

WHY

The Wolverton Echo is intended to provide an additional means of communication within the village. It is to be published every other month and will be delivered free to every home in the village.

WHAT

A diary of future events within the area,
Reports on clubs, committies and societies past meetings,
Articles about local attractions, places of interest, pubs and restaurants,
Short letters, or discussions
Discussion of local news such as community buses or planning,
Small advertisements for sales, wants, exchanges,
Display adverts from local traders welcome ,
A list of craftsmen, repairers and specialists will be in future issues,

HELP

ARTICLES

Would anyone who can supply information on recent or future events please let me know, preferably, but not necessarily, written ready to print.

We would like to include reports on pubs, restaurants, entertainments and local attractions so if you have enjoyed a trip please put pen to paper and let everyone know. This request includes the children.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Old furniture, mowers, manure, cabbages, tools unsuitable gifts someone probably wants it. If you have anything to sell or exchange put a FREE advert in the February edition.

We also welcome lineage or display adverts from local suppliers traders or manufacturers in exchange for small contributions to production costs.

DISTRIBUTION

The final area in which help is needed to permit this paper to continue is in its distribution. If ten families could take the paper to ten of their neighbours once every other month there would be no problem. If you would like to help please let me know.

WELL DONE WOLVERTON

On October 28th a cheque for £200.00 was presented to The Queen's Jubilee Appeal Fund by Mrs Betty Shaw. The money was part of over £330.00 raised locally, and the cheque was the first received by Mrs Betty Holmes, who is Chairman of The Regional Appeal Committee. The presentation was well attended by those involved in fund raising activities. Mr Tom Reay represented Heath End Village Hall who shared in organization of the Elizabethan Fayre which was the main event in the fund raising calendar. Among the invited guests were Mr & Mrs Keep of Basingstoke District Council and Monsieur Fleis who is deputy Mayor of Alencon, Basingstokes twin town. M Fleis made a short speech which betrayed his profession as a teacher of English.

Approximately half of this amount has been forwarded to the new centre for young disabled at Viables, and the rest will be allocated to national schemes to benefit youth.

The remaining money raised within Wolverton was used to provide a party for village children on September 3rd and a Memorial Seat. The Seat has been made locally and it is hoped to site it on the footpath in the grounds of St. Catherines.

CHILDRENS JUBILEE PARTY

On September 3rd the sun shone brightly on Wolverton and, more importantly, on 55 children who enjoyed the village Silver Jubilee party at Wolverton Cottage. The mobile children (excluding those too young or with plaster casts) joined in party games and hunted sweets which were 'growing' on bushes and trees. A traditional party feast followed till no more could be eaten. All the children went home with a Jubilee Crown. The Crowns were also delivered to 27 other children who didn't get to the party, so all under 16 in the village received a momento of a special year and celebration.

COMIC CUTS

Did you hear of the ignorant show jumper who got a flat nose through jumping against the clock?

How many letters are there in the Christmas alphabet?

25..... Noel, No I,

WOLVERTON VILLAGE HALL

The hall is available for all to hire, but is not being used sufficiently to cover its ever increasing overheads. Current 'all in' rates have been kept surprisingly low at £1.25 per hour with reductions for Charities. The special character of this hall has made it attractive for receptions but it is equally suitable for dances, meetings, clubs, parties that outstrip the house or even a childrens playgroup.

To book the hall contact Mrs Betty Shaw at The Bungalow in Rectory Lane. The Hall is pre-booked on December 16th, 17th, 22nd and 31st as well as January 13th which is a meeting of Baughurst Parish Council.

LEND AN EAR - LEND A VOICE

The Hurst Centre Choir, which meets in the Music Room at the Hurst School between 7 and 9pm on Thursdays for practice, produce about four recitals a year. The Christmas programme at the Hurst on Friday 16th at 7.30pm includes not only the massed choir but also Eileen Lowes, a leading soprano soloist, and the Tadley Youth Band.

David Ogborne, the choir master, is anxious to recruit more voices, particularly male ones, to balance and complement the existing 50 to 60 regulars. So, if you consider you can sing or even just add volume, go along and join in.

ASHFORD HILL AND WOLVERTON WOMENS INSTITUTE

The W I held a successful party in the Village Hall on Saturday the 10th. Their January meeting on the 11th will include a fascinating glimpse of Old Basingstoke through a talk by Mr Attwood of the Basingstoke Gazette. The January gathering is in Ashford Hill, but, following the regular alternation, on February 8th the W I will meet in Wolverton. Their visiting speaker will be Mrs Bridgewater on the topic of 'Feather Craft'.

The regular meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month and new members are always welcome. For further details contact Mrs M Stephenson on Kingsclere 298418.

DECEMBER

16
 17
 18 St. Catherines Matins 11.00
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 24 St Catherines Holy Communion 11.45
 25 St Catherines Holy Communion 11.00
 26
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JANUARY

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 13 Baughurst Council meet in village hall
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Please use the above as an open calendar.
 Next edition will be more complete ----
 if you tell me what you plan to do.

YOUTH CLUB.

The Wolverton Youth Club, under June Taylor meets in the village hall on Tuesday evenings between seven and ten. All ages are welcome. The club wish to make contact with junior sports tournaments or leagues, particularly 5-a-side football for the up to fourteens. If anyone has contacts please let the club know.

FOR SALE

Mahogany knee hole desk with nine drawers.
 Kingsclere 298524.

WANTED

Voluntary cleaners and working parties for village hall. Contact Mrs Betty Shaw.

SERVICES

Printing... .Fast.
 Sprint Print Basingstoke 23993.

R.H. PLAICE.

MEAT SALES

Enjoy farm fresh meat from your own freezer.
 All freezer packs of Home Produced meats are prepared to customers requirements. The meats are packed, labelled and blast frozen ready for your home deep freeze. All at competitive prices.

SANDFORD FARM - Kingsclere 298319

Next Edition February. Ideas and information due by end of January to

Martin Slatford at 'Tibbles' - Kingsclere 298524

LOCAL SCHOOLS THREATENED!

Ashford Hill Hannington Ramsdell and Kingsclere schools are proposed as first schools for the 5 to 8's provided that minimum economic levels of 150 children are exceeded.

Numbers may be swelled by bussing these young children from Tadley. From 8 to 12 all children would have to go to Burnham Copse or Bishopswood in Tadley. These schools would have new buildings to house 600 to 700 children.

The Hurst is overcrowded and Hampshire County Council have only £617,000 allocated for school building in Tadley. A series of consultative meetings have been held by the council in local schools to discuss the best way of spending our money to solve the problem.

There are three plans being considered at the moment. The first is to increase the size of the Hurst. The second is to start the first phase of a new comprehensive school on the site in New Road which has been allocated for many years. The last choice is to alter the ages at which children change schools, in this system children would stay at their first school until they were eight, they would then be transferred to two middle schools in Tadley until they were twelve. By removing first year pupils from the Hurst the existing buildings should be large enough for a few years.

The council seem to favour the last alternative for a Middle School to replace Junior schools since most agree that the Hurst is already a large enough community and the council feel that £617,000 is not sufficient to start a new school

Considerable opposition to the favoured plan was witnessed by several hundred parents who attended the first public meeting of the Tadley and District Schools Action Group on February 21st. This Group has an

organising committee with members representing all local schools. Its aim is to convince the county council that a new comprehensive school is the best economic and educational answer to the present problem.

The next meeting of the Council education sub-committee on March 7th at Winchester will decide the policy which will subsequently be put before the full council for approval

Progress of this Education Debate will be reported in the Echo. Further details of the Tadley and District Schools Action Group are available through your school or from Martin Slatford.

Letters on this subject are welcomed for inclusion in the next edition.

PARISH COUNCIL BYE-ELECTION

Due to the resignation through ill health of Bobby Schroder there will be an election on Thursday 16th March

There are two candidates for the post representing the Wolverton Ward on Baughurst Parish Council, they are Mrs P.E.GARRETT of Kylmore, Baughurst and Mr M.G.SLATFORD of Tibbles, Wolverton Common. The Polling Station is at Wolverton Village Hall and votes can be cast between 8am and 9pm.

Mr Schroder regrets having to leave the council in mid term, but his health precludes him from fulfilling his post with the involvement his dedication demanded. I am sure that the village would like to thank him for the work he has done on our behalf. Much of his time was taken up with financial matters, such as ensuring that our rate bill was kept as low as possible and the precept spent to best advantage

STOP PRESS.....

MRS GARRETT HAS WITHDRAWN
HER CANDIDATURE - ELECTION CANCELLED

COUNTRY DANCE GROUP

It is proposed to form a Country Dance Group in the village. Meetings will be held in the Village Hall, possibly on a Tuesday, from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. We hope this will appeal to all ages (male and female) and that we can get enough support to start in the near future. Will anyone interested please contact Mrs. Shaw or Mrs. Wallwork (Kingsclere 298342) as soon as possible.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS.

Do you ever have parties or family gatherings in your own home? Have you ever thought of using your village hall? It only costs £1.25 an hour and this includes electricity. There are plenty of chairs, tables and crockery available, plus lots of room for games and dancing. There is a curtained stage for performers.

This is the best time of the year to get to know a bit more about the garden birds. A simple bird table, a tray on a wooden stake or a board nailed firmly to the window sill will bring the birds very near to you. A tree branch stuck firmly into the ground makes an excellent feeding place. You can tie pieces of fat, cheese rinds, bacon rinds, half a coconut etc to the branches and its not quite so easy for the cat to get access to the food. Don't forget water. An upturned dustbin lid let into the ground or supported on three bricks makes an excellent bird bath of just about the right depth for most garden birds.

You can get a very good leaflet from The R.S.P.B. The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire. which shows all the birds you are likely to see. Don't forget to enclose a stamp for the postage. The Ladybird books on birds of various habitats are very cheap and about the best for children.

WARNING It is quite alright to give white bread to birds at this time of the year but not when they are likely to be feeding nestlings. They cannot digest it and it kills many of them.

COMIC CUTS

What do you call a camel with an extra hump?

HUMPHREY

What leaves yellow footprints in the sand?

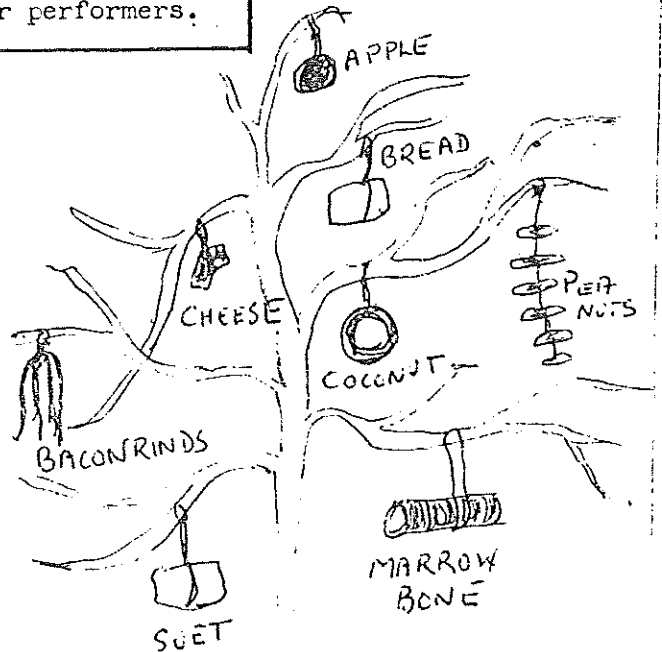
A LEMON SOLE

What do you give a pig with a sore nose?

OINKMENT

SORRY!

Insufficient detail for Diary this month. It will be back in April.



ON THE BUSES.

After the last edition of the Echo we received a letter suggesting that a community bus service is needed in the village.

With the decline of rural bus services many communities have found that there was sufficient demand to operate their own weekly minibus. There are several problems to overcome such as timing destination, insurance and cost but if enough people are interested they can be solved.

Most important is a group to organise such a venture. Anyone who is willing to help with this project should contact Martin Slatford.

AUTISM n. absorption in imaginative activity directed by the thinkers wishes, with loss of contact with reality. adj AUTISTIC.

This is a dictionary definition of autism but what does it mean and how does it affect the lives of those affected and their families? On Friday March 17th a member of The Hampshire Society for Autistic Children will give an illustrated talk at 7.30 in the village hall. There will also be a bring and auction to raise money for this needy cause. The evening will also include a ploughmans supper.

If anyone has a gift to be auctioned but is unable to attend on March 17th please contact Mrs Betty Shaw at The Bungalow, Rectory Lane.

Are You Frightened of Electricity In the Home?

The Electrical Association for Women organise one day courses for groups of ten or more. These informal meetings can be organized locally for less than £2 per person including lunch. They normally last from 10.45 to 3.30 but can be adapted to suit local requirements.

Anyone who is interested please contact Mrs Ivy Harrison at Ashley, Wolverton Common, or Mrs Caroline Slatford on Kingsclere 298524.

Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Appeal

Some of the money raised last year has been spent on a commemorative seat. The seat is to be sited on the footpath alongside St Catherines. The village is grateful to the Parochial Church Council for its approval of this pleasant and convenient site.

An opening ceremony will be performed at 2.30 on Saturday April 8th although whether this will be an unveiling or a 'sit in' is still being debated.

ASHFORD HILL AND WOLVERTON



February 8th. A talk on feathercraft given by Mrs Bridgewater was well received in Wolverton Village Hall by the W.I. The delicate intricacies of this absorbing craft were revealed and many were inspired to try it themselves.

The March meeting is again on Wednesday 8th, a quirk of the 1978 calendar. Rather than following the usual alternation from Wolverton to Ashford Hill hall a special visit to Newbury College has been arranged. The visit is to have a talk and demonstration of FREEZING. Anyone wishing to know more about the W.I. is welcome as a visitor. Further details of the meeting or transport from Mrs Stephenson at Holt End Cottages on Kingsclere 298418

SPRING FAIR.

A grand fair will be held in the Village Hall on May 6th. Main attractions will be stalls offering books, cakes, toys, and bedding plants. A range of nearly new and nearly antique markets will form part of Petticoat Lane, there will also be a number of local handicraft products on sale.

Craft evenings are being held weekly with material costs reimbursed. All are welcome and details are available from Mrs Barbara Wallwork at Vine Cottage on Kingsclere 298342.

It is not expected that people should give produce or articles but rather that funds should be raised out of the profits. Donations of goods suitable for sale or conversion are welcome.

Hardboard offcuts suitable for making table mats and tea pot stands are required, please contact Mrs June Taylor in Rectory Lane On Kingsclere 297209 if you can help.

OMISSIONS

Several articles have been held over for the next edition due to lack of space. Of particular interest will be information on the history of our village. A correspondent with knowledge of accessible eating houses is still needed.

FOR SALE

Firewood, Rob Langthorne has a supply of logs ready for your fire.

Green Lea. Telephone 298562.

DINING TABLE and 4 chairs in reasonable condition. £10

BOYS COAT in leather look.

Size 32" chest, 30" long. £5

Mrs. Jessie Andrews, Andburgh, Kingsclere 298531.

ADVERTISEMENT

Roast Lamb en crouete
for 6-8 people

Bone a shoulder of lamb.
Fry $\frac{1}{4}$ lb of finely chopped mushrooms and 2 tbs of chopped parsley in a little butter.

Stuff the bone cavity with the mushroom mixture, tie up and roast at 350 F for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
Allow to cool, trim fat and remove the string.

Wrap the meat in about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb of puff pastry sealing all joints well.
Glaze with egg and milk and bake at 425 F for 30 mins, or until the pastry is golden brown.
serve sliced.

Shoulders of Lamb to the usual high quality are available at attractive prices from R.H. PLAICE
SANDFORD FARM. Tel KINGSCLERE 298319

WANTED

Budding journalists to write articles for the Echo and help with its production. Good practice!

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Next due March 10th. 12.05 to 12.25 'Post Office' W. Common.
Full details from Tadley Library on TADLEY 4595.

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Mrs TURPIN. Tel TADLEY 4951.

Your paper is delivered free through the generosity of advertisers and donations.

Next Edition April. Ideas, information and letters due by end of March, to Martin Slatford, Tibbles. Tel Kingsclere 298524.

HOW WILL GREENHAM REACTIVATION AFFECT WOLVERTON?

This fear was one of the matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting on April 14th. This meeting allows electors an opportunity to air their views on matters concerning Parish, Borough and County Councils in addition to their normal representation through local Councillors.

Information available on the plans for Greenham at the moment indicate that the aerial tankers, which are about the size of Boeing 707's, will make about 8 flights a day. These planes are of an old design and due to their heavy payload make a slow climb from the runway at noise levels higher than commercial aircraft. There is a prohibition zone for 2 miles round AWRE below 2,000 feet and, since the planes will not be able to climb above this zone in time, they will either turn left or right. Greenham points slightly to the north of AWRE so it is more likely that they will go over Aldermaston than Wolverton. Flights towards AWRE would mainly occur whilst winds blow from the east.

This area will be outside the Government's 100 PNDB area where no house building can occur so we will certainly not get the worst problems.

Should you wish to know more of the proposals then Mr J H Guest on Newbury 44024 is an organizer of the Protest Group.

Other matters raised at the Annual Meeting were roadside parking outside the Wellington Arms and a suggestion that the Baughurst Road/Shaw Lane should have altered priorities. The problem of litter at Heath End, vandalism at Heath End House and the lack of hamlet and rural street names were other matters raised which are being investigated by the Parish Council.

Your Parish Councillors from Wolverton are Mrs Gates of Brook Cottage, Mr Rolls of The Lilacs and Mr Slatford of Tibbles.

WOLVERTON YOUTH CLUB

After almost two years June and Les Taylor have had to give up leadership of the Club. Their efforts in this period have earned them the thanks of many children and their parents.

Their resignation leaves the club without an organizing committee and so a PUBLIC MEETING has been called for MAY 10th at 7.30 p.m. in the VILLAGE HALL.

All children and interested adults are invited to say what they want and help to put it into action. We have better facilities on our doorstep than most areas so make sure your children get the best Youth Clubs.

EXHIBITION

Following a successful period creating the ebullient art forms of the sixties, Peter Blake is now the figurehead of seven artists who form the Brotherhood of Ruralists. Their attractive pictorial works tend to recreate an image of England in the vein of Keats and Shelley.

The artists work independently during the year and meet in Cornwall in the summer to allow an interchange of ideas. The Brotherhood were recently featured on BBC in a TV documentary.

From May 13th to 21st inclusive a display of their paintings and drawings will grace the walls of the Barn Gallery at Ham Farm House. The exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with admission 25 pence.

Additionally, on the 13th and 14th, it will be possible to watch craftsmen and women using their skills. The display will include spinning, weaving, ropework and picture framing. A forge will be operating to produce a wide range of wrought iron items. Admission to this display will be 25 pence also.

WHY WOLVERTON

Wolverton derives its name from the tun 'homestead' of a Saxon whose name contained the syllable for 'wolf' popular among Germanic tribes. It could have been, for instance, Wulfhere or Wulfred or Wulfrun, but we cannot be quite certain. What is certain is that Wolverton was mentioned as Ulvretune in Domesday Book, the comprehensive record which William the Conqueror caused to be compiled in 1086.

The name is by means unique: a Wolverton is found in Warwickshire, in Worcestershire and in Wiltshire, and then there is the large industrial town of Wolverton associated with the railway, in Buckinghamshire. As many of us know, if a correspondent omits to add the name Basingstoke on the envelope, the letter is apt to find its way home via Bucks.

Our Parish Church is dedicated to St Catherine the virgin martyr of Alexandria, who died in 307. There are just over 60 other English churches dedicated to the same Saint. St Catherine was tortured on a wheel before decapitation and through this connection her name is associated with a rotating firework. The present church was built between 1717 and 1720 and uses much of its predecessors beautiful timber for the nave roof. The first mention of a church in Wolverton is in 1286.

AS I WAS SAYING

A few weeks ago I was turning out the contents of a chest in my attic when my eye was caught by a paragraph in the old newspaper used as a lining for one of the drawers. It concerned a resourceful citizen of Hoddesdon, Herts who had grown a 17ft garage for his car out of a privet hedge. This had presented a problem for the local council. Was it a hedge? Or was it a garage? If the latter, it should have had planning permission and a rating assessment, if the former, not. Alas, although old newspapers are full of interest, they are ephemeral, and I cannot tell you whether the planners made the topiarist pay for his highly original creation, or left him in peace by treating it as a possible tourist attraction.

I can, however, be more definite about the industrialist who built himself a factory near a pleasant country town and, desiring his building to be an ornament to, rather than a blot on, the landscape, he proposed to lay out the foreground in a series of well-kept lawns. This did not satisfy the planning department concerned. His plans were returned with instructions to incorporate flower-beds in the lawns, and to submit a planting scheme.

He did so in considerable detail. His scheme included *Senecio jacobaea*, a plant with a 2 ft to 3 ft stem, glabrous leaves with broad lobes, and a pleasant yellow flower; *Calystegia sepium*, an attractive climber with a bell-shaped flower on long stem; *Taraxacum officinale*, a free-blooming golden flower with long, curved bracts; *Cardus lanceolatus*, *Bellis perennis*, *Ranunculus repens*, and others. Back came the plans from the Council with the planting scheme fully approved. It was never carried out, for the flowers named were, of course, ragwort, bindweed, dandelion, thistles, daisies and creeping buttercup. Instead, the factory is bordered with grass that is innocent of even perennial rye.

C.L.F.

PUZZLER

The following bill was presented by a 19th century ostler-
TO:

irevos	6d
afechinimonin	1s 6d
	<hr/>
	2s 0d

COMIC CUTS

- What makes the Tower of Pisa lean?
It doesn't eat anything.
- What do jelly babies wear on their feet?
Gum boots.
- How do you make a bandstand?
Take their chairs away.

OFF THE BUSES

A review of bus services and their timing is being carried out by Hants and Dorset Motor Services with a revised timetable due in the Autumn. Representatives from the bus company welcomed comment from Baughurst Parish Council on April 28th. Councillor Rolls requested that consideration be given to better timing for evening visits to Newbury or Basingstoke and that an occasional direct link with Tadley from the Wolvertons would be helpful - particularly for visits to the Health Centre. If you would like to see changes in the existing service, now is the time to write to them.

Some groups of villages have, in association with the National Bus Company, arranged their own community bus services. The main factor is that volunteer drivers, trained by the bus company to Public Service Vehicle standards at a cost of about £800 each, save about 75% of running costs. The vehicles are subsidized by local councils in much the same way as National Bus service companies are and their maintenance is done by the bus company. The original scheme in Norfolk is organised on a voluntary part time basis by a retired headmaster and the group includes 8 volunteer drivers. However, the area covered is large and there is no normal bus service for many miles. It is unlikely that such a scheme would work hereabouts since demand is thinly spread and there would be little need for the buses to provide evening and weekend special runs with our local coach companies. The cost of a community bus service is so high that any vehicle must be used for these trips as well as bus facilities.

It is still possible to arrange a weekly shopping trip to Basingstoke, Newbury, Tadley or Reading for those without transport by sharing the cost of a minibus or small coach. If you would use such a service - at the right cost - or know someone who would - then contact Martin Slatford at Tibbles.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Hannington and Kingsclere schools are not affected by the Hurst reorganisation proposals. We are grateful to Councillor Walford for pointing out this error and apologise to anyone worried by this inaccuracy.

ASHFORD HILL AND WOLVERTON



Spring heralds important local district and national meetings of the Womens Institute. The next local meeting is at 7.15 on May 10th at Ashford Hill Village Hall and this is followed by the big annual meeting of the National Association on June 8th. Delegates will meet at The Albert Hall in London to air their views on a large number of matters which usually directly affect us all. It is expected that motions will be carried urging the Government to maintain our milk deliveries against European pressure and to simplify taxation and Social Security arrangements to eliminate the Poverty Trap. The spread of pornographic material among children and pollution on our ocean coasts will also be discussed. If you have views on these matters and wish to inform your local delegates, contact can be made via Mrs Stephenson at Holt End Cottages on Kingsclere 298418.

On a local level the June meeting of Ashford Hill and Wolverton W.I. will be a Garden Meeting at Ibworth on Wednesday 14th.

In July a display of the W.I. in Action will be held at King Alfreds College, Winchester on the 19th and 20th.

AUTISM

On March 17th Mrs Kingdon from the Hope House School in Southampton for 26 autistic children outlined the problem and explained how afflicted children are helped. A well attended Bring and Buy raised over £90, thanks to enthusiastic auctioneering by Mrs Betty Shaw of many generous gifts.

SPRING FAIR MAY 6th.

There will be a grand Spring Fair in Wolverton Village Hall at 3 O'clock. Stalls will offer locally crafted produce cakes and plants, together with toys, games and nearly new childrens clothes. A wide variety of white elephants are expected and it will be possible to try your luck on the bottle stall.

PHONE NUMBERS PHONE NUMBERS.

LIBRARY Tadley 4595
SAMARITANS Basingstoke 62333
MARRIAGE
GUIDANCE Basingstoke 24364
CHEMISTS
(Whatmores) Tadley 2877
HOSPITAL Basingstoke 3202
HEALTH CENTRE
(Holmwood) Tadley 3344
POLICE Tadley 4633 if no
answer Basingstoke 3111
PARISH COUNCIL
(Clerk Mrs. Henry) Tadley 4022
BUS ENQUIRIES (They can also
help with National coach services
and some train times.)
Basingstoke 64501

REPAIRS AND SERVICES.

BUILDING

C.W. Butler Kingsclere 298621
P. Hughes Kingsclere 298052
R.L. Nicholls Kingsclere 298214
D.J. Oxley Kingsclere 298112

CARPENTRY

B.L. Appleton Tadley 2956

ELECTRICAL

R&R Snook Kingsclere 298382
R&H Electrics Basingstoke 850747

TV & RADIO

Alan Sinclair
Electronics Basingstoke 850157

REFRIGERATION

Emmergrove Services
Basingstoke 850231

G. Varcas Tadley 4983

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Barton Engineering
Basingstoke 781367

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Next Edition July Ideas, information and letters due by end of June to
Martin Slatford, Tibbles. Tel Kingsclere 298524.

THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

Many of you must by now be aware of the fact that we in Wolverton are trying to raise £1,000 to purchase a caravan in which to give holidays to handicapped children in our district, whether their handicap be physical, mental or social. We are sure you will want to help. It is a way of giving thanks for our healthy children and showing that we care for those not so blessed. As one of the fund raising projects it has been suggested to run a 150 Club. This is a type of lottery. Members to pay 50 pence a month. Total of £6 per year. Monthly prizes to be drawn. First prize £7, second prize £5, third prize £3. There will be collectors for each area of the village who will have the rules and membership application forms. This is a very popular way of raising funds and we would like as many people as possible to join.

Many other fund raising projects are being discussed. These are to include a whist drive at the beginning of next December, for which we hope to receive many good prizes. Many sponsored activities such as walks, cycle rides, bell ringing etc. and bazaars. Do please support them. If you feel you could have a coffee morning in your own home with a Bring and Buy stall, please let us know and we will do all we can to help and support you. A phone call to Mrs Wallwork 298342 will put you in touch with the Fund Raising Committee.

SWINGS FOR WOLVERTON FIELD

For some time the Wolverton field, next to the Hare and Hounds, has been rented by the Parish Council from the Sir George Brown Trust as a play area for the children of the village. The rent is very low as this is one of the ways in which the Trust benefits the village. Following suggestions from several parents the Parish Council has arranged for swings and a slide to be installed. It is hoped that this will encourage its use.

What is Campanology

Campanology is the art of ringing bells, either the large ones in the Church or small handbells.

At Wolverton Church we have six very nice bells. Unfortunately after Christmas we are losing one of our ringers reducing this group to five. We really need eight or more. It is not difficult to do and any boy over the age of nine and any girl over the age of eleven will be made more than welcome. We are not confined to our own tower. Ringers are welcomed at other towers anywhere and these opportunities are readily used. If anyone is interested whether a complete beginner or possessing some experience, please, please, please contact G.P. Hedges, Townsend, Wolverton, the sooner the better.

AN APPEAL

Is there anyone in our village who has a piece of land where he would let our young men, not yet of age to use the roads, ride motor bikes or make a cycle track or learn basic car maintenance on an unroadworthy car? Boys of this age group need a certain amount of excitement in their lives and indeed need to live a little dangerously. Frustrated energy leads to mischief and vandalism.

It is no use saying "In my young days we didn't. . . In our young days we could trundle motor tyres along roadways, whip a top, or play marbles at the kerbside. Television hadn't dulled the imagination and two World Wars provided the sort of excitement we hope that future generations will never experience.

We should provide more facilities for our teenagers to enjoy life in their own villages. It is too expensive for them to travel to the towns to enjoy the benefits of social and sporting life on offer there.

An acre of land freely lent would be such a help.

Please contact Mrs Shaw, Rectory Lane with your offers and suggestions.

Wolverton once a Royal residence?

The answer, surprisingly, is Yes, albeit it all happened a long time ago. Queen Eleanor, wife of Henry II, stayed here during his absence in Normany, 1165, just a hundred years after the Conquest. This was the king who uttered the notorious words about the Archbishop of Canterbury describing him as a "turbulent priest" which led directly to the Archbishop, Thomas Becket, being murdered in his Cathedral in 1170. Two years later Thomas became St Thomas after being canonised, and his shrine became the most famous in Christendom, visited by many thousands of pilgrims; and the Pilgrim's Way commemorates the route that many of them took on their way to Canterbury

M.C.W.

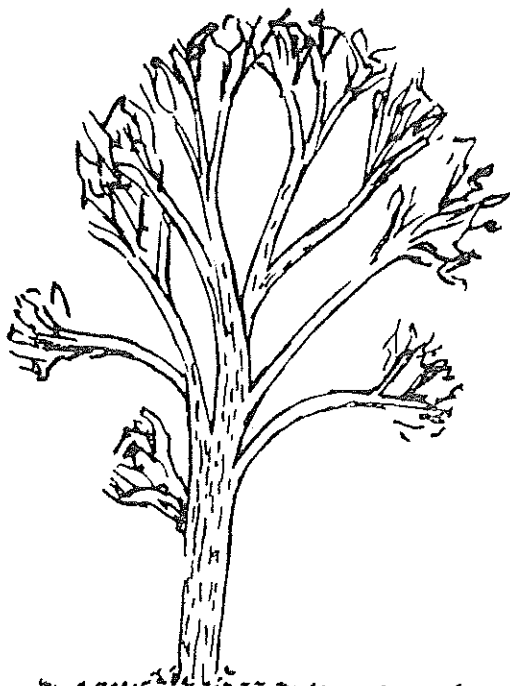
Nature Notes

December days so short and often damp and chilly seem to offer very little in the world of nature to tempt us from our firesides. And yet there is much to see. Many mosses, lichens and fungi are in their prime and mixed flocks of birds move about the countryside quite unhidden by foliage. Fieldfares and Redwings, winter visitors from the colder North, feed in our meadows and thousands of ducks and geese return to our estuaries.

Now is the best time of all to see how different is the structure of the many varieties of tree we are lucky to have in our district.

December 21st is the shortest day of the year and "If winter comes - can spring be far behind?"

B.S.



... Elm in winter...

BEES KNEES

I was quite surprised when told that the Bee Inspector was calling to look at my neighbour's hives. Why? To ensure that the hive was not diseased and the bee's producing good honey. If it was in any way contaminated the hive was destroyed, if there was any doubt, parts of the hive were removed to the Inspector's Headquarters for examination. I then wondered about these marvellous creatures that could produce such a health giving food and, according to some, help rheumatism sufferers when stinging them! although this is not a proven fact. A queen bee can lay up to 600,000 eggs during her lifetime which is usually two to three years but has been known to last as long as four or five years, in natural circumstances, as she begins to fail her place is taken by one of her own royal daughters which has been reared for the purpose so life of the colony is maintained indefinitely. Should two virgin queens emerge from their cells at a similar time they fight to the death without causing much of a stir, the corpse being removed by the worker bees as a matter of course, but a queen will live quite happily with her daughter probably knowing that one day she will replace her and they both lay eggs in the cells provided. A normal colony of honeybees often consists of about 50,000 worker bees, a few hundred drones and a queen. Another interesting fact is that many of our flowers owe their existence to the evolution of bees, because if they were not pollinated they would cease to exist. A bee can sting other insects and withdraw her sting for using again, and she usually only stings humans and other animals in self defence or defence of her home, except if she has been picked up or molested. When a human is stung a bee in most cases is unable to withdraw her sting and in her struggles to free herself it usually gets left behind, this does cause her death eventually. When the honey is taken from the hive it has to be replaced to enable the bees to survive - this the beekeeper does with sugar.

J.A.S.A.

JOKE? CORNER

What makes the Eiffel Tower stand?
It would look silly lying down

Who invented the five day week?
Robinson Crusoe (All his work was done
by Friday)

Where do you take a sick horse?

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Monday Mornings

Yoga classes are due to start again on January 15th following a successful series of sessions this Autumn. For further details contact Mrs Newton on Upper Basildon 539.

Monday Evenings 7 p.m.

Upholstery classes restart on January 15th also. If you are interested in learning this productive skill or how to make lamp shades or soft furnishings, contact Mrs Ivy Harrison at Ashley, Wolverton Common. A few vacancies remain.

Tuesday Evenings 7 to 9 p.m.

The ever popular Country and Square dancing evenings will swing back into action on January 2nd. The cost is 25 pence for adults and 15 pence for children. There is room for one or two more so just turn up and enjoy yourself.

Alternate Wednesday Evenings 7 to 9 p.m.

Youth Club starts 1979 with a trip to the pantomime at Oxford on January 3rd. Regular meetings follow at fortnightly intervals

Valentines Party

If enough people who would like a party contact me I would be happy to organise one - Betty Shaw The Bungalow, Rectory Lane.

Flower Arranging

It is hoped to organise a series of effective flower arranging classes starting in March. The cost will be kept at an attractive level to allow all who wish to participate. There will be a limited number of places so put your name on the list soon. Details from Caroline Slafford on Kingsclere 298524.

ASHFORD HILL AND WOLVERTON W.I.

The first meeting of the New Year will be in Wolverton village hall on January 10th. This evening will be used to show slides of village and family happenings.

Following the usual cycle in February the meeting on the 14th will be in Ashford Hill hall. It is hoped that a speaker from the Hampshire committee which organises W.I markets will talk on preserves. Further information from Mrs Stephenson on Kingsclere 298418.

MONEYSPINNER

British Rail will sell to Old Age Pensioners a pass which entitles the holder to half fare on their trains for a year. Although the cost is £7 with fares as high as they are it is possible to make savings on the first journey. I understand that this also applies to some Sealink crossings to Jersey, Ireland and Europe.

"Have a good trip - today!"

LETTERS

Due to delays in preparing this issue, possible reactivation of Greenham airbase, which featured in the May edition, has now passed. We did receive a letter on this subject from Vernon Taylor of Townsend.

"I wonder how many people there are in Wolverton who have lived here for twenty years or more and can remember Greenham Common when it was fully operational? My guess is quite a few. Aircraft like the B47 Stratojet and KC135 Aerial Tanker (which was due to return) then used the base without dire effect on local people. Yes, Greenham was noisy but not as shocking as some newcomers fear.

The base used to employ quite a few local people and could again if reactivated. In addition the generosity of the U.S.A.F. to local charities and functions will never be forgotten."

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GUIDANCE Basingstoke 24364
CHEMISTS
(Whatmores) Tadley 2877
HOSPITAL Basingstoke 3202
HEALTH CENTRE
(Holmwood) Tadley 3344
POLICE Tadley 4633 if no
answer Basingstoke 3111
PARISH COUNCIL
(Clerk Mrs. Henry) Tadley 4022
BUS ENQUIRIES (They can also
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Basingstoke 64501

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R&H Electrics Basingstoke 850747

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contributions and diary dates as soon as possible please...before
good intentions slip your memory! Remember private adverts are FREE.
Production team for this issue was Graham Hedges and Martin Slatford.
Contact through TIBBLES? WOLVERTON COMMON Tel. Kingsclere 298524

Wolverton 150 Club 1979

The Wolverton 150 Club has made a good start in boosting the money raising efforts for the "Year of the Child Fund". We now have 106 members, 42 paid for the year, and 64 pay 50p per month to the collector in their area.

There is still time for you to join in the fun of a monthly draw and the anticipation of winning a prize. Members are allocated a number from 1 - 150 for each fee paid by the 4th of each month and the draw takes place the Tuesday nearest the 14th.

Winners for the two draws made are as follows :

January

- 44. A. Jones 'Abbots Wells' Wolverton Lane
- 21. C. Shaw, The Bungalow, Rectory Lane
- 19. D. Stephenson, Holt End Cottage,
Wolverton

February

- 28. B. Brown, Kingswood, Wolverton Common
- 58. E. Hedges, 5 Townsend, Wolverton
- 95. E. Baldwin, Fair View, Plastow Green

Have you any odd wool? We could use it to make items to sell.

Contact Mrs Taylor, Townsend, 'phone Kingsclere 298997. We will collect.

How Much do You Remember?

Do you remember skating on the pond?

Do you remember the iron gates at Townsend Lodge?

Do you remember the school at Mrs Driscoll's?

Do you remember the pub down Wolverton Lane?

If you remember these things or others you think will be of interest, please write to the Wolverton Echo or contact Mrs Hedges, 5 Townsend, and she will come and get your memories.

Year of the Child Fund News

Total money in Fund to date - £406.00

Future Events

A very special Bring and Auction Sale and Ploughmans Supper. Provisional date Friday March 30th 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. It is hoped to have many articles of antiquity for sale. Please do support this.

It is hoped to hold a Spring Fair in May. Details later.

Is there anyone who would make us two Totem Poles on which we can record our progress to the target? Need to be about 6 feet high and be able to be attached to our Notice Boards. Reimbursement for material costs assured.

Country Dancing

This takes place every Tuesday evening from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Village Hall. Very much enjoyed by both sexes and all age groups.

Room for a few more enthusiasts.

Do come and join us

Wolverton Youth Club

Meetings have been interrupted over the past couple of months by the weather and a shortage of leaders. David, having helped over the last few months, and made many friends has now moved out of the area. June and Les are again able to run meetings regularly.

Club night has been changed to every other Thursday starting on March 15th from 7 to 9. We still need help with leaders if you could spare a couple of hours once a month or so.

P.S. The slide and swings have been delivered for Wolverton Field and will be put up as soon as the weather permits.

Sir George Browne Charity

About 1660 a certain George Browne bought the Manor of Wolverton. He was succeeded by his son, who became Sir George Browne. There are numerous references in Pepys's diary to these Brownes. In 1685 Sir George left four houses and 15 acres of land as a Trust for the parish of Wolverton which was the ecclesiastical parish. These houses were the former Poor Cottages. The original aim of the Trust was help for the poor of the parish from the rents from the bequest. One feature of the original Trust was that one third of the income should go to the rector for teaching the Catechism in the school. There is now no school but this provision lapsed centuries ago. In 1967 the then trustees agreed to a reorganisation of the Trust. The result was that there should be one ex officio Trustee who shall always be the Rector of the Parish and he shall be Chairman. There shall be two Nominative Trustees appointed by the Parish Council and two Trustees who reside or carry on their business in or near the parish of Wolverton. The present trustees have, by careful management, put the Trust in a sound financial position. The Trustees continually review the uses to which money from the Trust can be used.

Nature Notes

Looking out on to snow covered hills and fields and trees tormented by a biting wind it is difficult to believe that there are already great surgings of new life going on all around us.

Given a few warmer days and we shall see great stirrings especially in the woodlands where most of the plants that cover the woodland floor get their flowering over before the leafing of the trees cuts off the sunshine. Celandines and the lovely wood anemones will both flower freely, while above them the hazel catkins will open and shake their yellow pollen on the breeze.

Small mammals will come out of hibernation, the first migrants will return, bird song will get louder, many of our resident birds will have already paired and started nest building.

Spring is surely on the way.

Things to Know about the Month of March

Until the 20th or 21st the sun remains in Pisces, then moves into Aries, the Ram. At the time it moves from one to another occurs the vernal equinox. Day and night are equal all over the world. The sun rises and sets due east and west at very nearly 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Hell's Bells

This is an appeal on behalf of the anti-noise abatement society.

How would you like to annoy people by making an infernal din.

Starting in a few week's time will be classes in one of the oldest methods of creating a racket.

These will be free of charge and not too energetic.

And, we guarantee to make you an accomplished practitioner of this art within a few months.

Then you will be a bell ringer able to go anywhere in the country and be a "pain in the neck" to thousands of people.

If you are interested in this bargain offer please contact :

G.P. Hedges
5 Townsend
Wolverton

The Tichborne Dole

This is given every Lady Day to villagers of Tichborne and Cheriton in Hampshire by dying wish to Lady Tichborne who lived in the reign of Henry I. She had a mean husband who said she might leave to the poor a gift of flour from the area of land around which she could walk before a faggot burned out. Too weak to walk she crawled round twenty three acres. The plot is still known as The Crawls.

Trout season begins on March 1st

Coarse fishing in fresh water ends on March 14th

Flat racing starts.

Slide Show in Your Own Home

For a donation to our Year-of-the-Child fund I will bring a slide show "Journey Round Britain" to your own fireside. This would be of particular interest to anyone who really enjoys the British Countryside.

Apply : B. Shaw, Rectory Lane, Wolverton.

Joke? Komer

1st tramp "Have you got a light Mac?"

2nd tramp "No only a brown overcoat."

What do you call an imported pig?

An imigrunt.

Where would you expect to find a tiger's head?

4 ft from his tail

"It's called, District Nursing" -

"He's got worms nurse", Oh, has he I replied - looking into a pair of defiant eyes peering from under a table - and as I am a District Nurse with knowledge of such things (hopefully) it was assumed that I would arrive next day with pills etc. and deal with the situation.

The lady I was visiting was an elderly diabetic with an enormous tom cat - we called in daily to give the patient her Insulin. She had lived a hard life "in service" at the beck, call and bullying of an assortment of employers. Now, retired in a small Council bungalow she enjoyed a certain amount of stability in her old age, regular pension, our daily visits, a few club outings, her plants and above all "that cat".

In training all practical nursing manuals say :

- 1) assemble equipment
- 2) inform patient of procedure
- 3) start procedure

so - I got the pills, I held the cat, I tried to start procedure.

What seemed to me like a nice quiet "moggy" turned into a furious tiger with claws 6 inches long and muscles like a weight lifter!

First catch your patient! We chased that brute all over the small house with the lady saying sweet words of enticement - "come on pussy nice nurse only wants to make you better". Finally, caught him under the bed then strap up all those waving legs in a blanket, in this case a crotchet shawl and he found every hole to take a dab at me.

Now administer treatment.

Open the mouth, throw pill to back of throat, close mouth, stroke the throat until cat swallows. That's it - no - cat spat it out, repeat procedure again and again and again, that cat could hold his breath longer than an escapologist in a water tank!!

Pill mushy by this time, try another, 15 minutes and 4 pills later, he made a bad slip whilst spitting at me I threw the pill in and he swallowed by mistake - I had won (I think).

Only one job left, give my patient her Insulin. "Yes thank you nurse I'm fine" - lucky soul, I'm exhausted!

"Bye, see you tomorrow".

No you won't said the cat from the safety of a tree.

APOLOGIES.

In the last edition an article on the history of Wolverton by Frank Wallwork was wrongly attributed to M.C.W. -- my apologies.

ASHFORD HILL AND WOLVERTON W.I.

April 11th

Ashford Hill Village Hall
Demonstration of Spinning - Mrs Newberry

May 9th

Wolverton
Resolutions to be put to the Annual General Meeting at London's Albert Hall will be discussed.

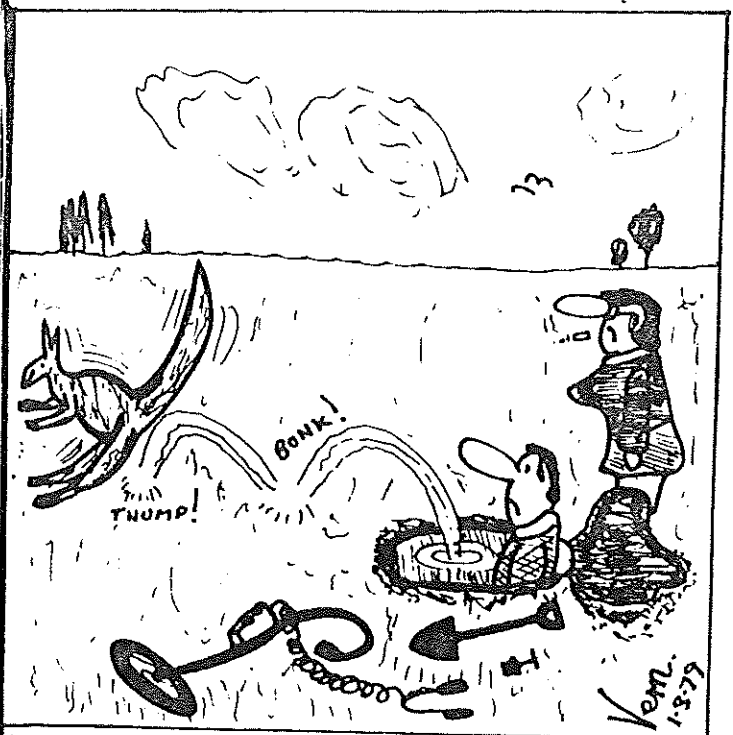
Any lady interested, please come as a visitor.

The Use of Metal Detectors

Metal detecting can be a very enjoyable hobby or pastime, but as in most things there are some who abuse the written and unwritten laws.

There is a "code of conduct" available to all responsible metal detector users. For instance, they must not interfere with archaeological sites and ancient monuments : not leave a mess (metal objects can be extracted quite easily leaving no visual signs afterwards) : not trespass : respect the country code.

The only legislation which specifically controls the use of metal detectors is the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 under which it is an offence to operate a detector without a licence issued by the Home Secretary.



"I TOLD YOU NOT TO DIG TOO DEEP SID."

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CHEMISTS
(Whatmores) Tadley 2877
HOSPITAL Basingstoke 3202
HEALTH CENTRE
(Holmwood) Tadley 3344
POLICE Tadley 4633 if no
answer Basingstoke 3111
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