



# Whaddon News

April 2001



## LETTER FROM PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Fellow Parishoners,

It was very heartening, the attendance of Parishioners at the February meeting of the Parish Council. The full complement of Councillors were present also District Councillor, Mary Course. From Philip Neale's report of that meeting in this issue, and also reported in the Royston Crow newspaper you will have seen it was a very interesting and constructive one. At question time when the meeting was open to Parishioners some very valid concerns and suggestions were discussed. The Council will do its best to seek answers to those concerns. I do hope that we will see more of you all at future meetings, your presence brings out the best in everyone. That, of course, is what our village and community needs and deserves.

Ted Webb.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We now have a new Community Beat Officer, Pc Rob Turner. He has taken over the Melbourn beat which now includes Bassingbourn beat. He introduces himself thus: I joined Cambridgeshire Police in 1998 after leaving University. I am 25 years of age.

Many of you will have heard about the robbery at Bassingbourn post office on 1<sup>st</sup> February. The Police comment that "the criminal teams who carry out such attacks always 'sus' out the premises first so if you see any strangers acting oddly or looking out of place, it's always worth making a note of the full vehicle registration number, type and colour of vehicle, description of the occupants and keeping it safe in case an incident occurs later." You can also pass on any such worries to the N.W. coordinator.

There was a recent burglary to a garage in the village. Please check your security arrangements to outbuildings. Even if you think "there's nothing worth taking" it's still a bit of a shake up to know that someone has tried, or succeeded, to break in. Now that summer approaches lawn mowers will be targeted for theft, not to mention other expensive garden tools. The favourite means of entry to houses is a rear window so try to prevent easy access to the rear of your property. Flimsy trellis on top of fences and low walls is actually a deterrent because it doesn't support body weight. Thorny hedges are also ideal and good looking.

PC ROB TURNER non- urgent messages only - 07740 734975 (mobile 'phone)

Coordinator - Margaret Wilson. 208648.



## SOUTH CAMBS. TENANTS

South Cambridgeshire tenants now have access to a Freephone number for all repair requests, excluding gas heating repairs. This is a 24 hour service which provides information on the work ordered and how long the wait will be for it to be done. This will be based on the urgency of the job and the availability of labour. There will be a customer satisfaction card so that tenants may feedback information on the actual service received. An appointment system has also been established so that convenient call times may be arranged. Response times will vary according to the job. A 24 hour target will be specified for example where there is total loss of electricity or water. A three working day response will include blocked sinks, loose stair banisters and partial loss of electricity/water. The idea is the response to a questionnaire completed by 1,500 tenants.

**The freephone number is 0800 0851313.**

There is also a 24 hour Rent Payments line, 01223 535001 (not freephone.)

For further information contact; Sally Carroll 01223 443262 or Kari Greaves 01223 443050.



## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

*- Highlights from the past few months*

The **Town Farm** site is now being developed by Berkeley Homes following their successful appeal at the Public Enquiry held in November 2000. Further meetings were held and representations made to Berkeley Homes in an attempt to obtain some improvements to the scheme, based upon our expressed concerns. Some assurances on design and materials for the new houses were obtained, but very little else. Several problems have been experienced since work started to clear the site, where a sewerage pipe has been damaged and a water course diverted causing extra flooding and damage to local properties. A letter will be sent to Berkeley Homes expressing the Parish Council's concerns with the work so far. Other problems include the plans for the development entrance road which take no account of a public footpath or neighbouring land. The Parish Council is keeping a close watch on developments at the site. If any other parishioners have concerns with what they may see happening, please contact a councillor.

Plans for the frontage development of the **Village Hall** have been redesigned (once again thanks to Clive Hough) to take account of the public footpath across the recreation ground. It is understood these plans are now acceptable to the Planning authority. The cost of the scheme is about £24,000 and grants are available from different sources for this work, providing the Parish contributes 10% of the cost.

Keith Harker has resigned as chair of the village hall committee and Prim Stevens has agreed to take up the position until the AGM. The quiz night in November was very successful and raised £433.57

Inconsiderate parishioners are still **parking** their cars around the village hall thereby causing nuisance to those using the hall for functions. Owners have been approached and letters sent. The Council is now looking into the feasibility of a wheel clamping scheme and the DVLA has been contacted to report those cars without current tax discs.

Please can we remind all parishioners that the irresponsible parking of vehicles on verges, village hall property and other public areas in the village not only spoils the aesthetics of our rural village but causes inconvenience to others.

Recent **flooding in the village** has prompted the suggestion that a three way meeting between District Council, Environment Agency and Anglian Water is held to look at ideas to reduce problems caused by the heavy rainfall. Riparian owners of land adjacent to the drainage channels in the village do have a responsibility to ensure free flow of water in their part of the drain. Booklets are available to explain these responsibilities.

Currently we have no representation on the **County Council**, because of the resignation of Mr Richard Truman in December. It has been a particularly difficult time to obtain a response from County on such matters as the footpath in Meldreth Road/Church Street, repairs to village signs and speeding in the village.

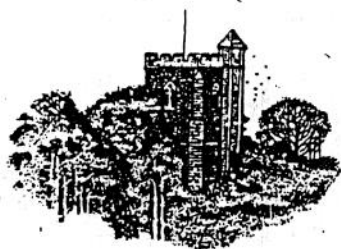
A **handyman** is to be employed by the council to do those odd jobs around the village (see advertisement in this Newsletter). We are looking for someone to do about 16 hours a month on a self-employed basis.

A **housing survey** form is being distributed to all residents to gauge the housing needs in Whaddon. Please take time to complete this simple form and return it to the Council.

Concern has been expressed at the level of **dog fouling** on footpaths in Meldreth Road. Please can all dog owners take responsibility for their pets and ensure that dogs do not roam unattended and all waste is cleared away.

Changes to the **District Council wards** are proposed whereby Whaddon would be joined with Bassingbourn and Kneesworth, and not Meldreth. This is being done to ensure an even spread of electors. The Parish Council is fighting to maintain the status quo.

PJN



### Saint Mary's Church – Whaddon

On 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1999 The 'Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust' members with their chairman, Ven. Richard Sledge, visited St. Mary's on what they called an exploration and inspection tour. At the end of the tour lectures were given by church historian, Lynn Broughton, and on church building construction by Robert Walker. The purpose of reporting these facts now is because at that meeting Parochial Church Councillor Ted Webb was able to show to the trust members the original "Vicar's Log Book" which was started by the then Vicar of Whaddon Rev. F.C. Clare F.S.A. in 1943. The book was given to Ted by Doris Coningsby for safe keeping. Trust members were fascinated by the book and its contents and commented that it was of great historical interest and importance. Reporting this to the now Vicar of Whaddon, Rev. John Armstrong, and Parochial Church Councillors, it was decided to make a copy of the book and place the original in the "County Archives". The copy book is now complete and, for the time being, will be held by Ted Webb. From time to time Ted will take snippets from the book and reproduce them in the Parish newsletter; starting from the next issue. That snippet will reproduce the history of the church organ.

Ted Webb.

#### ED. NOTE

Great to have newsy items like this!



### ***St Mary's Church Whaddon Services for April 2001***

8<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday) Holy Communion 9.15am

15<sup>th</sup> (Easter Day) Holy Communion 9.15am

22<sup>nd</sup> (2 Easter) Morning Prayer 9.15am

29<sup>th</sup> (3 Easter) Holy Communion 9.15am

Churchwardens: Bill Knight 01223 208052

Karen Coningsby 01223 207514

Secretary: Clare Byatt 01223 207429

Vicar: John Armstrong 01763 243119



### AFTER ALPHA.

After Alpha started in January and a very interesting group has been meeting regularly every two weeks on a Tuesday evening. The discussions have been wide ranging with frank exchanges of ideas on all kinds of topic. Garden of Eden versus the 'Big bang', for example, with all stages of thought in between. We have already compiled a list of future subjects for discussion from what those present want to talk about. Does anything burn in your heart? Although there is a Christian essence not everybody goes to church and not everybody accepts a God. You can see that things are well scrutinised from all angles! We all enjoy light refreshments and part friends. If you would like to come along ring Iris Green (207325) or Margaret Wilson (208648). Everybody is welcome, we'd love to see you.

### **Whaddon Parish Council**

seeks to contract the services

of a self-employed

**HANDYPERSON**

hours negotiable, approx 16 per month

further details phone the clerk,

Aileen Bishop 208 122





Welcome



Several new families have moved into the village and we would like to welcome them all. Actually it is Bridge Street that has benefited from all this movement!

Firstly Keith and Brenda Paxton have moved into Ridgeway Close. They are very familiar with Whaddon already as they have family here.

Also with family are Ann and Frank Davis. Ann was born in Whaddon and even went to the village school. They have moved into the top end of Bridge Street where Anne remembers it was once gardens. Frank has retired but intends to take up his old hobby of making stained glass windows.

Wendy and Matthew have come from Meldreth and are looking forward to settling in and 'tidying up' the garden.

Coming from a little further afield are Andrea and David Stewart from New Zealand via Saffron Walden. They have a son, William, aged 5. Now that spring is here and summer is around the corner he will look forward to meeting new friends at the rec!

We hope you will all enjoy living in the village and that the accompanying information sheet will be useful.



## Lily Law



*I would like to say a fond farewell to Mrs. Lily Law who has recently left Ridgeway Close and gone to live at Home Meadows in Toft. Lily came to live in Whaddon not long before the outbreak of World War II when she married Jim. Jim was a great servant of Whaddon and the agricultural community but he couldn't have spent all those hours helping others without someone holding the fort at home. Lily was usually beside him supporting all the village events. Those were the days of a thriving cricket club and football team not to mention whist drives, village hall committees etc. Lily was the caretaker at the school and would light the fires before the children got there on winter mornings. She has been a great source of information over the years as I have researched the village history. She would tell me of the many hours she spent talking to her father-in-law about the village in bygone days. His memories stretched back into the 19<sup>th</sup> Century! I understand that she has settled in very well at Home Meadows and would be pleased to see old friends and catch up on the village news. Her health has deteriorated a little and she doesn't walk anymore but she is still extremely independent minded. She lives in Fuchsia Flat (room2) where there are about 5 other residents. Telephone 01223 263282.*



Congratulations



Congratulations  
Lorna and Richard on the  
birth of your twins,  
David and Mark



If you have some news, are organising an event or just want to say something, please let us know and it will be included in the next issue. Your editorial team are waiting to hear from you.  
Margaret Wilson c.208648 Ann Williams  
c.207779 Phil Neale c.2077706.



## HEALTH

Melbourn Surgery	01763 260220
Bassingbourn Surgery	01763 241242
Royston Health Centre	01763 248761
Roysia Surgery, Burns Road, Royston	01763 243166
Infant Welfare Clinic	01763 261775

## SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE

A **free newsletter** is produced and delivered approximately three times a year. All contributions, no matter how large or small are very welcome.

### Contact –

Mr Phil Neale	207706
Mrs Margaret Wilson	208648

<b>Community Policing</b>	PC Rob Turner – mobile for non-urgent messages	07740 734 975
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<b>Tree Warden and Neighbourhood Watch</b>	Mrs Margaret Wilson	208648
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<b>Daily and Sunday Papers Evening Paper</b>	Mr K Green, Whaddon Golf Centre Mr G Harries, The Close, Meldreth Road	207325 208850
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<b>Refuse Collection</b>	Every Tuesday, please leave bags on roadside on Monday evening.
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<b>Mobile Library</b>	Alternate Fridays Top of Bridge Street 12.25 to 12.35 p.m. Phone Box, Meldreth Road 12.40 to 12.50 p.m.
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<b>Post Office</b>	Whaddon Golf Centre - every Thursday between 9.00 and 1.00
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### Public Transport

The nearest BR station is Meldreth for trains to Cambridge and London.

Buses to Royston are every Wednesday leaving at 9.15 a.m. and returning at 1.00 p.m.

Buses to Cambridge are every Saturday at 9.30 a.m.

<b>Milk Deliveries</b>	Dairy Crest, Royston	01763 242306
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## VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

There are several organisations active in the village, all of which welcome new members. These are an excellent way of getting to know the villagers already here and taking an active part in village life. Details can be obtained from the following:

<b>Whaddonians</b> (for senior citizens)	Mrs M Compton	207718
<b>Village Hall Committee</b>	Mrs K Coningsby	207514
<b>Line Dancing</b>	Thursdays – Mrs L Law	207772
<b>Dog Training</b>	Tuesdays – Mrs A Buxton	207664
<b>Village Hall Bookings</b>	Mrs S Eley	207340

### Evening Classes – Adult Education

There are many courses available through the Community education system, details of which are obtainable through the Village Colleges.

# Dates For Your Diary

## **Christian Aid Week**

13-19 May 2001

**Sunday 13 May, 10.30am**  
**Christian Aid Service**

with an address by

**Kate Phillips**  
**from Christian Aid**

Associate Director of External Relations

**Please come and support**  
**this interesting event**

## **The Village Fete**

Free admission

**Saturday**  
**2 June**

**Whaddon**  
**2 pm**

**CAR**  
**BOOT**  
**SALE £5 pitch**

**STALLS**

**RACES**

**LINE DANCING**

**TUG OF WAR**  
**TEAS**

**St Mary's Parish Church**



**Produce Show & Auction**

On the Recreation Ground and Churchyard

**WHADDON**  
**Saturday 21 July**

**Ploughman's lunch**  
**at 12.30pm**

**Fete opening at 2pm**

**With all the usual features**  
**Stalls, Tombola, Teas**  
**Sideshowes, Children's Entertainer**  
**Vintage Cars, and much more!**

**Whaddon's Annual**  
**Barbecue**

**Saturday 7 July 2001**

**DANCE, EAT & DRINK**  
**THE NIGHT AWAY**

**Tickets available in June**  
**from the Village Hall Committee**