

CEMETERY MATTERS. Ever since ELDC was formed in 1974, we have paid the authority to administer the burials and look after Kirkby Lane cemetery – it takes the largest share of our precept. We have now been asked to take on the administration ourselves, and we are considering taking on the maintenance too. We're also tackling the ubiquitous rabbits!

TREES AND MORE TREES. With many of our lovely trees reaching maturity, and many cut down for various reasons, it's important that we have a care and replacement policy and action plan. The Tree Group has this in hand and is swinging into action with a big tree planting event on Saturday 29th November. The event kicks off at 10am at the Dambusters Memorial, all are welcome. We always need more trees, if you want to contribute to providing a tree for the day you can leave a donation at Janet's tea rooms or at Crowders Nurseries who are running a Tree Bank to support the day. We also need ideas for tree planting locations - areas which have lost trees or would benefit from having them added, even front gardens where the residents would like a tree replacing or adding. For more information and suggestions for areas to plant contact Daphne Robinson on 354385, Tim Curtis on 353138 or our Clerk.

BETTER KEPT VILLAGE. Thanks to the extra effort from many of you, including the young people who helped litter pick through their various clubs and organisations, we made it through to the second round of the Best Kept Village competition at the top of our class with the judges saying that Woodhall Spa is 'a unique gem in the county and always a pleasure to visit!' Sadly we didn't win through to the top 3 in the second round, but we hope to do better next year! A 3 year improvement programme for Royal Square, in conjunction with ELDC, has already begun.

The litter picking made such a difference, we are asking for volunteers to 'adopt' a road or area to keep it litter free- gloves, bags and picker provided. Currently Councillor Pickavance and Meryl Timms do regular inspections in the woods and some of the main approaches, but it would make it so much easier to keep us clean and tidy all the time if they had a bit of help and a regular litter picking routine could be put in place. If you would like to help in this way, please leave your details with the clerk and the area you feel able to cover and we will be in touch.

TWINNING After 20 successful and hugely enjoyable years, the twinning group is looking for more individuals/families to join. You don't need to speak French; you can be any age, new or longstanding residents. For more details contact: Steve Pitwell on 353533 or Andy Hayden on 353142.

CORONATION HALL. At last the long journey in the renewed life of Coronation Hall is drawing to a close. The renovation of the hall by Lincolnshire County Council is complete and the decorating work has been carried out by volunteers. The Woodhall Spa Coronation Hall Trust has been set up to be responsible for the day to day running of the hall on behalf of the community. It is envisaged that the new hall will become a focal centre of the village again and there are already various groups and organizations using it on a regular basis, as well as the youth club. The trustees invite you to join them on Monday November 3rd from 2p.m. to 6p.m. to celebrate the re-launch and to see for yourselves how great it looks now, you'll be in for a surprise! For bookings contact Beverley Cox on 352565.

SIGN OF THE TIMES. On the same theme, we are about to have our four distinctive village signs refurbished. However, they also benefit from the occasional clean. We are looking for volunteers to 'adopt' each one and keep an eye on it for us, giving it an annual/occasional 'wash and brush up'. Again, please leave your details with the Clerk.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM. Our annual Civic Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 9th November at St Peter's Church at 9.45am. Please be there by 9.30. **Will all groups involved note, rehearsals** are at St Peter's Church at 6pm on the previous Friday, 7th November. We cordially invite all residents to join us for the service, parade and wreath laying ceremonies.



NEWS!!!!

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GRANTS. If your organisation is thinking of applying for a Parish Council grant for your project for 2009, apply now. Forms and full details are available from the Parish Office. DEADLINE to receive written applications: 30th November.

BUSINESS SUMMIT. Following the success of our Drainage Summit, we are proposing a Business Summit to help move forward the commercial life of Woodhall Spa. This will be open to all businesses, from retailers to those working from home or through business premises. The Council is already following a number of initiatives that will help our business life and our community's prosperity, but our workload means we have not been able to progress these as quickly as we would like. With a helping hand from the businesses themselves, we could achieve a lot more. A questionnaire for all businesses will be circulated early in the New Year

LET THERE BE LIGHT. At last the long awaited new heritage style lights have appeared in Royal Square and the whole area has been rewired, so this Christmas we can once again enjoy festive lights and our traditional carol service, accompanied by Banovallum Brass- make a note for your diary, Friday 5th December 7pm,. This is also the popular late night shopping event run by the Rotary Club which runs from 6-9pm and features Santa's grotto, numerous stalls, street and children's entertainment. We look forward to seeing you there.

USE IT OR LOSE IT. The Friends of Woodhall Spa library is urging everyone to use this facility as much as possible, not just for taking out books or jig saws, but to access the internet or as a hub for distributing information. In the meantime special children's sessions have been arranged with St Andrew's school. We managed to claw back a couple of hours after our loud protests at the cuts. There are quarterly assessments of library usage being undertaken by the County Council and these will feed into the decisions into the future of the library. Worse case scenario – we will lose it altogether if it's not used enough. For more information on the campaign contact David Clarke on 354330 or Pat Wheat on 352382 or the Clerk at the Parish Council Office.