

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

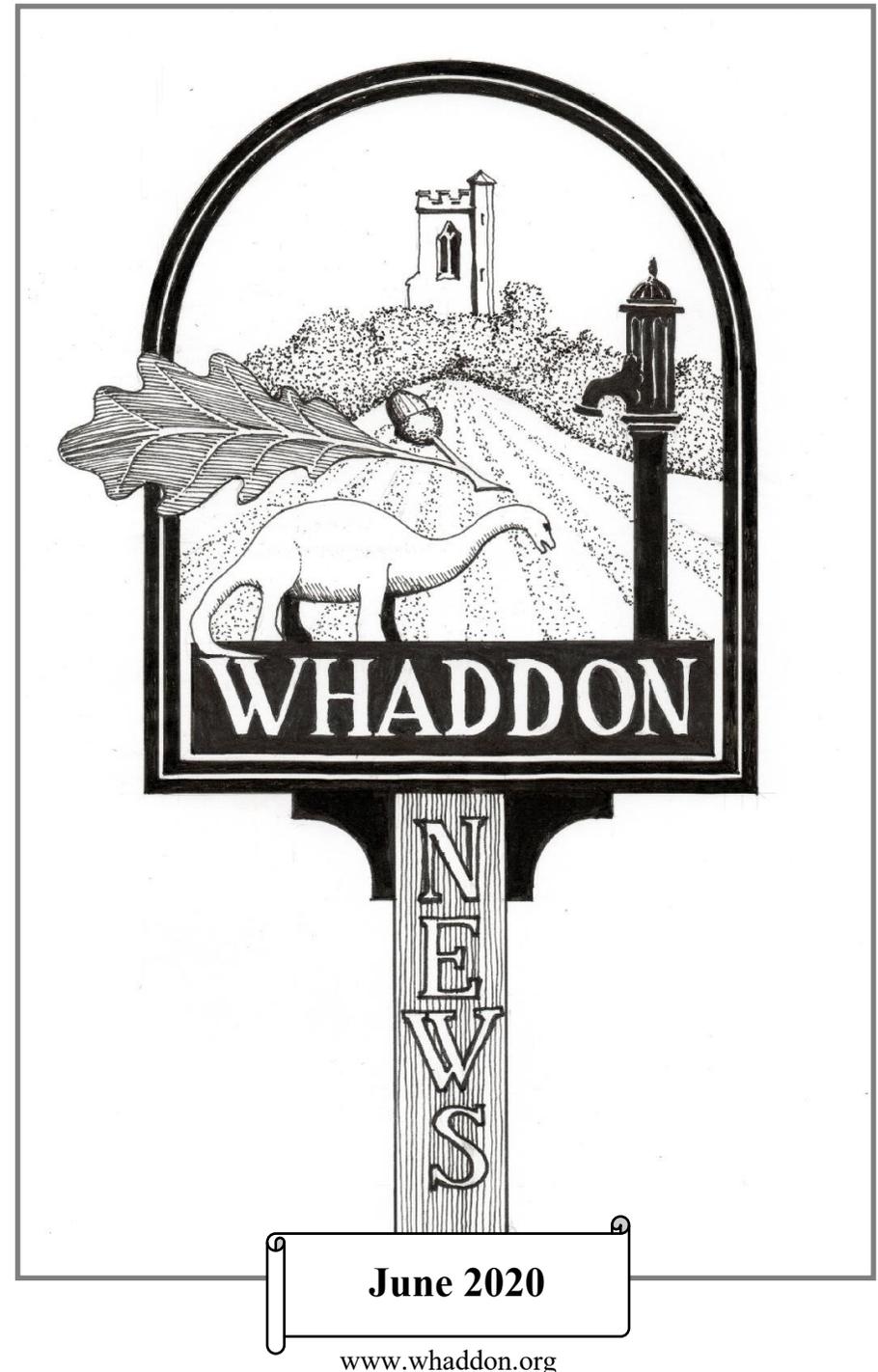
WHADDON NEWS ADVERTISING RATES

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:
whaddonparishclerk@outlook.com



Guaranteed Bin Collection Dates			
Wed 3 June	Black	Wed 22 July	Blue/green
Wed 10 June	Blue	Wed 29 July	Black
Wed 17 June	Black	Wed 5 Aug	Blue
Wed 24 June	Blue/green	Wed 12 Aug	Black
Wed 1 July	Black	Wed 19 Aug	Blue/green
Wed 8 July	Blue	Wed 26 Aug	Black
Wed 15 July	Black	Thurs 3 Sep	Blue

***** GREEN BIN COLLECTION *****

South Cambs guarantee to empty green bins every four weeks, (as above), but please continue to put them out fortnightly and they will be emptied if it is possible.

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

NEWSLETTER

*The deadline for the next newsletter is **August 10th**.*

Once again items of village interest are always welcome.

*Joan Pascoe C208062
joanpascoe@aol.com*

WHADDON NEWS

When it was decided to go ahead with the June edition of the Whaddon News I was concerned that it would be a very thin issue. Without regular activities and all summer events cancelled or postponed what would there be to publish. I could not have been more wrong! This issue is four pages longer than usual.

Villagers were asked, via the email system, for stories, comments on new village activities or thoughts on the lockdown. Just a few lines, the more amusing the better. Likewise family or personal memories of VE Day 1945 were also requested. Thank you to those who have sent contributions.

If anyone would like to contribute further please email or phone me (see above) or they can be delivered to 25 Bridge Street. These can be sent anytime (the earlier the better) but no later than 10th August. New contributions will be included in the next edition.

Thank you
Joan Pascoe

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, whaddonparishcclerk@outlook.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TEAM

Malan Peyton	Whaddon Village Coordinator	Ermine Farm, Dyers Green	C 207358
Coordinators:			
Karen Coningsby	Meldreth Road/Church Corner	17 Church Street	C 207514
Carole Aldred	Church Street/Town Farm Close/ St Mary's Close	104 Church Street	C 208147
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.

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

SUSAN VAN de VEN Cambridgeshire County Councillor

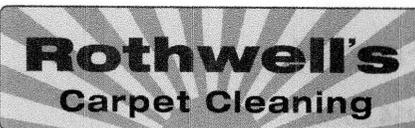
All drop-in advice surgeries are currently suspended.

If there are issues people would like to discuss you can contact Susan on 07905325574 or susan@scilibdems.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



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 VILLAGE HALL and RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Well, what very strange times we find ourselves in? At a time of national crisis, one would think that the village hall and recreation ground would be central to the coming together of our residents, but as everyone is aware, following government guidance, we have had to close both. Unfortunately, this has meant that the regular activities, such as table tennis, Whaddon Wednesdays, pilates, dog training, film nights, cricket, access to the playground etc have all had to stop. All bookings of the hall have been cancelled and the play area has been taped off.

At the time of going to print, the recently published government document, Our Plan to Rebuild, still reports explicitly, 'you will still not be able to use areas like playgrounds', so unfortunately even though we have been told we can go out and exercise as

often as we like, this still remains out of bounds. Thank you to everyone that has supported the actions the Trust have made during this time.

Whilst the village hall and recreation ground has been closed, we have been delighted to see all the other activities that have been going on within the village, building upon the community spirit that already existed within Whaddon. However, I'm sure we are all looking forward to the day that everything returns to 'new normal', in whatever shape or form that may take. Please be assured that the Trust are reviewing the situation at every opportunity, with a view to reopening as soon as is safe and advised to do so.

Stay safe everyone,

Anita Birch
 Chair, Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust

Alfred Palmer's Trust Update

The Village's own Charity Trust reported a healthy financial position for the start of 2020, with a balance of £272 after paying out Christmas grants totalling £150 to villagers. The income is generated annually by interest paid on their investments and other donations.

We are indebted to the Trustees - Chris Coningsby, Will Elbourn, Helen Strudwick, Ruth Keir and Paul Evans, who are appointed by the Parish Council on a rolling four-year basis.

Recently, the Trust have agreed that they will work with the Parish Council to give small grants for anyone in hardship because of the Covid-19 situation. Contact a Parish Councillor for details.

Lee Ginger



ST MARY'S CHURCH
WHADDON

Sunday Services

At the moment all churches are closed for public worship due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and it is currently uncertain as to when we may be allowed to resume services at St Mary's in Whaddon.

In the meantime the Joint Ministry Team for Bassingbourn and Whaddon are organising weekly services on-line using Zoom. These take place at 10:00am each Sunday morning, and the link for accessing the service is circulated a few days ahead on the Whaddon e-mail alert. It is also published on the church pages of the Whaddon website.

For those without internet access it is possible to access the services by telephone and the phone number and Meeting ID can be obtained in advance from either of the churchwardens.

CHURCH FETE

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic it is unlikely that we will be able to hold the Church Fete as normal this July. The PCC has therefore, reluctantly, taken the decision to cancel this year's Fete on the 4th July. We do hope to have a Fete or something similar later in the year, possibly September, but this will depend on relaxation in the rules for Social Distancing.

As the Fete is a big fund raiser for the Church it is very disappointing for us not be able to hold this event during the summer months. As soon as we can make a final decision on holding the Fete or similar we will let everyone in the village know.

The date for the Fete in 2021 will probably be 3rd July.

knocked on the door and explained that they were trying to trace the members of Bernard's original crew as their uncle was a member of this crew. Uncle Ted was delighted to meet them and so began an extraordinary episode.



Tom and Ted (right)

Uncle Ted was to meet Tom Mclachlan, the man who was allowed compassionate leave because Bernard volunteered to take his place on that fated mission. Tom still lived in Scotland and as a family we had the honour of accompanying Tom and Ted to Germany to visit Aachen and to visit Bernard's grave in the military cemetery in Rheinberg. Tom went on to fly another 39 missions. He told us he kept tempting fate in memory of his original crew and in gratitude to Bernard. He wrote this poem:



Tom laying wreath

You gave your lives in World War Two,
And though I flew and fought with you,
I lived – the sole survivor of the crew.
You bought me time!

Time to see my family grow,
See grandchildren faces glow,
Things that you will never know.
You bought me time!

Time to work and time to play,
Watch a sunset after day,
See my garden grow in May.
You bought me time!

Fifty years and even more,
I've lived since that so costly War,
No aircraft whine, no cannon roar.
You bought me time!

I'll not forget each one of you,
The laughs, the fears, the cold night sky,
Regret we never said 'Goodbye'.
You bought me time!

Now in the autumn of my days,
I've had a life both full and free,
I thank you all eternally.
You bought me time!

Sleep well, sleep sound, above the
clouds,
Let billowing nimbus be your shrouds,
Your job is done, your War is won.
You bought me time!

We were both born and grew up in Whaddon; David still lives in Bridge Street. If anyone wants to know more about Bernard and family, we have lots of uncatalogued paperwork, photos, letters etc, and we would be happy to speak with you about them (Wendy.Godfrey@virgin.net; davidhandscombe@gmail.com).

Wendy Godfrey (née Handscombe) and David Handscombe. May 2020

Bernard William Webb

Nigel Strudwick writes: Wendy Godfrey and David Handscombe have been looking over family papers recently, and near VE Day this year, they sent me one of the documents relating to the loss of their uncle Bernard; I suggested they write it up for the Whaddon News. I remember Bernard's brother, their uncle Ted, so well from soon after we came to the village; he was so kind to us, and he helped me on my initial steps onto the Parish Council, of which he was then chairman. He told me about his brother's loss, and I can never think of either of them without hearing Ted reading out the names on the War Memorial on Remembrance Day, ending with "and my brother, Bernard William Webb". It was so deeply personal and touching.

When he left his home, The Haven in Bridge Street (now 42 Bridge Street), on 24 May 1944 to cycle 22 miles to his base at RAF Little Staughton, our uncle Bernard William Webb wasn't to know this was the last time he would see his family home. His mother, Winifred, might have had an inkling because she left his empty teacup beside his bed in the cottage and it remained there for many weeks.

Bernard was killed in action aged 20 on the night of 24/25 May 1944. He was a mid-upper gunner in 582 Sqn Pathfinders flying in a Lancaster bomber on a mission to mark the railway marshalling yard outside Aachen. He was also a much loved son and brother and popular with the fairer sex, judging by the correspondence he left behind. His mother was a widow and he had two brothers and three sisters (including our mother, Maisie). His name is on the war memorial plaque

in Whaddon church. Bernard wasn't due to fly that night but Tom, a mid-upper gunner in another crew, had received a telegram from his family; his father was seriously ill and could Tom please make his way home to Scotland? Tom was allowed compassionate leave because Bernard volunteered to fly in his place. Bernard left on the mission to Aachen and Tom arrived home in time to see his father before he died. Bernard's Lancaster was shot down over Frankenberg Strasse near Aachen with the loss of all crew members. His death was not confirmed for some time, leaving his mother and family confused and distressed. As children growing up in Whaddon in the 1960s we remember his mother and our mother (his sister) still occasionally expressing a forlorn hope that he might have been a prisoner of war and met a German girl and that he might return one day.

In 1997 a Mr and Mrs Brophy from the north of England arrived in Whaddon and enquired whether anyone could help locate a family who lived in Whaddon during the Second World War. The name of the family they were looking for was Webb. They were in luck – our Uncle Ted, Bernard's brother, still lived in the same cottage in Bridge Street. (Ted was well known as he lived in the village all his life and was a very active Parish Councillor, later Chair of the Parish Council. He died in 2008 and there is a bench in his memory near the bus stop.) They



Bernard

Simon Morris, who is a Licenced Lay Minister working with the Whaddon and Bassingbourn Shared Ministry Team, offers some thoughts on the current Covid-19 Lockdown.



Luke 10:27 "... love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and love your neighbour as yourself".

We are living in a topsy-turvy world! As an essential worker I have continued to travel to work some distance to a large town. I walk from where I park my car to my base for about ten-minutes through the town. One thing I have noticed over time is how the behaviour of the people I walk past has changed. We still exchange smiles and nods, but the space between us has widened and widened as we get used to social distancing. I am now also thankful when people courteously step out the way when walking the paths in the village when once this would have puzzled or irritated me. Conversely, I feel uneasy in the supermarket when someone invades my personal bubble.

These experiences have made me think about the parable of the good Samaritan which Jesus told when asked "who is our neighbour?" The true neighbour was the one who did not pass by on the other side, the Samaritan, the untrusted foreigner, who offered his hand to the broken and beaten traveller. But how do we offer a hand to the broken and beaten when we are socially distancing or socially isolating? Our go-tos, are fast becoming no-gos! No visiting our neighbour for a chat over a cuppa, and a hug of comfort, or a simple touch are now unthinkable.

So, does social distancing mean we walk on by? By no means! It has been heart-warming to see our community respond in new creative ways. The Thursday night clap, neighbours supporting each other by dropping food off, conversation in the street at distance, the parish council, church and others working to support those who are more vulnerable in our community, and many, many other ways.

The churches of Whaddon and Bassingbourn have continued to lift the needs of all our neighbours near and far to the Almighty in prayer and attempt to worthily express our love the Lord our God. We will continue to do this during the lockdown on Sunday mornings via Zoom, do feel free to join in.

With every blessing
Simon Morris
Licenced Lay Minister Whaddon and Bassingbourn

Whaddon Golf Centre COVID-19

Like many other business the Golf Centre has been completely closed because of the Covid-19 virus. As many of you know we are a family run business and we felt that to protect all our customers and ourselves we would completely close.

During the lockdown Richard has been doing essential greenkeeping on the course and range. We have taken the opportunity to undertake some repair work on some of the parts of the course that undergo heavy wear. We have reseeded and aerated those areas. Despite the lack of rain with a little water these areas have started to recover.

Unfortunately both the Beetle Drive and Real Ale festival have both had to be cancelled but we hope to offer more social events when it is safe to do so. We are hopeful that October will bring the return of our very popular Quiz and a celebration for Halloween.

After the PMs Announcement on Sunday 10 May we did consider a

partial opening of the Golf Centre. However due to the size and nature of the Golf Centre we are not going to open just yet. Many of our regular members and customers are in the groups that we are hoping to protect with the lockdown. We are of course eager to open but not until we think we can make sure a trip to Whaddon Golf Centre is as safe as possible.

We would like to thank the people of the village who have respected the footpath through the Golf Course, and remind all that whilst there is a public path the rest of the course is private land and ask them to respect that.

Many of you have sent encouraging messages and are just as keen as us for the Golf Centre to open. Whilst it is our business we know that to some villagers it is the heart of their social interaction. We thank you for your support and hope to see you at the Golf Centre soon.

Stay Safe.

Richard and Lorna.

The email list

This is just a reminder to those who do not currently subscribe to the email list that the Parish Council strongly recommends that you get on the list. The list has shown its use in the current virus emergency by sending round timely information quite quickly; so far we have over 190 addresses on it, presently covering about two-thirds of the old part of the village, but a lot less of Cardiff Place. The number of messages averages out rarely at more than one or two a day.

To be added to the list, just send a message to me at emaillist@whaddon.org and I will be in touch. I very much hope to hear from you. The data in the email list is only used for the purposes of sending these emails, and you can ask to be removed any time.

Nigel Strudwick
emaillist@whaddon.org

A short reflection on VE Day from my mum (Mary Grech):

In 1945 my mother was 18 and a first year medical student in London. She e-mailed me the following recollection 'I do remember VE Day quite well, - I was just starting at the Royal Free. A group of us went to Buckingham Palace late morning and we saw the King and Queen and the two Princesses out on the balcony - in fact we saw them twice! and all the crowds about, people with flags etc, and crowds singing! It was fun!!'

Mary Grech

I have very happy memories of VE Day. I was 4½ years old and lived during the war years in Buckden, Huntingdonshire.

I remember the street party. The children sat at a long table down the middle of the street and I sat facing the houses which were decorated with Union Jacks and bunting, all very colourful after the blackout. The women were all smiling and we seemed to be treated as though we were special – there was a lot of love, joy and happiness. I remember the lovely cakes but I don't remember any jelly (if in fact there was any).

One of the realities of that day, for me as a child, was that I would not have to wear that gas mark any more. Even though it was a Mickey Mouse design for children, it scared me to death.

There were many other realities for everyone, but on VE Day the celebrations were special, memorable and important.

Iris Green

I remember VE day well. My family lived in Shirley near Croydon, and that evening my father and I walked up to the Shirley Hills where there was an enormous bonfire to celebrate. Near by there was a pub. which was doing a roaring trade. and of course there were many drunk people. I had never seen a pub before or someone drunk. Not only my parents, but all our family over several generations were teetotal.

During the war I went to nine different schools, several in London and the suburbs, to Northamptonshire, to Luton, to Doncaster and Surrey. Our house in South London was damaged in the Blitz and one afternoon arriving home from school towards the end of the war discovered our then house in Shirley had no windows and most of the ceilings were down. A Doodle-Bug had fallen a hundred yards down the road!

Prof Tony Milton



VE Day Memories

Recalling the original VE Day was like drawing back a veil that had been in place for many years.

I was born before World War 2. At the start of the war we were living in Fulham, London, so had endured the heavy bombing. So when the celebrations started for the VE Day, even as a young girl it suddenly seemed different. There was lots of activity from all the houses, (we all lived in terrace houses). Tables were carried out and were covered with sheets and table cloths. Flags were put out of windows, bunting was everywhere, red white and blue and the road was closed.

A bit later there were a lot more trips made by the people living in the houses, bringing out plates and trays of sandwiches, jam tarts and it seemed such a lot of food that I cannot recall it all in detail. We all sat down with the adults who were helping the children. I am sure there was music, as later there was a lot of dancing and singing.

These are my memories of times long ago.

Yvonne Albery

In 1945 I was 13 years old and had just started a three year course at Kingston-upon-Thames Technical College. I used to catch the 07.50 train from Staines station in order to be at college before 0900.

This Train, by the way, was a 'run of the mill' steam train (Merchant Navy class) which at the time were slowly being phased out.

I had come down from Lancashire on May 1st 1944 so I had had very little chance to get to know children of my own age, as the war had entered a very dangerous phase with the onset of D-day on June 6th.

On the day of the Celebrations for VE day there was a street party in Claremont Road on the opposite side of the A30 from where we lived. I can't remember who provided the tables and chairs but we also had tablecloths and benches to sit on. Considering the fact that we were still under the limitations of rationing, things like sugar and butter had to be saved up to enable the goodies to be produced. I remember that we had fish paste sandwiches, jam tarts and jelly and custard. Again I cannot remember who provided all the food, but everyone did their best to make it a happy occasion. The tables were decorated with flags and bunting and it was the first time that I had met many of the children from the area. We had seen so many awful things, things that children should never witness, but we were determined to enjoy ourselves now that we were at peace and looking forward to better times.

Ron Albery

WHADDON GOLF CENTRE - Quiz Nights

Thank to everyone who attended the enjoyable Quiz Nights during the winter months. The chosen charities and donations were:-

October 2019	Falklands Conservation	76.00
November 2019	Shelter Royal British Legion	63.00 21.00
December 2019	St Martin-in-the Fields Barnardos	87.00 29.00
January 2020	Cambridge Rape Crisis Royal British Legion	63.00 21.00
February 2020	CAMFED Whaddon Church Roof	49.50 16.50
March 2020	Whaddon Church Roof	60.00
Total		486.00

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)

How Whaddon Managed the Lockdown

Our Fantastic NHS

Rose Shepherd and Deborah Townsend are collecting treats for the NHS. We have been receiving a steady flow of items to be able to give a couple of bags a week. We have received a thank you card from the hospital, clearly our donations have been lifting the spirits of hospital staff. Thank you to all Whaddon Residents who have donated. We will continue to collect and donate during this time.

Support the

Snacks, biscuits, drinks, fruit, cuppa soups, pot snacks, tea, coffee, chocolates, shower Gel, hand creams. Please drop off your contributions to Number 14 or 36 Bridge Street. We will make sure your treat puts a smile on the NHS staff. Let's keep this going.....Thank you.

Fortnightly Online Bingo

Since the 1st of May a group of Whaddon Residents have been joining a game of Bingo for a bit of Fun. Averaging 12 families each session, we now have little prizes which get awarded to the winners of the Full House Games. Everyone seems to be enjoying seeing each other and it seems to have been a welcome addition to Friday evenings since lockdown. Everyone is welcome to join, please email Deborah.



Please contact Deborah on debtownsend2007@btinternet.com to register.

You will receive a Zoom invitation which will allow you to join. You will need internet connection. Deborah will send you a Bingo Card by email. You will need a marker pen or 25 counters or penny size pieces of card to cover the numbers. Prizes will be for one line, two lines and a full house.

Fun Bin Parade

Since the lockdown began a small group of Whaddon residents have been getting dressed up to put the bins out. To begin with there were a couple of eager residents and this has grown each week. Both Bridge Street and Meldreth Road being regular participants.

The Costumes are inventful, colourful and great fun. We have had Mary Poppins, Where's Wally? The Flintstones, Togas, George and the dragon, Cowboys, Planes, Peaky Blinders, Crocodile Dundee, Alice in Wonderland and the Mad Hatter to name a few. Feel free to join in if you would like to. Its 7pm the night before bins, until further notice.



**VE Day Celebrations
8th May 2020**

VE Day 8th May 2020

Living in a village where celebrations would normally be organised and large gatherings encouraged, it would have been a real shame to not celebrate VE Day's 75th anniversary, such a significant occasion. I knew that as we were unable to have a big event I wanted to give ideas to everyone as to what they could consider doing during the lockdown to celebrate.

I have many fond memories of successful street parties and village events and I thought it would nice for the children of the village to have a positive memory during lockdown. I was thinking that this year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, things could not possibly be as joyful. How wrong I was.

A couple of weeks ago, I decided that I would try and encourage villagers to stay at home and celebrate in their own front garden. Living in a rural community in lockdown has many benefits. However, for those living alone who are used to being out and about supporting others, it is challenging. I wanted to give everyone an opportunity to focus on something other than Covid-19, to be able to see some smiley faces and chat to each other at a safe distance.

I sent an email with some suggestions from the villagers, bake a cake, make some bunting, colouring and make Whaddon red, white and blue. A suggestion from David Grech was to have ribbons available to tie on the service man tree by Ridgeways Close.

This was followed up by a flyer delivered to each house and announcing on "Whaddsapp" what was happening. Websites were shared and home-made bunting was made.

Whaddon residents really embraced the opportunity and the few days leading up to VE Day, Bunting started to appear. On the day, lots of memorabilia started to appear, villagers shared their stories and visual displays. It was so emotive. The villagers really showcased community living. Cakes were baked and decorated and photographs were submitted for judging before eating.

I had the idea and the village had the enthusiasm to make it happen. The camaraderie within the community probably very similar to that of 75 years ago. Although a very different story back then.

Thank you to everyone who joined in. Perhaps a new tradition of a stay at home party, annually, where people mooch about with their families sharing their cakes and drinks, hopefully with hugs and closer contact next time.

Deborah Townsend

The Whaddon Virtual Quiz

Eight weeks ago, I cannot believe it was that long ago, there was a discussion about holding a virtual quiz for the village. I volunteered to do this as I have set quizzes for a number of years, normally for charitable events and family parties. There were slight changes, one obviously is the fact it had to be done remotely and second there would be young people present.

We have now held four of these quizzes and I strive to ensure the quiz is for all ages. It has some relevance to the current affairs e.g. VE Day, it educates such as the capital of South Africa and it has local questions (although I think we have ploughed that furrow as much as possible).

I have committed to hold these every two weeks until we are out of lock down and the quiz can again be held in the Golf Club. **All are welcome.** The details are sent on the Village E-mail and on Whaddsapp and there are two trophies to display proudly if you win.

There are only two things you need to remember for the quiz:

1. The answers I have are the only right answers and
2. I am always right!

Jonathan Birch aka Whaddon Virtual Quiz Master

SOME PERSONAL THOUGHTS

POSITIVES OF LOCKDOWN

Appreciating neighbourly kindnesses

Appreciating the garden and the continuing changes in nature

Remembering all the nursing, medical staff and care workers who are doing a fantastic job each Thursday evening.

NOT FEELING GUILTY when:

Doing a jigsaw

Doing embroidery

Reading a book

Enjoying a daily glass of wine

NEGATIVES OF LOCKDOWN

Not being able to go for a walk – especially daily to get the newspaper – thank you to Richard for delivering it each day. Thank you also to the team who collect and deliver prescriptions.

Unable to go out in the car and meeting friends.

Unable to go to Sunday services in our Parish Church in Whaddon

Iris Green

Broadband update

a. Broadband survey

Many of you have already been very helpful and assisted me by responding to my requests to run speed tests so that I could build up a decent picture of speeds in the core part of Whaddon; my intention is to use the results to help us get better connections. I confess to being a little disappointed that only 30% of the village responded, as this data are important. It was quite noticeable that in general I received more responses from areas of the village where we all know the speeds are lower, i.e. the far end of Meldreth Road and Dyers Green, than the rest of Whaddon.

Anyway, I have tried to distil the results onto the map figure. I divided the village into eight unequal areas to examine the numbers in different places; black bars on the roads on the map mark the divisions. A few typical download speeds are given in bold in roughly the right locations on this map, and for each area an average speed plus the number of tests from that area are given in italics. I know it's a bit crowded in places, but I hope it's clear.

I should say that there are many possible variables when doing these tests—many people did theirs on mobile devices by wifi, and it is clear the speed is going to be better with a computer connected to the router by ethernet. Also it depends on your ISP package, as some people may be on e.g. a 40 mbs package in an area like Church Street near the Rec where higher speeds are also possible if you pay a little more. Nonetheless, what we have now are real-world tests, as everyone is Whaddon uses the Internet in different ways, and it does give me some ammunition to look for improvements.

This map figure should bear out what has always been said about the fibre-to-the-cabinet broadband (FTTC) service that we have had since October 2015, that the further you are from the Bridge Street cabinet, the slower the speed you will get. There are some intriguing anomalies, in particular the slower speeds than expected at what I call Bumpkins Corner—I would expect these to be somewhere between those in the main part of Church Street and those in Meldreth Road. I do not know why these are like this. We must not forget that all these speeds are vastly superior to what we had prior to October 2015, but we have got used to them now! So what next?

b. Improvements?

I have written in the past that, while it might be possible to make some small improvements here and there, the only real long-term way to get faster speeds in the village is going to be a fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) service. I am told that Connecting Cambridgeshire has funded with Openreach a fibre cable that is supposed to help those at the far end of Meldreth Road, but as yet the evidence for it being available is minimal, and some of what Connecting Cambridgeshire have told me seems to be contradicted by the evidence.

So, what are we going to do? At the moment, there seems little hope that Openreach may do anything systematic, although of course the virus crisis has knocked many plans sideways. It is my intention, now that I have some data from the survey, to get a meeting with Connecting Cambridgeshire and find out what the current prospects are with Openreach. What the survey has shown,

Whaddon Wednesdays

As with most other planned events in the village, our response to CV19 inevitably meant that our monthly programme had to be postponed. With so many unknowns we cannot, as yet, plan a Whaddon Wednesday programme for the balance of 2020. For the moment, we must await a government ruling on any relaxation of social distancing so that group gatherings will be acceptable.

We must also judge when villagers will feel comfortable about coming along to a get together in the village hall.

So for the moment, we will not put together a Whaddon Wednesday programme until there is a much clearer picture on what may be possible during the balance of the year. If a time comes when some normality returns and a programme is possible we will certainly bring Whaddon Wednesday meetings back to life for the autumn/winter evenings.

Meanwhile stay safe and take care.

(WW Committee)

Garden Centre
Come and visit our friendly team for expert advice!
Extensive outdoor plant area plus two large glasshouses bursting with:
Seasonal perennials Homegrown plants
Trees & Shrubs Seeds
Bedding plants Gardening equipment
...and much more!

Cafe
Visit our welcoming, bright and dog-friendly cafe!
Choose from our light lunches menu, delicious cakes (including a vegan range) and a selection of beverages

The Cafe is closed until the Government tell us otherwise

ARRINGTON GARDEN CENTRE & CAFE

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

ALL YOU NEED FOR YOUR GARDEN, THROUGH ALL THE SEASONS

Whaddon Parish Council Matters

Covid-19

This has dominated the Parish Council work over the past two months and some of our work has had to take a back seat while we concentrate on that. This is a short update on our work over that period. We have held two 'online' Covid-19 sessions and a full council meeting on 18th May.

A1198 speed limit

Unfortunately, we heard at the end of March that our bid for a Local Highway Initiative funding for this important project was unsuccessful. There was an unprecedented number of applications and while we scored quite well, clearly not well enough. We shall resubmit the scheme in a few weeks for the next round of funding.

Meldreth Road phone box

We have had to put this project on ice for now but we are keen to hear of any ideas that villagers may have, another library, a second defibrillator or a possible community use perhaps? Let either Angela Bridges or the Parish Council know if you have any thoughts.

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

South Cambs Housing, have installed an extra parking space at Ridgeway Close, re-marked the bays to include

one disabled space and installed a rail fence just back from the road. This is just the first stage, however and the Parish Council is working with South Cambs to find a long-term solution to the resident's parking issues. This is another project that has suffered because most resources at the District Council are dealing with Covid-19 issues.

Annual litter pick

Along with many other events, the national Great British Spring Clean was cancelled but will hopefully be reconvened in the Autumn.

Bridge Street Parish noticeboard

The noticeboard is to be temporarily removed for renovation. In the meantime, please use the noticeboard at the Village Hall.

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 on-line Parish Council meeting is on Monday 15th June 2020 at 8.00 pm.

If anyone has a question for the council, please submit via email to the Parish Clerk or by letter in the mailbox at the Village Hall. Or just give one of us a ring!

Compiled by Lee Ginger

N. HERTS AND DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The drop-in services are now closed.

To contact the local CAB for advice please call 01462 689801 and leave a message or email northhertscab.org.uk

Alternatively contact the CAB national phone service: Tel 03444 111 444.

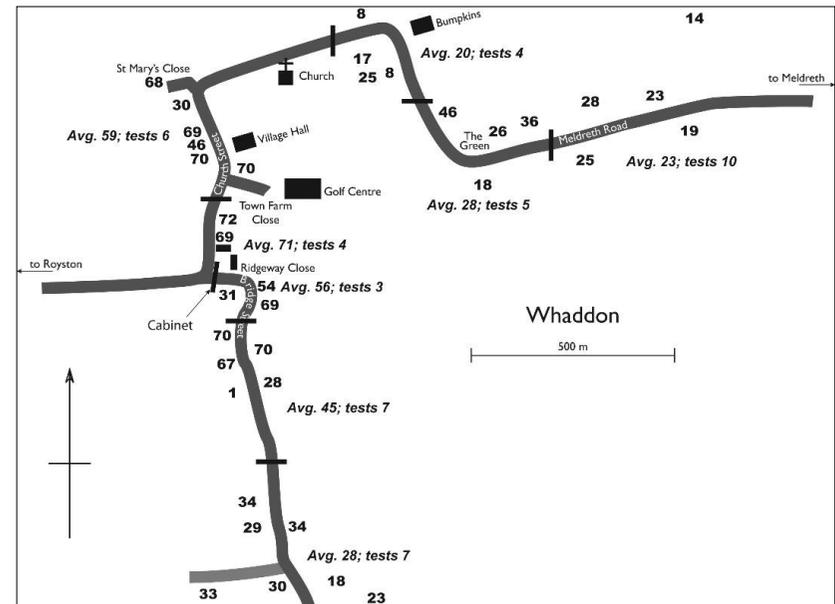
as I said, is that the level of broadband speed is at present highly variable around the village. Remember that even if your present service is adequate for your needs now, it may not be in the future. I am sure some of us said it was enough when ADSL broadband first came to Whaddon in 2004, and look where we are now...

However, since I last wrote in the *Whaddon News*, we now have the real prospect of County Broadband constructing a new fibre link to the village so that each property could get FTTP. You should have seen their publicity recently, and some of you may have taken part in their online presentation at the end of April, which I thought was very informative and frankly honest. As I write, they scheduled a second such presentation for **Wednesday 27 May at 19:00** (I realise this will have taken place before the *Whaddon News* appears). They are looking for serious expressions of interest, and I understand

that the response has been very good, but a further number of properties are still needed.

Now, I, as your "Broadband Champion", have to keep a neutral stance on things, as my concern is to get better broadband services for all, regardless of who is offering the service. I have to say that, as things stand at the moment—and things can change very fast in the broadband world—, there is a viable option with County Broadband in our grasp, while Openreach seem to have nothing available at present for all of us that would not require considerable effort within the village. So do please check what County Broadband is offering and see whether there is anything there that would suit your needs, not just now, but those you are almost certainly going to have in the future.

Nigel Strudwick
ncs3@cam.ac.uk



Parish Council Coronavirus Update

The Parish Council is the organising team to help support Whaddon villagers during the current crisis. As part of this role, we look after the health and well-being of villagers and keep in constant touch with all local and national services and other authorities on all aspects of the situation.

If you want to find out what help is available, how you can help or to tell us your ideas, please call one of the Parish Councillors for your area listed below or email Angela Bridges, the Whaddon Parish Clerk – whaddonparishcclerk@outlook.com

Bridge Street and Ridgeway Close

Anita Birch – 07748 908164 Email - anitabirch1@hotmail.co.uk
Randall Scott – 01223 208253 Email - randall.scott@btinternet.com

Church Street, Town Farm Close and St. Mary's Close

Joanne Hart – 01223 208009 Email - jev7459@btinternet.com
Nigel Strudwick – 01223 207434 Email - ncs3@cam.ac.uk

Meldreth Road

Will Elbourn – 01223 208955 Email – w.elbourn@btinternet.com
Tony Milton – 01223 207105 Email – asm27@cam.ac.uk

Cardiff Place, New Farm and Old North Road

Lee Ginger - 01763 262430 Email – lee.ginger@btinternet.com

Medication ordering and delivery for Whaddon

During the current Coronavirus situation, The Parish Council have a medication pick up service from the Orchard Surgery Pharmacy and the Well Pharmacy in Melbourn. This will help those in isolation, reduce the number of individual trips to the pharmacies, which all helps with social distancing and reduces unnecessary car journeys. It also makes things much easier for the pharmacists at this stressful time. We will also pick up from other pharmacies on request.

Ordering your medication

Normally, you order your medication in one of three ways:

- Prescriptions issued *ad hoc* by the GP
- Order on-line for a regular repeat
- Automatic 28-day fulfilment

Please let us know when you have ordered your medication each time you order/reorder, so that we can organise its collection. Complete our notification form, either download it from the Whaddon.org website or ask one of the Parish Councillors for a copy and either send it to prescriptions@whaddon.org or print it off and post in the letterbox at the Village Hall, which will be emptied daily (together with any payment cheque or your pre-payment prescription reference number).

Remember - it is important that you complete and send us the notification form when ordering medication otherwise we cannot collect for you.

We can also deliver your NHS repeat prescription order forms to the pharmacy. **For confidentiality**, please put inside a sealed envelope and attached to our completed Prescription notification form and drop into the Village Hall post box, on the wall alongside the defibrillator. Please write your name and address on the envelope as well and don't forget to put in a payment cheque, should you have to pay or include your pre-payment prescription number.

Delivery of your medication

Unless it's an emergency, pharmacies are now working on a seven-day fulfilment for all prescriptions, so we shall expect to pick up and deliver to you within seven days of the order. Often it is quicker though.

We'll deliver your medication directly to your home on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The Orchard Surgery pharmacy will continue their own delivery service to Whaddon on those days but only for those who are already registered with them for medication ordered online and for Standing Orders.

We can also give you a new blank Prescription notification form with each delivery, should you need one. Or you can download it from the Whaddon.org website.

Payment

You must arrange payment for your medication directly with the pharmacy. Most prescriptions will either be free or paid for with a Pre-Payment Certificate but should you have to pay, The Orchard Surgery Pharmacy will accept cheques payable to *Dr P. Easton and Partners* and these can be put into your sealed envelope with your NHS prescription and popped into the Village Hall post box. The Well Pharmacy (next to the Co-op) only take cash or cards. If you have any issue with payment, please email or phone one of your Parish Councillors.

We will deliver medication generally on Tuesdays and Fridays but will also deliver urgent requests same day if the pharmacy has the medication in stock.

We will do everything possible to deliver the service but Whaddon Parish Council can accept no liability for any errors. It is the user's responsibility to comply with our conditions.

Food

Please use the locally available delivery services where possible. We can help with essential shopping if necessary. Again, if you have problems getting essential supplies, just contact one of your Parish Councillors listed above.

Village email system

For the fastest way to keep up to date, please join our village-wide email system, which currently has well over 150 contacts. Just send an email to - emallist@whaddon.org to join.

A big thank you to all villagers and volunteers who have been helping throughout the Coronavirus crisis.