CHRISTINGLE SERVICE  
Sunday 2 December  
3 pm  
at  
St. Mary’s Church  
Whaddon  
In aid of The Children’s Society

TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE  
In the Church  

Sunday 16th December  
6 pm  
Mulled wine and mince pies afterwards

CHRISTMAS IN WHADDON

CHRISTMAS EVE  
MONDAY 24th DECEMBER  

WHADDON CHURCH  

5 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. This will be very informal and all are welcome.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN WHADDON  

Family-friendly Service  
at 9.15 am in the Parish Church  

With short Holy Communion.  

Please come and join us.
WHADDON VILLAGE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY 2007

This year the village party will be held on Saturday 15th of December at 3.15pm in the Village Hall. There will be magical entertainment and if everyone is really good, maybe Santa will appear as well! 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.

www.whaddon.org
Whaddon’s own website.
Find out what’s going on and learn more about Whaddon.
You’ll be amazed at what a mine of information it is.

And if you want to put something on the site, just give me a ring on 207688 or send an email to lee.ginger@btinternet.com
Or put a note through my door

Lee Ginger
99 Meldreth Road

Petersfield School Orwell
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 8 December 2pm - 4pm
Traditional Christmas festivities and entertainments for all the family.
All Welcome!

Thank you
Iris and Ken Green, from Whaddon Golf Centre, would like to thank everyone who joined in the fun by taking part in the World’s Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 28 September, raising a fantastic £300.00 for Macmillan Cancer Support
Whaddon Quiz Night

In the Village Hall
on
Saturday 26th January 2008
7.30 pm start
Teams of 4 - 8
£5 per person
Nibbles provided
Please bring your own drinks
Raffle
Get your friends together for a bit of fun
Please ring for tickets and info:-
Wendy Paton  C  207703
Deborah Townsend  C  208038
Karen Coningsby  C  207514
Carol Ginger  C  207688

Village Hall available to hire
Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties etc.
Please phone Wendy Paton
01223 207703

Dog training courses
Now running at the village hall on Thursday evenings.
Please phone Sally on 07905 094308 to book a place.

Refurbishment Update
I am sure villagers will want to be kept informed of what is being done to improve the village hall. Here is an update as of early November 2007.
The plans which have been drawn up for a refurbished hall are presently with a quantity surveyor in Royston, who will be costing them. He will also be looking for areas where savings can be made with no practical disadvantage to the hall; for that reason he has advised against submitting them for formal planning permission just yet, in case changes need to be made.
It is hoped that it may be possible to arrange a public meeting before Christmas to let everyone see and comment on the plans.
In the meantime, we have learned that South Cambridgeshire DC has some funds available through the Capital Grants Programme of the Community Services Department which might be available for smaller improvements to hall facilities. The hall most urgently needs remedial action on the floor, the condition of which might render the hall unusable in the not too distant future. Thus the quantity surveyor is urgently preparing a separate costing of plans for replacing the floor which, should our application for a grant be successful, could be carried out in 2008, but without prejudicing the further refurbishment of the hall. We will keep the village informed of the progress of any application we are able to make.
I should like to thank the eagle-eyed chairman of the Parish Council for spotting information about this grants programme in the local media.
Nigel Strudwick
Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee

www.whaddon.org
Since the September Whaddon News there have been a number of activities worth recording in this Neighbourhood Watch (NW) update. First and of least importance is that I (Mike Monks) have taken over the reigns as Cluster Coordinator. Put simply, this means that I oversee the NW activities in the village and am the central point of contact for the coordinators in Whaddon.

The NW team comprises:

- Mike Monks  
  Cluster Coordinator  
  58 Bridge Street  
  C 208236
- Malan Peyton  
  Dep Cluster Coordinator  
  Ermine Farm, Dyers Green  
  C 207358
  Parish Council NW Rep

**Coordinators:**

- Anne Brandon  
  Lower Meldreth Road  
  132 Meldreth Road  
  C207347
- Karen Coningsby  
  Upper Meldreth Road/Church Corner  
  17 Church Street  
  C207514
- Carole Aldred  
  Church Street  
  104 Church Street  
  C208147
- Wendy Paton  
  Church Street  
  108 Church Street  
  C207703
- Clare Byatt  
  Town Farm Close  
  Turpins Farm House  
  C207429
- Tony Gardner  
  Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close  
  29 Bridge Street  
  C208064
- Andrew Townsend  
  Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close  
  36 Bridge Street  
  C208038
- Geoff Lane  
  Upper Bridge Street(38-72)  
  52 Bridge Street  
  C208540
- Mike Monks  
  Upper Bridge Street(38-72)  
  58 Bridge Street  
  C208236
- Malan Peyton  
  Dyers Green  
  Ermine Farm, Dyers Green  
  C207358

**Local law enforcement:**

- Sergeant Chris Burns  
  Sawston Sector Sergeant
- PC Andy Bates  
  Community Beat Officer – has recently replaced PC Dave Martin
- Emma Garwood  
  Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
- Lee Nutbeam  
  Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

**Contact with the police – dial 999 when:**

- lives are at risk / violence / serious injury
- serious crime is happening
- criminal still at the scene or nearby

Remember that Cambridgeshire’s **non-emergency telephone number is: 0845 456 456 4**

This number puts you through to a centralised 24 hour service centre where you can report non-emergency matters. Also, try to remember to keep your NW coordinator in the picture so that we can keep an eye on issues and happenings in the village that might affect everyone.

www.whaddon.org
Since the last Whaddon News the main crime to report is the theft, on two separate occasions, of lead from St Mary’s Church roof. Sadly, this is a national trend affecting not only the traditional target metals such as lead and brass but now a whole range of other metals. The demands of the expanding markets of India and China are, apparently, behind the rush to steal – even from churches.

We were recently advised by the police of a postal scam that is worth everybody noting: A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 09066611911 (a premium rate number). DO NOT call this number as it is part of a mail scam originating from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call. If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 02072396655 or ICSTIS (the premium rate service regulator) at www.icstis.org.uk

On 23 October Malan Peyton, on behalf of the Parish Council, and I (for NW) attended the second Bassingbourn & Melbourne Neighbourhood Panel at Bassingbourn Village College. The Panel meeting covers 16 local villages and is intended to provide a forum for members of the local community, the police and associated agencies to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss, promote and improve community safety. Some 60 people attended and while the anti-social behaviour problems of our larger neighbours in Bassingbourn, Melbourne and Meldreth tend to be at the top of the agenda we are all given a chance to express local village concerns.

For Whaddon we raised the theft of lead from the church and fly tipping, notably at Whaddon Gap, but the main issue we raised was speeding in Whaddon and on the A1198. It was clear that ASB in the adjacent villages had been the focus of police time and only limited speeding checks had been carried out and then only Melbourne and Meldreth. We stressed, yet again, the need to monitor the problem in Whaddon where we saw much greater opportunities for motorists to speed. We were invited to let Sgt Burns know locations where we wanted speed to be monitored and have since proposed along the Meldreth Road, particularly at rush hour. We had also expressed concern at traffic speeds travelling north on the A1198 at Whaddon Gap but as an A road this is not monitored by neighbourhood police. We hope to see our PCSOs along Meldreth Road before too long.

A happy and safe Christmas from your Neighbourhood Watch team.
ST MARY’S PARISH CHURCH

REMEMBERING ARTHUR WELLS

On Sunday 28 October a Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving was held in Whaddon Church. The purpose of this peaceful service was to provide us, as a village community, an opportunity to remember those we have lost.

Arthur Wells was one of the many names read out that Sunday. A candle was lit for him, as well as his daughter Ann, who died before him in 2005. Arthur died in July 2007 after a short stay in Brookfields, Cambridge. His family give a brief outline of his long life, much of which was lived in Whaddon.

Arthur was born in Cambridge in 1914. He was the second youngest of a family of 12 children. He met Peggy in 1938 when she was working in Newmarket Road. In 1939 he joined the army and served until 1945. He was given leave to marry Peggy Linsdell in Whaddon Church in 1941 and their daughter Ann followed in 1944. After demob, the family lived for a time in Bridge Street and then a short period in Litlington but they returned to 29 Church End (now Street) Whaddon, where they lived until the mid sixties, before moving to the bungalow on the site of old Pickering Farm. In 1950 their son Raymond was born and the Wells family was complete.

During his time in the Army, Arthur trained as a chef and in civvy street he carried on working for the MOD at RAF (as it was then) Bassingbourn and later the Army. His speciality was pastry and his cheese straws were, by all accounts, a thing of legend. Arthur’s main hobby was growing plants and selling them from the side of the road. He had regular customers who returned year after year.

The thing that gave Arthur his greatest pleasure though, was his ability to make people laugh and he always has a new gag or prop to raise a smile. This continued right up until his last days in the Lord Byron Ward at Brookfields, Cambridge, where, while he was still able he would try to joke with the nurses. Nobody was immune to his practical jokes and he would often greet visitors at the door wearing something from his box of tricks.

Arthur became quite frail in his last years and early in 2007 he fell and broke his hip. He never really recovered his health after this and was transferred to Brookfields and then The Lord Byron Ward, where he received exceptional care and attention until his death on 18 July, he was 92.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Whaddon joined the rest of Great Britain to remember the fallen of both World Wars and those who have died in armed combat since then, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, 2007.

We are grateful to the platoon from Bassingbourn Barracks who helped us mark this significant event. Ted Webb read out the names of those killed from Whaddon in both wars. On the altar inside the church, beneath the names, the Army laid a wreath. Norah Foster added one on behalf of the village, and Rachel Burgess and Maddie Custerson placed a poppy posy on behalf of the Rainbows (the Guiding group for the youngest children) and all the young in Whaddon. A bugler sounded the last post before the two-minute silence. The whole service marked a moving commemoration and hope for future peace.
Whaddon Parish Council News—some recent items from the monthly meetings

Of great sadness to Parish Councillors was the news at the beginning of October that Yvonne, for family reasons, cannot continue as our Parish Clerk and Finance Officer. Yvonne has been an excellent organiser, helpful adviser to Ted and meticulous keeper of parish finances. She will be missed by us all.

* 

So while we interview to decide who will fill the gap to rebuild the Parish Council team, real rebuilding work is going on beside the Village Hall, where the boundary wall is being reconstructed. This work is being funded in part from an insurance claim, where the tree roots caused damage and jointly by the Parish with a contribution from the Village Hall Committee.

* 

Improvement to the boundary of the meadow is to take place at the point of entry and exit. Cambridgeshire County Council has provided, free of charge, two new kissing gates, each with RADAR access. This is a system that allows users of large mobility vehicles (as well as pushchairs and wheelchairs) through the gates to meet disability access needs. Those registered disabled can apply for the RADAR key, which will unlock one panel to gain easy entry. The Parish Council is grateful to the Coningsbys, who will erect the gates soon.

* 

Further smartening up of the village took place on 25 October when a litter pick by a team of Councillors and volunteers produced sacks and sacks of rubbish. South Cambs District Council removed these promptly, along with a fridge and some old tyres that had been dumped in the car park on the Whaddon Gap Road. Thanks to all who helped especially those who gave up a morning of their half-term holiday. Also removed from the lay-by on the same stretch of road were a large number of black rubbish sacks that had been fly-tipped there. Those of us co-ordinating the litter-pick hope that the environmental health department at SCDC may find written reference to the owner, within the refuse, in which case charges can be brought against this despicable action.

* 

The Parish Council’s two biggest projects are the building of the affordable homes and refurbishment of the village Hall. Each project is moving forward. Bedfordshire Pilgrim’s Housing Association for the affordable homes scheme has addressed amendments previously requested by the Parish Council and these have now been put to the Planners and the Highways Dept. A formal planning application will follow. The legal work regarding the purchase of the site will begin shortly and a bid for funding for building the houses should have been made by end of October.

* 

Nigel Strudwick, Councillor and Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, keeps the Parish Council up-to-date on Village Hall matters. This project now has the services of a Quantity Surveyor, Mr Laurie Parncutt, who is working with Clive Hough, the Architect. His financial advice is already assisting crucial decisions, as there is urgent need to replace the hall floor. There is a source of grant aid available for this, which we hope we can bid for successfully.

* 

All are welcome at the Parish Council meetings, held on the third Monday of each month. There is no meeting in December, so Happy New Year, next meeting Monday 21 January 2008, do come along.

Clare Byatt

(Phil Neale is away)
It is now just over three years since Whaddon got its first broadband internet connections, initially just via Trilogy, but subsequently over BT as well. Although your actual service may be from another supplier, e.g. Tiscali, they are ‘reselling’ a BT-provided service. There have been variable experiences with both suppliers, and I am interested in trying to assess the performance speeds in different areas of the village. To illustrate the importance of your location in relation to the telephone exchange, there are often problems arising from the distance of one’s house from that exchange (Arrington for most of the village).

All you will need to do is to run some tests from a web site set up partly for testing online speeds. Anyone interested in helping should contact me via ncs3@cam.ac.uk or by phone on 207434. I shall also put this note on the village web site, where more details will be available: http://www.whaddon.org/bbsurvey.html.

The more people who help, the better the information will be. Thanks
Nigel Strudwick

---

**WHADDON GOLF CENTRE**

01223 207325

**OPEN:** 8.30 ‘til late

**MORE THAN GOLF**

BAR
COFFEE AND
SNACKS
FOOD

VILLAGE SHOP
PAPERS MILK BREAD
JUST ASK US TO ORDER

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GARDEN CONSTRUCTION
Established 1966

Tel: 01223 207772
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Patios • Driveways • Fencing
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Water gardens

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www.whaddon.org
CHRISTMAS WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

South Cambridgeshire District Council has made the following waste and recycling arrangements for the Christmas and New Year period.

All bin collections will operate as normal up to and including Monday 24 December.

BLACK BIN
Black bin collections will be suspended from Tuesday 25 December and recommence Wednesday 2 January 2008. The first black bin collection for Whaddon will be Saturday 5 January.

Normal collections resume from Tuesday 8 January 2008.

GREEN BIN
Collections will be suspended from Tuesday 25 December and recommence on Tuesday 8 January.

GREEN BOX
Collections will remain unchanged apart from cancelled collections on Tuesday 25 December and Wednesday 26 December.

WASTE COLLECTION CALENDAR
Householders can check the waste collection calendar in the autumn South Cambs magazine, by calling 08450 450 063 or by downloading the calendar from www.scambs.gov.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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shop for less and support

Whaddon Village Hall

Great ideas for Christmas!

Simply shop online through our webshop at
www.buy.at/Whaddon

And the retailers give us income when you shop with them.

By using our shop you get:
- Frequent special offers and good prices
- Convenience - no queuing for the car parks
- Gift ideas - from our great selection of retailers
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Remember every purchase must be made through our webshop at:

www.buy.at/Whaddon

You must adhere to the 'disclaimer' explained in the disclaimer section of the webshop. All offers are subject to change without notice. Most commissions are only available if the purchase is completed online. Subsequent visits to a retailer's site need to be made via the webshop for commission to be payable.
With the increasing growth of commerce and manufacturing in the 18th century, improvement in the condition of the roads became essential. These improvements were put in motion by the creation of Turnpike Trusts formed by manufacturers interested in improving the communications in their local area. In 1706 a Special Act of Parliament gave authority to independent bodies of trustees to raise the necessary capital for road improvements, place bars or gates across the road and charge road users a toll. This money was used to pay the employees of the trust and to pay interest on the capital.

...and locally

For a description of local toll road practice one cannot do much better than to quote from Alfred Kingston’s *Fragments of Two Centuries*.

‘The turnpike road to Caxton, or rather from Royston Cross to Wandesford Bridge in Huntingdonshire, of which the southern part from Royston to Kisby’s Hut formed one Trust, is said to have been the first turnpike road in England...The traffic never was sufficient to maintain the road without resorting to a rate upon the neighbouring lands, owing to the diversion of a good deal of the coaching and wagon traffic at Royston for Cambridge, and the Trustees were often in great straits, and on the horns of a dilemma; if they charged enough toll to pay their way, the traffic was driven off the roads; if they modulated their charges the roads went to the bad’

Inspite of money being advanced by private citizens the road from Royston to Arrington was always in debt and dirty. When mail coaches became delayed the Post Master General became involved with the Trustees and John MacAdam, the road builder, was asked to give an assessment of the situation. His report stated that though the condition of the road was within legal requirements it certainly wasn’t in a fit condition to match up to the speed that the Post Office required its vehicles to cover. There was an improvement after 1,400 tons of material had been applied at a total cost of £8,500 in the early 19th century.

**The Rise of the Toll Road**

In order to try and improve the state of the roads the government, in the 18th century, made various suggestions. One was to restrict the use of two-wheeled vehicles as they cut up the road surfaces which were soft dirt and liable to be turned into quagmires in wet weather and to forbid loads more than 3 tons. Weighing machines were established and waggoners were fined £1 for each hundredweight over 3 tons but these machines were inaccurate and caused much anger. In addition the improvement of the nation’s roads was opposed by farmers. Farmers who drove their livestock to market were worried that roads after being ‘metalled’ (surfaced with stone) would damage the hooves of their animals. Turkeys, being driven from Norfolk, were sometimes equipped with leather boots to protect their feet!

A typical toll house built to collect fees. It was usually shaped to ensure visibility in all directions.

S & J Ralls November 2007