CHRISTMAS IN WHADDON

CHRISTMAS EVE
WEDNESDAY 24 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. Bring a torch or a candle.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN WHADDON

Family-friendly Service
at 9.15 am in the Parish Church

With short Holy Communion.

Please come and join us.
Thank you

Iris and Ken Green, from Whaddon Golf Centre, would like to thank everyone who supported the World’s Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 26 September, raising a fantastic £389.20 for Macmillan Nurses.

WHADDON VILLAGE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY 2008

3.00 PM on Saturday 13 December in the Village Hall

The traditional children’s Christmas Party will take place this year on Saturday 13 December at 3.00pm in the Village Hall. We will have lots of fun playing party games and we are sure that there will be a very special visitor.

All children within the village of Whaddon of Primary School age and under will be invited. Personal invitations will be delivered at the end of November.

Could you lend a hand? We would appreciate any offers of help in organising this event, leading up to the day and at the party itself.

Please contact Andrea Cook at 14 Bridge St; C 207066 or Wendy Holt at 41 Bridge St; C 207447 for further details.

Thank you

Petersfield School Orwell Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 6 December 2pm
Traditional Christmas festivities and entertainments for all the family.

All Welcome!

WHADDON PLAYGROUND PROJECT
A PLAYGROUND UPDATE……

With a fantastic second Party in the Barn, children doing various jobs for people over the summer, a successful day of bowls in the hall and another brilliant Halloween party, the playground project continues to be well supported. Time though is not on our side. We have just six months to raise £6,000 in order to secure funding from South Cambs. However…..

NEWS JUST IN!
We are in line for a major grant that will more than cover this shortfall and help to provide an amazing playground; one the village will be proud of for generations.

Based on previous meetings and questionnaires, proposals for the playground are now being drawn up. In the very near future we will be holding an open meeting to discuss these options and decide on a final design.

It would be brilliant if as many people as possible could attend, particularly children, and not least because this will be the last opportunity for us all to decide exactly what our new playground will look like.

Exact date/details to follow shortly and once again, an enormous thank you to everyone for all your support.

Neil Gallery

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Deadline for the next newsletter will be 28th February. Items of village interest are always welcome. Contact Joan Pascoe C. 208062 or joanpascoe@aol.com

www.whaddon.org
Quiz night

The Quiz night held on the 15th November made a profit of £128.90. There were only 5 tables but we all had great fun, with the Kit Kats winning first prize. Thanks to Wendy and Dave for doing the questions and also thanks to Carol for buying and preparing the food.

Village Hall available to hire

Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties etc.

Please phone Wendy Paton 01223 207703

Waste Collections at Christmas & New Year

Changes to Friday collections – 26 December and 2 January

All collections scheduled for 26 December will be one day late on Saturday 27 December

All collections scheduled for 2 January will be one day late on Saturday 3 January

Householders can check the waste collection calendar in the autumn or winter South Cambs magazine, by

Ted Webb was a lifelong resident of Whaddon and Chairman of Whaddon Parish Council. He passed away peacefully at home after a short illness. Wendy Godfrey (nee Handscombe), Ted’s niece, writes about Uncle Ted, the family man, and Clare Byatt, Vice Chair of Whaddon Parish Council pays tribute to Ted’s role in the village of Whaddon:

Ted Webb, Chairman of Whaddon Parish Council, died on 28th August aged 81. He was born in the cottage in Bridge Street where he lived all his life and it was in this cottage that he passed away.

Ted’s father ran a successful bakery business in London. Shortly after the turn of the last century he and his wife decided to move to Cambridgeshire, firstly renting a cottage on the Green in Barrington and then purchasing (for £50) the cottage in Bridge Street. In this home, which the family named ‘The Haven’, they raised six children - brothers Sonnie, Bernard and Ted and three sisters Winnie, Betty and Maisie.

Sadly, Ted’s father died when Ted was still quite young. Ted did have one memory of him, however, and that was the day the family took a day trip to the seaside. There is a photograph of his father on the beach in full dress - smart trousers, shoes, shirt and, most notably, a trilby hat. We suspect that may be where Ted got his impeccable dress sense from, for he was always dressed in shirt and tie whatever the weather.

Following his schooling at what is now Whaddon Village Hall, Ted did his National Service in the Army where he eventually joined the Catering Corps.

In civilian life he settled on a career as a civil servant. He was a mechanical and electrical engineer working at airfields including Bassingbourn, Wyton and Duxford - a career which suited him perfectly as he had a lifelong love of aeroplanes. He thoroughly enjoyed his work and was well respected; he carried on working until he was 70, latterly part time as a lecturer at Cardington and as a consultant at RAF Honington and at the Harrier base at RAF Wittering.

Ted and Jean married in Litlington church - the start of fifty three very happy years together.

Ted was very proud of all his family and cared deeply for them. He was particularly proud of his brother, Bernard, who gave his life on active service in 1944 when the Lancaster Bomber in which he was a Mid-Upper Gunner was shot down over Germany. What made this even more poignant was that Bernard was a member of the standby crew for that mission. The Mid Upper Gunner, named Tom, who was due to go received a call to say his father was gravely ill. Bernard volunteered to take his place so that Tom could be with his father. In 1997 Tom and Ted were introduced and that was the start of a unique and special friendship.

Ted was a patient listener and particularly enjoyed spending time with young people, especially his great nieces and nephews. He also loved gardening, fishing and cricket.

Wendy Godfrey (nee Handscombe)

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Ted’s passion over the last ten years of his life was serving his village and community as Chairman of Whaddon Parish Council. Just being born in the village is not necessarily going to make someone a brilliant Chairman. However Ted was just that: an exemplary Parish Council Chairman. He was also a member of St Mary’s Parochial Church Council and Whaddon Village Hall Committee. There are two words that come to mind when describing Ted, authority and affection.

Always smart, always wearing a collar and tie, even on the hottest days, Ted’s appearance was of someone in authority but at the same time he was always approachable and
welcoming, especially to newcomers to the village and encouraging to anyone showing interest in village affairs. Like a good headmaster, he was someone to look up to.

And look up to him the village did. No sooner had Ted joined the Parish Council in 1999 than, one year later, he was elected Chairman. In this position Ted guided the Council through matters from the mundane to the celebratory – from picking litter to opening the fountain in Bridge Street, from vetting small planning applications to major projects such as the refurbishment of Village Hall. Ted, always conscientious and always democratic, would visit, consult, seek advice, whatever was needed, in order to improve things for the village.

The Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council have both benefited from Ted’s dedicated membership. At St Mary’s Church Ted’s natural authority made him an obvious choice to read the names of the fallen on Remembrance Sunday every year. And, as a keen gardener and an authority on vegetables, flowers and cakes, he was a highly regarded judge of the Produce Show at the Church Fete. The best Church Fete moment was when Ted and four other life-long residents of Whaddon opened the Fete two years ago.

Ted loved his church and it is his affection for things and people, which will also be remembered. Great affection for the village, for the job that he worked so hard at and for the people he knew.

The village regarded Ted with much affection. He was often seen on his bicycle, wearing jacket, collar and tie but no helmet, cycling on the pavement, which was just as well as many times he would have only one hand on the handlebars, waving with the other, as he knew everybody.

To many in the village, he was a very good friend indeed. As a Councillor he was fond of, genuinely concerned about and very supportive of his team. Ted was a man of principle, a true gentleman that it was a privilege for us all to have known and worked with. His authority and affection will be much missed.

Clare Byatt
Ted Pardoe

Ted was born in Royston in 1928, and educated at Queen’s Road school in Royston. In earlier generations, however, his family had come from Tottenham in London, which made Ted a Spurs supporter. They had been chimneysweeps, no ordinary chimney sweeps, mind, but by Royal Appointment.

When Ted left school he did an apprenticeship as an electrician with Pepper & Haywards. He joined the Army for two years and was based at Catterick and the Isle of Wight. When he left the Army he returned to work as an electrician and teamed up with Mr Dickerson. They ended up working together for some 35 years as D&P Electricals. They concentrated their work in local villages, especially on the farms. They did well, eventually employing seven or eight other electricians. His motive was not so much making money as service. So, if there was a fault that could be easily rectified he made no call-out charge. And if he was needed on Christmas Day, he went.

Earlier in his life Ted met a certain Sylvia Jacklin. They were both just 14 years old. She was working as a hairdresser in Royston. One sight of him one day was enough: they were engaged when they were 19, and were married when they were 22, by the Revd Clare in 1951 in Whaddon church. They lived at ‘Home Cottages’ in the village for 20 years. Both their children were born there, first Gary and then Ian. Ted retired in 1972, which coincided with some health problems, which he overcame.

Ted and Sylvia moved to their present home, Rose Cottage that dates from the early 1700s. They bought it for £2,500 when it was condemned – you could see daylight through its walls! They worked hard to restore it and make it habitable. Sylvia’s mother lived in one half of it whilst they worked on the other. The children by now were in their teens, and remember living there as being hard work but lots of fun.

Sylvia Pardoe

Sylvia Pardoe was born in Whaddon 80 years ago, on 17th September 1928, to Fred and Rose Jacklin. She was the youngest of three children. Her sister Mary and brother Reggie died at a much younger age. Sylvia really missed both of them, particularly Mary with whom she shared a sense of humour.
Sylvia Pardoe was born in Whaddon 80 years ago, on 17th September 1928, to Fred and Rose Jacklin. She was the youngest of three children. Her sister Mary and brother Reggie died at a much younger age. Sylvia really missed both of them, particularly Mary with whom she shared a sense of humour. She spoke of them often, so much so that other members of her family felt they too had known them although they’d passed away years before.

Sylvia was christened and married at St Mary’s, Whaddon, something she became especially proud of when she discovered through her genealogy research that generations of Jacklins had been born and christened in Whaddon since the early 1700’s. After leaving school Sylvia became a hairdresser for 3 years in Royston with Miss Gerard, and then for 12 years with Miss Martin in Melbourn. Naturally enough she cut the hair of her own family and that of friends for many years.

Sylvia first met her husband-to-be Ted when she was only 14 but they did not marry until later. In the meantime, although it was during the War, and a bleak time for many people, Sylvia had many happy memories of those years, including the American airmen based at Bassingbourn. In particular, she benefited from gifts such as chocolate and stockings that airmen wanted to give their girlfriends but which were confiscated by the base’s MP’s and given to Sylvia instead! Sylvia also remembers watching the Flying Fortresses and counting them in and out as they went on their missions.

In 1951 Sylvia, by now 23 years old, married Ted. They had two sons, Gary and Ian. While living in Home Cottages, their first home, they purchased the condemned Rose Cottage where her mother was still living. Having spent several hard but enjoyable years renovating the cottage they finally moved in with Gary and Ian in the early seventies. Both Ted and Sylvia had many happy memories and stories of those years. All through the 1970’s Gary and Ian remember Rose Cottage being a happy, noisy home - a sort of open house especially at weekends, full of their friends, barking dogs and rock music.

Later, in the 1980’s Sylvia cared for her ageing mother Rose, at Rose Cottage, for 5 years prior to her death in 1995 at the age of 99. Before that they used to go cleaning houses in the village together.

After Rose’s death Sylvia then took on the role of carer again, looking after her husband Ted for 8 years as he suffered first with a heart condition and then partial paralysis stemming from prostate cancer. During the final year of Ted’s illness Sylvia discovered she had lung cancer. Nevertheless she continued to care for Ted right up to his death, just six weeks before Sylvia’s own passing, on her 80th birthday.

Both Sylvia and Ted wanted to thank relatives, neighbours and friends for all their help, including many lifts back and forth to hospital and producing meals for them, and to the carers and nurses, ‘the angels’ who looked after them both.
I had no sooner written in the last Whaddon News that the village has been relatively crime free than on Friday 5 September we had an incident in Bridge Street that was unpleasant and made many of the local papers.

Late in the evening, residents of a house became aware that an intruder was stealing from a car parked in their driveway. As it happens the car belonged to a visitor from France. The owner and the visitor apprehended the individual who was hiding in the ditch and had stolen items on him and then called the police. Within a short time, PC Andy Bates our local village officer who was on his way home after his shift arrived in Bridge Street and quickly apprehended two East Europeans, apparently Lithuanians, near the top of Bridge Street. He then proceeded to the house where the intruder was being held and arrested him. As Andy was going off duty he had called for back-up and further police arrived. The two Lithuanians first apprehended were released as, in the eyes of the police, they had not been caught actually doing anything wrong and the detained intruder was taken to Parkside. After due investigation, during which we understand the individual pleaded guilty, he was released with a police caution – something that has caused a great deal of anger and frustration, not only with those directly involved, but also with many neighbours who clearly felt that a caution was an ineffective response to an unpleasant incident.

The following morning, a nearby neighbour found that the side window of a car parked in their driveway had been smashed and the CD player and mounting had been pulled out. This was reported to the police and a scene of crime officer was promised but failed to appear. The two incidents were not linked by the police at the time and as far as we know this is still under investigation.

Since the incident the police have stressed that a police caution is a serious matter and includes DNA being taken and the person having a criminal record. Whaddon Neighbourhood Watch both soon after the incident and at the later Bassingbourn/Melbourn Neighbourhood Policing Panel meeting pointed out that to residents it appears a caution is no more than a slap on the wrist with no affect on the individual’s pocket nor on his liberty.

Other than this incident, it has been fairly quiet in Whaddon although anti-social behaviour and burglary problems are still an issue in the local larger villages with Bassingbourn more settled but Melbourn still requiring more than its share of police attention.

Metal thefts are declining but are still an issue as is fuel theft, particularly red diesel. There also continues to be a problem with distraction burglary so please be on your guard and don’t be tempted to let a caller you don’t know into the house whatever the pretext unless hey have an official ID such as a meter reader and then only if you are absolutely happy they are who they claim to be.

A reminder: only use 999 when lives are at risk, violence and serious injury is involved, a serious crime is happening or a criminal is still at the scene or nearby. Otherwise use the 0845 number below. Misuse of the 999 number is a major problem in this county and is diverting or slowing down the response of the emergency services.

Finally, we welcome Carl Fillary a new PCSO to the local area.

Mike Monks
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM

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

Inspector Chris Savage  Sawston Sector Inspector
Sergeant Mark Kathro  Sawston Sector Sergeant
PC Andy Bates  Neighbourhood Policing Constable
Lee Nutbeam.  Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
John Coppard  Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Ashley Bennet  Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Carl Fillary  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

Cambridgeshire’s non-emergency telephone number is: 0845 456 456 4
This number puts you through to a centralized 24 hour service centre where you can report non-emergency matters.

If you experience any crime or security problems please use the 999 or 0845 number as appropriate. It would also be very helpful if you would 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.

For more information on the local neighbourhood police team go to:
http://www.cambs.police.uk/myneighbourhood/index.asp
Congratulations to Will Burchett on his appointment to the Parish Council. It was pleasing to have two excellent applicants from which to co-opt a new councillor for the vacant position. The election of a new chairperson, following Ted’s death, has been held over until January 2009. Clare Byatt has acted as chairperson for the meetings since the summer, and she should be thanked for the thorough and accomplished manner in which meetings have been conducted.

The ancient metal footpath signs throughout the village have now been removed and taken away for renovation before the end of the 2008/9 financial year. The new kissing gate for the recreation ground to the churchyard has been collected and advice has been received about painting the galvanized steel. If anyone would like to get involved in painting the gate black, please contact one of your councilors.

The diseased horse-chestnuts around the recreation ground have been felled. Assurance had been obtained from Acacia Tree Surgery (via the Arboricultural Information and Advisory Service) that the chippings and wood removed was suitable for recreational use as the disease was water borne. The tree surgeons had commented on the poor condition of the trees that they had felled. The replacement trees would be planted before the end of February and when in position will need to be watered regularly.

The Clerk had established that a condition for adopting the telephone kiosk at the top of Bridge Street, was that the PC must take over responsibility for the electricity supply (powering the light in the kiosk). The charges were estimated to be in the region of £50 per annum or a one-off disconnection charge of around £300. The PC voted to continue with the adoption of the phone-box.

The Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association (BPHA) had advised that BPHA had engaged a Planning Consultant to help get the Church Corner scheme through planning. BPHA had also been approached by Mr John Cooper, owner of the Pickering Farm site, who wished to explore the possibility of an affordable housing development on that site. BPHA would meet with Mr Cooper to discuss this further. The Church Corner site is unlikely to be granted planning permission if another suitable site is available. The Pickering Farm option is likely to include a proposal for some market-housing. It was agreed that the PC would continue to explore all options.

The Cambridgeshire Play Pathfinder Programme (CPPP) had made a grant of £40,000 available to Whaddon Playground project. This would bring the total potential funds for the Project to £65,000, which would enable a range of play-equipment to be sourced. The PC would also need to sign a Deed of Dedication and provide a letter confirming that they would meet the inspection, maintenance and insurance requirements for the new equipment. Concern was expressed that the increased budget would require increased on-going expenditure on maintenance and insurance. It was suggested that the PC and Playground Project needed to agree a suitable way forward. It is hoped that the design-proposal for the playground would be available in the Village Hall on 29th November at 2pm.

There had been many incidents of post being wrongly delivered in the village. Councillor Peyton had already contacted Royston Post Office and been informed that this was being dealt with. It was decided to monitor the situation to see if it improved.

The Updated Village Plan was approved by the PC subject to a few updates noted by the Clerk. The updated version would be put on the web-site and sent to Cambridgeshire ACRE and the Chair of the Parish Plan Committee (Mr N Shaw).

There is no monthly Parish Council meeting in December. Therefore the next Whaddon Parish Council meeting will be on Monday January 12th January at 7.30 pm.

We look forward to welcoming you to the meeting and wish everyone in the village a very Happy Christmas.
Branching off left from the corner at Church End is Shingay Lane in which were two thatched cottages demolished in the 1950s.

Adjacent to College Farm were barns on the site of the present light industrial unit.

This replacement was demolished in 2007 and in its place were built two new houses.

At the corner of Church Street (formerly called Church End) stands Rose Cottage which was in fact five smaller cottages. Behind this were two serfs cottages demolished in 1926.

The original vicarage beside the Church was burned down on 11th December 1904. It was later rebuilt by a firm of builders from St Neots. In 1906 half an acre of ground was added to the church yard. This piece of land cost £10.

The following pictures recall the agricultural heritage of the village. The stackyard, below, is that at Rectory Farm around 1928. Each farm had its own stackyard. Much agricultural work
in the fields was carried out with horses earlier in the twentieth century. Opposite Green Farm was a horse pond.

Along the Meldreth Road after Home Cottages was the hut from which Cyril Chapman, the village photographer, worked. He had been injured in the first World War.

132 Meldreth Rd was home to the Queen Adelaide a public house which closed in 1956. The premises at one time housed the village shop and after 1974 the village post office.

The premises now used by Bumpkins was previously the Methodist Chapel closed in 2002. In 1936 this had replaced the old chapel, housed in Home Cottages on the Meldreth Road, burned down in 1935. Home Cottages were originally built to house the coprolite workers of the 19th century.

An interesting view of the Meldreth Road in the 1920s.