Christmas in June – who would have believed it?

At this year’s Woodford Halse Regatta (the last Friday in June), the boats for the Christmas theme were so good, there was only one point difference between four of the boats! Nonetheless, the winner for the best dressed boat went to the Cobley Close Sleigh, which also came first in the inaugural veterans race (the runners being Andrea Burdett and Fran Cooper).

And finally, the winners of the four man boat race were the Daniel Worrall Trust (Ben Aris, Ben Chambers, Lee Worrall and Thomas Bunting). Janet at Village Meats would very much like to thank everyone for coming along and taking part; also to Mark Belcher for sponsoring the signs and the races. Woodford Parish Council covered the public liability insurance required for the road closure, again very much appreciated.

Next year’s Regatta is on 24th June 2016 and promises to be even bigger and better! There are hopes that the youngsters may be recruited into a wheelbarrow race, to commence the proceedings! However, for now the best-kept secret is next year’s theme!

Local Wildlife Walk

Sunday, 1st November - 10.30 a.m.

Meet at Harley Equestrian - All Welcome

Bring binoculars if possible and suitable walking footwear.

The Emmaus Charity for the homeless is responding to the shocking Refugee Crisis in Europe by sending supplies of non-perishable food, shoes, clothes, sleeping bags and other urgently needed items. If you have anything to donate, it can be left at St. Mary’s Church and it will be sent on to Emmaus for distribution.

Photos courtesy of Kevin Smith

Some might suggest making this a handicap race - keeping the extra passengers at the front!
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**Cricket Club finishes third in Division One!**

The Woodford Halse Cricket Club First X1 finished 3rd in the South Northants Cricket League (SNCL) Division 1 this season, just missing out on promotion to the Premier Division again. It was a couple of slip ups against sides we really should have beaten that cost us in the end. They also lost at the semi-final stages of both Cups to a very good Wroxton side who went on to win them both, and then went on to win the Division too - so no shame for us there! It was a case of so near yet so far...

For this season the Cricket Club Second X1 set their stall out to focus on ensuring everyone had an opportunity to bat or bowl, rather than just trying to win the game. This gave the younger players a lot more exposure than they would normally get at their age, and it represented an investment in the future for the Club. As a result, next season they will be far more experienced and we can be more competitive, start to close out games, and start climbing the Division. Despite this open attitude, the Second X1 still got through to the Division 4/5 Cup Final, and WON!

The Club is already looking towards the future, with plans having reached an advanced stage for the purchase and installation of an artificial pitch. This, combined with the mobile net we already have, will provide a huge opportunity for practises for Juniors and Seniors right through the season - and with no wear and tear on the pitch either! More news on this next time.

You can find all the stats for the SNCL League and Cups at WWWSncl.co.uk - and for the latest WHCC news, visit our Facebook page.

We are an open, inclusive and progressive Club, and we are always on the lookout for new members. So if you, or you know anyone that are interested in playing, coaching, supporting in any way - please contact me:

**John Ward, WHCC Secretary**  
[John.d.ward@live.co.uk](mailto:John.d.ward@live.co.uk)  
Tel. 262519

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**What happens at the Club in Woodford Halse?**

The bingo at the club is on Tuesday and Sunday evenings every week with new players always welcome. From time to time the club holds special prize bingo events, one of which is the now famous Pork Pie Bingo held every December. Other regular events at the club include Skittles on Thursday, Darts on Monday and Wednesday and live music or entertainment in the members bar on every Friday, booked up to the end of October. The Blues club is back in the main concert room on October 3rd with two stunning new acts, Grainne Duffy with her band and Marcus Bonfanti (tickets are still available).

**On 31st October** is the Club Halloween party again with live music from Devils Mojo and prizes for the best fancy dress. One week later, the Woodford F.S.A will be hosting the Annual Fireworks display, followed by a disco in the Concert Room.

On November 28th there is a Christmas Fayre again put on by the F.S.A and before you know it, it will be Christmas. This Christmas, as well as the already mentioned Pork Pie Bingo there will be a number of events at the Club over the Yule tide period. The Club will be open to everyone in the Village, members and non-members from Boxing Day 26th December until the Club Closes at 1am on Friday 1st January 2016. The Boxing Day afternoon Disco is always a great hit with families as is New Year’s Eve. However this year we have a new attraction with the Christmas Panto Robin Hood. Fun for all the family Christmas 28th December 3pm. Children and Panto lovers of all ages welcome.

So yes, we do play bingo and we have a Car Boot sale once a fortnight in the car park, but we also do lots of other things as well. So come down and see why it is well worth becoming a member.

**Robin J Gilling, Club Secretary**

_P.S. You don’t have to be a member to enjoy many of the events held at the club, but it does give you certain privileges. Should you wish to become a member, the membership runs from January 1st for a year at a cost of £8.05 including VAT plus a deposit of £3.00 for your entrance fob. Annual membership is just £8.00._
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Chris Batechor 269027
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Lynne White 264809
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Assistant Priest
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