Remembrance Sunday – see article on Page 5

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The **deadline for your contributions is the 8th of each month**. As the library still has restricted opening, hard copy can be dropped off at 15 Balland Field.

Bin Collections – Fridays	
4 December	Black
11 December	Blue & Green
18 December	Black
29 December (Tuesday)	Blue

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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## Remembrance Sunday in Willingham

On Sunday 8 November, the Service of Remembrance took place at the War Memorial in the Cemetery. It had to be a different event this year as no service in the church was allowed, so Rev Jenny Hill led a short service around the Memorial for a congregation of about 30 socially distanced people. The Roll of Honour was slowly read with each name resting in its own space and then wreaths were laid. After a wreath was laid by the British Legion, Councillor Derek Law laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council (as shown on our cover). Further wreaths were then laid on behalf of St Mary and All Saints Church, the Salvation Army and the Cadets. The Last Post was played as the Royal British Legion standard was lowered, followed by the two-minute silence, broken only by the sound of the churchyard birds. It was very moving.

Wendy Law

## **Poppy Field of Remembrance**



Every November we have the honour to place the Poppy Field of Remembrance by the entrance to St Mary and All Saints Church. This remains in place until after 11 November and Remembrance Sunday.

The Willingham British Legion started the Poppy Field to remember those members of our community who paid the ultimate price during the horror of war. For many years, Milford and Edie Jeeps ensured each poppy bearing the name of a lost loved one was carefully laid out for members of our community to pay their respects.

It is now our honour and privilege to continue to ensure the Field of Remembrance is in place every November to remember those who never returned.

Rodney, Sue and Gemma Hayden

## Parish Plan – Volunteers Needed

The current Parish Plan was created in October 2008 by the Parish Plan Committee. This enthusiastic group of volunteers worked for over a year, writing and distributing a questionnaire to each household, collecting and collating the results and finally producing the Plan and a Summary Report. The report is still available on the Parish Council website (under Documents>Policies and Procedures).

The Plan helped map out existing services and identify gaps for future development. Some of the issues identified have been addressed in the intervening years, but others remain. Special thanks are due to the Willingham Action Group, formed after the Plan was published, which has been a major force for change and improvement in the village.

It is now time for the Plan to be updated, to identify priorities for both the Parish Council and other organisations in the years ahead. The Parish Plan is not a Parish Council plan. It is produced by and for the community. The Parish Council will co-ordinate the initial recruitment of volunteers and will assist wherever possible. South Cambridgeshire District Council also provide support for what they call Community-Led Plans please see <u>www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-anddemocracy/parish-councils/community-led-plans/</u> for details and plans which have been produced by other villages.

Contact the Council Office to volunteer and help guide Willingham into the future – contact details are email: clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone 01954 261027.

Derek Law, Parish Chair Parish Council

## Willingham 100 Years Ago

This report on Willingham Village activities appeared in the *Cambridge Independent Press* in the week before Christmas 1920:

'Football – On Saturday, the local team again proved victors in their cup-tie, when they defeated Coton by two clear goals. Tomorrow they have a league fixture with Girton on the Recreation Ground.

Ploughing Match – Owing to the frost and snow the ploughing match which should have taken place on Wednesday had to be postponed. There seems to be great interest in this competition, as there are nearly 50 teams entered.

Dance – A very enjoyable evening was spent on Monday when a dance was held in the Public Hall. A good number were present, considering the weather. Mr. B. Christmas was Master of Ceremonies and refreshments were provided by the Dance Committee.'

I have to applaud the football team who battled on in spite of the frost and snow, and express surprise that a dance was held on a Monday.

Anne Kirkman



## Willingham Women's Institute

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 keep you up to date on when we will be restarting.

Our WI has a huge range of talks and activities as well as the annual Quiz Night, open evenings, outings and parties in the Summer and at Christmas. We have a successful darts team and a monthly craft group, open to all in the village.

WI is a wonderful way for women to socialise and support each other and if you are new to the village, a great way to get to know new people. Why not give it a try?

### Joan Smail

Many readers will remember Joan Smail, who was an active member of the WI. son, Andrew Her Smail, told us he had noticed that the plaque on his mother's memorial tree, planted by the WI at the Ploughman Hall in 2001, had



disappeared and that he was having it replaced. He contacted us to ask if any members would like to see it put in place. A small group, including many who had known Joan, turned up for a pleasant occasion in lovely Autumn weather.



## **Old Willingham**



OldWillingham.com

Part 19 of 'A Brief History of Willingham' on Page 9 of the November issue of Willingham News talked about the Dissenters, who broke from the Church of England to form other churches in the village. Things came to a head in the 1800s over two issues: cemetery and school. Since the Dissenters did not want to be buried in the churchyard a

new public cemetery was created. Also, they did not want their children taught by the Church of England Curate, as hitherto, and this led to the formation of the British School on Fen End. These changes came about through the activities of this strong-minded group who called themselves the Dissenters and the photo shows the motley crew around 1900.

Things to notice - 1) This is a cross-class group as evidenced by all the different hats from caps to bowlers, 2) It is all men although there is one woman standing behind the back row peeping over and 3) There are three objects at the front - to the left is a brass wind instrument (a euphonium), in the middle is sort of kettle and to the right is a highly carved box with a foot rest on top. Clearly these do not appear by accident and were symbols of something. Does anyone know why these objects were chosen?

### 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.

## **District Councillors' Report**

## **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable People**

Residents who are at the most risk from Coronavirus – those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) are being asked to take extra precautions during the current national lockdown; they should stay at home as much as possible, and if they are not able to work from home should not work. They are also advised not to go out eg to the shops or the pharmacy. This group of people is not as large as the group identified under the previous shielding scheme; for example, not everyone over 70 is being asked to stay at home this time. Everyone who is in the CEV category has been sent a letter from Government to advise them what they need to do to stay safe; South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) and Cambridgeshire County Council will be following this up with a further letter, text or email with information about local support, including from local community groups.

## Food Scheme Extended Again

The food scheme run by SCDC and Over Day Centre, which has been running since May, has been extended until the end of March 2021 thanks to Defra funding. The scheme has provided 1,462 meals to 87 local residents in the villages of Over, Bar Hill, Caldecote, Cottenham, Hardwick, Harston, Longstanton, Swavesey and Willingham. The Day Centre will continue to produce around 100 meals a day on two days per week. If you know of any residents who would benefit from receiving a weekly meal, please contact communities@scambs.gov.uk, as there may be a little extra capacity.

## **Business Support**

Local businesses are going through a tough time and SCDC's Business Support team has been created to help. We would encourage any local businesses that are unsure about what they can or cannot do as part of new lockdown measures, or if they need support or advice on financial assistance, to contact the team: email openforbusiness@ scambs.gov.uk for general support and guidance, or BusinessGrants@scambs.gov.uk for queries relating to Local Restriction Support grants.

SCDC publishes a regular business newsletter, which has been highly commended by those businesses that have already signed up to receive them. Check out the SCDC webpages for all the most up to date information and business advice and to register for the newsletter here: www.tinyurl.com/y6t838p9.

## **Free School Meals**

A 'gofundme' page set up to raise money to provide free meals during the holidays for Pupil Premium children in our local schools has raised over £2,000. Following the recent decision by the Government to change its Free School Meals policy covering the period to March 2021, Councillor Sarah Cheung-Johnson, one of those responsible for setting up the page, said 'We welcome the news that the government has changed its Free School Meals policy and agreed to provide some money to support families during the holidays. We are concerned the money they promised will not completely cover all the families in need. Therefore, we will wait for the details to become clear and liaise with schools on what to do with the money we have raised. Thank you so much those who have donated to the fundraiser, we are so grateful to this generous community'.

## The Second Wave and NHS Hospitals

During the lockdown earlier in the year, people were less inclined to contact their GP with non-COVID-19 matters and our hospitals prepared for the expected rise in COVID patients by emptying their wards to make space. A side effect of this has been a rise in the number of people needing treatment now for acute illnesses. Our hospitals report that, as a result, they are nearly at capacity treating patients who are too ill to be discharged, as well as having to treat a rising number of severe cases of COVID-19. Since they will be unable to empty their wards as they did in the spring if COVID case numbers rise significantly, we all need to play our part to prevent the worst case from happening. This has been a major driver for the decision to have a second lockdown.

Bill Handley and Dawn Percivalcllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk01954 200287cllr.percival@scambs.gov.uk07948 683599

## **Arthur Rank Hospice Charity**

At the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity we feel passionately about ensuring our services are equitable and accessible to all. We want all our community to feel comfortable using our facilities, whether that's a visit to the Bistro, the Education Centre or to see a loved one. The Hospice is here for everyone.

However, we have noticed that, as a group, fewer people from our Asian community are accessing our services. We wanted to understand why this is and learn if there are things we could be doing differently. In order to do this, we have conducted a survey, using a short, anonymous questionnaire with the aim of providing us with valuable insight into some of the ways we could improve access to our services.

This survey was closed in November, although we will welcome any insights after this date. We plan to report back on this survey during January and full details will be posted on our website <u>www.arhc.org.uk/latest-news</u>.

## Codeword

Answers on page 18

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## **Book Quiz**

## Answers on page 18

Of course, it must be a Christmas theme this month of books we like to curl up with at this time of year. See if you can identify the authors.

- 1. A Christmas Carol
- 2. How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- 3. Christmas at Cold Comfort Farm
- 4. The Gift of the Magi
- 5. The Jolly Christmas Postman
- 6. The Little Match Girl
- 7. The Snowman
- 8. The Tailor of Gloucester
- 9. Little Women
- 10. The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding (Hercule Poirot)

Christine Lacey

## POEM FOR CHRISTMAS

Please snow in my garden at Christmas says the child who has never seen snow. There's the robin who sits on the gate with his red breast, a wonderful show.

They say love came down at Christmas says the child with her face all aglow. May happiness warmth and comfort be with all of us wherever we go.

Christine Lacey



## Guest Editors this month – Dominic and Elliot Twiss

# Recipe for December – how to make scrummy CHRISTMAS GINGERBREAD COOKIES

Ingredients 330 g flour Flour to dust your work top 125 g butter 75 g caster sugar 2 tsp baking powder

135 g molasses3 tsp ground cinnamon3 tsp ground gingerSalt

## Method

Preheat the oven to 190° C. Add the caster sugar and softened butter to a bowl and beat until light and fluffy. Add the salt, molasses, cinnamon and ginger then mix together. Sieve the baking powder and salt together, then add these to the butter mixture. Sprinkle flour on your worktop and knead to form a sticky dough before leaving to stand in the fridge for about half an hour.

Now roll the dough out into a sheet about four mm thick. Cut the cookies with a gingerbread cookie cutter.

Line a warm baking sheet with baking powder and arrange the cookies on top. Bake the cookies for ten minutes until they are golden brown. Then take them out of the oven and leave them to cool. Decorate the cookies however you wish. Yum!

How long can you make them last?

## Jokes

Here are some jokes for you to try out over Christmas. What do Santa's little helpers learn at school? The elf-abet!

Where does Santa go when he's sick? *To the elf center!* 

What's Santa's favorite type of music? *Wrap!* 

What do you call Santa's little helpers? *Subordinate Clauses!* 

Many thanks to Dominic and Elliot for their recipe and jokes.

If you have anything that you would like to see in the Young Readers' Corner in future editions, please send your ideas to willinghamnews@gmail.com.



## FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

## www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

### **November Meeting**

Currently all Parish Council meetings have to be held remotely but that does not stop you joining in. Councillors are on camera but there is no need for you to open a video link. You can simply observe or comment within the allocated times if you let the Parish Clerk know that you wish to do so. It was good to have quite a few members of the public present at the November meeting. It created some lively discussion, and some important topics were raised. There were too many to cover in depth in this article but all of which are now on the Parish Council's radar. Our County Councillor was present at the meeting and hopefully quite a few of the topics are also on his radar. If not, we will keep reminding him.

### **Rights of Way**

This has become a national issue because of the tens of thousands of miles of footpaths and bridleways across UK that have disappeared from maps or on the ground over the past century. The Ramblers Association are encouraging communities to look locally at what exists against what should exist, but this is not a simple process – see the Reader's Letter on Page 15. Where rights of way have disappeared, proof is needed of their past existence. The Parish Council is happy to help support genuine claims within our boundaries.

## Policing

It is not yet clear what impact the proposed reduction of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in Cambridgeshire will have. The UK Government is promising more police resources. The Parish Council does maintain close contacts with our current PCSO and his Sergeant. We will lobby the Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable for clarification emphasising how vital our PCSO is to our residents. We do have a police liaison Councillor, but he works for the NHS and has been swamped with other work, so we have appointed a deputy, James Hutchcraft. Please give him a little time to settle in.

## **Road Gullies**

There have been several complaints of flooding due to blocked gullies. Our County Councillor has investigated

this and found that maintenance has been drastically					
reduced in recent years as part of the enforced cost					
cutting targets. The reduced maintenance schedule will					
remain, but resources will be better targeted at the areas					
that have been worst affected. If you do have a local					
problem, please photograph it with details of the location					
and send it to us.					

### **Boundary Changes**

At the time of writing, the recommendation of the Civil Affairs Committee, which has still to be ratified, is that the land north of the guided busway will become part of Willingham. We are happy to support that as an area of largely green separation, but it will mean that the electoral roll in Willingham will expand and new Parish Council elections must take place. If allowed, these will be for five years from May 2021.

### **Village Heroes**

When we wrote comments for the July edition, we thanked everyone in the village who was helping to keep us safe, sane and informed. Hopefully this second lockdown will be coming to an end by the time this issue of *Willingham News* is published, but it is worth repeating our thanks to the store workers who keep us fed, the Post Office that keeps communication links open and all the other heroes in our village who have risked their own safety for the benefit of us all.

## Hedges

A final note to remind all residents that this is a good time of year to take a close look at your boundary hedges and to cut them back if they overhang paths or pavements. Even small overhangs can cause problems to wheelchair users or Mums and Dads with prams.

## **Council Office Details:**

Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham, CB24 5LP Tel: 01954 261027

Email: clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk:	Mrs Mandy Powell

D Law	Parish Council Chairman	cllr.law@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 202188
N Harris	Planning Committee Chairman	cllr.harris@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07792 611226
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>B</b> Mansfield	Cemetery – Lead Cllr	cllr.mansfield@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261540
R Tassell	Halls – Lead Cllr	cllr.tassell@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07974 673836

### WILLINGHAM NEWS December 2020



S Mary - All Saints

CHURCH STREET, WILLINGHAM www.5folds.org.uk

#### **Sunday Services**

All services in church for November were suspended by order of the government. Accordingly, services were moved online. Virtual services were held throughout the month with Audio versions available on our website at <u>www.5folds.org.uk</u> and with video versions on our Youtube site at <u>www.5folds.online/YouTubevids</u>.

At the time of writing this Report we do not know how we will be allowed to handle Services in December. So no decisions can yet be taken as to the style of Services that can be offered during this month or at Christmas time. Hopefully, we will be allowed to offer a variety of regular and seasonal Services in Church and online at sites mentioned above. Please check out our website and the Church Noticeboard for more details of Services through December, including the Christmas period.

#### **Church News**

We are still here to help – although our worship is online, we are still here and praying for you all and are still on the end of a phone, email or zoom call. Please do be in touch if you would like to speak to any of us. Our Contact details are below. If there is anything you would like us to specifically pray for, please let us know.

#### **Daily Hope Phone Line**

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. You can find Daily Hope at <u>www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronaviruscovid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line</u>.

#### **Daily Church Opening**

Even with current restrictions, we are still allowed to open the church for private prayer and reflection.

The Church will be open for this each day between 10 am and 3  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{pm}}$  every day

There is a dedicated space for people to use and a daily cleaning and sanitising regime is in place. Socially distanced chairs are set out and each one has a card to be turned over to show when they have been used and so will need to be cleaned.

Everyone in the Village is welcome, so please do come and try it for yourself.

#### **Contact Details**

Administration:

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

Simon Gill 01954 230434 or simon@5folds.org.uk Lucy Cleland 01954 277758 or lucy@5folds.org.uk Jenny Hill 07970 949331 or revdjennyhill@5folds.org.uk

## Parish of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

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

For online Masses please see <u>www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-</u> work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/live-catholic-massonline. George Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LJ www.willinghambaptist.org and

If you are reading this before the 1st of December, then please join in with our online Advent Adventure Launch night via our Facebook page. Do also join in with the Advent Windows, more details can be found on Facebook or the website.

We are still gathering virtually as a fellowship on Sundays in December and in our mid-week Wednesday Reflection. We are recording some of the reflections and these are available to listen to on our website <u>www.willinghambaptist.org</u>.

If anyone would like to join us at a gathering or mid-week reflection, please get in touch by email to secretary@willinghambaptist.org or phone 01954 263108 and we will 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

## **Pastoral Letter**

I write this piece in early November during Week 1 of Lockdown 2, not knowing whether we will still be in lockdown when you read it. I wonder how the experience has been for you this time? For me, it has been very different because I have moved from a shared house within a residential community in Yorkshire to living alone in Cambridgeshire. For each of us there may be lessons learned and healthy habits, honed earlier this year, that can carry us through safely into 2021. That is my hope and prayer.

As one year closes many people reflect and some discern a word or phrase to guide them through the year ahead. For example, last spring, I met a Christian couple who had prayerfully chosen 'Breathe Deep' to be their mantra for 2020. They would not have known what lay ahead. Looking back, I imagine that it has been a word in season and a bedrock through the tough times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

'Breathe Deep' – akin to 'drawing water from the wells of salvation' (Isaiah 12:3) – echoes the call issued recently by the Anglican Archbishops of Canterbury and York. On the eve of lockdown, they urged and encouraged a threefold response: calm, courage and compassion. As someone who likes memorable soundbites, I took these three Cs into lockdown seeking to instil them in my heart, my mind and my soul and to embed them in daily life.

I commend to you the practice of living with a watchword or strapline for the year, be it 'Calm, Courage, Compassion' or another. 'Grace, Mercy and Peace' – the opening greeting in Sunday worship and in many of St Paul's letters in the New Testament – is a favourite of mine. What might yours be for 2021?

#### Rev Lucy Cleland Team Vicar (Designate) in Willingham, Swavesey, Longstanton and

Over.

T: 01954 277758 E: lucy@5folds.org.uk

## A Brief History of Willingham 1700 to 1900 Part 20 – The 'Wonder Boy' of Willingham Reign of King George II 1727 to 1760

Willingham hit the local and national news in the 1740s with stories of a young boy named Thomas Hall. The headlines ranged from 'freak boy', 'fat boy' and 'wonder boy' to 'a boy prodigy of nature', to quote just a few. Thomas Hall was born in October 1741 in Willingham, the second son of Margaret and Thomas Hall. His birth was apparently straightforward, although the midwife described him as a 'lusty boy'. However, he grew at an incredible rate, so great that it came to the attention of a surgeon in St Ives, Thomas Dawkes. The surgeon was so taken aback with the rate of the boy's growth that he came to Willingham each month and meticulously recorded the change in length and circumference of each limb.

By the age of two years ten months, young Thomas was three feet and eight inches, weighed four stones, and was attending school. At this stage the surgeon thought the Royal Society should be informed. In a letter to the President of the Royal Society he gave details of all the monthly limb measurements, together with a general description of 'this boy prodigy of nature who is not yet three:

- He is very strong. I saw him take up and readily throw a blacksmith's hammer weighing 17 pounds.
- When provoked at school by older boys of up to ten, he does not fight with his fists or legs, but collars them and lays them prostrate by sheer strength.
- His voice is already manly, as deep a bass as you can conceive, which can be very loud. He pronounces distinctly.

- He is something a little savage in look, though not quarrelsome. He has strong brown curly hair.
- He has something of a stately walk and seems conscious of his uncommon strength.
- His understanding seems equal to a child of six. He has a very retentive memory.
- His father was a little man and his mother (who died when Thomas was under one) was of middle stature.'

Soon afterwards, the young Thomas was interviewed by the Earl of Sandwich at the Crown Inn at Huntingdon in 1745 to verify the surgeon's report. News of the 'Willingham Wonder Boy' gradually spread and there were public viewings of him for over a year at Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bury St Edmunds and elsewhere. At the age of five, Thomas was four feet five inches tall, weighed six stones, and was growing a significant moustache.

However, within a year he started to age rapidly. He died of 'consumption and old age' in September 1747 aged just under six. Thomas Dawkes, the surgeon, described him shortly before his death as looking like 'a very venerable old man', and declared that every year of Thomas's short life had been the equivalent of 12 years of a normal man. He is buried in Willingham Churchyard.

The above is a précis of the original notes of the surgeon Thomas Dawkes, held in the University Library and reprinted by the late Dennis Jeeps as a pamphlet in 1996.

Alan Fawcitt Next time: Georgian Willingham

## Willingham School Association

## All Weather Running Track

On 5 November, Willingham Primary School was delighted to host the official launch of their new 200 metre running track. Having a dedicated all-weather running track has been a long-term ambition for the school. Now children can participate in physical activity and well-being, at any time in the year, whatever the weather. To launch the event, the school welcomed the British indoor 1500 metre champion, Holly Archer, who inspired the children at an assembly about her journey to become a champion and then ran the first official lap of the track.

The installation of the track was funded by a grant from Cambridge Community Foundation, who administer funding for local initiatives from the A14 expansion project, and from the Willingham School Association, who raised money from, among other things, the local Fen Gallop run.

The Track is already being put to good use by the children in Key Stage 2, who are participating in the 'Daily Mile', a nationwide initiative that encourages physical activity. They aim to collectively run the 6,000 mile distance to Tokyo over the next few months. Hopefully, we will have hit this target before the 2021 Olympics and we may even have run far enough to come back again!

The school are grateful for the generous support that made the building of the track possible.

## **Playground Markings**

Willingham School Association has received the good news that they have been selected as one of the Co-op Community Causes this year. We are raising money for playground markings to build on the new running track described above. It would be great if as many Co-op Card holders as possible could select us as their chosen cause.

## **Christmas Raffle**

We are organising a Christmas Raffle this year with amazing hamper prizes. The raffle is open to anyone and £1 tickets can be purchased by texting WSAXMAS to 70201. For more information, contact us on Facebook or at eventswsa@ gmail.com.

Cecelia Pipe



## WILLINGHAM SURGERY & LONGSTANTON BRANCH SURGERY



Reception Tel: Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 207600 Dispensary 207602

District Nurse Team: 01223 726469 Option 2 Health Visitors: 0300 029 50 50

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

### **Christmas and Bank Holiday Arrangements**

Please note we are expecting the surgery to be **CLOSED** on the Bank Holidays **Friday 25 December, Monday 28 December** and **Friday 1 January 2021**.

If the Government or Public Health England require us to stay open for the Bank Holidays due to the coronavirus pandemic, we will inform patients via the website, facebook and posters at the surgery. At the time of writing, we are expecting to be closed as usual.

Please contact NHS 111 if you need medical help and assistance when we are closed, and they will direct you to the most appropriate service. For life threatening emergencies call 999.

### **Repeat Prescriptions**

Please ensure you have enough medication in advance of the holiday period. Last ordering date for repeats before Christmas will be **Tuesday 22 December**. Orders can be collected on **Thursday 24 December** before 6 pm in Willingham and before 1 pm in Longstanton.

Last repeat orders for New Year are on **Tuesday 29 December**. Collection on New Year's Eve **31 December** must be before 6 pm at Willingham, and before 1 pm at Longstanton.

### Help Us to Help You

Your GP practice is open and if you need to see your GP, please ring us on 01954 260230 or visit our website for details. You can also call NHS 111. Please do not come to the surgery unless you have an appointment.

A clinician will speak with you over the phone before booking your face to face appointment. Appointments are also being delivered online and over the telephone. If you are asked to come into the surgery for a face-to-face appointment, please remember to wear a face covering. Measures are in place to keep you safe from infection during your visit to the surgery.

If your query is in relation to COVID-19 please visit NHS 111 online in the first instance – <u>www.nhs.uk/conditions/</u> <u>coronavirus-covid-19/</u>.

### Flu Programme –

## - Over 65 and/or High Risk:

If you are aged 65 or over or have a health condition which entitles you to receive the NHS flu jab and have not yet received one, please can you contact the Surgery and let us know. We will need to acquire stock from the NHS and to do this, we need to know how much will be required.

## - Under 65

At the time of writing, we are still awaiting guidance from Public Health Officials regarding the extended flu vaccination programme for those age 50-64 who do not normally receive the vaccine and are not in the higher risk groups. When we have more information as to how this programme will roll out, and how many vaccines we will be allocated from the NHS, we will contact those eligible via text message and letter to invite them in for the flu vaccination.

Please do not contact the practice now – we will contact

	WILLINGHAM SU NORMAL OPENIN	
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 Cli	nic	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 Appointments Emergencies	8 30 - 1 00 8 30 - 11 00	2 00 - 6 00 3 00 - 5 30 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

you when the vaccines are available on the NHS. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation

### **Carers Meeting**

Due to the 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 financial or emotional support, please contact Sue Lawson at susan.lawson7@nhs.net or 01954 260230.

### **Merry Christmas**

Finally, we would like to wish every one of our patients a Merry Christmas! This year has been one of the most challenging years in the history of the practice. We understand the many changes to our procedures have caused some frustration and things are now very different to how they use to be. We would like to thank you for your understanding, patience and co-operation as we continue to battle the pandemic through the winter pressures. We are so grateful for all the support we have received.

We wish you a healthy, happy and safe Christmas, whatever that may look like this year. We will continue to put your safety and health at the heart of everything we do as we move into 2021.

### Stay safe and take care of each other

Lisa Smith Assistant Practice Manager

## Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library 0345 0455225

Willingham Library is open Our current opening hours are: Tuesday 2 – 6 pm Friday 10 am – 2 pm

## Library Access

Following the announcement of a second lockdown period in November, the library had to abandon 'managed browsing' and return to the service offered over the summer as detailed below. At the time of going to press, this period was due to finish on 2 December, so please keep an eye on the library website for the most up-to-date information at <u>www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library</u>.

- The library is NOT open for browsing. Staff will find and issue items for you that have been ordered in advance, much like a 'Click and Collect' shopping service. You will only be able to enter the library to collect pre-ordered items or use a pre-booked computer.
- All items must be ordered in advance, either by calling 0345 045 5225 or by using the online reservations system at <u>www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/</u> <u>libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-online</u>.
- The Select and Collect service allows you to request a selection of books from a particular genre, which library staff will choose for you. If you want specific books, please use the normal reservations system.
- You will need to bring your library card with you when collecting books and queue outside the library.
- We have a wide range of eBooks, eAudio books, eComics and eMagazines which you can access online without visiting a library. Please see: <u>www.cambridgeshire.gov.</u> <u>uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/libraryonline</u>.

Please look at the notices in the library window for more information.

### **Friends of Willingham Library**

### Christmas Family Book Trail 4 - 18 December

As far as we know (and hope!) this will be able to go ahead. We don't want to disappoint our books as they are so excited about the upcoming festivities that they have escaped to view the Christmas lights around the village. Please can you help us find them?

Pick up a form and map from the lobby of the library or the Post Office from **4 December** or contact us at willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com to receive one. Write the title of each book you find on the form and return to the library for a small reward.

Please note the trail is not suitable for unaccompanied children.

Thank you for supporting your village library and a very Merry Christmas to all!

## **Readers' Letters**

Willingham is a rural village surrounded by farmland which is full of paths, ways and droves. These paths have been commonly used for centuries but have been especially important over the past few months for walkers. Being able to walk in the countryside has been important for all - I have met couples, entire families and lone walkers over the past months.

However, it might surprise you to know that there are practically no registered pathways in Willingham, as there are in the surrounding villages. For some reason our right to walk the pathways of Willingham is not recorded.

If you have walked the paths of Willingham over the past 15-20 years, I would love to hear from you. Despite how built up Willingham and the surrounding area becomes we could preserve the right to walk for generations to come. Please help. You can contact me at steph@paulandsteph. co.uk or by phone on 07747 613256.

### Steph Thomas

Having read the article on Willingham WI in the November edition, I do, as was suggested, recognise most, if not all, of those ladies nominated for the committee in 1955.

In particular, I recognise Mrs F Smith, who was Edith

Smith wife of Frank Smith, then of 8 Haden Way, and who was to become my Mother in Law. I know that she was quite active in the WI. I am prompted to contact you because I have in my possession a goblet, (pictured) which belonged to Edith. It was produced for the occasion of the WI Golden Jubilee in 1965.

Goldense

Martin Gorner

have one?

I wonder if any

other readers also



## Willingham Wolves – Under 9s Squad Update

I am writing this Report in early November, when we have just entered a second lockdown period. This means that all grassroot football has again had to pause – hopefully only for a short period this time. Since recommencing back in the summer, our team really have focused on fitness. Twice a week we have been training or playing matches and the team have gone from red faced and puffed out to absolute athletes. This is a testament to themselves for all the hard work and effort they put in to get fit again. It has been a mixed start to the slightly delayed new season. It has been our first step up to 7-aside and this means we are playing on a much larger pitch. This is why our fitness levels have been so important.

The high point in our season so far has been to play our first ever Cup match and we even got to the second round.

We found that knock-out football can be extremely exciting – even if at an Under 9 level!

Throughout this re-start the club and teams have followed all the Government rules to allow us to play, including social distancing, sanitising equipment and gathering appropriate Track and Trace information. This in itself has been a big challenge for us as a Club, but we have met this by pulling together and so have provided a safe environment for our teams and families.

Our Under 9 Squad wanted everyone to see couple of pictures proving they play in all conditions including some of the monsoons of late!

Andy Croxon – Coach for the Under 9 Squad.

### It's Match Day

A motivational poem written by one of the Willingham Wolves Under 9s Team Coaches

It's Match day Saturday, Win, lose or Draw! As long as you try your best, Doesn't matter the score.

If your missing out on Saturday, Don't worry you'll be back To give it your all, In defence, midfield or attack.

Go strong into the tackle, With all the players you meet, You'll only win that ball back, If you don't have jelly feet.

Goalies be brave – dive, deflect, parry, Set that wall, Let them hear your voice, As you shout 'KEEPERS

#### BALL'!

Put your kit out Friday, All ready for the game, Dream about what you'll do, What's your goal? What's your aim? Wake up early, pull on your shirt, Shorts and socks, Focus on the Football No Minecraft, Fortnite or Roblox! We'll always try our hardest, And next week we'll give it more, We are the Wolves of

Willingham COME HEAR US ROAR!

By Raj Patel

Come Rain or Shine – The Wolves Always Play

## Ivy Bees in Willingham

Whilst walking via Bourney Manor Close, we came across a large number of bees flying over an area of short vegetation with some areas of soil exposed. We were unsure what

these bees were, so we took a photo which we posted on Facebook asking for identification. The answer came back quickly telling us that they were Ivy Bees. The photo is attached to this article so you too can spot these when you are out walking in Willingham.

The Ivy Bees (Colletes Hederae) were described as a new species known to science only in 1993 when they were found in southern Europe. These species have undergone a rapid expansion and are now known from Germany to Spain. In Britain they were first reported in 2001 in Dorset and are now found all along the south coast from Cornwall as far as Kent and East Anglia.

Brenda and Melvyn Smith









Our salon offers all aspects of hairdressing including wedding hair with a personal touch. We can come to you on your special day.

Tel: 01954 260224





approach to manage feelings so you can move forward without emotional or behavioural issues.

One to one or family coaching and mentoring available.

## www.kirstycornwellcoaching.co.uk

The Coaching Cabin, 59 Church Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB245HS



Mobile: 07990610517 Email: kirstycomwell6@gmail.com





## Willingham Gardening Club

## Willingham Social Club

We are nearing the end of what has turned out to be an extraordinary year. A year lost for many and who knows what will happen next. But we must look forward to the New Year with the hope that the virus might be managed to allow us to get back to normality. Regrettably, both the Gardening Club and Horticultural Show had to be stood down this year. We must now look forward to 2021 with the hope that all our village groups and activities may soon return to activity.

## **Seasonal Gardening Tips**

- It is important to understand the life cycle of the plants that you have or plan to have next year so as to provide them with the best chance of survival. Two of the best websites to look at are BBC Gardener's World and the Royal Horticultural Society.
- Check out your various plant groups so you know how they perform: annuals, biennials, perennials, shrubs, trees, climbers, bedding plants and bulbs.
- To attach a wreath to a PVC door, affix a sticky back hook to the inside of the door (on the glass is ideal). Fix a length of ribbon to the loop on the wreath and tie the other end of the ribbon to the hook. Tie a bow and fix to the hook to cover the mechanics.
- Beware of holly, it contains a volatile oil which is flammable and burns fiercely. Other flammable plant materials are eucalyptus and bamboo.
- Always wear a mask when spraying dried plant materials and spray in a well-ventilated area. Allow all sprayed materials to dry thoroughly as fumes are given off until they dry.
- Make bowls of succulents instead of the usual planted bowls to give away at Christmas.
- Houseplant leaves can become dusty like any other surface in the house. Use cotton wool dipped in water to gently clean the leaves.
- Keep an eye on outside plants in pots and troughs as they too can easily dry out over the winter if there is little rain.
- Prepare to help your wildlife survive the winter.

The Willingham Gardening Club wishes all its members and the readers of the *Willingham News* a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

## **Codeword Solution**

<sup>1</sup> W	<sup>2</sup> Y	<sup>3</sup> Z	<sup>4</sup> C	<sup>5</sup> U	<sup>6</sup> R	<sup>7</sup> P	<sup>8</sup> A	<sup>9</sup> M	10 D	11 B	<sup>12</sup> V	<sup>13</sup> 0
<sup>14</sup> E	15 	<sup>16</sup> S	<sup>17</sup> Q	<sup>18</sup> G	<sup>19</sup> K	<sup>20</sup> F	<sup>21</sup> J	<sup>22</sup> T	<sup>23</sup> X	<sup>24</sup> H	<sup>25</sup> L	<sup>26</sup> N

## Answers to Book Quiz

1. Charles Dickens, 2. Dr Seuss, 3. Stella Gibbon,

4. O Henry, 5. Janet Ahlberg, 6. Hans Christian Andersen,7. Raymond Briggs, 8. Beatrix Potter, 9. Louisa May Alcott, 10. Agatha Christie. This year has been really challenging for the club and we are pleased to say that with careful measures, additional funding and good reserves, we are still keeping our heads above water. We are so grateful to the members who continue to enjoy coming to the club during this difficult time. Lynne and the staff have worked particularly hard to make everyone feel safe and provide the usual hospitality.

Sadly, Dave Stone our friend and resident bingo caller passed away recently. We will miss his cheeky sense of humour. Wednesday Bingo is the only event that we have felt could safely return, being a seated, table service event. Subject to any changes to future Government Guidelines, it will remain open to everyone over 18, with 'eyes down' at 7 30 pm.

A special thank you to everyone that has renewed their membership this year, especially those who might not use the Members' Club room regularly but know what a valuable community building we have. Membership is just £15 for the year and half price for over 65s.

Our Christmas and New Year opening hours are in limbo pending Government decisions – opening hours will be posted on the outside noticeboard and on our Facebook page once they are known.

So, cheers to everyone, wherever you spend it, and wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2021.

## Manderson Trust Update for 2020

Slowly but surely, the Fishing Lakes of the Manderson Trust for the Disabled on Overcote are getting back to some semblance of normality.

As those of you who have visited since the end of the first lock-down know, the site is a haven for nature and a place to soak up peace and quiet while on the hunt for a fish or two. Lake 5 has produced a 20lb carp for the first time in a while and the regular bream catch has been bolstered by our biggest fish to date of 6lb.

Membership is up from 60 to 90 in the last few months and the recently introduced honesty box for day ticket anglers has been a considerable success.

It is great to see more families taking advantage of our facilities and making use of the equipment on offer for youngsters to borrow to catch a few tiddlers. If there is a trustee on site, they will sort out a loan. The service is free!

Many thanks to Trevor from The Swavesey and Over Conservation Society for his expertise and advice on developing a wild flower meadow on the site, also to the Community Payback boys for their hard work in strimming and raking off the development area ready for seeding. We have purchased a Bee and Insect mix for spring flowers.

Every Christmas the Trust runs a Fur and Feather fishing match. This year it was due to be held on 12 December and planning for this was underway. However, in view of the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 lockdown arrangements in November it has been decided to cancel this year's match. We are sorry for any disappointment this causes but trust that everyone will understand that this decision has been taken in the interest of safety.

Please keep in touch with our website for events to be planned on 2021.



## **CELEBRATION DAYS IN DECEMBER**

1 - 31 DEC	DECEMBEARD – Men all over the country will be growing beards to raise money for Bowel
	Cancer UK. Over the last two years more than £220,000 has been raised. Bowel Cancer is the
	third most common Cancer in the UK, with 23,000 men diagnosed each year. Sign up at
	bowelcanceruk.org.uk/decembeard.
2 DEC	ENGLISH BREAKFAST DAY is celebrated by millions of people internationally. The English
	Breakfast Society supports traditional chefs, farmers and butchers.
4 DEC	ELF DAY – Get ready to unleash your inner elf by dressing up and supporting people affected
	by dementia see alzheimers.org.uk/elfday.
	<b>INTERNATIONAL CHEETAH DAY</b> – The world's fastest land animal is racing against extinction.
	Help them win the race by visiting internationalcheetahday.com.
5 DEC	DAY OF THE NINJA – Ninjas were professional spies in Japan between the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup>
	centuries. Historians believe Ninjas were often recruited to do unsavoury tasks such as arson
	and terrorism. The elite fighters were the Samurais. Ninjas were not all men, women were
	known as Kunoichi.
8 DEC	<b>BODHI DAY</b> marks the moment 2,500 years ago when Siddhartha Gautama attained
0 DLC	enlightenment becoming the Buddha. He rejected his princely life and spent his life as a poor
	holy person.
10 – 18 DEC	HANNUKKA is the Jewish eight day wintertime festival of lights.
11 DEC	<b>CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY</b> – Put your silliest, festive jumper on and give £2 to Save the
	Children at www.savethechildren.org.uk/Christmas-jumper-day. Make the world better in a
l l	
	sweater! Today is the last posting date for your letter to Father Christmas. Send your letter
40.050	to: Father Christmas, Santa's Grotto, Reindeerland, XM4 5HQ.
18 DEC	<b>INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY</b> – More people than ever live in a country where they
	weren't born. Many people migrate out of choice, but many others out of necessity. In 2019,
	the global number of migrants was estimated at 272 million, 51 million more than in 2010.
21 DEC	WINTER SOLSTICE occurs in the Northern Hemisphere when one of the earth's poles has its
	maximum tilt away from the sun, which results in this 24 hour period having the fewest
	daylight hours of the year.
24 DEC	THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS is the Christmas Eve Service held in Kings College
	Change The Eastival was introduced in 1018 and was first broadcast in 1078 and is now seen
	Chapel. The Festival was introduced in 1918 and was first broadcast in 1928 and is now seen
1	by millions of people around the world. Unfortunately, people from outside of the College
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FIRST WEEK FREE

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## VILLAGE DIRECTORY

## Please notify Willingham News of any changes

- "			
Council	Parish Council (See full details on page 10)	Tim Watherspeen	01954 261027
	County Councillor District Councillor	Dawn Percival	timothy.wotherspoon@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 07948 683599 / cllr.percival@scambs.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Bill Handley	01954 200287 / cllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk
Services	Police	Bill Hanuley	101
Scivices	Surgery		01954 260230
	Dispensary for repeat prescription requests		01954 207602
	Library		0345 045 5225
	Pharmacy		01954 261787
	Over Surgery		01954 231550
	Urgent Care Cambridgeshire		111
Schools	Primary School	Mr Dave Morel	01954 283030
	Willingham Out Of School Club (3–6 pm only)	Mrs M Lenk	01954 283033
	School Governors Chairperson	Katy Stevenson	chair@willingham.cambs.sch.uk
	School Association British School Trust	c/o school Ray Croucher	01954 283030 01954 261113
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Matt Haigh	adventure@1stwillinghamscoutgroup.org.uk
ennaren	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Mrs Kate Van Dort	
	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 01954 261189
Halls	KFC Kid's Friday Club Years 1-6 (Baptist Church) Ploughman Hall Bookings	Lorriane Bald through Parish Cou	
110113	Wilford Furlong Centre	through Farish Cot	01954 261627
	The Octagon	Gillian Beal	admin@5folds.org.uk
	Baptist Bookings and Rentals	Emma Launchbury	
	Willingham Social Club Bookings	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557
			willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Youth Centre bookings		email: enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org
Local	Allotments	Sue Ayling	01954 260718
Representatives	Billavincea Lodge 8719 Fen Edge Community Association	Mr M Scrivener Eileen Wilson	01480 413533 chair@fenedge.co.uk
	Over & District Royal British Legion	Jane Matthews	07983 630265
	over a District Noyal Diftish Legion	Julie Matthews	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
	Willingham RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser	Graham Atherton	01954 260331
Clubs	Willingham Bee Group Chairman	Steve Smith	07795 215071
Clubs	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL) Gardening Club	Mrs C Bailey	willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com 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 Willingham Youth Club	Mike Tidball Bonnie Twiss	01954 260647 bonnietwiss@me.com
	Women's Institute	Wendy Law	01954 202188
Sport	Angling	Colin Dodd	07773 719330
oport	Badminton	Sarah Custance	01954 202005
	Bowls Club	lan Bissett (Sec)	ianbissett@gmail.com
			Willinghambowlsclubsec@gmail.com
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 610113
	Cycling Club – <u>www.willinghamwheels.com</u>	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 Willingham Sports Pavilion	Gerry Mears through Parish Cou	uncil 07511 131645
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Jamie Smith (Sec)	01954 261027
Churches	Mothers' Union (Branch Leader)	Mrs S Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Emma Launchbury	
	Methodists (Ministerial Contact)	Rev Simon Oliver	07554 202929
	Roman Catholic Priest	Rev Thomas J Walt	
	Parish Church	Gillian Beal	admin@5folds.org.uk
		Simon Gill	01954 230434



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