



WOBURN SANDS
TOWN COUNCIL

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AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2023

www.woburnsands.org.uk
(see privacy policy)



Dear Resident,

We enter what is the longest period in our calendar without any bank holidays, although there is still a lot to celebrate. As life mellows into autumn, there is time to give thanks and reflect on how lucky we are to live in Woburn Sands, which is such a convivial and friendly place.

For all the young people who have started a new chapter in their life at college, or in a different school or year group – good luck, enjoy and make the most of the opportunities.

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NEWS ON SEMK

The most recent news from O&H properties, who have resubmitted their outline planning permission (22/02528/OUT), is that there is little change to the original documents. This land is nearest to Woburn Sands to the south of the railway line and just west of the town (immediately out of town on the Bow Brickhill Road). They have seemingly not cooperated with L&Q, the other main developer; are still calling the land 'Woburn-By-Bow South'(!) and are still insisting that it is not their role to design and secure planning permission for a bridge across the railway to join this development with that in the future north of the line (although a rough plan drawing has been submitted of one at Woodleys Crossing but with no details of funding). O&H's present plan is for traffic from the proposed 335 house to exit the development on the Bow Brickhill Road

with an unrestricted signalled junction, to the detriment of Woburn Sands. The Town Council will challenge these amended plans. There must be cooperation between the major developers. Residents will be able to read the response on the Town Council website.

EWR

At present EWR envisage the level crossing in Woburn Sands remaining open with fewer trains than originally planned. There are no moves at present to move the station – this is more likely to be in the hands of Milton Keynes City Council. However, the whole EWR project depends on the business plan EWR present to Central Government for the section from Bletchley to Cambridge. Watch this space – WSTC is a member of the EWR Parishes group of consultees, and will keep you posted.



WOBURN SANDS GARDEN COMPETITION 2023

Towards the end of July, several glorious gardens were entered for the competition under the theme of 'Gardening for the Birds and the Bees'. They were judged in various categories by three experts: Peter Newson from Frosts Garden Centre, Janet Greenwood and Peter Skelton. The categories and results were:

	First	Second	Third
Baskets & Containers	22 Maple Grove Tim & Joanne Anstee	1 Tavistock Close Lisa Glowacki	38 Wood Street Valerie Lindsay
Back Garden	8 The Leys Mary Davies	67 Elm Grove Greg Leadbeater	38 Wood Street Valerie Lindsay
Front Garden	75 Elm Grove Steve & Pauline Anstee	59 Drayhorse Crescent Susan Joseph	11 Elm Grove Iris Ward
Community Garden	Shelton Court	Swallowfield Busy Bees station garden.	

As usual the standard was very high and only separated by a mere grain of soil! Congratulations to the winners and to everyone else who entered. Many thanks to the judges for their time and diligence in assessing the gardens, and for Frosts Garden Centre for sponsoring the competition. A full account of the gardens can be found on the Town Council web site.

So that you can think ahead, next year's theme will be 'I can see a Rainbow'. Do start planning your garden now to make the 2024 entries in July the biggest and best.

a selection of photos from the winning gardens and prize giving



EDGWICK FARM NEWS

The barn at Edgewick Farm, which used to be the old milking shed, was reroofed last year – made possible by several generous donations including one from Mr William Considine, who grew up and lived in Woburn Sands. He is pictured here outside the barn when he visited a few weeks ago to see what a magnificent job had been made of the project. He is accompanied by Val Russell, the chair of the Edgewick Farm volunteers. Anyone can volunteer to work on the various projects on the farm. The volunteers meet in the morning of the first Sunday of the month up at the barn. Everyone of all ages will be most welcome. Equipment, tools, good company, humour and friendship are offered free of charge!



ANGLIA WATER

By the end of September, we should have seen the end of the disruption caused by the pipelaying activities of Anglia Water in Newport Road, Cranfield Road and Weathercock Lane. Thank you to all who live there and the rest of the town for your forbearance during this time. Anglia Water used The Recreation Ground for their base and are reinstating the land so that it can once again be used as a safe play area....



then all can enjoy the new facilities and we can carry on rejuvenating the rest of it.



BANK HOLIDAY HEROES

Woburn Sands wouldn't be 'The Sands' without its community spirit and activities. So it proved to be over the August Bank Holiday. The events ranged from the Scarecrow Trail magnificently organised by Lorraine Hearn; the multi-faceted Music Festival at six different venues led by Gill Brooke and her hardworking team; the Annual Woburn Sands Band fete and concert led by Len Jenkins on Mowbray Green. Then the many gardeners who create colour and wildlife refuges around the town were thanked.



NEWS FROM WOBURN SANDS LIBRARY

A Busy Summer at the Library

Summer 2023 has certainly felt like the busiest yet at the library. July saw 45 new library memberships. In addition to our routine services, we have been able to offer craft sessions for our younger visitors. Six of our eight workshops have only been made possible by the generous support of the Woburn Sands Town Council who funded tutors to give children opportunities to have some creative fun in our lovely space.



Some of the many positive comments on our feedback forms: ‘Lovely event, our son really enjoyed the art session thank you!’ ‘ I thought it was lovely to be able to be creative in a lovely library’, ‘Brilliant workshop – allowing

the chance to try new techniques ... well organised’ ‘Kept the children engaged. They had lots of fun’, ‘Wonderful welcome, very engaging activity...’



Some of the 45 new library members in July joined the library because they wanted to take part in the annual ‘Summer Reading Challenge’ which our group of libraries run in order to help keep children reading over their school holiday. However, without the enthusiasm of our dedicated Town Council volunteers this initiative would fall flat. Volunteers are here running the library at least half of each week and the arrangement works so well only because they are working as one with staff to give a coherent and seamless service. And they have been doing this for nine years now, bringing experience, energy and personality to enhance our lovely library.



NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Here are a few events coming up in the Autumn at St Michael's:

On Saturday 23 September we'll be holding our **annual Gift Day Fair** and table top sale in the Ellen Pettit Memorial Hall from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon. There will be refreshments available, and it's always a good time to catch up with people.

Sunday 1 October at 3.00 p.m. will be our **Harvest Festival**, followed by a Harvest Tea in St Michael's Church. The service will be led by our Genesis Youth group and young people from the Woburn Sands Churches Together Holiday Club. There will be a collection of food for the Milton Keynes Food Bank at this service.

On Sunday 29 October at 4.00 p.m. we'll be holding our **'In Loving Memory' Service**. This is a quiet reflective service where we light candles and remember those we have loved and lost.

This year, **Remembrance Sunday** falls on Sunday 12 November. As usual we will be holding a service of Remembrance in St Michael's Church at 9.45 a.m. with our uniformed organisations in attendance. Woburn Sands Band will then lead us down from

St Michael's Church the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance.

Details of the rest of our services and other activities can be found on our website www.stmichaelsws.org.uk or our Facebook Page – St Michael's Church Woburn Sands. We welcome you all to join us.

With my prayers for us all and for our community.

Rev'd Diana Young

The Woburn Sands Band

'tis the Season...

The 69th concert in
The Drakelee Series

A concert of seasonal brass band music
with soloists from the band

Sunday December 3rd 2023 at 4pm

The Stables Theatre, Wavendon, MK17 8LU
Tickets: Adults £12 (18 and under £5)
Available from: 07790 454149
or the stables box office: 01908 280800

Registered charity 286275



SNIPPETS

Marston Vale Line Train Service restarting towards the end of October.

Following a significant period of being 'trainless', Woburn Sands will once again reverberate to the sounds of trains on the Marston Vale line and the level crossing gates being lowered. At first, while crews are being trained for the new trains, the service will be peak hours only with bus replacements still running in between, but in the New Year it is envisaged that a full train service will resume. Look out for notices and posts on the Town Council Facebook page and Web site.

Remembrance Day Sunday 12th November

The people of Woburn Sands have always turned out in force for this moving event at Memorial Green. Everyone is welcome. Following the Church Service and Parade The Act of Remembrance will be about 10.45am at the Memorial Green by the War Memorial This will include 2 minutes silence to honour the dead of the two World Wars and other more recent conflicts.

Roads into the High Street and the roundabouts will be closed from 10.40am. We will need a few volunteers on the day, please contact the Town Clerk if you can help.

Sunday 26th November: Christmas Fayre and Christmas lights

Once again, the bustling Christmas Fayre is back on the High Street in the afternoon of the 26th, along with the lights switch on at 4.30pm. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine; the chance to win a raffle prize; a chat with friends; watch the enjoyment of those experiencing the funfair rides; buy those quirky Christmas presents at the many stalls and sample delicious street food. Father Christmas will once again be in the library grotto. What could be more fun!

However, it only takes place because residents give up their time to help. It's always great to get involved and volunteer for a variety of tasks. New volunteers are always needed and welcomed. On the morning of Sunday 19th in the Memorial Hall they will dress the small Christmas trees that adorn the High Street buildings, and then climb ladders to erect them. These little trees have been part of the Christmas scene in Woburn Sands for years, so please help to make it possible again this year. Then on Sunday 26th volunteers are also needed to steward and control the traffic throughout the afternoon. Please contact the Christmas Fayre Committee on: **woburnsandschristmasfayre@gmail.com**

4pm Sunday 3rd December Woburn Sands Band Christmas Concert at The Stables

see page 7 for poster

