# WHILTON NEWSLETTER



### **APRIL AND MAY 2008**

#### Race for Life - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008

Alison and I are running the 'Race for Life' this year. I know it's only 5K but, for two people who don't 'do running' this is quite far enough.

We are going to run in Bournemouth where Alison is at University; the run is along the seafront. The good thing about this is plenty of ice-cream and a Harry Ramsdens at the end!

The 'Race for Life' raises money which goes directly to research which aims to improve early diagnosis methods and the treatment of cancers. If you can spare us a little time and money, we should be very grateful for your sponsorship. It can all be done online on-

www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/alisonkane or www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/marykane

Mary Kane

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We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children and now also PETS – Poor Molly the cat is working on her own and her paws are getting very tired, can anyone help her?

One pet dog was so keen to read Molly's column in the February Newsletter that she grabbed it before her master had a chance to read it and destroyed it.!!

#### PARISH MATTERS MARCH 2008

The Parish Council has met twice since the last Newsletter, on 18<sup>th</sup> February and on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

#### PLANNING

It has considered two planning applications. The first was for the erection of a steel portal framed agricultural building behind the barn at Felines. The Parish Council view was that this was not in sympathy with the majority of the adjacent buildings, as suggested by the Design Statement which is soon to be approved.

The second application was for pruning and felling a variety of trees to the front and rear of the Carpet Company at Whilton Locks. The Parish Council supported this application as it would reduce risk to both the buildings and the public.

#### OUR ENVIRONMENT

The Council is planning to erect a new seat on the Green, placed further back, where leaf drips and bird droppings are not such a problem. We have applied for a grant for this, and understand that the application has been successful. There are also plans to instal a litter bin by the seats at the Locks.

The proposal to plant a hedge at South View has met with opposition from the residents, who attended two meetings to express their views. The Parish Council has taken note and dropped this suggestion. The fence there belongs to the County Council, and it will now be our aim to get this replaced.

Road and drainage problems continue to concern the Council. The new contractors, May Gurney, are expected to inspect Whilton roads in April and the Parish Council will hope to accompany their representatives on this inspection.

#### A REMINDER TO ALL DOG OWNERS

A number of complaints have been brought to the Parish Council about a noticeable rise in dog fouling in the village. Whilton has always been proud of its clean tidy appearance, and this will be a problem to the whole community. We are entering the Village of the Year competition again, and this aspect could be important.

Not only is dog fouling unsightly and offensive, but it can also be a serious health hazard, especially to children. If you are a dog owner, please make sure that all fouling by your dog is cleared up.



The Parish Council would also remind dog owners that their pets should be under their control at all times. There have been recent incidents of a dog wandering in the roads, and in other people's gardens. Cars have been forced to brake suddenly, and there is concern that this could cause an accident.

#### THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

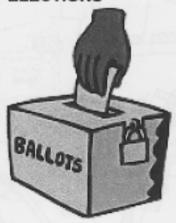
This meeting is not a Parish Council meeting, but one for everyone who lives in the parish.



Representatives of different organisations in the parish will report on their activities over the year and we hope to welcome Lorraine Humphrey to tell us about her Police/Community liaison work. Some people in Whilton have already come across her on one of her visits here.

If you are interested in Whilton and its community, please come along to listen and share your views. The meeting is in the Village Hall at 8 p.m. on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **ELECTIONS**



1<sup>st</sup> May will be election day for the District Council. The current Parish Council is also coming to the end of its term. If there is to be a Parish Council election, it will be on that day too.

If you are interested in nominating someone or standing yourself, nomination papers are available from me or from the District Council, but they must be returned to the Returning Officer by 4<sup>th</sup> April.

The first meeting of the new Parish Council will be in the Village Hall at 8 p.m on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May, and this will be its Annual Meeting.

All are welcome to attend.

Anthea Hiscock Clerk to the Parish Council 843319

#### Snippets from Parish History: THE PARISH POUND

In medieval times the agricultural land of Whilton was farmed communally, in open fields which spread out from the main cluster of houses in the village. The open fields had names which included Bridge Field, Fenway, Home or Holme Field, and Muscott Field, shared with Norton and Brockhall. These lands were farmed in strips, according to strict regulations laid down by the manor. For the sake of the survival of all, it was important that everything should be done to gain the best yield possible.

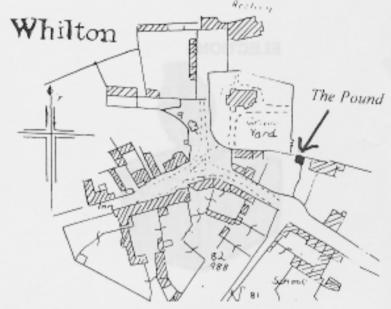
Apart from small fields enclosed near the houses, there was no fenced off area foranimals to graze. Instead they had to be taken out to the meadows or grass leas, where they were under the watchful eye of shepherds or cowherds, until they were brought home at night. The familiar nursery rhyme is a reminder of those days:

Little Boy Blue, come blow up your horn, The sheep's in the meadow.

The cow's in the corn.

However vigilant the shepherd, and the hayward (who was responsible for making sure all hays or boundary hedges were secure), there were bound to be times when animals escaped or strayed. Once they were caught, they were taken to the pound, right in the centre of the village, where everyone would see whose animal had been causing damage.

The Whilton pound was in the corner of what is now the garden of Oakleigh, near Field View. In the nineteenth century it was surrounded by a stone wall, with a gate. The map shows its proportions,



The animal was not released until its owner paid a fine, as agreed by the manorial court. The manor was thus recompensed for the inconvenience and damage, and the owner reminded of his responsibilities.

It may well be that the pound was once larger, as suggested by the following story from fourteenth century times. Those who attended the meetings about the great Whilton dispute, will remember that the fairytale ending came in 1330 with the marriage of James de Nevill and Joan de Cornwall, both descended from rival claimants to the manor. We do, however, have a little snapshot of them, which suggests that there was no idyllic life that followed here.

32 years later James and Joan were still lord and lady of Whilton Manor and living here, with their son, another James de Nevill. In 1362 Robert Syer went to law against them, claiming they had assaulted him and killed his animals. He alleged that Sir James and his wife Joan, with their son James and several others, had assaulted him at Brockhall and threatened him with death. He had been so frightened that he was afraid to pass from Brockhall to his own dwelling house. Unfortunately he does not mention where that was!

Besides all this, the de Nevills had impounded his cattle at Whilton, without any cause, until he paid a fine of 100 shillings for their deliverance. This was a very large amount in 1362, suggesting that a herd of cattle was impounded, perhaps in a larger enclosure than the nineteenth century pound. If a herd had been wandering over the open fields, an enormous amount of damage could have been done to Whilton crops.

On the other hand the account suggests a bitter feud, for Robert claimed the de Nevills had also hunted 100 of his sheep with dogs, urging the dogs to bite the sheep, so that by the hunting and biting, twenty of them, worth 40 shillings, died. Unfortunately I have not yet found the outcome of this sad tale, but it does emphasize the importance of the pound.

Even after the open fields of Whilton were enclosed, there were still agreements made about making use of grazing areas. In 1858, the Vestry (the forerunner of the Parish Council) met to sort out the grazing or keep besides Whilton's roads. The following details of the agreement remind us again of the need to keep control of grazing animals

- That the said keeping shall be allotted into three different portions; viz: the old street road to the boundary of Whilton Lordship, by the cottage to the Mill Bridges be allotted as one portion; from the Mill Bridges to Muscott Mill Gate and to the top of the village be allotted as another portion, and from the corner against the tree to Brington Lane Gate be allotted as the third portion.
- That the said keeping shall be grazed from sun-rise to sun-set by the persons who agree to take them; they shall not be allowed so to do without a proper guard to protect them during the time of grazing.
- The said keeping shall be let to the best bidder, and the money to be paid to the Surveyors of the Highways who shall account for the same in their Parish accounts.
- The money for the said keeping to be paid immediately or they shall not be allowed to graze the same.
- The parties to mow the nettles and thistles during their time of tenancy, or shall be fined for neglecting the same.

The grazing was taken by George Thompson, John Townley and Edward Loe.

When there was no longer a need for the pound, it was finally sold to Shelah Townley, who lived in Churchgate. He bought it for £5 in 1957.

Anthea Hiscock





We have now found a local firm to replace a number of the boardwalk sleepers and to also net the entire length to make it safer to walk during the very wet weather. It is expected the work will be completed by the end of April 2008.

This is the Tenth Anniversary and the Management Committee is hoping to arrange a small celebration to mark the occasion.



## WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Ann Gilbert



Chairman Secretary Treasurer

Events and Membership Olive Bardill-Tillott

Programme Purchasing General Jonathan Hanslip Teresa Leadbetter ip Olive Bardill-Tillott Phil Grant Jonathan Hanslip

Greg Lye

The Whilton Gardeners' Association has been established for a number of years and meets bi-monthly on the first Wednesdays of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec in the village hall. The meetings usually start at 7.30pm.

We had a very successful quiz night on 6th February which was great fun, with Neil Phillip's as the Quizmaster, who tested our knowledge with some quite difficult questions!

On 2nd April there is a talk from The Lawn Doctor's, Chris and Angela Horseman. This should be very interesting.

We have an exciting programme of events through the late spring and summer, including a visit to the Old Vicarage gardens, Brockhall on 4th June, and an exchange visit arranged with another gardening association on 12th May and 7th July. On 6th August we will be visiting some local gardens in Whilton.

We would like to extend an invitation to all non members, and in particular, those of you who maybe new to the village. For a very modest subscription you can enjoy:

- \* Regular, informal meetings where we have guest speakers, demonstrations and visits.
- \* Summer social evening in addition to a social AGM in December.
- \* Discounts at Whilton Locks Garden Centre.
- \* Discounts on seed, flower and vegetable purchases.
- \* Garden visits and outings.

Please contact either Jonathan Hanslip, Secretary on 842401, or Ann Gilbert, Chair on 843169.

Jonathan Hanslip

#### **Great Daffodil Run 2008**

#### Sunday April 27, 2008 at Kelmarsh Hall

#### Help us to raise vital funds for

#### Marie Curie Cancer Care

Richard Bunce, Jeremy James, Stephen Denbigh & Joanne Grant will once again become one of the hundreds of Daffodil Runners attempting to complete the course and help raise vital funds for Marie Curie.

We will commence training once the rain stops! Please be generous with your donation, it doesn't get easier with experience!



THANK YOU



USED STAMPS



Teresa Leadbetter and I are collecting used stamps for the RSPB. British and foreign are acceptable.

If left for me, please leave on the windowsill in the porch by the back door of the Old Plough.

Trudy Haynes

#### WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting took place on Wednesday 20th February 2008 which was attended by the majority of the Committee Members only although it was an open meeting for all parishioners.

The following Officers were elected:

Chairman/Secretary-

Mike Lewis

Deputy Chairman-

Maurice Clements

Treasurer-

Derek Brown

Committee Members-

Shirley Brown, Janet Bowers Jenny Holman,

Phil Waights, Jonathan Hanslip.

We still require a Secretary. If anyone is interested please contact Mike Lewis on 842404

#### PETS' CORNER

#### Spring - How do you take your catnip?

Finally the days are getting longer and warmer and a feline's thoughts turn to Spring. I'm looking forward to long days of stretching out on the sun warmed patio with the rays beating down on my tummy and the prospect of fresh juicy sprigs of catnip picked fresh for me by my humans.

Catnip (or nepeta as the gardeners like to call it) has a curious effect on us cats, we see all sorts of weird and lovely things and feel all strange and tingly. Because we like it so much our humans have to grow it in a contraption called a hanging basket which is kept out of our reach and then they ration us to a sprig or two a day. When they grew it in the garden we used to flatten it as soon as the shoots showed above ground. They refer to catnip as recreational drugs for cats - whatever that means.

When I get my ration I lie down and rub my face over it, dribbling as I go. Now you may think "Ugh!" but dribbling, though generally unattractive, is a necessary factor in enjoying catnip. The dribble helps to release the scent from the catnip and my

rolling becomes more and more frantic until I'm squirming like a thing possessed. Bertie, my big brother, takes a more laid back approach - he just dribbles over his catnip and then eats it. Then he starts to roll lazily on his back.

Bobby, my grand old sadly departed friend, used to eat his straight down with no dribbling (he was far too elegant for dribbles) and, unless I rendered my catnip inedible very quickly, he would pinch that too. Then he would roll on his back and touch the sky with his paws as giant purple mice with wings flew in and out of the clouds. Despite what he said I don't think he ever caught any.

I've just noticed a shaft of sunlight striking an inviting patch of carpet. I'd better go and claim it before one of the others beats me to it. Go easy on the Easter eggs.

Lot of love,

Molly xx

#### The Tower

What a glorious February morning! Acres of bright blue sky, brilliant sunshine and no hint of a cloud. Must open the window to let in some fresh air and the sound of birdsong. Only there is no fresh air and no birdsong just traffic fumes and noise wafting through the apartment window, my part time home for the next few months. In fact there are no birds to be seen save for the clusters of pigeons hunkered down on rooftops. Pigeons. The one common factor in city and village alike. We have lots of pigeons in the garden at home, cousins of the feral pigeons: the city dwellers I'm looking out at now. Looming into the sky I can also see The Tower. I can't quite work out the

precise location of my eleventh floor office but the top, twenty fifth floor with its wood panelled board room and fabulous panoramic views over the city is obvious.

What is less obvious is nature. Looking at my A-Z I can see no sizeable patches of green within the city confines. En route to the office I see two dogs being walked. One a Staffie type the other a Springer Spaniel. My heart goes out to them. How often do they feel cool soft grass under their feet and the freedom to be themselves? The Springer especially, what is he doing on a lead walking on the concrete slabbed square between shopping malls and office blocks when he

should be hurtling unrestrained through undergrowth following a line of scent.

Friday evening, driving back into the village I see drifts of snowdrops, gleaming bright in the darkness, and the golden buds of daffodils just waiting for that extra burst of sunshine so that their trumpets can explode into their full glory. Heaving a sigh of contentment there's no doubting it, this Village Girl has arrived home.

Teresa Leadbetter

# Whilton Photographic Club



#### How can I improve my photos?

You know what it's like. You go out, take a lot of photos, come back home and they never look as good as you had hoped. I know how you feel, I used to wonder how the professionals did it.

At our January meeting we asked the club members to bring along their laptops so that we could explore some of the ways that the latest image editing software could bring out the best from our photos. We didn't try to cheat and add in a lovely blue sky, but using a set of ordinary photos we learned how by cropping our images we could improve the composition and by adjusting the contrast how we could bring out the drama from an ordinary image.

If you feel that your photography could do with a boost, why not come along and learn more.

#### Upcoming Events

Meetings (all meetings are held on a Tuesday at 8,00pm Whilton Village Hall)

April 15<sup>th</sup> Assignment Review - Christmas/Winter Images

May 13<sup>th</sup> Talk - Black & white photography

June 10<sup>th</sup> Assignment Review - Black and white landscapes

July 8<sup>th</sup> Practical - Photographing Water
August 12<sup>th</sup> Assignment Review - Water
September 9<sup>th</sup> Talk - Landscape Photography
October 14<sup>th</sup> Practical - Flash Photography
November 11<sup>th</sup> Talk - Photographing in Tuscany

December 9th AGM

#### Outings

Sunday 27th April Biggleswade Aviation World 2008 - Shuttleworth

Collection

Sunday 25th May Lamport Steam and Country Festival

Saturday 12th July Spratton Folk Festival
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July Kelmarsh Festival of History
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Stanford Hall Firework Championships

If you want get more from your camera, contact me, or just come along to our next meeting.

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

#### 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 DATES FOR APRIL ARE 1ST & 22ND AND MAY 13TH



#### Brington Primary School in numbers



This article was written by the children in Brington Primary School and was published in the Northampton Chronicle and Echo

- 1 one brilliant school Brington Primary School. Every child here loves our school.
- 3 the number of main learning styles. We all know which way we prefer to learn and our teachers make sure that we get lots of opportunities to learn through 'seeing', 'hearing and talking' and through 'doing'.
- 5.45 the number of children for every one adult in the school. It's great for us because there are so many members of staff to help us. Our teachers work really hard to make our school such a great place.
- 6 the number of musical instruments we are able to play in extra music lessons. We also have a huge music trolley full of instruments we play in music lessons.
- 6 is also the number of school teams we have. We compete against each other at Sports Day and our annual Swimming Gala.
- 9 there are nine different play features in our playground. We have a sandpit, a pirate ship, a train, logs, a chain bridge, a wobbly bridge, slalom logs, a shop and an infant play frame. As well as this, we have a whole shed full of playtime equipment.
- 10 number of extra-curricular activities we offer each week. Because we change some of our clubs each half-term, we have lots of different activities to try out. These include basketball, choir, hockey, computers, Jigsaw and Board Games club, cricket, football and recorders.
- 12 ways of being smart! Some of us are number-smart, word-smart, nature-smart or people-smart. Others are music-smart or body-smart. Some of us prefer to work in 2-dimensions, whilst others excel at 3-d work. Some of us are fantastic at problem-solving and we have some very talented music-smart people too. All of us are self-smart because we recognise and celebrate our talents.
- 16 the number of children involved in writing this article.
- 18 the number of different subjects studied each week. These include History, Maths, French, Swimming, Art and lots more. Because our work is topic-related, it is always relevant and fun!
- 19 the number of brilliant awards that you could win in our school. Working towards awards is challenging as well as enjoyable.
- 20 our average class size. Because our teachers know us so well, they help us to work hard and work well with each other.
- 25 the number of computers we have in our school. This means that only 2.4 children have to share a computer. We also have an electronic whiteboard in every classroom!
- 26 the number of children who's poetry was published in 'A Pocketful of Rhyme' last year.
- 43 the number of trees we have in our school grounds. We're really lucky to be able to go to school in such a beautiful area. We have lots of animal boxes and hides, an orchard with a great willow structure, a school garden and a pond!
- 60 the number of children in our school. Because it's so small, it's really friendly and you always have someone to play with. 60 is also the number of water bottles we have in our school. We're all encouraged to be healthy by drinking water and eating fruit and vegetable snacks.
- 90 number of hours spent swimming from Year 2 to Year 6.
- 100 the % of children who take part in extra-curricular activities.
- 400 average number of minutes of physical activity each week, for every child. We work very hard to be a healthy school and were awarded the Northamptonshire Healthy Schools Bronze Award.
- 1344 the number of panes of glass in our leaded windows.
- 1851 the year the school opened. We have the full history of the school on our website

#### www.bringtonprimarv.ik.org

- 4000 the number of books we have in school, including those in our brand new library. This gives us a book to child ratio of 67:1.
- 7260 number of minutes we spent on our residential visit to Kingswood. Last year we did 35 different activities during our time there.
- 770286 our telephone number in case you'd like to join in with the fun we have!
- 1,000,000 reasons to smile each day at Brington Primary School.

# **Whilton Local History Society**

# Wartime memories of Whilton

Come and share in memories and photos of life in Whilton from 1939-45

"Gor blimey!

I thought they came in boxes"

- an evacuee's comment on seeing
plums growing in Whilton

In the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Thursday 24th April 2008

All are welcome.
Please bring £1-50 to cover expenses

# Our Rector - Rev Chris Goble works from Brington Rectory and can be contacted on 01604 770402 or E-mail chris@spencerbenefice.freeserve.co.uk

In May there is a day that marks a turning point in the history of the world. Following the Resurrection of Jesus the Bible is clear that it made devastated disciples into frightened followers! What would this mean? They encountered the risen Jesus and tried to work it all out. One of the arguments against the Resurrection is that dead men don't rise. The disciples of Jesus knew this and that is why their minds were blown. They do what we all do with uncertainty and things not 'being in their right place'. They hid. Only when the Holy Spirit

of God came upon them did they have enough boldness and courage to go out and speak about what they knew of Jesus. We mark this at Pentecost, or Whit Sunday (this year May 11th with a family service in church). Faith may be personal but it can't be private. The disciples took bold steps which led in all sorts of unexpected ways, including a founding of a Christian community in the village of Whilton. Our church building and I know many lives lived out in the village, bear testimony to Jesus.

If anyone would like to think about being confirmed (the service is which you 'confirm' for yourself the promises of baptism) please contact Chris Goble on 01604 770402 or chris@spencerbenefice.freeserve.co.uk

The date of the Confirmation service is 22nd June at 6.30pm at Walgrave Church.

# SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON APRIL 2008

6тн	10.00 AM	BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT NORTON
13 <sup>TH</sup>	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
20 <sup>7H</sup>	9.15 AM	HOLY COMMUNION
27 <sup>TH</sup>	2.30 PM	FAMILY ROGATION SERVICE
1ST MAY	7.30 PM	ASCENSION DAY EUCHARIST AT HARLESTONE
4TH MAY	10.00 AM	BENEFICE EUCHARIST AT EAST HADDON

#### **CHURCH EVENTS**

#### CAR BOOT

SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 1.00 – 4.00 PM IN WADD CLOSE

CARS £6 – (£5 PRE-BOOKED) . VANS £10 – (£8 PRE-BOOKED)

BOOKINGS TO JANET BOWERS – 842851 OR LINDA TREACY – 842034

GATES OPEN AT 10.30 AM

REFRESHMENTS

EVENT IN AID OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

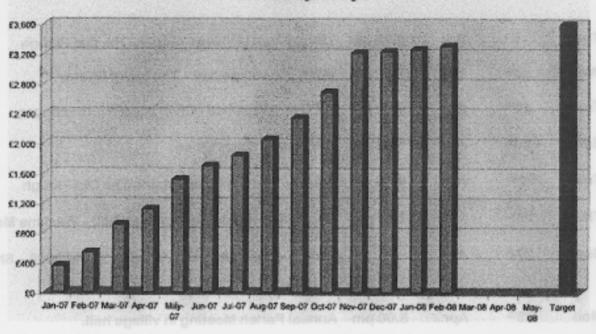
There are other fund-raising events for the church in the planning stage.

#### ST ANDREW'S CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

Don't forget that for £10 you can still book to have the floodlights on for any special occasion during the year

Please contact on Janet Bowers on 842851

Jacob Mitchell World Challenge - Mongolia 2008 Funds raised against target



QUIN ZIGH

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May Whilton Village Hall 7.30 – 10.30 pm

The rematch –
Or a new experience!
Challenge the
Champions!

Tickets £7.50
(includes chilli & jacket supper)
Available from The Old Dairy, Whilton 01327 843543

In support of World Challenge 2008

Quiz Master - Mr Neil Phillips

#### **SUMMARY OF EVENTS**

Tues	1st	Apr	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Apr	7.30 pm	WGA -in village hall - The Lawn Doctor
Tues	15 <sup>th</sup>	Apr	8.00 pm	WPC in village hall - Christmas/Winter images.
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup>	Apr	1.00 pm	Car Boot - Wadd Close
Tues	22nd	Apr	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Thurs	8th	May	7.30 pm	Local History Society in village hall – Wartime Memories of Whilton
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup>	Apr		Outing - Biggleswade - Aviation World 2008 - Shuttleworth
				Daffodil Run
Mon	28th	Apr	8.00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting in village hall.
Fri	9th	May	7.30 pm	Quiz in village hall in support of World Challenge 2008
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	May	8.00 pm	Whilton Parish Council Meeting in village hall
Tues	13 <sup>th</sup>	May	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
			8.00 pm	WPC in village hall - Talk - Black & white photography
Sun	25 <sup>th</sup>	May		WPC Outing to Lamport Steam & Country Festival
Wed	18 <sup>th</sup>	May		Newsletter Deadline for JUNE Please hand in your contribution well before this date or otherwise we cannot guarantee it will be included in the next edition

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

Please supply a disk with your contribution if not emailed 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.