

# FEBRUARY 2021

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***Inclusion of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute endorsement of a product or service by either the Church in the Woottons or the Editor.***

## CONTACT DEADLINES

Submissions for the **March** issue of CONTACT to be delivered **no later than Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February** please, either to **63 Castle Rising Road**, or emailed to the editor at **[penndoss@btinternet.com](mailto:penndoss@btinternet.com)**.

**South Wootton Distributors:** Please collect your magazines from St Mary's on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February**. **North Wootton Distributors** Please collect your magazines from White Gables, Manor Road on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February**..

# THE CHURCH IN THE WOOTTONS

All Saints, Manor Road, North Wootton, PE30 3PZ

St Mary's, Church Lane, South Wootton, PE30 3LJ

**Rector** The Revd. Canon James Nash The Rectory, Castle Rising Rd 673742  
email: james@churchinthewoottons.net

*James' day off is Friday*

**Curate** Rev. Dan Tansey 34 Castle Rising Rd 01553 390615  
email: dan@churchinthewoottons.net mobile 07928 825060

*Dan's day off is Friday*

## Parish Enquiries

For all enquiries about baptisms, weddings, funerals and for other reasons, please phone the Rectory on 01553 673742 or e-mail James at james@churchinthewoottons.net

**Church website:** [www.churchinthewoottons.net](http://www.churchinthewoottons.net)  
**Office email:** [rectoryoffice@churchinthewoottons.net](mailto:rectoryoffice@churchinthewoottons.net)  
**Facebook:** @churchinthewoottons



## Churchwardens

### All Saints, North Wootton and Breakfast at 10

Janet Keir 15 Castleacre Close 679300  
email: jakeir@live.co.uk

Chester Noble 01553 409057  
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### Assistant Wardens

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email: moirawesson@gmail.com

### St Mary's, South Wootton

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Angela Clarke 31 Avon Road 672145  
email: a.whiles007@btinternet.com

**Treasurer** Glenis Lee *please refer to the Rectory Office* 673742

## Mothers' Union

**Contact** Judy Fuller 59 Baldock Drive 676833

## Flowers

**All Saints** Jacqui Woodgate 12 Gregory Close 671034

**St Mary's** *please refer to the Rectory* 673742

## Parish Magazine (Contact)

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**South Wootton** Penny Dossetor 674022

**Advertising** Penny Dossetor 674022

**Woottons Community Choir** - *please refer to the Rectory Office* 673742

## The Church in the Woottons Online Giving/Donations Facility

To enable people, who are not on our standing order or envelope regular giving schemes, to easily give to the work of the Church in the Woottons, we have in conjunction with the Diocese of Norwich set up a simple way to give on line.

Simply use the QR code below if using a mobile phone or the URL web code if using a computer and follow the simple instructions on the diocesan page that comes up.

All giving made using these codes is automatically credited to The Church in the Woottons.

<https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/donate/?id=1195>



## LOCAL PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Council Offices

North Wootton: Clerk - Rachel Curtis 673043 northwoottonpc@outlook.com  
South Wootton: Clerk - Tracey Cornwell 671692 info@southwoottonpc.co.uk

### Village Hall Hire

North Wootton: Wendy Border 07757 236687  
info@northwoottonvillagehall.org.uk www.northwoottonvillagehall.org.uk

South Wootton Caretaker: Robert McIntyre 670081 or 07905 387550

### Borough Councillors

Cllr Greville Howard 631556  
Cllr Graham Middleton cllr.graham.middleton@west-norfolk.gov.uk  
Cllr Elizabeth Nockolds 670264

### Schools

North Wootton Academy Principal - James Grimsby 672385  
www.northwoottonacademy.co.uk/  
South Wootton Infant School Head - Miss Joanne Davenport 679474  
www.southwootton-inf.norfolk.sch.uk/  
South Wootton Junior School Head - Mrs Georgie Earl 674596  
www.southwootton-jun.norfolk.sch.uk/

*For information about other local organisations and societies please see page 11*



## A letter from James More on Trust

I wrote about this issue of Trust in the January issue of Contact and I promised to write more for this month's magazine. Why do I trust in God?

Let me begin with something of a story about me and some of the cars I have owned. My first car was a slightly rusty and worn-out Morris Minor Traveller. It was manufactured in 1966 and bought by me in 1975. In those days, with little money and less mechanical ability I serviced and repaired the car myself. If repairs were beyond me I asked friends to help or used the services of the cheapest garage I could find. My Morris often broke down; and I remember once, travelling 190 miles with the brakes barely working... but that's another story, best not told. But driving an unreliable car simply is not safe or acceptable nowadays, if it ever was. Apart from the small matter of legality, our roads are very fast and overcrowded these days. And since I have been married, and later with children, I have felt a considerable responsibility for the safety of those in my care. For many years now I have had my cars serviced and repaired entirely by car repair companies.

Sometimes though, my trust in car repair companies has been betrayed. Once, some years ago, Linda was driving our car after it had been serviced the day before. Whilst she was driving at some speed the brakes suddenly locked. Later the mechanic admitted making a serious mistake in his work. On another occasion, having had a different car repaired at a very large car dealer I was left knowing that I had effectively been conned out of a considerable sum of money. I never went back to that garage either.

For the last 8 years a man called Pete has serviced and repaired my cars, and I have complete trust in him. Why? Because when I first got in touch with him to help with an urgent electrical repair on my car, he bent over backwards to help me at short notice. Pete loves cars, he has been working on cars for years, and he is still fascinated by every aspect of them. Most importantly, Pete is very good at what he does. Once or twice I have taken a car to Pete that he hadn't previously worked on – no problem, he does his research, finds out what he needs to know and always, always does a first class job. If a warning light flashes when I'm miles away from home, I phone Pete and he always knows what to do. When I'm thinking about changing my car nowadays I ask his advice. Time goes on, my trust in Pete only grows.

Since 1992 I have been learning how to put my trust in God, and I think I'm getting better at it as time goes on. During 1992 various things happened that prompted me to return to church after a gap of many years, and I began a journey of exploration and discovery. People I knew and trusted told me of their experiences of Jesus Christ and how they saw him and understood him. I began to read the bible and books about Christianity and as I did so I learnt about the irrefutable evidence for the existence of Jesus and the stories recorded in scripture about his life, teaching and work. I found I had joined a church full of people who really tried to live out what they believed. The love in that place was tangible. I left behind 20 years that I could compare with the years when I attempted to service my own car - putting up with second best and taking far too many risks!

I continue to put my trust in God because of the enormous depth and breadth of scholarship that supports the authenticity of biblical literature and Christian tradition. I continue to put my trust in God because I know what a difference prayer and worship make to me personally. My trust in God grows when I see people's lives changed through their own growing faith. I must say that my trust in God has helped me immeasurably during the many months of the pandemic. In you Lord my God, I put my trust *Psalm 25:1*

**James**

## The Church in the Woottons during the current lockdown

St. Mary's Church in South Wootton and All Saints Church in North Wootton have been closed for Sunday worship since Christmas Eve because of the local threat of new variant COVID 19. We no longer felt we could offer a safe environment in which to meet for Sunday services. Of course, we regret having to make this decision and please may I assure you that the possible re-opening of our churches is under constant review.

Each Sunday we are offering a livestreamed service by way of Zoom. Our services always begin at 10.00am (technology permitting!) and last for about 50 minutes. The services include hymns and songs, readings, prayers, a talk, and the celebration of Holy Communion. If you would like to join us on Zoom for our Sunday worship, please email James at [james@churchinthewoottons.net](mailto:james@churchinthewoottons.net) and he will send you a link.

Under current government rules weddings are not permitted - apart from in very exceptional circumstances. Even then, they can only take place with a strict limit placed on the number of people who can attend.

We are however, able to conduct funerals in our churches. Again, because of the threat of COVID 19 we are restricting the number of people who can attend the services. We are working this number out on a case-by-case basis. Up to 30 people are allowed to attend a burial in a cemetery, as long as social distancing guidelines are followed.

## The Church in the Woottons at Prayer

A group of church members have committed themselves to pray for our hospital, health centres and NHS community staff, our village town and country and all those affected directly by this dreadful pandemic. Individuals pray for an hour or more and between us we pray continuously from 6pm on Sunday evening through until 6pm on Monday evening each and every week. So far we have been praying like this for nearly three months and we will continue to pray at least until the Pandemic is over. If there is a particular issue you think we should be praying for please contact James on 01553 673742 or email him on [james@churchinwoottons.net](mailto:james@churchinwoottons.net)

### Church calendar dates for February

<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Second Sunday before Lent
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Sunday next before Lent
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	First Sunday of Lent
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Second Sunday of Lent

### A Prayer for the month of February

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the devotion of all those in the medical and nursing professions and support staff who are lovingly tending those in our community suffering from Covid-19. We thank you for the rapid introduction of the vaccination programme and pray that it will greatly reduce infection very soon. As the holy season of Lent begins in the middle of the month, we pray that our spiritual mindset may be moved to switch smoothly away from the joys of Christmas to the glory of your Son Jesus Christ's resurrection from death at the first Easter. Amen.





A juvenile buzzard returning to the remains of its meal in the Rectory garden. James took this photograph at 8.30am on the 11<sup>th</sup> January from his kitchen. Buzzards, sparrowhawks and hen harriers have been spotted quite regularly from the Rectory over the last few months. Other recent treats have been greater spotted, and green woodpeckers, and nuthatches too. Half a dozen fieldfares appeared before Christmas – but only fleetingly.

### **Please keep Saving your used stamps**

For many years we have had collection boxes in both our churches for used stamps, but we weren't sure if these were still wanted. However, I have spoken to Vision Norfolk and learned that they do still collect stamps.

So, please do save your used stamps and hold on to them until we can arrange to collect them for Vision Norfolk To find out what they do, visit [www.visionnorfolk.org.uk](http://www.visionnorfolk.org.uk) or you can find them on Facebook

*Jennifer Watts*

### **THE PRAYER CHAIN**

The Prayer Chain is a means by which a few church members pray about other people's personal needs in confidence. If you know of anyone in urgent need of prayer, please contact the Rectory (673742).

As the current situation continues and we are not able to meet we are keeping in contact with members via phone and email .

We have all now received our 2021 Prayer Diaries and reading the daily prayer will help to keep us all connected .

**Judy Fuller 676833**



## Friendship Coffee Mornings

There is good news this month with an increasing number of our Coffee Morning Friends having received the vaccine. This gives us hope that our isolation will be coming to an end by late spring or early summer and so we can look forward to better times soon.

Until then, when we can meet up again each month, we can keep in touch by phone, letter, email or other digital means. I enjoy my chats with the people I normally contact each month about arrangements and shall continue to keep in touch that way until we can meet again in a large group. My contact details are below if you would like to get in touch.

**Gloria Pantling 01553 671912 / 07570262766**

**gloriapantling@btinternet.com**



## 4<sup>th</sup> King's Lynn (All Saints) Brownies

New year, new term. Brownies have had a chat and come up with a few ideas for this term. They're going to have a sewing night and create dinosaurs or butterflies. The craft packs they took home in November are still going strong and contain the necessary sewing kits.

Another sleepover is on the cards for Thinking Day (22<sup>nd</sup> February) and we hope to zoom with a Norwich brownie unit. We will be doing a challenge devised by our County Archivist and yes, there will be another badge - a very sparkly one!

Come and join us if you're aged seven to ten. We'd love to have you

**Vicki Fletcher**

**Unit Leader 4<sup>th</sup> King's Lynn Brownies**

## Making Gardening Easier

Making Gardening Easier is a social group for garden lovers who are keen to find ways of maintaining their gardening activities and thus derive those benefits. In normal times we meet on the third Friday afternoon of each month at the Dersingham Village Centre.



We have a programme of invited speakers on a range of garden related topics and there is always time for refreshments and a chance to chat with other members about gardening or personal matters. Our programme organiser, Sue Neil, had put together an interesting programme of talks and outings which we hope to resume when we are able to meet together in large groups.

Meanwhile, my contact details are below if you would like further information.

**Gloria Pantling, 01553 671912 / 07570262766/  
gloriapantling@btinternet.com**

## KING'S LYNN MUSIC SOCIETY

Due to the current restrictions King's Lynn Music Society has had to suspend its programme of music recitals and illustrated talks at King's Lynn Town Hall. We will resume our meetings when circumstances allow and look forward to seeing members and visitors then. For further information please visit our website [www.klmysoc.org.uk](http://www.klmysoc.org.uk) or telephone Helen 01553 675997.

## Some lines to make you think - or laugh

God doesn't just call people who are qualified; He calls people who are willing and then qualifies them.

If we want something we've never had, we have probably got to do something we've never done.

If you feel you are at a loss for the right word to say – better say nothing!

I have no time for anger; I try to learn to love. (*Mother Teresa*)

I know God loves everybody, but I don't think he's met my sister. (*From a six-year old*)

I want to ask God why he allows poverty, famine and injustice when he could do something about it. But I'm afraid he might ask me the same question!

Gardening season is off to a great start: I planted myself in front of the TV four weeks ago, and I've already grown noticeably!

## NORTH WOOTTON WI

After our enjoyable and successful virtual meeting in December, the committee have planned further “Zoom” meetings for this year. Our February meeting will be on **Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup>. at 3pm.**

Members are asked to have a pencil and paper ready and to provide their own cup of tea and biscuits. This should be fun and, importantly, enable us to stay in touch until we can meet once more in person.

**Contact : Ruth Kidson 675085 or [www.northwoottonwi.weebly.com](http://www.northwoottonwi.weebly.com)**



## KING'S LYNN SOCIETY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

[WWW.KLSAS.UK](http://WWW.KLSAS.UK)

### Winter Programme

In the light of the current restriction on public meetings, the committee of the Arts and Sciences Society have taken the decision to offer their autumn/winter season of talks via Zoom. All lectures will begin at **7.30pm** and there will be a question and answer session at the end of each talk. Details of the last three lectures in the winter programme of 2021 are given below:

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street**

by **John Heath**

Senior Technical Adviser, Bank of England

**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Maggots, in Health, Stealth and Wealth**

by **Dr Martin Hall**

Forensic and veterinary entomologist  
Scientific Associate, Natural History Museum

**Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> March**

**A Beautiful Spy - Imagining Olga Gray and her World**

by **Rachel Hore**

Novelist and Commissioning Editor

Membership of the Society costs £16 a year and members will be sent an invitation to the Zoom sessions. Attendance for visitors costs £4 per session, with a free first taster session. To book attendance please contact the Chairman, **Sherie Naidoo** at [sherie@klsas.uk](mailto:sherie@klsas.uk). or for further details please visit the website: [www.klsas.uk](http://www.klsas.uk)

## ***From the Parish Registers***



**FUNERALS** *We give thanks for the life and offer condolences to the family and friends of*

**DAWN ELIZABETH CAMPBELL** (60) at St Mary's on 6<sup>th</sup> January

**RONALD HENRY BUTCHER** (87) at All Saints on 7<sup>th</sup> January

**MARGARET JOY HOBBS** (93) at Mintlyn Crematorium on 11<sup>th</sup> January

**AUDREY COSTIN** (86) at Mintlyn Crematorium on 12<sup>th</sup> January

**MARY EILEEN BURT** (89) at St Mary's on 13<sup>th</sup> January

**ADELINE MARY SMITH** (93) at Mintlyn Crematorium on 20<sup>th</sup> January

**ROYSTON ALFRED TYRRELL** (90) at Mintlyn Crematorium on 22<sup>nd</sup> January

### **Please note**

The funerals normally listed on this page are mainly those at which our clergy have officiated, which is why they appear in our registers. However, if anyone in the Woottons would like such a notice to be included here, please contact the Rectory office (673742).



### **THE ARTS SOCIETY KING'S LYNN**

Due to Covid 19 restrictions all The Arts Society King's Lynn lectures are currently taking place via Zoom.

The next lecture will start at **2pm** on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February**, when the topic will be

#### ***Packing up the Nation***

***How the Nation's art treasures were kept safe during WWII.***

The lecturer will be

**Dr Caroline Shenton, author, archivist and historian**

Visitors are always welcome to join any lecture for a charge of just **£5**.

Please ring **01366 328648** or email

**[info@theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk](mailto:info@theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk)**

to obtain the Zoom link required to attend

or to enquire about membership.

Full details about the society and all our activities are available at

**[www.theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk)**

## A Cambodian Homestay

One of my most memorable holidays was a trip to Siem Reap, Cambodia, in November 2019. The main attraction there is the complex of ancient Buddhist temples at Angkor Wat. It is difficult not to be overwhelmed by the size, artistry, complexity and sense of wonder at these temples which together form the largest religious monument in the world by land area. My favourite was the atmospheric Ta Prohm which has largely been engulfed by the jungle.

The whole experience, including a visit to a silk farm employing local people using traditional methods and a boat trip around the floating village on Tonle Sap Lake, was wonderful, but by far the aspect which I loved most was that our four-day stay was in a village a short distance from Siem Reap. I was a little apprehensive when my daughter suggested a home stay instead of a luxury hotel but I agreed because I knew that was her preference. However, the time spent there was the highlight of our holiday. Chehak, Channy and their three sons were charming; the meals cooked by Channy and her niece were authentic local recipes with home grown ingredients and the accommodation was basic but more than adequate. The family organised our transport from the airport and throughout our stay. We travelled in a Remork (similar to a Tuk Tuk) with the same friendly and informative driver throughout.

The profits from our stay went towards developing classes to teach English to the local children. It was humbling to see how eagerly children from about five to fifteen rushed to be there in the late afternoon after their day at school had finished. We joined one class to chat with the children when the formal part of their lesson was over and were impressed by their enthusiasm to learn and the progress many of the older ones had made. The school is continuing to develop by replacing the flimsy wooden classrooms on the site by brick-built ones – a great benefit when one of the frequent thunderstorms occurs. We were very pleased that by choosing to stay there rather than in a large international hotel we had helped in a very small way to improve the future chances for these youngsters.

***Gloria Pantling***



# What goes on in the Woottons - usually, but not at present

## FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

**South Wootton Pre-school** - meets every day during term-time in South Wootton Village Hall with three whole day and two morning sessions. Contact Jane Taggart on 07780 516608.

**North Wootton Pre-School** - St Augustine's Way, near North Wootton Primary School. Contact 675761.

**Lodge Cottage Nursery School** - Manor Road, North Wootton, opens every day from 8.30am to 4pm. Contact Joanna Hammond 631263.

**Guiding** - Rainbows (5 -7 years), Brownies (7-10) and Guides (10 and upwards) all meet at the HQ in Station Road, North Wootton. Contact Vicki Fletcher 674767.

**Scouting** - Beavers (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts all meet at the HQ in Station Road, North Wootton. Contact Benjamin Colley [gsl@14thkingslynn.co.uk](mailto:gsl@14thkingslynn.co.uk)

## FOR WOMEN

**A Ladies' Group** meets at the Methodist Chapel on Peppers Green on alternate Tuesdays at 2.00-3.30 pm to socialise and listen to speakers on a variety of subjects. Contact Valerie Thurston on 670540.

**North Wootton WI** meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 1.30 pm in North Wootton Scout & Guide Headquarters in Station Road. Contact Ruth Kidson 675085. [www.northwoottonwi.weebly.com](http://www.northwoottonwi.weebly.com)

**South Wootton Evening WI** meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm in South Wootton Village Hall. Contact Linda Overton on 07950 666870.

**Knit and Chat** meets alternate Mondays from 2-4pm at South Wootton Methodist Chapel. Enjoy a cup of tea and make new friends - knitting not essential! Contact Liz Housedon on 671952.

## FOR MEN

**King's Lynn Rural Probud Club** Meet weekly on Thursdays at 10.30 am at Knights' Hill Hotel, except for first Thursday of the month when we meet at 12.30 for 1pm for lunch with a speaker. Contact Alan Ashcroft on 674977.

**The Probud Club of King's Lynn** meets weekly for coffee at 10.15 am on Wednesdays at the Swan, Nursery Lane, except the third Wednesday each month when we meet at 12 noon for 12.30pm for lunch with a speaker. Contact Ivan Jordan on 670228.

## FOR OLDER PEOPLE

**KL & West Norfolk Parkinson's Support Group** monthly on third Thursday 2.30 to 4.30 m at the 12<sup>th</sup> King's Lynn Scout HQ, Beulah Street, off Wootton Road. Contact Janet Elvin on 672531.

**Methodist Chapel coffee mornings** first Wednesday of the month (*except January*) From 10.00 am to 11.30 am in the Methodist Chapel, Peppers Green. Various stalls. All welcome. Contact Phyllis Bowman on 671288.

**Over 50s Dance Class** meets Fridays from 9.30 -10.15am at Studio 19, 11 Bergen Way, PE30 4BU. Contact 07794689142 or email [info@studio19uk.com](mailto:info@studio19uk.com)

## SPORT and RECREATION

**The Woottons Football Club:** for details visit [www.clubwebsite.co.uk/thewoottons/](http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/thewoottons/)

**West Norfolk Rugby Club:** for details visit [www.westnorfolkrugby.com](http://www.westnorfolkrugby.com)

**Wootton Park Bowls Club:** contact Vernon Hudson on 675353.

**King's Lynn & West Norfolk Bridge Club** meets Mondays at 7pm in South Wootton Village Hall. Contact Michael Whiting on 631610.

**The Woottons Bridge Club** - our friendly club meets every Tuesday at 6.45pm sharp in South Wootton Village Hall. Visitors and new members very welcome. Contact Marie Brewer on 07890 574866 or [mariebrewer666@gmail.com](mailto:mariebrewer666@gmail.com)

**Making Gardening Easier** meets on the third Friday of the month at 2pm. Contact Gloria Pantling on 671912.

**West Norfolk and King's Lynn Flower Clubs** meet on the first & second Wednesdays at 2pm & 7.30 pm respectively. Contact Dulcie Lofting 675853 for WN & Irene Laws 671312 for KL Clubs.

## South Wootton in Bloom

Meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month in South Wootton Parish Meeting Room at 7pm. Contact Margaret Albinson 670241.

## North Wootton Village Hall

Village Market third Saturday 9am-2pm. Bingo last Thursday of the month 7pm.

**Wootton Crafters** meet twice monthly on a Monday morning at the Scout and Guide HQ. Contact [woottoncrafters@gmail.com](mailto:woottoncrafters@gmail.com)



## Weather in South Wootton for December 2020 By Nolan and Stella Mills



Rainfall in December was **121mm** – about double normal (our average for December since 2000 is 59mm). The wettest day was 23<sup>rd</sup> with **33mm**. So it is not surprising that the pond on The Green was flooded at Christmas just like last year. Snow fell on 4<sup>th</sup> and gave an accumulation of about an inch before it was washed away with rain on the same day. On 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> we had freezing fog all day (unusual for us nowadays).



December was slightly cooler than last year.

Average maximum was **7.2°C**, average minimum **4.2°C** (comparable figures from 2019 were 8.4°C and 4.5°C). The warmest day was 18<sup>th</sup> with **13°C**; the coldest early morning was 31<sup>st</sup> when the temperature dropped to **-2°C** with a ground frost of **-6°C**.

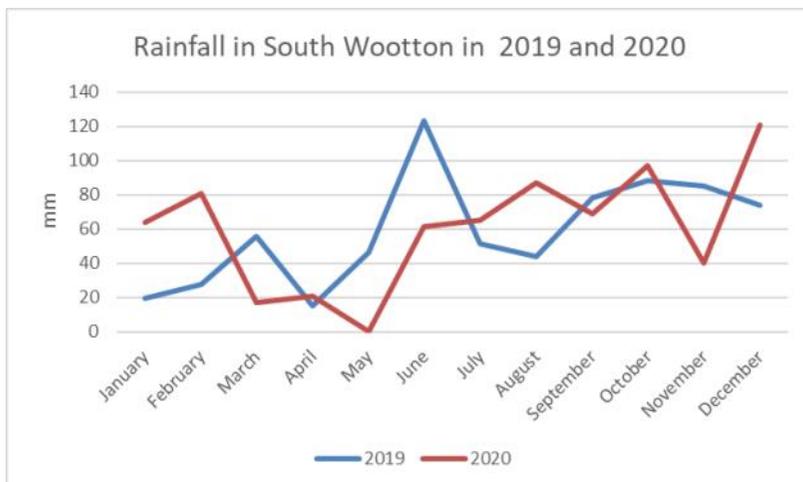
### Summary for 2020

Snow fell briefly on just two days 10<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> December. The worst wind was Storm Ciara on 9<sup>th</sup> February which caused damage to trees and fences.

Rainfall for the year was **721mm** (our average since 2000 is 674mm) – so above normal. Surprising given that there was no rain in May; particularly wet months were February, August, October and December.

The highest temperature was recorded on 7<sup>th</sup> August with **32.2C** (less than the 35.4C record in July 2019). But are we getting warmer? We worked out an average of all the daily maxima and minima for the year. In 2019 the average maximum was 14.8° C, average minimum 8.0°C; for 2020 the comparable figures are 15.1°C and 8.5°C.

So the conclusion from our simple records is it would appear we are getting warmer and wetter.



## Church and Community

Before the building of church or village halls, commonly a 20<sup>th</sup> century development, most churches had been little used since the Reformation, apart from the range of services provided in the Book of Common Prayer, and Vestry meetings through which the affairs of the parish, both religious and secular were, until 1894, transacted.

The medieval church was very different. The chancel, built first, was the responsibility of priest, the nave was that of the community. The two parts were commonly separated by a rood screen frequently modified, if not destroyed, at the Reformation. As built, medieval naves were normally open but frequently a stone bench was provided for the use of the elderly and infirm. Wooden benches, the precursor of pews, only became common in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, a development reflecting the growing popularity of the itinerant preaching Friars.

Smaller village churches were normally entered via the south door. North doors were little used and often eventually blocked as happened at St Mary's in 1851. All Saints was rebuilt without one. The west doors at both our churches are recent developments and were not provided in their medieval predecessors.

The south door, often 'porched', was traditionally used for the 'churching' of women after childbirth. Infants were received there for baptism as were the dead prior to burial. Much legal and administrative business often took place there (manorial courts, inquests etc.) and relevant notices were displayed. The use made of porches in fact proliferated from their initial function simply to protect the south door itself from the ravages of the weather.

Preaching and baptism took place in the nave as it still does. Here parishioners gathered. Some medieval pulpits survive. They were frequently richly decorated as were the, pillars and roof timbers. Where medieval communities outgrew a nave aisles were frequently added. These changes often occurred in the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> or earlier 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Community use of a nave commonly included mystery plays (if not performed outside), community gatherings including the annual Parish Assembly, and 'Church Ales' (celebratory feasts at which strong ale was served). Here religious processions commonly took place. Much, but not all, was swept away in the course of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Paintings were submerged in whitewash, a process which paradoxically often preserved them, and statues and images of saints either destroyed or defaced. The Puritans particularly objected to 'Church Ales'. Chantry Chapels were disused and their endowments became the property of the crown, although where provision had been made for the maintenance of choirs and schools, these were quite frequently restored.

Recent decades have to some extent restored naves to something approaching their original use. Space has been made as pews have become less fashionable. When South Wootton's Village Hall became unsafe the Parish Council met in St Mary's. The Thursday 'drop ins' symbolised this change of emphasis, likewise various activities held in All Saints!

*John Smallwood*



## *South Wootton in Bloom*

**Happy new year to you from all of us in South Wootton in Bloom.**

The Bloom committee has not had a meeting now for 12 months. It may be another 12 months before we can have a meeting. However, things are progressing as near as possible to normal. We have a treasured group of people looking after the garden in Saint Mary's Church yard. My thanks to all of you.

The wild flower seeds for the wildflower strips that we have in Wootton Park have been ordered . The plants for the beds on Meadow Road and Oak Avenue, have been carefully chosen and are about to be ordered. My thanks to Nolan and Stella Mills for their hard work regarding these beds.

The bug hotel at the pond in Wootton Park has been rebuilt by the children from North Wootton school.

A new project this year will be to put some colour into the new cemetery behind the parish office and Village Hall.

I hope you have noticed the daffodils heralding the coming of spring time which will be helping to keep some cheerfulness going within the village.

If you would like to help us in any way please get in touch with me – telephone number below.

**Margaret Albinson O1553 670241**  
**Chairman**

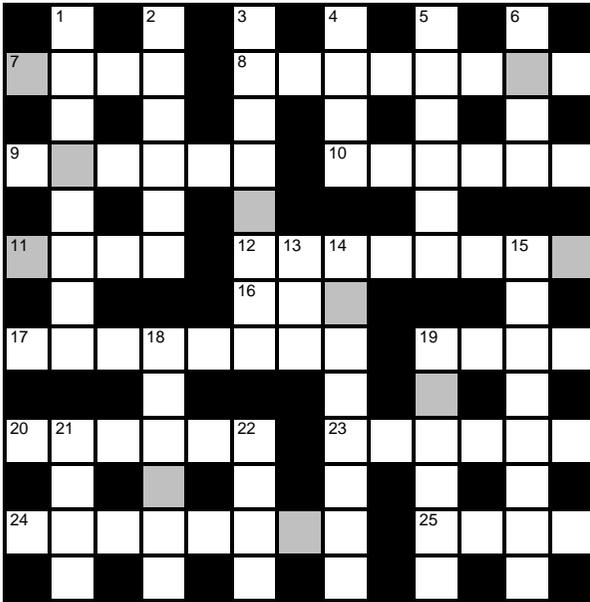


### **WEST NORFOLK RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION (MAGPIE CENTRE): NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled is to hold its Annual General Meeting via Zoom, at **7.00 pm on Tuesday, 23 February.**

All are welcome, but to register your interest, please visit our website: [www.rda-westnorfolk.org.uk](http://www.rda-westnorfolk.org.uk), and you will be sent the code which will enable you to access the meeting.

## QUIZWORD by EDDIE LYON



When completed the letters in the shaded squares can be made into the name of the author of the novel "Les Miserables" (6 & 4)

Solution on page 17

### Across

- 7 Lady Jane - England's nine-day Queen (4)
- 8 One decade (3 & 5)
- 9 The large main tent of a circus (3 & 3)
- 10 Festival commemorating the Resurrection of Christ (6)
- 11 Which word can precede cut, piece and spring? (4)
- 12 One who habitually expects a favourable outcome (8)
- 16 Make a sound like a dove or pigeon (3)
- 17 Adorned with showy decorations (8)
- 19 Scolds or complains about a snag (4)
- 20 See 4 Down (6)
- 23 Marine gastropod mollusc that adheres to rocks (6)
- 24 A metal - is often used to find items below the surface (8)
- 25 Devours food (4)

### Down

- 1 To supply water by means of canals and watercourses (8)
- 2 Another mollusc yielding pearls (6)
- 3 A tap or valve that regulates the flow of liquid through a pipe (8)
- 4 & 20 Across Second wife of Henry VIII (4)
- 5 Cargo thrown overboard to lighten a ship in distress (6)
- 6 A sea eagle (4)
- 13 Edgar Allan - 19th century US author (3)
- 14 Small children learning to walk (8)
- 15 Implies or proposes (8)
- 18 Number of players in a field hockey team (6)
- 19 C is a Roman one (6)
- 21 Bill - was Compo in TV's Last of the Summer Wine (4)
- 22 Pecans for instance (4)

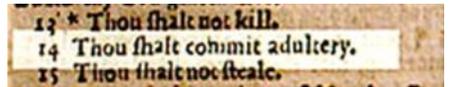
## Our Treacle Bible

In 1604 a certain John Marshall gave St Mary's church, South Wootton, a bible to be read to the congregation on Sundays. This is an earlier translation than the King James bible and was known as the Bishop's bible. However, it has become known as the 'treacle bible' owing to a translation of Jeremiah 8, verse 22. In King James we have 'Is there no **balm** in Gilead?' whereas in the Bishop's bible it is translated as 'Is there no **treacle** in Gilead'. (Treacle was believed to be a cure for the black death and a wide variety of ailments in medieval times).

This reminded me of a bible my father had which was known as a 'breeches' bible: 'Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed figge tree leaves together, and made themselves **breeches**.' In the King James Version of 1611, 'breeches' was changed to 'aprons'. The breeches bible is also known as the Geneva bible.

Another bible named similarly is the **Bug bible**. In this one from 1551, there is a change to the wording we are used to in psalm 91, verse 5. In King James we have 'Thou shalt not be afraid for the **terror** by night nor for the arrow that flieth by day'. In the bug bible we get 'thou shalt not be afraid for any **bugges** by night. ' (Apparently in 1535 a bugge meant a ghost).

This leads us on to the many bibles named because of misprints in them. A printer had to laboriously select every letter to mount in the printer's block and not surprisingly this led to some errors. Mostly the errors were just what we would call 'typos' but sometimes the meaning was changed in an unfortunate way. For instance, the '**wicked bible**' of 1631 left out an important word 'not' completely. This led to the pronouncement from the ten commandments 'Thou shalt commit adultery' – not a message the church intended to convey! In this case the printer was fined £300 and Charles 1<sup>st</sup> ordered all copies to be destroyed. However, at least one must have survived as this extract from a manuscript shows!



Other examples include:- **The Printers bible of 1702**: In some copies Psalm 119: 161 reads '**Printers** have persecuted me without a cause' rather than '**Princes**' have persecuted me.' (This could of course have been a Freudian slip made by a junior printer being hassled by his superiors).

**The cannibal's bible of 1682**: Known as the Cannibal's Bible (yes really), a 1682 printing alters this passage from Deuteronomy 24:3, which is meant to read: 'If the latter husband hate her.' This version left out the 'h'!

I will mention one other - this is a bible (1549, 1551) known as the **wife beater's bible**! In this one there is a footnote added to the text, so this is deliberate and denotes an attitude we can't possibly condone. In 1 Peter, 3 – verses 6 and 7 read:-

6 'Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.'

So far so good. However, a misogynistic translator (Becke) added a footnote to [1 Peter 3:7](#), which reads 'And if she be not obediente and healpeful unto hym, endevoureth to beate the fere of God into her heade, that thereby she may be compelled to learne her dutye and do it.' Wow – and we can't blame the printer there.

Our treacle bible is now in the Cathedral library in Norwich for safe keeping, but we can have it back in the church whenever we want for special occasions. It is a nice bit of local history which has somehow survived for 417 years.

*Jonathan Dossetor*



## Norfolk Coast AONB and Broads Dark Skies Festival 2021

We are very lucky to enjoy splendid night skies and dark landscapes where we live on the Norfolk Coast. These contribute to the rural character and that feeling of remoteness and tranquillity – some of the reasons why people like to come here. The lack of light pollution and resulting dark skies contribute to our health and well-being by allowing us to philosophise about our place in the universe, enjoy astronomy activities and gain a sense of nostalgia, peace and romance. In addition, scientific studies show that we need the dark to help us sleep properly which in turn boosts our immune system and lowers stress levels. Darkness not only brings us numerous benefits, but is necessary for wildlife to navigate during migration, hunt prey or avoid predators, pollinate night flowering plants, or simply to sleep as part of the 24 hour day/night cycle which humans also need.

The Norfolk Coast Partnership are therefore working with various organisations and businesses, including the Norfolk Broads National Park, to celebrate our night skies, and preserve them by reducing the impact of light pollution on our rural landscapes. We will be holding our 3<sup>rd</sup> Dark Skies Festival this year between **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021** and we hope you will enjoy taking part. Events will consist of a mix of online and face-to-face activities throughout the festival fortnight. Put the dates in your diary and find out more on our Norfolk Coast Dark Skies Facebook page @norfolkcoastaonb or follow us via Twitter @NorfolkAONB

Is your community interested in preserving the night skies where you live? We are interested to work with town and parish councils and local businesses in and close to the Norfolk Coast AONB. For further information contact Kate in the Norfolk Coast Partnership staff team on [kate.dougan@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:kate.dougan@norfolk.gov.uk)

**Catherine Leigh**  
**Assistant Project Adviser Norfolk Coast Partnership**  
South Wing, Fakenham Fire Station  
Norwich Road  
Fakenham NR21 8BB

### Quizword solution

Across: 7 Grey; 8 Ten years; 9 Big top; 10 Easter; 11 Hair; 12 Optimist; 16 Co; 17 Be-decked; 19 Nags; 20 Boleyn; 23 Limpet; 24 Detector; 25 Eats.  
Down: 1 Irrigate; 2 Oyster; 3 Stopcock; 4 Anne; 5 Jetsam; 6 Erne; 13 Poe; 14 Toddlers; 15 Suggests; 18 Eleven; 19 Number; 21 Owen; 22 Nuts  
Shaded Squares VICTOR HUGO

## News from the Purfleet Trust

### Julie's Bike Ride to Scotland



This is a story about an amazing lady who despite having mobility issues since birth and being in a wheelchair for the last 17 years has taken on a mammoth cycling endurance challenge to raise funds for us here at Purfleet Trust.

Julie (pictured left with the gorgeous Millie) has started on her long 526 km journey and is hoping to reach Edinburgh by the middle of February. Julie was inspired to start the fundraising journey after a talk with her personal assistant, Sarah, about how much she loved Scotland. Never having been to Scotland Julie would

love to make it there for real one day but for now she is cycling an incredible 526 km virtually on her specially adapted wheelchair bike.

The journey started from Terrington St Clement on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January and by day six Julie had reached Tattershall. To keep her motivated along the way DSD printers have printed her some large posters of the Edinburgh area.

#### Four ways to cheer Julie on

1) Tune in for **Tuesday** - Every Tuesday Julie will be doing a live stream on the **Julie's bike ride to Scotland** Facebook page. Please like and share this page as widely as you can. The comments and likes are great for Julie to know people are behind her in the challenge. You can also send in a request for a song either on the page or by replying to this email and Julie will cycle along to that song.

2) If you can **Donate** through her page that would mean a great deal to her and to all the vulnerable people who we will be continuing to support. The response so far has been amazing and she is already well on her way to achieving the target she set herself. It would be wonderful to double it!

3) We think it would be fantastic to show Julie our support with messages, cards and pictures of Scotland. If you would like to send any messages of support or photos of trips to Scotland then please reply to this email or post to our centre, Pathway House, Austin Fields, Kings Lynn, PE30 1PH.

4) **Fridays** at 2pm Julie will be going live on Facebook and answering any questions you may have. You can post questions on the Facebook page or reply to this email and we will forward them to Julie.

5) Every **Saturday** Julie will be trying to beat her personal best on kms travelled in a day from the previous week. Julie would love to have some local businesses donate and she will wear their logo for the live session and share that they have donated. If you know of any local businesses that may be interested then please reply to this email.

Let's all show Julie how much her efforts are appreciated; we appreciate any support you can give.

*This story is taken from a Purfleet Trust news bulletin. If you would like to receive these by email please email [joywylie@purfleettrust.org.uk](mailto:joywylie@purfleettrust.org.uk)*

## SOUTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Straight into the New Year the Parish Council review the Finances and consider the Precept for the year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. It has been an unprecedented year with the Covid outbreak, and it looks like it will be a little longer before we can all have the vaccine and get back to some kind of normality. We have carefully considered all the various outgoings planned for this new Financial year and with a vast drop in our income mainly from the Village Hall we have had to increase our budget slightly to keep things ticking over as normal. Our budget has increased by £2000 for the whole year because the Government has increased the percentage of Pension contributions the Parish Council has to pay. In precept terms this equates to about £57 per annum per Band D property. The Finance Committee scrutinise all expenditure and will keep tight control on our outgoings throughout the year, to make sure we continue with the services we provide but keep spending under close review.

I think most residents will have noticed over the past few weeks the Village Pond has overflowed. This is becoming a problem with extra rainfall we now seem to be getting during the winter months. The Parish Council have been in touch with our local drainage expert and we have made sure the pipes running from the pond to Low Road are running freely. However, we are currently waiting for Norfolk County Council to come and clear the pipes in the Low Road/Nursery Lane area. A meeting is to be arranged with our Local Highways Engineer to map the drainage system and jet all the drains. It is hoped that we will obtain a better understanding of the drainage system so this problem can be avoided next year.

The Parish Council have been asked to look at possibly providing a small footpath between Nursery Close and Common Lane. The little track that exists is currently used significantly by residents coming from the Cycle path and Avon Road area. At present during the winter months this is a bit of a muddy mess. The Parish Council have gone out for three quotes for the work and once received it is hoped that this new footpath can be provided.

Planning Matters continue to take up a great deal of time at the Parish Council. Over the Christmas period the Reserved Matters for the Larkfleet Application came forward - this is for the area of land behind South Wootton Junior School. Reserved Matters gives the full details of the site and shows the roadways, play areas, areas of open green space and all the different house types proposed. Although the closing date for public comment was 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021, it is not too late to get your comments sent into the Borough Council. This will be the last opportunity to change the way the site will look, the way the properties are configured and indeed the types of property that are being provided. If you would like to make comment, the Planning Application No is 20/01954/RMM. Or you can type in this link and it will take you straight to the correct place to type in the Planning Application number <https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/> Although our two Village Schools are closed at the moment, except for Key Worker children, work is being provided for home learning, and for those who have not had access to iPads previously, provision is now in place. Work is set every day. The Pre-school is still up and running in the Village Hall and the Parish Council are doing everything we can to support this service for our local families.

During December, the children from North Wootton Academy took part in the building of a Bug Hotel at Wootton Park. A super Interpretation Board was provided with the help of a grant and additional finances from North and South Wootton Parish Councils. The construction took about one hour, and the children were all given a paper copy of the Interpretation Board to take away with them. If you walk through the park, please take a look. The Bug Hotel is positioned near to the Car Park area.

Finally, let us think of better times to come. Spring will soon be upon us and the bulbs will be coming through, we will all eventually get our Covid Vaccinations and although these times will never ever be forgotten, hopefully with the strength of our friends and families we can all start to rebuild our lives. Warmest wishes to all.

Unfortunately, the office is still not physically open to the public, but we are here answering your emails and taking your telephone calls. Parish Council Meetings continue to take place virtually. Remember, Agendas and Notices are on the website and in the Parish Notice Boards.

**Tracey Cornwell (Parish Clerk) KL671692 e mail: [info@southwoottonpc.co.uk](mailto:info@southwoottonpc.co.uk)**