

PASTORAL LETTER – DECEMBER/JANUARY 2023
The Prince of Peace

When I was younger, I had Christmas lists that went on and on. I used to enjoy looking through catalogues and choosing one gift from each page. It was easy. As I get older, I want less and less and the things I want generally can't be bought.

This year my extended family have opted for a Secret Santa where we all buy a gift for just one member of the family rather than gifts for everyone. Last week visiting my parents we had a conversation about the type of thing people would like from their Secret Santa. My father wants some fruit - when pushed he also suggested some polos, a bottle of lemonade or a copy of the Economist. My brothers want pork scratchings, any cured meat or chilli sauce. We had hoped to stimulate present ideas, but we were really rather hopeless. Presents is not our love language. What we considered much more important was time together through the year – opportunities for shared conversations and experiences. I am sure my family is not unique: people throughout the ages and around the world have wanted things money can't buy, things like flourishing relationships, joy and peace.

“The Prince of Peace” was a title given to Jesus centuries before he was born (Isiah 9:6). A beautiful name - who doesn't want to know and live in peace? Peace in this context isn't just the absence of war but rather it's a wholeness and fullness in all our relationships. Peace with ourselves, with others – family, friends and strangers, peace between generations and genders; peace between nations and religions; peace between people and creation. We all want peace.

And if we want peace how much more must the people of Gaza and Israel, the people of the Ukraine and Russia long for it. The peace we find in and through Jesus isn't found through a change of circumstances it comes through a change in perspective. As we find God's perspective, we discover peace.

Through Advent we look forward to the coming of the Prince of Peace. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus who brought peace to those who were far off and to those who were near (Ephesians 2:17). Through the season of Epiphany. we reflect on ordinary people whose lives were transformed by an extraordinary God. Early in his ministry Jesus told his followers, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God” (Matthew 5:9). Remarkably as we discover God's perspective not only can we discover peace for ourselves, but we can become people of peace who bring peace to the world around us. In a prayer attributed to St Francis we are encouraged to become instruments of God's peace.

This Christmas and in 2024 make you know peace, may you be a peacemaker, may you be an instrument of God's peace in this beautiful but hurting world.

A prayer for Peace attributed to St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Every blessing Revd Craig
Team Rector Craig Bishop Tel: 01386 841927
Churchwarden Robert McNeil-Wilson
The Granary, Main Street, Willersey Tel: 01386 852785
mobile 07979590826 Email: rmw@unisonprojects.co.uk



November 2023 Meeting

On a blustery evening in mid November, *thanks to storm 'Debi'*, we met to hold our AGM and to hear Bob Topp talk about “How to be a Bad Bird Watcher “

The committee reports reminded us of the varied events we had enjoyed through the last twelve months, giving us many memorable moments. There were thanks too given to all those on the committee and behind the scenes for their hard work in making it a successful year. With nominations and roles for the coming year agreed we then rearranged our chairs to be seated comfortably to hear Bob, *no stranger to WI*, talk about being a bad bird watcher. Could there be such a thing we wondered? Surely not.

Suggesting a significant difference between ‘twitchers’, ‘birders’ and ‘bad bird watchers’, we felt we were part of the latter group but nevertheless we do, in fact, know quite a bit about our feathered friends. With bird calls being very varied and sounding like ‘jack’ or ‘united’ or even ‘my toe hurts Betty’ (yes, really) we tried out our skill at calling out the various sounds in a dawn chorus with Bob acting as choir master. Some of our birds are in trouble such as the cuckoo and the swift. Bob showed us a fairly large bird box used for swifts, although other interlopers use them if they get there first! We now have visions of swifts doing ‘press ups’ before finally leaving the nest to fly, without landing, for hours and hours. *A truly wonderful and amazing species.* We are not without hope for some other species though as buzzards and red kites are making a comeback.

We rounded off Bob’s talk with a bird themed raffle for the RSPB. This was no ordinary raffle though. A Roundabout Raffle. Lasting five minutes, if your ticket was called out, you could select your choice of prize. But if the second person’s ticket was called out and they wanted that same prize you had to give it up to them and so on. Prize runners hurried around the room giving back or taking away a prize with much laughter had by everyone.

A lovely way to round off our year with many thanks to Bob for his humorous and interactive talk.

Anne N

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COMING UP IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2024

**Willersey WI Senior Citizens Christmas meal
Saturday 2nd December Village Hall, 12:30 for 1:00pm**

**Members Christmas Supper at
The Pheasant, Toddington 11th December**

**Next WI Meeting Monday 8th Jan Village Hall 7.15pm
Speaker Rose Hutchinson
Topic: “The Kori Development Project in Sierra Leone**

**and ‘Apple Wassailing’ with Maggie Topp
Guests welcome £4 on the door**

Contact Mal 858351 for any queries

[Type here]

Join a Village Hall group in 2024?

Contacts you need are ...

Bridge Lessons {Thursday am and evening}	Mike Robinson 01386 852675
U3A Music {Tuesday am}	Andrew Mackrill 01608 684884
Curling {Monday am}	Sandra Spensley 01386 8858637
Soft Tennis {Monday am}	Ken Spensley 01386 8858637
North Cotswold Singers {Wednesday am}	Keith Horden 01386 852145
Wednesday Club {Wednesday pm}	Terence Richardson 07527308429
U3A Meetings {Thursday am monthly}	Hilary Thornburgh 01386 701235
Probus {Thursday am}	Dave Smith 01386 858586
U3A Table Tennis {Thursday pm}	Helen Trussell 0744996112706
Table Tennis {Wednesday evenings}	Mark Bridgeman 07976111906
Line Dancing {Thursday pm and Friday pm}	Fern Rodmell 01386 852168
Keep Fit Exercises {Mon pm, Tues evening, Fri am}	Gill O'Donoghue 01386 854830
Women's Institute {Monday evenings}	Mal Jelfs 01386 858351
Snooker {7 days a week}	Peter Taylor 01386 852338
Yoga (Friday am)	Marion Moore maz.rainbow2017@gmail.com
Horticultural Show {Annually}	Mark Bridgeman 07976111906
Footlights {Annually}	Neville Jelfs 01386 858351
Wine Tasting Monthly}	Sandra willerseywine@btinternet.com

Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens



Details of the walks available are described on our website (see below). **Please check walk details carefully on the website, including whether booking is necessary. Additional walks may be published on the website.** <https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/>

Stow on the Wold to Broadwell and Oddington
Tuesday 5th December – Moderate 3hr 6ml
A circular walk from Stow on the Wold to Broadwell and Upper Oddington.

We start off in the historic town of Stow on the Wold and walk to Mangersbury which used to be the location of the workhouse for Stow. From there we walk to Upper Oddington and on to Broadwell and return to Stow past the Stow Wells. Lunch can be had in Stow after the walk or a short drive to neighbouring villages and towns. Please bring a drink/packed lunch.

Start: 10.00 Public car park next to Tecos's car park GL54 1BX. OS Map ref: SP 192 263.

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.

Thank you to our advertisers who support the Willersey News. If you wish to advertise in our magazine please contact Alan Gittings on 01386 858601 or email agittings@talk21.com

When visiting our advertisers please mention that you read their advertisement in the Willersey News. 6

24 Days of Christmas Quiz

- 1) In the Dr Who Xmas special in 2017, which actress made her first official appearance as the 13th Doctor?
- 2) Alphabetically, which of Santa's reindeer comes first?
- 3) Who is generally recognised as having written the poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas" (also known as "Twas the Night before Christmas")?
- 4) How many Drummers drummed?
- 5) The popular Xmas party drink, A Bellini is flavoured with which fruit?
- 6) From the Morecambe and Wise Xmas special of 1971 can you complete this quote – "I'm playing all the right notes but.....?"
- 7) In "The Gingerbread Man" fairytale, who or what devours the gingerbread man in the end?
- 8) What stick would you put into mulled wine?
- 9) In the 1947 version of "Miracle on 34th Street", who plays the little girl Susan Walker?
- 10) Who wrote the Band Aid song "Do They Know It's Christmas"?
- 11) The Australian external territory of Christmas Island is in which ocean?
- 12) Modern Christmas trees originated in the 16th century in an area now known as which country?
- 13) In the novel "A Christmas Carol" which is the first ghost to visit Scrooge?
- 14) "Driving Home for Christmas" was written during a car journey back to which town?
- 15) In the Christmas song "Let it Snow" what has happened to the lights?
- 16) In the film "Scrooged" starring Bill Murray, which actress played the Ghost of Christmas Present?
- 17) Which Christmas hit for Harry Belafonte in 1956 is now widely performed as a Christmas Carol?
- 18) Port, the Portuguese fortified wine, often drunk at Christmas, is produced exclusively in which valley in Northern Portugal?
- 19) Which famous scientist, who developed the three laws of motion, was born on Christmas Day in 1642? **7**

20) Which wordless children's picture book by Raymond Briggs was first published in 1978?

21) In Matthew's version of the birth of Christ in the bible he mentions the arrival of the Magi. Who or what are the Magi?

22) One of the most popular toys of 1970 was a NERF Ball. What does the acronym NERF stand for?

23) Pepparkakor are very similar to gingerbread cookies, but much thinner, hard and very crisp. In which Scandinavian country did they originate?

24) La Noche Buena refers to which time over the Christmas period in Spain?

Please see page 23 for the answers

Mike R

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

THIS YEAR ST PETER'S CHURCH IS HOLDING A CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL ALONG WITH FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY ST PETER'S FLOWER GROUP ON SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER 11_00AM TO 4:00PM.

REFRESHMENTS OF SOUP, SAVOURY ROLLS, CAKES AND HOT DRINKS AND A CHRISTMAS CRAFT STALL TO TEMPT YOU.

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS AROUND THE TREE.

The long established tradition of singing Carols around the Jubilee Tree will once again take place on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm. The band will be playing your favourite carols and the Parish Council will be serving the mulled wine.

A great way to start your Christmas.

As always there will be collection for Childrens Charities.

WE WOULD BE VERY GREATFUL OF ANY DONATIONS OF MINCE PIES, SHOP BOUGHT OR HOMEMADE TO SERVE ON THE NIGHT.

PLEASE BRING TO THE VILLAGE HALL BETWEEN 5PM AND 6PM ON THE NIGHT OR TELEPHONE MAL JELFS 858351 FOR

ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

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Future Sightings Coming Soon Willersey's Big Garden Bird Watch

Last year saw 54 households joining in with the second Willersey Garden Bird Survey - timed to coincide with the National Survey.

Interestingly, our local snapshot again identified goldfinches as the bird most often recorded, with house sparrows - still the most reported bird nationally - up to second spot across our village.

If you haven't taken part before it's really easy. You can even take part with a mug of tea or something stronger in your hand. It just involves setting aside an hour to record the birds in your garden or another outside space and filling in the simple one sheet survey form at some convenient point around the last weekend of January - 27th & 28th.

Towards the end of January survey sheets can be collected from either the village hall noticeboard, or outside 19 Collin Close; 2 Nash Road or 13 Badsey Lane, with completed survey sheets returned to one of the above. There will also be a copy of the survey in the February edition of the Church & Village News, hopefully delivered at the end of January just before the survey weekend; and a copy on Willersey.org that can be completed and emailed to bob.topp@btinternet.com

Keeping bird feeders regularly topped up will obviously

help our garden birds now as the 'hungry gap' takes hold and there is far less natural food available; and boost survey numbers. Sunflower hearts, if you haven't tried them, are a real winner with lots of species such as tits and the stunning goldfinch that is doing really well across the village.

If you would like to report local sightings to Nature Box please email Bob Topp at bob.topp@btinternet.com

Cotswold Vale Embroidery Group

The group was treated to the work of textile artist Bridget Steel-Jessop. Bridget specialises in map designs. The roads houses and landmarks all worked by hand in a variety of embroidery stitches. A selection of Bridget's work was passed around for everyone to enjoy.

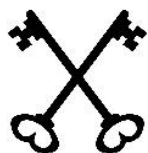
Our next meeting is on Thursday December 7th
Venue: Honeybourne Village Hall 9:30am to 1:30pm
Please bring your own festive lunch if you would like to stay for the extra hour. More details from Gillian 852958.

THE FEBRUARY VILLAGE NEWS

Copy for the February news must be received by Wednesday 17th January 2024 unless otherwise notified. Please send in any items of interest, thanks or notice of forthcoming events.

Newsletter completion will start early the next day.
Email them to willerseynews@gmail.com or phone Alan 858601 or Bill 858628, Thank you. The Church and Village News is now published on the Internet at.

www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm **10**



**Saint Peter's Church
Services December
2023 and January 2024**



3rd December Advent Sunday	10:00am Morning Prayer
10th December Advent 2	9:00am Holy Communion BCP
17th December Advent 3	11:00am Christmas Carol Service
24th December Christmas Eve	10:00am Morning Prayer 4:00pm Christingle
25th December Christmas Day	10:00am Holy Communion
31st December	10:00 am Benefice Service Holy Communion at Saint Ecgwin's, Honeybourne [No Service at Saint Peter's]
7th January Epiphany	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)
14th January Epiphany 2	9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)
21st January Epiphany 3	11.00 am All Age Service
28th January Candlemas	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)

Mid-week Holy Communion (BCP): at Saint Peter's, every Wednesday at 11:00 am. **Sunday, Evensong:** at Saint Andrew's, Aston sub Edge at 4:00pm on Sunday 10 December.

Your Church is open for you every day.

Church Cleaning week ending
December 2nd & 9th Paula Duffin and Gillian Beale
December 16th & 23rd Linda Frost

Brass cleaning for the month of December
Mal Jelfs and Jackie Jordan

Refreshments for the month of December
December 3rd Rachael Barker
December 10th Karen and Mike
December 17th Sally and Malcolm Maclean
December 24th Sandra and Ken Spensley
December 31st Benefice Service at Honeybourne

Church Cleaning week ending
January 6th & 13th Rachael and Poppy Barker
January 20th & 27th Flick and Lisa Marcham

Brass cleaning for the month of January
Pat and Sally Heming

Refreshments for the month of January
January 7th Pat and Robert Heming
January 14th Linda and David Dunbar
January 21st All Age Worship team
January 28th Adine Keatley and Liz Webb

To all the helpers at St Peter's Church, Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Thank you.
Gillian on 01386 852958.

PLEASE REMEMBER AT THIS TIME OF COLD INSIDE AND OUT(!) THAT WE ARE NOT AS COLD AS THE UKRAINE AND WE ARE STILL SENDING ITEMS THERE! PLEASE PASS THEM TO ANYBODY FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH TO BRING TO US. – THANK YOU VERY MUCH. PENNY



**Willersey Table Tennis Club in Third Position
in Stratford League**

Willersey's Table Tennis Club have got off to a strong start in their debut season playing in the Stratford & District League. After 8 matches the Team of four (Robert Pitt, Ian Cooper, Jared Maguire & Mark Bridgeman) are in third place in Division Two having won 5 matches and lost 3.

Stratford Autumn 2023-24 Stratford League 2023-24 Autumn Division 2					
Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Angry Birds	8	6	0	2	100
Stratford Tigers	7	7	0	0	96
Willersey	8	5	0	3	78
FISSC	8	3	0	5	71
Bards	8	3	0	5	63
Ashorne	7	2	0	5	43
Stratford Juniors	6	0	0	6	1

The Club continues to play every Wednesday evening in the Village Hall from 7.00pm through to 9.00pm on three tables and cater for people of all abilities for those aged 18 or over. If you would like to find out more please contact Mark Bridgeman email Bridgeman757@btinternet.com or mobile 07976-111906.



Nature Box - Year's End 2023

No round up of the wildlife that Willersey enjoys could begin without starting with a sincere thanks to all who have contributed so much and shared news in so many ways: emails, 'phone calls, WhatsApp, the garden bird survey, casual conversations around the village or via carrier pigeon - if only. Together, I think we have established that Willersey wildlife is doing OK. Yes there are concerns which in many instances mirror the national picture, but there's still much to celebrate locally too.

Some of the 'big guys' appear to be well established: kites, buzzards, sparrowhawks and kestrels have all nested here, with a pair of peregrine falcons producing three young near by. Three species of owl breed here - and little owl, barn owl and tawny have all been seen and heard in and around the village.

Predators often get a bad press for doing what nature intended, but many garden birds are present in good numbers with lots of reports of blue, great and long tailed tits, wagtails, dunnocks, house sparrows, robins, blackbirds and thrushes.

Thanks to the really observant we've been able to share news of less common creatures that just 14

sometimes pop up: little egret, hummingbird, hawk-moths, red admiral butterflies in profusion this year, merlin and even another otter sighting to go alongside the perhaps once in a lifetime garden visit of a rare migrating nightjar.

Although nature loss is well documented, plenty of us are doing our bit to make a difference. Some local farmers and land owners carefully making space for nature, well chosen garden flowers for pollinators, our own cared for village garden and forest school, the developing wild space on the Rec, bulb planting around the village, bird feeding stations, hedgehog highways, bird boxes and much more. Yes, Willersey is doing OK.

Thanks for recent reports from Barbara, Helen, Richard, Anne, Robert & Helen, Pete K, Shirley & Mike, Roberta, Sue & Lou, Sandra, and Glennys for news of garden visiting pheasants seeking an easy meal, a Badsey Lane little egret, arriving redwing and fieldfare, a less common grey wagtail and some late autumn brimstone, red admiral and hedgehog activity.

Bob Topp

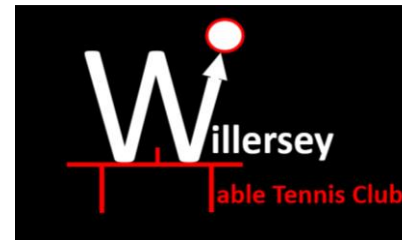
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We're starting a new session for Beginners and anybody who wants learn or re-discover what a great game Table Tennis/Ping Pong is every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm starting from **06 December 2023** in Willersey Village Hall.

This will be a very sociable and non-competitive session for those who would like some gentle healthy exercise and are keen to play Table Tennis in a friendly and relaxed environment.

For further details or any questions please contact **Neville Jelfs** on **07980-870309** (nevillejelfs@gmail.com) or **Mark Bridgeman** on **07976-111906** (bridgeman757@btinternet.com).

VILLAGE HALL TREASURER WANTED.

Hello good people of Willersey again, as I stated last month our Treasurer Tracey is returning to full time employment in the new year so we are appealing (pleading) for someone to take her place. Tracey will give full training to the new treasurer and remain on hand to ensure a smooth handover over the first few months. We operate a spreadsheet system and internet banking. If you would like to become part of very friendly Village Hall Committee and take on this vital role please email nevillejelfs@gmail.com. Our Hall committee is made up of representatives of all Village Organisations so it's a wonderful opportunity to meet people and get involved.

Neville Jelfs Chairman **07980-870309**

Christmas Trail: Carols and Christmas Songs

A Christmas trail for all the family to join in with. travel around the village, follow the map and discover the carols and songs displayed at different houses/gardens. Pick up a copy of the trail with map from either Taylor's Garage, St Peter's Church or Florizel, Lower Green. All the children attending Willersey Primary School will be given a copy at the end of term. The competition will run from Monday 18th December to Saturday 6th of January. Please return forms to Gillian Beale, Florizel, Lower Green by Monday 8th January.

St Peter's All Age November Worship

It was lovely to see so many familiar faces in Church for Village Sunday. Our theme was *Harmony*. Carolynne took the Service. All organisations in our Village have named pebbles and at the start of the Service these were brought up to Carolynne and placed on the table during the singing of our theme tune "Bind us together Lord". This was followed by the Confession, Absolution and then the Family Creed. The words from "Let there be Peace on Earth" was narrated by a member of the All Age team. Ian gave our reading from Acts 2 and the Methodists chose the hymn- "Will you come and follow me". We then had a poem written by and very ably read by Pat Batham. Our next hymn "Rolling over the ocean" involved exercises. Carolynne then lead us in prayer and our last hymn "One more step" ended our Service on a cheerful note. Some of us sang along to our final music "I'd like to teach the world to sing." Our thanks go to Bel & Bill for helping with the hymn books and service sheets, Sandra & Ken from the Wednesday Club for taking the Collection and Sally & St Peter's Knitters for a wonderful selection of refreshments.

This was a lovely service, so how about joining us for carols on Sunday 17th December at 11 o'clock and don't forget the Christmas Tree Festival with refreshments and a craft stall on Saturday 16th December 11am to 4pm. Finally our Christingle Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve with Angels. We would love to see you there.

Willersey Residents Force Delay to Ugly Broadband Pole Installations in AONB

A large number of Willersey residents are outraged with plans by Full Fibre Ltd to install a significant number of huge and ugly 10-metre-high new poles to feed their high-speed fibre broadband network cables to homes rather than go discreetly underground. What is even worse is that this is a duplicated network as Gigaclear have already installed an underground high speed fibre broadband network three years ago in the same roads with public funding from the Government's £5 Billion GIGABIT Project to meet the target of having 85% of the UK Gigabit-capable by 2025. The current status is that the UK is at 79% (Oct'23). It appears however, that despite the Public Funding, Gigaclear are not forced to share with other Network Providers. Creating competition appears to be the Government's primary priority.

This is happening across the whole Country, not just in the Cotswolds, and it is within the current "Permitted Development" rules. Any Network Installer can provide just 28 days' notice prior to installing poles. In many cases residents were not aware that this would be happening right outside their own property. In some Communities there are now 3 or 4 competing Network providers all installing their own networks in the same streets – it is completely unnecessary desecration of our beautiful country.

The affected areas within Willersey are Collin Close, Field Lane, Hayes Close, Jordans Close and Willow Road which comprise around 100 houses. The remaining parts of the village comprising ("of" removed) around 420 houses already had Full Fibre Ltd able to use existing infrastructure. To date 80% of Willersey has the Full Fibre Ltd network in addition to the Gigaclear network.

Willersey is in a designated AONB, an area of outstanding natural beauty, yet Full Fibre Ltd are going ahead with plans to erect 15 monstrous new poles in roads, some of which currently have no lamp posts, or indeed any other street furniture. So far Full Fibre Ltd have only been able to install 4 new Poles and have then had to

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temporarily abandon further work due to the strong resistance from the residents who have mounted a determined protest campaign to stop this vandalism of their rural community.

Full Fibre Ltd have refused to listen to villagers' concerns, failed to reply to any emails, treated all protests and discussions with contempt and are determined to erect poles rather than go underground.

The matter has been raised with the local MP, **Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown**, who has given his strong and vocal support to the campaign and is raising the matter in Parliament. The activity in Willersey has also been covered in the local media "Cotswold Journal" and also the national "Daily Mail On-Line" with further coverage planned.

Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP said: **"This is a crazy situation where a highly attractive village is being forced to accept a significant number of ugly wooden poles blighting people's properties when a satisfactory broadband system already exists"**. Sir Geoffrey has also written to Full Fibre Ltd demanding that the pole installations stop now due to the strong resistance and feelings from Willersey villagers. He has also formally lodged a complaint with OFCOM who are the Government Regulatory Body.

Similar protests have been held in nearby Broadway where unfortunately one resident was injured and taken to hospital during the protests.

One of the Willersey residents said **"We remain astounded and frustrated that Full Fibre Ltd refuse to listen to local concerns, especially as there is already an existing fibre network installed underground. We urge the local authority to add its weight behind our campaign and stop any more poles ruining our beautiful village"**.

The residents involved in the protest are very grateful for the ongoing time and support given by our parish council, local Councillors Tom Stowe and Gina Blomefield on this whole topic.



Residents Protesting – Tuesday 07 November 2023



Protest In Willersey, Jordans Close, Wednesday 08th November 2023. Note Police presence



One of the 4 Poles installed by Full Fibre Ltd prior to them halting further work

Willersey Christmas Craft and Gift Fayre



Saturday 9th December 2023

11am til 2pm

held at

Willersey Village Hall



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St Peter's Knitting Group has been making angels for the last few months and the fruits of our labours can be seen this month at the church in our Christmas Tree festival, so do go along on the 17th December to see all of the wonderful trees. St Peter's Knitters will be meeting at the church on 5th December at 2.30pm and we will be having our Christmas Celebration on 19th December, venue to be finalised. If you want any information please contact Carolynne Adam on 673068

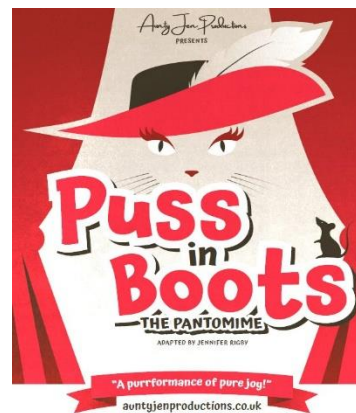
Christingle Service

The Christingle Service this year will take place in St Peter's Church on Christmas Eve at 4.00pm, come and join us to make a traditional Christingle and find a Christmas angel to take home and hang on your Christmas Tree. **21**

WILLERSEY METHODIST CHURCH

Thoughts for December. So it's time for Christmas! Where did the year go? The world is even more in chaos than it was last month! We must think positively in spite of it all.

We sent the duvets and blankets to Ukraine and I'm sure they'll be appreciated. We carry on knitting squares; please join us if you can – they're just 6 inches or thereabouts; if you would like to do some call at our hall (next to the Church) on a Friday morning. And, of course you could join us for coffee, if you'd like to and knit/send! The weather today is glorious and I've just been walking round the village. Saw quite a few people including Peter Taylor (the garage) and he tells me he's fine and so is his cousin, Babber. They've both been poorly recently. That's what is good about a village isn't it? Richard is recovering well from his heart attack and has come through the 'watchful' period. So that's good. Jeanette is at home and would welcome friends who could call. Please remember that there are quite a few people round the village who would welcome a call at Christmas. Visit our church, or look as you pass, as we shall be decorating our Christmas Tree soon and the light will shine out of the side window. Let's all pray for a peaceful new year for us and for all those around the world who need a peaceful time. Penny Ingles 853306



Honeybourne Village Hall
Saturday 23rd December 2:30pm
Adults £10
Concessions, Under 16s and
OAPs £8

*Tickets can be purchased
from the Honeybourne Village Hall
website*

<https://www.honeybournevillagehall.org/events-tickets/>



So as we wind down towards Christmas and the beginning of a New Year - Willersey Wednesday Club will be holding a social afternoon meeting on Wednesday 6th December at the Willersey Village Hall. Then on Wednesday 13th December we have our annual Christmas lunch, this time prepared and served at the Village Hall, so nice and comfortable, warm surroundings. Over lunch we will be having music and a slide show of some of the things we have done this year - just a few memories. We are already well into preparing our new schedule for 2024 and it's looking like a full and interesting programme for our members.

Remember, everyone over 55 is welcome to come along and find out what we are all about. We meet every other Wednesday afternoon at Willersey Village Hall. The meeting starts promptly at 2.30pm so we suggest you might plan to arrive by 2.20pm. After the presentation and meeting, we have a variety of teas/coffee, sandwiches, cakes and - a good chance to meet others in the community and just socialise.

Anyone from the villages local to Willersey and Broadway is welcome to come along and join us. See you there.

Terry R

Christmas Quiz Answers

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Jodie Whittaker | 13) Jacob Marley |
| 2) Blitzen | 14) Middlesborough |
| 3) Clement C. Moore | 15) They've been "turned down low" |
| 4) 12 Drummers | 16) Carol Kane |
| 5) Peach | 17) Mary's Boy Child |
| 6) "not necessarily in the right order" | 18) The Douro Valley |
| 7) A Fox | 19) Sir Isaac Newton |
| 8) Cinnamon Stick | 20) The Snowman |
| 9) Natalie Wood | 21) The Three Wise Men/Kings |
| 10) Bob Geldorf & Midge Ure | 22) Non-Expanding Recreational Foam |
| 11) Indian Ocean | 23) Sweden |
| 12) Germany | 24) Christmas Eve |

(The Quiz is on page 7.)

PUBLIC NOTICES December 2023 & January 2024

MONDAY KERBSIDE BIN COLLECTIONS.

The dates for the bins are 11th & 27th December 2023 and 8th & 22nd January 2024. 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 can change at any time if say the weather is bad. Just leave your bins out for a late collection. (Food waste every week.)

PARISH COUNCIL The office is on the corner of the Village Hall. Open every Monday from 10.00am to noon. Outside these hours, please contact the clerk on 01386 853635 or email willerseyparishcouncil@btconnect.com

WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL **To hire the hall please telephone Annie & Bill Payne 01386 858368, or email**

willerseyhall@btinternet.com or see <https://www.willerseyhall.co.uk/>
METHODIST COMMUNITY ROOM HIRE Tel: Penny Ingles 01386 853306.

The MOBILE POST OFFICE Visits Willersey on **Friday at The Bell Inn 12:45 to 14:45.** There is a **Post Office and cash machine in Broadway Co-Op.** For Lloyds customers only, their Mobile Bank visits Broadway alternate Wednesdays 10:00 to 12:00.

BROADWAY SURGERY is on Station Road WR12 7DE
Telephone 01386 853651 and 01386 858136.

NEAREST LIBRARY The nearest library is in Broadway.
Open Mon & Wed, 9:30am – 4:30pm. Saturday 9:30 – 1pm 01905 822722

COTSWOLD FRIENDS Anybody who wishes to have transport for hospital and medical appointments ring the Cotswold Friends Help Centre: transport section 01608 651115. This telephone is manned from 09:30-15:30 Monday to Friday. .

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
Diamond Bus to Stratford-upon-Avon	01527 813120 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 83444
Thames Water – 0800 980 8800 British Telecom - 0330 1234 150
Police – Telephone 101 (999) www.gloucestershire.police.uk