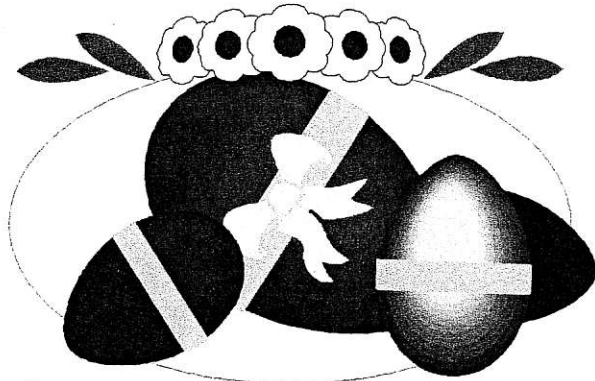


WHILTON NEWSLETTER

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* **APRIL & MAY** *
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Happy Easter

NEWS FROM ALL AROUND THE PARISH

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* In this issue *
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* ♦ Parish News *
* ♦ Church News *
* ♦ Whilton Gardeners' Assoc. *
* ♦ Whilton Photographic club *
* ♦ Neighbourhood Watch *
* ♦ Reports of past & details of *
* ♦ future events *
* ♦ Whilton History—Shops & *
* ♦ Traders *
* *





Our Rector - Rev Chris Goble works from **Brington Rectory** and can be contacted on 01604 774042 or E-mail chris@spencerbenefice.freeserve.co.uk

2000 years ago someone who had received some notoriety was given the death of a criminal, hanging on the cross. It is quite extraordinary that in a different country and so many years on, it is still being marked, noted, used as a celebration. The danger, though, is that it may offer us a time for chocolate eggs (nothing wrong with that) but without the facing of the reality of Jesus who died. Easter marks the resurrection, the defeating of death by Jesus, so all who entrust their lives to him can receive

eternity in the here and now, and transformed lives. To encounter this Christ we should read the accounts of him - try Mark's Gospel in the Bible chapters 14-16 will tell you what we mark at this time of year, we join together with the Christian Church marking these life changing events, some details are below, but most of all we must be willing to open our lives to Him, it may lead us to joy or fear (in that passage of Mark the friends of Jesus have both) but it will lead us to truth and love.

On Good Friday from 10.00am to 11.30am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt in St Mary's, Great Brington, in aid of the Brington and Whilton pre-school, then 11.30am 15 minutes of story and songs for Easter for all ages, children, please bring an adult, then, weather permitting, bring your own picnic to the garden at Brington Rectory - hot drinks provided, toilet available.

Also on Good Friday there is a quiet reflective service in Whilton church at 7.30pm.

On 7th April there is a rare chance to worship at Holdenby church as we mark Jesus passing from death to resurrection life, at 6.00pm.

On Easter Day from 6.00am to 9.00am on BBC Northampton (FM 104.2 103.6) a service and interviews will be being broadcast from Brington church.

Our Communion service here in Whilton marking the resurrection of Jesus is at 9.15am on Easter Day

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

APRIL 2007

1st	10.00 am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>EAST HADDON</u>
5th	7.30 pm	Holy Communion & Stripping the Altar
6th	7.30 pm	Compline for Good Friday
8th	9.15 am	Family Communion – Easter Day
15th	9.15 am	Holy Communion
22nd	11.00 am	Family Service
29th	11.00 am	Holy Communion at <u>NORTON</u>
6TH May	10.00 am	Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>BRINGTON</u>

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

We are fortunate to have a lovely 12th/ 13th Century church and like all buildings it requires maintenance and repair. Over the past months plasterwork has been falling in the chancel and sanctuary and so some significant repair work is needed. This will cost £7,258. This together with other repairs due from the Architect's and Electrician's Quinquennial Inspections



means we must raise money to supplement the Fabric Fund as well as still supporting the General Fund to pay bills etc.

To be able to do this means we must have fund raising so several events are being planned at which, you can not only have an enjoyable fun time, but also help your church.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING

CAR BOOT - Sunday 22nd April 1.00 – 4.00 pm

Sell those unwanted items and make yourself cash. Cars £6 or pre-booked £5 to Linda 842034 or Janet 842851

BARN DANCE – Saturday 9th June 7.00 – 10.00 pm with a fish and chip supper (orders by Tuesday prior for food)

Gordon Emery has kindly offered the barn as a one off to help raise funds and it will be a fun evening of music, dance and food – with a bar.

OPEN GARDENS & FLOWER FESTIVAL – Sunday 10th June 1.00 – 5.00 pm

Several village gardens will be open, colourful displays of the flower arrangements in church, stalls on The Green and teas in the garden of Little Rectory, courtesy of Fiona & Alan Smith.

The event will close with a Songs of Praise Service in St Andrew's Church at 6.00 pm.

FAMILY FUN DAY – Sunday 15th July 2.00 – 5.00 pm

CASINO EVENING – Saturday 8th September

CONCERT – November- date to be arranged.

Final details of the last three events will be available nearer the date

The General Fund can be helped by individual Regular Payment Pledge (Gift Aid). Payments may be made monthly, quarterly or annually by Standing Order and the Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Whilton is able to make a repayment claim on the Inland Revenue at the rate of 28 pence for every pound donated.

A number of parishioners already support the church in this way and it does assist the Treasurer in preparing his budget. Anyone who is prepared to support the church may obtain the appropriate form from the Treasurer.

Janet Bowers, Churchwarden

PARISH MATTERS MARCH 2007

The last Parish Council meeting was on 5th March in the Village Hall.

FINANCE

Payments were made for the allotment water charge, our annual subscription to Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils (NALC), the fees for annual internal audit also by NALC, the costs of printing the Newsletter and clearing ivy from a street light, electricity, service and repairs to the churchyard mower, and the salary and expenses of the clerk. The clerk was also able to report that the £200 bursary towards her course starting in April has been received.



After earlier discussion about risk assessment it has now been agreed that the Councillors will hold a risk assessment walk in the parish. This will be on Saturday 14th April. If you see the Councillors wandering about, that is what they will be doing.

PLANNING

An application had been made for a garden room at Jasmine Cottage, the Green. The clerk reported that there had been only one comment, that this was restricting garden space in the centre of the village, but there were no objections. This response had been passed to the DDC.

It was agreed to order 2 copies of a new guide: *Planning for Parish Councils* which is available at half price through DDC.

ROADS

Brington Parish Council has invited Whilton Councillors to attend a meeting on 21st March about the problems on the route from Duston to Daventry. Several Councillors agreed to attend.

There was discussion about potholes. Mr Waights, Highways Representative, said that work was scheduled for this month and that we should wait to see if this was done before complaining again. It was agreed, however, to report the problems with the drains in Manor Lane.

UPDATE ON THE PARISH PLAN

Mr Waights reported that the Parish Plan Team has concerns about the fluctuating electricity supply, the poor quality of the Broadband service and the reduction in the library service. It was also reported that the Team intended to recommend that the boundaries for development of the village should be kept within the tight lines drawn by the DDC in 2003, and not to include the area opposite Wadd Close Lane for development, which had been suggested by the Parish Council at that time. The Parish Council made no comment.

Because of the strain on the planning system at present it is probable that Parish Plans and reports can only be considered by the DDC once a year in September. This new timescale limitation is putting pressure on our team to complete by then, and may also have funding implications.

THE GREEN AND THE ALLOTMENTS

Once again there is no progress to report on the Green registration. The Clerk explained that having heard no more from the NCC, she wrote to them again, asking for a progress report. They have responded saying that they are referring the matter back for more advice before making a decision. There has, however, been progress with the allotment lease. The new ten year lease has now been signed and the next task is to register the land

THE PARISH COMMUNITY

Village of the Year

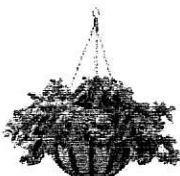
Last year was the first for many years when Whilton did not enter the Village of the Year competition. This year the forms have been simplified and made more appropriate for small villages. It was agreed that the Clerk and Mr Lye should look at these, and if they agree, complete them and send them in. We now do expect to enter and so we hope all residents will work together for this. Look out for the posters giving information about this.

The Litter Pick

It is also a while since we held a litter pick. Councillors agreed to do this again this year and to cover the whole parish, including The Locks. This will probably be in late spring/early summer, so please watch the notice board for details



Britain in Bloom



As most people know Whilton is a regular entrant (and quite successful too!) in the Britain in Bloom competition. After discussion, it was agreed that Whilton's entry fees for Britain in Bloom are a matter for the whole community and that the Parish Council will pay the entry fee for this.

ORGANISATION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

After some discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council will hold more frequent meetings at about six weekly intervals during 2007/8. The next Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 8 p.m. on 30th April. Following that there will another meeting on 11th June. It is hoped to deal more efficiently with the increasing work coming in at shorter meetings.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held separately at 7.30 p.m on 23 April 2007. This is the meeting in the Village Hall, when anyone can come along to listen and speak, and when reports of various organisations in the parish are presented.

All are welcome.

Anthea Hiscock (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Whilton Photographic Club



We've had a busy and in some cases expensive last couple of months as a result of a couple of meetings and outings.

First up was an assignment review for club members and there is no doubt that the standard of photography is improving. The assignment theme was bridges and we had images of bridges from as far afield as the Lake District and Whilton Spinney. Some of the images are now on our web site at www.whilton-photography.co.uk (in the Gallery section).

In February we ventured off to the NEC for the annual Focus on Imaging Show and came back thoroughly enthused, if not a little lighter in the pocket. We were all highly impressed by the work images produced by the professionals, but a particular favourite was the wildlife photographer Andy Rouse whose photographs often require him to work from a hide for hours on end. The results are however well worth his efforts – visit his site at www.andyrouse.co.uk.

We also had an attempt at visiting the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust reserve at Slimbridge, but threats of heavy rain and gales deterred us. We will be making another attempt at the end of March, so I will give you an update in the next newsletter.

Finally, we had a talk from Tony Wright a professional photographer who specialises in model trains. Not a riveting evening potentially, but we were proved wrong. Tony gave us a highly entertaining insight into his work and I swear that most of the images looked like the real thing; even down to the smoke and superb cloudy backdrops.

But enough of the past, what's coming up in the next few months?.....

Meetings (to be held in Whilton Village Hall starting at 7.30pm):

- 10th April 2006 – Studio evening: Still Life
- 8th May 2006 – Photography basics: Scanning and repairing old photographs
- 12th June – Talk: Photographing birds
- 10th July – Photographic assignment: Landscapes
- 14th August – Photography basics: Using light
- 11th September – Talk: To be confirmed
- 9th October – Photography assignment: Transport
- 13th November – Studio evening: Portraits
- 11th December – 2007 review and planning for 2008

Photographic Outings:

Our outings are designed to allow our members to practice some of the techniques they have learned at the club meetings. The more experienced members will be on hand to ensure everyone comes back with great images.

This year's outings will include visits to: Severn Valley Railway, Silverstone, Westonbirt Arboretum and a local bird of prey centre.

If you have a camera and want to get more from it, why not come to one of our meetings or join us on an outing. Contact me for further details.

Neil Phillips (Tel: 01327 844182, E-mail: neiljphillips@hotmail.com)



WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



February's meeting of the Whilton Gardeners' Association was a little bit of fun; as a quiz with a horticultural theme was held for the attendees. Our thanks go to Neil Phillips for his excellent role of quiz master.

Coming in April: April 2nd – Get digging

Stuart Phillips will be with us at this meeting to give a talk on allotments.
(Meet at the Village Hall at 7.30pm)

Why not come along and see for yourself why the WGA is so well supported by people in Whilton. Even if you don't want to become a full member, you can still come to one of our meetings, join us on a garden visit, or just enjoy one of our social events.

Christine Phillips, Secretary, WGA

For more details contact me on: neiljphillips@hotmail.com or 01327 844182



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



I regret to inform you that since the last newsletter two incidents have been reported to me and one reported by the police. In one incident a garage at the top of the village was broken into but nothing was taken. The second was at the bottom of the village where a window was smashed apparently in an attempt to get to keys. It is likely this was an unsuccessful attempt to steal cars on the forecourt. It appears from the third that it was a burglary of premises which were not locked.

The police whilst continuing to report the activities of commoners draw particular attention to the need to secure

outbuildings, to hide car keys and not to leave them in vehicles whilst they are unattended. Satellite Navigation equipment is a special target and they recommend that such equipment and all signs of it should be removed from cars when they are left.

The average crime rate in West Northants has fallen by 3.4% but that of burglaries of dwellings has risen by an equivalent amount.

Philip Waights
Watch Co-ordinator.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

VISITS WHILTON EVERY THIRD TUESDAY AND STOPS OUTSIDE THE OLD PLOUGH, MAIN STREET AT 9.15 AM UNTIL 9.30 AM. THE DATE FOR APRIL IS 10TH AND THE DATES FOR MAY ARE 1ST & 22ND



Unfortunately, for various reasons, a Working party was not held in March but we have purchased 20 young trees (slips) which we hope will be planted by the time this newsletter is published. They will be available for sponsorship - £5 per tree. It is essential that a Working Party is held in April to carry out general maintenance work. **Please watch the noticeboard.**

Spinney Management Committee

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 21st February and attended by the majority of the existing Committee. No residents of the village attended. The following Officers were elected:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Chairman | Mike Lewis |
| 2. Vice-Chairman | Maurice Clements |
| 3. Secretary | Vacant |
| 4. Treasure | Derek Brown |
| 5. Other Committee Members – | Janet Bowers, Shirley Brown, Jenny Holman,
Jonathan Hanslip, Philip Waights |

The various building works have now been completed with the exception of some minor attention to the kitchen. The 200 Club and grants have enabled the building works to be carried out for the benefit of the residents of the parish in using the facilities of the village hall.

The membership of the 200 Club has gone up from 120 in 2006 to 122 this year. We thank all those who renewed their membership and welcome the new members. We also thank the volunteers who give their time collecting the subscriptions.

The Committee discussed the question of prize money and it was agreed that we should discontinue the third prize, which in minimal, but increase the first prize to **£45** and the second prize to **£25**; the total prize money remaining unchanged. This will meet the criteria laid down by the Lottery Charities Act.

Whilton Village Hall Management Committee

WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The society met in February to carry on with the second half of our story "Rivals, Rogues and Real Estate". With the help of our acting members we reached the year 1330, when the great dispute over the right to be lord of Whilton Manor was ended with the marriage of James de Nevill with Joan de Cornwall. James was lord of the manor through the rights of his mother Felicia, daughter of Nicolas and Joyce de Whilton. Joan was the great-grand daughter of Joyce through a later marriage and represented the other side of the dispute. Although the two young people were related, both being descended from Joyce, the marriage was allowed, and we remembered the rejoicing at the birth of their son and heir, another James de Nevill.

Despite this fairy tale ending, however, there will be more to tell about this family. Meanwhile our next meeting will look at more recent history. We hope to meet again in May, when we shall be looking at photos of people who lived in Whilton, both recently and back into the nineteenth century. If you have any old photos of people, we shall be very pleased to see them.

The date for this meeting has not yet been arranged. **Please keep an eye on the notice board.**

Guide Dogs' Treasure Hunt

For some time now I've been collecting inkjet cartridges and mobile phones for recycling in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind. Trudy Haines and I have also been collecting used postage stamps in aid of Guide Dogs.



GDFB has now launched a new recycling initiative – **Guide Dogs' Treasure Hunt**. To join in the treasure hunt all you have to do is look out for the following items when you're having a Spring clean:

Jewellery - Old or new jewellery from a single earring to a modern plastic necklace. In any condition, broken, outdated or simply no longer wanted, all can be recycled.

Watches - All watches needed from a Rolex (or cheap copies) to a free plastic watch. Metal, leather or plastic straps, or without straps. Pocket watches, bracelet watches, novelty watches. In working order or broken, it doesn't matter!

Keys - Any old or surplus keys that are no longer required can be recycled for their metal content.

Mobile Phones - Any mobile cell phones, working or broken, of any age or make. Please remember to remove your SIM card before donating.

Coins or Bank Notes - Any old British coins, bank notes or left over foreign holiday currency. Old British coins (the big ones) 50p 10p 5p 2p 1p etc.

Inkjet Cartridges - Hewlett-Packard, Lexmark or Canon (not Epson as these cannot be recycled).

After this year GDFB will no longer collect used postage stamps so if you know of another charity that will take them please let me know.

Thanks to everyone who has donated items so far – please keep them coming.

Teresa Leadbetter

Woodview

Tel: 843988

teresa@tlc-uk.co.uk

WHILTON PARISH -its Shops and Tradesmen

Today it is difficult to imagine Whilton and the Locks with their own shops and several roundsmen calling each week. Years ago, however, things were very different. Without family cars and very little public transport, villagers depended on local shops and roundsmen for food and other commodities.

Car ownership and the coming of the supermarket made this dependence less necessary and so we now have far fewer facilities of this kind. Having gathered facts from a group of villagers and ex villagers who remember the bygone days I thought you might find the following information of interest:-

We will start with The Old Cottage where there was once a general store - this was about 80 years ago. Rose Cottage, just behind Old Cottage was kept as the Post Office by Miss Dyer.

Moving up the village to Tudor House we had a butcher's and slaughterhouse and some years later it was the Post Office in the charge of C. H. Adams ("Post Office" Adams) -no relation of our Will Adams. We now turn our attention to Field View where Will informs me that there was a Wheelwright's shop and carpenter's and undertaker's. The present coalhouse was the stable and the shop was in the garden. There was also a sawpit in the garden. (Fancy having to work in the pit!) When the school was extended for an infant room, the woodwork was made at this shop.

Within the area of Church Gate and Oak Lea was a saddlers, blacksmiths and a bakehouse. That must have been a busy area!

Where Sira now stands there was a Post Office and well stocked general store kept by Harold's great grandmother. This closed at the turn of the century, Harold can remember seeing the empty shop with its oak counter, storage bins and drawers for spices etc., all named. What an atmosphere there was in such shops! Opposite at Stone House was an off-licence which sold drinks, sweets and bags of crisps. The latter were considered a treat and one bag would be shared by the family. The annexe, shown on a previous Newsletter was a bakehouse which was open each Sunday. The men folk would bring along the Yorkshire Pudding to be baked, and whilst waiting they would enjoy a drink, perhaps a smoke and certainly a good chat among themselves.

Sometimes cakes would be baked when the puddings had been taken out.

If a villager had a pig killed, the bakehouse would be available during the week, to bake the pies. This bakehouse was later than any of the others in the village.

During the time I have lived in Whilton I well remember Mrs. Gardner keeping the Post Office and a well stocked general store at Stone House. We were all grateful for the excellent service she provided,

We now move to Dormer Cottage. The coach-house of the Old Plough was built partly over the drive and behind in the corner was a butchers and slaughterhouse. Mr. Adams remembers seeing the shop interior after it closed - with the wheel for lifting up the carcasses. Henry Dunkley, who kept the Old Plough was also the local carrier and we have a very interesting bill which we found here.

The Old Shop was kept by Mrs. Welch who sold smaller items. To quote Don there were "tin tacks, candles, drawing pins and laces". There were also sweets for you to buy with your halfpenny or penny. Toffee was broken from a block with a special hammer. On the outside wall of the shop was a metal advertisement for a very important item -Lyons Tea. The Barn (now The Old Post Office) was once two cottages. The one nearest to the Old Shop was once an Undertakers and the owner made his own coffin and kept it in the house for years before he needed it. In the other cottage lived Mrs. Young -a dressmaker - who made the dresses and red capes given to the village girls from the Rose Charity.

Later Mrs. Noon had the Post Office there. This was just before Mrs Gardner took over at Stone House. Langton House once had a small bakehouse in part of the barn by the house.

On the way to Whilton Locks part way down the hill, on the left, was a smallholding where milk was sold. Whilton Mill must have been a busy place as a flour Mill and alehouse. Sheep were washed -not dipped -in the stream near the mill. to improve their wool. Behind the mill were beds of osiers which were cut to provide pegs and binders for thatcher.

Mr. Lewis, in a previous Newsletter, has mentioned the Spotted Cow, general store and blacksmith and also the lime kilns and coal wharves, owned by Mr. Reynolds.

At Wheelgate House lived Mrs. Clarke, a dressmaker who made dresses, aprons and the elaborate bonnets worn by the barge women. She also made men's shirts from Oxford cloth -very strong and hardwearing. These shirts had no collars. If a collar was needed it would be a stiff one which buttoned on at the back; very uncomfortable!

Over the other side of the canal bridge lived a Lock-Keeper who was also Photographer. I wonder how often people could afford to have a photograph taken?

The village was also well served by roundsmen. Goldings -a Daventry grocer would send an assistant over by cycle to collect order's for delivery later in the week. F.F. Tees of Northampton also brought out confectionery and Linnels potted meat.

This article was written for a Whilton Newsletter in the 1980s & Trudy Haynes has given permission to us to repeat it for the interested newcomers to the parish.

There were several other bakers and grocers over the years. The Muffin Man - wearing a velvet coat -was also a caller. Locust beans and halfpenny bags of broken biscuits were also a treat bought from Oliver Cooper another roundsman who came by horse and dray on a Saturday morning.

Over the years several butchers have called but they no longer come. Drapery was also sold at the door, and Mr. Lou Beard a bespoke tailor from Great Brington would call if any men wished to have garments made.

There was even a chemist -Newitts -who called selling among other things -rhubarb pills! Last but by no means least were the hardware carts and vans selling everything from pans to pins. Most important of their wares were candles and paraffin -very necessary in the days before electricity was available in Whilton.

These tradesmen also provided a welcome link with other villages and towns. No doubt they were the bearers of news from friends and relations. There were also deliveries of newspapers.

G Haynes

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB DRAW

JANUARY 2007

1 st Prize	201	M Clements	£45
2 nd Prize	075	A Heeley	£25

FEBRUARY 2007

1 st Prize	037	R Patching	£45
2 nd Prize	101	D Welch	£25

MARCH 2007

1 st Prize	027	R Clarke	£45
2 nd Prize	096	M Seth-Smith	£25

Congratulations to all the Winners

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Mon	2 nd	Apr	7.30 pm	WGA - in the Village Hall - Talk on Allotments by Stuart Phillips
Fri	6 th	Apr	10.00 am	Good Friday – Easter Egg Hunt for Brington & Whilton Pre-School in St Mary’s Church, Great Brington
Tues	10 th	Apr	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside the Old Plough
			7.30 am	Whilton Photographic Club in Village Hall
Sun	22 nd	Apr	1.00pm	Car Boot Sale – Wadd Close
Mon	23 rd	Apr	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall
Mon	30 th	Apr	8.00 pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
Tues	1 st	May	7.30 pm	Whilton Photographic Club in Village Hall
Mon	21 st	May		<u>Newsletter Deadline for JUNE</u>– Please hand in your contribution well before this date or otherwise we cannot guarantee it will be included in the next edition
Tues	22 nd	May	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough

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. - 01327 842968
E-mail – shirdek@btopenworld.com

We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children

Please supply a disk with your contribution if possible so that we can manipulate the text to fit if necessary. If you do not have a PC or typewriter the editors will type the articles as we have always done in the past.

Articles of local interest, poems, recipes, puzzles or drawings will always be considered for inclusion in the Newsletter.