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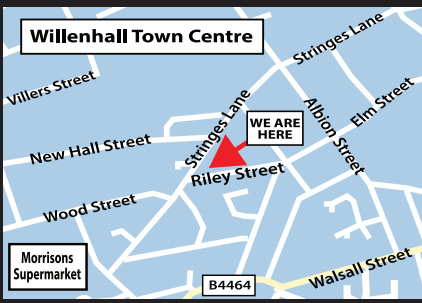
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Willenhall Life

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the April/May issue of Willenhall Life.

This magazine comes out right on the start of Spring, when most people's mood is supposed to start to improve as we look forward to better weather and more daylight.

I still don't understand why we need to put the clocks backwards and forwards at the start of Spring and Autumn.

I believe it was done to give the farmers extra time for harvesting, but it doesn't. There's no more daylight, it just starts at a different time. Crazy!

The gardeners among you will be able to get out and do a bit more, now everything is starting to grow, which is great for our mental and physical health.

I've just had one of those scarifiers, to see if I can get my lawn in a bit better shape. I think there's more weeds than grass in it, so hopefully the new gadget might help. If I can't get it right this year, I might have to go for a full re-turf, but that feels like giving up and is probably a bit expensive.

By the time you read this, I'll be another year older (I know, I don't look it – thanks!) and I'm now starting to listen to my lot, who have been telling me to slow down for the last few years.

The trouble is – and some of you will be the same – I don't feel my age. In my head, I'm still 30.....ok, maybe 40.....alright 45, but I certainly don't feel 58!

Don't panic! I'm not stopping the magazines. However, I have another job as Bilston's Town Centre Manager, where I was doing three days a week. I'm now reducing that to two and at some point, will go down to one, then finish completely.

I'm very lucky in that I really love both jobs, but I need a bit of time for me, to play golf, get fit, read a book or make some pasta (I have a machine that I've only used twice and I'm getting grief about it)..... Oh and that bloody lawn won't mow itself!

Due to the increasing cost of print, more than ever, our advertisers are vitally important to the to the continuation of this magazine. Please have a look at their adverts and if you do purchase anything from them, PLEASE TELL THEM YOU SAW THE ADVERT IN WILLENHALL LIFE!

The next issue will cover June and July and will be out on 19th May, so if you want to be in it, please contact me by 28th April.

Enjoy your read!

Simon



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Willenhall From Above

Local Photographer, Paul (Billy) Turner, from New Invention, has kindly shared some photos of Willenhall, which he took using his drone and camera.

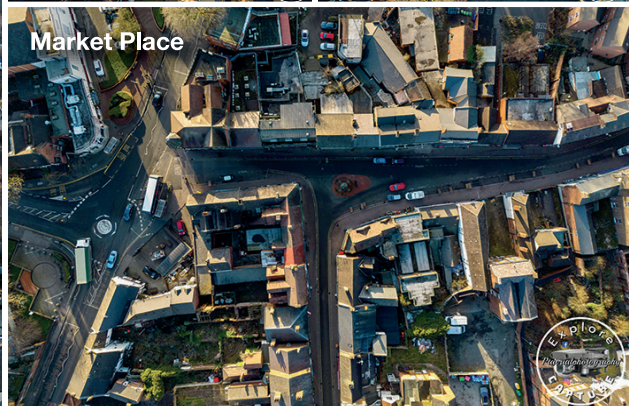
Paul started off with a fascination of flying drones around 8 years ago and bought his first DJI drone and as the years have gone by, he's upgraded his equipment and grown more into photography and editing side, thanks to endless hours on YouTube, he tells us.

He took his PfcO licence 4 years ago to fly commercially and is now a fully insured A2CofC

holder and has a good following on social media. He's also managed to turn it into a part time business - **PTAerialphotography**.

During the week, he works as a delivery driver, travelling all over the country, which gives him the opportunity to capture beautiful images far and wide.

All his images are available to buy as prints. Checkout his facebook page - **ptaerialphotography**.





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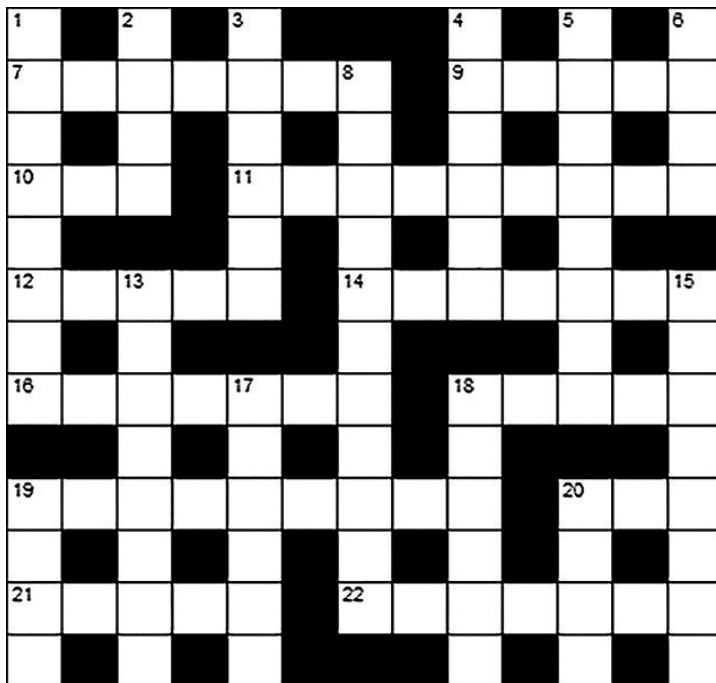
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Crossword

Please see answers on page 47



Across

- 7 Voted in, chosen (7)
- 9 Concepts, notions (5)
- 10 Affirmative response (3)
- 11 Outward Behaviour (9)
- 12 Denigrate, exploit (5)
- 14 Enlightened, tolerant (7)
- 16 Analyses, observes (7)
- 18 Stick, cudgel (5)
- 19 Mobilising troops (9)
- 20 Blockade, stopper (3)
- 21 Bamboo-eating bear-like animal (5)
- 22 Ice river (7)

Down

- 1 A decade (3,5)
- 2 Chaos, disarray (4)
- 3 Filling, cloying food (6)
- 4 Baking soda (abbr) (6)
- 5 Not a Republican (U.S) (8)
- 6 Ruler, leader (4)
- 8 Destroying, breaking (11)
- 13 Supplanting (8)
- 15 Monument, feature (8)
- 17 Line joining points of equal atmospheric pressure on a weather map (6)
- 18 Tramp, drifter (6)
- 19 Drug, sedate (4)
- 20 Trickle, plop (4)

Black Country Fuchsia and Gardening Society



If you like fuchsias and love your garden, come, and join us and see what we do.

We meet on the last Tuesday of every month except December.

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We meet for 7.30pm for 8pm start and aim to finish for 9.45pm



Adrian Hallows Chairman on 07782 212471
www.blackcountryfuchsiasociety.weebly.com

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Willenhall based will writer Jim Stanistreet, from BensonWilliams, on secret trusts and half secret trusts



This job can get a bit murky sometimes.

Let's say I've got a client called William. He's married to Kate but has been having an extra marital affair, and now has a secret love child who Kate knows nothing about. As the father he wants to leave a sum of money in his will to the child, but he doesn't want Kate to discover what has happened. He is also acutely aware that if he doesn't leave the child anything in his will then the child's mother will claim against the estate and Kate definitely will find out what has gone on.

So, what can William do? One option is a "secret trust". In this scenario William leaves a sum of money in his will to a third party, let's say his brother Harry, and simultaneously enters into a private agreement with Harry that the money is actually meant for the child. This can work, but it does invest a lot of faith in Harry who could very easily keep the money for himself (which in turn would mean the child's mother claiming and Kate

learning the truth). Also, we don't know what Harry's personal circumstances are going to be when William dies. He could be facing bankruptcy, or be in the middle of a complex divorce, or be in residential care, all of which could inadvertently expose the money to attack from external forces.

A second option is a "half secret trust". In this scenario William leaves a sum of money to the trustees of his will, and also states in the will that the money "is to be used for the purposes already agreed by me with my trustees". This is probably a lot safer in terms of ensuring that the money ultimately finds its way to the child. However, without being specific, it does also alert Kate to the fact that something has been happening.

I have to say it is extremely rare for me to be asked to draft something on behalf of a client and also be asked to keep it a secret from their husband or wife. Camouflaging things from other family members is more common, but happily the vast majority of my clients have absolutely nothing to hide and are just using me to ensure that their assets pass to their loved ones with the minimum of fuss and unnecessary expense.

For more information you can call **07789 520910** or email **info@bensonwilliams.co.uk**

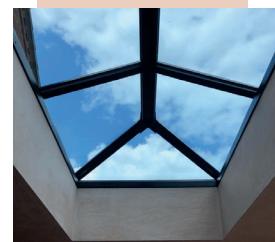


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News in Brief

Walking Football at Sneyd Community Centre

I currently organise several activities on a voluntary basis in the Walsall area aimed at keeping over 50's active. One of our activities is walking football, this takes place every Thursday from 10am at Sneyd.



New players are always welcome and due to the facilities at Sneyd we can play all year round with inside & outside options available.

I'm also involved with the sports morning on a Wednesday morning 10 to 12 pm (£2.50 inc tea, coffee & biscuits) and Thursday morning walking football 10-11am (£2.50). Players just turn up at the moment and we can accommodate more people if needed.



There is also walking football Tues 10 to 11am run by Walsall FC (£3) & walking cricket Wednesday 2-4pm (cost £4), again all at Sneyd. My aim is to have some sporting activity running every week day across Walsall.

Look on facebook & Instagram for 'Walsall over 50s sports group'

John Hemming

Portobello Methodist Church Events



Coffee Mornings fortnightly on Saturdays April, 1, 15,29, May 13,27 10.00-12.00.

Hot & cold drinks, cakes & toasted teacakes on sale.

Friendship Club alternate Wednesdays April 12,26, May 10,24. 2.00-4.00

Enjoy a game of Bingo, refreshments, and share in conversation with new friends . Subs £1 Bingo 60p

Skittles evening Saturday, April 22 at 6.30 p.m. £3 and refreshments on sale - If anyone intends to come to the Skittles night or Quiz night, could they ring **01902 654650** by the Wednesday before the event to help with numbers for catering.

The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association is a uniformed organisation which meets every Wednesday in term time from 6.30 p.m. Children of school age are welcome to join.

Table Top Sale Saturday April 29 from 10.00 various stalls, including white elephant and tombola. Refreshments on sale.

Quiz Night Saturday, May 20 at 6.30 p.m. £5 including refreshments. Teams of 4.

Individuals will be put into teams on arrival.

A light hearted quiz and an evening of fun.

The Church is situated on New Street, Portobello WV13 3TD

Short Heath Singers Birthday Concert - Celebrating 35 years

Saturday 17th June 2023 at Short Heath Methodist Church 7.30pm

Short Heath Singers is celebrating 35 years of music making this year. The group made its debut in 1988 led by the expert direction of Margaret Myatt. Margaret still has connections with the choir but handed over the role of Musical Director to Caroline Meads in 2015.

As a mixed voice choir, we are very fortunate to have a wealth of musical talent amongst its members. We offer a variety of musical entertainment, from the Middle Ages to contemporary and

popular music written by today's composers.

New members are always welcome. We are especially in need of more men for the choir to grow and guarantee our future success and continued longevity.

Anyone who is interested in joining the choir could telephone Caroline Meads on **07432 305630** or should come along to a rehearsal at Short Heath Methodist Church on a Monday at 7.30pm.

It's all very relaxed and can be quite entertaining.



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Dozens of Jobs to be Created after Willenhall Haulage Firm's Expansion Gets Green Light



New jobs will be created after a haulage firm's plan to expand its Willenhall operation was given the go-ahead.

RK Transport Services Ltd will take over a former scrap yard site next to its existing commercial

building on Temple Bar to boost the business which has been there for more than four decades. The expansion will see the creation of five new jobs to add to the 55-strong workforce with the potential for five more being created in two years time.

Work will involve demolishing an existing commercial building as well as extending RK Transport's workshop.

Agents CT Planning said: "The northern portion of the site is occupied by RK Transport Services Ltd. who have operated from this location for over 40 years.

"The southern part of the site was formerly occupied by a scrapyard, which has now ceased to operate. "RK Transport Services Ltd are looking to expand their operations into the southern portion of the site to support the expansion of an existing business and strengthen the economic vitality of the surrounding area.

"It is acknowledged that there is a wider shortage of housing land within the Black Country, however the same is true for employment land and as such this must be considered when weighing up the material considerations and benefits of this application.

"The site is not an allocated housing site and there is currently no prospect of housing being delivered on the land. "The proposed expansion of the existing business will generate an additional five full-time jobs immediately (and the potential of a further five full-time jobs in two years) that will help to meet the needs of local communities.

"The generation of employment opportunities within the site are encouraged by local and national policy and local policy states that the retention of existing employment sites will be supported.

"It is considered that the expansion of an existing business in this location will achieve both of these goals as it will provide essential employment opportunities at this time and also retains an established site that is intended for employment use. "The proposed development would also allow for the retention of 55 full-time jobs."

R K Transport was formed approx 30 yrs ago by Ray Kibble, when Ray started out as an owner driver working long and hard hours to make ends meet.

During his time as owner driver he made some good contacts and soon found that he needed another vehicle to cover the work..... the rest is history, from one to two to three, four and so on, to it became obvious that his time was best spent in the office and looking after customers, whilst employing professional drivers to do the driving.

During the next 25 years the company has grown within an expansion plan to where it is today, running a fleet of some 50 vehicles, with the second generation of Kibbles pushing the company forward.

Steve Kibble is now at the forefront of the company to assist in the smooth daily running of the business.





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Willenhall Lock Stock 2023

Hello music fans. We are gearing up for a bigger Lock Stock, this year - Sunday 3rd September. Are you getting excited?



This year we have themed the 2 large stages, Sgt Pepper's Stage and The Sticky Fingers stage. Oh and the top of the bill on these stages will be local bands, the *Black Country Beatles* and a new Stones tribute *Shine a Light*. Please feel free to dress in keeping with the period, flares, flowers and long hair all welcome.

We will also have a few favourites appearing again including *Dayton Grey* and *the Bhangra Smash Up*, who never fail to get the crowd up on their feet and dancing. Over on the Sticky Fingers stage we have local legends *Voodoo Sioux* plus a premier appearance at Lock Stock of *New Saints*.

Last year we had a few little showers but that did not deter our fans who came prepared with camping chairs, umbrellas and danced away the showers. You the fans make this festival happen so a big thank you for keeping live music alive in the Park. Over 3500 attended had a great time and went home singing and dancing. This year we have increased our capacity to 4500.



All the gazebos and concessions have been allocated and tickets will go on sale in April. Again we have an allocation of early bird tickets at just £5 that can be purchased from Touchdown Vapes Clarkes Lane and also the Spud Van Man in Willenhall Market, on market days. Early Bird Tickets will remain on sale until July 31st or when the allocation is sold, then tickets will be £7.50 and £10 in September.



Lots going on in the background including the hunt for more local business sponsors, so if you fancy your business associated with the most popular social event around let us know by messaging on our FB page.

Willenhall Lock Stock exists because of the support of local business, bands and artists and you the fans. If you keep coming, we will keep music alive in the park.

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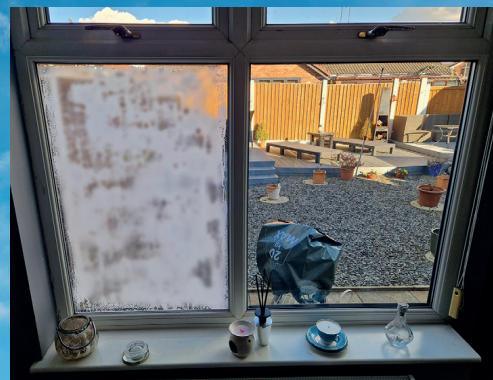
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The Full Monty

Even after four decades, green-fingered expert Monty Don's passion for the outdoors shows little sign of waning, as he explains why gaining new inspiration is so important.

A lifetime of getting green fingers might be taking its toll physically on the 67-year-old broadcaster and writer Monty Don: aside from his bout of peritonitis in 2007, a stroke that could have killed him a year later, and battles with depression – for which he says gardening has been a better antidote than any prescription drug – the everyday rigours of flowering and weeding, pruning and digging have left his body as weathered as one would expect... not that he cares.

"It's a strange day when you put the visual appearance of your garden over yourself," he laughs. "For me, that was quite some time ago, but it all relates back to how passionate you are about a subject or a project.

"It's a big job to keep my garden how I want it, and to keep going – you do that because it's important not only for the future, but in respecting the effort you have put in previously."

A renowned writer on all things horticultural since the early 1990s, Don has had over 20 books published and still pens a number of popular newspaper columns.

He became the welcoming, enthusiastic, all-knowing expert on the BBC's *Gardeners' World*

programme between 2003 and 2008, before taking on lead presenting duties for its flagship Chelsea Flower Show in 2014.



Well dressed in his 'painterly' style and with a sparkling demeanour, Monty's garden at Longmeadow in Herefordshire has become something of a national horticultural staple, with fans sharing in the ups and downs of tending to an expansive plot that continues to throw up new challenges. "We've had all manner of issues over the past few years, especially some drainage issues.

"Where nature is concerned, you've got to expect the unexpected – it's a fun part of the process... at least, fixing it is!"

When asked about his own inspirations, he admits to having been influenced by



the style and aesthetics of French gardener Nicole de Vesian, who passed away in 1996.

"Nicole had a great feeling for both colour and form, and then for space," he says. "Her use of colours could look muted and faded at first, but when her gardens were in bloom they looked fantastic when the sun is shining. And she used the space in between plants and sculptures better than anyone. That's been a blueprint I've used for Longmeadow for quite some time.

"I think it's important to have heroes and inspiration, no matter who you are or for how long you've been in the game."



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WHY USE A DENTAL HYGIENIST?

Are you aware of the importance of regular dental hygiene visits? Dental hygienists play a crucial role in maintaining good oral health. Their job involves cleaning teeth, removing plaque, and preventing fillings.

Dental hygiene has become very important these days. People want their teeth cleaned regularly because they believe that good oral health helps them look younger and healthier. The problem is that some people don't realise that regular brushing isn't enough to prevent problems.

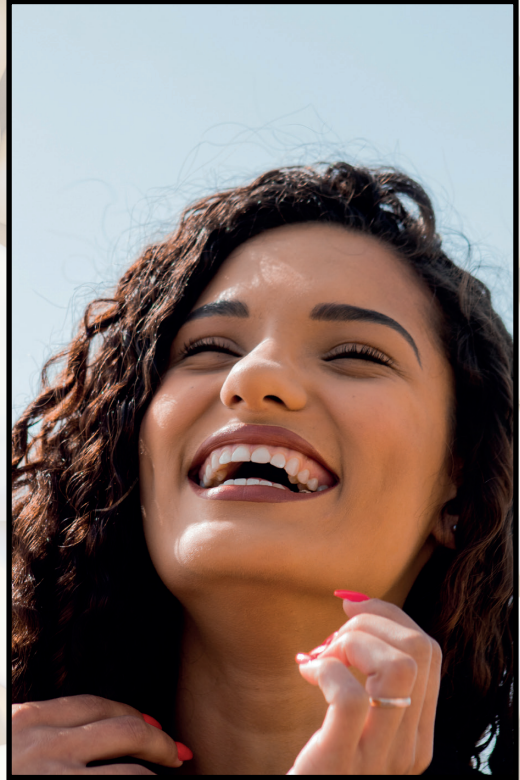
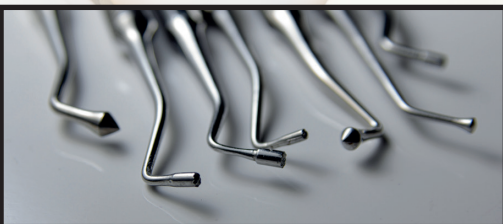
Tooth decay and gum disease are two of the leading causes of tooth loss in adults. If left untreated, both conditions can cause pain, infection, and bleeding. Fortunately, dental hygienists play a key role in spotting and treating these issues.

A visit to the hygienist every 6 months or so for a deep clean will keep your mouth in top condition, but you may need more frequent visits if you have ongoing problems or any health conditions such as diabetes. Your dentist may recommend more regular hygienist appointments for children too.

What does a dental hygienist do?

A dental hygienist cleans teeth by removing plaque from tooth surfaces using special tools and techniques. They may also remove tartar (calcified deposits) and polish teeth to improve their appearance. They may sometimes work closely with dentists or orthodontists to address issues related to tooth decay or gum disease.

You should consider using a dental hygienist if you suffer from gingivitis or periodontal disease. These conditions cause inflammation of the gums and bone around the teeth. Regular visits to a hygienist can help treat these problems. However, it may be too late by then for your mouth to heal completely. A dental hygienist will be able to detect any signs of gum disease before your condition worsens.



How can I make my hygienist visits less.... painful?

It's important to maintain good oral hygiene. Brushing and flossing regularly help reduce the risk of developing fillings and periodontal disease. To avoid these conditions, make sure to brush and floss after meals and at bedtime. When brushing, focus on areas where food collects. For example, try to reach into spaces between your teeth and along the gum line. Also, pay attention to the back sides of your molars.

Flossing helps remove bacteria and debris that collect around your teeth. Use an interdental cleaner to gently loosen plaque and food particles. Then, carefully slide the floss between your teeth to remove the material.

Brush your tongue too! Tongue cleaning is another effective method of keeping your mouth healthy. Brush your tongue with a soft-bristled toothbrush, making sure to brush all parts of it.

It's important to keep up with routine dental exams. Your dentist will examine your teeth and gums during each visit. During this time, he or she will also take X-rays to determine whether you need additional treatments.

If you're not sure when your next dental exam is due, contact your dentist's office.

About the Author: Helen Say is a freelance copywriter and blogger www.cbllservices.co.uk



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Spring is all about rebirth and growth, so it's the perfect time to start fresh. If you've been wanting to get fitter and healthier in your life, now is the time to do it. It's the perfect time to begin working towards your goals and making positive changes in your life.

All in all, Spring is a great time for your health and well-being. From the warmer weather and longer days to the fresh produce and abundance of activities, there are plenty of reasons to love this season.

So, make sure to get out there and enjoy it! Your mind, body, and soul will thank you for it.

The warmer weather and longer days give you more energy to get out and enjoy the outdoors. Exercise is a great way to boost your energy levels, and there are plenty of activities to choose from in springtime.

Getting your heart rate up is a great way to boost your energy levels and improve your mood. All of these activities are great for your physical health as well as your mental health, so get out there and enjoy the spring weather!

Another reason why spring may give you more energy is because of the increased

levels of daylight. Exposure to sunlight has been shown to improve mood and increase energy levels. This is because sunlight helps the body produce serotonin, a neurotransmitter that has been linked to happiness and well-being. This is one reason why spending time outside in the springtime is a great way to improve your mood! So if you're feeling down or have Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), getting out and enjoying the spring weather may be just what you need!

In addition to improving mood, sunlight also helps the body produce vitamin D. Vitamin D is essential for teeth and bone health, and it can also help improve mood and energy levels. This is another reason why spending time outside in the springtime is good for your overall health!

Another reason to love spring is the abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables that are available. This time of year is perfect for getting your daily dose of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants from nature's bounty. Make sure to take advantage of all the delicious seasonal produce and incorporate it into your meals!

Some of the best fruits and vegetables to enjoy in the springtime include asparagus,



strawberries, blueberries, spinach, and peas. These foods are all packed with antioxidants and nutrients that can help improve your health and wellbeing. So, make sure to add them to your diet this season!

Another great thing about spring is the fresh air. Taking a walk in the park or spending time outdoors surrounded by nature can do wonders for your mental state. Exposure to fresh air and sunlight has been shown to improve mood, increase energy levels, and even reduce stress levels. Plus, getting some fresh air is great to clear your mind and reframe your thoughts.

So, if you're feeling stressed out or down, make sure to get outside and take a deep breath of fresh air. You'll be surprised at how much better you feel!

There are plenty of reasons to love spring, and these are just a few of them! This

season is a great time to get out and enjoy the weather while also improving your mental and physical health. So, make sure to take advantage of all that spring has to offer!



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WEDNESDAY
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Short Heath British Legion
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Willenhall Rotary

Bleed kits delivered to Willenhall and Short Heath

The Rotary Club of Willenhall have secured funding from The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner to buy emergency bleed control kits. The kits can be the difference in saving lives and are at several accessible locations in Willenhall and Short Heath.

President of The Rotary Club of Willenhall Simon Rollason has been helping Willenhall Police to deliver the kits to The One Stop at the Woodlands Shopping Centre, Nisa on Stroud Avenue, Tesco on Lane Head and Brothers on Pool Hayes.

Further kits are being rolled out with Willenhall Memorial Park being a chose location.

The Rotary Club are also soon launching a Police and Crime Commissioner funded project in Short Heath to provide after school activity for young people.



President Simon said, "Sadly knife crime and anti-social behaviour are in our communities we at the Rotary Club of Willenhall are pleased to be working with the Police and other groups to try and help to tackle the causes and after effects in our community."

Lend With Care

Four years ago, in 2019, the Rotary Club of Willenhall became involved in a Rotary International supported scheme called 'Lend with Care.'

The essence of this initiative is to assist people who want to work their way out of poverty to do so and this is achieved by Rotary clubs making loans to them.

For a loan as little £15, individuals and organisations can help to get people started in small businesses and receive news on how the business is developing and then see the repayment of the loan as the business succeeds.

From an initial investment of £210 in 2019 these past four years has seen that grow to £660. The Rotary Club has helped create 201 jobs in countries as diverse as Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe a well as the Philippines, Pakistan, Peru and Palestine.

Over 514 entrepreneurs have received help from the loans and 1785 family members have received support from the scheme.

'Lend with Care' is run on behalf of the Rotary Club by twice Past President Jim Green who says, "We are one of the many Rotary Clubs who support 'Lend with Care' and are very proud of the fact that a relatively small club like ours can help so many people and families out of poverty around the world."

This, at no overall cost to the Rotary Club as the loans are eventually paid back to be re-invested again.

3 Good reasons for backing Willenhall's Lib Dem team

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North candidate**



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And although folk don't expect the Council to solve all of their problems, they do know, that with a slight change of priorities, councils could provide the help they need.

The focus of our campaign in the local election on the 6th May centres around the things you've said are important to you. Trust, fairness, health and wellbeing.



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Pasta Sauces of Rome

Carbonara

Carbonara has grown incredibly popular in the UK.

First and foremost, it's crucial that we establish that pasta carbonara does not include cream. The basic formula is pasta alla gricia, plus egg.



The amount and ratio of whole eggs to egg yolks varies from chef to chef and nonna to nonna, but all authentic recipes include just cheese, egg, and guanciale. Carbonara can be just slightly trickier than gricia or cacio e pepe due to the finicky nature of egg-thickened sauces. Sadly, many discouraged cooks find themselves with a pan full of pasta and scrambled eggs... Emulsions can be elusive things.

Adding the egg right into a hot pan is, by nature, flirting with disaster; the delicate egg with cheese can't withstand the heat and breaks up into its disparate parts. But fear not, we can use an insurance policy (similar to that deployed with the pasta recipes above) against this misfortune. First, we will form an emulsion of egg and cheese, with a little splash of water, in a bowl. And then we toss the hot, guanciale-coated pasta vigorously in the bowl to avoid direct heat. The residual heat from the pasta and rendered fat will cook the egg gently and leave you with an impossibly velvety sauce.

Ingredients:

8 ounces dried pasta – spaghetti, linguine, tagliatelle, fettucine

4 ounces guanciale or smoked lardons or streak bacon, diced

1 ounce Parmesan cheese (plus more for serving), grated

1 ounce Pecorino-Romano cheese, grated

1 large egg

1 large egg yolk

Freshly cracked black pepper, to taste

Method

- 1 Boil pasta in a pot of heavily salted water for about 2 minutes less than the package directions recommend.
- 2 Add the diced bacon to a large skillet and place the pan over medium-low heat. Saute until the fat has rendered and the guanciale is crisp.
- 3 Meanwhile, in a large, heat-proof bowl, add both cheeses, black pepper, egg, egg yolk, and a splash of cold water; mix vigorously.
- 4 Drain pasta, reserving about 2 cups of pasta water.
- 5 Add drained pasta to the pan with the guanciale and toss a few times to coat in the fat.
- 6 Dump pasta into the large bowl with the cheese and egg mixture and toss vigorously, adding in more pasta water as needed to achieve desired consistency.
- 7 Taste, adjust seasoning, and serve topped with more Parmesan

Willenhall Gets Levelling up Boost

It was confirmed in January that Walsall Council's bid for £20m of Levelling Up Fund Round 2 (LUF2) for Willenhall has been successful.

The development of Willenhall Garden City in Walsall will be accelerated by this grant, which will play a key role in unlocking a £210 million regeneration plan, enabling the delivery of new homes, parks, and a railway station.

A total of 111 areas out of over 550 across the UK have been awarded funding from LUF2 and Willenhall is one of just eight successful bids across the wider West Midlands area.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, Deputy Leader of Walsall Council said:

“This is a new beginning for Willenhall and an opportunity to look to a future of a more positive vibrant and successful Willenhall. The Love Willenhall Masterplan was launched and developed precisely to secure external funding like this and as someone involved in shaping this policy since day one I am incredibly proud of this achievement. This is the largest injection of funding in Willenhall in over 40 years and it shows that our commitment to regeneration in Willenhall in a real sense and not just in cosmetic changes is strong and on track. We will deliver a safer stronger cleaner greener Willenhall.

“I look forward to welcoming the Secretary of State to Willenhall to discuss our plans in more detail and show him around to see for himself the positive changes we're planning.

“This was a competitive process and our success wouldn't have happened without the sterling work of a small but very dedicated team of regeneration officers and I'm very grateful to them for their hard work.”

The Walsall North LUF2 £20m bid proposals focus on works to enable around 106 new homes at Moat Street and Villiers Street and highway improvements to promote active travel, creating attractive spaces for communities to live and work.



The proposals fit within the overarching vision and objectives set within the Willenhall Framework Plan will accelerate housing and economic growth opportunities following the investment in the new rail station.

The Moat Street/Villiers Street scheme in Willenhall is the first phase of a wider housing-led programme to enable delivery of over 500 new homes in the Framework Plan area. The LUF2 bid will enable the delivery of circa 106 new high-quality homes, including new affordable homes, family-focused housing and an improved street scene.

The movement element is focused on improving active travel and connectivity between the rail station, district centre, green spaces and residential and employment areas:

- The Greenway — cycle/pedestrian route that runs east-west on the former railway line from St Anne's Road to Willenhall Memorial Park and employment areas.
- Railway Lane — north-south active travel route between Willenhall Trading Estate and the town centre.
- Rosehill/Bilston Lane junction — new 3-armed roundabout to increase capacity and reduce congestion.

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Eddie Hughes MP

An update from your Member of Parliament



As we head towards Spring, we have a lot to look forward to across Willenhall from the Coronation events for the King to Willenhall Carnival. We've also had some big news on major investment for Willenhall over the last few months.

I'm delighted to announce that the Levelling Up Bid for Willenhall, submitted last year, has been approved! Willenhall is now set to receive multi-million-pound investment from the Government. This will transform Willenhall Town Centre by supporting Walsall Council's Willenhall Framework Plan which seeks to breathe new life into Willenhall by bringing derelict sites back into use, creating affordable homes for local families, all whilst making Willenhall a great place to live and work – and what better timing with Willenhall Railway Station reopening soon! I campaigned for investment into Willenhall before I was elected as your Member of Parliament in 2017 and I am delighted to be able to deliver on this pledge.

Having secured the £20m for Willenhall, I was pleased to welcome Michael Gove, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to the town for an opportunity to meet with Council Officers to discuss the details of our plans for Willenhall in more detail. The Secretary of State was keen to hear about the plans for housing and investment whilst preserving the town's heritage. We're all looking forward to the project getting started and I will continue to keep you updated.



I also took the opportunity to visit Willenhall Railway Station with the Secretary of State to check on progress of the site. The old buildings that were on site have now been demolished and more tangible progress is being made. The station will be a pivotal

part in the regeneration of the town and will not only improve transport links for local families into the wider region for work, studies and leisure but will also encourage more investment into the town. I'm looking forward to it reopening in early 2024!



There is even more exciting news - The new Urgent and Emergency Care Centre at Walsall Manor Hospital is now open! It's taken a long time to get here – I'm pleased to have secured the funding but it's been a big team effort to get the project complete. The opening of the new centre will change the quality of care received by patients and the work environment for the wonderful staff. I'm looking forward to the "official" opening later this year.



You may have seen that the former Eagleworks site on Somerford Place is being demolished! I was pleased to join GreenSquareAccord at the site. The former factory is being turned into 51 homes for local families including one and two bed apartments as two, three and four bedroom houses. I'm pleased that the development will transform the unused and derelict site into sustainable homes. The demolition of this derelict site marks a new era for Willenhall as derelict sites are knocked down and more investment comes into our historic town.

I'm looking forward to keeping you updated on all these exciting projects and more progress is made and I'll see you out and about in the town!

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Willenhall Transport Show

Sunday 25th June - Willenhall Memorial Park

Willenhall's very own Transport Show will take place on Sunday 25th June - 11am till 3pm.

It was over 7 years ago when a group of car fanatics got together and ran the very first Transport Show. An act of faith that paid off with the tremendous support of local enthusiasts who have over the last few years faithfully driven in parked up and created a great atmosphere where folk can exchange stories, tips and of course show off their vehicles many of which have been lovingly restored or maintained.



Entering a vehicle is free we just ask that exhibitors stay for the duration of the show as admission for the general public is £3 with children under 16 free if accompanied by an adult. Tickets are bought on the day.



Motor bikes, scooters, sports cars, hot hatches, trucks and even a fire engine have all made appearances at the show we await our first helicopter or any other flying vehicle.

Over 2000 people attended last year and 120 vehicles were on display, challenging many of the Midlands well established shows with clubs travelling from Solihull and beyond.

This year Lock Stocks Pop Up Stage (The Wild Horses) will be there with a number of bands and artists entertaining us and we are aiming to introduce a Tug Of War challenge, with a difference the competitor will be a 4WD vehicle, so if you fancy taking Willenhall Transport Show very first Tug of Truck trophy get your mates together and bring some suitable footwear and gloves.

To enter a vehicle, go to **Friendsofwillenhallmemorialpark.co.uk** and follow the Transport Show.

Looking forward to seeing you all again.

Willenhall Transport Show x



Willenhall Transport Show

Sunday June 25th

11-3pm

Willenhall Memorial Park WV13 2PW

Admission Price £3 Family Ticket 2 + 2 £10

Accompanied Children under 16 free

 Willenhall Transport Show



Kids' Page



Can you find all the chocolate bars hidden in the letter grid?

- Aero
- Boost
- Bounty
- Bueno
- Caramac
- Chomp
- Double Decker
- Freddo
- Galaxy
- KitKat

D	O	U	B	L	E	D	E	C	K	E	R
S	N	I	C	K	E	R	S	A	V	A	T
C	V	L	A	E	R	O	P	T	B	S	S
T	H	I	R	K	M	S	Y	O	R	H	
O	G	O	A	C	I	R	K	O	A	K	P
B	A	N	M	W	H	L	B	M	B	I	P
L	L	B	A	P	I	C	N	C	U	T	B
E	A	A	C	M	I	T	S	S	E	K	O
R	X	R	B	P	T	W	I	X	N	A	U
O	Y	Y	O	R	K	I	E	D	O	T	N
N	A	T	F	N	F	R	E	D	D	O	T
E	Z	C	B	M	I	L	K	Y	W	A	Y

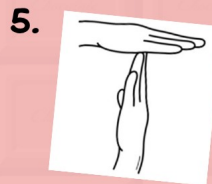
- Lion Bar
- Mars
- Milkybar
- MilkyWay
- Snickers
- Toblerone
- Topic
- Twirl
- Twix
- Wispa
- Yorkie



The answer to each picture clue is a popular chocolate treat. Can you solve them all? The first one has been done for you.



Dime



- Picture Clue Answers
- 1. Dime
 - 2. Celebrations
 - 3. Picnic
 - 4. Minstrels
 - 5. Time Out
 - 6. Galaxy

Letter Grid Solution

D	O	U	B	L	E	D	E	C	K	E	R
S	N	I	C	K	E	R	S	A	V	A	T
C	V	L	A	E	R	O	P	T	B	S	S
T	H	I	R	K	M	S	Y	O	R	H	
O	G	O	A	C	I	R	K	O	A	K	P
B	A	N	M	W	H	L	B	M	B	I	P
L	L	B	A	P	I	C	N	C	U	T	B
E	A	A	C	M	I	T	S	S	E	K	O
R	X	R	B	P	T	W	I	X	N	A	U
O	Y	Y	O	R	K	I	E	D	O	T	N
N	A	T	F	N	F	R	E	D	D	O	T
E	Z	C	B	M	I	L	K	Y	W	A	Y



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CERTASS



Easter Adventures with the National Trust



Bring the whole family together this Easter and treat your loved ones to a spring adventure with the National Trust.

From getting active in the great outdoors, to spotting the signs of spring, and experiencing nature bursting into life at the places the National Trust cares for; there are over 190 Easter trails to choose from across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Every single National Trust Easter trail is different and celebrates nature, history and beauty. Follow winding garden paths or woodland trails to complete an activity sheet before claiming your prize.

Each National Trust Easter trail ends with a chocolate egg, or vegan and free from egg, made here in the UK using cocoa that's responsibly sourced from Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.

National Trust Easter egg trails cost £3 per child, plus normal National Trust admission/free entry for National Trust members.

To discover your nearest National Trust Easter trail, visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/easter

SHROPSHIRE

Attingham Park, near Shrewsbury:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/attingham-park

Make your way along the trail and find nature-inspired activities for the whole family. The trail takes place between 25 March to 16 April, from 8am to 5pm, with last trials sold at 4pm, so come along and explore the beautiful grounds of Attingham Park.

The price of the trail is £3 per child and includes a trail map, pencil, bunny ears and a chocolate egg

at the end. Booking is not required for the trail. If you would like a quieter trail we recommend coming on a weekday or before 10.30am or after 3pm. On weekends between 11am and 2.30pm the trail can get very busy.

Benthall Hall, near Broseley:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/benthall-hall

Set off on your own Easter adventure in the garden at Benthall Hall. Discover what's new in nature at this time of year. Spring flowers are blooming and wildlife is waking up for the new season. Complete the activities and earn your chocolate reward. It's £3 to take part. Please book your car park space during the Easter bank holiday weekend.



Dudmaston, near Bridgnorth:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dudmaston

Discover what's new in nature this Easter at Dudmaston. Easter trails are available at Dudmaston Hall from Sunday 2 - Sunday 16 April (excluding Fridays and Saturdays); and in Comer Woods from 7 - 10 April. Trails are £3 each and include a prize.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Biddulph Grange Garden, near Stoke-on-Trent:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/biddulph-grange

Get ready to spring into action with the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Biddulph Grange Garden. Follow the trail around the garden from 1 - 16 April, there are 10 activity stations for you to enjoy, including potting a seed to take home, cloud spotting and welly-wanging.

Once you have completed the trail and had lots of fun you can claim your chocolate prize. Easter Egg Hunt trails £3 each, includes a chocolate prize. Normal admission prices apply.

Kinver Edge and the Rock Houses, near Stourbridge: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kinver-edge

Find out what's new in nature this spring at the Rock Houses. Join us for Easter adventures from Friday 7 - Sunday 16 April. Follow the trail, complete the activities and collect your Easter Egg once you've finished. Activity sheet and Easter Egg cost £3 (normal admission applies).

Moseley Old Hall, near Wolverhampton:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/moseley-old-hall

Come along and join the Easter fun at Moseley between Friday 31st March and Sunday 16th April. With your activity sheet in hand, discover the journey taken by Charles II in 1651 as you weave your way around the trail.

Once you have completed your adventure, go back to one of the friendly Easter helpers to collect your Easter egg.

Activity pack and easter egg £3. No booking required, normal admission applies.

Shugborough Estate, near Stafford:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shugborough-estate

Visit Shugborough Estate this Easter (1 - 16 April) for a fun filled Nature Adventure, with a chocolatey surprise. Follow our Easter Trail, and try your hand at being a weather presenter, getting



crafty or find the giant birds nest. Make sure you stop by the farmyard, where you may see some of our springtime Southdown Lambs or Dorking Chickens, and don't forget to head into the Gardens and Parkland so see spring blooms come to life.

WEST MIDLANDS

Wightwick Manor and Gardens, Wolverhampton:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wightwick-manor

Come and join our Easter adventures at Wightwick from 1 to 9 April 2023. There will be a fun packed activity sheet and a great selection of activities across the gardens for the family to enjoy.

Activity sheet with Easter Egg prize - £3 per participant, normal admission costs apply, no booking required.



WILLOW

Rose

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Being part of the Macc Care family, we want Willow Rose to be a home and community that not only staff and residents are proud of, but that is also respected by people in the local community and the surrounding area.

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Willow Rose is a home with one aim in mind – to look after you in a warm, compassionate, safe and friendly environment. Everyone at Willow

Rose is dedicated to making sure that your welfare and personal happiness is at the forefront of everything we do.

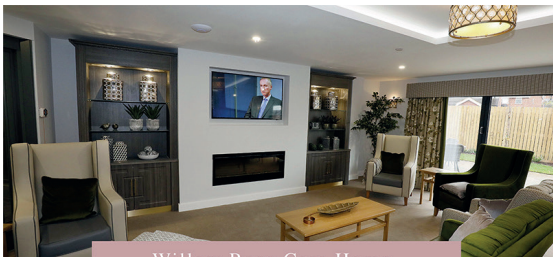
Our Manager

Shelly Trotman is the Manager of Willow Rose and is a dedicated nurse with over thirty years' experience in the care sector. She has previously worked with many large healthcare companies in the UK and so she brings a wealth of knowledge to her new role.

Shelly is really excited about the amenities and opportunities that Willow Rose will provide to its residents. She says..

'Willow Rose is a purpose designed quality home, offering the very latest facilities for everyone. We will be able to offer a level of choice and comfort that I believe will be unrivalled in the local area. We can offer dignity and independence to everyone in surroundings that will be the benchmark for all other homes. I am determined that the level of care that we provide will, in every respect, match the beauty of the home's environment'.

If you would like to contact Shelly to talk about care for a loved one, or to arrange a visit to see what the home can offer you, then please do so using the details below.



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CONTACT

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01922 270920

EMAIL

willowrose.manager@maccare.com

WEBSITE

www.maccare.com/willow-rose

LOCATION

Stroud Avenue, Short Heath,
Willenhall WV12 4ET



King Charles III

As Prince of Wales, Charles has been preparing for this moment for most of his life, under the tutelage and guidance of his late mother, Elizabeth II. He will be recorded in history as the longest ever heir apparent, and the oldest to ever accede to the British throne at the age of 73.

Charles Philip Arthur George was born on 14th November 1948, during the reign of his grandfather King George VI. After the death of the King in 1952, his mother Elizabeth became Queen and Charles became heir to the throne at just three years old.

Charles was educated at Cheam and Gordonstoun schools, in the footsteps of his father Philip. He was the first heir apparent to attend school rather than receive private tuition. His time at Gordonstoun was hard, he referred to it as “Colditz in kilts” but later reflected, “...it taught me to accept challenges and take the initiative.” He left in 1967 with six O levels and two A levels in French and History.

Charles went on to read Archaeology and Anthropology, then switched to History at Trinity College, Cambridge. He gained a 2:2 Bachelor of Arts in 1970. As Prince of Wales, he also spent a term at the University College in Aberystwyth, in order to study the Welsh language and history. In 1975, Cambridge University awarded him a Master of Arts.

Charles joined the Royal Air Force and trained as a jet pilot, then the Royal Navy, where he qualified as a helicopter pilot. The Prince’s Trust was founded in 1976 with the £7,500 severance pay from the Navy. Since then, Charles has established sixteen more charities which raise over £100 million annually.

In 1981, he married Lady Diana Spencer. They had two sons, William born in 1982 and Harry in 1984. The couple divorced in 1996, and Diana was tragically killed in a car accident a year later.

In 2005, Charles married Camilla Parker-Bowles. The official title of Princess of Wales was never publicly acknowledged, instead Camilla became known as the Duchess of Cornwall.

The Duchy of Cornwall Estate was established by Edward III in 1337 for the heir to the throne. As Duke of Cornwall, the 53,000 hectare estate provided Charles with a private income to fund public, charitable and private activities, effectively making him financially independent. The estate passed to Prince William when he became heir apparent.

On 8th September 2022, Queen Elizabeth passed away peacefully and King Charles III became the new monarch. Coronation plans have been laid out for many years, under the codename ‘Operation Golden Orb’. It’s thought that the service will be smaller than the last coronation in 1953, and include different faiths and communities to reflect the change in British society. The Church of England ceremony will be broadcast internationally, and requires an oath and anointment, delivery of the orb and enthronement. The coronation of King Charles III and Camilla takes place in Westminster Abbey on 6th May 2023. Long live the King!



Willenhall History

The Hartills

We need to go back to the first quarter of the 17th century to discover the Hartill family, George born in Willenhall in 1638, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hartill who married Isabel Cross b 1642 on 14th Feb 1663 at St Peter Wolverhampton. It is George's great- great- grandson Isacc Hartill born 1731 who married Mary Baker that took on the role of publican at the Neptune Inn in Walsall Street opposite St Giles Church, a former posting house but used regularly upstairs as a court room and with its spacious stable yard was used by farmers on Sundays, eventually becoming a very popular meeting place. After Isaac's death in 1820 his son Isaac Jr. born 1769 took over the inn. Isaac Jr. married Ann Hartill a descendent of another of George's sons.

It was Isaac's son Jeremiah who in 1826 having served his Indenture with Thomas Smyth, Surgeon, Apothecary and Man Midwife of Bilston that Dr Hartill established himself in medical practice. Jeremiah bought a house on the corner of Walsall Road and Birmingham Street from Thomas Taylor Lees. The practice prospered and so in 1847 Jeremiah decided to have the house demolished in order to have a larger and more suitable house built on the site, he named the house the "Manor House".



Two years later Dr Hartill and other doctors of the town worked tirelessly to save people during the Cholera Epidemic, caused by poor housing, lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation, almost 300 Willenhall people died because of it,

nonetheless it fared better than the 1832 outbreak in Bilston where 742 people died, progression took time.

Two of Jerimiah's nephews William Henry born in 1838 and John Thomas born in 1847 were greatly influenced by their uncle Jeremiah, he never married but took these two boys under his wing and encouraged them to learn, study and enter the medical profession which they both did very successfully. William Henry joined the practice in 1861 and John Thomas in 1869.

The two brothers married two sisters, daughters of James Tildesley another name synonymous with Willenhall. Eventually William Henry had a house built to the left of the Manor House, he named it "Lonsdale House" and worked from there as a doctor and surgeon with his wife Louisa Elizabeth and family.

John Thomas continued working with his uncle until the 1880's when Jeremiah formerly retired moving to Wednesfield until his death in 1887 aged 83, nevertheless he was buried at St Giles Church. Two years later William Henry died unexpectedly aged just 50, he too was buried at St Giles on the 2nd September 1889.

John Thomas Hartill administered to the town and like his uncle he usually had medical students, assistants and assistant surgeons with him. He remained there till his death in 1913 aged 66, after which Emily and one daughter left the Manor House moving to Wolverhampton.

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7.15 pm at the Chart Centre, Gomer Street, come and say hello and see if you would like to come with us on our trip.

By Liz Ince,
Keeping our history alive.

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Email: willenhalllibrary@walsall.gov.uk



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Registered charity number: 1054001 (Project and World)

Useful Telephone Numbers

Community Centres

Bentley Leisure Pavilion	01922 616165
Old Hall People's Partnership	01922 474684
Pool Hayes Community Assoc	01902 368613
Sneyd Community Association	01922 710133
Willenhall CHART Comm Ctre.....	01902 368199

Emergency Services

Crime Stoppers (anonymous)	0800 555111
Electrical emergency	0800 328 1111
Flood line.....	0845 9881188
Gas emergency	0800 111 999
Police/Fire/Ambulance	999
Police (non emergency)	101
Water emergency	0800 7834444

Health Organisations

Arthritis Action.....	0203 781 7120
Manor Hospital	01922 721172
New Cross Hospital (switchbrd)	01902 307999
NHS non-emergency number	111

Local Councillors

Short Heath

Bal Chattha	07721 539327
Josh Whitehouse.....	07917 072811
Amandeep Kaur Garcha	07517 561213

Willenhall South

Carl Usher Creaney.....	07583 410063
Simran Cheema.....	07582 335443
Connor Horton.....	07380 334497

Willenhall North

Adam Hicken.....	07949 311432
Stacie Elson.....	07917 095237
Rob Larden.....	07927 580732

Chemists/Pharmacy

Acorn Pharmacy	01902 632129
Boots	01902 605255
Croft Medical Centre	01902 602999
8pm Chemists	01902 633310
Harding Pharmacy.....	01902 602755
J Docter Bentley	01902 605470
Lloyds The Square – N/Inv	01922 475098
Lloyds Coppice Farm	01922 712076
Portobello Pharmacy.....	01902 630081
Tesco Owen Rd	01902 489747
Vantage Pharmacy	01902 607070

Help Lines/Others

Citizens Advice Bureau	03444 111 444
Childline.....	0800 1111

National Careers Service.	0800 100900
National Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247
RSPCA	0300 1234 999
RSPB.....	0845 1200501
Samaritans	116 123

Places of Worship

Christ Apostolic Church	07495 515317
Emmanuel, Bentley	01902 633070
Furzebank Worship Centre	07758 083282
Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara.....	01902 605286
Holy Trinity, Short Heath	07765 826287
New Testament Church	01902 603885
Portobello Methodist.....	01902 606174
Salvation Army	01902 637732
Shri Guru Ravidass Temple, Somerford Place	01902 606285
Short Heath Methodist	01922 497748
St Annes, Willenhall.....	07941 927245
St Andrews Church, Bentley	01902 607335
St Giles Church	01902 410564
St Mary's, RC Presbytery	01902 452841
St Stephen The Martyr	01902 737793

Schools

Barcroft Primary	01902 368132
Beacon Primary.....	01922 710874
Bentley West Primary	01922 720792
County Bridge Primary	01922 720718
Fibbersley Park Primary	01902 366220
Jane Lane School	01922 721161
King Charles Primary.....	01922 721368
Lodge Farm JMI	01902 368587
Lane Head Nursery	01902 368940
New Invention Infants	01922 710871
New Invention Juniors.....	01922 710376
Old Hall School	01902 368045
Pool Hayes Primary.....	01902 368144
Pool Hayes Arts & Community	01902 368147
Rosedale CE Infants	01902 368910
Short Heath Juniors.....	01902 368499
Shepwell School	01902 632719
Stowheath Primary	01902 558820
St Giles CE Primary.....	01902 368308
St Thomas More RC School	01902 368798
Willenhall E-ACT Academy	01902 368221
Woodlands Acad. of Learning	01922 710613

Libraries

Willenhall	01922 650771
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Crossword Answers

From page 10

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E	L	E	C	T	E	D	I	D	E	A	S
N	S	O	E	C	M	A					
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The next issue of the

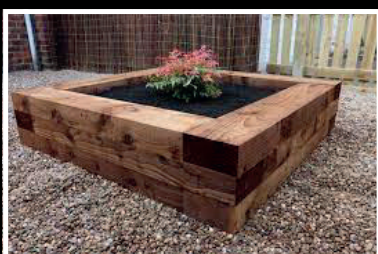
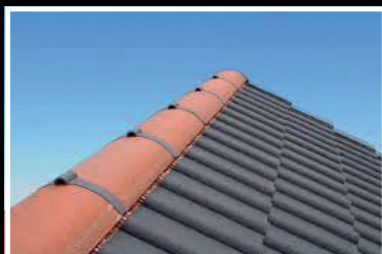
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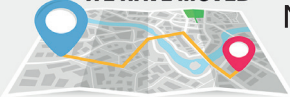
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