

Welcome to the April edition of the WM. During last month everything seems to have changed as the Government has imposed increasingly restrictive measure to tackle the Coronavirus Covid-19.

All of the village organisations have suspended their meetings and events until at least the end of May. Hence the lack of the usual calendar section at the foot of this page. Dealing with the day to day practical problems is at the front of most peoples minds especially those in High Risk groups. Our community is pulling together and I set out below some of the impacts and responses so far.

Willoughby & Coronavirus Covid-19

Although our Village is in some respects isolated the fact that work, shops, and other facilities are elsewhere means that villagers are exposed to the virus as much as other places. It also means that self-isolation and social distancing presents particular problems. Just getting shopping and medication is a real worry. However, we are fortunate that, via the Willoughby Monthly Facebook page, a number of villagers have volunteered to get things like shopping/medication and walk dogs for those who cannot go out themselves, such as those in High Risk categories. How you can easily get this help is set out inside. ('Errands').

Sadly, all of the Village Organisations have had to suspend their meetings/events through to the end of May at least. There is a real risk of social isolation which it is known can damage both physical and mental health. Those who have access to the internet have an easy means of keeping in touch with each other via email, messaging apps, and various devices that facilitate audio/video calling (some of the latter can be set up so that the recipient needs to do no more than speak e.g. one that I have experience of, with my 93 year old father, is the Amazon Echo/Alexa 'drop in'. There are many people who do not have access to the internet for whom the telephone will be the only means of contact please take a few minutes now and then to give anyone you know who is in this position a call for a chat/listen.

Just as situations like this bring out the best in people they also bring out the worst instances of villains convincing vulnerable people to let them take their cash notes away for sterilisation have been reported. There is also a lot of spurious information about the virus and avoiding it (I have included a number of reliable sources inside)

Willoughby Monthly (WM)

This will be the last print edition of the WM until the restrictions are lifted. I will still produce an electronic version (pdf) which will be available from www.willoughbyweb.net and the Willoughby Monthly page on Facebook. I will also send WM Extra emails if there is significant information to circulate. In this regard please let me have your email address if I don't already have it so that I can add you to the village distribution list. In addition, if you do not have an internet connection you may let me have your telephone number and I will endeavour to arrange for someone to call you with WM Extra information.

There are plans to experiment with telephone conferencing (a system where a number of people can participate in the same telephone call) to see if it would enable groups to hold virtual meetings open to all their members and perhaps groups of friends to get together. If the experiment is successful, I will issue a WM Extra with details.

Thursday Club

As you would expect the Club's activities have been suspended until further notice. We are looking into ways that we may be able to meet 'virtually'. In the mean time do pick up the telephone and call fellow members for a chat. If you are in isolation and need help, because you cannot get out yourself, there are volunteers who will help. Details under 'Errands' below.



Willoughby Women's Institute 1920 - 2020



We expected this year to be notable because it is our centenary year. Unfortunately the Coronavirus makes it notable for other reasons and means we have to cancel our planned events until further notice.

Please remember that help is available if you are in isolation and don't hesitate to ask for it if you need it.

Coronavirus Covid-19 Reliable Sources of Information Available on the Internet:

RBC

Latest Guidance

https://www.rugby.gov.uk/info/20056/emergencies/462/coronavirus_covid-19

Waste

https://www.rugby.gov.uk/info/20056/emergencies/462/coronavirus_covid-19/2

General advice for everyone

NHS

Coronavirus-Covid-19

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Hand Washing

https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=149685&Rendition=Web

GOVERNMENT

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Willoughby Village Hall – Annual Produce Show

Will Hewitt has been the show secretary for several years and wishes to thank all of those who have helped support the show.

The Village Hall Committee is looking for a new Show Secretary. If you are interested in taking on this role please contact Val Hall (890134) or Bert Ogle (890498).

Coronavirus Covid-19

Errands (e.g. getting shopping/medication, dog walking):-

There are a good number of villagers who have volunteered to help others who are having to self-isolate etc. This group developed from exchanges on Facebook.

The scheme works as follows:

1. If you need help ring or email one of the Contacts below with what you need getting e.g. a shopping list, or a prescription.
2. The Contact will find a volunteer from the group to take the request on.
3. The Contact or Volunteer will respond to you to get any additional details and make arrangements for the errand e.g. payment for shopping, where it will be delivered to.
4. The volunteer will deliver the shopping etc. to the agreed place and let you know it has been delivered.

NB it is imperative that you are open and honest when you request help. If you have been diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus, or have a persistent cough and/or raised temperature then you must tell the contact or include it in the email so that appropriate protective measures can be taken by the volunteer who is going to help you.

Contact either:

Linda Belgrove on tel. 890416 or

Rachel Settle on tel. 890724 or

juststoves@btconnect.com

Willoughby Society

Sadly it has been necessary to cancel all of our meetings and shows through until the end of May. Judging by the current Government predictions it will probably be necessary to extend this period further. The committee will be reviewing the situation in a month or so and will write to members with further information.

Do keep safe and heed the advice being given.

Church

The St Patrick's Evening in the Village Hall was enjoyed by all who attended. The Tree Fellows kept us entertained. They were brilliant thanks go to them for ensuring everyone had an enjoyable time. The evening started off with an Irish Stew made by Bert Ogle. There was a Vegan/ Vegetarian option created by Joanne. Very much appreciated by all. Many thanks go to all who attended helping to make the event so memorable.

A big thank you goes to all who helped in many ways, setting up clearing down, cooking donating raffle prizes. Events wouldn't happen without the support of so many. It is much appreciated. £579.90 profit was raised for the kitchen/toilet and roof fund.

We are continuing to address the roof issues and the kitchen/toilet plans. A section of the nave roof is to be opened up to assess what is happening under the tiles. Support has been offered and accepted, thank you, in being there when this is done. The kitchen/toilet planning has had percolation drainage testing done and architects are beginning to produce plans. We will keep people informed of progress.

Unfortunately it was decided to cancel the Soup and Social in March because of the Coronavirus and we will not be able to hold another until the Government advice is relaxed. There will be no services in church but a Sunday service will be on BBC TV

Willoughby Parish Council

With the current situation in connection with the Covid-19 virus epidemic please help your neighbours where you can especially those who are 70 and over and in isolation. If you are able to assist with shopping or collecting prescriptions this will be invaluable.

Those in isolation will also be feeling lonely and vulnerable so please keep in contact and have a chat over the phone as this can be reassuring at this difficult time.

Although I shall also be in voluntary isolation myself, if there is anything I can help with please give me a ring on 891338 or email mike.anthony.thomas@gmail.com Please keep safe.

Your Parish Council have been trying to get speed aware signs for the Village to try to reduce speeding, but Warwickshire County Council will not support and allow this as they do not consider them overall effective. They suggest Community Speed Aware is a more effective solution where local people can be trained to use speed guns and operate speed monitoring in the Village.

If you would be interested in becoming involved in this then please let us know.

We are also looking into the possibility of having a Youth Club in the Village which would be run by the Rugby Play Rangers who provide the summer play scheme. This would be for youngsters between the ages of 3 and 11 with children under 8 having to be accompanied by an adult. To see if this would be feasible we need to establish how many youngsters would be interested. Please can you let us know if any of your children would be interested.

If you are interested in either of these proposals please contact Mike Thomas on phone number 891338 or mike.anthony.thomas@gmail.com.

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

BEWARE!! fraudsters taking advantage of Coronavirus Covid-19!! Fraudsters are opportunists don't fall for their ploys. There are already reports of dozens of scams from sterilizing ploymer bank notes to selling non-existent masks.

Crime prevention: Property marking is a deterrent to burglars and increases the likelihood of stolen items being recovered. Rachel has the Village property marking kit and can mark items. Contact her (see below) to arrange to take smaller items to her or a home visit, in the village, to mark larger items.

Police Community Support Officers for the area is PCSO Townsend, our Police Constable is PC2158 Chris Knight. They can be contacted on 01788 853851 this is the Safer Neighbourhood Team number so will reach a team member on duty quickly. The team also have an e-mail address : rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk .

Neighbourhood Watch: Rachel Settle (Co-ordinator) can contacted by telephone on 01788 823823 (daytime) or 01788 890724 (evening & answerphone) or e-mail neighbourhood.watch@willoughbyweb.net.

Willoughby Monthly

Do let me have your ideas for improving the WM and, of course, any articles/notices you have for your fellow villagers. The deadline for submission of items is always the 15th of the month. Send them to Richard Jackson, tel 891898, Hazeldene, Main Street, e-mail: wm@willoughbyweb.net .

Date	Organisation	Event	Venue
07-Jun-20		Big Lunch	Village Hall
04-Jul-20		Willoughby Festival	Playing Field