The Willoughby Monthly

Village Web Site: <u>www.willoughbyweb.net</u> facebook Group: Willoughby Monthly Volume 13 July 2020

Welcome to the July edition of the WM. June has been a strange month with stormy, cold, and very hot days. Lots of growth in the gardens and flowers for the polinators.

As I write this we are all just getting to grips with the latest round of relaxations in the lockdown measures which promise more freedom to get together and get away for a break or holiday.

The Playing field and play equipment re-open on the 4th July. BBeautiful are getting ready to reopen and tackle their back log of hair cutting. The Village Hall is still closed but hopefully will be able to open for some activities soon. Sadly, it appears, indoor parties and live performances are some way off.

The Village organisations are looking ahead and seeing what if anything they can do. The Cricket Club have been devoting time to maintaining their ground and hope to be able to play matches again toward the end of the month. The Thursday Club are having a Garden Picnic in middle of the month which will be the first Village Event since the lock down ...fingers crossed for a nice day!!

The virus is still about and as we all are out and about more the risk of one of us bringing it back to the village is greater so do take care socially distance as much as possible.

Don't forget help is available from the pool of volunteers if you need it, just call Linda Belgrove on 890416 or Rachel Settle on 890724.



Richard Jackson

Thursday Club

We send our condolences to Lyn Gerrard on the loss of our former member Bob. It was good to be able to share his funeral by webcast.

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The Committee has been bending their minds to reopening our activities. At present an indoor meeting isn't possible. However, we can meet outside and we have arranged a Garden Picnic. It will take place on Thursday 16th July, starting at 2:00 pm, in Bert Ogle's garden. Members, please let Pat know if you are going to attend.



Good news!! the National Federation has decided to extend this years subscriptions by three months through to April 2021.

If you have some time on your hands have a look at the Warwickshire Federation of Women's Institutes web site: https://warwickshirewi.org.uk there is lots of information, activities, and even Zoom eventsII



Church

St Nicholas church is at last moving towards a time it can be open for people to visit. Full details from the Rev Anne Hinks. Volunteers have cleaned the interior and there are areas cordoned off because of regulations in place and risk assessments.

In addition an architect is preparing specifications to completely replace the nave roof. A survey indicated that we are fast approaching the time when patch repairs simply will not be sufficient. In order to apply for grants tenders, specifications and Diocese permission have to be obtained.

At the same time plans are being prepared for Facilities inside church. It had been a difficult time because of the lockdown but in order to hopefully guarantee a future for our lovely church this work has to be carried out.

Once all the information has been gathered then it is possible to try to source grants for much of the work needed.

Any questions please contact the Rev Anne Hinks, Or one of the churchwardens.

Willoughby Society

We hope everyone is well and managing in the 'new' country we live in.

Hayward Lodge, the Village nature reserve on the A45, was due to have had a days TLC from the Warwickshire Conservation Volunteers in March or April sponsored by the Society...the virus put paid to that!!. Ten of the volunteers were finally able to come on the 24th June. A lot of bramble and other growth have been dealt with and the paths through the site cleared to make it easier to walk around.

The Society has been dormant during the lockdown. It now looks as though we will be able to resume some activities in the Autumn so long as the virus remains under control. We are, of course, dependent being able to use the Village Hall and at the moment we do not know when it will reopen or what limitations may be imposed. Hopefully this will become clear in the next few weeks.

Live & Local who provide some of the shows we put on are working toward being able to provide a limited programme over the last few months of the year. This needs the current ban on live performances to be withdrawn, something we are told is under discussion. Hopefully, we will be able to get at least one show toward the end of the year, but it is likely that capacity will be severely limited unless there is a major relaxation of the restrictions.

If you have been looking at the Archive Image Library on the web site you may have found the large size images did not come up. This was due to a change to SSL/'https' addresses which has now been fixed.

Bob Gerrard

Thank you for all the lovely messages and cards on the death of Bob. They have brought me much comfort and are very much appreciated.

Lyn Gerrard

Willoughby Cricket Club

Despite three months of lockdown Willoughby Cricket Club is very much alive and kicking.

No cricket has been played at The Green, but a hardy bunch of volunteers have been working to rebuild the shed floor, and maintaining the square and outfield. This has been done in a socially distanced environment, and the reward is the ground looking immaculate as ever.

You may have heard the sound of leather on willow in the distance, this is as members are able to use the training nets as long as strict protocols are maintained.

We have been buoyed by news that recreational cricket could restart on in late July (to be confirmed), and are working towards



being ready to play on this date. Hopefully two months of cricket of our truncated season can still be salvaged.

Things might look different in the short term, but we are looking forward to welcoming friends old and new to watch your village cricket club in action in an attractive and tranquil rural setting"

For further news on Willoughby CC's potential start to the season, head to their website <u>www.willoughbycc.org.uk</u>, or find them on Facebook and Twitter.

Willoughby Parish Council

As per the Government's guidelines the Village Playing Field will be open from the 4th of July. Please play safely.

There have been occasions recently when dogs have been in the Playing Field. Please remember dogs are not allowed in the Playing Field, but may be walked along the footpath in the Playing Field extension as long as they are kept on a lead.

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

There have been repeated warnings here about a range of scams in this item. Another has emerged linked to the NHS Test and Trace service. This is an extract from a recording of the call:

"Good morning, I'm calling from the NHS track and trace service. According to our system, you are likely to have been in close proximity to someone who has tested postive for COVID-19. This means that you now need to self-isolate for 7 days and take a COVID-19 test."

"OK. Can you tell me who that person was?"

"I'm not able to tell you that. That is confidential information." "Right. Um... so..."

"But you do need to be tested within the next 72 hours. So can I just get the best mailing address so that we can send a kit to you?"

"Ok (gives address)"

"Thank you - and I just need to take a payment card so that we can finalise this and send the kit to you."

"Sorry - a payment card? I though this was all free?"

"No - I'm afraid not. There is a one-off fee of £50 for the kit, and test results. Could you read off the long card number for me, please, when you're ready."

"No - that's not right. This is part of the NHS so there's no charge." "I'm afraid there is. Can you give me the card number please - this is very important, and there are penalties for not complying."

In this case the recipient put the phone down but it is easy to see how some people might be taken in. The exact script will vary over time to convince as many as possible to pay up. Beware!!

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 Joanne Jackson, our Police Constable is PC 978 Andrew Crouch. 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 : <u>rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk</u>.

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 .