

The Willoughby Monthly

Village Web Site: www.willoughbyweb.net

facebook Group: Willoughby Monthly

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Welcome to the April edition of the WM. Last month was rather volatile weather wise but overall a bit warmer. Gardens are coming to life with lots of spring colour to cheer us up. Wildlife is more active too. Hedgehogs have emerged and are going about their business in the evening and night – watch out if you are driving they aren't very good at making sure the road is clear before crossing!! Also make sure there is a Hedgehog highway through your garden and into your neighbours gardens.



Despite the COVID road map saying community halls could open from Apr 12 it turns out that that is only for limited purposes which in practice means our Village Hall won't be able to open until 'Step 3' - 17th May all being well. In turn the organisations are restricted until then. If all goes to plan restrictions are due to be lifted altogether on the 21st June. The usual date for the village festival is the last Saturday in June which is the 26th this year.

To make this year's Festival special the Willoughby Society, through Live & Local, have been able to arrange for a professional contemporary dance group, Joe Garbett's Dance to bring their 'Doubles' a colourful and exciting performance on and around a robust outdoor table tennis table. They will also give audience members the opportunity to try a few moves or join in some table tennis!! This is a change from plan A as sadly 'Arbor the Tree' and his friends became unavailable. I am sure that these performances will add colour and excitement to the afternoon. There is more information inside.

See inside for opportunities to become an 'allotmenteer' and grow your own. The Willoughby Jubilee Allotment Association has some plots available!!

Take care and look forward to better times ahead.

Richard Jackson

No Diary Dates for this Month.

Thursday Club

We are still poised ready for action just as soon as the wretched COVID restrictions are lifted enough to allow us to gather again.



Willoughby Women's Institute

We hope to hold a zoom meeting in April with a guest speaker. We are looking forward to the time when we can all meet again at the village hall.



Willoughby Jubilee Allotments

We have plots available to rent at the allotments, if you are interested please contact Graham Geddes on 890846, now is the perfect time to prepare for the growing season.



Willoughby Cricket Club

Willoughby's Cricket Club are gearing themselves up for the new cricket season and it promises to be a busy one particularly where junior and youth cricket is concerned.

The club will have opportunities for boys and girls aged 5 through to 16 years meaning there is no better time for local youngsters to get into cricket and with your local village club.

For 2021, Willoughby CC will be running:

- All Stars Cricket
- *NEW* Dynamos Cricket
- Teams (Hard ball) at
 - Under 11 (school years 5 and 6)
 - Under 13 (school years 7 and 8)
 - Under 15 (school years 9 and 10)



In addition to matches played on Tuesdays and Thursdays, there will be weekly coaching and training sessions for each team on either a Saturday or Sunday morning.

Registration for All Stars Cricket and the ECB's new Dynamos Cricket programmes – which start at Willoughby on Friday 7th May - are now available online. For more information and to register, simply go to the Willoughby CC website – www.willoughbycc.org.uk

For further details on joining any of the junior hard ball teams at Willoughby Cricket Club for 2021, contact Rob on 07867 507069 or email him at rcartridge@hotmail.com

Willoughby Society

After last month's item was written it became apparent that community centres were only allowed to open for specific purposes not generally. The consequence is that it will be the 17th of May before normal activity is permitted. We will keep a close watch on the Covid restrictions and guidance and will restart as early as possible. Hopefully with our May meeting being closely followed by the Big Lunch Village Picnic and the Village Festival.

In conjunction with the Festival Team we have been seeking a way of making this year's Festival on the 26th June 'special'. Live & Local have been offering various outdoor shows and we put a bid in for one. As mentioned in previous monthlies we had hoped to have a giant puppet, Arbor, but sadly having been told we had been successful we learnt that Arbor was no longer available. However, we have been allocated a completely different but nonetheless exciting item. It is called Doubles by Joe Garbett's Dance. The centrepiece is a robust outdoor table tennis table and the contemporary dance takes place on, around, over, and under, it!! The dance will be performed twice during the afternoon once early on and again after the children's races. At the end of each performance there will be the opportunity for audience members to learn a few moves or take part in some table tennis. In between times the table tennis table will be available for people to play on.



The Leam Valley First Responder volunteers will be at the Festival both providing First Aid cover and also raising funds to support their activities. The Festival Team would like to see as many of the village organisations/groups as possible being part of the afternoon and taking advantage of the opportunity to connect with fellow villagers, their families and friends. Please contact Leonie Tromans or Richard Jackson.

The Festival will need volunteers to help set it up and also to run the events if you can spare an hour or two to help it will be much appreciated and go a long way to making it a 'special' day for everyone especially the children.

Church

Finally the lockdown appears to be easing slowly. Plans are underway to hold an Easter Day Service in the church. It will be led by Rev. Barbara Clutton and start at 12:00. Apart from that St Nicholas has a Benefice Communion Service on April 25th at 11:00.

If anyone has any spare time and would like to spend some of it helping keep the churchyard tidy it would be very much appreciated. Weeds are starting to poke their heads up and it is a large area to keep tidy. We welcome visitors to walk round and it will be lovely when once again our church can be opened up.

The kitchen/toilet plans suffered a setback but we have regrouped and now understand what will be permitted. A church the age and architectural interest of St Nicholas has to be altered with care so as to enhance what is already there. A lot of consultation with various conservation bodies has led to a clearer plan being formed.

Another grant application has been submitted for the nave roof. The Faculty (church permission) has been granted and now it's a matter of finding the funds. Help there with ideas would be appreciated.

The Leam Valley site has details of the services planned for the next few weeks in the Benefice.

Please contact Karen Nichols with any issues or queries concerning the church. kjndon@aol.com or 07866572209. Thank you.

Willoughby Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to place on record their thanks to the Villagers who are carrying out volunteer litter picks in and around the Village to keep it looking tidy. There have been three people who have volunteered so far to help maintain footpaths in the Village. It would be great if more people were able to volunteer and help. If you are able to help please contact Mike Thomas on the email address below.

The Parish Council website has been updated.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday the 13th of April at 19.30 on Zoom. Please contact mike.anthony.thomas@gmail.co for an invitation to join the meeting.

Now is your chance to volunteer to be able to help a villager when they REALLY need you!

The Willoughby AED Volunteers are looking for another couple of people to come forward and be trained on how to use a defibrillator. You don't need any specialist knowledge as the machine is fully automatic and you'll be trained how to use it along with some basic CPR. There is no commitment to be available but you may just save someone's life whilst waiting for the ambulance to arrive in the village in their time of need. You won't be asked to respond to anything else - just sudden cardiac arrest within our village - that's it.

Phone Kim Taylor on 899007, 07771 908434 or email kimnval@gmail.com to have a chat over the detail if you'd like to find out more about what's involved.

Please give it some thought - it really isn't complicated and won't routinely take up much of your time but the reward could be life-changing - literally...

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Beware of doorstep callers and unexpected telephone or email contacts even if in the guise of a survey. There have been calls recently supposedly from Chris at the Green Deal Team asking about loft insulation and whether it had been checked..... it's a **SCAM!!**

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 are PCSO David Banks & PCSO Helena Seal, our Police Constable is PC 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 be contacted by telephone on 01788 823823 (daytime) or 01788 890724 (evening & answerphone) or e-mail neighbourhood.watch@willoughbyweb.net.

Date	Organisation	Event	Venue
6 Jun 21		Big Lunch	Village Hall
26 Jun 21		Willoughby Village Festival	Village Hall & Playing Field

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 .