

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Citizens Advice:

Cambridge 08448 487979

Royston 08444 111444

Councillors:

County: Adrian Dent 01763 245669

District: Nigel Cathcart 01763 243637

David McGaith 01763 248249

Doctors:

Orchard Surgery, Melbourn 01763 260220

The Health Centre, Royston 01763 242981

Market Hill Surgery, Royston 01763 248111

Roysia Surgery, Royston 01763 243166

Hospital:

Addenbrooke's Hospital 01223 245151

Police:

Non emergency Number 101

Samaritans: 08457 909090

Transport:

National Rail Enquiries 08457 484950

Stagecoach Cambus 08706 082608

Utilities:

Anglian Water 08457 145145

Cambridge Water Company 01223 706050

Electricity Emergency & Supply Loss 08007 838838

Vets:

Melbourne Veterinary Surgery 01763 262696

Royston Veterinary Surgery 01763 242221

WHADDON NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2015



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

www.whaddon.org



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

9th Sept	Coffee Morning	2nd Nov	Newsletter Deadline
13th Sept	Cricket	4th Nov	Coffee Morning
14th Sept	Parish Council	8th Nov	Remembrance Service
16th Sept	Gardening Club Visit	9th Nov	Parish Council
23rd Sept	Coffee Morning	18th Nov	Coffee Morning
27th Sept	Harvest Festival		Gardening Club
7th Oct	Coffee Morning	2nd Dec	Coffee Morning
12th Oct	Parish Council	6th Dec	Christingle Service
21st Oct	Coffee Morning	31st Dec	New Year's Eve Party
	Gardening Club		

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next newsletter is 2nd November. Once again items of village interest are always welcome.

*Joan Pascoe C208062
25 Bridge Street
joanpascoe@aol.com*

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



LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

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
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 whaddonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM

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

Local Enforcement:

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

Neighbourhood Policing Team (Cambourne):

Sergeant Jon Capes	Sector Sergeant
James Lynch	Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Lyndsay Gardiner	Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

Cambridgeshire Crimestoppers Tackling Crime on Your Doorstep



The independent crime-fighting charity Crimestoppers is reminding the residents across Cambridgeshire to be aware of doorstep crime during the long days of summer and autumn and to report any suspicious activity.

Rogue traders. The most common types of doorstep criminals are those more commonly known as a 'rogue traders'. These criminals masquerade as genuine businesses and set out to deliberately overcharge for unsatisfactory goods or services. Typical services are driveway maintenance, pressure-washing, gardening, roofing and guttering. They rarely offer a cooling off period and often insist on large amounts of cash up front and can be intimidating.

Doorstep criminals. These criminals trick their way into victims' houses with the intention of stealing any valuables they can find. These 'distraction burglars' often pose as workmen who ask to check something in the house and whilst left alone they, or an accomplice, will look for something easy to steal, such as cash, a handbag or jewellery. Among the most common of the excuses offered are needed to check the water supply and searching for a lost pet or ball.

Remember the following 4 principles:

LOCK: Ensure you keep exterior doors and windows locked.

STOP: Before you answer the door, stop and think whether you are expecting anyone.

CHAIN: Put the door bar or chain on. Look through the spyhole or the window to see who it is. Always keep the bar or chain on while you are talking to the person on the doorstep.

CHECK: Ask for and carefully check the caller's ID card as all genuine callers will always carry one. If they do not have an ID card then **do not let them in**

Doorstep callers are adept at high pressure sales techniques. They will catch you unawares. They are polite, persistent and persuasive and they will rush you to make a decision. Say "No thank you" and then immediately close the door.

Good neighbours can also assist with **reporting any suspicious activity** in the local community and this is where **Crimestoppers** can assist as it allows the public to report crime or suspicious activity completely anonymously any time of the day or night.

If you have any information about crime or criminals, please call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. No one will ever know who you are. Individuals can also pass on information anonymously via the Crimestoppers website at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Party in the Barn

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Party in the Barn. Once again we had a very successful evening despite selling fewer tickets than in previous years. There was a great crowd, great music and lots of fun had by all. We are very grateful for the support of local companies who provided some amazing raffle prizes: Roy Castle & Co, Ovensclean and Forever Living products. However we particularly want to thank everyone who bought tickets and turned up on the night. You helped raise over £1,370 which will go towards the village playground and other village causes. Thank You.

Citizens Advice: Bassingbourn Outreach

There is a monthly drop-in advice session at the Bassingbourn Book Café at The Limes Community Centre in Bassingbourn. We will be running the sessions on the second Thursday of the month between 2.00 – 3.30 pm

Whaddon Table Tennis Club

Whaddon table tennis club now meets at 8pm on Wednesday nights. We welcome anyone who would like to play. No membership fee, just come along when you can - £1 a session.

WHADDON GOLF CENTRE

01223 207325

8.30 'til late

BAR

COFFEE

FOOD

SNACKS

MORE THAN GOLF

VILLAGE SHOP

PAPERS

MILK

BREAD

JUST ASK US TO
ORDER



ST MARY'S CHURCH WHADDON

CHURCH FETE

St Mary's PCC could like to thank everyone who helped with the Church Fete in any way, whether it be donating goods, running one of the stalls, helping to set up or clear away, or just being there and enjoying the day. We were blessed with a fine sunny afternoon and had the opportunity to meet Heidi Allen, our new MP, who came and opened the fete. We raised £2,280, a much needed boost towards the day to day running expenses of the church. Thank you again,

Jenny Grech (Treasurer)

SERVICE DETAILS

Harvest Festival: Sunday 27th September at 3:00pm

Remembrance Service: Sunday 8th Nov at 10:45am.

Christingle Service: Sunday 6th December at 3:00pm
(subject to confirmation)

Help to stay independent, safe and well

Many of us don't think about care and support until we or someone we know need it, then find we are unsure where to find information and how to access the support we need.

A new online resource is providing information about care and support and wellbeing, including information about continuing to live independently and safely at home, make life easier, get support after a stay in hospital, or find out about care home and housing options and paying for care and support. You can find out more by visiting www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/careandsupport

If you do not have access to the Internet, can't find what you need online, or want more information, you can phone 0345 045 5202 or visit any Cambridgeshire Library (also known as community hubs).



Solar Photovoltaic Panels Group Discount



In 2011 a group from Coton formed a solar PV panel bulk purchase scheme. The resulting eCoton scheme allowed 75 residents from South Cambs to install solar panels at a reduced price. Now, in 2015, a group of volunteers from the Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership¹ are organising a second scheme, 'eCoton Solar Savers', open to all property owners in South Cambs.

Prices of PV panels have come down significantly since the first eCoton scheme. They are now around half the price that they were in 2011! Financial returns are partly through savings on electricity bills and partly through the Feed-in-Tariff (FIT), the government payment scheme to homeowners. This has been reduced since 2011 but the 'payback period' is still about 7 years, and panels can be expected to last for 20–25 years. If you would like to register interest in this scheme, send an email to ecoton.solarsavers@gmail.com. When prices are arranged, you will receive details and be invited to attend an information meeting on Wed 23rd September in Haslingfield. You will meet the SPEP volunteers running the scheme and the solar panel installation company. The installers will then arrange for an assessor to visit your property to establish its suitability for solar panels.

It is only at this point that you need to decide if you want to proceed. All contracts and payments will be made between you and the installer – the role of SPEP volunteers is to set a price with the installer and set up the scheme.

eCoton Solar Savers is open to anyone with a property in the South Cambridgeshire area, so if you are interested in reducing your carbon footprint and making a sound investment then register and save with solar!

SPEP: visit <https://www.scams.gov.uk/content/sustainable-parish-energy-partnership> for more information.

Foxton Scarecrow Festival: Saturday 3 October (12noon – 5.00pm)

St Laurence's Church, Foxton will be repeating its very successful biennial Scarecrow Festival on Saturday 3 October. There will be fundraising activities together with refreshments such as bacon butties, hot soup and tea and cakes. And 'Where's Wally' – will you be able to find this special scarecrow? The event will culminate in the Church at 4pm with prize giving, judging the children's mini scarecrows and Foxton Singers performing songs from children's TV programmes. Programmes (£1.00) will be available on the day from the Church and Foxton Village Shop.

**SEPTEMBER BULLETIN
FROM CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE**

HARVEST is upon us and we're calling on local residents to help our fight against straw stack arson.

Stack fires can quickly spread and not only endanger people and livestock, but also life-long work on farms. Stacks burn very slowly meaning crews are committed for long periods of time, making them unavailable for other emergencies. Don't forget, many firefighters attending incidents like these in rural parts of our county are on-call personnel and their retention at a stack fire impacts directly upon business and services in their community.

What can you do? We're urging residents and those passing through rural areas to keep a careful watch. Do you see someone acting suspiciously around stores of hay or straw? Is there an unusual vehicle near farm buildings? Become a community member of Arson Watch and keep an eye on stacks in your area.

Report suspicious activity to police on 101 and dial 999 if you see a stack fire.

Alarms 4 Life for Landlords



LANDLORDS of privately rented properties in Cambridgeshire can pick up free smoke and carbon monoxide alarms at upcoming distribution events.

New safety laws make it compulsory for all landlords to fit smoke alarms in rented homes and are expected to come into effect from October 2015, subject to Parliamentary approval.

Under the new laws smoke alarms must be fitted on every floor of the property as well as carbon monoxide alarms in properties which burn solid fuels.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service has a limited number of free alarms to give out to relevant landlords and will be doing so at distribution events at its fire stations. Collection dates remaining are Monday September 7th and 28th.

For the full details, dates and where you can collect alarms, log on to <http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/firesafety/alarms4life.php>

WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - QUIZ NIGHTS

Quiz nights at the Golf Centre for the autumn/winter sessions are as follows:

2015	2016
Oct 14th	Jan 13th
Nov 11th	Feb 10th
Dec 9th	Mar 9th

These quizzes are fun and open to all.

Last winter a total of £344.00 was raised for charity. The charitable causes chosen by the winning teams were:

Macmillan Nurses x 3	World Vision
Fledglings	Shelter x 2
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Dr Barnados
BBC Children in Need	British Heart Foundation
Help for Heroes	East Anglian Air Ambulance
Ebola Disaster Fund	

Rothwell's
Carpet Cleaning

01638 428 060

01223 832 928

www.Rothwells.biz

Carpet Cleaning

Stone Floor, Upholstery & Rug Cleaning.

A few points that make us stand out from the others,

Rothwell's has been in business since 1993.

We're an honest local family firm.

Our large truck mounted machines mean more cleaning
& drying power for the best results possible.

Members of both the NCCA and TACCA.

We will move the furniture for a thorough clean.

100% satisfaction or it's FREE.

Call Oliver and Max Campbell for expert help today.

Rothwell's, Malting End, Newmarket, CB8 9HH

WHADDON VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall bookings have improved by 50% now the renovations have been carried out and we are getting a lot of positive feedback and many recommendations. Hopefully the acoustics will be resolved this autumn with the panels being paid for by the Parish Council. Two members of our village have offered to install free of charge so it is hoped to have better sound quality before the winter lettings and evening meetings take place. The coffee mornings are still proving very popular and we really welcome all members of the village to come and have a gossip and keep up with all the news.

The Trust is busy trying to raise approx. £30,000 to construct a car park outside the village hall to try to stop the damage to the recreation ground and to provide a well lit safe parking area for all village hall users. Grants have been applied for and so far we have £5,000 agreed towards this project - fingers crossed for the rest.

Quiz Night

Whaddon Village Hall
Date to be confirmed

NEW YEAR'S EVE

A New Year's Eve Party
For family and friends

Whaddon Village Hall
31st December 7.30pm til late

£5/person under 5's free

Bring and Share nibbles
Bring your own drink

Disco by our village DJ Steve

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday	10.30 - 12.00	Coffee morning (Alt wks - see diary dates)
	7.30 - 9.30pm	Garden club (3rd Wed each month)
	8.00 - 9.00pm	Table Tennis
Thursday	6.30 - 7.30pm	Pilates
	7.30 - 8.30pm	Pilates
Friday	6.30 - 8.00pm	Dog training
Saturday	8.30 - 11.00am	Dog training
Sunday	8.30 - 11.00am	Dog training

} 6 week blocks

Event to celebrate Cambridgeshire's newest foster carers

An event to welcome the newest foster carers to Cambridgeshire County Council's fostering service was held in June. The last 12 months have seen a record breaking 32 new families from across Cambridgeshire become foster carers with the local authority and many of these new carers attended to join the celebrations.

Jill Blose, Service Manager for Fostering said "We extend a huge thank you to all of our new foster carers, many of whom are already providing safe and loving homes to local children and young people unable to live with their own families. However, we urgently need even more people in Cambridgeshire to follow in their footsteps and consider fostering. We are particularly keen to hear from people who feel they are able to foster older children and young people."

To be a foster carer you need to be over 21. You don't need to own your home, but you do need to have a spare room. Foster carers can be single, married, in a civil partnership or living with a partner. We welcome applications from people of all ethnic backgrounds and from people who have their own children, as well as those who haven't raised children of their own.

Cambridgeshire County Council offers foster carers comprehensive training, 24 hour support and generous allowances. Carers can also earn additional payments as they develop their skills and experience.

For more information on fostering please get in touch today on 0800 052 0078 or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering

Heidi Allen MP

If you would like to contact Heidi about an issue, book a surgery appointment or find out what else she has been up to, visit her website www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk , email: heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk or telephone 01954 212707.

The next surgery date is:

Friday 18 September Bassingbourn, 16:00 – 17:00



ROYSTON & SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Home Visiting Volunteers

We are looking for Home Visiting volunteers.

A 8 session course for new volunteers is planned for September/October 2015 to be held between 9.30am – 2.30pm.

Please contact us if you are interested in joining this course.

Tel: 01763 262262 or e-mail admin@hrscc.org.uk

Quiz Night Saturday 10th October 7.00 for 7.30pm Meldreth Village Hall

This will be a fun quiz – teams of 6 are required but if you can't get a full team, please do still join us and we can include you in another team. Tickets will be £10 each to include your supper (fish, chicken, sausage or veggie burger and chips). There will be a licensed bar and a raffle

PC Repairs

Advice & Installation of Home Networks

Help with Selecting a Computer

Fault Finding

Brian Girling 01223 208529 (Wimpole)

E-mail bg@moncraft.co.uk

**We can also provide the following services:
Design of brochures, posters, business cards etc.
A4/A3 laminating • A4 Comb-Binding
Small print runs on A6 to A3 media**



WHADDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

(whaddonnhw@gmail.com)



I am going to be boring by repeating some of the NHW words from the last Whaddon News. I am doing this because we have had further break-ins in Church Street and Bridge Street since the last News and the message remains much the same. One important feature of the Church Street theft was that the first attempt was abandoned, possibly because the intruders were disturbed, and so they returned the following night and gained access. This does suggest that, in this case, the garage was being targeted. I previously wrote in May:

“In late March a number of houses in Meldreth Road had sheds and outbuildings broken into. Items were stolen and the break-in inevitably resulted in damage to the building. This type of crime is very difficult for the police to track although they did send a scene of crime officer to take evidence. I have said before that Whaddon is particularly vulnerable to such crime as the vast majority of residences back on to open fields giving easy access to any intruder. We are fortunate that there is so little crime in Whaddon but this particular problem is one we have faced over the years. There are, of course, security devices and alarms sold to counter this problem but the average shed is fairly fragile and presents few problems to a determined intruder

although a noisy alarm would be a good disincentive. Perhaps, if at all possible, the wise move would be to avoid keeping valuable items in sheds and use more substantial locations like garages”. *These last words have returned to haunt me as the burglary in Church Street was from a substantial garage.*

In Dyers Green a black wheelie bin was stolen with CCTV catching a man loading the bin on to a high top van. Unfortunately the number plate could not be identified. Most of us might find it difficult to work out the economic value to the intruder of this exercise but, there we are, it happened. Otherwise there has been no particular theme to crime in the local villages. Damage to cars parked in public places at night has featured as well as minor vandalism and the same outbuilding thefts.

A reminder to everybody that the village e-mail system is sponsored by Whaddon Neighbourhood Watch. We 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

Mike Monks

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.

Councillor vacancy

One person has applied to fill the vacant position and we hope to formally co-opt at our next meeting in September.

Speed Limit and Traffic Issues

The arrow safety signs at the ‘build out’ in Meldreth Road were destroyed by a vehicle on 28th July and reported to the County Council that evening. We were very pleased that their emergency Highways team visited the site later that evening and placed cones at the build out to make the area safe for traffic. A permanent repair will follow in the next few weeks.

The sign that was partially obscured by telegraph pole has now been moved to a much better position.

Speedwatch

After a short break, Speedwatch has now restarted and shall be monitoring vehicle speeds in Meldreth Road to see what effect the new measures may have made. It is pleasing to see that since the introduction of the 30 mph restriction through the village, speeding is generally at a lower level, although there are a number of drivers who seem to revel in driving as fast as possible, especially at quiet times.

Eternit trucks

Following discussions and agreement with Meldreth and Bassingbourn Parish Councils, we have started the one-way system for trucks using the Eternit site coming through Whaddon. All agreed that the proposal put

forward is the best route for the trucks in terms of safety and visibility and means that Whaddon should only get 50% of the lorry traffic. They should access Eternit from the A1198 via Mettle Hill and leave via Whaddon. Eternit have been very keen to help us and have entered into a ‘gentleman’s agreement’ with the Parishes to do their best to ensure that the trucks stick to this suggested routeing. I should be keen for any observations from villagers on this issue.

Super fast Broadband

Nigel Strudwick, our Broadband Champion, has sent the village a number of progress updates recently and we are delighted to see that a ‘cabinet’ has been installed at the top of Bridge Street. We now await the new fibre optic cables to be laid between the Arrington telephone exchange and the Bridge Street cabinet. This may involve some temporary minor disruption to local roads but it will all be worthwhile in the long run. We are assured that a September switch on is achievable. Fingers crossed!

All minutes of meetings are on the village website www.whaddon.org and on the notice board at the Village Hall in Church Street.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 14th September, at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

Compiled by Lee Ginger

the connection live. This means that there will be an inevitable wait until that person goes out, but hopefully they will do us relatively quickly and in big batches. During that switchover there is going to be a short period of downtime, during which you are likely to be without broadband or phone or both. If you have a modern BT type phone socket in your house, it should not be necessary for the engineer to come to visit you.

Two further points:

1. Remember, you do NOT have to get your fibre-based service from BT, but from any ISP offering it at your premises. However, if you want to change suppliers, you should probably check your contract to make sure there are no penalties for changing.
2. Your modem/router. You will need an ADSL 2+ capable modem/router to get the full speed benefit. Most people with routers made in the past five years or so should have this capability, but you need to check—I can’t help you on that one. You shouldn’t need to update your ADSL 2+ device, but you want to get an up to date modem/router as they are going to be more capable than those your ISP gave you originally, and seem to be easier to use. So, in our case, we are going to see what happens with the old modem, and then probably upgrade to something better—let’s face it, the modem/routers handed out for free by an ISP aren’t going to be as good as something for which you pay more. Lots of modern routers can also be configured and managed from a smartphone and have more fancy wireless capabilities...

Remember that no-one can predict at this stage what final speed you will get if/when you upgrade. It is dependent on so many things, but above all else the local wiring. The copper/aluminium wiring from the cabinet to your premises governs the speed in two ways: i) the length of the run from the new cabinet and ii) the quality of that wiring. The second of these, as I think we all know, is highly variable. How the wiring is inside your house or office will also make a difference.

That last paragraph was very important, and we won’t know what speeds any of us will get until all is live and settled down. I will be asking villagers to monitor their speeds so I can build up a picture of what is happening, and then we can take it further.

Let’s get the next few weeks over and then we can see. Thanks everyone for their enthusiasm for the new service, and thanks also for being patient.

Nigel Strudwick
Village “Broadband Champion”
ncs3 [at] cam.ac.uk; 01223 207434

BROADBAND UPDATE - 18 AUGUST

Well, the clock is ticking now and I know how high everyone's expectations are...

Many villagers will have seen the work that has been going on around here. We have our cabinet now, and various works along Whaddon Gap and the A1198 show where our new fibre is being installed and prepared. The upgrades to the equipment in the Arrington Exchange are operational, as without those the fibres and the cabinet won't work.

Once the fibre is installed and the equipment in the cabinet activated, BT Openreach (BTO) will begin the process of ensuring that each line to a premises has a connection in that cabinet so that it can be switched over to high-speed broadband if the customer wants it once things are live. This should happen transparently and your service will not be affected, but you also won't see any change in your services either.

What I thought I would concentrate on in this update is roughly what we can expect to happen over the next few weeks, based on discussions I have had with Connecting Cambridgeshire. I've been asked lots of questions and I may have answered some of them wrongly, so I'm writing this to give you an idea of what should happen.

It is important to stress that we do NOT YET HAVE a final connection date—it is still supposed to be sometime in September. So please be patient!

There are several different stages in the process:

1. **The commissioning stage.** This is a period of a couple of weeks or so before the system goes completely live during which—in theory—BTO will inform the Internet Service Providers (ISP) who offer services here that the exchange is soon going to be capable of high-speed broadband. At that point the ISPs are supposed to update their databases to show that Whaddon will be fibre-capable. If you look at e.g. BT's site at the moment it will show that you can't get fibre. That should change in the commissioning stage.
2. **Going live!** Once BTO say that the cabinet is fully live, ISPs can start taking orders. It is essential that you **specifically order a FIBRE-BASED PRODUCT** or you won't get the new speed. This is INCREDIBLY important. I hope your chosen ISP will be able to give you a date when it will go live.
3. **Actually making the connection.** Fibre/high-speed connections are not enabled by default, and does require something to be physically switched at the cabinet. So a BTO engineer will have to go and make

SPEEDWATCH & SPEEDING IN WHADDON

After a short break in the spring, the Speedwatch team have been out and about. It will be no surprise to villagers to know that we still have our share of motorists who feel that driving through Whaddon at close to 30 mph is too great a challenge for them. Speedwatch cannot stop this but it can, and does, have some influence on many. Checks on Meldreth Road still identify speeding cars but the numbers are down and the speed less than it used to be – at least when we are deployed. I receive occasional complaints that little has changed from the past but I can assure those who feel this way that things are better. Yes, the boy (or girl) racer at 6.30 in the morning is still putting his foot down and we cannot stop this but overall speeds are down. By the way we have been out earlier but not at 6.30 (yet).

Where we still see a problem is at the corner adjacent to Bumpkins pre-school, College Farm and Rectory Farm. We target this spot because the nursery is there and large farm vehicles but also because negotiating the whole corner has proved a challenge for some drivers over recent years. Unfortunately, many drivers feel the more rural stretch from St Mary's Close to Bumpkins is a chance to get to work a little earlier and down goes the foot. In early August we recorded 30% of cars on that stretch speeding; all will receive a letter from

the police and if they have offended before the tone of the second letter will be more direct. For a third offence the letter is likely to be hand-delivered by the police. There are no points to be had on licenses but many will find it a chastening experience.

Finally a reminder that while the speed limit in Bridge Street is 30 mph, a much safer speed is closer to 20. The Parish Council recognised this some while ago by funding "20 is plenty" signs. Please keep this in mind.

It's our village and our speed limit – please do your best to keep to it. MM

Fen Feeds Ltd

01954 269259



**Pet & Livestock Feeds
Bedding, Hay & Straw
Wild Bird Food**

**COMPETITIVE PRICES &
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY**



judy@fenfeeds.co.uk www.fenfeeds.co.uk



NORAH C. FOSTER (née ENSTON) B.E.M.
(11.10.1916 – 11.02.2015)



As promised in the previous Whaddon News we have an article on the life of Norah Foster who sadly died in February this year. Norah lived in Whaddon for fifty years and was well known by many residents past and present.

Norah spent her childhood in Claverdon, Warwickshire. In 1937 she went to peacetime Holland as a governess to a mixed Dutch/English family. When Holland was invaded she was trapped. She was evacuated to North Holland and then interned at Liebenau, Germany. Her family and friends lost touch but after six months contact was made through the Red Cross. Like many people of her generation Norah was reluctant to talk about those years of her life. However, Iris Green recalls the first time she collected for the Red Cross Norah told her that she wouldn't be alive if it hadn't been for the Red Cross parcels during the war. Their arrival not only provided extra food but great opportunity for bartering! In 1942, due to ill health, Norah was part of a POW exchange and eventually returned to England.

After her return she joined the ATS and was drafted to Egypt. Whilst serving in Cairo some combustion

engines caught fire. She turned off the stopcocks and piled sand on the flames. In recognition of this bravery she was awarded the British Empire Medal. She was demobbed in June 1946 and shortly after married Sergeant Fred Foster whom she had met in Cairo.

Norah and Freddy moved to Nigeria and a few years later their son Henry was born. Following Nigerian Independence in 1961 the family moved back to UK, where they had a cottage in Dorset. They were hoping to find a small business they could manage together.

They came to live at what is now 20 Bridge Street, Whaddon and took over the running of the sub Post Office/news agency in Bassingbourn Barracks. Days were long – collecting papers from the station, sorting them into rounds for the camp, Whaddon and shop sales. The shop was open 6 days a week and papers sold in the Sergeants' Mess on Sundays.

The Whaddon house had been two cottages and major alterations converted them into one house. Norah put her efforts into combining the two gardens.

Collecting the paper money, Norah knew most of the residents. She formed a special friendship with Rosemary Cross who later, with her husband, took over the Post Office business. When Freddy became ill, Norah decided she needed a smaller property and moved across the road to number 23. After a few years she retired from the sub Post Office when she realised she was making more money for the tax man than herself!

However, retired she may have been, but still kept busy. She always spent as much time as possible with her grandchildren but also pursued other activities. Norah raised much money for various animal charities by collecting, cleaning, mending and selling jumble. She always had dogs and could be seen dog walking several times a day. Not only her own dogs but Norah provided care for stray dogs, nurturing them so they could have a second chance of a new home.

She regularly helped at Royston Hospital, distributing tea and taking her dogs for 'dog petting' to patients in the geriatric ward many years younger than her. She became a volunteer driver until someone realised how old she was and that she was no longer covered by insurance!

In her later years Norah would often walk up to the Golf Centre for "a small glass of sherry or dry white wine". Woe betide Ken if her sherry was not in stock! The Golf Centre would often get phone calls from her carers asking if she was there. Norah never appeared to be ready to go to bed when they wanted her to!

Norah lived life to the full for most of her 98 years and anyone who has lived in Whaddon for more than 20 years will have a 'Norah anecdote'. She was an inspiration and one suggested word that sums up Norah – indefatigable.

POPPY APPEAL 2015

It may seem a little early to mention this year's Poppy Appeal but the next issue of the News will be with you just after the appeal comes to an end. We will be having a door to door village collection from Saturday 24 October until Saturday 7 November with Remembrance Sunday on 8 November. As usual there will also be a collecting box in the golf clubhouse. Should anybody wish for a wooden remembrance cross or a large car poppy please let me know on C 208236.

Last year the village donated over £600. I feel sure that we can