

Willingham News

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July 2023



Early Morning Dew in Barton Field. Photo, Sara Asbury

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The deadline for your contributions is 8th of each month. Hard copy can be dropped off at the library.

Bin Collections

7 July	Blue and Green
14 July	Black
21 July	Blue and Green
28 July	Black

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 are now available on the Willingham Life website run by WAG:
www.willinghamlife.org/page/willingham-magazine-back-issues

If you have any changes to the Village Directory please send them to us at: willinghamnews@gmail.com

Advertising

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 emails 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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Old Willingham



A very quiet day at the village pond nearly 100 years ago – perhaps early morning. People today often say how nice it would be to have a village pond but, in reality, this was not picturesque. The problem is that there is no stream to refresh the water and so it was just like a huge puddle – drying up in the summer and flooding in heavy rain. You will see that there is not a blade of grass because the pond was used by farmers to wash carts and animals. It would probably have been smelly and prone to mosquitoes, bringing the risk of malaria, still known then in the Fens. Eventually the ‘pond’ was filled in on public health grounds. Still... it would be nice.

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.

Open Studios



If you want to do something different, the July Open Studio Art Festival runs for the first four weekends of July and is free to enter and there is no need to book! From 10 am to 5 pm you can see working studios, demonstrations and exhibitions and talk to artists about their work. We love

talking about art and how it was created - especially to young people. There is no obligation to buy, but should you love something, you are buying direct from the artist. With nearly 300 artists participating, showing sculpture, jewellery, ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, there is something for everyone. Why not make a day of it with a friend?

This year there are seven artists participating at five locations in the village and we are part of the Fen Edge art trail. Look out for the bright yellow signs and leaflets! You can find the Fen Edge (and other trails) on the interactive map at camopenstudios.org/July or pick up a trail leaflet or printed guide at locations round the village including the Post Office. Look forward to seeing you!

Willingham Bowls Club Established 1937

Our new club shirts have arrived and thanks to the sponsors Vintage Travel, we hope to change the image of Bowls. The shirts are very bright and both Willingham Bowls Club and Vintage Travel are supporting Dementia UK.



We have not had an ideal start to the season, a very wet May has meant we have been unable to use the Green, but the recent dry spell has meant we are able to start playing. We will be having Roll Ups on Friday afternoons and some Sunday mornings. Anyone interested in trying Bowls please get in touch via the contacts below. We can always arrange something.

We are still offering clubs that support Dementia and Alzheimer's, free sessions of bowls which will include refreshments.

We really appreciate the support we received from Vintage Travel, which has changed our image and hopefully will attract some younger members. We still offer 18 years old and younger free membership.

terry.buckley@virginmedia.com

willinghambowlsclubsec@gmail.com

Willingham Memory Box Café

Invites people living with memory loss,
and their carers, to join us for
Music, Refreshments, Company, and Fun
on

Saturday 8 July

from 10 am to 12 noon

in

The Octagon

behind the Parish Church, with
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For further details please contact
Frances Watts 01954 200542

Poetry Corner

Poem for July

I'd dance in the sky for July
and sing in the trees like a bird.
What a really *sunshine* word
is the magical month of July.

I'd fly like a bright butterfly
and glide as a swan in a stream.
What a lovely time to dream
in the beautiful month of July.

Christine Lacey

The Reach

As you and I walk to the edge of Troublesome Reach,
you enquire quite politely and out of the blue
if we could kiss like we used to do, right here,
right now. I smile, decline, and thank you for the thought.

We sit on our log on the fringe of beach. I open
a pack of mints, but don't offer you one.
After a while, I spot two seals lolling on the sand –
a pair, so far away. As the tide recedes

and the water eases back to the sea, I point
at waders as they move in, rhythmically plucking
at the mud in ranks. They may be curlews, I'm not sure –
you're the one who knows such things.

On the hour, the chime from the tower at Iken church
sings out across the reach. I start to count
but then lose track too soon. I tell you
that I miss you, and imagine your reply.

Best get back to the car before dusk, I say.
I slip the mints into a pocket
and head up the path from Troublesome Reach,
you walking at my side, as you always will.

John Lawrence

Photography Club

We meet at the Baptist Church, where we aim to learn more about photography and enjoy ourselves. There is a monthly assignment and photos are submitted at the following meeting for consideration and feedback from our resident professional photographer.

The next meeting is **Monday 17 July** at 8 pm when the assignment will be

A Subject with One Predominant Colour

We will also be showing the next instalment of our four seasons project: *Summer*.

Membership cost is £20 for six months with the first month free for new members.

If you have any questions, please contact
derek@ballandia.co.uk.

Nature's Names

Although threatened by climate change, bumblebees are hard at work in our gardens, helping to pollinate plants and fruiting trees. In parts of Britain, the bumblebee used to be known as a *dumbledore*. Sounds familiar? Harry Potter fans will recognise it as the headmaster of Hogwarts.

The word originated from the Old English *dumble*, or *drumble*, which meant to move slowly, and *dore*, which was used to signify a humming insect. J K Rowling herself said in an interview in 1999 that she imagined Dumbledore humming at his desk as he worked, as he was fond of music.

In past centuries, the first part of the bumblebee's name has been varied – *dumble*-, *humble*-, *bumble*-, *drumble*- – all those were the most common. None other than Shakespeare (in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Charles Darwin (*On the Origin of Species*, 1859) wrote about 'humble bees', which used to be the most recent alternative name for these important charismatic insects.

John Lawrence

Willingham Women's Institute



Our next meeting is on **Monday 10 July** and will be our annual summer party for members only.

WI News

May Talk

At our May meeting we had a great talk, *Seeing Science*, by Alison Giles from the Whipple Museum in Cambridge. The museum was founded by Robert Stewart Whipple, who presented his collection of 1,000 scientific instruments, and a similar number of rare books, to Cambridge University in 1944.

Alison brought along various artefacts to show us, including an astrolabe, telescopes and a portable sundial. We were able to look at and touch everything that she brought from the museum's 'handling object collection', some of which were replicas and others original. Alison was an inspiring speaker and left us all wanting to make a visit to the museum.

Why not join us? Our friendly group is open to all women, young and old. As well as our meetings, all members receive a copy of the monthly *WI News*, the national magazine, and can also join outings and activities organised by the Cambridgeshire Federation. You will be warmly welcomed for a taster session free of charge. To find out more, please contact willinghamwi28@gmail.com.



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A&E is not an alternative to a GP appointment. If we are closed, please call 111.

Fear of Flying (Flying Phobia) Prescriptions

We are often asked to prescribe sedative drugs, such as Diazepam (Valium), for fear of flying. We have recently agreed a practice policy that we will no longer prescribe these drugs for fear of flying. There are a number of good reasons why prescribing of drugs such as Diazepam is not safe or recommended as other treatments are safer and more effective.

We recognise that fear of flying is real and frightening and we don't underestimate the impact it can have. We recommend tackling this properly by using self-help resources or considering one of the 'Fear of Flying' courses run by many airlines. We do not recommend any specific course but you may find the following websites useful.

NHS: www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions/phobias/self-help

EasyJet: www.fearlessflyer.easyjet.com

British Airways: www.flyingwithconfidence.com/courses/venues/glasgow

Virgin: www.flyingwithoutfear.co.uk/fear-of-flying-courses/adult-course

Heatwave and Very Hot Weather

Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it's too hot for too long, there are health risks. In England there are on average 2,000 heat related deaths every year. If hot weather hits this summer, make sure it does not harm you or anyone you know.

Why is a heatwave a problem?

The main risks posed by a heatwave are:

- not drinking enough water (dehydration)
- overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing
- heat exhaustion and heatstroke

Who's most at risk?

A heatwave can affect anyone, but the most vulnerable people are:

- older people – especially those over 75
- those who live on their own or in a care home
- people who have a serious or long term illness – including heart or lung conditions, diabetes, kidney disease, Parkinson's disease or some mental health conditions
- those who may find it hard to keep cool – babies and the very young, the bed bound, those with drug or alcohol addictions or with Alzheimer's disease
- people who spend a lot of time outside or in hot places – those who live in a top floor flat, the homeless or those whose jobs are outside.

The top ways for staying safe when the heat arrives are to:

- look out for others, especially older people, young children and babies and those with underlying health conditions

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 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 6 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 – 6 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

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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

- close curtains on rooms that face the sun to keep indoor spaces cooler and remember it may be cooler outdoors than indoors
- drink plenty of water as sugary, alcoholic and caffeinated drinks can make you more dehydrated
- never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle, especially infants, young children or animals
- try to keep out of the sun between 11 am and 3 pm
- take care and follow local safety advice, if you are going into the water to cool down
- walk in the shade, apply sunscreen and wear a hat, if you have to go out in the heat
- avoid physical exertion in the hottest parts of the day
- wear light, loose fitting cotton clothes
- make sure you take water with you if you are travelling

For more information please visit: www.nhs.uk/.../heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather.

Carers' Meeting

If you are a carer for someone and need advice and financial or emotional support, please come along to our carers' support meetings on **Wednesday 5 July** and **Wednesday 2 August** at Willingham Surgery, where we will be holding drop-in meetings between **2 – 4 pm**. Please come along and get some support from other people in the local community. Refreshments provided, no need to pre-book and completely free!

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Willingham Surgery. Please contact Sue Lawson at the surgery or email her at susan.lawson7@nhs.net for more information.

Lisa Smith – Assistant Practice Manager

Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

0345 0455225

Opening hours:

Tuesday: 10 am – 1 pm and 2 – 5 pm

Thursday: 4 – 7 pm

Friday: 10 am – 1 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm

Your Online Account

Log in to your account at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library, using your library card number and PIN to see your loans, renew items, search the catalogue and reserve items. You can also access our online services with a wide range of eBooks, eAudio books, eComics and eMagazines – all free of charge. If you're not a library member yet, it's easy to join online or in person at any library.

Summer Reading Challenge

It's almost that time of year again! Every year all libraries run the Summer Reading Challenge and this year's theme is *Ready, Set, Read*. The aim is to encourage children to read at least one book a week for each of the six weeks of the summer holiday, then come to the library to collect stickers and activity sheets. If they complete all six weeks, they will be invited to attend a medal presentation ceremony in September. Children under 11 can sign up from **Saturday 8 July** and the challenge starts when the schools break up for summer. Events taking place at the library include:

- **8 and 22 August** – Design a T-shirt
- **23 August** – Story Session
- **30 August** – Magician

More precise details to following next month so watch this space!

Wednesday 5 July, 2 – 3 30 pm Engage in the Afternoon

Author Visit: Valerie McKee, *13 Months of Sunshine*

Come and hear Valerie talk about her year as a volunteer with Voluntary Services Overseas, helping to develop local skills for teachers and find out how life in Ethiopia is vastly different to her home life.

Family Lego Club

Wednesday 5 July, 3 30 – 4 45 pm

Do you love Lego? Then we have the club for you! Come to the library and enjoy some time building with Lego, term time only. This activity is suitable for ages four and over. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Digital Buddy Drop-in Session

Sorry **no session** this month, back in August.

Friends of Willingham Library

Family History

Sorry, there will be **no session** this month. However, the computers are always available to be used for your own

ancestry research during the usual library opening times.

Games Afternoon, Friday 7 July, 2 – 4 pm

Come and join us for an enjoyable game of Scrabble or one of the other games we have at the library. Or you can bring a favourite game of your own from home to share. Refreshments available, donations welcome.

Please note that due to the lack of attendees recently, the Games Afternoon will take a break over summer and resume in October.

Second-hand Book Sale, Saturday 1 July, 10 30 am – 12 noon

We have an excellent selection of fiction and non-fiction books for sale at the bargain price of 50p each or three for £1. Pop along and stock up for you and your family's summer holiday reading.

Knit and Natter Afternoon, Wednesday 19 July, 2 – 4 pm

Join us for an informal and friendly get together at the library, bringing your knitting or any other kind of needlework or handicraft. We'll be sitting and chatting while working on our pieces and perhaps giving help and advice to others. Refreshments available, donations welcome.

Cambridgeshire Libraries News

Sign up for the Library Service's monthly email newsletter to find out the latest about what's going on in your local libraries. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/news-and-events/library-news.

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A perfect introduction to Shakespeare for school students and the ADC is offering a generous discount for schools on the opening night.

Willingham resident, Dan Aspel, plays a leading role in both plays.



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The Merchant of Venice	Twelfth Night
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Album Quiz

Name the artist or band who released the following albums.
(Note that there is a colourful twist halfway through!)

Answers on page 19.

- 1 *Red* (2012)
- 2 *Back to Black* (2006)
- 3 *Purple Rain* (1984)
- 4 *Love Over Gold* (1982)
- 5 *White Ladder* (1999)
- 6 *Songs About Jane* (2002)
- 7 *A Question of Balance* (1970)
- 8 *Misundaztood* (2001)
- 9 *Can't Get Enough* (1974)
- 10 *Paranoid* (1970)

Sudoku

Solution on page 19.

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



Young Readers' Corner

How many books will you read in the Summer holidays? Remember to get involved in the Summer Book Challenge organised by the Library. See page 8 for details about this challenge and other activities happening in the school holidays at the library.

Historical Events Which Have Occurred in the Month of July

Answers on page 19.

Can you match the event to the date? These ten events are in a muddle. Draw a line from the date to the correct event.

- 1 July 1838 The inaugural Lawn Tennis Championship was played at Wimbledon.
- 4 July 1789 Spanish Armada consisting of 130 warships set sail for England.
- 9 July 1877 British scientist Charles Darwin presented a paper on his theory of the evolution of the species and natural selection.
- 13 July 1923 Online shopping store Amazon went live to the general public.
- 14 July 1776 King Henry V111 married 17-year-old Catherine Howard.
- 16 July 1995 The Eagle landed on the moon and American astronaut, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon.
- 18 July 1920 The first test-tube baby was born in England.
- 20 July 1588 Bastille Day in France. The day marks the storming of the Bastille in the early stages of the French Revolution.
- 21 July 1969 750,000 people who died during the First World War were commemorated with the unveiling of a new national monument, named the Cenotaph, in London.
- 26 July 1920 American Independence Day.



SUMMER WORD SEARCH

Q	F	I	G	U	R	P	O	O	L	E	R
S	S	H	E	A	T	R	B	U	H	R	S
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BARBEQUE
LEMONADE
HEAT

VACATION
SWIMMING
POOL

OUTSIDE
BEACH
SUNSCREEN

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FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Traffic

The village seems to be surrounded by roadworks and quite a few parishioners have complained about the problems being caused in getting to school, work and shops. The County Council are responsible for agreeing road closures and we have been in regular contact with our county councillor on the subject, regarding issues such as access to the schools during exam times and the serious impact on local businesses. The work that is being carried out is for repair and replacement of essential services, some of which we pressed for last year. The work must be done and is bound to cause disruption, but we would like to see this minimised with better co-ordination of the projects and we will do what we can to press these points. Meanwhile please do not take it out on the contractors. They are just doing their job and are not responsible for the planning.

Buses

In June the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) published the results of their *Making Connections* consultation, which includes the controversial Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) plus details of an improved bus network that will provide an alternative to car use, to be paid for from STZ revenues. Unfortunately, the submission from Willingham Parish Council was not included. We are trying to find out why and to get our views added before the final decisions are made. Our view, already expressed in previous surveys and at various forums, is that the proposed hourly rural route for Willingham that does not include Cambridge, or any major towns is not an improvement and not a realistic alternative to the car. We should therefore be exempt from the STZ charge, which will hit the poorest hardest.

Illegal Parking

Following the police's refusal to act on this issue, we are delighted to see that the proposal we made last year, that parking enforcement be taken on as a civil matter,

is progressing. The legislation to make this happen is not simple and has to go all the way to parliament. This is scheduled to happen in November. Thanks should go to our district and county councillors for pushing this one.

Black Pit Drove

It is good to see Barton Field being well used but could we just remind everyone that vehicles are not permitted on the bridleway and to please ensure that you do not leave any dog mess lying around.

Volunteers

Huge thanks are due to the volunteers that helped make the Coronation Big Lunch a great success. Huge thanks are also due to the many volunteers who look after other village events as well as the many clubs and societies. The village would not be the place it is without them. Parish councillors are of course also unpaid volunteers. If you feel you could help contribute to their work, please contact the parish clerk, and find out what is involved.

Meetings

The next full council meeting will be **Wednesday 5 July** at 7 30 pm in the Octagon.

Contact Details

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

Council Office Details:

Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham, CB24 5LP

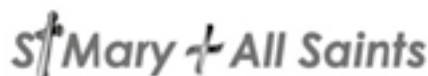
Tel: 01954 261027

Email clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell

D Law	Parish Council Chairman	cllr.law@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 202188
P King	Parish Council Vice Chair	cllr.pking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
B Todd	Planning Chair	cllr.todd@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07956 993603
M Gibbs	Halls – Lead Cllr	cllr.gibbs@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07407 025070
L King	Leisure & Amenities- Lead Cllr	cllr.lking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
B Mansfield	Cemetery – Lead Cllr	cllr.mansfield@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261540
J Watson	Green & Boundary – Lead Cllr	cllr.watson@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 200245

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Services in Church

- 2 July** 11 00 am No Service today at St Mary and All Saints.
Joint 5folds Service at Swavesey Church –
11 am – see below for further details.
- 9 July** 11 00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 16 July** 11 00 am Holy Communion Service
- 23 July** 11 00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 30 July** 11 00 am Holy Communion Service

Joint Service on 2 July

This will be a special occasion as all the 5fold Churches come together at Swavesey Church to celebrate the 25 years Anniversary of Jenny Hill's Ordination – an occasion to mark her long and faithful ministry to the communities she has served and to give thanks for all her care for the 5fold communities while she has been with us. This will also be an opportunity to extend to Lucy Cleland our very best wishes as she moves on to a new posting in Bristol and give thanks for all she has done for us during her time as part of the 5folds Ministry Team.

Acorns, Oaks and Owls Club

Every Sunday at 11 am in the Octagon. A fun, activity-packed hour for children of all ages, from toddlers through to teenagers. No need to book, just come along and join in the fun!

Memory Box Café

Our next Memory Box Café will be on **Saturday 8 July** from 10 am in the Octagon with music, refreshments, laughter and fun for people living with memory loss and their carers or family – see further details on page 5.

Prayers for Ukraine

We continue to keep an area set aside in Church for those who wish to spend some quiet reflective time to pray for Ukraine and its people during daytime Church opening hours. Also, every Thursday evening from 6 30 to 7 pm, we offer a time to gather to pray for peace and an end to the conflict. Everyone is welcome.

Octagon Hall

The Octagon is available for private bookings. For further information and bookings, please contact Colin Smith at the administration office, Tuesday to Friday 9 30 am to 12 noon, using the contact details shown below.

Contact Details

Rev Simon Gill is currently on sick leave. In his absence, please contact one of those listed below:

Clergy:

Rev Jenny Hill 07970 949331 or jenny@5folds.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister:

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

5folds Administration Office:

Colin Smith 01954 203459 or admin@5folds.org.uk.



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www.willinghambaptist.org and

Activities for July

Sunday Services, 10 am

Relaxed and informal service with songs, prayers and teaching. All welcome at any stage of faith.

2 July What Happens to Marriage in Heaven?

9 July Special Joint Service with 'The Church Experiment' Group*

16 July Jesus talks to the Crowds

23 July Jesus Praises the Small Offering of a Person with Little to Give

30 July Jesus Predicts the Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem

*This will be at an outdoor location in the village. Email for details.

Sunday Service 6 pm

16 July – Friendly service with more traditional feel.

Wednesday Fellowship – Every Week

10 am Open Door for Coffee and Chat

EVENTS

Open Door for Coffee: A friendly get-together at the church for chat and refreshments. All welcome.

Community Lunch Club: Thursdays 13 and 27 July. Book through Daphne on 01954 260568.

TOPS Baby and Toddler Group: Tuesdays at 9 45 am. Meet other families while the children play. For children up to the age of five. Contact Debbie Allen on 01954 261581.

Nimble Fingers Craft Club: Mondays, 2 – 4 pm (except bank holidays). Bring your crafts and join with others, learn a new skill or just chat. Contact Daphne on 01954 260568.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 15 July 7 45 – 9 am

Hearty cooked breakfast with chat. Talk: *Islands Around Britain*.

For all events contact: secretary@willinghambaptist.org.

Catholic Parish of the Sacred Heart, St Ives

Details of services at St Ives at www.sacredheart-stives.org. Mass is also held at 6 pm on Saturdays in the Octagon at Bar Hill, next to the church at Hanover Close, CB23 8EH.

For more information about the Diocese of East Anglia, see www.rcdea.org.uk.

Avrille Again At Last!



At the picnic

A delegation from the Fen Edge Twinning Association visited the French town of Avrille between 25 to 29 May this year. It was our first visit since 2019 and it was fabulous.

We were welcomed by the Mayor of Avrille with drinks and delicious nibbles and speeches from both sides recalling past achievements and outlining hopes for the future of our relationship. There was a very special moment when 'Bruno', one of the leading lights of the French twinningers and their official translator, had to translate the very generous praise that was heaped upon him by the French officials as they announced his retirement.

After the reception we all went to our hosts' homes for dinner and relaxing entertainment.

On Saturday, each host found a different way of entertaining us before we came together again for dinner in a very pleasant restaurant near to an ancient Water Mill. Very good food and lots to talk about.

On Sunday, we were taken to another local beauty spot for a very French picnic lunch where we were invited to join in with the games or simply explore the uncultivated countryside. In the evening, we all attended dinner parties hosted by our own or someone else's host. It was very hard having to get up early on Monday for our flight home.

We all agreed we had had a very good time; we had learned a lot and we had made the world a little smaller.

One Sad Note

We could not help noticing that our average age is increasing. We have not been doing enough to encourage new members to share in the joys of Twinning. Membership of the Fen Edge Twinning Association is free and is open anyone who lives in one of the Fen Edge Villages (Cottenham, Landbeach, Rampton, Waterbeach and Willingham). For more information e-mail fenedgetwinning@gmail.com.



Pre-dinner drinks

Thought for the Month

One of my pleasures in life is growing fruit and vegetables; but this year hasn't been progressing as usual. I planted many vegetable and salad seeds, as normal, in the greenhouse and outside, following the instructions on the packets. I waited and waited; eventually a radish and two carrots appeared outside and two cucumbers in the greenhouse. No sign of tomatoes, peppers, leeks, courgettes, or lettuce.

I bought some small plants from a garden centre and tried a second sowing of seeds and waited again – to no avail it seemed. Then all of a sudden some of the original seeds germinated; and I now have some tiny tomato and pepper seedlings, months later than expected, and a row of radishes at two very different stages of life.

I realise that I had made the mistake of following the calendar instead of taking heed of the weather conditions, the warmth, light and moisture needed to enable seeds and plants to grow. When these were right,

the growth began.

In many ways we, as people, are rather like seeds. We need the right conditions to enable us to burst into life, to get excited about a new opportunity or project, to awaken us from our routine, or dormant state. This doesn't happen according to the calendar, when we reach a certain age, or at a predictable stage along life's journey; but the potential to grow and flourish and enjoy a fulfilled life is in us all.

Some may be slower starters than others; but let us never give up on others, or ourselves, because of this. Let's remember too, that we all need the care, attention and support of others as we progress through life, like my plants, until we achieve our full potential. Between us who knows what good things we can produce?

The Revd Dr Janet E Tollington

A retired United Reformed Church Minister



The Over Players

If you are interested in the theatre, either on stage or behind the scenes, we're your local amdram group and would love to meet you! Although we are based in Over, our membership comes from a very wide local area – about a quarter from Willingham. We are a friendly group that always welcome new members. Junior Members must be at secondary school (from year 7) to take part, but we have no upper age limit!

Our aim is to give people the opportunity to work together to put on good quality shows for the local community. Over the years we have performed plays, musicals, Music Hall, variety shows, comedies, farces, and pantomimes as well as external events and drama festivals. We've been 'on tour' and tackled Shakespeare – even winning a few awards.

Our most recent show was *Pride and Prejudice* and look out for the audition announcement for our December pantomime *Treasure Island*. As we are 'not-for-profit', all the money from ticket sales goes to finance our productions, helping to keep ticket prices low.

You can find out more about us via our website or social media pages:

- Web: www.overplayers.uk
- Facebook: The Over Players
- Instagram: the_over_players

If you would like to receive information on our events or future productions, please sign up on our website www.overplayers.uk. We promise that we won't spam you and you will get priority notice of box office opening. If you would like to join us, please email secretary@overplayers.uk or send a direct message via our social media.

Willingham Beer Festival

This year's Beer Festival runs from 5 pm **Friday 21 July to Sunday 23 July**, and will be held at the Social Club. This year's event is all about promoting local beers, cider, food and music and we will be including beers from Lord Conran's Brewery, Milton Brewery, Papworth Brewery, St Ivo Brewery, Buntingford Brewery and Foxhay English Cider from Rampton, plus many more.

Music will be provided by the ever-popular Harri Beasley on Friday evening, Saturday's music will start around 4 pm with *The Peg Leg Pub Band* who are a bunch of seasoned musicians from local villages who specialise in playing lively, good-time music, with a touch of humour. Saturday finishes off with the very lively and upbeat duo *The Main Event*. Sunday's music is provided by *Kill me Kate*, a three-piece acoustic band doing a mixture of covers and original songs. If the weather is kind to us, we plan to have *Kill me Kate* outside in the marquee.

There will be food vans on Friday and Saturday and a family BBQ on the Sunday. Friday night's food will be provided by *Oreno Street food* a Japanese Grill and Sushi. On Saturday we have *Hit Wrap* with Hong Kong Street food.

The Big Red Gin Bar will be back serving over 30 different gins. The main bar will be serving a full range of drinks including lager for the non-ale drinkers.

If you want to support our fund-raising efforts, barrel sponsorships are available, just email us at willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com. A big thank you goes out to our joint main sponsors for the second year running, Calibre Roofing Specialist and Brays Electrical.

Money raised from this year's event will go towards the ongoing improvements and upgrades around the Club, so please come along and enjoy the event with us.

More details can be found on our facebook page, Willingham beer festival.

Willingham Gardening Club

From roses to peat-free, the best way to sterilise your home-made compost (not in an aga, we concluded!) to the best way to remove bamboo from your garden, our second Gardening Club's Question Time (GQT) was as informative and entertaining as the first.

A special thanks again to our group of panellists: Colin Gill, Denise Ginsburg, Pete Cornish and Sarah Cook, who passed on their collective wealth of knowledge. Here are some of our key takeaways:

- When selecting roses, look for stems that are thick and healthy in appearance. When planting, dig a hole the depth of your pot, plus one inch. Fill the hole with good quality compost or well-rotted manure.
- Sterilising your home-made compost helps to prevent pests and diseases. The best place to do this is outside in an old boiler or microwave.
- Peat-free compost should be treated differently from standard, peat-based compost. It needs watering more

frequently and feeding more often.

- To permanently remove bamboo plants from your garden, use a sharp spade to dig up the entire clump or mow it down frequently.

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 3 July** when we'll welcome speaker Mike Day, to give a talk: *Salads all Year Round*.

Willingham Gardening Club meets on the first Monday of the month at Willingham Social Club, with refreshments from 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7 30 pm.

New members are always welcome and can sign up for a membership now. If you are interested in joining or learning about the benefits of membership, please email: willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com. Information can also be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/WillinghamGardeningClub.

There is an entrance fee of £3 for non-members.

Update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Perhaps the most beautiful of our doves and pigeons, the Turtle Dove is a cherished sight in our landscape and one which has been celebrated in poetry and art since the time of Chaucer. With orange scalloped wings, rose-hued breast and black-and-white striped neck patch this is a distinctive bird. They have nothing to do with turtles themselves; the name comes from their repeated purring call which sounds like the French word – ‘Tourterelle’.

This species migrates to Sahelian Africa in the autumn and doesn't return until the following May, spending longer away from the UK than here. The migration is a perilous one and is made even harder by the risk of hunting around the Mediterranean along their journey. This, in combination with a few other causes such as agricultural intensification and habitat loss, has led to the Turtle Dove becoming the UK's fastest-declining bird species with numbers down 98% since the 1970s. A national survey carried out in 2021 found that there were only around 2,100 territories left across the country.

Given this context we are pleased that Fen Drayton Lakes continues to provide a home for several Turtle Doves which have returned and are singing this year. The best places to see them are around Holywell or Far Fen where a scan of the treetops and listening out for the gentle call could help you find them. There have been up to six males in recent years, but it is very hard to tell if they have bred as they become tricky to see during the summer months. However, late last summer we were overjoyed to see young birds following their parents around, learning to feed for themselves.

As part of our reserve management to help the doves, we ensure there are thick hedges for the birds to nest in which are left undisturbed during the breeding season. They also need somewhere to feed such as wildflower-rich field margins that provide a profusion of seed. We supplement this with additional seed to give them a helping hand. The final requirement is somewhere to drink and the margins of the lakes provide lots of opportunities to quench their thirst.

As well as efforts on reserves, the RSPB also runs a partnership project called Operation Turtle Dove, with the aim to reverse the decline by assisting farmers and landowners with advice and support. The project is raising awareness of the plight of this lovely species so that generations of people in the future will be inspired by the special wildlife that chooses the UK as home.

Wednesday Wander

Ever thought you'd like to know more about the reserve and its wildlife? Volunteer-led guided walks take place once a month, usually on the second Wednesday.

To see details and book, please visit:

www.events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk.

Phone: 01954 233260.

Cambridgeshire County Councillor Neil Gough's Report

Dear Residents,

Summer is now here and I hope that you're enjoying the warmer days. Here is my update:

Cambridge Community Hubs Network

Residents across South and East Cambridgeshire can continue to benefit from local support in community buildings this summer, thanks to a new initiative developed on the back of the original Warm Hubs initiative.

Hubs offered residents a chance to socialise, meet new friends, and enjoy each other's company – tackling issues of isolation and loneliness.

Thanks to new funding from Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, these local communities can continue to deliver and experience community connections under the newly created Cambridgeshire Community Hubs Network. The activities and services available will continue to be operated by the original 'Warm Hubs trained' volunteers.

In South Cambridgeshire, 16 Community Hubs are funded until at least the end of August with more funding under negotiation. These include Landbeach and Willingham. Residents can visit the new Cambridgeshire Community Hubs Network Facebook page (please see [//tinyurl.com/542fj723](https://tinyurl.com/542fj723)) to see the full list of Hub locations and their opening hours.

East West Rail

On 26 May, the Government announced that the preferred route for the Bedford to Cambridge section of East West Rail would be the Southern route. The maps published alongside the announcement provide some idea of the route which will go via the new Cambridge South Station into Cambridge Station. There is still a considerable amount of detail missing. For example, how it will be powered. The Department for Transport update can be found here: [//eastwestrail.co.uk/routeupdate#key-updates](https://eastwestrail.co.uk/routeupdate#key-updates).

Cambridgeshire Archives

Cambridgeshire Archives are asking Parish Councils to donate any records of any event or activity carried out for the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Accession of King Charles 111 or the Coronation of King Charles 111. They wish to preserve them for viewing by future generations. Please contact: cambs.archives@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

As always, please feel free to contact me with your thoughts, views and issues. My mobile is 07919 990299 and email is neilgoughcrw@gmail.com.



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A contact section is included at the bottom of the page

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
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
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District Councillor Bill Handley's Report

Dear Residents,

This month I'm focusing my report on the recent publication of the results of the Greater Cambridge Partnership's 'Making Connections' transport and STZ consultation, which can be found here: [//tinyurl.com/mra44p8x](https://tinyurl.com/mra44p8x). The following comments are based on an initial review of the GCP report by the Lib Dem Group at South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

The aims of the proposals are to improve the quality of life by reducing traffic congestion and pollution. The scheme also seeks to address the serious inequalities apparent in the Greater Cambridge area and to increase the benefits, both to people and the environment, that come from enabling residents to use a modern public transport system in preference to private motor vehicles.

Residents who live and travel to work in the Greater Cambridge area understand that the rapid economic growth in Greater Cambridge needs the infrastructure and housing to support it. This was the purpose of the government's City Deal funding which underpins the STZ proposals. Respondents support better bus services but remain worried, especially during a cost-of-living crisis, about the burden of a Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) charge. Even though the proposals give three or four years to improve public transport provision before any charging occurs, the public remains sceptical.

The planned withdrawal of rural bus services by Stagecoach in recent months shows market failure; private bus companies will put their business needs ahead of unprofitable but vital community transport provision. Franchising offers control over routes, fares, frequency and hours of operation and could be in place within the next 18 months. People who cannot drive and/or afford a car, such as some young people and the less well-off are very supportive of improved bus services.

There was clear concern about charging to access the Addenbrooke's site. We expect changes to be made such that trips will not incur a Zone charge.

Tradespeople welcome the prospect of easier city access that reduced congestion would bring but think that a premium charge on commercial vehicles is unfair. We hope that this differentiation will be removed.

Respondents thought that an all-day charge is unnecessary, and we are supportive of a scheme that charges only at peak times. This would allow family visits, care workers and delivery trips to be scheduled to take place without incurring any charge.

The final decision on the scheme will be taken by Cambridgeshire County Council later in the year but if anyone has any questions or concerns, I'd be happy to help answer them.

There is a fuller version of this article in the 'Extras' section of *Willingham News* on the village website.

Bill Handley

Clr.handley@scams.gov.uk

01954 200287 (please leave a message)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18

District Councillor Dan Lentell's Report

Last month, the Greater Cambridge Partnership published the data from their 'consultation' into the proposed Congestion Charge.

The GCP was first organised as a stopgap on the road towards the kind of slimmed-down unitary authority our county's local authorities urgently need.

In my opinion hundreds of thousands of pounds were frittered away on a marketing and branding exercise aimed at distracting from the latest round of big subsidies and small returns thrown into the coffers of the private bus operators.

What our county needs is light rail. Light rail would be happening now if the previous elected mayor for Cambridge and Peterborough hadn't got distracted - by a lot of nonsense about automated transit and a tunnel to be dug under the city - only to be replaced by a new mayor with different ideas.

In my opinion what our county most definitely does not need (or want) is a Congestion Charge, that hits the low and unpaid hardest and which puts a paywall between sick folk and their healthcare. Even the GCP's own consultation showed massive opposition across the county, especially in wards such as Over and Willingham.

As your elected district councillor, I pledge to resist the introduction of the Congestion Charge. I also pledge never to divert a single penny piece of the new and increasing local taxes into my own pocket. Councillors should not be voting themselves multiple pay rises during a global cost of living crisis. A global cost of living crisis is not the time to be spiralling up the cost of living locally.

Dan Lentell www.facebook.com/ClrDan

Update From Lucy Frazer MP

Dear Residents,

I know how valuable local assets are to every community. It is therefore important that we do all we can to protect them. *The Community Ownership Fund* does this by enabling communities to take ownership of assets at risk of closure, sale or dereliction so they can be enjoyed once again by local people.

Both Parish Councils and incorporated voluntary or community organisations are invited to apply for the latest round of funding, which is open until **12 July**.

Up to £1 million is available for all asset types (which is an increase on the previous limit of £250,000) and funds can cover up to 80 per cent of the total capital funds required, with applicants required to raise the other 20 per cent from other sources.

If you can think of any assets which could benefit from this funding, you might want to consider applying via [www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-ownership-fund-prospectus--3](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-ownership-fund-prospectus/community-ownership-fund-prospectus--3). Please also feel free to contact me if I can be of any help.

Best wishes,

Lucy Frazer

MP for South East Cambridgeshire

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We are sharing our extensive catalogue on our facebook page www.facebook.com/RosieinStitches so you can grab yourself locally sourced, unique, beautifully crafted gifts for special friends and family.

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We are continuing to accept donations of unwanted crafting materials for our crafters to use or for us to sell on eBay. We are still recruiting new crafters to our team.

New members are always welcome, whether to join our committee, contribute financially, to join our team of crafters or display a small selection of our wares. Contact Mary Sanders on 01223 356615. Further details are given on our website www.rosieinstitches.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Stay safe

Avril Williams

Sudoku Answer

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

Answers to Album Quiz

1. Taylor Swift
2. Amy Winehouse
3. Prince
4. Dire Straits
5. David Gray
6. Maroon 5
7. The Moody Blues
8. Pink
9. Barry White
10. Black Sabbath

Answers to July Events Quiz

- 1 July 1838 British scientist Charles Darwin presented a paper on his theory of the evolution of the

species and natural selection

- 4 July American Independence Day
- 9 July 1877 The inaugural Lawn Tennis Championship was played at Wimbledon
- 13 July 1923 The 50 foot tall iconic Hollywood sign was officially dedicated in the hills above Hollywood, Los Angeles
- 14 July Bastille Day in France
- 16 July 1995 Online shopping store Amazon went live to the general public
- 18 July 1920 750,000 people who died during the First World War were commemorated with the unveiling of a new national monument, named the Cenotaph, in London.
- 20 July 1588 The Spanish Armada, consisting of 130 warships set sail for England
- 21 July 1969 The Eagle landed on the moon and American astronaut, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon.
- 26 July 1978 The first test-tube baby was born in England.
- 28 July 1540 King Henry V married 17 year old Catherine Howard

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WHAT'S ON

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Sat 1 July	Second-hand Book Sale	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p8
Sun 2 July	Fen Gallop	Fen Gallop	Recreation Ground	fen gallop.co.uk
Mon 3 July	<i>Salads All Year Round</i> with Mike Day	Gardening Club	Social Club	Doors open from 7 pm, see p14
Wed 5 July	Author Visit: ValerieMcKee, <i>13 Months of Sunshine</i>	Engage in the After-noon	Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p8
Wed 5 July	Carers' Support Meeting	Surgery	Surgery	2 - 4 pm, see p7
Wed 5 July	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	3 30 - 4 45 pm, see p8
Wed 5 July	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p11
Fri 7 July	Games Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 - 4 pm, see p8
Sat 8 July	<i>Willingham News</i> Deadline	<i>Willingham News</i>		See p3, articles to be sent to: willinghamnews@gmail.com
Sat 8 July	Memory Box Café	Parish Church	Octagon	10 am - 12 noon, see p5
Sat 8 July	Rosie in Stitches Stall	Rosie in Stitches	Bar Hill Village Fete, Village Green	2 pm, see p19
Mon 10 July	Summer Party	Women's Institute	President's garden	7 30 pm, see p6
Tue/Sat 11 – 15 July	<i>The Merchant of Venice & Twelfth Night</i>	Bawds Theatre Company	ADC Theatre, Cambridge	See p9
Thu 13 July	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p12
Sat 15 July	Breakfast & Topical Talk: <i>Islands Around Britain</i>	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 45 am, see p12
Mon 17 July	Assignment: <i>A Subject with One Predominant Colour</i>	Photography Club	Baptist Church	8 pm, see p6
Wed 19 July	Knit & Natter Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p8
Fri 21 July	Willingham Beer Festival	Willingham Beer Festival	Social Club	5 – 11 pm, see p8 & p14
Sat 22 July	Willingham Beer Festival	Willingham Beer Festival	Social Club	2 – 11 pm, see p8 & p14
Sun 23 July	Willingham Beer Festival	Willingham Beer Festival	Social Club	2 – 6 pm, see p8 & p14
Tue 25 July	Local History Talk	WHIGs	Octagon	7 30 pm
Thu 27 July	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p1

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Please notify *Willingham News* of any changes

Council and Community	Parish Council		01954 261027
	County Councillor	Neil Gough	07919 990299 / neilgoughcrw@gmail.com
	District Councillor	Bill Handley	01954 200287 / cllr.handley@scamb.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Dan Lentell	cllr.lentell@scamb.gov.uk
	Willingham Community Planning Group		07529 221954 / communityplanning@willinghamlife.org
Services	Police		101
	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
	Community Warden	Joanne Twinn	wardens@ageukcap.org.uk 07812 496002
	Patient Participation Group	Chris Thornhill	crthornhill@gmail.com
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	Chris Shaw	chair@willingham.cambs.sch.uk
	School Association	c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust	Ray Croucher	01954 261113
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Matt Haigh	adventure@1stwillinghamscoutgroup.org.uk
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Mrs Kate Van Dort	01954 201567
	Koala Kidz, Children's Day Nursery	Mrs Edith Jeffrey	01954 260046
	Brownies, Guides and Rangers	Lynn McGoff	willinghamguides@hotmail.co.uk
	First Steps	Vicky Page	vickypage85@gmail.com
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Debbie Allen	01954 261581
	Little Rainbows Baby & Toddler Group	Tiko Pending	tmwale31@gmail.com
Halls	Ploughman Hall Bookings	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Wilford Furlong Centre		01954 261445
	The Octagon		admin@5folds.org.uk
	Baptist Bookings and Rentals	Jenny Ambrose	secretary@willinghambaptist.org
	Willingham Social Club Bookings	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 / willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Youth Centre bookings		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)	Paul Knighton	07787 530394
	Willingham Combined Charities	Lynn McGoff	clerk@willinghamcombinedcharity.org.uk
	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
	Willingham Carpet Bowls Club	David Young	01954 200561 / orchardist44@ntlworld.com
	Willingham Gardening Club		willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Social Club	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 / willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Jam Club	Julian Eales	01954 201818
	Willingham Photography Club		derek@ballandia.co.uk
	Willingham Running Club	Monica Garcia	gcompass.monica@gmail.com
	Willingham Youth Club	Jack Stinton	enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org
	Women's Institute	Wendy Law	01954 202188
	Angling	Colin Dodd	07773 719330
Sport	Badminton	Emma Byrom	01954 202481
	Bowls Club	Mark Chapman (Sec)	mark.chapmanwbc@gmail.com
			Willinghambowlsclubsec@gmail.com
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 610113
	Cycling Club – www.willinghamwheels.com	Nigel Leaney	nigel.leaney@outlook.com, 07979 518200
	Tennis Club	John Graham	01954 231968
	Willingham Diamonds Netball Club	Emma Byrom	01954 202481
	Willingham Sports Pavilion	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Jamie Smith (Sec)	01954 261141
Churches	Mothers' Union	Mrs Sue Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Jenny Ambrose	secretary@willinghambaptist.org
	Methodists (Ministerial Contact)	Rev Simon Oliver	07554 202929
	Roman Catholic Priest	Rev Thomas J Walton	01480 462192
	Parish Church	Lucy Cleland	01854 277758 lucy@5folds.org.uk

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