

FIRST FOR NEWS

Magical visit to Woburn Safari this weekend

MEET and greet with two very special visitors at Woburn Safari Park on Sunday.

Ben and Holly from Channel 5 and Nick Jr's popular TV series will be casting a spell of enchantment over the park as part of a special 'Family Fun Weekend' on March 24 and 25.

The popular characters will meet and greet their fans and pose for photographs at intervals throughout Sunday in the Birds in Action area.

Your visit this weekend can include two great days of entertainment, set in the beautiful 300 acre safari park.

There will be watch keeper talks and demonstrations and you can take the opportunity to meet with a friendly group of endangered animal characters – the 'Wild at Risk Troop' – including Olga the Orang-utan.

When you buy a Family Fun Weekend ticket you will receive some fantastic goodies, including a free Woburn Safari Park 2012 Guidebook, a meet and greet session in the Safari Lodge, a drinks voucher for each member of your family and a voucher for 10per cent off retail and catering.

Children under the age of three are invited to visit the park for free.

Purchase your Family Fun Weekend admission tickets online now at www.woburn.co.uk/safari or call 01525 290333.

Never too old for romance as Roy and his bride tie the knot

by Georgina Butler

01908 651274 editorial@jpress.co.uk

ROMANCE is blossoming later in life for one city couple who tied the knot over the weekend.

Evita and Roy Cleverly enjoyed a whirlwind romance last summer before Roy, 83, proposed to Evita Holloway, 70, last November.

Evita was 69 and on holiday in Bletchley from her native South Africa, visiting her daughter and family at their home in Simpson Road.

A chance encounter at the local bus stop led to Evita meeting Roy, who has lived in Milton Keynes for than 18 years, and the spark grew from there.

Evita said: "Roy was living in the same road I was holidaying in and we happened to meet at a bus stop."

"We were each alone and as I did not know about the buses we got talking."

"He showed me around and we met up on further occasions."

"He likes to walk in the afternoons so he invited me to walk with him and I was thrilled to spend time with this dashing gentleman."

"From there he would say, 'come and have a cup of tea', and then we got to having supper and he would walk me back down the road at 10pm to see me home."

Roy, who like Evita speaks with the energy and enthusiasm of someone



MR AND MRS: Roy and Evita following their wedding at Bletchley Register Office on Saturday

less than half his age, proposed to a shocked Evita on November 18 last year.

She said: "He popped the question and I asked whether he was serious, but he was."

"So of course I said that I would very much like to marry him."

"I am very privileged and honoured Roy feels he can take on a wife."

Roy was a widower before having a partner for many years, while Evita, too, had been married before but the marriage broke up.

The two were not expecting to meet anyone else but were thrilled to find each other. They are generally mistaken as being much younger than they actually are and share a love of walking and cooking. As Evita explained: "It was all very unexpected but when you've got the chemistry, you've got the chemistry."

Immigration laws were a concern as Evita's visa expired in December 2011 so she had to return to South Africa for two months to secure her marriage visa. She added: "Fortunately I was able to go ahead and get permission to marry my English gentleman and when I returned here to Roy, I felt as if I'd never been away."

The wedding was held slightly sooner than the couple had planned to ensure as many of their guests as possible would be able to attend.

About 50 guests joined Mr and Mrs Cleverly as they said their vows at the Register Office in Bletchley.

They later enjoyed a reception at the Swan Hotel.

FIRST FOR NEWS

Hodge Lea fire treated as arson

POLICE investigating a fire at a flat in Hodge Lea during the early hours of Sunday morning are treating the incident as arson and appealing for witnesses.

Firefighters from Great Holm were called to the property in Gledfield Place at around 2.05am, and residents from neighbouring flats were temporarily evacuated while the fire was extinguished.

Detective Constable Kerry Herrington, investigating, said: "We believe that the flat is currently unoccupied and may possibly have been left insecure. Thankfully no-one was injured and the majority of the damage to the flat was caused by smoke. We're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have witnessed any suspicious activity, or has any other information which may assist our investigation."

Anyone with information should contact Det Con Herrington via the 24-hour Police Enquiry Centre on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.



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beth.woodward@neves-solicitors.co.uk or
pui.au-yeung@neves-solicitors.co.uk

Kingsbridge House, 702 South Seventh Street, MK9 2PZ

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