

WOODNEWTON NEWS

MARCH 2023



Keeping the village beautiful



Parish Council Report – January 2023

The Parish Council met on 13th February 2023

Public Time

Two members of the public spoke during public time about a planning application on the agenda.

Planning

Council reviewed the response from NNC to the formal complaint regarding the recent planning decisions and the process followed. Council noted the answers given but felt that a further response was needed. A letter will be drafted to express the Council's disappointment in the tone of the response and sent to NNC. Local Councillor and Council Leader Jason Smithers will also be copied into this correspondence.

NE/22/01622/FUL – returned with Objection

NE/23/00062/TCA – No Objection

NE/22/01446/TCA - noted

Augean

Cllr Guttridge reported back following a meeting of the Augean Liaison Group. Augean have donated £25,000 to an environmental charity in lieu of any potential fine relating to a water pollution incident. The Company also agreed to investigate the possibility of monitoring the water quality of the Willow Brook on an ongoing basis.

Bonfire site

Advantage was taken of the recent dry weather to light the bonfire, which has now been burnt and cleared up. The site is now CLOSED. No dumping of waste please.

Litter Picking

Thank you to everyone who joined the litter picking on Saturday 18th February. A great job was done by all. Please look out for the next Clean-Up Day in the Spring.

King Charles III Coronation

Coronation Picnic: Sunday 7th May 2.30pm onwards.

Bring your picnics to the playing field for a community get-together. More details to follow over the coming weeks

Coronation Forest of Fruit – ‘The Big Help Out’ Volunteering Day: Monday 8th May 10:00am

To mark the Coronation, it has been decided to tidy up the area at the top of the allotments and plant fruit trees for the benefit of everyone in village in the same way as the trees planted on the verge along Orchard Lane. This will be a living celebration of the occasion as well as echoing the original ‘Orchards’ that were situated in the village.

If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the trees and plaque please contact me, or email woodnewtonpc@gmail.com

The next Parish Council meeting will be 8.00pm Monday 6th March

Andrew Hansford - Parish Council Chairman



St. Mary's Church News

Services at St. Mary's Church, Woodnewton March 2023

5th March – 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Modern Language)

12th March – No service at Woodnewton. Services at Nassington at 9.30 am and Yarwell at 11 am.

19th March – 9.30 a.m. Family Communion for Mothering Sunday (Modern Language)

26th March – 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion BCP (Traditional Language)

Every Sunday 5.00 p.m. A Service at Home by ZOOM. Log-in details from Rev. Jane

It may not seem that long since all the additional services around Christmas time (it certainly doesn't feel that long to me!) but by March we are firmly into the Lent season, with its own special services, and Easter celebrations to look forward to. You will see from our service schedule that we have a special Mothering Sunday Family Communion service on 19th March. All are welcome to join us to celebrate our mums, our families, whoever and wherever they are, and all who care for us. Sometimes, it might feel that this isn't a time for those who aren't surrounded by family every day, but we want everyone to feel welcome and that they belong in our church family – do come! We give thanks also for God's love and care for us, that is reflected in human love and care. In the church we also give thanks for our "mother church" and the ways in which God cares for us in that community and in that place. I have no doubt that there will be flowers as well!

Mothering Sunday, or Mother's Day, reminds us to think about caring in its widest sense – who cares for us and enriches our lives and how do we show care for those around us. Perhaps March might be a month to think in new ways about how we care for each other in our community and beyond. We have all those encouragements to think about changes in our lifestyles such as "no-meat Mondays" or "Veganuary" and although we might not need the same encouragement to show our care and our thankfulness, maybe "Care-March" might be an idea? I'm sure you'll come up with a better phrase than that, though!

Rev. Jane (jdtailby@aol.com 01780 782271)

Save the date

Friends of St Mary's Church invite you to an evening of music and song on Saturday, 13th May . Further details next month.

What's On?

COMMUNICARE

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Practice Patient Participation Group)

41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on

Wednesday 29th March 2023

In the reception area of Wansford Surgery

at 5.30pm

All patients are invited to attend this open meeting.

Along with the Chairman and Treasurer's reports there will be an update from the Practice partners and (re)election of officials.

Anyone wishing to take an active role in the Group is welcome to stand for this election.

Tea and Simnel Cake at St Mary's Church

Sunday 26th March

Teas 2.00pm - 4.30pm

All Welcome

WHO LET THE MEN OUT?



A chance for all men from our local villages to meet and socialise over a tasty breakfast

(Apethorpe, Woodnewton, Nassington, Yarwell, Wansford and Thornhaugh)

Saturday 18th March 2023

8.30am – 10.00am

The Willow and Brook, Apethorpe, PE8 5DG

Full English breakfast and guest speaker Mike Ashby of Armstone Farm

RSVP to help cater with approximate numbers or for any queries please contact Ian Scott mensbreakfast@btconnect.com.

Church Roof Repairs

Paul Blackmore - releasing his inner Fred Dibnah - repairing damage to church roof after thieves attempted to steal the lead, resulting in rain water leaking into the church.



February Litter Picking



A happy band of litter pickers gathered at the village hall on 17th February to clear litter from Woodnewton and the surrounding roads

Thank you to everyone who turned out for a very successful litter pick.





Inside the Panto

I had to try and explain what a pantomime is to an American colleague last week. What's the recipe for a good pantomime?

A fairy tale is a good place to start. You need a bit of innocent cross dressing. A man needs to be dressed up as a funny, ugly, and rather intimidating woman and it's always good to have a principal boy - a woman dressed as a man. You need a script with lots of jokes - some of them can even be good jokes, but corny jokes are compulsory. A couple of comedic set pieces add to the enjoyment. To cap it all off you need some great songs. Familiar songs work best, some to sing along to and some to

pantomime. Across 4 nights and a matinee they played to (mostly) sell out audiences at the Village Hall. I cannot write a true critical review of *Sleeping Beauty* because I was involved - not as a performer but backstage. This then is a bit of behind the scenes take on the panto.

We had a wicked witch, some good fairies, a king and queen, a flying baby, the traditionally



add to the drama or comedy. But the most important ingredient is fun. Everyone should have fun, whether it's the audience, the cast, the crew or the front of house team, fun is essential.

If the audience reaction was anything to go by Woodnewton Players' production of *Sleeping Beauty* this February was a pretty good



crafted spinning wheel and some artificial brambles that fought back. The range of songs was pretty amazing, from the Monkees to the Mavericks, Peggy Lee to Jason Donovan, Kool and the Gang to Cliff Richard, the Kids from Fame to the Turtles, a blast of raiders of the lost Ark and a dose of the Nolans and most impressively even a dash of Led Zeppelin. Who ever thought that *Stairway to Heaven* would feature in a panto?



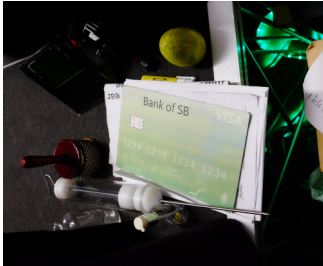
What you saw (or missed) in February was a result of months of work by the cast, crew and production team. The cast rehearse almost every Friday from September until show week. In the final few weeks there are Sunday morning rehearsals. The cast have to learn their lines and interpret the director's artistic vision. The musical directors pick the music, arrange it and work with the cast to make sure all the words music and choreography work together. It's a big commitment.

There's a small but dedicated team of talented costume makers who make, alter, adjust and improvise to produce the outfits. Some of the village's dining rooms are turned into



costumiers' studios for months. There are props to be made in garages and workshops. This year's included the aforementioned splendid spinning wheel complete with functional treadle. There's a whole list of smaller props including some eskimo fingers, wing of bat, false tongues and gizzards, a frog

and lizard, a huge syringe and nappy pin, perfume bottles, a faux Ikea suppository, massive credit card and driving licences. There's a couple of things that were key to the drama - a witch's cauldron and a splendid grandfather clock. Sourcing and making all of these costumes and props involves hours of



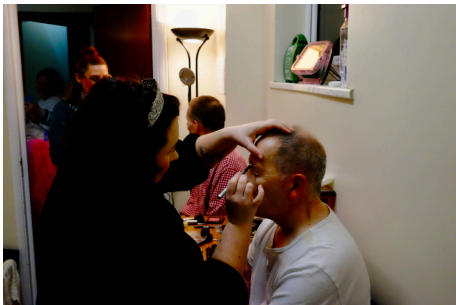
making and also scouring eBay.

Scenery needs to be sorted. Sometimes there are lots of new backgrounds to paint - this year it was just a few as we recycle and re-use as much as we can.

You may remember the sound effects - that flying baby really did seem to have bad wind. Heartbeats, whooshes and bangs, a bit of the



Countdown theme, the bells at midnight. You can see from the photos in this issue the effect of the lights. Setting up the lights is just one of the tasks involved in transforming the Village Hall to an intimate little theatre. There's a stage to be built, a platform for the the technical team, putting up the curtains and moving all the scenery and props into place. It takes a small gang and a couple of days to make the





transformation. Then there's taking care of the audience. The box office team get started in January to make sure everyone gets their tickets and once at the newly transformed Village Hall theatre the front of house and

bar team take care of the audience.

For me a couple of the highlights were an ongoing technical issue with invasive brambles and on the final performance when members of Oundle Gilbert & Sullivan in the audience lent their voices to the chorus of a couple of songs and ramped up the singalong.

When it's all over on the Sunday morning a merry band spend a few hours returning the theatre to its usual village hall status. It's over again for this year's performance, but in a few months time we start all over again with the

next production cycle starting in late summer.

Everyone played their part in the fun and if you would like to get involved get in touch via email

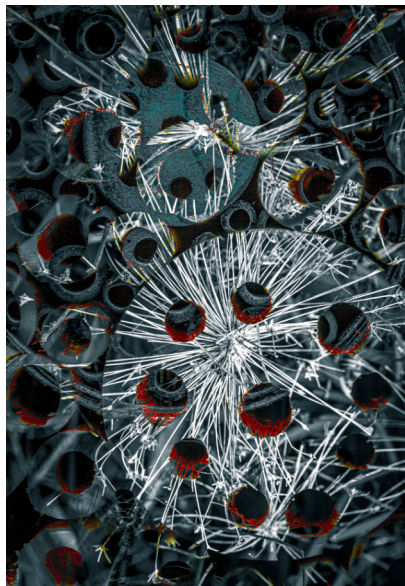


woodnewtonplayers@gmail.com Whether you want to star on the stage or help behind the scenes or even direct you can be sure of having lots of fun.



Award Winning Photography

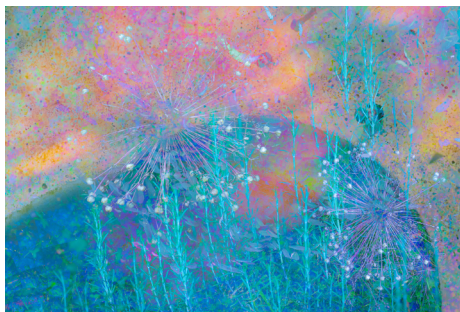
David Townshend of Pridmore Close has won another prize in the prestigious International Garden Photographer of the Year competition. He gained first place in the Abstract Views category with his image 'Abandon Hope'.



David explains the title: "The dark, threatening tones and the circles within

circles led me to the nine circles of hell in Dante's Inferno, and in particular the famous inscription on the gates of hell: 'Abandon hope, all ye who enter here'. So, as well as winning first prize for my abstract creation I also expanded my knowledge of Italian classical literature!"

The winning image was created in David's garden from a bug hotel, using in-camera image blending. Another of David's garden images 'Present Uncertain' was also an Abstract Views finalist. This image symbolises the threat of climate change - the surface of a planet becoming out of control. More of David's images can be seen on his website: davidtownshend.com.



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Annual General Meeting

The Village Hall Committee will hold their AGM on 13th March at the Village Hall.

All residents and users are welcome to attend

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WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL



King Charles III Coronation

**Coronation Picnic: Sunday 7th May
2.30pm onwards**



Coronation Forest of Fruit - 'The Big Help Out' Volunteering Day:

Monday 8th May 10:00am

Come and join in the events to celebrate this historic occasion. Look out for more details over the next few weeks in the magazine and on social media.

To raise any issues please contact the Parish Council: woodnewtonpc@gmail.com



Hall bookings may be made with Marilyn Jenner on 01780 470758 or villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com, but are subject to change if the regulations change.

Under the current circumstances we may refuse bookings.

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<https://www.facebook.com/WoodnewtonVillageHall/>

Useful Numbers and Information

Parish Council Clerk	woodnewtonpc@gmail.com	
Village Hall Booking	Marilyn Jenner 01780 470758 villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com	
Neighbourhood Watch	woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com	
Police	101 Ext 345306 for PCSO Artur Pereira artur.pereira@northants.pnn.police.uk	
Doctors Surgeries	Oundle	01832 273408
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Veterinary Surgeries	Oundle	01832 273521
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Newsletter & Website Contacts

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Advertising: Ivan Walker, Tel 01780 470438

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Handwritten / non-electronic contributions can be delivered or sent to:

June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

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

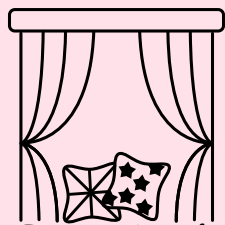
Recent issues available here: <http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk/village-newsletter/>

The Newsletter is edited and published by Grant Neville, 20 Orchard Lane, Woodnewton.

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

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