

PUBLIC NOTICES DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021

MONDAY BINS KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS.

The next dates for all bins are **Monday 14th & Tuesday 29th December 2020 and Tuesday 12th & Monday 25th January 2021**

Please put all bins and bags out by 7.00am. The Waste Hotline is 01285 623123.
https://publica.force.com/sfsites/c/resource/CDC_Calendars/Mon_2.pdf

Please note that the situation on these may change at any time.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Office is currently closed please e-mail

Willerseyparishcouncil@btinternet.com

WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL

Currently closed. Result of Hall refurbishment and Coronavirus outbreak.

METHODIST COMMUNITY ROOM HIRE

Currently closed. Tel: Penny Ingles 01386 853306.

The MOBILE POST OFFICE

Willersey on Friday at The Bell Inn 12:45 to 14:45. For Lloyds customers, their Mobile Bank visits Broadway alternate Fridays 10:00 to 14:30. **Not with Lloyds? – use the Co-Op Post Office or the Mobile Post Office in Willersey.**

NEAREST LIBRARY

The nearest library is in Broadway.
Open Mon & Wed, 10am - 2pm. 01905 822722

COTSWOLD VOLUNTEERS NORTH

Anybody who wishes to have transport for hospital and medical appointments should ring the CVN Help Centre: 01608 651415. This telephone is manned from 09:30-15:30 Monday to Friday. At other times there is an Answerphone.

TRAVEL SERVICES TELEPHONE NUMBERS

National Rail Enquiries 08457 48 49 50 or 03457 48 49 50

National Bus Traveline 0871 2002233

Hedgehog 01386 841849

N. N. Cresswell to Evesham 01386 48655 for route R4

Johnsons to Stratford-upon-Avon 01564 797000 for route 1

Pulhams Coaches to Cheltenham 01451 820369 for route 606

Bus timetables for Gloucestershire are at www.easytraveling.org.uk/gcc/ and on the Willersey website at www.willersey.org/transport.htm#bus

Contact numbers for Breakdown of Services & Police

Electric Power Faults - 0800 328 1111 or 105. Gas Emergency – 0800 111 999

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

Thames Water - Water Supply – 0800 980 8800

Police – Telephone 101 www.gloucestershire.police.uk

Emergency 999.

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PASTORAL LETTER December 2020 and January 2021



**‘The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.’ (NRSV)**

I love this very simple photo because, contained within it, is a profound message that is directly relevant to the approaching season of Christmas. As you look at the photo, note the amount of darkness. A cursory glance would have you believe that it is darkness that dominates the image. But, when looked at for longer and in a bit more detail, the exact opposite is true. In this image a light shines in the darkness. No matter how much darkness you see, the light transforms and overcomes the darkness. The darkness does not – cannot – overwhelm the light.

The wonderful words at the start of my letter are found in the opening verses of St John’s Gospel. They are words filled with hope and, it seems to me, words that we all need to hear more than ever before. Light overcoming darkness is a theme that permeates every aspect of Christmas. The ‘darkness’ is our sin. Sin of which we are all guilty. Sin that separates us from God. In the darkness of sin, just as in physical darkness, we can feel lost and uncertain of our direction of travel. The darkness can overwhelm us. But, when a light is shone on our darkness everything changes:

We no longer feel lost, we can see once more where we are going, and the fear dissipates as rapidly as the light transforms the darkness.

The 'light' that St John was writing about is Jesus Christ. Elsewhere in St John's Gospel, Jesus said, as he tried to help people understand who he is,

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (NRSV)

And so we come to the very heart of the message of Christmas – and it is this: By taking on human form, by becoming one of us, Jesus – and Jesus alone – is able to bridge the chasm that exists between humankind and God. Because Jesus Christ came to dwell among us (that is the reason why we celebrate Christmas) all who believe in him and who accept the salvation that he offers are forgiven, the gulf is bridged, and we go from the despair of darkness to eternal hope in Jesus.

2020 will go down for some as a year dominated by the darkness of COVID-19. I pray that the light of Jesus Christ will shine ever more brightly on you and those you love this Christmas and in 2021. Ros and I send our love and prayers for Christmas and always,

With love,
Scott
Rev Scott Watts
Team Vicar

The Reverend Scott Watts,
Rector, The Vicarage, Stratford Road, Honeybourne, Evesham,
WR11 7PP Tel: 01386 834946
Email: revscottwatts@yahoo.com

Churchwarden Robert McNeil-Wilson,
The Granary, Main Street, Willersey
Tel: 01386 852785 & mobile 07979590826
Email: rmw@unisonprojects.co.uk

WILLERSEY METHODIST CHURCH – December 2020

We shall be decorating our church soon! It's the season of goodwill and remembrance of those less fortunate than ourselves.

Last year we had a tree. It has been decided this year that we are not! We're going to try to decorate our window facing the street on the right hand side of our front door. Why? Because it will give more people the opportunity to see through our window the sorts of things we can make and do! Hopefully it will cheer everyone up to see the colours through the window.

Our knitted blankets, jumpers etc all go to help others. We try to remember those less fortunate than ourselves; we try to bring a little brightness into the church by our own efforts in coloured wool. We have spent many happy hours during the summer (which was lovely!) under the apple tree in the Church garden knitting and sewing; chairs positioned apart, drinks brought by ourselves. We enjoyed it very much and we hope that the goods we have created will give as much pleasure to those who receive them as they did to us making them.

Our Church – like so many others – has been marooned in an ocean of ... almost despair felt by us all! It has been a difficult year! Our WI has kept going as much as it can and we have all appreciated the humour brought to us through them. Collin Close (+folk from over the village) even created it's own orchestra (courtesy of Beccy, Gee and Ben who led us all)– which we hope to keep going! We do what we can in the village. We keep planning for next year and the things we might do then. We live in a lovely area and a lot of us have walked and appreciated our countryside. It's been good to see so many 'tourists' around the village, obviously walking and biking to enjoy the countryside too.

There's a lot to be said for living in a village like ours.

Penny Ingles 853306



Willersey Footlights Christmas Eve Carols

Sadly, there will be no Carols around the Jubilee Tree this Christmas Eve owing to an uncertain situation where nothing can be arranged beforehand.

However, our Willersey Musicians may be providing an impromptu appearances, adding a festive note to this year's Christmas as long as government guidance allows.

So, we will hope for some Christmas cheer to be added to the end of 2020

Children's Corner Word Search Solution



Willersey Covid -19 Community Support Group

If you require assistance please contact:

**Anthony Leishman (07595 348506) or
Robert McNeil-Wilson (07979 590826)**

Willow Green Houses

The Parish Council have been informed by Newlands that they will be submitting a planning application in December to extend the Willow Green site in Collin Lane down to The Quinary with the addition of up to 40 new houses. The Parish Council have successfully opposed a similar previous application and it was also rejected at appeal.

However Newlands have redesigned the application and are making another attempt.

<http://www.willersey.org/housing50collinlane.htm>

Newlands at the time of writing have not submitted their application. Once the application has been made there will be 21 days for residents to comment on the Cotswold DC Planning Portal or by letter and we encourage them to do so. We will publish the application number as soon as it is known.

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-permission/view-planning-applications>

You can search say on "Collin Lane" to see if it is there. You can also if you wish, send a letter, quoting the application reference number, together with your full name and address, to: Development Management, Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1PX

Newlands have created a link where their proposal, as copied above on the Willersey website, can also be viewed.

https://issuu.com/newlandhomes/docs/moore_land_willersey_sustainability_statement_web

Things are very different this year especially for the children at school. We are a group of parents who help to raise money for those extra treats & items for the children at **Willersey Primary School**. We are not a PTA but friends of Willersey primary school. You might be asking how you can help raise these funds?...that bit is easy..... by shopping!! Something we are doing a lot more online these days. If people registered, select support Willersey primary school at www.easyfundraising.org.uk or use their app, a percentage of your purchase goes to the school at NO cost to you, you can even still shop local with Etsy or if you fancy some discounts along with helping the school register with <https://myschoolperks.com/join/> and use the code SCHOOL3872

We really appreciate your support. Thank you.
Lucy Bearcroft & Sarah Arthey on behalf of
Friends of Willersey School

Nativity Trail

It's that time of year again and the animals are looking for Bethlehem and the newborn baby in a stable.

Different animals will be displayed in various windows around the Village from 19th December into the New Year. Nativity Trail forms will be in the school for pupils to take home. More forms can be picked up from the Garage and from Florizel, Lower Green.01386 852958. Closing date January 10th . Forms to be returned to Florizel,, Lower Green by 12th January 2021.
A chance to be in the fresh air and to view the Christmas decorations around the Village.

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE CLOSURE

We apologise for any inconvenience but the office is now closed and its phone number is disconnected until the village hall refurbishment is completed.

Parish Council services however are continuing and if you need to contact the Clerk, please email: Kevin O'Donoghue at willerseyparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Broadway Embroidery Group

Just as we had planned a coffee break at The Valley, (socially distanced) Boris stepped in again with the second lockdown!

Rose has produced a video of the Christmas Challenge for us all to try. It turned out to be a hanging tree with a pocket for a surprise present. Thank you Rose. Hopefully we can find time to make up some festive felt Christmas trees. We are still keeping in touch by e-mail or phone and discovering plenty of sewing and craft work is being produced. No time to be bored. For all enquiries please phone either Gillian 01386 852958 or Penny 01386 853306.

WILLERSEY METHODIST CHURCH

The Church is open for private prayer on Sunday mornings.
We will resume services as below after lockdown ends.

Sunday Services at 10.30 am.
Fridays are Community Days at 10.30 am

Children's Corner
Wordsearch for December 2020
Silent Night

This much-loved carol comes from Austria, where it was first sung as *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht* on Christmas Eve, 1818. It was written by Father Joseph Mohr, a young priest at St Nicholas Parish church, in the village of Oberndorf bei Salzburg. As Christmas 1818 approached, he asked the local schoolmaster, Franz Xaver Gruber, to compose a melody for his carol. Gruber was organist in the nearby village of Arnsdorf, and so was happy to oblige. On Christmas Eve they presented the carol to the church during the midnight mass. The carol went on to become loved world-wide; and the version sung by Bing Crosby is the third best-selling single of all time.

Silent	Night	Loved	Carol	Austria
Christmas	Eve	Father	Joseph	Mohr
Young	Priest	Organist	Midnight	Mass
Melody	Single	Bing	Version	Third

S I I O E V E T E T A L
 T H I R D G H N L F Y E
 T V O G G G I E G A O L
 I E I A I N E L N T U O
 P R S N I J U I I H N R
 B S D I H R O S S E G A
 S I E S A M T S I R H C
 M O V T F I T S E I R P
 C N O S L I R H U P E T
 I E L L A H R V G A H U
 V M E L O D Y S B I N G
 S S A M N A C H T H N H

Solution on page 18

Nature Box



*The North Wind doth
 blow
 And we shall have Snow
 And what will noor Robin*



The robin topped a recent poll for the nation's favourite bird, our second most common breeding bird after the wren - that bird that we often don't see! The robin's popularity is attributed to their tameness, recognisable colourful appearance and singing, which unlike most other songbirds even occurs in the depth of winter.

We've had a fondness for the robin down the centuries and they continue to often be included on our Christmas cards. One possible explanation for a robin's appearance on Christmas cards is the link to Victorian England postmen delivering cards when it first became fashionable. Postmen then wore bright red uniforms and became nicknamed 'Robins'. It's been suggested that it was an easy step to swap the postman for a red breasted robin bearing an envelope in its bill to the front of many of our Christmas cards.

Robins will still be singing at this time of year to keep a winter territory - but currently a little more focussed upon getting enough to eat with darkness being twice as long as daylight. However, their excellent eyesight is really helpful in feeding early and late, plus keeping an eye out for winged and four footed predators.

Most robins never see a second winter, so finding a mate and passing on his genes is a priority for males. Even robins find identifying each other's sex at first sight a challenge; so the initial behaviour of a male is usually aggressive while he works out whether this is a competitor or a potential mate to woo.

*If you'd like to contribute to Nature Box or report interesting local sightings please speak to or email Bob Topp at
bob.topp@btinternet.com*

December



A galaxy of silver stars
decorate a navy blue sky
and a crescent shaped moon
shines way up above the world.

The bitterly cold winds
whistle beneath doorway cracks
and white grey, ethereal smoke billows

skywards out of a Victorian, chevron patterned brick chimney.
Either side of a cream, Georgian front door
burgundy coloured Christmas roses
in their blue ceramic pots
offer a beautiful display for villagers to admire.

There's definitely a heightened sense
of Yuletide festive anticipation
at 'Foxgloves Cottage' on the Village Green.
On the oak mantle-shelf above the fireplace
holly and ivy is intertwined
with fine strands of silver tinsel
and a bunch of mistletoe hangs down teasingly
from a wooden beam.

The Norwegian spruce tree has been decorated
with satin bows, baubles, tiny presents
and rhythmically flashing white lights.
Naturally, on a carpenter's antique work box
a hand carved wooden Nativity tableau
takes pride of place in the sitting room.

Children hang up
their special knitted stockings on wooden pegs
beside the stone fireplace.
'Time' is surely ticking away
towards a very special Christmas Day.

NO Willersey Snooker Club AGM in 2020

Members are advised that, owing to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and the date of the re-opening of the Snooker Room still having to be confirmed, the 2020 AGM has been cancelled. Should the Snooker Room re-open whilst further Covid-19 restrictions are in place, in liaison with the Village Hall Committee, new rules regarding the use of the Snooker Room and its facilities will be published.

THE FEBRUARY 2021 CHURCH & VILLAGE NEWS

Copy for the next news must be received by **Sunday 17th January** unless otherwise notified. Please send in any items of interest or notice of forthcoming events. Newsletter creation will start early in the morning of the next day, the 18th. Phone Alan 858601 or Bill 858628, or email them to willerseynews@gmail.com. Thank you. The Church and Village News is now published on the Internet no later than one week after the paper edition is delivered. You can find it at.

www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm

Comments on the Newsletter are always welcomed. Please email them to willerseynews@gmail.com

For later updates to any Church and Village News do look on our

Willersey Cotswolds Facebook page or on
www.willersey.org

Willersey Stores Closure - Newspapers

The shop closed on Saturday October 10th and with it the availability of daily newspapers. As a result, a new process has been set up whereby **Shopwright** of Broadway will deliver pre-ordered newspapers to the **New Inn** for customers to collect (by the Skittle Alley entrance). Shopwright will also administer any subscription (tokens) arrangements that you have set up with a newspaper. To participate you have to contact Shopwright on **01386 853478** and establish your order and payment arrangement. Your newspaper will be available at the New Inn from 8 a.m. (later on Sundays) and throughout the day.

Note From The President

(Not from the USA but Mal of Willersey WI)

I must say a big thank you to four committee members who are standing down from the Willersey WI committee.

Adine Keatley has been a member since 1974 and a past president for 10 of those years; Ann Carnie took up with Willersey WI in 1992 and was secretary for many of those years. Between them they brought a wealth of experience supporting today's committee. Gi Kavanagh took on the unenviable task of treasurer between 2016 until 2019 and a job well done. Maggie Topp, secretary extraordinaire, accepted the role just on a temporary basis in 2013, and now seven years on is making way for new blood.

But all will be staying with us for more fun and friendship (COVID free we hope) as we welcome Mary Frost and Lizzie Robinson as joint secretaries onto the new committee. Mal Jelfs (WI President) 14



Willersey WI Christmas Traditions

It's that time of year when we all feel a sense of warmth and bonhomie. The Willersey Church bells have signalled the start of the festive season and the illuminated star suspended from the church tower is once again lighting up the night sky. We have buzzed about at the end of November planning yet another successful Christmas Bazaar selling treats, gifts and delicious goodies to our loyal followers. We have our outing to look forward to. Where this year? Oh yes, Blenheim Palace has opened it's doors to the Willersey WI, but wait this is just a moment of fantasy.

The Seniors' Christmas Lunch when Roger would have set the scene playing some old time favourites on the electronic organ and sherry would be served. The next two hours to be taken up with neighbours reminiscing about friends and times gone by. What a pleasure to be part of something so magical. But more to come as we hand over to the Blockley Blokes Choir who perform some seasonal carols with sparkle and humour, encouraging us to join in.

With little warning 2020 is on us and our WI traditions are interrupted. The WOMEN of Willersey need a plan. A fish and chip supper at The Bell Inn, with Scott Watts as our headline act, to cheer us up; coffee in Mary's conservatory. These two events have been snatched away again but we still can continue with our Village Walking group.

We are not to be beaten: our Seniors will still have their Christmas treat. Hampers, soon to be delivered, are being prepared with delicious goodies by Ann and Angie.

Our very good wishes and season's greetings to all of our supporters and members for a healthy 2021 from the Willersey WI



Keep up your spirits girls and soldier on!

Recent interesting village nature sightings include a crayfish (Glennys), a kingfisher (Jeanette), a cormorant (Ella), a grey wagtail and goldcrest (Mike & Shirley), woodcock (David) and possibly the first of many, a ring-necked parakeet (Tom)
If you'd like to contribute to Nature Box or report interesting local sightings please speak to or email Bob Topp at bob.topp@btinternet.com

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

January Meeting

**Monday 11th January 7.15 Village Hall
Disco Dave 'Travels with Jaguar Land Rover'**

A little extra for January: hopefully we can reinstate our Fish and Chip Supper at The Bell Inn. Look for an update in the WI Newsletter.

If anyone who is not a member but wishes to have any details of our activities please contact Mal 858351



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."

Advanced Request

Will you be dividing your Snowdrops after flowering and whilst they are 'in the green' next year? I would like some to plant down Church Street and Blind Lane. If you could spare a few please contact Sandra Spensley.

Dog Poo

There have been a number of complaints about fouling in gardens and verges in Ley Orchard. Dog owners are reminded that they are liable for prosecution even if their dog is off the lead and out of sight and the Parish Council will prosecute if evidence, e.g. photos of the dog, are provided.

Willersey Nature Box Extra - a snapshot



What follows is a record of the birds seen in and close to the village: a snapshot recorded over the past three years between 2018-2020. Thank you to well over 40 contributors from across the village via emails, phone calls and casual conversations that have helped capture this picture. Low level citizen science in action. Whilst we are right to be concerned about once familiar losses to the immediate area of such birds as the cuckoo and turtle dove, there is good news too, with a rich mix of Willersey bird sightings reported, and in increasing numbers in some cases to help balance the losses. Rough accidental habitat on the village edge is helping support numbers; but the vital role of gardens providing good habitat and bird food is a significant factor too.

Garden and farmland birds

Robin, blackbird, house sparrow, dunnock, wren, blue tit, great tit, long tailed tit, coal tit, marsh tit, goldfinch, chaffinch, greenfinch, bull finch, goldcrest, tree creeper, nuthatch, song thrush, mistle thrush, starling, wood pigeon, collared dove, stock dove, feral pigeon, carrion crow, rook, jackdaw, raven, magpie, jay, green woodpecker, greater spotted woodpecker, pied wagtail, linnets, siskin, skylark, yellow hammer, mallard, mandarin duck, Canada goose, lapwing, heron, lesser and greater black backed gull, herring gull, pheasant, partridge grey wagtail, kingfisher, woodcock, cormorant and ring-necked parakeet.

Raptors

Kestrel, buzzard, sparrowhawk, red kite, peregrine falcon, tawny owl, barn owl and little owl.

Migrant birds

Swallow, swift, house martin - all nesting in the village - blackcap, chiffchaff, white throat, wheatear, redwing and fieldfare.

There will have been other unrecorded birds, but all of the above have been reliably reported. An impressive total of 69 species.

Willersey's Tree of Light



Every year during the festive season we deck the Jubilee Tree with lights. This tree forms a focal point for many villagers over the Christmas period and reminds us of years past and loved ones now gone. Any monies left after costs will go to local organisations.

There is now an opportunity to support this annual festive decoration by

sponsoring a light in memory of family member or a friend. A voluntary donation of £5 for each person remembered for the year will help the village fund these lovely decorations. If you wish to, the name of your loved one will be recorded in a special Tree of Light Book of Remembrance displayed in Peter Taylor's show room window.

To sponsor a light please, pick up a form from Taylor's Petrol Station and by 7th December post this, along with your donation in the Parish Council Office box at the Village hall, WR12 7PJ . Please make cheques payable to Willersey Parish Council and mark envelopes 'Tree of Light'

Thank you to our advertisers who are supporting the Willersey News. If you wish to advertise in our magazine please contact Alan Gittings (01 386 858601 or email agittings@talk21.com)

ST PETER'S SUNDAY SERVICES

Saint Peter's Church Services in December and January, Including Christingle and Christmas Day

The Family Service Team invite you to the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Morning's service on 25th December will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 9:30am.

Mid-week morning Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer (BCP)) Services, every Wednesday at 11:00 am in Saint Peter's Church.

December				
Sunday	6	10am	2nd Sunday of Advent	Morning Prayer
Sunday	13	9am	3rd Sunday of Advent	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	20	11am	4th Sunday of Advent	Family Service
Thurs	24	4pm	Christmas Eve	Christingle Service
Friday	25	9:30am	Christmas Day	Holy Communion
Sunday	27	10am	1st Sunday of Christmas	Morning Prayer

January				
Sunday	3	10am	2nd Sunday of Christmas	Morning Prayer
Sunday	10	9am	1st Sunday of Epiphany & the Baptism of Christ	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	17	11am	2nd Sunday of Epiphany	Family Service
Sunday	24	10am	3rd Sunday of Epiphany	Morning Prayer
Sunday	31	10am	4th Sunday of Epiphany	Morning Prayer Joint Service CofE & Methodist

The login details for Morning Praise and Evensong are within this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81008957235?pwd=bnVKYnZUbWh0NTRYMGg2VDdlcG5Bdz09> or by entering the following details into Zoom: Meeting ID: 810 0895 7235 Password: VaCE

Login details for Bedtime Church are available by emailing youthworker@stjameschurchcampden.co.uk

Saint Peter's Church is open, every day. Please go in to pray, be in the presence of God or just enjoy the peace and tranquillity of our beautiful church which has been there for our parishioners for centuries, especially in the most challenging times. Thank you to our team on the unlocking & locking roster: Gillian, Jennie, Elizabeth, Tom and Liz.



Worship via Skype or Zoom with Revd Scott and/or Kevin. The latest details will be on www.grumball.com

Please see further details on the web

<http://www.willersey.org/stpeter.htm> with a link and service sheet from <http://grumball.com>

St Peter's Church Cleaning

Week ending

December 5th & 12th

December 19th & 26th

January 2nd & 9th

January 16th & 23rd

Ann Embury and Gillian Beale

Justine Steventon and Grace

Annie Payne and Sue Clark

Rachael and Poppy Barker

Brass Cleaning

Week ending

December 5th & 12th

December 19th & 26th

January 2nd & 9th

January 16th & 23rd

Ann Tomblin and Janet Parker

Gillian Beale

Mal Jelfs and Jackie Jordan

Adine Keatley and Shirley Holmes

Although we do not have services at the moment the Church is still open for private prayer and anyone visiting, so it is important to keep St Peter's looking clean and well looked after. A comment from a visiting couple said "This Church is loved and cared for."

The key to the vestry for cleaning materials can be obtained from "the Bell" or Gillian Beale 01386 852958. Thank you everyone for sparing your time.