



STONE HOUSE WHILTON  
about 1900

# Whilton NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1989

## Ed's Notes

Dare we call this our midsummer issue? At the time of printing it's definitely a sunshine and strawberries summer!

Thanks must be recorded from the Ed's to the scribes in the village. We are receiving good responses to our repeated request for articles - these have been really interesting and surely enjoyed by everyone.

On behalf of Whilton Village the Ed's would like to extend very best wishes to Father Norman Knibbs and his wife Betty, who have just recently celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood, ten years being spent with us in Whilton.

Eds

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## Parish Church

Sunday Services 1st Sunday. Benefice Eucharist 10.00am at each Parish in turn.

(August, Brington: September, Whilton: October, Norton)

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays at 6.00pm

The decision to hold a "Benefice Eucharist" (see above) has been taken by all three P.C.C.s following an opinion poll of the congregations which indicated a substantial body of opinion in favour of our separate assemblies meeting together in this way.

We ask all members of the Church of England to support this initiative for greater sharing and fellowship in our Christian community. (And of course anyone else is most welcome.)

During the twelve month experimental period approved by the Councils the service on the fourth Sunday of the month will revert from 9.30am to 6.00pm.

The Sunday School will be closed during the summer holidays.

Visit the "Church Tent" at the East of England Show at Peterborough, July 18th, 19th and 20th. (On first street, just near the clock tower).

P.C.C. Thursday 10th August.

"Farmhouse Teas" at Roughmoor on Sunday 3rd September, 3.30pm onwards. (See separate advertisement).

Harvest Service: Sunday 1st October at 6.00pm

Harvest Supper: Tuesday 3rd October at 7.30pm.

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## THEN AND NOW

### Whilton School

In 1768, Jonathan Emery, in his will, left £500 to be used in founding a school "for instructing the poor children of the parish in reading, writing and casting accounts, and the principles of the Christian Religion". A messuage or farmhouse or stable in Whilton and three bays of buildings converted into and used as a school-room.

Mrs. Judith Worsfield, daughter of the Vicar, John Spateman, gave £1,000 for the purchase of land, the profit thereof to be applied to the teaching of poor children.

This is an excerpt from the Whilton Diary, compiled by Whilton W.I. in 1975.

Trudy Haynes

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### Horticultural Show

Although there is no Fete this year the Gardeners' Association has decided to hold the produce show as usual.

This is to be on Saturday, 19th August in the Village Hall, and it is hoped to open it to the public from 2.00pm.

The Women's Institute will be serving teas and, hopefully, running a cake stall.

Schedules for the Show should already have been delivered to all households.

Please note: Entry is open to all Parishioners.

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The auction of the remaining exhibit items will be held at a fund raising event to be held, during the evening of August 19th, within the garden of Dove Close. Funds raised to be in aid of the Village Hall. Details of the event will be notified later.

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### More News from the 1957 Newsletter

Apart from news report on W.I. meetings at which Mrs. Gardner (Jim Gardner's Mother) was President. Whist Drives and letters from the Rector, the main items in the second Newsletter are connected with the Church -

### "Churchyard Caretaker

Applications are invited for the post of Churchyard Caretaker, full particulars of the duties and remuneration are obtained from Mr. W.T. Adams, to whom the applications should be made.

PLEASE NOTE until a Caretaker is appointed the upkeep of the Churchyard must depend wholly upon voluntary effort. The work that has to be done is almost entirely that of keeping the grass short and the bases of the gravestones tidy. Will you all please help? A very little time spent by everyone each week will produce most rewarding results."

Thirty two years later history repeats itself, as most of us know, voluntary work is still required to keep our Churchyard tidy.

"Church Repairs The worse can now be told:

The last meeting of the Parochial Church Council was attended by Mr. Panter, the Architect commissioned by the Council to advise on the work required to put the Church building in order and to invite tenders from 5 firms of builders for this work.

Mr. Panter brought with him the tenders he had received and of these the lowest in price was that of Bosworth & Wakeford of Daventry.

The work was, for the purposes of the tender divided into 3 parts. First the roof of the nave, that is, the centre of the main part of the church, has to be completely taken down, the main beams and supports and such of the roof boarding as is infected by the beetle, or the worm or the rot replaced, the roof rebuilt and the present lead covering replaced by copper. (This last, by the sale of the lead, will effect a considerable saving in the cost of the work.) Secondly the tower roof has to be treated in the same way. Thirdly the battlements and pinnacles around have to be removed, as they are unsafe, and replaced, using so much of the existing stone as is in good condition and making up what is required with newly quarried stone.

The total cost of all this work is such that even with the most optimistic estimates of loans and grants from various bodies who assist parishes in this sort of distress, it appeared to the Church Council impossible that when the work will be finished (about 4 months after the Bishop's consent for the work has been given) funds would be available. It was therefore decided that the order for the replacement of the pinnacles and battlements would not be given. It was, however decided that as soon as the Bishop's permission was given Messrs. Bosworth & Wakeford should be asked to start on the nave and tower roof and the removal of the pinnacles and battlements."

From this report it is clear that the villagers of the 1950's were faced with a major problem. The amount needed was £2000 and it was stated that "the work has to be done, or it will be impossible to use the Church because it will be unsafe to do so.

During such time as the Church cannot be used services will be held in the Old School Room." (Our Village Hall today).

Apart from the restoration work on the fabric of the building, the woodwork of the organ was found to be infected, the restoration of which would cost a further £150.

According to this report we must be thankful to the villagers of 1957 that they raised the money to have our Church repaired, otherwise we would be a village with a ruined church.

Janet Bowers

## Farmhouse Teas

SUNDAY    SEPTEMBER    3rd    at    ROUGHMOOR GROUNDS

3.30pm onwards

by courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. G. Davies

Come and enjoy Sunday tea in the delightful farmhouse of Mr. & Mrs. Davies. There will be a treasure hunt for the children as well as various farm creatures to see - ducks, hens, goats etc.

The price is £1.50 for adults and 75p for children - the same price as last years very enjoyable and successful day - no inflation - what value!

DO COME and have a relaxing afternoon in pleasant surroundings. Proceeds to the Church of St. Andrew Whilton.

Janet Bowers

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### Whilton Playgroup

The last half of this term has been dominated by outings for the children. We have been thinking about woods and forests. In June we visited the pheasant chicks and ducklings at Althorp and finished our visit with a picnic in the park. The following week we spent a morning in Nobottle Wood. One or two children were hoping for an escaped tiger or at least the Three Bears, but our most exciting discovery was a flock of runaway sheep hotly pursued by their shepherd! Both these outings were much enjoyed and we are grateful to Mr. Smith and the Althorp Estate Office who made them possible.

Nearer home we also spent a happy hour at the Dove Close, where the children met the pony, the goats, hens and quails (and Mrs. Gardner!) All in bright sunshine. We have been fortunate too with the weather for our fortnightly visits to Brington School. Our children have been able to make good use of the playground for outdoor activities, and have been made welcome by both staff and school children.

Some of our children joined the Teddy Bears Picnic organised by the Daventry P.P.A. in the Country Park on 23 June and we are now looking forward to an outing to Wicksteed Park in July.

Between all these outings we have continued our usual playgroup mornings, developing the children's hands and minds and imaginations. We displayed some of their work at our Open Morning on 17 June when families and friends were able to look around and try out some of our materials such as dough, construction toys and paints.

At the end of term eight of the children will be leaving to start school. We shall begin our new term on 11 September, joined by a few new faces. Our sessions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, starting at 9.00am.

We are hoping to replenish the dressing up box for the autumn. If you have old jewellery, shoes, washable garments, bags and baskets which might be suitable, we shall be pleased to receive them.

Anthea Hiscock



### Campion School Athletics

A team of 12 female Athletes, from Campion School, Bugbrooke, managed to get through to the final of the Milk Cup Schools Athletics competition.

The Intermediate girls from Campion (3rd and 4th Year) fought with determination through the first two rounds held at Corby and Birmingham.

For the final the team travelled to Grimsby (Humberside). The meeting is to be televised between 24th and 27th July at 6.30pm on Central.

The team were ranked 8th in the finals, which was the culmination of a country wide competition.

Lynn Heeley

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### Whilton Gardeners' Association

Did you know that Chrysanthemums grow naturally on the mountain slopes of Tibet? You live and learn don't you!

Mr. Freestone our guest speaker told us in great detail how he breeds chrysanthemums in the hope that he can breed a champion or a new variety to sell. Breeding takes a few years and at any one time several hundred crosses may be growing, only one or two of which may be suitable to grow on and build up a breeding stock.

We were shown some slides of his wonderful blooms and Mr. Freestone told us how he keeps meticulous records of all the crosses he has made since 1955. Much careful work goes into pollinating the breeding stock by hand. He may cross 500 florets and get only 1 seed set, or may cross 400 and get 60 seeds set and of course when growing on these may, or may not, be any use to continue breeding.

Mr. Freestone brought along several trays of his young chrysanthemum plants which were bought enthusiastically by members of the Association.

The next meeting will be on August 7th at 7.30pm in the village hall - Subject: Plants and Shrubs to give all round colour - Mr. Beckwith.

Anne Heeley

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### Outing to Worcester - Thursday 22nd June

On a cloudy, cool morning a group of villagers and friends set off by coach for Worcester. As we went further West it became brighter and the sun was shining by the time we reached our destination. As we were early we were able to look round the shops or Cathedral before lunch.

Several of us chose the latter and were glad to patronise the Cathedral coffee shop before looking round. There is always so much to see in any Cathedral and Worcester provided a feast of architecture, statuary, tombs and stained glass. There were also lots of different altar frontal both "ancient and modern". Unfortunately the peaceful atmosphere was occasionally shattered by the efforts of the organ tuner who gave us a variety of notes ranging from high treble to thunderous bass.

There was one haven of peace and tranquillity in the crypt with its simple style of architecture.

We then had lunch and gathered at the Royal Worcester Porcelain Factory for a tour. As we were in groups of ten we could all see and hear well. The first surprise was the information that no machine has yet been invented which can mould an oval dish. A round shape is first machine moulded in clay, and this is then removed and slapped with great force over an oval mould. We saw the whole process from fixing cup handles and cutting out intricate fretwork designs to the delicate use of stencils and the hand painting of designs. We were also shown how large and some small figures were made in sections for final assembly. One dish we handled had a raised pattern so that blind people could appreciate it.

To me the most impressive operation was the baking in a huge rectangular kiln covering one wall of a large room. Racks of china were carefully loaded and sent on their journey through the kiln - this would take one and a half days. The temperature gradually rose to 1,000 - 1,400 degrees C in the middle, according to the "finish" and then cooled down. We passed by the cool end as one rack had emerged and even there the heat and sight of the "fiery furnace" were quite frightening.

We were amazed at the end of the tour to find that we had spent an hour there. We were able to look round the factory and "seconds shop" and make purchases. To our eyes the "seconds" looked perfect.

After seeing all the work involved we felt we could appreciate the need for this china to be so highly priced.

We were then able to wander to the shops or the river.

On our homeward journey we came via Evesham and Broadway with superb views and spent a little while at the Rollright Stones. The driver told us that you always came up with a different number when you counted them. This happened to some of us who went round twice but I suspect it was due to lots of tiny stones partly hidden in the grass.

We arrived home at about 6.30pm after a wonderful day.

Many thanks to Diana for arranging our outing.

Trudy Haynes

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#### OUTINGS (arranged by Diana Scott)

There is hopefully to be an outing, with adults and children in mind, sometime in mid August. There may also be a final outing in September, please watch the notice board for details, everyone welcome.

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#### RECIPE BOOK

The W.I. Committee would like to thank all the members and villagers who contributed, in many ways, to the compiling of the W.I. Recipe Book.

The Whilton W.I. Recipe Book is now on sale price £2. It contains approx 75 favourite recipes.

Available from Anne Heeley, Springbank - 843270 OR Trudy Haynes, The Old Plough - 842409.

Anne Heeley

Noticeboard

Whilton may seem a quiet village and perhaps you think not much goes on it has no pub, no school, no shop, no bus and Post Office facilities on only two mornings a week. How wrong you are. To find out what goes on, once a week, or once a month, or sometimes only once a year, you should look from time to time at the Notice Board next to the post-box on the Green in front of the Church. You will be very likely to find that something is going to happen in which you would like to take part. Whatever you choose, you will be very welcome.

Diana Scott

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### Whilton W. I. Report

June was a busy month for the W.I. beginning on Saturday the 10th with the Coffee Morning held at Ros Gardner's house. (This was in aid of food and farming year). Bravely ignoring the clouds we set up stalls with delicious cakes, garden produce and crafts. There was a raffle and a children's raffle organised by some of the youngsters. Garden tables and chairs were arranged and a steady trickle of people came along and enjoyed home baked biscuits and coffee. Unfortunately after an hour we had to make the inevitable evacuation indoors as the rain could hold off no longer. We were glad to be able to launch the first edition of our Whilton W.I. Cook Book. This has proved to be very popular and is on sale at £2 from Anne Heeley. We would like to thank Ros and Jim Gardner for their hospitality on the 10th June and hope their carpets did not suffer too much. Thanks also to everyone who came along to support us - and those who gave so generously to the stalls.

The subject of the June meeting of the W.I. was "Use your Brains" - craft ideas. Mrs. Waddup gave us a wide range of ideas that she had thought up for using all kinds of materials. Many of these she found at jumble sales, making good use of sheepskin coats and leather jackets to make gloves and slippers. By "using your brains" she showed us that some lovely items could be made.

Finally, our last event of the month was our annual dinner. Traditionally this has been held at Christmas, but this year we decided to have a change. We went to the Old Dairy Farm at Upper Stowe and had a superb three course meal. Before the meal we were able to walk round the craft areas, where the Potter and Woodturner were working. The most memorable part of the evening must have been, once the starter and main course had been served, the look of disbelief on everyone's faces as we saw the size of the sweets being served up. Needless to say everyone ended with a clean plate as the desserts had been so light and delicious.

The next meeting of the W.I. will be on September 13th at 7.30 in the Village Hall - Speaker will be Mr. Jeffcoat - "Upstairs Downstairs".

Angela Hall

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## Anniversary Service

Thursday, 29th June, marked the 25th Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of Fr. Norman Knibbs and, to commemorate the occasion, a Solemn Mass was held in Brington Parish Church.

This service was attended by members of the congregations of the three parishes in the Benefice, together with quite a large contingent from the parishes of St. David, Northampton, Fr. Norman's previous parish, and from St. Giles, Reading, where Fr. Norman served as curate.

Fr. Norman presided at the service and was assisted by an old college friend, the Revd. John Troop, Vicar of St. Columba with St. Hilda, Darlington, who also preached the sermon, and by the Revd. Alan Panton, Vicar of Dallington, Northampton. Numerous clergy from the Daventry Deanery and elsewhere were also present. The organ was played by John Townley, The Laurence Lloyd Singers formed the choir, Servers came from the parish of St. David, Northampton, and the church bells were rung before and after the service by members of the local branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.

I think all who attended would agree that it was a truly memorable occasion and a joy to share in such a service with so many other people.

Following the service everyone gathered in the Reading Room for refreshment and this provided the opportunity for some speeches and presentations. On behalf of the congregations of the three churches in the Benefice, book tokens and a cheque were presented to Fr. Norman, together with a commemorative plaque that had been specially designed and made for the occasion. A basket of flowers was presented to Mrs. Betty Knibbs.

Fr. Norman warmly thanked everyone for coming to share the Service with him, for all the help that had been given in so many different ways and for the gifts presented to him. He also made special mention of the support he had received from his wife, Betty, both during the time that he was training for the Ministry and in his work as a parish priest.

Congratulations to Fr. Norman on the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination and very best wishes to him and Betty for the future.

Harold Haynes

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## A History of Whilton

Copies of a village history, compiled by Clive Haynes in 1975 and recently revised and printed, are now available to anyone wishing to purchase a copy.

The price will be £2.00 and all the proceeds will go to Whilton Church. Copies (only a limited number available) may be obtained from "The Old Plough".

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## Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 3rd July among items discussed were:-

Village Plan - The Parish Councillors are to hold a further meeting to discuss and formulate a formal development plan to be forwarded to the District Council for their consideration.

Home Farm/Holly House area road improvements - As the Northamptonshire County Council had not replied to our previous letter asking for details of proposed improvements, the Clerk was asked to follow this up.

Bryants, Whilton Locks - Ancillary goods - A letter has been received from Daventry District Council to say that Ancillary Goods does not include the sale of plants and that enforcement action was being taken.

Renovation and Conversion of redundant barns - A copy of the proposed guidelines to be used by Daventry District Council in considering planning applications had been received. The Parish Council thought these guidelines were excellent and were in full agreement with them.

Low Cost Housing in rural areas - In response to draft guidelines received from the District Council, the Parish Council commented that the guidelines did not apply to Whilton as there did not appear to be any demand for low cost housing in the village.

Bryants, Whilton Locks - The Chairman had received a letter from Bryant Windows Ltd., accusing the Parish Council of derogatory remarks against the Company in the June Newsletter. On studying the Newsletter the Chairman found that all it contained was reference to the May Parish Council Meeting at which time the Clerk was requested to obtain from the District Council, a definition of "Ancillary Goods". The Chairman had written to Bryants and received a further reply which the Parish Council now consider has closed this matter.

Clerk's Salary - It was agreed that this should be raised to £160 per year.

Planning Applications:-

Garage, The Old Rectory - Granted

Nursery and Garden Centre, Whilton Locks - Granted

Development at Home Farm - A new outline application had been received increasing the number of proposed dwellings in the Orchard from 2 to 3. The Parish Council forwarded the following observations to the District Council;

- a) Although the members realise that there is obviously room for 3 dwellings on the site, in order to retain the rural character they would prefer to see only 2 dwellings.
- b) Members were concerned that the proposed 3 dwellings should be placed in such a way as not to overlook or interfere with adjacent properties.

c) Because of the nature of the site, members thought it essential that measurements and levels are shown to give a true picture when final plans are produced.

Barn Conversions at Home Farm - An outline application had been received to convert an existing barn into two dwellings as opposed to one as was originally granted.

The Parish Council's comments were as follows:

a) The part of the barn shown on the plan to be converted into the second dwelling, was not considered to actually be a barn. It was considered to be merely a "lean-to" that has been added to the existing barn.

b) Although not shown on the plan the proposed gardens for both dwellings encroach onto what is presently agricultural land, thus rendering them outside the confines of the village.

In the case of both applications concern was again voiced that an increase in the number of dwellings would increase the volume of traffic using the access road and the bad bend adjacent to Holly House.

Speeding Traffic - In conjunction with the local Police the Parish Council would undertake the necessary survey in order for the Police to take further action.

Village Green - The Clerk was asked to put the question of claiming of ownership of the Village Green on the agenda for the next meeting.

Jim Gardner

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Summary of Events

Mon.	7th	August	7.30pm	Gardeners' Association in V. Hall
	Mid August			Village outing (see Noticeboard)
Sat.	19th	August	2.00pm	Horticultural Show open to public V. Hall
Sat.	19th	August	Evening	An event at Dove Close (to be notified)
Sun.	3rd	Sept.	3.30pm	Farmhouse Teas at Roughmoor Grounds
Tues.	5th	Sept.		Brington/Campion Schools restart
Mon.	11th	Sept.		Playgroup term begins
Wed.	13th	Sept.	7.30pm	W.I. meeting in Village Hall
Wed.	13th	Sept.		Deadline for October issue of Newsletter

Advance Notice:

Sun.	1st	Oct.	6.00pm	Harvest Service at Whilton
Tues.	3rd	Oct.	7.30pm	Harvest Supper in Village Hall

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

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

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

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