Woodnewton News

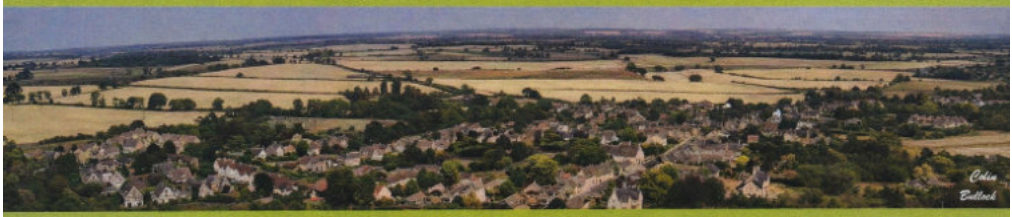
March 2026



What's On?

WOODNEWTON HISTORY GROUP

Present an illustrated talk
by
David Bond
Woodnewton Village Hall
Sunday, 26th April, 2026 at 3pm



Following the Old Ways:

Roads, Routes and the Shaping of the Landscape

Have you ever won dered how the landscape we live and walk through today was shaped over the centuries? Fields, lanes ot boundaries all have stories to tell. Come and join Da as he explores the historical changes that have formed the countryside around us and reveals the clues that still survive in the landscape.

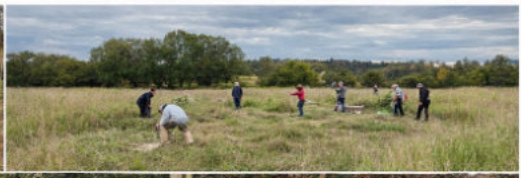
£3 (cash) including Tea and Cake

woodnewtonhistory@gmail.com

Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants







We need : Your help



Volunteer conservation work—come along and try it!

Every Friday @10.00am at Old Sulehay nature reserve.

The Wildlife Trust BCN are seeking local people to help with the ongoing hands on habitat management of this nature reserve.

No experience is necessary, any tools required will be provided—all you need are gardening gloves and clothes/boots you don't mind **getting muddy!**

You'll be joining a friendly group of volunteers **passionate** about caring for their local nature reserve, **working together to protect** and **enhance** this special place for **wildlife and the community.**

Whether you're a regular visitor or live nearby, **we'd be delighted to hear from you!**

Registered Office: The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, CB23 6DH

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Woodnewton Parish Council Meeting

Monday 2nd February 2026

Chairmans Notes from Woodnewton Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd February

Apologies received from Cllrs Kisiel, Brookes and Pythian

Minutes from Meeting held 5th January were signed by Chairman as correct record

Churchyard and Cemetery

Churchyard grass cutting contract awarded to a local service provider.

Road Safety and Playground

The speed signs are all working, and the latest figures show most drivers are sticking close to the limits. Q4 2025 and summary of complete 2025 data for all 3 units provided to meeting;

Over 2025 the Average speeds for vehicles entering the village were around 24 mph for Nassington and Apethorpe Roads and 27mph for Oundle Road. Total number of vehicles entering the village was 200,000 via Oundle Road, 130,000 via Apethorpe Road and 60,000 via Nassington Road

No new concerns re the playing field or playground, and remaining repair work on playground items will be finished once the weather improves.

Finances and Operational Issues

October–December finances were verified by Cllr Guttridge and approved by the meeting, everything is on track with the budget.

Updated versions of the council's key policies were agreed. These were The Model Standing Orders (how we run our council meetings) and The Model Financial Regulations (how we set budgets, manage risk, control finances)

The Council also agreed and adopted a formal IT policy covering UK regulations on Data Protection, safeguarding, access and use of IT resources.

Annual Parish Meeting

It was resolved that The Annual Parish Meeting will be on 14 April 2026 at 7pm, to be followed by the regular monthly Parish council meeting at 8pm

Village Maintenance, Planning and Community

An update on the new Village Hall noticeboard will be provided at the March meeting.

An allotment holder has asked about putting up a larger shed, more details were requested.

Plans are in place for the village litter pick on Saturday 28 February at 10am.

The daffodils along Apethorpe Road are starting to show, with the newly planted ones expected to flower next year.

Two streetlights need minor repairs; the parts are ready and the work will be done when the weather allows.

WPC responded to a planning satisfaction survey from Northamptonshire Council highlighting recent concerns that planning decisions do not appear to take account of local input

Notice was received that there would be a repeat of the Oundle 20, 10 and 5K running race event on Sunday 1st March and there will be some road closures in the surrounding area

WPC were notified that any issues with Roads, Footpaths, Rights of Way, Signage, etc should now be reported using the new North Northamptonshire Council Website under the Roads and Paths section instead of Fix My Street.

Next meeting Monday 2 March 2026, 8pm

Paul Blackmore - Chairman

St Mary's Church News

Services at St. Mary's Church Woodnewton March 2026

1st March – 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Modern Language)

8th March – No service at Woodnewton. Services at Nassington at 9.30 am and Yarwell at 11 am.

15th March – 9.30 a.m. Mothering Sunday Service

22nd March – 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion BCP (Traditional Language)

29th March – 10.00 a.m. BENEFICE SERVICE AT YARWELL – PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION AND SERVICE

Every Sunday 5.00 p.m. A Service at Home by ZOOM (phone or online). Log-in details from Rev. Jane (01780 782271 – jdtailby@aol.com)

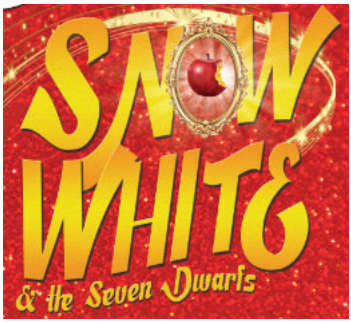
It may not seem that long since all the additional services around Christmas time (it certainly doesn't feel that long to me!) but by March we are firmly into the Lent season, with its own special services, and Easter celebrations to look forward to. You will see from our service schedule that we have a special Mothering Sunday Family Communion service on 15th March. All are welcome to join us to celebrate our mums, our families, whoever and where-ever 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! I have no doubt that there will be flowers as well!

We know, of course that Mothering Sunday (or Mother's Day) isn't an easy for many in our communities. There are those who have longed for children, those who have never been blessed by family life, and those who brieve the loss of a child, for whom this day can seem almost unbearable. This is a time to remember that not everyone shares the same celebrations, and perhaps a call to be sensitive to others and try to be aware when people aren't feeling as we are. On Mothering Sunday, 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 the our "mother church" and the ways in which God cares for us in that community and in that place. Our church is a place where we can bring our sorrows and struggles as well as our joys; God holds them all, and stands with us. Our church is a place for everyone, where we pray that everyone can find a sense of belonging and care.

As we think about Mothering Sunday this month, we can give thanks for all that brings us joy, whenever, whatever and whoever that is, give thanks for all the places where we feel we belong, and seek to be sensitive to the needs of those around.

With every blessing.

Revd. Jane



The Woodnewton News Cultural Correspondent reviews the Woodnewton Players Production

Hi ho, hi ho, off to the stage we go…. Christmas decorations are back in the loft, gym cards are already dusty and Easter eggs are on sale. So it must be – Panto time! Yes, the Woodnewton Players are back in town. Although if you're reading this and you didn't see the show, too late, you missed it. Better luck next year.

Debutante director Daisy did a wonderful job pulling the show together. It's great to see the Players taking sustainability so seriously, with recycled ghostie and ghoulie gags and well-worn wigs. But there's lots of new material too, and the show sparkled with brilliant bling, colourful costumes and silly songs. The humorous highlight was probably the ensemble number "If I were not in Pantomime," brilliantly choreographed and timed to perfection.



The troupe has been blessed with some fresh young talent, working alongside the tired old talent – but more about the Dame in a minute (Cheek!). Very encouraging to see the new recruits who looked completely at home on stage.

Never underestimate the hard graft (and swearing) that goes into the finished production. It might look and sound seamless (I said "might") but tireless toil goes on backstage: shifting scenes, passing props, closing curtains, mending makeup, igniting illuminations, supplying sounds and performing prompts. It's no mean feat getting seven dwarves, ranging from five feet nothing to about six feet two off the stage into a small space; the unlucky one last in the line had to smile and wave for ages. Talk about a long goodbye…



The seven dwarves have been given new personalities to prevent a Disney lawsuit, with some blatant excuses for anti-social antics: a constantly coughing Lurgy; a strategically



sleepy Snoozy who gets out of all the hard work, and Farty who – well it's self-explanatory really, and the whole cast did look genuinely surprised at times at the output. Hope he won't be type cast.

The rudely rambunctious Dame Nora Virus is an outrageously sharp dresser (see what I did there), impossibly impeded by Muddles and his wee bear (see what I did there too). Little wonder that the beautiful and buxom Snow White much prefers the beautiful and buxom Prince William (well, it is panto); their lyrical love songs are entertainingly interrupted by jolly japes with the Magic Mirror, personified by an egomaniacal walking talking glitter ball.



Able accompaniment is provided by the iconic Woodnewton Two, who also coach the cast, produce silly sound effects and arrange the musical numbers, hand-picked and suitably adapted. Honestly – "Filler Queen" – genius. "Like a Virgin" – hmm, dubious (Cheek!)



Hannah cast aside the casting couch this year and totally wowed with a Bond-villainesque Queen Secretia; her rendition of "Diamonds are for Ever" did Dame Shirley proud and was worth the entrance fee alone.

And so the curtain closes for another year and the Village Hall returns to normal. We don't know why Ian could only say "Ian," we never will and we don't care. That's Panto, "That's Entertainment" and we hope to see you all again next year.

What's On?



NASSINGTON HISTORY GROUP

Charles II and his Son

Sunday 22nd March

3pm - 5pm

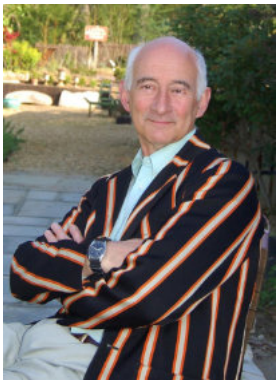
Venue: Nassington Village Hall

Learn about this most flamboyant of monarchs and the relationship he 'enjoyed' with his son the Duke of Monmouth.
Speaker Tim Wilson (aka Jude Morgan)

For further details contact
Karen Palenski (07957128462 or nassingtonhistory.com)

Entrance fee £5 (cash only please)
Refreshments Included

Cotterstock Welcomes Antiques Roadshow Expert Paul Atterbury

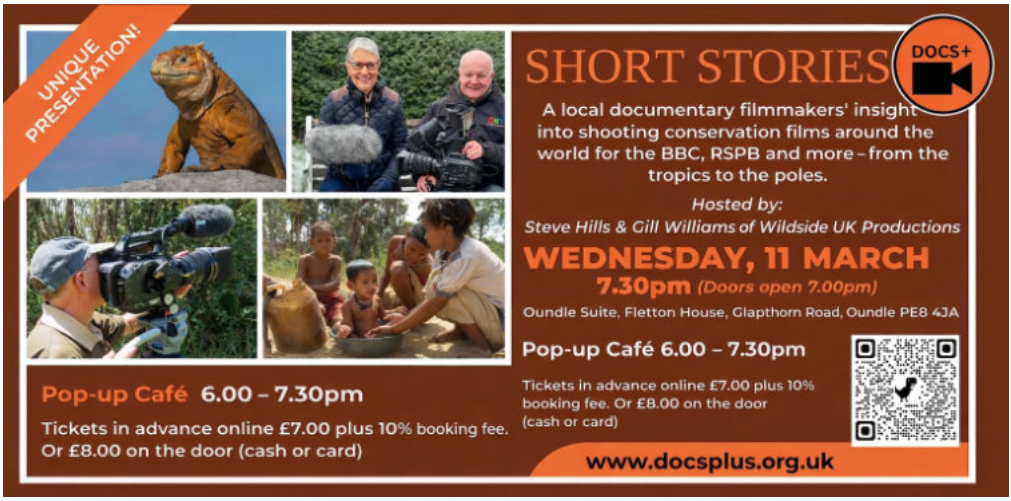


Are you a fan of the Antiques Roadshow? Then Cotterstock (PE8 5HD) is the place to be on Friday 17th April when Paul Atterbury, one of the experts on the Antiques Roadshow will be speaking about "A Life with Antiques" in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Known as a great raconteur, Paul's talk will reveal some of his many adventures in Britain and abroad, including two meetings with the late Queen Elizabeth II and will also give a fascinating peak behind the scenes of the beloved Antiques Roadshow.

Tickets go on sale on Monday 2 March and are available from Stu-Pots, Market Place, Oundle (cash only). They cost £15 per person including a complimentary glass of wine or juice and nibbles in the interval.

There will also be a raffle prize draw on the night with lovely prizes donated by local businesses. All the proceeds from this event will go to Dementia UK to directly fund the training of Admiral nurses in Northamptonshire.





FILM NIGHT

There will be a screening of 'Save the Cinema' at the village hall on Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm.

Save the Cinema is the story of Liz Evans from Carmarthen South West Wales, who starts a campaign in the 90s to save the local Lyric Cinema/ Theatre when threatened with demolition. She does everything in her power to keep it open. Her final idea in a bid to save the cinema is to get Steven Spielberg to show a premiere of Jurassic Park at the Lyric, but does it work? Come along to find out.

Admission £5. Please bring along your own drinks and nibbles.

Advertise Here

If you have a business, be it local, national or global and you want to reach the discerning residents of Woodnewton, why not place an advert in the Woodnewton News. Each issue is delivered to over 200 homes in the village 11 times a year. Our magazine is funded only by advertising and kind donations from individuals and village organisations. If you would like to be part of a very select group of advertisers in the finest village newsletter in Woodnewton them please email our advertising team at newswoodnewton@gmail.com.

What's On?

Come & Chat



The 'Come and Chat' mornings are usually held on the last Thursday of every month from 10.30 to midday, the next date for your diary is the 26 March 2026.

Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available for a donation of £1 and everyone is welcome to pop in.

This month we are pleased to have a member of the Oundle First Responders team giving a talk on their important work.

It's a good opportunity to meet with friends or to make new friends. If you are fairly new to the village do come along, you will be given a warm welcome.

Line Dancing Class



Woodnewton Village Hall every Monday 7-8pm

No experience necessary. The aim is to have fun and improve fitness along the way. No need to book. £4 a session. Ring/text/email Tasha for further details.

07789 230671 or nteall@btinternet.com

WOODNEWTON ART GROUP

The Woodnewton Art Group led by John Russell now has a Website at https://woodnewton25.wixsite.com/mysite**. You can also get to it via the homepage of the Woodnewton Hub:** http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk/

WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL



Notice of Annual Parish Meeting

Residents are warmly invited to attend The Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday 14th April at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

This is an opportunity for everyone in the village to meet your councillors and to share your own thoughts or suggestions for our community, as an extra incentive there may even be tea and biscuits available! The meeting will be followed by the regular April Parish Council meeting at 8:00pm.

Everyone is welcome — we look forward to seeing you there!**To raise any issues please contact the Parish Council: clerk@woodnewtonparish.gov.uk**

Useful Numbers and Information

Parish Council Clerk clerk@woodnewtonparish.gov.uk

Village Hall Booking Anne Hills 07399 359262
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
Wansford 01780 782342

Veterinary Surgeries Oundle 01832 273521
Yarwell 01780 783910

Newsletter & Website Contacts

Newsletter Team:

Grant Neville, Ann Galloway, Jane Martin, June Moore, Ivan Walker.

Advertising: Ivan Walker, Tel 01780 470438

Contributions: We are always happy to receive articles for publication. Please send articles by email whenever possible to newswoodnewton@gmail.com.

We prefer pictures in jpg format and hi resolution whenever possible.

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.

Website : http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk

Submissions for material to be hosted on the Woodnewton Hub website should be emailed to newswoodnewton@gmail.com.

Woodnewton Village Hall

Hall bookings may be made with Anne Hills on 07399 359262 or villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com.

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