

WC Quarterly



SPRING 2026



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

Inside this Issue

Editor's Letter	Page 4
WPC Chairman's Report & List of Parish Councillors	Page 5
Clerk's Corner and Website Info	Page 6-7
WPC Update – Budget and Precept	Page 8
Update from Callum Anderson	Page 9
Community Speed Watch Prog	Page 10
Healthwatch Bucks	Page 11
Whaddon School May Fayre Carnival	Page 12
Chase Choir	Page 13
News from St Mary's Church	Page 14-18
I Was Given a Shepherd's Crook Poem by Eileen Kay Gingell	Page 15
Whaddon Jubilee Village Hall	Page 19-21
Whaddon W.I. News	Page 22-23
The Big Dig	Page 24-25
Neighbourhood Watch	Page 26-27
Shenley Park and Oaks Updates	Page 28-29
Buckinghamshire Local Plan	Page 30-32
EWR Train Maintenance Depot	Page 33
Thornton College Information	Page 34
Recalling the Kings of Whaddon	Page 35-38
Allotment Information	Page 39
WQ Advertising Rates and Policy	Page 40
Approved Advertisers	Page 41-55
What's On Whaddon?	Page 56

Editor's Letter

Spring is finally here, bringing lighter days and hopefully a bit less rain, which will help promote a burst of activity across the village. There's a real sense of momentum this year. We begin with the Live Music Night in the Village Hall, gathering neighbours and local performers to kick off the season. The school's May Fayre follows soon after, with colourful stalls, family fun, and that unmistakable village buzz. And St Mary's Rocks returns for its third—and possibly final—year, a much-loved highlight that always brings the community together.

This packed edition also features a range of engaging reads: wellbeing initiatives, community gardening, a note from our MP, local history including the gentry of years past, and an invitation to the archaeological Big Dig at Windy Ridge. A special thank-you goes to Graham Stewart for his clear and comprehensive updates on all planning developments, helping us all stay informed.

We also say farewell to Reverend Jacqueline Dove, who is heading to pastures new in Kent. Her warmth and steady presence have meant so much, and we send her our heartfelt thanks and very best wishes.

Here's to a season full of music, community, and new beginnings.

With best wishes,

Sally Shrimpton
Editor

wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

Summer edition deadline: **22nd MAY 2026**

A massive thank you to all contributors and helpers

Editor: Sally Shrimpton

Proofreading and Distribution: Marianna Beckwith

Printer: Harlequin Press Ltd., 12 Beacon House Farm, Warren
Road, Little Horwood,
MK17 0PS Tel: 01908 506722

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wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk**

**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

Each time that I write the Parish Council Chairman's piece for the WQ, it seems that a new major issue is confronting the village. Whaddon always has been a small rural North Bucks village and very attractive in the springtime, with its displays of daffodils and cowslips. The onset of Milton Keynes on our doorstep brought challenges to adapt to new circumstances. Increased traffic both on the A421 and through the village has been the most obvious and will be an ongoing battle to contain.

We shall inevitably in future years have integration issues when Buckinghamshire's Shenley Park is built, as a major part is within our Parish, so the village population will grow hugely. We are also monitoring the ideas of Milton Keynes Council regarding building over the ridge to the north of the village. Finally, there are plans to build solar panels on significant areas of agricultural land within the Parish. We strive for the best outcome for Whaddon and will continue to do so.

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	



Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

NEW Service to Report Fraud! Police have set up a new phone line and website to report fraud; either call 0300123 2040 or go online to www.reportfraud.police.uk. For a business/charity or organisation under cyber-attack also call 0300123 2040 immediately. On the site is lots of helpful information to protect yourself and get help and support.

Keep It Neat Please!!!



Our Bus Stop Library is a popular village asset. But, there have been some issues with people 'flytipping' bags of unsuitable items in our Bus Stop Library recently. Clothes, shampoo, electrical items, car seats, plush toys, etc. all dumped in carrier bags on the floor. **Please note the instructions on the poster!** Not respecting the rules creates problems and extra work for others clearing up your mess.

Thanks go to the wonderful people who monitor and tidy – you know who you are – and THANK YOU!

SIGN UP FOR NEWS AND UPDATES VIA THE WEBSITE!

Visit www.whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk and fill in the Email* 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!

Come along, find out what's happening, and have your say!



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.



WPC News Update!

Setting Our Budget and Precept for 2026/27

A Delicate Balancing Act!

Every Year WPC Councillors get down to serious debate about the delicate topics of setting the budget and agreeing the precept for the coming year.

This year was especially difficult as we grapple with rising prices, increasing pressures on our resources, and the need to build reserves for future expenditures.

Here are the topics that were debated:

- In the face of increasing pressure for new housing, do we go for a Neighbourhood Plan?
- In the face of increasing traffic and rat-running, do we go for a 20mph speed limit?
- In the light of Buckinghamshire Council's financial constraints, should we make provision to take on some of their role(s) ourselves?
- How much provision do we need for repairs and replacement of our assets, like recreation ground equipment and streetlights?
- What reserves will we need for up-front costs of new housing development?

The list above represents a very great deal of expenditure. After very detailed and lengthy debate, Councillors agreed an increase to our precept from £36,750 to £40,000; this is £3,250 or 8.75%. While this seems like a high percentage, in reality it means an average of only £15.33 per house per year, or £1.53/mnth over ten months.

Councillors felt the absolute priority for Whaddon is to work hard to do the best for Whaddon's residents by maintaining and preserving what's important to us: supporting our community through the forthcoming period of great change and making sure your Council is properly funded and resourced to take on and succeed with the challenges.

WPC Councillors always welcome your ideas and comments, so come along to a council meeting any time and have your say!

An Update from Callum Anderson MP



Hi there – spring has finally sprung in Whaddon!

After what felt like an endlessly long and very rainy winter, I'm delighted to see brighter days returning and I can't wait to get out and about without needing a big jacket.

Local residents have been raising concerns about Royal Mail delays across the area, with plenty of feedback and casework coming through about missed or late deliveries. I'd like to reassure you that I have raised this directly with the relevant Minister, and I will continue pressing the issue. Frankly, Royal Mail's service just isn't good enough.

I'm also continuing to raise the issue of potholes locally - something dozens of residents have emailed me about. Thank you to everyone who has contacted me regarding this. Potholes are not only a nuisance; they're also a hazard. My casework team is doing all they can to advocate on your behalf.

And if there is anything I can do to help you, please do let me know. Above all else, I am here to support constituents. You can get in touch with me at Callum.Anderson.MP@parliament.uk

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](https://twitter.com/_CallumAnderson) | Sign up to Callum's newsletter

Editor's Comment: Please keep reporting issues with potholes 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.

Community Speed Watch Programme

A new Community Speed Watch initiative is being set up in Whaddon, as local residents come together to promote safer driving and improve road safety in the village.

The scheme, supported by local police, will empower trained volunteers to monitor vehicle speeds, using approved equipment at agreed locations throughout Whaddon. The aim is not to issue fines directly, but to raise awareness among motorists and encourage greater compliance with speed limits — particularly in areas where residents have raised concerns about excessive or inappropriate speeds.



Community Speed Watch programmes have been successfully introduced in villages and towns across the country, helping to reduce speeding and make roads safer for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users. By recording vehicle details and sharing them with the police, volunteers help ensure that drivers who repeatedly ignore speed limits can receive warning letters or further action where necessary.



Organisers say the Whaddon group is still in the early stages and is actively seeking more volunteers from across the community. No previous experience is needed, and full training and guidance will be provided. Volunteers typically give just a small amount of their time each month, working in pairs or small teams.

Email whaddonspeedwatch@gmail.com if you can lend a hand.

Health and social care when living in rural Bucks

Healthwatch Bucks latest project looks at how those living in the rural parts of Bucks access health and social care.

Project Manager, Alison Holloway says: "We know that people living in rural areas may experience health and social care services differently from those living in towns in Buckinghamshire. It's important for us to learn more about any difficulties these communities might encounter."

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) define a rural community as people living in areas with fewer than 10,000 residents. So, if you live in a village or a rural area, please tell Healthwatch Bucks what works for you and what could make it easier for you to access any health or social care such as dentists, hospitals, and respite care.

People can share their feedback in confidence via their online survey via this QR code, or on their website <https://bit.ly/4jVz2HB>



The survey closes on 31 May.

Healthwatch Bucks would also like to have small group discussions with 6 to 12 people, especially if you're not comfortable using a computer to fill out our survey. Please call them on **01494 324832** if you would be interested in hosting a group to talk in more detail about this subject.

Healthwatch Bucks will write a report summarising what they have been told. It will include recommendations about what would make accessing health and social care rural in Bucks better.

Zoe McIntosh, Chief Executive of Healthwatch Bucks, says: "Our goal is to make sure local people influence the health and care services that residents of Buckinghamshire use. It's very important that those living in the countryside feel heard and can easily get the care they need. We will share what we find out so we can help to bring about positive change where it's needed."



WHADDON SCHOOL MAY FAYRE CARNIVAL



**Sunday 3rd
May 2026**



WHAT'S ON?

**Maypole Dance | Stalls | Tombola | Games | Raffle
Bar | BBQ | Cakes | Dance Demo | & more**

ON THE DAY

**12:30pm Procession & Parade From St Mary's Church
1pm-4pm Fayre with games, stalls and BBQ
schoolgrounds**



Whaddon Primary School.
Stock Lane, Whaddon, MK17OL5
Friends@whaddon@gmail.com

Can you help?

We are collecting filled jars, unopened bottles,
teddies and cakes. We are also looking for on the day
volunteers.

A





Singing our way through winter!

Come rain, or rain (and there's certainly been lots of it), Chase Choir has been Whaddon's own little ray of sunshine through the dark Monday winter evenings. And if you've not noticed, perhaps this is nature telling you to come along and join in the fun! Now is an excellent time to chase away the winter blues, with a well-known boost to your wellbeing. Singing is good for us all in so many ways, and Chase Choir is a friendly, welcoming crowd, so come along and try us out! No audition is necessary; just stand and sing where suits you best. Now is also a good time, as we're learning new pieces for our next concert, so we'll be learning together. And your first try-out session is free! Win-win!

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our New Beginnings concert in January. We had such fun performing for you, and we've had some great feedback. We also raised £545 to be shared with Willen Hospice, so we're grateful to you all for the support.

Our next concert will be in June – date and theme to be confirmed – watch out in the next edition of the WQ for further details. We're hoping for sunshine, but whatever the weather, you'll experience the same warmth, friendship and good vibes that always come with our concerts.

For further information about how to join, please contact Marianna on 07763 102994.

News from St Mary's Church

Hello everyone in Whaddon, or further afield,



In 2020, just before Covid forced us all to stay distanced from our families, our friends and our neighbours, to work from home, to stay indoors, and in short to become virtual hermits, the Benefice was blessed with the appointment of a new vicar. In Whaddon, we welcomed Jacqueline and her husband Richard with open arms. As well as conducting church services and performing all the other duties of a minister, Jacqueline joined in village life to the nth degree. She sang in the Chase Choir for a time, laughed with us all at every Whaddon Show, danced with joy to V2 when St Mary's rocked and attended other village functions whenever she could, with Richard at her side. And now, sadly, we are about to wish her au revoir, and Godspeed to a new appointment in Kent. Although Jacqueline was the minister for all four villages of the Blackthorn Chase Benefice, whenever she was in Whaddon she was totally "here" and it felt as though she and Richard really were ours! So, thank you Jacqueline, for your five years here, for guiding us through Covid, for being our school champion, for all your loving pastoral care and church ministry, for your fun presence ... and for everything else you have done as a minister that no one would know about. We will miss you and wish you much joy and happiness in your next appointment.

St Mary's Church news will be a little different from now on, as we will be in an interregnum for a while until a new vicar is appointed. There will still be services here, and we will keep to the same monthly programme as far as possible – services for each month will be displayed as usual in the church porch. We have planned all the Sundays in March – please see the timetable below – and although there won't be a service in Whaddon on Palm Sunday we do have palm crosses for anyone who would like one. They will be left in the porch for you, so please come and help yourselves. Mothering Sunday is on 15th March – and there will be daffodils! It will be a lovely service I'm sure, so please come, with your mums, aunties and grannies ... we will be offering them the traditional posies, and will leave any remaining ones (posies, not mothers, aunties or grannies!) in the porch for anyone to take.

So, the end of an era. Goodbye dear Jacqueline and thank you for everything.

With very best wishes,
Daphne Willis, Churchwarden, St Mary's, Whaddon

March 2026 Services

Everyone is most welcome to all our services.

Sun 1 st March	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong, Nash
Sun 8 th March	10.30am	Holy Communion Family Service, Whaddon
Sun 15 th March	10.30am	Mothering Sunday, Whaddon
Sun 22 nd March	9.00am	Traditional Holy Communion, Whaddon
Sun 29 th March	10.00am	Palm Sunday Service, Nash

=====

I Was Given A Shepherd's Crook

Poem by Eileen Kay Gingell 2005

I was given a Shepherd's Crook
A precious symbol of the Holy Book
Blood-stained Christ's painful hands and feet
Giving his life so we might live.

In every foot-step our hopes and dreams
Mankind's guilt, countless floods of tears
I look at a star in a clear winter sky
Stood in a stable where a Boy King lies
To share our life desires with him
Are we worthy of such a gift?

Amongst the rumbling traffic's din
I heard the local Church bells ring
How sacred the Christmas story is
Both Shepherds, Kings had visited.

I was given a Shepherd's Crook
A precious symbol of the Holy Book



Reflections From the Rectory

By Reverend Jacqueline Dove

I am writing this shortly after taking my final Collective Worship at the Whaddon Church of England school and I am feeling very loved. I was given a giant home-made card, which looked rather like an Olympic torch, with a message and drawings from each child written on post it notes, such as: "Reverend Dove, I loved when you were here but I also am so happy that you can spread more cheer to other schools. Your collective worships were awesome I will miss youthe inspiration you give has shined through my veins even in dark times." Going into this special village school for Collective Worship will be one of the many things I'm going to miss, as I leave to take on the post of Priest-in-Charge of St Margaret's Church, Horsmonden in Kent.

Talking of children, I think my very first interaction with Whaddon Village might have been a gathering of mums with babies and tots at the Whaddon Rec organised by the Whaddon Parish Clerk, who was concerned about the isolation newish mums were experiencing due to COVID, and asked if I could help. So Whaddon village gave me a warm welcome from the start. I can still remember that awkward feeling arriving at my first Village Hall event, once COVID allowed indoor social gatherings again, and being swept up in a warm Whaddon welcome, while the children of various ages ran about demonstrating the value of village life.

I have talked before about the South African philosophy of *Ubuntu* *Abantu* which is often translated as 'I am because we are'. I am who I am as a vicar because of: the enormous privilege of giving Holy Communion to the faithful few at St Mary's, and their love and essential support; the commitment of the Church PCC plus the 'church angel' DW and SG; the heartfelt appreciation I have received for the Christenings, Weddings and Funerals I have had the enormous privilege of taking; being involved in Toddler Church; Whaddon School; the annual churchyard miracle performed by the Merry Mowers; people keeping the church alive by supporting the big 5; the way the village helped save their Parish Church through regular giving and the formation of the fundraising committee; the regulars who support the monthly Coffee Mornings; Whaddon's VIP organist revitalising the 9 Lessons and Carols; the children who came to WILD and participated in key services; the Harvest Supper and auction – the annual laugh-a-lot; the monthly Fellowship Group; countless conversations; being part of the Chase Village choir; St Mary's Rocks. And so much more. You will all be greatly missed.

St Mary's Church – Fundraising Events

20th June 2026 – St Mary's Rocks

Following a hugely popular and successful concert, V2 are back to rock St Mary's once again and will be performing covers of well-known songs from the 1960s to the present day at St Mary's Church.

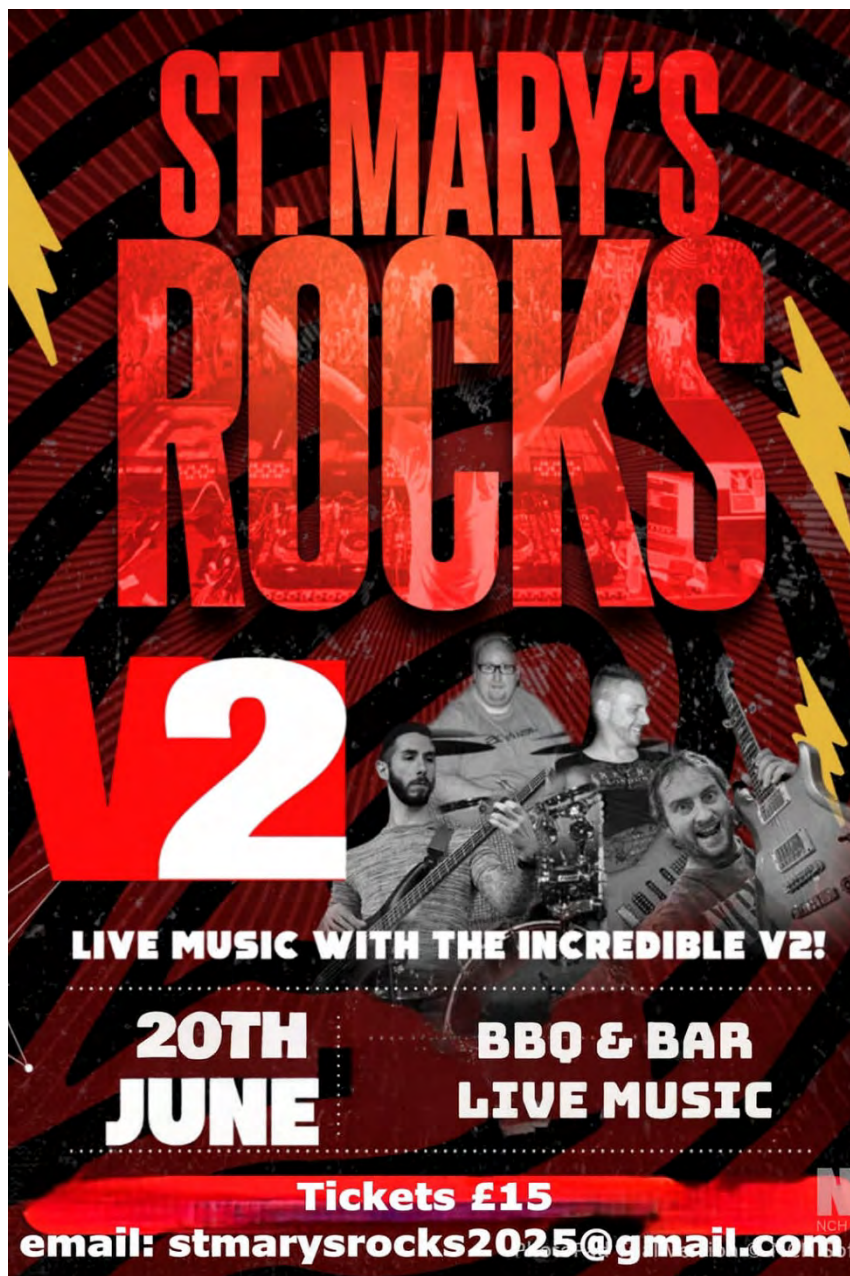
Tickets will be on sale from **11th May 2026**.

Numbers are limited so it is best to book sooner rather than later.

- ❖ £15 for the concert
- ❖ £5 for BBQ (veggie and vegan options available).

Email stmarysrocks2025@gmail.com to book and advise if you would like a BBQ ticket and if it is meat or veggie.

NB: there will be no physical ticket, a wristband will be given on the door.



Fundraising Dates for Your Diaries

13th November 2026 – Cheese & Wine Night

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, the cheese and wine night on 21st March has had to be postponed. It is proposed to go ahead on 13th November. Further details to follow in the summer edition of the WQ.

End November 2026 – Christmas Fayre

The exact date of the annual Christmas fayre is still to be determined, but it will either be the 28th or 29th November and will be held in the Village Hall. Further details to follow in the summer edition of the WQ.

13th March 2027 – Black Tie Event

V2 are hitting Longueville Hall, Newton Longville for a night of big tunes, big energy, and big fun. Dress to impress, bring your friends, and help raise vital funds for St Mary's Church. Full details coming in the Autumn edition of the WQ. SAVE THE DATE NOW!

June 2027 – Whaddon Open Gardens and Flower Festival at St Mary's Church

The exact date is still to be determined, but will likely be the middle weekend. We are giving plenty of notice to all keen gardeners who would like to participate.

If you would like to volunteer your garden, offer to dress a church window or help at the event itself please contact

wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

WHADDON



Shenley Rd,
Whaddon,
MK17 0LW

12th
AUGUST
1.30PM - 3.30PM
RISKY PLAY

SUMMER EVENT

NO DOGS ALLOWED



Walk In
Spaces
Available on
the day

Visit www.MKPA.co.uk/Play and
click the link or scan the QR code to book your child a space



Session run by MKPA and sponsored by Whaddon Parish Council
All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the session

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 6th December: Christmas Tree lighting and Social Event

Our now traditional tree lighting with carols and open bar, was a fun and lively event, with mulled wine, mince pies and all the Christmas cheer you could wish for. Willie's Garden Kitchen food truck provided an excellent selection of refreshments.

Friday 23 January: Quiz Night

The first of 2026 of our regular, always popular quizzes saw the coveted trophy returned to Whaddon by the winning team Quarantined Minds. Mark Carter as quizmaster hosted a predictably quirky selection of questions, which had everyone baffled, amused, outraged and smug in equal measure. Look out for the next quiz date on our Facebook page.



Saturday 21 February: Country and Western evening

An enthusiastic crowd gathered to sing and dance the night away, raising money for the village hall and Mind. Taylor'd Country, the band, were fabulous, and Willie's Garden Kitchen again provided a themed menu to keep us all going – those line dancers need sustenance!



Coming Next – Dates for your diaries:

Saturday 7 March: Live Music Night

Come and enjoy lots of local talent, including Whaddon's very own band, Selby with special guests too. A great night guaranteed and you'll be supporting the village hall and Mind charity! Tickets on sale now at £10. 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.

Whaddon Women's Institute



The Whaddon WI daytime group meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm for about 2 hours either in the Jubilee Hall or the Chapel Schoolroom unless we are out and about visiting. Please come along to any meeting to see if it is for you (it's only £4 for refreshments and a raffle ticket)

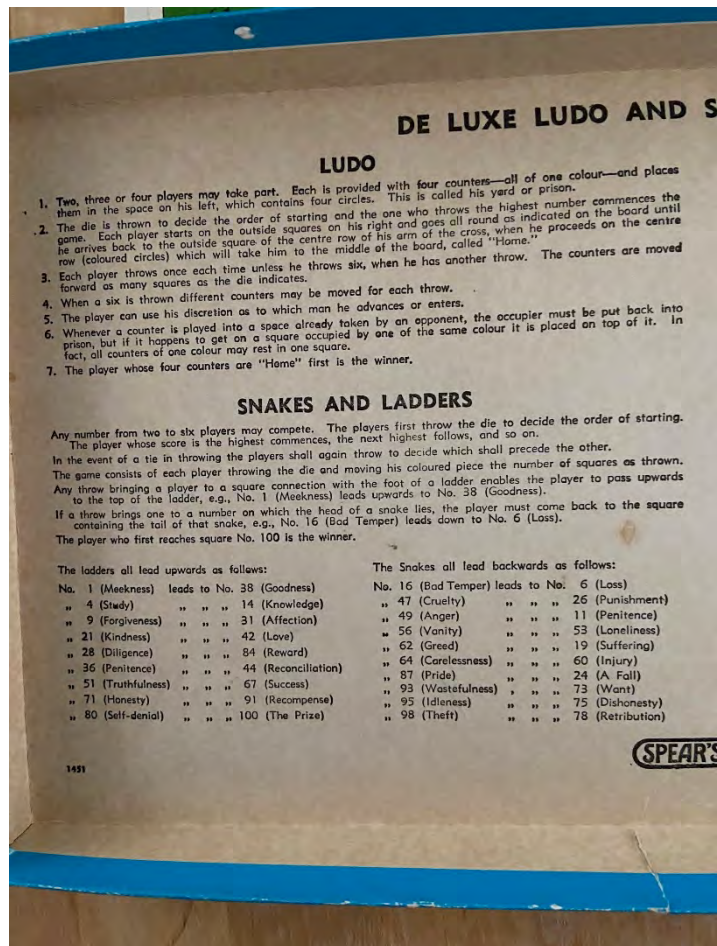
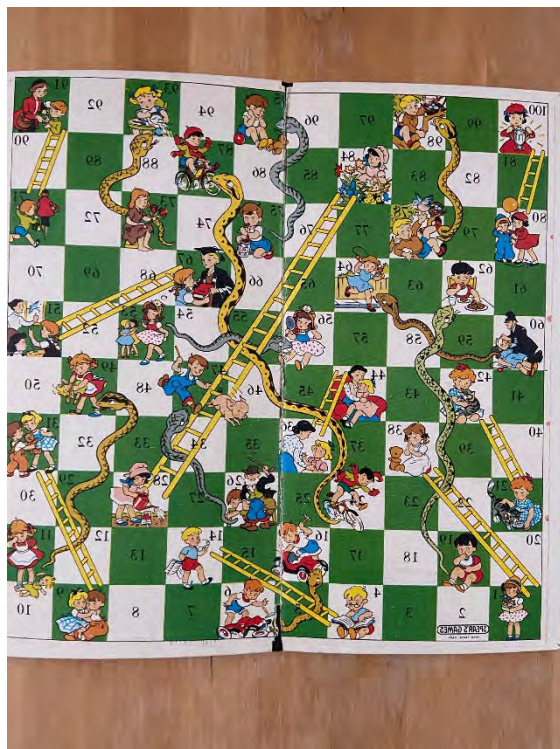
Since I last wrote, we have had a great time making Christmas Wreaths for our homes and discussing and voting for this year's National Resolution. As always, our options this year are all very worthy causes:

1. Accessible Public Toilet facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion
2. Action on Women's Homelessness
3. Nearer to Nature (there is growing evidence that getting closer to nature is of great benefit to both physical and mental health)
4. Love your Vulva: awareness campaign for this little-known cancer
5. Every Child needs a Friend: awareness campaign for the Independent Visitor system for children in childcare, where volunteers can become a constant thread throughout a child life in care

As we all have an individual vote and had something to say, we had some lively debate before casting our votes. It will be a few months before we know the national outcome.

In February, we decided to have some old-school fun and play board games after our formal meeting. Over tea and cake, we broke out the Snakes and Ladders, as it was the game that evoked most memories for us all. After realising none of us could remember how to start the game, we looked at the rules. We then became rather sidetracked as we discovered that Snakes and Ladders have meanings.

So we Googled: the game began life in India, as a spiritual tool to teach children about Karma and reincarnation, emphasizing that good deeds lead to spiritual advancement. The behaviours linked to the ladders leading to advancement and those of the snakes pulled them down. When the game was brought to England in the late 19th century it was adapted to link Victorian morality with Christian virtues and sins.



All that discussion around the game and others we had brought, led us to change the format of the next meeting (we had been looking for a new topic as sadly the Ukranian singers have been unable to make our March meeting.) So instead, next month, we are each going to give an informal 10-minute talk about an interesting aspect of our lives, whether it be living in another country, or more about where we grew up.

On April 1ST we are now going to meet up at Mursley Farm Shop and in May we hope to have a speaker for our 90th Birthday party

Don't forget, membership of our WI also gives you access to all the WI has to offer; lots of online classes and activities all over the country and occasional access to other local WI groups meetings and events.

You can always contact our secretary Jill Aitken on 01908 502781 to find out more or just drop into one of our meetings as a guest.

Jane Wycherley

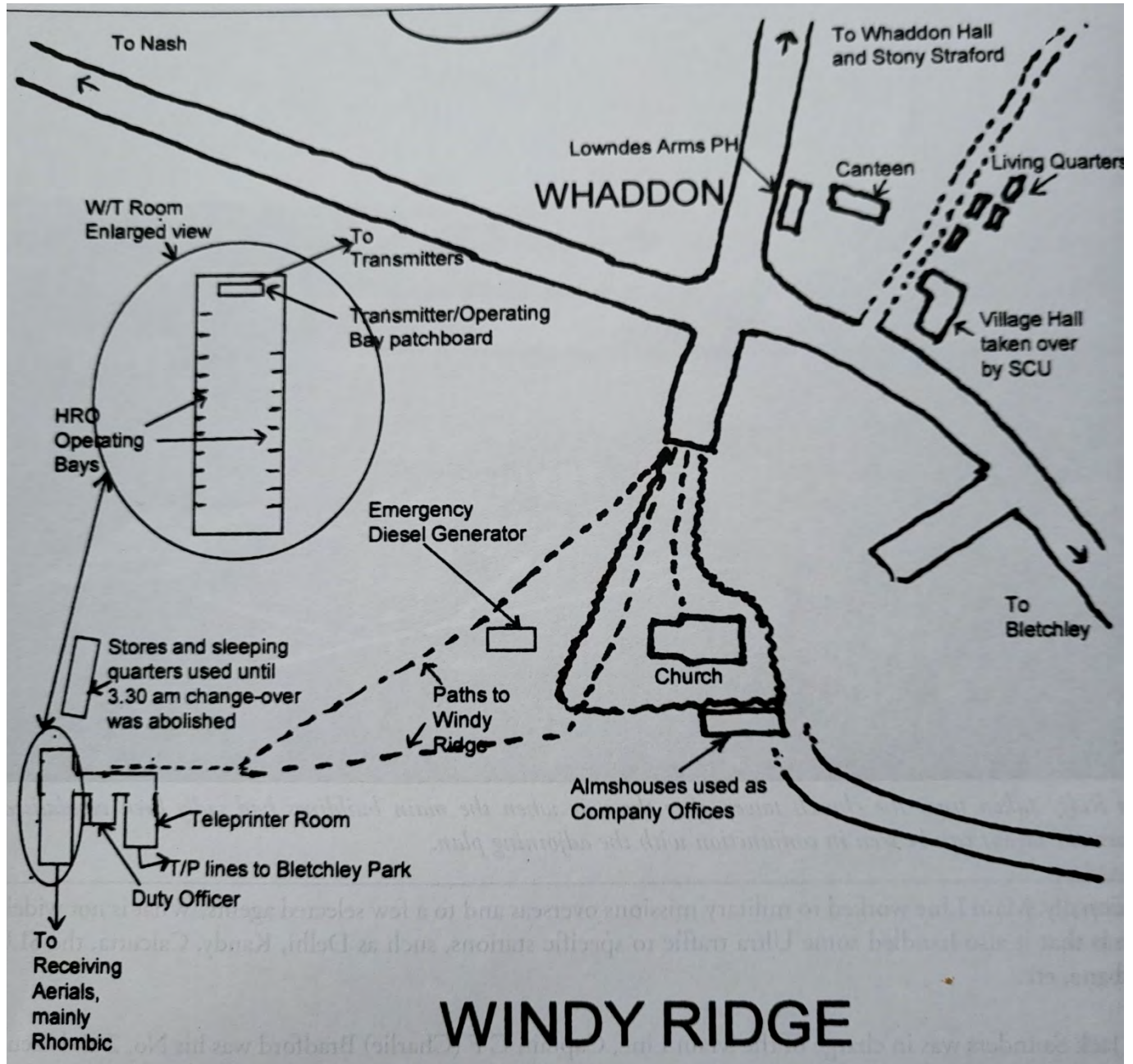
The Big Dig!

Local volunteers needed to help with the big dig.

Join the NISIST Archaeologists and investigate WWII Communications Archaeology on Windy Ridge.

Go to <https://www.nsist.org/big-dig> to register.

ALL WELCOME!!!





NSIST

National Signals Intelligence and Security Trust

Join our Community Archaeological Dig Wednesday 20-27 May 2025

Register Expressions of Interest to get involved, via the website
www.nsist.org

The dig will focus on Windy Ridge, the former Second World War transmission site at the back of St Mary's Church.

Dig to be led by Reclaim Heritage.



Reclaim Heritage



NSIST Registered Charity Number 1211359.
NSIST is kindly sponsored by:

BAE SYSTEMS



Neighbourhood Watch Whaddon

YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATORS		
Jane Herriman	Church Hill	jherriman@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk
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

Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Barber, is reminding residents of the simple steps they can take to protect themselves from fraud and cybercrime following the launch of Report Fraud.

Report Fraud has replaced Action Fraud as the national reporting centre for all incidents of fraud and cybercrime.

The PCC's safety advice includes not rushing to act and independently verifying the credentials of any unsolicited or unexpected communication be that a text, email, letter, phone call or in person contact.

Strengthening online security with strong passwords and turning on two-factor authentication where possible.

And reporting. Only an estimated 14% of frauds against an individual are reported but reporting any suspicious activity and incidents of fraud can help identify, pursue and prevent scammers from victimising others. Report via Report Fraud online or by calling 0300 123 2040.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, support is available. The PCC's Victims First service offers free practical and emotional support for victims of all crimes, including cybercrime and fraud, living in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes. Call 0300 1234 148 for more information or support.

Fraud is the most common crime affecting our communities, with 14,000 residents of Thames Valley reporting a fraud to Thames Valley Police in the last 12 months.

You can find out more about the PCC's advice by visiting our website: PCC issues fraud safety advice as new Report Fraud service goes live - Thames Valley PCC.

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Shenley Park Update - (23/02180/AOP)

This development has been ongoing since June 2023, with the developers Crest Nicholson submitting yet further information in October 2025, since then further public consultation has continued.

Bucks Council (BC) Officers continue to review a large volume of technical documentation, which remains complex, incomplete in part and sometimes unclear. As a result, Officers are not yet able to confirm whether the information provided is sufficient to support any recommendation to the BC Strategic Sites Committee for determination.

Crest Nicholson want the application to be submitted to the BC committee in March 2026 and have indicated their intention to appeal the scheme – possibly against non-determination or against a possible planning refusal by BC.

BC have outlined concerns and objections from consultees – presumably including those from WPC – but to date, the developers have not clarified whether they will submit additional material at this time. This creates uncertainty, as important technical issues remain either unresolved or unclear, making it difficult for BC to make a planning recommendation.

BC Highway Officers have found that analysis of the submitted transport assessment has been challenging, and that several key matters – including the impact on local junctions, active travel connections, and village traffic movements – remain unclear and need further clarity. It is vitally important that the eventual Highway Authority recommendation is robust and defensible, particularly in the likelihood of any appeal.

WPC has continued to articulate strong concerns about the expected increase in traffic through the village, what the impact of the predicted traffic will be, and the difficulty of understanding the traffic modelling or its implications.

WPC has also challenged the fact that the early conditional support for the closure of Shenley Road does not now reflect the current understanding of the impacts today, but BC cannot reasonably require alternative options at this stage given that the developer has based their strategic modelling on a position that is compliant with the adopted SPD, (i.e. closure).

BC continues to have discussions with MKCC, to try and resolve objections, but both councils await further information from either the developers or Bucks Highways.

BC officers have stated that no S106 benefits (arising and made necessary by the impacts of the development) can be determined for Whaddon until all impacts are known and have been fully assessed.

THE OAKS - Solar PV Array UPDATE – 25/02284/APP

Recently, a further 12 or so consultation responses have been submitted but these are mainly Biodiversity issues (calculation tools, enhancement plans, and net gain assessments etc.) and ecological reports and assessments – all very technical!

Environmental Health, Rights of Way and Natural England, all have 'No Objections'. WPC have continued their strong objection to this proposed development, and whilst supporting the BC Heritage Officer's report (which basically says that the development will industrialise part of the surrounding setting, despite the limited intervisibility to the Whaddon Conservation Area), Councillors have disagreed with the limited visibility comment, highlighting the fact that the development will be highly visible when viewed from those parts of the Whaddon CA that are impacted, especially the listed buildings at Whaddon Hall and those impacted parts of the High Street CA.

WPC has also repeated and stressed that Whaddon Village must not be used as an access route for construction vehicles if the development is eventually approved and has fully supported BC's Highways strong preference for the MK/Calverton Lane route to be utilised. WPC has also insisted that Whaddon Parish Council be consulted about the CTMP (Construction Traffic Movement Plan) and not just BC and MKCC, together with the pre-commencement road condition survey: pointing out that subsidence at road edges already exists, and that considerable large and heavy agricultural movements are experienced every day making it a difficult route to negotiate without making and causing further considerable road and verge damage..... but somehow WPC doubts that their further input will be invited.

The Senior Planning Officer for BC North Area has advised that she will be in touch in due course with regards to the 'call-in request' once she has had an opportunity to determine the recommendation and knows the date for the Committee determination of the application, which interested parties may wish to attend.

Watch this space!



Buckinghamshire Local Plan

HIGH IMPORTANCE

On the 13th February Matthew Pennycok MP, Minister of State for Housing and Planning wrote a rare intervention letter to Cllr. Steve Broadbent, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council (BC), criticising BC's poor performance and failure to adhere to timetables for producing their Local Plan, whilst reminding them that without a 5-year land supply there is a likelihood and risk of unwarranted speculative development.

A swift rebuttal was immediately issued by Cllr. Broadbent saying that the approach was completely unwarranted, not needed, that timescales were being adhered to and that the Ministers' direction should be retracted.

Without going into detail about differences of Government and Local Authority opinions, WPC can report that a very quick, poorly attended and frankly 'shambles' of an online meeting was arranged by BC – on the very day that BC sent their rebuttal letter – without a proper agenda, which was aimed at providing Parish Councils with the details of the next Local Plan stage. This includes the preferred and possible land allocations to provide the 95,500 new homes required to be built within Bucks over the Local Plan period to 2045.

The very next day (Monday 16th Feb), BC published their 'Potential Site Allocations' document together with technical assessments and commenced a 4 week 'Availability and Suitability' Engagement Exercise that is aimed purely at landowners, developers and other interested parties – including Parish Councils, whilst other preparatory work on the Plan continues. This exercise completes on 16th March, and the author thanks the WQ Editor for holding up the publication of this issue so that WPC can report the findings of this critical stage of the Local Plan production, before the next consultation stage in July 2026, which will presumably firm up on proposed land allocations and involve full public participation.

This is what we know so far, with 3 sites for potential development impacting Whaddon:-

1) Paddock Land, Junction of Coddimoor Lane and Stock Lane.

Site area 1.1ha. Potential capacity 33 houses.

2) Shenley Park (2). West of the currently allocated Shenley Park Site.

Site Area 31ha. Potential capacity 745 houses.

This allocation does not include land around Thickbare Wood or Coddimoor Farm and the boundaries appear to be shaped around and to protect existing woodland when heading west towards Coddimoor Lane.

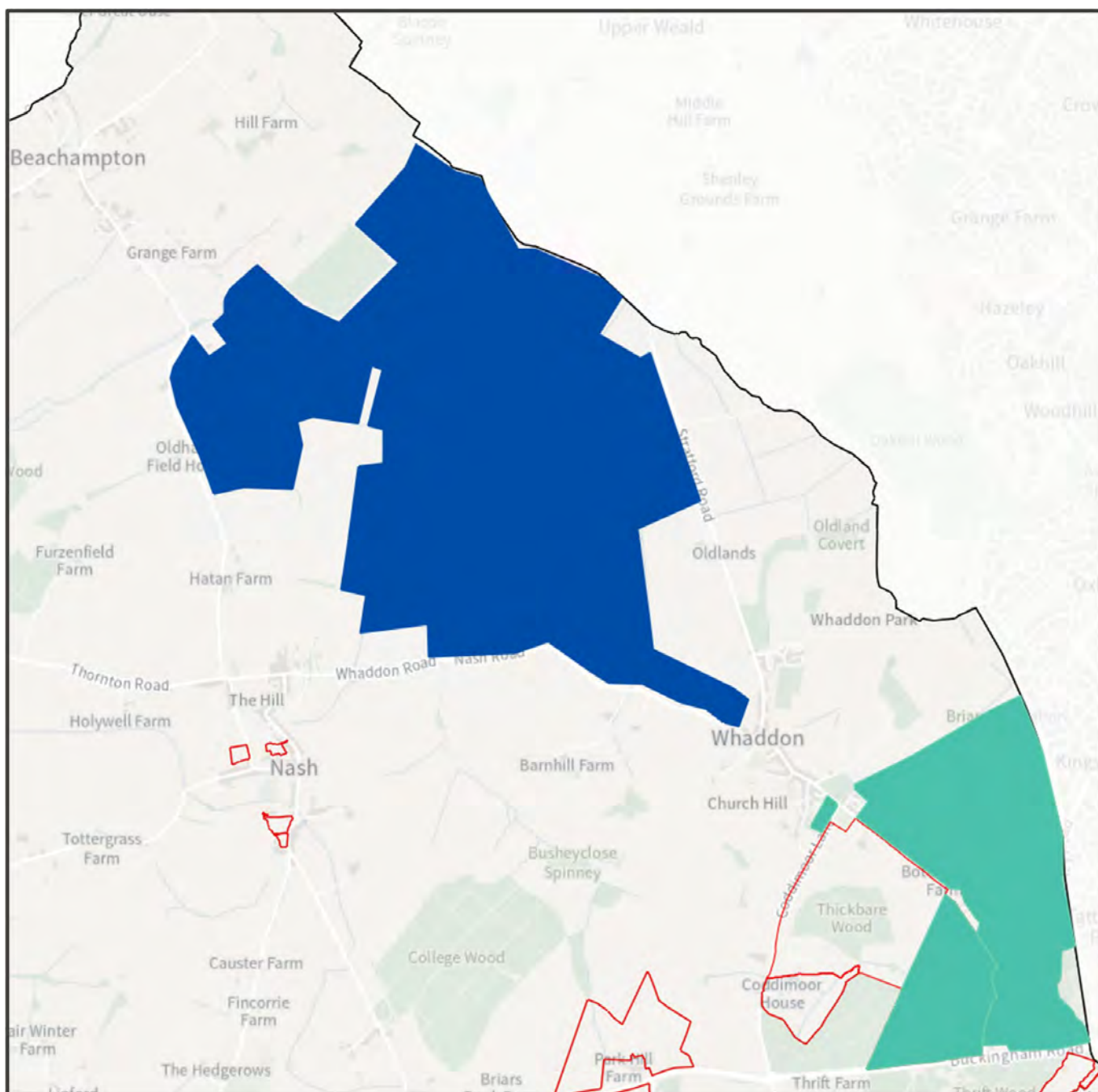
3) Beachampton. A misleading site label, as this massive site includes most of the Whaddon Valley between Whaddon and Beachampton.

This is recorded as a NESS site (New and Expanded Settlement Study). The Site Area runs to 382ha., with a potential capacity of 10,590 homes. As with all NESS sites, which are planned as potential New Towns, it would include employment, primary and secondary schools, local centre, green spaces and new accesses. The documentation notes that this new settlement has the potential "become an extension for Milton Keynes" and "a satellite suburb of the city."

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is not a site which will definitely be taken forward in the next Bucks Local Plan. There are 9 sites which are definitely proposed (including Buckingham South, Winslow N/W and Winslow N/E) and another 6 where further assessment is being undertaken. **Beachampton is one of these 6 sites where research is being undertaken before suitability is concluded** (other sites in this category include S/Claydon, Cheddington, Oakley and Calvert).

WPC will respond to the current engagement exercise. Should any residents have urgent comments to make at this stage please send them to the Parish Clerk, clerk@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk before the next WPC meeting – which will be on 12th March.

Residents wishing to know more about the proposals can google 'Bucks Local Plan'. From the Local Plan landing page an interactive map can be accessed showing the 3 sites for potential development around Whaddon.

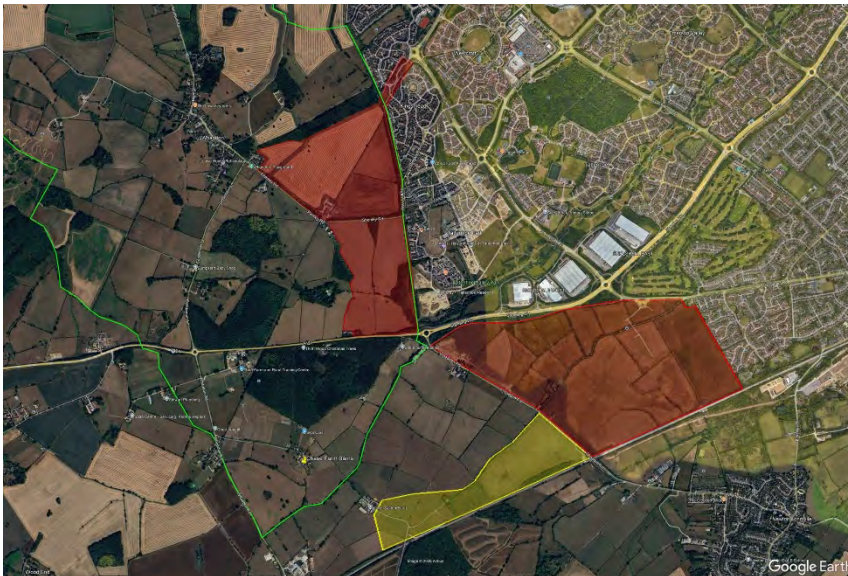




EWR Train Maintenance Depot Land South of Chase Farm Find Out More and Have Your Say!

WPC is monitoring the recent announcement of a new Train Maintenance Depot, to be located south of Whaddon Parish. This is expected to accommodate up to 20 five-car trains with accommodation for staff, parking and security gate, etc. The site is expected to have 100 employees and operate 24/7. Access is expected to be via Whaddon Rd, Newton Longville.

The BIG CONCERN for Whaddon is 100 extra vehicles on the A421 and routing of construction traffic!



To Find Out More and Have Your Say!

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Recalling the Kings of Whaddon

Take a look back at the Whaddon Quarterly (WQ) of May 2018, p.23, and you'll find a photograph of former Whaddon resident Mrs "Carrie" King. The photograph was taken at a time when the surname King was not uncommon in Whaddon and surrounding villages. But only now has new light been shed on that image, thanks to an amazing fluke arising from a clutch of newspaper clippings treasured by Mrs. Hilda Unwin of Nash and found by her daughter, Sue, as she was clearing her parents' house following her father's death late last year (Ron Unwin). "Old Whaddon remembered" shouted the local Milton Keynes newspaper headline on the clipping of 23rd November 1979. The item had been sparked by a full page of five photographs in an article printed earlier on 28th September 1979 and submitted by Ron Odell who, most likely, knew Whaddon well as, for many years, he ran the well-known ironmongers in Stony Stratford: Odell & Co Ltd. Odell's is an historic, family-run business operating from the same site since 1863 when James Odell bought it. Odell's roots as ironmongers began in 1850 with John Odell in Newport Pagnell.



The article offered insight into life in Whaddon three years after Queen Victoria's death in 1901, the then recent ending of the Boer War (1899-1902) and when Britain "ruled half the world". "The past is a foreign country," wrote the author of the original article, L. P. Hartley. He described life in Whaddon: "They do things differently," he added. In the November item, Mrs. Sylvia Smith,

then 74, recalled the photograph (left) as that of her mother, Mrs. Caroline "Carrie" King - the woman sitting in a pony and trap and born in 1883. Mrs. Smith described herself as the last of the line of the King family who farmed land at Whaddon from the 1500s. That image of Mrs King was taken in 1904. She happened to be photographed by a roving photographer, a 'snapper', using a large, bulky camera. "He would travel around taking pictures of anything he fancied," said Mrs. Smith. She added: "In those days people did not go 'click-click' as they do today. And anyway, every shop in the village sold postcard photos of Whaddon." Her mother was snapped outside Hobbes' cottage on Nash Road, or Sugar Lane, as it was then called. Mrs. King was photographed in a baker's cart on her way to Nash to see her mother. Mrs. Smith recalled: "The baker's cart made a round

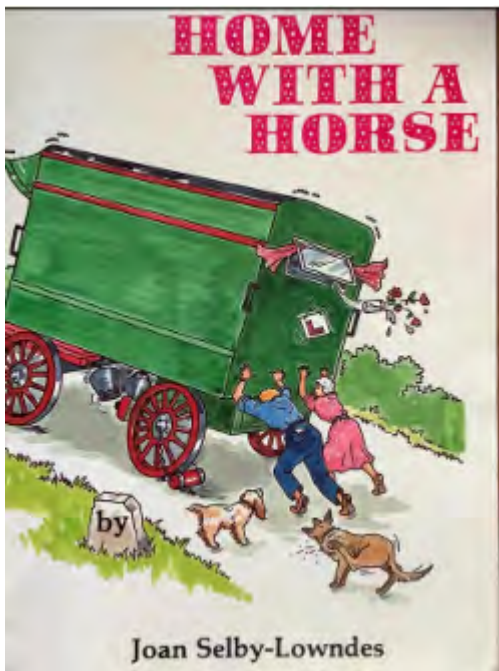
trip twice a week. It went to Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Nash and back to Whaddon." She added, "The picture was taken when the delivery cart man, Bert Tuckey, was inside the house of old Mr. Hobbes. Old Mr. Hobbes was blind and his granddaughter used to take him around the village. She lives in that house today." ***(Editor's note: the quote is taken from the newspaper, and so the spelling of Hobbes is kept as per the original)*** Somebody else can recall "Carrie" King: Joy Dietsch of Whaddon. Joy told me: "Yes, I remember "Carrie" King. She lived at Pear Tree Farm in the High Street. I used to go with my mother to visit her. She always kept a tin of sweets and toffees. At the back of the farmhouse there was a washroom where she had a boiler and where all the washing was done. Her son George lived with her and was quite a character too. He managed to set fire to the house, which was then thatched, through smoking in bed!" As we reported in the WQ of May 2019 in bygone days: The Kings of Whaddon, Caroline Cowley, a 20- year-old school teacher from Nash, married William John King (b. 1869), a man 15 years her senior. They were not content to marry in St. Mary's Church, Whaddon, but on 24th February 1904 they exchanged vows in St. James's Church in Kensington, with Rev. Edward Selby-Lowndes officiating as vicar of nearby St. Mary's Church, Notting Hill - then a mixed area with grand Victorian dwellings and houses sub-divided for upper-middle classes seeking properties on a budget. But there were also poorer classes in Notting Hill too. Was there a good reason why the couple chose to have Rev Selby-Lowndes as their wedding celebrant of choice? Most likely he was well known to the King family of Church Hill Farm, Whaddon.



On the marriage certificate, Caroline gave her address as No. 35 Portland Road, Notting Hill (right), close to Holland Park Avenue, another leafy area of high-class Victorian houses. Was no. 35 owned by a friend of the Rev Selby-Lowndes? A member of his congregation perhaps, who offered Caroline a bed while their bans were read out? Following their wedding,

William and Caroline returned to live in Whaddon where they had two children, Sylvia (b. 1905) and George (b. 1908). The Rev Selby-Lowndes, one-time vicar of St Mary's Church, Whaddon, in the 1930s and 1940s, was perhaps best known for his daughter, Joan Monica Selby-Lowndes. The vicar was much involved in village life, even winning church competitions. He and his family lived at The Vicarage, Whaddon. Daughter Joan, an ATS Major in WW2, was mentioned in

despatches. Educated at Wycombe Abbey School (a girls' boarding school in High Wycombe) and St Stephen's College, Folkestone, Joan later studied French at university, and took her Licence-en-Lettres at the Institut Francais de Lille. She translated several French works, including some by René Guillot. Joan spent some years teaching at the Italia Conti Stage School. However, she wrote many books about what she knew best. Most of her fictional works involve performing in some way or another. Ballet, film and the circus all featured. She wrote at least 10 books.



One book (left), *Home with a Horse*, explored holiday travels with two horses, two dogs, a wartime friend and an ex-Carter Paterson delivery van purchased in London for £3. I have a copy signed by Joan. Joan attempted first to purchase a caravan from "lovable rogue" Jack Hammond (remember Jam Jar Jack?) who lived with his frail-looking wife, Dorothy, and many children in a fairground wagon behind "a black slimy entrance" at Bottle Dump ("a patch of mud with a stream running through it") on the A421 adjacent to Whaddon. However, kind-hearted Jack wanted £110 for his caravan! "I'll think

about it," Joan told him, "and let you know," as she shakily rode off on her bike. Joy Dietsch tells me: "Joan wrote two books about Whaddon called *Whaddon Chase* and *Tudor Star*. They were read to us at Whaddon School!" Joan, born in Chelsea in 1916, died unmarried in Henley-on-Thames in 1997 aged 81. Joan's father died in Folkestone, Kent, aged 86 in 1959. Smokey oil lamps and candles
Returning to the subject of Mrs. Smith's mother, she always called the Lowndes Arms the Haunch of Venison. The house that was originally the Fox and Hounds is now Laburnum Cottage. She added: "Mr. Brimson's shop used to be another public house (Whaddon had three at one time) the Robin Hood. Beer was no problem because the pubs were open all day until 1914. The price of a pint then was the equivalent of one (new) penny today." But more was to come from Mrs. Smith. She said: "For at that time people in Whaddon lit their rooms with smoky oil lamps and candles until 1934. People drew water from one of three communal pumps until 1934." Mrs. Smith also explained: "If you wanted really fine water, you went over to the Bretch Well at Nash. This chalybeate water, contained iron, and never froze over. The old doctor in Winslow used to use Bretch Well water

for his medicines." The chalybeate still existed until some years ago. Sue Sampson, Mrs. Unwin's daughter, can remember the Bretch Well from her childhood - it ceased to have a pump when a row of seven houses (left) was built on the site in the middle of Nash High Street in the late 1960s. "A plaque (right) was placed at the end of one garden to mark the remarkable chalybeate well (which as Mrs Smith recalls never froze and was very good quality water)," notes Sue. "Sadly, in the past few years the front garden of the house containing the well has had a makeover and the plaque was removed." Sue adds: "Some photographs of the plaque were taken before it was removed. The plaque said: 'From time immemorial the historic chalybeate spring known as Bretch Well has stood adjacent to this plaque until 1967. The well was enclosed by a wooden fence and used by countless generations. The water was never known to freeze.'" The other photograph (left) is from around 1906. Meanwhile, one of Mrs. Smith's ancestors married the man who helped Charles II escape from the Roundheads by hiding him up an oak tree after the battle of Worcester, the final major battle of the English Civil War of September 3rd, 1651, a victory for Oliver Cromwell's Parliamentarians over Charles II's Royalists. The only traffic that kicked up dust in the High Street in "Carrie" King's time was horse-drawn. Mrs. Smith remembered: "The first car belonged to Whaddon Hall. We all went out into the road and stared and stared until it disappeared." It was indeed, as Mrs. Smith observed: "A quiet, never-ending hoop-rolling, piano-playing, street-gossiping, slow-plodding time." What a far cry from today, even though the five photographs of that "charming village" show views still recognisable today. Mrs. Smith is buried in St. Mary's churchyard. Meanwhile, bearing in mind reference to 'snappers', it is possible to publish for the first time, thanks to the extensive and unique library of photographs collated by the late Ron Unwin of Nash (who also worked at Whaddon Hall during WW2), another (above) iconic photograph of "times past in Whaddon". Does anyone recognise the buildings? If so, please contact the Editor.

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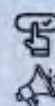
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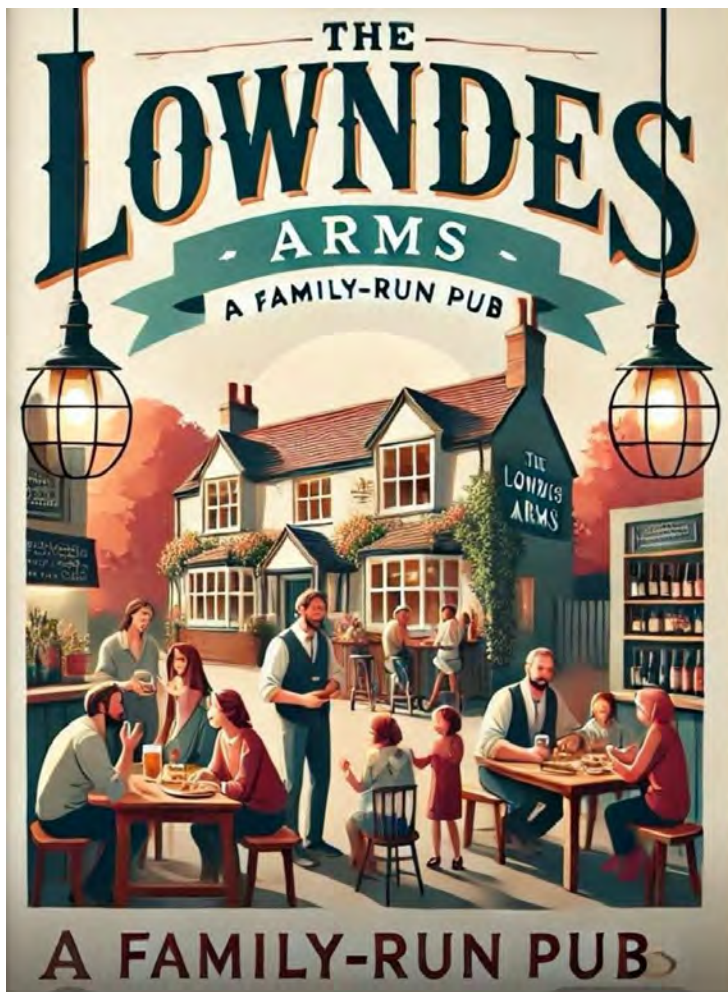
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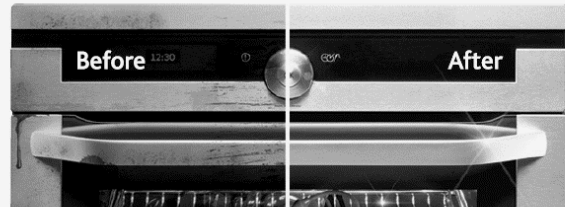
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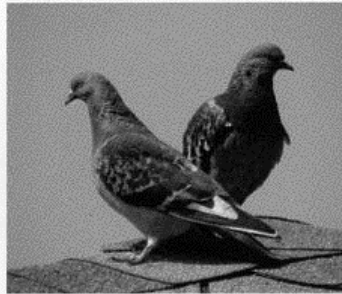
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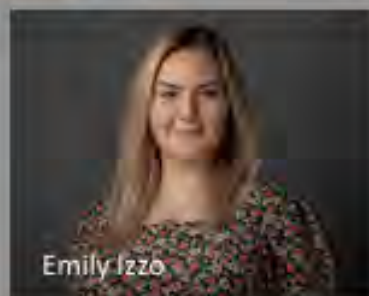
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What's On in Whaddon?

2026 Dates for Your Diary

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

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

THU 9th APR: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

SUN 3rd MAY: Whaddon School May Fayre and Carnival.

THU 14th MAY: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting 7pm at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

THU 21st MAY: WPC Annual Parish Meeting 7pm Village Hall Whaddon

WED 20th – 27th MAY: The Big Dig on Windy Ridge.

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

SAT 20th JUN: St Mary's Rocks. Rock concert and BBQ at St Mary's Church.

THU 9th Jul: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.



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.