

The Willoughby Monthly

Village Web Site: www.willoughbyweb.net

facebook Group: Willoughby Monthly

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2020

Welcome to the November edition of the WM. Last month saw a change back to cooler, sometimes cold, weather. A lot more rain too. The Village Hall has been used more and the committee acquired a fogging device to speedily destroy any traces of Covid 19 if there were any. Although the number of cases of Covid have been increasing significantly as I write this there has been little change in our immediate area.

There is a long piece inside, from the Church, highlighting the immense challenge they have because the nave roof is in a sorry state and needs to be renewed. Like all things to do with old buildings the replacement will be eye watering expensive.

The Willoughby Society, with help from Live & Local, is putting on a live show in the Village Hall on Saturday 5th December. Following all of the restrictions and guidance means the audience has to be small but arrangements are being made to allow two performances with time for cleaning etc. between them. The show is rather aptly called 'Claustrophobic Tinselitis' !! The performers, Mumbo Jumbo, play folk, blues, and jazz, music all accompanied by a witty and tongue in cheek style. One review described the show as "A cracker of a festive show of original songs and laughter from three of Santa's musical helpers" (Bauble magazine). After all of the trials and tribulations of this year it should be a great opportunity to get out and be entertained. More information inside.

Congratulations to Jane Edgar and her team on the fantastic sum they raised for Macmillan Support with their event in September there is a note from them on the back page.

Sadly it is clear that there are many unscrupulous people around the world intent on defrauding anyone they can. Warwickshire Trading Standards have issued a bulletin with a list of scams that have come to their attention recently. You will find some details on the back page.

Finally, do please follow the latest regulations and guidelines and keep yourselves and others safe.

Richard Jackson

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
12-Nov-20	2:30 PM	Thursday Club	"From Ice Age to Marina" with Bert Ogle	Village Hall
25-Nov-20	7:30 PM	Willoughby Society	AGM + Quiz	Village Hall
22-Nov-20	11:00 AM	Church	Holy Communion	Church

Church

Apologies for our absence in the Willoughby Monthly in October. We are now in a position to discuss a future for our church.

Servery/Toilet update - Following a generous donation, restricted funds already in place, the award of a grant, and the promise of help towards providing the fixtures and fittings required we believe we are in a position once the plans are completed and permission granted of being able to put this long needed facility in place.

This now leads us to a quandary and one we are hoping you can help us with.

We need £130,000 to get the nave roof, guttering repair and renewal work done. Originally, we had planned patching and gutter repairs/replacement but the wisdom of this and continually paying for scaffolding was questioned by people so an assessment of the whole roof was commissioned. This identified the whole roof ought to be replaced. In places historic repair work is failing, concrete tiles are loose, and there is damage to woodwork. Water is getting into roof space and repointing & render work are needed. It is nearly sixty years since the nave was last done.

Without doing the renewal and repair work identified our roof will fail. Clearly we have to question the wisdom of having the long awaited and needed servery/toilet facilities work done. Work that would secure a future for the church opening it up to the community encouraging attendance at church services and functions organised through the year whilst ensuring the comfort and well being of all. It is not really acceptable these days to have a building used by the public without such facilities.

We would like to have the church open more but due to restrictions this is not possible. COVID has obviously severely restricted any fund-raising activities. To date we have a promise of a £20000 grant, another grant body has asked we contact back when a third of the money is pledged or in place. Another grant bid will be submitted in the next week. Another hopefully by the end of the month. But it is estimated we will need to raise at least £60,000 ourselves.

We need your help for St Nicholas Church to survive. Especially, we need people with expertise in raising funds. The sum we need to raise is very large and we cannot do it alone. The meetings that were held pre-Covid led to some volunteers coming forward offering help. We need them and anyone else willing to help us to please contact any of the PCC: Jackie Gibbard, Ant Ray, Andrea Hughes or Karen Nichols.

St Nicholas Church dates back to the C13. Over the years much work has been undertaken. Realistically a building of this age will always require maintenance and repair work as do buildings all over the country. Work in the Tower means our six bells and the Carillon clock are in good order. Pre-Covid bell ringers were coming from around the district to use them.

It has not been easy writing this plea for help. The church is rich in history and it is up to the villagers whether they want to help take with the task of preserving this ancient building for the future. Many have family buried in the churchyard it is a link to our past. Prior to COVID we were able to pay all church expenses promptly, this will continue.

We are starting to hold services with Social Distance Guidelines in place. The church looked beautiful at Harvest, many thanks to all who helped us.

In addition to services in our church there are services around the Benefice which can be seen by checking <https://www.leafvalleychurches.co.uk/> .

Willoughby Society

Barring further restrictions our next meeting, on the 25th November will be the Society's Annual General Meeting. In view of the long period of inactivity this year the formal part of the meeting will be very short and will be followed by a distanced quiz. There will be wine available as usual for those who bring a glass with them. Members and anyone who would like to come along are reminded to book their place with Richard Jackson so that we have a register for Test & Trace and we can arrange arrival times to minimise close contact.

In the last WM we said that we had provisionally arranged a show for Saturday the 5th December. Unfortunately, Live & Local haven't been able to complete arrangements with Kiriki Club. However, they have been able to supply **'Claustrophobic Tinseltitis' with Mumbo Jumbo instead!!** Mumbo Jumbo play folk, blues, and jazz. They describe themselves as 'on the edge of the big time for over 40 years' and have a witty 'tongue in cheek' style. Just the show to cheer us all up and it is suitable for everyone twelve year old and over!! Book your place quickly as they will be in short supply – the Hall limit means there are only 26 so it will be a select gathering. However, there will be two performances, provided there is sufficient demand, one earlier than usual and one later to allow time for the Hall to be cleaned in between.

Places are £11.00 from Richard or Committee members. To comply with the rules there will be no physical tickets (you will get an email confirmation) and no refreshments (you are welcome to bring your own). Another change is that there will be no sale of raffle tickets in the Hall. However, we will invite you to order some when you buy your places. They will be issued on the day and drawn at the start of the first show. Prizes will be similar to previous events but kept in quarantine until being collected by winners. The net proceeds will be split between the Society, for use in the village, and Live & Local's fund to help performers in difficulty.

We hope that our meetings and the show(s) will provide some cheer in these difficult times. Especially as Christmas is likely to be very different.

We hope that you will support our activities through the rest of the year whether you are a member or not.

If the Regulations/Guidance changes and become more restrictive we may, of course, need to amend or cancel a meeting or event.



Willoughby Women's Institute
1920 - 2020



Our meetings have been cancelled until January. However, there are online events etc. news, and information, available at <https://warwicksirewi.org.uk>.

Thursday Club

Assuming there is no ban from the government, the Village Hall should be alright for our next meeting:

12 November, 2.30pm Village Hall: Bert Ogle - :- **"From Ice Age to Marina"** .

All the usual precautions apply - wear masks to arrive, sanitise hands on arrival and on leaving, seats will be at proper distances. Some ventilation I expect, so wear warm enough clothes. We cannot use the kitchen, but we will be able to make tea and coffee on the counter, and bring it round. Bring your own food if you wish - and your own mugs, if you want to save on the disposable ones.

Willoughby Parish Council

With the increases in Covid 19 in Rugby and surrounding areas it is important to abide by the current Government regulations and recommendations. Wash hands, cover your face and make space. Please look after yourselves and stay safe.

Unfortunately Due to the current situation with the Covid virus it will not be possible to hold the Over 60s Lunch this year.

Macmillan Support Morning

Thank you all very much for your support and kind donations in helping us raise £1311.00 – amazing in view of all the current conditions

Special thank you to Bert Ogle for providing the marquees and his help putting them up and taking them down in such dreadful weather.

Once again thanks and kind regards to you all and keep safe – Jane and her team.

Dahlia 'Bishops Children' Free to Good Homes!!

Joss Ray has some plants that need a new home. They are free if you would like some. Contact Joss by email to joss959@sky.com or phone 891317.

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Warwickshire Trading Standards have issued a bulletin highlighting scams that are doing the rounds **NOW**. They Involve: The New Green Homes Grant scheme, Amazon phone scams – calls asking for account renewal fees etc., Cold Cal Loan Offers – up front fee for the loan, Bogus Texts from banks etc. asking for updated personal information, fake Bitcoin investments, Bogus Tax return help – they ask for a payslip which will have all your bank details, 'DVLA' phishing emails – your profile is out of date update at with a link to a fake page which is designed to collect personal details. They also advise that there is a new Covid Frauds hotline (0800 587 5030) to report abuse of the various support schemes that have been introduced to help people and businesses survive the epidemic. Fraudsters are alert to any opportunity to steal money from anyone regardless of the impact their action may have. **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 : rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk .

Neighbourhood Watch: Rachel Settle (Co-ordinator) can be 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
05-Dec-20	Willoughby Society	Claustrophobic Tinseltitis' with Mumbo Jumbo	Village Hall