

**TUESDAY & CHRISTMAS KERBSIDE COLLECTION.**

December dates will be **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>, & Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>**

January dates will be **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, & Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>**

Please put bins out by 7.00am. Waste Hotline 01285 623123.  
[www.cotswold.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/)

**WILLERSEY PARISH COUNCIL**

The Office is situated at the south western corner of the Village Hall, open for enquiries and advice on Monday each week from 9.30am-12noon (except Bank Holidays). At all times recorded messages can be left on the phone 01386 853635, or e-mail [willerseyparishcouncil@btconnect.com](mailto:willerseyparishcouncil@btconnect.com)

**WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL**

To hire hall please telephone **LUCY JORDAN 01386 854886 after 6pm** or leave a message, or email [willerseychall@btinternet.com](mailto:willerseychall@btinternet.com) otherwise telephone Jean Harris 01386 858434. Hall Caretaker – Bill Payne 01386 858368.

**METHODIST COMMUNITY ROOM HIRE** – Tel: Penny Ingles 853306.

**MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

The Mobile Library next visits are on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 , 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016 Near the Bell Inn **1350-1550**. Please use the library. A good selection of books etc is available.

**COTSWOLD VOLUNTEERS NORTH**

Anybody who wishes to have transport for hospital and medical appointments should ring the CVN Help Centre: 01608 651115. This telephone is manned from 09.30-13.30hrs Monday to Friday. At other times there is an Answerphone.

**Transport charges are 50p a mile (Minimum charge £3.00)**

**TRAVEL SERVICES TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

National Rail Enquiries 08457 484950 or 03457 48 49 50

National Bus Traveline 0871 2002233

Hedgehog 01386 841466

N. N. Cresswell 01386 48655

Johnsons 01564 797000

Marchants of Cheltenham 01242 257714

Bus timetables for Gloucestershire are now available on the County Council's Web site at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/bustimetables](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/bustimetables)

**Contact numbers for Breakdown of Services & Police**

Electric Power Faults - 0800 328 1111. Gas Emergency – 0800 111 999

Floodline – 0845 988 1188. Severn Trent. Sewage – 08007 834444

Thames Water - Water Supply – 0845 9200888

Police – Telephone 101. Emergency 999. □ [www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)

Dear Friends,

I write this the weekend as the western world is reeling following the attacks in Paris. These attacks were carried out on ordinary people doing ordinary things: eating together, watching football, at a concert. They get at the very heart of life which is not played out on the big stages, but in the ordinary. Evil is not a word I use lightly, but these attacks were, I believe, evil. Nor do they represent the will of the peaceful majority of Muslims who seek to live out their faith. So how are we to respond? Firstly, for those of us who profess a faith, we must pray for the people of Paris and of France, pray for the victims and for their families and for those who have been wounded. We are to stand with them in compassion, feeling pain because they are in pain.

And all this as we stand on the cusp of Advent, when we prepare our hearts and our homes to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. Curiously, although the glitz and the excess sits uncomfortably with such a picture of devastation and sorrow, it is precisely in that infant, God become human, that we might find comfort and hope. God did not stay outside the mess that is our world, but came to be part of it. The pain of the French people will not escape the heart of God. It is perhaps doubly important then that we pay attention to our gift giving. The gift of Jesus to this world of pain and strife is to be celebrated and our gifts to each other express something of the wonder of that most precious gift of all.

Christmas and New Year is also a time of hospitality, a time when we throw the doors of our houses open so that we can celebrate together. This is one of the many aspects of the season that I love because for me it mirrors the hospitality and generosity of God. Part of our preparations for Christmas must be that opening of our hearts to others and the desire to give of ourselves. As we choose gifts, so we think carefully about the person for whom we are buying. It is not simply a money transaction but rather an expression of love and self-giving.

I am looking forward to Advent and Christmas. I hope that many of you will join Celia and me at the carol services and Christingle services in our villages. We come to celebrate in joyful carols and to rejoice in the gift of God in Jesus. We come to celebrate the child who was heralded as Prince of Peace and we come to pray earnestly for that peace in our world. May 2016 bring that peace. I wish you all a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

With my love and blessings,

*Debbie*

**The Vicarage, Honeybourne. 01386 830302**

## Carols around the Jubilee Tree

Christmas Eve at 6.30pm.

Join us and the Avonbank Brass Band to sing carols.

Collection for Action for Children (so bring lots of money!)

Hot Mince Pies.

Offers of mince pies to Penny Burch, please - 853837

### **Village Sunday**

There was a solemn start to this service with David playing “La Marseillaise” and prayers were said for the people of Paris and France at this troubled time.

All the organisations from the village had been invited to take part by choosing a hymn or a reading with the theme “Songs of Praise”. At the beginning of the service all these groups/clubs were asked to light a candle while we sang “Bind us together Lord”. It was a shame that there were one or two gaps in the event, especially as this service is held for us to say thank you for living in a lovely village. ( Just think of Paris.)

There were happy hymns and an action hymn from the Tennis Club. Actions were carried out by Ken, Tia, Grace and the Rev Debbie. Pat Batham read a very apt poem to represent the Yoga group. Well done to the Horticultural Society for choosing “We Plough the Fields and Scatter”.

Next David read a poem to represent the Footlights and a Circle of Prayer was read by the Snooker Club, Village Hall Committee, The U3A and the Parish Council with a pebble being dropped into water to illustrate the prayer spreading worldwide. The W.I. ably sang “Jerusalem” with the congregation joining in on the second verse. Thank you to Tia, Grace and Poppy for helping with the collection, The Wednesday Club for the delicious refreshments and lastly to Bill Jabelman and Sir Geoffrey for stepping in to fill the gaps in the service.

Our next family service will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> December and will be Christmas Themed. We will also have Christingle at 4:00pm on Christmas Eve.

### Weston Rural Cinema

“Far From the Madding Crowd” Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm for 8pm at the Village Hall. There will be no film in December.

## **Macmillan Support Sunday Tea**

What a lovely afternoon. The village hall was full and buzzing! A massive “Thank you” to the wonderful team that made it all happen. To the husbands who helped set up and clear up, the raffle ladies, stall ladies, washer-uppers, and to Mackenzie, Tia and Ashley for their help too.

Thank you also to everyone who made cakes and scones, delicious!, to those who gave donations of raffle prizes and fancy goods. The response was brilliant. Thank you to Mark at Willersey Stores for selling the tickets, very much appreciated.

During the afternoon Peter Burch kindly conducted a minutes silence for the Paris tragedy.

To date £971 has been raised by everyone’s generosity, whilst having a lovely social afternoon. This is amazing! We have all been touched in some way by this awful illness, and by sending this donation will help to support their vital work at Macmillan Cancer Support.

Again, a big “Thank you” from all of us to you.

### Weston sub-Edge Youth Club

Weston sub-Edge Youth Club usually meets on the **first and third Thursdays**

of each month between 7.00 and 9.00 p.m. Members enjoy a wide range of activities and Sue Stanier, our leader, and Alex Havery, her assistant, have an exciting programme planned. **New members between 10 and 18 years both from the village and from the surrounding area are always welcome.**

Join the Club and make new friends. Subscriptions are £1.00 per meeting and drinks and sweets are on sale. For more information, contact Chris Rossington on 01386 849316 or Sue on 07555 649056.

### **Carol Singing at The Bell**

We will be singing carols in The Bell on Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 6.30pm for about 30 minutes. We will be collecting for Action for Children.

Please come and join us, everyone welcome.

## **BROADWAY EMBROIDERY GROUP**

Our November meeting was well attended and Jane spent the morning showing us all how to construct our embroidered poppy. Discussion followed regarding next year's programme of activities. Next month will be a Sit and Sew followed by soup and mince pies. Hopefully our display table will be showing off completed Christmas Tree designs from Rose's challenge set us back in July.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 10am to 2pm if you are staying for lunch. Venue Broadway Methodist Church Hall.

We will not be having a meeting in January.

**More details on this, please contact either Penny Ingles 01386 853306  
or Gillian Beale 01386 852958**

### **Village Hall Soup Kitchen**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**12:30 – 2:00 pm**

**Tickets are £5.00. This includes a choice of soup,  
Variety of puddings with tea or coffee to follow  
and have a go on the Raffle**

**Tickets are available from Willersey Stores or Jennie Bond (853430)  
from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

**Come and enjoy a lunch with friends.**

### **WILLERSEY CAROLS FOR ALL**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015 WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL**

**I have really enjoyed the Community Carols for All, which David Ingles kindly organised for many years and I really missed it last year. So I am having a go at organising it this year. It would be great to see you in the hall for traditional carols, tea, poems, drama, coffee, readings, and mince pies. (but not necessarily in that order)**

**If you would like to choose a carol or read a poem or tell a story or do a sketch or to say thank you for something during the year or whatever else then please do let me know as this event is genuinely open to all.**

**GARY ROBINSON 01386 854738**

### **Munch Bunch**

December lunch Wednesday 16th. January Lunch Wednesday 20th  
Coffee every Friday in community room 10.00-11.30

## **Willersey Village Hall Management Committee**

There will be a meeting of the committee on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm in the Jubilee room.

### **“Welcome to Willersey” Booklet**

This booklet was updated a short time ago. If you know of someone who has recently moved to Willersey and has not received a copy, then do contact Mrs Judy Munt on 853305 to get a copy of the “Welcome to Willersey” booklet to give to them.

## **FEBRUARY CHURCH & VILLAGE NEWS**

Copy for the February 2016 News must be received by Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January unless otherwise notified. Please send any items of interest or notice of forthcoming events. Email them to [willerseynews@gmail.com](mailto:willerseynews@gmail.com), drop them into Willersey Stores or phone 858628. Newsletter creation will start early on the morning of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

### **THANK YOU**

**I would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for the lovely flowers, cards, gifts and get well messages I have received during and after my stay in hospital at the end of October. I am now feeling much better and am getting out and about again.**

**Jean Harris**

## **Willersey's Glebe Land**

### **Outcome of the Meeting of the Bishop's Council**

Following the second public meeting on the Diocese's proposed development of Willersey's glebe land, Bishop Rachel, the Bishop of Gloucester, visited Willersey on 30 October to meet the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

In the second public meeting, Bishop Rachel emphasised her commitment that the Diocese would not cause Willersey to be “over-housed”. In its meeting with Bishop Rachel, the PCC reiterated the view expressed at the public meeting; that, even without any development on its glebe land, Willersey would be ‘over-housed’.

Bishop Rachel indicated her intention to delegate the matter to Archdeacon Robert Springett and undertook to provide a report, via the Archdeacon, on the outcome of November's meeting of the Bishop's Council, at which the Diocese's intentions for Willersey's glebe land would be discussed.

On the basis of what Bishop Rachel told our PCC meeting, we have caused the Parish Council and other parishioners to expect some significant outcome from that meeting.

Archdeacon Robert's letter of 10 November is available, in full, on the Willersey Website: <http://www.willersey.org/housing.htm>. The response to that letter, is published below.

### **Saint Peter's Parochial Church Council**

#### **Letter to the Venerable Robert Springett, Archdeacon of Cheltenham, 21 November 2015**

Dear Robert,

#### **Willersey Glebe Land**

I write in response to your letter, dated 10 November 2015, which I have discussed with my colleagues, Judy Munt, Churchwarden, and Lord Dear, Vice-Chairman of the PCC.

When we met the Diocesan Secretary and directors of the Diocese's intended partner, the promoter Gladman, on 10 July this year, their explicit and stated expectations were that we would share the Diocese's enthusiasm for the development of our glebe land and that they would be able to persuade us to return to Willersey and attempt to convince other parishioners to accept yet more building development in our parish.

At the first public meeting, one of our parishioners proposed a vote that the Parish Council should petition the Cotswold District Council to ensure that there would be no more development within Willersey, beyond the 100 houses which appear to be inevitable, and also that all of the glebe land, specifically, be removed from the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment / Local Plan. This received unanimous support.

We reiterate that there is total objection to any further housing development, over and above that which has already been agreed with the Cotswold District Council (CDC) which, as you know, exceeds the Parish Quota, puts additional strain on already inadequate infrastructure and will increase Willersey's population by 34%.

In the second public meeting and in her recent meeting with the PCC, Bishop Rachel repeatedly stated that she was determined that Willersey would not be "over-housed" as a consequence of the Diocese's actions. We, and other parishioners, made it clear that key, local amenities are already overloaded even before the building of the 100 houses mentioned above. Therefore, our village is already to be 'over-housed'. It is important to note, in this regard, that even though

### **Friends of Willersey School**

We would like to invite the residents of Willersey to come and join us at the school on Friday 18th December 1 pm till 2 pm for Mince Pies, Mulled Wine and Carol singing!

A big thanks to all those who attended our Family Quiz Night that was held at the Village Hall on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November we are truly grateful for your support.

We would also like to thank KC Carpets, Autosleepers and the Nutgrove Trust for the generous donations we received towards the playground fund.

On behalf of all the children, staff and FOS team Willersey Primary School would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year

**Julie Wood 07721 084967**

### **Touch Tennis Anyone**

We had some dynamic doubles and scintillating singles in the Village Hall this November week, trying out the new tennis game for adults, played on a small court with small rackets and sponge balls. It was great fun. I'm happy to book some regular hall time if there is enough interest in playing. You don't have to be good or even never played for 30 years. Please call me to register interest. I'm a coach so you might even get free tips!! Ken Spensley 07887 823800

Jean Bickerstaff & Tilly wish all their friends & neighbours a Very Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year. Jean will not be sending Christmas cards this year.

### **ST PETER'S CHURCH CLEANING**

#### Week ending

December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy Barnes & Elizabeth Milne-James
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Judith McNeil-Wilson
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Ann Embury & Gillian Beale
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Smith & Gillian Beale

### **BRASS CLEANING**

#### Weeks ending

December 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	Francis Fairclough
December 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	Christine Elliott & Gillian Beale

**Walk off Christmas in the Hills above Winchcombe – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January –**

**Moderate** Follow the Winchcombe Way up to the Salt Way and Little Farmcote, returning via Lynes Barn, Deadmanbury Gate and the Warden's Way. This walk avoids most of the local muddier paths. Bring a packed lunch and hot drink. 4 hours: 8 miles.

**Start:** 10:00am Winchcombe, Back Lane Car Park (Pay and Display £1 per day). OS Map ref SP 024 285.

**Isbourne Way 1 – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January - Moderate**

This is the first in a series of five circular walks which will incorporate the whole of the new Isbourne Way, from the source of the Isbourne River to its confluence with the Avon near Evesham. Lunch can be bought at Cleeve Common Golf Club. 4 hours: 7 miles.

**Start:** 10:00am Winchcombe, Back Lane Car Park (Pay and Display £1 per day). OS Map ref SP 024 285.

**The Ebrington Boundary Stones – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Moderate**

To commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee the parish of Ebrington erected a series of Cotswold limestone stones to mark the boundaries with neighbouring parishes. This walk takes in the boundary stones at Chipping Campden, Admington, Ilmington, and Mickleton. Please bring a packed lunch. 4 hours: 7.5 miles.

**Start:** 10:00 am Ebrington Village Hall. (Voluntary contribution of £1 per car). OS Map ref SP 184 402.

**Lovely Longborough Loops – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Moderate**

What's not to like? Glorious views, glimpses of villages, houses and maybe a battlefield. Nothing too taxing but expect some mud and stiles. Bring a packed lunch but excellent refreshments also available at Store afterwards. If using this car park please ensure you give them your custom. 6 hours: 11 miles.

**Start:** 9:30 am Longborough, Cotswold Food Store and Cafe on A424. OS Map ref SP 172 292.

**A Winter Walk to Wormington – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January - Easy**

This is a bracing winter walk from Dumbleton across the fields to Wormington, with views to the Cotswold scarp. A pause at the village green and a chance to view a Saxon relic from Winchcombe Abbey in the church. On return through different meadows, we see Dumbleton Hill ahead. 3 hours: 6 miles.

**Start:** 10:00 am Dumbleton Cricket Club, Dairy Lane, Dumbleton. OS Map ref SP 017 359.

PLEASE use appropriate footwear as some walks may be steep and muddy in places. EASY - Length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level); MODERATE - includes some hills and rough ground. STRENUOUS – may be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep. We welcome guide and hearing dogs - sorry, others not allowed. Walks are free although we do invite donations to help fund our conservation and improvement work.

The Wardens run a full programme of guided walks throughout the Cotswolds. For more information see [www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk](http://www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk) or Tel: 01451 862000, also for any changes to arrangements such as due to extreme weather.

the application for planning permission for an additional 70 houses south of Collin Lane is under Appeal, the original Application was refused, with good reason.

Furthermore, there is no support within our village for development for commercial or industrial use. It was clear from the 10 July meeting, that the Diocese and its intended promoter were as aware as the PCC, the Parish Council and our District Councillor that, in an area of high employment, such developments can be used, with success, to justify the building of even more housing, even when that location is already 'over-housed'.

You mention the legal requirements on glebe land. Representatives of the Church Commissioners met Lord Dear in London on 13 October, when they moderated their previously stated position, publically reiterating Bishop Rachel's comments on 'over-housing' and stating that there was no point in selling glebe land for development if it resulted in diminished support for the Church in the locality concerned. There can be no doubt that that would be the case in Willersey.

On the basis of what Bishop Rachel told our PCC meeting, we had caused the Parish Council and other parishioners to expect some significant outcome from the meeting of the Bishop's Council. Yet, four months on from that first meeting, in July, and after all that has happened in that time, your letter makes it clear that nothing has changed in the Diocese's intentions or approach: You still expect us to be prepared to work in some form of partnership with the Diocese, in order to attempt to persuade Willersey's parishioners to accept additional development on the village's glebe land, beyond that which is already planned elsewhere in the Parish.

We cannot and will not do this.

You state that the Diocese has never considered W\_6/Upper Marbrook for development. Whilst this is a welcome commitment it is important to reiterate that Judy Munt, Lord Dear and I were told, categorically, at the meeting on 10 July, that the intention was to develop all of Willersey's glebe land "over the next 10 to 20 years", specifically including Upper Marbrook (the ridge and furrow field next to the church). As I have made clear, repeatedly, it is unnecessarily provocative to imply, repeatedly, as you and other diocesan colleagues and clergy have, that our memories are defective in this regard.

Your letter and Bishop Rachel's letter of 8 September both make reference to the village's distrust of the Diocese. Nothing has changed in this respect, despite the public meeting that Bishop Rachel attended on 6 October, 2015. We are convinced that there will be no possibility of any reduction in this level of distrust until it becomes clear that the Diocese has heeded the legitimate concerns of Willersey's parishioners and ceased all of its attempts at inflicting more detrimental development on our village, whether for housing or other purposes.

We share Willersey Parish Councillor's disappointment that you have decided to approach the CDC before and without consulting our Parish Council. The Parish Council will endorse our views, if consulted, and we recommend, earnestly, that you do so.

The CDC has invited us to take part in a period of formal consultation on planning policies and the Local Plan, between 6 November and 21 December. It would be inappropriate and premature for the Diocese to approach the CDC until the outcome of that consultation is known. During this consultation process, the Parish Council will be petitioning the CDC to remove the village's glebe land from the Local Plan, as required by the unanimous vote in Willersey's first public meeting on this matter, and parishioners will be reinforcing this by expressing their views in letters to the CDC.

Yours sincerely,  
Robert McNeill-Wilson, Senior Churchwarden

### **NOTES FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL** **VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS**

**December 2015**

It was with sadness that the Parish Council learned that Mal Jelfs would be standing down as parish councillor due to work and family commitments. She has diligently served on the council for 16 years and Parish Council is thankful that she plans to continue to help with village clean ups and the Rose Charity. This charity benefits senior members of Willersey and runs at Christmas Mal has helped to organise this for many years. We all wish her well and look forward to still working with her helping to look after the welfare and interests of Willersey.

As a result the Parish Council needs more members to join the council. If you are interested then do call the clerk or visit the council office on a Monday morning and find out more of what is involved. Being a parish councillor is not difficult! Currently the Parish Council needs 3 new councillors to take the stress off those councillors who are under pressure to do the job they are doing so well. You would be part of an enthusiastic team and make a really valuable contribution to the village.

### **TREE OF LIGHT**

The forms are now out of those who wish to remember loved ones at Christmas through the Jubilee Tree of lights. The forms are at Willersey Stores (or from [www.willersey.org/TreeofLight.pdf](http://www.willersey.org/TreeofLight.pdf)) and once completed please post them in the Parish Council post box at the rear of the village hall. The suggested donation of £5 is recommended for each person remembered for the year will help the village fund these lovely decorations.

## **WILLERSEY WEDNESDAY CLUB**

Our speaker on 14<sup>th</sup> October was Mr. Mike Wilkes who spoke on the Wild Life of the Cloudforest and Galapagos Islands. Mr. Wilkes arranges tours to various places for small parties of people who go mainly to photograph the wildlife. His pictures started off in Ecuador, photos from the plane showed Quito city crowded with buildings, then on to the peace of the Cloudforest for a few days, then to the Islands where he had taken the most stunning pictures of birds, butterflies and flowers. It must have taken much skill and lots of patience to capture such perfect images.

On 28<sup>th</sup> October Marion Beagley gave a talk entitled "My mum was a Cockney". She explained that she gave her talks to raise money for the Chernobyl Children's Life Line. This is helping children suffering from the after effects of the nuclear disaster in 1986. Even 29 years after this event the children are still suffering illness and disabilities caused by it. The air they breathe and the food they eat is contaminated. She then told us about her mother who was born within the sound of Bow Bells and although she moved to the country at the age of 12 and was in service at the age of 14, she was always proud of her cockney heritage. Many famous people were cockneys, Sir Alan Sugar, former Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, Kray brothers Michael Caine and many others. We were shown hats, a waistcoat, coat and skirt all beautifully decorated with pearl buttons.

On 11<sup>th</sup> November Merleen Watson spoke on the problems of being deaf. The talk was called "I'm Deaf not Daft". She gave lots of information on helping people who are profoundly deaf, and also some very sobering details. 1 in 6 of the population have serious hearing impairment and 50% of 12 – 35 year olds are damaging their hearing health with personal audios and phones. At the end of her talk she demonstrated how Grace – her hearing aid dog, was able to help, by recognizing the different sounds and "informing" Merlene of the problems! It was a very helpful and informative talk.

On 25<sup>th</sup> November Willersey Primary School will entertain us with Carol singing. Our Christmas Lunch will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> December and then we shall have a break until meetings start again in January, 2016.



*News from the bell tower*

Monday 21st December is St Thomas's Day - usually the longest night and shortest day of the year. It has long been a tradition in the North Cotswolds to mark this day with the ringing of the church bells early in the morning. This day was once seen as a prompt to commence Christmas preparations and also a signal that it was alms giving day for the poor.

So, come 6.00 am the early risers amongst the bell ringing band will be marking St Thomas's Day, before sliding off for a full English breakfast to recharge the ringing batteries in readiness for the ringing that will help to celebrate Christmas and the start of a New Year.

**Poem from the Yoga Group**

We come together in unison  
To sing our songs of praise  
And in Harmony and friendship  
Our joyful voices raise.

We give thanks for all our groups and clubs  
Which help our village thrive.  
They nurture lasting friendships  
And keep community alive.

Let's say thanks you to the people  
Who in spite of busy lives  
Give of their time and energy  
Ensuring village life survives.

So as we light our candles  
And in the village church we pray  
Let us pause to count our blessings  
Whilst we're gathered here today.

Pat Batham

The name of your loved one will be recorded in a special Tree of Light Book of Remembrance which is displayed in Peter Taylor's show room window, next to a light which will remain lit throughout the Christmas period.

**AND FINALLY!**

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in Willersey a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2016.

**Willersey Women's Institute**

Our November meeting might have been a disaster after our speaker/demonstrator was unable to come but it was suggested by Sandra Vale that we might do the demonstrating ourselves.

During the business meeting we heard that the next social skittles at the New Inn will be on Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Citizen's Party is on Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> Helpers were requested. On November 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a Coffee Morning in aid of Peruvian Children at Peter and Penny Burch's house.

The annual meeting followed with reports from the Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and the President. Two members have retired – Penny Burch and Alyson Nydinlar.

**Next Year's Committee:-**

- President Mal Jelfs
- Vice President Adine Keatley
- Jean Moore, Jane Prestage, Maggie Topp,
- Eileen Lockyer, Anne Carnie, Shirley Cotterell
- Sue Clarke, Gi Cavanagh

Our flower arranging in unusual containers was great fun and the results were interesting. Mal's piece was chosen as the best – a decoration in an old set of scales. Thanks are due to Sandra for such a good idea and her help.

Our next meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> will be our Christmas Party. Please bring a plate of food that you like, a wine glass for a drink and a small gift (up to £3) for the Hamper. The entertainer is Ann Blagdon who is a belly dancer and she encourages participants. We shall all enjoy ourselves!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH**  
**for December 2015 and January 2016**

**N.B. Holy Communion using BCP Prayer Book service is celebrated every Wednesday at 11am. Do come along and join us for the service and/or coffee and a chat 11.30-12.00 noon.**

	<b><u>Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Sidesman</u></b>
<b>Dec 6<sup>th</sup></b> Advent 2 9.30am BCP	Ken Spensley	David Kelley Malachi 3 v1-4 & Philippians 1 v 3-11
<b>Dec 13<sup>th</sup></b> Advent 3. 9.30am	Bill Halling	Geoffrey Dear Zephaniah 3 v14 -20 & Philippians 4 v 4-7
<b>Dec 20<sup>th</sup></b> Advent 4. 11am	<b>Carol Service</b>	John Busbridge
<b>Dec 24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4.00pm</b> <b>11.30pm</b> <b>Midnight Communion</b>	<b>Christingle</b> Rob M-Wilson	Mike Munt Ken Spensley Isaiah 52 v 7-10 & Hebrews 1. v 1-12
<b>Dec 25<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>9.30am</b>	John Busbridge	Ken Spensley Isaiah 62 v 6 –end & Titus 3. v 4-7
<b>Dec 27<sup>th</sup></b> 10am.	Benefice Service at Honeybourne	
<b>Jan 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Epiphany 9.30am BCP	David Kelley	David Kelley Numbers 6 v 22-end & Galatians 4 v 4-7
<b>Jan 10<sup>th</sup></b> 9.30am	<b>Reader</b> Jane Gooding	<b>Sidesman</b> Ken Spensley Isaiah 43 v 1-7 & Acts 8 v 14-17
<b>Jan 17<sup>th</sup></b> 11am	<b>Family Service</b>	
<b>Jan 24<sup>th</sup></b> 9.30.	Alison Dear	Rob Heming Nehemiah 8 v 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 & 1Corinthians 12 v 12 -31a
<b>Jan 31<sup>st</sup></b> 9.30am	Methodist	Geoff Dear United with the Methodists at St Peter's

**METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES**  
**for December 2015 and January 2016**

**SUNDAY SERVICES ALL AT 10.30am, unless stated.**

<b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Miss L Fitton
<b>13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Mrs Anne Yelland
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Carol Service</b>	Revd Christine Kettlety
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day</b>	<b>9:30</b> Revd Christine Kettlety
<b>27<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Revd Audrey Simpson
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	Mr James Steele
<b>10<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison
<b>17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Revd Christine Kettlety
<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Mrs Sheila Brown
<b>31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	United Service at St Peters

**NEWS FROM THE METHODISTS**

**December and January 2015/16**

Well, that's the end of another year! Where do they go? David has written out our Christmas Service dates, including Christmas Day. Please join us if you can we'd love to see you.

Our Coffee, Chat & Craft Friday mornings are going well and we are gradually completing Comfort Quilts/Blankets ready for delivery to one of the local hospices or homes. Thanks to all the ladies who are so busy crocheting, sewing and knitting. If you'd like to come along and give a hand we'd be very grateful.

Our Gift Day on Saturday 21 November raised the sum of £1100 So we have now raised £2000 plus the Gift Day total. A super start. The new year will see us applying for more grants and, we hope, that this will be the last winter we will worry about the roof!

Those of you who attended the Gift Day will have learnt about the history of our Church, but just a quick note to say that it's all tied in with Gordon Russell, his father Mr S B Russell, a house at Snowhill and the Arts & Crafts Movement. If you want to know more, give us a bell!

Happy Christmas and a Good and Peaceful New Year to us all.

*Penny (853306)*