CHRISTMAS IN WHADDON

CHRISTMAS EVE
SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER

WHADDON CHURCH
5-5.45 pm
Carol singing by candlelight

A chance for a short break in the midst of Christmas preparations to join in singing some well-known carols in church. This will be very informal and all are welcome.

BASSINGBOURN CHURCH
3.00 pm Crib Service
11.15 pm Midnight Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
IN WHADDON

Family Service
at 9.15 am
in the Parish Church
Followed by a short service of Holy Communion.
Please come and join us.

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November 2005

**WHADDON VILLAGE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year the village party will be held on **Saturday 10th** of December at 3.15 pm in the Village Hall.

‘Silly Billy Blue Hat’ will be there along with Father Christmas. All children within the Village of Whaddon, of primary school age and under, will receive a personal invitation towards the end of November.

If you have recently moved into the village (or you are expecting an addition to the family by then) and you haven’t told us yet, then please let us know so that we can send out invitations. Santa usually brings all the children a present too and we need to let him know how many to bring.

**Contact Anne Newberry on 207555 or Lorna Green on 208203.**

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**THE CHILDREN’S SOCIETY**

Thank you to all those who hold Children’s Society boxes. We have raised £228.38 from the dozen households that have the little blue boxes. This sum goes to help the 50,000 children whose lives have been changed by The Children’s Society. And on the 27th November we will be fundraising again for The Children’s Society at the Christingle Service.

Last year £2 million was collected from house boxes around the country. Just £10 from a house box could pay for 200 ‘Missing from Home’ leaflets that can be given to children living at risk on the streets, explaining how they can move out of danger to a place of safety and obtain practical help to rebuild their lives.

**After seven years of collecting the boxes and counting the funds annually, Norah Foster would like to hand this task on to someone else. If you could help, please contact Clare Byatt on 207 429.**

Do think about whether you could help by collecting and counting, so that we can continue Whaddon’s tradition of making a positive difference supporting children.

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**Management & Fund Raising Committee**

**For Whaddon Village Hall**

We are looking for one new Member to help organise functions and bring new ideas to the group.

Please contact Karen Coningsby on 207514 if you have any questions and you are interested in joining the team.

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**DEADLINE**

Deadline for the next newsletter will be 28th February 2006. This will include details of Easter and spring events.

**Other items of village interest are always very welcome.**

**Contact Joan Pascoe C. 208062**
We are delighted to announce that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is up and running again. We are intending to follow a slightly simpler format and see ourselves rather more as a good neighbour scheme than a highly formalised organisation.

We do however need the backing and goodwill of the village just as much as before, and YOU could help us enormously by volunteering to be a coordinator. Numbers of coordinators have become depleted, resulting in parts of the village not being covered properly by the scheme, and although we have recently recruited two new members we urgently need more, particularly in the Meldreth Road area and Cardiff Place. PLEASE consider joining us. It is not a time consuming or onerous task and you would be warmly welcomed.

We are currently in the process of re-issuing the Neighbourhood Watch yellow cards which we will get to you as soon as possible. In the meantime however, please note that Cambridge constabulary has a new non-emergency phone number which replaces 01223 497648, the number currently on your yellow card.

The **new number** is **0845 456 4564** and you should dial this number in all non-emergency (non 999) situations. Always remember to quote your neighbourhood watch sector number which is at the top of your yellow card and which will remain unchanged.

Louise Shaw  
C 207400

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### VILLAGE ADVERTISEMENTS

As mentioned in the last Newsletter the Parish Council has agreed that advertisements will become a feature commencing in the New Year. Advertisements will be limited to village residents and those associated with the village. Where possible please supply the details on a disc or contact me if there are any problems. All payments should be made by cheque payable to Whaddon Parish Council. Charges are:

- £6 for approx ¼ page
- £12 for approx ½ page
- £20 for 4 issues (per year)
- £40 for 4 issues (per year)
- Price for ½ page on request and will depend on available space.

I would be grateful to receive all details by the end of January so that I can resolve any problems before I start compiling the next newsletter.

Joan Pascoe  C 208062

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### Cluster Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster Coordinator</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordinator</td>
<td>Louise Shaw</td>
<td>C 207400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Cluster Coordinator / Dyers Green</td>
<td>Malan Peyton</td>
<td>C 207358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Bridge Street</td>
<td>Mike Monks</td>
<td>C 208236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Bridge Street</td>
<td>Geoff Lane</td>
<td>C 208540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Bridge Street &amp; Ridgeway</td>
<td>Tony Gardner</td>
<td>C 208064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Farm Close</td>
<td>Town Farm Close</td>
<td>C 207429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Street</td>
<td>Carol Aldred</td>
<td>C 208147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Street</td>
<td>Wendy Paton</td>
<td>C 207703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Corner</td>
<td>Gill Coningsby</td>
<td>C 208204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Meldreth Road</td>
<td>Anne &amp; Leslie Brandon</td>
<td>C 207347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiff Place North</td>
<td>Jean Faithfull</td>
<td>C 222278</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Various matters relating to the Village Hall have been discussed over the past few weeks. The security of the Hall together with concerns over unwanted access to the Recreation Ground will be improved with the construction of 5 standard and 2 telescopic bollards along the road frontage of the Hall. SCDC will be contacted by District Councillor Nigel Cathcart to see if any finances are available to the PC. The Clerk has written to the Planning Office to ask for an extension of the Planning Consent previously given for the erection of railings.

There is also a problem with the septic tank that has not been emptied for many years. Councillors agreed that the Sewage System should be connected to the public system. The estimated cost would be in the region of £5000. The PC will tender for estimates for this work along with a separate scheme for security lighting.

* Our village handyman Lionel Pinner has resigned due to work commitment and we have advertised for the position. The PC would like to thank Lionel for all that he has done for the village, and wish him well for the future. Currently there has been one applicant for the role.

* The site for the low cost housing scheme was surveyed in September. A question was received from interested parties in the village on the rules in relation to eligibility for the new houses. Information was received that suggests that SCDC is operating a policy where local residents cannot go on a list for this housing, if they have not been in the village for a specific length of time. The Parish Council reaffirmed its policy that these houses should go to people who are living in Whaddon, irrespective of the time they have lived here. The Clerk has written to SCDC for them to clarify the position, and has indicated that the PC will withdraw from the scheme if we cannot get reassurances to support residents of Whaddon.

* Whaddon has a new Police beat officer, Mr Adrian Stevenson. We are still missing a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator to cover Meldreth Road and would like a resident from that area to come forward.

* County Council representative Linda Oliver is still pressing for some improvements at the Whaddon Gap junction. The white lines at the junction need repainting. The Clerk has written to County Council Highways Division informing them of the situation. A solid white line has been suggested to prevent overtaking. A letter to the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office was also proposed, with the concerns that our village is still without a 30 mph limit. One road of particular concern at present is Meldreth Road, where we will press for more Speed Checks. A petition was also suggested as a means of highlighting the problem.

* The Parish Council voted to donate £500 to St Mary’s Church (being a Grade 1* Listed building) to help with the payment for new gates and a block paved path at the North entrance.

* The Clerk has written to BT requesting that at least one cash telephone box is retained in the village. BT has been trying to remove cash telephone boxes that they view as underused.

* The last monthly Parish Council meeting of 2005 will be held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on Monday 21st November. Please make a special effort to attend.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr E J Webb</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>01223 207564</td>
<td>42 Bridge Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs C Byatt</td>
<td>V-Chairman</td>
<td>01223 207429</td>
<td>Turpins Farmhouse, Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms M Peyton</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>01223 207358</td>
<td>Ermine Farm, Dyers Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Neale</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>01223 207706</td>
<td>104 Bridge Street, Dyers Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr N Strudwick</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>01223 207434</td>
<td>3 Town Farm Close, Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof A Milton</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>01223 207105</td>
<td>Chestnut Tree Farm, Meldreth Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr L Ginger</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>01223 207688</td>
<td>99 Meldreth Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Y Allbery</td>
<td>Clerk/ Finance Officer</td>
<td>01223 207458</td>
<td>112 Meldreth Road</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PRESSURE SALES – FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

Tony Hibberd  
Community Fire Officer  
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service  

The Fire Service has long recognised that elderly people can be an at risk group from fire. As a result we, in the South Cambs District, are actively engaged in providing free smoke alarms and home fire risk assessments, as are our colleagues across the County.

Sadly some private companies also recognise this vulnerability, but their motives are more driven by profit. After carrying out safety checks recently we received reports that some salespeople were using high-pressure sales tactics on elderly householders, and then charging excessively for the devices sold and fitted. In one case this amounted to over £1000 for equipment that the purchaser did not need.

Not all companies selling safety devices take advantage of people’s concerns about fire, but I would urge all householders to be wary before agreeing to have safety devices fitted. The usual tactic is to ‘cold call’ either in person or, more often, by telephone. The occupier is told that fire and home security safety checks are being carried out in the area and that they have one or two appointments left. Once invited into your home the sales people can be both persuasive and persistent. Any reputable company representative should be able to provide you with full details of who they are, whom they work for and how the company can be contacted. Make sure you ask for proof of identity from **ANY** person who calls at your home. If you are at all uncomfortable with the responses you get, you do not have to let that person in. Remember the Fire Service does not call cold call under any circumstances and anyone doing so and claiming to represent the Fire Service is likely to be acting illegally and should be reported to the Police and Trading Standards.

Any member of the public with concerns about fire safety in the home can get free professional advice directly from the Fire Service with no strings attached. For the vast majority of domestic properties sensible precautions and the fitting of a working smoke alarm, is all that is required to provide protection.

Contacts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tony Hibberd</th>
<th>Cambridgeshire Constabulary</th>
<th>Trading Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Fire Safety</td>
<td>01223 358966</td>
<td>01223 376217</td>
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<tr>
<td>01223 376217</td>
<td>01223 358966</td>
<td>084554 04 05 06</td>
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**COUNCIL TAX ‘CAPPING’**

South Cambs District Council has informed Whaddon Parish Council, by letter, that severe cuts in their spending have resulted from the ‘Capping’ exercise by the Government on their finances. No doubt many of you have your own opinions as to the right or wrong of the situation.

The letter received was from the Environmental Health Portfolio Holder, Councillor Daphne Spink. In it she has advised that there will be no further payments to Parish Councils which relate to the ‘Community Recycling Collections (Green Box Collections), Charities and Footway Lights. Regarding Footway Lighting, she writes that she is looking at the possibility of transferring the maintenance and power costs to Parish Councils.
**Dated for Your Diary**

27th November  
Christingle Service

18th December  
Carol Service

24th December  
Whaddon:  
Carol Singing  
Bassingbourn:  
Crib Service  
Midnight Communion

25th December  
Family Service

16th January  
Parish Council

20th February  
Parish Council

28th February  
Newsletter Deadline

20th March  
Parish Council

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**Petersfield School, Orwell, Christmas Bazaar**

**Saturday 3 December 2-4 pm.**

See Santa arrive at 2 o’clock.

Santa’s Grotto,  
Children’s entertainment, Craft Stall  
Cakes, Tombola, Raffles, Games, Prizes,  
Teas, Licensed Bar and much more!

Please come and support your local community  
Primary School.

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**Coffee Morning**

Thank you to everyone who supported the half-term coffee morning held to raise funds for the Christmas Party. We are especially grateful for the many kind donations we received. The total raised was close to £100.

This event was arranged in a bit of a hurry and we realise that not everyone who would like to have come could make it. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of this year’s party then please contact Anne or Lorna.

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**Useful Telephone Numbers**

| **Police:** | Cambridge: 01223 358966  
Huntingdon: 01480 456111  
C.A.B.: 01763 238020 |
| **Hospital:**  
Addenbrooke’s: 01223 245151  
Royston: 01763 242134 |
| **Services:**  
Cambridge Water: 01223 706090  
Anglian Water: 08457 145145  
Electricity Emergency: 0800 7838838 |
| **Transport:**  
National Rail: 0845 484950  
Stagecoach: 01223 423578 |
| **Village Hall Booking:**  
Wendy Paton: 01223 207703 |
| **Council:**  
Housing repairs: 0800 0851313  
Pest control: 01223 443145  
Refuse collection: 01223 235468 |
| **Councillors:**  
County:  
Linda Oliver: 01223 718199  
District:  
Nigel Cathcart: 01763 243637  
David McCraith: 01763 248249  
Parish:  
Ted Webb: 01223 207564 |
| **Doctor:**  
Orchard Surgery Melbourn: 01763 260220  
Royston Health Centre: 01763 242981 |
A Vanished Manor

Throughout Whaddon’s very long history there are records of manors or estates which have now disappeared. The names of these estates were Scalers Manor, Elsworth Manor and Ladybury Manor. The position of these is shown on the map below.

The word “manor” is open to many interpretations and gives no indication of size or usage. Some were simple farms and others grand houses and estates owned by resident lords or absentee landlords, knights of the realm with incomes to match their status or simply temporary accommodation for brief visits by the owner. In fact some villages had no manor house and others had several.

The one we know most about is Scalers Manor (also known as Chalers Manor or Pickering Manor.) This was originally the home of the de Scalers whose ancestor Hardwin de Scalers was one of the 170 tenants-in-chief installed by William the Conqueror. The last residents were the Pickerings. It was the largest house in the village registering 22 hearths in 1666.

It stood south-east of the church on a moated site. Exactly when an actual manor house appeared and how much of the original house remained before its demolition in the early 19th C is unknown. It is very unlikely that the house was in fact the original house first referred to in old documents. The house will probably have been rebuilt several times and it is more correct to think of a continuously occupied site rather than in terms of a specific house.

The foundations of the last building (a scheduled ancient monument) are visible under the golf range on aerial photographs.

Three Colleyweston roof tiles found on the site are assumed to have formed part of the roof. The remains of an avenue of elms leading from the house to the road beside the church can still be seen. Tradition has it that there were two pairs of gates on this drive; one inside and one outside on the road. The inner gates were transported to the Gables, Royston later to stand at the entrance to the Priory Gardens in Royston. It is said that the other pair stand at the entrance to Wimpole Park at Arrington.

The gates at the Gables

The manor had a moat. The time acknowledged for building moats was between 1150 - 1350. It comprises three ditches in roughly rectangular form, open on the northern edge and measuring roughly 600 feet by 210 feet and is about 25 feet wide and 5 feet deep and fed by a stream on its western edge. A not inconsiderable undertaking when digging only with shovels!!

Many ideas have been put forward as reasons for the existence of moats: defence, fishponds, water supply, fire protection. People who have studied the construction of moats have been drawn to the conclusion that they were dug because it was a fashionable thing to do. They reflected the prosperity of their owners and imitated the moated castles of the higher ranks of society. A mediaeval garden makeover?!!
This and That

Royal Marriage
HRH Prince of Wales with HRH Princess Alexandra of Denmark 10th March 1863

This great event was celebrated in Whaddon in a manner that deserves a passing notice. The labourers and their families were cared for by their respective employers; the widows, the old men and orphan children dined at the expense of the Parish; the school children were provided with a capital dinner and tea by the kindness of the Vicar; a medal was also given to each; and after adjourning to the Church to sing a special anthem, the day was finished with rural sports, fireworks, a bonfire, and the illumination of the church, the beacon on the tower being very effective and seen from a great distance.

Royston Crow March 25th 1863

A Bankrupt Curate!
The Rev E Webster, a curate in Whaddon, was declared bankrupt in 1888. During the inquiry into his affairs at the Bull Hotel in Royston it appeared that he had had a chequered career. He had been bankrupt before arriving in Whaddon; had run schools in Ryhill, Southport, Chesterfield, Cleethorpes, Worksop, Pershore and Bristol. In fact he had been bankrupt twice before in 1870 and 1873. The case occupied many column inches in the Royston Crow of June 1888. Subsequently all his effects were sold.

WHADDON VICARAGE
MESSRS. NASH & SON
On Tuesday next, 26th June, 1888
MODERN HOUSEHOLD
FURNITURE
and EFFECTS
500 VOLS. OF SCHOOL AND OTHER BOOKS
FURNITURE OF 8 BEDROOMS &c.

Lightning Strike
The thunderstorm on Tuesday afternoon about two o'clock was very heavy in the neighbourhood and on the main road into the village from the Old North Road at Whaddon Gap, a tree was struck by lightning and split down from top to bottom.

Royston Crow July 26th 1889

A Sad End
On Thursday last week a fine female otter was caught in the river by Mr Woodcock and a friend and it has been sent to Cambridge to be stuffed.

Royston Crow February 13th 1903

Technical Classes in Whaddon
These classes have now closed for this season and there have been some very good attendances, both in the Continuation School and in the basket weaving and bent iron work. Most of the baskets were shown at the Guildhall in Cambridge on Friday and Saturday last and several prizes gained and the iron work was considered very good and several gained the blue seal, viz satisfying the jurors.

Royston Crow April 20th, 1900

Opportunities

ONTARIO, CANADA
FARMERS & FARM HANDS WANTED
To any qualified man willing to work on the land, employment is guaranteed at good wages. Domestic servants are in great demand (wages £2 to £4 per month)
Ontario produces 1/4 to 1/3 of the Field Crops of all Canada 1/4 of the Fruit and 1/3 of the Dairy Produce.
In 1910 the Grass and Hay Crops of Ontario were worth more than the entire wheat crop of all Canada

Please mention this paper.

Royston Crow March 21st 1913

Temperance
A very successful temperance meeting under the Presidency of the Vicar, Rev JG Eames, was held in the Schoolroom on Wednesday to inaugurate a temperance branch in the parish in connection with the Church of England Temperance Society. After prayers and the singing of hymns a very interesting and instructive address was given by the Secretary from Ely. The address "Rags and Bones" was highly appreciated by a very large audience. Twenty-six became members by signing total abstinence cards and ten by signing cards allowing the moderate use of liquor. The meeting was followed by an amateur musical programme.

Royston Crow November 22nd 1895

The Temperance Movement was set up in the 1800s to curb excessive drinking!!!