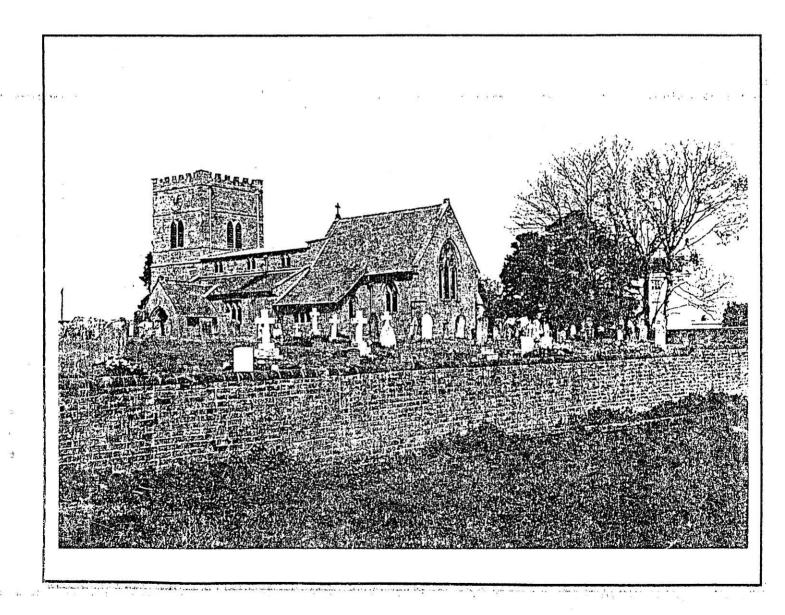
Whilton Newsletter

AUGUST 2000



HAROLD HAYNES

Harold Haynes was so intrinsic a part of Whilton's life past and present, that it feels as though with his death, part of Whilton has gone too,

Harold was a good man in the true sense of the word. Supported by his strong religious beliefs he was able to bring to all his activities those qualities of conscientiousness, reliability and the capacity to accept responsibility which are increasingly rare. For many years in so many ways he has served the village and its community; Chairman of the Parish Council, Churchwarden and Treasurer, Bell Tower Captain,, member of the Charities Committee and various positions with the Gardeners' Association. Over and above official positions Harold helped in so many other ways and many people were unaware how much extra work he put in to improve the community and the environment.

He had funds of historical knowledge and was an active member and Treasurer of the Appraisal Committee. He moved the grass and kept the churchyard tidy and he helped his neighbours.

Harold was an expert woodworker from his previous career and enjoyed using his increasingly sophisticated machinery.

His garden was his pride and joy and a source of despair to other less successful gardeners. His show of Dahlias was almost an annual exhibition in itself. Snooker he loved and continued playing to the end. Choir singing was always a great pleasure.

With his village responsibilities and his own personal hobbies he was a well rounded person and we have lost someone whom we cannot relplace.

Throughout all these activities Harold was supported and encouraged by is wife Trudy who shared to a major degree his work and responsibilities and played a part in many of them. She and her family have all our sympathy in their loss.

Frances Drake

HAROLD HAYNES

We are saddened by the death on Wednesday 5th July of Harold Haynes who had been an Editor of the Whilton Newsletter for many years. He served the community of the village in many ways and during his life was on a number of committees outside the parish. He will be sadly missed by all, especially ourselves.

Our thoughts go out to Trudy and family in their great loss but hope they will rejoice in the knowledge that Harold was a dedicated worker for the benefit of the commuity and respected by all.

Shirley & Derek Brown Co-Editors

A Message from Trudy and Family

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our friends in Whilton parish who showed concern and offered help when Harold was ill.

Since Harold's death your thoughts and prayers and offers of help are a great comfort, as are the many cards and letters we have received.

As for Harold's Farewell Service; what can I say? It was a most moving and uplifting experience and we are grateful to all who made it so. David, Maurice and Father Norman for their contribution, Sam and the members of the two choirs, my family readers, Janet Bowers for her flower arrangements and her organisation in church, Jean Davies for her wonderful coffin arrangement of Harold's own garden flowers, the bellringers and the members of the congregation. Apart from the service, Derek Brown made sure the churchyard was tidy and Gordon Emery provided parking space.

We feel very privileged to have so many good friends! I shall look upon 11th July 2000 as Harold's Day.

PARISH MATTERS

It is difficult to know where to begin. Since the last contribution we have had the Annual Meeting of the Parish, the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council and two ordinary Parish Council Meetings.

To begin with the bad news, public attendance has continued to be very low and the lack of candidates left us with no election and only four councillors out of seven. The good news is that the Annual General Meeting received nine reports of excellent progress over this Millennium period, and three villagers have agreed to be co-opted onto the Council to fill the vacancies. The most I can hope to do in this article is to rehearse some of the greater successes reported and to share with you some of the live issues that have been attended to by your Parish Council.

The new Parish Council

Your new Parish Council has elected Mr Mike Lewis to continue as the Chair, and now consists of Miss Nora Swinford, Mr Ken Bowers, Mr Greg Lye, Mr Lindon Morris, Mr Andy Walton and Mr Ian Woods. We are grateful to these last three for agreeing to be councillors. Lindon Morris has agreed to be the second Councillor with Mike Lewis to represent the Locks. For any at the Locks who do not know him, he lives at 8 South View. All councillors are available to discuss concerns you may have about the parish, or of course, you may contact myself as the Clerk.

Highlights of the Parish meeting

Mr Lewis was able to report a very successful year for the Parish Council, which has been reported in these articles over that time. A healthy financial state was declared and the financial statements were approved, ready for the audit later in the year.

The Charities

The parochial charities, which exist to help poor young women, have had no applications this last year and have found no new ways acceptable to the Charity Commissioners in which to use the funds for the whole village, as what is done must have a particular benefit for the poor. If you have a particular need or an idea, would you please discuss this in confidence with David MacPherson or with Frances Drake.

Brington School

A report of Mrs Jane Bunce, on behalf of Brington School Governors, indicated another very full year. The children and staff had been busy practising for a production of *Joseph and the amazing techni-coloured dreamcoat*, using free tickets for a visit to the Dome, which was found to be a valuable experience, and getting used to the introduction of the numeracy hour with its emphasis on mental maths. We gathered the way to do this was to play bingo! As a result of the music tuition which begins at Brington, Whilton alone could now produce a small orchestra, particularly specialising in wind instruments! There is apparently no limit to our children's talent; they have just won a competition for the best portrait of their bus driver!

The Village Hall

As we were meeting in our splendid Village Hall we were aware of the many improvements that have taken place and were promised that the toilets were to be refurbished in the coming year. Income had risen from increased renting. This and the help given by the 200 Club had allowed the Hall to support the Millennium celebrations with food and drink and also the unveiling of the Millennium Map. People are reminded that the Committee is open to suggestions for future functions and that parishioners can hire the Hall for £3.75 per hour.

The Millennium Map

A report from the Millennium Map Project Committee emphasised the involvement of one in ten in the village and how the whole project had been completed for £350. What was most gratifying was to see the large number of people who turned out to greet its arrival and share an enjoyable social evening.

Safety

The strength of our neighbourliness was also the theme of our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Christine Bilsborough. She reported receiving a very warm welcome as she visited people to revise the cascade system. It remains an efficient way of passing a police message around the village. There have been some further concerns at the Locks and there have been incidents involving parked cars in the village and loss of plant by a builder. Our Community Policeman, PC Dickenson was also in attendance to praise our joint efforts. In discussion the main concern was speeding through the village where cars put children and old people in possible danger. The Parish Council is to explore the potential for getting the 30 m.p.h. sign moved further towards the entrance so that a speed gun could be effective.

The Spinney

One of the principle achievements in the year was the way in which the Whilton Spinney Project had developed. There are now clear pathways and a survey of plant life in seven zones. Following the gaining of the 50% grant from DDC, a pond had been constructed by volunteers hand digging and a notice board has been purchased through a grant from the Lottery Commission. Recently experts have indicated that the black poplars need to be felled at the earliest opportunity for safety reasons. There is a very good under-storey of native species and others can be planted once the felling is over.

There was a general feeling at the closure of the meeting that the parish had had a very successful Millennium Year, placed in the Village of the Year competition and second in the whole region in its class for "Britain in Bloom". Together with the achievements above, this indicated a very healthy start for the coming year.

Everyday items

Coming to ordinary parish business was a little difficult, but necessary as there were important highways and planning matters to be considered. In relation to Highways, as the result of accidents there, the NCC had undertaken to repair the steps at South View and to complete the installation of handrails, and to repaint the fading white lines from Stone House to the Village Green. However they were unable to help further and suggested that we reviewed the lighting at the village centre. The Highway Authority had written to us in relation to our concerns about the A5 cross-roads; they indicated that they had taken seriously our concerns about accidents there and intend to improve the road markings and keep the verges cut, but at this time would not support our wish for a roundabout.

Planning

A number of planning applications were considered. These have included detailed plans for the bungalow at the rear of Stone House, outline planning permission for new offices at Whilton Marina on a site we had already agreed as suitable, the installation of a new conservatory at 8 South View, the extension of gardens in Manor Lane and the diversion of a public footpath to the Spinney.

The only application on which the Council decided to make observations to the DDC was on the installation of 14 floodlights on the new circuit at Whilton Mill. As a result our concerns over distraction for passing traffic, and that the lights be extinguished when the track is not in use, were built into the final agreement. We also received a summarising letter about the conditions that exist for operations at Whilton Mill. The issue of noisy helicopters has been shown to be too infrequent to warrant action.

The Council was pleased to hear that its objections and those of others to the Rye Hill extractions had led to this being turned down by the County Council, although there could be an appeal.

District and County

Councillor Richard Amos who sits on the Planning Committee was also keen to involve us in a new venture of Daventry Area Forum, which would be looking at rural issues, including speeding, at the next meeting. Councillor Wendy Amos had given her report at the Annual Parish meeting, and has been Chair of Planning for the last twelve months. She indicated how many new directives are coming from central Government, but that this is a two way process and she is very keen to hear our concerns to take forward or to bring individuals from the District Council to our meetings. The involvement of our County and District Councillors in these meetings was much appreciated and it was good to hear that the recycling of waste was to lead to an offer of free compost in the near future to villages who are prepared to organise its distribution. We have indicated that Whilton will be one of them.

Your help required

There are increasing opportunities for individual villagers, who are not on the Council, to take up specific aspects of our communal well being and report to both Parish, District and County Councils. The latest of these was a request for someone to act as the village recycling warden to assist people to understand what is being attempted in DDC's record breaking recycling programme. But they have also requested representatives to work with Highways and to attend a Cycling Action Group or to come up with suggestions for bids to the WASP (Ward Action Service Plan) programme for improving our parish through the District Council.

If you are at all interested please have a word with me. Such involvement will be important if we are to continue the successes we have had as a parish. These will be commemorated in the plaque Rai Barnes is creating as the last part of our Millennium projects. The Council is applying for planning permission and it is intended that this will be erected on the Green.

Our next meeting will be on 4 September at 8 p.m. Why not put in an appearance and surprise us?

Keith Hiscock Clerk to the Parish Council

WHILTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting was held on Monday 17th April 2000 at 7.30 pm and the following may be of interest:-

Vestry Meeting

Election of Churchwarden - Janet Bowers.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sue Townley is the Deanery Synod representative and continues in this office for a further two years.

Election of PCC

Shirley Brown, Mary Emery, Eileen Finnemore, Sue Townley, Derek Brown, Philip Weights.
There are four vacancies.

Election of Independent Examiner - Jon Brierley (to be confirmed.)

Election of Electoral Roll Officer - Shirley Brown.

A report was given on the proceedings of the PCC, Financial Accounts and Churchwarden's report and the Parish Report by the Revd. David MacPherson.

PCC Meeting - Election of Officers

Lay Chairman - Janet Bowers Secretary - Janet Bowers Treasurer - Derek Brown

Standing Committee - The Revd. David MacPherson, Janet Bowers,

Sue Townley and Derek Brown.

Brington & Whilton Pre-School

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

We have had a busy time this term looking at the Environment and Growth. We have looked at all types of living accommodation, different types of celebrations. We have seen how we have grown from a baby into a child who can do lots of different activities and have talked about our different senses.

We have also had the pleasure of visiting Brington Primary School on Friday mornings and have had a very enjoyable time playing and learning with the younger school children. We thank the school for letting us join with them and enabling the children who will start school in September to see what school is about.

We visited Gulliver's Land at Milton Keynes for our day trip and this was enjoyed by all who came, although some of the rides did make us a little giddy!

We had our Annual Sponsored Bike Ride around Brington School playground, which we managed to do between rain showers, the children did very well with many children doing more laps than they needed to, well done all who took part and thank you to all who sponsored.

We take a break for the school holidays and will start again in early September when we will be starting out on a new foundation stage curriculum incorporating the present early learning goals. This will bring us more into line with the Reception class at local schools and enable a smoother transition into school.

In September we shall have vacancies for children aged 2 years 9 months - 4 years. We offer a friendly, safe and stimulating environment for your child to begin learning through play, interaction with other children their own age and development of social skills in preparation for formal schooling, but most of all to come along and enjoy themselves.

We have sessions available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am until 12noon at Whilton Village Hall. If you would like more information please contact Jenny Holman 01604 770083.

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The response to our plea for volunteers to join the Management Committee has been disappointing. We still need a secretary and two other representatives to fill the vacancies on the Management Committee. We meet three to four times each year so the commitment is not demanding.

We have an excellent facility which many others lack and therefore it is desirous to have a full and energetic committee to manage the affairs of this very important meeting place in the village.

If you are able to give a little time and require any further information please telephone Mike Lewis (842404) or Derek Brown (842968)

COPPER MILE UPDATE

Well I'm pleased to report that my computer is back and so I can bring you all up to date with our progress so far. Donations large and small continue to come in by fits and starts which means that the mile is progressing down the village. A substantial amount was donated at the flower festival and as always we express our thanks to all who have collected their coppers so far. The distance reached to date if all the donated coins were laid end to end starting from the Nobottle road at the top of the village is almost at 1/5th of a mile. Please help us to keep the mile moving, you can hand in your coppers at any time to either Janet Bowers or Gill Denbigh or leave them at the donation point in St Andrew's church.

Gill Denbigh

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

In response to my previous requests, one person came forward and agreed to carry out strimming where necessary and another has recently offered to assist with mowing but on a fairly limited basis. Assistance is still urgently needed to ease the workload in respect of the general maintenance of the churchyard..

The church has available for use a self-propelled rotary motor mower, an electric flymo and strimmer.

If you have a little time to spare, on a fairly regular basis, during the growing months you will be warmly welcomed. Please contact Derek Brown - 842968

WHILTON WI REPORT JUNE 2000

Ten members and one guest were entertained in the June Meeting by Mrs Philpotts talking about "Local Ghosts and Legends" around Northampton.

The key to how the evening was to proceed started with a look at the old Northampton Jail and how the ghostly apparitions appeared around the old hangman's area in the centre of Northampton, now part of a car park. We visited many sites and shared thoughts of old Northampton and ghostly sightings.

Once the question session was initiated, it was the opportunity for several members to relate their own ghostly tales, some of these left little to the imagination! Many of the members were only too pleased it was a light summer's evening for them to return to their homes after such an informative evening.

The vote of thanks was given was Ros Gardner and the raffle was won by Frances Drake.

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITIONS 2000

We are now halfway through the judging period and whilst no doubt we have already received at least one visit by the judge, we must continue to keep up the good work as there will be at least another unannounced visit.

Since litter, the odd piece possibly thrown from cars passing through the village, has been our downfall in past years, perhaps everyone could pay particular attention to this aspect which attracts a fairly large percentage of the overall marks awarded.

D.Brown (842968)



THE WHILTON SPINNEY PROJECT



More work has been carried out by the Working Party during the last few months in the pond area, tidying paths and pulling up and collecting nettles. One or two trees near the pond are being dismantled but is a very tedious, time-consuming job.

We hope the main felling of the Italian Black Poplars will take place later in the year.

Derek Brown - 842968

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE Just a reminder that the library van calls in the village every other Tuesday at approximately 9.10 am to 9.30 am. The van generally parks near The Old Plough. Good use needs to be made of this service if it is to be retained, why not make a visit to the van for your reading material? The AUGUST dates will be 1ST, 15TH and 29TH and SEPTEMBER dates will be 12TH and 26TH.

WHILTON MILLENNIUM MUGS - There is just one mug left - the price is £6. The potter will not be making any more. If you are interested please ring Derek Brown on 842968.

BAPTISM - The Family Service at St Andrew's Church on Sunday 28th May included the Baptism of Charlotte Emma Townley, daughter of Isobel and John Townley and granddaughter of Sue And John Townley.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE / WALK. - This event will take place on Saturday 9th September 2000. Unfortunately the Sponsorship forms have not yet been received but please watch the village noticeboard for further information. Please mark the year 2000 by taking part in this annual event.

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Crime Report

There has been no reported crime in Whilton village during the past two months.

Recently there have been two reports of an old red car with four male occupants "cruising" through the village.

During the afternoon of 26th June this car stopped at the top of the village. One of the young men got out of the car and walked into the open garage of a house. He was observed and when challenged, said he wanted directions to Northampton, which were given to him. However on leaving it was noted that the car did follow these directions. The incident aroused suspicion and was reported to the police.

Holiday Check List

BAAV OOO

Please be extra vigilant over the holiday season. Remember that most burglaries happen quickly and whilst a house is empty.

- 1) Secure all doors.
- 2) Close all windows
- 3) Lock garages and sheds
- 4) Lighting leave an automatic time switch to operate on one or two lights during the evening
- 5) Burglar alarm always set before leaving home.
- 6) Tell a neighbour ask someone to keep an eye on your property.
- 7) Close front and side gates
- 8) Report anything suspicious.

TO CONTACT DAVENTRY POLICE DIAL 01604 700700 - ASK FOR DAVENTRY CONTROLLER

Christine Bilsborough Co-ordinator

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

MAY 2000					
1st Prize	084	T Treacy	£40		
2nd Prize	088	L Bolton	£20		
3rd Prize	020	M Houghton	£10		
JUNE 2000					
1st Prize	073	K Fallows	£40		
2nd Prize	107	N Hill	£20		
3rd Prize	003	J Fisher	£10		

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS

WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

The June Meeting was well supported and the main item on the Agenda concerned the selection of a seed merchant for this year's order. Catalogues had been obtained from several suppliers and it was agreed that the committee should make the final decision.

Outings were arranged for Thursday 6th July to a garden in the village of Evenley (a speaker last year) and Saturday 15th July to the National Herb Centre at Warmington.

The Speaker for the evening was Mr Dennis Patrick who, as usual, gave a very interesting talk on "Gardening for Pleasure"

Our next meeting is on Monday 7th August when the subject will be "Historic Roses" by Mrs Ann Bird. All are welcome to join us in the village hall at 7.30 pm.

Janet Bowers Secretary



WHILTON OPEN GARDENS AND FLOWER FESTIVAL



At last we had a fine day; it was most rewarding to see so many people supporting this event.

On behalf of St Andrew's Fundraising Committee, I would like to say a sincere thank you to all who opened their gardens and those involved in creating the flower arrangements in church and everyone else who gave their time to make a success of this event. A special thank you to Gordon Emery for making available his field in Wadd Close as a car park.

The amount raised for the above was £1026.15

On the Saturday evening prior (24th June) a Midsummer Soirée was held in the church with music, handbells and verse by the Townley Family and Linda Treacy. There was also audience participation in the Old Time Music Hall songs. Tom Treacy acted as compère and this event raised a profit of £94.63

A very successful weekend with a total amount raised of £1120.78 which will be allocated to St Andrew's Designated Fund.

Janet Bowers - Co-ordinator

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND SUPPER - SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2000

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE IS AT 9.30 AM AND WILL LATER BE FOLLOWED BY SUPPER AT 6.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL. THE SUPPER WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE AUCTION OF THE HARVEST GIFTS.

LAST YEAR THE CHANGE OF DAY AND TIME PROVED SUCCESSFUL SO PLEASE DO COME ALONG.

Janet Bowers

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

AUGUST 2000

6ТН	10.00 AM	UNITED BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT HARLESTONE
13TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
20TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
27TH	9.30 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST

SEPTEMBER 2000

3RD	10.00 AM	UNITED BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT BRINGTON
10TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
17TH	6.00 PM	COMPLINE
24TH	9.30 AM	HARVEST FESTIVAL

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM

Mrs Anna O'Sullivan, the judge for the above contest, visited Whilton on Thursday morning, 6th July. She appeared impressed with the village, stating that it had a very friendly feel. We now have to await the results.

Mrs O'Sullivan also judged the hanging baskets, tubs and window boxes for the competition run by Whilton Gardeners' Association'. She declared Don Welch the winner with Barbara & Lindon Morris and Keith & Joyce Fallows, runners up.

Well done! and many thanks to all who made that extra effort to improve the village.

Janet Bowers

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE VILLAGE PROJECT

The Award Ceremony

On the afternoon of Sunday 2 July, Barbara Lewis, Janet Bowers and I set off during a terrific storm to Hunsbury Hill, where Northamptonshire ACRE (Action for Communities in Rural England) were holding an award ceremony for the villages which had taken part in the Millennium Village Project. We were representing the two projects in Whilton. Because of the storm we were a little late, and found representatives of other villages already gathered and listening to a resume of some of the projects entered. This was followed by presentations of awards to the best project in each district and to the overall winner, which was Hellidon, whose project included among other things planting a spinney, sewing a map and creating an outdoor amphitheatre. 95 villages had entered and each of us has been given an attractive plaque to put up in the village hall, recording our achievement.

Whilton's Projects

Whilton had entered its Spinney Project and the Millennium Map. The map is now finished and on view in the Hall. The Spinney is an on-going project, with long term aims and activities, which will last on into this century. We did not win, but were encouraged to see that we received only a few less marks than the winner. Both of our projects were undertaken with the community in view, and not in a competitive spirit, and I am sure we should all be proud of the plaque which will be put up.

Other projects

We were interested to find out about the variety of projects which have been started. These ranged from traffic calming, to building a community centre, planting an avenue of trees and providing seats. Each community had made its own priorities and was celebrating the Millennium in a distinctive way.

During the afternoon we also saw part of a Millennium Review produced by Paulerspury Players and local children. This included film, music and acting, recalling the last ten decades of the last millennium - a very ambitious project!

We then had the opportunity to see an exhibition of some of the projects and to enjoy the buffet, before returning to Whilton, this time under sunny skies.

We were impressed by the variety and enthusiasm of communities in our county, and were glad that Whilton had shared in this. We came away with lots of ideas, and perhaps we might use some of them before the next Millennium!

Anthea Hiscock



Whilton, St Andrew

GIFT AID ADDS A BONUS TO ANY MONEY YOU GIVE TO THIS CHURCH

If you are a UK tax payer and place your gift in one of the special envelopes provided, we can claim an extra £2.80 for each £10 donated.

You will need to fill in your name and address and date the envelope, but that is all.

Gift Aid is a scheme that allows any charity to claim a refund of tax the donor has already paid on the money donated. You must have paid, or will pay sufficient tax to cover your donation, and that could be income tax paid or deemed to have been paid on income, dividends, or on Savings and Building Society accounts, or on capital gains.

The completed information on the gift envelope is required by the Inland Revenue as your declaration that you wish the Church to recover the tax.

The Church will consider your donation and declaration as strictly confidential.

Thank you

Further details of the new arrangements for tax-efficient giving can be obtained from Derek Brown, PCC Treasurer

Summary of Events

Tues	1st	Aug	9.10 am	Library van in village
Sun	6th	Aug	10.00 am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist - Harlestone
Mon	7th	Aug	7.30pm	Whilton Gardeners' Association Meeting in Village Hall
Sun	13th	Aug	2.00 pm	Workimg Party in Spinney
Tues	15th	Aug	9.10 am	Library van in village
Tues	29th	Aug	9.10 am	Library van in village
Sun	3rd	Sept	10.00 am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist - Brington
Mon	4th	Sept	8.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall
Sat	9th	Sept	10.00 am	Sponsored Bicycle/ Walk for NHT
Tues	12th	Sept	9.10 am	Library van in village
Wed	13th	Sept	7.30 pm	WI Meeting in Village Hall - Whipsnade
Thurs	21st	Sept	.*	Newsletter Deadline Please hand in your contributions by this date otherwise we cannot guarantee they will be included in the next edition
Tues	26th	Sept	9.10 am	Library van in village -

The Whilton Newsletter is published bi-monthly and circulated free to every household within the Parish boundary. The costs are met by the Parish Council. The Editors are:

Derek & Shirley Brown - Cherry Orton, Main Street Trudy Haynes - The Old Plough, Main Street.

Contributions to the newsletter to any of the above by the deadline date, please.