

February 2022

50p

Spectrum



 
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Editorial



I hope you are all enjoying the first few weeks of the new year, despite the cold weather, rain and even a little bit of snow! It is always a good time to cosy up and rejuvenate after the festive period – ready for spring. It is also a relief that we seem to have avoided another lockdown!

This month's issue celebrates the new Sunday Club team at St. Thomas' Church. Our front cover features three of the new team, Jenny, Lucy and Olivia. They are doing a sterling job of raising awareness of Sunday Club and there are some exciting things in the pipeline for 2022. My two children have thoroughly enjoyed the events over the last few months and always come away with a smile on their faces, having had a lot of fun!

Jenny and her family also hosted a fabulous fundraiser in December in memory of her nephew, which I'm sure many of you attended.

Wash Common library are now restarting some of their community groups, including book club, poetry club and Spanish club. If you're keen to start the new year trying something new, why not give one of these groups a go? See our article for more details.

Whatever you spend February doing, enjoy it. Abbie and I will see you in March.

Sarah

<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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The Old Farm

It once was full of life and fun, the old farm on the hill.
Now house and barns are empty and the place is cold and still.
The roof devoid of tiles is exposed to wind and weather.
It looks so different now than the times when things were better.

A farmer ploughed and sowed, feeding chickens in the yard.
So happy in his work but perhaps the times were hard?
His children loved the lambs, nursing weak ones every day.
Devoted hours of care left them little time to play.

Fine herds of cattle grazed—munching peacefully in fields.
The corn grew well and high; producing bumper yields.
Sometimes the crops were few, with less sun or too much rain.
Frustrating for the farmer; was climate change to blame?

When later generations moved—perhaps to distant towns
To seek a better wage, then the farms became run-down.
As time rolls by the countryside exerts a hidden pull.
Once more a family settles in a new farm on a hill.

Moyra Harkness

Ron Ballantine

In December 2003, Spectrum printed this obituary:

Ron Ballantine, who died recently, aged 90, had lived in Woolton Hill for many years. He was a charming, modest man, and many people will not know of his small part in modern history.

What was the "small part in modern history" that he played?

On 31st January 1952, Princess Elizabeth left London for Kenya in a specially adapted Hermes IV airliner. The plane landed in Libya to refuel and change crew and Captain Ronald Ballantine took over as the new pilot. At the Princess's request, Captain Ballantine circled Mount Kilimanjaro so that the royal couple could take photographs and he also allowed them to stand behind him in the cockpit to watch the landing into Nairobi.

On 6th February the Queen learned of her father's death, and it was decided that she should return as quickly as possible. Captain Ballantine was called from a swim in the sea to hear the news and to get ready to fly the Queen back to London. The weather was very stormy, and he decided to delay the flight, despite being urged to leave quickly. This was his "small part in modern history".

Later that year, he was made a member of the Royal Victorian Order for personal services to the sovereign and was invited to attend

the Queen's coronation in 1953.

Ronald Ballantine was born in 1913 in Plymouth. He studied art there and in Paris, but his life was changed after a five-shilling flight with Alan Cobham's Flying Circus. He learned to fly privately, and by the time he was 21 he had obtained his commercial flying, navigation, and wireless licences, enabling him to join Imperial Airways in 1934.

Initially Ballantine flew as second officer in the open cockpit of a three-engine Argosy on the Croydon-Brussels-Cologne route. He later flew on the Imperial Airways Empire routes to Africa and Asia, before being appointed to his first command at the age of 23. Ballantine was described by a colleague as "*tall and debonair. . . quintessentially English, and a genial man of great modesty and charm*".

By 1939 he was back in the UK and joined the RAF volunteer reserve. He took part in the evacuation of France in 1940 and crash landed his plane in the desert while supplying fuel to the besieged garrison at Tobruk.

After the war he was seconded to Hong Kong, returning to the UK with his wife Cherrie in 1948 to fly BOAC's new Argonaut airliners. He flew the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh several times, but the most momentous occasion must have been in February 1952.

By the time he retired in 1966, Captain Ballantine had served as a BOAC pilot for 32 years and had flown five million miles and clocked up 21,400 flying hours. His last job was to pilot a VC10 jet from Beirut to London.

Ron and Cherrie Ballantine had three children and lived in Wokingham until Ron's retirement. Then they came to Woolton Hill and bought The Hitchens. This was their home until their deaths in 2003 and 2011 respectively; here they were able to create a beautiful garden and enjoy village life.

They were both committed Christians and regular church goers. Captain Ballantine was treasurer for

St. Thomas' churchyard for many years. They loved art and Cherrie used to paint in a summer house in the corner of the garden. She volunteered with Neighbourcare in its early days and made a weekly visit to St. Thomas' Infant School to help the children with art until the end of her life. There are still people in the village who remember them fondly.

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Are our buildings suitable for our lives?

There was a wide-ranging discussion in our December meeting which was introduced by the concept that investment in design generates economic and social value. This makes for improvements in educational/office/hospital environments, pride and cultural activity and crime prevention.

A topic for analysis was 'Maggie's Garden'. Maggie herself was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 52 and had treatment. She helped set up quiet places, places of refuge where people who were undergoing cancer treatment could go. Now there are 23 centres, often designed by leading architects.

The next speaker talked about the importance of exterior, interior and entrance design in modern hospitals. Organic design with the buildings blending into the surrounding environment, accessible

locations, daylight-facing windows and open public space were all seen as valuable. Hospital stays were shortened for patients as a result of good hospital design.

The practical applications of good design were highlighted by analysis of heat pumps which work by extracting heat from the ground and are frequently utilised with underfloor heating systems.

In conclusion, there was a general discussion about topics such as cladding, maintenance-free houses fit for an ageing population and problems with property maintenance companies. Councils used to encourage people to move from family homes to bungalows, it was noted. There should be new ways to build affordable housing such as using timber frame construction, prefab houses and container homes. Houses can be adapted for the elderly

so they don't have to move and care communities could be created.

Later in the month, a scaled down Christmas party was held, attended by around a dozen members (all appropriately flow-tested), who enjoyed a buffet supper with a variety of quizzes and table games. Most of all they relished the opportunity to socialise together at the end of another challenging year.





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St Martin's CE Primary School



Enrichment Clubs at St. Martin's.

At St. Martin's Primary school, the children are given many wonderful opportunities to extend and enhance their education.

There are numerous clubs offered at the school, some run by staff, some run by Year 6 pupils and some run by external organisations.

When speaking about the clubs in school, the children are enthusiastic and eager. They love to be involved and this is most evident in the clubs that are run by the school ambassadors. The art, music and sports ambassadors each run a club once a week during lunchtime for any children that are interested. The groups are limited to approximately eight children at a time, but all children that want to attend are given a chance during the school year.

The clubs use school resources and are supervised by school adults, but it is the school ambassadors that take responsibility for the activities and content of the clubs.

The younger children talk passionately about how they have made badges in the art club or composed music on the keyboards in the music club. When speaking to the school ambassadors, they say they learn a lot from running the clubs, including how to communicate with the younger children, new skills from the other children in the club and patience!

School staff run the cross country club and the choir, both of which are very popular. The cross country club gives the opportunity for children in years 4, 5 and 6 to practise running along the lane and fields opposite the school – there is plenty of opportunity for muddy puddle jumping whilst trying to outrun the teachers! The choir is open for any children in years 1-6 and currently has over 50 members – almost half the school! They love performing and recently had the opportunity to perform a selection of Christmas songs at the Winchester Christmas Market, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all children, staff and parents.

In addition to this, external organisations run football, judo and netball, all of which are very popular. The children enjoy developing their skills and learning more about the different sports. Our most recent club is a yoga club, which takes place on a Monday morning and provides an incredibly positive start to the week. The children have enjoyed learning the various techniques and have gained an insight into ways to help relax and develop their wellbeing.

All of the clubs at St. Martin's are incredibly popular and all contribute to the community feel of the school. Part of the school development plan this year is to develop pupil voice and ensure children understand how they can make a difference and contribute positively both to the school and to society.

If you would like to find out more about St. Martin's School, please visit the school website: www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk

or contact the school office: adminoffice@st-martins.hants.sch.uk



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Harwood Rise Christmas Fundraiser



IN DECEMBER, residents of Harwood Rise in Woolton Hill came together for some fantastic Christmas fun. The 'Harwood Rise Christmas Lights Fundraiser' organised by the Graham family and the Beasley family (along with an amazing team of talented helpers) proved that the community spirit of the village was alive and well. The event included lots of activities for the children including a penalty shoot-out, refreshments, music, a huge inflatable snowman and Santa and masses of Christmas lights.

As well as bringing people together at Christmas, the event was focused on raising money for a very worthy cause close to the Graham family's heart. Their nephew and cousin suffered a cardiac arrest whilst playing in an FA Youth Cup football match early in September and he died three days later. Dylan was 17 and had certainly lived his short life to the full – he loved sport, played the guitar, excelled at school, had a passion for animals and protecting the environment and wanted to live out his Christian faith through helping others and making a difference. His death touched people up and down the country and internationally. The England football team paid tribute to him prior to their game against Poland on 8th September.

Thanks to the generosity of people in Woolton Hill, over £700 was raised and will be donated to Dylan's Legacy Fund. Dylan's family are determined that his legacy will live on, and many will benefit from the money that is given in his memory – in the fields of sport and physical activity for young people, and to support conservancy and sustainable employment for people in Kenya.

Details for the Just Giving page and for Dylan's legacy fund are below.

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/christmaslightsfordylan
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From the Rector

Dear Friends,

This year our Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, has her Platinum Jubilee. She acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 upon the death of her father. Her coronation was on 2nd June 1953 and jubilee celebrations will focus later this year around the extended bank holiday in early June. This month's anniversary of her accession is perhaps opportunity for a more reflective appreciation of her extraordinary dedication and commitment.

We know from Her Majesty's own words that the Christian faith is important to her, indeed the Monarchy was from earliest days bound to the Christian faith. The Preface to the 39 Articles of the Church of England, recorded in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, describes the Monarch as "being by God's Ordinance, according to Our just Title, Defender of the Faith and ... Supreme Governor of the Church of England". A title which our Queen still holds today. The 1662 Prayer Book remains the official doctrinal standard of the Church of England and we still use services from its rich tradition. Within its pages there is also a service to mark the anniversary of the Accession of the Reigning Sovereign, here is a prayer from it to aid our reflections:

ALMIGHTY God, who rulest over all the kingdoms of the world, and dost order them according to thy good pleasure: We yield thee unfeigned thanks, for that thou wast pleased... to set thy Servant our Sovereign Lady, Queen ELIZABETH, upon the Throne of this Realm. Let thy wisdom be her guide, and let thine arm strengthen her; let truth and justice, holiness and righteousness, peace and charity, abound in her days; direct all her counsels and endeavours to thy glory, and the welfare of her subjects; give us grace to obey her cheerfully for conscience sake, and let her always possess the hearts of her people; let her reign be long and prosperous, and crown her with everlasting life in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The language of this prayer may seem old fashioned, but in its own way it enshrines the Christian heritage of our country. The big event and solemn heart of the June platinum celebrations will be a service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral. This will give the jubilee gravitas and meaning. This February, as we give thanks for our Sovereign and pray for her continuing wellbeing, perhaps we may also reflect on the continuing influence of Christianity on our national life and identity.

With every blessing to you all,
Canon Christine

From the Church Registers: December 2021		
Baptism: we ask God's blessing on the life of....		
12th December	Elodie Linda Symes	Woolton Hill
Funeral: may they rest in peace		
2nd December	David Alfred Hutchins	Woolton Hill
13th December	Jennifer (Jenny) Ann Gibson	Highclere
29th December	Paula Lorraine Barrett	Woolton Hill

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SUN 6th 4 th Sunday before Lent	All Together Matins Parish Communion Evensong	Woolton Hill Highclere East Woodhay Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 13th 3 rd Sunday before Lent	Holy Communion Parish Communion Matins Holy Communion	East Woodhay Woolton Hill Highclere Ashmansworth	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am
SUN 20th 2 nd Sunday before Lent	Morning Worship Matins Parish Communion Evensong	Woolton Hill East Woodhay Highclere Crux Easton	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm
SUN 27th Next Sunday before Lent	Holy Communion Parish Communion Messy Church Holy Communion Evensong	Highclere Woolton Hill Ashmansworth Crux Easton East Woodhay	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
WED 2nd Mar Ash Wednesday	Holy Communion Holy Communion	Woolton Hill East Woodhay	10.00am 8.00pm
WED 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd Holy Communion Woolton Hill Church Hall 10.00am			
Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale (Rest day: Friday) 253323 Associate Priest: Revd Canon Marvin Bamforth 254718 Readers: Horace Mitchell 254677, Mike Sarson 07913 943504 Reader Emeritus: Rosemary Cahill 253306 Lay preacher: Angela Myers 254559			

Coffee Morning & Aladdin's Cave	
In Woolton Hill Church Hall on Saturday, 26th February 10.30 to 2.00	
Come and join us for coffee/tea and cake whilst browsing through the many new and good quality items for sale.	
Perhaps you'll find an irresistible treasure.	
Proceeds to St Thomas' Church	

St.Thomas' Church Sunday Club, Woolton Hill

At the beginning of September 2021, after a wonderfully long and dedicated service to the church, the Sunday Club team at St. Thomas' Church decided to hand over the reins.

Jenny Graham, Lucy MacLeod, Olivia Harris, Kay Fullick and Val Burfield make up the new Sunday Club team; having a lot to live up to, they want to continue the good work already done, whilst bringing their own fresh and unique approach with them.

From the outset, they were keen to raise awareness of Sunday Club and to make new connections along the way. Sunday Club is open to all primary school children in the local area. Not only is it a great opportunity to meet other families and make new friends, but children are introduced to faith and to the message of Jesus in a fun and interactive way through entertaining activities and bible stories. A delicious homemade cookie or slice of cake is usually on the menu too!

The team have done a great job so far with some exciting events which have proved hugely popular. Despite challenges from Covid, children from St. Thomas' Infant School, Woolton Hill Junior School, St. Martin's Primary School, Burghclere Primary School and Thorngrove School attended the Welcome Party in September, celebrating the start of a new Sunday Club chapter, with a superhero theme, and the Light Party in October, a positive alternative to Halloween, celebrating Jesus as the Light of the World. At both events, children were able to do a range of craft activities, including rock painting, biscuit decorating and lantern making as well as some fun physical activities such as a treasure hunt and parachute games. All sessions end with a Christian thought or bible story and a fun discussion (whilst enjoying the cake!).

The Christmas craft event sadly could not be done in person, but the team still managed to organise a great afternoon, with fabulous activity bags for each child to enjoy at home over a Zoom call, meaning that the children could still have fun together and feel part of the community. A brilliant video based on the nativity story was then put together, featuring the children's work; this can be watched online from the Facebook page (details below).

The New Year brings with it lots of exciting new things, including a Sunday Club bake-off and an Easter event. The team are thrilled at the response they have deservedly received so far – from children of all primary school ages – and are excited about what 2022 is going to bring.

Sunday Club would love to hear from families with any feedback or suggestions for future events, or if you would like to attend the next event, email stthomassundayclub@gmail.com, find out more on Facebook @stthom-assundayclub or call Lucy MacLeod on 07979 292289. Or, why not come along to the family All Together service at St. Thomas' Church on the first Sunday of every month at 9.30am.

Sundays are more fun with Sunday Club! So, watch this space.





Our November talk was given by Phil Wood on the history of Newbury's Pubs. It took us from the 16th Century to the present day. Some of the early ones, such as the Tiger Lodging House, were owned by Winchester College to provide accommodation for students and visitors travelling to and fro.

We started in 1577...

A list in 1577 showed 34 licensees in three categories – Tylers (as in tipple), Taverners and Innholders. The first were mainly just beer houses. Taverners could sell wine and there was usually only one per town as wine was expensive, but Newbury managed to have two!

Innholders were more for the wealthy but had stricter rules. At this time, and until the late 1800s, beer was an essential drink as the water was boiled to make it to ensure it was safe to drink. They also made a second brew from the mash that was weaker and called small beer.

In 1643 a list from the Licensees Court of Leet showed 40 hostelries and three breweries. These courts were where you could get a licence to trade and only happened occasionally. However, you could get a temporary licence from a J.P. which was then confirmed at the next session. However, licences could also be taken away for unruly behaviour!

These early records only mention the licensee and not the name of the pub, but those names became more published in the late 1700s. Along Cheap Street alone, there were six pubs. Then, the street went along into Market Square and the only survivor is the Brade Ax, now known as the Hatchet.

The period when the pub trade was booming.

In 1762 there were now 42 pubs. Phil took us around many of them via old photographs and maps – some now demolished, some under newer roads and



George & Pelican in the Broadway, Newbury

some repurposed. He also told us that Daniel Defoe wrote of two very good inns in Speenhamland.

In the 1800s many pubs were used across England to billet soldiers and their horses and landlords had a duty to do so or faced being fined. The more upmarket ones cashed in on the coaching traffic to Bath which was the place to be seen. It led to much grander hotel-type

pubs being built, and the wealthy would take a leisurely journey there with stops along the way. Pubs were also known for their entertainment and other uses such as cock fighting, singing, meetings, inquests, auctions and travelling dentists!

Railways and cars hit the industry hard.

Railways killed the coaching routes and there were bad times for Newbury until the line came here in 1847. At the same time the Temperance Movement was having an effect and the Council, who owned some pubs, felt duty bound to sell them.

The Licensing Bill of 1904 meant that compensation could be given to close pubs – paid out of increased licence fees. It was then easier to close pubs with the properties used by new businesses. Lodging houses were also falling out of favour and, with the coming of cars, people drove into the countryside for a drink – until the breathalyser came in! More recently the smoking ban also had an effect, and some turned to eating establishments rather than pubs as we see today.

Chris Dalton (Secretary)

EWLHS Notices:

The programme for the rest of the season is as follows (please note some changes to the original list). All start at 8pm in the Village Hall at Heath End:

Monday 21st February 2022: AGM and Members' Ten-Minute Talks.
Monday 21st March 2022: Mike Robinson on 'A Brief History of Farming'.



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East Woodhay Parish Council



Speed Calming Measures in Tile Barn Row, Ball Hill and Woolton Hill Road

Since our last report in the December edition of Spectrum, we have covered three further areas of the Parish with the speed indicator unit, and it further reinforces the important role that it is playing in making drivers aware of their speed.

During the period from the 20th – 30th November, the unit was positioned along the Tile Barn Road where a maximum speed of 50 mph was recorded, with over 12% of drivers exceeding the 30mph speed limit.

Moving to Ball Hill, from the 30th November to the 15th December, the total traffic volumes were 635 vehicles per week day with 581 per day at the weekend. Top speed recorded here was 55mph on the 2nd December, with around 32% of drivers exceeding the 30mph limit and 5% travelling at over 40mph.

Positioned at the entrance to Woolton Hill, by Blind Man's Gate, the unit has been in place since the 15th December and during the first few days to the 21st December, the vehicle count into the village from the A343 was 11,287 vehicles. A maximum speed of 55mph was recorded at 11 am on the 19th December and during the period nearly 10% of the vehicles were travelling at over 40mph into the village.

We met with the local police to report these findings just before the

Christmas break and will be discussing the next steps in our full Parish Council meeting at the end of January.

Neighbourhood Plan



The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would like to thank everyone who gave their feedback to the plan, during the consultation phase in late summer. We received a lot of feedback from the community and statutory bodies. The vast majority of the feedback was supportive and much of it gave constructive ideas to improve the document. The team have now completed the long task of reviewing all the comments and preparing a response in the Consultation Document. The update of the Neighbourhood Plan, incorporating many of the feedback ideas, has now been completed. The completion of the update allows the team to move on and complete the further documents required.

The next phase of the process will be submission of the Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents to BDBC. They will then publish the document on their website for a further six weeks of consultation for any further comments. This will include the Consultation Document covering all feedback and our responses. After this phase the document will be reviewed by an independent examiner.

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Wash Common Library



Wash Common Library opened as a community library in December 2018, following a campaign by the Friends of Wash Common Library. The Friends are a dedicated group of volunteers who manage the day-to-day running of the library and organise fundraising events to cover the annual running costs to ensure this community resource remains open and free for all to use.

We have a fabulous range of books; donations of current, up-to-date books are arriving all the time which means there is always something new to read. Please go to our website www.washcommonlibrary.org.uk and take a look at our online catalogue. As well as books, we offer free wifi access, copying and printing services and free use of the computer too.

Come and take a look at what we offer. We are open:

Tuesdays 2 – 4 pm

Fridays 9 – 11am

Saturdays 10 – 12pm

We have also restarted some of our community groups which include:

Tots time Tuesdays at 11.30am. Songs and nursery rhymes with actions are shared.

Poetry Club The second Monday of the month at 3pm. We have a chosen theme and people bring poems they like on that theme to share with other members of the group.

Book Club The second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Contact us via the website for more information on which book we are reading.

Spanish Club The first Saturday of each month at 2pm. Each month, an aspect of Spanish culture is shared and compared with our own. Hearing about history from a different perspective puts a new light on international events.

If you have any ideas for a community activity which you would like to run, or if you would like to get involved in volunteering at the library, we can offer training and would love for you to join us. Please get in touch through the website.

Date for your diary:

We are holding a quiz at the Bowlers Arms on Tuesday 15th February at 7pm. (£12 a ticket, to include a curry supper. Teams of up to 6.) For more information contact us at the library.

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When lockdown began in March 2020, DUO (duoquitar.com) began live streaming gigs which evolved into free weekly performances of nominated key and front-line workers to thank them for their amazing work during the pandemic. The "Gigs in Your Garden" became a huge hit and were featured on BBC Breakfast, Sky News, Jeremy Vine on 5 and in The Times, Mail on Sunday and Evening Standard.

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Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club



Woolton Hill Gardener's Club December Meeting

Doug Stewart speaking to us on Zoom on the topic of 'The Drunken Gardener'.

Unsurprisingly, our early Christmas meeting, with mince pies and wine on offer, was very well-attended – about 40 members in the hall and many more on Zoom with their own mince pies and wine! The subject of the talk and the speaker, of course, were the perfect choice for the occasion.

We all settled down to listen to some stories; one of these was about how the stinging nettle is a 'source of great joy' for Doug because the young nettle leaves can be made into a rather potent beer which is quite delicious when served up with stinging nettle and ricotta lasagne. Doug suggested we sent our grandchildren out to pick the nettles and this idea went down with hardly a murmur from the audience. I'm not quite sure what this says about the age of our membership or what they think about children gathering these 'stingers'!

However, as soon as Doug mentioned the word 'gin', a great cheer went up from our members (after all, we are only 20 minutes, at a dash, from Bombay Sapphire, a well-known local gin distillery). Doug went on to describe the types of plants needed for a 'gin border', namely juniper, coriander, bay, citrus, roses and cucumber. I think a 'gin conservatory' may be required for some of these plants! All this talk of gin reminded me of my own story

– whilst staying with a friend and watching her making a 'gin and tonic' for her husband, I noticed that she just dipped her finger in the gin and ran it around the edge of the glass and then topped up the glass with tonic, ice and a lemon slice. A delicious alcohol-free drink – no cheering from anyone this time!

But that leads me nicely to the tonic water and to a little horticultural gem. The flavour in tonic water is quinine which has long been used to treat malaria and is found in the bark of the cinchona tree. The story goes that in the 1630s, the Spanish Countess of Chinchón, who was married to Luis Geronymo de Cabrera, Count of Chinchón and Viceroy of Peru, whilst living in Lima, treated herself successfully with this traditional remedy for a 'fever'. When the Countess returned to Spain, she took some cinchona bark with her, and it has been used ever since as a medicinal plant. Years later, Linnaeus, the founder of taxonomy or plant-naming, gave the tree its name in memory of the Countess. The cinchona tree is also known as the 'fever tree' amongst other names. So, there we are – Bombay Sapphire with Fever Tree! Hardly surprising we all cheered at the mention of gin!

Lorna Rains

Please come to our next meeting on 24th February at Woolton Hill Church Hall for an 8pm start, when Tim Woodland will be talking about 'Bulbs for Summer and Other Seasons'.

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East Woodhay Society



Christmas Walk

On 27th December, over 80 walkers from Highclere, Woolton Hill and the surrounding villages met up at The Highclere Red House for the 35th Village Christmas Walk. Despite the wet weather it was really successful and £370 was raised for Naomi House and Jacksplace.

A big 'thank you' to Nicola Meadows and Ali Mitchell for organising such a good walk which also included mince pies and mulled wine.

Platinum Picnic in the Park – Sunday June 5th Save the Date

As part of the Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrations in June we will be organising a family picnic in the Woolton Hill recreation ground. The Platinum celebrations are encouraging communities to have a 'big jubilee lunch' and we will be linking up with other groups to make this happen. More details including music and games will be announced in the coming months.

Friday morning 'Woodhay Walkers'

On 4th and 18th
February, we will be
walking from St. Thomas' Church



Hall. These walks, which start at 10.30am, replace 'walking for health' and provide more flexibility for us to enjoy our local area. The walk on 4th February is about three miles and the one on 18th is around four miles. Just turn up with sturdy footwear suitable for wet and muddy conditions. We are bound to see some lovely snowdrops in the hedgerows on our walks. Everyone is welcome.

Mark Rand – Chair EWS
Email – eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com
Telephone – 250898



Last Word

Wow, reading the articles for the February issue has really put a spring in my step. Getting out of our Christmas bubble wasn't easy, but the feeling that the village, the country and our world are motivated to make 2022 the year where we 'live' with Covid, is just the tonic we all need.

We really do live in such a wonderful community, with so much going on and so much to offer. From the wonderful Sunday Club, to fundraisers to remember loved ones and even 'gin' discussions with friends learning about the real meaning of 'Fever Tree'!

If you're hoping to try something new this year, the good news is there are plenty of opportunities on your doorstep; discovering about Spanish culture, joining the walking group or getting 'green fingered' with the gardening club. What will you try this year?



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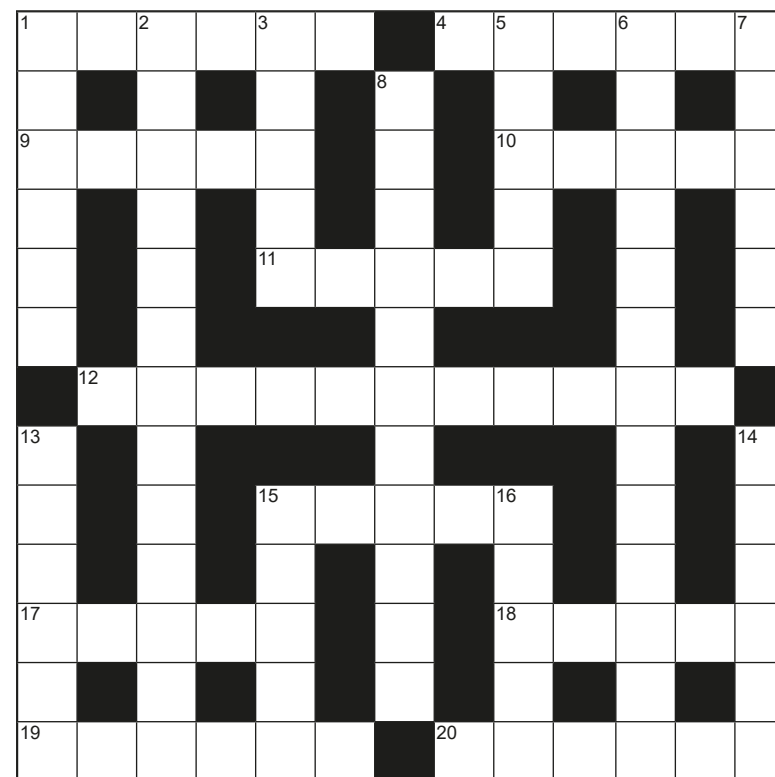
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Answers crossword no 227
Across: 1 Castle, 4 Kansas, 9 Nails, 10 Sleet, 11 Skirt, 12 Resolutions, 15 Dutch, 17 Janus, 18 Irony, 19 Nasion, 20 Attend
Down: 1 Canyon, 2 Spindleshanks, 3 Loses, 5 Asset, 6 Steppingstone, 7 Saturn, 8 Agriculture, 13 Trojan, 14 Frayed, 15 Disco, 16 Heist

Across

- Bet request inside is to carry shopping (6)
- A hundred on cruise that loses direction taken to travelling show (6)
- Dan's inside right mends socks perhaps? (5)
- Deep inside, find queen at back of hostelry (5)
- Amount produced might give way to pressure (5)
- Resentfully lent sugar, at least I didn't throttle him! (11)
- Keep heads warm in these areas (5)
- Prod gently on leaving dungeon (5)
- Apply force to journalists (5)
- Traditionally Friday, but cash is welcome any time (6)
- Saw you casually looking at wood cutter (6)

Down

- Toad's half German friend was bad from the start (6)
- Hovers dangerously over which day to cook pancakes (6,7)
- Attempt a short piece of writing (5)
- I laid it out, epic, but all Greek to me! (5)
- Horrible to force nice Tony to eat sweets (13)
- See line right inside steak (6)
- Is red gun worth more because it is hidden in the bushes? (11)
- Why can't father have a lovely short sleep? (6)
- Almost burn star with no time for looking after college finances (6)
- Say hello to Mrs Sharples, even if she has turned into a scavenger type (5)
- Are pies a brownish colour in old photos? (5)

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

Age Concern Community Information Volunteer Sarah 07806 659449

Arbor Flora Group . . Secretary: Ros Oles 01256 896014

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council 01256 844844

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

Churches

East Woodhay, St Martin's www.stmartins.church

Churchwardens . . Richard Twallin 253354. . Andrew Colville 254017

W'ltton Hill, St Thomas' www.wooltonhill.com/community/church/church.html

Churchwardens . . Chris Vane 253707 Bridget Wheeler 250729

Defibrillators

There are 5 public access defibrillators in the Parish, WH Church Hall, EW Village Hall, the Rampant Cat, outside St Martin's School, East End and WH Junior School.

Doctors' Surgery Woolton Hill 253324

Patient Participation: Rosemary Cahill 253306

Ducklings Fiona Morgan 42080

East Woodhay & Highclere Neighbourcare Volunteer Driving

For transport, collect your prescription or shopping call. . . (01635) 745600

www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk

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

East Woodhay Charities Secretary: Susan Wren 254875

East Woodhay Cricket Club Contact Adrian Batchelor .07810 647618

East Woodhay Flower & Produce 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 (Ch) 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 (V.Ch) . 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 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 07855 275336

East Woodhay Village Hall. Carol Stanley 01635 35859

. eastwoodvillhall@gmail.com

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

East Woodhay Silver Band. Contact: Rosemary Gittins 07917 522180

East Woodhay Society Chairman, Mark Rand 250898

eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com 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

Highclere Film Club Secretary: Chris Martin 253461

Highclere Evergreens Leader: 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 Register Val Burfield 255168

Neighbourhood Watch

Woolton Hill vacant.

North End Jack Castle. 253537

Newbury Chamber Choir info@newburychamberchoir.co.uk

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

Police Hampshire Constabulary 101

PCSO Joshua Revett 18145 joshua.revett@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

The Samaritans. Freephone 116 123

Schools

The Clere 278372

The Clere 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

Spectrum www.wooltonhill.com/Spectrum.html

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- St Martin's Guild** . . Secretary: Sarah Leventhorpe 255293
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- St Thomas' Handbell Ringers**Nicole Bentham. 255582
- 1st Woolton Hill Beavers & Cubs** . . . Contact: . mo.osborne@btinternet.com
- Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club** Nick Harcourt 253546
- Woolton Hill Argyle Football Club.** . Jon Dennis . . money.whafc@gmail.com
- Woolton Hill Brownies** . . contact Maggie Russell - 2whbrownies@gmail.com
- Woolton Hill Church Hall.** 253546
 Nick Harcourt, Charnwood Cottage, Broadlayings
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
www.whvm.co whvmarket@gmail.com
- Woolton Hill Website.**Contact: Mark Rand 250898
www.WooltonHill.com eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com

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