

PASTORAL LETTER – July 2024

Limbo and limbering

I am remarkably unsupple. Games of limbo have always been avoided. My years of walking I suspect haven't helped; rather than flexibility I have developed a stable frame that minimises wobbles. Last year I picked up an injury and some additional stretching may aid my recovery. My morning routine now includes some rather undignified huffing and puffing as I work through a series of exercises. Progress is at best slow. Daily physical exercise is a good thing and I know I am not alone. Like me lots of people include physical activity into their daily regimes and some people, athletes; and sports men and women train, strength and condition their bodies over many years to maximise performance. This summer and this month we have an enticing array of top-class sporting competition on offer. The football EUROs are on-going as is the Tour de France, Wimbledon is about to start, the Golf Open and the Olympics are later in the month ... It will take real dedication to keep on top of it all but I will do what I can from the comfort of the Vicarage sofa. Many people put effort into maintaining their physical health be that through walking or more vigorous exercise, yoga or Pilates. It begs the question what things are we doing to maintain or enhance our mental, emotional, and spiritual health? It will be no surprise to hear that walking helps me in all these regards, but I know that doesn't suit everyone. When I was at theological college a tutor offered a course which sought to make us more generous – it was a fascinating progress we began by counting our blessings and recognising how much we had to be thankful for. There were then a series of activities aimed at helping us think about generosity from different perspectives. One I particularly remember was the challenge to give away all the clothes we hadn't worn in the previous 12 or 24 months. I know how to get more flexible – I stretch. I know how to get

fitter – exercise a little more. We know about physical health but what about our spiritual health. Could we devise a series of exercises to become more prayerful, or more joyful, more compassionate, exhibit better self-control, or find deeper peace? If we want these things, how can we grow them in our daily lives?

St Paul in his letter to the church in Philippi uses the metaphor of an athlete in competition (3: 13b-14) says, "One thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." Of course, following Jesus isn't competitive and it is open to everyone, not just the elite. Through Jesus we are offered God's love and forgiveness not because of anything we've done but because of his death and resurrection.

Paul is encouraging us to have the same passion and desire to know Christ that a top athlete, an Olympian has for their sport. "For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ." (3: 8b) Everything else that might occupy us is rubbish (a sanitised translation), it is a distraction from the main goal, the ultimate purpose of life which is knowing Christ in all his fullness.

This month may you enjoy sporting excellence and achievement, may you be gentle with yourself and others, may you grow in the likeness of Christ.

Every blessing, Revd Craig

Revd Craig Bishop Tel: 01386 841927

Churchwarden Robert McNeil-Wilson

The Granary, Main Street, Willersey Tel: 01386 852785
mobile 07979590826 Email: rmw@unisonprojects.co.uk 2



Report for June

Here we are halfway through the year into “Flaming June”, (if only) but the WI lasses have been out and about. On Sunday 9th June, Tini Owens kindly opened up her beautiful gardens at the Manor to host a wonderful afternoon with tea and cakes. Thank you Tini.

The sun actually came out for our Summer Trip on Wednesday 12th June when we set off on a lovely afternoon Steam Train ride from Broadway to Cheltenham and back. 17 very happy WI members sat in their own private carriage called ‘Mary’. Everyone brought along their own picnics, cream teas and of course Prosecco. We were accompanied by our volunteer host for the trip Martin, he kept us informed of the land marks and history of the Railway, including the reason why a part of the track was called ‘Chicken Curve’ which got its name from the nearby stinking chicken sheds. We got off the train at Cheltenham for a short break to stretch our legs get an ice cream and take the usual photographs of everyone in there finery. We arrived back at Broadway having had a wonderful two hour trip on the local tourist attraction. *Mal Jelfs*

On Sunday 9th June the WI were invited by Mrs Tini Owens to the Manor House to enjoy the gardens. Despite it being a chilly afternoon, members enjoyed viewing the plants, trees and fantastic pond, followed by traditional tea, cake and chat.

Donations for the British Red Cross were collected and a fantastic £260 was raised.

The WI extends their thanks to Mrs Owens and her garden and house team for their hospitality.

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COMING UP IN JULY 2024

Coming up in July we have our Bubbles, Strawberries and Pimm’s Social Evening which weather permitting will be in and around the Village Hall Community Garden, with the famous note, “if wet in the Village Hall”. (More food and drink!!!!)

We are holding our Summer Coffee Morning on Saturday August 3rd and donations would be very welcome of Cakes, Fancy Goods, Toys, Books, Tombola and Raffle with the money raised going towards the Seniors New Year’s Lunch We also continue to donate to the Caring Hands Charity and donations of food, toiletries and other useful items can be left on the doorstep (designated box) of Sandra Spensley in Willow Road.

*Crockery Hire is available. Queries to Mal Jelfs please
Tel: 858351*

Blood Donors Award

In June, at Aston Villa Football Ground, there was a big award day for Midland area blood donors. Mrs Ruby Hancock of Badsey Road, Willersey was there to receive hers for the great total of 103 pints over the years! She was accompanied by Lou from The Bell Inn, and both had a great tour around Villa Park.

Congratulations Ruby.

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Willersey Telegraph Poles update and AONB Judicial Review

You may well remember that many village residents from Willow Road, Field Lane, Jordans Close, Hayes Close and Collin Close united to protest against the installation of 11 metre telegraph poles by Full Fibre Ltd in November and December 2023. The basic issue of the protest was that in roads within Willersey where there were no existing telegraph poles, little or no streetlights, and no other “street furniture” we were being forced, without any consultation, to have a duplicated broadband network installed above ground level when a perfectly functioning underground network existed installed by Gigaclear Ltd several years ago. The answers we received from a number of official bodies and organisations were that the installation is legally allowed as it is “permitted development” under Government legislation.

The Willersey protest gained national media attention and we were successful in that to date only 6 of the planned 15 poles have been installed in Willersey.



A similar “battle” played out in neighbouring Broadway. The residents there have since mounted a determined campaign to challenge their District Council (Wychavon) regarding the process followed in not challenging the installation of 25 telegraph poles by Full Fibre Ltd within the Sands estate. On

7th May’24 the Broadway Residents won a legal Court appeal and are now fully permitted to challenge Wychavon District Council in a Judicial Review which is based on the principle that as the land is within the Cotswold AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) Wychavon should have demanded that “the visual impact of the development on the site is minimised so far as practicable”. If the Judicial Review is successful then it could mean that a formal planning process is required (rather than using the “permitted development” route) and if retrospective permission is not granted then the poles could be removed. So, what does mean for Willersey? If Broadway are successful then the same ruling would also apply to us as the area affected in Willersey is within the Cotswold AONB. This would mean that Cotswold District Council would be forced to go through a formal planning approval process.

Unfortunately, there is a cost to mounting the Judicial Review and the Broadway Team are seeking funds of around £10,000. They already, in less than 3 weeks, have amassed a sum of £1,500 and need to raise another £8,500 before the end of September. If you are able to donate to the fund it would be really appreciated and welcome. Please use the link below to take you to the funding page.

www.crowdjustice.com/case/save-visual-amenity-in-aonbs

General Election July 4th

Do not waste your opportunity to vote but remember you will need a photgraphic ID e.g. Passport, Driving Licence etc.

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.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/>

A Walk around the Sherborne Valley – Tuesday 2 nd July – Moderate 3hr 5.5ml

A circular route starting and finishing at Northfield Barn CP crossing the Sherborne Brook at Mareslaid Copse and returning, exploring the NT owned estate trail. Please bring a drink/snack.

Start: 9.30am Northfield Barn, Sherborne. OS Map ref: SP 175 154. W3W: enhancement.kneeled.scrubbing

Over the Hills from Winchcombe – Tuesday 2 nd July – Strenuous 5.5hr 10.5ml

An exploration of the hills and paths to the north and west of Winchcombe. The route is undulating with two steep climbs. Weather permitting, we should enjoy terrific views in every direction. Please bring a lunch and a drink/snack.

Start: 10.00am Winchcombe Back Lane Car Park (pay and display £1 per day). OS Map ref: SP 024 285. W3W: firewall.attention.scores

Chastleton – A Wheelbarrow & a Barrow – Wednesday 24 th July – Moderate 5hr 8.5ml

A delightful walk with glorious views on grass meadows, fields and tracks. As always the likelihood of mud after wet spells. Bring a packed lunch and National Trust membership card if you have one. Car parking is free for members. The house and gardens are well worth a visit after the walk. Please bring a lunch and a drink/snack. **tart: 10.00am Chastleton House (NT) car park GL56 0SUOS Map ref: SP 252 289. 3W: stall.edgy.continues**

Chipping Campden Town Walk – Every Tuesday and Thursday starting from Tuesday 28 th 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.**

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.

CROQUET FOR ALL (North Cotswold U3A)



The Croquet season is on and ready to go! If you'd like to join in then come along to the Methodist Church Garden at 2.30 pm on the second and third Tuesdays at 2pm when you'll be made very welcome!

Our excellent groundsmen have meticulously manicured the Croquet Court during the spring. A big thank you to Vic and Chris!

Enquiries please to Richard Ingles 853306

London Calling – A London Music Quiz

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 1) contains 15 questions on many of the great songs and bands that have paid tribute to London.

- 1) Which synth-pop duo reached UK No.1 with "West End Girls" in 1986?
- 2) Inspired by the songwriter's daily commute, what type of Sunset did The Kinks sing about on their 1967 single?
- 3) How did The Clash describe "Beatlemania which has bitten the dust" in the 1979 single London Calling? a) Boring, b) Phony, c) Tired.
- 4) True or False; Blockbusters presenter Bob Holness played Saxophone on the Gerry Rafferty song Baker Street?
- 5) What type of Trees did Radiohead sing about on the 1995 track inspired by the fake foliage added to the Canary Wharf developments in the 1990's?
- 6) Which 1967 Small Faces song became the first to be banned for overt references to substance abuse?
- 7) What was the title of the Eddy Grant track with the catchy chorus which tells of streets of violence?
- 8) Name Adele's debut single in October 2007 which contained the line "I like it in the city when the air is so thick and opaque"?
- 9) On which Hill did John & Beverly Martyn sing about on their 1970 musical tribute to the Sunday evening sunset overlooking the capital?

10) Who did Paul McCartney sing of "on the Hill" in the lyrics to a song on the Beatles 1967 EP and album "Magical Mystery Tour"?

11) David Bowie, who's music inspired many current musicians was born in which borough of London?

12) As he sat and watched German V1 bombers fly over London, Hubert Gregg composed which well-known Cockney folk-song in a little over 20 mins?

13) Originally recorded in 1969 and reaching number 2 in the UK singles chart, "Streets of London" was a hit for which acoustic guitar player?

14) Which Blur track about being lost on the Westway begins: "He's a twentieth century boy/With his hands on the rails"?

15) "London Belongs To Me" is a 1991 track from which group fronted by Sarah Cracknell?

Please see page 15 for the answers

Mike R

The Word QUIZ

The earliest known appearance of the word *quiz* in print is 1782 and the word then referred to an 'odd-looking person'. Its varied application over time arrived at its current meaning by the late 19th century.

A widely repeated anecdote ascribes the word's invention to Richard Daly, the manager of a Dublin theatre. He wagered that he could cause a word of no meaning to become the talk of the town within 48 hours Accordingly, he had the letters *Q*, *U*, *I*, and *Z* written across doors and shutters all over Dublin. The subsequent public response led to his winning the wager. (The anecdote's accuracy is, unfortunately, doubtful.)

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52 Ways to Walk by Annabel Streets A book review by Revd Craig bishop

I read non-fiction. I read mostly about nature, the landscape and walking. As genres they aren't huge and I've reasonable coverage of them all. When I pass a bookstore, I visit the nature and travel sections to see what's new. It's surprising just how many books there are on walking: descriptions of journeys, reflections, and meditations of travelling by foot. On a recent visit to a bookshop, I was looking for a few new titles to give me lots of material over a holiday. I had chosen a couple but was still searching for a third when my eye caught the cover of "52 ways to walk". The title didn't enthuse me. I've got a fair idea of how to walk ... but the subtitle "the surprising science of walking for wellness and joy, one week at a time", piqued my curiosity. I bought it and brought it home. It is a delightful book; the short chapters each describing a different type of walking. It mixes anecdote, science and hypothesis. Each walk concludes with a few practical and encouraging tips.

Despite being a seasoned walker I don't find it in anyway condescending or patronising rather I find it a source of motivation and inspiration. The level of scientific detail is enthralling. I am discovering almost by accident I have stumbled upon an excellent way of maintaining health be that physical, mental, emotional or spiritual. Chapters include: a slow walk, a windy walk, walk with your ears, follow a river, sing as you stride, walk barefoot, walk to get lost, walk beneath the moon – each one explores a different facet, a different opportunity, challenge. This is lovely book if you already walk a lot. This is a lovely book if you'd like to walk more.

THE AUGUST VILLAGE NEWS

Copy for the August News must be received by Wednesday 17th July 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 published on the Internet at.

www.willersey.org/churchandvillagenews.htm **11**



Saint Peter's Church Services July 2024



Sunday 7 th July Trinity 6	10:00 am Morning Prayer ML
Sunday 14 th July Trinity 7	9.00 am Holy Communion TL
Sunday 21 st July Trinity 8	11.00 am All Age Service
Sunday 28 th July Trinity 9	10:00 am Morning Prayer ML
4th August Trinity 10	10:00 am Morning Prayer ML

ML Modern language

TL Traditional Language

Mid-week Holy Communion (BCP): at Saint Peter's, every Wednesday at 11:00 am.

Your Church is open for you every day.

Refreshments for the month of July

July 7 th	Pat and Robert Heming
July 14 th	Sandra and Ken Spensley
July 21 st	Paula and Ian Duffin
July 28 th	Gillian Beale
August 4 th	Christine and Richard Sutcliffe

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Church Cleaning for July

Week ending

July 6th and 13th Paula and Ian Duffin

July 20th and 27th Julia and Colin Burrows

Brass Cleaning

For the month of July Adine Keatley and Shirley Holmes

If possible clean the brass around the middle of the month.

Thank you.

Please collect the key from either The Bell Inn or Gillian Beale at Florizel, Lower Green.

Cleaning materials are in the tall cupboard in the vestry and also in the cupboard to the left of the sink in the South transept.

Thanks again to all the helpers for giving up your time to keep St Peter's Church clean and welcoming to the many visitors.

All Age Worship Sunday 16th June

Having celebrated Mums in March, it seemed only fair to do the same for Dads so our June Service did just that. Carolynne led our service and we started with the hymn "Father I place into your hands."

There were two readings. Firstly Joseph accepting that Jesus was his son. This was read by Richard and Adine read the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Carolynne's talk was centred on the theme of Jesus' life learning a trade. He stayed with his family until the age of thirty when he started travelling and preaching. During the Service there were three readings about Fathers in their caring role. Two were by unknown authors and one was from Barack Obama. Two of the hymns were sung by a small choir and the congregation as the music was not on the organ. Our prayers were led by members of the congregation and our last hymn was "To God be the Glory". We had a visitor from America in the congregation and he said he had very much enjoyed the Service and stopped for coffee and a piece of cake. All in all it was a good Father's Day Service.

Our Next All Age Worship is on Sunday 21st July at 11:00am at St Peter's. J. B.

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WILLERSEY METHODIST CHURCH July 2024

Well – I hope the weather is going to warm up some time soon! It's been so chilly and now we're looking towards July and it still seems like May! Enough of this beefing Penny, let's look forward!

Our church group has decided to change our meetings a little. We shall have a short service in the church on **the first Sunday in the month at 10.30 am**. This will include Communion, and coffee afterwards. We hope some of you will think of coming and you will be very welcome! We shall continue having our Friday Coffee/Chat of course! We will also continue to support Ukraine with our collections of baby clothes, bed linen and anything else we think would be useful.

If you would like to support this your contributions, however small, will be welcome. We have a load at the moment to go to Bourton on the Water, where the Legion will take it on to the large depot near Swindon. From there it will go to where it's needed most. Please consider contributing anything from baby clothes to duvet covers etc.

Have you been watching the evenings of Spring Watch. Well, if you haven't, you've missed a lot of superb filming as well as the update on the wildlife in this country. I think this year it has been particularly interesting. I'd like to be there but not up a tree!! I'm no good at heights! It does make you realise that even small events/happenings can make a difference. I used to sing at Brownies – 'This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine' – and emphasise what a lot of happiness you could spread even if you were only 8 years old!

Fridays will be 'collection day' at Church.

Look forward to the sunny weather and enjoy your holiday if you're having one in July!! Course you can have one any time can't you but I always think of holidays in the summer.

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Penny Ingles

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The Welcome Café

**Every Thursday, 2pm to 4:30pm
in Saint Peter's Church
offering**

**freshly brewed coffee
and pots of tea , with homemade cakes
and savouries.**



London Calling –

A London Music Quiz Answers

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Pet Shop Boys | 2) Waterloo Sunset |
| 3) b) Phony | 4) False, it was Raphael Ravenscroft |
| 5) Fake Plastic Trees | 6) Itchycoo Park |
| 7) Electric Avenue | 8) Hometown Glory |
| 9) Primrose Hill | 10) Fool on the Hill |
| 11) Brixton | 12) Maybe It's Because I'm a Londoner |
| 13) Ralph McTell | 14) For Tomorrow |
| 15) Saint Etienne | |

The Quiz is on pages 9 and 10

WILLERSEY FARMERS' MARKETS

Thank you for continuing to support the Farmers' Market- it was another good turn out for the June market and I hope that you liked the new stalls.



We are expecting our biggest market yet in July- so do come along. Our traders are mostly very local - the two newest ones are from Honeybourne and Bretforton.

Please do keep coming - if you don't -the traders won't!

Any ideas for new traders or general feedback - let me know- or come and speak to the Hi Viz team at the market.

Please also support the refreshments in the Village Hall - monies from their sales and the pitch revenue go back into Village Hall funds.

The market is the third Sunday of the month - reminder of the dates:

July 21 st	August 18 th	September 15 th
October 20 th	November 17 th	December 22 nd

Jane Rintoul 07867537745 or Rintouljane88@gmail.com

Did you know?

The first Farmers' Market (as distinct from a Public Market) was established in the UK in 1997 in Green Park in Bath. It is still going strong from May to September and there are now well over 550 Farmers Markets nationwide



Recent Village Sightings



Lots of wildlife sightings to celebrate this month with accounts of kestrels, red kites and buzzards seeking out an easy meal as silage is cut; and a stooping peregrine performing right over the village.

More news received of nesting swifts in the village, with non breeders affectionately known as 'bangers' observed briefly touching roofs and checking out possible breeding sites for next year. The house with house martins has two nests; and although properties that traditionally have returning swallows have reported their return this spring it would seem that numbers are down this year. Fingers crossed for a good breeding season, but insects are in short supply, with an authoritative quoted figure of a 78% national loss of insect numbers over the last 20 years. Unblemished car windscreens these days underlines this change.

Other migrants are adding to our local soundscape with fluting blackcaps and chiffchaffs as well as the scratchy sound of whitethroats noted. Green woodpeckers with their 'yaffle' call are quite a commonly reported sound along with hole nesting stock doves with their "Wooa, Wooa" call. Plus great-spotted woodpeckers on fat ball feeders adding interest and colour to a number of gardens. Regular Willersey walkers have reported young fox sightings, and others have spotted that there are now mallard ducklings on the village pond, hopefully keeping a sharp look out for large gulls, herons and swimming grass snakes.

Not all garden visitors are good news, particularly for honey bees, with a possible sighting of an Asian hornet that can decimate honey bee hives. But a cheerier note on which to end is news of successfully fledged wrens, the sight of hunting barn owls with young to feed right here in Willersey; and the sound of skylarks close to the village, with some benefiting from the recently created wild flower meadow on the road towards Badsey. Glorious.

Thanks for news and chat about recent Willersey sightings from Lena, Clive, Warren, Phil, Michael, Chris, Penny, Brenda, Sandy, Mike & Shirley, Garry & Natacha, Richard, Adine, Mal, Tini, Sarah, Pete, Mike, Steve & Sirlol, John P, Julia, Mark and Ian. Thank you all.

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

Broadway Library

Now also open on Fridays



Opening Times:

Monday 9.30 - 4.30pm

Wednesday 9.30 - 4.30pm

Friday open 9.30 - 4.30pm

Saturday open 9.30 - 1pm.

Tele. 01386 822722

URGENT APPEAL FOR A SPONSOR

We are currently sponsors for a Ukrainian Lady who has been living with us since January this year.

Lidiia had to leave her daughter and two grandsons in Ukraine in the hope that once she was here, she could find a sponsor for them. Sadly, to date, we have been unsuccessful.

If you feel that you can help Lidiia's daughter and grandsons it would mean so much to them to have a safe and welcoming home to live in and to be near Lidiia again.

I am sure that you may have many questions and if you would like to contact me, I will do my very best to help.

Thank you. Please contact Michelle Sharp or Nick Horne on 853543

WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL TREASURER WANTED

Our village hall committee is made up of representatives of all village organisations, so this is a wonderful opportunity to meet people and get involved in village life. Our Treasurer Tracey is returning to full time employment, so we are looking for someone to take her place. Tracey will give full training to a new treasurer and remain on hand to ensure a smooth handover over. If you would like to become part of a very friendly Village Hall Committee and take on this important role

Please email nevillejelfs@gmail.com.

Neville Jelfs Chairman 07980-870309 19



ANNUAL SHOW
Monday 26th August 2024
Village Hall : 2.00pm to 5.00pm

67 Classes in total

22 Childrens Classes

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



Go on, enter a class or more this year !!

Schedule of Classes and Entry forms available from :-

- Methodist Church
- St Peter's Church
- Taylor's Garage
- The Bell
- The New Inn
- www.willersey.org/horticulturalshow24.htm

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August Bank Holiday Monday

It is customary for village organizations and residents to place stalls and displays on the green to coincide with the Horticultural Show in the village hall. Please could anyone planning on using the green contact the Parish Clerk.

Kevin O'Donoghue

email:clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk.

Childswickham Quilters Exhibition

A message from Patricia Roberts:

Thank you so much for including the advert for our exhibition in the magazine for both May and June

You will be pleased to know that it was a great success

and we have now been able to donate £2,500 to St

Richards Hospice

Many Thanks again

About July

July is the seventh month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. Its' length is 31 days. It was named by the Roman Senate in honour of Roman general Julius Caesar in 44 B.C., being the month of his birth. Before then it was called Quintilis, being the fifth month of the calendar that started with March

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Nature Box - HAWKING



Hawking is of course a hunting approach commonly used by many creatures for catching prey in the air.

Right now in Willersey we are blessed with migrant arrivals that almost exclusively hunt and feed on the wing. Swallows, swifts and the occasional house martin can all be seen hawking around the village; although swifts are particularly adept at travelling huge distances if food is in short supply locally whilst their nestlings quietly await their next meal. It's quite fascinating to know that whilst swift chicks can cope for up to four days without a meal the young blue tit nestlings won't survive much beyond four hours.

Raptors will capture birds and sometimes bats and other creatures such as dragonflies with their feet; whereas many other birds that hawk for insects will catch them in their beaks.

At particular times large numbers of insects - often flying ants and perhaps surprisingly spiders - rise up into the air to provide an all-you-can-eat buffet for lots of other birds including starlings, corvids and gulls. Spotted flycatchers, although far less common these day, are easily picked out when seen with their flying and returning to the same perch after catching an insect. Perhaps the most adept hunters of all are dragonflies,

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rarely missing a target, that possess exceptional hawking ability: travelling at great speed, hovering and even able to fly backwards, and to be seen in our gardens and over the village pond in mid summer. But darkness doesn't bring any respite for some flying insects with pipistrelle bats in particular to be seen hawking and hoovering up moths and other insects as daylight fades. *Bob Topp*

PUBLIC NOTICES July 2024

MONDAY KERBSIDE BIN COLLECTIONS.

The dates for the bins are 8th & 22nd July 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 clerk@willerseyparishcouncil.org.uk

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.**

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

NEAREST LIBRARY The nearest library is in 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/ 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

Scarecrow Thank You

30 Scarecrows on the 2024 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