



Whilton NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1990

Ed's Notes

1.

Here we are again, with the school summer holiday ahead. How time flies!

The holidaymakers will be hoping for fine, warm weather, and the gardeners for an occasional spell of fine, warm rain. A fair mixture wouldn't hurt, would it?

Enjoy your break.

Ed's

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Parish Church

Sunday Services

1st Sunday of month 10.00am Benefice Eucharist
(August at Brington; September at Whilton;
October at Norton)
Other Sundays at 6.00pm.

Mothers and Toddlers service at Brington 2.15 Tuesdays (not on August 28th.)

Children's Holiday Club in the mornings July 31 to August 2nd at the Baptist Church Little Brington.

Standing Committee Wednesday 22nd August 3.00pm.
P.C.C. Thursday 30th August 7.30pm.

"Teas at Roughmoor Grounds" Mr. & Mrs. G. Davies are once again inviting us to share an afternoon at their house in aid of church funds, on Sunday 2nd September.

Saturday 8th September. The now annual Sponsored Cycle Ride in aid of Northants Historic Church Trust and local churches (50/50%). Volunteer riders please contact Mr. Harold Haynes.

Norton Fayre: Sunday 16th September 2.00pm

Harvest Service: Sunday 30th September. Harvest Supper Tuesday 2nd October.

Church Finances Following a recent article in a newspaper about the closure of a village church.

Even quite sophisticated people of the 1990's are sometimes rather naive about church finances. There is a feeling either that it's all rather sordid and the church should not be involved with money, or, that "the church" or "they" (unidentified) have plenty of money. Needless to say, both extremes are totally unrealistic.

Let us be clear. THE CHURCH doesn't need any money at all excepting, of course, for purposes of helping the weak, the oppressed, the hungry, the homeless. THE CHURCH is people - and will go on and on in its varying forms whether it has buildings or not - as in the early centuries of our era- or in Russia under Stalin - or in a Britain thoroughly apathetic.

BUT where there is property, finance is involved - just like any private house - provision for the purposes of the occupants - maintenance of the fabric (£750 last year at Whilton), care of the interior - gardens. Heating and lighting £225 Insurance £472 on to replacement of deteriorating stonework. All this must come from the local community, led of course by the local congregation with its ever-agonising church council.

As we see from time to time in the Press, if the local community cannot keep it going, it has to close, and no amount of protest, no matter how powerfully voiced, makes any difference unless there is big money up front where the voices are. There is no source of money apart from the efforts of the local community, saving only occasional grants from the Government through English Heritage - and not everyone get those.

People do not like it but it is a sheer fact of life that the much used word 'viability' is extremely relevant - not to THE CHURCH - but to the continued use of property.

Teas at Brington Church until the beginning of September on Sunday afternoons.

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Village Outing

Thirty four villagers and friends left the green on May 16th to visit the Stuart Crystal Works at Stourbridge.

On arrival, after coffee, we watched a video showing the history of Glassmaking from the mixing of silver sand, purified with water, adding red lead, potash and saltpetre, to the blowing, forming, and lastly the decoration.

We were allowed to walk round the factory and see many of these operations being done. To produce such beautiful objects from sand and water does not seem possible, yet it is done.

After lunch, taken in the restaurant, the coach took us on to Stone Cottage Garden and Nurseries near Kidderminster. A very pleasant walk through the gardens, which, although they were not large, were crammed with interesting and unusual plants as well as lots of old favourites. (How do they grow clematis almost as big as dinner plates?) Most of the plants grown were for sale in the Nurseries - one could be tempted to spend lots of money!

A brief stop at Hartington Hall for tea and cakes, then we were homeward bound, reaching Whilton around 6.15.

A very enjoyable day and our thanks to Diana for all her work in arranging it. We all wish her well following her spell in hospital and hope she will soon be fit enough to join in the outings again.

Kathleen Wright

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The June Outing

On 13th June Miss Scott and Miss Drake organized another enjoyable day out.

This time to Woburn Abbey and Safari Park. The Abbey is probably one of the best stately homes in condition as well as its many treasures, we have visited.

On arriving at Woburn the first place we visited was the restaurant, for a much needed cup of coffee. We then proceeded to tour the house which was very interesting, with the many treasures, such as the china collection which included "The Crypt Porcelain Display" one of the many was The Meissen State Service of 1850 painted with romantic scenes. Also the china cabinet containing Lady Tavistocks collection of nineteenth century Meissen porcelain.

Following on were the silver and gold vaults which contained many valuable pieces. There was also a wonderful collection of paintings and furniture.

After lunch we toured the Safari Park in the coach. It was lovely to see the animals roaming freely, they seemed quite happy in their spacious areas allotted to them within the park.

With our many thanks to Miss Scott and Miss Drake for all their hard work arranging outings such as this, that give so much pleasure.

Barbara Thomas and Grace Tooley

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Please Note There will be another village outing to Waterperry and Winslow Hall on Wednesday 25th July - details from Miss Drake.

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HORSES

Do you need any help with your horse(s)?
Sharon Messinger B.H.S.A.I. Intermediate Student
Pony Club 'A' test willing to give individual/group
tuition. Lots of experience, eventing S.J. Pony Club
etc., no job too small, help with your problems,
clipping, plaiting service etc., Phone Long Buckby 843221

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Tops, foil and Stamps

Once more we have two sacks of foil and lots of stamps ready for delivery. Many thanks to all Whilton savers and to our Norton friends who have contributed one of our sacks of foil this time.

Trudy Haynes

Whilton Gardeners' Association

At our June meeting Mrs. Linda Stamp came to tell us about drying flowers. Amongst many others, the following are good plants to dry: Astartia, Pearl Grass, Honesty, Various seed heads, Marjoram, Pussy Willow, Roses, Chinese Lanterns, Teasel etc.

To Air Dry plants, cut them on a warm sunny day when the flowers are ripe and at their best. Hang them upside down in an airy place.

To water dry plants, put in a jar with 1/2 inch of water leave until the water has gone. Good method for hydrangeas which should have their leaves taken off before drying, when the water has all gone hang the flowers upside down in an airy place.

Preserving, which is replacing the moisture in the plant with glycerine. Use 1 part glycerine to 2 parts hot water. Good for gypsophila, Whitebeam, Mahonia, Love in a mist etc.

To preserve dark coloured leaves place in a dark place and to get lighter colours place on sunny windowsill. Leave until you cannot see any more green veins. Take out of solution and hang upside down in airy place.

Pressing - can be used for delicate flowers, use blotting paper or smooth toilet paper. When making pictures use copydex on a cocktail stick to assemble flowers and leaves in position.

Silica Gel or Borax can be used - carefully cover the whole flower in silica gel and leave for up to one week. Useful for roses, or viburnum opulus. Sometimes the colours stay very well other times the flowers come out quite pale. When assembling pictures with flowers dried by this method the picture should be sealed otherwise moist air will spoil the flowers.

A most enjoyable talk by Mrs. Stamp where we all learnt a great deal. We were treated at the end of the evening by our guest speaker making a display with dried flowers and she made the process look very easy!

The next meeting of the Association will be on Monday 6th August when the subject will be bees.

Anne Heeley

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ADVANCE NOTICE

On Saturday November 24th I am hoping to organise a CHRISTMAS BAZAAR in aid of paying off the bill for the rewiring of the Church. I shall need help in the making of craft gifts, cakes and other suitable items for Christmas presents and a tombola stall - further details later.

Janet Bowers

Church Fund Co-ordinator

W.I. Report

5.

The Summer Dinner at the Old Dairy Farm, Upper Stowe was a great success, with several none W.I. members joining us. Avocado Mousse or Mushroom and Cheddar Bake were followed by Pork en Croute or Beef Stroganoff, both were accompanied by fresh vegetables. Raspberry pavlova proved to be the favourite pudding and was delicious.

The evening was a great success with time before the meal to browse around the gift and craft areas.

The subject of the June meeting was "Ghosts, Myths and Legends of Northampton. Mrs. M. Pipe told many stories of local villages with slides of the houses or areas said to be haunted. Don't for instance go to Fawsley on New Years Eve as you may see the phantom rider come from the ruined Dower House. If you do, you'll be dead by morning!

Another activity arranged for June is a walk along the footpath to Brington - we hope this is passable. Look out for a report on this in the next Newsletter.

Forthcoming Events September 15th - A coffee morning is to be held at the house of Mr. & Mrs. Haynes, "The Old Plough". This is to raise money for several children's charities, and is part of a national celebration to commemorate 75 years of the W.I. - As children are to benefit from the funds, we would like to involve the children in the event. Firstly, a COMPETITION for the children, to design a picture to be included in the Newsletter. As the next edition is due in October we thought that a Harvest theme would be appropriate. The Drawing would have to be done in black ink, though a hard pencil outline would be sufficient - This is because of the reproduction process.

We hope you children will use your imagination over the Summer Holidays and come up with some super pictures. Winners will be announced at the Coffee Morning which we hope you will all attend.

Entries to Mrs. R. Gardner The Dove Close

Closing Date Tuesday 11th September

Ages up to 8 --- 8 and over

Size A4 paper upright

The next meeting of the W.I. will be on Wednesday September 12th. No meeting in August.

Angela Hall

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Whilton Village Hall

The Committee commissioned an Engineer to examine the condition of the Village Hall roof. His report stated that, basically, the structure of the roof is fairly sound taking into consideration its age. However, the structure is weakening and requires repair and maintenance work. The false ceiling, currently suspended directly from the roof, is creating considerable additional strain on timbers and perlins. The report recommended that the false ceiling be removed and repairs carried out. The hall could either be left with timbers exposed or a special light-weight ceiling could be put in, supported from the walls. Depending on which option is taken, the skylights should either be replaced or removed altogether.

The committee has considered the report and accepted its recommendations. We are currently looking into the practicalities and costs of a new false ceiling compared to those involved if the roof is left exposed and repairs and insulation undertaken at roof level. Whatever option is taken it is possible that the hall will qualify for a local authority grant (25%-50%) The committee feels that if this is the case, we should take the opportunity to improve the hall generally.

If this project becomes feasible, the village will be asked to support the scheme and to help raise the necessary funds. The committee is already planning fund raising events and we hope to notify you of programmed events in the next magazine. If anyone in the village has any ideas for events they would wish to see arranged, or if anyone would like to arrange any events themselves, please contact me at "Fallowfield" or on 842618.

Mary Kane
Secretary Village Hall Committee

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Proverbs, Country Sayings and Quotations for August and September

Katie Waite (aged 11) has written this poem for August;

August has the summer sun,
Let's run and run, it's lots of fun.
You can sunbathe all you like
Or skip or hop or ride your bike.
There's lots of things that you can do
in August's summer sun.

On August 24th we have St. Bartholomew's Day.

St. Bartholomew's Day brings the cold dew.
(I wonder whether there will be a heavy dew on that morning)

"If St. Bartholomew's Day be fair and clear
Then a prosperous autumn comes that year."

August is known as WEED month (Why only August?)

Now for a little piece of bird lore.

There was no note hated by the haymakers as that of the thrush because, supposedly, they did not sing in dry, sunny weather.

September 21st is St. Matthew's Day.

"St. Matthew's Day brings cold, rain and dew."

September 29th is Michaelmas Day.

"If the north wind blows on Michaelmas Day the month of October is sunny and gay."

Don't forget to look for the Harvest Moon in September, hanging low in the sky and very golden.

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From Mrs. Davies we have a quotation from H.V. Beamish

"Some day I'll find once more a precious leisure,
Its comforts and the hours it has to fill
With simple gifts, the inexpensive pleasure
Of dreaming dreams, the joy of standing still."

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A proverb from the mountains:

Mountains are not climbed by looking at them.

and a rather unusual proverb:

Fine words butter no parsnips.

Offerings for October and November will be very welcome.

Trudy Haynes

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Whilton Gardeners' Association

Horticultural Show Saturday 18th August @ 2.00pm

in the Village Hall

Refreshments will be provided by the Women's Institute members, who will also be running a cake stall.

Any produce left from the Show will be auctioned at 4.30pm.

Copies of the schedule and entry forms available from Mr. H. Haynes,
The Old Plough.

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Best Kept Village and Churchyard Competitions

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At the time of writing the judging in the first round of the competitions will have taken place. I had reports of strangers being seen looking round the churchyard and the allotments on the 13th or 14th June. No clip-boards or notebooks were in evidence but it seems highly likely the people concerned were competition judges!

If this was the case they came at a very appropriate time as the village, generally speaking, looked in pretty good shape and I cannot remember the churchyard ever looking tidier than it did then.

In this connection I would like to thank those villagers, young and not-so-young, who responded to my appeal for more help and came along to weed the paths and gravel areas, sweep, rake over the gravel and tidy up those awkward corners. The extra help is very much appreciated.

One kind person showed tremendous community spirit by taking on the difficult task of weeding a very untidy cobbled path outside one of our vacant properties. A noble effort!

Thanks, too, to the children who, under Mr. Bilsborough's direction, produced extra posters to support the official one that we are expected to display.

We shall not know until the end of the season, of course, whether or not we have progressed beyond the first round of either competition. Results are not published until after the presentation of prizes, which, this year, is due to take place on Friday, October 12th. Judging in the second round takes place during the month of August and the final in early September.

Harold Haynes

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Erington School Trip to York:

YORK - Here we come! By Dorothy Webster

The Burlington Hotel. A dull building on the outside, but a warm friendly feeling on the inside.

Unpacking takes just one second. Forty children cramped into one room. The main room. The lounge.

The York Story - Working in groups around the enormous area. Cold stone walls all around me. Quite an interesting place altogether.

Dinner time. Nobody complained about the food (for a change).

"Lights Out".

Another day slowly crept upon us. Tuesday - was an exciting day. A long

VIKING! The heat on our backs while slaving away at the fields.

A Viking Banquet - Ale, soup, bread, meat, salad, an apple and a biscuit. That would make an appetising meal or feast (for a Viking).

Wednesday - "Splash" we all dived into the swimming pool. A cool drop of water. One of the busiest days, but days seem to have flown past. The night came. A tired herd of children trooped upstairs.

The night was suddenly over - "Come on it's ten past eight" said Mr. Watson from Nether Heyford. Breakfast was long and boring. We went to walk the walls. Drew took us all around. He was one of the staff at the hotel. He talked about all sorts of things. We walked all the way up the York Minster Tower. Two hundred and seventy two steps. An enclosed, narrow space between you and a wall. When we reached the top you could breathe freely.

Dinner came and went. Bed time came and went. Another day jumped on us once more. The last day - Friday. Packed up and ready to go. One more place to go.

The ARC - The Archeological Resource Centre. The best place we went to all week. Weaving, keys, and all sorts of interesting things.

The journey back - singing and laughing on the back seat. "We are here".

Mums' pleased faces. Arms wrapped round tired children. "Home at last"

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Neighbourhood Watch Update

As you may have seen, there is a Neighbourhood Watch poster on the village notice board. It is there to warn people of current trends in crime - forewarned is forearmed. The source of the information on the poster is the new Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter and telephone link. I will be updating the information as often as necessary.

The Newsletter contains a breakdown of the crimes in the area, our area which includes Long Buckby, recorded the following crimes in May:

	May	Running total (year)
Violence	0	0
Burglary (Dwelling)	1	7 (one every 21 days)
Burglary (Other)	0	5 (one every 30 days)
Theft from motor vehicle	4	15 (one every 10 days)
Theft of motor vehicle	1	12 (one every 12 days)
Criminal damage	2	12 (one every 12 days)
Other crime	9	25 (one every 5 days)

Overall increase in crime 34% over the same period in 1989.

Present problems are : 1. Bogus Officials now moving from towns out to the villages - if you are in any doubt about anyone calling on yourself or an elderly neighbour - report the car number to the police.

2. Holiday time - cancel milk and newspapers; also get a neighbour to push the free newspapers and post through your letterbox or to clear your porch as often as possible. If you are at all worried about leaving your home when you go away on holiday let me know and I will try to keep an eye on it for you.

Angela Tilston 842088

Parish Council Report

The Parish Council meeting on July 2nd was preceded by a public meeting, to give parishioners an opportunity to express their opinions about a planning application for Clay Pigeon Shooting at Whilton Mill.

The application was for shooting to take place on a maximum of 200 days in any one calendar year, with a maximum of 12 Sundays within that time. The hours of operation would be as follows: Weekdays, October 1st to March 31st 10.00 to 16.00, April 1st to September 30th 10.00 to 18.00, Saturdays 10.00 to 16.00 and Sundays 10.00 to 13.00 with shooting taking place until dusk on one evening per week (obviously this excludes the winter period).

The meeting was well attended, about sixty people being present, and the mood of the meeting was very much against the proposals. Several other people, who were not able to be present, had sent letters expressing their opposition.

Many people spoke at the meeting, putting forward reasons for their opposition, chief of which was, of course, the noise factor. Other points were: the effects of lead pollution, disturbance to wildlife, danger to motorists who might be distracted by the sudden shots, danger of guns and ammunition being left in an isolated clubhouse and increase in traffic on the approach roads to the site, including the road through Whilton village.

It was agreed that parish councillors would take these comments into account when formulating their observations to be sent to the Daventry District Council.

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Among items discussed at the Parish Council meeting were the following:-

- a. Anglian Water - in response to a request from the Parish Council a letter and accompanying technical data had been received concerning the quality of the water in Whilton.
- b. Grass cutting - this is now being done by a private contractor and all grass verges between the two village name signs should be cut five times during the season.

c. Allotment Entrance - it was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. W. D. Welch thanking him for the excellent job he had done in improving the allotment entrance. To comply with conditions set out by the DDC it was agreed that some turf and grass seed be purchased to complete the work on this. It was also decided to erect a post at either side of the entrance and put a chain across. This was in order to deter children from riding cycles down the slope on to the road and motorists from using the area for turning or a pull-in.

d. Clerk's Salary - it was agreed that this should be raised to £200 per annum, the minimum figure recommended by the Local Council's Association.

e. Allotment Lease - a draft of a new five year lease had been received. It was decided that one or two points needed clarification before this was signed and the chairman agreed to take up the matter with the officer concerned at the DDC.

f. Planning Matters - it was noted that the plans for an Industrial Unit at Whilton Locks has been approved.

Clay Pigeon Shoot - Council to meet on July 16th to prepare observations to send to DDC.

DOGS

Complaints have again been received about dogs fouling areas within the village, the bottom end of Buckby Lane being one specific place mentioned. The point made was that young children had been playing in this area and had come away with dog faeces on their shoes and clothing.

Dog owners are again asked to keep their pets under control and not allow them to foul areas within the confines of the village.

Harold Haynes

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Farmhouse Teas

Sunday September 2nd at 3.30pm

Roughmoor Grounds

courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. G. Davies

for Church Funds

stalls adults £2.00 juniors 75p raffle

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Safari Supper

Saturday 7th July 1990

It is a few years since we have had a Safari Supper and the Fallows and Newboroughs very kindly agreed to arrange this previously highly successful event once again. It involves a tremendous amount of organisation and we are most grateful to them for all their hard work, especially Tricia, who performed miracles when last minute changes occurred.

We all assembled for a drink at "Foxhill" and at that stage none of us knew where we were going, and with whom. The idea being that we have each course of the supper at a different house and with different people. However, each hostess had been told in advance which course to prepare and for how many. All the ingredients of a chaotic evening, but as usual everything went tremendously well!

Having been given clues to find our first destination we all departed to various venues. I must confess that by the end of the evening, our timekeeping had gone a bit awry but we finally ended up at the Newboroughs for coffee and more drinks after a very amusing and enjoyable evening.

Sally Jackson sang a short song and Keith Fallows told a long story, both on the rural theme and, coincidentally, both included references to unfortunate cows.

It was unanimously agreed that this was a splendid way to spend an evening, and even more important, gave us all an opportunity to meet new people in the village.

Sally Jackson

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Summary of Events

Weds	25th	July		Next Village Outing
	31st	July - 2nd	Aug	Children's Holiday Club
Mon	6th	Aug	7.30pm	Gardeners' Association Village Hall
Sat	18th	Aug	2.30pm	Horticultural Show Village Hall
Sun	2nd	Sept	10.00am	Benefice Service Whilton
Sun	2nd	Sept	3.30pm	Roughmoor Grounds - Afternoon Teas
	6th	Sept		Last date for next Newsletter
Sat	8th	Sept		Sponsored Cycle Ride
Tues	11th	Sept		Closing date for competition
Wed	12th	Sept	7.30pm	W.I. meeting village hall
Sat	15th	Sept		W.I. Coffee Morning
Sun	16th	Sept	2.00pm	Norton Fayre

Advance Notice

Sun	30th	Sept		Harvest Service
Tues	2nd	Oct		Harvest Supper
Sat	24th	Nov		Christmas Bazaar

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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