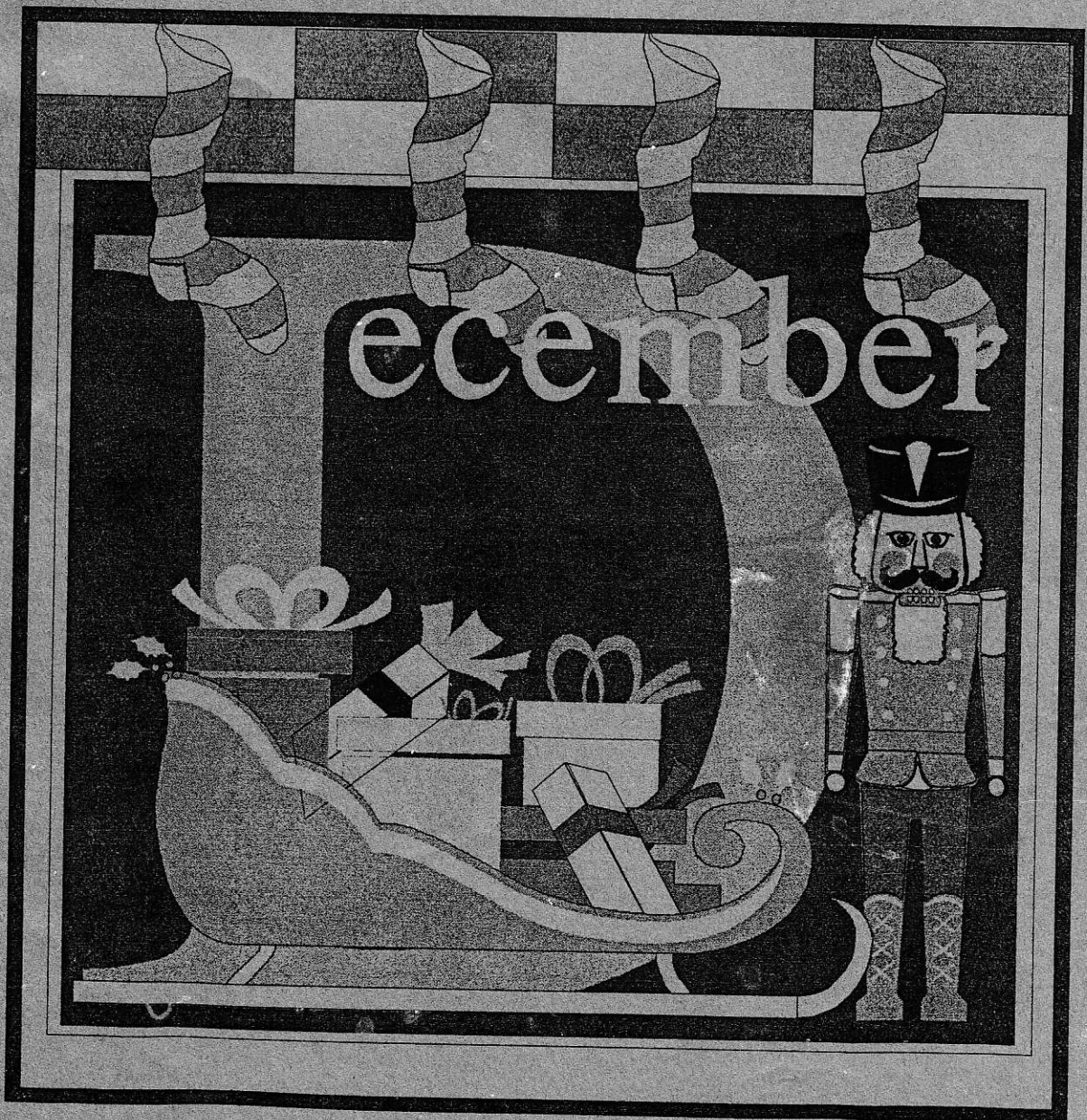


Whilton Newsletter

December 1998



VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION 1998

Harold Haynes and myself attended the prize-giving evening on 9th October 1998 at Hunsbury. Much to our surprise and delight Whilton was announced Cup Winner of the Cup Winners Section (Village of the Year) and awarded a mega Cup to hold for twelve months together with a Certificate and cheque for £50. The cash prize will added to the accrued amount (£75) from previous years and in all probability will be allocated for something of a permanent nature in the Whilton Spinney Project.



The Judge for the Village of the Year 1998 actually visited the Class Winners Villages during the last week of September and in fact was seen in Whilton on 30th September - you will appreciate the necessity of maintaining the standard for the whole of the period from 1st June to 30th September inclusive.

In the final there were five villages and during the summing-up by the

Judge she spoke highly of Whilton Village and our hopes were raised although we were aware that there was one village remaining. She was impressed by the flower arrangement around the village sign, the general neatness of gardens, and the feel of a good community spirit. The noticeboard displayed various activities and the churchyard was found to be well kept. The final comment that some litter was observed in the village was our downfall and undoubtedly lost us the opportunity of being *Northamptonshire Village of the Year*.

WELL DONE EVERYONE we have reason to congratulate ourselves!!

Derek Brown - Co-ordinator
Whilton Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS!

The Parish Council met on the 2nd November, and will have a special meeting on the 23rd to discuss three planning applications in particular. These require responses before our next meeting on 4th January. At that meeting we are to be addressed by the new Agenda 21 Officer from the District Council. Her talk will be about the part Parishes can play in sustaining the environment which is that agenda. You are very welcome to attend and ask questions. It will be the first item at 8 p.m.

Althorp

On November 2nd the Council met with a representative of the Althorp Estate. This was to discuss the effects on the village of the summer opening of the Memorial Centre. We were able to report a very quiet time which he was able to confirm through a traffic count. This showed an 11% drop in traffic along the back road. He was able to assure us that there were no plans to extend the two months next year. Coaches would be given time slots and wait at Sixfields. In future the closing and opening of the gates at Great Brington would be notified as we had already requested. Permission for continued use of Chinkwell Meadow for car parking would probably be sought. The Councillors took the opportunity to again voice their support for Brington's concern that no amenity should be lost at the meadow. They also reminded him of the undertaking given recently to the Clerk that the hedges adjoining the narrow part of the back road would be cut as it remains dangerous.

New Works

A new larger oak notice board was agreed for the Locks at the cost of £200. This will be in keeping with the Conservation Area. Two new sites for the recently purchased anti-dog fouling signs were accepted. The new seat and information boards for the Locks ponds area will soon be ready for installation. At the other end of the Parish the Council agreed subject to the addition of another clause to sign the agreements for the transfer of the Spinney to them as Custodian Trustee and thence to the Management Committee. They agreed to meet the legal costs arising from this generous gift to the village. A grant for this amount had already been included in this year's precept.

Precept for 1999/2

Next year's precept had also to be decided at the meeting. The sum this year had been reduced by £400 from the previous year. Next year has to make provision for Audit Fees, the May elections for the Parish Council, and some Grants for millennium purposes. The auditors have told us our reserves must be £3/4000. As a result it was resolved that a precept for £4000 be submitted. This in effect cancels out the reduction made last year. It will allow the many improvements made this year to be maintained.

Parish Notices

The growth of events publicised in the village had not only required the new board at the Locks but a need to at times prioritise notices at the village green. The meeting therefore approved a new notice for each board.

' Whilton Parish Council is pleased to provide this notice board for displaying information of interest to its residents. Users please note that Council and village functions have priority. The Council reserve the right to remove other notices if there is insufficient room or they obscure priority notices.'

It is perhaps important to mention at this point that it was partly the variety of notices that made the judges in the village of the year competition realise this was a special village in which to live. So please keep them coming. The showing of the Cup Winners Cup was a suitable climax to the meeting.

The year ahead

Life goes on however. The winter is upon us and we were keen to reappoint Janet Bowers as our grit bin warden. We are equally keen to find a new half allotment holder for the spring. If you are at all interested please contact me. Meanwhile accept the best wishes of the Parish Council for Christmas and the New Year!

Keith Hiscock
Clerk to the Parish Council
843319

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

A village design statement sets out to :-

- a) define the character of the village / neighbourhood, identifying notable features.
- b) allows everybody to contribute and have a recognised voice in the planning process.
- c) defines what WE think OUR priorities are in OUR neighbourhood.
- d) supports the Parish Council in planning applications.

It would be approved as Supplementary Planning Guidance by the local planning authority and taken into account when planning decisions are made. By it being a community based statement, it will represent wishes and respect to any development. By being constructive, we can be taken seriously by planning and developers alike avoiding conflicts. What we can achieve is a better understanding between the community and other groups enabling the future development of our neighbourhood to be within an agreed framework accepted by all concerned.

We will start by defining what we have now and how it got to that position. Then perhaps using focal points in the locality start to identify the areas that could be developed and the way we think that they should be.

There is no fixed format or content, it is up to us, so now is your chance to shape our future local environment.

If you wish to comment, have an input or help in any way, please contact Mike Lewis on 842404.

Mike Lewis
Chairman Whilton Parish Council

Women's Institute - 14th October 1998

Annual General Meeting

Annual General meetings inevitably follow a similar pattern and have the same basic tasks to perform. For the W.I. however, because of the small numbers and because most members know each other, these tasks are performed in a relaxed and informal manner, which makes the evening enjoyable.

Appointment of Officers - Ros Gardner was appointed President and Jane O'Riordan nominated as Vice President, with the rest of the committee being Teresa Leadbetter, Anthea Hiscock, Diana Scott & Frances Drake.

Auditor - Kerry Davies, with his agreement, was re-appointed as auditor for the year.

Bye-laws & Resolutions - The Institute's Bye-laws and resolutions were reviewed and with minor alterations approved. The Denman Bursary was reaffirmed.

Financial Statement - This was received and members agreed to hold a fund-raising event should it prove necessary.

President's Address - The President then gave her report on the year's activities, in which she emphasised how much members had enjoyed the monthly meetings. The speakers had been excellent and the subjects very varied and interesting. These included 'Self Defence', The Mary Rose, Colour Analysis, 'Shiatsu', our version of Desert Island Discs and recently a cake decorating demonstration. Although numbers are small, attendance has been good and it is a pity more non-members did not attend the 'open' meetings.

Ros concluded by thanking the Committee and individual officers for their hard work and support.

Anthea Hiscock thanked Ros for her work as president, in what had been a difficult time for her.

Diana Scott thanked the Committee.

This concluded the Annual General meeting and members turned to the ordinary monthly business in which subjects discussed included:- Representation on the Village Hall Committee and a report on auditions for future speakers in the Year Book.

Brampton W.I. Carol Service - December 12th, to which members are invited.

Members' Night - Ros, Chris, Frances and Diana to form a sub-committee.

Christmas Parcels - Janet Bowers would be responsible.

Some discussion took place on the future programme and the meeting closed with refreshments.

Frances Drake

Women's Institute - November Meeting

During the business meeting the arrangements for Members' Night were discussed. This year, instead of each buying a present to put under the tree, the money is to be given as a donation to the "Nicaraguan Disaster Fund".

The speaker, Mr C. Christy, told us about two unusual creatures he and his wife looked after, among other birds and animals, and illustrated his talk with some wonderful slides.

Sid was a male cygnet brought to them when very tiny. Mrs Christy took charge and became the cygnet's mother. He wanted to be with her all the time and on shopping trips was put into a shopping bag. Just imagine wandering around the supermarket with a cygnet popping its head out of a Bag!

With lots of care and not a few problems the cygnet reached adulthood and was finally released into the wild. Later the Christy's were presented with a female black fox cub. Once again Mrs Christy was the adopted mum but there were no shopping sprees this time. Vicky grew into a wonderful pet but adulthood posed problems and she was taken to a fox sanctuary.

In both cases the babyhood was spent in the house and many problems arose but Mr & Mrs Christy shewed great patience and tolerance in bringing up their two pets.

Janet Bowers gave the vote of thanks for what had proved to be one of our most enjoyable evenings.

Trudy Haynes

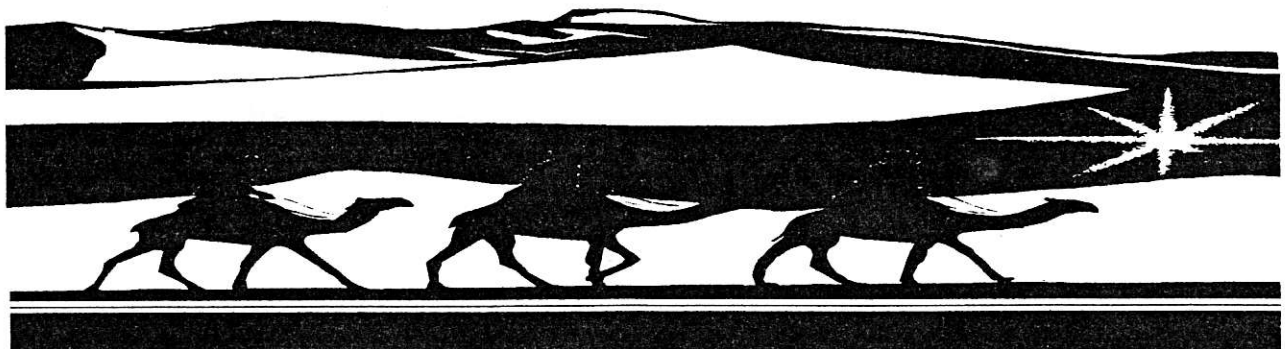
Stamps

By the time this Newsletter is delivered I will have taken a sizeable bag of USED STAMPS to Lyncrest for the "Save the Children" fund. I know they will be gratefully received. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

Christmas is a time when we all have lots of mail with stamps and if you can save them I should have another good contribution for the New Year. Just leave them in the porch by the back door of the Old Plough. Carry on saving!

Have a good Christmas.

Trudy Haynes



WHILTON AND BRINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

The children have been looking at various topics this term:-

- 1) The tradition of Guy Fawkes and fireworks - they made delicious firework shortbread.
- 2) Our bodies, our families.
- 3) Shapes.
- 4) Opposites.

We will soon be starting various Christmas activities,

We have several places available for our Monday, Wednesday and Friday sessions and would be delighted to welcome new children between two years nine months and four years old. Please ring me on 01327 843543 to register your child. If this wonderful village facility is not used we will be forced to close. We offer a friendly, safe and stimulating environment for your child to begin learning through play, interact with other children their own age and develop the necessary social skills in preparing for formal schooling but most of all to thoroughly enjoy themselves for two and a half hours.

We will shortly be selling raffle tickets and would ask for support in this necessary fundraising activity. Just to tempt you we have as first prize a luxury food and drink hamper, second prize is £10 Boots voucher and for third prize a floral table decoration. Tickets will be fifty pence each.

The children will be presenting a Christmas celebration at the end of term and we extend a warm welcome to all to join us for Christmas carols, mince pies and coffee. Date and time will be posted on the noticeboard.

From all at Whilton and Brington Pre-school
we wish you a merry Christmas.

Sara Mitchell

Jean Waights

People leave a gap in a community not merely because they have lived in a place for a long time, but because of the sort of person they have been and the contribution they have made to society. Residents come and go in the village and while some join temporarily in various activities, others give nothing to village life.

Jean Waights came to Whilton in 1976 with her husband Phil. She was an energetic, outgoing person and soon became involved in the community. She became a member and later a committee member of the Women's Institute, participating in all their activities and sub-committees. She was a member of the Garden Association and for a time of the Yoga group. She got to know most people in the village by going on the "outings", attending the whist evenings and the cookery courses when they were running and joining in special events and parties.

Her lifelong interest and work, however, was centred on the RSPCA. For many years she was the Area Secretary, travelling as far as Cambridge, and she was the chairman of the Friends of the Wyndham Cottel rest home for horses, which the RSPCA took over in Milton Keynes. She was also instrumental in setting up the Charity shop in Northampton.

Apart from her administrative work she was herself very fond of animals and constantly took in and rehoused stray and neglected cats in her own home. We ourselves have benefitted from her love of animals, as for many years she walked over and looked after our own cats when we were on holiday. One of these cats was one which we had originally taken from Jean as an abandoned cat on the motorway.

Jean and her husband were the best neighbours we could have wished to have.

During her last illness we have been very aware of Jean's courage and endurance in the face of continuing stress and suffering. We have admired and been humbled by her faith and endeavour to make the best of life. Her greatest joy lay in her family and their close ties and friendships. This, with the help of her husband, was a support to the end. The village has lost a valuable member.

Frances Drake & Diana Scott

The editors have recently received the following letter on recycling and felt it was well worth quoting in full:-

TO THE EDITORS OF ALL PARISH NEWSLETTERS IN THE DAVENTRY DISTRICT

Dear Sir/Madam

DON'T FIGHT IT - IT WON'T GO AWAY!

The District Council recognises the importance of parish newsletters and their ability to keep local residents abreast of issues that matter to them. The subject of recycling is one of increasing importance to both town and country and one with which, ideally, every resident should be involved. The following information about Daventry District's recycling activities may be of interest to your readers and you may wish to consider including it in forthcoming issues of the publication that you produce.

Why then do we need to recycle? there are over 19,000 recycling households in the Daventry District at present and they are contributing to reducing our district landfill totals by over 50 tonnes every week.

There are many other good reasons, too, including saving resources and energy, reducing transport costs, chemical usage and pollution, all of which affect climatic stability through 'greenhouse' gas emissions leading to damage to the ozone layer. It is sometimes heard said that some of the recyclables actually go to landfill. This happens to only the tiniest proportion because there is a very small group of household packaging items which cannot be effectively recycled at present. The Council guarantees that every can, bottle, plastic container or newspaper placed out for recycling makes a difference and will be recycled!

We can't fight it - it won't go away. New legislation on waste disposal in the future will require us to recover more and more of it and will motivate many other councils into further action, but by being already well ahead of the game Daventry District is well placed to develop and maintain more secure markets for its recyclables.

About 9,000 households district-wide are **NOT** recycling at present. May I appeal through your columns for any of these in your parish area to look at it again, see how easy it is and to come 'on board'. If any district resident wishes to order their own set of red & blue boxes or need advice about recycling I am here to help and can usually be contacted during office hours on (01327) 877958.

Yours faithfully

(signed) Mike Beamish
Recycling Promotions

P.S. Daventry District's Materials Recycling Centre is now fully up and running and has thrown open its doors to visiting groups which can be shown what happens to all the recyclables collected from their red & blue boxes. Visiting groups, however, need to be organised for weekday mornings to see the best of what we do. We welcome interest from Parish Councils or other parish based groups in this respect and look forward to hearing from them.

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

BEETLE DRIVE - FRIDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 1999

If you 're looking for something to entertain the whole family and brighten up an evening during the cold dark month of February, look no further. A Beetle Drive is just the thing!! Bring your youngsters. There will prizes for different age groups.

Refreshments will be available during the evening. Further details to be posted on the noticeboard nearer the date.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

SEPTEMBER 1998

1st Prize	084	T Treacy	£40
2nd Prize	050	F.Drake	£20
3rd Prize	089	J.Fallows	£10

OCTOBER 1998

1st Prize	170	G.Davies	£40
2nd Prize	002	P.Waights	£20
3rd Prize	161	T.Price	£10

Mary Kane
For the Village Hall Committee

THE WHILTON SPINNEY PROJECT

All legal documents have now basically been agreed and will be duly executed in the next few days when the residents of the parish will become proud owners of the Spinney. It has been a long journey to reach this stage but the time has now arrived when we are in a "hands on" situation. As we are fast approaching the year end, we must now look to 1999 as the year that **ACTION** commences.

All residents will have notice of the next step in this exciting project.

Derek Brown



DAVENTRY DISTRICT HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE

Due to Daventry District Councils continued commitment to providing services for the community, a new Housing Advice Centre has been established.

Based within the Community Resource Building known as the Abbey, in Daventry, the Housing Advice Centre offers free and confidential advice on housing issues.

It specialises in areas of landlord/tenant relations, with advising on the rights of both parties involved.

Accommodation lists are held on properties available to let within the Daventry District and works with the Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which provides deposit guarantees for single homeless people looking to secure accommodation within the private sector.

An advocacy role is available in assistance with representation at County Court if threatened with home repossession.

A new home security scheme has been formed through joint partnerships between Northants Police, Northants Fire and Rescue Service, the Volunteer Centre and Victim Support to provide free window locks, door locks and smoke alarms to people in need.

A large proportion of our advice work is informing people of their rights to housing following a breakdown in a personal relationship. Establishing your housing requirements and being aware of the options available can provide peace of mind during a stressful situation.

A Landlords Forum has been established which meets on a regular 3 monthly basis to discuss areas and issues of concern and a newsletter is available for those who are unable to attend.

The Care and Repair Agency and Home Energy Efficiency advice is also available through the Housing Advice Centre.

HOME VISITS are available as well as appointments at the Centre. We are very keen to respond to individual community needs and would welcome any comments on ways in which we could improve our service.

The opening hours are 9.30 – 4.30 Monday to Friday plus Tuesday evening 4.30 – 7.30 and Saturdays from 9.30 – 12.30.

The Abbey, Market Square, Daventry, Northamptonshire. NN11 4BH
Telephone: 01327 706471 Facsimile: 01327 701624

DAVENTRY DISTRICT HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE

FUNCTIONS - HOUSING ADVICE

- Landlord /tenant enquiries ranging from ;
 1. Checking the validity of tenancy agreements
 2. Advice on illegal eviction
 3. Advice on neighbour and landlord disputes
- Encouragement of good working practices in the private sector through the formation of the Landlords Forum.
- Accommodation list of privately rented properties throughout the District.
- Information and advice on housing options – renting, buying, shared ownership, private nursing and residential homes.
- Mortgage arrears and repossession advice on all tenures.
- Advocacy role in assistance with representation at Courts for repossession proceedings.
- Information and advocacy on how to solve neighbour disputes.
- How to fully maximise your income through benefits advice and how to budget for your housing needs.
- Advice on the range of disability equipment available for within the home
- Referral through to the Home Security Scheme for door, window locks, peepholes, chains and smoke alarms for people on benefits.

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

CARE AND REPAIR

- Practical advice and assistance for older and disabled owner occupiers who need repairs/ adaptations undertaking to their property.

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Advice and assistance for all residents of Daventry District on ways in which to improve the insulation value of their home, how to become more energy aware , become more energy efficient and reduce fuel costs.

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

IN BRIEF.....

CONGRATULATIONS



to Anne and Graeme Kilgour on the birth of their baby son, RIAIN GRAEME on 9th November; a brother for Georgina.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE.



Sponsorship money amounted to £30 and a cheque has been sent to the Trust Treasurer. We have received back 50% of this amount which has been allocated to St Andrew's Church General Fund. This total was made up of sponsorship money from Alison and Tom and two who acted as Recorders in the church.

WHILTON FLOWER FESTIVAL GRAND BALLOON RACE.



The prize of a £20 voucher for the Early Learning Centre was won by young Jacob of Duston. His balloon reached Chilton Fields, Stowmarket, Suffolk and was found by a Mr Firman who was sent a voucher for £5

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - POPPY APPEAL.



The collection in Whilton amounted to £93.38. Thank you for your support.

BRINGTON COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL The headteacher (Miss B.L.Lomas) is compiling a list of children who may be attending Brington in the next few years. If your child falls into the age ranges below and you would like them to attend Brington, please contact the school on 01604 770286:-

Date of Birth

1.9.94 - 31.8.95
1.9.95 - 31.8.96
1.9.96 - 31.8.97
1.9.97 - 31.8.98

Eligible to start school

September 1999
September 2000
September 2001
September 2002

Advice for winter driving

Check

- That your tyre pressures are at the recommended level and that the tread depth is correct. Don't forget your spare!
- That your vehicle's lights are clean and in working order.
- That the wiper system is working effectively.
- That the washer-bottles are full and contain a suitable additive to prevent freezing.
- That your battery is in good condition, topped up and fully charged.
- Your anti-freeze. (Your garage can do this for you).

Before driving off

- Consider whether your journey is essential.
- Make sure that all your windows and mirrors are completely clear of ice and condensation. Carry a can of de-icer and a scraper in the car. Cars left outside overnight will benefit from their windscreen being covered over.

Remember

- Do not travel too fast or too close to the vehicle in front. When ice and snow are present drive smoothly, avoiding harsh braking and sudden changes in direction. Keep in as high a gear as possible.
- Always use dipped headlights when visibility is poor due to rain or snow and when driving in fog. **SEE AND BE SEEN.**

- Allow yourself more time for a journey and in severe conditions only travel when it is absolutely necessary.
- It is better to travel a little further on a main road that has been treated than to use untreated minor roads.
- Finally, even the most carefully organised procedures can suffer setbacks or mechanical breakdowns and as a result some gritting routes may not be treated.

Advice for pedestrians

Many pavements are not routinely gritted. In times of prolonged icy weather, or when snow remains on the ground, the treatment of some major pavements, i.e. main shopping areas, near hospitals, etc., is undertaken, but this still leaves many pavements in residential areas untreated.

The following points may therefore help when you have to use the pavements in wintry conditions.

- Consider whether your journey is essential
- Always wear appropriate footwear. Smooth leather soles make walking treacherous in icy weather
- If possible, delay your journey so that temperatures have had a chance to rise and the frost has melted
- Avoid using pavements that are in the shade. Even a weak winter sun soon thaws out frost and ice

Produced by Northamptonshire County Council
Planning and Transportation Department
For further copies please telephone 0800 232323

September 1997

A22006

WHY WE GRIT

To make the County's roads as safe as possible and to reduce delays caused by bad weather.

We grit key routes when there is a risk of ice by providing **24 hour** cover to respond to weather conditions, using a large fleet of gritters. This means that just under half of the road network in the county is treated; a total length of approximately **1,750 km**.

WHEN WE GRIT

Decisions are based on **road** temperatures rather than air temperatures, and gritting is **likely** whenever **road** temperatures are 1°C or below. Gritting is normally carried out after the evening peak traffic period or before the morning rush, because frost does not usually affect the road surface until late evening or early morning.

CLARENCE
Freephone
0800 23 23 23

For reporting
road and
lighting faults
and hazards in
Northamptonshire



WHERE WE GRIT

With such a big road network, it would be unrealistic and uneconomical to attempt to treat all roads, and so decisions as to whether to grit are made according to the category of road. **Priority** is given to those roads carrying the highest volume of traffic and where the risk of accidents is greatest. We also try to ensure that the majority of road users live within reasonable distance of a gritted road.

Precautionary gritting is therefore carried out on all motorways, trunk roads and main 'A' roads. In addition, certain local roads, such as those serving industrial areas, shopping centres and some key roads in towns and rural areas are also treated. Motorways and some trunk roads are now dealt with by others under new arrangements with the Highways Agency.

In prolonged adverse weather conditions an additional 880km of road is gritted.

The fact that it costs the County Council on average **£20,000** for one outing by the full gritting team makes it clear why we cannot treat every road in the County.

SAFER WINTER DRIVING IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

1998 - 1999 SEASON



WINTER GRITTING ROUTES



Northamptonshire
County Council



Awarded for excellence
in public service



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC
PARTNERSHIP

ROUTES WE GRIT

The map in this leaflet shows the gritting routes for Northamptonshire for the winter of 1997/98.

Please remember that **the majority of minor roads will receive no treatment**, and, because arrangements may not always go according to plan, you should **never** assume that a road has been gritted.

In the event of snowfall, roads will be cleared according to their priority status and need.

Remember, **speed kills**, especially in icy conditions, therefore **kill your speed to make your driving safer**.

Please take care on all routes and follow the advice in this leaflet.

This leaflet has been produced with support from :

SERCQ
Limited

"WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR
SAFER ROADS"

CLEANER SCREENS



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
USES HIGH PURITY
ROADSALTS

from PEACOCK
PIONEERING SAFER ROAD SALTS



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CRIME PREVENTION AT CHRISTMAS

Most burglaries occur whilst houses are empty so it is advisable to leave lights on during the hours of darkness as signs of occupation deter thieves, However leaving Christmas tree lights on with no other visible sign of occupation can have the opposite effect. Any house where darkness is illuminated only by Christmas tree lights gives the opportunist thief a beacon. These lights are insufficient for normal use and wrapped gifts around the tree by invite a break-in. The advice is therefore to draw the curtains and leave other lights on when going out after dark.

If you are away for Christmas try to arrange for a neighbour to look after your home. The best deterrent is a burglar alarm which should always be activated whilst the house is empty. Remember to close all windows and lock all doors including garage and shed doors. Keep all side, back and front gates closed or locked where possible.

Security is also important in respect of your car. Remember to lock car doors and the boot every time you leave the vehicle and place luggage, clothes or shopping where they cannot be seen.

Christmas Crime Prevention Motto - try not to let those outside see what you have inside.

Christine Billsborough

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM 1998

Whilton has now received a framed Highly Commended Certificate having been awarded 81 points out of a possible 100 in this year's competition. Lollington and Castleton also received the same. Foxton was third with 83 points, Ranby second with 85 and ROSLISTON was placed FIRST with 90 points.

The judge, Mr Doug Stacey, stated in his report. "From the way various people maintained the grass verges to a good standard, voluntary planting round the churchyard wall and other communal areas, well maintained churchyard and allotments and a high standard of private gardens visible to the general public, it was pleasing to see how the whole community was involved in 'Whilton in Bloom' The new hanging basket scheme and the successful open gardens and Flower Festival project all display a very commendable pride in the village by the residents".

Mr Stacey then stated that it was good to see that we had taken up the idea from last year's judge for the Hanging Basket Competition. He suggested that maybe we could consider a 'Best Front Garden'. Also we could think about further communal seasonal planting where the displays could be seen to their maximum effect.

This year we developed the ideas of last year's judge and it proved successful not only in improving the appearance of Whilton but increasing our marks in the competition. If we take up this year's suggestions and with the same or greater commitment perhaps we can gain a higher placing in 1999.

Janet Bowers
Co-ordinator for W.G.A.

Community Composting

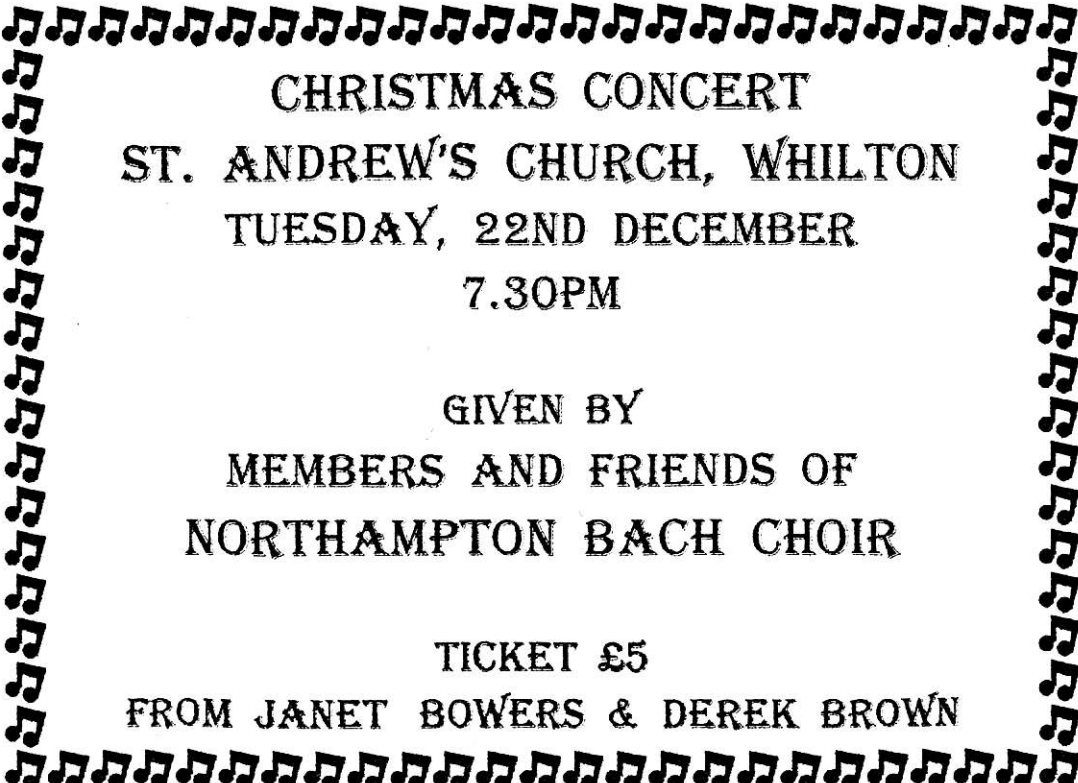
Composting is the production of useful nutritious material for plant growth from organic waste. It has the benefits of reducing the amount of waste going to landfill by recycling organic waste as well as producing a compost which is a useful alternative to peat based growing mixtures. However many people have not got the room or may not wish to compost at home.

Community composting means local people getting together to turn organic waste into useful compost. All that is needed is a site, possibly an unused allotment, and a number of willing volunteers, possibly an allotment or gardening group.

Northamptonshire County Council are looking to set up a number of pilot community composting schemes throughout the county. They will be able to offer advice on where and how to go about setting up these schemes as well as continued advice once the scheme is in place.

If you, as an individual, or a group of people, are interested in finding out more about community composting, or composting in general, contact Emma Old at the address below or telephone me on 01604 236612.

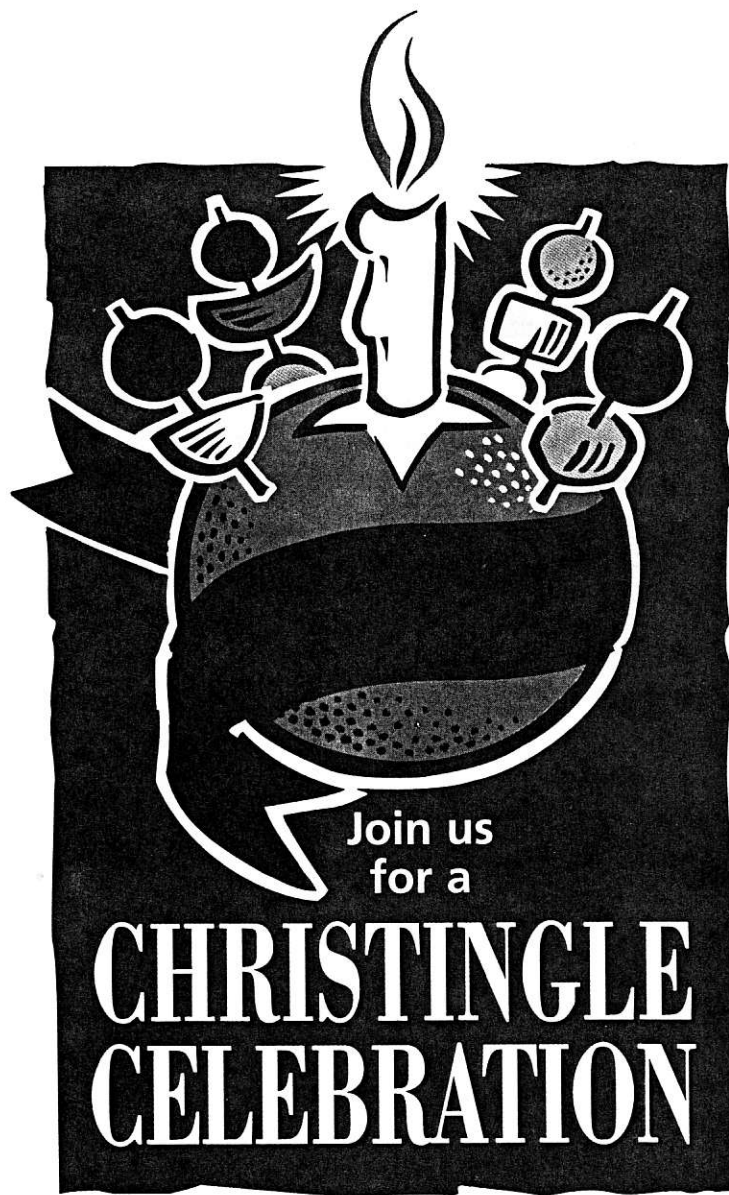
Emma Old
Waste Information Officer
Waste Policy
Northamptonshire County Council
PO Box 221
John Dryden House
8 - 10 The Lakes
Northampton
NN4 7DE



CHRISTMAS CONCERT
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, WHILTON
TUESDAY, 22ND DECEMBER
7.30PM

GIVEN BY
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
NORTHAMPTON BACH CHOIR

TICKET £5
FROM JANET BOWERS & DEREK BROWN



BRINGING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD
TO CELEBRATE GOD'S LOVE FOR HUMANITY

at ST ANDREW'S, WHILTON

on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13th time 4.00pm

Refreshments afterwards

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY IS A NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION
OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND THE CHURCH IN WALES. IT EXISTS TO
WORK FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES IN NEED.



The Children's Society
MAKING LIVES WORTH LIVING
A VOLUNTARY SOCIETY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
AND THE CHURCH IN WALES

Summary of Events

Sun 6 Dec 10.00am United Benefice Sung Eucharist - **Whilton**
Mon 7 Dec 7.30pm Gardeners' Association - AGM & Social Evening
Wed 9 Dec 7.30pm Women's Institute - Members' Night
Sun 13 Dec 4.00pm Whilton Church - Christingle Service
Sun 20 Dec 6.00pm Whilton Church - Carol Service
Tue 22 Dec 7.30pm Whilton Church - Christmas Concert
Fri 25 Dec 11.00am Whilton Church - Family Service & Holy Communion
Sun 3 Jan 10.00am United Benefice Sung Eucharist - **Church Brampton**
Mon 4 Jan 8.00pm Parish Council meeting
Mon 11 Jan 7.30pm Parochial Church Council meeting
Wed 13 Jan 7.30pm Women's Institute meeting
Fri 22 Jan **Newsletter Deadline for February Issue**

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

Contributions to the newsletter to any of the above **BY THE DEADLINE DATE, PLEASE**
