



WILLINGTON

village news

Nov / Dec 2024



Front Cover

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Next Edition Jan 2025
Deadline for copy Dec 24th

Around the Village

Village life appears to flow as normal. Many of us enjoyed the recent performances by the Willington Players, including an offering of "The Last Panto in Willington". I am glad to say that this was not as prophetic as it may sound as we look forward to the new panto, Jack and the Beans Talk, in January of next year.

Yes, Christmas is not that far away but we still have Fireworks to enjoy and Remembrance Sunday to observe before we can really get into the Christmas mood, even though the shops are already gearing up for the festive season (you have been able to buy mince pies for at least a month).

The front cover photo is courtesy of Sue Gent harking back to the snow of 2017, but no doubt we shall see some before the year is out.



We seem to be rebuilding our community support activities that suffered so much because of covid. We have our own super hero "Captain Rooster" who will be at the Co-op on November 16th, collecting food and donations for the local food bank. Also a group from the WI have arranged a Twixmas drop in for coffee, mince pies and a chat (it will also be nice and warm) on December 27th for those who could do with some company and there are also moves afoot to open the village hall on a Friday as a warm space for those in need of comfort over the winter months.

Festivities 2024

MON-SAT FROM 28TH NOV

EVERY SUNDAY IN DEC

Christmas Fayre

FOR PARTIES OF 12 OR MORE
2/3 COURSES FROM 16.⁹⁹/20.⁹⁹

Festive Sunday Lunch

2/3 COURSES 29.⁹⁹/34.⁹⁹

TUE 10TH DEC

Merry QUIZMAS!

CHRISTMAS QUIZ • 8PM
FREE ENTRY

FRI 13TH DEC

Afternoon Tea

with BUBLÉ
BY BUBLÉ TRIBUTE
39.⁹⁹ • 2PM - 5PM

SUN 15TH DEC

SANTA Sunday

Sunday Lunch with Santa
12NOON & 5PM SITTINGS
21.⁹⁹ CHILDREN / 35.⁹⁹ ADULTS

WED 18TH DEC

CAROLS by the CANAL

COMPLIMENTARY
MULLED WINE
HOG ROAST COBS 5.⁰⁰

FRI 27TH DEC

Annual TUG OF WAR

In aid of Help For Hannah
HOG ROAST COBS 5.⁰⁰
FROM 12NOON

TUE 31ST DEC

New Year's EVE

MEXICAN TASTER
MENU & PARTY
49.⁹⁹



VIEW OUR FULL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME ONLINE

thedragonatwillington.co.uk

All events are subject to change without at any notice.





Willington Scouts
Firework
Display

Saturday 2nd November

Gates open **6:15pm** – Fireworks from **7:00pm**

All Welcome... 😊

Twyford Road - Playing Field

DE65 6BN

**Free
Entry**

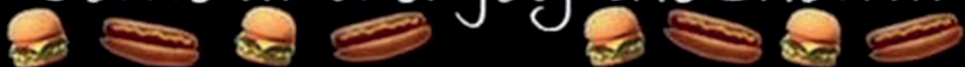
Hot Food and Drinks served.

Scan me
for details!



All donations welcome....

Come and enjoy the show...



Chairman's update

Hello and welcome to the November/December newsletter

Thank you to everyone that filled in the Neighbourhood Development Plan Community questionnaire. The next step is to evaluate the comments and the findings and update the document as required. Once the document has been approved by Willington Parish Council it will then be subject to a referendum and if accepted it will be forwarded to South Derbyshire for adoption and it will form part of Local Plan parts I and II.

The update on the community building and changing room on Twyford road Playing field is that due to rising costs we have engaged a funding assistant to help us raise the additional funds required for the work to commence. We are looking to obtain grants from various sources. It is hoped that we will be able to commence the work around July 2025.

The street lighting on Castleway , the County Council has completed their scope. National Grid are due to complete the remainder of the work on 16th October.

The Angling club has removed the gate that was blocking the Byway. The posts are still in position but these are due for removal within the coming weeks.

Update on Willington bridge. Derbyshire County Council have been unable to retrieve the old stonework from the river, so quotes for new stone are being obtained. No date has been given for the completion; we will update you as soon as we have any more information.

The repainting of the pedestrian crossing, the mini roundabouts and some lining work around the centre of the village will take place on 16th and 17th October, weather permitting.

The gully at the Station Garden crossing has been replaced with a section of pipework and a manhole has been installed. The system has improved, no surface water has been seen but further investigation is required to complete the work. DCC will inform us if any additional work is required.

The Parish Council will lay a Remembrance wreath at the church service on 10th November in honour of all the armed forces who lost their lives as a result of conflict. We will remember them.

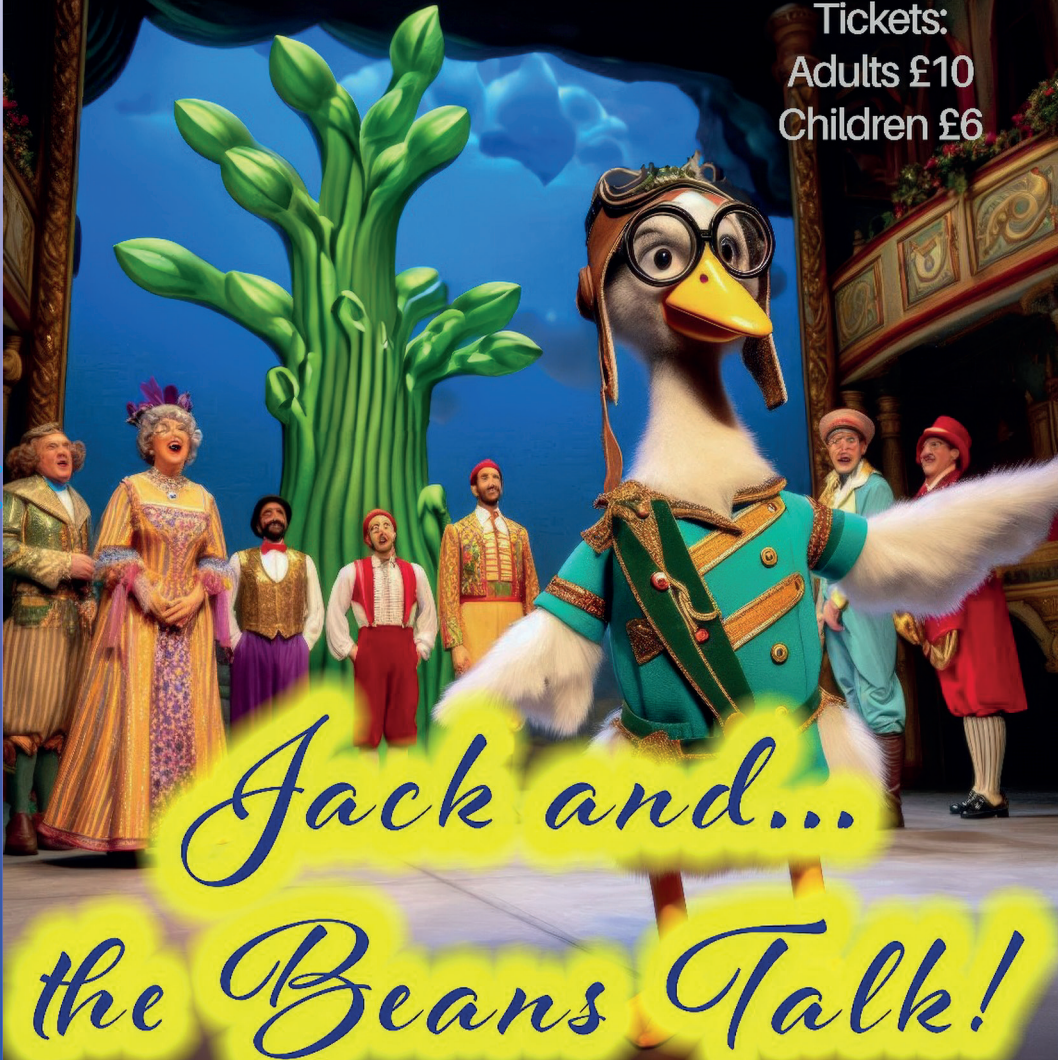
May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

The next WPC meeting will take place at the Old School on 12th November at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Phill Allsopp

Willington Players present

Tickets:
Adults £10
Children £6



Jack and... the Beans Talk!

Thurs 30th, Fri 31st, Jan, & Sat 1st Feb : 7:30 start

Box Office: Gregoryrose58@gmail.com or 07763 159 948

Blackburn Theatre

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING COFFEE MORNING

This could include but not limited to:

- Loneliness and isolation
- Mental health
- Community services
- Benefits
- Debt management
- Volunteering
- Housing

Social prescribing is a person centred approach focusing on what matters to you. We can support with signposting and accessing organisations and services that could benefit your current situation...

Where: Willington Village Hall, Twyford Road, Willington DE65 6DE

When: The last Wednesday of every month

Time: 10:15-11:45

Who: Anyone, just drop in



For more information contact Melvina Birch on 07429 452 483 or email melvina.birch@communityactionderby.org.uk



Twixmas Drop-in

A warm welcome for all at Willington Village Hall

Friday 27th December 2024

11am – 3pm



Enjoy a free cup of tea, coffee & some company

Table & board games will be available as will mince pies



Contact - Andrea Rule 07966173376



PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP HERE TO HELP VOLUNTEERS

WHO ARE THEY?

Members from the PPG Committee who have been DBS checked and trained to work alongside the surgery staff.

WHAT DO THEY DO?

Volunteer 2 hours a week at the surgery (8am - 10am) helping patients to use the BP machine, check-in and chatting to patients. To find out more about the PPG and how you might like to get involved in a number of different ways, please make contact:

willingtonppg@gmail.com



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WI NEWS In November we will be using the station garden for our remembrance events. The Women's Institute will decorate it with crafted poppies to help us remember the people and animals who gave so much. At 10:50 on Sunday 10th November , poems will be read and the two minute silence observed around the Remember plaque. On 11th we join with Year 6 pupils from the village school as they commemorate with their own written reflections. Everyone is welcome to join these events.

Our November 13th meeting is for all of you (not just women), that are interested in gardening. Griselda Kerr, from Melbourne Dower House is giving a talk called "The Apprehensive Gardener". This is an open meeting so all are very welcome.

In connection with the National WI Clean Rivers campaign , we took part in the Citizen science water testing. Two members carried out four tests in the village. The results were varied as the Molly water was good but the river contained high levels of nutrient pollution.

Willington is part of the Mercia group with our neighbouring institutes. We meet for various activities during the year, some serious some fun. Repton is hosting our next social event and we will be going to have some fun.

December is the time to celebrate Christmas both religiously and secularly and WI does both. We are going to see the National Arboretum illuminated and attend the group carol service. We then move to merriment and have a lunch and dinner members can enjoy. Our December meeting also includes food and drink. As always there's lots to do.

WILLINGTON HISTORY GROUP EVENTS

Thursday 14th November 7.30pm

**Shirley Horton Presents
"Crossing Places 2"**

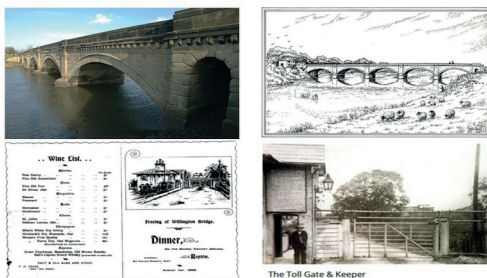


Crossing Places, Bridges, Ancient Trackways, Roads, Canals, Railways & Rivers
centred on the Midlands

Willington Old School, Castleway, Willington DE65 6BT
Email rogerp@gmail.co.uk

Thursday 12th December 7.30pm

**Video
Willington River Trent Bridge, Centenary
Celebrations 'Freeing of Toll'**



All Welcome *

Cash on door

£3 including refreshments

* Over 18s only



The Dumbles Woodland

is now in its second year of being renewed and anyone visiting it over this period will have hopefully noticed its development and enhancement into a welcoming and peaceful woodland space.

The first year was spent uncovering the lost beauty from beneath brambles and rediscovering footpaths long since buried amongst fallen trees and nettles. These footpaths are now passable and meander around the woodland leading you into quiet leafy dells, alongside a tranquil pool or marshy glades. The area has been transformed from a foreboding and dark space to an accessible green space with dappled light and plenty of wildlife to clearly observe.

Year two has seen a fabulous stone path installed enabling easy all year passage through the area. Simple benches are now dotted around in key areas where a view of the pond or the tow path can be enjoyed under the tree canopy. Three main footpaths are marked with discreet paths leading off for those wanting to explore a little more.

Now when you wander through you may hear the chatter of excited children playing in what might seem to them an enchanted forest or the scampering of a dog as it navigates the myriad of paths and clearings. Importantly, for the majority of time, there is an opportunity to simply find a bench and reflect on the simple sights, sounds and smells that derive from a natural space.

The woodland is also now providing an environment for Wild Wellbeing sessions to help people struggling with their mental health. These sessions commenced in July 2023 and were led by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. With the help of a grant obtained in January 2024 through Derbyshire Mind and funded by Derbyshire County Council, we aim to offer more sessions to our local community, led by a team of trained facilitators. The training will be delivered by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and is due to take place over the coming months allowing the Wild Wellbeing sessions to commence in Spring 2025 .

Those of us who volunteer to help keep the Dumbles accessible and tidy hope you can enjoy the space all year round.

If you would like to know more about the volunteer group or the Wild Wellbeing sessions you can contact us through email dumbleswillington22@gmail.com



Christmas Greetings

Greetings from the Baptist family in Willington. Almost unbelievably we are already preparing for Christmas in October! It often comes sooner rather than later and there is a mad rush to get things done, decisions to make. My wife and I are still undecided as to whether we will send Christmas cards or not this year. Postage, even second class, is now so expensive. Not all our friends are computer savvy.

In the bigger scheme of things how do we get the real Christmas message across – the reason for the season - the birth of the Saviour of the World, Jesus Christ. We can get so caught up with the commercial hijacking of the real story prophesied through Isaiah the prophet some 700 years before it happened: 'For to us a child is born, to us a son is given' (Isaiah 9:6) who the angel of the Lord told Mary will "save his people from their sin" (Matthew 1:21). I hope this Christmas you will be encouraged to consider the real meaning of this joyful time. You will be welcome to share Christmas with us! Blessings.

Robin

It is very good to be sharing such greetings with friends from Willington Baptist church.

As the new vicar, at St Michael's Church, this will be my first Christmas in post so I am very excited about sharing in the celebrations across our village. One element of Christmas that I eagerly look forward to is the rapidly spreading tradition of Christmas lights adorning so many houses. This does mean that I have to take extra care whilst driving so as not to get *too* caught up in the displays...

At the end of most carol services, we get to read from the wonderfully mysterious Gospel of St John that includes *"What has come into being in him (Jesus) was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."*

Into the darkness of the world comes light as a child is born into the reality of our lives. May that light not just shine in and outside our houses but also in you and me this Christmas time and always.

Every blessing,

Steve



What's On November / December

St Michael's Church Coffee Morning

Saturday 2nd November, 10am - 12 noon Willington Village hall
Refreshments, Cakes, Raffle and Craft items for Christmas



St Michael's Church Library

Wednesday 6th November and Wednesday 4th Decemberr - 10am - 11.30am.

The remaining Wednesdays, November 13, 20 & 27 and December 11 & 18
10am - 12 noon you are invited to St Michael's to Meet and Make Friends



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12th November at 7.00pm
at The Old School, Castleway

WILLINGTON HISTORY GROUP

Thursday 14th November, 7.30pm
Shirley Horton presents "Crossing Places 2"
Willington Old School, Castleway

Christmas Fayre

Saturday, 30 November 2-4pm, Willington Village Hall

Watch for Santa as he travels through the village to open the Fayre



St Michael's Church Coffee Morning

Saturday 7th December, 10am - 12 noon Willington Village hall
Refreshments, Cakes, Raffle, etc



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 10th December 7.00pm
at The Old School, Castleway

WILLINGTON HISTORY GROUP

Thursday 12th December, 7.30pm
VideoWillington River Trent Crossing - Freeing of Tolls
Willington Old School, Castleway



Christmas Tree Festival

St Michael's Church, Willington

Open to view December 14/15 and 21/22

Saturdays 10.30 am to 3.00pm & Sundays 12 noon to 3.00pm



BAPTIST CHURCH Carol Service Sunday 15th December 2024 6.00pm

And in early January

History Group Meeting, Thursday 9th January. Derbyshire Churches

Pantomime Jack and the Beans Talk. Jan 30th, 31st & Feb 1st



Willington Garage

4 Twyford Road, Willington, Derby DE65 6DE
(next to Willington Village Hall)

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