

# WILLINGHAM NEWS



December 2007

*We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas*



**Present.....**

*The 1947 floods? No – the Recreation Ground in October 2007.*

**Future....**

## **Litter campaign continues**

Once again, Willingham Primary School is helping the Parish Council in its campaign against litter. With the encouragement of Mrs Brearley, the Head Teacher, pupils were invited to enter a competition to produce another poster, following the success of last year's competition.

There were 19 entries, all of a high standard. They were judged by Phil King, chair of the Parish Council, and a school governor, and another Parish Councillor, Jim Watson.



The winner was Kalan Thomas, aged 10, whose poster is reproduced here. The joint second prize was won by Jenny Rodgers, aged 7, and Amy Shears, aged 8.

Look out for the 'road sign' – and take notice of what it says!

## **Note to our readers**

In 2008 *Willingham News* will appear with colour on the front and back pages. The deadline for January is 8 December.

**...and past**



## **Willingham – Portrait of a Village**

A booklet containing a selection of articles and profiles from *Willingham News* is available, price £3.99 from Bill Kirkman, 14 George Street. 01954 260393. It will make a good Christmas present for family and friends. Profits will go to a local charity.

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## Histon Mascot



James Welton and Niamh Keady, mascots at the Histon v Altrincham match on 3 November, pictured with Histon captain Adrian Cambridge. They were chosen through the prize draw at the Big Wild Read at Willingham Library.

Tickets are now selling for 'The Hunchback Pantomime of Notre Dame' which will be running at the Ploughman Hall in Willingham on 6, 7 and 8 December. The show is a wonderfully funny take on an old story. It promises to provide everything you have come to expect from a WAMADS panto (oh yes it does) but with even more jokes, even more farce and even more... audience satisfaction. To make sure you don't miss out, please call 01954 260139 to book your seats.

Please contact

**advertiswillinghamnews@yahoo.co.uk** with any advertising queries.

Advertising is sold on an annual basis for an insert into 12 issues beginning in January. We can carry one-off black and white ads during the year, subject to availability of space, at a cost of £35 per issue for 1/4 page black and white ad. Ads should be supplied in advance of the monthly deadline and preferably in pdf format. **Cheques** should be made payable to **Willingham Parish Magazine** before publication and delivered to Jennifer Hulford, 42 Millfield, Willingham. Please send copy to the above email address, or leave at the library.

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The next issue: Please send material to the following email address: [willinghamnews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willinghamnews@yahoo.co.uk), and, if possible, send your copy as an email attachment NOT incorporated into the email. Paper copy can be left at the library. Please note that the deadline is **8 December. Note early date.**

## Police Contacts

The email of our PCSO Domenic Pingerna is [domenic.pingerna@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:domenic.pingerna@cambs.pnn.police.uk)



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## From the Parish Council

### Annual Report 2006-2007

This is a précis of the reports given to the Council's Annual Meeting in May. Readers will be aware of progress since then on some of the items reported.

### The Parish Council and its Committees dealt with the following over the last financial year:-

The **Cemetery Committee** continues to look for a site for a new cemetery, as space is limited in the existing cemetery. They have had two failed attempts to find a new site, and they are currently looking at two further sites. The Committee continues with its work to ensure that current legislation with regard to risk assessment and health and safety is met.



The **Green and Boundaries Committee** has been focused on improvements to the Green, looking at the previous public consultations and are currently working on getting detailed plans prepared which when completed will be available for public consultation as part of the Planning Process.



They are continuing with their role of replacing and providing litter/dog foul bins.

The work of the litter picker has been much appreciated.

Their other concerns have been linked to anti-social behaviour around the seats in the village.

The **Leisure & Amenities Committee** has been working with the Sports Council with regard to improvements to the Pavilion. They have also been working to improve the Ploughman Hall car park.

They are awaiting further quotes for the new play equipment, which will involve new play equipment on the Jubilee Field and the removal of the equipment on the Recreation Ground.

The **Planning Committee** has met more than any other Committee during the year; this is due to the requirement to comment within a set time scale. It has been noted that the number of applications has fallen over the last three years. The Committee has expressed its concern to SCDC with regard to the differences between Parish Council recommendations and SCDC decisions.

The Planning Committee has also been involved in making comments with regard to various development plans, pressing key issues such as greenbelt separation, and improvements to traffic management including the need for a bypass.

The **Public Hall Committee** is responsible for this village amenity. The Public Hall Users consisting of the Scout Group and WAMADS lease the building itself; they are responsible for the inside of the hall including cleaning. The Parish Council continues to be responsible for the exterior.

Finally, the **Finance and General Purposes Committee**, which comprises the Chairmen of the Committees and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the

### Your Parish Councillors and their contact details (in alphabetical order) are:-

<b>Mr J Anderson</b> (Planning Committee Chair)	01954 203344
<b>Mr M Borland</b>	01954 203347
<b>Mr J Burnett</b>	01954 270338
<b>Mrs K Cornwell</b> (Cemetery Committee Chair)	01954 261530
<b>Mrs P Daniels</b> (Council Vice Chair)	01954 260505
<b>Mr P King</b> (Council Chair)	01954 260780
<b>Ms S King</b>	01954 202045
<b>Mr B Kirkman</b> (Green & Boundaries Committee Chair)	01954 260393
<b>Mr R Manning</b> (also Leader of the District Council)	01954 261235
<b>Mr S Mellows</b>	01954 270063
<b>Mrs R Mumford</b> (Public Hall Committee Chair)	01954 260934
<b>Mr G Pake</b>	01954 260534
<b>Mr C Stephens</b>	01954 260396
<b>Mr T Walkden</b>	01954 201722
<b>Mr J Watson</b> (Leisure & Amenities Committee Chair)	01954 200245

Council, has looked at the terms of reference of the Committees and full Council accepted its recommendation. The Committee is also responsible for looking at Insurance and Risk Assessment, and making a recommendation to full Council for its precept for 2007/2008, including setting aside money for the Parish Plan and Youth Council.

### Due to resignations the Council has co-opted three new members during the year.

#### Co-option to the Council

At the November Council meeting, the Parish Council co-opted Mr Mike Borland on to the Council as a replacement for a recent resignation. Mr Borland is already active in the village. The Council looks forward to his input during the rest of the current term of service.

#### Parish Council website

The Parish Council is to have its own website, to be set up shortly. If you are Internet-connected, look out for it, at [www.willingham-pc.org.uk](http://www.willingham-pc.org.uk). Council and Committee agendas and minutes will be posted, together with any consultations or other information on Council matters. For anyone not on the Internet, agendas and consultations will continue to be posted on the Council noticeboard and in the Library, and copies of signed Minutes of meetings will still be available for consultation in the Library.

#### Christmas lights

The Christmas lights are going up on the Green again at the beginning of December – do look out for them.



### **December Parish Council meeting**

The December Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 5 December at 7 30 pm, in Willingham School. The agenda will be posted on Friday 30 November 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.

At the time of writing, only one Committee meeting date has been set for December:-

Monday 17 December      Finance      &      General Purposes Committee.

Watch the Council and Library Noticeboards for details of this and any other Committee meetings which may be called. All meetings apart from full Council meetings are at the Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, unless otherwise advertised; Council meetings at the Primary School, Thodays Close. As usual, Minutes of all meetings will be placed in the Library once they have been signed as accurate.

**Parish Council Office** Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP.

Tel. 01954-261027 E-mail [email@willinghampc.org.uk](mailto:email@willinghampc.org.uk).  
Clerk: Miss Chris Couchman.

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Dawn Spouge

*The Office is open on Monday afternoons from 1 30 to 4 30pm, and Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 00 to 12 noon, except Bank Holidays. 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.*

*The office will be closed from Christmas Eve until 2 January.*

### **TOPPLE TESTING**

The annual Topple Testing has been carried out in the Cemetery and the Committee were very disappointed to have to tape so many memorial stones that failed to have any fixings of the headstone to the base.

This topple testing is in accordance with the Health and Safety Policy the Parish Council has to work to. While no offence is intended the Parish Council is sure that nobody would wish any visitors to the cemetery to be put in danger from a memorial at risk of falling. If you find you are affected by this year's testing please contact your monumental mason.

## **Governor wanted**

The governing body of Willingham Primary School is looking for an enthusiastic member of the community to join the governing body as a community governor from the end of January 2008.

The governing body of the school is made up of people from a variety of backgrounds. The school governors comprise a group of individuals, who are elected, nominated or co-opted and are representative of parents and teachers, the LEA and the local community. School governors work with the Head Teacher and are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the school. Meetings are held once each half term and sub-committees meet in addition to the main committee meetings. You would be appointed for a 4-year term. Due to the current composition of the governing body, we are looking for a member of the community who does not currently, or will not imminently, have children at the school.

Should you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Jo Brearley, the Head Teacher, or Rob Laycock, the Chair of Governors, both of whom can be contacted via the school on 01954 283030.

## **Willingham Parish Plan – latest news**

A celebration of the completion of another successful stage in the creation of the Willingham Parish Plan was held at the Octagon in mid-November. Almost 1000 completed questionnaires, representing more than 60% of the households, had been collected. Over a glass of wine Plan Committee chairman, Geoff Turner, thanked all those responsible.

Data entry has started and as it is analysed it will be put onto the Plan website at [newwillingham.org](http://newwillingham.org) for those interested to see what their fellow villagers think.

The views of local businesses, currently being obtained through the circulation of a short questionnaire, will be included.

The next step is to write the Plan itself, based on the views expressed, and to present it to the Parish, District and County Councils, and Central Government. A summary will be delivered to every household.

An important part of the evening was the prize draw that people filling in their questionnaires were eligible to enter. Those families where the youth questionnaire for 11-18s was also filled in had two chances.

The lucky winners are:

£50 Borders voucher – Diane Melloy

Meal voucher at the Duke of Wellington

Richard & Louise Johnston

Meal voucher at the Royal Palace – Sam Freed

Two bottles of champagne

Janyne Oates and Lee Hill



## Willingham Medical Practice

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### OPENING HOURS CHRISTMAS 2007

<b>17-21 Dec</b>	Normal hours
<b>Sat 22 Dec</b>	CLOSED
<b>Sun 23 Dec</b>	CLOSED
<b>Mon 24 Dec</b>	8 30 am-1 00 pm CLOSED from 1 00 pm
<b>Tues 25 Dec</b>	
<b>Wed 26 Dec</b>	Christmas Day CLOSED
<b>Thurs 27 Dec</b>	Boxing Day CLOSED 8 30 am-1 00 pm CLOSED from 1 00 pm
<b>Fri 28 Dec</b>	8 30 am-1 00 pm 2. 00-6. 00 pm
<b>Sat 29 Dec</b>	CLOSED
<b>Sun 30 Dec</b>	CLOSED
<b>Mon 31 Dec</b>	8 30 am-1 00 pm 2 30-6 00 pm
<b>Tues 1 Jan</b>	New Year's Day CLOSED Wed 2 Jan 8 30 am-1 00 pm 2 00-7 00 pm

**When the surgery is closed please ring CAMDOC on 01223 464242 or you can ring NHS Direct on 0845 4647 for advice only.**

Over surgery will be on call for Willingham surgery patients on the afternoon of Christmas Eve (Mon 24 Dec) so please ring 01954 231550 between 1 00 and 6 00 pm if

you need to see a doctor. Willingham surgery will be on call for Over surgery patients on the afternoon of New Year's Eve (Mon 31 Dec).

**The last date for ordering your repeat prescriptions will be Thursday 20 December before 1 00 pm for collection on Monday 24 December.** Willingham Pharmacy will be open until 6 00 pm on Christmas Eve 24 December but the surgery will be closed from 1 00 pm.

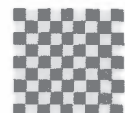
Patients ordering repeat prescriptions late November/early December will be offered 2 months' supply to cover Christmas and New Year. **To prevent wastage please only order those items you need from your repeat medication list.**

**A list of chemists open on bank holidays will be posted on the surgery front door for those who have been issued with a written prescription from a CAMDOC on call doctor.**

**Christmas Lucky Squares £1 each in aid of MAGPAS** - On sale at Reception in Willingham and Longstanton surgery. Fantastic prizes - Christmas hampers, bottles, cuddly toys, chocolates and many others. Please support this local charity when you visit the surgery. Any donations for prizes gratefully accepted. Prizewinners will be notified on Friday 21 December.

Flu vaccinations It's not too late to get your flu vacc so just ring for an appointment.

*Cynthia Bidwell - Practice Manager*



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**Closing date for applications:** 03.12.07

**Contact:** Louise Gamon on 01954 789858 for applications.



## Yuletide greetings !

The sound of Yuletide probably conjures up images of roaring log fires, of cast iron dog-grates in cosily historic interiors, of woolly-hatted, gloved and scarved countryfolk hauling a large tree trunk over frosty grass, of mulled-wine-fuelled sing-songs under lanterns outside wreathed doorways. Yule is reckoned by many to be an old-fashioned name for Christmas, rather like Chrissy and Crimble are now.

But Yule isn't actually Christmas, or New Year. It's the winter solstice – the longest night before the shortest day, December 21. In times before electricity the long dark evenings were a major fact of life affecting everything that everyone could comfortably do both indoors and out. And the weather was colder. Hardly surprising that the biggest and best logs were saved for this time and the embers were never allowed to die out completely.

The fire – the one fire – was the centre of many ordinary peoples' houses. It heated the entire property; it dried all those wet boots and woollens, boiled gallons of water for laundry and washing as well as the pretty copper kettle. It cooked all the meals for everyone including the dog that inevitably slept with its nose almost in the ashes. It provided light.

Trees had to be felled and the timber transported, logs sawn and fetched in to finish drying in the chimney corner, kindling chopped and put ready to use, spills whittled and stood in a pot to light the candles. Ashes had to be taken out to go on the garden and the fireplace and chimney cleaned and swept. In the shortened days it was all go from crack of dawn to early dusk outdoors and in. Animals to be brought in, bedded, mucked out, fed and milked, vegetables and fruit to be dug or gathered and clamped, pickled, dried, jammed, juiced and jarred. So much of this process was dependent on that fire. Bread and cakes had to be baked in a fireside oven and puddings stirred and boiled in pots suspended over it. Meat was butchered and salted, stewed or smoked by hanging it up the chimney. Poultry and game were hung then plucked or skinned. Well-used tools then needed sharpening, cleaning and oiling for store. Winter clothes, boots and bedding might need mending or replacing – all jobs to be done patiently sitting around the fireside light. Rooms needed cleaning while light remained if visitors were expected. With great effort, pre-planning and teamwork the work of three seasons approached completion.

Much much farther back in time, well before the time of Christ, farming was a new lifestyle, a gradual change from total reliance on hunting and gathering to planning and controlling nature, starting with forest clearance by stone axe and fire. No doubt the people who fenced the first animals to breed and cut the first antler-furrows in little garden plots must have seriously wondered if they were doing the right thing by Whatever/Whoever the Powers might be. Would Someone Somewhere curse their audacity with a protracted freeze-up or a windy snowstorm? It was touch and go.

Counting the days and being keenly aware of the turning seasons – understanding what weather and lighting conditions to expect and when and how those animals and plants responded to those changes – was of essential importance in planning for the most productive growing and husbandry. So the midwinter solstice and midsummer's day (June 21) became two critically important days of the year. Between them were

the two equinoxes (equally long 12hr days and nights) in spring on March 21 and on September 21, which, of course were not yet known by these names or numbers. Counting 91 or 92 days as the quarter passed, soon four other quarter dates became key times in the Celtic farming calendar.

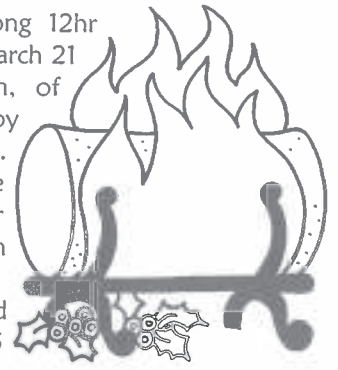
There was Imbolc (pronounced imbulk, and meaning 'in milk') 45 days after Yule in early February marking the start of spring when the ewes came into milk for the lambing season. Then 45 days after the March equinox came Beltane, at the start of May, marking the arrival of summer with ample visual evidence of the successful regeneration of new life and (virtually!) guarantee-able long days and warmth. After midsummer came Lughnassa, the celebration of Lugh (pronounced loo) the sun-god. This time marked the beginning of the harvest and start of autumn. Then, after the autumn equinox in September came Samhain (pronounced samain) and the end of the harvest. This signalled the onset of winter, the time of death in nature, when the seed-harvest had been produced but there was no certainty that it would successfully begin to germinate again.

It was always the night before the big day that the festival was marked if we can trust our folklore. The chill of early winter and the darkened sky made the urgency of preparation for midwinter all the greater and the threat of death to the frail and elderly people and animals a very real and worrying possibility. What to do at Samhain eve but gather the autumn debris, light a gigantic fire and have a party to send a noisy dramatic skyward message – please, please could we have Imbolc return on cue and no disasters fall our way meanwhile.

Fast forward in time – this is our Halloween (the hallowed or holy eve or evening of a supernatural spirit), still a time to consider death, darkness, transforming spirits and all things supernatural and scary. At this time, as for example at Willingham Feast, we still celebrate the harvest and down tools for a day or two. But as this magazine has recently illustrated, our lives generally now are much less dependent on the natural year. Victims of our success we have become alienated from all kinds of roots. The spiritual element in all this long ago was that the harvest and the seed were one and the same, magically transformed by one or more venerated supernatural beings in a never-ending cycle of death-regeneration.

The day after the Samhain fire evening was the old New Year's Day. By Yule, if all those hectic preparations for survival through the worst of winter had been completed, it was time to relax and party – and do it really well – just in case...

Midwinter's darkness became lit with beacons, flares and outdoor fire festivals still happening today in some places. The lights and sounds would guide travellers probably bringing contributions to help events along and gifts to amuse the children. There would be music and Yuletide carolling – singing together while taking part in probably quite boisterously sweaty circle-dances – all round the fire, why not? It was a bit of fun that dramatised the turning circle of the year and brought the whole community and kin together in a bond. Exhausted, they might sit to watch a mumming play, in which characters in outlandish costumes made bawdy



comedy from a traditional tale of the death and subsequent return to life of a folk-hero, assisted by a magically empowered doctor – yet a further reinforcement of the certain return of spring.

Then, surely at some point the great social meal to end them all was cooked and served, thanks to the harvest bounty of good old Mother Earth and the graft of all present. With real ale, scrumpy cider, hedgerow wines, honey mead, fruit cordials and juices it would all be amply washed down

and the conversation would flow equally freely.

If not followed by that bloated, quieter chat, it might be time for silly games with the children and calling on the neighbours before the exhausted little ones were tucked up soundly.

It all sounds strangely familiar...

Cheers! and a Happy Yuletide everyone

Di Pattison

## Letters to the Editor

Michael Sheridan in his letter published in last month's *Willingham News* mentioned (as had a correspondent the previous month) that the cycleway towards Longstanton is rarely used. I use it regularly, and have a suggestion for why it is not used more. It is a pleasure to cycle along, but following its abrupt stop at the old railway track there is a stretch of narrow winding road with no path. I have witnessed many near-misses as I am overtaken on blind bends with a lorry hurtling along in the other direction. I look forward to when it is continued to Longstanton so that it is possible to cycle to Cambridge in reasonable safety, until of course the Guided Busway provides us with an alternative cycle route.

Linda Drath, Church Street, Willingham

On and off for some time, there has been talk of the need for a cycle path between Willingham and Rampton, with safety being the main consideration. Such a path would also serve the purpose to encourage children to cycle to Cottenham, with its inherent health benefits.



My son, aged 14, cycles between Willingham and Cottenham VC weekly, in order to have his bike at the college for triathlon club. Other parents have expressed some surprise at this, and indeed, as the nights draw in, it is something which will need to be reconsidered.



However, the thought crossed my mind, with safety being the major concern, whether an escorted cycling group, along the lines of the 'walking buses' might be a way for the children to be able to cycle to the college in reasonable safety. Such a scheme would perhaps require an adult at each end of the group as escorts. The children could all be issued with hi-viz clothing (a sponsorship opportunity for a local business, perhaps?). If it were possible to establish a group of ten or 20 adults willing to participate, the escort duties need not be too onerous.

I would be interested to hear from other adults whether such a scheme might be a viable means of our children being able to reclaim the roads and add to their physical fitness at the same time.

Joanne K Pilsworth (Mrs)

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

*We are happy to publish these Christmas greetings 'squares' from readers who have decided to send seasonal good wishes to their friends in the village in this way.*

*W.I. COMMITTEE WISH ALL  
PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS  
A VERY HAPPY XMAS*

Anne and Bill Kirkman wish all our Willingham friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz Saxton wishes all her Willingham friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year

David and Sheila Clarke of 14 Earith Road would like to wish our friends, neighbours and work colleagues  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



Jo Bonar wishes all her friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Pastoral Letter

*Trying to write this piece I had the most awful writer's block. I could not think of what to say. That might seem odd because this column can cover almost anything; but that is the problem. How do you decide where to start? For that matter how do you decide how to finish? Which Christian theme from creation to the last judgement do I want to illustrate? Which part of our culture, from quantum mechanics to jam making shall I choose for my illustration? The range is infinite and the choice baffling. I have total freedom and I am paralysed. Actually that is not quite the proper description; I have total uncertainty and I am paralysed. The difference is huge. Humans thrive on freedom. They hate uncertainty.*

*But what is the difference? Both imply a range of possibilities. Why does one summon up the blood and stiffen the sinew, the other produce jangling neurosis? I suppose it is because freedom is actually a much more constrained state. The options are finite. I am free to choose my ends and my ways and means. Uncertainty goes beyond that. The possibilities are infinite and they overwhelm me. I no longer feel in control; I have no power to choose either the route or the destination.*

*Freedom strangely is something you can only enjoy by giving it away. You make your choice and you commit to your path and take the consequences.*

*Our society has thrived on freedom. Indeed you can write our Island history as the gradual emancipation of our people from serfdom to democracy. In that progress our religion has played a central part; just ask Oliver Cromwell. Now we are free, why are we so neurotic? Why are our children reportedly so unhappy? We came bottom in a recent UNICEF poll of industrialised nations.*

*I suspect that the answer is we have passed from freedom to uncertainty. And in the case of youngsters they have to make too many choices too young without enough guidance.*

*We no longer have enough fixed parameters to define what is permissible and what is desirable. Too much comes to us from impersonal sources, government and media and not enough from people we can know and trust: parents and family. Beyond a certain point choice passes over into disorientation.*

*This should not be too big a surprise. Jesus once said, 'You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.' (John 8.31) In our state of spin saturation, and information overload the very idea of truth is under threat.*

*Fredom is a precious gift. Too precious to abuse. 'Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God' (Peter 2.16).*

Geoff Turner  
Rector







## Baptist Matters

**Open Door** Come for coffee ( or tea) and a chat on Thursday mornings in the Baptist Church from 10 00 to 11 30 am. All welcome.



**Bumps and Babies** meets on Thursday mornings from 10 00 to 11 30 am in the rear hall of the Baptist Church during term time. This is a chance for new and expectant parents to meet up for a chat and a coffee while the babies play. Do come along and join us.

**TOPS** meets on Tuesday mornings from 9 45 to 11 15 am in the Baptist Church during term time. This meeting is for children aged 18 months to 3 years, with their parents/carers, for fun activities and refreshments. Please come along and join us.

## 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 at the new times from 10 00 to 11 15 am.

**Coffee Stop** Every Tuesday morning from 10 00 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.

**School Christmas Concert** At the Parish Church - Wednesday 12 December at 6 30 pm.



**Carol Service** St Mary and All Saints Church Tuesday 18 December at 7 00 pm.

**Cake Stall** The December cake stall will be on Saturday 1 December - as usual from 10 00 am.

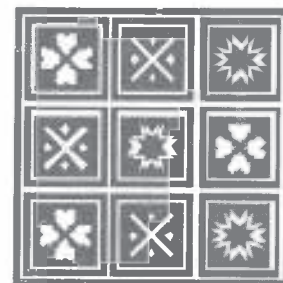
**Bric-a-brac** A reminder: it is worth visiting Rene Gould's bric-a-brac stall at 19 Fen End.

**An attractive Christmas present, *The Wallpaintings of Willingham*.**

The book describes, with full colour plates, the unique range of 34 medieval wallpaintings in Willingham Church. It explains in detail why, how, and when they came to be painted between the 13th and 17th centuries, then preserved under limewash for 350 years, before their subsequent discovery and conservation over the past century. It includes details of the recent conservation work on them. Copies are

available at £4.99 from Alan Fawcitt, tel 204024. All proceeds go towards further conservation work.

**Draw for Quilt** Dr Karen Needham, who lived in the old barn at the Church Street end of Long Lane, was an enthusiastic quilter. She gave a quantity of fabric to the Swavesey-based Meridian Quilters, with a request that they made a donation to church funds. They have now made a quilt, and at their suggestion there will be a draw for it. Tickets are now available from Bill Kirkman, and the draw will take place on Saturday 2 February.



## Salvation Army

**Every Monday** there is a Coffee Morning from 10 30 am to 12 00 noon, and a Craft Meeting at 2 00 pm

**On Thursdays** there is dinner at 12 30, and Friendship Club at 2 00 pm. (For information, telephone 260066).

**On Wednesday 12 December at 7 00 pm :** Pictures of Old Willingham. Everyone is welcome.



**ST MARY AND ALL SAINTS  
CHURCH STREET  
WILLINGHAM**

[www.willinghamchurch.org](http://www.willinghamchurch.org)

**2 December**

11 00 am Parish Communion

**9 December**

8 00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11 00 am Christingle Service

**16 December**

11 00 am Family Communion

**23 December**

8 00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11 00 am All Age Worship

**24 December**

3 00 pm Crib Service

11 30 pm Midnight Communion

**25 December**

10 00 am Christmas Day Service (HC)

**30 December**

11 00 am Parish Communion with  
Rampton

**Thursday Praise** is a service for those who prefer a less traditional service. It will take place on the first Thursday of the month at the Parish Church at 8 00 pm. (In **December: 6th**).

There is a **prayer meeting** on the **last Friday** of each month at 8 00 am (In **December: 28th**).

Children are welcome at all our 11am services. On the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays, for children age 5 to 11 we have 'Power Source' in the Octagon. For younger children there is a crèche. On 2nd and 4th Sundays we have activities in the Church Service. 'Fidget Bags' are available for use in the pews.

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).

**THE SALVATION ARMY  
SILVER STREET**

**2 December**

10 30 am TBA

5 00 pm Major Lewis

**9 December**

10 30 am No service

5 00 pm Major Lewis

**16 December**

10 30 am No service

5 00 pm Major Lewis

**23 December**

10 30 am No service

3 00 pm Carol Service, followed by  
Faith Tea

**30 December**

10 30 am No service

5 00 pm Major Lewis



**WILLINGHAM TABERNACLE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
GEORGE STREET  
[www.willinghambaptist.org](http://www.willinghambaptist.org)**

**2 December**

10 00 am Andrew Wyllie  
(Communion)

6 00 pm TBA

**9 December**

10 00 am Keith Rawlinson

6 00 pm Liz Herrington

**16 December**

9 00 am Liz Herrington

10 45 am Family Service - to be held  
at Primary School

6 00 pm Earith Carol Service at Earith  
Primary School  
(No evening service at  
Willingham)

**23 December**

10 00 am Christmas Celebration with  
the Sunday School

6 00 pm Christmas Carol Service

**25 December**

10 00 am Christmas Morning  
Celebration -  
Keith Rawlinson

**30 December**

10 00 am Keith Rawlinson  
(Communion)

6 00 pm Prayer Focus

Any enquiries please contact Hilary  
Wyllie (Church Secretary). Tel. 01954  
260051.

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
HIGH STREET  
RAMPTON**

**2 December**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**9 December**

4 00 pm Christingle Service

**16 December**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**23 December**

4 00 pm Carol Service

**24 December**

11 30 pm Midnight Communion

**30 December**

9 30 am Parish Communion at  
Willingham

**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.



### Ladies Hockey

Willingham hockey club is looking for new players to play each Saturday morning



We meet on the Recreation Ground at 10am

If you would like to play in a relaxed and fun game & are aged 18 years and over please call Kris for more details

01954 202082

### WEA Willingham

The next course, of ten sessions, is 'East Anglian Rural Life through the Centuries, - Rural life through the eyes of those that live it. Work, play, food, drink, sickness and health. Belief, superstitions and habit. The rules of life, and much more.

Tutor - Brian Jones. Fee: £40 (full), £34 (discounted) and free to those on certain benefits. The course commences on Monday, 7 January 2008 at 10.00 am in the rear hall of the Baptist Church. For more information contact Jacqueline Hodgkinson (01954 201816) or come along to the first meeting.

### CHARITY EVENT

to raise money for

### THE TEENAGE CANCER TRUST APPEAL

(being run by The Cambridge Evening News)

### 'THE OPUS 17 SWING BAND'

on Saturday 26th January 2008

at The Community Centre

Drings Close, Over, Cambridge

Doors open 7.30 for an 8.00pm start

If you like to dance, whether waltz, quickstep, foxtrot, jive etc, or just enjoy the music, come and join us for an evening of 40's and 50's music played by an 18 piece live band.

For tickets, priced at £10 each, please contact Julia on 01954 230056 or Kathy on 01954 231165.

Alternatively you can email: [julia\\_warren@btinternet.com](mailto:julia_warren@btinternet.com)

There is a licensed bar at the Centre and we will also be holding a raffle for the appeal.

### Willingham Gardening Club

Meetings are on the first Monday of each month at the Willingham Social Club, Fen End and start at 7.30 pm. 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.

The Club welcomes new members at any of our monthly meetings. We are a group of people with an interest in plants and gardening. If you are a plant lover/enthusiast or just want to see whether you could become interested, come and join us to see whether you want to join at a very modest annual subscription. In addition to the meetings we have an annual programme of visits to gardens and places of interest.

Contact Celia on 261394 or just turn up to a meeting to join.

### Meeting/Presentations and Outings

Monday 3 December 2007 - Annual Christmas Party with seasonal fayre, a speaker, games, prizes and a raffle. The party starts at 7.30 pm at Willingham Social Club, Fen End.

Monday 7 January, 2008 Richard Revels will speak to us about the 'Fantastic Falklands'.

Our programme of outings will be announced in these pages in due course but in the meantime the committee of the Club wish all members and those who have supported us in any way this year a Merry Xmas and a happy New year. Keep planting!



### Willingham Combined Charity

#### Property to let

The Charity has a refurbished one-bedroom bungalow at Over Road, Willingham, to let to a local single person.

The bungalow may suit a person with mobility problems as it has an adapted shower facility and front door access modification.

Application forms are available from the Clerk to the Charity, Mrs J Ambrose. Tel. 01954 260446.





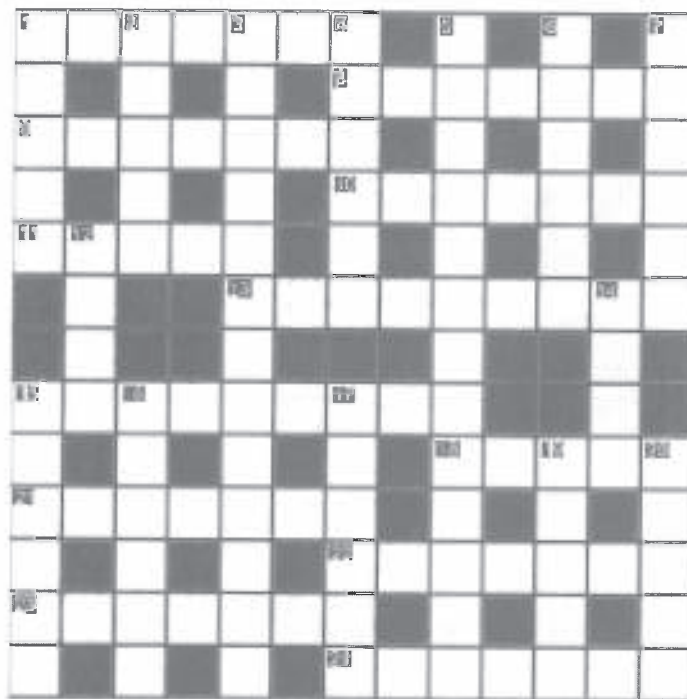
# Cryptic Crossword set by Willow

Across

- 1 Quandary over cover girl (7)
- 8 Chopping onions without number has me reeking! (7)
- 9 Gull is endlessly encircled by wild Fen's swallows (7)
- 10 Struggle to take pleasure in describing hawk (7)
- 11 Jolly hobbit? (5)
- 13 Tarrant takes time to go to Mum's for holidays (9)
- 15 Direct the press during time-out (9)
- 18 Sailor's in company of tip-top explorer (5)
- 21 Annoyed to be stung? (7)
- 22 Scoundrel's put out of funfair (7)
- 23 Followers of purest heart freely unite (7)
- 24 Fairground dancer? (7)

Down

- 1 Tot has energy to imagine (5)
- 2 Royal retiring with beer (5)
- 3 Fussing over girl cooking eggs? (13)
- 4 All points covered by a right reply (6)
- 5 Cheeky pics flustered Doctor (13)
- 6 Prime Minister keeps party on the rise with single initial utterance on platform (6)
- 7 Adjourn to secret place (6)
- 12 Note times on morning of test (4)
- 14 Some pen pals offer to visit as well (4)
- 15 Take no notice of groin injury at end of game (6)



- 16 Change letter to gallery (6)
- 17 Prince and King we back up (6)
- 19 Last letter came after Belgium landed attack (5)
- 20 Note heard by singer (5)

*solution to puzzle on page 18*

## Bin collections

5 December	Green Bin and Box
12 December	Black Bin
19 December	Green Bin and Box
26 December	NO COLLECTION
3 January	Green Bin and Box AND Black Bin

**Leprosy Mission.** Thank you for all the stamps you have sent. We also collect obsolete and foreign coins, and picture postcards. They may all be left in the box at the Parish Church.  
**Glossy magazines** (including *Willingham News*) should be placed in the green box.

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

**Plastic bags** may also be recycled at Willingham Co-op car park.

### Excess waste

Bags of rubbish left by the side of wheeled bins will not be collected under any circumstances. Please recycle all you can. Any excess waste should be taken to the household waste and recycling centres at Milton and Thriplow.

### Extreme weather

In cases of extreme weather, householders are asked to bear with the council. Refuse will be collected as soon as possible.

## Willingham Library

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

0845 0455225



## Library Opening Times

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

Christmas comes to Willingham library: call in and see the special display of seasonal books for all ages - children's stories, and books of crafts, carols and recipes. Note that the library will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Also, on Thursday 27 & Friday 28 December the library will close early, at 5 00 pm (instead of 8 30 pm and 5 30 pm).

Thanks are due to the Wildlife Trust who ran a very successful activity morning for 22 children during half-term. It included a talk about their work as well as poems and stories.

## Willingham Women's Institute



Willingham Women's Institute wishes everyone a very Happy Xmas and a prosperous New Year.

Make a New Year Resolution to join one of our meetings next year, you will be most welcome.

This month we are having our Xmas Party, it is always a lot of fun with plenty of festive food. This is for members only.

Our meeting on 14 January has a speaker from the Air Ambulance Service, it should be interesting to hear all about the workings of this service, so keep this date free to join us.

On Friday 25 January we are having our Quiz Night at the Social Club, this is a well attended event, posters will go up very shortly with further details.



## Willingham Reading Group



I am hoping to start up a new reading group so, if like me you fancy enlivening a dull winter's afternoon with a mind-stretching provocative new read in the company of like minded individuals, give me a ring. Time and place to be arranged.

*Terese 01954 271477*

## Litter pick: an invitation

The Parish Council would welcome volunteers to help with a special litter pick on **Saturday 12 January**. We had a similar event in the middle of 2007 – very successfully. If you are willing to help, and can spare a couple of hours, come to the Ploughman Hall at 9 00 am.



## Village Diary

*we are exchanging some dates with Over, we hope to our mutual benefit*

MONTH	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	TICKETS/INFO
<b>December</b>				
1	Christmas Fayre	Willingham Baptist Church	Baptist Church	10 am - 12 noon
1	Cabaret Night	Over Community Centre		
1	Advent Fayre	St Mary's Church	Over Church Hall	2-4 pm
3	Members' Xmas Party	Gardening Club		
10	Members' Xmas Party	Womans Institute		
4	Extraordinary General Meeting	Ploughman Hall Committee	Ploughman Hall	7 30 pm
6-8	Hunchback Notre Dame Pantomime	WAMADS	Ploughman Hall	7 30 pm Thu and Fri 2 30 pm & 7 pm Sat
12-15	Dick Whittington Pantomime	Over Players	Community Centre	
17	Riding Lights Theatre Company	St Mary's Church	St Mary's Church	
31	Casino Evening	Duke of Wellington pub		01954 261622
<b>January</b>				
7	Club Meeting <i>The Fantastic Falklands</i> - Richard Revels	Gardening Club		
14	Air Ambulan ce Service talk	Womens' Institute	Social Club	
25	Quiz Night	Womens' Institute	Social Club	01954 261831/200561

# Village Directory

<b>Council</b>	Parish Council		01954 261027
	Parish Council Chairman	Mr P King	01954 260780
	Planning Committee Chairman	Mr J Anderson	01954 203344
	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
<b>Services</b>	Police		0845 456 4564
	Surgery		01954 260230
	Dispensary for repeat prescription requests		01954 260073
	Pharmacy		01954 261787
	Over Surgery		01954 231550
	CAMDOC –After hours medical help		01223 464242
<b>Schools</b>	Primary School		01954 283030
	Willingham Out Of School Club	Mrs R. Tiley	01954 200871
	Cottenham Village College		01954 288944
	School Governors Chairman (contact via school)	Mr Rob Laycock	01954 283030
	School Association	c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust	Mrs L Blunt	01954 261309
<b>Children</b>	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
	2nd Brownies	Mrs Gina Balaam	01954 260126
	Willingham Guides and Senior Section	Lynn McGoff	01954 261296
	Geoff Bailey Dancers	Mr G Bailey	01954 260233
	Ladybird Borland's School Of Dance	Mrs L Borland	01954 203347
	Bubbles	Kathryn Wright	01954 261770
	Bumps and Babies Group	Hilda Beauchamp	01954 205487
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Hilda Beauchamp	01954 205487
<b>Halls</b>	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
<b>Local Representatives</b>	Billavincea Lodge 8719	Mr M Scrivener	01480 413533
	Fen Edge Community Association	Mr G Redhead	01954 288944
	Cambridge News Correspondent	Anne Kirkman	01954 260393
	Workers' Educational Association	Mrs J Hodgkinson	01954 201816
	Willingham Combined Charity	Mrs J Ambrose	01954 260446
<b>Clubs</b>	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
	Willingham Youth Club	Mrs Jean Langford	01954 201706
	Women's Institute	Mrs Doreen Young	01954 200561
	Women's Royal British Legion	Mrs M Few	01954 260124
<b>Sport</b>	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
<b>Churches</b>	Anglican Church (Rector)	Rev Geoffrey Turner	01954 261225
	Mothers Union (Branch Leader)	Mrs S Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Mrs Hilary Wyllie	01954 260051
	Methodists (Ministerial Contact)	Rev Hilary Cheng	01223 700778
	Roman Catholic Priest	Monsignor Rogers	01223 350787
	Salvation Army	Major and Mrs Lewis	01480 386593



Osteopathy, Acupuncture, Homeopathy  
Chiroprody/Podiatry, Chinese Herbal Medicine  
Medical Herbalism, Counselling, Iridology  
Nutritional Therapy, Allergy Testing, Massage  
Aromatherapy, Reflexology, Shiatsu, Indian  
Head Massage, Injury Rehabilitation

New to *Physic*

Hypnotherapy (including 'stop smoking' sessions)  
Psychotherapy - NLP - Life Coaching  
Kinesiology - Reiki

**Physic**

Oakington Therapy Centre  
Oakington Road, Girton

We may be able to help, why not ring and ask!

**01223 237459**

Or visit our website

**www.physic.co.uk**

### Fen Edge Patch Community Education

at Cottenham Village College

Tel: 01954 288751

Email: [community@cvcweb.net](mailto:community@cvcweb.net)

Website: [www.cottenhamonline.com](http://www.cottenhamonline.com)

The New Year programme starts Friday 4  
January. We have a wide variety of courses,  
daytime, evenings and weekends - some held at  
Willingham Primary School.

We hope that you will find a course that  
interests you in our programme. If you want to  
get fit after Christmas, why not join one of our  
many exercise classes, eg. Pilates, Tai Chi or Yoga.  
If you received a present of a new camera, how  
about joining our Digital Camera class or learn how  
to manipulate your photographs on our Photoshop  
course. Also if you're keen to make greater use of  
your computer how about joining one of our many  
ICT classes, eg. Intro, ECDL or ITQ.

You should receive your Fen Edge News over  
the Christmas period and  
for further information please contact the  
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12-15th December 2007  
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Poor Dick Whittington, he's going nowhere. No money  
and no job - just a huge crush on the lovely (but very  
posh) Alice, daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren, the richest  
man in London. Still, he can dream; and luckily he's  
befriended by a streetwise Cockney cat called Tommy who  
offers to help him. Sarah the Cook has a problem with rats:  
they are in her kitchen, but Idle Jack, with his pet hamster  
looking suspiciously like a rat, is no help. Queen Rat is  
formulating her plans for rat world domination and the  
first step is to become Lord Mayor of London. Fairy  
Bowbelle is also formulating a plan - that Dick will become  
Lord Mayor! But things take a serious turn for the worse  
when Queen Rat has him at her mercy in Sultan Pepper's  
Moroccan palace.

Will Tommy come to the rescue? Will there be a happy  
ending? Can Dick become Lord Mayor and get the girl? Will  
Queen Rat be defeated? Will the audience participation  
song ever finish? Find out at the Over Players pantomime!  
Expect songs, dances, terrible jokes, lots of thigh slapping  
and pantomime fun that will have you in stitches.

Performances:

Wednesday 12th 7.45pm, Thursday 13th 7.45pm, Friday  
14th 7.45pm, Saturday 15th 2.30pm and 7.45pm

Tickets

Adult £8, OAP and Children under 18 years £5, Family  
Ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £22

Please note that children under the age of 2 years and  
sitting on an adult's lap do not require a ticket.

Contact the Box Office

Julia Warren 23 Long Furlong, Over CB24 5PG Tel: 01954  
230056

Email: [booking@overplayers.org.uk](mailto:booking@overplayers.org.uk)

For more details see [www.overplayers.org.uk](http://www.overplayers.org.uk)

solution to puzzle on page 15

Across: 1 Dilemma, 8 Noisome, 9 Engulfs, 10 Warlike, 11  
Merry, 13 Christmas, 15 Immediate, 18 Cabot, 21 Nettled,  
22 Ruffian, 23 Retinue, 24 Waltzer.

Down: 1 Dream, 2 Lager, 3 Mollycoddling, 4 Answer, 5  
Disrespectful, 6 Podium, 7 Recess, 12 Exam, 14 Also, 15  
Ignore, 16 Mutate, 17 Andrew, 19 Blitz, 20 Tenor.

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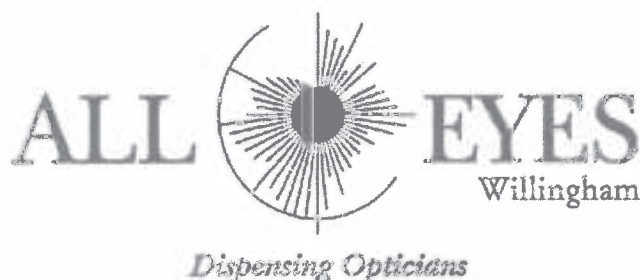
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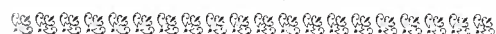
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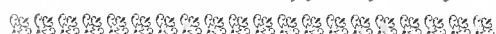
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