

# WHADDON QUARTERLY

Summer 2024



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# **Welcome to Whaddon Quarterly!**

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**If you would like to advertise in the Whaddon Quarterly, please send your  
advertisement to the Editor as above.**

The views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the Editors or Whaddon Parish Council. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but the Editor does not accept liability for any errors within contributed material. The Editor's decision is final.

# Editor's Letter

## Welcome to the Summer edition of The Whaddon Quarterly

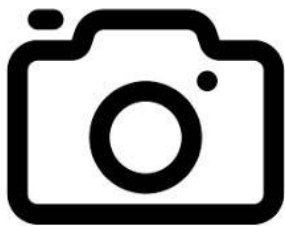
Hello readers!

Finally, the sun is starting to find its way through the clouds. The ground is considerably less wet and having some sunshine certainly perks everyone up and provides that feelgood factor. We have lots of upcoming events which would positively benefit with the addition of some good weather, so fingers crossed the sun smiles on those days.

I would be really interested in receiving feedback and ideas for content for forthcoming editions. Therefore, please contact the team at [wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk)

Deadline for the Summer edition is **14<sup>th</sup> August 2024** with publication planned within 7 days.

**Sally**  
**Editor**



## Are you an enthusiastic photographer?

If you would like your picture to be considered for the front cover of the next edition, please submit it by **14<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**[wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk)**

## **Sign Up NOW for WQ and Local Info Via Email**

Get your copy of the Whaddon Quarterly by Email and get important information and updates from the WPC by Email too.

Drop a quick request to [Clerk@Whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Clerk@Whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk) and you'll be added to the email list. We promise absolutely you will NOT be 'spammed' and your details will NOT be passed on or used for any other purpose than for Council and/or Police matters.



## **Whaddon Parish Council Chairman's Report**

Once again, it is my privilege as Chairman of your Parish Council to report to you on the events of the last 12 months.

Inevitably, our focus has been on the implications of the proposed Shenley Park development. Many meetings have taken place with all involved parties and many more are to come!

Whaddon has always been a small rural village and a development of the size proposed will make for major changes; increased traffic flow is the most obvious, not only through Whaddon, but along the A421 adjacent to the village. Social integration and vital services are equally important to get right – are we two villages or one? We are also monitoring very carefully the several proposed solar developments which are being applied for throughout the area including the one in Whaddon.

It is also our responsibility to comment on all other planning applications within the Parish and in this we are lucky to have expertise to analyse and comment.

We have a large open grass area of our recreation ground and I would like to thank our Parish Clerk, Suzanne Lindsey for ensuring the good order of it together with the safety of the playground equipment.

We also keep an eye on the state of the roads and report potholes to the local area technician at Buckinghamshire Council. The Parish Council owns two small pieces of land: one is the allotments on Vicarage Road, where I have to congratulate our Clerk for her hard work in ensuring that plots are rented and kept in good order. The Parish Clerk also monitors our streetlights and reports any faults. Our liaison with Buckinghamshire Council is either through the Clerk on routine matters or through myself as a Councillor for Winslow ward of Buckinghamshire Council.

We are fortunate to have a successful village magazine, the Whaddon Quarterly, and I would like to express my thanks to the retiring editor for all her hard work and welcome her successor.

Lastly, but not least, a mention to my fellow Parish Councillors. We are fortunate to have Graham Stewart with his huge experience and ability to interpret any comment on the major planning issues to which I have referred earlier. Suzanne Lindsey is the most accurate and enthusiastic Parish Clerk that any village could wish for.

I thank, on your behalf, both Peter Lamagnen who has retired from the Parish Council after many years, and Georgia Geddes who has left the village. Both gave us able and enthusiastic service. In their place, I give a warm welcome to both Neeraj Nagpal and Jonathan Allard as their successors.

It has been, and still is, a privilege to also serve you at Buckinghamshire Council and most importantly, to help preserve the best futures for Whaddon.

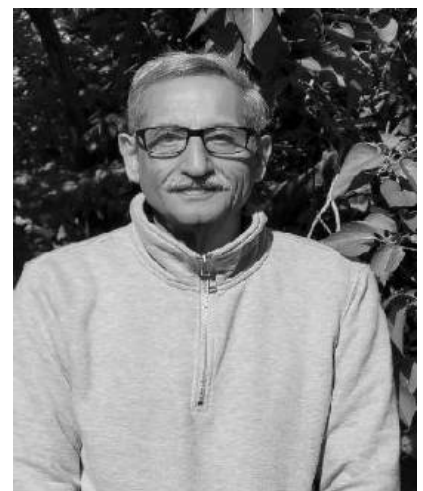
***Cllr Billy Stanier* Chairman  
Whaddon Parish Council**

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## **Whaddon Parish Council Welcomes Two New Councillors**

At its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May WPC was delighted to confirm the appointment of two new Councillors; Cllr Neeraj Nagpal and Cllr Jonathan Allard. Both are established residents of Whaddon and very keen to support the village.

Cllr Nagpal is an engineer by training and has enjoyed running a successful business with his wife and family for the past 44-plus years. He added; "I'm currently hanging up my work boots and focusing my energies on protecting the village's environment and peace, especially in the light of the anticipated changes brought about by nearby developments".



Please join WPC in giving a warm welcome and full support to these new Councilors.



# Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from  
Whaddon Parish Council

## **Annual Audit Time Again..**

For anyone with a head for figures, WPC prepares and submits extensive financial reports and analysis for audit and public scrutiny every year. If this is your 'thing' go to [www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](http://www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk) and under the 'Home' tab you will find Parish Council and Finances tabs. Don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions.

## **New Contact Information for WPC.**

With expansion of the Parish in mind, WPC now has a dedicated phone number and address. Going forward, please call 07903 187417 and address any mail to P O Box 6542, Milton Keynes, MK10 1YY.

## **Dates of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting(s):**

All meetings held at The Chapel, Stock Lane, MK170LU.

Start time: 7.00pm

- 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024,
- 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024,
- 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Meetings are generally every other month on 2nd Thursday, but please check the Village Notice Board on the bus stop to confirm these dates and the location, as these can be subject to change.

Full details are also on the WPC website at [www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](http://www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk) All welcome!



# **Whaddon Parish Council Welcomes Residents to the Annual Parish Meeting**

In a break with a 30+ year tradition, WPC felt that this year the time was right to raise the profile of its Annual Parish Meeting. This is an annual statutory meeting previously held as just a formality; but this year is different, due to a huge amount of change happening in and around the village and much more expected in the future.

WPC was delighted to welcome an excellent turnout of speakers and residents to the Chapel School Room, where residents were pleased to meet friends and neighbours and enjoy some refreshments complements of WPC.

Cllr Stanier (Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked former and current councillors for their service to the community.

The topic of most interest to everyone was the expected outcomes of the plans for Shenley Park housing development, and the changes these might bring to the community. Cllr Stewart updated everyone with the latest information on how the plans were evolving and what the effects might be on our community. Traffic was an important aspect of this discussion.

Mrs Sarah Prior gave a very informative talk about our school, its recent successful expansion and its plans for the future. Our Whaddon Quarterly Editor updated everyone on the village magazine and plans for the Village Hall.

Cllr Herriman reminded everyone about the D-Day +80 celebration and beacon lighting on 6<sup>th</sup> June on Windy Ridge; a free event to which all residents were invited.

For full details of how the meeting went, please visit [www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](http://www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk) where the minutes are available under the 'Parish' tab.

# News from St Mary's Church



Hello everyone in Whaddon, or further afield,

Warm summery greetings to you all! I hope you have been enjoying the sunshine lately, the glorious greening of trees and shrubs and the joyful sight of lambs gambolling in the fields around the village. How fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful place.

That was actually my greeting in May 2022 – and it still applies today! I was rereading some of the messages I've written in the Quarterly since becoming churchwarden and realise how many times I have appealed for help on behalf of the church. This time I'd like to say an enormous thank you: to everyone in the village who responded in such a generous way to the rallying cry that went out last September when our treasurer, Chris, spelled out in no uncertain terms that unless something amazing happened to boost our finances, there was a very real threat that St Mary's church would have to be closed. Here's a short update on how things have progressed during the last seven months:

Chris explained how a Just Giving scheme for regular contributions to church funds would work, and we now have thirty people who signed up to do this. We are so very grateful to everyone who has done so – you are all making such a difference.

Several volunteers have joined the groups who support the church by cleaning, polishing the brasses and providing and arranging flowers for the altars. More volunteers have joined the baking rota and have provided delicious cakes and sausage rolls for our monthly coffee mornings. The new rotas are well established now and are working.

A new fund raising committee was established and they got to work immediately after the September meeting. As a result, the Christmas Fayre included musical items, a beautiful concert was held in the church in March, another concert is planned for 22<sup>nd</sup> June, and a pre-Christmas bus trip to London is planned for 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The March concert "Spring Into Whaddon" was absolutely magical. It would take too much space to mention everyone involved by name because so many people helped to make it the success that it was. So, massive thanks to the organisers, the musicians, the lighting experts (I hope you have seen the short video on Facebook showing the exquisite way the church was illuminated), the sponsors and all the donors of raffle prizes – and of course, the audience. You all contributed to the

magnificent sum of just over £3,000.00 that was the wonderful outcome of all that effort.

There will be another, very different, concert in the church on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, when we expect that people will probably be dancing in the aisles, as "St Mary's Rocks" takes place. Details of the aforementioned bus trip to London will be published later in the year as well.

As you see, a lot has happened since that September meeting, and it feels as though the future of our lovely church is much more secure. We have a regular income from those who have joined the Just Giving scheme and super teams of people giving time, energy and inspiration to other ways of supporting St Mary's.

Well done, lovely people of Whaddon, and further afield - we appreciate you and are deeply grateful.

Daphne Willis  
Churchwarden. St Mary's, Whaddon

!!

**St. Mary's Church, Whaddon - Services June - August 2024**  
*Everyone is most welcome to all our services*

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	6.00pm	Compline
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Cafe style Church: Table Talk at the Whaddon Chapel
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	8.30am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion at Whaddon
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	6.00pm	Compline
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	10.30am	Cafe Style Church: Table Talk at the Whaddon Chapel
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	8.30am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	6.00pm	Compline
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30am	Cafe Style Church: Table Talk at the Whaddon Chapel
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	8.30am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion

**# Keep the Church Alive Support the Big Five**

# **Reflections From the Rectory**

**By Reverend Jacqueline Dove**

It's that time of the year when the parish churches hold their annual general meetings for 2023 and I write my annual report as Rector of the Blackthorn Benefice. This year I wrote, "a definite highlight was the success of the 'Help Save our Church' meeting organised by the Whaddon PCC. A meeting was arranged in the Village Hall which was well attended after a lot of publicity, with the result that regular giving increased significantly and people filled the various rotas and a fundraising committee, brimming with great ideas, was formed.

Thank God for community spirit. Remember the importance of community spirit during COVID. COVID turned all our lives upside down, reminding us of our vulnerability. Having our lives suddenly turned upside down by the end of a relationship; a bereavement; ill health; loss of a job; to name a few, is a common human experience. These are times when one minute we feel like we might shatter into a thousand pieces while simultaneously experiencing just how deep our physical, emotional and spiritual reserves can be. These are times when we learn to really appreciate the kindness of others, especially close family and friends, neighbours, doctors and nurses, and to experience how unkind and debilitating officious behaviour can be. In other words, at these times we are reminded of the importance of love.

The daily reflection from the Centre for Action and Contemplation this morning was titled, 'Love is stronger than Hope.' It suggested that our great mistake is that we tie hope to outcome. So, if we can see a likely path to our desired outcome, we have hope; if we can see no possible path to our desired outcome, we have despair. However, when our prime motive is love, a different logic comes into play. We find courage and confidence, not in the likelihood of a good outcome, but in our commitment to love. To put it differently, even if we lose hope for a good outcome, we need not lose hope of being good people, as we are able: courageous, wise, kind, loving, "in defiance of all that is bad around us."

I think this is the primary vision of the Church. We are a community that desires with the help of God to "live as beautifully, bravely, and kindly as we can as long as we can, no matter how ugly, scary, and mean the world becomes, even if failure and death seem inevitable." Father Richard Rohr describes this kind of hope as "the fruit of a learned capacity to suffer wisely and generously. You come out much larger and that largeness becomes your hope." Or as the Apostle Paul said, "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up."

# St Mary's Rocks

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June : Rock Concert at St Mary's Church



# ST. MARY'S ROCKS

## V2

**LIVE MUSIC WITH THE INCREDIBLE V2!**

**22<sup>ND</sup>  
JUNE**

BAR OPENS 6PM • SHOW STARTS 7PM  
**ENTRY TICKET £20**  
LIVE MUSIC • BAR • RAFFLE

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

**For tickets email**  
[stmarysrocksjun24@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysrocksjun24@gmail.com)



This is a ticket only event. Tickets will need to be purchased in advance. Purchasers' names will be on the door, and in true festival style, wristbands will be given before entry.

As you can imagine, there is a lot of anticipation and excitement surrounding this event and it is a key fundraiser for the church. Details of the what to expect are given below, but keep an eye out for the posters going up around the village over the coming days and flyers coming through your doors very soon.

## **St Mary's Church Whaddon Presents**



Premier Rock and Indie Covers band  
performing songs made famous by  
Queen, Bon Jovi, Oasis, Arctic Monkeys,  
A-HA, Pink! And many More!

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### **At the Church:**

- Licensed Bar
- Food Van
- Raffle Prizes
- Outdoor Seating
- Parking
- Toilet Facilities

### **The Smaller Print:**

- Raffle tickets – cash only for ticket purchases
- Bar – cash preferred (card payment facilities will be available)
- Parking - in the field adjacent to the Church
- Family Friendly event



Check out the V2 Facebook page for video footage from other events!

**SAVE THE DATE - ST MARY'S CHURCH**  
**FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August - Florrie's Coffee Morning**



**Florrie's Coffee  
Morning**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

**10 – 12noon**

**At St Mary's Church and  
Churchyard**

*Please come along, have a cuppa with cake and a  
chat and support this lovely village tradition.*

**All funds raised going to St Mary's Church**

## **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Lights in London**

Rock concert, BBQs, Beacon..What will this village think of next?!!  
What about a trip to London on a red, double decker bus to see the Christmas Lights?

Bus will leave the village at 4pm sharp.

Fancy dress suggested!

Cost: £25 per person with all proceeds going to St Mary's Church.



## **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Christmas Wreath Making**

This event will be held in Jubilee Hall.

Details on how to participate will be published in the next Whaddon Quarterly.





# Jubilee Hall Whaddon's Village Hall

A lot has happened since the last Whaddon Quarterly and the hall has once again been at the heart of the community's entertainment and fund raising activities.



## Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March: American Western Evening

Wow, what a fantastic time we had at our American themed food and music evening.

Taylor'd Country were our live entertainment and were amazing. The line dancers came out to play and then never left the floor.

Tex-Mex food was provided by The Paella Pan who never fail to impress with the quality and the quantity.

Cheeky Cheesecakes provided the finishing touch to the food with some delicious vanilla cheesecakes.

But the most important ingredient for the success of the evening were all those that attended. Thank you so much for attending and supporting our fundraising events. Special thanks has to go to the committee and all the Happy Helpers that make these events possible.

See you all at the next one!



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

## **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April: Quiz Night**



We had another fantastic evening at our ever-popular Quiz night in April. Thank you to everyone that made the evening possible including our guest quizmaster, Omri Tau, who we all hope will come back again.

Congratulations to Crystal Methodists (pictured above) who narrowly beat Professor Quiz Whitty, Covidiots and The Cartel into joint second place, in a closely fought battle of the brains, where only five points separated the top six teams.

The next Quiz will be in the Autumn so plenty of time to swot up on your general and not-so general knowledge if you want to relieve Crystal Methodists of the prestigious Jubilee Hall Quiz Trophy.

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### **Would You Like to Hire the Jubilee Hall?**

Hall hire is £12 per hour for Whaddon residents; £18 per hour for non-residents.

Chairs and tables can be hired separately plus speakers and mood lighting are available for use upon request. In addition to hire costs, there is a cleaning charge for one-off bookings.

All proceeds raised from hall hire and events goes towards the upkeep of this much loved and much used space and your continued support is very gratefully received and very much appreciated.

**Please e-mail: [whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com) for more details.**



Please Like, share, and follow our page "Whaddon Jubilee Hall".

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June: Annual Whaddon BBQ & Social Evening

Tickets for this event are on sale and going fast, so book now to avoid disappointment. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Charity number. 300348

Whaddon  
Jubilee Hall presents

SUMMER

**BBQ**  
**& Social**  
**EVENING**

.....  
**June 8<sup>th</sup>**  
.....

Saturday, 5:00 pm  
.....

**TICKETS**

Adult - **£10.00**

Child - **£5.00**

(up to 12 years old)

Family - **£25.00**

(up to 2 adults & 3 children)

To book tickets, please email

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

Please state any dietary requirements

**FOOD • BAR • MUSIC • FUN**

## **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October: Quiz Night**

7pm: Doors and bar opens.

Quiz starts at 8pm.

Teams of up to 6 people.

£4 per person entry fee payable in advance.



Come to this popular village event and see if you can put the Crystal Methodists in their place. It was a very close run thing last time so let's see who the "Brainiest in the Village" is.

**Please e-mail [whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com) to book your table.**

## **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November: Bollywood Theme**

Who doesn't love the glitz and sparkle of Bollywood?

We are proud to be able to bring you a taste of India and Bollywood style entertainment.

More details to follow in the next Whaddon Quarterly but mark your diaries for this fantastic evening.



Please save the date of Monday 15 July for our Summer Concert. We will be performing lots of new pieces at Whaddon Jubilee Hall. Check Facebook, noticeboards and lampposts nearer the time!

We'd love to see you there, and the Summer Concert always has a wonderful, laid-back vibe (apart from those of us singing – lol!) which will put you all in a great seasonal frame of mind – helped of course by the well-stocked bar. There will be some special guest appearances too, so prepare to be surprised and delighted!

We're delighted to have welcomed a few new members recently, and would love to see even more join us. Now is a perfect time to join, as we're learning new pieces and are all in the same boat, as it were, when it comes to tackling previously unsung tunes. We have a giggle as we all make mistakes, and certainly don't take ourselves at all seriously!

We meet on a Monday at 7.30 - 9pm at the hall. Call Marianna on 07763 102994 for more details.

Your first visit is always free, and then you're guaranteed to be hooked - promise!

# Children's Pyjama Appeal - Update

Peaches Goyen who works at the village pub, is a huge supporter of children's charities and works hard throughout the year on their behalf, is proud to announce that she is now a Childrens Hospital Pyjama Volunteer Co-Ordinator for Milton Keynes!



In addition to collecting the pyjamas, she packs them with handmade hearts and poems and delivers them herself to the local hospital.

Please continue to donate new pairs of pyjamas (must be brand new) and these will be given to children from newborn to 18yrs, who are going through different types of treatment in hospital/hospices giving them some comfort for their stays!

**Pyjama Donation Collection point is The New Lowndes Arms Public House and donations are gratefully received until 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024.**



# Celebrating 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day Landings

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June: Beacon Lighting on Windy Ridge

Join Whaddon in Celebrating  
the  
**80th Anniversary of the  
D-Day Landings in Normandy**

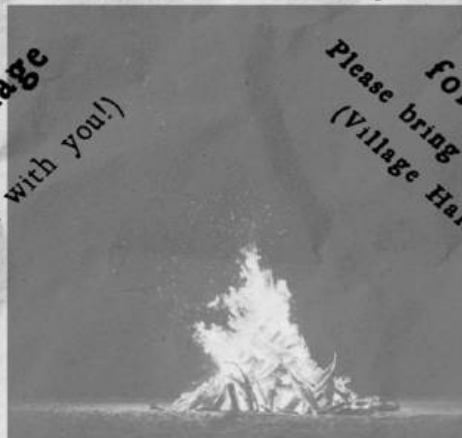


## **Beacon Lighting on Windy Ridge**

(the fields behind St Mary's Church,  
from where the historic decoding was transmitted)

**Donations to the Village  
Hall**

(Please bring some cash with you!)



**PICNIC**  
for Friends and Family  
(Village Hall toilets will be available)

**Thursday 6th June 2024**  
**6.30pm - 10.00pm**

Free Entry - We look forward to welcoming you all.

## **Amateur Wireless Enthusiasts Visit for an Historical Re-Enactment on Windy Ridge!**

Thursday the 6th of June is the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

The amateur wireless station GB1SOE will be on the air from "Windy Ridge" (behind the Church) on the amateur bands throughout the day and into the early evening. Along with other amateurs, we will be commemorating this monumental day which led to the liberation of Europe during WWII.

GB1SOE (amateur call sign) is a period wireless station that is active several times a year from venues such as Newport Pagnell 1940s weekend to The National Museum of computing and The National Radio Centre at Bletchley Park. The station is run by some amateur operators from Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Club (MKARS).

There is a strong link between WWII period hams and Bletchley Park. It is estimated that there were fifteen hundred amateurs working for the Radio Security Service based at Arkley View in Barnet. The amateurs were carefully selected and if suitable, they were asked to sign the Official Secrets Act. Their job was to monitor designated frequencies in the shortwave bands from their homes during their spare time. All the Morse Code signals that were monitored were encrypted, so they had no idea who they were listening to. Everything they wrote down was sent to Box number 25 Barnet. It was not until the mid-1970s that they were told who they had been listening to. It was the Abwehr (German intelligence), the German Police and the Gestapo.

Combined with the military Y stations (permanent listening stations), Bletchley Park had the almost impossible task of decrypting: making sense of what they had and then deciding what to do with it.

Please come along to Windy Ridge, just behind the Church on the 6th of June to see a typical WWII wireless station in action on the amateur bands. It would be nice to speak to you and discuss any known history of Whaddon during this historical time.

More of the monitoring story of Radio Security Service and SOE are told at the National Radio Centre Bletchley Park.

Peter Davies.

Personal Call sign M0PJD



# A True Story From the Front Line

By Billy Stanier

My father, Alex Stanier, an officer in the Welsh Guards, was chosen to command 231 Brigade on D-Day on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944 on "Gold" beach landing just to the east of Arromanches. He had joined the Army towards the end of WW1 and won the Military Cross as a 19 year old leading a patrol into the German lines.

Staying on in the regiment between the wars, he commanded the Welsh Guards in the retreat from Dunkirk in 1940 for which he was awarded the DSO (Distinguished Service Order). Later whilst training, he lost an eye in an accident but was nevertheless still passed fit to command a Brigade on D-Day. His landing craft hit a mine on approaching the beach so they had to wade ashore at the little village of Asnelles and the village square is now named Place Alexander Stanier. During the day, the Brigade advanced a few miles west to liberate Arromanches where he joined up with the Americans coming from further west. On board his ship for the crossing had been the King's observer who returned to England to brief His Majesty that all was going well. The King in turn, was kind enough to telephone my mother to advise the same.

Next day, they reinforced the area around Arromanches to enable the start of construction of the Mulberry harbour enabling the landing of so many more thousands of troops and vehicles. They had to knock out a German concrete gun emplacement on the cliff above the town. After lining up the prisoners, my father asked them if any spoke English and say what it was like inside. "Its was like being in a cocktail shaker" said one "you see I was a barman at the Savoy Hotel in London pre-war".

The brigade slowly made its way to land. Despite not speaking a word of French, he made many friends as a result of pitching his tent on their land. Later the brigade moved at speed across France, helping liberate Brussels by September and then into Germany the following Spring, culminating in Victory on VE Day.

My father came home safely in December to serve at the Guards HQ in London; the best Christmas present we, the family, could have wished for and he was awarded a second DSO together with the American Silver Star.



He lived many years in retirement, farming and undertaking many public positions in Shropshire, including as an Independent County Councillor, St Johns Ambulance, Severn River Board, School Governor and Chairman of Ludlow races.

At the age of 95, he hired a helicopter to take him to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, he said "I'm 95 so I might as well spend my money while I am still alive!" It was piloted by a great friend of mine. I waved them out and a few days later back in again. He passed away six months later.

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## **Whaddon School News**

By Sarah Prior



### **May fayre**

Our May Fayre was blessed with beautiful weather and fantastic patronage from the village and further afield. We were delighted to see so many people enjoying themselves at the stalls-and the barbeque!

We raised over £2,700 on the day and the gold sovereign was purchased, by blind auction bids, for a good profit.

We are extremely grateful to those who volunteered their time and to the Friends Of Whaddon School who organised the whole event with such success. The funds raised enable the school to continue to offer the children the experiences and resources that bring our learning to life.

### **Summer performance**

We warmly welcome members of the village to attend our Summer performance of "Goldilocks and the three bears- an impeccably judged musical" A Revolting Rhymes reworking of a traditional tale. The public performance takes place in our school hall on 10<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm. Seats can be secured via the office email: [office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk)

We hope to see you there!

## **Reception places September 2024**

If you know anyone who is looking for a reception place, or is looking to change the place they have been allocated, for Reception September 2024, it is not too late to view our wonderful setting and speak to the Headteacher and pupils about our unique school and forest school experiences. Our small rural school offers Reception to Year 6, so transitions are not an issue and classes of no more than 20.

All places for local children have been allocated, but we do have some spaces left. Parents living outside of our catchment can secure places and we are happy to guide them through the process, should they live outside of Buckinghamshire. Please pass on this message to anyone you may know in this position.

## **May Fayre, Whaddon School**

Big thanks to everyone for coming along and supporting the Whaddon's War Effort May Fayre.

The weather perked up just at the right time to help make it such an amazing day and it was great to see the turnout of parents, children, teachers and villagers having fun. Some real effort went into the children's costumes and they all looked fabulous!

Thank you to:

- All at school who worked hard to co-ordinate the maypole dancing, it really was wonderful and a joy to watch.
- The residents of Church Lane for again agreeing to the parade coming down the Lane - also thanks to the last minute Stewards for helping to manage this, Helen for lending the buggy and David for chauffeuring the King & Queen.
- Sam and the performers for organising the much loved dance demo.
- Hazel and the other brilliant bakers for an array of delicious cakes.
- Everyone who helped with donations of jars, bottles, teddies, manned a stall and who bought raffle tickets, we couldn't have done it without you!

A special thanks to Sid, Guy, Louise and David for another awesome BBQ/bar and to all those who helped over the weekend with the set-up & clearing down... a mammoth task! Also, to all the raffle donators for

the amazing prizes - particularly local businesses MacIntyre Law and Distinct Garden Rooms and the generous donator of the gold sovereign.

We are pleased to announce we cleared a mighty £2,700 profit from the Fayre and coin sale which is absolutely phenomenal! This will go towards iPads for the children, panto tickets at Christmas and a contribution towards the library update.

Thank you to the whole Whaddon School Community.  
The Friends of Whaddon Team



# Whaddon Women's Institute



Spring has sprung for our daytime group; our sunflower seeds have germinated with one member even having a flower already.

This quarter we have been for a walk around Caldecotte Lake followed of course by a quick lunch stop. We had an excellent talk from Lauren about mindfulness which included an exercise that proved enlightening for many of us. In early May, we celebrated our group's birthday with a bring and share party and a game of Bingo. Most of us had not played it for years, if at all, so it was great fun.

Coming up in the next few months we have a flower arranging lesson, an outing to Camphill and our Annual garden party.

On 4<sup>th</sup> September we will be having our much anticipated talk from an ex-auctioneer. After his talk, we will be having a silent auction to raise funds for our group. Keep an eye out nearer to the time for your invitation as this will be an event open to all.

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month from 2-3.45pm. Come along to any meeting for £4 as a visitor and see if it is for you. Annual WI Membership is currently only £48 per year and includes access to up to three closed meetings at other WI groups. There are many other groups in the area who also have some excellent talk and events scheduled.

In addition, you are able to attend as many open events run by other groups as you wish. This past quarter we were able to attend extremely entertaining and informative talk entitled 'secrets, scandal and salacious gossip' by Sarah Slater (one of the guides from Hampton Court Palace) hosted by the Watling Way Group.

Several of us also thoroughly enjoyed the Whaddon Night Owls open meeting with a talk from 'The Pearl Lady' on Art Deco jewellery with many marvellous items of jewellery for sale. Coming up, we have invitations to a coach trip to Barnsdale Gardens being run by the Bletchley Group.

Your WI membership includes the bi-monthly WI magazine which keeps you informed about what groups around the county are doing, has

excellent recipe and craft ideas in addition to keeping you up to date on the latest WI initiatives. It also serves as a reminder to you of the many corporate discounts available to WI members.

Please contact Jill Aitken on 01908 502781 or Mala Mulukutla 01908 387047 if you want to find out more..

Jane Wycherley (committee member)

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## **Eimers Charities**

Way back in 1653, William Elmer, a local resident died and his will set up two charities - **The Eimers Charity** and **The Eimers School Charity** - to benefit those people who were in need, and who lived in the five villages that he loved - namely Whaddon; Nash; Calverton; Beachampton and Maids Moreton.

Ever since, appointed trustees have overseen how the '**income only**' from the investments should be distributed . . which has to comply with pretty strict Charity Commission regulations, although trustees have recently managed to relax these conditions slightly due to changing circumstances over the past 370 years. Whaddon village enjoys a two-ninth part of the total income - which depending on how the investment interest rates perform, could amount to between two and three thousand pounds a year.

**ELMERS CHARITY** WAS ORIGINALLY FOR 'POOR PERSONS' IN SICKNESS, DISTRESS OR UNEXPECTED LOSS, AND TO PROVIDE SUCH PERSONS WITH CLOTHES, BOOTS, BLANKETS, FUEL, OR MEDICAL AID IN SICKNESS.....BUT RECENTLY FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION, THE CHARITY COMMISSION HAS ALLOWED SLIGHT ADDITIONAL DISCRETION BENEFITING THE COMMUNITY RATHER THAN JUST A PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL - ALTHOUGH THE ORIGINAL AIM FOR NEEDY INDIVIDUALS MUST STILL APPLY.

As an example, if the Village Hall needed a disabled ramp to access any new extension or the Church required a disabled toilet as part of any improvement, then subject to other trustees agreeing, an application for a contribution 'to assist a necessary and important community benefit' could possibly be made.

**THE SCHOOL CHARITY** CAN HELP WITH CLOTHING, TOOLS. INSTRUMENTS OR BOOKS TO ASSIST PERSONS TO PURSUE THEIR EDUCATION, WHICH INCLUDES MUSIC, ARTS AND APPRENTICESHIPS, - BUT NOT ACTUAL FEES.

The School grants, - due to the much smaller original endowment - are not huge, but can range from £25 to £150. Importantly, grants are available to all residents and are not means tested.

The two Whaddon trustees will be pleased to speak with groups or confidentially with individuals if help is required.

For further information please contact the Parish Clerk at: - [clerk@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk)



## **Neighbourhood Watch Whaddon**

<b>YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS</b>		
Graham Stewart	2 High Street	Tel: 01908 501973
Peter Beckwith	6 Old Manor Close	Tel: 01908 503194
Sally Green	Bellsbrook, Church Lane	Tel: Ex -directory
David MacIntyre	2a Vicarage Road	Tel: 01908 867836
Howard Jones	8 Ladymead	Tel: 01908 501871
Sally Telford	4a Stock Lane	Tel: 01908 336960
Pauline Winward	1 Whaddon Hall	Tel: 01908 502559

### **PROTECT YOUR HOME**

Unfortunately, Thames Valley is seeing a rise in burglaries, particularly in the South Bucks area, but also in the North. A few simple steps can help protect your home and reduce the chances of your home becoming the next target:

1. Don't leave your home in darkness. Invest in a timer switch for lamps or your TV. Perhaps purchase a simulated TV device.
2. Keep valuables out of sight and mark them with your house number and postcode using a UV pen.

3. Register your valuables via the Immobilise web page and keep an inventory list.
4. If you have jewellery at home, photograph it for insurance purposes and consider storing it in a suitable safe.
5. Lock your doors and windows - remove all keys from locks and keep them out of reach.
6. If you're going away on holiday, cancel any deliveries, set alarms and do not post on social media.
7. Look out for your neighbours' houses, especially when they're not at home.

### **PROTECT YOUR SHED.**

Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower. An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house.

Tips to keeping your property safe:

1. Think like a thief - Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in, check doors, windows and hinges.
2. Alarm it! - Consider a battery-operated shed alarm
3. Lock it - Don't give them the opportunity or the tools to commit a crime. Lock everything away securely. Tools can be locked inside a locker or box or secured with a chain.
4. Hide it - It's always worth draping an old sheet or blanket over the top of mowers or bikes to keep them covered from view.
5. Mark it - Property marking your items is advisable and some tools can be painted with your name or postcode. Forensic marking is also an option.



## **Shenley Park, Whaddon - Development Update**

Statutory responses to the original Crest Nicholson (CN) planning application are still 'trickling in', but it is evident that the expected revised application, to accord with the recently adopted SPD, is still some way off - probably much later this year. When this is finally submitted to Bucks and MK councils, there will be additional public consultation periods, when residents will be able to make their voices heard.

Recent consultee responses that have been placed on the BC planning website, in response to application number 23/02180/AOP include:

Bucks Council's Highways - 14th March - A 17 page detailed response, some of which (relating to: Trip Generation, Junction Design, Strategic Modelling, Sifting and Framework Travel Plan etc) are way beyond any layman's understanding and highlights the complexity of the highway issues, but it is made clear that considerably more transport modelling is required, and must be undertaken by the applicants CN, before any mitigation measures can be considered by both Bucks and Milton Keynes Councils. In view of this it is still too early to know what the full impacts of the development will be in highway terms, and what necessary improvements will be required to make the development acceptable in planning and highway terms. To challenge any new traffic information (which will eventually become available when the revised Transport Assessment is completed and submitted by Crest's highway consultants alongside the revised planning application) would be hugely complex and expensive, which is why WPC has requested that a highway officer attends a future WPC meeting to explain the BC eventual response. If this can be achieved, residents will be notified of the date.

Bucks Council Affordable Housing - 22nd March - If 1,265 new homes is the final figure at Shenley Park, then 25% - amounting to 316 homes - will need to be of affordable tenures to be agreed with the council, depending on current housing needs (i.e. currently approximately 80% affordable rent and 20% possible shared ownership), in 1, 2, 3 & 4 bed flat and house designs.

Bucks Strategic Environment - 21st March - The air quality assessment concludes that there will be no serious effect during the operation of the scheme, although dust may be a problem for the nearest homes during the construction phases. For this reason, a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) will be required (very similar to that agreed and adopted for the Western Expansion Area some years ago). WPC will be consulted on this document to ensure - for instance - that construction traffic is not allowed to use village roads!

National Highways - 12th April - They have extended their objection until the applicants have provided the required information on their impacted highway - which interestingly is the A5 and not the A421, as this latter road south of the M1 motorway to Oxford is not part of the strategic road network managed by NH.



Population Growth - This is not available on the planning website, but purely for residents' interest, Buckinghamshire planners suggest that if this development commences - as currently expected - in 2026, then depending on market conditions etc. some 90 houses per year could be completed, at an average occupancy rate of 2.5 persons per dwelling, meaning that over a period of some 14 years, the parish population should grow by some 225 persons every year, to almost 3,200 people. Your Parish Council thinks that this growth rate may be slightly underestimated.

### **OTHER IMPORTANT PLANNING INFORMATION TO NOTE.**

Both Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes councils are in the process of preparing and updating their Local Plans which when available should begin to explain how and where likely future housing development, over and above that already known about, is likely to take place.

**Buckinghamshire Council** is in the process of preparing a new Bucks-wide Local Plan, which will cover the entire Council area for the period up to 2040. We can expect the latest version of the plan - which should contain 'growth scenarios' within the next couple of months, and a public consultation period will follow, which may be important for residents of North Buckinghamshire - if as is feared, more housing may be targeted in this general area. The new plan is expected to be adopted after examination in 2026.

**The New MK City Plan** will set out their bold and ambitious vision to 2050, which might include a pioneering mass rapid transport system. The next version of the emerging plan is expected to be published around mid/end-July 2024, and a 6-8 week public consultation period will follow. It is possible that as part of their search for new housing sites they may look again at expanding the Western Expansion Area, over and beyond the Shenley Ridge, just to the north of Whaddon . . . But this is dependent upon the results of a recent Landscape Study, which has considered various attractive landscapes around the City.

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## **Whaddon Planning Snippets**

Little has happened since the last edition of the Whaddon Quarterly, but residents may be interested in the following new application and other updates: -

### **24/00808/APP - 29 Stock Lane, Whaddon. - Householder application for two storey side and rear extensions.**

A large side and rear extension, replacing existing buildings, with the side access extinguished, but replaced with new rear access through

the new garage. Standing forward of the neighbouring bungalow group, a 'No Objection', but with comments response was duly submitted, by WPC.

**No formal decision has been made as of 15th May.**

**22/00221/APP and 21/04926/APP - Thrift Farm, Childcare Nursery.**

There has been a flurry of new consultation responses from, highways, ecology, environmental health etc and a revised plan posted on the BC planning website.

The revised and updated highway comments has removed its original objection due to recent updated NPPF recommendations and advice.

**These two applications are being referred to the North Area Planning Committee for final determination, because - for the sake of transparency - Buckinghamshire Council has ownership interests in the site. Officers will recommend, at this meeting on 22nd May, that the application be delegated to the Service Director of Planning and Environment for APPROVAL subject to various conditions.**

**The Bucks Council A421 Transport Study.**

Readers will recall that the second November 2023 workshop was postponed, because the BC transport advisors required even more time to ensure that they had a robust evidence base to consider. A further workshop is planned for later this year.

The initial meeting was far from encouraging and any eventual recommendations arising from the study will need prioritising and funding support, so do not expect any improvements arising from this study any time soon!

**'The Oaks'. Stratford Road.**

There have been no further updates from the applicant's agents on the possible proposed planning application for a '**solar farm**' at this location, but should one be received then details will be forwarded immediately to residents, in order that their comments can be made known via the normal public consultation process.

# Whaddon's Wonderful Watchmaker - Part 2

## A professor of dancing

But there is one hypothesis; a possible solution to the vexing issue that hangs in the air over William and Charlotte. It offers a view on the most tantalising question: how *did* they actually come to meet? After all, only a very short time had elapsed between George Judge's death and Charlotte's remarriage. Did William's sister, Mary, play any part in the saga of William and Charlotte?

Mary certainly led an interesting life. Aged 24, she married Frederick Mares on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1826 at St. George's Church, Hanover Square - the very same church where Whaddon's aristocrat William Selby-Lowndes, no less, wed Lucy Hartman some six years later on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1832. James Glen, then the curate, officiated at Frederick and Mary's marriage (both were described as 'being of this parish'). Richard Prentice and Martha Gardus witnessed the certificate signing. Martha Gardus was Mary's mother. What makes Frederick interesting is his profession: professor of dancing at a dancing school. This would explain the choice of St George's as a wedding venue. A 'posh' wedding like that of William Selby Lowndes. Is it possible that at some point before William's marriage that Mary said to her husband-to-be: "You should meet my brother, William. He is a famous watchmaker. You ought to commission him to make you a watch; people say they are wonderful."

And how did Mary meet *her* husband? Did she attend a school of dancing to improve her deportment as well as her social skills?

And so is it just possible that Mary Mares, keenly aware that her brother appeared to show no signs of getting married, decides to take matters into her own hands.

Perhaps Mary suggested that William join her at one of her husband's beginners' sessions at the school of dancing. William agreed, just for fun, and at the first session by amazing coincidence Charlotte and a relative also attended. In one dance, William and Charlotte were partnered and Mary noticed how well they 'clicked'.

And the relative? Might it have been Katherine Underwood  
If you are interested in collaborating with CPRE or would like to learn more about our organisation and volunteer initiatives, please don't hesitate to contact me at [katherine@cpre.org.uk](mailto:katherine@cpre.org.uk)  
of Whaddon, she had been working for an 80-year-old clerk for the Navy Office at No 4, Portland Place, Hackney? Katherine was of similar age to Charlotte.

Also, James Underwood had a baker's shop in the same area, having left Whaddon. He married Ann French of Whaddon in 1832 in the village.

Quite possibly Charlotte teamed up with Ann when Charlotte visited London when also she visited James.

Did she do more than that? For example, did she even spend the occasional hour serving in James's baker's shop in Mile End Road, Mile 34

End? Imagine the scene: Charlotte wearing a spanking white baker's apron, a toque and a cheeky smile that was enough, when William Gardus entered the shop, when asking: "And what can I get you, kind Sir?" Was enough to elicit a response from the watchmaker that sparked their friendship?

Charlotte had witnessed several shades of life, from pub landlord's daughter to farmer's wife to the wife of a highly skilled craftsman able to produce a bespoke pocket watch every several months.

Whatever happened, Charlotte and William 'clicked' sufficiently to start a romance. A romance that led to marriage. A marriage of convenience or something else? Perhaps Charlotte had no wish to remain a widow; maybe William found Charlotte's wealth enticing.

Their marriage was by special license. Why? In those days, a license afforded a 'quickie' marriage for busy people, especially non-conformists. It was also often a society occasion. It demonstrated the couple did not have to wait to marry but could afford to buy a licence and get married quickly. Most likely a license was employed when a couple wanted to marry away from their own parish, for whatever reason. It could be for any of these, or a combination.

Whatever the 'clincher' between Charlotte and William, they wed at St Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, Hackney on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1828, just 15 months after the wedding of Frederick and Mary.

The professor and his wife lived in Edmonton where their children included Mary, Frederick, Eliza, Emily and Robert. In 1861, the family had a servant, Sarah Cork, from Essex. On census day they also had a visitor: Ellen Lamb, 17, from Islington - a French translator! The professor died on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1863 in Church Street, Edmonton. Mary died some 20 years later on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1884, aged 82, in Kentish Town, Middlesex.

### **Time to move to Whaddon**

Time for some more questions. Did Charlotte and William spend long living in London following their wedding in Shoreditch? Did Charlotte become homesick for the country life of Buckinghamshire where she was born? Certainly, by 1841, the couple had moved north to Whaddon. Had they made the journey by railway? Possibly. The London & North Western Railway (L&NWR) opened for business with pomp and ceremony in 1838. Many trains from Euston to Birmingham stopped at Wolverton. Bletchley junction station (five miles distant from Whaddon) opened its doors in Spring 1839.

Incidentally, Swanbourne Station on the Oxford to Bletchley branch of the L&NWR line, was eight miles distant from Whaddon.

Such was progress in those days: the Stockton & Darlington Railway had opened only 13 years previously on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1825. It was a

great occasion; not only was it the world's first public passenger railway, but it was pulled by one of the first steam locomotives.

And so it was, small boys would gather at Bletchley Station to watch the hissing, clattering new locomotives and their carriages thunder past in clouds of steam and smoke. Not until the Autumn of 1851 did the enormous Wolverton 'Bloomers' make their presence felt in the same station; those marvellous machines of their day - machines unique to the L&NWR.

Try to imagine therefore the transformation for William Gardus as he travelled through the Buckinghamshire countryside to Whaddon, famous for its Whaddon Chase. And, with William some twenty-plus years Charlotte's junior, the couple's return to Charlotte's birth village to take up residence alongside her family, might have set a few local tongues wagging.

### **Imaging the transformation**

Whaddon's countryside in 1841 was mostly agricultural, as Charlotte knew only too well. But for William here was another bonus besides oceans of greenness and fresh air: as farmers became more prosperous, so they sought to own timepieces; likewise local gentry such as at Whaddon Hall.

Even so, it was a huge displacement for William to handle; he had

been raised and worked in claustrophobic London.

The inscription in the bible (provided by Russell) confirms the reality of William's migration. William Gardus was born in Southwark, in Castle Street, in January 1800; his sister Mary was born at Lower Sloane Street, Chelsea in October 1801.



Castle Street seems to have been somewhere off what is now Southwark Bridge Road, and there is a picture of it from the 1820s in British History Online given right.

Southwark Bridge, not built until 1819, would not have been there when William was an infant. Lower Sloane Street leads towards Chelsea Bridge from Sloane Square and is currently Victorian mansion blocks as part of the Cadogan estate: Its difficult to imagine what it was like in the early 1800s, but Hans Town, to the north of Sloane Square, was pretty smart.

There were no Garduses in Lower Sloane Street in the 1841 census, but William's parents (Robert and Martha) lived in Caroline Place - in that part of Chelsea towards what is now South Kensington underground station.

Robert Gardus, a shoe maker, died in 1854; Martha died in 1849. Robert was a "house proprietor" at Caroline Place in 1851 and had let the rest of the house to a family of four.

### **A member of the lodge of Unity**

William Gardus was a member of the Lodge of Unity, which claims to be one of the oldest freemason lodges and operated from the Freemasons' Hall in Covent Garden.



His address when he joined as a 22-year-old in 1823 was given as Berk(e)ley Court in Clerkenwell. Shown here **(left)** is an 1899 picture of it when it might have been a slum, but perhaps not in the 1820s.

Significantly for William, Clerkenwell was the centre of watchmaking in London (and the world) at that time. It's likely he would have been sponsored to join the masons as part of completion his apprenticeship.

Even so, William, once a London apprentice, no doubt faced competition following his arrival in Church Lane, Whaddon. William Davison of Newton Blossomville lived nearby, but the economics of the business made life for William tough with his duplex watches. But membership of a prominent Lodge may have given him leverage.

He possibly also travelled some distance to pick up trade: the repair of watches – in nearby mansions as well as new watch business.

On a more personal level, Charlotte does not appear to have had any children either with George; as to William, in 1851, a few years following their arrival in Whaddon, Charlotte gave her age as 70 and William would be 49.

Living in Church Lane in 1851 were people with a range of occupations: most were agricultural labourers, but there were also a several paupers.

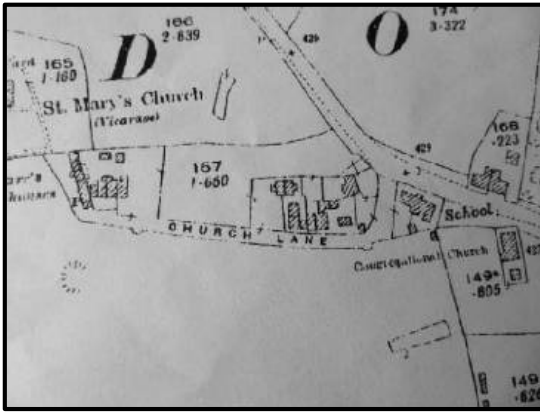
At a national level, however, William would seemed not to have scaled the heights in terms of watchmakers. There is no indication of any kind which marks William Gardus as a watchmaker of acclaim,

Paul Evans of Buckinghamshire Archives informs me that the county's catalogue and collections have turned up nothing of note. Having checked several of Kelly's Directories, Paul reports that William Gardus is not in the lists of notable residents in either Whaddon or Winslow. And is not listed under clock or watch makers.

Paul adds: "Looking for Gardus while searching the archives yields only one result, in a George Wigley auction valuation book of 1880. The reference is D/WIG/2/1/7) – Whaddon Valuation (Gardus Executors)."

Meanwhile, with time, William's stature locally must have increase somewhat; he did become one of North Buckinghamshire's noted watchmakers; however, he did not become a 'time-piece lord' on the scale of John Stone of Aylesbury, William Rose and Miles Abraham of Newport Pagnell.

County records of clockmakers also suggest William made little impact. In this respect, Charlotte's wealth might have come as a useful fallback.



Church Lane in an 1881 map with William Gardus's cottage likely that above 'Lane'.

Charlotte and Willian were able to share 30 years of marriage before Charlotte passed away. In this regard, Paul has also kindly Researched Charlotte's death. He has inspected the Whaddon parish register. The entry records her burial at St Mary's Church in February 1858. Charlotte is marked as 79.

Paul came upon details of her grave from a transcript of monumental inscriptions, but that gives Charlotte's burial date as 1852; the difference in dates could be due to erosion of the gravestone. This is not confirmed by *FreeBMD*; it gives no record for Charlotte's death. So, we must take the Whaddon register as correct.

Seemingly, three years later, in 1861 when he was 60, William continued living in Church Lane where he enjoyed some considerable wealth. And he cemented to cement his connections with the Underwood family as explained by his signature as witness to the wills of both Ann and Edward Underwood, innkeeper at *The Fox & Hounds*.

However, by then (1861) William no longer lived alone; he shared his Church Lane cottage (**see map above**) with nephew John Underwood, 28. The census described John Underwood, as 'gentleman', an indication of how family wealth travelled down the line. But John was also a carpenter and joiner.

Incidentally, in passing, there is no sign of a Church Lane of Thomas Phillips's 1800 map of Whaddon although Stock Lane is shown.

So, what do we really *know* about William Gardus? Only really that he lived in Whaddon for at least a quarter of a century; that he married a woman born and bred in Whaddon. One imagines that as such, he would be an upstanding member of the village; one who possibly attended morning service at St Mary's - and possibly evening service too. He might even take communion. Did he sing in the church choir - after all, living in Church Lane he lived but a few steps away from the west door.

William Pigott, 40, from Dover, Kent, was vicar at the time. He lived in the vicarage with his 29-year-old servant, Henrietta Sophia.

But how would he promote himself and his faultless pocket watches? Did he rely on word-of-mouth? Did he visit local inns and taverns and, by chatting at the bar, gently and casually introduce himself as a watchmaker and show of one of his elegant timepieces? Most likely it was the former, as he had Charlotte's wealth to fall back on.

**Next instalment of Whaddon's Wonderful Watchmaker - Part 3 will appear in the Autumn edition of the Whaddon Quarterly.**

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- Content received after the deadline may not be included, but best efforts will be made to meet your request.

### Content Policy and Copyright

All material for publication in the Whaddon Quarterly is to be appropriate and suitable; and it may not contain any content that could be deemed as offensive, discriminatory, or derogatory. Any submissions deemed not to meet this standard will be subject to edit or exclusion by the Editor. The Editor's decision is final in this regard. Content of Whaddon Quarterly is subject to Copyright and may not be used or reproduced without the Editor's permission.





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# What's On Whaddon?

## 2024 Dates for Your Diary

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Lowndes Arms Quiz Nite 8pm

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May:** Lowndes Arms Cheese & Wine 7pm

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Beacon Lighting Windy Ridge 6.30pm

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Quiz Night 8pm

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Disco Bingo 8pm

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Annual Whaddon BBQ & Social Evening Jubilee Hall

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Euro2024 – Germany vs Scotland

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Father's Day Roast 12.30-4pm

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Euro 2024 – Serbia v England 8pm

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Lowndes Arms Euro 2024 – England v Denmark 5pm

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Jun:** St. Mary's Rocks. Concert at St Mary's Church.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Jun:** Euro 2024 – England v Slovenia 8pm

**29<sup>th</sup> Jun–2<sup>nd</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Euro 2024 – Round 16 5pm/8pm

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Euro 2024 Quarter Finals 5pm/8pm

**Tues/Wed 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Euro Semi Finals 8pm

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Goldilocks & the Three Bears-a musical at Whaddon C of E School.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Euro 2024 Final

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Soul and Motown Party 7pm

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Jul:** Lowndes Arms Disco Bingo 8pm

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Quiz Night at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Bollywood Theme Event at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Christmas Lights in London.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec:** Christmas Wreath Making at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.



**See Inside Magazine for Further Details on these Wonderful Events!**

**More events coming to Whaddon soon!  
Watch out for further announcements.**

### Regular Events Across the Village

**MONDAY EVENINGS:** Chase Choir in the Whaddon Jubilee Hall. 7.30pm-9pm. No experience necessary. Please call Marianna Beckwith on 01908 503194 for more details.

**TUESDAY EVENINGS:** Table Tennis in the Whaddon Jubilee Hall. Contact Mark Carter on [magcarter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:magcarter@hotmail.co.uk)

**FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH:** Whaddon's Women's Institute 2pm in the Whaddon Jubilee Hall. Please call Jill Aitken on 01908 502781 for more details.

**THURSDAY EVENINGS:** Mindfulness based Yoga with Lauren in the Whaddon Jubilee Hall. 7.30pm-8.30pm. Please contact Lauren Bennett

on [lauren@thelollipopway.co.uk](mailto:lauren@thelollipopway.co.uk) if you are interested.