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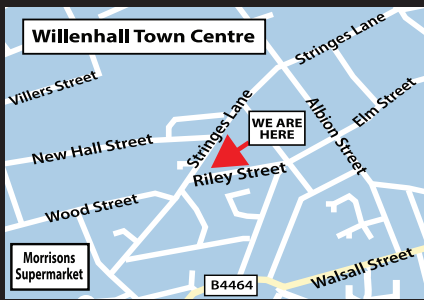
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Willenhall Life

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Part of West Midlands Magazines Ltd

Company No. 10452329
Registered office; 39 High Street,
Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 1ST

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Send to; Willenhall Life
16 Holberg Grove, Wednesfield, WV11 3LE

Magazine Designed and Produced by

Magazine Design UK

4 Wishart Drive, Fradley,
Lichfield, WS13 8GZ
nicola@magazinedesignuk.com

Printed by

Buxton Press Limited

Palace Road,
Buxton,
Derbyshire SK17 6AE

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the June/July issue of Willenhall Life.

As I write this, we are about to see the new King crowned at Westminster Abbey. I think the general feeling is that the new monarch is not as popular as his Mother was, which could be partly down to the feeling that a Royal family is a bit outdated and partly because of the cloud still hanging over his previous relationship.

Personally, I think at the very least, there should be a major streamlining of those on the gravy train as it doesn't sit well with me, that there are millions struggling to keep a roof over their heads – or worse still, homeless - while the Royals discuss which castle to visit next.

Anyway, talking of extended families, I've been over to Norfolk to see some cousins, an Auntie and other relatives, many of who I haven't seen for 40 odd (I think that's donkeys') years. My parents were born and brought up in King's Lynn and Hunstanton and I have lots of memories of childhood holidays, visiting beaches, amusement arcades and funfairs. It really is a beautiful resort. Old Hunstanton's beaches are some of the best in the UK and for the Royalists among you, Sandringham is nearby.

The main reason for the visit, was to allow my 91-year-old Father, to see his old stomping ground and to visit his 86-year-old sister for the first time in over ten years. It's a bit far for him to drive now and neither of them are getting any younger, so it was quite an emotional moment when we left.

One of my other Aunties had eight children and we only managed to see two of them, this time, so another visit might be on the cards.....or maybe that's me finding an excuse to go back.

My new gadget, the scarifier, hasn't really made much difference to my lawn, although what didn't help is having a skip sat on the grass for two weeks longer than we had been promised. I'm thinking I'll need a complete turf, so that might be a job for one of my advertisers.

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 August and September and will be out on 21st July so if you want to be in it, please contact me by 30th June.

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Simon



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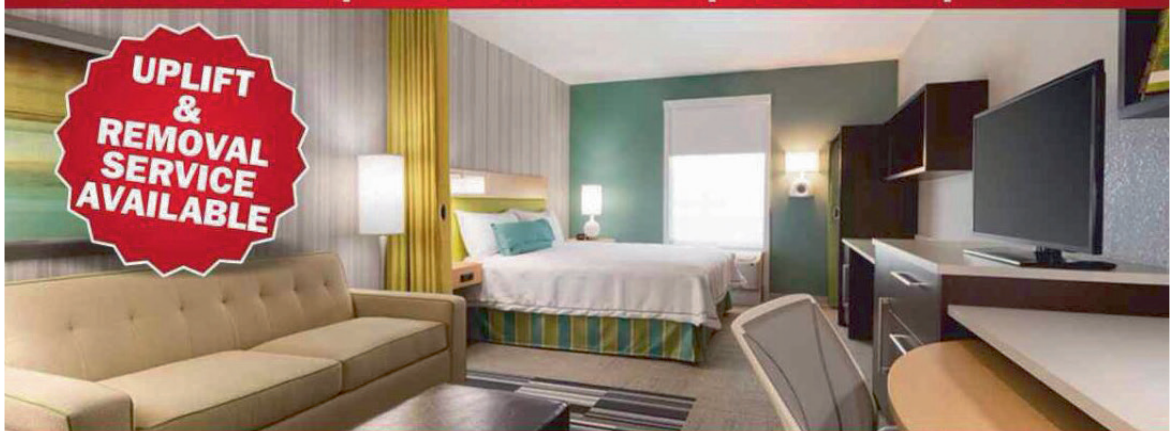


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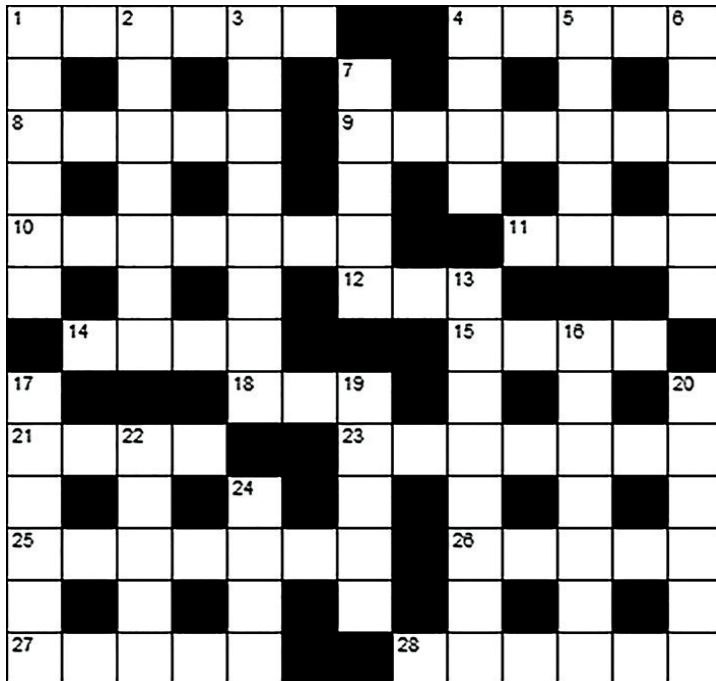
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Crossword

Please see answers on page 47



Across

- 1 Eastern European country (6)
- 4 Thin crisp biscuit (5)
- 8 Overhaul, modernise (5)
- 9 Loudly, uproariously (7)
- 10 Slim, lithe (7)
- 11 Skin irritation (4)
- 12 Top, cover (3)
- 14 Jealousy (4)
- 15 Type of goat (4)
- 18 Weep, cry (3)
- 21 Retort, riposte (4)
- 23 Guitar-like instrument (7)
- 25 Conceded, endorsed (7)
- 26 Emaciated, cadaverous (5)
- 27 Black (5)
- 28 Onset, arrival (6)

Down

- 1 Church district (6)
- 2 Portable lamp (7)
- 3 In this day and age (8)
- 4 Lament, moan (4)
- 5 Pass out (5)
- 6 Beat pattern (6)
- 7 Growl, grumble (5)
- 13 Spilled the beans, disclosed (8)
- 16 Assassinate, kill (7)
- 17 Four-sided shape (6)
- 19 Chum, mate (5)
- 20 Group of six (6)
- 22 Eskimo house! (5)
- 24 Rock rhythmically (4)

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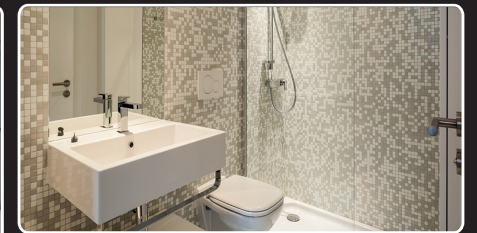
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Willenhall Based Will Writer Jim Stanistreet, From BensonWilliams, On Potential Issues Caused by Previous Relationships



A number of years ago I wrote a will for a man who had five children from four different women. The most recent of them (over twenty years his junior) was his current wife and the mother of the youngest child, although they were now separated but not divorced. First things first I wasn't quite sure whether I was supposed to be disgusted or jealous, but his circumstances did open up several issues from a Will writing perspective.

My first question to him was whether he owned property jointly with his wife (and indeed with any of the previous women) or whether his assets were solely in his own name. Jointly held assets pass automatically to the surviving owner when one dies, so we have to be careful to ensure that assets are "severed" if this is not what a client wants.

Next was the issue of dependency. Statutory law does allow his wife, all three of the previous women, and any of his children, to claim against his estate if they can demonstrate a level of financial dependency which his Will fails to recognise.

No two cases are ever going to be the same on this one, and the success of a claim will come down to the specific circumstances, but our conversation had to be quite detailed to establish levels of dependency and his ongoing financial obligations, if any, to his children and their mothers.

Following on from this we also had to discuss his own personal views on the matter. He was still very close to some of the children, but others had distanced themselves from him. One was estranged altogether, and they had barely seen each other from birth. In the light of this it is perfectly normal that he may wish for some children to inherit more than others, or for some of them not to be mentioned in his Will at all.

Clearly this case was an extreme example, but it is very common these days for people to have been in more than one relationship, and to have children from their previous relationships.

Doing nothing can lead to unwanted claims against your estate and disappointment for those closest to you.

Getting your paperwork in order now will ensure that, whilst adhering to any existing financial obligations you may have, your own wishes are met and your family are protected.

For more information you can call **07789520910** or email **info@bensonwilliams.co.uk**.

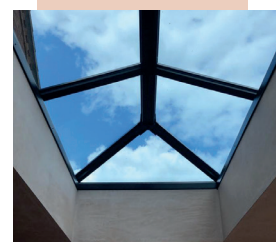


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News in Brief

Holy Trinity Church Hall

The Hall is situated alongside Holy Trinity Church and has a large car park accessed from Coltham Rd. The building comprises of a large room with stage, a small back room, kitchen, IT Centre and toilet facilities including disabled. The building is wheelchair friendly.

There are groups which meet on a regular weekly basis- Scouts, Guides, Line Dancing, Keep Fit, Yoga, Weightwatchers, Camera Club and Camera Class. The latter two use the IT Centre. In addition there are two IT Drop - In sessions on Monday afternoons and Friday mornings.

The building is also used for parties and various other activities on a casual basis. It is also used as a Polling Station.

Since recovering from the Covid outbreak the Hall is busier than ever. Further information and booking details can be obtained by contacting Roger on 01922 403166

Holy Trinity Church is undergoing changes but this should not deter anyone from using the Hall.

Spring into Summer Success!

On Sunday 30th April Willenhall Singers sang their hearts out at their Spring into Summer concert held at St Stephen's Church. The choir welcomed over 60 people to their mid-afternoon concert their best audience since covid!

The choir, led by Justine Clarke, entertained everyone with an eclectic choice of music ranging from Showboat to Sound of Silence and everything in between. As well as four-part choral music there were solos from choir

members which proved thoroughly engaging. Every concert wouldn't be complete without tea and cake which were served during the interval, the cakes were home baked and delicious! Willenhall Singers invited the audience to join them in a floral sing-along during the second half. Edelweiss, Tulips from Amsterdam and other 'flower' songs were enjoyed by all present.



Willenhall Singers meet every Monday from 7pm to 9pm at St Stephen's Church, Wolverhampton Road, Willenhall. All ages and abilities are welcome – there is no need to be able to read music – as long as you can hold a tune.





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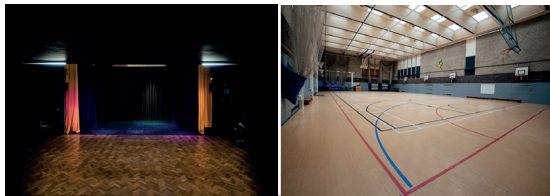


Willenhall Leisure & Community



Willenhall Leisure & Community aims to increase opportunities for the whole community to develop their learning, health, well-being and enjoyment. This is achieved through the organisation of adult learning courses, linking with local clubs/charities and hiring our facilities at evenings and weekends. Our success is based on our ability to create positive relationships with local people, allowing us to really be 'the centre of our community'.

- 🕒 5.00pm-10.00pm (Monday to Friday) / 9.00am-4.00pm (Saturday & Sunday)
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- ✉ Community.Walsall@E-ACT.org.uk
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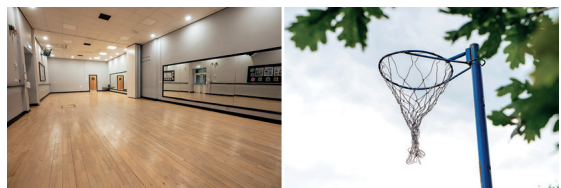
Children's Parties: Running out of ideas on what to do for your child's party, then stress no more! We have a range of party packages available at cheap, affordable prices.



Partnership clubs/organisations: We strive to be at the centre of our community and can only achieve this through community partnerships.

Below are our current partnerships:

- No.1 Swim School
- Platinum Gymnastics
- Bowerm Swim School
- Seishin Shuko-kai Karate Club
- First In Last Out Swim School
- Satori Martial Arts
- Bilston Swimming Club
- Wednesbury Hockey Club
- LRM Dance & Performance
- Bloxwich Hockey Club
- Momentum Roller Skating
- The Playscheme
- Walsall Junior League Football
- Leagues4You Netball
- Citizens Advice
- Walsall Wizards Basketball
- Electric Model Car Club



Holiday Activities: Willenhall Leisure & Community works in partnership with The Playscheme to provide affordable activities during the holiday periods. Activities include a variety of sports, multi skills and arts & crafts. Please see www.theplayscheme.co.uk for more details.

Upcoming Community Events: The Playscheme Summer Holiday Activities, Bloxwich Hockey 7's Tournament, November Fire Work Display.



JOIN THE WILLENHALL E-ACT ACADEMY COMMUNITY: DISCOVER OUR EXCITING EVENTS

At Willenhall E-Act Academy, we strive to foster positive relationships with our parents, stakeholders, and the wider Willenhall community. We firmly believe that by involving our community in what we do, we can achieve great things together.

We are excited to announce that we have many fantastic events coming up, and we would love to invite everyone to join in these exciting activities.

Please take a moment to look at this page for more details about our upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you there and building even stronger relationships with our community.

Together, let's make a difference at Willenhall E-Act Academy.

TRANSITION INFORMATION

Year 6 Transition - 5th and 6th July:

We are excited to welcome our future year 7 students for their transition days on the 5th and 6th of July. These two days will give our students the opportunity to meet the year 7 team, experience taster sessions of lessons and take part in a sports activity afternoon.

In addition, on the 6th of July, we will be hosting a Year 6 parent celebration evening from 4:30pm to 6:00pm. This will be a great opportunity for parents to meet the staff, learn more about the school, and ask any questions they may have. We look forward to seeing you there!

OFSTED REPORT

Here are some quotes from our recent Ofsted report.

'The curriculum is effectively structured and sequenced. Subject leaders have thought carefully about the order in which topics are studied and how this helps pupils build on what they know'

'Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported.'

'This is an improving school. The new headteacher has brought stability and higher expectations.'

'In lessons, pupils participate positively and are keen to do well.'

'Pupils are well behaved and feel safe in school.'

PERFORMING ARTS

KS3 Drama Performance - Alice - 21st and 22nd

June:

Join us for a captivating performance of Alice by our talented KS3 students!

The Drama Department is proud to present this show on June 21st and 22nd, 7:00pm. Tickets are only £4, and you can reserve them by calling reception at 01902368221. Parents can easily pay through Parent Pay. Don't miss out on this incredible event!



Willenhall Arts Festival - 18th July:

Join us for a spectacular evening of creativity and culture at the Willenhall Arts Festival! Hosted by Willenhall E-ACT Academy, this event will showcase the amazing talents of our students in the fields of drama, dance, music and art.

Be prepared to be amazed by the stunning performances and incredible works of art that our students have put together for this special occasion. The festival will take place on Tuesday, July 18th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, and is open to all members of the community.

We invite you to come and experience the passion and creativity of our students, and celebrate the arts with us at Willenhall E-ACT Academy!

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As Spring moves towards Summer many of us will take steps to try and get healthier. But there are some common mistakes that people make when trying to adopt a healthier lifestyle.

Not Getting Enough Sleep

Evidence suggests that sleeping fewer hours each night leads to poor health and weight gain. Sustained sleep deprivation triggers changes in our hunger and appetite hormones which can lead to people feeling hungry more often when they're not getting enough sleep.

Sleep helps to reduce stress, improve energy, boost our immune system, reduces inflammation and weight management amongst other things. Long-term sleep loss is linked to dementia, heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. You can also add problems with your immune system, depression and anxiety, and ongoing pain to that list.

Ben's Top Tip: To improve your sleep quantity and quality, make sure you sleep in total darkness while avoiding blue light from mobile phones and devices for a few hours before bed.

Sitting Too Much

Many of us spend far too much time sitting all day indoors. The advent of homeworking has compounded this further with some people not even needing to leave their front room to start their working day.

If you do commute to work, perhaps you sit on the commute, sit all day at work and then come home to sit down some more before you do it all again. Higher rates of death from heart disease, cancer, and other health-related causes are linked to sitting for more than 6 hours a day.

But most of us could probably improve our health and mood by sitting less and spending an hour or a day outside in the fresh air and just enjoying the nature walking and exploring our local parks and green spaces.

Ben's Top Tips: Try and make a 15 min walk part of your daily morning routine as it will help your body and mind wake up and fire up every cell in

the body. Break up your sitting spells with 1-2 minutes of walking every half hour.

Not Drinking Enough Water



As the average human body is somewhere between 45-75% of water, depending on your age, sex, body composition and fitness levels, it's important that we replace the liquids that we lose every day through breathing, sweating and pretty much every other bodily function. A massive 80% of people aren't drinking enough water with 20% of men and 13% of women not drinking any water at all.

Ben's Top Tips: As 20-30% of our fluids can come from food, so try and incorporate foods like seasonal fruit and vegetables into your diet.

Things like apples, pears and plums are great as well as lettuce, cucumbers and tomatoes and cress. As most of us wake up dehydrated start drinking a large glass of water in the morning as part of your routine.

Massively Overestimating Calories Burned During Exercise

Studies find that most people overestimated the number of calories burned in an exercise session by three to four times. This critical mistake led them to consume almost triple the calories they burned during exercise which meant their health did not improve.

While regular exercise has been proven to be even more effective than medicinal treatments for many common health problems, including diabetes, high blood pressure and depression,

exercise alone is unlikely to be sufficient in achieving significant long-term health outcomes. So, just because you've spent time in the gym, running or swimming doesn't automatically mean you can treat yourself to whatever you want. For example, a chocolate bar or single slice of pizza can completely erase an hour's worth of physical exertion.

Using 'Healthy Diet' Products

Stocking up on 'diet'-food products is one of the surest ways to fail in your mission to get healthier and lose weight. Eating 'low fat' food products may seem like a no brainer – but don't be fooled. To compensate for the fat that's removed, other ingredients are usually added to make the food taste like its full-fat counterpart.

These added ingredients don't replace the lost nutrients, however, so you just start craving more food, even though you've just eaten. Even with the best of intentions, you end up eating more than you would have if you'd just eaten the full-fat version in the first place.

Sugar is another culprit in low-fat 'diet' products. Even foods generally considered healthy, such as yoghurt and tomato sauce, are full of extra sugar, resulting in more cravings and usually more consumption.

Ben's Top Tip: Make avoiding diet food products your priority, and focus on eating plenty of vegetables, fruit (fresh or frozen), grains and pulses.

Not Eating Enough

While drastically cutting calories or skipping meals may seem like a quick fix for getting healthier and losing weight, under-eating can sabotage your efforts to shed those extra pounds.

Ben's Top Tip: Getting healthier rarely comes quickly. If you want to achieve long-term sustainable results adopt the motto 'slow and steady wins the race'. This means making small, gradual changes to your daily lifestyle habits that will enable your new habits to easily become the new normal.

Cutting Out Entire Food Groups

Many popular 'fad' diets instruct people to cut out entire food groups, such as fats or carbs. Carbohydrates are often blamed as a cause of weight gain, with "no-carb" diets becoming all too common. While it's true that refined carbohydrates like sugar and white bread and many,



many processed foods can spike blood sugar and lead to weight gain, complex carbs such as wholegrain rice and quinoa, are in fact very healthy.

Another major concern in eliminating entire food groups is the risk of developing nutrient deficiencies, such as a lack of dietary fibre or protein. Unless you have an actual food allergy or intolerance, be wary of embarking on any diet that requires you to ditch important staples of a healthy balanced diet.

Ben's Top Tip: Instead of cutting out entire food groups, try swapping out specific unhealthy elements of these groups for healthier alternatives. For example, replace white bread, pasta and rice with their wholegrain counterparts; swap the unhealthy fats in processed foods with avocados and nuts.



Ben Mescam is a Certified Health & Wellbeing Coach helping people become healthier by improving their habits.

For a completely FREE chat about improving your health call Ben on **07876 493 125**.



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Local Council Election Results

The Conservative Party held on to power in the recent Walsall Council Elections.

The Tories have 38 councillors and Labour has 20 and there are two Independents.

In Short Heath, the Conservative candidate, Poonam Gill was elected and will replace Sarah Jane Cooper, who has moved to Streetly.

In Willenhall North, Adam Hicken retained his seat for the Conservatives with a majority of 215 votes.

Willenhall South has a new Councillor with Natalie Latham taking over from Carl Creaney for the Labour Party.

The results were as follows;

Willenhall North

Adam John Hicken – *Conservative Party, 976 votes (elected)*

Nahid Ahmed – *Labour Party, 761 votes*

Leandra Lola Gebrakedan – *Liberal Democrat Focus Team, 376 votes*

Short Heath

Poonam Chamdal Gill – *Conservative Party, 851 votes (elected)*

Simon Frank Rollason – *Labour and*

Co-operative Party, 779 votes

Benjamin Aaron Hodges – *Liberal Democrat Focus Team, 361 votes*

Willenhall South

Natalie Louise Latham – *Labour Party, 1345 votes (elected)*

Mak Uppal – *Conservative Party, 584 votes*

Angela Mary Hodges – *Liberal Democrat Focus Team, 210 votes*



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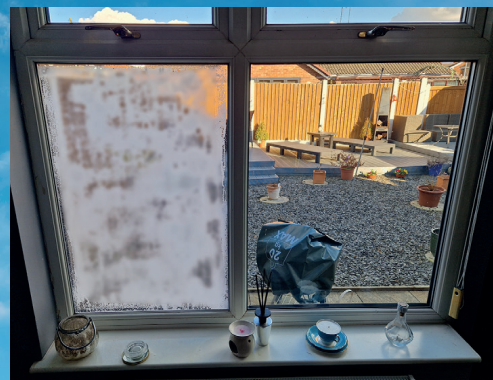


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 - 8oz 21 day aged Hereford Ribeye
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Still having a laugh

He's the celebrity that celebrities avoid, and one of our finest exports.

Many regard Ricky Gervais a national treasure; a select few consider him a national disgrace. Either way, it's hard to avoid the magnitude of the man. In his typical black t-shirt and jeans uniform, the actor, stand-up comedian, writer, producer and director is a melange of passionate sentiment, delivering fix-eyed intensity followed by a howling hyena cackle.

A one-time aspiring singer and band manager (he looked after indie outfit, Suede, back in their earliest incarnation), Ricky flitted around the bounds of entertainment with guest spots on Channel 4's *The Eleven O'Clock Show* before landing pay dirt with self-scripted mockumentary series *The Office*.

An overnight household name, the gritty comedy launched an unstoppable career.

Follow-up series *Extras*, parodying the movie industry, was another smash hit, featuring A-list contributions from Kate Winslet, Ben Stiller, Patrick Stewart and Samuel L. Jackson.

It was the perfect introduction into Hollywood, and he went on to star in a series of big budget comedies - *Sky Kids*, *Ghost Town*, *Night At The Museum*, *The Invention of Lying* and *The Muppets*. Some topped the box office, others crashed

and burned badly, yet all of them satisfied in Gervais a yearning for originality and creativity, and that flame has never lessened in its



intensity, even in returning to small screen projects such as *Life's Too Short*, *Derek*, *Special Correspondents* and the recent *After Life*, which garnered rave reviews.

No matter what he takes on – his Netflix project *SuperNature* last year brought him back to the brilliant stand-up he is renowned for – Gervais, who lives with long-term partner Jane Fallon, is a bastion for freedom of speech and common sense. He has unapologetic honesty that permeates every conversation, whether discussing the “scourge” of religion, or admiring the majesty of the



natural world, or calling out nationalities, races, genders or persuasions, Gervais takes offence at people being offended.

“It’s a disease that’s getting worse,” he says. “It’s not healthy and it’s not even real. Most of the people who claim to have taken offence by a statement someone makes on Twitter are

actually some of the most offensive people I have ever encountered,” he laughs.

As for where 2023 will take this creative powder keg. “As always, I have a few things on the go. I’ve had time to sit back and raid all those little nuggets of ideas that have been scattered in the back of my mind for too long. Some are pretty good and deserve fleshing out a bit, others are rubbish.

“The challenge is always to keep trying, keep things original, keep the creative processes rolling, and stay ever so slightly controversial!”



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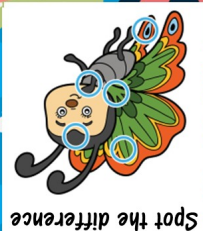
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Bert the butterfly
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Can you spot all their
differences?



What goes 99-clonk, 99-clonk, 99-clonk?
A centipede with a wooden leg!



Spot the difference

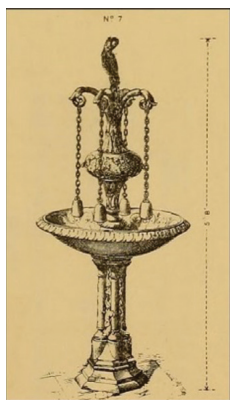
Letter Grid Solution

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

What historic event happened in Willenhall on Saturday 29th September 1923?

The answer is Willenhall Memorial Park was officially opened after years of hard work and planning. The driving forces behind the pioneering scheme were Mr C.H Pinson and Cllr Ambrose Aston, who are remembered in local street names and for the lime tree avenue along the path from Dartmouth Avenue to Noose Lane fields. Ambrose was the original “crowdfunder” of his day.

Work started in 1918 on the pioneering Garden City Scheme undertaken by Willenhall Urban District Council which was designed to commemorate the lives of the soldiers who died in World War One. It was to include housing fit for heroes, a War Memorial, and a park the cost for which was raised by public subscription and cost £10,003 (£650,000 in today’s finances).



Returning soldiers were given £1 a week under an unemployment scheme and worked tirelessly with horses and carts, picks and shovels on the derelict Bull Plack Colliery which was described as the worst kind of land covered with pit waste and stagnant water.

Local businessmen R. Carter and J.A. Harper donated a drinking

fountain, a “must have” for local parks in the 1920s. You can still find it in the park today. Many other businesses were generous with “in kind” donations. One donated the shelter which now stands in ruins.

The dream came to fruition and the opening was attended by Mr George Thorne MP. On the centenary of the end of WW1 in 2018 the park became a Fields in Trust site (formerly King George V Playing Fields Association) which protects the land for perpetuity. The inscription on the bandstand reads, “Willenhall Memorial Park - Dedicated to those who served and sacrificed- Their legacy surrounds us”. Aren’t we so fortunate to be able to enjoy such a beautiful park one hundred years on.

The bandstand was added in 1924 with Sunday concerts by Willenhall Brass bands and The Salvation Army who have played regularly ever since. They are playing this summer in the park on Sunday 2nd July.

Sadly, the bandstand became derelict and was demolished in 1954 but replaced in 1997 under a massive restoration programme undertaken between the Friends group and Walsall Council. Other notable assets from the £1 million Heritage Lottery funding are the pavilion, opened in 2005, and the upgraded children’s playground with the first innovative Splashpad in Walsall.

The first Carnival was held in 1926 and proceeds were donated to a Willenhall charity. This has become a great local tradition which is still going strong, being held on Saturday 10 June this year. The current Friends group will be at the carnival promoting the 100 years celebration which is on Sunday 16th July. There will be a bandstand concert featuring Cosford Military Wives choir and craft and poetry workshops for children from 2 pm to 4pm which are funded by Creative Black Country.

There will be commemorative brochures from the World War 1 Then and Now project available which outlines the stories of some of the returning soldiers who built the park, and you will have chance to go in the pavilion and see the Peace Tree created by Planet Art which tracks the rich and memorable history of the park.

Hopefully we can capture some of your memories for posterity.

Follow us on Facebook on Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park or catch us in the park on Monday mornings at The Place of Welcome from 10.am to 12.30 pm for a cuppa.

For a more detailed account of the Memorial Park have a look at on Willenhall History Society’s website at <http://www.willenhallhistory.co.uk/society/wudchistory.htm#park>.

Compiled by Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park

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An update from your Member of Parliament



It's been a busy few months across Willenhall with local elections, exciting announcements and the Coronation of His Majesty The King.

Following the local elections, I'm pleased to announce that Cllr Adam Hicken has been re-elected for Willenhall North and Cllr Poonam Gill is the new councillor for Short Heath. Both councillors are looking forward to carrying on the fantastic work they've been doing in their area. In Willenhall, and across Walsall, we've had another brilliant result having held all our seats on the Council, which means that we can continue to work for you locally and deliver on your priorities.



Over the bank holiday weekend, it was also the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, this historical moment for our country was fantastic to watch but has also seen our communities come together through events, volunteering, and street parties



I spent my Coronation weekend across Willenhall, Bloxwich and Walsall North from street parties to organised events. I joined Short Heath Lest We Forget and Willenhall Lock Stock at the Short Heath Liberal Club to mark the Coronation of His Majesty The King. With the Coronation broadcast live, music, and plenty of entertainment, I had a great time with the Short Heath Councillors and the Mayor of Walsall. I also joined residents on the Summer Hayes

estate for a street party with entertainment from the fantastic Willenhall Lock Stock van, BBQs and even a silent disco! It has been great to see so many people get involved and make memories on such a historical moment for our great country. God Save The King!

I also popped into Willenhall Morrisons to support Laura, the Morrisons Willenhall Community Champion, and store manager Ben who worked with Short Heath Lest We Forget to raise money for Together for Short Lives and Acorns Children's Hospice by cycling the distance from Willenhall to Buckingham Palace! In total, all volunteers cycled 133 miles and a total of £903.10 was raised. Well done to Laura, Short Heath Lest We Forget and everyone who took part in this challenge – I also had a go on the bike provided by Willenhall Gym!



Many of you know that I enjoy taking part in the Parkrun around Walsall Arboretum every Saturday, so when I heard there are Nordic Walking sessions in Willenhall Memorial Park I went along to find out more. Nordic walking is a great way to get moving for all abilities and you can burn 40% more calories without having to change your speed or distance! Nordic Walking sessions take place at Willenhall Memorial Park, King George's, Walsall Arboretum or on the Brownhills Common. Special thanks to Richard who is 84 and joins the Nordic walking sessions and walking club every week!

Recently, I joined Willenhall Lock Stock at their Business Breakfast to celebrate all things Lock Stock with organiser Nigel Dutton. Willenhall Lock Stock sees thousands of locals come together to enjoy local music, food and entertainment every summer at Willenhall Memorial Park. If you know a business that would be interested in supporting this event, please contact Nigel Dutton - Nigel.Dutton@willenhalllockstock.co.uk. I look forward to seeing you all there!

I look forward to seeing you all around Willenhall over the summer!

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Saturday 5th August 2023

Open to the public from 1pm to 4pm

- > Admission £1
- > Raffle, Plant Sales
- > Refreshments.



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



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A friendly and welcoming environment for parents/carers and their babies to meet and mingle ★

Willenhall Lock Stock



Willenhall Lock Stock was first held in September 2017 on a very wet day with just over 300 attendees in Willenhall memorial Park. Last year over 3500 attended the 5th Lock Stock on the extended field in Willenhall Memorial Park and we fully expect to hit 4500 in 2023.

The musical heritage of Willenhall together with the spirit, talent of local bands and supporters has made Willenhall Lock Stock one of the best value for money festivals in the UK.

This year as an Acknowledgement to the visionary youth club leaders of St Giles in the 60s we have created 2 themed stages in the pop and Rock Arenas. We have the Sgt Peppers stage with local favourites The Black Country Beatles headlining and local Stones Tribute, Shine A Light headlining the Sticky Fingers stage. Only The Rolling Stones played Willenhall Baths back in the 60s but we bet the Beatles were kicking themselves for missing the opportunity.



The support Lock Stock receives both from fans and local business is the key to its success. This year our sponsors are ERA TYMAN group, WQ Inspection and Certification, E-ACT Willenhall Academy and Walsall Crowdfund. We are very grateful for the continued support of local business who enable the growth and development of Willenhall Lock Stock every year. Early bird tickets are available at just £5 per adult from Touch Down Vapes in Clarkes Lane and the Spud Van on Market days. Children under 16 accompanied by a responsible adult are free. In August ticket prices increase to £7.50 and in September tickets are £10 so it makes sense to get your tickets early.

This year Lock Stock has extended its support, resources, and knowledge to other good causes in Willenhall and Walsall. The Wild Horses pop up stage Lock Stock has purchased and refurbished has been used to support Short Heath Lest We Forget, Willenhall Christmas market and is booked for a spectacular Fireworks evening in November at E-ACT Willenhall.



The small Team Lock Stock work behind the scenes throughout the year to create a brilliant day every year together with the volunteers who help lift shift and build over the week end and help bring it all together.

Please support Lock Stock, by getting your tickets early, come along on the day enjoy the music, company and atmosphere.

YOU ARE THE MUSIC

Luv Team Lock Stock xxx



lock stock

WILLENHALL MEMORIAL PARK

SUNDAY

3RD
SEPT 23

MUSIC FESTIVAL SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WILLENHALL

12-9 PM

Ticket prices
Early bird July £5
August £7.50
September £10
Accompanied
children under 16 free.

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SHORT HEATH BOYZ
COVER HOUNDS
CC RIDER BAND

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SAY LESS
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WILLOW

Rose

Situated approximately one mile from the centre of the market town of Willenhall, and conveniently located between the major centres of Wolverhampton and Walsall, Willow Rose is a brand new purpose built care home that offers state of the art facilities and the highest level of care, as well as a high level of comfort and wellbeing for its residents.

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.

Whether you are looking for a long-term stay, respite or perhaps just a period of convalescence to help a loved one get back on their feet, Willow Rose is able to help you. We can offer you a number of different care options and assist you with advice as to what would best suit your particular needs.

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.

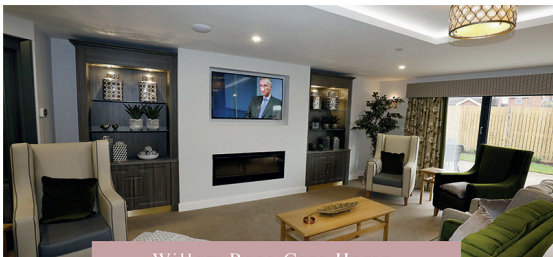
Our Manager

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.



Willow Rose Care Home



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CONTACT

CALL

01922 270920

EMAIL

willowrose.manager@maccare.com

WEBSITE

www.maccare.com/willow-rose

LOCATION

Stroud Avenue, Short Heath,
Willenhall WV12 4ET

News in Brief 2

Willow Rose



Staff at Willow Rose Care Home are committed to looking after their residents' mental well-being, as well as their physical health. The events team regularly organise activities and

visits to stimulate the minds of those in their care.

Leanne Whitehouse, activities coordinator at Willow Rose, said, "At Willow Rose we enjoyed Easter doing lots of activities and had an Easter Bonnet Parade and an Easter Egg Hunt. Residents were entertained by singer Tom Wenlock and we made sure all our lovely residents had an Easter egg or a cuddly spring lamb."

"We also held a cake sale for the Haven women and children's refuge against domestic violence and raised £129."



Morrisons

Staff at Morrisons Willenhall took part in a Royal Coronation Challenge to raise money for their chosen charity 'Together for Short Lives.

They walked or cycled in the store the equivalent distance to London over three days at the end of April.

Community Champion, Laura Andrews, said, "We raised a fantastic £903.10, which pays for almost 40 hours of specialist care for a seriously ill child. Thank you to everyone who generously donated to the amount."



Portobello Methodist Church, New Street (by Aldi)

Coffee Mornings fortnightly on Saturdays June 10,24, July 8,22 10.00-12.00. Hot and cold drinks, cakes and toasted teacakes on sale.

Friendship Club alternate Wednesdays June 7, 21 July 5, 19 2.00-4.00

Table Top sale June 24 from 10.00.

Boys' Brigade/Girls Association is a uniformed organisation which meets every Wednesday in term time from 6.00. Children of school age are welcome to join.

Hall available for hire for Children's parties, etc. ring **01902 654650** for details.

Willenhall History

In 1287 Richard Leveson of Willenhall was born, to a very elusive family, he went on to marry Margery Clements in 1299. They appear to be wealthy with the males marrying ladies from near and far, usually titled and upon the marriage comes a dowry, thus creating more wealth.

Members of the aristocracy and landowners, men like Sir Walter Leveson 1550-1602 who was an Elizabethan member of parliament and a Shropshire and Staffordshire landowner, he was the son of Sir Richard Leveson who died in 1560.

The Willenhall Levesons built a large mansion house in Tudor style (from 1485) situated between Leveson Street on the north to Wood Street on the south with Stafford Street and Cemetery Road forming the other two boundaries, the house was surrounded by a moat and with the fields known as the Harpers, now part of the Memorial Park (100 years old this year).

In 1666 the Hearth Tax hit the wealthy John Leveson Esq. (of the Moat House) had ten hearths making it the largest house in Willenhall.

A body of trustees in relation to the Chapel of Ease Estate (St Giles) regarding an inquiry concerning certain chapel lands held by the Lords of the Manor of Stowheath in 1655, the first man on the list being Sir Walter Leveson, Kt.

Another less known story concerning John Leveson started in about the 660's with Chad, a young man who studied under St Aiden in the monastery of Lindisfarne off the Northumbrian coast. He went on to become the Abbot of Lastingham in Yorkshire and eventually becoming

Bishop of Mercia, unfortunately he died from the plague in 672 and was venerated as a saint. A Shrine was set up for St Chad at Lichfield Cathedral and became a major centre of medieval pilgrimages.

However, in 1538 as a consequence of Henry VIII's Reformation, Prebendary Arthur Dudley smuggled the bones out of the Cathedral. By the time he died in 1577 the relics had been passed to his nieces Bridget and Kathrine Dudley of Russells Hall, Dudley. Then to William and Henry Hodgetts of High Arcal at Woodsetton in Sedgley. William died in 1649, Henry on his deathbed in 1651 passed the relics to Jesuit Friar Peter Taylor and after his death in 1665 they moved to John Leveson of Willenhall and were almost destroyed by soldiers during a search.

The relics then went to a seminary at St Omar in France. In the early 19th century, they returned to England and went to Aston Hall near Stone in Staffordshire. The relics eventually ended their journey in 1841 in St Chad's Cathedral Birmingham. (With kind permission from Andrew Homer's "Secret Black Country")

Sir Thomas Leveson the Governor of Dudley Castle in 1642 is believed to be from Willenhall.

John Leveson who died in the mid-18th century was the last male at the Moat House, he left his entire estate to his sister Elizabeth who proceeded to sell land and property including the Bell Inn. By 1800 the Manor House had gone leaving the moat which evanesced when the Wolverhampton and Walsall Railway opened on 1st November 1872 in Temple Bar.



Society News

Tuesday June 13th - Trip to Cheshire

Saturday June 10th - Come and see us at Willenhall Carnival

Tuesday July 11th - Movie Stars of Yesteryear

By Liz Ince

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Useful Telephone Numbers

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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

Poonam Gill.....	number not yet available
Josh Whitehouse.....	07917 072811
Amandeep Kaur Garcha	07517 561213

Willenhall South

Natalie Latham	number not yet available
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
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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 411758
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

P	O	L	A	N	D			W	A	F	E	R	
A		A		O		S		A		A		H	
R	E	N	E	W		N	O	I	S	I	L	Y	
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The next issue of the

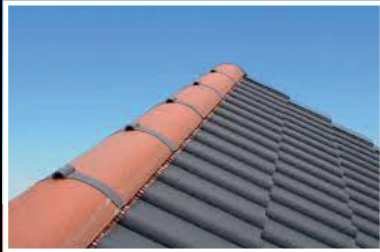
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30th June

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