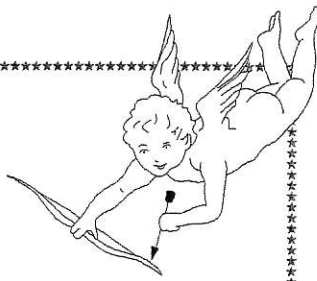


WHILTON NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2006



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NEWS FROM ALL AROUND THE PARISH



BRYAN WILLIAMS

1931- 2005

Bryan was born in 1931, into a mining family who were the stalwarts of the local Methodist Church in Chirk Bank, near Oswestry. After attending Oswestry High School, where he was Head Boy and Captain of Cricket, he started work at the National Coal Board laboratory near Wrexham where he met his wife Beryl when she joined the staff, a few years later. After qualifying as industrial chemists by part-time study at Denbighshire Technical College, they both obtained teaching posts in Hemsworth Grammar School, Yorkshire.

In 1963, Bryan was appointed Head of Chemistry and a rugby coach at the independent boarding school Christ College Brecon in Mid-Wales, where he spent the rest of his teaching career. He played an active role in many aspects of boarding school life including time as the housemaster of School House Red. In 1993, he and Beryl retired to live in Whilton.

While in Brecon, Bryan was a member of the Cathedral Choir and regularly played the organ for services there — as well as for other churches and chapels in the town. By the late 1970s, he was a dedicated bell-ringer and, at various times, held the Offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Guild Master of the Swansea & Brecon Guild of Bell Ringers. After moving to Whilton he became a member of the Peterborough Guild of Bell Ringers which he served as Secretary for many years.

Bryan was the organist at Norton Church and helped out at Whilton and other churches when an organist was needed. He was the author of "An Essay on the Organ and Music of All Saints Norton and St. Andrews, Whilton". He was a bell-ringer who offered support to others, and many ringers in the district have taken comfort and strength from his words. Janet Bowers writes: "My memories of Bryan are of an exceptionally efficient and knowledgeable person in whatever he undertook. He was hardworking and an excellent singer, ringer and organist. He always helped with the provision and serving of teas to our ringer visitors in the village hall, willingly imparting his knowledge of bell ringing to anyone who showed an interest".

**Bryan will be sadly missed not only by his family
but all those who knew him.**

The Reverend Frederick Peter Baggs
1917 – 2005

My father the Reverend Frederick Peter Baggs passed away on 29th November 2005 after a short illness, he was 88 years of age. He lived with us for the last four and a half years after leaving his apartment in Kenilworth.

He was a regular figure walking through the village and along the back lane, he was very deaf and nearly blind but this didn't stop him taking his daily constitutional as he called it.

He became quite well known in the Village and stopped to talk to everyone . He had always been a friendly man, always interested in people, having become a Methodist Minister late in life after taking early retirement from Cadburys in Bourneville, having worked for them for over 40 years.

He and my mother Kitty moved to Looe in Cornwall where he took charge of 6 churches in that area.

Over the years he made a great many friends and we very touched by the number of cards and letters of sympathy we received.

Thank you to the people of Whilton for making Peter feel really at home, and for your kind thoughts and messages, which helped us cope with our loss.

Jean and Kerry Davies

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

SEE SEPARATE COMMUNITY SPIRIT QUESTIONNAIRE – DO PLEASE RESPOND AS WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR VIEWS

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS TO BE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2006 AND IS OF COURSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC , SO DO PLEASE COME ALONG

THE POSITION OF SECRETARY IS STILL VACANT., ARE YOU INTERESTED?

PLEASE CONTACT MIKE LEWIS ON 842404 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



NORTHAMPTON COUNTY MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE:-

CALLS IN THE VILLAGE ON ALTERNATE TUESDAYS AT APPROXIMATELY 9.05 AM – 9.20 AM OUTSIDE 'THE OLD PLOUGH' IN MAIN STREET. Dates for February 2006 are 7th and 21st and for March also 7th & 21st

PARISH MATTERS

There have been three Parish Council meetings since the last Newsletter, and I hope this resumé of these meetings in December and on 9th January and 24th January will help to keep all parishioners informed. Members of the public are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

On 9th January. County Councillor Richard Amos reported that the County Council is trying to keep the Council Tax rise to 3%. There was a discussion about the likely Police merger, but Mr Amos explained this is a government decision. Mrs Wendy Amos reported that the DDC is hoping to keep its rise in line with inflation, due to a better government grant this year. The DDC is still meeting concerning the transfer of its housing stock to the private sector.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

The payments approved at the December and January meetings covered lighting, printing the Newsletter, our subscription to The Open Spaces Society, the Clerk's salary and the allotment water charge, amounting in all to £464.97

The setting of the Precept was one of the main items on this agenda and the matter had already been considered in both October and December. The figures prepared by the Clerk in October and considered in the December meeting were again discussed.

Previous precepts have been as follows:

2000/1	£3500	2003/4	£3000
2001/2	£3000	2004/5	£2500
2002/3	£3000	2005/6	£2500

The Chairman reminded Councillors that ten years ago the Parish Council reserves had been considered too high and that in response to this, precepts had been lowered. There was general concern that over the last few years with a lower precept, the reserves have been dropping each year, as our expenses have increased. There was a consensus that the Council needs to begin to build up its reserves to be prepared for contingencies.

Coming expenses and setting the precept for 2006/7

Besides the usual overheads, it has been agreed that the £450 grant requested by the Roughmoor Spinney Management Group should be included in the budget for next year. Daventry Villages Together represents the villages in planning issues concerning the coming growth and development of Daventry. Our contribution to this will be £30 and £250 has been allocated for the Parish Plan.

Possible Parish Projects were considered, but in the light of dwindling reserves, it was agreed to postpone the provision of another village seat. £1000 had been intended for a street light, but if funds are low this may have to be postponed. It was agreed the Clerk should attend the course on Risk Assessment this year, the cost of this not yet being known.

After some consideration it was agreed that we should not take on responsibility for grass mowing on the parish verges, due to the costs and NCC's condition that the parish would need to employ a contractor with £5 million of public liability insurance. However, it was agreed that we need to build up a fund for repairs or replacement of our mowing equipment for the churchyard.

At the time of setting the precept, negotiations over renewing the allotment lease, had not been finalised. It was agreed that an amount must be set aside in the precept to cover expenses of renewing the lease, which will include solicitor's fees, and probably to allow for a gradual increase in rents for the allotment tenants, although details of the amounts will not be known until a future meeting.

With all this in mind, Councillors made the decision that the precept for 2006-7 will be for £4,500. The expected use of the money will be as shown below:

Administration (Clerk's salary and expenses, insurance, audit, subscriptions, training, parish clock)	£2100
Newsletter	£320
Churchyard (Mower maintenance and repair and build up of a fund for replacement of equipment)	£200
Allotments (This can only be a guess as it includes water charge, unknown costs of renewing lease and increase in rent)	£500
Street lighting (Electricity and maintenance)	£530
Spinney	£450
Trees and Grass	£150
Parish Plan	£250
Total	£4500

PLANNING

An application for a change of use from redundant agricultural premises to B1(industrial) and a B2 Use to be used in conjunction with adjacent Karting Circuit at **Whilton Mill** was not supported, as Councillors felt they did not wish to see this part of the parish becoming an industrial area.

Councillors felt the proposed extension **Tudor House** is detrimental to the cottage-like character of the house and not in keeping with its position in the village. They requested that the Planning Officer should make a site visit before making any decision.

Meanwhile the District Council have granted planning permission for the erection of a **bungalow** with detached garage at **The Coach House**, The Green and for a **sheep shed** at **Whilton Locks**, with an amended position of the shed.

Permission has been refused for an extension at The Little Rectory, and also for single and two storey extensions at Cottam, Main Street.

An application for outline planning permission for **2 four- bedroomed detached dwellings, access road and garages on land off Brington Lane** was brought before our second January meeting. Because 17 parishioners attended this meeting, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting for a while to hear the views of the public. During the discussion, it became clear that the main body of those present was opposed to the application.

The Parish Council then discussed the matter and it was unanimously agreed that the Council is opposed to the application on the following grounds:

- **The village confines:** The Parish Council considers that the proposed development is outside the established confines of the village. In 2003 when the DDC consulted the Parish Council about the confines, the Parish Council accepted that the line drawn by the DDC in this area marked the confines of the village. The development would be extending the village into open countryside.
- **Traffic danger:** An increase in traffic turning out from the new access road into the Roughmoor drive and then onto the series of sharp bends on a very narrow lane is likely to be dangerous.
- **Risk to nature conservation:** The development of a road and housing nearby would have a deleterious effect on the quiet and peace of Roughmoor Spinney, a wildlife conservation area of wet woodland which is a parish amenity. The water run off from building on the wet land nearby is likely to have an effect on the water levels here and thus may cause changes in the character of the Spinney and in the plants and wildlife which thrive there.
- **Unsuitable site for building:** The land is unsuitable for building, is water-logged and likely to cause problems with drainage in the area.
- **Inappropriate positioning of a development:** The length of the access drive would cause problems for utilities and would create an enclave separate from the main village community, changing the character of this end of the village.
- **Neighbouring properties:** The amenities of neighbouring properties, in particular in relation to their views over open countryside would be adversely affected.

ROADS AND SAFETY

The resurfacing of Whilton's roads has been postponed. The drainage problem in Brington Lane has been remedied, but we have requested that improvements to the pavement curb by the notice board are completed before re-surfacing. The new water problems at Whilton Locks railway bridge have been reported. The Clerk reported that she now has statistics for accidents on the top road from Whilton Mill to Little Brington. During the 3 years ending in October 2005 there have been 14 "injury accidents" there. This means that there have been 26 casualties, which include 4 deaths, 2 seriously injured and 20 slightly injured. This has now been classified as a Red Route by the Casualty Reduction Partnership. An holistic action plan is expected to be finalised in February and works will then be scheduled.

Meanwhile the Parish Council continues to press for a review of speed limits within the whole parish.

THE RENEWAL OF THE ALLOTMENT LEASE

On January 24th the Parish Councillors agreed that they were satisfied with the results of negotiations with the DDC. A copy of the 1948 conveyance to the DDC proved that there is no question of ownership and the Parish Council agreed to the proposals for a new ten year lease at a yearly rent of £80, which will be reviewed in five years.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Following our second January meeting Whilton now has a full Parish Council after the co-option of Beryl Williams in the place of Andy Walton. There are seven Parish Councillors with five representing the village and two for The Locks.

Your Parish Councillors in 2006 are as follows:

Mike Lewis (The Locks)	Penny Price (The Locks)
Ken Bowers (The Village)	Jonathan Hanslip (The Village)
Greg Lye (The Village)	Nora Swinford (The Village)
Beryl Williams (The Village)	

I write as Clerk and my telephone number is below.

Anthea Hiscock
Clerk to Whilton Parish Council (843319)

WHILTON CHARITIES

Did you know there is a smallish fund available to residents of Whilton and Whilton Locks who may be experiencing financial worries? It makes payments of up to £300 from its overall funds of some £5000 given by former residents for the needs of children, young people and adults. The three trustees recognise there are any number of unforeseen difficult moments for people where such a gift could be a godsend.

We envisage that for children this may be playgroup or nursery fees or a special piece of equipment for managing a disability or temporary illness.

Youngsters who are about to start work or go to college or university may require help with managing the costs of transport such as insurance, or need special trade tools or safety gear. Young people leaving home for the first time might welcome help with establishing themselves, living independently, or buying expensive specialist 'must have' study books or computers.

For adults this help may be an unexpected family cost such as regular or one off visits to a hospital, chiropodist, or dentist. There may be a need for special equipment or its maintenance for some incapacity, or some niggling house maintenance problem which could result in long term damage to which savings won't stretch. We could pay for an estimate or work from the Care and Repair Organisation, which helps older people with maintenance in their own homes. Heating costs may now be a worry or even funeral costs for a loved one.

We are aware student debt, minimum wages, long term incapacity benefits and small pensions or diminishing savings leave many worried over small crises or even regular commitments.

If this you or you know a resident for whom this is true why not approach one of the trustees for a confidential discussion? We are aware too that in such a tiny village, it could feel uncomfortable to ask a trustee who is a 'neighbour' for help, so we have created a process that will ensure that anonymity is protected as far as is possible.

We want to help so contact either:

Rev. Chris Goble (Contact: 01604 770402)
Ann Gilbert (843169)
Keith Hiscock (843319)

Photo Opportunity

- ▶ Just bought one of those new digital cameras, but you're not sure how it works?
- ▶ Want to know how to take better photographs, not just snaps?
- ▶ You've bought that image manipulation software but you want to know how to use it?
- ▶ Want to understand the jargon – shutter speed, aperture, flash cards?
- ▶ Ever wondered how the experts do it?



We know what you mean!!

We are looking to start a club in Whilton for budding photographers; everyone from complete amateurs to the more experienced. The only thing you need is a desire to take better photos.

If you are interested and want to know more, contact us for more details.

Neil Phillips

Richard Patching

Tel: 01327 844182

E-mail: neiljphillips@hotmail.com

Mysteries of the Night

An overturned flower pot, plant and soil strewn across the driveway one morning on my way to work. This puzzled me. I couldn't think how it could have got there! Then the poo started, poo on the lawn, poo on the driveway and worst of all poo right outside the back door. It certainly wasn't our dog – his doesn't look like that!

Several days later one of a pair of Kate's muddy leather riding chaps which she had left outside the back door went missing. A complete mystery. Later the same day I found it lying on the grass on the Village Green. On closer inspection two bite size pieces of leather had been chewed out of the upper edge, rendering the items now useless. A bit like only having one Wellie boot. This is getting serious, although I have my suspicions.

Friday 13th – said to be unlucky for some and lucky for others. That night the security light went on and off and on and off so I decided to investigate. Positioning myself by the window I waited, on came the light again and there in front of the garage, not one but two foxes who hung about for a while and then wandered off up the driveway, one a youngster obviously being taught the tricks of the trade. My suspicions were confirmed.

I would be very interested to hear of anyone else who thinks they may have experienced similar goings on in the night.

How long I wonder before these devils visit my bantams in broad daylight!

Ros Gardner



WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



What's going on?

We've put together an intriguing programme of talks this year that has something for everyone who enjoys their garden.

February 6th - What's that bird?

Yours truly is going to tell you all you need to know about the birds that you will find in your garden at this time of year. So if you want to know how to tell a Chaffinch from a Goldfinch, or a Tree Sparrow from a House Sparrow, this talk is for you.

April 3rd - Garden Design & Creative Planting

Could your garden do with a makeover, but not too sure where to start, then come along and learn from our expert.

June 5th - Doing Time

We said this year's programme was different, so how about prison gardening. Yes you read that correctly! We will learn about the joys of gardening on the inside.

August 7th - Pick of the Best

Yet again, we will be taking a stroll around three of the best gardens in Whilton to see how our very own gardening experts have made a garden to be proud of.

October 2nd - Grow your Own

If you are fed up with paying a fortune for plants at the local garden centres, this talk will show you how to grow your own plants from seeds or cuttings. What's more, October is a great time for propagation, so come along and learn the tricks of the trade.

Garden Visits

The WGA is not just about meetings in the Village Hall - oh no! As usual we will be organising several visits to gardens around the country. In recent years we have been to gardens as close as Kelmarsh Hall and as far as Abbey House Gardens in Malmesbury. This year we intend to go even further afield to see some great gardens and visit some of the best garden shows.

Social Events

The WGA is all about meeting and sharing our passion about gardening. So our social events are always well attended and provide more opportunities to get to know other people in the village.

Why not come along and see for yourself why the WGA is so well supported by people in Whilton. Even if you don't want to become a full member, you can still come to one of our meetings, join us on a garden visit, or just enjoy on of our social events.

We look forward to seeing you in 2006.

Neil Phillips, Secretary, WGA

For more details contact me on:

— neilphillips@hotmail.com - 01327 844182

COMING TO WHILTON 40 YEARS AGO

In the early 1960s Whilton was still what we now think of as a traditional village. It was small, there were no newly built houses at all except the council houses at the top of the village. Beyond Holly House and what was Emery's Farm, there was pasture land. Langton House at the top and the council houses looked out on to fields.

Many of the residents had been born in Whilton and lived there for most of their lives. They had often married other villagers or people from nearby villages such as Norton, Long Buckby or Brington who had similar backgrounds. Thus there were often relationships not necessarily of the same name but which nevertheless formed part of an extended family and an underlying network which was not obvious to a newcomer.

The school had recently been closed as there were only about ten children but many of the villagers had been taught at the school and so knew each other. They knew each other's capabilities, temperaments and failings. They knew about their home backgrounds and their parent's behaviour, consequently another underlying network of relationships was created.

If anything happened in the village it will be known to everyone almost at once and the likely needs of those involved and the help that could be given fairly accurately accessed. It was a tolerant and happy village.

There were comparatively few cars except farm vehicles and business vans and cars going to Daventry. People were used to going to work on bicycles or walking, consequently the constant arguments about the proper upkeep of styles. There was a bus to Northampton on Mondays and Wednesdays but it could not be relied on to return. There was no main drainage or street lighting.

It was to this village that Diana and I had finally decided to move to Holly House after failing to buy several other houses elsewhere. Now to our own circumstances-

It is curious on looking back to see how much of our first few days living in Whilton were concerned with the activities of cats, but that was when we actually moved in and more of that later.

Diana and I were still working and before we could move felt that we had to do some decorating and repairs. At that time, which is over forty years ago, it was more common for people to do their own decorating. We had therefore been coming over after work in the evenings and at the weekends to get on with redecoration and repairs.

The previous owners had lived in the house in a rather strange fashion in that they occupied the two ends of the premises, namely the kitchen and the large sitting-room which had a damp wall and a stove which didn't work. The two intermediate rooms, that is the dining hall and the first sitting-room were empty except for a table tennis table. The walls of these rooms were covered with scribbles and scrawls. The kitchen also had its problems in that though there were two cupboards recessed into the walls, there were no other fitted units and the owners had a kitchen cabinet standing in the centre of dark green painted concrete floor.

Nevertheless there was an Aga albeit coal fired. This warmed the kitchen and provided very hot water. As it was the middle of winter and there was no central heating, the bedrooms were very cold. The Aga became a feature altar to pray before and give thanks to on getting up in the morning and coming home at night.

Diana and I lived in Spratton and each had our own house so that furniture would have to be brought on two days Saturday and Sunday.

To return now to the cats - I had a young active ginger cat which had been found as a tiny kitten on an allotment. Diana had three cats and almost four, one was an old but very beautiful tabby, a ginger cat that had been her mother's and whose ears were set on its head much further in than its face, a stray cat which she fed at the door. It had a beautiful head and eyes and then diminished backwards and had a pathetic thin tail. It had to be fed outside or with the door open. Diana also had a tom cat which was very aggressive; it had lost an eye fighting and would attack other cats on sight. I was determined not to take this one-eyed tom but fortunately it disappeared before we were due to leave.

Came the day – it was a fine sunny day in December and we followed the removal van to Holly House accompanied by the four cats. Mine was in a basket as it had never seen the others and vice versa with Diana's. The cats had been given tranquillisers by a vet to calm them down for the journey. This seemed to have completely the opposite effect and they flew madly about the car and couldn't be caught throughout the journey. However, on arrival, we managed to get hold of them and thankfully put them in a spare bedroom. For the rest of this day we endeavoured to get the furniture, goods and chattels put somewhere. Because the bedrooms in the Georgian part of the house were at different levels, they were approached by steps and an acute bend which meant some of the furniture had to be partially dismantled to get up there which took time and in order to get the van empty, a lot of the things ended up in the garage to be sorted out later.

We now addressed ourselves to the cats, we brought them down to the kitchen and gave them food and boxes but Diana's cats hated my cat on sight and somehow he managed to escape into the garden. We did not know this garden, part of which was covered with grass and weeds up to three feet high. We called him and walked around as much as we could but were unable to find him.

We had come from Spratton and although by this time we felt pretty exhausted, we thought we had better drive back at least over part of the way in case he was trying to make his way back to what he thought of as his home. We stopped and called but nothing. Finally we came back and put the car away and made one last despairing call in the garden. It was then that we heard a small timorous cry and found him hiding under a bush, obviously cold, hungry and frightened. Thankfully we snuggled him warm and put him in another bedroom with airing cupboard containing the hot water cylinder from whence he refused to come out for several days.

The next day we continued to unpack and lost all track of what had gone where and what was in the garage and what went into the cellar. By the afternoon the removal men had gone and said that they did not know what we could possibly do with all the books which they had left on the floors of the sitting-rooms. We were tired and fed up it was then however that we had our first confirmation that we had come to the right village. A knock at the door and a lady saying "We have been watching you and know that you must be very tired so we have made you some tea with toast, boiled eggs and cake. Would you like to come over and have it with us " We thanked her gratefully, got washed, secured the cats and abandoned them.

.....To be continued.....

Frances Drake

Dreaming of his masters voice.....

by Anon

High in the courts of heaven today
A little dog waits
With other angles he will not play
But sits alone at the gates,
"For I know my master will come for me"
says he,
"And when he comes he will call for me".

And his master on earth far down below,
As he sits in his fireside chair,
Forgets sometimes, and whistles low
For his terrier that is not there.
And the little dog angle cocks his ears
And dreams that his masters voice he hears.

And I know when at length his master waits
Out side in the dark and cold.
For the hound of death to open the gates
That lead to the courts of gold.
His little terriers welcoming bark
will comfort his soul in the shivering dark.

Handy Number

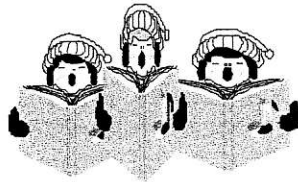
ARE YOU AWARE of this little trick to gain revenge if you have your mobile phone stolen? First you need to know your mobile phone's serial number, which you obtain by keying in the following:

***#06#**

A 15 digit code will appear on the display. This number is unique to your handset, so write it down and keep it safely. Should your phone be stolen, contact your service provider and give them the serial number. They will then block your handset, so that even if the thief changes the SIM card, the phone will be totally useless.

You will probably not get your phone back but at least you know that whoever stole it can neither use it or sell it. If everyone did this, there would be no point in stealing mobile phones.

WHILTON CAROL SINGING



At 7.00 pm on Wednesday 21st December 2005 approximately 20 hardy souls assembled and proceeded on their way singing carols around the village.

There were two stops where the group was kindly invited in and given appropriate refreshments which helped the progression around the village with the singers in very good voice.

The magnificent sum of £203 .05 was collected and this has been donated to the Marie Curie Cancer Charity.



There has been little activity since the issue of the last newsletter but it is hoped to arrange a working party towards the end of February.

Please watch the noticeboards

Roughmoor Spinney Management Committee

LOCAL PAPERS DELIVERED



Did you know that you can have the Northampton Chronicle & Echo delivered to your door in Whilton? If you would like a paper, please telephone the Chronicle & Echo on 01604 467000 and they will pass on your order to me.

I also deliver the Daventry Express on Thursdays. If you are interested please contact me direct on 01327 842618.

I am sorry I can only deliver to Whilton and not Whilton Locks.



Your local paper boy - Tom Kane



Good Thinking

Every time I see a church
I pay a little visit
So when at last I'm carried in
The Lord won't say
"Who is it?"

Computer Speak

- Home is where you hang your @
- The E-mail of the species is more deadly than the mail.
- You can't teach a new mouse new clicks
- Windows will never cease.
- There's no place like <http://www.home.com>

Whilton Village Hall 200 Club Draw

NOVEMBER

1 st Prize	007	S Spicer	£40
2 nd Prize	073	K Fallows	£20
3 rd Prize	170	O Bardell-Tillott	£10

DECEMBER

1 st Prize	069	G Haynes	£40
2 nd Prize	006	I Walton	£20
3 rd Prize	015	C Battison	£10

Congratulations to all the winners



Inept Phrases (from Church Magazines)

Announcement in the church bulletin for a National Prayer and Fasting conference:
"The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals".

Ladies, *"Don't forget the Rummage Sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."*

"Weight Watchers will meet at the church at 7.00 pm every Friday. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance".



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Once again I am happy to say that I have had no reports of crime in Whilton but other villages in the area are not so fortunate. On 10th January thieves attempted to steal keys to a valuable car from premises in Brington but were foiled by the brave efforts of the owners. It is understood that two men were later detained. It is also understood that prior to this a resident of Whilton reported to the police that a Silver VW was cruising suspiciously in the area and it is not impossible that the arrests arose in part from this. Such a car was on my list of cars to watch out for.

There have also been a spate of thefts from Schools including Brington, Long Buckby and Flore.

Printed below is an article from the police about Distraction Burglaries.

Philip Waights
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.



January Monthly Article Distraction Burglary

People living in the Western Area are being asked for their help to beat distraction burglars who con their way into the homes of elderly and vulnerable people. Chief Inspector Peter Glover, head of Community Safety for the Western Police Area, has warned that everyone in the community must be alert to the problem of bogus callers if we are to begin to keep our elderly relatives and friends safe from distraction burglars.

"Distraction burglars are very plausible," Chief Inspector Glover warned. "They can be men, women or children and use any excuse you can think of to get into a house, but what they have in common is that they can look and sound very professional and persuasive. We are asking people to take responsibility for their older relatives and friends and explain to them that they simply should not open the door to callers who are not expected." He also stressed that people concerned about someone at their door should call police straight away -they will get a robust response.

"Distraction burglary is a priority crime and any calls we receive about such incidents are given responded to accordingly. We need people to call us with information about suspicious people or activity in their area and they should call 999 if those people are still in the neighbourhood," Chief Inspector Glover urged. "Distraction burglary is a despicable crime but there is an easy way to defeat it -keep your doors locked even when you are at home and in the garden for example and don't answer the door to anyone who is not expected.

"If we can all spread this simple message around the people we know then we could deprive the distraction burglars of their easy pickings and, knowing what we do about the way they work, they would simply move on somewhere else to commit their crime," Chief Inspector Glover said. The key points to remember are:

- Don't open the door to anyone who calls without an appointment
- Distraction burglars are plausible and convincing -don't get into conversation with a caller and don't let them in
- Keep doors locked even when you are at home or in the garden
- Call the police if you see any suspicious activity in your street, using 999 if those involved are still in the area

BE VIGILANT AND HELP PREVENT CRIME
Northamptonshire Police Contact Tel.Nos. 01327 300300 or 01604 70070

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH NEWS



Our Rector - Rev Chris Goble works from Brington Rectory and can be contacted on 01604 774042 or E-mail chris@spencerbenefice.freeserve.co.uk

Most weeks during the year the church of St Andrew's comes alive with some form of worship, and other churches likewise come together to worship and pray. Would it matter if we didn't? Would it matter if St Andrew's church wasn't there? In the sitcom Yes Prime Minister Sir Humphrey Appleby makes the comment that the Arts was like the Church of England - no one goes but people just feel better because it's there. The logic of church is not a religious group that comes together because it is religious, like a

gardening club full of those who like that sort of thing. The most fundamental questions, if answered in a certain way, lead us to worship and become part of a family - is there a God? can we know this God? Who is Jesus? Can we be part of the family of Jesus? In the first magazine of 2006 and as we approach the period Christians call Lent, which can often be a time for asking fundamental questions, and exploring the answers

Announcing a special Lent course essence

an exploration of contemporary spirituality
which looks towards a lifestyle integrating body, mind and spirit.

*A 6-session interactive programme to stimulate a deeper spiritual life,
drawing from the teachings of Jesus and the Christian mystics.*

When? Starting on **20th February** and meeting every Monday until 27th March from 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Where? The Rectory in Great Brington

All are welcome – but please register your interest by contacting **Sharon Goble** on 01604 770402 or Sharon@homerectory.freeserve.co.uk

FLOODLIGHTS



THIS FACILITY IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL CELEBRATIONS OR TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE OR IF YOU WOULD JUST LIKE TO SEE THE CHURCH FLOODLIT. AT A SMALL COST THE CHURCH CAN BE FLOODLIT FOR THE EVENING, MAKING ANY OCCASION SPECIAL FOR YOU.



JANET BOWERS

SERVICES FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WHILTON

FEBRUARY 2006

5th	10.00 am	<i>Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>BRINGTON</u></i>
12th	11.00 am	Family Communion
19th	9.15 am	Sung Eucharist
26th	11.00 am	Family Service

MARCH 2006

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12th	11.00 am	Family Service
19th	9.15 am	Sung Eucharist
26th	11.00 am	Family Service

MORE CHURCH NEWS

The PCC recently purchased the Burse and Veil (used in the Communion Service to cover the Communion Chalice until it is used) to match the Altar Frontal and Pulpit Fall that were dedicated last September. The complete set was used for the first time on Christmas morning.

The Burse and Veil are in memory of Bryan Williams and a thanksgiving for his life.

Bryan was not only a bell-ringer locally and Secretary to the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Bell-Ringers (a job he did with great efficiency) but was also a member of the Association of College Youths. As a tribute to Bryan they will ring a peal, lasting approximately three hours on Saturday 6th May 2006 at 10.00 am.

St Andrew's will be hosting the Benefice Sung Eucharist on Sunday 2nd April 2006 at 10.00 am and we welcome the Archdeacon of Northampton, The Venerable Christine Allsopp who will be preaching on this occasion.

FUTURE EVENTS IN THE PLANNING

1. **Friday 3rd March** – An evening in the Village Hall with a pub games theme – dominoes, cards, skittles, marbles, shove-half-penny etc, together with Ploughman's style refreshments – cost £4.
2. **Sunday 23rd April** - Car Boot Sale
3. **Sunday 11th June** - Flower and Garden Festival

Details of these events will be circulated nearer the time

Janet Bowers

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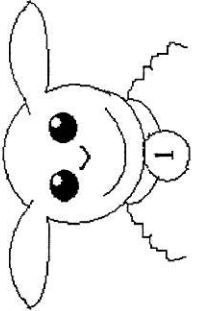
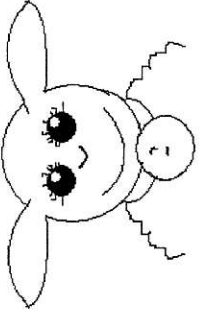
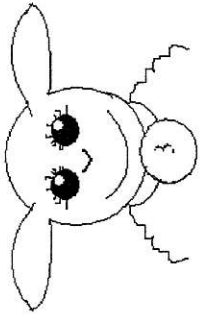
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The Woolies

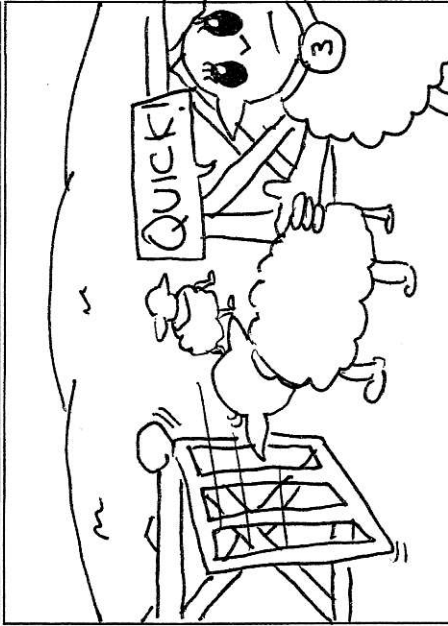
Will they ever escape?



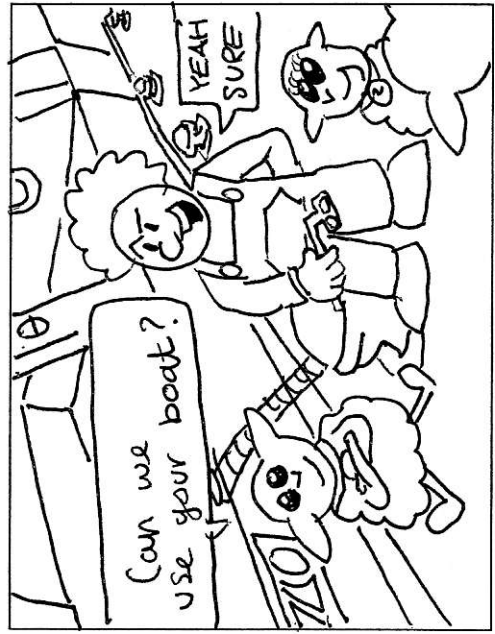
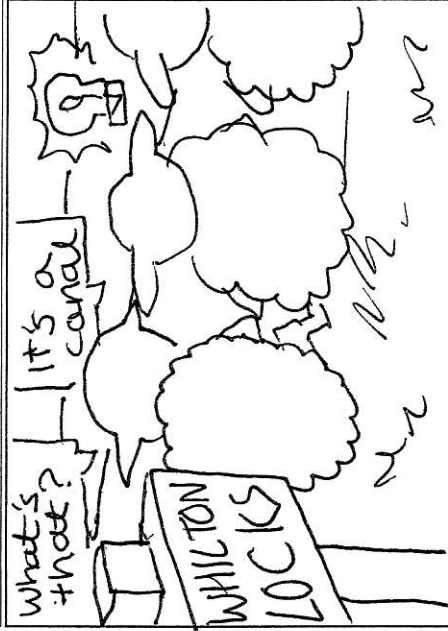
Farmer Bob is feeding some turnips



He hasn't closed the gate properly...



The Woolies run all the way to Whilton Locks



To be continued...

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Mon	6 th	Feb	7.30 pm	WGA in village hall "What's that bird" by Neil Phillips
Tues	7 th	Feb	9.05 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Mon	20 th	Feb	7.30 pm	Lent Course begins at The Rectory, Gt Brington
Tues	21 st	Feb	9.05 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Fri	3 rd	March	7.30 pm	Pub Games in Village Hall in aid of St Andrew's Church
Mon	6 th	March	8.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting in Village Hall
Tues	7 th	March	9.05 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Tues	21 st	March	9.05 am	Library Van in village outside The Old Plough
Wed	22 nd	March		<u>Newsletter Deadline for April</u> – Please hand in your contribution well 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:

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We are always pleased to receive additional contributions from people who do not normally have an input, especially children

Please supply a disk with your contribution if possible 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.