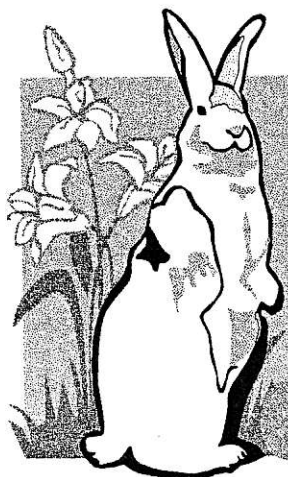


Whilton Newsletter



2000



HAPPY
EASTER

PARISH MATTERS!

Elections in May

This could be headed "End of Term Report" in that your Parish Council comes to the end of its life after its four year term with May Elections. I have been given the nomination forms for both Locks(2) and Village (5) seats which will possibly need to be returned before the distribution of this edition. (Closing date 3rd April). Details were on the Notice Boards but if you missed them you need to remember to vote on 4th May. The Election will be a dual one for the Flore Ward of Daventry District Council as well as the Parish Council. If there are not sufficient nominations then there will not be an election and co-option may have to be considered.

Expenses and celebrations

The meeting on 6th March, however, was no end of term wake: noses were still firmly to the grindstone of business, including authorising payments on your behalf of over £500. This included a number of special payments, several on a Millennium theme:

- A large number of **NEW BULBS** planted around the village for the Millennium by Nora and Max. Have you spotted them?
- The cost of the **FIREWORKS** at New Year.
- Fees to enter this year's **VILLAGE OF THE YEAR** competition.
- The estimate was received for the materials for the suggested **PLAQUE** celebrating village achievements. This will be erected on the green with the work involved being given by Rai Barnes the designer. It is hoped to carry this out after reviewing and finalising the detail to be included and gaining planning permission which we now know will be required.
- Brington School through our village Governor has also approached us about making a donation towards **RE-HANGING THE OLD SCHOOL BELL**, now part of a number of pupils' heritage from this village. The council was minded to do this, after getting some more details.
- Fittingly one of our last acts was to receive **AN OLD RECEIPT** from those collecting memorabilia in Norton. This stamped receipt is for work carried out at the outbreak of the second world war on Whilton school, now the Hall where we were sitting. It makes reference to extras for labour and materials because of the war. It was decided it should be framed and hung beside the old Whilton pictures.

Care of the Parish

The main work of the Parish Council continues to be based on concerns about the present parish.

Roads and verges

- The Northants County Council Highways told us to lower our hopes for imminent improvements to our village road. They now only have money to use where safety is a concern and in their reply based on a recent inspection they did not consider our road edges or potholes yet warrant action. The Parish Council decided to use a camera to record and then inform them of our concerns in future.
- A recent accident at the pavement curb near the Stonehouse was to be brought to their attention and advice/action sought.

- Persistent damage to grass verges by frequent parking on them was another concern. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with the Highways authority as it was something of an obstruction as well as leaving unsightly scars.

A tidy village

Two better bits of news were that although our bids for the District Council Ward Action Service Plan had not been successful, our village litter bin was to be emptied more often from this and Derek Brown was again organising the Annual Litter Pick in April with the WI, to which we were all invited to do our bit.

Whilton and the surrounding area

The future shape of the Parish and outside developments that could affect our enjoyment of it continue part of our work. We are grateful to have the attendance of both our District and County Councillors at most of our meetings, as on this occasion, and to write to them as part of safeguarding our environment.

- The decision to refuse planning application for a new office block at the Marina had been made by the District Council after representations from the Parish. This decision has now been upheld on appeal.
- We had received notification about new traffic signs on the M1 and amendments to the Local Structure Plan, including a proposal to make Great Brington a Conservation Area.
- The important decision about houses in the Daventry/Buckby Corridor would be made in August along with the density. Cllr Amos told us it was likely to be a further delay until May before the next stage hearing on the Ryehill Extraction and Tip, and that more parking at Long Buckby remains agreed in principle, but a long way from happening. There were thoughts around a Rugby Parkway station at Kilsby or Crick being discussed. These remain matters on which our thoughts, position and potential representation of our interest need to be decided.

The past and the future

Present, past and future have been the concern of the present Council and it was fitting that all involved were thanked for their efforts by the Chairman at the close of the meeting. These were reciprocated to our honorary Chair for all the time and effort expended. It is to be hoped the achievements of this council will be consolidated and built upon in the new one.

The Annual Parish Meeting is at 7.30pm on 22nd May in the Village Hall. The new Parish Council will hold its first meeting afterwards. The reports of many of the parish organisations will be presented there and your questions or observations about them or what you wish to see achieved by the new Council will be very welcome.

SEE YOU THERE!

Keith Hiscock
Clerk to the Parish Council



Despite all the wet weather we have had lately, both the February and March Working Party days were blessed with good weather and were successful. Some more of the ditch and stream were cleared, paths were laid in the boggy areas and a few wildflowers were planted.

In February a bridge was constructed over a wet gully with the wood from a felled Black Poplar tree and it really is an attractive feature.

The pond is holding its level well and growth is beginning to show in the banks but, as yet, no signs of frog spawn.

The woodland floor has new growth appearing weekly and in early March, during the monthly plant survey, it was observed that there were some clumps of Sweet Violet, both purple and white, and many Celandine and Butter Burr. There also appeared to be bluebells near the path.

We have now received our notice / information board for the spinney from the manufacturers and it will soon be installed. We paid for it with money received from The Heritage Lottery Fund.

Looking ahead, we hope to have an Official Opening plus Fun Day and it will be encouraging to receive the support of the residents of the parish on this occasion. Further details will be made available later by flyers and posters on the village noticeboard.

The next Working Party day will be 9th April 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm.

Whilton Spinney Project Group

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The AGM was held on 28th February at 7.30 pm. The Chairman reported that the majority of the refurbishment of the Village Hall had been completed which left a further project to improve the toilet facilities.

The following officers were appointed:-

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Chairman - | Mike Lewis (842404) |
| Vice Chairman- | Maurice Clements (842006) |
| Secretary- | Vacant |
| Treasurer- | Derek Brown (842968) |
| Committee. Members- | Janet Bowers, Shirley Brown
Anthea Hiscock, Sara Mitchell |
| Booking Contact- | Mary Kane (842618) |

We are urgently seeking a person who is prepared to take over the role of Secretary and also there are vacancies for two other committee members. This is not a demanding commitment as the Committee meets only three or four times a year to discuss matters of maintenance and improvement to the hall and to arrange one or two social events. Would anyone interested please contact one of the above members.

We will not be arranging a Barn Dance this year but hope to have a social event in the Autumn.

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

JANUARY 2000

1st Prize	078	G Tilston	£40
2nd Prize	139	P Webster	£20
3rd Prize	161	T Price	£10

FEBRUARY 2000

1st Prize	095	T Treacy	£40
2nd Prize	015	C Battison	£20
3rd Prize	103	D Kavanagh	£10

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS



OPERATION SPRING CLEAN

Whilton Parish Council, together with Whilton WI, plan to "Litter Pick" during the week commencing 24th April 2000. Please watch the village noticeboard for exact date and time.

If you do have an hour or two to spare please come along and assist in this worthwhile environmental exercise.

Young people with their sharp eyes will be particularly welcome. Necessary gloves etc. for adults and children will be provided.

Derek Brown (842968)
Whilton Parish Council

IN BRIEF.....

CONGRATULATIONS on the birth of twin daughters Alice and Rosie to Lucy and Ben Gow, Holly House on 22nd February 2000.

BAPTISMS

The Family Service at St Andrew's Church on Sunday, 12th March included the Baptisms of George John Meadows (son of Sara and John) and Christopher Edward Bolton (son of Lucy and Craig and brother of Sophie)

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE Just a reminder that the library van calls in the village every other Tuesday at approximately 9.10 am to 9.30 am. The van generally parks near The Old Plough. Good use needs to be made of this service if it is to be retained, why not make a visit to the van for your reading material? The April dates will be 11th and 25th.

Brington Primary School

MILLENNIUM PROJECT

When the school was built in Little Brington in 1861 an important feature was the school bell, rung at the start of the day to summon the children to attend. During the 1980s the bell was blown off the belfry during a storm. It landed right on the spot where the Headteacher normally parked his car, fortunately it was not parked there at the time. Since then the bell has languished on a shelf in the pantry and the children enter the school when the member of staff on duty says 'in you go'. The end of playtime is now known as 'in you go'.

It was agreed that the bell should be re hung but the LEA did not approve the plan to replace the bell in its original position. A project was therefore launched to build a belfry at ground level and a design was commissioned. The intention is to site the new belfry at the side of the school, on the lawn by the main entrance. This will enable the bell to be rung at the start of the school day and at the end of playtimes. It is proposed that the structure should be in Hornton Stone to match the ironstone of the school façade. A county rose will be carved into the apex of the structure with the date of erection. It will sit on a surround of second hand York flags. The new belfry will be approximately 4'6" high.

The only problem is the cost and this will be in the order of £980 for the stone and materials, £200 for the fixing and £100 for the blacksmith's work. As a start the work of the stone mason has been donated to the project. Local groups have been asked to support the project and the remainder will be topped up through general school fundraising.

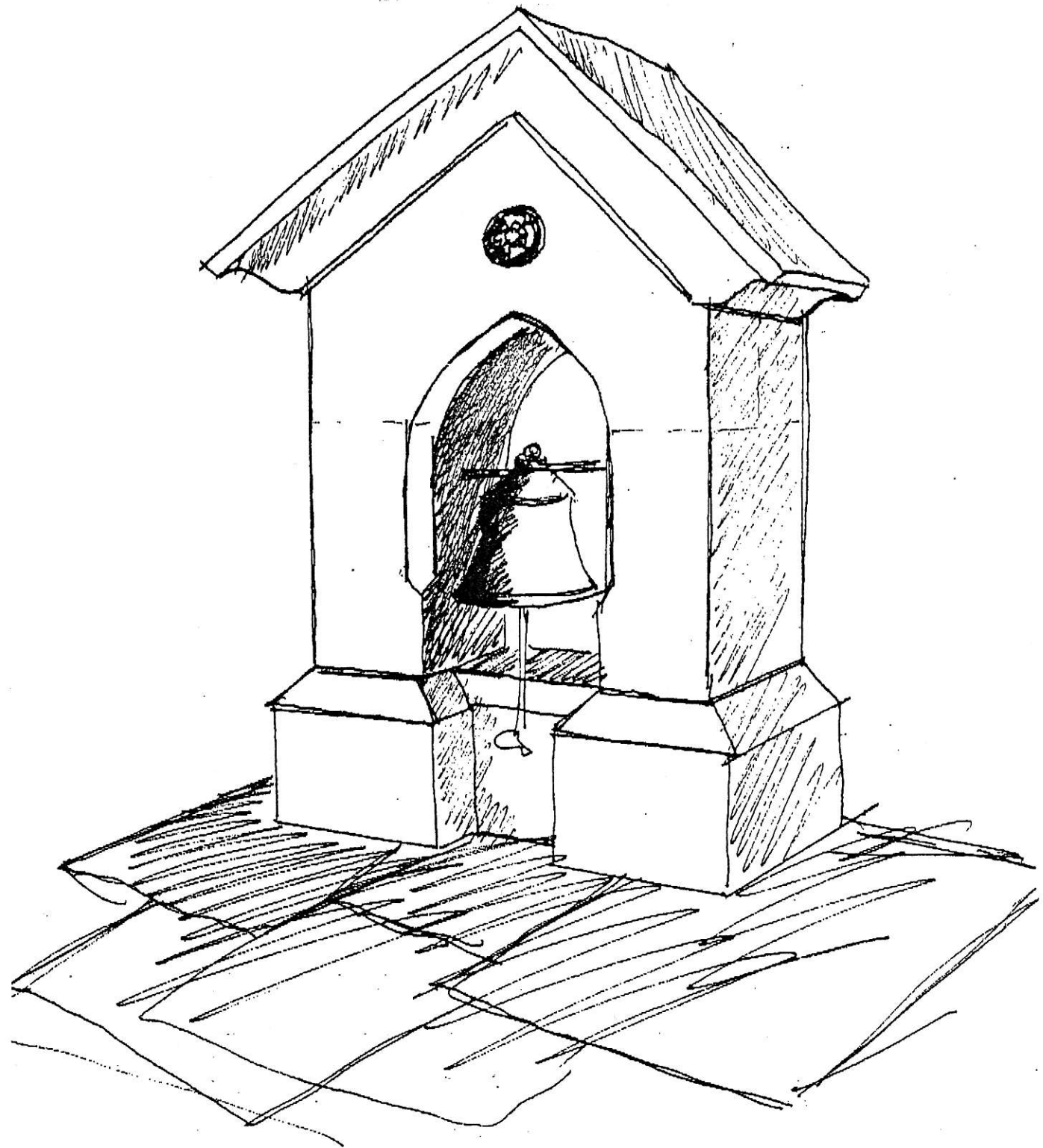
It is hoped that this project is successful, as it would be a worthwhile achievement in this millennium year to rehang the school bell.

On a separate note, for those who do not have children at the school, you may be interested to learn that for four years children have been able to learn to play a brass instrument at school. Miss Rachel Coles has inspired her pupils and entered them in a National Festival of Music. The group, known as Junction 16, comprising children of between 9 and 13, includes children from Brington Primary and Campion School. They have performed in the first heat and the result is anxiously awaited. It is amazing that of this group one tuba, two trombones, one tenor horn and four trumpets are played by children from Whilton.

Jane Bunce
Brington School Governors

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SKETCH

**SKETCH PROPOSAL FOR BELL-COTE
AT
BRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Crime Report

During January a builder employed in the village reported that a variety of tools had been stolen from the driveway of the house where he was working.

February 25th - late in the evening a resident noticed five youths around the parked cars at Southview. A conversation with them followed and he became increasingly suspicious of the youths' intentions.

He notified Daventry Police and also alerted several neighbours. Another resident also rang Daventry Police and two other neighbours joined in watching the youths for a considerable time until they eventually wandered off up the village.

They stopped at Hill Top Farm requesting to use the phone and also indicated that they required transport to Duston. These requests were refused and again suspicion was aroused and they were watched until they left the village.

The five youths were later stopped by a police patrol as they were walking towards Duston. After speaking to them, they were allowed to continue on their way and no criminal activity was recorded.

This incident happened late at night and it seems probable that a crime would have occurred had it not been for the vigilance and determination of the residents. Their prompt action in alerting neighbours and monitoring the progress of the youths until they left the village protected the community and shows the real value of **Neighbourhood Watch**

Throughout Britain house burglary and auto-crime are increasing. Home Office figures predict that crime rates will rise by 25% over the next four years.

Vigilance and security remain vitally important for us all

Daventry Police - 01327 - 300300

Christine Billsborough
Co-ordinator

WHILTON

by Dean Ashby

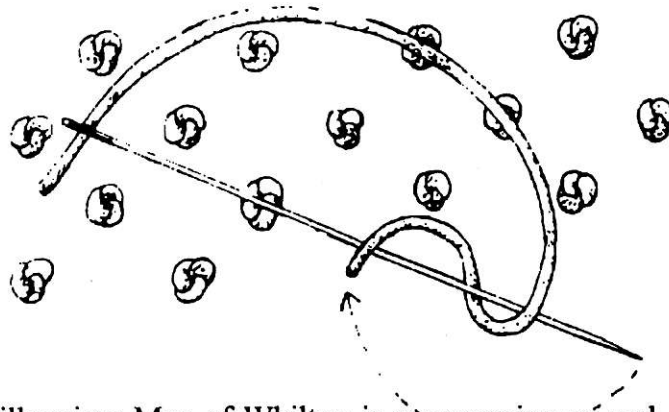
**I came to Whilton five years ago
A different lifestyle, serene and slow
Sometimes so quiet not even a peep
Until Farmer Gordon starts moving his sheep.**

**It's nice living in the country so serene and slow
The townies with their fast noisy life will never know.**

Thank you very much Dean for your poem we hope it will encourage other young people to contribute in the future.

The Editors

THE MILLENNIUM MAP PROJECT



Our work on the Millennium Map of Whilton is now nearing an end. Most of the stitching has been completed and plans are in hand to have a frame made.

The map is designed to hang on the Village Hall wall, encased in a frame to protect it. The centre was worked by WI members and shows the outline of Whilton parish, the roads, fields, streams and canal and the positions of the buildings. There are also pottery "buttons" showing some buildings and aspects of Whilton. These have been produced by Peter Ilsley and Barbara Lewis. Other aspects are illustrated on squares of fabric which surround the map. The designs on these squares have been produced and worked by different people, using a variety of methods. These include cross stitch, collage, fabric painting, appliqué, quilting, embroidery and photographs transferred onto fabric. Together the squares help to create a "snapshot" of what the parish is and what it offers to its residents in 2000.

The production of the map will be a shared achievement for all who have been involved. The Parish Council have provided finance and at least thirty people have helped in some way. We would like to thank all who have given time and talents so willingly. We hope that we shall be ready to unveil the map in about another month and will then arrange a date, when everyone will be invited to come and have a look.

Meanwhile we might consider the words of the poet, John Taylor, who wrote "*In praise of the needle*" in 1640. The poem is rather long, but here is a small part!

*"Thus plainly, and most truly is declar'd
The needles worke hath still bin in regard,
For it doth art, so like to nature frame,
As is if it were her sister, or the same.
Flowers, plants and fishes, beasts, birds, flyes and bees,
Hils, dales, plaines, pastures, skies, seas, rivers, trees;
There's nothing neere at hand, or farthest sought,
But with the needle may be shap'd and wrought."*

Anthea Hiscock

Featuring THE CHARLESTON CHASER
10 piece big band plus cabaret

Bring your own wine, food, chairs or blanket and umbrellas

5.30pm to 10.30pm Saturday 15th July
at The Little Rectory, Whilton

Tickets £15 in aid of Breast Cancer Research

Tickets available from Hilary Blyth - 01327 843274

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITIONS 2000

Whilton will be entered for these competitions and judging takes place during the period 1st June 2000 to 30th September 2000. This means that there is a period of four months during which the judges make unannounced visits to the village.

The marks judges will be allocating in the competitions are as follows:-

Village Competition

Absence of litter	20
Tidiness of public features	30
Tidiness of gardens	10
Posters:	
VOY posters/ displayed	4
Tidiness of noticeboard	3
Facilities map supplied for judges	3
Evidence of activities	<u>30</u>
Maximum marks	<u>100</u>

Churchyard Competition-

Absence of litter	20
Care of grass around gravestones	30
Care of paths, verges, walls gates etc.	35
Overall general impression	<u>15</u>
Maximum marks	<u>100</u>

A FAREWELL DINNER

Members of Whilton WI had two occasions to meet during March. On 15 March we went out to dinner at Peggoty's at Foster's Booth. We were joined by a few men for this event, and also by Jane and Paddy O'Riordan. This was the WI's goodbye to Jane and Paddy as they are about to leave for Scotland. They have moved many times during their life, but Jane told us that they actually lived longer in Whilton than anywhere else; they were here for six years. Jane was our vice-president for several years, and we presented her with a WI book, showing photographs of Northamptonshire villages, past and present. Whilton is included in the book, which is available from the Moot Hall, Daventry.

Our next meeting, on 12 April, is about Yorkshire Dales and Shows, and our May meeting will be a discussion and voting on the Resolutions for the National Triennial Meeting in London.

We shall also be helping to organise the litter pick as part of the national Spring Clean in April, and so please look out for the notice.

If you would like to join us, our meetings are at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall or ring me if you would like more information.

Anthea Hiscock
(843319)



Brington & Whilton Pre-school

A Registered Nursery Education Provider and a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance

Pre-school are currently looking at the following topics under the general theme of spring:

Animals and their babies - Miniature gardens - Growing plants

During World Book Week the children made book markers and their own colouring books. We are planning various Easter activities finishing with an Easter bonnet parade at the end of term.

Our thanks to Gordon and Mary Emery for giving the group the wonderful experience of visiting their farm and feeding the lambs. We all thoroughly enjoyed their hospitality and the children were thrilled to see the animals at such close quarters.

Should you require any further information regarding Pre-school and our activities please do not hesitate to contact me on 01327 843543.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH FUND-RAISING AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Back in early 1999, a fund-raising committee was formed to raise money for the provision of water to the church and the discreet formation of a small kitchen area. This fund to be known as a Designated Fund - not restricted to this particular item. should a more pressing major matter arise.

At the last PCC Meeting the fund-raising committee was elected to be known as Fund-Raising and Social Committee, its members comprising of Janet Bowers (Chairperson), Gill Denbigh, Mary Emery, Eileen Finnemore, Susan Townley and Linda Treacy.

The committee has organised the following:-

- ◆ MAKE MONEY - CAR BOOT SALE - SUNDAY MAY 21ST - 12 NOON - 3.00 PM

in Wadd Close by kind permission of the Emery family.

BOOK YOUR SITE - £5 PER CAR - (PHONE 842851)

and sell those unwanted items. If you do not have sufficient items, maybe you would donate them to the church stall, if so please phone Linda Treacy on 842034

- ◆ CONCERT - SATURDAY 23RD JUNE - 7.30 PM

prior to Open Gardens and Flower Festival - more details to follow

- ◆ FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL - SUNDAY 24TH JUNE - 1.00 - 5.00 PM

If you would like to open your garden, help with teas or stalls or have any other ideas, please contact Janet (842851)

CHURCHYARD

It has been reported to me that there has been dog fouling among the graves in the churchyard. Please, if you walk the public way through the churchyard, keep your dog on a lead and clean up if necessary. Please give a thought to those visiting the graves of their loved ones.



Thank you
Janet Bowers (Churchwarden)

P.D.S.A. COLLECTION

We are grateful to everyone who donated towards this worthwhile charity, raising a total of £53.50. Envelope collection - £38.50. Raffle Ticket Draw - £15.00

Many thanks
D. Day & M Webster

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

APRIL 2000

2ND	11.00 AM	MOTHERING SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE
9TH	11.00 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST
16TH	10.00 AM	<i>UNITED BENEFICE FAMILY SERVICE AT EAST HADDON FOR PALM SUNDAY</i>
23RD	6.00 PM	SUNG EUCHARIST FOR EASTER DAY
30TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE

MAY 2000

7TH	10.00 AM	<i>UNITED BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT NORTON</i>
14TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
	6.00 PM	COMPLINE
21ST	9.30 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST
28TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

One of the three-man team, Harold Haynes, unfortunately due to health reasons, has been forced to temporarily retire after loyal service for more years than I care to remember.

The churchyard will continue to be maintained to an acceptable standard but further assistance is urgently required.

One member of the team already looks after the flower bed in the north-east corner but we need help with path-edging, strimming and mowing the grass.

The church has available for use a self-propelled rotary motor mower, an electric flymo and strimmer.

If you have a little time to spare, on a fairly regular basis, during the growing months you will be warmly welcomed. **Please contact Derek Brown - 842968**

WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

At the February Meeting it was learned that we now have 37 members, seeds have been purchased to grow bedding plants for village displays and most items ordered from Dobies have been distributed to members. It was agreed to enter Whilton in East Midlands in Bloom and to hold the Hanging Basket, Tub or Window Box Contest in conjunction with this. Prizes will be a £10 garden voucher for 1st placing and a £5 voucher for two runners-up.

It was also decided to hold a pumpkin growing competition, prizes for both adults and juniors; seeds are available from the secretary, Janet Bowers (phone 842851). The pumpkins can then be used for Harvest, Halloween or pumpkin pie.

Following the meeting, we enjoyed a most interesting talk by Ron Burge on alternative ways of growing vegetables.

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM

Judging for this is usually July but preparation starts now with planning and planting. Last year's high standard resulted in **second placing and best overall village award.**

There were more hanging baskets etc. than before, the contest run by the Whilton Gardeners' Association helped this.

Janet Bowers, Co-ordinator.

VILLAGE GREEN

It has not gone unnoticed that some kind person, without being asked, has cut the grass on the village green. This is very much appreciated since this is a focal point in the village.

The Editors

Whilton Women's Institute

March Meeting 8.03.00

Mr. D. Larkin, from Wellingborough, entertained, and educated members with a very informative talk and slide show on "British Wild Flowers".

The slides (taken by Mr. Larkin) were a most beautiful example of known, and to some of us, unknown wild flowers.

Trudy Haynes gave a vote of thanks to the speaker for a most enjoyable evening.

Dorothy Sawford

Used Stamps

Since the last Newsletter I have had several useful contributions and now have sufficient to take to Lyncrest.

Many thanks.

Trudy Haynes

Summary of Events

- Mon 3 Apr Closing date for Parish Council nomination forms
- Mon 3 Apr 7.30pm Gardeners' Association - Alpines - Trevor Ray
- Sun 9 Apr Working party for Spinney project - 2pm - 4.30pm
- Wed 12 Apr 7.30pm Women's Institute - Yorkshire Dales and Shires - Mrs J Worledge
- Tues April 11th & Tues April 25th - Library van in Whilton
- 24th April - "Litter Pick" during the week - see notice board for date & time.
- Thur 4 May Election for District & Parish Councillors
- Wed 10 May 7.30pm Women's Institute - Resolutions for the Triennial meeting in London
- Fri 19 May **Newsletter Deadline** - Please hand in your contributions by this date otherwise we cannot guarantee they will be included in the next edition.
- Sun 21 May Car Boot Sale - 12noon - 3pm
- Mon 22 May 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting

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. The Editors are:

Derek & Shirley Brown - Cherry Orton, Main Street
Harold & Trudy Haynes - The Old Plough, Mian Street

Contributions to the newsletter to any of the above **by the deadline date, please**