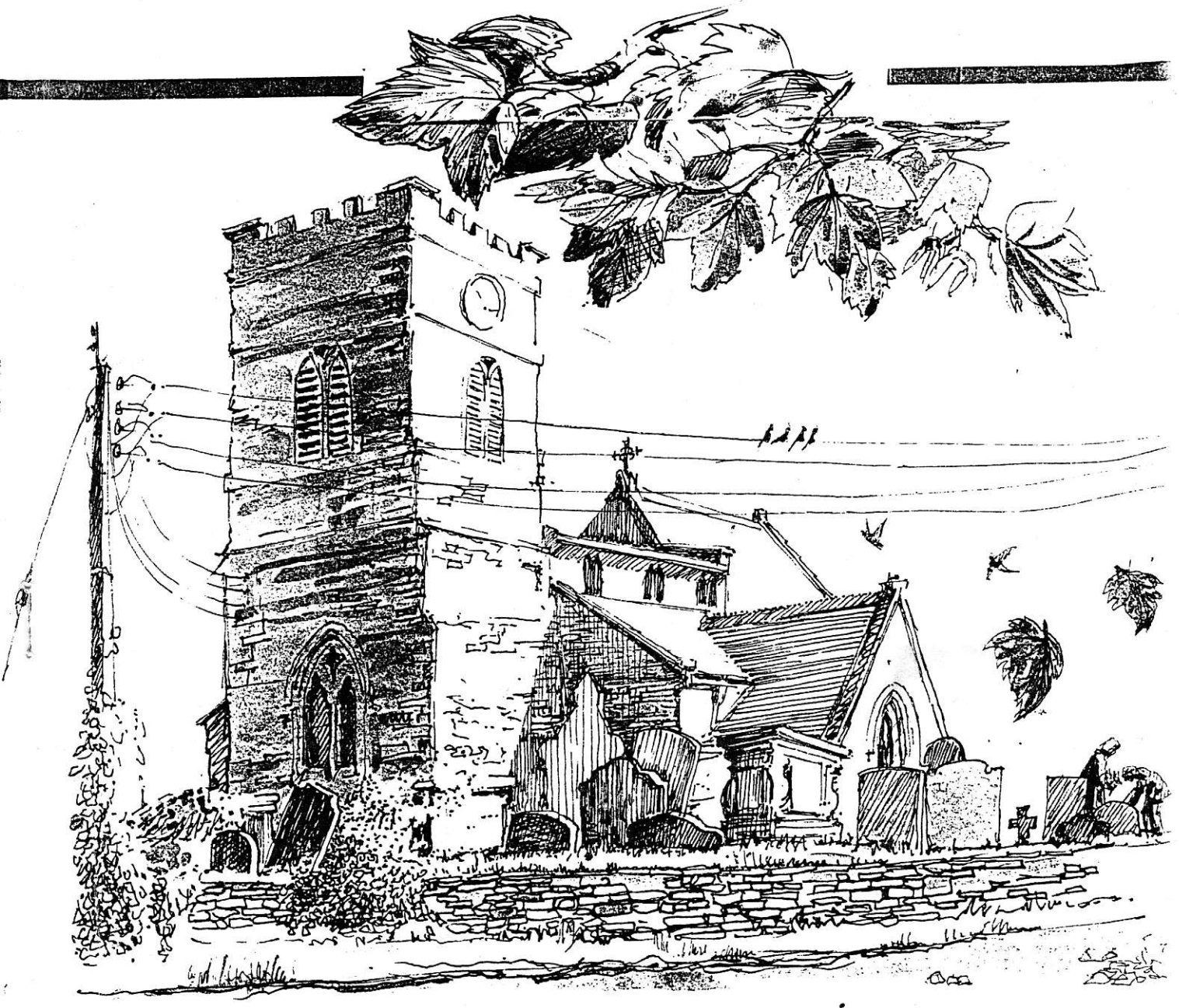


WHILTON NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1992



Ed's Notes

Happy New Year to all our readers and here's to another year of the Whilton Newsletter (this will be our 5th year in recent times!)

In this issue a year ago we predicted snow, which came, if you remember, during the month of February - luckily not lasting too long and not causing too much havoc. Hopefully we shall have similar luck this year, although we know we do need a lot more "wet" to get those lawns looking good!

Looking back over the past year - a good year generally in the village, with a tremendous effort in fund-raising events which have the advantage of getting everyone together socially. The Village Hall has been greatly improved with, in addition to repairs to the structure, new heating, lighting and decoration. The Gardeners' Association is flourishing, the W.I. enthusiastic, the Playgroup still popular, village outings well supported and very much enjoyed and Yoga enthusiasts still having their regular Monday afternoon sessions. This all helps towards the good community spirit we have in our small village - and what more deserving reward than to gain the title of "Best Kept Village in Northamptonshire" and a sign to prove it to the many visitors who pass through, especially in the summer months. Didn't you do well - !

Ed's

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Whilton Village Appraisal

We are now well underway with several of us pursuing different aspects of the village, i.e. history, agriculture, population trends, etc. We shall shortly be distributing a questionnaire to every household in the Parish and hope that you will be able to help us with this important initial stage of the appraisal. This questionnaire will be completely anonymous and it is our intention that on receipt of the completed questionnaires that individual members of the committee will be able to research the different subjects in greater depth.

We have seen completed appraisals from other villages - large and small - and hope that you agree that this is a worthwhile project.

Anyone who would like to help us with this appraisal - pursuing their particular interest in this project or...with any interesting stories to tell are invited to contact:

- Frances Drake - Co-ordinator (tel: 843801)
- Sally Jackson - Secretary (tel: 842188)

We shall keep you informed of our progress and our aim is to produce a comprehensive document available to all those living in this Parish and interested parties beyond!

Sally Jackson

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Parish Church

Sundays: 1st Sunday of the month BENEFICE EUCHARIST 10.00 am
(at each Church in turn) Feb. at Brington; March at Whilton; April at Norton. Other Sundays at 6.00 pm.

Mother and Toddlers at Brington Church on Wednesdays at 2.00 pm.

A discussion group meets from time to time. Contact the Rector.

Standing Committee Wednesday 12th February.

P.C.C. Thursday 20th February.

Ash Wednesday Service at Brington 7.30 pm (4th March).

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Thursday 19th March at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Amendments to the Church Electoral Roll may be effected up to a fortnight before the Meeting.

The Christmas Day collection for the Children's Society came to £37.20.

We are grateful to the Carol Singers who toured the Village in December, and to all who contributed, enabling a presentation of £100.30 to church funds.

Thanks to all who contributed foodstuffs for "Family Care" and to Joyce for transportation.

Brington Restoration Appeal is running a series of three quite varied concerts on Saturdays - 7th March, 4th July, and 12th September at £7.50 or £20.00 the three, including a light supper with wine. Tickets from the Rector, or Judy Ellwood (770179) or John Lawrence (770680).

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Election Year

We all know that there will be a General Election this year. Will there be a Parish Council Election in Whilton, too?

District and Parish Councillors normally serve for a term of four years, after which elections take place, if required. 1992 is election year in Whilton for both District and Parish Councils and the date set is Thursday, May 7th. There have been very few Parish Council elections in Whilton for the past forty years, the number of people wishing to stand rarely exceeding the number of seats available. Perhaps 1992 will prove to be an exception.

There is a new departure this year in that, for the first time, Whilton Parish has been divided into two wards, one for the village itself and one for Whilton Locks. This village is to be represented by five Councillors and the Locks by two.

No doubt candidates are already busy preparing their election addresses!

Whilton Gardeners' Association

At the meeting on December 2nd the new, smart programmes for 1992 bearing the Association's logo were handed out. Members were asked to fill in the names of the officers viz: Chairman Mrs. J. Bowers, Secretary Mr. H. Haynes, Treasurer Mrs. G. Haynes. The other Committee members were Mrs. Lefley, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Rogers.

May 9th was suggested as a possible date for a visit to the Organic Gardens at Ryton in cars, and July 4th for the coach trip to Pusey House Gardens, and this would depend on getting at least 25 people to go. The date of the visit to members' gardens would be arranged later. As there were no volunteers to organise the Show, one would not be held this year.

Mr. Haynes said the seed order had been sent in on October 30th and the seeds had been received on November 9th. He thanked members for filling in their order forms so swiftly. The order had amounted to approximately £600.00 which fell a little short of what was needed this year for a 50% discount. In fact members would receive 45% discount on seeds and 10% on other items, as soon as the few remaining items had arrived.

It was reported that the 1993 programme was being planned and members were reminded that the subject of the talk at the February 1992 meeting was "The Cool Greenhouse".

Mr. Burge, a familiar and welcome visitor then spoke about "Growing Vegetables" a subject on which he has had many years' successful experience.

He recommended Epicure, Duke of York, Sharp's Express and Pentland Javelin as good potatoes and said earlies tasted best if they were dug half an hour before the meal when they were to be eaten!. Dig in the autumn, manure in the spring, cover the soil with polythene to retain warmth and plant short rows over a period, were his directions. He suggested Enorma as a runner bean, planted in a single row 18ins apart, and Kelvedon Wonder, Achievement and Show Perfection for the peas which could be grown as cordons like sweet peas. Brussel Sprouts should be in their permanent positions by May. They needed firm soil and should be well spaced out. Mr. Burge suggested that the best varieties are Cambridge No. 5 and Wroxton.

Lastly we were reminded that wasps eat more greenfly than ladybirds so we shouldn't slaughter too many!

Mr. Burge was thanked by Mrs. Burwell.

Diana Scott

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Milk Tops etc. and Stamps

Two sacks of foil, etc, have been taken to Lyncrest School. One keen collector spent a holiday in Peterborough and returned with a carrier bag of foil. Well done!

We had more stamps than ever, due, no doubt, to the saving of stamps from Christmas mail.

Many thanks and "Carry on Saving".

Trudy Haynes

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES.

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A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 6th January. Among items discussed were the following;

- a). **Presentation of council minutes** - It was agreed that the minutes of the council would in future be typed and not handwritten.
- b). **Best kept Village** - A letter had been received stating that the village had won a nursery voucher in the above competition. No value had been mentioned or where it could be exchanged.
- c). **Public Footpaths** - All the footpaths in the parish had now been marked by means of a tall painted post at each field boundary. By doing this the public using the paths will now have a better idea of where they should go.
- d). **Village Noticeboard** - As the present village noticeboard is regarded as being past it's "sell by" date the council agreed to investigate the costs of a replacement. Harlestone Firs were to be consulted regarding costs and types available.
- e). **Audit** - The recent audit of the council books had produced a "clean sheet" with the only comments being of a very minor nature.
- f). **Payment of Accounts** - It was agreed to allow the council clerk to pay accounts on behalf of the council without prior specific approval of each account. Cheques would still need to be signed by two councillors and all payments recorded in the council minutes.
- g). **Insurance** - The council agreed to "update" several parts of it's insurance cover.
- h). **Operation Springclean** - It was agreed to take part in this County Council sponsored event again this year. Mr. Billsborough agreed to be the "link" person.
- i). **Street Lighting** - The council had reported to the EMEB that the street light at the bottom of the village "had a mind of it's own" with regard to differentiating between night and day.
- j). **May Meeting** - It was decided to call the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 11th May at 7-30p.m. followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 8-00p.m. It was hoped that parishioners would attend to "air their views" with regard to Parish matters.
- k). **Planning matters ;**
Canal Cottage, Whilton Locks - The District Council had decided that as this cottage had not been lived in for many years that planning permission was required before improvements could be made.
Whilton Mill - A one year temporary permission had been granted with reference to the increased hours for the Four Wheel Drive operation.
Listed Buildings - Mrs Chaplin (our District Council representative) agreed to obtain an up to date list of all the listed buildings within the parish.

Jim Gardner.

LITTER.

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THE NEW LAW.

April 1991 saw the advent of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) and a considerable change in the duties and responsibilities for, amongst other things, street cleansing and litter control.

District Councils are now under a statutory obligation to keep our streets clean and free of litter.

A "Code of Practice" has been established in which there are four grades of cleanliness for eleven types of areas, called zones.

Whilton does not get a high priority on the type of area but never the less a standard does exist for the village.

If, therefore you feel that certain parts of the parish are not as clean and free from litter as they should be then contact should be made with the District Council who, no doubt, will deal with the problem.

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FESTIVAL OF HOCKEY

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STAVERTON ROAD SPORTS GROUND

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 1992 11a.m. - 4p.m.

The event will include ;

A Unihoc tournament for the Primary Schools

A mini-hockey tournament for the Secondary Schools

A mixed adults tournament

A "Celebrities V The Hockey Association exhibition game

Have - a - go at hockey workshops

Beat the keeper - Displays and stalls - etc. etc.

As well as the hockey competitions there will be a number of other attractions making this a great family day out.

For more information contact ;

Mike Round, Sports Development Officer
on 0327 71100 Ext 413

On Wednesday December 11th, the W.I. held their annual members' night, a lighthearted get-together. This involved a Christmas meal, prepared and served by 3 members. In addition they provided entertainment with games and there was a competition for a Christmas wreath. A relaxing evening amidst the Christmas bustle.

Did many people see our "adopted" baby elephant on T.V.? - he is making great progress.

On Wednesday 8th January 1992 - the first W.I. meeting of the year was held and was well supported by members and their guests, especially so being a cold wintery night.

Coming events were discussed, the year ahead appears varied and interesting. There was lengthy discussion on the W.I. forthcoming project " Within Living Memory". The result of the survey of Danetre Hospital is to be given wide publicity, we were told. A member is required for the Health Watch Committee.

Much appreciation was shown from those older member of the community who receive the Christmas "plants in a little basket" from the W.I.

The evening Speaker was Mrs. Margaret Paterson who spoke interestingly and at length on Reflexology - Healing by Foot Manipulation, which treats mind, body and spirit. She spoke of her successful work with the mentally handicapped. We even had a demonstration when Mrs. G. Houghton offered her feet!

The 1st raffle prize - a bowl of Hyacinths was won by Mrs. Bowers, and the second prize, a figurine, was won by Mrs. Ward.

Kay Roberts

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Whilton Village Hall

On 14th December we held our Christmas supper. A delicious hot pot supper, party hats and carols set the scene for the 200 Club Christmas draw - 5 prizes totalling £700.00. We also raised, on the evening, £77.80, all of which will be put towards the hall renovations.

Winners of the draw were:

Christmas Draw

| | | | |
|-----------|----|---------|-----------------------|
| 1st Prize | of | £350.00 | Mr. & Mrs. R. Green |
| 2nd Prize | of | £200.00 | Mr. & Mrs. D. Brown |
| 3rd Prize | of | £100.00 | Mr. & Mrs. J. Lampitt |

Monthly Draw

| | | | |
|-----------|----|--------|---------------------|
| 1st Prize | of | £30.00 | Mr. & Mrs. Battison |
| 2nd Prize | of | £20.00 | Mr. & Mrs. Hall |

The first draw for 1992 took place on 7th January and the winners were:

| | | | |
|-----------|----|--------|---------------------|
| 1st Prize | of | £30.00 | Miss G. Fallows |
| 2nd Prize | of | £20.00 | Mr. & Mrs. R. Green |

Village Hall cont.

The next draw will be held on 6th February and you are invited to a coffee morning at 10.30 a.m. hosted by Bridgid Fisher at 'Green Acre' - details will be posted on the notice board nearer the date.

The following draws will be held on 29th February and 27th March, both at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, glasses of wine can be purchased.

Mary Kane

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250 YEARS AGO!

The following is copied from the back pages of one of the earliest of our existing books of church records (1700 - 1754). I have tried to reproduce it as near as possible to the original in the spellings, punctuation, use of capital letters, etc.

Note: The Revd. John Spateman was Rector of Whilton from 1722 until 1749, (he died in June, 1749), and the Revd. John Cadman was Rector from 1749 to 1756.

Harold Haynes

"To The Revd, of the Clergy, who may succeed me in the Rectory of Whilton (June 10th, 1741)

Revd. Sirs,

The Manuscript containing the Customs of the Parish with respect to tithing &c., having been lost before my time, I was oblig'd to inform myself concerning them from the Mouths of some Persons, who had rented the Liveing, who having met for that purpose, unanimously agreed in the following account.

The Tithe of sheep

On New Year's Day make a Tale of the Sheep. Take every tenth Fleece of what they sheer of that number; for what they have sold of it before shearing take a half-penny a sheep. The same take for all they buy in after New Year's Day. If the Person has ten Sheep on New Year's Day, and they come to seven by the Time of shearing, give him three half-pence, & take a Fleece. Out of ten Fleeces he who pays Tithe chuses two, and the Parson has his Choice out of the rest. The same method is to be observ'd with respect to the Tithe of lambs, which is to be taken the nineteenth Day of April.

Of Pigs

If there are seven, one is due but the Parson must pay three halfpence; if there are but six, they pay six halfpence; if there are twelve they pay a pig, and two halfpence. But the Parson is bound to keep a Boar.

Of Calves

If they have seven from New Year's day, the Parson must have one, paying three halfpence, and as many halfpences are due to the Parson as they have Calves under seven. They must keep the Tithe Calf three Weeks.

Of Cows

Take the Tithe of Milk from the 19th of April, counting the twentieth Day the first of the ten, making it Morning & Night; leave off taking when the first Shock of Corn is cut; begin again to take it ten Days after Harvest ends, and continue to do so till New Year's Day. N.B. The Parish is bound to keep one Bull; & the Parson another, who if he pleases may keep a Breeder, besides his Bull.

Of Hay

Take the tenth Cock of Hay, & the seventh at last. All Farm Land pays Tithe & all Sow Meadow, & Whiltom Meadow; as also Duglake and Househome, the Mill, & all belonging to it. The Farm land is to be known by the Farm *Balks. the Town-land pays three-pence a Yard land, call'd Hay-silver. Some say Hay-Silver is sixpence a Yard land.

Corn

Take the 10th Sheaf or Cock of Grains, Beans & Pease, & the seventh at last. Chuse your Sheaf out of the first Shock, but take in the same place out of every Shock in that land. N.B. The two Mills pay three Shillings & four-pence a Year each. i.e. Six Shill_ & eight-Pence.

Witness the Handwriting of,
John Spateman, Rector.

N.B. I wrote this from the Mouths of Persons who had rented the Tithes, & have taken them so, by myself, or Tenants, several Years."

There follows this, in different handwriting:-

N.B. By the affirmation of several of ye Parishioners met together on Ye 1st of Janry, 1749 Tithe milk is to be paid not til New Year's Day (as the Revd. Mr. Spateman hath wrote above) but til ye first Lamb is yean'd in ye Parish, in any Year.

John Cadman, Rector

*The Farm Balks mentioned were ridges round the edge of the field left unploughed. Presumably these marked the boundaries of the fields before hedges were used.

Harold Haynes

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Cherry Pie

Cherry Pie, when it is nice,
Makes you long to have a slice,
And if the taste should prove so, too,
I think one slice will hardly do!
So to prevent me asking twice,
Please, Mama, cut me a VERY LARGE SLICE.

A little verse given to us by one of our Senior Citizens who remembers it as one of the many her mother had for different occasions.

Summary of Events

| | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Wed. | 3rd | Feb. | 7.30 pm | Gardeners' Association, V. H. |
| Wed. | 12th | Feb. | 7.30 pm | W.I. Meeting in Village Hall |
| Fri. | 14th | Feb. | | School half term begins |
| Fri. | 28th | Feb. | 7.30 pm | 200 Club draw, Village Hall |
| Mon. | 2nd | March | 8.00 pm | Parish Council Meeting |
| Wed. | 4th | March | 7.30 pm | Ash Wednesday service, Brington |
| Wed. | 11th | March | 7.30 pm | W.I. Meeting in Village Hall |
| Thurs. | 12th | March | | Last date for next Newsletter |
| Fri. | 27th | March | 7.30 pm | 200 Club draw, in Village Hall |

Advance Notices

| | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Sun. | 5th | April | 11.00 am | Festival of Hockey, Daventry |
| Mon. | 6th | April | 7.30 pm | Gardeners' Association in V.H. |
| Thurs. | 7th | May | | Date of Parish and District elections |
| Mon. | 11th | May | 7.30 pm | Annual Parish Meeting |

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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 and the Editors are:

Mr. Harold Haynes
Mrs. Trudy Haynes
Mr. Jim Gardner
Mrs. Joyce Coles
Mrs. Anne Heeley

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