FAREWELL TO WHADDON FAMILIES

The Whaddon News team has, unfortunately, lost a vital member with the departure of Kathrine Mitchell and her family from The Grange. We have greatly valued her support and assistance as a founder member of and contributor to the Newsletter. Kathrine was responsible for the layout and printing, and her editing and artistic talents were also used to the full. We must not forget to thank her husband, Bob, for the free use of his computer and photocopier.

Kathrine was also a guiding light behind the Children’s Christmas Party. For the last few years, Kathrine has organised the entertainment and food and has helped Father Christmas with his choice of presents. The whole family has supported village events during the ten years they have lived in Whaddon and we wish them well in their new home in Comberton.

A Permanent Reminder of the Chappell Family

We have also said farewell to Dave Chappell and his family who have moved up to The Shetlands. Dave is busy building a house and they are looking forward to their new life. We are very grateful for Dave’s lasting contribution to Whaddon in the sign that he carved, let’s hope that it stands for many years in the future.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Sarah and Colin Waring to The Grange. They are in the advertising business and intend to work from home. They have a son, Jamie aged 15, who lives with them, their other children are all grown up. Colin has very kindly offered to photocopy the Whaddon News for us.

WHADDON'S ANNUAL BARBECUE
ON JULY 15th 1995
STARTS AT 7.30pm
DANCE, EAT and DRINK the
NIGHT AWAY

TICKETS: £3 ADULTS
£4 O.A.P
£3 CHILDREN
UNDER 5’s FREE

TICKETS INCLUDE BARBECUE,
MUSIC and DRINKS.

Tickets are available from committee members. May we also take this opportunity to ask for donations of a salad and/or help for the barbecue on 15th July. Any member of the committee will be glad to accept your donation, a list of all the committee members appears in this newsletter. Make a note in your diaries to come and join in the fun.
At the Annual Parish Meeting in March, Mr Bradley, Chairman of the Parish Council, gave his Annual Report. Before starting the following extract, on behalf of fellow councillors and members of the village, we'd like to thank Fred Bradley most sincerely for the time and hard work that he puts into being an excellent Chairman. We are most fortunate.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT March 1994-1995

The Parish Council have had another busy year with new planning applications attracting a large share of the councillors’ time.

The last year has seen a number of key objectives achieved, including the following:

1. The completion of the Village Hall first phase improvement plan
2. The siting and dedication of the Village sign and seat in memory of Jim Law
3. Good attendance at a number of fundraising and social events including The Village Hall Fete, Church Fete, Barbecue, Children’s Xmas Party, Over 60s Baazar and several Car Boot Sales
4. The first phase of an Annual Hedgerow and Tree Planting Scheme

These achievements would not be possible without a great deal of hard work and I wish to record a vote of thanks to:

1. The Village Hall Committee who worked tremendously throughout the year raising vital funds for the maintenance of the Village Hall
2. Bill Knight and the Church Fete Committee who, with the kindness and effort of Lord and Lady Whaddon, organised another successful Fete in aid of the Church Fabric Fund
3. Margaret Wilson, Colin Barker and Dave Chappell for the work carried out to achieve the completion of the Village sign and seat
4. Lord Whaddon for unveiling the sign and paying tribute to Jim Law and Rev. E. Duckett for conducting the dedication
5. Margaret Wilson, Clare Byatt, Mr and Mrs Huffer, Mr George Coningsby and all the many residents who helped plant the trees and the 200 metre hedge on the Whaddon Gap road
6. Village residents and friends for their support of and kind donations to social events

We were unsuccessful in our funding application for road calming facilities in Meldreth Road. However the Council do intend to make a further application this year.

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has not yet been relaunched due to lack of local support (but it should be noted that PC John Sutton from Melbourn did attend the Annual Meeting). At County level, I should like to thank Madge Compton for attending the Police liaison meetings.

The village stream has given fewer problems this year although there are some serious sitting problems in lower Bridge Street that the Council are addressing.

On an unhappy note, the Parish Council and indeed most residents were shocked by the felling of a British Elm that had grown in the meadow adjacent to the church for more than 200 years. The Parish Council has secured a Preservation Order to protect the remaining trees which have an important place in the village’s history. As a result the County and District Councils are to introduce procedures to ensure preservation orders are considered prior to land sales.

The next 12 months is going to be busy with the following projects being undertaken over and above the normal council business:

1. Establishment of an 8 acre woodland beside the Ermine Street Bridleway with the kind co-operation of Mr and Mr Capon
2. Completion of the second phase of the Village Hall improvement programme
3. A public opinion survey in respect of street lighting - already underway
4. Carry out the second phase of hedgerow and tree planting scheme
5. Submission of funding application for road calming in Meldreth Road and a footpath from the Green to the Church
6. Consideration of the production of a village history
7. Making a feature of the spring and pump at the top of Bridge Street
8. Re-launch of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

I wish to thank Aileen Bishop and my fellow councillors for all their support and hard work in carrying out their responsibilities effectively. We are also very appreciative of all the help and advice we receive from Margaret Hunter and Mary Course, our County and District Councillors.

In conclusion, we look forward to working with you all for the next year.

FRED BRADLEY
With the departure of Kathrine Mitchell we have lost a helper for the Children's Christmas Party. Would anyone who would like to keep this worthy tradition alive contact Margaret Wilson on 207 219 to find out more about what is involved.

For anyone who is new to the village, the party is for all children of primary school age who live in Whaddon. We aim to provide entertainment and a good feast free to all and over the past few years Father Christmas has found time to visit.

There are two sponsored activities to join in. The Sunday School are walking for the nhc action for children on Saturday 10 June, contact Margaret Hewat (01763) 247611 and on Saturday 9th September you can cycle for the Historic Churches Trust, to raise money for the church or chapel of your choice. Clare Byatt can tell you more, 207 429.

The British Red Cross writes, on behalf of Mrs Iris Green, to thank all Whaddon Parishioners for the efforts to make Red Cross Week a great success again.

We are delighted your collection raised £130.51, your contribution is greatly appreciated.

These funds will help the British Red Cross to continue providing vitally needed services both for victims of disaster, and people in your local community.

Thank you

The totals from the other two Spring-time charity collections in the village for CHRISTIAN AID and ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION will be published shortly, meanwhile Clare Byatt and the Walker family thank you for your support
Paul Clarke, late of The Green, Meldreth Road, moved into the village in 1985. By instinct and training, he was a traditionalist, and saw the obligation to support the parish church as a pleasant duty. Paul had a clearly conceived faith and a deep knowledge of church procedure. He was at his best during the interregnum, the period between John Aitchison’s retirement and the installation of Ted Duckett, our present Vicar. During this time he conducted morning services, on his own if necessary, to keep St Mary’s functioning regularly. His beautiful, clear speaking voice when reading was a delight to the ear. His unabashed singing on days when there was no organist, cheerfully showed the way.

Paul was born in the military town of Caraherley on 2 May 1936. His father was a regular Army Officer, consequently he never lived for very long in one place as a boy. Schooldays were spent at Wellington College. He then did National Service in the 13th/18th Hussars, after which he graduated in architecture from Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He did not pursue architecture as a profession but his training fitted him well for a career in antiques and in later years he managed the Bond Street branch of Aspreys.

Gardening was his consuming hobby and he hoped to develop his ideas in the large untamed area surrounding his cottage. The framework he set out is there. Given time he would have created a notable garden but sadly this was not to be. the garden did though give him a beautiful and peaceful place to spend time during the illness that caused his untimely death. Another of his interests was beagling, as Trustee of the Trinity Foot Beagles, he was instrumental in bringing the pack to our Church Fete last year. It is fitting that members of the Trinity will attend the interment of Paul’s ashes and sound the “Going Home” in our churchyard on 28th May. He will be missed.

New Bus
Councillor Margaret Hunter has achieved funding for an evening bus to Cambridge at weekends: Thurs, Fri and Sat evenings.
County Bus 146 will leave Royston Bus Station at 18.30, via the Rail Station at 18.35, Melbourn Church at 18.45, and Meldreth Stocks, 18.49.
It will proceed through Shepreth, Harrington, Harston etc to reach Cambridge:
Leys School 19.25
Drummer St. Bus Station 19.30.

The Return Bus leaves Cambridge Bus Station 23.10 with timetabled stops to Harston, thereafter the bus will follow the same route home setting down at designated stops as required by those on board until it reaches Royston bus station again.

This service is for a trial period of one year and will only remain in operation if seen to be successful and viable.