August 2003

WHADDON NEWS

Grand Opening of the New Village Slide

Saturday 30 August, 2.30pm
at
The Recreation Ground

To be opened by
Mrs. Mary Course, District Councillor

Teddy bears Picnic
Tombola, Lucky Dip, Afternoon Tea

Everyone welcome!

Proceeds to the Village Children's Christmas Party

WHADDON VILLAGE

BARBECUE

Live Music

Saturday 6th Sept
on
The Recreation Ground
at
6.30 pm

Wine

Beer

Adults	£8.00
Child/ Concessions	£5.00

For tickets contact: Terry Alison C. 207710
Joan Pascoe C. 208062

HARVEST

FESTIVAL

Sunday 21st September

6pm

at

St Mary's Parish Church.

ALL WELCOME

WHADDON PARISH COUCIL

During the last week in June a larger, more practical notice board was erected along side the Village Recreation Ground. Essentially the board is for posting Council information such as minutes of Council meetings, Council Financial Statements, Audit results and statements of Village Hall meetings along with financial accounts. There is also a compartment of the notice board for other organisations in the village to post notices. Could we draw their attention as to the sizes of their notices, especially if they are computer produced bearing in mind the size of the board.

We welcome all notices that provide information to our Parishioners.

Ted Webb

LADIES CIRCUIT TRAINING

Whaddon Village Hall

8—9 pm

Every Thursday from 11th September

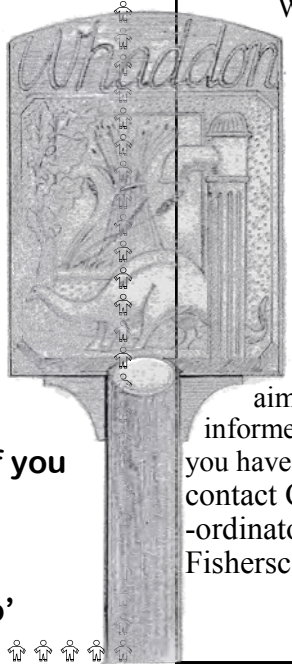
Age 16-60. Any level of Fitness

Work as hard as you want!

If you are interested please call Andrew 07813 571207

First session free to see if you like it.

'Just have a go'



VILLAGE BARBECUE

Anyone willing to help on the day of the BBQ (6th Sept) please contact the numbers below.

We need people to help 'set-up' on the Recreation Ground and assistance with the preparation of salads etc.

Donation of raffle prizes and help with ticket sales would also be very welcome.

Contact Ann or Mark Newberry C. 207555
Joan Pascoe C. 208062

New Neighbourhood Watch being developed

The Parish Council have agreed that a new Neighbourhood Watch will be set up in the near future. The decision comes after a series of shed, out house and car burglaries have taken place within the village.

On Tuesday 12th August, Community Contact Officer Carol Wilson and Sergeant Steve Poppitt, both from the Sawston sector of Cambridgeshire Constabulary, met with the Parish Council and some parishioners to discuss how to initiate the new scheme.

Councillor Fisher agreed to take over the role of Cluster Co-ordinator from Councillor Wilson. In the new scheme Dyers Green, Bridge Street, Church Street, Town Farm Close and Meldreth Road will have their own individual co-ordinators.
Carol Wilson will pass on any crime information to the Cluster Co-ordinator, who will subsequently pass this on to the village co-ordinators, who will finally inform the residents in their sector.

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme aims to reduce crime and keep you informed with local crime developments. If you have any queries, or want to get involved, contact Chris Fisher, you're new Cluster Co-ordinator on (01223) 208947 or email Fisherscoop@aol.com

ANIMAL CRACKERS

The total amount raised, after deduction of expenses, was £1,135-46. This exceeded expectations for the first event of its kind in the village.

Thank you to all village 'stallholders', stewards, 'setter-uppers', car park attendants and others, together with visiting performers, stallholders, caterers and tradesmen. The support of these people and all the villagers who attended made this such a successful day.

Next year's Animal Crackers will be held on 13th June.

WHADDON VILLAGE HALL

Is the Village Hall in danger of a take-over by Nature?

Those of you who are observant will have noticed that three different species of birds took up residence during June inside and on the outside of the building. Inside the apex facing the road, at the back of the bell a pair of rooks has nested. At the rear of the building a pair of wagtails have taken up residence in one of the two extract fan ducts. Also now it has been observed that a nest has been built in the suggestion box on the wall facing the road. By the size of the aperture access to the nest it must be a tiny bird.

John Fisher kindly took the photograph printed here.

Ted Webb

The news team will print observations on any aspect relating to Nature seen in and around the village.

Contact Margaret Wilson – 07734 753555

ANIMAL CRACKERS

I should like to congratulate Ken Charles, The Village Hall Committee and all the many volunteers who contributed to make Animal Crackers such a success. Over many years I have been involved with fetes and fund raising events in the village and have always thought that there is nothing to prevent Whaddon becoming the 'must attend' venue of the area. What was needed was someone with the time, vision and expertise to make it happen. We seem to have found him in Ken Charles. Of course, in such a small village, the difficulty has also been finding the people to man the stalls so, again, it was no mean feat to involve so many people. I, for one, was especially pleased to see so many 'new' village faces present as both helpers and visitors. I really hope that this first event will be an encouragement and inspiration for the next and many more. Once again, well done and thank you.

Margaret Wilson.

FURTHER ANIMAL CRACKERS ?

Several members of the village and golfers have witnessed the phenomenon happening at Whaddon Golf Centre. One of the resident moorhens appears to have become addicted to Coca-cola.

Each morning he retrieves a discarded coke can from the small rubbish bin beside the first tee. He then tips it on the ground and manages to tilt the can so that he can drink the remaining contents with his beak.

Our two resident ducks, on witnessing this, decided one morning to 'see him off' so that they could enjoy his feast. However, they quickly found that their beaks were too wide to fit into the hole. After many attempts, they gave up and wandered away.

Whereupon, the moorhen returned and finished the remaining contents. He now has no challenges, apart from humans who feel the need to tidy up.

The moorhen has not been witnessed staggering around the grass, but he gets mighty high on the amount of coke he drinks!

Iris Green

St MARY'S CHURCH FETE

Thanks to everyone who helped, donated prizes and attended our Church Fete, Ploughman's Lunch, Produce Show and Auction on Saturday 19th July. St Mary's Parochial Church Council is delighted to report that the final amount, raised after expenses have been deducted, is £1,965.

These funds go, not only to ensuring the fabric of our fourteenth century church survives, but also towards the regular running expenses of having a living church with services each week. Do come. You will find a warm welcome every Sunday.

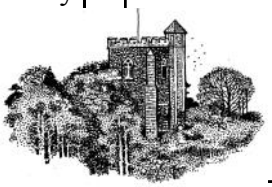
St Mary's Parish Church, Whaddon

FAMILY SERVICES

Sharing and learning together…

Short Services on the **Fourth Sunday** of the month

All welcome to these half-hour services at **10am**



28 Sept, 26 Oct, 23 Nov

Christmas Day
(with communion)

NEWS NEEDED!

Did you know that Chris Fisher is the Village Correspondent for the Cambridge Evening News? If you ever have a story or a village event that should be featured in the Village and Community, please contact Chris Fisher on (01223) 208947 or email Fisherscoop@aol.com.

DEADLINES

*The final date for receipt of articles for the next newsletter will be **31st October**. This is important so that the newsletter is circulated in good time to inform the village of the forthcoming Christmas events.*

It has been encouraging to receive some different articles from villagers this month and more are always very welcome.
Please contact Margaret Wilson 07724 753555
Joan Pascoe 01223 208062

HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY CHOIR

Monday 29th September 2003

St John the Baptist Church, Royston

8pm

Performing in aid of Royston Community Transport

Tickets £5 including refreshment

From Royston Community Transport
Telephone/Fax 01763 245228

Royston Community Transport provides a door-to-door transport service to the elderly and disabled residents of Royston and the surrounding villages of North Hertfordshire and South Cambridgeshire.

The Farmland Museum & Denny Abbey

Present

Past Times and Pleasures – Medieval Life

A special event on Sunday 24th & Monday 25th August 2003 12 – 5pm

Experience Medieval life with the Plantagenet Medieval society, a living history group who will be re-enacting scenes from the Medieval Period. The Plantgenets will demonstrate their archery skills, set up a realistic camp, and provide music and dance with lots of audience participation.

For details of this and other events contact Corrina Bower 01223 860988/489

BROADBAND

Throughout South Cambridgeshire small businesses, homeworkers and students will soon be reaping the benefits of Broadband networks. South Cambridgeshire District Council has won funding from the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) to stimulate development of Broadband networks throughout the district. Theirs was one of only 21 successful bids, out of a total of about 90 which had been submitted across the East of England. This new District-wide Broadband project will use about £300,000 to enable every community to be connected over the next 2 years. For further information please contact Sally Carroll, communications manager at South Cambridgeshire District Council on 01223 443262, email sally.carroll@scambs.gov.uk,

Recreation Ground Picnic Area

The Parish Council is hoping to extend the facilities on the recreation ground for the benefit of both residents and visitors.
All councillors believe that the ground is a valuable asset to the village and therefore should be enhanced for our residents. The aim is to provide better facilities for young children, adults, the elderly and less mobile people.
The plan is to construct a picnic area near to the playground. Councillor Wilson is writing to various businesses for sponsorship and applying for grants from the local authority to create the finances to enable the development to be constructed.

YOUTH ALERT!

The Parish Council is looking into the provision of a dedicated area for our young people to gather. A policy has been adopted to establish a picnic area with the provision of tables, seats, rubbish bins etc. and this is an extension of that policy. A grant is available to public bodies to provide somewhere for young people to meet. It has been realised that young people do not always want to go to organised or structured places such as youth clubs although these are very valuable. There is also the consideration of the safety of young people themselves plus the perceived threat they pose to the community when they congregate in public places. Young teenagers don't need to be told they are not a threat or that they need somewhere to go, they already find places. Unfortunately it is how they are perceived by the rest of us that seems to hold sway in public opinion and the bad press they sometimes get. O.K. preamble over, would you like somewhere to get together with your friends in Whaddon? The Parish Council would like all young teenagers to know that we remember our own youth and have some idea of the problems. When we gathered on street corners or public parks we didn't seem to pose the threat which youngsters do nowadays. So that we can help you, would you like a semi-weatherproof place to meet your friends? If so contact Margaret Wilson on C. 207219 or 07724 753555 who has some pictures and information on the various structures available. You can come and have a look and let her know your own opinion, favourable or not. The logical place is on the rec. behind the storage garage, but you may have something to say about that too. Please ring to come and have a look and let the Parish Council know your opinion. It really matters whether you want it or not, what structure is chosen, and where it is installed. Please do ring, see what's available and influence decisions taken on your behalf!

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

Council:
Housing repairs ……..…0800 0851313
Pest control ……01223 443145
Refuse collection ……...…01223 235468

Councillors:
County
(Mary Chapple)……..01223 833555

District
(Mary Course) ……01763 260284

Parish (Ted Webb) ……01223 207564

Doctor:
Orchard Surgery Melbourn. 01763 260220
Royston Health Centre ……01763 242981

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS……

……Some notes from the past three meetings

The 40 mph repeater signs have been repaired or replaced around the village. Unfortunately the County Council has seen fit to remove some of the signs e.g. one down Bridge Street. With residents concerns over the speed which vehicles travel in the village, this appears a retrograde step. It is unlikely that the speed limit will be reduced within the next two years, although Whaddon is on the list!

★ ★ ★

Sixteen replies were received showing interest in the affordable homes scheme planned for the village. The decision to proceed with the scheme at Pickering farm, has now been agreed following a meeting between South Cambs. District Council and the Rural Housing Trust. A proposal for the site will be put forward in the autumn.

★ ★ ★

The new Wheelie bin system is coming….. Remember the refuse collection day is now Thursday.
The Environment Department have requested more information from the Council on those homes which would have problems because of a long or difficult drive/entrance. Every case will be assessed individually. Concerns have also been expressed with the disposal of some types of rubbish and possible health hazards. Copies of individual letters have been forwarded to the Environment department.

★ ★ ★

Letters have been written to local organisations and charities who offer grants for schemes such as the new picnic area with tables proposed for the recreation ground.

★ ★ ★

The Animal Crackers event in June made a profit of about £1200, this was despite the squally storms. The event has already been booked for 13th June 2004.

★ ★ ★

The church fete in July raised £2000 for church funds. Sir Charles Chadwyk Healey opened the fete and the afternoon included the usual mix of stalls, magic show for the children, a dog show as well as produce shows.

★ ★ ★

Following further communications with CALC the Council has decided to hold a special meeting to discuss the village hall lease early in September.

★ ★ ★

The official opening of the children's slide will now be combined with a fund raising event for the children's Christmas party. The event will take place in September.

★ ★ ★

A meeting with Community beat officer, Pc David Martin was well attended in the village hall, to discuss the recent spate of burglaries from outbuildings and sheds in the village. Many in the village are concerned that the police are not doing enough to curb this rise in such crimes in the area.
It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme needed to be re-launched and strengthened in Whaddon. To this effect, a public meeting will take place on August 12th in the Village hall to discuss ways forward and gain support.

★ ★ ★

The area around the village fountain in Bridge Street will be studied again and all ideas are welcome. Three ideas will be circulated and parishioners will be able to vote for the preferred scheme. A public meeting will be arranged for a later date.

★ ★ ★

Planning permission has been refused for the new warehouse at Southfield Farm, Meldreth Road. Permission has been granted for the greenhouse in the garden of the Grange, Bridge St. Permission has been granted for internal and external alterations at 68, Bridge St.
Consent to display advertisements, at the former Methodist Chapel, now a nursery has been granted. The request for extension and swimming pool at Minstral Court, Old North Road , has been withdrawn.

★ ★ ★

Note that there will be no public Parish Council meeting in August. The next meeting will take place on Monday, 22nd September at 7.00 p.m. in the village hall.

PJN

August 2003

TIMES PAST

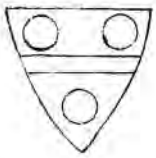
Number Eight

THE NORMANS IN WHADDON

In 1066 William I conquered Harold at Hastings and this set in motion the conquest of England. However, the Normans were unsuccessful in working with the existing Anglo-Saxon aristocracy and William had to replace them with his own followers. Lands were granted to a hundred and seventy of them who became his tenants-in-chief. These lands could be scattered through several shires. Each group of lands was called an honour and each honour consisted of several smaller units called manors. The honour of Richmond is connected with Whaddon. The distribution of his newly acquired lands was carried out by William with the purpose of rewarding his followers and securing his conquest of England. The first Norman inhabitant of the manor in Whaddon was one of these first tenants-in-chief. His name was Hardwin de Scalers. The family possibly originated from the area of L'Escallerie in Nantes, on the Loire in north western France. He held extensive lands in Cambridgeshire and in Hertfordshire. From the Domesday Book we can obtain details of exactly what land Hardwin held in the village - (more about this in a future newsletter)

Hardwin's wife was Odelina and this was in all probability an Anglo-Saxon name. Historians think that this illustrates a trend as William's son Henry married Matilda, an Anglo-Saxon. Such women would be in great demand as Normans would acquire new land rights through inheritance and it would also make assimilation into the local population a great deal easier. This could also explain the fact that French never became the language of the country. Marriages with the local ladies and the use of native nurses for the children ensured the retention of the mother tongue. Hardwin's two sons were Hugh and Richard and it was Hugh who gained Whaddon as part of his inheritance.

The name de Scalers was connected with the village until 1467 and many variations of the family name are to be found in the existing records such as Deschallers, de Scalariis and Chalers. The last male, Sir John, whose tomb rests in the chancel of the church, died leaving three daughters, causing the manor to pass into the hands of one John More, the husband of Alice de Scalers, one of these daughters. Other memorials to the family are also to be seen in the church along with the font. The arms of the de Scalers are to be found on the eastern face.



Occupational Hazards The Dangers of Farming

On Tuesday, 5th October 1819, an inquest was taken at Whaddon before John Ingle Esq., coroner, to view the body of Joseph Pearce, a labourer, who was found dead on Monday morning, 4th October, in his masters' barn, where he had been threshing. Verdict, *died by a visitation of God.*

In December of that same year, a second death and inquest was reported on John Saunders, a servant to Mr Beaumont, who was killed by a kick from his master's horse as he was cleaning it.

Cambridge Chronicle 1819

*

On Monday morning, March 18th 1880, an accident which might which might have proved fatal happened to Mr. William Gentle, foreman to Mr. J Beaumont. It appears that Gentle was superintending the work with a scarifier in the fields, when a gun which had been laid across the scarifier, went off and the shot lodged in his left arm. Mr Beaumont's trap was soon got ready, and the sufferer was conveyed to the premises of Dr. Parkinson of Melbourn, under whose care he progressed favourably.

Royston Crow March 26th 1880

The Environment
A Question of Trees

Old newspapers provide a splendid source of research material. However, these newspaper reports, while providing an interesting glimpse into earlier life, often pose questions which cannot really be answered with any degree of accuracy. In 1813 and 1815 there appeared two advertisements in the Cambridge Chronicle for the sale of timber. Reading these closely it poses the questions about the village at that time. Where exactly were the trees? They appear to be rather large and numerous. Was the surrounding area of the village very much more wooded than at present or alternatively were the trees brought in to Whaddon from elsewhere? - though they do seem rather large for unnecessary transportation

In addition details of individual sales of wood by tenants of the Earl of Hardwicke in 1777-8 also suggest a more wooded environment and regular sales of timber. However neither the advertisements in the newspaper nor the details of Wood Sales give any indication of where the trees might have been be situated. Interesting to speculate !

Some entries from the account of wood sold at Whaddon in 1777-8:

Of	*Susan Brown*	*5s. 8d,*
	Susan Barlow	*£1 2s. 4d.*
	Widow Barton	*6s. 5d.*
	John Bell	*£1 13s 3d.*
	Richard Giffen	*£1 8s. 2d.*

Elm and Ash Pollards Whaddon Cambridgeshire

To be sold by Auction by Thomas Cockett at Whaddon in the county of Cambridgeshire this day the 15th instant at 11 o'clock.

180 Elm and Ash Pollard Trees most of which may be cut into good Planks and Boards.

Credit will be given till September next, with proved security.

Catalogues to be had at the public houses in the neighbourhood, of Mr Joseph Giffen at Whaddon and of Thomas Cockett, at Royston, Herts.

Cambridge Chronicle 8th January, 1813

To Coachmakers, Wheelwrights Carpenters and Others Large Elm and Ash Timber Whaddon, Cambridgeshire

To be sold by Auction by Thomas Cockett, at Whaddon, in the county of Cambridgeshire on Friday, the 24th instant, at 11 o'clock.

230 very fine Ash, Elm, and Poplar TIMBER TREES many of them 35-45 feet in length; of unusual large dimensions; and in quality not to be excelled.

To be viewed by appointment to Mr Joseph Giffen, carpenter at Whaddon, of whom catalogues may be had; also at the inns and public houses in the neighbourhood, and of Thomas Cockett at Royston, Herts. A deposit of ten percent to be paid at the sale; six months credit will be given for the remainder of the purchase money with approved joint security.

Cambridge Chronicle 17th March 1815

S & J Ralls July 2003. We should be delighted if any one wishes to include any interesting facts about the village's history. Any stories from grandparents etc. If they are never written down they eventually get forgotten.