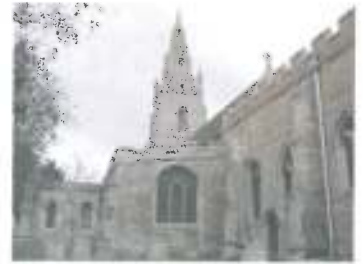


# WILLINGHAM NEWS



January 2008

## Our Village Sign

Perhaps you may already know the history of the sign and what it represents; or perhaps you merely appreciate its presence on the Green and would like to know more.

The first village signs in England were commissioned by the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) in the early 1900s for villages on the Sandringham Royal Estate in Norfolk. The objective was 'to encourage community interest and appreciation of their villages'. The signs were made of wood and carved in the Queen's Carving School on the Sandringham Estate. The vast majority of signs are now to be found in East Anglia; Cambridgeshire has more than 250.

Willingham WI set up a sub-committee chaired by Muriel



Bradley, the then WI President, and including Julie Ferguson as secretary and other WI members to consider the funding, design and erection of a village sign. The sign was intended not only as a community project but also to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of Willingham WI, and involved a whole range of interested parties. The WI commissioned the sign in 1988 at a cost of around £1000. Sarah Taylor, a Willingham resident and art teacher at Cottenham Village College, was asked to produce a design, having already designed the Cottenham village sign.

Sarah was given a long list of topics that should appear on the sign and went around the area taking photos of appropriate

*continued on page 9*

### More news from the Willingham Wing



For more information, see the article on page 15

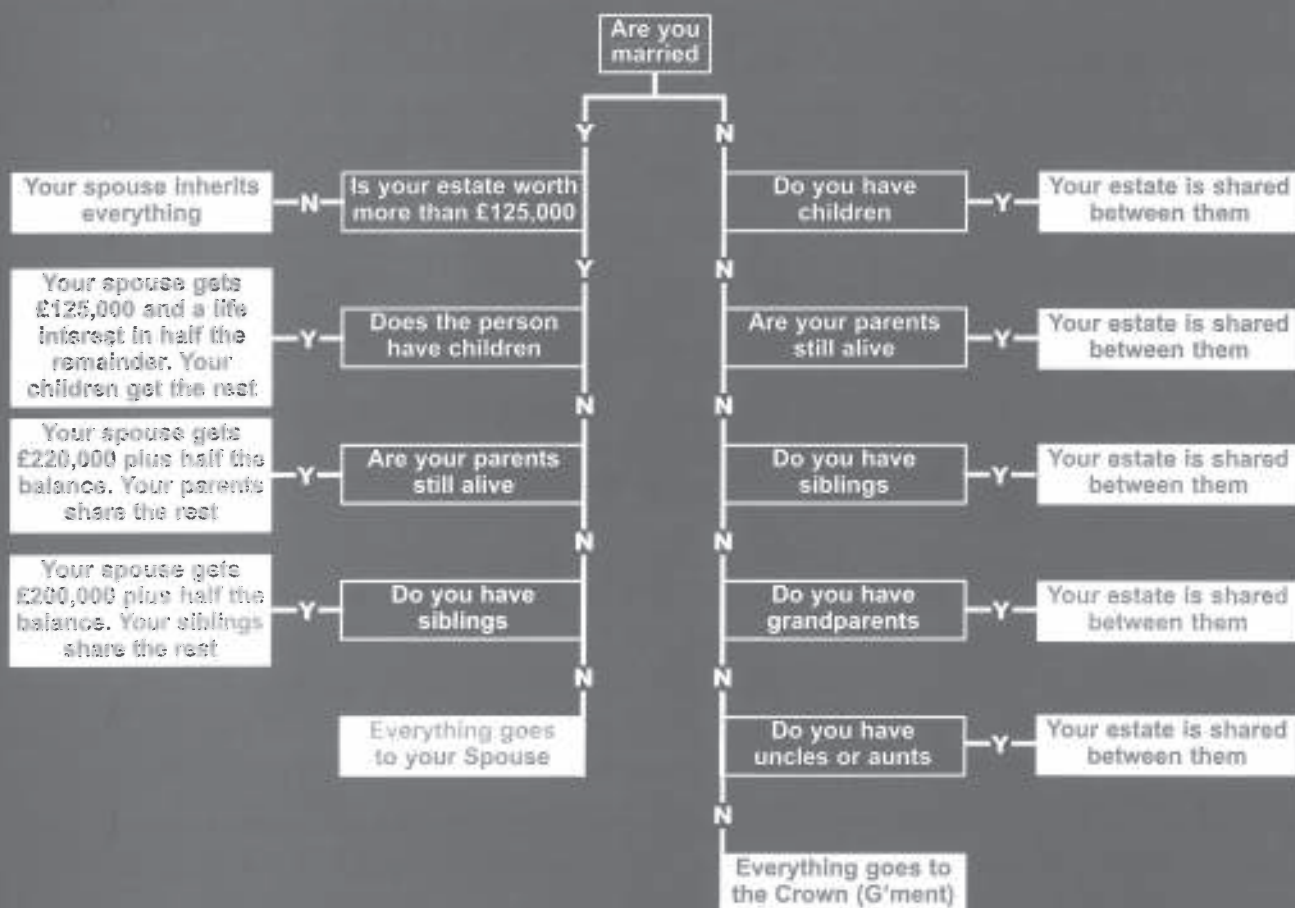
## The Octagon Art Exhibition



Some exhibits from the Octagon Art Group Exhibition –  
see page 10 for further details

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# WILLINGHAM NEWS

January 2008

## 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.

Please contact

**advertswillinghamnews@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 **10 January**.

## 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

### Parish Clerk

Our Parish Clerk, Chris Couchman, retired at the end of 2007. Willingham Parish Council would like to thank Chris for all her hard work and wish her a happy retirement. We hope to appoint a replacement early in the New Year.

### Pavilion Refurbishment

Building work on the Pavilion commenced on 10 December. The pedestrian access to the Recreation Ground next to the Pavilion is closed during the refurbishment. Alternative access is available nearer the Lode. Willingham Parish Council and Willingham Sports Council apologise for any inconvenience during the building works, but are sure that the result will be worthwhile.

### National Bus Passes

Many Willingham residents have already come to the Parish Office to collect their application forms for the over 60's free national bus pass. If you do not yet have one, please call into the Parish Office in the Ploughman Hall during office hours.

### Northstowe

The planning application for Northstowe has been received by Willingham Parish Council. The Government have decided that it will not be an 'Eco-Town' as had been suggested, but 'an exemplar' for other developments. Of particular importance for Willingham is that the Inspectors have ruled that Northstowe should not cross the old railway line/Guided Bus route, but be confined to the Longstanton side. Your Parish Council will continue to press for a link road to help cope with the extra traffic that the new town will bring.

### Committee Meeting Dates

The following are the Committee dates set so far for January:-

- 14 January 2008 Cemetery Committee
- 16 January 2008 Finance and General Purposes Committee
- 21 January 2008 Green & Boundaries Committee

Go to the Parish Council Website ([www.willingham-pc.org.uk](http://www.willingham-pc.org.uk)), or look at the Parish Council notice board next to the Public Hall in the High Street, or the Library notice board, for details of these and any other Committee meetings that may be called.

All Committee meetings are at the Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall unless otherwise advertised. As usual, copies of the Minutes of all meetings will be placed in the Library once they have been signed as accurate.

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

<b>Mr J Anderson</b>	01954 203344
(Planning Committee Chair)	
<b>Mr M Borland</b>	01954 203347
<b>Mr J Burnett</b>	01954 270338
<b>Mrs K Cornwell</b>	01954 261530
(Cemetery Committee Chair)	
<b>Mrs P Daniels</b>	01954 260505
(Council Vice Chair)	
<b>Mr P King</b>	01954 260780
(Council Chair)	
<b>Ms S King</b>	01954 202045
<b>Mr B Kirkman</b>	01954 260393
(Green & Boundaries Committee Chair)	
<b>Mr R Manning</b>	01954 261235
(also Leader of the District Council)	
<b>Mr S Mellows</b>	01954 270063
<b>Mrs R Mumford</b>	01954 260934
(Public Hall Committee Chair)	
<b>Mr G Pake</b>	01954 260534
<b>Mr B Papworth</b>	01954 260798
<b>Mr C Stephens</b>	01954 260396
<b>Mr T Walkden</b>	01954 201722
<b>Mr J Watson</b>	01954 200245
(Leisure & Amenities Committee Chair)	

### Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on 6 February 2008. The agenda will be posted on Friday 1 February 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.

NB: There is no meeting of the full Parish Council in January.

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: Vacant post at time of writing

#### Deputy Clerk: Mrs Dawn Spouge

*The Office is open on Monday afternoons from 1.30 to 4.30pm, and Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am 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.*

## December District Council Report

The Planning Application for Northstowe will be available from the beginning of December. It is a huge document running into hundreds of pages and so will be available on disc as well for Parish Councils. The Government has now decided that Northstowe is not going to be an "Eco-Town" as was sometimes claimed but that it will now be "an exemplar" for other developments. For Willingham the important fact is that the Inspectors ruled that Northstowe should not cross the old railway line or guided Bus route. It will only be built on the south or Longstanton side. The Parish and District Councillors continue to argue for a Willingham by-pass to help cope with extra traffic that the new town will bring.

The Council Cabinet is drawing up the planned budget for next year and beyond; the Council Tax will remain among the ten lowest in the whole country. The Government insists that the District must plan for and build thousands of extra houses; this Growth Agenda costs well over £1 million per year and we have said that the Government should be giving extra money to cover these costs. We have asked to meet the Minister to press this case as we feel it is unfair to the existing Council Tax payers to subsidise this growth.

We plan to introduce a kerbside collection for plastic bottles; it is hoped that it will start next October subject to the Councillors voting for it in January.



It will be a box scheme similar to the glass collection and details will be published when the scheme is finally approved. South Cambridgeshire has the best record in the country for Green Recycling and we are in the top five for all others at over 50%.

Following the critical Corporate Governance Inspection in February there have been big changes in the way that the Council is run. An Improvement Board was set up and Cabinet has accepted and implemented the suggestions. There have been changes to the objectives, to the culture and to the corporate objectives.

We have speeded up decision making by delegation to the Portfolio Holders and their meetings are now held in public so that people can attend. The Planning Committee have introduced the right for members of the public to speak for up to 3 minutes at their meetings. This will also be introduced for all the Portfolio Meetings as well.

The Council is consulting all its housing tenants about a possible transfer of the houses to a Registered Social Landlord. If it is decided to recommend a transfer, there will a ballot of all tenants and there must be a majority voting in favour for it to happen. The Council is looking at the transfer because the Government now takes half of the rent paid by the tenants and three quarters of the proceeds from any house sales. Losing this amount of money means that the Council cannot afford to maintain the houses to the present standard in the future. This rule of the Government taking half the rent money does not apply to any Registered Social Landlord, only to the Council. If it is decided to hold a ballot, it will be at the end of next year. If a majority of tenants agree and vote in favour, the transfer will happen in 2009. There will be full details of any possible scheme supplied to all tenants if a vote is going to be taken.



*Ray Manning*  
District Councillor

### Bin collections

<b>3 January</b>	Green box and black bin
<b>9 January</b>	Black bin
<b>16 January</b>	Green bin and box
<b>23 January</b>	Black bin
<b>30 January</b>	Green bin and box

**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.

### Mothers' Union



Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday 28 January at 2 30 pm in the Octagon. Our speaker will be Rosemary Fisher showing slides of her Homeland Zimbabwe. We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

### Christmas greetings

As a result of the Christmas greetings section in the December issue of *Willingham News*, we have been able to make a donation to Magpas, Willingham First Responders.

It would be good to get readers' reactions to the Christmas greetings scheme. We are inclined to run it again in 2008 – and hope to have more participants.



## 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 wish all our patients  
 a Happy and Healthy New Year in 2008.**

### Christmas thanks

We would like to thank all our patients for the many cards and presents we have received this year. We really appreciate your kind thoughts. Thank you to Andrew and Mary Coe for the splendid Christmas tree they donated to the surgery and which has brightened up our waiting room at Willingham. Our thanks also to everyone who either donated prizes or bought our Christmas Lucky Squares. We will let you know the final amount raised for MAGPAS in next month's newsletter. A list of prizewinners is available in reception.

### Medicines Waste Campaign

The NHS and our local Cambridgeshire PCT are currently running a campaign to inform patients how much money is wasted by unused medicines. For instance did you know that the cost of unused medicines in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk PCT's is over £14 million every year which would pay for 2800 hip replacements, 1960 heart by-pass ops, 420 community nurses or 2520 knee replacements. Returned medicines cannot be reused and have to be destroyed even if the packet is unopened.



### Repeat prescriptions

Please remember to order only what you actually need from your repeat list. If you are ordering your medicines by phone (01954 260073) make sure you have your repeat medication request form ready by the phone and only order the items needed at that time. This form is always enclosed in the bag with your medicines. If you prefer to bring in your request form please tick only the items required from your list. If you forget to bring your list you will be asked to fill out a form at the surgery. If you have any queries about your medication please discuss this with the dispensary staff or the doctor or nurse. We thank you for your cooperation in helping to ensure that limited NHS resources are used to best advantage for everyone.

### Acknowledgements

Our thanks to the family and friends of Mrs Betty Fletcher, Mrs Vera Jeeps and Miss Constance Mowles for the kind donations in their memories to our surgery equipment fund.

*Cynthia Bidwell – Practice Manager*

## 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 Keith on 261885 or just turn up to a meeting to join.

### Meeting/Presentations and Outings

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

Monday 4 February Margaret Waddy will speak to us about 'Growing from seeds, cuttings and grafting'.

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 in the past a happy New Year.



*continued from front page*

subjects. She decided on a design with a centrepiece surrounded by a border comprising the remaining individual topics. This method was both necessary to accommodate every topic, and was also fashionable at the time when illustrating children's books and other publications. In the design, Sarah used her own imagination and a desire to reflect her feel for the village. After a couple of months' work, she produced a half-sized 'rough' for presentation to the WI. It was approved, and she set about preparing the full-sized finished article using acrylics on marine ply. The 'rough' now hangs in Willingham Library.

The centre of the sign is dominated by a gentleman in black. He was George Pegler who came from Nympsfield, near Stroud in Gloucestershire. By the age of 25, he was headmaster at the British School in Earith. Fortunately, he emigrated south of the river and started the new British School in 1856 at Willingham in Fen End. His pre-eminence is intended to convey the importance given in Willingham to education that dates back to the 16th century. The two children representing Willingham Primary School are Sarah's son, Isaac, and Hannah Stoney. The position of Hannah in relation to that of Isaac was used to indicate the changing attitudes to female education. The guitar held by Isaac reflected the keen interest in music of the then headmaster Roy Goodwin. Cattell's Mill speaks for itself. The horses represent the Bailey and Garner Percherons. Willingham Ploughing Society was eager that both traditional and new ploughing methods be shown, hence the tractor; the Society also made a donation to the costs. Between the clouds are a pair of flying swans representing the numerous waterfowl in the area, and the U2 spy plane flown from Alconbury over Willingham by Gary Powers and later shot down over Russia during the Cold War. The Parish Church may be seen on the horizon.

Looking at the border and, beginning in the top left hand corner, is a pair of skates modelled on those owned by John King, and used to skate on winter ice at Bluntisham and on the dykes. Below these are the plums, that, together with the apples, pears, tomatoes and hot house peaches shown elsewhere, emphasise the importance of fruit-growing to the village. Next come willow osiers once used to make the baskets to catch eels (an important food source in days gone by); both basket and eels are depicted in the middle of the bottom border. We move down to the pink pyrethrums that, along with the chrysanthemums and stocks displayed opposite in



*Stephen Peck at work*

the right hand border, formed a significant selection of the flowers grown for market in London and elsewhere. Between the tomatoes and Isaac Taylor are the wild yellow irises that still grow in Long Pond. In the bottom corners are wood carvings of angels from the Parish Church. In the middle of the bottom border is a zander fish that it was once feared would take over from native species. Above the angel in the bottom right hand corner is asparagus widely grown for domestic and commercial use. Moving upwards past the chrysanthemums, stocks and peaches, we come to St Elizabeth the soon to be mother of John the Baptist taken from the picture of the Visitation in the Parish Church. In the centre of the top border, the depiction of the Bible signifies the long tradition of Non-conformism in the village along with the presence of the Salvation Army.

It is also important to look at the back of the sign. Here you will find the initials of the WI, who commissioned it, surrounded by the pyrethrums and chrysanthemums that contributed so much to village prosperity in their time.

The oak used for the sign construction was donated by a local farmer and the wood carving done by Percy Hart. Andrew Brown made the coping stone for the base and David and Stephen Peck were the bricklayers. Pupils from the school contributed items to a time capsule that is buried in the base. The sign was unveiled by Percy Hart.

The current sign has been in place for almost 20 years. The question of either refurbishment or the possible provision of a new and longer-lasting sign is currently under consideration, and discussions between the WI and the Parish Council are at a very early stage; the likely cost of a new sign would be considerably more than that of the original.



*The unveiling.*

## The Octagon Art Group Exhibition



Did you take a look, or did you really see the work of local artists at The Octagon Art Group Exhibition on 17 November?

Did you see where the inspiration for the artists' work had come from, the details in the embroidery, and the hours of work that they took to complete the individual work of art?

We are all guilty of looking and not seeing. When our group went into the church to decide where it would be best to display our work, one of our members proved that he had not only looked at the church but had studied it in great detail. Have you noticed the small-carved heads on the panelling in the Lady Chapel believed to be perhaps self-portraits of the craftsmen that built the church, so many centuries ago? There is also a carving of a chicken above the Lady Chapel door. Next time you are in the church have a look at the carving of Etheldreda, and see the replica of Ely Cathedral in her hand.

This is perhaps why there was a lovely atmosphere on the day of the exhibition. Every century in history had its artists of the day. Glass may shatter or a work of art be

discarded as old fashioned or destroyed by the next generation, but some may live on for years like those in the church. But more importantly let us enjoy them today.

Art and Craft that could be seen at this year's exhibition included stained glass, jewellery made with glass, embroidery, sculpture, needle craft, quilting, cross stitch, Chinese brushwork, collage, handmade cards, photography, tatting, watercolour painting, and also painting using oils, acrylics, ink and bleach, and pastels.

In 2008, we may see another exhibition. If so, please come forward and display your works of art, and show



the village the talent that is hidden. If you are a crafts person with another skill that was not featured in November, especially wood turning or wrought iron, we would love to display your work next time.

During our busy lives it is difficult to have time to "stand and stare", but the next time you look out of a window and see a tree don't just look at it, see that it is not just brown but is made up of many shades of many different colours.

We would very much like to thank those that exhibited and the people of the Church in sharing our day and making it such a big success, and see you next time.

*Octagon Art Group*

## Pastoral Letter

### Resolutions? Why bother?

*From being a young child through to the present time, I have been aware of the concept of making new beginnings.*

*The New Year was a time for making resolutions - which often featured on radio as people in the street, or celebs interviewed in the studio, gave voice to their resolutions for the New Year. I rather think that many of them were quickly broken for they were made as a 'fashion' accessory rather than a heartfelt resolve to do and be a better person.*

*I once met a woman who resolved to learn some new skill each year, or do some further training in order to better herself. That certainly gives new stimulus to personal growth. Along with my family, I recently watched the video 'Anne of Green Gables' which is based on the novel of the same name by Lucy Maud Montgomery. Anne got herself into many scrapes with her determined personality and red hair! But a wise school teacher counselled her that every day is a clean page without any mistakes - yet! Each day brings a chance to start over again, all mistakes are in the past, and a clean page for the future lies ahead.*

*We can choose our behaviour, we can resolve to do well each day, and we don't need to wait for a New Year!*

*I am glad my upbringing taught me that the wrongs of the past can be forgiven through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary.*

*Francis de Sales wrote:*

*The past must be abandoned to God's mercy,  
The present to our fidelity, and The future to divine providence.  
That's a far better resolve than struggling on our own!  
We cannot change the past, but we can learn from it!*

Major Marian Lewis  
Salvation Army

## Willingham Women's Institute

Our Line Dancing evening in November was a complete success, some of us danced and some just watched. You missed a good evening.

Our meeting on 14 January has as a speaker Alison Horsley talking about the 'Air Ambulance'. We are holding a bring-and-buy sale to raise some money for this worthwhile cause. We start at 7 30 pm in the Social Club with some business and the speaker will be talking from 8 00 pm, with refreshments to follow, and plenty of friendly chat.

The other fund raising event we have in January is our 'Quiz Night' on Friday 25 January, starting at 7 30 pm in the Social Club. Teams of 4-6, tickets are £6.50 including a Chicken/Fish and Chip supper half way through. The bar is also available to purchase drinks at competitive prices. The questions are compiled by one of our members, with some easy ones but also a few to test your knowledge. If you wish to purchase tickets please get in touch with either Gill on 01954 201989 or Doreen on 01954 200561. **Entry is by ticket only.** This is a very entertaining evening.





## Parish Church

**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 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.

**Draw for Quilt** The Meridian Quilters have made a beautiful quilt from fabric given by the late Dr Karen Needham, who lived in Long Lane. She asked that the fabric should be used to the benefit of St Mary & All Saints church. It is therefore being raffled. Tickets cost £1 (they are in books of five) and may be obtained from Bill Kirkman, 14 George Street, telephone 260393, email wpk1000@cam.ac.uk The draw will take place on Saturday morning, 2 February – at the February Cake Stall.

**Note:** There will not be a cake stall in January.

**Bric-a-brac** Rene Gould's bric-a-brac stall at 19 Fen End is always worth a visit – as a buyer or a seller.

## 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.

## Salvation Army

**Coffee Morning** on Mondays at 10 30 am.

**Lunches on Thursdays** at 12 30 pm followed by Friendship Club at 2 pm.

For information, ring Gordon on 26006

## 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 Hodkinson (01954 201816) or come along to the first meeting.



## WAMADS

This year's Panto has been a huge success. The cast made their farewell on Saturday night after four fantastic performances.



**WILLINGHAM TABERNACLE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
GEORGE STREET**

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

**6 January**

10 00 am Andrew Wyllie  
(Communion)  
6 00 pm Liz Herrington

**13 January**

10 00 am Bob Earl  
6 00 pm TBA

**20 January**

9 00 am TBA  
10 45 am Family Service - to be held  
at Primary School  
6 00 pm Prayer Focus

**27 January**

10 00 am Keith Rawlinson  
6 00 pm Geoff Pake (Communion)

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

**THE SALVATION ARMY  
SILVER STREET**

**6 January**

10 30 am B/M Bill Matthews  
5 pm Major Lewis

**13 January**

10 30 am No service  
5 pm Major Lewis

**20 January**

10 30 am No service  
5 pm Major Lewis

**27 January**

10 30 am No service  
5 pm Major Lewis

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

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

**6 January**

11 00 am Parish Communion

**13 January**

8 00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11 00 am All Age Worship

**20 January**

11 00 am Family Communion

**27 January**

8 00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11 00 am All Age Worship

**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 January: 3rd).

There is a prayer meeting on the last  
Friday of each month at 8 00 am (In  
January: 25th).

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).



**ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
HIGH STREET  
RAMPTON**

**6 January**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**13 January**

9 30 am Church Lite in the Village  
Hall

**20 January**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**27 January**

9 30 am Church Lite in the Village  
Hall

Churches Together: Service for the week  
of prayer for Christian unity, organised  
by Light and Life Mission. You are invit-  
ed to come and celebrate our unity in  
Christ at the Old Baptist Chapel in  
Rampton. Friday 18 January at 7 00 pm.

**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 January  
this is High Street, Stocks Terrace,  
Osborn Close and Saxon Way.

**The Royal British  
Legion Poppy Appeal**

Many thanks to all street collectors,  
and for business premises, pub and  
church collections. With your  
generosity, we are able to send  
£1614.12 to the Poppy Appeal.  
Thank you

*Marjorie Few*  
Organiser

# Willingham Parish Plan

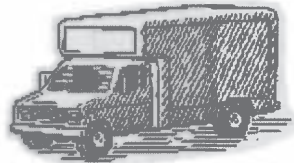
## Preliminary analysis of questionnaire data

With 880 sets of data from just less than a thousand returned questionnaires already loaded onto the computer, we have already started to look at interpreting the feedback from residents. This introductory analysis is to keep you informed at this stage; a much more rigorous analysis will follow later, and more importantly, a list of ways in which Willingham can be made a better place in which to live and work.



As one would expect, traffic in Willingham solicited considerable feedback. Of the responses analysed so far, 50% thought **speeding** was a 'frequent' problem, with 37% answering 'sometimes' and only 13% saying it was 'not a concern.' This was surpassed by worries over the **volume** of traffic with the corresponding figures being 50%, 40% and only 10% choosing 'not a concern.' For the question about **parking**, 75% of those who responded considered it was a problem either 'frequently' or 'sometimes.'

Apart from the obvious solution of a bypass mentioned in an earlier question, the most popular reply as to how to solve traffic problems was to introduce **lorry weight restrictions**, with **traffic calming** measures second, and **parking restrictions** third. The least favoured option was the introduction of warning signs.



Other improvements to the village were suggested but with less general agreement. **More trees** was the most preferred option along with improvements to the **village green** but there was good support for all the suggestions: a nature reserve, more play areas, open spaces and allotments.



The **surgery** was rated highly in all respects. The **school** fared well also; 169 of the 188 households with children were satisfied with primary school provision in Willingham.

We read that we often have more of a fear of crime than an actual experience of it. Although we should not dwell on the disappointing aspects of life in Willingham (as many of the responses about living here were very positive) one downheartening statistic concerned crime. Although we did not ask anyone if they had been a victim of crime we did ask if they had reported a crime or anti-social behaviour to the police over the last few years and it seems 361 households had, which amounts to 41% of the households who responded.

In the crime section we also asked the question 'what is a concern to you?' Adding together responses for both 'a little' and 'a lot', 84% selected **vandalism**, 71% **vehicle damage**, 70% theft. Drunkenness, noise and intimidation were next and we have fewer worries over drugs at 48% and assault at 42%. To remedy these concerns 31% of the villagers put **more police presence** as the most desired solution with **more police community officer presence** second at 21%, then **CCTV** at 18% and Neighbourhood Watch and better street lighting both with 15%.



It emerged, from the question as to whether anyone in your household was seeking somewhere to live in Willingham, that 125 were looking for accommodation of some sort.

Finally, and good news for the production and distribution team, 823 households, over 93%, regularly find the **Willingham News** useful!

## Willingham Charity Lunch

This month's Charity Lunch will be at 1 pm on Saturday 19 January at the home of Michael and Valerie Parsons at 20 Earith Road. The lunch, which costs £3, consists of a choice of soups, bread and cheeses, tea or coffee, etc. The charity that we shall support this year is The Over Day Care Centre. The Centre's clients come not only from Over but also from surrounding villages, reaching now as far as Cottenham and Elsworth, and including Bar Hill, Longstanton, Willingham, Swavesey and Rampton. It is a self-funded organisation and, although in receipt of some grants, etc, is continually in need of funds due to social services cutbacks.



Last year we raised £550 that has been donated to the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, specifically for their Hospice at Home programme.



## The Willingham Wing



In June 2008 work will start on The Willingham Wing – the new art bus stop on the High Street. The designs were shared with local residents at a meeting in November. The steering group extends thanks to all those who attended. The feedback has helped artist Zoë Chamberlain develop the detailed plans.

For those who were unable to attend the event, here are some of your questions answered:

### What will it look like?

The design includes a bee wing canopy. Early ideas included a large daisy structure but following public requests for shelter the designs were changed. The bus stop site is problematic as it houses a listed telephone box, service boxes and road signs in a very small space. The new bus stop needs to comply with current legislation; we certainly don't want a repeat of the last bus shelter which forced people to step into the road to get under the shelter. Careful consideration has been given to the impact the work will have on neighbouring houses. Materials have been selected to compliment the existing streetscape, and to avoid natural light being blocked from houses.

### What about consultation with local people?

Initial consultation started back in 2005 when local people made suggestions about how the project could evolve. Residents expressed a desire to see the public art money spent on something that celebrates Willingham's heritage. These sentiments formed a key part of the artist brief. Articles in the *Willingham News* have invited input from local people at every stage in the project. Artist Zoë has spent time talking to residents about what's important to them. An open evening took place in November for residents to view draft designs.

### Will there be seating?

Public seating is a particularly contentious issue in Willingham and there has been much debate about whether seats should be installed at the bus stop. Informed by local opinion and legislation relating to the restrictions on space, the Parish Council concluded it would not be feasible to include seating on the site.

### Why a bus stop?

The Parish Council researched several possible sites in the village and took into consideration issues expressed

by residents such as graffiti and maintenance. The idea behind the art bus stop is to create something striking and original for local residents to enjoy and for visitors to admire.

### How can I get involved?

The Willingham Wing has already attracted additional funding to support new community projects and activities. To find out more contact Amy Wormald on 01954 288748 or amy@start-arts.org.uk or watch this space in the February issue.

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

Make a New Year resolution to support your village library by using it regularly in 2008. As well as books we have free Internet use, free gift bags for babies and toddlers and lots of local information - you'll be surprised! You can support your library even more by joining the Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL) - come and ask us for details.

2	7	4	1	8	6	5	9	3
5	1	6	9	7	3	2	4	8
3	8	9	4	5	2	7	1	6
1	9	2	7	4	8	6	3	5
8	4	3	2	6	5	9	7	1
7	6	5	3	9	1	4	8	2
9	2	8	6	3	4	1	5	7
6	5	7	8	1	9	3	2	4
4	3	1	5	2	7	8	6	9

solution to puzzle on page 18

# Letter to the editor



While lying in hospital after an operation, I read in the *Cambridge Evening News* of 9 November that a Mr John Byatt is trucking through the jungle on the Thai/Burmese border to raise money for the Addenbrooke's Helipad. Also, Saffron Walden players donated £500.

I thought it might be a wonderful gesture if any local club or group – or any individual – sent a £10 donation. They tell me they are £10,000 short at present. If 1000 people or groups sent £10, their target would be reached.

No one of us knows when WE may need the air ambulance. I feel it is an important project, as with serious injuries seconds count.

You can send a gift to Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust, Box 126, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ.

Fred Balaam

## JobsWanted (Weekend & after school)

**Babysitting, Dog Walking, Cleaning, Car Washing  
Anything considered...**

**Nicole and Emma  
01954 202410  
01954 260985**

**References available.**

## Knowing Britain Quiz (Answers are towns in the UK)

- 1 A bond for a letter
- 2 ..... and Wise
- 3 A place not to be sent to
- 4 A wide flight
- 5 Not a tin one nowadays
- 6 A farmer may use one
- 7 A famous tea party
- 8 Has a large white house
- 9 Ball game
- 10 Keep a while before drinking
- 11 Scottish cake
- 12 A coloured vehicle
- 13 Farm animals
- 14 Gentle stroll
- 15 Get comfortable
- 16 Horse race or a hat
- 17 Costs more than a penny now
- 18 A good pork pie
- 19 End of Hadrian's Wall
- 20 Otter's den
- 21 On horseback perhaps
- 22 Patterned material
- 23 Sofa
- 24 They run the ship
- 25 You can do this with a pack of cards
- 26 Not wanted on your clothes
- 27 Have this for tea

Milford Jeeps  
answers on page 18

## Village Diary


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

MONTH	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	TICKETS/INFO
<b>January</b>				
7	Meeting - <i>Fantastic Falklands talk</i>	Willingham Gardening Club	Willingham Social Club	7 30 pm
14	Meeting - <i>Air Ambulance talk</i>	Womens' Institute	Willingham Social Club	7 30 pm
19	Lunch	Willingham Charity Lunch	20 Earith Road	1 00 pm
25	Quiz Night	Womens' Institute	Willingham Social Club	7 30 pm 261831/200561
<b>February</b>				
4	Meeting - <i>Seeds, cuttings, grafts talk</i>	Willingham Gardening Club	Willingham Social Club	7 30 pm

# 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	Dr N A Walton	01954 202185
	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 J Catley	01954 202543
	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
<b>Halls</b>	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Hilda Beauchamp	01954 205487
	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 Linda Aspinall	01954 261526
<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 M Lewis	01480 386593





Cambridgeshire County Council Peterborough City Council Huntingdonshire

## Changes to Concessionary Fares from April 2008.

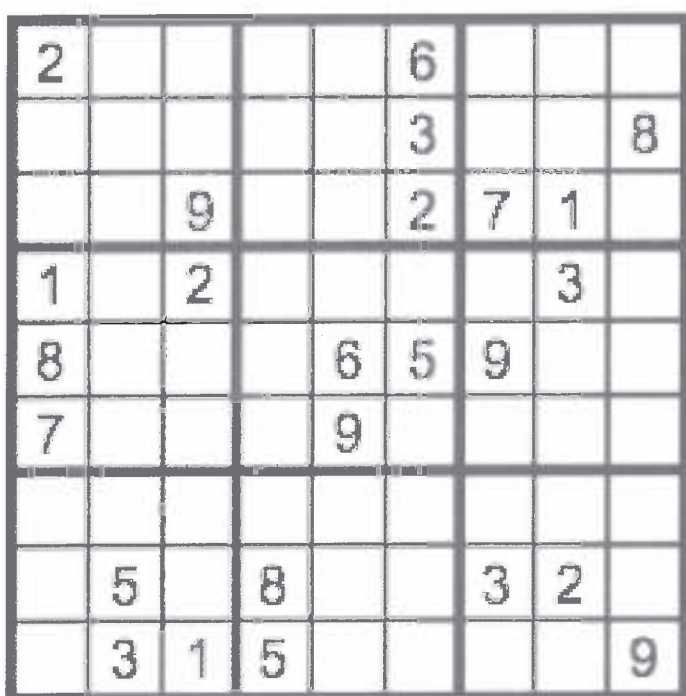
Travel by local bus after 09.30 on weekdays in England for **FREE** to it to Ely Cambridgeshire to Banbury Oxfordshire.

Everyone will need to **reapply** for a new bus pass.  
To receive your new bus pass on time, complete an application form today!  
Contact your **District Council** for more information or phone 01223 716 779.

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

## Sudoku set by Willow

solution on page 15



## Village and Community Magazine Awards 2007

Cambridge Building Society has launched its search to find the region's best Village and Community Magazine for 2007 and has invited editors of local publications to send in their entry. This will be the tenth year that the Society has hosted the awards which were set up to recognise the commitment of the people involved in producing local magazines and newsletters for the community, many of whom are volunteers working in their own time.

There are two categories – Small Community and Large Community. The winning magazine in each category will receive a £500 cash prize, a winner's trophy, and will be able to use the award winner's logo in their magazine. A second prize of £250 will go to each runner-up. Along with the 'Most Improved Magazine' award that has proved very popular, there are also a number of 'Highly Commended' certificates awarded for the merits of particular publications and the 'Most Promising Newcomer'. The judges will look at such features as front cover design, distribution, editorial quality, business commitment, community content, presentation and how much useful information the entries contain.

The closing date for entries is 31 January and the awards will be presented in March.

*Willingham News* will be entered and it will be for the third time of asking. Each year, the editorial team has taken on board the best practice on view at the presentation and has tried to apply the lessons learnt. It will be interesting to see how the judges view matters this time – and what further lessons might be learnt.

Having regard to what the judges will be looking for, it is interesting to note that it takes a team of around 35 people each month to compile and deliver *Willingham News*.

### Answers to the Knowing Britain Quiz

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Basildon      | 2. Morecambe       |
| 3. Coventry      | 3. Broadstairs     |
| 5. Bath          | 6. Harrow          |
| 7. Boston        | 8. Washington      |
| 9. Rugby         | 10. Newport        |
| 11. Dundee       | 12. Redcar         |
| 13. Cowes        | 14. Ambleside      |
| 15. Settle       | 16. Derby          |
| 17. Looe         | 18. Melton Mowbray |
| 19. Wallsend     | 20. Holt           |
| 21. Ryde         | 22. Paisley        |
| 23. Chesterfield | 24. Crewe          |
| 25. Deal         | 26. Staines        |
| 27. Sandwich     |                    |

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HOLIDAY on ICE in BRIGHTON  
2 day Break 22nd to 23rd & 27th to 28th January Only £67  
Price Includes Ints Hotel DBB & Show  
THE LION KING - Matinee Over 60's Only £39  
Wednesday 6th February  
HODSOCK PRIORY Snowdrops Galore 27th February £17  
5 Days Valentines in EASTBOURNE £159 inc  
11th to 15th February  
3 Days FOLKSTONE £99 inc 7th to 9th March  
5 Days The LAKE District £189 inc 14th to 18th March  
SPALDING FLOWER SHOW & PARADE  
Saturday 3rd May £14  
6 Days ISLE of WIGHT £249 inc 4th to 9th May  
5 Days TORQUAY £210 inc 26th to 30th May  
ROYAL ASCOT Wednesday 18th June £39.50  
WISBECH ROSE FAIR & PARADE  
Saturday 5th July £14  
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Weston Super Mare - All at £199

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Telephone 01954 200221

**Becky's Aerobics**  
**New Aerobics Class**

**Saturday 9.30am**

(starting 19<sup>th</sup> January 2008)

**Wednesday 8.30pm**

&

**Friday 9.30am**

(Toy corner for children)

Starting week commencing

**7<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

£3.50 per session for 6 week block

£4.50 per drop-in session

Ploughman's Hall, Willingham

**Please bring an exercise mat if you  
have one.**

Phone Becky 01954 261127  
for further details.



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01954 261050

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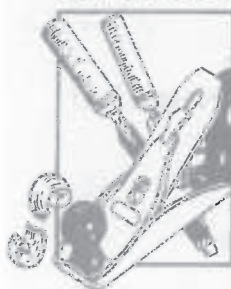
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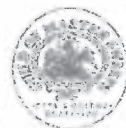
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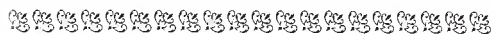
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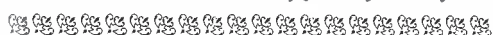
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