

Whaddon Quarterly

Summer 2026

WPC Annual Parish Meeting
Whaddon Village Hall, 7.30pm

21.05.26

Free Drinks, Parish Update,
Big Dig Talk & Finds Table.
All Welcome!





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

Summer is here, and our community is buzzing. From outdoor events to family activities, there's a real sense of excitement building and this edition is packed with everything you need to make the most of the season.

Inside, you'll find updates from local groups, highlights of what's coming up, and a few stories that celebrate the creativity and kindness that define our neighbourhood. Whether you're new to the area or a long-standing resident, there's something in these pages for you.

Let's make this a season to remember — full of sunshine, shared moments, and the brilliant energy that makes our community shine.

With best wishes,

Sally Shrimpton
Editor

wqeditor@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

Autumn edition deadline: **1st SEPTEMBER 2026**

A massive thank you to all contributors and helpers

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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

I always think Whaddon looks its best in the springtime and this year is no exception. We have had a really good display of daffodils and other wildflowers, while the surrounding fields are either populated with ewes and lambs or planted with crops. We are lucky to live in rural surroundings with our own pub, yet only a few minutes away from the shops and entertainment offered by Milton Keynes.

If only it could stay that way. For better or worse, Shenley Park is planned to fill in the gap between us and Milton Keynes. When that happens, we shall effectively become an outpost of MK though technically part of Buckinghamshire. More detailed reports are published elsewhere in the Quarterly on various aspects.

While we cannot stop these developments, we have to ensure they take place in a way that does not destroy the village as we know it

One of the most contentious issues will be transport, with the amount of traffic coming through the village but also the ability of the A421 to cope with the additional traffic, not just from Shenley Park, but also from the even bigger Salden Park on Newton Longville Road, all without a dual carriageway.

So, your Parish Councilors, both now and in the future, have a big responsibility to make sure that Whaddon is still the attractive village that it is now.

Cllr Billy Stanier Chairman
Whaddon Parish Council





Clerk's Corner

Helpful information from Whaddon Parish Council

NEW Service to Report Fraud! Police have set up a new phone line
- 0300 123 2040 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm)

NEW WEBSITE TO REPORT MK FLYTIPPING!

Milton Keynes City Council no longer accepts fly tipping reports via FixMyStreet. To report a fly tip to MKCC to go Dumped Rubbish and Abandoned Shopping Trolley Form - MyCouncil. Or go to the WPC Website and click on the link for 'Useful Contacts' and you'll find the link.

The link for reporting fly tipping for the Buckinghamshire Council Area remains as FixMyStreet. This is a very user-friendly process you can follow on your smart phone, with convenient 'use my current location' and 'upload photo' facilities. It only takes a few seconds to get the eyesores reported and sorted.

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). Whaddon Parish Council meetings take place at 7.30pm 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 to WPC Meetings!

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



WPC Bites the Bullet!

Come along to the Annual Parish Meeting to find out all about A Neighbourhood Plan for Whaddon

Whaddon and a Neighbourhood Plan.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan (NP)?

A NP is a plan written by people in a community which gives local residents the power to *influence* the development and growth of their area, e.g. in Whaddon. It details all the uniqueness, assets and local groups of a community as well as covering a wide range of issues, including housing, employment, heritage and environmental matters. Once approved by a community referendum, an NP becomes part of the legal framework for making decisions on planning applications.

Advantages of having an NP:

- It has statutory weight: local planning authorities and planning inspectors *must take it into account* when making decisions on planning applications;
- It has relevance: since it is crafted by the community, it focuses specifically on local concerns and issues;
- It allows communities to play a *stronger role in shaping and supporting* the housing developments they want to see in the community;
- It brings in more money to communities because builders must contribute a higher % of money to areas with an adopted NP for its use via the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Disadvantages of undertaking an NP:

- Time and costs to prepare a NP by a committed team of volunteers, including costs to get a plan through the legal process. The local authority offers some consultative support but typically about £10,000 is needed to carry out one (WPC can support this);
- Legal requirements must be met during the process, including conforming to local and National planning strategies;

- Limitations in scope restrict any NP from overriding the strategic policies of any local plan, i.e. any NP could not resist unwanted large-scale developments.

In summary.

A NP provides communities with a powerful opportunity to *shape* local development according to our unique needs and aspirations. Whilst the process does require time, effort and resources, the benefits of having greater control over the future of our area can far outweigh the challenges. With the right support and guidance, navigating the legal process and associated costs can be managed effectively, making an NP an invaluable tool for achieving long-term positive outcomes for our community. Our local villages including Nash, Newton Longville, Great Horwood and more *all* have NPs, and *strongly advise* us to have an NP too.

**JOIN WPC AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
ON 21ST MAY, VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM OR
EMAIL clerk@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk TO FIND OUT MORE.**

=====

Who's Who in WPC?

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

Save the date



Notice of
meeting

21.05.26

Members of the public are invited to attend the annual parish meeting of Whaddon Parish Council. To take place in the village Hall, Stock lane, Whaddon, MK17 0LS on Thursday, 21st of May at 7:30pm.

Meeting Agenda

- Free drink on entry – wine/beer/soft drinks
- WI cakes available for a 'donation' for fundraising for village pump renovations
- Presentation on the Big Dig on Windy Ridge archaeological finds.
- Updates on neighbourhood plan, community speed watch and other village news
- Chance to meet friends and socialise
- Chance to meet your cllrs and have your say on village issues.
- To take any questions and comments from residents

All welcome!

Additional details:

Clerk & RFD to Whaddon Parish Council
PO Box 6542
Milton Keynes
MK10 1YY

Mobile: 07903 167417

Email: clerk@whaddonbuckspc.gov.uk

Website: www.whaddonbuckspc.gov.uk

Signed: Sir Beville Stanier (Chair) Dated: 12 th May 2026



An Update from Callum Anderson MP



Hi there,

I hope you've all been able to enjoy the recent spell of sunshine: it's certainly been a welcome change. I only wish it had arrived a little earlier for the Stowe 10k I took part in a few weeks ago!

Residents have shared their frustration about the lack of East West Rail services. I completely understand these concerns and want to assure you that I am continuing to press for the clarity and progress local people rightly expect and deserve. More information on what I've been doing to push this forward can be found on my website.

I've been out and about across the constituency recently (making the most of the much-missed sun). In addition, I've been hosting my regular community surgeries across our patch, and (as you can see on my social media) have been meeting groups, organisations and businesses from across our patch and am feeding back to government their policy recommendations.

A quick reminder that the national consultation on social media use for under-16s is still ongoing. Alongside this, the Government has issued new guidance on screen time for under-fives. These are closely linked issues that many constituents have raised with me, and I know how important they are to families across our area.

If you'd like further updates from me, please do sign up to my newsletter. In the meantime, if there's anything I can do to help, don't hesitate to email me at Callum.Anderson.MP@Parliament.UK

Above all else, I am here to serve you.

Callum

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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

Elmers Children's Charity and Elmers Charity **Benefits for Whaddon Villagers**

As a trustee for these two charities I would like to remind villagers that there are financial benefits for villagers.

1. The Children's Trust relates to young people under the age of 25 (usually 18 to 25, but younger for certain projects) who are in full time education or apprenticeships. It is NOT means tested i.e. it does not matter how much you, or your household, earn to be eligible. Small grants of approximately £250 per eligible student are available each year that you are studying, to support you in your studies and training. Support for SEND pupils at our primary school is also available. Please contact me and I will help you with a very simple and confidential application process.

2. Elmers Trust relates to community projects in the village which support engagement/social interactions (subject to board approval) or individual support towards living costs; the underlying principle here is to support hardship cases. Past examples have included our village benches, help to pay fuel bills, and in other villages, small project refurbishments in a Village Hall, Church etc which support the local community. Please contact me and I will help you with this very simple process before board approval in complete confidence.

Contact via Messenger, mobile 07760 227729 or
email: jherriman@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Jane Herriman and Trustee for Elmers Charity.

healthwatch

Bucks

**Have
your
say**

**How do you keep yourself
healthy and what would
make this easier?**

Tell us about :



- **what you do**
- **what you know**
- **what more you want to
support your health and
wellbeing**

Get in touch to:

- Share views and feedback
- Find information on local health and social care services
- Find out about local support groups
- Help improve services for everyone

Our survey closes May 31 2026.
You can also access it here
bit.ly/4rbs6YZ

**SCAN
HERE!**



 **HealthwatchBucks**

 **HW_Bucks**

 **healthwatch_bucks**



Florence Nightingale

HOSPICE CHARITY

Come together this summer to support local hospice care

Local residents are warmly invited to come together, have fun and support a vital local cause as Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity launches a vibrant programme of summer events.

The events are a celebration of community spirit, with every pound raised helping to provide compassionate care for patients and their families at Florence Nightingale Hospice in Aylesbury, Butterfly House in High Wycombe, and in people's homes across Buckinghamshire and its borders.

The summer kicks off with the much-loved Midnight Walk on Saturday 20th June at Roman Park Hall, Aylesbury. Set against the backdrop of the summer solstice, this uplifting event invites participants to walk five or ten miles in celebration of life and in memory of loved ones. Friends, families and neighbours are all encouraged to take part, with the evening beginning with a calming "Solstice Unwind" session to set the tone for the walk.

Then, on Sunday 2nd August, the community will take centre stage at the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre with a special production of *Fame*. Featuring more than 100 talented local children, the show promises to be a joyful and inspiring highlight of the summer, with both matinee and evening performances available.

Together, these events offer a fantastic opportunity for local people to connect, celebrate and make a real difference—supporting hospice care that touches so many lives across Buckinghamshire and its borders.

For more information about the Midnight Walk and to sign up, visit <https://fnhospice.org.uk/midnightwalk>

Tickets for *Fame* can be booked by visiting <https://atgtickets.com/aylesbury>

The Chatty Café - Increasing Social Connectedness in Buckinghamshire

The Public Health team is working with the national Chatty Café Scheme to create more opportunities for people to connect across Buckinghamshire.

Staying connected is essential for promoting health, wellbeing, and a sense of belonging and purpose.

What is The Chatty Café Scheme?

The Chatty Café Scheme is a national initiative which supports venues to host a 'Chatter & Natter' table. **A Chatter & Natter table creates a space for people to talk;** whether it is for five minutes while they drink a brew, or an hour of good conversation.

Hundreds of venues around the UK have joined the scheme. We'd love to get more up and running in Buckinghamshire.

The Chatty Café Scheme in Bucks

We are looking for 15 venues who can host a Chatter & Natter table, in areas where local communities would benefit from this initiative. You might be a small business, (e.g., a coffee shop), a library, a community centre, a faith setting, a sports facility, a community group, sheltered housing, or supported living accommodation. You might already have a café and can provide a Chatter & Natter table, or you might be thinking of starting something new.

For more information and to register your interest please email mariam.watling@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. Join us in making Buckinghamshire an age friendly community.





You'll be sure of a big surprise if you come down to Whaddon Jubilee Hall on 15 June! Whaddon's favourite songbirds, Chase Choir, will be bringing you a wonderful collection of pieces with a theme that will appeal to everyone, young and not-so-young.

Remember to mark your diaries for Monday 15 June at 7pm, when doors and bar open, and clippety-clop your way down to our village hall to enjoy an evening of creatures great and small. We look forward to roars of delight, sweet singing, crazy ditties and a CATalogue of pieces you'll love.

Tickets £7 on the door, (£2 for under 16s) with proceeds split between the choir and Willen Hospice.

Since you ask, of course there will be a bar and raffle! Cash is always welcome, and a card machine is available if you prefer. Don't miss out. This is going to be pawsome!

And because you'll undoubtedly leave motivaTED, and ready to migrate to our friendly group, feel free to contact Marianna (07763 102994) about how to join the choir and take part in the next circus! (bonus points for spotting the clues!)

CHASE CHOIR PRESENTS

ON SAFARI

15TH JUNE

WHADDON JUBILEE HALL



Bar & Raffle

Doors open 7:00PM

Concert starts at 7:30PM

Tickets on the door

£7 per adult

£2 under 16s

News from St Mary's Church

Hello everyone in Whaddon, or further afield.

Warm springtime greetings to you all. I hope you've been enjoying the sunshine, all the spring colours as the village comes alive again after the winter, and the fields full of sheep and baby lambs. How lucky we are to live in such a beautiful place!



The church looked lovely over Easter - thanks to Lesley, Alice and Ruth who made the beautiful window decorations and floral arrangements, and to Sally who made the Easter Garden. Thank you, too, to Jarrod and Nikki, who again made an Easter cross from our Christmas tree. It was great to see so many at the service on Easter Sunday - and I know the youngsters enjoyed the Easter egg hunt afterwards!

As you know, we are now in an interregnum, following Jacqueline's move to Kent, and we are waiting to be told when we can advertise for a new priest. Services have been continuing regularly, thanks to the ministry team, and to the continuing hard work and organisational skills of the Reverend John King and his wife Pam. Services are planned for two months at a time, and members of the team are doing their best to make sure each village in the Benefice has the services they are used to. I have been asked to put information about Sunday services for Whaddon on the village Facebook page, which I will do, and there is always a timetable of services on both the church notice boards. Jacqueline has been in touch and she sends her best wishes to us all. She and Richard have settled well in Horsmonden and are happy - although she misses everyone here.

The fundraising committee have been finalising the plans for the Rock Concert on 20th June, and planning events for the rest of the year. Concert details are detailed in the fundraising section of this edition of the WQ, they are also on Facebook and flyers will be delivered; all of these give the information you need to book your tickets. We're delighted that the wonderful V2 said they wanted to play for us again this year: if you've never heard them before, you've missed a treat, do book your tickets early so that you don't miss out this time as this may be their last performance for us.

Thanks, as ever, to all of you who keep St Mary's alive and looking good - we couldn't do without your generous contributions, whether they be financial ones, or of your precious time, energy, ideas or delicious bakery.

I wish you a joyful springtime and look forward to seeing you at the concert!

Daphne Willis
Churchwarden
St Mary's, Whaddon

=====

May 2026 Services

Everyone is most welcome to all our services.

Sun 10 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion Family Service, Whaddon
Sun 17 th May	10.30am	Table Talk in the Chapel
Sun 24 th May	9.00am	Traditional Holy Communion, Whaddon
Sun 31 st May	10.00am	Benefice Service, Nash

=====

When Will Our Summertime Come?

Poem by Eileen Kay Gingell 2010

When will our Summertime come?
Children playing in the sun tackle the wind with a large lively kite
Stop for a cuppa after riding our bikes
Hedges and woodland with sweet smelling blooms
Watching cricket on the village green
A typical English country scene listens to the church bells ring

Martin swifts swallow fly gliding diving on the wing enchanted by the joy it brings
Sea river pond or brook each season has a magic look
Summer with its colour code
What summer means to young and old
In paintings films and photographs
What a pity it does not last.



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 are on sale **NOW!**

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 stmarysrocks26@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.



SOIRÉE
FROMAGE
& VIN

*Un voyage de saveurs
à la française*



FROMAGES
D'EXCEPTION

VINS SÉLECTIONNÉS

CONVIVIALITÉ
& PLAISIR



SAVE THE DATE
13 NOVEMBER 2026



7.30PM



WHADDON JUBILEE HALL



PROCEEDS TO
ST MARY'S

Santé!



BONNE BOUCHE, BONS VINS, BONNE SOIRÉE !

Back by popular demand!

Our traditional "Magic Bus" jolly to

The Christmas Lights in LONDON!



LEAVES THE WHADDON BUS STOP
"LIBRARY" IN STOCK LANE



**SUNDAY
22 NOVEMBER**



11:00 AM
(Longer in London!)



Bring your own drinks and snacks –
and dress for the season!



PRICES

- ★ £25 per person
- ★ + £5 supplement
for upstairs seats
- ★ + £10 supplement
for front row!

ALL
PROCEEDS
TO
ST MARY'S



A loo stop will be made
each way as required.



This is a
1960s
"Routemaster"
bus, with
stairs (and
a roof!)

RESERVE YOUR PLACE!



EMAIL:
whaddonxmasbus@gmail.com



TEXT:
07436 812800

★ FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED! ★

Huge thanks again to
★ Paul and Jane Sainthouse ★
for enabling this outing.

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 Autumn 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!**

Share your views

east
west
RAIL

Consultation
2026

East West Rail is a major investment in the region delivering a new railway that would make journeys between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge easier. It would bring people closer to jobs, education, essential services and each other, supporting a better-connected future for communities.

You're invited to take part in our consultation and tell us what you think about the latest proposals for East West Rail.

This consultation will run for eight weeks from **14 April to 9 June 2026**.

There are several ways you can get involved:

- View our proposals online
- Attend our in-person or online events
- Visit our virtual consultation room
- Fill in and return our feedback form

eastwestrail.co.uk

Follow us



How to take part in this consultation

east
west
RAIL

Consultation
2026

Come along to an event near you:

Wednesday 29 April, 2pm-7pm

The Bletchley Masonic Centre, Fenny Stratford, Bletchley, MK2 2BZ

Tuesday 12 May, 11am-6pm

The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Friday 15 May, 2pm-7pm

Longueville Hall, Whaddon Road, Newton Longville, MK17 0AT

Monday 18 May, 11am-6pm

Venture Conferencing, Strudwick Drive, Oldbrook, Milton Keynes, MK6 2TG

Scan the code or visit our website to view proposals and share your feedback.



Materials will be made available in alternative formats on request. If you or anyone else you know would prefer a different format or language, please let us know by emailing contact@eastwestrail.co.uk or calling **0330 134 0067**.

eastwestrail.co.uk

Follow us



JOIN WPC FOR THE ANNUAL
FREE!
PLAY SESSION ON WHADDON RECREATION GROUND!

A poster for the Whaddon Summer Event. The background is light grey with large, faint, stylized letters spelling 'WHADDON' at the top. There are several circular and cloud-like shapes containing images of children playing. One image shows a child climbing a structure with tires. Another shows a child sitting on a bench. A third shows a child standing on a large, textured surface. The text 'SUMMER EVENT' is written in large, stylized letters across the middle. A circular badge on the right contains the date and time: '12th AUGUST 1.30PM - 3.30PM RISKY PLAY'. A rectangular badge in the center says 'NO DOGS ALLOWED'. A circular badge on the left contains the address: 'Shenley Rd, Whaddon, MK17 0LW'. A QR code is located in the bottom left. At the bottom, there is a banner with the text 'Session run by MKPA and sponsored by Whaddon Parish Council All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the session'. The MKPA logo is in the bottom left corner.

WHADDON

Shenley Rd,
Whaddon,
MK17 0LW

**12th
AUGUST
1.30PM - 3.30PM
RISKY PLAY**

SUMMER EVENT

NO DOGS ALLOWED

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

MKPA
Milton Keynes
Play Association
50

Walk In
Spaces
Available on
the day

MAY FAIRE

THANK YOU

LUCK WAS ON OUR SIDE WITH THE WEATHER AND A GREAT DAY SEEMED TO BE ENJOYED BY ALL. THE COSTUMES WERE AMAZING AND THE SUPPORT EQUALLY AS MUCH.

THANK YOU TO: SCHOOL FOR MAYPOLE DANCING, CHURCH LANE RESIDENTS FOR ALLOWING THE CLOSED ROAD, ALICE FOR THE ROAD STEWARDING, HELEN FOR THE BUGGY AND DAVID FOR CHAUFFEURING THE KING & QUEEN.

THANKS ALSO TO SAM AND UP A FOR A LIVELY DANCE DEMO, HAZEL AND THE OTHER BRILLIANT BAKERS AND TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH BUYING RAFFLES, DONATING JARS, BOTTLES & TEDDIES AND THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR TIME TO RUN A STALL, YOUR HELP IS INVALUABLE.

SPECIAL THANKS TO SID, GUY, LOUISE AND ALL THE OTHER AMAZING BBQ/BAR CREW.

A BIG SHOUT TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED OVER THE WEEKEND WITH THE SET-UP & CLEARING DOWN... A REAL HEAVY DUTY TASK!

ALSO TO ALL THE RAFFLE DONATORS FOR THE FABULOUS PRIZES - PARTICULARLY LOCAL BUSINESSES KIMBERLEY MAE AESTHETICS, DISTINCT GARDEN ROOMS AND MACINTYRE LAW.

IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE MADE MORE THAN LAST YEAR WHICH IS TESTAMENT TO THE PHENOMENAL SUPPORT FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND VILLAGE.



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 7th March: Whaddon's Big Night Out with Selby and Friends

Thank you to all who came along to our music fundraiser in March. What another fabulous night it turned out to be!

Thanks to your generosity, we raised

£740 for MIND, the mental health charity, along with a tidy sum for the Village Hall coffers from the bar – where the more dedicated drinkers amongst the audience (and band) managed to drink us dry of our most popular beverages.

A huge thank you to all the musicians who generously gave up their time to perform. Three local artists, Dave, Amy and Scott opened up the show, preparing the way for our Whaddon-based band, Selby, to really get the room rocking.



Thank you to Guy Birch-Jones for doing a cracking job as sound engineer for the evening, and to our raffle sellers, bar team, and everyone else who helped to make the night such a memorable success.

Coming Next – Dates for your diaries:



Friday 22nd May: Quiz Night – Doors/Bar open at 7pm. Quiz starts 7.30pm.

Come along to this popular village event and see if you can take home the Brainiest in the Village title. Teams of up to six people. £5 per person entry fee payable in advance. There are limited tables so book yours early to avoid disappointment.

Please e-mail whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com to book your table.

Wednesday 15 July: webuyvintage.co.uk Roadshow

Something a bit different! Valuations and purchase of vintage items (gold jewellery, binoculars, cameras, coins, toys, watches etc) all day 10am to 3pm. Keep an eye on our Facebook page, and the village Facebook page for more details. Check out their website too, to find out more and get decluttering ready for your free valuation!

Saturday 15th August: Karaoke and Open Mic Night

Get ready to belt out your favourite tunes!

Join us for another fun-filled night at the Whaddon Jubilee Hall! Whether you are a seasoned singer or just looking for a laugh, it is your time to shine!

You can bring an instrument and perform Open Mic, or we can crank up a karaoke track for you to sing along to.

Bring your friends, family, and plenty of energy! From classics to chart-toppers, there is something for everyone. Do not miss a night of laughter, music, and community spirit.

So, warm up those vocal cords and come show us what you've got!

Licensed bar. Free Entry.



Friday 18th September: Annual Beer Pong Tournament



Want to compete in a game involving a ball and beer? If so, beer pong is definitely for you!

Following the success of the past two annual tournaments, we are doing it all again this year.

Teams of three people at a cost of £15 per team.

Pre-registration is essential as we have a limited number of teams.

Supporters and enthusiastic observers welcome.

Bar opens at 7pm. Please e-mail whaddonvillagehall@gmail.com to register your team.

Friday 9th October: Quiz Night

More details in the next edition of the Whaddon Quarterly.

Saturday 5th December: Christmas Tree Lights switch-on and social.

More details in the next edition of the Whaddon Quarterly.

Regular events at the village hall:

- Mondays: Chase Choir 7.30-9pm. Contact Marianna: 07763 102994
- Tuesdays: Post Office 1.30-3.30. Table Tennis 7pm – 8pm. Contact Mark Carter 07594 587557
- Thursdays: Zumba 2pm -3pm. Contact Julia 07779 339984 or email: exstress@tiscali.co.uk
- WI Afternoons and Evening (Night Owls) – See individual items in the WQ for dates and contact details.

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 all received our seeds for our annual sunflower growing competition.

- We had a wonderful sit and chat in March: all talking about where we had grown up or interesting places we had lived during our lives. It was fascinating to learn more about each other.
- April saw us having an outing to the ever-popular Mursley Farm Shop.
- Our May meeting marks the 90th Birthday of the Whaddon WI group. At the time of writing, it has yet to take place, but it promises to be a fun packed afternoon. Lots of food and cake of course, but also Mala has a mystery activity planned for us.
- June will see our 'Ladies Ascot' meeting, so we'll all be busy creating hats for the event.
- In July we will be having a picnic so here's hoping the weather is good for us.
- In August Mala is going to teach us all to make Samosas and if her previous cooking lessons are anything to go by this is going to be one not to miss.

Don't forget, membership of our WI at only £54 for a full year also gives you access to all the WI has to offer. It includes lots of online classes and activities all over the country along with 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 (President)

Whaddon Night-Owlers W.I.

We have been busy owls this year, starting in January with some Zumba to get everyone moving to music. And laughing! (I never knew exercise could be so entertaining!)

In February we unlocked some hidden talents and learned all about watercolour painting. Many of us thought a kingfisher would be impossible but with great patience, Kam showed us how to break it down and start at the beginning. The results were amazing, proving that you can do something you thought impossible when shown how, encouraged and you persevere.

March brought spring flowers and a gardening expert; Frank talked about growing veg from seed and the sheer pleasure of eating a dinner you have grown yourself. Lots of tips and tricks for beginners and experts alike.

April was educational. Do you know why more medical research is carried out on men than women? A pharmaceutical expert, one of our members, talked about her career in the industry and explained how drugs get from an idea to saving lives. Truly fascinating and something to consider when next ordering that vital prescription.

Moving on in the year, we have an exciting and varied programme planned to include visits to museums, pottery painting, a wine tasting, a games night and a festive meal. Sounds like something you might be interested in? Come along and meet us, the third Wednesday of the month in Jubilee Hall at 6.45. Check in with Nikki on 07590 802 443 to confirm what we are doing.

Look forward to meeting you!



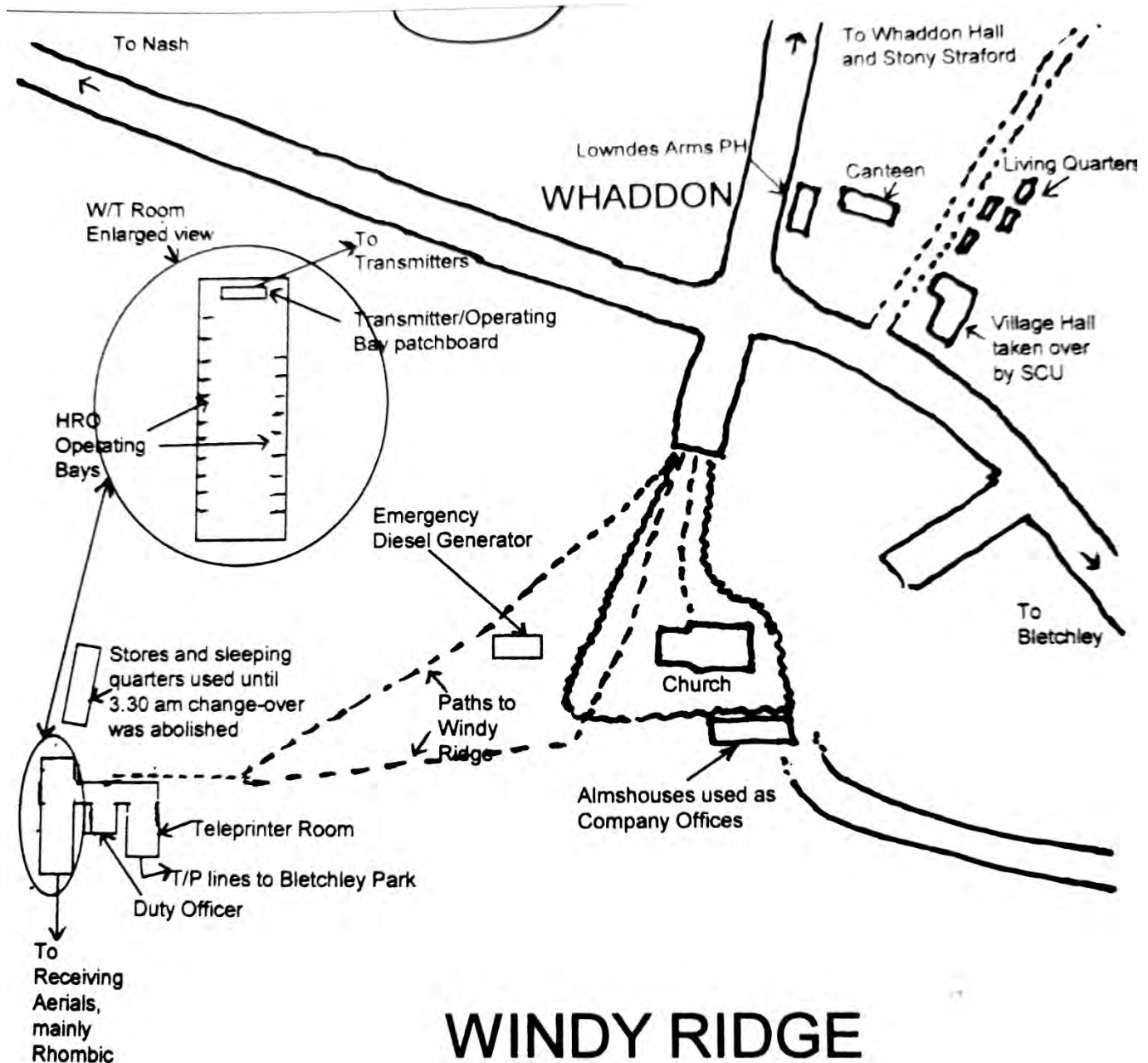
The Big Dig!

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

The group is in the process of reviewing its membership and brief to support all residents of our Whaddon Community so that it continues to be a safe place to live and is proactive and helpful to all. Any suggestions on how we can do this are gladly appreciated.

If you would like to contact us then please do so by email on neighbourhoodwatch@whaddonbucks-pc.gov.uk and we will get back to you.

Vigilance regarding oil theft during global restrictions and price hikes.

Here are the most effective methods to prevent oil theft:

1. Secure the Tank Physcially
 - a. High-Quality Padlocks: Use closed-shackle padlocks on the filler cap, as these are harder to cut with bolt cutters.
 - b. Lockable Caps/Cages: Install a locking fuel cap or a steel security cage that fully encloses the tank.
 - c. Steel Tanks: Consider replacing plastic tanks with steel ones, which are harder to drill into or puncture.
 - d. Anti-Siphoning Devices: Fit devices inside the tank pipe to prevent hose insertion.
 - e. Cover Hoses: Wrap external fuel hoses in a hard, flexible casing to prevent them from being cut.
2. Surveillance and Lighting
 - a. CCTV Cameras: Install visible CCTV cameras to deter thieves and capture evidence.
 - b. Security Lighting: Use motion-sensor lighting or "dusk-till-dawn" lights, as thieves prefer to operate in darkness.
 - c. Alarms: Install an electronic tank gauge/alarm that sounds a siren in your home if the oil level suddenly drops, which often indicates siphoning or a leak.
3. Location and Concealment
 - a. Hide the Tank: Position the tank out of sight from the road but ensure it is still visible from your home windows.

- b. Defensive Planting: Plant thorny, prickly bushes (e.g., hawthorn, holly, rose bushes) around the tank, which creates a natural barrier and forces thieves to leave evidence behind.
 - c. Build a Screen: Use fencing, trellis, or walls to disguise the tank, ensuring they comply with OFTEC fire safety standards.
 - d. Remove Access Tools: Secure any ladders or tools in a shed to prevent them from being used to assist in the theft.
4. Monitoring and Vigilance
- a. Check Levels Regularly: Monitor oil levels frequently to spot sudden drops immediately.
 - b. Add Gravel: Place gravel around the tank, as the noise from stepping on it can alert you and neighbours.
 - c. Join Neighbourhood Watch: Be vigilant about unfamiliar large vehicles or individuals scouting the area.
 - d. Limit Fuel Quantity: Avoid filling the tank to the top during high-risk times (such as winter), as this minimizes the amount of oil that can be stolen at once.
5. Other Security Measures
- a. Smart Monitors: Use smart app-based monitors that alert you to unusual fuel drops, even when you are away from home.
 - b. Anti-Theft Marker Dye: Use products that stain the stolen oil, making it less attractive to buyers and easier for police to identify.
 - c. Note: Never lock the tank vent, as it must remain open for the tank to function properly.

Cllr Jane Herriman

Neighbourhood Watch Team.in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes.

Call 0300 1234 148 for more information or support.

Whaddon Planning Update

Written by Graham Stewart

46 years ago, when I moved to Whaddon, Milton Keynes was in its infancy, and nowhere near being granted City status, and it was always expected - well, in the planning world, rather than local residents - that when the original boundaries, designated and agreed in 1966 were filled up, expansion beyond into the surrounding open countryside was inevitable.

Perhaps naively I believed, or at least hoped, that the Whaddon Valley - hemmed in between Whaddon, Nash, Beachampton and Calverton, and sheltered from Milton Keynes by the physical Shenley Ridge, might escape this inevitable breaching of boundaries - and indeed I was proved correct in 2004, when Whaddon and Nash along with other interested parties and developers successfully argued during the Public Inquiry, into the then emerging MK Local Plan, that this prominent ridge to the north of Whaddon, which forms a natural physical barrier between the urbanity of Milton Keynes and the attractive open countryside of north Buckinghamshire, that development would not 'spill over' the ridge into the valley, which centuries ago formed part of a medieval hunting forest and chase popular with Royalty and others.

The 2004 Whaddon/Nash 'A ridge too far' campaign was roundly supported by the then Aylesbury Vale District Council (now the Unitary authority of Buckinghamshire), and the Planning Inspector at the public Inquiry ruled - after making very supportive comments - that area 10.4 - part of the major MK Western Expansion Area (and now the exact same area referred to by MKCC as the Shenley Dens Strategic City Expansion area) should be deleted from the plan with the same amount of displaced housing development to be deleted and relocated along the old A5 (now Watling Street V4) towards Stony Stratford - into the area now referred to as Fairfield.

Turn the clock forward 20+ years, and with a Government pressing for much more housing development, a decree has been passed down to individual Local Authorities - with many of those having greatly increased target figures to achieve - the outlook has changed significantly and possibly irreparably - especially perhaps for the Whaddon Valley, particularly with the new Unitary Authority at Bucks

having done a 'U-Turn' on the Shenley Ridge, saying development at Shenley Dens would be acceptable if it were landscape-led.

Whaddon Parish sits at the extreme north of Buckinghamshire and shares a boundary with the ever-expanding, and now 'City' of, Milton Keynes, and as such our village is impacted by two Local Plans, the latest versions of which are likely to be agreed and adopted by early 2028 or before, and which will become the planning bibles for local development over the next 20 years. With this in mind, and following their recent Regulation 19 public consultation, Milton Keynes Council has now submitted their New City Plan to 2025 to the Government for independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Within this plan, MKCC have confirmed that Shenley Dens, just north of Whaddon, south-west of the MK Western Expansion Area and west of Grange Farm will form a Strategic City Extension which, if approved by the Inspector, will spill over the Shenley Ridge and provide around 1,000 new homes, a minimum of 15 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers, primary school, healthcare facilities, green blue and transport infrastructure *"All adopting a sensitive landscape-led approach, distribution, layout and design, that will satisfactorily mitigate impacts on the valued characteristics of the Calverton Special Landscape Area"* MKCC's words not mine, and with no mention of the Shenley Ridge or Whaddon Valley! Will WPC be invited by the appointed inspector to attend the appropriate informal hearing session to support the village's strong objection, and argue for its deletion? I doubt it will be!

Turning next to Buckinghamshire Council: they must plan for 95,000 new homes within the County over the next 20 years. Some 20,000 are already in the pipeline, most with planning consents already in place, but this leaves some 75,000 yet to be identified, and with much of the south of the County, being already heavily populated and having the protection of green-belt and other meaningful landscape designations, the north of the county - especially within the catchment area of Britain's most successful growing City, seems to be both a logical and easy option to consider for further major growth. This is already apparent within the current Vale of Aylesbury Plan (soon to be replaced by the New Plan for Buckinghamshire), where at least 1,150 have already been identified within Whaddon Parish at Shenley Park and where, even before a planning consent is granted, it is becoming increasingly likely - Bucks Council have identified an extension to this site for a further 750 homes within the new emerging plan, together with a further smaller site within the village, possibly for a further 33 new homes.

Furthermore, and in addition to the emerging New Plan for Bucks, or indeed any other Local Authority Plan throughout the country, the Government - to speed up and increase housing supply - has identified a number of sites for New Towns of circa 40,000 new homes each. One of these is identified to the immediate east of Milton Keynes beyond the M1 motorway.

Although no New Town location was identified in Buckinghamshire, Bucks Council have undertaken a 'New or Expanded Settlement Study' (NESS), to satisfy their legal housing requirements. In total 18 potential locations throughout the county have been identified - (interestingly 12 of which are roughly north of Aylesbury and only 4 to the south) and it is expected that a few of these sites will be included in the final draft of the plan, which will be published for a 6-week public consultation around 23rd July, allowing everyone to have their say: for or against.

The identified sites, all of which have existing or potential rail connection possibilities, range in size from 1,206 homes in Burnham to 10,590 homes in Beachampton (Whaddon Valley), and locally identified sites include Steeple Claydon (4,475); Buckingham (4,925); Haddenham (7,750) and Winslow (10,550). When reading these figures, remember that Bucks Council needs to identify sites for 75,000 new homes!

Very recently, a leaflet was delivered to every house in the village advising residents of the possibility (and at this stage it is only a possibility), of the Beachampton site, which if carried forward, especially considering the possible MKCC Shenley Dens housing site, and the now likely Oaks Farm solar energy site, would essentially destroy the Whaddon Valley as we know it, as is clearly demonstrated in blue on the leaflet, alongside the other proposed sites impacting Whaddon coloured green, mainly being Shenley Park (see picture on page 36).

Whatever happens, it is highly likely that Whaddon Village and the Parish will change dramatically during and beyond the next 20/25 years, and I can only hope that the special character and distinct individuality of Whaddon Village will be protected and preserved, and that necessary infrastructure and other social benefits will be introduced and prevail - such as reduced traffic and/or better traffic-

calming proposals that will improve resident well-being and safety; enhanced and greater access opportunities to wider health and social care infrastructure and the establishment of green and blue infrastructure for the leisure enjoyment of those new and existing communities, who are encouraged to integrate and will hopefully flourish in the future.



The Kings of Whaddon - GEORGE KING

Written by Billy Stanier

Following John Mortimer's article in the Spring edition of the WQ, I wanted to add some more to the Kings of Whaddon story, as I knew George King rather well and I have fond memories of a very special character.

When I bought my house on Nash Road, many years ago, it was called Kings Close and the Post Office was happy to deliver post to Kings Close, Whaddon, Bletchley, Bucks. No post codes in those days and no Milton Keynes. Now, I am officially Kings Close House at 5 Nash Road, Whaddon Milton Keynes MK17 0NG.

I wondered why it was originally named thus. In the 1930s, when the Selby Lowndes family lived at Whaddon Hall, their youngest son, Edward, became a clergyman and obtained the job of vicar of Whaddon. But back then, there was no vicarage. The vicarage at the end of Church Lane wasn't built until many years later. As you know one of the principal streets in Whaddon is Vicarage Road, but I have no knowledge of when, or if, Whaddon House at the end of Vicarage Road was ever the parson's abode. Presumably it once was.

George King, who farmed in Whaddon all his life, had promised his mother that he would never sell land. He did though, and sold the plot on Nash Road to the Selby Lowndes family to house the vicar but only because it was for the good of the church. Some years after the Second World War when Edward retired, the house was sold and I guess that the Vicarage at the end of Church Lane was built by the Church of England at that time.

When I came to Kings Close, it had a very little garden because George had only sold the minimum needed for the vicar's house. The fence came so close to the dining room window that I always used to say I could flick a cherry stone over it from inside. Needless to say, I made a good friend of George, in the hope that he would sell me a field. It took over seven years but, in the end, I succeeded and made the big garden that I have now. He said the reason why one of my fields has a big cavity was because it was the village's supply of gravel (none left now!)

George lived by himself at Pear Tree Farm in the High Street. In those days it had a thatched roof, and over a glass of whisky, he would tell me about buying sheep in the west country and driving them all the way to Whaddon on foot in the 1920s/30s. We talked about cricket as well and he told me tales of opening the bowling for Whaddon. He never missed voting in an Election and was a keen Conservative.

The SAXONS

Three lives. Three burial sites. Three extraordinary stories.

28 March - 1 November 2026



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Opening Whaddon's Own Pandora's Box

Researched and Written by John Mortimer

For some people, lifting the lid on Whaddon's history is a no-no; a waste of time. For others it's like opening Pandora's box: glimpses of how life used to be lived. John Mortimer lifts the lid.

For a decade I have explored, through the prism of the WQ, Whaddon's amazing past: like the single-seat, hand-crafted bi-plane glider that flew from Windy Ridge on 12th September 1913. However, finding new topics is challenging. But here goes. How well do you know Whaddon? Really know it! Where are Lammas Close, King's Close, The Estate House and Estate Office? And Mill Road? Did Whaddon really have a windmill? When did three pubs become one? Who was Whaddon's Mr. Fixit? And what did George King bring to The Lowndes Arms that made those nearby gape and stare?

Just after WW2, the village morphed into its new 'normal' following years of military motorcades: motorcycle riders, monster motorcars and specialist radio vehicles, all of which shattered village quietude, en route to Whaddon Hall. Those were the days when only 'posh' people at 'The Hall' had a car, or Mr. Jinks, who ran the store in Vicarage Road and offered his Ford car as a taxi for village folk. These were the days of the village policeman with his push-bike: not until much later did the local 'bobby' have a Panda car! And, of course, the tinkling of pianos from open front doors on balmy summer evenings. And that's when, in May 1945, there were 233 people on the Electoral Register, including three working for NAAFI!

Some house names have disappeared, of course, like Snelsor Lodge. Where was that? Others can be traced back over 100 years, like Gothic Lodge which appears as early as 1915.

Later, in 1927, Joseph (Snr) and Jane Ivins occupied one of the two Kennel Lodges (separated by huge, imposing iron gates at Kennel Lane) with Joseph (Jnr) and Mary Ivins at home in The Kennels. It was not until two years later that Richard and Caroline Rachel Keys, and John William Keys, moved into the other Kennel Lodge. The Keys did not stay as long as the Ivins. By the end of WW2 Amy and Thomas Blake had moved to occupy Gothic Lodge, together with Evelyn Ashley.

Much later, Jesse Beckett lived next door. He ran a driving school. By 1970, Jesse and Millie Beckett are shown at No. 35 while Bernard Duke, with his wife Anita and Bernadette Duke, lived at Gothic Lodge. Johnny Dagg gave assistance to Jesse Beckett as a fellow driving instructor. Johnny lived in the High Street but later moved to The Oaks with his wife Alice and son David Dagg.

However, at the end of WW2 and strikingly coincidentally, at the top of Stock Lane, Caroline Lumsden occupied the Estate House at No. 1 High Street, while Alexander Lumsden was resident at the Estate Office! Meanwhile Gertrude Sutton could be found at the School House.

Electoral Registers and Kelly's Directory offer windows on town and country life. For example, in 1939, Kelly's shows Mrs. Brenda Atherton Hustley De Chair occupying Lammas Close, a house at the top of Vicarage Road, just before Vicarage House (today it is Whaddon House). Stella Fanshaw and Emily Hewitt also lived in Lammas Close.

In the years following WW2, Christopher and Alison Weatherby moved to Whaddon House from King's Close. Christopher, a stockbroker who travelled daily to London by train, was much into horse racing; indeed, the Weatherbys as a whole, were one of horse racing's most famous families. Their daughter, Clare, married Peter Greenall, 4th Baron Daresbury; a champion jockey himself, a British aristocrat and a businessman (formerly Chairman of the DeVere Group). He too, was deeply associated with horse racing: notably as chairman of Aintree Race Course (1989-2014).

And the vicar? Well, the redoubtable Rev Edward Arthur Selby-Lowndes lived at King's Close, but in 1889 the Rev Octavius Selby occupied The Rectory.

A timeline for Edward - Whaddon's vicar for 25 years - is revealing. He became Whaddon's vicar in 1898 and remained four years before heading to Notting Hill, in London. In 1906 Edward left for Australia as a missionary. Steamships then could take up to 40 days to reach Brisbane, his first port of call. He remained in Australia five years on various duties, returning to Britain as chaplain to Truro's bishop in 1912.

In 1914 Edward's life became transformed. Love was in the air! Aged 41 (39 on their certificate) he married Martha, a 22-year-old French woman; an event which possibly (for them) overshadowed the onset of WW1. How they met is a mystery. Time has neatly occluded that event from public scrutiny. Too old for conscription, Edward later received the British War and Victory Medals, suggesting he experienced military life of some kind; as a chaplain, possibly.

Their marriage certificate details a ceremony on 10th August 1914, at St Patrick's Church, St Martins, London. The couple lived at 67 Torrington Square, Bloomsbury, London. The marriage, by license, was conducted in a Roman Catholic Church.

The Leighton Buzzard Observer of 29th September 1914 was quick off the mark for a rural newspaper. It boomed with pride: "Edward Selby-Lowndes has married Martha Wellida, the younger daughter of Ernest

Gobin of Blois, Loir-et-Cher in Central France”. That’s a beautiful hillside city with cathedral and royal palace.

In September 1916, the couple were in the UK when their daughter, Joan Monica was baptised. They lived at 162 Burbage Road, Dulwich. They were in Dulwich from 1915 to 1919, with Edward as assistant master at Dulwich College. Between 1919 and 1925, he was then master at Charterhouse School.

Then Edward returned to Whaddon as vicar, where he arranged for an architect to design a new vicarage: at the top of Church Lane. In 1931, he and Martha lived at Vicarage House; and so it remained until 1939 or so when the couple moved to a new, near-identical house in King’s Close, adjacent to Nash Road.

At the end of 1945, with Edward at King’s Close, Martha remained at Vicarage House. But come October 1945, Joan Selby-Lowndes, then back from military services as an ATS major, also lived at King’s Close. Thanks to Martha, Joan spent her formative years at French schools and colleges. She spoke French fluently.

The Mill on Windy Ridge

Kennel Lane was once known as Mill Road (Mill Lane). The 1940 Electoral Register shows Cecil and Emily White at home in The Cottage in Mill Road. They were parents to Derek White.

That road, or lane, led to what Buckingham County Council calls a mound, a Bronze Age burial mound, on which a windmill was once built. It is close to St. Mary’s churchyard, up on Windy Ridge where, in WW2, important intelligence radio signals were sent, originating from Whaddon Hall and Bletchley Park.

On either side of Kennel Lane, are the two lodge houses for Whaddon Hall. A third lodge, Front Lodge, is on High Street. Over the years, many couples have found their homes in these lodges, known once as Kennel Lodges.

Meanwhile, did you know Whaddon has had two Police Houses? Now it has none! The first, with green door and ‘County Constabulary’ inscribed



over the door, was built so close to Stock Lane that in later years it had to be demolished and replaced (around 1965) by a second house built further back, complete with office. It ceased to be a Police House in 1985.

Police constable Henry Sibbald (PC57) moved into the Police House on 14th February 1911. He remained four years before moving on. Others followed, including George Gayler (PC188) in 1939. The war years brought air raid warnings and blackouts. Gayler, formerly of the 12th Brigade of Guards, stood a forbidding 6ft tall; he retired from the police on 29th December 1945. Their daughter, Beryl, and Evelyn Jaworska (Above in front of Whaddon's first Police House) were great friends. (For the aficionado, the car was a 1934 Standard "Big 12"; that's thanks to one of my friends with a good friend in New Zealand who knows about these things. Quite a posh car for a sleepy, Buckinghamshire village.

Sergeant Cyril Gray, with his wife Amy, followed. Cyril came from Mill Lane, Wolverton and later moved on to Newport Pagnell and thence Fenny Stratford.

The Debacle of Two Village Pubs

Vicarage Road was well known for The Robin Hood public house at No 2; almost within a policeman's blow of his whistle from the Police House! Whaddon's other pubs were The Fox & Hounds and The Haunch of Venison, now The Lowndes Arms. Nash had two pubs: The New Inn and The Old English Gentleman. How did Whaddon's three become one?

In 1891 everything was going well; no signpost of what was to come. The Robin Hood was certainly open for business, with David Dell as publican. Dave and his wife Annie had six children: five girls and a boy. The eldest, Sarah Ann, 20, took in work as a dressmaker and they had a lodger. Up the road, at The Fox & Hounds, Alfred Lee was in charge. Fred and his wife had three children.

Then events took a sad turn for the worse. By 1901 the Dells had had two more children - Cyril and Harold - but following Harold's arrival Annie became ill and died. Trade too had become tough. Up the road, The Fox & Hounds had already closed and been turned into Laburnum Cottage; then home to Maria King (66) and William King (31). Some 30 years later, George Thomas Hopins and his wife Mary Ann lived there and in 1939 Cecil and Emily White were the cottage's residents.

Dave Dell, by then a widower, had the burden of caring for his family; his son Arthur John, 14, had become a shepherd boy. As for Fred Lee, by 1901 he at least could savour the good fortune of becoming a publican again, this time at The Haunch of Venison. For Dave though, at The Robin Hood, competition took its toll; eventually it closed, later to become a humble village store.

But did the process of closure cause Dave and Fred some public opprobrium? A publican's life is a public life. It's hard to say, because

by 1911 Dave, a former agricultural labourer, like Fred had come to enjoy work again as a publican, but in Great Horwood.

Meanwhile, Clarence Charles Jinks ran the village shop which sold groceries including eggs, milk and bread. Mr. Jinks was the children's friend: he sold sweets. Newspapers were delivered by Mr. Harris in Nash. Mr. Jinks also sold petrol from his nearby pump, served from its underground tank. The store acted as a communal meeting point; a magnet. Others in the village were The Bakery (in the High Street) and the Post Office, in Post Office Row.

How Observant Are You?

Have you noticed that old brick wall, close to the walnut tree in the 'lane' next the Village Hall? It once formed part of the preserve of the Jackman's smithy - George and son Joey (Joseph) Jackman. The Jackmans, from Thornborough, were a large, widespread family of blacksmiths. A smithy, or forge, is a blacksmith's workshop where metal is heated, hammered and shaped into tools, horseshoes and many other farm items using an anvil.

George and Joey were at the beck and call of Colonel Selby-Lowndes at Whaddon Hall. In the 19th century, farm implements were made of iron. When a plough share, stay or beam fractured, only a blacksmith's skill could repair it - and quickly. Father and son Jackman were crucial also for reshoeing Whaddon Hall's string of horses, the lifeblood of the Whaddon Chase.

The Jackmans, at No. 2 High Street, in 1901, were a close-knit family. George and Ann treasured their offspring: Amy, Minnie, Joseph, John and Fred. Joey and John both became blacksmiths from an early age. Fred chose to be a groom. In 1921, Joey lived at home and in Whaddon. He remained single until 1953 when he and Mollie married in Chichester. Joey died two years later.

The Kennels Have Their Own History

The Kennels, down Kennel Lane, like many Whaddon houses, have history too. A snapshot of 1901, shows huntsman Charles Sturmer, 34, and his wife Harriet, 29, as occupants. A far cry from 10 years earlier when it served as a refuge for widower Edmund (Ted) Bentley, 50, and daughters Elizabeth, 16, and Alice, 13. Bentley's niece Elizabeth Smith, 40, from Luton and servant William Bennett, 26, came under the same roof and provided help.

Ted Bentley knew Whaddon well; he had lived here for over 10 years. But not at The Kennels. In 1881, Ted, 40, by then a widower, lived at The Cottage in Kennel Road. He shared it with daughters Emily (12), Frances, (10), Edmund (8), Elizabeth (6) and Alice (3). Only Alice was born in Whaddon. Also sharing The Cottage (and the workload?) were

nieces Elizabeth (30) and Caroline (23) Smith. Had the birth of Alice caused Ted's wife to lose her life?

Another snapshot of Whaddon life in 1939 shows, aside from Mrs De Chair, Arthur Garwood Stuart Delahooke occupying The Chase and Captain William Hulse at The Vicarage. There was also the Estate manager to Whaddon Hall - Leonard Robert Tesch; a military man from 1914 to 1920.

Other notables included haulage contractor Thomas Albert Adams, at May Cottage, who refuelled his truck from an underground tank off the High Street. Others mentioned in Kelly's were Thomas Birch, grocer and Post Office (TN 221), and John Douglas, carpenter to Col Selby-Lowndes. There was also Clarence Jinks, shopkeeper, (TN 226); Harry Haynes, baker and Willian Miller, dairyman. Local farmers included William George King of Pear Tree & Glebe Farm - a name we will return to. Other farmers included Thomas Bennett, Snr, of Barn Hill Farm - the only local farm to exceed 150 acres; Thomas Bennett, Jnr, of Bottle House; Ernest Peverill; Albert Reynolds; Leslie Owen Smith; John Taylor; Mrs Jane Tofield; Harold Ward and Harry Willett. Herbert Nicholson, Whaddon Hall's gardener, lived at No 5 Gardener's Cottage. In 1931, George Richard Jones and his wife Florence (Florrie) Rose, occupied the property.

So where was Snelsor Lodge then? I don't know! And Google also yields nothing on Snelsor. I do know however, that Alfred and Sarah Ann Capel lived at Snelsor Lodge from 1911 to 1918. The Capels were another of Whaddon's long-established families. In 1921, Alfred, 63, was an agricultural labourer employed by the Colonel. Maybe he had been for many years. By then, Sarah Ann was 53, and daughter Nellie, 23. In 1919, however, both Alfred and Sarah were at Old Lands (where was that?); whereas by 1946 Alfred enjoyed accommodation in the Stratford Road. He died in 1949, aged 91. Lots of questions.

And Mr Fixit? Michael (Mick) Green ran his car repair and machining workshop from a building behind the Village Hall for 31 years (1972-2003). In 1975, he overcame a refusal for planning permission to construct his workshop, thanks to a village campaign with petitions of 257 names and 103 letters. From his workshop, complete with pit (concealed by railway sleepers) and machine tools, Mick (1937-2015) ran the essential go-to village car repair shop. A modern-day blacksmith. He employed Nigel and David Taylor at different times. Ironically, Mick and his parents lived at Laburnum Cottage (they moved from Bow Brickhill in 1944) like other families before them. Brenda, who worked in the garage too, and Mick married in 1971 and moved to Stratford Road.

George King Enters the Scene

Finally, George King. George, an important local farmer, lived with his mother and smartly dressed sister, Sylvia. Following the death of his mother Caroline "Carry" King however, George gradually went to pieces. He was no longer the smart George King of old.

One day, looking more like an unhygienic ruffian, a dishevel

ed and unwelcome George King ambled into The Lowndes Arms; weariness and vulnerability etched on his face.

He clutched a small bag, tied tightly at the top. He said to the landlord (and anyone within earshot) with a touch of emotion in his voice, a quiver on his lips as if the past was about to suddenly unfold in front of him: "I'll bet you haven't seen anything like this." After struggling with the knot, George eventually opened the bag and emptied its contents onto a large, brass plate on the bar counter. It was as if George King was trying to redeem himself. Prove himself.

Out tumbled solid gold gleaming sovereigns, and half sovereigns - King George V coins. (George V reigned from 1910 to 1936.) In all, there were 16 sovereigns and 22 half-sovereigns. A tantalising sight. Some present might have speculated as to their origin. However, more than likely many of the coins would have been passed to George from his father and grandfather; both lived when sovereigns were (before the start of WW1) the bespoke legal tender of farming life. A sign of self-generated wealth.

Later, in his declining months at Pear Tree Farm, George received many visitors offering words of comfort and support. He passed away in April 1973. With half sovereigns worth £880 each and sovereigns £1,100 each, the contents of that bag might now be worth £36,000. It is understood the gold coins were never found. I wonder what happened to them?

All of the foregoing really is just a counterpane beneath which Whaddon's 'real life' quietly snuggled and gradually unfurled.

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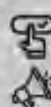
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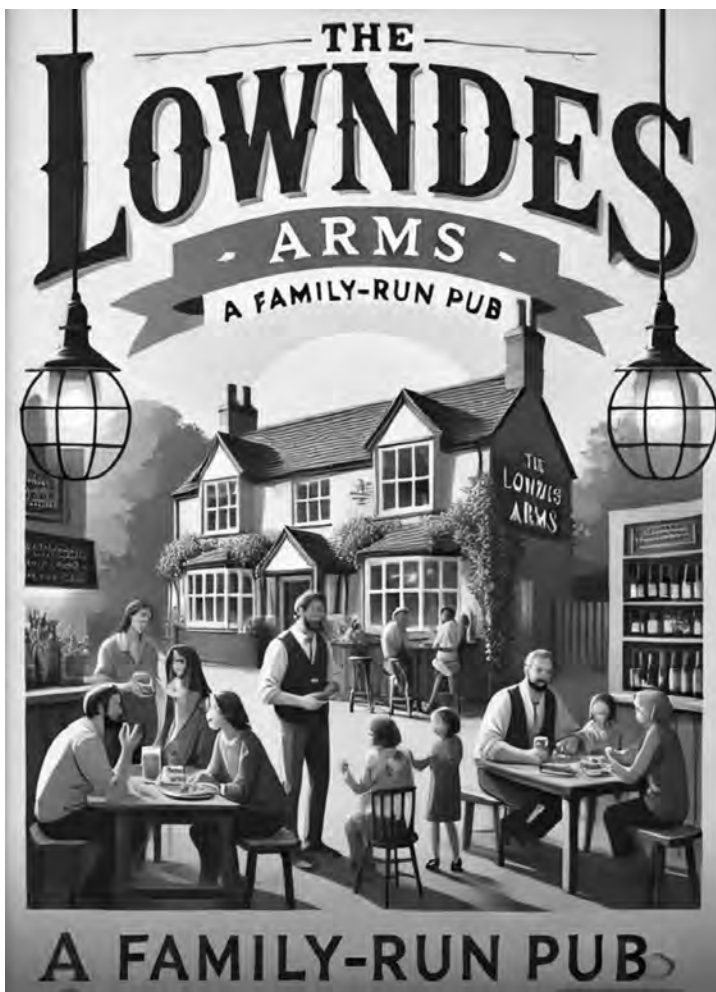
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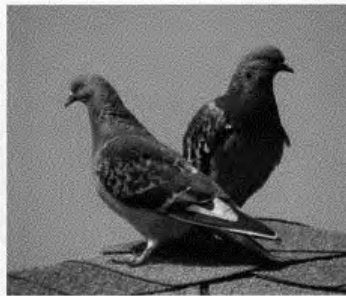
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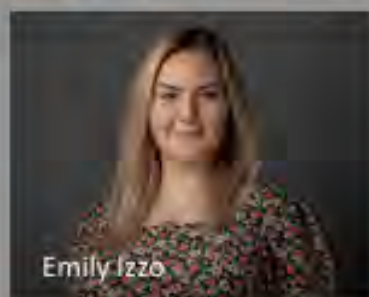
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What's On in Whaddon?

2026 Dates for Your Diary

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

THU 21st MAY: Annual Parish Meeting at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

FRI 22nd MAY: Quiz at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

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

MON 15th JUN: On Safari with Chase Choir at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

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.

WED 15th JUL: We Buy Vintage Roadshow at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

WED 12th AUG: Whaddon Summer Event at the Recreation Ground 1.30-3.30pm.

THU 13th AUG: Whaddon Parish Council Meeting at The Chapel, Stock Lane.

SAT 15th AUG: Karaoke and Open Mic Night at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

FRI 18th SEP: Annual Beer Pong Tournament at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

FRI 9th OCT: Quiz at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

FRI 13th NOV: Soiree Fromage & Vin at Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

SUN 22nd NOV: "The Magic Bus" Jolly to see Xmas Lights in London.

28th or 29th NOV: St Mary's Church Christmas Fayre in Whaddon Jubilee Hall (Date TBC).

FRI 5th DEC: Christmas Tree Lighting and Social Event 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 AFTERNOONS: 1.30-3.30pm Post Office in Whaddon Jubilee Hall.

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 Night-Owls 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