

September 2022

50p

Spectrum






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Editorial



Once again I come to the end of my time as editor of Spectrum for 2022 and hand over the reins to Kathy Scott for the months of October, November and December. This September edition has been a privilege and an honour to oversee, for not only do we have all the reports and articles from our usual contributors but also we feature the accomplishments of three local women who have risen to positions of almost national importance; one at Winchester Cathedral, one in the fuel supply industry and another at Holy Sepulchre Church, London.

In addition we have another very interesting and informative article from our local historian, Val Pollitt, who tirelessly researches all the goings-on of long ago in our villages. The amount of detail in her articles always amazes me! Thank you once again, Val, for giving us a window into the past.

So please, readers, relax with Spectrum and take the time to read all the contributions in this edition and I will look forward to editing for you all again in 2023. Slainte!

JH

Editor for October, November and December

Kathy Scott
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 Ball Hill, RG20 0PG
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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.

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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Cover: Revd Canon Christine, Virger Ann and Dean of Winchester: Dean Catherine

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Diary of Events September 2022

Thursday	1st	Gardener's Club	WHCH	8pm
Friday	2nd	Community Cafe'	St Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am
Monday	5th	Highclere Evergreens	HVH	2-4.15pm
Wednesday	7th	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWWH	7.30pm
		NWR		8pm
Friday	9th	Community Cafe'	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am
Tuesday	13th	EWVI	EWWH	2.30pm
Wednesday	14th	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWWH	10.30am
Friday	16th	Walking for Health	EWWH	10.30am
Monday	19th	EW Local History Society	EWWH	8pm
Tuesday	20th	Arbor Flora	HVH	2.00pm
Wednesday	21st	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWWH	7.30pm
		NWR		8pm
Thursday	22nd	Gardener's Club	WHCH	7.30pm
Friday	23rd	Community Cafe'	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am
Sunday	25th	WH Sports Club anniversary	WH Sports Club	2-5pm
Monday	26th	EWPC	EWWH	7.30pm
Wednesday	28th	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWWH	7.30pm
Friday	30th	Community Cafe'	St. Thomas' Church	9.30-11am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am

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Moving On

As Seasons change and life moves on, there're challenges to take. New schools, new hobbies, changing jobs—decisions one can make. It's "starting school" for 4 year olds, a new adventure waits. Mums blink back tears, kids smile and wave and skip off through the gates! Year 7 at school – a new routine – a nervous start of term. Exciting subjects – Chemistry!—new languages to learn.



Now adult evening classes start, perhaps learn something new? So many courses!—don't despair, you'll find one you can do. Try Yoga; Dancing; Badminton – join one to keep you fit? Those gorgeous meals on holiday you're starting to regret. A course on Healthy Eating? or Amazing Cakes to Bake? Do lots of walks and exercise, then enjoy the cakes you make!

Moyra Harkness

St.Thomas' Church, Woolton Hill

We will be warm again.....

In September 2021 the heating system at St Thomas' Church, Woolton Hill came to the end of its life. We had been looking to replace the boiler but the Victorian pipework under the floor decided that it had had enough too.



We looked at several other systems but in the end it was decided that the way forward was electric. We had quotes and finally settled on 48 under pew heaters and 10 radiators around the walls to maintain an ambient temperature. The pew heaters will be zoned, so only those areas in use will be heated.

This will require bringing in three phase electricity from a pole near the lychgate. A trench for the wiring will have to be dug from the lychgate to the church before any internal church work can begin.

Following this the heating system can be installed. We are delighted that a local company, Hannington and Green, will be undertaking the electrical installations.

The total cost will be £30,579 plus VAT which can be reclaimed.

We have been lucky enough to receive matched funding from the Good Exchange and would like to thank everyone who has donated so far. If you would like to donate, the details can be found on the Good Exchange website and our reference number is 19589.



If you would like to talk about this project please feel free to contact us. We will be happy to discuss it and answer any questions you may have.

Bertha Bates (Project Manager) 01635 253199
Chris Vane (Church Warden) 01635 253707

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Hitchens Common

Our village is a collection of scattered settlements, originating in woodland clearings, and it is easy to overlook their history as you drive or walk around East Woodhay. But every corner of the parish has a story to tell.

Hitchens Common consists of fewer than a dozen houses on the road from Woolton Hill to Ball Hill, gathered around the corner of Fullers Lane, and few people today even know it by that name.

The first building you pass on your way down Dodd's Hill is Woolton Hill Sports Club, a thriving tennis and table tennis club that today has about 300 members and provides tennis coaching every day of the week. The club originated as the village centre, built with money raised by the Welcome Home Fund Committee at the end of the Second World War. It provided facilities for sport but also a comfortable place for people to meet up. One of its greatest supporters was Mr Eliot-Cohen of Hollington House.

Just below it is The Old Cottage, now one property but until the 1950s it was two. The house was originally one up, one down. When Mr and Mrs Lake lived there in the 1970s, they could still see the outline of an old staircase on the wall. The ceilings upstairs were curved in the old part of the building and it had an inglenook fireplace.



The Hitchens, on the corner of Fullers Lane, is a lovely old cottage which was thatched until the mid-20th century. In the 1860s it was home to Charles Froom and his family; in the 1940s John Upcott, a retired housemaster at Eton, lived there. Its most distinguished occupant was Captain Ballantine who came to live there in 1966. He had been a senior pilot for BOAC and flew the Queen home from Kenya on the death of her father in February 1952.

The 'big house' is Woolton House. The 1837 tithe map shows a sizeable property there, owned and occupied by Rev. John Harvey Ashworth. It was called Burley Wood in 1873 and Woolton House by 1911. Drama came to Hitchens Common during the Second World War when a Heinkel bomber on its way home from a raid on Bristol crashed into cottage gardens



in Fullers Lane. The five German airmen who had parachuted to safety were on the run for several days. The last airman to be caught was found by Lady Buckland of Woolton House and her chauffeur and delivered to Newbury Police Station.

Vera Lilley, later Hue-Williams, came to Woolton House with her husband Thomas after the Second World War. They founded Woolton House Stud at Burley Lodge on the other side of the Ball Hill Road in the 1940s. Vera was born Vera Sklarevskia in Kiev in 1899. When she was 18 her aristocratic family fled the revolution and arrived in Paris, penniless except for the jewels sewn into the hem of Vera's petticoat. They were well known in society and horse racing was their passion. Thomas Lilley died in 1959 and Vera later married Col. Roger Hue-Williams. She died in 1992, leaving a fortune of more than £9 million.

The house on the right-hand side of the road, now known as The Grange, was called Hitchens Manor or Itchens, until the early 20th century. In the mid-19th century, it was occupied by Cornelius Butler Davis who was a land surveyor and map maker. John Fosbury owned the house and came to live there when he retired from farming. John seems to have had a long running dispute with his neighbour Charles Froom, at The Hitchens. During the 1860s Charles Froom was in court four times, bound over to keep the peace and fined. On one occasion he threatened to shoot John Fosbury and on others he used threatening language towards him; one witness said, 'as he is wont to do when beery'!



These are just a few of the properties in one small part of the village and yet between them they have many stories to tell. As we walk or drive around the area, don't forget that we are walking through history.

Val Pollitt, EWLHS





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East Woodhay Charities 2022 Grants

East Woodhay Charities is made up of two charities: 'Relief in Need and 'Relief in Sickness'. The charities are administered by five trustees, the chairman being the Rector of East Woodhay. The charities exist to provide assistance to residents of the civil parish of East Woodhay, either in need or in sickness. Following the sale of the land at Hatt Common, the funds we have available for distribution have increased, and so we have reviewed the application process. All requests for assistance will be treated sensitively and confidentially.

There are three types of grant available:

General hardship grants up to £500, or £1000 in exceptional circumstances

Book/technology grants for first year students up to £100

Winter fuel grants up to £200

Grant applications can be made at any time, but winter fuel and book grants will be allocated annually at our autumn meeting.

How to apply:

Please complete the **GRANT APPLICATION FORM** so that your application can be assessed.

Application forms are available from:

The secretary Sue Wren, email: ew.charities@gmail.com,
or write to 83 Harwood Rise, Woolton Hill, Newbury, Berks RG20 9XZ.
Woolton Hill Post Office and Stores Woolton Hill surgery
Online from the East Woodhay Parish Council website:

<http://www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk>

The application form is for individuals. Requests from local organisations will continue to be considered, requests should be sent to the secretary in writing or by email.

The closing date for applications for 2022 is 31st October 2022.

Sue Wren, Hon Sec

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EWLHS September Meeting



Our first meeting of the new season will be on Monday 19th September at 8pm in the Village Hall at Heath End. The speaker will be David Peacock on the subject of Sanddeford Priory. All welcome.

All talks take place in the Village Hall at Heath End & start at 8pm. New members & visitors are welcome. Annual membership is £7.50 & visiting a single meeting is £4.

For further queries contact Chris Dalton (Secretary) at:

chrissie.dalton@yahoo.co.uk or 07880 628 114

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Carrie Marsh, Master of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers

This year is a year of anniversaries for Carrie and her family business, Marsh Fuels. Founded in 1902, this year is the 120th Anniversary of the company. Carrie has racked up a quarter of a century of service this year and is coming to the end of a special year as Master Fueller, the Master of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers.

Marsh Fuels was founded when Henry Marsh came to East Woodhay on holiday by train which has since been replaced by the bypass. He met and soon fell in love with the daughter of the landlord at the Furze Bush Inn in Ball Hill and Henry and his new bride Henrietta settled in Gore End Road. Each day Henry would



go to the station and pick up the coal with Henrietta sat alongside him keeping the all-important book of accounts as he delivered by the bucket load. They kept the locals warm through two world wars but during WWII there was an accident with a load of coal in the yard and Frederick Marsh, Henry's son, was drafted back from the war to run the essential service and later found his own place taking on the Coal Board for the right to haul his own coal supplies. A familiar face in the village and responsible for building most of the houses on one side of Gore End Road, he was known as the 'Guv'. Years later, Frederick's son, Bert Marsh, joined the business after years of learning the trade and all about the fuels. It was around this time that the oil arrived, later to become the main source of income for the firm. Which brings us to the current Managing Director, Carrie Marsh.

Carrie joined the company in 1997 as a boiler engineer. After a career in fashion supply to the likes of M&S, NEXT and Debenhams this had not been planned, but after a conversation with her father one day about an opening for a boiler engineer, Carrie decided to have a go. From boiler servicing to then turning her hand at tanker driving, Carrie loved it and was only the second female truck driver in the area at the time. These days Carrie is most often found in the office but she still enjoys getting out on the truck, especially when it's all hands to the deck. From delivering prepacked coal to connecting up gas bottles, Carrie is hands on and enjoys catching up with customers over a cuppa in their garden.

The last couple of years have seen Carrie on the road to becoming the Master of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers in London. A very special opportunity and once in a lifetime experience as Carrie supported and took the reins from the Immediate Past Master, HRH The Earl of Wessex. Promoting the journey to zero carbon and encompassing all types of fuel generation from fossil to renewable, Carrie follows in the footsteps of her Grandfather,

Frederick Marsh, who was a founding member of the modern Livery Company as it was re-formed in 1984. Today Carrie is one of the few 'Fuellers' who actually delivers to the end consumer, many other members being involved in areas from shipping to representing global fuel companies. As part of the role, Carrie hosted a Masters Weekend in Newbury and Ball Hill back in May. The Fuellers came to the yard to see how Carrie runs the business and see the trucks close up before helping to kick off the 120th celebrations by cutting a specially commissioned cake.

Maintaining the ethos of traditional and personal service, the Company has survived two World Wars and a Pandemic. Carrie, her husband and tanker driver Dave and the staff were certainly stretched over the last couple of years through lock downs which saw them serving through the window like a fast food drive through, juggling several stretches of home schooling at the same time, fuel shortages and record market price rises due to world conflict, the list goes on. But with determination and the desire to do the best that they can, Marsh Fuels looks forward to many more well-earned milestones ahead.



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Letters to the Editor

Thank You And Farewell

We sincerely thank everyone from across the 5 parishes of North West Hampshire benefice who came to our Farewell Service last month at St Martin's, East Woodhay. It was a wonderful occasion.

Our thanks also to many local folk who have given us cards, sent us best wishes, and to all who contributed towards the generous cheque which we have been given – which will greatly help towards our removal expenses and new carpets in our Morecambe home – but we intend to buy something special for our new garden to remind us of you all.

God bless you all and thank you.

Marvin and Sue – The Clergy House, Highclere.



1st Woolton Hill Scout Group



The Beavers and Cubs meet in East Woodhay Village Hall. The Beavers on Mondays and the Cubs on Tuesdays



The Beavers are aged 6 – 8 and the Cub Scouts are 8 – 10 ½ years old. Each Section has an exciting programme of activities, learning new skills, playing games, camps and sleepovers. Beavers and Cubs in the Woolton Hill and East Woodhay area say Thank You to their Leaders' teams for the loads of fun they have had.

However, there is a waiting list of young people wanting to join and take part in all this but we need more adults to enable even more youngsters to join in.

Were you a Cub or Scout? If you enjoyed your time as a youngster perhaps you could think about helping now. Or maybe you have heard of the great things that are going on and want to join in the fun. If you think you might be interested and can help, please contact:

Mo.osborne@btinternet.com to find out more.

SCOUTS a new venture for 10-14 year olds

The Scout section is for the older young people who are too old for Cubs and want to go on to do even more exciting and adventurous activities.

We don't have a Scout Troop at the moment but we are arranging for some experienced Scout Leaders to come along for a few weeks in September to give us a taster for what it's all about.

Youngsters need to be 10 – 14 years of age and **you don't need to have been a Cub previously.**

If anyone is interested, parents need to contact the Group Scout Leader, mo.osborne@btinternet.com who will send you some dates and details.

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National Women's Register



Because our summer party was postponed due to Covid we enjoyed refreshments in the evening sunshine, sharing a favourite topic, *What the Papers Say*.

We struggled to find a few light-hearted items in our recent papers but following some readers' letters we started by reminiscing about childhood family holidays, mainly to UK seaside resorts, often in overcrowded, underpowered cars, or long train journeys. Bob the homing pigeon featured; he disappeared from the UK and was found in Alabama!

And we learned about carrier pigeons during WW2, which helped agents and resistance fighters in occupied Europe to communicate with London. It amused us to hear how baffled young office workers are asking older colleagues for help in using fax machines and photocopiers, although proficient themselves in all the latest technology. In Barnes the bells of St Mary's church have been rung for over 6 centuries but the owner of a neighbouring £20m house wasn't happy to hear them, except when it suited him. We debated who was there first, the bells or the neighbour. Surprisingly, the name Kevin is making a comeback, with two elected to France's National Assembly recently. Celebrity Frank Skinner was bemused to discover that he was no longer famous when he attended the screening of a documentary and was asked to move out of a photographer's way, instead of being included in the shot.

Our final meeting before the summer break was a walk and as this was the day after England recorded

its highest ever daytime temperature we felt The Chase would be an appropriate venue. We decided to seek out the memorial to Sir Kenneth Swan who donated this lovely nature reserve



to the National Trust in 1944. We meandered along various footpaths until we came to the Memorial. This wood was once common land but in 1819 the Earl of Carnarvon was given permission to enclose it and he planted trees to create a woodland for country pursuits, hence the name The Chase. Sir Kenneth, a keen ornithologist, purchased 143 acres of woodland and transformed it into a nature reserve in order to study birdlife in his own wood. There is an abundant variety of fauna and flora in The Chase and we counted ourselves fortunate to have seen a pair of grey wagtails, a deer and butterflies. We also saw the cattle, brought in to keep the undergrowth under control in an environmentally friendly way. So thanks to Sir Kenneth we can all enjoy this special place.

Virger Ann

After 19 years as a Science Technician at a local secondary school I hung up my white lab coat to become a Virger at Winchester Cathedral. After a few months going through the interview process I started at the end of February.

My job surroundings could not be different going from the loud chatter of children, the constant school bell going off every hour and organizing Science teachers and their practicals, to the peace and quiet of the Cathedral with all



its history and traditions of the daily pattern of worship. The Cathedral is the Mother Church of the Diocese so there are wide and varied services from weddings, baptisms, ordinations and large festival services, i.e. Easter and Christmas to school services.

The job of a Virger is very varied. Basically we look after the Cathedral. I am part of a team of six Virgers, with the help of four Honorary Virgers when needed. No two days are the same at the Cathedral. We have our individual responsibilities as well as the usual daily pattern of jobs. I look after three side chapels and am in charge of all the linen and make sure the Clergy sign the worship register. I particularly like doing the early shift starting at 6am. I open the Cathedral and get it ready for the day. To me the Cathedral is at its best early in the mornings when it also gives

me a little quiet time to focus on my relationship with God.

Live streaming services have become an integral part of the job of a Virger. I have found this quite challenging and there is still improvement to be made. It is like learning to drive, practice makes perfect. By live streaming the services we are reaching out to those who are unable to come to the Cathedral to worship.

Becoming an active member at parish church has given me the basics or building blocks of what I do now. From my very early days coming back to church I have been wanting to know how the church works. It became clear very early on that the church should be ready for a service and the arrival of the Priest. This is very much the case in the Cathedral, too, from making sure the right robes and microphones are ready, to the readings, music for the Cantor, and the Credence table are ready for Communion.

Five months on and being officially admitted as a Virger by the Dean of Winchester, at choral evensong I feel very proud of what I have learnt and achieved in such a short time. I feel privileged to work at the Cathedral.

Ann Harris

Tessa Bosworth by Mary Harcourt

Curate at Holy Sepulchre London, the National Musicians' Church

It is some time since Tessa left school and the rural delights of Woolton Hill and headed for London, via Royal Holloway, University of London. Following her time at Royal Holloway she first spent time book selling, then in publishing and finally event management. It was during this time that she experienced a vocation to the ministry.

Three years at St Mellitus Theological College in west London followed with a work placement at St Peter's, Bethnal Green, where Tessa gained valuable hands-on experience. After three years rigorous study she was ordained a deacon with 46 others in July 2021 in St Paul's Cathedral and in the following year as a priest.

As an accomplished musician, Tessa was especially pleased to be offered a curacy at Holy Sepulchre London, the National Musicians' Church. Life as a member of the staff is very different from church life in Woolton Hill. Situated across the road from the Old Bailey, a stone's throw from St Bartholomew's Hospital and almost in sight of St Paul's, the resident population of the parish is very small.

Although services are held on Sundays the majority are held during the week when the population of the City increases. With a professional choir in the church, lunchtime Eucharist and Choral Evensong are held every Wednesday and a contemporary service is held on Tuesdays also at lunchtime.

Opportunities for outreach are numerous; there are weekly concerts, currently provided by Ukrainian refugee music students, as well as a Music Festival in August. Services are held several times a year for the Royal Fusiliers whose memorial chapel is in the South aisle of the church. The Musicians' Chapel is in the North side of the church and services are held here annually, as well as memorial services. The choirs of the Old Bailey and the Metropolitan Police are among others to hold concerts in the church.

The church is home to the Square Mile Hygiene Bank and supports several other local charities. Various courses are run online and there has been the inevitable water supply for thirsty tourists and passers-by during the summer. A quiet corner is set aside for those passers-by who may wish to spend time either on their own or with someone to talk to.

So life is busy for a curate in a City parish – quite different from Woolton Hill but in a similar way giving service to the local community.



Dear Friends,

On the front cover of Spectrum this month is a photo of our very own Ann Harris who has recently been admitted to serve as a Virger at Winchester Cathedral. She has written elsewhere in this issue about her role, what it involves and what it means to her. It was a great joy for some of us to join her for her formal welcome and admission at the Cathedral.

Some folk have said to me that 'Virger' is spelt wrong and it should be 'Verger'! Both spellings are correct. A number of Cathedrals, including Winchester, historically have always spelt it 'Virger'. Both words mean a person who 'assists in the ordering of religious services', and the word comes from the virge (or verge) which is the staff of the office. (Ann is holding one of these in the photograph). I think it likely the discrepancy in spelling comes from the root of the word: which is from the 15th Century Old French 'verge' meaning rod; in turn from the earlier Latin 'virga' meaning rod or twig...

Ann's new role as a Cathedral virger reminds us of the importance of those who do those myriad behind the scenes jobs that are so often hidden, but are essential to the smooth running of all sorts of places. Ann is pictured with the Dean of Winchester Cathedral: Dean Catherine and the Cathedral clergy could not do all they do without the Cathedral team, especially the virgers, busy in the background. This is just as true in our local churches, I could not do my part and lead services without our fantastic local church teams of folk who make sure our churches are cared for and all is ready for worship to begin.

St Paul touches on this in Romans chapter 12 when he says we are like a body in which every member has a different job which helps make up the whole:

'For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ... We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.' (Romans 12:4-8)

Everyone is valuable and everyone has a part to play. Let us celebrate that this is true: we need each other, we can't all do everything but we can all do something!

With every blessing to you all,
Canon Christine

From the Church Registers: July 2022		
Baptism: we ask God's blessing on the lives of...		
24th July	Ellis James Juniper	Ashmansworth
Funeral: may she rest in peace		
6th July	Barry Douglas Taylor	Highclere West Berkshire Crematorium
12th July	Carole Angeline Smart	Highclere
21st July	Eric Taylor	Woolton Hill

NORTH WEST HAMPSHIRE BENEFICE			
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Church Services SEPTEMBER 2022			
Welcome! Service details are correct at time of publishing, any necessary changes will be posted on church noticeboards.			
SUN 4th <i>Trinity 12</i>	All Together Matins Parish Communion Evensong Highclere Cemetery Chapel Service	Woolton Hill Highclere East Woodhay Ashmansworth Highclere Cemetery Chapel	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm 6.00pm
SUN 11th <i>Trinity 13</i>	Parish Communion Matins	Woolton Hill Highclere	9.30am 11.00am
SUN 18th <i>Trinity 14</i>	Morning Worship Parish Communion Evensong	Woolton Hill Highclere East Woodhay	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 25th <i>Trinity 15</i> <i>Harvest</i>	Holy Communion Parish Communion Morning Worship Harvest Evensong	Highclere Woolton Hill East Woodhay Crux Easton	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 6.00pm
WED 7 th Sept Holy Communion Woolton Hill 10.00 am <i>(this service is now monthly and will be on the first Wednesday of each month)</i>			
Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale (Rest day: Friday) 253323 Associate Priest: Vacancy 254718 Readers: Horace Mitchell 254677 Reader Emeritus: Rosemary Cahill 253306 Lay preacher: Angela Myers 254559			

From the Church Registers: July 2022		
Burial of ashes: may they rest in peace		
9th July	John Thomas Suchocka	Woolton Hill
17th July	Sonia Garnet Burch	Ashmansworth



Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club

Autumn's Arrival and Summer's Departure

September is a time of reflection for gardeners; a time for remembering gardens visited, new plants discovered, which colour schemes worked best in the garden, which trees and shrubs put on new growth, but it is also a time to look forward, planning changes to planting schemes, thinking about how we can adapt to drier summers and deciding which bulbs to order for a spring display. Gardener's Club members will be looking forward to the Speaker programme for 2022/23, starting in September with 'Great British Gardens in the South of England' by Paul Sievers and the Christmas Party which will be held on Thursday 15th December.

Thursday 22 nd September 7.30 pm	Paul Sievers	Great British Gardens in the South of England
Thursday 27 th October 7.30 pm	Glenn Duggan	Pruning
Thursday 24 th November 7.30 pm	Wilf Simcox	Growing Soft Fruit
Thursday 26 th January 7.30 pm	Stefan White	The Vegetable that Changed World History
Thursday 23 rd February 7.30 pm	Patricia Elkington	Humour and Wisdom in the Garden
Thursday 23 rd March 7.30 pm	Andrew Halstead	Insects
Thursday 27 th April 7.30 pm	Martyn Cox	Big Ideas for Small Spaces

The previous year has just ended with our Summer Party, an event which either involves copious amounts of tea and strawberry scones in the afternoon, or wine and cheese in the early evening, but always involves conviviality, laughter and 'gardening chat'. The venue varies from year to year but is usually in a member's garden large enough to hold all the members of the club or in the Church grounds. Thank you to Alan and Genie Stapleton for an enjoyable afternoon in their garden this year.

Summer is also the time for an outing or two, on a coach, with a picnic and an umbrella, in the old traditional way. On the last day of June, people gathered in Penwood or at The Stud or the Post Office to travel by coach to

Woolton Hill & District Gardeners' Club



Wilton House and Gardens in Wiltshire, near Stonehenge. The coach left on time in drizzle and arrived just before the gardens opened in a shower. The house sits in parkland beside the River Nadder, with a Palladian bridge over the river, a delightful water garden with a sort of Japanese feel, a rose garden, Woodland Walks and Children's Playground. The house has been the home of the Earls of Pembroke for over 400 years, and we were all spellbound, examining sculptures, paintings and furniture, ceilings, staircases and columns. I recommend a tour if you have not yet visited.

As you read this article, we will be about to hold our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 1st September at 7.30 pm. The business won't take too long and there will be wine and nibbles, and plenty of time to chat and relax. It would be lovely to see all our members there as well as lots of new faces. Now is a good time to join and give it a try.

Lorna Rains



Woolton Hill Entrepreneurs Launch Made In The Shire To Make Shopping Local Easy.



Laura Maton and Abbie Dando, who both live in Woolton Hill, have launched a website that showcases West Berkshire's small businesses with the aim to make it easy for people to shop local and shop small.



Co-Founder Abbie Dando said: "Lockdown was when the idea of Made In The Shire came to us. We both decided to boycott Amazon and instead buy products – as well as services – from small business owners in West Berkshire. Despite mixing in Newbury's independent business network for many years and knowing many small business owners by name, we still struggled to find exactly what we were looking for when we needed it. We initially launched Made In The Shire as a free shopping magazine in 2021, however this year we took our initiative

one step further with an online shop."

Co-Founder Laura Maton continues, "Latest research tells us that 45% of shoppers bought more locally produced goods in 2021, compared to 2020, so we know shopping consciously is at the forefront of even more consumers' minds. However shopping consciously isn't always quick or straightforward. Our aim with Made In The Shire is to bridge the gap between local shoppers and local businesses making it much easier for small producers in West Berkshire to be found."



Locals visiting Made In The Shire's website can expect to find an array of independent West Berkshire businesses offering food and drink, homes and interiors, health and wellness, and family-focused businesses and services. There's also a What's On section featuring local events, as well as a dedicated page for cafes, pubs and restaurants.

Many businesses featuring in Made In The Shire's online shop are also offering shoppers 10% off their orders with the code MITS10.

Made In The Shire's website can be found at www.madeintheshire.co.uk
In October 2022, Made In The Shire will be distributing the second edition of its free magazine that showcases the businesses in the online shop. This

magazine will be delivered to over 5,000 homes across West Berkshire, including homes in Woolton Hill, East Woodhay and East End.

If you're a local business who would like to be included in Made In The Shire's directory, please email

hello@madeintheshire.co.uk



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St Martin's CE Primary School



A New Year at St Martin's School

After a long and sun filled Summer holiday we are looking forward to having all the children back in school with tales of their adventures. The Autumn term is always full of lots of fun and a range of different activities – the new Year R children will settle in and the other children will enjoy being back with their friends at school and getting used to their new classes.

We are also looking forward to introducing the new Year R class to all the exciting experiences that will come their way in their first year. Their topic this term is Bears and Rhymes and it will be fun to meet all their favourite teddy bears, which we will use to support their learning in all sorts of different ways. Last year we totally transformed the Cherry Playground and it will be well used every day. The opportunities for imaginative play, creative learning and physical development in the playground are all so important

The topic for Lower School will be Space which will create some fabulous areas for the children to improve their knowledge and develop their skills and starts with a visit from the WonderDome (an indoor solar system in a dome), in order to inspire the children and get them fully immersed in the wonders of the universe.

Upper School will be concentrating on their topic about Rivers and developing their knowledge of rivers around the world. The Year 5 and 6 children will experience a residential at the Foxlease Activity Centre in the New Forest. This is always a fun

filled week in which all the children learn new skills and push themselves in so many ways!

In the Autumn term we will do our regular collection for West Berks Food bank, all children will be trained to use our WoW (walk on weekdays) scheme to help minimise traffic at the school gate during drop off by providing a drop and walk option from the triangle. We will also collect items from the village for our charity collection points.

During this term the children across the school will apply to take on roles as Ambassadors, house captains or to become members of our School Council, Steward's of God's Earth group or Worship team. Seeing the children passionate about their school and wanting to take an active role in making a difference to the school, the local community and further afield is wonderful.

We have many whole school events to look forward to including our Harvest Festival Service, St Martin's Day Service and Christmas Service and to welcoming parents and carers into school for our regular celebration workshops.

The new term will be a time for reflection on the previous year but also a time for the children to rise to the challenge of a new year and what they year ahead brings.

For more information on St Martin's School, please visit our website:

www.st-martins.hants.sch.uk or email the school at adminoffice@st-martins.hants.sch.uk



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From The Archives

Woolton Hill Welcome Home

A second presentation party was held on July 31st, in the Church Hall in honour of returned Service Personnel. About 150 people were present. Total money expended now amounts to £480 and 38 gifts still remain to be distributed..... The Sports Club has kindly furnished us with its first report. The Club premises were purchased as Part 3 of the Welcome Home Scheme, and operates under a deed of trust. It is proposed shortly to erect a clubroom, and to start such activities as Literary, Hiking and Dramatic Groups. Playing members will be limited to 100. There are at present 22 non-playing members and more will be welcome.

St.Thomas' Church Magazine, September 1946

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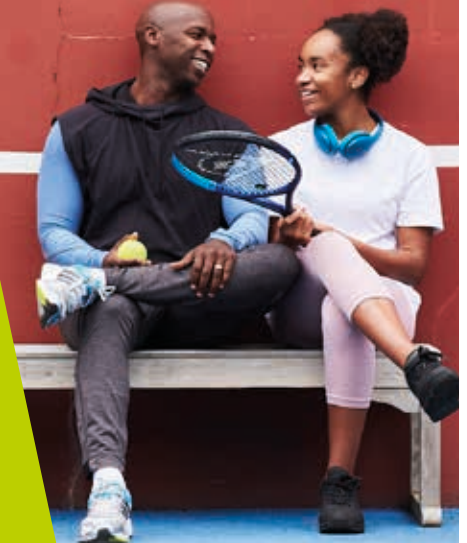
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East Woodhay Society



Woodhay Walkers



We have had some lovely recent walks, mostly from the regular starting location at the Woolton Hill Church Hall but some from other local locations. The warm weather and very dry footpaths have meant we have been able to try out a number of new walks.

For example, we recently enjoyed a circular 3.5 mile walk around the Highclere estate, where we went on the Temple walk which is only open during July and August.

As well as other local walks we also had a very warm morning circular walk from the Dundas Arms in Kintbury which included a stretch along the canal. The photos below are from that day.



These walks are for everyone so just come along with suitable footwear and join us. Not all information is known at the time of writing so please see the website or send me an email (details below).

Friday 2nd September- a 3 mile walk starting 10.30am from Woolton Hill Church Hall (no stiles)

Friday 9th September – a local walk, details on www.wooltonhill.com

Friday 16th September- a 4 mile walk starting 10.30am from Woolton Hill Church Hall (no stiles)

Friday 23rd September – a local walk, details on www.wooltonhill.com

Friday 30th September – a local walk, details on www.wooltonhill.com

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East Woodhay Women's Institute



On a hot afternoon in July we all gathered together in a beautiful garden. Thank you, Pat. This garden was an ideal venue to listen to a witty and informative talk by shepherd, David Sullivan.

Whilst sitting on the lawn, David recounted tales of escaping sheep and told us of Miriam, a sheep who was able to lead a flock to pastures new, then turn and jump into the van for a lift back to the farm for tea.

Farming, during David's life, has taken many twists and turns, from a time when he could only be a tenant farmer to the present day when a farm can be shared between tenants in common.

During David's youth Sparsholt College was attended by less than one hundred students whereas today this number has grown to hundreds.

However, despite experiencing both highs and lows, David's love of farming sheep shines through. Thank you, David.

By the time you are reading this I hope you will have visited our Summer Bring & Buy, Plants and Coffee morning. Once again you could find us in Manton, Pat's garden.

During September 13th we will be in a competitive mood in East Woodhay village hall. Who will have produced the best flower arrangement in a cup and saucer or carved vegetable? Come and see and while there buy something delicious for tea in our Harvest Auction.

11th October should find us enjoying a Lantern Show of Victorian Humour in the village hall.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Julia Ward

Cakes Galore

EWWI coffee morning was a wonderful gathering in the peaceful garden at Manton on a pleasant morning on July 26th.

A mouth watering display of cakes greeted friends, neighbours and members from East Woodhay, Kingsclere, Burghclere and Falkland WIs.

An excellent raffle, an interesting Bring & Buy, and a lovely selection of Sarah's plants were all in place.

Coffee, shortbread, lemon drizzle and tasty muffins were plentiful throughout the morning as friends enjoyed catching up and chatting.

Thanks must go to Butlers, Hartwood, Yew Tree Garden Centre, Woolton Hill Stores, Marsh's, Atkin's, The Craven, The Woodpecker, The Furze Bush, Ball Hill Garage and Burlyn's Farm for their generous raffle prizes and to all who brought gifts, goodies, attended and helped on the day.

It was all extremely worthwhile and if you missed it, look out for next year's.

Pat Gibbs



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more...From The Archives

September 1954: Flower Show

The fourth Annual Flower Show was held on August 21st, and we were very fortunate in having a fine day. It was a grand show, with exhibits totalling 603, an increase of 114 on last year. This is a great encouragement to the Committee as it shows the spread of interest in the village and also helps to increase the profit that will be put to the repair and maintenance of the Village Hall, where the show was held. The sideshows, organised by Mrs.A. Curnick, were held in the adjoining field, kindly loaned by Mr.Lilley. A beautiful honorary display of flowers was staged by Mr.Dobson, of Malverleys, making a lovely setting on the whole of the stage in the Village Hall.

The judges remarked on the high standard of the exhibits in all the classes. An interesting class was the skilful drawings of the children, many of them being done at East End School. The committee are very grateful to the teachers for encouraging this.

Winners of the top prizes of the show were: The Hayes Cup, Mr.Gregory; Mr.A.S.Curnick's Cup, Lt-Col.Pearce (gardener C W Tate). Mr.Barber and Mr.Maidment, both equal points, tossed for a garden fork presented by New Bros., Mr.Barber winning the toss.

In the Cookery and Handicraft section, Mrs.Tate won a silver cup, Mrs. Randall a vase (given by Mrs.H.Barnes), and Mrs.G.Tilling a voucher presented by Midwinters. Mrs.H.Barnes was the winner of a special prize presented by Mr.James, of North End, for the best cake made with his flour.

St.Martin's Church Parish Magazine

September 1946: Abbey Wells

Abbey Wells, the home of Mrs.Robinson for many years, was purchased by the Hampshire County Council for use as a Senior Boys' Home and it is as such that it is now being developed. At present there are only a few boys in residence but when all the necessary alterations have been carried out the Home is intended to house a family of 30.

The boys, who come from all parts of the County, are quite ordinary boys, their only difference being that through no fault of their own they have been deprived of a normal home life and have therefore come under the care of the Public Authority, who will maintain them until they are able to fend for themselves. The majority of the boys still being of school age will attend the Senior Boys' School in Newbury, leaving the few older ones to help in the house and garden until such time as they can be found a suitable job.

The aim of those running the Home is to create, as far as is possible with a family of 30, a normal home atmosphere where the boys may receive the care, affection and training which will fit them to play their part as normal citizens in later life.

St.Thomas' Church Magazine

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Burt's Blog



Hello again everyone. Well, what some lovely weather we have been having. It has been so very hot I couldn't go out for my lovely walks in the countryside. I went out early in the morning and again in the cool of the evening. However, Auntie B very kindly bought me a 'cool mat'. I'd never heard of one of those. It's so nice to lie on, it just keeps me cool but not cold. I can lay right on it and sleep, or sometimes I just pop my paws and my head on it. I think larger ones should be made for grownups. What a find it turned out to be. Auntie B also bought one for me to have at my house.

Well I have enjoyed keeping in touch with you again, I hope to see you around and about soon.

Burt

Help, please.

I was wondering if anybody who knows Crux Easton could help me with a mystery, please.

I enjoy walking and over the past 30 years have frequently walked in that area. I usually come into Crux Easton from the Woodcott side on a footpath that comes into The Kennels and the Wind Engine. Just before the fields by The Kennels the path has a hedge on the right with a large Beech tree at the end of it. When I first walked by it there was a small memorial 'garden' at the foot of the tree. It had a ring of flints with a small vase for flowers and other decorations and was obviously well cared for by someone. In recent years it has become gradually overgrown and I assume the person who tended it is no longer able to or has passed away.

I always think of it when I pass, wondering who it was for and if anyone knows anything about it. I do realise it may be private, and I respect that, but if anyone can shed any light on it I would be most grateful to hear about its history. Thank you.

Christine Dalton chrissie.dalton@yahoo.co.uk or 07880 628 114

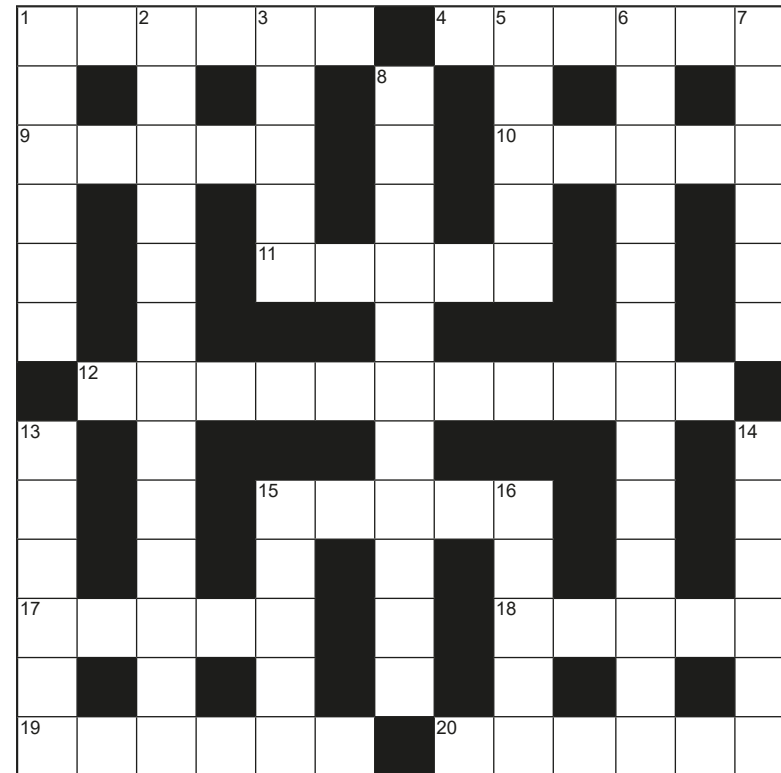
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235



Answers crossword no 234
Across: 1 Damask, 4 Botany, 9 Molar, 10 Otter, 11 Bower, 12 Horseradish, 15 Aphid, 17 Corfu, 18 Shine, 19 Widget, 20 Lyceum
Down: 1 Dirmity, 2 Multicoloured, 3 Shrub, 5 Odour, 6 Anthistamine, 7 Yarrow, 8 Flower shows, 13 Moscow, 14 Museum, 15 Amuse, 16 Dusty

Across

- Sounds like you could win seasonal game with this (6)
- What mother and son made jam with (6)
- Wrote about what you can find at St Martin's, but not at St Thomas' (5)
- Turned white with shock as Henry looked inside (5)
- Listen and, in short, Louisa and Sydney will make sense (5)
- Give us lunch in Volvo, not hard, but covered in bindweed (11)
- Use rib to make Eve? No! Just to beat a path around the sun (5)
- In what direction are we going to make bread? (5)
- Cuts short 17 across perhaps (5)
- Note arrow pointing to ancient burial mound (6)

- Dreadful coma it seems to need to produce green energy (6)

Down

- Let cat run around to catch the cows (6)
- Children go back once early show begins (3,6,4)
- And have to do this for 2 down perhaps (5)
- Prize for a draw? (5)
- Even for 2 down, only fools iron much of this type of wear! (6,7)
- See one nag about being an infant (6)
- Click basket to buy fish (11)
- Spider created gypsy horse on the internet and made a killing (6)
- Beetle produces fine wine in France (6)
- Not in, take action that is superior (5)
- Act it without saying anything, it will be understood (5)

Directory of Local Organizations

24hr Emergency Numbers

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: Diana Durkin 01635 635813

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 Show 254114

www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk

East Woodhay Football Club Chairman: Alan Jones 254024

East Woodhay Footnotes Mens Singing Group, organiser Peter Stanley, 07467572341

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

Directory of Local Organizations

East Woodhay Parish Council continued

Paul Hurst (V.Ch) . *paul.hurst@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk* 01635 254363

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

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- Kathy Scott (6pm-9pm Oct, Nov & Dec)
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- St Martin's Guild** . . Secretary: Sarah Leventhorpe 255293
info@eastwoodhayfete.org.uk www.eastwoodhayfete.org.uk
- 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** *wooltonhillhallbookings@gmail.com*
Clifton, Tile Barn Lodge, Tile Barn, Woolton Hill
- 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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