

WELCOME

On behalf of the people and churches of Willersey, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the village.

The main purpose of this booklet is to introduce you to the wider community of the village and help you to discover those aspects of village life of which you may wish to become part. It has been compiled by members of our two churches and other people in the community.

St. Peter's Church (Church of England) and Willersey Methodist Church work closely together and a warm welcome will await you at either. There are other Christian denominations nearby. Baptist and Roman Catholic Churches in Chipping Campden, and in Broadway there are Church of England, Methodist, United Reform and Roman Catholic Churches.

In Willersey there is a garage, two public houses, a reasonable bus service and a railway station at Honeybourne, less than 5 miles away.

We hope that you will enjoy living here and make many good friends.

Best Wishes

Willersey Parish Council

01386 853635

www.willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk

www.willersey.org

October 2025

CONTENTS

Welcome	<i>Page Number</i> 1
Brief History of Willersey	3-5
Parish Magazine	6
Defibrillators	6
General Information	7
Services	8-9 & 12
Map	10-11
Religious Organisations	13
Education	14
Health and Welfare	15
Social Services & Animal Welfare	16
Recreation and Village Organisations	16-18
Local Charities	19

A BRIEF HISTORY OF WILLERSEY

Lying as it does at the foot of the Northern edge of the Cotswolds, and adjoining the Vale of Evesham, the Village has absorbed much of the Vale's characteristics but is, nevertheless, very much a Cotswold village.

Opinions differ as to origins of the name **Willersey**. The most widely held view is that it comes from the Old English, "*willers seaoon*" (salt-boilers' pits) or 'Willers ieg' (the island of the salt-boiler).

In 709AD a Charter by the Kings of Mercia gave Willersey to the Abbey of Evesham. Willersey continued in the Abbey's possession, through the Domesday Book, until the Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1539. Lords of the Manor followed including Sir Francis Winnington, Mr Bertram Ingles (who bought the Lordship from the Winnington estate in 1955), and now Willersey Parish Council who purchased it in 1994. Under the Enclosures Act in 1767, the Village Greens, the Pond and Willersey Quarry were vested in the Lordship and consequently they are now owned by the Parish Council as Lord of the Manor (the Greens were registered under the Common's Registration Act of 1965).

The main occupations of the residents have been farming and market gardening, particularly since the 1914-18 War. In 1919 there were fourteen persons with their many employees fully engaged in commercial market gardening, and nine farmers. Today there are fewer farms and the market gardens have tended to merge to form larger units, or else the land has been used for housing development. In recent years, a light industrial estate has been developed and the Village still has its School, two public houses and a petrol station.

In the first detailed Census of 1801, the Village population was 273. In 1931 this had risen to 485 and in 2011 Census it was over 800. The Village has grown and we await the next census in 2021..

The Parish Church is dedicated to St. Peter, though religious activity on the site has been traced to the 8th Century. The first recorded resident Incumbent was Robert de Gloucester in 1281. The team rector is currently the Reverend Craig Bishop, whose Parishes include Pebworth, Honeybourne Dorsington, Aston-sub-Edge, Saintbury, Willersey, Weston-sub-Edge, Chipping Campden, Ebrington and Mickleton.

For many years there has been a very active Methodist group within the Village. In its early days, meetings and services were held at licensed Meeting Houses in Broadway Road, and the present Methodist Church was converted from cottages in the 1930s. The present Circuit Minister is the Reverend Dr. Israel Salvanayagam.

Willersey Parish Council held its first meeting in December 1894; the year parish councils were first formed. It has eight Councillors and a Parish Clerk.

The Village School was built in 1844 by the Earl of Harrowby to accommodate 52 children. Enlarged in 1896 and 1913 for 100 children, it was an Endowed School which was taken over by the County Education Authority in 1902, and is now a Church of England Controlled County Primary School with approximately 50 pupils.

The first Village Hall was built on land acquired in 1923. Further land was bought in 1946, and the present Village Hall was built in 1968 at a cost of £9,000 and opened in May of that year. The Hall is registered under the Charity Commissioners, the Custodian Trustee being the Parish Council. It is administered by a Management Committee consisting of members from all the Village organisations. In the latter part of 2020 the Hall has undergone a major upgrade.

The Recreation Ground was opened in 1934. It is owned by Willersey Parish Council having been bought from Cotswold District Council with funds bequeathed by the late Miss Nancy Hewins.

The Village War Memorial stands at the entrance to St. Peter's. It was designed by F. L. Griggs of Chipping Campden and was erected in 1920 by Jewson and Berkeley of South Cerney. The panels bear the names of the fallen in both the 1914-18 and 1939-45 World Wars.

Adjoining the Churchyard of St. Peter's is the Burial Ground. Gifted in 1963 under the Will of Edward Gibbon, it is administered by the Parish Council. In 2004 an extension, also gifted by the Gibbons family, was added and is now in use.

The attractive centre of the Village is greatly enhanced by the wide village greens, the pond, the Jubilee Seat and a Memorial Bench commemorating 100 years since the end of WW1. Currently the Village Pond has many visiting mallards and other species are a great attraction. The Pond has been drained and cleaned out by volunteers over the years – in 1954 one hundred and twenty tons of mud and debris were removed! The Village Greens and Pond are owned and administered by the Parish Council. The grass is mown on a regular basis by a commercial company and some parts by the owners of adjoining properties. In 1999 the Pond was refurbished as a Village Millennium Project.

Where the Jubilee Seat and horse-chestnut tree now stand was the site of the old Village Smithy. Blacksmiths and farriers of the Sawyer and Willis families worked there from before 1800 until it was demolished in 1921 when it was bought by the Parish Council. The present tree is the third to be planted. The original seat was erected in 1935 to commemorate the Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary. It was replaced in 1981 by a new seat to commemorate the marriage of HRH Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer. This was replaced in 2012 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Village is a member of the Gloucestershire Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE), and has been a winner of the Bledisloe Cup, sponsored by that body, on many occasions.

Despite the many problems created by modern industrialism and ever-increasing road traffic, the Parish Council, with the help of many of the Village Organisations and individual residents, strives to retain the rural character of the Village. The village has recently acquired two major housing developments in line with current government policies. The Village now has business sectors, private and local-authority housing.

Thanks go to all those who are always ready and willing to assist in any project aimed at keeping the Village 'alive' and attractive, and to preserve the many treasures we have inherited. We not only have an attractive Village but also a well-kept one. May everyone – long-standing residents and new residents alike – continue the good work.

Updated from the History by (The Late) Maurice Andrews MBE

PARISH MAGAZINE

WILLERSEY WITH SAINTBURY CHURCH & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

This is edited by Mr Alan Gittings and Mr Bill Jabelman and printed by Vale Press. A free copy is delivered to every house in Willersey and Saintbury every month, except December & January which is a combined edition because of Christmas holidays at the printers.

Delivery is done by volunteers free of charge. Becoming a deliverer a good way to get to know your neighbours. The newsletter is funded by advertising revenue and donations. Individuals and village organisations contribute items of interest, including details of future events and the forth-coming month's Church Services.

Copy for publication should preferably be sent by email to willerseynews@gmail.com no later than the 17th of the previous month unless otherwise notified.

The news is now also published on the internet each month at www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS.

Defibrillators.

Bright yellow Defibrillators are situated on the wall at the corner of the Village Hall on the left hand side of the entry to the Industrial Estate and two black ones are in Folly View and at Mendelson Cottage. When a 999 is made with a cardiac related emergency the ambulance service will provide the caller with the code for both the defibrillators. This is clearly only of use if someone is available to go and collect the defibrillator while another person can remain with the patient and conduct CPR - CardioPulmonary Resuscitation

For more detail see www.willersey.org/defibrillator.htm

GENERAL INFORMATION

-	Broadway.....	2 miles
-	Chipping Campden.....	3-4 miles
-	Evesham.....	6 miles
-	Stratford-on-Avon.....	14 miles
-	Cheltenham.....	17 miles
-	Worcester.....	20 miles
-	Gloucester.....	25 miles

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown Tel:02072195043 cliftonbrowng@parliament.uk
C/o Bingham House, 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester GL7 2PP

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Lynden Stowe Tel: 01386 438270 lynden.stowe@gloucestershire.gov.uk

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Gina Blomefield Tel: 01386 840364 gina.blomefield@cotswold.gov.uk
Tom Stowe Tel: 07919 130991 tom.stowe@cotswold.gov.uk

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Gloucestershire County Council

Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TG **Tel: 01242 425231**

Cotswold District Council

Trinity Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 PX **Tel: 01285 623000**

Willersey Parish Council (WPC) 2020. Councillors - Phil Bennett, Paul Clark, Neville Jelfs, Brian Lawrence, Warren McDivitt, Heather Rothwell, Peter Cottle, Jane Rintoul and Nigel Green

Parish Clerk: Mr Kevin O'Donoghue **Tel: 01386 853635**

Meetings of the Parish Council are held every month in the Council Office at the Village Hall on the third Monday at 7.30pm. The Office is open Mondays (except Bank Holidays) 9.45am-12.00noon.

Notice of forthcoming meetings are published on the WPC website www.willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk a week in advance.

Registrars for Births, Marriages & Deaths.

Moreton-in Marsh, Council Offices, High Street **Tel: 01608 651199**
Evesham, Registration Services are by the Library **Tel: 0845 603 2859**

PUBLIC SERVICES

Banks

There are now no banks in Broadway (Lloyds mobile on the Green every other Wednesday from 10:00am to 2:30pm) . The nearest banks are in Evesham. There is also a cash machine at the Broadway Co-op

Post Office

There is a Post Office in the Co-op shop in Broadway or a Mobile Post Office in Willersey on Friday afternoons outside The Bell Inn from **12:45 to 14:45**

Travel Help Line Telephone Numbers

National Rail Travel Line	08457 484951
National Bus Travel Line	0871 2002233
Hedgehog	01386 841849
Pulhams Coaches	01451 820369
N. N. Cresswell	01386 48655
Johnsons of Henley-in-Arden	01564 797000

Bus timetables for Gloucestershire are now available on the County Council Website at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/bustimetables

For updates see back page of the Village News.

Bus & Train Travel Services

Details of current bus timetables are shown at bus stops by the Pond and at the Pike roundabout. Bus services operate to Cheltenham, Evesham, Stratford-upon-Avon & Moreton-in-Marsh. The Local Community Bus (the Hedgehog) travels to Stratford on Tuesday mornings only. Trains pick up at Evesham, Honeybourne and Moreton in Marsh to/from London or the Midlands.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Evesham	13 Port Street	Tel:03444 111303
Broadway	Signpost Help Centre, 4 Russell Square	Tel: 859029

Library

Broadway	Public Library, Leamington Road	Tel: 858747
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Telephone

British Telecom (administrative enquiries) Tel:01905 613100

Water Board

Sewage:	Severn Trent Water	Tel: 08007 83444
Water Supply:	Thames Water	Tel:0800980 8800

Breakdown Services Contact Numbers

Electricity	Power Faults	105 or 0800 328 1111
Gas	Emergency	0800 111 999
Severn Trent – Sewage		08007 834444
Thames Water – Water Supply		0800 980 8800
Floodline		0845 988 1188

To Contact Police and for Non Emergency call 101.

For Emergency 999

(As Willersey has a Worcestershire Postcode “WR12” you may be asked to ring Worcester, please explain Willersey is in Gloucestershire)

Police Information Point (P.I.P) www.gloucestershire.police.uk

Shops and Pubs

Willersey Garage - Petrol:
(Peter Taylor)

Tel: 852338

Pubs

The Bell Inn
The New Inn

Tel: 858405
Tel: 853226

The Telephone code is 01386, Area Post Code is WR12.

Although Willersey is in Gloucestershire, we have a Worcestershire Postal Address as our post is delivered from Evesham & Broadway which is in Worcestershire.

Refuse Collection (Mondays see below)

Dates of collections are shown in the Church & Village News Notices

Waste Collections.

1. Food waste is collected weekly in a small black bin.
2. The green Garden waste green bin is collected fortnightly with the other bins subject to the householder having a Licence currently costing £69 a year (in 2025).
3. Fortnightly collection – The Blue bag is supplied for cardboard. The white bag is used for recyclables such as plastic bottles, tins, yoghurt pots etc..
4. One black box is for paper and the other is for glass eg wine bottles and jars.
5. Household rubbish goes in the black bin.

Bulk Refuse

Cotswold District Council offers a Bulk Waste Collection

(£28 for 3 items any size)

Tel: 01285 868050

Other enquiries direct to Cotswold District Council on 01285 623000

Waste Disposal (Tip)

The nearer Worcestershire site is at Piddle Brook Ln, Pershore WR10 2LW. Recycling Centre Helpline: 01242 680 010.

North Cotswold Area Sites are situated at Fosse Cross 6 miles north of Cirencester on the A429 or Wingmoor Farm which is 1½ miles west of Bishops Cleeve on the minor road towards Stoke Orchard. Turn left, sign posted just after the railway bridge.

Snow Warden Mr Peter Heming **Tel: 853295. Mob. 07831 585476**

Concessionary Travel Passes

Concessionary Travel Passes are available for travel on bus services in England for residents over 60 years of age or have Special Needs to travel on bus services in England. Contact Cotswold District Council at Cirencester or Moreton-in-Marsh Offices (details on how to apply are also held by the Parish Clerk).

Cirencester: **Tel: 01285 623031** Moreton: **Tel: 01608 650881**

RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS

Parish Church of St. Peter's Willersey

Team Rector: Rev Jon Barwood 07777 148880

Email: jonbarwood@btinternet.com

Local Parishes include Honeybourne Pebworth, Dorsington, Aston-sub-Edge, Saintbury, Willersey and Weston-sub-Edge.

St. Peter's Church Bells have been restored. This was celebrated at a service on 16th June 2013. The bells are rung regularly on Thursday evenings and before Church Services – anyone interested in ringing please contact

The Tower Captain – Robert Chadburn rchadburn1@gmail.com

Methodist Church, Willersey (in the Stratford & Evesham Circuit)

Secretary: Mrs Penny Ingles

Tel: 853306

Times of the Cotswold Edge Church Services and details of St. Peter's and the Methodist activities are published in the Church & Village News Magazine each month and on Church Notice boards.

Coffee Mornings with a Knitting Group are held on Fridays, 10-11.30am in the Methodist Community Room adjoining the Church. All are welcome.

Croquet 2:30pm Wednesday afternoon when in season

Contact:

Penny or Richard Ingles

Tel: 853306

Other Denominations

Roman Catholic

St. Saviour's R.C. Church, Leamington Road, Broadway. **Tel: 853753**

St. Catherine's R.C. Church, High St, Chipping Campden. **Tel: 840261**

United Reformed Church: High Street, Broadway.

Tel: 858986

Baptist Chapel: High Street, Chipping Campden

Tel: 8407203

EDUCATION

Primary School Willersey C/E Controlled School, Church Street Head Teacher:
Mr Mark Jackson **Tel: 852646**

Friends of Willersey School
Contact the School Secretary **Tel: 852646**

Nearest Secondary School Chipping Campden School, Cider Mill Lane
Head Teacher: Mr John Sanderson **Tel: 840216**

Parent/Teacher Association
Contact Chipping Campden School secretary **Tel: 840216**

Adult Education

Classes are held regularly at various venues in and around Chipping Campden & the North Cotswold Area
Details from GLOSCAT, Cheltenham. **Main Tel. No: 01242 532000**

Full and part-time vocational and extra-mural courses are held at Evesham College. Details available from the College or Public Libraries.
Tel: 41091

North Cotswold University of the 3rd Age

u3a was founded in this area in 1996. There are now about 400 members and 35 groups to join; (though some have waiting lists).

The only requirements for membership are to be aged over 50 and not in full time employment. There are definitely no examinations!

As this is a self-help learning organisation new ideas for Groups and new Group Leaders are always welcome.

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES – Liz Reeves lizreeves17@gmail.com

An always updated copy of this document is at
www.willersey.org/welcome.htm

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Chemists Lloyds Pharmacy **Tel: 853356**
22 High Street, Broadway
Robscott Ltd **Tel: 840251**
High Street, Chipping Campden

Dentists Dr. Elizabeth Marchant **Tel: 840866**
Grafton Mews, Chipping Campden
Broadway Dental Health Centre **Tel: 853800**
64, High Street, Broadway
enquiries@broadwaydentalcare.co.uk

Doctors **New Barn Close surgery in**
Station Road, Broadway WR12 7DE
Appointments/Contact **01386 853651 or 853809.**
The Surgery **Tel: 841894**
Back Ends, Chipping Campden

Hospitals Cheltenham General **Tel: 0845 222222**
Evesham Community. **Tel: 502377**

Worcester **Tel: 01905 763333**
Moreton-in-Marsh **Tel: 01608 650456**

Voluntary Help Centres

Moreton in Marsh **Tel: 01608 651115**
Evesham **Tel: 45035**

Village Agent Mrs Carol Stockman **07789 926291**
Email carols@villageagent.grcc.org.uk Village and Community Agents help older and vulnerable people feel more independent, secure and have a better quality of life by offering an assisted signposting service. The Agents provide information and support to help people gain access to a wide range of services and to keep them connected to their local communities. We currently have a team of 38 to ensure countywide coverage. Agents visit people at home, all are DBS checked and directly contactable.

Social Services

North Cotswold Fieldwork Team – for Social work and occupational therapy services **Tel: 01451 832272**
For home care and care management services **Tel: 01451 821015**
St. Saviour's Addiction Rehabilitation Centre, Chipping Campden
Contact: Colin Twomey **Tel: 01386 841029**

Animal Welfare

Veterinary Surgeon. Abbey Green Veterinary Group **Tel: 852421**
The Surgery, Church Close, Broadway

Cats Protection 95 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford **Tel: 833343**

Dogs Trust 89 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford **Tel: 830613**
(Situated off the A44 between Broadway and Evesham)

Vale Wildlife Rescue Beckford, Nr. Evesham **Tel: 882288**
(Centre for caring for sick and injured wildlife)

RECREATION & VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Footlights Amateur Dramatics

Secretary Mary Gittings **Tel: 07711936976**

Baden Powell Centre, George Lane, Chipping Campden

All contact here ChippingCamdenScouts@gmail.com

Scouts and guides meeting times and Leaders

Guides Friday 7 - 8.30pm
Mrs Rosemary Grimes
Brownies Tuesday 5.30 - 7.00pm
Mrs Rosemary Grimes

Beavers Wednesday 6.15 - 7.30pm
Mrs Wendy Morrey

Cubs Thursday 6.45 – 8.30pm

Scouts Mondays 7 - 8.30pm
Chris & Lorna Shawcross

Explorer Scouts Alternate Tuesdays 7:30 to 9pm
(14-18 years)

CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

The contacts for these clubs and organisations do change quite frequently do try www.willersey.org or facebook if you have problems.

Wednesday Club for over 55s only

Contact: Terence Richadrson **075273 08429**
(Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.30pm in Village Hall)

Women's Institute

Monthly Meetings held at the Village Hall at 7.15pm on 2nd Monday
President **Mal Jelfs** **Tel: 01386 858351**
Secretaries **Lizzie Robinson** Village News Report 07793073876
Mary Frost WI National & Gloucestershire organisations
01386 852661

Youth Club

Weston-sub-Edge Village Hall - open to all 10 - 18years old
1st & 3rd Thursdays every month, 7.00 - 9.00pm.
Claire Benjamin on **07977 271254**.

Music

Campden & District Music Society: For details: **Tel: 01386 841520**

Line Dancing /Keep Fit

Friday afternoons at Village Hall 2.30pm-4.00pm
Contact: Dr Fern Rodmell **Tel: 01386 852168**

Dance - Insanity

Wednesday 6.30 – 7.30pm Contact Tess Gaine **Tel: 01386 858796**

Easy Exercise (seated) Village Hall on Mondays 3.15pm

Exercise to Music Village Hall on Tuesdays 7.30pm
Contact: Gill O'Donoghue **Tel:013868 54830**

Croquet

Croquet is held on the Methodist Church Lawn during Spring & Summer. Telephone Mrs Penny Ingles for details 01386 853306.

Broadway Embroidery Club

1st Thursday in Month – Broadway Methodist Hall 10am – 1.00pm.
Contact Gillian Beale – 01386 852958

Yoga

Village Hall on Tuesdays 10.00 – 11.30am

Contact: Mr Roger Batham Tel: 853105

Probus Broadway Stephen Ward Tel: 584331

Gardening.

Willersey Amateur Horticultural & Craft Show

Contact: Mr Mark Bridgemen Mobile 07976-111906 or email

Bridgeman757@btinternet.com

Sports

Golf The Bell at Willersey Golf Society
Contact: C/o The Bell Inn, Willersey Tel: 858405

Snooker Willersey Snooker Club
Secretary Peter Taylor Tel: 852338

Swimming Pools Evesham Tel: 01386 47542
Stratford-upon-Avon Tel: 01789 268826
Chipping Campden Sports Centre Tel: 841595

Football in Broadway. Cricket in Broadway & Childswickham

Tennis in Chipping Campden Croquet at Willersey Methodist Church

Bowls in Broadway, Chipping Campden & Weston-sub-Edge

Village Hall Bookings

Booking Secretary: Mr Bill Payne Tel: 858368
Email willerseyhall@btinternet.com

Caretaker Phil Bennett 07890 262199

See monthly Willersey and Saintbury Village News for updates.

Methodist Church Room Bookings

Contact: Mrs Penny Ingles Tel: 853306

Cinema

There is an excellent cinema in Evesham and films are also shown once a month at Weston-Sub-Edge, Mickleton and Chipping Campden.

There are many other recreational activities in the area, such as art, music and history societies etc., details of which can be obtained from the public libraries of Broadway, Chipping Campden and Evesham. 18

LOCAL CHARITIES

Rose Cottage Charity Willersey Church Charities

Contacts: Mrs M. Jelfs Tel: 01386 858351

Many national & local charities have representatives in the Village.

Other services not shown in this booklet, such as Builders, Gardeners, Plumbers, Taxis, etc., advertise in the Monthly Church & Village News.

This is delivered free to every village house in Willersey and Saintbury. Copies are also available, in our Churches, Pubs and on the village website at

www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm.

This booklet is on www.willersey.org/welcome.htm .

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this booklet is correct and up-to-date at the time of printing. Changes in the village are always happening and we apologise in advance for any errors or omissions, which may have occurred after going to print. For up to date information please refer to the Village website, Facebook page and Village News. Most local landline telephone numbers start with 01386.

The village website at www.willersey.org has much useful and background information for Willersey & nearby Saintbury

The Parish Council website at www.willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk has the agenda & minutes of Parish Council meetings and other statutory information and there are also links to report problems to Cotswold District Council and Gloucestershire CC.

Parish Council meetings are open to the public and all residents are welcome to attend and raise matters of interest.

The Parish Council office is at the village hall and the clerk is in attendance on Mondays 9.45am. – Noon to help with issues.

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