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WHILTON NEWSLETTER

Ed's Notes

As was recently quoted by a well respected "Countryman and Whiltonian"
Ice in November to bear a duck -
The rest of the Winter - slush and muck!"

It is to be hoped he is right, although at the time of writing there is just a small doubt, as the snow keeps falling! However, here is the third action packed Newsletter for happy reading by the fire! Everyone is being very encouraging and material is coming in. Please do not wait to be invited to write an article or come forward with a bit of village "news" all contributions are most welcome, by Friday 11th March please. The For Sale notices of last issue went down very well, with most items sold.

Can we draw your attention to the last page "dates for your diaries" this is a summary of everything published in the newsletter.

Best wishes for the New Year

Eds.

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Parish Council Report

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 11th January. A resume of the business discussed is listed below:

- a) "Parish 2000" - The Northants Association of Local Councils had sent details of an interesting project in which it is hoped parishioners will undertake a Domesday type survey of village life in 1988. The Parish Council agreed to hold an open meeting at which a video would be presented by a representative of the NALC. If enough public support were forthcoming then a survey could well be a possibility.
- b) The Post Office will now be opening on two mornings per week namely Monday and Thursday 9.30 - 12.30. The Post Office authorities had agreed to three mornings but the present Post Mistress preferred to open on only two.
- c) Three new street lights are on order.
- d) As a result of an enquiry the Daventry District Council had confirmed that the product of a penny rate for the parish for 1988/89 would amount to £368.
- e) Finances - The Parish Council bank balances were at present Deposit account £939.61. (includes half year interest of £23.01). Current account £23.58. in the red (caused entirely by the bank not following instructions).

- f) Daventry District Council has supported our request and agreed that at the next elections in May 1988 six councillors will be elected to represent Whilton and one to represent Whilton Locks.
- g) Allotment rents are to remain unchanged for the next 12 months.
- h) Following the recent developments at the lower end of Buckby Lane, the Parish Council agreed to ask for a site meeting with the N.C.C. to discuss bringing the surface at the bottom end of the lane up to an acceptable standard.
- i) Planning matters:
Alterations to Kunda Cottage granted.
Change of use 7 South View granted.
Sale of garden sheds, Bryants Whilton Locks granted.
Building Plot at rear of Stone House refused.
- j) The appeal by Mr. E.J. Thomas with regard to an enforcement notice served in respect of the tipping of soil in his field at the side of the A5, when the crossroads were improved at Whilton Locks. The Parish Council had written to the NCC saying they had no objection to the tipping of soil but they did object to being asked for comments on an application when work had already started, which was the position when the application was first received in May, 1987. The Parish Council therefore supported the NCC in its serving of the enforcement notice.
- k) A letter was sent to the NCC regarding the following road repairs:

1. Brington Road bends possible improvements.
 - ii. Culvert on Brington Road to prevent flooding.
 - iii. Surface water drainage at triangle at the top of village.
- 1) The vexed question of uncontrolled dogs and their trail of mess was brought to the councillors attention by several parishioners. After a discussion it was agreed that a general reminder would be included in the next village newsletter and a letter would be sent to owners of dogs identified as regular "offenders" asking for their co-operation in keeping their dogs under proper control.

The following is a copy of the letter:

Dear

Following complaints from villagers, the members of the Parish Council, at their last meeting, decided that letters should be sent to those dog owners whose dogs have been seen running loose in the village.

The following points are causing concern and have given rise to complaints:-

- 1) "Scavenging" dogs have interfered with dustbins and refuse sacks causing unnecessary litter in the village.
- 2) There have been reports of loose dogs on the allotments, in the churchyard and on "open-plan" front gardens.

- 3) There have been occasions when motorists have had to swerve, or brake sharply, to avoid a stray dog on the road and there is concern that an accident may be caused.
- 4) There has been an increase in the fouling, by dogs, of footpaths and mown verges.

The Parish Council wishes to point out that it is a dog owner's responsibility to see that the animal is kept under control at all times and, therefore, seeks your co-operation in asking that you make sure that your dog is confined to your own premises except when taken out under your strict control.

Yours sincerely

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Help Needed

The Red Cross Society are hoping to organise a collection in the village during Red Cross Week in May. A volunteer and/or volunteers are needed to undertake this exercise. Any offers would be gratefully received by Mrs. Gill Houghton, Churchgate (tel.843114). Please support this very worthwhile organisation.

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Parish Church

Sundays: 1st & 3rd 6.00pm Sung Eucharist
 2nd & 5th 6.00pm Evening Prayer (sung),
 followed by the Communion
 4th 9.30am Family service followed by the Communion

Sunday School: 1st & 3rd Sundays 10.30am

Standing Committee: Wednesday 3rd February 3.00pm

ASH WEDNESDAY 17th February Eucharist at Whilton 6.45pm

Wine tasting Evening Saturday 6th February at Kunda Cottage 7.30pm. This is an Organ fund-raising event for which we are much obliged to Mr. & Mrs. P. Waights.

Parochial Church Council Wednesday 17th February 7.30pm at the 'Old Plough'.

A Lent Course (for the Benefice) will take place on five Wednesdays of Lent; 24th Feb., 2, 9, 16 and 23 March at 7.30pm. Based on a Diocesan originated Bible Study scheme on the theme "Covenant". This course will link ultimately (for those who so wish) with a grand Bible Day at Peterborough Cathedral on Saturday 25th June. (There may be a Deanery coach for this). We are sharing with our Baptist friends and will meet at the Baptist Church Rooms, Little Brington.

We are most grateful to all who helped with the Concert and Draw in December which resulted in credits to the Organ Fund of £177.50 and £400 respectively. This extraordinarily good result is due in no small measure to a great deal of generosity by many people so that no expenses needed to be deducted. A special thank-you to the performers and to Mr. & Mrs. Bilsborough for their kind organisation of the children and to Janet for making the event possible.

Church Envelopes regrettably our appeal for friends to join this scheme brought no result but we take the liberty of repeating it - just in case some good intentions were overlooked in the pressures of the mid-winter holidays! But much more than envelopes we need bodies and we make a 1988 Appeal for all Church of England people to join in the weekly worship of their parish church. Let this be a new year's Resolution.

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Village Church Organ Fund

Due to a tremendous response of villagers the organ fund is now one third on its way to the target figure of £3000. As was agreed by the P.C.C. last summer, when £1000 was reached estimates for the work would be considered. We have now arrived at this stage and at the next P.C.C. meeting in February this will be a main item on the Agenda. Grateful thanks must be extended to all who have organised fund raising events so far. Keep up the efforts!

Sec. P.C.C.

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Whilton Church Organ Appeal Fund

Wine tasting evening at "Kunda Cottage"

On Saturday, 6th February at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £3 Includes Tasting Six Wines

or

£1.50 Includes Tasting Six Non-Alcoholic Wines

Bring and Buy Stall

Raffle

Tickets from Jean & Philip Waights, "Kunda Cottage"

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Women's Institute Report

Members enjoyed a pleasant Christmas meal at the White Horse at Norton, and we held our Annual Members Night on the 4th December. This consists of a committee of 3 people providing the entertainment for the evening. This year it was a buffet of Pizza, Vol-au-vents and Salads followed by delicious desserts, coffee and mints. Members were encouraged to produce a hat with a television theme which the others had to guess. Another competition was organised and the evening ended with carols led admirably by a very tolerant Mrs. Haynes.

Unfortunately in January our talk on the "Feel and Beauty of Wood" was cancelled due to the ill-health of the speaker. We were very grateful to Misses Drake and Scott for stepping in and showing us slides and giving a talk on their visit to Eastern Turkey.

Decisions were made at the meeting about future fund raising activities and the possibility of a treasure-hunt in the summer. We hope to walk some of the village footpaths and take part in the Countryside Hedgerow Survey.

We are all going to save our silver paper and used stamps. The silver paper helps to provide guide dogs for the blind. If anyone not connected with the W.I. would like to collect silver paper, and we usually throw away such a lot, please give it to a W.I. member, or to Mrs. Haynes who takes it to a collection point.

Our next meeting is on February 10th and the subject is "Crime Prevention in the Home".

The March meeting is on the 9th and is about "The Work of the National Trust".

If anyone is interested in joining the W.I. please ring Anthea Hiscock on 843319.

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The Pytchley Hounds will meet at East Haddon Hall 10.45am Saturday February 6th.

Westerby Basset Hounds will meet at Surney Lodge, Long Buckby 1.30pm Wednesday February 17th.

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Whilton Post Office

In the last issue of the Newsletter we published an account by Miss Drake of the steps taken in protest against the proposal by the Post Office authorities to reduce the opening hours of Whilton P.O. from six mornings to one morning a week.

As a result of the protests and representations from local organisations and individuals the P.O. authorities have had a change of heart. Although pointing out that the level of business in Whilton P.O. is very low compared with a suburban post office, and that the amount of business transacted in one week here would normally be undertaken by one person in a suburban post office in about 1 1/2 hours, the authorities said that, in view of the strong feeling in the village and representations made, they were prepared to allow opening hours from 9.30 - 12.30 on three mornings per week.

The new Sub Postmistress, however, after due consideration, has decided that she would prefer to open the office on only two mornings, rather than three, and these are to be Mondays and Thursdays.

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If anyone is able to offer STORAGE SPACE for four tables (approx 6' x 2'), which are used for the village fete, please contact Mary Kane, Fallowfield (842618).

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The Versatile Age

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 secondhand knowledge.
Don't bring your mending for Grandma to do,
For Grandma has gone back to College!

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The Whilton Gardeners' Association

The December meeting of the Whilton Gardeners' Association was held in the village hall on Monday 7th December.

The usual business took place which included a suggestion that everyone gave early thought to what could be provided for the plant stall at the 1988 fete, in the hope that a good variety of useful and therefore saleable plants be grown and at their best at the right time.

Several packets of locally grown onion seeds were offered, by an anonymous donor, to whoever wished to try and grow the largest onion, from the seeds, ready to be displayed at the October 1988 meeting of the Association. Several people took up the challenge.

We were then treated to a delightful array of slides and narration by Mr. Barton of The Herbarry at Thornby with its wide variety of herbs. Amongst the very many varieties Mr. Barton spoke about were the following:

SAGE - Perennial - not only can this herb be used for sage and onion stuffing, but also as a gargle to relieve sore throats. Keep clipped hard back to promote new growth.

GOLDEN SAGE - as a decoration.

SUMMER SAVOURY - Annual - Sow Feb/March in warmth. Nice in meat dishes or chopped in salad.

PARSLEY - Annual - Germination can be up to one month, try pouring boiling water into drill when sowing seed. Good chopped in salad, makes lovely wine and taken as an infusion helps to relieve arthritis.

EGYPTIAN ONION - onion grows on top of tall stem and is small and mild. Also known as tree onion.

BORAGE - has the flavour of cucumber, useful in salads, seeds itself. Dip the blue flowers in egg white and then in icing sugar, as a cake decoration.

LOVAGE - perennial - needs plenty of room in the garden. Has a celery flavour, chop stems into casserole. Chew to relieve indigestion.

CORRIANDER - use as a salad vegetable, seeds in curries. Sow, grow to 6" cut it and use for salad. Then allow it to grow and seed in about mid. September.

SWEET CICELY - perennial - use about 3 leaves in with stewing rhubarb, can then cut down sugar needed in dish. Use as a floral decoration, large podded seed head, turns a rich brown in September.

CHIVES - Every ten days cut half the plant to ground level, never allow to flower. Don't allow clumps to get too big, split the plant every 4 years.

Try GARLICK CHIVES - has a white flower and stems flat like grass.

ROSEMARY - use when cooking lamb also dried mixed with equal quantity of oatmeal, tied in muslin and hung under the hot bath tap, makes a very refreshing bath fragrance. Use the bag 2 or 3 times. It is a tender plant, shelter from East wind.

CURRY PLANT - perennial - gives off lovely curry scent on warm evenings, bright yellow flower. Place 2 or 3 sprigs inside a chicken and cook.

PENNY ROYAL - Ants dislike this herb.

CALLENDULA - annual - can be used in cooking instead of saffron. Use 4 or 5 petals from the dark flowers, dried.

CAMOMILE - Infuse as a tea, good for hangovers, also for washing blonde hair.

ARTICHOKE - As well as a vegetable can be grown for winter decoration. The purple flowers are lovely when dried.

And so the list could go on....

Next meeting of the Gardeners' Association will be held in the village hall 7.30pm Monday February 1st when the speaker will be Mr. Bates on Badgers. Why not come along.

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Childrens sayings:

(Keith age 5)

Keith, "Do you drink and drive Daddy?"

Father, "No, I am very careful Keith"

Keith, "They tell you not to drink and drive on the Television Daddy - I think it is extremely dangerous do drive along, drinking a cup of coffee at the same time!"

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Whilton Playgroup

About a dozen pre-school children belong to our playgroup which meets in the Village Hall on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Their play involves many activities which give the children opportunities to try new skills, to learn to get on together and to find out about the world around us. This term we are thinking about all sorts of transport, from motorbikes and aeroplanes to skis and mail vans, and later on about the coming of spring.

These busy children get through reams of paper and piles of junk material and the playgroup is always happy to receive "useful rubbish" or paper for drawing and cutting.

Anthea Hiscock

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Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday are a tradition with most families, and we are no exception. There is probably nothing to beat freshly squeezed lemon juice with sugar as an accompaniment, but occasionally it is worth trying something else.

We first tried pancakes with mincemeat at Christmas. This was enjoyed by all of us, but we agreed that, as we had been consuming so much rich food, we would appreciate them much more at another time of year.

Make the pancakes in the usual way, using:

4 oz. plain flour

pinch of salt

1 egg (or 2 if you have plenty, or would like a richer batter)

1/2 pint milk

After adding the egg to the flour and salt, beat well and continue beating as you gradually add the milk, incorporating as much air as possible. While frying the pancakes, heat the mincemeat in the oven or microwave, allowing about 1 tablespoon per pancake. Put each pancake on a warm plate, spoon some mincemeat into the centre and fold over the pancake. Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

If you find the shops have sold out of mincemeat and you do not have time to make your own, another of my favourite fillings is stewed apple with a little nutmeg and cinnamon, sweetened with brown sugar. We think this is best served with cream.

Anthea Hiscock

Whilton Village Fete

The 1988 Fete Committee has been formed by the following elected representatives of the benefiting village organisations.

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|---|------------------|
| Mr. Clifford Ellison | The Parochial |
| Mrs. Anna Ellison | Church Council |
| Mr. Maurice Clements | The Village Hall |
| (A second representative has still to be decided) | |
| Mrs. Anthea Hiscock | The W.I. |
| Mrs. Diane Evans | " " |
| Mr. Keith Fallows | The Village |
| Miss Frances Drake | " " |
| Mrs Jennifer Patching | Playgroup |

At the first meeting in November Mr. Keith Fallows was elected Chairman with Mr. Maurice Clements as Vice Chairman. As no member would stand as secretary or treasurer it was agreed to ask Janet Bowers to fill this position again as a co-opted member. A phone call was made and Janet agreed to act as secretary and treasurer. The Fete will be held in Wadd Close - many thanks to Bill Emery for the loan of his field. Enquiries are being made regarding entertainments etc. If you have any ideas or wish to help in any way or run a stall please contact the secretary or a member of the committee as soon as possible as the next committee meeting is February 15th.

FETE AUG 20th FETE AUG 20th FETE AUG 20th

Dads v Lads Soccer Match

On Monday December 28th we saw the Lads play the dads in a hair-raising match packed with fun and frolics, with all the dads wearing shorts and wellies. Mr. Morris stole the show with his oversized underwear. Mr. Bilsborough who was chosen as star player for the dads played safe in goal for the first half. The boys scored first with the dads struggling due to eating too much over the previous few days.

In the second half of the march Mr. Bilsborough was put in mid-field to face the boys boots. Mr. Cohen passed back from near the halfway line to his goalkeeper Mr. Emery who missed and the ball was in the net for an own goal to the delight of the boys and spectators.

I was in goal and my dad was determined to get one past me. He failed in the first half but he wellied a magnificent goal high into the net in the closing minutes, surprising even himself.

The final score was 8 - 7 to the boys and a special thanks to Mr. Roberts from Brington who refereed in such sporting fashion. Also the mums played their part by providing some lovely refreshments after the match.

Rupert Gardner

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Under 10 Football

Any youngsters interested in playing football may like to know that Brington run an Under 10 years of age side in the Daventry League, in which a number of Whilton boys play regularly. Training sessions are held on Saturday mornings at 11.30am on the Brington Football pitch at Great Brington and any new members would be very welcome to come along. Further details can be obtained from either Mr. L. Morris or Mr. J. Gardner.

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Brington School Spring Bazaar

The P.T.A. are organising a Spring Bazaar on Saturday 13th February at 2.00pm at the School. Everyone will be warmly welcome to this event and the children will be distributing further details nearer the day.

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The Village Hall Committee proposes to hold an auction on a 50:50 basis to raise funds to finance damp proofing in the Village Hall. We need to know beforehand if there would be sufficient demand. If you have any items, not necessarily antique, which you would like to put in for auction, please contact Mary Kane, Fallowfield, (tel. 842618)

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Summary of Events

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- Mon. 1st Feb. 7.30pm Whilton Gardeners' Ass. in Village Hall.
- Sat. 6th Feb. 10.45am Pytchley Hounds at East Haddon Hall.
- Sat. 6th Feb. 7.30pm Wine Tasting at Kunda Cottage.
- Wed. 10th Feb. 7.30pm W.I. in Village Hall.
- Sat. 13th Feb. 2.00pm Spring Bazaar at Brington School.
- Wed. 17th Feb. 1.30pm Westerby Basset Hounds at Long Buckby.
- Wed. 17th Feb. 7.30pm P.C.C. at "Old Plough"
- Wed. 24th Feb. & 2, 9, 16, 23 March 7.30pm
Lent Course at Baptist Church Room Little Brington.
- Wed. 9th March 7.30pm W.I. in Village Hall
- Fri. 11th March last date for items to be included in next Newsletter.

See Church Notice for Services.

Advance Notice

Sat. 20th Aug. Village Fete.