

Roughness



WHILTON NEWSLETTER



A NIGHT OF MIRACLES
BY
THE CANTARE SINGERS

DECEMBER 2006 & JANUARY 2007

Christmas began in Whilton this year with the performance in Whilton Church on Friday, 24th November.

The atmosphere in the church was very welcoming and the singing was superb. The soloists were especially good

Seasonal refreshments were available in the interval.

The second part of the concert contained many well known carols and Christmas songs and the audience were invited to sing along too.

Despite the damp weather, everyone had an enjoyable evening.

Thanks to Andrew's Church Whilton Social Committee for organising this event.



NEWS FROM ALL AROUND THE PARISH



A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A VERY HAPPY NEW
YEAR TO EVERY ONE IN
WHILTON PARISH

- In this issue**
- Parish News
 - Church News
 - Whilton Gardeners' Assoc.
 - Whilton Photographic club
 - Neighbourhood Watch
 - Reports of past & details of future events
 - Whilton Parish Plan
 - Puzzles & a Quiz

Whilton Photographic Club



The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 13th December** in the village hall when we will review our considerable progress in 2006 and plan for 2007.

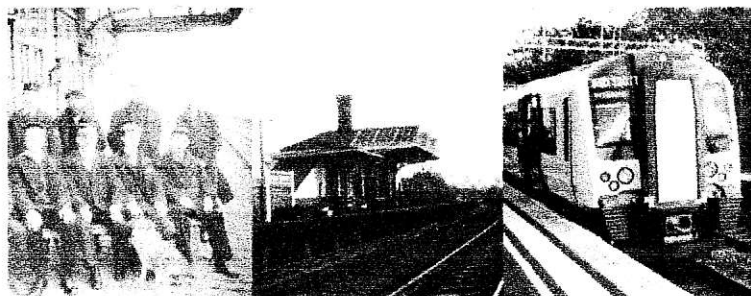
For further information please contact **Neil Phillips** on **01327 844182**



**The AGM and the Christmas Social will take place on
Monday 4th December at 7.30 pm in the village hall.**

For further details or information about joining this successful club, please contact **Teresa Leadbetter (Chairman)** on **843988**.

Long Buckby Station – 125th Anniversary



2007 CALENDAR

Commemorating 125 years of Long Buckby station

To highlight the need to upgrade Long Buckby station and mark the 125th anniversary of passenger services, which started on 1st December 1881, Long Buckby and Daventry Area Rail Users' Group has produced a 2007 calendar.

The calendar includes a selection of photographs of the station from the days of the L&NWR through to the new Desiro trains, together with a brief history. The photographs show that, in marked contrast with the facilities provided by the original station, today's rail traveller is faced with a basic Portakabin ticket office and exposed platform shelters.

With major development of the nearby town of Daventry forming part of the overall plan for West Northamptonshire, the West Midlands franchise specification includes Long Buckby in the new London-Crewe Trent Valley service and provides 2 trains per hour to Birmingham. These service developments will re-instate regular through travel to London, provide new direct journey opportunities to the north-west and strengthen links to the West Midlands.

The group are keen to explore how joint involvement of franchise operator, local authorities and developers could provide much needed improvements to the station and local transport links.

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1. The calendar contains 12 black and white photographs and a 3 page history. It is priced at £4.75 (plus £1.25 post and packing) and is available from:

LBDARUG
Wharfdale, Long Buckby Wharf,
Long Buckby,
Northamptonshire,
NN6 7PP
Tel: 01327 842917

2. Profits from the sale of the calendar will initiate a fund for station improvements.
3. The rail users' group was formed in July 2001 in response to concerns about the impact of the West Coast project on the future of Long Buckby station and the need for communication with train operators about a range of service and station issues.

The main objectives of the group are to campaign for improvements to the service and facilities at Long Buckby station. Profits from the sale of this calendar will initiate a fund for station improvements.

Public meetings are held approximately four times a year. These meetings are open to all rail users, individuals and organisations with an interest in Long Buckby station (contact details as above)

PARISH MATTERS NOVEMBER 2006

The meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 13th November began with a sad and shocked note, as Councillors heard of the sudden death of our County Councillor Richard Amos. The members of the Council expressed their appreciation of the work of Councillor Amos, who attended our meetings regularly, was always ready with his experience and advice, gave support to the Parish Council and also had time for individual parishioners and their problems. It was agreed to send a message of sympathy to Mrs Wendy Amos.



FINANCE

Finance was an important issue in this meeting as Councillors began to consider the budget for the year 2007/8. This will be finalized at the January meeting, when a decision will be made about the precept for next year. £333 was paid out at this meeting and income of £3016 was recorded. This includes the second half of the precept (£2250) and a grant of £724 towards the expenses involved in the Parish Design Statement. The Parish Council has provided £250 for this.

The regular expenses can be expected to increase a little next year, but decisions still have to be taken about the projects for 2007/8. After some discussion it was agreed to make the final decisions on the budget for the following items at the meeting in January, when the precept will be set.



STREET LIGHTS

The light on the Green is fixed to an old concrete standard which belongs to Central Networks. We will try to find if they are able to replace it and whether they would allow a street light to be attached to a new standard. With this information a decision can be made about whether the Parish Council needs to erect a new separate lighting column there.

Councillors have also been looking at the possibility of installing a new light near the telephone box at the Locks. If this is going ahead, the budget will be decided in January.

Last year the Parish Council had hoped to provide a new seat near Hilltop but because of dwindling reserves it was decided to postpone this. There are certain maintenance jobs to budget for, including preservation of the notice board and painting seats. There is also the suggestion to move the seat on the Green to a better position. In January Councillors hope to make some decisions about this.



SEATS AND NOTICE BOARDS

THE SPINNEY



The Spinney Management Group depend heavily on the Parish Council grant for basic outgoings, such as insurance and tree work. The Parish Council has received a request for £450, and a covering letter with a list of works required in the Spinney. Councillors considered that these necessary works would exceed the amount being requested in the grant. It was agreed to ask the Management Group to produce a year plan before January, as it may be necessary to increase the grant considerably.

PLANNING

There were no planning applications to consider, but Mike Lewis, the Chairman, explained that the NCC traffic assessment with reference to the growth of Daventry has now arrived several months late at the DDC and is in fact a consultation document. The survey includes the area from Daventry up to Norton, but not Whilton, and he suggested that we should request Whilton be included as part of the response to the consultation.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT UPDATE

Philip Waights reported on the successful forum held on 23rd September and attended by nearly 50 people, the disappointment being that there was no one from the Locks. The returns have now been analysed.

Mike Lewis has prepared the Village Design Statement Scoping Report, with 18 objectives for sustainability, and he proposed that this should now be submitted as a draft to the DDC.

Beryl Williams asked that it should be recorded that she was impressed by all the work put into the forum by the Parish Plan Team, and how well it had been presented. The whole team was thanked by the Parish Council

THE ALLOTMENTS

Mike Lewis, the Chairman, reported that the new lease is now once more in the hands of the DDC solicitors, Hewitsons, but that it appears that there are still some queries and amendments not yet agreed.

Mike will continue to follow this up.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Councillors had been concerned at hearing rumours of changes to Champion School catchment area. This was investigated by Mike Lewis and Penny Price and as a result the Chairman was able to read out a written denial of this from the NCC.

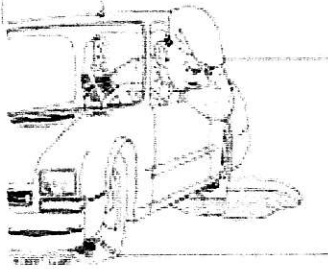
ROADS, TRANSPORT AND SAFETY

Increasing traffic

There was discussion again about the dangers on the Red Route from Whilton Locks to Sandy Lane, where another death had occurred. The Clerk was asked to contact the Accident Reduction Unit, as Councillors consider there is a need for more clear white lining on the route. It was also pointed out that the word "SLOW" has not yet been painted on the bend at the top of the village.

Greg Lye suggested we should make contact with Brington in order to arrange a joint meeting about increasing traffic and dangers on this route.

Road Maintenance



Mike Lewis reported on the visit by the NCC/Atkins representative. Maintenance and not safety issues were considered, but the Councillors who attended this visit felt it had been helpful.

Some overgrowth will be cut back, the potholes on the M1 bridge will be repaired, although they are less than the required depth, and the dipped curb by the notice board will be replaced.

THE GREEN

The meeting to discuss registration on 7th November had been cancelled. Having received further information from the Open Spaces Society it was agreed to continue with our application to register the Green by responding to the legal opinion obtained by the NCC. Beryl Williams offered to obtain a few more statements about the use of the western side of the Green, and the Clerk will take a photo of the 1860 map in the Record Office, as advised. It was agreed that the Clerk will send these documents and the opinion from the Open Spaces Society, as our response to the NCC.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Once again there is to be a DDC Christmas tree recycling scheme and it was agreed that the collection point for Whilton should be the Green, as last year.

Please watch the notice board for details after Christmas.



THE JANUARY MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall on Monday 8th January 2007.

Members of the public are always welcome to attend these meetings.

Anthea Hiscock
Clerk to the Parish Council

Guide Dogs – Puppy Walker Update

6 months



8 weeks



Bebe my current Guide dog puppy is now 6 months old, she is a very sweet little dog, a little bit stubborn at times (this is the retriever in her) but once she is working she is quite keen to learn.

She walks well on the lead and is very calm in shops and at the train station. We have been on a bus and on the ferry across the river at Stratford. All this was taken calmly as if she had been there before,

She is very friendly, as you will know if you have met her in the field! We recently went to Norfolk for a long weekend and she thought everyone on the beach was her friend, she loved the sea and was fascinated by the seagulls.

Penny is her best friend and plays very happily with her in the garden, Penny is extremely tolerant with her; she lets her get away with murder. Bebe helps Kerry in the garden too, she knew the Dahlias needed lifting even though it was a few weeks early and she left a huge hole around them too. I assume the lawn is meant to have large holes in it as well!

On the whole I am very pleased with her progress to date.

Jean Davies

New Year's Eve Safari Supper

Leave the car at home this New Year's Eve and join us for a safari supper in the village.

Following supper it's back to the village hall for dancing and to see in the New Year with a glass of champagne.

Admission will be strictly by ticket

The evening will start in the village hall with a drink at which point you will be given your destinations for the evening. Following supper we'll meet back in the village hall for dancing and to see in the New Year with a glass of champagne.



You must be prepared to host at least one of the three supper courses in your home. This will be for up to six people including yourself and should include drinks. You'll be advised in advance which course you are to provide.

This is non fund raising event and is open to everyone in the village. The ticket cost will be advised when we have an idea of numbers (to cover hall hire, licence, decorations, drinks and nibbles).

If you haven't already done so, please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to join in.

Call me on 843988 or e-mail newyear@tlc-uk.co.uk if you have any further queries.

Teresa Leadbetter



SMILE PLEASE



Be Warned of a Woman Scorned

A married couple is driving along a highway doing a steady 40 miles per hour. The wife is behind the wheel. Her husband suddenly looks across at her and speaks in a clear voice: "I know we've been married for twenty years, but I want a divorce."

The wife says nothing, keeps looking at the road ahead but slowly increases her speed to 45 mph.

The husband speaks again. "I don't want you to try and talk me out of it," he says, "because I've been having an affair with your best friend -and she's a far better lover than you are."

Again the wife stays quiet, but grips the steering wheel more tightly and slowly increases the speed to 55mph

He pushes his luck. "I want the house," he says insistently. Up to 60 mph.

"I want the car, too," he continues. 65 mph.

"And," he says, "I'll have the bank accounts, all the credit cards and the boat!"

The car slowly starts veering towards a massive concrete bridge. This makes him nervous, so he asks her, "Isn't there anything you want?"

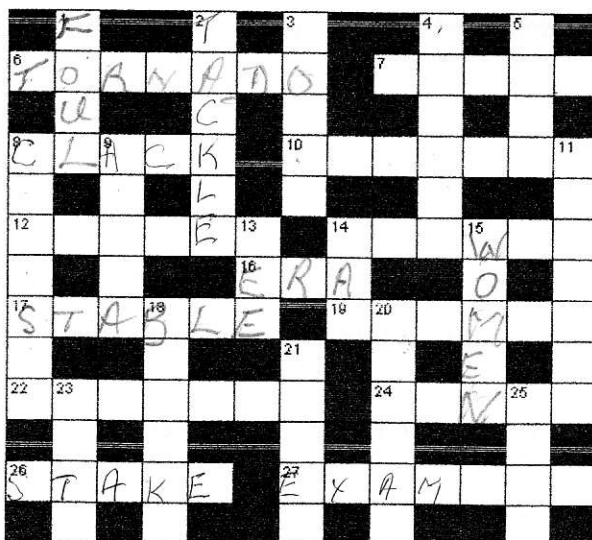
The wife at last replies in a quiet and controlled voice, "No, I've got everything I need."

"Oh, really?" he inquires. "So what have you got?"

Just before they slam into the wall at 65 mph, the wife turns to him and smiles:

"The airbag."

CROSSWORD



Across

- 6. Violent whirlwind (7)
- 7. Throw (5)
- 8. Slight sharp sound (5)
- 10. Trickle (7)
- 12. Spice (6)
- 14. ?-newydd, near Ruthin (6)
- 16. Period of history (3)
- 17. Horse pen (6)
- 19. Book of elementary principles (6)
- 22. Very long (7)
- 24. Attractive (5)
- 26. Bet (5)
- 27. Typical (7)

Down

- 1. Chicken (4)
- 2. Equipment for fishing (6)
- 3. Given to moods (5)
- 4. Irrational fear (6)
- 5. Kilocalorie (4)
- 8. Contemptuous (7)
- 9. Bury (5)
- 11. Approaching old age (7)
- 13. Jelly (3)
- 14. No Clue
- 15. Females (5)
- 18. Person who rigs (6)
- 20. Infectious disease of dogs (6)
- 21. Subsidiary law (5)
- 23. Son of Isaac and Rebekah (4)
- 25. Near (4)

BRAIN TEASERS

Which word, if pronounced right, is wrong, but if pronounced wrong is right?

Answers on Page 15

Whilton Village Hall 200 Club Draw

OCTOBER 2006

1 st Prize	178	P Webster	£40
2 nd Prize	184	G Haynes	£20
3 rd Prize	011	J Patching	£10

NOVEMBER 2006

1 st Prize	088	P Bennett	£40
2 nd Prize	197	T Price	£20
3 rd Prize	056	L Tibbs	£10

DECEMBER 2006

1 st Prize	191	G Haynes	£40
2 nd Prize	149	R Sallet	£20
3 rd Prize	003	J Fisher	£10

Congratulations to all

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

VISITS WHILTON EVERY THIRD TUESDAY AND STOPS OUTSIDE THE OLD PLOUGH, MAIN STREET AT 9.15 AM UNTIL 9.30 AM.

THE DATE FOR DECEMBER 2006 IS 5TH AND FOR JANUARY 2007 IT IS 16TH

Nonsense Rhymes

There was a young man from Nepal
Who went to a fancy dress ball
He thought he would risk it
And dressed as a biscuit
And a dog ate him up in the hall
.....

There once was a bay horse called "Willy"
Who quite fell in love with a filly
They sang a strange tune,
by the light of the moon
The others all thought they were silly.
.....

There once was a pony called "Sky"
Who found she could jump very high
She carried a Bevin,
and nearly reached heaven
And nobody knows how, or why.
.....

There was a young lady called "Lizzy"
Who spun round and made herself dizzy .
She felt really bad
and tripped up her dad,
So they fell to the ground in a tizzy.
.....

There was an old person of Fife,
Who was greatly disgusted with life
They sang him a Ballad,
and feed him on salad
Which cured that old person for life.
.....

Some of these are by Joan Davies :
others Anon.



POPPY APPEAL

I am pleased to report that this year's collection raised **£199-03**.

Many thanks to all those who gave so generously to this year's appeal.

This year the wreath was laid at the Remembrance Service by Captain Ian Church late of the Northamptonshire Yeomanry.

Philip Waights

Brington & Whilton Pre-School

The children of Pre-School have been busy looking at Opposites last term and this term is looking at Our Senses. We have been out in the village for walks, making cakes, smelling different foods, tasting foods, some nice, some not so nice. We have had a visit from the Firemen and are practising for our Christmas event.

We again take this opportunity to invite you all to our Christmas service at Whilton Church on Friday 15th December 2006 at 10.30am and back to the Village hall for Coffee and Mince Pies. The children enjoy singing for the parents and it would be good to see people from the villages supporting the youngsters.

If you would like more information or would like to visit please do not hesitate to contact me, Jenny Holman on 01604 770083.



ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY



A successful Working Party was held on Sunday afternoon 15th October 2006. The pond was cleared and also the play/picnic area was tidied and increased in area.

Spinney Management committee

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

The external hand rail has now been fitted and this completes our programme for work that can be reasonably carried out to comply with the Disabilities Discrimination Act 1995.

SECRETARY URGENTLY REQUIRED – the duties are minimal and we generally only meet four times a year.

Village Hall Management Committee

SEE BELOW A QUIZ WHERE ALL THE ANSWERS ARE FLOWERS (WILD & GARDEN)

1. From Amsterdam? ...
- 2 Young; horse's hoof
3. Loved by Echo
4. Seen after stoking the fire.
5. Erica
6. CHARM SHY MUNTE
7. They seek him here, they seek him there, those Frenchies seek him everywhere
8. ...for Remembrance
9. Sounds like a girl has an arithmetical total. ..., , , " ,
10. A lonely one in an onion patch.
11. Wife of 7.
12. A bovine error
- 13 Female's indoor footwear
14. Emblem of Scotland.
15. Miss Hampshire has a bruised organ of sight
16. Nourish on sweetness from the hive
17. Mr Jekyll's other half with a park keeper? '.
18. Paschal Miss Langtry .
- 19 A strange Miss Langtry
20. The Butterfly Bush.
21. NAME MUMMY'S BERTH
22. Wed 24 carat?
23. Fetch with vee replacing eff,..
- 24 Dear Mr Tell
- 25 A green herb, used with onion in stuffing;
- 26 This one grows as high as our solar system's star.
27. Part of the eye.
28. A space, insect, hot with you and me.
29. A scarlet victor loses his aitch..
30. This will take you off into space.
- 31 .Remember me
32. It's blue. Dilly, Dilly.
33. A musical instrument.
34. The bird incites
35. A sad ringer.
36. Mrs Bucket.
37. A strike breaker has debts.
- 38 Truthfulness.
- 39 Capital conceit.
40. A NUN CURLS U
41. Got up.
42. A short giant reptile get you and me in the end
- 43 Timber frame with holes for feet, once used to confine petty offenders in public.
44. A prudish 41
45. Magnificence before noon.
- 46.. A prickly German Wine.
47. Looks sweet on a bicycle made for two
48. Elizabeth is always on the go.
49. Go fast in good health
50. The second unknown joins a weapon shot from a bow
51. GUINEA OVA BILL
- 52 A hand warmer for Reynard
53. It flowers on the 29th of September.
54. Economical management.
55. Its bright red bracts make it a popular pot-plant at Christmas

**An answer sheet will be available from Shirley & Derek Brown, Cherry Orton, Main Street
Price £1 – proceeds to Roughmoor Spinney Funds**

Moot Hall Daventry – The Review

I arrived slightly late in meeting my wife and friends at the Moot Hall Indian Restaurant in Daventry, the latest incarnation of this listed building that has been searching after modern purpose for several years. No time then to investigate the downstairs bar but the small reception area was perhaps an ill-considered afterthought with heavy modern leather chairs creating obstacles to passage, rather than invitation to social relaxation.

Wednesday nights are not the busiest time obviously but there was a decent hum of atmosphere on reaching the first floor and five or six busy tables in a single room-sized room, rather than restaurant-sized room, created a welcome that might easily be dissipated on quieter nights by the lofty ceilings. The whole comprises a number of separate rooms that can be used or shut off as trade demands, a happy benefit no doubt insisted upon by planners.

A short wine list but with Kingfisher lager on tap meeting the needs of several of us, there were no complaints. Staff were reasonably attentive: no need to rush but available when needed. The menu included a number of dishes none of these curry-eating veterans had seen before, so here was the

opportunity to try something completely new. My choice was Chicken Kamasutra (sorry, couldn't resist) and it truly did reveal to me the delight of the Perfumed Garden; and it's fruity.

Quality and variety were fine, if a little underspiced for some tastes, despite a special request from one constipated diner for extra chilli in the Murgh Masallam. Certainly this was well up to standard and the noticeable use of fresh herbs and spices suggested this wasn't just a kitchen relying on pre-mixed pastes for its sauces. And the nan, both plain and Peshwari were outstanding:

not the common texture of moist cardboard but surface-crisp from the Tandoor and with a light dusting of something spicy that caught the taste-buds by surprise. (Sorry to ruin that surprise for future diners...) We still ended up with a surfeit of nan because we had not clocked and were not reminded that the balti dish came with its own.

And there has to be a special recommendation for the lamb dishes too. The meat was particularly lean and tender and quite the most delightful nibble from someone else's plate I have had for a long time. Try it in whatever sauce takes your fancy.

An unresearched quest for the Gents was a challenge, leaving me at one stage fearful of meeting the Minotaur round the next corner. But re-emerging from the labyrinth at the head of the stairs still unsatisfied and resuming the search on the ground floor, relief was eventually found in the Disabled facility – which was nothing short of sumptuous and thoroughly to be recommended. Colleagues found no such difficulty on the first floor so perhaps I had been overtaken by the usual hex that prevents me from finding car park spaces whilst others strike lucky every time. Actually *anyone* will find plenty of parking immediately outside this restaurant – even those sharing my parking inadequacy.

Will we go back? Yes, I am sure. And not just to test a companion's experience of getting a complimentary bottle of house red for saying they had been before and brought some friends back this time.



WHILTON PARISH PLAN TEAM

OPEN FORUM REPORT

The public forum advertised to all parish residents was held on Saturday the 23rd September in the Whilton Village Hall. It was attended by about 50 residents all of whom were invited to submit written comments on the key topics identified by the group and for which 'prompts' had been prepared. Twenty six were received, some on a joint basis. Others took the papers away for completion and anyone else wishing to offer their views can still obtain sets of papers from me or any members of the team. Whilton Locks was not represented except by Group member, Mike Lewis, although all homes had been circulated.

An analysis of the returns so far received show 137 separate points of view.

In so far as services were concerned there was support for the view that:-

- (a) A more reliable electricity supply was required.
- (b) Reliable broadband was required.
- (c) No mobile phone masts should be erected.
- (d) Overhead lines should be placed underground.

In so far as traffic was concerned that:-

- (a) Thought traffic in Whilton Village should be prevented.
- (b) Speed through the village should be controlled.
- (c) Heavy vehicles though the village should be banned.
- (d) The A5/Nobottle Road was a cause for concern.
- (e) The Nobottle Road was dangerous.

On the question of employment the views having support were:-

- (a) Whilton Village should remain a dormitory village.
- (b) No new employment in the village was required.
- (c) Working from home should be encouraged.

The topic on buildings and open spaces attracted 31 different comments with several in support of:-

- (a) Preserving existing views.
- (b) The area around the Church and Wadds Close was important
- (c) The need to preserve stone and thatched buildings.
- (d) The need to keep the allotments area open.
- (e) There were divided opinions on solar panels and wind turbines. Some thought that they were alright and others that one or other was not acceptable.

In so far as Parish Landscape was concerned residents were of much the same mind:-

- (a) Retain the existing boundaries between the built up area and the countryside.
- (b) Roughmore Spinney was important in the landscape.
- (c) Protect Trees and hedges. Walls were less frequently mentioned.
- (d) The importance of the surrounding countryside.
- (e) Preserve existing views.

With regard to village layout and housing there were conflicting views:-

- (a) There were sixteen prepared to accept limited housing but they could be summarised as very restricted infill.
- (b) Six wanted to see no new development at all.
- (c) Ten wanted views protected.
- (d) Only two mentioned the need for small dwellings

In addition to the views summarised above there were a number of individual comments which will need to be followed up eg Safe footpath between the Village and the Locks.

The team will now be seeking opportunities to meet local organisations to canvas group views. Alternatively you may like to comment on the results of the consultation to date.

The team are also looking to strengthen the group with additional members, especially from the Locks.

Philip Waight. Team Chairman.
Kunda Cottage,
Brington Lane,
Whilton. Tel.01327842431.



Don't Tempt the Christmas Criminal

Police across the county are reminding motorists not to tempt the Christmas criminals by being careless with their shopping.

It is easy to forget about the normal security steps that should be taken during the hustle and bustle of Christmas shopping, but it's also the time of year when shoppers are buying more goods and more valuable items.

Now police are reminding people not to bring packages back to the car and set off shopping again – thieves know that people do this and could well be watching out for a likely target.

Northampton Community Safety Officer Kate Wright said: "At this time of year people will often take things they have bought back to their vehicles and then carry on to do more shopping – it might be convenient but just don't be tempted.



"Thefts from cars can be prevented simply by people taking all property with them on leaving their vehicle. Our advice is simple - don't leave items on display and don't lock them in your boot either, as this is an obvious hiding place that criminals are well aware of.

"Our advice is always 'Check, Remove, Secure' - Check that you have not left any belongings in your vehicle. If you have, remove them, and then secure the vehicle by locking doors, windows and the boot."

In Northampton, people are advised to park in the Park Mark car parks, which are accredited as having numerous security features. There are nine car parks in Northampton that have the Park Mark, an award that is issued by the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Shoppers are also reminded not to let crime ruin their festivities at home as Northamptonshire Police issue their annual advice to help beat the Christmas burglar.

With the festive holidays just around the corner the seasonal warning comes at a time of year when domestic burglaries often rise as burglars target homes they believe will be full of presents.

As part of their Christmas message, officers are reminding residents to keep security a priority over the festivities and remove all temptation out of sight from prying eyes as all valuables are a gift to a burglar - not just the ones beautifully wrapped.

A lapse in security is the perfect gift for a burglar, who will only be too happy to take the opportunity to help themselves to your property, in particular small

portable items such as electrical goods, jewellery, bags, money and of course, car keys.

Special operations are currently running across the Force to clampdown on burglaries, which have been supported by both high-visible and covert patrols and the use of the Mobile Police Station, where people can pick up crime prevention advice.

Daventry Community Safety Officer Mick Downing said: "Burglars know there are rich pickings to be had at this time of year as many houses are stuffed full of presents and because it is dark so early burglars can easily spot when someone is not home."

Community Safety Officers from across the Force have urged residents to take simple steps to ensure their property stays safe during the festivities, which includes:

- Don't keep Christmas presents under the tree, keep them out of sight of prying eyes and away from windows
- Keep any hard-earned cash you have saved for the festive season in the bank for as long as possible rather than at home
- Keep your purse or wallet out of pickpocket reach
- Never leave belongings unattended in fitting rooms
- Always use available alarm systems, even during the night
- Make good use of security lights, both inside and outside of your property and make sure they are in good working order
- If you think you will be returning home after dark install a timer on an inside light to automatically switch on at dusk and welcome you home. A house in darkness is an open invitation to burglars
- Don't put empty boxes from expensive electrical or other Christmas presents outside your home, keep them stored in a safe place until the refuse collectors are due to call
- Make sure all doors and windows are secure, especially downstairs, and place small portable items such as handbags, wallets, keys and mobile phones in a secure place when you go to bed
- Finally mark all new property with your postcode - if you need advice call your local Community Safety Department.

Anyone who notices suspicious activity around property or anyone with information about burglary is asked to call Northamptonshire Police on 08453 700700 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. Why not make it your new year's resolution to join or set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in YOUR area? **Call 08453 700 700 and ask to speak to your local co-ordinator.**



Our Rector - Rev Chris Goble works from Brington Rectory and can be contacted on 01604 774042 or E-mail chris@spencerbenefice.freeserve.co.uk

There is a book on my shelves called "Scrooge's Guide to Christmas: a survival manual for the festively challenged" written by Richard Wilson (who played Victor Meldrew). There are wonderful lines in it including "Christmas, for many of us, is that time of year when people get all emotional over the family ties – especially if they have to wear them".

Then there follows advice about dealing with presents, entertaining, family and other areas of stress through the Christmas season. Christmas can be one of the most stressful times during the year – your Mother in law offering more

sprouts, pretending to like the present your relatives gave you, convincing your children that Grandma's knitted jumper will fit in a few years and look very smart.

But should stress be one of the most associated words with Christmas? Let me introduce another word. Incarnation. Jesus is born, but not just another baby 2000 years ago; God enters into our world as a human, taking on what it means to be us, Incarnation means God made man, so we as humanity can have a close knowledge of God and his purposes for our world.

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

DECEMBER 2006

3RD	10.00 AM	BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT BRAMPTON
10TH	4.00 PM	CHRISTINGLE
17TH	6.00 PM	CAROL SERVICE
25TH	9.15 AM	FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION
31ST	11.00 AM	SUNG EUCHARIST

CHURCH NEWS

The **PET BLESSING** service held in October was again an enjoyable and successful occasion. During the service a variety of pets – dogs, kitten, hamster, guinea pig, rabbit and soft furry toy animals (belonging to the very young members) were paraded to the chancel step where they received a blessing from the Revd. Chris. Thank you Chris for this special service.

The **CHRISTINGLE CELEBRATION** will be held on Sunday 10th December at 4.00 pm. Do come along and support this service which is held in aid of the Children's Society. The collection at this service is sent to the Society for work in connection with deprived children in the UK.

Our **CAROL SERVICE** will be held on Sunday 17th December at 6.00 pm and we hope the numbers will be high to swell the singing.

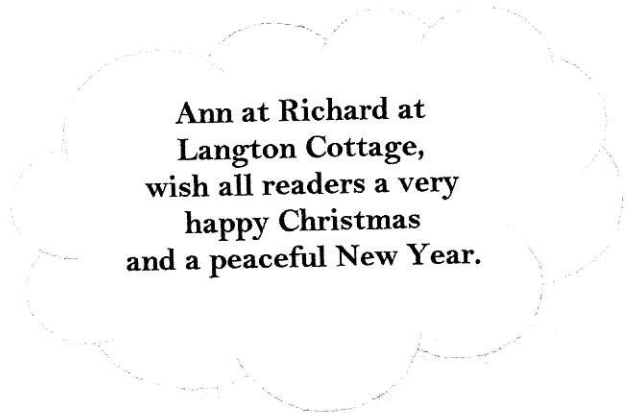
Leisure

*What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the bows,
And stare as long as sheep and cows.*

*No time to see, when woods we pass,
Were squirrels hide, their nuts in grass
No time to see in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like ships at night.
No time to turn at beauty's glance,
And watch here feet, how they can dance.*

*No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this, if full of care
We have no time to stand and stare.*

By W. H. Davies



Ann at Richard at
Langton Cottage,
wish all readers a very
happy Christmas
and a peaceful New Year.

Whilton Local History Society

The next meeting will be in the Village Hall
at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 18th January

Rivals, rogues and real estate:
A story of medieval Whilton

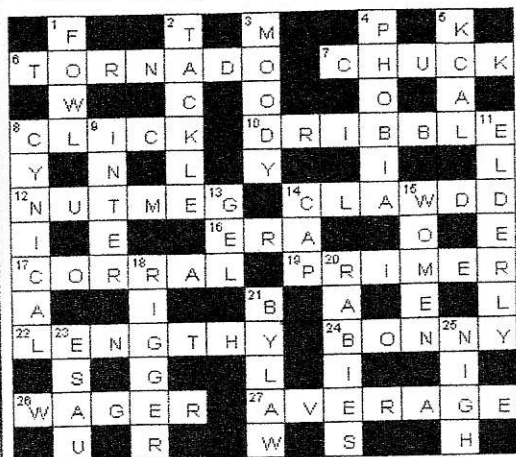
Watch the notice board for details!

Answers to Crossword

BRAIN TEASERS

Which word, if pronounced right, is wrong,
but if pronounced wrong is right?

Answer "Wrong"



Recipe -The Humble Beetroot Goat's cheese & Walnut Salad

- 1 or 2 cooked beetroot cut into thin strips
- 2 apples cut into thin strips
- 4 thick slices of goat's cheese
- salad leaves of your choice
- walnut halves
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- salt & pepper

Mix the beetroot and apple strips, season and reserve.
Glaze the cheese under a very hot grill.

Arrange the salad leaves in the centre of four plates, top
with the beetroot and apple mixture. Scatter the walnuts
around the salad and drizzle with the combined balsamic
and olive oil. Top with the glazed goat's cheese and serve
immediately

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Mon	4th	Dec	7.30 pm	WGA - in the Village Hall- Social & AGM
Tues	5th	Dec	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Sun	10 th	Dec	4.00 pm	Christingle in St Andrew's church
Fri	15 th	Dec	10.30 am	Pre- School Christmas Service in St Andrew's church
Wed	13 th	Dec	7.30 am	Whilton Photographic Club AGM in Village Hall
Sun	17 th	Dec	6.00 pm	Carol Service in St Andrew's Church
Mon	25 th	Dec	9.15 am	Christmas Family Holy Communion
Sun	31 st	Dec	pm	New Year's Eve Safari Supper ending in the village hall
Mon	8 th	Jan 2007	8.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
Tues	16 th	Jan	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Thurs	18 th	Jan	7.30 pm	Whilton Local History Society in Village Hall - 'Rivals Rogues and Real Estate'
Fri	19 th	Jan		<u>Newsletter Deadline for February</u>– Please hand in your contribution well before this date or otherwise we cannot guarantee it will be included in the next edition

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. - 01327 842968
E-mail – shirdek@btopenworld.com

We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children

Please supply a disk with your contribution if possible so that we can manipulate the text to fit if necessary. If you do not have a PC or typewriter the editors will type the articles as we have always done in the past.

Articles of local interest, poems, recipes, puzzles or drawings will always be considered for inclusion in the Newsletter.