

WQ Quarterly

WINTER 2025



WHADDON



Your local independent nursery store with 30+ years of experience helping families find the best baby & nursery equipment for their little ones. With major nursery brands and baby essentials all under one roof, we make it easy to explore, compare, and choose what's right for you. From newborn must-haves to **travel systems, car seats, and nursery furniture**, our expert team is here to guide you in a calm, welcoming space.

OUR LOCATION

Bumpstart Baby Shop
Coddimoor Farm,
Coddimoor Lane,
Whaddon,
Milton Keynes
MK17 0LR

OPENING HOURS

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	10am - 4pm
Wednesday	10am - 4pm
Thursday	10am - 5pm
Friday	10am - 5pm
Saturday	10am - 5pm
Sunday	11am - 3pm



SPECIALIST ADVICE



PAYMENT PLANS



FREE APPOINTMENTS

✉ team@bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk

☎ 01908 504506

🌐 www.bumpstartbabyshop.co.uk

♡ @bumpstart_baby_shop

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Editor's Letter

As the year draws to a close and the Christmas lights start to twinkle, it's a pleasure to welcome you to the Winter edition of the Whaddon Quarterly.

It's the perfect time to look back on the year we've shared. Whaddon is a busy place - from quiz nights to rock concerts to black tie events to showtime to cosy gatherings, our village has been alive with laughter, teamwork, and the occasional dash of organised chaos (the best kind!) and has proved once again that when our community comes together, wonderful things happen. Each event has added a sparkle to village life, and it's been fantastic to see so many joining in.

Now, as we wrap up the year with festive cheer, let's carry that spirit of kindness and connection into the months ahead. May your Christmas be merry, your New Year bright, and your resolutions achievable (or at least entertaining to attempt!).

With best wishes,

Sally Shrimpton

Editor

wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

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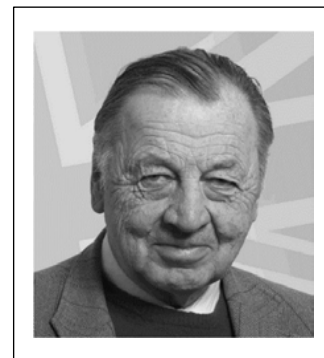
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If you would like to advertise in the Whaddon Quarterly, please send your advertisement to the Editor as above.

The views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor or Whaddon Parish Council. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but the Editor does not accept liability for any errors within contributed material. The Editor's decision is final.



Whaddon Parish Council Chairman's Report

In England today, we are told that we need millions of new houses to accommodate a population that is living longer, with more of us living by ourselves; then there is immigration. The occupants of those new houses, wherever they may be built, will have cars and will need roads to access the estates. If you consider that these cars will be electric, it is not surprising that there are so many planning applications for solar panels on farmland.

We see this in Whaddon in the form of the Shenley Park estate, proposed as part of Whaddon village, joining us to Milton Keynes. We are also aware of the effect that these properties will have on the already congested A421, with no improvements proposed. The A421 will also have to cope with the major new development this side of Newton Longville.

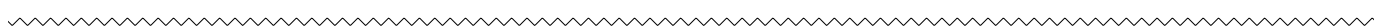
Solar panels are the subject of a planning application on farmland within the parish, while the neighbouring village of Beachampton already has several.

If Whaddon is to remain a small rural village, surrounded by rolling farmland, the Parish Council will be, and already is, battling with the local authorities in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes to ensure that Whaddon plays its part in the successful and acceptable evolution of this area.

Whaddon has a fantastic Community spirit whether it be the Parish Council, the Jubilee Hall, the School, The Church, the Chapel or the Lowndes Arms.

Let's keep it that way in 2026. Happy Christmas and New Year!

Cllr Billy Stanier Chairman
Whaddon Parish Council





Who's Who in WPC?

Billy Stanier	Chair
Paul Sainthouse	Vice Chair
Matt Garland	
Jane Herriman	
Jason Jones	
Graham Stewart	
Tim Bennett	

Please join Councillors and Clerk in giving a warm welcome to a new Whaddon Resident, Tim Bennett, as a new Councillor on Whaddon Parish Council.



At its meeting on 9th October, following the statutory period to advertise the vacancy, Cllrs unanimously co-opted Tim Bennett to join WPC as its newest member.

Tim lives in Whaddon with his fiancé Jack and their little yorkie, Casper. He enjoys running around the village and exploring pubs in the area.

Local issues which Tim is particularly interested in are planning, development and transport.

Tim grew up near High Wycombe in South Bucks. After university he moved to London, where he contributed to the community as a school governor and in a group helping to manage Clapham Common. His professional career has been nearly 20 years in business strategy, most recently in senior roles for FTSE 100 companies.

Tim joins WPC at times of great change and challenge, and his support through the forthcoming turbulent times is extremely welcome.



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

Remember to Report it to FixMyStreet. It's that time of year.... Potholes, icy puddles, blocked drains, empty salt bins! Your best bet is to go online to [Buckinghamshire Council - Summary reports :: FixMyStreet](#) and log the problem directly. It's quick and easy on a smart phone and uploading a quick pic is easy to do too.

This saves time and money for Bucks Highways, but in addition Bucks Highways collects and analyses the data and uses it to focus their scarce resources on the black spots that need it most. So, get reporting early and often!

A New Dog Waste Bin for our Doggie Family Members. As this article is being typed, we are expecting the imminent arrival of a lovely new dog waste bin to be located down Kennel Lane at the fork in the tracks. Many feel they don't need to pick up after their dog on a rural track, BUT THEY'RE WRONG. Dog faeces can contain nasties for humans and animals alike and will make life very unpleasant for other walkers. It's as important to pick up after your dog on a footpath/track as it is in any other venue.

New Contact Information for WPC... Please call 07903 187417 and address any mail to P O Box 6542, Milton Keynes, MK10 1YY.

GET IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES VIA THE WEBSITE!

Visit [Whaddon, Bucks, Whaddon, Milton Keynes \(whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk\)](http://Whaddon, Bucks, Whaddon, Milton Keynes (whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk)), and click on the blue box to sign up for Email Alerts. This will give you lots more information, and you'll be able to go online to see previous posts too.

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting(s). The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council take place at 7.00pm on the second Thursday

of the month at The Chapel, Stock Lane, MK17 0LU. Please check the Village Notice Board on the bus stop to confirm. Full details are also on the WPC website at www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk.

All Welcome!



Whaddon Parish Council

**OUR NEW WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE
GO TO**

whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

**THE WEBSITE IS THE BEST WAY FOR YOU TO
KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND COMMUNICATE
YOUR VIEWS.**

- YOU CAN READ THE MINUTES OF OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS.
- SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER AND GET AUTOMATIC UPDATES BY EMAIL.
- GET USEFUL INFORMATION.
- READ THE AGENDA
- GET LATEST PLANNING APPLICATIONS
- COMMUNICATE YOUR VIEWS AND CONCERNS

**Be an active member of our local community. Remember it is
your civic right to attend and observe our meetings.**

The dates and venues are always posted on the website.

So go to:-

whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

and bookmark it on your computer, laptop, mobile phone or tablet.



Beats and Benches



Please join WPC in thanking Elmer's Charity and Whaddon's Dedicated Defibrillator Maintenance Person – you know who you are! – for supporting the recent purchase of a new Defib Unit (the old one had exceeded its shelf life) and the hard work installing it, registering it, and ongoing testing and maintenance of it.

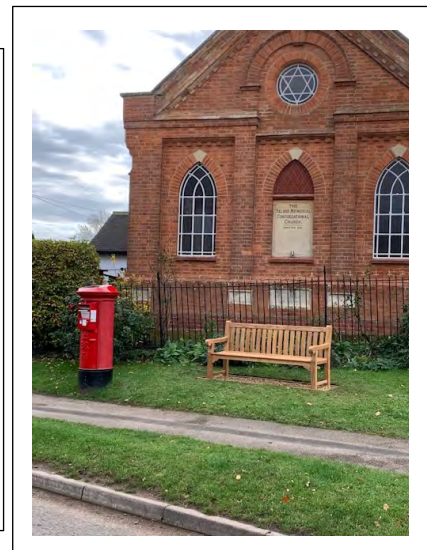
The unit has already saved lives in our community, and we are incredibly lucky to have it. The generosity of Elmer's Charity and the people who freely give their time to look after it is hugely appreciated.

Next time you're passing, please stop and get familiar with the instructions on the front, as you never know when you might need to know!

Elmer's Charity is a local charity that supports individuals and community projects in need of financial aid. If you'd like to find out more, please contact WPC to be put in touch with the local Elmer's Trustees.

Please join WPC in sending a Really Big Thank You to our local Elmer's Charity for their generous grant, Cllr Graham Stewart for his idea and spearheading the project, and our Dynamic Duo of village handyman (IYKYK!) for the provision and installation of three lovely new benches.

So, take a moment to relax, chat with family and friends and enjoy the street scene.





Whaddon Picks a New Name for the Forthcoming New Housing Development

Following an excellent response to a wide-reaching poll of residents and gathering inputs from many other interested parties, WPC is delighted to announce a clear winner in the decision for a new name for the new housing development to be located east of our village.

And the winner is.....

Wheat Hill Park

This is a great choice of name that honours the history of our village. Whaddon means Wheat on a Hill Side in Anglo-Saxon.

The arrangement is to continue with the name Shenley Park for now, to avoid confusing planners and creating confusion on the planning portals and with neighbouring Parishes and others. But once the planning phase is finalised and we move to building, marketing, and the arrival of new residents with deliveries by the post office and delivery drivers the address will be Wheat Hill Park.

**Next thing is the naming of the individual roads and streets....
Any Ideas???**

Send your suggestions to Clerk@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk.

An Update from Callum Anderson MP



Hi there, voting and policymaking is in full swing in Westminster, and over the past couple of months, progress has been made on reforming the NHS, local councils, and rail services, so they work better for our entire country. Lots has been done, but (rest assured) I know there is a lot more to do.

This month has brought encouraging developments, both internationally and locally. Globally, we've seen positive steps toward peace in Gaza and the release of hostages – progress that offers hope in deeply challenging times.

Closer to home, I want to thank everyone from Whaddon and the surrounding villages who joined my recent SEND summits. Your contributions were invaluable, and I've shared your insights ahead of the forthcoming White Paper to ensure your voices are reflected in future policy.

There's also great news on funding that will benefit local residents. Buckinghamshire Council will receive £7.2 million through the Connect to Work programme – part of a £167 million national investment to help people with health conditions or disabilities into secure, fulfilling employment.

Finally, I'd like to alert residents to Anglian Water's Thriving Communities Fund – which offers £5.8 million in grants for local environmental and social projects across our region. This funding comes from fines redistributed by the government as part of a wider £62.8 million package agreed with Ofwat earlier this year. Please check the criteria and see if your community project qualifies – I'd love to see Whaddon benefit.

As always, if there's anything I can help you with, please do get in touch. Above all, I am here to serve you.

Parliamentary office
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Email Address: callum.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

(Member of Parliament for Buckingham and Bletchley)

www.callumanderson.org.uk | [@ CallumAnderson](#) | [Sign up](#) to Callum's newsletter



WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT CARS
(AND SOMETIMES LARGER VEHICLES)

SPEEDING THROUGH OUR VILLAGE

AND WE WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

We are starting a Community Speed Watch Group to help keep our children, older community, pets and wider community safe.

Can you help?

Got an hour a week (or even a month) to spare? Join our friendly team of volunteers and make a real difference to your community.

Interested?

To be a part of the team, drop us an email on whaddonspeedwatch@gmail.com



TOGETHER, HELP MAKE WHADDON CALMER, KINDER, AND SAFER!



Whaddon Parish Council



Whaddon School



From 2026, we will be hiring out our school hall for a small fee. The hall will be suitable for small gatherings outside of the school day. For details, please contact the school office on office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk



Whaddon C of E School Open Days

Dates

13th September: 09:30 - 12:00
19th September: 13:30 - 14:30
23rd October: 09:00 - 10:00

18th November: 09:00 - 10:00
19th November: 13:30 - 14:30
9th January 2026: 09:30 - 10:30

To book your tour please contact The School Office on
01908 501 719 or office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk

"You are the light of the world, let your light shine"



"...**Welcoming** and **inclusive** village school." Ofsted

WHADDON C OF E SCHOOL

For Admissions 3-11 years call: **01908 501 719**

New Nursery Opening September 2025

Join Our "Small, **happy** & dedicated **community**." Ofsted



Starting school for the first time

Was your child born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

If yes, Buckinghamshire parents can apply online for a school
place from 5 November 2025 visit



**You must apply even if your child is at the nursery
attached to the school you would like them to go to.**

The application deadline is 15 January 2026, please do not miss it

Please contact the school nursing service using the link below to find
out what health checks and vaccinations are available for your child.

buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/cyp/school-years-development/school-nursing



News from St Mary's Church

Hello everyone in Whaddon, or further afield,



Autumn is a time of gratitude and reflection, and the month of November is particularly poignant as we remember those who fought and died in the two World Wars, as well as the many people who are still fighting in, or suffering the effects of wars. I'm writing this on 10th November, the day after we held our service of Remembrance in St Mary's, and I'm still aware of the solemnity and real sense of occasion that was so evident then. It was a beautiful morning, and there was an aura of peace as we initially gathered round the War Memorial in the churchyard to remember and honour those who "for our tomorrow" had given "their today". The young man who played Last Post, and then after the two-minute silence, the Reveille, didn't falter, and Andrew Bloomer, who carried the British Legion Standard, did so with quiet dignity. Our thanks go to both, Paul Mileham who conducted the service, and to everyone who came: it was a fitting and beautiful tribute.

The Harvest Festival weekend was incredibly busy this year, as the Whaddon Show took place on the same weekend. Several people were involved in both, and on the Tuesday after the Harvest Supper it was easy to tell who those people were: the ones with pale faces and dark-rimmed eyes! Grateful thanks go to everyone involved: cake makers, coffee servers, cottage pie makers, organisers, and everyone else who donated produce, time and energy, and to everyone who came to the Supper and placed their bids at the post-supper auction. It was a magnificent effort, thank you all.

Mark and Matt conducted the auction with their legendary aplomb and ad libs, and everyone fell for their patter most generously! I'm delighted to say that thanks to your immense generosity, £2,532 was raised, to be shared equally between St Mary's and our charity, which this year is the Ukrainian Red Cross. £600 of that was from the Hickman Marrow – a wonderful final bidding to round off a very successful evening.

And now we're thinking about Christmas – it really won't be long! There are several events and services planned, from now, right up to Christmas Day, so for easy reference I will list them below this message. There will also be more detailed information elsewhere in this edition of WQ. It seems very early to wish you all a Happy Christmas, but I certainly do and add sincere wishes for the New Year as well.

With very best wishes,

Daphne Willis Churchwarden, St Mary's, Whaddon

- 23rd November Bus Trip to London
- 30th November Christmas Fayre 2-4pm in the village hall
- 6th December Christingle Service
- 14th December Carol Service 6.30pm
- 24th December 'Midnight Mass' at 10pm in the Church
- 25th December Jesus' Birthday Party at 10am in the Church

=====

St. Mary's Church Whaddon Services

November 2025 – February 2026

Everyone is most welcome to all our services.

Sun 30 th Nov	6.00pm	Benefice Advent Carol Service in Thornborough Church
Sat 6 th Dec	4.30pm	Christingle Service in Whaddon Church
Sun 7 th Dec	5pm	Compline
Sun 14 th Dec	10.30am 4pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion WILD Christmas Party at Nash Village Hall Carol Service with Whaddon Chase Choir and Alex Aiken on organ
Mon 15 th Dec	10.30am	Benefice Toddler Church Crib Service
Sun 21 st Dec	10.30am	Table Talk in the Chapel
Wed 24 th Dec	10pm	"Midnight Mass" with Alex Aiken on organ
Thu 25 th Dec	10am	Jesus' Birthday Party
2026 Services		
Sun 4 th Jan	5pm	Compline
Sun 11 th Jan	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 18 th Jan	10.30am	Café Style Church: Table Talk at the Whaddon Chapel
Sun 25 th Jan	9am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion
Sun 1 st Feb	5pm	Compline
Sun 8 th Feb	10.30am	Holy Communion

Reflections From the Rectory

By Reverend Jacqueline Dove

I'm writing this in November and in 'November we Remember', I tell the children at Whaddon Church of England School. The church colour changes from green to red. Red represents the fire which is a symbol of God's Holy Spirit, but red is also the colour of love and reminds us that love is stronger than death.

At this time of year, we are reminded about life and death because of the changing appearance of the trees and plants around us. There are many bare branches which have lost all their leaves. When people we love have died, we can feel a bit like a bare branch: bereft of those who were once so close. The leaves are dying, but they are also changing into compost, which will help make more leaves grow. They no longer produce oxygen but it's like they are on a new part of their journey, as they still have an important role to play in the web of life. Likewise, Christians believe that death is not the end of life.

I talk about this with the children at the two schools in the Blackthorn Chase Benefice. They seem to appreciate the opportunity to talk about grandparents and pets who have died. Sometimes, heartbreakingly, it is a parent who has died. One child once described grief as feeling 'hollowed out'. Children can be very good at holding sadness and gladness together at the same time. They can be both really sad that their grandad has died and very glad that their birthday is tomorrow. Like the way the sun can shine when it is raining, resulting in a rainbow. I have personally found that when I make room for both sadness and gladness in my life, I experience deep joy. It's easier to choose one over the other. To focus one's attention on all that is wrong or to pretend all is fine. To be either a pessimist or an optimist.

I think Jesus shows us how to live a life which is both/and, rather than either/or. He was a man of many sorrows, acquainted with grief, who didn't shy away from the suffering which inevitably goes hand in hand with love and he warned of the dire consequences of lives built on the ruthless pursuit of power. However, he also spoke about joy a lot and wanted those listening to his teachings to know complete joy. (John 15.11).

Speaking of joy, I really hope you all have a very blessed Christmas and are able to glimpse the mind-blowing mystery at the heart of the Christmas story: God-with-us. The extraordinary miracle that God came and pitched a tent amongst us in the form of a tiny baby. Hope to see you at one or more of the many services over Christmas. Happy Christmas!

St Mary's Church – Fundraising Events



ST MARY'S CHURCH XMAS FAYRE

SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
2PM – 4PM

TOMBOLA – RAFFLE – CAKE STALL
CRAFTY KIDS – FACE PAINTING
SANTA'S GROTTO – MULLED WINE
REFRESHMENTS

JUBILEE HALL, WHADDON





21
MAR
7.30pm

SOIRÉE CONVIVIALE

“A Taste of France”

An evening of French Cheese
and Wine Pairings

Ticket: £30pp •

Limited availability

**All proceeds to St Mary's
Church, Whaddon**

Location: Whaddon Jubilee Hall

Date: Saturday 21st March @ 7.30pm

For more information and to book:

Email: tastecheeseandwine@gmail.com

Text: 07436812800



13-14th June 2026 – Whaddon Open Gardens, with Flower Festival at St Mary's Church (Afternoons only)

For further information (or to volunteer your garden or offer to dress a church window) please contact stmarysflowerfestival25@gmail.com, or text 07436 812800. All proceeds are for church maintenance.

20th June 2026 – St Mary's Rocks

Following a hugely popular and successful concert, V2 are back to rock St Mary's once again. BBQ and bar available. Save the date in your diaries now! Details about how to get your tickets will follow in the Spring edition of the WQ.



SUPPORTING ST MARY'S CHURCH – PARISH GIVING SCHEME

A couple of years ago, we launched a "Parish Giving Scheme" whereby villagers (and beyond) could donate to St Mary's Church on a regular basis. We now have 30 regular donors to whom we would like to express huge gratitude for their continuing support, which has enabled us to meet the day-to-day running costs of the church. This is just one of the ways the village supports our beautiful ancient church, although given its age, there are always unexpected repairs needing financing.

If you are interested in donating in this way and would like more information please contact Chris Robinson, PCC Treasurer in confidence (chrissie.rob@outlook.com, or phone 07702 777012).

My Christmas Poem

By Eileen Kay Gingell



I gazed from my own bedroom window
On the night that was Christmas Eve
The sky was silent and peaceful
Head bowed with clasped praying hands.

For me dreaming it isn't unusual
My mind losing track of the time
I stood at the door of a stable
By Joseph and Mary with child.

Three kings left their gifts for the boy child
My whole being filled with emotions
Oh! What a great celebration
Shepherds high with elation.



Up above were a large choir of angels
Their singing would reach every nation
The light in the sky overpowering
Feelings within overwhelming.

Then all from the earth and the heaven
All creatures were gathered together
With much rejoicing church bells were ringing
To see Jesus in sweet Mary's arms.

God bless



Jubilee Hall – Whaddon’s Village Hall



You can hire the hall for private events at competitive rates. And did you know that chairs & tables can be hired if you need extra furniture for private events? We have speakers to enable music to be played in the hall if required, and mood lighting that can be used upon request.

At its AGM on November 12th the Committee decided to keep the hourly hall hire rates at 2022 levels: £12 per hour for Whaddon residents; £18 per hour for non-residents, with just a small increase to the additional cleaning charge: now £25.

Please e-mail: whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com for details.

Since the last Whaddon Quarterly:

Saturday 16th August: Social night with karaoke

Another fun night and thanks to everyone who came, saw, clapped, sang (some even in tune!) and made it such a fun evening. Special thanks to Graham for outstanding tech support and Guy and Lou for keeping everyone well lubricated (!)



Well, you need to hydrate to sing beautifully, don't you?! Another great community get-together!

Friday 19th September: Annual Beer Pong Tournament



We think we can call this an annual event now, as this was our second, and we're planning a third in 2026! Happy Camper Girls returned to defend their title but, after several close and thrilling matches, were pushed into second place,



tied with PFJ and Rim Reapers. The new champions were team Pongtastic, comprising Mark Carter, Mark Burnett and Vicki Burnett.

Friday 3rd October: Quiz Night

We had a guest quizmaster team, Pat and Neil, for our latest quiz, and the night was as competitive as ever! Congratulations to Quiz Me Kate, who defended their Eggheads title and took away the coveted Whaddon Quiz trophy, fending off Crystal Methodists, who finished one point behind for the second quiz in a row, alongside new kids on the block, the Newton Know-it-Alls.



Wednesday 12th November: Jubilee Hall Annual General Meeting

Our current committee is somewhat smaller than it used to be now, due to several members stepping down, so we'd love to see some new faces joining us, to help spread the load and keep the fun events happening. This is how we raise vital funds to help maintain our village hall. Meetings are few and far between: we do much of our discussing over WhatsApp, as time is at a premium for us all. If you'd like to help us organise this year's shenanigans, please get in touch via the email above. We'd be very happy to hear from you!

Coming Next – Dates for your diaries:

Saturday 6th December: Christmas Tree Lighting and social evening with bar and food van

From 5.30pm, for mulled wine, with light switch-on at 6pm.

A festive social event for all the family. This year, we have "Willie's Garden Kitchen" food van, serving food from 6.30pm, from where you can purchase delicious food to eat inside the hall or alfresco. You may remember them from our Summer Party – we had so much positive feedback, that we booked them for this night straight away!

Please come along and bring your friends too. For those new to the village, it is a terrific opportunity to meet the many lovely people living in our wonderfully inclusive and friendly community. And you will be helping to raise funds whilst having fun and catching up with friends and neighbours!

Friday 23 January 2026: Quiz Night

It's not too early to book your team in for this event! It may be dark and gloomy outside in the month that goes on forever, but you can be sure things will be warmly welcoming, verging on the hotly competitive, inside the hall. Let's see if your team can snatch the trophy from last time's winners, Quiz Me Kate! Email now to book your place. Please note that there is a small increase in the per-person entrance fee – now £5. Everyone needs a bit of a boost in January, so we anticipate tables will go fast!

In 2026, we have two fabulous evenings for you to enjoy, to support fundraising for the hall and for **MIND**, the mental health charity.



Saturday 21 February: Country Music Night

Dust off your cowboy boots and shout "yee-hah"! Time for a hoe down. Supporting your village hall and MIND charity. Entertainment provided by Taylor'd Country, complete with a licensed bar.

It's the perfect chance to bring your friends, relax, and even meet new neighbours in a fun, friendly atmosphere.

Tickets are now on sale at £10 - limited numbers available so grab yours before they're gone! Contact Sharon.bessell@btinternet.com

Saturday 7 March: Live Music Night

Join us for an unforgettable night of live music, community spirit, and meaningful impact! Come and enjoy lots of local talent, including Whaddon's very own band, Selby. Expect great tunes, good vibes, and a powerful cause. A great night guaranteed, and you'll be supporting the village hall and MIND charity!

Tickets on sale now at £10. *Limited tickets available, so buy ASAP to avoid disappointment!*

Contact Sharon.bessell@btinternet.com

Please keep an eye on the Jubilee Hall noticeboard for more details and updates. If you are on Facebook, please like our page "Whaddon Jubilee Hall" as this page is updated regularly.

Cancer Research Charity Ball 2025



Peaches Goyen hosted a fantastic charity ball in support of Cancer Research at Jubilee Hall, Whaddon on 20th September. The event was an absolute sell-out.

The below is a note from Peaches thanking everyone for their support of this very worthy cause.

"I can't even put into words how proud I am of not just myself but everyone who attended and helped with this event... Every second was perfect, we turned the Whaddon Village Hall into a night filled with Moulin Rouge, charity, and community from start to finish! The response this event had has blown me away, so much so that I am 100% making this event annual, hosting this charity ball was A LOT but it was the best decision I have ever made and I am so happy I was able to do all of this as Miss Buckinghamshire GB!"

An amazing total of **£8,340** was raised for Cancer Research UK that evening.





As the festivities begin to loom, Chase Choir has a couple of dates for your diaries. On 14 December, we're very happy to be taking part in the Nine Lessons and Carols service at St Mary's Church. This service will install the Christmas spirit well and truly into the village, so do come along and support it. It promises to be a very musical event, if last year's is anything to go by! We're also planning to help with a few voices for carols at the Christmas Light switch-on, on 6 December at the Jubilee Hall.

And just when the January gloom descends, we have your best interests at heart: there will be a Chase Choir concert on 26 January at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall. Come along and chase away the post-Christmas fog and murkiness, with an uplifting selection of pieces, guaranteed to make you smile and even sing along! And for those of you sensible enough not to be doing dry January, there will, in the great Whaddon tradition, be a bar! And a raffle!

And finally, if singing along is something you love doing, why not try out a session with us? Come along for free, and see how singing together makes you feel! We're a very friendly bunch, and welcome newcomers, although, if you're connected to Whaddon, you'll probably know most of us already!

Contact Marianna on 07763 102994 for more details about our Monday rehearsals – 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall.

Whaddon Women's Institute

Whaddon W.I. 2025 - Secretary's report



We are a small group of 9 dedicated members who strive to encourage and support each other and above all to have fun!

This year, whether it's discussing the resolution selection or getting together to make wildflower candle jars, the conversation has been stimulating and at times surprising too. It's amazing what you find out when you are crafting and of course it's all top secret!

We aim to raise funds for our W.I. when we can and our open Zumba exercise meeting did just that. Members and guests joined in and gave it a good go! Our second open meeting this year was a talk from a women's refuge. We were surprised to hear how abuse takes place and can escalate, often without the person realising and were even more surprised when the speaker told us that the anonymous person in the case study that she was referring to was actually her! A very brave lady indeed, who now works for the refuge and is keen to spread the word that the refuge is there and ready to help anyone in need. Members and guests collected toiletries which were donated to the refuge.

Being the W.I. there is, of course, cake involved and this was certainly the case for our birthday party and our garden party at Shirley's where it was sunny, as it usually is when our garden party takes place, and a good time was had by all!

The W.I. is keen for women to educate themselves and we certainly did that again with our speaker who told us about his own experience of a spinal injury and his life now which means he uses a wheelchair. It was staggering to hear how he left hospital with this life-changing condition with no help and support whatsoever. Both he and his partner now spend a lot of time helping those in a similar position so that no-one would feel as he did. An inspiring speaker and couple indeed!

We are increasing our knowledge in our last meeting before our Annual Meeting when we will have a talk from a Community Police Officer on how not to get scammed. It will be good to hear about this and to learn how to protect ourselves.

Our walk for more exercise was cancelled due to bad weather but we did at least manage to have the pub lunch that went with it, which was very popular!!!

We are looking forward to our Christmas craft meeting where we will be making Christmas wreaths courtesy of our member Sue who also lead our Christmas meeting last year.

All in all, another brilliant and varied year with our amazing group.

Draft Event Programme 2026

January	Resolution selection and social	July	Picnic
February	Board Games	August	Learn to Make Samosas with Mala
March	Ukrainian Singers	September	Bee Keeping
April	Electra Boat Trip	October	Auctioneer Open Meeting
May	Our Birthday Meeting	November	Annual Meeting
June	Ladies Ascot Meeting	December	Making Snow Globes

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Whaddon Night Owlers W.I

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 6.45 for a 7.00 pm start at Jubilee Hall, Stock Lane, Whaddon, Milton Keynes, MK17 0LS.

Question: What do we do?

Well, lots of things! In the past year we have made gift bags, tried out kinesiology, been bell ringing, learned about beekeeping (and tasted some fantastic honey!), met and talked with an author, learned some Indian home cooking and tried out line dancing.

We also support the national WI with their ongoing campaigns to support and empower women. One of the ongoing resolutions is to raise awareness of autism and ADHD in women and how it affects their lives. Next year, we will be finding out more about a rare but increasing cancer that affects women and learning how to recognise it early to ensure the best treatment.

We are a small, friendly group who always welcome new friends - come along and see for yourself, contact Nikki Bloomer on 07590 802443 or Daphne Willis for more info on 07766 713981.

Look forward to meeting you!



Whaddon's Watchmaker's World

William Gardus lived in Church Lane in 19th century Whaddon. The Chelsea watchmaker who married Charlotte, a Whaddon woman, also enjoyed scanning the night sky from an observatory in his garden. John Mortimer surveys the scene.

What was unusual about the marriage of Church Lane's watchmaker? Perhaps that his bride, Charlotte, was some 20 years older - William 28 and Charlotte 50. Or that the former Whaddon housewife's late husband, George, had died just two months before? Charlotte left Whaddon as Mrs. Judge; some 20 years later she returned a watchmaker's spouse: Mrs. Gardus!

And the attraction? Mutual love at first sight? Did Charlotte belie her years? Was she beguiling, attractive with an infectious laugh; wealthy even? Smartly attired with a caring nature? Whatever, Charlotte and William were married in haste, so much so, they married by special licence in Shoreditch, far from Whaddon's loose chatter and gawping eyes. Charlotte had no need of marriage - she was not pregnant with William's child, in fact, Charlotte remained childless.

After a few years, they mysteriously uprooted from London's crowded streets, where William was born and conducted his business; they headed for Whaddon's Church Lane, country life and clean air. (See Whaddon's watchmaker: WQ Spring, Summer and Autumn 2024). Church Lane was then on Whaddon's fringe; close to Pink's End - now Vicarage Road.

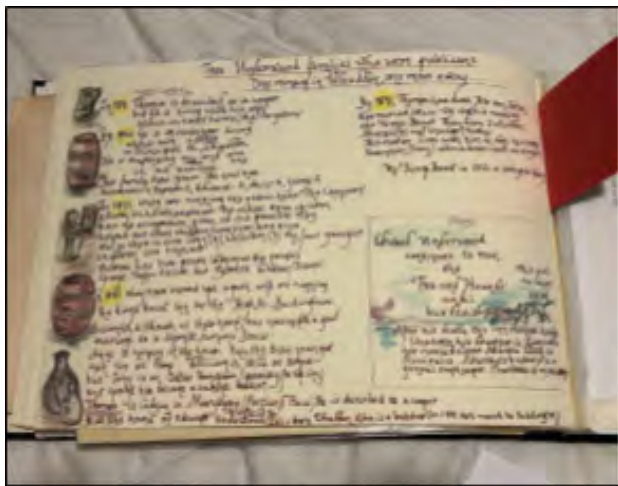
Janet Wyatt was related to Charlotte (nee Underwood). She loved Whaddon and travelled from the Cotswolds to explore Whaddon's highways and byways. She visited St Mary's Church and studied gravestones in the churchyard to garner details for her hand-written book of her descendants - the Underwood family.

I engaged first with Janet, who died recently aged 72 following a battle with cancer, many years ago researching Whaddon's one-time three public houses, Janet proved a long-time source of information, and a good friend.

A born genealogist, she relentlessly pursued the Underwood family to open the vault of its history. She soon discovered the family tree voluminous, compelling and daunting.

Janet's daughter, Clare Kirk, shares her late mother's passion. Writing recently, she notes: "I know you exchanged many emails with my mum about the Underwoods and the wider Whaddon community. It was a correspondence she really enjoyed and valued."

Clare adds: "I've inherited my mum's love of history, and work as a professional genealogist. It is my intention to use my limited spare time in the months ahead to write up our Underwood family history."



In the context of her mother's handwritten book **(left)** of Whaddon, Clare adds: 'It gives you a flavour of how much passion and joy she had for her research for the Whaddon Underwoods.'

"She visited Whaddon to walk the streets, take pictures of buildings and look for Underwood gravestones. One page includes a photograph **(below**

right) of her in Whaddon churchyard captioned: *Me thinking about my Underwood ancestors who lived in Whaddon.*"

Janet was directly related to John Underwood; he lived in Church Lane and was her 3X great grandfather. No doubt Janet visited Church Lane to gain a feel for where John Underwood and William Gardus lived.



Continuing her walk, she would explore Stock Lane. She might have tried to unearth Sugar Lane (no more alas; today it is Nash Road). She would pass *Laburnum Cottage*, formerly the *Fox & Hounds*, once one of Whaddon's three pubs. There, Edward Underwood - Charlotte's brother - once presided as landlord and cooper.

Convolutd Family History Tree

The eldest daughter of Thomas and Mary Underwood, Charlotte was born in 1778. Her first husband was George Judge who was baptised in March 1776 in Foscott, Buckinghamshire. The birth years made Charlotte 31 and George 33 at their harvest time wedding on 20th September 1809. The couple did not linger long in Whaddon instead, George sought pastures new. He - or they both - wanted a different life, a fresh start far from Whaddon. Possibly a more lucrative life.

Janet noted the couple moved to London where George found employment in a brewery. What sparked the idea in George's mind is

unknown. Inspired or encouraged by his publican brother-in-law Edward Underwood perhaps?

George joined William Bower in Badger's Yard in St John's Square, close to Brewers Hall. The couple lived at No. 7 Berkeley Court, Clerkenwell, itself a watch and clock makers' hub.

After several years, George fell gravely ill, leaving Charlotte distraught. So ill, in fact that George, 52, passed away, most likely from a disease. He was buried on 6th December 1827 in St John the Baptist Church, Islington. While in St Bart's Hospital in Smithfield, George had drafted his Will. It confirms he was a brewer; he named William Green Bower as his partner. George left £49 (£5,500 today).

A few years later, in Whaddon, in 1841, Janet's great grandfather, John Underwood, a farmer, and his wife Mary, lived on Stock Lane. Ten years later, they were in Sugar Lane, and by 1861 they had returned to Church Lane where they remained for 10 more years.

Edward Underwood, landlord of the Fox & Hounds, was first cousin of that particular John Underwood (above). So, he was Janet's cousin of her 3x great grandfather (and her 1st cousin 6x removed).

Meanwhile, back in Clerkenwell, events were unfolding fast. Charlotte did not remain a widow for long. She quickly found a new spouse - William Gardus.

How Did the Unlikely Couple Meet?

So, what do we know about William Gardus? An inscription in the Gardus family Bible offers a portent of things to come. It says William John Gardus was "born at 2 o'clock in the afternoon".

So precise! A watchmaker in being? It adds: "William Gardus was born on 16th January 1800 in Castle Street in the Borough of Southwark." His sister, Mary, arrived 21 months later in October 1801, but in Lower Sloane Street Chelsea.

We know that by 1823 (aged 23) William was a Freemason, a member of the Lodge of Unity. Perhaps this was as part of some kind of apprenticeship. He lived in Berk(e)ley Court, Clerkenwell; the heart of London's watch and clock activity.

For her part, William's sister Mary had found herself a husband; Frederick Mares, a professor of dancing. The couple were married on 8th November 1826 at St George's Church, Hanover Square, a venue for many a society wedding.

Martha Gardus (Mary's mother) witnessed the ceremony. William may have been present, having already been introduced to the professor, who ran a school of dancing. Mary Mares was keenly aware of her brother's dedication to his close-knit world of watchmaking. As a

result, he apparently showed little interest in getting married. Mary decided to seize the initiative. Following her marriage, Mary possibly suggested William attend one of her husband's evening dance classes which she had attended. It was at one of those classes that he possibly met Charlotte, a sad, lonely individual who, having just lost her husband, decided to take up dancing in hope of meeting someone. One evening, Charlotte and William were paired by the dance instructor; the couple struck up a friendship as dance partners

Alternatively, is it possible Charlotte and William met when both lived in Clerkenwell? Whatever, the relationship developed quickly, to the point Charlotte and William decided to marry. And the contrast between George Judge and William? As a watchmaker William would be precise and meticulous in all he did. Clean shaven, smartly dressed and polished shoes. The couple married nearby at St Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, Hackney, **(right)** on 11th February 1828 some 15 months after Mary's nuptials, but crucially two months following the death of Charlotte's husband, George. The attraction between the two must have been magnetic.



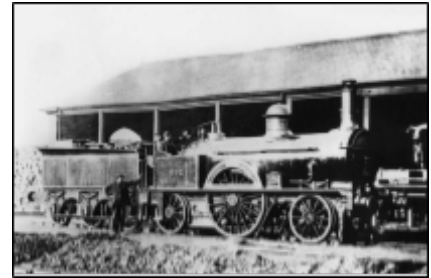
Janet, who had a line drawing of the church, explained: "George died a comparatively wealthy man, allowing Charlotte to purchase a licence to marry; making Charlotte additionally attractive to William, if any was needed." Janet continued: "The wedding was well away from Charlotte's home, and very convenient for them. I'm not sure if William wasn't a Non-Conformist. Most likely they married by licence to have a 'quickie' marriage, away from Whaddon. The optics of a Whaddon ceremony might not have looked good. I think Charlotte did well. A 'toy' boy. Sadly, there were never any children."

Coming of the Railways

One assumes William, at the age of 28, was becoming more proficient and had begun to establish a reasonable income. At some point, William and Charlotte discussed leaving Hackney. Was the solicitous Charlotte keen to 'ring fence' her new husband from the fate that befell George? They would be safer in rural Whaddon, well away from big cities and diseases. Whaddon however would bring new challenges, demanding a fresh start to find new customers. Charlotte clearly won the day; local Buckinghamshire landowners and wealthy farmers offering new business for William. Charlotte would know some from days of old. Tim Marshall, a local historian, confirms their move. He notes by email: "In February 1834, the couple bought

a house in Church Lane for £50." The cottage would be one of several then in Church Lane. Tim has compiled an historical record of local clock and watchmaking in his book: *Buckinghamshire Clock and Watchmakers*. A Buckinghamshire resident, he has identified some 500 county clock and watchmakers between the 17th and 20th centuries.

The coming of the railway to nearby Wolverton impacted on local business prosperity. The couple's move to Whaddon was at a time of unfolding local railway mania. Wolverton and New Bradwell were blossoming around the Wolverton Works of London and Birmingham Railway, founded in 1838. Its Small (**right, 1868**) and Large Bloomers were notable.



Further south, the die was being cast for a quantum leap. With Isambard Kingdom Brunel as chief engineer, the Great Western Railway in November 1840, set in place the first recorded occasion when different local mean times were synchronised with Greenwich Mean Time. And, with growing rail travel, time and timekeeping became important with the advent of Bradshaw's Guide. The railways became standard bearers of time, and punctuality. Railways were on everyone's lips, in newspapers. All this at the time William would be growing his business.

So, who was William John Gardus in reality? Was he a flintier version of George Judge, his antithesis? A man he never knew - save what Charlotte might tell him. Was William accomplished in meeting and greeting people?

Tim explains: "It was not unusual for village clockmakers to be working in North Buckinghamshire during the late 17th and 18th centuries - Nash (then a hamlet within the parish of Whaddon), Adstock, Drayton Parslow, Poundon, Stewkley, Tingewick, Wingrave, all had them at one time or another." By the time Gardus was worked, the trade tended to be centred more in the market towns where they were able to diversify into retailing cheap imports (American and Swiss) and selling plates and jewellery and so on.

I suppose Gardus was unusual in that respect." Tim notes: "I vaguely remember seeing a watch signed William Gardus many years ago.



I did not record any details. "The Gardus Watch" **(left)** is owned by a direct-descendent of William, Russell Page. It is No. 200.

Tim adds: "From the late 18th into the 19th centuries, the main watchmaking centre, Prescott, Lancashire, made rough movements (plates, escapements, wheels, etc.) and sent them down to the London trade to be finished. They then sold them to the country makers with either the country maker's name engraved on the movement or the new owner's name.

"Gardus likely bought his watches in already engraved. I should think Gardus carried out repairs to watches and clocks. He would need a fully equipped clock and watchmaker's workshop to carry out this work (either private or trade customers). He is mentioned in trade directories in 1847 and 1853."

Not at the Zenith of the Business

In their move to Whaddon, William most likely became more skilled in dealing with wealthy landowners, men of another level of class. He possibly became more business-like, astute and accomplished in haggling. He would meet tough competition as he was not at the zenith of the business, since Buckinghamshire had a rich vein of clock and watch makers. The county town was noted for the Knibb family, Thomas Ford, and William Dutton. That William lived beyond the then life expectancy of men, suggests clean living, with little time for Whaddon's public houses. William was also intelligent; well-read. And increasingly wealthy. This is reflected in his love of astronomy: he was an amateur astronomer with a small observatory in his garden, as Tim notes. How many watches William produced is unknown. The case (illustrated) was made by James Davis of Cheapside, London. The watch could be an early example or a late one.

A Case of Misinformation

In 1841 William and Charlotte lived in Church Lane, then quite 'busy' with at least 10 families resident in the road: 18 males and 21 females, according to the census.

Charlotte died in 1858, leaving a trail of confusion. Who was she: a Gardus, a Gardas? Or what? Paul Evans of Buckinghamshire archives wrote in 2022: "Having conducted some research into Charlotte's

death, I have found the Whaddon parish register entry recording her burial at St Mary's Church in February 1858. "I also came upon details of her grave from a transcript of monumental inscriptions. That gave her date of burial as 1852. The difference in dates would be due to erosion of the gravestone. Regarding Charlotte's actual date of death, I am unable to find any details," continued Paul. "Her omission from the GRO records is very unusual. It could be wrongly transcribed."

But Clare told me: "Charlotte Gardus's death is registered; it is Charlotte GARDINS; in Winslow in 1858, aged 79. They were married 30 years." Following Charlotte's death, William John Gardus continued living in Church Lane, but by 1861 (aged 61), declaring himself watch and clock maker, he is living with nephew John Underwood (28), son of Edward Underwood of the *Fox & Hounds*. John later received a bequest from William. In the 1871 census, William was living alone in Stock Lane.

William died in Whaddon on 26th February 1877, aged 77, as reported in the *Buckingham Advertiser and Free Press* of 3rd March 1877. William's Will, proved by farmer John King of Church Hill Farm, Whaddon, shows assets of £4,000; over £500,000 today. Didn't he do well?

A Final Question

The question can be asked: does anyone living in Whaddon today have families alive when William Gardus was alive? The answer is: yes. Joy Dietsch and Derek White, who are cousins.

Joy's 2x great grandfather, William Hopkins, married Prudence Bunce in 1860. Their first child, William Hopkins, was Joy's great grandfather (born 1861) and Kennel Huntsman, then housed at *The Kennels* in Kennel Lane. The family lived at what is now *Elm Cottage*, next to the thatched cottage, Hobbs Cottage, in Nash Road. They had 12 children. Both Williams were in farming. The thatched cottage is named after Miss Hobbs who liked caring for people. When anyone in Whaddon died, she would 'lay them out' prior to the funeral. Miss Hobbs grew her vegetables and baked good sponge cakes!

The first William Hopkins was Derek Whites 2x great grandfather too.

MORE WHADDON HISTORY.

NOVEMBER NEXT YEAR (2026) will mark the 50th anniversary of the 'mysterious' Great Fire of Whaddon Hall, when flames ravaged the defunct Country Club (launched in 1975) which offered saunas, swimming, squash and tennis. Whaddon Hall was then for sale at £125,000.



Neighbourhood Watch Whaddon

YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS		
Jane Herriman	Church Hill	Tel: 07760 227729
Peter Beckwith	6 Old Manor Close	Tel: 07710 842832
Sally Green	Bellsbrook, Church Lane	Tel: Ex -directory
David MacIntyre	2a Vicarage Road	Tel: 01908 867836
Howard Jones	8 Ladymead	Tel: 01908 501871
Pauline Winward	1 Whaddon Hall	Tel: 01908 502559

It is reported that a mobile phone is stolen every hour in some areas of the UK.

Below are some top tips to help keep your mobile safer.

Our mobile phone's value is more than just monetary; they contain our personal data, our social accounts, our banking details and our treasured photos of our loved ones. **Priceless.**

1. Stay aware in public spaces

Thieves often target people who are distracted (e.g. texting while walking or standing by bus/train stops).

Keep your phone out of sight in crowded areas like high streets, public transport, or outside bars/clubs.

2. Use secure carrying methods

Avoid keeping your phone in back pockets or loosely in your hand. Use a zipped bag or front pocket, ideally with the opening facing inward when in a crowd.

3. Enable security features

Set up a strong PIN, password, fingerprint, or facial recognition. Register your device's IMEI number (by dialling *#06#) with your network provider; this makes it easier to block if stolen.

4. Be cautious at hotspots for theft

Phone theft is common near transport hubs, tourist attractions, and busy nightlife areas in UK cities like London, Manchester, and Birmingham even in Milton Keynes!

Avoid displaying your phone when standing near open train doors, escalators, or while cycling.

5. Use tracking and backup services

Activate "Find My iPhone" (Apple) or "Find My Device" (Android). Regularly back up important data, so if your phone is stolen, you won't lose personal information.

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM
Buckingham & District



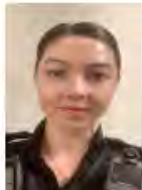
Inspector
James Davies



Sergeant
David Kuttner



Police Constable
Guy Richards



Police Constable
Ashleigh Vendy



Police Constable
Kaci Deefholts



PCSO
Matt Sansom



PCSO
Emily Blackwell

The neighbourhood policing team work with our local communities to make Aylesbury Vale safer

To contact the Buckingham Team call **101** or email them on BuckinghamandDistrictNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk

You can also report an incident on our website: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

In an emergency always call 999

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TVPAylesburyVale



Shenley Park Development - Update

Hopefully residents were able to make comments to Bucks Council before the 15th November closing date especially on the highway's issues (A421 congestion, Shenley Road proposed closure and the well-known problems through the village etc).

Due to timing of the Crest Nicholson re-submission, meeting dates of Whaddon P.C, other meetings (including one on the traffic situation with other local parishes) that might influence our comments, and not forgetting the 80 or so documents they were all submitted simultaneously by Crest Nicholson and uploaded onto the BC planning portal on 13th October, WPC requested an extension of time, thereby enabling councillors to meet, discuss and formulate WPC's response.

As is written, BC have not responded in writing to this request, but as a statutory consultee WPC expect that they will grant a short extension, and a response will be submitted from WPC shortly. Within the same letter WPC asked why the Whaddon residents who had responded to the earlier planning application back in March did not receive notification of the recent re-submission, especially as MKCC wrote to all their respondents asking for comments on their identical application...but again, no response has been received from BC.

UPDATE: as this copy goes to press (15th Nov), it is noted that BC on their planning portal, have just extended the Standard Consultation Expiry date until **6th December** (possibly following the correspondence mentioned above, from WPC requesting such action for both councillors and residents – but still no written response).

So those still thinking of responding have additional time to do so – up until 6th December!

It should be also be noted that WPC have, due to the uncertainty of the traffic data, lack of feedback from BC on possible improved traffic calming measures and not least the acknowledged differences of opinion from Whaddon and other local residents as to the future of Shenley Road, withdrawn their conditional support for the proposed closure, and have requested that more work should be undertaken to examine all possible alternatives, following further consultation with those using the route, whilst at the same time holding a village meeting to explain the latest and very complex Traffic Impact Assessment, which is almost impossible for laypersons to fathom, and is still causing considerable concern in many quarters as to its accuracy and transparency, even from we understand, MKCC itself.

It has been reported previously that five local BC and MKCC parishes (including Whaddon), are working together to try to ensure that should this site eventually proceed, then it must firstly solve the traffic and safety problems, which continue to concern very many interested parties...all it would seem, apart from BC.

Again, as has been reported before, Crest Homes appear to be working to overcome Milton Keynes problems, rather than those of BC and in particular Whaddon residents, which is understandable because BC – who are desperate for this site to proceed as they need the housing numbers – must have the approval of MKCC if the site is to gain planning approval (i.e. both councils must agree on the final decision).

The concerns of both authorities, and some statutory consultees are, it would appear, slowly being overcome and satisfied, but the traffic impact assessment still appear to be a significant problem, and WPC having withdrawn their conditional support for the closure of Shenley Road, await clarification from BC on what the traffic impacts will be on Whaddon and what mitigation will occur to make his development acceptable in planning terms.

SHENLEY ROAD CLOSURE

It is understood from MKCC, who have discussed the situation with Urban & Civic (the master developers of the Western Expansion Area) that Calverton Lane is on schedule to open before Xmas. Major infrastructure work is proceeding at pace to enable the major new development area's spine road – connecting 'Fairfield' (Apollo Avenue) with 'Whitehouse' (Shetland Drive) – to be constructed, allowing for vehicular passage from one development area to the other without having to use the V4 (old A5).

When Calverton Lane re-opens, it is understood that although a crossroad arrangement will exist, priority will be given to traffic using Calverton Lane, although there may be a control system in place to allow traffic that needs to pass from 'Whitehouse' to 'Fairfield'? This will be a temporary arrangement for approximately 2-4 years whilst residential development begins and the new diverted Calverton Lane – which will wrap around the Watling Primary School – is constructed. When the actual diversion route is finally opened, and where the re-routed Calverton Lane adjoins Shetland Drive in 'Whitehouse', there will be a left only turning, as a long central reservation island barrier is being constructed to stop traffic coming from CMK turning right into Calverton Lane. This arrangement should reduce rat-running through Whaddon village, at least by larger vehicles and HGV's, which will hopefully be unable to turn and approach Calverton Lane from the other direction, and will have to use the spine road and other grid roads to reach their destination – like the A421.



IMPORTANT PLANNING UPDATES

MKCC – REG. 19 MK CITY PLAN 2050 – 1000 new homes at Shenley Dens Farm.

Milton Keynes City Council have recently published the latest version of their new Local Plan, and the public consultation period runs **until 22nd December**, which hopefully will give everyone time to respond. To view the document for more information please visit the MKCC website at [MK City Plan 2050 | Milton Keynes City Council](#) and follow the instructions to make comments.

As expected, and reported in earlier editions, the Plan proposes a new strategic expansion for 1000 new homes at Shenley Dens Farm (just to the north of Whaddon village), and to the west of the major Western Expansion Area, which is currently under construction on either side of the closed Calverton Lane. 50,400 new homes are required within the new plan period in MK, but if all sites proposed in the Regulation 19 plan were developed then it could provide some 60,000 new homes within and on the edge of the new city, all within the MKCC district. This figure contains a 19% buffer, so it appears that there may be a possibility that not all the proposed sites may be ultimately required or indeed included within the final draft expected next year.

To remind readers – past and present, this site if constructed would breach the prominent Shenley Ridge to the north of the village and would creep down the northern slope of the Whaddon valley towards Whaddon, Nash and Beachampton. Once the integrity of the valley is irreparably damaged, this could open the doors for Buckinghamshire Council to consider further green field/open countryside sites be required to fulfil BC's county-wide, and ever increasing, housing number targets imposed by central Government. The same site was promoted by MKC some 20 years ago, when their current plan was being produced, but was removed following a public inquiry, mainly on landscape grounds, following a very supportive and strongly worded Inspectors decision, and objections from many quarters including Whaddon PC and the old AVDC (now BC). Times change, as do policy decisions, and BC during n earlier 2024 public consultation on this site worryingly changed their previous recommended position on this development from 'Objection' to 'Conditioned Support' – as long as any

future development is 'landscape-led', and that all landscape issues are properly dealt with. As we all know, Inspectors decisions and Local Government/Council policy opinions sometimes change and are often led by imposed Government policies such as the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and especially when housing requirements across the whole country increase as is happening now.

Much of the MK Plan 2050 can be ignored, because it really doesn't impact Whaddon – except of course the Shenley Dens Farm which adjoins the Buckinghamshire county boundary within the Whaddon parish, but the following pages/sections are those that residents should consider commenting on, and **before the 22nd December deadline date**:

Page 16	Expanding the City Refer to paragraph 20
Page 37-39	Protecting open countryside How does policy GS6 relate to Shenley Dens Farm?
Page 69-71	Shenley Dens Farm Policy See the Indicative Concept plan on page 71 and note the potential location of Gypsy and Travellers site in the extreme western corner of the site close to the Whaddon/Stratford Road.
Page 78-83	Infrastructure
Page 148	Gypsy and Travellers Paragraph 272 says " <i>new site at Shenley Dens Extension as well as a new site west of Whaddon Road</i> " – what does this mean?

For information, back in 2023, when this same site was excluded, mainly on landscape grounds, 263 Whaddon residents and 145 Nash residents signed a petition against the proposal, and this formed part of the 'A Ridge Too Far', Proof of Evidence that was submitted to the Planning Inspector who held the Public Inquiry. Part of the Inspector's final 2004 report – which ran to 18 paragraphs – states "*I agree that the land to the east of Milton Keynes (i.e. beyond and across the M1 Motorway) is suitable for long-term development as I consider that this area is much less sensitive in landscape terms than the Whaddon Valley. Whilst I am not here considering the long-term, I do not see the logic of regarding the Whaddon Valley as a possible long-term*

development area. To do so disregards the qualities of the valley landscape and the merits of the Shenley Ridge as a logical and clear long-term boundary”.

NOTE: MKCC have since taken the logical and sensible decision to cross the M1 motorway, a decision supported by and promoted by Whaddon PC, and indeed the current plan promotes a new Easter Strategic City Extension which will provide 7,750 new homes within this plan period, and even more as it will continue beyond 2050 into possibly the 2080's. Is it therefore necessary to despoil this particularly valuable, historic and loved part of the north Buckinghamshire countryside? After all, one thing that has not changed in 20 years is the Whaddon Valley landscape, and the merits of protecting the Shenley Ridge, from which extensive countryside views are enjoyed by all, as are the extensive network of footpaths.

New Applications Appearing on the Bucks Planning Portal:

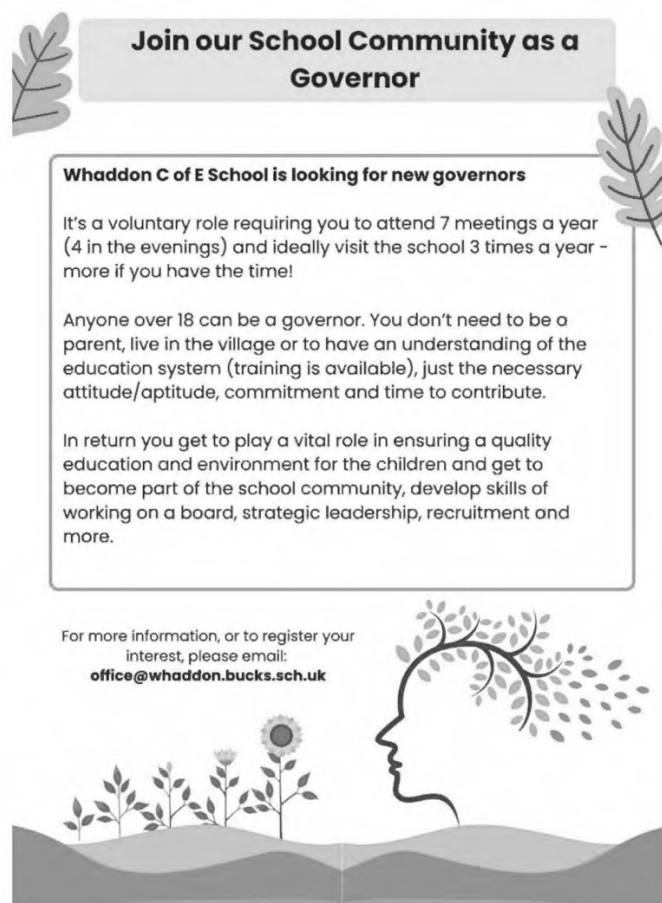
PL/25/3804/FA – The Turrets, 26 High St – gate and garage conversion.

To access full details, visit:

<https://publicaccess.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/online-applications>.

For applications prior to 8th August 2025, visit:

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Join our School Community as a Governor

Whaddon C of E School is looking for new governors

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Anyone over 18 can be a governor. You don't need to be a parent, live in the village or to have an understanding of the education system (training is available), just the necessary attitude/aptitude, commitment and time to contribute.

In return you get to play a vital role in ensuring a quality education and environment for the children and get to become part of the school community, develop skills of working on a board, strategic leadership, recruitment and more.

For more information, or to register your interest, please email:
office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk

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- All copy must be submitted in .docx, PDF or high resolution .jpg format
- Publication is 4 times per year Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter and copy deadlines can be obtained from the Editor.
- Content received after the deadline may not be included, but best efforts will be made to meet your request.

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All material for publication in the Whaddon Quarterly is to be appropriate and suitable; and it may not contain any content that could be deemed as offensive, discriminatory, or derogatory.

Any submissions deemed not to meet this standard will be subject to edit or exclusion by the Editor. The Editor's decision is final in this regard. Content of Whaddon Quarterly is subject to Copyright and may not be used or reproduced without the Editor's permission.

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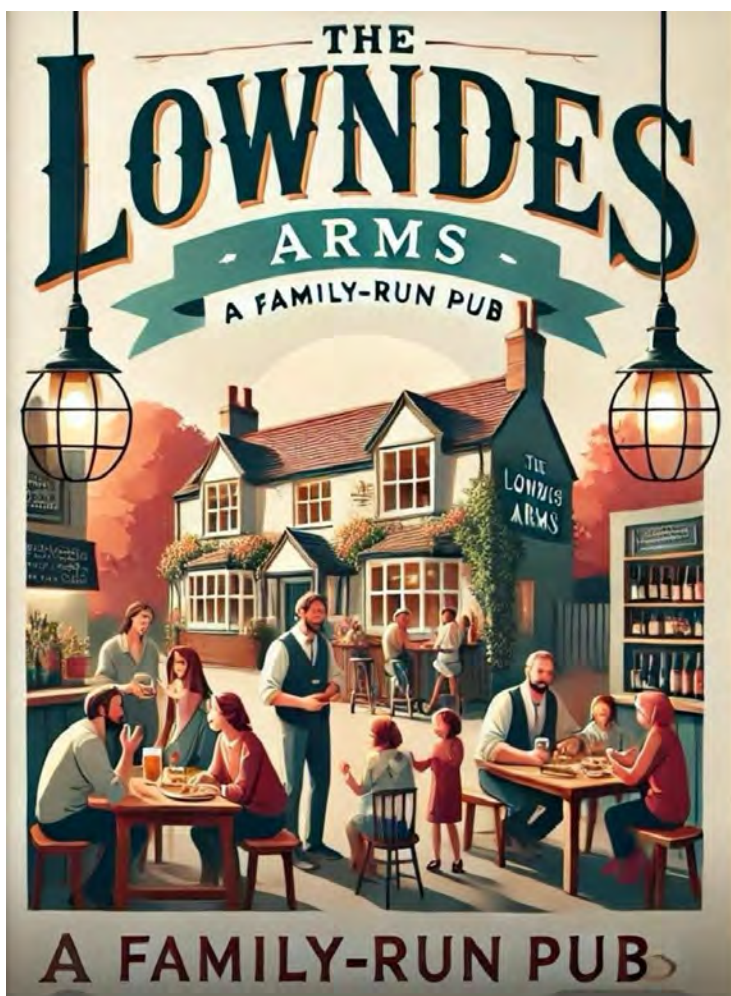
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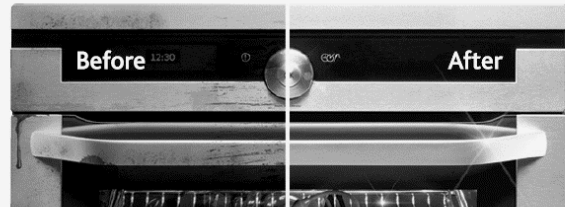
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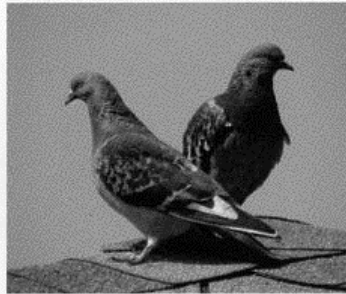
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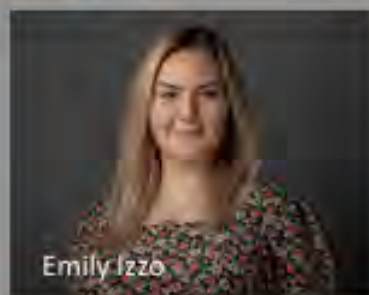
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What's On Whaddon?

2025 & 2026 Dates for Your Diary

SUN 30th NOV: St Mary's Xmas Fayre at Jubilee Hall 2-4pm.

THU 4th DEC: Wreath Making at The New Lowndes Arms

SAT 6th DEC: Christingle Service in St Mary's Church followed by Christmas Tree Lighting and Social Evening at Jubilee Hall.

THU 11th DEC: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

THU 11th DEC: Christmas Quiz at The New Lowndes Arms.

FRI 12th DEC: Hitmix Bingo at The New Lowndes Arms.

THU 18th DEC: Christmas Centrepiece Table Arrangement Making at The New Lowndes Arms.

FRI 19th DEC: Christmas Party at The New Lowndes Arms.

SUN 21st DEC: Festive Sunday Roast at The New Lowndes Arms.

THU 25th DEC: The New Lowndes Arms open for drinks only 12-2pm.

2026

4th-16th JAN: The New Lowndes Arms will be closed. Reopens on 17th Jan for Fri-Sun throughout the rest of January. Normal opening hours will resume from 5th Feb.

THU 8th JAN: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

FRI 23rd JAN: Quiz Night at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

THU 12th FEB: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

SAT 21st FEB: Country Music Night at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

SAT 7th MAR: Live Music Night at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

THU 12th MAR: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

SAT 21st MAR: A Taste of France: Cheese and Wine Evening at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

Regular Events Across the Village

MONDAY EVENINGS: Chase Choir in Whaddon Jubilee Hall. 7.30pm-9pm. No experience necessary. Please call Marianna Beckwith on 07763 102994 for more details.

TUESDAY EVENINGS: Table Tennis in Whaddon Jubilee Hall. Contact Mark Carter magcarter@hotmail.co.uk

1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH: Whaddon's Women's Institute 2pm (various locations). Please call Jill Aitken on 01908 502781 for more details.

3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH: Whaddon's Women's Institute 7pm. Usually in the village hall, but location can vary. Contact Nikki 07590 802443 or Daphne 07766 713981 for details.

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS: Zumba in Whaddon Jubilee Hall, 2-3pm. Contact Julia extress@tiscali.co.uk

ALTERNATE THURSDAYS: Quiz at The New Lowndes Arms. Entry is £2 per player with teams of up to 6 people. Start time is 8pm. Check with pub for details.

