

# Old Woughton Parish Council Newsletter

Woughton Park

Woughton-on-the-Green

Passmore



## KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH!

*Welcome to the June 2017  
issue of the Old Woughton  
Parish Council Newsletter.*

### Allotment Devolved Management

Since Old Woughton Parish Council inherited the Patch Allotments, the management of the site has been carried out by a team of Parish Councillors. In this time a number of improvements have been made, including additional secure fencing, materials for the new composting toilet, the provision of used shipping containers to house the shop and provide additional storage space, allowing the hut to be used as a meeting and tea room. The general look of the site has improved, helped by the introduction of regular plot inspections and the fact that occupancy on the site has risen to 95%.

The Parish Council now considers that the future of the Patch is best served by devolved management, with the tenants taking over responsibility for this, with continuing support from OWPC. This was an approach under discussion before OWPC inherited the site and was suspended as a result of the change of ownership. The alternative would be for OWPC to employ a part time manager.

To this end a secret ballot was carried out, supervised by MK Council Electoral services, to determine the views of the tenants. With 57% of tenants voting, 65 were in favour and 20 against and therefore steps are now in progress to transfer the day to day management of the Patch Allotments to the tenants. This will happen in stages over the next year.

### Bells Ring Out

Four Woughton men died during the First World War and are commemorated on the village war memorial outside St Mary's church.

The Woughton bell-ringers are planning to mark the centenary of the death of each of them by ringing a quarter peal on St Mary's church bells, as near as possible to the actual date.

The first Woughton man to die, on 13 May 1917, was Ernest Purcell, a private in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry and a farm worker before the war, who died in the largely forgotten conflict in the Balkans against the Bulgarians in what is now Macedonia. On Thursday 18 May, a band of six ringers, including Brian Baldwin of Passmore, captain of the ringers, rang 1260 changes in five methods in Ernest's memory.



### A Tribute to Richard Freeman

A truly amazing guy, in just less than a year as an OWP Councillor, he transformed our crucial service relationships with Milton Keynes Council and the Canal & River Trust.

His compelling, immensely detailed, photo-illustrated catalogue of environmental action issues really made it easy for the Borough to give us an unprecedented level of service that is I'm sure, the envy of other Parish Councils.

He instigated an agreement with the Canal & River Trust to adopt the towpath within the Parish, resulting in the resurfacing of 2 stretches. This vital, long overdue restoration will continue into the future.

Well known by the locals as that tall figure in shorts prowling round the parish, pretending to walk his dogs, when really he was scouting for illegal verge parkers, over-staying canal boats and litter. As a result, I know that we have established a reputation in the area that we don't tolerate anti-social behaviour.

We will very much miss Richard's tremendous friendship, his tenacious dedication to his beloved Parish and his professionalism. He was in all respects a life-long devotee of Milton Keynes and an outstandingly, public-spirited gentleman.

**Chairman**

### Parish Gardeners

You may have noticed, in recent weeks, that a number of street name signs have received some floral enhancements. These have been the initial targets of the newly formed Parish

Gardeners group. The group has more ambitious plans to target other areas of the parish with more floral displays, including bulb planting and sowing wild flowers. If you have any suggestions for such



projects, or if you would like to get involved, please contact us at [clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk).

## Domino

Tracey Nash's Horse Domino was brutally attacked in his field in Woughton on the Green on Saturday 6th May 2017, between 7-9 pm. He was attacked with a hammer and a large knife, had part of his face and shoulder removed and was stabbed in the rear. He lost a lot of blood and his condition was critical for the next 3 days. The photos are too horrific to show here. People have asked to contribute to help his recovery and that is why we have quickly set up this crowd funding page. You can follow Domino's progress on our website. If anyone noticed anything on the evening of the attack that may help the police to track down the perpetrators of this senseless crime, please come forward.



### QUIZ NIGHT:

***Come along and enjoy an evening with your friends and neighbours!***

*Saturday 5th August: 6.45pm for 7pm*

*Venue: St Mary's Church - Newport Road - Woughton on the Green*

*Cost: £10 per person - which includes a 'Fish & Chip' supper*

*Fundraising: MK University Hospital - New Cancer Centre & Woughton Heritage*

*Raffle!*

*Tables: max 8 persons per table*

*Contact: [missquiz@sky.com](mailto:missquiz@sky.com) (Pat Hodges) or Charlotte Hall - 01908 679 504*

**'An Ancient Village at the heart of a New Town'**

### HERITAGE OPEN DAYS EXHIBITION:

*Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017: 10 - 5pm*

*Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017: 2 - 5pm*

*Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017: 10 - 2pm*

*Venue: St Mary's Church - Newport Road - Woughton on the Green*

**Our forthcoming exhibition will focus on the coming of the New Town post 1967 and the impact on Woughton... the story continues...**

**Look out also for talks and other public meetings we hope to run during the Autumn. Contact: [Woughtonheritage@gmail.com](mailto:Woughtonheritage@gmail.com)**

## May Day in Old Woughton

Many of you will have seen that on May Day, the parish played a small part in the MK Marathon Weekend, because both the full and half marathon courses passed through.

Woughton on the Green played host to a feed (water) station for both runs, at the 6 mile marker, and Walton Lake in WP played host to a feed (water) station, plus toilets



and a first aid centre for the half marathon, at the 9 mile marker.

The two marathon courses split in Woolstones.

Numbers of supporters turned out to cheer on family and friends competing, and the course stewards kept up a continuous chorus of encouragement to everybody as they passed by.

There were several competitors in fancy dress, and what must have been a team of rowers (about 15 of them), carrying a large single "scull". Photographs of this and other competitors are on our website here, <http://oldwoughton.org.uk/2017/05/02/mk-marathon-2017>.

If there were any runners from our parish taking part, then WELL DONE.



### Parish Council Meetings 2017:

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm**

***All held in St Mary's Church,  
Woughton on the Green***

***The first 15 minutes of each meeting is reserved for the public to address the Council with questions or issues you wish to bring to our attention.***

### How to contact us:

Email us through the clerk:

[clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk)

Telephone: Landline: 01908 465811

Mobile: 07866 412706

Write to us:

P.O. Box 7575, Milton Keynes, MK11 9GR

For all Email contact details visit our website at

[www.oldwoughton.org.uk](http://www.oldwoughton.org.uk)

Also find us on **Facebook**

Search "Friends of Old Woughton"

### Canal and River Trust

[enquiries.southeast@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.southeast@canalrivertrust.org.uk)