



Whilton Newsletter

Flower Festival
Issue
June 1997

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

Barn Dance: **Saturday 5th July, 7.30 pm - 11.00 pm**

Summer is coming and plans are afoot for the Barn Dance. Mr & Mrs Davies have again very kindly agreed that we may use their barn at Roughmoor Grounds. "Thirsty Work" will be providing the music and caller for us again and there will be a bar. Ticket prices will include a barbecue supper.

Adults - **£5.00**
Children - **£2.50**

These will be available nearer the date from me - please keep the date free.

There will be a raffle and donations of prizes will be very much appreciated.



Village Hall Refurbishment:

The hall floor needs replacing. Not only are the wood blocks showing signs of wear but also there is substantial deterioration to the sub-floor causing extensive damp problems throughout the hall. At present the committee is taking steps to obtain quotations for the floor replacement and to submit an application for a Local Authority Grant. If all this goes to plan we shall be aiming to have the work done during the summer holidays when the hall is least used. At the same time we propose to replace the kitchens base units and worktops. We shall keep you informed of any progress made through this Newsletter.

Village Hall Committee:

There are going to be vacancies on the Committee at the end of 1997. This is a small but active committee and one where the work is shared out quite fairly so that it is not too onerous for any one person. If you have the spare time and

- a) are able to attend three or four meetings a year**
- b) give a helping hand with any functions - usually one or two a year**
- c) feel you would like to have a say in decisions affecting the running of the village hall**

then please contact one of the officers below:-

Mr Phil Waights	Chairman	01327 842431
Mr Derek Brown	Treasurer	01327 842968
Mrs Mary Kane	Secretary	01327 842618

Mary Kane

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CRIME REPORT

There has been no reported crime in Whilton between January and May 1997.

This is good news and reflects our awareness of personal security and community vigilance.

As summer approaches it is vitally important to continue this fight against crime. Remember to keep downstairs windows closed, doors locked and front gates shut at all times. Garages, sheds and parked vehicles are also easy targets for the opportunist thief especially if they are left unlocked.

Always report anything or anybody suspicious to Daventry police who will investigate further. Co-operation between the police and local co-ordinators is good and this strong link is beneficial for the village.

Northamptonshire Police have praised Neighbourhood Watch Schemes throughout the County for their help in fighting local crime.

Crime rates in the Western area have fallen for the third successive year and Supt. Vickers has attributed this to the hard work of his officers and staff, combined with the support and co-operation of the local communities.

OPERATION DEFENDER

This is the code name for an autocrime initiative which ran for the month of April in the Western Area. The results of this Operation have not yet been published.

Please ensure that your vehicle is always locked and that no personal property is left inside.

You are asked to be the eyes and ears of the community and to report any suspicious activity immediately to Daventry Police.

DAVENTRY POLICE - 01327 300300
ASK FOR WESTERN AREA CONTROL ROOM AT DAVENTRY

Christine Bilborough

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the March & April draws:-

MARCH

1st Prize	No. 101	D. Welch	£40
2nd Prize	No. 058	J. Messinger	£20
3rd Prize	No. 183	F. Drake	£10

APRIL

1st Prize	No. 024	C. Battison	£40
2nd Prize	No. 002	J. Waights	£20
3rd Prize	No 070	M. Kane	£10

WHILTON LITTER PICK 1997

It was a fine evening on Wednesday 23rd April when the *litter pick* team of volunteers met on the village green at 6.00 pm. It was a good turn out, there being representatives of the W.I., Whilton Parish Council and school children. The group was made up of five adults and five children.

The *litter pick* extended to a point just beyond the village at the top to the Nobottle Road incorporating boundary roads of the triangle and at the bottom of the village to the pumping station at the entrance to Roughmoor Farm drive.

Surprisingly very little litter was found compared to 1996 when the W.I. did the first Spring Clean of the village - obviously they made a very thorough job. Another factor is that Whilton has a very caring community and villagers are known to pick up litter when out walking.

The group effort resulted in collecting three black plastic bags of litter, one piece of angle iron, one wheel trim, an interior spring to a mattress and one gas cylinder. There was also a pair of walking boots

deep into the hedge but luckily for us no body attached.

On our return Trudy Haynes had opened up the Village Hall where she provided refreshments which were gratefully received and enjoyed.

Thank you all for the time and effort made to improve our environment.

We have entered the Village of the Year Competition for 1997 which takes place from 1st June to the end of September. During that period judges make unannounced visits to the village and as "absence of litter" accounts for 25% of the points awarded, constant attention to this aspect will be required. We will be having further litter sweeps through the village but your assistance in picking up any litter when out walking would be appreciated.

Derek Brown
Whilton Parish Council



St Andrew's Church

Since September until Easter our pattern of services has been maintained, mainly due to the help from retired clergy and this seems an appropriate time to express our thanks for their time and commitment.

Our new priest-in-charge, the Revd. David MacPherson and his wife Jean move into the Rectory at Great Brington on June 11th, and the licensing service will be on Friday, June 27th, 7.30pm at St Mary's, Great Brington. We wish them both well in their new home and look forward to welcoming them to the Benefice.

From July the Family Service on the 4th Sunday will commence at 11am instead of 10am. There is to be an additional morning service on the 2nd Sunday (excepting August).

Services will be as follows:-

1st Sunday -	United Benefice Sung Eucharist -	10.00am
2nd "	Family Eucharist	11.00am
" "	Evensong	6.00pm
3rd "	Sung Eucharist	6.00pm
4th "	Compline	6.00pm

The Pet Service held in April proved successful, with cats, dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits and worms brought for a blessing. It is hoped to repeat this again next year.

On the first Sunday in May (Rogation Sunday) the service in the afternoon was held at Home Farm and then Hill Top Farm, where we enjoyed tea, cakes and other appetising delicacies. During the afternoon the stock and crops of the farms had received a blessing. This service of prayers and hymns around the farms is a delightful special service and we were pleased to be joined by others from the Benefice.

Also on this Sunday we had the christening service of Isobel, daughter of Shaheen and James Burnett of the Old Post Office. Isobel was the example of a perfect baby - not a murmur throughout the service as she was welcomed into the Christian faith.

Janet Bowers
Churchwarden



THURSDAY TOTS



- * Play
- * Sing
- * Storytime
- * Make friends
- * Have fun
- * Coffee & biscuits

Every Thursday at 10.00 am

St Andrews Church
Whilton

All parents/carers welcome with 0-5 year olds

50p per family



FLOWER FESTIVAL AND OPEN GARDENS 29TH JUNE

This year the Festival is a one day event - Sunday 29th June opening at 1.00 pm and finishing at 5.00 pm. The theme for the floral displays is 'Music' and this year we welcome new flower arrangers from our village. There will be a Songs of Praise Service in St Andrews Church at 6.00 pm.

At least 10 gardens will be open for viewing and rare breeds of sheep and other farm animals can be seen at The Dove Close. A wild life pond will also be worth a visit at 'Rustlings' in Brington Lane.

On the green, by the church, plants and cakes will be on sale. Other attractions will include white elephant and books, tombola, and a raffle. A children's treasure hunt is planned and also a village quiz trail. Sideshows from the green down to the Old Rectory add more interest to the afternoon and will conveniently lead you to the garden of the Old Rectory where you can relax with a cup of tea and homemade cakes.

Details of stalls and stallholders will be circulated to all villagers nearer the time; donations, and offers of help will be greatly appreciated.

If you wish to open your garden, can offer help or have any ideas for further activities please contact the organiser Janet Bowers as soon as possible on 842851.

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM

Yes, its that time again! How quickly the year has flown since we gained a Highly Commended Certificate in 1996. Can we improve on this in 1997? We can if we work as a team by keeping our front verges mown and trimmed, gardens neat and tidy, displaying colourful hanging baskets and by having tubs and window boxes brimming with colour.

Judging not only includes floral displays but also the lack of litter. General tidiness and cleanliness also have a section within the marking scale. Dog fouling has increased on the pavements recently - if you were in a park you would have to poop scoop so why not in Whilton.

Judging usually takes place in mid-July and further reminders will be given to all before that date.

Let us even improve on the standard of previous years.

*Janet Bowers
Chairperson
Whilton Gardeners' Association*

WHILTON W.I.

APRIL 1997

At the monthly meeting held on 9th April one of the items discussed was the suggestion of a fund raising event later in the year for the Macmillan Nurses. This will probably be in August.

Some members are looking forward to spending an afternoon on 19th May at Daventry Community Centre when Henry Sandon, well known for his appearances on "The Antiques Roadshow", will be giving an insight into his life, love and work with porcelain.

Several members volunteered to help with the "Litter Pick" on 23rd April - a very necessary job if we are to keep our village looking neat and tidy.

Our Speaker for the evening was Mrs Celia Lowe who spoke on "The History of Ladies Underwear". Celia until recently designed and made exquisite ladies underwear, mainly from pure silk and handmade lace.

We were taken through the ever-changing fashions of the various garments incorporating bustles, panniers, corsets and bras to mention just a few.

Women would go to extremes to fit into garments - tiny 18 inch waists, squeezed,

laced or sewn into underwear only to be released when the garments rotted away in some instances.

Whalebone hoops, pillows stuffed with sheep fleece and even wooden frames were among some of the items strapped around one's waist to get the right effect for the layers of petticoats and finally the dress itself to drape over. Some dresses could measure as much as 48 yards round the hem. With so much padding and materials swathed around, ladies were unable to sit and were taught how to stand and walk in such a way that they were able to keep their balance.

Some fashions remained unchanged for 90 years. I wonder if the "Doc Marten" boots and leggings of today's fashion will still be around in 90 years!!

An excellent talk with members participating by trying on some of the garments that Mrs Lowe had brought along.

The refreshments were provided by Trudy Haynes & Janet Bowers. The raffle was won by Sue Green.

Ros Gardner

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE - 13TH SEPTEMBER 1997

Have you made a diary note of the above event? Recorders and cyclists needed to help us make this a successful event. Further details in the August Newsletter and the Village Noticeboard

Derek Brown (Co-ordinator)

Women's Institute - Meeting May 14th

This meeting was primarily concerned with discussion of the Resolutions to be presented at the Triennial General Meeting in Birmingham. Eleven members and two guests attended and four apologies were received.

Among the items raised during the opening business session which might be of interest to other residents as well as members were a request for donations of

Ladybird Books for children in Uganda

If anyone has any of these children's learning books which they would like to contribute would they please give them to Mrs Anthea Hiscock, Langton House, signed by the child to whom they belong, which would give a personal touch to the gift. These will be sent free of charge to Uganda. Daventry District Council are working closely with this project.

Coffee Morning in aid of the Macmillan Nurses at the Little Rectory, on August 20th.

Self Defence - This will be re-considered in the Autumn .

Speakers - Members were very interested in a report on a day spent by Mrs Green finding out how prospective speakers were selected to be entered in the W.I. Year Book. Apparently speakers were auditioned and assessed on a variety of qualities to make sure they were of the standard to make our meetings interesting.

A report was received on the Litter Picking evening mentioned elsewhere in the *newsletter*.

An appreciation of a very enjoyable evening spent at the Cobblers restaurant at Long Buckby for the annual dinner was given by Mrs Jane O'Riordan and thanks expressed to Mrs Janet Bowers.

Resolutions

1. Lindane

This meeting urges H.M. Government to withdraw the use of lindane, due to a possible link between breast cancer and the use of organochlorine pesticides, in line with 28 other countries world wide.

This resolution was thoroughly discussed, covering the danger of a build up in cattle meat and the effects of spraying various crops such as sugar beet. It was unanimously agreed to support the resolution.

2. Agenda 21 - The document on the environment drawn up by heads of government after the Rio Summit in 1992.

Resolution

This meeting urges all W.I. members to support Agenda 21 and to work on furthering its social, economic and environmental aims.

It was felt that, despite action already being taken by local authorities, the W.I. could do more and, if passed, the resolution would allow the W.I. to take an active lead in educating and co-ordinating work at both local and national level.

Passed unanimously.

Resolutions relating to changing the method of voting at the Triennial Meetings and to changing the title of the Voluntary County Organisers were rejected.

At the close of the meeting members were able to enjoy sampling the very delicious savouries, salads and cakes which they had all contributed and which made a happy ending to a serious meeting.

Frances Drake

MENTMORE CRAFTS FESTIVAL
and Design for Living Show
23rd, 24th & 25th AUGUST 1997
(Bank Holiday Weekend)
OPEN DAILY 10.30am - 6.00pm
MENTMORE TOWERS, MENTMORE,
(Near LEIGHTON BUZZARD off A418)
Further information / Concessions write MHC
PO BOX 43, ABINGDON, OXON, OX14 2EX
Tel: 01235 521873

Growing up in Whilton in the 1960's

To many people the 1960's are not that long ago. It is easy to forget, however, that over a quarter of a century has passed, a new generation has grown up and the village has seen a considerable amount of change in that time. Now, as an occasional visitor to Whilton, I see the full impact of those changes, especially if I think back 35 years.

We first moved to Whilton in 1963, living for a short time at 4 South View, before moving to 9 The Gardens. The village was very different then. Langton Rise was an orchard belonging to the Miss Gammages. There were no houses at the bottom of the village opposite or next to the Old Farmhouse (which belonged to the Emery's). Neither were there any new houses by the triangle.

The bank separating the houses in South View from the road was originally overgrown with trees and shrubs, and provided a fantastic hiding place when playing 'Kick the can'. In fact we spent quite a lot of time playing in the road. Cars were far fewer and were generally not parked on the road as they are now. We would play football and other ball games, and ride our home-made karts down the hill from Emery's farm, all in relative safety.

When we first moved to the village there were two shops. Mrs Welch ran a small shop from her house (now called The Old Shop) and there was a Post Office run by Mrs Gardner next to the Green. If you did not own a car then the village was probably less isolated than it would be today. The mobile butcher from Daventry Co-op visited and, in addition every Tuesday the hardware van would call from Bailey's in Long Buckby. Also on Tuesdays and Fridays a fruit and vegetable van would visit the village. On Wednesdays and Saturdays the United Counties bus would come and take you to the old Derngate Bus Station in Northampton. Occasionally a mobile Fish and Chip van would visit, with a portion of chips costing 6d (2½ pence in modern money!). I remember one memorable evening when we were denied our weekly portion; the van caught fire!

As now, children of primary school age went to Brington CP School. The school was run by Mr & Mrs Bickerton, who did a great deal to modernise the approach to school life. We would go swimming once a week to Northampton in Mr Bickerton's 'Dormobile', and play football and hockey against other local schools. A favourite fixture for the boys was against Litchborough, whom we beat 10-0 on more than one occasion!

Village life was never boring, despite the absence of computers and videos! There were a number of children of similar age and we seemed to spend most of our time in each others' company. A favourite venue was the home of Clive Haynes (The Old Plough), because of the large amount of space in the 'big room' as we called it, at the back of the house. We would also spend a great deal of time down at Whilton Locks at the home of the Steele family. One highlight of my childhood was to witness the construction of the Whilton Marina.

The Church played an important part in the life of the village. Many of my contemporaries joined the choir, and learned to play musical instruments with Betty Pride. I personally have much for which to be grateful to Betty. Her encouragement of my piano playing has subsequently led to many good things, including the opportunity to play the organ in Canterbury Cathedral. The rector during the 1960's was Bishop Hugh Otter-Barry, who had been Bishop of Mauritius. I have a tape recording of the 1969 Nine Lessons and Carols service which was held in the church. It contains the voices of many of the village characters of the time, both singing and reading the lessons. One of the most striking was Freda Adams, who had a very distinctive singing voice! Freda was also the deputy organist, who sometimes found the music difficult. I recall one service where, following an uncertain play through the hymn tune by Freda, the Bishop, choir and congregation began to sing what they thought was the hymn, whilst Freda played another!

Although some of us were members of the choir, we were not saints! On several occasions a small group (I could name them!) could be found in the Gammage's orchard 'scrumping' the plums. Why is it that I have never tasted plums quite so good as those?!

Another event involving fruit was the annual auction of produce on the Monday evening following the Harvest Festival. We younger ones looked forward to this as an occasion when we could take part in the auction, and for a few old pence buy some of the produce. I especially remember one year when Marcus Swinford and I were successful in bidding for some lovely large apples, only to discover on tasting them that they were cooking apples!

We moved away from the village to live in Daventry in 1970, although my mother came back to Whilton in 1982. I regularly visit her and whilst I am no longer close to the village, it seems to have kept much of its character despite the inevitable march of time.

Tony Allen

<p>VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION 1997</p>

LATE NOTIFICATION - BUT THEN YOU WOULD EXPECT WHILTON TO MEET THE CHALLENGE AND ENTER THE COMPETITION FOR 1997.

As in the past judging takes place during the period 1st June 1997 to 30th September 1997 so we have four months to maintain a high standard although it must be said our village always has a well cared for appearance.

This year we are in the Cup Winners Cup Section as far as the village is concerned (not the churchyard). We are one of twelve villages in this section and as you will appreciate competition will be very keen. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see the article relating to East Midlands in Bloom and for this advance notice is given of the visit of the judge. However, with the Village of the Year Competition there is no prior warning of the visits of the judges.

GUIDELINES - Marks judges are giving in various sections are as follows:-

Village Competition

Marks awarded out of 100

Absence of litter	25
Tidiness of Public Features	30
Tidiness of gardens	15
Posters VOY Posters displayed	4
Tidiness of Notice Boards	3
Facilities Map supplied for judges	3
Evidence of Activities in village	<u>20</u>
	100

Churchyard Section

Absence of litter	20
Care of grass around gravestones	30
Care of paths, verges, walls, gates etc.	35
Overall general impression	<u>15</u>
	100

We hope that this information will be of help in your preparation for the visits of the judges.

LET US GO FOR IT AND AIM FOR SUCCESS IN BOTH SECTIONS.



Derek Brown
Whilton Parish Council

WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

This has been a very busy period for the Council, involving the Annual Parish Meeting as well as the bi-monthly Committee. As my introduction to Parish affairs I have been amazed at the number of issues that have to be decided or commented upon on everyone's behalf. These range from setting and spending the village precept, through keeping enough lights in the village to matters of safety over speeding and uncut grass verges. All there is space for today is a flavour of the two meetings to which all residents are invited.

THE PARISH MEETING

Mike Lewis, the chairman, was able to report on a busy year in which there had been less planning activity but considerable interaction with the electricity company, the purchase of a new mower for the churchyard, and a very successful outcome to the Village of the Year competition. Financially the council was still solvent but decreased reserves had led to requiring a larger precept, which had remained the same for a number of years.

Harold Haynes reported that the Parochial Charities were quite healthy with an income of about £150 a year but this had to be used to meet individual need. There had been no grant made in the past year but applications can be considered at any time by the Trustees.

Mrs Bunce, as vice chair of Brington School Governors, presented a report of another very successful school year although finances remain on a knife edge. The help of the Parents Teachers Association remains vital in its many forms. However, the rich variety of experiences available to pupils continues through the efforts of staff.

Mr Derek Brown spoke of the good use made of the village hall, which still has capacity for more use. There are extensive plans for renovation in the coming year, possible through the continuing support of the 200 Club.

Reports as well as apologies for absence were received from our District and County councillors, Mr and Mrs Amos, who assured us of their continued interest and availability for any concerns. The Millennium Map Committee reported their plans and invited everyone to get involved as the task grew.

Issues:

Two concerned residents had written in to ask if anything could be done about speeding motorists in the village and backroad. One had seen several bad crashes and the other a near serious accident involving children on the litterpick. Although these are not new issues the meeting decided to refer them to Mr and Mrs Amos and to raise them with Daventry District Planners. The Chairman alerted us to the development of the conservation area around the Locks this year and the continued need for neighbourhood watch, although Mrs Bilsborough had reported a good year. The clerk was asked to raise late postal deliveries with the Post Office.

THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Apart from the usual financial matters it was decided (1) to ask Derek Coates to deal with trimming the village green tree and (2) to make a donation to the completion of the Victoria History in which Whilton would appear. There were to be new signs about preventing dog fouling. A new survey of village facilities was to be completed in which to report the loss of daily papers but the holding of a mother and toddler group.

The Council were finally concerned to bring to residents' attention the local Social Services need of people to be independent chairs of Complaints Review Panels, the receipt of the Police authorities Policing Plan, the Health Authorities Coronary Heart Disease Strategy and the District Council's Hazardous Waste Disposal leaflet. These can be seen by contacting me, or for the latter two referring to the two village notice boards.

All this activity serves to show a busy council and why a letter of deep appreciation is to be sent to Anne Heeley for her many years as Clerk to the Parish.

Keith Hiscock

WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Members met at the beginning of April and the following was discussed:-

A summer visit was arranged to one of the member's garden on 17th July, weather permitting.

As part of a drive to increase membership a small advertisement was placed in the Clubs and Associations Section of the Daventry Weekly Express.

A meeting of the committee members was held when the subjects were discussed for the next years programme. These to include Garden Design, a visit to Daventry District Council greenhouses and bulbs and planting for Christmas.

Following the retirement of the current Purchasing Office, Teresa Leadbetter kindly offered to take over the role.

Frances Drake and Diana Scott kindly offered to open their garden for a Coffee Morning for the Association and residents of the village on Sunday 13th April.

An entertaining and interesting talk by Gerald Sinclair on 'Spring and Summer Perennials' followed. Members were able to purchase some unusual plants during refreshments.

The weather was very warm for the Coffee Morning. There were cakes and plants for sale as well as a raffle. The turnout was very good and resulted in £111 being raised for the Associations funds. We very much appreciate Diana and Frances for being our hosts and extend to them our grateful thanks.

The next meeting is on Monday, 2nd June when Mr Stuart Phillips of Moulton College will be with us to talk on 'Trees and Shrubs', **why not come along and spend an enjoyable couple of hours.**

Gill Noden

BRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The PTA organised two events recently, a Promises Auction on 20th April and a Spring Fayre on 10th May.

The Auction had many great attractions thanks to the generosity of local businesses and the imagination of parents and friends of the school who submitted some very exciting Promises. Mr Ian Lowery kept the Auction bowling along at a fair pace and the tremendous amount £1600 (approximately) was raised. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts and promises and to those who came along and were so generous with their bidding.

The Spring Fayre also involved a lot of work for the dedicated few and despite the attempts of the weather to put folk off coming lots of people did come and had a good time and spent lots of money. A total £579 was raised. Thanks again to everyone who helped, donated gifts or came to the event. Your support is always appreciated and now the teaching staff have additional funds in hand for equipment and books.

Mary Kane

Summary of Events

- Sun 1 June 10.00am United Benefice Sung Eucharist - **Harlestone**
- Mon 2 June 7.30pm Gardeners' Association - Shrubs & Trees
Mr Stuart Phillips (Moulton College)
- Wed 11 June 7.30pm Women's Institute - Bird Watching in Kenya - Mr P. Spokes
- Fri 27 June 7.30pm Licensing Service for the Revd. David MacPherson - Brington Church
- Sun 29 June 1.00pm - 5.00pm Flower Festival & Open Gardens
6.00pm Songs of Praise Service
- Sun 6 July 10.00am United Benefice Sung Eucharist - **Norton**
- Mon 7 July 8.00pm Parish Council Meeting
- Mon 7 July 7.30pm Gardeners' Association - Garden Visit - Nobottle
- Wed 9 July 7.30pm Women's Institute - Guided Walk Around Daventry
Open Meeting - all welcome (Meet at the Moot Hall at 7.30pm)
- Wed 9 July **Newsletter Deadline (very early because of school holiday)**

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:

Mr. Harold Haynes - The Old Plough, Main Street

Mrs. Trudy Haynes - The Old Plough, Main Street

Mrs. Shirley Brown - Cherry Orton, Main Street

Mrs. Anne Heeley - Springbank, Brington Lane

Contributions to the newsletter to any of the above **by the deadline date, please**