

## Fancy trying Judo?

### Free Judo trials available

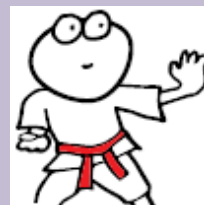
Woodford Park Leisure Centre's Saturday morning Judo club currently has space for new members.

The Judo club runs every Saturday morning during term time from 09:00 - 10:00 in the Centre's Sports Hall. The sessions are taught by an instructor with over forty years experience.

Woodford Park Leisure Centre is currently offering FREE trials to those wanting to try out Judo for the first time.

To book in for a FREE trial or for more information please email: [sports@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:sports@woodley.gov.uk)

[www.woodley.gov.uk/parks-facilities/woodford-park-leisure-centre](http://www.woodley.gov.uk/parks-facilities/woodford-park-leisure-centre) / 0118 9216969 / [sports@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:sports@woodley.gov.uk)



## Honouring unsung heroes

Woodley Town Council is delighted to once again host its Citizens' Awards to honour the unsung heroes who significantly support our community.

There are many people whose care and support work goes unrecognised, so if you know someone, young or old, who you feel is deserving of recognition, we want you to let us know.

Perhaps you know someone involved in caring for children, the elderly, sick or disabled; or someone who went above and beyond in supporting others during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Nominations are open until **Friday 21st January 2022** and a ceremony will take place on Friday 1st April next year.

Forms can be downloaded from our website ([www.woodley.gov.uk/civic/citizens-awards](http://www.woodley.gov.uk/civic/citizens-awards)) or collected from our offices at the Oakwood Centre.

Please contact Matthew Filmore for more information: [matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk)

## Hire our venues

We are pleased to welcome back some of our regular hirers to the Oakwood Centre, Coronation Hall and Chapel Hall. An up-to-date list of classes and contact details can be found on our website or a printed copy collected from our offices.

**Oakwood Centre bookings:** [bookings@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:bookings@woodley.gov.uk)  
**Chapel Hall & Coronation Hall bookings:** [admin@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:admin@woodley.gov.uk)

**The Council offices are now open each week day and closed 12.00-13.00 for lunch (see below)**

Woodley Town Council	Oakwood Centre	CLUBS & ACTIVITIES
<b>Woodley Town Council Opening Hours</b> Monday - Thursday: 09.00 - 16.30 Friday: 09.00 - 16.00 We will be closed each day 12.00 - 13.00 Closed Saturday - Sunday <a href="mailto:admin@woodley.gov.uk">admin@woodley.gov.uk</a>	<b>Oakwood Centre (&amp; Brown Bag) Opening Hours</b> Monday - Saturday: 08.00 - 17.00 Sunday: 09.00 - 16.00 <a href="mailto:bookings@woodley.gov.uk">bookings@woodley.gov.uk</a> 0118 9690356 <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk">www.woodley.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.theoakwoodcentre.com">www.theoakwoodcentre.com</a>	<b>CLUBS &amp; ACTIVITIES</b> Oakwood Centre Coronation Hall <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk/woodley-clubs-societies">www.woodley.gov.uk/woodley-clubs-societies</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodCentreUK">@OakwoodCentreUK</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WoodleyCouncil">@WoodleyCouncil</a>

## Woodford Park flies the flag as one of the UK's best parks



Woodley Town Council is thrilled to announce that Woodford Park has again been awarded Green Flag status for the fourth year running, remaining the only park in the Wokingham Borough area with the international quality mark for parks and green spaces. The past 18 months have seen the Council's parks and green spaces play a vital role for people throughout the lockdowns as a place to relax, exercise and meet friends and family safely. The award is testament to the hard work and dedication of the Council's grounds team and members of the Friends of Woodford Park that make it such a great space for everyone to enjoy.

Woodley Town Council leader, Cllr Keith Baker comments: "To meet the requirements demanded by the Green Flag scheme is proof of the hard work of the Council's staff and the volunteers of the Friends of Woodford Park who do so much to ensure that Woodford Park has high standards of horticulture, safety and environmental management and is a place that supports people to live healthy lives."

## Mayor's Diary

Woodley Town Mayor, Cllr Janet Sartorel, has had a busy diary since becoming Town Mayor in May of this year. July was a particularly busy month in which she attended a family fun day at The Shepherds House Inn. The event was organised by Claire Page to raise money for Arrhythmia Alliance in memory of her daughter Lilly-May Page, who tragically suffered a sudden cardiac arrest and died while at school in 2014. The Town Mayor also had the privilege in July to award Mini Medics at Bulmershe School. The next visit was the opening of a new branch of Travis Perkins in Woodley, while in August, the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Kay Gilder, had the delight of sampling Kolkata street food at the opening of new restaurant Adda Hut in Woodley town centre. October was also an extremely busy month for the Town Mayor. The first visit was a particular highlight for the Town Mayor, when she attended the Judicial Service at the invitation of The High Sheriff of Berkshire. The ceremonial service, held at St James' Church in Reading, marked the opening of the Crown Court at the start of the Judicial year and also the 900th anniversary of Reading Abbey. The Mayor was very proud to attend and take part in the procession, saying that "it was the highlight of my Mayoral year so far". Cllr Sartorel next attended Woodley Concert Band's first performance following the Covid 19 pandemic. This was closely followed by attending the Wokingham Volunteer Centre AGM, which gave the Mayor an insight into the support it had given local residents during the past 18 months. The Town Mayor also attended a County Service of Thanksgiving for the late Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh at Reading Minster of St Mary the Virgin, and also attended the Homestart AGM. At the time of writing, the Town Mayor was preparing to join the Spooktacular Halloween event in the town centre. Cllr Sartorel will be at our Remembrance Day event on 11th November and at the town centre's Christmas Carol Concert & Christmas Illuminations on Saturday 27th November, as well as the Woodley Christmas Fayre on Sunday 5th December.

If you would like to invite the Town Mayor or Deputy Town Mayor to an event, please email: [matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk)



Lilly-May Page Arrhythmia Alliance Fundraiser



Presenting awards at Bulmershe School



Opening of the Woodley branch of Travis Perkins



Opening of Adda Hut restaurant



Attending Woodley Concert Band's performance

**Woodley Town Council's Citizens' Awards**

**NOMINATE YOUR UNSUNG HERO NOW!**

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHOSE GOOD WORK AND DEEDS BENEFIT AN INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANISATION IN WOODLEY? THESE MIGHT BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS, PEOPLE CARRYING OUT VOLUNTARY WORK, OR THOSE WHO CARE FOR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND GO ABOVE AND BEYOND IN THEIR HELP AND KINDNESS. NOMINATE THEM FOR AN AWARD. DEADLINE FRIDAY 21ST JANUARY 2022.

GET A NOMINATION FORM  
[MATTHEW.FILMORE@WOODLEY.GOV.UK](mailto:MATTHEW.FILMORE@WOODLEY.GOV.UK)  
0118 9690356  
[WWW.WOODLEY.GOV.UK](http://WWW.WOODLEY.GOV.UK)

11th November 2021

*Lest we forget*

Woodley Town Council will hold its annual Remembrance event on Thursday 11th November at 11.00am at the War Memorial in Woodford Park.

**Woodley Town Council**

## Woodley Spotlight - Woodley Lunch Bunch

Local Woodley resident, Juliet Sherratt, started Woodley Lunch Bunch in June 2020 to support families hit by the Covid 19 pandemic. The charity initially had a small grant from Tesco and some funding from Wokingham United Charities. Since then, it has expanded exponentially with fantastic support from the community with food donations and from the local food banks. Many local companies have donated goods or services too, including Asda, Waitrose and Morrisons. Freely Fruity and SHARE have donated lots of fresh fruit and vegetables, and Parkers estate agents have provided all of Lunch Bunches printing needs, while Ben at Varoom designed and maintains its website.

The volunteers are the backbone of the operation, as Juliet comments: "They work so hard, all giving their time freely to prepare, pack and deliver the lunches, activities and food bags. Without them it would not be possible to do what we do. They are magnificent. We have people who bake cakes for us, people who host collecting boxes for us and people who donate cash through Go Fund Me on our Facebook page. It really is a community effort and the response is heart-warming. Whenever we put a call out, the Woodley people respond. We really want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us in any way. We must also thank Emmanuel Church, Christchurch and Woodley Baptist Church for their continuing support."

Lunch Bunch also helps to provide other essential goods and has worked with First Days charity to provide warm coats, shoes and school uniforms to Woodley families.

"During lockdown and the period of home learning we collected and re-distributed as many laptops and printers as we could to help the continuity of education," adds Juliet.

Lunch Bunch is also working on a Christmas project with First Days, SHARE, the local food banks, Wokingham Borough Council, Wokingham Lions and the Grub Club. It will also be working with SHARE in the near future to help set up a distribution point for fresh items that are short dated or surplus stock in the Woodley area. Juliet adds that campaigning is an important part of the work they do and the charity is supporting the Right to Food Campaign in a bid to see Reading become a Right to Food Town.



## A history of Woodley

### A History of Woodley



Members of Woodley & District U3A, Reading U3A and Wokingham U3A have written and published **A History of Woodley**, a new book edited by Ann Smith. Many of the articles can also be found on our website in the History section. The book is available to buy for £10 at our offices (cash only), Woodley News and Fourbears Bookshop in Caversham.

## Woodley Girlguides needs volunteers

Woodley Girlguiding's units - Rainbows, Brownies and Guides - have many girls eager to join, but need more adult volunteers. There are great opportunities for adults who are interested in volunteering, either with admin or finances, or in a more interactive role providing support to leaders in a unit. Volunteering is flexible and can range from helping with events, to regularly helping in a unit or becoming a unit leader.

For more information please email **Kelly Robinson: woodleydistrictcommissioners@hotmail.com**

## Helping local businesses grow

Founded in 2011 for business people in and around Woodley, Woodley Business Club took its meetings online during the Covid 19 pandemic, but is now hosting a mixture of Zoom meetings and face-to-face coffee mornings. Glean useful tips from guest speakers in areas such as managing your website and how to create a marketing strategy. Join its Facebook Group to learn more and ask questions while networking with other businesses. The page is moderated to ensure it's not just a wall of adverts. [www.woodleybusinessclub.org.uk](http://www.woodleybusinessclub.org.uk)

## Woodley Business Club

Wishing all of our residents  
a safe and joyful Christmas!



## Woodley Town Council Committee Meetings

Planning & Community Meeting: 2 & 30 November, 4 January 2022,  
1 February, 1 March

Leisure Services Meeting: 16 November, 18 January 2022

Strategy & Resources Meeting: 23 November, 25 January 2022

Full Council: 7 December, 8 February 2022

Town Electors: 8 March 2022

For more information please email: [matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk)

Get social with us and stay up-to-date ...

 Woodley Town Council <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk">www.woodley.gov.uk</a>	 @WoodleyCouncil <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk">www.woodley.gov.uk</a>	 @WoodleyCouncil <a href="mailto:admin@woodley.gov.uk">admin@woodley.gov.uk</a>
 Oakwood Centre <a href="http://www.theoakwoodcentre.com">www.theoakwoodcentre.com</a>	 @OakwoodCentreUK <a href="mailto:bookings@woodley.gov.uk">bookings@woodley.gov.uk</a>	
 Woodford Park Leisure Centre <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk">www.woodley.gov.uk</a>	 @WoodfordParkLC <a href="http://www.woodley.gov.uk">www.woodley.gov.uk</a>	 sports@woodley.gov.uk

WTC: 0118 9690356 OC: 0118 9690356 WPLC: 0118 9216969

## Woodley Town Council remembers Cllr Dave Mills

One of Woodley Town Council's long-standing councillors, Cllr Dave Mills, sadly passed away earlier this year. Dave was first elected to Woodley Town Council in 2007, when he stood for election in Warren Ward and remained for the duration of his time as a Town Councillor. Cllr Mills was on several committees, including the Town Council's Planning & Community Committee, Strategy & Resources Committee, the Risk Management Working Party, the Standing Orders & Financial Regulations Working Party and the Urgency Committee. He also served as Town Mayor on two separate occasions during 2015-16 and 2020-21. Cllr Jenny Cheng said: "Serving the residents of Woodley was very important to Dave. His pride of joy, however, was while in the position of Town Mayor of Woodley, which he held to be an honour. I worked with him for many years and I know he was always willing to help anyone. We shall all miss him." Our thoughts and wishes are with Dave's family and friends.



## Community action to protect Bulmershe Open Space

A small group of councillors and local residents have formed the Friends of Bulmershe Open Space (FoBOS), to seek landscape enhancements and sustained protection for the area off Woodlands Avenue. Both the Bulmershe fields and Bulmershe Park form part of a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV), which is carried forward into Wokingham Borough Council's draft Local Plan Update. The proposed designation as a Local Green Space in this plan, gives the area, in principle, protection from harmful development. Woodley Town Council agreed at its Full Council meeting on 28 September to request Wokingham Borough Council to designate Bulmershe Park as a Town Green, under the Commons Act 2006.

"Despite the proposed protection, we want to ensure the area remains a community asset. Being designated as a Town Green would give it statutory protection against 'damage, encroachment or enclosure'," explains FoBOS member, Cllr Carol Jewell. FoBOS members are looking at ways to enhance the open space with additional trees, vegetation, wildflower planting and a comprehensive care plan to maintain the existing and future planting. If you use the area on a regular basis, please let Carol know your views.

Contact: [carol.jewell@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:carol.jewell@woodley.gov.uk)



## Woodley Town Centre

Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative is overjoyed to be once again hosting its two big Christmas Events: The Christmas Carol Concert & Christmas Illuminations on Saturday 27th November at 16.30 and its Christmas Fayre on Sunday 5th December 10.00 - 15.00. Keep an eye on the Town Centre's social media pages and website for more detailed announcements!

@WoodleyTCMI [www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk](http://www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk)

WOODLEY TOWN CENTRE PRESENTS

The Woodley  
Christmas Carol  
Concert  
& Christmas  
Illuminations

SATURDAY 27TH  
NOVEMBER 2021  
16.30

SPONSORED BY:  
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Seasonal  
Events

Woodley  
Town Centre  
[www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk](http://www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk)  
@WoodleyTCMI

TOWN CENTRE MANAGER: BRIAN FENNELLY  
TCMI@WOODLEY.GOV.UK

## Woodley Town Centre



Saturday Market 09.00-15.00

### The Saturday Market

Woodley's long running popular weekly Saturday Market has an assortment of stalls selling a variety of goods.



Artisan Market 09.00-14.00

### The Wednesday Artisans Market

Every Wednesday, there are a growing number of stalls selling a range of Artisan products, many made or grown locally.



Vegan Market 3rd Sunday of month  
11.00-15.00

### The Sunday Vegan Market

On the third Sunday of the month with are a growing number of Vegan stalls; currently at almost 30.



Car Boot Sale 2nd & 4th Sunday  
of month 08.00-13.00

### The Sunday Car Boot Sale

Grab a bargain or sell your preloved goods every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month, 08.00-13.00.

Woodley Town Centre Manager: Brian Fennelly: [tcm@woodley.gov.uk](mailto:tcm@woodley.gov.uk) / 0118 9216920