

WILLINGHAM NEWS



April 2008

School Report: news from the Primary School



Mrs Brearley with Birte Schneider, from Namibia, and Martin Atela from Kenya, overseas Commonwealth visitors from Cambridge University.

Willingham Primary School, together with the many Churches and other organisations in the village, is at the heart of the community; and as such we try to equip our

young people with the right values, knowledge and good attitudes so that they can become responsible citizens able to contribute in a positive way. Our school has a diverse mix of children and so it is important that we instil in our pupils a sense of caring, understanding and tolerance.

Willingham School is an exciting place where children can develop new skills and talents and develop a love for learning. There are also plenty of opportunities for our parents and carers to become involved in their own learning and also to contribute to the future development of the school. We have a strong Governing body, WSA (Willingham School Association), and a Learning Landscape Committee and many parents and carers are involved in this way. Others help through supporting teachers in the classroom. We value the work of our parents and carers and know that our school is the richer for their support and help.

Pupils have an important voice in our school. We have a democratically elected School Council who meet regularly to discuss issues and problems that arise

continued on page 7

At long last it is under construction !

Yes, the pavilion is currently undergoing a major extension and full refurbishment.

After years of fund-raising and hundreds of hours of work by volunteers on Willingham Sports Council, we are pleased to say the funding is in place and the work has started. The pavilion construction started just before Christmas and is likely to last until the end of June.



The new pavilion will have four unisex changing rooms, two official rooms, clubroom, kitchen, toilets, goal store, pitched roof and veranda.

We would like to thank the funding bodies, The Football Foundation, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Evolve (Donarbon), S106 monies, Willingham

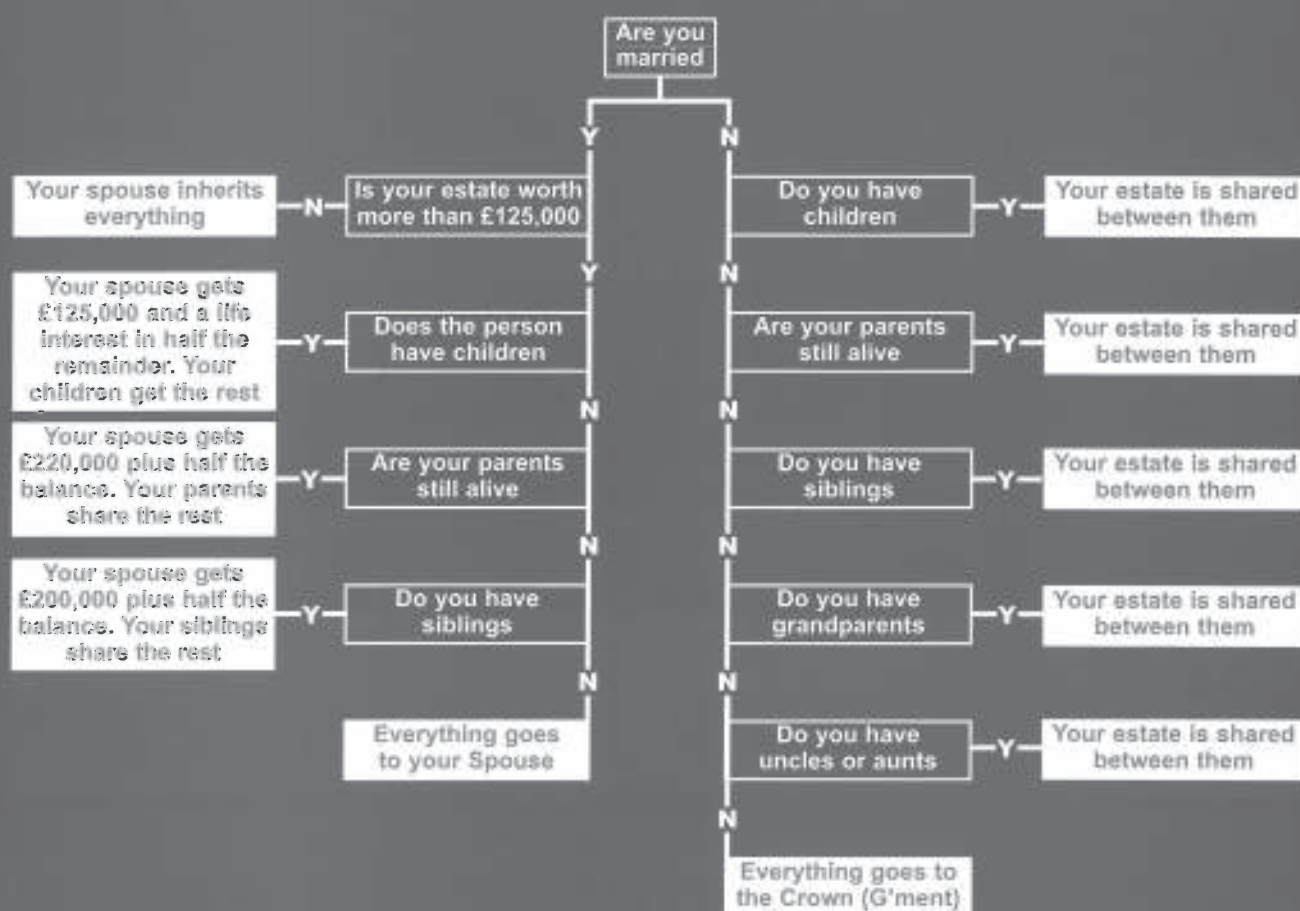
continued on page 7

Ken and Grace Jeeps – see profile on page 14



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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, 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 April**.

Police Contacts

The email of our PCSO Domenic Pingerna is domenic.pingerna@cambs.pnn.police.uk

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From the Parish Council

New Parish Clerk

We now have a new Parish Clerk, Mr Colin Brown. Mrs Dawn Spouge will continue as Deputy Parish Clerk.

Guided Bus Way

Our County Council have advised that works on the Guided Busway have reached Oakington. Four companies are soon to start trials of their buses. A concrete base is being laid on the B1059 at Longstanton and during this time there will be single line working, controlled by traffic lights that will operate 24 hours a day.

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming measures would be welcome in Willingham. There are no doubts about that on the Parish Council. Getting the County Council to provide traffic calming of a kind acceptable to the majority of people in the village has not proved easy. What people wanted – and did not want – became clear from a wide-ranging consultation carried out several years ago. Getting that translated into action by the County Council, by contrast, has not been straightforward. The Parish Council is continuing its efforts, and wishes to assess the effectiveness of the interactive traffic sign on Earith Road before deciding, in consultation with the public, what else would be effective. Unfortunately, the interactive sign, installed by the County Council several years ago, has never worked, and efforts to get the County Council to tackle this have not so far been successful. The Parish Council, however, has been assured – once again – that something will be done. Watch this space.

Willingham Public Art Bus Stop Steering Group

There was a meeting of the above on Thursday 6 March at the Ploughman Hall. The Bus Stop project is soaring ahead with contributions from our local teenagers on several designs for the floor lights.

Committee Meeting dates

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

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

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wednesday 2 April – 7 30 pm at the Primary School, Thodays Close and is open to the public.

Parish Council Office Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP. Tel. 01954-261027

E-mail email@willinghampc.org.uk

Clerk: Mr Colin Brown

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Dawn Spouge

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

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

The Office is open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from

10 00 am to 1 00 pm, 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.

Improvements to the Green

Willingham residents were asked in 2003 for their views on proposals for improvements to the Green. There was a large majority in favour. People disliked some of the specific early draft proposals, and these were removed. Responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire have shown continuing positive interest.

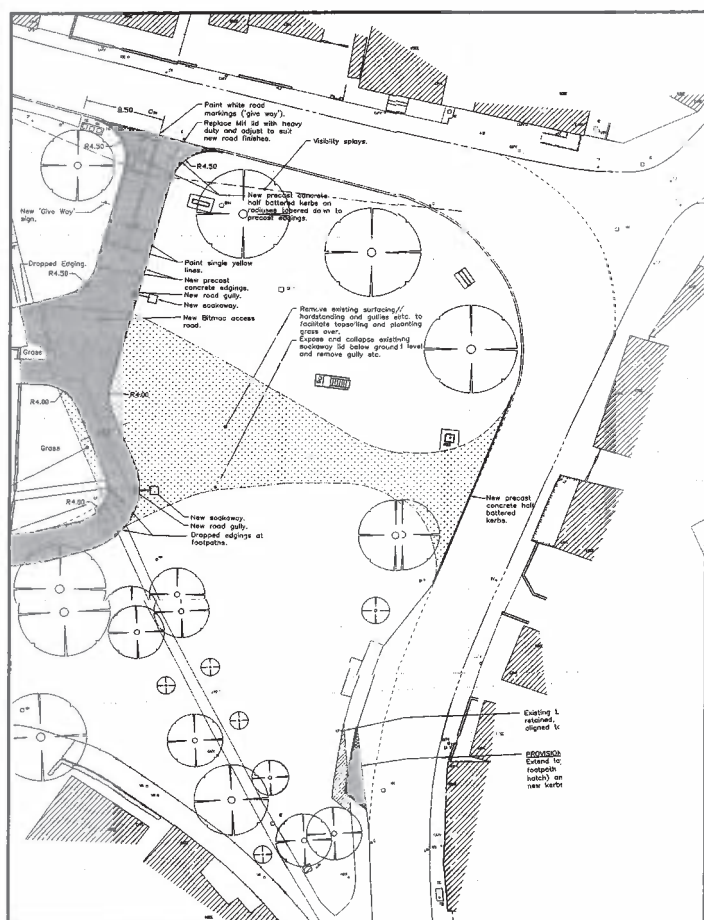
Final plans were prepared and submitted by the Parish Council to the South Cambridgeshire District Council. These plans will be available in the Parish Office for members of the public to see on Monday 7 April between 3 00 and 5 00 pm and between 7 00 and 8 30 pm.

Meanwhile you may like to see the reduced-size plan (see page 7).

The Ploughman Hall: New arrangements

The Ploughman Hall is ceasing to be a separate charity. It is now run by the Parish Council. Bookings may be made through the Parish Clerk, by visiting the Parish office when it is open, or by telephoning 261027.

Improvements to the Green



continued from page 1

Parish Council, Willingham Wolves F C, Willingham Sports Council and everyone that has supported our events.

We believe the pavilion will be a great asset to the village and its clubs and at the same time improve the look of the village.

To make the most of this new pavilion we need to make sure we participate in sport so, should you want to join in with football, cricket or hockey then please get in contact with the club secretaries listed in the village directory on page 17.

Let's make Willingham known for its sporting talent.

Simon Nunn
Willingham Sports Council

Mothers' Union

Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday 28 April at 2 30 pm in the Octagon. Our speaker will be Hazel Halter, talking about a trip to Uganda. Anyone will be most welcome to come and join us. We shall be having a bring and buy stall.

Wave of Prayer: Friday 4 April in the Lady Chapel at 4 00 pm

continued from page 1

around school, and we are always surprised and very pleased when they come up with simple solutions that we have never even considered!

We are a Health Promoting School encouraging pupils to lead healthy life styles. We have been running our own school meals service for three years and this has allowed us to control the food we buy and the food our pupils eat. Mrs Jipson and her team provide nutritious meals that are tasty and filling and you won't be surprised to hear that the uptake for our meals is high. As well as good food at lunchtime, cookery lessons have been on the curriculum for some time now, providing children with knowledge about food and where it's grown and so equipping them with essential life skills.

The 'Arts' are promoted at the school. Pupils' art work is displayed in our corridors for everyone to see and admire and more and more children are learning to play musical instruments and joining the band and choirs. We hold a regular Art Exhibition and concerts, and many of you will have attended our wonderful 'Last Night at the Proms'.

Languages are also offered, and we are twinned with a primary school on Avrillé, France, the Fen Edge twin town.

Schools are not about just schooling nowadays, they are about life -long learning. We are a real community school here in Willingham providing care for our children from 7 45 am until 6 00 pm each day and many clubs in the evenings for children and adults which extend their learning opportunities. We feel that we work hard at being a real community school, welcoming everyone and listening to all.

We have just had an OFSTED Inspection and we were very pleased by the outcome. It reflects all the hard work of our pupils, staff, parents and Governors.

I continue to be a very committed, hardworking Headteacher and feel very privileged to be part of your children's development and part of the community.

Touching the lives of so many young people, sharing their joy and eureka moments has got to be the best thing in the world!

Mrs Jo Brearley
Headteacher

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 Tel: 01954 207600

Patient Survey Many of you will remember being asked to complete a survey in September last year organised by Cambridgeshire PCT about the services we provide. This is part of a government-led nationwide exercise which has been conducted every year for the past five years. We have been lucky enough to feature consistently in the top few practices in South Cambridgeshire for all aspects of care and have appreciated the many kind comments from you about our practice. The results of the survey are available in reception if you would like to view them.

We always conduct a full team meeting to assess the results and act on your comments. Last year we failed in our main target to introduce a new telephone system due to technical problems with the exchange. We have been told the new exchange will soon be completed so we will now press ahead with our plans. In the meantime we have tried our best to improve telephone access.

We need **feedback from you regarding the survey results** and your health needs so would be grateful for a few **volunteers to look at the report** and discuss your views with us. Please contact Cynthia if you would be interested.

Antibiotics The Department of Health is currently running a campaign to advise patients about overuse of antibiotics resulting in resistance to their effectiveness. All colds and most coughs and sore throats are caused by viruses which do not respond to antibiotics. Leaflets explaining the use of antibiotics are available in reception and in our pharmacy. Our doctors will only prescribe antibiotics if they feel they are appropriate. Neil, our pharmacist, can advise you on alternative treatments.

Accident and Emergency and Out of Hours Cover

We see from hospital discharge letters that some people are attending A & E with minor problems which could be dealt with by our **Out of Hours Service CAMDOC**. You may not be aware that each time you attend Casualty Department your local PCT is charged a **minimum of £54** (even if you decide not to wait to be treated). There are situations when it is appropriate to attend Casualty - following serious accidents, in life threatening situations, and when it is likely that you will need an X-ray.

In the majority of cases the quickest way to be seen is to ring CAMDOC on 01223 242646. They will advise you if they feel a trip to A & E is needed or they can offer either telephone advice or **an appointment at the CAMDOC centre at the Chesterton Hospital site where there are no parking charges.** They can arrange a visit by a doctor if necessary.

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

Congratulations...

...to the Willingham Wolves under-15s who won on penalties the under-15s final in the Cambridge & District Colts Finals.



Swavesey & Over Tennis Club

Our new summer 'season' starts on Monday 7 April, when club nights move from just one night a week during the winter to two nights – Mondays and Fridays, from 7 30 pm – 9 00 pm. We're looking for new members to join us and we're running a free Open Evening on **Friday 25 April**. So why not come along and swing a racquet? We're on the courts at Swavesey Village College.

You may be new to the game or haven't played it for some time, or new to the area and itching to find a good, friendly club. We have an age range of 12 to a couple of OAPs, and a skill range from basic to near-county standard.

For those with a competitive instinct, we play in the Cambridge Business Houses summer league (both mixed and men's teams) and we usually run three club tournaments each year from spring to autumn. If there is enough demand we can organise adult coaching and a children's Saturday Club (two age ranges – 5 – 8 years old and 9 – 11 years old). We offer an attractive individual membership rate and a highly attractive family rate.

For information, call Naunton Pugh (club secretary) on (01954) 230393 or email naunton.pugh@ntlworld.com.

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Easter Mini Academy:

- * Cottenham Village College
- * Thursday 3 - Friday 4 April, 10.00 - 17.00
- * £55 or £45 for additional children



Summer Academy:

- * Impington Village College
- * Monday 18 - Friday 22 August, 8.30 - 17.30

For more information or to book
contact Amy Wormald on 01954
288748 or amy@start-arts.org.uk



The Scouts Village Fun Day

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**RAISING MONEY FOR
WILLINGHAM SCOUT GROUP**

Letters to the editor



Cemetery trees

Many parishioners felt angry and dismayed at the treatment of the two chestnut trees that have been lopped in the cemetery, and have not been completely reassured by the report from the Parish Council in the last *Willingham News*. A letter signed by 25 concerned parishioners has been sent to the Parish Council and we hope it will be discussed at the next Council Meeting in April.

Whatever the outcome of the meeting, it would be nice to think that something positive could come out of this incident. It has been suggested that it might help the Parish Council if a tree interest group or an environmental group could be formed in Willingham. It could advise and work with the Parish Council, involving the South Cambridgeshire authority where necessary. Among other things it could locate possible planting sites for trees and other plants, organise volunteer groups in working parties and attract funding or sponsorship for specific schemes. There are a lot of highly qualified and able Willingham people who are interested in trees, plants and the management of natural spaces. Some work professionally in these fields, others are keen to offer help in many other ways. Such a group would take some of the responsibility for these matters off the hard-worked council, while using local knowledge and expertise to good advantage.

Anyone interested in helping to take part in such a group can contact Marion Barber (260791), Graham Mumby (260553) or Louise Daugherty (rafflesia@holophrase.net) giving an email address or telephone number if possible.

Polly Fawcitt

The Challenge of Autism

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone who has shown such wonderful support in my article (Autism); the response has been quite overwhelming and I am very touched by the kind words and wishes sent.

I only have a few weeks left and I must say, I am extremely anxious. I have just received my running vest and number and am making plans to travel to London and register (quite an emotional experience in itself-I've done this before but as a non-runner supporting my husband in

five London marathons!) so with all the support I have received so far, I am now embracing this wonderful experience and am already over half way in collecting sponsorship! You can sponsor me on: www.justgiving.com/clairemumford or send a cheque made payable to the National Autistic Society and send to Claire Mumford, 31 Thodays Close, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LE. Once again thank you so much and I will submit my time etc sometime after the marathon-wish me luck!!

Claire Mumford

Willingham Bowls Club

The Willingham Bowls Club had a successful year in 2007 and we are looking to enjoy the 2008 season, which is rapidly approaching. We are hoping to attract new bowlers who can practise together and join our teams. So if you are thinking of trying bowling, now is the time.

An informal meeting will be held on Thursday 24 April at 7 30 pm in the Bowls Club Tea Room on the Recreation Ground when fees may be paid and programmes for the new season will be available. There will be a practice Roll up on Saturday 26 April. New members very welcome to both meeting and Roll up. Please come along and meet us and we can plan further practice sessions and Sunday friendly matches.

First match: Friday 2 May. For further information telephone 01954 250626.

A quiz from Milford Jeeps (Answers are rivers)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Your previous partner | 12. Cross the road in a hurry |
| 2. Use for felling trees | 13. How to get wages |
| 3. Part of a car engine | 14. East of |
| 4. Educated person | 15. Boat in a famous race |
| 5. Quiet side | 16. Lives underground |
| 6. Eaten at breakfast | 17. Some people – kindness |
| 7. Shortened boy's name | 18. Used in golf |
| 8. A question | 19. Examine |
| 9. Might be Irish | 20. Part of a fork |
| 10. Calling | |
| 11. Played a car dealer on TV | (Answers on page 15) |

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Ploughman Hall, Willingham

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Pastoral Letter

Missing the Obvious!

A recent drive through the country gave me the opportunity to enjoy the spring sunshine, the daffodils and the wildlife, along with the varied architecture of properties of very different eras. I appreciated once again the privilege of living in a beautiful country with so much that is wholesome and good.

Part of our drive out took us past recently ploughed fields surrounded by hedges and trees and, as a passenger rather than a driver, I could observe the wildlife and take in with pleasure what I could see. One particular bird attracted my attention; it was different from the robins, blackbirds, tits and finches I had seen earlier that day. High on a branch of one of the trees by the ploughed field I could see what appeared to me to be a 'falcon' type bird. But I'm no ornithologist, and was well aware that it didn't display the colours I expected to see to aid identification!

Against the freshly turned soil the bird appeared lighter in colour with few distinguishing markings as I watched it swoop down to seize its prey. Then back to the tree it went to enjoy what it had captured. We stopped at the roadside to watch. Soon it took flight again and hovered, while keeping its eyes well focused for some other tasty treat. I thought it must be a kestrel, but I have never seen a light, warm-brown one! I took careful note of what I had seen, and wasted no time back home to try to identify the bird. After looking through two comprehensive bird books I concluded it must be a female kestrel - that was the nearest match. It hadn't occurred to me at the time that the male and female kestrels had different plumage.

I thought how slow I had been to cotton on to the obvious; I have no difficulty in identifying male and female pheasants, chaffinches, blackbirds and such like, but this time I had missed the obvious!

I seem to remember that the disciples of Jesus could be slow sometimes. After the resurrection of Jesus Christ as he walked along the Emmaus Road with a couple of disciples, they didn't recognise him, neither did they believe that he had risen from death. 'He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself'. (Luke 24: 25 - 27 NIV).

Only then did they realise the truth.

I hope we are quicker to see the obvious in things that really matter!

Major Marian Lewis
Salvation Army

Cottenham Village College Summer School

This year's Cottenham Village College Summer School is from 28 July to 1 August. There are approximately 26 courses on a variety of subjects from Stained Glass to Egg Tempera Painting and Mexican Cookery to Bird Watching. All courses run for either five days or four or three or two or even one day. The cost of a 5-day course is £180 which includes a delicious lunch each day plus tea and coffee throughout the day. To book your course and find more details please contact Cottenham Village College on 01954 288751 or email: community@cvcweb.net or www.cottenhamonline.com <<http://www.cottenhamonline.com>> . Please hurry to book to avoid disappointment.



Parish Church

Bubbles Bubbles takes place every Friday during school term time.

Bubbles is for pre-school children accompanied by parents or carers. It offers time to meet others and be creative. It is held in the Octagon from 10 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 The April cake stall will be on Saturday 5 April – from 10 00 am at the church. There is always a good choice of cakes

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 are for 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 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

Every Monday **Coffee morning** at 10 30 am. **Craft meeting** at 2 00 pm

Thursday Lunch at 12 30 pm followed by **Friendship Club** at 2 00 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.

Meeting/Presentations and Outings

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

Monday 5 May, Rob Brett will speak to us about *'Orchids'*.

Our programme of outings will be announced in these pages in due course when details and costings are finalised but the first outing will be on Saturday 10 May, when, subject to being able to make the arrangements, we shall be going to visit the RHS gardens at Wisley in Surrey. We hope to be able to publish the remaining dates/details in the next edition of *Willingham News*.

Reminder

Any remaining unpaid subscriptions of £7. 50 for the new club year are due at the April 2008 meeting.





**WILLINGHAM TABERNACLE
BAPTIST CHURCH
GEORGE STREET**

www.willinghambaptist.org

6 April

10 00 am Liz Herrington
(Communion)

6 00 pm Liz Herrington

13 April

10 00 am Keith Rawlinson – Sunday
School Celebration

6 00 pm Richard Sanders

20 April

9 00 am Geoff Pake
10 45 am All-Age Service - to be held
at Primary School

6 00 pm Andrew Wyllie (Prayer
Focus)

27 April

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

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

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

www.willinghamchurch.org

6 April

11 00 am Parish Communion

13 April

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

20 April

9 30 am **Parish Communion*

27 April

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

* N.B. Swap of Service time with
Rampton on 20 April, to allow time for
the Vintage Rally

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 April: 3rd).

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

Children are welcome at all our
11 00 am services. On the 1st, 3rd &
5th Sundays, 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**

6 April

10 30 am Morning Worship
5 00 pm Evening Worship

13 April

5 00 pm Evening Worship

20 April

5 00 pm Evening Worship

27 April

5 00 pm Evening Worship

**The Salvation Army
Wanted....**

A pianist to accompany singing in
weekly Services each Sunday at 5 00 pm

Please contact Major Marian Lewis
on 01480 386593

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH
HIGH STREET
RAMPTON**

6 April

9 30 am Parish Communion

13 April

9 30 am Church Lite in the Village Hall

20 April

11 00 am **Parish Communion*

27 April

9 30 am Church Lite in the Village Hall

* N.B. Swap of Service time with
Willingham on 20 April to allow time
for the Vintage Rally

**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 April this is
Wilford Furlong, Brickhills, Meadow
Road, Rockmill End, Sponge Drove.

Willingham Charity Lunch

This month's charity lunch will be held on Saturday 26 April at 1 00 pm at
36 St Margaret's Road, Girton, hosted by Chris and Daphne Randall. The
lunch consists of a choice of soups, bread and cheeses, tea, coffee etc, and
costs £3. This year's nominated charity is the local Over Day Care Centre,
which collects and supports elderly residents in Over, Willingham,
Longstanton, Bar Hill and other local areas, taking them to the Centre for
activities including singing, crafts, quizzes, bingo etc. Also regular outings
are organised. It is a self funded organisation and like many other charities
it is always in need of funds to keep up the good work.

These lunches are social occasions, a good time to meet both
old and new friends and at the same time raise money for needy
causes, so why not come and join us.



PROFILE: Grace and Ken Jeeps

You can often see Ken Jeeps cycling round the village. Sometimes, he will exchange the bicycle for a wheelchair, and push Grace, now unable to walk more than a few steps. Ken quite frequently attends meetings of the Parish Council, as a member of the public.

Ken and Grace were born in Willingham (Ken in February 1923, Grace a few months earlier, in December 1922). They have lived here pretty well all their lives, and for many years, and in many different ways, served the village faithfully. They reminisce interestingly about the changes they have witnessed, but they remain strongly committed to Willingham as it is today. A clearly devoted couple, they are cheerful, positive – and blessed with a great sense of humour.

This year they celebrate 27 years of marriage, but they have known each other all their lives, and are cousins; Grace's father and Ken's mother were brother and sister. They were at Willingham School – then in Fen End – together, but remark wryly that they really don't remember each other as fellow pupils.

Grace left school, at the age of 14, and went to work at Wellbrooks Laundry in Girton, cycling to work across the then quite new airfield at Oakington (for which a pass was necessary). She recalls people, seeing aeroplanes flying overhead, saying: 'There's going to be a war'.

She met and married Fred Evans, an airman who was stationed at Oakington. Their daughter, Pauline, was born in 1944. Fred died when he and Grace had been married for only ten years, suffering from kidney problems which they suspect had been caused by working on the maintenance of aircraft engines.

Ken, leaving school also at 14, spent a year doing casual work cutting flowers (flower growing being then a major industry in Willingham), and then in 1939 joined Thompson and Norris, a cardboard manufacturing company in Histon. The firm was eventually bought by Reeds Corrugated, but Ken spent the whole of his working life with them, retiring, in February 1989, only a few months short of a half century. He greatly enjoyed his work, moving over the years through every aspect of manufacture, and still recalls with pleasure the wonderful send-off with which he went into retirement.

It was during the war that the two cousins began a lifetime of voluntary work. Grace was the caller for bingo sessions – later replaced by whist drives organised by Ken – to raise money for Addenbrooke's Hospital. (These were the days before the National Health Service.) When Fred was ill, they set about raising money for a new dialysis machine.

For a few months after Fred's death, Grace moved to Birmingham, near his family, but, not a city girl at heart, soon returned to Willingham. She went to work at Willingham House, which had just stopped being the Rectory and had become a care home for the elderly. She ended her time there as cook, and, like Ken, greatly enjoyed her work.

More recent Willingham residents will remember Grace in her next role, working at the baker's in Church Street.

For many years, before and after their marriage (in 1981, at the Methodist Church) Ken and Grace continued the hard-working participation in many aspects of village life that had begun during the war.

They were both heavily involved in organising the Field Days which were a major aspect of Willingham's life in the period soon after the war. They played a major part in the celebrations of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953, and in the celebrations of her Silver Jubilee in 1977. Ken served on the Parish Council for many years.

As they look back, they reflect on the vast number of changes that they have witnessed. 'Our generation have seen more changes than anyone will ever see again', Ken believes. He recalls the coming of gas and electricity to Willingham in the 1930s (electricity slightly delayed because the Cambridge Town and University Gas Company 'pipped the electricity company to the post'). Then 30 years later, in 1967, he remembers the provision of sewerage. When he and Grace were young, he reflects, few of the roads had hard surfaces.

Grace remembers her father finding an old bike (with no tyres or tubes) and letting her ride it. She cycled along Rook Grove, and crashed into a wall. But, she notes 'We had no fear of motors – because there weren't any'.

They look back on some of the features of the village with happy nostalgia. Ken remembers that the old horse-drawn fire engine was kept on the Green, and manned by volunteers, until the second world war when a professional fire service became available. They both recall the bus company providing special buses to Willingham from Cambridge on Feast Sunday, and regret that the bus service now available to Willingham is much worse than in the days when buses ran via Cottenham as well as Longstanton.

They are conscious of the significance of the village's history. Ken, for example, spoke critically of moves some years ago to take the Public Hall down. 'That would have removed history', he remarks, noting also that the Public Hall is still fully used.

Remembering and relishing Willingham as it was, however, does not mean that they yearn for the past. Unobtrusively, and without fuss, both Ken and Grace continue to take a positive interest in the village, as they have always done.

solution to puzzle on page 16

Across: 1 Backgammon, 7 Monopoly, 8 Game, 9 Snap, 10 Granite, 12 Battleships, 14 Fissure, 16 Knot, 19 Ogre, 20 Scrabble, 21 Effortless.

Down: 1 Books, 2 Coolant, 3 Grow, 4 Mayoress, 5 Organ, 6 Smites, 11 Alfresco, 12 Bridge, 13 Ignoble, 15 Shelf, 17 Tiles, 18 Writ.

WATCH OUT FOR METAL THEFT

You may have heard by now that churches, schools and other buildings all across the UK are currently suffering from an epidemic of metal theft - as thieves strip away metal of all varieties to sell for cash.

This is happening here in Willingham.

As a member of our community you will understand the impact this criminal activity has on local buildings and the people who own and use them. In fact, untold physical damage is being caused, alongside a lot of worry and concern. And while the Police are doing a great deal of work to tackle this problem - making a number of arrests and helping raise public awareness - your help is still very much needed.

Please follow the Look, Listen & Act guide to help prevent metal theft.

For more information visit www.churchalert.co.uk.

Hopefully, by working together as a community, we will be able to put a stop to this damaging trend.

Thank you for your support

Look

- For anyone behaving suspiciously
- For unidentified vans or lorries parked near the churches or the school and make a note of the registration number
- For lights around the church or school at night
- For anyone who appears to be working on the church or school and check that they are doing so legitimately

Listen

- For suspicious sounds coming from the church or school at night
- For the sound of vehicles stopping and starting near the church or school, especially at night
- For any conversations you may overhear that arouse your suspicions

Act

- If you're suspicious about anything, don't hesitate to call the police 0845 4564564

OVER JAZZ NEW ORLEANS HEAT

on Friday 11th April 2008

The Community Centre

Drings Close, Over, Cambridge

Doors open 7.45pm for 8.15pm start

For tickets, priced at £8.50 each, please contact Julia on 01954 230056, Val on 01954 230655 or email: julia_warren@btinternet.com

There is a licensed bar at the Centre and a raffle will be held with the proceeds going to a local village charity.

Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

0845 0455225



Library Opening Times

Monday	6 00 pm	-	8 00 pm
Tuesday	3 00 pm	-	5 30 pm
	6 00 pm	-	8 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

Fool Fest!

Tuesday 1 April 10 30 - 11 30 am

Come and join us at the library for April Fool's Day fun! There will be stories and crafts for children aged approx. 7-11. Tickets are 50p for each child, available from the library, and we ask that a parent/carer remains (adult tickets are free)

Quiz answers: 1. Exe; 2. Axe; 3. Cam; 4. Don; 5. Lea; 6. Rye; 7. Sid; 8. Wye; 9. Aire; 10. Avon; 11. Cole; 12. Dart; 13. Earn; 14. Eden; 15. Isis; 16. Mole; 17. Ouse; 18. Tee; 19. Test; 20. Tyne

Bin collections

2 April	Black bin
9 April	Green bin and box
16 April	Black bin
23 April	Green bin and box
30 April	Black bin
8 May	(Thursday) Green bin and box

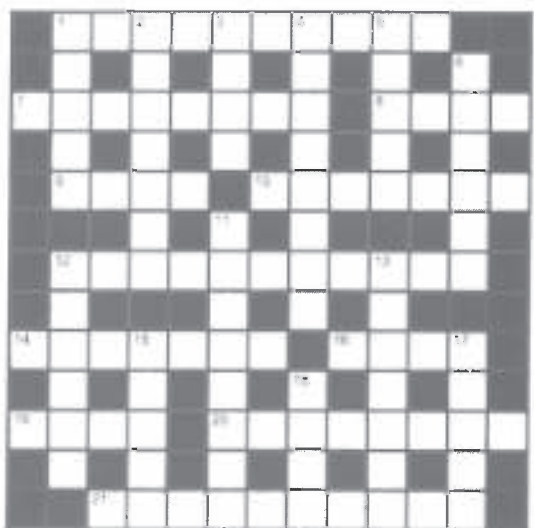
Leprosy Mission. Thank you for all the stamps you have sent. We also collect obsolete and foreign coins, and picture postcards. They may all be left in the box at the Parish Church. **Glossy magazines** (including *Willingham News*) should be placed in the green box. **Recycle Plastic** bearing the recycling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

Village Diary

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

MONTH	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	TICKETS/INFO
April				
2	Day Centre Coffee Morning		Over Day Centre	10-11 30 am
7	AGM 'Seychelles Wild Life' talk	Willingham Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm
11	Over Jazz 'New Orleans Heat'		Community Centre	7 45 for 8 15 start
14	Linda Scholes	WI	Social Club	7 30 pm
15	'Sir John Hynde Cotton of Madingley Hall'	History Society: with Dr Evelyn Lord	SVC	7 30 pm
15	Guided walk in Hayley Wood to see bluebells and oxlips	Swavesey and Over Conservation Society	Meet at SVC	5 30 pm
19	Car Wash	Willingham Scouts	The Green	10 00 am - 2 00 pm
16	Over Gardening Club		Community Centre	7 45 pm
24	Informal meeting	Willingham Bowls Club		7 30 pm
26	Practice Roll up	Willingham Bowls Club	Recreation Ground	
26	Lunch	Willingham Charity Lunch	36 St Margaret's Road, Girton	1 00 pm
May				
2	First match of season	Willingham Bowls Club	Recreation Ground	
5	'Orchids' - a talk by Rob Brett	Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm
7	Club AGM and Jenny Edrich on 'The Wildlife of the Seychelles'	Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm
11	Willingham Fun Run	Willingham School Association	Willingham Primary School	
17	Funday	Willingham Scouts	Recreation Ground	12 noon - 4 00 pm

Crossword set by Willow



Across

- 1 8 with eggs for breakfast? (10)
- 7 Sole supplier of 8 (8)
- 8 Mega-complicated competition (4)
- 9 Over-criticizes 8 (4)
- 10 Get Iran dancing to rock? (7)
- 12 8 used in main conflict (11)
- 14 Angler heard crack (7)
- 16 Tie heartless family has to overcome (4)
- 19 Magog recalls embracing another giant (4)
- 20 Struggle frantically with 8 (8)
- 21 English fine castles hold the French - no problem (10)

Down

- 1 Sounds disapproving about King dipping into reserves (5)
- 2 Calmness of worker prevents engine overheating (7)

- 3 Produce good argument (4)
- 4 Title of dignitary's wife, long ago in Massachusetts (8)
- 5 Heart, for example, is a complex instrument (5)
- 6 Strikes extremely insolent note in text message (6)
- 11 I am not into making coal fires in the open air (8)
- 12 Link to 8 (6)
- 13 Rough elbowing is pointless and shameful (7)
- 15 Girl has odd life holding books! (5)
- 17 Doctor lets me in on the board of 20 (5)
- 18 Scrawl endlessly on legal document (4)

(answers: page 14)

Village Directory

Council	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
Services	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
Schools	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
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Mrs M Dellar	01954 260045
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)		01954 201567
	Tigger Toddlers	Mrs W Leaney	01954 201089
	Old Buttery Nursery School		01954 260046
	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
Halls	Ploughman Hall Bookings	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Wilford Furlong Centre		01954 261445
	The Octagon	Mrs A Robinson	01954 261076
Local Representatives	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
Clubs	Gardening Club	Mr T Halsey	01954 201910
	Social Club	Mrs S Hart	01954 204260
	WAMADS Drama Group	Mrs C Deeth (Secretary)	07896 322497
		Mrs J Farrar	01954 200515
	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
Sport	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Claire Few	01954 203001
	Football Club	Mr Alex Howard	01954 260734
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 260446
	Hockey	Kris Westmore	01954 202082
	Badminton	Mr J Fuggle	01954 260478
	Step Aerobics	Ms E Weatherill	01954 205439
	Bowls Club	Mrs Linda Aspinall	01954 261526
Churches	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

JOTTINGS FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

In a few weeks the council tax bills for next year will be dropping through the letterbox and I guess that for many it will be another unwelcome increase. Cambridgeshire County Council (and also the Police Authority) have raised the council tax by 5% - yet again above the rate of inflation. Cambridgeshire will be one of the highest increases, but this masks the overall level of funding. Yet again we continue to be one of the lowest funded authorities in the country. The grant we receive from government accounts for about one third of what we spend and the rest comes from council tax. The average increase in grant from government for shire counties for next year is 5.7% - Cambridgeshire received just 2%. Already our grant from government is one of the lowest - so 2% of not very much, remains a small sum, whereas a 9.4% increase on a large grant makes it even bigger.

So each year the gap between the best funded authorities (eg Nottinghamshire) and the lowest gets bigger and bigger. It isn't surprising that the counties with the lowest increase in council tax are the ones that got the best settlement from government and counties like Cambridgeshire are forced to go for a higher than average council tax rise in order the fund essential services. I know that I have said this before, but we can't

buy our services in Tesco's or Sainsbury's and inflation costs for councils often rise above the standard measures. We have been hit, like everyone, by increases in fuel to pay, for example, for subsidised bus services or transporting children to school. Our elderly population is also increasing at a much faster rate than the national average and as a consequence the costs of caring from them are also increasing more. The one positive element of all of this is that the Audit Commission recently judged us to be one of the top authorities in the country for our use of resources - in other words, how we spend your money.

The ultimate irony - the Audit Commission, who visit us each year to check how we spend our money have announced that they plan to increase their fees by as much as 30% - haven't they heard of inflation?

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

Shona Johnstone, Highfield, 5 Lowburyholme Road, Over, CB24 5NP

Tel: 01954 230565, e-mail:

shona.johnstone@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Parish Plan - Comments on Northstowe Planning Applications

When writing the questionnaire that was circulated to all households last autumn the Parish Plan Committee were aware that the development at Northstowe was likely to have a significant impact on the quality of life in Willingham, and so one question specifically addressed this point. With fortuitous timing, the letter from South Cambridgeshire District Council soliciting comments on the planning applications for Northstowe has coincided with the initial analysis of responses to that question, and the Chairman of the Plan committee has written to SCDC with a brief synopsis of those views, together with some of the background information that will form the basis of the Plan. The letter is lengthy, but it is based on the following four concerns:

- * That the development could destroy Willingham as a distinct community.
- * That during development it would create a strain on local infrastructure and services.
- * That the traffic generated during construction would be disruptive and hazardous. In the long term, traffic on the B1050 would cause major deterioration to our quality of life.
- * There is an increased risk of flooding.

Willingham Women's Institute



Willingham WI meets on the second Monday of each month at 7 30 pm at Willingham Social Club; new members and visitors are always welcome.

The speaker for our April meeting is Linda Scholes, an American lady who has lived in England over 35 years. Her subject for the evening is *'Everything I always wanted to know about sex'* when she will entertain us with her very light hearted and humorous views on the subject. Linda is a very witty and entertaining speaker who will keep us laughing as well as give us something to think about.

Several of our members will be attending the Cambridgeshire Federation of WIs Annual Conference at Comberton Village College at the end of April where the main speaker will be James Wight, son of Alf Wight better known as James Herriot who will be telling us about his father's life as a Yorkshire vet. In June, 17 of our members will be going to see a performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Tolthorpe Hall near Stamford.

Do come along, we are a friendly group of ladies who enjoy both the serious and not so serious sides of life together with a good chat.

CLUB "60" Holidays

SPALDING FLOWER SHOW Saturday 3rd May £14
6 Days ISLE of WIGHT £249 inc 5th to 10th 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

CROMER End of Pier Summer Seaside Special Show
Tuesday 8th July & 19th August £27

BURE VALLEY Steam Train & MISSISSIPI Steam
Boat

£29.75 inc Sandwich lunch 14th July

YARMOUTH - Hippodrome SUMMER SPECTACULAR
Matinee Only £24

Wednesdays 23rd July & 27th August

NOTTINGHAM PRINCESS River Boat Trip

£29 inc Roast Lunch 9th September

4 Days EASTBOURNE £169 inc 12th September

5 Days BLACKPOOL Illuminations

£185 inc 6th to 10th October

BOOK 5 Days Tinsel & Turkey 2008 NOW

Scarborough - Bournemouth

Llandudno - Weston Super Mare

TWIXMAS - CROMER & NORWICH

28th to 29th December £72

LOCAL VILLAGE PICK UP "WILLINGHAM"

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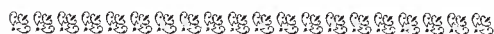
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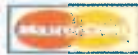
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