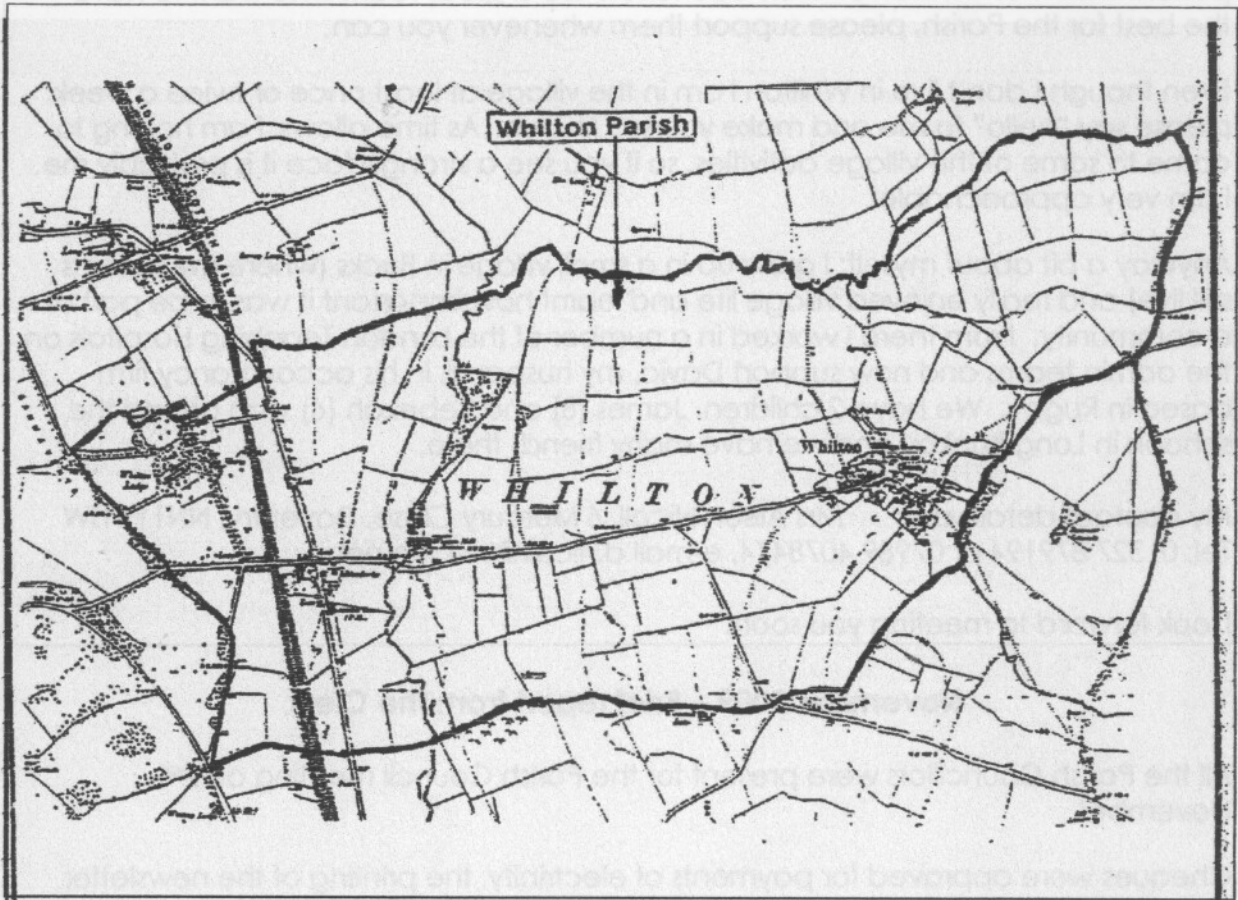


WHILTON NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2009 & JANUARY 2010



* WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE THE CHURCH FLOODLIT FOR YOU THIS CHRISTMAS? SEE PAGE 15 *



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THE EDITORS WISH ALL
READERS IN WHILTON PARISH
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND GOOD HEALTH
IN THE NEW YEAR

Your New Parish Clerk – Alison Nicoll

As I expect you are already aware, I have succeeded Anthea Hiscock as the Parish Clerk for Whilton. Anthea has done a fantastic job over the years and I would like to thank her for making my job so much easier – I have never seen everything so well organised.

This is my first job as a Parish Clerk so I am on a steep learning curve, please be patient with me! Whilton's Parish Councillors are a great team who want to have the best for the Parish, please support them whenever you can.

Even though I don't live in Whilton I am in the village at least once or twice a week, please say "hello" to me and make yourself known. As time allows, I am hoping to come to some of the village activities, so if you see a strange face it is probably me. I am very approachable!

Anyway a bit about myself: I grew up in a small village in Bucks (where my parents still live) and really enjoyed village life and learnt how important it was to be part of a community. From there I worked in a number of the London Teaching Hospitals on the admin teams and now support David, my husband, in his accountancy firm based in Rugby. We have 2 children, James (8) and Rebekah (6) who attend the schools in Long Buckby and we have many friends there.

My contact details are: Mrs Alison Nicoll, 6 Mercury Close, Daventry, NN11 9HW
Tel: 01327 879194 or 07989 4078474, e-mail d.nicoll@uwclub.net

I look forward to meeting you soon.

November 2009 – Brief report from the Clerk

All the Parish Councillors were present for the Parish Council meeting on 2nd November.

Cheques were approved for payments of electricity, the printing of the newsletter, and the Role of the Clerk course for the new parish clerk.

The Councillors undertook their regular 6 monthly parish walk in October. Items found to be in need of attention included preservative treatment to seats, drains needing emptying, the edges of the road in Brington Lane need repairing to name but a few.

It is likely that both lawn mowers will need replacing before spring 2010. Quotes are being sought.

The creation of a footpath between Whilton and Whilton Locks continues to be considered by Northampton County Council.

At the January 2010 meeting the precept for 2010/11 will be discussed and agreed. This needs to be with Daventry District Council by 18th January 2010.

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Monday 4th January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

Clerk to the Parish Council:
Alison Nicoll, 6 Mercury Close, Daventry

A tribute to a very brave lady

Those of you that knew Gill McLeish of Sira on Main Street, Whilton already know that she lost her battle with a particularly aggressive and rapid form of Motor Neurone Disease on November 9th – almost exactly a year after she was first diagnosed. If you didn't know Gill you will not know what an incredibly brave and heroic person she was.

Born in the second half of the 20th century (Gill was always deliberately vague about her age, so who are we to flaunt that information now?) Gill was a very active person, a loving wife and the mother of two young adults. She was a dedicated traveller and loved to dip into European culture, particularly Italian, whenever she had the chance. She was an accomplished linguist, a chartered accountant, a keen skier and tennis player and she loved to cook.

Her diagnosis was not only a death sentence but it was death by degrees, watching herself daily lose the ability to do all the things that she loved. Her mind was totally alert until the bitter end which made her situation all the more unbearable. In the 12 months that it took Gill to die she visited New York, holidayed in Barbados, went skiing, visited France and Italy (twice), as well as many week-end trips to places in this country. She continued to play tennis until she could no longer control the racket and she never lost her sense of humour, or the ability to laugh at herself. In the latter weeks she made visiting her, something that could have been stressful and fraught, a pleasure; she continued to struggle to communicate long after most people would have given up. All in all, she was a role model to us all in how to cope with adversity.

Gill's death has certainly given us all some perspective on what is important in life, and what is not worth complaining about. Even if you didn't know Gill, perhaps hearing her story will help you to Carpe Diem (Seize the day).

Jinja International Youth Meeting 2009, Uganda

I did not know what to expect from a conference in the African continent. My knowledge of Africa and Uganda was gained from media hype, with certain points being emphasised that did not promote a peaceful country. I knew very little about the people other than they were hard working and looking for a strong future. My assumption of the land was of dried clay with small farms.

My expectations and assumptions were confirmed and contradicted. On arrival, the town of Entebbe made me realise how vast the contrast actually is between our nations: motorbikes casually carry three or four helmet-less riders; soldiers waiting to get the bus into work; and a temperature that, even during a downpour, always left a bead or two of sweat on my forehead. Whilst travelling through the town, in a bus that required passengers to cram their legs into the tiny space between them and the seat in front, I was amazed at the chaos – people everywhere. The second thing I noticed was the happiness on practically every face I saw. It is a different way of life, with the same fundamental values, but ones which promote togetherness, family and care in society.

What did I then expect from the conference and the people? From the Ugandans, nothing more than friendship and I am so glad that they fulfilled my expectations. They created a fantastic, friendly atmosphere in which the conference could be held. I was concerned that my research might not be up to scratch; my topic of discussion was Social Justice, but what I should have been worrying about was my debating skills in comparison to our Ugandan counterparts! They knew how to clearly articulate their points and kept thinking of new ideas, questions, statements that kept the debate flowing.

Each of the Champion students had an input into the topics under discussion: Global Citizenship; Sustainable Development; Social Enterprise; Social Justice; Conflict Resolution; and Restorative Justice. We worked on the presentations with students from Chenderit and Ferrers from Northamptonshire and three Ugandan schools – M.M. Wairaka College, Jinja; Mengo School, Kampala; and Iganga Secondary School, Iganga.

What have I learnt
Foremost, from Ugandan delegates, and passion for education, to gain the firm foothold in life and themselves. I truly also learnt from the can still be a but so many people Christian and strive to peace. I have learnt green country in the countryside, and that game of volley ball!



from this experience? observing the their utmost dedication achievement in qualifications to take a make a name for admire them for that. I students that Uganda dangerous country, are thoroughly solve conflict through that Uganda is a very context of their they also enjoy a good

Vincent, Kristine, Alice and myself

I feel enlightened in many different ways from the experience and I hope that not only did I learn but that I also taught, (if only chess to some of the Ugandan students!). I gained friendships that I hope will last. I have considered opinions and views from a Ugandan perspective; really raising issues within both cultures and getting to see the similarities and the differences.

My third key thing to take away is the work ethic that is encompassed not only in students, but by the families and workers in an effort to develop themselves and their country. The contrast between an average UK student's life and an average Ugandan student's life is so great that I do not believe I could survive a week in their shoes. Schooldays from 6.00am to 10 o' clock, regular punishment by cane and weekends spent helping out as much as possible in your home village, and they love school. I am very grateful to the Ugandan delegates, Uganda and Africa for making this trip and conference so worthwhile and insightful.

My final word for now is webale - thank you in Ugandan.- Jake Mitchell

Community Speed Watch.

Aims:

- reduce excessive speed through village
- change people's attitude to speeding
- create safer environment

if we wish to curb speeding in the village this scheme is a good idea, we could get:

- monthly visits from the Safety Camera Team
- use of portable Speed indicator devices
- high visibility Community Speed Watch boards on lamp posts etc
- loan of hand held gun for use by locally trained community volunteers

to participate in this scheme we will need

- **20% of the electoral population to 'sign up' for the project to go ahead**
- **minimum of 10 volunteers to monitor traffic**
- **one nominated person to be the co-ordinator**

In consultation with the police 3 places in the village have been identified as suitable for using the hand held laser speed gun and the Speed Watch team can come out to give us a short presentation on the scheme and to demonstrate the equipment.

So, if speeding is really a problem we should start with the co-ordinator, any volunteers?

Please contact any parish councillor or myself.

Mike Lewis,
Chairman Whilton Parish Council,
01327 842404.

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB 2009

OCTOBER 2009

1 st Prize	107	N.HILL
2 nd Prize	084	T TREACY

NOVEMBER 2009

1 st Prize	054	R WATERHOUSE
2 nd Prize	021	G FISHER

DECEMBER 2009

1 st Prize	069	G HAYNES
2 nd Prize	010	R GREEN

Congratulations to All



WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



At the close of another gardening year and from the comfort of our homes, we can reflect upon the many interesting meetings, visits etc that most of us have enjoyed throughout 2009. The committee has also put together a full programme of activities for the New Year so with your support 2010 is looking good

On October 7th Sally Cunningham gave an interesting talk on "Organic Gardening" A well attended meeting had the experience of her knowledge on the subject. Sally was assistant Head Gardener at Ryton Organic Gardens for a number of years and is still actively involved

Dec 2nd Members "CHRISTMAS DINNER"
7.00 pm in Village Hall
(Check Notice board for details)

Feb 3rd A.G.M. plus Fun Quiz 8.00pm
(date changed as agreed at Oct meeting)

On behalf of the Committee we would like to wish you all

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS and
A HEALTHY and ENJOYABLE NEW YEAR

New members welcome

(General Dogsbody)

TEL; 07921429228----01327 843169

The Depths of Winter



The trees are standing, stark and bare,
Quite naked in the icy air,
While on the grass, the frost is deep,
The world is blanketed in sleep.

Across the silent village square,
Thatched cottages lie quietly there,
Just down the lane the ancient church
Stands solidly, by beech and birch.

Before too long, the snow will come
To make the toes and fingers numb;
But cosily beside the hearth
The cat curls up in dreamless warmth.

Neighbourhood Watch

Although no crimes have been reported in Whilton we must not become complacent as villages in our immediate area have not been so fortunate and crimes of burglaries and thefts have been reported.

With the likelihood of frosty weather predicted for the coming weeks, please be aware of the following advice.

Every year at this time, when there is a hard frost on the ground and on the windscreen, thieves get up early. They spend their mornings driving around villages and housing estates looking for

the tell tale puff of an exhaust pipe. When they find a car that has been left unattended with its engine running to defrost, they simply jump in and drive it away. Often the victim is able to watch as the thief drives away in their car.

We would urge everyone not to be tempted to leave your vehicle unattended at any time with its engine running. It is making a gift of your valuable car to people who don't deserve it. In addition to this, leaving your keys inside may well invalidate your insurance!

Please remember we have a regular monthly surgery with Lorraine Humfress our Community Police Officer. The next surgery will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 12th December from 10 – 11 am and the January surgery will be on 13th January 2010 from 1.15- 2.15 pm.

If you should see or hear anything suspicious call the Northamptonshire Police switchboard on tel: 03000 111 222 or the dedicated Neighbourhood Watch No. 01604 432436 or dial 999 in an emergency.

Alternatively you can call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Ros Gardner
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

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 DATES FOR DECEMBER ARE 1ST & 22ND & JANUARY 2010 DATE IS 12TH



POSTAGE STAMPS

Used postage stamps are still being collected in the village by Trudy Haynes (please leave on the window sill by the back door of the Old Plough).

The charity supported now is the Leprosy Mission



Tales of the Locks—No. 4

by Tom Price

The remarkable ‘Ancient Lady of the Locks’

When we moved to Whilton Locks in 1972, Miss Kirby (we never dared to use her first name) was 80 and assured us she was in her prime. Poor as a church mouse, she was our neighbour and friend for the next 13 years. We knew she was special and later realised that she was a true example of the elusive “X” factor and a massive influence on our lives.

We had to bring our furniture in by boat, and as we tried to discover how to work the bottom lock Miss Kirby hobbled out of her battered front door with a tray bearing bone china cups of tea and silver spoons, sugar bowl and milk jug – treasured possessions from her former grander life.

We had thought we were in for a quiet life in this isolated spot, but her welcome heralded an amazing period of activity and inspiration. Her motto was “I am going to do exactly what I like!” She lived for the moment, often saying she never felt a day older than 18.

She was gregarious, aristocratic, haughty, curious, witty, outrageous, sceptical, and often a total pain in the neck. Buckby’s beloved doctor, Norman How, one of her fans, affectionately described her as “The Ancient Lady of the Locks.”

Ellen Julia (“Nell”) Kirby, born 1892, came from Harpole, where her father was the village schoolmaster and choirmaster at the parish church. Unsurprisingly, she was bullied in school. Her elder brother Will was killed, aged just 16, at Gallipoli. His photograph in uniform – just a boy – hung on the wall in her living room.

Her other brother, Frank, lived with her until his sudden death at a relatively early age. Frank was a popular pianist and singer at local pubs and his rendering of *The Laughing Policeman* is remembered by elderly residents over a wide area. Miss Kirby had to drive him to his gigs.

She sometimes hinted at an ill-starred first world war romance with a German prisoner-of-war working on a local farm who either died or went home to Germany. There was an acute shortage of young men in her generation, millions having died in battle.

Perhaps to overcome the pain of lost love, she launched herself into business by opening a prestigious hairdressing salon in Northampton, where she lived a rather “fast” life as hairdresser to county ladies and visiting theatre stars.

When we knew her she had a collection of “everyday” and “best” wigs which she used like hats for going out. Her numerous friends included a former apprentice, Maureen Newman from Daventry, her neighbours – especially Mrs Steele and Mrs Linnell -- and several other good folk from the village.

Passing boaters would stop for a chat and a pat of her sausage dog Jim, who is posed on her doorstep in a fine painting of the old house (now Whilton Locks Pottery) by a schoolgirl artist she commissioned from Whilton. She would offer tourists and visitors a taste of her marrow jam, which simmered for hours on an upright paraffin stove.

She loved music and after a night at a local pub would have us in fits in the car going home, her wig all askew, with a hair-raising version of Tosti’s *Goodbye*. She had a collection of battered old hymnbooks, and insisted on being taken to her favourite oratorio, Bach’s *St Matthew Passion*.

We were also enlisted for outings to Norton, Whilton and Harpole parish churches, the spiritualist church in town (she was the first to be picked out for a “message from beyond”) and the Jesus People at Nether Heyford, whose brawny bearded acolytes were invited to tea at her cottage. It was a worrying experience for them when she dangerously plonked a blackened kettle on top of a roaring open fire. She loved ‘reading’ the tea leaves and most visitors took up her invitation to have their fortune told.

Her old cottage had very few facilities. She would descend to the cellar on rickety stairs, in the dark, to get coal. The contents of her commode went into the lock.

Her black cat was renowned for alerting her to danger, which it did late one winter’s night when boatman Andy Iddins fell into the lock during a big freeze; Miss Kirby quickly summoned help and he was rescued in the nick of time. The cat also miaowed for aid when Sambo, our old labrador, fell into the empty lock and was marooned on the cill. He was cleverly rescued with a lasso by the Linnell family.

Miss Kirby was a political activist. She wrote angrily to the local MP about an alleged misdemeanour. In her eighties she marched to Westminster on a rates demo, was interviewed on the green by a Times reporter, and listened in an ante-room to Mrs Thatcher, shortly before she became prime minister.

Many of her last days were largely spent in conversation with another local character, "Gentleman" Jim Lawrence, who came from a prominent family in Brington and was mad about horses. Jim was probably the second great romance of her life. Hunting folk all recognised his Robin Reliant three-wheeler, which he called his "lunar module." At its wheel he followed their progress, risking life and limb as he bumped across fields and verges. One morning he visited Miss Kirby on a grey horse in full hunting garb.

After giving up driving, she got her basic provisions by regular deliveries from Philip the bread man, Bob Wells the milkman, and Bailey's hardware. If we went away for a few days she would welcome us back with something for our dinner. At well over 80 she walked all the way up the hill to Whilton village to buy an ice-cream, and she also walked to Buckby Wharf with her dog Jim every week to collect her pension from the post office.

On her 90th birthday she was visited by many friends and distant relatives. Knowing her liking for a drop of sherry, most of them presented her with a bottle or two and several tables were almost covered with the gifts.

A few days later she felt unwell and we called out Doc Norman. He concluded that she was in good health but should reduce her sherry intake.

She spent her last days in a care home at Staverton and died there in 1985 at the age of 93. She lies in an unmarked grave in the churchyard at Whilton.

Next issue: Confessions of a reluctant organist

WHILTON SOCIAL LUNCH HELD THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2009

As usual we had clement weather on the day of our lunch and 18 people sat down to a three course meal, suitable for the time of the year.

Pre-meal we had our choice of fruit juices while we chatted and then sat at the table for vegetable soup and rolls. The main course was a sausage Guinness casserole with carrots and onion gravy served with creamed potato colcannon and cabbage and spring onions.

We had a choice of three desserts: - trifle (always popular), a light ginger and lemon cream jelly and fresh fruit salad and cream. Tea or coffee was then served with chocolate mints

TUESDAY CHAT



The next Tuesday Chat will be in the Village Hall
on Tuesday 15th December from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

If you would like to come for tea, cake and a chat, you will be very welcome.

Please bring £1.50 to cover expenses.

NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

INTERREGNUM

The position of incumbent for the Spencer Benefice having been advertised again in September received one reply. An interview date was arranged for November, the candidate having previously received the profile of the benefice detailing the parishes and the general working of them all and also given a tour of the churches. Sadly, having given much thought to it, the candidate decided not to take the position and the interview was cancelled.

As acting chairman of the benefice, I then contacted the Bishop and the Archdeacon as to the reason why and what is our position now. There is a Bishop's Staff Meeting before the end of November when it will be discussed and they will then get back to me with an update. In the meantime our services will proceed as normal with the help of the Revd April Richards and retired priests

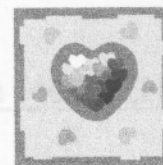
The services during December in St Andrew's Church are:-

13 th CHRISTINGLE	4.00pm	Led by Revd. David MacPherson
20 th CAROL SERVICE	6.00 pm	Led by the Archdeacon of Northampton
25 th FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION	11.00am	Led by Revd. April Richards

Date for your diary



Saint Valentine's Bazaar 2:00 – 4.30 pm Saturday 7th February 2010



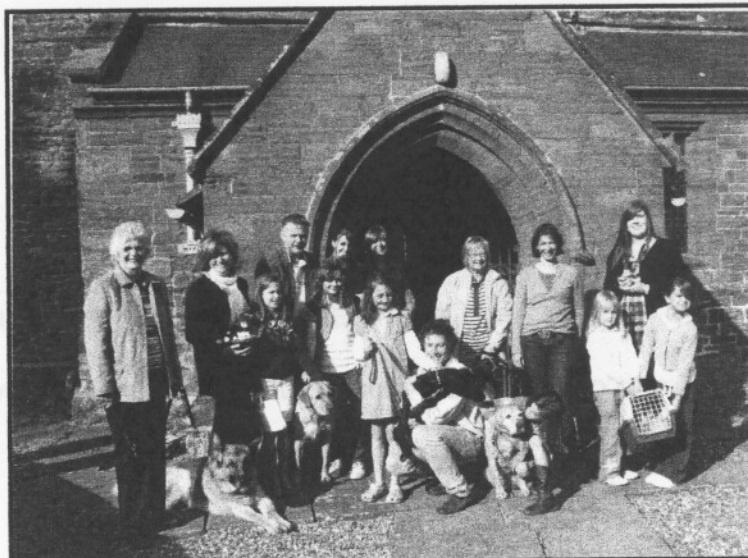
to be held in Saint Andrew's in aid of church funds

stalls to include gifts suitable for St. Valentine's day, Mothering Sunday and Easter and refreshments

there will also be an environmentally friendly unwanted Christmas present recycling facility

further details to follow but contact Janet (842851) or Teresa (843988) if you can't wait to find out more

See below a picture of happy pet owners and their charges taken at the Pet Service on Sunday 4th October in St Andrew's Church.



WILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
WILLIAM LANGTON AND HIS FARM

Christingle

shining light into darkness



The Children's Society



Christingle - welcoming the whole community Join our special celebration

On..... SUNDAY..... 13th DECEMBER..... - 4.00pm.....

At..... ST ANDREWS CHURCH..... WHILTON.....

Proceeds will support The Children's Society, by helping to make childhood better for all children in the UK. We take action to prevent, rescue and support children facing violence, poverty and neglect in their daily lives.

visit www.christingle.org call 0845 300 1128

WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

WILLIAM LANGTON AND HIS FARM

At our November meeting we found out some of the details of the farming life of William Langton of Whilton. William was born in the time of Queen Elizabeth, would have lived through the scare of the Spanish Armada, the accession of James I, the Gunpowder Plot and the early years of Charles I. He died in 1636.

We cannot be sure where William's Whilton farmhouse stood four hundred years ago, but there is enough information to give us an idea of what his home looked like. With the aid of a model we considered William's yard, which included the farmhouse where he lived. This was probably well furnished for a yeoman, but we only have records of a bed, chair, cupboards and buffet stool. The house and buildings would all have been thatched and probably built of cob. The fireplace was vital for cooking and for warmth, and the fire was kept in all year. The Langtons had a yearly trip to Rugby to collect coal, presumably from the Warwickshire mining area, and they also burnt furze in the house. Furze could be used as a form of kindling or to raise a blaze when more heat was needed. When William later built another farmhouse, he reckoned there was a need for sixty faggots of furze a year, but the size of the faggots is not described! There were trees in or around his Great Close, from which, no doubt, firewood was obtained. There was timber stacked about the place, some in sheds, which William referred to as hovels.

The yard was almost certainly cobbled. The outbuildings housed his farming equipment, which included at least two long carts and two dung carts, his ploughs, with irons belonging to them, and one great harrow. This equipment would have been pulled by the six horses owned by William. In the stables and cow houses round the yard were gear for horses, racks, mangers and lures. The entry to this yard was through a gateway, with two garners over it, suggesting a wide entrance, with gates which were closed at night, something like the farm at Muscott.

Other equipment included a salting trough, used in the salting of meat, which would have been butchered and preserved for the use of the family. There were also barrels, probably for the storing of beer brewed for the family and its servants and labourers. William had his own malt kiln, with its steeping vat and hair cloth belonging to it, and used in the production of malt probably from his own barley. Thomas Hale, a writer of the next century compared methods for making malt, and wrote, "*Of all the methods the plain and simple hair cloth is the best for the finest malts. A slow fire under this dries it very gradually and equally, it is easily turned as is required, and when it is done there is no difficulty in getting it out, for 'tis only turning it at once and all is clean.*" This suggests William Langton knew what he was doing. He stored his malt in barns round the yard.

In July 1602 William was married in Nether Heyford, where his bride was Elizabeth Worley. Their marriage was to last 33 years, which was a good long time for those risky days, when many women died young. William and Elizabeth brought up their children in the old farmhouse. There were two sons, William and Thomas, and several daughters. William and Elizabeth Langton prospered during their lifetime, and William was able to build a second farmhouse on Nichols Yard in Whilton, so that after his death each of his two sons could have his own farm. This new house had two storeys and with it a yard, homestead, barns and "edifices". There was a great barn next to "Beane Well", with a grass close beside it to the west. This new house was probably comfortably furnished, but the records only mention a table with frame and form in the hall, a spit, cupboards, a swilling pot and brazen pots, but that there were other items of furniture too. After William died, his widow, Elizabeth went to live in this new house with her son Thomas Langton; she had a patch of south facing ground outside her parlour where she could sit in the sun.

William's closes included an orchard, next to Robert Langton's close, with different types of apple trees. A few cows were kept in the Great Close near the house, almost certainly for milking, and some sheep grazed here too. Besides his two farmhouses and the hedged fields connected with them, William held four yardlands of arable land in the open fields of Whilton, just as other farmers did. A yardland was not a precise measurement and varied from parish to parish, in this area often being between 25 and 30 acres. If we base our calculations on the lower figure, we can say that William held at least 100 acres in Whilton open fields. He also held ten lands, or strips, in Muscot Field. This was another open field, stretching up adjoining Whilton, beside Roughmoor Grounds, which was communally held by Norton, Brockhall and Whilton parishes. In these open fields William grew corn and peas, wheat and barley. Some barley was used for malt, but other grain would have been threshed and taken to the windmill on the hill or the watermill in the valley, to provide flour for the family. He also harvested hay and held the sixth part of a yardland in the Farm Ground of Whilton. This may have been grassland for hay or grazing.

However, William's main business involved livestock. In his old age, he owned 16 cows and 8 heifers, and in the common fields he kept 30 young sheep, 15 ewes and lambs and 15 barren sheep, besides his sheep and cows in his Great Close near the house. There were also another 60 hogs (a local word for yearling sheep). His sons also had their own flocks and herds, and appear to have worked the farm with him.

Dung from the animals was an important by-product, used for fertilising the ground. William had dung carts for transporting this manure where required, but the sheep were sometimes folded on the arable strips which William held, the folds being carried out to the lands. After William died, the sons had to carry out his will that young William's sheep should be moved out to a fold on Thomas's arable in the open fields every year, so that Thomas should have the muck from his brother's sheep kept in Great Close; Thomas had the duty of carrying the sheep fold out to the fields.

After his death in 1636, William Langton was not buried in the churchyard, but in the church itself, usually the sign that he was an important and wealthy parishioner. He left the church a plate for the serving of the bread during communion, but no memorial to him has remained. His "beloved friends" whom he made the overseers of his will were other farmers, Thomas Linnell, William Hall and William Briggs. William Phillips, another farmer who probably lived in a farmhouse at the end of Buckby Lane, and the Rector, Samuel Phillips, witnessed the will. The value of William Langton's goods was reckoned to be £607-9-4, a considerable sum in 1636.

.....

The next meeting of the **Local History Society** will be in the Village Hall
at 7.30 p.m. on 19th January 2010.

Please note that this will be on a **TUESDAY** evening.

Twelve years ago Harold Haynes wrote an article in the newsletter, entitled,
"WADD'S IN A NAME?".

This meeting will have the same title.

Harold raised a number of questions about places and names in Whilton, some of which can now be answered; other old names have come to light. If you are interested in house names, field names or places of old Whilton, come along as we share our knowledge.

All are welcome.

Please bring £1.50 to cover expenses.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

December 2009

6TH	10.00 AM	<u>BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT EAST HADDON</u>
13TH	4.00 PM	CHRISTINGLE
20TH	6.00 PM	CAROL SERVICE
25TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION

January 2010

3RD	10.00 AM	<u>BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT NORTON</u>
10TH	11.00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE



ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY



A Working Party was held on Sunday afternoon 8th November. It was well attended with nine adults and Hannah who was very industrious brushing the boardwalk which was covered in leaves. Sarah Kennedy, a fairly new resident in the village, joined us and this is very encouraging to have the interest shown with the maintenance of the spinney which is a very valuable asset to the parish.

The pond is now presenting a problem inasmuch a tremendous amount of reed has grown in the past 12 months and produced a very intensive root system. Means of clearing the pond are being considered and it might be a case of draining the water so that the team can enter and manually dig out the roots. The pond has now been in existence for nine years and this is the first problem that we have had to deal with.

Spinney Management Committee

Brington and Whilton Pre-School

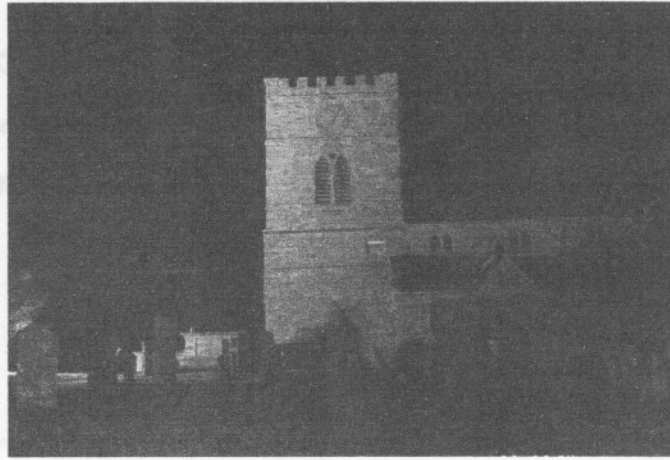
**Invite you all to
join us for the Children's Christmas Concert
on Wednesday 9th December 2009**

Whilton Church

10.30am

**Afterwards in the Village Hall for
Coffee and Mince Pies.**

ST ANDREWS WHILTON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



This year we are once again giving you the opportunity to light 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 either **Janet Bowers (842851)** or **Jon Brierley (843380)**

11 DECEMBER	JON AND HELEN BRIERLEY
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	JANET BOWERS
17	
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19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	KATH WRIGHT
25	PAULINE BRIERLEY AND FRIENDS
26	
27	ANN GILBERT & RICHARD
28	GREG LYE
29	
30	
31	TERESA LEADBETTER
1 JANUARY	
2	
3	
4	DEREK & SHIRLEY BROWN
5	
6	

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Tues	1 st	Dec	9.15 am	Library van in village outside the Old Plough
Wed	2 nd	Dec	7.00 pm	WGA in village hall - Christmas meal for Members
Wed	9 th	Dec	10.30 am	Children's Christmas Concert in St Andrew's (Pre-School)
Sat	12 th	Dec	10.00am	Police Surgery in village hall
Sun	13 th	Dec	4.00 pm	Christingle in St Andrew's Church
Tues	15 th	Dec	2.30 pm	Tuesday Chat in village Hall
Sun	20 th	Dec	6.00 pm	Carol Service in St Andrew's Church
Mon	22 nd	Dec	9.15 am	Library van in village outside the Old Plough
Fri	25 th	Dec	11.00 am	Family Holy communion for Christmas Day
Mon	4 th	Jan 2010	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
Tues	12 th	Jan	9.15 am	Library van in village outside The Old Plough
Wed	13 th	Jan	1.15 am	Police Surgery in Village Hall
Tues	19 th	Jan	7.30 pm	Whilton Local History Society in village hall "Wadd's in a Name?"
Mon	25 th	Jan		

DEADLINE FOR FEB/MARCH NEWSLETTER

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

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