

Our News & Events

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Woodley Town Council



Mayor's Afternoon Tea

Woodley Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor are to host a fundraising Afternoon Tea Party to raise money for the Mayor's chosen charity, Keep Mobile. The event will be held at the Oakwood Centre on Sunday 23rd October 13.00-16.00 and guests will be entertained, while enjoying a delicious Afternoon Tea of assorted sandwiches, cakes and scones, accompanied by tea, coffee or a glass of Prosecco. There will also be a live fundraising auction. More information about how to buy a ticket will soon be available on our website and social media pages.



Our Venue, Your Way

Celebrate at the Oakwood Centre

Surrounded by the Green Flag award winning Woodford Park, the Oakwood Centre offers bespoke packages for wedding receptions and celebrations for up to 150 people in its flexible and versatile rooms. Windows occupy one entire wall of each room, offering views over the park, providing the opportunity to extend your celebration to the external spaces, perfect for an outside drinks reception, BBQ and beautiful photos. The rooms can be extended and configured to create the ideal sized space, while the Miles Suite, for smaller or more intimate celebrations, is particularly elegant, flooded with natural light from full length windows on three sides and from a roof light set in to the high ceiling. Our professional Venues Team work closely with each party to ensure the celebration runs smoothly, setting up and clearing down, leaving each party free to focus on and enjoy their event. We also now hire glasses, table linen and chair covers, to make your celebration extra special. For all enquiries, please contact Nikki Syers, Bookings Manager: bookings@woodley.gov.uk www.theoakwoodcentre.com



Oakwood
centre

Woodford Park new play area opening

We are delighted to announce that the new play area at Woodford Park is now open.

Woodley Town Mayor, Cllr Janet Sartorel, officially opened the new play area in June, at an event attended by over 600 local residents.

The new play area has been designed specifically with inclusivity in mind, and will offer a stimulating, exciting play experience for children of all abilities. It includes a double cableway, a sensory area, a wheelchair accessible play mound, an agility trail, a 7m tall canopy trail slide, seven types of swings and much more.

We have also received a certificate offsetting our carbon footprint in the making and installation of the park, which is in line with our climate change policy to be carbon neutral by 2030.

The sensory garden within the toddler area has been planted in memory of Cllr David Stares, who was Chairman of the Leisure Services Committee when the new play area was first suggested and was instrumental in driving the project forward. A memorial plaque will be installed to honour David.

The bespoke archway was exclusively designed and made by Hannah Morris-Cooles from Omna Studios and was carved from one whole tree trunk. The crowds clapped and cheered as Janet cut the ribbon across the archway to officially declare the park open. Children at the event were also treated to free ice cream and goody bags provided by the contractor, Proludic.

The play area also contains our Jubilee Tree, which was planted for the Queen's Green Canopy and the Jubilee Stones display to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Please see the Jubilee article on page 2 for more information about this.

The event was filmed by 7 Video Company and we will add the footage to our website and YouTube channel once we have received it.



Toddler area



Sensory garden



Canopy trail slide



Mayor cutting ribbon



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

We'd like to thank all of our local residents who attended our Jubilee events to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Here's a summary of the celebrations.

The Queen's Beacon

Woodley Town Mayor, Cllr Janet Sartorel, was joined by hundreds of local residents as she lit the Queen's Beacon to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in a timed event across the UK and the commonwealth. As the Beacon lit up the night sky, local choir, Bel Canto Choir sang 'Song for the Commonwealth' as a musical tribute to Her Majesty The Queen, filling Woodford Park with the sound of music and song.

The Queen's Green Canopy & Jubilee Stones display

A purple leaved cherry plum tree was planted by the Mayor in Woodford Park near the new play area as part of The Queen's Green Canopy, a nationwide initiative focusing on planting sustainably and creating a legacy in honour of The Queen's 75 year reign. The tree is surrounded by jubilee-themed stones decorated by local children for a competition to win a place at the top table at our Big Jubilee Lunch. The winner of the Under 5s category was four year old Edward Von Der Recke, the 6-8 years category winner was eight year old Abhyuday Varma and the 9-12 years old category winner was 12 year old Abbey Jenkins.

Woodley's Big Jubilee Lunch

The winners and their families sat with Woodley the Town Mayor and the Woodley Town Deputy Mayor, Cllr Kay Gilder, at the top table at our Big Jubilee Lunch in the town centre. The event, which was held in partnership with Woodley Town Centre, was attended by over 1000 people who enjoyed live music from across The Queen's reign, street entertainment and free ice cream for children from Maya's Treats.



Queen's Beacon



Queen's Green Canopy & stones



Jubilee stone winner Edward



Jubilee stone winner Abhyuday



Jubilee stone winner Abbey



Woodley's Big Jubilee Lunch

Community News

Girls' football

In the past year, more than seventy girls have either attended Woodley United FC's Saturday morning sessions at Woodford Park Leisure Centre or played for its u10 and u12 teams, with the coming season seeing the club provide football from reception class up to and including year 8. For more information about the girls' club, please email: amy.hardy@woodleyunitedfc.co.uk



Woodley United ladies and Under 12s teams

Happy birthday u3a

Woodley & District University of the 3rd Age (u3a) is celebrating its third successful year this summer.

"When we launched Woodley & District u3a in the summer of 2019, none of us could have envisaged what was coming over the horizon. Our members' determination to keep going during lockdown by connecting on Zoom or meeting safely when permitted proved a great support in combating isolation during the worst of the pandemic... we now have over 240 members from across the area," said Chairman Chris Mould.

Member Diana Meager joined on moving to Woodley. "u3a has widened my social circle. Making friends when you're older takes a bit more effort, but u3a stands out as being just so friendly and welcoming. It offers so many different activities, too! It really is open to everyone and fellow members are so encouraging."

www.woodleyu3a.org.uk



Matt Allwright with the Lunch Bunch team



u3a members at The Vyne

Lunch Bunch new patron

The committee of Woodley Lunch Bunch were delighted to first meet Matt Allwright at our Citizens' Awards evening in April, and were thrilled by his enthusiasm for their work.

Matt supports several local charities and, originally hailing from Woodley, the Lunch Bunch team thought he would be the perfect patron for Woodley Lunch Bunch. Matt agreed, and the committee look forward to working with him to help with fund raising, networking and publicity. "He's a genuinely lovely, generous man with many talents that we hope will benefit our charity and in turn, the families we support. We would like to thank Matt for taking on this role with us," says Juliet Sherratt, one of the Lunch Bunch founders.

Parkside Family Practice

Parkside Family Practice - Woodley & Green Road Surgeries - are looking for new participants for its Patient Participation Groups (PPGs) to discuss the services on offer and how improvements can be made. Participants represent the views of patients, such as the quality of care, appointments, and opening times. The practice has an active PPG group who meet every two months. For more information about joining, please call reception, email or complete the form on the Practice's website.

bwccg.pfp@nhs.net

<https://parksidefamilypractice.nhs.uk>

Community Heroes

Following the huge success of this year's Citizens' Awards, the Council has decided to rename the awards to Community Heroes and have introduced six categories. The awards are for individuals and organisations whose good works benefit an individual or organisation in Woodley. They can be good neighbours, people or organisations who carry out voluntary work, or those who care for people in our community. Nominees can be any age and there is a youth category for nominees aged 19 or under.

- ★ Community Heroes - Neighbour of the Year - to award an individual who has, independently (ie not part of a wider charity organisation) provided exceptional care and support to a Woodley resident or residents within their local community
- ★ Community Heroes - Volunteer of the Year - to award an individual who has, as part of a voluntary or charity organisation, provided exceptional support to the activities of the organisation, making a difference to residents of Woodley
- ★ Community Heroes - Voluntary Group of the Year - to award an organisation that has provided exceptional support and services to Woodley residents
- ★ Community Heroes - Climate Champion of the Year - to award an individual, organisation or group that has made a significant contribution to fighting climate change and / or climate initiatives within the area
- ★ Community Heroes - Young Person of the Year - to award an individual aged 19 or under who, through voluntary activities, has made an exceptional contribution to the Woodley community
- ★ Community Heroes - Mayor's Outstanding Contribution Award - awarded by the Mayor to an individual or organisation who they feel have provided an outstanding contribution to the community.

The Mayor will present the awards at a Civic Reception, to which the award winners, their family and friends, and the nominators are invited. The next Community Heroes Awards ceremony will be on 24 February 2023.

If you know an individual or organisation you think deserves recognition for their work in our town you can make a nomination by filling in the form on our website. Please contact Matthew Filmore (matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk) for more information. The deadline for nominations is 16 November 2022.



Council Committee Meetings

Planning & Community Meeting: 12 July, 9 August, 6 September, 4 October, 1 & 29 November

Leisure Services Meeting: 30 August, 15 November

Strategy & Resources Meeting: 13 September, 22 November

Full Council: 27 September

For more information please email: matthew.filmore@woodley.gov.uk



Woodley
Town Centre

Saturday
Market

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.

Artisans
Market

Artisan Market 09.00-14.00

The Wednesday Artisans Market

Every Wednesday with an increasing number of stalls selling a range of Artisan products, many made or grown locally.

Car Boot
Sale

Every Sunday
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. Contact Nicholas & Lorraine Harris: 01932 761985



Town Centre Manager: Brian Fennelly: tcm@woodley.gov.uk / 07506 741591

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