

Whaddon Quarterly

May 2018



Whaddonfield, not Akenfield

Wish you were here? p. 10

Greenall about it p. 25

Whaddonfield revealed p. 12

It seemed a good idea p. 38

In this issue

A 'right royal knees-up'	2
Snippets of village news.....	3
Parish Council Report	4
From the Editor's chair	5
Clerk's Corner	7
Whaddon planning briefs.....	8
Wish you were here?	10
Whaddonfield, not Akenfield.....	12
Forgotten heroines saved lives	17
Jubilee Hall: Your village hall	19
St. Mary's Church Whaddon.....	20
Toddler church	23
Hands up for Jesus	23
The Jammy Dodger Kids excel.....	24
Oh, the joys of puddle-jumping.....	24
Greenall about it.....	25
Whaddon Book Club	26
Whaddon Chapel	28
Well, who was 'Old Adams' then?	29
Whaddon's church clock	32
MacMillan coffee morning	34
Whaddon Women's Institute	35
Whaddon WI: making waves in '36	35
Whaddon Night Owlers WI.....	37
Lasting Powers of Attorney – what are they and are they worth it?	38
Florrie Parrott and lacemaking	39
It seemed like a good idea at the time... ..	41
A country club destroyed by fire	43
Broken-hearted 'Brownies'	46
And the date of this hunt, please?	48
Local bee keepers need help	50
Winslow Community Bus.....	51
Neighbourhood Watch - Whaddon	53

Sea Cadets – T S Whaddon.....	55
Creative Coach:	56
Success for cancer vintage teas.....	57
WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL	63

NEXT TIME: Whaddonfield, not Akenfield – 2 +The village constable + For men only!

IMPORTANT. To find the article you wish to read, click on its title above in 'In this issue'. The 'system' will then take you to that page. To find your next article, click on 'Return to contents' and repeat.

Any comments, queries or articles

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

Advertising rates

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

Whaddon Jubilee Hall

For bookings: please contact Maria Cole mariacole1968@sky.com

Deadlines for forthcoming issues

20th July 2018, 19th October 2018, 19th January 2019 and 20th April.

Cover picture

Daffodils at Whaddon School, April 2018. Photograph by John Mortimer.

A 'right royal knees-up'

THE MARRIAGE of HRH Prince Harry and Ms Meghan Markle will be celebrated with a drinks reception in Whaddon's Jubilee Hall on Saturday 19th May 2018.



Drinks and 'sophisticated chat' are planned from 7.30 to 9.30 pm; these will be followed by a disco. Tickets are £5.00 each (including the first drink) – over 18s only.

Tickets from Helen (01908 501829; Sharon (07703 388571 or Louise 07522 423295). Admission by ticket only. Proceeds to the Jubilee Hall.

Snippets of village news

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

- **TEAS ON TUESDAY.** The final decision as to the future of this valuable weekly event has yet to be decided. Watch this space. The **Post Office** in the Jubilee Hall is on **Tuesdays** from **2.00 - 4.00 pm**.

- **JUBILEE HALL** is now the proud owner of a new kitchen (**right**). More details on **p. 19**.

- **ROYAL WEDDING.** The 'right royal knees-up', set for 7.30pm Saturday 19th May, will allow the Jubilee Hall's new kitchen to come into full play.

- **MANY YEARS** before the present series of Whaddon Shows (**see p. 7**) Evelyn Dormer, aged six, took centre stage miming to soloist Mrs Tesch at a 1930s Whaddon Show. Even today, Evelyn easily recalls the lyrics of their song, Little Miss Make-believe. Evelyn wore one of Mrs Tesch's dresses to simulate an evening gown. Mr Tesch served as estate manager for Whaddon Hall.

- **HEDGEHOG** Awareness Week runs from **6th to 12th May**. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society was founded in 1986 as a registered charity to give help and advice to the public concerning the care of hedgehogs, particularly when injured, sick, treated cruelly or in any other danger. Hedgehogs need all-year-round help. For advice Tel: 01584 890801 or email info@britishhedgehogs.org.uk.



- **SOME TRADES** are always in demand. Doug and Graham Stewart (**left**) were at work one sunny April afternoon refurbishing 2a and 2b High Street, two houses with history which will be revealed in the next issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*. Extensive drainage work has been just one of the keys jobs in this development.



- **AFTER 14 months**, the church clock is now working following a visit from Wayne Francis of Clockwise Restorations of Boston, Lincolnshire. Derek White notes: "We are now in the process of adjusting the timekeeping. Many thanks must go to Robin Starr for so valiantly making many trips up to the clock to lie in the pendulum pit to turn the screw to set the time." (Wayne Francis has written for the *Whaddon Quarterly* about his work as a clock repairer. His contribution starts on **p. 29**.)

- **BEFORE** the next *Whaddon Quarterly*, St Mary's church has plans for a Christening and three weddings. The Whaddon School May Fayre takes place on 7th May, May Day.



- **FOR SALE.** I am digitising everything to save space. I have a Sankyo dualux 1000 cine projector with manual for Super 8, Single 8 and Regular 8 formats. This comes with a superb Leitz 35mm slide projector and a tripod-mounted screen. What offers for the package? Tel: Roger Porter at 01908 501 709
- **FOR SALE.** Approximately 1,000 old stock bricks, which are surplus to requirements. Buyer to collect. For further details please contact Baird McClellan, 01908 502204 (Whaddon address)



Parish Council Report

May 2018

IT SEEMS to have been one of the longest, coldest and wettest winters that I can recall for many a year, so I hope that by the time this report is in print and has reached you, we shall be enjoying warm spring sunshine.

One of the consequences of the weather has been the further deterioration of road surfaces, not only in Whaddon but throughout Buckinghamshire. Coddimoor Lane has even more potholes than I have seen in any other village (despite the fact that that the worst ones were attended to). This is the consequence of heavier traffic at a time when budgets have been constrained. I believe we have to keep

up the pressure on Buckinghamshire County Council.

The future government of North Buckinghamshire remains in the balance. The Secretary of State for Local Government, Sajid Javed, has given a 'minded to' decision to form one Council for the whole of Buckinghamshire; this would abolish the present County Council and the four District Councils. Aylesbury Vale, where I represent you, has come out strongly in favour of two Councils, splitting Buckinghamshire into north and south. An interesting new idea has just been floated: combining Aylesbury Vale with South Northants and North Oxfordshire (Cherwell). This would cut across county boundaries; an option that I would personally prefer as an alliance to that of the three South Bucks districts.

In the meantime, strategy and policies for the future development of the county move forward, slowly but surely. The Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) has now been approved by AVDC; the next stage is Inspection and Examination in Public before probable adoption next year.

The Government has also identified the Oxford to Cambridge corridor as a major growth area, following the upgrading of transport links, not only by re-opening the former railway line, but also improving a major road route by upgrading one of three possible roads, one of which is the A421, so close to us. It is clear that the plan is to increase both industry and housing adjacent to the route chosen. North Buckinghamshire will look very different in the years to come. ■

Billy Stanier

April 2018

From the Editor's chair

THE FIRST day of March exploded on the Whaddon scene as the Beast from the East, aided by Storm Emma, blasting in with snow that thankfully dispersed in days. That day was the coldest since records began way back in 1901, or so weather boffins at the University of Reading declared. Whatever the name of the storm, it had such ferocity that newly-born lambs in fields in Whaddon shivered and shook, scurrying to huddle close to their 'mums' until Emma abated. A case of survival of the fittest.

By 19th April the country's bizarre weather pattern, like a fledgling lamb, skipped from winter to mid-summer, neatly sidestepping spring, reaching a eye-popping 27°C micro heat wave in Whaddon's Stock

Lane by 2.30 pm; the hottest April day in 69 years, according to yet more weather boffins. Soon to follow was London's hottest marathon; then it went downhill before another mini heatwave. Despite this varied weather, buttercups, cowslips, grape hyacinths and, latterly bluebells, have struggled through, as ever. Could we still have snow?

Days earlier, midway through April, another event hit Whaddon. The Whaddon Show catapulted the village to new heights, shattering the dreamy worlds of those who, with each passing year, yearn for intercontinental air travel to whisk them off to sunnier climes. Whaddon Airways and Wheee Air! did just that, taking off from Aylesbury Vale's shiny, barely-dry black tarmac runway, the gleaming newly-constructed out-buildings of Jubilee Airport shimmering in the dying rays of the evening sun.

The 'world tour' embalmed 'first' and 'economy' class audience alike with over two hours' raucous entertainment, its flawless type-casting literally out of this world. First class relished having nothing to pay, while their luckless second class comrades were fleeced left, right and centre.

Irrespective of class, passengers were guided by 'chief steward' Mark Carter, a fireball of human energy who brought out the best in both front of house players and those working tirelessly in cramped conditions behind the 'cockpit' and who, as part of their 'pre-flight training', had shared hours of rehearsal time in rented airport buildings, lured on by the prospect of the end-of-show wrap-up party.

The outcome: two impeccable performances, possibly exceeding previous events. For 'chief steward' Mark Carter, the mastermind of Whaddon at last boasting its own airport, brings to mind a string of adjectives ranging from boundless, effervescent and funny, to indefatigable, motivational and uninhibited.

Before that, gruesome winter months prompted the idea for some research, provoked by news of a University of East Anglia initiative to conduct an 'Akenfield survey' of life today in a typical village.

The result of the *Quarterly's* own little survey into Whaddon 100 years ago, dubbed Whaddonfield, begins on **p. 12**. The second installment follows next time. The survey spawned another feature highlighting two 1850s widows of Whaddon named Ann; it too will appear in the next issue, as will the varied life of Whaddon's 'bobby', Constable Sibbald.



"Let me out, let me out."

Elsewhere in this issue, Whaddon Hall, with its times-past people and events continues to captivate. A long-forgotten glossy brochure spells out what might have befallen the Hall, while a reader seeks help unraveling the identity of a former Hunt Master.

At a down-to-earth level, grossly unattended potholes continue to plague and irritate village motorists who play 'dodge 'em' while trying to avoid a pile-up. Some who have not escaped pothole horror know the high cost of vehicle damage. Either way, potholes grow wider and deeper, a sign of bureaucratic incompetence or financial insolvency. Or both.

And so it continues. However, potholes are unlikely to impede the Whaddon School May Fayre procession; May Day falls unusually late this year.

Finally, 'pure serendipity' is Roger Porter's description (**see p. 25**) of how a music stool yielded an 85-year old newspaper clipping; its words evoked a different era yet are as pertinent now in the Whaddon context as they were joyous at the time.

Enjoy summer. ■



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

Interested in Whaddon's History? Many will not be aware that the Bucks County Archives are located at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, Walton St., Aylesbury. Recently six historically valuable archives comprising parish minute books and accounts dating back to early 1900's were deposited for safe keeping in their professional hands. The Centre also has facilities to preserve valuable but damaged documents and store them for safekeeping. If anyone wishes to inspect these documents, they are readily available by contacting the Centre. Donations of documents are often welcome, so if you have documents of historical interest in need of preservation and storage for the benefit of future historians, get in touch with them on 01296 382587 or smason@buckscc.gov.uk.

Weed Control on Whaddon's Streets. It's recently been confirmed that Bucks Highways will no longer be providing weed control for our pavements, highways and rainwater gutters. WPC is looking into alternative suppliers, but these will need to be paid

for out of our local precept. In the meantime, anything you feel you can do to keep our village looking well-kept and weed-free will be for the benefit of all.

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

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

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

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting(s). The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council take(s) place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, at 7.30pm 10/5/18 (AGM), 12/7/18, 13/9/18, 8/11/18. Please check the Village Notice Board on the bus stop to confirm these dates and the location, as these can be subject to change. All Welcome! ■

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

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

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

Whaddon planning briefs

The following applications will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 10th May. Please come along should you wish to make any comments.

AS it is not always possible to include all planning matters in the *Whaddon Quarterly* due to print deadlines and the timing of individual applications, the easiest way to follow village planning matters is to request notifications from Hugo Fox's Whaddon Web Site at:

<https://www.hugofox.com/community/whaddon-bucks-12792/planning-tracker/>

Alternatively, Google and log on to the AVDC Planning 'simple search' page. You will need the planning number displayed on yellow planning notice fixed to or near the application site.

18/01333/APP – LAND OFF STRATFORD ROAD, WHADDON.

Description: Change of use of agricultural land for animal training.

Note : This matter was reported in the February edition of the WQ, under Enforcement Matters. This current application seeks to resolve and regularise the use of the site on which AVDC found that 'unauthorised works' had been undertaken including 1) works on site (including erection of building and the installation of Klargestep septic tank) and commercial use of site/building in breach of condition 3 of application approval No.12/02179/APP. On receipt of this application notification, your Parish Council asked AVDC why the application did not include 'the erection of building and installation of Klargestep septic tank', only to be informed that AVDC has already left a message with the agent acting for the applicant that this application should require this additional information.

18/01390/ATC – 16 HIGH STREET, WHADDON.

Description: Norway Maple (T3) – Tree growing to side of building in rear garden. Home owner wishes to extend driveway and increase the space alongside the property for increased usability and as per AVDC highways comments regarding keeping vehicles off High Street. Tree removal is required as this will cause significant root loss from level changes (tree on raised bank). Lawson cypress (G2) – Line of scrubby trees alongside southern boundary with wide crown spread. Remove to enable replanting with new line of Leylandii cypress to form dense hedge feature along boundary and match existing boundary planting. Trees are all well obscured from wider landscape and removal will not be of detriment to street scene or conservation area. Opportunities for replanting will allow home owner to plant more trees (along length of southern boundary) that will offer screening, allow easier management and result in more cohesive garden design.....**Awaiting Decision**

18/01163/APP – 4 CHASE FARM COTTAGES, WHADDON.

Description: Single-storey rear extension.....**Awaiting Decision**

17/A3701/DIS – 2a & 2b HIGH STREET, WHADDON.

Description: Submission of details pursuant to Condition 2 (materials) relating to planning permission
17/03701/APP**Decision: Materials approved, condition discharged.**

18/00412/APP – 36 Vicarage ROAD, WHADDON.

Description: Single storey rear extension.....**Decision: Approved – Householder Approval.**

Graham Stewart.

Whaddon PC

SITE WORK by Morris Homes on land adjacent to the Shenley Road and next to Shakespeare Park started on 1st May 2018.

Wish you were here?

Two words guaranteed to make your heart sink: *budget airline.*

MY experience with the likes of Ryanair and Easyjet has not been without its turbulence.

So what would Whaddon Airways, in conjunction with...what on earth...Wheee Air! be able to do to change my mind, I wondered?



"This is, er, your Captain speaking."

In trepidation, I joined, guess what? A queue. So far, so typical. A bunch of similarly-resigned folk, chatting to each other politely, in front of typically locked doors, unable to move forward without someone's say-so.

And then things began to change for the better. Two charming stewardesses taking orders for drinks and delivering them whilst we waited.

Things were definitely looking up. A third, stern, but efficient crew member checking along the queue that we had boarding passes (**see next**

page) ready, and no unauthorised items. I had the distinct impression that they even cared a little bit.

Irrepressible Mark Carter (right) offers warning words: "Don't mention the war."





Through a rigorous security check: you wouldn't mess with these ladies, and recommended seats were suggested. None of the usual free-for-all and rudeness; the staff

had impressed (lulled?) the passengers enough that they were behaving beautifully.

As always, with budget airlines, there was a "class divide" between Whaddon Airways and Wheee Air! Accurately so, it would seem; those Wheee Air! passengers were utter riff-raff throughout the flight; those of us on the "posh" side were definitely the more discerning travellers!

For the world tour led by our tour rep, the irrepressible Mark Carter: full marks. For his genius concept, the cleverly-worded adaptations, full of local references, and the attention to detail, which was hilarious and brilliant, give the man a massive ovation. What must it be like to inhabit the mind of Mark Carter? I honestly dread to think!

'Chief steward' Mark Carter morphed into the 'conductor' for one of 29 sketches.



For the cast: it would be hard to imagine how last year's show could have been bettered. But they did it! It would be unfair to single out one particular act and I won't, because how could you compare? Whaddon must be unique to have in such a small community so much talent. And I haven't even mentioned the musicians yet: what an amazingly versatile and gifted bunch they are.

For the support crew: thank you from Friday and Saturday night's audience for your invisible magic.

And for everyone who had anything to do with this two-night extravaganza, well done doesn't begin to cover it. You've ruined airline travel for me forever, and for that I thank you very much indeed. ■

Marianna Beckwith

Whaddonfield, not Akenfield

Remember Roland Blythe's classic *Akenfield*? Well, here is Whaddonfield, Whaddon as it was 100 years ago. In this essay, John Mortimer takes a look at some who lived in the hamlet, including men crucial to the Whaddon Chase Hunt.

A BUTCHER, a baker, and a candlestick maker all lived in Whaddon 100 years ago, alongside a postman, an innkeeper and a grocer. All were bidding to 'earn a crust' and make village life palatable. Even Chelsea watch and clockmaker, William Gardus, chose Whaddon as his home and to ply his trade. Now why would he do that?

There were other trades too. One Whaddon 'road' in particular, The Common, housed 19 families. The spectrum of occupations ranged from blacksmith, clergyman, domestic butler, domestic valet and electrician, to engine driver, gardener, groom, police constable, scrounger, whipper-in (foxhounds) and woodman. (The police constable, with a father born in Canada, will feature in a forthcoming issue.) And three of the 10 mothers in The Common experienced the sharpness of death, having lost at least one child.

There were extremes of wealth too. Upright citizen William Selby-Lowndes and his family held court at one end of the village; the Almshouses at the other housed six old-age pensioners (five men and a woman) – an improvement over 1851 when there were at least 10 paupers, five men and five women.



Women and children of The Common 100 years ago pose for a photo.

'toy boys' were not unknown. In Whaddon, one wealthy village lady had one. But more later...

This July, researchers at the University of East Anglia (UEA), using a £75,000 National Lottery grant, aim to follow in the footsteps of author Roland Blythe. Blythe produced his well-known literary classic *Akenfield: Portrait of an English Village*, a sepia-tinted picture of rural life as he saw it in a Suffolk village that became a worldwide best seller.

The UEA researchers will create a community-driven oral history project to encourage local students to record every aspect of today rural life as did Blythe.

Blythe based his book on Charlesfield; he recorded the stories of everyone in the village, from farmhand to chairman of the Women's Institute. His powerful snapshot took place in 1969, the year man landed on the moon and effectively launched the computer age.

What was Whaddon like 100 years ago? A few years before the Great War had stripped the equivalent of a men's football team from many a village; the only reminder now being a lonely sentinel, a granite cross bearing their names. No one of that era is alive but the April 1911 census, conducted six years after Queen Victoria's death, offers clues.

Victoria's death brought to a close an era dominated by steam, steel and social change. Other colossal transformations have taken place since; notably women gained a powerful voice in society as women's rights campaigner Millicent Fawcett's new statue in Parliament Square, London, bears testament.

Showered women with empowerment

Two world wars showered women with empowerment. In 1911, domestic service, lacemaking and laundry work were women's employment norm; their life expectancy just 55. Topics of conversation ranged from Mrs Smith's new baby, exchanging recipes or knitting tips. A pinnacle might be gossip about strange

noises emerging from No. 6. Today, a woman FTSE 100 corporate chief executive of 69 is not uncommon.

In nearby Wolverton, the railway allowed relative 'prosperity' to power in, and countless families were affected. The railways were the driving force of Britain; they brought huge social change but left Whaddon unscathed, with Bletchley the nearest a young lad could gape in wonder at a Wolverton Bloomer with its deafening clatter, enveloping steam and eye-popping speed. Steam impounded negligibly on Whaddon's wheat, sheep, cattle, game and foxhunting, leaving male workers cocooned in nature as the modern world thundered by.

Some Whaddoners did take advantage of the industrial revolution; like two railway workers and a couple of bricklayers plying their trade. But most men were agricultural labourers in 'God's country' – the land surrounding them.

A random survey

Without National Lottery funding it is impossible to pry deeply into the lives of Whaddon's inhabitants as the twentieth century opened its petals. Even so, the 1911 census of 'Whaddon (entire)' does give pointers that can be compared with life today. Inevitably it is a skeleton; some aspects of human life remain occluded.

For example, a census hides those human emotions – personal memories and feelings that would be picked up by professionals in face-to-face interviews; feelings that can run deep in village life, often from one generation to another. Besides envy, froideur, frustration, humiliation, jealousy, prejudice, rivalry, resentment and sadness, there can be affection, devotion, joy, love and passion. Lost in the mists of time too are illnesses, disabilities and deformities, and the innermost feelings of mournful, even morose women who had suffered stillbirth or miscarriage. Also shielded are those with broken marriages – and hearts.

Any one or more of which might emerge, coupled with snatches of self-deprecating humour and self-denigration that would be pounced upon in any interview and dutifully noted. As the UEA will discover, these give added dimension and realism to any time capsule.

And so while Blythe *did* attempt to add dimension to his assessment, this little survey of Whaddonfield does not, and cannot.

A hundred years ago the village's inhabitants numbered 284 – 151 males and 133 females. Of these, 126 children lived in 48 homes, or an average of 2.6 children per household. Village girls outnumbered boys by just six – 66 to 60.

The village comprised 74 'houses' with a total of 388 'rooms'; this gives five rooms per house. While the census numerator accounted for all rooms (including kitchen) he excluded scullery, bathroom, closet, warehouse, shop or office. Some properties could be quite large.

Whaddon had a school well before the 1870 Elementary Education Act launched compulsory education for all five- to 12-year olds.

Deliberately not included in 'Whaddonfield' is Whaddon Hall, the most prominent structure at one end of the village. Why? The numbers associated with it are not typical of Whaddon.

For example, Whaddon Hall boasted 31 rooms; its upright citizens of 1911 numbered four males, including two servants, and 15 females, including nine 'in service'. Those in service were all single, including ladies' maid Edith Meadows, 34, born in Newbold-on-Avon, near Rugby, Warwickshire.

The Hall's master and mistress were William Selby-Lowndes, 39, and Jane, 37, his wife of 16 years and a British subject. Also present were Jane's nieces from New Zealand: sisters Thelma and Mavis Norton, aged 16 and 13.

Curiously, when completing the census return, William Selby-Lowndes displayed a touch of chauvinism. He rightly placed himself first, as 'head' of the household, but followed this with Turner his footman, Murphy his butler and his son aged 14. In fourth place, he inscribed his wife, Jane, born in Auckland, New Zealand, followed by two nieces and his female domestic staff.

Has anything changed over the years? Then, 60 per cent of families were Whaddon-born; today the figure might be one-tenth of this. As to surnames, some are unchanging; King and White appear in every publicly-available census since 1841; other names that appear repeatedly are Capel, Goodger and Willett.

Families enjoyed tight-knit lives with relatives living nearby; they relied heavily on each other. Young men and women often wed someone from nearby villages, like the Shenleys and Newton Longville. But no further. Generations remained locked into village life. Families, or even single people, often took in lodgers.

Nevertheless, the village experienced an influx of 'strangers' from well outside its boundary; they came from Derbyshire, East Sussex, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Nottinghamshire; even as far away as Scotland and Wales.

And could the vicar speak Welsh?

The vicar (clergyman, Established Church), William Railton, hailed from Newport, Monmouthshire; his wife Mary Emma, a Geordie, came from Sunderland, Co. Durham. Their children, Geoffrey Lancelot and Joyce Mary, were Yorkshire-born, as was their 'domestic', Jane Emily Bentley, suggesting the reverend had been in a living 'up north'.

Could the clergyman speak Welsh? More than likely; Newport had a Welsh-speaking majority until the 1830s, but with an influx of migrants from England and Ireland over the following decades, the town and the rest of Monmouthshire gradually became 'un-Welsh'.

Interestingly, one 1911 Whaddon inhabitant didn't know, didn't care or refused to reveal his birthplace.

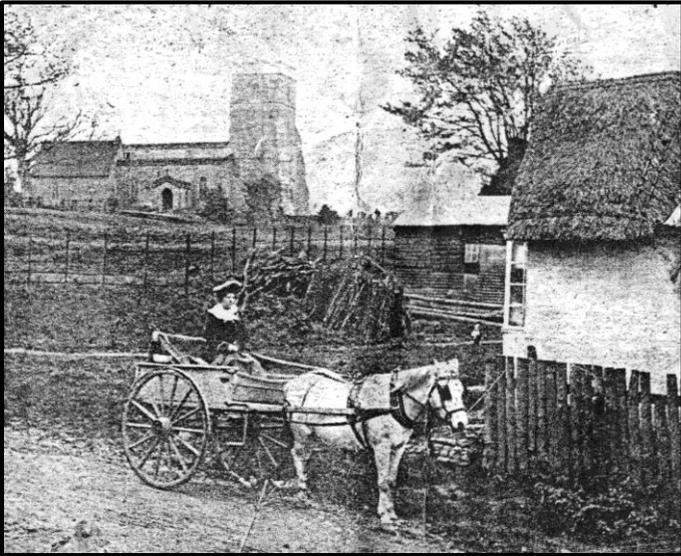
Gone now are many of the names once recognisable by all and sundry: Front Lodge which, like a 19thC cctv, monitored the Hall's comings and goings, Keeper's

Lodge, Oaks Cottage, Robin Hood Cottage, Snelshill Lodge, Stable Lodge and Thrift Lodge.

Gone too are addresses such as Bank Pond, Gadsden's Row, Hog Pound, Mill Road, More Close, New Road, On The Green, Pink's End, Sugar Lane (now Nash Road), The Common (now Vicarage Road), The Village and Gadsden's Row. Above all, Principal Street – the main road between Whaddon Hall and St Mary's – has disappeared. It housed principal outlets like the butcher, the baker, the blacksmith, the farmer (for milk and eggs), a grocer and two public houses. Why

have so many disappeared? Coddimore Lane does remain, as Coddimore Lane.

Among surviving farms are Barn Hill Farm and Church Hill Farm – John King, 38, farmed there in 1851 with Sarah Ann, 27, as farmer's wife, and their four children: James Sami, 7, Emma Ann, 4, George, 3 and John, four weeks. Added to these were numerous servants.



Left: Mrs Caroline King, 'Carry King' to young village boys, of Pear Tree Farm, happened to be one of many Kings who lived in Whaddon in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Likewise surviving is Wood Pond Farm (adjacent to the A421), farmed by Joseph Willett, 69, his wife of 26 years, Ann Elizabeth, 64, and their grown-up son and daughter, Harry, 23, and Mable, 19 – both single. The Willetts' third child died.

Chase Farm, Pear Tree Farm and Whaddon Oaks Farm also remain, as does Bottle House Farm farmed, in 1911, by Ernest Keys, 30. He lived with Kate, 34, his wife of eight years, their son Frederick, 8, and daughter Beatrice, 3. Kate, Frederick and Beatrice were born in Shenley.

Stock Lane, too, has survived, a name from before the Penny Black postage stamp of 1st May 1840. So, too, The Kennels, which in 1911 yielded a clue to the day's happenings: The Kennels offered a refuge for huntsman Fred Thompson, 32, his wife of five years Florrie, 31, and their three children Jack, Edith and one-month old Marion.

Nearby in Mill Road lived kennel man Harry James, 38, and his wife of 10 years Minnie. They had three daughters Violet 9, Doris 6, and Winifred 4, as well as two-year old George. (Their names appear also in a feature – see **p. 36** – on Whaddon's lacemakers. Minnie ran a village lace school.)

Then, local notables sat at the high table of foxhunting with the Whaddon Chase Hunt stables providing welcome employment.

Sam Walker, 40, a stud groom at the stables, hailed from Barsby, Leicestershire, like his wife of 15 years, Elizabeth, 40. Previous to Whaddon, Sam and Elizabeth lived in nearby Bradwell, where three of their four children (14, 13 and 10) were born; the fourth, Nora, (2) arrived in Whaddon.

Grooms were responsible for mixing horses' food, watering and feeding, as well as washing down animals. They cleaned out stables and attended to harnesses, while shire grooms were responsible only for shire horses.

Whaddon-born George Illing, 23, boarded with Sam's family at Stable Lodge. A groom at the hunt stables, George's rent would give Sam Walker's family added income. Other grooms included George Capel, 51, born in Whaddon, and Aylesbury-born William Hopkins, 49.

Another groom at the stables, widower George James, 60, lived with unmarried sister Annie, 58, in Gadsden's Row. Nephew Charles James, 31, also single, worked as a forester. Both men described their work as connected to 'Master of Hounds', suggesting some importance.

Another groom, Joseph Saunders, 48, lived at The Common. He too worked at the hunt stables. Apart from schoolgirl daughter Annie, 13, the entire family (Whaddon-born) relied on the village for employment. Wife Ann, 51, and daughter Emily, 20, each described themselves as 'laundry woman working at home'; son George, 19, was a butcher, while daughter Elizabeth earned wages as a general servant (domestic). This left son Joseph, 15, as a general farm labourer.

Other village men who worked with horses included groom Thomas Mackerness, 47. He, too, lived in Gadsden's Row with wife of 24 years Charlotte, 44. He worked at the stables, attaching himself to 'Master of Hounds'. Charlotte, from Nash, had four children, all born in Whaddon like her husband: Edith, 14, Nellie, 10, Mabel, 7 and Charlotte, 4.

Another resident of Gadsden's Row, Fred Mackerness, 22, lived with his widower grandfather, retired farm labourer John, 74. Fred worked as a groom at the hunt stables, as did boarder Ernest Madgwick, 17, of Rotherfield, Sussex. Alfred Mackerness, 14, another grandson, shared the house but was employed as a 'private' groom. ■

Next time: The butcher, baker and candlestick maker.

Forgotten heroines saved lives

AS the February 2018 *Whaddon Quarterly* recalled, it is 100 years since the end of the First World War, an event to be celebrated by Whaddon with the nationwide Battle's Over beacon-lighting ceremony on 11th November.



THAT last issue of the village magazine brought into focus two men who lost their lives in the battle for freedom.

But in that same war, others, all women, worked hard to save the lives of allied soldiers ranged against the foe, Germany and the Austria-Hungary empire. Compared with others engaged in the conflict, little is heard about these brave women.

The FANYs or First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, was formed in 1907 as an independent group of women who would ride (on horseback) onto the battlefield in pairs and pick up a wounded soldier to give him a better chance of survival. During the Great War, they also drove ambulances and set up hospitals in Belgium and France.

In the Second World War, they were subsumed by the ATS. However, that did not suit some of those feisty women, who had run the gauntlet of the front line between 1914-18.

The women worked in every capacity that can be imagined, from signals to drivers, and from assisting officers to cooks. They worked closely with the Polish soldiers and formed a very deep friendship with them. That explains why Sue Ryder chose the title Baroness Warsaw when elevated to the peerage.

But there was another group, less well known, the Free FANYs. This was the break-away and feisty group of the FANY who didn't want to be subsumed into the ATS who agreed to work for Major General Sir Colin McVean Gubbins and the Special Operations Executive (SOE). Their work was equally valuable and rewarding – and secretive. Little is known of them. They, too, were nonetheless invaluable. Does anyone have knowledge of one? Please contact the Editor. ■

Pothole incident lands cyclist in hospital

STRATFORD ROAD was closed for several hours on the morning of Sunday 29th April following an accident. Such is the state of potholes in Whaddon's vicinity that a cyclist, travelling from the A421 through the village, suffered severe facial injuries and a fractured spine after being thrown from his cycle when he hit a deep pothole left unrepaired by a local council. The incident occurred between Whaddon and Calverton.

Simon Moss, 44, required metal plates inserted to repair a broken jaw, cheek and nose. He also lost four teeth and spent several days in hospital.

Simon, a married father of two and an account manager for a bicycle distribution company, was riding with two friends, one of whom suffered minor injuries after crashing into Simon as he went down. The riders claimed the deep pothole, flooded with water, was difficult to spot. The bend in the road in question is notorious for flooding. A report in *The Times* newspaper of 3rd May suggests the pothole was 23cm (9in) deep.

MK Council notes that later on 29th April it sent a team to repair the pothole. ■

Jubilee Hall: Your village hall

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

DURING WW2 it was used as a mess by those working in Whaddon Hall, receiving radio messages from three receiving stations and delivering them by motor cycle to Bletchley Park for decoding. A plaque on the outside of the Hall, unveiled in May 2016, commemorates the village's significant wartime role.

The Hall is governed by a committee of trustees and has charitable status.

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

A group of volunteers (see below) from the village takes care of the administration and maintenance of the Hall. Looking after the Hall can be an expensive task. In the past year alone, various items of expenditure, including roof repairs and a new boiler have depleted the Village Hall funds by some £10,000. Furthermore, at the time of writing, a new kitchen has just been fitted and the kitchen floor is due to be replaced shortly, which will reduce the bank balance further.

Although the groups using the Hall do provide a valuable revenue stream, additional fundraising is always required, therefore the committee are always working hard thinking of, and organising, events to raise the necessary funding to keep the Hall in good shape and available for all the activities this valuable amenity provides.

The committee thanks the people of Whaddon for the support that you have always shown and hopes that future events will be equally well supported to ensure that the Jubilee Hall remains open in the future. The social evening in February and the Curry Night in March have kicked fundraising for 2018 off to a good start.

Future fundraising events currently in progress are:

- Saturday 19th May** - A Royal Wedding celebration – all villagers invited
- Saturday 23rd June** - Mid-summer Barbecue
- Saturday 6th October** - Live Music event with Tennessee Line
- Date to be confirmed** - Quiz Night

We plan to keep you regularly informed in the Quarterly of future events. Also, look out for flyers nearer the time, or check out our Facebook page. ■

The current committee is made up of:

Chairperson Hazel Hedges



Secretary	Alice Hain
Treasurer	Peter Hedges
Other members	Frederick Hayward
	Deb Spinks
	Ralph Spinks
	Mark Carter
	Lawrence John
	Sharon Bessell
	Louise Collin
Booking Clerk	Maria Cole contact mariacole1968@sky.com

St. Mary's Church Whaddon

Regular services

1st Sunday 10.30am Family Service.

2nd Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

3rd Sunday 10.30am Sunday Special-Contemporary informal gathering.

Tea, coffee & croissants available from 10am

4th Sunday 8.30am Said Holy Communion (Traditional, in Lady Chapel)

5th Sunday Benefice service-venue to be notified



Other activities

Tuesday 2.00 - 4.00 pm Post Office in Jubilee Hall

Tuesday 7.30 pm Bellringing practice – new recruits welcome

1st Wednesday 2.00 pm Women's Institute in Jubilee Hall

3rd Wednesday 7.30pm Whaddon Night Owls WI in Jubilee Hall

1st Saturday 10 am -12noon April Coffee Shop in Church

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

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 9th June 2 pm Summer Fete at **King's Close House , Nash Rd .**

Saturday 4th August 10 -12 pm Florrie's Coffee Morning 3, Church Lane, Whaddon

Saturday 6th October 10 - 4:30 pm Open Day at St Mary's. morning coffee, soup & Ploughman's lunches & cream teas served. You are invited to bring gifts of produce to decorate the church.

Sunday 7th October 10.30 am Harvest Festival

Monday 8th October 7.30 pm Harvest Supper & Auction of Produce in Jubilee Hall

As last year, our ANNUAL SUMMER FETE will take place at King's Close House, Nash Rd, Whaddon on Saturday, 9th June by kind permission of Sir Beville (Billy) Stanier.

There will be lots of fun and games for the children with pony rides, hoop-la, treasure hunt, a raffle with £50 1st prize, cake, book and plant stalls to mention but a few. There will also be ice creams and a Cola and Pimms Bar. Woburn Sands Band will be entertaining us as usual and afternoon teas will be served.

This is a wonderful opportunity to support the village church and have an afternoon of fun. So please come along and bring all your friends.

If you are able to help in any way please contact any member of the PCC. We especially need helpers at the village hall in the morning to load the chairs and tables at 10.00 am (this usually takes about 30 minutes), erect the gazebos and stalls at the venue and clear up at 4.30 pm.

If you have anything such as a bottle, tin or jar of anything which you can give for the Tombola or plants, books, toys and cakes for these stalls, please contact Hazel Dudley (01908 505727), Clare Garland (01908 501732) or Jo Bush (01908 749323). You can also bring donations on the day between 10.30 am and 11:30 am.

We would also be very grateful for raffle prizes and a volunteer to run the raffle on the day. Please contact Hazel Dudley (01908 505727).

The ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING took place on 26th April in the Lady Chapel. If you would like to join the PCC (Parochial Church Council) which meets every other month, or become a sides person, please contact the Hon Secretary, Jo Mortimer-Bush (01908 749323), Hazel Hedges (01908 501729), Hazel or Barry Dudley (01908 505727), Clare Garland (01908 501732) or Frederick Hayward.

EASTER services were well attended and the church looked beautiful on Easter Day. Thanks to all who decorated the church with flowers and the crafts made by the children.

The Family Communion Service was again conducted by Rev'd Michael Greig, who involved many of the congregation present in the story of the road to Emmaus. It was a very stimulating service, followed by refreshments, an Easter egg hunt for the children and mini Easter eggs for everyone.

MESSY CHURCH in the Jubilee Hall drew a large crowd of children and parents on Good Friday morning. Much fun was had making an Easter egg tree and bonnets as well as other craft activities. These were brought into church and displayed on Easter Sunday in the window of the children's chapel.

SUNDAY SPECIAL on 3rd Sunday of the month is held at the back of the church and starts at 10.30 am with tea, coffee and croissants being served from 10.00am. The format is informal with music, songs, slides and film excerpts, talks and discussion. Do come and see how you like it, because your contribution and feedback will be valued.

VOLUNTEERS We still need volunteers to help with cleaning the church on a rota basis so that one's turn comes round less often. If you, on your own, or with a friend, can give any time to keep the church looking beautiful, please contact Hazel Dudley on 01908 505727 All materials are supplied.

Volunteers to undertake flowers on a similar rota basis can contact Beryl Evans on 01908 502567 or Janet Spencer on 01908 502540. We also need more volunteers to help to mow the churchyard. Please contact Barry Dudley 01908 505727 or David Spencer 01908 502540.

BELLRINGING You are invited – young or not so young – to attend on Tuesday evenings to learn to ring the bells of St Mary's. You need no particular skill, just a desire to be part of the team. Many of our ringers are not youngsters and it would be a great pity if our bells hung silent for lack of ringers. The bells are rung at festivals and on 2nd Sunday of the month. They are also rung at weddings and funerals when possible.

Our Associate priest for this parish is Rev'd Gussie Walsh, who can be contacted on 01280 821616

or am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk to arrange special services. ■

Hazel Hedges (Church Warden) Tel: 01908 501729 Email:

hazel.hedges@gmail.com

The Parochial Church Council

Hazel Hedges
Churchwarden.
Tel. 01908 501729

Jo Mortimer-Bush
Hon. Secretary
Tel: 01908 503194

Barry Dudley
Hon. Treasurer
Tel: 01908 505727

Frederick Hayward
Jubilee Hall Rep
Tel: 01908 506083

Hazel Dudley
Tel:01908 505727

Clare Garland
Tel: 1908 501732

Rev'd Gussie Walsh
Tel. 01280 821616

Toddler church



TODDLER CHURCH

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

We meet at St Mary's Church Whaddon.

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

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

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

We look forward to seeing you.

Toddler Church finishes for the Summer Holidays on

Wednesday 18th July 2018.

Autumn starts again on Wednesday 5th September 2018

Sally Green (01908 526033)

Hands up for Jesus

HANDS UP FOR JESUS

St Mary's, Whaddon

After-School Club with Rev Gussie and team

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

3rd Wednesday each month of term...3.00 pm - 4.00 pm

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

Gussie (01280 821616).

The Jammy Dodger Kids excel



THIS TIME, writes Hazel Dudley, their baking menu included sausage rolls, cheese straws, cakes and, of course, jammy dodger biscuits.

Their time in the kitchen was followed by a competition in St Mary's churchyard to see who could collect the most twigs, rubbish, paper, wrappings and other litter.

The churchyard was certainly very tidy when they had finished. But who was most successful?

The girls easily won the churchyard cleaning session but the boys excelled themselves in the kitchen.

Irrespective of this, it was lovely to see some of the younger village children participating so enthusiastically in these competitions.

The future depends literally on our next generation – and these are the next generation; they are our future. So, well done all of you. ■

Oh, the joys of puddle-jumping

THE playschool children have been having a lovely time out and about in the local area, as we have been running our forest school sessions in and about Whaddon, taking full advantage of our lovely village.

The children have been learning about the natural world around them and we have included some bird watching, puddle-jumping, bug hunting, listening to, and identifying, the different types of birds, looking at different plant life and fungi, climbing trees and building bridges to get over deep ditches.

The children have also enjoyed regular visits to our local playground, where they have challenged themselves on the apparatus as they have learned to do things for themselves, and each other.

For our project next term we will be looking at new life, spring-time and animal life cycles; the children are really looking forward (after, some kind offers from local residents) to visit different gardens and be visited by some lambs and a tortoise.

Freedom and adventure is what the children at Whaddon Under-Fives have plenty of.

If you feel that your child might like to join the playschool please feel free to pop in to see us and watch us in action. ■



Greenall about it

AS PART of my failing attempts to civilise my study on a wet April day, I came across a clutch of yellowing newspaper pages held together with a bulldog clip.



I remembered their provenance well. We were living on the Wirral about 40 years ago, and we had bought at auction a baby grand piano with a piano stool. The stool was uncomfortable to sit on for long periods and we had it reupholstered.

The lady who undertook the work returned the stool together with the copies of the *Daily Mail* of February 1933 vintage, which had formed the stool's original stuffing.

It took a wet April day to prompt me to examine my find more closely, and amongst the advertisements for new 3-bedroomed houses in Broadstairs for sale at £375 I found an announcement in the society column that a Mrs Gilbert Greenall (**above**) was to marry a Mr Reginald Arthur Farquhar.

The article went on to say that Mrs Greenall had been widowed five years previously after a motor accident. She is described as "a very fine horsewoman" and a prominent member of the Melton Hunt. The article concludes by observing that "for some hunting people, it is only necessary for them to be seen dismounted during a run for it to be construed as *a fall*." Tough cheddar indeed!

It was a moment of pure serendipity when I remembered that our late Mrs Alison Weatherby's daughter Clare had married into the Greenall family. 'The Stool' (**right**) told a fine tale. ■

Roger Porter

Clare writes: Yes indeed, she was married to my husband's great uncle, who would have inherited the title had he not been killed in the car crash in Windsor Great Park. What a coincidence!

(Clare's husband, Lord Daresbury, was Chief Executive of The Greenalls Group, the brewing and pub business. Lord Daresbury also has a long association with horse racing, having been Chairman of Aintree Racecourse for 25 years and is a Steward of the Jockey Club. Ed. ■



Whaddon Book Club



THE Whaddon Book Club, now in its 10th year, continues to meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We try within the month to read the book we have selected. Some titles take longer to complete, but only one or two have completely defeated every single member, either because of time or its content.

Moab is My Washpot by Stephen Fry fell into that category.

Although a compact volume, none of the members chose to finish the book as each felt unhappy with the content.

We are flexible in our choices. Since the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly* we have enjoyed *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion, but we have been irritated by *Lucky Jim*. Kingsley Amis received applause for his first comic novel when first published in 1954. It was acclaimed as marking the arrival of a new literary generation, sometimes referred to as 'Angry Young Men'. We found this modern classic hopelessly dated, although we liked the use of his language.

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

Choice of reading material continues to challenge; if you wish to add your ideas, please join us at our next meeting over a drink at *The Lowndes Arms* on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. Contact jane.porter@live.co.uk ■

Jane Porter

The Post Office is open for business

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

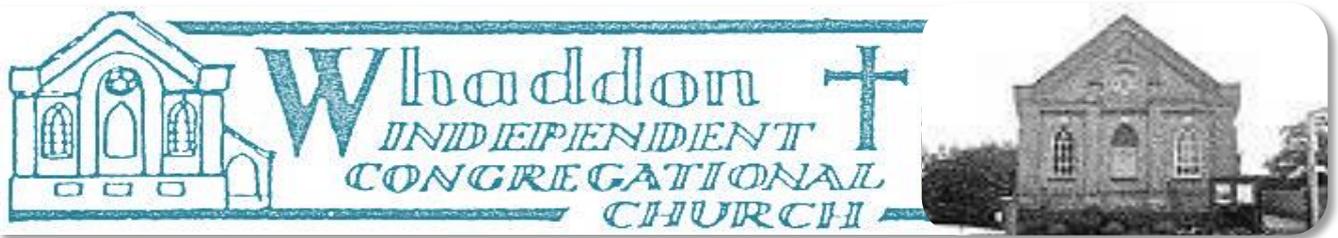
The postmaster, Mr Jigar Patel, runs the Post Office in Deanshanger. His shop can be contacted on 01908 564490. Please save this telephone number for future reference when placing orders. Deanshanger Post Office has a shop and off-licence attached. Mr Patel informs that he is prepared to bring items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



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

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

● **SPOTTED on the back of a car: 'I'm not drunk. I'm just trying to miss the potholes. (Daily Mail, 27th April 2018)**



Whaddon Chapel

*May the God of **hope** fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15v3

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living **hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead 1 Peter 1v3*

Do you ever feel in need of hope on dark days? Do you ever long for better to come?

In the last Quarterly, we considered the events of Easter. But Easter certainly didn't stop at a crucifixion. Had it done so, we would have good reason to feel hopeless: evil and darkness would have overcome Good and Light. But the dark days following the crucifixion fled in the light and hope of the resurrection.

These events are no meaningless story, no grand metaphor. They are real. And a real resurrection brings real hope for every man woman and child that has ever lived. It shows us that God is all-powerful; he is capable of giving new life, joyous life, full life - even after death. This 'hope' is not vain, but certain.

Whatever this life holds (both good or ill), we're told that there can be something better, more wonderful, ahead. This life only comes through faith in Jesus Christ. But faith in him costs us nothing and is there for all who simply ask.

Why not join us to find out more? ■

Regular meetings:

Regular meetings:

- Every Sunday, 4.00pm-5.00pm in Whaddon Chapel.
 - Bible Study & Prayer meeting 7.30-9.00pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 3 Briary View.
-

Well, who was 'Old Adams' then?

In her talk to Whaddon's WI some 25 years ago, Joan Selby-Lowndes praised 'Old Adams' for teaching her all she knew about gardening. This raised the question: who was 'Old Adams'?

SOME who read the last issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*, might have mused: who was 'Old Adams'? Well, it has emerged the article on p. 40 triggered one village memory: it transpires Lilian Ross – née Adams – of Stock Lane *is* a granddaughter of Alfred Adams (**right**), otherwise referred to by Joan Selby-Lowndes as 'Old Adams'.

Lilian came to Whaddon at the age of four with her brother Edwin (Eddie), and her parents, Elizabeth and Thomas. Lillian's younger brother, Henry, was born in Whaddon.

Lilian's grandfather, Alfred Adams, was born in 1871 at Barton Hartshorn, some four miles south-west of Buckingham, the youngest son of Henry (b. 1828) and Susannah (b. 1828) Adams. Alfred Adams' wife Annie was born in Finmere in 1872.

When Alfred was born, the family lived in a cottage linked to the Manor House; father Henry worked as an agricultural labourer.

Other children in the Adams family were George (14), Mary Ann (7) Henry (5) and Emily (3). Henry and Emily, like Alfred, were both born in Barton Hartshorn, although Annie gave birth to George and Mary-Ann in Chetwode.

From this it is clear Henry Adams moved house several times; indeed, 'Old Adams' once admitted that as a boy he "attended seven different schools".

Married in Buckingham

At some point, Alfred met up with Annie and they married in Buckingham Parish Church in 1893. The couple had four children; Lilian's father, Thomas, being the eldest, born in 1894.

Eva followed five years later in 1899 (she died in 1952), and finally Henry, in 1910.

As for Alfred's father, Henry, he was one of nine children born to Thomas (b. 1791) and Mary (b. 1796) Adams. Henry, like many of his day, relied on the land for employment; he too found work as an agricultural labourer.



Unusually, Thomas and Mary had two sets of twins in succession: Thomas and Ann (b.1821) and John and Sarah, born five years later, in 1826.

As already mentioned, Lilian's father, Thomas Adams, had a sister, Eva and a brother Henry.

Eva married Edward Robinson and the couple had six children: Sybil (who became Mrs Collington), Hazel, Charlie (Keith Robinson's father) Austin, Theodore and Ann.



Mrs Annie Adams

described himself as dairyman.

Later, Alfred and Annie moved to Salden and from there to Whaddon where they occupied No. 10 High Street.

There followed a further move, to Oldlands (opposite Cowley's) on the Stratford Road, outside Whaddon. Here Alfred and Annie had a farm; they kept dairy cows, pigs and chickens. Alfred would regularly use markets at Bletchley and Buckingham to buy and sell animals.

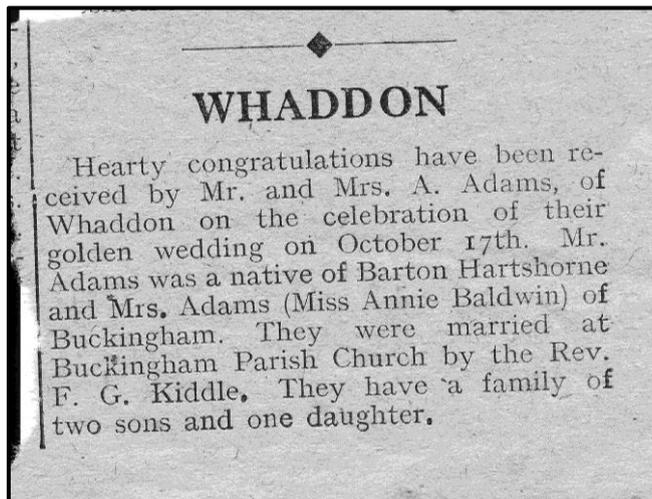
Several years later, Alfred and Annie moved again, this time to settle in at Post Office Row. They celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1943 (**below**).

Lilian's father Thomas meanwhile had established a road haulage business that he ran from No. 10 High Street. He had two trucks; interestingly, petrol pumps were installed in the garden. Later, when the pumps were decommissioned, concrete blocks were placed where

Meanwhile, Eva's brother, Henry Adams, and his wife had three children: Donald (b. 1937), Roger (b. 1939) and Rosemary (b. 1943). It may be recalled that Roger Adams sadly passed away last year; a tribute appeared in the November issue of the *Whaddon Quarterly*.

Keeping farm animals

As for Lilian's grandparents, Alfred and Annie, they too moved about quite a bit, like Alfred's father Henry. In 1901 Alfred and Annie lived in Hanslope, but by 1911, the family could be found at Brooklyon Cottage, Hunter Street, Buckingham. Alfred worked as a dairyman while Alfred's father, Henry, who lived with the family, also



the pumps had once stood. They were still there when Lilian left No. 10 some 14 years ago.

Lilian Grace Adams married Alexander Ross in the first three months of 1945; they named their daughters Shirley and Nora.

Lilian (**below**) found employment with Mrs Martha Selby-Lowndes, the vicar's

wife; sometimes she would clean silver. Lilian describes Mrs Selby-Lowndes as a lovely lady to work for. Edward's mother, who was confined to a wheelchair, lived at Whaddon Hall before moving to Winslow.

Should have been a man

Alfred Adams, Lilian's grandfather, also worked for Rev Edward Selby-Lowndes as gardener and handyman. It was while doing this that Alfred planted a row of silver birch trees that can be found in St Mary's churchyard.

While planting the trees, Alfred gained the willing assistance of Edward Selby-Lowndes' daughter, Joan.

After setting the trees, Alfred remarked: "Joan should have been a man. She's so strong."

And it was in the context of the two working together that Joan Selby-Lowndes referred to 'Old Adams'.

It is sometimes rumoured that Old Adams would, on occasions, walk to London. Asked about Alfred's journeys on foot to the capital Lilian replied "I am not so sure about that."

It is possible 'Old Adams' died in 1949; his wife Annie died 10 years later. ■



Lilian Ross in April 2018

Whaddon's church clock



Recent repairs were needed to Whaddon's church clock when it began to gain time; no amount of adjustment would slow it down! Derek White contacted Wayne Francis of Clockwise Restorations, based near Boston in Lincolnshire. Wayne was happy to come and help out, as he explains here.

DEREK initially discovered an on-line company near Leicester but it no longer carries out this type of work. However, the company recommended my business, Clockwise Restorations, which it uses frequently.

With a date arranged to look at repairing the clock (21st March), Derek and I climbed the ancient spiral stairs to the clock room, below the bells.

The clock, made by W. Potts and Son Ltd of Leeds in 1910, replaced an earlier clock that became too expensive to repair and was a poor timekeeper.

Whaddon's clock is a 'flat-bed' type; all support frames for wheels and gears are fixed above a cast iron flat-bed frame.

It would have been powered originally by gravity using heavy weights on lines and pulleys. Now it has an electric motor to raise a weight which, under gravity, drives the clock.

Derek said the pendulum suspension spring had recently broken and a new one sourced locally and fitted. A car jack had to be employed to raise the pendulum into position, it being so heavy!

Following this, the clock's timekeeping went awry. I found the replacement spring, from which the pendulum hangs, to be too thick.

Made of hardened steel, the spring allows the pendulum to swing to and fro; however, being too thick



Wayne finishes repainting and regilding the dial for Grendon Church, Northamptonshire

it failed to permit a full swing. In my van, I had various springs I had made and could replace it on site.

Seven-year apprenticeship

I specialise in repairing and servicing church clocks and carry an array of parts and machinery to make or repair parts on site. This makes it possible to get a clock working again quickly, rather than removing it from the tower to my workshops.

So the clock was fixed, with Derek left to carry out the task of regulating the clock back to keeping good time.

I'm 50 now and started in the clock trade (Horology) on leaving school aged 16. I completed a seven-year apprenticeship with two clock repair firms: House of Clocks in Ampthill and The Bedfordshire Clockmaking Company in Sandy, Bedfordshire. Following this, I worked for both, repairing clocks from home.

In 1992, I officially started my business: Clockwise Restorations. I specialise in servicing and repairing church clocks. I also install auto-winding and time regulators (with automatic summer/winter time changes) and introduce night-time silencing of chimes. I restore gold-leaf clock dials and weather vanes too.

I handle a variety of work associated with church bells, including pulley refurbishment and clapper rebushing, as well as inspection and servicing of bell installations and frame painting.

The largest church clock I tend is at St Paul's Church in Bedford. The clock mechanism is 5ft high, 3ft deep and 7ft long. The mechanism chimes the four quarters and strikes the hour, and drives four clock dials measuring 8ft in diameter.

The oldest clock I am responsible for is at Saint Andrews Church, Broughton, near Kettering, dating from 1650.

I also care for clocks at stately homes, including Lyndon Hall, Lamport Hall and West Langton Hall. In addition, I service clocks for The Churches' Conservation Trust.



An invention of mine reduces the volume of church clock chimes at night. I developed this, following complaints of sleep disturbance.

I am currently building one to be fitted to St Peter's Church in Sandwich, Kent. The BBC's morning news programme interviewed me when I installed one at St Mary's Church in Ashwell, Hertfordshire.

Last week I surveyed a clock at a church in Scotland that will be fully restored.

My work's most interesting clock is at Alkborough in North Lincolnshire (**left**). Made by the nephew of John Harrison (known as Longitude Harrison) it is unusual for its form of grass-hopper escapement.

I unwind and clear my busy mind producing bread knives! I make and sell Fiddle Bow Bread Knives. Imagine a violin bow; now replace the horse hair with a blade. The result is a very sharp knife made of various woods that glides through fresh, home-made bread. It even tackles tough sourdough loaves. I sell these online and post them all over the world. You can find out more about them and me at www.fiddlebowbreadknives.co.uk and www.clockwiserestorations.co.uk ■

The church clock

Oh, thou who dost these pointers see,
And hears't the chiming hour,
Say, do I tell the time to thee,
And tell thee nothing more;
I bid thee mark life's little day
By strokes of duty done;
A clock may stop at any time,
But time will travel on.

From The church clock by Edwin Waugh, born just 200 years ago in Rochdale, Lancashire. His family were working class and even when he managed to raise himself from his impoverished childhood roots he never forgot the life. It formed the background for much of his poetry, often written in the dialect of the times. Waugh died in 1890.

MacMillan coffee morning

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY...



FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 9.15 – 12.00

Chapel School Room. Whaddon

**Come and help us make sure that no one faces
cancer alone.**

Whaddon Women's Institute

So FAR this year we have enjoyed some interesting talks, including the work of the local Magistrate by one of our members. We have also taken a trip along the Silk Road with the help of an illustrated talk given by Ray and Jenny Rowson, who brought along a collection of beautiful silk scarves and traditional hats.

In April, we visited Ascott House and gardens at Wing, on a very damp afternoon, but we managed to dry out over a cup of tea in the tea room. May brings us once again to our birthday. Unfortunately, we have had to

discontinue the Tuesday Teas. It was no longer viable. This was a sad loss and a big disappointment as communities are encouraged to do something like this to help alleviate loneliness. We feel the village needs something like this. As I write, negotiations are still on-going.

Our thanks to all who have supported the Tuesday Teas for the past 10 years, and to all our bakers.

The Post Office is still in business so please continue to use it – or lose it.

Everyone is very welcome to attend any of our meetings; these take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Jubilee Hall. For more information about our meetings please telephone Jane Waight on 01908 387449 or Sue White on 01908 501987. ■

Susan White, April 2018



Whaddon WI: making waves in '36

ON May 9th 1936, 23 women met in the school and formed Whaddon WI, later Whaddon-with-Nash WI. Mrs E Selby Lowndes, wife of the Vicar, was elected president with Mrs W Selby-Lowndes (of Whaddon Hall) and Miss Hird vice-presidents. It had a committee of 8. These were powerful ladies and they quickly got down to business.

First, at the Parish Council's request, they demanded Whaddon should be represented on Winslow RDC, which quickly agreed. Whaddon has been represented ever since.

Secondly, "in the opinion of WI members, there is an urgent need for more housing in the village." 14 Houses were built.

Thirdly, they declared that "In the interests of health and to improve the amenities of the villages of Whaddon and Nash, the Winslow RDC should adopt a scheme for the collection and disposal of refuse without delay." A resolution had been passed by the National WI in 1925 asking for refuse collection, so the National Federation already had a mandate to put pressure on the Government to find "better ways of disposing of industrial and domestic waste rather than the present and unsightly means." Whaddon got its rubbish collected.

So there you have it. Your bin collection comes courtesy of Whaddon-with-Nash WI. Be very grateful.

Today any WI member can suggest a Resolution which, if accepted, is voted on by all members in the country, and implemented by them. Recent campaigns have included sea pollution by microplastic particles, food waste, library closures, SOS for honey bees and (a recent one,) and combating loneliness. Interestingly, other WIs are now serving regular teas in village halls in response to this, but Whaddon were there first. We opened Teas on Tuesday on Valentine's Day 2010 but sadly our future is currently in doubt.

So, want to change the world? Then come and join us. There are two WIs in Whaddon (Whaddon WI in the afternoon and Night-Owlers in the evening) so no excuses. You'll be very welcome at either or both. And no, making jam is not compulsory, unless of course you want to? We look forward to seeing you. ■

Margaret Barrie



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

Whaddon Night Owlers WI

We have been busy bees (owls?) in the past couple of weeks.

On Good Friday we made refreshments for Messy Play with the church and met some lovely children who were having great fun with a range of activities: lots of money raised for the church as people were very generous! They seemed to enjoy the cakes too.

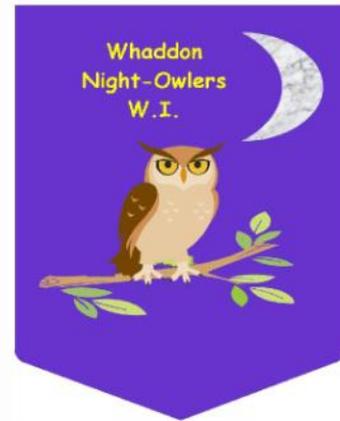
The following Saturday we got together for a sewing bee; one of our ladies hosted us to have a bag-making morning. Ages ago, we had the idea of making bags to sell for fundraising purposes: environmental ones of course! We duly gathered materials and met for a morning of sewing, tea and fun. Colours were carefully considered, handle length carefully measured and linings cut. Different skill levels meant we all took on different roles but the end result is a stock of bags that I am sure will be very popular. When you see us at the next fete or fayre, make your way quickly to the stall to grab a bag fast as they are sure to be popular! On top of all this, some of the group are busy putting together a float in conjunction with the afternoon group of WI members so watch this space for some lovely photos!

In our April meeting we had a talk from Maria Greenhill of Greenhills Garden Design. Needless to say, we are all off to the garden centre this weekend and will be commencing digging shortly. An inspiring talk with some beautiful pictures of beautiful gardens.

May sees us meeting with Blood Bikers. Not a motorcycle gang as such, but a group who use motorbikes to move vital blood supplies around as needed. It should be interesting! In June, we are visiting Milton Keynes Museum for a tour (and tea and cake). There have been some major developments there this year so we are excited to see what has been going on. One of the senior staff came and talked to us last year about their current projects and it all sounded so fascinating we wanted to see more.

If you would like to join us for any of these sessions, please contact Daphne on 01908 502088 or come along to the Jubilee Hall on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 to see what we are up to. ■

Alison Cross



Lasting Powers of Attorney – what are they and are they worth it?

Many people have heard about Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) but what are they, and are they worth having? There are two types of LPA:

- **Lasting Power of Attorney for Property and Financial Affairs** – this enables you (‘the Donor’) to appoint someone else (‘the Attorney’) to assist you during your lifetime in dealing with your money and property.
- **Lasting Power of Attorney for Health and Welfare** – this enables you to appoint someone to assist in making decisions about your medical care, your community care and where you live.

You can have one or both LPAs. Many people opt to have both LPAs. Initially, when thinking about an LPA, people often want that protection in place when they can no longer make their own decisions. However, the LPA for Property and Finance may be used by the Attorneys as soon as it is registered. People often find this useful if they are unable to deal with some of their financial affairs because they find them difficult to handle or are unable to make that trip the Bank.

The LPA for Health and Welfare allows the Attorneys to make decisions only when the Donor is incapable of making the decision themselves, but decisions covered by this LPA are incredibly important.

You can have more than one Attorney and you can decide if they can act individually or whether they must act together. When choosing an Attorney(s) it is important that you appoint someone you trust and are comfortable with. However, your LPA can contain restrictions and guidance for your Attorneys on what they may, or may not, do with your estate and care.

LPAs must be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian in order to be effective.

If you are appointed as an Attorney, you are under a duty to always act in the best interests of the Donor. You must comply with the principles of the Mental Capacity Act. Attorneys are held responsible for their actions and can be subject to criminal or civil proceedings for any failure to comply with their duties.

If you are considering making an LPA, but require more information about them and what you need to think about then I can forward our LPA Factsheet to you. Simply email me on rachael@macintyrelaw.co.uk for a copy. If there are any topics you would like me to cover going forward then please let me know. ■

(This article is not intended to be legal advice and you should seek independent legal advice for your own individual circumstances.)

MacIntyre Law provides legal services for your business and for you personally:

- Employment Law
- Commercial & Civil Litigation
- Property Litigation
- Company & Commercial Law
- Commercial Property
- Landlord & Tenant
- Wills & Probate
- Contentious Probate
- Family Law
- Fixed Fee Consultations

Contact **Rachael MacIntyre**: tel: 01908 410844
or email: rachael@macintyrelaw.co.uk

MacIntyre Law is situated at 82-84 High Street, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, MK11 1AH

www.macintyrelaw.co.uk



Florrie Parrott and lacemaking

THE NAME of Florrie Parrott, a much-loved former long-time Whaddon resident, appeared in an article in *The Lacemaker*, published by The Lace Society. John Mortimer reports.

PHILLIPPA WHITE, in drawing attention to Florrie, wrote about her great grandparents who lived near Bletchley, but later moved to North Wales.

Many, many years ago, her mother and grandmother visited Whaddon to see her grandmother's aunt, lacemaker Elizabeth Parrott. Her mother took a photograph of Mrs Parrott outside her house, with her daughter and grandson, Gordon.

On Easter Monday, 1987, Phillippa and her parents visited Whaddon and its churchyard in search of family graves. Her father, seeing a neighbour, asked if any members of the Parrott family remained, to which the neighbour replied "Here comes Mrs Parrott now".

The two women approaching turned out to be Florrie Parrott and Stella Pickering (Florrie's husband Gordon's cousin; she lived in Rugby). This was not unusual; Florrie, who often drove up to Rugby to visit

Stella, could often be seen walking in the village. One thing led to another and before long, Phillippa and her parents had received an invitation to take tea, cake and sandwiches in Florrie's cottage. For Phillippa's mother the occasion marked an historic return to the cottage she visited 56 years previously.

Following this, letters were exchanged with Florrie sending four bobbins belonging to Elizabeth Parrott.



An example of Bucks Point lace as made by Mrs Elizabeth Parrott.

Mechlin lace and Chantilly lace, with the word *Bucks* being short for Buckinghamshire.

In 1851, there were 50 lacemakers in Whaddon, including four paupers. With a population of 549 (278 males and 271 females), the lacemakers accounted for nearly one-fifth of the female population. The number included twins Betsy and



Whaddon's Bucks Point lace.

Phillippa wrote "It seems appropriate that these bobbins are now hard at work on my pillow, making a piece of Bucks lace for my mother's Christmas present."

A centre for lacemaking

Buckinghamshire was a mainstay for lace production, along with Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and other counties. The county's lace had a particular name: Bucks Point: a lace made using bobbins and pins.

Bucks Point (**above**) was similar to French Lille lace, and thus often called English Lille. The lace was also similar to

Sarah Capel, 14, of Church Lane. Coincidentally, lacemaker Mary Shaw, 33, of Church Lane, was also one of twins (she had a brother).

"Whaddon certainly was in the heart of the Bucks lace industry of the 18th and 19th centuries," confirms Sue Wiltshire, Membership Secretary at The Lace Society.

Lacemaking took place in women's houses. Sometimes, in poor families, men and boys would take up the practice. However, when school became compulsory (from 1870) girls could no longer devote much time to their bobbins and cotton. And so, with increased mechanization, it is hardly surprising lacemaking fizzled out as a cottage industry. So much so, that by 1911 there were hardly any lacemakers in Whaddon or elsewhere.



In 1881, Mrs Elizabeth Willett, (33) great grandmother of Evelyn Jaworska, earned her living through lacemaking (here) in Shenley Brook End. Later she lived in Shenley Church End in an Alms House. By 1881, she and husband George (33), had had six children, including Cornelius Willett who later (in 1911) lived in Whaddon with his wife Elizabeth. They had 5 children, including Ada, Evelyn's mother. Great grandmother Willett was just one of many lacemakers in the Shenleys.

In good times, the trade paid between one shilling and one shilling and three pence a day in 'old money' – much better than the wages of agricultural labourers. With work 'in service' hard to come by, women could earn more by lacemaking and 'enjoy' greater independence.

But this came at a cost. The 6th Report of the Medical Officer of the Children's Employment Commission found that between the ages of 15 and 25 "more than double the number of females died of tuberculosis and other lung diseases than did males." The report attributed this to "poorly ventilated, overcrowded lace schools that girls were sent to from a young age."

Lace schools played an important part in the early to mid-nineteenth century. The schools taught youngsters how to make lace and earn extra money for their parents. Reading and writing too were taught, but quality varied from school to school.

Hanslope had two lace schools. Children began on the narrowest edging; they worked between six and seven hours a day and were paid six pence (2.5p) a day. They were not allowed to talk whilst working.

A trace of lacemaking still remains in Whaddon. Jill and Nigel Aitken's house in Vicarage Road is named *Lacemakers*.

Notes Jill, "Evelyn Jaworska told us about lacemaking in the house that was here before this one. That's why we called our bungalow *Lacemakers*: to keep the memory alive."

Evelyn told the *Whaddon Quarterly*, "Mr and Mrs James lived in that cottage with their four children: Violet, Doris, Winifred, and George. My uncle, Hughie Willett, said Mrs James ran the lace school." Evelyn added, "We used to call Vicarage Road Relations' Row, as the Dormers and Willetts lived in four cottages next to one another."

Vicarage Road has enjoyed several names down the years; it used to be known as Pink's End in the early 1850s when at least nine lacemakers lived there, including Whaddon's youngest lacemaker: Lucy James, aged 11. ■

- Sue Wiltshire and Shirley Lomas of High Wycombe highlight several books on lacemaking, particularly the *Lace Villages* which features Stony Stratford. They are: *Lace Villages* by Liz Bartlett ISBN 10: 0713463686 ISBN 13: 9780713463682; and *Romance of the Lace Pillow* by Thomas Wright published in 1919.

Meanwhile, The Lace Society Chair Mary Webb points to the following web site <http://www.cosgrovehistory.co.uk/doc/records/poor.html> to learn about a poor family whose daughters were enrolled in a lace school in Whaddon. "We know from the accounts that women were given money or equipment such as bobbins and thread to set themselves up in lacemaking," she writes. ■

It seemed like a good idea at the time...

Mad? Maybe. Out of her comfort zone? Definitely. Marianna Beckwith sets off on her marathon.

"I know what I'll do. I'll row across the Channel, virtually, on a rowing machine, at the gym!"

Does this sound like someone in the pub, not really watching the rugby, who's had a couple of G&Ts and got a bit brave? Got it in one. That was me on 17th March.

I had a big birthday at the end of last year, and something was telling me to look for challenges. So I set myself up: 6 weeks to get myself fit enough to row 33.8 km (21 miles). Oops! What did I just commit to?

Crucially, I'd confided in a friend about my idea. She was non-committal, as I remember, most likely because she thought I was completely bonkers, but I'd put the idea out there, in the open. I'm a finisher, as in "I've started, so I'll finish." It now had to happen. And since I was doing it anyway, and to add a bit



of pressure, why not do it for charity and get sponsored? There's one significant charity in my life, and that's Supershoes. The choice was an easy one.

I go to the gym regularly and eat (relatively) sensibly. So I'd call myself reasonably fit. However, this was a big one, actually massive, even by my standards, and as I discovered, there's fit and there's fit.

Did I say I was reasonably fit? Hmm... maybe not so much. I'd certainly neglected my cardio fitness, and this was very clear as I puffed and panted my way through some quite short practice distances on the rowing machine that would come to be my not-so-best friend. It was clear I needed to do more. So, every time I went to the gym to do something bendy and stretchy (I love yoga and Pilates and could do them forever), I went early and added in some short bursts of serious rowing. I also started to go to the high intensity training sessions which I'd always avoided in the past. And guess what? They're quite good fun. If by "good fun" you mean sweaty, breathless with a hearty hatred for burpees and battleropes! Google them if you're not sure. Did I mention my weekly endurance sessions, where I increased the distances rowed: 1 hour, 2 hours? Ugh! I hated them!

I'm so grateful to everyone who's sponsored me, to Sarah at Supershoes, who's encouraged me all the way, to the guys at Fusion Fitness at the National Badminton Centre, for their advice and encouragement, and to dear Mr B, who's backed me all the way, and come along to do his own thing at the gym, whilst I've been doing extra training sessions and mini-marathon rowing sessions, which means he's lots fitter too! The total of everyone's generosity stands at £1,326.42.

I've learnt many things about myself, about goal-setting, about mindset and motivation whilst doing this. And for that, I thank Supershoes for giving me the inspiration. Training for an event where you're being sponsored to do it is very motivating indeed. Yes, rowing is a bit boring and yes, it hurts. Every time I was tempted to stop (and there were many of those), I'd think of the children going through that fearsome journey. My boredom and pain was nothing compared with theirs, and my challenge would be over in 6 weeks. For them, the challenges go on far, far longer.

◆ In case you've not heard of Supershoes before, it's a children's charity which customises trainers and sends them as gifts to children going through treatment for cancer. Each pair is painted to the child's specific requests for their favourite things: hobbies, sports teams, colours, animals etc. All the 300+ artists and admin staff work as volunteers. Supershoes is based in Fenny Stratford, but covers the whole of the UK. It does an amazing, unique thing. Children who receive Supershoes also receive a boost to their self-esteem and confidence. They're encouraged to get up and move about more. They're reminded of who they are, above and beyond their treatment. To find out more, go to www.supershoes.org.uk ■

A country club destroyed by fire

What would £450 have bought in 1975? A half-share in a Citroen 2CV or Ford Cortina perhaps? Or maybe a five-year sub to a sumptuous country club. John Mortimer examines one of Whaddon's 'what might have been'.

THE PROSPECT of enjoying haute cuisine as filthy workmen who, one after another, trundled their laden wheelbarrows across a newly-laid, lush, deep-pile, crimson carpet is enough to send anyone wild; without doubt enough to quickly propel even the most loyal customer miles away into the welcoming lobby of any Escoffier-listed restaurant.

Such treatment today at the hands of the lower orders would certainly be an anathema to current diners, ever more assiduous in their search for culinary perfection in a convivial and sumptuous background.

Not so the ardent food lovers dining at the Whaddon Hall Country Club in the early 1970s. Even as workmen struggled against impossible deadlines, devotees of the much heralded and hyped-up lifestyle were prepared to close their eyes to the mayhem around them; with stiff upper lips they would steel themselves to stay loyal to the bitter end in the hope of better times to come, while at the same time remaining ever-anxious to lavish unctuous praise on the luckless *mein host*.

The diners were there after all because they had joined the elite: one of the most prestigious country clubs in the land.

They had been wooed by the prospectus detailing the finer points of the new Club. After all, the marketing gloss spelt it out in glowing terms: 'a magnificent country house built in the classic style so popular in the early part of the XIXth century....approached by a long winding tarmac drive through beautiful rhododendron bushes and conifers up to the front of the house'.



The heated swimming pool was sheltered from the winds.

Today, copies of the prospectus are hard to come by, such is their rarity. But find one, and you'll discover a mine of information about something rather grand: namely the Whaddon Hall Country Club.

The prospectus unfurls the various forthcoming delights of this prestigious venue in 18 acres of 'beautiful Whaddon Chase' and enjoying 'unrivalled views'.

It further oozes: 'The house's façade is dominated by superb Grecian-style pillars, whilst it retains the clean unfussy lines of the much earlier Georgian period.'



Among the many activities planned for Whaddon Hall Country Club were: an outdoor heated swimming pool, three all-weather tennis courts and a nine-hole pitch-and-put course. Other features were the fully-equipped 'Whaddon Hall health complex' with two adjacent squash courts, and a recreation area comprising a playground 'especially designed for children of all ages' and which will 'serve to amuse the younger ones leaving you free to follow the pursuit of your choice'!

Rumours amongst locals at the time even suggested an indoor shooting gallery in one of the cellars.

An 18-hole golf course offered prospects of another highlight; however construction of that would not begin until summer 1975.

Even so, members could enjoy the Whaddon Bar: 'an ideal setting in which to spend a relaxing time with your friends', and a lounge with a view of the beautiful landscaped gardens and the surrounding countryside'.

Adjacent to the lounge would be a 'magnificent library with a comprehensive range of literature encased in mahogany cabinets'; while a full-size billiard table would dominate a private room, 'attracting the attention of those who enjoy this most relaxing yet exacting pastime'.

On the first floor two card rooms would provide an opportunity for a variety of games to be played in elegant surroundings, and where it was envisaged 'tournaments will be held' at regular intervals 'to add to the competitive spirit'.

Notwithstanding this, a 'spacious yet comfortable' television lounge has been 'laid out for the benefit of members' with a separate area 'allocated for the younger viewers in the children's playroom so that 'adult viewing would not be disturbed'.

Topping these would be the Diner: a 'small but comprehensive dining area serving light meals at all times', again on the first floor This dining room would cater for the 'whole family with an extensive menu containing many children's favourites'.

Children, too, were not forgotten. After all, some members likely would have them in tow. The prospectus vowed a nursery for the 'very young with a full-time trained nurse will be available on the second floor', as well as a children's playroom 'set aside for the sole use of children and where a host of facilities will be on hand'. Combined with outdoor activities these would make the Whaddon Hall Country Club WHCC) 'very popular with the young folk'.

The brochure continues to extol the virtues of the Country Club when it pronounces 'we at



The Restaurant with its Basque furnishings.

the Whaddon Hall feel that your members would appreciate a functional room for board meetings, private discussions and general business'. It concludes: 'and what better way to end a long meeting than with a fine meal at our superb restaurant.'

The prospectus hailed the restaurant as 'fine, with its international cuisine set around its own open courtyard giving a Mediterranean ambiance.' The owners of the Hall had painstakingly enhanced the ambiance by adding 'stone fireplaces and beamed ceilings carefully blended with Basque furnishings and an air of soft elegance'.

The prospectus concludes 'what could be more tranquil than dinner on a warm summer evening on the courtyard'.

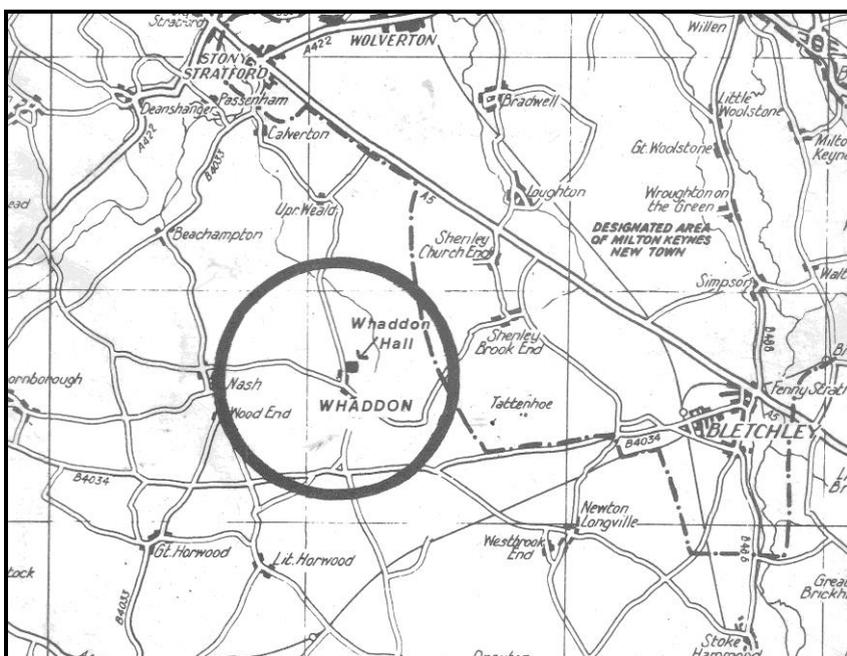
Indeed the restaurant, with its red carpet, proved fully functional well ahead of completion. Inevitably, it was not uncommon for workmen to be both visible and audible as they pushed their wheelbarrows through the room, much to the annoyance of some business customers anxious for peace and quiet, or erring lovers leaning to one another in a quiet tête-à-tête.

And what would all this cost? Well, it was anticipated WHCC would be open between Easter and Whitsun 1975; normal membership fees would be £100 enrolment with £100 annual subscription. Those joining before 1st March 1975 would 'enjoy a reduced enrolment fee of £50 enrolment and £100 annual subscription.'

However, those bold enough to embark on a five-year membership were encouraged to shell out 'a once-only sum of £450' which would cover subscription

until 1980. In those days, £450 would have bought a half-share in a 2CV.

Perhaps sadly for the Whaddon Hall Country Club, all of that came to nought when a year later fire took hold, causing much of the interior to be badly damaged. Circumstances surrounding the fire were mysterious in the extreme: so mysterious that it even escapes revelation by Google. Inevitably various rumours circulated amongst locals who thought they knew the cause!



Seven words pinpoint Milton Keynes New Town.

The fire effectively put paid to the idea of a Country Club; its success would have put Whaddon well and truly 'on the map'.

And so members' dreams were not to be; the Whaddon Hall Country Club failed to deliver what the prospectus promised with its luscious phrases. All of which perhaps is just as well. For while Browne Willis in his tramp-like attire would have been perfectly at home in a *deux chevaux*, certainly he would have been out of place amidst the opulence of the Country Club. More than likely too, he would have vehemently opposed plans to see his stately home put to such frivolous use. ■

Broken-hearted 'Brownies'

BLETCHLEY PARK and Whaddon Hall were but two of the countless British country houses commandeered by the Government after the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act was passed on 24th August 1939.

The country houses played their part in the battle against the Nazi threat in WW2 and, following requisition, became hospitals, schools, maternity units and command headquarters.

According to author Julie Summers, by 1941, over two million troops were stationed in such houses across Britain. It led to the Special Operations Executive, (SOE) being given the nickname *Stately Homes of England*.

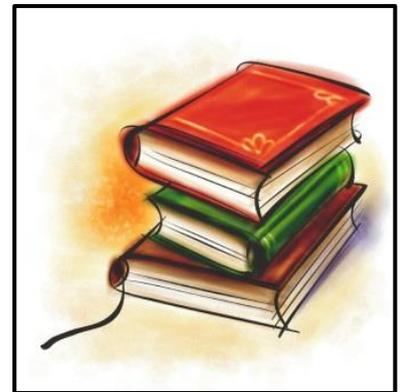
Summers, even with her painstaking research, gives Bletchley Park a passing glance while Whaddon Hall not at all; she favoured instead other Buckinghamshire grand houses.

Story is well known

Summers, who spent four years researching the 400pp book using diaries, letters and material squirrelled away in private archives, explained to the *Whaddon Quarterly*, "I do refer to Bletchley Park, but only to say that I wouldn't be using it as a study, as the story is very well known, and I was not sure I could add anything to the already outstanding material that is out there in the public domain."

Summers added, "Whaddon Hall was another place I considered and I've read Geoffrey Pidgeon's wonderful book *The Secret Wireless War*, but decided not to go with it, as I was after more intimate stories."

At Waddesden Manor, Summers discovered home-owner Lord Rothschild had four days' notice to quit – just enough time to stash away valuable Gainsborough paintings.



Others were less lucky. Stubbs and Titian paintings went up in smoke at Melford Hall in Suffolk, following partying by junior officers. Likewise, they raided the wine cellar, carefully refilling discarded bottles with water and re-corking!

Masterminded by agents

In Buckinghamshire also, Summers notes agents masterminded the assassination in Prague of Reinhard Heydrich (a high-ranking Nazi official and an architect of the Holocaust) from the Czech intelligence HQ at Addington House in the Vale of Aylesbury.

Summers brings to light too, the rich cast of characters who populated these houses, citing President De Gaulle of France, who lived near to Ashridge Hall in Hertfordshire, and President Sikorski of Poland, who took refuge in Iver, Buckinghamshire while Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands snuggled down in the comfort of South Mimms.

Across the boundary from Buckinghamshire, Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire, had to make room for 400 boys from Malvern College while 1,000 MI5 workers squeezed their way into the empty college. However, whereas more than 1,000 panes of 18th century glass in the Long Library at the Palace went unscathed, there are horror stories elsewhere of Van Dykes being used as dartboards and elaborate staircases chopped up for firewood!

Brocket Hall in Hertfordshire, with its former Ribbentrop Bedroom, became the home of the London Maternity Hospital, which had to move out of London's East End to avoid the bombs.

Alas, Brocket Hall had a dark side. Women, pregnant with illegitimate babies, were sectioned off in the attic and, forced to wear brown dresses and required to work as skivvies. The 'Brownies', as they were known, had to work until the second stage of labour; on birth their infants were immediately whisked away for adoption. The women departed from Brocket Hall heartbroken. JM

■ *Our Uninvited Guests: The Secret Lives of Britain's Country House 1939-45* by Julie Summers. Published by Simon & Schuster.

- **A DRAFT BILL** setting 20 mile/h as the default speed limit in villages, towns and cities is to be launched in the Scottish Parliament by the Green Party.

And the date of this hunt, please?

A reader has received a mysterious DVD containing two film strips depicting a hunt meet and a cricket match. As the reader explains here, he is anxious to discover more about the hunt.

WHEN you receive a DVD containing an old cine film and no member of the family knows anything about its contents, what do you do?



Put it away and forget about it? Or do the investigative juices take over, making you wonder if there is anything that can be done to help identify some parts of the film?

Unsurprisingly, I decided, to see what could be gleaned from the DVD. It contained two separate film reels, the first in black and white, and the second in colour. The total running time is approximately 12 minutes.

The DVD has one problem: the quality of the film clips. Besides being cut-down versions of the originals, the films have deteriorated over the years, greatly affecting large parts. The result is a DVD with only some 'best bits'.

It is planned to make full copies of everything on the films but this is expensive and it may not necessarily reveal anything more than what has been transferred across.

More than 70 years old

First and foremost, early suspicions suggested parts of the black and white film could date back to the mid-1940s; as such they are more than 70 years old.

This in itself presents issues; few if any people are alive today to identify individuals. Also, towns and villages have changed. To compound this, other people may not have recorded the events on film.

This places a heavy reliance on archival material from libraries (which may be available) to provide clues as to events shown. However, it is possible some landmarks remain and, as such, provide film locations.

Two sections of film reveal events that provide starting points for an investigation. Also, a section of film shows evidence of snowfall. Whilst snowfalls in the south are becoming less frequent these days, it may be possible to ascertain whether any cold weather periods in the 1940s involving snow were recorded.



Who is this Hunt Master. please?

The first area of interest is a short section of black and white film showing a hunt and, possibly, a Hunt Master. Also, various riders and hounds can be seen entering part of an unidentified village.

Can the Hunt Master be identified? And where is the village? There is little to go on.

However, a search through the film suggests filming may have taken place in North Buckinghamshire.

The second section of film, in colour, illustrates a cricket match; a club house and a distinctive building are in the background. Might these be a clue to the film's location?

Colour film, although available during WW2, had limited availability. It is possible therefore that some of the film was post-war.

A decision was made to visit villages in and around North Buckinghamshire to see if the 'distinctive' building' in the second part of the film could be located.

A drive round the villages of Great Horwood, Little Horwood and Mursley to study their existing sports grounds revealed no unusual structures of the type in the colour film. Could the building have been demolished?

The final visit of the afternoon took in Whaddon. A drive along the High Street and up to the Church provided no clues as to the location of a suitable cricket ground.

When driving out of the village along the Stratford Road towards Calverton, it was decided to turn round in the entrance to Whaddon Hall, and head back up the High Street with the aim of visiting a sports ground in Shenley Road. This, it was hoped would still have the mystery building shown in the film.

This manoeuvre proved to be a stroke of luck. It revealed where the hunt may have been filmed.

The somewhat blurry photographs taken from the film show the Hunt Master, various riders and hounds moving up the High Street into the village.

The photograph **below left** shows the hunt in the High Street. The same part of the village, photographed in December



2017, is shown **right**. Notice the similarities.

The Editor of the *Whaddon Quarterly* has put forward three possible candidates for the Hunt Master shown in the photograph: Lord Rosebury, who



resigned in January 1940; Major Drabble and Major H.T. Morton, who looked after the hunt from 1942.

Research shows a hunt was held in Whaddon on 21st October 1939. Whether this has any bearing on the identification of the gentleman in the still is another matter. Can anyone provide further details concerning the Master of the Hunt or possible dates of any hunts that may have taken place during the 1940s? If so can they please contact the Editor.

What of the mystery building? As luck would have it, a visit to a local antique shop provided the answer. Whilst searching through some books and local postcards, a possible location at Stony Stratford emerged.

A trip to the cricket ground at Stony Stratford revealed a building to the rear of the area. This was Fegan's; in the 1940s this served as an orphanage. It would seem to confirm the cine film as being shot in North Buckinghamshire. ■

Cern

Local bee keepers need help

Following the long winter of 2017-2018 and the late Spring, colonies of honeybees are under tremendous stress.

IN THE WILD the survival chance of a honeybee swarm is about 20%, but collected and housed in a hive by a beekeeper, the survival rate triples. The MBBKA needs the help of everyone in the area to ensure we collect as many swarms this year as possible. If you see a swarm of bees please contact the MBKA on the swarm-line number below. We will send a beekeeper to collect the swarm and provide it with a new home

Honey bee swarms are merely colonies that are in transition. Normally these swarms are found hanging from tree branch, fence post or any place where the swarm can gather around the Queen while scouts are sent out to look for a more permanent home. A swarm left alone will only be in place from just a few minutes to a few hours and occasionally a few days. Generally, these swarms are very docile and the swarming Bees usually will not sting. Before Honey Bees swarm they gorge themselves with honey before leaving the hive. This makes it very hard for them to double over and sting.

If you see a swarm: The collection of swarms is an important part of the work of bee keepers. You should never interfere with a swarm; pest control companies will not kill a swarm unless absolutely necessary. **(See also p. 71)** ■

Please contact:

MBBKA Swarm Hotline 07770370132

Brian Bush – Mid Bucks Beekeepers and BBKA Swarm Officer

BBKA British Bee Keepers Association website

<http://www.bbka.org.uk>

Winslow Community Bus

wdcbenquires@btconnect.com

www.winalowbus.com

01296 715786

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



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

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

May and June timetable

Horwoods, Mursley Swanbourne Weedon (Sat only) £4.50 return, free with bus pass.

Tuesday 8th May – Vist Coton Manor House – Beautiful 5-acre bluebell wood, and a lovely 10-acre garden with Water garden to explore. £15.00 includes entrance.

Thursday May 10th - Westcroft Shopping* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

EVERY Friday and Saturday – Aylesbury Bus. Departs Winslow 9.15am, village pickups, free with bus or just £4.50 return from Winslow. Ring for details.

Tuesday 15th May – Cotswold Lunch & drive, with pub lunch in Stow-on-the-Wold. £8.00 travel.

Thursday 17th May -Cotswold Lunch & drive – lunch at Fox Inn Broadwell. £8.00 travel.

Thursday May 24th - - Westcroft Shopping* Morrisons, Boots, Aldi etc free with bus pass. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick ups. Ring to book.

Tuesday May 29th – Visit Frosts Garden Centre – (OAP lunch only £7.95 for 2 courses!) £5.00 (replaces advertised trip to Thame).

Thursday May 31st – Stratford -upon Avon – shopping or a day by the river, £7.00

Tuesday 5th June Buckingham Bus – 1 hour town, 1 hour Tesco. Door to door, bus pass accepted, otherwise only £4.50 return.

Monday June 11th – Asda in MK1 Shopping, also M&S, H&M, Primark etc £4.00

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

Tuesday 26th June – Hidcote Manor & Kiftsgate Gardens – 2 amazing Arts & Crafts Gardens in the Cotswolds. Travel £10.00. Entrance: Hidcote: £12.70 NT members free, Kiftsgate £8.50. This trip is also being run from Buckingham Garden Centre on Monday 9th July, to be booked through Winslow Bus.

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

Milton Keynes THEATRE

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

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

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

Wed 26th September War Horse – Circle D £50.00 (sold out)

LIVE STREAMING FROM COVENT GARDEN

These MUST be booked well in advance. They average about 3hrs running time with intervals. Start time: 6.30pm, 7pm or 7.15pm.

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

Programme

- Thursday 3rd May –Royal Ballet – **Manon** Kenneth MacMillan’s powerful telling of Manon and Des Grieux’s tragic love is a masterpiece of modern ballet, set to music by Massenet.
- Thurs 10 May – **National Theatre Live - Macbeth** Shakespeare’s most intense and terrifying tragedy, directed by Rufus Norris (The Threepenny Opera, London Road), will see Rory Kinnear (Young Marx, Othello) and Anne-Marie Duff (Oil, Suffragette) return to the National Theatre.
- Wed 16th May –**An American In Paris** -from London’s West End this breathtakingly beautiful Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, inspired by the Oscar winning MGM film, tells the impassioned story of discovering love in the 'City of Light'.
- Tuesday 5th June - Oscar Wilde's **An Ideal Husband** -A new production of the Rolls-Royce of English comedies will be broadcast live to cinemas from the Vaudeville Theatre in London's West End.
- Tuesday 12th June – **Swan Lake** The Royal Ballet presents a new production of Tchaikovsky’s magnificent classical ballet, with additional choreography by Liam Scarlett and designs by John Macfarlane.
- Tuesday 9th October - Oscar Wilde’s **The Importance of Being Earnest**, A new production of one of the funniest plays in English, will be broadcast live to cinemas from the Vaudeville Theatre in London’s West End.

These live screening have had a fantastic response so far from those who have been to see them. Book now as shows sell out quickly. Book one, some or all! Why not give it a go!

Book now as shows sell out quickly. Trips may be cancelled if not enough interest. Book one, some or all!

Telephone Sue for information leaflet about the shows.

A milestone for The Exchange

THE Exchange in Aylesbury has reached a milestone according to AVDC. Along with its development partner Durkan, AVDC claims that construction of The Exchange is over halfway through. Work started in January 2017. The development is the latest stage in our regeneration of the town centre, and will create new spaces for restaurants, a public square and much-needed homes in the heart of Aylesbury. When finished, The Exchange will offer 47 one- and two-bedroom apartments for rent and sale. The Exchange has a website. ■



Neighbourhood Watch - Whaddon



BANK TELEPHONE SCAMS

Requests to transfer funds

This involves a fraudster calling you and posing as your Bank or another organisation. The number they are calling from may be 'spoofed' to make it look like it's from your Bank or another legitimate organisation.

They tell you that your account is at risk of fraudulent activity and you must transfer your funds into a 'safe account'. You will often be pressured to act immediately.

This 'safe account' is actually the fraudster's account, so your money is sent directly to the fraudster.

Requests to withdraw cash

Some fraudsters visit your home posing as Police Officers to persuade you to visit your local branch and withdraw funds from your account. They'll tell you that you're helping with a Police investigation.

The fraudster will tell you not to inform the staff at the branch of the real reason for the withdrawal. Once withdrawn, the money is collected in person from you by a courier or the fraudster themselves.

Some fraudsters might ask you to make a high value purchase (for example a watch) which is then collected by the fraudster.

**DON'T BE TAKEN IN – SAY YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT
THEN TALK TO A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND.**

OWNERS OF KEYLESS CARS BEWARE

AFTER more than a decade of decline, following the introduction of immobilisers, alarm systems and tracking devices, car thefts have surged in the past three years. The Milton Keynes area has not escaped the increase in vehicle attacks.

The surge in crime comes as keyless technology, once the preserve of expensive high-end vehicles, has become commonplace among more affordable family cars, one of the most popular for criminals being the Ford Fiesta.

Keyless technology is designed to increase motorists' convenience as it typically means they need just a small fob to unlock their cars, and can drive by pressing an ignition button. But criminals are exploiting this with devices available to buy cheaply. So beware. The

array of new electronic gadgets has helped thieves to outsmart manufacturers and police alike.

Two main methods of car theft deploy devices available to buy online. The first type 'relays' a signal from the keys inside the owner's home to their vehicle outside. This opens the car's doors and allows the criminals make off with the vehicle. Offenders have been caught on cctv strolling up driveways, holding the devices against the owner's front door and keylessly stealing their vehicle.

The second method involves forcing entry to the car using a programming device that tells the vehicle's computer to trust a blank key. Using gadgets available online, criminals can break in and 'steal' a Ford Fiesta in under two minutes.

One such item uses a lockpick specific to Ford models. After gaining entry, an electronic key programmer device hooks up to the car's computer system. The gadget reprograms the car's computer to accept a blank key compatible with Ford models.

Accordingly, websites are unwittingly making available the latest electronic attack tools freely available on a next-day-delivery basis. So again, be very aware. ■

YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS

Graham Stewart: 2 High Street. Tel. 01908 501973

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

Sally Green: Bellsbrook, Church Lane. Tel: ex-dir'y

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

Are you ready for WhizzFizzFest 2018?

AVDC's WhizzFizzFest children's literature festival is drawing closer - tickets for the events are booking up quickly! This year special guests include Dame Darcey Bussell, Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill and singer Tony Hadley. With a theme of 'Magic and Mystery', WhizzFizzFest will bring colour, music and excitement to Aylesbury town centre on Saturday 30th June (kick off is at 11am). ■

Less than four weeks to go...

THERE IS under four weeks to have your say about the biggest changes facing Bucks councils in 40 years. Such changes will affect services, local decisions, value for money and more. Two proposals are on the table. The district councils favour two new all-purpose/unitary councils as the best for Bucks. This would see all services provided by one local council covering Aylesbury Vale; residents in south Bucks would have their own council. The county-led proposal is based on one huge 'super' council covering the whole of Bucks. ■

Sea Cadets – T S Whaddon

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

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



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



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

Creative Coach:

Thoughts from my comfy chair



It's May now, and I'm writing this in a dreary (or so far) April, in the hope that May brings us all brighter, warmer days. They'll certainly be longer, so here are three thoughts to ponder...

You know that phrase "dance like no-one's watching?" What would you do, if no-one was watching you? Would you do anything differently? How would you tackle a challenge, or behave? What would you say? Sometimes we're held back by the fear of what others might say, or think about us. Is that you, or someone you know? These questions are about encouraging you to revisit your values and beliefs. It's good to do that every now and then. A sense-check, if you like.

Someone gave me something great to remember the other day: **respond rather than react**. Easier said than done, perhaps, when something or someone makes us cross, or frustrated, or outraged. It's good advice though. It involves recognising the emotion inside that drives us to what might be a knee-jerk reaction, and saying to ourselves, "Hang on a minute. This makes me feel xyz, so how can I respond with maximum effect?" I'd guess that most times, it's better to pause and respond, than to jump right in (emergencies excepted, of course). To respond is mindful too. If you're right in the moment, your judgement is clearer. Try writing those four words on a post-it, and put it somewhere you can see it regularly for a day or two. See what happens...

A quick final thought on procrastination. We all do it. I'm doing it now. I'm writing this, because I enjoy writing this kind of stuff, rather than do something I find less exciting (my accounts and tax return, since you ask!) I read something recently, which was helpful, and I'll rephrase it slightly: instead of saying to yourself "I'll do that later", try **"I'll do that at 3 this afternoon/at lunchtime/first thing tomorrow morning"**.

The idea is to designate a time for the task. If you use the word "later", you're effectively giving yourself permission to put the task off indefinitely. Of course, we all know that some tasks evaporate if we leave them long enough, which means that they weren't worth doing in the first place! However, for those tasks that won't go away, the assigning of a time, day, hour to do it gives you a fighting chance.

Now, stop reading, and go and achieve! ☺

Until next time...

Marianna Beckwith

Success for cancer vintage teas

I WANT to give a big thank you to everyone who supported me on 17th February at my vintage afternoon tea for prostate cancer.

We made a whopping £780 on the day, but to have achieved that, I must thank all the wonderful helpers and all those donated, fantastic home-made cakes that arrived in the morning. Thank you one and all.

It was a good day. I might even do it again (but next time not on a rugby final day). ■

Val Peters



Dave Taylor

Handyman

Mobile: 07754 790557

Email: davetaylorhandyman@gmail.com





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!
- Want to work on something specific? No problem.

Book your own, bespoke Mojo Maintenance workshop. Groups of 4-6 people, 2-hour workshop. Get in touch to book a time and place. You will get 20% discount for hosting. Usual price: £30pp

For more information, location, etc.

Contact Marianna: 01908 503194/07763 102 994

email: marianna@chocolateboxcoaching.co.uk

The advertisement for Vale Chimneys is set against a dark background. At the top left is a logo consisting of a stylized 'V' with a flame-like shape above it. To the right of the logo, the text 'SPECIALISTS IN CHIMNEY SWEEPING & STOVE INSTALLATIONS' is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the logo is a small inset photo of a modern wood-burning stove in a bright room. To the right of the stove photo is a larger photo of a brick roof with several chimneys. A white text box is overlaid on the bottom right of the roof photo, containing the text: 'A family run business based in Winslow, Buckinghamshire - specialising in Chimney Sweeping and Stove Installations. We cover Winslow, Buckingham, Aylesbury, Milton Keynes, Thame and surrounding villages; offering a professional, clean and reliable service.' At the bottom left, the contact information 'Call David on 07736 829765 | www.valechimneys.co.uk' is displayed. At the bottom right is the HETAS logo, which includes a circular icon with a checkmark and the word 'HETAS' below it.



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

OPENING TIMES

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

We are just 10 minutes from both Milton Keynes and Buckingham

Visit us at:

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

0800 594 3052

fax: 01908 505636

email: baby@bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk

web: www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk



www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk



Tring Market Auctions

Fine Art & Chattel Auctioneers & Valuers

FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS 2017

General Antiques	Viewing day	Fine Art
5 th May, 19 th May, 2 nd June, 16 th June, 14 th July, 28 th July, 11 th August.	Friday prior to day of Sale 9.30 am to 6.00 pm	8 th June, 31 st August, 23 rd November.

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

www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk

Free Auction Valuations

Total and Part House Clearance Specialists

Valuation for Sale, Insurance, Taxation,

Probate & Family Division

Tel: 01442 826446 Fax: 01442 890927

sales@tringmarketauctions.co.uk

Tring Market Auctions, Brook Street,

Tring, Herts HP23 5EF

www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk

DESIGN & BUILD

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



Tel: 01908 503147

matt@dgsconstruction.co.uk

www.dgsconstruction.co.uk

The Glebe, Nash Road, Whaddon, MK17
0LY



Country Funerals

01327 351500

24 hours

Independent Funeral Directors

1, Sponne House Centre, Watling Street West

Towcester, Northants NN12 6BY

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

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

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

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

enquiries@countryfunerals.uk



GREENTREESERVICES

PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS

All aspects of Tree Surgery and Arboriculture:

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

01908 506286 – 07533 371648

WWW.GREEN-TREE-SERVICES.CO.UK

City & Guilds
Qualified



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

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

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

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

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

www.whaddonunderfives.org

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Whaddon Quarterly

Advertising Rates and Publication Policy

January 2017 Advertising Rates
General and Commercial Advertisers

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

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

Non-Commercial Local Advertisers

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

Small Advertisements

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

Format and Submission

Full page – A5 size

Copy to be submitted in high resolution .jpg format.

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

Publication Dates and Copy Deadlines

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

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

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

Content Policy and Copyright

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

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

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



could you offer a foster child a new home?

www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering

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

We need your help for us do that.

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

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

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

Men in Sheds Buckingham

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

Samantha Hardy, Community Impact Bucks

01844 348831 / 07990 756742 - email: samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk



Tim Jenkins

Providing home and small business IT and AV services



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

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

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

Call me on: 07814 721975
Or email me at: tjstechnologyuk@gmail.com
Website: www.tjstechnology.co.uk





S Y S T E M S



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

Telephone: 01234 240680

Web: www.counter-act.co.uk
Email: sales@counter-act.co.uk

Fully Equipped Workshop & Showroom :
Unit 1, Lower Farm, Warrington, Olney,
MK46 4HN (Near Captain Carpet)
Open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.00pm
(plus out of hours emergency and answer system)





Age UK Bucks services and support

We help older people throughout the county live independently

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

Call 01296 431911

www.ageukbucks.org.uk

145 Meadowcroft, Aylesbury HP19 9HH
Registered charity 1139423



Perfect 10

Nails by Faye Warren

07875 670448

fayewarren55@hotmail.com

UV Gel polish, manicures and pedicures

Mobile, but based in Whaddon

+

OVENCLEAN
The original oven cleaning specialists



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

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

Martin Belcher

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

Call your local Ovensclean specialist Roger Butcher today on:

07800 888 271 or 0800 840 7127

www.ovenclean.com



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

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

Contact:

07768 618 555

01908 313 216





CLEAR PEST MILTON KEYNES

YEARLY CONTRACTS AVAILABLE
WOODWORM TREATMENTS ALSO AVAILABE



RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - AGRICULTURAL

ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PESTS
A PROBLEM FOR YOU?

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



Email: enquiries@clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk

www.clearpestmiltonkeynes.co.uk
Tel: 01908 504405 Mob: 07771966377



GRNELECTRICAL

Domestic, Agricultural & Equestrian Electrical Services

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

Contact: Graham Newland
Tel: 07715 670614
www.grnelectrical.co.uk

Homemade Jewelry / Cards
for all occasions
Dress Making & Alterations

Ann Bennett



Stock Lane
Whaddon

01908 522292
07854 577402

ann.bennett259@gmail.com

Paperklip

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

Offering you support for all your
personal and business administrative needs

Book-keeping

Diary management

Virtual office

Call-minding

Payroll

Typing

Fax Service

Database Cleaning

Printing and photocopying at competitive prices

A4 / A3 / A5 / Black and White / Colour

Booklet / Magazine production

Pamphlets / Leaflets

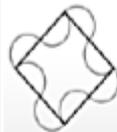
Laminating / Comb binding

For any further information please contact Sally Taylor or Leanne Walker

01296 716010

mail@paperklip.co.uk

www.paperklip.co.uk



**JOHN COLLINS
ELECTRICAL**

**ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE REPAIRS**

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS TO:

Domestic, Commercial and Industrial properties

All work carried out to Part P regulations

REPAIRS TO:

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



Tel: 01280 814909

Fax: 01280 823179

Email: john@johncollinselectrical.co.uk

Web: www.johncollinselectrical.co.uk

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



C.T. Mowers

Garden Machinery Service and Repairs

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

Also available: Professional Mole Catching Service

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

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



PETER BUSH

Motor Vehicle Technician with over 30 years' experience

Servicing and repairs for all makes and models

Competitive rates

Collection & delivery service available

Please call:

07525 489441 / 07525 489442

Email: jm1234@btinternet.com

22 Vicarage Road, Whaddon, MK17 0LU



GREENTREESERVICES

PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS



All aspects of Tree Surgery and Arboriculture:

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

01908 506286 – 07533 371648

WWW.GREEN-TREE-SERVICES.CO.UK

**City &
Guilds
Qualified**



www.mbbka.org.uk

Local Beekeepers Need Your HELP! Honey Bee Swarms Are Very Important

Following the long winter of 2017-2018 and the late Spring, colonies of honeybees are under tremendous stress. In the wild the survival chance of a honeybee swarm is about 20%. Collected, and housed in a hive by a beekeeper, the survival rate triples. The MBBKA needs the help of everyone in the area to ensure we collect as many swarms this year as possible. If you see a swarm of bees please contact the MBKA on the swarm-line number below. We will send a beekeeper to collect the swarm and provide it with a new home.

Honey Bee Swarms: Swarms such as the ones pictured are merely Colonies that are in transition. Normally these Swarms are found hanging from tree branch, fence post or any place where the swarm can gather around the Queen while scouts are sent out to look for a more permanent home. A swarm left alone will only be in place from just a few minutes to a few hours and occasionally a few days. Generally, these swarms are very docile and the swarming Bees usually will not sting. Before Honey Bees swarm they gorge themselves with honey before leaving the hive. This makes it very hard for them to double over and sting.



What Causes Honey Bees to Swarm: Honey Bees have a natural instinct to create new colonies by swarming. They may also swarm through overcrowding or because an old queen is thought to be failing and they wish to raise a new one. Honey Bees usually swarm in early spring just as the colony is building up numbers in anticipation of the upcoming honey flow but swarming can happen through to late summer

It is difficult to predict if weather conditions will lead to a large number of swarms in a particular year. MBBKA members attended nearly 100 calls to swarms last year and are on standby to collect throughout our area in 2018

If You See a Swarm: The collection of swarms an important part of the work of bee keepers. You should never interfere with a swarm and pest control companies will not kill a swarm unless absolutely necessary.

Please contact:

MBBKA Swarm Hotline 07770370132

Brian Bush – Mid Bucks Beekeepers and BBKA Swarm Officer

BBKA British Bee Keepers Association website

<http://www.bbka.org.uk>



www.bbka.org.uk

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

Ann Bennett



Stock Lane
Whaddon

01908 522292

07854 577402

ann.bennett259@gmail.com

Men in Sheds Buckingham

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

Samantha Hardy, Community Impact Bucks

01844 348831 / 07990 756742 - email: samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

Table Tennis

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

Singles and Doubles Admission: £2.00

All equipment provided

2 Tables available Rules explained

Coaching given. School pupils welcome from age 8