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## Editorial

My name is Avril and I am your editor for October, November and December.

As this is my first copy I apologise in advance if there are any howlers, or I have omitted your article. The whole process is very new to me as I am not a user of 'Word' nor am I a photographer.

This month we have a variety of interesting articles ranging from hornets to trains, one of Moyra's regular chatty poems and one of Sue's crosswords to keep you out of mischief for a little while.

Don't forget if you are looking for a tradesperson there is probably the one you need advertising in Spectrum

On the 26<sup>th</sup> October you can hear "In Paise of Apples" at Gardeners' Club and on the 18<sup>th</sup> at the History Society you can hear Harry Wrightson on Captain Hardy which sounds a lot of fun

Well, I hope that you all have an enjoyable October and I should be back for the November edition

Have a great month.
Avril
spectrumwh@outlook.com

#### **Editor for November & December:**

Avril Cole Chancers Barn, Trade Street Woolton Hill, RG20 9UW email spectrumwh@outlook.com

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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# Diary of Events October 2023

Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Highclere Evergreens	HVH	2-4.15pm
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWVH	7.30pm
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cafe	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am
Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	EWWI	EWVH	2.30pm
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWVH	7.30pm
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Woodhay Walkers	Bowlers Arms	10.30am
		Community Cafe	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	EW Local History Society	EWVH	8pm
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Arbor Flora	HVH	2.00pm
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWVH	7.30pm
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cafe	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am
		Woodhay Walkers	WHCH	10.30am
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	EWPC	EWVH	7.30pm
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	EW Short Mat Bowls	EWVH	7.30pm
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	Gardener's Club	WHCH	7.30pn
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Woodhay Walkers	Snelsmore Common	10.30am
		Community Cafe	St. Thomas' Church	10-11.30am

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## East Woodhay Local History Society

EW LH<sup>5</sup>

The October meeting will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the Village Hall, Heath End.

The speaker will be Harry Wrightson & his topic is Captain Hardy.

Harry's talk will bring to life what it was like to serve in Nelson's navy. It will involve a replica cannon and a serving of grog with ships biscuits. We should look forward to an exciting evening!

Visitors are welcome. Chris Dalton (Secretary)

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## The Youth of Today

We have recently spent a holiday in Swanage, Dorset
While watching the 11.20am steam engine "Eddystone" get ready to go

one morning, we chatted to a lad standing next to us.

He said that he was Ben and was 16 years old and was observing his



friend from Newbury do his first coupling of the engine to the carriage. Both were volunteers on the Swanage line for the summer vacation.

Ben and another friend had been volunteering on the Watercress Line for 5 years as they lived near Alresford.

The Swanage Railway is a heritage railway operating full size steam and diesel passenger trains. It is manned by volunteers.

What a pity that we don't read about these lovely lads in the national press with their

positive attitudes and engaging smiles. It would make us all feel so much better about the youth of today.

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## East Woodhay Twinning Association

# Specifical Swinning Standing

## Summer Events with The East Woodhay Twinning Association

There was a good turnout for our summer walk and the weather was fine.

'The Crown and Garter' is not the easiest pub to find, as the route from Woolton Hill to Inkpen meanders through the countryside on narrow lanes. Fortunately, we all turned up in good time for the start of our enjoyable ramble through a Nature Reserve, over dry paths, lanes, woods and fields.

It was a fine opportunity to catch up with friends and enjoy the charming village of Inkpen including many viewpoints. We were guided by our experienced walker, Anne Richardson, who had carefully selected a route free from obstacles, like styles and soft, slippery mud. A particularly fine view across to Ham Hill gave us an opportunity to gaze in wonder at our beautiful countryside. The summer rains have encouraged new growth in our green and pleasant land.

Four miles walking on a warm day gave us a keen appetite, so 'The Crown and Garter' was a welcome sight. We all enjoyed a hearty meal and now look

forward to our next walk in the autumn.



On Bank Holiday Monday, our members were invited to join the Hungerford Town Twinning Association for a Pétanque match. This was to be held on their most impressive allotments. Here we walked past plots full of colour and interest with a range of flowers and vegetables and most importantly, sunflowers. The sky-high yellow sunflowers were being measured,

as the tallest would win the allotment competition.

Beyond the allotment plots, a pétanque terrain had been marked out with tape on an almost level patch of grass. Our team was to be named `Twinning` and our opposition `HAHA` (Hungerford Allotment Holders Association). There was much fun to be had even though we didn't win, by rather a large margin! The Hungerford team received a trophy and our team a tin of chocolates which we shared with both teams. We're hoping to find time to practice before the return match next summer to be held on the Woolton Hill Pétanque Terrain. Perhaps some Spectrum readers will be willing to cheer us on?

Genie Stapleton



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## Letter to the Editor

I read your article about the Parish field with interest, fields are like gardens require a lot of TLC, just on a larger scale, pasture fields need to be grazed which has not happened for the past ten years or so, to simply take a crop of hay without grazing is to diminish the nutrient level of the soil, year on year, so the field has ended up in the neglected state it is in today.

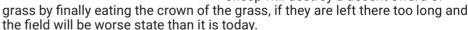
The idea of wildflowers is excellent for the nutrient reduced soil, but with wildflower seed at something like £10,000 a ton it would be an expensive business and the field would still require cutting in the Autumn, (to maintain the seeds levels). As an alternative maybe smaller areas of wildflowers could be planted, all that is needed is a garden rotavator, some volunteers to operate it and sow the seeds, or preferably plants, it would need to be fenced around from livestock as they would trample them in until they are well established.

The remainder of the field could be grazed to replace the nutrients now missing and topped to remove weeds, but this would be a slow process taking

several years.

A sign of the times is the lack of local cattle, with probably only Malverleys, Fishers and us keeping them, our Longhorn cattle are organic, so unfortunately the Soil Association would not look kindly on us grazing an un-registered field, also the current level of nutrient would only sustain a few cows for a week or so.

The alternative is sheep which would require a stockproof fence / hedge all around the field, but sheep need to be controlled, left to their own devices, sheep will destroy a decent sward of



My suggestion would be to allow the sheep into the field for two months, out for two months and then back in for two months, this obviously impacts on the shepherd's time to move them, but gives the field time to recover, no animals on the field from the end of October until say the 1st April when it should have a reasonable sward. The objective is not to have fat sheep and happy shepherds, but to have a healthy grass sward.

Topping the field two or three times would remove the thistles, docks, and tall grass and when dead they would add to the nutrients in the ground. The sheep should obviously not be allowed to stay in the field over the whole spring / summer, however few.

It would be nice to see some animals in the field and a healthy sward of grass, but what I have outlined is an expensive long-term, natural proposal.

I am sure that others will want to contribute their own ideas.

Grass cutting in early September

Malcolm Perris, Hollington Farm

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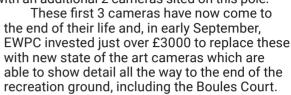
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## East Woodhay Parish Council

o help keep the community safe, in 2009 East Woodhay Parish Council (EWPC) installed 3 CCTV cameras on the pole by the entrance to the recreation ground in Woolton Hill. This has been extended to cover the additional play equipment which has been installed over the years, with an additional 2 cameras sited on this pole.



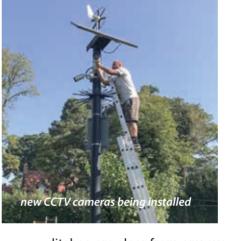
Another factor in wanting to enhance the cameras has been the unfortunate rise in anti-social behaviour- If you see any anti-social behaviour in the recreation ground or elsewhere in the parish, please report this to the police via 101 and let the Parish Council Clerk know so that CCTV footage can be provided to the police.

As we ease into Autumn after a very hot September, please check your hedges are trimmed back from the pavements and roads. Now is also a good time to make sure your

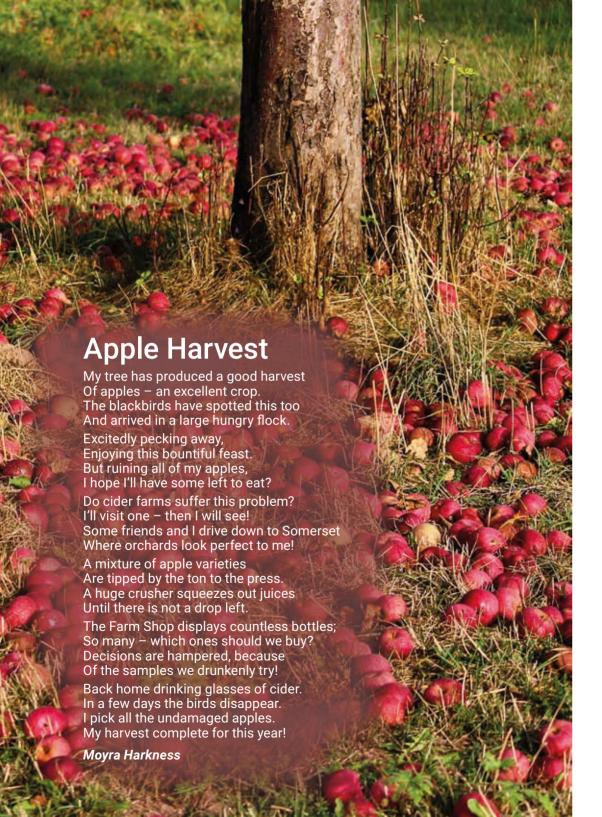
ditches are clear from any overgrowth before the winter season hits.

Are you interested in joining our Council? We are looking for a proactive person to join, specifically supporting the planning committee. Full training and support is provided.

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Dear Friends.

This is the letter I always dreaded writing to you all! It is time to tell you that I will be taking early retirement towards the end of the year. Some of you know that I was diagnosed with cancer more than a year ago. It is unfortunately not likely to improve, and I know it is time for me to retire. It has been such a privilege and a joy for me to serve as Rector for some 21 years in East Woodhay and Woolton Hill, and the last 14 years also serving Ashmansworth, Crux Easton and Highclere. It will certainly be hard for Simon and I to leave the people and places we have come to love dearly; but we thank God for friendships made and blessings received.

I will step back from public ministry at the end of November, to take time to clear my desk, take outstanding leave and move home. In the next magazine I will share details of my last service which I expect to be at the end of November. In the meantime, please support our churchwardens who will be responsible for overseeing matters in our churches during the vacancy, and during the process of recruitment for a new Rector. Please also support our Associate Priest, the Revd Professor Chris Hancock, who will work closely with our churchwardens in worship and ministry.

Change of any kind can be hard. When change comes it is a chance to give thanks for what has been, to grieve for that which is lost or acknowledge mistakes or regrets. Change can also bring opportunity: time for new friendships, new activities, new possibilities. So while it will be hard to leave I have faith and confidence that in facing change our gracious God has plans for us all - just as the prophet Jeremiah wrote 'I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.' (Jeremiah 29:11)

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, friendship and support through these many years. Simon and I ask you now to pray for us as we will continue to pray for you.

#### with every blessing. Canon Christine

From the Church Registers: August 2023				
Baptism: we ask God's blessing on the life of				
6th August	Theodore Louie Ralph Dunn	Highclere		
	Funeral: may she rest in peace			
22nd August	Elizabeth Mary Dennis	East Woodhay		
	Burial of ashes: may she rest in peace			
30th August	Sarah Lynn Downing	Woolton Hill		

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#### **Church Services OCTOBER 2023**

#### Welcome!

Service details are correct at time of publishing, any necessary changes will be posted on church noticeboards.

SUN 1 <sup>st</sup> Harvest (Trinity 17)	Harvest Festival Matins (BCP) (Trinity 17) Harvest Communion Evensong (BCP) (Trinity 17)	Woolton Hill Highclere East Woodhay Ashmansworth	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 8 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 18 (Harvest)	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Harvest Festival	East Woodhay Woolton Hill Highclere	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am
SUN 15 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 19 (Harvest)	Morning Worship Harvest Festival Parish Communion Evensong (BCP)	Woolton Hill Ashmansworth Highclere East Woodhay	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm
SUN 22 <sup>nd</sup> Trinity 20	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Morning Worship Evensong (BCP)	Highclere Woolton Hill East Woodhay Crux Easton	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am <u>5.00pm</u>
SUN 29 <sup>th</sup> Bible Sunday	Benefice Communion Baptism Baptism	Highclere East Woodhay Woolton Hill	10.00am 12 noon 12 noon
WED 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct Holy Communion Woolton Hill 10.00am			

Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale (Rest day: Friday) 253323 Associate Priest: Revd Professor Chris Hancock 254718 Reader Emeritus: Rosemary Cahill 253306

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## East Woodhay Flower Show

### **Saturday 19 August**

fter a week of rain, the sun shone on the day and a wonderful crowd packed East Woodhay Village Hall. The Floral classes were well supported this year with some excellent displays. With a twenty six percent increase in the number of entrants there was an extensive array of cakes and bakes, preserves, photographs, handicrafts, children's classes, spectacular dahlias, and fruit and veg – even wonky ones!

Entertainment was provided by East Woodhay Silver Band, and youngsters were thrilled by a guest appearance from 'Bluey'. There were also sideshows, stalls, a barbecue, and the ever-popular teas.

Chairman of the Show, June Powell, won the Ladies' Challenge cup. Ninety-six-year-old Les Barber, who has been competing at the Show since he was eight, carried off the Hayes Challenge Cup and the Canon Stephenson cup. Gillian Pocock won the Coronation Cup, the Mrs. R. Thomas Cup, and the Ellen Webb Challenge Cup for the best vase of flowers. As well as winning the Arthur Curnick Cup, Norman Powers also won the Tom Trice Memorial Cup for the best carrots in show, for the fifth time.

Other cup winners were:

The John Partridge Memorial Cup – Les Wallace

The Walt Hills Memorial Cup – Sue Taylor

The Floral Cup - Jane Little

The Frederick Marsh Cup for best photograph - Cathy Neller

The Sampson Cup - Kim Boreham

The Jane Wells Cup for best under 16 flower arrangement - Rebecca Steward

The Carden Challenge Cup (13 to 16 years) - Rebecca Steward

The Cecil Tate Memorial Cup (9 to 12 years) - Nina Powell

The Barber Cup (5 to 8 years) - Lily Powell

The Chairman's Cup (under 5 years) - Grace Collins

Many thanks to Paul Hurst, Chairman of East Woodhay Parish Council, for opening the Show. The Committee also thanks Matthew Webber who permitted parking in his field, and our volunteers who help set up the Show, man stalls, run side shows, and provide teas. Thanks also to our sponsors, supporters, judges, and competitors – we couldn't do it without you!

Kim Boreham Committee member

## East Woodhay Flower Show

















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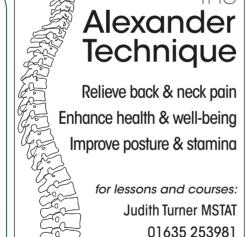
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## Alien Invaders

Just like Japanese Knotweed and the fungus that has caused As Die Back the UK is facing another alien invader that will cause absolute devastation if it takes hold and that is the Asian Hornet.

This insect arrived in France from Southeast Asia probably in a shipping container and while the French farmers and the French Government argued as to whose responsibility it was to deal with the invader it has taken hold in Europe with an estimated annual cost to the global economy of £300bn, a figure that has quadrupled every decade.

The Asian Hornet is slightly smaller than the European Hornet that we know and is predominately black with a yellow abdomen and distinctive yellow legs. It is a carnivore and will eat any flying insect it can catch devastating the pollinators of our crops. That is why it is so important to try and keep the pest

at bay.

Asian hornet (Vespa velutina)

Particularly at risk is the Honeybee. If you think about it, bees come back to the hive after collecting pollen and nectar so the Asian Hornet hovers at the hive entrance and just waits for them. It's like a fast food take away for them that is delivered.

The Asian Hornet made its way across to the Channel Islands from France a number of years ago and so far, this year 476 queens have been destroyed in Jersey compared to 55 last year.

On the UK mainland so far, there have been 22 confirmed sightings which is more than the previous six years combined. These have been in Kent, East Sussex, Devon and Dorset which is not surprising being counties closest to France and the ferry ports. One beekeeper in Folkstone has lost ten of his seventeen hives this year due to Asian Hornet predation.

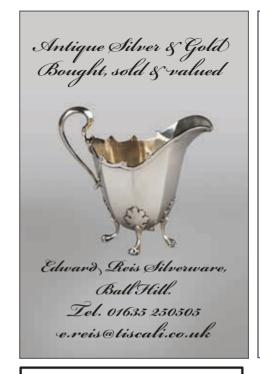
While not any more harmful to humans than the European Hornet it is a real killer for pollenating insects.

Earlier this year there was a reported sighting in Kingsclere which fortunately turned out to be false but if you see anything that resembles this insect, please notify the Great British Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) immediately, there is a specialist unit set up to deal with them.

This can be done through the free Asian Hornet Watch App which is available for both Android and iPhone devices.

Other methods of reporting the hornet also include using the NNSS <u>online</u> <u>notification form</u>. Finally, you can send any suspect sightings to the Non-Native Species email address <u>alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk</u>. Where possible, a photo, the location of the sighting and a description of the insect seen should be included.

It is far better to report something that turns out not to be an Asian Hornet than let one slip through the net and cause untold damage to the biodiversity of our country. Please please keep alert for this pest.





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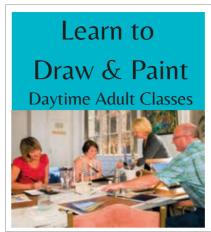
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# East Woodhay Society

he East Woodhay Society committee met recently and had a review of the society. We know that Woodhay Walkers and the Website (wooltonhill.com)/Facebook works well.

Although the Coronation Picnic in the Park was a great success, we are struggling to find people to organise events.

For example, John Angle who started EWS and has been a such a great bedrock of the society is now stepping down from the committee and from organising future wine quizzes. We would like to thank John for all he has done throughout the years to enhance the community via his work in EWS.

Likewise, I was planning on stepping down from being Chair but will continue to keep the society going unless anyone else would be willing to take on the role and drive the EWS forward.

Consequently, we need people to organise events.

If you have an idea and would like to organise an event in the local community, EWS can help you by providing the guidance, insurance and risk assessment templates. We can also support with communications both on the website and social media as well as to known contacts.

Please contact me with any ideas or questions via the links below.

Our AGM, to discuss this and other matter further, will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in meeting room 1 (next to kitchen) at Woolton Hill Church Hall.

#### **Woodhay Walkers**

After a quieter August where we had two lovely walks, it was back to a full program in September, with walks from our local hall locations as well as from The Vine at Hannington and on the Craven Estate. If you know these areas, then you'll probably appreciate why both are firm favourites of mine with such variety and some wonderful views.

This photo, which I'm sure many will recognise, was taken as we were walking in July along the path in Alma Farm.

Our group continues to grow in numbers and there is always lots of friendly chat along the way. It's a great way to enjoy our local countryside and to meet others. If you would like to come along on any of the walks, please email woodhaywalkers@gmail.com. This is because it is possible there may need to be some last-minute changes e.g. weather conditions etc. We start promptly at 10.30am.

Friday 29th Sep – around 4 miles from Malverleys Friday 6th Oct – around 3 miles from Woolton Hill Church Hall Friday 13th Oct - up to 4 miles from The Bowlers Arms Friday 20th Oct – up to 4 miles from Woolton Hill Church Hall Friday 27th Oct – up to 4 miles from Snelsmore Common

> Mark Rand – Chair EWS Email – eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com Website: www.wooltonhill.com Telephone - 250898



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33

**Across** 

- Find curious space to break free from the east (6)
- 4. I leave janitor for a merry companion with famous horse (6)
- 9. Type of being to mix up a French ham (5)
- 10. Hear echo from note left by lizard with sticky feet (5)
- 11. Old woman hiding right inside ice cream holder (5)
- 12. Beggar in red found before man with the same kind of house, sweet! (11)
- 15. Len? He discovered girl who allegedly started the war described by 4 across (5)
- 17. Doctor went before a mother and caused a scene (5)
- 18. Roman Catholic found in hot source of light (5)
- 19. Try hiding end to appear more fashionable (6)
- 20. My pugs are important to the building industry (6)

#### Down

- 1. Breathe out on seeing previous partner with hard drink (6)
- 2. If my count came out right, we could have a coffee at St Thomas' church most Friday mornings (9,4)
- 3. A state of fear and alarm caused by Dad meeting the Devil we hear (5)
- 5. Dodgy sort disguised with rouge (5)
- Jean talks about corn, but to make these pumpkins are needed! (4,1,8)
- Pasta for foolish person (6)
- 8. After a bold run, coil round again as missed both red and green (11)
- 13. Expert who gives advice on how to dip nut
- 14. Work out the depth of the water (6)
- 15. It's hard dear, but it is what I was told! (5)
- 16. Best flavour of all for eccentric (5)

# Directory of Local Organisations

24hr Emergency Numbers         Thames Water       0845 9200 888         Southern Water (water supply)       01273 606766         Southern Electric       105 or 08000727282		
<b>Arbor Flora Group</b> Secretary: Diana Durkin 07980520044		
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council		
ChurchesEast Woodhay, St Martin's		
<b>Defibrillators</b> There are 5 public access defribillators 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 Hill253324Patient Participation: Rosemary Cahill253306		
<b>Ducklings</b> Fiona Morgan		
<b>East Woodhay &amp; Highclere Neighbourcare Volunteer Driving</b> For transport to medical appointments please call 01635 745600  www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk		
<b>East Woodhay Charities</b> Secretary: Susan Wren		
East Woodhay Cricket Club		
East Woodhay Flower & Produce Show 254114 www.eastwoodhayflowershow.co.uk		
<b>East Woodhay Football Club</b>		
<b>East Woodhay Footnotes Mens Singing Group,</b> organiser Peter Stanley, 07467572341		
<b>East Woodhay Local History Society</b> .Sec: Christine Dalton07880 628 114		
East Woodhay Parish Council Members: . www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.ukPaul Hurst (Ch) paul.hurst@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk		

# Directory of Local Organisations

East Woodhay Parish Council continued  Karen Titcomb (V Chair) karen.titcomb@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk
East Woodhay Short Mat Bowls Club Contact: Cathy Neller
<b>East Woodhay Silver Band</b>
<b>East Woodhay Society</b>
East Woodhay Twinning Association Helen Allen, Secretary 01635 250776
East Woodhay Village Hall ewvillagehallbookings@gmail.com
East Woodhay W.I Secretary: Pat Gibbs 07831 669 220
Hampshire County Council
Highclere Film Club . Secretary: Chris Martin
Highclere Evergreens Leader: Mrs. V. Burge
Litter warden litterwarden@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk
MP - Kit Malthouse
Neighbourhood WatchWoolton Hill
Newbury Chamber Choir info@newburychamberchoir.co.uk
<b>Nwby. Wkly. News WH Correspondent</b> Nicole Bentham 255582
<b>Police</b> 101         Kieron Venn        email kieron.venn@hampshire.police.uk
The Samaritans
SchoolsThe Clere
<b>St Martin's Guild</b> Secretary: Sarah Leventhorpe

## Directory of Local Organisations

Spectrum		
St Thomas' Handbell Ringers Nicole Bentham		
Women in Touch		
1st Woolton Hill Beavers & Cubs mo.osborne@btinternet.com		
<b>Woolton Hill &amp; District Gardeners' Club</b> Nick Harcourt 253546		
Woolton Hill Argyle Football Club Jon Dennis money.whafc@gmail.com		
<b>Woolton Hill Brownies</b> Maggie Russell 2whbrownies@gmail.com		
<b>Woolton Hill Church Hall</b>		
Woolton Hill Pre-School Nicola Logan		
Woolton Hill Sports Club (tennis, table tennis) Alison Whitehorn		
Woolton Hill Village Market		
<b>Woolton Hill Website</b> Contact: Mark Rand		

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