**Woodcote Volunteers**

**Tea Parties for our clients**

At April’s Tea Party, our clients were treated to a talk by Vicky Jordan about Jane Austen and her associations with the local area. Did you know that for 18 months Jane Austen attended a boarding school in Reading (housed in Reading Abbey Gateway) and that she also had connections with several of the big houses in the area? We are very grateful to Vicky for taking the time to come and speak to us.

Our next Tea Party will be on **Wednesday 7th May 2025 at 2.30 pm finishing at 4 pm.** Our Treasurer, Richard, will be running a light-hearted bingo session (perhaps with some small prizes?), so please come along to our free event for refreshments and good company.

Tea Parties are held at the Community Centre in Woodcote. We provide tea and home-made cakes and there is no charge. Please give us plenty of notice if you need a lift, by calling our office phone number below.

**Other upcoming events**

We will have a stand at the Whitchurch Hill Village Fete on the 25th May, so come along and say hello! We will also be hosting our next Saturday Coffee Morning in the Woodcote Community Centre on the 31st May.

**Do you think you might qualify for a Blue Badge?**

Having successfully helped several of our clients to apply for a Blue Badge, we now have the capacity on a first come, first served basis, to help others who live in our catchment area. If you think you may be eligible but require some advice or need help with the process, please call our office phone number in the first instance and someone will call you back.

**Seeking new drivers**

Would you be interested in joining our group of volunteer drivers? Our drivers tell us many reasons why they find this volunteering opportunity a really rewarding one. They enjoy meeting their clients, chatting to them, and hearing their often fascinating stories. Most of all they get immense satisfaction from how much the clients appreciate the service we offer. Many of our clients are completely dependent on our drivers to attend their medical appointments or the social events that are often their only opportunity to get out during the week. We are always on the lookout for new drivers and, if you might be interested, we would love to hear from you! Please go to our website [**www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**](http://www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk) to find out more about the role and how to contact us.

**Finally….**

If you need a driver, please give us at least 3 days’ notice as it can be hard to find someone at the last minute – but we will always try!

* **To book a driver,** **call** **01491 681171, giving as much notice as possible.**
* **To volunteer, email:** [**info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**](mailto:info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk)
* **Our website:** [**www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**](http://www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk)
* **Facebook page:** [**www.facebook.com/woodcotevolunteers**](http://www.facebook.com/woodcotevolunteers)
* **General enquiries – call 01491 681171**