



WHILTON NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1989

Ed's Notes

We hope you all enjoyed our long, hot summer and feel able to face the shortening days of autumn.

Here we are with the season of Harvest Festivals upon us, although harvest has been early this year.

Did you know that the old Harvest Thanksgiving was held on August 1st, Lammas Day. Lammas is derived from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning Loaf Mass. The first wheat was cut, threshed and made into flour for a loaf which was then offered in church.

In 1843, a vicar in Cornwall started the modern, end of harvest service by having a Service of Gratitude.

We are grateful for the harvest of Newsletter items which arrive for each edition. Many thanks and keep up the good work.

Eds

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Parish Church

Sunday Services: 1st Sunday Benefice Eucharist 10.00am at each Parish in turn.
October, Norton. November, Brington. December, Whilton.

2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays at 6.00pm.

Many thanks to those who have shared the two Benefice Eucharists to date. Both were very happy occasions - lots of people - time to talk afterwards - and thanks for the providers of refreshments.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service: Sunday October 1st at 6.00pm.

Harvest Supper: Tuesday 3rd October.

Standing Comm. Wednesday 1st November at 3.00pm.

P.C.C.: Thursday 9th November at 7.30pm.

Remembrance Service 12th November at 6.00pm.

Deanery Advent Carol Service at Daventry Parish Church. Sunday 3rd December at 6.00pm. (Collection for the Diocesan "Family Care" organisation).

We are most grateful to Mr. & Mrs. G. Davies and to all who supported the Farmhouse Teas afternoon at Roughmoor. As a result of this we are able to put £100 towards our fund for extensive re-wiring at the church.

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Collection of milk tops, etc. and stamps

Once again I must say many thanks to all who have contributed to the two sacks of tops, etc., ready to be taken to Lyncrest. I have had a few "bumper packs" this time and lots of smaller, but just as welcome, offerings. Many have been left in the porch or hanging on the door handle. Well done!

Please remember that used stamps are also gratefully received - English and Foreign. These have not been coming in with the same regularity as the milk tops, etc. but many thanks to those who have contributed.

Trudy Haynes

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Village History

Thanks to those people who have purchased copies of the "History". There are still a few copies left, £2 each, available from the Old Plough. (Proceeds to Church funds).

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The Village Post Office

Mrs. Treacy is giving up the Post Office as she is returning to full time work and therefore the village is looking for somebody to take on the Post Office, as soon as possible. It is due to close at the end of October if it is not taken over.

Mrs. Treacy would like to thank the villagers who have supported the Post Office in the past.

If anybody is interested in taking it on please contact Mr. Oliver on Northampton 230389 or Linda Treacy at the Post Office.

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Preliminary Notice

VILLAGE HALL HALLOWEEN PARTY - Saturday 28th October.

Family Evening, Competitions, Fancy Dress, Food, Fun and Games.

All Welcome.

Mary Kane

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Brington School PTA

FORTHCOMING EVENT - A German Evening to be held on Saturday September 30th. Complete with authentic food and drink, a genuine OOMPAH BAND etc.

Tickets available from Ros Gardner or Paul Billsborough.

Everyone is welcome!

Paul Billsborough

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EVENING CLASSES

3.

Would you like to take part in a First Aid Course, either as a beginner, or as a refresher course?

Would you like to join a Calligraphy Class?

If there are sufficient people who are interested, courses could be arranged. Please contact Paul Bilsborough at The Barn.

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Whilton Gardeners' Association

At the August meeting of the Association it was decided that the annual subscription would be £2.00 for first member and £1.50 for second and subsequent members of a family. The subscription includes an affiliation fee to the National Allotment Association.

Mr. Beckwith who specialises in some unusual alpine and small herbaceous plants came to speak to us on "all year colour in the garden", and brought samples to buy. The colour in a border being obtained not only from flowers, but also leaves and stems, he told us.

Herbaceous borders should be lifted and replanted every four or five years, planting three, five or seven plants of one variety in a clump. It could take three years to build the herbaceous border, planting the tall back row, then middle and finally the low front row.

He gave us ideas of the various plants which were ideal for the border and said that if they were dead headed shortly after flowering most would produce a second crop later in the season.

The next meeting will be the A.G.M. followed by wine tasting. Please bring along home made wine and/or a plate of delicacies. The annual subscription is due at this meeting and several new committee members are needed. Your support is welcome.

There will be a competition for the Heaviest Onion from Mr. Warnes' seeds and also the results of the Horticultural Show held in August.

NEXT MEETING Monday October 2nd at 7.30pm in Village Hall.

Anne Heeley

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WHIST DRIVES

For the last few years we have been holding a Whist Drive (twelve hands) on the first or second Friday of each month from October to April. Last winter it was difficult to keep going, due to insufficient support.

It is proposed to have a trial run again this year on Friday, 13th October. Unless there are enough people interested to make it a viable proposition we shall, reluctantly, have to abandon the idea for this winter.

If you are interested, then, come along to the Village Hall on Friday, 13th October, at 7.30pm. It is usually a fairly light-hearted evening (no cut-throat competition) rounded off with coffee and biscuits and usually ending about 9.00pm.

Harold Haynes

Then and Now

Whilton Women's Institute

THE EARLY DAYS

What a difference - today it takes a matter of minutes to prepare for our meetings, in the early days it required a lot of effort. We had to wait until school was over before we could begin. Desks had to be moved and chairs fetched from the men's Clubroom. Access to the Clubroom was through Glebe Farmyard (now Mr Tooley's, then Mrs Tooley's aunt and uncle, Miss L. and Mr C. Emery). The best way to carry chairs, I found, was to take the pram, (Geoffrey in it) and I could carry four at a time. I must add that Geoffrey did not approve.

In the winter months we had to cope with the fire, which was very stubborn, and for most of the time looked sullen and refused to burn.

We used a large black kettle for heating the water, and sat it on the fire. (No electricity yet). On numerous occasions the said kettle would tip, spilling water on the coals and filling the room with an unpleasant odour! When the wind was in one direction smoke would be blown back down the chimney and we then had a room full of smoke. But, speaker and members alike, we just accepted it as part of the proceedings - we were not put off, membership was high in those days.

After making the tea the kettle had to be put on again with water for washing up - this meant a trip to the pump in the schoolyard, and what a pump! One had to wrestle with it to get water through, and it made a noise like a braying donkey! I'm sure everyone living close could hear it.

When the meeting was over we had to clear and clean the room ready for school next day. This meant a visit early next morning to take the chairs back (sometimes we did this the night before) and in winter to clear the ashes and light the fire - returning the key to Mrs. Haynes the school caretaker (Harold's mother) all by 8.30 am.

Was it worth all the effort? - of course it was!

Kathleen Wright, Founder Member, South View

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BEETLE DRIVE

On Saturday 11th November there will be a Beetle Drive in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. (In aid of Church Funds).

Admission 50p

Children Welcome.

Mary Emery

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* Christmas/Birthday Gift Idea *

Why not give a Whilton W.I. Cookbook - price £2.

Available from Trudy Haynes, The Old Plough and Anne Heeley, Springbank.

All proceeds to W.I. Funds

VISIT TO

**Cotswold Rare Breeds Farm
and Snowhill Manor**

by Philip Morris

Village Outing Wed 23rd August
Organised by Miss Scott

We set out at 9.30 am and arrived at about 11 am we had a drink. Then got some feed for the animals. There were many different types of animals. There were some of the earliest pigs (boars) some white cows that Mr Tooley had in his field, and some portland sheep Mrs Gardner has. My favourite bit was where you could go in the field and feed the goats and sheep.

After our picnic lunch, we went to a museum at Snows-hill we saw a barrel organ working and lots of old toys and bikes I found out how a penny farthing got its name.

Back into the coach again and on to Chipping Camden for our cream tea (very nice). Then home to good old Whilton after a lovely day out.

Philip Morris

Parish Council

6.

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 4th September. Among items discussed were:-

Holly House/Home Farm Road Junction improvements - The County Council had been contacted several times with regard to the Parish Council having sight of the road improvement plans but these had still not been received. The clerk was to liaise with the County Council until a copy is obtained.

Traffic Census - Mr. Haynes and Mr. Clements volunteered to conduct a traffic count of vehicles passing through the village. This was needed before the Police would undertake a speed check.

Snow Clearance 1989/90 - Mr. H. Clements agreed to continue as Whilton's Linkman between the village and the County Council.

Village Allotments - As the lease between the District Council and Parish Council expires in March 1991, it was agreed to discuss this fully at the next Parish Council Meeting.

The Chairman had received a telephone call from the District Council asking the Parish Council to relinquish the lease on a small part of the allotments in order that an adjacent householder may acquire this piece of ground to straighten up his plot. The Parish Council felt that exact details of the proposals should be obtained in writing before any decision is made.

Village Green - It was agreed that the Parish Council should take steps to acquire the area of grassed land at the centre of the village adjacent to the church in order to protect this area and keep it as an open area for the future good of the village.

Planning Applications:-

Home Farm - Three dwellings in the orchard - application refused.

- Conversion of barns to four dwellings - Granted.

Relocation of Industrial Unit, and form Car Parking - Bryants Windows, Whilton Locks. - The parish Council had no objections to this proposal but re-iterated their comments on the traffic hazards in this area.

Proposed Industrial Unit - Whilton Marina - Comments as above.

Erection of Building for storage of Commercial and Private Vehicles:- Brooklyn, Whilton Locks.

After discussion the following comments were to be sent to the District Council. - Four members of the Council had no comments to make and three councillors were against the proposal on the grounds that a building of that size detracts from the open countryside where the site is situated and in effect is turning the residential site into business premises.

New dwellings to the rear of Tudor House:- It had been brought to the Chairman's attention that the two properties being built did not appear to comply with the planning conditions on the original permission. The Parish Council will take this up with the District Council.

Future Plans:- Having discussed the future development of the village. The Parish Council were to forward the following recommendations to the District Council.

1. Buildings should be restricted to infilling on reasonable size plots within the present confines of the village.
2. There should be no encroachment onto agricultural land except where it complies with 1. above.
3. To preserve the rural character of the village, buildings should not be so large so that they fill the plot, but should have a reasonable amount of space around them as have most of the older houses in the village.
4. Materials used in the construction of the new buildings should blend harmoniously with existing buildings in the immediate vicinity.
5. It is considered important that one or two open spaces should be retained within the village.

Jim Gardner

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W. I. News

At the Gardeners Association Show, the W.I. were pleased to be able to lay on refreshments and sell cakes. This raised a total of £38.45 for funds. Money raised at such events help us to provide a varied programme with Speakers on wide ranging subjects. September's talk was entitled "Upstairs Downstairs" but unfortunately Mr. Jeffcoat, who had been a footman at Buckingham Palace, was unable to come due to a traffic accident. However, the evening was not spoilt and in true W.I. fashion, we made the best of it, and we had a very pleasant evening.

New members are always welcome and though subscriptions run from January, anyone joining now will just pay the annual fee. October's meeting will be the A.G.M. which has a very short business part followed by a talk on "Chocolate", in fact it will be a Chocolate evening with recipes and tastings. November's meeting is a Cookery Demonstration, and December will be our Annual Members' Night!

If you are interested in coming along, please contact our Secretary - Anthea Hiscock on 843319.

Angela Hall

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Forthcoming Event

Water Colour and Pastel Exhibition in Daventry Library

from 23rd October to 17th November 1989

by Barbara Lewis.

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Village Trip to Lichfield Cathedral and Calke Abbey

On Wednesday the 19th July villagers and friends assembled by the church and took the coach to Lichfield. It is quite a novel experience to travel by coach. You can see so much more. Houses suddenly appear that you could not see from a car. Other people's gardens can be admired, farmer's crops commented on, and sometimes glimpses into people's front parlours.

For me the great joy is to leave the car at home and to be taken without any problems of driving or parking.

Lichfield Cathedral is breathtakingly beautiful with it's three very bold spires - one 258 ft high, the whole edifice is covered with carvings and it is set in such a pretty "Cathedral Close" surrounded by small houses each one of a different design and with it's own peculiar charm. There is a closely cut lawn between the Cathedral and the houses, you could almost see the carriages, crinolines and poke bonnets.

As I walked into this great building I was overwhelmed - I just had to stand still and absorb it's beauty. Lichfield Cathedral is small compared with all the others and not so well known. In my opinion it's beauty is quite unique. What wonderful craftsmen we have had in the past.

This building was built in the 13th and 14th centuries. It is the third to stand on that site. The foundations date back to 700 AD when the first Cathedral was built to enshrine the body of St Chad.

By all accounts St Chad was a very popular priest and greatly loved by thousands. He administered his diocese which covered seventeen counties and he was known by all.

This Cathedral houses the "Lichfield Gospels" which is an illuminated manuscript of the Gospels made by a single scribe at the beginning of the 8th Century.

They came from a monastery in Wales, but their origins are a mystery. Other gospels must have existed because they break off abruptly after St Luke chapter 3 verse 9 - at the words "every tree that fails to produce good fruit is cut down."

A building of such size and antiquity calls for constant attention and repairs.

During the civil war the precinct of the Cathedral became a battle field. The Cathedral authorities were loyal to King Charles 1, but the town's people sided with Cromwell.

A siege started on St Chads Day, and they destroyed monuments, coloured windows, carved stalls, books, and ancient records. Cats were chased by dogs through the building creating bedlam.

The parliamentarians remained in charge for fourteen years. They broke up the Cathedral, and sold materials. The central spire been shot down during the seige. The lead was stripped from the roof, bells broken, statues thrown down, and carvings defaced.

This cathedral suffered more at the hands of Cromwell than any other building in the land at this time of civil war.

However, at about 1667 restoration began, and the Cathedral was revived exactly as it had been. In 1788 people had lost interest in their Cathedral - it was neglected and the fabric decayed.

Help was at hand again in 1842 when repairs started and continued for ten years. The whole building was faithfully restored to its old splendour. Some of us had a quiet moment in St Chad's chapel which is a small room upstairs in the corner of the Cathedral - remembering this much loved man.

After a backward glance at this splendid Cathedral we embarked on our coach which took us through lovely Derbyshire countryside to Calke Abbey.

This large mansion was taken over by the National Trust in 1985. It is a "time capsule" or a "hidden house revealed."

The owners have been great collectors of inconsequential things in very large quantities - rather like magpies. A great deal of sorting out had taken place before the house could be opened to the public, and I understand that there is much more to be sorted.

We do find that these National Trust Properties have very good catering facilities and their home cured ham was quite delicious. After an enjoyable lunch in excellent company we felt refreshed enough to view the house which opened at 2.00pm.

Sir John Harpur built the house in the 18th Century. A clever marriage had provided the money. However his descendant married a lady's maid, and they withdrew from society, and he became a recluse with a passion for studying wildlife and collecting things. The descendants seem to have inherited all these qualities and so the house and grounds remained just as they had been in 1924 and probably exactly as they were in 1886.

Time had certainly stood still in the kitchens with their yellow lime washed walls and a gentle reminder to "Waste not Want not". In 1924 there were 27 servants employed.

Along one wall in the kitchen was a mid 19th Century stove of brick and cast iron with hot plates for making stews and sauces. All this was heated from underneath with a wood fire.

The large wide fireplace had been a roasting hearth where the meat was cooked on spits, and racks.

I could imagine this place to be a hive of industry, and bustle so much cooking to do everyday to feed the family and 27 servants.

How they ever got hot food to the dining room upstairs from these dungeons is hard to imagine. They had such a long way to take the food.

There was so much to see and later on when more is sorted, and put in order I should like to wander round the garden, green houses, stables and out buildings.

Meanwhile there were the principal rooms to visit, and of course "the great bed" which was kept for very important visitors. How uninviting it looked in it's freshly restored dark blue silk drapes. There were stuffed birds everywhere many sadly extinct or missing from the countryside.

After a refreshing cup of tea we headed for home. This had been another of Diana's very special village outings which are so appreciated by all.

Freda Thomas

Summary of Events

Sat.	30th	Sept.		German Evening, Brington School
Sun.	1st	Oct.	6.00pm	Harvest Service, Whilton
Mon.	2nd	Oct.	7.30pm	Gardeners' Association, Village Hall
Tues.	3rd	Oct.	7.30pm	Harvest Supper, Village Hall
Wed.	11th	Oct.	7.30pm	W.I. A.G.M., Village Hall
Fri.	13th	Oct.	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
	23rd	Oct. - 17th	Nov.	Water Colour/Pastel Exhibition Daventry Library
Sat.	28th	Oct.		Halloween Party, Village Hall
Wed.	8th	Nov.	7.30pm	W.I. meeting, Village Hall
Sat.	11th	Nov.	7.00pm	Beetle Drive, Village Hall
Sun.	12th	Nov.	6.00pm	Remembrance Service, Whilton
Fri.	17th	Nov.		Deadline for December Newsletter
Sun.	3rd	Dec.	6.00pm	Deanery Advent Service, Daventry

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The Whilton Newsletter is published bi-monthly and circulated free to every household within the Parish boundary

The costs are met by the Parish Council and the Editors are:

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

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