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## Editorial

You may be wondering about the picture on our front cover this month. In our article 'From the Archives' there are references to our old currency, 14/8 (fourteen shilling and eight pence), 10/- (ten shillings) and the Penny-a-week fund. So for those of you, who like me, remember our pounds, shillings and pence, then the front cover is just a bit of nostalgia. For all you younger readers, then take a good look as included in there are the farthing which was a quarter of a penny, a halfpenny (pronounced



ha'penny), a penny, a silver threepenny piece as well as the more common variety, then a sixpence, a shilling, two bob (two shillings) and a halfcrown (two shillings and sixpence).

Compared to the decimal currency of today, an interesting variety of coinage.

On a more serious note, I would like to thank all those lovely people who have given their time, energy and love helping and running Neighbourcare. There is a report in this edition which is well worth a read and shows how much these volunteers have done for us all.

MEG

#### Editor for July, August & Spetember::

Jim Hannington

c/o Woodlands Cottage, Broad Layings, Woolton Hill RG20 9TP

seamusman3@gmail.com Tel: 0789 5637611

#### **Name That Country Quiz Answers**

- 1. India 2. Thailand 3. Switzerland 4. Italy 5. Kenya 6. Malta 7. Belize
- 8. Luxembourg 9. Andorra 10. Maldives 11. Yemen 12. Brazil 13. Peru
- 14. Tuvalu 15. Madagascar 16. Burkina Faso 17. Uganda 18. Indonesia
- 19. Poland 20. Gabon 21. Rwanda 22. Ukraine 23. Philippines 24. Mongolia
- 25. Togo 26. Egypt 27. South Sudan 28. Mali 29. France 30. Kyrgystan
- 31. Nepal 32. Cameroon 33. Malawi 34. Belarus 35. Japan 36. Macedonia
- 37. Denmark 38. New Zealand 39. Iceland 40. Syria 41. Greece 42. Pakistan
- 43. Argentina 44. Suriname 45. Niger 46. Czech Republic 47. Sweden
- 48. Austria 49. Norway 50. United Kingdom

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Cover: Pre-decimal coinage





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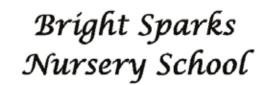
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## Woolton Hill Junior School

ello again, this month my articles a bit different as I got to interview some children from Lower School (Year 3 & 4) about their super Stone Age day that they had last week. I really enjoyed interviewing them as they were really chatty and it made me feel like a real reporter doing my first interview. They said they enjoyed a lot of different activities including re-enacting Stone Age battles and hunting for food. They did animal impressions too where they were pretending to be wolves and tigers, they showed me their impressions, and they were very toothy and scary. They also got to touch lots of Stone Age artifacts and they said that the best part about that was getting to hold all the weapons. I asked the children what interesting facts they had learnt about the Stone Age and they told me that Stone Age people were the first people to draw and paint and they used blood for paint in their cave paintings. They also told me that Stone Age people wore animal skin/fur instead of clothes. When I asked them if they would have liked to live in Stone Age times, then all 3 children said no as they wouldn't like to hunt and kill animals to get their food. All the children agreed that Stone Age Day got at least 10/10 and the words they would use to sum up their day were 'amazingly fun, exciting and learny'.

Here's my favourite Stone Age joke,

Q: What comes between the Stone Age and the Bronze Age?

A: The sausage!

Stay safe, Solly

#### **Evacuation Day**

n Monday (26th April), there was an upper school World War II day where you could come dressed up as an evacuee. Our parents wrote letters to us about being evacuated and at school we had to write back to them about our new host parents, school and other things like that. At the moment, we are reading a book called Letters from The Lighthouse by Emma Carroll which is about two children- Olive and Cliff- who are being evacuated out of London in the blitz times but their sister Sukie has gone missing! We were also listening to different evacuees who are older now and their point of view which was very interesting and helped me a lot! It was great to see lots of people dressed as different evacuees!

**Daisy Humphrey** 

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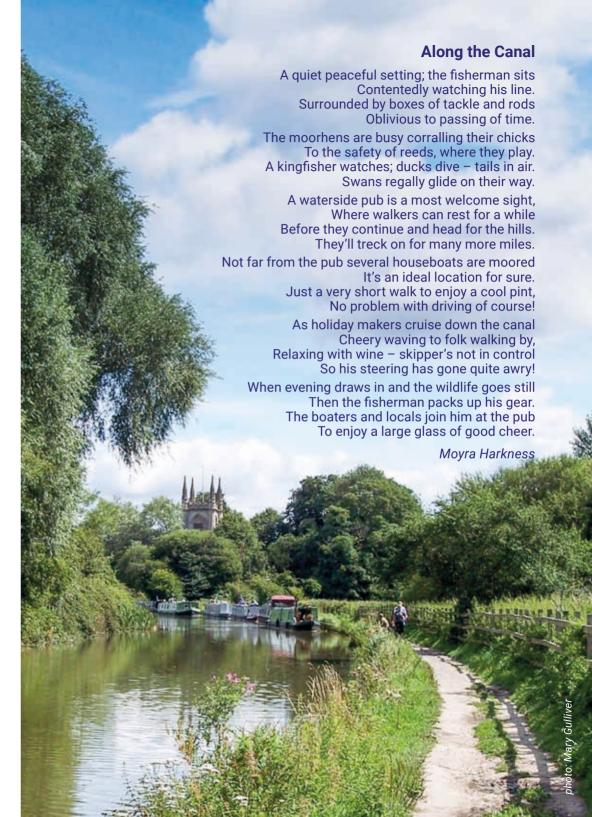
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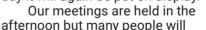
# East Woodhay Women's Institute



fter fourteen months the ladies of the WI plan to hold meetings again in member's gardens for the next three months keeping their fingers crossed for good weather. At last a simple cup of tea and a chat among friends will be a welcome change. To meet face to face, see a smile and a twinkle in the eye will be our reward after long periods of solitude and keeping to the rules.

We look forward to long warm days of June and the seasonal beginning of Summer. Traditionally this has been the time for outings and two years ago the WI visited the National Needlework Archive at Greenham Common. It was our centenary year and our members enjoyed the many displays of fine needlework and were also privileged to be shown the Country Wife textile mural designed by Constance Howard and some of her students for the Country Pavilion at the Festival of Britain in 1951. Many of the craftwork features were

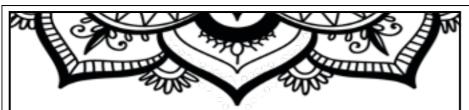
made by members of the WI who were experts in the craft of glove making, cane work and embroidery. At the close of the exhibition it was given to the National Federation of Women's Institutes and housed at the Denman WI College in Oxford. In 2009 it was transferred to the WI Collection at The National Needlework Archive. This fine stumpwork embroidery measuring five metres by four and a half metres is currently being renovated by volunteers with the hope that one day it will again be put on display.



11

be thinking of evening entertainment with barbeques, get togethers and long walks after a busy working day. At weekends too our network of footpaths and bridleways are well used. During the wet days of winter these paths became very muddy and unless the wearer had stout shoes or wellies were almost impassable with the large footfall. However the mud dried and the number of users have again swelled. The seasons bring their own joys as we all know but to see so many people enjoying the quiet, scenic countryside throughout the year is a plus. June brings us to the height of long days sometimes feeling as if we have two days in one and twice as much pleasure. Let's make the most of every opportunity.

SB



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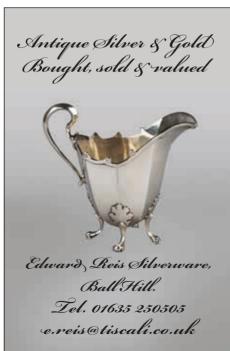
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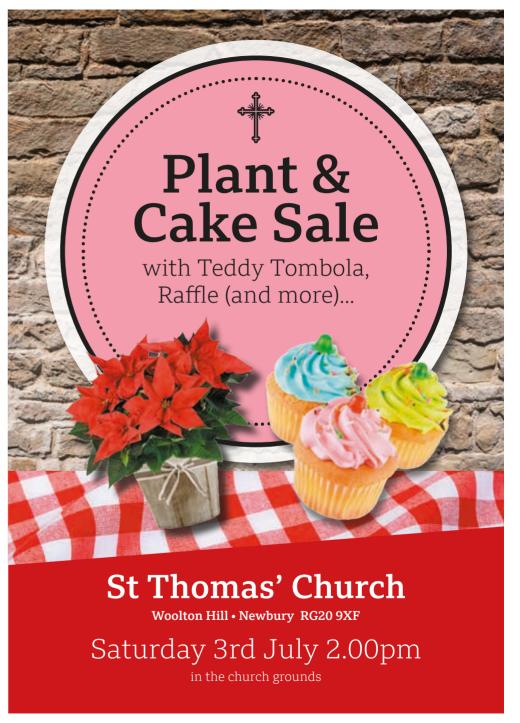
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## East Woodhay Parish Council



#### Traffic Calming Measures In The Parish Of East Woodhay:

One of the positive aspects of the last year has been the increase in the number of families and individuals who have taken to walking and riding their bicycles around the Parish and enjoying our beautiful location. With the ongoing improvement in the access of the footpaths around the Parish and the completion of the footpath across the Parish field in Woolton Hill, there has never been a better opportunity to exercise outdoors.

However, in most instances there is a need to access these by walking along the roads for part of the way and given the absence of pavements in many parts of the villages this can be hazardous. Despite the clear 30 mph speed limit signs, there are a small minority of drivers who are ignoring the potential dangers of exceeding the speed limit in these areas. Unfortunately, many are residents who should be fully aware of the need to exercise care with the number of pedestrians (many of whom are children), horse riders and cyclists

who are sharing the road with them.

The Parish Council has therefore taken the decision to implement "speed calming" measures which will take place from July onwards for the coming year. We will commence with six locations where excessive speed by motorists has been identified and these will be monitored to build a picture of the problem and then a future strategy for their implementation will be agreed.

Hampshire County Council and the Safer Roads team are working with us to ensure that we meet all of the necessary legal requirements and indeed have confirmed their agreement to the first six sites.

Our goal is to make the roads safer for all by reminding motorists that where there is a speed limit, it should be adhered to.

If anyone has any questions or would like to make a comment, please do not hesitate to contact Martin Hainge on the following e mail address:

martin.hainge.ewpc@gmail.com

criliareri), riorse riae	ers and cyclists in	artin.namge.ewpc@gman.com		
From the Church Registers: April 2021				
Funeral: may they rest in peace				
19th April	Kirk Richard Taylor	Highclere/Woolton Hill		
20th April	Shirley Ann Priór	East Woodhay		
22nd April	James William Parker	r Woolton Hiĺl		
'		(West Berkshire Crematorium)		
22nd April	Iris Corral	` Woolton Hill		
		(West Berkshire Crematorium)		
26th April	Diana Helen Ralston	` Highcleré		
·		(West Berkshire Crematorium)		
Burial of ashes: may they rest in peace				
28th April	Loretta Howard	Highclere		

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Dear friends,

#### DO YOU TRUST PEOPLE? ARE YOU TRUSTWORTHY?

I ask these questions because it seems to me that whilst there are many values which are important in creating a good, healthy, community, in which everyone can thrive, TRUST is a fundamental value in achieving the common good – rather like glue holding us together.

Many of us will have voted in the May elections and by voting we have placed our trust in particular people to do their best in serving the needs of their local community.

During the pandemic we have all been trusted to follow government guidelines in the fight against the spread of Coronavirus. Everyone has been called upon to have trust in the scientists who have produced vaccines to help us come out the other side of the horrors of the past 16 months.

Several couples will be marrying in church wedding services this summer, and I will be encouraging those in my care to share their thoughts on trusting one another as they begin married life as wife and husband.

Several families will be bringing their children for baptism (christening) in coming weeks; and talking with parents and godparents about being a trustworthy role model for their children has always been part of the preparation I offer them. If children and young people learn to trust adults, they in turn are more likely to mature in to trusting and trustworthy grown-ups.

Our 5 local churches – Ashmansworth, Crux Easton, East Woodhay, Highclere and Woolton Hill – have been part of the same group of ecclesiastical parishes (in the jargon a BENEFICE) for 12 years – friendships and trusting relationships have developed. We are currently discussing how the relationship between our 5 parishes might move from having 5 separate Parochial Church Councils (and 5 lots of other 'governance' structures) to having ONE united church council with local committees. In many ways this would be a natural development of our 5-parish relationship and would simplify all manner of requirements. In the longer term, it could be a great encouragement in our shared task of 'making Christ known in our communities'. There will of course be much to consider and nothing will happen quickly! It will call for us to work together in a positive spirit and for trust to grow.

Like other important values TRUST develops and grows when we exercise it. It is of course a two-way street, for trust to grow between people there must also be trustworthiness on all sides. Those who demonstrate trust know how valuable it is in building good relationships; whether in our personal lives, or life together in our communities and churches.

We pray the Lord to lead us forward-together-in faith, hope, and love... and in trust for one another.

Canon Marvin.

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#### **Church Services JUNE 2021**

A note about worship: at the time of preparing this list we assumed the government 'road map' will run according to plan with most restrictions lifted from 21<sup>st</sup> June. Until then we continue to offer a mix of online and 'in church' services. For online service details, please send your e-mail to coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com to join the Rector's e-mail update. (Please note that worship 'in church' is according to current regulations and wearing a face covering, unless exempt, and social distancing are mandatory.

Following the 21<sup>st</sup> June we hope to return to full services in church but this is dependant on restrictions being lifted. Any changes to this schedule will be posted on church noticeboards and the Benefice Facebook page.

All our churches are open for private prayer on Sundays.

SUN 6 <sup>th</sup> JUNE Trinity 1	Family Service Parish Communion Evensong	Online 'zoom' East Woodhay Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 13 <sup>th</sup> JUNE Trinity 2	Parish Communion Morning Worship Baptism Baptism	Woolton Hill Online 'zoom' East Woodhay Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 3.00pm 3.00pm
SUN 20 <sup>th</sup> JUNE Trinity 3	Morning Worship Parish Communion Evensong	Online 'zoom' Highclere Crux Easton	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 27 <sup>th</sup> JUNE Trinity 4	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Baptism Celebration Evensong	Highclere Woolton Hill Woolton Hill East Woodhay	8.00am 9.30am 3.00pm 6.00pm

WED 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer 10.00 am online 'zoom' 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion 10.00am Woolton Hill

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Reader Emeritus: Rosemary Cahill 253306 Lay preacher: Angela Myers 254559



## Neighbourcare Chair's Report – 5 May 2021

What a different year it has been for Neighbourcare, in what has been a very difficult year.

We started in March, asking the doctors surgery how we could best help them with the Covid crisis. They wanted help to sort and deliver 120 outstanding prescriptions, in order to reduce the footfall in the surgery. Mark and Lesley Foden got to work sorting these on their dining table and 10 amazing volunteers delivered them. This then morphed into our new prescription delivery service, set up and led by Chris Sketchley, with Mark Foden's technical assistance, and working in partnership with the surgery. This has involved a huge amount of work by Chris and his dedicated prescription team, delivering over 5,000 prescriptions and driving over 9,000 miles, initially over a huge rural area as it included Kintbury surgery as well, which provided quite a few navigational challenges.

We then also set up the Coronavirus community support management team, with the existing Neighbourcare committee as well as Canon Christine Dale, Clive Sanders and Paul Farrington. This resulted in us starting a Coronavirus Community Support newsletter led by Mark Rand and a wonderful team of contributors. They've produced 36 newsletters of government guidance, local information and ideas to keep us occupied, which I think we've all needed.

When we put out the call for more volunteers, we were over whelmed by the response having over 100 people come forward within a few days. What a fantastic community we live in. Vice and vertu has not being able to give them all something to do, however, we have been extremely fortunate to permanently recruit some of these amazing new volunteers.

With people self-isolating, we started a shopping delivery service with a fantastic team of 14 volunteers completing over 60 trips, frequently at short notice. It seems a distant memory now when the supermarket shelves were empty and toilet roll, pasta and flour were nowhere to be found apart from in our 2 amazing local shops, who continually came up trumps. We also helped the Foodbank with their deliveries over the summer holidays.

We were very aware that a lot of our existing clients may be isolated and vulnerable at the beginning of Covid, so we called each one of them to check they were ok and to ensure they knew how we could help them if needed. Led by Paul Farrington, we had 11 brilliant volunteers who undertook regular wellbeing calls to initially 40 clients. Paul was also great at identifying some of our new volunteers to help with legal issues and bereavement support.

Unfortunately, Lesley decided to step down as Chair and Nicole Bentham

as a co-ordinator earlier in the year, after many years with Neighbourcare, we will miss them both. On a happier note, it's has been fantastic to have recruited 3 new co-ordinators – Diana Sketchley, Gayle Ashby and Lisa Banwell to work with Frieda King and Chris Sketchley.

We also took the plunge with a new central telephone number – 01635 745600, which has given us the opportunity to more evenly distribute the calls between the co-ordinators and actually give them some days off!

After suspending driving clients for a while, we restarted this in July with our new driving policy, to ensure we did all we could to keep our drivers and clients safe when driving to medical appointments and to their Covid vaccinations. We've also helped the GP surgery with phoning patients to arrange their 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid jab and the administration of vaccines at the Racecourse.

Of course, none of the huge amount of work we've achieved over this last year would have been possible without all of our truly wonderful volunteers, who always go the extra mile. So, a massive thank you to you all, as well as to all those who've given us donations over the last year for which we are very grateful.

Sarah Garland, Chair of East Woodhay & Highclere Neighbourcare

## From The Archives

#### From the Archives, June 1942

The Red Cross Working Party has met every Friday since April17th. Two days were devoted to knitting in answer to a special appeal for comforts for Russia, which resulted in 11 long-sleeved pullovers, 6 helmets and 38 pairs mittens being despatched to headquarters in record time.......Financially the Depot has been very fortunate, and the following has been handed over to our treasurer, Mrs.Oppenheim:-£6 was the excellent result of a dance organised by Mrs. Randall and Mrs.W.Rolfe; 14/8 generously donated by the Children's Church; 10/- by Mrs.Bevan, one of our oldest parishioners, who made and sold a rug in aid of the Working Party funds.

The Red Cross Penny-a-Week Fund results in an increase every month, thanks to the generous subscribers and the untiring efforts of the collectors. The Red Cross will have to have large funds if our men are to have the comforts they so richly deserve, our Hospitals to have their supplies for the wounded, and our poor Prisoners of War to receive their parcels; so Woolton Hill do your best as always, every penny helps.



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## National Women's Register

n a spring evening, more reminiscent of winter, we met via Zoom to hear from one of our members who is a keen gardener, and share gardening advice with each other.

We heard that keeping a gardening diary was very helpful as not only did it remind us what tasks needed completing each month it also served as a record of what worked and what did not!

Tips involved building up the soil round the roots of tomato plants to encourage more root growth, planting marigolds next to tomatoes in the greenhouse to discourage whitefly. and a deterrent for the often-destructive slug was to use copper tape or ash around plants. Acid soil loving camellias should be fed during the summer after flowering, rhubarb needs to be well watered and should not be picked in the first year of planting, and to prevent hostas being eaten by slugs they should be planted in pots which are standing in travs of water.

How could we have guessed that a meeting entitled 'Cats' could have so many varied contributions!

Historically we heard about the importance of cats in ancient Egypt and how cats were considered protectors of the pharaohs. There are many cave paintings of cats from this era as well as many examples of mummified cats. Injuring, or killing, a cat in Egyptian times was considered a very serious crime.

*Proailurus lemanensis* lived in Europe and Asia 25 million years ago

and is widely considered to be the ancient ancestor of all modern cat species, wild and domestic. Servals are a small wild cat species native to Africa. They are generally considered to be the cat with the longest legs for their body size and have the highest success rate when hunting of 50% There are plans to release wild cats back into parts of Britain. Once native, they were made extinct by hunting and loss of habitat, but may be reintroduced to help control species such as rabbits.

NWR

CATS, the musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber first staged in 1980, is based on the Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T.S. Eliot. The Landseer lions of Trafalgar Square, 20 feet long and cast in bronze, were erected in 1867.

Meerkats are not cats at all but are part of the mongoose family. They are native to the deserts of southern Africa and have a reputation as snake killers as they are immune to many snake venoms.

Finally, we heard about the many pet cats that people had been lucky enough to own over the years. We agreed that cats have very individual personalities, are usually boss of the house and are fiercely independent. Many members have enjoyed the companionship of *Felis catus* over the years with Bryoney and Flossie still keeping people company today.

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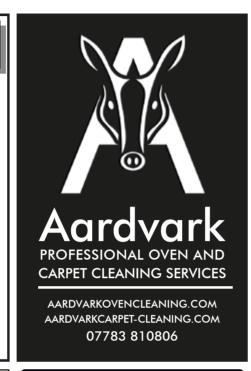
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## East Woodhay Society

#### **Community Walk**

- save the date 10th July

Oh, how we are all looking forward to the end of many of the restrictions and we thought it would be great to have a Community Walk on 10th July and to end up with a picnic. Maybe there will be poppies to see on the way. We'll have full details in the July Spectrum.

#### Newsletters

It is great news that the local infection numbers continue to remain low. These are published along with the trend on the home page of the website www.wooltonhill.com.

We will continue to send out the Coronavirus Community Newsletters whenever there is a change in the rules or guidelines. However, given that we have the good news of reduced lockdown regulations following the lower Covid-19 cases it is likely these will stop. EWS will then go back to issuing monthly newsletters.

To keep receiving all the latest local news via email do join the society where you will also hear about the forthcoming events. To join simply send me an email.

Please also keep looking at the website www.wooltonhill.com where we publish additional local news including the latest Covid information and the number of local infection cases.

Mark Rand – Chair EWS Fmail

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## Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club

#### **Entomology for Gardens**

Woolton Hill Gardener's Club were very fortunate to welcome a highly respected research entomologist, Dr Ian Bedford to our Zoom meeting in April. Ian is an expert on Lepidoptera or moths and butterflies to you and I. It is thought that moths evolved 200 million years ago from the Caddis Fly. Butterflies came later, about 100 million years ago, simultaneously with the evolution of Angiosperms (flowering plants).

lan explained that, during their life-cycle, Lepidoptera undergo a complete metamorphosis, which includes a period of dormancy as a cocoon (moths) or chrysalis (butterflies), during which time the adult structures begin to grow as the caterpillar or larva forms a protein soup.

To identify a butterfly, look for daytime action, brightly coloured wings which fold back at rest and antennae with club-shaped tips. If these four characteristics are not there, it is a moth! Lepidoptera use pheromones, ultra violet and polarised light and flight formations to recognise their own species and find a mate. Each species needs access to a particular plant to lay its eggs.

One of our rarest butterflies. which is an endangered species world-wide, is the Large Blue (Phengaris arion). Its habitat is well-drained, unimproved coastal grassland where Wild Thyme grows and red ants are also found. This butterfly spends part of its life cycle being cared for by red ants. In 1979 due to myxomatosis. the rabbit population declined, the grass grew longer and the red ant, followed by the Large Blue died out. It has since been reintroduced and the grass is kept short by grazing animals, the ants and the butterfly have returned. A success story!



And what about our gardens? Ian recommended growing a variety of plants listed on the Butterfly Conservation website, avoid cutting back herbaceous plants until spring, keep an undisturbed woodpile, avoid the use of pesticides and try to form our gardens into 'stepping stones' to interconnect with larger habitats and sites of scientific interest. Hopefully, we can all achieve some of these this summer.

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## A Positive Side To Lockdown.

Whilst many of us have taken up cycling, walked more or spent more time in the garden, one Woolton Hill resident has spent lockdown in a very productive way.

Retired Chief Superintendent of Thames Valley Police, Simon Bowden has spent lockdown writing his first novel. The idea for the plot first came to him back in 2013 but it took morning radio hosts Chris Evans and Graham Norton to inspire him to get writing. Chris promoted the idea to do something meaningful during

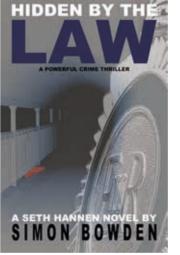


the 2021 coronavirus lockdown and Graham

talked a lot about books on his weekend show.

With a background in the police force including being on the National Police Chiefs' Council and a Master's degree in Applied Criminology from Cambridge University, it is hardly surprising that Simon's book, Hidden By The Law, has a DCl as the central character. The crime and intrigue take place in and around the towns of Berkshire, which give the story local interest.

Simon is publishing the book, Hidden By The Law, himself and it can be found on Amazon. He is already working on a second adventure starring the same hero, Seth Hannen. Well done, Simon and good luck with the books.





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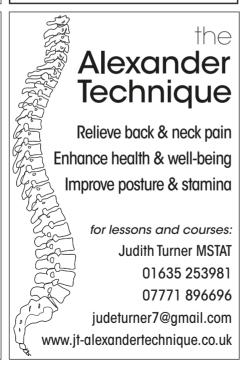
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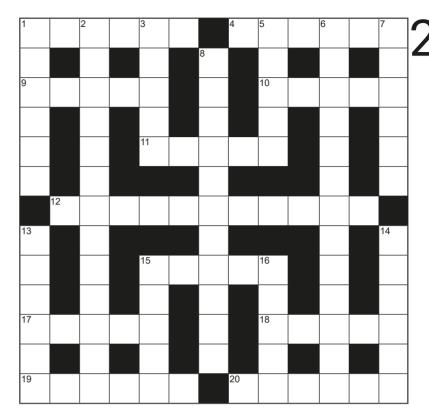
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Answers crossword no 219
Across: 1 Mobcap, 4 Flagon, 9 Blues, 10 Awake, 11 Peony, 12 Oak Apple Day
15 Pansy, 17 Waste, 18 Rinse, 19 Dressy 20 Ostler
Down: 1 Mobile, 2 Bouillabaisse, 3 Aesop, 5 Leafy, 6 Gravitational, 7 Naevus,
8 Accompanist, 13 Stowed, 14 Meteor, 15 Press, 16 Yarns

**Across** 

- 1. About time tuber became a dairy product (6)
- 4. Searching for wading bird, we look back on fifty and see dog coming (6)
- 9. Area with pole for sporting events (5)
- 10. A hard beginning, but Andy was useful to have around (5)
- 11. Mother has completely lost her head, she really is something else! (5)
- 12. Appears that he would use money wisely, but does the opposite (11)
- 15. Would not accept small stream (5)
- 17. Cat in city half full of prickly plants (5)
- 18. Confused big cats by bearing fruit perhaps (5)
- 19. Clear debts and get comfortable in North Yorkshire town (6)
- 20. Games I play to produce pictures (6)

#### Down

- Be dead but, curiously, highly ornamental
   (6)
- 2. Carpet that man would like to see in his village pub (3,7,3)
- 3. Lend your ear to dangerous muse (5)
- 5. Southern son leaves, and we are left with legendary king (5)
- 6. Finding golf fun, singer put up with a lot to play (13)
- 7. Interrupt and detain someone to express approval about law (6)
- 8. Let the porker do as he will; he is sure to make a bloomer (3,3,5)
- 13. Follows the less trodden paths (6)
- 14. The half sister put forward a theory (6)
- 15. Note small stream where you found fish with casual exclamation of delight (5)
- 16. Milk I spill on rug (5)



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## The Schools of Woolton Hill

I am privileged to have been appointed as the new Executive Headteacher for The Schools of Woolton Hill from Easter 2021. I have been a Headteacher across Hampshire for over 10 years. In addition to leading two Primary Schools, I have completed seconded positions and consultancy work for the Local Authority: as well as being a Local Leader of Education (LLE) for the Solent Teaching Schools Alliance.

I feel very lucky to have the opportunity to lead this brand new Federation at such an exciting moment



in the history of the two schools. I will be working with the highly skilled teams across the Federation to

develop one cohesive educational experience for all pupils as they move from St. Thomas Infants to Woolton Hill Juniors.

I believe in the power of education to change children's lives and the right of every child to receive excellent schooling. I am dedicated to building opportunities for pupils to achieve the highest academic standards and to ensure that their unique personality, talents and interests are nurtured and developed to the full.

Paul Davies (Executive Headteacher)

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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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# Directory of Local Organizations

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