

# Whaddon Quarterly

February 2018



## The shape of things to come?

Alison Weatherby, p. 15  
The fallen of WW1, p. 22

Love from Tokyo, p. 32  
The Chase dispute, p. 42

## In this issue

Snippets of village news.....	3
Parish Council Report .....	4
From the editor's chair .....	5
Clerk's Corner .....	7
Local plans: emerging issues .....	8
What might Whaddon's future be? .....	9
Shenley Road update.....	11
Whaddon planning briefs.....	12
Five new garden towns proposed.....	13
Whaddon's Windy Ridge plaque .....	13
Time to lend us a tenner!.....	14
Tribute: Alison Beatrix Weatherby .....	15
Weatherby family and Whaddon .....	15
Reflections of an employer, friend .....	17
A memorable occasion for all .....	18
St. Mary's Church Whaddon.....	19
Toddler church .....	21
Hands up for Jesus .....	22
Remembering the fallen of WW1.....	22
WW1 cyclist at rest at Poperinghe.....	23
Events: Whaddon Jubilee Hall .....	24
Whaddon Book Club .....	24
Whaddon Chapel .....	26
A Yorkshire adventure.....	27
Whaddon Women's Institute .....	29
A WI report from the past .....	30
Letter to the Editor.....	31
Greenall's gin has a secret recipe .....	31
From Tokyo with love .....	32
A woman with a zest for life - 2.....	35
Event: The Whaddon Entertainers .....	40
Pothole news from Bucks C. C.....	41
The Whaddon Chase dispute.....	42

Need a dentist? Try the blacksmith .....	47
Winslow Community Bus.....	48
Sea Cadets – TS Whaddon.....	50
Whaddon Neighbourhood Watch .....	51
Wins Community Bus Winslow Community Bus.....	51
Creative Coach: .....	52
Shenley Road re-opened .....	53
WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL .....	59
Greatmoor Energy from Waste .....	69
Bulb planting & cricketers needed .....	70
Tennessee Line country evening.....	71

**IMPORTANT**

You can take full advantage of this digital format by navigating quite easily through the *Whaddon Quarterly*. Simply select an article to read and then click on its title shown above in 'In this issue'. The 'system' will then automatically take you to that page.

## Any comments, queries or articles

Please contact the editor, John Mortimer, on 01908 866988 or [johnmortimermsc@gmail.com](mailto:johnmortimermsc@gmail.com) To advertise in the Whaddon Quarterly Send your ad to the Editor as above

## Advertising rates

For one year's advertising (four issues): Full page £85 / half page £48. The Parish Clerk will issue an invoice for payment.

## Whaddon Jubilee Hall

For bookings: please contact Maria Cole [mariaCole1968@sky.com](mailto:mariaCole1968@sky.com)

## Deadlines for forthcoming issues

20<sup>th</sup> April 2018; 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

## Cover picture

**An aerial view of Shakespeare Park adjacent to the now open Shenley Road taken from a drone by Drew Murray.**

## Snippets of village news

Contributions to the Editor are welcome, although it may not always be possible to include them.

- **TIDY TIP.** Do you want to be tidy in 2018? Don't put down; always put away. Less is more.

- **ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS** take place at the Jubilee Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> May from 19.00 pm. Jubilee Hall hosts a social evening on 9<sup>th</sup> February and a curry night on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

- **HAZEL DUDLEY** would like to thank Pauline, Valerie and Frederick for their help in collecting £181 for Willen Hospice.

- **ST MARY'S CHURCH** is seeking helpers to clean the church once a week for one month in the year. Help is required also to assist with mowing the grass. Anyone interested should telephone Hazel Dudley on 01908 505727. Thank you.

- **MORRIS HOMES** is expected to begin work this year constructing houses on land adjacent to Shenley Road. There will be 155 houses of which six large, four-bedroom properties will gain access directly from Shenley Road. The remainder will use Hayton Way or Guildford Avenue. For more details **see p. 11.**

- **POT HOLES** in Coddimoor Lane are a disgrace. This important road has suffered snowfalls and increased traffic from closure of the Shenley Road. Both have multiplied the number and severity of potholes. So-called 'permanent' remedial work (**right**) appears not to be permanent.



- **THE COST** of repairing UK roads in 2017 is estimated at £14 billion. Ironically, Government allocates 40 times more to maintaining national roads, which it controls, compared with local roads overseen by councils. This funding discrepancy explains the huge number of potholes on UK roads. Every council (see **p. 41**) pleads for drivers to report potholes. The 'pleading' appears to be a smokescreen; a false impression that councils are taking action.

- **CONCERN has** been expressed about the state of weeds along the highways in Whaddon. All spraying has been discontinued by Buckinghamshire County Council and devolved to parishes. Likewise comments have been passed about the state of the 'white gates' at the entrance to Whaddon from Shenley Road and Stratford Road; they leave much to be desired. Both 'gates' are in need of a clean-up, de-weeding and a general tidy-up.



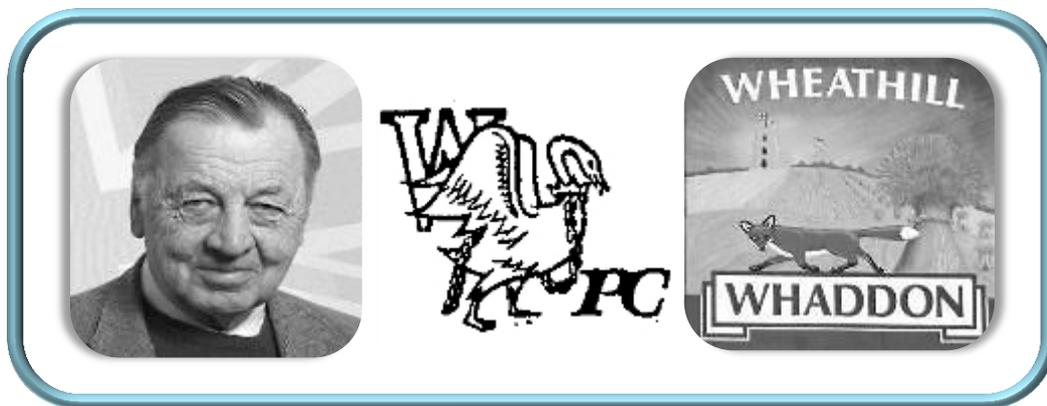
- **JOE GURNEY** of Beachampton has some 800 ewes in and around Whaddon. With lambing due to start on 12<sup>th</sup> February, Joe has reminded villagers of the presence of heavily pregnant sheep (**left**) in fields on Windy Ridge (behind the Church). Joe asked that all dogs be kept on a

lead and under control for the short length of the footpath crossing the field. Pregnant ewes are still in the field behind the pub. No sheep are currently in the old Abbey field by Oxley Park. Average yield per ewe is just under two. ■

● **FOR SALE.** I am digitising everything to save space. I have a Sankyo dualux 1000 cine projector with manual for Super 8, Single 8 and Regular 8 formats.

This comes with a superb Leitz 35mm slide projector and a tripod-mounted screen. What offers for the package? Tel: Roger Porter at 01908 501 709

● **FOR SALE.** Approximately 1,000 old stock bricks, which are surplus to requirements. Buyer to collect. For further details please contact Baird McClellan, 01908 502204 (Whaddon address)



## Parish Council Report

### February 2018

As we enter a New Year, I am reminded, as I look again at the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*, how fortunate we are to have such a great community spirit in Whaddon; no less than 10 village organisations were reporting on their activities and there are others besides. Keeping us all up to date is the Whaddon Facebook page, together with the Parish Council's WhaddonBucksPC.org web site. (WhaddonBucks as there is another Whaddon in Cambridgeshire)

The consultation period for the forthcoming Vale of Aylesbury Plan has now closed. As previously reported, we should be unharmed by this, although land agents have continued to press for the inclusion of land between Whaddon and Milton Keynes, at present omitted. Likewise, Plan:MK poses no immediate threats. We have to remain vigilant as,

for example, at a recent conference in Aylesbury, one speaker's speech focused on the prospect of doubling the population of Milton Keynes to half a million by 2050.

I am sure that you will agree with me that the state of the tarmac on the village roads is appalling; the potholes are dangerous and also expensive on our car tyres. I shall personally be taking this up with our County Councillor as will the Parish Council. ■

*Billy Stanier*

February 2018

---

## From the editor's chair

EDITING can be fun, creative, satisfying and challenging; it requires also imagination and luck. For example, as to the latter, were it not for two chance emails, one from far away, this *Whaddon Quarterly* might have been much slimmer.

It is early November; leaves fluttered down from the sycamore like Albert Hall poppies at the finale of the Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance; they form a deep carpet on the lawn. Thoughts turn to the next issue: the empty pages. A chance email triggers a chain of thoughts; some lead nowhere. Others have a fruitful conclusion. A second email lights a fire; another possible feature is in the offing.

Remembrance in the celebration of a life largely spent in Whaddon provided the backdrop of a November funeral; such funerals seldom feature in this village. People who knew Alison Weatherby well have made their contributions in this issue as marks of their respect for this dynastic family. And indeed, Alison Weatherby's name crops up in several places in this issue, sometimes in the most unexpected places.

The initial November email prompted some research; the research required further digging. The eventual result: four photographs of 95 years ago. It is claimed a picture is worth 1,000 words. These four photographs on **p. 46** are worth every bit of 4,000 words.

The subject of each photograph is Colonel 'Bill' Selby-Lowndes, one-time Master of the Whaddon Chase Hunt. Some sources suggested 'Bill' paid his lads at the kennels a pittance. Other reports likewise painted him as a 'poor man'. The photographs in *The Sketch* of February 1923 depict Bill as enjoying a far from parsimonious lifestyle.

In addition to these photographs, light is projected onto the Whaddon Chase Hunt 'dispute', where hero Bill is at loggerheads with arch-rival Lord Dalmeny.

Almost coincidentally, as the email triggered a chase after facts of the Hunt dispute, a copy of the *Whaddon Quarterly* for autumn 1992 arrived, kindly provided by Margaret Barrie. It seems that in 25 years, nothing has changed.

The then Editors turned back the pages of time as much as they reported their present-day events. The Editors, in nostalgic mood, noted: "Someone once remarked that while today is not as good as yesterday it is probably better than tomorrow! Few will accept such cynicism. Yet there are still lessons to be learnt from the past."

That Autumn 1992 issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly* carried two separate items on facing pages. The coincidence with the present could not be ignored. Both had relevance to this issue and one is reproduced *verbatim* on **p. 30**. The other, linked to Joan Selby-Lowndes, kick-started a further quest: to discover the identity of 'Old Adams'. Turn to **p.47** to discover more. Possibly you can cast light into this corner of Whaddon's folklore. More next time.

Finally, it is impossible to escape without mentioning this issue's front cover. It may not be everyone's choice. The drone's eye view of nearby Shakespeare Park adjoining the Shenley Road is stark. In contrast to gentle country scenes of daffodils and lambs, it could be the shape of things to come for future generations.

November's Budget highlighted prospects for five 'green towns' in the Oxford-Cambridge 'tech' corridor. It forecasts too, the building of 300,000 new houses yearly by the mid-2020s. On **p. 8**, Graham Stewart opines a personal view of his interpretation of Local Plans. Put together, the result has to be...more houses. But before houses there should be imaginative, forward-looking plans with vital, comprehensive supporting infrastructures. All too often such formalities seemingly are side-lined by planners as they hasten to meet government numbers.

On a brighter note, new-born lambs will soon frolic in fields nearby. Enjoy this issue's miscellany of past, present and future.■



● **THOSE** faced with the usual end-of-year task of shredding out-of-date financial documents, or even old love letters (long since a thing of the past), can take comfort they will not be pieced together to reveal their contents. Even with an 8 million euro German government funding and an ePuzzle computer program, scientists in that country failed to piece together the contents of 16,000 sacks of confetti – or 600 million pieces from 45 million pages – which once formed records from the feared East German Stasi state police. Residents of Whaddon can take comfort their shredding will be burned at Greatmoor Energy from Waste in Aylesbury – see **p. 69** for what happens there. Ed

## Clerk's Corner



### Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

**POTHOLE!!!** Please check Facebook and the WPC Community Email for details.

of the current Pothole Situation. To report Potholes you need to go to go to [www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/). Or Google

AVDC Report a Pothole and it will take you to the right place. Dangerous situations can be reported by phone on 01296 382416 or 486630 (out of hours).

**No Dogs on the Recreation Ground.** A reminder that dogs are **NOT** allowed on the Recreation Ground. This is because irresponsible dog owners do not clear up after their dogs; contaminating a play area for children is **not** acceptable. Please respect this rule for the benefit of the village community. Thank you.

#### **SIGN UP TO GET IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES BY EMAIL!!!**

Many residents of Whaddon Parish are not getting up-to-date and timely information about very important issues affecting our Parish. You can also get Whaddon Quarterly by email, and lots of useful notices and information; e.g., refuse collection delays, road closures, planning applications, etc.

Send a short email to [ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk](mailto:ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk) asking to be added to the list. We promise absolutely you will NOT be 'spammed' and your details will NOT be passed on or used for any other purpose than this one.

**Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings.** The next meeting of Whaddon Parish Council take place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, at 7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Further meetings will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May (AGM), 12<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> November. Please check the Village Notice Board on the bus stop to confirm these dates and the location, as these can be subject to change. All Welcome! ■

**.Editor and desk-top publisher:** John Mortimer. **Proofreading:** Marianna Beckwith.

**Printer:** NBR Printing Ltd., Galleon Wharf, Old Wolverton Rd, Milton Keynes. MK12 5NL

**The views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of Whaddon Parish Council. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the editor does not accept liability for any errors.** ■

## Local plans: emerging issues

**The following reports on the progress of three current emerging Local Plans were discussed at the Whaddon Parish Council (WPC) meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January.**

**Milton Keynes Local Plan - PLAN:MK.** The WPC response was submitted to MK Council prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> December deadline; contained 25 comments. All were mainly in support of various policies that could either directly or loosely impact on Whaddon, given that future MK expansion (small or large) heads in the direction of this village, as opposed to the current idea of crossing the M1 motorway. All comments have been confirmed as valid and have been processed accordingly. Our comments will now be gathered together by the Council with all other properly made submissions and forwarded to an independent Government Inspector who will determine whether or not the new Plan should be approved. The new 'Plan:MK' is expected to be adopted at the end of this year, but work on the next plan will proceed almost immediately, once the route of the Cambridge-MK- Oxford Expressway is confirmed by Government.

**Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan – VALP.** Similarly, some 27 representations were made on the VALP before the 14<sup>th</sup> December closing date. These will go through the same process as the Plan:MK, but with an approximate adoption date of late 2018, or early 2019. As with Plan:MK, work on the next Aylesbury Vale Plan will proceed almost immediately after the route of the Cambridge-MK-Oxford Expressway has been confirmed by Government. As residents would probably expect, your Parish Council strongly supported the deletion of the previously proposed Crest Homes 2,000 new-home Shenley Park site at WHA001 (situated on each side of Shenley Road, behind the recreation ground). The WPC also made comments on a variety of issues, including traffic, transport and landscape where proposed planning policies would or might impact on Whaddon residents or village issues.

**Wycombe Local Plan.** A brief response was submitted on this emerging plan, mainly to object to the Plan's proposed housing densities on the majority of its larger development areas, which, when compared to other local authorities in the area, seemed unrealistically low. This is even when bearing in mind the landscape constraints, which include areas of Green Belt and Areas of Attractive Landscape. Clearly, if Wycombe and other nearby authorities are unable to meet their housing needs any 'unmet needs' could, and most likely would, be transferred to AVDC and, bearing in mind the constraints in the south of this district, it could force AVDC to look again at possible sites in the North of the district, namely those adjoining Milton Keynes. The WPC's submission suggested that Wycombe District Council had a duty to reconsider their housing densities in line with all other authorities, thereby providing essential-need housing closer to where it is obviously required, rather than 'shipping it out' to another district. ■

*Graham Stewart.*

Whaddon PC

## What might Whaddon's future be?

**Graham Stewart assesses, from a strictly personal perspective, what the implications of the foregoing might mean for the future of Whaddon and Milton Keynes.**

WITHOUT a crystal ball, least of all any inside knowledge, your guess as to future planning solutions within the district is as good as mine.

However, while we now wait a year or two for these various Local Plans to come to fruition and be adopted, not to mention waiting for Government to produce final major infrastructure decisions, here are some thoughts.

It would appear MK Council – subject to the confirmed route of the Oxford-MK-Cambridge Expressway and Highways funding – has (in its emerging Local Plan:MK) finally agreed to look across and to the north-east of the M1 motorway for its growth over the next 30 years. This is something Whaddon Parish Council and village residents have been consistently advising it to do for years.

This has to be the right decision. It suggests that plan makers at MK Council will no longer look for piecemeal field-by-field growth around the edges of the existing built-up area, as in recent years and consequently impact and affect Whaddon. Instead, MK Council has appeared to examine and propose a fully sustainable solution for MK2 on the north-east side of the M1, towards Bedford.

Such forward and comprehensive thinking would embrace the many advantages of expanding in that direction. They would include the already completed A421 infrastructure, improved access to the motorway, expansion and further development at Cranfield Technology Park and airfield, expansion of existing employment and recreational opportunities in and around Marston Vale, and the strong possibility of a new Milton Keynes to Bedford canal (the route is already protected). The latter would open new and exciting leisure opportunities.

### **A fine and prestigious garden city**

All of the foregoing would encourage further investment and employment opportunities, especially if the vision and original plans of forgotten heroes Fred Pooley and Derek Walker were mirrored on the north-east side of the M1 through a 'Phase 2' Milton Keynes Development Corporation to create a true garden city. This would make Milton Keynes even more successful than today and cement its role as an important, strategic regional centre.

Similarly, Aylesbury Vale District Council (which, like Milton Keynes Council appears to now have a minimum five-year housing supply, including sufficient projected sites for the next Local Plan period) has a unique 'window of opportunity' (subject to the final chosen route of the Oxford-to-Cambridge Expressway), to reject or challenge any hostile planning applications over the next few years, and which may occupy less sustainable sites than are not favoured by the Council's forward planning department.

This would give AVDC and Buckinghamshire County Council valuable thinking and planning time in which to very carefully consider how the two see the Vale developing over the next 30 to 50 years. This raises the question: "Why

would AVDC want to develop further major sites alongside and adjoining Milton Keynes?" Also. "What possible good would such development do for the Vale?"

Bearing in mind that new houses in such locations would be in AVDC, it must be clear that to all intent and purpose those new residents would see themselves as part of Milton Keynes. Almost every aspect of their lives – shopping, employment, health, education, leisure pursuits, and so on – would be in Milton Keynes. And the first to benefit? Milton Keynes.

The knock-on effects would be to the obvious detriment of Aylesbury Vale and effectively negate the development, especially if a very large proportion of AVDC's income, in the form of council tax revenue, had to be handed over to Milton Keynes Council to help pay for education, health care, infrastructure and so on. This would seem to be pointless, given that AVDC has serious intentions of making the Vale 'a better place to live'!

Thus far, AVDC has had to sacrifice the 2,000 homes at the Salden Chase site (between the A421 and Newton Longville within AVDC's boundary) in the current Local Plan. Whilst unfortunate, and not wholly welcomed by Milton Keynes Council or indeed Bletchley, this major site is now a fraction of the original 5,400-home plan. It has enjoyed a lengthy planning history as a hangover from the now-defunct South East Plan. Added to which, the timing was bad; coming as it did when AVDC struggled to find its legally required five-year housing supply numbers. This suggests AVDC does not need or may not be required to find any more sites in this general location, such any future extension of Salden Chase and perhaps even more so, the WHA001 site at Shenley Park, Whaddon.

There is even an argument to say that were Salden Chase to be promoted today for the first time (rather than 15 years ago as it was), it may not have got off the starting blocks. As to that, we will never know.

### **A window of opportunity**

So, within this next two to three-year window of opportunity, the powers that be and Forward Planners at AVDC and Buckinghamshire County Council must look at identifying sites within the Aylesbury Vale boundary able to assist economic growth within the whole district, rather than further bolster continued success of Milton Keynes. There has been talk of one or even two new Garden Villages within Aylesbury Vale; each could cater for some 5,000 new houses, with schools and employment opportunities. These could be located close to new infrastructure, thereby maximising the economic and social success of these new communities.

A variety of potential sites has already been considered including Haddenham, or (closer to home) near to Winslow and its proposed new east-west rail station. This Garden Village vision surely would be a better and much more sustainable solution for Aylesbury Vale rather than simply taking the easy option of targeting more green field sites alongside Milton Keynes.

Crest Homes or other major house building companies may not necessarily agree with such crystal ball gazing! So watch this space. It is not likely to happen any time soon; the next major development, beyond those being proposed in the current Local Plans, is unlikely to break its first sod of earth before 15, or even 20 years' time. ■

*Graham Stewart*

**The Editor welcomes comments on this topic from readers as to how they see the area changing in future. These will be published next time.**

## Shenley Road update

I am sure that all residents welcomed the re-opening of Shenley Road and Guildford Avenue (the wiggly road) just before Christmas. This reinstates our direct access to Morrisons and MK centre without the lengthy and sometimes tortuous A421 detour.

Many residents may know that even before the road was re-opened, your Parish Council was informed of another development, adjoining the Taylor Wimpey site. This new site stands between Canterbury Barns (the Tattenhoe Bare Farm development) and the start of the Taylor Wimpey development.

It also fronts onto Shenley Road between the two open ends of the North Bucks Way. This development of some 156 houses is to be constructed by Morris Homes and is likely to commence later this year.

However, six large four-bedroomed houses with double garages will have direct vehicular access to Shenley Road (the remainder will exit the site onto Hayton Way or Guildford Avenue). The builder, under an agreement with the Homes and Communities Agency HCA (rather than MK Highways), has to upgrade and install improved traffic calming measures along the part of Shenley Road that fronts its site, where three temporary humps currently exist.

Your Parish Council has requested sight of these proposed improvement works, and has asked when the works will be undertaken. However, as the details are approved by the HCA (and not MK Council), plans and details are proving difficult to obtain. That said, if the works were to require a further 'Road Closure Notice' then MK Council would have to agree and approve such a closure.

Accordingly, in an attempt to ensure further closure and subsequent disruptions are avoided, Whaddon PC is working closely with MK Council and Shenley Parish Council to try to ensure any further closures are avoided, and that a traffic light system is installed should the works require highway management.

MK Council is currently finalising the 'reserved matters' planning application, which covers the Construction Environment Management Plan and Site Access Routing and, following discussions at the 11<sup>th</sup> January Whaddon Parish Council (PC) meeting, appropriate comments have been submitted to MK Council to safeguard the village environment where possible.

MK Highways has already responded to WPC following an earlier request. It notes: "*Further to your enquiry I confirm that I have had no applications for a TTRO (temporary road closure) in that location, but if I do I will ensure that no unnecessary road closures will be granted.*" .....the important word here is 'unnecessary'!

*Graham Stewart*

Whaddon P.C. ■

## Whaddon planning briefs

The following planning applications and enforcement issues were discussed at the Whaddon Parish Council meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January. It is not always possible to include all planning matters in the *Whaddon Quarterly* due to print deadlines and individual application timing, but the easiest way to follow planning matters within the village is to request notifications from the Hugo Fox, Whaddon Web Site Planning tracker web site page at <https://www.hugofox.com/community/whaddon-bucks-12792/planning-tracker/>

Alternatively, Google and log on to the AVDC Planning 'simple search' page if you know the application number, which is always displayed on all yellow planning notices fixed on or close to the application site.

**17/04616/APP - 16 HIGH STREET, WHADDON.** Raising of roof for roof conversion and erection of single storey rear extension, inclusion of four roof-lights and two dormer windows on roof.

WPC RESPONSE – NO OBJECTION – BUT NOTE TREE CONCERNS.

**17/04717/HPDE - 36 VICARAGE ROAD, WHADDON.** The erection of a single-storey rear extension, which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 4.5m for which the maximum height would be 3.37m and for which the eaves would be 2.1m.

WPC RESPONSE – NO OBJECTION – BUT NOTE POTENTIAL LOSS OF LIGHT.

**17/04782/APP – THE OLD KENNELS, WHADDON.**

WPC RESPONSE – NO OBJECTION

### ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

**12/02179/APP - OS 4464 STRATFORD ROAD, WHADDON.**

**(enf. Ref. 17/00359/CON3).** An email dated 12th December has been received from AVDC confirming that certain works had been undertaken on this site without planning consent having been approved.

The alleged unauthorised works include: 1) works on site (including erection of building and the installation of Klargestor tank) and 2) commercial use of site/building in breach of Condition 3 of 12/02179/APP

Following a site meeting with landowner and planning agent the AVDC Planning Enforcement Officer further informed Whaddon PC that they are in the process of submitting a planning application to seek to regularise the use of the site.

The submission of a retrospective planning application is a legitimate option available to the landowner and will allow the Council to formally determine whether the development is acceptable, following consultation with the public and other bodies.

As the *Whaddon Quarterly* goes to press, a retrospective application has not been received. ■ Whaddon Parish Council

## Five new garden towns proposed

**FIVE new garden towns are set to be built in the Oxford to Cambridge corridor to provide houses to meet the government's new annual construction target of 300,000 a year by the mid-2020s: up from 217,000 last year.**

THE details were released in the Budget in November last, when the Chancellor, Philip Hammond, said he wanted to see the construction of one million new houses between the two university cities of Oxford and Cambridge, an area which includes Milton Keynes.

Mr Hammond said houses would be delivered through public-private partnership designed to attract 'long-term capital investment' from 'around the world'. There are 716 partnerships already.

The concept of garden towns originated in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with Letchworth as the first example. They are intended to combine the best of urban and country living, being surrounded by green-belt to limit its growth. Letchworth had Britain's first roundabout in 1909. Other examples followed including Welwyn Garden City with towns like Milton Keynes and Telford being inspired by it. More recently, other developments have emerged including Ebbsfleet Valley in Kent, and an expansion of Bicester in Oxfordshire.

With the new HS2 high-speed rail link between London, Birmingham and the north passing between Bicester and Buckingham, it is expected this, too, will have an impact on the proposed new garden town developments. The first trains are expected to start running in 2026, with the last phase opening in 2033. ■

## Whaddon's Windy Ridge plaque

**Do you recall the celebrations of 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016? Well, the question might be asked: what has happened to the Windy Ridge Plaque once attached to the front of the Jubilee Hall?**

KINDLY presented that summer's day to the village by Mr Geoffrey Pidgeon it commemorates the work done by MI6 during World War 2.

I understand it was removed when the outside of the hall was painted in 2017, but it should by now have been returned.

I think the Pidgeon family would be very unhappy to return to the village only to find the plaque missing. Perhaps the Jubilee Hall committee could make some effort to see the return of the plaque to its rightful place. ■

*Derek White.*

Parish Councillor



## Time to lend us a tenner!

YES. Please lend us a tenner! Or, to be more accurate, a *tenor*. Chase Choir finds itself a little light on tenors in our men's section at the moment. Are you, or do you know someone who would be interested in spending a couple of hours on a Monday evening, in the company of a lovely, friendly bunch of folk, exercising their vocal chords? Singing is so good for you, and in these bleak months, as winter drags on, any kind of mood-lifter has to be a good idea, right? Please get in touch with Karen, on the number below if you'd like to have a chat about it.



The choir has had a very busy and successful few months, since the last Quarterly was published. Here's what we did:

- Helped raise £1,133.67 for the MacIntyre charity, by singing at their Christmas Fair at Woburn Abbey.
- Were very honoured and delighted to have sung at Alison Weatherby's memorial service.
- Supported St Mary's Church at the Nine Lessons and Carols service.
- Raised £759 at our Christmas concert: thank you so much if you came and supported us.
- Raised £99 singing carols at The Lowndes Arms: further thanks to you, if you were there too.
- Raised an astonishing £455 singing carols at MK Central station.
- Raised £179 singing carols at M&S.

Our nominated charities to share the funds raised are Willen Hospice and Thames Valley Air Ambulance. We will be choosing two different, local charities for this year's fundraising.

We are currently working on several new pieces and are excited to be singing in the MK Music Festival again in March, along with a planned Summer Concert on 20<sup>th</sup> July. In fact, we're bursting with ideas, dates, plans and good things to see us through to the end of 2018 already. So if you are organising an event, and need some musical entertainment, do get in touch soon, as our diary is filling up fast!

Chase Choir meets on Monday evenings from 7.00pm to 9.00pm in Whaddon Jubilee Hall. We pay just £2 per session. If you'd like to find out more, have a look at our website: [www.chasechoir.com](http://www.chasechoir.com), or contact Karen Logan (choir leader) on 01908 501922 or Marianna Beckwith on 01908 503194. ■

## Tribute: Alison Beatrix Weatherby

7/12/1928 – 7/11/2017

### Let there be no mourning when I go

THE THEME of the memorial on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 reflected the life and times of Alison Weatherby as many family members contributed their own tributes. The Rev'd John King conducted the service.

Following the opening hymn, Lord of hopefulness, Lord of all joy, Roger Weatherby read the well-known passage from 1 Corinthians 13. It begins: Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels.

Clare Daresbury and Angel Collins followed with Rudyard Kipling's poem The glory of the garden, after which the Chase Choir sang Mozart's Eucharist hymn *Ave Verum Corpus* (Hail, true Body).

Jack Weatherby then read a poem compiled by an unknown author: As you love me, let there be no mourning when I go.

After the hymn The Lord's My Shepherd based on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm Johnny Weatherby read Will H. Ogilvie's poem The Hoofs of the Horses.

In his glowing tribute to Mrs Weatherby, Nigel Pease included references to her MI5 role during World War 2.

Karen Logan sang the anthem God Be In My Head, after which Toby Greenall read a passage attributed to Countess Elizabeth Craven. It began: I thank thee God, that I have lived in this great world and known its many joys.

Lara Weatherby, Willow Weatherby and Freddie Weatherby each then said a prayer.

The service concluded with The Lord's Prayer and the hymn Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven.

Proceeds of the retiring collection were shared between St Mary's Church, Whaddon and The Alzheimer's Society.

JM

## Weatherby family and Whaddon

THE RECENT passing of Alison Weatherby, just short of her ninetieth birthday, marks the end of a 60-year period in which she and her husband, Christopher, who died in 2004, did so much for our village.

Christopher was not only a regular worshipper at Whaddon church, but sang in the choir, was a member of the PCC and invariably hosted the Church Fete. He was President of Whaddon and Nash British Legion, commanding our parade on Remembrance Sunday.

Alison was Chairman of the Whaddon Women's Institute and served on both the Parish Council and the Jubilee Hall Committee. Both were keen riders, hunting with the Whaddon Chase hounds.

Christopher was born in Oxfordshire in 1920 and after school at Winchester, joined the London stockbrokers Kitcat and Aitken. War intervened and he served with distinction with the 15<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Hussars, being awarded the Military Cross following the Normandy invasion. Returning to the city, he built up a considerable Australian business for Kitcat.

In 1953 he met the person that he would marry the following year, Alison Pease, a country girl from a large family in Durham, who loved her horses and her garden. On the birth of their first son, Andrew, in 1954, they moved to the country, coming to live at Kings Close on Nash Road in Whaddon. Here they spent 10 years and Clare, Johnny and Roger were born. Then the chance came to buy Whaddon House, the surrounding farm land and a much bigger garden and stables.

In 1974, Christopher was asked to become Chairman of his family firm, which oversees horse racing administration, because he had successfully overseen the introduction of a computer to Kitcat in 1963, the first firm ever to use one. He used these skills to do the same for Weatherbys, turning them also into a bank and moving them out of London to Wellingborough

Alison and Christopher had 50 years together in Whaddon where, as I have recounted, they did so much for others and were the best of hosts at Whaddon House. I count myself privileged to have worked with him on the Australian side of Kitcat, both in London and Australia and to have bought his house on Nash Road in Whaddon. ■

*Billy Stanier*

December 2017

---

## Reflections of an employer, friend

### **Pauline Brown recalls her 'upstairs and downstairs' life with Mrs Weatherby; a true era of days gone by.**

AGED 15, in 1964, I came to work for the Weatherby family which then lived at Kings Close; later they moved to Whaddon House. Working at Kings Close were a Spanish couple, Emmanuel and Dujia, as handyman and cook.

At the time, the household was very much run by Mrs Weatherby, who



upheld an orderly regime for both me and the children; not forgetting the daily helps (Mrs Roff and Mrs Turner), the chauffeur (Mr Nicholson), the gardeners (Henry Adams and Keith Neil), gamekeeper (Derek Robinson) and, because of her love of horses, a full team of grooms under Mr Cameron. Other members of 'the team' who were already employed when I returned in 2001 included Stuart Grace as farm manager, David King as farm hand and Mick Swayne as handyman. Mrs Morley worked at Whaddon House in my early years. It certainly felt very much 'upstairs and downstairs'.

Mrs Weatherby (**left**) would often pop into the nursery to join staff for elevenses and afternoon tea with Nanny and myself, and Andrew, Clare, Johnny and Roger – hunt meets permitting.

In 2001, I was then lucky enough to return to work for Mrs Weatherby as the cook/housekeeper. Working alongside Val Bond, we would prepare and host various lunch and dinner parties, joined on 'posh' occasions, by Mr Roff as the butler.

Throughout the many years spent working for the Weatherby family, I consider myself very lucky to have worked for such a lovely family, who I consider friends.

Mrs Weatherby always had a great sense of humour; she was incredibly kind and a great listener. She had wonderful phrases for many aspects of life and so many kind words for all – with maybe the occasional 'damaged goods' remark! Mr and Mrs Weatherby, Clare, Johnny and Roger formed a huge part of our lives and will be missed by so many. ■

*Pauline Brown.*

---

## A memorable occasion for all

**It is not often Whaddon plays host to a service of thanksgiving on quite such a scale; it proved not only a celebration of the life of Mrs Alison Weatherby but a memorable occasion for everyone present.**

THE last funeral on a similar scale took place in 2004 for Christopher Weatherby, Alison's husband. Then the church was full to capacity and, as this year, the Rev'd John King took the service with his wife Pamela as organist.

Activity on land adjacent to St Mary's Church two days before the funeral aroused any casual observer's curiosity of an unusual event about to happen. Provision for many parked vehicles added to the impending sense of occasion.

Spearheading that activity, Mark Leefe, founder of Be Upstanding Marquees, and his team began constructing the 90 x 40ft marquee; later they added independent electric/kerosene heating and a generator to provide electricity. Among finishing touches, a strategically-placed coconut 'path' ensured a mud-free passage to the marquee.

Next day, Fabronic installed a sound and vision system comprising two 60-inch TV screens in the marquee and a 42-inch screen in the church; a single camera and discrete speakers completed the system. During the same day, beautiful flowers were added to the church (**below**).



Early expectations suggested some 250 would be present – the print number for the Order of Service. However, the final attendance brought the figure to 280, causing some having to share copies.

It was anticipated too that many people would seek the warmth of the marquee as their means of participating in the service; however, the majority preferred the church, cramming every nook and cranny.

Sheelagh Chetwode Catering provided a delicious canapé luncheon with a dozen waiting staff on hand. Full bar facilities were available.  
JM



For more details contact: Be Upstanding Marquee, tel: 01295 768073; Fabtronic, tel: 01604 638100; Sheelagh Chetwode Catering, tel: 07595 548652.

## St. Mary's Church Whaddon

### Regular services

#### November and December 2017

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	10.30 am Family Service
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	10.30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.30 am Sunday Special - Contemporary informal gathering. Tea, coffee and croissants available from 10 am
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	8.30 am Said Holy Communion (Traditional, in Lady Chapel)
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Benefice service at one of the churches - venue to be notified



### Other activities

Tuesday	2.00 pm Tea on Tuesday and Post Office in Jubilee Hall
Tuesday	7.30 pm Bell ringing practice – new recruits always welcome
Tues & Thurs	8.00 pm onwards. Table tennis in Jubilee Hall
Wednesday	1.45 – 2.45 Toddler Church. School term only

- 1st Wednesday            2.00 pm Women's Institute in Jubilee Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday            8.00 pm Whaddon Night Owlers WI in Jubilee Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday            10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Coffee Shop

A very warm welcome is extended to everyone who may wish to attend any activity.

## Special services

- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March            10.30 am Mothering Sunday. Family Service  
Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> March            8.30 am Palm Sunday Holy Communion  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March            Maundy Thursday (Time and venue TBA)  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March            11.30 am Good Friday Meditation (Coffee 11.00 – 11.20 am)  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April            10.30 am Easter Day. Family Communion

**Lenten Evensongs** will begin on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 6.00 pm. Please check church noticeboard for venues or telephone David Spencer 01908 502540.

**Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>** Holy Communion at Nash church.

## Dates for your diary

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 26th April 7:45 for 8pm in the church.  
Churchwardens, PCC members and sides-people will be elected and Annual Reports will be presented.

Please come and support YOUR parish church.

SUMMER FETE Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2pm at Kings Close House by kind permission of Sir Billy Stanier.

At Christmas, the church was beautifully decorated by our willing volunteers. Thanks go to them and to Pauline Winward who made the door wreaths. The Chase Choir again took part in the service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the added volume of the singing was wonderful. Tilly Garland and Aimee Mortimer Bush began the service by singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City and the full choir sang additional carols as solos. A big thank you to the choir for giving their time to enhance the service and to the nine readers.

Jesus' Birthday Party on Christmas Morning attracted a large congregation who joined in the songs led by the Music Group. Our thanks to all who were involved, especially to Sally Green, Beryl Evans and Hazel Dudley.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017, the church was filled to capacity for the Memorial Service for Alison Weatherby, a much-loved and respected villager who had lived at Whaddon House for many years. An appreciation written by Sir Billy Stanier appears later in this edition. Our Associate priest Rev'd Gussie Walsh can be contacted on 01280 821616 or [am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk](mailto:am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk) to arrange special services. ■

*Hazel Hedges*

(Church Warden)

Tel: 01908 501729 [hazel.hedges@gmail.com](mailto:hazel.hedges@gmail.com)

## The Parochial Church Council

Hazel Hedges  
Churchwarden.  
Tel. 01908 501729

Jo Mortimer-Bush  
Hon. Secretary  
Tel: 01908 503194

Barry Dudley  
Hon. Treasurer  
Tel: 01908 505727

Frederick Hayward  
Jubilee Hall Rep  
Tel: 01908 506083

Hazel Dudley  
Tel:01908 505727

Clare Garland  
Tel: 1908 501732

Rev'd Gussie Walsh  
Tel. 01280 821616

## Toddler church



### TODDLER CHURCH

Calling all Toddlers, Mums, Dads, Grandparents & helpers too.

We meet at St Mary's Church Whaddon.

Every Wednesday (term time only from 1.45-2.45pm)

The hour consists of arts & crafts, songs & story time plus of course refreshments!

A warm welcome awaits you: no one is too old or young. So come along and join in the fun!

We look forward to seeing you.

**Toddler Church finishes for the Easter Holidays on**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Spring Term starts again on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

*Sally Green* (01908 526033)

## Hands up for Jesus

### **HANDS UP FOR JESUS**

St Mary's, Whaddon

After-School Club with Rev Gussie and team  
Songs, Story Telling, Craft, Games, Food & loads of FUN!

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month of term...3.00 pm - 4.00 pm

**For this period we meet on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 21<sup>st</sup> February & 21<sup>st</sup> March.  
This term the theme is 'Talking to God through prayer.' We are starting  
with 'What we see and what God sees' when we look in the mirror**

Is there anyone who would like to join us for an hour a month and/or like to do  
some preparation for the craft slot? If so I would love to hear from you.

*Gussie* (01280 821616).

## Remembering the fallen of WW1

**In November, a beacon will be lit in Whaddon as part of Battle's Over, the nation's tribute to those who died or were injured in World War 1. The aim is for 1,000 beacons nationwide. Here, Roger Porter recalls his grandfather who died just before the end of hostilities in 1918, 100 years ago. If you have a memory to share, please email the Editor.**

AS 11<sup>th</sup> November approaches, my thoughts turn to Sergeant Edward Frank Rashbrook, my grandfather, 'C' Squadron, 17<sup>th</sup> Lancers (Duke of Cambridge's Own) who died on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1918, age 30 (**right**).

He had seen service with the 17<sup>th</sup> in India, before returning home and joining the mounted Metropolitan Police. As a reservist, he was recalled to the colours and rejoined the regiment in December 1914. His police mount, Dick, joined up with him! My grandfather is buried at Amiens.

I can do no more than quote from the regimental journal, *The White Lancer*, a contemporaneous account written by one of his troop: "I shall never forget the last morning of his life. We rode side by side, and I little thought it was to be the last ride my chum and I would have together. 'C' Squadron went forward and then came the order to dismount, hand over horses, take picks and shovels, and dig in on the high ground to the left of the aeroplane hangars. We were only about 60 yards behind with the



*horses, so I could distinctly see Raddy's broad shoulders. There he was, under a small apple tree, digging away as hard as hard as he could. Suddenly one of Fritz's H.E. struck the apple tree. Somebody cried, "Raddy's hit!" and they carried him towards me. I handed over my horses and hastened to his side. I remember saying, "You'll be in Blighty before me after all, mate." He smiled – I think he died smiling. He was a true man – every inch a soldier – and worthy, in his life and in his death, of the illustrious regiment he was so proud to serve in."* ■

## WW1 cyclist at rest at Poperinghe

**WHEN my mother died, among her possessions found were two photographs: one of a World War 1 soldier in uniform, and another of her sister, Edith, then in her teens, carrying an inscription.**



Written on the back of the photograph of Edith are the words: 'From the pocket of L/Corp Willie Crowther, No. 57636, who died of wounds, 14<sup>th</sup> June 1917, at No. 17 Clearing Station France. And laid to rest at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinghe.' Willie (**left**), 21, was a member of the 21<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the King's (Liverpool Regiment); formerly he had been with the army's West Riding Divisional Cyclist Company.

Willie Crowther was born in 1895 to Thomas and Mary Crowther. In October 1897, Willie's mother died and Thomas remarried. But the youngster's stay with the newly-weds proved short-lived.

For reasons unknown, Fred and Mary Ellis, who lived in Blackburn's Row, Stocks Bank, Battyeford, Yorkshire, took nephew Willie under their wing. They brought him up alongside their son George. Within a year, Fred even arranged for Willie, aged four, to be baptised at Christ Church, Battyeford in August 1899; the same year Tom and Ann Sophia Wilson, who also lived in Stocks Bank, had a daughter, Edith. Fred and Mary Ellis were Edith's uncle and aunt.

Could Edith have been Willie's girlfriend; the two were not related by blood? Might this explain Edith's photograph in Willie's pocket? Edith did not marry. JM

## Events: Whaddon Jubilee Hall

### Whaddon Jubilee Hall

*We have been busy arranging dates for your village hall to raise funds for a new kitchen. Please come along and support these events and bring your friends.*

#### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Social Evening**

Friends, Laughter, Fun, Music - Bar opens at 7.30pm

#### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Curry Night**

Safina will be cooking for us again with her lovely curries.

£14 per person, a choice of 3 curries, rice and poppadum's followed by fruit and coffee.

Tickets available from Alice on 01908 505475

#### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Royal Wedding Celebration**

To celebrate the wedding of HRH Prince Harry to Meghan Markle

More details to follow

#### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June - BBQ/Social Evening**

## Whaddon Book Club



THE Whaddon Book Club, now in its 10th year, continues to meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. We try within the month to read the book we have selected. Some titles take longer to complete, but only one or two have completely defeated every single member, either because of time or its content.

*Moab is My Washpot* by Stephen Fry fell into that category. Although a compact volume, none of the members chose to finish the book as each felt unhappy with the content.

We are flexible in our choices. Since the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly* we have enjoyed *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion, but we have been irritated by *Lucky Jim*. Kingsley Amis received applause for his first comic novel when first published in 1954. It was acclaimed as marking the arrival of a new literary

generation, sometimes referred to as 'Angry Young Men'. We found this modern classic hopelessly dated, although we applauded the use of his language.

This month, we should have read *The Girl from Station X* by Eliza Seagrave, but perhaps we have had a surfeit of books on Bletchley Park; no one has yet started reading it. Our fall-back position is to bring a current favourite book for discussion at the meeting.

Choice of reading material continues to challenge; if you wish to add your ideas, please join us at our next meeting over a drink at *The Lowndes Arms* on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evening of the month at 7.30pm. Contact [jane.porter@live.co.uk](mailto:jane.porter@live.co.uk) *Jane Porter*

---

## The new Post Office is now in action

THE NEW Post Office in the Jubilee Hall is available for a full range of services, plus some added new ones. **The trading day of the village-based Post Office is Tuesday from 2.00 to 4.00 pm.**

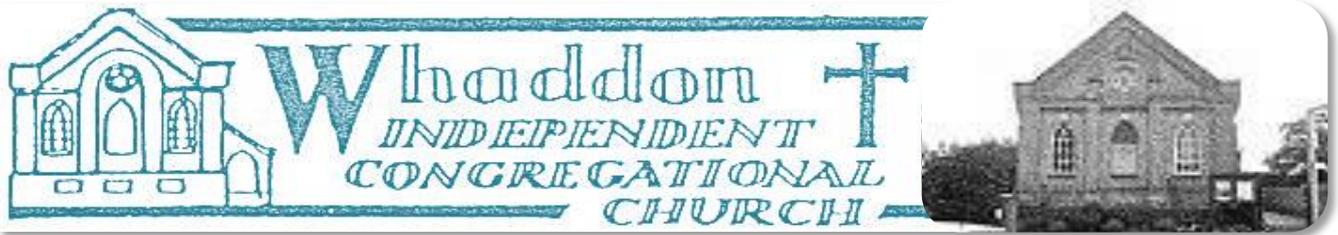
The postmaster, Mr Jigar Patel, runs the Post Office in Deanshanger. His shop can be contacted on 01908 564490. Please save this telephone number for future reference when placing orders. Deanshanger Post Office has a shop and off-licence attached. Mr Patel informs that he is prepared to bring items with him from the shop on Monday, provided that orders are telephoned through in advance and collected on Mondays.



Customers will be able to withdraw cash, including dollars & euros on demand. Other currencies will need ordering the previous week or by telephoning Deanshanger PO by Thursday for collection at Whaddon the following Monday.

All these extra services will be available, as well as the regular services of money orders, stamps, letters and parcels; and he will have greetings cards for various occasions. However, neither the Postmaster nor the Jubilee Hall is being paid to provide this service to the village. Whether it stays or goes will depend entirely on how much it is used. If it is not well supported and Mr Patel considers it not worth his while to continue, he will have no option but to close it. Please support this important and valuable village facility whenever you can. ■

---



## Whaddon Chapel

*Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said... And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshipped him. Matthew 28 v 1-9*

TIME rolls on: Winter becomes Spring, and Christmas becomes Easter; the familiar pattern and cycle seemingly continues indefinitely. But the danger in this is that we never take the time to stop and think.

There are times in life that should simply arrest us, cause us to stop, to think and take stock. Easter is one such time. Look at the first Easter: God made it clear that this was an event to be noticed. He caused darkness for six hours in the daytime, the ground to shake, the massive curtain in the Jewish temple (once signifying the sin separating God from man) to be torn in two, and even tombs to open releasing the dead (now raised to life).

From the cross came Christ's arresting cry of compassion "*Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.*" ... and then, "*It is finished*". And then – just three days later - another earthquake, an angel's visitation, an empty tomb and a risen Jesus Christ.

At the time, many stopped. Many saw. Many believed. A Roman Centurion was one. His conclusion: "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

This Easter, try stopping. Seeing. Listening. Jesus Christ is the Son of God! All human history – and destiny – rests on this fact.

Why not join us to find out more? ■

### Easter Services

- **Good Friday**, 30<sup>th</sup> March – short reflective service followed by tea, 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm in the Chapel schoolroom.
- **Easter Sunday**, 1<sup>st</sup> April 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm.

### Regular meetings

- Every Sunday at 4.00 pm-5.00 pm, Whaddon Chapel.

## A Yorkshire adventure



**Before Christmas Frederick Hayward spent a few days at a Christian retreat; its motto: lives shared, lives transformed. Here is his story.**

IT ALL BEGAN when a friend of mine, Dorothy Green, said that she was going to Scargill House for a few days. A lady then asked if I wanted to go. I replied: "Oh, where is that?" Dorothy then told me the House is in Yorkshire. I asked her: "What is Scargill House?" "Well," Dorothy told me, "it is a Christian retreat." I told her of my interest; I had never been to Yorkshire.

After a few thoughts I decided to go and Dorothy booked and reserved train tickets.

The days, weeks, months went by and then the Monday of departure arrived. My cousin Gerald kindly gave me a lift in his car to Milton Keynes Central rail station. So, with bags in hand, I met Dorothy inside the station foyer.

A lady working for the railway said that we needed to get to the platform to catch the Virgin Express train. We stood in a waiting room, having a chat to other people waiting for a train. It is good to talk.

The Express then arrived; what a train, it had lovely seats with a table. I was very impressed, luxury travel. Wow. I got settled and the Express began its journey from Milton Keynes. Dorothy informed me there would not be many stops. With a person to talk to the journey went well. The first stop was Stoke-on-Trent, then Stockport. I had heard about those places because of the football league.

My goodness: Manchester Piccadilly, what a station! Dorothy and I changed trains there. It was such a lovely place with people about all over. Dorothy had travelled this way before so knew where to go. Therefore the next train we caught was the Leeds train.

The train was crowded, but we were to have another good train journey. After a while, the train started, with Stalybridge, Huddersfield and Dewsbury all being stations we stopped at. I had heard about these because of football and rugby league. Once again, we had lovely countryside to look at and talk about.

Then we reached Leeds. A sign greeted us: Welcome to Yorkshire. It looked good to see.

### **At times the clouds parted**

We had some time to wait for our next train so we had a nice cup of tea and a chat to some people. I do like to chat to nice friendly, polite, people. Then it was time to get the third train which called at Shipley, Saltair, Bingley, Crossflats, Keighley, Streeton and Sillton, Conolly and then Skipton, where we disembarked from the train. The weather was wet and dull; at times the clouds had parted on the train journeys but now the rain was coming down fast.

Leaving the station, we hired a taxi. I was told it was 16 miles to Scargill House. Lots of rain stayed with us. After a good taxi journey, we arrived at the House. There was a theme to the days we were to spend there: *'Tis the season to be silly*. I thought, "Yes, I can be silly!" Two speakers, Adrian and Bridget Plass, were present to give talks.

When we arrived, we were met by some nice ladies at Reception who gave us a real warm greeting. We were given some badges and shown to our rooms.

As it was dark outside, I unpacked, then I left my room and went to the reception area. Cups of tea and cake were being served. I was soon chatting to people.

Scargill House is a living Christian community. All food and drink are prepared on site. It has a lovely kitchen, house and grounds.

Then it was off to evening prayer in their lovely chapel followed by an evening meal in the restaurant: a nice large room. Dorothy and I sat with a variety of people during the days we were there. There was lots of good food and good people to talk to and a nice cup of tea as well. I felt at home straight away.

### **Exploring the grounds**

Then it was into the Marsh Lounge for Welcome and Introductory Sessions, followed by hot chocolate. Nice. Friendly handshakes all round.

Tuesday came after a good night's sleep. I looked out of my bedroom window. I saw some sheep. The weather again was wet. I saw a big hill, mountain or what was it?

We then had prayers, breakfast, morning worship and a talk session. Then came a break followed by more talk and lunch.

Then Dorothy and I did some exploring of the grounds of the Scargill House reserve that we could visit then it was time for afternoon prayers, a nice meal, then entertainment with Adrian and Bridget, followed by night prayers and hot chocolate: after that, bedtime.

Adrian and Bridget talked a lot about their adventures, happiness and Christian life.

Wednesday was another dull day of rain, with strong westerly winds. I found out that the big hill, mountain or what, is called Krype Scar. From what I could gather, it is a limestone outcrop.

So the day began with chapel and prayers, breakfast, a good chat, morning worship and talk sessions. Adrian and Bridget told us of people they had met, places they had visited and things that had happened to them. Some were happy and some were sad. In the afternoon, as it was still wet and dull, a film was shown: *Millions*. I enjoyed that.

In the evening, after prayers and another wonderful meal, the Scargill House Community put on a show called Room 101. People could put in what they wanted to get rid of. I had a go and had to sit in front of people telling them what I wanted to rid myself of. Great fun. Then followed night prayers and hot chocolate.

Thursday arrived starting with chapel prayers and a nice breakfast. Then came morning worship, followed by a talk by Adrian and Bridget: *Letting in the Light*. They were a really nice couple who got me laughing and crying; they gave me insight and, in many ways, an understanding about lots of things of life. All told, we had four days of wonderful talks.

In the afternoon, a nice couple, Martin and Janet, and Dorothy and I put on our wet weather gear and walked to Kettlewell, about one mile distant. After a nice cup of coffee at a pub we walked back to Scargill, getting back just as it became dark. After a lovely meal it was time to get packing. The day finished with evening prayers in the lovely chapel.

On the whole, the weather was not good but the people were fantastic.

On Friday there was time for an early morning walk, chapel prayers and a nice breakfast. Then we took the taxi to Skipton to catch the train to Leeds, another train to Manchester and then finally a train to Milton Keynes. After all that, I then journeyed home. That Friday the weather was sunny!

Scargill House has a motto: *lives shared; lives transformed*. At the House I felt part of everything and valued. I made friends with lots of people. ■

*Frederick Hayward*

## Whaddon Women's Institute

**W**E began our December meeting with one minute's silence in memory of Alison Weatherby. She had been a member of the WI for a number of years, and our President numerous times. She was a very active member, always getting involved with our May Day float. She was known too through the Tally Ho group, for the hilarious entertainment she had us taking part in when we were hosts for the Group Meeting. During summer, we held meetings in her lovely garden, while our January meetings would find us seated around a roaring log fire in her sitting room, enjoying a cup of tea and some of Pauline's home-made mince pies. She is greatly missed, especially as when she found herself unable to attend our meetings she always expressed her interest, keen to know all that had been happening.



In November we were entertained by the U3A hand bell ringers when we were able to 'have a go' ourselves. I cannot say our efforts resulted in a very melodious sound, but at least we did our best. Members also enjoyed a Christmas meal at the Prince George at the end of December. December too, brought us once again to our Annual Meeting when we welcomed Thelma Sackman, a WI

advisor, following the business part of the proceedings when a new committee was formed with Jane Waight being re-elected President for the coming year. After this members sat down to a well-earned Christmas tea.

Everyone is very welcome to attend any of our meetings; these take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 2.00 pm in the Jubilee Hall. Many thanks are due again to all the people who support Teas on Tuesday from 2.00 – 4.00 pm.

A very Happy New Year to you all. For more information about our meetings please telephone Jane Waight on 01908 387449 or Sue White on 01908 501987. ■

*Susan White*, February 2018.

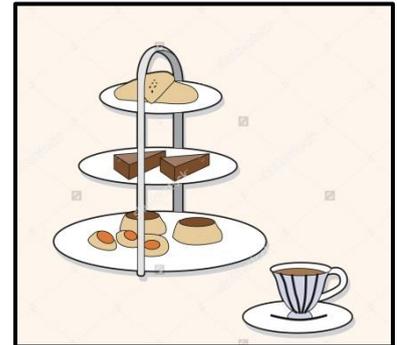
---

There seems to be some confusion about the times of the Post Office and Teas on Tuesday. The **Post Office is open on Tuesdays from 2.00 to 4.00 pm.**

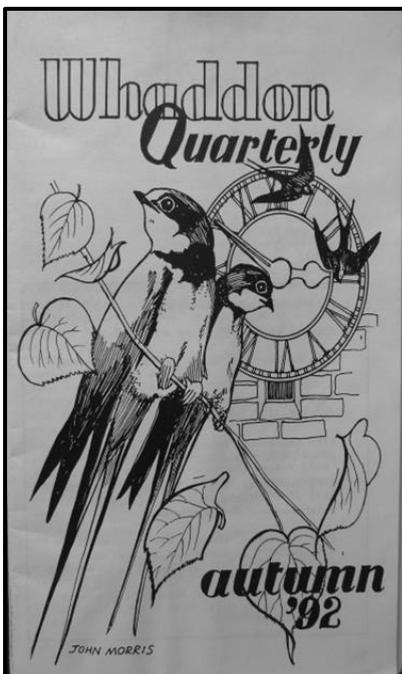
Please support the Post Office. We do not want to lose it. **Teas on Tuesday is open as usual** (the WI cannot change their day) and will be open throughout the summer. So bring the children, or come and buy a takeaway for tea. Everyone is welcome. ■

*Margaret Barrie*

---



## A WI report from the past



**This report below, A busy summer, is taken from the *Whaddon Quarterly* of 25 years ago. Compiled by Alison Weatherby, her report of 1992 is poignant in the context of tributes to her expressed in this present issue of the magazine.**

IT CAME as quite a shock to read the word 'autumn' in the reminder that it was time for our report. Where has the summer gone?

The WI has been busy during these past weeks and one of the highlights of our programme took place on a lovely summer day. This was a visit from Miss Joan Selby-Lowndes. We were delighted to welcome so many visitors (we nearly burst at the seams!) who came to meet her and listen to her memories of Whaddon in the 1930s. I know Peter Spooner is writing a piece about her talk so I will leave this to him, but it is nice to realise that there is so much interest in Whaddon's past.

Our next date was in July when Mrs Veneta Regan gave a really wonderful demonstration of flower arranging. Using mainly garden flowers, she made it all look so easy! Time flew by the end and we all left feeling inspired.

On 25th July the Buckinghamshire Federation of WIs held a huge garden party at Penn House, Princes Risborough, with many attractions. This was very much enjoyed by all who went to it.

---

Mrs Barton kindly invited us to hold the August open garden meeting at her house; the weather was fine and it was a great success.

We are looking forward to an interesting future programme, so keep an eye on the notice board. Mr Evans from Thrift Farm will be talking on 2nd September. Visitors are always welcome, and it is good news that we now have some new members. ■

*Alison Weatherby*

---

## Whaddon WI Night Owlers has no report this time.

---

## Letter to the Editor

### Poppy appeal

Sir – The Royal British Legion is enormously grateful for the excellent response to the village collection from all who live in Whaddon and, particularly, to the team of collectors who do the round of the village. We collected an amazing £603.28, and so special thanks to Kieren Beasley, Val Bond, Frederick Hayward and Janet Spencer as well as *The Lowndes Arms* and St Mary's Church.

The Royal British Legion contributed £87.4 million in 2016 towards servicemen's welfare, including their care homes, and it campaigns regularly on their behalf.

This year will be the centenary of the ending of the First World War and we want to put on a particular show on Remembrance Sunday. More of that in 2018.

A very Happy New Year to all our donors.

*David Spencer*

Branch Chairman

---

## Greenall's gin has a secret recipe

Greenall's The Original uses the same secret recipe that has been handed down through only seven master distillers. This secret blend of eight botanicals is said to give a classic 'London Dry gin with rich juniper notes, balanced with mature citrus and spice'. It is best served with ice and lime in a classic G&T or as a versatile cocktail ingredient if you're feeling a little more adventurous.

Greenall's has distilled for over 250 years through the craftsmanship of seven generations of master distillers, the custodians of its secret recipe. Founded in 1761 by Thomas Dakin, the forefather of English gin and original master distiller, 'our award winning gin has been at the forefront of British gin for gin lovers through the centuries.' Greenall's is crafted in Warrington using only the finest botanicals, including wild Tuscan juniper and delicate Moroccan coriander.

## From Tokyo with love

**Lianne Herbert has lived in Tokyo for 13 years. She teaches at The British School and this year hopes to return to the village of her birth to marry. Here is Lianne's story of life in Japan.**

I FIRST came to Tokyo 13 years ago after a fantastic year of travelling around the world. I intended to stay for only a few months, or a year at the most, before returning home. However, I haven't quite made it home yet (sorry mum and dad!); I absolutely love living in Tokyo and now call it home.

When I first arrived with my best friend, we were surprised, somewhat naively, at the lack of English. That said, it provided many interesting and funny encounters, even over the most simple of tasks. A smile and a nod went a long way at the beginning!

I found a job at a small international school and really enjoyed meeting lots of new friends and teaching local and expat children from around the world.

As the years passed, I enjoyed teaching more and more and wanted to become a fully-qualified teacher. I spent a year (the hardest year ever!) working full-time whilst simultaneously studying for a PGCE in Primary Education with Sunderland University.

Having completed that, I had greater employment opportunities and was able to apply and gain a job at The British School in Tokyo. For a long time I had wanted to work at the school but previously was underqualified.

The school is effectively a British primary school, so everything is much the same, although we do have more of a private school level of achievement, class sizes and so on.

I am now part of a wonderful community; it feels like a little piece of home when I arrive at work each day. It is the perfect mix of English tradition and Japanese culture.

### **Many opportunities**

While working in Tokyo, I have had many opportunities to travel throughout Asia and within Japan itself. This was originally my plan. I have been lucky enough to climb Mount Fuji, canoe and explore the mangroves of Kagoshima, laze on the beaches of Okinawa, snowboard in Nagano and explore rural Hokkaido, to name but a few.

My parents have visited more and more as the years have passed (I am still trying to convince my brother to come and visit!) and we have been lucky enough to go on trips together too, driving through the mountains and stopping off along the way to eat delicious food and meet the loveliest, most interesting people.

Japan is in many ways similar to England. It is a country full of culture and history. The longer I live here, the more I enjoy learning about and experiencing that.

I have enjoyed calligraphy classes and tea ceremonies and regularly play in a Taiko drumming group, performing at school and community events. I love it! Japanese people are extremely proud of their seasons. Spring is beautiful and filled with cherry blossom festivals, picnics and 花見 “Hanami” (flower viewing) parties.

Summers are hot and humid but full of seasonal fruits, shaved ice desserts and 花火 ‘Hanabi’ (Fireworks) festivals. Autumn is a time when everyone goes hiking to admire the beautiful 紅葉 ‘Kouyou’ (Autumn leaves) as they change colour. They also eat chestnuts and mochi rice snacks.

Finally, Winter is the time for skiing as well as many お正月 ‘Oshougatsu’ (New Year) traditions, involving spending time with family, warding off evil spirits and welcoming luck into their homes for the New Year.

There are always seasonal foods in the supermarket, and although sometimes it is annoying not to be able to obtain certain things, it does make you more appreciative when they are released, as they are so much tastier, especially the giant fruit; these are fresh and sweet, but expensive.

The cute side to Japan is fun too. There are always lots of quirky characters on products and advertising; these make life a little bit less serious and kawaii (cute). Karaoke is another thing not to be underestimated! It is a lot of fun and caters for everyone, from serious singers, solo singers, to nights out, kids parties and even karaoke in the park!

#### **Difficult to understand**

Locals often describe Tokyo as quite an unfriendly place to live. It is noticeable how talkative people are when you visit more rural areas, but Tokyo is no different to London in that respect. It is a busy city with millions of daily commuters. The work culture here is difficult to understand. In many industries, people are massively overworked and relatively underpaid.

Despite that, people are lovely, helpful and polite. The streets are clean and safe at any time of the day; services and shops are open late with the most amazing customer service.

Generally speaking, in the city centre apartments are very small and space is scarce. I live a little further from the centre of town and about a 20-minute walk from the station so that way I can have a larger apartment with some outside space.

Bus and train services run like clockwork and many people enjoy commuting by bicycle too. This helps to keep young and old alike very fit!



**Above. Taiko is an ancient Japanese form of percussion using large drums. It is dynamic, exciting and tells a story through its overlapping beats. It is most commonly played at festivals and ceremonies. It is also a great form of exercise as it is a full body workout when done properly!**

that even Japanese people find it difficult! It is a complex task that will take me most of my life to master I'm sure.

I have been learning Japanese on and off over the years. It is difficult to spend hours studying after a hard day at work. I study when I can, however, being regularly exposed to Japanese does help and although I wouldn't say I was good, I can easily get by in daily life.

My fiance Hiroshi also helps me to learn Japanese of course, although he often finds my mistakes endearing!

During shopping it is always easy to make mistakes, especially online. I often order *almost* the right thing, i.e. dishwasher powder instead of washing up liquid (I do not have a dishwasher!)

At least I can learn from my mistakes each time and improve. It can be frustrating sometimes, especially if I cannot express exactly what I mean; this only makes me want to study more.

While I love living here, I really miss home, my family and friends in England. Hiroshi and I are excited to be getting married at St Mary's Church in Whaddon on 28 July 2018; the church is just around the corner from my family home. We are really looking forward to our #WhaddonWedding ■

It is noticeable how 元気 'genki' (strong and healthy) people are; it is not uncommon to see senior citizens of 80-90yrs still cycling, hiking and swimming. Very inspiring!

Learning Japanese is easy at the beginning but then you begin to realise the mammoth task that you have undertaken; it is a little daunting. Kanji can be fun to learn but there are so many meanings and ways of reading kanji

## A woman with a zest for life - 2

**In this, the second part of his article discussing Joan Selby-Lowndes, John Mortimer traces her wartime career and life in civvy street.**



WITH WW2 looming, Joan, then in her early twenties, tall and assured, declared her readiness to 'do her bit' for King and country.

Local village legend has it that Joan Monica Selby-Lowndes was more than anxious to apply her fluency in French to assist British intelligence services in France. However, legend continues that Joan, who stood out from the upper-class beauties of the day, was 'too tall' at over 6ft to blend in unnoticed as an agent in France. This did not dissuade her from a desire to 'serve'.

In wartime, women in the British army formed part of the ATS – Auxiliary Territorial Service – and so it is hardly surprising, as an alternative to the 'secret service', Joan Selby-Lowndes 'joined up' in the ATS.

The local newspaper, *Northampton Mercury* of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 1940 reported, under 'Personal and social' (perhaps using a War Office press release) that: 'Miss Joan Selby-Lowndes, daughter of the Rev and Mrs E A Selby-Lowndes, of The Vicarage, Whaddon has received a commission in the Bucks Company ATS and is now at Aldershot. Miss Lowndes was made sergeant shortly after the war began. She is the first member of her company to gain a commission.'

So there, in military 'speak', Joan officially joined the British army on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1940, aged 23. Her association with the ATS actually began pre-war. As a recruit with the North Bucks Platoon, she underwent a weekly 'drill' in the Territorial Drill Hall in Aylesbury.

### **Presented a curious sight**

Joan later admitted: 'We must have presented a curious sight lined up in our associated summer dresses trying to do military 'about turns' in high-heeled fashion shoes.'

So what were ATS activities in wartime? In September 1938, with war threatening, the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) became a reality, but not until April 1941 did ATS 'girls' enjoy full military status; even then each received two-thirds of a same-rank man's wage.

In December 1941 the government passed the National Service Act; this allowed conscription of women into war work or the armed forces. They could choose the ATS, WRNS or the WAAF.

And so with the outbreak of war, Private Selby-Lowndes received a posting to Aldershot to be 'turned into an officer'. Then, as an officer, she received a posting to Mansfield and then Aldermaston where, with her one-year old Alsatian

## The ATS in wartime

The first ATS recruits lacked uniform and received little training; they adopted traditional female roles as cooks, clerks and storekeepers. After the initial influx, basic six-weeks' training became established. Later, new recruits received uniforms and were expected to complete trade tests to establish which area they should enter. Experience in civilian life proved crucial.

Besides home defence, the ATS served in most theatres of war as well as Washington in the US. At its peak, 210,308 women served with the ATS; 335 were killed.

Tess, she joined an officers' mess 'that still had something of the atmosphere of a Blenheim Palace house party.' She confessed: 'We all had dogs.'

At Aldermaston she tackled the 'ever increasing flow of new recruits' but then, having failed Maths 'abysmally' at School Certificate level, received a posting on Battle of Britain Day to the gun ranges at Shoeburyness, Essex. Joan described the ballistics range posting as a 'typical army mis-routing' as it required women with a maths qualification. However, by some 'miracle' she passed. Tess, however, did not; she was not permitted at the gun range. Instead, Tess 'joined' the army as a patrol dog; amazingly the two were re-united following demob.

A clue to Joan's wider war contribution emerges from military records. The *London Gazette* dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 1945, declares, under Gallantry awards, that temporary senior commander 192416 Joan Selby-Lowndes as being 'mentioned in dispatches' for duties in Italy, including Monte Cassino, Anzio, Salerno and San Marino.

She received the Italy Star for operational service in 'Sicily or Italy' from 11<sup>th</sup> June 1943 to 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945. The Italian Campaign of 1943-45 is viewed as a largely forgotten part of WW2, yet it proved extremely bloody with its bitter and savage battle for Monte Cassino.

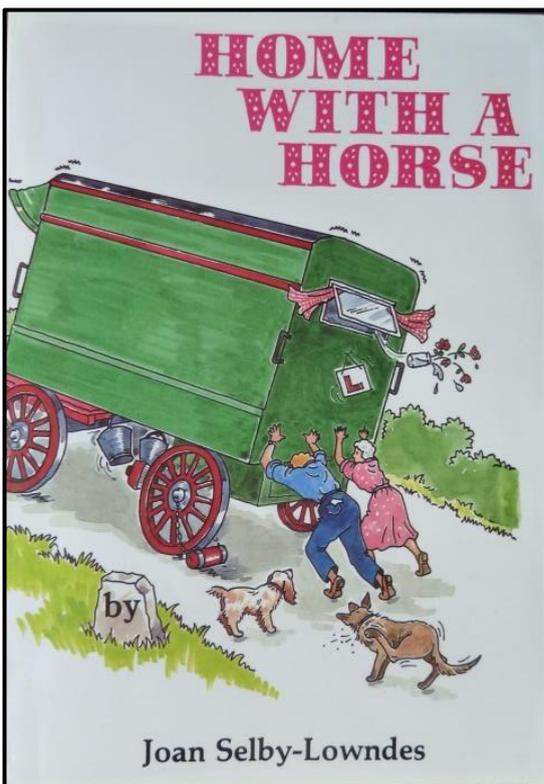
Joan received the 1939-1945 Star which, records note, 'Given the information available to us it is likely that J M Selby-Lowndes was awarded the 1939-45 Star for operational Service in the Second World War between 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939, and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1945.'

Joan also received the 1939-1945 War Medal, awarded to all full-time service personnel with 28 days' service between 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939 and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1945.

### Return to civilian life

With war over, the irrepressible and clear-minded Joan returned to civilian life: back to the relative tranquility of English life in Whaddon. However, following her demob from the ATS, did air escape from Joan's balloon? If so, then it soon refilled as she kindled a passion for writing. Collins published her first book, *Mail Coach*, in 1945.

By March 1947 as Britain froze, she could display her prowess in other directions. Well-recorded heavy snowfalls of the period in the Buckinghamshire



region, while causing mayhem on the roads, offered unbounded joy for youngsters with toboggans.

The snow disrupted life in Whaddon to such an extent that free movement of road vehicles became impossible. In particular, tradespeople failed to deliver essential provisions. The irrepressible Joan, an accomplished skier, and her war-widow friend, Lesley, then living with her at the vicarage, took it upon themselves to ski to Stony Stratford, duly returning hauling sledges loaded with bread and milk. Butter at the time was rationed. Perhaps Joan had developed her skiing skills at an early age in France, or while in the ATS.

On the writing front, following Joan's success with her first book *Mail Coach* – Sir John Betjeman (1906-1984) gave it 'a really good review', she produced a succession of children's books: 16 in all. She also holidayed in her horse-drawn caravan: experiences she recounted in *Home with a Horse*. With this caravan, she toured Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire.

The *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer* of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 1947 noted, under 'Village History', how Joan 'lifts *Royal Chase* out of the rut of indifferent writings. Here witch, king and prior flit through this story of village life in the reign of Henry VIII, as seen through the eyes of a 12 year-old boy. Its author, Joan Selby-Lowndes lives at Whaddon and has made good use of local knowledge.'

Two years later, the *Buckingham Advertiser and Free Press* of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 1949 sprang to life reporting the Whaddon Croquet Club's annual dinner at which 102 members and supporters attended. To this it added a sombre item, with publicity for Joan.

'The November meeting of Whaddon-with-Nash WI was over-shadowed by the sudden death of one of its oldest members, Mrs Owen Smith. President Mrs Marks asked members to stand in silence for a moment in memory of Mrs Smith who did much of the work on the handsome banner (designed by Miss Joan Selby-Lowndes) and her share in that would always serve as her memorial.' The banner enjoyed such merit that it went on display in London.

### **Book brings Joan to life**

Joan's link with the WI is easy to explain: with her mother as President it became natural for Joan, with her writing skills and military communications experience, to serve as WI Press Officer.

Among her varied activities Joan sang in the choir; Evelyn recalls the two sitting next to one another.

Joan also had a pony and trap in which she looked 'very impressive'. As mentioned, she wrote a book about her experiences with her horse-drawn caravan

in *Home with a Horse*, in partnership with war-time widow Lesley, who had reached 'cosy middle age where home comforts take priority', yet was 'terrified of horses'. They were accompanied by Joan's dog Tess and Leslie's spaniel, Crusty.

Lesley had been commandant of Aldermaston ATS recruiting centre; she recruited Joan into the ATS having taken over in the first week of WW2 from the Duchess of Marleborough.

This tale of holiday adventure brings Joan to life. It begins with the purchase of a 'cream-coloured cob as smart and as showy as a French chorus girl with her four black stockings'. Named *Moonshine* she came from 'old' Jack Hammond of Bottle Dump Farm. She claimed *Moonshine* the 'love of her life' with its 'liquid dark eyes'; it lived to be 23. She had a Carter Patterson carrier van which she bought for £8, a price 'that made a deep hole in her savings'. She had this converted into a caravan in Tring. The carhorse *Cherry Blossom* she rented from a Mr Swiers.

In the same book, she made an interesting confession: being 'on the receiving end of three decades of sleep-inducing pronouncements' from the pulpit, including her father's. In another she noted too, that on leaving Oxford with an MA, her father, ordained in 1896, was 'totally unqualified to communicate with the occupants of pews.'

Joan, who later owned a Talbot car (**right**), might well in those days have been seen as 'posh'. Anyone with a privileged upbringing, money, social standing and able to 'talk proper' would have been regarded, behind net curtains, as posh. Nevertheless she was seen also as a jolly and ebullient character. Today, she might be viewed as a latter-day 'It girl'. Yet, in her wartime photoshoot with society photographer Leonard Green, there is no hint of fawn or making love to the camera lens, as is the wont of modern celebrities.

Joan's father Edward served as vicar of Whaddon for 25 years. He retired to Folkestone, Kent where he died aged 86 in October 1959; Joan's mother died six years later in Brighton, Sussex, aged 73.

The original Vicarage was, of course, what is now called Whaddon House at the end of Vicarage Road. Over a period, three different properties housed the village vicar: the original vicarage, the vicarage at the top of Church Lane, The Old Vicarage, and the house now occupied by Billy Stanier, Kings Close. This house and The Old Vicarage in Church Lane were identical when first built but both have received differing additions.

### **Whaddon's most famous woman?**

Among those engaged in housework for the vicar and his wife at the vicarage in Vicarage Road was Evelyn's aunt, Mrs Gascoigne.

For Joan Selby-Lowndes, marriage and children proved elusive, yet through her children's books, her writing came to be, and still is, enjoyed by children and grown-ups alike.

Margaret Barrie notes: 'Joan was a very lively lady and a good amateur actress. She returned frequently to Whaddon and gave talks to the WI in the



village. She represented Buckinghamshire WI at press conferences in London, being press officer of Whaddon's WI.'

Joan Selby-Lowndes died aged 80 on 9<sup>th</sup> February 1997 in Henley, Oxfordshire. She is buried in St Mary's churchyard, Whaddon with both parents.

So was Joan Monica Selby-Lowndes Whaddon's most famous woman? Certainly, had she been alive today, any talk by her would enthral present-day WI and Whaddon Book Club members alike. As a timely reminder, it is just 25 years since she spoke to the WI when, as ever, she came across as the genuine article. Joan viewed life through a single lens: devotion to King and countryside.

Might she just have lifted, ever so slightly, the family veil to reveal when, where and how an Englishman, 39, of 'independent means', came to find a young Frenchwoman, 22, nearly 20 years his junior, attractive? Or might she have been mindful of Walter Bagehot's dictum about not letting in 'daylight upon magic'?

Among the many other questions concealed in the mists of time is this: did Joan enjoy any romantic attachments? Her mother, Martha, held strong views on the subject. She once advised her daughter: 'If you ever think about marriage, marry a poor man and not a rich one.' Now, why did she say that?

Notwithstanding this, as one village resident, who described Joan as a 'special lady', confided late last year: "I wish she was here today." ■

**The editor thanks Margaret Barrie and Evelyn Jaworska for their much valued contributions.**

## Memories of the ATS

### **Joan Selby-Lowndes seemingly did not record her time at Monte Cassino. But here, one ATS member gives her recollection:**

'I WAS in the ATS from March 1942 to October 1947 and had a very exciting time generally; but one easily forgets the bad times, of course!

I served in the UK in various northern locations then moved to North Africa and Italy. I was always in the ranks and achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant through the years. I spent two of those years in REME Inspectorate in Caserta at Allied Forces' headquarters under the command of American General Mark Clark.

I had the good fortune to be in the first contingent of 50 service women to be sent to Italy. Because of the fighting for Monte Cassino, my arrival was delayed which is why our unit was diverted to Algiers where we had no duties but the onerous (and eventually boring) obligations to attend functions, dances etc. with the numerous service men stationed in north Africa.

Five or six dances, lunches, dinners etc. per day (all compulsory) did get a bit wearing, especially as the first and only words from the men were usually: "You are the first while English woman I've held in my arms for three, four, five years," before being excused by the next partner with time only for a repeat before being handed on to the next partner!

Once established in Caserta, working normally (and hard), things got back to normal. It was quite an experience. Out of that first intake of 50 women only one was ever discharged under paragraph nine – pregnancy!

(From *The Daily Telegraph*, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008) ■

## Event: The Whaddon Entertainers

**Get your bags packed and  
Save the Date!!**

**13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

### **The Whaddon Entertainers**

(in conjunction with Whaddon Airways™)  
will be taking you on a not to be missed

**WORLD TOUR!**

Departing from Whaddon's newly-constructed Jubilee  
Airport

with access to the following destinations:

Spain, Germany, The Caribbean, New Orleans and South  
America!

(For no obvious reason)



## Pothole news from Bucks C. C.

**This winter's weather has been tough on Buckinghamshire's roads. While heavy snow in December was the most remarkable weather event, the worst conditions for roads are when ground temperature fluctuates constantly between just above and just below zero.**

Pothole formation is accelerated by this 'freeze-thaw' effect, whereby moisture gets into small cracks in the the road surface and expands when it freezes, then thaws out when the temperature rises. This process repeats until the road surface begins to break up and potholes are formed.

County Councillor Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Transportation, urges road users in Buckinghamshire to report potholes: "Transport for Buckinghamshire will investigate every pothole reported to them, and react on a risk based prioritisation process – put simply, that means the worst ones will be attended to first, as a matter of urgency."

"But we're not mind readers," added Shaw. "The road network is far too vast for us to possibly know where all the potholes are, so we need members of the public to report them to us either using the online form, which only takes a few minutes, or by calling if it's dangerous or an emergency. I ask everyone to be patient while we deal with the bad winter's fallout; potholes are as inevitable as weather. Roads are made of a porous material so they don't flood constantly in rain. When water within the structure freezes, defects will form." With no severe weather issues, TfB repairs 4,000 potholes/month.

### **Pothole frequently asked questions**

- **You fixed one pothole, why not fix the one next to it while you were here?**

Potholes are prioritised according to risk – if they are on very well used roads, they are more of a priority. Size and depth are also factors. Resources have to be used responsibly, and not used fixing a minor road surface defect when there are more urgent defects needing attention just up the road.

- **Why can I only report one pothole online at a time?**

Our online reporting system works on an interactive map, so that each individual defect can be risk assessed and dealt with on a case by case basis. The map allows for accurate pinpointing, which saves time when it comes to inspections. There are drop-down menus to allow you to input as much detail as possible, such as size and position.

- **Why do you make temporary repairs that don't last?**

Temporary repairs, where the pothole is filled in with hot material and made smooth, are often carried out as a safety measure when a permanent repair cannot be made at that moment. This could be due to the location of the defect; i.e. where a larger area of road needs to be cut away for a full repair, likely requiring a road or lane closure, a temporary or 'make safe' repair is an effective way of keeping the road safe in the meantime.

- **How do I report a pothole?**

You can report potholes, as well as any other road issue, using the Report It forms on the county council website. In an emergency, for instance a severe road defect, a flooded road, or a tree in the road, you can always call Transport for Buckinghamshire on 01296 382416 or 486630 (out of hours). The online reporting tool is

at [www.bucksc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/](http://www.bucksc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/)

## The Whaddon Chase dispute

**A 'dispute' pitched Whaddon into the public gaze in the early 1920s. The row concerned the goings-on at Whaddon Hall; in particular, events surrounding the Whaddon Chase Hunt and 'Bill' Selby-Lowndes. John Mortimer lifts the lid.**

EVEN TODAY, mystery continues to enfold like a former London fog, the Whaddon Chase Hunt and its 'row'.

Over 30 years ago, the mighty BBC, under *Doomsday Revisited*, aired the matter noting: 'Many years ago, all the land in Whaddon was owned by the Selby-Lowndes family. It was this family that started the Whaddon Chase Hunt in 1890. There were 60 horses stabled at Whaddon Hall and all the hounds were kept at the kennels across the road to Vicarage Road.'

'The Selby-Lowndes family and the Rothschild family were part of the Whaddon Chase Hunt, but keeping horses and hounds became difficult so just before the war they were moved to Wing by the Rothschild family and since then the Whaddon Chase Hunt has been based at Wing. Many people from Whaddon and Tattenhoe have much interest in the hunt.'

Local newspapers skirted the issue of the 'row', possibly fearing litigious action. They mainly confined exposure of the matter to advertisements of forthcoming meetings and bald statements of fact.

The *Bucks Herald* of Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 1920 carried a small item about the annual meeting of the Whaddon Chase Hunt (Col W. Selby-Lowndes) at the Bell Hotel in Wilmslow on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 1920 at 10.45 am and at which 'only ordinary business will be transacted'.

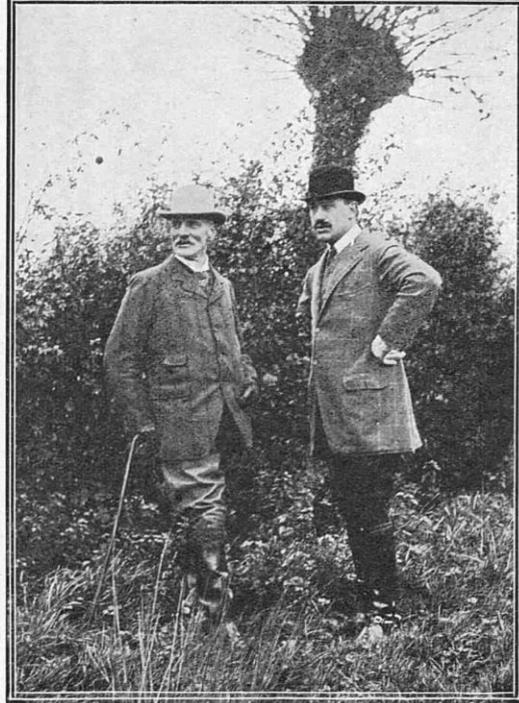
Six months later, on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1920, the *Banbury Advertiser* weighed in with an item headed the Whaddon Chase Hunt. *It* stated: 'It was believed the trouble in the Whaddon Chase Country, which was caused last winter by the two packs of hounds which were hunting the country – the legitimate pack hunted by Col. Selby-Lowndes and the opposition pack hunted by Lord Dalmeny – had been ended by the decision of the Masters of Foxhounds Association. Col. Selby-Lowndes and Lord Dalmeny had agreed to abide by the decision, which ordered Lord Dalmeny's pack to cease from hunting and to disband, and called upon the county to elect a new Master – who was not to be either Col. Lowndes or Lord Dalmeny, who was elected the new Master. The Duke of Beaufort stated at the meeting of Masters of Foxhounds Association held at Knightsbridge that the troubles were not ended as a number of farmers in the Whaddon Chase country had decided to form a new pack in opposition to Lord Orkney's hounds and to hunt their own lands.'

# Still at Loggerheads

## STORMY DAYS IN THE WHADDON CHASE HUNT



*Photograph* **THE MEET AT ADSTOCK** [*L. N. A.* Lord Orkney, who was elected to the Mastership a few months ago, chatting to friends



**LORD DALMENY**  
With Mr. C. M. Prior, at whose residence the hounds met. The former was Master of the Committee pack last season



*Photograph* **CUB-HUNTING WITH THE WHADDON CHASE NEAR ADDINGTON MANOR** [*Alfieri* Efforts to patch up last week's quarrel in this Hunt have so far been unavailing, and notices warning off Lord Orkney's Hounds from certain coverts have been issued

Image © Illustrated London News Group. Image created courtesy of THE BRITISH LIBRARY BOARD.

Six months further on, *The Bystander* of Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1920, **(above, p.43)** ventured further and devoted a whole page to three pictures of foxhunting notables under the headline 'Still at loggerheads'.

And, as if to imply the whole nation's Press corps were following the matter, *The Scotsman* of Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 1920, with a clutch of other foxhunting items, told its readers: 'Censure of Colonel Selby-Lowndes's friends'.

Noting Lord Orkney's election as Master in March last, it reported 'after considerable discussion it was moved and agreed that the final decision of the MFH Association in this matter be postponed until such time as Colonel Selby-Lowndes was able to attend and give explanation after his operation.'

### Flowery language

However, it was left to a book published in World War 2, two decades after the Whaddon controversy first blew up, to recount the 'complete tale' of the 'great Whaddon Chase row'. In it, the author claimed that for 20 years the 'row had split the solid-seeming society of Buckinghamshire to its foundations'.

Hugh Trevor-Roper, in *The Wartime Journals*, declared that 'The old squire owned it and Bill Lowndes was field-master; and very good sport he showed for several seasons.'

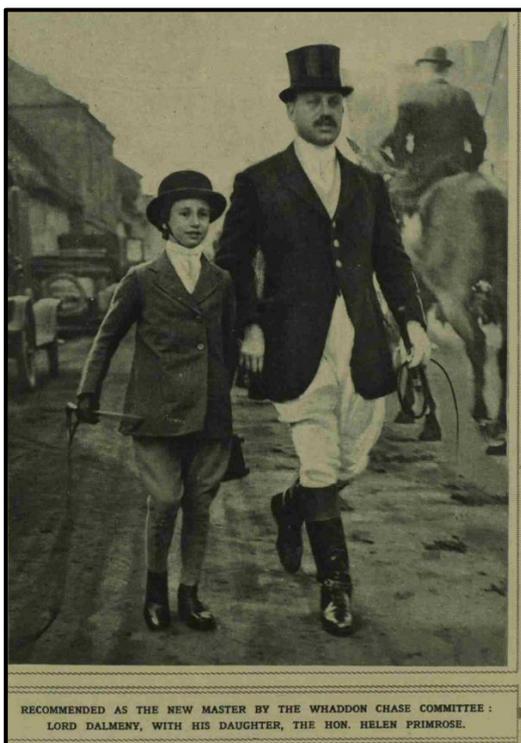
Trevor-Roper continued: 'But the Lowndes were a poor family, as things went, and frankly they lived by the pack, which they hunted as parsimoniously as they could, mounting the servants cheaply, and taking as big a subscription as they could, and always refusing a committee, or any audit of the accounts for as long as they showed good sport, and the subscribers were happy.'

'However, there came a time when the subscribers were not happy with the family-owned pack and Lowndes considered reducing the establishment's expenses, disposing of huntsmen and hunting the hounds himself.'

'Gradually troubles emerged, the sport declined with voices of discontent emerging,' noted the author. 'Over many a bottle of old port the demand for a hunt committee and more regular management was heard.'

'Then came the First World War and Bill Lowndes joined his regiment, leaving John Murrey of the Wrest Bassett Hounds of Bedford. With war over, the situation at Whaddon crystallised; however, Murrey quarrelled with

the Lowndes and moved to join the dissidents under Lord Dalmeny. By then the Rothschild staghounds had been disbanded with Dalmeny taking over the Ascott kennels.'



'Arch villain' Lord Dalmeny and his daughter, Hon. Helen Primrose.

'The upshot was that everyone went with one or the other. Inevitably disquiet persisted among the ranks,' wrote Trevor-Roper. 'The troubles aroused black passions in Buckinghamshire bosoms. However, it came to a head in 1921 when, it seems the masters of Foxhounds Union sent a certain Lord Galway to arbitrate....He called a meeting of farmers and land-owners and stopped Lord Dalmeny from hunting, yet allowing Lowndes to continue hunting to the end of the season. Thereafter, he forbade either to act as Master of the Whaddon Chase Hunt for three years in the hope passions would subside.' This proved a vain hope for, as Trevor-Roper noted, 'hunting passions are sempiternal'.

### The plot thickens

He added 'In the background the plot thickened. Lord Dalmeny resurfaced and managed to get his nominee Lord Orkney accepted for that period; then, after three years, succeeded to it himself.'

'Bill Lowndes refused to accept the successful usurper – or let him draw any of his covers. Instead, being a prudent man, while still not recognising Lord Dalmeny and his pack, sold his own hounds to him at a huge price.' He then withdrew on the proceeds to hunt what Trevor-Roper called 'a strange pack' in Kent. According to Trevor-Roper the story did not end there. With the outbreak of World War 2, Lord Dalmeny having tasted the delights of hunting in wartime when rich subscribers 'melted away', quietly resigned and withdrew to Scotland. **(Right: A fox hunting scene.)**



The author held the view that at the same time, Bill Lowndes sitting in Whaddon Hall 'when the Secret Service descended like locusts on the green fields of Buckinghamshire, and Colonel Parry (purged from the BBC and creeping unscathed from the ruins of Philco Limited) cast his eyes on the plastered splendour and shady pleasantries of Whaddon Park', was 'not unwilling to relinquish use of his home.'

Back to newspapers of the 1920s and *The Sketch* of Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 1923, in partnership with the much-respected *Illustrated London News* – founded in 1842 and for many an unrivalled source of news and pictures – published dramatic pictures of the life and times of Bill Lowndes. The *Illustrated London News* had had its own pictures and story four days earlier.

However, *The Sketch's* photographs were more telling, as shown here. They portray Bill Selby-Lowndes as a man with an opulent lifestyle in the confines of his house; a man who could be parsimonious towards employees at the kennels and associated with the hunt. Also included **(below)** is *The Sketch's* view of the 'dispute'. This suggests, some 95 years on, Whaddon held a mystique of its own, far removed from the quiet hamlet it is today. ■

## A Protagonist of the Whaddon Chase Hunt Dispute.



SHOWING SOME OF THE PICTURES: THE STAIRCASE AT WHADDON HALL, COLONEL SELBY-LOWNDES'S HOME.



AS KEEN A SHOT AS HE IS HUNTING MAN: COLONEL SELBY-LOWNDES.



ONE OF THE BEAUTIFUL INTERIORS AT WHADDON HALL: COLONEL SELBY-LOWNDES IN THE DRAWING-ROOM.

The Whaddon Chase dispute began when Colonel Selby-Lowndes, in whose family the Mastership had been since before 1750, was removed from office whilst serving with the forces abroad. After the war a second pack was formed, with Lord Dalmeny as Master, and Colonel Selby-Lowndes and his hounds were warned off. The Masters of Foxhounds Association then called on both Masters to resign, and decided that the second pack must cease hunting. The Earl of Orkney was elected Master of the original pack. He recently resigned, and the dispute reopened. Lord Cottesloe presided at a Hunt Meeting at the Bell Hotel, Winslow. Lord Dalmeny was proposed by the Committee, but an amendment in favour of Colonel Selby-Lowndes was put forward. He and his supporters consider that he was duly elected; but the chairman decided that there must be an adjournment, so that arrangements might be made for balloting and scrutiny of votes. The Committee met at Aylesbury on Jan. 27, and again recommended Lord Dalmeny, the matter to be finally decided at the Hunt Meeting to be held on Feb. 9 at the Oddfellows Hall, Winslow. Our page shows Colonel Selby-Lowndes at home at Whaddon Hall, Eletchley.



EXAMINING SOME OF THE MANY SPORTING PICTURES AT WHADDON HALL: COLONEL SELBY-LOWNDES.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SPECIAL PRESS, EXCLUSIVE TO "THE SKETCH."

## Need a dentist? Try the blacksmith

**Under the title of Characters from the past, then editor Peter Spooner recounts in the Autumn 1992 *Whaddon Quarterly* the occasion Joan Selby-Lowndes held her audience enthralled.**

DURING a talk so lovely and amusing that it made nonsense of her claim to be a 'mobile museum piece', Joan Selby-Lowndes presented a parade of village Characters From the Past.

Among them was Old Adams ('I think his Christian name') who used 'think nothing' of walking to London. He taught her 'everything about gardening'. Together they planted an avenue of saplings (from Coddimoor Farm) leading up to the churchyard. (Could 'Old Adams' perhaps have been Roger Adams' grandfather or great grandfather, Alfred Adams? – Ed)

Then there was Captain Cochrane, whose hobby was collecting bird's eggs and who 'looked like one himself. Little Georgie Hopkins, who worked in the stables at the Hall. 'Dear old cousin Bill', who used to run a kind of a bus to take his staff into Bletchley and 'could only drive wearing tennis shoes'.

Few cars passed through the village in those far-off days. Her family had been one of the first in the village to get one - a Talbot, eventually replaced by an Austin 12 tourer. There was a pyrolysis pump with a winding handle at MT Cowley's shop. Petrol cost one and sixpence a gallon (7½p in decimal - Ed). Mr Cowley also recharged wireless batteries for sixpence.

The blacksmith used to act as the village dentist. The story was that if you needed an extraction you tanked up with brandy at the Lowndes Arms and then went and laid your head on the anvil. That, however, did not help the ladies, 'who were not allowed in the Lowndes Arms'.

### **Elephant of a daughter**

Joan Selby-Lowndes came to Whaddon in 1925 (she was then nine years old - Ed). Her father was the vicar (in fact, he came to parish twice) and the family lived at Whaddon House. This was sold to a 'rich lady' in 1934 when a new vicarage was built. Even in those days of falling house prices it was surprising to hear that she had paid about £3,000 for it!

Of course the village amenities were not as what they are now. There was no electricity at Whaddon House until 1934. 'In the evening oil lamps were put out on the hall table - you picked one up when you went to bed'. Mains water came only in 1941.

Her 'little French mother' never lost her accent and was so petite that she used to refer to her 'elephant of a daughter',

Her father really loved the church. He installed the organ which was 'bought from Mr Colman the mustard man - that is why it's pipes are painted yellow'.

Miss Selby-Lowndes went on to mention the restoration of the Lady Chapel, the discovery of a 'whole pike of skulls and bones' beneath a stone slab, and repairs to the church tower when 'one of the old chaps sat as a model for a gargoyle'.

*Peter Spooner*

# Winslow Community Bus

[wdbenquires@btconnect.com](mailto:wdbenquires@btconnect.com)

[www.winslowbus.com](http://www.winslowbus.com)

**01296 715786**

**Everyone is eligible to come on the bus. We pick up near your house.**



**VERY Wednesday** morning – **Winslow Market Day bus\*** – Pickups Claydons, Horwoods, Swanbourne, Mursley, Nash, Whaddon £3.00 return, free with bus pass. Ring for details.

**EVERY Friday & Saturday** morning — **Aylesbury Market Bus\*** 2 hours in Aylesbury. – Pickups Winslow, Horwoods, Mursley Swanbourne Weedon (Sat only) £4.50 return, free with bus pass.

## February and March timetable

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February - - Buckingham Bus\* – 1 hour in town 1 hour in Tesco

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February - Westcroft Shopping\* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February –Lunch at The Crown in Cuddington £4.50 travel

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Visit Batsford Arboretum, 56-acre gardens with trees and shrubs from around the world, a plant centre and cafe. near Moreton in Marsh, lovely snowdrop display . £15.00 includes travel.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Westcroft Shopping\* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Asda in MK1 – also M&S, H&M, Primark etc £4.00

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March - Buckingham Bus\* – 1 hour in town 1 hour in Tesco

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Westcroft Shopping\* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Local lunch at The Crown Great Horwood £3.50 travel

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Visit Frosts Garden Centre – (OAP lunch only £7.95 for 2 courses!) £5.00

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Westcroft Shopping\* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Visit RAF Museum Hendon –world renowned collection of over 100 aircraft, wartime memorabilia, uniforms and other artefacts. £10.00

## NEW Milton Keynes THEATRE PROGRAMME OUT – Book now!

*All prices are for tickets in Band A price range (Circle or stalls) and travel.*

*Performances start 2.30pm unless otherwise stated. Door to door service!*

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February – **Beautiful** – award winning Carole King musical.

Countless classics – Natural Woman, Take Good Care of my Baby, You’ve got a Friend, It might as well Rain Until September, Locomotion – Circle N £39.50 (19/1/18)

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> February – **Hedda Gabler** – National Theatre. Thrilling new production of Ibsen’s masterpiece. Circle B £24.50 (26/1/18)

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> March – **Crazy for You** – Mistaken identities, heartbreak, happiness and great Gershwin tunes such as I Got Rhythm, They Can’t Take That Away

from Me, Embraceable you with Claire Sweeney and Tom Chambers. Circle L £36.00

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> May – **Summer Holiday** – all Cliff’s hits – Travelling Light, Bachelor Boy, Move It, Living Doll, The Young Ones, etc etc Circle H £24.50 22/2/18

Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> May – **The Case of the Frightened Lady** – all-star cast to be announced – a chilling, complex thriller directed by Roy Marsden. Circle B £32.50 22/2/18

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> July – **Love from a Stranger**. Agatha Christie’s rarely seen thriller in a brand new production designed by Mike Britton. Stalls D £29.50 22/2/18

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> July – **An Officer and a Gentleman –the musical**. Many 1980s classics Up Where We Belong, Girls Just Want to Have Fun, etc Circle J £38.00 22/2/18

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> July – **Flashdance** starring Strictly Joanne Clifton --Circle D £29.50

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018! **War Horse** – Circle D £50.00

### LIVE STREAMING FROM COVENT GARDEN

**These MUST be booked well in advance.** They average about 3hrs running time with intervals.

Start time: 7.15pm.

Per show: Adults: £28.00 Seniors: £26.00 door to door service.

### Programme

- Wed 7<sup>th</sup> February – ROH – **Tosca**. Drama, passion and fabulous music – Puccini’s operatic thriller is one of the great opera experiences. Dan Ettinger conducts a star cast led by Adrienne Pieczonka, Joseph Calleja and Gerald Finley.
- Wed 28<sup>th</sup> February – Royal Ballet – **The Winter’s Tale**. Shakespeare’s tale of love and loss becomes compelling dance drama in Christopher Wheeldon’s ballet adaptation, with music by Joby Talbot.
- Tues 6<sup>th</sup> March – ROH **Carmen**. (6.45pm) Bizet’s classic French opera stars Anna Goryachova in Barrie Kosky’s intense production.
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> April – ROH **Macbeth**. Verdi’s opera inspired by Shakespeare’s tragedy is conducted by Antonio Pappano, with a magnificent cast including Anna Netrebko, Željko Lučić and Ildebrando D’Arcangelo.
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Royal Ballet – **Manon**. Kenneth MacMillan’s powerful telling of Manon and Des Grieux’s tragic love is a masterpiece of modern ballet, set to music by Massenet.
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June – **Swan Lake**. The Royal Ballet presents a new production of Tchaikovsky’s magnificent classical ballet; additional choreography by Liam Scarlett and designs by John Macfarlane.

---

**Book now as shows sell out quickly. Trips may be cancelled if not enough interest.  
Ring Sue for information leaflet about the shows.**

---

# Sea Cadets – TS Whaddon

**This is your chance do all this....or any of it:**

If you're between 10 and 18 years old, why not join us in 2016?



Left and below Kayaking or Rowing at Emberton Park, Olney  
Bottom left: Colours Parade, Kiln Farm - 7pm Tuesdays  
Bottom: TS Royalist in The Solent



For information: telephone David Spencer 01908 502540  
or contact Jamie Spink, 11, Ladymead Close.



# Whaddon Neighbourhood Watch

## HOW TO REPORT RURAL CRIME

If you become a victim of rural crime or suspect that a crime has taken place, you should report it to police by calling the non-emergency number, 101. If an incident is in progress, or there is an immediate threat to life, you should call 999.

Important details to note when reporting an incident include the date, time and details of what you have seen, along with a description of any people or vehicles involved, (including if possible the vehicle make and registration). This *aide memoir* can be printed out and kept at home or in your vehicles for easy access in the event of an incident: [https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/documents/1327/4608\\_Rural\\_Crime\\_Aide\\_Memoir\\_3up\\_v3.pdf](https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/documents/1327/4608_Rural_Crime_Aide_Memoir_3up_v3.pdf)

By reporting incidents to the police you can help to build resilience and reduce the impact of rural crime on your local community. There are often fewer witnesses to rural crimes and greater opportunities for criminals to target isolated properties and businesses. The effect of these crimes can also be greater, with people feeling more vulnerable due to their remote location. ■

## YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS

Graham Stewart  
2, High Street.  
Tel. 01908 501973

Peter Beckwith  
6, Old Manor Close.  
Tel: 01908 503194

Sally Green  
Bellsbrook,  
Church Lane.  
Tel: Ex-directory

David McIntyre  
2a, Vicarage Road.  
Tel: 01908 867836

Howard Jones  
8, Ladymead.  
Tel: 01908 501871

Sally Telford  
4a, Stock Lane.  
Tel:01908 336960

Pauline Winward  
1, Whaddon Hall.  
Tel: 01908 502559

# Creative Coach:

## *Thoughts from my comfy chair*



Well done! You've done January! I don't know about you, but I'm often relieved when this month is over. I'm very bored with the barrage of 'R' word pieces and endless reminders about willpower etc. January is a month for restorative practice, in my view: for being kind to yourself, topping up your resilience store-cupboard, keeping nice and warm and being patient until its sibling winter month, February, which is nice and short, comes and goes, leaving us looking forward to Spring.

Well, that's your soothing, healing bit! So how about a bit of inspiration now? A useful strategy which I, and some of my clients use, is writing down 3 words at the beginning of the day, which describe how you'd like to be during that day, or alternatively, what you'd like to do. I'm going to suggest 3 here which tie in with the winter nurturing theme.

### **Relax**

As I mentioned before, self-care is queen at this time of year. From a full-on spa day, to 5 minutes away from that backlit screen breathing deeply, I urge you to build some relaxation time into your day. Every day. Of course, relaxation means different things to different people, so it could be that an hour's hard running at "it can't be this early o'clock" or mountain biking is your idea of relaxation, and that's great (just don't expect me to join in!) Whatever it is, though, make sure it's a non-negotiable part of your day. Little and often, big and bold, just do it.

And once you're relaxed, you can...

### **Create**

Whether it's a kick-ass report, blog, piece of work for a client, cooking a wonderful meal, painting, a piece of DIY, a jigsaw puzzle, crafting, everyone can be creative somehow. What you do need is time out for your hardworking brain to be able to make the inventive connections so that you can produce the magic. The best way to do this is...guess what? To weave into your day some time to move away from the endless emails, chit-chat and distractions and give your poor old grey matter some recharge moments. I know I bang on about this regularly, but it bears repeating, so there! Some folk get great ideas when they go outside, others need to be snuggled up under a blanket. Some have eureka moments in the shower others while listening to music, or simply doing nothing at all. When and where do you have your best ideas? Can you tune in more carefully to maximise those times?

### **Connect**

We're social animals. We need to connect with others in a positive, kind, empathetic way. Who are your best connections? Who's the person you go to when you need cheering up, some good ideas, a brainstorming session? It's good to have a team, or tribe, each with their own special skills, to surround yourself with great connections. And remember yourself in amongst that: you'll be someone's "go-to" expert also! Helping others out is fulfilling. Remember to ask for help too, so others can benefit from that fulfilment as well.

And it's goodbye from January, and until next time, from me. Bring on the pancakes, February!

Mindful wishes

*Marianna Beckwith*

## Shenley Road re-opened

**READERS may recall that the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly* commented on the opening of Shenley Road. The road opened 9<sup>th</sup> December as per a letter from Taylor Wimpey to Councillor Edith Bald.**

Edith Bald is the elected member of Milton Keynes Council's Tattenhoe Ward, which covers Tattenhoe, Kingsmead, Westcott and Oxley Park. She is also the Leader of the MK Conservative Party. Note the use in the letter below of the words 'forecast date'.

An extract from letter, Gareth Jacob, acting managing director of Taylor Wimpey, notes: "Dear Cllr Bald, Having taken the opportunity to now review the situation, it appears that the previous information supplied to you by my colleagues remains correct and that November is our current forecast date in terms of the reopening the road..... Be assured that I will personally maintain maximum pressure on the site team to deliver this road opening sooner rather than later." ■



*Lifting the lid on your  
imagination, inspiration  
and motivation*

**NEW DAY AND FORMAT!**

**Now booking: Mojo Maintenance £10 taster session**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 1pm – 2pm**

- Happy? Great! Comfortable? Great! That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge.
- Unhappy? Uncomfortable? That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge!
- Want to work on something specific? No problem.

**Wondering what a MoJo Maintenance session does? Come along and find out.**

**Limited places. Booking essential.**

For more information, location, etc.

Contact Marianna: 01908 503194/07763 102 994



**Dave Taylor**  
Handyman

**Mobile: 07754 790557**  
**Email: davetaylorhandyman@gmail.com**

An advertisement for Vale Chimneys. The background is a black and white photograph of a residential roof with several chimneys. In the top left corner, there is a logo consisting of a stylized 'V' with a flame-like shape above it. The text in the top right reads: **SPECIALISTS IN CHIMNEY SWEEPING & STOVE INSTALLATIONS**. In the bottom left, there is an inset photograph of a modern living room with a wood-burning stove. In the bottom right, there is a white text box with the following text: "A family run business based in Winslow, Buckinghamshire - specialising in Chimney Sweeping and Stove Installations. We cover Winslow, Buckingham, Aylesbury, Milton Keynes, Thame and surrounding villages; offering a professional, clean and reliable service." At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a black bar with white text: "Call David on 07736 829765 | [www.valechimneys.co.uk](http://www.valechimneys.co.uk)" and a logo for HETAS on the right.



Welcome to Bump Start, the baby shop at Whaddon. We stock everything you could need for your baby, from car seats to cots to carriers. We pride ourselves on our product knowledge and will help find the ideal products for you. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**OPENING TIMES**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Tue</b>	<b>10am - 4pm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>10am - 4pm</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>10am - 5pm</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>10am - 5pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10am - 5pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>11am - 3pm</b>

We are just 10 minutes from both Milton Keynes and Buckingham

**Visit us at:**

Bump Start Baby Shop  
Coddimoor Farm Whaddon  
Milton Keynes Bucks MK17 0LR

**0800 594 3052**

fax: 01908 505636

email: [baby@bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk](mailto:baby@bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk)

web: [www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk](http://www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk)



[www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk](http://www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk)



# *Tring Market Auctions*

Fine Art & Chattel Auctioneers & Valuers

## **FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS 2017**

<b>General Antiques</b>	<b>Viewing day</b>	<b>Fine Art</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday prior to day of	9 <sup>th</sup> March
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Sale	8 <sup>th</sup> June
7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> April & 5 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am to 6.00 pm	

For further information and viewing times please contact us via the details below or visit

[www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk](http://www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk)

**Free Auction Valuations**

**Total and Part House Clearance Specialists**

**Valuation for Sale, Insurance, Taxation,**

**Probate & Family Division**

**Tel: 01442 826446 Fax: 01442 890927**

[sales@tringmarketauctions.co.uk](mailto:sales@tringmarketauctions.co.uk)

**Tring Market Auctions, Brook Street,**

**Tring, Herts HP23 5EF**

**[www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk](http://www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk)**

## DESIGN & BUILD

*30 years' experience from  
Doug Stewart, Director, Associate of the  
Chartered Institute of Building*



**Tel: 01908 503147**

[matt@dgsconstruction.co.uk](mailto:matt@dgsconstruction.co.uk)

[www.dgsconstruction.co.uk](http://www.dgsconstruction.co.uk)

The Glebe, Nash Road, Whaddon, MK17  
0LY



## Country Funerals

01327 351500

24 hours

Independent Funeral Directors

1, Sponne House Centre, Watling Street West

Towcester, Northants NN12 6BY

Shaun, and Melanie, who has strong links with Whaddon, have over 30 years' experience in the local funeral business, providing a service that will meet all your needs and expectations, with care, compassion and professional knowledge.

To celebrate the life of a loved one, we can tailor-make all arrangements alongside your own wishes. We offer modern facilities in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, as well as a Remembrance Room, disabled facilities and there is parking close by.

Please feel free to view the facilities before or at time of need; alternatively, make arrangements in the comfort of your own home. Complete cremation funeral including local fees, start from £2787.00.

For your peace of mind, funeral plans are available. See also [www.countryfunerals.uk](http://www.countryfunerals.uk)

[enquiries@countryfunerals.uk](mailto:enquiries@countryfunerals.uk)



## GREENTREESERVICES

PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS

All aspects of Tree Surgery and Arboriculture:

- Tree pruning & felling
- Hedge trimming
- Tree reports & surveys
- Stump grinding
- Firewood supply
- Free quotes & advice
- £5m Public Liability Insurance
- NPTC Qualified
- National Diploma Arboriculture

01908 506286 – 07533 371648

[WWW.GREEN-TREE-SERVICES.CO.UK](http://WWW.GREEN-TREE-SERVICES.CO.UK)

City & Guilds  
Qualified



**Come and find us in our lovely rural village setting, with brilliant indoor and outdoor space**

We have fantastic, friendly, qualified staff and take children from 2.5 years to 5 years.

We offer a forest school session every Tuesday, weather permitting.

As we have low ratios we have limited intake so do pop in to avoid being disappointed.

Come and see us in action – we have an open door policy – come along and play!

[www.whaddonunderfives.org](http://www.whaddonunderfives.org)

# WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

## Whaddon Quarterly

### Advertising Rates and Publication Policy

January 2017 Advertising Rates  
General and Commercial Advertisers

	Year
Full Page – four editions	£85
Half Page – four editions	£48

Advertising fees are payable in advance. Cheques payable to Whaddon Parish Council or BACS payments to Whaddon Parish Council, Metro Bank, Account 16231142 Sort Code 23-05-80.

#### Non-Commercial Local Advertisers

For locally-based charitable and not-for-profit organisations publicising events for the benefit of the local community; insertion FOC, at the Editor's discretion, and subject to availability of space.

#### Small Advertisements

One line 'For Sale' and 'Wanted' ads submitted by Whaddon residents – FOC. Subject to availability of space.

#### Format and Submission

Full page – A5 size

Copy to be submitted in high resolution .jpg format.

Email content to the editor, John Mortimer at johnmortimermsc@gmail.com

#### Publication Dates and Copy Deadlines

Publication is four times a year: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

Copy deadlines are available by contacting the Editor, and in the magazine.

Copy received after the deadline may be excluded, or if included, only on a best-effort basis at the discretion of the Editor.

#### Content Policy and Copyright

Whaddon Parish Council requires all material for publication in Whaddon Quarterly to be appropriate and suitable; and it may not contain any content that could be deemed offensive, discriminatory or derogatory.

Any submissions deemed not to meet this standard will be subject to edit or exclusion by the Editor. The Editor's decision is final in this regard.

Content of Whaddon Quarterly is subject to Copyright, and may not be used or reproduced



**could you offer a foster child a new home?**

**[www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering)**

There are currently around 450 children in care in Buckinghamshire. However we only have 120 foster carers. We want to keep Bucks children in Bucks so they can stay close to friends and places and communities they are familiar with.

We need your help for us do that.

Foster carers do an amazing job of giving children the care and support they need at what may be a really difficult time in their lives.

Opening up your home to one of these children will make a huge difference to their lives and to yours too.

Although we need foster carers for all children, we're specifically looking for foster carers for teenagers, sibling groups and children from minority ethnic groups.

## **Men in Sheds Buckingham**

Men in Sheds provides a place where men of all ages can come along and take part in activities similar to what they would do in their own garden shed but with the bonus of other like-minded men providing good company.

Samantha Hardy, Community Impact Bucks

01844 348831 / 07990 756742 - email: [samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk](mailto:samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk)



## Tim Jenkins

Providing home and small business IT and AV services



**Need help with your email, mobile phone or Broadband?  
Just changed from PC to Mac and would like some assistance?  
Or maybe you have bought a Smart TV or sound system  
and would like help setting it up.**

I understand just how confusing today's technology can be and I will visit you at home to discuss how I can help with the installation, set up or problem solving of your computers, mobiles, TVs, Broadband and wifi.

I am also highly experienced in small company IT and telecommunications problem solving and website building.

**Call me on: 07814 721975**  
**Or email me at: [tjstechnologyuk@gmail.com](mailto:tjstechnologyuk@gmail.com)**  
**Website: [www.tjstechnology.co.uk](http://www.tjstechnology.co.uk)**





**S Y S T E M S**

**Microsoft Partner**

<p><b>What Counter-Act Systems Can Offer You....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⇒ Home Visits—we can help with computer problems, email setup, data transfer, virus clean and removal, PC slow issues, iPhone connectivity, remote assistance, internet problems</li><li>⇒ New Home and Business Hardware</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⇒ Extended Warranty on ALL brands of PCs.</li><li>⇒ Repairs for Desktop and Laptop Computers for all issues, including broken laptop screens. All repairs carry a 12-month warranty as standard</li><li>⇒ If you're not sure what we can do for you, ring us!</li></ul>
--	---

**Telephone: 01234 240680**

**Web: [www.counter-act.co.uk](http://www.counter-act.co.uk)**  
**Email: [sales@counter-act.co.uk](mailto:sales@counter-act.co.uk)**

**Fully Equipped Workshop & Showroom :**  
Unit 1, Lower Farm, Warrington, Olney,  
MK46 4HN (Near Captain Carpet)

**Open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.00pm**  
(plus out of hours emergency and answer system)





## *Age UK Bucks services and support*

**We help older people throughout the county live independently**

- \* Information and advice
  - \* Welfare benefits home visits
  - \* Befriending Plus
  - \* Phone-a-Friend
- free**
- \* Help-in-the-Home
  - \* Garden maintenance
  - \* Handy person
  - \* Computer training
  - \* Toenail cutting service in your home
  - \* Home hairdressing
- pay for**

**Call 01296 431911**

**[www.ageukbucks.org.uk](http://www.ageukbucks.org.uk)**

145 Meadowcroft, Aylesbury HP19 9HH  
Registered charity 1139423



## Perfect 10

*Nails by Faye Warren*

*07875 670448*

*fayewarren55@hotmail.com*

*UV Gel polish, manicures and pedicures*

*Mobile, but based in Whaddon*

+

**OVENCLEAN**  
*The original oven cleaning specialists*



**Let Ovensclean take care of one of the most hated household chores!**

**"I'm simply delighted at how sparkly clean my oven and hob look now!  
It really does look like the cooker is brand new again!"**

*Martin Belcher*

- Ovens
- Grills
- Extractors
- Filters
- BBQs
- Microwaves
- Hobs
- Ranges
- AGAs

Call your local Ovensclean specialist Roger Butcher today on:

**07800 888 271 or 0800 840 7127**

[www.ovenclean.com](http://www.ovenclean.com)



### **... PLUMBING & HEATING ON OIL FIRED BOILERS...**

- Join 100s of happy customers who rely on us to look after their appliance
- 8 years of experience in servicing and repairing oil fired boilers
- Work on all major boiler manufactures including:  
*Worcester                  Grant                  Thermecon*  
*Potterton                  Trianco                  Firebird*  
*and many more*
- Service, repairs and new installations on oil fired boilers
- New oil tank installation
- OFTEC registered
- NVQ Level Two in Plumbing
- Very good customer feedback
- No Fix, No Fee
- Receive a £10 gift voucher for a retailer of your choice, as a thank you per recommendation
- Oil syndicates welcome

#### **Contact:**

**07768 618 555**

**01908 313 216**





# CLEAR PEST MILTON KEYNES

YEARLY CONTRACTS AVAILABLE  
WOODWORM TREATMENTS ALSO AVAILABE



RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - AGRICULTURAL

ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PESTS  
A PROBLEM FOR YOU?

- MOLES
- WASPS
- RATS
- MICE
- BEES
- ANTS
- FLEAS
- RABBITS
- BIRDS
- FLIES



Email: [enquiries@clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk)

[www.clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk](http://www.clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk)  
Tel: 01908 504405 Mob: 07771966377



**GRNELECTRICAL**

## **Domestic, Agricultural & Equestrian Electrical Services**

Rewires - New Builds - Refurbishments  
Fault Finding & Repairs  
Inspection & Testing  
PAT Testing  
Three Phase Distribution  
(Part P Registered & Elecsa Approved)

---

**Contact: Graham Newland**  
**Tel: 07715 670614**  
**[www.grnelectrical.co.uk](http://www.grnelectrical.co.uk)**

*Homemade Jewelry / Cards*  
*for all occasions*  
*Dress Making & Alterations*

*Ann Bennett*



Stock Lane  
Whaddon

01908 522292  
07854 577402

[ann.bennett259@gmail.com](mailto:ann.bennett259@gmail.com)

# Paperclip

Capitol Works, Station Road, Winslow, Bucks MK18 3RQ

Offering you support for all your  
personal and business administrative needs

Book-keeping

Diary management

Virtual office

Call-minding

Payroll

Typing

Fax Service

Database Cleaning

Printing and photocopying at competitive prices

A4 / A3 / A5 / Black and White / Colour

Booklet / Magazine production

Pamphlets / Leaflets

Laminating / Comb binding

For any further information please contact Sally Taylor or Leanne Walker

01296 716010

[mail@paperclip.co.uk](mailto:mail@paperclip.co.uk)

[www.paperclip.co.uk](http://www.paperclip.co.uk)



**JOHN COLLINS  
ELECTRICAL**

**ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS  
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE REPAIRS**

### **ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS TO:**

**Domestic, Commercial and Industrial properties**

**All work carried out to Part P regulations**

### **REPAIRS TO:**

**Washing machines, electric cookers, dishwashers,  
tumble driers, electric showers, storage heaters and  
electric heating systems**



**Tel: 01280 814909**

**Fax: 01280 823179**

**Email: [john@johncollinselectrical.co.uk](mailto:john@johncollinselectrical.co.uk)**

**Web: [www.johncollinselectrical.co.uk](http://www.johncollinselectrical.co.uk)**

**Jane Tuckwell**  
*Flowers for all Occasions*  
**Telephone: (01296) 720406**  
**Wedding Flowers and Balloons**  
**Funeral Tributes**  
**Birthdays**  
**Anniversaries**  
**or Just a 'Thank You'**  
Free Local Delivery  
Nationwide Delivery Available  
**Salden Crabtree Farm, Little Horwood**  
**Milton Keynes MK17 0PR**



**C.T. Mowers**

**Garden Machinery Service and Repairs**

- Lawnmowers including ride-ons
- Strimmers
- Quads
- Garden Rotavators etc

Also available: Professional Mole Catching Service

**Please call Chris for an appointment:**  
**07976 980388**  
**Email: ct.mowers@yahoo.co.uk**

Haybush Farm – based one mile outside  
Winslow (A413-Aylesbury side)



# Greatmoor Energy from Waste

**HAVE you ever wondered what happens to the things you put in your waste bin? Your recycling is sorted and passed onto recycling companies, but what about your non-recyclable waste?**

So far over 2,500 visitors to Greatmoor Energy from Waste have found out.

All of the residual (non-recyclable) household waste generated in Buckinghamshire is now processed at the Greatmoor Energy from Waste facility, at Woodham, near Aylesbury. Greatmoor is operated by FCC Environment, in partnership with Buckinghamshire County Council.

Greatmoor has the capacity to treat up to 300,000 tonnes of waste a year (approximately 900 tonnes a day), waste which would otherwise have gone to landfill. As a result, it generates a minimum of 22 megawatts of electricity to the national grid – meeting the energy needs of around 36,000 homes.

This alternative treatment of waste will result in a saving to Buckinghamshire County Council of approximately £150 million over the 30 year life of the contract.

Guided tours of Greatmoor are available by prior agreement and at no charge. Visiting groups have included WIs, U3As, Rotary Clubs, Scouts, Cubs, Primary Schools, Colleges and lots of others.

A group visit to Greatmoor can be tailored to your requirements and will include a tour around the facility, which includes the control room (where you will be able to see the cranes loading the waste), a visit to the viewing hatch providing an exciting view into the heart of the fire, the turbine hall and the huge condenser fans, which is an experience not to be missed.

The maximum group size for a tour is 15. School visits are available for Key Stage 2 upwards.

Cllr Bill Chapple OBE, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Planning & Environment, said: "Greatmoor is a great asset to Buckinghamshire, and I'd really recommend that people take this opportunity to see the plant in operation and find out how it helps us reduce the environmental impact of our waste while at the same time saving money."

Feedback from visitors includes "The tutor had a really good knowledge and explained it all well. The tour was such a good experience and really interesting. I think that all the general public should have an opportunity" and "Very informative but not too much sitting around so the children got bored or disruptive - they were kept engaged throughout."

If you aren't a member of a local group but would like a tour, why come to one of our open tour days?

Greatmoor is holding four public open tour days in 2018.

**These are on the following Saturdays: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 22<sup>nd</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

On each day there will be tours, at 10am, 12.30 and 3.00 pm. Please note that places are available on a strictly booking in advance basis only. There is a minimum age limit of 12 on open tours. ■

For more information about Greatmoor please visit [www.Greatmoor.co.uk](http://www.Greatmoor.co.uk)

## Bulb planting & cricketers needed

### Great Whaddon Bulb Planting Society (GWBPS)

#### Celebrates its 9<sup>th</sup> Year! ...

...by planting more bulbs!

Yes, that right! Thanks to this year's team of skilled and available volunteers, another 500 bulbs have gone into the verges around Whaddon. This brings our total to an estimated **4,500!**

This year's chosen variety – Golden Anniversary – is a truly classic variety; it has a slightly deeper, gold trumpet and flowers in mid-spring. It is vibrant and long lasting (so the website says).

Now all that needs to be done is for us to sit back, watch them grow and bask in their reflected glory!!!!



ABOVE. Exhausted, after a hard day's night: Left to right: Paul Moss, Guy Birch-Jones, Grace Birch-Jones (front), Marley Lawrenz, Mark Carter and Adam Stewart.

## Thornborough needs cricketers

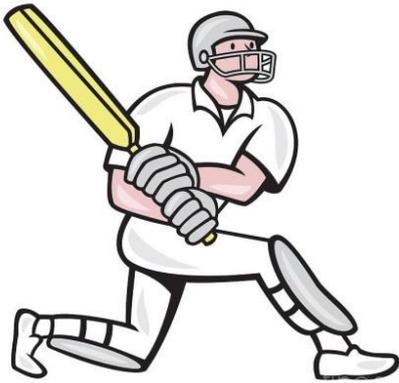
**Thornborough Cricket Club, (TCC) currently runs two Saturday teams which play in the SNCL (South Northants Cricket League), one in the Premier Division and the other in Division 4. The season runs from May to August (16 weeks).**

OUR CLUB has an ethos of providing cricket for all abilities, and is a great transition for youngsters (12+) into adult cricket. At least eight of our regular first team came through the youth route, starting as juniors and progressing into key first team players.

Like many cricket clubs, fielding two full teams of 11 players each week represents a constant challenge.

We would like to make you aware that the TCC is looking to recruit players. Any interested players (of all abilities and ages) would be made very welcome.

We have indoor nets booked at the Royal Latin School for Monday nights from 26/02/2018 to 26/03/2018 between 6.30 to 7.30pm; also we are looking to hold several events including a pool tournament at the *Two Brewers*, Thornborough with cue off at



2.00pm, quiz night and car rally set for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April; all this before the season starts as an introduction to the club and members.

If you are interested in playing local cricket at a friendly, fun club with a great social atmosphere, then please do not hesitate to contact either Ian Davies (IDavies@igph.net) or me, John Osborn (j.osborn019@outlook.com) to confirm your interest. Thank you. ■

*John Osborn*

## Tennessee Line country evening

**Many will recall a packed Jubilee Hall in the summer for the inaugural performance of Tennessee Line – our local country rock band. A great evening of dancing and fun it was too!**

The group, originally spawned from the backing band of the Whaddon Show two years ago, has gone from strength to strength. It was organised and led by Paul and Sharon Bessell – both avid Whaddonites and well known to most villagers.

If you're not familiar with country rock, it's not what you might think – no 'yeehaw'; instead, plenty of dancing and many songs you will be familiar with as well as some you may not know. These you will love; you can't help but find your toes tapping.

Tennessee Line's next gig is Saturday 12th May at Longueville Hall, Whaddon Road, Newton Longville. It is to be held there because of the hall's large stage; the Line are, after all, an eight-piece outfit!

They would love you to come along and join a fantastic evening; it is likely to appeal to all musical tastes. Even better news is ticket price: these are just £5 per head and there will be a full bar and plenty of parking. Tickets are limited so early booking is recommended. Contact Sharon on sharon.bessell@btinternet.com or 07703 388571 for tickets or more details. ■

*Sharon*

**FINAL WORDS.** "Cheers dears. Mine's a kiora." Just one of Mrs Weatherby's many sayings.

**(Kia-Ora: Māori for 'have life, be happy'. Also a soft-fruit drink.**

## **PETER BUSH**

*Motor Vehicle Technician with over 30 years' experience*

Servicing and repairs for all makes and models

Competitive rates

Collection & delivery service available

**Please call:**

**07525 489441 / 07525 489442**

Email: [jm1234@btinternet.com](mailto:jm1234@btinternet.com)

**22 Vicarage Road, Whaddon, MK17 0LU**



## **GREENTREESERVICES**

PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS



All aspects of Tree Surgery and Arboriculture:

- Tree pruning & felling
  - Hedge trimming
  - Tree reports & surveys
  - Stump grinding
  - Firewood supply
- 
- Free quotes & advice
  - £5m Public Liability Insurance
  - NPTC Qualified
  - National Diploma Arboriculture

**01908 506286 – 07533 371648**

**WWW.GREEN-TREE-SERVICES.CO.UK**

**City &  
Guilds  
Qualified**

*Homemade Jewelry / Cards  
for all occasions  
Dress Making & Alterations*

*Ann Bennett*



Stock Lane  
Whaddon

01908 522292

07854 577402

ann.bennett259@gmail.com

## **Men in Sheds Buckingham**

Men in Sheds provides a place where men of all ages can come along and take part in activities similar to what they would do in their own garden shed but with the bonus of other like-minded men providing good company.

Samantha Hardy, Community Impact Bucks

01844 348831 / 07990 756742 - email: [samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk](mailto:samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk)

## **Table Tennis**

Join us in the Jubilee Hall from 8.15 pm to 9.30 pm

Singles and Doubles      Admission: £2.00

All equipment provided

2 Tables available      Rules explained

Coaching given. School pupils welcome from age 8