

# WHILTON NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2007



## CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS



The floodlights have been restored and are now available. For a small cost of £10 you can light up the church for the evening in memory of a loved one, an anniversary or other special occasions. For these bookings please contact the churchwarden Janet on 842851.

It would be great to illuminate Our pretty church during the festive season .

Maybe there are residents in the village who would like to sponsor the cost involved for an evening between 10th December 2007 and 6th January 2008 to see St Andrews Church floodlit..



There are already residents who have indicated they will sponsor 11th December, Christmas Day and Boxing Day and anyone who is interested in other evenings between the above dates, please contact Jon Brierley on 843380 to whom the payment should be made. This arrangement is for the festive period only.

Cheques to be made payable to The Parish of Whilton PCC.



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



Quiz Night

Whilton village had one of its largest gatherings for some time at the village hall on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November with 50 friends and villagers in attendance. Noise, drink and fun, on the feedback received, were had by all who attended.

Neil Philips, our quiz master, was on magnificent form, providing questions that made the whole hall silent! Well done to the winning team with a very suitable name 'Kings of Whiltonia', I hope you enjoyed the chocolates! Closely following were 'Reds & Blues' and 'Quiz Akabousi'.



The Winners -

Thanks to everyone who attended and made it possible: to all who donated prizes; to Neil the excellent quizmaster; Whilton Village Hall Committee for providing the hall free of charge; you lovely folk, my parents for cooking; to my sister for helping out; and to all of you for attending.

I hope everyone had a good time, and for some people they can just say they did as they can't remember much of the night! I can't thank you enough for your support as overall we raised a FANTASTIC £439.50.

Look out for a rematch quiz coming soon in the New Year; details will be on the village notice board!



Jacob Mitchell

## KENNETH SAWFORD

1924 – 2007

Kenneth Sawford was born 6<sup>th</sup> October 1924 in Raunds, Northamptonshire and lived all his life in the county. He married Dorothy in 1947 and they had celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. They had two children, Jill & Neil, and have three grandchildren, Kate, Hannah & Isabelle. Jill went into the teaching profession and Neil followed his father into accountancy. He was very proud of his family.

Ken & Dorothy had lived in Northampton for many years and then moved to Pattishall where they remained for 27 years before coming to Whilton eight years ago. Ken loved living in a country village and taking part in many of the activities on offer. When they first came to Whilton they were immediately supportive of various associations and the events that took place.

Ken was called up to serve in the Second World War in 1942 when he was 18 and served for four years in the army where he attained the rank of Lieutenant. After being demobbed he went into accountancy and progressed to become a partner in the Practice. He loved his work and did not fully retire until he was well into his seventies.

He appreciated the natural world and shared with Dorothy the charms of watching goldfinches from their armchairs. Ken was a man with a song in his heart, not only as he sung in choirs, but was also moved to impromptu singing at any time of the day. He was a man of great faith who celebrated his belief in the mysteries through music. Ken was an excellent raconteur with a great sense of humour and had a way of attracting people as he was also a good listener.

Ken was a gentleman in every sense of the word and a perfectionist in his home, garden and his dress - right down to his shiny shoes.

**KENNETH WILL BE SADLY MISSED, NOT ONLY BY HIS FAMILY, BUT  
ALL THOSE WHO KNEW HIM**

## PARISH MATTERS

Whilton Parish Council met on 15<sup>th</sup> October, when 5 Councillors attended. There is still a vacancy on the Council, and so if you anyone is interested, please do speak to me or to any Parish Councillor, as another member should be co-opted as soon as possible.

### FINANCE

The second half of the parish precept has been received and this with bank interest and our VAT refund brought the total income since the last meeting to £2746.27, with the current account standing at £3234.34 and the reserve at £4007.26. Cheques were then authorized for petrol and strimmer line for the mower, lighting maintenance and electricity, printing the Newsletter and for some Design Statement expenses.

Mike Lewis explained that a grant had been received from *Awards for All* towards the expenses of the Parish Design Statement. The date for completion and return of the form and receipts has been extended until 29 February 2008, but this will still be a very tight schedule in which to produce and pay for the Statement.

Councillors also discussed some aspects of Parish Council insurance and this review will continue next month.

### PLANNING

After closing the meeting and holding a discussion with parishioners attending, it was agreed to form a working party to formulate a response to the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation, with the aim of protecting the rural community as much as possible.

Notification had been received of the grant of planning permission for loose boxes and a tack room at former **Coach House, the Green** (DA/2007/0826).

### ROADS

#### Plant life

All parishioners are reminded that vegetation, whether growing up from pots, hanging over walls or spreading out from boundaries, can be a problem for drivers and especially for pedestrians, when they have to step out into the road to avoid decorative plants or vigorous hedges. Please help by pruning or removing plant life which can be a hazard to others.



### **Road drainage problems**

NCC/Atkins have responded to our recent letters concerning drainage problems. The area has been inspected. Because a leak was found, a "section 81 defective plant notice" has been issued to Anglian Water. The Clerk was requested to write again, asking what has happened as a result of this.

Since this meeting the Councillors have also carried out their Autumn Walk, and as a result a number of other aspects of road problems will be raised in the parish and with appropriate authorities.

### **THE PARISH COMMUNITY**

The DDC has now taken note that Rose Cottage has been standing empty for a long time, and may take some action as a result.

Further information will be sought about a possible litter bin at the Locks and also about any possibility of funding support for repair of the dry stone wall near Kunda Cottage, identified as a feature and focus in the centre of the village in the Design Statement



Peter Bennett was welcomed as the new **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator**. It was suggested that he may like to consider the involvement of the Locks as well as the village in the Cascade System, thus covering the whole parish.

### **CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING**

Looking forward to Christmas, it was agreed to join the Christmas tree recycling arrangements again this year. The collection point will be the Green, and notices giving more information will be put up nearer Christmas.



### **THE NEW YEAR**

By the time this Newsletter is published, there will have been another Parish Council, when the budget for next year will have been discussed. Our next meeting will be in the New Year, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2008 in the Village Hall. All are welcome.

Anthea Hiscock  
Clerk to the Parish Council (843319)

Your Parish Councillors are:

- Mike Lewis (Chairman)
- Ken Bowers
- Jonathan Hanslip
- Greg Lye
- Penny Price
- Nora Swinford

# WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB DRAW 2007

## OCTOBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	129	J & S Hanslip	£45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	024	C Battinson	£25

## NOVEMBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	103	M Onan	£45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	084	T Treacy	£25

## DECEMBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	185	G Heeley	£45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	045	A Kane	£25

Congratulations to the Winners

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## Reports from One of our Younger Residents

### Rounders 2007

The sun broke through, the grass was damp but it all added to the excitement!

There was a good gathering of sporty looking people ready to hit the ball as far as they could in the field. If only more fun people could've joined us, a rounder would've been easy!

Hopefully next year more people will find the courage to join in the fun.

### Pet Service

Hunny (my hamster) always looks forward to this occasion (she doesn't get out much!)

It was very entertaining watching the larger animals join in with the service, Hunny slept through the whole event, well, she is a hamster.

Hunny hopes to see more animals at the pet service next year.

Alice Grant  
Westcombe House Manor Lane



### 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 IS 18<sup>TH</sup> AND FOR JANUARY 2008 THE DATES ARE 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 29<sup>TH</sup>**

## **KEEP WHILTON CLEAN**

**THERE HAS BEEN A NUMBER OF INCIDENTS RECENTLY OF DOG FOULING IN THE VILLAGE AND ALSO IN THE CHURCHYARD (REPORTED TO THE CHURCHWARDEN). IT IS NOT PLEASANT FOR PEOPLE VISITING GRAVES; PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND KEEP BOTH THE CHURCHYARD AND THE VILLAGE CLEAN.**



## **ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY**



A Working Party was held on Sunday afternoon 14<sup>th</sup> October 2007. There were six adults and three children and they dealt with the various tasks. Maintenance was carried out to the pond and stream and strimming to the paths and the play/ picnic area.

We have yet to replace certain worn sections of the boardwalk but at the moment we are trying to engage labour from another source as BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers), which did the original installation, is unable to accommodate our requirements.

## **WHILTON VILLAGE HALL**

The Annual General Meeting will be held in February 2008 and it would be great to have residents of the parish present and especially with new ideas for the future, social and otherwise.

It is hoped that for 2008 the 200 Club will be well supported as the income from this source is essential for the Management Committee to be in a position to carry out further improvements for the benefit of the community.

At this point we would like to extend our grateful thanks to the volunteers who collect the membership fees and of course always looking out for additional members and additional tickets.

Our next fairly urgent project is to investigate the kitchen floor and carry out such work that is necessary and at the same time refurbish generally (tiling and decorating etc.).

Whilton Village Hall Management Committee

## **WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

**7.30 p.m.**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2008 in the Village Hall (the old school)**

*"The happiest years of their lives"*

*Whilton School and its history*



**Come and join us as we share what we can find out about teaching and learning in Whilton in the past.**

**All are welcome. Please bring £1.50 to cover expenses.**



**Our Rector** - Rev Chris Goble works from **Brington Rectory** and can be contacted on 01604 770402 or E-mail [chris@spencerbenefice.freemove.co.uk](mailto:chris@spencerbenefice.freemove.co.uk)

Christmas time, mistletoe and wine, (sing along if you know it) children singing Christian rhyme, with logs on the fire and gifts on the tree, (try and keep up at the back) a time to rejoice in the good that we see (come on, all as one)! I will leave you to do a calculation as to how many songs have appeared about Christmas, and how many Sir Cliff Richard is responsible for: (that could pass a bit of time this festive season!) I wonder what you make of some of the songs. There is that one (written before my time!) about wishing it could be Christmas every day. Most of us are glad it isn't! If

Christmas means something more, though, than just presents and stressful family times, and I believe it does, then Christmas is for every day of year. The birth of a baby 2000 years ago has transformed the world, think of how we calculate our years, and imagine our land without any churches, cathedrals, and the work of Christian faith in our world. Christmas is about the birth of the Son of God, but the message really is for us when it means we have the opportunity, but not forced, to become a son or daughter of God.

## **SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON DECEMBER 2007**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>Brington</u></b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4.00 PM</b>	<b>CHRISTINGLE</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00 PM</b>	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>Brampton</u></b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00 AM</b>	<b>FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00 AM</b>	<b>BENEFICE FAMILY EUCHARIST AT WHILTON</b>

### **CHURCH NEWS**

#### **METAL THEFTS**

You will probably have heard by now that churches and other buildings are being targeted by people cashing in on a crime trend brought about by the value of scrap metal increasing several times over.

Northamptonshire Police are calling on the public to be their eyes and ears as they step

up their operation to prevent these thefts. Please be aware of this crime and help by observing if all is well when you pass St Andrews Church, either driving or walking past, or by noting and reporting suspicious vehicles which might be used by thieves as they survey potential targets

People are asked to ring Northamptonshire Police on 08453 700700 quoting the name **OPERATION PILFER** or dial 999 if the crime is in progress.

Thank you, Janet

#### **CANTARI SINGERS IN CONCERT – 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER IN ST ANDREW'S CHURCH**

*This concert was thoroughly enjoyed by those who came. We were transported in song and music to various parts of the world from the Alps to the deep south of America and back home to London. Mulled wine and mince pies were served during the interval and the raffle was also drawn.*

*£208.50 was raised for church funds. A sincere thank you to the singers and to all who helped*

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Sunday 9th December - CHRISTINGLE 4.00pm  
 Sunday 16th December - CAROL SERVICE 6.00pm  
 Tues 25th December - FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION 11.00am  
 Sunday 30th December - BENEFICE FAMILY EUCHARIST 10.00am



## EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM 2007

Whilton was placed First in the Small Village Category, receiving 160 points out of a possible 200. The judges report as follows:-

"Mrs Janet Bowers and Mrs Anthea Hiscock gave us a very informative tour of the picture postcard village. The immaculately kept churchyard and allotment area were a treat to visit and the hard work in the Spinney Woods by the community was commendable. The community spirit in maintaining this delightful village was evident and is a credit to Whilton".

Can we make it a hat trick and win first place again in 2008?

Janet Bowers (Coordinator)



## WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007 at 7.30 pm in the village hall

This will be our annual general meeting and Christmas social evening. As usual we'll share a buffet provided by the members (please bring your contribution on the evening) and WGA will provide drinks.

During the AGM we will be voting for committee members and on the proposed subscription increase from £5 to £7.

Teresa Leadbetter – Chairman – tel 843988

## PETS' CORNER

Hellooooo. Is there anyone out there? I had a response to my last column from a very chatty hamster, which was lovely, but otherwise it's been a bit quiet. Don't be shy, let me know what you're looking forward to about Christmas.

I've shared my home in Whilton with various creatures. There are two humans, there have been various other cats ... and dogs. Dogs have visited for holidays and one of them stayed, but once trained she was okay. It was the visitors that I found trying. When a dog lives in the house for any length of time you can train it. When it just comes to visit it has all sorts of bad manners - all stemming from a lack of respect for us cats.

My first Christmas in Whilton started promisingly enough - a large tree was put in the living room with lots of sparkly, dangly cat toys hanging from the branches (the humans called them decorations). Personally I thought they were a bit elaborate for cat toys and I would have appreciated at least a hint of cat nip in them - still they rolled around the carpet and under the sofa just like our normal toys. Then on Christmas day I was waiting patiently in the kitchen in case a tasty morsel came my way when in

bounded the biggest, blackest, hairiest, noisiest dog ever. Well, it gave me a start I can tell you - I was through the cat flap in one leap. No one warned me the cat flap was locked! The sight of me sitting outside the back door with the frame of a cat flap around my neck made the lady human laugh so much that she cried - no consideration for my feelings at all! And the dog turned out to be a big soft lump who totally ignored me the whole time she was here.

I hope that you have a lovely Christmas, do write and tell me all about it. Don't forget to make the most of having your owners at home over the Christmas holidays - lots more opportunities for treats and games.

Lots of love,

Molly xx



**"The Villages Committee" is pleased to announce they are to hold a**  
***"Murder Mystery Evening" at 7.30pm on Friday 29th***  
***February at Harlestone Village Institute.***

**All villagers are welcome to come along and join in the fun and no  
prior experience is required.**

**The details of the "plot" and the individual characters will be revealed  
in February 2008.**

**Tickets are £20 each and include a 3 course dinner and a drink upon  
arrival. However, please bring your own wines for the dinner. Table  
plans will be co-ordinated by your hosts for the Murder Mystery."**

**Information and tickets will be available from:**

**Nikki Risbridger – Great Brington, on email :- Risbridger4@aol.com  
Jo Grant – Whilton, on email:- joanne@grant91.wanadoo.co.uk**

## **Whilton Photographic Club**



### **Whilton 2008 Calendar – Sold Out!**

**I would like to start with offering a big thank you to everyone who purchased a  
copy of our 2008 calendar. I am very pleased to say that all 100 copies were quickly  
snapped up and the feedback was really positive.**

**Next Meeting** (to be held in Whilton Village Hall starting at 7.30pm):

**We are now coming up to our last meeting of the year on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December when  
we will be reviewing the events of 2007 and planning ahead for 2008.**

**We will publish our 2008 programme in the next edition of the Whilton Newsletter.**

**If you are fortunate enough to receive a new camera for Christmas and want to  
learn how to use it to take better photographs, contact me for further details about  
the club; or just come along to our next meeting.**

**Neil Phillips (Tel: 01327 844182, E-mail: [neiljphillips@hotmail.com](mailto:neiljphillips@hotmail.com))**

 **Christingle**

# Invitation

Please come and join us. You can help The Children's Society make a very real difference to the lives of thousands of disadvantaged children and young people.

Help us bring light and love back into a child's life.

Light up  
**a child's life**



You are warmly invited to a  
**Christingle Celebration**

at: ST ANDREWS  
WHILTON  
on: SUN 9<sup>th</sup> DEC. 07  
time: 4.00pm.



**The  
Children's  
Society**

A Voluntary Society of  
The Church of England and  
The Church in Wales.

Charity Registration No. 221124



## JINGLE BELLS (THE AUSSIE WAY)

Dashing through the bush in a rusty Holden ute  
Kicking up the dust, Esky in the boot  
Kelpie by my side, singing Christmas songs  
It's summer time and I am in my singlet shorts & thongs

*(Chorus)*

*Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way  
Christmas in Australia on a scorching summer's day. Hey!  
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut  
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute!*

Engine's getting hot, dodge the kangaroos  
Swaggie climbs aboard, he is welcome too.  
All the Family's there, sitting by the pool,  
Christmas Day the Aussie way, by the barbecue.

*(Chorus)*

Come the afternoon, Grandpa has a doze,  
The kids and Uncle Bruce are swimming in their clothes.  
The time comes round to go: we take a family snap  
Then pack the car and all shoot through –  
before the washing up

*(Chorus)*



**THIS WAS FIRST PRINTED IN OUR DECEMBER 2001  
NEWSLETTER BUT WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO  
READ IT AGAIN**



## Brington Primary School News



**'... the body of a weak and feeble woman; but the heart and stomach of a king'**

We were lucky to have historian Richard York join us to learn more about Queen Elizabeth I, Tudor life and the Spanish Armada. We spent the day dressed as Tudors and learned what life would have been like on board an Armada ship. We used huge sails to represent the different fleets and recreated the battle in our school hall. We were also soldiers taking part in a pike drill and musicians, playing Tudor instruments. We learned Tudor dances and songs and took part in a procession, lead by Queen Elizabeth I. We had a fantastic time and at the end of the day our parents came to watch our performance.



## SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Mon	3rd	Dec	7.30 pm	WGA -in Village Hall - AGM
Sun	9th	Dec	4.00 pm	Christingle Service in St Andrew's Church
Tues	11th	Dec	7.30 pm	Whilton Photographic Club AGM in Village Hall
Sun	16th	Dec	6.00 pm	Carol Service in St Andrew's Church
Mon	18th	Dec	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Mon	7th	Jan	8.00 pm	Whilton Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
Tues	8th	Jan	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
			7.30 pm	Whilton Photographic Club in Village Hall
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup>	Jan		<b>Newsletter Deadline for FEBRUARY otherwise we cannot guarantee it will be included in the next edition</b>
Thurs	24th	Jan	7.30 pm	Whilton Local Historic Society in Village Hall - 'Whilton School'
Tues	29th	Jan	9.15 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough

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 and now also PETS

Please supply a disk with your contribution if not emailed 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.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE  
TO THE NEWSLETTER AND THE VOLUNTEERS  
WHO HANDLE THE DISTRIBUTION**

**Don't Tempt the Christmas Criminal**

Burglars know there are rich pickings to be had at this time of the year as many houses are packed full of presents and because it is dark so early, burglars can easily spot when someone is not at 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 the **Neighbourhood Watch dedicated phone number 01604 432436** or **Northampton Police on 08453 700700**

**Whilton Cascade System**

As there have been a number of changes in the village, the lists are being updated and reprinted. A revised list will be delivered to all residents in the village and your cooperation in keeping this information readily available for when there is a need to circulate urgent information will be appreciated.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators

**POPPY APPEAL 2007**

We are pleased to report that this year's collection around the village amounted to £156.  
Many thanks to Lucy Gow and her assistants.