



# WOODHURST NEWS

SUMMER 2021



We've still not reached the "new normal" yet but some normality is returning and if all goes to plan we'll have a number of in person Feast Week events this year. We can't wait to get back to beers in the Village Hall, especially to see all the hard work the committee have undertaken during the last year. A warm welcome to everyone new in the village, it's definitely worth joining in these village events as you get to meet so many people who will become life long friends.

We are photo light this issue, but next time we'll have all the reporting on Feast Week to present, so expect a bumper photograph issue!

This newsletter is kindly funded by the Parish Council to share village information and keep everyone up to date with events. Please get in touch with any suggestions for future newsletters.

[newsletter@woodhurst-cambs.com](mailto:newsletter@woodhurst-cambs.com)

**Don't forget you can catch up with all the latest news, including Parish Council minutes, on the village notice boards or online:**

[www.woodhurst-cambs.com/](http://www.woodhurst-cambs.com/)

[www.facebook.com/groups/woodhurst/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/woodhurst/)

Jenny and Dean Hartwell

## PARISH COUNCIL

### **Face to Face, but 2 metres apart**

We had our first "in the room" meeting in the Village Hall for many months this week, it was most lovely to see our council in the flesh, as well as our County and District Councillors. Thanks as always to the members of the public that attended. Numbers are obviously limited at the moment but there is always room for a few more. The next meeting is on 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Let us all hope that the era of online meetings is behind us, and I thank all those who dialled in over the last year for putting up with a little bit of organised chaos.

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# PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

## **LHI & HGVs**

As you probably know we are still waiting for our two LHI projects to be implemented, and will shortly be starting work on this year's bid for funding. This will be discussed at future meetings of the council, so it would be nice to hear resident's views and ideas on traffic safety schemes.

We continue to monitor HGV traffic and will attempt to contact companies where we can. We had a flurry of Mick George tipper trucks making their way to the Somersham road earlier in the year, but after repeated calls to the transport manager this now appears to have stopped. At least one driver was disciplined because they ignored the weight limit zone after being told not to come through the village. This is not really what we want to see, but it does show that the matter is taken seriously by at least one company.

## **Green Energy**

One exciting thing that the Council has just started discussing is green energy and how we might be able to promote that in Woodhurst. Our reliance on fossil fuels will have to change in coming years and we have recently been introduced to a project at Swaffham Prior where a "heat network" is being set up from a central hub of ground source heat pumps and solar panels to provide heating and hot water to houses in the village via a network of insulated pipes. This is something we are keen to find out about and this will be a fixture on our agenda in coming months. Obviously we are just fact-finding at the moment, but a quick search for "heating Swaffham Prior" will tell you more about it if you are interested.

## **Envar**

Some of you may be aware of changes at Envar at the Wheatsheaf Crossroads where, amongst other things, they will be installing a Dry Anaerobic Digestion system. I attended an online meeting recently where they outlined the plans. One major advantage to local residents is that they expect that there will be a reduction in smell from the site, so it maybe "poo corner" no more. Details of their plans can be found at [www.regenerationwoodhurst.com](http://www.regenerationwoodhurst.com), but a full planning application is expected in the near future.

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## PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

### **Wheatsheaf Crossroads**

County Councillor Steve Criswell is hopeful that the change in the make-up of the administration at County Council following the recent election, will have no effect on the plans to install traffic lights at the notorious junction. Funding has been secured and he is hopeful that work will start towards the end of the year.

### **Finally...**

As we (hopefully) leave the strange times we have been living in behind us, I hope that the community spirit that has prevailed through the various restrictions will continue. I once more thank those who offered their help to others in the village either through the Parish Council and Church or just by helping out a neighbour. It's always been like that in Woodhurst, but more people needed help so more people helped, something we can all be proud of.

## FEAST WEEK 2021

We are hoping to return to a face to face Feast Week this year.

The following arrangements are subject to change depending on government guidance. So please keep an eye on the village FB page for updates and further details.

If you're new to the village Feast Week is the annual celebration of the feast of St John the Baptist and typically we hold a week of events to raise funds for the church and village hall. We would like to extend a warm invite to any new families in the village to come and join us.

If you moved in 2019/2020 then we will be sending out some drink vouchers to use at bar night. We will apologise now as we know we'll miss someone. If you don't receive yours please email Louisa on [Martin.Louisa.jones@gmail.com](mailto:Martin.Louisa.jones@gmail.com).

### **Garden Drinks - Monday 28th June - Friday 2nd July**

Garden drinks with Sally, Wally and Georgie at Maycroft. Each evening Sally will open her beautiful garden for drinks and good company.

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# FEAST WEEK 2021 CONTINUED

## **100 Club**

100 Club tickets are now available from the website and draws will take place throughout the week with the final draws to be held on 3rd July.

<https://www.woodhurst-cambs.com/product/fw2021-100/>

## **Raffle of Promises**

Karen Weber has kindly agreed to once again organise the raffle of promises and we hope that each prize will be a promise from individuals or business owners in our lovely village to donate an item or provide a service within the coming year.

As examples, last year prizes included bottles of booze, boxes of chocolates, gift vouchers, making cakes, a ride on a motorbike, a vehicle MOT, a hand painted picture, an indulgent night-in package and some ancestry research advice. The choice of gift or service is entirely yours - it may be an offer to babysit, to clean a car, walk a dog, offer a nice garden plant (you get the idea) - literally any donation you can give is very much appreciated.

Please contact Karen (01487 823902 or [k.j.weber@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:k.j.weber@hotmail.co.uk)) advising what you would be willing donate by Saturday 19th June.

Tickets for the raffle will be available from [woodhurst-cambs.com](http://woodhurst-cambs.com) (5 for £1) from 20th June and tickets will also be on sale at the Cream Teas, where the raffle will be drawn.

## **Photo Competition**

For your chance to win the hotly contested photo competition please send entries to Faye at :

[fjonno@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fjonno@hotmail.co.uk) or [photocomp@woodhurst-cambs.com](mailto:photocomp@woodhurst-cambs.com)

There is a prize for the winner and the top twelve will be included in the 2022 calendar. Entries cost £1 per photo or £2 for 3 Photos. Please "order" your entries at:

<https://www.woodhurst-cambs.com/product/photo-competition-entry/>

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# FEAST WEEK 2021 CONTINUED

## **Church Service - Sunday 27th June AM**

The annual Feast Week service at the church will be held at 10.30am. For more details see the St John The Baptist's news below.

## **Cream Teas - Sunday 27th June PM**

After last year's virtual event Cream Teas are back in the village hall and will be held in the afternoon and we're looking for a few bakers to bake some cakes for the occasion.

Please contact Faye (fjonno@hotmail.co.uk) or on FaceBook with your speciality and we'll let you know how much we need baked. All offerings will need to be dropped at the Village Hall in the morning of 27th June between 10:00 - 11:30am.

## **Village Hall BBQ and Bar Night - Saturday 3rd July**

The VH will be relaunching! To celebrate we are holding a bar night with a free BBQ. Having missed out on the VE Day party we had planned we want to make up for lost time so please do come and join us in the new look hall.

# VILLAGE HALL

We are very excited to tell you that stage one of the renovation is now complete.

Thanks to the Community Capital Fund both toilets have now been renovated with the ladies now converted into a fully accessible space. The entrance area has been completely redecorated with a new ceiling and flooring.

We were lucky to have been eligible for Covid lockdown/start up grants and are using the money to make further improvements. Outside the old ramp has been removed as it was crumbling and didn't meet modern regulations. A new metal ramp, which is fully compliant with accessibility regulations has been fitted in its place.



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## VILLAGE HALL CONTINUED

The front doors have been replaced with a nice new access doors, making it easier for wheelchairs and buggies to gain access and the fire door at the back has also been replaced.

It's fair to say that it all looks amazing and we are really pleased with how it's gone. We are currently deciding how best to spend the rest of the money to improve the main hall and will then turn our attention to the kitchen.

Once restrictions are fully lifted the hall will again be available for hire. Andy Notman handles the bookings so please contact him for hire rates and availability



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Things are slowly returning to normal at St John's. The church is still open on a Wednesday and Sunday (although we will happily open it on request at other times) but we now have a bit of a rota for services. Times are published on the church board and everyone is welcome.

As a congregation we are drawn from a wide range of backgrounds but all enjoy time away from the world sitting in a peaceful atmosphere. Rev Sue and Rev Gary put on a range of formal and informal services and we've been experimenting with outside services. Shirley puts out reminders on FB and will say what type of service it will be.

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## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CONTINUED

Rev Sue has also asked us to remind everyone that the church is here for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Please do ask to see how we can support you.

On that note it was a source of great joy to host two weddings in May - Alex married James and Kerrie married Andrew. We send them our very best wishes as they start their lives together. It was lovely to see their beautiful flowers bring the church to life and have confetti in the churchyard again.

The annual Feast Week service at the church will be at 10.30am on Sunday 27th June. Depending on the weather and government guidance the service may be held in the church yard. Hymn suggestions and thoughts on the theme of "What I like about living in Woodhurst" are welcome please send them through to Shirley swallows2@btinternet.com

We are hoping to restart church coffee mornings as soon as regulations allow. Fittingly, Sally who originated the idea has offered to host.

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

**Want to ask a question or volunteer to help? Then please get in touch:**

### **Parish Council**

Chairman: Andy Notman - [andy.notman@woodhurst-cambs.com](mailto:andy.notman@woodhurst-cambs.com)

Clerk: Sarah Mizuro - [parishclerk@woodhurst-cambs.com](mailto:parishclerk@woodhurst-cambs.com)

### **Newsletter**

Jenny and Dean Hartwell - [newsletter@woodhurst-cambs.com](mailto:newsletter@woodhurst-cambs.com)

### **Village Hall**

Louisa Jones - 07847 643879

**St John the Baptist Church** ([www.somershamparishes.org](http://www.somershamparishes.org))

Rev Sue Simpson - 01487 840676

Shirley Firth - 01487 822958