

Willingham News

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AUGUST 2020



Meet new Willingham resident Pandora born in June – see page 5
Also inside – report on the Virtual Fen Gallop – see page 16

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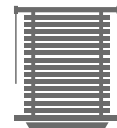
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Willingham News will be reappearing in printed form from next month!

Currently *Willingham News* is only available online but from next month the team has agreed to resume deliveries.

We still need your stories and pictures to entertain us and raise our spirits, but note that the deadline for copy will revert to **8 August** for the September issue.

We shall continue to have the same online presence as before so you can always access *Willingham News* here. Remember we have an Instagram presence too so you can check us out on that.

Willingham News is a subsidiary of Willingham News Ltd and is edited by volunteers. We do our best to ensure the accuracy of the content of the submissions but this cannot be guaranteed. We reserve the right to edit or omit articles at our discretion. The views expressed in readers' letters are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

Send your contributions to willinghamnews@gmail.com as an email attachment of up to 250 words (no pdfs) to arrive before the monthly deadline.

The Editorial Team comprises: Liz Cosford, Jane Dowle, Wendy Law, Frances Watts, James Watts and Trevor Weston.

The deadline for your contributions is 8th of each month.

Bin Collections – Normally Friday:

Friday 7 August	Blue and Green
Friday 14 August	Black
Friday 21 August	Blue and Green
Friday 28 August	Black

The Council will not guarantee to empty green bins every fortnight but they advise us to put them out for collection and they will include them if they can.

Please refer to: scambs.gov.uk/bins for the latest information.

**To contact local police, phone 101 or email:
SCambsCops@cambs.pnn.police.uk**

PLEASE NOTE:

Back issues of *Willingham News* from October 2005 to the present (with the exception of March 2006) are now available on the Willingham Life website run by WAG:
www.willinghamlife.org/page/willingham-magazine-back-issues

Advertising

We would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support during these difficult times. It's due to them that *Willingham News* is able to serve the village. Please continue to support our local businesses now and in the future when restrictions are lifted.

Advertising is sold on an annual basis for an insert into 12 issues beginning in January. Send any advertising queries or copy to: advertising.wnews@yahoo.co.uk, marking your e-mails Adverts. The *Willingham News* team wishes to thank all the advertisers for their support and interest. They play a vital role in maintaining this publication and also in our community as local businesses supplying goods and services. If you contact an advertiser, please mention that you saw their advertisement in *Willingham News*. Thank you all very much.

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Deliverer Vacancy

A vacancy exists for a deliverer of *Willingham News* to the residents of Fen End. The round has 56 copies.

We are also looking for reserve deliverers who are prepared to step in if one of the regulars is unavailable on a particular month.

Please contact David Clarke 01954 260600 or clarkedavid99@yahoo.com for either role, stating whether you're applying for the Fen End round or as a stand-by.

It's only thanks to our delivery team that the magazine reaches everyone in the village. Your help is very much appreciated.

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The Queenholme Alpacas

By the time you read this in August, we should have finally opened our gates for the first time! After a delay of four months, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and after two and half years of planning, we are very excited to be finally welcoming visitors.

At the time of writing, we are still awaiting the birth of two cria (baby alpacas). Inferno, Ixia and Iowa were all due at the same time, but so far, we have had only one arrival. We welcomed Iowa's beautiful girl, Pandora, on 26 June, and she is growing very quickly! Our name theme for this year was chosen by our eldest daughter, who wanted names from Greek mythology. It's certainly been fun researching the different names, although we're not entirely sure about a Queenholme Cyclops!

Alpacas are pregnant for between 11 and 12 and a half months (some have been known to go longer!), so it's a long time to wait for the new arrivals. We are just relieved when they arrive, feed well from mum, and then go racing around the paddock playing! They are an absolute joy to watch!

Our four cria that were born last year, are now well grown yearlings, and all seem to be enjoying life. The three boys, Apollo, Comet and Orion, are doing brilliantly with their trekking training, and Orion will be ready to join the team once we open. Eclipse remained in the girl's paddock with her mum, and is proving to be an excellent Aunty to baby Pandora.

You can find out lots more information about alpacas and the members of our herd on our website queenholmealpacas.co.uk, and by following us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

We look forward to welcoming you all very soon!

Katy Gilbert

Owner of Queenholme Alpacas



Orion



Garnet and Galen



Alpaca trekking

Part 16 – Prosperity, Plague and Fire

Reign of King Charles II 1660 to 1683

Thomas Wren became Rector of Willingham from 1660 following the restoration to the monarchy of King Charles II. Wren was the first of a series of absentee Rectors at Willingham. The presence of three transient curates at Willingham during this period, Robert King, Rowland Manlove and Anthony Listar, suggests that he left most of the work in the parish to them.

Agriculture Thrives

This 'Restoration' period, as it became known, was one of economic recovery in the country as a whole. Village life seems to have been relatively calm and peaceful at this time. In Willingham this was reflected in slow but steady agricultural development.

The village population was now around 450, and many individual pastures now commonly supported herds of 9 to 12 cattle, and flocks of sheep 50 strong. Most families kept a few pigs, some bred horses, and cheese was widely produced, with some farmers producing up to 150 lbs (68 kg) of cheese for market. Arable holdings were divided into three equal areas, operating under a rotation system with one fallow at any one time. Barley accounted for almost half the sown acreage; the balance was mainly under wheat and peas. Domestic orchards were commonly recorded, but larger scale commercial orchards did not develop in Willingham until the early 18th century.

The earliest recorded ale-houses in the village date from this period. The George (in George Street) was recorded in 1665, and The Five Bells (at The Green) in 1669.

Bubonic Plague Returns to England

In 1665 and 1666 England was revisited by bubonic plague. Like the Black Death of 1348, the disease appears to have originated in Asia and arrived in London via the Middle East and Europe. As in 1348, it was spread by fleas on black rats and in the large, tightly-packed cities with no sewage systems, rats bred prolifically. It arrived in London in February 1665 and by August 100,000 had died in London, 20% of the city's population. King Charles, his court and Parliament moved to Oxford for six months. Cambridge University closed in August 1665 and did not reopen until September 1666. Scholars were encouraged to escape to the rural areas. Isaac Newton was one of those who fled from Trinity College to Woolsthorpe Manor, (north of Stamford), where he continued his groundbreaking research in the fields of light, gravity and calculus during this closure.

Unlike the Black Death of 1348, the severity of this epidemic in London was not reflected to the same extent in other English cities. East Anglia and south-east England

were more affected than the north and west; Norwich and Colchester recorded losses of 20% of their populations. Rural areas were much less affected. I can find no evidence to suggest that Willingham was unduly affected, but the severity of the disease in Cambridge must have badly affected markets and trade in general.

Statistics of the 1665/6 Bubonic Plague in England

(interesting to compare with the current Coronavirus epidemic)

Epicentre: London

Origin: Asia

Start: February

Peak: September

Total duration: 18 months

London deaths: 150,000 (25% of London population)

Maximum deaths in peak month: 7,200



Great Fire of London (courtesy of The British Library)

London was only just starting to recover from the devastating effects of the epidemic in 1666, when the Great Fire of London swept through the city in September of that year. No less than 85% of London's population were left homeless; 85 churches and the original St Paul's Cathedral were destroyed. One of the very few consolations of the fire to the thousands who were made homeless was that the subsequent rebuilding of the city incorporated measures to avoid a repeat of the worst of the street squalor that had contributed to the epidemic.

Alan Fawcitt

Next time: A Rector of Influence

Willingham Women's Institute



A Short History of Willingham WI

Willingham WI was founded on 10 October 1928 with about 50 members and immediately threw itself into a hectic round of fund-raising, talks and meetings, also taking an active part in wider village life. For example, in 1934 after the Parish Council had turned down electric lighting for the parish, members made an official complaint and asked that the streets be lit by either gas or electricity. During World War II in 1941, Willingham WI purchased a stirrup pump for village use in case of fire. Talks covered a wide variety of topics; one in 1943 was on the drying of rabbit skins – presumably for gloves and coats.

Our WI has enjoyed strong support from its members over the years. The late Joan Smail was a member throughout her time in the village and became a member of the County Federation. Joan organised the planting of a wood near the WI HQ between Histon and Girton and she is commemorated by a tree planted at the Ploughman Hall.

Willingham WI Now

Our WI has continued in a similar vein and provided the village with the sign on the Green in 1989. The range of talks and activities includes the annual Quiz Night, open evenings and outings. In recent years we have visited Charles Rennie Mackintosh's house in Northampton, Miss Savidge's house in Wells and Elgood's Brewery in Wisbech. Every other year we run a trip to Tolethorpe to see the outdoor Shakespeare play, having a picnic in beautiful surroundings on the lawn in front of the house before seeing some outstanding productions. Our talks have covered many topics including the history of Heffers, bee-keeping, Nordoff Robbins music therapy, a puddings evening and a particularly interesting one on Emmaus by Seamus Fox, who had been homeless and lived there as he recovered from addiction and is now a published poet.

We have a successful darts team and a monthly craft group which is open to all in the village. Members of the group have made scrubs and wash bags during lockdown as well as knitting blankets for charity.

Every year we have Summer and Christmas parties and, with around 60 members, these are lovely social occasions. We support Over Day Centre providing cakes for the Five Pub Challenge and provide refreshments for the village Horticultural Show.

All in all we believe our WI is a great asset to the village so why not give it a try? All meetings and events are cancelled until the Covid-19 crisis has passed, but normally we meet on the second Monday of the month at 7 30 pm in the Social Club. If you would like to join us please email willinghamwi28@gmail.com and we will be able to keep you up to date on when we will be re-starting.



Puddings evening

Book Review

The Reading Group's latest choice of book was *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

In 1922 Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov is called before the Bolshevik Tribunal in the Kremlin because of a subversive poem attributed to him. Rather than ordering him before a firing squad, unusually he is sentenced to live out the rest of his life in the Metropol Hotel in Moscow where he has been living for just under four years.

However the Count has made very good friends with the staff of the hotel and when he returns there, he is well treated. The course of his life changes when one evening at dinner he is approached by a precocious nine year old

girl, Nina, who asks him if he has met any princesses and how she might become one.

Within the hotel the Count encounters many adventures, colourful characters and along the way finds romance. Eventually the tale concludes in a satisfying conclusion. The characters in the book are richly drawn by the author and the style of writing is excellent.

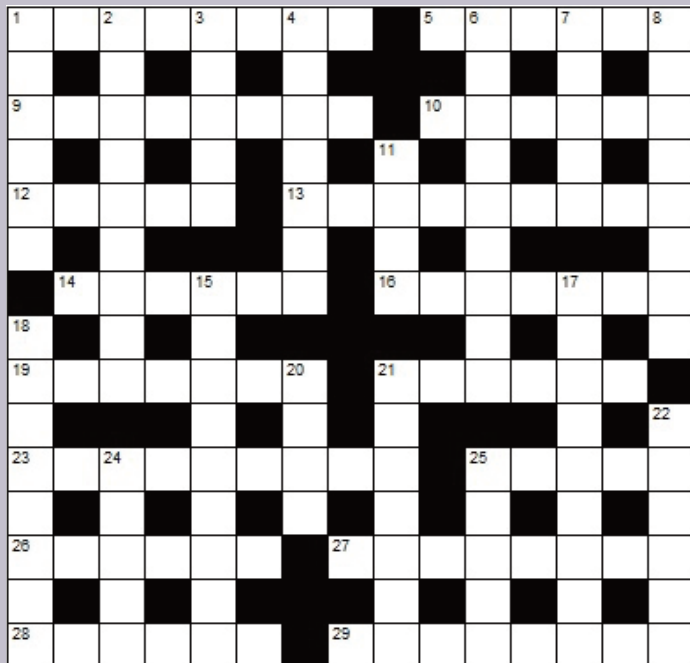
Reviewing the book (via Zoom), all the members of the Group agreed that they thoroughly enjoyed reading it and all agreed that it lived up to its reputation as a mega-bestseller.

David Stevenson

A Bit of DIY by Naxos

Solution on page 18

Among the answers in this cryptic crossword you will find 13 linked items. Put them together to make something but when you've made it, be sure not to drop it! (12, 7)



Across

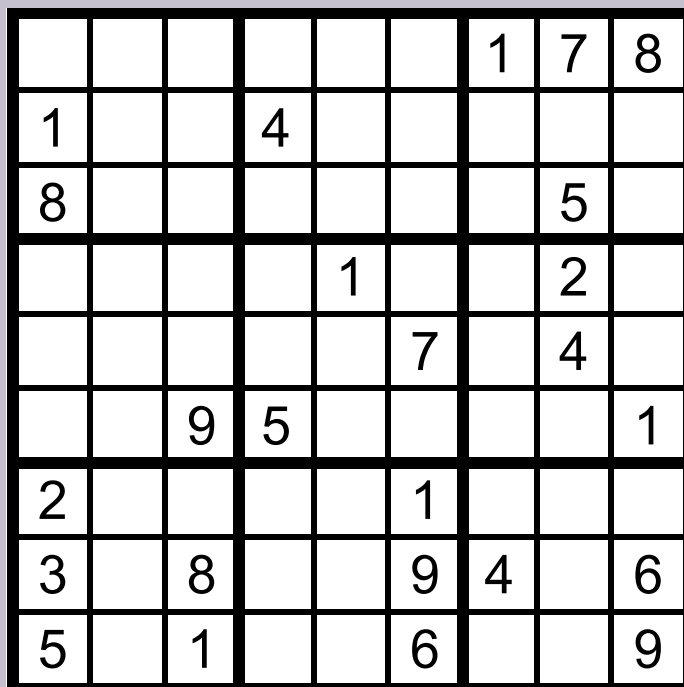
- 1 Cliff has that type of music look (8)
- 5 Tricky problem if hot at operation, found in reverse (6)
- 9 Funny ring tone in the air (8)
- 10 Bit of a noggin at one of the inns (6)
- 12 Server drops one before fall (5)
- 13 Love to be in jazzy orange as off limits (2, 2, 5)
- 14 Clear the path getting back pain before short let (6)
- 16 Wife of Turkish number 1 once left mirror behind outside tennis HQ (7)
- 19 Reduced shortage of duck conveying chyle (7)
- 21 Ram for those born before they say (6)
- 23 Grumpy sounding nan, like a mule (9)
- 25 Tumbleweed's connection to Greta Thunberg, for example (5)
- 26 Flowers one grows (6)
- 27 Pays, but not through the nose? (6, 2)
- 28 Holy tree revealed amid lounging koalas (6)
- 29 Alcohol found around carrier leads to deceiver (8)

Down

- 1 About this time add name for fame (6)
- 2 Is pet a pick-me-up when you're immobile? (9)
- 3 Shorten show by nearly half to get to meal (5)
- 4 Use Mr Muscle for scalene regeneration (7)
- 6 Prescription for Moses as he delivered the first commandment? (3, 6)
- 7 Big city caught in dappled light (5)
- 8 It's strange how toes vary when they remain too long (8)
- 11 Spurs – yellow with white surround (4)
- 15 Gentleman's club unfairly takes fee after barbaric initiation (9)
- 17 In the same way as 'Forever Young', cunning ending after setter found in backwater (9)
- 18 Sovereign head of group of nations perishing the thought (8)
- 20 Stuff boy with rarebit starter (4)
- 21 Painful result of lying about county's mineral deposit (7)
- 22 Animator creates pages in view at close quarters (6)
- 24 Between stage appearances I appear at the dome (5)
- 25 Bring back those Italian sauces, darling! (5)

Sudoku by Willow

Answer on page 18



Book Quiz

Answers on page 18

My eldest son celebrated his 50th birthday in my garden at the weekend with 'staged' family visits, so gardens are the theme this month. See if you can guess the authors of these books.

1. *A Child's Garden of Verses*
2. *The Secret Garden*
3. *Tom's Midnight Garden*
4. *The Forgotten Garden*
5. *The Constant Gardener*
6. *The Hanging Garden*
7. *The Garden of Eden*
8. *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*
9. *The Elephant in the Garden*
10. *Around the World in 80 Gardens*

Christine Lacey



Young Readers' Corner

Animal Word Search

To celebrate Pandora's birth here's an animal word search in her honour. It contains 22 animals you might find in a zoo or safari park.

Answers on page 18



Change the Words

By changing one letter at a time turn the top word into the bottom word. Each move must make a word. If you need it, there's a clue for each word on the way.

Answers on page 18

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 3 |
| BOY | DRY |
| ___ expanse of water | ___ weep |
| ___ enclosed by land | ___ shy |
| ___ forbid | ___ small bed |
| MAN | ___ large quantity |
| | ___ allow |
| 2 | WET |
| SAIL | |
| ___ spoken | |
| ___ moved smoothly | |
| ___ miss your footing | |
| SHIP | |

Cambridgeshire Hear for You

Do you use a hearing aid or find yourself hard-of-hearing...or does someone in your family?

If so, please join the new 'Cambridgeshire Hear for You' community group. This is a new way of keeping in touch and to exchange views and ideas, whether it's about hearing loss, or just your news, ideas and messages about literally anything!

The group has been set up by local charity, Cambridgeshire Hearing Help, which maintains hearing aids, runs workshops on hearing loss and teaches lip-reading. The charity also runs 'Hear for You' social groups, which are suspended because of current restrictions – so they're going online for members old and new!

Many people have used social media to keep in touch with family and friends in recent times. This is a chance to make contact with more people locally who share your interests.

It is being established on Facebook and is a 'closed group', giving members the extra safety and security, that only other members will be able to see your comments. It is also completely free.

You can join the Facebook group NOW by going to the 'Cambridgeshire Hearing Help' page on Facebook, click on 'Groups' then on 'Join'. If you have any difficulty, simply enter the following link in your search engine:

www.facebook.com/groups/cambridgeshirehearforyoucommunity/

If you are new to Facebook, the charity has produced a simple guide on how to join the group, which is on its website. Or contact them at enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk. You can join at any time. It's a new and excellent way of keeping in touch – let's all use it!

A Poem for August

Holidays can be anywhere,
Any place, here or there.
In our gardens, in the park,
Dancing, swaying after dark.

Holidays can be different kinds,
To ease and soothe our minds,
Put up a tent, go ride a bike,
Holidays can be anything we like.

Christine Lacey

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings

With the coronavirus situation still ongoing, as since early April, all council meetings are held as virtual with the same procedures as normal. These can be 'attended' by members of the public who still have the same right to speak. Go to the Parish Council website at willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk for details or contact the clerk.

QEII Field

At last, from 8 July, we have been able to reopen the playground since it was closed following government advice at the start of the lockdown. We have set some guidelines for use of the equipment which are posted at the entrances to the area. These are for the safety of all users of the field and equipment to ensure everyone is kept as safe as possible. Please note, though, that the playground is not supervised and equipment is not regularly cleaned. Also, whilst all possible practical measures have been put in place, the users of the equipment do so at their own choice and risk.

All the advice regarding your personal safety still apply and we encourage everyone to keep safe and adhere to the rules set out at www.gov.uk/coronavirus.

Dogs

Unfortunately there has been evidence of dog owners not clearing up after their dogs in the cemetery. There are signs that guide dogs only are permitted so this shouldn't happen anyway. This is not only unpleasant for visitors to the cemetery but also disrespectful to the long-term residents.

Dog walkers are reminded to always clean up after their dogs. This is not only on the streets and pavements, but also footpaths, bridleways and all verges. Also, please take it home or use the litter bins and not leave plastic bags on display on the ground or hanging on fences or bushes.

Recreation Ground

It has been good to see the Recreation Ground being used so much in the past few months. With the playground out of action people have been using it for exercise and social activities, hopefully with all obeying the social distancing rules!

Alas, some people seem to leave their rubbish behind after enjoying themselves. This, apart from being unsightly, can be dangerous, causing risks to other users and the Parish Council litter pickers. Can we ask you to take all your litter with you when you leave?

Also, please remember that the Recreation Ground is for all to enjoy. For this reason it is not to be used for dog

walking, cycling, golf, barbecues nor for flying drones.

Planning

Several months ago the planning departments of SCDC and Cambridge City were merged to create savings and become more efficient. Despite a few glitches, this is generally working well. The Parish Council Planning Committee still meets regularly to discuss all applications currently with virtual meetings. We are not the planning authority however, but play a part in adding our comments to the planning process.

Most of the applications we receive fall into three categories – outline, full or conditional. Outline planning is usually for larger or more difficult proposals where the applicant wants to get approval in principle for a scheme prior to developing the full application. The full application presents the complete proposal. In both these cases the approval by the planning authority is final though conditions to this may have been set. Conditional applications address these caveats to the approval though don't change the decision. If an application has been refused by the planning authority, the applicant has the right to appeal the decision to the Secretary of State; unfortunately this doesn't apply in reverse.

Climate Change

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Parish Council will continue to work on policies and strategies towards net zero carbon emissions. The Council has appointed Linda King and Val McKee as liaison Councillors. They will be the Council point of contact for climate change, environment and sustainability matters and help facilitate any initiatives within the Council's remit on these matters. They would be attending the Zero Carbon Community Grant workshop and would then be looking at the grant application for the heating in the Ploughman Hall.

Contact Details

Councillors details can be found on the website but below are details for the Chair/Vice Chair and Lead Councillors.

Council office details:

Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP

Tel: 01954 261027

Email clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Mandy Powell

D Law	Parish Council Chairman	cllr.law@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 202188
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P King	Parish Council Vice Chair	cllr.pking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
L King	Leisure & Amenities – Lead Cllr	cllr.lking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
R Manning	Greens & Boundaries – Lead Cllr	cllr.manning@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261235
B Mansfield	Cemetery – Lead Cllr	cllr.mansfield@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261540
R Tassell	Halls – Lead Cllr	cllr.tassell@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07974 673836



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The Community Lifeline Service

The Community Lifeline Service allows people, young and old to stay in their homes longer and live independently. It is run by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

How it Works

In case of an emergency, you can press the lifeline button. This can be worn around your neck or on your wrist. When pressed, the button sends a signal to a small base unit that is connected to your telephone. This dials the monitoring centre who, after a few moments, will speak to you through the loudspeaker on the unit. You can then speak out loud and ask for the help you need.

Everyone using the lifeline service needs to have a local emergency contact, a friend, neighbour or family member, who lives locally and has a key (or access via a key safe) to your home. In the case of an emergency you can ask the monitoring centre for one of your emergency contacts or the emergency services.

How Much it Costs

The Community Lifeline Service costs £4.47 per week. This is payable every three months in advance by direct debit. (Whilst direct debit is the preferred payment method, it is possible to pay online or by payment card at the Post Office).

The installation charge is £30. Additional buttons are available for £50.

For tenants living on a South Cambridgeshire District Council Sheltered Scheme the cost is £3 per week charged separately to the rent account.

How to Apply

If you are interested in speaking with someone regarding the Lifeline Service, you can contact us by telephone on 01954 713470 or email lifelines@scambs.gov.uk or online at www.scambs.gov.uk/lifelines.

If you live on a Sheltered Scheme, please contact your Sheltered Estate Officer or email alarm.calls@scambs.gov.uk.

After applying, one of our local experienced staff will contact you to arrange a convenient time for installation.



Karen and dog Gordon, satisfied Lifeline customers

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Opening Up for Services

We are pleased to let everyone know that the Church will be re-opening for services on **Sunday 9 August** – starting time 11 am. As is well known, we have had to close the Church building for some time in accordance with the instructions that we have received. This has been hard for everyone, but the good news is that slowly we are being allowed to start re-opening. For the last few weeks, we have been able to open the building for private prayer – more on this below. Now permission has been given that Churches may open for services, always depending on adequate safety arrangements being in place.

In the 5fold Group of Churches we are taking this slowly to ensure it is safe for people to come to the services and that we have appropriate arrangements in place for the Clergy and everyone else involved. In the short term there will be only one actual Sunday Service in the Group and on **9 August** it will be our turn in Willingham.

One of the new restrictions is that we are not allowed to sing until the rules are relaxed! So, rather like the services that we have been posting online, the service will be a said Morning Service using the same format as the recorded services.

Keeping Everyone Safe

We will be maintaining social distancing of two metres within the Church building for the service. There will be stewards on duty to help everyone find appropriate seats.

The service and relevant notices will be projected onto the screen as usual so there is no need for any papers to be given out or used, reducing transmission risks. But please do bring your own Bibles if you would like to do so. Without any singing, the service will be shorter than usual.

Until the Government restrictions are eased, we are not allowed to serve refreshments and the toilets will not be open to avoid cleaning issues.

We are told that the virus spreads more easily indoors rather than outdoors and that close social contact is a main contributor to this. So, to keep everyone safe, we will encourage everyone to keep all social interaction safely distanced, outside the building after the service.

Next Steps

Following on from our experience of what works best here in Willingham and in the other 5fold Churches on a practical level and thinking of opportunities for the future, we will develop plans for the style and frequency of services for the next weeks and months.

As soon as details are available they will be set out on the 5folds Churches' website (www.5folds.org.uk) and the Church Notice Board.

In the meantime, recorded services will continue to be available from the website.

Daily Church Opening

Since Government regulations have allowed, we have been opening the Church for private prayer and reflection. The time of opening is 10 am to 4 pm every day.

There is a dedicated space for people to use and there is a daily cleaning and sanitising regime in place for this.

Socially-distanced chairs are set out and each one has a card to be turned over on leaving to assist the daily cleaning process. Hand sanitiser is available for use when arriving and leaving.

Everyone in the village is welcome.

Contact Details:

Administration:

Gillian Beal 01954 203459 or admin@5folds.org.uk

Clergy:

Simon Gill 01954 230434 or simon@5folds.org.uk

Beth Cope 07720 330272 or PioneerMinister@northstowe.church

Jenny Hill 07970 949331 or revdjennyhill@5folds.org.uk

Jan Payne 07780 674563 or jan.payne@northstowe.church



George Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LJ
www.willinghambaptist.org and



Meeting together as a church fellowship is very important to us. We greatly miss our Sunday services together, as well as being able to meet face to face for Coffee Morning, KFC, Youth Club, Men's Breakfast and so on.

However, the recent guidelines from the government and Baptist Union mean that if we did restart our Sunday Services at the current time, then they would be very different from how we met before lockdown. Social distancing must be maintained, we cannot sing, we cannot serve tea and coffee after the service and as a general rule, services should be as short as possible. In light of these and many other restrictions, we have decided that we will not hold face-to-face services on a Sunday before September at the earliest.

We are still gathering virtually as a fellowship on Sunday afternoons and also in the midweek Wednesday Reflection.

If anyone would like to join us at a gathering or midweek reflection, please get in touch secretary@willinghambaptist.org or phone 01954 260538 and we can send you the information you need.

We are aware that people may be struggling or lonely in isolation, so if you want to chat, or pray with someone, or have any other needs, please also get in touch.

Emma Launchbury
Church Secretary

Parish of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia
www.sacredheart-stives.org

During the lockdown, an increasing number of Diocese of East Anglia churches have been live streaming Mass online. Now the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has produced a very useful searchable guide to Masses across the whole country at www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/live-catholic-mass-online.

It's easy to search just using your postcode or by selecting a diocese. Narrow down your search results by selecting the Mass Type (Daily, Vigil or Sunday) and you can select from the available languages.

Pastoral Letter

As I write it's quite a damp, dull day and the idea of venturing out for a walk, or to visit a public place doesn't seem very attractive. I find myself longing for the glorious, hot sunny days we enjoyed in April and May; already forgetting the grim effects of those early weeks of lockdown on so many in our community. It's a positive aspect of human nature that we tend to remember good times from our past; but it's also important that we learn lessons from more difficult past experiences that can help us in the future.

When the pandemic brought severe restrictions, it was the little acts of kindness that we showed to our neighbours, or sometimes to total strangers, that made all the difference. We became more aware of the people around us, their needs and vulnerabilities, and their talents and spirit of generosity. We all benefited, as we were all recipients in some way – I know how much I valued a word of thanks from someone. We all gave in some way, even if we didn't realise we were doing so.

As we move forward I hope that we will continue to be kind to one another and more aware of the opportunities that exist to show kindness. Of course it's good that most of us are now able to go out more, to plan holidays, to visit public attractions; but not everyone has access to the internet to make that advance booking. I was really saddened to learn that one day nearly half the people who had booked to visit the Botanic Gardens failed to turn up, while others who arrived without a booking had to be turned away. Thoughtless behaviour and selfishness are the opposite of kindness and they can cause a lot of unnecessary hurt.

Kindness towards others is at the heart of most faith traditions and Christians believe that we mirror the love of God towards all creation when we show kindness to someone. It doesn't cost a lot, we don't have to go on a course to learn kindness; and it's amazing how often it brings its own rewards.

I pray that someone will act kindly towards you today; and that you will find the joy of showing kindness to someone else as well – today and tomorrow – and may God's love shine on us all too.

The Rev Dr Janet E Tollington

Retired United Reformed Church Minister

Remember that we will be re-starting delivery of printed copies next month and the deadline for articles is 8 August. Send your contributions to: willinghamnews@gmail.com

Willingham Action Group Sustainability Project

Life for members of Willingham Action Group has been a little less hectic recently as our involvement in the QEII Project has ended and we are just doing routine maintenance on the Community Orchard. The orchard is developing beautifully and attracting more people, both dog walkers and picnickers. It also seems our coordination of the Feast events will not be necessary this year due to the need for caution with Covid-19.

So, not wishing to sit about with nothing to do, we have switched our attention to something that deserves top priority and have started our Sustainability Project. There will be so much to work on; recycling, reusing, energy saving, well-being and reducing food waste to list but a few. We have agreed to start with two actions by setting up a Willingham Repair Café and enlisting everybody's help in reducing the proliferation of single-use plastics.

We are hoping the Repair Café will be operating some time in September. Repair Cafés are free meeting places and they're all about repairing things together. There will be tools and materials to help people make any repairs they need on clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, toys, etc and expert volunteers to help, with repair skills in all kinds of fields.

Visitors bring their broken items from home and together with the specialists they start making their repairs in the Repair Café. It's an ongoing learning process and if you have nothing to repair, you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee or you can lend a hand with someone else's repair job. You can also get inspired at the reading table by leafing through books on repairs and DIY. People throw away vast amounts of things which could get a new lease of life after a simple repair.

The action on plastics use will start soon and we would like to invite you to take a pledge to well just think a bit more about how you can contribute through a more sustainable approach to consumption. We hope to send out a regular newsletter to Willingham residents full of easy switches, tips and ideas to help to reduce plastic waste but also to make a move on other fronts. You must provide your email address to confirm your consent to receiving the e-newsletter.

We will be holding a draw of all the names we receive just before Christmas with the prize of a hamper with a difference – needless to say, it will consist of locally sourced goodies wrapped and packaged with the most sustainable options available. We will keep you informed of the contents as they are gathered, with each serving as an example of how you can do microthings to help improve the environment, slow climate change and maybe even improve your own health.

Needless to say, any articles and suggestions submitted will have a good chance of being published, so don't hold back! Start now by mailing your ideas to willinghamsustainability@gmail.com. The more ideas the better!

Mike Tidball



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Out of hours cover: Ring 111 Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

Bank Holiday Closure

We are expecting the surgery to be CLOSED for the Bank Holiday on **Monday 31 August**. If the guidance changes and the CCG expects us to be open, this will be published on the practice website.

Face Coverings and Masks

Following telephone triage with a clinician, we are asking increasing numbers of patients to attend the surgery for face-to-face consultations. We are therefore asking that **all** patients wear a face covering in line with government guidance when attending the surgery. These are available to purchase in local supermarkets and at Willingham Pharmacy.

For further information please visit:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering.

We are also limiting the number of patients in the waiting area at any one time. You may therefore be asked to wait in your car or outside the front of the practice, where you will be called in when your GP/Nurse is ready so that we can maintain safe social distancing at all times. All patients must abide by the one-way system we have in place, and adhere to the social distancing markers at the reception desk. Please use the hand sanitiser dispensers when entering the premises.

Dr Suter Is Retiring

We will be saying a fond farewell to Dr Suter in September, as she retires to spend more time with her family in Winchester. Dr Suter has been at the surgery for 26 years, and is quite frankly part of the furniture! She is a popular and much respected GP, and we would like to thank her for the dedication, support and care she has given to her patients, staff and the wider community throughout her career. We wish her a joyful and happy retirement, and will miss her greatly. We are pleased to announce that Dr Alice Gilbert will be joining our team at the end of September. She is looking forward to meeting our patients in due course.

Immunisations

While coronavirus has put limitations on all our lives, it is important that you or your baby or child still have routine vaccinations. They protect against serious and potentially deadly illnesses and stop outbreaks in the community. We recommend that you book in your next scheduled appointment – see www.nhs.uk/vaccinations for details on when they are due.

If you are identified as clinically extremely vulnerable and have been shielding, please check gov.uk for the latest advice on what to do.

Carers' Meeting

Due to the current pandemic, the carers' meetings are still currently postponed until further notice. They will be reinstated as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we would like to continue to support carers in our local community in any way possible. If you are a carer for someone and need advice and

WILLINGHAM SURGERY NORMAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	8 30 – 1 00	2 30 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 6 00
Tuesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 7 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	4 30 – 7 00
Ante Natal/Baby Clinic		2 00 – 4 00
Wednesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 5 30
Thursday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 5 00
Friday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 5 30
Emergencies		4 00 – 6 00

WILLINGHAM PHARMACY Tel: 01954 261787 NORMAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	8 30 – 1 00	2 30 – 6 00
Tuesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 7 00
Wednesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Thursday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Friday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00

financial or emotional support, please contact Sue Lawson at Susan.Lawson@nhs.net or on 01954 260230.

Hot Weather

It's worth remembering that sunny spells can pose health risks for some people. It's important to protect yourself and others from too much sun or heat, to carry water when travelling and to think of those, such as young children or older people, who may feel the heat more acutely than others. Make sure you follow the Covid-19 social distancing guidance while looking out for others.

- Look out for older people and others who may find it more difficult to stay cool and hydrated in hot weather – stay #WeatherAware. Many people who are at higher risk of ill health due to the hot weather are also at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (Covid-19).
- If you need to provide direct care for someone at risk from the hot weather, family or friends. Wash your hands regularly and don't visit at all if you are unwell – make alternative arrangements for their care.
- Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol during the hot weather.
- Avoid extreme physical exertion during the hot weather. If you can't avoid strenuous outdoor activity, keep it for cooler parts of the day eg early morning or evening.
- The best thing to do in the hot weather is stay out of the direct sun, especially between 11 am and 3 pm as UV rays are strongest during these hours. #BeattheHeat.
- Stay #WeatherAware: if you or others feel unwell, get dizzy, weak, anxious or have intense thirst move to a cool place, rehydrate and cool your body down.

Lisa Smith
Assistant Practice Manager

Virtual Fen Gallop 2020

This year's Fen Gallop Family Running Festival was unfortunately cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but despite the restrictions, the committee pulled together a virtual event for entrants to compete in instead.

'A virtual run?' I hear you question. Well firstly, it's not something you do while sitting at a computer; you do in fact still have to go for a run in a virtual race!

We put the challenge to our entrants to run their own 10k/4 mile, in the spirit of the Fen Gallop (preferably multi terrain), and submit their GPS trace to us. The virtual event was held between 2 and 12 July, with 249 entrants taking part from across the country/world. We even had someone enter from over 11,500 miles away in New Zealand! We think that puts the Fen Gallop firmly on the map!

Our overall winners in the results table were Douglas Barber in the 4-mile event completing it in 29:38, and Mark Flaxman in the 10k, completing it in just 37:01!

This year, we even designed a limited edition Virtual Fen Gallop Covid 2020 T-shirt. Our usual event T-shirts are produced in shades of either blue or green, to complement our colour scheme, but this year we went bright pink. We even included an eyesight test on the back, to ensure safe social distancing! No directions to Barnard Castle though!

We wouldn't want a virtual event to take the place of our usual Gallop, but in an uncertain time where so many events have been cancelled, we hope that it provided some much-needed light relief and good-natured sporting competition for people.

We very much hope that we will return bigger and better in 2021, and we can all enjoy a post run pint together. Actually. Not virtually.

Katy Gilbert



Monica Garcia, running in flip flops



Jonathan Custance, Andy Passmore, Jez Clements



Furthest competitor



Five of the best

Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

0345 0455225

Library News

Good News! Willingham Library will reopen during the week beginning **3 August** but there will be different opening hours and restricted access; details below. Here's the latest from Cambridgeshire Libraries but please check the website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries for the most up to date information.

Reopening Libraries

- Libraries started to reopen on 6 July.
- The Mobile Libraries will not resume due to the challenge of creating a safe environment in a confined space.
- The 'Library at Home' service has partially resumed with a full service to be offered later this summer.
- Meeting rooms, library events and activities will not resume in July and August. These services will be reintroduced when it is safe to do so.

Library Reopening Dates

These libraries have already reopened:

Bar Hill, Cambourne, Cambridge Central, Ely, Huntingdon, March, St Ives, St Neots and Wisbech.

Libraries Reopening Week Commencing Monday 3 August

Arbury Court, Barnwell Road, Buckden, Burwell, Chatteris, Cherry Hinton, Clay Farm, Comberton, Cottenham, Great Shelford, Linton, Littleport, Milton Road, Ramsey, Rock Road, Papworth, Sawtry, Soham, Warboys, Whittlesey, **Willingham** and Yaxley.

Sawston's new library will open at its new location in Sawston Community Hub.

Histon library has closed for refurbishment and, with a provisional offer to be confirmed in September, the new library will open in 2021.

Please check opening hours at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries before visiting a library, as they will be different from usual during the interim period.

Library Services

There will be no browsing of titles in libraries. Customers will be able to call or contact the library online to request a selection of titles based on genre or author, which will

be made available for collection. Reservations for specific titles can be made online or by ringing 0345 045 5225. Charges for this have been suspended until **31 August**. Please check the website for the most up-to-date information.

- Items can be returned to any open library.
- No CD/DVD lending.
- Talking Books will be free until the end of August.
- Public Access IT facilities by appointment only. One 45-minute appointment per day per customer.
- Printing charges – exact cash only. Card payments at Cambridge Central, Huntingdon and Wisbech libraries only.
- All eServices remain in place – please check the website for eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers.
- All in-library events remain suspended and there is no room hire.
- Book donations cannot be accepted.

Loans, Renewals, Reservations and Charges

- All items borrowed prior to lockdown have had their due date extended until **30 September**.
- The loan period will be temporarily extended from four to six weeks for items issued in July and August.
- All existing loan charges remain frozen until **31 August**. We will continue to review this date.
- Reservation charges are suspended until **31 August**. We will continue to review this date.
- Reservation collection dates for existing reservations will be extended indefinitely so they should be available when libraries reopen.

Don't forget you can join the library online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries or by phone, 0345 045 5225.

Friends of Willingham Library

We are not yet able to restart our activities and events, but will do so as soon as we can.

In the meantime, we are continuing to request your 'Desert Island Book' suggestions. If you were stuck on a desert island, what book would you like to have with you and why? We're excluding *The Bible* and the *Complete Works of Shakespeare*, as they do on Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs*. Please send your book suggestion and reasons for your choice to: willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com. A selection of suggestions already received will appear in the September magazine.

Willingham 140 Years Ago – Part 1

It's easy to imagine 19th century Willingham as a sleepy little village with a few farmers and a large number of agricultural workers, but I've been looking recently at a directory of Cambridgeshire for 1879, and found that this is by no means the whole story of village life then. The directory mentions a small number of the more well-off private citizens before dealing with the amenities and the commercial inhabitants of the village. The labourers are not included. The population at the previous Census was 1,169.

Amenities

The village had a Post Office which also served as a Savings Bank. Letters arrived each day at 6 35 am on a cart from St Ives, and were collected at 6 15 pm. The Headmaster of the school was George Pegler, who appears on our village sign.

There were four carriers mentioned. William Ambrose's van went to the Three Tuns in Cambridge every Saturday and to the Cross Keys in St Ives on Mondays (presumably market day then as now). Daniel Lack Jr went to the True Blue in Cambridge, Berry Askew to the Cock in Cambridge Thursdays and Saturdays and Peter Haddow to Cambridge Tuesday and Saturday. Mr Ambrose is particularly mentioned as taking passengers as well as goods.

Commercial inhabitants

Over 20 trades or professions are mentioned in this section of the Willingham entry. Of these the farmers were the largest number as 38 people were described as such. It's still well known that Willingham had a large number of public houses and beer sellers back then, and

I'll say more about these two professions in Part 2.

The other trades can be divided into two, those who served the village, and those who exported their goods and services elsewhere.

For the benefit of the villagers there were three Bakers. Many of the women would have been doing field work and not had time or facilities to do their own baking. In addition to the three Butchers, plus one who was also a farmer, there were also two Pork Butchers. Four Blacksmiths were necessary for the number of horses (compare with two garages today). There were three Shoemakers and three Tailors, two businesses were described as Grocer and Draper and two more simply as Shopkeeper. Two people were described as Carpenter and Wheelwright. There was also one Plumber – bear in mind that few people would have had indoor sanitation then.

One Basket Maker appears on the list. There were to be several more later on as the fruit and flower growing industries expanded, but at this time there were only two Market Gardeners. Some people will remember the Cole family who were still around when I first came here. I have a bicycle basket made by one of them.

There were also some businesses that supplied goods to the outer world. There were three Corn Merchants and the Miller also sold corn. We had a Cattle Dealer and an Auctioneer who was also a farmer, a Vet, a Surgeon and a Land Surveyor.

Finally there was also a Relieving Officer from Chesterton Union Workhouse, a place where the poorer villagers were likely to end up in old age.

Anne Kirkman

Answers

A Bit of DIY



If you think you know the answer to what you're making from the 13 ingredients (12, 7) send it to willinghamnews@gmail.com.

Sudoku

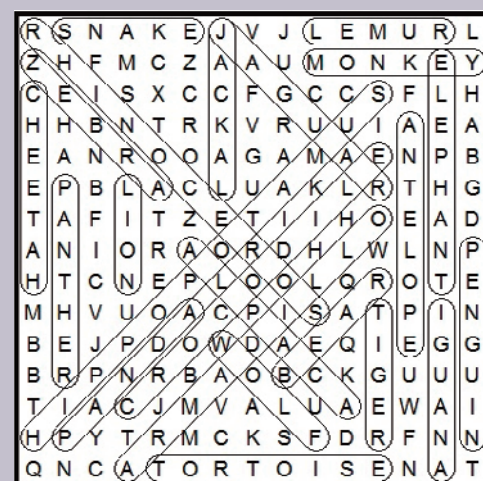
9	2	4	3	6	5	1	7	8
1	5	3	4	7	8	6	9	2
8	6	7	1	9	2	3	5	4
4	8	5	6	1	3	9	2	7
6	1	2	9	8	7	5	4	3
7	3	9	5	2	4	8	6	1
2	9	6	8	4	1	7	3	5
3	7	8	2	5	9	4	1	6
5	4	1	7	3	6	2	8	9

Book Quiz

1. Robert Louis Stevenson
2. Frances Hodgson Burnett
3. Philippa Pearce
4. Kate Morton
5. John le Carre
6. Ian Rankin (Rebus)
7. Ernest Hemingway
8. J M Barrie
9. Michael Morpurgo
10. Monty Don

Young Readers' Corner

Animal Word Search



Change the Words

BOY, BAY, BAN, MAN
SAIL, SAID, SLID, SLIP, SHIP
DRY, CRY, COY, COT, LOT, LET, WET



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Criminals are exploiting the Covid-19 pandemic to try and get their hands on your money and personal information. To date, Action Fraud has received reports from 2,378 victims of Coronavirus-related scams, with the total losses reaching over £7 million.

How You Can Protect Yourself from Coronavirus-related Scams

There are some simple steps you can take that will protect you from the most common Coronavirus-related scams. Here's what need to do:

1 Watch out for scam messages

Your bank, or other official organisations, won't ask you to share personal information over email or text. If you receive an email you're not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS): report@phishing.gov.uk

2 Shopping online

If you're making a purchase from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, for example, by checking to see if others have used the site and what their experience was. If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one, other payment providers may not provide the same protection.

3 Unsolicited calls and browser pop-ups offering tech support

Never install any software, or grant remote access to your computer, as a result of a cold call. Remember, legitimate organisations would never contact you out of the blue to ask for financial details such as your PIN or full banking password.

NHS Test and Trace Scams

The NHS Test and Trace service plays an important role in the fight against Coronavirus and it's vital the public have confidence and trust in the service. However, we understand the concerns people have about the opportunity for criminals to commit scams.

What You Need to Know

Contact tracers will only call you from the number 0300 013 5000. Anyone who does not wish to talk over the phone can request the NHS Test and Trace service to send an email or text instead, inviting them to log into the web-based service.

All text or emails sent by NHS Test and Trace will ask

people to sign into the contact tracing website and will provide you with a unique reference number. We would advise people to type the web address contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk directly into their browser, followed by the unique reference number given to you, rather than clicking on any link provided in the message.

The NHS Test and Trace service will never:

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- ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or NHS.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, please report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Old Willingham

We know little about the thatched house being demolished in this picture. It stood towards the south end of the High Street just down from the bus stop and red phone box. It was demolished in the 1950s to make way for the large house which is now set back from the road with a sweeping drive. This appears to have been two cottages. They probably lacked basic amenities and were very run down by this stage. We often bemoan the loss of the old thatched cottages but in reality the standard of living was often very poor.



See more photos at www.oldwillingham.com.

If you have stories or memories about this picture, please contact Jon Edney, 31 High Street or oldwill@oldwillingham.com.

Jon Edney

Over the Garden Fence: Notes from the Gardening Club

Hello All Willingham Gardening Enthusiasts.

Since the village Horticulture and Craft Show has been cancelled this year, how about sharing your gardening triumphs and failures with us with a view to a harvest flourish finale in September and October? We would love to hear from you all, especially our young budding gardeners.

You can email articles, anecdotes and photos to: willinghamnews@gmail.com and there's a good chance your photos will be published in colour! It would be great to hear from some of the children in the village too with stories and pictures. We look forward to seeing photos of your best flowers and vegetables, what's happening in your garden or allotment, and anything the children are doing, even if it's just growing something on a window sill in a plastic supermarket container.

Here are some reminders of past shows:



2019 Show. Vegetable table



2019 Show. Homecraft table



2017 Show. Textile exhibit

Snippets of Interest

Make the cut. Late summer is the time to give wisteria some care for beautiful blooms next spring. We have some lovely examples in the village. Cut back long summer growths so that each stem just holds six leaves, make the cut well clear of the buds as they damage easily. Then give the plant a good dose of water and a feed of potash-rich fertiliser. Come winter prune again shoots shortened in the summer to three to four inches say two to three buds.

Tie in climbers. Tie in all of your climbers' long soft new growths horizontally or lower. This slows down the sap flow and encourages the plant to put on more flowering growth. You will be rewarded with more flowers next year if not before.

Cut back. As foxgloves, snapdragons, lupins, penstemons, delphiniums and similar flowers go over, cut back just those sections of the flower spike that have faded, taking care to leave any second laterals that maybe growing. You may get a second flush of flowers.

Cover up. Thinking ahead for next year. If your gardening involves continually battling with the weeds you may need more ground cover. Stachy byzantine (commonly known as lamb's ears), evergreen euonymus, alchemilla mollis and perennial geraniums all do a beautiful job.

A cut above. Flowers from your garden. Pick first thing in the morning the day before and 'condition' them by leaving them in a bucket of water over night before arranging.

Coming up roses. Roses are passed their first flush, but with remontant types you can get a fabulous repeat flowering by deadheading and feeding with blood, fish and bone or a potash-rich tomato fertiliser. For one-time flowerers, leave faded flowers to develop into autumn hips.

Follow the scent. If you long for a garden filled with scent, you can find inspiration in the Perfume Garden in the Eden Project's Mediterranean biome. It is filled with roses, lilies, parma violets, jasmine, lavender, eucalyptus and more. (edenproject.com)

About thyme. Remember the more you use your herbs, the more young, bushy growth they will produce and the more tempting they will be to harvest; a virtuous circle. I am doing very well at the moment with the mint for mint tea. Many herbs make very pretty and scented foliage to bunch alongside cut flowers, too, if nothing else keeps you picking.

Liquid love. Compost fertiliser stores in hanging baskets deplete fast in the summer, so you should have been giving your bedding plants a liquid feed once a week for continuing blooms. Regular dead heading and now an all over trim will get them back into shape if they've become leggy.

Forlorn lawns. Some common summer lawn problems: lawns that turn brown in dry weather haven't died, there's no need to water as they will green up as soon as the rains come. Just as it did in the middle of July. Flooded lawns can be damaged by being walked on (as with winter lawns when they are covered with frost or snow) just keep off until the water drains.

In the know. There are hundreds of independent nurseries across the UK, each run by people with a passion and knowledge about plants. A website aiming to make them easier to track down is: www.independentplantnurseriesguide.uk.

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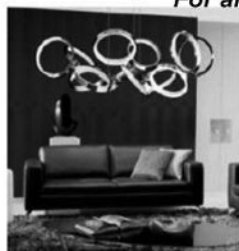
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District Councillors' Report

Construction Industry

The Housing Secretary recently announced new measures to help the construction industry boost building and return to work safely and SCDC has received a clear message that out of hours working should be allowed on construction sites wherever possible. Developers will temporarily be able to seek amendments to planning restrictions on construction site working hours, for example, in the evening and at weekends.

While planning permission usually expires after three years if work has not started on site, those with consent that have an expiry date between the start of lockdown and the end of this year will now see their consent extended to 1 April 2021. The Bill will also extend the expiration of certain listed building consents as well as provide the Planning Inspectorate with the flexibility to use more than one procedure type when dealing with a planning appeal, enabling appeals to progress at a faster pace.

This Bill that covers this is still going through parliament at the time of writing (it is thought likely that it will be fast-tracked).

Food Scheme

The food scheme being run by SCDC and the Over Day Centre trustees has been going well. The number of meals produced has been increased to 50 and, at the time of writing, there are proposals to expand the service to two days a week. Another scheme is now running in Duxford. The schemes will continue to the end of August.

ANPR System to Monitor Northstowe Construction Traffic

We've been keeping you updated with measures to reduce the number of construction vehicles travelling through Willingham to/from Northstowe, one of which was to install Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) equipment as a deterrent. Technical details of the ANPR camera system (position of the cameras, use of data etc) have been agreed with the developers, L&Q Estates. Sean Round of L&Q is now speaking with the Northstowe developers to get sign-off for funding and (Covid-19 permitting) the system should be installed in the next couple of months.

Further Funding for Zero Carbon Communities

As part of District Council plans for a green recovery as we emerge from lockdown, South Cambridgeshire's communities are being further supported to tackle the climate crisis with £100,000 additional funding for grass roots projects. Local groups can now apply for grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 under SCDC's Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme. The Council, which recently adopted its first ever Zero Carbon Strategy, lists 'being green to our core' as one of its top four Business Plan priorities.

Last year, funding was awarded to 19 different

community projects delivering an array of schemes covering raising awareness and involving people in issues around carbon emissions, cycling, tree planting, lighting, food production, distribution and waste. This year, local groups can apply for a grant to focus on one of three themes. These are cycling, community buildings and tree planting and other 'nature-based solutions'. For more details including on how to apply, use the following link: tinyurl.com/y7rpte4m.

Priority Food Slots for Tesco and Iceland Deliveries

SCDC now has access to a system set up by DEFRA to allow them to add residents to receive priority online food delivery slots from Tesco and Iceland. This service is different from the shielding priority food slot scheme run nationally and allows residents, who cannot go food shopping for Covid-19 related reasons, access to priority slots with Tesco and Iceland for a defined amount of time, depending on their need. This can be between two and 40 weeks (up until 31 March 2021). Application is by completing an online form on the SCDC website after which a member of the Sustainable Communities team will contact the resident once their application has been assessed and processed. The resident will need an online account for either supermarket to place their order.

The shielding scheme was paused at the end of July and everyone on the scheme is being urged to check their profiles are correct to retain online priority with a range of supermarkets.

Change of Role

Two additional cabinet roles have recently been introduced which will help the post-Covid-19 recovery. Bill will be moving to cover one of these two roles – that of 'Community Resilience, Health and Wellbeing'. Bill is delighted to be taking this role.

*Cllrs Dawn Percival (07948 683599, cllr.percival@scambs.gov.uk) and
Bill Handley (01954 200287, cllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk)*

News from Ouse Fen and the Hanson-RSPB Wetland Project

Since our last update, RSPB Ouse Fen has continued to grow and our key species are thriving.

Prior to the Covid-19 lockdown, early Spring survey work recorded promising numbers of bittern had begun to voice their distinctive 'boom' from the reedbeds in the early dawn. This included bittern spreading north into the most recently established reedbeds. Elsewhere on the site a pair of cranes again showed interest in the reserve, with a thrilled member of the public filming their mating routine – a very rare sight indeed.

The RSPB continues to work closely with Hanson to create what will be a new car park and visitor entrance at the former Lockspits Farm Entrance off the B1050 between Earith and Willingham. With planning permission in place and a contractor lined up, we hope to carry the work out in time for an opening in Spring 2021, subject to the impact of the Covid-19 crisis.

Close to the new visitor entrance the latest three wetland meres have been restored and Hanson are planning to hand these over to the RSPB for management later this year. These cells cover a further 80 hectares of the restored quarry and will bring RSPB Ouse Fen to almost three sq km of rich wetland habitats. Key species, including bittern, marsh harrier and bearded tit, flourishing elsewhere on the reserve have already been spotted on these cells; water voles and otters are establishing themselves across the area.

Reserve staff are busy preparing the new cells for visitors and following on from the sowing of a grass-wildflower mix around the reedbed path routes, we have planted over 450 bare root trees. Species included hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle, dog rose, guelder

rose, alder buckthorn, goat willow, crab apple, bird cherry and hazel. We also planted an island with small trees in the hope that we might in future attract egrets to nest.

During these difficult times our reserve staff are working hard to ensure that the reserve remains safe to visit and provides the best possible access to enjoy its wonderful wildlife. For the latest access information and trail guide please visit www.rspb.org.uk/ousefen or our project pages at www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/projects/hanson-rspb-wetland-project.

Jonathan Taylor
RSPB Project Manager

Email: ousefen@rspb.org.uk
Phone: 01954 233260



Ouse Fen aerial view

Welcome Back to Fen Drayton Lakes

In troubling times many of us take solace from the natural world and garner great joy from being outdoors, where worries and fears can be forgotten for a time. There is nothing like the joyous sound of birdsong or the sight of a parent bird feeding its fledged young to soothe the soul.

With 16 km of footpath around 11 water bodies, we are proud that Fen Drayton Lakes has provided comfort to people over the past few months. Although our Moore Lake hide remains closed for the time being, the rest of the reserve is open and full of life. Birds are singing, bees are buzzing, butterflies are fluttering, crickets are chirping and dragonflies are flying back and forth patrolling along the ditches.

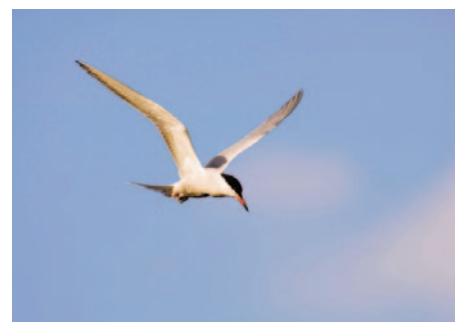
When visiting the nature reserve, please continue to follow the guidance on signage and advice from our staff. This includes maintaining social distancing, keeping to the designated footpaths, keeping dogs under close control and picnicking in designated areas.

We'd like to thank our visitors for remembering to take their rubbish away with them and take the opportunity to remind everyone that camping, open fires and BBQs are not permitted on the reserve.

Fen Drayton Lakes remains devoted to its wildlife and its visitors for the quiet enjoyment of nature and the wonderful riverside landscape.

We hope you continue to enjoy, discover and explore.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk Phone: 01954 233260



Common tern – David Tipling rspb-images.com

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CELEBRATION DAYS AND CULTURAL EVENTS IN AUGUST

1 August	YORKSHIRE DAY – Celebrate like one of the locals by donning a flat cap, walking in the damp countryside, eating a Yorkshire pudding with gravy, then settling down to complain about the rising price of a pint of best bitter and ending the night by remembering the good, old days!
5 August	PLAYDAY – Usually on Playday, thousands of children get involved in their local community events. This year families are encouraged to celebrate children's right to play at home. This year's theme is: <i>Everyday Freedoms Everyday Adventures</i> .
6 August	CYCLE TO WORK DAY – All the cycling action will be happening on the free 'Love to Ride' website this year. Get motivated by the seven cycling challenges. Everyone who logs their ride will be entered into a prize draw.
7 – 29 August	EDINBURGH TATTOO – Music, dance and precision displays, massed military bands, cultural troupes and singers are all part of this global gathering, showcasing talents from around the world. Sadly, the Tattoo's 70 th anniversary cannot be celebrated this year. To read about the Tattoo's fascinating history, go to edintattoo.do.uk .
7 – 31 August	EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE – From its earliest beginnings in 1947, it has celebrated the Performing Arts with live concerts, plays, ballets, operas and comedy shows; the Fringe has provided a totally uncensored platform for artists from all backgrounds, cultures and perspectives. For the first time in its history it has had to be cancelled.
8 – 14 August	COWES WEEK is one of the sailing calendar's biggest events with more than 1,000 yachts and 8,000 competitors. It's been held every year since 1826, except during the two world wars and, sadly, this year.
10 August	WORLD LION DAY aims to raise awareness of the decimation of lions worldwide. For more information visit worldlionday.com .
10 – 16 August	NATIONAL ALLOTMENT WEEK – The theme for 2020 is: <i>Growing Food for Health and Wellbeing</i> . Open days are not being organised this year, but if you visit nsalg.org.uk there is a competition for plot holders to enter. For information about Willingham's allotments, go to charity.ballandia.co.uk .
12 August	INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY – The United Nations runs this day to focus on tweens and teens and their place in society. This year's theme is: <i>Youth Engagement for Global Action</i> . WORLD ELEPHANT DAY promotes their preservation. Elephants are targeted by poachers for their ivory tusks.
15 August	VJ DAY marks the formal surrender of the Japanese to the Allies, 75 years ago today. RACE THE TRAIN DAY is a contest between man and machine which usually takes place on the route of the Talyllyn railway to Abergynolwyn and back to Talyllyn.
19 August	WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY raises awareness of the plight of civilians around the world who have been caught up in conflicts. It was set up in 2008 by the United Nations.
29 – 31 August	NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL is usually held over the August Bank Holiday weekend. It features a colourful procession, elaborate and extravagant costumes and the music of many steel bands. It originated in the mid 1960s as a way of celebrating and maintaining the cultural traditions of the Caribbean population in and around the Notting Hill area.



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	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Mrs Kate Van Dort	01954 201567
	Koala Kidz	Mrs Edith Jeffrey	01954 260046
	Guides and Rangers	Lynn McGoff	willinghamguides@hotmail.co.uk
	Ladybird Borland's School Of Dance	Mrs L Borland	01954 203347
	Messy Church	Margaret Edney	07528 193858
	First Steps	Vicky Page	vickypage85@gmail.com
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Katy Gilbert	01954 261922
	Little Notes Music Group (0-4 years)	Lisa Adcock	07949 062360
	KFC Kid's Friday Club Years 1-6 (Baptist Church)	Lorriane Bald	01954 261189
Halls	Ploughman Hall Bookings	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Wilford Furlong Centre		01954 261445
	The Octagon	Gillian Beal	admin@5folds.org.uk
	Baptist Bookings and Rentals	Emma Launchbury	01954 263108
	Willingham Social Club Bookings	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557
	Willingham Youth Centre bookings		willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com email: enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org
Local Representatives	Allotments	Sue Ayling	01954 260718
	Billavincea Lodge 8719	Mr M Scrivener	01480 413533
	Fen Edge Community Association	Eileen Wilson	chair@fenedge.co.uk
	Over & District Royal British Legion	Jane Matthews	07983 630265 overanddistrictrbl@yahoo.com
	OWLS Community Car Scheme	Lorraine Hunt	07505 254363
	Willingham Action Group (WAG)	Mike Tidball	01954 260647
	Willingham Combined Charities	Kassia Bunnett	k.bunnett@googlemail.com 07969 541095
	WEA	Jacqueline Hodgkinson	01954 201816
	Willingham RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser	Graham Atherton	01954 260331
	Willingham Bee Group Chairman	Steve Smith	07795 215071
Clubs	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)		willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com
	Gardening Club	Mrs C Bailey	01954 260794
	WBC Youth club (Baptist Church Years 7-9)	Bev Thomas	01954 789230
	Willingham Dance Club	Teresa Weston	willinghamdanceclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Social Club	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Jam Club	Julian Eales	01954 201818
	Willingham Photography Club	Steve Harding	07595 668161
	Willingham Running Club	Monica Garcia	gcompass.monica@gmail.com
	Willingham Walkers	Mike Tidball	01954 260647
	Willingham Youth Club	Bonnie Twiss	bonnietwiss@me.com
	Women's Institute	Wendy Law	01954 202188
Sport	Angling	Colin Dodd	07773 719330
	Badminton	Sarah Custance	01954 202005
	Bowls Club	Ian Bissett (Sec)	ianbissett@gmail.com Willinghambowlsclubsec@gmail.com
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 260446
	Cycling Club – www.willinghamwheels.com	Paul Knighton	07787 530394
	Ladies' Hockey	Teresa Hutchcraft	01954 260177
	Tennis Club	John Graham	01954 231968
	Willingham Diamonds Netball Club	Emma Byrom	01954 202481
	Willingham Running Club	Gerry Mears	07511 131645
	Willingham Sports Pavilion	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Jamie Smith (Sec)	01954 261141
Churches	Mothers' Union (Branch Leader)	Mrs S Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Emma Launchbury	01954 260538
	Methodists (Ministerial Contact)	Rev Simon Oliver	07554 202929
	Roman Catholic Priest	Rev Thomas J Walton	01480 462192
	Parish Church	Gillian Beal	admin@5folds.org.uk
		Simon Gill	01954 230434

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