

September 2021

50p

Spectrum



Editorial



Editor: One who prepares the work of others for publication by compiling, selecting, revising, censoring, altering, etc..

Once again I come to the end of my editorial duties for the year and hand over the baton to Kathy Scott. It has been a pleasure preparing all the various submissions for the July, August and September editions, reading every item and trying to eliminate as many errors of grammar, punctuation or spelling as possible and to try to make Spectrum an interesting, informative and inspirational community magazine. Hopefully we succeed most of the time.

I am lucky to have the able administrative help and business skills of Bertha Bates, my ghost editor, whose patience far exceeds my own. The editing work takes five to ten hours of computer time each month and the result is then passed over to our digital graphic designer, John Priest, who does a sterling job of arranging the content and making the editor look good. Thank you, John, we look forward to working with you again next year. In the meantime let's all enjoy reading each issue of Spectrum and continuing to involve ourselves in the activities of the community.

JH

<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 October, November and December

Kathy Scott

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East Woodhay Parish Council



Traffic Calming Measures Update

In the June edition of Spectrum the Parish Council announced the implementation of "Speed Calming" measures throughout the Parish. This created a very positive response from many Parishioners who fully supported the initiative and shared the Council's concerns about the issue. Some also requested more information about the locations.

We have now agreed ten locations and the programme will commence in September/October. There will be one Speed Indicator sited in each location for a period of two weeks before moving onto the next. The areas which we have identified are Church Road, Trade Street, Woolton Hill Road, Tile Barn Row, Ball Hill Road and Broadlayings. Some of these roads will have more than one location.



The first step in this programme is to build a picture of the "speeding problem" and then agree an appropriate solution. It is our intention to keep everyone informed through Spectrum as we build up more information. We would welcome any input as the scheme progresses and the identification of further "trouble spots" that you may feel that we have overlooked.

martin.hainge.ewpc@gmail.com

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East Woodhay Society



Help Protect our Rural Environment

Last month I wrote about the importance for everyone to be engaged with the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan. Recently we have seen why this is so important with housing being proposed in our area. On 5th August, the main headline in Newbury Weekly News was regarding 350 houses which have been put forward at the north of our Parish, adjacent to the River Enborne. There is a real fear that such housing will erode our rural environment and see a nibbling away of the green gap between Newbury and our area. To find out more go to: www.watermillbridge.co.uk

There is also an opposition website at www.keepwashwaterrural.co.uk

Please do keep involved in what is happening with the Neighbourhood Plan and help protect our rural environment. Links can be found at www.wooltonhill.com.

Coronavirus

A reminder that all the latest news about Covid-19 with local case and tragically death numbers, are also stored on the Woolton Hill website. It is a sad reminder that our highest ever case numbers have occurred within the past month.

Thanks to Amit and Vaishali Patel

Many of us have very good reason to be very thankful to Amit and Vaishali (aka Raj and Sue) in the Woolton Hill Post

office for all they do and for keeping the shop so well stocked, especially over the past year during the Covid-19 pandemic.

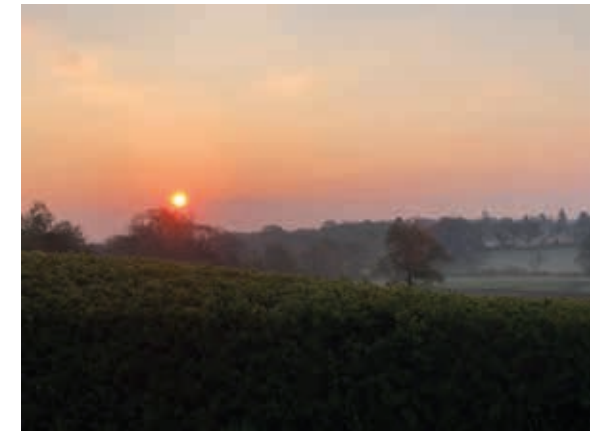
You may not realise that every day Amit leaves the shop at 5.00 am in the car to pick up all the papers and then, after sorting them, is out delivering them to grateful residents. I mentioned to him that whilst many of us are still sleeping, he must see some wonderful sun rises. Amit kindly shared this photo which he took.

Mark Rand – Chair EWS

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Wheat by Mike Robinson

Give us this day our daily bread, crumpets, cakes and biscuits.

Wheat is one of the most widely produced crops around the world with about 800 million tons grown annually, derived from Emmer and Spelt wheats from Africa and the Middle East centuries ago.

Wheat breeding programmes have developed a more widely used plant compared to oats, barley and rye. Compared with other plants such as maize and rice, wheat can be grown in a wider range of climate, soils and regions.

In the UK we produce about 18 million tons each year some of which is exported mostly to Europe and North Africa. Some will go to the Far East, but that will depend upon cheaper supplies from Russia, the Ukraine and the USA.

Wheat is classified in accordance to its quality and final use requirements. This is analysed within guidelines from the National Association of British & Irish Millers and assessed by a process known as The Chorley Wood Baking Programme. Wheat varieties are then divided into four groups:

1. The very best quality for bread making such that the dough is able to retain all the gases produced by the yeast in the bread making process. This produces a large long life loaf.
2. This group is also used for baking, but is of poorer quality. It can be blended with group one wheats, but produces bread of shorter shelf life used in the value product ranges which are cheaper to buy.
3. Biscuit wheats. These are not able or required to retain gases in the same way and therefore use to produce biscuits and flat breads.
4. Classified as feed wheats used mostly in animal production systems, ethanol, starch production and export.

On balance the UK climate allows for the production of high yielding group four wheats. The rainfall is not conducive in the production of best quality bread wheat which arrives mostly from the hot dry climate in Canada, USA and France. We import about 3 million tons for that reason. Specialist wheats are used for the production of pasta in Italy and rye biscuits are produced in Eastern Europe where again the climate is hotter and drier.



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East Woodhay Local History Society



We will be restarting talks on Monday 10th September at 8pm in the Village Hall at Heath End. Our first speaker will be Sue Ellis who will give a presentation about Anglo-Saxon hoards connected with Sutton Hoo and the Staffordshire hoard.

We are liaising with the Hall committee about their Covid requirements so, as we know you will, please bring masks.

If members had not paid their subscription back in February 2020 then please do so at the meeting—£7.50. Fees that were paid are carried over for this season. New members are also welcome.

Any queries, please contact me at chrisssie.dalton@yahoo.co.uk or on 07880 628 114.

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Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club



To Compost or Not to Compost?

I have noticed recently that within my small circle of family, friends and acquaintances, composting is a word that rarely crops up in conversation, if at all! I haven't heard the word mentioned at any Gardeners' Club meetings since I became a member three years ago, and even our guru, Monty Don, only mentions it briefly on very odd occasions!

"Why is this?" I ask, and you may reply, "Well, it's the thought of all those grass cuttings, clippings and veg peelings rotting away behind the bins!" But, once you have experienced the unfathomable joy of taking the side off the composter and discovering a rich, dark-coloured, earth-scented, soil-like substance, you will be a convert. Add it to your garden soil and over a few years you will no longer have the stony, dry, pale soil of North Hampshire and your plants will flourish.

People who compost fall into several categories; those who chuck it all in a heap at the end of the garden and hope for the best; some who build at least two, probably three, enormous open bins out of old pallets, which are rotated annually. Some brave souls go down the route of the 'wormery' or 'hot composter' with hundreds of 'brandling worms' doing all the work and others, like my husband Jon, opt for Hampshire County Council's 'Green Johanna', which is a green plastic bin into which you place layers of peelings and green waste, alternating with dry, brown waste, mainly cardboard and paper. I even have one friend who has a large rotating drum which is totally vermin-proof and is turned each day, into which ALL food waste can go! To really destroy weeds the composter has to reach at least 60 degrees centigrade and this is only achieved by the 'hot composter' or in a really ENORMOUS heap. I have seen the 'enormous heap' in action at the Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh where the heap was steaming as the various organisms got to work on breaking down the vegetation. Strangely, all of these methods work well eventually. Try one and see for yourself! If you need any helpful hints, please ask me.

Lorna Rains





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Dear Friends,

I confess to being among those who were sceptical about the wisdom of the Tokyo Olympic Games going ahead this summer, given the virulent spread of the virus in Japan and indeed prevalent in so many parts of our world. I think it has been immensely brave of athletes to travel from all around the world at this time. What quickly became clear, as the Games got underway, is that during these uncertain times athletes all around the world have been training hard. There were some stunning records and achievements and, despite my early misgivings, I was inspired by watching the dedication of all who took part.

Skilled athletes make their sport look effortless. But we know that the commitment, discipline and hours of physical training involved are enormous and that the pressure of expectations can be an added burden. It is a huge achievement even to win a place to compete, let alone win a medal of any colour in the Olympic Games.

Perhaps it is a good thing that we cannot all be Olympic athletes! Some of us have to be spectators, all be it this year from our armchairs, as stadiums were empty of spectators. Somebody has to keep the organisation running smoothly. Somebody has to make sure the right flags are raised for the medal ceremonies. Somebody has to commentate on races and somebody has to film them. How the list goes on of the many different tasks and skills needed!

Christians believe that God gives different gifts to each one of us; it would not do if we were all alike. Saint Paul compares the Church to a body with many parts. He says the Holy Spirit gives different gifts to members of the Church, so that each may contribute to the whole. These gifts are not meant to be kept to ourselves, but shared so that all may work together, supporting and encouraging each other. It is important to remember that, whether we are gold medallists in the Olympic Games or working behind the scenes we are all precious children of God, whose love for us is constant, irrespective of our achievements.

So if we enjoyed the Olympic Games, let us give thanks for the diversity of gifts and skills which enabled them to take place especially in difficult times. Let us also give thanks for our own unique gifts and look for opportunities to encourage those whose gifts may be different from ours. Let us celebrate, all our gifts—and make sure we use them for the good of all.

With every blessing to you all,
Canon Christine

From the Church Registers: July 2021		
Baptism: we ask God's blessing on the life of....		
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Church Services SEPTEMBER 2021			
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SUN 5th <i>Trinity 14</i>	All Together Matins Parish Communion Evensong Cemetery Chapel Service	Woolton Hill Highclere East Woodhay Ashmansworth <i>Highclere Cemetery Chapel</i>	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm 6.00pm
SUN 12th <i>Trinity 15</i>	Parish Communion Matins Holy Communion	Woolton Hill Highclere Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am
SUN 19th <i>Trinity 16</i>	Morning Worship Matins Parish Communion Evensong	Woolton Hill East Woodhay Highclere Crux Easton	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 26th <i>Trinity 17</i>	Holy Communion Parish Communion Evensong	Highclere Woolton Hill East Woodhay	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm
WED 1 st , 22 nd , 29 th 8 th , 15 th	Holy Communion Morning Prayer	Woolton Hill Woolton Hill	10.00 am 10.00 am
<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>			

From the Church Registers: July 2021 continued		
Wedding: may God bless their lives together		
10th July	Alex Zacharek & Rebecca Boast	Woolton Hill
17th July	Derek Gandy & Sarah McVey	Highclere
24th July	Robert Dunn & Hollie Parton	Highclere
Funeral: may they rest in peace		
13th July	Anthony (Tony) Charles Reid	Woolton Hill

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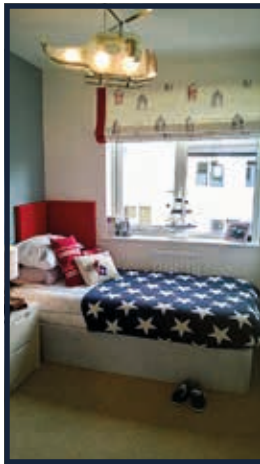
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The Power of Poles.

At the end of 2018 I felt I needed to do more exercise and have always enjoyed walking. However, a dodgy knee meant long distances were difficult. I had seen Nordic Walking several times when holidaying in Scandinavia so I googled it to find the Nordic Walking UK site which proved to be very informative.

Nordic Walking started as a summer exercise for cross country skiers and the NW poles are used differently to ordinary walking poles. The latter are used more in front of the body for stability though do still take a lot of strain off the knees. The NW poles are used slightly behind the body to help push you forward. This also exercises the upper body and core as well as helping the knees.

I found a group, Wessex Nordic Walking, based around Marlborough which does encompass Inkpen, Hungerford and Facombe. I went on a course to learn the technique and got hooked so joined the Wessex group. I had some treatment on my knee and the pole walking helped strengthen the supporting muscles and I have no problems since, plus I have lost some weight. In 2020 I took up the Country Walking magazine's 'Walk 1000 miles' challenge and actually did over 1,250 miles. I am repeating it this year and have already completed over 800 miles.

Obviously, most of this was done during the lockdowns when roads and lanes were deserted. I also went up on the Downs where it was quite surreal – no airplanes or vehicle noise, just bird song and insects buzzing. Wildlife was easier to see as it took advantage of the situation and I have seen groups of hares, roe deer, fallow deer, muntjac, stoats plus so many wildflowers and insects.

We are now back walking in groups and I travel over a lot of Wessex. As well as the wildlife, I have now visited many historic sites – Avebury, West Kennet Long Barrow, the Wansdyke, to name a few, plus many pretty villages. As the Marlborough Downs are not as wooded as ours, the views are breath taking. However, there are a few woods such as West Woods and Gopher Woods where the bluebells and wild garlic are amazing in the spring. There are walks of different lengths and difficulty plus you can walk with other groups around the country when you are away on holiday.

All in all, it was a great decision to take this up. My fellow walkers come from varied backgrounds and interests so the conversations are also fascinating. One more thing – we also find some wonderful cafes for the occasional 'treatlet' afterwards!!

If you are interested then look up nordicwalking.co.uk or walxwessex.co.uk

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The Local Flower & Produce Show

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What sections to enter, what choices to make,
What skills can I display best?

It's no good to enter the veggies,
Bert's always the champion there.
My small scrawny lettuce and carrots
Stand no chance at all to compare.

Magnificent cakes all look scrumptious.
I wish I could rise to the challenge.
The judges look happy when tasting,
Ah!—tasting is what I could manage!

There's knitting and handicraft sections,
But June's such a wizard at these.
My "knit one then purl one and drop one"
Is not likely the judges to please!

I see there's a section for photos
So rummage around in my file.
A mischievous dog stealing biscuits,
I think that just might raise a smile

It says I need three, so keep searching.
The snow scene in winter looks nice.
Bright flowers in Spring would be pretty,
Would sunsets the judges entice?

The day of the show has arrived
And I see that the standard is high.
I nervously wait till the judging's complete;
A trophy—and also first prize!

Moyra Harkness

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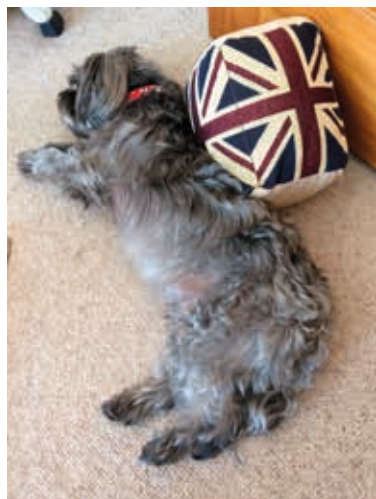
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Burt's Blog



Resting after a long walk

Hello again. Another exciting month for me, lots more walking and meeting people. When I'm nearly home I always want to call in to see my newest Auntie Jane and Uncle John. They make a lot of fuss of me which of course I love. A dog can't get too much fuss and cuddles.

I've been to the groomers and had my hair shampooed and cut and I am told my fur smells very nice now. I really don't mind going to the groomers, much better than the vet!

Something else that is really super; when I go for my walks my walkers take a bottle of water and a very tiny plastic bowl so I can have a drink on the way round. It

certainly perks me up, especially on a warm day!
Hope to see you around.

Burt



East Woodhay Women's Institute



East Woodhay WI – July 2021

Our second "garden" meeting was again a very happy occasion. We were a different group of people, and once again we enjoyed talking to one another. A feeling of great friendship between us – surely what the WI stands for.

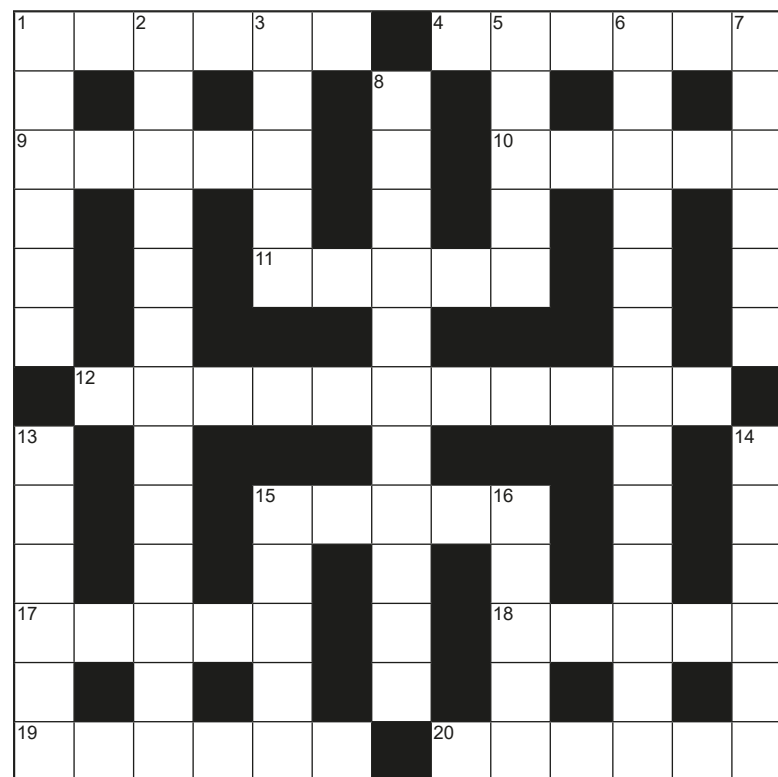
We were in Sandie Ball's beautiful garden, her hollyhocks were truly magnificent. We completed some poems and discussed future plans. We were also given a paper to consider the future of the area.

We had lovely tea & cake and then we went home.

We had another coffee morning at Manton, Ball Hill on August 10th (report in next Spectrum) and we will be "out to lunch" at the Furze Bush on Tuesday September 14th at 1pm.

Do join us if you can...

June Milsom



223

Across

1. Five hundred Romans in power turn everything to dust (6)
4. Batman turned out to be chicken (6)
9. Drift in and out with the sea only to die horribly in back street (5)
10. Also out to sea, took a cake hoping the other two would bring meat and candles (5)
11. He would drive around at the bottom of the sea looking for an old wreck (5)
12. Acted rashly because we have a lively imp with us! (11)
15. Drab horse conceals hate (5)
17. Take aim, I'm off to city of vice (5)
18. Unnecessary feature starts in France and is ill by the end (5)
19. Annoyed, we hear, about the way sock was mended (6)
20. Traveller and irritable old man describe a good roll (6)

Down

1. Would rot in your lap if you didn't walk round to check (6)
2. Sent word if I became stranded, would Tom lend me a horse to get there? (9,4)
3. Went slowly and carefully and without difficulty (5)
5. Fishy girl provides a warning light (5)
6. Games are not cold but my top looks icy (5,8)
7. Where lad with alien goes shopping (6)
8. Autumn festival turns into 70's thriller (7,4)
13. It was Mr Head that did the damage (6)
14. Bar on temporary pasture good for beer making (6)
15. Wonder Girl? I don't think so, but she is definitely in the neighbourhood (5)
16. Wanting to be free somehow, right to pass matter to a higher body for a decision (5)

Answers crossword no 222
 Across: 1 Arcade, 4 Slouch, 9 Mamba, 10 Vicar, 11 Aphid, 12 Notting Hill, 15 Samba, 17 Idiom, 18 Totem, 19 Opener, 20 Acidic
 Down: 1 Admire, 2 Commemorative, 3 Drama, 5 Livid, 6 Uncomplicated, 7 Herbal, 8 Enchantment, 13 Calico, 14 Atomic, 15 Somme, 16 Attic

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member: Graham Falconer (cllr.graham.falconer@basingstoke.gov.uk)253144

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