MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

IN THE PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 26 March 9.45am

Service taken by Rev Ted Duckett

ALL WELCOME
AT THIS UNITED SERVICE

WELCOME

Gusie and Chris Synowiec (Sinovits) have moved into Moor Farm. They have two children; Alexandra who is nearly two and Daniel who was born at Christmas.

Karen and Gary Howse have moved into Chestnut Tree Farm. They were recently married in St Lucia.

Philip and Angela Neale, and their daughters Rebecca (8) and Ruth (6) have moved into Lion House in Bridge Street.

THE VILLAGE HALL
KEYHOLDER
is Christine Rayner
18 Bridge Street, Telephone 207 983
Second keyholder
is Margaret Wilson
Wisteria Cottage, Telephone 207 219

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Village Hall Committee
is Thursday 23 March at 8pm

NEW ARRIVALS!
Bridge Street saw the arrival of two new baby boys in January: William to the Hargraves, and Aaron to the Cunninghams. Congratulations to both families.
PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Chairman and members of the Parish Council warmly invite all villagers to the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 20 March at 8pm.

Over the last couple of months, besides planning applications, tree planting, traffic issues, street lighting, the village hall and the stream have all been discussed.

Tree and Hedge planting
A big thank you - particularly from Margaret Wilson, our Tree Warden - to all those who helped with the hedge planting on Saturdays 18th and 25th February. Thanks to all the assistance received, the first 200 metres of mixed hedging has been planted along the Waggon Road, as well as 20 extra trees in other parts of the village. I lost a trowel during this exercise. If anyone has an unclaimed one with a red handle, Clare Byatt would be pleased to hear.

The ancient elms that once formed part of the avenue leading to Pickering Manor, the site of which is under the golf driving range, now have preservation order on them. Sadly this was not before one of them was felled. These rare surviving trees, all of the genus Ulmus Minor, or small-leaved elm, have resistance to Dutch Elm Beetle.

There is a plan to plant further trees in Whaddon. A small woodland is being considered on land near the Ermine Street Bridleway.

Traffic
Speeding in Bridge Street is still causing concern. If local discussion does not result in more consideration being shown registrations will be reported to the police.

The salt pile opposite Bridge Street junction is for use in icy conditions. Feel free to make use of it, and your participation is also sought with regard to street lighting. Please refer to the leaflet you have recently received.

Village Hall
Estimates have been received for the next stage of work to the village hall. These include flooring the extension and redecorating internally and externally.

The Stream
The Parish Council is in discussion with Mr Gillett of the NRA with regard to the stream. A section of bank has collapsed at the bottom of Bridge Street which is preventing water getting up Bridge Street.

Planning Applications
Current planning matters include plans for a sales shop at Whaddon Golf Centre and renewal of permission for industrial buildings by Meldform Metals, who have been asked to improve and tidy the site entrance and external area.

Clare Byatt
Church Activities

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
will take place on Friday 28 April at 8pm
in the Parish Church

Sunday 21 May AUCTION OF PROMISES
with Dr David Hussein as auctioneer, at 3pm
at The Grange, Kneesworth. Proceeds to the
combined Churches of St Mary's, Whaddon and St
Peter and Paul, Bassingbourn.

So far over 30 Promises have been made. Our target is
50 items. These include:

items for the athletic and adventurous such as a half-
hour flight in a light aircraft, lessons in keep-fit, dry skii-
ing, juggling and unicycling, bellringer, and golf.

more gentle ventures such as a memorable trip
through country lanes in a vintage car, tours of Trinity
College, Emmanuel College, Westminster Abbey and
even bird-watching.

food in various shapes, decorated Christmas cake, 12
scones, a chocolate sponge etc etc.

improving your knowledge or skill : music lessons.
French lessons, lessons in GCSE Science, "A" Level
Biology, and fine art.

gardening-related offers and some

outright indulgences that are not to be missed.

More offers welcome. Please send to Rev Ted Duckett
at Bassingbourn Vicarage (01763) 243119 or to any
Whaddon PCC member.

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Forthcoming United Services in Whaddon

Sunday 26 March 9.45am United service with the
Methodists for Mothering Sunday in the Parish Church

Sunday 30 April 10.30am Joint service in Whaddon
Parish Church with Bassingbourn

Sunday 14 May 10.00am United service for Christian
Aid in the Methodist Chapel

Usual Church Service Times
Parish Church 9.15 am. Rev Ted Duckett can be
contacted in Bassingbourn. Tel (01763) 243119.

Methodist Church 10.00am. Rev Michael Beffield can
be contacted in Royston. Tel (01763) 243445.

Village Sunday School meets at 10.00am in the
Methodist Schoolroom. Margaret Hewat (01763) 247611.

These times also apply to Easter Sunday 16 April

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THE STREAM

This very wet period has kept the stream
well topped-up but I wonder whether our
newer residents are aware of the significance
of the stream to the village. A tributary
of the Cam, it rises at a spring just in the
Parish of Kneesworth the water draining the
chalk around Royston. As the flow enters
Whaddon it divides into two, one part goes
across the fields around the South of the village
the other up along Bridge Street through the village.
Many years ago Mr. W. Smith from Wyles Farm used to operate a
sluice so that the water supply could be
regulated. The two arms rejoin at our
boundary with Heldreth and go off to join the
Cam at Whaddon's Northern boundary.

Whaddon has always been noted for its
wonderful water supply. It used to be known
with pride, as the most Blessed Village in the
County. Miss Grace Pearson wrote about its
history at the turn of the Century when
it was the sole source of water along with
the artesian bore and springs. There were
"dipping holes" along Bridge Street where
the housewives (for a "good" husband) would
dip a bucket and collect water for the day.

The stream water was used for laundry
washing and washing. While drinking water
was allowed from the springs and the springs.
Indus Bridge Street not it's name from the
bridges into people's houses along its
length. Of course there were not so many
houses then but you must remember that the
likes of 1 and 2 Yvers Green (now the
Will Cottage), Jarmans and no. 63 were multiple
dwellings. Also most of the families were
quite large with many children.

Flashed water only came to the village in
1940 and many houses had no mains supply until
the 1970's. Many villagers were
rather suspicious of this "unnatural" sour
and did not want it. Eventually the natural
bore and springs ceased to be reliable and
the Atlas Stone Company was allowed to bore
deeper and villages of necessity changed
its mains supply. Someone once told me that
(it the water) went through kettles much
quicker!

1990 saw the stream dry for the first time in
living memory, largely due to lack of
maintenance and pipes laid too high above
the stream bed; all this aggravated by
exceptionally low rainfall. The stream
supports a great deal of life from trout and
kingfishers. There are also the less
calamitous voles and frogs but all part of
the interdependent aquatic cycle. Whilst
humans no longer depend on it they do. It's
time to do our bit to enjoy the stream in our
modern times whilst reflecting on it's
important past.
Village Benefits Advice Service

There is a mobile service which tours the villages with the aim of increasing the amount of people getting welfare benefits in rural areas where information is more difficult to obtain.

The scheme visited Whaddon on 9 February but would be happy to speak to anyone who needs advice about benefits on 01353 652055.

Nature Corner

Lesser spotted woodpeckers seem to have taken up residence in Whaddon, they are being seen frequently, also long tailed tits are now a familiar sight. Look out for the kingfisher on the stream as well.

Summer Dates for your Diary

Village Hall Fete
Sunday 3 June

Village Barbeque
Saturday 15 July

Church Fete
Saturday 22 July

We also, sadly, have to announce the death of Mr. Jen Cross of Bridge Street.