

Whilton Spring Newsletter



*Whilton school children
on the eve of the First World War*

March - May 2014



Letter from the editors

2014: A year for remembering

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Newsletter. The old photo reproduced on the cover is from the school year 1913/14. Although some faces are indistinct, it is a reminder that 2014 is a year of national commemoration of the beginning of the First World War, and the Local History Society will reflect this in two of their meetings.

There are also other local anniversaries this year. John Clare, the Northamptonshire poet, died 150 years ago in 1864. He never came to this area, but this seems a good opportunity to include one of his spring poems.

In Whilton itself, it is 750 years since Simon de Montfort's rebels were overwhelmed by Henry III's army in Northampton, and William de Whilton forfeited his manor of Whilton after his capture in 1264.

It is 250 years since the death in Calcutta of Captain Thomas Adams, while acting as Commander in Chief of India in place of Robert Clive in 1764. Thomas was a Whilton boy, born in Holly House.

It is 200 years since the death of Rev William Lucas Rose in 1814; he rebuilt our rectory and restored the church.

Perhaps 2014 will present us with new occasions for future generations to remember. Meanwhile this edition brings reports of recent Whilton events and plans for more.

We wish all our readers a Happy Easter.

The Editors

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



From the Clerk's Pen

The new year is now well underway and, by the time you read this, Spring will have sprung, hopefully with drier and warmer weather than we have had the past winter!

The Annual Parish Meeting for parishioners will be held on 9 April 2014 at 6:30 in the village hall. Please make a note in your diaries to attend as we would like to meet you. All village organisations/groups will be represented and will give you an insight in what goes on in the village, behind the scenes. You never know, you may be even be inspired to get involved! It is a known fact that successful villages have active, caring and committed communities, which is why they are so sought after.

Since our last newsletter the Council has objected to two planning applications. The 1st objection was to the appeal lodged by Whilton Mill Cart Circuit with the Planning Inspectorate against Daventry District Council's refusal of their application to construct pit garages. The application was refused on the basis that the scale, design and prominent location would detract from the rural character of the area and constitute an overdevelopment of the site that is out of keeping with the general character and visual amenities of the area and would constitute an incongruous feature within the rural street scene. The Planning Inspectorate conducted a site inspection on 10 February and the outcome should be known by April.

The 2nd objection was in respect of a planning application for the construction of a wind farm development in Station Road, Watford near the M1/A5, for a maximum operating life of 25 years. The wind farm, comprises 5 wind turbines, each with a maximum vertical height, to tip of blade, of 126.5m (415ft) and ancillary infrastructure including foundations, crane hard-standings, upgraded and new access tracks, 1 no. substation and control building including underground cables and transformer, 1 no. meteorological mast and temporary construction compound. Due to the height of the turbines, this wind farm, if approved, will be visible for miles.

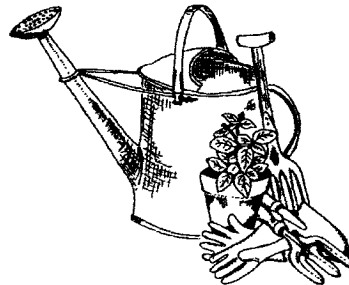
Another thing to look out for in the summer is the Individual Electoral Registration (IER) which will be introduced in June 2014, after the local and European elections.

The transition to IER will enable everybody who is eligible to vote to have control over their registration and take more ownership of the process, which is supposed to be more convenient and more secure. IER brings electoral registration up-to-date, reflecting the way we live in the 21st Century. Online registration will be available to everyone. This change is also about allowing people to take individual responsibility for their vote. It means that people will be required to register to vote individually, replacing the existing outdated system where a head of household submits an application for registration.

Erica Fothergill
Parish Clerk

WHILTON ALLOTMENTS

Apply now!



We currently have a half allotment plot available at £12
from 1 April 2014 – 30 March 2015

Contact the Parish Clerk:
Erica Fothergill
7 Exeter Close
Daventry
Northants
NN11 4SY

Telephone: 01327 310864

clerk@whiltonpc.co.uk

BROADBAND

Whilton is now able to get faster broadband. Check the map for availability
<http://superfastnorthamptonshire.net/2013/11/18/andres-blog-new-interactive-map-released-2/> .

Then go to your Independent Service Provider (ISP) site for further information and instructions. There is also information on the Whilton website:
www.whilton-village.net .



NEWS FROM ST ANDREWS

It seems a long time since
Christmas!

Our Carol Service was
well attended and
spectacularly candlelit.



Photos by Richard Oliver

The Christmas Trees, which
had been decorated by
villagers, provided a festive
backdrop to the event. We
served mulled wine and
mince pies which were much
appreciated by the
congregation.

That also reminds me that the
church was floodlit over the
Christmas period. We can
arrange to light the building

to commemorate a special event, an anniversary or a loved one. If you are interested, please contact me.

We are always on the look out for new ideas to make our services more appealing and widen the attendance. Our next major event is Mothering Sunday on 30 March when we will be holding an evening service at 6.00. We hope that many sons and daughters will persuade their mothers to attend the service and receive a posy of flowers in appreciation of all that they do for us. We plan to involve the children in making these posies and if you can help with this please let us know.

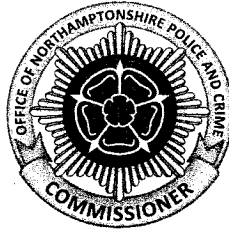


At the time of writing in late February I do not know the detail of our Easter Services but we will ensure that you receive notice of this nearer the time and hope that you will be able to join us.

We are also thinking about social and fundraising events for Spring and Summer which will provide an opportunity to bring the village together as a community.

If you have any ideas or are bursting with enthusiasm to help organise an event, Dave is on 842167 and I can be contacted on 843380 or by email Jbrierley1@aol.com.

Jon Brierley, 7 Langton Rise



COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECURITY



Make a difference in Whilton Volunteering for Northamptonshire Police

Volunteering is at the heart of my vision to make Northamptonshire the safest place in the country. One year on from being elected as the county's first police and crime commissioner, I have been inspired by the many volunteers I have met who so generously give their time to making a difference where they live.

From special constables to our young police cadets and police staff volunteers, there are so many different ways residents in Whilton can become involved with Northamptonshire Police and making a contribution to our county. Northamptonshire Police currently has around 285 special constables complementing the 1,220 regular police officers. My ambition is to increase this to 900 special constables by this time next year.

Whilst we are especially keen to recruit more special constables, not everyone necessarily wants to be involved in front-line policing or out in our town centres at weekends. There are other ways people help and I am taking a new approach to volunteering. On taking office in November 2012, I asked the chief constable to ask every department across the force – from the dangerous persons unit to roads policing – to identify opportunities for using volunteers. There are a wide range of skills, specialisms and interests that people have developed through their working lives and I am asking people across our county to consider bringing these skills to Northamptonshire Police as a volunteer.

A school teacher, who has all of the necessary experience of teaching children in schools and understanding them, could volunteer their time to educate children about crime. A retired accountant could volunteer their expertise to assist the force's fraud teams. Someone with a background in IT could volunteer to assist the covert operations team. Volunteering opportunities are as varied as admin support to acting in riot training scenarios. Also, you will know the problems and concerns of your local community and by volunteering, you could contribute directly to how such issues are dealt with.

Volunteer Police Officers contributed significantly more hours in 2013 than in 2012 and contributed a great deal to make our county a safer place to live and work. It is clear that volunteering can enhance our capabilities, and give villages such as Whilton a dedicated policing presence. Looking ahead, I will also be bringing forward proposals to overhaul how the force polices rural areas such as yours, which will include the creation of dedicated rural policing teams. The priorities in rural areas such as yours differ greatly from our urban areas, and it is important that the force can respond to them effectively.

Please consider volunteering for Northamptonshire Police and help us spread the word by telling your friends and family about volunteering to help us in our mission to recruit more volunteers. Together we can achieve so much more and take steps forward to achieving the ambition of making Northamptonshire the safest place in the country.

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any further questions about any of the work I am carrying out, please do not hesitate to contact me further on the following e-mail address:
commissioner@northantspcc.pnn.police.uk

If you would like to receive regular updates via my newsletter, please sign up using the following link:
<http://www.northantspcc.org.uk/signup.aspx>

Adam Simmonds
Northamptonshire Police & Crime Commissioner



ROUGHMOOR SPINNEY



The past three months have been so wet that very little has been achieved in the Spinney. The paths have become more soggy and the ground is saturated.

We have bags of granite chippings waiting in the field near the Spinney gate. These are to be laid on parts of the paths in order to provide a firmer footing. However, until the ground is a little dryer, we shall not be able to wheel barrows along.

We are hoping to hold a work party or two to do this. The first is planned for 2 p.m. on Sunday, 16th March, weather permitting, and the second on Sunday, 13th April. Volunteer helpers will be very welcome. Please watch the notice board for information, or telephone 843319 or 842006.

Recent research has shown that the Spinney has been managed woodland for at least 200 years, and so we invite you to come and join us as we continue in the steps of earlier workers.



WHILTON POLICE REPORT

From
PCSO Sarah Gray 7207 - Daventry Rural Safer Community Teams
Northamptonshire West Area
Northamptonshire Police
Telephone: 101 Mobex 778156 Mobile 07557 778156
Email: sarah.gray@northants.police.uk

Crime figures for February include one burglary, not from a dwelling, in Whilton, and another uncategorised crime.

There is an increase in **theft from vehicles** that are unlocked, so please be careful.

Horse marking is happening again.

Things to look out for:

- manes being plaited
- marks on the rear end
- anything to alert a potential thief that a horse or pony has been identified

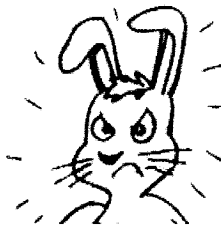
Males knocking at doors of the elderly or vulnerable.

If callers are genuine they should produce on request a 'Pedlar's Licence' which are issued to Air Ambulance and Red Cross, but can be easily reproduced and to an untrained eye can appear the real copy. It is an offence not to carry and produce the 'Pedlar's Licence' on request when knocking on a door and selling goods.

Please call the police on **101** or Trading Standards on Northampton County Council **08454 04 05 06** should you be concerned about this

.....
What do you get when you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

...A hot cross bunny



Can February March? ...No, but April May!



WHILTON GARDENERS ASSOCIATION



News from Olive

Welcome to 2014. What a wet start! When we all surface I hope there will be NO hosepipe ban.

There was an attendance of 16 members at the AGM in February, followed by a very sweet quiz about chocolate. All existing members agreed to stand again.

As the membership fee of £12 is not enough to cover costs it was voted on and passed that from 2015 the membership per annum will be £14. This hopefully will keep us solvent.

The programme for 2014 looks very exciting.

2nd April	The speaker is Dr Twigs Way on DIGGING FOR VICTORY
4th June	Mr John Lee will be talking about PENSTEMONS (a particular favourite of mine)
6th August	VISITS TO WHILTON GARDENS, followed by a social/ buffet.
1st October	The speaker will be Mr Steve Mackie on BONSAI
3 December	Members' CHRISTMAS SOCIAL SUPPER.

Please try to keep these dates free so that you can participate in the programme of 2014.

New members are always welcome.
Ring: 07921429228

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

The current year for the above (01/04/2013 – 31/03/2014) is nearly at an end and our band of volunteer collectors will soon be coming to visit you for your annual subscription of £13 per ticket for the year ending 31/03/2015. They gained two new members for the current year and we hope they will be as successful for this coming year or even better!

The 200 Club is essential to raise funds for carrying out improvements to the village hall for the benefit of the community in the parish of Whilton. The rents received for the hire of the village hall only just cover the utilities and as everyone knows the rates for water and particularly for electricity have gone up such a lot in the past few years. There is not a surplus left to cover new or replaced equipment and we use the 200 Club fund in these cases as we wish the village hall to maintain the good standard we have always achieved

We hope we are able to maintain the prizes of £45 for first prize and £25 for second prize each month. If the numbers drop for 2014/2015 we may have to revise the prizes so **please** buy tickets if you are new to the village or buy maybe extra if you already have one, as a drop in membership will also affect our income for village hall improvements.

If you have any queries about the 200 Club please contact Shirley Brown on 842968 or **d.brown253@btinternet.com**

HIRING WHILTON VILLAGE HALL

Don't forget that the Village Hall is available for hire

- for private functions
- for children's parties
- for adult education classes ...

For further details please contact the Bookings Secretary:

Mary Kane

Tel: 01327 842618

or email: mary.kane@hotmail.com

WHILTON VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB 2013/14

DEC 2013

1 st Prize	006	A Walton	£45
2 nd Prize	193	A Jack	£25

JAN 2014

1 st Prize	082	T Treacy	£45
2 nd Prize	188	A Hill	£25

FEB 2014

1 st Prize	101	A Welch	£45
2 nd Prize	193	A Jack	£25

Congratulations to all the prize winners



TUESDAY CHAT



The Tuesday Chat which took place on 17th December 2013 was very well attended and extremely entertaining. The tables were adorned appropriately and the food had a very Christmas theme.

We decorated a small tree for the exhibition in St Andrew's Church on 22nd December with edible goodies (biscuits shaped as snowmen, Christmas trees Santas etc. and colourful wrapped sweets and chocolate and other themed objects). It was a great success

We had Tuesday Chats on 21st January and 25th February. They were very enjoyable and the cakes were delicious and the 'chat' varied and interesting. At the February Chat we drew the lucky winners for January and February of the Whilton Village Hall 200 Club.-see elsewhere in the Newsletter.

There is no Tuesday Chat during March but the next one will be on 20th May at 2.30pm in the village hall.

Do come along and join us, you are very welcome. There is a small charge of £1.50 per person towards the rent.

WHILTON SOCIAL LUNCH

Do come along and join us at 12.30 pm for 1.00pm in Whilton Village Hall on

Tuesday, 8th April 2014

This is always a happy occasion with two courses provided. There is a choice of puddings and these are very popular. Drinks are served before and during the meal and tea and coffee afterwards with chocolates.

The charge for this meal is £5 per person.

Please let us know if you wish to come by informing Ros (842324) or Anthea (843319) by Saturday 5th April.

WHILTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society met on 24th January to hear about
"ROUGHMOOR THROUGH EIGHT CENTURIES".

Until 2012 Roughmoor was part of Brockhall. It has had links with Whilton for centuries, but has now become part of our parish.

The earliest reference to "Roughmoor" dates from the first half of the 13th century. It was then the name of a furlong in Brockhall open fields. Its meaning is obscure. It has been suggested that it means "area of waste", but the evidence of its history does not back this up. Documentary evidence suggests that for much of its history the area was known as "Roomer", and the "mer" may come from an old word meaning "boundary". From the late 1880s it was sometimes called "Ringmore Grounds", perhaps a change designed to make it sound better!

Despite the mystery over its meaning there is a surprising amount known about this area of about 100 acres, and this is just an attempt to pick out some of the highlights we heard about.

In medieval times Brockhall and Muscott both had open strip fields, but as Muscott was a much bigger settlement, it provided some of the labour for Brockhall. Roughmoor came within the manor of Brockhall and in 1249 Sir Philip Lucien became lord of Brockhall on his marriage to Joan Wake. The Luciens remained here for several generations; in 1322 there is a record that part of Roughmoor furlong was being farmed by Margery Lucien, lady of Brockhall. No doubt it was her labourers who were doing the work!

This regular farming system might have continued for many generations, with a prospering village nucleus at Muscott. However, the later 1300s were marked by bad weather and poor harvests, weakening the villagers who depended on their own crops for survival, and probably meaning they were less robust to face the disaster which hit from the outside. The Black Death appears to have reached this area around 1349, with recurring bouts in 1361/2 and through the following decades.

There was some trouble in 1362, when Robert Syer of Brockhall complained that the lord of Whilton, his wife and his son and a few others assaulted him in Brockhall after Robert Syer's sheep got into Whilton. They had impounded his cattle in Whilton and made him pay a hundred shillings to release them. He claimed he was afraid they would kill him. A hundred of his sheep had been hunted and bitten by Whilton's dogs, leading to 20 of them dying. Whilton's lord was fined for his actions.

One interpretation of this event is that for some reason the boundary hedges or fences between Brockhall and Whilton were not being maintained. This may be an indication that there had been a drastic decrease in the population. Within a short time in about 1375 James de Nevill and his son died. Most of Muscott township appears to have been abandoned by 1377. This may well have been caused by another visitation of the plague.

In 1410 Sir Robert Tyrwhit purchased Brockhall manor. The Tyrwhit family lived here for a while and the family continued to own Brockhall, but they were an old and powerful family with other interests and property particularly in Lincolnshire and Huntingdon, with a seat at Kettleby.

These new owners were faced with the aftermath of population decline. In 1433 Sir William Tywhrit took a new departure in physically separating Roughmoor from the rest of Brockhall with a fence or hedge, so that it would no longer be arable, but used entirely for sheep grazing. It was far from the village and on the boundary with Whilton and Brington. By enclosing about 100 acres for sheep he dramatically reduced the labour required.

The strips within Roughmoor were exchanged for others in the main manor. This suggests that there were lands which had reverted to the lord after the departure of his tenants. Even today, after nearly six centuries, the clearly marked ridge and furrow reveals the old arable farming. This must be evidence against those who believe the derivation of the name means "area of waste". Such clear ridge and furrow after so long must indicate many centuries of cultivation before enclosure. From 1433, when Roughmoor was referred to as "the new inclosure next to Whilton," its history changed as it became permanent pasture.

The Tywhits let Roughmoor to tenants and sub tenants. In 1538 Lawrence Wassington of Northampton took on a lease of "the manor and a close called Roughmer", " paying annually at the front stone in the cathedral church of St Paul in London, £33.6.8." Robert Tyrwhit, esquire for the body of the King, would often have been in London. By 1576 William Salter and Henry Roper of Daventry were paying an increased annual rent of £100, paid half yearly to Sir Robert Tyrwhit, "at his mansion house at Kettelbye". The lease allowed these tenants to take the "shredde tops and lopps" of all manner of oaks, ashes, willows, elms and all manner of thorns growing "in and about the said Close of Riughmere as in and about the manor and premises." "Shredding" is a traditional method of tree pruning by which all side branches are removed repeatedly leaving the main trunk and top growth.

Robert Tyrwhit's signature on a rent receipt of 1581

The Tyrwhits were a powerful family, and through Tudor times were present at all the royal courts.

However, mixing in such elevated circles had its disadvantages. In 1580 Sir William Tyrwhit was committed to the Tower, a suspected Catholic sympathiser, and as Tyrwhit fortunes fell, Brockhall manor was sold in 1583.

Roughmoor was now established as a sheep farming close, and after a time in the ownership of Lawrence Eyton, it was sold to Robert Andrew of Harlestone. Late Elizabethan records give us some details. Robert Langton, a Whilton farmer recorded that: "*Roomer... will keepe about x score sheepe and so manie hath the sayd Mr Eaton kept on the same yearely and most of the sheepe have benne ewes and of them hath had lambes everie lamb he estemeth to be worth iis vid.*" Robert Linnell of Whilton cautiously agreed with him that Roughmoor could: "*bear ii hundred sheepe or thereabout but what number of sheepe and lambes or other beastes the seyde Mr Eaton hath kept thereon he this deponent doth not knowe.*"

In the mid seventeenth century Henry and Barbery Smith were farming Roughmoor and there was a house there by 1649. By the 1700s Roughmoor had been divided in to several closes. In 1738 woadman John Lawson had a short tenancy of Banky Roughmoor and Roughmoor Meadow, but his agreement stipulated that woad could not be grown on these fields, so they remained as pasture.



Ann Judkin, who married farmer James Emery about 1830

Roughmoor was farmed for most of the 19th century by the Judkin family, descendants of Whilton carpenter and farmer, George Judkin. By 1807, however, they were the tenants of the Thorntons of Brockhall, who had gained Roughmoor through marriage into the Andrew family. As part of the Thornton estate, Roughmoor had a stone pit, which was in frequent use when the Thorntons altered the roads across their property, especially in the 1830s. All trace of this pit has disappeared.

The Judkins were graziers. They bought and sold at Northampton Fair and their produce was of good quality. For example in December 1860 the Mercury reported on the Christmas Meat Show, which included "some very fine oxen and heifers, fed by several farmers including ...Mr Judkins, Romer Grounds". This prosperity was in the years of high farming and before the agricultural depression of the late 1800s. William Judkin, who died in 1871 was sometimes described as farmer, but also as "gentleman".

By late Victorian times the Judkins had left Roughmoor. For a short time James and Hester Stevenson with their five young children lived there, and they were followed by a family from Devon, named Burgoin. In 1901 Susan Burgoin was continuing to farm there as a widow.

In 1908 a couple from Gloucestershire took on the tenancy. When they arrived George and Sarah Pride already had one little daughter, Freda, and in 1910 a second baby girl was born named Blanche Elizabeth, but always known as Betty. George struggled to make a living in the early years, but the Thornton Estate was drawing in its horns. In 1920 George Pride had the option to buy his farm for £4,300, which he was able to do by realising some investments, and not taking a on a mortgage.



Roughmoor in the time of the Prides

The Prides remained there for another 30 years. Towards the end of George's life Sarah and her two daughters kept the farm going with help from prisoners of war. George Pride died in 1946, and Sarah in 1951. The Misses Pride came to live in Dormer Cottage in 1966 and sometime before that Roughmoor was transferred to Fred Richmond, a race horse breeder and builder involved in various speculations. After five years he moved on and the farm was purchased by the Wilson family, who farmed here for four years before selling to Joan and Griff Davies in 1970, happily remembered by many in Whilton. A new house and stables have now been built on the site of the old farm, and this is now the home of Andrew and Margaret Jack, Margaret being the daughter of Griff and Joan Davies.

The last meeting of the Local History Society was on a **Friday evening**, which appears to be more convenient for some people. The May meeting will also be on a Friday, and after that we may make a decision about the best day for society meetings.

The next meeting of the Local History Society will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 16th May.

The subject will be:

WHILTON ON THE EVE OF WAR.



All are welcome.

Please bring £1.50 to cover expenses.



**MOTHER'S DAY
AT THE LOCKS**



The Canalside Restaurant at Whilton Locks Garden Village is offering a special Mother's Day menu, to be served from 12 noon on Sunday 30th March. All mothers joining them for Mothering Sunday lunch will receive a complementary cupcake to take home - for when the kids have gone to bed!

Sasha's Column

Hello Everyone. Hope you're all ok. I have had a very strange couple of months and there is only one thing that I blame. No, it's not the lack of food, although that is a good point, but it is in fact the weather. The rain, the wind, the rain some more.

For those who know me well enough, you know I cannot stand the rain. It's wet and cold and horrible, it does disastrous things to my curls and makes my paws all wet. Rochelle says that I'm a high maintenance dog, so I'm not going to sink as low as going out in the rain, only decent weather for me.

It is not just the rain, the wind has been playing me up, as well. The freak storm that we had recently really scared me. I spent most of the night trying to find a space in the house where I could shut all the horridness away. Mum and Dad's room, the spare room, the hallway, Rochelle's room, everywhere I went I couldn't settle and if I did, the wind howled and disturbed me. At one point I tried to hide in the corner of Rochelle's room, snuggling up to a pillow on the floor. It's fair to say that no-one got a good night's sleep that night. I promise it wasn't all down to me.

Once the weather finally settled, I then had another upset when dad decided to leave me to celebrate his birthday with his friends. I do everything with my dad, so I was really worried when he didn't come back at lunch. He's always back by lunch, we share a bagel together. So when the door opened and Uncle Ken came to check up on me, feed me and then tried to take me for a walk, I didn't want to go. I was too worried about my dad. So if you reading this Uncle Ken, I'm sorry I worried you. Luckily Shell made a surprise return just after lunch and I finally settled down for the night at around 10 pm when my dad finally got home.

Anyway it should be a while before dad goes off on an adventure without me again and the weather seems to be getting better so hopefully I can stay a happy doggie.

I look forward to seeing you all around the village.

Sasha

THANK YOU

The Whilton Carol Singers would like to thank everyone for supporting them on Tuesday 17th December, and giving so generously.

We were able to give a donation of £300 to Target Ovarian Cancer in memory of Kate Denbigh.

Mary Emery



Whilton Warblers continue to sing in the church on Tuesday evenings, and are now planning another concert. This will take place on the evening of Friday 20th June. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Tickets will be on sale before the concert and details will be available later in the spring.

If you are interested in joining the choir, just come along on a Tuesday evening during term time. For further information e-mail Linda at lindahalltreacy@gmail.com

AND ANOTHER THANK YOU

The quiz held last November in aid of the Friends of Cynthia Spencer raised £350 for this fantastic cause. Thanks to Janet, Phil and Mary who helped to organise the event, Neil for once again being our quizmaster *par excellence* and of course all you lovely people who bought tickets for the quiz. I can't remember which team won on the evening – except that it wasn't mine – but as usual everyone seemed to have a great time.

Teresa Leadbetter

A NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POET

It is 150 years since the great Northamptonshire poet John Clare died in May 1864 in Northampton Asylum.

There is to be an exhibition entitled "John Clare and the Shepherd's Calendar" at the Central Library, Northampton, from 18th March until 8th June.

John Clare came from a poor labouring family, with only a limited level of education, and wrote without punctuation, often added by later editors, as here. Yet he has been described as a wordsmith who composed some of the greatest nature poetry in the English language. Looking forward to the spring, this poem entitled "May-noon" gives us a taste of what may come.

*How sweet it is, when suns get warmly high,
In the mid-noon, as May's first cowslip springs,
And the young cuckoo his soft ditty sings,
To wander out, and take a book; and lie
'Neath some low pasture-bush, by guggling springs
That shake the sprouting flag as crimpling by;
Or where the sunshine freckles on the eye
Through the half-clothed branches in the woods;
Where airy leaves of woodbines, scrambling nigh,
Are earliest venturers to unfold their buds;
And little rippling runnels curl their floods,
Bathing the primrose-peep, and strawberry wild,
And cuckoo-flowers just creeping from their hoods,
With the sweet season, like their bard, beguil'd.*

A fruity dessert

25 years ago Whilton WI produced a cookery book, containing some of the members' favourite recipes.

Perhaps during the Easter holidays some of us would like to try Angela Hall's

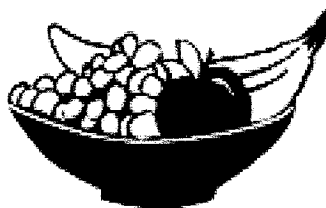
"Hot Sauce for Ice Cream"

Ingredients:

- 1 eating apple
- 1 large banana
- 2 oz butter
- 2 level tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 oz sultanas
- 6 tablespoons rum
- 4 oz white grapes

Method:

- Chop apple and banana and place all ingredients in a pan.
- Simmer for 15 minutes.
- Add rum and simmer for further 10 minutes.
- Pour over ice cream.



Update from Rochelle

I've had a really nice couple of days. I turned up to work on the Monday, only to be told that I wasn't needed that day or for the next couple of days. I was on holiday. Only problem was dad was out all day and mum was at work. I had no way of getting home. So I had to spend the day in town looking around all the shops. I would say it was horrible but I had all day to shop for myself. It was really quite enjoyable. My holiday also meant that I could catch up with friends and also I was lucky enough to spend all day with my dad on his birthday. Something I think he was grateful for.

I recently had a good review at work and they are pleased with my progress, so any concerns of me being the Head of Menswear have vanished out of the window. Now all the mad dash of Christmas and New Year have settled down I can finally enjoy my job, rather than not knowing whether I was coming or going.

Since Christmas my shorthand has improved dramatically. My teacher found me a new book to help me with my revision and also my speed. I decided to get my head down this year and have been doing between half an hour and hour of practice every night. It has definitely helped. My vocab and speed have improved and now I am practicing 60 and 70 words a minute in time to sit my first exam in April.

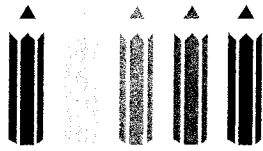
The choir is going strong and I look forward to Tuesday nights, when I can go and be the West End Star I've always dreamed of being, even if it is just for a couple of hours. We are all working hard for the concert that is coming up shortly. The feedback from the last one was amazing and I am so glad that everyone seemed to enjoy my version of Hallelujah, just before Christmas. So thank you for all the support, not just for me but for the whole team. It's much appreciated. Watch this space!



And to follow that...we have the report of Whilton Friendly Society's Annual Dinner on Whit Tuesday, 22 May 1880

The members, headed by the excellent band of the 1st (Althorp) N.R.V.C., paraded the town, and marched to the parish church, where an appropriate sermon was delivered by the rector (Rev. Randolph Skipwith). Dinner was provided at the Plough Inn by Mr. W. Carvel. Amongst those present were the Rector, A. Cox, Esq., Long Buckby; Messrs. Reynolds, Emery, etc.

The ladies of the village and neighbourhood took advantage of the day's festivities to arrange a tea in the school-room, in aid of the Parish Church Restoration Fund. The tables were beautifully decorated with choice flowers, ferns, and evergreens, and the viands were far in advance of those generally provided at tea meetings. The weather being delightfully fine, a large company assembled on the rectory lawn, where dancing was kept with much spirit till dusk.



Brington and Whilton Pre-School

Good news to be reported this time in the newsletter, the Pre-school now has 14 children on the register, with many children attending for the three days.

We have also extended our Wednesday sessions until 3.00pm, the three year olds stay on and this is proving to be a very useful time to extend their learning in readiness for school.

During this term we are looking at different countries, trying out foods from the country, learning some basic language and looking at the flags and traditions of the country. We are celebrating World Book Day in March and the children are coming dressed as their favourite book character and during the Easter Holiday we shall be having our Annual Easter Egg Hunt – details below.

If you have child aged 2yrs to rising 5yrs who would benefit from attending a caring setting, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Holman 01604 770083 or 07948724415 and book a visit to come and see us.

BRINGTON & WHILTON PRE-SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT

Great Brington Church
Saturday 19th April 2014

Easter Egg Hunt 10.30am

Raffle

Children's Easter Story

Coffee, Tea and Light refreshments

£2.50 per child



NEWS FROM BRINGTON SCHOOL – March 2014

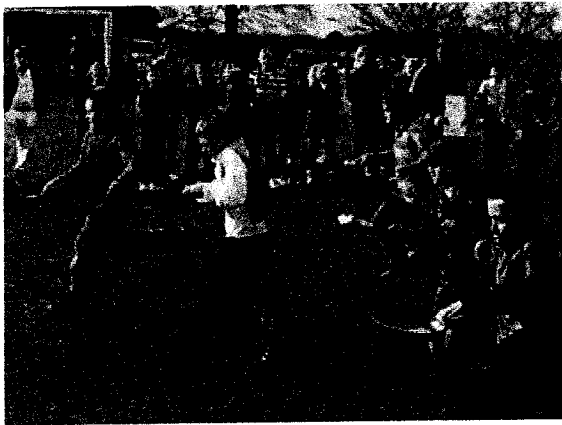
CREATIVE CURRICULUM

The Creative Curriculum topics are continuing really well. The older children are learning about WW2 and have been writing biographies based on key figures involved in the conflict. There is some wonderful work being done both in school and at home and the children have been really absorbed in the topic. We were very proud to appear on Anglia news for our key stage 2 Stunning Start with the Territorial Army, if you haven't seen the clip it is still available if you go to www.itv.com/news/anglia and search Brington Primary School.

Class one came back after half term to clues frozen into large blocks of ice which revealed that they would be learning about Sir Ernest Shackleton and becoming a polar explorer. We have done some very exciting polar explorer science which included making a blubber glove!

SHROVE TUESDAY/WORLD BOOK DAY

We had a fantastic day at our joint World Book Day and Shrove Tuesday celebrations. The children all looked amazing in their book character costumes and thoroughly enjoyed listening to stories and working on book related activities.



A swift change at lunchtime saw everybody ready for pancake racing in the afternoon. Well done to everyone, you all did very well.

Congratulations to the Brington School parents who won the relay race, you will appear on the trophy soon!

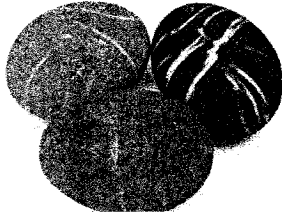
ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The governors are delighted to be able to inform you that the school has secured some additional funding which is to target mathematics work and help to develop and extend the work already done across the federation. Staff will have the opportunity to work in other schools with a range of colleagues. We look forward to seeing the enhanced progress this project is designed to make for the pupils.

WEB SITE

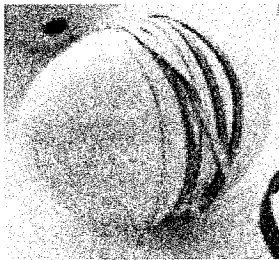
We are delighted to inform you that our new web site is up and running. The site is not yet fully complete and there may be the odd glitch in it still but I am sure you will agree that it is a much better advertisement for our school and partnership.

Decorate your Easter Eggs with Rubber Bands!



Wrap hardboiled eggs with rubber bands before dyeing them to achieve brightly-coloured Easter eggs with lovely distinct streaks

You will need: Cold hard boiled eggs, white vinegar, food colouring, mugs (one for each colour), spoons (one for each colour), rubber bands.



Wrapping rubber bands around an egg is quite tricky because of the egg's curved shape and smooth surface. You will find it much easier to position a bunch of rubber bands all at once than doing it one rubber band at a time.

Take about 10-12 rubber bands and position them around the centre of the egg. The bunched up rubber bands provide enough friction to easily arrange the individual rubber bands around the egg. Rearrange the individual rubber bands in such a way that they interlock around the centre, further securing the rubber bands in place.

Continue until the bands form a net-like arrangement around the egg.

Prepare the egg dye by mixing $\frac{3}{4}$ cup warm water, 1 tablespoon white vinegar and around 10 drops of food colouring. Submerge the rubber band-wrapped egg into the dye. Allow the egg to sit for at least 5 minutes. The longer it stays there, the deeper the colour will be.

Remove the egg from the dye and let it air dry.

Carefully remove the rubber bands to reveal an attractive streaked pattern.

To achieve various-coloured streaks instead of just white, you will have to wrap the egg again with rubber bands and immerse it in a new dye colour. Dipping a blue egg into yellow dye will produce a green egg. Removing the rubber bands will reveal blue and light green streaks.

HAPPY EASTER



Fun Stuff

This issue we're looking back 100 years, to the start of World War 1 in 1914. Test your knowledge on what school life would have been like back then.

1914 School Life – How much do you know? (There may be more than one correct answer – answers can be found at the bottom of the page).

1. Where did most children sit during lessons?
A) The carpet, B) wooden benches, C) plastic chairs
2. What would the teacher use to demonstrate the lesson to the children?
A) An electronic whiteboard, B) a blackboard & chalk, C) computer.
3. How would the children learn?
A) Using books, B) internet, C) repeating (chanting) & memorising.
4. What would the children write with?
A) Slate and chalk, B) Wooden pens & ink, C) Felt tip pens.
5. What might happen if the children made a mistake with their work?
A) Nothing, B) rap on the knuckles with a ruler, C) made to wear a 'D' dunce's cap and sit in the corner?



- 1.B,
2.B,
3.C (few books were available)
4.A & B (children learning to write would use slate & chalk, whilst older children used wooden pens with a nib dipped into ink.)
5.B & C

Pet's Corner

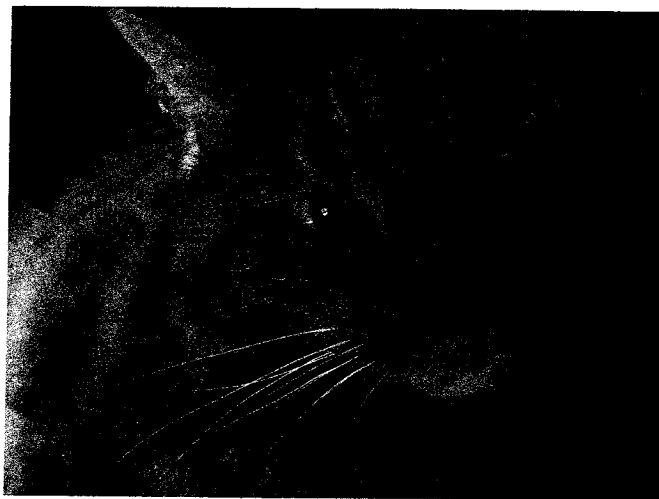
Welcome to our new section where we'd love to hear about your pets – following on from the successful Sasha updates we know how much people enjoy reading about our furry companions. This edition we hear from one of our younger readers and her feline friend, but we welcome articles from all ages, so please let us know why your pets are so special to you.

Brandy and me

By Louise Whitcombe (aged 8)

I like Brandy because she is a nice cat. She is a nice cat because she cuddles me a lot. Brandy is very cute because she plays sweetly and gently. She licks me as her way of kissing me. She is a very good cat and I love it when she snuggles into me. She climbs on me nice and softly.

Brandy has lovely brown fur with pretty green eyes. She has a white bit on her chin. I like to feed Brandy treats when she does tricks.





All About Me!



I'd like to meet....This issue we have asked some of the younger residents of Whilton which famous person they would like to meet, and what they would ask

Hannah: Miranda Hart (comedian); I really like her style of comedy, we are going to see her at the theatre later this year. I would ask her how she thinks of her jokes.



Frank: Harry Hill (comedian & TV presenter. I love his jokes and his TV shows, I would ask him what his favourite joke is and what other jokes he can do.



Louise: Beth Tweddle (Olympic gymnast). I would like to meet her as she is an excellent gymnast and could help me learn. I would ask her what her favourite gymnastic trick is.



Maria: Demi Lovato (Singer & Actress). I would like to meet her as I liked her when she was on the Disney Channel, and now I like her songs. I would ask her if she enjoyed being on the Disney Channel as she is not on it anymore.



Georgia: Bastille (Band). I have two of their albums. I love listening to their songs, and I would ask them which of their songs their favourite is.



CountyConnect



Your Bus...Your Call!

CountyConnect is a bus service brought to you by Northamptonshire County Council working with Lincolnshire County Council and Centrebus. It is a service that you can use for any reason you need to travel. The service goes where and when you want within the designated areas. The timetable is designed around you!

Our specially designed buses are easy to see. They offer easy access allowing wheelchairs on board and there is plenty of space for shopping and luggage.

County Connect will take you to or from any designated pick-up point to any other in each village or town. More rural locations are also served if it is safe to do so. You can go from village to village as well as to your local town. You are able to connect to regular bus and rail services that will take you longer distances.

There is no fixed timetable as it changes every day, so you need to pre-book. **The bus cannot pick you up without a booking.** You can phone, email or text our dedicated booking team. Bookings can be made up to an hour before you need to travel (subject to availability) and up to a week in advance. It is 'first come first served', so the more notice you give, the more likely you are to get your requested booking.

Fares are charged based on the distance travelled, like any other bus service. Your concessionary travel pass will also be valid after 9.30am on Monday to Friday and all day Saturdays.

Booking Conditions

For a CountyConnect service please submit your request at least 1 hour before you wish to travel. Bookings will depend on availability. Bookings will not be taken more than 7 days in advance.

0845 456 4474

Booking and helpline

Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.30pm

Sat 9.00am - 4.00pm

Cancellations and Service Operating Information

Mon - Fri 7.30am - 6.30pm Sat 8.30am - 5.00pm

Text

CountyConnect followed by a space and your message to **82727**

Website: www.county-connect.co.uk

E-mail: countyconnect@northamptonshire.gov.uk

The Whilton Newsletter is published quarterly and circulated free to every household within the parish boundary. The costs are met by the Parish Council.

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We would be very happy to welcome another member on to the editorial team. If you are interested, please contact any of us.

The Editors welcome material for the Newsletter. If possible, please send your contribution by e-mail. If you do not have a computer, the editors will be happy to type handwritten articles for you.

The next issue will be the Summer Edition, covering June – August 2014 .
The last date for contributions will be 20 May 2014.

The Newsletter is published quarterly, but Whilton also has a website – www.whilton-village.net. This contains details of the organizations in the parish, previous Parish Council Minutes and Newsletters and a comprehensive Picture Gallery. It also has latest news and updates on parish events.

If you would like to advertise your local business, flyers can be delivered to every household in the parish with the Newsletter at a small charge. For information please contact one of the editors.

WHAT'S ON IN WHILTON?
SPRING 2014

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Sun	9 Mar	6 p.m.	Church	Evening Communion
Wed	12 Mar	7 p.m.	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Sun	16 Mar	9.15 a.m. 2 p.m.	Church Spinney	Worship for all Work party in Spinney, weather permitting
Sun	23 Mar	11 a.m.	Church	Worship for all
Sun	30 Mar	6 p.m.	Church	Mothering Sunday Service
Wed	2 April	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Gardeners Association: Digging for Victory
Tues	8 April	12.30 for 1 p.m.	Village Hall	Social Lunch
Wed	9 April	6.30 p.m. 8 p.m.	Village Hall	Annual Parish Meeting Parish Council Meeting
Sun	13 April	2 p.m.	Spinney	Work party in Spinney, weather permitting
Sat	19 April	10.30 a.m.	Gt Brington Church	Pre-school Easter Egg Hunt
Wed	14 May	7 p.m.	Village Hall	Annual Meeting of Parish Council
Fri	16 May	7.30 p.m.	Village Hall	Whilton Local History Society: Whilton on the eve of War
Tues	20 May	2.30 – 4 p.m.	Village Hall	Tuesday Chat

Last date for Newsletter contributions

Other weekly events include:

Mon, Wed, Fri: in term time 9.30 a.m. Brington and Whilton Pre-school in the Hall

Tues: in term time 7.15 p.m. Whilton Warblers Choir in the Church

**Mon: 7.45 p.m. Bell ringing at the Church.
For further information please contact Justin or
Theresa Baker: 844263 or e-mail: j.t@online.net.**