A black and white photograph of a field of wheat. The focus is on several stalks in the foreground, showing the detailed structure of the grain heads. The background is filled with more wheat, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the wheat.

WHADDON QUARTERLY

August 2016

Any comments, queries or articles

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

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Send your ad to the Editor as above

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mariacole1968@sky.com

Deadlines for forthcoming issues:

2 November 2016; 2 February 2017; 2 May 2017; 2 August 2017.

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Cover: Harvest time in Whaddon. Photograph, John Mortimer.

SNIPPETS OF VILLAGE NEWS

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

- **THE POP-UP PUB**, which is taking a break during August, has raised £1,000. See p. 48.
- **THE OUTDOOR** clock at Jubilee Hall is now thankfully operational after a long period of inactivity.
- **SITE WORK** began on 27th June at the new Shakespeare Park housing estate with early erection of Herpetosure newt and slow worm upright green plastic fencing!
- **IS IT PERHAPS** possible that one day the Church fete could be held at Whaddon House again? This year's event managed to miss the rain and raised about £1,500.
- **THE OLD SHED** in the corner of the churchyard has been removed. Its replacement – one-and-a-half times bigger – could be in place on a new concrete base by the time this issue appears.
- **STOWE HOUSE** Christmas Gift Fayre (Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October) offers "Unique and unusual Christmas gifts for the whole family under one beautiful roof". Admission £5.00.
- **MANY TONS** (45) of road surface material had to be removed from High Street and Stratford Road on 6th July, causing closure for the day. Deterioration of skid-resistance characteristics prompted replacement (under a two-year guarantee) of several sections since last being laid in late 2014. Two cars stubbornly resisted removal, causing work delays.
- **WHADDON ENTERTAINERS** are planning their next show and they welcome new faces either performing or part of back-stage, front of house or technical crew. Brain-storming: 14th September at 7.30pm. For details contact Sharon on 07703 388571 or sharon.bessell@btinternet.com. Planning to attend the show? The dates for the next show are: 7th April and 8th April 2017.
- **THE VILLAGE** bid a fond farewell to long-time resident Florrie who, for many years, lived in Vicarage Road. St Mary's Church in Whaddon was filled to near capacity for her memorial service on 14th June. Florrie also shared involvement with Nash. Hilda Unwin writes: "Florrie was a faithful member of the Nash Fellowship and organist for over 30 years; she came when we started at the Nash Mission Hall. She was so cheerful, friendly and kind; we shall miss her so much but know she has gone to her heavenly home." For further tributes to Florrie Parrott see pages 14 and 24 – 26.
- **PROGRESS** is being made creating the Whaddon Parish Council website. The website, which is expected to 'go live' in September, will cover all organisations and facilities in the village. Published news and events appearing on the site can then be picked up in wider Google searches through the www platform provider's (Hugo Fox) own community database. It will provide also a planning tracking facility, and villagers will be able to sign up to 'auto alerts' for any new items in these three areas. It will be possible also to read the *Whaddon Quarterly* on line there. In effect, for the first time, Whaddon will be open to the world – this has important implications.
- **ALEX AITKEN** informs us he is incredibly lucky to be conducting the National Youth Music Theatre in its flagship production of 'Brass' on the 26th and 27th August at the Hackney Empire. Alex says "We auditioned over 2,500 young and aspiring actors and actresses aged 15-23 to form our cast of 32. The music is fantastic (and performed also by some of the country's top young musicians). The story is gripping and powerful, and the show won the 2014 UK Theatre Award for Best Production (beating a host of West End shows)." In the centenary year of the end of World War I, the production is being revived on a grander scale and is set to be one of the best theatrical productions of the year. Alex concludes: "It would mean a huge amount to have some support from Whaddon. Read more about it and obtain tickets at: www.hackneyempire.co.uk/?lid=6147 ◇



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

August 2016

The most recent meeting of the Parish Council had the most packed agenda of urgent items that I can ever remember, with plenty of members of the public present at a meeting which lasted over three hours, and of these, three matters stand out.

We started with a discussion with an environmental adviser to Taylor Wimpey, the developers at Kingsmead, about the proposed closure of Shenley Road for maybe more than a year, which would substantially increase our journey times to Milton Keynes but would also have damaging effects on our school, our playgroup, our village hall and the prospects for the re-opening of the pub. As I write, Taylor Wimpey are considering their response to these concerns and Buckinghamshire County Council, who would have to implement any closure, are fully in the picture.

We went on to have an initial discussion of Aylesbury Vale District Council's draft Local Plan, which calls for 33,000 new houses (a 45 per cent increase). This has huge implications for Whaddon, as the construction of 2,000 of these is proposed between our village and Milton Keynes. Advisers from AVDC will be on hand at the Jubilee Hall on 8th August to explain the draft plan. We are following that with a Special Parish Council meeting on 18th August at 7.30pm in the Chapel Schoolroom for our residents to make their views known.

The third important item was the presentation by Peter Lemagnen of the proposed web site for the Parish Council which he is putting together. All Councillors were extremely impressed by what he showed us; it will have links to all other village activities that wish to be included, and I eagerly await it going live.

As I returned home, nearer 11 than 10pm from the Parish Council meeting, I was reminded of how different life was when I first moved to Whaddon in 1965. There was no Milton Keynes then (but the certainty of an impending North Bucks new town, which might have been on top of Whaddon). We had two village shops, including a Post Office and some van deliveries of bread, fish and meat. But our shopping facilities in Bletchley and Stony Stratford were minuscule compared to what Milton Keynes and Westcroft now offer; quite apart from internet shopping.

Traffic flows were obviously minute by today's standards and it is scarcely believable that the A421 crossed the river just before Buckingham via an ancient one-way-only stone bridge (still visible) but there were no traffic jams at the bridge!

However, what is most striking is how we have retained our identity as a rural village and that has not altered over the years. We still have our Church, our Chapel, our school, our village hall and have gained so many new village activities over the years.

When I tell people that I live near Milton Keynes, I say that Whaddon is lucky enough to have access to all its advantages but that most of us can't physically see it (yet!) and that we still have typical English rural countryside to look out on.

Let us hope that in 50 years' time we shall still have retained our individuality and our quality of life.

Billy Stanier

August 2016

Your font is important to us!

When I worked in a big office, I used to be known as Mrs Picky-Knickers, because I loved making things right, particularly anything to do with words: letters, emails, reports, workbooks; you name it, I corrected it! Working alongside John, who does a fine job of editing the *Whaddon Quarterly*, is great fun because we have exchanges of emails that only another picky person would appreciate. Should it be almshouses, alms houses or alms-houses? Is it a pop-up pub or a pop-up-pub? Our latest discussion has been around the fonts used in the WQ and we'd like to hear your views. Here are some ideas for you to consider. They're all in 12pt, which is the font size we use most for articles:

Traditionally, **Times New Roman** has been a favourite of newspapers. I can't stand it myself, but I realise this is all pretty subjective, and you might love it. (psst! it's really boring!)

Callibri is rather pretty, and takes up slightly less room on the page, so we can cram more articles into each issue if we use it. It is a little on the petite size, though, although we could up the font size if we wanted to use it.

Verdana is a lovely, clear font, and, as you can see, is a little larger than the other two. This means when we use it, it takes up more space, and can be tricky to fit. Some WQ articles are already written in Verdana.

Other articles in the WQ are written in **Tahoma**. John and I both like this one, as it has a good "cram factor", and is clear too. It's quite similar to Verdana. There's little difference in my view.

And then there's good old **Ariel**. A little more compact than the two above, perhaps, or maybe it's time to stop with the choices and get your opinion, dear reader...

Our question to you is this: do you have a preference? Clearly, there are hundreds of fonts out there to choose from, and maybe it's more about the content for you, and as long as it's not too small to read, you really don't mind. Either way, it would be great to have some feedback. If you have something to say, feel free to email the Editor.

Oh, and this font is Georgia, in case you're still reading...

End with a smile:

Two fonts walk into a bar, and the barman says, "Sorry lads, we don't serve your type."

Marianna Beckwith

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR



Another election, perhaps?

MUCH has happened since the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*, none more significant than the events of 23rd June to 13th July; 21 days that will surely enter the pages of British political history as having fundamental implications for the future.

However, other issues closer to home cloud the future. These include the ramifications of Shakespeare Park, construction of which, coincidentally, also started between 23rd June and 13th July! However, in that respect, all is well; Taylor Wimpey *is* caring for the great crested newts! So that's all right, then!

However, when a voracious developer puts the needs of great crested newts ahead of a village's residents for whom the Wiggly Road is a life-line linking them to work, schools, surgeries and hospitals, you know immediately corporate greed has taken a stranglehold over society. A natural simmering resentment of the unilateral imposition of singular actions by large businesses that affect many therefore, is only to be expected.

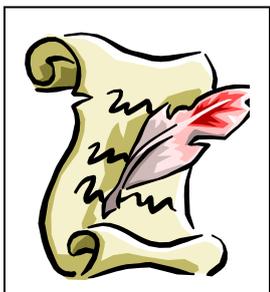
More serious, long-term, is the fate of Shenley Road and the Wiggly Road. It is hard to believe the Shenley Road, such a minute piece of infrastructure in the great scheme of things, is linked to the nation's housing crisis. But insatiable demands for housing are bearing down on the fabric of the countryside. The Shenley Road will be the focus of attention for many years to come. The AVDC plan gives a clue to potential hazards ahead. Road traffic to and from the first tranche of houses, circa 2,000 in what is euphemistically called Shenley Park, will need to use the Shenley Road.

To the west of Shenley Park lurks more land. It is unthinkable what might happen to it; it hovers beguilingly as luscious temptation for developers and district councils seeking to meet Government housing targets. Occupants and services to and from these houses, if they are ever built, may seek an outlet into the Shenley Road. It could all form part of the 2050 plan (see p. 9)

As for WHA001, and other attempts to 'invade' green land close to Whaddon, it must be strongly resisted by all means at Whaddon's disposal. But the forceful action of one village is likely to pale into insignificance against the forces of local authorities and the government, giving WHA001 the already unwelcome odour of inevitability. The volume of traffic-management detail this site, and others, should they ever receive the go-ahead, will demand far-sighted and intelligent planning to deal with long-term needs. Highway engineers working with Milton Keynes Council and Buckinghamshire County Council will need to communicate – if they have not done so already – in respect of WHA001. They will need the most advanced traffic modelling software available to determine likely flow patterns in order to deliver a best-in-class road network for the community.

New grid-road connections will be required, including landscaped 'reserve' corridors to accommodate future growth: a feature that has defined Milton Keynes for 50 years. It is reasonable to project that the Shenley Road will become even more important as a major artery than at present – an even more virulent 'rat run'. The implication that can and must be drawn is stark: road traffic density in Shenley Road will increase and, *per se*, vehicular traffic in Whaddon itself.

Road traffic, like water, takes the line of least resistance. Whether passenger cars, agricultural tractors with their ever-increasingly large trailers, articulated commercial vehicles and double-deck buses, the result is the same – day or night. It will become even more important to safeguard the present village atmosphere. The Shenley Road, especially if it links with H7 Chaffron Way, will play a vital role in the dynamics of the 'new and greater Whaddon' that is to come as sure as night follows day. This future prospect has to be born in mind by all. There is grave danger of sleep-walking into the future. Will the village be prepared for the transformations to come? ♦



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

How we spent your Money in 2015/16

Herewith some brief details about how your Parish Council spent its precept last year:

Income from Precept;	£15,300	Recreation Ground Upgrade:	£56,564
Grants and Donations:	£47,452	Donations:	£1,036
Rents:	£728	Whaddon Quarterly:	£325
Other Income:	£2,262	Street Lighting:	£947
		Admin, Maintenance, Other:	£12,412
Total income/exp.	£65,742		£71,284

If you would like more information, please let me know.

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

Recent communications about the expansion plans for Milton Keynes have highlighted that many residents of Whaddon Parish are not receiving up-to-date and timely information about very important issues affecting our Parish. We have both the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan and Plan:MK on the table at the moment. Both will have far-reaching effects on our community.

SO SIGN UP NOW!

BE SURE OF STAYING INFORMED!

AND DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY!!!

You can also receive the *Whaddon Quarterly* by email, together with 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 will take place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, at 7.30pm on 8th September, and 10th November 2016. Please check the Village Notice Board at the bus stop to confirm these dates and the location; they can be subject to change at short notice. All Welcome. ◇

Whaddon Quarterly

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The *Whaddon Quarterly* is a Whaddon Parish Council publication. The views expressed by the Editor are not necessarily those of the WPC.

LOCAL PLANNING MATTERS

Inevitably, by the time you read this, events may have moved on since this article was written (Saturday 30 July), but you can always ensure that you are kept up to date by registering your email address with WPC's Parish Clerk at <ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk> and ask to receive 'planning updates'.

Plan:MK

As expected, MK Council's timetable to produce the next draft stage of their Plan:MK has slipped. This is due mainly to the 6,000 or so comments they have had to log and consider following the recent round of public consultations (you will recall that some 160 Whaddon residents attended the special village meeting on 23 March last). They have also had to feed into the process the recommendations of the Milton Keynes Futures 2050 Commission report, launched and presented to MKC on 4th July.

It is expected now that MK Council's Preferred Options document arising from these discussions and consultations will be published (following various council meetings to approve the planning Officers' work) during Spring 2017. There will then be a further 8 - 12 week public consultation period, when Whaddon will need to comment yet again!

Thereafter, the final Plan:MK should be approved by full Council in December 2017 and submitted to a Government Inspector for examination during Autumn 2018, before final adoption early in 2019.

Whaddon residents now know that both MKC and AVDC are promoting almost identical growth areas very close to the village, but until both sets of plans are finally approved and adopted, nothing is absolutely certain. However, it is looking very likely that Whaddon will be greatly impacted somehow, and somewhere!

To make matters even more complicated, you may have read or heard that AVDC in their Plan have had to make provision for the 'unmet need' of adjoining Local Authorities where, perhaps due to constraints such as Green Belt etc, there is simply not enough land to develop.

This follows the Government's directive that there must be 'cross-boundary discussion' between authorities to ensure the country's housing need (which is falling way behind target) is actually met.

There were rumours too that Milton Keynes may also have an unmet need which, whilst unlikely, has yet to be finally determined as their plan emerges and housing requirement studies are finalised.

Interestingly, however, if they do have an unmet need it will probably be caused, not because they have areas of Green Belt (they have large areas of land to the North and East of the city within their district (most of which lies east of the M1 motorway) in which they could place their housing need), but because these areas may not be considered to be the best 'sustainable locations' for development!

So, considering that district boundaries are no longer barriers to growth, it might be said: watch out Mid-Bedfordshire and Aylesbury Vale, because both areas are deemed to be in MK's 'strategic market area' where employment and communications opportunities are presumed to be so much better. (The mind boggles with the complexities!)

Discussions therefore continue between the two authorities as to whose houses these would actually be (if they are built in an adjoining district), because without a Government boundary commission review, AVDC will collect revenue from Council taxes in its district, even though new residents in these growth areas would be almost entirely dependent on MK services, etc! (Got it?)

Milton Keynes Futures 2050 Commission

This report was presented to MK Council on 20th July, following the Brexit referendum vote and, despite the ongoing economic uncertainty, the Commission is strongly recommending a long-term strategy based on further growth whilst maintaining the distinctive MK landscape heritage. Three months ago before the Commission's report was published, the former MK Council Leader put in print that 'We should aspire to build a mirror image of Milton Keynes, updated for the 21st century, on the other side of the M1 motorway'.

He has now changed his vision slightly to suggest 'A Regional Development Corporation should be established to build a second Milton Keynes between Winslow and Bedford, Northampton and Leighton Buzzard'. That is a very big area so, in my opinion, it's still anyone's guess as to exactly what will happen.

However, I read recently the actual document (as opposed to the summary) entitled "Milton Keynes: Making a Great City Greater". This 'vision' includes Six Big Projects, the first of which is the "MK Hub of the Cambridge – Milton Keynes – Oxford Arc, and Realising the arc's full potential as a single knowledge-intensive cluster as envisaged by HM Treasury."

Within this document the widely used expression 'Cambridge – Milton Keynes – Oxford Arc' is quoted on 22 occasions, often linked with the line 'Over the next decade the upgrade of the East-West rail route will be completed along with the A421 Expressway, with these national infrastructure investments providing the spine for the arc'. Another comment states "The most sustainable and financially prudent approach to plan for the expansion of Milton Keynes beyond the existing built up area would be to use these two major infrastructure projects to link the new expansion locations with the city"

While another notes "We believe that Government interest in investing in this arc is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for our city" "We see an exceptional opportunity to use the rail upgrade and the construction of the Expressway as Treasury investments that could serve new locations for the further expansion of Milton Keynes.....outside the current boundaries, which could prove to be the most sustainable pattern of growth".

And yet another points out "New devolved formal partnerships should be seen as a priority with adjacent authorities, particularly in light of their commitments to growth." Aylesbury Vale and Central Bedfordshire are both mentioned, as later they are in a similar 'strategy to 2050' context.

Seen alongside the National Infrastructure Commission's current study – part of which is to 'to make recommendations to maximise the potential of the Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford corridor as a single, knowledge-intensive cluster that competes on the global stage' – it is easy to see why the North of Aylesbury Vale is being targeted for so much housing and employment growth.

The Government report will be complete for the 2017 Autumn Statement, but the economic case for the 'Oxford - MK - Cambridge corridor' will be reported earlier. I've never been a conspiracy theorist, but – hey – this is beginning to look like one!

Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP)

Can I advise please? DO NOT FORGET: You only have until 5th September to make your views known, so to comment go to www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/localplan

Hopefully you will have visited the special VALP Exhibition at Whaddon Village Hall on 8th August, and the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting in the Chapel on 18th August. (If you are reading this before 18th August, I hope to see you there!)

So, you should know that AVDC needs 21,300 new homes to meet their own housing needs up to 2033. However, if the unmet needs of neighbouring authorities has to be factored in (which looks likely), this figure will rise to 33,000.

Over 10 per cent of these houses (that is, some 4,000) are proposed to be built on Whaddon's doorstep. Of these, some 2,000 homes will be split on each side of Shenley Road, approximately one to two fields behind the Recreation Ground. A further 1,900 houses will be erected at Salden Chase, close to Newton Longville.

Added to these, a further 20 per cent (some 8,000 houses) could be built within 5 or 6 miles of Whaddon, depending on where AVDC chooses to site a new settlement of up to 6,500 homes. (Winslow and Haddenham remain as front-runners following a New Settlement Study that looked at 12 separate possible locations).

NOTE: If you are unsure as to where the proposed 2,000 homes in the Whaddon Parish area will be located, if the plan is adopted, there is a small display in the Jubilee Village Hall which explains all!

Whether you are concerned or excited by these prospects you should have your say, either directly to AVDC or through your Parish Council. It will be too late when the plan is approved. This is the last real chance for serious comment; it is highly unlikely that AVDC officers will amend (apart, that is, from minor tweaks) the next and final 'Proposed Submission' version. This will appear early next year. So there is precious little time left before it goes before the Government Inspector during March next year.

Kingsmead 1 & 2 Milton Keynes – Possible Closure of Shenley Road

Many residents are horrified at the prospect of the possible closure of Shenley Road for between 12 and 18 months while the first phase of this latest MK development is undertaken. Following a well-attended and in-depth discussion at the last Whaddon Parish Council meeting on 21st July, every one of the village concerns – and there were many – were sent to Taylor Wimpey's (TW) agent. He promised to temporarily hold off TW's proposed application to close the road, while they re-examined the details to see if there was a better solution.

There is a further meeting of the Kingsmead Liaison Group on 9th August when their findings will be presented and discussed; hopefully this time with an officer of Buckinghamshire Borough Council (BBC) highway authority present! When you read this, Facebook or the village email list should have informed you of the outcome! ♦

Graham Stewart,

Whaddon Parish Council

WHADDON PLANNING BRIEFS

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

16/01298/AOP. Outline planning application with access to be considered and all other matters reserved for the erection of one five-bedroomed detached dwelling - Land to the rear of 2a and 2b High Street, Whaddon.

No decision has yet been made by AVDC , but as this article is written a revised site plan has been submitted by the applicants, which has:- (a) removed the double garage element (presumably so that parking remains for 2b High Street), (b) centralised the rear extension element to try and overcome the impact of the unbroken and imposing bulk of the side elevation next to the Conservation Area and Public House garden, and (c) the built footprint has been moved forward to improve separation between 2a/2b and the proposed new five-bedroomed house. The Parish Council has been re-consulted by AVDC, and further comments will have to be made by them by 29th August. The adjustments do not overcome the fundamental concerns raised by your Parish Council such as whether or not the 'principle' of any form of 'back land development' is acceptable, (i.e. on rear garden land behind the accepted linear pattern of existing village development that runs up to and adjoins open countryside), the precedent this would set for elsewhere along the track – and around the village, and whether the impact of such large and intrusive development on the historic character of the Village should be allowed?

Bucks CC ref: CC/19/16 AVDC ref: 16/02156/ACC. New Classroom - Whaddon Church of England School, Stock Lane, Whaddon

A final decision is expected around the same time as you read this article – mid/end August. Whaddon PC had no objection, and nor did AVDC, but they are not the planning authority - BCC are! As this article is written (end July) BCC are still awaiting final consultation comments back from highways, ecology and landscape. The Highways Department raised questions on school numbers, travel plans, etc., but it is a well-known fact that every school in the district has parking/pick up problems at peak times. If no objections are raised by outstanding consultees, then it is hoped the application can be dealt with by delegated powers, without having to go to their planning committee for determination, hopefully before the end of August.

16/01816/APP. Boundary change and erection of boundary fence. 3 High Street, Whaddon.

No decision made by AVDC yet but this minor application is expected to be approved.

16/01513/APP. Removal of conservatory and erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension. 33A Stock Lane Whaddon.

No final decision made as yet, but foundation design plans and an Arboricultural method statement (tree protection, fencing etc) were submitted on 13th July as minor/additional information, prior to determination.

16/02002/APP. Single storey side and rear extension. 7 Vicarage Road, Whaddon.

Householder approval GRANTED on 19th July.

Please remember that 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. ♦



St. Mary's Church Whaddon

REGULAR SERVICES August 2016

1 st Sunday	10.30 am	Family Service
2 nd Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
3 rd Sunday	10.00 am for 10.30 am	Sunday Special - Contemporary Service. Tea & coffee & croissants beforehand
4 th Sunday	8.30 am	Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
5 th Sunday		Benefice service at one of the churches - venue to be notified

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	2 pm	Post Office and Tea on Tuesday in Jubilee Hall
Tuesday	7.30 pm	Bell ringing practice – new recruits welcome
1 st Wednesday	2.00 pm	Women's Institute in Jubilee Hall
3 rd Wednesday	7:30 pm	Whaddon Night Owls WI in Jubilee Hall
1 st Saturday	10.00 am – 12 noon	Coffee Shop in church

A very warm welcome is extended to everyone who may wish to attend any of these activities.

Dates For Your Diary

Sat	Aug 7 th	10 am-12 noon	Florrie's Village coffee morning (See below)
Sat	Oct 1 st	10 am-4 pm	Annual Open Day, with displays, quizzes, archives, etc. coffees, soup & cheese lunches and cream teas
Sun	Oct 2 nd	10.30 am	Harvest Festival Celebration
Mon	Oct 3 rd	7.30 pm	Harvest Supper & Auction of Produce in Jubilee Hall
Sat	Nov 26 th	2 pm	Annual Christmas Fayre in Jubilee Hall
Sun	Dec 11 th		Christingle with Whaddon School Nativity
Sun	Dec 18 th	6 pm	Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

The Church Fete this year was held on the School Field by kind permission of Mrs Davies, the Headteacher and was as enjoyable as ever and we were blessed with fine but windy weather. We were again fortunate to have the music of Woburn Sands Band and lots of stalls and sideshows. Teas were served outside the Reception class with tables on the hard play area and everyone seemed to be enjoying the afternoon. Grateful thanks go to Clare Garland for the organisation and all those who gave raffle prizes, manned stalls on the day, or helped to set up and clear away. Some £1,500 or so was raised which will go into church funds.

Florrie's Village Coffee Morning, organised by Beryl & Mike Evans, will be held on Saturday 6th August at 3 Church Lane by kind permission of Hazel & Barry Dudley. Such events are always well supported by the village and give everyone an opportunity to mingle and chat over a cup of tea or

coffee and delicious cakes. There will also be a Raffle and home-made cake stall. This tradition will be the first year that sadly, Florrie is no longer with us.

October Coffee Shop – On October 1st the monthly Coffee Shop will be part of the Open Day and Harvest Celebrations. In addition to coffee and biscuits during the morning, light lunches of soup, bread and cheese, etc. will be available, with cream teas and cakes in the afternoon. The church will be beautifully decorated ready for the Harvest Festival the next morning at 10:30am. There will be the usual attractions: the archives from Aylesbury Museum, quizzes, games, brass rubbing and an opportunity to try your hand at ringing hand bells. Please join us between 10am - 4pm and bring your friends along for a sit down and chat

Harvest Supper and Auction of Produce will take place on Monday Oct 3rd at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall. Tickets £6 available from Hazel Dudley on 01908 505727.

Churchyard. While every effort is made to accommodate personal wishes, we are required to follow certain Diocesan regulations regarding memorials. These determine the design and material used. They must be in local stone, or as near as possible to it, and of a standard size. Also, for ease of maintenance and mowing it is necessary that the grave does not have a raised surround or tall flowers planted. Further information is obtainable from Rev Gussie Walsh or myself.

We are also in need of more volunteers to mow the churchyard. All the machines and petrol are provided and you would only be mowing one section. Please contact David Spencer on 01908 502540 for more information if you can help at all.

Flower rota and cleaning rota. If you enjoy arranging flowers and would like to provide altar flowers on a rota basis, please contact Janet Spencer on 01908 502540 or Beryl Evans on 01908 502567.

If you can help with cleaning the church, either on your own or with a friend, please contact Hazel Dudley on 01908 505727. The cleaning consists of dusting the furniture and hoovering the carpets on one rota and polishing the brass on another rota. You do not have to be on both

Funerals June 14th Florence (Florrie) Iris Parrott. A village resident for nearly 50 years, she was laid to rest in the churchyard with her late husband, Gordon. (See obituary, p. 24-26)

To arrange weddings, baptisms, and funeral services, please contact our Assistant Minister, Rev. Gussie Walsh, tel. 01280 821616 or am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you very soon at any or all of our services and social events when you will receive a warm welcome. Thank you all for your continued support of the village church.

Hazel Hedges

(Church warden) 01908 501729 hazel.hedges@gmail.com

The PCC

Hazel Hedges	Churchwarden.	Tel. 01908 501729
Jo Mortimer-Bush	Hon. Secretary.	Tel: 01908 503194
Barry Dudley	Hon. Treasurer	Tel: 01908 505727
David Spencer	Electoral Roll Officer.	Tel: 01908 502540
Frederick Hayward	Jubilee Hall Rep,	Tel: 01908 506083
Hazel Dudley	.	Tel:01908 505727
Clare Garland		Tel: 01908 501732
Rev'd Gussie Walsh		Tel. 01280 821616

Florrie: A thanksgiving for a special lady

ST MARY'S church was filled almost to capacity to say goodbye to one of Whaddon's long-serving and most popular people, Florence Iris Parrott, known to everyone as Florrie.

Licensed lay minister Vicky Southby of Nash began by saying what a great privilege it was to lead a service of thanksgiving for a "special and well-loved lady".

Before drawing attention to Psalm 23, Florrie's favourite psalm, and what it said about Florrie as a person, Vicky Southby told the congregation: "Florrie was a Christian and she had a deep faith in God.

"The Lord was indeed her shepherd and that belief would have carried her through the ups and downs of her long life. She became a Christian in her teens and that deep commitment to God has shone throughout her life. As the shepherd has led her, so she has followed day by day. Her trust was in Him.

"She once said simply and with absolute sincerity: 'I love Him and He loves me.' A simple faith in the Lord, whom she knew loved her as much as He loves each one of us.

"As in the words of the psalmist 'Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.'

"Florrie led a good life and she knew where she was going in the next – to live with the Lord for ever or, as someone said, 'She has gone to glory.'

"Death is not the end. The Christian hope of life everlasting is there for all who believe and trust in Him.

"Jesus told his disciples: 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

"As we look back with thanksgiving for Florrie's life and example, let us at the same time look forward with the hope we have been given."

The tribute to Florrie on pages 24-26 mirrors exactly the reflections of Vicky Southby, but includes additional observations by some of Florrie's friends as well as a few treasured family photographs. ◇



FITNESS BOOTCAMP COMING TO WHADDON

IF YOU want to get fitter and be more active but cannot afford a gym membership or a personal trainer, these sessions are for you! Every Thursday morning at 10am starting on 11th August. I will be running a 45-minute circuit-based boot-camp in the Whaddon Recreational ground! ● Get weighed and measured week 1 and then every 8 weeks thereafter to track progress. ● Get your loyalty card - Come to 8 sessions to get your 9th session free. ● Target your whole body in one session. ● Run by a fully-qualified personal trainer. For just £5 per session! Contact me for more

information, questions and to book your place now! Telephone: 07496 267423 or contact me, Abbie, on abbiesycamorept@icloud.com Follow Stay Fit with Sycamore on Facebook! ◇

HANDS UP FOR JESUS



St Mary's, Whaddon
After-School Club with
Rev Gussie and team

Songs, Story Telling, Craft, Games, Food & loads of FUN!

3rd Wednesdays per month of term...3.00pm-4.00pm

On January 20th we started our **Hands up for Jesus** after-school club in Whaddon School and the adventure continues...

This term we are thinking about the stories Jesus told. Each of the sessions use one of them to help us think about a theme. We do this through craft activities, games, storytelling and lots of singing....all helped along with cake and drink!

On 21st September

The house on the rock.

This is a game – try building a house on jelly

On 19th October

The ten silver coins.

This is a craft session to make a silver coin mobile.

On 23rd November

The rich farmer

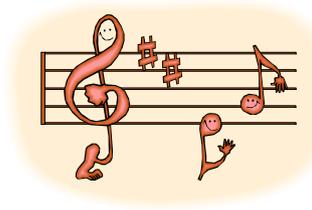
This is a team game to see who can fill the jar with the most food!

Next Hands up for Jesus 21st September

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you have an important announcement to make, such as a Birth, Forthcoming Marriage or a significant Wedding Anniversary? If you would like to record the event, then please send details to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue. **Deadline 2nd November 2016.**

+



TODDLER CHURCH

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

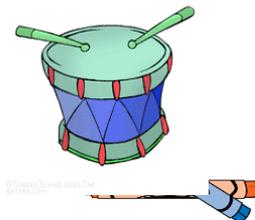
We meet at St Mary's Church Whaddon.

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

The hour consists of arts & crafts, songs & story time plus of course refreshments! A warm welcome awaits you; no one is too old or young. So come along and join in the fun! We look forward to seeing you.

The final Toddler Church before the summer break took place on Wednesday 20th July when we went to Thrift Farm for a picnic (see below).

Sally Green (01908 526033)



Fun time at Thrift Farm

On Wednesday, 13th July the Toddler Church set off for its outing to Thrift Farm. The raindrops stayed away and all the children, Mums, Grannies, Grandads and Aunties had great fun feeding and looking at the animals. Some of the toddlers enjoyed stroking the ponies and the children had great fun riding on the old tractor. The baby guinea pigs and bantam chicks proved a great favourite. We all finished up in the cafe area for tea and cakes before returning home.

Toddler Church starts again on Wednesday 7th September at 1.45pm St Mary's Church.

Left: All hands to the wheel: Stevie, Jemima, Dannii and Harrison take control!

WW2 Commemoration

Whaddon marks a special day

It all began with an anxious telephone call on 15th April from Maria Cole, Jubilee Hall's booking clerk.

"I've had a call from an Englishman living in France," she told me. "He wants to hire the Hall for two days in May to stage a re-enactment of the first radio message sent from France to Whaddon. Can you come with me to meet him at the Hall on Thursday around 3pm to hear what it's all about?"

The Englishman, living in France, turned out to be none other than Martyn Cox of *The Secret WW2 Learning Network*. He brought his friend Geoffrey Pidgeon.

Martyn explained his intentions while Geoffrey (a WW2 veteran who had worked in Whaddon) outlined the role of Jubilee Hall as the NAAFI (Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes) centre for those working at Whaddon Hall, itself the hub of secret operations allied to Bletchley Park.

Geoffrey (right), keen that Whaddon's important role should be recognised and celebrated, offered to present a Blue Plaque to record the event.

I presented his suggestion to the Committee which met that evening. Their response, to say the least, was one of excitement and enthusiasm. The Committee agreed to accept the plaque. Martyn and Geoffrey were thrilled with our response.

Then began a period of frantic emails and telephone conversations to decide the format of the day and who would be involved.

It was finally agreed that events would start on Sunday 8th May at 12.30pm, with buffet lunch and wine set for 1.00pm. Then would follow a welcome address. Everyone would be welcome to attend with donations sought to cover food and wine for the day. An exhibition of vintage wireless equipment also would be staged, thanks to David White who used to be in charge of the Wireless Museum at Bletchley Park.

Lt Col Ingram Murray (ret'd) of The Royal Engineers, offered to describe the work of the SOE – the Special Operations Executive – while Martyn would speak about Georges Bégué, MC, the first secret agent of the French section of SOE to parachute into France. He sent the first coded wireless message from France to Britain. This signal had been sent from a safe-house in Châteauroux and received at the M16 communications centre in Whaddon on 9th May 1941.

In addition, David and Debra Rixon agreed they would establish a Skype link with France and erect a giant screen on the stage. They would also film the day's events. And it was arranged that Geoffrey would unveil the Blue Plaque and present it to the village, with the event being filmed by the BBC to be broadcast on television news the following day.

Martyn was also interviewed on BBC Radio 4 early on Monday morning.

Flyers were designed and delivered to the village with posters placed on the village Facebook page. Martyn contacted various wireless associations about the plans and their members were invited.



Geoffrey Pidgeon performs the unveiling ceremony



Geoffrey Pidgeon: Proud of Whaddon's role during WW2.

The day turned out sunny and warm. Jubilee Hall, decorated with red, white and blue bunting, looked a picture with chairs and tables set out on the grass outside. Inside, a French tricolore and a British Union Flag hung beside the giant screen.

We planned to cater for between 80 to 100 people, hoping this was not too ambitious a number. Eventually, we served about 130 people. We offered a buffet of various quiches, cold meats, pate and salads, with bread and cheese brought over from France. Martyn kindly brought wine from Valencay; to mark the occasion, these carried specially-printed labels depicting a picture of Georges Bégué.

Following the buffet, the audience, sitting in the hall, heard the speakers explain the work of the SOE whose wireless traffic was received at Whaddon.

Head of operations was Richard Gambier-Parry, based in Whaddon Hall, with Jubilee Hall used as the NAAFI centre and for rest and relaxation. Operatives slept in buildings in the field behind. Excerpts from the film *The Secret Wireless War* were shown with Whaddon Hall depicted in the background.

Symbolic message

The key moment of the commemoration proceedings arrived when we received by means of a wartime vintage wireless set in the hall, a 'live' symbolic 'secret message' transmitted in Morse code from the house in Châteauroux.

The message was sent using a suitcase wireless set (see also p. 20-22) of the type used by that agent 75 years ago. By means of a video link, we were thrilled to see the 94 years-old Frenchman in the village hall in Châteauroux from where he had sent the message.

After answering our questions (in English!), the Chase Choir replied with their rendering of the *Chanson des Partisans* in French. This proved such a moving moment for us in Whaddon but, according to their later comments, some French people listening to it across the Channel found it a very emotional experience too.

The anniversary and the weekend event also served to pay tribute to Whaddon's far wider and highly significant role as the hub of M16 secret communications throughout the Second World War.

Geoffrey, who worked for M16's Section VIII at Whaddon Hall during the second half of the war, outlines much on the role of Whaddon in his book *The Secret Wireless War*.



The Chase Choir with their own tribute to the French partisans.

Instrumental in putting Whaddon on the WW2 map, Geoffrey believed the village's contribution had not been as fully recognised as it should be. For this reason he wanted to present the people of Whaddon with a Blue Plaque as a permanent reminder; it can be found on the front of the Jubilee Hall.

Few people, even village residents at the time, appreciated the significance of the wartime role of Whaddon as the top-secret centre for wireless equipment, technicians and signallers. These men and women were responsible for the intelligence information produced by Bletchley Park code breakers to be sent to agents and Allied commanders in the field.

In addition, specialist secret communications equipment used by secret agents and resistance groups, as well as in Allied naval and aircraft, was designed and built in Whaddon. Propaganda programmes and broadcasts too were produced and recorded at Whaddon Hall.

Unfortunately, a Solar Flare prevented Sunday's wireless connection being established with France; however it was secured the following day from Windy Ridge, next to St Mary's church. So, on Monday 9th May, thanks to the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society and David White's skill, the anniversary message was successfully sent – just as Special Operations Group had done so many years before.

Whaddon's special day

Then, ULTRA messages had been sent from that very spot to General Montgomery in North Africa, to the Commanders of Torch on Sicily and then into occupied France – to General Patton's 3rd US Army, General Simpson's 9th US Army, General Dempsey (21st Army group) and all the Allied Army Commanders.

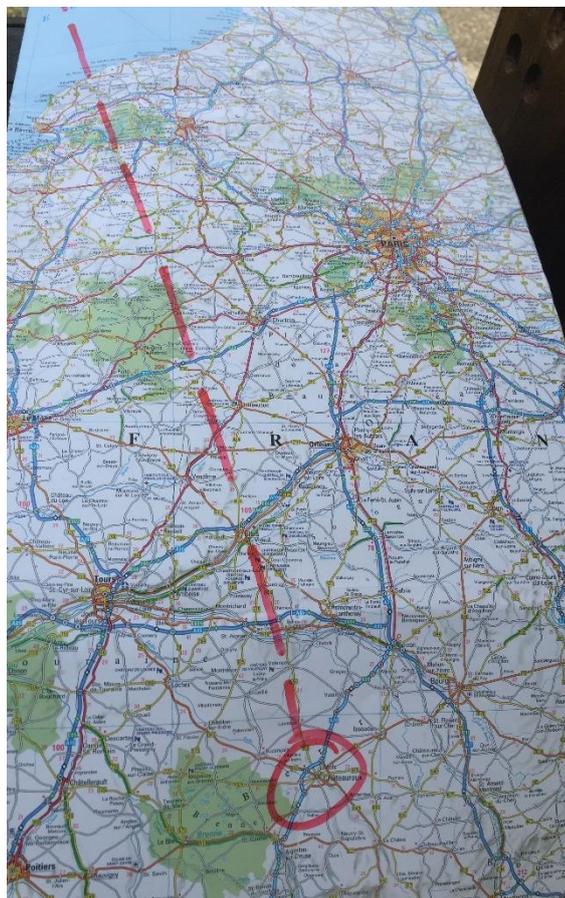
This was indeed a special day for Whaddon village. Following initial requests by Martyn Cox and Geoffrey Pidgeon, it was made possible in only three weeks by the valued contribution of the following: The Jubilee Hall Committee, The Chase Choir, Sid Vincent, Paul Logan, Helen Hickman, Shirley Vincent, Karen Logan, Val Stewart, Chris and John Robinson, Liz Moss and Frederick Hayward.



Geoffrey Pidgeon with a WW2 suitcase radio transmitter

Thank you all, but especially to everyone from the village who turned out in force to celebrate our heritage at what was later described as "A wonderful event – with a great team effort; the village fete ambience was perfect".

Words: Hazel Hedges. Photographs: From Geoffrey Pidgeon.



The line of radio transmission: Windy Ridge in England to a safe house in Chateauroux, France.



May 1941. The metrological weather forecast.

The message from a suitcase

THE WEATHER on Monday, 9th May 2016 could not have been more different to that of 75 years ago, to the day. And no one could avoid a sense of occasion.

On Windy Ridge, the sun beamed from an azure sky. Woolly clouds floated loftily as ewes and their lambs grazed among buttercups, oblivious to an historic message from France. In May 1941, the Met Office (**left**) declared conditions on Church Hill would be ‘unseasonably cold, particularly in the south.’

During the grim days of 1941, when 875 years of liberty, freedom of individual and nation alike hung by a slender thread, British forces had to strain every sinew against the enemy. Making vital contact with British agents in France, so near yet so far, formed just part of that supreme national effort.

But come 75 years on, radio operators David White, John Pether, Peter Davies and David Wells (**seen bottom left to right**) carefully assembled radio transmitting and receiving equipment on portable tables ahead of transmissions

from France. After various attempts between 11.50 and 12.10 the team succeeded. Transmitting from Châteauroux in France on a frequency of 7.003MHz, the message (**below**) came through in Morse. Bernard in France operated a B2 personal ‘suitcase’ transmitter; today this can cost a collector a cool £2,700.

David White, a specialist in WW2 radio equipment at Bletchley Park, noted "We used the same vintage equipment as in 1941. Even with low power on Morse code we still managed to make good radio contact with the people in Châteauroux."

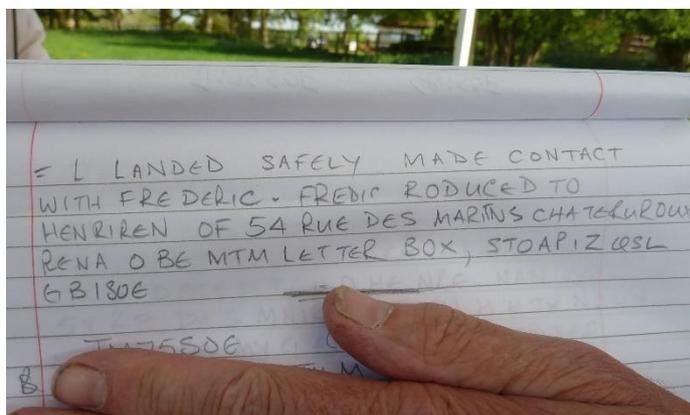
The receiver used by the team on Windy Ridge was a US-made National HRO model, the first version of which appeared in October 1934. For transmission the team employed a Whaddon Mk3. The radio call sign adopted on Monday 9th May was TM5SOE.

Assembly of Mk3 transmitters began in 1940 in wooden huts in the grounds of Whaddon Hall, a year after the outbreak of war. Bob Hornby, a resident of Whaddon, began work on these machines in 1939.

"The power from our transmitter was only 10W but most agents in France in the war required between 5 and 15W of power from their suitcase transmitter/receivers," explained David. "Normal frequencies from France required between 4 and 9MHz, depending on whether it was night or day. Low frequencies were essential at night but higher frequencies could be used in daylight hours."

As David stressed, anyone in France found transmitting radio information put their life in danger. "German troops had a special 30-position monitoring station in Paris," David explained. "Sited specifically to eavesdrop, it could locate clandestine radio transmissions. Not surprisingly, many agents were captured and executed. That's why I brought my collection of WW2 spy radio transmitter/receivers for visitors in Jubilee Hall to study." I asked David what types of batteries powered these suitcase radios.

"The suitcase sets used 6V batteries but they could use mains power," replied David. "Most WW2 vehicles in France and Great Britain used 6V batteries. Only after the war did 12V batteries became common for all vehicles."



"For the transmissions from France on Sunday (8th May) they were operating a B2 suitcase radio from Châteauroux, so I displayed a B2," said David. "But I also brought along a B1 – the very one used in 1941."

David also came armed with a Paraset built in the radio workshops at Whaddon Hall to show visitors.

"I demonstrated also a MK3 transmitter belonging to Bob Hornby who lived at No. 1 High Street, Whaddon," revealed David.



Mk3 transmitters were **initially made** at Whaddon Hall

"Bob built much of this equipment in the garage of his house (this garage is still there today). He did this between late 1939 until early 1941 when it moved into the new radio workshops at Whaddon Hall."

Production of the Paraset (known only as an MK7 at Whaddon Hall where first built) was moved to Little Horwood later in WW2. This small, lightweight low-power transmitter/receiver gave about 5W of power. As a small suitcase it proved ideal for transportation; an early example of miniaturization.

The military wanted to build the Paraset at the Bontex Knitting mills in Beresford Avenue in London NW10. Military officials decided additionally, because of its compact design, it would be ideal equipment to send

with agents parachuted into enemy territory – this fostered the name Paraset.

As to the type of battery powering the sets, David explained that these could be very small or very large. Much depended upon the current capacity.

"For example, I have a 1934 accumulator," David added. "These are extremely light and small and can be recharged repeatedly from mains supply. Old flash-lamp batteries would be ideal. Many were powered from the mains also. They did not need to use car batteries but they were employed. My supervisor at the radio station where I worked was one of these agents. He used small motorcycle 6V batteries, charging them from a small, silent steam generator at night. (He passed away last year aged 95)."

According to David, the quartet of radio operators on Windy Ridge on 9th May "had no difficulty" contacting the radio station at Châteauroux, despite using low power sets at each end.

"Many other radio amateurs contacted the French station as well as our own station," said David. "Anyone could listen in given they had a communications receiver – but NOT a domestic valve radio or transistor radio."

I asked David: "During WW2, how did they know a message would be coming through? Were there appointed hours when agents could send signals? Or did 'listening' take place 24 hours a day?"

David replied: "At the Grendon Underwood and Poundon Special Operations Executive (SOE) stations, there was continuous listening watch. Up to 30 young ladies of the first aid nursing yeomanry could be listening round the clock."

David added: "They knew which frequency to listen to because each agent had a set of transmitting crystals issued to them. These were recorded in England on issue. So very often, those 'listening' knew exactly who would calling by the particular frequency being used. Agents had to give their own unique coded call-sign so UK 'listeners' knew it was the correct person operating the set."

David concluded: "Only male operators were used at Whaddon and Windy Ridge. This was likewise the case at Nash, Weald and Calverton."



The HRO is said to be the 'finest creation' to emerge from the National Company Inc. of Malden, Mass., USA.



Left: As fresh breezes tug threateningly at the flimsy gazebo sheltering delicate radio equipment on Windy Ridge, Whaddon Parish Council Clerk Suzanne Lindsay and radio expert David Wells study an original 1941 Ordnance Survey map of Whaddon.

As a final note, David White, John Pether, Peter Davies and David Wells are members of the Milton Keynes Radio Society, with David White and John Pether serving as volunteers at the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park which David used to run. ♦

Words and photographs: John Mortimer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Calverton's WW2 Radio Stations

CALVERTON Records Project is researching its village's role as a World War 2 radio station associated with Bletchley Park's communications centre at Whaddon Hall. There were two radio stations in Calverton that we would like to learn more about.

The first near Upper Weald (and therefore named Weald station) was located just off Calverton Lane and comprised a wooden hut (now long gone) with space for some 10 radio operators, a sentry box by the gate, and a brick-built generator shed which is still standing today. The aerials were strung from some 20 wooden masts set out across the three adjacent fields forming part of what is now Weald Leys Farm.

The second transmitting station was in a field (part of Manor Farm) to the south of Calverton Church where the Alms houses are located. A track (called Gibb Lane) runs along the northern boundary of the field which was then lined by tall elm trees. The aerial masts were hidden amongst these trees (which sadly succumbed to Dutch Elm disease sometime after the war). However the remains of the small brick generator shed still stands about half way out along the track and, about 40 yards to the south of it in the middle of the field, can be seen the concrete foundations of the radio operator's building. This was constructed from pre-cast concrete sections described as being like 'butler sinks set on edge and then bolted together'. This Calverton station was operated by four civilian members of the US Technical Corps who were possibly billeted in the village.

We would like to find out more about the men who operated both of these stations and particularly the radio contacts they made with the secret agents in occupied Europe, as well as details of the equipment and techniques they used.

If you can shed light on these matters please contact me. ♦

David Muston

Email: david@davidmustondesign.co.uk

Small heritage groups

AS A regular reader of *Whaddon Quarterly*, and being interested in the history of the village where my mother grew up at Home Farm, it was interesting to read of your interview with Evelyn.

You may be interested to know that there are many small 'village' heritage groups in and around Milton Keynes such as those at Calverton, Shenley, Brickhill, Tingewick and Lavenham which are members of Milton Keynes Heritage Association. These can be viewed at <http://mkheritage.co.uk>. Some of these groups have regular meetings and several dozen members, others are just a handful of people with an interest in their village. It would be good to know if anyone in Whaddon would like to set up such a group.

Readers of the *Whaddon Quarterly* may like to know that there is a significant amount of archive material relating to Whaddon at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies (the County Record Office) in the basement of the County Hall in Aylesbury. This includes a large pre-

enclosure map dated 1844 (IR49Q), papers relating to opposition to the enclosure (DFR/229/5) and notebooks of Wigley Estate Agents at Winslow, which include valuations of many Whaddon farms. ◇

Robert Excell

(MKHA Membership Secretary)

Developer's blinkered approach

Much is justified these days in the name of *sustainability*. On their website, Taylor Wimpey (TW) admit that *sustainability* is "the latest corporate buzz word."

They seek to define it as "supporting not only the environment, but also the society and the economy." They go on to say that "you can't focus on one element of the community to the detriment of the others."

The strapline of TW's advisor RSK says, "Sustainable development means meeting our needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

I'm sure that Milton Keynes Council have equally fine words and lofty objectives. So where did it all go wrong? The TW housing development at the end of the Shenley Road will close the Wiggly Road for 12-18 months. Our access to Westcroft shopping, GP surgery and beyond is to be cut and we were not consulted.

The social and economic issues are many, as the RSK representative finally realized at the Parish Council meeting of 21st July. Our access will not be "kept going continuously". Our society and our economy has been disregarded.

TW are completely blinkered to our very existence and the side-effect of their development is entirely to our detriment; our needs, safety and well-being have been ignored.

Traffic coming off the A421, because vehicular satnavs indicate so, will end up driving through our village. Some may decide to return to the A421. Chaos and confusion will reign. Coddimoor Lane will be as busy as the A421 rush-hour.

Many of you will foresee *sustainability* problems arising with institutions and businesses based in our village. What proportion of children attending our primary school or the playgroup travel *into* Whaddon? How many participating in Whaddon WI or the Chase Choir travel *from outside* the village? Will any plan to resuscitate the Lowndes Arms be viable?

I hope that all will join me in writing to TW, RSK, MKC, BCC, AVDC and John Bercow in an endeavour to put pressure on TW to abandon the idea of a road closure. **We must act quickly!**

Finally, we have to consider the 'end game'. By the time this housing development is complete, the Wiggly Road will be a litter of parked cars and traffic calming measures. How much easier it would be if Chaffron Way (H7) could be extended to junction with the Shenley Road. ◇

R E Porter

Vicarage Road
Whaddon

Florence Iris Parrott 1920-2016

FLORRIE: Florence Iris Ridgeway, was born 13th April 1920 in Masborough, Rotherham, and baptised a month later on 12th May in St John's Church, Masborough. Her parents, William and Florence Ridgeway, having already lost children, adopted a young girl before Florrie's arrival. Perhaps not surprisingly, Florrie grew up into a strong-minded and determined young woman.

Florrie became a Christian in her teens and joined the local Methodist Church where she flourished as an enthusiastic and dedicated member. She found friends there and spoke with great joy of the holidays they had together working at Christian hotels on the Yorkshire coast.

Her parents ran a newspaper shop in Rotherham and Florrie would help her parents in the running of their shop in King Street, Masborough. She would tell people how she would be up at 5 am to deliver newspapers on her bicycle when newspaper boys failed to turn up. Following her parents' deaths, Florrie maintained the shop until eventually she decided to sell it. Florrie remained unmarried until in her 30s.



Gordon and Florrie's wedding

She recounted how, one afternoon, being invited by friends to tea, she met a young man from Whaddon, Gordon Parrott, who had come to visit relatives in Rotherham. They soon fell in love and married. Florrie says she knew right away that Gordon was the one for her. Presumably he felt the same way. During their courtship they would write regularly to each other, sometimes even on a daily basis.

The couple married on 7th June 1958 in St Paul's Church, Masborough and, after a short time living with Gordon's mother Nellie, set up home later that year at 19 Post Office Row (also known as Post Office Yard). Later, Gordon bought a house in Vicarage Road.

With Gordon already an Anglican, Florrie happily embraced Anglicanism and became a dedicated member of St Mary's Church. She also forged links with the Congregational Church and became equally at ease in both – a true ecumenist. Gordon worked as undergardener at Whaddon Hall and then at Bletchley Park.

Florrie's happy days with Gordon proved to be short-lived for, when they had been married six years, he died as a result of a motorcycle accident. Following Gordon's untimely death, Florrie's friends in Rotherham thought she would return to the place of her birth; instead she chose to remain in Whaddon and look after Nellie, her mother-in-law, then living on her own and to whom Florrie had become attached. Eventually, Florrie went to live with Nellie at 16 Vicarage Road.

This is not unlike the story in *The Bible* of Ruth, who remained loyal to her mother-in-law; Ruth refused to return to her own people but said that Naomi's people would be her people. Florrie also truly came to regard the people of Whaddon as 'her people'.

Florrie looked after Nellie until the end of her life in 1976; as a result, Florrie spent many years living on her own, but was well supported by friends and family.

Florrie was at ease with everyone she met. On one occasion, at a Church event, she saw the Bishop standing on his own. She gave him a hug, as he looked lonely, saying: "Come on love, let's have a dance." And, indeed, when anyone visited Florrie – she always



Florrie with Gordon's mother in Post Office Row, Whaddon.

had an 'open-door policy' – her first words invariably were: "Hello love. Come and have a cup of tea. How about a biscuit." She was indeed a very cheerful soul.

When she became the proud owner of a car, Florrie had to pass the national driving test. John Dagg, with a small driving school, provided driving lessons. For practice she would drive round Reg Faulkner's paddock at Park's Farm (nestling behind *The Lowndes Arms*) with Nellie at her side. After several attempts, the ever-determined Florrie passed.

Seemingly, once given the official 'green light', nothing could stop Florrie in her travels. For these, she owned several cars in her time as a driver, including a split-screen Morris Minor, a Skoda and a navy-blue Fiat 'Burlington'.

She would cover long distances to visit relatives or to go for holidays. For example, she motored to Rotherham with her good friend Alice Justice – quite a journey. (Alice Justice – née Greener – passed away on 21st March 2012, aged 90.) Other travels in the car took in Wales and Scotland. Michael Green in the village would service her car. Florrie proved to be a good friend to Alice; their strong religious beliefs brought them together. Other good friends included Millie Salway and Evelyn Jaworski – they were often seen together. Florrie used her car frequently also in the service of the community, taking many older people shopping or for appointments in surrounding towns.

Florrie worked for a time at Cigarette Components Ltd. on the Denbigh factory estate in Bletchley, as well as Rodex, which made women's clothes, and at Horwood House. Built in 1911, Horwood House served as a country house for the Denny family. Famous gardener Percy Thrower was born in the gardener's cottage, his father being head gardener – a position Percy later occupied.

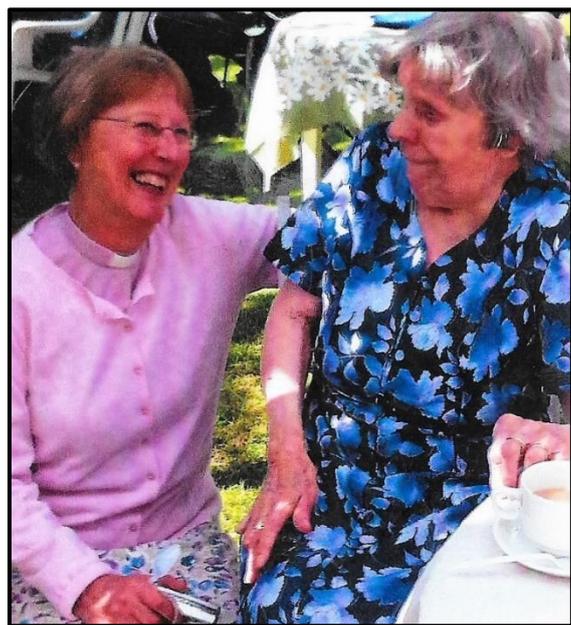
Florrie worked hard for the Church and taught for a while in Sunday School alongside Alice. On occasions she would play the organ, both at Whaddon and Tattenhoe. For many years she engaged heartily as a keen bell ringer – her husband, who taught her, was a good peel ringer and rang at

many 10-bell and 12-bell towers. As a notable fund-raiser, Florrie ran stalls at fetes and bazaars; in more recent years the coffee mornings held in her orchard became ever popular. She always had a smile on her face.

Outgoing, kind and friendly Florrie became known to almost everyone in the village. No one could resist her friendly words and cheerful smile. She joined the Nash Fellowship; playing the keyboard well into her 90s Florrie established many firm friendships wherever she went.

Florrie had an undying love of cats. At one time she owned three at the same time and offered food to a number of strays; these seemed to pass the word around that No 16 Vicarage Road was a good place for a meal. And it wasn't just cats that found a welcome in her home; there are many people who could speak highly of her kind hospitality and help in times of need.

Florrie's 90th birthday party marked a great celebration; one attended by her many friends. On that occasion she said she had no wish to live to 100. Well,



A common bond: Rev. Gussie and Florrie at her last Garden Party in Vicarage Road

she made it to 96, with the last three years of her life spent at Beckett House, Loughton where she endeared herself to all, having settled down quickly. Throughout her stay, Florrie remained her cheerful self, loved by residents and staff alike. Only in the last few weeks did her spark flicker. It being time to go home, she passed away peacefully.

Shining through her life emerged her deep commitment to Jesus, her Lord and Saviour, whom she regarded as the closest of friends. She knew in her heart the love of God and she once said simply and with absolute sincerity: "I love Him and He loves me." It is a great comfort to those who loved her to know that, alongside her beloved Gordon, she is now with Jesus in Heaven, where she will have received the most wonderful welcome. ♦

Florrie and the Mothers' Union

I WAS sorry to learn of the sad news about Florrie. Florrie served as Treasurer of the Whaddon Mothers' Union for many years and was a devoted member who gave her all to the movement.

I became branch leader in 1991 and was grateful for all the help and support she gave me from her past experiences. We held our monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month with Florrie playing a hymn chosen by one of our members. She also liked to read the Mothers' Union prayer at the end of our meeting.

Whaddon Mothers' Union formed part of the Mursley with Claydon Deanery which included churches from as far afield as Ivinghoe and Waddesdon. Whenever we attended a service, nearly all the members within the Deanery recognised her. She was certainly well known and loved.

Florrie loved all the outings that were arranged, especially that on Lady Day which was held in Oxford, as well as our trips to Salisbury, Bath, Bristol and many more.

Our December meetings were always enjoyable as Florrie would play Christmas carols and we all enjoyed singing along to the music.

I could go on and on about all the good you did in Whaddon, Florrie. You will be greatly missed. Rest in peace. ♦

Bette Coe

Whaddon School May Fayre 2017

As you know for many years the May Fayre has been on Monday May Bank holiday. The Friends of Whaddon would like to see what villagers think about the possibility of having it on the Sunday before the Bank Holiday Monday. It does mean that if we were to change this that next year we would change it to Sunday, 30th April. Our thoughts for this are:

- Should the weather be kind, we could continue into the evening with dancing and more barbecuing, should there be an interest for this.
- Such an arrangement means some clearing up could be completed next day, on Monday. The last May Fayre, as many of you will know, suffered from very wet weather and, as a result, we could not take down gazebos until Tuesday – a school day and work day for many of our helpers.

However, I am mindful that there are negatives as well and as such would like to hear what your thoughts are. So please email me your thoughts at Friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com ♦

Many thanks

Michelle

FoW Chairperson



Whaddon Chapel

September 2016

'Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.' Hebrews 1v1-3

WE LIVE in a world full of opinion. Whether this is an opinion on politics or politicians, a football team's performance this season or just the weather. With so many subjective opinions, it seems that objective fact or Truth has gone out of fashion. When it comes to things that truly matter, Christians do not simply hold an opinion: they hold to facts.

Christians do not need to rely on man-made ideas or philosophies – we believe that God has revealed himself to us. This revelation is contained in the Bible. Why guess when you can hear from God himself?

So, to buck a trend in opinion, let's consider some Truths.

The Bible states that God made us, but we want to run things our own way. In doing so, we reject God as ruler and attempt to live without him. God can't let this injustice go unpunished forever. Our rebellion deserves death.

God desires us to love him with all our might and love our neighbours as ourselves. In this we clearly fail. More than that, Jesus confronts us with the fact that our hearts are evil. (You don't need to look far to realise this). Worse still, we can't do a thing to save ourselves from this state.

The Bible states Jesus is one with God. It reminds us that he is co-Creator of us and all we see. The Bible states that Jesus as the Son of God has a special task; It also calls him 'Christ' or 'Messiah', both of which mean the One promised by God. What was it that Jesus was promised to do? Jesus came to save. He is powerful to save – controlling nature, healing disease, raising people to life. Better still, Jesus is our ransom. Jesus came to die so that sinful people can be rescued. God did what we can't do for ourselves: he provided a means of being saved – faith in Jesus can bring eternal life.

Great. But can you hear the challenge? The Bible doesn't require us to form an opinion, but to make a decision: If Jesus is all this, then what does that mean *for me*?

Why not join us to find out more? You'll be very welcome.

Regular meetings

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

WHADDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



WI's 80th Birthday Cake.

WE started May by going down the carnival route with our float, with Rio being the theme for this year. Then, still in party mood a week later, we had our eightieth birthday when 70 members from the Tally Ho Group (drawn from five local institutions) came along to celebrate the event with us (photographs by Jane Porter). The WI is the longest surviving organisation to have existed in Whaddon. It was all a bit

hectic. June saw us visiting the Chafor Wines Estate at Gawcott where we gained an insight into wine making.

We were shown the different varieties of grapes grown, the maintenance and harvesting of the fruit through to the process of making the different wines. Finally, we had a session of wine tasting. It was all very interesting.



Evelyn is among those enjoying the WI's birthday.

For our July meeting we had a visit by Mr. Alan Copland who, with the aid of his slides, showed us some of the Curiosities of the Chilterns, and the facts behind the curios. In August we are visiting the Clophill EcoCentre. This has been arranged by Jane Waight, our secretary, and her daughter who works there.

Our continued thanks to all who support Tuesday Teas, and not forgetting the cake makers.

We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Jubilee Hall at 2pm; everyone is welcome.

For further information please telephone 01908 301987.



Susan White
President
July 2016

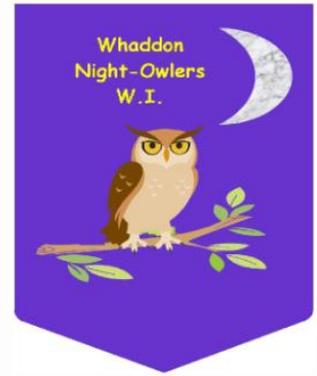


WI President Susan White cuts the cake with Margaret Barrie, who now leads the Tally Ho Group.

Whaddon Night Owlers WI

YOU MAY NOT have realised that The WI has a long history of campaigning to improve life for people in this country and abroad.

Campaigns are about tackling issues that matter to the membership and range from equal pay and climate change to gaps in the midwifery workforce and the plight of the bumble bee.



The first campaign started in 1921 and urged women to “accept their full responsibilities as citizens in whatever way they may be called upon to service their country” and to open up jury service to all. Quite ambitious!

In 1943 the campaign was for “equal pay for equal work.” A long time before it became law in the 1970s! But the WI has always been ahead of the game.

The year 1975 saw the WI informing members about the importance of breast examination and lobbying for more clinics. The national screening programme began in 1988.

More recently, the SOS for the Honey Bees Campaign was launched in 2009 and we joined with Friends of the Earth to lobby for more national leadership – the National Pollinator Strategy was launched in 2014.

We are now starting to look at resolutions for next year – there are so many things still to do. Current resolution issues include climate change, talking about organ donation, fair deals for dairy farmers and fast fashion.

Here at WNOWI we are starting to look at what we want to feed into the process. Over the next few meetings we will be asking members to come forward with their concerns and priorities. Do you have something you feel strongly about?

Do you want to be involved in a community of women who get things done? If so, pop along to a meeting on the third Wednesday of the month in the Jubilee Hall. We begin at 7 for 7.30pm. Drinks, refreshments and friendship all available!

Contact Ann Bennett on 07854 577402 or Daphne on daphneroberta@gmail.com for further information – look forward to seeing you! ◆

Alison Cross

The Daisy Foundation in Marston, Bedfordshire, is a local pregnancy class that allows pregnant women to relax and spend time bonding with their unborn baby?

The aim is to ease pregnancy-related aches and pains, including SPD and PGP; added to which is the opportunity to meet other mums that are expecting?

Daisy Birthing offers all of this and more! Combining antenatal education, active birthing principles, breathing techniques and birth hypnosis. Daisy uses yoga-based movement to link body to breathing and movement...exactly where it will be needed on baby's birthing day.

The next term starts on Sunday 14th August 12:00-13:30pm at [akarmalife Studios](#) in Marston. Each term lasts six weeks and costs £60. From 25th September this will be increasing to £65 per term (10% discount available for anyone re-booking).

For further details send an email to kerri-jones@thedaisyfoundation.com

Evelyn Remembers...2

In this, the second of three articles, Evelyn, who was eight when World War 2 started, describes some of her wartime experiences to Margaret Barrie and John Mortimer.

"WE thought it very exciting,' she told us. "All those soldiers with tanks and guns and goodness knows what else. We thought it wonderful. The soldiers used to have mock battles and we were told at school that should we see movement in a ditch, we were not to go and look as it might be soldiers practising."

Evelyn's memories of wartime are as vivid now as the day that events unfolded.

"The soldiers had blackened faces with eyes that seemed to stare out at you," she added. "We were told also that if an aeroplane flew overhead we were to lie flat on the ground and pretend to be dead."

"Fortunately, we never had to do that, although we did have bombers flying over during 1940. That would be before the evacuees arrived in 1941."

Also vivid in Evelyn's memory is the occasion when an army battle tank became lodged in Shenley Road, creating a hold-up for traffic. The tank had to be manoeuvred into a nearby field and the soldier in charge let Evelyn sit at the controls; Ron, her brother, stood behind. Ron, two years younger than his sister, tapped Evelyn on the shoulder, startling her.

"He made me jump," she said, before adding "The soldier regularly visited a house near-by, later occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Weatherby. As well as having a shave, the soldier stayed on longer to enjoy an bacon and egg breakfast. It seems the lady who lived in the house at the time had a nephew (later killed in action) who was a friend of the soldier," explained Evelyn.

Indelibly imprinted on Evelyn's mind are memories of when enemy 'planes dropped bombs.

"I remember when the bombs were dropped," said Evelyn. "I never heard such a noise in all my life. I was later told they were Stuka dive-bombers."

Evelyn explained: "They dropped the bombs all the way across here; all the way to Shenley where Westbury Farm used to be. My uncle's brother, Tom Gascoigne, used to live there with his dad. Tom used to play the organ at the church here in Whaddon. He played for many years."

"They were all in bed when the bombs were dropped and poor Mr. Gascoigne – his dad – went running into the house."

"Tom, Tom are you alright?' he asked."

"Tom was fast still asleep," said Evelyn. "He had not heard a thing. Yet the ceiling was lying on his bed. He never felt it come down!"

Evelyn returned to the subject of the German Junkers Stuka bomber aircraft, notorious for their screaming sound as they dive-bombed a target. Such aircraft were known as the 'sirens of death'.

"They made a terrific noise," said Evelyn. "When they dropped the five bombs between here and Shenley they must have had an inkling about the railway at Bletchley. They made our night-lights on the dressing table jump up and down."

"Mum had a little oil lamp by her bed as a night-light. I used to watch it jump up and down when the bombs fell," said Evelyn. "It was truly amazing

The policeman lived in a house opposite the Chapel. The house no longer exists. He used the car shown here.



the lamp didn't fall over. It could have set the whole house alight. We obviously weren't meant to die that night."

"We had more bombs after that around Calverton and Stony Stratford. As we were going on the school bus one morning, through Nash and Beachampton, we noticed houses which had suffered direct hits. All the people in the houses were killed."

Then there was the occasion of the 'pencil bombs'.

"Mrs. Sutton, our teacher, told us not to pick up any pencils we found on the ground. 'They are pencil bombs,' she told us. 'Or they might be.'" said Evelyn.

Likewise, Evelyn remembers the night bombs rained down on the city of Coventry during the famous bombing raid.

The first air raid on Coventry took place on 25th June 1940. Others followed between 25th August and 31st October 1940. But the main blitz on the city took place on Thursday 14th November 1940 when the combination of a cloudless sky at night and a full hunter's moon lit up the 'blackout' and illuminated the city. Sirens sounded just before 7pm and before long incendiary bombs were raining down from the sky on the defenceless city.

"Apparently, if you stood on Church Hill at the time, you could see the glow of the fires; so people at the time said," declared Evelyn. "I remember the drone of the aircraft went on all night."

Helping the war effort

Evelyn tells how during the war, the Rev E A Selby-Lowndes, vicar of St Mary's Church in Whaddon, lived for some years in the old vicarage. A few years before he retired, however, he had a house built at King's Close where he lived for a while afterwards. (The King family farmed locally.)

His wife was a French lady. He had been a padre in the First World War and it was possibly in France where he met his wife, Martha. On retirement, the Rev Selby-Lowndes went to live in Kent and the incumbent vicar used the former vicarage for some time.

The Rev Selby-Lowndes's wife and others organised food parcels to be sent to troops overseas. And to do this, some village women saved their rations to make fruit cakes for the soldiers. Several of the men wrote letters of thanks.

"The letters were handed to the church warden at the time; he was my uncle, Hugh," said Evelyn. "I found the letters after he died when I cleared the house."

Evelyn has one or two of these letters now, still carefully folded.

Accordingly, in these hand-written letters, the troops expressed their thanks to those back home. For example, 1075295 Gunner Robinson of the Mobile Battery, Royal Artillery, based at the Headquarters Section of Europa, Gibraltar wrote the following letter on 20th November 1940:

"My Dear Sir, thank you very much for the parcel that I received on 20/11/1940. It took quite a long time to get here, but the cake was very nice. Although it was very hard but I still enjoyed it. So again, I thank you and the people of Whaddon for your kindness. I remain, yours truly.

P.S. Missing you all and a merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

During the war, a number of evacuees came to live in the village. They were aged between 11 and 16 and the practice was quite widespread at the time.



Vicarage Road with its village shop and public house in the days of long skirts, cycles and horse power.

Many came from London to escape the effects of bombing raids on the city.

"I would have been eight and Ron would have been six when Mum said she would like to take in an evacuee," she said.

"My brother and I went to collect our new evacuee," explained



This grainy picture, possibly from the 1920s, shows the police house in what is today Stock Lane

Evelyn. "Mum said she wanted a little girl who could share my room, because the boys had the back bedroom and mum and dad had the front."

"So we went along to the Village Hall and stood outside waiting for them to arrive. All at once this big girl came over and said: 'I'm coming home with you'. I thought at the time:

'Well, you're not very little. You're as big as my mum'. The girls were aged between 14 and 16."

"Anyway, we went home with this big girl," continued Evelyn. "The village had been expecting younger children to come first, with the older ones coming later. But it happened the other way round. They were too old to go to the village school, so there was nowhere for them to go. They couldn't have the Village Hall as the army had taken it over. So the Chapel allowed them to use their meeting room – and that became their school."

Evelyn provides insight into life with evacuees living in the village.

"You could hear their typewriters going clank, clank, clank, till you couldn't hear yourself speak," she said. "They came from North Paddington Girls School, but only half the school came. I learnt no end of shorthand while Iris was with us. But, of course, when she went home I forgot it all. My mother used to call it 'pothooks and hangers.'"

In another episode, Evelyn was walking past the Village Hall one day.

"Two soldiers were setting up a gun of some sort. One of them called out: 'Have you got any big sisters, darling?'"

Evelyn couldn't think why they were asking her!

"No," Evelyn replied. "But we do have an evacuee."

As Evelyn was only eight at the time, and Iris 14, the evacuee seemed "terribly old".

Iris did not stay long with the Dormer family

"We did keep in touch until a few years ago," said Evelyn. "As she was six years older than me she has probably passed away by now as I haven't heard from her for a few years. But I did go to her wedding."

Recounting more idyllic times before the war, Evelyn remembers when Mr. Jones, the postman, used a bicycle to deliver the mail. On his journey from Nash, Whaddon would be his next port of call.

"When he arrived he would ask: 'Are you coming for a ride, my duck?' recalled Evelyn. "Ron and I would take it in turns to ride on the parcel carrier at the front of the bike. He would take us to Tattenhoe Bare Farm to deliver the post and then bring us back. My youngest brother, Doug, would have been too young. He might have fallen off!"

Next time: Love and marriage.

Please do not park on the pavement

In the 'good old days', such as those depicted in Evelyn Remembers, cars were few and far between. Today, as we know, life is different. But pavement parking remains dangerous. It can obstruct the footway and force pedestrians into the path of vehicular traffic. This is particularly dangerous for people with sight loss who are unable to see moving vehicles, as well as for those with reduced activity, wheelchairs, mobility scooter users and parents with buggies and small children. A survey by the charity Guide Dogs found that 90 per cent of both sighted and visually-impaired respondents cited parking as the main obstacle they encountered in the street. ◆

Treasure under Whaddon CofE School?

Is there treasure buried beneath new classrooms proposed for Whaddon CofE School? Did a Roman soldier drop a silver denarii on Viatores Road? Can you almost hear the tramp of marching Roman soldiers? Did a woodsman leave more than his axe behind in Thickbare Wood? Or its near-neighbour, Thinbare Wood?

WHATEVER the history of these parts, in planning terms, erecting a couple of additional classrooms is a far cry from 50 years ago. Every minutiae is unearthed and probed from planning perspectives.

And so Historic Environment Records (HER) become valuable, explaining what happened in and around the school in the last 1,000 years or more.

And, down the years, things *have* happened. The earliest prehistoric remains lie within 1km of the classroom; they include a Neolithic polished flint axe at Thickbare Wood, while the potential site of a Bronze Age bowl barrow has been identified at Church Hill. The site remains unexcavated with several interpretations suggested for its origins, including a Bronze Age or Romano-British/Saxon barrow, a medieval motte or a post-medieval windmill mound.

Farther afield, within a 1.25km radius is a moated site, fishponds and the deserted medieval village of Tattenhoe with its 'high value' Church of St. Giles. In addition to the Bronze Age bowl barrow there is the Snelshall Benedictine Priory to the northeast.

Evidence points to a Roman Viatores Road; its projected line ran parallel to Coddimoor Lane, through the school playing field and on to Shenley Wood. However, no actual evidence of the road has yet been found.

Metalwork relating to the Romano-British period has been recovered during excavations of medieval manorial remains close to the proposed classrooms.

First Whaddon settlements

Records of the first settlement at Whaddon date from AD966-75 and is recorded as Hwætædun, from the Old English hwæte-dun, meaning 'wheat hill'.

Whaddon existed in the Domesday survey in 1086; it records Wadone's population of 14 villagers with nine smallholder households and 10 slaves within the holdings of Walter Giffard. The land holding ran to 10 hides, with one hide able to support a household. One hide is about 48.5 hectares or 120 acres. Set among arable fields, meadow and woodland, Whaddon's linear arrangement may date back to medieval times and a medieval village.

Following the death of Walter Giffard in 1164, the manor reverted to the Crown. The King then granted it to Richard de Humetis, Constable of Normandy before 1175. The manor passed through various prominent families throughout the medieval period and into the post-medieval.

Medieval remains probably exist in the 12th-13th century hermitage and priory at Coddimoor Farm where a medieval lead coffin emerged during a cellar enlargement. The hermitage became part of the Benedictine Snelshall Priory, set up in the 12th century but dissolved in 1535 and later to fall into ruins.

The hermitage is within Whaddon Chase, an important medieval hunting forest, in existence since the 13th century. The Chase became established across pre-existing heathland/woodland by at least the mid-13th century with the deer park only disparked in the 19th century.

Oldest surviving building

James I in 1616 passed Whaddon manor to Sir George Villiers, named Lord Whaddon of Whaddon and subsequently Duke of Buckingham in 1623. Parliament seized his estate during the English Civil War. Although restored in 1647, renewed activity in support of the Royalists of his son, the Second

Further information can be found in Historic Environmental Record (HER) of *Whaddon CofE School Historic Environmental Desk Based Assessment*. AH Report Ref AH400 and AH400/1, Armour Heritage Ltd., Greystone Cottage, Trudoxhill, Frome. BA11 5DP

Duke of Buckingham, the manorial estates were again seized a year later. The Duke of Buckingham recovered the estate again at the Restoration.

The built heritage within Whaddon's historic core and Conservation Area comprises 16th-17th century timber-framed houses and other 18th and 19th century dwellings, probably attesting to a degree of urban expansion during the later post-medieval period.

The Church of St. Mary is Whaddon's oldest surviving building. It dates from the early 12th century, when it consisted of chancel and nave. The end of the 12th century saw it extended with a north aisle; later came the south aisle and a small bay at the east end of the north arcade. In the first half of the 14th century, it is likely the chancel and aisles were rebuilt. Then the west tower and north chapel were also added.

Well-preserved earthworks at Snelshall Priory, visible in aerial photographs, include a complex water management system of drainage channels, fishponds and many monastic buildings.

Whaddon retained its medieval character until the enclosure of 1833; likewise Whaddon Chase in 1840. For its part, Whaddon Hall replaced its medieval predecessor in 1820. Some 16th century records show a dovecote and garden, with physical remains of a dam or ha-ha and an ice-house

within its gardens. By the early 19th century, a park and garden were created at Whaddon Hall and the HER records a number of features relating to this period. The majority of woodland and areas of common heathland were lost to enclosure.

Archaeological evidence

The earliest recorded archaeological evidence for medieval occupation relates to excavations completed 200m northwest of the village church. Excavations identified the substantial remains of a manorial complex dating from the 12th-14th centuries, comprising a hall, solar undercroft, barn, kitchen, gatehouse, smithy and carpenter's workshop set around a cobbled yard. Large numbers of finds included pottery dating back to the 10th century, painted and stained window glass and wooden objects preserved in a cistern.

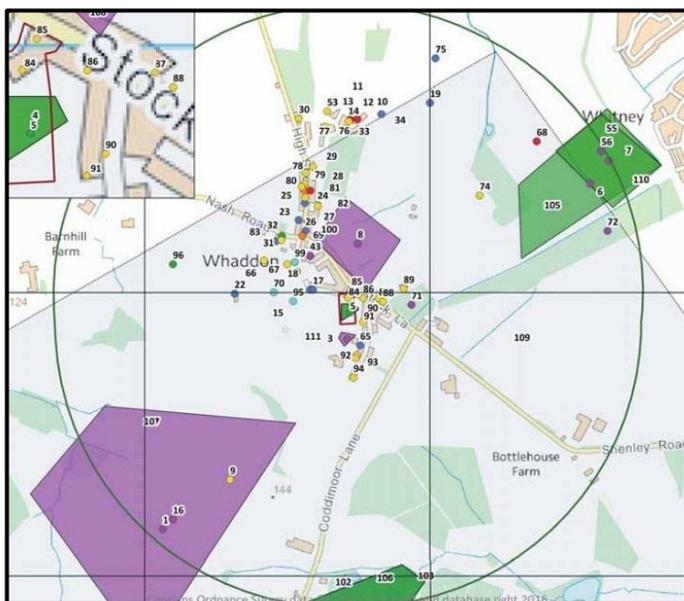
Limited evidence is also recorded for a park

pale, possibly relating to Queen's Park, a medieval deer park north of Whaddon Chase and between Nash and Whaddon. Queen's Park is linked to Whaddon by an embanked green lane, now a public right of way. Beyond the Church of St. Mary, there is a small number of late medieval buildings, for example 15 High Street and 3 Nash Road, both preserved as Grade II Listed Buildings. Much of the setting for the new classroom will be taken up by an undated pond.

The HER records several post-medieval and later buildings and sites near the new classrooms, including records of an 18th century cottage 150m to the south of the new classrooms, off Vicarage Road, and a 17th century vicarage and almshouses on Church Lane.

Some 220m to the north there are records of "a series of house platforms and streets". These have been tentatively interpreted as shrunken village remains dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods, although no coherent street pattern has been identified.

Vicarage Road and parts of Stock Lane represents predominantly 19th century development, including the original school building of 1811. This part of Whaddon, Pink's End, has its origins in common edge settlement of the 17th to 18th centuries. Vicarage Road follows the western extent of the former Whaddon Common with 19th century houses along its western side. Houses along its east side are of 20th century construction.



Medieval-to-modern historic data in the area of Whaddon School shows the cluster of activity.

During the Second World War, Whaddon became an important communications centre. Earlier, in 1938, the communications department of MI6 was moved, with the Government Code and Cypher School, from Westminster to nearby Bletchley Park.

Whaddon Hall became headquarters of Special Operations Group. At Windy Ridge, a two-way radio station with a radio operating hut and a tele-printer hut were established. The foundations survive. Following WW2, Windy Ridge station continued in use for several years before closing.

Earliest maps of Whaddon

The earliest map referenced is John Speed's map of Buckingham, dated to 1611. This identifies Whaddon and Whaddon Chase.

A hand-drawn and tinted parish plan of 1779 shows the proposed new classrooms as occupying part of an L-shaped plot off the junction of Stock Lane and Church Lane, adjacent to land held by the Vicarage.

The first edition 1881 Ordnance Survey map shows Whaddon School – annotated School (Boys & Girls) – with a playground to the south. A narrow lane joins Church Lane to Stock Lane, effectively separating the school from the open field to the south. A large pond with trees accounts for a significant depression in the ground. The general area is annotated as Pink's End, with the mound on Church Hill shown as tree-lined.

John Mortimer



WHADDON BOOK CLUB

"The past is another country – they do things differently there." The famous first line of L.P. Hartley's great novel, *The Go-Between*, captivated me and other members of our Book Club from the start.

It is a story of extraordinary sensitivity and insight into the uncertain and uncomfortable world of early adolescence; an awakening into greater sexual awareness, growing realization of adult selfishness, deceit and unscrupulous manipulation. All this is explored through the eyes of the young Leo Colston. It is related in the first person, making the reader feel drawn in more intimately to the often painful and always silent emotional sufferings of the young boy.

We relive with him his holiday during the summer of 1900. He spent this at Brandham Hall, the rather splendid country home of his school friend Marcus Maudsley. Here, he experiences his first real crush. The object of his love is Marcus' elder sister, Marian. She uses him shamelessly as a go-between to meet her lover secretly. Ted Burgess, a tenant farmer, would not have been accepted by her family.

At the beginning of the book, Leo is in his mid-sixties. He is reflecting back to that fateful summer, hence the opening line. We learn that the traumatic experience of this holiday arrested his emotional development for the rest of his life.

Reflecting back in this way proves to be a clever device which adds to the haunting atmosphere of the beautifully written book.

The book is many layered and comes highly recommended by our book club.

We decided on a complete contrast of genre for our next book and moved easily from great literary fiction to Chick Lit for a relaxing holiday read! Namely, *The Oyster Catcher*, by Jo Thomas.

We all decided also that, although very light and rather mediocre in style, it was good fun and we certainly knew a great deal about farming oysters by the end! ♦

Sue Norbury

SEA CADETS – TS WHADDON

This is your chance do all this....or any of it:
If you between 10 and 18 years old, then why not join us in 2016?



Left and below:
Kayaking or Rowing at Emberton Park,
Olney

Bottom left: Colours Parade, Kiln
Farm - 7pm Tuesdays

Bottom: TS Royalist in The
Solent



for information: telephone David Spencer 01908 502540 or contact Jamie Spink, 11, Ladymead



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - WHADDON

What a sad world we live in! Below are three recent warnings sent via Thames Alert on behalf of ActionFraud and of which you should be aware.

FAKE EMAIL ADDRESSES

THIS ALERT is a reminder to be aware of emails that appear to have been sent from a legitimate organisation. Fraudsters often use fake email addresses designed to encourage recipients to open attachments or links. You are advised that if you are in any doubt as to the origin of an email, do not open it. Consider that emails can be spoofed and used to generate spam to recipients far and wide. If you receive a spam email, you MUST NOT open it. Instead, delete it from your email system to avoid infecting your device. If you have opened an attachment from a spam email, you should get your device checked over by a professional and change the passwords for all your bank, email and online shopping accounts.

Protect yourself:

- Do not click or open unfamiliar links in emails or on websites.
- Make sure you install and use up-to-date anti-virus software.
- Have a pop-up blocker running in the background of your web browser.
- If you have opened an attachment and 'enabled macros' it is very likely that all your personal data will have been breached. You MUST change all your passwords for personal accounts, including your bank accounts.
- Ensure Adobe, Flash and any similar software is up to date on your computer.
- If you think you have been a victim of this type of email you should report the email to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud and cyber crime reporting centre:
www.actionfraud.police.uk If you do make a report please provide as much detail as you can about the email and any effects it has had on your computer. Additionally if your Anti-Virus software detects any issues in relation to this email please provide us with the details.

HMRC REBATE SCAM

Fraudsters are texting members of the public offering a tax rebate. The text message contains a link to a website and requests to provide personal information, such as bank account information, to claim the non-existent rebate.

Protect Yourself:

- Don't click on web links contained in unsolicited texts or emails.
- Never provide your personal information to a third party from an unsolicited communication.
- Obtain the genuine number of the organisation being represented and verify the legitimacy of the communication.
- HMRC will never use texts or emails or tell you about a potential rebate or ask for personal information.

- If you have provided personal information and you are concerned that your identity may be compromised consider Cifas Protection Registration.

ONLINE JOB RECRUITMENT

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) and Action Fraud have noticed a rise in the reporting of victims being recruited via Facebook to sell items for suspects on eBay – often stating that it is a quick way of making money.

The items are said to be bankrupt stock, purchased via auctions, and need to be sold on quickly. The majority of the items reported have been Apple MacBook Pro/Electrical Items.

The victim places the items on eBay and once the items are sold, the victim will get paid and transfer the funds to the suspect/recruiter.

Once the suspect/recruiter gets the funds, the purchasers are claiming that they have received empty cereal boxes or often no goods at all, leaving the victim being reported as the actual suspect, and leaving them out of pocket as their account will be debited.

Protect yourself:

- Consider conducting research on other information provided by the seller, for example: a mobile phone number or email address could alert you to negative information associated with the number/email address online.
- Be very cautious of unsolicited emails or approaches over social media promising opportunities to make easy money.
- When accepting offers, verify the company/entity details provided to you and check whether they have been registered in the UK.
- If you think the deal or offer is too good to be true then it probably is!

If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by this fraud or any other scam, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk

SUMMER BURGLARY CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

As we continue to experience warm weather we would like to take this opportunity to remind residents to keep your property safe and secure at all times.

Most burglars are opportunistic and a property that presents itself as insecure is far more likely to be targeted than one which is properly secured.

As the weather improves it is important that you do not leave ground floor windows or doors open and unlocked unless you are in that room – it only takes a second for someone to enter your home and take things without you noticing.

Please take a moment to have a look at our top tips for keeping your property secure over the summer;

- Always close and lock your windows and doors when leaving your property – even a small open window could entice a burglar.

- If you're in your garden make sure the windows and doors at the front of your property are secure.
- Do not leave valuables on display through windows.
- Any car or house keys should be out of sight and some distance from a window or door.
- Ensure that any side entrance is secure, locked and not easy to climb over, even when you're at home.
- If you want to leave windows open while you sleep, fit window restrictors so they cannot be fully opened.
- Consider installing a visible security light or alarm to deter criminals.
- If you're going on holiday make arrangements to make sure your house appears occupied whilst you're away. Put your lights on a timer, or ask a neighbour to come and pick up your mail and draw your curtains. Don't advertise the fact you're on holiday on social media.

We would also encourage you to register your high end valuables such as bikes, mobile phones, laptops etc. on the online property database [Immobilise](#). It's free to do so, only takes a couple of minutes and could help us reunite you with your property should it be stolen.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously please call the police either on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

If you don't want to speak directly to the police you can contact the independent charity [Crimestoppers](#) anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online.

For further advice on keeping your properties secure please visit our [website](#). ◇

YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS

Graham Stuart	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

Table Tennis

Join us in the Jubilee Hall

Singles and Doubles Admission only £1

All equipment provided

2 Tables available Rules explained

Coaching given School pupils welcome from age 8

Beginners or experts welcome

Contact Mark Carter: magcarter@hotmail.co.uk or just turn up



Winslow Community Bus



wdcbenquiries@btconnect.com

www.winslowbus.com

01296 715786

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 2 nd August	Buckingham bus.* Town and Tesco shopping
Thursday 4 th August	Lunch at the Black Boy in Oving. £4 travel.
Tuesday 9 th August	A chance to go on the Westminster to Greenwich boat trip with a few hours in the afternoon to explore Greenwich. £25 includes boat fare.
Thursday 11 th August	Westcroft bus.* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots, Pet shop etc.
Sunday 14 th August	Sunny Bournemouth! A day at the seaside! Only £20.00.
Monday 15 th August	Asda in Bletchley Shopping, M&S, H&M, £4.00.
Tuesday 16 th August	Visit Cotswold Wildlife Park - £18 includes entrance.
Thursday 18 th August	Visit Black Country Museum - £20.00 includes entrance.
Tuesday 23 rd August	Visit Wrest Park – Explore the evolution of the English garden with a stroll through three centuries of landscape design. From the dazzling parterres and fragrant borders, to sweeping views and woodland walks. Wrest Park is a real treat for the senses. £16.50 includes entrance. (£8.50 English Heritage members.)
Thursday 25 th August	Westcroft bus*.
Monday 29 th August	Come and see us at The Winslow Show!
Tuesday 30 th August	Thame market. Shopping. £5.00.
Thursday 1 st September	Visit to Stratford upon Avon. With the added option to visit Shakespeare's houses. £7.00
Tuesday 6 th September	Buckingham bus*. 1 hour in town, 1 hour in Tesco.
Thursday 8 th September	Westcroft bus*.
Tuesday 13 th Sept'ber	Visit Chiswick House – (English Heritage) – Fine example of neo-Palladian design, sumptuous interiors display and a rich collection of old paintings. Over 65 acres offer a unique oasis in the heart of London, including a Camelia collection and kitchen garden. £17.50 (£10.50 English Heritage members).
Thursday 15 th Sept'ber	Local lunch at The Oak in Aston Clinton. 2015/2-16 Overall winner A. V. Village Pup competition. £5.00 travel.
Thursday 25 th Sept'ber	Westcroft bus*.
Tuesday 27 th Sept'ber	Visit Basildon Park (N.T.) – An 18 th century house and a 1950s kitchen. £20.00. (£8.50 to N.T. members)
Thursday 29 th Sept'ber	Local lunch at The Crown, Granborough. £3.50 travel.

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 1 st September	<i>Sunny Afternoon</i> – classic hits of the Kinks. £29.50.
Wednesday 7 th Sept'ber	<i>Keep Dancing</i> – stars of the 2015 winners Jay and Aliona. £29.50.

Wednesday 28 th Sept.	<i>Sister Act</i> – A 'divine' musical comedy. £23.00.
Wednesday 5 th October	<i>Full Monty</i> – A stage adaptation of the hit movie. £24.50.
Wednesday 26 th Oct'ber	<i>Cats</i> – A uniquely magical musical. £29.50.
Wednesday 2 nd Nov'ber	<i>The Commitments</i> – The musical we have been waiting for. Over 20 soul classics. £30.00

Please: Do a Spot of Weeding for Whaddon!



Bucks Highways Department says it no longer has a budget available for spraying out weeds along the roads and pavements.

The look of our village would be greatly enhanced by spending a few moments removing the weeds along the various boundaries and pavements outside our properties.

Next time you are gardening, please take a moment to pull a few weeds; and with us all doing our bit our village will look really nice.

Puzzle Time - Medium Sudoku

			4	8	5	
7						2
1	2			3		
		2	9			1
		6			2	
	8					3
		9				6
	5	6		7		
		3			9	4

	2	3		4	8	
	6					7
	5					1
		1		7		8
			6	5		3
						9
5						
7			3		8	
3	4	1				

COMPETITION

HOW THOROUGHLY did you read the May issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*?

In that issue, due to a last-minute 'glitch' by the Editor in one of the editorial items, what should have been a place name became a completely different seven-letter word. Did you spot it?

Email the seven-letter word to the Editor, complete with your name and contact details. Closing date for your entry is Saturday, 1st October. First name picked out of a hat wins a bottle of wine or a box of chocolates. Good Luck!



Riding side-saddle with the team

Or 83,764 steps later. Amy Bridgford, AVDC Recycling & Waste Operations and Projects Manager, recounts her three days spent as refuse and recycling loader.

Waste services are something we all take very much for granted. Did you know that more than 3 billion people don't have waste services? That's 40 per cent of the world's waste that is not managed. This causes life-threatening public health issues and long-lasting environmental damage. Correct waste management is therefore a vital public health service and an engine for sustainable development.

Without our collection crews, rats would run riot and we would all suffer from both ill-health and a short-lifespan. Did you also know that waste services are considered such a vital public service that the army would be called out were we unable to get our crews out to collect it?

A day in the life of a...

With this in mind, I wanted to see what it was really like on the front line and during roll week! So recently I spent three days out with the crews. That requires a 4am start in order to arrive on time. On day one, armed with a pedometer, I covered 8.7 miles on foot. On day two it had become 13.7 miles and on day three it had reached a WHOPPING 17.7 miles.

So, it's not just a stroll in the park. It's a fast walk and then a jog in heavy steel toe-capped boots, battling weather, moving heavy bins, being extremely cautious of traffic and remaining patient with the impatient tooting motor cars. All this and remembering the importance of being courteous and polite to our customers; saying 'hi' to the children waving from their windows and remembering all the little nuances on the round. For example, No.7 likes to have their bin put back next to the blue gate; No. 30 needs an assisted collection and No. 15 has a suspicious dog that needs bribing with a dog biscuit!

To say the job is challenging is an understatement.

Amazing teamwork

Despite these challenges, I was overwhelmed with the sense of teamwork throughout the day. Watching out for each other, helping with a heavy bin, constantly telling each other what the other was doing and where to go next if they were less experienced.

The knowledge that Loaders and Drivers have of the district is exceptional. And by this I mean, who lives where, what their 'bin habits' are, how long they'd lived there, and so on. This is something the digital age wouldn't be able to deliver.

Vigilance I also found to be exceptional; checking each bin before being put on the back of the vehicle to make sure that it did not contain something that we couldn't accept – putting the wrong item in the bin represents a council expense and crews understand the importance of this.

Always striving for the best

We collect over 340,000 individual bins every week and this is done by just 110 loaders and drivers. We sometimes get it wrong and the sheer volume of work means we can miss a resident's bin by mistake. On an average week we might miss around 60 bins – that's less than 0.0002 per cent. Understandably, customers feel we have really let them down and we then have to



turn round that customer experience by learning from our mistakes and responding positively to resolve the issues.

We receive much positive feedback from our customers as well and this motivates the crews to improve and keep working to meet customers' needs.

How you can help

We all get our bins emptied, and I'd ask you to be mindful of how hard it is. Smile at your bin man or lady, give them a wave, wait patiently if you're in a car, put your bin out on a flat surface avoiding grass or gravel, and you could even go the extra mile and put your bin out with the handles facing out! All these things really do make a huge difference. ◇

WHADDON VILLAGE CHARITIES

Back in 1653, William Elmer, a former resident of this area, founded two charities through his will for the benefit of residents living in the ancient parishes that were dear to his heart, namely Beachampton, Maids Moreton, Nash, Whaddon and Calverton. Both charities – the Elmers Charity', and The School Charity – were endowed with a sum of money, and the same rules apply today that applied 463 years ago: only the income from the investment (in Whaddon's case two-ninths of the total income) can be spent, but the endowment amount itself cannot be touched.

Elmers Charity was specifically set up for 'poor persons' in order to provide them with 'clothes, boots, blankets, fuel, medical or other aid in sickness'. Until recently very little income was derived, but nevertheless over many years the small amounts available have helped deserving residents of Whaddon. Today the endowment sum has increased following the sale of a small area of land (which now forms part of the Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area), and future annual income for Whaddon could be in the order of £1,500 per annum.

Due to the greatly increased income, the trustees of the five villages are currently working with the Charities Commission to see if the original very restrictive terms of the charities' donor can be 'tweaked' very slightly to benefit 'those in need in the community', rather than simply 'individuals' - although the original terms would still apply if genuine cases were put forward for consideration. For instance, if the Charity Commission agree, trustees might approve a disabled ramp for the village hall extension when it is built. The trustees would always welcome your ideas as to how this money might be spent, and will consider all applications on their individual merit.

The 'School Charity' also still exists today with the original fund worth in the order of £25,000. After the proper costs and expenses of running the charity, the income from the investment (the investment itself cannot be touched), is used to promote the education of those between 18 and 25 years old. The fund provides financial assistance for clothing, tools, instruments or books to assist such persons to pursue their education (including music and other arts), to undertake travel in furtherance thereof, or to prepare for or enter a profession, trade, occupation or service on leaving school, university or other educational establishment.

The School grants, if applicable, agreed and awarded, are not huge, and depend on the amount of investment 'interest' earned and the number of eligible persons applying, but can range from £25 - £100. Recent recipients have used such sums towards books and stationary (but not any actual educational fees). ◇

For further information and an application form, please contact either of the two Whaddon trustees: Cllr Derek White or Cllr Graham Stewart.



*Creative Coach:
Thoughts from my comfy
chair*

Marianna

www.chocolateboxcoaching.co.uk

I don't currently have a pet (unless a husband counts!), but I did use to doggy-sit from time to time. One particular liver and white gentleman was a pretty good life coach in his own way, and this is what he taught me:

Relationships

- If you need a hug, you might need to ask more than once. Persistence will usually pay off, so don't give up if initial requests are ignored.
- Spend time sitting right next to the most important people in your life. You don't even have to talk. Just being there and being calm is mutually beneficial.
- Caring for someone else is a wonderful feeling.
- The people who truly love you will always come back to you.

Personal development

- Seek opportunities in obscure places; sniff them out. You will be surprised by what you find when you're least expecting it.
- Greet each new day with enthusiasm. It will make you feel great, and your joy will transfer to those around you too.
- Be enthusiastic about exercise, whatever form it takes. If you start it with a smile, you will get more enjoyment out of it. Remember: mud is only temporary!
- Let go of inhibitions at least once a day, and do something slightly bonkers. It feels great. If you can make someone else laugh in the process, that's a bonus.
- Enjoy what you eat. Eating is a pleasure.
- Ignore the sheep in your life. Chasing them is just not worth the potential aggravation.
- In the teeth of adversity (think driving wind and rain) focus hard on your next goal (think tree trunk, molehill, gate post).

- A reward (preferably edible) for getting through something slightly unpleasant (hose-down) makes the task all the more bearable and achievable.
- From time to time, it pays dividends to be shameless in your risk-taking. (Try sneaking up on the armchair even when the boss is in the room. She just might let you get away with it)

Work-life balance

- Fitting in the extra responsibilities of a pet has the knock-on effect of making you work smarter, in terms of time-management.
- A quick game (of anything) in the middle of a morning/afternoon's work sharpens up the focus.
- Walking often in the fresh air is a must, and provides unique opportunities to think and plan without distractions. Equally, it can be used as a way to clear the mind completely, leaving you feeling invigorated. Yes, even in the teeth of a howling gale and driving rain!

Who needs a life coach, when you have a dog, eh?



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

- Happy? Great! Comfortable? Great! That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge.
- Unhappy? Uncomfortable? That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge!
- Time to think about what you really want, and work out a plan of how to get there.

The next Mojo Maintenance Workshop takes place on Saturday 17th September, 10am - 12noon. New Venue – Stony Stratford. Contact me to book your place. Booking essential. Spaces limited. £30.

Contact Marianna: 01908 503194/07763 102 994
email: marianna@chocolateboxcoaching.co.uk

Want to make your home warm *and* green?



Robert Smart has fitted solar panels to his roof

ARE YOU in need of inspiration to fire up your desire to turn your home into a green house? No joke; just drift along to see for yourself three examples of how it has been done!

For three pioneering owners of the UK's most eco-friendly SuperHomes will host free Open Days this September in Aylesbury (Thursday 8th, Friday 9th and Sunday 11th), Thornborough (Sat 10th) and Steeple Claydon (Sun 11th). SuperHomes are older homes refurbished by their owners for greater comfort, lower bills and fewer carbon emissions – at least 60 per cent less!

Most SuperHomes have superior insulation; many have alternative heating sources and some produce their own energy. Robert Smart has renovated his 1930s property in Thornborough, adding wood stoves and underfloor heating.

Colin White has upgraded his 1970s house in Aylesbury by installing sun pipes to import more natural light. Both homes benefit from solar PV and solar water heating systems, modern boilers and extra insulation. Keith and Kathryn Searle in Steeple Claydon heat their 1970s end-of-terrace house with an air source heat pump. They have made many changes, including adding internal wall insulation.

Visitors can expect to come away with plenty of energy-saving ideas for their own home. Tours and Q&A sessions will let you quiz the owners, so you can discover what worked and get frank feedback on anything that didn't. Over 50 refurbished Victorian, Edwardian and post-war properties will open across the UK this September. These events are promoted by the National Energy Foundation in partnership with Heritage Open Days.

To find out more or to pre-book a place on a free to tour take a look at <http://www.superhomes.org.uk>



Detail of solar panel on roof

Seen any kites recently? No, not red kites on the end of long string – but red kites, which have been spotted nearby. The RSPB advises not to feed red kites as this can cause issues for both human and bird populations. The practice discourages kites from extending their feeding range and causes a decline in the population of smaller birds as more and more members of the crow family are attracted to the area by the artificial feeding. While red kites are an attractive sight, they can be intimidating when there are 100 or so massing over your house.

'Paula the Post' wants to meet you. Yes, Paula really *does* want to meet you, as she has a valuable service on offer. Paula enjoys embroidery as a hobby but she would much rather be serving you. Because 'Paula the Post' is at the Village Hall every Tuesday afternoon from 1.30 to 3.30 (in old money) or 13.30 to 15.30 if you prefer. Either way, Paula is willing to issue postage for stamps and parcels, as well as handle any mail you wish to post. There is always a welcome smile. What more could you want from the post lady of Whaddon? And don't forget, there is always the danger: "If you don't use the service, you'll lose the service." ♦



Yoga & Wellness with Lauren

Yoga teaches us to become present, to quieten the mind – it is the union of the mind & the body.

Yoga isn't about contorting the body into impossible shapes; it is about listening to the body and respecting its limitations, abilities & graces and embracing where we are in the present.

Most of all, yoga is something to enjoy. So, come along and give it a try – like me you just might think it's the best decision you ever make!

*Weekly classes**

Thursday 7.30pm – 8.30pm Hatha Yoga open level drop-in (£5 per drop in and you can buy multiples of 5 classes)

Other workshops/events

Sweet Sunday Surrender every two months (from £10)**

Private one to one sessions at £30 per hour. We will discuss a theme or focus beforehand so that I can prepare a bespoke session just for you! Two to one sessions or small groups are also available from £40 per hour.

www.thelollipopway.co.uk
lauren@thelollipopway.co.uk
01908 867940
07764 485921

All classes are held at Whaddon Jubilee Hall MK17 0LS

*Children welcome over the age of 13 years if accompanied by an adult and we have had a pre-class meeting to assess suitability

** Please note the Sweet Sunday Surrender is not suitable for children under 14 years old unless they have been a student of mine and I feel they would be able to handle the experience with respect and focus.

Namaste – the divine in me honours the divine in you. I honour the place in you where the entire Universe dwells. I honour the light, beauty, truth, love & peace within you because it is also within me and in sharing these things we are united – we are one



Love, light + peace Lauren xxx



The Crooked Billet Summer Festival 26th to 29th August 2016

For **August Bank Holiday weekend** we are introducing our **1st Summer Festival** of food, cider, ales, bubbles and live music.

After just two years, the Crooked Billet Spring Bank Holiday Beer Festival has become well-established. Whilst this August we will, of course, have a few ales to taste, we wanted to have a different focus on our **August Festival**.

We are planning to offer a choice of summer drinks including cocktails, Champagne, Prosecco & other wines, local ciders, lagers and ales.

Whilst our main restaurant will be open as usual, we are also offering different foods from visiting chefs over the weekend, including Jeff the Chef and Stu's Oven.

The Summer Festival starts at 7pm on Friday evening and runs all weekend. Families are welcome throughout but Monday will be a special Family Day.

For detailed timings and a schedule of activities, visit our website at www.thecrookedbilletmiltonkeynes.co.uk

Other not to be missed forthcoming events at the Crooked Billet are:

Tuesday 16th August – Bring your own wine night (no corkage) – American theme

Tuesday 20th September – Bring your own wine night (no corkage) – Spanish theme

Hope to see you soon

Cheers

Dave & Alan



Crooked Billet Beer Festival May

Pop-up pub raises £1,000

The pop-up pub (or Jubilee Inn) is proving a great success. So much so that we have raised £1,000. We are planning to have a break in August, but the activity will return in September. Watch out for the date on Facebook and on signs posted around the village. Our plan is to run the pop-up pub once a month until The Lowndes Arms reopens.

As for the £1,000 raised so far, it is proposed this will go towards the planned renovations for the Jubilee Hall. To raise more money for the hall we had the idea of offering the opportunity for people/families to buy a brick for the new extension. Names of donors will be displayed in the new hallway. Bricks start at £10 each, and donations can be handed to Frederick Hayward or placed in the hall post box. Please make your cheque payable to 'Whaddon Jubilee Hall Committee'.

There was a great turnout for the celebration of the World War 2 commemoration on 8th May. You can read our full report on p. 17 - 19 of this issue.

Do you have a fundraising idea or would you like to get involved with village events? Why not join our friendly committee? Our AGM will be held in October/beginning of November, so look for the date on our Facebook page or on the noticeboard outside the Jubilee Hall. Come along and meet the rest of the Committee, and get involved!

Alice Hain,

Whaddon Jubilee Hall Committee



Country Funerals

01327 351500

24 hours

Independent Funeral Directors

1, Sponne House Centre, Watling Street West

Towcester, Northants NN12 6BY

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

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

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

For your peace of mind, funeral plans are available. See also www.countryfunerals.uk

enquiries@countryfunerals.uk



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

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

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

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

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

www.whaddonunderfives.org



Tim Jenkins

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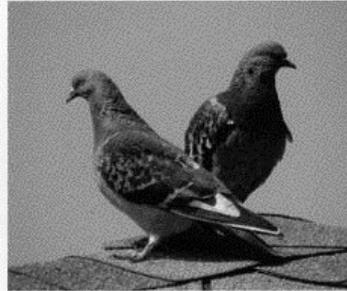
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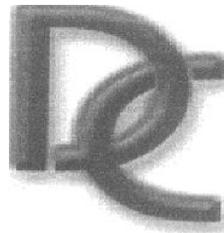
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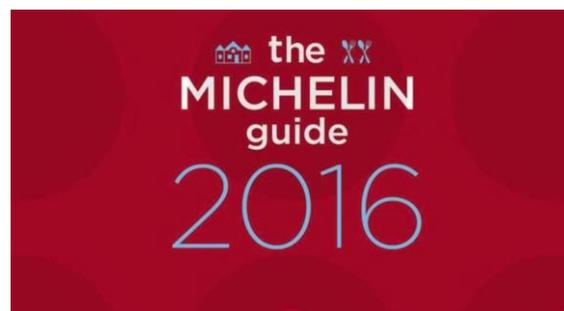
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