

# WOODNEWTON NEWS

March 2016



# News and Reports

**The Parish Council** met on 1st February

## **Matters arising from previous meeting**

The parish path has been re-gravelled.

Allotment taps have been replaced as per Anglian Water compliance notice

## **Street Lights**

Council will continue to progress with and finish the programme of converting lights to part night cells.

## **Churchyard**

Council has received 3 quotes for mowing the churchyard. A decision will be taken at the March meeting.

## **Playground**

2 new waste bins have been requested from ENC. New Dog signs will also be purchased to replace the old wooden signs that have seen better days

## **Gigaclear**

Council continues to express concerns to Gigaclear following resident's feedback. A log of issues is kept and a meeting with Gigaclear will be held when the installation is complete to ensure all issues have been rectified and the village is returned to the state it was in prior to the resumption of work. We understand that there is still a large amount of work to be done.

However while the Council is happy to intervene on residents behalf, the work being done is not at the Council's request and neither is the Council at fault for the state of the village. Gigaclear is a private commercial company and residents are free to contact them directly via Keith Floodgate - Head of Customer Care 01865 591134. However the Parish Clerk is prepared to have concerns documented, via email to her at woodnewtonpc@gmail.com with dated, photographic evidence, if you do not wish to deal with Gigaclear directly.

## **Wild Flowers**

The Council would like to sow wild flowers this year in various places at entrances to the village and along the edge of the playing field. Prices have been obtained for 1 kilo of seed. Pricing for plants is being researched. Councillors will walk the village to choose appropriate areas. Anyone wishing to volunteer with ground preparation and sowing please contact Roger Flack or the Parish Clerk

## **Playing Field Survey**

From 1st March a survey will be available on the village website [www.woodnewton-hub.co.uk](http://www.woodnewton-hub.co.uk) for all children aged 10 – 16 in the village to have a say in what equipment/facilities they would like to see in the playing field. This is first step in the Council's plan to provide more facilities for older children.

## **Clean-Up Day**

The Spring Clean-up will take place on Saturday 16th April. 10.00am at the Village Hall, Volunteers required. Refreshments provided.

## **Telegraph Poles**

A number of the old poles left from the electric works remain at the village hall. If any residents want to make use of them please help yourself. Any poles remaining at the end of March will be disposed of.

## **The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 7th March 8.00pm**

Andrew Hansford - Parish Council Chairman

## **Woodnewton Neighbourhood Watch**

Burglary Prevention (This is previous advice but worth repeating again) ...

Most burglaries are opportunistic

Always close and lock doors and windows when you go out – even if just for a short time – and when you go to bed at night. Don't forget doors into garages or conservatories

Make sure your locks and security measures comply with your insurance requirements. More information can be found at [securedbydesign.com](http://securedbydesign.com) and [locksmiths.co.uk](http://locksmiths.co.uk)

- Keep keys, including shed and car keys, in a place where they're not visible to anyone looking in. Don't leave keys in the door and never hide a spare key outside
- Keep valuables hidden and not visible from windows
- Take photos of your valuable items for insurance purposes and keep them with your policy
- Window locks and visible burglar alarms can act as a deterrent to criminals
- Never leave packaging from new goods visible with your general rubbish. Criminals may see it and target your property
- Draw curtains in the evening and leave your lights on a timer switch if you're going out. Make sure one light is on upstairs
- Never give your keys to anyone you do not know well. Change the locks when you move house so that you know exactly who has keys
- Never keep large amounts of cash in the house
- Consider keeping expensive jewellery, house deeds and other important items in a home safe anchored to the brickwork

## **Garden security**

Garden security is very important as the garden is an access point into your

home. Make sure to secure your garden with lockable gates and walls or substantial fencing. Thorny plants around the perimeter and trellis on top of fences make it harder for an intruder to access your garden. Also, keep your ladder and garden tools locked away, as they can be used by burglars to access your home.

When you go away

Don't publish your absence on the internet. Status updates, comments and photos on social media can all give away the fact that you are out of your home for an extended period.

- Make sure your alarm, if you have one, is set
- Put lights on a timer switch to make your house look occupied. Make sure you include at least one upstairs light
- You can also get a 'fake TV' which can be put on a timer and which gives out a flickering light to mimic a TV. This is an excellent deterrent if placed out of sight lines
- Ask a neighbour to push post through your letterbox and take in any deliveries for you. Cancel milk, newspapers and other deliveries if you can
- Ask a neighbour to park a car on your drive so that passers-by assume someone is at home
- If you have a close friend or relative nearby with a key, ask them to draw your curtains in the evening and back in the morning. Don't leave the curtains drawn during the day
- Don't display your home address on the outside of your luggage

### **Road Harm Article**

In the summer of 2015 the Police and Crime Commissioner, Adam Simmonds, visited 100 different villages and parishes across Northamptonshire and the number one concern raised throughout conversations with residents was road related problems.

To help tackle this issue, Adam has recently announced the launch of a brand new service for victims; Voice: Road Harm.

The new service offers support for victims of serious road traffic collisions, an area which the Victims Code until recently did not support. Voice; Road Harm will give support to both victims and their families who have suffered distressing road-related trauma, such as face-to-face therapy, and a telephone helpline offering emotional and practical support.

Talking about the new service, Adam said: “Putting victims at the heart of the criminal justice system has been one of my main aims since being voted in to office and I’m delighted that we can offer further specialist support to victims with the launch of Voice: Road Harm. With the creation of the Voice: Road Harm service we have significantly improved the support we are able to offer victims, witnesses and those affected by crime, and Voice: Road Harm is another strand to this that will see people receive a better standard of care when they need it. Too often road victims have been ignored and this service aims to address this imbalance”

The key objectives of Voice; Road Harm is to ensure that all victims and witnesses of serious road traffic collisions receive a service that is tailored to their needs and preferences; that they receive appropriate information, advice and support to enable them to cope, recover and thrive; are treated in a respectful, sensitive, professional and non-discriminatory manner; and are supported, where appropriate, through their participation in criminal proceedings.

Further information regarding this service can be found on the Voice website: [www.voicenorthants.org](http://www.voicenorthants.org)

### **March Services at St Mary's**

6th 9.30am HC and Mothering Sunday Service

13th 6.00pm “The Cross of Christ” A special service of readings & hymns commemorating the Passion of Our Lord and the lead up to Easter

20th 9.30am Holy Communion (coffee served after service)

25th 2.00pm Good Friday Service

27th 9.30am Easter Day Holy Communion

The PCC are very grateful to a group of volunteers who have agreed to be involved on a rota basis in keeping the church free from dust!!

Would you like to receive our weekly newsletter, 'Sunday Link'? This holds all the news and services which are taking place over the six parishes of the Watersmete Benefice.

This Link Sheet is sent by email every Friday, so if you require a copy, please email [parkdale05@hotmail.com](mailto:parkdale05@hotmail.com) and I will add your name to the database.

Reflect: A week course for Lent led by Bishop John Flack on Tuesdays at 7.15pm or Thursdays at 2.30pm. For more details call Rev Peter Konig, 01780 782873, or Paul Jobson 01780 782543.

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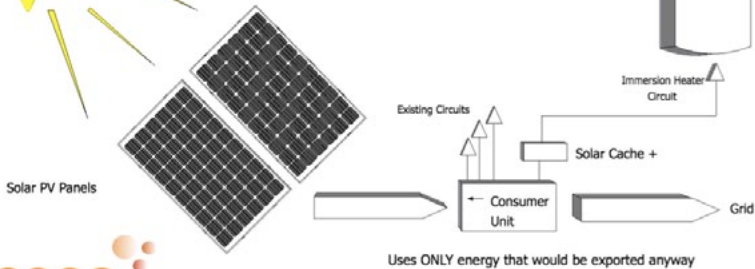
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**The cast and crew of Antony and Cleopatra**

## **A Critical Review of Antony and Cleopatra – The Woodnewton Village Panto**

Due to pressure of work with the Academy and the Baftas, your Newsletter Arts and Culture Correspondent attended the World Premiere preview of the Woodnewton Panto this year. Directed for the first time by the indomitable Wilf Stewart and produced by David Webb and Sarah Roberts, this Panto is destined to be another cracker to add to the triumphant list of Woodnewton Player's Productions. This year, the usual ensemble of gender bender camp actors had got a grip of themselves and delivered performances with much more gravitas and testosterone. Men were men but the principal boy was a girl and the evil brothers were girls, and there was a large ginger haired dame/nanny of indeterminate gender- but what do you expect in panto? Let us move on. The continued investment in lighting and sound equipment by the Players brought the village hall theatre closer to Broadway standards. There are only two words to say about the costumes, the set design, the orchestra and the technical team- Wow and brilliant!

You will all know that Antony and Cleopatra is a tragedy written by William Shakespeare and first performed in 1607. Children should be aware that this Panto version takes considerable liberties with Mr Shakespeare's original work and does not reflect the noble history of early Egyptian civilisation. The storyline is that the Egyptian King; a relative of "Toot-And-Come In" (groan) had croaked and was likely to be entombed in his Pyramid. He bequeaths his fortune and the Kingdom of Egypt to his beautiful daughter, Cleopatra. Cleo's has two disgruntled brothers, Ptolomy and Ptolomy1. The Ptolomy family ancestor was probably Claudius Ptolemy, the ancient Roman/ Greek writer, poet, astrologer, mathematician and geographer. Thus it was surprising that with such distinguished ancestry, that Ptolomy spoke in an Essex Estuary dialect. These scheming brothers intended to purloin Cleo's inheritance from her by fair means or foul. The love interest is Antony, a handsome Roman Centurion, and one of the Triumvir (just look it up!) of ancient Rome. Tony takes a fancy to the gorgeous Cleo. They communicate from Rome and the Nile Palace by carrier pigeon which swoops overhead the unsuspecting audience delivering just mail. Thankfully pigeon droppings were not part of the scenario (yet) and no members of the public or animals were injured in the making of this panto.

The audience are transported to the Nile, Old Cairo, the Royal Palace and the Royal Barge where they meet a plethora of bizarre characters from the bazaars, most of whom wear dishcloths on their craniums. Handmaidens,



Tommy Cooper lookalikes, Roman Senators, Italian Ice cream salesman, galley slaves, pink snakes (no Asps), and the Palace Imperial Guardsmen. It must be said that these Elite guardsman are a bit shambolic; their stumbling spear and foot drill is lamentable and well short of British Army Infantry standards. Formidable and aggressive they are not, but they do accomplish a presentable “Sand Dance”. A nomadic Arab potentate, wait for it, Sheik” Rattle and Roll” appears on the scene from the sands of the desert and delivers a repertoire of traditional, groaning one liners which stirs the audience and causes the village elders to mutter.

On a point of continuity, in the Nile Royal Barge Scene, in which the galley slaves were groaning, collapsing and exhausted whilst accelerating the Royal barge to water skiing speed, the audience should note that this is an accident of history. Water Skiing, as a sport, was invented in 1922 by Ralph Samuelson of Minnesota about the same time as the 500 Horse Power Outboard Fuel Injected Speedboat Motor was engineered. Furthermore, an ancient Royal barge made of papyrus and cedar wood would likely disintegrate at such high rowing speed. Sometimes, these Panto directors are just divorced from reality and they take things too far! Nevertheless, the song and dance routines by the gorgeous chorus line of hand maidens and oarswomen, (probably Mummies themselves in a past era), entertained the audience with nicely choreographed song and dance routines. Cleo, with that fabulous voice and supported from the orchestra pit, delivered some great renditions of modern and contemporary songs. Finally, it was not until near the finale, that Buttercup entered from stage right. A great cheer from the audience boomed round the auditorium. Buttercup, in Egyptian garb was suitably attired with face veil dangling from her horns and a secondary discreet veil covering her drooping udders. Oh what Joy! The Woodnewton Panto tradition thus prevailed and Buttercup emerged triumphant again. Future Directors of village Pantos are warned not to write off Buttercup. She has many good acting years ahead of her, given no further outbreaks of foot and mouth disease.

This panto was great fun; the jokes and one liners were excruciatingly awful and funny as usual. Everyone lived happily ever after and the evil brothers reformed into good citizens. Tony and Cleo, shared love and the audience were not bombarded by carrier pigeon poo. Congratulations to Giles Black who wrote this witty script and to Wilf Stewart and the producers who put together a heart-warming piece of great family theatre. May the Woodnewton Players Live Long and Prosper.

**The Newsletter Arts and Culture Correspondent**

# St Mary's Church

Woodnewton Flower Festival, 11/12 June 2016

## “Showtime”

Calling all Woodnewton residents- Your village needs you!

Could you please help to make this year's Church flower festival a tremendous success?

### “SHOWTIME”

- The theme is “Musical Shows”
- We need flower arrangers, either solo or to join a small team.
- We need garden foliage.
- We need help with props to set the scene.

A few shows, for example, “Phantom of the Opera” and “Mary Poppins”, have already been chosen but sometimes the mechanics and accessories suggest the design. Please search your attics and sheds and I know there are talented craft-people and artists out there. Posters, programmes, costumes or items with links to the theatre all needed.

The weekend attractions will include, Open Gardens, an Art Exhibition, afternoon teas and a concert in the church on the Saturday evening with “The Weekley Singers” presenting “Songs from the Shows” – more of that later. Back in 2014 a large number of visitors enjoyed the variety of events in the village and hopefully this year will be even better.

My area of responsibility is coordinating the floral designs. If you can help in a practical way or would like to make a donation towards the cost of the flowers please contact me. Ann Mcleod 01780 470973 jamgmc52@gmail.com

If you would like to be involved and /or help with the Open Gardens please contact Liz Cooper on 470347 or Rosie Atchison on 470372

## Line Dance Evening

Saturday, 12th March at Woodnewton Village Hall, 7pm.  
in aid of

Glaphorn and Southwick Flower Show and Gardeners' Charity.

Bring a dish for the supper table and your own drinks.

Tickets £5 available from Natasha on 01832 274600.

## Woodnewton's Got Talent

"You may have noticed that at this years panto the Woodnewton Players have launched "Woodnewton's Got Talent" which will take place on the 2nd July.

So keep the date free for this summer event.

The players would like to put on a variety talent show for families to enjoy, but to do so we need your help.

Do you have, or do you know someone who has a talent? If so please ask them to contact Gary on 470593.

We are also looking for people to volunteer to be a judge, but rest assured it is the audience that votes for the winner not the judges! If you fancy being a judge please contact Gary.

More details will follow next month."

## Lift Share

My name is Jon Horsley. I live in Woodnewton (on Nassington Road) and would like to find someone (or a group of people) with whom to share lifts to & from Peterborough or Huntingdon stations during the week, as I am sure there are a number of us who commute up to London and do this drive.

If you are interested, please contact me at [jon@thehorsleys.me.uk](mailto:jon@thehorsleys.me.uk)

## Gary's walk

*My next walk is on Saturday 5th March and is a circular walk from Ringstead to Denford and back via Woodford Mill.*

*If you would like to join me, meet at Kinewell Country Park at 10am The car park is immediately on your right after the last close of houses as you drive out of Ringstead towards Great Addington.*

*Hope to see you there.*

# Columnists

## On The Plot

Despite getting to the point where I sometimes have trouble remembering who I am or what I am thinking, I'm pretty sure that at this point each year I have given much the same advice about action in the garden! Basically, don't be in a hurry to sow and plant as the weather still is rather unpredictable.

And this year? All I know is that we have had the most odd 'winter' that I can ever remember. Yes, I know that I have not seen that many..... All I am sure about is that things are more unpredictable than ever and I hesitate to make recommendations. What I do know for sure is that I shall still be in no rush to get into action on the sowing and planting front. I reckon that the end of March is plenty early enough to start most things outdoors.

One job that can't wait is the planting of new fruit bushes. If you have any plans to plant fruit, whether it be bush or tree, do try to get the job done as soon as you possibly can. This also applies to any ornamental shrubs and trees, of course. I think that this year the pressure is on more than ever, because fruit buds have been opening in ones and twos since January. The gooseberry buds are still pretty tight though and the old adage is that when those open, spring is really here.

I really strongly recommend that you consider using mycorrhizal fungi when you do any of this planting work. I was encouraged to use it when I bought my last lot of new fruit bushes a short while ago and I have to say that they have grown impressively. Yes, I know you will all be shouting about my amazing green fingers, but despite that I reckon that this stuff is well worth trying.

There was lots talked about it a few years back in magazines and on TV, but in case you missed all that here is the main point. These fungi grow in association with plant roots. They take sugars from those roots but give moisture and nutrients gathered from the soil by the strand-like structure they form. In a sense they act as extensions of the root system. They seem particularly important in gathering phosphorus from the soil for plants. They also seem to protect against root diseases. In essence, plant roots would have a massive

job to cover an area that these fungi cover with relative ease.

Do bear in mind that they are less effective where soils have been heavily fertilised or manured. Another benefit therefore is that you need to use minimal amounts of manure or fertiliser.

Mycorrhizal fungi are sold in granular form. I use 'Empathy Rootgrow' obtainable online from a company in Kent. This is a pure form and to my mind, the best. It is always delivered within a couple of days of my ordering.

Whatever, do enjoy the thought, at least, of getting out and enjoying your garden for another season. I most certainly will!

Dodge the Flak



### **White Swan News**

Happy hour!

We seem to have kick started the village Friday night drinking crew by moving our happy hour, now 6:30-7:30 on a Friday, followed by ( for the die hard, or 2nd shifters ) free tapas on the bar at 8:30. Please pop along and join in, enjoy the buzz.

Woody Night - Wednesday 9th March

2 courses £12:50 - 3 courses £15

Sunday 13th March is our 1st & 6th anniversary at The White Swan

And it's official, we've "GONE TO THE DOGS"

Tickets £10 which includes the band, your first drink, bbq - a burger, pulled pork burger or hot dog & fries & £2 donation to Marie Curie.

The evening starts at 7pm and the band plays from 8

Then it's that Thai'm again -

Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th March marks the return of the Thai Supper, 3 courses £17.50 / head.

**To book for any of these events Tel:- 470944**

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## USEFUL NUMBERS AND INFORMATION

For more see the village website: [www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk](http://www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk)

**Village Hall Booking** Abbie Smith 01780 470691

**Woodnewton Neighbourhood Watch** [woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com](mailto:woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com)

**Police** 101 (non emergency report, suspicious behaviour and enquiries)

### Doctors Surgeries

Oundle	01832 275375	Wansford	01780 782342
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### Veterinary Surgeries

Oundle	01832 273521	Yarwell	01780 783910
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**Woodnewton Mobile Library** 16:00 - 16:45 Orchard Crescent every fourth Wednesday of the month.

## DIARY DATES

### March

Wed 2nd	Communicare Meeting	back cover
Sat 5th	Gary's Walk	pg. 10
Sun 6th	Mothering Sunday service	pg. 4
Mon 7th	Parish Council Meeting	pg. 2
Wed 9th	Woodite Night at the Swan	pg. 12
Sat 12th	Line Dance Evening	pg. 10
Sun 13th	Special Church Service	pg. 4

**NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE CONTACTS** Editorial Team: Liz Holland, Jane Martin, June Moore, John Russell, Anouk van royen, Ivan Walker, David Webb

**Advertising:** Ivan Walker, Tel 470438

**Contributions:** Please send articles by email whenever possible to

[newswoodnewton@googlemail.com](mailto:newswoodnewton@googlemail.com) Handwritten / non-electronic contributions can be delivered or sent to June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

**Closing date for all copy 14th of previous month.**

The Newsletter is co-edited and published by Liz Holland, 26, Orchard Lane, Woodnewton and David Webb, 7, St Mary's Hill, Woodnewton.

Any views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council unless otherwise stated.

**VILLAGE WEBSITE:** [www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk](http://www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk)

**Website Manager:** Matthew Roberts. Email: [info@woodnewtonhub.co.uk](mailto:info@woodnewtonhub.co.uk)

## COMMUNICARE

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd March 2016

Wansford Surgery - 12.30 pm

Are you a healthy eater – would you like guidance on a healthy diet and foods that might help prevent common ailments such as diabetes, heart disease, high cholesterol, etc.

Come along and listen to our guest speaker  
Rebekah Conway – Specialist Dietitian



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