

THE

WELFORD BUGLE

Issue No 284 Next 'Copy' Deadline
December 2021 21 January 2022



Sunday 19th December 2021

4.00 - 7.00pm



- Maps available **inside Pre-school from 4.00 to 6.30pm.**
- Buy a map and raffle ticket bundle for **£5** and then go and discover all the festive window displays around the village.
- Mulled wine and hot chocolate will be available to take away, for a donation. If you can, please bring your own travel mug to cut down on waste.
- All monies raised will help fund a new sensory corner at Pre-school.

If you would like to include your window on this year's trail, please contact Ellen Worrell :
ellenkatherineworrell@gmail.com, 07857 019775

COME AND SING CAROLS IN THE PARK

Last year many of you turned up in the park (now the playing field) to sing carols on Christmas Eve, a change from the 60-year-old tradition of gathering in St Mary's. Then we were confident that, in December 2021, the pandemic that had affected our lives so adversely throughout 2020 would be a distant memory. Alas this is not so. Although we are not banned from gathering in church, for a variety of reasons, some pandemic-related, some personal, this year we are again planning to 'Come and Sing' in the Park, with the Community Centre providing cover for the keyboard. In this way we are combining carol singing around the village and Come and Sing carols whilst avoiding singing in close proximity in an enclosed space, something still considered a risky activity because of possible transmission of Covid through airborne droplets (at rehearsals and concerts choirs are still required to maintain social distancing when singing). So pray for good weather, wrap up warm, bring torches and spare change so you can donate generously to our Christmas charities (The Children's Society and The Cynthia Spencer Hospice) and join us outside the Community Centre at 7.30pm on Christmas Eve. The lyrics to the carols will be accessible via QR code for those with a mobile device, but some hard copies will also be available. If you would like to access the lyrics in advance, you can find them here: <https://bit.ly/welfordcarols2021> (N.B. and if you have no spare change/are unable to join us on Christmas Eve, but would still like to make a donation, you can do so at: justgiving.com/team/WCASC2021 Or contact us for further details on 575269 or email annbarracough@hotmail.com).

Ann and Alan Barracough

You can also read the Bugle online at: <https://www.welfordvillage.org.uk/>



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

POLICE: 101 or 999

STREET DOCTOR: 0300 126 1000, (select option 4)

'Copy' and advertisements for the next Bugle should be sent to: welfordbugle@outlook.com
Or directly to Sheila Scullion, 32 Wakefield Drive, Tel: 575784, Andrew Parsons, 2 Northampton Rd, 571258
John Nicholas, 25 High Street, Tel: 575422 Susie Bevin, West End Farm, Tel: 575226
TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN THE 'COPY' DEADLINE MENTIONED ABOVE

Advertisements and Donations handled by Andrew Parsons, 2 Northampton Rd, 571258, welfordbugle@outlook.com

Notes from Welford Parish Council

- Now that the nights have drawn in, dogs fouling on the streets has increased. Please be a considerate dog owner and pick up the poop, there are plenty of bins around the village to deposit the bags in. The Playing Field is for the children to play safely in and dogs should be kept out of that area, it has been brought to the Council's attention that dog fouling takes place on the Playing Field, it is a health hazard to users.
- The bus shelter in West Street has some book shelves to enable residents to obtain books and also leave them for others to enjoy. Once the shelves are full, no books should be left there as some people have taken to leaving items on the floor of the bus shelter. A number of recycling boxes have also been placed inside the shelter, no other recycling items other than those boxes should be left, DVDs were left recently and have been removed.
- The next meeting of the Parish Council is taking place on Thursday 9th December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, West Street. The Councillors will be discussing the grass cutting contract for the village and budget setting for 2022/23. All residents are welcome and if you have thought about helping the village and becoming a Councillor, why not come along and see what the Council does. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the village website www.welfordvillage.org.uk and outside the Village Hall.

Ian Kelly, Clerk to the Parish Council

I would like to thank most sincerely those who give so much of their time caring for the elderly in Welford, whether it be at monthly coffee mornings at the village hall, lunches at the community centre and so many others.

These are much appreciated and gives an opportunity to those who live alone to meet and greet others.

Pastor Barrie Woodward + Mary



Calling all Welford Wombles

We know of several keen litter pickers in the village and we thought it would be prudent for us to all co-ordinate our efforts to ensure the entire village is being covered on a regular basis. Please get in touch with us if you'd like to be part of the Welford Wombles. greenwelford@gmail.com




Donations


The Bugle is dependent upon the kind generosity of its donors and advertisers to cover the costs of producing the Bugle. In order to make best use of the donations received we recognise them here. The editorial committee would like to thank the following people for their donations to help keep the Bugle bugling:

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HOLLY ILEX AQUIFOLIUM

'Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the Crown'

Our tradition of bringing evergreens into our homes at Christmas dates back to the Druids, Celts and Romans. They believed that as the leaves were never shed, the arrival of spring would be assured.

Christianity adopted holly to represent Christ's crown of thorns; the bright red berries representing Christ's blood and evergreen a symbol of eternal life.



In relatively recent times, holly was used to feed livestock—particularly sheep - during winter as holly has one of the highest calorific contents of leaves grazed by stock and is packed full of nutrients.

The wood is dense and particularly light in colour and has been prized by cabinet makers since Elizabethan times. Indeed, Karl Fabergé, the famed jeweller to the Russian court, chose predominantly holly for the boxes to house his exquisitely made eggs. Holly was used to make whips, and even cotton bobbins for the Lancashire mills.

A more prosaic use has been to tie branches of holly to a rope to raise and lower in chimneys to sweep away soot.

The holly tree is the UK's most common native evergreen. The berries are only found on female trees and contrary to popular belief, a tree laden with berries is not a sign of a hard winter to come, but a good preceding spring.

At this time of year, a flock of redwings will very soon strip away all the berries, but many birds and insects are supported by the holly. Most notable being the native holly blue butterfly, one of our prettiest butterflies. A holly can be grown as a stand alone tree or is very useful as a dense hedge which song thrushes like to nest in.



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Spurred on by the success of Great Big Green Week, the team behind September's events have transformed themselves into Green Welford. Chaired by Jules Bennett and ably supported by Secretary Hannah Bedard, Treasurer Ellen Worrell, and committee members Bill Wright and Steven Bates, the group have many things up their sleeves to help Welfordians live that little bit more sustainably. Below is a short summary of our latest endeavours but if you want to get involved, please contact us at: greenwelford@gmail.com

Recycling Round-Up

The Parish Council has kindly agreed for the Green Welford group to host 5 recycling bins in the bus shelter on West Street for a trial period. The group are coordinating efforts with Sustainable Sibbertoft to collect some specific items that are not easily recycled by our normal local authority collection.

Please only deposit the items listed as the onward collection may be rejected by the recycling agent if it is thought to be 'contaminated'. **Please do not use the bus shelter to leave other items not listed.**

Here's the list of items, one box for each category.

Medicine Blister Packs – Any make or brand of empty medicine blister pack. Please remove any pills before depositing in the collection box.

Contact Lenses – Any brand of soft, disposable contact lenses, plus contact lens blister packs and foil from those blister packs.

Snack Packaging – The packaging from any brand of crisps, nuts, popcorn and pretzels including the multi-pack packaging.

Oral Care - Any brand of toothbrush (including the heads from electric toothbrushes) and the tubes of any brand of toothpaste. Also the toothpaste cartons and toothbrush packaging.

Personal Care – Any brand of the following: lipsticks, lip glosses/balms, flexible packaging from facial cleansing wipes, eye shadow compacts, mascara tubes and wands, lip and cheek highlighter and bronzer sticks, flexible plastic and metallic plastic tubes used for body creams, ointments or moisturisers.

The existing collection point for contact lenses, opposite the shop, and the one for blister packs at 12 Newlands Road, have proved to be very popular and will remain for the time being.

The collection boxes will be looked at daily and full boxes will be taken for recycling by volunteers and members of the Green Welford group



Sustainability

At the September exhibition we asked for the things you want and need from decision makers so that we can be more sustainable in Welford. We have passed your feedback to Chris Heaton-Harris MP, the CEO of West Northants Unitary Authority, the three county councillors and the Parish Council. The local items were discussed at the last Parish Council meeting and details are given in their latest report.

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Christmas and New Year Tables

Christmas is coming, and this year (hopefully!) the family will be allowed to come round and visit, but where are you going to sit them all for that special Christmas or New Year meal?

Well, this year we think we may have the answer - hire one of the Village Hall's large tables (1830mm x 765mm) for a small fee of £10 over the Christmas or New Year period. You can book a table by emailing Chris Brown, the Treasurer, at chrisbrown55@hotmail.co.uk or call him on 575494.

Payments will need to be received by no later than Wednesday 23rd December, and the Tables will be ready for collection from the Village Hall on Christmas Eve between 10:00am and 11:00am, They should be returned, in the same condition as they left, between 10:00am and 11:00am on Wednesday 29th December.

New Year tables will also have to be paid for by Wednesday 23rd December and will be ready for collection between 10:00am and 11:00am on New Year's Eve. They should be returned between 10:00am and 11:00am on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the Village Hall's regular and not so regular users.

NEW GROUP

Come along to the Billiards Room (Village Hall) on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (7-8.30 pm) to learn how to make your clothes last longer.

Other menders will share their skills, helping you to sew, darn and patch those pesky clothes.

No experience necessary.

Starting Tuesday 11th January 2022

To help cover costs, there is a suggested donation of £2 (inc. tea/coffee)

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-- Christmas Break--

Friday 7th January

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Nature Notes

It was a long, slow November, warm but dull for most of the month, but going out with a flourish of frost, wind and snow. The countryside looks really green as the new sown crops have thrived in the conditions. Talking to farmers, they are happy with that but there is much talk of the high price of fertiliser, and how to grow oil seed rape successfully without the forbidden neonicotinoid sprays. Agronomists are working hard to develop more eco friendly methods.

The lamb trade continues high, which is lucky for those of us whose farms are largely down to grass.

The autumn colours were slow to appear, but have been glorious, both in sunshine and glowing through the mist of the many dull days. I don't think one is ever too old to scrunch through leaves, or to admire the patterns they make on the ground when they fall.

Despite the bad press for wood burners we are enjoying the long evenings with the warmth and company of living flames, and I've got out my knitting again - I never seem to want to knit until the clocks change.

Our huge vegetable garden is becoming too much work, so we have a plan to make the larger part into an orchard, so have orders 9 trees, apples, pears, plums and a quince. This goes with the trend of planting trees for the environment and for the Queen's platinum jubilee. I have visions of blossom in years to come, and hopefully fruit before too long. We've been enjoying apples others in the village have put out for us to share.

Some holly with berries is safely in the shed in water and the pigeons are feasting on the rest. Christmas is well on its way. What these strange weather patterns will bring for the rest of the winter we shall have to wait and see!

Susie Bevin

Good Neighbours - Tuesday December 7th



Our Christmas coffee morning will feature Greens Country Kitchen, selling mince pies, shortbread, mincemeat, chutneys and preserves etc. We will also be drawing Betty's Christmas Hamper in aid of PSP. If you can't make the coffee morning and would like tickets, call Jane Cottrell on 575549 or drop by 38 High Street.

Our usual books (£1) and jigsaws (£2) will also be on sale. We will be serving tea, coffee, biscuits and mince pies - £1. Table service again and bring your own mug if you prefer.

We look forward to seeing you. All are welcome.



Thank you so much for the generous donations to the Poppy Appeal last month. Good Neighbours collected £101.85.

Jane, Sue & the Team



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BELL RINGING PRACTICE :



1st. and 3rd. Monday each month, 7.30pm. to 9.00pm.

New ringers always welcome.

For many years now we have given a donation to charity instead of giving Christmas cards to people we will see over the festive season. We will be giving a donation to the same charity this year and would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in Welford a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, safe New Year.

Ian and Sheila Elmes

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

At this time we are thinking of friends in Welford and wishing you all A Very Happy Christmas and cracking New Year
From Jeff and Helen Woolley



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food service will be the same as our
takeaway service times.

Takeaways will not be affected

All pending government guidelines

Many thanks for your continued support.

November in the garden

A perfect time to collect leaves for your compost bin, relocate dormant plants and divide vigorous perennials. Try and find some winter colour with hardy chrysanthemum, pansies, cyclamen, and evergreen shrubs. Also enjoy planning your Spring displays whether it's a potted bulb lasagne or pushing groups of crocus and snowdrops into your lawn.

Flowers

- Lift and store dahlia, begonia, and gladioli. Remove the foliage and leave to dry out for a while, knock off any soil and store in dry sand or soil over winter.
- Protect roses from wind rock by cutting them to one third their height.
- Also remove debris and fallen leaves from the roses base to deter blackspot.
- Mulch perennials to protect from winter weather.
- Raise pots on feet or bricks to prevent waterlogging.

Vegetables

- Sow green manure or spread manure on beds to improve structure and fertility.
- Improve a bed with organic matter for overwintering garlic.
- Now is the perfect time to prepare a perennial veg bed for rhubarb and asparagus crowns.
- Sow peas and sweet peas, protect in a greenhouse or cold frame.
- Cut back strawberries, taking off runners and weeding between the plants.

Trees

- Now is the best time to plant bare root trees and hedges. Check the growth heights and research species that can benefit wildlife like crab apple, rowan, birch or hazel.
- Apply grease bands to your fruit trees to prevent winter moth infestations in Spring.
- Prune apple and pear trees up until Feb – Leave plum tree pruning until midsummer to prevent silver leaf fungus.

Lawn Maintenance

- Clear fallen leaves
- Aerate your lawn by inserting a garden fork at regular intervals to let water and air circulate. Brush sharp sand into the holes to improve drainage.
- Give it a last cut, setting your mower blades high.
- Edge your lawn now and enjoy a neat appearance all winter.

Wildlife

- Clean bird feeders and baths and keep them topped up.
- Clean out nest boxes so birds can take shelter.
- Hedgehogs nest Oct/Nov but can sometimes be seen walking between nest sites.

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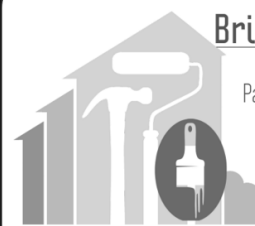
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The long weekend of **3-5 June 2022** will be the official celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and we hope that Welford will celebrate in style.

Some of the abandoned VE Day arrangements have been resurrected, including a dinner dance in a marquee on the Playing Field on Friday 3 June.

There's plenty of scope to organise memorable activities for the other days and the small organising group would like to hear from you or your village organisation if you have suggestions or would like to get involved. We're particularly keen to make sure that the weekend is a memorable occasion for children and young people.

Please contact Bill Wright (wright22@skynet.co.uk), 575 795.



The Queen's Green Canopy

A unique tree planting initiative across the UK to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

"Plant a Tree for the Jubilee"

This exciting and timely initiative is being led, in Welford, by Saint Mary's Church, which plans to plant eight trees on the boundary of the graveyard extension. The choice of site is intended to compliment the somewhat bleak nature of the area with the magnificent countryside beyond.

We hope that a number of organisations may like to be involved, perhaps by sponsoring one of the trees.

We will be writing to many of the village organisations in the near future, but if you would like further information, please contact Gordon Ball at gordonball1953@gmail.com or visit <https://queensgreencanopy.org>



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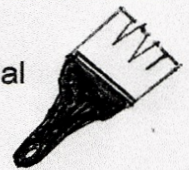
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David Goodfellow has kindly let us have another photo of the same event as Ted Butlin gave us for the last Bugle. He thinks it was taken in 1952 or 53. Someone has suggested that it may have been a Foresters Dinner, as there was a branch of Foresters in the village. Their uniforms were kept at the Shoulder of Mutton and they did parades every year. Can anyone remember any details or indeed confirm that this is what the photograph depicts. The only villagers recognized in this picture are Jack Swingler, right front and Bob Cook left front. Does anyone recognize any of the others?

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Churchyard Mowing

Thank you so much to all those who have been on the rota to mow the churchyard extension. The old guard has been joined by some new members and they have been amazing. The graves have looked very proud amongst the closely cut grass and visitors have commented on how well-cared for the area is.

Happy Christmas and I hope you are pleased with your contribution to our village. We are!

John and Sue Nicholas



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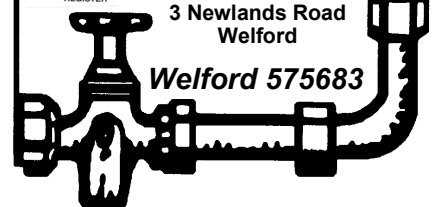
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Email: kaslsmith64@outlook.com

The Welford Masters
Golf Day 2021
Wednesday 29th December
from 10.a.m. at Kilworth
Springs.

Here is your chance to have your name in Welford's golfing history! All we ask is that you have your own golf clubs and shoes and a FAIR assessment of your handicap. Cost is £35.00 to non - Kilworth Springs members but that does include a free coffee and bacon bap before you start and a fine array of prizes with a bottle of wine for the nearest the pin on all the par 3's, the Master's Shield to the best Welfordian and of course the coveted Yellow Jacket signed by all the previous winners for the overall winner.

There will be a team game and the individual so if you would like to try your luck contact John Nicholas on 575422 or email john.nick@btopenworld.com and book your place. There is only room for 32 players, so first come first served. Go on give it a go, it would be nice to see a few more Welford players in the field.

Dad's Army

For those of us lucky enough to get tickets the return of WADs was a joyous occasion. We all sat at tables of 4, socially distant but feeling very sociable. Snacks and drinks were available, and the waitresses were in suitable 1940's wrap around pinnies. We waited for the curtain to go up and the fun to begin, and we were not disappointed. The first episode involved the ladies of Warmington-on-Sea being interviewed in a recruitment drive to help in the war effort, and the opportunity for comedy was immediate in the interchanges between Captain Mainwaring, excellently and enthusiastically portrayed by Mike Tanser, and Sergeant Wilson, his perfect foil in the person of Alastair Dunn. The ladies all had cameo appearances and were all completely different personalities, and we enjoyed meeting Denise Bott-Mrs Pike, Hilary Whorton-Mrs Fox, Stacy Hall-Mrs Gray, Georgia Bennett, Sian Bates, Helena Doncaster, Cherry Whiskin and Joolz Deacon as they were assessed for their suitability for the task. Their costumes were superb in demonstrating their status in the community and the hilarity of the situation had us all laughing. But, there was a more touching scenario when the Captain fell for Mrs Gray. They met in the local cafe and formed a bond which was ended in a rather Brief Encounter manner when Mrs Gray decided that people were talking and she should leave. There was a scene of real poignancy at the station as she caught her train.

Of course the stories have always centred around the male members of the Home Guard, and we are so familiar with them through the television series that we wondered how they would be represented by people we know. They were all there, David Hobson as Jones, who was always a beat behind when the drill orders were given, Chris Sheldrick made sure we all doomed as Frazer, Julian Howell-Jones was a wonderfully self effacing Godfrey, Thomas Whorton and his huge scarf was an excellent Pike, and Neil Kitson portrayed the wide boy Walker with enthusiasm. The episode was the one where the platoon have to guard the captured U-Boat crew, and Bob Finch was the scheming captain with his crew of George Cottrell, Chris Brown, Jack Hobson, Leah Hobson and Lydia Finch. Of course the Germans nearly get away, and the scene includes the immortal line when Pike is asked for his name "Don't tell him Pike". It raises a laugh however often one hears it.

Of course so much depends on the behind the scenes work, and the scenery, props, costumes and lighting and sound all contributed to the period authenticity of the evening, as did George Cottrell's Ukulele playing. Madeline Howell-Jones directed an evening that made us laugh wholeheartedly, and that was the best medicine for us all. Thank you WADS.

Susie Bevin



WELFORD RAINFALL IN MILLIMETRES



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
JAN	41.5	46.5	58.0	119.0	59.5	81.0	59.0	68.0	26.0	51.5	117.5
FEB	54.0	23.5	42.0	74.0	41.0	43.0	59.5	29.0	31.0	121.0	47.0
MAR	7.5	27.0	62.0	43.5	27.0	78.5	54.0	166.5	55.5	35.5	46.0
APR	5.5	155.0	22.5	31.0	25.5	50.0	10.5	65.0	15.0	35.0	9.0
MAY	31.5	55.5	75.5	109.0	54.0	45.0	80.0	85.0	46.5	10.0	141.0
JUN	59.0	135.5	41.5	69.0	26.0	77.5	52.0	1.0	148.5	66.0	43.5
JUL	41.0	99.0	92.0	31.0	81.5	19.0	71.0	14.5	125.0	63.0	59.5
AUG	53.0	94.5	51.0	95.5	53.0	56.0	78.5	52.5	79.0	140.0	40.0
SEP	20.0	51.5	26.0	8.0	50.5	45.0	79.0	36.0	89.0	28.5	50.0
OCT	35.5	72.0	113.0	73.0	60.0	35.0	21.5	46.0	153.0	153.0	84.0
NOV	36.0	127.5	39.5	82.0	65.0	79.5	44.0	40.5	132.0	62.0	
DEC	64.5	135.5	51.5	54.0	75.0	24.0	100.5	67.5	100.0	139.0	
TOT	449.0	1,023.0	674.5	789.0	618.0	633.5	709.5	671.5	1,000.5	904.5	637.5

Minimum for a particular month

Maximum for a particular month

FLAGS

DECEMBER 2021

25th Christmas 12 days

JANUARY 2022

9th Duchess of Cambridge

20th Countess of Wessex

FEBRUARY 2022

6th Queens Assession

19th Duke of York



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WELFORD ON THE WEB

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WELFORD W.I.



OCTOBER MEETING

President Denise Cattell welcome 23 members and 2 guests to the Village Hall or on zoom. The October meeting is also the AGM and for that reason the meeting started with a talk by one of the founders of The Lewis Foundation, Lorraine Lewis. With the mother-in-law having to have extended stays in a more distant hospital for essential cancer treatment, they found that the small things, hand cream body lotion, magazines, to mention but a few, if not brought in by families who, because of distance and work commitments could not visit as often as they wished, were very expensive to purchase on site and not even always available. Their experience led them to create the Foundation, which just five years later, now provides gifts for those having to undergo cancer treatment. President Denise herself, and others in Welford, have greatly appreciated the difference the work of this charity made to them. Lorraine was presented with a cheque for £536.40 and an excellent and varied selection of potential gifts were supplied by members.

The ordinary business of the meeting continued, whilst tea and cake was served. Members were invited to add their names to a list of those wishing to go for a lunch in November and were advised of the varied events being planned for the autumn by the county federation.

The business of the meeting then moved to the AGM. Secretary Jane Cottrell read the minutes of the last AGM (October 2019). Treasurer Sue Brotherton gave the financial report and advised Welford WI were weathering the storm that is COVID19. Jane gave the Secretaries report for the year and it was noted that, despite lockdown, a good variety of things had been done by and for the members. President Denise then gave her report on the year in which she commented on how the Presidency, commencing just months before COVID struck, had not been as she had been led to expect. She thanked her committee and the members for all their support and understanding. Denise Bott thanked Denise and Jane for all their work and expressed the appreciation of the members for their efforts, many of them deemed over and above what would normally have been expected. Special mention was made of the weekly newsletter created and edited by Jane Cottrell with backup from Denise C. It has been a lockdown initiative much envied by other Wis.

The winners of the competition for a reusable shopping bag, run by Denise Bott, was won by Sue Lees with Pippa Lucas 2nd and 3rd Julie Cromack. The raffle, organised by Jean Baker, was won by Sue Brotherton, Christine O'Reilly and Julie Newman. The speaker next month is Jane Issac, a local crime author.

AT

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting, attended by 27 members (one on zoom) and one guest, was presided over by Denise Cattell. She reminded members to bring their (filled) Advent jars to the next meeting. They would be swapped with others to provide a new 'calendar' for 2021. She also reminded members to keep the forthcoming issue of WI Life as it will contain the 2022 Resolutions voting form. Christine O'Reilly circulated the list and menu for the lunch 17 November at The Bull's Head, Clipston and, as the new outings secretary, also circulated a list of County events occurring over the coming weeks. Denise C read out the list of committee members and their posts.

The speaker, Jane Isaac, is an author of a number of crime thrillers – all published in paper, audible and electronic format. She told us something of her personal history and gave a background into the time-consuming process of actually getting a book published. Her talk was well delivered, very entertaining and informative.

The competition, organised by Sue Brotherton, for the 'Title of a Thriller set in Welford' was won by Julie Newman, 2nd Jane Cottrell and 3rd Sue Brotherton. The raffle was won by Julie Cromack, Nicky White and Jenny Rogers.

The December meeting will be a Carol Service (members only, please) and be held in the Chapel.

AT



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Wartime Welford

The Church During the War—Vera McAlister

On Sunday morning, September 3rd 1939, the Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, informed the nation that Britain was at war with Germany. A messenger brought the news into this church, interrupting morning service. The Reverend Woodhouse informed the congregation. After a few short prayers, the service was brought to a close and we returned home with heavy hearts to face whatever the future might bring. At six o'clock that evening, His Majesty King George VI broadcast to the Empire and on November 11th Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth broadcast to the women of the Empire.

Here, the first practical task to cope with was the blackout. Blackout regulations came into force immediately. Air-raid wardens patrolled the streets to ensure that not a chink of light was seen. Although clocks were not put back, and Double Summer Time was the norm in the summer months, winter months were a problem. Evensong was brought forward to 3:30 pm. Yards of black material were purchased and the ladies made long curtains for the windows and doorways. After the war I believe these curtains were made into choir robes, so all was not wasted!

After Dunkirk, the threat of invasion was very real. The church bells were silenced, only to be rung as a warning of invasion. At Christmas the midnight service was held with the minimum of light, only candles and torches being used. With increasing fuel shortages there was little or no heating. So we all brought out hot water bottles and the services were kept as short as possible, which meant that the congregation no longer had to listen to lengthy sermons, a policy that probably the vicar enjoyed too!

In June 1940 the 4th Hussars arrived and took over the village. They commandeered the big houses and troops were billeted in every available empty property – amongst these were Randolph Churchill, and the not yet well known Dad's Army actors Clive Dunn and John Le Mesurier. Tanks and lorries were soon rumbling up and down the streets. This regiment was soon followed by the Highland Light Infantry and the Worcesters, a newly-formed regiment who did their training here in readiness for the Second Front. Compulsory church parades swelled the congregation to capacity and several men also joined us for evening services and at the Congregational Chapel. There is a plaque in the Lady Chapel given to Welford church by the officers and men who worshipped here.

Life was not all doom and gloom and quite a number of activities took place. Discussion groups were held at the vicarage, volunteers ran a canteen in the village hall seven days a week. People opened their homes and offered hospitality to our temporary visitors. Many lasting friendships were formed. Wartime romances led to weddings; the vicar's wife, Mrs Woodhouse, loaned out a wedding dress to any girl marrying in this church and everyone helped by saving their rations towards a cake. But mingled with the happiness was inevitably the sadness that war brings. Remembrance Day was a particularly poignant time when members of the Home Guard paraded in uniform, most of them old comrades of the First World War, with sons and daughters taking part again in a second conflict. When one of our families in the village suffered a loss, we shared their sorrow. Rev Woodhouse celebrated Holy Communion in this church every day and many found comfort, solace and hope here.

On D Day, June 6th 1944, and for some time afterwards a service was held at 6.00 pm daily, people coming straight from the farms, factories and homes for a time of prayer to aid our troops embarking on battles that were to liberate Europe from the enemy.

On V.E. Day, May 8th 1945, a service of thanksgiving was held at 11 am and the bells rang out joyously all day.

Green Welford



Keep your eyes peeled throughout December...

Welford's very own
Eco Elf
will be sharing some tips & tricks to make your Christmas a little bit more sustainable

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WI Present Charity Cheque

At the October meeting of the WI, President, Denise Cattell, presented a cheque for £546.40 to Lorraine Lewis of The Lewis Foundation, a local Northamptonshire charity which provides gift and support packs to adults undergoing cancer treatment.

The WI collected the money over the past year through the sale of jigsaws and books and from stalls at the Street Markets and the Community Fair. Members also brought generous donations for the support packs, which were displayed on the table.

Our charity for the next 12 months is Thomas' Fund, another local charity which provides music therapy for children with life limiting conditions.

Food4Heroes is delighted to once again provide tasty Christmas meals to those in need across Northamptonshire in 2021

We aim to help as many deserving individuals and families as possible. The meals will be prepared by our amazing Partners, Portfolio Events.

The meals will consist of a Turkey and Vegetarian option presented in oven proof packaging and distributed on Thursday 23rd December 2021.

If you, or someone you know, would like to receive a meal, please get in touch:

welfordvolunteers@gmail.com
Or 07837 579550

All requests will be dealt with in confidence and must be received by Monday 6th December.

WELFORD FOOD BANK

A new initiative has been set up by volunteers to ensure that nobody in our wonderful village ever goes without or, can't access basic food and supplies - whatever the reason.

If you need to access this 'no questions asked' service, please email:

welfordvolunteers@gmail.com
 Or welfordpreschool@gmail.com
 Or call/text Ellen on 07857 019775, Jules on 07974 764946, Sophia on 07568 082641, Niamh on 07837 579550, Becky on 07981 197855 or Hannah on 07493 638762

If you would like to support this service, you can make a cash donation to Sophia at the preschool so we can provide items as and when they are requested.

If you want to donate food or supplies - non-perishables, hygiene and sanitary, long-life products - they can be dropped off at 1 Millers Road. We are also hoping to have a donation station at the shop very soon where items can also be dropped off.

Anything that is donated that may be surplus to requirements will be passed on to The Hope Centre - there is a collection box for this at 15 Salford Close.

Please help us to continue being the caring community that we are by supporting all our neighbours, especially at this time of year.



The Welford Youth and Community Centre is available to hire. Located on Welford Park it is a perfect venue for groups to hire and for any type of family gathering. Recent bookings have included **Birthday parties, Wedding receptions, Dance practices and Presentation evenings.**

The comprehensive facilities include a modern kitchen with a cooker and dishwasher, toilets including a disabled toilet, baby changing facilities and a separate meeting room. All of this at a very reasonable hourly rate.

Presently available:

Daytimes – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons and Weekends

Evenings – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For booking enquiries phone Ant on 01858 575678 or welfordycc@outlook.com



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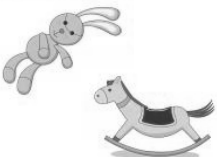



First session free!

WELFORD BABES AND TOTS

Stay and play with your little one, meet other parents and carers, refreshments provided for you and your children, lots of fantastic toys. Expectant mums and newborns welcome!

Fridays, 9.30am – 11.00am
Welford Youth and Community Centre
£2.00 first child, 50p additional children,
free for pre-crawlers and adults



 Welford Babes and Tots
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or Claire on 07837852364
or Helen on 07585669897

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WELFORD SPORTSFIELD ASSOCIATION

With a number of new residents in the village, I thought it would be a good time to provide both an update and an outline of what we provide for the community. We are a registered charity.

We are here to provide the facilities for sports, leisure and social activities for Welford and its surrounding communities. Please see below news from our football teams. In addition we also have one ladies' rounders team and this year, after a break of five years we also welcomed cricket back to Welford thanks to the addition of an artificial cricket pitch and mobile netting. Welford mixed hockey are also an associate member but play and train on artificial surfaces. We also provide our facilities free of charge for school events.

Prior to the pandemic we had a number of groups using our pavilion and as we get used to living with Covid we hope to welcome them back and develop this side of things further. To do this we plan to extend our social area in 2022. We have the funds in place, mainly from government grants, and a generous private donation. We are now going through the process of having the plans drawn up. With a bigger social area, we hope to have darts, skittles (we have a table already) and possibly pool, as well as welcoming back our previous users. Our pavilion is available for hire and is fully licenced.

It costs us between £10,000 - £12,000 per year to run the Sportsfield which we raise from a combination of member group contributions and fundraising events. Our fundraising includes four or five quizzes throughout the year, our 100 Club, a Christmas hamper raffle, and one annual village event

Next year, as well as extending our pavilion, we will be back running our quizzes, we hope to run a festival of sport, and see our cricket club expand further. Excitingly we also look forward to introducing the indoor sporting teams back to Welford and would welcome your support with this. It should be a very exciting year.

Adrian Scullion, 01858575784/adrian.scullion@btinternet.com / wsfa@weebly.com

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Saturday	8.30am-6.00pm
Sunday	9.30am-5.00pm

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Welford Victoria Football Club was founded in 1898 and is an FA Charter Standard Club affiliated to the Northamptonshire FA. Currently the club consists of a Saturday Adult team, Sunday Adult team, Veterans Sunday team, an Under 16s team and an Under 8s squad. We are incredibly fortunate to be able to enjoy the great facilities in our fantastic village setting and we love welcoming new players and visiting teams. See the back page for our next home matches.



CHARITY CALENDAR 2022

By popular demand, the "Hunks of Welford" calendar will return for 2022 Don't worry – everything's covered and this year it's not just the Veterans, so that's a relief! Calendars cost £10 (A4) or £15 (A3) and because production has been sponsored by Myriad Associates, all the money raised will go to PSC Support, a charity for Primary sclerosing cholangitis. PSC is an immune-mediated liver disease of the bile ducts with no medical treatment or cure and is our chosen charity this year because a member of our club has PSC. welfordvictoria.com/charitycalendar2022/

WVFC RAISES MORE THAN £1,000 FOR 'HOPE AGAINST CANCER'



On Saturday 20th November WVFC staged a concert at Shearsby Bath to support the fabulous Hope Against Cancer charity once again. A superbly-attended event featured superb DJ sets and live performances, with Welford's very own Startled Magpies a particular highlight. Our particular thanks to all who generously donated an array of wonderful raffle prizes and helped us raise a total of £1,100. More details will be on our web site when our hangovers have cleared!

JOIN US

If you want to play weekend matches or just join training sessions during the week, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Simon Stevens ([07707 654510](tel:07707654510) | secretary@welfordvictoria.com) or Barrie Dowsett (chairman@welfordvictoria.com)

WHAT'S ON IN WELFORD

(All currently subject to the situation relating to the Corona virus)

REGULARS—weekly, unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

Yoga for All 10.00-11.30am	VH(MH)
Bell-Ringing 1 st and 3 rd week 7.30pm	CH
Rainbows 5-7 years 5.15 - 6.00pm	WYCC
Brownies 7-10 years 6.15 - 7.30pm	WYCC
Guides 10-14 years 7.30 - 9.00pm	WYCC
Table Tennis 7.00-9.00pm	VH(MH)
ISE Group (Stitch & Expression) 10.00-4.00 2nd in Month	VH(BR)
Welford in Harmony 7.15—9.00pm	PSM

TUESDAYS

Intermediate Pilates 9.30-10.30am	WYCC
Intermediate Pilates 7.00—8.00pm	WYCC
GN Coffee Morning 1st week 10-12.30	VH(MH)
Short Mat Bowls 7.00-8.30pm	VH(MH)
ISE 10.00-4.00pm 2nd in Month	VH(MH)
Football 6.00-8.00 U16s and Sunday Adults	WSF

WEDNESDAYS

Welford Watercolourists 9.00am-12.00	VH(MH)
Welcome Club 2 nd week 2.00-4.00pm	VH(BR)
Yoga for All 7.30-9.00pm	VH(MH)
P.C. Planning Com (2nd week) 6.30pm	VH(BR)
Football 6:30-8:45 U8s, Saturday adults & Vets	WSF
Rest & Restore Hatha Fusion Yin 6.30-7.30pm	WYCC
<u>Hockey Training</u> 11+ 7-8.00pm	LUT

THURSDAYS

Gardening Club (3rd week) 7.00-9.45	VH(MH)
Pilates/Stretch 6.00—7.00pm	WYCC
Parish Council 4 th week 7.30pm	VH(BR)
Women's Institute 2nd week 7.30-10.00pm	VH(MH)
Village Hall Meeting 4th week 7.30pm	VH(BR)

FRIDAYS

Babes and Tots 9.30-11.00am	WYCC
Beaver Scouts 6-8 years 5.00-6.00pm	WYCC
Cub Scouts 6.00-7.15pm	WYCC
Scouts 7.30-8.45pm	WYCC

MONDAY - FRIDAY

Welford Pre-school 9.00 - 3.00pm	PSM
Breakfast club 7.45am - School start	PSM
After School Club. End of School - 6.00pm	PSM

SATURDAYS

Football—reception & Y1 9.30-11.00am	WSF
--------------------------------------	-----

SUNDAYS

<u>Hockey Training</u>	
Juniors (up to yr 7 9.00-10.00am)	NPF
Explorer Scouts 14-18 yrs 7.00-8.30pm	WYCC

EVENTS

December

7th Good Neighbours	VH
19th Christmas Windows	PSM
24th Come and sing Carols	Park
WVF Home Matches in December	
Sunday 12th 10.30am Veterans vs Rothwell CVR	
Sunday 12th 2pm U16s vs Wootton	
Saturday 18th 2pm Adults vs Barlestone SGR	
Sunday 19th 2pm U16s vs Bilton Ajax	

VENUES:

CH	Church
CSR	Chapel School Room
PSM	Pre-School Mobile
SCH	Welford School
VH(BR)	Village Hall Billiard Room
VH(MH)	Village Hall Main Hall
WSF	Welford Sports Field
WYCC	Welford Youth and Community Centre
PP	Pocket Park
LUT	Lutterworth College
MH3G	Market Harborough 3G
GUIL	Guilsborough School Hall
LS	Lawrence Sheriff School
LC	Lutterworth College
NKA	North Kilworth All weather
NSC	Naseby Sports Court
WTC	Welford Tennis Club
YPF	Yelvertoft Playing Fields
NPF	Naseby Playing Fields

For further information or to have your dates listed please contact Geoff Newman on Tel 575335

Keep up to date with events or advertise on www.welfordvillage.co.uk or follow @Welfordvillage on twitter.

Can all organisers please confirm your details are current and correct by confirming them to Geoff Newman.