

Pupils join in litter fight

When the Parish Council asked Mrs Brearley, head teacher of Willingham Primary School, if pupils could be encouraged to join the Council's battle against litter in the streets of Willingham, her reply was an enthusiastic yes.

The Council decided to run a competition in the school, for a poster which could be displayed around the village. In the event, 15 posters were submitted (some designed by individuals, some by groups). They were of a high standard.

The winning poster was designed and made by Emma Goodson, and readers of the magazine will see it displayed in the village. The runnersup were Robbie Hunter and Laura Cornwell.

The message is clear: if you want a clean village, don't drop litter in the streets. The Council is doing what it can to keep the village clean. Do take the message of the poster seriously.



Pictured above: The winning poster for the Litter Competition created by Emma Goodson.

Season's Greetings to all our readers

December 2006



One of our robins photographed by one of our readers.

The next issue: Please send material to the following email address: *willinghamnews@yahoo.co.uk*, and, if possible, send your copy as an email attachment NOT incorporated into the email. Please do NOT re-size any photos sent with emails. Paper copy may be left at the library. Please note that the deadline is 10 December.

Advertising queries: Please email advertswillinghamews@yahoo.co.uk









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MEMBERS ONLY WILLINGHAM SOCIAL CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CASH BINGO – 2ND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH ALL WELCOME

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY – SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 12.00-2.00 £2 PER CHILD INCLUDES DRINK, CAKE AND A VISIT FOR FATHER CHRISTMAS. MAX 40 TICKET ONLY ALL WELCOME

CHRISTMAS DISCO – SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER 8.00PM £5 PER PERSON, OVER 18'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS ONLY

NEW YEARS EVE DISCO – SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 8.00PM £7.50 PER PERSON, OVER 18'S MEMBER AND GUESTS ONLY

PLEASE CONTACT SARAH HART ON 01954 204260 FOR TICKETS.

From the Parish Council

Parish Council changes

At the Parish Council meeting on 1 November, Mrs Kirsty Cornwell was co-opted to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr Cook. Mrs Auger has now also resigned from the Council due to pressure of work. As these notes are being written, we are in a period of 14 working days' notice, during which 10 parishioners can ask the District Council for an election to be called to fill the vacancy. This period ended on 27 November, after which if no election has been requested, the Parish Council will be looking for a further co-option. Either way, for up to date information please refer to the Parish Council notice board outside the Public Hall, and the notice board in the Library lobby.

Youth Council

The Parish Council was very pleased to welcome two representatives from the new Willingham Youth Council to its meeting in November. There will now be a regular slot on Parish Council agendas for the Youth Council. In the next few months, with the Parish Council's support, they will be carrying out a survey to find out what is needed for young people in the village.

More rubbish news

The Parish Council has agreed for the weekly litter-pick on the village streets to be extended to include George Street and the High Street. After an unavoidable delay, which the Council regrets, the replacement litter and dog waste bins are now being installed around the village, and hopefully this will have been completed by the time you read these notes.



Dog waste on the pavements continues to be a very unpleasant problem. IF YOU OWN A DOG, PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW IT TO FOUL THE PAVEMENTS. If you would not like to step in dog mess,

please don't leave it for anyone else to do so.

Several more people have been fined for fly-tipping in the Co-op car park.

Pavilion news

Willingham Sports Council is working in conjunction with the Parish Council to obtain funding for a scheme for major refurbishments to the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground.

Cemetery matters

Please would everyone using the cemetery ensure that they leave the gates closed, especially the double gates. There have been problems when the gates have been left open, and unauthorised vehicles have put pedestrian visitors to the cemetery at risk.

The Parish Council is shortly to carry out its annual topple-test of the memorial stones. This is a legal requirement for safety and insurance purposes. Any memorial stone which is found to be insecure will have to be marked with warning tape or laid flat, and the relatives will be contacted as soon possible. No offence is intended to anybody with a relative buried in the cemetery, and the Council is sure that nobody would wish other visitors to the cemetery to be put in any danger from stones at risk of falling.

Parish Council Office opening hours

The Office opening hours will change from the beginning of December. From 1 December the Office will be open on Monday afternoons from 1 30 to 4 30pm, and on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to 12 noon.

Over the Christmas and New Year period the Office will be open on Friday 22 December, but will then not be open again till Wednesday 3 January.

December Parish Council meeting

The December Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 6 December at 7 30pm, in Willingham School. The agenda will be posted on Friday 1 December on the Village Notice Board outside the Public Hall, and in the Library. As usual, there will be a slot in the meeting for members of the public to address the Council on any matters (whether on the agenda or not) which concern them.

Other Parish Council meeting dates:

11 December	Finance & General Purposes Committee			
3 January	Parish Council			
15 January	nuary Green & Boundaries Committee			
16 January	Cemetery Committee			
22 January	Leisure & Amenities Committee			
7 February	Parish Council			
-11 -+				

- all at 7 30pm unless otherwise stated. Committee meetings all at the Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall; Council meetings at the Primary School, Thodays Close. Check the Parish notice board at the Public Hall, and the Library notice board, for agendas and any alterations to dates.

And as usual, Minutes of all meetings will be placed in the Library once they have been signed as accurate.

<u>Parish Council Office</u> Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP.

Tel. 01954-261027 E-mail <u>email@willinghampc.org.uk</u>. The Office is open on Monday afternoons from 1 30 to 4 30pm, and Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to 12 noon. Appointments can be made by calling the Office. There is an answerphone outside office hours, and the Clerk undertakes to return any calls as quickly as possible.

solution to puzzle on page 9

Across: 1 Mistletoe, 8 Robin, 9 Present, 10 Set point, 11 Afar, 13 Locust, 14 Dasher, 16 Tier, 17 Oddities, 19 Braille, 20 Lohan, 21 Energetic. Down: 1 Mongoose, 2 Supine, 3 Leek, 4 Twelfth night, 5

Enterprising, 6 Trestle-table, 7 Obstacle race, 12 Cadillac, 15 Advent, 18 Blog.

Jottings from your County Councillor



Work is about to begin on a refurbished and redesigned Central Library for Cambridgeshire. This is the biggest and boldest library development undertaken by

Cambridgeshire County Council for many years. The development involves the complete rebuilding of the interior of the current library building in Lion Yard, and the creation of a new state of the art Library. It is expected to open in Spring 2008 to include a large, bright children's area; a modern, vibrant teenage area; toilet and baby-change facilities; comfortable seating and quiet study spaces in well lit surroundings; space for talks, exhibitions and events; updated and improved stock and enhanced IT and learning facilities.

After thirty years service the current building is in urgent need of refurbishment and the development of the Grand Arcade retail complex, immediately adjacent to the library, has provided a fantastic opportunity to carry this out. By taking advantage of financial contributions from the developers we will be able to create a new £7 million Library with the Council Tax payers of Cambridgeshire contributing only 50% of the cost. The scale of the building work is massive, stripping out the inside of the library at Lion Yard, demolishing some areas and rebuilding others. To do this work the building will be closed from early 2007 to Spring 2008 but during this period the services in other Libraries around Cambridge will be expanded to ensure services to the public are maintained. A full range of lending, learning and information services, enhanced online services and core local studies provision will be maintained by providing more stock, more staff, and longer opening hours (including Sunday opening) at Cambridge city and area branches

The unique resources of the Cambridgeshire Collection will be accessible from Milton Road Library, in the city. Customers of this renowned local studies collection will have study facilities and access to the most heavily used resources of the collection, either immediately or by ordering in advance.

The library service already offers a superb range of on-line information services that can be accessed from home and workplaces, and these will be backed up with a telephone information service. Our online service can be found at http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/ libraries

There is also a library in Willingham with a good range of books and other services and varied opening hours – again details can be found on the Cambridgeshire County Council website.

I accept that the work at the central library is bound to cause some inconvenience, but I hope that you will understand that the work is long overdue and that the end result will be worth waiting for. In the meantime, library staff look forward to serving you through our network of branches and mobile libraries! For further information or to comment on the Central Library project call 0845 045 5225 or email new.centrallibrary@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

In the meantime I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

I am always available for consultation, either in person or by phone, letter or e-mail. I can be reached at the address or telephone number below.

Shona Johnstone

Highfield, 5 Lowburyholme Road, Over, CB24 5NP Tel: 01954 230565

e-mail: shona.johnstone@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Charity lunch

The charity lunch, postponed from 4 November, will now be held on Saturday 2 December at the home of Alan and Amy Robinson at 15A High Street at 1pm. The lunch, which costs \pounds_3 , will consist of a choice of soups, bread, and cheeses, etc. This meeting will be the last this financial year and the proceeds will be donated to The East Anglia Air Ambulance Service. At this meeting, we shall decide which charity to support during 2007, so please come along and make your

views known. This is a social occasion which is a good opportunity to make new friends. Please ring 261076 for any further information.



WEA WILLINGHAM TEN WEEK COURSE ON THE AGE OF IMPROVEMENT

Social reform under Queen Victoria – how life got better in health, housing, education, factories, etc

TUTOR: MARY DICKEN

MONDAYS 10.00 a.m. - 11.45 a.m. STARTING 8TH JANUARY 2007

AT THE TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH HALL GEORGE STREET, WILLINGHAM

FEE: £40.00 (concessions £28.00, those in receipt of benefits: no charge)

Enrol at the first session, or contact Jacqueline Hodkinson - 01954 201816

For details of courses elsewhere in Cambridgeshire contact Sue Young, WEA County Organizer, 01480 455080 Charity Registration Number: 1112775

Willingham Medical Practice

52 Long Lane, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LB

Reception Tel: 01954 260230 Dispensary Tel: 01954 260073

Longstanton Branch Surgery, Magdalene Close, Longstanton. Tel: 01954 207600

Doctors and staff at Willingham Surgery would like to wish all our patients a very Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year

Christmas 2006 Surgery and Pharmacy Opening Hours Mon 18 - Fri 22 December - open as usual Mon 25 December - Christmas Day closed Tues 26 December - Boxing Day - closed Wed 27 - Fri 29 December - open as usual Mon 1 January - New Year's Day - closed Tues 2 January - open as usual When the surgery is closed please ring the Out of Hours Service CAMDOC on 01223 464242

Pharmacy and Dispensary Order your repeat medication well in advance for the holiday period and please remember we must have **48 working hours notice.** Ask the dispensary staff if you need extra supplies. **The CAMDOC Out of Hours Service cannot issue your repeat medication** so remember to collect them in time. Ask Neil in pharmacy for advice to stock up your medicine cabinet for the holiday

Latest collection time for repeat prescriptions:

Fri 22 December - by 6pm at Willingham Fri 29 December - by 6pm at Willingham Fri 22 December - by 1pm at Longstanton Fri 29 December - by 1pm at Longstanton Christmas Emergency Duty Rotas for Pharmacies and Dentists will be displayed at the surgery front door

Christmas Lucky Squares will again be sold at **£1 each in aid of MAGPAS** available at Willingham and Longstanton Reception Desks. Numerous fantastic prizes are on offer including Christmas Hampers, bottles, and many other goodies donated by staff and patients. Our thanks in advance to all who donate prizes and purchase lucky squares. The draw will be held on Wednesday 20 December to allow time for the winners to collect their prizes before the Christmas holiday.

Flu vaccinations There have been some

delays with supplies nationally this year. Our final delivery arrives on 18 December. If you have not yet had your flu vaccination, you may now ring to make your appointment with the nurse.



Normal opening times The surgery reception and pharmacy at Willingham will no longer close between 4 and 5pm on Wednesday afternoons. **Wednesday opening times will in future be from 2pm-7pm with the usual 5-7pm evening surgery.**

Staff training Willingham surgery will be **closed for staff training between 1pm and 4pm on Friday 8 December.** The pharmacy will remain open from 2-4pm for collection of medicines and there will be a duty doctor on call for emergencies. Ring the reception number 260230 for a recorded message. We hope this will not cause you too much inconvenience. The Friday 4-6pm emergency surgery will run as usual.

Cynthia Bidwell - Practice Manager



Collection Dates

6 DecGreen bin and green box13 DecBlack bin20 DecGreen bin and green box

4 Jan (Thursday)Black bin and green box10 JanBlack bin17 JanGreen bin and green box

Leprosy Mission. Thank you for all the stamps you have sent. We also collect obsolete and foreign coins, and picture postcards. They can all be left in the box at the Parish Church.

Glossy magazines (including *Willingham Parish Magazine*) should be placed in the green box.

Recycle Plastic bearing the recycling symbol and having the initials PET, HDPE or PVC are recyclable at Willingham Co-op car park, or at Tesco, Bar Hill.





Across

- 1 Christmas plant title some get wrong (9) 1 Weasel-like carnivore male can take
- 8 Steal fashionable hood? (5)
- 9 Offer gift (7)
- **10** Arrange location for exciting bit of tennis (3,5)
- 11 Note long distance traversed by three4kings (4)5
- 13 Clouts terribly destructive insect (6)14 Reindeer is a bit left behind as herd moves on (6)
- **16** Join at right level (4)
- 17 Diets I do are represented as eccentricities (8)
- **19** Artist put in invoice (English and print
- for visually impaired) (7)
- **20** Mean girl Lindsay's halo has slipped up to a point (5)
- **21** Greet nice Doctor Strong (9)

Down

- 1 Weasel-like carnivore male can take on large bird (8)
- **2** Lazy having us bring back Christmas tree! (6)
- 3 Student can eke out vegetable (4)
- 4 Last day of Christmas play (7,5)
- **5** Adventurous to get in on first proletarian rebellion (12)
- 6 Time and leisure allowed expert to make temporary worktop (7-5)
- 7 Rebecca lost a strange Sports Day event (8,4)
- **12** Scoundrel has me ring up for flashy car (8)
- 15 Christmas time's coming (6)
- 18 British Library has old key to diary (4)

solution on page 16

Mobile Phone Scam

The police have issued the following warning:

If you receive a phone call on your mobile from any person, saying that, he or she is a company engineer, or telling you that they're checking your mobile line, and you have to press #90 or #09 or any other number, END this call immediately without pressing any numbers. There is a fraud company using a device that once you press #90 or #09 allows them to access your SIM card and make calls at your expense.

South Cambridgeshire District Council has also been made aware of another telephone scam that people should be aware of.

You receive a recorded message when you pick up the phone saying "Hi this is James from the information team. We have a message for you that you will need to retrieve. Please call 0871 208 4195 to retrieve your message".

When you dial this number you are told to press a number to speak to an operator to retrieve your message. You are then placed in a queue telling you that they are sorry all operators are busy but please hold.

BT confirm that this number is registered to a company called TELSTRA Europe Ltd and that calls to that number can be charged at £1 per minute.

It is suspected that you would be holding to speak to the operator for a long time.

This number is not one that would usually make people suspicious. It looks like a local rate call number.

Over Tennis Club

For information on club membership, transport and facilities, please contact Sue Kent on (01954) 202002 or email Sue.kent@cambridgehs.org.uk (Willingham). More information about the club will be provided in our January edition.

Willingham Cricket Club

Willingham Cricket Club are looking for new players plus our already registered players to attend cricket practice at Hills Road Sixth Form Sports Centre on Sunday 3 December between 1pm and 3pm. Any enquiries, please contact Ron Leach (260144) or Richard Ambrose (260446)



Profile: Gordon Spackman

On Feast Sunday each year a Salvation Army band plays on the Green. This regular annual event is the product of months of patient, unobtrusive, behind-the-scenes work by a man who can truly be described as a living Willingham legend.

Gordon Spackman, who will be 85 in January, was born in Willingham, and has lived here all his life, except for four years of war service. When he was 8, his mother died, and four years later his father died. Gordon moved from Mill Road to Berrycroft, to live with his grandparents in the farmhouse which was pulled down many years later when Balland Field was developed. From the age of 9 he worked hard. 'Grandmother was a market gardener', he explains, 'and I pushed a barrow round the village selling fresh vegetables each week until I left school at 14. I took 30 shillings a week' – a sum which represented an average week's pay for a man.

Many young men, of course, served in the forces during the second world war, and many others were called up to work in the mines – later becoming known as Bevin boys, after Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour. Gordon was most unusual in doing both. In 1943, keen to join the RAF, he was told there were no places, and was sent to a mine near Doncaster. No arrangements were made for accommodation and he had to find his own – with a Salvation Army family. (Gordon had joined the SA in 1937, becoming a bandsman in 1938.)

A week before Christmas 1945, after a medical test, he was told his mining service was over. He was sent to Sheffield for another medical – and passed A1. On 9 January 1946 he was in the RAF, and served in the RAF police until 1947. He met Edna, a Stowmarket girl, during his basic training. They married in 1948.

Like many Willingham people, Gordon grew fruit and flowers, first working for his uncle, then on his own land. It had no water supply, and he had to fetch water from the pump on the Green. 'I could pump 200 gallons in eight minutes', he recalls. For many years, water played a big part in his life, because during the 1950s he ran the pumping station on the river bank beside Earith Road, installed to drain 1100 acres of land. He was paid £40 a year. The pumping station is no longer used.

In 1960 Gordon moved back to Berrycroft with Edna, and their son Alan, born in 1954, who now lives in Earith. Gordon still grows vegetables in his large and well-organised garden, but in 1960 he went to work next door - at the Berrycroft Stores. He ran their machinery shop (no longer operating) for 27 years, and many Willingham people recall the skill and care with which he repaired their mowers.

The truly distinguishing characteristic of Gordon Spackman, however, is his remarkable record of public service. For 30 years, for example, he served on the Parish Council. 'We had our meetings at the back of the Public Hall', he reminisces.

Above all is his dedicated work with the Salvation Army. He became Corps Sergeant Major in 1948, and his nearly 60 years in that role is probably a record. Before the war he began visiting pubs in Longstanton, Fen Stanton, Fen Drayton, Swavesey and Over on Friday evenings, distributing the Salvation Army's paper *The War Cry*. He is still doing it. And for the past 46 years he has visited pubs in St Ives on Saturday evenings, for the same purpose. Many people in St Ives, as in Willingham, see him as a living legend.

His involvement in organising Feast Sunday, he remarks with a wry smile 'has gone on from time immemorial'. For the past 30 years, he has played the last post at Remembrance Day services in the parish church. It was Gordon who made the last speech on the steps of the old Salvation Army hall in Long Lane in 1969, at the time of

the move to the present building.

Gordon Spackman is an unassuming man. He does not dwell on the difficulties he must have faced as a boy who lost both his parents when he was still a child. He has always worked hard, and still does, and very clearly takes pleasure and real satisfaction from everything he does.



Bogus charity

South Cambridgeshire District Council has issued the following alert:

Helpmates Limited - Company no 05780892

This company has recently been investigated by the Trading Standards and Advertising Standards Agency who are currently trying to take legal action against them.

This company was due to collect in Haslingfield early in November, but please be advised that the likelihood is that they have dropped the leaflet in several South Cambridgeshire villages over the last couple of weeks.

They are not licensed, so please do not part with items that could be given to genuine charities.

If you know of any vulnerable groups or neighbourhood watch co-ordinators who may benefit from this information, please pass it on to them.

If you would like to check if a collection to be held in your village is licensed, please contact the Licensing Section on 08450 450 063.

If you receive a leaflet that you suspect may not be legitimate, please report it to the above number.

Pastoral Letter

All I Want For Christmas... I want... I want... I want...

If you're as wrinkly as I'm getting then you'll remember the first time round for the Slade classic Christmas hit, 'So here it is, Merry Christmas, everybody's having fun'. First released in 1973, it was a time when Christmas still seemed like, well, Christmas. For a start Christmas started in December (not August), toys were real toys (Mettoy's Computacar and original Spirograph were favourites from the 1970's) and everything seemed so much more straightforward – oh, bring back the good old days! We seemed to be much more happy with a lot less and a good meal with the family and a game of snap made Christmas Day everything that we could have wanted (having attended church in the morning of course – I'd better not forget that, had I!).

Walking into a local mega-humungous superstore (oh, where was that then Jonathon?!) recently I was handed yet another piece of advertising, this time entitled 'All I want for Christmas...'. Each of the following three pages had the heading 'I want, I want, I want'. Now, I wondered, how on earth do these people know what I want for Christmas? And anyway, everybody was getting the same leaflet, how come everybody wanted the same thing?

Now, before you get the impression that this is a script from the BBC series 'Grumpy Old Men' I'd like to pose you a question: Just what do **YOU** want for Christmas? I have a growing concern that we're getting into a situation where we have to have what the large national chain-stores decide we are going to have. How did this happen, how did we allow 'them' to set our expectations and wants? But there's an issue here - should our Christmas be shaped by what we WANT in materialistic terms? And anyway, Jesus tells us 'to store up our treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' (Matthew chapter 6, verse 20-21). If we were honest I suspect that many of us would happily trade our musical Teflon coated (gravy repellent) ties and mp3 players with built in nasal hair clippers for things that are far more simple and yet so much more meaningful. Things such as love, understanding, giving people time, and some compassion and peace might be good to begin with. Well it just so happens that these things are crucial ingredients of the real Christmas we were meant to have, we just seem to have forgotten, allowed them to be crowded out by the unseen people who tell us what we want.

Well, there you go, something to think about as we approach Christmas again. My hope is pretty much the same as Slade I suppose, that everybody would be having fun this Christmas: that they wouldn't be forgotten, that they wouldn't be lonely, that they wouldn't feel the need to get totally wrecked because life is so empty. Instead my hope is that these words of Jesus whose birth we celebrate would shape our experience of Christmas: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Matthew chapter 22, verses 37-39) If we get this right, who knows what might happen – we might really enjoy Christmas, you might finally get what you really need.

With love and blessings from all the churches in Willingham Revd Jonathon Daniel Pastor, Willingham Baptist Church



Baptist Matters

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 2 December 2006 Our annual Christmas Favre will take place at the Baptist Church in George Street from 10am until 12noon on Saturday 2 December. It's always a great place to get those special Christmas presents but you're also very welcome just to pop in for a cup of tea/coffee and one of those amazing home made mince pies. Any profits we make are given away to charity so, if you want to help us help others, why not come along? Need more information? Phone Leslev Daniel on 01954 261316 or email her at leslev@willinghambaptist.org **Rendezvous Christmas Concert** The annual Christmas

Concert with guest organist, Mr Paul Ingle, and soloist, Dr Hewlett, takes place at the Baptist Church on Monday 18 December at 2 30pm. We will be celebrating Christmas and also paying tribute to the

Events at the Churches

late Mr Keith Hodkinson. This will be followed by festive refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Parish Church

Bubbles Bubbles takes place every Friday during school term time. Bubbles is for pre-school children accompanied by parents or carers. It offers time to meet others and be creative. It is held in the Octagon from 10 30 to 11 45am. **Coffee Stop** Every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11 30 am you are welcome to drop in to the Octagon for coffee or tea and a chat. There is no formality: just walk in. Prayer Workshop Saturday 9 December 10am to 4 00pm, in the church and the Octagon. 'Old Willingham' Calendar Some copies of the calendar are still available. The calendar has a picture for every month, giving a good reminder of the variety of Willingham life as it was. It will make an excellent Christmas present for friends or

family who have moved away from the village and of course for those who are still here! The



calendars cost only £3.75 each. Proceeds are for the Restoration Appeal. To order a calendar, get in touch with Bill Kirkman (260393), or Rosemary Mumford (260934).

Carol Service on Tuesday 19 Dec at 7pm. We invite you to Mulled Wine in the Octagon after the service. We are also pleased to offer transport to the service for the elderly or infirm. Please ring 261225 to arrange.

Salvation Army

Coffee morning every Monday from 10 30am till noon. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday lunch is served at 12 30pm, followed by Friendship Club at 2pm. For details, telephone 260066.

Christmas Sale will be held in the Hall on 2 December from 11am to 1pm.

Willingham Sports Council.... Needs You!

At the recent AGM, Sarah Cowley was re-elected as Treasurer and Helen Fordham re-elected as Secretary, but unfortunately the vacancy for chairman was not filled. Simon Nunn is very kindly standing as acting Chairman but due to a change in his circumstances will not be able to attend all of the meetings.

Most of the time consuming work is completed and WSC expect to forward the portfolio/ business plan and application packs to our funding providers during December.

Our committee is relatively small. We have been meeting at least once a month, but, with most of the hard-work completed, this will now be less often.

It has been brought to our attention that Willingham Wolves cannot progress to a higher status within the Football Association until the pavilion and village sport facilities meet their criteria, and at present they do not. Many village organisations will benefit from a new Pavilion, the Cricket Club, Ladies Hockey, Men's Football and even the Church Duck Race event etc...

If your child plays for Wolves, you are a recreation ground user or you simply have a few hours a month on your hands why not consider joining us, either on the WSC committee or helping Simon with a view to taking his role as Chairman. No special skills are needed just a desire to make a difference. We are a friendly bunch who meet in the Three Tuns, and you would be guaranteed a warm welcome. If you would like more information give Simon a ring on 01954 260656.

Finally.... Thank you to everyone who bought chocolate from the chocoholics range, we sold $\pounds 545$ worth, raising $\pounds 54$ for the pavilion fund.

Churches Together in Willingham and Rampton Services at the Churches during December

ST MARY AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH STREET WILLINGHAM www.willinghamchurch.org

3 Dec

11 00am	Christingle Service		
10 Dec			
8 00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
11 00am	Holy Communion		
17 Dec			
11 00am	Family Praise		
24 Dec			
8 00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
11 00am	Pre-Christmas Service		
3 00pm	Crib Service		
11 30pm	Midnight Communion		
25 Dec			
10 00am	Christmas Day Service		
31 Dec			
11 00am	United Communion at		
	Rampton		

Thursday Praise is a service particularly for those who cannot get to church on Sunday, or who prefer a less traditional service. It takes place on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Parish Church at 8pm. Because of Christmas, in December it will only take place on Thursday 14th. For more information, phone Sue West on 01954 260409.

There is a **prayer meeting** on the first Friday of each month (1 December) – at 8 00am.

For children we now offer activities at all our 11am services. From pre-school upwards **Young Idea** gives children a share in our morning services and time for their own activities. **Caterpillars** crèche is provided for younger children. We also have 'Fidget Bags' for those who would prefer their children to sit with them in church.

If you know of anyone who is ill, or

who for some other reason would like a visit, please let the Rector know (01954 261225).

ALL SAINTS CHURCH HIGH STREET RAMPTON

3 Dec		
9 30 am	Parish Communion	
10 Dec		
4 00 pm	Christingle	
17 Dec		
9 30 am	Parish Communion	
24 Dec		
9 30 am	Parish Communion	
11 30 pm	Midnight Communion	
31 Dec		
11 00am	United Communion with	
	Willingham	

WILLINGHAM TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH GEORGE STREET www.willinghambaptist.org

Please come and join us during December to find out about and celebrate the real Christmas story. A busy Sunday School takes place each week at the same time as the morning service. A crèche is also provided at each of our morning services. Visit our website for more information.

3 Dec	
10am	Revd Jonathon Daniel
	Communion
6pm	Revd Jonathon Daniel
10 Dec	
10am	Revd Jonathon Daniel
6pm	Bob & June Earl
17 Dec	
10am	Revd Jonathon Daniel
6pm	Earith Community Carol

Service, Earith School (no service in Willingham) 24 Dec 10am Sunday School Nativity 6pm Christmas Carol Service – traditional carols in a festive atmosphere followed by tea and mince pies.

25 Dec

10am Christmas Day Celebration! Bring the whole family along for a special time of praise and celebration (finish at 10 50am)

THE SALVATION ARMY SILVER STREET

3 Dec

Kathleen Comley			
Mark and Dawn Anderson			
B/M Bill Matthews			
Mel Gubston			
Norman Gulliver			
To be announced			
24 Dec No meeting			
Christmas Morning Service -			
Ann Dougherty			
B/M Bill Matthews			
To be announced			

Churches Together praying for the people of Willingham and Rampton

In the second full week in each month the Churches in Willingham and Rampton will be praying for the people who live in a particular area of the village. In December this is Pyrethrum Way and Covent Garden.



Christmas Peal

The bells of Willingham Parish Church will be rung from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 16 December.

Churches Together Carol Singing

We will be carol singing around the village on Saturday 23 December. Meeting at the Parish Church at 7pm. Please join us for this celebration of our Saviour's birth

History of the Fen-Edge settlements

1 - From the beginning to the Bronze Age

Before about 3000 BC there were no Fens, and the area was covered in forest. From about 3000 - 700 BC sea levels rose, and what is now known as the Fens was subject to repeated flooding. Marshes formed over a wide area, leading to the formation of the peat deposits which give us the rich black Fen soils of today. As sea levels continued to rise over the centuries, the Fens continued to expand southwards. Within the marshes there were meres (small lakes), including Willingham Mere which was open water until beyond the end of the Middle Ages. People settled on the edge of the Fen and on islands within it, as well as in the river valleys within the higher ground to the south. It was a rich habitat, supporting fish, eels, wildfowl, mammals like beaver, and providing turf and reeds for fuel and building, and pastures which were flooded in winter but dry enough in the summer to graze sheep and cattle. This lifestyle prevailed until the Fens were drained, and it seems to have had its attractions (at least to those looking in from the outside): in the 17th century John Layer disdainfully described one of the Fen-Edge villages (Waterbeach!), as "having large and spacious commons and marish grounds as most of the Fen towns have, which is the cause that a multitude of poor and meane people do resort and inhabit there, to live an easy and idle life, by Fishing, Fowling, and Feeding of Cattle".

There is no evidence of actual settlement of the area before the Bronze Age. That is not necessarily to say that it did not exist. Before the Neolithic period, people's lifestyle would have been nomadic or semi-nomadic as they hunted in the forest and fished in the rivers. The only evidence would be the odd arrow-head or, if we were really lucky, waterlogged preserved wood. However, in the Fen these would be buried well below the peat, and so any discovery would be fortuitous (and fortunate). The Neolithic period saw – indeed is partly defined by – the arrival in Britain of agriculture and the more settled lifestyle which goes with it. In the Fen and on the Fen edge, many Neolithic ("New Stone Age") polished stone axes have been found below the peat, indicating that people were using the forest for timber, perhaps rather than actually living there. So far no evidence of more substantial structures - such as the burial chambers and "henges" (sacred stone or wooden circles) familiar from other parts of the country - has been found. In this area, if they existed they would most likely have been of wood, and so not to have survived unless by a lucky chance (like "Seahenge" found between the tides on the north Norfolk coast a few years ago).

During the Bronze Age (roughly from 2000-700 BC) there is widespread evidence across Britain of contact (both by trade and immigration) with the European mainland. The Icknield Way, an ancient trackway linking the rich Bronze Age culture of Wessex with the major flint mining area of Thetford Forest, passes along the south-eastern border of Cambridgeshire, and this would have had economic and political spin-offs for the adjacent countryside. Of our Fen-Edge villages, Cottenham, Waterbeach and Willingham show some evidence of settlement during the Bronze Age.

Next month we move on to the Iron Age and Roman periods, when we start to see more substantial evidence of settlement on the Fen edge including Willingham.

With grateful acknowledgements for most of this information to:

Alison Taylor, Archaeology of Cambridgeshire Vol. 2: SE Cambridgeshire & the Fen Edge, 1998, publ. Cambs. County Council, ISBN 1 870724 84 4

Chris Couchman

Willingham Gardening Club

Meetings are on the first Monday of each month at the Willingham Social Club, Fen End and start at 7 30pm. There is usually a speaker on a subject of interest to gardeners and plant lovers. Meetings on average last about one and a half hours. There is a plant raffle and tea and coffee are served.

The Club welcomes new members and you are assured of a warm welcome. We are a group of ordinary folk with an interest in plants and gardening. We are pleased to report that a number of new members have joined the Club in recent weeks. If you are a plant lover/enthusiast or just want to see whether you could become interested, come and join us for our monthly meetings. Contact Celia on 261394 or just turn up to a meeting to join.

Christmas Party – 4 December A meal will be served which is free to members and at a cost of \pounds 5 per head to guests. There will also be a speaker. Members who have not yet collected their tickets please do so from Celia by arrangement with her.

Club coach trips The programme for 2006 has ended but a new programme for 2007 will be published in this magazine in due course. The trips will be available to both members and non-members. Some exciting venues are under consideration for the new season which is likely to start in May 2007.

Seasons Greetings The Chairman and other members of the Committee of the Club wish all fellow members and others who have supported us during the last year a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

Charity Ball Over Community Centre 2 September



"Boogie Nights" helped us to dance my vocation in life - ONLY JOKING!) the night away and the food was by Ian Fordham and all my gang of lovely girls. THANK YOU, Kelly

Braybrooke, Amy Foreman, Helen Hines, Steph Coe and Laura Brown.

The chocolate fountains kept us supplied with lovely chocolate all night. There was some left over – but it's all mine!!

We raised £3,520 which I have decided to share between Breast Cancer Research UK in the sum of £3.000 and £520 to MAGPAS the charity that supports Willingham 1st Responders.

The sponsors whom I have listed below are friends and relatives; they very kindly donated cash and raffle prizes to make it a successful evening - thank you once again. If anyone out there needs a wedding planner or Anne Clews

What a great night we had! The band surprise party organized let me know (I think I have met

I would also like to thank Sally Halsey, a great friend mouthwateringly prepared and served and helper during the day and evening, and also Tony too. The decorating girls (Sandra Carter, Sue Foreman, Lay Borland) also great friends and who helped all day. A special mention to Claire Mumford who did a wonderful job with the invitations and she managed to keep smiling whilst doing it! Great to see her and Mark at the do.

> Thank you to all the 150 people who brought ball tickets, purchased photos of the evening and raffle tickets. You were a great bunch and also very generous. One last special mention goes to Carol Uttridge from Over Surgery who would have won first prize (if there had been one) for selling the most tickets. Well done Hope to see you all again when we do it one and all. all again, next year.

Finds Day

Over 90 people came to the "Finds Day" organised by Friends of Willingham Library.

Quinton Carroll, Cambridgeshire County Council's Principal Archaeologist, came along to identify the items that had been found in our area. Amongst these were several important finds – including a Roman coin, a 14th Century pot, and several pieces possibly from a Roman These finds will be reported on the County villa. Council Archaeology database.

It was a very successful, interesting and informative event enjoyed by all who attended.

Women's Institute

WI Annual Quiz

The WI Annual Quiz will be held on Friday 26 January at 7 30pm in the Social Club. Teams of between 4-6 people will be required to take part. The price will be £6.50 per person to include a fish and chip supper.

Tickets in advance from: Rita 01954 203742 or Gill 01954 201989 The next WI meeting will

be held on Monday 12 December at 7 30pm in the Social Club.

This will be our annual Christmas Party. Members only.





The Over Players present Babes in the Wood

at The Community Centre, The Doles, Over 13 14 15 December 7 30pm Saturday 16 December 2 pm and 8 pm Adults £7, Children £4, Senior Citizens £5, Family ticket ± 20 (2 adults + 2 children). Contact the Box Office 01954 230056 Julia Warren 23 Long Furlong, Over CB4 5PG E mail Booking@overplayers.org.uk. www.overplayers.org.ukthe Wood

Village Diary

we are exchanging some dates with Over, we hope to mutually benefit

MONTH	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	TICKETS/INFO	
December					
2	Charity Lunch		15A High Street	1pm - 261076	
2	Christmas Fayre	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	10am-12noon Lesley Daniel 261316	
2	Christmas Sale	Salvation Army	Silver Street	11am-1pm	
4 Cricket practice		Willingham Cricket Club	Hills Road 6th Form Sports Centre	01	
4	Christmas Party	Willingham Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30pm	
6 Meeting		Parish Council	Willingham Primary School		
7.8&9	Jack & the Beanstalk	WAMADS	Ploughman Hall	Detail s & Box Office: 01954 261076	
10	Deadline for magazine				
11	Christmas Party	WI	Social Club	7 30pm	
13-16	Babes in the Wood	Over Players	Over Community Centre	See advert	
16	Christmas Peal	Parish Church	10am-1pm		
18	Rendezvous Christmas Concert	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	2 30pm	
19	Carol Service	Parish Church	Parish Church	7pm	
23	Carol singing	Churches Together	Parish Church	7 30pm	
January					
1	NO MEETING	Willingham Gardening Club			
26	Annual Quiz	WI	Social Club	7 30pm Rita 203742 Gill 201989	

Opportunity for local Artist

Willingham Parish Council is seeking to commission an artist to produce an exciting new public artwork in the village. The opportunity has been made possible because of a new housing development being built off Willingham High Street. The developers of the site have committed funds to support this project in line with the District Council Public Art Policy.

The appointed artist will create and install a piece of artwork which will impact on the street-scape of the

village. Applicants should have experience in delivering public art commissions, be able to engage the local community, and have an ability to deliver a commission on time and within budget.

Expressions of interest should be received by 26 January 2007. The project aims to start in April 2007 and be complete in December 2007. The budget for this commission is £20,000 (including all fees, fabrication and installation costs).

For further information or a copy of the artist's brief please contact Amy Wormald, Arts Development Manager, on 07753 836507 or amy@cottenhamvc.org.uk

Village Directory

		0	/	
Council	Parish Council			01954 261027
	Parish Council Chairman		Mrs P Daniels	01954 260505
	Planning Committee Chairn	nan	Mr P King	01954 260780
	County Councillor		Mrs S Johnstone	01954 230565
	District Councillor		Mr R Manning	01954 261235
	District Councillor		Mr B R Burling	01954 230168
	District Councillor		Mrs P S Corney	01954 213221
Services	Police			0845 456 4564
	Surgery			01954 260230
	Dispensary for repeat presc	ription requests		01954 260073
	Pharmacy			01954 261787
	Over Surgery			01954 231550
	CAMDOC –After hours med	lical help		01223 464242
Schools	Primary School			01954 283030
	Cottenham Village College			01954 288944
	School Governors Chairman	L	Dr N A Walton	01954 202185
	School Association		c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust		Mrs L Blunt	01954 261309
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts		Mrs M Dellar	01954 260045
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-	-time only)		01954 201567
	Tigger Toddlers	·	Mrs W Leaney	01954 201089
	Old Buttery Nursery School			01954 260046
	Teeny Babies		Anita	07830 244742
	2nd Brownies		Mrs J Catley	01954 202543
	Willingham Guides and Seni	ior Section	Nat Bignell	01487 843835
	Geoff Bailey Dancers		Mr G Bailey	01954 260233
	Ladybird Borland's School C)f Dance	Mrs L Borland	01954 203347
	Bubbles		Mrs J Dean	01223 575698
	Bumps and Babies Group		Mrs L Daniel	01954 261316
	TOPS (Baptist Church Todd)	lers Group)	Mrs L Daniel	01954 261316
Halls	Ploughman Hall Chairman		Mr J Anderson	01954 203344
	Ploughman Hall Bookings			07941 190849
	Wilford Furlong Centre			01954 261445
	The Octagon		Mrs A Robinson	01954 261076
	Billavincea Lodge 8719		Mr M Scrivener	01480 413533
	Fen Edge Community Associ		Mr G Redhead	01954 288944
	Cambridge Evening News Co		VACANCY	
	Workers' Educational Associ		Mrs J Hodkinson	01954 201816
	Willingham Combined Chari	ity	Mrs J Ambrose	01954 260446
Clubs	Gardening Club		Mr T Halsey	01954 201910
	Social Club		Mrs S Hart	01954 204260
	WAMADS Drama Group		Mrs C Deeth (Secretary)	07896 322497
			Mrs J Farrar	01954 200515
	Women's Institute		Mrs R S Slater	01954 203742
	Women's Royal British Legic)n	Mrs M Few	01954 260124
Sport	Willingham Wolves (Boys &	Girls Football)	Claire Few	01954 203001
-	Football Club		Mr Alex Howard	01954 260734
	Cricket Club		Mr R Ambrose	01954 260446
	Hockey		Kris Westmore	01954 202082
	Badminton		Mr J Fuggle	01954 260478
	Keep Fit		Mrs M Fowler	01954 260496
	Step Aerobics		Ms E Weatherill	01954 205439
	Bowls Club		Mrs E Halksworth	01954 201830
Churches	5	ector	Rev. Geoffrey Turner	01954 261225
		ranch Leader	Mrs S Hayden	01954 260363
	*	inister	Rev. Jonathon Daniel	01954 261316
	Methodist Cl	hurch Minister	Rev. Cynthia Hardiman	01954 250242
		riest	Monsignor Rogers	01223 350787
	Salvation Army		Major and Mrs B Willson	01223 248351
		Page 17		

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December 2006

Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library 0845 0455225



Library Opening Times

Monday	6 00 pm	-	8 00 pm
Tuesday	3 00 pm	-	5 30 pm
	6 00 pm	-	8 oo pm
Wednesday	Closed		
Thursday	3 00 pm	-	5 30 pm
	6 00 pm	-	8 00 pm
Friday	11 00 am	-	1 00 pm
	3 00 pm	-	5 30 pm
Saturday	10 00 am	-	12 30 pm

Christmas Opening

Willingham library will be shut on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 December and Monday 1 January.

On Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December it will close at the slightly earlier time of 5 00 pm

Found – a Tele-tubbie

A large furry yellow Tele-tubbie has been found near the Public Hall. If this is your precious friend, please ring Jon on 205739

Letters to the Editor

I would like to say how much improved the Magazine is over the Newsletter of old.

Regards

Gary Mitchley

Thank you on behalf of all those concerned with the funding, production and circulation of your magazine

We are going to need someone to take on magazine distribution to the 78 homes in Saxon Way early next year. Would anybody able to help please contact me on 260780 or email philkng@aol.com.

Phil King







(Left to right, standing): Sara Rand, Dewi Pilsworth, John Hunter, Dean Hawes, Sensei Nicholas Adamou, Steve Austin, Jeff Rand(Left to right, kneeling): Jason Hunter, Charlie Bailey, Chris Schmorleiz, and John Clark.

Grading Successes at Local Karate Club

On 26 October, the Fudoshin Karate Club (www.fudoshinkarate.co.uk), run by Sensei Steve Austin (5th Dan), which meets at Cottenham Village College every Thursday evening, was honoured by a visit of Sensei Nicholas Adamou (8th Dan).

Sensei Adamou who is chief instructor of the International Association of Shotokan Karate (IASK), had agreed to oversee the grading examinations of more than 20 Fudoshin students, including four junior members from Willingham: Dewi Pilsworth, Dean Hawes, John Hunter and Jason Hunter pictured above with some of the junior members.

We are delighted to report that the hard work put in over the past few months by all four boys resulted in them passing their grading exams, advancing to the next kyu, or grade. Dewi achieved Brown belt (3^{rd} kyu) Dean achieved his Green belt (6^{th} kyu) and both John and Jason advanced to Red belt (8^{th} kyu). It is important to note that they passed their grading despite the pressure of being examined by the most senior examiner in our Association, who, in the past, has failed black belt candidates for not comporting themselves appropriately.

Following this set of gradings, the students will be moving to the intermediate class, with a new beginner's course starting soon on Thursday nights at 6pm in the Gym of Cottenham Village College. The beginner's class is open to anyone aged 11 years upwards.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Sensei Austin by e-mail: course@fudoshinkarate.co.uk or by phone 07988-648028, or alternatively just turn up on the night approximately 15 minutes before the start of the 6pm class.

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