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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizens Advice:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>08448 487979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Royston</td>
<td>08444 111444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillors:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>County: Adrian Dent</td>
<td>01763 245669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District: Nigel Cathcart</td>
<td>01763 243637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David McGaith</td>
<td>01763 248249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orchard Surgery, Melbourn</td>
<td>01763 260220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Health Centre, Royston</td>
<td>01763 242981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Market Hill Surgery, Royston</td>
<td>01763 248111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roysia Surgery, Royston</td>
<td>01763 243166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addenbrooke’s Hospital</td>
<td>01223 245151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non emergency Number</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samaritans:</td>
<td></td>
<td>08457 909090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Rail Enquiries</td>
<td>08457 484950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stagecoach Cambus</td>
<td>08706 082608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anglian Water</td>
<td>08457 145145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cambridge Water Company</td>
<td>01223 706050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electricity Emergency &amp; Supply Loss</td>
<td>08007 838838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melbourne Veterinary Surgery</td>
<td>01763 262696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Royston Veterinary Surgery</td>
<td>01763 242221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.whaddon.org

MARCH 2015
Village Hall available to hire
Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties and most functions.
Contact: Wendy Evans
108, Church St.
01223 207703

9th March Parish Council 20th May Coffee Morning
11th March Coffee Morning Gardening Club
15th March Mothering Sunday May 23rd Folk Evening
18th March Gardening Club May 24th Whit Sunday events
25th March Coffee Morning Cricket
5th April Easter Sunday 3rd June Coffee Morning
8th April Coffee Morning 7th June Cricket
13th April Parish Council 8th June Parish Council
15th April Gardening Club 17th June Coffee Morning
18th April Vill.Hall painting Gardening Club
22nd April Coffee Morning 21st June Cricket
26th April Cricket 3rd July Party in the Barn
6th May Coffee Morning 5th July Cricket
10th May Cricket 11th July Church Fete
11th May Parish Council 13th July Parish Council
17th May Newsletter Deadline 19th July Cricket

Mr Lee Ginger Chairman C 208077 43 Bridge Street
Mrs Kate French Vice chairman C 208207 21 Bridge Street
Mr Will Elbourn Councillor C 208955 College Farm, Church Street
Mrs Jennifer Lewis Councillor C 208356 20 Bridge Street
Prof. Tony Milton Councillor C 207105 Chestnut Tree Farm, Meldreth Road
Mr Randall Scott Councillor C 208253 26 Bridge Street
Ms Amy Walker Councillor - 6 St Mary’s Close
Mrs Gabby Van Poortvliet Clerk/Finance Officer C 208450 134 Bridge Street, Dyers Green
whaddonpeclerk@yahoo.co.uk

Mike Monks Whaddon Village Coordinator 58 Bridge Street C208236
Malan Peyton Deputy Village Coordinator Ermine Farm, Dyers Green C 207358

Karen Coningsby Meldreth Road/Church Corner 17 Church Street C 207514
Carole Aldred Church Street/Town Farm Close/ St Mary’s Close 104 Church Street C 208147
Wendy Evans Church Street/Town Farm Close/ St Mary’s Close 108 Church Street C 207703
Maria Mould Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close 39 Bridge Street C 207231
Mike Monks Upper Bridge Street 58 Bridge Street C 208236
Malan Peyton Dyers Green Ermine Farm, Dyers Green C 207358

Chief Inspector James Sutherland Area Commander
Inspector Jon Hiron Safer Neighbourhood Manager based in Sawston
Detective Inspector Simon Harding Area Crime Manager
Rachel Carr Community Safety Officer

Sergeant Jon Capes Sector Sergeant
James Lynch Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Lyndsay Gardiner Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
HOW many times have you tested your smoke alarm since the start of 2015? If the answer is zero, please go and do it now! We’re asking residents to test their smoke alarms every month – mark it in your diary and make sure you press the button.
If you have young children, then why not devise a fun game to get them involved in testing the smoke alarms in the household? If you can’t quite reach it, then use a broom handle to press the test button.

Don’t forget to also test the smoke alarms of those you love. If you have an elderly or vulnerable relative, friend or neighbour, pop by and make sure they have a working smoke alarm. If you think someone is vulnerable and could be at a higher risk if a fire broke out in their home, then please call us on 0800 917 9994 and we can provide advice and support.

Log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk for the latest incidents, news and safety advice. Find us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

**WHADDON WHITSUN WEEKEND**
23rd and 24th May 2015

Whitsun falls on **Sunday 24th May** this year, which coincides with the bank holiday weekend for once! Please make a note in your diaries to support the events.

On **Saturday 23rd May**, there will be a folk evening, with music, ceilidh dancing and singing in the village hall from 7.30pm. For tickets, please contact whitsun@whaddon.org, or telephone Helen Strudwick on C207434.

On **Sunday 24th May**, there will be dancing around the village with the Devil’s Dyke Morris Men, Manor Mill Morris and our friends from Yorkshire, the White Rose Morris Men. They all give their time for free to help us celebrate, so please come out and support them by watching. At 12 noon there will be a service for Pentecost in St Mary’s Church. Afterwards, there will be more dancing at the Golf Centre.

More information about the route and timings of dancing around the village will be posted on the village website in the near future: www.whaddon.org. We hope to see you over the course of the weekend.

**NORAH FOSTER B.E.M.**
1916 - 2015

It is with great sadness that we learn of the recent death of Norah Foster. We extend our sympathy to all her family. Older residents will realise how much this is the end of an era.

A service of thanksgiving for her life will be held in St Mary’s Church, Whaddon on Tuesday, 10th March at 2pm.

No flowers please, but donations in lieu to Asthma UK (her request) may be sent directly to the charity.
PARTY IN THE BARN - Friday July 3rd

It’s back. And whilst most fund raising events claim to be bigger and better than last time, PARTY IN THE BARN will be staying exactly the same – great live music, a cheap bar and a chance to enjoy a night with friends whilst raising money for local causes.

For tickets (£10 each) call Anne on 207555 or Carolyn on 208796.

What is PARTY IN THE BARN?

Quite a few people have moved into Whaddon recently and we thought it might be handy to explain what PARTY IN THE BARN is.

Simply, it’s just that – a big party in the barn behind Bumpkins, organised and run by people in Whaddon, attended by people from all over. The party started over 8 years ago in order to help with costs for the new playground, and has so far raised over £12,000. And whilst it still continues to help fund the care and maintenance of the playground – this year we’ve given over £2000 – money has also gone to the village hall, the church, the children’s Christmas party and it is soon to be donating to the cricket club, the table tennis club, plus others. It’s a long list and one that those involved – whether it’s helping in the set up or just turning up on the night – should be rightly proud of.

There’s no committee, just a few people who put the various elements together and anyone is welcome to be involved in any way they can. The same people have been organising the party since it started and as much as we all love doing it, it would be great if some new people fancied giving us a hand. If you’d like to, or just want some more information, call Neil 208796 or Anne 207555.

With a home-made bar, male loos constructed from hay bales and a stage borrowed from somebody’s shed, PARTY IN THE BARN isn’t exactly a black tie event but is great fun and we hope you can join us.

CAMBRIDGE ACRE OIL BUYING

Cambridgeshire ACRE’s community oil buying scheme is designed to help purchasers of central heating oil to make savings by buying in bulk. The scheme is open to anyone in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Community buildings such as churches and village halls as well as businesses which are reliant upon heating oil can join too. The annual membership fee for domestic users is £20 and covers as many oil orders as you need during the course of the year.

Through our partnership with AF Affinity Limited, a subsidiary of Anglia Farmers Limited, the leading agricultural purchasing co-operative in the United Kingdom, the scheme makes the most of collective purchasing power. The average saving is usually 2pence per litre against online prices. In November and December 2014 scheme members who ordered oil in these months paid 46.99 and 42.49 pence per litre respectively (exclusive of VAT at 5%). The environment benefits too. If deliveries are organised so that one tanker delivers to several customers in a village, instead of making lots of individual deliveries, the fuel consumption is reduced and so is traffic in the village.

There are five easy steps to cheaper heating oil:

• **Step 1**: Join the Cambridgeshire ACRE Community Oil Buying Scheme Complete a membership form or apply online and then set up a direct debit to pay for your future oil purchases.

• **Step 2**: Receive a reminder to check your oil levels. Each month, we’ll remind you to check your tank and notify you of the deadline to place an order. The minimum order is 500 litres.

• **Step 3**: Place your order online Use our online portal to let us know how much oil you want to buy. Your order increases our negotiating power, so once submitted we regard it as binding.

• **Step 4**: Sit back whilst our negotiators get the best possible price AF Affinity Ltd negotiate the best price from a range of suppliers. We advise you who the supplier is, the price per litre (exclusive of VAT, currently at 5%) and the approximate date of delivery.

• **Step 5**: Take delivery of the oil and pay the company The oil will be delivered as soon as possible and your bank account is debited with the amount you owe.

To find out more about the Cambridgeshire ACRE Community Oil Buying Scheme go to our website www.cambsacre.org.uk or contact Julie Weekes on 01353 860850 email oil@cambsacre.org.uk

Do you need a ‘Good Neighbour’ in Whaddon?

In the last Whaddon News I asked if anyone was interested in helping with a good neighbour scheme. This elicited only one response.

With that in mind I wonder if there actually are any folk who have genuine need for a little ‘good neighbourly’ help on a regular or irregular basis.

If you have any thoughts or would like to help, please give me a ring on 208077 or email lee.ginger@btinternet.com.

Lee Ginger
Our job is to make sure you have a say when important decisions are made about local health and care services. We are interested in any recent experiences you have of a local health or care services that you are happy to share with us.

The big health story in the news this New Year is about pressures on our local hospitals. We know that these are linked to other issues like getting to see a GP when you need to and getting care in place when you are coming home from hospital. We have two new projects that will look at some of these issues from a different view point.

In our “First Steps to Health” project we want to find out about the first thing you would do to solve different health issues. Would you work it out yourself, see a pharmacist, call NHS 111 or see your GP? We all solve things in different ways. Knowing what you do can help our local GP Practices and the people who make decisions about local health services plan better care. Please do take part in our survey either on our website or by contacting our office.

We also need you to help us develop our local “Care Home” project. We want to use our statutory “Duty to Enter & View” local care homes. This means we have a legal right to visit places that provide public health or care services, to see what kind of care they are providing. We need to recruit volunteers to be “Authorised Representatives”. Your role will be to go into local care homes and talk to the people there about the care being provided. This might include talking to residents, their relatives, friends and care home staff. You will get lots of training and support.

Do you have any recent experience of a local care home, or do you know someone who has? Please tell us about it. We will use what you tell us to plan which homes we will visit and what to look at. We are also talking to the County Council and the Care Quality Commission, to help us plan where we should visit.

Get in touch to find out more. or we can come and talk to your group about Healthwatch. Call us on 01480 420628 or visit www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk

Registered Community Interest Company no. 08516179

Following the great news that Whaddon would eventually get a much better broadband connection, as outlined in the August 2014 issue of the Whaddon News, it is clear that there is an air of expectancy around the village that our longest current outstanding problem will soon be solved.

With that in mind, in December I contacted Connecting Cambridgeshire for an update, as their web page http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/parish/whaddon/ had not changed since August, and we were not mentioned in any of the regular updates. I was assured in email that things were still on track but there was no specific new information.

Those who know me are aware that I like a little more information than that, and so I also contacted them by telephone. The situation is indeed as the email said, but I learned a little about the background. Apparently, once the outline proposal went into the system, detailed work was turned over to BT Openreach. BT are not known as the most communicative organisation, and at present the state of the proposal remains within the company, and details are not even passed out to Connecting Cambridgeshire. So I fear I have no real news for you yet, but am still hopeful we are on schedule for September 2015. Rest assured that I will continue to enquire and I will increase the pressure for information as winter ends. As I said in the News article, what is being proposed is not simple and villagers’ patience is appreciated.

Any questions or comments, please contact me on 207434 or ncs3 [at] cam.ac.uk

Nigel Strudwick
“Broadband Champion” for Whaddon
24 January 2015

Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire are looking for Home Visiting Volunteers. Our volunteers help and support families who are finding it difficult to cope.

A 10 session training course for new volunteers is being held during June & July 2015. The course will run from 9.30am - 2.30pm - dates to be confirmed.

Contact Sarah or Jackie: Tel 01763 262262 or email admin@hsrsc.org.uk. www.hsrsc.org.uk
Message from Whaddon Village Hall Trust.

The veranda on the hall has been completely renovated thanks to help from the parish council, and the guttering and soffits have been replaced to the hall as part of a continuing maintenance programme. The Trust is now reviewing quotes to improve the car parking. To facilitate car parking and access to the garage it is aiming to turn the garage around so that the doors open onto the basketball court. Again with the help of the Parish Council we have invested in an acoustics assessment of the main hall and now have an improvement plan that will take place in early April. This is intended to alleviate the echo and so improve the experience for those using the hall.

We are continuing the active use of the village hall with local clubs including table tennis, coffee mornings, gardening club, pilates and dog training. For details see below.

We are actively looking for new Trustees. There are currently two vacancies for Trustees and anyone interested should contact Karen Coningsby, Wendy Evans, Jenna Lewis or any other Trustee to find out more. To date the Trust has focused on refurbishment, but going forward the focus of our new role is to ensure the effective, efficient and solvent ongoing management of the hall so that the hall can continue to be used by the local community for events and services. The duties are not too onerous and meetings take place every two months. We would welcome your participation.

Help protect yourself and your neighbours against telephone scams.

We have seen an increase in reporting of Telephone Scams this last month and in particular the type of calls where the caller impersonates either a Police officer, or a Fraud Officer or a bank employee, then either try to get bank account details off the resident, or suggest they will send someone round to collect their bank cards and any valuable items. Please be wary of telephone calls warning you of fraudulent activity on your bank account.

- Genuine banks, businesses or organisations will never telephone you and ask you to give out personal or financial details.
- This fraudulent caller may ask you to hang up and call your bank or police to prove they are genuine, but they don’t hang up, tricking you into thinking you are through to the genuine officer.
- To protect yourself, make sure you hear a dialling tone before you make your next call or phone a friend to check your call goes through before calling the number on the back of your bank card.
- Ask your telecoms provider to set up caller ID on your telephone so that you know who is calling your number before you decide to answer it.
- Register with the free Telephone Preference Service to reduce the number of unsolicited sales and marketing calls. You can register on 0845 070 0707 or online.
- Be cautious and if in doubt, hang up.

To report a scam contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0345 04 05 06 and Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or visit www.actionfraud.police.uk
**WHADDON CRICKET CLUB**

Whaddon Cricket Club (WCC!) fixtures for the coming season are detailed below. All players and help very welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th April</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Sandon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Royston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th May</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>H and H st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th June</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>Ashwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st June</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Roger Huffer IX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th July</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>Sandon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th July</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Bassingbourn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th August</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th August</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Bridge St v Church St &amp; ROW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th September</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>H and H st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8.30 - 9.30pm</td>
<td>Table tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10.30 - 12.00</td>
<td>Coffee morning (Alt wks - see diary dates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 9.30pm</td>
<td>Garden club (3rd Wed each month)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6.30 - 7.30pm</td>
<td>Pilates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 8.30pm</td>
<td>Pilates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>6.30 - 8.00pm</td>
<td>Dog training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8.30 - 11.00am</td>
<td>Dog training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8.30 - 11.00am</td>
<td>Dog training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Whaddon Parish Council has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council makes local decisions on behalf of Whaddon residents. Parish Councillors represent the views and concerns of residents to the Parish Council, District Council and County Council and also report back to residents on issues affecting the parish. Whaddon Parish Council meets 10 times a year, usually on the second Monday of the month during the evening. In addition there are opportunities to join various committees and initiatives if they are of particular interest to you.

If you think you would like to get involved please contact either Lee Ginger (Chairman) on 208077 or Gabby van Poortvliet (Clerk) on 208450 for an informal discussion. Alternatively you can email whaddonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk. The closing date for expressions of interest is **27th March 2015**.
Whaddon Parish Council News – a flavour of our meetings in January and February

Bassingbourn Barracks
I’m sure that many of you have read the various reports and apologies from MoD and the Army over the Libyan fiasco and I certainly do not wish to prolong the issue. However, the important thing now is to ensure that the Barracks has a viable future and that the community facilities we once enjoyed are restored. As yet there has been no plan from the MoD and it may be pertinent to point out that with the General Election just around the corner we press our prospective candidates on their position over the Barracks’ future.

Speed limits and traffic calming
Following the consultation and amendment to the original plans, I am pleased to see that signs have been erected and the road surface prepared to introduce the ‘build out’ at the end of Meldreth Road. This should have been completed by the time this newsletter is distributed, as should the remarking of ‘SLOW’ signs on the road and a few other tweaks. Once introduced, we’ll monitor it to see whether the traffic calming has any effect. In the meantime I have to report that there have been two accidents at the bend by the Bumpkins Nursery. It would seem that excessive speed may well have been a major factor in both cases. Speedwatch will resume soon after their winter break and will be concentrating some of their efforts at this bend.

Public Transport
Thanks to all villagers who replied to the recent Public Transport Questionnaire. At a meeting between the County Council and local Parish Councils on 21st January, the results were reviewed and some possible ideas floated. Key points were that Whaddon’s bus service was not well-used. One current proposal was to remove our weekly Market bus but instead provide a daily service to Royston, potentially via Meldreth and Melbourn which could give a direct link to the doctors surgery and pharmacy. Other considerations were to provide shoppers with a longer stay in Royston and to replace some scheduled bus services with Dial-a-Ride. It seems that the climate has moved away from a complete withdrawal of all bus services sponsored by the county to one that has services which may be better tailored to the needs of the community.

Resignation of Parish Councillor
The council received the resignation letter of Councillor Jennifer Lewis at the February meeting but were pleased to note that she was to continue as Chair of the Village Hall Trust. Jenna was warmly thanked for her work as a councillor and will be sorely missed. As a result there will be a vacancy for a councillor from 1st April. For further details, please contact the clerk, Gabby van Poortvliet on 208450 or myself on 208077.

Whaddon Neighbourhood Watch and has 130+ addressees. The aim is to keep residents updated not only on police matters but also on parish council activities, events in the village hall, St Mary’s Church, social and other topics that might be of interest to villagers. If you are not receiving these e-mails and would like to be included please let me know on: whaddonnhw@gmail.com

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.

SPEEDWATCH & SPEEDING IN WHADDON

After a winter sabbatical brought about by dark days, dirty number plates, muddy verges and the cold weather we expect to be back in operation by the time you read this. With four new volunteers: Joanne Burgess, Keith Green, Maria Mould and Maureen Pinner joining myself, Malan Peyton, David Evans and when here Nigel Strudwick, we have up to eight volunteers to call upon. It’s particularly pleasing that the team is drawn from all parts of the village.

For those that are new to Speedwatch, which is County wide, our main objective is to educate those drivers who choose to go too fast that here in Whaddon we want you to observe the 30mph – nothing more. It is not to see how many people we can record exceeding the speed limit as if it is a competition. Our ideal would be to record nobody. However, failure to observe the limit will result in vehicle details finding their way to the police. A suitable letter will arrive on the registered owner’s doorstep explaining that speeding is unacceptable to the local community. If repeated by the offender, a further letter will be sent which is cooler in tone and a third time will probably see it being delivered by a member of the constabulary. It is important to note that Speedwatch is not an enforcement tool and there are no fines or points involved but where regular speeding is seen to be a problem then the police will conduct speed checks themselves.

In recent weeks we have seen a car accident at the corner by College Farm and in a later incident the repeater post/sign and the Speedwatch sign have been destroyed in the same area. These may well have involved excess speed. We have many of these sharp corners in the village and over the years each has been attacked by drivers failing to make the turn. Most villagers have a continuing concern about speeding traffic which is a sentiment expressed widely amongst South Cambs villages. Speedwatch helps but is not a solution in itself.

Mike Monks
Unless I have missed something, I believe the village has been crime-free over the last quarter. Judging by police reports, issued through the e-cops system, Whaddon is more fortunate than most of the villages in this area who have faced various levels of crime, much of it focused on individual households eg shed burglaries, distraction burglary, theft of domestic heating oil, vandalism and theft of vulnerably stored car keys and with it the cars – often targeting the expensive models.

Cambridgeshire police are now tackling crime across South Cambs under the mantle of Operation Oaklands whereby the South Cambridgeshire Safer Neighbourhood Team will start a rolling campaign to reduce domestic burglary and shed burglary throughout the district. Op Oaklands will concentrate on one village or town each week with uniform officers operating in the area. They will focus on crime prevention measures and provide security advice to residents in order to combat burglary, vehicle crime and theft. Officers will also be offering residents Smartwater property coding kits for a reduced price of £10, plus shed and window alarms at cost price. Op Oakland is unlikely to focus on Whaddon for the moment as they need to concentrate on locations that face a crime problem which, for much of the time, Whaddon does not. That said, in due course we will seek to be included, probably jointly with another small village close by.

I have mentioned the theft of car keys and this is an ongoing problem that has featured in many of our local villages over this winter. Normally an integral part of a house burglary, the theft of keys is a swift and rewarding activity for the burglar who can be in and out in seconds. Do take precautions to make sure any vehicle keys are not within easy reach of doors or windows, especially on the ground floor. Keep them out of sight, somewhere secure, or ideally take them to the bedroom with you at night.

eCops – if you want to know what is going on in your local policing area then become a subscriber to eCops. As a subscriber you will receive regular updates about crime and anti-social behavior in this area as well as feedback from the local police team about what they are doing to tackle it. It’s an excellent way of keeping in touch with community issues. You can also email your local policing team through eCops to share any concerns you have or to help local officers with their enquiries, providing feedback on incidents or appeals for information. It’s a free service so if you are interested then join up. All you need is an email address. Go to www.cambs.police.uk click on the eCops logo and register.

A reminder to everybody that the village e-mail system is sponsored by Bridge Street water course

A big thank you to some Riparian owners who have made strenuous efforts to clear their section of the drain with the result that the water has been flowing very well all through the winter. Perhaps others could review their section of the drain and have a cut back in the spring to ensure the water keeps flowing.

Village maintenance and other issues

- The Village Hall veranda, guttering and facia boards have all been renewed
- A salt bin is now installed at Town Farm Close
- The two streetlamps at Ridgeway Close are now working but will not be updated in the County Council’s street light programme
- Broadband – we are assured that Whaddon is on track for Superfast Broadband by September 2015. We’ll see!
- Following many adverse comments, the PC wrote to South Cambridgeshire District Council about the inadequate refuse collections over the Christmas period
- The PC will be asking villagers to help in a grand litterpick in early Spring. Watch out for further details.

All minutes of meetings are on the village website www.whaddon.org and on notice boards – at the Village Hall in Church Street, Bridge Street, Cardiff Place and Meldreth Road.

The next PC meeting is at 20h00 on Monday 9th March 2015 in the Village Hall.

Compiled by Lee Ginger
ST MARY’S CHURCH WHADDON

SERVICES

March
Sunday 15th March 9.30am St Mary’s Whaddon Mothering Sunday
Sunday 29th March 11.00am Bassingbourn Palm Sunday

April
Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm St Mary’s Whaddon Maunday Thursday
Sunday 5th April TBC Field 17 Church St Sunrise Service
9.30am St Mary’s Whaddon Holy Communion followed by Easter Egg Hunt.
Sunday 12th April 9.30am St Mary’s Whaddon Morning Prayer
Sunday 19th April 9.30am St Mary’s Whaddon Holy Communion
7.30pm Bassingbourn Deanery Confirmation

May
Sunday 24th May 12noon St Mary’s Whaddon Whaddon Whit Service in assoc. with Morris Dancing

CHURCH FETE
Church Fete 11th July preceded by the usual ploughman’s lunch.
More details to follow

SUNRISE SERVICE
Time TBC in field behind 17 Church Street
HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
9.30 am in the Church to be followed by:
EASTER EGG HUNT in the Churchyard

CHANGE TO SERVICES AT ST MARY’S
From Sunday 1 March, we are trying out a new style of service that we hope will be accessible to people of all ages. This will be called Morning Worship, and will include well-known hymns and a short talk. The service will use contemporary language and be based on Common Worship. It will contrast with Morning Prayer on the third Sunday which will, for the time being, continue to be from the Book of Common Prayer.

The monthly Family Service in Whaddon has been very successful for a number of years, but at the present time, the number of very young children who are part of the Church family have decreased very greatly. So we will be focussing our resources instead on the joint services that we host here in Whaddon, which will usually be family oriented, and on other services at special times of year (e.g. Easter, Christmas, Christingle, Palm Sunday etc). We will of course be keeping this under review and would love to restart the Family Service if enough families with younger children express an interest in it.

If you have a young family and would be interested in the Family Service restarting, please do get in touch. Similarly, if you would be interested in helping with the family-oriented services, please contact a member of the PCC (contact information on the tab on http://www.whaddon.org/st-marys-church) or send a message through the FaceBook page (https://www.facebook.com/pages/Whaddon-Cambridgeshire/199118610175753)

The Alpha course is coming to Bassingbourn

Alpha is a chance to explore and question the meaning of life. Over a series of ten sessions Alpha covers the basics of the Christian faith. Each session involves a (free) meal, main talk and time for questions and discussion. It’s fun, relaxed and free, and you can ask anything you like. Alpha is being run jointly by Whaddon and Bassingbourn parish churches and is being held at the Hoops in Bassingbourn starting on Tuesday 3rd March for ten weeks (breaking for two weeks over Easter). For more information, details of times and dates, or to book a place ring 01763 877558 or go to www.bassingbournchurch.org.uk