

Woottonnews

Issue No. 06 April 2021

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

WOOTTON

It has been a while since our last News Bulletin or Newsletter. Needless to say this will be somewhat of a bumper addition.

There is a Wootton WhatsApp Support Group, if you would like to be included please contact Jeremy Kneller 07968 276306 and he will add you. For existing residents, as you know this was set up during Lockdown 1.0 and in excitable times it was probably not used correctly all the time. This has now changed so if you would like to be added again please do ask Jeremy.

We have a website which is primarily used by the Parish Council, but we are exploring what else we can put on there.

www.woottonunderweaver.co.uk

If you have a look you will see the local NEWSRAC is on there, providing information from Northwood-Ellastone-Wootton-Stanton-Ramshorn-&-Calwich (Can you see what they did there?). If you have any suggestions of what could be included on the website please let the Parish Council know by emailing Pat Fielding . clerk.woottonpc@yahoo.com



Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary, how does your garden grow ?

Well thanks for asking, really well actually, but my name is not Mary and the garden isn't mine it belongs to the residents of Wootton.

This community project started in late 2019. Serious digging and preparing started in Lockdown 2020 and in our first year of production we produced a surprising crop of fruit and veg.

When we can mix again the aim is to enjoy planting and growing together. Whatever is grown can be used by all Wootton residents regardless of if they have contributed or not.



We welcome any budding gardeners, young or old. If you would like to get involved please contact Ruth on 07708 252908 for more information and she can add you to the Wootton Community Garden WhatsApp group.

Spare or salad overflow	
New Pots & Leds to follow	
Herbs & Salad	French beans, runner beans and broad beans (one third bed each)
Flowers / Staked	Purple Sprouting Broccoli (Whole Bed)
Strawberry	Courgette (two thirds) & Summer Squash (one third bed)
Kale & Sweetcorn (half bed each)	Sweetie, Celeriac (one third bed each)
Strawberry	Beetroot, Parsnip, Onion (one third bed each)
Raspberry & Garlic	Water etc.

Our plans for this years proposed crops.

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LOCKDOWN Celebrations 2020

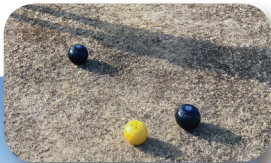
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SPORT



ANY ONE FOR BOWLS ?

Well, here we are in the spring of 2021 and after a long period of closure plans are afoot to relaunch the crown green bowls club at Ellastone. A great deal of effort has been put into restoring the green after the weather and other circumstances took their toll in 2018/19 and turned the green into a coconut mat. It's now green again and by May will be ready for play.



Like many activities bowls has suffered the consequences of lockdown but also a diminished local member base and needs younger and new members to come through. So, we are pleased to announce that the club is to be relaunched on **Saturday 22nd May at 2:00pm**. The hope is to attract existing and new members, young and old alike, to this relaxing game on a beautiful site next to Ellastone Village Hall.

We are non-league and have played many local friendly matches in the past with lovely teas in beautiful surroundings and continue to play for the pure fun of it.

Of course, the above proposals are subject to Government advice in place at the time.

For further information watch the Ellastone website, Newsrac or contact **Jackie 01889 569740,**

Jean 01889 591753 or email John aziko.ndaba@gmail.com



CRICKET CLUB NEWS IT'S NOT OVER & OUT !



Following the success of last season's adult league teams we look forward to the 2021 fixture list which begins on **17th April**.

Adults will begin training at the ground on **Tuesday** and **Friday** of the week beginning **12th April**.

Junior pre-season training begins the same week with:

Under 10's at 6pm on the 12th .

Under 12's & under 14's at 6pm on the 14th.

Under 8's on Thursday 15th at 5.45pm.

Once South Moorland Junior Cricket League matches begin after **May 8th** practices will take place on **Thursday evenings** for all age groups.

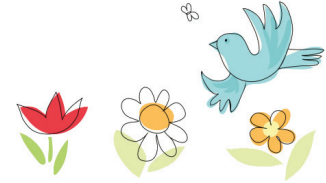
The pavilion will remain closed and there will be no teas served but we hope to open the bar in line with outdoor hospitality regulations.

If anyone is interested in playing for any of the teams, for more information, please contact **Ed & Rose Barker 01335 324466**.



FARM UPDATE

Spring is always a busy time on the farm ...

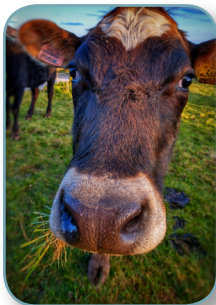


Spring time at Shawcroft Farm is always a busy time with our cows all calving in a 8 - 9 week period.

Calving is coming to an end with about 70 cows still to give birth, it has gone well this year and the milking cows are out in the fields both day and night.

For 2021 we have had Ellie and Ben working with us, students at Reaseheath and Harper Adams respectively; they are on their placement years. We have also had vet students from Nottingham helping out in the calf shed and gaining dairy experience. It's great to work with a young enthusiastic team.

Much of the grassland on the farm is at a distance from the parlour; for this reason we only milk our cows once a day. They walk to the fields on



Meet Josie

a network of recycled concrete railway sleepers. Henry manages the grazing and aims to give the cows a fresh field every day. We are always grateful to villagers informing us when there is anything unusual from cows out, fences down to leaking water tanks.

Spring 2021 has been a very special time

Henry and Rosa have had their own bull calves; Ivan and Wilfred Dalton arrived safely on March 17th - our future little farmers!



Beach hut in the hills!

April 17th will be the opening date of 'The Hatch' at Daltons Dairy.

This will be open at weekends and every day during the summer holidays.



From The Hatch we will be serving some very tasty coffees and our Daltons Fruit Spinner cones (a big hit last summer from those of you who came).

We are hoping this will be a peaceful escape for everyone to relax with their pals. The Honesty Hut will still be open 8am-10pm daily.

See you soon!



WELCOME AND GOODBYES

GOODBYES

Sadly in 2020 a number of our long term villagers passed away.



Ray Thompson 29.01.39 – 09.04.20

Ray was a Derby lad, great supporter of Derby County, played semi-professional football for Burton Albion and a member of Derby Rowing Club. He married Ann in May 1970 and after a working life as a Quantity Surveyor which took them travelling around the world, including working on several airports in Saudi Arabia, they moved back to Wootton in 1986. He embraced his life in Wootton and his love of sport could be seen again when he became the first Captain of Wootton Cricket Club.

Sadly he struggled with his health for several years but always maintained his infamous sense of humour. Unfortunately after a short spell in hospital he contracted Covid-19 and passed away on the 9th April 2020.

Ray would have been very proud that on the day of his funeral most of the village stood out to clap him on his last journey, a testament to how much he was loved by those in Wootton.



Terry Prior

Terry spent his formative life in London before moving to Scotland with family where he got to love the countryside. He joined the Merchant Navy at 16yrs old, travelled the world and then spent 4yrs with the RAF. He entered the teaching profession and also became a Mountaineering and Rock Climbing Instructor and a dedicated caver!

Terry and his wife, Betty, moved to Wootton and converted the barn at Fold Farm creating Fold Farm Cottage. In the latter years, sadly arthritis and ailing eyesight prevented him from pursuing another love, woodwork. He died two days before his scheduled heart operation at the age of 86yrs old having contracted covid.



Derek Salt 19.03.36 – 01.09.20

Wootton lost its longest serving resident, **Derek Salt**, at the age of 84.

He was the last person to remember services in the Chapel (now Chapel House) whilst he was a boy at Hole Farm where his parents farmed and took in evacuees during the war. It was one of the 10 farms in the village in the 1950s. He went on to run a haulage business before becoming a bus driver, a job he continued until lockdown at 84yrs old!

He was at least the third generation of that Salt family to live in the village, his grandparents ran a shop at Lane Cottage.



Nancy Barker 12.02.31 - 09.12.20

Nancy arrived in Wootton in 1952 with husband Frank to farm the 28 acres at Forge Farm. In the 1960s they moved to Fold Farm which had 80 acres and in the 70s to Shawcroft with 200 acres. In 1987 they moved to Dell View where she lost Frank in 2000 and finally retired in 2002.

Alongside all the farming work and bringing up Ed and Dot she was a founder member and President of both Wootton WI and Wootton Cricket Club.

She was also a founder member of Ellastone Horse Show and Ellastone Bowls Club and remained active in the community right up to December 2020.

Nora Hartley whilst no longer in the village died on the same day as Nancy Barker.



Nora and Nancy – WI Xmas Party circa 1980s Nora, front centre, white jumper and red hat, Nancy, second row, white jumper

Nora and her husband Ben moved to Distant Point, a former market garden, in mid 1960. She recalls how they used to bring turfs off the hills and heat them in the boiler house and how they grew carnations in the carnation house. She was a wealth of information about the history of the village and how Distant Point fitted in with life at the hall; an active member of the Women's Institute.

She maintained her independence, still climbing ladders at aged 82yrs and would be found at the bottom of Hall Lane waiting outside for the Community bus every Tuesday and Thursday come rain, snow or shine.

She left the village a few years ago to move nearer to her daughter Jacqueline in North Yorkshire.

Greg Shaw whilst no longer in the village, he used to live at White Cottage before moving to Ellastone, he passed away on the 4th April. He was the chairperson of Wootton Parish Council during the 1980s.

WELCOMES

We waved goodbye to Liz Lamb from The Sycamores in February and welcome Nic, Phil, Rosie, Archie and Harry with two dogs called Luna and Kizzy. Liz is off in her caravan to travel and more than likely eventually heading down south to be closer to family. We wish her all the luck in this next chapter.

The Tilbrook family departed Fold Farm in October 2020 with James and Nicola Tickle taking up residence. Wootton will certainly be different to their life in the US and Australia where they have lived over the past 5 years.

With the pitter patter of tiny feet soon to be heard they are really pleased to be able to call Fold Farm their family home.

There are new residents at Yew Tree Cottage since Dave, Jo and the boys moved out, so we welcome Mark and Vickie, Isabel and Jack Longson along with their dog, Bertie.

Craig has only just moved out of Delbert Cottage and the Wootton Detectives have not yet established who has moved in, but hopefully with receipt of this newsletter we will have made an introduction.

We wish all our new residents a massive welcome and hope that you enjoy Wootton as much as we do.



WOOTTON 100 CHALLENGE

Captain Sir Tom Moore set us all an example last year didn't he in his efforts to walk 100 laps of his garden and unexpectedly raising over £39million for the NHS. You will have seen in the news that his family is encouraging us to also set a 100 challenge and complete it during his birthday weekend. Sadly we can't organise ourselves in time for this but we would like to invite you Woottonians to consider taking part in one or two Wootton 100 challenges.

100lb CHALLENGE

Don't know about you but the lockdown pounds have certainly piled on over the past year. The challenge is to see, if as a village we can lose a 100lbs between us over a set amount of time (*minimum of 6 mths but still to be decided*). For every pound lost you would donate a £1 in cash and we are seeking match funding for the 100lbs weight loss from the Parish Council which we will then donate to a chosen charity. Jacqui Kinch will be organising

this but it will all be done anonymously so no-one (*including JK*) will know who has lost or gained. The finer details will be worked out ready for a launch in May. If you would like to take part email Jacqui Kinch.

VILLAGE 100 LOOP CHALLENGE

With the example of Captain Sir Tom Moore in mind, the challenge is to complete a 100 laps of your chosen loop around the village between the 14th & 21st August 2021. We are not going

to dictate the loop as we would like to encourage people to do what they think they can do and achieve their individual 100 laps. There will be a chart in the Village notice board by the Reading Room for you to record each lap and you can either pay a £10 entrance fee or make a donation.

The nominated charity for each of these events is still to be decided and will be finalised at the next WOW meeting. It would be lovely to see as many people participating in one or both of these challenges.

[Check website and WhatsApp Group for further information.](#)

LOCKDOWN CELEBRATIONS

We are a social village, we like a good get together and have raised lots of money for charity, especially the Ellastone & Mayfield First Responders. The pandemic has affected our ability to have these get togethers and the charity donations, but we did still manage to do some things and there is more planned for this year....

SO WHAT DID WE DO?



Two of our younger members, Theo & Amélie Churchward,

baked cakes and distributed throughout the village as part of a school project and we had to take pictures eating them. You will see from the photos that we got into the '40s spirit.



Clap for Carers was supported big style during Lockdown 1.0 resulting in a bit of a competition to see who could be heard from the top of the village and all the way down to the bottom of Hall Lane. Pans and wooden spoons appeared to be the tools of choice for noise making.



We also took part in the VE Day singalong, socially distanced with our resident musician Dave Blant at the helm. There was some glorious singing, especially from Gilbert. It was the first time that a lot of us had seen each other for a few months. It was BYO drink and song sheets had been sent electronically.



When lock down restrictions were lifted for a while we managed a very windy and chilly WoottStock at Rose Cottage with Sally & Paul Duffell kindly hosting and again our musician in residence performed an array of singalong songs. Fair to say that Dave felt the cold on his fingers during the session. It was lovely to see such a great turn out of Wootton villagers despite the cold.



GREAT WOOTTON LIGHT UP - To end the year we had the Great Wootton Light up. We wanted to do something to cheer ourselves up during the dark evenings and on the first Saturday in December it was lovely to see all our houses lit up with Xmas lights and garden displays. Something to be repeated perhaps?

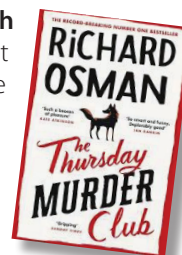
WOW GROUP aka Women of Wootton

Back in 2012 it was suggested that a monthly Reading Group was established in the village.

The group continues today and we do read books (promise) but we also have a drink or two of wine and some cheeky voices have re-named us Women of Wine! It is an opportunity for us to have a chin wag, say hello to people that we don't see regularly and over the years we have done a number of activities including visiting Ladies Night at Uttoxeter Races, Drawing evenings at The Studio with Lee, cooking evenings (corned beef hash competition and curry night springs to mind), pancake tossing, walks on the Tissington Trail and on the canal to name but a few.

We tend to meet on the first Tuesday of every month and take it turns to volunteer as a host. During lockdown we have had a few WOW Zoom nights but are really looking forward to our next face to face which fingers crossed will be held on **Tuesday 25th May**, at Dot Adams. It will be outside so we are hoping for a lovely spring evening and have opted to start at **6.30pm**, it will include the book review of *The Thursday Murder Club*, Richard Osman.

All new villagers are welcome to join, just email Jacqui Kinch and we will see you at



Dot's (Bank Top) on the 25th May.

One of the other things the WOW group has done is to organise charity events in the village. We try to nominate one charity a year and do some fundraising; this year has been a quiet one for understandable reasons but when we can, normal service will be resumed. Events include a Barn Dance and Auction where we raised over £5,000 for Hope Against Cancer, the Centenary Armistice Day which included a firework display and being part of the nation Beacon lights and various village BBQs.



THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

WOOTTON SOAP BOX DERBY

For the newcomers to the village this is a great social event that takes place on August Bank Holiday Monday. Anyone living in the village aged 18 or over can enter, at a cost of £10, all they have to do is build a go kart and individually race it from the 1st cattle grid up the Weavers all the way down Back Lane to the bottom. The fastest time wins. Hot dogs, home made cakes and ice cream are sold afterwards and all monies made are sent to the West Midlands Air Ambulance. Due to the pandemic, last years event was cancelled, and we will have to wait and see what the rules are this year but fingers crossed it can go ahead.



CAROLS AT THE CROSS

Every Christmas Eve, whatever the weather, there is a lovely village get together at the Cross (opposite the Reading Room). Some rather boozy mulled wine is provided along with mince pies and our resident musicians, led by Dave Blant provide the music for us to sing a range of Christmas Carols.



For any new residents, young and old, if you play an instrument and would like to be involved please contact Dave Blant to find out more. We encourage our younger residents to sing their favourite Christmas song if they wish and in the past we have had our very own Wootton Carol performed by the WOW group (perhaps we can resurrect this in 2021?)

EGG BOX AT DISTANT POINT

If you take a wander down to the bottom of Hall Lane, look for Home Farm Cottage and you will find a little Egg Box House on the right-hand side. If you are lucky you will find some fresh free range eggs from Distant Point (located on Michael's Lane).



These are replenished on a weekly basis but they are popular so the phrase you 'snooze you lose' springs to mind.

If you find no eggs, leave a note with a contact number for the Egg Fairy to send you a message when it has been replenished.

FISHY TUESDAY

Most Tuesdays at 1.30pm there is a fish van that visits the village. You will find him just outside Barbara's place, Cross Cottage. Sometimes he does get delayed in getting to us and if that is the case he will phone to let us know and we try and get the message out to the fish regulars.



WOOTTON CALENDAR

For the past few years we have had a Wootton Calendar consisting of photographs that have been submitted by villagers with the winners being selected at a 'View & Vote' session during September. Sadly due to the pandemic we were unable to run the photograph competition so we have not got a 2021 edition. The calendar raises around £500 per year for the Ellastone and Mayfield First Responder and this was only possible as we managed to get the calendars printed free of charge by one of our villagers who had a printing company and even after leaving the village continued to print them. Unfortunately

given the impact of the pandemic it is not appropriate to ask them to continue.

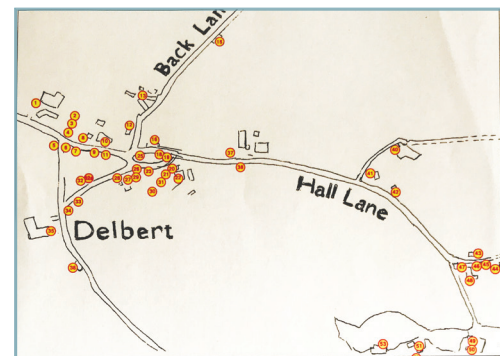
We will need to discuss this further at the Parish Council meeting in May to establish if it is to continue for 2022.



VILLAGE MAP

During lock down (even before actually) there has been a steady increase in delivery vans in the village as a we move towards frequent on-line deliveries. It is so obvious when it is a new driver as you can see them faithfully following their Sat Nav and being told 'You have arrived at your destination' and they haven't.

Jeremy Kneller kindly put pen to paper to produce a map of the location of all the properties in the village with their house names. If you keep this handy by the front door and see any cars or vans going up, down and around the village you can offer some guidance. If you would rather have an electronic copy, please contact Jeremy Kneller.



1 Shawcroft Farm	15 Back Lane Barn	29 Fold House	42 The Spinney
2 Pennine View	16 The Smithy	30 Lane Cottage	43 Rose Cottage
3 Weaver View		31 The Barn	44 Distant Point
4 Weaver Lea	18 Yelt Farm	32 Dell View	45 Kate Cottage
5 Tollgate House	19 The Yelt	32a Dell View Flat	46 The Byre
6 Tollgate Cottage	20 Oaktree Cottage	33 Yew Tree Cottage	47 Home Farm Cottage
7 Chapel House	21 Botts Barn	34 Delbert Cottage	48 Home Farm
8 Rock Cottage	22 Hole Farm	35 Delbert Farm	49 Groom's Quarter's
9 Bank Top	23 Nine Gables	36 Heath Cottage	50 Wootton Hall Farm
10 New House Farm	25 Cross House	37 The Dell	51 Garden Cottage
11 Forge Farm	26 Cross Cottage	38 The Sycamores	52 Keeper's Cottage
12 Nook Cottage	27 Fold Farm	40 By The Meadow	53 Wootton Hall
13 Nook Farm	28 Fold Barn	41 White Cottage	

PARISH COUNCIL

It is made up of five members, currently Tim Dalton, Dot Adams, Angus Dalton, John Burgess and Jacqui Kinch.

Our meetings do not generally reflect the Handforth Dean experience that hit social media fame a few months ago, as we are kept in order by our Parish Clerk, Pat Fielding, a wealth of knowledge and if she doesn't know then she will find out.

There are quarterly meetings including an AGM in May and under normal circumstances we meet in the Reading Room but during the pandemic we have continued with Zoom meetings. These have involved the usual hilarity of 'you are on mute' or even on one occasion having great view of Angus's ear as he was using his phone to join and as we couldn't hear him well he then spoke into the phone in the usual manner!

Any body can attend the meetings with the AGM providing a forum for residents to raise matters for discussion. It would be lovely to see more participation in the meetings when they return to the Reading Room, brace yourself for potholes and dog poo. The next meeting will be the AGM on the **4th May at 7.30pm** but it will be virtual due to the lock down restrictions, you would be more than welcome to join. The Zoom link will be posted on the website prior to the meeting.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Apologies for any spelling, grammar or punctuation errors that may have been overlooked.

If you have any complaints, compliments or contributions towards the future news letter, please email: Jacqui.Kinch@btconnect.com or pass information to any of the Parish Councillors.

THE READING ROOM

This will even be of interest to our established members of the village!

Since the demise of Wootton's SWI the use of the Reading Room is now largely the quarterly Parish Council meetings and very occasional village events. There was a concern that the Reading Room may be disposed of so through representations to the Parochial Church Council by Ed Barker over a number of months, it was agreed that Wootton Parish Council would take over the on-



going use, management and upkeep. Whilst the Reading Room does not have some luxuries like a loo or running water it does provide Wootton with a space that we would like to encourage more use of. If any resident has any thoughts on how to utilise for the benefit of the community, please do not hesitate to have a chat with one of the Parish Councillors.

YEH... WE HAVE A DEFIBRILLATOR

The More observant villagers may have noticed that, thanks to our wonderful local community First Responders, we now have a new defibrillator located on the front wall of the Reading Room. We all hope that it will not be put to too much use in the future but it is comforting to know that it is there.

We need to emphasise that anyone needing to use the machine MUST dial 999 before opening the door of the defibrillator cabinet.

Once restrictions are lifted it is hoped that the First Responders will run another basic first aid training course for the residents of the village. Such a course was run a number of years ago and was well received by all those involved and having a refresher would be beneficial for all. We will provide more information about this opportunity when confirmed.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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