

## PASTORAL LETTER – August 2025

### The Best Summer Ever?!

Oftentimes in the summer months, I find myself feeling a societal pressure akin to what I know many feel at Christmastime.



There's no denying the fact that Christmas has become incredibly commercialised: there are new traditions to take up each year, a pressure to cook and bake for days on end, a pressure to spend money on things (maybe even on people, that you never usually would), a pressure to be jolly and merry and all those other festive words. Over the last few years, I've seen a growing awareness that Christmas is often a very hard time for people, and that all this pressure does no one any good.

I say all this as someone who adores Christmastime - but who feels a similar pressure in the summer months. 'Have you booked a summer holiday?', 'Don't you just love a BBQ?', 'Are you taking the kids/grandkids out somewhere special?' - Not to mention the pressure from tabloids, for men and women, to be 'beach body ready'! The truth is, particularly with the incredible heatwaves we've had in June and July, many people will find summer heat oppressive, and getting out and about difficult.

Money, health, or work commitments, are all very valid factors as to why someone might struggle in the summer. While this societal pressure is being called out more at Christmas, I hope we can become a similar voice in the summer months, acknowledging that grief, mental health, illness, financial difficulties don't take holidays, even if we do.

Whether you love the summer, or you feel you're crawling to the autumn months, may you be released from any pressure to be or do something remarkable this year, and be bold enough to release others from that pressure too. The seasons, in all their beauty and variety, are a gift from God, and in those seasonal ups and downs, we can hold on to the fact that God is unchanging, as much with us in the months that feel hard as those that feel easy.

May God bless you richly if you're traveling this summer away from home, and as richly if you remain in front of a fan on the sofa!

**Revd Jodie Ward**  
**Curate, Vale and Cotswold Edge Churches**  
Churchwarden Robert McNeil-Wilson  
The Granary, Main Street, Willersey Tel: 01386 852785  
mobile 07979590826 Email: [rmw@unisonprojects.co.uk](mailto:rmw@unisonprojects.co.uk)

### Willersey Farmers' Market "Summer Sunday" August 17<sup>th</sup> 2025

Thank you to all of you who have been supporting the Farmers' Market. If you have been before- do keep coming, if you haven't visited us before....

Come and see us and have a Summer Sunday Morning

**Shop** from Over 15 stalls of Food and drink

**Browse and buy** from craft and gift stalls too

**Stop and enjoy** Refreshments in the Village Hall or Breakfast in the Bell

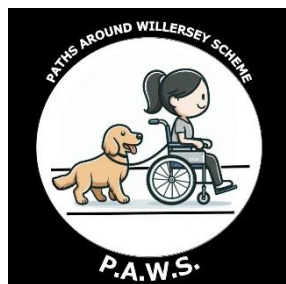
AND FOR AUGUST

**Get your toes' tapping** with **Live Music** from **Fraser Lepford**

**Let your taste buds be tickled** with a Special Guest appearance from the **Reverend Hubert**.....who? (I hear you ask??) Well **come and find out** and sample his awesome **Alcoholic Elixir**. **All on your doorstep- See you there !**

## St Peter's Knitters

I hope that you saw the poppy display that was arranged at the Church for the last Remembrance Sunday, St Peter's Knitters would love to add to this and would like to ask you to help us, and so we are arranging a Poppy Party at the church on Saturday 27th September (please make a note of the new date). Please feel free to call into the church between 11.00am and 3.00pm to make a poppy. Don't worry if you can't knit or crochet there will be plenty of help available. Wool, needles and patterns will be provided. If you can contribute some wool that would be greatly appreciated. There will also be refreshments. . For children under 10 there will be poppy related activities available. Together we should be able to make a really wonderful display outside the church. For more details ring Carolynne on 859364. We hope to see you there.



### Paths Around Willersey Scheme August 2025

**What are you doing between 10 am and 1pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025?** Do you have access to a spade? Why not get involved in the next Path Clearance?

The PAWS group hope to organise another event, where overgrowing turf will be cleared from the footpath and we are inviting Parishioners to take part.

If you can spare three hours of your valuable time and want to take part please send an email to register to: [willerseypaws@gmail.com](mailto:willerseypaws@gmail.com). The more people who take part the easier the job becomes! All volunteers who assist will have their names included in a PAWS article in the Church and Village News, (providing they consent). You might never have taken part in any activity for the benefit of the Village so here is your opportunity. Don't leave it to others, send that email!

The PAWS group is currently trying to get the Gloucestershire County Highways to clear a drain on the footpath of the B4632 (which runs from the **3**

Willersey Village Sign to the County Boundary). This drain is clogged with mud and weeds, which leads to the footpath flooding when there is significant rain.



Donald: Chairperson P.A.W.S. Group  
Contact email: [willerseypaws@gmail.com](mailto:willerseypaws@gmail.com)

## MacMillan Coffee Morning

There will be a MacMillan coffee morning in the village hall, on **Saturday 20th of September 10-12pm.**

We are hoping this year to make it as big as when Maggie ran it. If there is anyone that would like to help run a game or stall. Or anyone who has any ideas please contact Lauren on **07852365287**. Any help would be greatly appreciated.





**Scarecrow Trail Thank you**  
**20 Scarecrows on the 2025 trail**

By the time this edition of the Church & Village News drops through your letterbox this year's scarecrow trail will be over. But who knew there was so much talent out there.

Thank you to all the households who made time to join in this lovely annual “just for fun nonsense” and entertained so many of us who took in the trail. Joining in events is part of what makes Willersey a great place to live. **Bob Topp**

## London Calling – A London Music Quiz (Part2)

London's musical history is as rich as any city on the planet. Take a walk around Soho, Oxford Street, Covent Garden and Chelsea and you can't help but be reminded of some of the great bands of the past or hear some of the great music of the present. Abbey Road, Camden Town, Brixton and the East End are all linked to some of the iconic musical talent produced by this city.

This quiz (part 2) contains 15 questions on many of the great songs and bands that have paid tribute to London.

- 1) Complete the title of this well-known The Clash track from 1979; “The Guns of ...?”
- 2) Vocalist Karl Hyde wrote the lyrics to which Underworld track following a night drinking in Soho?
- 3) Which type of bird “Sang in Berkeley Square” in the romantic London love song?
- 4) What was the name of the Old Compton Street cafe where Jarvis Cocker sat as “You can't go home and go to bed / Because it hasn't worn off yet” in the 1995 Pulp song? a) Bar Italia, b) Roxy's Place, c) ZuZu's
- 5) Produced by John Wood & Squeeze, which song from the album “Cool for Cats” began “I never thought it would happen / With me and the girl from Clapham”?
- 6) Pay As U Go's “Know We” or So Solid Crew's “Dilemma” are debated to be the first track in which musical genre originating in the capital around the year 2000?
- 7) In 2014, Real Lies sang of which of London's major roads?
- 8) Which The Jam track opens with the lines; “Found myself in a strange town  
/ Though I have only been here for three weeks now / I've got blisters on my feet / Trying to find a friend in Oxford Street”?
- 9) Which British folk singer-songwriter born in 1990 released “The London Town” EP in 2008?



- 10) Which Manchester band opened their 1986 track “London” with the words; “Smoke lingers ‘round your fingers / Train – Heave on to Euston / Do you think you’ve made the right decision this time”?
- 11) Which three letters did Lily Allen use to title her 2006 tribute to the city?
- 12) Which London folk singer was known as “The Bard of Barking”?
- 13) Which Dire Straits classic begins; “You get a shiver in the dark / It’s raining in the park, but meantime / South of the river, you stop and you hold everything”?
- 14) The 2003 Libertines track “Time for Heroes” tells of watching the May Day riots in the year 2000. What was the name of the band’s iconic lead singer?
- 15) Which Crescent did Belle & Sebastian sing of in 2006?

**Answers on page 19**

### **THE SEPTEMBER 2025 VILLAGE NEWS**

Copy for the September News must be received by Sunday **17<sup>th</sup> August 2025** 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](mailto:willerseynews@gmail.com) or phone Alan 858601 or Bill 858628, Thank you.

Here are copies of previous newsletters

[www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm](http://www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm)

The Village News is distributed to every house in Willersey and Saintbury. More copies are also left at St Peter’s Church, the Bell Inn, the New Inn, Willersey Garage and the Tourist Office in Broadway.

### **Recent Village Sightings**



They’ve gone. Well most of them. Swift chicks nearly all fledge before the end of July heading south, with their parents often only then following on when they have recharged their batteries after busy parenting duties.

There have been lots of really interesting sightings reported. A photographed stunning pond swimming grass snake, a kestrel catching and eating a rat, more day flying tiger moths, a garden visiting muntjac, a young hedgehog making its way in the world, lovely accounts of great tits and song thrushes taking maiden flights, a robin confident enough to feed from the hand, a pair of wagtails raising two broods, a hunting sparrowhawk and several observations of hares close to the village. Swallows and house martins have young in the nest, but numbers in and around the village are markedly reduced this year which is of course a concern.

Young folk have sharper eyes and Charlie spotted not one dragonfly exoskeleton but three. Large dragonflies have been seen over the village pond so worth a look if you’re passing. Butterflies are seemingly doing much better this year, ladybirds too, but it’s also worth looking out for spectacular day flying hummingbird hawk moths that have been seen in gardens.

Last year was a good year locally for nesting barn owls and sparrowhawks around the village. This year green woodpeckers are very evident with lots of sightings and accounts of their raucous and unmistakeable calling. Blackbird nesting successes have been observed, although one report sadly chronicled a disturbed nest by a cat leading to the chicks being abandoned by the adults. Although such events affecting garden birds nationwide are seen as a major issue by many, it is worth recording that not all cats cause such loss.

The jackdaws that were making their somewhat challenging presence on garden feeders have now mostly moved to feed elsewhere after completing rearing this year’s young. But baked hard soil will make it hard for them to get beaks into the soil so there are often more fatalities in high summer than there are in winter.

Sightings from Charlie, Flic, Richard, Sarah, Brenda, Charles, Natacha, Sandy, Peter, Pete & Gi, Derek, Siriol & Steve, Tony & Holly, Tini, Julia & John, Lena, Sue, Robert, Heather, Les, Mike & Shirley.  
*Bob Topp*

### ***Update on the “Full Fibre” Broadband Poles***

*It's been fairly quiet on the poles front recently, so we think we owe a few words especially to all the kind people who contributed to the crowdfunding appeal for the Judicial Review into the matter promoted by our friends in Broadway. Following the very disappointing rejection of the above action, an appeal request was entered last year and a response to this is still awaited. It is normally unheard of for a delay of this length to be experienced. It seems that nothing can be done but wait and hope for a positive response. This is assumed to be just another symptom of the notorious backlogs presently occurring in all areas of the legal world. In the meantime, it being over 18 months now since the 6 poles of the 15 originally threatened were installed with none being put to any use, we have commenced a process to try to get one removed. The current issue of the Electronic Equipment Code requires representations to be made in the first instance to the owner of the land on which it is installed, in this case Highways Gloucestershire. If they agree with us, they can then make a request to the installer, Full Fibre Ltd, to remove it. Sadly, Highways Gloucestershire failed to respond to either the initial approach or the follow-up reminder, so we now have our newly elected County Councillor, Tom Bradley, on the case. We hope that he has more success with Highways Gloucestershire than we have managed. Much as we hate the intrusion of the hated poles and would love to see them gone, the threat they represent to the village as a whole is very minor compared to the current proposal to build a new housing estate behind Folly View. However, our experience with the poles saga is that vigilance, determination and persistence by all concerned can get results even if our initial objectives have not yet been fully achieved. Sometimes one has to play the long game.*

## **Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens**



Details of the walks available are described on the website (below). **Please check walk details carefully on the website, including whether booking is necessary. Additional walks may be published on the website.**

<https://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk>

**Shorter and Steadier – Wardens Wood– Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August – Moderate 2.5hr 3ml** The walk starts at Wardens Wood and goes downhill through the wood, often offering fine views. We will visit a large glade which has recently been cleared to allow the growth of Betony, which should be in flower. Bring a snack and drink for a break midway.

**Start:** 10.00am Wardens Wood car park (West Down)  
OS Map ref: SP 010 235. W3W: perused.purifier.sandied

**A Roman road and a couple of Swells! – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August – Moderate 3hr 6.5ml** Starting in Condicote our route takes us along the Gloucestershire Way to follow the valley of the River Dickler to the villages of Lower and Upper Swell. The high Wolds Roman Road, Ryknild Street, takes us back to our starting point. Please bring lunch/drink.

**Start:** 9.30am Condicote Village Hall, Condicote OS Map ref: SP 153 282.  
W3W: surnames.embraced.romance

**Winchcombe Ups and Downs – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August – Moderate 3.5hr 7ml** An attractive route with hills, views, woodland and a historic pottery. And we may even see a steam train! Please bring a drink/snack and a picnic lunch.

**Start:** 10.00am Winchcombe Back Lane car park, Winchcombe (Pay and display £1 all day). OS Map ref: SP 024 285. W3W: daylight.bake.corkscrew

**Little and Long - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August – Moderate 4.5hr 8.5ml** From Little Compton we head out to Barton on the Heath and Long Compton. In August the crops should have been harvested leaving the field edges easy to walk on. We also do some pasture and a long easy track. Bring refreshments for a drinks and lunch break.

**Start:** 10.00am Little Compton church, Church Lane, GL56 0RZ  
OS Map ref: SP 262 302. W3W: bolsters.spicy.coaching

**Chipping Campden Town Walk – Every Tuesday and Thursday starting from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May to the end of September – Easy 1.5hr**

We will walk along the High Street and provide a historical tour of the town. From the granting of Campden's Charter in the 1180s, the growth of the town and its magnificent buildings, to the arrival of the Arts and Crafts movement. Refreshments available in the town after the walk.

**Start:** 2.00pm on Tuesdays and 10.00am on Thursdays. Meet at the Market Hall in the centre of town. OS Map ref: SP 151 392.

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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. 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.

## **Patronal Festival and Village Sunday**

It was good to have many of our village organisations coming to take part in this service. Rob our church warden along with Bel and Bill welcomed us into the church. Our first hymn was "Bind Us Together Lord" which has become an anthem for this special service. The pebbles representing the village organisations were taken up to a table where Caroline blessed all these groups. A friend of Gillian's, Debbie Breakwall has very kindly painted them for us. Next time you go into the church go and look at them in the village window. Two new pebbles were dedicated. Richard from the Wednesday Club read the lesson from Acts chapter Two verses 42 to 47. This passage was chosen especially for this service. This year the various organisations had been asked to choose a hymn and the Friends of the school had chosen "One more step". Next it was St Peter's knitters. Their choice being "I the Lord of the Sea and Sky". Pat Batham read a poem she had written about living in the village. Pat has been part of this service since it began. Her words are always a picture of Willersey. "Smiling is Infectious" a poem written by Spike Milligan was read by Jennie. As I read this poem I could see smiles on the faces of the congregation. To give the congregation the chance to get involved we had put a quiz together. Neville was the question master and did a very good job. Hopefully we all learnt something. we didn't know about Willersey. Carolynne's talk gave us food for thought following on from the lesson read by Richard. The need to share, and be conscious of people needing help and support.

Richard and Penny Ingles had chosen "We plough the fields" to represent the Methodist Church. During this hymn members of Touch Tennis and Curling took the collection. After the family Creed, the prayers were read by members from Village News, Village Hall, Golf and Exercise Class. No prizes for guessing the hymn chosen by the WI. Of course it was "Jerusalem" Our final hymn was "How great their art" chosen by Footlights. And we said thank you to the bell ringers for starting our service off and to the flower arrangers as this was also St Peter's day and our Patronal Festival.

We thank you all for taking part in this service. A very important part of our church your year. In all there are so many groups and clubs in this village we should celebrate this part of our Willersey. Jennie

## *Cotswold Vale Embroidery Group*

Our July meeting became a sit and sew morning as the planned project was postponed until later in the year. Our August meeting is a group visit to Stratford-upon-Avon for a tour behind the scenes of the theatre to view costumes worn in various plays Afternoon tea will complete the trip.

Hopefully some members will be entering the craft category categories at the Horticultural Show at the end of the month.

. For more information please ring Gillian 01386 852958.

## **Patronal festival**

A big thank you to everyone involved on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> of June for the Patronal Festival. The afternoon was busy and a good number of visitors enjoyed refreshments whilst viewing the floral arrangements. Thank you to the cake makers, the waitresses and the team washing up.

The flower arranging group will be decorating the church once again for August Bank Holiday weekend, followed in September by colourful displays for the Harvest Festival.

## **July All Age Worship service**

We welcomed Ben and Jess and family to our service this month. Jack their baby son was being christened in this service. It was good to see young families in our church for this happy occasion. The first part of the service was All Age worship taken by Carolynne with hymns prayers readings and Carolynne's talk. She spoke of Jack's christening and through this he is admitted into the Christian faith and the congregation were witnesses to this act. Hopefully remembering the vows taken on their behalf at that time.

When I wrote last month's AAW report I said that Carolynne's brother had foster children but I should have said that he adopted, not fostered. The christening part of the service was taken by Charles, one of the many retired clergy that help us out. With family, godparents and friends, Jack was baptised, and he was welcomed into our Church. St Peter's was full and it was so good to see you all there. Jennie

## **WILLERSEY HISTORY SOCIETY**

At the inaugural meeting of the Willersey History Society in the Jubilee Room in May, twenty five people expressed their interest in talks on local, particularly Willersey, history topics.

Four of that group agreed to organise the new Society and they can now announce that the first talk will be in the Village Hall on Monday, **22 September** at 7 pm when David Dunbar will give an illustrated talk on "Silk Production in the North Cotswolds and particularly Willersey." (£3 at the door)

A second Society talk in the Village Hall at 7 pm will be held on Monday **24 November**. "Farms and Smallholdings in Willersey in 1943" by Robin Woolven, based on his analysis of the National Farm Survey returns submitted and the Ministry of Food survey maps for Willersey parish 1941-43 which are held in the National Archives at Kew.

Do come along and support the new Society meetings. Suggestions on future topics and speakers will be welcomed by email to [robin.woolven@btopenworld.com](mailto:robin.woolven@btopenworld.com) or call or leave a message on 07903 766330.

## **The Village Garden**

Well what a summer so far we can't win. Either it's too wet or too hot ! So I'm sorry the Garden has been a little neglected, apart from watering and a few hours. I'm glad to say Derek has smartened up the hedge doing a great job, even taking all the rubbish away. He has come up trumps again this year, so thank you very much. Because August has so much going on can we try and get some lovely ( yes you are ) **volunteers** for **September**, what about **Saturday 6th at 2pm**? Perhaps the ground will be a little more forgiving then.

It's been smashing to see the Garden used and enjoyed, even the School used it for some work, I was delighted.

My thanks as always, Jackie



## **Saint Peter's Church Services August 2025**



Mid-week **Holy Communion** (BCP):

Saint Peter's, every **Wednesday** at 11:00 am

***Our service to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victory over Japan will be at St Lawrence, Mickleton at 6:30 pm on Friday 15 August***

**Famous Welcome Café**, in Saint Peter's, every **Thursday** 2 to 4:30pm. **Your Church is open for you every day.**

<b>Sunday 3 August</b>	<b>10:00 am Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 5 August</b>	<b>4:30 pm Special Evensong</b>
<b>Sunday 10 August</b>	<b>9:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)</b> <hr/>
<b>Friday 15 August</b>	<b>6:30 pm Prayer &amp; Praise VJ Day Service</b>  <b>at St Lawrence, Mickleton at 6:30 pm</b>
<b>Sunday 17 August</b>	<b>11:00 am All Age Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 24 August</b>	<b>10:00 am Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 31 August</b>	<b>10:00 am Holy Communion</b>

### **Refreshments for the month of August**

August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Adine Keatley and Liz Webb
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	Linda and David Dunbar
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	Gillian and Jennie
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sally and Malcom Maclean
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	All Age Worship Team
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sandra and Ken Spensley



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August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Julia and Colin Burrows

August 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Flick and Liisa Marcham

Once again thank you for giving up your time to keep our Church clean and welcoming for visitors and worshippers alike.

Please say if cleaning materials need replenishing.

Vestry Key - Gillian Beale 01386 852958

### **Brass Cleaning for August** – Gillian Beale

### **Parish Council Update July 2025 from Jane Rintoul (Main Street Willersey)**

Please find the first of the Parish Council's Monthly updates. These will focus on the monthly meeting and issues of special interest. Your current Parish Councillors are **Paul Clark, Peter Cottle, Nigel Green, Neville Jelfs, Brian Lawrence, Wayne McDevitt, Jane Rintoul, Heather Rothwell.** Parish Clerk Kevin O'Donoghue

At July's meeting the Council decided that it would move away from the previous revolving Chair arrangements and they elected a sitting Chair. I was very honoured to be elected and will hold the position until the Annual Meeting in May 2026. We hope that this will offer further support to the Clerk and provide continuity as we approach challenges, such as applications for development.

All Councillors will continue to support you and the village. We all want to improve engagement with and from the Village. We have now set up a Facebook page, and will have a regular monthly slot in this Parish Magazine.

As of September, we are introducing a new open thirty-minute session at the beginning of our Parish meetings.

Villagers can come along and raise issues with Councillors. Our meetings are generally open and we welcome attendance and contribution to the agenda items.

This month, we discussed Folly View. Please see further information. Much of this conversation was about the local sewage system and its inability to cope with new houses. Our District Council also explained what we needed to focus on in regards to objecting to future developments. We applaud the current Folly View residents for information gathering prior to any planning application.

We decided on action following the PAWs proposals, reflected on Parish Council procedures, including our response to a Government consultation on Planning reform. We also went through your local planning applications.

A key issue for the Parish Council is maintaining the Village, its Greens and recreation ground. Heather, Neville, Paul and Brian reported back on a walk around the village and identified where work was needed. We decided on an action plan.

The meeting also considered issues of speeding, adoption of cameras and new speeding limits and received reports from our District Councillors and our own Parish Councillors. Kevin also fed back on his liaison with many different departments in the District and County Council and we noted Finance and payment issues.

So, this was a general round up and in future these notes will be more focussed on specific items but I wanted to give you're an overview of the broad issues we cover.

You can get in touch by email with Kevin, come to his surgeries on Monday Mornings at 10 am at the Parish Office at the Village Hall or get in contact with Councillors direct.

[clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk) 01386 853635

Website: [willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk) Facebook:

Willersey Parish Council

Next Meeting: Monday September 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  
at the Village Hall



## News from your Parish Council

### Important Update on Village Developments

We are writing to update you on two significant housing developments that are soon to be submitted to Cotswold District Council (CDC). These proposals could have a considerable impact on our village, and your engagement is crucial.

**Proposed Developments** Here's a summary of the two major planning applications we expect to see:

#### 1. Gloucestershire Diocese '–Terrify '(Saintbury Road)

**Location:** This development is planned for a parcel of land already designated for housing in the current CDC Local Plan.

- **Scale:** It's proposed to be **60 homes**, ranging from one to five bedrooms.  
**Affordable Housing:** 40% of these homes will be designated as affordable housing.
- **Open Space:** 31% of the land will be open space, including a children's playpark and potentially Parish Council managed allotments.
- **Drainage:** Foul sewage will connect to the existing Severn Trent system.

#### 2. Eagle Homes – Folly View Extension (Broadway Road)

**Location:** This proposed development is **NOT** on land designated in the current CDC Local Plan.

- **Scale:** It's proposed for **50 new homes**; the exact sizes are currently unclear.  
**Affordable Housing:** The number of affordable homes has not been disclosed.

**Amenities:** This development would include a children's playpark and an orchard area, with upgrades to the public footpath.

- **Drainage:** Foul sewage will also drain into the current Severn Trent system.

### What This Means for Willersey

These developments could bring significant changes:

**Population Increase:** A total of **110 new homes** could increase our village population by over 40%.

**Sewerage Strain:** Further pressure on Severn Trent's sewers, which already cause regular flooding in Collin Lane.

**Service Pressure:** Increased demand on primary health services (GP, dentistry), social care, and education, none of which are currently equipped for such growth.

**Rural Character:** The rural nature of our Cotswold National Landscape (AONB) could be eroded by this infilling.

**Traffic:** Increased traffic volume on the already busy B4632 Broadway to Stratford Road, with no new services in the village to offset this.

**Lack of Village infrastructure** e.g no shop, limited public transport

### Cotswold District Council's New Approach

Recent changes in national planning policies mean CDC is now expected to significantly increase the number of homes built annually in our district. They have commented on other developments that the need for more housing now often outweighs previous reasons for refusal, such as a development not being in the local plan and lack of infrastructure. The inference is that planning applications will only be refused if clear detriments can be proved.

### What We Can Do

Willersey Parish Council is a small voice in the planning process. While we will be consulted by CDC, our comments alone are unlikely to change the minds of planners. Our energy is best spent supporting and encouraging **YOU, the villagers, to take action.**

## Community Speed Camera

If we are to have any chance of retaining the nature and character of our village, **everyone needs to respond to these planning applications**. Even if we can't stop the developments entirely, we can fight for the necessary infrastructure to ensure our village is equipped to cope with these new homes.

**We strongly encourage you to comment directly to Cotswold District Council via their website:**  
[www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) when the **applications become live**.

Councillor Nigel Green on behalf of Willersey Parish Council

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This is a note for your diary. On Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup> it is Harvest Festival at St Peter's at 11:00. It will be lovely to see you there.

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### **London Calling – A London Music Quiz (Part 2)**

#### **Answers to Quiz on page 6**

- |                      |                    |                         |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Brixton           | 2) Born Slippy     | 3) A Nightingale        |
| 4) a) Bar Italia     | 5) Up the Junction | 6) Grime                |
| 7) North Circular    | 8) Strange Town    | 9) Laura Marling        |
| 10) The Smiths       | 11) LDN            | 12) Billy Bragg         |
| 13) Sultans of Swing | 14) Pete Doherty   | 15) Mornington Crescent |

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#### **Basket Stall**

On bank holiday Monday there will be a basket store similar to a tombola. Contents of the baskets will vary. It could be a basket with a selection of cheeses. It could be full of toiletries or an afternoon tea. Come along and see if you are a winner. Any unwanted clean baskets would be gratefully received. Please leave it at Florizel Lower Green. Thank you, Gillian. **19**

The Parish Council, in response to concerns of regular excessive speeds being experienced within the 30mph zones in Willersey, have installed one community speed camera and will be looking to add two more shortly at locations where speeding is most prevalent.

It is a little early to provide comparative data to judge the impact of our camera but will be supplying figures in due course. We will also be able to provide a quarterly report from Gloucestershire Police showing how many speeders have been issued with warning letters. We should make it clear that our camera is not an enforcement camera, i.e. speeders cannot be issued with a fine or given points, but over time the warning letters will have the desired effect and if not adhered to fines and points on licences will follow. Some of you may have seen Police using their hand-held enforcement camera in Collin Lane in April, which is a direct result of the data that we are passing to them on a weekly basis, and we would hope that they have been able to catch a number of speeders who will then be facing a fine and/or points of their licence. (Our own camera's also pick up vehicles with no MOT or RFL, which could also be acted upon by the police.)

Naturally we are unable to name and shame the speeders, due to data protection restrictions, but we are seeing several local company vans exceeding the limit by some margin on a regular basis. Indeed, LCV's and HGV's account for a meaningful percentage of all speeders.

As mentioned above the Parish Council fully recognises the concerns of villagers in terms of speeding vehicles in Willersey, and hope that the community camera(s) will have a positive impact in due course.

## WI REPORT FOR AUGUST 2025

After the third heatwave so far this year, our meeting took place on a thankfully significantly cooler evening. Our topic for this month was CPR and Defibrillators and our guest speaker and demonstrator was Robin Farnworth. The National Federation of Women's Institutes had chosen "Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers" as its major new campaign for 2025-2026 and our WI was helping to educate people on this important topic. So we were very pleased to have guests come to hear what Robin had to say as well as our members.

Initially we wondered whether he was going to have to disappear off to an emergency as his phone and comms systems were actively indicating various possible emergencies but luckily he was able to stay with us. With the 'dummy' patient on the floor ready to have compressions we learned that the way to do CPR has changed. Quite a few in the audience had received previous training but advice has altered so it is important to keep up to date. A good way to pace the compressions is to do them in time to the song of "Nelly the Elephant" apparently or "Staying Alive" (by the Bee Gees if you are interested) and do between 100 - 120 compressions per minute. On an adult you would press down harder than you might imagine and yes, it's highly likely you would be breaking a rib (ouch) or two. But better that than letting the casualty die of course. As Robin knelt down to work CPR on the dummy I thought of all those amongst us whose knees might creak and groan at the thought of being on the floor but the ground / floor is the best place to do this. A bed is too soft and the casualty needs to be prone as well. Robin made it look easy but it certainly isn't and you need to keep going until the emergency services arrive. Hopefully there would be someone else with you to share the responsibility. Well done to Maggie Topp who stepped up, or should I say knelt down, to try CPR on the dummy.

Around him Robin also had a number of different defibrillators. Indeed you are likely to see different looking devices because they are made by different companies but they all work in the same way. We have several in the village and it would be useful for you all to work out exactly where they are. So that is your task for this month. If you do end up having to use a defibrillator there are 6 "P's" to be aware of: perspiration, playtex ( means bras and all things metallic) pendants ( all jewellery) piercings, pads (eg nicotine or HRT patches) to be removed from your casualty and pacemakers (avoid placing pads on it). There were quite a few questions from the audience and everyone listened intently.

A big thank you to Robin who works hard as a First Responder to save the lives of people around our area when he is called out. We know that should we need him our 'casualty' would be in excellent hands. I think we should buy him a kneeling pad as a thank you..... Anne Nixon



### COMING UP IN AUGUST 2025

WI Fund Raising Coffee Morning in Saturday 2nd August in the Village Hall.

Volunteers wanted from members and please bring your delicious cakes and bric-a-brac.

There will not be a formal meeting in the Village Hall in August. WI members will be enjoying a "Picnic on the Green" from 6.30pm on 4th August.

Members please bring your own food, drink and chair.

If you are arranging an event in the village hall and need crockery, cutlery and glasses the WI is able to supply you with what you need for a fee. Please contact WI President Mal Jelfs to find out. More details on 858351

**VJ DAY**  
**80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2025**  
**VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY**

VJ Day was a day that marked the final end of World War 2 and emphasised the sacrifice of those who had served in the Far East. Following the celebrations of VE Day, thousands were still fighting in the Far East.

VJ Day marks the day Japan surrendered on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945, effectively ending the Second World War. The formal signing of the surrender terms by Japan did not occur until the 2<sup>nd</sup> September aboard the United States battleship Missouri on the right in the picture, anchored in Tokyo Bay.



After days of rumours, US President Harry S Truman broke the news at a press conference at the White House at 7pm on 14<sup>th</sup> August. Later at midnight, Britain's new prime minister, Clement Atlee confirmed it, saying: "The last of our enemies is laid low."

The following day, Japan's Emperor Hirohito was heard on the radio, for the first time ever, when he announced the surrender and World War Two was finally over.

Annie Payne and Sandy Barnes will be remembering their fathers on VJ Day with some poignancy as their fathers were both serving in the Far East until the final conclusion of the war.



Private Tim Wilks of the 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Warwickshire Regiment served in India and Burma. He received The Gallantry and Distinguished Service Medal and made it home safely.  
(Annie's father)



Flt Lt Bob Smith completed his pilot training at British Flying School No.3, Spartan School of Aeronautics, Miami, Oklahoma in February 1944. He was posted to Dakotas and spent the rest of the War flying re-supply missions from North East India into Burma.  
(Sandy's father)



W illersey  
H orticultural  
S ociety



**ANNUAL SHOW**  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**Village Hall : 2.00pm to 5.00pm**

*10 Classes in the Show*

*57 Categories in total*

*12 Children's categories*

*Vegetables, Fruits, Flowers,  
Beverages, Preserves, Photography,  
Cookery, Arts & Crafts.*

**WE WILL ALSO BE SHOWING OVER 300 HISTORICAL  
IMAGES OF WILLERSEY COLLECTED BY DAVID DUNBAR  
FROM MANY GENEROUS SOURCES**

*Reminder of dates & times -*

- Submit entry forms no later than 5.00pm  
Wednesday 20 August into Parish Clerk's  
letterbox at side of Village Hall,*
- Bring entry items to Village Hall on Monday  
25 August between 0930am and 1030am.*
- Judging takes place from 1100am to 1200*
- Village Hall opens from 2.00pm to 5.00pm*
- Cup winners announced at 3.00pm*



## **Nature Box - All of a Flutter**

Now is a quiet time for many birds but August and September can often be a really good time to enjoy butterflies in our gardens, with nectar rich flowers like Verbena and buddleia being a particular attraction in a sunny spot.

Reports across the village would seem to suggest that it might be a much better year for butterflies, and ladybirds too, although as always it will be a mixed picture. Last year's long wet spring saw a serious drop in numbers on the back of many years of decline. There really is a butterfly emergency. Butterflies are a key indicator species: when they are in trouble the wider environment is too.

But let's celebrate some of this year's better news with reports of brimstone, comma, holly blue, various whites, lots of orange tips, peacock, meadow brown, specked wood, the odd migrant painted lady and red admiral. Even when it's tricky to identify some butterflies just having them helps to make summer special.

But wringing our hands about butterfly decline won't help too much, so making space in our gardens for other suitable nectar rich plants like wallflower, lavender, red campion, holly, and ivy especially for the autumn, really can make difference. Of course checking out the plants at garden centres that are attracting butterflies and other insects is always helpful. Not forgetting that butterflies need suitable plants such as nettles on which to lay their eggs for the next generation. A space at the back of the garden for a few nettles for instance might really help. The wild strip on the Rec. with nettles and brambles is really attracting butterflies this summer. Together we can and we are making a difference. But we also need to accept that you can't have stunning dancing butterflies without caterpillars so we gardeners need to be prepared for a bit of collateral damage.

Nature does have a way of bouncing back, especially if we can give it a helping hand.

[bigbutterflycount.org](http://bigbutterflycount.org)

The *Big Butterfly Count* takes place until the 10<sup>th</sup> August. This is a bit of fun citizen science that we can all join in with on a free down load app that's really easy to navigate, plus it helps us identify a few more gorgeous butterflies. Why not check it out.

*Bob Topp*

## K9 Hydrofit

### St. Peter's Church FUN DOG SHOW

### AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

25 August 2025 at 2pm Top Green, Willersey

Proceeds to be shared between

Support Dogs and St. Peter's Church

Entries on the day from 1.30pm

### SCHEDULE

CLASS 1: MOST APPEALING EYES

CLASS 2: BEST CONDITION

CLASS 3: BEST BISCUIT CATCHER

CLASS 4: BEST RESCUE

CLASS 5: GOLDEN OLDIE – 8 YEARS & OVER

CLASS 6: YOUNG DOG – 2 YEARS & UNDER

CLASS 7: BEST FAMILY PET  
shown by 2 family members

CLASS 8: MOST HANDSOME DOG

CLASS 9: PRETTIEST BITCH

CLASS 10: DOGS THAT HAVEN'T WON A ROSETTE

BEST IN SHOW – ALL 1<sup>ST</sup> WINNERS

**Friends of the School** Willersey C of E School are currently on the blue token stand at Tesco for a chance to win up to £1500 for outdoor refurbishment for their play area. It is running until 30<sup>th</sup> September, so please keep it in mind when you shop in the following stores: Tesco Store Evesham, Worcester Road  
Tesco Express Store Evesham, Cheltenham Road  
Tesco Express Pershore, High Street.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION August 2025

### MONDAY KERBSIDE WASTE BIN COLLECTIONS.

The dates for the bins are 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025 Please put all bins and bags out by 7.00am. Waste Hotline 01285 623123.

<https://community.cotswold.gov.uk/s/waste-collection-enquiry>

Here is the waste collection calendar. <http://willersey.org/dispmon2.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 is 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 [clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk)

**WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL** To hire the hall please telephone Annie & Bill Payne on 01386 858368, or email [willerseyhall@btinternet.com](mailto: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 inside and a cash machine outside Broadway Co-Op.**

**BROADWAY SURGERY** is in Station Road WR12 7DE  
Telephones 01386 853651 and 01386 858136.

**NEAREST LIBRARY** Leamington Road, Broadway  
Open Mon. Wed. & Fri. 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/](http://www.easytraveling.org.uk/gcc/) and on the Willersey website at [www.willersey.org/transport.htm#bus](http://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](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)

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