

# WH ADDON

# NEWS DECEMBER 2025



[www.whaddon.org](http://www.whaddon.org)

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the December issue of the Whaddon News. It's a wonderful time of the year for many, and there are lots of opportunities to get together with others in the village and get into the Christmas spirit. For some it can be grim so there are opportunities to think of others less fortunate, and possibly donate to help struggling families or homeless and vulnerable people.

*The deadline for submissions for the next edition of Whaddon News is Feb 15. Should your organisation meet after this date please let me know and I will do my best to accommodate you.  
Contact Viv at [newseditor@whaddon.org](mailto:newseditor@whaddon.org)*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### December

**3<sup>rd</sup> Coffee Morning**

**6<sup>th</sup> Beaujolais Nouveau and  
Onion soup. Village Hall 7.30pm**

**7<sup>th</sup> Decorate the Village Hall  
Christmas tree 4.30pm**

**10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Quiz at the  
Golf Centre 7.30pm**

**17<sup>th</sup> Christmas lunch. Village  
hall. See page 36 for details**

**19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Sing-a-long at the  
Golf Centre 7.30pm for 8pm**

#### January

**7<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning**

**12<sup>th</sup> PC meeting**

**14<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night at Golf Centre  
7.30pm**

**21<sup>st</sup> Coffee Morning**

#### February

**4<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning**

**9<sup>th</sup> PC Meeting**

**18<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning**

**27<sup>th</sup> Slice of Price - Pizza**

Coffee Mornings are held at the Village Hall.,10.30am to 12pm on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month.

Parish Council meetings are held at the Village Hall on 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm except August and December. All welcome.

Film Night, Quiz night and Race Night at the Village Hall:

Dates to be decided.

## VILLAGE HALL HIRE

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

Village rate £9 per hour  
 Non- village rate £15 per hour  
 Please contact  
[whaddonhalltrust@whaddon.org](mailto:whaddonhalltrust@whaddon.org)



## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Will Elbourn	Chairman
Deborah Townsend	Vice Chair
Anita Birch	Councillor
Ben Fairclough	Councillor
Joanna Hart	Councillor
David Short	Councillor
Nigel Strudwick	Councillor
Angela Culver	Parish Clerk/ Finance Officer

All Parish Council Enquiries should be made to the Parish Clerk

Tel 07565 381203  
[whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com](mailto:whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com)

## WHADDON NEWS

### ADVERTISING RATES

Single / Four issues

Quarter page	£10	£32
Half Page	£15	£48
Full Page	£25	£80

Contact Parish Clerk- Angela Culver

[whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com](mailto:whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com)

## BIN COLLECTION DATES

<i>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December</i>			<i>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</i>
<i>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December</i>			<i>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</i>
<i>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</i>		NO GREEN BIN COLLECTION	<i>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January</i>
<i>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January</i>			<i>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</i>
<i>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January</i>		NO GREEN BIN COLLECTION	<i>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February</i>
<i>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February</i>			<i>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February</i>
<i>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February</i>		NO GREEN BIN COLLECTION	

## LOCAL EVENTS



### **Village Hall Christmas tree lighting and decorating 2025**

We're excited to invite you to our annual Village Hall Christmas tree decorating event on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025, starting at **4:30pm**. Come along to help decorate and light up the tree—your presence truly makes the occasion special! The tree will be lit at **5pm**.

Gather up your glitter, yarn, fabric, beads, or any other creative materials and craft something wonderful for our Christmas tree (or even a few decorations, if you're feeling inspired). If making isn't your thing, you're welcome to bring a decoration from a charity shop or simply join us for the festive fun.

Most importantly, we'd love for you to be there to help us kick off the holiday season and connect with fellow Whaddon residents. This event is for everyone, not just children—so feel free to bring friends or family that weekend.

We'll have mulled wine, a non-alcoholic alternative, and delicious mince pies to enjoy. While there's no charge to attend, any small donation would be greatly appreciated as the event isn't funded by the Village Hall Committee. After the tree lighting, our wonderful village choir will once again lead us in singing carols to add to the festive cheer.

If you'd like to join us, or if you can't make it but would like your decoration placed on the tree, please contact Nikki Cross at [nikki3004@live.co.uk](mailto:nikki3004@live.co.uk) or send a message to 07957 895927. Please confirm how many will be attending by Sunday 30 November, so we can make sure there's enough for everyone.

We look forward to seeing you all.

## WHADDON GOLF CENTRE

### Christmas at Whaddon Golf Centre.

As the evenings become darker the Golf Centre will be closed a little earlier. We will of course be open late every Friday for PubNight and Golf Range practice

---

There will be Burger Art in Dec – look out for dates at the Golf Centre  
We will also be welcoming Slice of Price back on 27th February 2026

---

The Christmas Quiz on 10 Dec still has a few spaces. Remember to book your team. £10 7:30pm for 8pm

---

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December will be the ever popular and fun Christmas sing-a-long. All welcome. Mulled wine and mince pies. In aid of St Mary's Church, Whaddon  
7.30pm for 8pm

---

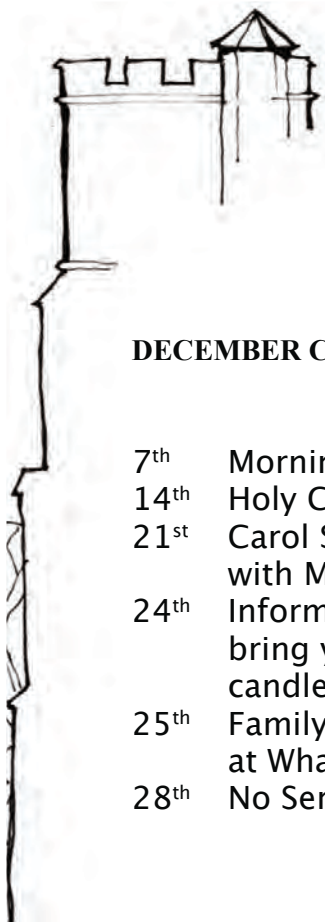
The Golf Centre and Clubhouse will be closed 25<sup>th</sup> December to 12 January 2026. It will reopen Tuesday 13 January 2026

---

Quiz night Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30pm

---

**Richard and Lorna wish you  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**



## ST MARY'S CHURCH WHADDON

### DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

7 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	9.30am
14 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	9.30am
21 <sup>st</sup>	Carol Service with Mulled Wine and Mince Pies	6pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Informal Carols bring your candles, torches etc. for a candlelit evening	5pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Family Holy Communion	9.30am at Whaddon
28 <sup>th</sup>	No Service	

### Church Wardens

Karen Coningsby  
Peter Haselden

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR REV HELEN ORR

Tel: 07761 241190 Email: [Vicar@whaddon.org](mailto:Vicar@whaddon.org)

My days in the parishes are Tuesdays and Thursdays and weekend services



## FUNDRAISING FOR ST MARYS

### Works at St Mary's Church

Looking after a 700-year-old, Grade I listed church is an on-going task for the PCC and there is always work needed to conserve the fabric. To help in this task, every 5 years the Diocese pay for an architect to carry out a survey of the church and identify what works are needed, and what is most urgent. On occasions these surveys have revealed a need for major and expensive work, such as the structural repairs to the tower which were undertaken in 2011, while at other times the work is less extensive and can be addressed through local fundraising. Work is currently underway at the church to carry out repairs to the flintwork identified in the most recent quinquennial survey and also to reinstate a missing stone cross from the east end of the nave roof (the latter has been paid for by a private donation).

In addition to keeping the church in a good state of repair, the PCC also have aspirations to make improvements, such as installing a toilet, while at the same time the historic organ is in need of a major rebuild. Both of these projects will be expensive and require significant sponsorship and/or grant aid.

To help support this work at the church, there is therefore a need for regular fundraising and over recent years this has included a number of talks in the winter months, with two more talks planned for early 2026. On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Helen Strudwick will give a talk on 'Made in Ancient Egypt', an exhibition she has curated at the Fitzwilliam Museum and which runs until 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026. This will be followed on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 by a talk from David Grech on walking 200 miles along the Via Francigena, a historic pilgrimage route, from Tuscany to Rome.

St Mary's Whaddon PCC

## St Mary's Christmas Card Competition 2025

This autumn the PCC again held a competition for the design of the Christmas Card from the PCC to be distributed around the village. All the entries will be placed on display at the back of the church in the run up to Christmas and the results of this year's competition are as follows:

Overall Winner and Winner of the 5 to 10 years age group: Bonnie Porter

Winner of the Under 5 years age group: Noah Fairclough

Highly Commended: William Trott

Highly Commended: Zoe Fairclough

Highly Commended: Anna Fairclough

St Mary's Whaddon PCC



*Overall Winner Bonnie Porter*

## Alfred John Palmers Trust

The Palmers Trust was started in 1927 by Mary Palmer in memory of her husband; the interest from an endowment was to buy coal for needy widows in the village of Whaddon.

In 1972 the trustees obtained permission from the Charity Commission to give money, as other forms of heating were taking over from coal.

As times change, the trustees and parish council agreed to allow other groups to apply for a small donation which is where we are today.

If you know of someone where a small donation would help with heating, hospital parking, etc please contact the Parish Clerk.

## Whaddon Poppy Appeal 2025

On behalf of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, I would like to thank the villagers of Whaddon once again for their generosity in donating towards the appeal this year.

I am pleased to say that we raised a grand total of £611.52 which is a slight increase on last year's amount and doesn't take into account any donations made via online banking using the RBL QR code. Thank you to everyone who also donated in this way.

Many thanks to Richard and Lorna Green at the Whaddon Golf Centre for again hosting a collection box.

Also, many thanks to Whaddon Parish Council for their kind donation and the congregation of St. Mary's Church who, together with representatives of Basingbourn Barracks, attended the Remembrance Sunday service and donated so generously.

*Henry Burgess*

## **MEET THE ADVERTISERS**

### **Suzanne Porter – Financial Adviser**

#### **How long have you lived in Whaddon?**

I moved to Whaddon in the summer of 2012, when I moved in with my now husband Neil. We have moved a couple of times but never left the village. We have since had 3 children and got married in the village last year.

#### **What brought you to Whaddon?**

Neil! However, I instantly loved Whaddon and it reminded me of the villages I grew up in around Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. We knew straight away that we would stay here.

#### **What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

Generally, I am a Mum's taxi for football and horse riding for my children. However, I do also co-run a Women's Networking group, called 'Just Women'. When I am not working, networking or running children around, I like to walk our cocker spaniel Maggie and generally be outside with nature.

#### **Jam or Marmalade?**

Marmalade for sure, extra thick cut! Needs to be on seeded bread with real butter.

#### **Tea or Coffee?**

I like both but I am a big fan of chai.

#### **Holiday sunshine or snow?**

Definitely sunshine! We spent last Christmas in Australia and at one point in land we saw the campervan outside temperature hit 45 degrees!

#### **What do you like about Whaddon?**

The people, the countryside and its overall location. It has such a community feel, and I have many good friends in the village.

## Anything you would change about the Village?

A country pub would be amazing, but I know that's not possible. As my children are getting older, something that would occupy them outside. A natural pump track would be great, as these are popping up in other villages and done right, fit into the countryside neatly.

## Tell us something about you that people may be surprised to know/learn?

I come from a farming family, and we currently have 4 Boreray sheep. I hope to grow my collection of farm animals over time.



Suzanne Porter Dip PFS - of Meldreth Road, Whaddon

***'Your local Financial Adviser, helping you to plan and protect your money for yourself and your family's future'***

I work for Harris Associates Wealth Management Ltd, a Senior Partner Practice of St. James's Place

Please contact me for an initial chat to see if I can help

M: 07835400637 E: [suzanne.porter@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:suzanne.porter@sjpp.co.uk)

**Protection | Investment Planning | Retirement Planning**

Other services the Practice offers – Inheritance Tax and Estate Planning and Long-Term Care Planning

Harris Associates Wealth Management Ltd is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management Plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website. The 'St. James's Place Partnership' and the titles 'Partner' and 'Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place Representatives

SIP Approved 23/10/2025

Senior Partner

**St  
James's  
Place**

## NATURE NOTES

### DECEMBER 2025 -JANUARY 2026

What an extraordinary year in retrospect, (and much can still happen between writing this and the close of play on 31<sup>st</sup> December). According to my rain gauge, we had a nothing to write home about, pretty much average 50mm of rain in both January and February, followed by absolutely no rain in March (1991–2020 March monthly average for Cambridge is 33mm), a mere 28mm in April, the supposedly showery month (April average is 38mm), falling to 16mm in May ( average is 43mm) and 11mm in June ( average is 49mm). We received a blessed 44mm in July (close to our July average of 48mm) but barely a splash of 14mm each in both August ( average is 55mm) and September (average is 48mm). October gave us 30mm (average is 59mm).

Over the year, there were clearly winners and losers, but many of the things we thought a blessing, such as heavy fruit harvests, might be perceived as nature under stress and therefore at its most productive. I do not know the science of it, but I have always believed that nature seems to need to reproduce when it senses that it is under threat, in this case, being dry.

What were the highlights of 2025? In January, the murmuration of starling flocks at RSPB Fowlmere were spectacular (on 4<sup>th</sup> January between 3.45 pm and 4.15 pm and on 12 January between 4pm and 4.30 pm). A friend reported back that the murmuration of Knots (small grey waders with a short black bill) was equally spectacular at RSPB Snettisham in early February.

By April, the Cherry blossom was, I hope you agree, amazing, followed in May by clouds of Hawthorn blossom and chandeliers of candles on the Horse Chestnuts. Also, in April and May, I and my fellow beekeepers had an unusual number of bee swarms to deal with. Swarming bees very rarely sting as they have gorged themselves on nectar before their exodus. I

imagine their little tummies are so fat, that they can't bend their abdomens to stab you with their sting, but this probably owes more to Walt Disney than science! The result is that many beekeepers collect their swarms dressed only in their t-shirt and shorts. Whereas this is not the recommended attire, it does lead to heart in your mouth anticipation amongst any audience.

In June, there was a higher than usual density of **deer flies** (smaller than those great brutes, the horsefly with very marked wings and large bug-eyes). Like the Horsefly, the female doesn't so much as sting or bite, so much as saw a piece of flesh out of you with her mandibles, the little brutes.

The year had turned pretty hot by now, and it was the turn of the wasps to be out in force. There were a lot! They get bad press but at this time of year, they are indispensable predators of the aphids: greenfly and blackfly, and the coddling moths. However I fell out of love for wasps when they completely cleaned out one of my hives, which had become utterly defenceless for lack of a queen or worker bees. This left only the stingless male drone bees at the mercy of the wasps. It is true that my other two hives made up for the loss of my third hive because they out-produced in prior years – helped by a field of peas just over the fence from my garden. Other beekeepers had similar experiences.

With a warm dry spring and long hot summer the insect life generally rebounded, and butterfly counts around Clunchpit Wood broke our records. I always think nature's resilience is amazing and its speed of recovery when given a chance is awesome. Gardeners were also pretty smug about the lack of slugs and snails, and there was little evidence of Mildew on the Asters and Blackspot on the Roses.

No strong winds in July meant that there was no "July drop" to thin the fruit and lessen the weight of apple and pear crops on the branches, which bowed closer and closer to the ground. Our Quince was severely contorted by the weight of its fruit. As I write this I am

## NATURE NOTES DECEMBER/JANUARY continued

trying to make Delia's Quince Jelly, which smells fantastic now, but I know I will struggle to make my jelly set. I always do.

In August, our Swifts deserted us for their journey south. They had done so well in Bassingbourn, thanks to so many of us putting up Swift boxes (78 and counting) over the last few years. The Swallows, many of whom had had three broods over the course of the summer, followed them six to eight weeks later. They are not related in any way. The Swift's nearest relation is the Hummingbird.

As summer turned into autumn, the hawthorn berries and wild rose hips shone red in the low sun and my Walnut tree gifted us four large sacks of nuts. One little curiosity: if you look under oak trees, where the leaves have fallen, you will see thousands of tiny (3mm) pale discs, stuck to the underside of the leaves or scattered on the ground. These are the **encasements of the larvae of a solitary wasp called the Spangle Oak Gall wasp**. If you look under a magnifying glass, there is a central pimple and then spangles of little tufts of red hairs.

I hope it is not going to be a hard winter as the pendulum sweeps back to offer some equilibrium to our blissful summer, but if it is, then you may well see both Kestrels and Tawny Owls eating worms from your lawn. They are very adaptable. And you will see the little Wren darting along the bottom of your fence line where the dead leaves are least rimed by frost and spiders can still be found. If it snows remember Henry Thoreau's line from 1856, "The same law that shapes the earth—star shapes the snow—star".

**The Jackdaws** congregate in their roosts at this time of year. One of their collective nouns is, appropriately, a clattering of Jackdaws. They are very distinctive in their

grey hood with those piercing pale eyes. The male and female are indistinguishable in colouration; they are monogamous and mate for life. In Aesop's Fables, they are portrayed as greedy, vain and foolish, which is not fair, since they are remarkably intelligent, social and unusually generous. They display more gift behaviours, apparently, than many primates and the giving and sharing will strengthen communal bonds in their roosts. As a child, I had a pet jackdaw called Pip and I can testify to their ingenuity and intelligence, but it is their playfulness that you might watch and celebrate, as Konrad Lorenz, the father of the science of animal behaviour does in his wonderful *King Solomon's Ring* published in 1949: "And look what they do with the wind. At first sight, you think that the storm is playing with the birds, but soon you see that the Jackdaws are treating the storm exactly as a cat its mouse". The long-term trend for the jackdaw in this country is definitely up, which is bad news for people with chimneys without gratings, and bad news also for song birds as they do predate their eggs and chicks in spring.

The Cold Moon is on 4<sup>th</sup> December– the last of 2025's supermoons –and the prolific Geminid meteor shower peaks on 14<sup>th</sup> December (120 an hour), emanating from the star Castor in the Gemini constellation. This is unusual, partly the sheer number of meteors, but also that they are not all white, but some yellow, blue, red and green, due to trace elements of sodium and calcium in their composition. The Wolf Moon is on 3<sup>rd</sup> January and is the first of three supermoons in 2026. This may interfere with good sightings of the Quadrantid meteor shower (around 40 an hour) radiating from the constellation Bootes. These are best seen in the pre-dawn hours on January 4<sup>th</sup>, but look to the side of the radiating constellation, not directly at it, for best results.

**Perry Littleboy**



*Jackdaw*



*Spangle Oak Gall Wasp larvae*



*Deerfly*

## Whaddon's local Bus 17 now gives a direct link with Cambridge via Royston

Our local Bus 17 now has some journeys that run **to and from the centre of Cambridge via Royston**, giving nearly two hours in the city on Mondays to Fridays and over four hours on Saturdays. The key times for Whaddon are:

### **To Royston and Cambridge**

#### ***Mondays to Fridays***

Whaddon, top of Bridge Street	08:31	10:15
Royston, Tesco	08:39	10:35
Royston, Bus Station	08:57	10:50
Cambridge, Drummer Street	10:02	11:55

#### ***Saturdays***

10:15
10:35
10:50
11:55

### **From Cambridge via Royston**

#### ***Mondays to Fridays***

Cambridge, Drummer Street	11:55	15:00*
Royston, Bus Station	13:10	17:10
Royston, Tesco	13:21	17:21
Whaddon, Bridge Street	13:33	17:28

#### ***Saturdays***

11:55	16:02
13:10	17:10
13:21	17:21
13:33	17:28

\*Take Bus 26 from Cambridge and then change at Royston to Bus 17

### ***Extra journeys also run on Bus 17 to and from Cardiff Place -***

- to Cambridge via Royston at 12.15 and to Royston at 14.40 and 16.40
- from Royston at 09.10 and 11.10 and at 14.15 from Cambridge (15.30 from Royston).

Bus 17 is run by local company, A2B Travel Group of Melbourn. They also run the Wednesday only market Bus 15 to Royston, which leaves Whaddon at 09:40 and returns from Royston at 12:30.

# WHADDON GOLF CENTRE

01223 207325

[www.whaddongolfcentre.co.uk](http://www.whaddongolfcentre.co.uk)

Tuesday to Sunday

**Open to All**

9 Hole Par 3 Approach Course

Driving Range

Tuition

Bar

Coffee

Snacks and Ice Creams

Newspapers



**Located in Wimpole Village Hall and serving the surrounding villages.**

**Open Monday to Friday during term time.**

**For 2 to 4 year olds.**

Highly experienced staff provide stimulating learning experiences through play and structured activities.

Spacious, versatile indoor play space and exciting garden area.

Dedicated Rising 5s session, links with local primary schools.

For more information visit: [www.mothergoosepreschool.co.uk](http://www.mothergoosepreschool.co.uk)

email: [admin@mothergoosepreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@mothergoosepreschool.co.uk) or

phone: 01223 208527.

# SUSTAINABLE WHADDON

Opportunities to enhance ecology and biodiversity  
Opportunities to reduce our carbon footprint

## IMPROVING INSULATION IN HOMES

Are you using more energy to heat your home than you should? Would your home be more energy efficient if better insulated? How to improve the insulation in your home depends on its construction.

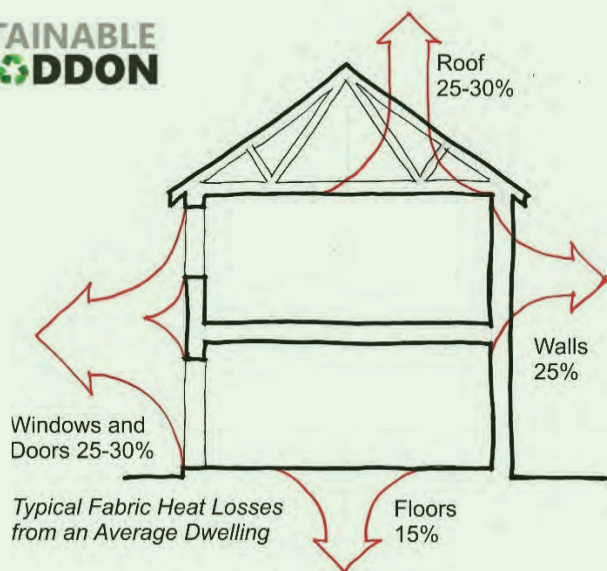
Older properties, i.e. those built before 1918, are likely to require vapour permeable insulation to ensure the fabric remains 'breathable'. This is particularly important for listed buildings, where an individual, bespoke solution is likely to be necessary and listed building consent will be required for any upgrade to the fabric. However, the vast majority of houses in Whaddon were built after the end of the Second World War, and are built to modern construction standards incorporating damp proof courses and cavity walls. And it is these types of property that are the focus of this article. It should also be noted that Building Regulations approval may be required when undertaking this type of work.

**Roofs:** A typical house can lose between 25% and 30% of its heat through the roof. Standards of insulation in roof voids have steadily increased over the last 50 years and these days 250mm (10 inches) is generally considered a minimum. But a number of older houses built since the war could have considerably less insulation, so check your attic as adding additional insulation to a standard loft is both straightforward and very cost effective. However, it is also important to retain ventilation of the roof space above the insulation to prevent condensation forming on the underside of the felt that is placed under the roofing tiles. Most homes will include some form of ventilation at the eaves

and it is important that any new insulation added to a roof does not block this ventilation path. Houses with rooms built partially or wholly within the roof space will be more problematic and are likely to require a bespoke solution in order to improve the levels of insulation to their roofs.

**Windows and Doors:** Alongside roofs, the other most common area for heat loss in homes is through windows and doors. Single glazing and poor draught-proofing are likely to result in even higher levels of heat loss. The majority of houses in Whaddon today are already likely to have double glazing and those that retain single glazed windows are more likely to be listed buildings where permission will be required to make any changes, and only changes that have minimum impact on the historic character of the property are likely to be approved. For modern, post-war houses the most common type of replacement windows incorporate UPVC frames, but when considering replacement windows, it is important to also take into account the 'whole life' implications of the windows. Currently, uPVC window frames cannot be recycled when they reach the end of their useful life, and can only be sent to land-fill sites. Aluminium window frames are more expensive than uPVC, but can be fully recycled at the end of their useful life, while timber windows will biodegrade and growing new timber for use in buildings can help absorb carbon from the atmosphere. Finally, in respect of windows, triple glazing is now becoming more widely available and will further reduce fabric heat losses.

**External Walls:** The vast majority of houses built since 1945 (and some built in the inter-war period) will have cavity walls - ie the wall is made up of two leaves of masonry with a 50mm (2 inch) air gap between the two leaves. From around the 1980s onwards, insulation started to be included within the cavity, but it is also possible to retro-fit insulation into cavities on earlier houses that have no insulation. However, not all cavity walls will be suitable for filling with insulation as some may have excessive mortar droppings on the wall-ties



that link across the cavity, and in those instances the mortar may act as path for damp, which can then be exacerbated by the installation of cavity wall insulation. It is therefore important to have a survey undertaken to ensure your cavity is suitable and a reputable installer of cavity wall insulation should undertake that as a matter of course. In very exposed locations, cavity wall insulation is not considered advisable, due to issues with driving rain, but Whaddon is not designated an exposed location.

**Floors:** It is perhaps fortunate that houses only lose about 15% of their heat through the ground floor, as upgrading the insulation to a floor is both disruptive and expensive. But in the event that a house refurbishment includes replacing a concrete floor, then that will provide an opportunity to incorporate sub-floor insulation into the replacement floor.

**Cold Bridging:** When upgrading insulation on the fabric of a house it is important to avoid creating 'cold bridges'. These occur where small areas of fabric are left uninsulated, such that the surface is colder than

adjacent areas, creating a risk of condensation and mould growth. For example: in roofs, the original insulation is usually laid between the ceiling joists, but when adding additional insulation it is advisable to lay this at right angles, so that it runs over the ceiling joists, thereby avoiding the risk of these joists forming a cold bridge. And again, when installing cavity wall insulation, and particularly in areas of high moisture such as bathrooms and kitchens, it may be necessary to add a layer of insulation bonded to plasterboard to the window reveals, since the block work cavity closure at the window jambs can also create a cold bridge.

David Grech – On behalf of Sustainable Whaddon

## SUSTAINABLE WHADDON UPDATES

Swift boxes  
Ready made,  
free and  
waiting for  
new homes



- **Homes for Swifts.** Would you be interested in providing a much-needed home for a migratory swift? They just need a nesting site situated on a north or northeast facing wall, at least 5 metres from the ground, and with a clear unobstructed flying area at the front. If you think you could help, then we have a number of ready-made nest boxes waiting to be installed. The boxes are free – thanks to a grant from the Parish Council – and we’re happy to help put them up. If you are interested, please email us at [sustainablewhaddon@whaddon.org](mailto:sustainablewhaddon@whaddon.org). We’ve already installed six boxes in St. Mary’s Church, and other houses in the village also have swift boxes. Once installed we will await the arrival of the swifts in April!
- **Bug Hotel.** If you have a spare moment, the bugs would no doubt welcome a few additions to their rooms. They particularly like pine cones, broken pottery, twigs, hollow stems, bark and leaves.
- **Seeds.** And don’t forget, if you have any spare seeds, then the **Seed Exchange** in the telephone box on Meldreth Road would definitely welcome them.
- **Soft plastics.** You can also recycle your **soft plastics** such as crisp packets, salad and bread bags, simply bubble wrap -- in fact anything you can crunch by simply placing them in the brown wheelie bins at the Village Hall.

## WHADDON CRICKET CLUB

A quick update on the Whaddon cricket season.

A good if average year, played 10, won 5, lost 4, and Church St won the intra-village match.

We had two new opponents (Grantchester and Comberton Young Drinkers Farmers), and a rare win over Hare Street, and the double over Sandon.

### FIXTURES- 2025

DATE	MATCH	VENUE	RESULT
1/5/25	V Sandon Strollers	home	won
1/6/25	V Grantchester	home	lost
15/6/25	V HufferX	home	won
29/6/25	V Sandon Strollers	away	won
6/7/25	V Royston Dads JM	home	lost
13/7/25	V Comberton Young Farmers	home	won
27/7/25	V Camceylon	home	lost
17/8/25	V Train Boys	home	lost
31/8/25	Church St V Bridge St	home	Church St won
21/9/25	V Hare St and Homeads	home	won

# CHRISTMAS MARKETS AND EVENTS

CAMBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE CB23 6FR

FREE ENTRY

SUNDAY 7TH DEC. 11AM -3PM

BENS YARD

CB7 5TR

CHRISTMAS FAIR

£4 / UNDER 12 FREE

45 STALLS, GIFTS, TREATS

FRIDAY 6TH - SUN 8TH DECEMBER. 10AM TO 4PM

MELBOURN FETE

FREE

6TH DECEMBER 4PM TO 6PM

ANGLESEY ABBEY

CB25 9EJ

NORMAL NATIONAL TRUST ADMISSION

FATHER CHRISTMAS ADDITIONAL FEE £24.

BOOKABLE SLOTS

FROM 6TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS IN CAMBRIDGE. PARKERS PIECE

13TH NOVEMBER TO 31ST DECEMBER

ICE SKATING, CHRISTMAS MARKET, ALPINE LODGE,

CURLING, BIG WHEEL

SANTA SAT/SUN 12PM.



## SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES

### Home-Start Royston, Buntingford and South Cambridgeshire.

A well-loved local charity working with young families. If you would like to support the charity there are regular fundraising events you can book into. See their website for details. [hsrsc.org.uk](http://hsrsc.org.uk)

They are always looking for volunteers– either to train to work hands-on with the families or helping behind the scenes– making their regular fundraising events run more smoothly. Raffle prizes are always welcome. For example wine, beer, chocolate and complete toiletry sets.

If you would like to support the charity financially please see the following opportunity to make even more of a difference.



### Do you need help ?

As the cost of living continues to rise, many families are facing greater **financial, emotional, and social challenges**, with some reaching crisis point and feeling more isolated than ever before.

Our dedicated volunteers can offer confidential, FREE weekly support tailored just for you.

You don't need to be referred by a professional (e.g. doctor, health visitor, etc.); just contact us today to talk about how we can help and the support we can offer, with no obligation to take it on. Sometimes, a friendly chat can make all the difference.

## SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL HOSPICES

Hospices are an essential part of the health care system, allowing people to live and die surrounded by love and expert care. Without sustainable funding that safety net is collapsing. Every person deserves dignity, compassion and choice at the end of life. Our local hospices are fighting for the right of patients with terminal illnesses to make those choices.

Arthur Rank hospice in Cambridge and Letchworth Garden City Hospice – Garden House, who serve this area are facing severe funding issues primarily due to cuts in NHS funding combined with rising operational costs. In a time when demand is increasing hospices are being forced to consider reducing services, cutting staff numbers and closing programs to maintain long term financial stability.

Garden House is entering a formal 30 day consultation to review every area of its operation to see where it can restructure and yet try to maintain vital services.

Liberal democrat MP Pippa Heylings has taken up the challenge of campaigning for the government to step in to help Arthur Rank Hospice. In her letter to the Health Secretary she states that “If nothing is done 200 patients a year will be dying in hospital wards already under immense strain, without the privacy, expertise and comfort that hospices like Arthur Rank provide.” Nobody wants to see dying patients having long waits on trolleys in A&E.

Local hospices will be relying even more on public donations and are launching fundraising campaigns.

Supporters can ;

- Donate to the Crisis Appeal
- Set up a regular gift
- Fundraise or volunteer
- Sign petitions
- Write to local MPs and decision makers

## SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES

### **Wintercomfort,**

**Overstream House, Victoria Avenue, Cambridge CB4 1EG  
01223 518140. [wintercomfort.org.uk](http://wintercomfort.org.uk)**

Information, advice, training and support for homeless people all through the year. Overstream Clean and garden provides employment and training for those who have been homeless. They have limited storage facilities so check what they need donations of at any given time. Donations can be made from their Amazon Wishlist. This can also be used to get ideas for what they require. Supermarket gift vouchers in denominations of £5 and £10 are welcome.

### **Jimmy's Cambridge**

**01223 576085 [info@jimmyscambridge.org.uk](mailto:info@jimmyscambridge.org.uk)**

Providing 24/7 emergency support, accommodation and care for people who would otherwise be sleeping rough.

Innovative modular homes have been trialled since 2019 to take people "from street to shelter to house to home".

Jimmy's is always in need of financial donations, but also consider either individually or as a group donating a Christmas "Jimmy's shop". This can be sent by the supermarket direct to Jimmy's at 1 East Road, Cambridge, CB1 1BD. A suggested food list can be found online at [jimmyscambridge.org.uk](http://jimmyscambridge.org.uk)



Christmas at  
**ARRINGTON  
GARDEN CENTRE**

**Fresh Christmas Trees**

Top quality Nordmann Fir & Norway Spruce  
Freshly cut & potted trees from Certified British Suppliers  
Available from late November

**Wreaths, Poinsettias & Foliage**  
**Garden Tools, Accessories & Bird Feeders**  
Perfect Christmas presents for friends & family

Buy a fresh Christmas tree by 24th December 2025 and receive a 10% discount voucher  
for use in January and February 2026 (Ts & Cs apply)

A1198/Ermine Way, Arrington, SG8 0AG  
What3words: loafer.pasta.mailers Tel: 01223 208194  
manager@arringtongardencentre.com www.arringtongardencentre.co.uk



**Neighbourhood Watch in Whaddon**

Whaddon has an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme, which is co-ordinated by Malan Peyton. Malan can be contacted on 07836 549871.

**Dial 999 to report a crime in progress, or when lives are at risk.**

**For non emergency matters please consider using**

**[www.cambs.police.uk/report](http://www.cambs.police.uk/report) or**

**web chat #safercambs to report a crime.**

Both of these are likely to have a quicker response than calling 101.

The “WhaddsApp” group also works very well for immediate alerts to the village. The village remains a very safe community with very little crime.

Unfortunately one of the crimes we do see from time to time is hare coursing. Please dial 999 if you suspect that this is occurring but **do not approach** those involved.

## PUZZLE PAGE

### SUDOKU 301

4					6			2
6				5			7	4
		5				9		
					9			
	6	1	2		3			
7	3				4		5	
	8							
			9			7	2	6
2					5			3

THIS SUDOKU PUZZLE IS RATED HARD. DO LET US KNOW IF YOU THOUGHT IT EASIER OR MORE DIFFICULT THAN THAT.

FOR THE SOLUTION PLEASE EMAIL VIV [newseditor@whaddon](mailto:newseditor@whaddon).



**Your Local**  
**HANDYMAN**  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

**Specialising in DIY jobs around the home and garden.  
Need help with DIY call for a no obligation estimate.**

**Ashley Ives, High Street, Orwell**  
**Best contacted on my mobile: 07900 815 262**  
**Or Email: 4ashley.ives@gmail.com**  
**If you prefer, leave a message on 01223 207 342**

**Public liability insured, DBS cleared, references available**



**Christmas at**

**BURY LANE**  
- EST 1983 -

**A Taste of Christmas**  
Friday 5th December, 12 noon - 5pm

**Christmas Shop Now Open**

**Win a Luxury Bury Lane Hamper**  
Order your turkey by  
Sunday 7th December  
to be entered into our free draw

**Bury Lane Gift Hampers**  
bespoke & ready made

**Fresh Christmas Trees**  
from late November

**Christmas Menu & Extended Hours**  
on selected dates

See our website and social media for further details  
[www.burylane.co.uk](http://www.burylane.co.uk) Tel: 01763 260418  
A10 Bypass, Melbourn, Royston, SG8 6GT  
What3Words: months.wells.tanks

FOOD HALL • DELICATESSEN • BUTCHERS • FISHMONGERS • CAFÉ • GIFT HALL • GARDEN SHOP • FUN BARN

## RECIPES

Please send in your favourite family recipes. We're looking forward to seeing them in this space and trying them out.

### EASY BERRY NUTTY CRUMBLE

By Lilia Porter, Age 12

#### Ingredients

Bag of frozen mixed berries (I like strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries)  
2 x sprinkling of Sugar  
¼ cup of melted butter  
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract  
1 cup of almond flour  
½ cup of desiccated coconut  
½ cup of crushed nuts (I like to use walnuts and pecans)  
A handful of toasted almonds

1. In an oven-proof dish, tip the frozen fruit in and give them a sprinkling of sugar to taste
2. In a bowl, mix the melted butter with the almond flour, sugar, vanilla extract, coconut and crushed nuts
3. Tip the topping over the fruit
4. Finish with a handful of toasted almonds
5. Bake for 20 minutes at 170 degrees C
6. Serve with cream or custard (I like it with LOTS of custard)

**If you fancy a change from traditional Christmas dinner...**

### PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM WELLINGTON

#### Ingredients

4 large portobello mushrooms	Baby spinach 300g
3 onions- peeled and thinly sliced	Fresh thyme leaves (optional)
3 tbsp olive oil	Puff pastry of your choice
Seasoning salt pepper	French mustard ( optional)

## **Portobello mushroom wellington continued...**

For best results keep everything as dry as possible. Clean the mushrooms with a brush or paper towel to avoid adding moisture, and cool and drain spinach leaves and mushrooms on kitchen paper before layering the Wellington

### **Directions**

Gently fry the onions in ½ tbsp oil for 15 minutes or until caramelised. Keep stirring to prevent sticking. Season with salt and pepper. Set aside to cool.

Add spinach (and thyme) to the pan and heat until wilted. Remove and cool.

Turn up the heat– add the rest of the olive oil and cook the mushrooms, topside down until golden. About 5 minutes. Turn the mushrooms over and repeat. Set aside to cool– placing them top side up on kitchen paper to drain.

Preheat the oven to 200 degrees C.  
Line a baking tray with a sheet of parchment paper.

If not already in sheet form roll the puff pastry out until it measures roughly 13x8 inches. Carefully place the sheet of puff pastry on the baking sheet.

### **Layer up the wellington:**

Spread half the onions on the middle third of the long side of the pastry, leaving an inch margin at the sides. Next layer half the spinach, followed by the well seasoned mushrooms. Spread the mushrooms with french mustard if using. Spread the rest of the spinach, followed by the remainder of the onions over the mushrooms.

Fold each side of the pastry over the top until you have a roll with two layers on the top. Seal the edges of the pastry then gently roll the whole wellington over so that the seam is at the bottom. Eggwash the top, twice– placing in the freezer for 10 minutes in between. This helps to prevent soggy pastry.

Bake in a hot oven for 30–35 minutes until golden. Eat as quickly as possible to keep it crispy.

Serve with crispy roast potatoes and selection of steamed vegetables.

For a vegan friendly wellington use a puff pastry with no animal fat most commercial puff pastry is suitable. Vegan eggwash can be made using a mix of plant milk, vegan oil or fat and a little sugar if you want a browner appearance.

# WHADDON VILLAGE HALL TRUST

This year at the Village Hall we have been focussed on maintenance work. There is remediation work that includes replacing the veranda, which was rotten, repairing the garage roof, covering the garage in cedar shiplap, replacing the garage door and fixing the issues with cracking in the south east corner. This work is on-going and is planned to be complete by the end of year.

The interior of the Village Hall has all been painted.

We have also installed solar panels and a battery, which helps us become more sustainable and also will keep overhead costs down.

We have a Beaujolais Nouveau evening on Saturday 6th December hosted by Marine Boulter, Christmas Tree lighting on Sunday 7th December at 4.30pm and

## WHADDON VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Jonathan Birch	Chair
Karen Coningsby	Secretary
Peter Haselden	Treasurer
Gabby Van Poortvliet	Member
Claire Hales	Member
Marine Boulter	Member
Steve Coningsby	Member
Terry Allison	Holding Trustee
Lee Ginger	Holding Trustee

Please send all enquiries to [whaddonhalltrust@whaddon.org](mailto:whaddonhalltrust@whaddon.org) (including Village hall bookings).

there will be a quiz night evening early in the New Year.

We have had several instances of cars being parked overnight in the Village Hall car park. Can I please emphasise that overnight car parking at the Village Hall is not allowed.

I would like to thank everyone in the village for their continued support.

**Jonathan Birch**  
**Chair**

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Monday	17.00–19.00	Knit and Natter
Tuesday	09.15–10.15	Yoga
	18.00–19.30	Dog Training
	20.00–21.00	Table Tennis
Wednesday	10.30–12.00	Coffee Morning (1st and 3rd)
Thursday	18.25–20.25	Pilates
Friday	19.15–11.30	Yoga
	17.45–19.15	Dog Training
	20.00–22.00	Royston and District Model Railway Club



LOUISE TRENWITH

## BONFITNESS PILATES

Est. Sept 2011

AT LOCAL VENUES

[WWW.BONFITNESSPILATES.CO.UK](http://WWW.BONFITNESSPILATES.CO.UK)

[louise@bonfitnesspilates.co.uk](mailto:louise@bonfitnesspilates.co.uk)

07867 675 389

PILATES MAT CLASSES & ONE TO ONE SESSIONS



## **Knit and Natter**



### **Mondays 5-7 at the Village Hall**

Do you have unfinished projects in a cupboard?  
whilst knitting and purling?

Don't feel limited to knitting or crochet, we have needlework going on as well!

Come and join us!

Subs are £6.00 a month or £2.00 for a drop in if you can't make it every week.

We welcome all ages, under 18s are £2.00 a month.

If you want more info email Diane Faben [edfaben@gmail.com](mailto:edfaben@gmail.com)

## **Table Tennis in the Village Hall**

### **Tuesdays 20:00 to 21:00**



We have two table tennis tables and other equipment is provided. The cost is £2.00 per person per week. There are about half a dozen regular players.

Anyone who would like to join us are very welcome. An hour of fun and exercise and an opportunity to meet other villagers.

Those interested please contact Nigel Strudwick, [ncs3@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ncs3@cam.ac.uk)

Hope to see some new faces soon

## MEET THE GROUPS

### LOUISE TRENWITH – BONFITNESS PILATES

Hello, my name is Louise. I have been teaching mat based Pilates classes in the area at many of our wonderful village halls for the last 15 years. As the old saying goes, time flies when you're having fun!

I trained with the Pilates Foundation in 2009. I am always attending courses whether in person or on-line. This helps me to keep abreast of the latest news in the Pilates & fitness world.

Pilates is a series of exercises, invented by Joseph Pilates in the early 20th century. He developed his concept of an integrated system of physical exercise, which he called "Contrology." There is a focused holistic attention on the body's postural muscles. Some of the early use of Pilates exercise methods included rehabilitation. A lot of issues can be prevented and/or resolved with exercise.

Small equipment can be used in mat work to challenge your strength, stability and flexibility. We often use exercise bands, magic circles and over balls.



Joseph invented many pieces of larger equipment in his time, for example the Reformer (currently a popular piece of resistance equipment), the Cadillac and Wunda Chair to name but a few.

So, if you would like to give mat based Pilates a try check the Bonfitness Pilates website for availability in & around the area and perhaps we will see you soon in one of our fun and friendly classes.

Bonfitness Pilates website:

[www.bonfitnesspilates.co.uk](http://www.bonfitnesspilates.co.uk)

We are also on Facebook

## COFFEE MORNINGS

I can't believe that I have now been running coffee mornings for 4 years! These are held on the first and third Wednesdays of every month in the village hall between 10.30am and 12.00pm and are open to everyone. One or two people from nearby villages have discovered us and have enjoyed coming along and meeting everyone. In addition to tea and coffee I also offer a choice of two homemade cakes.

The final coffee morning on 17th December this year will be a Christmas lunch. This will be a "bring and share" to which you can bring a plate of food if you wish. The coffee morning coffers will provide plenty to drink and other festive treats. I will have a sign up sheet at coffee mornings between now and 3rd December for people to sign up and indicate what food they would like to contribute and as always everyone is welcome to come along.

Coffee morning dates for the next few months are:-

December 3rd & 17th Christmas Lunch

2026 dates

January 7th & 21st

February 4th & 18th

March 4th & 18th

April 1st & 15th

Jo Hart

Christopher  
THE  
LOCKSMITH

**ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?**

We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service  
A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989

 Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors

 No Call Out Charge

 No Fix No Fee

 All Work Fully Guaranteed

 10% Senior Citizen Discount



For More Advice & Help Call Christopher:

**07772 111 222**

[www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk](http://www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk)



**Village Garden  
& PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

Family run Business based on  
Meldreth Road

Grass Cutting, Hedge Cutting,  
Fencing, Pressure Washing, Gutters,  
Plastering and much more...

Contact:

Neil Porter - 07540605860

Email:

[villagegardenandproperty@gmail.com](mailto:villagegardenandproperty@gmail.com)

# David and Mark Green

We are two brothers from Whaddon with 5+ years of experience in the building trade and can carry out many aspects of works including:

Patios

Brickwork

Fencing

Carpentry

Bathrooms

Plumbing works

Driveways

Window replacement

Plus more

Contact either of us for a quote.

**David**

**Mark**

Mobile: 07563138547

Mobile: 07895530892

Email: [Davidgreen610@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Davidgreen610@yahoo.co.uk) Email: [Markgreen880@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Markgreen880@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Winter Vaccinations**

### **Make sure you're protected this winter**

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough are urging anyone eligible for their COVID-19, flu, RSV or pneumococcal vaccines to make sure they've had them this winter.

Each vaccine has slightly different eligibility criteria:

- RSV vaccine – for anyone who is pregnant, aged 75–79, or anyone who turned 80 years old from 1 September 2024.
- Pneumococcal vaccine – for anyone 65 or over (only one dose is needed).
- Flu vaccine – for anyone aged 65 or over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2025); have certain long-term health conditions; are pregnant; live in a care home; are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance; or live with someone who has a weakened immune system.
- COVID-19 vaccine – for anyone aged 75+; those aged between six months and 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment; and people who live in a care home for older adults.

For people who usually have their COVID-19 and flu vaccine together in winter, this might mean a change as **the COVID-19 vaccine age criteria have changed from those over 65 to those over 75.**

To find out more about these vaccines, and how to book them, or find a walk-in clinic, please visit The Vaccinators website <https://www.cpics.org.uk/the-vaccinators>

### **Communications Team**

**E:** [cpicb.comms@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.comms@nhs.net) **T:** 03300 571 021 [www.cpics.org.uk](http://www.cpics.org.uk)

**Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care System (ICS)**

## WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### **Parish Council email account**

Currently all Parish Councillors are currently contactable via their own personal email accounts. As is now an official requirement, members of the PC will be moving to [.gov.uk](mailto:pc@whaddon.gov.uk) email addresses. The PC is currently investigating the most cost efficient and effective way to implement this.

Once [.gov.uk](mailto:pc@whaddon.gov.uk) email addresses are applied details will be shared.

Please continue to use the contact details found within the Whaddon News, until advised of change.

### **Parish Plan Update**

Following the presentation given the previous month, the PC discussed the merit of conducting a housing needs survey (as identified in the most recent Parish Plan), who would complete this and how the results would be analysed and used. After further investigation and discussion with the team at Cambridgeshire ACRE, it was felt that the PC needed to understand fully the requirements from the Parish for housing and their understanding of and their wish for 'Affordable Housing', in the first instance. A preliminary questionnaire will be included within the Whaddon News. This work is on-going.

### **Safety around Bridge Street/Bumpkins junction**

Following concerns expressed by a member of the public re the safety of Bumpkins users entering/exiting the site at the top of Bridge Street, the PC Clerk has contacted Bumpkins, who were swift in their response and will consider additional measures, such as a stop sign, to improve safety awareness at the junction.

## **Pedestrian point for crossing A1198 at the Barracks entrance**

The PC are aware that neighbouring Bassingbourn PC are in the process of developing plans to improve the pedestrian crossing of the A1198, Cardiff Place to the Barracks. The PC have agreed to consider any formal requests for supportive funding from Bassingbourn PC, if and when it arrives.

## **Planning Committee Chair**

Following the appointment of Cllr Elbourn to the post of Chair of the PC, it was felt inappropriate that he remained Chair of the Planning Committee. Cllr Jo Hart has been appointed to the role. Cllr Elbourn will remain a member of the Planning Committee.

## **Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS)**

The PC have agreed to purchase an additional MVAS for use within the village as a response to concerns regarding speeding within the village. The PC will continue to work alongside Speedwatch, to ensure data is collected and distributed accordingly and appropriate action is taken.

## **Parish upkeep and maintenance**

Concern is still being expressed by residents re the overhanging hedging along the main road side of Town Farm Close and its growth into the footpath running alongside it. Despite many cut backs, the depth of the hedging is still causing an obstruction to pedestrians, wheelchair and buggy users. The Parish Council will continue to work to find a long term solution to this matter.

## Village Hall and Recreation Ground

The Parish Council, as landlords of the Village Hall have agreed to match fund repairs 50/50 to both the veranda and the water leak which appeared within the car park recently. The Parish Council maintain a budget to support the village hall with any appropriate repairs.

### Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January – 7:30pm Whaddon Village Hall

Thank you,

CLlr Anita Birch

#### **CARDS FOR SALE**

Some locally created greetings cards are being sold to raise funds for St Mary's. These can be personalised for special events. Contact Viv at [newseditor@whaddon.org](mailto:newseditor@whaddon.org) for more details.

#### **Would You or Someone You Know Benefit From Wellbeing Support?**

Care Network Cambridgeshire's Wellbeing Service offers free, short-term support for adults (18+) in South Cambs who may be struggling with confidence, isolation, illness, or low mood. Our friendly team can provide one-to-one support and match individuals with trained volunteers who can offer companionship through phone calls or accompanying them to access the community. Support is tailored over 6-8 sessions, helping people regain independence and feel more connected.

If you or someone you know could benefit, making a referral is easy — just visit [care-network.org.uk/wellbeing](https://care-network.org.uk/wellbeing) or contact us at [wellbeing@care-network.org.uk](mailto:wellbeing@care-network.org.uk) or 0330 094 5750.

## LIBRARY SERVICES

Mobile Library-

Meldreth Road 10.00 -10.30

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

**Bassingbourn Community  
Library-The Old School  
Community Centre**

Monday 2-4.30pm

Thursday 2-4.30pm

6pm-8pm

Saturday 10-12 noon

Refreshments available

**Cambridgeshire  
Community Foundation  
are pleased to inform you  
that we have launched our  
Surviving Winter Appeal  
again this year.**

Over 30,000 households in our county face fuel poverty this year - a shocking number. The Surviving Winter Appeal gives people in receipt of the winter fuel allowance, but who don't need it themselves, the chance to support households across the county by donating some or part of their payment. We work with partners to distribute the funds raised, making sure the money donated supports the households that need it most.

**Contact [cambscf.org.uk](http://cambscf.org.uk)**

**PC Repairs**

**Advice & Installation of Home Networks**

**Help with Selecting a Computer**

**Fault Finding**

**Brian Girling 01223 208529**

**E-mail [bg@moncraft.co.uk](mailto: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

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

50% of fires start in the kitchen. Here are some simple safety tips to make sure you are safe this festive season.

- No children unaccompanied whilst cooking. Keep matches and saucepan handles safe
- Beware loose clothing that can catch fire
- Keep furnishings, kitchen rolls, tea towels and cloths away from naked flames. hot burners or candles
- Check the cooker is turned off after cooking
- Don't leave pans unattended. It's easy to get distracted
- Keep electric leads away from water
- Avoid build ups of grease that can ignite a fire

Avoid chimney fires

- Keep chimneys swept annually and in good condition
- Keep flue shafts clear
- Use only properly treated wood to build a fire
- Use a fireguard to prevent sparks from igniting the carpet
- Extinguish embers before going to bed

**Older Driver Workshops** were run by Cambridge Fire and Rescue service during October and November– looking at age related changes during driving, eyesight and hearing checks, vehicle checks, license renewal and alternatives to driving. Look out for more of these two hour interactive sessions in the coming months. They are for those aged over 65 to enable them to keep driving safely.

### **Help your local community. Become an on-call firefighter**

New recruits to respond to emergencies are being sought. On-call firefighters are a vital part of the fire and rescue service. They respond to a wide range of incidents, from fighting fires and attending road traffic collisions to rescuing people and animals in need. They also respond to medical emergencies and serve the community by providing safety advice.

Being an on-call firefighter has many benefits. As well as being paid an annual wage and for the time spent at incidents or training, there are also opportunities to develop first aid skills and heavy goods vehicle driving qualifications. Visit our website for more details – [cambsfire.gov.uk](http://cambsfire.gov.uk)

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Citizens Advice:

Cambridge 03448 487979

Royston 03444 111444

Age UK: 0300 666 9860 Mon - Fri 9am - 3pm

[infoandadvice@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:infoandadvice@ageukcap.org.uk)

[www.ageukcap.org.uk](http://www.ageukcap.org.uk)

### Councillors:

County Adam Bostanci 07400 236329

District Jose Hales 01763 221058

Sally Ann Hart 07791 233303

MP Pippa Heylings [pippa.heydings.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:pippa.heydings.mp@parliament.uk)

### Doctors:

Orchard Surgery, Melbourn 01763 260220

Granta-Royston Heath Centre 0300 2345555 opt 7

Granta- Royston Market Hill 03002345555 opt 5

Roysia Surgery 01763 243166

Hospital: Addenbrookes 01223 245151

Police: Non emergency 101

Cambridge Fire and Rescue  
(Home safety assessments) 01480 444500

Samaritans: 01223 364455 (charges)  
116 123 (free)

### Transport:

National Rail Enquiries 03457 484950

A2B TravelGroup (Bus 15, 17 & 26) 0800 001 6255  
[hello@a2btravelgroup.com](mailto:hello@a2btravelgroup.com)

Stagecoach run P&R from Trumpington

### Utilities:

Anglian Water 03457 145145

Cambridge Water Co 01223 706050

Electricity Emergency/supply loss 08007 838838

### Vets:

Melbourn Veterinary Surgery 01763 262696

Royston Veterinary Surgery 01763 242221