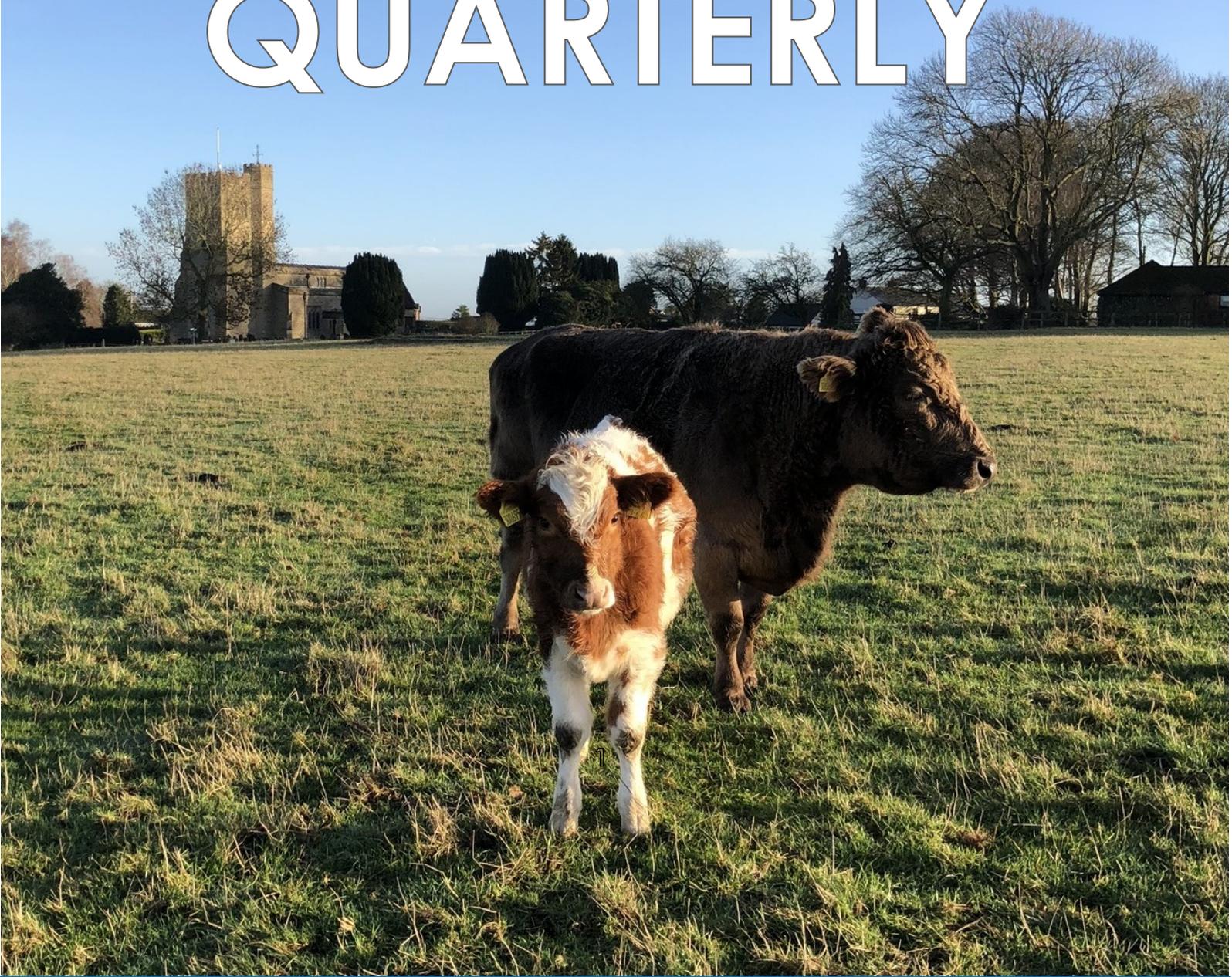


February 2019

WHADDON QUARTERLY



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For comments, queries and articles

Please contact the Editor, John Mortimer, on
01908 866988 or johnmortimermsc@gmail.com

To advertise in the *Whaddon Quarterly*

Send your advertisement to the Editor as above

Advertising Rates and Publication Policy – page 52

Whaddon Jubilee Hall

whaddonvillagehall@googlemail.com. For details see page 17

Final deadlines for forthcoming issues:

April 18th, 19th July and 18th October 2019.

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Cover: Single-suckling cows and calves on Church Hill before Christmas, by Gerald Simonds.

SNIPPETS

- **CODDIMOOR LANE** will be completely resurfaced, according to Bucks County Councillor John Chilver. It is expected work will start after the beginning of the next financial year which begins in April.

- **NASH MATTERS.** Don't forget Nash. Events of that village's forthcoming events can be found in this issue on **p. 47**.

- **PLANS** are being drawn up to re-enact WW2 radio transmissions at Windy Ridge on 6th June; this will be the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the landing of Allied troops on the beaches of Normandy on Tuesday 6th June 1944 in what was dubbed Operation Overlord.

- **NO SCHOOL.** Following overnight snow, Whaddon woke up on the first day of February to a covering of 3-4cm of the white stuff. Accordingly, no children attended the village school that day. **Right:** A deserted Stock Lane at 08.46; usually parents would be arriving with their children.

- **A VILLAGER** rightly complains: If rubbish falls out of your car when you open a door, please pick it up. Four (empty) cans of Red Bull were deposited on the road outside Post Office Row/High Street.



- **TEAS ON TUESDAY** held its final session of 2018 just before Christmas on 18th December. Cakes were much in evidence to celebrate the occasion. And, thanks to the kindness of angels, cakes and biscuits have been much in evidence in the New Year. So, if you've not stepped inside Jubilee Hall this year, give it a whirl. You could be pleasantly surprised. Don't forget the Post Office is

open too, most valuable.

- **HS2** is among a number of key projects which will be assessed as part of this year's 'comprehensive' spending review in order to 'judge their contribution to future prosperity', according to chief secretary to the Treasury, Liz Truss. She added "We must be prepared to junk the white elephants, the programmes that haven't worked."

- **FRONT PAGE NEWS.** Frederick Hayward's father, Fred Hayward, hit the front page of the *North Bucks Times* of Wednesday, 20th August 1969. The paper ran the headline *Whaddon man wins Shield at Horwood WI Produce Show*. The newspaper claimed Fred as the 'first Whaddon man' to win the *Gardening News* Shield at the Great Horwood and Singleborough WI Produce Show. A photograph of the prize-winning produce appears on **p. 33**.

- **BICESTER AND WHADDON CHASE** hunt passed through Whaddon on 3rd December last. The hunt master could be heard with the somewhat mournful horncall as he rounded up the hounds before moving on to the next venue. The Whaddon Chase Hunt was one of the leading hunts in its time; at one point the Prince of Wales of the day took part. The Bicester and Whaddon Chase Ltd is based at The Kennels, Stratton Audley, Bicester.



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

February 2019

AS I write this, another New Year has not long started; a year that will bring greater clarity as to what sort of future lies ahead for us in North Buckinghamshire, and at Whaddon in particular. (No, I don't mean Brexit; though that does have implications for us all.)

We will learn the route of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. At present, we know the corridor will follow broadly the old railway line between the two cities and, as you know, that runs across the Whaddon to Mursley road; so it will not be far away from us.

It is intended the Expressway should not just be a road but an economic growth area, bringing jobs and houses to its area. While we are outside the corridor, though not by much, the exact route has not yet been announced; it will be interesting to see how it will negotiate Milton Keynes.

A big change lies ahead for all of us in Local Government in Buckinghamshire. The Government has decided that in future there should be one District Council for the whole of Buckinghamshire (other than Milton Keynes Council) and that all the District Councils together with the County Council should be abolished.

This will happen following an election in May 2020. That means that members of the District Councils will serve an extra year beyond the normal end of their term, which would have been in May of this year.

Interestingly, it also means that Parish Councillors, such as those currently serving Whaddon, will do an extra year till 2020. A "Shadow Authority" will be set up shortly to implement the new body from among the members of the five departing Councils.

The Vale of Aylesbury Plan setting our housing numbers for years to come is nearing completion and will become a part of the Buckinghamshire Council's future policy. It will be interesting to see if, as feared, the area known as Shenley Park, to the immediate east of the village, is included.

It has just been announced that Coddimoor Lane – its horrendous potholes were patched not so long ago – will be resurfaced in the immediate future and, by the time this edition arrives on your doorstep (or on your computer), it may be complete. It will be well worth the diversions and inconvenience. ■

Billy Stanier

February 2019

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

CHRISTMAS seems far distant. Eerily silent on the day, Whaddon has since found itself nestling under an 'omega-shaped' ridge of high pressure which culminated on 4th January with temperatures reaching a balmy 10.4 C and a pressure of 1043mb. By mid-January, vibrant birds twittered brightly, as if happy and blissfully unaware forecasters have threatened a return of the 'beast from the east' Mark II. We shall see what happens.

Readers will notice the front cover, a step that lifts the *Whaddon Quarterly* to a new level; it comes courtesy of printer Harlequin Press Ltd of Little Horwood. Enjoy.

To examine another innovation for this magazine, visit whaddonquarterly.blogspot.com. As the magazine's four-colour digital file is too large for the village website, a special blogspot has been created to assemble them in one place.

Inside, there is another varied offering: from what it's like to be a cathedral guide, by Shirley Hall who wrote a tribute in the last issue to her mother, Beryl Hall, a former resident of Whaddon, to upgrading nearby Calverton's church bells.

In between, there's the hint of delight from unearthing a 213-year-old penny undimmed by time. The coin conjures up images of life in Georgian Britain. Then, an important event was unfolding: Nelson's defeat of French and Spanish navies. An article highlights what else took place when that church clock minder let slip a penny into the gloom beneath the pendulum.

Read too, about 'rewards' of a different kind: recycling items that truly reflect the times in which we live; and you can almost hear the drone from Rolls-Royce Merlin engines powering incoming RAF Wellington and Lancaster bombers as they loomed over Whaddon, homing in like pigeons on Little Horwood airfield.

In January, out of the blue, power of the *Quarterly* and the Internet combined to bring Roger Porter a hand-written letter. A gentleman in Romford, Essex, researching his family tree, discovered his links to Roger's grandfather. Sgt Rashbrook was in the 17th/21st Lancers (Duke of Cambridge's Own) in WW1, as reported in the *Whaddon Quarterly*, February 2018, p. 15. The 'Essex Note' has prompted further research; Roger's niece is delivering a carton of material from deepest Devon that had originated from his late sister, and his late mother before that. The *Quarterly* will report any further news beyond mundane family matters.

Earlier, in December, a Milton Keynes councillor travelled to Katowice, Poland, to inform climate change conference COP24 of Milton Keynes' plans (MK is helping electric car research) to be 'the world's greenest city' and be carbon negative by 2050 (**see p. 22**). Was this mere headline-grabbing or 'real' future plans that other authorities might follow?

But far from tiny Whaddon, something else took place with profound implications. On 3rd January, China landed a probe on the moon's dark side. This was as bold and daring as Apollo 11's lunar landing on 20th July 1969, just 50 years ago, and Neil Armstrong's first moon steps.

Observers are increasingly concerned about China's motives on many fronts, as it makes its presence felt worldwide. China could, for example, take tighter control of UK nuclear power stations, as other backers fall by the wayside, most notably Japanese firms like Hitachi and Toshiba. It's hard to believe that once upon a time Britain pioneered nuclear power station technology. That lead has been frittered away.

Accordingly, Mandarin, an emerging key world business language and widely predicted to be vital for UK business post-Brexit, has become a foreign language option for some UK students. The teaching of it as a modern language is thriving across schools.

In the meantime, as 29th March looms large, the UK is travelling through uncharted waters. These are turbulent times with schisms and intrigue rampant anywhere associated with the turmoil in British politics. In the Westminster 'bubble' the only certainty is... uncertainty.

Perhaps by the time the next *Whaddon Quarterly* appears, the parliamentary dust will have settled. Will Jubilee Hall, complete with its voting booths, be booked again for business? ■



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

Parish Council Election Postponed. May 2019 would normally have been an election year for Whaddon Parish Council, but due to the move to a Unitary Authority it has been decided to postpone the election until 2020. If you are interested in standing as a Councillor, please look out for the announcements and requests for candidates on the village notice board early next year, and don't hesitate to get in touch if you need any more information.

You, Whaddon Parish Council and GDPR. Many will have heard of 'General Data Protection Regulation 2018' or GDPR for short. After a somewhat chaotic start in May 2018, requirements seem to be clarifying themselves and we have a clearer idea of what is needed to comply for very small Councils like ours. WPC falls under the regulations in a small way, and we are working towards compliance; it is largely common sense and we already do it! The big changes will be a move to using Parish Council email addresses and you'll soon be hearing from WPC with a policy statement and a request for you to opt into our Community Email Update Service. In the meantime, rest assured WPC keeps a very small amount of data that falls under the regulations; it is never divulged to anyone without a valid and legal reason, and never used for any purpose outside the one intended.

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 the 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 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.

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting(s). The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council take(s) place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, at 7.30pm 14/3/19, 9/5/19 (AGM), 11/7/19, 12/9/19, 14/11/19, 9/1/20, 12/3/20. 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! ■

Whaddon Quarterly

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We did remember them...

The clock of St Mary's Church tower struck eleven on the morning of 11th November; silence descended. Around the memorial, a large group from Whaddon and surrounding districts had gathered, including the Colour Party which presented itself with precision and stood to attention, motionless.

AS PART of the foregoing formalities of the day, tower captain Derek White had adjusted the clock to 'Big Ben time' in order to proclaim the hour exactly. And number five bell had been arranged to strike at 10-second intervals from 10.40 until 10.58 precisely.

The bell tolled solemnly, people began to gather; some chose to place their wooden remembrance 'poppy crosses' adjacent to the cenotaph. At the appointed hour, everyone stood still and silent; no longer could crunch of shoe on gravel be heard or even low murmurs. All were in chime with the occasion.

Suddenly, out of the silence, a bird twittered noisily, unabashed by the ceremony close by. Overhead, clouds scudded across a blue sky, occasionally concealing the morning sun. Those assembled, each with his or her thoughts, remembered relatives and others who had died: the fallen who, in two world wars and other conflicts around the world, had given their lives that others might enjoy their lives in peace.

Lay Minister Vicky Southby opened the service with a bidding prayer for all who had yielded in various conflicts, especially those named on the memorial. Jess Haig then gave a rendition of the Last Post.

As the last note faded, Billy Stanier recited the well-known Ode for Remembrance. The fourth stanza from Laurence Binyon's *For the Fallen* (first published in *The Times* in September 1914) begins 'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old...'

Then followed two minutes of silence after which Jess sounded the Reveille and Kieren Beasley read out the roll call names of those who had died as a result of war.

In silence, wreaths were duly brought to the memorial: Billy Stanier placed one on behalf of Whaddon Parish Council; Janet Spencer delivered one on behalf of the Royal British Legion, while Able Cadet Taylor stepped forward with a wreath from the Sea Cadets. Able Cadet Taylor was accompanied by Leading Cadet Callum and staff member Chief Petty Officer Cole.





Whaddon's remembrance service concluded with a final prayer from Vicky before the Colour Party fell out. Prior to leaving for church, those who had not done so earlier, laid their own small crosses as tokens of personal remembrance, the blood red poppies shining out in the winter sunlight.

Meanwhile, atop the church tower, the flag continued unflinching to respond to the stiff breeze. Noticed only by the few who searched the sky for solace, and purchased specially for the occasion by the bell ringers of Whaddon, the standard carried its own muted, colourful tribute to The Fallen.

More than likely the same flag will make its re-appearance at this year's Remembrance Day commemoration; keep your eyes open for it. **JM**



Whaddon's beacon drew in the crowds

Whaddon Parish Council was proud to participate in, and organise one of the 1,300 official beacons "Beacon of Light", to commemorate the end of the Great War, organised by HM Pageant Master Bruno Peek.

WHADDON pledged to provide a Beacon over 18 months ago, and after quite a lot of planning and organisation, it was good to see the plan come together with approximately 200 villagers and others from the surrounding area attending the lighting of the Beacon at 7pm on the 11th November.

Sir Beville Stanier, Chair of Whaddon Parish Council, gave a reading at 6.50, followed by the Last Post, movingly played by Jessica Haig at 6.55pm. The Beacon was lit at 7pm sharp, (as per the instructions from Mr Peek) by Julian Grace, who also built it.

Once the Beacon had been lit and gathered momentum to burn brightly, everyone who attended enjoyed a rendition of WW1 songs from the Chase Choir. Thank you Karen Logan for your superb organisation.

Helen and Chris Hickman were happy to host the evening at Coddimoor Farm and gladly sponsored the soup and sausage roll station.

The bar was also generously sponsored by ICandy UK Ltd, purveyor of wonderful prams and one of Bumpstart's key suppliers.

A stonking £750 was raised by everyone's generosity which will be divided between four Armed Forces Charities. Thank you to everyone who attended. ■

Helen Hickman

The young ones remembered too

Alongside their elders, the young people of Whaddon CofE School paid their own homage to The Fallen.

The Key Stage One children at Whaddon School learnt all about World War 1. First we made a farm from 1914. It was called Friendly Farm. It was old and had very nice buildings and animals like goats. It



had lots of wells for drinking water because they didn't have indoor taps or bottles of water. We pretended to be a man called Arthur working on his farm. We had to plough with the horses, pull up water from the well and cut the grass without machines. Then Mr Spencer and Mrs McLellan came to teach us more about World War 1. We spied on people using a periscope and we tried on Mr Spencer's helmet! We used a torch to make flashes to talk to people secretly. Mrs McLellan taught us about being children at



“Is that a nice fit, young man?”

home in 1914 doing jobs like picking up eggs, sweeping up the farmyard and chopping firewood. Then we made some posters about what the women had to do in WW1. We had a good time making medals from cardboard and foil which we pretended to give to each other. The Year 1 children learnt about casualty dogs who helped the soldiers who were injured. For an art lesson we made some portraits of soldiers

The children create a WW1 trench



David Spencer lends a helping hand



using oil pastels. We made them sepia toned so they looked like old photos. One day we pretended to be captains in the trenches giving some bossy instructions to the soldiers, like “Don't fall asleep on duty!” and “Don't feed the rats!” Finally we learnt about the Christmas Day Truce. It was very interesting to learn about World War 1 and we liked having visitors in. ■

Jessica, Rupert, Kitty, Susannah and George

Centenary Royal British Legion Donations

A grand total of £1,788 was raised last year, a figure that was 60 per cent up on our normal collection; what a brilliant result and thank you to the whole village for your contributions. Many thanks also to all the collectors for their ability to garner into those boxes more than we dared to imagine.

It was also wonderful to witness the support everyone gave to the triple-bill Great War Centenary celebrations.

The 11 o'clock Remembrance ceremony at the war memorial saw an attendance of, we think, 150 people. This included many children who came to plant their 'poppy crosses', as well as about 100 who stayed for the church service in St Mary's.

The afternoon concert amounted to standing room only for the 'massed Whaddon choirs' (wonderfully well-coached by Karen Wilson), supported by Blackadder's last sketch and readings which included three 'letters from the trenches'. These were composed and read by the children. Congratulations to all, especially the school children.

Finally, there was that huge Beacon, one of 1,100 in the country: a fitting end to the celebrations. The flames must have been 30 feet high. This was all courtesy of Chris and Helen Hickman and supported by another great gathering from the village. We do these events so well.

David Spencer

Chairman

Whaddon with Nash Branch



HARVEST SUPPER

In what language does a child cry?

We are so grateful for the wonderful funds raised by our village at the Harvest supper; the sum of £1,100 is totally amazing.

THE sum raised is for two Palestinian charities we visited in The Holy Land last August: Jeel-al-Amal Orphanage in Bethany and The Arab Rehabilitation Hospital in Bethlehem.

Both charities take in children whatever their ethnic origin, background or religion; hence Jeel-al-Amal's strapline above.



Jeel-al-Amal (**left**) is funded entirely by donations. It takes in abused and orphaned boys from the age of four up to 17, from all over Palestinian territory, but principally from the West Bank.

For the 90 boys there, it is the only home they ever have. Jeel-al-Amal tries to compensate for their lack of a family's love and

care by providing a safe environment, decent living conditions, formal and informal education, health care and, importantly, psychological guidance.

Jeel-al-Amal also runs a mixed school; this allows the boys to have the opportunity to learn life skills through integration with other children.

The children were very happy and we saw so much love; it was obvious the boys viewed the staff as their 'family'. Indeed, the staff were most impressive in the way they encouraged and communicated with the children; I guess it helps that the majority of the staff were also former pupils.

The Rehab Hospital (**above**), started by Leonard Cheshire, does receive Palestinian funding but only up to 60 per cent; so they depend too on donations.

It was tragic to see so many children coping with one trauma or another, many of which appeared to be the result of conflict. There too, all staff are hugely committed to help casualties of all ages with their rehabilitation and to expand the hospital's capabilities.

The Palestine we saw seemed to have so little; the region lacked industry and agriculture. Our guide said they depended on the service industry but we saw little of that and many shops were closed. Palestinian territory has been surrounded by wire or walls; these restrict movement in and out. Our hearts are very much with all those who care. ■

David and Janet Spencer



Curry Night

Saturday 9th February - 7:30pm

Whaddon Jubilee Hall

Safina is back in Whaddon to tantalise your taste buds with her delicious curries.

Tickets £15 per person - includes a choice of three curries, rice, samosa and poppadoms followed by fruit and coffee.

Pay bar (and there is a little surprise entertainment too!)

Tickets available from Sharon on 07703 388571

Charity number: 300348



St. Mary's Church Whaddon

FEBRUARY 2019

- 1st Sunday 10.30am Family Worship
2nd Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
3rd Sunday 10.00 for 10.30am Sunday Special
4th Sunday 8.30am Said Holy Communion (traditional)
5th Sunday Benefice service (venue varies)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Tuesday 2-3.30pm Tea on Tuesday in Jubilee Hall
1st Wednesday 2.00pm Women's Institute in Jubilee Hall
3rd Wednesday 7.30pm Night Owls WI in Jubilee Hall
Tues & Thurs 8.00pm onwards table tennis in Jubilee Hall

SPECIAL SERVICES

Sun March 31st 10.30am Mothering Sunday Family Service

At the time of going to press the following services are not confirmed, so check the Easter Flyer delivered in April.

- Sun 14th April 10.30am Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Thurs 18th April Maundy Thursday (time & venue TBA)
Fri 19th April 11.30am Good Friday Meditation. Coffee 11-11.20
Sun 21st April 10.30am Easter Day Family Communion

Lenten Evensongs will begin on Wednesday March 13th at 6pm. Venues are still to be arranged. Please check church noticeboard for venues or telephone David Spencer at 01908 502540



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Monday, 29th April 7:45 for 8pm in the church.

Churchwardens, PCC members and sidespeople will be elected. Annual Reports will be presented and the future church development discussed. Please come and support YOUR parish church and give your opinion.

SUMMER FETE Saturday, 8th June 2pm Kings Close House, Nash Rd
Thanks to Sir Billy Stanier for the use of his attractive garden.

CHRISTMAS

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 began the service by singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City and the

full choir sang additional carols as solos during the service. A big thank you to the choir for giving their time to enhance the service, to the nine readers and to our organist on this occasion, Jon Artus.

JESUS' birthday party on Christmas Morning attracted a large congregation as usual which joined in the songs led by the Music Group. This short service is a wonderful start to the day's festivities. Our thanks to all who were involved in its preparation, especially to Sally Green, Beryl Evans and Hazel Dudley.

We look forward to meeting you at any of our services where you will be warmly welcomed. We wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Until a new priest is appointed, Rev John King (from Nash) can be contacted on 01908 501860 or by email at buckinghamvillages@gmail.com

Hazel Hedges (Churchwarden)

Tel: 01908 501729 Email: hazel.hedges@gmail.com

The Parochial Church Council

Hazel Hedges	Churchwarden.	Tel. 01908 501729
Linda Maclver	Hon. Secretary.	Tel: 01908 330964
Barry Dudley	Hon. Treasurer	Tel: 01908 505727
	Electoral Roll Officer.	
Frederick Hayward	Jubilee Hall Repr'ive	Tel: 01908 506083
Hazel Dudley	.	Tel:01908 505727
Clare Garland		Tel: 01908 501732

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WHADDON

2018 BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS OF ASHES

- Mar 19th Funeral Gerald Lawrence Hayward
- May 6th Baptism Archie James MacIntyre
- May 15th Interment of Ashes Heather Jane Birch-Jones
- May 20th Adult Baptism Lauren Clare Scott
- May 22nd Funeral Michael Roland Hadida
- June 2nd Wedding Susannah Hickman to Simon Irvine
- June 12th Interment of Ashes Joyce Hodgkinson
& Robert Geoffrey Hodgkinson
- June 30th Wedding Lauren Scott to Trevor Bennett
- July 28th Wedding Blessing Lianne Takedo nee Herbert to Hiroshi Takedo
- July 29th Baptism Theodore Austin Harry Markwick
- Aug 5th Baptism Evelyn Rose Harris & Henry Rufus Harris
Adult Baptism Brenna Harris
- August 6th Funeral Timothy Stuart Joint
- August 25th Baptism Archie- Jack Iacono
- August 26th Baptism Arlo John Bolton & Rose Gwendoline Bolton

I saw it there, glinting...

Derek White recalls the day, on a routine visit to St Mary's Church, he noticed something old and unusual.

EVER since childhood, I have been interested in anything that is old. For example, tools, coins and fossils; you name it and I have one. It's what my wife calls 'stuff'. The sight of any one of these items is enough to make me ask questions: who owned that, what's it worth? That's how I came to own what I call the 'black penny'.

I have been looking after the bells at St Mary's for a good few years. And, for a turret clock, ours keeps good time. It gains only about two minutes each month. So, on one of my recent trips (not literally) up the 30 steps to the clock room to correct the time, I decided to stop the pendulum for two minutes to allow GMT to catch up.



As I reached under the pendulum to stop it from swinging, my torch glinted on something well down between the floor boards. Out came my penknife; with it I was able to prise out a small, completely black, round coin.

On arriving home, I placed the coin in a pot of vinegar. The following morning, and after much rubbing, I found a king's head on one side with the words *George III* and the date: 1806 (**left, below**).

How did it get there? I could imagine a farm worker going up to the church with a candle lantern, and then through the bell room, which is now the vestry, up to the clock itself. By the way, this would not be the clock in use today, but the old one which now stands inside the church.

The farm worker would have known that placing a penny on the pendulum would be enough to speed up the clock. However, if he'd dropped the coin down into the pit, with the poor light of a candle, he would not have been able to find it.

More than likely, this could have been happening around the time of the battle of Trafalgar. And that penny would have represented a loss to any farm hand. It might have bought three loaves of bread or, more importantly, a quart of ale. ■



The first penny made by steam power

Ironically, the George III penny and two penny coins were not struck at the Royal Mint in the Tower of London, but in Birmingham by Matthew Boulton. Why Birmingham? Who was Matthew Boulton and why him?

IN 1797, the British government, desperate to restore confidence in British currency, then awash with fakes, commissioned Matthew Boulton to strike new coins that contained their face value in copper to stop counterfeiting. Boulton, an English manufacturer, partnered Scottish engineer, James Watt who invented the steam engine.



Boulton had set up his Soho Mint in 1788 in Handsworth, Birmingham. He wanted to prove that his new steam-powered press could produce coins more cost-efficiently and accurately than by hammering them by hand.

The mint contained eight steam-driven machines to his own patented design, with each capable of striking 70 to 84 coins a minute. The mint produced copper domestic coins, silver coins for some of the colonies, and various medals and trade tokens.

By 1800, Boulton had produced over 1,250 tonnes of copper coins; his achievement transformed coin production in Britain. They were the first British coins struck with steam power.

Besides the one penny coin there was a two penny coin. Struck in 1797 during the reign of King George III, the copper two penny coin was Britain's largest coin in circulation ever struck – and the heaviest.

The coins were nicknamed 'Cartwheels' due to their distinctive outer rim. The Cartwheel coins were designed by Conrad Heinrich Küchler, a German engraver who, from 1793 until his death, designed coinage and medals for Boulton.

Küchler's design on the two penny cartwheel coins was equally revolutionary. It marked the first time Britannia was depicted as ruling the waves: an allegory for Britain's status as a major maritime power. In the design, Britannia sits on a rock surrounded by sea, holding an olive branch and a trident; she surveys a ship on the horizon.

At the time, the then largest circulating coin was rightfully hailed as one of the most important British coins ever struck.

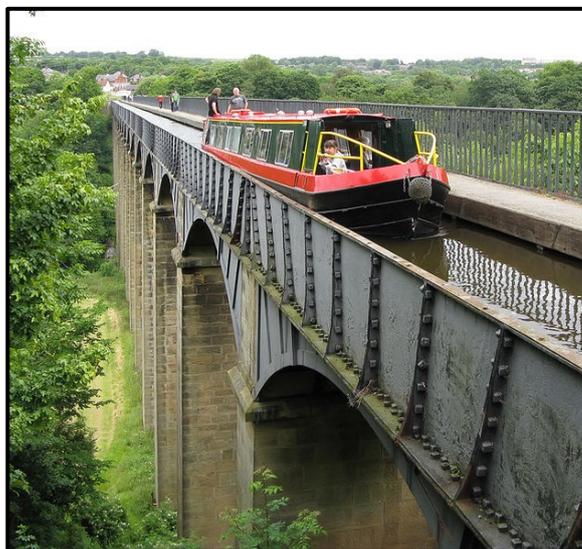
Major events of 1805

What would have been taking place around 1806 when Boulton produced that penny? Certainly, during the previous year, 1805, there were two 'firsts': the first Trooping the Colour ceremony at Horse Guards Parade in London on 4th June; and the first annual cricket match between Eton College and Harrow School took place on 4th August.

Of far greater importance, on 21st October, the Battle of Trafalgar took place as part of the Napoleonic Wars. Famously, the British naval fleet, led by Admiral Horatio Nelson, defeated the combined French and Spanish fleet off the coast of Spain. During the engagement, Admiral Nelson was fatally shot, but it was not until two weeks later, on 6th November that news of the victory at Trafalgar and Nelson's death reached London.

Three weeks later, a major engineering triumph unfolded: the Ellesmere Canal's Pontcysyllte Aqueduct in Wales (**right**): the highest and longest in Britain. It opened on 26th November. Six years later, Benjamin Beavon led a team to build the Iron Trunk over the river Great Ouse in Old Wolverton.

But what would a cartwheel penny in 1805 buy? Researchers estimate that wheat used in a 2lb (900g) loaf would cost 1.4 pence. Remember, there were 240 pence in a pound in those days. Add to



this the cost of milling, baking and profit, and a finished loaf might sell for perhaps 2 pence.

This estimate is reinforced by income and expenditure data by Susanna Ives and found in *A New System of Practical Domestic Economy*, published in London in 1823. The data shows that for a reasonably well off family of five (husband, wife and three children) having a daily income of 6s 6d (39s a week or £101 per annum), would spend 4s on bread (24lb at 2d per pound); almost as much as the family spent at the butcher: 4s 6d.

That family also budgeted to buy nine gallons of beer a month costing one penny per pint, or two pence a quart. This amounted to 2s 2d a week.

A poorer family of five with 3s 6d income a day (21s a week or £55 per annum) would spend 3s 6d on bread a week, and much less on meat (2s 3d). Their budget made no allocation for beer. In contrast, a 'gentleman' with a wife and three children (annual income £150) would spend 5s on bread, 7s on meat and fish and 3s 6d on beer and 'liquors'.

As for George III, he fathered 15 children, American colonies won their independence and he died insane aged 60 in 1820, 14 years after that penny landed in the pit in St Mary's tower.

Farm workers' wages

So how much pay would an agricultural worker receive with George III on the throne? As now, wages varied across the country; also, much depended on time of year.

On average, in 1805 farm workers in the north of England earned 18 pence a day, while a counterpart in the south took home 22 pence a day, according to farm records of the day.

And again, in winter while daily rates might be 20 pence, at harvest time this could shoot up to 36 pence per day. With 'beer money' included, these figures could be 21 pence and 39 pence respectively.

So, for a farm worker to clumsily lose an 1806 penny into the pit below the clock in Whaddon's church tower, it could be significant. It might have led to heartbreak, a family quarrel – a charge levelled at its owner of incompetent acme for dropping such a valuable item.

Perhaps there might be even a boxing round the ears for the husband of an angry wife as she remonstrated on the thorny subject of just how much a penny would buy?

Today, no one thinks anything of losing a penny, or even a five-pence piece. But in those days, oh my! That's a pint of ale down the drain, or half a loaf of bread for the children. **JM**

A service for customers, and suppliers

The North Bucks Heating Oil Syndicate not only provides benefits to home owners by way of reduced oil costs, it also gives assistance to oil companies in fuel savings, as Lawrence John outlines.

THE syndicate aims, month by month, to secure the best deal in terms of retail oil price: a price that includes a discount for faster payment. In addition to Whaddon, the service covers homes in Nash, Beachampton, Thornborough, Calverton, Great Horwood and Little Horwood.

During 2018, 319,700 litres were ordered through the syndicate. This meant that at a minimum discount of 5p per litre, syndicate members saved a total of £15,985. Oil supply companies also achieve savings; they can dispatch a single tanker to the Whaddon area and return it empty, with benefits in efficiency, time and money and, of course, environmental savings. So, since I took over the syndicate in 2012, we have ordered 1,740,070 litres. At 5p per litre that has translated into a total saving of £87,003.

To use the service, newcomers to the area and to the syndicate need to make contact (using the email address below) so that an appropriate email address can be added to the mailing list. All that is required then is a member's name and address and the quantity of oil required. The minimum order is 500 litres.

The syndicate is entirely community based. It is not-for-profit and has no turnover or income. I collect individual orders, find the best price and place the order with the oil delivery company. You, the member, pay the oil company directly.

We achieve excellent prices because we order 20,000 litres or more at a time; the only stipulation is that individual oil orders must be at least 500 litres. That means we require more than 20 people in need of oil before the order can be placed. The process takes place at the end of each month.

I send out a reminder email each time before ordering; normally this is in the last week of the month with planned delivery for the first week of the following month.

Because we depend on bulk orders to achieve the best price, it is not possible to process emergency or rush orders. Should your level be low and oil is needed in a hurry, then the best solution is to contact the oil companies direct.

Buying as a syndicate can often save 5p or more per litre, so on our minimum order of 500 litres, a single delivery should be £25 less than the best price an individual could achieve alone.

So, recapping, in the last week of each month, members on the mailing list should receive an email from me, prompting them to check their tanks and place orders. By the month-end, I will place the bulk order, and inform members of the price and delivery dates.

In the first week of each month, it is important that members expecting a delivery ensure gates/tanks are unlocked so the delivery can take place when it arrives. Members will find a delivery slip in their letterbox. Please telephone the company and pay promptly as the price obtained has been discounted for prompt payment.

I fit this in between my day job and being a dad etc. so I check the email only about once a fortnight unless we are processing an order, so apologies if mid-month emails do not receive an immediate response.

Lastly, on the subject of payment, we have a great reputation for paying on time. The oil companies know that syndicate members all pay, no exceptions. Most companies also give a discount for fast payment; that is the price that I quote to members. This means that we get an even better price from them, because they all want our business.

On the flip side, it does mean that if anyone fails to pay on time, after being chased, then I will remove them from the syndicate to protect our reputation and the good price that all other members enjoy.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at lawrence@northbucksos.co.uk ■



Jubilee Hall is your village hall

The Jubilee Hall was built on land donated by the Selby-Lowndes family and opened in 1935. It has strong historical connections with the village.

THE Hall is governed by a committee of trustees and has charitable status. A group of volunteers from the village takes care of the administration and maintenance of the Hall.

Following the AGM in November, there have been some changes to the committee and the current members are as follows: Chairperson: Hazel Hedges; Secretary: Rotation within Committee; and Treasurer: Peter Hedges. Other members: Frederick Hayward, Deb Spinks, Ralph Spinks, Mark Burnett, Lawrence John, Sharon Bessel, Louise Collin and Pierre Hibble. Booking clerk: Sharon Bessel (until March) then Marianna Beckwith.

As well as offering facilities for many and varied activities for villagers to enjoy, it is also available for private hire. It is currently in regular use by the weekly Post Office, the pre-school, Chase Choir, Whaddon Entertainers, St. Mary's Church, WI afternoon and WI Nightowlers as well as for fun physical activities such as yoga classes, Pilates and table tennis.

The rates for hiring are as follows:

- Village residents £8.50 per hour
- Non-Village £12.50 per hour
- Charity £5.50 per hour (necessary to see registered charity number when booking is made)

Until March end, please contact Sharon Bessell for booking enquiries, using the Jubilee Hall e-mail address whaddonvillagehall@googlemail.com or by telephone/text on 07703 388571

Fundraising

Roof repairs, a new boiler and a new kitchen have all been funded in recent times, but now the hall is badly in need of floor refurbishment. The committee would also like to build an entrance to accommodate wheelchair users and additional toilets.

In order to carry out these improvements and to maintain and protect the hall going forward, the committee are working hard to create fun events to raise funds; for this, we need support from the community.

Our next two events are a Curry Night and a Casino Evening; both have been advertised recently around the village, on Facebook and elsewhere in this magazine. Tickets for each event can be purchased from Sharon Bessell (Sharon.bessell@btinternet.com or on 07703 388571).

Please note that at the time of writing, the Curry Night has only a handful of tickets left. With all events, if we don't sell enough tickets early, the event may have to be cancelled to ensure that no costs are incurred. If you wish to support us in our fundraising, please can you buy your tickets as soon as possible. Many thanks.

■ **Saturday 9th February: Curry Night** – £15 per person. Includes choice of three curries, with rice, salad, popadums, samosa and fruit. There will be entertainment on the night too!

■ **Saturday 16th March: Casino Evening** – The glitz and glamour of Las Vegas is coming to Whaddon with a James Bond-themed Casino Evening. Over-18s only. Doors open 7.30pm, tables open 8pm. Tickets are on sale now - £15 each; this includes a welcome glass of fizz on arrival, canapes and an initial stake for the tables. Fantastic main prize for the biggest winner on the night is an Aston Martin Driving Experience – get behind the wheel and be 007! Pay Bar and more tokens available to purchase.

For those on Facebook, there is a page dedicated to the hall. Search "Whaddon Jubilee Hall", like the page and you will be kept up-to-date with what is happening.

Thank you. We hope to see many of you at the Curry Night and/or the Casino Evening. ■

Sharon Bessell



WHADDON BOOK CLUB

THE Whaddon Book Club continues to thrive and grow; we have new members this year. In the last quarter, we have read *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris, *Far Cry from Kensington* by Muriel Spark and *Making it Up* by Penelope Lively.

None of the books we read recently have carried the accolade of great literature, but the book by Heather Morris remains on the top of the *Sunday Times* weekly list of bestsellers and has done so for a great number of weeks.

It is a remarkable story told by the Tattooist himself, as an old man, to a writer who works mainly in the theatre and for television plays. He trusted her to tell his story of love and survival in a concentration camp. It is a memorable read.

The last two authors were popular in their day and their books are well-told tales. Muriel Spark was respected by the members as a clever author, but Penelope Lively's short stories were very mixed, so that month we had very little to discuss as far as the book was concerned.

This month, we tackle *Artemis* by Andy Weir and thereafter *Force of Nature* by Jane Harper. After this we will have completed a varied list of books, largely chosen from the

Bletchley Library Service list for Book Clubs, but with additions suggested by members. When we convene this month we intend to compile a new list for this year.

New members with, or without suggestions for our new list are most welcome to join us. As our commitments vary, we will now meet on the **LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH** at 7.30 pm at a member's home. If you are interested, please phone Jane Porter 01908 501 709. ■

Jane Porter



Please note...

**TODDLER CHURCH is taking a break & will restart
after the Easter holidays.**

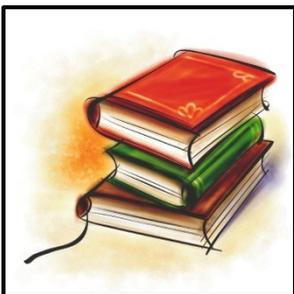
(Wednesday 24th April 2019)

(Sally Green 01908 526033)



Homeowners please check your gardens for sharp objects such as broken glass or barbed wire. Several pets in the village have been injured causing distress to the pets and expensive vet's bills for their owners!!

Thank you, Sally Green



NEW BOOKS

The Victorians did have Wikipedia

Those who write a volume of words invariably have a shelf containing pet volumes to which they can refer when in need of greater understanding.

TODAY, the internet, and Google in particular, have made these redundant, but the Victorians had their own Google and Wikipedia in the form of *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*. But will the internet make even that reference point redundant?

The latest edition, the 20th, of this colossus appeared just before Christmas: all 1,517 pages of it. Desirable though it may be: Terry Pratchett proclaims, "This is, in fact, not what you were looking for; but it's much more interesting," it's unlikely such a weighty tome found its way into many Christmas stockings! It weighs just over 2kg (4.4 pounds in old money), a figure you will not find in *Brewer's* but you can discover through Google!

Originally published in 1870 by the Reverend E Cobham Brewer, it was aimed at the growing number of those who, without university education, wanted, or needed, greater access to understanding.

Brewer's Dictionary is a reference work containing definitions and explanations of many famous phrases, allusions, and figures, whether historical or mythical.

With so many pages, *Brewer's* is difficult to navigate; likewise it is in danger of being out of date even as it is published, and thus incorrect. For example, with Linslade in such close proximity to Whaddon, it is tempting to search for facts relating to the Great Train Robbery. However, *Brewer's* declares Ronnie Biggs to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure in Belmarsh prison. This is odd; Biggs died aged 84 exactly five years ago on 18th December 2013!

With Google, the moment a well-known person dies, the event is recorded in one place or another; certainly in Wikipedia if they are famous, or infamous. Likewise with anything else you want to know, it is likely to be there in black and white and it is left to the researcher to double-check the correctness or otherwise of the 'facts'.

The Rev. Ebenezer Coghnam Brewer, a Victorian cleric, created his own Wikipedia. He assembled his dictionary by collecting information, in the form of cut-up bits of paper and placing each piece in any one of the pigeon holes in his office. Times have changed, but not the principle. This still leaves the opportunity for omissions and errors, as well as, on the plus side, a huge amount of the most obscure information.

As hinted already, with so much information at one's fingertips, navigation is invariably a challenge. Ideally, at the very outset one needs to establish a technique in order, at a later stage, to be able to find answers to particular problems.

For example, what would one call the small amount of toothpaste placed on a toothbrush prior to brushing? To find answer, you have to look under W for 'What do you call?' The answer certainly is not under D for dab or T for toothpaste.

In the same way, it is important to look under 'As' and not under 'bald' or 'coot' when seeking greater understanding of 'As bald as a coot'.

Some facts are not there: for example, the names of the Queen's children. Likewise, you will not find details of the books of E L James but, curiously, you can discover a reference to *Emmanuelle*.

In other cases, there are double meanings. For 'scrambled eggs', the editor guides readers to 'Brass hats'. This is a term applied to senior officers in the services and the gold braid on the brims of their caps; this is referred to as 'scrambled eggs'.

However, errors and travails of navigation should not detract from the book's overall value, or the effort afforded by editor, lexicographer, etymologist and Oxford graduate Susie Dent of Channel 4's *Countdown* fame.

Beware when using *Brewer's*. You may not necessarily find what you're looking for but it will be interesting. JM

Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable is edited by Susie Dent and published by Chambers at £45. ■

Will England be the next Bordeaux?

ANOTHER big book - all 643 pages of it - comes from the hand of Oz Clarke, once an actor in the West End and, with Jilly Goolden, ran the BBC's programme *Food and Drink* for 20 years. He reckons there are 10,000 varieties of grape of which only 1,368 are used to make wine. Having published two dozen books on wine it's amazing Clarke can Russell up words for number 13.

Even so it's sprinkled with his usual purple language – like, you need to have sex in a vineyard before you fully can understand a wine – but even so offers an interesting thought. One that has many implications. He claims nearly three-quarters of the Mediterranean, Black Sea, Australia and South Africa will be 'too hot' to continue producing wine. Under these circumstances, England will become the 'new Bordeaux'; vineyards in Kent are gathering their harvests one month earlier than a decade ago while the sugar content of the grapes has

doubled. Which raises the point: What will happen in other wine-producing countries? Something to ponder over with that next glass of Merlot at *The Lowndes Arms*. JM

An unquenchable thirst for wine by Oz Clarke, published by Little Brown. 643pp. £25 ■

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WHADDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

WE celebrated World Kindness Day on 13th November 2018, when several members enjoyed making posies of WI Friendship Flowers bearing "please take me" labels; these were distributed in locations around the village and much enjoyed by those who found them! A reminder to us all that we can all make a difference, even in a small way.

Jane Waight was again voted in as President at our December meeting, with Jane Porter serving as Treasurer and Sue Sullivan as our Secretary. Grateful thanks were given to these ladies for their continuing hard work.

In January, as well as paying our membership fees for 2019, we will be discussing and choosing a resolution

to support within the WI campaign. This shines a spotlight on subjects such as the stigma of mental health, loneliness, food waste and microplastic pollution. This is an amazing opportunity to play a part in this democratic process where, from little acorns, great oak trees can grow to bring about positive changes in legislation and government policy.

In February, we will be hearing about Buckinghamshire's lace making history with our speaker, Mrs Knight (**See also p. 35**). This will be interesting, as lace making took place on our own doorstep here in Whaddon.

In March, Leonard Woodley will be telling us all about murderers in 19th Century Buckinghamshire, so come along and hear all about it if you dare!

You will be made very welcome at any of our meetings taking place on the first Wednesday of each month at 2.00 pm in the Jubilee Hall where a small charge of £3 for visitors is made. For more information please call Jane Waight on 01908 387449 or Jane Porter on 01908 501709. ■

Jill Aitken, January 2019

Just how green is green?

Milton Keynes council leader Peter Marland has claimed MK will be “the world’s greenest city” and carbon negative by 2050.

MARLAND travelled to Katowice, Poland, before Christmas, to attend COP24, the United Nations Climate Change Conference, where various speakers presented showcase cities’ efforts to tackle climate change.

Marland dropped the bombshell news that MK would become the ‘world’s greenest city’. Does this have implications for other areas close by? Or was he just headline-grabbing?

He also forecast that MK would be carbon neutral before 2030 and carbon negative before 2050. By that time, the city will have doubled in population to 500,000.

How will this ‘greenness’ happen? He forecasts that all new homes will have solar panels on roofs and space within houses for battery packs. Also, homes would ‘possibly’ be fuelled by communal biomass boilers.

He proposes that tons of waste food generated each week by MK households would be put through a large anaerobic digester, in which bacteria will break down the material into methane-rich biogas; this could be used to power homes.

Some 60 per cent of the gas is methane with the rest as carbon dioxide. Will other development authorities follow Milton Keynes’ lead?

Marland also sees existing green land spaces helping to capture carbon. He concluded that MK has always been ambitious, but “we will go further and pledge to be carbon negative.”

■ **2050** appears to be a mystical year. A worst-case scenario now being studied by automotive industry consultants Ricardo suggests that by 2050, a ‘high-level’ of electric car and van (HiEV) ownership coinciding with unmanaged charging and the usual evening spike in domestic electricity use, could impose such high demand peaks that Europe would need 120 new nuclear power stations of the size now being proposed for the UK, namely 2GW, to cope with demand. Europe would also require “significant reinforcement” of both high and low-voltage resources. The UK’s nuclear industry is already in turmoil as Japanese firms, like Hitachi and Toshiba, pull out, leaving only China and France ‘holding the baby’. ■

Someone's lived here before

If and when Shenley Park becomes a reality, residents will know they are living directly above a Roman settlement active with human life 2,000 years ago.

EVIDENCE of the settlement, or the edge of a settlement, has been found at what was formerly known as WHA001, according to sources.

The settlement is directly in line with Mursley Water Tower. Previously, on that same bearing, another settlement had been found some 500m from the tower towards Whaddon.

It is understood Border Archeology will continue its work at WHA001 (now known as Shenley Park) for at least another month, or even six weeks. The extended work schedule has been prompted by the discovery of the settlement, the Christmas/New Year holiday break and weather conditions. This area, from Buckingham through to Stony Stratford and Towcester, including Watling Street, was peppered with Roman settlements of one size or another.

It's well known people were living in this spot 2,000 years ago, noted the source.

It's expected the results of the archeological survey will be available in three months. ■



The joys of being a cathedral guide

Many people from surrounding districts visit Ely cathedral to admire its architecture, but perhaps not a passing thought is given to the guides who offer to show them around the building. Shirley Hall, whose grandfather, George Gayler, was Whaddon's one-time police constable, gives an insight.

I AM fortunate to live just 10 minutes' walk from the beautiful Ely Cathedral, and it had long been my ambition to become a Cathedral Guide, once I retired. Well, retirement came early in 2018 and so I applied....

The Cathedral Guides are a carefully selected team and there are only 12 places available on each training course; when I went for interview there were about 40 keen applicants for those 12 places.

The course is an intensive three months of weekly evening lectures culminating in two written exam papers. You can imagine this was quite a shock to the system, as none of the group had done written exams for about 40 years, and we knew that the pass mark was 70%!

Now we are through that stage, the survivors, who number 10, have each been given an experienced guide as a mentor. Over the next few months we will gradually take on more and more components of a tour under their supervision, until the mentor recommends that we are ready for a viva: a solo tour with a group of senior cathedral staff.

Although not yet a fully-fledged guide, I am already part of the team of Cathedral Guides who take overseas students on a tour. The students are from residential language schools in the area, chiefly Cambridge, and are in England for two or three weeks to immerse themselves in English culture. The students can be anything from 13 to 25 years in age and from a mixture of nationalities, or one nation only. So far, I have taken young people from China, Germany, Hungary and South America around the Cathedral.

The question to which I need an answer as I begin each of these overseas tours is obviously “How good is their English?” The answer to this will affect the vocabulary I use and the pace of delivery. Often, the students are hesitant about getting into conversation, just as I would be in their situation! One device I use is to tell them how the nave ceiling was painted by two different artists and ask them if they can “see the join” where one took over from the other; if they look up at that point and study the ceiling then I know they are with me!

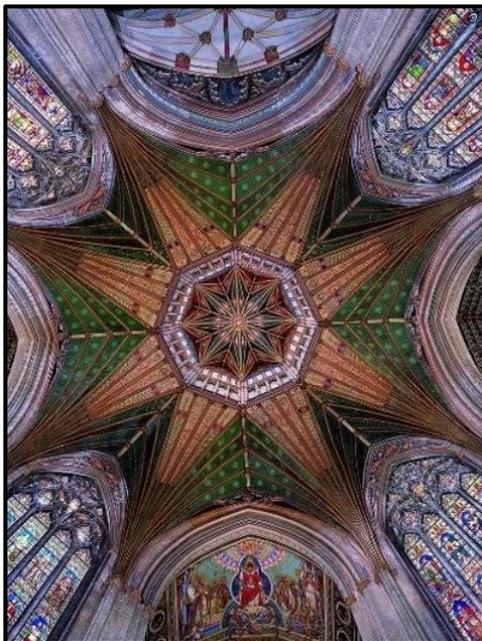
There are several challenges to taking a guided tour because, of course, the Cathedral is a busy place; on any day we might find we are having to manoeuvre around a children’s activity, a lunchtime recital, or one of the regular services. There may even be staging blocking the way, ready for a concert that evening, or, definitely the most challenging, specialists could be tuning the organ!

Faced with the fourth longest cathedral in England, stunning architecture, and 1,350 years of stories, the other challenge for guides is to work out how much to cover in the one hour allocated for each tour: something to which every experienced guide will have their own personal answer. I am still working on mine, but here is part of it:

So, what will you find if you visit Ely Cathedral? It was a Norman build, replacing an Anglo-Saxon monastery, and as it was at one time the second richest monastery in England, everything is on a large scale. A considerable number of the former monastic buildings are still in use by cathedral staff or the King’s School.

Throughout the Middle Ages, Ely was the third most popular pilgrimage destination in England with, unusually, the shrines of three Anglo-Saxon Queens. The story of the original foundress, Etheldreda, is the answer to the obvious question as to why such a large church should be built on an island in the watery Fens!

The “must see” is the Octagon and Lantern (**left**): a structure built to bridge the huge hole left by the collapse of the original central tower in 1322, and now officially designated as the only “Wonder of the European Medieval Period” in England. Even today we do not know how the medieval builders constructed the Lantern, but you could take a tour up into the heights to see if you can work it out!



One of my favourite areas is the Lady Chapel (built 1321-49) which is one of the largest such chapels in Europe. Now full of light and brightness, originally it would have been a place of colour and sacred mystery. It is here that the iconoclasm of the reign of Edward VI can best be seen, as the hundreds of carvings around the walls which tell the legendary and gospel story of Mary are now headless.

However, the thing the destroyers could not

take away is that the Lady Chapel was designed for chanting services, and the seven second reverberation creates a wonderful acoustic for music. Singers should definitely test this out on their visit!

If you are an aficionado of Victorian architecture, it may interest you that Ely was the first cathedral to employ (Sir) George Gilbert Scott, whose influence can be seen throughout the building. Even more up to date is artwork by current artists; look left as you come through the West Door for a huge aluminium sculpture of the Way of Life by Jonathan Clarke; try to work out what the statue of Christ by Peter Ball over the pulpit is made from (it looks like metal but..); or see David Wynne's statue of Mary in the Lady Chapel, which often divides visitor opinion.

The latest addition is the altar in the Octagon; look around its edge for some symbolic eels; these are a reminder that Ely takes its name from the abundance of this fish and the fact that a lot of the original Barnack building stone was bought with eels, not money!

Following our experienced Cathedral Guides around, I have learnt a great deal, but there is still much more to discover and I look at the building now with new eyes. Maybe at some point the guide taking that tour will be me, and that visitor with new eyes could be you? ■



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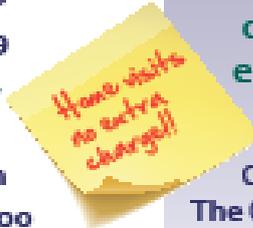
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Major changes for parish church organisation

Whaddon parish, along with the parishes of Nash, Thornborough, Beachampton and Radclive, is part of Buckingham Benefice, but changes are due as Hazel Hedges explains.

SOMETIME before Rev. Gussie Walsh left, these five rural parishes were made aware of her impending retirement. It was suggested they form their own benefice and appoint their own full-time priest.

Radclive, being nearest to N. Buckingham Benefice, would join that benefice, while the remaining parishes of Whaddon, Nash, Thornborough and Beachampton formed a new rural benefice, provisionally entitled "The Chase Benefice" after the former hunting ground that ran through all four parishes.

The process of change is quite lengthy, not least because the different layers in Church hierarchy have to agree the proposal; the final consent letter being signed by the Queen.

This process is already underway and consent is likely to be granted. Meanwhile, the PCCs (Parochial Church Councils) of each parish are preparing a Parish Profile; this will combine into a profile for the new benefice.

This Chase Benefice Profile will be used as the basis for an advertisement in the *Church Times* for a full-time Priest-in-Charge. The advertisement will describe the communal life of each village and list the qualities and talents we are seeking in Gussie's replacement. You will be asked to contribute your view in due course. The whole process is expected to take about nine months. During this time, Whaddon's service pattern will remain unchanged and Holy Communion services will be taken by visiting priests, most of whom we already know.

Rev. John King is the person to contact if you need a priest for a baptism, marriage, funeral service or pastoral care. His contact details are published in the article about St Mary's Church in each *Whaddon Quarterly*. ■

Hazel Hedges

Churchwarden & Chair of Whaddon PCC

January 2019

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Ronald Frederick Dormer

20th October 1932 – 19th November 2018



An enthusiast for Motocross

RON DORMER was born in Whaddon on 20th October 1932 to Ada and Fred Dormer. The middle child of three, Ron was the much-loved brother of Evelyn and Doug. At that period in time, Neville Chamberlain, Adolf Hitler, Josef Stalin and President Roosevelt were prominent leaders; it was also a time when Agatha Christie penned *Death on the Nile*,

Noel Gay wrote *The Lambeth Walk* and Walt Disney made *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

Ron left school aged 14 (the norm in those days) and first found work in arable farming before becoming a machinery digger and driver employed at Abbey Hill and Woburn Sands Golf Clubs. Following this, Ron became a lorry driver for Shanks & McEwan, until his retirement. Even after this, he continued doing some work at his local pub: *The Lowndes Arms*.

By that time, the National Health Service had become established, British Railways was formed and Burma had gained its independence from Britain.

The year 1958 also proved a special time for Ron: he met his future wife Veronica (you might know her as Noddy). They met through a friend and Ron invited her to Motocross.

Love blossomed, and in September 1962, they tied the knot at St Martin's Church in Fenny Stratford. They enjoyed over 65 years of happy marriage and many will have fond memories of the big party they had for their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

They soon became the proud parents of Paul, Ian and Audra. Happy holidays were spent caravanning in Wales.

Ron loved Motocross and Speedway, as well as working on cars and bikes. Ron took particular delight when his son Ian took up Motocross too; Ron even 'spannered' for him.

Paul said, "My dad taught me everything I know; because of him I'm not bad at DIY too. He used to spend weekends with me working on my cars, and when I was younger, in my school holidays, I would go to work with him on the lorries. He used to let me (aged 14) drive them across the fields. I think that's where I got the passion for driving for a living."

When he became a "Pop Pop" of Stacia (Stac) Josef (Joe) Cameron (Looney): Audra's children, and Brandon (Ian's son), he could not have been happier.

Becoming a great-Pop Pop of Khloe, Koby and Toby marked another very happy chapter in his life. The family are excited that another baby is on the way. They all called him Pop Pop. This began when Stace was a baby and she couldn't say "grandad"; she called him Pop Pop. And all the other children that knew him called him Pop Pop too!

Audra remembers one of Stace's sayings as, "When you get a minute Dad". When she was a single mum, he did all her DIY. Her dad taught her how to decorate. She can paint, cut in and hang wall paper. She said, "I'm pretty good, so my husband says. Not sure if that's because he doesn't like doing it!"

Ray and Bev should also be mentioned. Bev said, "I had the pleasure of being your daughter-in-law for the last five and a half years and I couldn't have wished for a better father-in-law than you, Dad. Whose eyebrows am I going to cut now?"

Ron was also very close to nephews and nieces: Len, Yvonne, Gerry and Jeannette. When their father died, he really looked out for them.

Ron lived through so many changes in his lifetime; he lived to see the first moon landing, the splitting of the atom, birth of the internet, Barack Obama in the White House and the first female *Doctor Who*.

After 86 incredible years, on Wednesday 19th November 2018 the life and times of Ronald Frederick Dormer drew to a close. In one peaceful moment, he passed away, as he had lived, surrounded by love and with his family by his side.

Ron has been described as a kind, lovely, soft-hearted and gentle gentleman. Generous to a fault, family were his world. He leaves behind an enduring love as well as the joy of catching glimpses of him in the gestures, expressions and the laughter of his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and family. ■

Extracted from the order of service conducted by Lucy Silous, at Crownhill Crematorium on 30th November 2018.

Hospital Car Service

Community Care North Bucks offers a Hospital Car Service to enable people in North Buckinghamshire, who have been referred by their GP, to access their hospital appointments.

Volunteer drivers pick patients up from their homes, take them to their appointments and then return them home again. As well as providing transport, volunteers also offer support – for some patients their only outing each week is to the hospital and they enjoy talking to the drivers.

However, access is through **GP referral only**. A patient **must** be registered with a GP in Winslow, Buckingham and Steeple Claydon. To use the service please contact your surgery first; NOT the Hospital Car Service. See also: www.ccnorthbucks.org.uk

Hospitals covered and charges are: Milton Keynes Hospital – £15; Stoke Mandeville Hospital – £20; Banbury Hospital – £20; Northampton Hospitals – £25; Oxford/Amersham/Bedford Hospitals – £27; High Wycombe Hospital – £35; and London – £70.

For more details contact: admin@ccnorthbucks.org.uk

The service needs volunteer drivers. Interested? Contact: 01280 816266. ■

How to turn spent coffee pods into cash

George Thomson's coffee habit became his eco-conscience, so he found a way to help charities. Marianna Beckwith went to meet him.

WHEN George Thomson bought himself a Tassimo coffee maker, little did he suspect the purchase would lead to a new 30-hour a week job, which he tends to describe as a "hobby".

George and his partner's liking for coffee led to more than just a caffeine boost: their household bin, which they usually filled only halfway in a week, was suddenly full to bursting in a mere 5 days.

George, horrified at the waste they were producing, decided he had to do something about his spent capsules piling up for landfill.

To help solve his problem, George turned to the place where most of us would: Google. And that's where he stumbled upon Terracycle UK, a company which reuses and upcycles hard-to-recycle products, rather than incinerating, or sending to landfill.

And so, 5 years ago, George began sending his used Tassimo discs to Terracycle, in their prepaid envelopes. And then Terracycle changed its policy.

George had to become a "depot", albeit a one-man depot, registered with Terracycle to collect waste and send it in larger quantities. This was as well, because by now, his coffee-loving friends and neighbours had begun to drop off their stuff with him too, and storage became a challenge.

Fast forward to today and George is now "the proud" owner of four large pallets on his (thankfully) large driveway, all full of Tassimo discs. It might not be the prettiest of sights, but George is fine with it. And he hasn't stopped there. At the end of his drive is another, large bin, half full of plastic bags of...well, all kinds of stuff, which has accumulated there in just one day.

George explains that the recycling bug crept up gradually, and now he accepts a variety of recyclable waste. This is how it works:

1. A specific company agrees to pay to have their waste recycled. Terracycle name the companies that work with them, including Walkers, MacVities, Colgate and Winalot.
2. Terracycle collect the said waste and charge the company for doing so.
3. A variety of people, like George, but also including large companies, schools, businesses, organisations, in fact, anyone who wants to, register with Terracycle to collect specific waste.
4. The waste is sent to Terracycle, which awards points to the collector, depending on the type of waste, and quantity.



Drop-off bin at the end of George's drive.





One of these bins is filled in a week.

5. The points add up to a cash donation, which can be made to the charity of your choice. George chooses Willen Hospice and MK Cat Rescue. He has so far raised over £14,000 for his charities, having started by donating to MacMillan Cancer Care.

What can you do at home?

Visit George’s Facebook page: Charity Recycling MK. You will see what he can take from you. If you want to drop it to him direct, please make sure it’s in a bag (any plastic bag will do, and yes, he is planning to recycle those too) and that it only contains the items he can take.

What can you send?

It’s fairly specific: Tassimo discs, Nespresso L’Or pods (only), empty toothpaste tubes, boxes and old toothbrushes, any biscuit wrapper, any crisp packet, Pringles tubes, trigger sprays (not the bottle), pet food pouches and bags, surface wipe packets.

Where can you drop off?

George’s drop-off bin is at his house at 25 Cantle Avenue, Downs Barn, MK14 7 RJ. Or you can take anything other than the pet food pouches to any Willen Hospice shop, as they collect on George’s behalf.

But I put all that stuff in my recycling anyway!

Well, you might do, but all the items which are considered non-recyclable by your local council get sorted out from other recycling and incinerated. Admittedly, that can be converted into electricity from some plants. However, by donating to Terracycle, it’s upcycled into all kinds of interesting and usable products, which is possibly a more eco-friendly concept. Plus, you’re donating to charity in a roundabout way too: win-win!

Of course, there’s a huge discussion to be had around the pros and cons of recycling, and the limitations of what one person can do. The bottom line is this: can you be bothered?

It also goes to show that there’s always something everyone can do to limit the damage caused by our ever-increasing waste. Food for thought maybe? Perhaps your business, organisation or school fancies collecting waste to make cash?

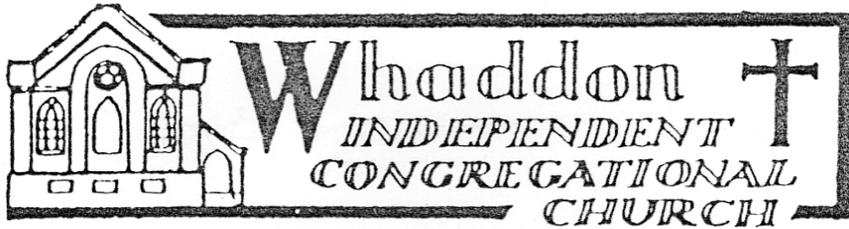
I was shocked when George told me that he fills one of the pallets on his drive every week, just with donated Tassimo discs. Never mind an awful lot of coffee in Brazil! It seems there’s even more much closer to home!

<https://www.facebook.com/recyclemk/>

<https://www.terracycle.co.uk/en-GB>



A bumper “crop” from Christmas donations ready for collection.



Whaddon Chapel

EASTER: for Christians worldwide, this is a time of celebration, joy, of victory. The events of Easter mark a turning point in history and in the lives of every person who has put their trust in Jesus Christ.

But what if you don't feel joyous or victorious? What if life feels more burdened than blessed, or you carry a haunting sense that something's wrong? Well then, these words may be for you: *'And you, who were dead...God made alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.'* [Colossians 2:13-15]

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ is historical fact. Jesus himself made it clear that his death on a cross was planned. Angels told the first witnesses of the resurrection *'the Son of Man **must be** delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.'* [Luke 24:5-7]. But why 'must'?

Well, to move his people from the point of burden to blessing, God needed to intervene. The cross marked the ultimate triumph in God's plans to redeem his people; to deal with their burden of sin and bring them back to him. Following laws and rules is the way of every other religion: but it is not enough to save us. A perfect substitute was needed. Jesus' death was instead of our death; his blood shed in the place of ours. His death brings our forgiveness. His death brought immeasurable blessing, *'making peace by the blood of his cross.'* [Colossians 1:20] As such, it's not simply an historic event, but the pivotal point of all history.

So, Easter is for all, whether feeling victorious or not. Jesus' death and resurrection were the God-given solution to our burden of sin. It is the answer to that nagging doubt that there must be more to life than this.

'Thus, it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations...'

Jesus, quoted by Luke [Luke 24:46-47]

Why not join us to find out more?

Easter Services:

- Good Friday – short reflective service followed by tea, 4 - 5pm in the chapel schoolroom.
- Easter Sunday – 4pm - 5pm.

Regular meetings:

- Every Sunday, 4pm - 5pm in Whaddon Chapel.
- Bible Study & Prayer meeting 7:30 - 9pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 3 Briary View.

Memories of Hanslope Park

It is just 50 years since Frederick Hayward began work at Hanslope Park. Here he writes about his time there and some of the friends he made.

WHEN I look back I realise just how blessed I have been in my working life. After leaving school, I worked for six months for Mr. Willis; he lived in Church Lane. He was a builder and I used to make the tea and do lots of other jobs, including sweeping up, as young teenagers did at the time when first starting work. It was called 'starting at the bottom'.

Then I worked at Whaddon Hall for a firm known as Sonatest. At that time, the Hall had a beautiful dome. While at the Hall, I worked as a member of the maintenance staff; I had lots of duties to perform. I worked there for two-and-a-half years. It was after that that I went to Hanslope Park, where I worked from 1969 to 2002. Of course, at the time I had to sign the Official Secrets Act, because I was working on government service.

For the journey, we would take a Bedford bus; we had various good drivers over the period. The bus travelled directly to Hanslope Park from Bletchley Park and offered a really good service on weekdays from Monday to Friday. Being a young man of 18 years of age at the time, I was very shy. However, people at the Park made me feel welcome.

As my dad already worked at Hanslope Park, I found that helped a great deal. He helped me find a job there and he used the bus like me. Other people who shared the bus with me from Whaddon at the time included Jack Gascoigne, David Bloomfields and, for a time, Ron Oades. Jack Vaughan also travelled from Whaddon as did Ellen Nicholson at a later stage.

A wide range of items

I was given work in the stores department. Altogether, I think there were about 40 of us employed in that department, which handled an amazing number of items, well over 10,000 I think. These were required by government departments, consulates and embassies all over the world. I can remember some of the places where the items would be sent, including Darwin in

Australia and New York in America. Amazing. I can remember these names as part of my duties which included packing items that were later dispatched to those parts of the world.

The range of items we had to handle varied from very tiny semiconductors to large cabinets and generating sets. These petrol-driven sets were needed to provide power in the event of supplies being cut off. In fact, it is hard to think of any item that did not at one time pass through the stores. For example, as well as the usual everyday domestic items, such as toilet rolls and brushes, there were items of office equipment such as stationery and typewriters. There were also packages called 'compo rations'. These included tins of milk and meat, among other things. I never found out what they were used for, but again I expect it was in case consulates and embassies got cut off from suppliers; something to keep them going in an emergency.



Evelyn and Frederick Hayward at Great Horwood Produce Show in 1969; their son, Frederick, looks on. Frederick's father's onions won first prize.

When I started work at Hanslope Park I would normally take sandwiches for my lunch; I would eat them in the rest area. Later, I had my midday meal in the canteen with others.

At first, I sat on my own and then I began chatting to people. There was a lovely lady, June Erridge, who joined the bus at Stony Stratford. We had lots of lovely chats about all sorts of subjects. It was a joy to talk to her and I was very sad when June left.

Of course, I talked to other people at Hanslope, including Bill Wingrave with whom I worked. He told me lots about what he did in World War Two. Others included Arthur Stapleton, who had been a fireman, and Fred Leith, Jack Sharpe, George Brind and Eric Tombs.

House pulled down by MKDC

Eric was particularly interesting, as he had looked after *The Lowndes Arms*, together with his wife, before he joined the staff at Hanslope Park. Eric and his wife later moved from Whaddon to Kiln Farm. They lived in a nice house, but it was taken down when Milton Keynes Development Corporation moved in. Eric, like a lot of lovely people, has now passed on.

Other nice people at the Park included Reg Lovell, who taught me a great deal about life, Bill Patrick, who was so helpful to me, and another nice gentleman, Kevin Jeary.

There was a lovely lady Sue Harris who became a good friend. I am still in touch with her now, 50 years later. That is indeed true friendship; one that lasts.

I remember another dear lady, Iris Jones, a lovely person who also became a good friend; I believe she too has passed on. Jean Twigg was another good lady. And then there was Pam and Harold Homer; they were a lovely married couple and I enjoyed their company too.

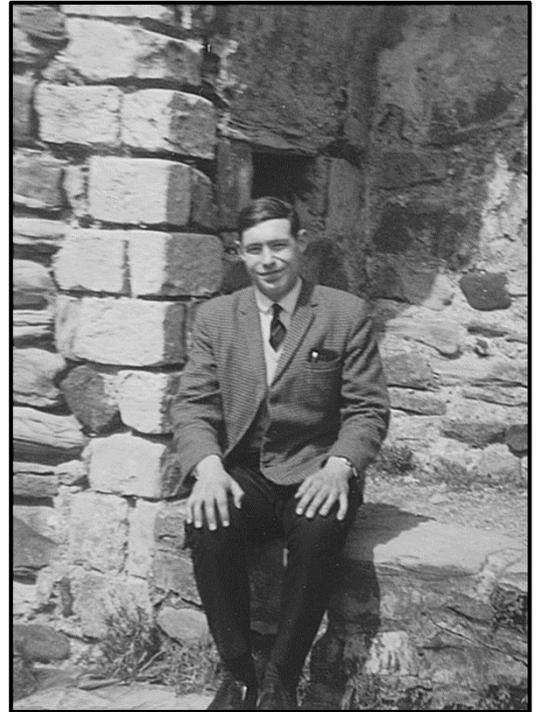
At the same time, I did meet and work with some people who were hard to get on with at times. On those occasions I managed to muddle through.

Among others I knew was Mr. Holden who had been through World War Two and who played a leading role at Whaddon Hall.

When Whaddon Hall was linked to Bletchley Park in the war years, there were other people who I worked with and enjoyed their company. For example, I enjoyed the company of Joyce Farmer, Hilda Billingham, Stella Freeman, Peggy Watts, Eileen Line, Phil Bennett, Diane Scripps and James Odell.

At other times I came into contact with Pam Page, Nicola Spuffard, David Tunnicliffe, to mention but a few. There was also Tina Moseley, Susan Bernard and Helen Croft.

There were some other lovely ladies who I became friendly with and one of which I did hope would become my wife but that did not happen, more's the pity. I guess that's life. ■



Frederick at Hastings Castle in 1971

FOOTNOTE. Hanslope manor house was built for Basil Brent in 1692, but in the Second World War it housed the Radio Security Service. Mathematician and cryptologist Alan Turing worked there on secure speech 'scrambling' in the latter part of the war. Today, Hanslope Park is owned by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and is home to Her Majesty's Government Communications Centre (HMGCC). This centre researches, designs, develops and produces communications systems, equipment and related hardware and software. **JM**



Mrs Elizabeth Willett, great grandmother of Evelyn Jaworska, making lace in 1881.

Making lace: Once a job, now a hobby

The local cottage industry of lacemaking became established in this North Bucks area from the late 1500s, as Elizabeth Knight explains.

THIS activity stemmed from the influx of religious refugees who were being persecuted on the Continent for their protestant faith. It is said that French lace-makers amongst them settled initially in Cranfield, Bedfordshire thanks largely to the support of a local land owner. From there, the lace-makers spread to Olney, Newport Pagnell and further south into Buckinghamshire, and later into adjoining counties. The foreign lace-makers taught the local womenfolk to make lace.

All the equipment they needed to make these delicate fabrics could be supplied by local tradespeople. Village carpenters could make the wooden bobbins, the supports for the lace pillows, called a 'horse' or 'maid', and the bobbin winders.

The collar-maker could stuff the pillows firmly with straw, just as he did the horse collars he made for local farmers. The nearest parchment maker could make the skins onto which the lace patterns were drawn and pricked. (The only parchment maker left in the country is Cowley's of Newport Pagnell, but today lace-makers use card patterns.)

Brass pins were used to hold in place each stitch after the lacemaker had made it. This was because brass pins did not rust in the straw-filled pillows.

The only requirement which could not be supplied locally was the thread; initially this was linen, but later cotton was used. Accordingly, local traders such as drapers began to stock the thread for the lace-makers. Eventually, they began to buy back the finished lace products from the lace-makers to sell on, and make a profit for themselves!

In this way, lace dealing came into being, and these lace traders made money out of the poor lace-makers' hard work. They were notoriously poorly paid, so much so that many of the fine houses in our local market towns and villages, were rebuilt, or at least re-faced in the latest Georgian style of sash and Venetian windows with profits made at their expense.

Buckinghamshire Point lace evolved from the Lille and Mechlin patterns the religious refugees had brought over with them to England; the lace evolved into wide floral patterns. (Some people may have heard of Honiton lace made in

Devon. In this lace, individual motifs are later linked together, whereas with local lace, the pattern is made in a strip.)

However, by the turn of the nineteenth century with the coming of lace machines in Nottinghamshire, our local lace-makers felt particularly threatened and were determined to try and 'beat the machines'. They did this by reducing the width of their patterns: the narrower the lace, the quicker it could be made.

Initially, the machines could not make anything 'in the round', so an Olney lace designer, John Millward, drafted designs for the rounds of the back of babies' bonnets. Eventually, of course, the machines won the day, as they could produce lace so much cheaper.

However, at the Great Exhibition of 1851, Maltese lace was shown for the first time and our lace-makers saw it and thought, "That is more open than our fine floral Bucks patterns, so it will be quicker to make."

In this way, Beds Maltese came into being. This lace always had a 'nine-pin' edge to it with trails, leaves, and spiders included in the design.

These patterns became known as Bedfordshire lace. I must point out that the difference between Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire lace is in the STYLE of lace, not in where it was made!

Ladies of the local gentry began to become alarmed that this new Beds lace would take over, and that the fine Bucks lace styles would be lost, so they persuaded the oldest lace-makers to continue making Buckinghamshire patterns and agreed to sell their lace for them. It was from this that the Lace Associations were established throughout the 'lace counties'.

Killed off by shoe factories

The association based at Gayhurst, Bucks issued its own catalogue with photographs of the various lace patterns for sale. It is interesting to note that they were able to sell a lace called 'Lille'; this showed how patterns were handed down over the years, and even centuries, in this case.

However, it was the shoe factories of Northampton that finally killed off lace making in Olney in the latter part of the nineteenth century as they expanded into the surrounding area.

The young women found they could make more money by going to work in the shoe factories. Lacemaking was only kept alive by a few of the older lace-makers, until the Women Institutes and Adult Education classes revived lacemaking in the 1950s. Women then took up the craft of lacemaking as a hobby; it then became nationwide and spread internationally in the second half of the twentieth century.

Thanks to this craft revival, fortunately lacemaking will not now die out, although lace-makers today do not sell their lace but continue to make it for their own enjoyment or to give away as gifts, as most people appreciate the time it takes to make. ■

• **DOG WALKERS.** Please do not yield to the temptation to throw poo bags into brown garden waste wheelie bins. If you do, AVDC collecting teams may NOT empty the bins. Dog poo should be deposited in bins in the High Street, Stock Lane and Vicarage Road. Thank you. ■

They struck hard, they struck sure

The water tower (below) at Mursley is a well-known landmark for local people. Seventy-five years ago it held significance for a quite different group, namely aircrews of Bomber Command, as Alan Biggins explains.

TODAY Royal Air Force Little Horwood, which is in Great Horwood, is not a photogenic location. Few buildings remain: the reputedly haunted old hospital in someone's back garden; a nest of Nissen huts hidden in a farmer's field; a couple of other huts once used to house Italian prisoners of war. The airfield itself is now 'Greenway Business Park'.

Massive though it is – the main runway alone is over a mile long – the airfield is but as the fingerbone of a titan: Bomber Command, having as a motto Strike hard, strike sure. There were 1.25 million men and women serving in the RAF during the Second World War. In addition, from 1942 onwards, there were around 500,000 United States Army Air Force (USAAF) personnel stationed in Britain.

The scale is sobering. The NHS, Britain's largest employer today, has 1.4 million staff (currently the RAF has 33,000).

In wartime, the RAF was organised in 'commands'. Of the three major commands (Bomber, Fighter and Coastal), Bomber Command was by far the largest. By the end of hostilities, there were over 150 major bomber bases in this country. This fivefold expansion between 1939 and 1945 spawned much building.

Bomber Command airfields relied on a triangle of hardened runways (most of the famous fighter airfields were grass – especially on chalk land, such as Kent).

Operational airfields, from which bombing raids were carried out, were sited mostly near the east coast, from Yorkshire down to Essex. Training airfields, such as Little Horwood, were situated inland.

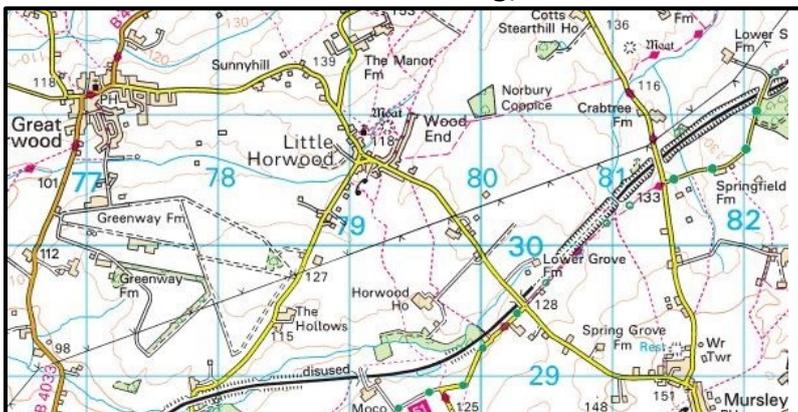
A satellite station of RAF Wing, RAF Little Horwood served as an Operational Training Unit

(OTU) to train RAF bomber crews, many as replacements for Bomber Command's losses. Such catastrophic losses during early years of the war guaranteed that less than 25% of airmen survived their first tour of 30 operations.

Little Horwood (**left**) opened later than anticipated, on 2nd September 1942. The original contractor skimped on materials (the

hard core came from blitzed London) and this caused aircraft to sink through the runways. The contractor decamped and was then replaced.

The different trades engaged in manning the aircraft were brought together in the OTU following their initial trade training to fly as aircrew. A Wellington bomber, mainly used at Little



Horwood, normally carried a crew of five or six: a pilot, navigator, wireless operator, bomb aimer and gunners.

How they formed crews – the different trades were brought together in a hangar and allowed to work it out for themselves – today seems chaotic. “Does anyone know a navigator?” (See reference to Harry Yates below).

With few exceptions, all aircrew trainees embarked on a three-month course of training at an OTU before joining an operational squadron.

The scale of the RAF’s losses prompted them to abandon daytime bombing (the Americans restarted it in 1942). Training, therefore, mostly required night flying, blind flying on instruments. It is terrifying to think of it.

During mid-wartime, many crews underwent training with twin-engined Wellington bombers (used earlier in the war but mainly superseded in 1943 by four-engined Lancaster bombers). Many complaints were levelled at the old bombers; they were prone to a multitude of malfunctions after being discarded by operational squadrons.

During the war, OTUs lost 1,619 aircraft, the majority of which were Wellingtons. The year 1943 was a particularly bad one, with 558 aircraft being lost.

In the early hours of 7th August 1943, a Wellington from Little Horwood, crashed

(right) in Winslow, hitting a row of cottages and a pub (on a corner where the chemist, the British Legion and the Public Hall now stand) after first striking a walnut tree. The aircraft’s remains fell in what is now the public car park. Thirteen people on the ground died.



The Wellington’s one survivor, Sergeant navigator Jeffrey Harrington, was blown clear and later rescued. Hugely shocked, he believed himself to be in Germany. The incident happened the day before his 19th birthday. The aircrew, all male and volunteers, had an average age of 22.

An RAF court of enquiry found the accident caused by pilot error: he lost control by not concentrating on his instruments; a common error during night flying, as pilots did not trust their instruments and therefore allowed the aircraft to fly too low. The court blamed flying control also; it permitted aircrew having insufficient flying hours to participate in night flying exercises.

Another Wellington hit Mursley water tower (directly in line with the main runway and the highest point around) just after midnight on 11th April 1943. All four aircrew died.

Yet another Wellington flying out of Wing suffered propeller disintegration at low altitude. One blade spun into the fuselage killing rear gunner Sergeant Noel Block (rear gunner always being the most dangerous post). The pilot on the other hand retained control of the aircraft and performed a belly-landing at Little Horwood. The remaining crew members were uninjured. The court of inquiry attributed failure to a defective joint; it noted also the pilot’s handling of the aircraft as “creditable”.

Also at Little Horwood, airborne tests were conducted of radios manufactured at Whaddon Hall and Manor Farm for use in air-to-ground communications by SIS (Secret Intelligence Service) and SOE (Special Operations Executive) agents. Brigadier Richard Gambier-Parry, the Falstaffian, popular and efficient commander of Whaddon Hall, frequently used Little Horwood airfield to visit out-flung posts of his empire.

The airfield served also as home to 1684 BDTF: Bomber Defence Training Flight. This unit flight-simulated attacks using bombers; it trained crews in (mainly) radar and night-fighting action. Training also took place in ‘nickelling’ – dropping propaganda leaflets – over Europe.

Occasionally, crews were used on major (1,000-bomber) raids, while on one occasion, a squadron of shot-up American aircraft landed following a bombing raid on U-boat pens at Lorient, France.

When it came to flying, American pilots lacked enthusiasm for this sceptred isle. A frequent joke, on their journey home from operations over Europe, would be, "Aim for the biggest cloud; England will be under it, somewhere."

Navigation proved to be a big deal for the air forces. A motto written on RAF Wing's Navigation Section read: "MAN IS NOT LOST". Someone added in graffiti scrawled beneath it: "But occasionally is completely unaware of his exact location."

The Butt Report of August 1941 declared that, in the previous two months, only one-third of bombs dropped by the RAF were within five miles of their target. On moonless nights, only one in 15 of RAF bomber crews came within five miles of their target. Largely as a result of that report, Frederick Lindemann (The Viscount Cherwell and Paymaster General but also Churchill's chief scientific adviser) produced his 'Dehousing Paper'. Because the accurate targeting of military facilities proved impossible and, as much of German (like British) industry was inside cities, the directive henceforth was to bomb Germany's cities to pieces, one by one.

The man selected to do this, as head of Bomber Command, was Air Chief Marshall Sir Arthur 'Bomber' Harris, affectionately(?) known to his crews as 'Butcher' or 'Butch'.

The Butcher's toll yielded heavy losses for Germany and Britain. For Bomber Command, the toll accounted for nearly half (44.4%) of its aircrew: 55,573 of 125,000. About 25% of these were from overseas. A further 8,403 men were wounded in action, and 9,838 became prisoners of war.

A local lad, Harry Yates, of Stony Stratford, and a wartime bomber pilot, wrote, in my opinion, the finest account of life in bombers in the RAF (I am, incidentally, a former RAF man myself). It is called *Luck and a Lancaster*. It is well worth a read.

And spare a thought for these lads as you next pass Mursley water tower.

RAF Little Horwood closed in 1946. ■



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - WHADDON

Think you can spot a scam?

Think you can spot a financial scam if you see one? Lots of people claim they can. Yet in the UK, £145.4 million was lost to scams industry-wide in the first six months of 2018 compared to £236 million in the whole of 2017. Never act on an out-of-the-blue caller asking you to move your money into a 'safe account' because your account security has been compromised. A genuine organisation will never ask you to do this. Be aware of the following types of scam:

SAFE ACCOUNT SCAMS

You receive an unexpected call from someone claiming to be from a trusted organisation, such as a bank, building society or police. They explain your money is at risk: your account has been compromised in a security breach. Then they reassure you: Move your money now to a 'safe account' they've set up for you, and all will be fine. It is you who moves that money, not them. And it is money you have lost for good.

REFUND OVERPAYMENT SCAMS

You are called by a representative of a broadband or telecoms provider. You may even hold an account with them. They tell you there's an issue with your PC and will request remote access to fix it. They'll say you are due compensation for the inconvenience, and will ask you to log on to your internet bank. Then they claim they have made a mistake and paid you too much. What they have really done is transfer money from your savings account to make it look like a refund has credited your current account. You will not know this, though, and they will then ask you to

transfer the overpayment of the 'refund' back to them. The next thing you know, you are using your own security details to send your own money to them. And just like that, a large sum of your money is gone!

INVESTMENT SCAMS

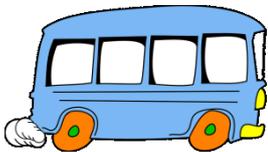
A fraudster will contact you, trying to get you involved with investments that will make you money. They may ask you to part with some money to invest in something like wine, diamonds or alternative energy. But the investment does not exist and you will not see any return, or any money you invested.

ONLINE PURCHASE SCAMS

You see something (for example a vehicle, mobile phone or concert tickets) for sale online at a price too good to be true. Then you notice the seller would prefer you to use a different, less secure payment method than the one the selling site advises – a method that will not protect you if things go wrong. After all, you have been emailing the seller all along, so everything should be fine, right? But as soon as you have moved the money from your account, the emails from the seller stop. And that bargain of a car you set your heart on never turns up! ■

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

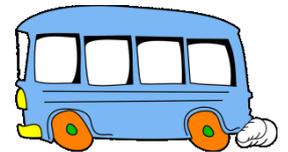


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Everyone is eligible to come on the bus. We pick up near to your house.

Please ring Sue for more information. *Denotes bus pass accepted.

Tuesday 5th February - **Buckingham Bus** – 1 hour town, 1 hour Tesco or 2 hours Tesco! Door to door, bus pass accepted, otherwise only £4.50 return.

Thursday 14th February – **Westcroft Shopping*** Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

Monday 18th February – **Buckingham Garden Centre** – Free tea or coffee on arrival plus 10% off lunch. £4.00 travel.

Thursday 21st February – **Welford Park** – (where The Great British Bake Off is filmed)! See the carpets of Snowdrops, visit the Old Laundry Tearooms and Gift Shop. Quick pub stop on the way for a light lunch to arrive 1.30pm. Well worth the visit, fabulous displays as well as a selection of hellebores and herbaceous plants on sale. Be warned, there is some walking involved! The full snowdrop walk around the Beech Woods can take a fast walker 30 minutes but at a more sedate pace, enjoying the amazing spread and scent of the flowers and the formal garden, can take up to an hour or so. There are also paths along the River Lambourn for you to enjoy. Travel and entrance Adults £16.00, Seniors £14.00

Monday 25th February – **Asda in Bletchley Shopping**, M&S, Primark, etc £4.00

Tuesday 26th February – **Local lunch at The Crown, Granborough**, delicious food in a lovely pub! Always popular. £3.50 travel.

Thursday 28th February – **Westcroft Shopping*** Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

Tuesday 5th March – **Buckingham Bus** – 1 hour town, 1 hour Tesco or 2 hours Tesco! Door to door, bus pass accepted, otherwise only £4.50 return.

Thursday 14th March – **Westcroft Shopping*** Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

Thurs 21st March – **Banbury Shopping**. Large modern shopping centre right in the town by the canal, plus town centre market and smaller shops to explore £5.00

Thursday 28th March – **Westcroft Shopping*** Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

Milton Keynes Theatre - please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

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!

Thursday May 16th – **Les Miserables** £62.00

Thursday May 30th -**Les Miserables** £69.00

Wednesday July 3rd **Annie** - £29.00

Wednesday October 9th - **Dr Dolittle** - £34.50



Creative Coach:

Thoughts from my comfy chair

Yuck! If I see one more “new year, new start” post, advert, article, I think I might just choke on my slab of chocolate! Yes, yes, I know that we’re at the beginning of a new year, but unless you live in Australia, it’s cold, damp, grey and we’re still carrying a few extra “lardons” around inside our thermal underwear, if we’re completely honest. Do you feel ready to change, start something new, revolutionise your life? If the answer is “yes”, then good for you, crack on, let us know how you’re doing at some point (not endless posts on FB, please!) and you may stop reading this piece right away.

Have they gone? Good. Now for the rest of us, who might be struggling with motivation, procrastination, inspiration and anything else “-ation-y” that’s holding us back from changing, starting, or otherwise doing something we’ve meant to do, I have two thoughts: why, and what’s in it for you?

Have you considered that, new year or not, January is a bit of a rubbish month? It’s chilly, dark and difficult for many of us. It might feel like the fun season’s gone and there’s little to look forward to; it’s tough getting back into the work routine (lots of folk look to changing jobs this time of year); and everything seems like a huge effort. So why would you put yourself through a big change just now, unless you really, really want to?

As I see it, there are a couple of options, and it’s perfectly possible to run them both at the same time:

Option 1: make a *small* change, but only if *you* want to.

It’s the old “eating an elephant in small chunks” idea. Do something little first, see how you go, and if you like the results, do a bit more. But please, don’t do something just because you feel you “should” or because you feel it’s expected of you, or because you’ll disappoint someone if you don’t. That’s the worst reason to make a change, because you’re not doing it for you. What everyone else thinks about you is frankly none of your business, so let that one go and do what you decide to do, because it suits you to do it, benefits you in some way, is best for you at the moment, or simply makes you happy to do it.

Option 2: be kind, first and foremost, to you.

If this involves taking yourself off somewhere quiet for some time, do it. If you need a day off, find a way to take it. If you want to snuggle up with a good book for a while, snuggle. If you want to eat something gorgeous, eat it. You get the picture. Restore yourself so that, come

the Spring and warmer, kinder weather, you'll be better able to make the bigger changes that you just can't bring yourself to do at the moment.

And what if you don't want to change anything? What if you're happy with you, and things, just as they are? High fives! Celebrate! I'm with you, as it happens. Have a plan if you want one, or jog along without one; now may not be the time for big, deep thinking. Wait and see, as my wise Mum used to say. But remember to look out for all the lovely stuff you'll see on the way, and enjoy the waiting. ■

Marianna Beckwith

Chase Choir on tour (or so it seemed!)

DECEMBER 2018 was certainly our busiest month to date, with Christmas starting a little early, in November when we performed at Waterstone's in Midsummer Place. It was our first outing for our Christmas carols, but, as with every choir, carol practice starts in October (and even September sometimes!) so we were ready.

Singing in a shop is always interesting, especially when you're right up close to the coffee machines, but undeterred by the chuffing and clattering, we took the opportunity to turn our "volume to max" controls, much to the surprise of the folk in the café area!

Probably our favourite venue over Christmas is Marks & Spencer, where we temporarily become "The Cashmere Choir", since we often stand in that area to sing! The staff at M&S is always so welcoming and encouraging, and this year proved no exception. Competition was fierce, with an amplified performance just outside the shop from other performers, but, like the true professionals we are, we came to an amicable arrangement about who was to sing when.

There was a complete change of ambience for the Nine Lessons and Carols service at St Mary's Church, and a great opportunity for our descant section to demonstrate their amazing top notes during many of the carols. We were very proud of them.

Our village concert always makes us a bit more nervous. Performing in front of the "home crowd", plus friends and relatives brings pressures of its own, but, judging from the audience feedback (at least no-one threw anything!) we gave everyone a jolly, festive performance, helped greatly by the uber-cute Whaddon School choir and a rather wonderful flute duet.

Our "last hurrah" came on the 20th, when we delighted commuters at Central MK station. Well, we hope they were delighted as they tried to rush past us, before being accosted by our trusty bucket-rattlers! To be fair, there were many smiles, and we love the station's acoustics!

A two-gig day saw us finishing off...where else? At the pub, of course! More merriment!

Our two local charities this year were Hula Animal Rescue and The Bus Shelter MK. We collected throughout our Christmas performances and raised just over £1,240, which will be split between these two deserving causes. Thank you to everyone who came, listened, bought raffle tickets and put money into our collection buckets. You are all amazing and we really appreciate your support.

And now it's February, and we're enjoying some time just singing and practising our choral skills with lots of fun pieces of music with absolutely no sleigh bells to be heard (at least until October!) We'll keep you updated about other performances, or you can find out more from our website: www.chasechoir.com.

And if you'd like to talk to a real person and find out more about how much fun it is to sing in a choir, feel free. Karen's number is 01908 501922; Marianna's is 01908 503194. ■

Marianna Beckwith



New bells for Calverton's belfry

As a result of a very generous donation, the belfry at All Saints Church, Calverton is undergoing a serious upgrade, including two new bells, as David Muston, of *Calverton Records Project*, explains.

TWO new additional bells are being cast to bring the total peel up to eight covering a G to G octave. These bells are being set in an all-new metal bell frame with new bell wheels and fittings, which will be located immediately below the original oak bell-frame. This is to be left in place (as a three-dimensional historic record) within the tower.

The entire project has been some time in the making as the extent of the work meant applying for Diocesan Faculty; this in turn asked for a series of surveyor's reports before being granted and work could start. One of these surveyors' reports confirmed movement in the original oak bell-frame and its main supporting beams, particularly where they were embedded into the tower walls.



All six of Calverton's old bells lined up ready to go for refurbishing at Whites. (Photograph Fr. Ross)

Calverton's original bell tower (then located against the north wall) had a very unhappy structural history, which ended when a huge crack opened up running almost from top to bottom, necessitating it to be demolished.

Eventually, in 1818, the whole church had to be rebuilt, broadly on the old floor plan but with the exception of the new tower. This was constructed in the more traditional position at the west end of the nave.

As a possible reaction to the previous tower problems, several extra strengthening details were added, including large, corner-braced wooden beams set into the inner walls at three levels to help resist future cracking.

The original peel of five bells was cast by W&J Taylor and installed in 1822. In 1905, the original five bells were rehung on a modified bell-frame, which was extended to include a sixth bell (cast by Alfred Howell, bell founder of Ipswich), which then became the new treble.



Skimming new Calverton bell to tune at the Whites factory. Photograph by David Muston.

It was presumably after this work, that the two intermediate floors were completely boarded over within the tower to form the bell-ringing chamber; the intermediate sound chamber was above it but below the actual belfry.

These floors utilised the inset strengthening beams around the walls, as part of their structure and large spanning beams but, once boarded, meant that there was no obvious way of getting the new bells up into the belfry, or, more importantly, getting the existing much larger ones down to be refurbished.

The eventual solution required cutting new trapdoors in each of the three floors below the belfry. These apertures had to be large enough to pass the biggest bell – the half-ton tenor with a bell mouth diameter of 1m (39ins) – yet small enough to be fitted in between the large supporting floor beams.

The six original bells were lowered down one by one through the new trap doors during early December last, by Whites of Appleton (Church Bellhangers) Ltd, and taken to their factory near Oxford, for refurbishing and retuning.

However, one bell was so far out of tune that it had to be completely recast, but using new metal rather than melting down and recycling the old bell.

This work meant that peals were not rung over the Christmas period; however, the bell tower was not entirely silent, as the small Sanctus bell remained in place, hanging from a separate wall bracket high up in the belfry. Its repetitive single note can continue to be rung to announce services whilst work continues on the main peal.

It is hoped that this work will be completed by the end of this month (February), while the final installation and rehunging phase of the project will be the subject of a future article. ■

WHADDON PLANNING BRIEFS

Planning applications that have been decided, or are currently being considered, since the last *Whaddon Quarterly*, include those listed below:

CM/0068/18: Park Hill Farm, Bletchley Road, Little Horwood. (Location A421, opposite turning to Little Horwood.) Recontouring of agricultural land using tipped inert waste. (A full application submitted by Churchill Waste Ltd. to Bucks C.C.)

Although in Great Horwood Parish, Whaddon P.C. was consulted as the site adjoins the Whaddon Parish boundary. The standard consultation date expired on 18 December 2018, and a decision was due on 21 December following extensive statutory consultation on landscape issues, need for temporary inert waste tip, etc. As yet this application remains undetermined by Bucks C.C., and it is understood from their planning officer that an extension of time has been granted to the applicants until 31 January 2019 to allow more time to prepare a transport assessment and to supply additional (unspecified) details about the proposal.

18/03946/APP: The Glebe, Nash Road. Conversion of garage and first floor extension to annexe

The standard consultation date expired on 4 December 2018, and a decision was due on 1 January, but as yet this application remains undetermined by AVDC. Whaddon P.C. raised 'No Objections'.

18/02929/APP: Land off Stratford Road, Whaddon. (Almost opposite entrance to Whaddon Hall). Retention of reconstructed barns, and installed Klargestor bio treatment plant.

A decision on this retrospective planning application (following an enforcement notice served by AVDC for carrying out unauthorised works without planning consent) should have been made some time ago, but Whaddon P.C. suspects a decision is being delayed by officers until application 18/01333/APP on the same site (see below) is finally determined.

18/01333/APP: Land off Stratford Road, Whaddon. (almost opposite entrance to Whaddon Hall). Change of use from agricultural land to animal training (dogs).

Once again, a decision on this application for a three-year temporary change of use, was expected some time ago, but it appears that changes in planning officers and difficulties in clarifying outstanding issues in order to make a proper considered judgement, has further delayed a final decision. Your Parish Council was informed on 10 January (in time for the last Parish Council meeting) that the planning officer was to make a further site visit within the next couple of weeks, after which they would be in a position to write their report prior to making a decision. Your Parish Council has stressed the need for further details from Bucks C.C. on parking, access and highway safety issues, prior to a decision being taken, but as we go to press nothing further has been heard, nor has any additional information been posted on the AVDC planning web site.

18/03477/APP: 9 Stock Lane, Whaddon. Proposed alterations, including 2-storey extension to rear, new porch to front, and external landscaping works.

The first planning application was reported in the last November 2018 edition, and the detailed plans were displayed and discussed in detail at the 8 November Parish meeting. Following this meeting, your councillors raised a number of concerns and reservations to the dealing planning officer at AVDC, who independently shared WPC's concerns – mainly on issues relating to bulk, impact on neighbours and overall design.

Subsequently, the applicants' architect have submitted a revised scheme (under the same planning reference number) which is currently available for comment until 28th January 2019. Your Parish council has recognised improvements in this subsequent scheme, but have maintained an objection on certain design issues relating mainly to overlooking and impact on neighbours' amenity.

19/00074/APP: The Gatehouse, 28 High Street, Whaddon. Provision of two skylight 'lanterns' to the existing flat roof through to kitchen area.

The standard consultation date expires on 6th February 2019. The application was discussed at the 10 January meeting of WPC, and 'no objection' was raised, but as the building is grade 2 listed, it was agreed that the AVDC Historic Building Officer's experience in such matters should be taken into account in the Council's final decision making process.

PLEASE NOTE. You can view these, or any other planning applications on the AVDC Planning web-site, by simply 'Googling' Planning >> Simple Search – Aylesbury Vale District Council - then open this link and type in the application number in the box provided, then click 'Search'. Open the documents and inspect the papers of interest to you.

As with all planning applications, residents are able to inspect all plans and certain correspondence, together with statutory consultation responses, by following this procedure.

The next meeting of Whaddon P.C. where any new planning applications will be discussed, is on Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm in the Village Chapel. All are welcome. ■

Whaddon Refuse Collection Dates

Food waste: Every Tuesday

Recycling: Tuesdays: 5th & 19th February; 5th & 19th March; 2nd, 16th & 30th April; May: 14th & 28th.

Waste refuse: Tuesdays: 12th & 26th February; 12th & 26th March; 9th & 23rd April; 7th & 21st May.

Garden waste: If you are subscribed to the garden waste service, all collections will be the same day as the waste bin collection, viz: 12th & 26th February; 12th & 26th March; 9th & 23rd April; 7th & 21st May.

If AVDC misses a collection; report within 48 hours by phone to AVDC (01296 585858) or via the website. www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/find-your-bin-day

MK Council abandons new travellers' sites' plans Milton Keynes Council has aborted a plan to spend £5 million building two more travellers' sites in the city.

ONE of the new sites would have been a "transit" facility sited next to the Bottledump Roundabout on the A421. The other would have yielded 12 pitches near the Newton Leys estate just outside Bletchley.

MK Council has seemingly scrapped plans for the new sites following public outrage. The decision came in the wake of a hastily-convened meeting which took some council members by surprise. The eight-pitch Bottledump site, planned to be situated between Tattenhoe and Newton Longville, was to have been a “transit” facility to house illegal encampments of travellers who had been moved on from land elsewhere in MK, stated a council report.

However, on Tuesday 9th January, the proposals were scrapped at the full council meeting after an outcry from residents. Instead the council will spend money extending and upgrading existing travellers’ sites at Willen and Calverton.

“This is not Nimbyism – this is simply ridiculous. Why would the council spend nearly £5m on new sites for travellers when we have a homeless crisis here in Milton Keynes? They should be spending the money on new homes for people who desperately need them,” said one Tattenhoe resident, according to the *MK Citizen*. The newspaper added that at Newton Leys, many residents were equally shocked, even though plans for a travellers’ site were agreed there years ago under section 106 planning provision.

Both new sites would have required travellers to pay between £120 and £140 a week in rent; this would include drinking water, electricity, toilets, washing facilities and waste disposal.

MK Council claimed the cost of building and maintaining the sites would have been met by this “rent”, but residents disagreed. ■

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Nash Events – February to April 2019

February 2019

- Saturday, February 2nd, 6.30pm to 10.30pm

Nash PUMP – Pop Up Micro Pub – popular monthly event serving ales, prosecco, wines & spirits as well as great Nash spirit!

- Friday, February 15th, 10.30am to 5pm

Nash Community Café – drinks (now licensed) and cakes, light lunches, co-working space

March 2019

- Saturday, March 2nd, 6.30pm to 10.30pm

Nash PUMP – Pop Up Micro Pub – popular monthly event serving ales, prosecco, wines & spirits as well as great Nash spirit!

- Wednesday March 6th, 12 noon

Ash Wednesday service followed by a delicious soup lunch

- Friday, March 15th, 10.30am to 5pm

Nash Community Café – drinks (now licensed) and cakes, light lunches, co-working space

- Saturday, March 23rd, 4pm to late

Nash End of Winter and Welcoming the Spring celebration BBQ - a magical evening enjoying a BBQ at Nash Village Hall - outdoor fire pits and lots of fun

April 2019

- Saturday, April 6th, 6.30pm to 10.30pm

Nash PUMP – Pop Up Micro Pub – popular monthly event serving ales, prosecco, wines & spirits as well as great Nash spirit

- Friday, April 19th, 10.30am to 5pm

Nash Community Café – drinks (now licensed) and cakes, light lunches, co-working space

- Friday, April 19th, 10am to 11am

Easter activity session for children, aimed at ages 4-11 but all are welcome with an adult

- Friday, April 19th, 1pm

Good Friday Meditation

For details of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday events, contact Pam King 01908 501860 or pamking199@gmail.com For all other events contact infoatnashvillagehall@gmail.com

Is there anyone for cricket at Thornborough?

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 six Monday nights from 25/02/2019 to 01/04/2019 between 7.30 to 8.30pm; also we are looking to have several events including a pool tournament at The Two Brewers 07/04/19, quiz night in June and other functions through the season. For juniors, Kwik Cricket for children, boys or girls from 5 years to 8 years, will be held again on Friday nights at the field by trained and CRB checked coaches / helpers, dates to be finalised.

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, Secretary, Thornborough Cricket Club



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 - Phone booking system is in operation.
- Can be used for any occasion, for any length of time within the day, seven days a week, subject to availability.
 - COST: 45 pence per mile travelled regardless of time out.
 - Costings are billed monthly using BACS where possible.
- For more information contact or see www.winslowbigsocietygroup.info

KNOCK-ON EFFECT. There has been an interesting knock-on effect to the work of removing the bells at Calverton church, where a number of wheels were fitted in the old bell frame. Each of the six bells in the tower had its own wheel. Each wheel is made in halves (to clamp onto the bell headstock from either side). Each half is not unlike the curved top to a pergola archway. This gives some indication of their size. They are made of oak and the church was allowed to dispose of them; accordingly they were made available for sale. "They were all sold, either as separate halves or complete wheels. Hot cakes could not have sold quicker," noted David Muston (**see p. 43**). Half wheels were priced at £30 each. They were sold in aid of All Saints Restoration Fund.

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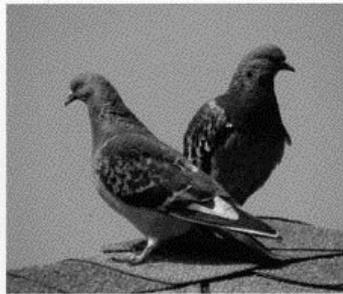
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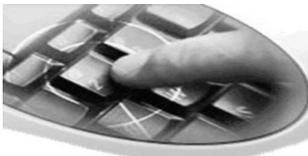
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