



# WHADDON QUARTERLY

February 2016

**Any comments, queries or articles**  
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01908 866988 or johnmortimermsc@gmail.com

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**We are very grateful for the continued support  
of your village pub, The Lowndes Arms, which  
not only prints the *Whaddon Quarterly* but  
financially subsidises it.**



## **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT SPRING 2016**

IT IS very pleasing to be able to say that we now have a Recreation Ground with modern and interesting children's playground equipment, which was opened at the end of November by the Chairman of AVDC, Jenny Bloom. Despite being cold, the weather could have been a lot worse, and the refreshments were most welcome. We shall always be indebted not only to Pat Haig for spearheading our grant application to WREN for this, but to the many other residents who gave their time and effort towards ensuring that all came to fruition.

The Parish Council met in January and precepted for an unchanged sum of £15,000 to carry out its work in the village.

Planned development is very much in focus at the moment as Milton Keynes Council has reached the stage in "Plan MK" where it is consulting on the preferred options for site allocations. MKC officers are coming to Whaddon Jubilee Hall on the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> March to explain and to listen, in regard to Whaddon and Nash.

The Parish Council will also comment on the emerging Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan when it reaches the same stage later this year.

Many of you will be aware of the big part that Whaddon played in the winning of the Second World War, especially the sending of top secret messages to our top Commanders in the field from the two huts that were on Windy Ridge, aka Church Hill. There have been suggestions that this should have a permanent memorial and discussions are taking place as to what may, or may not, be possible.

The Parish Council owns three pieces of property in Whaddon: the Recreation Ground, the Allotments Ground and Constable's Plot, the field on Stratford Road whose rent used to pay the wages of the village bobby in days gone by. We decided that we should register title to these three pieces of ground and take advice on how we should manage our property going forward, and that is currently in progress.

Almost finally, I cannot ever sufficiently thank Pat Haig for all the hard work she has done for many years for the Parish Council and I wish her and Alastair every happiness in Northampton. This means that, as nobody has demanded an Election, we shall be able to co-opt a suitable candidate, probably at the next Parish Council meeting on 31st March 2016 at 7.30pm at the Chapel. Do come along.

Lastly, I am delighted to welcome John Mortimer, as the new editor of Whaddon Quarterly, succeeding Pat Haig. It is an extraordinary coincidence that he once worked with Peter Spooner who lived in the village for many years, and was involved in the production of the first ever edition. 

*Billy Stanier*

Chair, Whaddon Parish Council

February 2016

## FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

FOLLOWING Pat Haig's move to Northampton, I have taken over the editor's chair for a while. We all owe Pat a huge debt of gratitude for so skilfully editing the *Whaddon Quarterly* for nearly three years. I hope I can maintain her standards.

By an extraordinary twist of fate, I find myself editing this delightful publication, launched by Doug Stewart in winter 1981 "to keep you informed", but also edited for some 15 years by Peter Spooner. Many will recall Peter's epic *Millennium Souvenir Edition*. Peter and I were editors in the same publishing company in Woolwich, in south-east London in the early 1970s. We knew each other well, and were in close touch following the sinking of *MS Herald of Free Enterprise*. The cross-channel Ro-Ro ferry capsized on 6 March 1987 resulting in 193 passengers (including Peter's son, Martin) and crew losing their lives. I attended Peter's funeral in 2008.

Following an apprenticeship in the aero engine industry and attendance at Cranfield University, I have been in publishing over 50 years, first as editor, then publishing director of *The Engineer* – founded 160 years ago and still going strong. Later, as managing director, I ran an international book and journal publishing company in Kempston before launching my newsletter and book publishing business in Toddington in the early 1980s. Following its sale, I maintain an automotive industry blog and have written several books, including a novel and a biography.

Since the last issue of the *Quarterly*, the village has, for many weeks, assumed an air of tranquillity as work by Western Power Distribution led to closure of the Stratford Road. The closure – the laying of 33,000kVA cables took longer than first expected due to record December rainfall – caused huge disruption, inconvenience and additional costs for many. At the same time, however, it introduced a feeling of tranquillity, reminiscent of quiet, traffic-free days of 50 years ago. Road traffic is essential to modern society but can cause problems, as incidents in 2014 of the overturned cement mixer (right) and a school bus engine fire demonstrated. There is a legal 30mph speed limit; it is there for a reason – to safeguard life and property.



November saw the opening of the revamped recreation ground; a huge vote of thanks is due to Pat's driving energy and the hard work of many village stalwarts.

On my dog walks I notice a fine, new seat (*In loving memory of Henry Adams, 1928-2015*) outside the west door of the church. It will give young and old a chance to sit and enjoy fine weather – when it comes.

Meanwhile, I will try "to keep you informed" and ease the passage for others to make their contributions. My thanks also to Marianna for her invaluable help. ♦



# Clerk's Corner

**Helpful information from  
Whaddon Parish Council**

## **Wanted! A New Parish Councillor**

We currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor following a resignation due to relocation out of the village. This will be a co-option process, not an election, so no need to canvas supporters for a vote!

If you are interested in this position please contact the Parish Clerk. Deadline is 25th March 2016.

**Fly Tipping – Again!** A resident got in touch to say someone had dumped their Christmas tree on land adjacent to the Church yard. It was neatly cut into three pieces, presumably to fit in their car boot and facilitate convenient disposal for them. A public spirited resident kindly cleared it up. If you spot any fly tippers, or want to report incidents of fly tipping, there is a place on AVDC and Bucks CC websites, or call 01296 480771.

**Receive Whaddon Quarterly and News Updates by Email.** Your Parish Council offers an email update service for timely distribution of helpful informational items. If you would like to subscribe please contact [ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk](mailto:ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk).

Likewise the Whaddon Quarterly is available via PDF on request, and this saves production and distribution costs. This email service is particularly useful to keep you updated about any significant planning applications in the Parish, changes in refuse collections, and road closure information.

**Date of Next Parish Council Meeting(s)** The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council take place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, on at 7.30pm on 31st March, 12th May, 21st July, 8th September, and 10th November 2016.

Please check the Village Notice Board on the bus stop to confirm these dates and the location, as these can be subject to change at short notice.

All Welcome!



# **WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **VACANCY FOR A NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR**

**Here is your Chance to Get Involved, Help your Community, and Make a Positive Difference to the Village.**

Being a Parish Councillor is a rewarding and interesting role, and a chance for you to get involved with key issues affecting the village; making decisions; and making a positive difference to our community.

### **FAQs**

- **Am I too young/old?..... You just need to be over twenty-one.**
- **Will I have enough time?..... Just six evening meetings a year, and occasional 'homework'.**
- **I really need to focus on my career..... Having 'Councillor' on your CV will enhance your career.**
- **I haven't been in the village long enough..... If you have lived here for a year you are eligible.**
- **I don't know anything about Parish Councils..... No problem, you're not expected to!**
- **What about that 'Code of Conduct'? .....Yes, you do have to declare any personal interests, and these are held on file at AVDC. And you may not speak or vote on topics that directly affect you personally or financially. But this protects you from any possible conflicts of interest.**

### **Sound interesting?**

In the first instance, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk; Suzanne Lindsey, 1 Vicarage Road, Whaddon. Telephone 01908 507970 or email [parishclerk@whaddonbuckspc.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@whaddonbuckspc.org.uk) to register your interest.

**Applications Close on 25<sup>th</sup> March**

# Whaddon's future: Too important to ignore

**Government is applying pressure on local councils, like Aylesbury Vale and Milton Keynes, to build more houses with implications for the countryside and Whaddon's Local Landscape Area, as Graham Stewart explains.**

Whaddon Village has existed for hundreds of years, and during this time has changed little, certainly in comparison to what might be on the cards now!

We enter a period of change, brought about by the country's growth and the need for many more homes and employment requirements, which will impact, not just on the readers of this article, but by almost everyone, everywhere, as all local authorities look to accommodate this unprecedented growth being demanded by Government.

In response, Aylesbury Vale District Council and Milton Keynes Council are in the process of producing new Local Plans. These will look at ways of accommodating this growth and Whaddon, sitting in the relatively unconstrained northern part of the Aylesbury district, but almost immediately adjoining one of the country's most successful and certain-to-expand 'New Towns', Milton Keynes, will be affected.

Whaddon will come under the planning microscope of those making important strategic growth and expansion decisions at both district and county council levels.

As these various plans look ahead some 20 to 50 years, some may not be interested in what happens, and sadly, may not be around to witness it. But others, perhaps the younger generation, or those yet to move into our village, might, and probably will, witness changes that would have been unthinkable 50 years ago, before the onset of Milton Keynes, or 100 years ago, before the great wars that shaped our country thereafter.

Most of us have witnessed the growth of MK on our doorstep and, whatever you may think about that, it has been exciting, bringing with it great opportunities as well as disappointments.

Most of you will have enjoyed shopping experiences, trips to the theatre, cinema and the many new restaurants, cycling along the Redway system and relaxing in one of the wonderful landscaped parks, so well maintained by the Parks Trust. Recently, I even enjoyed sky diving, as I hovered in an upward torrent of air at Airkix MK! Others will shudder at the loss of irreplaceable countryside that has made way for these pleasures and the loss of personal amenities as HGV's, (including last year's overturned Hanson cement truck), and extra traffic trundle through our village, affecting our safety and rural way of life.

Whatever your position or thinking, Whaddon is now under threat like never before in its history. Apart, that is, from 50 years ago, when it was almost included in the original plans for Milton Keynes.

At that time, farmers put together a strong case for saving valuable farmland, and Government Inspectors of the day saw and recognised the beauty and importance of protecting the Whaddon Valley landscape. Inspectors even redrew the boundaries back to almost what we have today (excluding the current Western Expansion Area, which formed part of the last review of the MK Plan some 10 years ago, together with a similar-sized area in the east of the city).



## **So why is this important – even if it is something you know already?**

Well, your Parish Council having recently responded to two public consultations (Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan and MK Site Allocations Plan), must now turn their attention to the latest, and probably most important, consultation so far.

*Plan: MK 'Strategic Development Directions'* is the latest stage of the new Plan for Milton Keynes. And, like those farmers of 50 years ago, or those residents within the village who successfully fought the 'Shenley Ridge battle' just over 10 years ago, you can now have your say.

It is important that you do so, particularly if you want to help shape or influence Whaddon's destiny, or simply comment on how and where you think Milton Keynes should expand in the future. Without wishing to worry or upset any residents, there are now plans in the public arena for all to see, where huge housing and employment developments, albeit with large swathes of extended parkland, threaten to encroach, and could be built very close to the village.

These possible development areas include Bottlehouse Farm behind Briary View, farmland behind our recently and greatly-improved recreation ground and, once again, large areas of the Local Landscape Area in the Whaddon Valley beyond Whaddon Hall, alongside Oakhill Wood and around Shenley Dens Farm.

Some might argue that Whaddon is fortunate to a degree, as Newton Longville is threatened by similar developer-led plans that could completely surround and engulf it. There are new roads planned to relieve congestion and help the flow of East and West traffic being considered, along with the much-promised Oxford to Cambridge rail link that, although currently delayed, is, I am told, going to happen in the reasonably near future.

These various plans are up for grabs and still in the air, as are alternative options which include extending Milton Keynes to the east of the M1 Motorway, building new satellite settlements in the MK rural area, or intensifying, rebuilding and regenerating the existing MK urban area.

However, local authorities want to know what you think should happen, where this required development should go, and whether it should be one of the options, a combination of several, or none of them!

On the following page, I try to explain as simply as possible, what is happening and how you can become involved, should you wish. If you choose not to, I will fully understand; it is sometimes not easy to grasp the detail, nor is it a quick job to do so, but as a Parish Councillor who has always lived in the area and has some knowledge of what is a very complicated subject, I would not be doing right by you to simply ignore the challenges that face us all.

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## **PLAN:MK' – PUBLIC MEETING – 23 MARCH**

### **WHAT IS PLAN:MK?**

This new plan will replace the 2013 MK Core Strategy and will determine how much new development is needed, and where it should go, until 2035. Growth will continue beyond 2035, and because MK is 50 years old in 2017 a separate commission is

looking at the next 50 years. The results will feed into the Plan:MK process. The Plan:MK contains four main strategic growth options **upon which your views are sought**.

Option 1 (see much simplified drawing on next page) if implemented in full, would have a massive impact on Whaddon. It proposes MK growth that would spill over the Shenley Ridge, cross the Stratford Road and extend almost to Beachampton, whilst also running behind the village into Bottlehouse Farm, behind Briary View and continuing behind the village playing field down to Bottledump roundabout on the A421, and then onto and around Newton Longville.

The other three strategic options are: East of the M1 Motorway, Satellite settlements built around existing MK villages and intensification/redevelopment in the existing MK urban area. The final choice could be one option, or a combination of two or three options.

## **WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN?**

The consultation is already well under way, and **comments must be made to M.K. Council by 6 April**. Look at the document and the four important 'strategic proposal maps' by simply Googling: Plan:MK - Milton Keynes Council, and open the link on page one to : Plan:MK, 'Strategic Development Directions Consultation Document'.

## **IMPORTANT VILLAGE MEETING**

Because this consultation is **so important to Whaddon residents**, your Parish Council has arranged with MK Council a 'Drop In' exhibition at the Whaddon Jubilee Hall between **6.00pm and 9.00pm on Wednesday 23 March**.

It is hoped that all residents will attend, as there will be displays showing plans of all four strategic options, and MK planning officers will give two brief presentations (at 6.30pm and 8.00pm), and will answer any questions.

As Nash and Beachampton will be invited to attend, your Parish Council will be on hand to record all visitors and hopefully to help you make your response before the 6th April deadline (i.e. two weeks after the event).

**A special Parish Council meeting will be held on 31 March** to review the outcome of the exhibition, and to finalise the 'Parish' response. As with all W.P.C. meetings residents are welcome, and encouraged, to attend.

## **WHAT CAN, OR SHOULD I DO?**

**Firstly:** Look at the Plan:MK document (as above), **or** inspect it and the display (but please do not remove it!) **that has been put up** in the Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

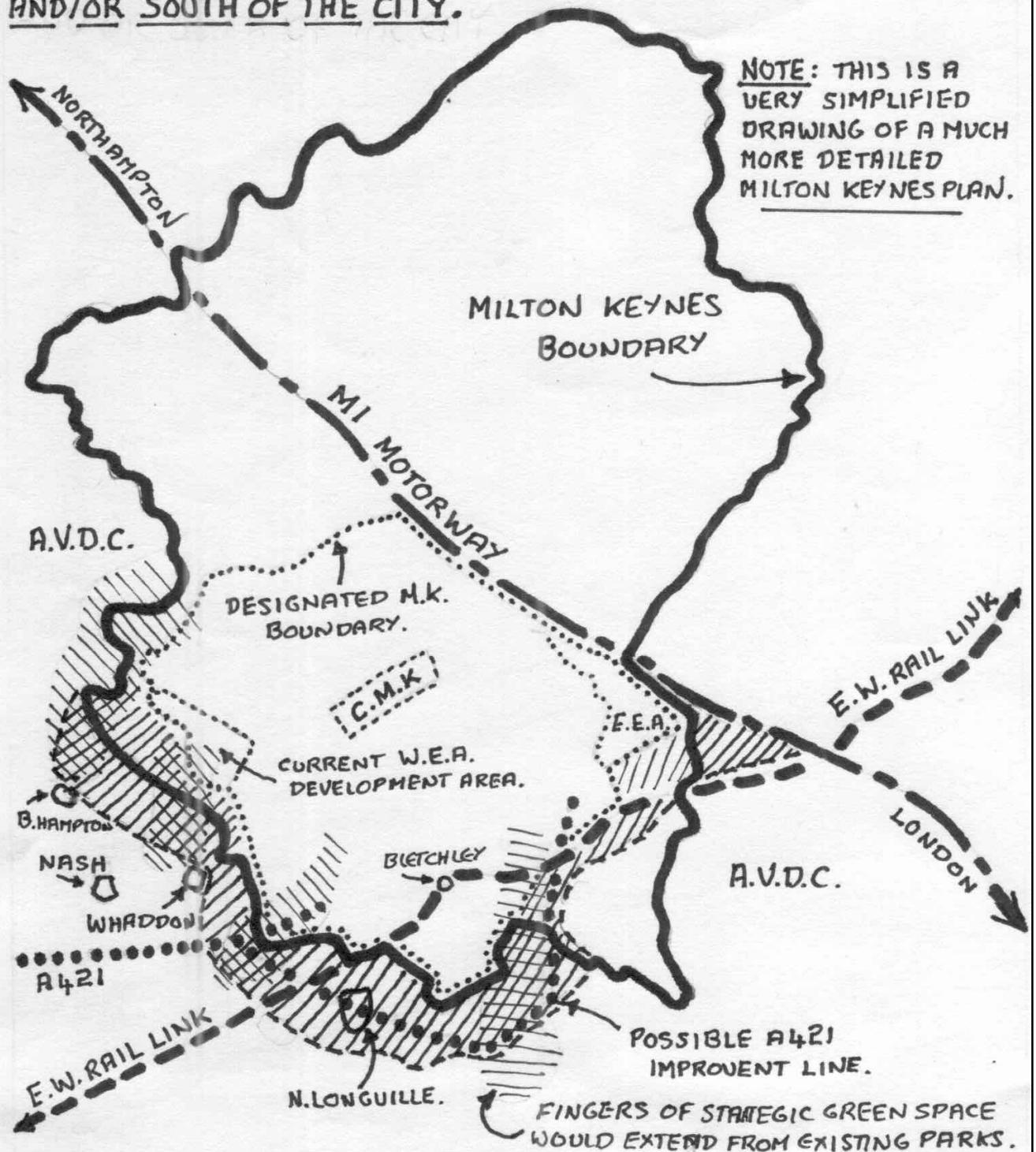
**Secondly:** Attend one of the two presentations **on Wednesday 23 March (6.30pm and 8.00)**. Please come early and view the exhibition boards before your chosen presentation time.

Have your questions ready for the Q&A sessions that will follow the presentations.

**Finally:** Make your comments known to MKC **before 6 April**. Details of how to do so will be provided at the village meeting on 23 March, by MKC or your Parish Council. Your Parish Council will try to keep you updated on the village notice boards or through the village email service. Register to receive important village emails with our Parish Clerk if you have not already done so, at: [ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk](mailto:ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk) ♦  
*Graham Stewart*, Whaddon Parish Council.

**Illustrated below: PLAN:MK showing its four main strategic growth options**

**PLAN:MK CONSULTATION - STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS. OPTION 1 - DEVELOPMENT TO WEST, S.WEST, AND/OR SOUTH OF THE CITY.**



**THE OTHER THREE OPTIONS INCLUDE :-**

- 1: DEVELOPMENT EAST OF THE M1 MOTORWAY.
- 2: ONE OR MORE SATELLITE SETTLEMENTS IN THE MK RURAL AREA.
- 3: INTENSIFICATION AND REGENERATION IN EXISTING MK URBAN AREA.

## WHADDON PLANNING SNIPPETS

### **Planning applications that have been or are being considered since the last Quarterly publication, include these listed below:**

**15/04261/APP.** Whaddon Jubilee Hall. Single storey front/side and rear extensions, access ramp up to new entrance doors.

The trustees of Whaddon Jubilee Hall have submitted a planning application to AVDC and their decision is awaited. Your Parish Council support the application. **The proposed extension plans will be on display in the village hall during the evening of 23 March**, when it is hoped that residents will be attending the Plan:MK 'Drop In' session (between 6.00pm and 9.00pm)

**15/00716/APP.** Two new detached houses and car parking - Land rear of 2a and 2b High Street.

After several weeks of consideration, the Planning Inspector has recommended that the appeal by Corran Wakefield against AVDC's refusal decision for two large detached houses should be dismissed. This decision justifies the strong objections made by your Parish Council. The main reasons for refusal were: lack of parking leading to safety concerns for those using the track and Stock Lane; cramped appearance, which would be harmful to the character and appearance of the area, and lack of evidence showing that the protected walnut tree can be safeguarded. Unfortunately, the Inspector found no evidence to overturn the BCC highway and vision splay acceptance. The full dismissal reasons can be found on the AVDC Planning web site under reference No: **15/00716/APP**

**15/03803/APP.** Removal of hedge on west boundary and replace with a close boarded fence with a pedestrian access gate. Fine View, Whaddon Hall, High Street.

AVDC have yet to make their decision.

**15/03799/APP.** Change of use of agricultural land with existing hard standing area to residential parking and erection of front gate (part retrospective) - The Cottage, Kennel Lane.

AVDC have yet to make their decision.

**15/02883/APP.** Removal of existing conservatory. Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions with roof light - 33A Stock Lane.

Application approved with conditions.

**15/02701/APP.** Erection of a single storey winter/summer house - 15 High Street.

Application approved.

**Please remember** that you can view these, or any other planning applications on the AVDC Planning web-site, by simply 'Googling':- **Planning >> Simple Search – Aylesbury Vale District Council** then type in the application number in the box provided, and click 'Search'. Open the documents and inspect the papers of interest to you.



## Jubilee Hall Improvements

SINCE March last year, the Jubilee Hall Committee has been working with its architects planning major improvements. The plan was submitted for planning approval to Aylesbury Vale District Council towards the end of last year, and a decision is anticipated in the next few weeks.

We are hopeful that consent will be granted and are grateful for the support for the proposals by the Parish Council.

The main benefits of the plan are as follows:

- To provide a separate access, entrance hall and toilets, including a disabled one, to enable the smaller room of the hall to be used independently when required.
- To construct an improved kitchen to the rear of the building and to fit this out so it is suitable for food preparation and cooking.
- To build additional, much needed storage facilities at the rear of the site.
- To redecorate the main hall.

The Jubilee Hall is heavily used at present and the new layout will enable activities to be held in the small room at the same time as the main hall is being used.

These improvements will widen the scope of events which can be held for the benefit of the village, and having a catering kitchen will be important, as the present one does not conform to statutory requirements.

Copies of the plan will be available for inspection and comment at the Jubilee Hall on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the same time as the Milton Keynes Plan consultation. We hope as many of you as possible will drop in and provide us with your comments.

The Jubilee Hall Committee has worked hard to raise funds but we will need to apply for additional grant aid. Villagers' support will be important in order for this to happen, so please sign one of the forms on 23<sup>rd</sup> when you come. ♦

Whaddon Jubilee Hall Committee.

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### ***Flashback***

The last paragraph of the *Millenium Souvenir Edition* of the *Quarterly*, in the last section entitled 'A village under threat', noted: "It now seems inevitable that Milton Keynes will expand and that Aylesbury Vale will eventually be forced to concede some of its land. The challenge facing us today is to preserve our village from being offered up as a sacrifice."

Nothing has changed in 16 years!



# Whaddon Recreation Ground Reopens for Play

Way back at the end of November, the weather was blustery and cold but spirits were high when our Parish Council held the official re-opening of its newly-refurbished recreation ground, following a £47,000 donation from WREN, a not-for-profit business, which awards grants to community, environmental and heritage projects across the UK from funds donated to the Landfill Communities Fund. Whaddon villagers turned out in their droves to support the opening, despite the inclement weather, and warmed up with tea, coffee and mulled wine.

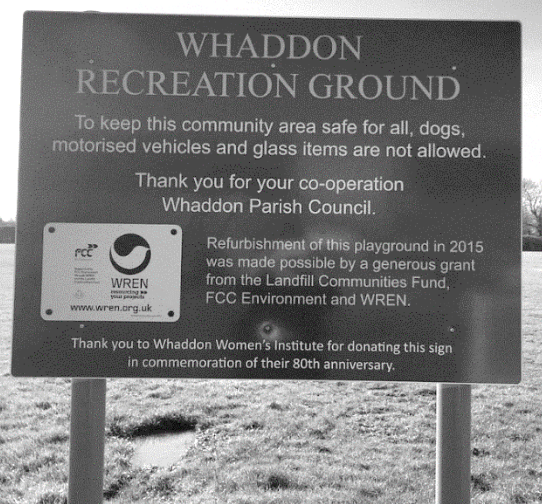
Civic dignitaries from both Aylesbury Vale and Milton Keynes Councils came together to show support for the project, as the Mayor of Buckingham, Andy Mahi, Chair of Aylesbury Vale District Council, Jenny Bloom and Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Milton Keynes, Steve Coventry and Liane Lacey, and local AVDC councillor John Chilver, all helped young village resident Casper to cut the official ribbon.



Casper was the catalyst for the playground project when he wrote to the Parish Council saying that he thought that the play area was in dire need of refurbishment. He is very pleased with the result.

The grant has been used to install an imaginative play area for all ages, with equipment from swings, seesaw and an adventure playground, to an outdoor three-person multi-gym, which includes a cross trainer, step- and rowing machine for the over 15s. For the less active, new bench seating has also been installed.

Whaddon Parish Councillor, Pat Haig, said, "It is fantastic that WREN can make funds like this available to communities and we are very pleased with the outcome of our project, which is not only for the young children of the area, but also for teenagers and adults. We see this as the first of many developments for the recreation ground and hope to start a community gardening area in the spring of next year. The recreation ground is now up and running and we look forward to seeing children of all ages taking advantage of the wonderful new facilities."



In addition to new play and exercise equipment, the ground has a super new sign, generously donated by the Whaddon Women's Institute in recognition of its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Thanks to Stuart Grace for installing it on site, along with a brand new litter bin, purchased by the Parish Council.







# **Curry Night**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Whaddon Jubilee Hall**

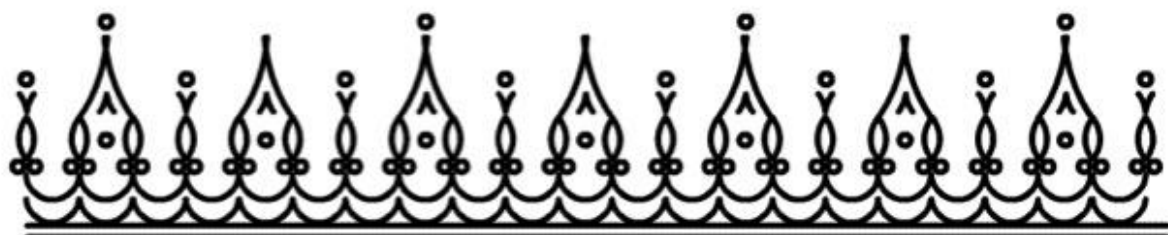
**Tickets £14 per person**

**available from**

**Alice on 01908 505475**

**or via the hall's facebook page**

**Bar opens at 7.30pm**





# St. Mary's Church Whaddon

## REGULAR SERVICES

1st Sunday	10.30 am	Family Worship
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.00 for 10 30 am	Sunday Special
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	8.30 am	Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Benefice service (venue varies)	

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing - new recruits welcome
1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	2.00 pm	Women's Institute in Jubilee Hall
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	7.30 pm	Night Owlers WI in Jubilee Hall
Tues & Thurs	8.00 pm onwards	Table tennis in Jubilee Hall
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	10am - 12 noon	Coffee Shop

## SPECIAL SERVICES

Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> February	6.00 pm	Deanery Lent Evensong, Nash
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00 pm	Deanery Lent Evensong, Thornborough
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday Family Service
	6.00 pm	Deanery Lent Evensong, Westbury
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am	Palm Sunday
Thurs 2 <sup>4th</sup> March		Maundy Thursday. Seder meal at Thornboro'
		Contact Rev'd Gussie 01280 821616
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	11.30 am	Good Friday Meditation (Coffee 11.00-11.20 am)
	10.00 am	Messy church in Jubilee Hall.
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am	Easter Day Family Communion

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** 25<sup>th</sup> April 7:45 for 8 pm in church.

Churchwardens, PCC and sides people will be elected and Annual Reports will be presented. This is an opportunity for you to meet the church officers and give your views on church issues, so we hope that you will attend.

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> June 2 pm Summer Fete. Venue to be confirmed

Our Christmas services were well attended and as usual the church was beautifully decorated by our willing volunteers. Thanks go to them and to Pauline Winward who made the wreaths for the doors. The Chase Choir again took part in the service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the added volume of the singing was tremendous. Aimee Mortimer-Bush and Tilly Garland began the service by singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City and the full choir also sang two additional carols as solos. A big thank you to the choir for giving their time to enhance the service and giving pleasure to all. Jesus' birthday party on Christmas Morning attracted a large congregation who joined in the songs accompanied by the Music Group. Our thanks to them and to Sally Green, Beryl Evans and Hazel Dudley. Please NOTE: The March Coffee shop will be held in the Chapel

The funeral of Doug Lowe took place on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January. He was a well-known local farmer who had spent all his life in this area. The service was conducted by Andrew Geary before a very large congregation. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. ♦

Our Associate priest, Rev'd Gussie Walsh, can be contacted on 01280 821616 or [am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk](mailto:am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk)

*Hazel Hedges*

Churchwarden 01908 501729 [hazel.hedges@gmail.com](mailto:hazel.hedges@gmail.com)

### **Whaddon PCC**

Hazel Hedges	Churchwarden	01908 501729
Jo Mortimer-Bush	Hon. Secretary	01908 749323
Barry Dudley	Hon Treasurer	01908 505727
David Spencer	Electoral Roll Officer	01908 502540
Beryl Evans		01908 502567
Hazel Dudley		01908 505727
Simon French		01908 501830
Frederick Hayward		01908 506083
Clare Garland		01908 501732
Rev Gussie Walsh		01280 821616

# HANDS UP FOR JESUS



St Mary's, Whaddon  
After-School Club with  
Rev Gussie and team

Songs, Story Telling, Craft, Games, Food & loads of FUN!

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays per month of term...3.00pm-4.00pm

On January 20<sup>th</sup> we started our **Hands up for Jesus** after-school club in Whaddon School.

We started by thinking about faces. We designed sticker book faces and took funny photographs of our own faces. Then we wondered about what God might look like.

Having chatted, we realised we didn't really know, but we reckoned it would be a kind, smiley face.

Just before we had our drinks, chocolate cakes and biscuits we heard the story about a man called Moses who met God at the foot of Mt Sinai.

Interestingly, Moses didn't see his face either, but he was able to see God's power manifested through a burning bush which didn't seem to burn! How strange is that?

But it got Moses' attention all the same, and God told Moses that he had heard the cries of help from his people Israel (who were slaves in Egypt) and wanted him to go and rescue them.

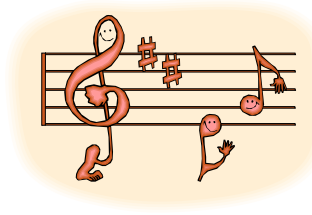
Moses thought God was joking as he had a stutter, so public speaking was not his strong point and doubted that anyone would believe him anyway.

However, we learnt that when God has chosen someone for a task, he gives them the wherewithal to it. All very encouraging!

Afterwards, we learnt songs with lots of actions, played a Holy Ground newspaper game, and prayed using parts of our faces to thank God for the gift of sight, hearing, tasting, smelling and speaking before going home.

A wonderful start to a new adventure.

**Next 'Hands up for Jesus' March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016**



## TODDLER CHURCH

Calling all Toddlers, Mums, Dads, Grandparents & helpers too.

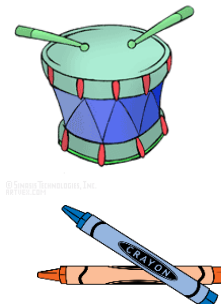
January saw the re-launch of the Toddler Church.

We meet at St Mary's Church Whaddon.

Every Wednesday (term time from 1.45pm - 2.45pm)

The hour consists of arts & crafts, songs & story time plus of course refreshments! A warm welcome awaits you; no one is too old or young. So come along and join in the fun! We look forward to seeing you.

*Sally Green (01908 526033)*



### **Just retired? Time on your hands?**

Like to meet new people and do something worthwhile?

Enjoy going to new places?

Then why not be a volunteer driver for the Winslow Community Bus?

We provide full training, and you can do as much or as little as suits you.

For further information please call Sue on: 01296 715786



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WHADDON

Fraudsters regularly hack into personal online accounts to obtain details which will allow them to defraud you.

To prevent fraudsters, it's very important to use strong passwords when setting up and accessing online accounts and online banking.

Passwords should be memorable enough not to have to write them down and long enough to be unique and hard to guess, which will ensure they are less vulnerable to being stolen.

If it is not possible to remember passwords a password manager could be used to store them securely.

### Protect yourself:

- Make sure passwords are memorable so that you don't have to write them down. Make sure they are unique.
- Th!nk ab0ut how you could change the l3tters in your n0rmal passw0rds to make them more difficult to gue55!
- Use long, non-dictionary words and use different ones for each of your personal accounts and online banking. Make sure you change them regularly.
- Make sure passwords are not stored on devices that have shared access by other people, for example in internet cafes and when using other public Wi-Fi.

If you believe you have become a victim of account hacking, change your passwords immediately and report to Action Fraud: [www.actionfraud.police.uk/report\\_fraud](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud)

### YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS

Graham Stewart 2 High Street	01908 501973	Howard Jones 8 Ladymead	01908 501871
Sally Green Bellsbrook, Church Lane	Ex-Dir	Rowland Osterberg 16 High Street	01908 501863
Peter Beckwith 6 Old Manor Close	01908 503194	Sally Telford 4a Stock Lane	01908 336960
David McIntyre 2a Vicarage Road	01908 867836	Pauline Winward 1 Whaddon Hall	01908 502559



We love to sing! We sing in parks, at festivals, at fayres, in churches, for special occasions and on our own, just for the sheer joy of it.

We sing songs from musicals to pop, from carols to choral, from traditional to unusual. We have sopranos, altos, tenors and bass singers, and we're always looking for new members.

The Chase Choir meets every Monday evening from 7pm to 9pm in the Jubilee Hall.

You don't need any previous experience. Come and join the fun. Find your voice, and enjoy all the benefits that singing can offer!

For more information, contact Karen Logan: 01908 501922.





## Whaddon Chapel

February 2016

When and where do we look for Jesus? Perhaps at times that suit us, in the history books, or for reassurance in times of crisis?

On the first Easter, Jesus' followers went to a tomb to look for him. Many had seen Jesus crucified, die and laid in a tomb just days before. But as they were looking, they were met by a messenger who told them ... 'He is not here. He is risen!'. They were the first to know the truth: Jesus was not among the dead, but the living! And so what?!

### What does this mean to us?

However wonderful your day, your week, your year... there's always something that isn't quite right. However peaceful and fulfilled your life may be, there's always something more we crave. You may feel it... The Bible warns us that we have a problem - sin - that has devastated the relationship with God that we were created for. The Bible tells us that what we need most is to have our sins forgiven and relationship with God restored. That's what Jesus came to do. His death was not a random act of Roman cruelty. No, Jesus died 'so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone'. But most importantly he rose from the dead to show that 'through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death [the devil]...and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.'

Jesus is no longer dead, he is no character in the books of history. His remains are not lying in Israel, he's not only to be found in a church: he is alive, today!

Jesus lives; he still speaks. Because of this, the Bible contains these words of warning and encouragement...

*"Today if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion"*

*'Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.'*

**This is what Easter is all about.**

### Why not join us to find out more?

#### Easter Services:

- Good Friday 4pm: short reflective service followed by tea and cake;
- Easter Sunday 4pm-5pm.

#### Regular meetings

- Every Sunday at 4pm-5pm, Whaddon Chapel.
- Bible Study and Prayer 7:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month (at 3 Briary View)



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN



## WHADDON WI: AFTERNOON GROUP

WE ended the year in December with our annual meeting, followed by members enjoying a 'bring and share' tea, including Christmas cake made by one of our members.

The year 2015 proved to have been a busy one for us, especially as the WI celebrated its Centenary, with various events going on at both county and national levels. Our members represented us at many of these events, including our own social event on the hottest evening of the year, when the bar did a roaring trade in iced water.

We are now looking forward to 2016 when, in May, we celebrate our eighteenth birthday. We are planning a social event to mark the occasion.

We have a varied programme planned for the coming year, including a visit in June to Chavar Wine Estate in Gawcott for a wine-tasting session and which should prove interesting. But who will be doing the driving?

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who support us on Tuesday afternoons for tea, cakes and chat – and a chance to use the Post Office. My thanks are due also to all who make cakes for us.

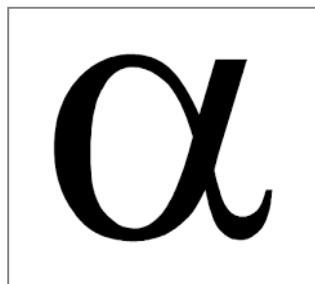
Everyone is welcome to our meetings which take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Jubilee Hall. ◇

For further information please ring 01908 301987.

*Susan White*

President

February 2016



## LENT COURSE

reflecting on the meaning of

Angels

Abba

Adam (first & last)

Amen

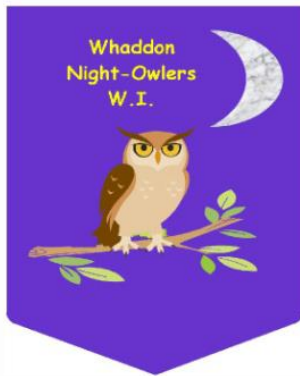
**Led by** Canon Rupert Bursell.

**On.** Wednesday. February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Time.** 7.45pm at The Chapel, Thornborough.

**Contact.** Rev'd Gussie Walsh 01280 821616

***Please bring a Bible with you.***



## Whaddon Night Owlers WI

We meet on every third Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.30. We would love to meet some new friends; any lady is welcome and age is no barrier! We are a diverse group who love to try different skills and have recently tried our hands at jewellery making, Zumba, wine tasting and croquet, all under the guidance of experts in their fields.

Each month we have a speaker who informs and entertains. Recent examples include a consultant discussing skin cancer, a senior room guide talking about Waddesdon Manor and an expert on style and colour advising on us on how to look our best. We also enjoyed being entertained by the Milton Keynes Poet Laureate who visited last month.

This year we are looking forward to trying out watercolour painting, learning about bee keeping, seeing a presentation on the Mercy Ships as well as attending barbecues, quizzes and celebratory meals.

A date for your diaries – our big open meeting this year will be on Wednesday 15 June and we have Cat Weatherill - story teller extraordinaire: all welcome to this one! A recent participant in one of her events said:

“Describing Cat as a storyteller is akin to describing Everest as a hill.”



Look out for more details later in the spring.

The WI is a great opportunity to join a worldwide community of women. The WNOWI is an even better opportunity to join local women in having a great time, learning new skills and generally making life better! If you are interested, do please come along and see what we get up to - contact Daphne Willis for more information on [daphneroberta@gmail.com](mailto:daphneroberta@gmail.com) or 01908 502088 or look at our website at [www.wnowi.wordpress.com](http://www.wnowi.wordpress.com) for further information. ♦

We are looking forward to meeting you!

*Alison Cross*

# Doug Lowe 1931 – 2015

DOUG LOWE was born in Winslow in October 1931 but moved with his parents to Barn Hill Farm in the early 1940s. On arrival in Whaddon, he attended the village school (he and Evelyn in the village travelled by bus to a school in Stony Stratford for a time during the war) until he reached 15, when he began work on the farm.

Although he lived for a few years in Great Horwood after his first marriage, Barn Hill Farm was always home, and where he worked. His heart was there too, and how appropriate perhaps that it was on the farm that he chose to be buried when, as he put it, his time came. This required special permission and took a little while to arrange.

In addition to farming livestock for all his working life, which lasted until just 15 months before he died, Doug also enjoyed clay pigeon shooting. He held regular shoots on the farm and joined others in the locality. The Boxing Day shoot with local farmers against a team nominally from the Lowndes Arm pub, proved to become a fixture that became firmly stamped in the village calendar. This is set to continue as a charity memorial shoot in memory of Doug.

Doug also played for the village cricket club and, in later years, served for a time as the club's chairman. Cricket was a hobby in which he continued to show a great interest for the whole of his life.

Doug was for many years a regular at the Lowndes Arms. Every Sunday, without fail – with the exception of lambing time and Wednesdays in winter months when it was too dark for clay pigeon shooting – he met with many of his mates from the village and beyond. The 'farmer's nights' became something of an institution as games of 'spoof' and dominoes formed a regular part of the evenings' entertainment. So too were the numerous conversations, jokes and general banter that added to village life.

Over the course of countless years, and at the centre of various parts of village life, Doug gained the reputation among his peers, and the younger generation, of being one of the 'good old boys'. A reputation that no doubt explained why the village church brimmed to capacity on 20<sup>th</sup> January, in a service to honour his life. On that day, his family, as well as the farming and village community, bid a fond farewell to an old friend and colleague who had given, and added, so much to its fabric. ◇

*Andrew Geary*



# WHADDON BOOK CLUB

I always look forward to our monthly Book Club meeting. It's such a relaxed, warm affair – hosted by club members in the comfort of their homes. Those with enough space are generous and welcoming. The club is an opportunity to keep in touch with old friends and make new ones. New members are always welcome.

We read a wide range of books, from literary fiction to popular writing, including historical, romantic and detective novels. Name a genre: we've been there – though perhaps we do give horror a miss!

Our discussions vary in length, depending on the book. They can be in-depth, analytical and involved if a book has impressed us, or rather short if we don't think much of it.

Our group is informal. We invariably round off our discussion with a good old chat over cake and coffee!

The book we are reading at the moment is **Dear Life**, a collection of short stories by Alice Munro. She is a great writer and as the stories are serious, I expect the forthcoming discussion will be a good one.

If you would like to join us on the second Thursday of each month, please contact Margaret Barrie on 01908 502564

*Sue Norbury*



The Lowndes Arms  
Country Pub, Restaurant and Motel  
4 High Street  
Whaddon  
Milton Keynes MK17 0NA  
Tel: 01908 501706  
[info@lowndesarmsph.co.uk](mailto:info@lowndesarmsph.co.uk)  
[www.lowndesarms.com](http://www.lowndesarms.com)

**AYLESBURY VALE PUB OF THE YEAR  
2013/14 AND 2014/15 FINALIST  
PRINTERS AND SPONSORS OF "THE WHADDON QUARTERLY"**

# WHADDON SCHOOL NEWS

Was it really the beginning of November when we last wrote our Whaddon School News piece for the Whaddon Quarterly? So much has happened since: Christmas, New Year, Diwali, Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and now we are into Lent!

## Diwali and Children in Need

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November was very eventful indeed. Not only did we think about Remembrance day and hold our own little service, the children had also come in to school dressed up to raise money for Children in Need. £59 pounds was raised in total. Everyone was very colourful and entertaining in their costumes and the children really enjoyed seeing each other's. They were aware that the day had a more serious message and spent time discussing why we sometimes need to raise money to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



This was also the time of year when Diwali is celebrated by people from the Hindu and Sikh faiths. We were very lucky to have a visitor, Mrs Kajal Wright in to talk to us and explain why Diwali is celebrated and the traditions that are followed by the people who celebrate it. The children thought many of these traditions reminded them of Christmas. They were able to try on some beautiful saris and tunics and then made Divas to light the way for Rama and Sita. The children also made traditional Diwali sweets using coconut and evaporated milk. Some of the children also created a Rangoli pattern with Mrs Wright. They went outside and drew this on the step of the classroom using coloured chalks. What a lovely way to end our full and exciting Friday.

## Advent

As a Church School, one of the most important times of year is Advent. Advent means 'arrival'. It is a time of waiting for the arrival of Christmas, the coming of Jesus to earth when he was born as a baby at Bethlehem about two thousand years ago. On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, we began preparations in school, which continued throughout the week. The children created decorations, we played and sang carols and dressed the classrooms, corridors, library and hall. We retold the nativity story as we set up the stable scene and imagined what some of the people would have felt like at the time, such as the shepherds and the kings. We lit our first advent candle and reflected on the true meaning of Advent.





+

Other Christmas events we took part in at Whaddon School...

Christingle



Nativity



Year 2 Christmas Experience



We are enormously grateful to the kind members of the PCC who put on The Christmas Experience for our children. They brought the Christmas Story to life. It was a truly magical occasion. One which the children and I will always remember.

## Party Day!!!

Postman Joe has been delivering Christmas Cards to our school for 35 Years!!!



Yummy lunch!



Father Christmas!!!



Everybody Conga!

## Christmas Club Fayre



The Children raised £128.81 for the Toy Box Charity!



## Key Stage 1 Fun

Year 1 began the Spring term by finding their classroom had turned into a snowy landscape and they have already been visited by a penguin all the way from the Antarctic, who has introduced himself as Jimmy and decided to stay.

And with such lovely children in year 1, who can blame him?

Year 2 started the term with a Roman feast. They all dressed for the part, making laurel wreaths to wear on their heads and dining on such delicacies as chicken legs, honey cake and real red wine!

They kindly offered their food to the visitors I was showing around, who said it was delicious.

## Dance Competition



What a privilege it was to accompany the year 1 and year 2 children that entered the local schools dance competition.

It took place last Tuesday at Buckingham Secondary school. Our children competed against 6 other schools in the area and their behaviour was exemplary throughout.

They were a little nervous at performing in front of so many people and in a proper dance studio but when the music began, they put their heart and soul into dancing and their routine was sharp, fun and very entertaining!

As the judge announced the final placings she struggled to choose which school should be awarded first place and explained she would have liked to have had a draw for first place. Our children were delighted to be awarded second place and we were very proud of them. Well to done Stella Rose, Ella, Bella, Freddie, Bodhi, Bradley and Zack!

## Foundation Stage

The children were excited at the arrival of a box of play-suits and quickly set about trying them out. They created a slide and experimented with ways of going down it and ways of making themselves slide faster. We plan to develop a mud kitchen and digging area next, so the suits will get a lot of use!

Last Thursday there was another exciting delivery, five balance bikes were delivered.



They needed to be put together. The children watched as the teachers made one and they asked great questions.

They were so good at helping, that they put the last 3 together all by themselves! They followed the step-by-step instructions and worked with a partner, using tools to join and tighten the parts. They were brilliant! The bikes were great fun and the pre-school even got to use them when they visited later that day. ♦





Friends of Whaddon School (FOWS)

# 2016 May Fayre

IT'S hard to believe when you look out of the window, but Spring is nearly here and it is time to start planning for the Whaddon School May Fayre. As always, it will be held on May Bank Holiday, which this year is the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. The Parade will start at 1pm and, in a break from tradition, the Maypole dancing will take place straight afterwards, on the playing field. The Fayre will finish at 5pm - a little later than normal, but we have a lot to pack in. We are really hoping to raise a lot of money this year as we have some big plans for the school. Entry fee donations of £1 for adults and 50p for children would be much appreciated.

We are hoping that this year we will get many more floats for the parade. All are welcome, big or small - decorate a pram or bring an HGV. This year, we will introduce the annual Float Cup for the best entry - you could be the inaugural winner! The theme this year is...RIO! If you would like to enter please let us know before the day.

As always, we really want the whole village to get involved. If you would like to have a stall or get involved in any way before, or on the day please contact Michelle at [friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com). We are also looking for donations of jam jars for the



Jambola (fill a jar with anything you like!) bottles for the tombola, teddy bears, toys, sweets and cakes. We will be selling raffle tickets around the village a few weeks before and can collect your donations then, or please let us know if you want anything picking up before then – email or call Michelle 07919 905892 or call Guy on 01908 336883. ♦

**(Left: Niamh Cole and William Hain in May, 2015)**

**Keep your fingers crossed for some good weather and see you on May Day!**

**Remember: the parade this year starts at 1pm**

FOWS's Executive committee

Michelle Thomson Chair (07919 905892 and [Friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofwhaddon@gmail.com))

Helen Meredith – Vice Chair

Helen Carter – Treasurer

Guy Birch-Jones – Secretary (01908 336883)

# Don't be a victim of Wintertime Burglary

## How to keep safe and advice on home security from your local council

On average just 1.5 houses in the Vale are burgled per day. Nevertheless many burglaries could have been prevented by considering these principles:

- **Lock your doors and windows regardless of if you are in the property or not.**  
The point of entry in more than 75% of the time is through a door or window.
- **Lock your UPVC doors with the key.**  
Flipping the handle is not enough to secure your door.
- **Keep valuable items out of view.**  
Leaving a laptop on view is an open invitation for a thief. Even less valuable items can be used to gain entry and is the most common way to force entry.
- **Property mark your valuables with ultra-violet marking kits or Smartwater** (contact us to receive a free UV pen). When goods are marked it enables recovered property to be returned and improves the chance of conviction.
- **The security of the rear of the home is integral.**  
Many burglaries are carried out via entry of a back door or window so make sure your back doors and windows are locked and invest in some prickly plants for your fence boundaries. If you have a side gate leading to your garden make sure it is locked.
- **Make sure your shed/garage is locked and secure.**  
Don't give thieves the tools to enter your home.
- **User timer switches.**  
In the winter months when it's dark and nobody is at home a timer switch can be set to activate a lamp on the landing or hallway giving the impression that someone is at home. Timer switches are also ideal for when you're on holiday. You can buy these for under £3 from hardware stores.

## Additional security advice for outbuildings and your garden

- Replace ordinary screws on outbuilding doors with non-return screws or coach bolts (the latter have smooth heads that cannot be undone with a screwdriver or spanner).
- Secure up-and-over garage doors with padlocks through the inside runners, or fit a padlock (with hasp and staple) on either side of the door.
- Add a mortise deadlock to existing latches on double wooden doors and fit strong bolts to the top and bottom of the adjoining door.
- Investing in a household alarm is a great deterrent for burglars.
- Thorny shrubs growing under windows or against access routes such as drainpipes, walls and fences create an effective natural barrier. Berberis, blackthorn, rubus and pyracantha are all good for this. They are easy to grow and readily available from your garden centre.
- Fix a grill to steel plates inside garage and shed windows. Chicken wire is a good low cost alternative and may slow a thief down.
- Keep your home in good condition. Burglars looking for an easy way in will target split, rotten or warped doors and window frames.
- Put away tools and equipment and lock sheds and outbuildings when you're not using them.
- If you have been a victim of a burglary or are over 60, you can receive some security improvements for free. ◇



Winslow Community Bus  
 wdcbenquiries@btconnect.com  
 www.winslowbus.com



**01296 715786**

**Everyone is eligible to come on the bus. We pick up near to your house.**

**Please ring Sue for more information. \*Denotes bus pass accepted.**

Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Westcroft Bus*, Morrison's and Aldi!
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Visit Stowe House and then the Gardens with snowdrops! (Annual pass to house free with 1 <sup>st</sup> visit.). Coffee & biscuits on arrival at house, and 45 min tour. Then lunch & explore the grounds. Including travel: £13.00 NT members, £23 non-members. (The cost of lunch in restaurant is not included in price.)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Asda in Bletchley. £4.00 return.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Westcroft Bus*, Morrison's and Aldi!
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Buckingham bus*
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Westcroft Bus*
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Lunch 'n' drive to the Duck on the Pond, near Banbury. £5.00
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Asda In Bletchley, M&S, H&M. Shopping. £4.00
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Westcroft Bus*
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Visit to Burford Garden Centre. Spring is nearly here! £5.00
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Banbury Shopping. Large indoor mall with high street shops plus large outdoor market. £5.00
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Buckingham Bus* Town, Aldi, Tesco
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Visit Snowhill Manor, a Cotswold house packed with extraordinary treasures. £18.50 includes entrance or £8.50 for NT members.
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Local lunch at The Robin Hood Buffler's Holt. £4.00 travel
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Westcroft Shopping* Morrison's, Aldi, Boots, etc.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Woodland run with pub lunch. £6.00
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Visit Hughendon Manor. £17.00 includes entrance or £8.00 for NT members. Hopefully will see some bluebells!
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Westcroft Shopping* Morrison's, Aldi, Boots, etc.

**+Milton Keynes Theatre** All prices are for tickets in Band A price range (Circle or Stalls) & travel. Performances start 2.30pm unless otherwise stated. Door-to-door service! Book early!

Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Hobson's Choice – Classic comedy. £20.00
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang – Special effects & memorable score. £30.00



Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>5pm show</b> – Avenue Q. Winner of Tony Award’s Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book. Stalls H,J,K, £24.00. Book by 26 <sup>th</sup> October.
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Save the Last Dance – Re-live the music & magic of ’63. £22.50
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Annie – Leslie Joseph as the tyrannical Miss Hannigan! £25.00
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Guys and Dolls – The greatest musical of them all! £30.00
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Rehearsal for Murder. A devious cat & mouse chase. £22.50
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. A sparkling family musical. £22.50
Wed. 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Sister Act – A ‘divine’ musical comedy. £23.00
Wed. 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	The Commitments. The musical we’ve all been waiting for, Over 20 soul classics. £30.00

## POEM

Pets can occupy a special place in owners’ hearts that may be hard for those without them to understand, as this poem from Eileen Kay Gingell shows.

(5 December 2015)

### **For the love of a dog: our dog Chloe**

Her large brown eyes, a friendly face,  
Warm fluffy coat so smooth to embrace,

Came time to play, she loved her ball,  
Never a nasty dog at all.

She relished car rides and steam train trips,  
Family and friends loved Chloe to bits,

Come rain or shine she walked woods and tracks,  
Loving dog-friendly pubs for treats and hugs.

The joys of past seasons bring sad regrets of that day,  
So peaceful was the closure, as she passed away.

### **Time on your hands?**

Like to meet new people and do something worthwhile?

Enjoy going to new places?

Then why not be a volunteer driver for the Winslow Community Bus?

We provide full training, and you can do as much or as little as suits you.

For further information please call Sue on: 01296 715786

Or e-mail [sue@winslowbus.com](mailto:sue@winslowbus.com)



## *Creative Coach: thoughts from my comfy chair*

That's enough! What's your tipping point? What does it take for you to think, "I've finally had enough of feeling/being/doing [*insert appropriate describing word here*] and I'm going to do something about it." Then what? Where do you start?

I'd say start with talking to someone. (Well I guess I would, since that's my area of expertise.) So you *could* start with talking to yourself. Come on, we all do it, including you! So, here are some questions, tips, hints to begin with, to get you back on track.

### **What do I want?**

Ask yourself this, and always write down your answers in the positive. Not: "I want to stop feeling scared/like I don't know who I am any more/that I don't deserve xyz"; instead: "I want to feel confident, I want to have a clear direction, I want a structure to my life", or whatever it is you feel you're lacking.

### **What's my purpose?**

What's important to you? Resilient, confident people know what they're about. They have a clear idea of their values, beliefs and how they want to use them. Start with a list of positive words that describe you, on a good day. If you really struggle with this, try imagining what your best friend would say about you on a good day.

### **Which area of my life do I want to concentrate on now?**

Maybe it's work that's causing you the most stress. Perhaps it's family-focused: a child leaving home and the gap that leaves in your life, elderly parents becoming increasingly frail and needing more of your time and attention, your health, your partner's health. What's your priority right now?

### **What's my plan?**

As well as a purpose, everyone needs a plan. Without an idea of what to do next, or where you want to end up eventually, energy levels and motivation drop and everything seems a struggle. It's not always necessary to have a huge goal. Make it realistic for yourself, with just a little challenge attached. Plan out the first step to take, and then the next one. Or make it big and dramatic: the choice is yours. The end goal is important, but more important is the first small step towards it.

## What might get in my way?

It's always good to have back-up. *When life throws you lemons, make lemonade*, as the saying goes. Plan for the occasional "what if..." and plan how to get around, over or under the barriers you might come across, including those you create for yourself.

## Who and what do I need?

This is not a time for excuses. If you really want to change, you'll need a "team" to help. Even if it's a team of 1 other person you can call on when you really need support. There will be someone. What else might you need to keep you on track? An app on your phone? A particularly helpful book to read? A beautiful (or plain) notebook and pen to record your progress?

## When shall I start?

How about right now? If that's simply not possible, give yourself a date. It's important to have a start time/date, otherwise you could simply put it off forever.

If you need more help, you know where I am.

*Marianna*

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



*Be happy, be confident,  
be empowered*

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

## **Mojo Maintenance Workshops in Central MK New dates for the New Year**

### **Get Out of Your Comfort Zone**

**Saturday 16 January 2016      10.00am – 12 noon OR**

**Tuesday 26 January 2016      7.30pm – 9.30pm**

- Happy? Great! Comfortable? Great! That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge.
- Unhappy? Uncomfortable? That makes it perfect timing to explore how to move on and tackle your next challenge!
- Time to think about what you really want, and work out a plan of how to get there.

**Your investment: £25 - Booking is essential**

Contact Marianna: 01908 503194/07763 102 994  
email: [marianna@chocolateboxcoaching.co.uk](mailto:marianna@chocolateboxcoaching.co.uk)

# Memories you want to share?

DO YOU have memories of living in Whaddon you want to share with others? Or do you need to research a building or place? If so and you have an MK postcode and wish to gain new creative skills, then Living Archive Milton Keynes could be one option. And your work could be added to the Living Archive website.

Living Archive is offering FREE six-week courses in 2016 to allow anyone to gain the basic skills to create a simple web page. The first of these courses has just finished, but there are two more: 13 April – 18 May (Spring) and 8 June – 13 July (Summer).

You could record memories of loved ones from the Great War, as this clipping from page 7 of *The Daily Mirror* of April 4, 1917 proclaims:



**BROTHERS KILLED AT FRONT.** “Mrs. Pitkin (Evelyn’s great grandmother) of Whaddon, near Bletchley, has lost her three sons within a brief period. Stanley, who came all the way from New Zealand, was seriously wounded and died at sea on the way to England. (*Evelyn adds that Stanley immigrated before the start of WW1 to New Zealand where he decided to join up following the outbreak of war.*) The newspaper’s banner headline that day extolled: “America at war with Germany – President Wilson says ‘We are about to accept the gage of battle....with this natural foe to liberty’”. The paper added that President Wilson’s speech ‘will live in history’. The three sons lost in the First World War were Evelyn’s great uncles.

To book a place or find out more contact Helen or Mel on 01908 322568 or [email admin@livingarchive.org.uk](mailto:admin@livingarchive.org.uk). The web site is [livingarchive.org.uk](http://livingarchive.org.uk)



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Most of all, yoga is something to enjoy. So, come along and give it a try – like me you just might think it's the best decision you ever make!

*Weekly classes\**

**Thursday 7.30pm – 8.30pm Hatha Yoga** open level drop-in (£5 per drop in and you can buy multiples of 5 classes)

*Other workshops/events*

**Sweet Sunday Surrender** every two months 9frpm £10)\*

**Saturday Kids & Family Yoga** every two months (£3 per child & £5 per adult – second adult attends for free)

www.thelollipopway.co.uk  
lauren@thelollipopway.co.uk  
01908 867940  
07764 485921

All classes are held at Whaddon Jubilee Hall MK17 0LS

\*Children welcome over the age of 12 years if accompanied by an adult and we have had a pre class meeting to assess suitability

\*please note the Sweet Sunday Surrender is not suitable for children unless they have been a student of mine and I feel they would be able to handle the experience with respect and focus

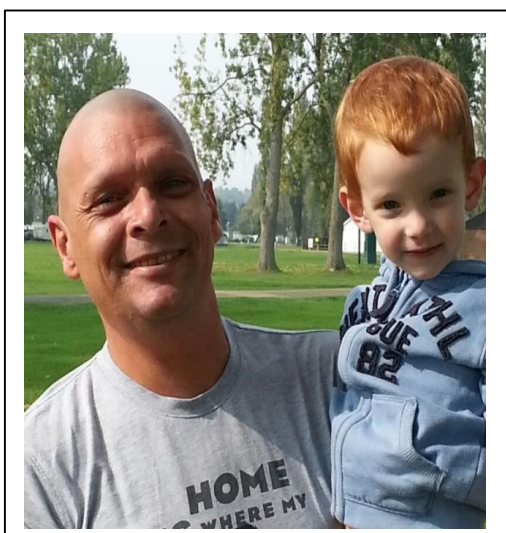
*Namaste – the divine in me honours the divine in you. I honour the place in you where the entire Universe dwells. I honour the light, beauty, truth, love & peace within you because it is also within me and in sharing these things we are united – we are one*



Love, light + peace Lauren xxx

# Support Children With Cancer

Pete Dobson is in serious training to run the **London Marathon** this April to raise funds for **Clic Sargent**, in support of children with cancer, and their families.



The amazing thing about this endeavour is that *Pete is battling brain cancer himself!*

**Please support Pete in any way you can.**

**For further information and donations, please visit <https://fundly.com/london-marathon-2016>, or contact Pete on 07787 415130.**

## **Can you help to keep Whaddon's bells ringing?**

A little while ago the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild conducted a survey around the bell towers in the branch to check on the condition of the bells, ropes and the number and age of the ringers.

The report we had back regarding Whaddon had some very worrying points - the condition of the bells and the tower was very good, the ropes poor (but we have had them renewed) - but the most worrying point raised was the number and age of the ringers! We now have an average age with our youngest ringer present of over 65 and without him 70. Realistically we know we have a ringing span of about 2 years left and unless we have some younger people joining us we will have to join Thornborough, Beachampton and Great Horwood with a silent bell tower.

**Can anyone give us a little of their time to keep Whaddon bells ringing?  
If you think you can, please give me, Derek White, Tower Captain,  
a ring on 01908 501987**





# Tribute to the past

**IS the past important? Or should we focus on the present and the future? Now there's a question.**

Certainly, it is widely held that nearby Bletchley Park played a crucial part in the Second World War. The role of men and women breaking codes of German Enigma machines is well documented. It is less widely known that in many respects Bletchley Park could not have completed its work without the additional work at Whaddon Hall and the transmitters at 'Windy Ridge' close to St Mary's Church. Finally, after over 70 years, the brave people who worked in the Whaddon area during the war are to be recognised. The tribute, approved by Bletchley Park Trust, is an external display similar to the one shown above. The final location is yet to be decided.

The Tribute tells the story of MI6 Communications (Section VIII) 1939-1946 which, from its Whaddon Hall headquarters and 'Windy Ridge', disseminated most of the ULTRA messages to military commanders in the field, embassies and covert agents.

The Tribute will:

- explain that before 'Q' created gadgets for James Bond, Whaddon Hall and its 300-strong team of specialists developed innovative spy and covert equipment, such as an agent's MkVII attaché case with a built-in wireless set.
- reveal how the first 'black' propaganda programmes transmitted into Germany and Italy were recorded in a studio in Whaddon Hall.
- outline the Whaddon Hall team's development of 'Ascension' for direct wireless contact with agents from aircraft flying from the Little Horwood airfield that opened in 1942.
- demonstrate that motor torpedo boats (MTBs) were equipped with wireless equipment to carry messages across the channel and help ferry home escaped POW's and pilots.



- disclose how ambulances, stripped of stretchers, were fitted with wireless equipment for the American sector's invasion of Europe.

Geoffrey Pidgeon (seen here left leaning out of the right-hand truck during preparations for D-Day 1944 at Whaddon Hall), a wartime member of MI6 based at Whaddon, and I have worked behind the scenes to establish the Tribute.

The Tribute will be paid for by private donations. Geoffrey and I believe it should be funded by a 'Village Collective' and those listed on the Tribute,

MI6 Section VIII veterans, their descendants and friends of Whaddon from around the world. We aim to raise £5,000 for the Tribute and 'Reflective Garden'. Maximum donation each will be £250.

We also aim to publish a book '*Whaddon Tribute to MI6 Communications*' with excerpts from '*The Secret Wireless War*' and images from the Tribute's unveiling ceremony. All those donating from £10 will be listed in the book; their comments limited to 12 words. ♦

**Donations can be made to: Whaddon Tribute**

**Barclays Bank - Stony Stratford. Account Number: 83510921. Sort Code: 20 57 40**

Geoffrey Pidgeon /John Conneely (Chase House, Church Hill, Whaddon MK17 0LZ)

**For more information or a copy by email of the Design Presentation made to the Parish Council and Bletchley Park please contact: [johnconneely2@gmail.com](mailto:johnconneely2@gmail.com) 01908 866536**



# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT WHADDON



**Residents in Aylesbury Vale are being urged by THAMES VALLEY POLICE to look out for any suspicious activity following a number of burglaries and thefts.**

Police officers are investigating after homes were burgled and tools and machinery were taken from works vans, vehicles and outbuildings.

**Most recently rural communities in the east and south of Aylesbury Vale have been affected including Great Bricknell, Stewkley, Soulbury, Wing, Newton Longville and Ivinghoe, Buckingham and Wendover.**

Officers are now urging residents to review their home, outbuilding and vehicle security and keep an eye out for any unusual vehicles or activity.

If you see anything you're not happy with, perhaps a van or vehicle you don't recognise, or anything suspicious, make a note of the vehicle registration and description of the occupants and call police on 101. If you believe there is a crime in progress dial 999.

### Crime prevention advice

- Invest in a timer light switch and vary the time it comes on each day to make it look more natural. It can also be used with a radio or TV to give the impression that someone's home.
- Purchase a fake/simulated TV device which lights up a room like a real TV.
- Keep valuables out of sight and mark them with your house number and postcode using a UV pen.
- Lock your doors and windows. If you have a UPVC door make sure you have double-locked it by lifting the handle and locking it with the key. Make sure the key is removed from the lock and out of reach.
- Lock tools away in a secure building or part of a building when not in use.
- Do not leave a garage or garden shed unlocked, especially if it has a connecting door to the house.
- Fit strong padlocks and hardware to shed and garage doors.
- Make sure that the doors are solid enough not to be kicked in.
- Fit locks or bars to windows.
- Lock ladders inside your garage or shed.
- Secure your wheelie bin to stop an intruder using it to climb on.
- Consider lockable steel boxes or anchor posts fitted to the floor of vans or sheds to secure tools and equipment.
- Install a battery or mains-powered shed alarm, available from all good DIY stores at a reasonable price.
- For extra security, replace the screws in external hinges of your shed or garage side-door with 'clutch-head' screws (also known as 'anti-tamper' or 'coffin' screws).
- Tools should be uniquely marked, photographed and recorded.
- Register tools on the national database [Immoblise](http://immoblise.com). Include your postcode and property name or number.
- Consider 'postcoding' and marking tools and equipment using the premise postcode and house number or first three letters of the property name.
- Use property marking to uniquely mark tools. Popular options include overt visible permanent marking (painting or CRE-mark), or UV marking and DNA products. ◇

### YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS:

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Sally Green Bellsbrook, Church Lane	Ex-Dir	Rowland Osterberg 16 High Street	501863
Peter Beckwith 6 Old Manor Close	503194	Sally Telford 4a Stock Lane	336960
David McIntyre 2a Vicarage Road	867836	Pauline Winward 1 Whaddon Hall	502559



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# Perfect 10

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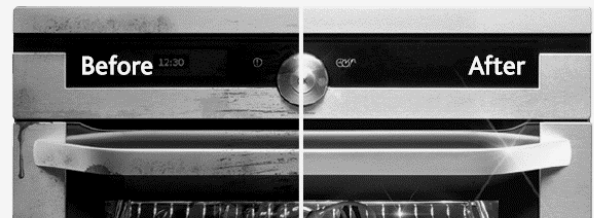
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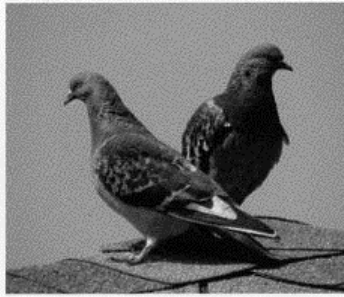
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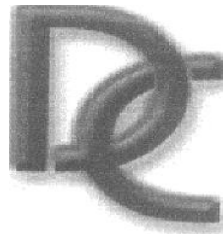
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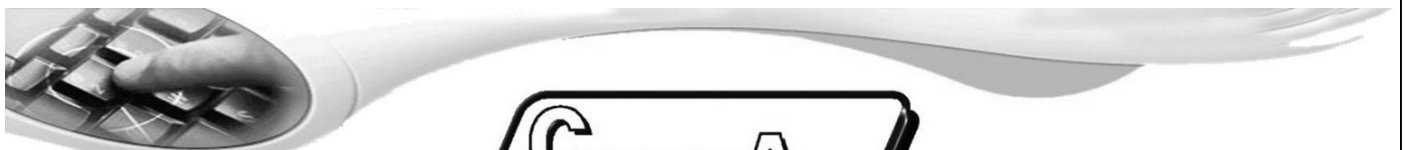
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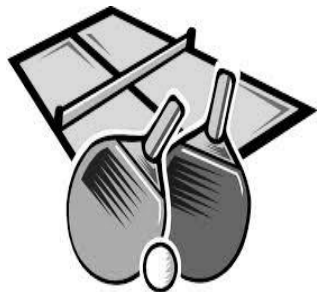
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