



Willoughby Monthly

Volume 4: September 11

Welcome to the September edition of the WM. As the summer holidays draw to a close the pace in the village starts to pick up with the organisations starting their Autumn/Winter programmes. Don't forget the annual Produce Show exhibit your home grown produce or craft work followed by the annual auction.

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It's Digital Switchover for us this month. If you have a Freeview TV or set top box it will need re-tuning twice on the dates in the diary. If you don't have Freeview or Satellite you will lose your TV programmes unless you get a set top box or new TV. Lots of help on the internet or keep an eye out for the advertisements in the local papers.

This month you will have a flyer from VACC with your WM that tells you the latest on the Crematorium plan. The support for the campaign has been fantastic and made a real difference. We need to keep up the pressure so please do as the flyer suggests and put a further objection letter in.

Thanks to everyone who completed a survey for me. A summary of the results and the next steps is inside.

Richard Jackson

Date	Time	Org.	Event	Venue
3 Sep 11	05:00 PM	Church	Family Communion	Church
7 Sep 11			Digital Switchover 1st Freeview re-tune today	
8 Sep 11	02:30 PM	Thursday Club	Tea & Cakes	Village Hall
10 Sep 11	04:00 PM	Village Hall	Produce Show & Auction	Village Hall
11 Sep 11	11:00 AM	Church	Harvest Service	Church
12 Sep 11	07:00 PM	Church	Harvest Supper	Village Hall
15 Sep 11	12:30 PM	Thursday Club	Pub Lunch - Three Horse Shoes	Princethorpe
15 Sep 11	07:30 PM	Women's Institute	My Life - Jan Wade (Comp - A Wedding Photograph)	Village Hall
17 Sep 11	08:00 PM	VACC	VACC Draw Evening	Village Hall
18 Sep 11	06:00 PM	Church	Evensong	Church
21 Sep 11			Digital Switchover 2nd Freeview re-tune today	
25 Sep 11	11:00 AM	Church	Holy Communion	Church
28 Sep 11	07:30 PM	Willoughby Society	Imaging Our Past & Present - Christina Evans	Village Hall

Thursday Club

Club activities resume on Thursday September 8th at 2.30 in the Village Hall but unfortunately our planned speaker is now unable to attend. Having spoken to one or two members it has been decided to have a social afternoon, so do come along and enjoy tea and cakes while exchanging all the summer news.

Our Pub Lunch will be on September 15th at The Three Horseshoes at Princethorpe. If you wish to come please put your name on the sheet which will be available at the meeting or contact Norman on 890623.

Willoughby Women's Institute

Our September meeting is in the village hall on Thursday 15th September at 7.30pm. Jan Wade (our County Chairman) will be telling us about her life living abroad and working in the Police Force. The competition this month is for a Wedding Photograph (not necessarily your own).

Tickets (£3-50) will be available this evening for the Group Social at Willoughby Village Hall on Thursday 27th October.

Visitors are always most welcome to attend our meetings to see what we are like and what we do !!!

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3rd

10.00 till 12.00

WILLOUGHBY VILLAGE HALL

Proceeds to VACC's Big Grounds Fighting Fund

Christmas cards and Cakes for sale plus a raffle.

Any donations of home made cakes for sale would be most welcome and can either be brought to the hall or delivered to Dorothy Ogle or Betty Oates.

Entrance £1.00 which includes coffee and biscuits.

Do please come along and support the fight against the Crematorium

Do you know ?

Where 'Drake's Close' and 'Willoughby Towne Land' were ?

In 1658 the charities swapped the former for the latter. Drakes Close had two houses occupied by John Tweedownes and Elizabeth Smith. Towne Land had one house occupied by Thomas Marriott.

In 1760 there was reference to the area near the Lower Street/Main Street junction being 'Lowke's Towne End' was the Towne Land there or where the school was built perhaps ?

Willoughby Village Hall

VANDALISM

Twice recently juveniles have been seen on the flat roof at the rear of the hall. It is clear that they have spent some time there. Some of the roof tiles on the sloping roofs have been damaged and are having to be repaired urgently to stop water leaking into the hall. Measures are also in hand to deter access to the roof.

We are fortunate to have such a good village hall. However, the finances are very tight and there is little in reserve to pay for repairs caused by vandalism.

The damage has been reported to the police.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously around the hall or climbing onto the roof please report the incident to Val Hall (890134) or Paula Palmer (890109) as soon as possible.

Willoughby Society

Refreshed from the summer break our next meeting takes place on 28th September in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Due to illness we have had to change our speaker. Instead of the planned speaker, Christina Evans, will be telling us about an exciting new initiative 'Imaging our Past and Present'. This is a project being run by the County Council's Archaeological Information and Advice Team in association with English Heritage. This is an event for those who are interested in our heritage, photography, using the internet, and protecting our Village environment.

Our meetings are open to everyone so come along and join us for what will certainly be an interesting evening.

Willoughby 2012 Survey

Thanks to everyone who completed a survey form. About 15% of 320 villagers replied which is reasonable for a simple survey with no chasers or doorstep calling.

Here are some of the results:

Should the village have some allotments ? - 84% said yes. 11 people from 7 households said they would apply for an allotment if there were some available. Unfortunately no one suggested they had a piece of land that they might sell, lease, or rent for the purpose. The search is on !! Let me know if you know of a site that might be suitable. 18 people said they would be prepared to help with an allotment project.

There was strong support for making June 2012 a festival month. Everyone liked the idea of an afternoon and evening event on the 2nd June. 91% wanted to join in the Big Jubilee Lunch. 90% liked the idea of Heritage and Arts weekends too. Even better is that over 75% said they would be willing to help organise one of the events.

Quite a few of people didn't express a view about whether Hayward Lodge should be thinned out etc. However, over 75% of those who did thought it should be maintained. Twenty three people said they would be willing to join a group to keep the area under control on a regular basis.

Everybody who replied said that the village organisations are useful/important to village life and attended village events. Just under a quarter were not members of any of the organisations.

Where do we go from here ? Well as far as allotments are concerned the critical factor is having a suitable site. At the moment it is difficult to see where we might find one. Until a site is identified it will be difficult to make progress. However, there are some other ways of organising growing space that are being explored to see if they might provide a solution.

I am in the process of applying for funding for the 'festival' which would enable us to do much more than we could without. The process is a bit protracted so whilst we are waiting for a decision on that I will be contacting people who said they would be prepared to help with the organisation to form small groups for each event to start planning them.

Regarding Hayward Lodge, we have had some discussions with a conservation volunteer group who have equipment and trained people who could work with us to do the basic maintenance needed (remove excess non-native trees and bramble cables). This will let a bit more light in and help a wider variety of plants to become established.

I'll include updates in the WM over the coming months as progress is made.

If you didn't respond to the survey (holiday etc.) but would like be involved with any of the projects mentioned please let me know (contact details on the back page). Ideas for the festival events will also be very welcome - nothing is set in stone yet. We have shown with our defence of the Village through VACC that we are a force to be reckoned with when we pull together so let's all work together to make these projects successful.

Willoughby Parish Council

Playing Field

The updating of the Playing Field has continued with a child friendly wood preserver being applied to the swings and wooden climbing frame as well as the timber shelter.

The area under the swings and the Igloo climbing frame has had new play bark put down.

We hope you agree that the Playing Field is one of the nicest and most well equipped around.

Crime

On a less happy note with the increase in crime generally it would be good if we were able to have an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme in our Village. Anyone who is interested in finding out more please contact Mike Thomas on 891338.

Willoughby Village Hall

Produce Show

Saturday 10th September, 4pm

Entries close 9:00pm Friday 9th September

Staging must be completed by 12 Noon

Schedules have been delivered to every house in the village

Queries and requests for additional copies to the show secretary

Will Hewitt, Worrall House, Lower Street. Tel 891439

Police

Care - don't leave valuables in your car and make sure that your home is secure. If you see anything suspicious do let the Police know.

Our Police Community Support Officer is PCSO 6149 Helena Steadman and our Police Constable is PC 1534 Lee Maughan. They can be contacted on 01788 853851 this is the Safer Neighbourhood Team number so will reach a team member on duty quickly.

Willoughby Monthly

Do let me have your ideas for making WM better and, of course, any articles/notices you may have. Copies can be sent by e-mail or produced with large print on request.

Material for publication must be received by 15th of the month.

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Village web site: www.willoughbyweb.net

Date	Organisation	Description	Venue
30 Nov 11	Willoughby Society	A.G.M.	Village Hall
15 Dec 11	Women's Institute	Christmas Concert - Dunchurch Silver Band	Village Hall