

Whilton

Winter Newsletter



December 2017 - February 2018

DECEMBER 2017 – FEBRUARY 2018

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Whilton Newsletter has been published in a form similar to this since autumn 1987, just over 30 years. The drawing of old Whilton on the cover was first produced in a spring edition for 1988.

The village was a younger community then and perhaps there were fewer expectations of the older residents. The January copy for 1988 contains the following anonymous poem:

*The old rocking chair is empty today
For Grandma is no longer in it.
She's off in her car to visit or shop
And buzzes around every minute.*

*No one can shove Grandma back on the shelf
She is versatile, forceful, dynamic.
That's not a pie in the oven, my dear,
Her baking today is "ceramic".*

*You won't see her trundle off early to bed
From her place in a warm chimney nook,
Her typewriter clickerty- clacks through the night,
For Grandma is writing a book.*

*Grandma never takes a hesitant step
To slow her steady advancing.
She won't tend the babies for you any more,
For Grandma has taken up dancing!*

*She's not content with the crumbs of old thoughts,
With meagre and second-hand knowledge.
Don't bring your mending for Grandma to do,
For Grandma has gone back to college!*

Busy retired parishioners of Whilton in 2017-18 may recognise elements of this 1988 Grandma!

We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Editors

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Whilton Parish Council have once again had a busy period working for the Parish to try and make this a better place for all. So what have we been up to?

- **Whilton and Whilton Locks E-Mail Distribution List.**

I put this point first because there appears to be a lot of confusion over what this is for, and how it will operate. On the Parish Council, we became aware of some important issues that would benefit from a quick widespread distribution and notification to the Parish, rather than waiting for the quarterly Newsletter. For example, a recent notification came through from the PCSO warning of thefts from vehicles in the surrounding areas, which was then notified to those already on the Parish e-mail distribution list. The notification of the recent defibrillator training course in the Village Hall was also initially notified in this way. The list is set up in such a way that only the Parish Council Clerk can see the e-mail addresses, and the Clerk will be the only one able to send any e-mails using the list. Hence, there is no danger of SPAM or misuse. When e-mails are sent out, no-one will be able to see anyone else's e-mail address. Other Parishes also operate such lists for notification to their Parishioners. If you are interested in being added to the list for the Parish, please send your e-mail address to clerk@whiltonpc.co.uk.

- **Allotments.**

The Parish Council are in the process of purchasing the Whilton Allotments from the Daventry District Council, thereby owning them outright for the Parish, and protecting the land from future development. This has been a very troubled and protracted process, which needed to go up to the Secretary of State for agreement. But the costs have now been agreed, and the solicitors for both sides are busy finalising the paperwork and contracts. However, a slight hurdle that was identified in drawing up the agreements is the ownership of the ramp area outside No 9 Main Street, which is used by allotment holders to get up onto the allotments and is a separate ownership to the allotments. Hence, the Parish Council is now pursuing to secure legal permission to use this small portion of land.

- **Broadband.**

Faster broadband is coming to Whilton albeit a little slowly.

- **Northamptonshire Superfast Broadband Project.** Part of the government's initiative to roll out Superfast Broadband to rural areas. Their website with the latest details is here: <http://www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net> which will give the latest news on the venture. The project is being run in 3 phases. Phases 1 and 2 were completed by BT. Phase 3 (the actual rollout) has been awarded to Gigaclear to complete.

- **Gigaclear.** Hopefully you will have heard of Gigaclear, who **WILL** be coming to the Parish and provide superfast broadband by end of 2018. Full details at www.gigaclear.com. For those of you have already registered interest on their website, you should have recently received a card in the post detailing their plans and details for the Phase 3 roll out. The plan is that they will install a fibre network through the Parish between now and the end of 2018, and each resident can then opt to be connected directly to that fibre network if required (fibre to the home) to provide a much faster broadband speed. They provide a variety of packages and speeds of 50Mbps up to 1000Mbps. Of note, it is also worth while to register your interest on the site to try to give the Parish more precedence to get connected sooner.
- **Other Broadband Options Being Considered.**
 - **BT.** We are continuing our efforts to try to have a BT fibre enabled cabinet installed on the green in Whilton, which will hopefully provide an alternative to Gigaclear. We have already provided a small list of addresses and speeds to BT to consider. However, this is a low priority for BT since we are seen as already being connected to a fibre broadband network (albeit only to the exchange in Long Buckby), and hence satisfy their, and the Government's initiative to have everyone connected to fibre broadband. That all said, if enough interest is gathered from the Parish by BT, it will push the initiative towards the top of their list. Hence, anyone in the Parish interested should register their details on their website here: www.communityfibre.openreach.co.uk/northamptonshire
 - **SugarNet.** Another option being considered is a satellite based system, and one such provider who has approached myself is SugarNet. Again, discussions are being held with this company to see what they can offer.
- **Community Speedwatch.**

You may have recently noticed that an unruly band of local residents managed to obtain police speed guns to monitor and record traffic speeds through the village. Most of the feedback from the residents was very positive, where the team were led by Mark Thomas from the Parish Council. The exercise proved to be a great success and yielded some very interesting results. Mark has written a separate article about the findings later in this Newsletter.
- **Defibrillators.**

You will be aware that the Parish Council (PC) have purchased two defibrillators, and these are now mounted and ready for use. Located in a metal yellow box, one is outside the Village Hall in Whilton, the other is on the wall next to the BT phone box on the canal bridge in Whilton Locks. Each cabinet is locked with a code, which can be obtained from the emergency services when you dial 999. The Council have also distributed an 'aide memoir'

card to each home in the Parish to provide details of the defibrillators, and what to do when and if required.

In addition, we arranged a defibrillator training course which was held in the Whilton Village Hall in Oct 17 and was well attended. A further training course will be arranged for early in 2018.

- **Dog Waste – ‘Paint the Poo’ Campaign**

There is a dog waste bin located in the village at the end of Buckby Lane, and as long as the poo is bagged, it can be deposited in any bin, not just the dog waste bin. But there are still some irresponsible owners who allow their dogs to mess freely around the village, and it should be noted that if anyone has details of such owners, please report them to the Parish Council Clerk at clerk@whiltonpc.co.uk who will then report them to the Daventry District Council to investigate. Of note, there has been one prosecution already in the district. To highlight the problem, we are currently involved in a ‘Paint the Poo’ initiative being run by the Daventry District Council, where dog mess is being sprayed in luminous orange to highlight that an irresponsible dog owner has failed to pick it up. Hopefully, by making the issue highly visible, it should raise awareness amongst dog owners to clean up after their dogs.

- **Budding Communities.**

We recently managed to successfully bid to receive 200 flowering bulbs from the Daventry District Council Budding Communities Project. These were recently planted by a team on the village green and around the church yard, along with an additional 1000 Crocus bulbs obtained by Jonathan Hanslip of the Parish Council as part of the World Polio Day campaign to eradicate polio. With 1200 bulbs planted, the coming spring should see a blaze of colour around the green and the church yard.

- **Whilton Parish Council Website.**

The Whilton Parish Council also do have a website at <http://www.parish-council.com/whilton/> which details all the work that they are doing for the community, together with any notices of interest for the Parish. There is also an e-mail address should you wish to contact the Parish Councillors about any matters relating to the village and this is councillors@whiltonpc.co.uk. The Council also hold a regular meeting in the Whilton Village Hall every 2 months, which is open to the public to attend and raise any issues. The next meeting will be held on 10 Jan 18 commencing at 7.30pm.

Randal Smith

Rose Briar

Chair of the Whilton Parish Council



The Whilton Warblers

present

Message of Love

A collection of Christmas songs

Saturday 9th December

At 7.30pm

St Andrew's Church,
Whilton

Tickets: Adults £7.50,

Children £2.00

Includes refreshments

Tickets can be
booked in advance by calling:
07891 907116



Roy Haynes preparing the churchyard before the "Celebrating Courage" event in September

NEWS FROM ST ANDREWS

We welcomed the inauguration of our new rector, The Venerable David Painter at a service at Brington Church in September. Although this is a part time role, David is already becoming a well known face in the village. If you have not met him yet I hope that you will have the opportunity to do so over the Christmas period.

Christmas will be a busy time for us. We will be holding our Christmas Tree Festival again this year. For those of you who are new to this tradition, many of the village groups and societies help to decorate the church with their own themed trees. Over the past few years we have seen great efforts put in to this and some very original and eye catching displays.

The trees will be on display on Saturday 16 December and we will be holding a coffee morning in church starting at 10.30. The trees are central feature in our candlelit Carol Service which will be at 6.00 on Sunday 17 December. We will be serving fizz and mince pies after the service to get everyone in the mood. I do hope that you will be able to join us.

As Christmas Day this year falls on a Monday, our main Christmas service this year will be a Communion at 6.00 on Christmas Eve. I do hope that villagers will support our services at this special time.



Another tradition is the lighting of the church over the Christmas period. A number of people comment each year how much they enjoy seeing this and you have the opportunity to sponsor the lights on a day that you select. More information is on a separate sheet. If you would like the church to be lit to mark a special event or anniversary, this can be arranged at any time if you let me know.

I can be contacted on 843380 or by email Jbrierley1@aol.com.

Jon Brierley and Linda Treacy Churchwardens



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

After one of the sunniest and warmest autumns that I can remember in recent years, the winter really now has set in, and we are all conscious of grey cold mornings, and darkness descending earlier and earlier in the afternoon. No wonder that our ancestors, in the dim and distant past, saw the need for a festival characterised by cheerfulness and fun, to lighten everyone's spirits and relieve for a while the gloom of the mid-winter days. They timed this festival towards the end of December, just after the shortest day, so that they could celebrate the fact that, however slowly, the days were beginning to lengthen and eventually spring would come once again.

This is partly what we celebrate at Christmas – the triumph of light over darkness, and warmth over coldness and despair. Yet we celebrate a lot more than that, for Christmas speaks to us profoundly of a greater light even than that of the sun. It was in the birth of Jesus that God showed us his love and care for the world, and demonstrated most powerfully the fact that he does not rule over that world from a lofty distance, but rather comes and lives among us, and shares in our successes and our sorrows, in our needs and our anxieties, in our hopes and in our fears. Christmas is indeed a celebration of light, but, more than that, it is a celebration of love, and I pray that you will know something of God's love and peace in your hearts and in your homes at this most holy season.

I have so much enjoyed getting to know many of you in recent weeks, and I look forward to being of service to you in any way that I can in the coming new year. May God greatly bless you in all that lies ahead for you.

Your sincere friend and Rector,

David Painter

THE WHILTON CHURCH SERVICE ROTA DECEMBER 2017			
ADVENT 1	Sunday 3 December .	11.00	United Eucharist at East Haddon
ADVENT 2	Sunday 10 December.	11.00	Worship for All
	Saturday 16 December	10.30	Coffee morning
ADVENT 3	Sunday 17 December	6.00	Carol service
CHRISTMAS EVE	Sunday 24 December.	6.00	Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY	Monday 25 December	9.15	Eucharist at East Haddon
		9.15	Eucharist at Harlestone
		11.00	Eucharist at Brampton
		11.00	Eucharist at Norton
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	31 December	11.00	A Service of Prayer and Dedication for the New Year

ST ANDREWS 2017 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



This year we are once again giving you the opportunity to illuminate the Church and make it a focal point of the village during the Christmas period. Cost is just £10 a night.

To reserve your special day or to select a date, please contact Jon Brierley (843380) or Jbrierley1@aol.com

11 DEC	Jon and Helen Brierley	25DEC	
12		26	
13		27	Anthea and Keith Hiscock
14		28	
15		29	
16		30	
17		31	
18		1 JAN	
19		2	
20		3	
21		4	
22		5	
23		6	
24			

Community Speedwatch Updates



Did you see us in Whilton village?

14 trained volunteers used speed gun equipment over three separate weeks in August & September, followed by a two week block in October.

40 different sessions were run for at least an hour per session, with a total of 127 hours of volunteer time.

One driver was captured speeding at 40 mph, but all other cars were driving at 32mph or less.

How do we know if the scheme was effective?

A Traffic Survey Report was provided by the Police. They placed recording equipment opposite the village hall for a week in July **before** our scheme started, and a week in September **after** the end of Phase 1.

Week of equipment:	20-27 July 2017	13-21 September 2017
No of vehicles recorded	2680	3239
85% of vehicles at or below:	28mph	21mph
Average speed	24mph	17mph
Number exceeding 30mph	196 (7%)	2 (0%)
Number exceeding 35mph	28 (1%)	0 (0%)

What do these results show?

- Data shows a dramatic fall in average speeds (24mph to 17 mph)
- Data shows dramatic fall in 85th percentile speed (28mph to 21mph)
- Data shows dramatic fall in numbers exceeding 30mph (196 to 2)
- Data shows fall in numbers exceeding 35mph (28 to 0)

What is the evaluation?

As Village Co-ordinator of the scheme I believe the data shows that we have improved safety in our village by reducing speeds dramatically. I would like to thank all of the volunteers for giving up their time for training and then to undertake a number of shifts with the equipment.

"20 is Plenty"

The next phase of our campaign to lower speeds through the village is on its way! Thank you to those who have displayed the "20 is Plenty" car sticker. Signs will be displayed through the village shortly. Please show your care by driving at 20mph through our village. Thank you.

Mark Thomas

Whilton Village Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator



NEWS FROM WHILTON MARINA

We are very excited to announce plans to improve our narrow boat refurbishment facilities at Whilton Marina. Construction has already started of the purpose built 9,000 sq ft Narrowboat Maintenance and Repair Workshop, the new wharf and boat lift, which will facilitate an improved working environment for our engineering and welding teams. We expect the new development to be completed in Spring 2018.

The new workshop will be capable of holding three 70ft narrowboats simultaneously for maintenance works. The new workshop will be fully equipped for the undertaking of works on new and used narrow boats; to include stern tube renewal, new window installations, renewal of gas lockers, wiring, painting, engine installations, hull replating and refurbishment works. This is a great facility that will enable us to work on narrow boats out of the water and under cover.

We are expecting delivery of our Brand New Wise 40 tonne Motorised Hoist in January/ early February 2018. This machine is capable of lifting 40 tonnes and up to 72ft long x 12 ft wide boats, with four wheel steering. The new hoist will be used to transport the wide beamed or narrow boats out of the water and move them into the workshop for maintenance or repair purposes. The hoist will also be able to gently lift the boats out of the water and load them onto a lorry for transportation onto and off site.

A new wharf is being constructed to allow the Wise Hoist to manoeuvre over the water and lift out narrowboats when surveys are required. This will enable us to react a lot more quickly to our demands on site, which will speed up the sales process.



This picture shows the footings going in for the new workshop building.

For more information or to follow the progress on the building of our new facilities please see our website page:

<https://www.whiltonmarina.co.uk/marina-facilities/Narrowboat-Refurbishment-Workshop.aspx>

WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

TWO DAYS TO REMEMBER



Wednesday 20th and Saturday 23rd September marked the culmination of much preparation for the commemoration and celebration of the winning of the Victoria Cross by Captain Henry Reynolds in 1917, a hundred years ago. The Local History Society has been deeply involved in this, and it was through the Society that we applied successfully for our grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Our parish was able to host members of the Royal Scots Association and their piper, the Bishop of Peterborough, the Lord Lieutenant, our MP and the Vice President of Combat Stress, besides representatives and visitors from other villages. Most importantly over 30 descendants of Captain Reynolds and his siblings came too, including four from the USA and his grandson, great-grandson and great-great-grandson. The memorial stone is now installed on the Village Green with an information lectern beside it. There is another by the canal at the Locks.

Uniforms, regimental colours, the bright fruit and floral decorations in the church, combined with period costumes and cakes, made both days a feast of colour and activity. The "Celebrating Courage" event became a whole community experience, with a tremendous effort made by many volunteers. We have been able to produce souvenirs of this for all the households who contributed in some way. These coloured magazines are being delivered with the Newsletter as a way of saying thank you. If you were not involved and would like a copy before Christmas, it will be possible to produce some more for sale. The price will be £5.

To order a copy, or an extra copy, please contact me and make payment by 10th December 2017: anthea.hiscock@tiscali.co.uk or 843319.

Captain Reynolds was born in 1879 at Whilton Locks where he lived for over 30 years. His home has been demolished and now the Whilton Locks Carpet Shop is on the site. Although we sold out of the biography of Captain Reynolds, more have now been printed. With the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund the price has been kept at £20. If you would like one, please let me know.

The production of the Souvenir Magazine ends the 2017 Whilton events focused on Captain Reynolds and the Victoria Cross. There is, however, one more day to mark in 1918. Captain Reynolds received his Victoria Cross at Buckingham Palace on 1st June 1918. Whilton will also remember this centenary.

On **Friday 1st June 2018** there will be a First World War guided walk through the village, followed by another showing of the audio-visual presentation made using the voices of local people, mostly from Whilton. This will provide an opportunity for those who missed it in September and for any who wish to see it again. We hope this will be in the Church, and that it will be followed by refreshments in the Village Hall. There will be more details nearer the time.

As many are now aware Harry Reynolds is also remembered for the work he did in later life with veterans of the First World War, whose mental health had been destroyed by their experiences. He worked for the Ex Servicemen's Welfare Society, now known as Combat Stress.

A number of people gave donations to this organization, which have been much appreciated, as sadly their work still continues.

As organisers of the event, we have received letters, e-mails and cards from a number of people who came to Whilton on the two eventful days in September. On the following page we include some extracts from their comments, as they reflect appreciation of the many local volunteers who gave their time and talents so willingly.

Anthea Hiscock

FIRST "PILL-BOX" V.C.



At Buckingham Palace on Saturday; the King decorating Capt. Reynolds, V.C., M.C., the first to get the major honour for capturing a "strong point."—Central Press.

“The results of everyone’s endeavours combined to make a truly memorable day, one that I imagine will never fade. I am sure that my Grandfather would have been humbled and appreciative that his actions during World War I had been remembered by his village.”

“It was a fantastic day. Thank you.”

“In summary this was a most enjoyable and moving event in commemoration of Henry Reynolds and his outstanding gallantry.”

“Thank you for organising and hosting such a thoughtful and moving centenary service for Harry Reynolds”.

“The children really enjoyed their time in Whilton – especially being part of the parade. They were also fascinated by the exhibition and have been telling friends back in school that they should go and visit. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to be part of such a special day.”

“The children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the morning and indeed the research that they did beforehand.”

“I thought it was a well curated commemoration of our gallant captain.”

“I have heard nothing but expressions of delight from those who were lucky enough to be able to take part. For me, it was particularly striking and gratifying to see how such a small village pulled together to make it a great success.”

“What a fabulous afternoon it was yesterday and I’m sure was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. There was so many interesting items both to see and read. The video in the church certainly brought home the devastation of WW1 and how much one person can make such a big difference to so many others.”

“The whole event left a very good and warm feeling amongst the Royal Scots attending.”

The 20th was a wonderful day and a great tribute to all you have done to research and publicise the wartime and civilian career with Combat Stress of a remarkable soldier, ‘Pill Box Harry’.

We have also received a letter written to this Newsletter as follows:

Dear Editors,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the team of volunteers who worked so hard to plan and lead the recent celebrations of the life and courage of Henry Reynolds. At both events everything appeared to flow seamlessly though it was obviously the result of meticulous planning.

The mix of activities was superb, something for all ages and levels of interest. Opportunities to reflect on the sacrifice and suffering, raising awareness of the challenges faced and the courage shown by many, thankfulness for the peace and freedom they fought for and won on our behalf. The lighter side was the family friendly day – tasting cakes made to recipes of 100 years ago, hearing the songs and music that was popular at the time, seeing the dress and artefacts of the period.

It became clear that Captain Reynolds was a fairly ordinary man who performed extraordinary feats of courage and in that he represented the hundreds of thousands of people who were involved in the war effort. For me, that was what made him so special.

Once again, thanks and congratulations to Anthea and her team for organising such a fantastic event.

A Whilton resident.

LOOKING BEYOND THE PARISH

The Daventry Area Community Transport charity, known as **DACT**, has won the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service this year. One of their much- appreciated volunteers is Linda Tibbs from South View. Well done all of you!

Another group looking for volunteers is the **Citizens Advice Bureau**, which provides information and advice to residents of Daventry and the surrounding District. Information about this has been received from Sue Green, also of Whilton.

If you are interested in finding out more or getting an information pack, please e-mail: administrator@daventry.cab.org.uk.

As we move towards Christmas, a reminder from our PCSO Kevin Thompson:

*Do not leave any valuables on show in vehicles
Do not leave Christmas presents in view through the window
Do not leave out buildings/sheds insecure – use a shed alarm
Be vigilant - report ANY suspicious activity to police via 101
If you are in a queue you can request a call back – without losing your place in the queue.*



Whilton Names

Since all the excitement in September the Local History Society has returned to its regular meetings. In November we met to hear about some of the names used in Whilton over the centuries. Melchizidech Mynards or Maynard belonged to a family of Whilton farmers and carpenters, who were educated and able to read even in Elizabethan times. Melchizidech was the first baby baptized and recorded in in our Parish Registers in 1570. His name almost certainly reflects his family's knowledge of the Bible in English and their desire that he would lead a good and long life.

We looked at the significance of some other names used in Whilton in later times, and remembered how William Lucas Holden changed his surname to Rose by Act of Parliament in 1785. This meant he could inherit his uncle's fortune.

Some families were keen to keep alive the surnames of families with whom they had intermarried, leading to a string of names for William Langton Wright Butlin, who was simply recorded on his tombstone as W L W Butlin. There were also names which puzzled but inspired Whilton villagers, so that in 1712 Dorothy Goodman was written as "Doridy Godman" and in 1879 Theresa Noon became "Tryreza".

WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



**The Annual General Meeting
accompanied by a Norman meal
will take place in the Village Hall
at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 12th January 2018.**

**This will be a meeting for members only,
but if you wish to join the Society, you will be welcome.
Please contact Anthea Hiscock, 843319, or Marian Seal, 844835.**

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB 2017/2018

AUGUST 2017

1 ST PRIZE	E Clarke	113
2 ND PRIZE	T Leadbetter	060

SEPTEMBER 2017

1 ST PRIZE	S Bennett	153
2 ND PRIZE	A Heeley	135

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS

NEWS FROM WHILTON LOCKS GARDEN CENTRE



Whilton Locks Garden Village was recently visited by Daventry Mayor, Councillor Lynne Taylor, seen here cuddling her favourite animal, Wilbur the Skinny Pig and showing her mayoral badge at the same time.

The Ice Rink is now open again and afternoon tea can be booked with Elsa or breakfast with Santa.

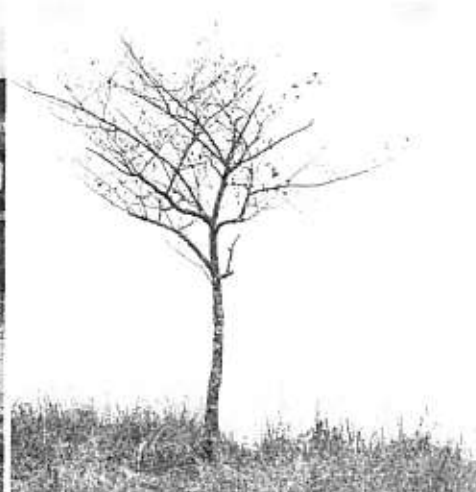
For more details go to:
www.wlqv.co.uk

ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY WORKING PARTY

There will be a working party in Roughmoor Spinney on Sunday 10th December commencing at 10.00am. The objective will be to clear out the pond. All will be welcome to join us, wellingtons are advised.

The event will be weather dependent so if in doubt or for further information contact Roy Haynes on 07879 861673.

Aperture Photography Group



We now have 30 members with various levels of knowledge and experience and we get lots of interest through our website. The Group offers a range of activities, including regular meetings, training workshops and outings.

If you have a camera and would like to learn how to use it, or if you are a more experienced photographer and would like to share your interest with others, please get in touch.

Meetings are held in the back room at the Saracen's Head in Little Brington at 8pm. The dates of our forthcoming meetings are:

December 6th and 21st
January 4th and 18th
February 1st and 15th
March 1st, 15th and 29th

Neil Phillips

Tel: 01327 844182

Email: Neil.apg@gmail.com

There is nothing better than watching a sunrise or sunset, believe me, I've been doing it recently. The colours in the sky are well worth getting up early for, or staying out that little later.

Why am I saying this, because the members of the group have been set an assignment to take landscape photography photographs. We like to set the members a challenge and getting out with your camera to capture dawn and dusk light is the best way to learn. Like nearly everything in life, practice makes perfect and using your camera regularly helps you to learn the controls and practice your composition. If you fancy getting out and photographing the countryside around Whilton, or further afield, you will find lots of advice on our website.

www.aperturephotographygroup.co.uk

Since our last article, we have had a number of outings. In October members of the Group went to the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre in Quainton to make photographs about the age of steam. A great time was had by all and there were plenty of opportunities for the members to learn new techniques and try different compositions. A few weeks later in November, we went back to Birmingham to photograph the Gas Street Basin in the 'blue hour'. This is the time immediately after sunset, but before the sky goes completely black. The light takes on a blue feel and the artificial light has a warm orange tone - it makes for a great colour contrast and super photographs.

In the new year we will concentrating more on composition; how to construct better photographs through understanding how lines, shape, colour and light can be used to create impact and guide the viewer 'through the image'.

SOCIAL LUNCHES



17th October marked another enjoyable social event in Whilton, when we shared beef casserole followed by pears in red wine, apple and blackberry pie and chocolate gateau. As usual there was a vegetarian option, which was well tested by non-vegetarians too.

Social lunches are two course meals followed by tea, coffee and chocolates. We are still able to charge £5 per person which includes the cost of the meal and hiring the Village Hall.

Soft drinks are included but you are welcome to bring other drinks to share.

You will be very welcome to join us at the next

**SOCIAL LUNCH
TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER AT 12.30 FOR 1 P.M.**

Please book your place by 9th December.

Contacts:

Anthea Hiscock: 843319 anthea.hiscock@tiscali.co.uk

Marian Seal: 844835

Shirley Brown: 842968

**If you book and find you are unable to attend, please let us know,
as this helps with catering and with adjusting our finances.**

**The first Social Lunch in 2018 will be on
Tuesday, 27th February.**



WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



Twenty-one members gathered at our October meeting to hear our speaker, Andrew Mikolajski, whose talk was entitled 'Pin me to the wall – and do what you want with me – how to choose and manage climbers'.

Andrew described a range of plants suitable for warm walls and shady walls for both informal and formal training. Some of the many tips he gave us included the value of root pruning when planting in autumn and the virtues of pig wire as a support for climbers.

The talk was accompanied by some stunning photos which, together with Andrew's energetic style of presentation, kept us all enthralled.

We are currently planning the last event of our 2017 calendar, namely our members' Christmas social which will take place on Dec 6th in the village hall.

Looking further ahead, our 2018 programme begins with our AGM and quiz on February 7th. This is when we collect the subscriptions for the coming year and is an ideal opportunity for new members to join.

For further information about WGA contact Maurice Archer on 843081 or Roy Haynes on 844673.



WHILTON CAROL SINGERS



The Whilton Carol Singers will come round the village on Tuesday, 19th December and collecting for charity as they go.

Please remember to listen for the singing and the knock on your door that evening.

We thank Gordon and Mary Emery for organising this event each year.



Brington and Whilton Pre-School

Whilton Village Hall NN11 2NN

www.bringtonandwhiltonpreschool.org.uk

We started back to the new school year with lots of children for September and more children on the waiting list. During the first term we went 'back to basics' learning about shapes, colours and numbers so we can assess what the children already know and then develop their learning to meet their needs.



We have already had a busy term as we have joined in the celebrations in Whilton for a 100 years since Captain Henry Reynolds received the Victoria Cross medal. Anthea Hiscock kindly came in to talk to the children about the celebrations, teaching us to march to 'It's a long way to Tipperary' and telling us how brave he was and how he helped soldiers who were injured.

The pre-school then joined the villagers and other local dignitaries for the unveiling of a memorial stone.

The children showed an interest and listened and watched carefully - we were very proud of them all.



We have also started to use our allotment visiting it to plant some strawberries, beetroot and enjoyed picking (and eating) the apples on the trees. We are very fortunate to have spaces we can use within the village and are looking forward to growing lots of vegetables and flowers throughout the year.

We have a couple of events coming up in the villages which we would like to invite you to, firstly we have our Christmas Coffee Morning at The Reading Rooms Great Brington on Saturday 2nd December 2017 - 10.30am to 1.00pm, we have lovely cakes for sale and an amazing variety of stalls for Christmas Presents. Then on Friday 15th December the children have their Christmas Concert at Whilton Church 10.30am. It would be lovely to see you at either of these events to support our children.

We still have a few places left and we are able to take children from 2 years upwards. If you have a child and would be interested in sending them to a small friendly pre-school, please get in touch with Jenny 01604 770083 or email through our website, so we can arrange a visit and give you more information

*THE ALTHORP PARTNERSHIP OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS
BRINGTON AND HARLESTONE
DECEMBER 2017*



As I write this we are fast approaching Christmas. This is always a very busy time of year with carol services, trips to the pantomime, nativities and parties to prepare for as well as all the normal aspects of school life!

VIP assemblies

This term has seen the first of our new VIP assemblies. A number of parents were sent invitations to see their child walk along a red carpet to receive their certificates and badges to indicate that they are our current VIP's. These awards are given for reasons that are not just academic based – they are a reflection of a child's character and are a great opportunity to recognise the qualities that make each child at Harlestone and Brington unique and special.

Sports

In October Class 1 from both Brington and Harlestone spent a morning at Champion School for a rugby 'wow' morning. The sessions were all led by Young Leaders from Champion. The children all had a great time and all received a certificate for taking part. In September and October, groups of children took part in a football festival held at Champion. Although they found the matches tough all of the children performed superbly and had a great time. Later 8 boys from Harlestone and Brington took part in an inclusive sports session which was organised by Champion. The children had the opportunity to try out a number of inclusive sports including boccia, wheelchair basketball, seated volleyball and new-age kurling.

Macmillan Coffee Mornings

Earlier in the term we held Macmillan coffee mornings. These were very successful and we raised just short of £500!

Anti-bullying week

We recently held an anti-bullying week. The children had an assembly where they have considered that everyone in school is unique and special and that together they help make both schools great places to learn. They also followed this with work throughout the week in each class. Each child was asked to design an anti-bullying poster for a competition. Each poster had to explain what to do and who to speak to if a child is feeling that they are being bullied. The winning designs are now on display in each school.

Abington Park Museum trip

The children from class 2 at Brington spent a very interesting morning at Abington Park Museum in November. They took part in a shoe workshop, which was part of their work on Northamptonshire, which has also seen both schools have a visit from Church's shoes

Remembrance Service

At Brington a short service was held on November 10th and the children planted the poppies they had made in school. Prior to this children from each school spent time at Sainsbury's selling poppies in aid of the Royal British Legion



London Marathon

On a personal note I would like to let you know that I will be running the London Marathon next April. I will be running for VICTA (Visually Impaired Children Taking Action). My youngest son, Freddie, is registered as severely sight impaired and VICTA have provided a great deal of support to Freddie, to us as a family and for thousands of other visually impaired children and their families. Both Brington and Harlestone have children that have a visual impairment and it is for children like them that I am running for such a great cause.

John Sarbutts, Executive Headteacher

Rosie the Pony

Rosie the miniature pony arrived at the top of the village one Saturday in July seemingly having been abandoned and left to fend for herself. No one knew where she had come from. Standing at just 4 hands and 2 inches and wearing a saddle and bridle her pink coat was dirty, her platinum mane and tail were matted. She looked as though she had been unloved for some time.



Over the following days Rosie wandered down through the village, probably looking for food and shelter and was drenched in a downpour. It seemed that either no one understood her plight or had room in their lives for a tiny pony.



Happily for Rosie her ordeal ended when she was spotted and taken in by a horse loving villager who, as luck would have it, was also a trustee of an animal sanctuary. She was taken to Redgate Farm Animal Sanctuary in Markfield where she was tended and fussed over by the team of equine volunteers.

Rosie was welcomed to Redgate by Millie, one of the sanctuary's long term residents.



In no time at all a little girl called Charlie came along, fell in love with Rosie and took her to a new forever home.

Christmas Code Breaker

Work out the Christmas words by cracking the addition and subtraction codes.



a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1.

	Answer	Letter
$20 - 1$		
$10 - 9$		
$7 + 7$		
$11 + 9$		
$9 - 8$		
$2 + 1$		
$10 + 2$		
$8 - 7$		
$16 + 5$		
$9 + 10$		

Answer _____



WHAT'S ON IN WHILTON : WINTER 2017 - 2018

DAY	DATE	TIME	PLACE	EVENT
DECEMBER 2017				
Sat	2 Dec	10.30 – 1 p.m.	Gt Brington Reading Rooms	Pre-school coffee morning
Sun	3 Dec	11 a.m.	East Haddon Church	United Benefice Eucharist
Wed	6 Dec	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Gardeners Association Christmas Social
Sat	9 Dec	7.30 p.m.	Church	Whilton Warblers Christmas Concert
Sun	10 Dec	10 a.m. 11 a.m.	Spinney Church	Work party Worship for All
Tues	12 Dec	12.30 for 1 p.m.	Village Hall	Social Lunch
Fri	15 Dec	10.30 a.m.	Church	Pre-school Christmas concert
Sat	16 Dec	10.30 a.m.	Church	Christmas Tree Festival Coffee Morning
Sun	17 Dec	6 p.m.	Church	Carol Service
Tues	19 Dec	Evening	Village	Carol singing
Sun	24 Dec	6 p.m.	Church	Christmas Eve Communion Service
Sun	31 Dec	11 a.m.	Church	Service of prayer & dedication for New Year.
JANUARY 2018				
Fri	5 Jan			Ladies Pot Luck Supper
Sun	7 Jan	11 a.m.	TBA	United Benefice Eucharist
Wed	10 Jan	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Parish Council
Fri	12 Jan	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Local History Society Norman meal and AGM
Sun	14 Jan	11 a.m.	Church	Worship for All
Sun	28 Jan	6 p.m.	Church	Communion Service

FEBRUARY 2018				
Sun	2 Feb	11 a.m.	TBA	United Benefice Eucharist
Wed	7 Feb	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Gardeners Association AGM & Quiz
Sun	11 Feb	11 a.m.	Church	Worship for All
Sun	25 Feb	6 p.m.	Church	Communion Service
Tues	27 Feb	12.30 for 1 p.m.	Village Hall	Social Lunch

Regular events include:

BRINGTON AND WHILTON PRE-SCHOOL in the Village Hall:

Term time: Mon, Wed, Fri: 9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Mon, Wed 1 – 3 p.m. for over 3's

BELL RINGING at the Church: Mon: 7.30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For further information please contact Justin Baker 844263 or Janet Bowers 842851

WHILTON WARBLERS CHOIR in the Village Hall: Term time: 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.

APERTURE PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP meets in Little Brington. See page 18.

FIREWORKS

As Whilton is set in rural surroundings, it is helpful if those who plan activities which may startle or distress livestock can provide information in advance.

As part of this co-operation we have received the following notice:

From Sue Wingrave

POLITE NOTICE

There will be the usual annual **private** firework party at midnight on New Years Eve 2017/2018 in Brington Lane. The Police have been made aware.

The Whilton Newsletter is published quarterly and circulated free to every household within the parish boundary. The costs are met by the Parish Council.

The Editors are:

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- ❖ The Editors welcome material for the Newsletter. If possible, please send your contribution by e-mail. If you do not have a computer, the editors will be happy to type handwritten articles for you.

- ❖ The next issue will be the Spring Edition, covering March – May 2018. The last date for contributions will be 20th February 2017.

The Newsletter is published quarterly, but Whilton also has a website: www.whilton-village.net. This contains details of the organizations in the parish, previous Parish Council Minutes and Newsletters and a Picture Gallery. It also has latest news and updates on parish events.