



WHILTON NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2002

Season's Greetings

NEWS FROM ALL AROUND THE PARISH

In this issue: *A Quiz*
Reports from Organisations
50 year old photograph of the spinney
Details of future events

**Thanks to all who contribute to the Newsletter
and the volunteers who handle the distribution.**

***The Editors send you Greetings and Best Wishes
for Christmas 2002 and the New Year 2003***

Parish Matters!!

Where I wonder sometimes is everybody? Is everyone as busy as I am, or have they hibernated for the winter, or just grown apathetic? Fortunately I am not expecting answers but if you see me about share your views.

Why such a start I hear you say, has Keith had such a bad month? Anyway why does he think anyone reads his article? Well three people over the last year have said so, -so there!!

An Airport- To be or not to be

The last one was Lucy Gow from Holly House who realised the Council shared her concern about the possibility of a Rugby Airport and the dangers it posed to our life quality here. She organised two speakers from the Rugby Action Group to come to our Parish Council Meeting on 4th November. They gave up what one, the Mayor of Rugby, described as his only night off that fortnight, to tell us of this serious perceived risk. We the Parish of 277 voters/potential lobbyists fielded 3 Parish Councillors and two stalwart members of the public. None was able to take up the request from Lucy for help to get a signed letter off to the powers that be from each household that she was prepared to visit with a prepared letter. My attempt to get signatures for the protest petition from those collecting papers has resulted in six signing up. Am I to assume most people in the village don't object to the expansion of the motorway to two extra lanes below us, and an airport bigger than Heathrow on our doorsteps? Well done Lucy for taking this seriously and galvanising into action. The recent boycott of the WI Table top Marie Curie coffee morning and loss making poorly supported second visit of the Looking Glass Theatre Company will no doubt be mentioned elsewhere. Do we want purely a dormitory village? Only you can determine it being any thing else. Your participation at the Jubilee did suggest most wanted something more.

Parish Council Vacancy- Why not fill it?

Before I finally get off my soapbox you do need to know that there is now a vacancy on the Council as regrettably Lindon Morris has tendered his resignation. We can accept nominations and hold an election if necessary, or we can co-opt an interested person if that fails. The person would serve till elections in May 2004. Please ring me if interested or suggest someone we could approach if they are of a shy disposition.

Decisions, Decisions.

The Council did decide that it would object to the Airport and letters have been dispatched to our MP, Mr Blair and Mr Darling in support of the firm **no** stance from Daventry District Council. A White Paper possibly in March will show whether we have been successful and are excluded.

We must hope for a more positive outcome than we are at present experiencing in relation to the noise from Whilton Mill. Despite the willingness of the Manager in my conversations to meet us, clearly Mr Ashby does not agree and is awaiting any prompting from Environmental Health. They are interested so if you hear the noise ring them directly at the Council Offices in Daventry or if out of hours ring me. They do have the results of the Survey and names of those who feel most strongly. So far weather and a mix up over which weekend had the main meeting has stopped them taking noise readings.

Village Green Project

In the absence of a volunteer so far to co-ordinate the registration of the village green progress has been slower than hoped but an agreement has been reached about moving the salt bin across to the wall around Stone House, a new position for the litter bin agreed, and the Council wish to examine the replacement of the light and possibly standard on the Green. BT have promised to repaint the Telephone Box during the Summer next year. The change of name for the area will progress in tandem with the registration.

Proper Parish Council Governance

The Council made a number of decisions required for the regulatory running of the Parish Council. The Accounts for 2001-2 were approved in the new prescribed format which differs from that approved at the Annual Parish Meeting in May and agreed the new Statement of Assurance, on which the NALC appointed internal Auditor has to comment before it is sent off to the External Auditor. This is in line with Notice of Audit placed on both the notice boards. The Council also officially signed up to the new Model Publication Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes only) under section 20 of the new Freedom of Information Act. This apparently makes clearer your rights to see the papers of the Council that we here in Whilton have always been willing to show parishioners who request them. See the declaration elsewhere in the newsletter. It was decided photocopies of these papers can be issued free of charge if not more than ten sheets are involved otherwise at cost.

More good news for you is that the Parish Council agreed to set the Precept required from your community charge at the same level as last year- £3000.

Village Of The Year?

We have also had the results of the Village of the Year competition, which appear elsewhere. Although we did not win anything this year we owe a very big thank you to all who contributed to the pleasing scenario seen by the judges and especially to Roy Haynes for the excellent Churchyard Report. Hopefully we will return to our winning streak next year. **Finally** if there are any keen gardeners still wanting more space **there is a good half allotment available** as sadly for us the Egginton's move on to Kent. We wish them well and thank them for their contribution to the life of the village.

Our first meeting in 2003 is on Monday 6th January at 8pm. Why not make it a New Years Resolution to be there?

WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

HALF ALLOTMENT TO RENT

£6 PER YEAR

Available immediately

For further information please ring

Keith Hiscock, Clerk to the Parish Council

843319

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - PUBLICATION SCHEMES

Declaration Form

Name of Public Authority... WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL
Address, ... C/O LANGTON HOUSE, WHILTON, DAVENTRY NN11 5NN
Address
Address
Address
Address
has adopted the model scheme titled... MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME FOR LOCAL COUNCILS
(CORE CLASSES ONLY)
produced in accordance with section 20 of the Freedom of Information Act
2000 and will publish information in accordance with that scheme.

Signature Keith Hiscock
Position CLERK TO PARISH COUNCIL
Date 4th NOVEMBER 2002

The contact details for the person/official who will be responsible for
maintaining the publication scheme and who should be contacted if any issues
arise concerning the organisation's compliance with the Freedom of
Information Act are:

Name KEITH HISCOCK
Position CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL
Address LANGTON HOUSE
Address WHILTON
Address DAVENTRY
Address NORTHAMPTON
Address NN11 5NN
Phone* 01327 843319
E-Mail* keith.hiscock@which.net

Those fields with a * are optional.

MODEL PUBLICATIONS SCHEME FOR LOCAL COUNCILS

CORE CLASSES OF INFORMATION

1. Council Internal Practice and Procedure
2. Code of Conduct
3. Periodic Electoral Review
4. Employment Practice and Procedure
5. Planning Documents
6. Audit and Accounts

OPTIONAL CLASSES OF INFORMATION

1. Development and Implementation of Policy
2. Byelaws
3. Council Circulars / Newsletters
4. Arts, Entertainment and Tourist Information
5. Allotments
6. Burial Grounds
7. Best Value

For further information please refer to Mr Keith Hiscock, Clerk to the Parish Council.

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

AS "SENSE AND SENSIBILITY" BY THE LOOKING GLASS THEATRE COMPANY HAD BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL WITH A COMPLETE SELL-OUT OF TICKETS IN MARCH THIS YEAR, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO PUT ON ANOTHER OF THEIR PRODUCTIONS, NAMELY, "FRANKENSTEIN".

THIS WAS ARRANGED FOR SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER AND WAS WELL ADVERTISED BUT THE RESPONSE AND ATTENDANCE WAS EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTING. THE NUMBER WHO ATTENDED WAS 22 ONLY AND A LOSS OF £81 WAS MADE.

THE VILLAGE HALL IS AN ATTRACTIVE ASSET TO THE PARISH AND THE COMMITTEE DO GO TO A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE TO ARRANGE EVENTS IN AN ENDEAVOUR TO DEVELOP A COMMUNITY SPIRIT.. THE SUPPORT GIVEN ON THIS OCCASION DOES POSE THE QUESTION OF JUST WHAT IS REQUIRED TO KEEP ALIVE THE SOCIAL SIDE OF THE PARISH.

WE LEAVE WITH YOU THE COMMITTEE'S THOUGHTS AND WE WILL SAY NO MORE BUT CAN ONLY REITERATE WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN SAID IN THE "PARISH NOTES"

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A NEW SIGN FOR THE VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN

After serving refreshments, users of the Hall should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board

The Results of the Northamptonshire Acre Best Kept Village and Best Kept Churchyard Competitions 2002 for Whilton.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2002		CLASS <u>I CWC</u> Date <u>14-6-2002</u>	
Part 1	Maximum Marks	Marks Awarded	Remarks
Overall impression of the village	30	28	A very small but very clean & tidy village
Absence of litter	25	24	Practically no litter
Tidiness of public features churchyards and chapel yards, cemetery, village greens, roads, village hall and surrounds, bus shelters, telephone kiosks. (Note: - exclude litter marked in above)	20	18	A well kept churchyard greens were well kept & cut the flower beds well looked after Village hall good So the childrens play area used? There was long grass at the gate but it is an interesting idea.
Tidiness of Playing Field and Open Spaces	10	9	The allotments were tidy & being well used. The flower garden between allotments & road very colourful.
Visibility of 'Village of the Year' Competition Posters and orderliness of advertisements and other notices:			
Village of the Year poster/s	5	3	3 posters seen
Tidiness of Notice Boards	5	5	tidy
Facilities map supplied to judges.	5	5	good map
Total marks awarded		100	91

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION 2002			
	Max. Marks	Marks Awarded	Remarks
Absence of litter	20	20	No litter
Care of grass	30	28	Well cut
Care of paths, verges, walls lych gates	35	32	Good
Overall general impression	15	12	It is good to have a conservation area but can you introduce a few more wild flowers to make it more colourful?
Total marks awarded		100	92

GUESS THE PLACE NAMES COMPETITION

The following clues all relate to the names of parishes in the Peterborough Diocese.
See how many you can guess. Answers in the next issue of the Newsletter

EXAMPLE: The noise the donkey made. By the water?

BRAYBROOKE

- 1.** Purchase a piece of land
- 2.** Not good but not far away
- 3.** Sounds like a very cheap garden implement
pre-decimalization of course!
- 4.** A tree? No, two trees!
- 5.** Phones a former Prime Minister
- 6.** The animals that once drew the plough,
followed by the university lecturer
- 7.** A testament that carries added weight
- 8.** On with the card game!
- 9** Knocking bits off a servant of the church?
- 10.** Sounds like an insect whose habitat is the pub!
- 11.** I pretend!
- 12.** A pain in the neck?
- 13.** Trims weight?
- 14.** Another weight? Ah, but a merry one!
- 15 .**I lose my balance
- 16.** Could be a household gadget used at breakfast time.
- 17.** An ancient shellfish?
- 18.** Do the leaders of the 'sett' live here?
- 19.** Sounds like the site of the earliest garden.
- 20.** Swaying part of the pig
- 21.** It sounds as though the young sheep were brought here
by boat
- 22.** The young girl at the source of water
- 23.** Fed up with weights?
I'm afraid you will have to put up with this one
- 24.** When the lads and lasses walk out together do they meet here?
- 25.** Lengthy male rabbit with a winged insect on its tail?



Annual General Meeting held Tuesday 12th November 2002

All representatives of the various organisations were willing to stand and duly elected as follows:

Whilton Parish Council	One Vacancy
Whilton W.I.	Anthea Hiscock, Frances Drake.
Whilton Village Hall	Shirley Brown
Whilton Gardeners' Association	Derek Coates
Whilton PCC	Janet Bowers
Brington & Whilton Pre-School	Jenny Holman
Elected Whilton Village/ Whilton Locks	Jo Grant, Rai Barnes ,one vacancy

Elected Officers

Chairman	Derek Brown
Vice-Chairman	Derek Coates
Secretary	Shirley Brown
Treasurer	Richard Bunce
Auditor	Jon Brierley

Chairman's Report

A number of trees were planted during January 2002.

84 metres of boardwalk was installed June – August by BTCV who sponsored the labour. The cost of materials was £1,277.23 of which Whilton Parish Council contributed £400.

Plant Surveys have been carried out on a monthly basis by Shirley and Anthea.

Roy Haynes, who is not a resident of the parish, but whose mother lives in the village has been a tremendous help with the work in the spinney. He has made and installed a number of bird boxes which have had signs of being occupied.

There have been problems in the insurance market with obtaining public liability cover. Our present insurers cancelled our cover through BTCV on 30th April 2002. Fortunately we were able to arrange immediate cover elsewhere but at a cost of £236.25 whereas previously we had been paying £55 per annum.

A path is being formed along the south-east side of the spinney and Northants County Council are proposing to replace the bridge on the public footpath on that side.

Numbers attending the working parties has been disappointing.

Treasurer's Report

Richard Bunce gave his report which was quite encouraging and the balance as at our year end on 31st March 2002 was £1443.38 and as at 30th September 2002 there was a credit balance of £826.83.

Other matters discussed appear in a following report.

ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY



A new name

Just before the Millennium, the parish of Whilton received the generous gift of the spinney from Griff and Joan Davies. The little wood had previously formed part of Roughmoor Farm in Brockhall parish, the boundary being the stream. As a result of the recent boundary review, this part of Brockhall is becoming part of Whilton parish and the Spinney Management Group has now decided that the spinney will now be known as Roughmoor Spinney.

Soon after the spinney was acquired and a path had been hacked through to the far end, we began regular plant surveys, recording what grows under the trees. There was a break during the foot and mouth outbreak and while the hybrid poplar trees were being cut down, but after that we resumed our monthly visits. Over the period from August 2001 to November 2002, we have recorded about 60 different plants, apart from trees growing in the spinney.

Pink, gold and blue

The damp conditions of the area mean water loving plants thrive. In the past season the new clearings have led to carpets of yellow celandines and buttercups and blue and white violets, and a noticeable increase in pink ragged robins, golden marsh marigolds and blue bugle and brooklime. The colour has been spectacular especially in the late spring and early summer.

Some of the orchids and the crosswort have spread a little, and the butterbur is still a feature, making itself obvious at different seasons. In March the strange pink flowers stick up from the bare damp ground, but by high summer the huge felted leaves form a forest which is taller than some of us walking through. According to tradition, these large leaves were once used for wrapping butter and keeping it cool in summer : hence the name. Once the foliage has died down in late autumn there is little to see again until the spring.

NOTICE IN A FIELD
The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free
but the bull charges

Changes

Since more light has been let into the spinney we have observed more variety of plant life and because the wood is constantly changing, and will continue to do so, we should expect different mixes each year, and maybe the churning up of the soil in places will bring new seeds to the surface. This year we have seen some plants we had not recorded there before. These have included white flowered bog stitchwort, yellow greater celandine, celery leaved buttercup and St John's wort, and pale mauve cuckoo flowers (also known as lady's smock).

Autumn colour

Because much of the area is shaded in summer, the bulk of flowering plants flourish in the spring and early summer, but this autumn the spinney was bright with a variety of berries, which included the reds of hips, haws, bryony, holly, yew, bittersweet and guelder rose, besides the purplish black of sloes and ivy.

New developments

At the November meeting the Spinney Management Group agreed to plant some more trees this winter. These will include willow, hazel and ash, and other species raised locally, and the work will probably have begun by the time this Newsletter is delivered. Any volunteers are always welcome on one of the Sunday afternoon work parties.

Meanwhile a walk in the spinney will always provide something to observe besides the plants. You may well see pheasants and great tits, long tailed tits and blue tits, and if you are lucky you may come across a green woodpecker or a tree creeper. There are signs of badgers, moles and rabbits, and frogs and toads love the damp atmosphere.



We are planning a special work party on Sunday 29 December, to help us all to work off our Christmas food and lethargy!

We shall meet in the Spinney at 2 p.m.

Weather permitting, we shall work on clearing the ditch and having a bonfire.

Do come and join in.

There will be further information nearer the time.





A SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICE

On Friday 8th November 2002 our new incumbent, the Revd. Chris Goble was Instituted and Inducted at St Botolphs, Brampton. This was an important and moving service and those taking part were the Bishop of Brixworth – the Right Reverend Frank White, the Archdeacon of Northampton – The Venerable Michael Chapman, The Rural Dean of Brixworth – the Reverend Clive Evans and singing by the Spencer Benefice Choir and the Churchwardens from the six parishes.

The main parts of the service were as follows:

- 1 **The Institution.** Earl Spencer, as a member and representative of the special Patronage Board of the Spencer Benefice, presented the Incumbent-Designate to the Bishop requesting that he be Instituted and Inducted as Incumbent. Chris then took the Oath of Allegiance and Canonical Obedience.
- 2 **The Induction.** The Archdeacon was then charged by the Bishop to Induct Chris. Escorted by the Churchwardens, the Archdeacon and Chris were led to the church door where Chris received the key, then to the tower where he chimed a bell, to the font to receive water (the symbol of Baptism), to the lectern to receive the bible, next to the chancel step to receive oil (symbolising healing) and finally to the altar to receive bread and wine of Holy Communion and the book of Common Worship.

The service concluded by the new Incumbent being welcomed by the congregation and others. Refreshment were then served,

Chris conducted his first service at St Andrews, Whilton on Remembrance Sunday. He and his wife the Revd. Sharon, as previously advised, will live in the Rectory at Nether Heyford.

Chris will have his administrative office at the Rectory, Great Brington, where he can be reached on 01604 770402

Janet Bowers

CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2002

You will shortly be visited by a member of the Social Committee who will be selling a quiz entry form for £1.

There are 50 questions to be answered and it is suggested you complete as many as possible, if not all and return to Linda Treacy, 7 Southview, Whilton by Friday 20th December. The winner will receive a prize of £25.

The judges decision is final and the winner will be announced on Sunday, December 22nd. All proceeds to St Andrew's Church Whilton.

ST ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY, 7th DECEMBER 2.00PM - 4.00 PM

Decorated stalls, staff in Christmas dress and a variety of stalls will make this a splendid occasion. Do come along for that last Christmas shopping.

STALLS: CAKES. CHRISTMAS GIFTS and GOODIES, NEARLY NEW TOYS and BOOKS, MYSTERY CHRISTMAS PARCELS (type of Tombola but everyone gets a present for £1) HANDICRAFTS, RAFFLE (Food Hamper) and other attractions.

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON **DECEMBER 2002**

1ST	10.00 am	Benefice Sung Eucharist and Licensing Revd. Derek Williams at <u>WHILTON</u>
8th	4.00 pm	Christingle
15th	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist
22nd	6.00 pm	Carol Service
25th	9.30 am	Family Holy Communion
29th	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist

A POEM WE DON'T WANT TO HAPPEN

Near to the door he paused to stand, as he slowly removed her wedding band,
All who were watching did not speak, as a silent tear ran down his cheek.
And through his mind the memories ran, of moments they'd shared and plans they began
But now her eyes looked so terribly cold, for he would never again have her to hold,
All watched in silence as he bent near, quietly whispering – "I love you my dear".
He touched her face and started to cry, as he put on her ring and wanted to die.
And just then the wind began to blow, as they lowered her casket into the cold snow.

This is what could happen to anyone alive
When Friends let Friends – DRINK and DRIVE

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Christingle

You are warmly invited to our Christingle celebration

Please come and help us to reach out to children who live in the poorest communities and whose families are struggling against enormous odds. Children who are cold and hungry on the streets. Children who are excluded from school and are missing out on an education. And young teenagers who are in prison on remand.

If you believe every child deserves a decent chance in life, you believe in everything we stand for.

"In a darkened church the lit Christingles shine the Light of Jesus over all present."

Dr George Carey
Archbishop of Canterbury

Light up
a child's life

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH

ST. ANDREW WHILTON

4.00 pm



The
Children's
Society

A National Society of the Churches of England, and the Church of Wales
Edward Rudolf House, Margery Street,
London WC1X 0JL
Tel: 020 7841 4521 Fax: 020 7841 4500

ELWYN THOMAS - 1913 - 2002

The funeral took place on Monday 30th September in St Andrew's Church, Whilton on what would have been Elwyn's 89th birthday.

He was the eldest of four children and came from Bancyfelin near Carmarthen on the Pembrokeshire coast where his family had a small farm.

He went to Aberystwyth University where he obtained a degree and eventually went to work at Moulton Institute of Agriculture and it was there that he met Freda , his wife-to-be. After they married in 1944, Freda and Elwyn found the farm at Whilton Lodge and Freda's father took the tenancy and sent them a herd of pedigree Friesians from Cheshire.

In 1961 the freehold of Whilton Lodge Estate came up for sale and Elwyn and Freda bought it although they realised they could not afford to keep the big house with its 20 bedrooms so, with regret, they sold it off. They were hardworking years but Whilton Lodge Farm meant so much to them and it was a most wonderful place for Jane and Sarah to grow up on.

His main passion was racing and had a good eye for a horse and studied the form book and breeding. In the early 1950s his brother, Haydn, asked him to buy a horse to point-to-point and he went to Newmarket and bought a grey gelding called "Sailors Return" for £50 and put it on a train to St Clairs in Wales. Haydn point-to-pointed the horse and then sold it. It went on to win six races in a row, including at Ascot, and won around £7,000 in prize money; a lot of money in the 1950s.

The best horse Freda and Elwyn bred was called "Bannaventa" after the Roman Settlement on the farm; it won four times in a row.

Elwyn was a fantastic father but a demanding one and Jane and Sarah were always encouraged to get qualifications as education meant a lot to him. As a grandfather he was so caring taking enormous delight in all the grandchildren and all their achievements. He was always quick to praise and never criticised. He loved them all, He was a wonderfully witty Welshman.

He became very frail towards the end and when he fell over was admitted to hospital but all he wanted was to be at Whilton Lodge. He did return to Whilton Lodge where he died peacefully in his sleep.

HORACE THOMAS CLEMENTS - 1913 – 2001

A tape has recently come to light which was made of a visit by BBC Radio Northampton to the Townleys' Barn in Whilton approximately seven years ago. During the programme, which was on village life, various people from the parish were interviewed live on radio, Horace being one of them.

The following is a transcript of the interview that took place between the presenter and Horace:

Horace started by saying that he was married to Jane at All Saints Church, Norton on 9th July 1938 and started his married life in an old cottage in Whilton having previously lived in Tudor House, where he was born. For many years he was a Parish Councillor and also in charge of winding the church clock and maintenance of the churchyard.

“Ever since I was a lad I've always wanted a bit of land as I was a very keen gardener. I'd been a gardener most of my life and had been a chauffeur /gardener in my younger days. We got married on about £1.15 a week and I got the little cottage for a rent of 2s 8d a week. As a chauffeur / gardener I had to clean the shoes and the cars on Saturdays and Sundays.

My dad was working in Rugby at a firm called BTH and he told me I was a fool for working there for that money so I went there and got a job and the next week I came home with £6 in wages, that was a big difference. I was there for 22 years.

Then Timkins came to Daventry and I got a job there and was on a machine for twelve months and one night I was told the manager wanted to see me upstairs. He told me that because of my good record with my previous firm and the quality of work I was turning out there, they were going to make me a charge hand. I then went up to shift supervisor and joined the Staff Pension Fund and believe me it has come in very handy now. So that's my progress in life”.

(interviewer says “ I believe you bought some land that used to have six properties on it”)

“I'll tell you what happened, the old Squire, down at Whilton Lodge bought them previously to build four cottages but he had an estate left him in Norfolk and went to live there. The cottages which were thatched were going from bad to worse and it struck me one day that I might be able to buy these. As I was well acquainted with his Agent down at the locks since I worked down there, I approached him and he agreed to contact Captain Shaw and see what he could do for me.

He said I could have the whole for £110 which was fair enough. However the deeds show Captain Shaw paid £115 for the buildings. It took three years to demolish as they were old stone cottages. I used come off nights and set to work with the old barrow. Anyway I ran a good insurance policy for £800 and got the garden going and soon made another £800, although it took six years. The estimate for the bungalow, which was my own design, was £1700” .

Horace was one of the true characters of village life.

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE - *Just a reminder that the library van calls in the village every other Tuesday (except Bank Holidays) at approximately 9.10 am to 9.30 am. The van generally parks near The Old Plough, Main Street. 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 DECEMBER dates will be 3rd, 17th and 31st and JANUARY dates will be 14th & 28th.*

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL *The collection around the village raised £126.72. Well done.*

WHILTON & BUCKBY LOCKS ASSOCIATION

An association of friends and neighbours
along the Flight

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

JOIN NOW

*Social activities
Interesting speakers on local topics
Canal activities
Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
Monthly meetings
Lock flight improvements*

Subscription - £5 per Family, £10 per Business

For more information contact:
Mike Lewis, Chairman, 01327 842404
Shirley Eccles, 01327 842603

USED STAMPS

I am still collecting used stamps and have sent some to the **Save the Children Fund**.

Christmas is a time when we have more stamps and I would be very grateful if you would save them for me.

They can left in the porch by the back door.

Trudy Haynes.



BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full..

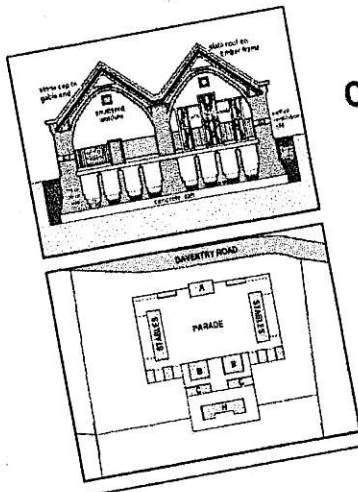
For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do..

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologise to you. I have been able to deliver only half of my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The bearer said to the pot, "did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I planted seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house." (Anon)

OUR LOCAL AUTHOR

Beryl has just published the book below which she has been working on since 1996. It is A4 format, has 140 pages and is illustrated throughout with drawings, tables, list etc. The Editors have purchased a copy which is very interesting and we hope there will be further interest and support within the parish.



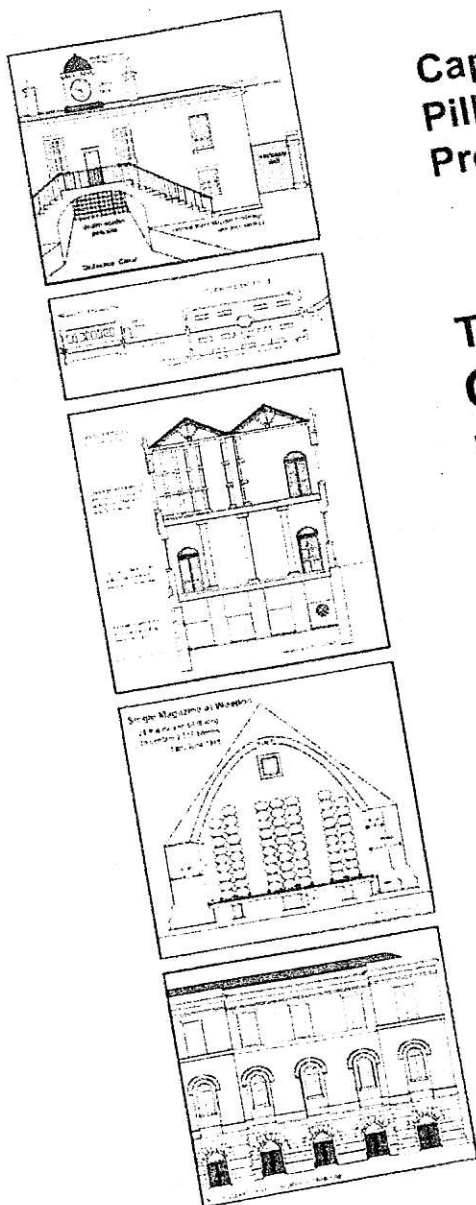
Captain Pilkington's Project 1804 to 1816

Robert Pilkington was a Captain in the Royal Engineers and his project to construct the Royal Depot in a small Northamptonshire village became known as the Great Works at Weedon.

It was the time of the Napoleonic Wars and the constant threat of invasion by the French had led to a decision to establish this huge Ordnance Depot at the very heart of England.

This book tells the story of how Captain Pilkington set about his task of planning the site, designing the buildings, estimating the costs, finding contractors and housing the workers.

The project included the building of a branch canal to serve armouries to receive 200 000 muskets, storerooms for the guns and equipment of 24 brigades of Field Artillery and magazines to be fitted with racks for 20 000 barrels of gunpowder. Barracks and stables for the officers, men and horses of a Troop of Horse Artillery were also built.



Captain Pilkington's Project

The GREAT WORKS at WEEDON 1804 to 1816

ISBN 0 9543448 0 4 £15

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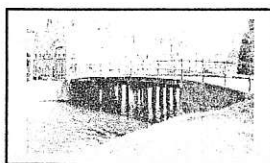
Beryl Williams

WHILTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - NOVEMBER MEETING

Nine members and three male guests attended this meeting.

Before the guests came in at 8.00 pm, members discussed the very disappointing response to the Table Top Sale held on 12th October in aid the Marie Curie Appeal and WI Funds. Hardly any village residents came, although each house had received a notice and a poster had been put on the noticeboard. It was decided to give the proceeds of the December raffle to the Marie Curie Fund.

Arrangements for Member's Night were discussed and Ros Gardner then gave details of her proposals for the next year's programme which was interesting and varied.



The Speaker for the evening was Mrs Thelma Powell who gave an unexpectedly different type of talk about her experiences sailing a small boat from Poole to Amsterdam by way of Flushing, Dordrecht and Haarlem. None of the members had been aware of the complicated timing needed to get under the railway bridges, road bridges and pedestrian crossings on the canals and were amazed at the intrepid energy and daring required which was helped by the friendliness of the Dutch people.

The raffle was won by Judith Fuller and refreshments provided by Trudie and Shirley and served by Shirley and Dorothy.

Frances Drake

A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SPINNEY TAKEN ABOUT 50 YEARS AGO FROM THE HILL ON ROUGHMOOR GROUNDS



WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

OCTOBER

1st Prize	067	R Hawkins	£40
2nd Prize	139	P Webster	£20
3rd Prize	185	G Heeley	£10

NOVEMBER

1st Prize	175	P Webster	£40
2nd Prize	149	R Sallet	£20
3rd Prize	046	S Fitzhugh	£10

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS



Whilton Neighbourhood Watch



There has been no reported crime in Whilton for the last two months

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 may invite a break-in. The advice is therefore to draw the curtains and leave other lights on when going out after dark.

Security is 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.

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

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

For any crime in progress telephone 999.

For information for the Police telephone 01327 303196 or 01327 300300

DFB (Acting Co-ordinator)

Summary of Events

Sun	1st	Dec	10.00 am	Benefice Eucharist and Licensing of Revd Derek Williams
Mon	2 nd	Dec	7.30 pm	WGA Annual Meeting and Social in village Hall
Tue	3 rd	Dec	9.10 am	Library van in village
Sat	7 th	Dec	2.00 pm	Christmas Market, St Andrew's Church
Sun	8th	Dec	4.00 pm	Christingle Service, St Andrew's Church
Wed	11th	Dec	7.30 pm	WI Meeting in Village Hall - Members Christmas Social
Tues	17th	Dec	9.10 am	Library van in village
Sun	22nd	Dec	6.00 pm	Carol Service in St Andrew's Church
Weds	25th	Dec	9.30 am	Family Holy Communion in St Andrew's Church
Sun	29th	Dec	2.00 pm	Spinney Working Party
Tues	31 st	Dec	9.10 am	Library van in village
Mon	6 th	Jan	8.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
Wed	8 th	Jan	7.30 pm	WI Meeting in village Hall
Tues	14th	Jan	9.10 am	Library van in village
Tues	21 st	Newsletter Deadline - Please hand in your contributions by this date or otherwise we cannot guarantee they will be included in the next edition		
Tues	28 th	Jan	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
Sara Meadows - Courtyard Barns, Manor Lane

We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children. Articles of local interest, poems, recipés, puzzles or drawings will always be considered for inclusion in the Newsletter.

It would be most helpful to the Editors if regular contributors to the newsletter would consider submitting their article, if preparing on a PC, via a disk (saved to floppy disk A/drive) or by email (saraspicer@lineone.net) or (shirdek@btopenworld.com) For those who do not have this facility please produce articles as they have done in the past.

Any contributions to the newsletter by the deadline date, please. to any of the above Editors.