



WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

The village community working together

May 2024

Contact us: Telephone 01233 861381 Email enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk Web www.woodchurchhub.uk

OVER 1,000 COPIES distributed every month in the Woodchurch area

WOODCHURCH Community Calendar



Weekly events:

Saturdays:

- Boot Camp** 9:00am-10:00am on the Village Green
- Museum Open** 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sundays:

- Museum Open** 10:00am to 4:00pm
- Outpost Church** 10:00am-12:00pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road
- Karate** 10:00am-12:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre

Mondays:

- Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall
- Tai Chi and Qigong** 9:45am and 10:45am at the S&G Community Centre
- Knit and Natter** 2:00pm - 3:30pm in the Jean Mealham Lodge
- Line Dancing** 2:00pm - 4:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre
- Junior Tennis coaching** 3:30pm at the Tennis Club
- Beavers** 6:00pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre
- BodyTone** 6:15pm-7:00pm at the Memorial Hall
- BodyFlex** 7:15pm-8:00pm at the Memorial Hall
- Scouts** 7:30pm-9:00pm in the S&G Community Centre

Tuesdays:

- Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:15am and 6:00pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall
- Yoga** 10:00am-11:15am in the Jean Mealham Studio
- Coffee Morning** 10:00am-12:00pm in All Saints Church
- Little Leaves Forest School** 10:00am - 12:00pm under 5's Play Group based in Woodchurch
- Puzzle Club** 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Jean Mealham Lodge
- Junior Tennis coaching** 3:30pm at the Tennis Club
- Pizza Van** 5:00pm-8:00pm in the Village Car Park
- Cubs** 5:30pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre
- Karate** 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Studio

Wednesdays:

- Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall
- Museum Volunteers** - maintenance and gardening 9:30am-12:00pm at the Museum
- Yoga** 10:00am-11:15am in the Jean Mealham Studio
- Over 60s Pop-In** 2:00pm-4:00pm Tea and coffee and boot fair marquee at the Jean Mealham Centre
- Blend Youth Cafe** 3:00pm-5:00pm in All Saints Church Term only
- Rainbows** 5:00pm-6:00pm in the S&G Community Centre
- Fish and Chips** 4:30pm-7:30pm in the Village Car Park
- Brownies and Guides** 6:00pm-7:15pm in the S&G Community Centre

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on The HUB Web site www.woodchurchhub.UK

Thursdays:

- Art Society** 10:00am-1:00pm at the Memorial Hall
- In The Mix** 1:30pm-3:30pm in the Jean Mealham Centre
- Margaret Morris Movement** 2:15pm-3:15pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road
- BodyBlast** 6:00pm-7:00pm on the Memorial Hall
- Badminton** 7:00pm-11:00pm at the Memorial Hall
- Karate** 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre
- Explorers** 7:30pm-9:30pm in the S&G Community Centre

Fridays:

- Little Leaves Forest School** 10:00am - 12:00pm under 5's Play Group based in Woodchurch
- Squirrels** 5:30pm-6:30pm in the S&G Community Centre
- Adult Tennis coaching** 5:30pm at the Tennis Club

Other Events:

- Wed 1st **"Remember when we were young"** - 11:30-1:30 in the Annexe
- Thu 2nd **Social Prescribers** - 1:00pm to 4:00pm in The HUB
- Sat 4th **Plant Sale** - 10:00am to 3:00pm in Bridge Close
- Disco and Karaoke at The Bonny** - 8:30pm
- Sun 5th **Morning Worship** - 11:00am at All Saints Church
- Mon 6th **Dementia Relatives Meet-up** - 10am in the Old Post Office Coffee Shop
- WLHS** - Josie Mackie "A history of schooling in Woodchurch" - 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall
- Thu 9th **Citizens Advice** - 1:00pm to 4:00pm in The HUB
- Sat 11th **Charity Plant Sale** Woodchurch Cottage Flowers - All Day venue tba
- Sun 12th **Holy Communion** - 8:00am at All Saints Church
- Tue 14th **WI - Resolutions Meeting** - 7:15pm in the Memorial Hall
- Wed 15th **"Remember when we were young"** - 11:30-1:30 in the Annexe
- Sat 18th **Craft Fair** - 10:00am to 4:00pm at the Jean Mealham Centre
- All Saints Church Open Day** - 10:00am to 1:00pm
- Sun 19th **Evensong** - 6:00pm at All Saints Church
- Mon 20th **PPG Meeting** - 6:00pm in the Annexe
- Thu 23rd **Parish Council Meeting** - 7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe
- Sat 25th **WYT** - All weekend at All Saints Church
- Music at The Bonny** - Unit 48 - 9:00pm
- Sun 26th **Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church
- Wed 29th **"Remember when we were young"** - 11:30-1:30 in the Annexe

The Full Community Calendar can be found at www.woodchurchhub.uk/community-calendar

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on The HUB Web site





The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Thursday 18th April with a focus on the village and it's residents. There was a brief highlight of the Village Survey and an update on Parish Council's finances at the year end, where overall reserves had risen to £71,000 as of 31st March 2024 (£65,000 in the deposit account and £6,000 in the current) this can be viewed on the website.

An excellent draft of the Village Plan has been put together and was presented by Councillor Rob Woods. This shows how the council will best serve the residents and do things right, and includes a time scale for completing the various projects laid out in this years budget. The plan is available to view on the Parish Council website.

The subject of the Woodchurch Windmill was also raised by some residents, however no progress can be made until Ashford Borough Council has made its decision on what it is doing with the mill.



Village Green Backdrop. Sadly, the backdrop to the village green behind the pavilion has altered, as high winds brought down a large limb of one of the Horse Chestnut trees. The Ashford

Borough Council Tree Officer inspected the remaining structure and decided that it was too dangerous to remain and needed felling as soon as possible, as a large section could fall onto the play area. Clearly the latter needed to be closed for safety reasons. The work was carried out with as little impact as possible, and the play area was reopened within 24 hours.

Potholes. Potholes continue to blight the area, and I urge you to please report them to KCC on the details below. The more reports the better the impact. Please feel free to copy me in at clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk so as we may have a record of them.



Potholes reporting is on the following:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

Or by phone on **03000 418181**

There are Vacancies For Four Councillors.

There are currently four vacancies open to become parish councillors. No prior experience is required, and this is a great opportunity to be a member of a dynamic council about to embark on some new and interesting projects.



Please contact the Clerk on clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk, or one of the current Councillors whose details are available on the website (www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/)

Parish Council meetings

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on

Thursday 30th May

7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public so please come along - as we value your questions and suggestions.

We are here to support the village and so it is important that you let us know the things that are important to you.

How to contact your Parish Council

In person: By talking to one of your councillors - details on the Parish Council Web site

By email: clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

By phone: 01233 861381

Through The HUB: Place your correspondence in a sealed envelope marked "Parish Council" and deliver to The HUB

By post to: Woodchurch Parish Clerk, c/o The HUB, Front Road, Woodchurch, Kent, TN26 2PA

Through the contact form on the Parish Council Web site: www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/

Upcoming roadworks in and around Woodchurch

Information from KCC and one.network

ROADWORKS - Bethersden Road - Near Brissenden Green
3rd - 6th May 2024

Closure in force: Trafficlights

Description: South East Water

ROAD CLOSED - Reading Street - Tenterden
13th May 2024

Closure in force: ROAD CLOSED

Description: UK Power Networks

All Saints Church Fundraising

Just a little bit of Southern Comfort!

Some of you may have noticed that although the lovely flowers are showing their heads this spring, it has been a tad cold. What could be better on nights like this than to bring a little southern comfort into our lives by taking a trip down into the deep south? Relax back, listen to those heartfelt blues and bring a little of the Smokey Mountains to Woodchurch. Sound good? Can I suggest then that you bring along a pard'ner or a friend to our evening with the Porch Swing Blues Band and enjoy an night out 'southern style.'

Every event we run not only brings you an entertaining night out but also by supporting us you will be raising funds for our church. Yes we may be fundraising for the church but so much of our fundraising is ploughed straight back into the Woodchurch Community itself - and that means you. To put it simply by choosing to attend or support any of our events you not only have a great time, but you also know that you are helping so many of your neighbours through the work that we do.

We hope to see you there!



Enjoy coffee, teas
and cakes .

Loaves and Fishes
Treasure Hunt
and craft table
for families

Hear about our 13th
century building
and our plans and
challenges

Meet the Rector

**All Saints
Woodchurch
Open Day
Saturday
18th May
10am-1pm**

Come and join us to support this amazing
part of our community.



The American Deep South comes to Woodchurch

BLUES, SOUL AND RAGTIME BAND



PORCH SWING BLUES

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH
WOODCHURCH**

Saturday, 15th June 2024

Doors open 6.45pm Concert starts at 7.30pm

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Tickets £10 available Online:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/all-saints-woodchurch>

or if you prefer, visit: **WOODCHURCH HUB 01233 861381**

(Open Monday-Friday 10.00am-1.00pm Saturday 10.00am-12 midday)

All monies raised supporting All Saints Church



All Saints Church



Dear Friends,

This month we will be celebrating the feast of Pentecost, which is when we remember how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples to found the Christian church. We will be marking the day with a benefice service in High Halden at 11am in the morning, and with an Evensong service at 6pm on 19th May - please join us if you can.



We have serious financial difficulties at All Saints at the moment, and I hope that we can continue to rely on the village to support us. In 2023, our total income was £63,000 - made up of fees from services, donations (from regular and ad-hoc givers), and from fundraising. We have a fabulous and hard-working team who organise events and coffee mornings to keep us going.

We managed to refurbish our disabled toilet, but that used up all of our savings. In 2023 we spent £87,000 - we pay Canterbury Diocese almost £25,000 a year which goes towards my clergy salary and housing (Revd Mike is a volunteer), and our church running costs were around £25,000 - building insurance is over £6,000! Our full accounts are available on request.

Our church congregation is small, but we serve everyone in the village - I know how important it is to be able to have our wonderful building available for funerals, weddings and baptisms. We can only keep going by turning to villagers and asking for support.

Historically, our village churches have all had Gift Days, as an annual day with a focus on fundraising to keep the church buildings in good repair. This year we are planning days which will be focused on opening the doors and inviting people in - especially if you have not visited before - you have an amazing historic building on your doorstep (Have you seen the tomb of Queen Elizabeth I's Chancellor in the church??).

On 18th May, there will be a treasure hunt and craft table for families, and refreshments in church, as well as folks on hand to show you around the building.

Please help by making a donation to keep our church going - we have a repair to the East wall and roof repairs which are on hold until we have enough money to carry out the work. You can make a regular or one-off gift by following this link and searching for you village church

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/woodchurch-all-saints-ashford/>

....Or just pop in and see us on 18th May 10am-1pm - cash, cheques and card payments all gratefully received.

I hope you enjoy the rest of Spring - do get in touch if you would like to ask me anything.

God Bless. Reverend Sue

WOODCHURCH SURGERY UPDATE

The precious commodity of sleep can sometimes feel like an impossible goal. We all need sleep to help the body rest, recover and prepare for the next day's tasks. There is lots of science that shows that proper deep sleep allows the brain's harmful toxins to be dispersed and removed, reducing the risk of degenerative diseases. We all know that without proper sleep we can be irritable and our concentration will be impaired - drivers that haven't slept well can be as dangerous as those intoxicated through alcohol or drugs. The main causes are insomnia and sleep apnoea - please have a look at www.britishsnoring.co.uk for more information about sleep apnoea which is underdiagnosed in the UK.



Insomnia can be a difficulty in initiating sleep or maintaining it. Simple steps can improve "sleep hygiene" such as undertaking regular exercise during the day, avoiding caffeine or stimulants after midday, avoiding strenuous exercise late in the evening and avoiding screen time within 2 hours of trying to sleep. It seems that screens close up are most stimulating especially within the hour before bed as it disrupts natural melatonin levels that are needed to feel restful, so say goodbye to the last minute checks of emails/social media.



We've all experienced moments of difficulty with sleep which is most often caused by something very stimulating - this can be stress, anxiety or a significant event. I'm sure that I am not alone that if I wake at night everything is catastrophised and heightened - the merest sound might be a break-in or the roof tiles falling off, for example. A lot of the things I have read or listened to revert back to a common theme that our brains are very poor at having two "images" at once so use hypnosis or cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) to try and replace the unpleasant stimulating image with something plainer and more relaxing. I guess the most basic form really is counting sheep but people can use checklists or recipes as a simple, methodical and rigid unstimulating "image".

These techniques are not readily available on the NHS but there are a number of podcasts, books and Apps such as "my sleep button" that can be tried. Private CBTi (for insomnia) can also be sought. Any psychological technique is much better than a chemically induced sleep from alcohol or hypnotic drugs such as diazepam and zopiclone. The brain becomes resistant to the chemicals so stronger doses are needed and the type of sleep is not as restful.

News from the surgery is that we are joined by Dr Faye Hinsley who will be here for at least the next few months on Mondays replacing Dr Clare Smith on that day. She has a smallholding locally and has experience at Headcorn and Sutton Vallance surgeries and also works with the local NHS "ICB" helping with paediatric strategy. Please give her the customary Woodchurch welcome.

Covid vaccines are now available for over 75s, however with an absence among our nursing team we simply do not have the capacity to run the clinics at Woodchurch. Most eligible people will have received text messages and letters and can book the jabs online or by ringing 119. We have had to focus our resources on the care home residents and those that are housebound this spring. I'm sure that we will be back up and running for any Autumn campaign.



There may be some news coverage about the GPs voting to reject the new contract imposed by the Department of Health. I really encourage everyone to consider that the GPs are the contract holders so this rejection represents the whole of Primary Care rather than ourselves as individuals. I don't think that there is any appetite for GPs to strike but what we are trying to do is try to get the focus about more investment in Primary Care. I hope that the press paints it that way...

May is the month for walking so hopefully the paths have dried out again and I hope to see you out and about when I get out for a run.



With best wishes on behalf of all of us at the Surgery,
Jack Hickey GP.

<https://www.woodchurchsurgery.co.uk/> 01233 860236

Surgery Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



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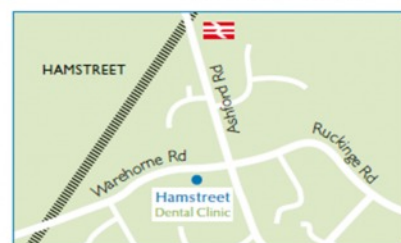
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 Find us on facebook



Tel: 01233 733848

Email: hamstreetdentalclinic@gmail.com

Bonny Cravat

April is over and with that hopefully the April showers are also finished!

We're kicking off the May bank holiday with a disco and Karaoke from the lovely DJ Chrissie on Saturday 4th May from 8:30.



As we are graced with not 1 but 2 bank holidays in May we also have live music from Unit 48 on Saturday 25th at 9pm.

Our first Bootfair was a hit, lots of bits and bobs were sold and everyone had a lovely time. Thank you to all who came out to support us that morning!

Seeing as it went so well, we have selected a date for our next Bootfair. It will take place on Sunday 23rd June. If you would like to book a pitch, please call us as we have limited spots available!

Love as always, The Bonny family

Wildflower Meadow

May and June are good months to visit the meadow, when it will be looking at its best. Winbloom's diversification work, aided by seeding and planting of many wildflower species, is at last beginning to show results. In April, new groups of cowslips appeared, and the fritillary bulbs we planted have also produced several flowerheads. This was followed by ragged robin and red campion blooms, with meadow buttercups to come. Later the ox-eye daisies, knapweed and fleabane will come into their own.



As ever, it will be a 'no-mow May'. We allow the grasses to grow long and take a hay-harvest in July, which helps to lower the fertility of the soil and to increase the ratio of wild flowers to grass, while distributing their seed over the whole acre. One area in the lower meadow is poorly drained and is still lush with nettles and docks, but hopefully the constant annual harvest (which is now in its sixth year) will gradually control the weeds.



Of the ten trees planted for the 'Queen's Green Canopy' last year, six have survived well but the others were damaged by voles, which love the long grassland and make copious nests. At the top of the meadow, the two native crab apples are now well established.

Peter
Peter Buckley Associates -
Parish Tree Warden and Wildflower Consultant

Plant Sale

10-3pm

4TH
MAY



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Woodchurch Morris

"The 1st May is here, Spring is in the air. As per tradition, the Woodchurch Morris will be dancing on the Green at the early hour of 7:00 am on Wednesday morning. So come along and enjoy this free event. As the season continues the Woodchurch Morris will be dancing at various local village events and pubs. Look out for updates, come along and enjoy the fun."



Carnival After Party 8th June 730pm - 1130pm

Jean Mealham Popin Centre

Lower Rd, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3SQ

Tickets Via Patrick/Elaine Byrne and Richard
£15.00 bring your own refreshments.

With The Legendary Johnny Que DJ
& back after request Glamtabulous 70s Band

What better way to end the day by going out, out, a celebration of Woodchurch Carnival but also a chance to raise some money for two charities, with thanks to Richard for allowing use of the centre, we also want to go out out, after 8 years of community and fundraising we want to have a big bang party before we take a break.

Fancy Dress optional but any excuse for us!

Striding Out for Dementia

Movement has always made sense to me. Dad was a keen marathon runner and, as a family, we watched him compete in short and long distance races around the world. Mum took it up in order to train for the London Marathon and enjoyed one of the best days of her life doing it.



As an adult, I've raised money for charity doing one full and a handful of half marathons. It's a great way to raise money, awareness and to make your moves 'public' so that it becomes a mission you can't duck out of! The high of completing an event is tremendous as is the sense of achievement.

Recently, my mum's dementia has taken centre stage and at times I've resented the situation and at other times I've felt so tearful for the mum that I'm losing. However, as time has passed and she has descended further, I've come to terms with it more and I've learnt to make it my mission to turn pain into purpose. This approach has really helped me. One of the challenges I've taken on is a Trek26; these are a series of half and full marathon walks organised by the Alzheimer's Society. So off I'll set later in May to walk the 26 mile route around Stonehenge, and beyond! This event has given me a goal and I hope on the day to meet many others in the same boat as I.

Best of luck to everyone on a mission and keep on moving!
Clara Hebblethwaite - www.dementia-experience.com

Other running and walking events are taking place to raising money for charity who would appreciate your support.

Woodchurch Running Festival

<https://www.nice-work.org.uk/e/woodchurch-running-festival-9433>

Clara's Trek26

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/DementiaTrekStonehenge26miles>

Philippa's 'Dotty' Walk - Lewy Body Dementia

www.justgiving.com/page/philippa-jones-dottywalk2024

Philippa & Lucy's Macmillan Mighty Hike

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/woodchurchwanderers>

Book club

Do you enjoy reading and want to discover new authors and titles?

Have you ever thought of joining a Book Group? - If so then do please read on...

We are a small, long established Book Group looking for new members to join our monthly afternoon meetings. We have a very eclectic choice of books; members have interests in all genres including history, the arts and travel. We've read authors from Richard Osman to Kent Haruf, fictional court drama to regicide, coming of age stories to travelogues. Each month a member chooses a book and hosts the meeting. After much discussion of the book we always make time for a well deserved cuppa!

Books we intend exploring over the next three months are "The Beekeeper of Aleppo" by Christy Lefteri, TV comedian Bob Mortimer's "Satsuma Complex" and the very poignant "Finding Henry Appleby" by Celia Reynolds. If you think you would like to join us on our journey of exploration through these books then to find out more give Barbara a call on **01233 860393**.



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juneandusz@yahoo.co.uk

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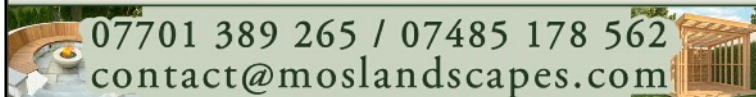
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Carnival 8th June 2024

Our last chance to communicate through the newsletter about the Carnival 8th June 2024.

You can find more information through social media, Facebook, Tik Tok as well as the website that has been revamped.

The day is going to be a great time for all and its heavily funded and free entry. The fun starts at 12pm with the Parade leaving the school and heading off around the village. There is a road closure granted from 1145hrs till 1330hrs. Please if you can, avoid traffic in and around Front and Lower Roads at these times. Could we politely request that cars, where possible are parked off the road and if not off the road, as much as possible, on one side of the road.

We have the Queens Regimental Association Drums leading us off from the school and our repair workshop friends will open this parade for us.

On the green all food and drink outlets will also be open at 12pm. There will be many displays and stalls for you to visit. We have a great band tent with 3 top band sets for you - "Whiskey & Wine, Clumsy Colin, Miss Holiday Swing". Between these acts budding talent can have a go on the open mic.

We have a first with a huge puppet theatre group called "Smoking Apples" without giving the game away look for an 18ft Tree.

In line with the build-up of D Day anniversary plans for the 6th June and following on from the oak tree planting to remember allied air forces that were in Woodchurch, Woodchurch Village Shed have built a Plane that will be put on the green to allow all the villagers to pay their respects with poppies or painted stones. Woodchurch in Bloom will put more out on this.

From reading this we hope you can see that many groups have come together as a community for this event and that's where we need you now to come and enjoy the day. All monies raised will be used as per Carnival Handbook, to put future carnivals on, and where possible, if money allows, groups can bid for a grant from the funds. You can still register to be a volunteer, take part in the parade via the website, Woodchurch Carnival 2024.

Our final word is of thanks go to Hugh Pickett and Shirkoak Fishery who held a fishing competition between the Bonny Cravat & Six Bells in memory of Clare Ford, additionally raising money for charities, of which we were grateful for the donation to the Carnival. Thanks to the organisers, those who competed and those who supported this.

Have a Great Carnival day from all of the Carnival Committee.



Poppy Crafts – we are inviting you all to use your imagination in creating a poppy or remembrance related craft – e.g. crochet, pictures, painting etc.

From the **1st June** a wooden plane structure created by 'Woodchurch Village Sheds', will be placed on the grass triangle at the side of the Green, just behind the car park, for all your poppy crafts to be added.

We hope in the run up to the Carnival to create a beautiful Woodchurch tribute to the 80th Anniversary of D Day which is 6th May.



preview of the plane currently being created

Happy crafting!

Coinciding with this year's Woodchurch Carnival celebration, Woodchurch in Bloom are inviting villagers to enter our

Front Garden Competition



2024 ENTRY FORM

<https://woodchurchinbloom.com/>

Woodchurch Yard Together ("WYT")

Our next volunteer gardening weekend in the Churchyard is:

25th & 26th

May

GILLIAN AND FRIENDS COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF YOUNG CARERS

Gillian and Friends would like to thank everyone who supported our coffee morning in aid of Young Carers. I am pleased to say that £400.00 was raised. A fantastic amount and a most enjoyable morning. Gillian would like to thank her friends who helped set up, serve and of course, baked many delicious cakes. Without them, it would not have been possible.

The April meeting proved to be a nostalgic trip down memory lane for Woodchurch WI ladies of a certain age. The Speaker was Mr. Wilf Lower and his talk was entitled "Behind the Scenes of TV's Golden Years". Having worked for the BBC for over 30 years, Wilf was more than qualified to take us from its beginnings in the 1930s at Alexandra Palace (Ally Pally) to Lime Grove, then on to the TV Centre, Shepherd's Bush, (fondly nicknamed "the concrete doughnut" by the late, great Terry Wogan), then on to Portland Place in 2012, and finally to its current location in Salford. Wilf explained that all broadcasting ceased during the war years and only re-commenced in 1946, with the BBC holding the monopoly until Independent Television (ITV) was launched in 1955 to provide some competition. Mid week slots were reserved for serious drama, e.g "Cathy Come Home," and serial dramas, like "The Forsyte Saga" were shown on Sunday evenings. This family saga proved so popular that some evening church times were brought forward to ensure that the congregations would be home in time to watch. However, on Saturday nights, it was essential that the BBC attracted, and more importantly, retained the largest audience until closing time. So the late afternoon "Grandstand" would be followed by, perhaps "Doctor Who" and then a popular variety programme - in the early days this would be "The Val Doonican Show" or "The Black & White Minstrel Show," (very non PC nowadays), and later on "The Generation Game," or "The Two Ronnies" which might be followed by a popular drama or a comedy like "Til Death Us Do Part", "The Liver Birds", "Some Mothers do 'ave 'em," "Porridge," "The Good Life," "Fawlty Towers," "Allo Allo," "Only Fools and Horses," or the very popular "Dad's Army". Here Wilf reminded us all of the episode when, due to Captain Mainwaring's incompetence ("Don't tell him, Pike") a high ranking German Officer obtains Pike's name, and so adds said name to his ominous list. For many years "The Morecambe and Wise Show" was extremely popular and their Christmas shows were essential viewing; so much so that the 1977 show saw ratings attain the dizzy heights of more than 28 million viewers! And who can forget Eric "playing all the right notes" to Grieg's Piano Concerto with Andre Previn, but "not necessarily in the right order" Thank you, Wilf, for reminding us and for your excellent talk.



Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 14th May at 7.15 pm in the Memorial Hall, when following a brief talk from Toby Mynott from "Simple Funerals", this year's Resolutions will be debated. Do join us if you can, and, a reminder that visitors can always be assured of a warm welcome!



WOODCHURCH REMEMBERS

The Big Thin Red Line (TBRL) was formed in the aftermath of the closure of the Woodchurch Royal British Legion branch, to ensure continued Remembrance, connection with the Armed Forces and to generally support the village community. Patrick and Elaine were the founders and took the lead in running the group.



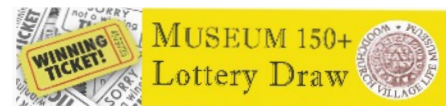
The good work has continued in 2024 by marking the 80th anniversary of the crash of the USAAF bomber "Sharkface" on 16th March. A new honour board has also been placed in the Memorial Hall as part of this act of Remembrance. My thanks to everyone in Woodchurch who assisted us in this or contributed to the funding.

To improve our visibility and make clearer our purpose we have now changed the name to **WOODCHURCH REMEMBERS**, logo remains otherwise the same and can be seen to the right as you approach the War Memorial from Front Road. The purpose of the group remains much the same too, we will promote Remembrance in Woodchurch by organising Remembrance Day in conjunction with other village organisations. Researching and marking the military and wartime history of Woodchurch will also feature in our activities, we intend marking the crash sites of Allied aircraft in the parish and to create a map that will be freely available. The military history of Woodchurch goes back to the 13th Century but that is for another day!

Membership of Woodchurch Remembers is not confined to Military Veterans so if you would like to join us please contact me on thedgchannel33@gmail.com, we offer two levels of membership. Full members who are expected to attend a monthly meeting in licensed premises and will plan our activities or simply supporters who would be prepared to make themselves available to assist with activities on the day. It would be advantageous to have some younger members/supporters, especially those with an interest in Woodchurch history as we now have a designated group historian. There are no subscriptions.

Watch out for more news about us soon.

Don Grant, Chairman.

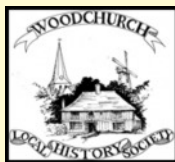


Thank you for everyone who has continued to support the Museum 150+ lottery draw for 2023/4. Tickets are still available for the remainder of the draw. For more information please contact Joyce via The HUB - enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk or 01233 861381

April 2024 Draw Results

1st prize	£50	Mary Ellis	597
2nd prize	£30	Gary Samson	750
3rd prize	£20	Audry Faux	33

Woodchurch Local History Society



The Woodchurch Local History Society meets on the first Monday of the month in the village Memorial Hall at 7:30pm. We have a programme of monthly talks with local and regional history as their main theme. Our next meeting is on Monday May 6th when Josie Mackie will talk about the history of schooling in Woodchurch. The talk is entitled 'Creeping like Snails - The History of Schooling in Woodchurch.'. Josie is an ex-teacher and a co-founder of the Woodchurch Ancestry Group. The group publishes the journal Scuppets and Scutchell, which deals with the history of Woodchurch and its past residents.

Josie will talk about the schools that have flourished in Woodchurch from about 1700. There were quite a few different schools ranging from the present Primary School, built in 1844 but established much earlier, a prestigious boys boarding school, a school for 'Young Ladies' and one affectionately known as 'The College'.

Visitors are very welcome to come along to the talk but pay £3 at the door. There is no need to book - just turn up on the night. Also, new members are also welcomed with the annual subscription being £12.

Next month (Monday June 3rd) Alex Ferris is scheduled to talk to us on 'Smarden - The Village of Fear'.

If you fancy coming along to either talk then please don't hesitate. We would love to see you.

Hope to see you then. Thanks, Geoff [01233 860393](tel:01233860393).

An evening with ...

ABBA Chique

Sunday 30th June 7.30 pm

The hottest tribute to ABBA



Tickets £20 available at Woodchurch HUB, Carley Butchers or call **07798 566849**

Tea, coffee & food will be available to purchase. You are welcome to supply own alcohol

Dress to impress!

**The Jean Mealham Centre,
Woodchurch TN26 3SQ**

Spring into a whole day of fun at The Rare Breeds Centre



We have lots to keep the whole family entertained at The Rare Breeds Centre, so why not visit this spring?

Pop into the Animal Barn, home to our friendly farmyard animals including cuddly rabbits, guinea pigs, the cheeky trio of goats and our well know highland cow, Huckleberry. With Meet the Animals running daily from 10am - 4pm. Our ferret family has recently doubled in size! Al and Beano have been joined by Badger and Walnut, come and meet them in our new ferret enclosure.

Hop aboard the accessible tractor ride and take a tour of the farm, up to the secret lake, passing the huge tyre snake and heading back down the hill. See how many of our grazing animals you can spot on your way round!

Challenge yourself in our Mysterious Marsh, navigating bridges, swinging on tyres, and testing balance. All whilst avoiding the marsh trolls! Or head round the corner to Hill Fort to rule the castle, fly through the air on the zipline or navigate round the tunnel maze. If you are visiting during school holidays or weekends, join us for Pig Racing for a chance to run with our specially trained 'racing' pigs or help cheer along from the sidelines.

The best part? Did you know that with every visit to The Rare breeds Centre, you are also supporting our charity, Canterbury Oast Trust, which supports adults with learning disabilities to achieve their aspirations for how they wish to live, learn and work.

Check out our website for all the activities on during your visit, available at no extra cost. And don't forget to book to guarantee entry. We look forward to welcoming you! For more information please call [01233 861493](tel:01233861493) or visit www.rarebreeds.org.uk

Rainbows continue to meet 5-6pm and Brownies 4.45-7pm on Wednesday's. We



have been busy during the spring term learning new games, planting seeds and plants and making gifts. We liked the hammering best.

We celebrated world Earth day international women's day and having fun with friends.

Now the evenings are light we will be in our beautiful wooded grounds building camp fires, putting up tents, trying out-door cooking and much more. So if you are aged 4 to 7 (Rainbow age) or 7 to 10 (Brownie age) why not come and join us and bring your friends with you?

WOODCHURCH VILLAGE LIFE MUSEUM Susan's Hill TN26 3RE



Do come and see our new exhibitions
Entrance is FREE.

For more information contact us at enquiries@woodchurchheritagetrust.uk or phone [01233 860586](tel:01233860586) or visit our Web site www.woodchurchheritagetrust.uk



Woodchurch Charities Seeking Trustees

Earlier this year three existing village charities have changed their status from unincorporated status to become CIOs. The current trustees are now looking to appoint additional trustees to each of the charities to help them continue to support the village into the future. More information about each of these charities can be found on the HUB Web site www.woodchurchhub.uk/woodchurch-charities or on the Charities Commission Web site <https://www.gov.uk/find-charity-information>. If you live in Woodchurch Parish, you feel that you have knowledge or experience that could help one or more of the charities to develop, and would like to be considered to become a trustee, please write to the charities (via The HUB) giving your contact details and a brief description of the benefits you feel you could bring to the charity. Alternatively you can contact us online through the charities page on The HUB Web site. Some experience of working with a charity, ideally as a trustee, will be useful but not essential. Short listed applicants will be invited to discuss their applications with the charity trustees.

Woodchurch Village Green Charity

Charity number 1205468

“To oversee the upkeep and management of Woodchurch Village Green to further or benefit the residents of the parish of Woodchurch”

The charity is the legal owner of the Village Green and car park and works closely with Woodchurch Parish Council to ensure that the Green is maintained for the enjoyment of all Woodchurch residents.

Woodchurch Windmill Trust

Charity number 1205320

“Any charitable purposes for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Woodchurch for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes or other public funds”

The aim of the charity is to use the income generated by the Trust to give donations to other groups within the Parish of Woodchurch

Legge Farm Charity

Charity number 1206197

“The relief of poverty amongst residents of the parish of Woodchurch for the public benefit by providing grants to individuals in need”

The charity works closely with other support organisations with Woodchurch to provide an emergency fund towards the financial support of any resident of Woodchurch who is generally in need and to help relieve poverty and hardship.

Updating the Pavilion. In order to make it a more usable resource for the whole of the village the Woodchurch Village Green Charity, working with Woodchurch Football Club, are hoping to begin some work on the inside of the pavilion on the green.

We are looking to **update the kitchen** area in the Pavilion to make it usable for preparing food and drinks during village events. If you are about to replace your kitchen and the units being removed are in good condition, please let us know. If you are in a position to donate a complete new (or ex demonstration) kitchen for the benefit of the village then we would especially like to hear from you.

We also need to **replace the floor covering** throughout the Pavilion with something more practical and durable (and sport shoe resistant!) and so are currently seeking advice and quotations for the work. If you would like to provide a quotation please contact us. If you would like to sponsor or donate the new floor for the pavilion then we would especially like to hear from you.

Grants and donations. The Village Green is celebrating its 175th year of providing a space for village recreation and enjoyment. Although the Parish Council generously provides support for the general maintenance of the the Village green (e.g. mowing) the Village Green Charity currently relies entirely on grants and donations in order to fund any improvements made to the Village Green and car park and also its general running costs (e.g. insurance). If you would like to help by giving a single, or recurring, donation please contact us or click the “Donate” button on the HUB Web site and select “Village Green”.

enquiries@villagegreencharity.uk 01233 861381

If you would like to help the Village Green to flourish for another 175 years or the Legge Farm and Woodchurch Windmill Trust charities continue to support the residents of Woodchurch village into the future, please consider leaving them a legacy in your will. For more information please contact The HUB.



Woodchurch Patients Participation Group (PPG)

Our next PPG meeting is Monday 20th May, 6pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

All Woodchurch Surgery Patients welcome!

We are pleased to confirm our speaker will be Julie Camburn who will talk about stroke awareness

If you would like to receive PPG Surgery updates and details of speakers for the meetings, please contact Philippa at philippa@woodchurch.btinternet.com

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