USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Citizens Advice:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>08448 487979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royston</td>
<td>08444 111444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countys:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan van de Ven</td>
<td>07905 325574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigel Cathcart</td>
<td>01763 243637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David McGaith</td>
<td>01763 248249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchard Surgery, Melbourn</td>
<td>01763 260220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Health Centre, Royston</td>
<td>01763 242981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Hill Surgery, Royston</td>
<td>01763 248111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roysia Surgery, Royston</td>
<td>01763 243166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addenbrooke’s Hospital</td>
<td>01223 245151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police:</td>
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<td>Non emergency Number</td>
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<td>Samaritans:</td>
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<td>Transport:</td>
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<td>National Rail Enquiries</td>
<td>08457 484950</td>
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<td>Stagecoach Cambus</td>
<td>08706 082608</td>
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<td>Utilities:</td>
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<td>Anglian Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambridge Water Company</td>
<td>01223 706050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity Emergency &amp; Supply Loss</td>
<td>08007 838838</td>
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<td>Vets:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melbourne Veterinary Surgery</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royston Veterinary Surgery</td>
<td>01763 242221</td>
</tr>
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</table>

WHADDON NEWS ADVERTISING RATES

- Half page advert for one issue: £12.50
- Half page advert for one year (4 issues): £40.00

Other options may be available on request.
Contact Kate French C 208207 or email kate.a.french@gmail.com

www.whaddon.org

December 2017
VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE TO HIRE

Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties and most functions.

Please contact: whaddonvhrgt@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Dec</td>
<td>Christingle Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Dec</td>
<td>Children’s Christmas Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Dec</td>
<td>Carol Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th Dec</td>
<td>Coffee Morning Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Dec</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Sing-along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Dec</td>
<td>Informal Carols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Day Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Jan</td>
<td>Coffee Morning Charity Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th Jan</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th Jan</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th Jan</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Feb</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Feb</td>
<td>Coffee Morning Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Feb</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Feb</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Mar</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Mar</td>
<td>Coffee Morning Charity Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st Mar</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Mar</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next newsletter is 16th February Once again items of village interest are always welcome.

Joan Pascoe C208062
25 Bridge Street
joanpascoe@aol.com

LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lee Ginger</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>07850 252015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:leeginger@btinternet.com">leeginger@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Kate French</td>
<td>Vice chairman</td>
<td>C 208207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21 Bridge Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Will Elbourn</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>C 208955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>College Farm, Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Tony Milton</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>C 207105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chestnut Tree Farm, Meldreth Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Randall Scott</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>C 208253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>26 Bridge Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Nigel Strudwick</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>C 207434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 Town Farm Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Amy Walker</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 St Mary’s Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Gabby Van Poortvliet</td>
<td>Clerk/Finance Officer</td>
<td>C 208450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>134 Bridge Street, Dyers Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:whaddonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk">whaddonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinator Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike Monks</td>
<td>Whaddon Village Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malan Peyton</td>
<td>Deputy Village Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Coningsby</td>
<td>Meldreth Road/Church Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carole Aldred</td>
<td>Church Street/Town Farm Close/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St Mary’s Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Mould</td>
<td>Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Monks</td>
<td>Upper Bridge Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malan Peyton</td>
<td>Dyers Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Carr</td>
<td>Sector Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T/Inspector Richard Isley</td>
<td>Area Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detective Inspector Simon Harding</td>
<td>Safer Neighbourhood Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Lynch</td>
<td>Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyndsay Gardiner</td>
<td>Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/SouthCambs/Cambourne/
SUMMARY OF RECENT BULLETINS FROM CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Chimney Fire Safety:
Chimney Fires continue to be a common occurrence in home fires in the winter months. We experience an average of 81 chimney fires a year in Cambridgeshire alone.
- Whatever fire you have or fuel you burn it is vitally important to have your chimney swept to avoid a build-up of ash and soot
- Avoid burning resinous woods (that quickly build up soot)
- Only burn fuels suitable for your burner (eg: never burn anything other than wood in a wood burner)
- Do not bank fires too high and remember to let them burn out well before you go to bed
- Do not place objects on or over the mantelpiece which cause you to stand too close to the fire in order to reach them
- Use a fire/spark guard to prevent accidental fires and make sure it has the kite mark or conforms to British/European standards
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly the roof space. Make sure it is sound and sparks/fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks.

Christmas Fire Safety:
It is the time of year when we’re enjoying a tipple with friends and it is easy to be distracted when cooking in the kitchen. 50 per cent of all fires in the home start in the kitchen and more than half of those are as a result of distraction whilst cooking.
- Never leave cooking unattended
- Do not cook when under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication that makes you drowsy
- Never leave anything cooking if you leave the house
- Do not leave anything flammable on or near the hob – tea towels, oven gloves and even washing baskets can catch fire
- Take care when using microwaves. Fires can start when people put food in too long. Always read the instructions on the packet – never guess the time needed
- Oven chips or temperature control deep fat fryers are safer than using a chip pan. If you do use a chip pan, do not fill it more than one third with fat and turn the heat down if the oil starts smoking
- Have a working smoke alarm on each floor of your home. If it keeps going off when you are cooking it is probably in the wrong location or you may have the wrong type of smoke alarm.
- NEVER take the batteries out of your smoke alarm to power presents!

Christingle Service
Come and join us for our Christingle Service to be held in the Church at 3pm on Sunday 3rd December. In support of The Children’s Society.

Christingle Preparations
Please come to the Whaddon Golf Centre at 10am on Saturday 2nd December to help make the Christingles

Christmas Sing-along
Friday 22 December
8.00pm at Whaddon Golf Centre
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
In aid of St Mary’s Church
Come and join us in the fun
Thank you all for your generous support for two recent fundraising events to raise money for replacement heating. About 60 people came to the church to see David Grech’s exhibition of ink and watercolour sketches of a European Grand Tour, followed by a talk. The evening raised a grand total of £637.60. Janet Leech and Gill Coningsby organised a delicious ‘Eat for Heat’ meal, hosted by Lorna and Richard in the Golf Centre, which raised £565.10. The event was limited to 30 diners to make sure that everyone had space to sit down, but tickets sold quickly so apologies to those who were disappointed.

With existing funds and some generous donations, the Fabric Fund now stands at £5,500. We will need nearer £10,000 to complete Phase 1 of the project, new radiators in the chancel and a heavy curtain across the rood screen to retain the heat. We have been granted a Faculty (permission from the Diocese) for Phase 1, and quotes are currently being obtained for the work which is likely to be carried out in January. Watch out for more fund-raising events in the New Year, and in the mean time we hope to see you at some of the Christmas Services, but please wrap up warmly.

I have now completed the accounts for the Church Fete which raised a magnificent £2,260.65. This makes a big contribution to the day to day expenses of keeping the church in the village.

Finally, the PCC still needs to discuss the information collected by the survey carried out in the summer, but I hope to be able to give you a fuller report in the next issue of Whaddon News.

Jenny Grech

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**Church Services in December**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>3.00pm</td>
<td>Christingle Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In aid of the Children’s Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th December</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Carol Service followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th December</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Informal Carols by candle light (bring lanterns, torches etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th December</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Christmas Day family friendly Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st December</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Joint Service at Bassingbourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**St Mary’s Church Fundraising**

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Susan van de Ven - Cambridgeshire County Councillor

**Monthly Advice Surgeries:**

Susan van de Ven will be holding two drop-in advice surgeries a month for anyone who has a question or concern.

1st Monday of the month The Hub, Melbourn, 3-4p.m.
3rd Monday of the month The Limes, Bassingbourn, 3-4p.m.

Alternatively if there are issues people would like to discuss at other times you can contact Susan on 07905325574 or susan@sclibdems.org.uk

**Monthly Newsletter:**

Susan writes a monthly e-newsletter on issues affecting our area – please do let her know if you’d like to receive it, or would like anything to be included in it.

Susan van de Ven
County Councillor for Bassingbourn, Melbourn, Meldreth and Whaddon

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**Stagecoach - Changes to Service 26 (Royston - Cambridge)**

15.57 (Mon-Sat) Trumpington P&R to Royston now ends at Royston bus station not Tesco.
16.51 (Mon-Fri)/16.41(Sat) Royston to Cambridge journey now starts at Royston bus station at 16.45(M-F)/16.35(Sat) before continuing to Tesco.

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**WHADDON GOLF CENTRE**

01223 207325
www.whaddongolfcentre.co.uk
9.00 til late
Open to all

**DRIVING RANGE**
**BAR**
**9 HOLE COURSE**
**FOOD**
**TUITION**
**COFFEE**
**PRO– SHOP**
**NEWSPAPERS**
(Ask us to order)
Citizens Advice Bureau at The Hub, Melbourn
Held on the first & third Thursday of the month.
Bookings taken through the centre manager: 01763 263303
Appointments available: 9.45, 10.15 and 10.45am.

New Constituency Office
The constituency office has moved. I’ve been looking for some time for an office that was more visible and accessible for my constituents so I’m pleased we now have a high street location in Sawston. We have been made to feel very welcome and it was great to meet the local businesses who came to our “open house” afternoon.
The new address is: 82A High Street, Sawston CB22 3HJ and you can call on 01223 830 037.
Heidi Allen

Heidi Allen MP
If you would like to contact Heidi about an issue or book a surgery appointment email: heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk
Tel: 01954 212707

The next local surgery:
**Saturday 16th December 2017**
10.00am - 12.00 noon
Gamlingay Village College
Station Road
Gamlingay
SG19 3HD

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**WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS**

**Rothwell’s Carpet Cleaning**

**Carpet Cleaning**
Stone Floor, Upholstery & Rug Cleaning.
A few points that make us stand out from the others,
Rothwell’s has been in business since 1993.
We’re an honest local family firm.
Our large truck mounted machines mean more cleaning & drying power for the best results possible.
Members of both the NCCA and TACCA.
We will move the furniture for a thorough clean.
100% satisfaction or it’s FREE.
Call Oliver and Max Campbell for expert help today.

Rothwell’s, Malting End, Kirtling, Newmarket, CB8 9HH

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**The 2017 Poppy Appeal**

The people of Whaddon very generously donated a total of £586.94 to the 2017 British Legion Poppy Appeal. House to house collections were made throughout the village, a box was placed in the golf centre and the collection at the Remembrance Service at St Mary’s Church on Sunday 12 November was also donated to the Poppy Appeal.

My thanks go to Janet Leech, Kate French, Rita Monks and Henry Burgess for their efforts in the house to house collections, to Lorna and Richard Green for the golf centre collection and to the donations made at the Remembrance Service. The Parish Council, on your behalf, also funded the wreath and children’s spray at the Sunday service. Above all can I thank everybody in the village who gave so generously.

The British Legion continues to play a very necessary role in this country made possible only through the generosity of all who make a donation. Thank you Whaddon.

Finally, for the future, Henry Burgess will be taking on my role as Poppy Appeal Coordinator.

Mike Monks

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The 2017 Poppy Appeal continues for the autumn/winter sessions as follows:

**December 13th**

A Christmas Quiz with a very special quiz master!

**Dates in 2018:**

January 10th
February 14th
March 14th

These quizzes are fun and open to all, plus we raise money for charity.

**7.30 for 8pm**
**£6 inc food**
All welcome!
The Alfred Palmer’s Trust – a local charity to help villagers of Whaddon.

The Alfred Palmer’s Trust gives modest grants of up to £50 to people of Whaddon for whom a small cash injection could make a real difference. The Trust will consider requests from all Whaddonians but especially from the elderly.

It was originally set up in 1927 to purchase coal for distribution to the poor widows of Whaddon Parish but the Trustees have now changed the aims to be more in line with the 21st century!

If you want to apply or know of someone else who may benefit from a grant, please either email Gabby van Poortlvliet, the Whaddon Parish Clerk at whaddonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk, or write to her at 134 Bridge Street, Whaddon.

---

**PC Repairs**

**Advice & Installation of Home Networks**

**Help with Selecting a Computer**

**Fault Finding**

Brian Girling 01223 208529 (Wimpole)

E-mail bg@manercraft.co.uk

We can also provide the following services:

- Design of brochures, posters, business cards etc.
- A4/A3 laminating • A4 Comb-Binding
- Small print runs on A6 to A3 media

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**ROYSTON & SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**Snowflake Tea Parties**

Could you help raise funds for Home-Start by hosting a tea party with your family and friends from your office, playgroup, school, book club etc.? We will supply you with a “tea bag” fundraising pack with ideas for all you need to host an event - the pack includes invites for your use, a snowflake cutter and recipes for any cakes or biscuits you may want to make for your event. This is a great way to get your friends and family together before or after Christmas.

**Concept of the appeal:**

Home-Start is asking people to raise money to support vulnerable children who are unique and fragile as snowflakes. This ties in with Home-Start’s unique, tailor-made support for children, delivered with parents, in the family’s home.

The appeal runs from 1st November – 31st January each year.

*“Please join me raising money for The Snowflake Appeal so Home-Start can keep supporting unique and fragile children. Home-Start is in there, making a difference each and every day. It is changing all our communities for the future. It prevents parents’ difficulties from becoming their children’s problems”.*

Kirstie Allsopp, TV presenter, mum, stepmum, Home-Start ambassador

If you would like to host a tea party, please call our office on 01763 262262 or email admin@hsrsc.org.uk

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**HOMESTART**

Are you looking for a new challenge? Are your children settled in school or gone to university, are you newly retired, would you like to make new friends, learn new skills or do you simply have a bit of spare time on your hands?

Would you like to join Home-Start as a volunteer?

Our volunteers are all parents or grandparents who can give a few hours a week to help families who are finding it difficult to cope.

All parents need emotional and practical help to get through the first few years, but not everyone has friends or family nearby. This is when Home-Start volunteers can help!

Our next training course starts in January, 2018 - New Year - New Start?

If you are interested, please contact us at the office 01763 262262.
Dark and ever longer nights are with us and unfortunately nobody is happier than the criminal fraternity. House burglaries have been on the rise in local villages and Whaddon has not been spared such intrusions. A break-in to an outbuilding in Church Street was followed within a few days by a break-in at the same house and an adjacent one. Soon after, in Bridge Street, a number of expensive car accessories stored outside the house were stolen in broad daylight. While this was witnessed, at the time the event appeared routine and did not cause suspicion or alarm.

The police are very keen that householders take great care of their personal property and homes; in particular secure doors and windows and set alarms where available. This may all suggest a fortress mentality but simple precautions can and do make all the difference. The daily eCops messages regularly record vehicles being broken into and handbags, laptops or mobiles stolen. This can only happen if the item is there for all to see.

A winter topic: look after your expensive heating oil. Theft of valuable heating oil has been an issue for rural areas, including Whaddon, but it can be a particular problem at this time of year as home owners top up for the winter months. Some precautions can be worthwhile: consider the position of the tank. Can it be viewed easily from the house? If it is close to a road or pathway it is more at risk. A thief will not want to spend a long time trying to attack your tank so discourage him/her by using good quality closed shackle padlocks and lockable fuel caps (although some feel this risks expensive damage to the tank). Think about using prickly, thorny plants (pyracantha [my chosen option], berberis, hawthorn) to hide the tank from view and make any potential theft a painful experience for the thief. Traces of blood or ripped clothing may also help to identify the offender. Be aware of oil levels and check them regularly. Think about fitting a remote oil level gauge/alarm – these cost from about £60.

Above all, life in Whaddon has a certain routine and the unusual tends to be seen by a vigilant resident. Just this week, as I write this piece, a couple of residents called me to express concern at two men calling at houses in Bridge Street in the dark (after 7.00pm). I spoke to them to find they were working for SCDC checking on Electoral Register completion. They were genuine but not all are. If you do notice something unusual or out of place take a note of any vehicle registration number and report suspicious activity to the police.

Mike Monks

Remember – dial 999 to report a crime actually happening or when lives are at risk and for a non-emergency matter call 101. If you report an incident to the police please let your neighbourhood watch coordinator know.

South Cambridgeshire District Council is changing the way used paper is collected from residents for recycling.

From 11th December, residents won’t need to use their caddies to recycle paper anymore.

From that date, residents should place their used paper directly into their blue wheelie bins instead. This used paper will still be recycled after being sorted from other materials at our facility near Waterbeach.

Residents can keep their caddy to use for anything they like. Alternatively, they can be recycled by being dropped off at the nearest household waste recycling centre. They should not be placed into wheelie bins.

The decision to withdraw the paper caddy service was taken at South Cambridgeshire District Council’s Cabinet meeting in September. The decision will save taxpayers money and simplify the recycling process for residents.

Because of this upcoming change, the District Council will not be delivering any new paper caddies. If they are lost or stolen before 11 December, residents can begin putting paper in their blue bin.

More information can be found here: https://www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling
Whaddon Mainly Gardening Club

After a break in August and the cancellation of a planned Capel Manor visit in September we had an excellent and informative evening on 18th October when Stephen Poyser spoke to us on “Bee Keeping and the Gardener”. Stephen is a former Chairman and Secretary of the Cambridgeshire Beekeepers Association and certainly knew his subject. A fascinating topic would fairly describe the evening as we learned that honey bees put humans in the shade when it comes to community service and their navigation skills.

Our 15th November evening has been donated to the parish council for a training seminar on our Community Defibrillator.

On 20 December we will hold our Christmas Party in the village hall. Details will follow.

The committee are meeting in mid-November to put together a programme for 2018. If you have any thoughts on a suitable speaker, not only on gardening but on any subject that would be of interest to villagers, then please let us know via the village email: whaddonnhw@gmail.com

PUMPKIN CARVING

On Saturday the 28th October we held a Halloween event on the Recreation ground to raise money for the Children’s Christmas Party. There were pumpkins of all different shapes and sizes, an area and tools for carving, Face Painting, Apple Bobbing, a Treasure Hunt around the Rec and some wonderful cakes and refreshments.

It was a lovely afternoon with everyone joining in the fun, children playing in the park, parents chatting over a slice of cake, and a wonderful creative pumpkin to take home.

We had a great turn out across the afternoon, and raised over £200 after expenses.

We would like to say thank you to all those who attended and took part, thank you to those who supported, made donations to the Children’s Party or brought a cake to us.

From,
The Children’s Christmas Party Group

Let’s be clear about two things this Autumn…..

A polite reminder to Whaddon householders and landowners from the Parish Council……..

…..and clear weeds and plants from ditches and streams…..

Thank you!
Whaddon Parish Council News – some of our discussions and decisions from our meetings in September, October and November.

Eternit Housing proposal scheme
Following the refusal for the scheme by South Cambs., the developer has now lodged an appeal. More information will be given later.

Defibrillator for Whaddon
The defibrillator cabinet is now ready for use and training and awareness for villagers was planned for Wednesday 15th November, organised by the Community Heartbeat Trust.

Meldreth Road noticeboard
The noticeboard has been expertly restored by Steve Coningsby, following problems with the door hinge. Many thanks to Steve for his superb craftsmanship.

Replacement Village sign
Following the consultation exercise, villagers voted for option 1 (by two votes!), the design with the dinosaur, oak leaf and pump. The PC have endorsed this decision and will investigate to see if the oak leaf from option 3 can be included in the final sign. Thanks to all who took part (and David Grech for the designs) and we now move on to the manufacture and installation stage.

Mobile Vehicle Activated System (MVAS)
This has now been agreed and ordered.

2016-17 Annual Return
The annual return has been approved by the Parish Council, Internal Auditor and External Auditor and published on our website. Full details can be found on the Parish Council section of the website www.whaddon.org or can be requested from our Clerk.

Mike Monks
Following Mike’s announcement that he and Rita shall be moving to Orwell in the New Year, Mike has cascaded most of his regular village tasks to other villagers: Malan Peyton – Neighbourhood Watch; Nigel Strudwick – the village email system; Randall Scott – Speedwatch; Phil French – managing the MVAS system; Henry Burgess – the Annual Poppy Appeal. The PC is grateful to all for taking on these commitments. We are also extremely grateful to Mike for his tireless efforts over the past years. The fact that there are so many tasks to reallocate is testament to his hours of devoted hard work. We wish Rita and Mike every happiness in Orwell and look forward to them visiting Whaddon many times.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 15th January 2018 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Compiled by Lee Ginger

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8.00 - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10.30 - 12.00</td>
<td>Coffee morning (2nd &amp; 4th Wed)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 9.30pm</td>
<td>Pilates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6.30 - 7.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 8.30pm</td>
<td>Pilates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>6.30 - 8.00pm</td>
<td>Dog training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8.30 - 11.00am</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Dog training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stay Well this Winter

Winter weather can be seriously bad for our health. Being cold can aggravate existing conditions and raise the risk of increased blood pressure, heart attacks and strokes. However, there are lots of things you can do to stay well this winter.

Get expert advice from your pharmacist
If you start to feel unwell, even if it's a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets more serious. Seek advice on the best treatment from your local pharmacist.

Make sure you get your free flu jab
Flu is a highly contagious and can cause serious complications for at risk groups. Adults over 65; those with long-term health conditions; children aged two to eight; carers and pregnant women may all be eligible for a free flu vaccination – ask your GP practice today.

Stock up your medicine cabinet
A well-stocked medicine cabinet can help you treat common winter ailments such as coughs, colds, sore throats and sickness bugs at home and will save you going out if you feel unwell. Ask your pharmacist about essential medicines to keep at home.

Keep warm
Keeping warm, both inside and outdoors, over the winter months can help to prevent colds, flu and more serious health problems such as heart attacks, strokes, pneumonia and depression.

Get the right help
Make sure you're receiving all the help you are entitled to. Learn how to make your home more energy efficient and take advantage of financial schemes to keep up with energy bills. Visit www.nhs.uk/Livewell/winterhealth/Pages/KeepWarmKeepWell for details.

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The village was saddened to hear of the recent death of William (Bill) Knight, who was a great friend and well known to many in Whaddon. The fact that over 150 people attended his funeral on 31st October at St Mary’s, was testament to how many people knew and loved Bill.

Life started for Bill when he was born at Hertford County Hospital on 10th October 1951. His proud parents were William Frederick and Minnie May Knight. Bill was lucky enough to spend all his formative years in a pub - his parents ran The Boot public house in Dane End in Hertfordshire which is not too far from Whaddon!

He had a sister, Pat, who was three years older than Bill and he told me that like many siblings, they used to fight like cat and dog when they were young. He was once accused of pulling Pat’s hair but she got her own back when they were playing hide and seek in the local woods. Bill was told to hide and then Pat promptly went home! They later became great friends though and Pat’s untimely death in September 2003 was a massive blow to Bill and the family.

Young Bill attended Little Mundon Primary and then Buntingford Secondary Modern before he left school aged 15 in 1966 and took up an apprenticeship as a carpenter/joiner in Ware and Hitchin.

In 1974, aged 23, Bill decided it was time to spread his wings and he went to work overseas on building projects for a company based in Stevenage. Before he went he sold his beloved Riley Hornet car to a chap called Arthur who was a machine operator where Bill worked in Stevenage. The vehicle was Bill’s pride and joy, with leather seats and a walnut dash. Soon after he left for pastures new, however, the car had a calamitous suspension failure and Arthur was alleged to be after Bill’s blood when he returned!

Fortunately, Bill managed to avoid the hapless Arthur and found his work overseas both interesting and rewarding. He worked on large construction projects in Oman, Dubai, Qatar, Libya and Egypt and made many lifetime friends. When working in Tobruk in Gaddafi’s Libya, Bill and his chums found the evening entertainment somewhat lacking, so they decided to put on a charity play loosely based on Passage to India. Bill played the British Ambassador, I’m sure with great aplomb.

Attending the play were a group of Polish nurses, who had been sent to work in local hospitals. One of them caught Bill’s eye - a young lady called Maria and, in Bill’s own words, he immediately fell in love with this beautiful girl! Their relationship developed and they decided to come to England to get married but there was a big problem with Maria’s passport. Before the fall of communism in eastern Europe, passports were generally only issued for specific journeys and Maria’s was valid for trips between Poland and Libya only.

They enlisted the help of the British Embassy, who issued a visa to Maria and the happy couple came to Whaddon in October 1983 and married in Cambridge on 6th January 1984. Their marriage was blessed with the birth of young William in December 1988 and the family became complete in September 2016, when young Will and Holly were married. Bill and Maria were so proud that day and it was difficult to imagine that Bill was terminally ill.

He enjoyed greatly his trips to see Maria’s family in Poland, even though he didn’t understand much Polish! He said their hospitality was amazing with vast family feasts and wine flowing freely!

Bill continued working in project manager roles mainly in the east of England until his retirement in March 2016. He worked on many large building projects and would often be travelling the length and breadth of East Anglia, which certainly took its toll.

But he liked nothing better than to be involved with the celebration of village life in Whaddon with its community events. He was a member of the Parochial Church Council until 2016, a Foundation Governor at Petersfield school until 2003 and the Chair of Whaddon Church fete committee since early 90s. Masterminding the fete was Bill’s annual crowning glory for many years and, with his Dad’s Army (and Mum’s) of helpers, he put together this most marvellous of Whaddon events which has raised many thousands of pounds for the church and given much fun to so many.

In his final year, he bore his illness with tremendous courage, dignity and philosophy. Comforted by his family and his faith he passed away on 16th October. He was one of the nicest, kindest and genuine person you could ever wish to meet and he will be massively missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts and condolences go to Maria, Will and Holly.

Lee Ginger