NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I have received some information about various 'goings on' in the village since the last News. All of this is passed on to PC Sutton and in some urgent cases direct to Information Room. The Police are only too aware of their limitations in communication with the public and in their actual presence in and around the villages. They are very grateful for all information passed on. Confidentiality prevents a direct result always being passed back but, be assured, your information is always noted. Thankfully Whaddon does not figure high in the crime figures, your vigilance will ensure that this remains the case. I still have some booklets with useful hints concerning security and points to look out for; if you would like one please give me a call.

Don't forget, if you are worried, make notes and tell someone; if it's immediate, ring 999. PC Sutton has begun to hold surgeries at Bassingbourn Village College. Times and dates are on the Parish notice Board and will continue to be posted as he lets me know. If in doubt ring me and I can tell you the next date.

THE XYs

A friendly group of ladies who come together for social events to make friends.

10th April
Cheese and Wine Evening at College Farm, Church Street, Whaddon at 7.30pm.

8th May
Spring Wildflower Walk in Hayley Wood, Longstowe. Meet at Whaddon Village Hall at 7.30pm to organise lifts and transport. Probably finishing the evening with a drink at a Longstowe pub.

12th June
Golfing Evening at Whaddon Golf Course. A popular annual event for the serious and not so serious golfer. 7.30pm start.

10th July
Coffee Evening either at College Farm or another venue to be notified. 7.30pm start.

14th August
Punting on the River Camb

11th September
Annual XYs barbecue at a member’s home.

9th October
Games Evening

13th November
Marzipan Fruits Workshop

11th December
Christmas Party at a member’s home.

Men are invited to most of these events. If anyone would like to come along or would like to know more about these events, just ring Jill on 207279, Jean or Grace on 207373, or Pam on 207664.
St Mary's Parish Church
Whaddon

It is with great regret the Parochial Church Council has to confirm that, for personal reasons our Vicar, Ted Duckett is taking early retirement. It is with very great sadness that we see Ted and Irene leave Bassingbourn and Whaddon. We wish them well for the future. Please note that services will continue regularly at 9.15 am.

Renovation of the Church will soon be finished. We shall have a chancel that is wind and watertight, work undertaken and paid for by the Church Commissioners, who are Lay Rectors of St Mary's, Whaddon, a role which gives them the responsibility for upkeep and repair to the chancel. At the same time, the PCC are using funds from the Fabric Fund Account to stabilise, renovate the lime wash the plasterwork in the nave. The result should ensure our church stands in good condition in the centre of Whaddon for many years to come.

Do come and join those who are taking our Services. We are particularly grateful to Stephen Robbins of Bassingbourn Barracks and Vivienne Lake of Papworth.

EASTER BAZAAR
Saturday 30 March
at 10am in the Church
Tony Gardner’s Wood Crafts, other handmade crafts, home produce, cakes and a Children’s Raffle.

THE GREAT WHADDON EGG HUNT

Times of services in Whaddon
Parish Church: 9.15am
FOR DETAILS SEE CHURCH PORCH OR CONTACT CLARE BYTTON 207429

Methodist Church: 10.00am
Rev Michael Bellfield can be contacted in Royston
Tel: 01763 230210

Sunday School meets at 10.00am in the Methodist Schoolroom.
Contact Margaret Hewat 01763 247611

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
12-19 May
There will be a united service with the Methodists in the Church at 10 am Sunday 12 May

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the church on Friday 26 April at 8 pm

The Christmas Bazaar held in the Church in November raised £287.60. Thank you to all who came and supported this event.

WHIT SUNDAY EVENSONG
Sunday 26 May at 6 pm
The Archdeacon of Ely, the venerable Jeffrey Watson, will take this service during which a specially commissioned altar frontal that has been embroidered by Rosalie Sinclair will be dedicated in memory of our much-loved, late Churchwarden, Paul Clarke. Please make a note in your diaries to be at this very special evening service.
PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 25th March at 8pm.

Over the last months many topics have been discussed at Council Meetings as well as various planning applications. Plans for two new houses opposite Town Farm barnyard were approved.

Trees
We have had mixed weather recently but the frost and snow did not prevent gallant helpers turning out over two weekends to plant the second stage off the hedging along the Whaddon Gap Road. Thank you to everyone who came. We now have over 400 metres of mixed hedging all beginning to grow well.

The first phase of the Woodland planned of Whaddon will begin to be planted on Saturday 9th March. This is an area of 3 1/2 - 4 acres to be planted on Mr Capon’s land leading off the bridle way that runs towards Wimpole Hall.

A footpath will go through the wood along the stream to the Whaddon Gap Road, where a further 1 1/2 - 2 acres of trees will be planted as phase two. It will be necessary - in order to attract maximum grant aid - to have small area for parking cars here. Further paths will lead back into Whaddon.

Traffic
Please drive carefully signs have been erected at either end of the village. Residents in bridge Street are still seriously concerned about the amount and speed with which traffic uses their road. The footpath between Church Street and Meldreth Road is now in place.

Village Hall
The Village Hall has undergone major work to the kitchen and internal decoration. Outside painting awaits better weather. Before finishing the flooring in the extension the problem of damp needs to be resolved. The Parish Council and Village Hall Committee are extremely grateful to Mr Clive Hough for his survey and advice on this difficulty.

Streams
Stream clearance at the bottom of Bridge Street is under discussion with residents and the NRA.

Village History
An updated version of the village history is in draft form. It still remains an objection of the Parish Council to develop a more detailed publication on this theme.

The Chairman and Parish Councillors warmly invite residents to any Parish Council Meetings, which are held every other month.

On 22 January, the Parish Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Terry Allison as a member of the council. Council members are most grateful to Terry for his interest and support.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Royston Citizens Advice Bureau are offering a free confidential telephone service, particularly for clients who live in rural areas.

They can help with just about everything. Problems range from employment, housing, benefits, consumer, family and much more.

They can be contacted on Mon-Thurs between 10 am and 1 pm on 01763 238020

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Village Hall Committee, Thursday 18 April

APPEAL FOR HELP
The Village Hall Committee members and volunteers will be at the hall at 9.15am on Saturday 20th April to begin the erection of the storage building. More help would be greatly appreciated. Just bring a strong pair of hands and stout gloves, anything else required will be supplied. Please contact Robert Vaux on 208441 for further information.
Sadly, we have to report the death, after a short illness, of Maisie Handscombe in January this year. Although Maisie and her husband, Ted, no longer lived in Whaddon, she was born and raised here, the youngest member of the Webb family.

Maisie had many friends in Whaddon and was often in the company of Betty, or her brother, Teddy and his wife, Jean, when she came to support village events such as the Village Fete and the Church Fete - as a true Whaddonian. She was born at no. 42 Bridge Street, the last of six children, and christened and confirmed in the Parish Church, which she attended regularly.

Maisie went to the Village School, then on to Bassingbourn before Technical College. Both she and Betty worked in London before Maisie came back to marry Ted Handscombe. Together, the Handscombes kept the Post Office and General Stores next door to the cottage in Bridge Street.

Our sympathy goes out to the Webbs in Whaddon and the Handscombes in Sawston, where the funeral took place. Maisie leaves a son and daughter and four grandchildren. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

VILLAGE WELCOMES.

We would like to welcome Bob and Mary Hepple to The Green, Meldreth Road. They have two older children but the family have not properly moved in yet. They live in Cambridge at the moment and come to stay when they can.

Ron and Yvonne Albery have moved into their new house in Meldreth Road opposite The Green. They have two grown up daughters who do not live with them. Ron and Yvonne have moved from Orwell and are looking forward becoming a part of Whaddon. They have already sampled our social calendar having come to various events last year but unfortunately we didn't manage to introduce them in the last issue, Sorry!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 9th June 1996
THE VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 13th July 1996
VILLAGE BARBEQUE

Saturday 27th July 1996
THE CHURCH FETE

Sunday 22nd September 1996
OX ROAST SUPPER

CASINO EVENING

The Casino Evening held at the Village Hall on 2nd December last year was highly successful both in terms of funds raised and fun had by all. Two tables for roulette and blackjack were busy all night whilst the gamblers took their rest at the superb buffet and bar. A novel raffle played with a dice also did very well, the total raised amounted to £354.49. This is most definately a new social event for the village to look forward to.

CONGRATULATION

The Poppy Appeal for the British Legion raised £122.02. Sandy Fisher would like to thank all who collected and donated.

STOP PRESS

WOULD ALL HORSES PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEW FOOTPATH IS NOT SUITABLE FOR THEM, THEIR FEET ARE CUTTING UP THE LOOSE SURFACE. PLEASE ASK YOUR OWNERS TO WALK OR RIDE YOU ON THE ROAD.