

WHADDON QUARTERLY

NOVEMBER 2015

**An invitation to every
Whaddon resident:**



*You are warmly invited to
the official opening
of the refurbished
Whaddon recreation ground on*



SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2015
12 NOON – 2.00 PM
**SPEECHES & OFFICIAL RIBBON
CUTTING AT 12.30PM**

Mulled wine, tea and coffee will be available, as will hot BBQ food so come for lunch! Money raised on the day will be used to further the work of the recreation ground refurbishment.

Musical entertainment by Great Horwood Silver Band.

We have children's tee shirts and tote bags to give away kindly donated by our contractors, Kompan.



*This project has been made possible by generous funding
from WREN through the Landfill Communities Fund*

Please come regardless of weather conditions and bring family and friends.

The refurbishment includes training equipment for adults so there is something for everyone (including new benches !)

Any queries: Please contact Suzanne Lindsey

ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk or 01908 507970

Advertising rates:

For one year's advertising (4 issues):

Full page £ 80 / Half page £ 40 / Quarter page £ 20

Our Parish Clerk will issue an invoice for payment.

Whaddon Jubilee Hall

for bookings please telephone

Maria Cole on 07784 653031

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM YOUR EDITOR:

Many of you will know that I moved out of Whaddon in August, to Northampton, and so this will definitely be my last edition of the Whaddon Quarterly.

Whaddon now needs someone to step forward to take over from me as editor / compiler, which is a voluntary, unpaid post.

There are 4 editions per year.

I have a template which the new incumbent can use and it is compiled using Word. The copy is provided by email by regular contributors, so you do not have to actually write copy, just edit and publish it.

If you can take over from me then please contact me on
07771 702136 / pat@tscevents.co.uk

We are very grateful for the continued support of your village pub, The Lowndes Arms, who not only print the Whaddon Quarterly but financially subsidise it.



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT WINTER 2015

It has been a good quarter for the Parish Council, as we have seen the fruition of the hard work put in by my fellow Parish Councillors to put together a plan for the refurbishment of the Recreation Ground. The construction company have been hard at it and now we have something to be proud of. The official opening will be on Sunday 29th November by the Chairman of Aylesbury Vale District Council, Mrs Jenny Bloom.

We are having a "walk round" next week with the highways department (Transport for Bucks) of Buckinghamshire County Council to inspect our village roads, verges and pavements.

The County Council has several Local Area Forums and we are part of the Buckingham LAF together several other Parish Councils in the Buckingham area. This Forum gives out some grants each year and we have applied for funds to help with kerb work in Stock Lane and parking in Vicarage Road.

I know that all will agree that the Lowndes Arms is a great asset to the village. We are therefore planning (with the permission of the landlord) to get the pub registered as a Community Asset. This gives the village the right to bid at market value for it if there was ever a proposal to close it.

At AVDC, we are very involved at the moment in progressing our new Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (upon which Graham Stewart comments elsewhere). It has now reached the "Issues and Options" Consultation to which we can all respond. I do encourage you to do so as several options in the list of possible sites for house building would impact severely on Whaddon.

Billy Stanier

Chair, Whaddon Parish Council



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

- **Caring for our Footpaths**

Following on from the reminder about clearing up after your dog (a recent walk around Whaddon revealed two lots of doggy doos, sadly) I'd like to ask for further help with our village pavements.

Firstly, please report any potholes, especially anything deeper than 2cm (about an inch in old money) to Transport for Bucks via their website or phone 01296 395000. TfB are unable to send people to check regularly, and rely on us to tell them about needed repairs.

Secondly, please spray out the weeds along your boundary with the pavement. Weed spraying is a luxury that can no longer be afforded within our cash-strapped highways budget, so five minutes of your time will enhance the look of the village no end, and help prevent damage to the base of your walls.

- **Get Whaddon Quarterly and News Updates By Email**

Your Parish Council offers an email update service for timely distribution of helpful, informative items. If you would like to subscribe please contact **ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk**

Likewise 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, etc. etc.

- **Date of Next Parish Council Meeting(s)**

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council take place at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, on 24/9/15 and 26/11/15 at 7.30pm.

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!

**Changes to
bin collection
days at Christmas**



www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/bins

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Friday 25 Dec	Tuesday 29 Dec
Tuesday 29 Dec	Wednesday 30 Dec
Wednesday 30 Dec	Thursday 31 Dec
Thursday 31 Dec	Saturday 2 Jan
Friday 1 Jan	Monday 4 Jan

Note from Editor:
This poem was emailed to me and I was
under instructions not to leave it out!

With thanks from Whaddon Village

It was on the 10th of August: a dreadful, fateful day,
That two of Whaddon's greatest friends sold up, and moved away.
Which set some of us to thinking of all that they had done
To keep the village ticking over and contribute to fun.

From PTA to Parish Council and the Jubilee Hall Committee:
Some matters small or frivolous, and others tough and gritty;
From performing in the Whaddon Show or singing in the Choir,
And sorting out a playground (which Whaddon did require),
Mrs Haig has seen the need, and gone and got things done,
Oftentimes accompanied by husband, daughters, son!

And, talking of the husband, Church Fete, School Fete and May Fayre
Cannot function properly if Alistair's not there.
Blowing on his trumpet and providing useful, small marquees,
Helping dole out jam-jar tickets and electronic expertise;
Alistair is always there, whenever there's work to be done,
Despite personal commitments - and a company to run!

Sadly, scratching at the surface is all this poem does.
But I must finish it and hand it in to Pat Haig now because
Despite moving to Northampton, and trying to get free,
She didn't shake off editing the Whaddon Quarterly!!

So here's to **Pat and Alistair Haig**. We miss you living near,
But we send HUGE THANKS and lots of love because
We hold you very dear.

WHADDON RECREATION GROUND NOW OPEN TO ALL

We were delighted to announce in the last Whaddon Quarterly that our recreation ground facelift was about to start thanks to a successful funding application to the tune of £47,000 from the WREN Landfill Community Fund.

By the time you read this article, children from our village and the surrounding areas will be enjoying their free time in the fresh air playing on the new equipment. And not just children – there is a three piece adult trainer suitable for aged 15 and above in the top corner of the recreation ground, so if you haven't tried it yet – now's your chance!

And if this all sounds a bit too energetic for you, why not just take a walk down to the ground, and come and sit on one of the new benches – you might meet someone for a chat!



12 Sept – Heavy concrete moved

In the last issue we put out a call to the more robust members of Whaddon to come forward and help remove all the existing swings and seesaw and we had a great turnout.

Thanks to: Stuart Grace and Chris Hickman for bringing their diggers onto site and shifting heavy metal and steel, Barry Dudley with his metal cutter, and our resident heavies: Guy, Mark, Sid, Pete, David, Richard, Roy (who also took photos), Graham and Manuel who

cleared concrete blocks into the skip, leaving the ground ready for the installation. And of course, thank you to Casper, who was the instigator of the project when he wrote to the Parish Council highlighting that the area was “blimin rubbish” – and he was right! Thank you to him and his brothers and sisters for taking action.

In future months other villagers with an interest in gardening may like to be involved with new planting on the site and money taken at the official opening will be used for this, maybe for a wildflower garden or the like. If you are interested in being involved in this project please contact our Parish Clerk, Suzanne Lindsey:
ParishClerk@WhaddonBucksPC.org.uk
or 01908 507970.



28 August - Removal of old equipment starts

We would also like to thank Sue White and the members of the afternoon WI for financing a new sign for the recreation ground, which is currently being researched, in commemoration of the group's 80th anniversary in Whaddon in 2016.

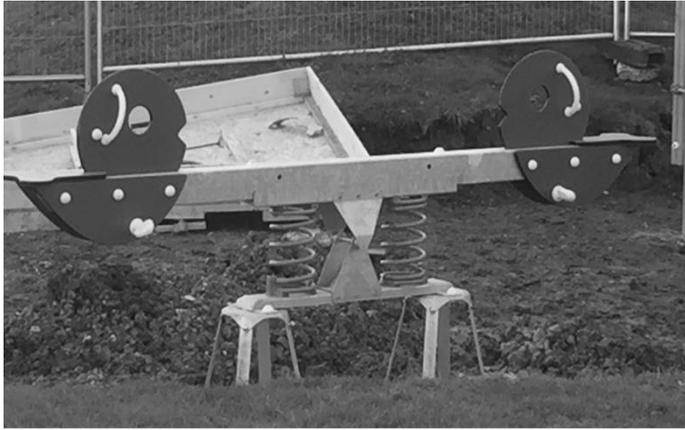
Here are some photos showing the progression of the installation:



30 Sept – Day 2 of Installation



2 Oct – The field is soon transformed



8 Oct – the new seesaw



8 Oct – Adult training equipment installed



23 Oct – almost finished – new metal and wooden barrier fencing and gate, paths and lots of impact absorbing chippings delivered in two of these huge trucks to complete the installation

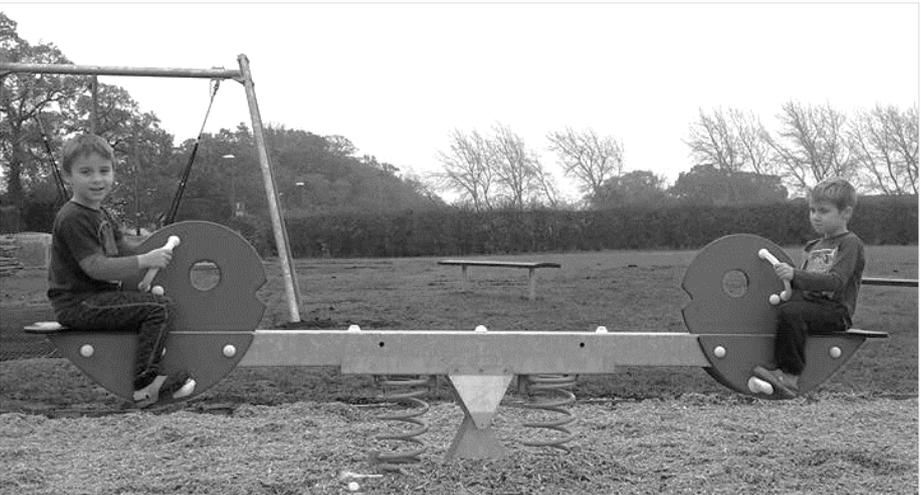


Embankment slide in place and mound is seeded





**THE END RESULT –
FANTASTIC FOR
WHADDON
RESIDENTS OF ALL
AGES**





***Design Your Own
Christmas Holly Wreath
with Pauline
of P A Designs***

*Come and enjoy an afternoon with
friends, mulled wine and mince pies
and take home your very own
Christmas wreath*

Saturday 5th December

1.30pm - 4.30pm

Whaddon Village Hall

Tickets £25 each

Proceeds to go to local charity

*Holly, ribbon and wreath ring will be
provided.*

*Please bring your own scissors and
any decorations that you wish
to use on your wreath*

For tickets please call Pauline on

01908 502559

*Availability is limited so please book early
to avoid disappointment*



WHADDON PLANNING SNIPPETS

• VALE OF AYLESBURY LOCAL PLAN - 2013- 2033

ISSUES AND OPTIONS PUBLIC CONSULTATION

By the time you read this article this important public consultation will be nearing its close.....but you still have until 4th December to make comment should you wish to. The process is quite complex, being difficult to understand in places, and even your Parish Council is finding it a little daunting, but councillors will be discussing the WPC response at their council meeting on 19 November - so please pop along if you want to learn more about what might happen in the Northern part of the district, which includes Whaddon!

The document contains a huge amount of information, and sets out everything you need to know about the 'Issues and Options' for the Local Plan, which needs, amongst other things, to plan for an extra 31,000 homes from now to 2033.

It can be found at www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/consultation.

You will see that the 13 specific consultation questions appear at the end of each section, (which is intended to direct you towards the relevant information for each question), but the scary bit is that you can't really answer many of the questions without having good knowledge of the 'Supporting Evidence', which is available as a link (on the above web site), which when opened gives access to a complex raft of additional documents - which I defy anyone to fully understand - which is why I believe many people will simply 'not bother' to respond at all – which is a shame with such important issues at stake!

However, the actual document setting out the questions can be found find at www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/valpsurvey

The Parish Council advice on how to respond to this consultation, is similar to the MK Site Allocation consultation (also in this edition), in that there are really only 5 Questions that can be answered by 'lay people' and even a couple of those are difficult. Answers to the other 8 questions could simply be **'we have insufficient knowledge and the supporting evidence is too complex!'**

Below are the questions that are the easiest to answer and could interest you, but of course you may wish to tackle the others! Alternatively, pop along to the WPC meeting on 19 Nov to be held in the Village Chapel, join in the discussion and make your views known, which may influence your Parish Council's response!

Question 4: What should be the Council's approach for meeting the housing needs of the elderly?

Question 6: How should the Local Plan address the need for traveller pitches?

Question 8: Is the Settlement Hierarchy correct and if not why is it not correct?

Question 9: The Council details 9 separate options and asks you to choose your preferred 3, ranking them in the order of your preference. AVDC themselves have declared their 3 preferred options - but with no ranking preference.

Two of them include major extensions to Milton Keynes / Bletchley and the possibility of a new settlement or intensification at existing settlements.

Question 13: The Council ask you to choose one of four options in regard to how they should deal with landscape designation and protection.

As an indication, Your Parish Council's reply to this particular question is likely to be along the lines of:

Definitely bullet 2. In respect of the Whaddon Local Landscape Area (LLA), Whaddon Parish Council has long argued that this 'special area' – the southern part of which contains the as-yet unrecognised and historic Snelshall Priory site - should not only be confirmed, but it should be extended to the north to include the historic, valuable and much loved Whaddon Valley, below the Shenley Ridge (which roughly follows the line of the North Bucks Way). This area has enviable views, several public footpaths and a rare unspoilt charm that is as much of value to AVDC as it is to MK. Recent MK Local Plan inspectors have judged it so, as did the original planners and the previous 'Government of the day' Planning Inspectors. Milton Keynes Council – even in their latest November 2015 Plan:MK consultation document – Option plan 1 (SW of MK) show this general area as possible parkland or an extension to their public park system. Whaddon P.C. feels the case has been clearly made over a very long period of time, and this case continues.

The Whaddon LLA should be re-visited and reviewed as a matter of urgency before developer pressure destroys its potential not only for future generations, but for ever!but you may have other thoughts or comments to make?

Well, that's about it! AVDC are encouraging as many people as possible to get involved, but, as stated earlier, by the time you read this you will only have a couple of weeks or so to respond **because the deadline date for responses is Friday 4 December.**

• **SHENLEY DENS FARM**

MILTON KEYNES PLAN, SITE OPTIONS – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As part of their 'PLAN:MK' process, Milton Keynes Council are currently consulting with the public on its 'Emerging Preferred Site Options' which has been prepared to fill a short-term lack of housing land supply in its existing 2013 Core Strategy, which will be superseded by PLAN:MK very soon. The Council has assessed 61 sites in the urban area, one of which is 'Shenley Dens Farm', which is located north of Whaddon Hall, close to Oakhill Wood.

To view the consultation document, along with all the individual site assessments, visit <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/site-allocations-plan>.

However, once opened it is more important to scroll down and view site U29 being the individual report for Shenley Dens Farm!

Comments must be received by 5pm on **Wednesday 20 January 2016**. You can respond via email (siteallocations@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or by post to Milton

Keynes Council, Development Plans, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ.

Your Parish Council suggests that you might support its view that the 392 houses being promoted by developers on the 22.4ha Shenley Dens site, should be avoided at all cost as if it were selected – now or in the future - it will breach the natural landscape break along the Shenley Ridge and set a hugely damaging precedent by illogically encroaching into and damaging the character of the valuable and highly regarded adjoining open countryside, which includes the important and historic Whaddon Valley. *(Be aware that the developers in their submission said “Shenley Dens would be a landscape led urban extension of 550 homes which could be enlarged”)*

Some residents will remember that this very site was part of a much larger application for 2055 houses, that would have 'swamped the valley' back in 2004, but at that time it was soundly rejected by a Local Government Planning Inspector, who shared the views above.

Fortunately, in this current consultation MK Council themselves conclude that: *“There is no added value to allocating this site”*, but worryingly the report adds *“that this conclusion could potentially be revised once the full extent of the MK western expansion area to the north is built out”*. Therefore, Whaddon residents may wish to write and strongly support MKC's initial conclusion, but at the same time express serious concern at the latter statement, as the developers will undoubtedly promote the site again in the 'soon to be published' PLAN:MK document that will look at a far longer time period and will require a much larger quantum of homes, than this current consultation! The more evidence and support the council gains now will hopefully strengthen their future resolve and strategic planning decisions.

The consultation asks 14 Questions, but your Parish Council suggests you need only answer Q1 which asks “Do you have any general comments to make about the additional sites in Appendix A irrespective of the assessment outcomes?”

You could then respond using the suggestions above. You can properly and sensibly avoid answering the other 13 questions by adding, “that whilst having detailed knowledge of the Shenley Dens Site, you live in the adjoining Aylesbury Vale District, and do not feel qualified to reply to the other questions”, unless of course you want to go into greater detail.

- **PLAN:MK**

IMMINENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION (Starting end Nov 2015)

WHAT IS PLAN : MK?

This new plan will replace the 2013 MK Core Strategy and will decide how much new development is needed – probably looking ahead to 2036 - 2050 – where it should go, and what policies will be used in determining planning applications.

WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN?

It is already well under way, and your Parish Council has been involved in 'stakeholder workshops' and has responded to various 'topic papers' about how and where Milton Keynes might grow and what it might be like in the future. The outcome of this work has led to the development of a future 'MK Options and Visions' document which is due to be published around the same time as you are reading this article, upon which the public will be asked to comment. Whaddon residents should be interested as it is likely to affect them or future village generations – and much more so, than just Shenley Dens Farm – if you have read the earlier article in this edition!

WHAT CAN OR SHOULD I DO?

Firstly look at and keep in mind the following web site, which is up to date as this WQ goes to press, but will be updated over the coming months :

<http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/plan-mk>

It is especially important to look over the next few weeks, because after MK Cabinet approve the document after 9th November (which they likely will!), a 'MK Strategic Development Document' will be published for a twelve week public consultation period, at the end of this month! By the time the next WQ comes out this consultation will have closed!

Your P.C. will try and 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

It is very likely – depending on what the document says - that residents, and your Parish Council will wish to respond early in the New Year.

WHAT WILL THE DOCUMENT SAY?

Your guess is as good as mine, but it will almost certainly show 4 development options in and around the city on which the general public will be able to have their say! (**one** to the SW around Whaddon and Newton Longville : **one** to the East of the M1 motorway : **one** showing enlarged villages throughout the MK district and **one** showing much increased densities by redeveloping parts of the existing MK 'city' area without breaking the current boundaries). It should be stressed that MK Council have not made any decisions about which, if any, of the options it favours, because the result of the public consultation will form a large part of the following decision making process – hence the importance of Whaddon and its residents getting involved!

Graham Stewart, Parish Councillor



St. Mary's Church Whaddon

REGULAR SERVICES

1 st Sunday	10.30 am	Family Worship
2 nd Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
3 rd Sunday	10.30 am	10.30am Sunday Special. Tea, coffee & croissants from 10am
4 th Sunday	8.30 am	Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
5 th Sunday		Benefice service (venue varies)

OTHER REGULAR EVENTS

2 nd / 4 th Tuesdays	7.45 pm	ICTHUS Group - 3 Church Lane Whaddon
Tuesdays	7.30 pm	Bell ringing – new recruits welcome
1 st Wednesday	2.00 pm	WI Afternoon Group in Jubilee Hall
3 rd Wednesday	7.30 pm	Night Owlers WI in Jubilee Hall

DIARY DATES

Sat 5 Dec		No coffee shop Dec or Jan – Feb and Mar in Chapel
Sun 6 Dec	6.00 pm	Christingle Service and School Nativity
Sun 13 Dec	10.30 am	Holy Communion
Thu 17 Dec	10.15 am	Crib Service – all preschool age children welcome
Fri 18 Dec	1.30 pm	Whaddon School Carol Service – everyone welcome
Sun 20 Dec	6.00 pm	Candlelit Nine Lessons and Carols with Chase Choir
Thu 24 Dec	9.30 pm	Candlelit Christmas Eve Holy Communion
Fri 25 Dec	10.00 am	Christmas Day Birthday Party for Jesus
Sun 27 Dec	4.00 pm	Compline at Nash

In October our **Open Day** was again combined with our Harvest Festival weekend. There were the usual archives and displays and the morning coffee, cake stall, cream teas and soup, bread and cheese lunches were very popular. The Open Day donations went to the Repair Fund to help towards the cost of maintaining our Grade I Listed church building. The **Harvest Festival** service on the Sunday was led by Rev'd Gussie and, being a more informal service, did not include Holy Communion. The church had been beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables which were then auctioned after the Harvest Supper the following evening in the Jubilee Hall. This event was as enjoyable as ever and around 45 villagers and friends sat down to eat. The highlight of the evening is always the auction of produce. The auctioneers, Mark Carter and Pete Bush, did an excellent and amusing job to the entertainment of the assembled company. The auction raised £568 for Médecins Sans Frontières, a charity which sends doctors and nurses to third world countries and is usually one of the first to arrive in disaster areas worldwide. Recently, their hospital in Afghanistan was badly damaged in an air strike and will need rebuilding. Our thanks go to all of you who faithfully and generously support our events and especially to those who help to organise them and clear up afterwards.

The Annual **Christmas Fayre** is at 2.00pm on Saturday Nov 28th with our usual range of stalls, games and raffle. This year Father Christmas will again be paying a special visit with gifts for the children .Tea and cakes will be on offer and also mulled wine and mince pies. Thanks go to Beryl Evans for the organisation and to all who have offered raffle prizes or their time to help on a stall. We hope you will all come out for an enjoyable afternoon to the Village Hall and support us.

There will be no Village Worship on the following Sunday because the **Christingle** and School Nativity service will be held at 6pm. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Many of you may not have been aware that we had a **Glastonbury Thorn** tree in the churchyard which died. A member of the village has kindly agreed to provide a replacement which will be planted as soon as possible. The site will be marked by a stone plaque in the ground. Our thanks go to Mrs Clare Hadida for her generosity. Legend has it that Joseph of Arimathea came to Glastonbury with the Holy Grail and planted his staff in the ground. It grew into a thorn tree which was unusual for flowering twice a year. This was the original "Glastonbury Thorn".

Christmas is one of the major festivals in the church year and is a time of great joy and celebration. If you have not yet attended any of our special Christmas candle-lit services such as the **Nine Lessons and Carols** or the **Christmas Eve** service, I do urge you to come. The church is beautifully decorated and the candlelight creates a moving and intimate atmosphere. On **Christmas morning** at 10.00 am there is a birthday party for Jesus around the Christmas tree at the back of the church. This is especially for the children, but is enjoyed by all ages. There is a birthday cake and "Happy Birthday "is sung. The service lasts for only 40 minutes and is a wonderful way to start your Christmas Day celebrations.

St Mary's PCC looks forward to welcoming you at any of our services, but especially at Christmas, the time of peace and goodwill to all. We wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas.

Our Associate priest Rev'd Gussie Walsh can be contacted on 01280 821616 or am@buckinghambenefice.org.uk

Hazel Hedges

Churchwarden 01908 501729 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



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

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

The August coffee morning (aka Florrie's coffee morning)

Many thanks to all who attended the coffee morning which was held in Hazel and Barry's garden.

The amount of money raised plus donations was £610, and this amount was matched by Santander so the total raised for the church was £1,220.

Thank you also goes to Whaddon for supporting the Macmillan coffee morning. We raised £305 to help fund Macmillan nurses and the work that they do.

Thanks to all for supporting both events.

Beryl Evans





Whaddon Chapel

November 2015

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.*

Isaiah Chapter 9, the Bible

The best gifts are often those bought by people who know us well.

What would the person who knows you better than any other give you? Well, you don't have to wait until the 25th December to find out! This present has already been given by the Someone who knows you best. In fact, He knows us better than we know ourselves. Whereas we may prepare a gift list of everything *we want*, He knows us better - and provided *all we need*:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John chapter 3, The Bible

So, don't overlook the most incredible present this Christmas.

- The Gift: Jesus Christ.
- The Giver: God himself.
- The guarantee: Sins forgiven, relationship restored - eternally.
- Your greatest need: Met, if you ask.

You're very welcome indeed to join us at the Chapel, anytime, to find out more about this amazing present.

Christmas Tea & Carol Service

- Sunday 20th December, 4pm-5pm.

Regular Meetings/Services

- Every Sunday 4-5pm, Whaddon Chapel.
- Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7:30-9pm on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month at 3 Briary View, Whaddon.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Whaddon Night Owlers' WI is a friendly, enthusiastic group of women from all age groups and many walks of life who enjoy a varied programme of fascinating subjects, demonstrations and fun social events.

In June the Night Owlers celebrated their fifth birthday and did so in style - by sipping Pimms, playing croquet and enjoying sumptuous cakes made by Nikki Bloomer - under a perfect summer sky in the leafy, peaceful setting of Stony Stratford Croquet Club.

The weather wasn't so kind for our barbeque but at least it didn't start raining until everyone had their fill of delicious sausages and a delectable selection of salads. When the showers did arrive we were able to shelter under the gazebos and if anything, it actually added to party atmosphere. In the meantime we enjoyed Ann & Andrew Bennett's pretty garden enhanced by an abundance of fairy lights and, of course, the wonderful views.

There were further celebrations in September as we marked the centenary of the WI itself - this time with Prosecco and yet another gorgeous cake made by Nikki. Although the fizz was flowing our members managed to answer some testing questions from a quiz designed to reflect the history of the WI and the achievements of remarkable women from the past century. With a nod to the past we also held a Victoria sponge competition.

Then there was our fantastic fizz and bubbles wine tasting in October! We managed to make the Jubilee Hall look (almost) like a proper bistro with a large number of very effective LED candles providing the only lighting. The ambience was great and Rob Price was a wonderful host - informative and entertaining!! In case I've given a distorted impression of our activities over the past few months and you have the idea that we do nothing but party, I should point out that we do cover serious stuff as well! We have an amazing programme lined up for 2016 and more information will be available on our new website, Facebook page and Twitter very shortly.

This will be the last time I write for the WQ as, although I'll remain as a member of the Night Owlers, I'm standing down as programme secretary. Having fulfilled the role for the past 5 years I think it's time for someone else to take on this responsibility so it's 'over and out' from me with a recommendation that, if you're not already a member, you should be!!

You can attend up to three meetings before being asked whether you would like to join - so why not give it a whirl?



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**We are having a Children's Party
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There will be a present for every child.

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WHADDON SCHOOL NEWS

What an enjoyable first half-term we have had at Whaddon School. We began by having a Welcome Back Picnic on the first Friday of the new term. It was lovely to meet so many families and to hear their ideas for the school. Many of the governors were able to make it and parents were also able to get to know them better too.

Bunny Fun

There was great excitement in the first week as the Foundation children welcomed two new members: 2 baby bunnies! The children adore them and they are now found hopping around the classroom and climbing onto children's laps to help them with their work! The whole school voted for names for the bunnies and Year 2 created a Pictograph and announced the results in assembly. Their names are... (drumroll please) ... Betsy and Amber!!!

Trips and Topic Days

Year 1 have been learning about Castles this term and they have taken a trip to Warwick Castle, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They walked along the ramparts and explored what it would have been like to have lived and worked in the castle during the medieval days.

Year 2 visited the Sea-life centre in Birmingham to understand the creatures they had been studying this term. The children learnt a great deal and have made use of this knowledge to produce some very entertaining and informative presentations.

We ended the half-term with a whole school Medieval day. The children baked bread, learned dances, made hats and had a medieval feast.

FOWS Events

Our hard working Friends of Whaddon School team held their first Coffee Morning, open for all the village to attend on the 2nd October, which was a great social occasion. Their next coffee morning will be on 27th November at the Chapel from 8:50am, and once again, everyone is welcome.

Bags 2 School

If you would like an opportunity to get rid of any unwanted clothing, while raising money for the school, please leave your bag of clothes on the grass opposite the school (outside number 41) from 8:40am on Wednesday 2nd December.

Bags 4 Life & Tea - Towels

The children have been busy designing a Bag-4-life for our school and some very nice Tea-towels. If you would like any, please contact the school office on 01908 501719 and we will be happy to take your order.

Harvest



It was a pleasure and a privilege to be part of Whaddon Church of England School Harvest Festival! The children have been so excited, preparing for this event. As one child told me on Monday morning, 'Mrs Davies I am going to have the best week! I get to do Harvest AND a trip to the Sea-Life Centre. I think I might burst!'

And didn't they do themselves proud? The singing was beautiful, the poem entertaining and the story such fun. I bet you didn't know

Harvest involved lobsters, hyenas and grasshoppers? It was a credit to the fantastic school community to see so many parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles coming along and joining in.

Greatest thanks to Reverend Gussie for leading our service so thoughtfully and for the Chapel team for putting on such a scrummy treat afterwards. The donations made that day will be sent to the food bank where they will be very gratefully received.

25 Years of Service



We are very lucky at our School to have loyal and dedicated staff. On Wednesday 5th November, one of our members of staff had served 25 years at Whaddon School – Mrs Jaworska! Mrs Jaworska has proved herself invaluable over the last quarter of a century. As well as being a lunch time supervisor (dinner lady to us older ones) she has also been cleaner and caretaker for the school. The children love the way she looks after them at lunchtimes, helps them with their food and plays games with them.

Mrs Jaworska told us she is now seeing the next generation of some of the children she has cared for and helped during her

time with us, coming through school.

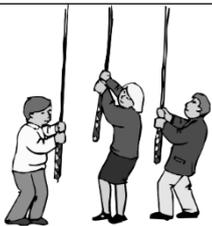
She was very touched when the children gave her their cards and a big bouquet of flowers. She was also awarded a cheque from the county which she plans to spend on plant pots for her garden.

Remembrance Day



On the morning of the 11th November, we all walked to the Memorial in the Churchyard. The older children had written prayers on the poppies they had made and the younger ones said a little prayer as they laid their poppies down at the foot of the memorial. We read the names of the soldiers who had lost their lives so bravely whilst serving their country. We then observed 2 minutes silence in remembrance of them. The teachers were very proud of the children as they behaved thoughtfully and sensitively on such an important occasion.

Mrs Selina Davies, Head Teacher



Can you help to keep Whaddon's bells ringing?

A little while ago the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild did 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**

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.

WHADDON JUBILEE HALL

Don't Miss This Wonderful Production - Friday 4 December

**Theatre in the Villages will be bringing
the play 'It's a Wonderful Life' to Whaddon.**

Make a note of the date and more details will follow.

To reserve tickets contact

Angie on 01908 504944 or Deb on 07737 412954



Regular Jubilee Hall events:

- 1st Wednesday in the month 2 pm: Women's Institute
- 3rd Wednesday in the month 7.30 pm: Whaddon Night Owlers WI
- Monday: Chase Choir 7pm
- Tuesday: Pilates 7.15pm and Table Tennis 8.15pm
- Thursday: Yoga 7.30pm

for bookings please telephone Maria Cole on 07784 653031



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Tuesday 1 Dec	Buckingham Bus*
Thursday 3 Dec	Stony Stratford Christmas Shopping. £4.50
Thursday 10 Dec	Westcroft Bus*
Monday 14 Dec	Asda Shopping £4
Tuesday 15 Dec	Thame Market £5
Thursday 17 Dec	Winslow Bus Xmas Lunch! Come and join us at The Old Thatch 12.30pm. Transport available. 3 courses £22.95
Thursday 24 Dec	Westcroft Bus*
Tues 5 January	Buckingham Bus* Town, Aldi, Tesco
Mon 11 January	Re-stock your empty shelves! Asda in Bletchley, M&S, H&M, Primark, River Island, 2+ hours shopping. £4 return
Thurs 14 January	Westcroft Bus* Aldi now open
Tues 19 January	MK Shopping. Return those unwanted items! £4
Thurs 21 January	Local Lunch at The Crown in Gawcott £3.50 travel
Thurs 28 January	Westcroft Bus+ Morrison's and Aldi

The Winslow Community Bus needs more volunteer drivers!! If you are aged between 25 and 70 years of age, and have some spare time, please consider becoming a driver for your local community bus. You can do as much or as little as you like, and we offer certificated training to MIDAS standard, and pay out-of-pocket expenses. If you would like to find out more about the bus, please telephone Sue on: 01296 715786 wdcbenquiries@btconnect.com



Creative Coach: thoughts from my comfy chair

I don't generally encourage my clients to make New Year's Resolutions. Why? Because it's the wrong time of year, in my view. It's dark,

Christmas is done and dusted and we may feel a bit down. The weather's cold, we may feel guilty about overindulging over the festive season. Add all of that together, and it's not really a recipe for a good dose of motivation, is it? Remember your "new year" can start at any time; it doesn't have to be in January. There! You're off the hook, if you needed permission!

On the other hand, if you're definitely in the mood to motivate yourself in any way: starting something new, turning over a new leaf or taking up a new habit, here's a few ideas to get you thinking...

There's a great song by Thea Gilmore, called Start As We Mean To Go On. Music often inspires me, and some lyrics just grab you at a particularly apt moment. If you're about to start something new, what would be your top tips? I'm going to use a selection of the lyrics from Thea's song to help demonstrate some of my own suggestions.

We're going to start by aiming higher

A great sentiment. Sometimes when you've been doing something for a long time, you can lose sight of different ways of working. To aim higher is always a good idea: stretch and challenge yourself towards your goal.

We're going to start to fan the flames

A lovely analogy. A new venture often starts with a little spark of an idea, and that spark needs nurturing (fanning) to encourage it to grow into something powerful and successful. This could also mean making subtle changes to something you already do well. Fanning the flames can sometimes suggest a little subversion, and there's nothing wrong with that, if it achieves a positive purpose. Equally, you can fan the flames publicly, gain support from those around you and you find strength in numbers, or from others.

See what we're becoming and not what we have lost

This is a form of "future pacing" for all you NLP aficionados. Focus on what you intend to achieve, rather than what you're leaving behind. You're leaving behind what you don't need, and you can actively select the important things which will travel with you. Imagine how it will feel when you achieve what you set out to do, as this will motivate you along the way.

Take the trouble

When you start something new, it's exciting and challenging. Learn from previous experience about the priorities, the important items, and be picky about those. It will pay dividends. Others will recognise when time and trouble has been

taken over a job, and more importantly, so will you. You will get the satisfaction of knowing that you did your best.

Take up space

Be bold, be brave, be strong. To take up space might mean to make your presence felt. This could be via social media, networking, via your website, within your workplace or your own community. If you're starting something new, make an impression from the beginning. If it's new, you can completely reinvent yourself: what fun!

Take the bullet from the gun

Remove obstacles and negative temptation as you go. When you recognise the inclination to lapse back into your old way of doing things, or a threat to sabotage your venture, remember all the reasons why you chose to start afresh, and re-align yourself with your values and beliefs.

I've got two good reasons why I can't get it wrong

Use (meaningful) positive affirmations. Remind yourself of all the times you've been successful. Find a mantra or two to use to encourage yourself when the challenges crop up.

Now - start as **you** mean to go on. Decide what you want and go for it!

Marianna

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Paul Warren made a welcome return to the Show this year but will he be back next time? Not if Sharon (Whaddon's very own Vampire) has anything to do with it.



Much fun and laughter was had by all.



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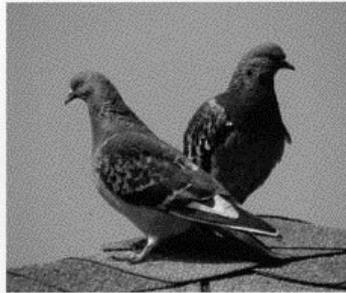
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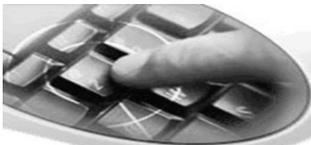
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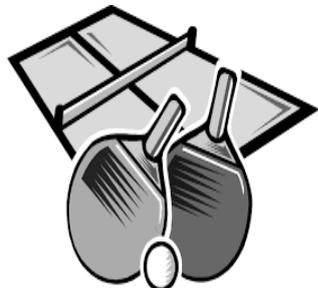


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