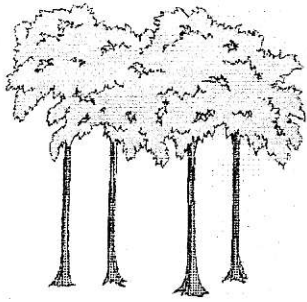
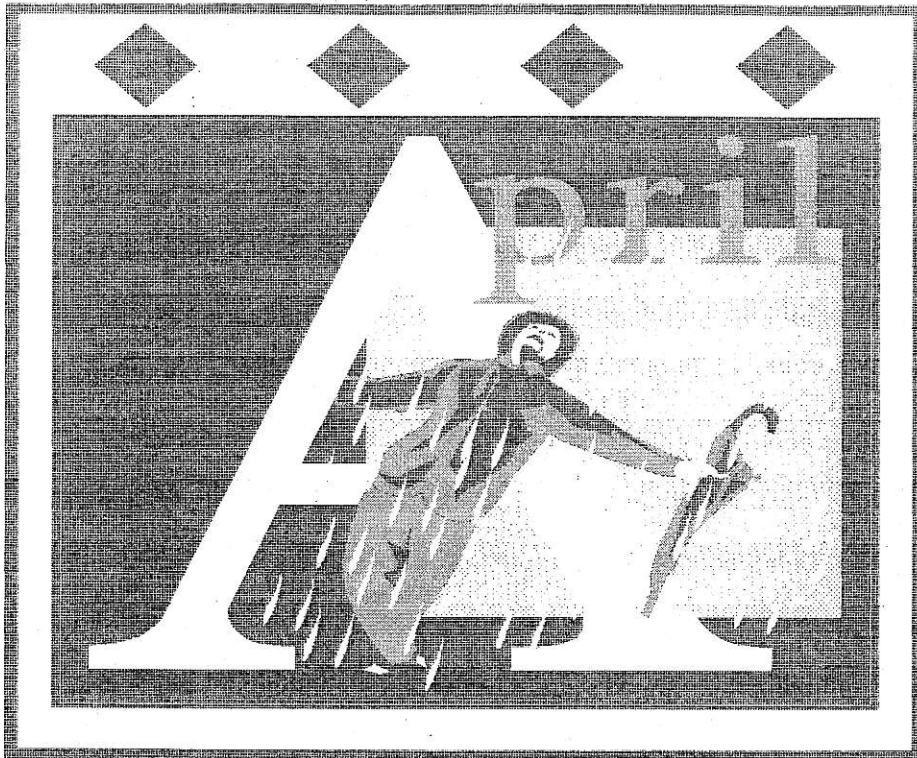


WHILTON NEWSLETTER



Issue APRIL 2002



NEWS FROM ALL AROUND THE PARISH

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We are sorry for the delay in the issue of the April Newsletter. We only had **three** articles by the deadline date, which was extremely early due to Trinity School (our printers) breaking up for the Easter holiday. It was obviously not practical to have printed with so few items.

We are quite often working to a tight schedule and it would be appreciated therefore if those contributing articles submit same by the deadline otherwise there is a possibility they will not be included.

Thank you.



1952
2002

**WE ARE CELEBRATING THE
GOLDEN JUBILEE**

**IN WHILTON PARISH WITH A
BARN DANCE AND HOG ROAST**

ON SATURDAY 1ST JUNE 2002

AND A VILLAGE PARTY

ON MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2002

**SEE REPORT
ELSEWHERE IN NEWSLETTER
FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

PARISH MATTERS!

The Parish Council met for the final occasion of the year on 4th March. Members were heartened by a record attendance of four parishioners and both our County and District Councillors.

Highways

The Clerk had received a positive response to his letter about the condition of the Z bend road surface, Southview repairs, and repairing the cross footway rainwater drain cover near Churchgate from the new Area Manager now employed by WS Atkins. However despite representations by Mr Amos there had to date been no visible results.

Allotments

The Clerk was pleased to announce that since his last article he had received a request for Mrs Wrights full allotment so only the half at the top end now remained unlet. In response to his letter to the District Council about any covenants or restrictions on the use of the land if no longer needed for allotments, he had received a reply indicating none had been found in the deeds on the sale. Mr Bowers was asked to check whether there was any more information or documentation on this. If there is anyone in the village who can shed light on the belief that the land was earmarked at the time of sale for a village hall just after the war (1940's), could they speak with me or Mr Bowers. **If anyone would like the remaining allotment please let me know.**

Fly Tipping

This unfortunate social habit is spoiling the appearance of the village on occasion. The clerk had spoken to the District Council Environmental Health and they had agreed to collect the tyres/wheels at the top of the village collected up in a neat heap by our Chairman and to remove the Washing machine at the bottom of the village. If you see any one doing this please take their number.

Noise at Whilton Mill

The Chairman reported on the meeting held with the Mill owner and manager, Norton Parish Council and Environmental Health as written up in the last Newsletter. Since then no word from the Planning Department about their unexplained absence had been heard, and there had been no reply about permitted noise levels from MSA who ran the meetings. The Chairman again reminded members that the only real way to tackle it was through a log that showed clearly the frequency and effects of the nuisance. The Clerk reported that he had only received one form back since it was issued. Several members indicated surprise at this as it had troubled them but they were reminded filling in the forms was necessary. One member of the public indicated that for him it was not an issue. Wind Direction and positioning plus garden use appear deciding factors so far.

Jubilee

The Council also discussed requests from Mr Woods on behalf of the organizing committee for the Jubilee for funding towards the Street Party and Dance. It was agreed to make a grant of £250 from our Section 137 Fund this year and to consider further requests upto another £250 if necessary if fundraising/ sponsoring/ tickets did not totally cover the costs. Those involved were thanked for their enthusiasm and enterprise

The Code of Conduct and A Register Of Interests Of Members

There was a long discussion about these two new government requirements to increase the accountability and transparency of Local Councils such as ours. The new model Code was to be imposed if a more stringent local one was not agreed. It replaced the undertaking each Councillor signed up to at the first meeting after their Election or co-option. Each would have to sign and provide the information on interests on a form to be provided by the District Council Standards Committee. The information to be held by the District and Parish Clerk would show any interest in the village arising from relationships, property of employment and affiliation to organizations that might have an interest in proceedings. After discussion and despite advice from the Clerk that a motion adopting the code be passed, it was decided to await imposition. The Chairman would seek more clarification from the District and call a special meeting if necessary..

Village of the Year Competition

Time to consider Village of the Year Competition was again upon us. It was agreed to ask Anthea Hiscock to complete the forms. However this year there was two separate sections one for appearance, the other for activities and involvement as well as the Church Yard. It was agreed to enter all three if Mr Haynes agreed. The Clerk reported that the WI would again be organizing a litter pick during the Easter Holidays for which we were grateful. However we were all reminded it was important to pick up any litter etc. throughout the year.

Rural transport

Mr Steve Burrows the Area Rural Transport Officer came to discuss the outcome to the 12 responses in the circulated Transport Questionnaire. He suggested that the village should explore the regular use of DACT in co-operation with other villages possibly on a Saturday or Market Days which might provide sufficient numbers of people without cars or preferring to use this more flexible form of public transport. This could given a volunteer organizer become a Travel Club to do both regular runs and occasional trips. He would send details of Dact to go in the Newsletter. This is attached. Others should use the District Council Travel Scheme for pensioners while it could be afforded as some Taxis and Railway tickets could be purchased with them.

Transport was also the subject for two remaining items. Our membership on Long Buckby Rail Users Association had provided minutes of the meeting which indicated a real chance that the station would be marginal in the refranchising of the Silverlink line and a reduction at any rate to one an hour seemed almost a foregone conclusion. It was important to keep in touch with this and lend support when the position was clearer. Both DDC and NCC were also concerned.

Finally Speeding in the village was to be tackled by the placement of reminder boards in the village for a week beginning 27th March. Lyndon Morris was arranging this on our behalf.

Next Meeting is on Monday 13th May preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting which receives Reports on many of the Village Activities. This Starts at 7.30pm. Come and encourage people.

SEE YOU THERE

CHURCH MATTERS

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, WHILTON

As most of you know, our priest, the Revd. David MacPherson, has retired from full-time ministry. Together with his wife Jean, he has done much to forward Christian worship both here at St Andrew's and throughout the Benefice of Brington, Whilton, Norton, Church Brampton., Harlestone and East Haddon.

Jean has helped out on many occasions as organist. David's last official services were on Easter Sunday, 31st March 2002. He will however be conducting services within the Benefice until the end of May and then occasionally until the end of the year.

We thank them for all their work and wish them a very happy retirement and hope to see them from time to time as their new home will be in Daventry.

Our assistant priest, the Revd. Maurice Walton, is also retiring and will be moving to Flore with his wife, Gill. Maurice's last service will be the Benefice Sung Eucharist on 2nd June at St Andrew's, Whilton.. Both Maurice and Gill have also given much to the Benefice and likewise we wish them a very happy retirement.

During the interregnum, (we do not know how long before a new Rector is appointed), services will continue as before, conducted by visiting priests or members of the Benefice Lay Band.

For any special services required e.g. Christenings, please contact your Churchwarden, Janet Bowers (842851) who will make necessary arrangements.

REMINDERS

Friday 10th May 2002, 7.30 pm - Cheese and Wine Party with auction at Westcombe House, Manor Lane, Whilton. Tickets £5 to include a glass of wine. Kind permission of Phillip and Joanne Grant,

Sunday 30th June 2002 - 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm - Village Open Gardens and Flower Festival. If you would like to open your garden or take part in the flower arranging, please contact Janet on 842851. It is planned to stage a Photographic Exhibition of Whilton during the last 50 Years. Have you any photographs you could lend?

Make a scarecrow for displaying at the front of your property and win a prize!!

Janet Bowers

PARISH WALKS

SUMMER 2002

APRIL 21st ~ WHILTON

MAY 19th ~ BRINGTON

JUNE 16th ~ BRAMPTON

JULY 21st ~ NORTON

AUGUST 11th ~ HARLESTONE

SEPTEMBER 15th ~ EAST HADDON

WHEN? 2.30pm each Sunday

WHERE? Meet at the Parish Church

WHAT? Village & church tour and tea!

COST? FREE!

BOOK? NO! Just turn up...

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Gary Shaeffer (01604 770939)

CHEESE & WINE PARTY



FRIDAY 10TH MAY 2002

7.30 PM

**WESTCOMBE HOUSE
MANOR LANE**

**TICKETS £5
TO INCLUDE A GLASS OF WINE**

COME AND ENJOY AN EVENING OF CHEESE TASTING WITH WINE

**PLUS
MYSTERY AUCTION**

Profits to St Andrew's Church General Fund

TICKETS FROM JANET BOWERS (842852) & JO GRANT (844731)



WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall Management Committee arranged to put on a spoof play, *Sense & Sensibility*, performed by the Looking Glass Theatre Company on the evening of 5th March, a new departure for the parish! The sitting area was limited to 50 places and all the tickets were sold. A quick survey was taken during the week after the play and the result appeared to be that nearly everyone enjoyed the show and would like a repeat. As a result of this Mike Lewis is arranging to book the Looking Glass Theatre Company for their next production "Frankenstein" for later in the year.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Following the break-ins during the night of 28th February & 1st March, it is regretted to report yet a further loss occurred in the village on Sunday evening, 3rd March.

Please ensure that all your valuable items including garden machines etc. are in secure buildings. Timber garden sheds offer no security whatsoever.

Do not leave desirable 'pickings' with little protection and thereby making it easy for the 'unwelcome visitors' to the village.

For your own peace of mind do not leave your car with valuables evident and ensure that it is made secure at all times, preferably garaged overnight if you have this facility available.

Sadly our long running record of being crime free has now been broken

Be vigilant and report anything of a suspicious nature to

DAVENTRY POLICE ON 01604 700700

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM 2002

Now is the time to start planning your displays for this year's competition. Neat and tidy front gardens, trim verges and overall tidiness all go towards scoring points.

Last year we gained second place in the Small Village Section. Can we IMPROVE on that??

Janet Bowers

WHILTON W.I. - FEBRUARY 2002

At this time of the year we often decide not to have a speaker (due to unreliable weather) but to organise the meeting ourselves. This February we planned "Poetry and Pot Luck", a combination of favourite poems, recipes, & food (home-cooked or favourite delights from the shop).

Eleven members brought along a miscellany of poetry to read and entertain us. The W I scrapbook was produced for us recall past photographed events and also to read poems that had been written by previous and one current member in past years.

The range of poetry was great - from made up 'verse' to poems about animals, birds, nature, emotion and two amusing rhymes about 'growing old'.

After all that reading, we were ready for our tea and the delicious food produced by members, some sweet, some savoury but all very tasty and enjoyed. Recipes were exchanged after the tasting.

Shirley Brown

OPERATION SPRING CLEAN
2002

WHILTON
LITTER PICK



If you were about in Whilton on Thursday 4 April you may have noticed the groups of litter pickers in our bright yellow tabards. This is an annual event, when we try to tidy up the litter lying on the roadside, under hedges and in the undergrowth of the banks. In doing so we also hope that passers by will be reminded to take their litter home and keep our environment tidy.

This year we are glad to say that we found less litter than last year, and much of what we found had been thrown out of cars on the main road. At the bottom end of the village three dead bodies were found : a mink, a fox and a hedgehog. We are also happy to report that on the same morning District Council workers arrived to remove the tyres which had been dumped at the top of the village.

The 25 litter pickers were rewarded with a drink and biscuits in the Village Hall provided by members of the WI. The 11 children who took part were awarded certificates produced by Shirley Brown. Members of the WI would like to thank everyone who turned up to help. We hope that our efforts will encourage everyone to keep Whilton looking attractive and tidy through the rest of the year.



WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB 2002

JANUARY

1st Prize	155	D Scott	£40
2nd Prize	043	R Howkins	£20
3rd Prize	090	P Webster	£10

FEBRUARY

1st Prize	037	R Patching	£40
2nd Prize	056	L Tibbs	£20
3rd Prize	009	G Denbigh	£10

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

APRIL 2002

7TH	10.00 AM	UNITED BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT BRINGTON
14TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
21ST	6.00 PM	SUNG EUCHARIST
28TH	9.30 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST

MAY 2002

5TH	10.00 AM	UNITED BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT BRAMPTON
9TH	7.30 PM	HOLY COMMUNION FOR ASCENSION DAY
12TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
19TH	9.30 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST
26TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE

Whilton Golden Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday 1st June - Barn Dance & Hog Roast

Monday 3rd June - Village Party

The arrangements for these two events, marking the Queen's Golden Jubilee, are now well under way. We have obtained a grant from Whilton Parish Council towards the cost of the celebrations though further fundraising may still be necessary.

Joan and Griff Davies have generously offered the use of a barn at Roughmoor Grounds for the barn dance which will start at 7.00 through to 10.30 pm. Catering will be in the form of a Hog Roast and Tom Treacy has kindly volunteered to run a licensed bar. The ever popular band Thirsty Work has been booked again to provide the entertainment. Tickets will be on sale from the end of April from Anthea Hiscock, Jenny Ponder and Phillip Grant. The cost will be £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children aged 3-16. Whilton's barn dances are always great fun and suitable entertainment for all ages - put the date in your diary now.

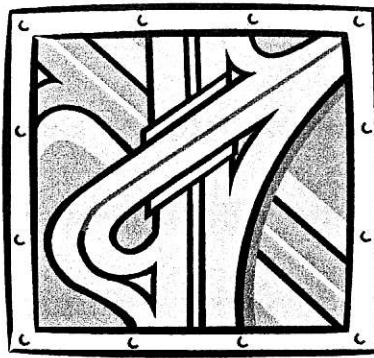
We would very much appreciate donations of raffle prizes - if you would like to offer a prize please contact me.

The village party will run from 2.30 until 5.00 pm in the field off Wadd Close by kind permission of Mary and Gordon Emery. Everyone attending will be asked to bring along a plate of food - more about that nearer the time. We'll be playing traditional games and races (for children and adults) there will be a fancy dress competition, face painting and a musical performance by children of the village - volunteers required.

It would be great to have a record of these events for posterity (to be displayed in the village hall, perhaps). Would you like to volunteer as official photographer? Call me if you think you can give David Bailey a run for his money.

The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday 16th April at 8.00 pm in the village hall. There is still plenty to do - if you are able to help then please come along, you'll be very welcome.

Teresa Leadbetter
843988



Before the M1

Once upon a time there was a farmhouse with the name of 'Greenhill', the hill being a slight rise in the otherwise flat valley between two brooks, near Long Buckby Wharf.

It came on the market when we were desperately looking for a farm and was the right size, the house being well built, with four bedrooms, compact and cheerful. After one visit we decided to look no further.

We were aware that the only water supply came from a deep well, and had to be pumped by turning a wheel about a hundred times each morning to fill the tank. It was then up to us not to use too much! It had a strange taste on occasions and when tested was found to be unfit for human consumption, hence the reason we have kept remarkable fit.

There was no mains electricity but a generator to supply power for lighting. Calor gas was used for cooking and heating and a coke stove for heating water. There was a large, cold larder with slate shelves for setting milk for cream and for salting bacon, etc. there was also large hooks for hanging hams.

We inherited two men, who cycled from Long Buckby, and a boy called Jimmy who was in lodgings locally. Jimmy did not stay long. I last saw him being driven away by a remand officer, having called to say goodbye on his way to an approved school. He had attacked his benefactor with a knife!

We always knew the main railway line was only a few yards from the house, with a small lawn and a few bushes between, but what we did not foresee was the smoke, which was to envelop the house night and day. The freight trains were the worst; with their chuff-chuffing throwing out sparks which lit up the sky at night. We advised visitors to put cotton wool in their ears and close the windows.

These spectacular sparks would on occasions, set the cornfields on fire in a dry period around harvest time. The fire engine would arrive, bell ringing, and we all dashed out with brooms and sticks to beat out the flames. One year the strawberry bed was destroyed in this way, for which we were paid compensation for our crop loss, after much wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth while surveying the charred state of the precious fruit. This was in fact a rotten crop and the following year we had the best we ever had! Obviously the insurance agent was no gardener.

We always milked a house cow, which was usually an unsaleable one with only three quarters but produced enough milk for us, the cream from which I made in to butter and the skim went to the pigs.

Those were the days when farming was a pleasure. Everything we grew was needed; local women would come to help pick up potatoes, the threshing machine would come and its comfortable hum would be heard all day. The dogs had a wonderful time killing rats, which were scampering from their home as it was demolished, and all was bustle and dust!

Whatever occupation we were engaged in, in garden or building, we could never escape the trains and conversation was impossible when they roared past. We waved to the engine drivers and received waves from passengers, as carriage windows opened in those days. When, on one occasion, the Royal train was to pass by we hung flags from our windows and were out, waving like mad, as it passed. Not a royal head could be seen: they were either reading papers or asleep but we had done our best!

Electricity came before we left, which made life much easier, but it was not long before the M1 was making its way – (about 1958). We were on holiday when the house was blown up and only regret that we did not save the wonderful flag stone that lined the floors.

I could go on and on about those wonderful days, how we watched the fox cubs playing round an earth behind the house when darkness was falling. We used to put the hen house in the stubble fields after harvest so the hens could pick up the fallen corn. One night the trap door had fallen so they could not enter and had roosted in the hedges, so, to avoid them all being killed I sat out there until 2.00am, gun poised, and Griff took over until dawn. The fox came but made a hasty retreat before he had a chance to shoot at it, but at least we saved the hens.

Joan Davies

This article originally appeared in the Whilton Newsletter April 1993

A Bit of Whilton History

I was recently given an article that had appeared in the Chronicle & Echo, which fascinated me as a relative 'newcomer' to the village. For the benefit of those who do not read the paper and are also 'new' I quote the following, which was reproduced in the paper from 'The History of Whilton' compiled by Clive Haynes formerly of the Old Plough Whilton

'Langton freeman – an 18th century eccentric

Richard Freeman was a well-known figure in the area in the 18th century. He was Sheriff of Northampton, and held several estates in the county, including the manor at Whilton. His first wife died in 1707 and on 13th August 1709, he married Elizabeth Langton of Muscote. A settlement was made that the manor of Whilton should pass to her eldest son instead of the four sons by his first marriage.

The eldest son was Langton Freeman. Born in 1710, he later became the Rector of Bilton in Warwickshire, and Lord of the Manor in Whilton. He died unmarried on 9th October 1784. The following extract from his will dated 16th September 1783; he was 73 at the time of writing.

'And first, for four or five days after my deceased, and until my body grows offensive, I will not be removed out of the place or the bed I shall die on; and then I would be carried and laid in the same bed, decently and privately, in the summer house now erected in the garden belonging to the dwelling house where I now inhabit in Whilton' and to be laid in the same bed there, with all the appurtenances thereto belonging, and to be wrapped in a strong double winding sheet; and in all other respects to be interred as near as may be to the description we receive in Holy Scripture of our Saviour's burial; the doors and windows to be bolted, and to be kept as near in the same manner and state they shall be at the time of my decease and I desire that the building or summer house may be planted around with evergreen plants, and fenced off with iron or oak pales and painted dark blue colour'

His body was deposited on the 11th October, 1784, and for the due performance of this manner aforesaid' he left the Manor of Whilton, with his house and certain lands, to his nephew, Thomas Freeman, of Daventry.

It is said that the body was still intact in the late 19th century but what happened to it is still a mystery. There is no apparent record of it having been taken to the churchyard, but this seems the most likely outcome.

The house is now a listed building. It stood empty in the early 1970's, and at this time all that remained of the summerhouse was a stone arch covered in ivy. This was demolished in 1975 due to it being unsafe.'

Sara Meadows.



50 Years of Dedication


A PERSONAL THANKYOU

I would like to say a personal 'thank you' to all those who sponsored me in the 'Daffodil Run'. I will have raised £170 for the Marie Curie Cancer Care, which is great news.

Thank you for your support!

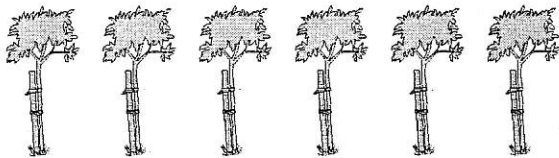
Joanne Grant

WHILTON SPINNEY PROJECT

With the over-matured Italian  Black Poplars felled, we are now entering an exciting period in the project and hopefully with improved weather conditions, good progress can be made in the development of the spinney and it is hoped that many more hands will be available to assist in the work.

A small party of volunteers have been making some progress in the clearing of brushwood and making temporary paths in the wettest areas during the winter but unfortunately conditions have not always been suitable.

Our priority is to fill in the gaps from tree felling along the village side and although it took place rather late, a goat willow has been planted and also holly. On the other drier side of the spinney, we have planted four oak trees and two crab apple trees. We are planning a major planting programme of native species trees and shrubs for the autumn of this year.



We made application for the money granted for the pond development and this has now been received, albeit less than we had anticipated.

We recently invited Sarah Klaes, Daventry District Project Officer for the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, to visit the spinney, seeking advice on bridging, paths and development in general. This was a worthwhile visit and she has provided some very useful literature and offered the BTCV volunteer team to come to the spinney for five days to construct the boardwalks over the wet areas. We would only have to meet the cost of the materials for the work as she considers this is a very desirable conservation project.

To the right on entering the spinney from the village is an ideal situation for a picnic / children's play area and it is hoped to progress

this work during the year.



We hope that greater interest will be aroused within the parish for, **let us not forget that**, this is a conservation project for your benefit and posterity.

Derek Brown



BULBS AND TREES

It may have been noticed that the village is very colourful at the moment (mid-March) with daffodils and crocuses and to follow shortly, tulips. This is due mainly to Daventry District Council who kindly donated £200 to purchase bulbs and £200 for trees. Three rowan, one silver birch and daffodils were purchased and planted at Whilton Locks. Two oak trees, two crab apples and one goat willow were purchased and planted in the spinney. Two hollies one yew and one larch and snowdrops were planted in the churchyard.

The trees for the churchyard required permission from the Archdeacon of Northampton who was very pleased with the idea and agreed the proposed siting previously suggested by the Landscape Office of Danetry District Council.

Janet Bowers



WHILTON WI

The March meeting of the WI took place in the Village Hall on 13 March. Our business meeting included making plans for the Fairtrade Coffee Morning on the following Saturday, and making arrangements for the annual Litter Pick on 4 April. I expect that this will have taken place by the time you read this.

We had a change of speaker, and sometimes this can be a disappointment. However, on this occasion there was certainly no disappointment involved. Mr Gary Schaeffer stepped into the speaker's place and provided us with a most entertaining evening.

He began by explaining how he, an American, had come to be so interested in Northamptonshire, its people, and history and is now a "Blue Guide" in the county. This was followed by a tour around some of his favourite places in the county, entitled "Northamptonshire: a baker's dozen". As we all know, this should have described thirteen places, but somehow a fourteenth crept in! He accompanied the talk with slides and kept us all on our toes, as we tried to recognise and remember what we knew about our own area.

Next month we shall be having a talk and possibly a demonstration from Daventry Fire Brigade on 10 April. The meeting will be open to all, including men and children, from 8 p.m. following the WI business meeting at 7.30 p.m.

We hope you will come and join us then.

Anthea Hiscock

FAIRTRADE COFFEE MORNING

On Saturday 16th March, the WI held a Fairtrade coffee morning in the Village Hall. Fairtrade coffee, juice and biscuits were served, and customers also had the opportunity to buy cakes and produce made by WI members.

There was a stall of Fairtrade goods. Among the variety available were coffee and tea, dried fruit and nut products, such as muesli, fruit bars and coated raisins besides other sweets and chocolate, pasta, rice and stationery. These goods are produced without exploitation of the growers and producers, so that they receive a fair reward for their labour. Some of these foods are available at local supermarkets and all bear the Fairtrade mark of a letter "F" and an inverted "t".

Members of the WI would like to thank all who came to this event and who bought from the stalls. About £58 was added to WI funds and we also sold over £111 worth of Fairtrade goods.

Anthea Hiscock

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 usually parks near The Old Plough, Main Street. 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 9th and 23^d and MAY dates will be 7th & 21st*

Whilton Gardeners' Association

At the February meeting the members agreed to arrange summer trips to both Cottesbrook and Hidcote (Gloucestershire) gardens.



The speaker for the evening was Christine Dakin who gave some excellent ideas for planning a garden that will provide interest during the winter months.

Please note that due to the timing of Easter, the next meeting will be held on **Monday 8th April**. Guests are always very welcome, the meetings start at 7.30 pm and are held every two months in the village hall.

Teresa Leadbetter
843988



Brington & Whilton Pre-school

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

Once again we have been busy during the last term, we have been looking at Spring and watching the daffodils grow in the gardens, seeing how the buds on the trees turn to blossom and leaves and growing our own cress. We have had an enjoyable visit to Mr & Mrs Emery's farm and fed the lambs and sat in tractors and we thank them for showing us around the farm and allowing us to feed the lambs.

Our big event this coming term is our Trivial Pursuits evening on Friday 19th April 2002 in the Reading Rooms at Great Brington, please come and support us if you are able, we have a good time and it is only £10.00 for a team of four people, there will be a bar and you will need to bring your own nibbles.

If anyone would like more information about the Pre-School, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Holman on 01604 770083 or come along to the Whilton Village Hall on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings to see what we get up to.

WHO CAN USE DACT MINIBUSES?

Any groups in Daventry and the surrounding district who are affiliated to DACT. Any voluntary, charitable, not-for-profit group can become affiliated. The groups we have range from Mums and Tots to Senior Citizens. An information pack giving full details of our scheme is available on application.

WHO DRIVES THE DACT MINIBUSES?

Anyone who has successfully undertaken the MIDAS Training Course. Volunteer drivers may be made available to groups who do not have their own driver.

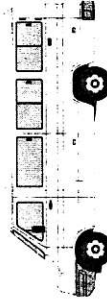
VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

We are constantly seeking new volunteers to add to our pool of qualified drivers for groups who are unable to provide their own drivers. MIDAS training is free for our DACT volunteers. Our vehicles are garaged in both Daventry and Brixworth, therefore volunteers living in any part of the District are welcome. Further information about the MIDAS Scheme is available on application.

Office hours are 9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

24 hour answerphone

Manager: Rob Kinning



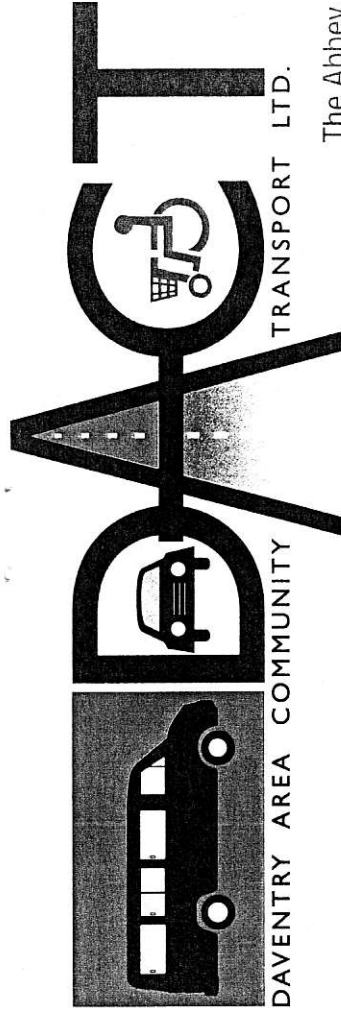
Tel: 01327 701665 Fax: 01327 701667 e-mail: dact@byte-it.net

The Abbey, Market Square, Daventry, Northants NN11 4XG

DAVENTRY SHOPMOBILITY scheme is managed by DACT and run from the New Street building. Shopmobility provides powered scooters and wheel-chairs for hire in Daventry town centre. Annual joining fee of £5 applies. Equipment hire free. Longer hire of manual wheelchairs by arrangement. A separate information leaflet for this scheme is available on request.

Telephone: 01327 312555

Manager: Kathy Jones



TEL: 01327 701666

FAX: 01327 701667

WHO CAN USE DACT CAR SCHEME?

Anyone who has difficulty accessing public transport, either because they cannot physically get on a bus or because there is no bus service available at the time needed.

HOW DOES THE SCHEME WORK?

We call upon the services of volunteer drivers, who use their vehicles to take you to medical appointments. We require the **MINIMUM of 48 hours notice** of an appointment, where possible. If required, our volunteers will accompany you and wait with you for **UP TO 2 HOURS**, and return you to your home afterwards. There is no charge for the driver's services or for any waiting time. All you pay is a contribution towards petrol costs. N.B. If you know that your appointment will take longer than 2 hours your return journey will have to be booked and paid for separately.

DOES DACT ONLY DO MEDICAL JOURNEYS?

We are not a taxi service, and cannot take you to work, shopping or on a pleasure trip. However, if an organisation such as Age Concern were to make a request on your behalf for a journey which was non-medical, but which they considered essential, we would normally try to help.

HOW MUCH WILL MY JOURNEY COST?

Journeys currently cost 38p/mile. There is a **minimum** charge of £3.00 up to a maximum of £10.00 per journey up to 40 miles. (Journeys costing over this amount are subsidised by DACT).

Special rates apply for journeys over 40 miles.

CAN I GET HELP WITH THE COSTS?

Passengers currently claiming any of the following may receive help with journey costs: **INCOME SUPPORT; DISABLED PERSON'S TAX CREDIT; WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT; JOB SEEKERS ALLOWANCE (MUST BE INCOME BASED)** Proof of claim will be needed so please be prepared to produce your Order Book or similar documents. Expenses can normally be reclaimed for hospital appointments only. **OUR DRIVERS ACCEPT NATIONAL TRANSPORT TRAVEL TOKENS.**

WHERE DOES THE SERVICE OPERATE?

We cover the whole of Daventry District, with the exception of Byfield and Woodford Halse who operate their own scheme. (Rural Wheels 01327 260992)

HOW DO I BOOK A JOURNEY?

Please telephone 01327 701666 at least two working days before your appointment. Please note that for Monday appointments this means Thursday afternoon at the latest. Tell us if you have any special needs, or if you need to take a wheelchair or walking frame. A friend or partner may accompany you at no extra cost.

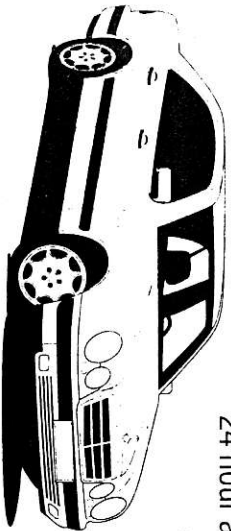
ONLY JOURNEYS BOOKED THROUGH THE OFFICE WILL BE UNDERTAKEN -

PLEASE DO NOT GIVE YOUR REQUEST TO OUR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS.

Office hours are 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday

24 hour answerphone

Car Scheme Manager: John Hodgkiss

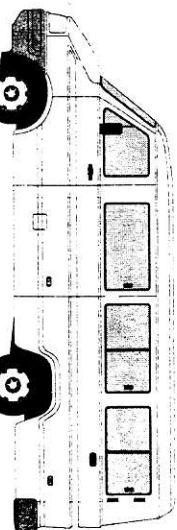


Tel: 01327 701666 Fax: 01327 701667 e-mail: dact@byte-it.net

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS ALWAYS NEEDED IN ALL AREAS

MINIBUS SCHEME

TEL: 01327 701665



HIRING DACT MINIBUSES

Who can hire a minibus?

Any group affiliated to DACT. AFFILIATION costs £15 for the first year. This includes the necessary Section 19 Minibus Permit, which costs a one-off fee of £7. The annual renewal fee is £15.

HIRING SESSIONS

06.00 - 12.00hours	12.00 - 18.00hours	18.00 - 06.00hours
Each session costs £18.00.		

An optional Accident Damage Waiver fee of £2.50 per session (£7.00 per day) is payable to cover "excess liability". Subject to availability there is also a mid-morning and afternoon session (10.00 - 18.00hours) costing £27.00 plus optional £4.00 ADW fee. Special rates apply for longer periods, please ask. National Transport Tokens can be used to pay, or part-pay the cost of hire.

FUEL COSTS are NOT included. Vehicles are supplied with a full tank of fuel, and must be re-filled on return.

MINIBUS DRIVER AWARENESS SCHEME (MIDAS) is a nationally accepted standard adopted by the Community Transport Association, and by many County Councils. Only MIDAS permit holders are allowed to drive DACT minibuses. The first driver for an Affiliated Group will be assessed free of charge. Costs for additional driver assessments on application. We strongly encourage groups to provide their own drivers. Further training is required to use the passenger lift or carry wheelchairs. This is a half day local course.

WHAT ARE DACT MINIBUSES?

A small fleet of 17-seater vehicles (driver + 16 passengers), equipped with passenger lifts. Wheelchair occupants can be carried. This gives people with physical restrictions the opportunity to participate in group activities.

Summary of Events

Mon	8th	Apr	7.30 pm	Whilton Gardeners' Association in Village Hall
Tues	9th	Apr	9.10 am	Library van in village
Weds	10th	Apr	7.10 pm	W.I at Village Green, visiting Fire Station
Tues	16th	Apr	8.00 pm	Golden Jubilee Meeting in Village Hall
Fri	19th	Apr	Evening	Whilton & Brington Pre-school Trivial Pursuits in Reading Rooms, Gt Brington
Tues	23rd	Apr	9.10 am	Library van in village
Thurs	25th	Apr	7.30 pm	Whilton PCC Annual Meeting in Village Hall
Tues	7th	May	9.10 am	Library van in village
Weds	8th	May	7.30 pm	WI in Village Hall, Resolutions
Fri	10th	May	7.30 pm	Wine & Cheese Party, Westcombe House, Manor Lane
Mon	13th	May	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
<u>Thurs</u>	<u>16th</u>	<u>May</u>		<u>Newsletter Deadline</u> Please hand in your contributions by this date otherwise we cannot guarantee they will be included in the next edition. *
Tues	21st	May	9.10 am	Library van in village

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
Trudy Haynes - The Old Plough, Main Street.
Sara Meadows - Courtyard Barns, Manor Lane

We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children. Articles of local interest, poems, recipés, puzzles or drawings will always be considered for inclusion in the Newsletter.

It would be most helpful to the Editors if regular contributors to the newsletter would consider submitting their article, if preparing on a PC, via a disk (saved to floppy disk A/drive) or by email (saraspicer@lineone.net). For those who do not have this facility please produce articles as they have done in the past.

Any contributions to the newsletter
by the deadline date, please. to any of the above Editors.

*Note the deadline due to school half term ending *