



WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2019

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(see privacy policy)



Dear resident,

Our Autumn newsletter contains items on many seasonal events from Harvest time, through Remembrance Sunday to Christmas with plenty going on in our community. We hope to see you at many of the events mentioned.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

We are always so impressed by the huge numbers that join us on the Memorial Green on Remembrance Sunday each year. But, we need your help to continue this event. The police can no longer supply us with personnel to supervise the road closures and diversions necessary, so we need volunteers to come forward to stand at a number of key points from about 10.30am until the end of the Service, 11.30am at the very latest.

*Please get in touch with the
Town Clerk if you can help.*

We have also bought a new PA system for use in the community which we hope will enable everyone to hear what is going on at the Service on the Memorial Green. This needs setting up beforehand and you will be given full instructions if you can volunteer to help with this as well. For those who are new to the town, there is a Church Service at St Michaels at 9.45am followed by a parade down to the Memorial Green and the start of a short Service there at about 10.45am including laying of wreaths and the 2 minute silence at 11am.



NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

During the summer, we've had a new sound system installed, excellent for speaking and recorded music and we've upgraded our hearing loop system.

Our Toddler service on Thursday mornings has now been going for a year. We start at 9.30am with play, then songs, a story and prayers at 10.30am. That's followed by drinks and snacks and the children really enjoy the big space of the church building. It's a friendly group and we welcome new parents and carers, so do come along and

try us out: no charge but donations to cover the cost of refreshments are welcome.

Many local businesses and organisations are already involved in our Christmas Tree Festival, but it's not too late to join in, so get in touch if you want to add your decorated tree. All our Christmas services are detailed in the article on Christmas is Coming.

From **Rev Diana Young, Vicar**,
contact 07887296588 or
at: revdianayoung@gmail.com.

BEDFORDSHIRE LIEUTENANCY



EXTRACT FROM

PRESS RELEASE

Hundreds of people joined the Woburn Sands Band at a special event where they were presented with The Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the equivalent of an MBE for volunteer groups, was presented to Len Jenkins, Chairman of the Woburn Sands Band, by HM Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Helen Nellis, on Wednesday 4th September at The Christian Centre in Milton Keynes.



Over 200 people, including past and present band members, the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, local dignitaries, representatives from the local schools and other distinguished guests attended the presentation. Guests were treated to a performance from the youth band on arrival and, after the formal presentation which included a speech from the President/Chair of Trustees William Meads, the "A Band" put on a stunning performance with a selection of music from their very wide and varied repertoire.

Len Jenkins said: "We are truly honoured that the Woburn Sands Band has been recognised by HM The Queen and we thank the volunteers for their commitment over the years which has made this award possible".

After presenting the award, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Helen Nellis said "I was delighted for the Woburn Sands Band when they were awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. This is an amazing achievement and a true testament to the outstanding contribution this volunteer-led group have made within the community. It was a real pleasure to present the award to the group on behalf of HM The Queen and it was a delight to see the pride shared amongst the Band members. I offer my sincerest congratulations to all involved"



TOILET OR TRAFFIC WARDEN?

The Town Council has been considering the use and cost of the public toilet on the Memorial Green recently. Many years ago when a very ancient toilet block run by Milton Keynes Council was taken down from the Memorial Green, we had a new toilet installed at considerable expense, largely because the shops in the High Street felt a public toilet was needed. However, the cost of maintaining it is £13,000 per annum and we have been looking at alternative uses of that money. One of the main complaints of residents over the past few years has been illegal parking on double yellow lines and over staying parking limits on the High Street. Our allocated visits of a traffic warden from Milton Keynes Council are fairly limited

and we have considered hiring our own part time traffic warden to tackle this problem. The cost roughly equates to that of running the Public Toilet. We sought the views of the businesses in the High Street on this and the majority of responses came back in favour of replacing the toilet with an increased number of traffic warden visits so that spaces on the High Street may be more readily available for shoppers.

So, be warned: don't park on double yellow lines, don't park obstructing the pavement and adhere to time limits on High Street parking because there will soon be a traffic warden around far more often!

WOBURN SANDS FRUIT / VEG / PLANT GIVEAWAY & SCARECROW TRAIL

This new venture organised by Lorraine Hearn is on **Sunday 20th October** on Mowbray Green. We hate to see fruit and veg rotting on the ground when they could be filling someone's freezer. So, please bring along any spare produce, plants, cuttings and seeds to Mowbray Green and there will be stands for the display of all goods. Or come along to pick up the donations....all free!

A scarecrow trail will also run that day starting at Frosts Garden Centre at 11am. Residents, churches, businesses,

schools can all make a scarecrow...be as imaginative as you like.... and a prize will be available for the best one judged by Cllr Gill Brooke, Mayor of Woburn Sands. The route will weave through Wavendon, Parklands, Woburn Sands, Aspley Guise and Aspley Heath, depending where the scarecrows are to be found!

If you can donate produce or are going to make a scarecrow, please contact Lorraine on 07999 862705, or at Lorraine.hearn@btinternet.com.



WOBURN SANDS GARDEN COMPETITION

Once again, the standard of entries was high and the competition very generously supported by Frosts Garden Centre. Here are photos of the winners in each category and a full list is available on our website on the drop down list under Our Community.



*Front Garden 27
Hardwick Road*



*Back Garden
5 Badgers Holt*



*Hanging baskets
2 Club Lane*

Special Award and Community Awards went to Burlington Hall and The Friends of Woburn Sands Station.



Pressure of work has forced the resignation of the Chair of the Friends of Woburn Sands Station, Rob Allen, and we are grateful for his work in helping to establish this group.

More members are fairly urgently needed to join this small group whose aim is to enhance the station and its surrounds. ***Please contact Jacky on Jeffreys.j@talk21.com if you can help.*** It only involves quarterly meetings and being on the summer watering rota, if possible.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING.... dates for your diary

Many of you are aware of all the events which take place in Woburn Sands in the run up to Christmas each year, but for newcomers to our community and as a refresher to everyone else, here's just some of the main events for you to savour and enjoy:

We start with the **Annual Christmas Fayre** on **Sunday 24th November** from 1.00pm. Santa will be in town with quality gifts for those visiting him. The fun fair will occupy the High Street and numerous stalls selling refreshments, crafts and more will be in the Memorial Hall and on the pavement. The Woburn Sands Band will be playing and the town will be buzzing! This event always needs volunteers before and on the day and in particular to oversee the road closures. *If you can give just an hour to be on the rota, please contact Keith on kj_temple@hotmail.com.* The Christmas trees which are attached to the premises along the High Street have all been donated by Frosts Garden Centre in return for some free advertising space on leaflets. Profits from the day go towards the costs of the Christmas lights of the lamp posts (shared with the Town Council) and a donation this year will be made to Love Woburn Sands for the Community Transport project.

St Michael's, our parish church, is hosting the biennial **Christmas Tree Festival** from **Friday 6th to Sunday 8th December** when the church will be full of trees decorated by many of the organisations and clubs in our community. Do drop in to see the wonderfully innovative decorated trees.

Saturday 7th December, 10am-2pm, will see our **Christmas Community Market** with many festive goodies for sale in the High Street around the Institute and on the Memorial Green and no doubt some seasonal music.

At **4pm** on **Sunday 8th December** there will be a short **Christingle** service at St Michael's held amongst the Christmas trees and very suitable for small children as a creche and toys will be available.

The Woburn Sands Band will be performing at **The Stables on Sunday 8th Dec at 4pm** with a Concert for Christmas. Tickets on sale at The Stables Box Office 01908280280 or from Concert Secretary on 07790 454149 and ticket prices remain at £12 or £5 for 16-and-unders.

Another chance to see **Santa** is on **Saturday 14 December** when he will be riding up and down the Bletchley to Bedford railway on 6 different trains first train 9.59 from Bletchley, further times will be published on our website when known

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The traditional **Christmas Carol Service** will be at St Michael's at 6pm on **Sunday 15th December**.

Christmas Eve: 4pm Christingle Service at St Michael's. 7-8pm Woburn Sands Band play festive music and carols on Mowbray Green. this is a very popular occasion and you'll need a torch and perhaps a chair. There will be festive refreshments for sale. **11pm. St Michael's Midnight Service** at the Church.

Christmas Day: Family Communion Service at 9.45am at St Michael's.

SNIPPETS AND DATES

Calling all book lovers. Did you know that the library operates a number of local book groups? The maximum membership per group is 10 and the one which meets on the second **Tuesday of every month at 6pm** currently has a vacancy. Please contact the librarian or Jacky on Jeffreys.j@talk21.com for information.

A Defibrillator has been installed on the side wall of the Institute (The Library) facing Chapel Street. It can be used by anyone with a cardiac problem and has full instructions with it. It will measure the heart rhythm before allowing you to administer an electric shock. Prompt action can be a life saver and it is fully endorsed by Asplands Medical Centre. We are very grateful to local company Storm Solutions for sharing the costs of this with the Town Council. We hope to install a second defibrillator at the new sports hall when built next to the Summerlin Centre and if you feel able to contribute to funding this, please contact the Town Clerk

5th anniversary of our Community Market. It's difficult to believe it's been going so long! This started off as a Town Council venture and a local group established to run it quarterly on Sunday mornings. Now it is efficiently run by local business woman, Lynne, and is bi monthly and on a Saturday and expanding all the time. Make sure you pay it a visit on **12th October** when there will also be fun in the Methodist Chapel for children. The last one had to be cancelled due to the high winds forecasted, so let's hope for better weather this time. Put **7th December** in your diaries too as that's the date for the Christmas market with lots of seasonal goodies for sale.

Edgewick Farm Calendars are now on sale from Aubergines, Stripes and Greensands Vets. The photos, all taken on the farm by local people, are truly splendid (see cover photo), so grab yours quickly, and all profits go to the Friends of Edgewick Farm who work tirelessly to keep this area for everyone to enjoy.



Want a Pumpkin for Halloween? Buy yours from Woburn Sands Convenience Store in Station Road from mid October and in so doing help the charity Afghan Connection which raises money for education and sports projects in Afghanistan. All the pumpkins (and squashes) have been grown on our allotments and donated and all the profits go to the charity. Last year's sale raised £450 which went towards building a school for girls in a rural area of the country.



Well done the Summer Festival organisers: Their efforts raised £600 for each of two charities, The MacIntyre Homes and PTSD Resolution.....and hundreds of people enjoyed the day.

Off to university or starting an apprenticeship? Did you know small grants are available for students towards books and essential equipment if you live in Woburn Sands? See the Town Council website under the drop down list found by clicking on Our Community for all details.

Early diagnosis of prostate cancer saves lives. You can have a free blood sample taken at Windmill Hill Golf Course, MK3 7RB, between 10am and 1pm on Sunday 13th October to detect any sign of this disease. Don't let the opportunity pass, gentlemen. No need to book, just turn up. Donations appreciated.

Wanted: drivers for the Community Transport taxi. If you can spare some time to join the team of people who currently drive the Love WS Community taxi service, it would be greatly appreciated. You can offer regular or occasional help to transport people to appointments or social occasions when they would normally find that impossible. ***Please contact Angela Price on christiannews2@btinternet.com if you can help.***



Coffee mornings take place on the **1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month** in the Methodist Chapel to raise money for running the Community Taxi, so drop in there along with your Saturday morning shop.

Walk4Health continues every Wednesday. Meet at the carpark in Woburn opposite the Church and take a leisurely stroll for about an hour with about 20 other people through Woburn Abbey grounds with an optional coffee stop locally afterwards.

