

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Citizens Advice:

Cambridge 03448 487979

Royston 03444 111444

Councillors:

County: Susan van de Ven 07905 325574

District: Jose Hales 01763 221058

Phillipa Hart 01763 261255

Doctors:

Orchard Surgery, Melbourn 01763 260220

The Health Centre, Royston 01763 242981

Market Hill Surgery, Royston 01763 848244

Roysia Surgery, Royston 01763 243166

Hospital:

Addenbrooke's Hospital 01223 245151

Police:

Non emergency Number 101

Samaritans: 01223 364455 (charges)

116 123 (free)

Transport:

National Rail Enquiries 03457 484950

Stagecoach East 01223 433250

National Express Coaches 0871 781 8181

Utilities:

Anglian Water 03457 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 ADVERTISING RATES

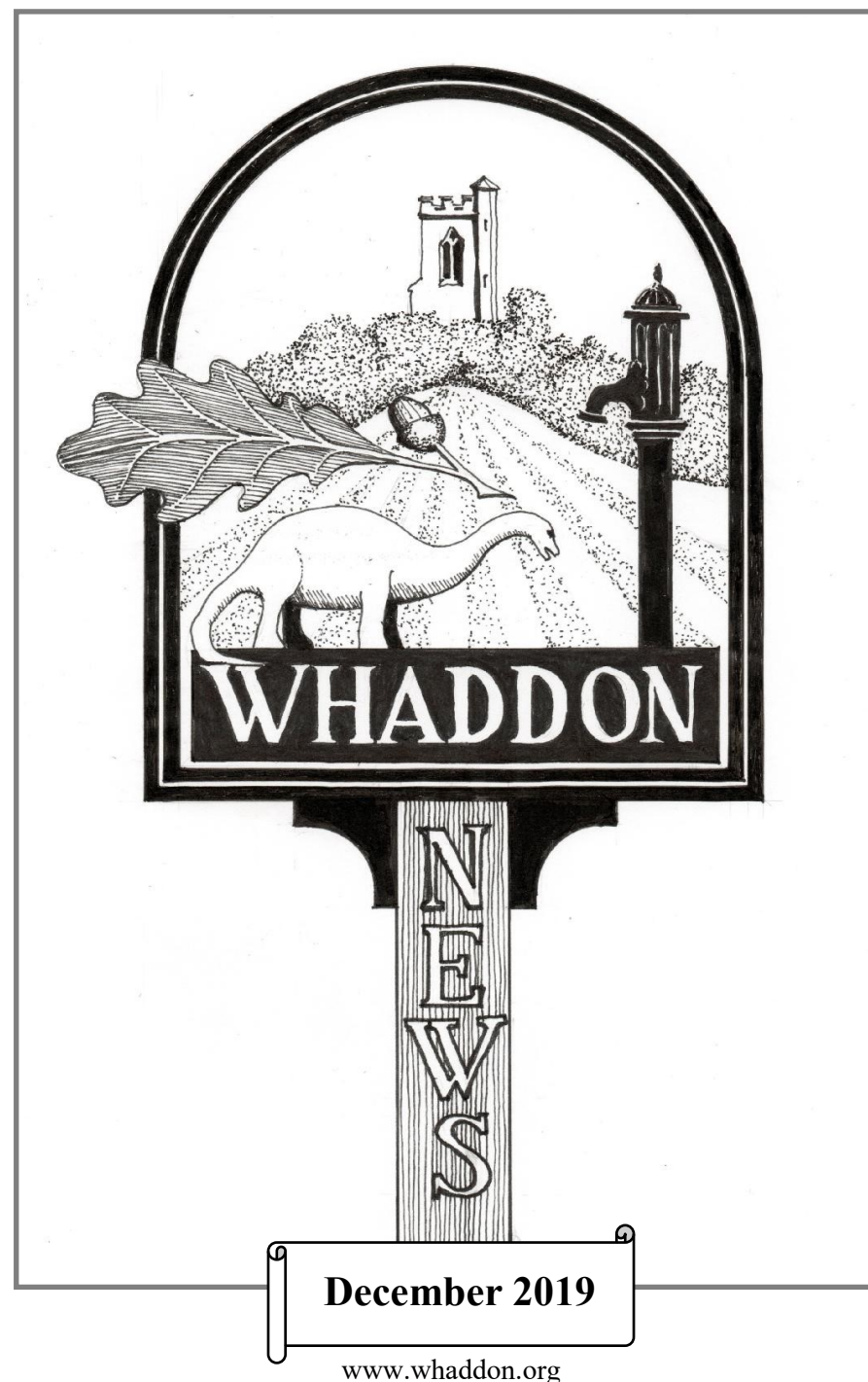
Half page advert for one issue £12.50

Half page advert for one year (4 issues) £40.00

Other options may be available on request.

Contact Angela Bridges, the Parish Clerk:

whaddonparishccclerk@outlook.com





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th Dec	Carol Service	10th Feb	Parish Council
11th Dec	Coffee Morning Charity Quiz	12th Feb	Coffee Morning Charity Quiz
18th Dec	Whaddon Wednesdays	19th Feb	Whaddon Wednesdays
20th Dec	Christmas Sing-along	26th Feb	Coffee Morning
24th Dec	Informal Carols	9th March	Parish Council
25th Dec	Christmas Day Service	11th March	Coffee Morning Charity Quiz
8th Jan	Coffee Morning Charity Quiz	18th March	Whaddon Wednesdays
13th Jan	Parish Council	22nd March	Mothering Sunday
15th Jan	Whaddon Wednesdays	25th March	Coffee Morning
22nd Jan	Coffee Morning		

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next newsletter is **February 9th**.

Once again items of village interest are always welcome.

Joan Pascoe C208062
joanpascoe@aol.com

VILLAGE HALL HIRE

Special rates for those within the village - ideal for birthday parties and most functions.

Village Rate: £7 per hour

Non-village Rate: £11 per hour

Please contact:
whaddonvhrgt@gmail.com



Bin Collection Dates

Wed 4 Dec	Black	Wed 22 Jan	Blue only
Wed 11 Dec	Blue/green	Wed 29 Jan	Black
Wed 18 Dec	Black	Wed 5 Feb	Blue/green
Fri 27 Dec	Blue only	Wed 12 Feb	Black
Fri 3 Jan	Black	Wed 19 Feb	Blue only
Thurs 9 Jan	Blue/green	Wed 26 Feb	Black
Wed 15 Jan	Black	Wed 4 Mar	Blue/green

Mobile Library

Every 3rd Tuesday
10.00 - 10.30
Meldreth Road

Tuesday 17 December

Tuesday 21 January

Tuesday 18 February

LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr Lee Ginger	Chair	07850 252015	lee.ginger@btinternet.com 14 Carlton Rise, Melbourn SG8 6BZ
Dr Nigel Strudwick	Vice Chair	C 207434	3 Town Farm Close
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
Anita Birch	Councillor	07748 908164	68 Bridge Street
Joanne Vries	Councillor	C208009	108 Church Street
Mrs Angela Bridges	Clerk/ Finance Officer	—	31 Bridge Street, whaddonparishccclerk@outlook.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM

Malan Peyton	Whaddon Village Coordinator	Ermine Farm, Dyers Green	C 207358
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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
Maria Mould	Lower Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close	39 Bridge Street	C 207231
Helen Smith	Upper Bridge Street	9 Bridge Street	C 207631
Malan Peyton	Dyers Green	Ermine Farm, Dyers Green	C 207358

Local Enforcement:

Neighbourhood Policing Team (Cambourne):

www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/SouthCambs/Cambourne/

John Coppard	Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Lyndsay Gardiner	Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
James Lynch	Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

Dial 999 to report a crime actually happening or when lives are at risk.

For a non-emergency matter dial 101.

If you report an incident to the police please let your neighbourhood watch coordinator know.

SUSAN VAN de VEN Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Monthly Advice Surgeries:

Susan van de Ven holds two drop-in advice surgeries a month for anyone who has a question or concern.

1st Monday of the month The Hub, Melbourn, 3-4pm
3rd Monday of the month The Limes, Bassingbourn, 3-4pm

Alternatively if there are issues people would like to discuss at other times you can contact Susan on 07905325574 or susan@sclibdems.org.uk

Monthly Newsletter:

Susan writes a monthly e-newsletter on issues affecting our area – please do let her know if you'd like to receive it, or would like anything to be included in it.

Susan van de Ven

County Councillor for Bassingbourn, Melbourn, Meldreth and Whaddon

N. HERTS AND DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Our area is served by 'North Herts and District' CAB, an independent charity that provides advice on basic rights and services, like housing and benefits.

A free drop-in service is held every **1st and 3rd Monday**
(9.30 am-12 noon),
Melbourn Community Hub,

Monday and Wednesday mornings (9.30 am-12 noon) at the
Citizens Advice North Hertfordshire Royston Town Hall,
Royston, SG8 7DA.

Any questions, please ring the CAB Monday-Friday, 10-4,

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

Christmas Sing-along

Friday 20 December
7pm for 8pm

*Join us at the Golf Centre
for an evening singing
Carols and Christmas songs
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies*

*Sing along or
just relax and listen*



*Donations to
St Mary's Church,
Whaddon*

WHADDON POPPY APPEAL

Once again I would like to thank the residents of Whaddon for their generous donations to this worthwhile cause.

The continued support of Janet Leech and Kate French in carrying out door to door collections is much appreciated. Thanks also to Whaddon Golf Centre for kindly hosting a collection box and to all those who attended the Remembrance Day Service in St Mary's Church for their generous support.

This year a grand total of £637.54 was raised which is a huge amount for such a small village.

Henry Burgess

COFFEE MORNING

The Macmillan Coffee Morning held on 27th September 2019 was such a great success! We raised £529!



All the leftover cakes not bought went to Moorlands Care Home in Melbourn.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to those that baked, bought and donated! Also a particular thank you to all those that helped on the day, I couldn't have done it without you all!!

We plan to try and do the same again next year!

Thanks
Suzanne

Village Hall - Film Nights

A film night will be held in January.
Date and film to be confirmed

ST MARY'S CHURCH WHADDON

Church Services in December

1st December	9.30am	Morning Prayer
8th December	6.00pm	Carol Service followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
15th December	9.30am	Morning Prayer
22nd December	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th December	5.00pm	Informal Carols by candle light (bring lanterns, torches etc)
25th December	9.30am	Family Communion Service
29th December	11.00am	Joint Service at Bassingbourn

Update on the Church Roof

Following the theft of all the lead from the roof of St Mary's last June, the PCC has now reviewed the options open to it for the re-roofing and has decided to pursue a replacement roof in terne-coated stainless steel. This would be significantly less vulnerable to theft, but would have a broadly similar appearance to lead. Historic England have stated a preference for re-roofing in lead, but understand the risk that that would present for further lead thefts and, therefore, do not object to the change in roofing. The Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) is also supporting the use of terne-coated stainless steel and the PCC has now submitted a Faculty application to the Chancellor's

office in London for the new roof, which is the equivalent of obtaining listed building consent. It is hoped that the Faculty might be granted by the end of the year, which would then enable us to make grant applications early in 2020 to assist in funding the work.

At the same time the PCC has commissioned a report on the bats in the church. This has informed us that there are two types of bat present in the church, pipistrelles and brown long-eared bats. The church appears to be used as a summer maternity roost, where groups of female bats gather during the summer months to give birth and rear their young. The roost appears well established and is likely to have been present for many years. As

SUMMARY OF RECENT BULLETINS FROM CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Advice on using emollients safely

Emollients are moisturising treatments applied directly to the skin to soothe and hydrate it. They are used by people of all ages, from babies to the elderly, and can be used to prevent or treat dry skin conditions like eczema, ulcers, psoriasis and nappy rash. Emollients come in a variety of forms, including lotions, creams, ointments, bath oils and shower products. While emollients are safe to use and an effective treatment for many conditions, it's really important those who use these products take particular care near naked flames, especially smoking materials, cookers and heaters. If you use emollients regularly, it is very important that you follow this guidance to ensure you are kept safe whilst using these products:

Keep away from fire, flames and cigarettes when using any type of emollients.

Change clothing and bedding regularly - residues can build-up.

Wash fabrics at high temperatures - reduces the build-up of emollients.

When applying emollients, take care to ensure that it does not soak into seating etc.

Tell your relatives or carers about your treatment - ensure they are aware of the risks.

Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you normally smoke.

Christmas is approaching!

The time of year when we're enjoying a tippie with friends. 50 per cent of all fires in the home start in the kitchen and more than half as a result of distraction whilst cooking.

Never leave cooking unattended

Do not cook when tired or under the influence of alcohol or drugs

Regularly clean the grill pan and oven. Built up fat can easily catch fire

Do not leave anything flammable on or near the hob.

Take care when using microwaves. Fires can start when people put food in too long.

Oven chips or temperature control deep fat fryers are safer than using a chip pan. If you do use a chip pan, only fill it one third with fat and turn the heat down if the oil starts smoking

Have a working smoke alarm on each floor of your home.

NEVER take the batteries out of your smoke alarm.

If you do have a fire in the house, get out, stay out and dial 999.

BASSINGBOURN BOOK CAFÉ

The Limes Community Facility, High Street, Bassingbourn

Books, computers, tea and coffee, cake, free Wi-Fi and much more

Open	Mondays	3 - 5 pm
	Thursdays	2 - 4:30 pm
		6 - 8 pm
	Saturdays	10 am - Noon

Telephone: 01763 247618

BASSINGBOURN BOOK CAFÉ is a Library Access Point
run by volunteers in association with Cambridgeshire Libraries

Cambridgeshire
libraries

ROYSTON & SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Make your own Christmas Door Decoration A Workshop!



On: Friday 6th December 2019
At: Foxton Village Hall, CB22 6RN
A choice of times
either 11.00 am to 2.00pm
or 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Tickets : £25

to include the framework, foliage and ribbons, but
please bring gloves, secateurs and any special foliage/
baubles you'd like to incorporate in your finished article

Evening with WomenSing.

WomenSing invite you for an evening of
music, song, mulled wine, mince pies
and raffle. This special event is to
celebrate the festive season. Alongside
Home-Start's own choir there will be
some special guests to sing and play.

8pm Wednesday 11th December
Coombes Community Centre
Burn's Road
Royston

A donation of £5 per ticket will be asked.
RSVP: Text Linda Bance 07753636443
email:
musicwithmum21@btopenworld.com

For enquiries or to book please ring 01763 262262, email
admin@hsrsc.org.uk or on line at: www.ticketssource.co.uk/hsrsc

All proceeds in aid of **Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire**

the roosting sites used by the
pipistrelle bats appear to be behind
the roof timbers at eaves level
within the south aisle and on the
south side of the nave, as well as
the porch, we have been advised
that we should not undertake
roofing works between May and

the end of August. The earliest that
the re-roofing could commence is
therefore next September.

David Grech and Karen Coningsby
Church Wardens,
St Mary's Whaddon

Update on funding for the church roof

Thanks to very generous support from the people of Whaddon,
and some from further afield, we have now received just over
£16,000. This includes £11,500 of donations and £2,400 from
fund raising events, plus £2,300 gift aid tax reclaimed. We have
also received £15,000 from our insurance company, bringing the
total income for the reroofing to just over £31,000. The project will
cost significantly more than this, but we are now in a good
position to apply for grants.

Jenny Grech, Whaddon PCC Treasurer

Rothwell's
Carpet Cleaning

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, Kirtling, Newmarket, CB8 9HH

WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

Christmas Quiz



11th December

A Very Special Quiz
Master!



Dates in 2020

8th January

12th February

11th March

These quizzes are fun and open to all, plus we raise money for charity.

7.30 for 8pm

£6.50 inc food

WHADDON VILLAGE HALL and RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Village Hall Trust Update

First we would like to thank you for your support of the Co-op Local Community Fund. We put in an application for funds to support the creation of a fence around the children's play area. The Co-op offered an amount of money for this fund that was directed to projects that local shoppers/members indicated they wanted to support. We have just received notification of the final amount, and it was £1,945.42. We thank you all very much for this.

Connecting Cambridgeshire have offered the hall free community wifi for three years. We do not have an installation date yet, but having this

connection will make the hall an even more inviting place to hire. **Booking enquiries to use the hall are always welcome.** The booking procedure is described on the web site at <http://www.whaddon.org/village-hall>. Remember the hire charge is £7 an hour for village residents and £11 for others.

Lastly, the Trust also now has a new chairman. Nigel Strudwick has stood down after several years of chairing the Trust, and has been replaced by Anita Birch. The Trustees wish Anita all success in her new role.

The Trustees of the Whaddon Village Hall and Recreational Ground Trust

Village Hall Trust

The Parish Council received the news of the resignation of the Chair of the Village Hall Trust, Nigel Strudwick. We are very grateful to Nigel for his diligent Chairmanship and thank him for all his efforts. Under his leadership, the Trust has gone from strength to strength, as I am sure it will continue to do with Anita Birch at the helm, who has agreed to take

over the role as Chair. We are pleased that Nigel will continue to be a member of the Trust.

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 is on Monday 13th January 2020 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Compiled by Lee Ginger

The Alfred Palmer's Trust – a local charity to help villagers of Whaddon.



The Alfred Palmer's Trust was originally set up in 1927 to purchase coal for distribution to the poor widows of Whaddon Parish.

Now it gives modest grants of up to £50 to people of Whaddon for whom a small cash injection could make a real difference. The Trust considers requests from all Whaddonians and especially from the elderly.

If you want to apply or know of someone else who may benefit from a grant, please either email Angela Bridges, the Whaddon Parish Clerk at whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com or write to her at 31 Bridge Street, Whaddon.

WHADDON CRICKET CLUB

Results of Matches played in 2019

DATE	MATCH	VENUE	RESULT
28th April	Steeple Morden	Away	Lost
12th May	v Sandon	Home	Win
19th May	v Johnson Matthey	Home	Lost
16th June	Huffer XI	Home	Win
30th June	Hare Street	Home	Lost
7th July	Sandon	Away	Lost
21st July	Pairs Competition	Home	Won by Tim Vries & Ollie Townsend
4th Aug	Kings Cross Train Boys	Home	Win
1st Sept	Bridge St v Church St	Home	Win by Church Street
15th Sep	Hare Street	Away	Lost
22nd Sep	Sandon Presidents	Away	Cancelled - pitch waterlogged



Open Arms – Making connections

There's thought to be 50,000 people at risk of loneliness in Cambridgeshire, so chances are some of them live near you. With winter approaching, life may get lonelier; we all tend to stay indoors for longer. For some people, ill health and bad weather may confine a greater number to their homes. Working neighbours may be out all day, so they'll see few people during the week.

Villages are great at keeping the community connected, though it's easy to overlook the impact of seasons. In winter, timing events or meetings in daytime, or providing door to door transport, can help to prevent isolation. Helping with shopping, especially bulkier items, gives an opportunity for a chat, or sharing a treat.

So, making connections, however small, can mean so much, whether it's by picking up the phone or contacting them through social media. Keeping connected by knowing what is happening in your community gives a sense of belonging which improves wellbeing.

The Open Arms project supports action against loneliness so if you have an idea that could help build connections in your community we can help you to make it happen.

Please contact us on: **01954 211919** sarah.b@care-network.org.uk

Whaddon Parish Council Matters

A1198 speed limit

Following our application to the County Council to reduce the speed limit along the A1198, the police have conducted a week of speed checks in September, which shows a fairly high average speed along the section through Whaddon Gap but, incredibly, there were a few cars travelling well over 100mph at times. It may well be the same vehicle each day, in the early hours. Nigel and I together with our County Councillor, Susan van de Ven, are meeting with Highways to discuss the plan in early December.

Phone box 1

The Phone Box is now cemented in position and has been made more upright than the box it replaced. Our village handyman, Randall Scott, has put out an appeal to the village for any spare shelves to be donated, in order that he can fit out the inside before the new library can open for business. I must say that the new kiosk looks absolutely fantastic and we have received many favourable comments.

Phone box 2

We have just been offered and accepted, to buy the phone box in Meldreth Road for £1! This was originally offered to the Parish Council by BT in 2016 but they continued to keep the call box in service. We had agreed to buy the box in 2016 but did say we would prefer it to stay as a phone box. Sadly BT have now said the box had no recorded calls

in the past year and have finally decided to dispose of it. While we would prefer it to stay as a call box, we have to be realistic about its continued use.

Yet more vodka bottles!

An update on my comments about vodka bottles along the road towards Whaddon Gap. Unbelievable, Randall found **over 40 empty vodka bottles** on the verge and in the hedges when he did a litter pick along the road recently. This is in addition to the smashed bottles I wrote about last time and the ones we found in April on the village litter pick. Either someone has a terrible problem with vodka or, more likely, they are being thrown from a moving vehicle as it passes out of the village. Please, if you see anyone who is doing this, please take the registration number of the vehicle and the time/date and I will forward to the relevant authorities.

Parking on the grass at the top of Bridge Street at Ridgeway Close

I have had many villagers contact me about vehicles parking on this stretch of grass, which is gradually leading to the grass beginning very muddy and rutted. To that end, with the valuable assistance of Councillor Philippa Hart, we are speaking with both South Cambridgeshire District and the County Councils about this issue, to see if we can find a long-term solution to this perennial problem.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

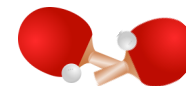
Tuesday	8.00 - 9.00pm	Table Tennis	
Wednesday	10.30 - 12.00	Coffee morning (2nd & 4th Wed)	
	7.30 - 9.30pm	Whaddon Wednesdays (3rd Wed)	
Thursday	6.30 - 7.30pm	Pilates	
	7.30 - 8.30pm	Pilates	
Friday	6.30 - 8.00pm	Dog training	} 6 week blocks
Saturday	8.30 - 11.00am	Dog training	
Sunday	8.30 - 11.00am	Dog training	

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

After the Village Hall was refurbished a small informal table tennis club was set up in the village, with tables kindly provided by a grant from the Parish Council. The club has flourished but we would like to welcome new players.

The club meets in the Village Hall at 20:00 on Tuesdays for one hour. Each player is charged £1 for the session. Paddles (bats) are provided or bring your own.

The club very much hope to see you at the hall.



WHADDON GOLF CENTRE

01223 207325

www.whaddongolfcentre.co.uk

9.00 til late

Open to all

DRIVING RANGE

9 HOLE COURSE

TUITION

PRO- SHOP



BAR

FOOD

COFFEE

NEWSPAPERS
(Ask us to order)

Petersfield Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School (Orwell) - Governors Needed

Do you have some time to spare?

Are you interested in supporting your local community?

Would you like to join a group of volunteers who are committed to doing just that?

We are looking for additional governors to join our Governing Body.

This is a very rewarding job that requires only a few hours of your time each month.

The role requires each governor to attend 3 evening meetings a term, to visit school on both a formal and informal basis, at least once a term and undergo training and development.

This is an opportunity to meet new people, including the children and staff in the school, and to support the school in a strategic capacity.

We have a wide range of skills on the governing body and we would welcome anyone who feels they have something to offer.

We would particularly welcome new Governors with skills in Human Resources or Finance.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact the school office, in the first instance.

Tel: 01223 207382 Email: office@petersfield.cambs.sch.uk

WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Christmas Week - 9am - 4pm

Friday 20th - 9am - 4pm Open at 7pm for sing-along at 8pm

Christmas Eve - 9am - 4pm No Long 9
6.30pm approx after church carols

Christmas Day - Closed

Boxing Day - Closed

27th - 30th Dec - 9am - 4pm

New Year's Eve - 9am - 4pm No Long 9

New Year's Day - Closed

2nd & 3rd Jan - 9am - 4pm



WHADDON WEDNESDAY PROGRAMME FOR 2019 (Third Wednesday of each month)

DATE	SUBJECT	SPEAKER
18 December	Christmas Party	-

WHADDON WEDNESDAY PROGRAMME FOR 2020

15 January	Treasures of Syria	Phil Neale
19 February	The Fens	Rodney Tibbs
18 March	Ideas for a Low Maintenance Garden	Wendy and Jan
15 April	The Pye Story - from a garden shed in Chesterton to a worldwide success	Roger Crabtree
20 May	Cambridge Illustrators from 1688	Mike Petty



Garden Centre
Fresh Cut Christmas Trees
Top quality Nordmann Fir and Norway Spruce
Wreaths, Table Arrangements, Holly and Mistletoe



**ARRINGTON
GARDEN CENTRE
& CAFE**

Café

A warm welcome awaits you in our dog-friendly Cafe with light bites, delicious cakes (including vegan & gluten free options) and a selection of beverages.

Now taking
**Turkey
Orders**
for Christmas

NORMAL OPENING TIMES: Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm & Sunday 10:30am to 4:30pm

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES:

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December 9am-4pm, Saturday 28th December - 10am-4pm, Sunday 29th - 10:30am-4pm, Monday 30th December - 10am-4pm, Tuesday 31st December - 10am-4pm, Thursday 2nd January 9am-4pm

CLOSED: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Friday 27th December and New Year's Day

Located directly off the A1198 near Arrington, SG8 0AG | Open 7 days a week | 01223 208194



Whaddon Wednesdays

Whaddon Wednesday's monthly programme continues to attract a regular audience of around 20+ villagers – but there is space for more. Our decision to look for speakers and subjects beyond gardening has, we feel, been well received. We had an excellent attendance in September for the talk by Stephen Lacey on **“Restoring the Battle of Britain Locomotive - 92 Squadron”**. Steam trains always fascinate and this engine, which operates with the Nene Valley Railway, proved an attractive subject. In October we reverted to our traditional gardening theme with a talk on **“Plants for Winter Interest”** by the former Director of Scotsdales and well-known local speaker Peter Jackson. On 20 November we will welcome Vic Bottrel, the **Nursery Rhyme Detective**. Vic will talk about the origins of some of those quirky nursery rhymes we recited as children. He will explain why some of those verses are not as innocuous as they might seem. Hidden stories and secrets will be revealed – who was Georgie Porgie and how could Jack and Gill find water in a well on top of a hill? This is a fascinating and revealing subject which will certainly surprise. The year's programme will conclude with our Christmas party on 16 December. Details to follow.

2020 brings a full programme starting on 15 January with Whaddon's own Phil Neale who will talk on “Treasures of Syria”. As background to his talk, Phil says that the tragedy of the war in Syria continues to fill our TV screens. We were lucky to be able to visit the

country and to experience its treasures and its people just before the troubles started. My talk will explore this beautiful country, the people we met and its historical connections to illustrate why I so love this part of the world. On 19 February Rodney Tibbs will bring us his perspective on **“The Fens”**. Rodney has spent a lifetime in journalism and for many years was a feature writer and later features editor of the Cambridge Evening News. While dull, flat and boring is an often expressed view of the Fenland region, Rodney will suggest that the truth is far removed from this notion. He takes a look at the many unusual and intriguing things in the Fens ranging from the seven and a half mile long Devil's Dyke to the Stained Glass Museum tucked inside Ely Cathedral. The early months of 2020 conclude with two of our committee: Wendy Evans and Jan Gibson offering some **“Ideas for a Low maintenance Garden”**. But more of that in the next edition of the Whaddon News.

We hope that the Club is offering an interesting and varied programme. Details of each event will be publicised via the village email system and the website. Everybody is most welcome and although we do have a number of regular members it would be a great pleasure to see other residents from the village join us in the village hall on the third Wednesday of the month. Your £3.00 will go some way to provide refreshments, fund the speaker and pay for the hire of the village hall. We hope to see you.

A reminder—electronic ways of keeping up with what's on in Whaddon

Every month or the village is welcoming new people who have done us the honour of choosing to live here. I just wanted in this brief note to tell those who were not aware of the electronic ways on offer in which you can keep in touch with what's going on around Whaddon.

Firstly, there is the village web site, at www.whaddon.org. Here you will find information about the Village Hall, the Parish Council, St Mary's Church, Whitsun and much more. There are links to local and national government, to the local health services, and to local train and bus services. We try and change the contents of the site as often as possible, and if you think there is something you could like to see on the site, or even if there is something you would like to contribute to it, please contact me (I'm the webmaster) at ncs3@cam.ac.uk.

Next, the email list. This has been going since 2012, and villagers have found it very helpful for learning about what's on. Notices of meetings and events in the village,

plus other things that may be of interest, including lost keys, glasses and pets, are circulated. If you are not signed up to it, you are strongly encouraged to do so. Send an email to whaddonnhw@gmail.com and I'll add you to the contacts. If you want something circulated, drop a note to the same address. **Note that, following the 2018 GDPR regulations, I must tell you that the data on the list is not used for any purpose other than sending these emails, and you can ask to be taken off it any time.**

Lastly, we have a Facebook page; look for “Whaddon, Cambridgeshire”. News and events are also posted here, although perhaps a little less frequently than they are sent out by email.

If you don't yet use any of the above and would like to, I look forward to hearing from you. There is also a Whatsapp group, but I cannot add you to that but could point interested persons in the right direction.

Nigel Strudwick
November 2019

Advance date for your diaries - Whitsun in Whaddon 2020

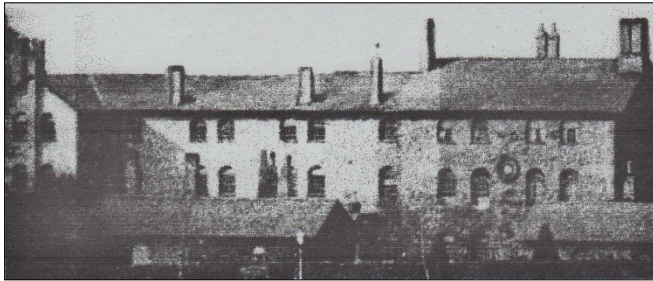
Whit Sunday 2020 will be on the 31st May (NOT the Bank Holiday weekend). It is planned to celebrate it as we have been doing since 2005, with a folk evening on Saturday 30th, and processions and Morris dancing around the village on Sunday.

Add this to your diaries please and there will be more information early in 2020!

TIMES PAST

Number 8

THE WORKHOUSE



*Royston Union Workhouse,
Baldock Road about 1900-
now Downlands estate –
Photo Royston Museum*

On the Baldock Road, Royston, overlooking the Heath was to be found the Workhouse. Called the *Union* and viewed with fear by the residents of Royston and surrounding villages, it was to survive nearly 140 years until its demolition in 1971. In its later life it was called Heath Lodge and was also known as The Spike.

Until 1834 the only social service available for the alleviation of distress of the poor had been administered by individual parishes.

[Whaddon's expenditure on poor relief rose from £55 in 1776 to £170 in 1803 when 16 adults and 14 children were relieved. It fell to £90 in 1815 when only 6 people were relieved and rose again to £300 in 1820 fluctuating each year until it again reached £300 in 1830].

The view of the government was that the situation was out of hand. There were too many layabouts living on the rates and too much idleness. The solution was to make any help an uncomfortable and unpleasant business, so that poor people would feel better off if they did not apply for relief at all. As a result parishes were amalgamated into unions administered by a Board of Guardians. These boards could utilise the combined income from the poor rates to build and run

workhouses. In 1835, Royston along with 27 parishes in Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire were amalgamated to form the *Royston Union* to be accommodated in a new workhouse for 244 people. Opposition from the parishioners involved was considerable and they descended upon Royston to try to demolish this new building. It was eventually erected at a cost of £6,744 and opened in 1836. Alfred Coningsby represented Whaddon for many years on the Board of Guardians who met weekly to discuss the running and finance of the workhouse, the numbers obtaining relief and their health and welfare.

Life inside the workhouse was harsh and tasks of work were expected in exchange for board and lodging such as picking oakum, tilling ground, stone breaking; tasks very much more onerous than ordinary labour, so that the poor would not be tempted to continue it longer than necessary. The effect of this decision to give relief only within the workhouse, was to create a bitter hatred and loathing for the system which lasted well into the twentieth century.

However revelations of very harsh conditions in some of the workhouses during the 1860s led to gradual improvements and some Out-Door relief was allowed. Nevertheless, within the

workhouses the sexes were separated, uniform worn and strict discipline maintained and the fact remained that they came to symbolise an ultimate degradation, the loss of any status within society. By the later years of the nineteenth century it is possible to find reports in the *Royston Crow* of attempts to make life tolerable with special meals and activities at Christmas provided by charitable acts of the local dignitaries.

The children were a special cause for concern and outings were provided and efforts made to allow them to attend local schools. The introduction of the Old Age pension in the first decade of the 20th century was greeted with relief by the elderly, allowing them to avoid entering a workhouse.

The *Royston Crow* regularly had advertisements for tenders to provide food for the workhouse – a small extract from the advertisement follows:-

BEST SECONDS BREAD (one day old) at per 4lb loaf

BEST SECONDS FLOUR, at per sack

GOOD OX BEEF (without bone or shin) in pieces of not less than 4lbs. weight at per stone of 14lbs

Fore quarters MUTTON (whole) at per stone of 14lbs.

Beef and mutton for the officer's table

The contractor must deliver the articles contracted for free of expense and at the times, places and in the quantities ordered.....

S&J Ralls Feb 2005

Child Care 1899

A public Notice which appeared in the *Royston Crow* in that year

Vaccination Act {Smallpox}

It is important that parents should have every child vaccinated within three calendar months after birth, either by the legally qualified medical attendant of the family, or by the appointed public vaccinator. If other than the parents are left in charge of the child, the vaccination must then be within four months of birth. (In Scotland within six months.) If these provisions are not complied with, and the child be not taken in eight days after vaccination to be examined by the medical practitioner, in order to ascertain the result of the operation, parties not complying incur a penalty not exceeding 20s. The Registrars of each district are required to notify to parents or guardians of children whose births they have registered, the names and addresses of the public vaccinators, and the hours of attendance. Any further information required may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the district.

A NEW TREATMENT

It may interest readers to know that the recent discovery of anti-toxin has proved a great service in a case of diphtheria at Whaddon. The case is that of a girl, named Mabel Lovely, living in Bridge Street, Whaddon. Dr Bindloss at once procured and inoculated the child with anti-toxin serum, and an immediate improvement took place. The improvement was steadily maintained from day to day, and the patient is now convalescent. This we believe is the only case in the district for some time, consequently there has been no opportunity of testing this new treatment.

Royston Crow May 1st 1896

S&J Ralls 2004