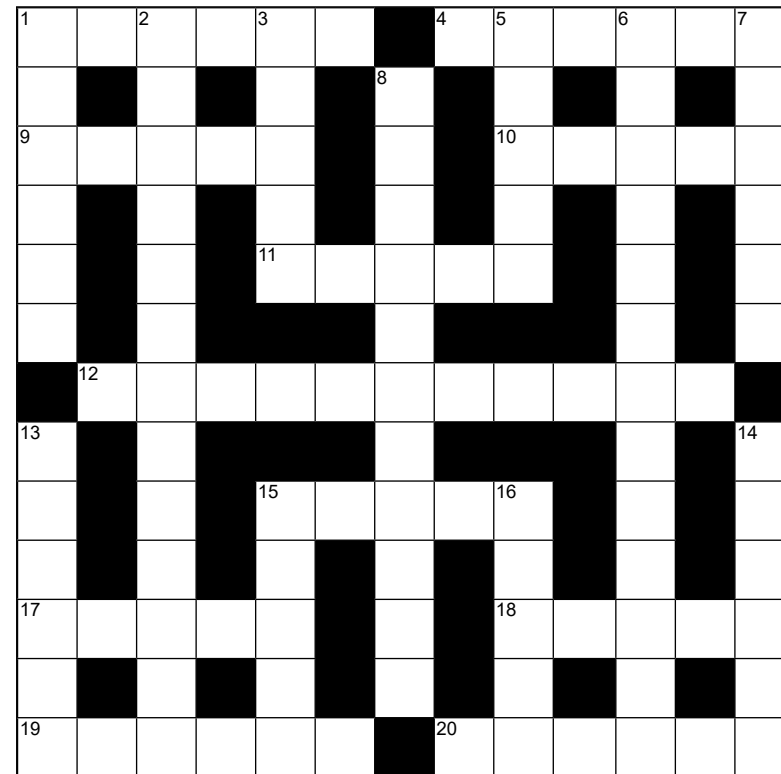
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213

Answers crossword no 212
Across: 1 Tavern, 4 Jasper, 9 Lilac, 10 Beret, 11 Pithy, 12 Performance, 15 Comet, 17 Poker, 18 Pecan, 19 Detest, 20 Azalea
Down: 1 Tallow, 2 Village market, 3 Recapp, 5 Abbey, 6 Parish Council, 7 Return, 8 Hunter's moon, 13 Keypad, 14 Agenda, 15 Cards, 16 Topaz

Across

- It was a long time after pig turned into a bird (6)
- So pigs turned to tittle-tattle (6)
- Vitamin useless inside takeaway (5)
- We hear you are taken out of lecture to turn up to vote (5)
- Give medical care for pleasure perhaps (5)
- Mix up the time we had heard about old Tory (6,5)
- Craftily inch a bit closer to country providing cups, plates and saucers (5)
- Nothing to find at the end of small room except for stringed instrument (5)
- Five with malaria were not clear (5)
- Heavenly body sat on ashes container (6)
- A tired dwarf? (6)

Down

- Two Englishmen bump into each other in Australia wearing a type of chrysanthemum (6)
- This lot grew up in pond and came together to plan assassination (9,4)
- It started with stone (5)
- Became plainly apparent over time (5)
- See cold gateau and think it just the thing to cheer up a gardener in the winter (4,9)
- Has pot containing plant nutrient (6)
- Driver's crew had vodka and orange (11)
- Clings together as dreadfully sick on street (6)
- Can be funny to come upon a missing day (6)
- Singers have measure of paper we hear (5)
- Nail five to large block of metal (5)



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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 (*cllr.clive.sanders@basingstoke.gov.uk*)254839

Churches

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

Defibrillators

There are 4 public access defibrillators in the Parish, WH Church Hall, EW Village Hall, the Rampant Cat, and WH Junior School.

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*.....Keith Nunn.. . . . 253888

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

East Woodhay CharitiesSecretary: Susan Wren. 254875

East Woodhay Cricket Club.Contact Adrian Batchelor. 07810 647618

East Woodhay Flower & Produce Show254114
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*

James Mitchell (Chairman) *james.mitchell@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 254747
Susan Cooper, *susan.cooper@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk*01635 254149
Graham Dick *graham.dick@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 255372
Martin Hainge *martin.hainge@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 255793
Paul Hurst (Vice Chairman) *paul.hurst@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* . . 01635 254363
Phil Jarvis *philip.jarvis@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 254422

Directory of Local Organizations

East Woodhay Parish Council *Members continued:*

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*

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

East Woodhay W.I.Secretary: Pat Gibbs . . . 07831 669 220

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

Highclere Film Club.Secretary: Chris Martin 253461

Highclere EvergreensLeader: Mrs. V. Burge 864584

Litter warden *litterwarden@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk*

MP Kit Malthouse. 01264 401401
kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk 2 Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

National Women's RegisterVal Burfield. 255168

Neighbourhood Watch

Woolton Hill John Bentham. 255582
North End. Jack Castle253537

Newbury Chamber Choir*info@newburychamberchoir.co.uk*

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

Police . . . Hampshire Constabulary 101
Position to be filled

The Samaritans.Freephone 116 123

Schools

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

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 Mary Gulliver mary@TheGullivers.co.uk 254567
 Kathy Scott (6pm-9pm) spectrumwh@outlook.com 254756
 Jim Hannington seamusman3@gmail.com 07895637611

St Martin's Guild Secretary: Sarah Leventhorpe 255293
info@eastwoodhayfete.org.uk 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

Woolton Hill Church Hall

Nick Harcourt, Charnwood Cottage, Broadlayings 253546
wooltonhillhallbookings@gmail.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 whvmarket@gmail.com
www.whvm.co

Woolton Hill Website. Contact: Mark Rand 250898

www.WooltonHill.com eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com

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