



June 2017

Roundabout

Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves

Roundabout is delivered free to every address in the parish

Editorial policy

Roundabout aims to promote local events, groups and businesses and to keep everyone informed of anything that affects our community. We avoid lending support (in the form of articles) to any social, political or religious causes, and we reserve the right to amend or leave out any items submitted. The final decision rests with the editors.

While *Roundabout* is supported by Woodhouse Parish Council, we rely on advertisements to pay production costs, and we accept adverts for local businesses as well as those that publicise charitable and fundraising events. Brief notification of events in the 'What's on' schedule is free.

Copyright in any articles published is negotiable but normally rests with *Roundabout*.

We apologise for any errors that might occur during production and will try to make amends in the following issue.

Roundabout needs your input. For guidelines on submission, please see inside the back cover.

Management and production

Roundabout is managed on behalf of the community and published by the editorial and production team comprising Janine Ainscow, Roger Berkeley, Amanda Garland, Andrew Garland, Caroline Pook, Neil Robinson, Grahame Sibson and Andy Thomson.

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Deadline for submissions to the July/August 2017 issue:

Saturday, 10th June

Email to roundabout@woodhouse-eaves.co.uk

Editor for July/August 2017 issue: Caroline Pook



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Editor's note

Despite the commercialism associated with Father's Day, our family still recognise the day in much the same way as it was originally intended by the proponent of the date in June, and as by Catholic Europe where Father's Day, also known as St Joseph's Day, is celebrated in March.

While living in America, there was a buzz around Father's Day. Dads everywhere were greeted with a call of 'happy Father's Day!' My husband, Ed, was amused by all the fuss when we moved there, and he was a new dad. A few years later, as a veteran dad, he was travelling for work on Father's Day. Domestic American flights are not known for their hospitality, but this time when the stewardess asked if there were any dads on board (and somewhat surprisingly only a handful put their hands up) they were treated to complimentary beer!

Father's Day is just one of the days in June when there is something happening in the parish. Looking at the table of 'What's on' entries, there is hardly a day that goes by without something happening. This does not even include our regular activities in the villages such as toddler groups and exercise classes.

Victoria Borman has been enjoying events in and around the parish. In the first of her articles she writes about her first experience of watching the Beacon Players in action (p.16) and on May Day, she found herself watching Morris dancing at dawn (p.17). There was a great atmosphere in the village during the May Day challenge – lots of positive energy! See p.19 for an account of the day's activities and Ed's write up of the nail-biting race for the honour of finishing as first local male.

On p.24 is the third of Roger Kirby's articles about the Home Guard. As this issue is being prepared, Roger is busy writing the fourth and final part of his recollections. Continuing with the theme of instalments, turn to p.26 for part two of Mark Temple's humorous and informative article about privies.

It is just as well this month has the longest day and the latest sunset as there is so much to enjoy at this time of year. Longer evenings and warmer days mean more time spent outside. Jo Poultney has some great tips for gardeners (p.29) and with the open gardens event at the start of the June it promises to be a fun month for those with green fingers.

Janine Ainscow

Parish council news

Newcomers

Deborah Taylor from Anstey was elected as our new county councillor, to replace David Snartt. He will continue to represent local issues as borough councillor. Mrs Taylor was welcomed by Janie Martin, who was re-elected for another year as parish council chair.

Great news on speeding

Highways officers have briefed the parish council and traffic watch group about the forthcoming trial of average-speed cameras, which are expected to be erected on Beacon Road in early September. The cameras automatically generate fixed-penalty notices and fines, and are 99 percent effective at controlling speeding. Beacon Road speed data collected over the years show that speeds are often excessive. Some vehicles have been logged at speeds well over the limit, even beyond 100mph. Speed-camera fines are currently sent to the Department for Transport. Highways officers and local interested parties want the income to stay in the county to provide funds to help other villages and to cover the expense of keeping these effective, but costly cameras beyond their 12-month trial period.

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Managing assets

From the start of the council year each May, councillors, staff and contractors check all of the parish assets. For a small community, this means a long list of properties: from village halls to roadside seats and gardens, and from children's play equipment to the War Memorial and the Grade II Listed village pump. Contractors check for compliance to water, electric and gas safety regulations. Risks are assessed for all the work that volunteers do, such as managing the allotments, picking up litter and flying flags. All checks are recorded so that insurers know reasonable care has been taken to keep everyone safe. The council's list of assets can be seen at www.woodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk/council-land-and-property.html

Look after your property

Police have sent a reminder to keep homes and vehicles locked, and valuables and keys out of sight. Officers have found cars unlocked with wallets, laptops and satellite navigation units on view. House doors and windows have been left unlocked while occupants are in their back gardens and unable to spot intruders. The police suggest letting neighbours know if you intend going away, and suggest asking for help to move bins, draw curtains, put lights on at night – anything that avoids indicating an absence from home. Most thieves are opportunists and it can only take a few minutes to gain entry and steal property.

Thanks

At the annual meeting of electors, Janie Martin offered her thanks on behalf of the council to fellow councillors, staff, and all volunteers for the work they do throughout the year. The council website has details of all their activities, which includes committee work, membership of outside organisations and the many and varied forms of help to enable the council to function. Full details can be found on the website www.woodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk

Next meeting: Monday, 5th June at 7.00pm in Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall.

Ann Irving, Clerk to the parish council

**Table Top Sale
June 10th
10am-12
At the Methodist Church Main Street Woodhouse Eaves
In aid of Chernobyl Children
Refreshments**

If you have anything to sell and would like a table for £7 or you would like to donate something to our Messy Church table then please ring Siân Mollart on 01509 890721

News in brief

Growing interest from young gardeners

The junior section of the Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves Garden Club has got off to a flying start. Garden club space at the allotments has doubled this year and fifteen young gardeners have enthusiastically cleared their plots and started planting. Skill levels vary from the absolute beginner to the more experienced. This has created a great environment for sharing knowledge, having fun and learning how to grow flowers, herbs, fruit and vegetables. At the most recent meeting, gardeners learnt all about composting and began preparing their potato-in-a-bag entries for the village horticultural show in September.



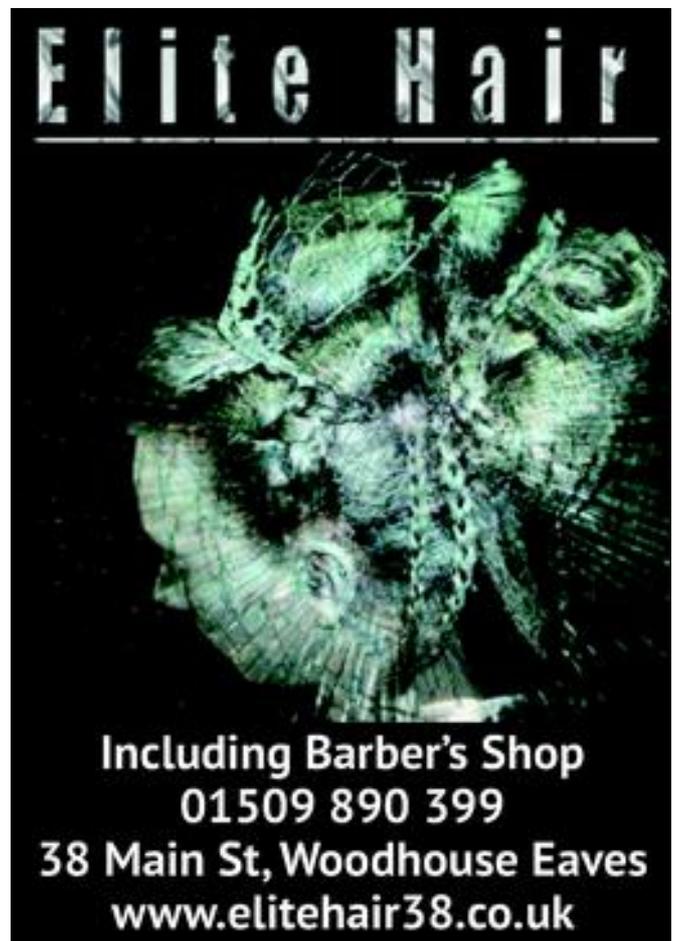
Young gardeners tending to their plants at the allotments.

Andrew Garland, Chair, junior garden club



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Students captivate audience at St Paul's Church concert

Welbeck students returned to St Paul's Church on 23rd March for what has become an annual concert. Performances of a very high standard were heard from the college band, drum corps and choir, along with a variety of instrumental and vocal solos.

Welbeck Defence Sixth Form College is a fully residential co-educational college, which is funded by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) for young people who aspire to become engineering officers within the Army, Royal Navy, RAF or MOD Civil Service. Students go through a selection process with their chosen service and are sponsored through Welbeck and university. The



Welbeck choir.

students study A-Levels at the college alongside sports, military skills and leadership training. They also take part in many extra-curricular activities. Upon finishing their A-Levels at Welbeck, students go on to study for degrees at a partner university. They receive an annual bursary and attend weekly squadron training nights before going on to Initial Officer Training and ultimately joining their chosen service.

A message from Mai-Lan Vu, student Head of Music:

I chose Welbeck because of the wide range of opportunities it would bring and the amazing career path. Welbeck's unique blend of academic studies, sport, and military and leadership skills-development prepares you incredibly well for life in the Armed Forces or the Civil Service. I have had so many new experiences since joining the college: ranging from sleeping under a 'basher' in a cold damp wood, learning to play rugby, to sharing a room with two other people and attending formal dinners.



Welbeck band.

Music provides another set of opportunities in which students can be involved. We have many talented musicians at Welbeck so it is important that they can continue nurturing their talents whilst away at college. The college has a choir, drum corps, two bands, and offers

lessons for a wide range of instruments for all abilities. There are two main concerts at the college over the year, but there are also many other performance opportunities for all the groups.

All the performers would love you to attend their concerts and support the music community here at Welbeck. We hope to see you there!

Come and join us next year! Everyone extremely welcome.

Hilja Skorupa

Calling local website owners

Plans are afoot for a future article about websites focused on the locality. To qualify for inclusion, a website must have a significant local connection. This means being focused on activities taking place within the parish or businesses based in the parish (or possibly just outside it). The parish embraces Woodhouse, Woodhouse Eaves and adjacent countryside.

To have a website for which you are responsible included, please send a brief description (fewer than 200 words) to roundabout@woodhouse-eaves.co.uk by the end of June with the word 'website' in the subject box. Kindly note that anything submitted cannot be guaranteed to be included and may be edited.

Richard Bowers

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Living wild in South America

There was a full attendance of Friends of Charnwood Forest members and visitors at Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall on Monday, 24th April to hear a fascinating talk by returning guest speakers Michael and Paula Webster.

The Websters have been life-long conservationists, as well as wildlife photographers. Over a period of five years, they are exploring the continent of South America; home to a rich diversity of species, especially birds. They showed beautiful photographs, from the Toucan to the Hooded Grebe.

The talk covered their adventures in search of wildlife in the deserts of Chile, the Andean mountains, the Patagonian steppes and the jungles of Peru. Their travels have taken them across the length and breadth of the continent. Across vast areas of untouched wilderness, from the cold southern reaches of Cape Horn to the tropical heat of the Caribbean in the north. Exploring the diversity of the continent from the Atlantic in the east to the Pacific in the west. During their travels Michael and Paula are taking part in wildlife projects and visiting schools promoting conservation. It was fascinating to hear their wildlife stories and of their passion for protecting the unique biodiversity of South America. More information and examples of their stunning photos can be found at www.living-wild.net

Peter Bertram

Chernobyl children to visit parish

Every year some children from the badly affected region around Chernobyl visit our region for a month. They are well looked-after by families in, and around, Markfield. Last year the Methodist Church hosted all 14 of the children, along with their supporters. They were given a healthy lunch, and an afternoon of fun and drama. The Methodist Church had wonderful support from some of the village businesses; including ham and eggs from Johnsons Butchers, and gifts for their goody bags from Oakwood Pharmacy and Spar.

The intention is to do the same this year, and the day for the visit is Monday, 31st July. A fundraising event is planned so that the young people who attend Messy Church can help these disadvantaged children to have a really good experience. Please see advert on p.7 and 'What's on' for details of the table-top sale and how to donate.

Siân Mollart

Calling local entrepreneurs with bright ideas

Applications are invited for The Community Business Bright Ideas Fund. The fund offers up to 15 days tailored support and grants of up to £20,000 for the development of budding community business ideas. The fund aims to provide the support needed to set up a community business and give early-stage finance to develop ideas that will be of benefit to the community.

In order to be eligible for funding the business needs to be local, run by local people, run as a business (trading), and the grant will need to be used to develop the business idea.

Bright Ideas is jointly funded by Power to Change and the Department for Communities and Local Government. The third window of funding opens in September 2017 followed by the fourth and final window in February 2018. For information and details on how to apply, visit <http://mycommunity.org.uk/>

Janine Ainscow

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Love, faith and charity

Although not comfortable with 'all the fuss', Yvonne Starbuck has been most gracious in allowing Roundabout to share her story.

Yvonne Starbuck has recently met the Queen in a Royal Maundy ceremony held in Leicester Cathedral, where she was rewarded for contributions she has made to the parish over the past 50 years. The following account highlights just some of Yvonne's charity and community spirit.

Community and charity

Yvonne moved to Woodhouse Eaves with her late husband and their three daughters in 1966. Their son and youngest daughter were subsequently born in the village. With five young children to care for Yvonne soon found herself involved with the brownies and youth club. She also found time to help with school meals, and to work at Roecliffe Manor and Maplewell Hall School.

Once the children were older, Yvonne worked at Royal Signals Camp, Garats Hay, where she was in charge of the bedding store. It was during the 15 years spent working here that she raised money for British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association (Blesma). From 1983 until its closure in 1998 she took her sewing machine into the camp and started mending and making small alterations to soldiers' clothing for no charge. The camp wanted to pay her, so eventually she started charging and sent the income to Blesma. Upon closure of the camp, the army honoured Yvonne in an awards ceremony where the Brigadier presented her with a Certificate of Commendation for her help and fundraising efforts. Coincidentally, this month from 5th to 11th June, is the Blesma national week of fundraising and awareness.

From Woodhouse Eaves to Woodhouse

After living in Woodhouse Eaves for 26 years, Yvonne moved to Woodhouse in 1992. In 2003 she retired and became a Church Warden of St Mary-in-the-Elms, a role into which she was sworn for 13 consecutive years from 2003-2016. During this time Yvonne spent much time and effort fundraising for the Woodhouse Community Hall and by 2008 the hall had become a reality. Despite giving up her official title Yvonne still continues with church duties.

Local recognition

In 2009 the parish council presented Yvonne with the council's Annual Award, which is given each year to someone who has made a significant

contribution to the parish. In the years since then, Yvonne's charitable and community-focused efforts have continued. Alongside her role of Church Warden in St Maryin-the-Elms, Yvonne took on the role of Woodhouse Community Hall trustee. She obtained a Food Hygiene certificate to cater for events in the hall: organising monthly lunches for the elderly, only stopping when more time was needed to care for her husband whose health was failing.

National recognition

In recognition of the service given to both church and community, Reverend Lisa Temperley-Barnes nominated Yvonne for Royal Maundy, saying 'I nominated Yvonne because she does so much for the church and community of Woodhouse. And because amidst her own personal loss, Yvonne has been an incredible and faithful witness to the Gospel'. An application was sent to Buckingham Palace. Yvonne was overwhelmed by the letter of acceptance. 'In February, on opening my post one morning, one envelope stood out, as it had in red the royal coat of arms and was post-marked Buckingham Palace! With trembling hands I opened it to reveal an invitation to the service of receiving the Maundy money from Her Majesty The Queen. A once in a lifetime occasion.'

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Yvonne meets the Queen

Concerning her preparations for meeting the Queen, Yvonne says 'The ceremony was due to take place on Thursday, 13th April, so I had a couple of weeks to arrange a suitable outfit befitting the occasion. On Saturday, 18th March, accompanied by my daughter Alison, I attended a rehearsal of proceedings at Leicester Cathedral. This is where the ceremony was to take place. The rehearsal went like clockwork'.

Maundy money recipients are hand-picked and the number of men and women equals the Queen's age in years. Yvonne was one of the 91 women and 91 men selected for recognition by the Queen. 'On the day, we had to be at the King Power Stadium by 8.45am for coffee and security checks. We were then taken by coach to Leicester Cathedral for 10.30am. The



Yvonne being presented with Maundy money by the Queen in recognition of her work for charity and community.

cathedral Wandsmen and military cadets escorted us to our seats. The service began at 11.00am and after the first reading the Queen started to present the purses to the recipients in the south aisle. We then had a second reading and then it was my turn in the north aisle. Her majesty gave each of us a lovely warm smile as she presented us with our purses. I said 'Thank you, Your Majesty' and gave a little courtsey, even though my legs felt like jelly!

Yvonne was given Maundy money in two leather purses. The first was a white purse containing the specially minted coins, equal to the Queen's age. The second was a red purse containing a £5 coin, commemorating the centenary of the House of Windsor, and a 50-pence piece commemorating Sir Isaac Newton. 'After the royal party had left, we were transported back to the King Power Stadium for a lovely lunch. It was a very special day, memories of which I will always treasure.'

For someone who has given so much to the community over the years, Yvonne has suffered great personal loss over the past 19 months. Yet, she manages to remain upbeat and to continue with helping those less fortunate. For her next charitable event Yvonne is planning to help with Christian Aid week by holding a soup day.

Yvonne is a remarkable lady; we are fortunate to have her in our community and her kind actions have helped so many people over the years. So please quietly congratulate her on the well-deserved Maundy award.

Janine Ainscow

The Beacon Players present *The Erpingham Camp*

Attending the village hall in April this year was the first time I have had the pleasure of watching the Beacon Players in action. They tackled Joe Orton's holiday-camp comedy with humour and more than a little talent – it's a comedy, but rather a brutal one.

The players at work

Set in a 1950s holiday camp, it is a micro-version of class-obsessed Britain. Steve Shipton played a very convincing Erpingham – a dictatorial, empire-building manager, who at times had you laughing out loud, but also occasionally feeling rather... uncomfortable. It is hard not to giggle watching someone draw a pair of curtains over his portrait of the Queen when he changes his trousers.

When the camp entertainment officer drops down dead, Bill Hinds had the audience hooting with laughter as the hapless Riley, dedicated follower of the system, but desperate to step up and have the leading Red Coat entertainment role. He was, as with many a good farce, the unwitting instigator of the overthrowing of the 'system' and despite the best efforts of his fellow Red Coats Harrison and Mason (played wonderfully by Amanda Hubbard and Kelly Stefanski), chaos ensues.

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Husband and wife duo Mark and Gillian Blatherwick were marvellous (and entirely convincing) as Ken and Eileen – first time, ever so special expectant parents (lamented on numerous occasions by an increasingly hysterical Eileen), and eventual anarchic leaders of a mini-revolution.

Throughout it all, the camp's dubious and ever-so-slightly 'handsy' Padre, played by Mark Temple, makes several half-hearted and misguided attempts to calm the fracas with some ill-timed scripture and prayer. Ted and Lou, played by David Fuller and Gill Thompson, are Mr and Mrs Sensible Suburbia, but are inevitably drawn into the fight by many passionate protestations from Ken.

Encore!

Despite being written years ago, the political stereotypes still ring true, and seem rather intuitive in the turbulent times in which we find ourselves. As long as a British revolution doesn't (like the camp's) involve withholding of food from the masses (and we've all still got time for a nice cup of tea) I think we'll be alright.

It was wonderful to watch the Beacon Players interpretation of a slightly bonkers satire, and I was more than impressed at the staging, the professionalism, and the comedy timing of a theatre troupe who clearly love what they do. Café style seating and bring-your-own drinks lend a marvellous, relaxed atmosphere, compounded by a wonderfully silly introduction from camp Red Coats Sian Mollart, Lucy Brennan and Hilary Ayling. If you haven't yet ventured to see them in action, please do next time!

Victoria Borman

May Day and Morris dancing

We were lucky enough this year that May Day fell on a Monday. So, wherever you were in the country (and indeed, many countries across Europe), many towns and villages were celebrating springtime fertility and hoping to welcome in a little sunshine and summer.

A day of traditions

May Day has long been associated with crowning a May Queen, children maypole dancing, and Morris dancing. We were not without our fair share of that locally. Although the origins of Morris dancing are vague and the theories of how and when it started varied (by Elizabethan times it was already considered an 'ancient' dance), May Day and Morris dancers have been inexplicably linked for centuries.

Morris dancing at dawn

Leicester Morris Men have, for many years, danced the sun up with the iconic Old John as their backdrop, and this year was no exception. Having seen romantic images of a burgeoning sun bursting through the clouds, silhouetting the dancers seemingly leaping over the horizon, the reality of rather a lot of rain and rather a lot of mud was somewhat far from that expectation. However, it was hard not to get caught up in the excitement of a tradition that has been around for long enough for people to have forgotten exactly why it started.



Leicester Morris Men dancing in the rain, Bradgate Park.

In the summer Leicester Morris Men dance Cotswold Morris. Dancers perform in sets of six or eight with much handkerchief-waving and clashing of sticks. The use of handkerchiefs dates from Shakespearean times, and the first recorded use of sticks dates from the mid-sixteenth century.

The audience was treated to a wonderful moment – watching ten-year-old Luke Simons doing a solo dance, and being rewarded with a huge round of applause when he had the high honour of being presented with his cinquefoil, a badge for his kit with the symbols of Leicester and Leicester Morris Men on it. Luke has been dancing with Leicester Morris Men since he was seven and the top of Old John, with a hardy audience including all-weather walkers, was a fitting backdrop for earning his stripes to become a fully-fledged member of the side.



Spectators braving the damp conditions.

Dancing with the crowds

The Leicester Morris Men danced Bromsberrow Heath, a dance they use as an excuse for a healthy dose of audience participation. Watching a novice attempt to dance, keep a straw hat on their head, not fall over, and negotiate hitting their partner's stick without giving anyone a black-eye gives an

insight of how much practice goes on behind the scenes in order for the Morris Men to put on such a show!

After Old John, the Leicester Morris Men embarked on a tour of their local area, and entertained many adults and children alike who were clever enough to dodge the rain. The last stop of the day was the Griffin Inn, Swithland: a wonderful place to sit and enjoy a drink and watch the festivities.

If you fancy watching Leicester Morris Men in action, they will be performing in various places, many of them very local, throughout the summer. Visit www.leicestermorrismen.co.uk for their tour list.

Victoria Borman

Woodhouse May Day Challenge

Despite fine weather leading up to the bank holiday, grey clouds ushered in the start of the ninth Woodhouse May Day Challenge. The day started early for 150 walkers who set off in light drizzle, but this thankfully eased by the time Town Crier Joe David set off the near 400-strong field of runners on the 13.5mile run.

Participants challenged by a hilly route

Starting from the car park on Main Street, the route heads steadily up Brook Road. Over the next five miles the competitors face the challenge of ascending Dean's Lane to Beacon Hill and then from Joe Moores Lane to Bradgate Park, not to mention avoiding flying golf balls as they pass through Lingdale Golf Course. Once the competitors entered Bradgate Park, they were half way through their route and had the satisfaction that the second half was considerably flatter than the first. From Hallgates car park, the route took in Swithland Wood and village before heading to Woodhouse, and the last mile back to the cricket pitch and a final lap of honour.

The first man home was Ludovic Renou, in a time of one hour, 23 minutes and 42 seconds. Second was David Greenwood, followed by reigning champion Josh Hubbard. In the ladies race, Katie Lomas was the winner, finishing in a time of one hour, 36 minutes and 39 seconds,



Katie Lomas on her way to be the first lady home. Picture courtesy of Kyle Veitch.



Andrew Price, after his brisk morning walk, shows off a prize chalice.

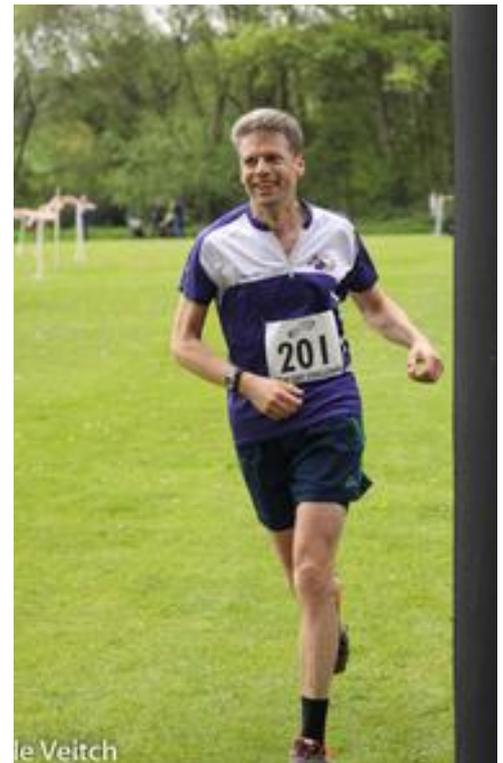
followed by Kate Champneys and Rebecca Grant. Andrew Price managed to complete the course in a brisk two hours, 44 minutes and 41 seconds to be first walker home. Each received a hand-engraved wooden chalice milled by Mervyn Greenhalgh from a yew felled in The Brand estate.

Racing for the title of first local male

Josh Hubbard's recent migration away from Woodhouse Eaves meant the race for quickest local male was wide open. Chris Brown and Ed Young soon emerged as leading candidates for the title. Both had finished within 30 seconds of each other in last year's race and had run together over the winter with the Woodhouse Eaves running group.

Four miles into the race Ed and Chris had been trading the lead over Beacon Hill and through Broombriggs farm. Chris made what seemed to be a decisive break on the climb from Lingdale Golf Club. However, Ed managed to keep Chris in sight running over the top of Bradgate and descending towards Newtown Linford. Boosted by some chocolate at the Hallgates feed station, Ed slowly reeled Chris in over the undulations into Woodhouse. As the two hit Woodhouse Road and headed for home Ed took the lead again and managed to hold on all the way to the finish. Ed crossed the line with a time of one hour, 39 minutes and 50 seconds, with Chris finishing only 23 seconds later.

The quickest local lady was race debutant Janine Ainscow, with a time of one hour, 52 minutes and three seconds. Coincidentally, Ed and Janine are next-door neighbours, and live just across the road from Josh Hubbard's former home. Running up and down Victoria Road would appear to be excellent training.



Ed Young finishes his epic battle with Chris Brown to be the first local man home. Picture courtesy of Kyle Veitch.

A day for the whole family

The event was truly a family occasion. An hour after the runners set off, a family-friendly five-mile walk began. Funds were raised in aid of the Woodhouse Eaves Scout Group. While not as hilly as the main event, the route did offer a unique opportunity to walk paths between The Brand and Roecliffe farm. Walkers were treated to bluebell-filled meadows and rarely seen sights of Swithland coves. A refreshment stop at the entry to Broombriggs farm serving cakes, fruit and juice, was particularly welcomed by the children. The food gave a well-needed energy boost before taking the trail around Windmill Hill to the village hall where finishers collected their well-earned medals.

Post-event relaxation

Once back at the village hall, runners and walkers were able to enjoy massage, and complimentary food, which was provided by the Woodhouse Women's Institute and a range of local business, including the Curzon Arms, Swithland Water and Bradgate Bakery. Particularly popular was the combination of chilli cooked by Johnson's Butchers and baked potatoes supplied by the Griffin Inn, Swithland.



Walkers were treated with access to rarely visited parts of the village.



Dressed for the occasion on the five-mile walk. Picture courtesy of Kyle Veitch.

Special thanks must be also given to the marshals along the route who offered guidance and encouragement to runners and walkers. One runner was overheard commenting that he was thankful there were so many as it made it impossible to get lost.

The Woodhouse May Day Challenge has become one of the most fun events of the parish calendar, with a high level of participation. Over the past eight years the organisers have contributed over £11,000 to local charities. This year's beneficiaries are LOROS, Vista, Wishes4Kids and the Peter LeMarchant Trust.

Ed Ainscow

Scouting news

Anniversary celebrations

This year marks the 60th anniversary of scouting in the village and the Woodhouse Eaves Scout Group (WESG) will be holding a number of events to celebrate the occasion. The first of these is an all-village event and everyone is welcome to a family fun day on 17th June. Please see 'What's on' for details of this subsidised event, which has some great activities for all ages on offer.

An afternoon tea event is being planned for July in the village hall, where memorabilia of the past 60 years of village scouting will be on display. Scouters from 60 years ago and paraphernalia continue to come forward and it promises to be an interesting day of reminiscence.

Scout hut news

Further to a previous article on the WESG's fantastic prize win of a new hut (see *Roundabout*, April 2017), progress has stepped up apace. As reported in the same issue of *Roundabout*, an idea to repurpose the annexe was unable to be taken forward. Other options have been investigated, and in exciting news a potential alternative plot has been identified. Its exact

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whereabouts will be revealed when plans are more concrete, but suffice to say it ticks pretty well all of the boxes, and the scouts are quietly confident that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

The executive committee has appointed a sub-committee to concentrate on the next phases of the project. Negotiations with the land agent are underway, regarding a long-term lease between the landowner and WESG. An architect will be appointed to develop the plans to the point where a planning application can be submitted. The group is consulting with parish and county councillors to try to secure further support.

Sorry to keep you in suspense, more detail will be provided as soon as possible. The scouting community are all very excited to now be moving forward.

Camping news

The first camp of the year has just been held at John's Lee Wood, near Newtown Linford. In fact it was two camps in parallel, because two of the leaders, Rachel and Dan, were proving their competence in order to qualify for the coveted Nights Away Permit (NAP). Scouting rules dictate that every camp must be supervised by a NAP holder, and the effort required to achieve this permit is considerable – the paperwork alone would daunt most. Rachel and Dan passed with flying colours so there are now two NAP holders in the group again. This was especially important because Mike and Dave, our previous NAP holders, have retired from leading. Thanks to Mike and Dave for supporting this camp. All the scouts present had a great time, with the highlight being gutting some trout and cooking them on the camp fire.

Kandersteg 2018

Charnwood district are taking part in an international camp at Kandersteg International Scout Camp (KISC), Switzerland, in July/August 2018. WESG have the fantastic opportunity to join the trip to this beautiful location. KISC is a world-famous scout site in the Swiss Alps and WESG last visited in 2009. This time 18 young scouts and Explorers, and three leaders will be attending. It is still some time away, but a significant amount of money needs to be raised to support the trip.

Barbeque appeal

The WESG's long-serving barbeques have both finally given up the ghost and cannot be repaired cost effectively. If any readers have a gas BBQ they no longer use, the scouts will gladly give it a new home. It does not matter if it is a bit scruffy, as long as it works and is safe. If you can help, please call Graham Cameron on (01509) 890 039.

Graham Cameron, Secretary, Woodhouse Eaves Scout Group

Woodhouse Eaves Home Guard

This is the third in a series of four articles following the exploits of the Woodhouse Eaves Home Guard. Parts one and two were published in Roundabout February and May 2017.

Battle plan

Forest Road, from Woodhouse Eaves leading towards Woodhouse, was flanked on either side by high banks. On top of the banks were thick thorn hedges. It was decided this road would be a good place for a tank trap in the event that any tanks should use it to attack Woodhouse Eaves.

A very large ash tree marked the start of the hedge, just after the Bull's Head. The tree was used to house a small unobtrusive platform, a sniper's nest and an observation post. There is an old saying that if you go up a tree as a sniper you never come back down alive. From the observation post one could see the road as far as St Mary-in-the-Elms Church in Woodhouse. As part of the tank trap defences, the anti-tank gun (the Northover mounted on the motorcycle flatbed) could move up and down the field side as required. This field was fairly flat as it had not been ploughed for several decades.

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The tank trap, complete with observation post, seemed like a good defensive point. It turned out that before D-Day it was possible to hear tanks as far away as Quorn as they moved south to join the D-Day attacking forces on the channel coast ports. In retrospect Woodhouse Eaves Home Guard would have heard the tanks approaching long before they would have been visible.

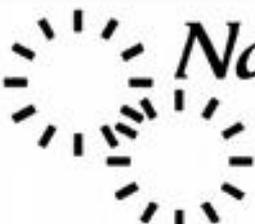
Eventually the ash tree was cut down, along with hundreds of other large trees, to help pay for the death taxes with which the executors of the Beaumanor estate were encumbered.

Manoeuvres

As a defence exercise the Loughborough Home Guard (aka the 'Germans') would try to capture Woodhouse Eaves. The exercises were usually held from Saturday night to Sunday noon when the participants were not working. On one occasion the 'Germans' started the attack from the Woodthorpe area. The Woodhouse Eaves to Woodthorpe footpath made for an easy attack approach. The Woodhouse Eaves command post was set up on Hanging Stone Rocks where all approaches to Woodhouse Eaves were clearly visible with binoculars. A forward defence position with Corporal Kirby (my father) in charge was set up in the stack yard of Halfway farm. I was with this unit as a runner. The hay afforded great camouflage cover for this platoon with a clear view of its approaches. Every unit had an umpire to conclude the outcome of main events, attacking and defensive. One was in place at the Halfway farm.

In the dawn of a Sunday morning a 'German' unit was observed climbing over a style on the footpath towards the farmyard. Every time one stepped over the style he was shot and noted by the umpire. A short time later our platoon was overcome by the 'Germans'. We left our position later as we had to open the Bull's Head. At a review of the overall event it was concluded our position at the farm was never captured because the 'Germans' had previously been shot as they stepped over the style. The 'Germans' never captured Woodhouse Eaves.

Roger Kirby



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The cottage privy – part two

For part one see Roundabout May 2017.

Origins of the 'loo'

Continuing with my discourse on the humble cottage privy there has been an interesting debate on the origins of the word 'loo'. It may derive from the French, *lieux d'aisances*, a term largely replaced by *salle de bains* for bathroom. Others believe it simply comes from the word 'ablution.' To those working outdoors in the countryside natural functions had to be performed in the open: in the shelter of a hedge, in the loo or lee of the wind.

However, my favourite explanation comes from a story quoted in *A Book at Bedtime* by humourist Frank Muir. In 1867 Lord Abercorn threw a house party at Viceregal Lodge, Dublin, attended by (among others) Mr Edward Tennyson and his wife, Lady Louisa, daughter of the Earl of Lichfield. For some reason she was not popular with Lord Abercorn's two sons, Ernest and Frederick Hamilton, so they pinched her name card from her bedroom



Outhouse door leading to privy beyond.

door and fixed it on the door of the only W.C. in the guest wing. Rumour of the trick spread around ducal circles and soon the select few started referring to 'going to the Lady Louisa'. This shortened to 'the Lady Lou' and eventually seeped down into middle and working class parlance as simply 'visiting the loo'.

I remember my granny, back in the mid-1960s, still using a two-seater ash closet in the garden. It was scrubbed almost white. Instead of a proper toilet roll there were pieces of newspaper cut to size and threaded onto string or binder twine, and hung upon a large nail behind the door. She later had a plumbed lavatory (she never called it a toilet, always referring to it as the W.C.) fitted into the whitewashed coal-house by the back door.

Visiting the W.C.

My Aunt Kit (from Toynton All Saints, near Spilsby) recounted a version of the following yarn to us one Christmas about 40 years ago. A prime example of miscommunication, I still find it quite humorous.

Some time ago, an American couple living in London decided to retire to the country. The wife wanted to buy a small country residence so she looked

around several suitable properties before finding the house of her dreams. Having had her offer accepted, she returned to London. While packing up in her bathroom, she suddenly realised that she did not remember seeing a bathroom in her new house. So she wrote to the current owner asking for the whereabouts of the W.C. The old chap, having resided in the area for a long while as a Methodist minister was unfamiliar with the use of W.C. as an abbreviation for water closet. He felt for sure that the letters W.C. stood instead for Wesleyan Chapel and so sent the following reply.

Dear Madam,

I take great pleasure in informing you that the W.C., built in 1888, is situated a mere three miles from the house in the centre of a delightful grove of pine trees.

It is open on alternate Sundays and the occasional Thursday afternoon. Capable of holding up to 50 people, it can get a little busy some weekends so I suggest you come early if you want a seat. However, there is standing room at the back for a further ten people or so. As yet we have not had to turn folk away, but last summer on two occasions we had people standing outside the open doors peering in to observe the various proceedings inside.

Incidentally my wife and I chose to hold our wedding there some 45 years ago, when there was such a rush for seats that the memory of that day still brings a tear to my eye. This coming Sunday we are having a little celebration at the W.C. as we thought where better to renew our vows. A string trio will be performing and I am hoping to persuade my wife to perform a solo. So please feel free to join us.

Because of its isolated position a good many people, having walked to get there, often take a packed-lunch and make a day of it. Our neighbour takes the field path and often only arrives just in the nick of time. If you decide to pay a visit on a Thursday afternoon you may be surprised by an organ accompaniment. The acoustics are excellent, even the most delicate sounds can be heard in the adjacent woods. The local Mayoress pops in occasionally and although it is not an official duty she always seems to enjoy her visits.

If you intend to go this Sunday let me know and I will make sure I am there to welcome you. In fact I will reserve you a seat next to me, although, of course, your husband will be welcome to join us. I will also make sure you get one of our new sheets, you will find it useful to keep in your handbag so you can use it every time you pay a visit.

My father recently donated a bell to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his first visit to our W.C. and so we try to ring the bell every time a new visitor enters. I trust you do not mind being welcomed in this manner?

A bazaar is being held next month to raise funds to help to upgrade the facilities, I must admit it can get a little chilly in the winter if you have to sit there for more than an hour. If you are in the habit of going regularly I recommend bringing a hot water-bottle or blanket as those old wooden seats are hard and last year mother picked up a splinter. She is rather delicate and cannot attend as often as she would like. It has been six months since her last visit and I can assure you this situation pains her greatly as she would really like to go more often.

Yours faithfully...

PS: You might like to bring your camera along, as I am sure you will want to keep a memento of your visit to our W.C. If you don't have a camera, do not worry, as I have my own and I would be delighted to take one of you for our next newsletter.

Mark Temple

To snore is a bore!

Almost everyone snores occasionally. As many as one in four people snore regularly and twice as many men than women snore. Although we would not consider snoring to be a 'serious' problem, it can have consequences. The story of the *Princess and the Pea* comes to mind. If a pea many mattresses below can result in a wretched night's rest, one can only imagine the hours of precious sleep that are lost to so many 'significant others' out there.

What is snoring?

Snoring is defined as a coarse sound made by vibrations of the soft palate and other tissue in the mouth, nose and throat. Reduced muscle tone during the relaxed sleep state causes the airwaves to vibrate and create air turbulence upon inspiration, which results in the snoring sound. This does not normally occur during waking hours due to muscle tone keeping the airways in good shape. Partial blockage of the airways can also result in snoring, such as during a cold or when suffering with allergies.

Sleep apnoea

Snoring can sometimes be an indication of a more serious condition known as obstructive sleep apnoea. This is when the airways repeatedly become partially or totally blocked for ten or more seconds at night. If you are woken up by a feeling of gasping or choking (and it isn't your partner doing it through utter frustration from your snoring) you should talk to your GP.

Measures to reduce snoring

Sleeping position can affect how much an individual will snore. If you sleep flat on your back, your throat will relax and it will obstruct air flow. Changing position to sleep on one side or the other is often a simple and effective solution.

The chances of snoring can also be increased by the 'terrible three' – excessive drinking, being overweight and smoking. Therefore a reduction in any of these lifestyle habits can help to reduce symptoms.

Allergies can lead to blocked airways, so having a well ventilated and clean sleeping environment can help. Using a dehumidifier or air purifier can also ensure an allergen and dust-free bedroom.

Snoring is not something that can be stopped at will, nor can it be cured. It can, however, be successfully controlled. Anti-snoring devices such as mouth guards and nasal strips may help prevent snoring. Formulations such as sprays and nasal saline rinses can help clear the passages before sleep.

Surgery to remove or tighten the soft tissue that vibrates to cause the snoring may be considered if anti-snoring devices are unsuccessful. However, this is a last resort with no guarantee of success.

You should see a GP if snoring reduces your quality of life, causing excessive tiredness, poor concentration, or if it adversely affects your relationship with your partner. There are many options available that can help a snoring problem.

Zainab Master

June in the cottage garden

June, and not only is the garden in full swing, with herbaceous borders brimming with colour and the vegetable garden starting to bear fruit, but the gardening calendar is also at its peak with shows taking place all over the country. Gardens of grand houses to visit and my personal favourite: ordinary humble gardeners throwing open the gates of their own little havens for other people to see in local open garden events.

As much as I cannot resist the bustle and shopping of a Royal Horticultural Society garden show and the wow factor of a Gertrude Jekyll garden, for me seeing what ordinary people turn their outdoor spaces into, the hard work they put into their gardens and the sheer joy of swapping the odd pearl of wisdom are hard to beat. I have been opening my own garden for our event in Woodhouse Eaves for a few years and I always look forward to the open gardens weekend. It also gives me a chance to find homes for the many seedlings and young plants I love to grow. Propagation is one of the

most rewarding parts of gardening and much easier than you might think – I will spend a little time talking about that later in the article.

The flower garden

With so much in bloom in the herbaceous borders you might be forgiven for thinking you can sit back on your laurels and admire nature's bounty (and there is nothing wrong with that)! But the flower borders are constantly changing and therefore in need of a little management. Late-spring-flowering bulbs such as tulips can now be lifted and stored if you want to be sure of keeping them to flower again. Our climate here is warm enough, I think, to over-winter them in the ground, so I do not tend to lift them. You may not get the best out of your bulbs doing this, but I prefer to let them take their chances.

Wisteria has finished flowering and now produces long side shoots in abundance. I prune mine twice a year. Cut back side shoots now to around 20cm to promote flowering next spring. I then prune again around November time, back to two or three buds. Tall-growing herbaceous plants such as delphiniums and hollyhocks will need supporting with canes if you have not already done so. Continue to plant up spare pots and borders with summer bedding plants. Remember to water-in well and feed regularly, especially those planted in containers.



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The vegetable garden

My first early potatoes are almost ready to harvest. French and runner beans are galloping up their supports and the greenhouse is full of the scent of tomatoes. Now is the time to plant out sweetcorn once you have hardened them off. Plant in blocks to aid pollination. Beans and courgettes are hungry plants so give them a generous mulch of manure or other organic material. Enjoy the last few shoots of asparagus this month and then leave the ferny top-growth to grow up over summer. Woolly aphids can be a real problem on fruit trees. Easy to spot as they produce blobs of a white wool-like substance on branches and trunks. Treat with soap-based spray. Use organic soap mixed with water. It works by preventing the insects from breathing.

Grow your own!

I am lucky enough to have the use of a greenhouse and for me it is a little bolt-hole I can lose myself in for hours. Earlier in the season it was full of germinating seedlings and cuttings from plants in the garden. This time of year there are still plants you can propagate and seedlings to grow.

Most seeds are really easy to grow. If you do not have a greenhouse, a sunny window sill will do well. Once they have germinated and produced their first true leaves, they will need pricking out. Use a good seedling compost. Gently loosen the compost around the seedling with a plant label and lift the seedling out. Always lift a seedling by its leaves and not the stem: leaves can replace themselves, a stem cannot! If the seedling has lots of root it is a good idea to cut the root by about a half to stimulate growth. Make a hole in the fresh compost and bury the seedling deep, almost as far as the cotyledons or first true leaves. This can be done with most seedlings except for lettuce whose stems should be left proud of the compost as they have a tendency to rot. Once you have pricked out your seedlings water them well and place in a well-lit place but out of direct sunlight.

Flower seeds to sow now include cosmos, aquilegia, foxglove, and nasturtium. Vegetable seeds include beetroot, lettuce and late peas. Growing your own plants is not only rewarding but a cheap way of filling gaps in the garden or pots on the patio and there are always plenty left over to give to friends or use as swaps with other gardeners.

Jo Poultney

Codeword

A codeword is like a crossword puzzle, but the letters in the grid have been replaced by numbers. Each number represents a letter of the alphabet and all 26 letters are present. As in any crossword, the words used can include proper nouns and even common phrases. Can you solve the puzzle? We have given you some letters to help you get started. The solution can be found inside the back cover. (Andy Thomson)

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

14	17	26	25	11	19	5		2	18	8	17	26
9		18		2		17		16		16		17
2	17	25	2	16		14	19	26	4	18	25	15
7		2		2		23		17		25		22
7	25	11	17	24	6	2	11	11	22			
21		17				25		13		6		3
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16		22		2		8				10		25
			11	19	8	16	4	17	6	19	8	25
15		3		26		18		26		14		18
18	12	19	11	18	2	7		17	13	17	18	16
16		26		25		19		11		26		13
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The last word

Origins of Father's Day

According to *Wikipedia* 'Father's Day is a celebration honouring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. In Catholic Europe, it has been celebrated on 19th March (St Joseph's Day) since the Middle Ages. This celebration was brought by the Spanish and Portuguese to Latin America, where 19th March is often still celebrated, though many countries in Europe and the Americas have adopted the US date, which is the third Sunday of June.' The US date arose in the early 20th century, largely through the campaigning of Sonora Smart Dodd. Her intentions were much the same as for the original Father's Day, but the subsequent success of the new date was commercially driven.

When is a pound not a pound?



Collectors desperate to complete their sets of the 24 designs of 'old' one pound coins are bidding well in excess of the face value of more scarce designs. The round pound coins cease to be legal tender in October 2017.

Architectural fact

St Paul's church and Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, London were both designed by William Railton.

Are the nights drawing in?

Although the summer solstice on 21st June is the longest day of the year, it is not the day with the earliest sunrise or the latest sunset. At our latitude, the earliest sunrise will occur on 17th June, while the latest sunset is on 24th June.

It's all in the name

New Scientist reader Ed Fox (22nd April 2017) recently came across a splendid example of 'nominative determinism', i.e. the hypothesis that people tend to gravitate towards areas of work that fit their names. Commenting on the designers of the church organ in the parish church of Crediton in Devon, Ed reported how in 1915 the newly appointed church organist, Mr Harold Organ, began work on plans for a new instrument. Sadly, Mr Organ was killed in action in 1917 before his plans could be finished. Work on the organ was completed *in memoriam* by his successor, Mr Cyril Church. Ed comments wryly: 'Lacking a sense of humour, the parish officials named the finished instrument "The War Memorial Organ" instead of the much more fitting "Organ-Church Church Organ".'

Contributions to *Roundabout*

We publish items of interest to the communities of Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves, such as news of local events, groups and businesses in accordance with the editorial policy (see inside front cover). We can write up people's stories for those who prefer to talk, rather than write. We do not publish notices of births, deaths or marriages. We aim to keep most articles under 800 words.

Format: electronic copy in 'Word', using 'Arial' font, is most useful, although we accept handwritten items that are legible.

Pictures are welcome: digital if you have them, otherwise prints.

What's on: brief notification of events in the 'What's on' schedule is free. Send event details to *Roundabout* at the email address below. Please note that we normally include only 'in parish' events, may abbreviate the details and are not obliged to include all items submitted.

Adverts: requests for further publicity, even for charities, incur a charge per issue of £9.50 for a quarter page or £22.00 for a half page. We do not normally accept full-page adverts.

Contact the advertising managers, Amanda and Andrew Garland, on (01509) 890 839 or via the *Roundabout* email address given below.

Copy deadline: Submissions to the July/August 2017 issue should be sent in by Saturday, 10th June. Send any material for *Roundabout* via email to roundabout@woodhouse-eaves.co.uk or via a member of the editorial and production team.

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What's on in June

Thur	1st	10.00	Charnwood council 6-mile walk via Outwoods, Beacon, Broombriggs Farm. Leader Alan Mortimore	From St Paul's Church. Free
Sat-Sun	3rd to 4th	2.00-6.00	Open Gardens. Passport on the day from gardens, V'hall, PO. Tel. (01509) 890 181 www.opengardens.co.uk	£5/children free Proceeds to St Paul's Church
Mon	5th	7.00	Council and charity meetings	WE Village Hall
Thur	8th	7.00-10.00	General Election	Village halls
Sat	10th	10.00-12.00	Table-Top Sale. To sell/donate items call Siân Mollart (01509) 890 721	Methodist Church, free
Sun	11th	11.00-3.00	Open dairy. Milking, tractors, animals and more. Details and notify intent to attend: Facebook or 07846 632229	Chwd Forest farm, Charley Rd. Free
Mon	12th	7.30	Local History Group. 'You and yours', bring your items of historical interest	Methodist church, £3 visitors
Sat	17th	12.30-4.00	Scouts family fun day. Circus skills, climbing wall, bar, BBQ, tea shop. Contact Jane 07508 532492	WE car park, free activities
Sun	18th	All day	Father's Day. Treat your dad!	Price varies
Wed	21st	1.00 and 2.00	Dogs Trust, five-week dog-training courses (01509) 882 316, email emidsdogschool@dogstrust.org.uk	King George's field, £50 per dog
Wed	21st	7.30	Women's Institute. 'Keep Young and BeYoutiful' exercise with Clare Orbell	WE village hall
Sun	25th	1.30-4.30	Sunday Funday. Stalls, games, sports for children and adults. Tea, cakes, entertainment and much more	St Paul's Church, free (VH if wet)

Check for more local event details on these websites:

www.woodhouse-eaves.co.uk

www.woodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk/local-events.html

Codeword solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Q	E	J	D	P	B	S	U	H	F	R	V	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
C	Z	N	A	I	O	X	M	Y	K	W	T	L