WHADDON NEWS



WHADDON VILLAGE

BARBECUE

Saturday 2nd July
on
The Recreation Ground
at
7.00 pm



П

Adults £9.00 Child/ £5.00 Concessions Under 5s Free



For tickets contact:

Terry Alison C. 207710 Joan Pascoe C. 208062

Bookings by Monday 27th June please.



LICENSED BAR
LIVE MUSIC



St Mary's Parish Church



FETE



Produce Show & Auction

On the Recreation Ground and Churchyard

WHADDON

SATURDAY 16 July

Ploughman's lunch at 12.30 pm and



Fete opening at 2 pm by our own vicar Rev Donald McFadyen



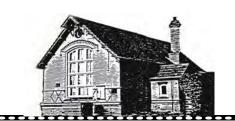


WHADDON VILLAGE HALL

Why not take advantage of your Village Hall. As a Whaddon resident you can rent the hall for only £3.50 per hour. It is ideal for children's parties and most evening functions.

The Village Hall committee also has a large canvass marquee that can be hired – it is 20 x 25 ft. The hire cost for village residents is £50. Wendy Paton, the village hall booking officer, will be pleased to furnish any further information and advise as to available dates. Please phone on 01223 207703 or call at 180, Church Street.

This hall is charming and has great character (Charles and Camilla considered it for their event – we only narrowly missed out in favour of Windsor) and having your party here will increase your street cred no end!



VACANCIES

The Management and Fundraising Committee for Whaddon Village Hall are looking for more members to help with organising functions and bringing new ideas to the group.

Village Barbecue

Help is needed for the BBQ on the 2nd July. Donations of salads, help with food

preparation on the Saturday and setting up the marquee and tables etc would be very

Please phone Karen Conningsby C 207514 or Joan Pascoe C 208062



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12th June Animal Crackers

20th June Parish Council

28th June St Mary's Tour

2nd July Village Barbecue

16th July Church Fete

Parish Council 18th July

Newsletter Deadline 16th August

Parish Council 19th September



WELCOME TO WHADDON

Welcome to David and Sandra who have moved into Bridge Street with sons Jack and Harry.

RED CROSS WEEK

Thank you for your support
during this year's Red Cross Week
which raised £170.37

Many of us are familiar with the part
that the Red Cross plays in
international disasters and conflict
situations. However, there are many
services that the Red Cross operates in
your local community. These include
loan of wheelchairs, walking frames etc loan of wheelchairs, walking frames etc,

First Aid training, First Aid duties at fundraising events, fire victim support and more.

These services are provided by caring volunteers without whom the charity could not operate and the Red Cross always needs people to help fundraise. For more details contact Juliet Gamble 01223 868685.

The British Red Cross - Across the world and around the corner

June 2005

WHADDON WHITSUN WEEKEND 2005

Whitsun weekend this year was a very enjoyable and unique experience for Whaddon. This very special weekend started on Saturday with a Folk Evening in the Village Hall where folk singers and musicians from various parts of the country came together to provide entertainment, demonstrations of Morris dancing and accompaniment for dancing by everyone attending. During the evening the Whaddon Whitsun song was sung and all present had their first try at the special Whaddon dance; 'down the middle and up the sides'. The evening was greatly enjoyed by all and set the scene for the main event on Sunday. Villagers provided overnight accommodation for some of the dancers who had travelled considerable distances to be with us.

On Sunday we were blessed with blue skies and sunshine, when six sides of dancers assembled at the end of Meldreth

road in readiness for the parade through Whaddon. The Whitsun song was sung as the dancers made their way around the village. Many villagers collected at the chosen points throughout the village to watch the dancing; these points were Adelaide House, The Green, The Church, The Golf Centre, Ridgeway Close and 2 points along Bridge Street.

The stop at the Church included a Whitsun Service, conducted by Rev. Donald McFadyen and attended by villagers and dancers with dancing both inside the church and outside in the churchyard.

The procession finished at the Dyer's Green end of Bridge Street with all present again joining in the Whaddon dance. Our grateful thanks go to Helen & Nigel Strudwick for their tremendous efforts in researching and organising the events of this truly memorable weekend.





Thanks to everyone in Whaddon for their help and co-operation in making the weekend such a wonderful success. As one of our dancers said "The combination of sunshine, dancing, tradition, worship and seeing so many people enjoying themselves was magical." We could not have done it without so much help from the village.

The sum raised for St Mary's in the end was £220.

And now, an appeal. We noticed numerous people filming the event around the route. If you were using a digital video camera and are prepared to share the results with him, Nigel would very much like to be able to try and combine the different films into one. Could anyone who can help with film contact him on 207434, or ncs3@cam.ac.uk, please?

Helen and Nigel Strudwick,





We're Nearly There!

Yes, we are into our third year of our very special village event Animal Crackers, the family fun day. Our reputation is growing and more and more interest is being shown across South Cambs and North Herts.

Jake Willers of Shepreth Wildlife Park and television's National Geographic programmes will be our celebrity and will bring a range of exotic animals including the 'Bugs'!

Already we have commitments from

4 Paws Just Puppets Sandon Saddlery's Donkeys Wimpole Home Farm Eastern Carriage Driving Society Raptors Foundation Birds of Prey West Anglia College Farm Wood Green Animal Shelter



We are in discussions about Flyball, Heels to Music and Terrier Racing – all specialist dog events and there will be breed and novelty dog shows.

Our friends Tom Birch and Family from Meldreth will provide fun fair amusements.

Shamrock Caterers and Gerry Rowe Ice Cream will provide refreshments throughout the day.

AND it will not stop there, because we want it to be a great day for all.

It is our event, it belongs to Whaddon and we value and appreciate any help you can give.

So what can you do?

- Help us approach sponsors to raise money to meet the costs. We have an attractive Sponsorship Proposal and we need introductions to company's that will help us. (Contact Ken on 01223 207 213)
- Assist us to set up on Saturday afternoon from 2.00pm and/or Sunday morning from 8.30am and break down at 4.30pm.
 (Contact Ken as above)
- Run the village stalls, for that's where we can make a lot of money. (Contact Anne on 01223 207 555)
- Provide prizes for the tombola and raffle. (Contact Joan on 01223 208 062)
- Assist with the car parking. Even an hour's help would be great. (Contact Ken on 01223 207 213)



Again to demonstrate what others are doing for us 20+ of the neighbouring villages will be displaying posters, the children from schools in our villages and Royston will be delivering promotional leaflets home, the Royston Crow will be producing a colourful two-page feature of our event. Please support us in making this the biggest, the greatest show in Whaddon.

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHURCHWARDEN

After more than ten years of service to St Mary's, Bill Knight is standing down as Churchwarden. Our thanks go to Bill, who has worked tirelessly for the church, a great support at our services, an expert adviser caring for the fabric of the building and a cheerful and welcoming representative for St Mary's.

We welcome Tony Gardner as churchwarden to work alongside Karen Conningsby as we look forward to putting Donald McFadyen's ideas for St Mary's into practice:

Partnership – with God

- Priest and people
- Church and community
- Whaddon and Bassingbourn

Connecting – with our Community

 Enabling those in our community to find a place within the life of the church

Creativity – in faith

• Keeping faith fresh, vibrant and exciting.

Karen Conningsby C.207514 Tony Gardner C.208064

SERVICES

Service times will be:

First Sunday 9.15am Morning Prayer

Second Sunday 9.15am Communion

Third Sunday 6.00pm Communion

Fourth Sunday 10.00am Family

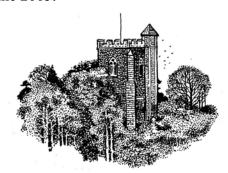
Fifth Sunday 9.15am Communion

Don't forget

The regular **Family Service** is a short service for all ages at 10 am on the **Fourth Sunday** of the month: 26 June, 24 July, 28 August

St Mary's Church Tour

The Whaddon House Group will be coming to the end of its current programme in June and their concluding meeting will take the form of an architectural tour of St Mary's Church, Whaddon lead by David Grech. This tour is open to all and will take place at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 28th June 2005.



WHADDON VILLAGE PLAN STEERING GROUP

Chairman Mr N M Shaw

Whaddon Grange Bridge Street Whaddon, Royston SG8 5SP

Phone 01223-207400, Fax 01223-208117

E-mail: Nickmshaw@aol.com

FROM THE VILLAGE PLAN STEERING GROUP

Two months ago we advised that we were preparing a questionnaire that would enable us to formulate a long term Plan for the future development of Whaddon.

A Parish Plan sets out the vision of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in, the design and quality standards it should meet, how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future. These Plans should identify key facilities and services, set out the problems that need to be tackled and demonstrate how distinctive character and features can be preserved.

We have worked hard to prepare a questionnaire that will allow us to publish this Plan but can only complete the process with the help of all the Residents of Whaddon. It will not be a truly meaningful document if only a small percentage of residents complete it. There are over 200 home in the Parish of Whaddon (which includes Cardiff Place) and we would dearly love to get back over 200 completed questionnaires.

In order to encourage Residents to do so, there will be a £100 prize draw. All the answers will be strictly confidentially sealed into envelopes, but Residents will be able to enter the draw by detaching and separately completing the last

page.

The questionnaires will be delivered to every household by the end of June. There will be a small stand at the Church Fete to which the questionnaires can be returned or at which questions can be asked. Those not returned will be collected by the end of July and the prize draw will be done in the autumn. We will try to publish the final document by early in 2006, having discussed our findings with all the relevant local authorities and groups.

If any household has not received a questionnaire by the first week in July or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Chairma Steering Group – Nick Shaw on 207400.

May 2005

Whaddon Parish Council News—some recent items

At the PC meetings over the past three months there has been much discussion and questions on the Council's decision to 'test the market' by putting the Village Hall up for sale with an outline planning permission application for a change of use. This was done to find a 'true' value to aid consideration for any future project. No decisions have been made as to the future of the Village Hall and some misleading letters and news reports in the local Royston Crow newspaper have caused a confused picture for residents. Hopefully more recent statements by the Council have clarified the situation and hopefully convinced residents that no decisions have been made.

The PC proposes to take over the maintenance responsibilities for the hall. Any changes would be made at the Annual General Meeting, the Management, Maintenance and Fund raising Committee meeting will discuss the changes including the legal implications.

Revised plans for houses in the **Low Cost Housing** scheme at Church
Corner, have now been received from
the Bedford Pilgrims Housing
Association and have been reviewed by
the Council with comments passed on.
The layout for the six plots has been
much improved. A public meeting with
Bedford Pilgrims is planned to discuss
the scheme.

The planting around the **Village Fountain** has been completed and a plaque giving a history of the site is planned. A grant of half the cost of the project was offered by South Cambs DC.

A working group to develop a **Parish Plan** has been formed by Mr Nick Shaw and a meeting with ACRE has outlined the directions to be taken. A questionnaire should be ready by the Church Fete on 16 July and there will be a stall where queries can be put to a Committee member.

There has been no progress on the closure of **Byway 22** as the planned meeting between Bassingbourn PC and Whaddon PC representatives has not taken place. Another attempt to arrange a meeting has taken place.

The new Chairperson of the **Neighbourhood Watch** scheme is Councillor Goddard, and Mrs L Shaw is the new Cluster Co-ordinator. The Chief Constable has been contacted with concerns at the absence of a beat policemen and also lack of responses to non-urgent calls at Sawston

There were 10 accidents at the **Whaddon Gap junction** in March and a full listing has been received from a resident close to the junction. The PC has once again written a letter to Highways expressing our concern at the safety of the junction. Andrew Lansley has been copied into correspondence.

Remember that Whaddon Parish Council open meetings take place every 3rd Monday in the month.

Please note there is no meeting in August.

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Whaddon Parish Council Annual Report – Period May 2004 - April 2005

In past years it was customary for the Chairman to present to the Council and the Parishioners an Annual Report on the state of the Council and the activities in which it has been involved.

This report is presented in a form that complies with the requirements necessary when the Council obtains 'Quality Status'. A qualification which is being sought at this time.

The format of this report is in three parts.

- 1) A summary of the Council's Accounts.
- 2) An overview by the Chairman of Council's achievements.
- 3) The report contains the list of Council members, appointed officers and their contact details.

The report is to be made available in compliance with the 'Freedom of Information Act' of 2004, by placing on notice boards in the Parish and in the Village Newsletter.

·		cil's Financial Accour		
Income		Expenditure		
Bought forward	£2299.63	Clerk's salary	£2075.04	
Precept	£ 6800.00	Office Expenses	£360.65	*(+VAT 40.08)
Grass Cutting	£726.83	Councillors' Expenses	£203.04	
SCDC Recycling	£254.62	Insurance	£763.66	
		Village Grass Cutting	£675.00	(+VAT £118.13)
Cambs Water	£250.00	Rec. Ground Cutting	£310.00	(Hire of Eqpt.)
		Fuel for Strimmer Eqpt	£50.46	
Total	£10381.08	Fountain	£1734.61	*(VAT £253.74)
		Litter/Dog bins	£477.17	(+VAT £83.49)
Reserve Account	£5843.77	Handyman	£217.00	,
(As at 20.05.05)		Newsletter	£120.75	
,		ROSPA	£59.00	(+VAT £10.33)
		Village Booklet	£480.00	
		N/Watch (Youth)	£500.00	
		N/Watch	£25.00	
		V/Hall Plan. App.	£109.96	
		General Misc Items	£88.79	
		CALC Fee/Course	£241.00	
		Accounts and Auditing	£157.00	*(+VAT £21.00)
		Total Expenditure	£8758.63	
		Total VAT		£526.77

Chairman's overview of Councils Achievements.

Over the period the Council held ten monthly meetings and a number of in-house committee meetings. Councillor's attendances generally were Applications for the Village. Judgments were good, at no time was a meeting abandoned for lack of quorum. Attendance by District and County Councillors was also good. Parishioners attendances and support was not good, except to say when subjects of a more controversial nature were on the agenda.

The project to secure for the village a Village Hall suitable to meet current and future requirements has exercised minds fully. The development committee set up to advise the Council has been very active, we await their recommendations. Despite rumor to the contrary, no decisions have yet been taken at this time by the Council.

The Parish Council has been actively pursuing the On behalf of Councillors I want to thank our County Council Highways Department to make further improvements to our public roads and footpaths. Road drainage at both Church End Corner and at the top of Bridge Street has been greatly improved as a result. Potholes in Bridge Street have been attended to and the whole length of the Street has been tarred and top dressed with chippings. A further length of the footpath in Meldreth Road has been made permanent. Much of the credit for persuading the Highways Department to spend some of the high Taxes we pay, and to shoulder their responsibilities to maintain our roads and footpaths must go to our Clerk. Her tireless efforts writing to Highways, chivvying the sector Engineer and arranging meetings on site produced these results.

Low cost housing for the village is no longer an 'If' but 'When'. County Council Farms Estates have agreed to release land at Church End Corner for the project. The Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association have produced Architect Drawings which the Parish Council have tentatively approved. The Project will be put to

the Village in due course. The Parish Council has passed judgment on twenty seven Planning made in accordance with the advice supplied in the 'Parish Planning Pack' supplied to the Parish Council by District Council Planning Department. The Fountain Project in Bridge Street has been completed. The Village Sign is in the process of being refurbished. The Village Plan project is taking shape.

The Parish Council is seeking to obtain 'Quality Status Certification'. This is a scheme to show all the residents that the Parish Council operate in an ethical and democratic way, and that they are able to represent their interests effectively.

Clerk for the efficient way she carries out her responsibilities, and the support she gives to the Chairman. I also want to thank all Councillors for the support they have given to the Chair.

I also want to thank Mr Jim Docwra for giving of his time freely in maintaining the Recreation Ground so splendidly.

Finally, last but not least I want to thank Joan Pascoe for the great effort she puts into producing the Village Newsletter. I get many comments from villagers on the great interest they find in its contents, and the way it is put together. Thank you Joan.

Thank you all,

Ted Webb , Chairman May 2005

Whaddon Parish Councillors					
Mr E J Webb Mrs C Byatt Ms M Peyton Mr P Neale Dr N Strudwick Prof. A Milton Mrs Y Albery Resp	Chairman V-Chairman Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Clerk/ consible Finance	01223 207564 01223 207429 01223 207358 01223 207706 01223 207434 01223 207105 01223 207458 Officer	42 Bridge Street Turpins Farmhouse, Church Street Ermine Farm, Dyers Green 104 Bridge Street, Dyers Green 3 Town Farm Close, Church Street Chestnut Tree Farm, Meldreth Road 112 Meldreth Road		

Currently there is a vacancy for one Councillor. This will be advertised when the Electoral Registrar at District Council grants permission.

Meldreth Manor Fete Saturday 25th June 1.00 to 4.30



We have an exciting range of attractions including a mystery celebrity opener!

Entertainment includes live music, rides in a real miniature steam train, bouncy castles, Morris dancers, an electronic accordion band, cream teas, BBQ and more.

Plenty of prize winning games for all ages including treasure hunt, champagne Charlie, tombolas, a Grand Raffle (with big prizes!) and lots more!

Stalls include home-made cakes, plants, tattooing, white elephant, hand painted pottery, record/CDs, books, toys, portrait drawing, strawberries and cream and more!

Hope to see you there!



DEADLINE



Deadline for the next newsletter will be 16th August 2005. This will include details of summer fundraising events. Other items of village interest are always very welcome.

Contact Joan Pascoe C. 208062

Petersfield School, Orwell forthcoming events:

 Petersfield School Summer Fete, Saturday 25 June, 3pm-6pm

You are all invited to join us for our annual summer fete. The theme for this year is 'Marvellous Machines'. The fete will run from 3 pm with the barbeque, bar and music continuing from 5pm onwards.

Orwell Pannier Market

This is held on the second Saturday of each month at the Pavilion in Orwell, 10am to midday. Local fresh produce, honey and crafts are on sale. If you would like to set up a stall or bring a 'pannier' of goods to sell please contact Pauline Aslin on 208035 for further details. Future dates are 11 June, 9 July, 13 August, 10 September.

METHODIST CHAPEL

Village residents may be interested to know that the money raised from the sale of the Methodist Chapel is to be used to help fund a new Ecumenical Church in Cambourne.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police: Cambridge	Councillors: County: Linda Oliver01223 718199
C.A.B.	District: Nigel Cathcart01763 243637 David McCraith01763 248249
Royston	Parish: Ted Webb01223 207564
Cambridge Water01223 706090 Anglian Water08457 145145 Electricity Emergency0800 7838838	Doctor: Orchard Surgery Melbourn. 01763 260220 Royston Health Centre01763 242981
Transport: National Rail .0845 484950 Stagecoach .01223 423578 Council: Housing repairs .0800 0851313 Pest control .01223 443145 Refuse collection .01223 235468	Village Hall Booking: Wendy Paton01223 207703

TIMES PAST

Number Fifteen

Whaddon is unusual in that it has a song unique to the village. May this year will see a reenactment of the traditional singing of the Whitsun song, the origins of which are lost in the mists of time. Legend has it that a group of young men would meet and make their way round the village giving everyone a sprig of oak to display on the roof or eaves of their homes; the belief being that the oak came from a tree in the church yard. This would be done on the Saturday before Whit Monday.

On Whit Monday the singers would stop at each house and sing the Whitsun song much in the same way that singers sing carols at Christmas. During the singing of the last verse they would wave another oak sprig above their heads. Householders were expected to reward the singers with money said to be spent at the *Queen Adelaide* on free drinks for all comers. The Whitsun singers are said to have worn knee stockings, breeches, rosettes and ribbons - similar to Morris Dancers - and after doing the rounds in Whaddon walked via King's Bridge to Orwell to perform there.



References to oak sprigs in the song suggests that this ceremony may once have taken place on Oak Apple Day, 29th May. Certainly few East Anglian children dared to go to school on Oak Apple Day unless they were wearing some oak leaves for fear of being

pinched or stung with nettles or being called "Roundheads" (Folk Lore of East Anglia - E. Porter),

(Oak Apple Day was the anniversary of the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660, the wearing of oak leaves recalling the oak tree in which Chares II hid after the battle of Worcester)

Originally the dance took place in a booth at the *Pickering Arms*. At the end of the 1800s when it no longer had a licence, the dancers moved in to the Long Room in the beer house in Home Cottages (built to house the coprolite workers). The music was provided by the village fiddler Stephen "Stibbin". Jacklin. When he died in the early part of the 20th century the dance died out. The dance which accompanied the song was referred to as "up the sides and down the middle". The last proper performance of the dance took place on the vicarage lawn about 1920 during a fete when the Vicar was the Rev M Rice.



In 1956 an old Whaddonian, Tom Coningsby, (above) provided the BBC with a tape recording of the song accompanied by a dulcimer. The song has been described as a carol which accompanies a 'ring dance'. The words of the song were only wrtten down as late as 1939 by the English Folk Dance Society in consultation with the Smith family.

The last known performance was in 1937 when Albert and Jack Smith demonstrated the song, by popular request, at the Coronation Celebrations for King George VI. Albert Smith lived in one of the cottages in Bridge Street now known as Jarmans. His son Charles married a local girl Hilda and lived in Dyers Green now the White Cottage. Their daughter, Bessie Smith, is still a resident of the village; their son Jack was killed in WW2. Jack Smith, Albert's brother lived on the Green in what is now Wisteria Cottage. To perform the song the men wore a top hat with a white scarf tied around it.



Jack and Alfred Smith

In November 1975 an attempted revival of the dance took place in the village hall. Some of the older residents managed to reconstruct the dance. Other dances were also recalled including the Broom Dance which used to be danced by Jim "Chink" Law at Rectory Farm.

Other information, said to relate to 1880, was provided by the WI History in 1958. It tells of a Feast and Dance which was held on Whit Monday which would sometimes go on to the following day. A tune Golden Slippers accompanied the following song:-

We wont go home till morning We wont go home till morning Till daylight doth appear Three quarts more three quarts more

There is **no** indication if this song was part of the same event as the Whitsun Song and Dance but the song was accompanied again by Stephen Jacklin, mentioned earler, and it **may** have provided a jolly end to the Whitsun Song and Dance proceedings. It **may** have taken place after the original Song and Dance was discontinued.

The Whitsun Song

Now Whitsuntide is come You very well do know Come serve the Lord we must before we do go Come serve him truly with all your mind and heart And then from Heaven your soul shall never part.

How do we know how long we have to live For when we die, Oh then what would we give For being sure of having our resting place Since we have rue our sinful wretched race.

Come all those little children
All in their pastimes so even and complete
For how you may hear them lie both curse and swear
Before they do know one word of any prayer.

Both young and old both rich and poor give ear Don't allow your children to lie both curse nor swear Pray don't allow them to keep ill company For that will surely bring them to shame and misery.

Down in the gardens where flowers rowing ranks
Down on your knees unto the Lord give thanks
Down on your knees and pray both and night and day
Pray unto the Lord that he will lead you the right way
Pray unto the Lord that angels he may bring
And then in heaven your souls will sit and sing.

Now we have brought you this Royal branch of oak God bless the King and Queen and all the royal folk God bless our King and Queen and all this world beside

Then the Lord will send us all a Merry Whitsuntide

There is a version which substitutes Queen Victoria for King and Queen. This was remembered by the daughter of one of the last performers, Mr Reed who lived in Church End, and this fact appeared in the WI History of 1958.

