

# WILLINGHAM NEWS



March 2008

## Do you know who this is?



Many of you will have recognised the carving of the *Willingham Imp*. He is to be found in the top left hand corner of the left-most panel supporting the rood screen.

Much has rightly been made of the splendid wall paintings, the double hammer beam roof, rood screen

and carved wooden angels to be found in the Parish Church. However, there are many more smaller and more easily accessible treasures to be found on careful inspection throughout the church.

Dick Lingham began his odyssey many years ago whilst waiting in line for the communion wafer and wine. He first noticed the *Willingham Imp* and his journey of exploration continues until this day. If you look closely at the picture of the Imp, you will see minute carvings of heads below the arch supporting him. Might these be caricatures of local dignitaries, or, perhaps, of the carvers themselves? It is fascinating to speculate.

Here are a few more of Dick's favourites.

This is of a dog to be found on a roof beam just outside the organ vestry – traces of paint may be seen on the original.



*continued on page 7*

## The Karen Needham quilt

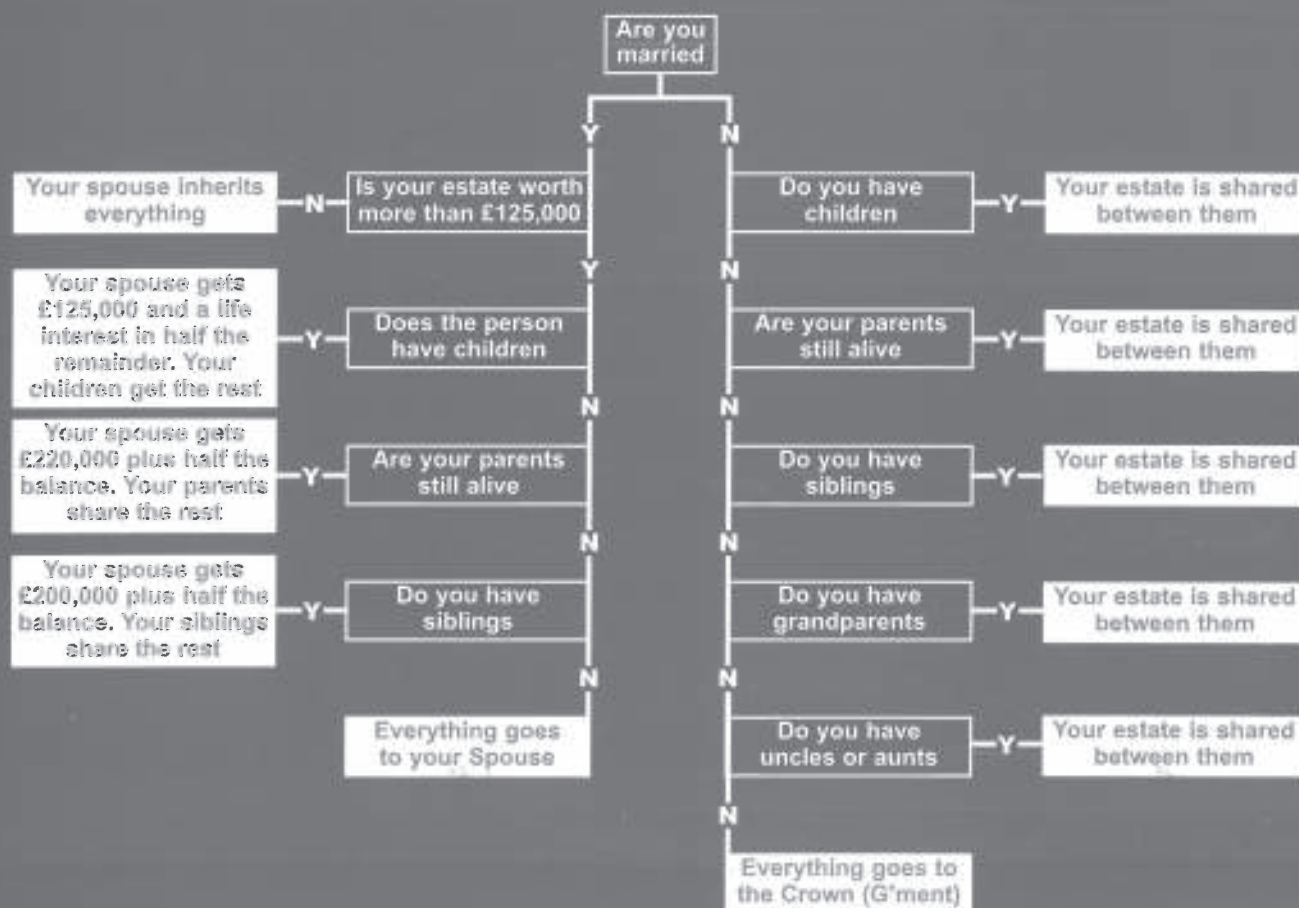
The picture shows Alison Martin, of the Meridian Quilters, with the Karen Needham quilt, which the Meridian Quilters made. The quilt was crafted from fabric given by the late Dr Karen Needham who asked that it should be used to the benefit of St Mary and All Saints Church.

Alison chose the winning ticket in the draw on 2 February. The winner was Sally Sheppard, of Bar Hill. Her mother, Betty Childerley, lives in Willingham and is connected to the Few family. "Many thanks to all who bought tickets. The draw raised £377."



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# WILLINGHAM NEWS

March 2008

## A FLOODLIT TOUR of the MEDIEVAL WALLPAINTINGS of WILLINGHAM

by  
Alan Fawcitt

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

7-30 pm

Willingham Church has one of the most comprehensive collections of medieval wallpaintings in the country. They were painted over 400 years from 1250. Come and see them individually floodlit and explained.

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Please contact  
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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 £45 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 March**.

## 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

### Pavilion Refurbishment

Many of you will have noticed the builders carrying out the refurbishment of the Pavilion. This will continue for the next month. Willingham Parish Council apologises for any inconvenience to users of that part of West Fen Road, however, the finished result will be worthwhile.

### Cemetery Trees

Many of you have commented on the work carried out in the Willingham Cemetery on the trees. An inspection of the trees was carried out by a professional tree consultant as part of a risk assessment due to a branch that had fallen in the autumn of 2007. The consultant highlighted several areas that needed urgent attention. One tree has had to be felled as it was diseased and posed a threat to health and safety, the other trees have been crowned and cut back extensively to encourage new healthy growth and to prevent any further branches falling.

### Keeping the Lode clear

If you saw the flooded Recreation Ground in November you will realise how important it is that the Lode runs freely. It is a crucially important drainage channel. If it gets blocked, floods could easily affect homes as well as the Recreation Ground.

The Environment Agency is responsible for checking, and when necessary, clearing the Lode.

However, if you own property beside the Lode – if, in other words, you are a ‘riparian owner’ – you are responsible for removing anything which has been fly-tipped into the Lode (such as rubbish, or a bicycle). If you fail to remove things, you could be sued.

**And anyone who is tempted to throw things into the Lode – to engage in fly-tipping – should note that this is an offence.**

### Parish Council Website

The Parish Council website has now gone live. If you are internet-connected, take a look 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. There is a page of frequently asked questions with the answers and many other useful areas of interest. If you have any further suggestions or information that you feel would benefit the website, please email the Clerk with details.

For anyone not on the internet, agendas and consultations will continue to be posted on the Council notice board and in the Library, copies of the signed Minutes of meetings will still be available for consultation in the Library.

Watch the Council and Library Notice boards for details of Committee meetings to be held in March. All meetings apart from Full Council meetings are at the Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, unless otherwise advertised. The Full Parish Council meeting takes place on the first Wednesday of every month and the meeting

### 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

for March will be held 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)  
Deputy Clerk: Mrs Dawn Spouge*

*The office is open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 10 am to 1 pm, except Bank Holidays. Appointments may 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.*



**Celidh to celebrate St Patrick's Day  
& raise funds for 1<sup>st</sup> Willingham Scout  
Group**

**Friday 14th March 2008**  
in  
**Willingham Primary School**  
**Music by No.ID**  
**Dancing 8 until 11.15**

Contact Marina Deller on  
01954 260045
Ticket £15 (incl supper and bottle of wine per table)  
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# Wood carving miniatures in the Parish Church

The lady below is to be found on the beam over the screen in front of the Lady Chapel.



Inside the Lady Chapel, on the wooden panels to the left, is a pair of gossips whose tongues are clearly visible through their teeth. The chapel was once a school and marks can be seen on the panels that might well have been made by the pupils. There is nothing new.



On the panels to the right of the gossips are several small heads attached to the ends of the curved quadrant decorations. The first one looks to have a quiet smile of contentment; the second looks like another weary whitebeard from Willingham.



As you leave the Lady Chapel, above your head you will find a rather splendid chicken. Perhaps the carver was hoping for an Easter egg. As the bird looks like a rooster, he was probably out of luck.



There are two particularly fine carvings on the pew ends in the choir. Below are one of a splendid looking matron, and another of what looks like a very well-to-do gentleman.



Dick's journey of discovery is far from over. On the very day that he was pointing out some of his favourites, he discovered yet another. This carving has tentatively been identified as a *Wolf in a Sheep's Clothing*. What do you think?

## Mothers' Union

Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday 31 March at 2 30 pm in the Octagon. Our speaker will be Linda Page talking on the 'Ages of Motherhood'. Anyone will be most welcome to come and join us. If you need transport, please ring 260688.

## Women's World Day of Prayer

This will be held at Over Baptist Church on Friday 7 March at 2 pm. Transport can be arranged.



## 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

**Easter Bank Holidays** Our surgeries will be closed on Good Friday 21 March and Easter Monday 24 March. If you need medical help over the Easter holiday please ring CAMDOC on 01223 464242. We wish you all a good Easter weekend and hope that we might enjoy some nice spring weather.

**Willingham Surgery Slimming Clinic** Wednesdays 3-4 pm or 6 30-7 00 pm, £2.50 per session, 3 healthy meals a day, individual consultation with Karen, friendly advice, recipes and tips. Great way to lose weight for the "bikini/trunks season"!!

**No-Smoking Day 12 March** Our local PCT are running a campaign throughout March to assist people who are considering giving up smoking. Please ask in Pharmacy or Surgery Reception for details of all the ways we can help you.

**Salt** Did you know that it is recommended that adults should eat no more than 6g of salt per day and 75% of the salt we eat is already in the food we buy? The Food Standards Agency are currently running a campaign to

raise awareness. Their booklet *The Little Book of Salt* is available in our pharmacy.

**Acknowledgements** We would like to thank family and friends of the late Mr William Mills for their kind donations to the Surgery Equipment Fund.

Cynthia Bidwell  
 Practice Manager

### Willingham Pharmacy Opening hours

Monday	8 30am – 1 00pm	2 30pm – 6 30pm
Tuesday	8 30am – 1 00pm	2 00pm – 6 30pm
Wednesday	8 30am – 1 00pm	2 00pm – 4 00pm 5 00pm – 7 30pm
Thursday	8 30am – 1 00pm	CLOSED from 1 00pm
Friday	8 30am – 1 00pm	2 00pm – 6 30pm

## Your Village Needs You!



**A local lifesaving scheme is struggling to provide the care to the community unless volunteers come forward to offer their help in the next few weeks.**

The Community First Responder group for Willingham and Longstanton is made up of local people who volunteer to be trained, equipped and organised by Magpas so they can attend medical emergencies in the villages.

The scheme aims to cut the time it takes to get medical help to patients in the villages as the ambulances are based quite a distance away. But as volunteers we are not always available to attend patients in need. More volunteers are required to assist in providing more care to the community following some of our volunteers moving out of the area.

The volunteers receive basic training and have a defibrillator so they can resuscitate patients in very

serious cases. They attend patients suffering from chest pains, diabetic incidents, breathing problems, and also fitting and unconscious patients. The scheme's volunteers make a real difference to the community, so much so that Magpas has received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of their work.

Magpas does all the training, so you don't need to have a medical background. Even the defibrillator is automatic. You just attach it and it does the rest by itself!

The scheme can be the difference between life and death. Other groups in the county have literally saved lives in their local communities. 'It will be devastating for us if this groups folds and then someone dies of a heart attack. We will always wonder whether we could have saved them. I just hope there are a few people reading this now who will come forward and join us so the group can continue.' (local volunteer)

**Can you make the difference and join your local group of volunteers? Call Magpas on 01480 371060 for further details.**



## The Challenge of Autism

Being a parent is the hardest job in the world, but having children with special needs, then that job just gets a whole lot harder, as we found out when our two sons, Jack and Sam, were diagnosed as suffering from autism. Autism affects 1 in 100 children and no two Autists are quite the same. Our knowledge of autism pre-diagnosis was only what we had seen on TV – people with a photographic memory who might see a building in a city once and then be able to draw it brick for brick, or have an amazing ability to play music, only hearing a piece once, etc. They are known as 'savants' and, in actual fact, only 1% of autistic people have these special 'gifts'. Jack and Sam don't have these gifts (as far as we know!) although we think that Jack may go onto be an Olympic medallist in trampolining, just as long as he can do it semi-naked. Oh, and Sammy may be the developer of a route planner system as his ability to work out directions sometimes astounds us.

So what is autism? It is a lifelong developmental disability. It is part of the Autistic Spectrum; the word 'spectrum' being used because, while all people with autism share three main areas of difficulty, their condition will affect them in very different ways. The three main areas of difficulty are sometimes known as a 'triad of impairments' – difficulty with social communication – difficulty with social interaction – difficulty with social imagination. Whilst we can agree that both of our boys have struggled with all three in the past, through our devotion and commitment to help them reach their full potential, whatever that may be, there are many more boxes that we can now tick! It's very hard to create awareness of autism in people who aren't familiar with the condition as our boys don't 'look' disabled. As parents of autistic children, we often find that people think our children are simply naughty; and actually we and they are often terribly misunderstood. So, now that we have finally accepted both heartbreaking diagnoses, as a family are learning the implications of what autism is, and

realising that we will never have a 'normal' family (but what is normal?), I have decided to try and raise more awareness of this disorder. I am running in this year's London Marathon on 13 April. I have secured a place within the National Autistic Society team and have pledged to raise a minimum of £1600 as a 'gold bond' runner (sounds very flash!) The NAS have been a massive support to all of us and our extended family and friends during the last few years. Their advice and knowledge has been, and still is, invaluable to us. So please, dig deep and sponsor me – even if it's just a £1 – this magazine goes to over 2000 homes – so £1 per home would give the NAS much more than I could hope to expect!

However I have portrayed Jack and Sam in this article, I must stress that they are two beautiful boys and, along with their big brother Adam (who himself has struggled with lots of health problems), have bought us so much joy and love; and we are privileged and proud to be their mum and dad.

Your support and generosity is gratefully received with heartfelt thanks. For more information on the NAS, go to their web site [www.nas.org.uk](http://www.nas.org.uk) or please contact me! To sponsor me-either go to [www.justgiving.com/clairemumford](http://www.justgiving.com/clairemumford) or send a cheque (payable to The National Autistic Society) to Claire Mumford, 31 Thodays Close, Willingham, Cambs. CB24 5L



Jack and Sam

## A group of energetic ladies from Willingham took the challenge!



**The fund raising campaign will start soon.  
17th May 2008 - London UK**

Look for the Pink Collection Containers all over the village - and when you see one put some of your spare change inside! Any money that you give will bring us closer to our goal of £2.000.

Are you already registered for this challenge? If you are one of the participants, come and train with us. Meeting point outside the library on Sundays 7:00 a.m. We guarantee a minimum of 7 miles per training session.

**Don't forget – Willingham Wives Raise money, Raise awareness, Get fit and Have fun!**

## Icenorum - Living History

The Romans returned to the Ploughman Hall, Willingham on Saturday 26 January, some 1700 years after they originally left the area, thanks to the members of *Icenorum Living History*, an historical re-enactment group based mainly here in Willingham.

The members of *Icenorum* have been involved with various re-enactment groups for some time now, and over the years we have gradually come to the conclusion that, although it's an excellent idea to put on events at Museums and Heritage sites, not everyone can get to those events. So we have looked for a way to put that right - we set up a group of our own, *Icenorum* (pronounced Ice-eh-nor-um) to form a kind of 'traveling mini-museum'. As a new, non-profit making and volunteer-run organisation, we needed funding to purchase the necessary equipment and, luckily for us, the Local Network Fund chose us for a grant. The grant enabled us to start a new service bringing Living History events to the wider community, with a special emphasis on reaching the rurally isolated and the disadvantaged, particularly children and young people.

We hope we make history fun, lively and accessible, in accord with the government's History Matters campaign and in the style of the 'Horrible History' series of books. This is history with the 'Eurgh!' factor left in! For example, we can show any number of ways in which the Romans dispatched their enemies, the often revolting work carried out by their slaves, and as for the array of smelly, disgusting and even downright rotten foods eaten by both Romans and Celts, well, it defies description; let's just say you really have to be there to fully appreciate the sounds, textures and aromas! And if you then find yourself wondering about things like 'Did the Romans use toilet paper?' well, wonder no longer!

Within our group we have a Roman auxiliary soldier, Galerius Marcus Aquilinus, an expert in his field, his Celtic wife Mari, a story teller and food specialist, and their children, Addan and Becca, plus we have guest appearances from an Iron Age warrior, farmer and herder, a potter, a weaver and a wood worker. We have an interesting array of clothing and weapons from both sides of the Roman and Celtic fence (or should that be Hadrian's Wall?) a goodly display of domestic implements and items from the everyday life of the time and a spread of foodstuffs freshly made to ancient recipes. All weapons and clothing are safe for members of the public, including children, to handle. Also thanks to the grant, we are expanding to cover the Viking era in a similar format, with a Viking warrior and his family arriving soon. All adults are CRB checked.

Membership of *Icenorum* is open to all and we are fee-free, unlike some other re-enactment groups!

*Icenorum* is available for bookings by organisations, for school history days, to appear at events such as fairs, and for film work, photo shoots, and for interviews. In addition, we work with Museums, most recently with the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in



*Marcus, Becca and Mari at the Ploughman Hall, Willingham.*

Cambridge, Burwell Museum and Harlow Museum, also with Cam Arc, the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Unit.

For further information contact:

Gary Cates, Events Organiser, *Icenorum Living History*. Email: [icenorum@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:icenorum@hotmail.co.uk) Tel: 01954 203348

### London Marathon sponsorship



My name is Jim Ryan. I live in Haden Way, Willingham. I will be running in the London Marathon on 13 April 2008 in aid of Children with Leukaemia (CLIC)

If you would like to sponsor me, there will be sponsor forms at Willingham Surgery and at

Willingham Primary School in the secretary's office or you can go to my webpage [www.bmycharity.com/jamesryan](http://www.bmycharity.com/jamesryan) and sponsor me on line.

Thank you  
James Ryan

## *Pastoral Letter*

### *Leaving home*

*In 1850 a violent winter storm tore through the sanddunes at the edge of the Bay of Skaill in Orkney and revealed a Neolithic village that had lain buried there for six thousand years. Now called Skara Brae, it is a settlement of eight stone-walled, single-roomed houses, all built to the same pattern, and linked by a narrow, covered street. In the floors of the houses scraps of bone from deer, fish, cows and sheep gave clues that the occupiers had been both hunters and farmers. The website says, with a quaint turn of phrase, "Life in Skara Brae was probably quite comfortable by Neolithic standards". But the truth is that we know practically nothing about the families that built and lived in Skara Brae. Nor have we any idea why, after maintaining it for around six centuries, they left it deserted. What was in their minds as they left their ancestral home, their Neolithic "comfort zone"? We can't even guess.*

*Around the same time, however, in what is now northern Iraq, a little family unit was also leaving home and moving out of its comfort zone. About this family we do know a little, including some of their motives as they packed up their belongings and set out. The nephew had ambitions to be a cattle farmer in the lush river valleys of Palestine. The uncle, who was the lead figure of the group, had a different hope. He was a shrewd man, capable of strong decisive action, and with a clear sense of right and wrong. Yet for the success and even the purpose of this journey, he had no more tangible justification than that he knew God had made him a promise: if he set out, he would be blessed personally with a great family and become a source of blessing to the whole human race. For some, this would have been difficult to believe, for his beautiful wife was childless, and they were both past middle age. Perhaps Abraham himself found it challenging to accept God's promise. But the Bible story tells us that in the end he trusted God, and God honoured that trust.*

*Remarkably, six thousand years later, we can face similar choices between staying within our comfort zone, or making decisions based on faith in God. Do we love too much a life-style where we stay surrounded by the familiar infrastructure - our routines, our self-satisfaction, our property, our many self-justifications, even our grumbles..... or can we respond to the amazing promise of this great God that He will cleanse our lives and make us anew, if we are prepared to trust Him? In making that step of faith, we have an advantage over Abraham, for we can look back into history and confirm that God's promises are kept. Abraham did become the father of many nations, and into these nations, four millennia later, Jesus was born. And people of all nations who come to Jesus are indeed still being blessed. That beats any Neolithic standard of comfort.*

*God bless  
Andrew Wyllie*





## 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 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.

**Cake Stall** on Saturday 1 March - from 10 00am at the church. There is always a good choice available. Proceeds go to the restoration appeal.

**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. Again, proceeds go to the restoration appeal.

## 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 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. **Craft** at 2 pm.

**Lunches** on Thursdays at 12 30 pm followed by Friendship Club at 2 pm. For information ring Gordon on 260066.



## 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 01954 261394** or just turn up to a meeting to join.

### Correction

Please note that in the February edition of this magazine the Club AGM was said to be held on 3 March 2008; this was incorrect. The AGM will be held on 7 April.

### Meeting/Presentations and Outings

Monday 3 March John Drake will speak to us on 'The Ottoman Gardens of Istanbul'

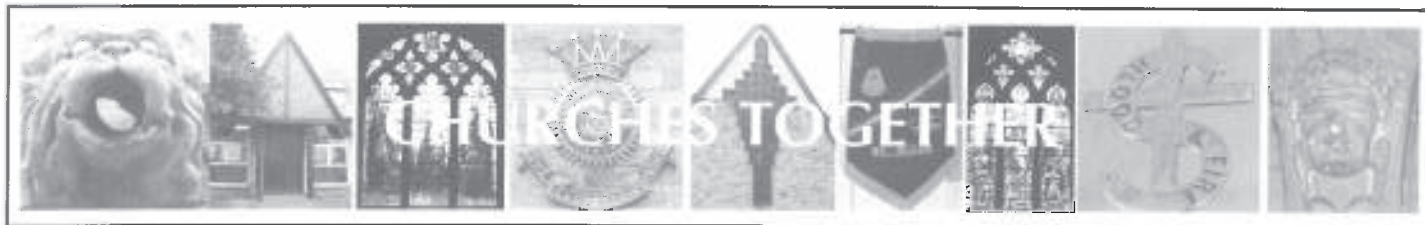
Monday 7 April Jenny Edrich will speak to us on 'The Wildlife of the Seychelles' followed by the Club AGM

Our programme of outings will be announced in these pages in due course when details and costings are finalised but the first outing is likely to take place on Saturday 10 May.

### Reminder

Subscriptions of £7.50 for the new club year are due at the March meeting.





**WILLINGHAM TABERNACLE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
GEORGE STREET**

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

**2 March**

10 am Liz Herrington - Mother's Day  
6 pm Liz Herrington (Communion)

**9 March**

10 am Keith Rawlinson  
6 pm Richard Sanders

**16 March**

9 am Andrew Wyllie  
10 45 am All-Age Service - to be held  
at Primary School  
6 00 pm Prayer Focus

**21 March - Good Friday**

10 am Liz Herrington, followed by  
Walk of Witness and Service  
on the Green

**23 March - Easter Day**

10 am Keith Rawlinson  
6 pm TBA (Communion)

**30 March**

10 am TBA  
6 pm Keith Rawlinson

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

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

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

**2 March Mothering Sunday**

11 00 am Parish Communion

**9 March**

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

**16 March Palm Sunday**

11 00 am Family Communion

**21 March Good Friday**

10 00 am Service in Church  
10 30 am Churches Together March of  
Witness  
11 00 am United Service on Village  
Green

**23 March Easter**

8 00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11 00 am Family Communion

**30 March**

11 00 am United Communion with  
Baptism at **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 March: 6th).

There is a **prayer meeting** on the last  
Friday of each month at 8 00 am (In  
March: 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 March**

10 30 am Morning Worship  
5 pm Evening Worship

**9 March**

5 pm Evening Worship

**16 March**

5 pm Evening Worship

**23 March**

5 pm Evening Worship

**30 March**

5 pm Evening Worship

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
HIGH STREET  
RAMPTON**

**2 March Mothering Sunday**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**9 March**

9 30 am Church Lite in the Village Hall

**16 March**

9 30 am Parish Communion

**20 March Maunday Thursday**

7 00 pm Agape\*

**23 March**

9 30 am Easter Communion

**30 March**

11 00 am United Communion and  
Baptism

\* Agape is an informal re-enactment of  
the Last Supper.

**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 March this is West Fen Road, Fen End,  
Lordship Close and Pegler Court.

**Willingham Charity Lunch**

This month's Charity Lunch will be held at 1 pm on Saturday 15 March, hosted by Jean and Ken Taylor at 37 Rampton End. The lunch, which costs £3, consists of a choice of soups, bread and cheeses, tea or coffee, etc. This year's chosen charity is the local Over Day Care Centre which was established in 1989 to provide care for the frail and elderly in Over and surrounding villages reaching as far as Cottenham and Elsworth and including Bar Hill, Longstanton, Willingham, Swavesey and Rampton. It is a self-funded organisation and, although it is in receipt of some grants, etc, it also continues to look for volunteers to become involved in all aspects of the Day Centre. Visitors to the Centre are always welcome. Our lunches are social occasions, a good time to meet old and new friends and, at the same time, raise money for needy causes. So, why not come along and join us.



## Willingham Parish Plan – Latest News

The analysis of all the straightforward answers in the questionnaire, for example those that required a yes/no response or details of how you travel or how you feel about the surgery or school, is now complete and sent to those who have volunteered to write the report. The writing of the report is being undertaken by six groups, one working on 'parking, traffic, road safety, crime disorder and disturbance,' another on 'housing, employment and transport' and so on. The groups are made up from about thirty keen and willing volunteers who live in the village. The members of the original Parish Plan Committee wish to express their thanks publicly for the invaluable help these writing groups have offered to give.

As well as using all the data gained from the questionnaires, the writing groups will be using other sources to produce a complete and detailed report, on which an action plan will be based. They will be considering what can be used from the last census as well as any housing or traffic surveys undertaken by the local councils and information supplied by other bodies such as Willingham School. Some may need to undertake more research if they feel vital information is missing.

When they produced the questionnaire the committee took a risk by not using existing software because they wanted to allow Willingham residents to make more written comments than most commercial programs allow; often most questions are just of the 'yes/no' type or tick boxes. However, because of the unexpectedly overwhelming response, analysing the comments is taking a little longer than planned.

The quality and good sense of the many comments submitted would solve all the problems seen in our village, if the councils act on them, plus of course enthusiasm and help from residents. A few are reproduced in italics below. In particular, there seems to be huge demand for more facilities and activities to promote village life. The questionnaires yielded a massive list of suggestions for markets, festivals, classes, etc., plus the revival of old village events such as Gala Week.

The seemingly high level of crime and vandalism in the village were briefly reported in the *Willingham News* a couple of months ago and those initial statistics are supported by the comments. Younger people are seen as the cause of much of the trouble but with the recognition of lack of facilities,

*'Young people have nowhere and nothing to do – this is a huge problem that contributes to most of the problems.'*

There is much said about the need for the residents to push for improvements and many problems are highlighted,

*'Minor roads desperately in need of repair e.g. potholes and cracks.'*

At the same time, many comments demonstrate optimism and a sense of belonging and pride in Willingham,

*'We like living in Willingham. There are good amenities i.e. pubs /shops/library –but need more for youths.'* and *'Love Willingham, what makes people happy is a feeling of community, talking and getting involved, creating more ties and useful activities will help.'*

Transport is often raised as a problem,

*'Cottenham Village College is the college assigned to Willingham but if you miss the school bus, have a doctor's appointment before school or want to go to after school activities there is not any transport.'*

Northstowe is often at the forefront of people's minds, as well as the Guided Bus,

*'Very sad that our once open rural community will become part of the Northstowe urban sprawl. Developers must put in social facilities early in development to avoid the depression and isolation of young people as has happened in Cambourne.'*

*'There will be too much traffic coming through the village and the A14 will be even more dangerous – quite honestly are people going to use the guided bus if going by car is more convenient – I expect it will be expensive just like the buses are now – village life will be completely changed once Northstowe is here.'*

These are just a few of the many thousands of comments received but hopefully they will whet your appetite for the final version of the report to be produced in the summer. If even a small part of your comments become reality because the people of Willingham work to push them through then we can look forward to a vibrant village which retains its identity and offers something good for young and old.

### Bin collections

<b>5 March</b>	Black bin
<b>12 March</b>	Green bin and box
<b>19 March</b>	Black bin
<b>27 March (THURSDAY)</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.



## Sudoku set by Willow

*solution to puzzle on page 16*

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

## Rosie In Stitches

*Hand-made children's toys and clothes*

111 Hillcrest, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB23 8 TH

### Happy New Year

This greeting is a little bit late now, but how many of you are still looking for that "little bit of voluntary work" to sort out that new year's resolution to "do something worthwhile" in 2008?

### Perhaps we can help you out.

Would you like to join our sociable committee and meet up to four evenings a year to help decide how to spend our fundraising?

Maybe you would prefer to volunteer in the daytime and can spare up to four days a year to organise our sales table in Addenbrooke's?

Or are you looking for something more frequent like four hours a week working in our tea bar in the Rosie Hospital outpatients?

### If any of the above meets your needs then please get in touch with:

Mary Sanders to join our committee on 01223 356615 or [marysan@waitrose.com](mailto:marysan@waitrose.com)

Avril Williams to manage our sales table on [rosieinstitches@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:rosieinstitches@ukonline.co.uk) or 01954 782431

Audrey Ryall to work in our tea bar on 01223 353566 or [audmr@btinternet.com](mailto:audmr@btinternet.com)

Our Annual General Meeting is on Monday 10th March 2008 at 12.30pm in Rosie Seminar Room 5 at The Rosie Hospital.

Our webpage gives more details at [rosieinstitches.org.uk/volunteering.htm](http://rosieinstitches.org.uk/volunteering.htm).

Do have a look at what we have for sale in our catalogue online.

Also, if you are a regular online shopper then if you log on to the [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/forh](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/forh) site your purchases will raise money for our charity.

Thank you for all your help in whichever way you can.

## Willingham Library

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

0845 0455225



### Library Opening Times

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

## Willingham Bookcrawl

It's never too soon for your child to join the library! The Bookcrawl scheme is specially for children under 4. Every time they borrow books on their own library card they can choose a coloured sticker to go on their Bookcrawl card. For every 5 stickers there's a certificate and there are 10 certificates to collect.

## CAMREAD – a service for blind people

If you are blind or visually impaired you may find the services offered by CAMREAD useful. The charity was founded over 25 years ago. It serves the whole county. It produces eight times a year a taped magazine, CAM-MAG, which contains a wide variety of information, articles of local interest, music, contributions from listeners, poetry, recipes, humour, etc. CAMREAD also offers recordings of local journals, and books from the County library. Another service is a reading service – with volunteers visiting visually impaired people to help them by reading correspondence etc.

All the services are offered at no charge.

For more information, contact CAMREAD at 167 Green End Road, Cambridge CB4 1RW, telephone 01223 424220, email [office@camread.co.uk](mailto:office@camread.co.uk)

## Village Diary

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

MONTH	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	TICKETS/INFO
<b>March</b>				
1	Spring Crafts	Willingham School Association	Willingham Primary School	2 00 pm - 4 00 pm
3	AGM 'Ottoman Gardens of Istanbul' talk	Willingham Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm
14	Ceilidh	Willingham Scout Group	Willingham Primary School	8 00 pm - 11 15 pm
14	Floodlit Painting Tour	Willingham Parish Church	Willingham Parish Church	7 30 pm
15	Lunch	Willingham Charity Lunch	37 Rampton End	1 00 pm
16	Easter Egg Bingo	Willingham School Association	Willingham Primary School	2 00 pm - 4 00 pm
<b>April</b>				
7	AGM 'Seychelles Wild Life' talk	Willingham Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm
19	Car Wash	Willingham Scouts	The Green	10 00 am - 2 00 pm
<b>May</b>				
11	Willingham Fun Run	Willingham School Association	Willingham Primary School	
17	Funday	Willingham Scouts	Recreation Ground	12 noon - 4 00 pm

## My Baby Book

WHEN Julia Vincent became pregnant with her second child, her two-year-old daughter Jemma struggled to understand what this meant. So Julia, from Willingham, came up with a novel explanation. 'Although Jemma understood the concept of a new baby, she didn't understand it would be happening to her. I was worried how she would take the arrival of her new brother, Jack.'

Julia decided to create a book to help her daughter understand what was happening. Sticking pictures of their family into a scrapbook helped Jemma understand that her family would be getting bigger. 'I also put in pictures of my tummy and created areas where scanned pictures of the new baby could go. As soon as I had my first scan she got to stick a picture of it in her book, which she absolutely loved.'

With blank bits in the book ready for the pictures of the baby, Jemma began to understand what her mummy's pregnancy would really mean. 'Jemma's involvement throughout the pregnancy helped her really get to grips with what was going to happen. While I was pregnant with Jack, Jemma would go around saying to people "and this is what's happening next". Then, when I went into labour, she came screaming into the hospital demanding a picture of the new baby so she could complete her book!'

After Jack was born, young mum Julia realised that her idea could help other mums. 'I realised I wanted to take this on myself and self-publish the book. I did lots of research and found out what mothers really wanted.' Jemma's finished book, *My Family Is Getting Bigger*, offers other activities to young families. There are lots of little games like counting and finding things. At that age, children can't write so it needed to be a book which parents could use with the children as a talking point, not something that young kids would just scribble all over. Parents can take it as far as they want to.'

The book is now available in 12 small baby gift stores as well as through Amazon and our website.'

For more information about *My Family Is Getting Bigger*, go to [www.jjbooks.co.uk](http://www.jjbooks.co.uk)

*solution to puzzle on page 15*

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

# 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
	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
	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



## *The following information has been received from the police*

'I write to keep you informed about the recent series of incidents, largely in rural areas where elderly residents were being burgled. There has been extensive publicity about these crimes and you will recall the suspects either entered homes through insecure doors and windows or used bogus stories to gain access. For example, they claimed to be police officers or used a variety of stories to justify their presence.

Cambridgeshire Police set up Operation Promenade in response to this series of crimes. The operation consists of high visibility patrols, detectives assigned to the operation and preventative measures and advice by the Police Crime Reduction Unit and partner agencies.

We have received a number of very helpful telephone calls; identifying vehicles and sightings of possible offenders (We have a photo-fit ID for one suspect and footprints from another site): these are providing us with useful lines of enquiries – so do please continue to be vigilant and keep calling! (See below).

The Crime Reduction Unit, the Distraction Burglary and Rogue Trader Task Group and South Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership have all made significant contributions towards raising the awareness of the problem and the simple steps you can take to keep you safe.

### **Here is a reminder of a few simple steps that you can take:**

Ensure your front and back doors are locked (to prevent anyone just walking into your home)

Ensure all windows, especially those on the ground floor, are fitted with locks.

An intruder can gain entry through an opening no larger than 9" (22cm) so please take care with open windows.

When answering the door to a caller remember the following:-

**Locked:** Before opening the front door, ensure the back door is locked.

**Stop:** Think – Are you expecting anyone? Do you normally get callers at this time?

**Chain:** Always put the door chain or door bar across before you open the door. (This presents a physical and psychological barrier which shows the caller that you are in charge)

**Check** Never assume that what the caller is saying is true. Always ask for their I.D., take your time to check it and feel free to close the door whilst the checks are being made. Be aware that a bogus caller will have bogus I.D. so don't always believe what is on the card e.g. telephone numbers especially mobile numbers.

Always use the phone directory to authenticate identification. Remember a genuine caller will not mind waiting or will call back at a more convenient time.

### **If you are still not sure, don't open the door.**

If you or a neighbour have any information about suspicious callers/vehicles in your area please call the Police on 0845 456 456 4 quoting Operation Promenade.

If you feel you are the victim of a crime and the suspect is still in the vicinity or you are witnessing a crime **dial 999 immediately.**

**With your help we can put a stop to these despicable crimes.'**

*Another offering from Milford Jeeps, that originated from a lady in Las Vegas*

### ***Things ain't what they used to be***

*Everything is farther away than it used to be.*

*It is even twice as far to the corner and they have added a hill.*

*I have given up running for the bus. It leaves earlier than it used to.*

*It seems to me that they are making the stairs steeper than in the old days,  
and have you noticed the smaller print they use in newspapers.*

*There is no sense in asking anyone to read aloud anymore, as everybody speaks in such a low voice  
I can hardly hear them.*

*Even people are changing; they are so much younger than they used to be when I was their age.*

*On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am.*

*I ran into an old classmate the other day and she has aged so much she didn't recognise me.*

*I got to thinking about the poor dear while I was combing my hair this morning and,  
in doing so, I glanced at my own reflection.*

*Really now, they don't even make good mirrors like they used to.*

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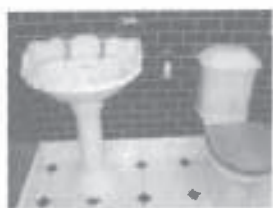
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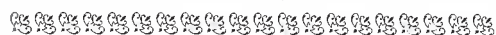
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