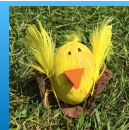


WOODHURST NEWS

Spring 2022



It's taken a while for the first newsletter of the year to come out, but we wanted to wait for confirmation that COVID restrictions were being removed and the events being planned were going ahead. Now that we're finally getting back to the "new normal", we can start socialising again as a village and properly welcome the new arrivals. With 2022 being the Queen's Jubilee Year, we've also got even more events than usual to look forward to.

The flowers are starting to bloom and the weather warming up, so soon we'll be able to enjoy the village in glorious sunshine. It reminds me how lucky we are to live somewhere as beautiful as Woodhurst. Unfortunately, we're having to take a temporary break and relocate for a short while. However, before you think that means the end of these witty editorials(!), don't panic, we'll still be producing them from afar and have willing volunteers to deliver. This does mean though, that we'll be relying on help for photographs and news so please feel free to email us.

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

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/
www.facebook.com/groups/woodhurst/

Jenny and Dean Hartwell

PARISH COUNCIL

ENVAR

We continue to monitor the situation with the Envar planning application. It is likely to be May before this is discussed at County Council Planning Committee, but we fully support County Councillor Criswell's recent motion opposing the use of Incinerators at the full council meeting.

Continued...

PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

WHEATSHEAF CROSSROADS

You may have seen that funding of £7.6m has now been allocated for the installation of traffic lights at Wheatsheaf Crossroads. This will hopefully make a real difference to the way the junction operates and make it safer for residents leaving the village

LOCAL HIGHWAYS INITIATIVE

We are due to present the case for a 20mph speed limit in South Street to the LHI Funding panel at the end of the month and are in discussions with Highways about the siting of new poles to accommodate our “SID” (speed indicator device) so that it can be moved around the village. We’re not allowed to use the poles for existing speed signs, so this may mean a couple of empty poles spring up on the verges in Church Street and South Street. Once we have agreed a plan with Highways we will contact those who live by a planned pole.

PAVEMENT ACCESS

It has been brought to the attention of the council that cars are frequently being parked on pavements in Church Street. There is no restriction on this, as far as we know, but please make sure that vehicles are parked with consideration for our wheelchair and mobility scooter users, and allow them ample room to pass. This also includes bins that are being put out for collection – we will also be contacting HDC to ask their operatives to make sure they leave ample space when replacing collected bins.

ELECTION

As this is an election year, the council term comes to an end in May and anyone who wishes to stand can be nominated for election. We’re not sure who of the current councillors may be standing again, but would like to thank them for their service and support over the last few years. Details of how to apply and submit nominations will be circulated shortly, or contact the clerk for details (parishclerk@woodhurst-cambs.com).

Continued...

PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

LITTER PICKING

We will be organising a litter pick on the Wheatsheaf Road in the near future, so please keep an eye on Facebook for details. In the meantime, we'd like to thank Oliver Pendered who has been carrying out his own litter picking and street sign cleaning tasks around the village as part of his Duke Of Edinburgh Award Scheme.



FEAST WEEK

After the limitations of the last few years, it will be nice to get back to a full set of Feast Week events. Please see the Woodhurst and Village Hall Facebook pages for updates as event are confirmed, but currently we have pencilled in:

19th June - Open Garden Event

25th June - Bar Night

26th June - Feast Day Service and Cream Teams.

There are other events in the pipeline and of course Sally and Georgie's garden drinks to be confirmed.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library visits a number of local villages on the 1st Wednesday in the month (Route H3), and is based in Woodhurst outside the Old Post Office between 10.40am to 11:05am.

As well as a large collection of library books, you can also get your NGS hearing batteries, replacement walking stick ferrules and dispose old household batteries.

To find out more information, reserve books etc. check out their website:
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/mobiles>

A NEW HOME IN THE VILLAGE

It's not often that we get brand new houses in the village, but Saturday 19th February was one such day. Thankfully, it was a welcome replacement for Duck House Mk 1 that was sadly lost in bad weather last year and without it the pond has felt bare. Duck House Mk 1 served the village well for a considerable number of years having been made by Brian, Sally's husband and the two photos below are taken approximately 40 years apart.



It has been in and out of the water over the years for mending, but this time it was beyond repair. When villagers need help, other members of the village step up to help out and thankfully for the ducks and moorhens this time was no exception. The amazing Duck House Mk 2 has been beautifully crafted by Roger and Alistair and I think we can safely say the whole village is grateful for their handwork (although the ducks and moorhens are probably at the top of the list).



Another thanks needs to go to Sally who not only hosted a wonderful "Launch" event to mark the occasion but kept Roger and Alistair on the straight and narrow throughout the build. Despite the rain, but everyone knows that's "lovely weather for ducks", there was a good turn out and the "Launch" turned into an afternoon of celebration.

VILLAGE HALL

The village hall committee are really excited to have the hall back up and running. Thank you so much for all your support and patience over the last few months as we adjusted to changing circumstances.

Things are going really well, and for the first time ever the hall has been in use for private hire three nights in a row. We've also had several enquiries about ongoing daytime hire which is all really encouraging.

We have also just received the news that our application for what will hopefully be the last of the COVID hospitality grants has been successful. This will be put towards the refurbishing and decorating of the kitchen, which I'm sure we can all agree is very much needed. In the interim we are fitting a few extra heaters and by request a baby changing station.

After the disappointment of having the Christmas events cancelled, we finally managed to host the first of the event with a wonderful Quiz Night. A fantastic evening was had by all with an excellent turn out.



The winning team "ASAKA" (made up of Alistair, Shirley, Andrew, Katherine and Andy just in case you were wondering) not only got a trophy, but more importantly a box of chocolates!



Check out the dates for your diary section as we've got a number of events planned over the coming months. This includes Bar Nights, Bingo and Darts as well as additional celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee.

VILLAGE HALL CONTINUED



Don't forget there is now a clothes bank in the Village Hall car park, so if you have any clothing, handbags, belts or shoes please feel free to bag them up and put them in.

Please don't drop anything else off, such as towels, sheets, blankets, rugs or carpets or we may lose the value of the contents as we will be charged. It is also not the place to drop off any other recycling.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Church life is returning to normal. Coffee mornings are now back up and running on the 1st Saturday of every month. If you'd like to host a morning then please sign up either via Sally or the sheet in church.



Now that things are normalising, we are planning on pressing ahead with some of the outstanding maintenance issues that were identified in the last inspection report. What we'd also like to do is put a working party together to have a good tidy up of the churchyard. More information will be posted on Facebook.

On 26th February the church hosted a Pudding Club evening with the event raising funds for both the church and the village hall. It was a gorgeous evening in beautiful surroundings and delicious puddings. The icing on the cake (pun (or should that be bun) intended) is that £170 was raised which will be divided between the two venues and a massive thank you goes to Ruth Clark for organising.



THANK YOU

As with the last few years, the world has thrown many things at us, that would have been unthinkable not that long ago. Unfortunately over recent weeks, even more heartbreak has occurred and the people of Ukraine are now having to abandon their homes, fight for their freedom and deal with the separation from or loss of loved ones.

An urgent call went out from Rachel Griffin on 1st Mar for donations to support those refugees who have arrived at the Polish border with minimal belongings. The request brought into sharp focus the fact that even within our wider



community there are people who are directly affected by the horrible events, with Rachel's friend and colleague, Zayheda organising the collection.



Sally Barrett planned to take her donations over to Zayheda later that week and said she'd be happy to take others at the same time. Due to the overwhelming response from the village, this ending up with Sally's becoming a collection hub and with a friend she managed to sort and pack all the donations. Roger and Pam Growler and Alvin Augstein then provided the transport with Katherine and Jeff Hickson on active standby in case three vehicles was not sufficient! Although we wish it hadn't been necessary, a big thank you goes to the whole team and the village, and our thoughts and support go out to Ukraine.

WOODHURST WANDERERS

Over the last few months, you may have noticed a group of people walking round and round the village on a week night. Fear not they mean you no harm, and they go by the harmless name of the "Woodhurst Wanderers". This is a chance for anyone to get out and about for a brisk walk, gentle jog or speedy run around the village with like minded people.

Everyone is welcome, meeting at 7pm every Wednesday (subject to weather), at the end of Fullards Close. The only requirement is a comfy pair of shoes, a head torch (whilst the nights are dark) and a smile. No one is left alone, and the last loop round the village will make sure everyone gets home safely. All you have to do is turn up.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

Fri 18th Bar Night, Village Hall, 19:00 - 21:00
Sun 20th Evensong, St John the Baptist, 18:00
Sun 27th Mothering Sunday Service, St John the Baptist, , 16:00

APRIL

Sat 2nd Coffee Morning, St John the Baptist Church, 10:30 - 12:00
Tues 12th Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall, 19:30 - 21:00
Thur 14th Communion, St John the Baptist, 10:00
Sat 16th Bingo and Bar Night, Village Hall, 18:00 - 22:30

MAY

Sat 7th Coffee Morning, St John the Baptist Church, 10:30 - 12:00
Tues 10th Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 19:30 - 21:00
Thur 12th Communion, St John the Baptist, 10:00
Sat 14th Bar Night and Darts Competition, Village Hall, TBC

JUNE

Fri 3rd Jubilee Bar Night, Village Hall, TBC
Sat 4th Jubilee Street Party, TBC
19th - 26th Feast Week Events, TBC

Keep your eyes open for flyers, A-boards on entry to the village and online updates to provide reminders nearer the time.

VILLAGE CONTACTS

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

Parish Council

Chairman: Andy Notman - andy.notman@woodhurst-cambs.com
Clerk: Sarah Mizuro - parishclerk@woodhurst-cambs.com

Newsletter

Jenny and Dean Hartwell - newsletter@woodhurst-cambs.com

Village Hall

Andy Notman - 07956 340157, villagehall@woodhurst-cambs.com

St John the Baptist Church (www.somershamparishes.org)

Rev Sue Simpson - 01487 840676

Shirley Firth - 01487 822958