### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**Citizens Advice:**
- Cambridge: 03448 487979
- Royston: 03444 111444

**Councillors:**
- County: Susan van de Ven 07905 325574
- District: Jose Hales 01763 221058
  - Phillipa Hart 01763 261255

**Doctors:**
- Orchard Surgery, Melbourn: 01763 260220
- The Health Centre, Royston: 01763 242981
- Market Hill Surgery, Royston: 01763 848244
- Roysia Surgery, Royston: 01763 243166

**Hospital:**
- Addenbrooke’s Hospital: 01223 245151

**Police:**
- Non emergency Number: 101

**Samaritans:**
- 01223 364455 (charges)
- 116 123 (free)

**Transport:**
- National Rail Enquiries: 03457 484950
- Stagecoach East: 01223 433250
- National Express Coaches: 0871 781 8181

**Utilities:**
- Anglian Water: 03457 145145
- Cambridge Water Company: 01223 706050
- Electricity Emergency & Supply Loss: 08007 838838

**Vets:**
- Melbourne Veterinary Surgery: 01763 262696
- Royston Veterinary Surgery: 01763 242221

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### 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 Angela Bridges, the Parish Clerk:
whaddonparishcclerk@outlook.com

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[www.whaddon.org](http://www.whaddon.org)

December 2018
**Village Hall Hire**
Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties and most functions.

**Village Rate:** £7 per hour

**Non-village Rate:** £11 per hour

Please contact: whaddonvhrgt@gmail.com

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th Dec</td>
<td>Children’s Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th Dec</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Dec</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st 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>9th Jan</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th Jan</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Jan</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd Jan</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th Jan</td>
<td>Eat for Heat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th Feb</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th Feb</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Feb</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Feb</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th March</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charity Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Mar</td>
<td>Gardening Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Mar</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NEWSLETTER**

*The deadline for the next newsletter is February 18th*

Once again items of village interest are always welcome.

Joan Pascoe C208062
joanpascoe@aol.com

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**Bin Collection Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Blue</th>
<th>Blue/green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 5 Dec</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12 Dec</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Dec</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 27 Dec</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3 Jan</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Jan</td>
<td>Blue/green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Jan</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mobile Library**

- Every 3rd Tuesday
- 10.00 - 10.30
- Meldreth Road

**Mobile Library**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 18 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 22 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 19 Feb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lee Ginger</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>07850</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lee.ginger@btinternet.com">lee.ginger@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>14 Carlton Rise, Melbourn SG8 6BZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Nigel Strudwick</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>252015</td>
<td>207434</td>
<td>3 Town Farm Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Will Elbourn</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>208955</td>
<td>College Farm, Church Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Tony Milton</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>207105</td>
<td>Chestnut Tree Farm, MeldrethRoad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Randall Scott</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>208253</td>
<td>26 Bridge Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Birch</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>07748</td>
<td>908164</td>
<td>68 Bridge Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne Vries</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Angela Bridges</td>
<td>Clerk/Finance Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31 Bridge Street, <a href="mailto:whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com">whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM**

***Malan Peyton***
- Whaddon Village Coordinator
- Ermine Farm, Dyers Green C 207358

**Coordinators:**

- Karen Coningsby: Meldreth Road/Church Corner C 207514
- Carole Aldred: Church Street/Town Farm Close/St Mary’s Close C 208147
- Maria Mould: Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close C 207231
- Helen Smith: Upper Bridge Street C 207631
- Malan Peyton: Dyers Green C 207358

**Local Enforcement:**

- Neighbourhood Policing Team (Cambourne):
  - www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/SouthCambs/Cambourne/
  - John Coppard: Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
  - Lyndsay Gardiner: Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
  - James Lynch: Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

Dial 999 to report a crime actually happening or when lives are at risk.
For a non-emergency matter dial 101.
**SUSAN VAN de VEN** Cambridgeshire County Councillor

**Monthly Advice Surgeries:**
Susan van de Ven holds two drop-in advice surgeries a month for anyone who has a question or concern.
1st Monday of the month The Hub, Melbourn, 3-4pm
3rd Monday of the month The Limes, Bassingbourn, 3-4pm
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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**N. HERTS AND DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**
Our area is served by ‘North Herts and District’ CAB, an independent charity that provides advice on basic rights and services, like housing and benefits.

A free drop-in service is held every 1st and 3rd Monday (9:30 am-12 noon), Melbourn Community Hub, and every Monday and Wednesday mornings (9:30 am-12 noon) at the Citizens Advice North Hertfordshire offices at Royston Town Hall, Royston, SG8 7DA.

Any questions, please ring the CAB Monday-Friday, 10-4, Tel 03444 111 444.

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**WHADDON VILLAGE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY**
This year the Children’s Christmas party will be held on Sunday 9th December 3-5 pm, and is open to all children who live in the village and aged up to 10.

Invites have been posted, if you have not received yours, please contact 07547 603177 / ang-rc@yahoo.co.uk, and please let us know if you plan on bringing your little one to the party.

We also ask all who attend to bring a plate of something towards the Party tea, and ask parents to stay with their children for the party where you can enjoy a cup of tea or some mulled wine,

We look forward to seeing all our younger members of Whaddon on the 9th where we will have a special visitor!!

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**WHADDON POPPY APPEAL**
On behalf of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal I would like to thank members of the Whaddon community for once again offering their time and generously donating towards the appeal.
This year we collected the grand total of £683.65 which is an amazing amount for such a small village.
I would like to thank Mrs Janet Leech and Mrs Kate French for again carrying out door to door collections around the village.
Thank you also to Richard and Lorna Green at the Whaddon Golf Centre for hosting a collection box, Whaddon Parish Council for their kind donation and the congregation of St. Mary’s Church who came out in force to the Remembrance Sunday service and donated generously.

Henry Burgess

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**PC Repairs**
**Advice & Installation of Home Networks**
**Help with Selecting a Computer**
**Fault Finding**

Brian Girling 01223 208529 (Wimpole)
E-mail bg@moncraft.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

---

**Christmas Sing-along**
Friday 21 December
7pm for 8pm
Join us at the Golf Centre for an evening singing Carols and Christmas songs Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
Sing along or just relax and listen

Donations to St Mary’s Church, Whaddon
Replacement Heating for St Mary’s Whaddon

Earlier this year we were able to implement Phase I of the new heating at St Mary’s, providing heating to the chancel, together with a heavy, lined curtain on the rood screen to help keep the heat within the chancel. This first phase of the project was entirely funded through donations and events held in the village, and the PCC would like to record their thanks for the generosity and support of the wider community in helping to deliver the project.

Phase II of the heating will encompass the rest of the church (the nave and side aisles) and since this will be a more expensive project we will be seeking grant aid in addition to fundraising within the local community. This new round of fundraising kicked off with a very successful wine tasting held in the Village Hall in early November, where once again the amazing generosity of the community was fully demonstrated. We would particularly like to thank Michael Benyan and Peter Haselden for hosting the evening and sharing their knowledge and love of wine, and also all those who attended and those who bid so enthusiastically in the auction. The final accounts for the evening are still to be finalised, but it is clear that the evening will have raised just over £2,000.

The next fundraising event will be a return of the popular ‘EAT FOR HEAT’ courtesy of Janet Leech and Lorna Green. This will take place on the evening of Saturday 26th January, and once again it will be held in the Whaddon Golf Centre. Due to space restrictions, tickets will be limited to 30 and will cost £15 each. If you would like to pre-order tickets please contact David Grech on 01223 208938.

St Mary’s Whaddon PCC

Church Services in December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service/Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd December</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th December</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Carol Service followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th December</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd December</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</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>Family Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th December</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Holy Communion – joint Service at Bassingbourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

Christmas is approaching! The time of year when we’re enjoying a tipple with friends, cooking up festive feasts for the family and entertaining loved ones. With all the fun to be had 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 tired or under the influence of alcohol or medication that makes you drowsy
- Regularly clean the grill pan and oven. Built up fat can easily catch fire
- 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!
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 surgeries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 1st December 2018</td>
<td>Drop-in - No appointment needed</td>
<td>10.30am - 12.30pm Sawston Venue: Sawston Parish Council Offices, Link Road, Sawston. CB22 3GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11th January 2019</td>
<td>By appointment only</td>
<td>3.00pm - 5.00pm Hardwick Venue: Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Road, Hardwick CB23 7QJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 9th February 2019</td>
<td>Drop-in - No appointment needed</td>
<td>10.30am - 12.30pm Bourn Venue: TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1st March 2019</td>
<td>By appointment only</td>
<td>3.00pm - 5.00pm Melbourn Venue: TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To book an appointment please call 01223 830037

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**WHADDON VILLAGE HALL and RECREATION GROUND TRUST**

**Fund Raising for the Village Hall - Race Night**

A great night was had by all at Whaddon Village’s first Race Night on the 13th October. Much cheering on of horses (and pigs) could be heard throughout the evening with the lucky winners enjoying the fruits of their ‘racing expertise’. Even those who weren’t lucky enjoyed a very sociable and entertaining time.

A very worthwhile £812 was raised which will go into the fund-raising pot on behalf of maintenance for the village hall and our popular playground.

Many thanks,

Wendy

**Future Events**

- 23rd February  
  Film Night - ’dress up in character’
- 18th May  
  Comedy Night. More information to follow.

Style Night to be deferred until the New Year - watch this space.

---

**CHRISTMAS PARTY - FUTURE HELP NEEDED**

To Mummies, Daddies, Grannies and Grandads

The Whaddon Christmas Party has a long history and dates back to when the village had a school (and when it subsequently closed). It was established to ensure the children of the village came together from all the schools (aged 0 to 11) to celebrate Christmas and Community.

With this in mind, it is with great sadness that this year’s village party may be the last one for the village children. Our leaders and many of our current members will be standing down after this year’s party, after many years running it. The current committee had hoped to hand the baton over this year but have been unsuccessful in recruiting a new leader or members. As a committee it was agreed we would organise one last party.

The Christmas party committee arrange and organise the village party (which as you know is free) along with one fundraising event each year. Please consider joining the committee to avoid the Whaddon Children’s Village party becoming a thing of history.

Many thanks
WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

Quiz nights at the Golf Centre continue for the autumn/winter sessions as follows:

December 12th
A Christmas Quiz with a very special quiz master!

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

7.30 for 8pm  £6 inc food

All welcome!

CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY QUIZ NIGHTS AT WHADDON GOLF CENTRE (2017/2018)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Charity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 2017</td>
<td>St Mary’s Church Heating Fund</td>
<td>£49.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur Rank Hospice</td>
<td>£16.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2017</td>
<td>Royal British Legion</td>
<td>£46.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fledgelings</td>
<td>£15.50</td>
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<td>December 2017</td>
<td>Arthur Rank Hospice</td>
<td>£64.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2018</td>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>£50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2018</td>
<td>St Mary’s Church Heating Fund</td>
<td>£46.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prostate Cancer</td>
<td>£15.00</td>
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<td>March 2018</td>
<td>Headway</td>
<td>£46.50</td>
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<td>Homestart</td>
<td>£15.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td>£365.00</td>
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ROYSTON & SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE

LITERARY LUNCH

Tuesday 11th December
The Old Bull Inn, Royston
Buffet lunch from 12.15pm
Chat 1.00 to 2.15pm
Tickets: £15.00
Jude Simpson hosts a chat with Sophie Hannah
International best selling author of crime fiction

For enquiries or to book please ring 01763 262262, email admin@hsrsc.org.uk or buy on line at: www.ticketssource.co.uk/hsrsc
All proceeds in aid of Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire

We are looking for home visiting volunteers for the Royston and Buntingford Area

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 where Home-Start volunteers can help!

A 9 session training course for new volunteers will run on 28th & 29th January, 4th 5th 11th 12th 25th & 26th February and 4th March 2019. The course will run from 9.30am - 2.30pm. For further details contact:

Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire,
Unit 6, Valley Farm, Station Road, Meldreth,
Royston, Herts, SG8 6JP

Tel: 01763 262262 or e-mail admin@hsrsc.org.uk www.hsrsc.org.uk
The Alfred Palmer’s Trust – a local charity to help villagers of Whaddon.

The Alfred Palmer’s Trust was originally set up in 1927 to purchase coal for distribution to the poor widows of Whaddon Parish.

Now it gives modest grants of up to £50 to people of Whaddon for whom a small cash injection could make a real difference. The Trust considers requests from all Whaddonians and especially from the elderly.

If you want to apply or know of someone else who may benefit from a grant, please either email Angela Bridges, the Whaddon Parish Clerk at whaddonparishcclerk@outlook.com or write to her at 31 Bridge Street, Whaddon.

The times they are a changing (again)

Following the disastrous new Thameslink timetable in May, they’re going to have another go at getting it right!

So, from Monday 10th December, the revised timetable will restore the cancelled trains and give a half hourly service all day on Mondays to Fridays, from Meldreth to King’s Cross and Cambridge, with direct trains every hour from Royston, through Central London to Gatwick Airport and Brighton.

Fast extra trains will run in the peaks and evenings between Royston and King’s Cross, with all trains planned to be formed of 8 or 12 coaches. Weekend trains will continue to be hourly from Meldreth and twice-hourly from Royston.

Check out the new times and connections www.thameslinkrailway. Or call in at Meldreth or Royston stations.
New councillors
We are delighted to welcome two new Councillors to the team, Anita Birch from Bridge Street and Joanne Vries from Church Street. I am sure they will play a very active role in the Parish Council and we all look forward to working with them.

Replacement Village sign
The sign has been delivered but quite a lot of work is needed to position the sign securely in its position at Ridgeway Close. Much of the supporting timber and the seat surrounding the sign base have suffered from years of wet weather and are having to be replaced and restored. We are hoping this will not take too long but it will be worth the wait because the new sign will be an extremely good addition to the village scene.

Phone box
As I am sure most are aware, our phone box library has been destroyed by a vehicle and will have to be replaced. We have an insurance claim for a ‘new’ box but this will take some time. In the meantime, a temporary library has been set up at the Golf Centre – many thanks to them for setting this up. A number of people have suggested to me that the new box could be sited in a different location from the top of Bridge Street and I should be pleased to hear any thoughts from villagers about this. For the record, the original box was thought to have been located at the top of Bridge Street since the 1950s and was very much part of the Whaddon street scene.

Highways matters
Pleased to see that the three drain covers along Whaddon Gap were permanently repaired on 5th November – thanks to our Local Highways Officer for dealing with this issue and for arranging cones etc when the covers were first stolen. More pot holes have been repaired but it is so important that we report any new ones on the County Council’s website - www.highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk, to ensure that the team repair them quickly. With the County’s dire financial situation, they have a very limited budget for this work but will always repair those that are considered a hazard.

Bridge Street parking
If you live in Bridge Street, please ensure that any on-street parking is carried out so that other road users are not impeded or have to drive on the grass verges. Please take a personal interest in where you, your visitors, delivery drivers and any contractors park their vehicles so that they avoid obstructing the flow of traffic. Much of Bridge Street is single lane and even where the

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING
On 12th September 2018 we held a Macmillan’s Coffee Morning in the Village Hall. It was well supported with folk bringing cakes and donating raffle prizes. Everyone enjoyed it and we managed to raise £115 for the Macmillan’s charity.

We would like to also thank the Village Hall Committee for foregoing the usual rental charge.

We hope to hold another one next year to help further the good work of this worthwhile cause (date to be confirmed).

Maureen & Moya
In August we took a summer break and had planned a September talk from Sandra Barker on the “Wonderful World of Willow”. Unfortunately, Sandra had an accident at the last minute and was unable to join us. With too little time to find a replacement we had to postpone the evening but we hope to have Sandra speak to us early in 2019.

In October, our own Malan Peyton gave a very interesting talk together with lots of practical examples on “Working with Leather”, something she was trained in and has been doing for many years. Malan brought a potentially dry subject to life and made the whole evening both informative and enjoyable.

On Wednesday 21st November, possibly before you receive this News, we have Richard Revels FRPS, talking on “The Fantastic Falklands”. Richard is an internationally known wildlife photographer and lecturer who has travelled the world in pursuit of his profession. He has a range of presentations but when asked his favourite he unhesitatingly said of the Falklands: “Wild, windy and wonderful, that’s my opinion of the Falkland Islands. I have visited the Falklands 4 times, and in this show I present the cream of my pictures taken while there. These islands represent one of the last accessible wildernesses on Earth, and have spectacular displays of birds, often in huge numbers; also two very large mammals, the Southern Sea lion and the Elephant Seal are also present on Sealion Island and Bleaker Island. Richard’s show should be well worth seeing on the 21st.

To end the year we will be holding a Christmas party on Wednesday 19 December. Our meetings are held in the village hall and publicized through the village email system. We get together at 7.30pm for refreshments followed by our speaker at 8.00pm. All for just £2.50, which covers the cost of the speaker, hire of the village hall and refreshments. Surely the best value in Whaddon if not the whole of Cambridgeshire. MM

All minutes of meetings are on the village website www.whaddon.org and on the notice board at the Village Hall in Church Street.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 14th January 2019 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Compiled by Lee Ginger
TIMES PAST
Number 4
THE METHODIST CHAPEL

End of an Era

The end of July 2002 saw the closure of the Methodist Chapel in Whaddon and it is interesting to look back over its history in the village.

The chapel was initially housed in Home Cottages. These had been acquired as the living accommodation for the diggers employed in the coprolite industry which flourished in the village at the end of the nineteenth century. The chapel was situated in what had been the quarters for the workers. There was an earlier chapel in a house at the end of Bridge Street which was attended by a family known to be Methodists. It is believed to have been transferred to Home Cottages in 1895 when the Whaddon Chapel was added to the Cambridge Circuit, which also included Royston and several other local villages. The chapel flourished in these premises, being restored in 1933, until a fire in 1935 ended its life in this particular spot.

The chapel was a very active participant in the life of the village. Many local people have fond memories of the old chapel and of its many activities; the Harvest Festival when the chapel was beautifully decorated with produce for the service (the produce was auctioned off on the Monday); the Bible Class for the older children; a Sunday School for the youngsters; parties in the room above and trips to the seaside.

A Catastrophic Fire

The fire which signalled the end of the old chapel broke out about 2am on a Tuesday morning in September 1935, in a small farmhouse at the end of the row of Home Cottages in the occupation of Mr William Jarman. Mr Jarman’s house was known as Home Farm but during the time of the coprolite workers had been known as The Home or The New Found Out (the beer house for the workers).

At the time of the fire there was a wind blowing straight down the row of houses and the upper floors were the first to catch light. The fire quickly spread and in a very short time the whole row and the little Methodist Chapel were involved. Six families were rendered homeless but no lives were lost, save for a cat.

Considerable damage was done to most of the household goods by water and smoke. A call to the fire brigade in Royston was not got through until 3.50am and it must have been a terrible experience for the residents watching their property gradually being destroyed.

When the fire brigade did arrive they were at the scene until 10.50am. The last cottage was saved owing to the strenuous effort of the fire brigade. After the fire many sightseers came to visit the site and streams of traffic were reported passing through the village.

A New Chapel

Moves were soon afoot to replace the burnt out chapel, services taking place temporarily in the school room. Fund raising began and building started on the site of the chapel’s present home* and the foundation stone was laid on July 23rd 1936. The Royston Crow commented:

That nearly £100 was collected at the stone-laying for the new Methodist Church yesterday evening is something that a little village can be proud of. Indeed many towns would not have done so well and we heartily congratulate the village on its achievement.

The builders’ estimate for the church was about £509 with £512 for incidental expenses. The insurance company had given the full amount. They had sold the old site for £20. The new site had cost £25. Money was also raised by the sale of guinea bricks.

A well-known evangelist, Gipsy Smith, conducted the ceremony and in his address said that they were there to lay the foundation stones and everyone would be judged by the foundations they had laid in a life based on Jesus Christ.

Its completion ensured the continuation of Methodism in the village and the chapel, later being extended and modified, carried on the work begun at the turn of the century. Its demise is to be regretted but in this increasingly secular world, only to be expected. Its congregation eventually became too small for it to remain viable.

S & J Ralls 2002

* This article was originally published in 2002. The chapel building is now used by Bumpkins Nursery.

WHADDON ROLL OF HONOUR

Following the recent Centenary Anniversary of the end of the First World War it seems appropriate to remember those from the village who gave their lives in both World Wars. The Roll of Honour can be seen on the north wall of the Church.

1914 - 1918
Reginald Jarman
Victor George Oliver
John Law
Frederick George Hicks
Walter Chapman
Harry Thomas Hall
Thomas Laurie Coningsby
Alfred William Smith

1939 – 1945
Reginald Frederick Jacklin
William Reginald Jarman
Charles Samuel Lindsell
Ainslie Henry Morfey
Jack William Smith
Bernard William Webb