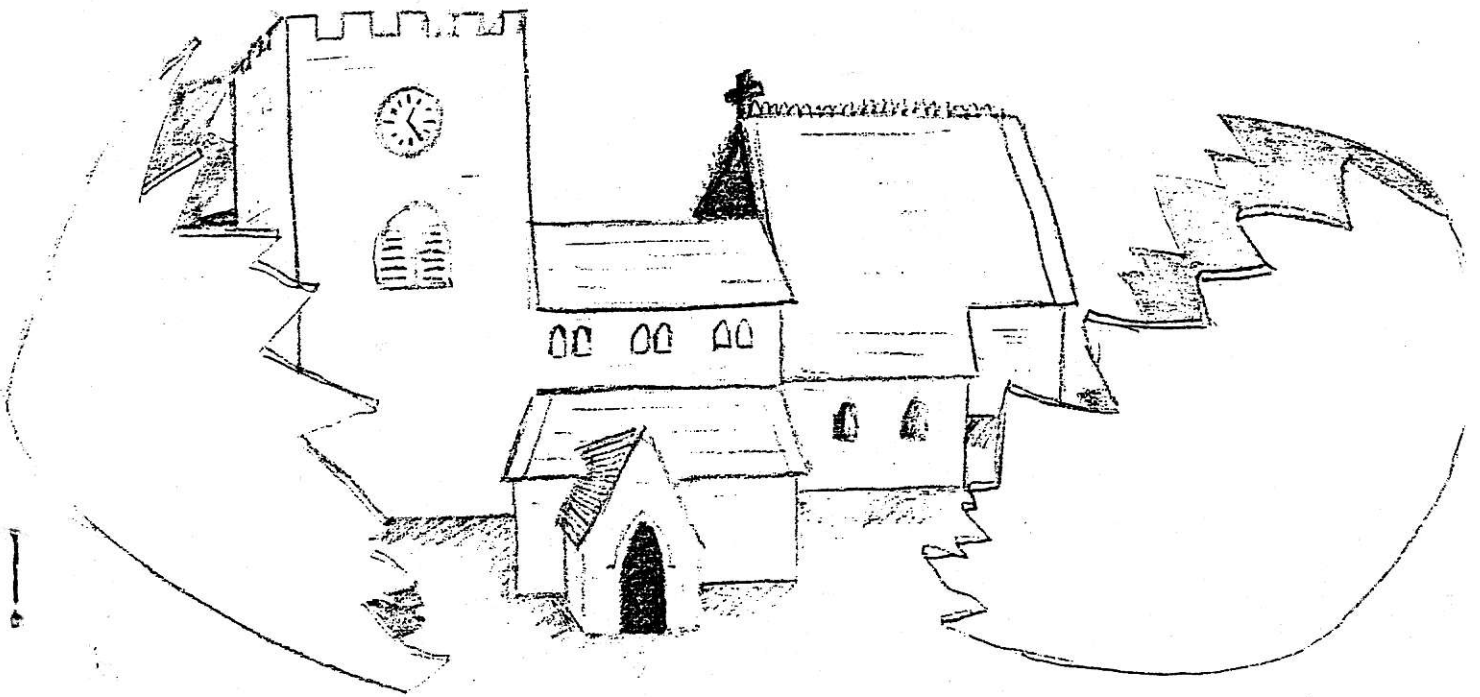


# WHILTON NEWSLETTER



APRIL 1991

## Ed's Notes

Here's our spring issue already! It soon comes round again.

With the Gulf war and the snow (hopefully) behind us we can look forward shortly to the daffodils, tulips and blossoms and of course the lighter evenings to cut the grass!

Don't forget that British Summer Time begins on Easter Saturday this year so put your clocks forward one hour on Saturday 30th March.

Happy Easter to all our readers.

Ed's

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## Parish Church

Sunday Services 1st Sunday of month. Benefice Eucharist 10.00am  
April at Norton, May at Brington, June at Whilton  
Other Sundays 6.00pm

Fridays: Mothers and Toddlers at Brington 2.15pm  
Eucharist for Ascension Day - 9th May at Brington 7.30pm  
Standing Committee 15th May 4.00pm  
P.C.C. 23rd May 7.30pm

### Who Pays the Rector

Many parishes date back more than a thousand years, to the time when the parish priest was often chaplain to the Lord of the Manor, and as well as looking after the souls of the parishioners, kept the village bull and boar. The stud fees were part of his income, together with what he made from farming the GLEBE land that went with the church, and with what he received in fees and offerings. He also received TITHES of the profits of land-owners. The priest could keep some while the rest went to the upkeep of the church, and help for the poor. Sometimes the Lord of the Manor, or some other wealthy benefactor paid for repairs or improvements to the church building.

In medieval times people were very conscious of death and what might happen to them afterwards. Many gave money, land and other gifts to the church as acts of piety, and possibly in the hope that thereby merit would be stored up for them in heaven.

Over the years disparities crept in, some parishes very rich, some very poor. When Henry VIII closed the monasteries which had been supporting large numbers of clergy, many priests were consigned to real poverty for over a century.

Queen Anne came to their rescue in 1704 when she gave back some of the money taken by Henry. She set up a fund called Queen Anne's Bounty to help clergy in need. But there was still much inequality. In 1836 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners were set up to manage and re-distribute the money from parishes.

Income became a little more equitable and regular for the clergy. Then in 1943 Queen Anne's Bounty and the Commissioners were merged to become the Church Commissioners.

Capital from all the parish investments was brought together and reinvested so that it brought in a better return. Changes were made in time to standardise incumbents' incomes throughout each diocese. Meanwhile, all remaining glebe land came under the management of the diocese and used to augment clergy stipends.

It sounds as though there is still plenty of "historic" money to pay the clergy, but this is not true. Despite careful management by the Commissioners, and because they have to pay clergy pensions and much else, they pay less than half of the parish priest's income. A small amount still comes from marriage and burial fees which are part of the fixed stipend. But more than half of his stipend has to come from the giving of church people today.

In addition to the stipend there is the priest's house. The Diocese is responsible for repairs, maintenance and insurance.

The money paid out by the Diocese has to be raised first of all in the parishes and so every parish is set a "Parish Share" on the basis of its notional income according to population and other church membership figures, including the Church Electoral Roll. In addition to contributing towards the clergy, a proportion goes also to diocesan and central funds to pay for the training of the clergy and the Church's work at diocesan and national levels.

The Parish is responsible for maintaining its own church building, so that money is needed week by week for everything from cleaning gutters to renewing the roof, heating and lighting, insurance, service requirements, furnishings, books and so on.

The people of the parish must pay their contribution to the parish share and to the parish budget. But every parish also has in its budget something like "charitable giving" by which the work of the church in poorer places of the world, or charities such as the "Children's Society" are given a little support.

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FEBRUARY 23rd dawned with several strange cars lined up outside the Village Hall eager to unload their goods for the W.I. Table Top Sale. The morning went very well and a total of £52 was raised for W.I. funds. Many thanks to all who helped and sorry to all those Mums whose children took home more items than they came with!

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An outside event for your diary THE GAME FAIR is at Castle Ashby this year on 25th, 26th and 27th July. A prestigious event run by the Country Landowners Association, will interest all lovers of the countryside, heritage and preservation - not to be missed.

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## Grendon Course at Brington School

Every year at Brington School the fourth years have a chance to visit Grendon. There is a violin course that Andrew Tibbs went on. Jennifer Houghton and Emma Turnbull went on a later course. They sounded as if they enjoyed it. While they were there they practised new violin tunes to play at a concert on the last night of the stay. Andrew's story is that there is a tuck shop. There is a maximum of two things only to be bought. Andrew says he went in the queue twice. What a naughty boy!

Susan Dawkins, Helen Law and Neil Bishop went on a percussion course. They did a shadow puppet show at the concert. They also sang a song about Chanticleer and Pertelote which was called Rooster Rag.

Anna and Rebeccah Hales joined me on a trip to Grendon on a recorder course. We enjoyed it much more than we expected. While we were there, there was a treasure hunt. The people in our room won the treasure hunt. We also won room inspection but we were not allowed the prize. The sentence we had to find was "Music Course 1991".

The concert went very well. Helen Law tried to describe Grendon in one sentence; she said, "It is a fun intellectual place".

Ace Reporter, Dorothy Webster

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## The Village Hall

We are still waiting to know whether the grant towards the cost of repairs to the roof will be available from the County Council this year and in the meantime are continuing with fund raising.

The cheese and wine party on 9th March at Orchard House by kind permission of Miss D. Scott and Miss F. Drake was a great success and was enjoyed by all who attended raising £134. Grateful thanks to our hosts and also to those who donated raffle prizes and worked so hard preparing the food etc.

The winners of the "200 Club" draw held on the 1st February 1991 were:

£30 Mr. & Mrs. Patching  
£20 Mr. & Mrs. Green

The March Draw took place at the cheese and wine evening, the winners were:

£30 Mrs. Higham  
£20 Mr. & Mrs. Treacy

The next function will be the Casino Evening which will take place on Saturday 27th April, in the village hall, we hope you will join us then for an evening out.

We have also been lucky in that Mrs. S. Jackson is holding a coffee morning at 10.30am on Wednesday May 22nd at the Lower Farm House in aid of the village hall.

The next "200 Club" draws will take place on April 5th at the Village Hall (wine will be served at 7.30pm), on 27th April at the Casino Evening and on 22nd May at Mrs. Jackson's coffee morning.

We hope to see lots of you at all these functions.

We are also happy to report that our hard working secretary Mary Kane has given birth to a baby boy. Congratulations Mr. & Mrs. Kane.

Phil Waights

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## The W.I. Report

Because of the unpredictable state of the weather on Wednesday 13th February, the W.I. Speaker was unable to come and talk to us about "Gardens of the World" as had been planned.

The small number of us, who had braved the cold, got together in the Village Hall and, after the business part of the meeting was over, were treated instead to a delightful tour of Thailand. Our tour guides were of course Miss Diana Scott and Miss Frances Drake who, not for the first time, had stepped into the breach at short notice. We were taken on a guided sight seeing trip of some of the more out of the way and interesting parts of this ancient country. A pleasant, warming experience on a frosty and treacherous night. Many thanks to both ladies.

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W.I. Coffee Morning on Thursday 14th March, held at the home of Mrs. Jean Waights was a great success and a very pleasant get together. It raised a total of £35 for funds. Thanks to Jean Waights and all who helped and supported.

Anne Heeley

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## Operation "Springclean"

As a prelude to this year's Tidy Village Competition, the Parish Council is taking part in "Operation Springclean", which is to be held from 20th - 28th April, and is organised by Northants County Council.

A group of willing "volunteers" from Brington School will be clearing the village of any rubbish on Sunday April 28th - gloves and bags will be provided.

Mike Lewis is also organising a "clean up" in the Whilton Locks area, and is looking for assistance.

If you feel that you would like to help in this venture, please contact either Mike Lewis or myself.

Paul Bilsborough

FOUND - Gents ring - Contact Churchgate or 0327 843114

BONFIRES - Could we ask for some consideration from gardeners in the village in burning their garden rubbish. If possible could you do this when children are at school, workers are at work, and washing is dry. Nothing is more enjoyable than our gardens in Spring, Summer and Autumn until we are choked by a few people filling the air with acrid smoke. It is considered environmentally unsound to burn anyway and will soon be illegal. Composting your rubbish, putting it in the bin, or taking it to the tip would be more responsible.

Choked off Villagers

NOTE - Although the Editors do not normally like to publish anonymous articles, we feel that with gardening getting underway again, this would be a timely reminder. We trust that the personal approach regarding this matter has been tried!

## Whilton Gardeners' Association

Only twelve members were present at the meeting on February 4th, many of our regular attenders being prevented by various reasons from coming along.

Mrs. Bowers gave a report on the recording, at Harpole, of the BBC's "Gardeners' Question Time". Harpole Association were hosts to this event on Thursday, 31st January, and kindly invited interested members from our Association to join them. Five of our members took advantage of this invitation and had a most interesting and enjoyable evening. Mrs. Bowers said that a wide range of gardening topics was covered and some of the questions proved quite amusing as well as interesting. Although the recording lasted for over one-and-a-half hours this would then be edited and cut down to a time of thirty minutes ready for the broadcast.

Following the business part of our meeting we were shown a set of very colourful and interesting R.H.S. slides of "Great British Gardens". Mrs. Bowers arranged the showing of the slides and gave the commentary. Mrs. Lefley proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Bowers and also to Mrs. Thomas, who had been responsible for getting the slides.

Our next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 1st but, as this is Easter Monday, the meeting has been re-arranged for Monday, April 8th. The subject is "Growing Alpines" and the speaker is Mr. Swannell of the Alpine Society.

Members are reminded the subscriptions became due at the end of January. These are £2.00 per person, with the reduced rate of £1.50 for other members in the same household. The treasurer is Mrs. C. Rogers, 10 The Gardens.

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Allotment Plot Vacancy - As yet no-one has expressed an interest in the vacant allotment plot that was advertised in the last Newsletter. If necessary, the Parish Council is prepared to let this as two half plots if there are people interested in a smaller piece of ground. It is hoped someone will take it on as it is important that all the ground is kept cultivated if we are to have a strong case for retaining it as allotments.

Harold Haynes



## Parish Council Report

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 4th March 1991. The following items were discussed:

Closed Village - No further progress had been made regarding this proposal as Brington Parish Council were not due to discuss this item until their meeting later in March.

Village Green - All the forms etc., had now been completed and they were with the "legal people" awaiting approval for signature. The effect of this registration, when completed, would be that the village green would be registered as a village green and as such have certain protection against future ownership claims and developments.

Clean Up Campaign - Mr. Bilborough and Mr. Lewis had agreed to undertake the organisation of this County Council sponsored campaign within the Parish. Gloves and bags will be provided and all that is now required are plenty of volunteers on the 28th April.

Tidy Village and Churchyard Competition - The Parish Council decided to enter this competition again this year and hoped that the above "clean-up" operation would give all parishioners a good incentive to take an interest in keeping the village "spotless" during the summer months.

Allotment Vacancy - The vacant plot was to be again advertised in the newsletter and at the Garden Association. The only way to keep the allotments from future development was to ensure that all plots were always let and that a definite need for this facility can be established within the parish. The future of the allotments therefore lies with parishioners.

Highway Matters - It was agreed that a letter be sent to the County Council regarding the following problems:

a). Accumulated silt either side of the road under the railway bridge at Whilton Locks. This considerably narrows the road and makes life for pedestrians rather difficult.

b). Pot-holes in the road under the railway bridge and outside Langton House.

c). The broken arm off the signpost on the main road at the top of the village.

### Planning Matters:-

Sales Building at Garden Centre Site, Whilton Locks - Granted, however the Parish Council were surprised that a condition attached said that work could not commence until access improvements had been carried out. The Parish Council were to notify the District Council that work on the building had started yet agreed improvements to the access had not been carried out!

Four Wheel Drive/Off Road Vehicles Use, Whilton Mill - Granted. The

Parish Council were dismayed at this decision and agreed to send the following letter to the Director of Planning at the District Council:

"We write to express our concern regarding the above planning application and the subsequent granting of permission. When this council was asked for its observations on the proposal it rang your office and spoke to a member of your staff to ask if you had been given any further information. The answer was that you had not but would clearly be asking for more, much on the lines of the points we mentioned in our letter.

Clearly, then, members of this council felt that, when you had obtained more information, this would be made available to them and they would be given a further opportunity to comment.

Imagine the dismay, then, when your letter arrived stating that, not only had permission been granted for this activity but it was to be allowed for a possible 365 days a year and, on at least 80% of those days, for up to eleven hours per day!

Members of this council feel they have been badly let down over this application and they question whether they are wasting their time in calling special meetings to consider planning applications if this is the way they are to be treated."

Snow Clearing - Thanks were recorded to Mr. H. Clements, the Parish Council's snow representative for his sterling work in the recent hard spell of weather.

Jim Gardner

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## Neighbourhood Watch

First the good news! Our 'beat' was the only one with a decrease in crime during January. Unfortunately there was a 34% increase in crime overall in the Daventry Rural Section.

Now for the bad news - burglar alarm nuisance - those of us with burglar alarms must realise what a nuisance they are to our neighbours if they go off frequently and often unnecessarily. The most frequent causes of this nuisance are power cuts and wandering pets. We rely on our neighbours' good will to telephone the police when our bells ring, so it is only fair to be considerate in return. When the police arrive or if the neighbour knows the cause of the alarm (e.g. power cut) a key and details of the code would enable them to enter the premises, stop the noise and investigate further if necessary. (Otherwise you could lose a window to allow the police to gain access.) So please give a key to a neighbour to prevent ill-feeling caused by the incessant, penetrating noise. I would appreciate being informed of key-holders names so that I can tell the police, should they need to know. If you do hear an alarm please ring Daventry police on 300300.

Angela Tilston

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Dear "Ed's",

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the Editors of our excellent "Newsletter" - What a joy it has turned out to be, full of interesting village news, and a calendar of events to come. On its arrival, I make myself a cup of coffee, and read it from cover to cover - I am sure that many villagers do the same.

Jean Waights

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Milk Tops, foil and stamps - Once again we have donated three sacks of foil etc., to Lyncrest School. All gratefully received.

Not as many stamps though, don't forget to save them.

Trudy Haynes

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COFFEE MORNING

May 22nd 1991 10.30am in aid of Village Hall

at - Lower Farmhouse, Whilton (By kind permission of Mrs. S. Jackson)

Bring and Buy, Raffle and Surprise Competition

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## Farm Work for children in the 19th Century

Until about 1873, children were sent to work on farms when very young. Then an act was passed making it illegal to employ anyone under eight years of age. A few years later, this was raised to ten years of age.

One job was the planting of wheat seeds. A hole would be made with a dibber - a pointed piece of wood - and four seeds would be dropped into the hole. This rhyme gives the reason;

Four seeds in a hole  
One for the rook, one for the crow,  
One to rot and one to grow.

What back-aching work this must have been, and for very little reward! The farm labourers' wives, however, were very glad of every extra penny to supplement their husbands' poor pay.

There is a Morris Dance called "Bean Setting" in which the dancers use their sticks as if they are dibbing holes for setting the beans.

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Please could we have some contributions from villagers. Can you remember any country customs or sayings or any amusing incidents? They would be very welcome.

Trudy Haynes

## Summary of Events

Fri.	April	5th	7.30pm	200 Club Draw in village hall
Mon.	April	8th	7.30pm	Gardeners' Association meeting V.H.
Wed.	April	10th	7.30pm	W.I. Meeting in village hall
Sat.	April	27th		Casino Evening in village hall
Wed.	May	8th	7.30pm	W.I. Meeting in village hall
Thur.	May	9th		Last date for next newsletter
Wed.	May	22nd	10.30am	Coffee Morning, Mrs. Jackson's

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The Whilton Newsletter is published bi-monthly and circulated free to every household within the Parish Boundary

The costs are met by the Parish Council and the Editors are:

Mr. Harold Haynes  
Mrs. Trudy Haynes  
Mr. Jim Gardner  
Mrs. Joyce Coles  
Mrs. Anne Heeley

The Northampton  
Gilbert & Sullivan  
Group

will present



# Ruddygore

or

The Witch's Curse

Monday 22nd April to Saturday 27th April 1991

Evenings 7.30pm Saturday Matinee 2.30pm



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