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P24



P26



P30

Willenhall Life

Contents

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6. Editor's Welcome | 26. Billy Wright Statue Petition |
| 8. Stowheath OFSTED Joy | 28. Willenhall Carnival |
| 10. Crossword | 29. Kids Puzzles |
| 12. Financial Advice | 30. Dermot O'Leary |
| 14. News in Brief | 32. Domestic Trade Services |
| 16. Willenhall Leisure & Community | 34. Eddie Hughes |
| 17. Willenhall E-Act Academy | 37. Bandstand Summer Events |
| 18. Willenhall Transport Show | 40. Lock Stock 2023 |
| 20. Health & Fitness | 43. Willow Rose Events |
| 22. Black Country Society | 44. Willenhall History |
| 24. Windrush Compensation Scheme | 46. Useful Tel Numbers |
| | 47. Crossword Answers |

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the August/September issue of Willenhall Life.

It's great to see so much going on locally, with dozens of events taking place throughout the summer months.

As Editor of five local magazines, I attend as many as I'm able to and I always try and thank and congratulate the organisers and helpers who work hard to put these on.

Most people probably don't appreciate the amount of time and effort, not to mention loss of sleep, that is involved in making carnivals, music festivals and suchlike, possible.

With my other hat on, as Bilston Town Centre Manager, I work with my colleague Amy, to put events on, to attract visitors to the town, but our events are quite small compared to the carnivals in Wednesbury and Willenhall.

I'm sure many think these things are down to the councils and while they do provide the venues, the real planning and preparation is done by volunteers, who don't get a penny for their troubles.

The same is true of our community centres (or hubs as some are now known), which are all run by local residents, for no pay. In fact, it would amaze most of you, if you knew the full extent of the work that is done by people across the country, without remuneration – charity trustees, cat rescues, school governors.....the list is huge.

If you want to be a volunteer, ring your local school and ask if they need any governors or pop into a community centre or charity shop or look on the website of the Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action website; www.wvca.org.uk/jobs

In other news.....I'm writing a book. The History of Wolverhampton (that name may change!), which I hope to get published by the end of the year. I've seen other books of a similar nature, which are very good, but I'd like to do something a bit different, so watch this space.

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 October and December and will be out on 22nd September so if you want to be in it, please contact me by 1st September.

Simon



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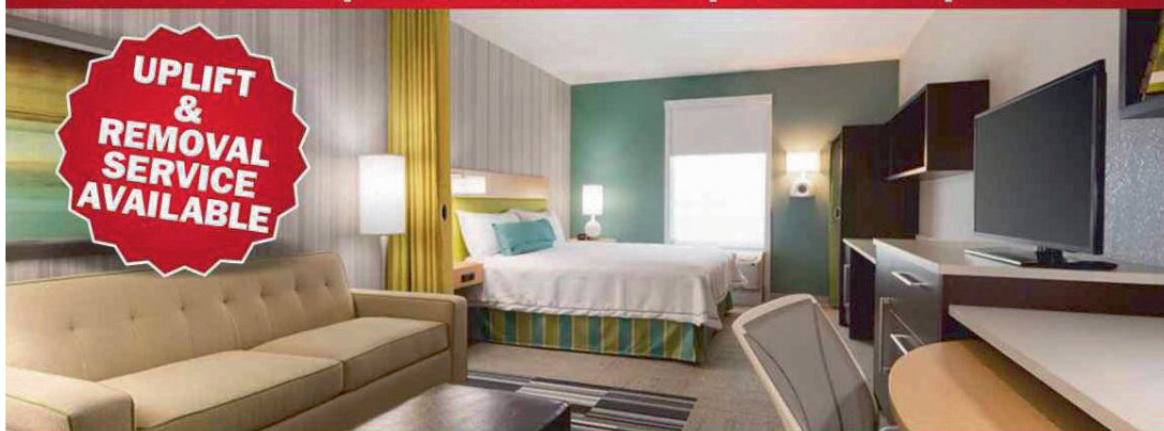


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'Happy and welcoming school' Rated Good by Ofsted

A 'happy and welcoming school' where pupils 'respect and care for others' and 'treat everyone equally' has been rated Good by Ofsted.

Inspectors visited Stowlawn Primary School earlier this year and say that pupils live up to the school's expectations for them to be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe', and 'kind, ambitious, honest, independent, resilient and creative.'

Leaders set out what pupils should learn and when. Children begin building the essential knowledge and skills they need in the early years, standing them 'in good stead for their later learning in different subjects'.

Teachers have 'good subject knowledge and present information clearly', making sure 'pupils understand and use the appropriate subject vocabulary in lessons' and tracking achievement closely.

Leaders ensure 'reading is a high priority', with teachers incorporating reading and phonic skills into all lessons, providing a well-stocked library, daily story times and a home reading challenge to motivate pupils to read widely and often.

The school's phonics programme is 'well planned and organised', with staff introducing children to rhymes and sounds as soon as they join nursery and providing extra support for pupils who begin to fall behind. Pupils particularly enjoy art, PE and mathematics and 'thrive on the wide range of experiences and activities that the school provides'.

Leaders are 'wholly committed to developing pupils' personal development to a high level', with this described by inspectors as 'a strength of the school's work'. Staff 'encourage pupils to flourish and to develop a wide range of interests and talents', offering opportunities to build character in lessons and through enrichment activities, with the school recently receiving the prestigious Excellence in Pupil Development award in recognition of the range of high-quality enrichment opportunities afforded to children.

Senior leaders have strong systems in place to identify pupils with special educational needs and

disabilities (SEND). They are 'fully included in all lessons and school activities' because teachers skilfully adapt curriculum activities to enable them to take part, while leaders ensure that those with more complex needs receive specialist support from external agencies.

Parents 'have only positive things to say about the school', and 'appreciate the approachability of leaders and the support and care all staff show to pupils'. Staff are also 'incredibly proud' to work at Stowlawn.

Pupils 'behave well and feel safe', and have no concerns about poor behaviour or bullying 'because staff and leaders manage behaviour well', while safeguarding 'underpins everything at Stowlawn', with 'no stone left unturned' to ensure pupils are safe.

Headteacher Kate Charles said: "We are very proud of our recent Ofsted recognition. The school has undergone many changes over the past few years, from a new leadership team to doubling in size and welcoming families from an increasingly diverse community. "We are a real community school and we put the children at the heart of all we do."

Latest figures show 89% of schools in Wolverhampton are now rated either Good or Outstanding in Wolverhampton, above the regional and national average. In addition, nine in 10 Wolverhampton pupils attend Good or Outstanding schools, the best in the West Midlands.





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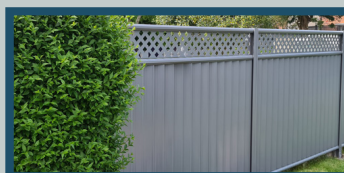
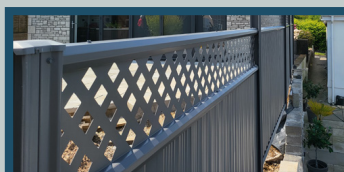
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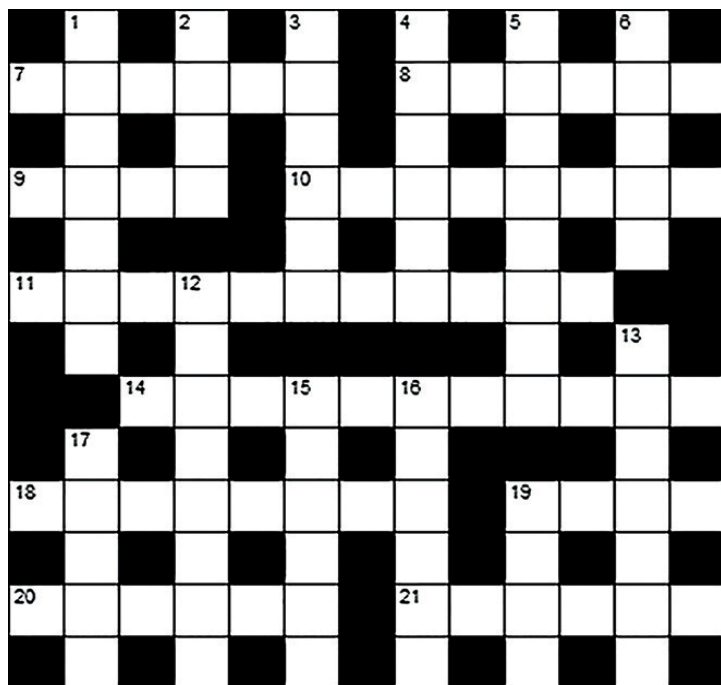
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Crossword

Please see answers on page 47



Across

- 7 Graceful, drooping tree (6)
- 8 _____ Wisdom (actor) (6)
- 9 Giant, usually evil (4)
- 10 They pull Santa's sleigh! (8)
- 11 British seaside town (11)
- 14 Used to disguise or conceal (5,6)
- 18 Broadcast, relay (8)
- 19 Ruler of Mt. Olympus. (4)
- 20 Apparition, hallucination (6)
- 21 Finally (6)

Down

- 1 Royal realm or province (7)
- 2 Abscond, scarper (4)
- 3 Deviate, sidestep (6)
- 4 Intense blue-purple (6)
- 5 Animal that catches and eats others (8)
- 6 Blanched, washed-out (5)
- 12 Fanciful, impractical (8)
- 13 Mexican alcoholic drink (7)
- 15 Japanese garment (6)
- 16 Appease, sooth (6)
- 17 Plait, weave (5)
- 19 Vivacity, zeal (4)

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Willenhall Based Will Writer Jim Stanistreet, From BensonWilliams, Highlights Two Issues if You Have Minor Children At Home



Boris Becker became Wimbledon men's champion aged 17 years and 228 days. Theo Walcott won his first England cap aged 17 years and 75 days. In August 1860 Andrew Fitzgibbon became the youngest ever recipient of the Victoria Cross at 17 years and 100 days.

One thing all three have in common is they were too young at the time to inherit money under a Will!

Statutory law doesn't allow a child to inherit money until they are eighteen years of age. Until then any money left to them has to go into a trust on their behalf. The money in that trust is used for the maintenance of the child so the immediate problem for parents here is identifying who exactly will have access to the "cheque book and pen" whilst a child is under eighteen. A second problem is control of how old a child should actually be when they inherit money.

Statutory law says that this is at the age of eighteen, but understandably many parents are uncomfortable with the thought of a child having a vast sum of money at such a young age and would prefer it to be at the age of twenty-one or even older.

Another problem for parents is identifying who are going to be appointed as legal guardians and physically look after a child. Statutory law is largely silent on this issue, and ultimately it can become a court decision. Tragically this can mean periods of foster or residential care for a child whilst decisions are being made, something any parent would want to avoid.

In all of the above cases the straightforward way for parents to achieve control is to make a will. This enables them to appoint trustees of their own choosing to administer a child's money, state the age they wish the child to be before they inherit any money, and appoint legal guardians of their own choosing to physically look after a child.

However recent surveys suggest some quite startling statistics. Only 21% of parents with minor children have made a will. 31% of parents who have made a will failed to appoint guardians for their children in that will.

Altogether a massive 88% of parents have not appointed guardians for their children. Despite this in the UK a child below eighteen loses a parent every 22 minutes.

That's 24,000 deaths per year where a bereaved child is involved.

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News in Brief

Portobello Methodist Church

Coffee Mornings fortnightly on Saturdays August 5,19 September 2,16,30 from 10.00-12.00. Hot and cold drinks, cakes and toasted teacakes on sale.

Friendship Club alternate Wednesdays August 2,16,30, September 13,27.

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.



News From the Rotary Club of Willenhall

July will see the start of a new Rotary year for the Rotary Club of Willenhall and with it the Club will induct a new President to take over from our current President, local solicitor Simon Rollason.

Our new President will be Michael Entecott who has lived in the town for a number of years although he is a Londoner by birth. Michael initially moved to the Midlands area in 1970 to train as a teacher and, following training, returned to London to teach before moving permanently to the Midlands in 1974. He lived in Lichfield for seven years before moving to Walsall and then Willenhall.

He retired from his teaching career in 2011 and, in 2015 became involved with the Parish Church of St. Giles and subsequently became Deanery Synod representative for the church.



Michael has a keen interest in sport having played for the Lichfield Cricket Club when he lived in the town.

Golf, however, is his current main passion and in 2011 he was invited onto the committee of the Staffordshire Union of Golf Clubs' membership scheme which was set up to raise funds for Junior golf in Staffordshire. The following year he was elected secretary of the scheme, a position he still holds today.

He was honoured in 2019 when he was invited to be President of the Staffordshire Union of Golf Clubs, a position he held for three years. He is currently chair of the SUGC board.

Of his forthcoming term of office at the Rotary Club Michael says, " It is a great honour for me to be asked to become President of a Rotary Club which has been in existence since 1935 and so has been serving the people of Willenhall for almost 90 years. Once again local charitable causes in the town will be our main focus as nearly all our funds are donated to the club by Willenhall folk during our collections and other fundraising events we hold."

Barry Thorndyke

*Public Image Officer,
Rotary Club of Willenhall*



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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'.

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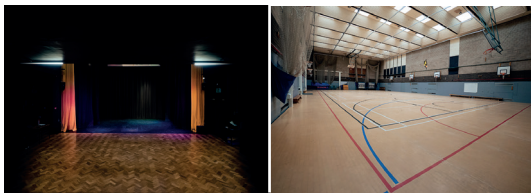
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Children's Parties: Running out of ideas on what to do for your child's party, then stress no more! We have a range of party packages available at cheap, affordable prices.



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
- Bovern 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 us 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!

Willenhall Transport Show Returns

Willenhall Transport Show held its 7th annual event in Willenhall Memorial Park at the end of June.

Around 170 local enthusiasts on motorbikes, scooters, vintage cars, big cars, vans and trucks gathered together to display their pride and joys.

Co-Organiser, Nigel Dutton, said *“We had 1100 adults and around 500 kids attend, so another great turnout by the people of Willenhall and surrounding areas.”*



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Ways to eat healthily during the Summer

- Start the day by drinking a glass of water and then aiming to drinking 1-2 litres of water per day by drinking water regularly. It is important that children and the elderly are kept well hydrated, especially on hot days. Dehydration can manifest as headaches, dizziness, and dry skin, mouth, or lips. Watch out for the signs.
- Limit the amount of sugary/fizzy energy drinks that you and your children consume as they contain very high amounts of sugar, caffeine and lots of other “unhealthy” ingredients.
- Make fruit ice cream with little or no added sugar. Hot weather screams ice cream, but not all ice creams are good options. Milk and chocolate ice creams are dense in calories and fats and poor in other important nutrients. Make your own with mashed fruit and yogurt ice creams, using appropriate freezer shapes. Making homemade fruit ice creams are also a fun family activity tip – all kids will love being the Chefs.



- Have light and frequent meals. Hot weather can cause a certain loss of appetite, and it can be easy to accidentally skip meals. A solution is to have more frequent lighter/smaller meals.
- Eat plenty of fruit and vegetables (raw or frozen is fine) in salads, using fruits and vegetables of the season. And while at home, keep chopped up fruit and veg in the fridge to encourage kids to eat healthier snacks.
- Aim for wholegrains. Choose wholegrain bread, breakfast cereals, pasta, and rice instead of their refined counterparts. Wholegrain foods retain a good part of the nutrients, in particular

fibre, unlike refined cereals which means wholegrains help balance blood sugar levels, increase calorie burn and help maintain a healthy weight.

- Avoid or reduce alcohol consumption. Alcoholic drinks contain lots of “hidden” calories, have low nutritional value and contribute to dehydration because they are diuretic.
- If you drink alcohol, do so in moderation and always alternate with water or an infusion without sugar or caffeine, since it is also diuretic.
- Make healthy snacks for picnics and beach days. Preparing your own snacks for days out will save you money and mean you don’t have to rely on what’s available at your destination – which are often fast food joints selling unhealthy sugary and fat-rich snacks.
- Fruits, veggies, wholegrain pasta or quinoa salads, veggie sandwiches, and raw vegetables (carrot sticks, cucumber slices, tomato salad, etc.) are good choices to bring in outings.



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Come and Celebrate the New Home for the Black Country Society

The Black Country Society has moved its meetings venue to Bilston Town Hall.



Black Country Society Chairman, Malcolm Dick said, 'The society has over 1,200 members and this move gives us the opportunity to accommodate attendees of all ages in comfort. Everyone is welcome at all our meetings. Entry is free to members and £4 for non-members. We have a very exciting programme of speakers and events throughout the year.'

Date	Programme
23rd August 7.30	Eldon Street: The history of Victorian Darlaston and the Black Country told through the lives of ordinary people. Speaker: Keith Robinson
27th September 7.30	Black Country Dialect across time and space: an introduction. Speaker: Esther Asprey
25th October 7.30	Lost Pioneers: A History of Wolverhampton's Victorian Jewish Community Speaker: Andy Sloane
2nd November 7.30	The President's Entertainment Evening: The Rotundas: A Black Country Folk trio
13th December 7.30	A Black Country Christmas Speaker: Ian Bott

There are lifts available for those who have difficulty managing stairs. There is ample free parking near the Town Hall which is also easily accessible by public transport.

The Black Country Society was founded in 1967 to promote and stimulate interest in the past, present and future of the area. It meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm and as well as hosting talks, arranges walks and visits in the locality and holds virtual meetings for those who live further afield.

For information on how to join go to www.blackcountryandsociety.com

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Windrush Scandal Explained

Who are the Windrush generation?

The 'Windrush' generation are those who arrived in the UK from Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1973. Many took up jobs in the NHS and other sectors affected by Britain's post-war labour shortage. The name 'Windrush' derives from the 'HMT Empire Windrush' ship which brought one of the first large groups of Caribbean people to the UK in 1948. As the Caribbean was, at the time, a part of the British commonwealth, those who arrived were automatically British subjects and free to permanently live and work in the UK.

What is the Windrush scandal?

The Windrush scandal began to surface in 2017 after it emerged that hundreds of Commonwealth citizens, many of whom were from the 'Windrush' generation, had been wrongly detained, deported and denied legal rights. As these shocking stories hit the headlines, Caribbean leaders took the issue up with then-prime minister, Theresa May. There was widespread shock and outrage at the fact that so many Black Britons had had their lives devastated by Britain's deeply flawed and discriminatory immigration system.

Why did the Windrush scandal happen?

Commonwealth citizens were affected by the government's 'Hostile Environment' legislation - a policy announced in 2012 which tasked the NHS, landlords, banks, employers and many others with enforcing immigration controls. It aimed to make the UK unliveable for undocumented migrants and ultimately push them to leave.

Because many of the Windrush generation arrived as children on their parents' passports, and the Home Office destroyed thousands of landing cards



and other records, many lacked the documentation to prove their right to remain in the UK. The Home Office also placed the burden of proof on individuals to prove their residency predated 1973. The Home Office demanded at least one official document from every year they had lived here. Attempting to find documents from decades ago created a huge, and in many cases, impossible burden on people who had done nothing wrong.

Falsely deemed as 'illegal immigrants' / 'undocumented migrants' they began to lose their access to housing, healthcare, bank accounts and driving licenses. Many were placed in immigration detention, prevented from travelling abroad and threatened with forcible removal, while others were deported to countries they hadn't seen since they were children.

Their harmful and unjust treatment provoked widespread condemnation of government's failings on the matter, with calls being made for radical reform of the Home Office and the UK's immigration policy. In response to these demands, then Home Secretary, Sajid Javid announced in May 2018 that the Home Office would commission a 'Windrush Lessons Learned Review'.

The scandal is far from over.

For those who have been affected by the Windrush scandal, justice has still not been done. There is a huge backlog of cases still to be resolved. The Windrush compensation scheme is a failure - it is complex to navigate, there is a lack of free legal advice, claims take months to process, and compensation offers are insultingly small.

We must continue to fight for justice for the Windrush Generation and hold the Home Secretary to her promise to 'right the wrongs' which led to this scandal.



Windrush Event Invitation

Dear Windrush Guest,

Would you like to deepen your understanding of who can claim, why they can claim and how to claim?

If so, you are invited to The Windrush Experience & Windrush Compensation Scheme Seminar.

This event is being organised by Sian Computers CIC on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at Grand Station, Sun St, Wolverhampton WV10 0BF.

You are encouraged to invite family, friends and neighbours, who may have been affected by the wrongdoings of the Windrush Scandal.

The Windrush Scandal was a British political wrongdoing that began in 2017 concerning people who were wrongly detained, denied legal rights, threatened with deportation and much more and in at least 83 cases people were wrongly deported from the UK by the Home Office.

Despite a Compensation Scheme being announced in December 2018, by November 2021, only an estimated 5% of victims had received any compensation and 23 of those eligible had died before receiving payments.

The purpose of holding this seminar is to raise awareness of the Windrush Experience and the Compensation Scheme set up by the UK Government. The UK Home Office is supporting this event and a Home Office official alongside a team will be in attendance at the event to provide clarity and transparency about the Windrush Compensation Scheme. We want to get this information out to as many as possible and encourage people to apply if they, a family member or anyone they know may have been affected by the Windrush Experience.

Please secure your FREE early bird ticket via Eventbrite NOW to save disappointment. Visit www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for 'Windrush'

Thank you

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Do Right by Billy



A group of Wolves fans are mounting a campaign calling on the Football Association to commission a statue of former Wolves and England skipper Billy Wright at Wembley. They are not deterred

by an initial rejection from the FA.

The campaign "Do right by Billy" believes the Wolves legend should be honoured at the home of English football for three reasons:

1. His position in football history is unique – the first player in the world to play in 100 senior internationals.
2. Wembley was where the landmark was reached – against Scotland on April 11, 1959.
3. Next year will be the centenary of Wright's birth. He was born in Ironbridge on February 6, 1924.

The group have now launched an on-line petition calling on the FA to reconsider. To add their name, fans need only go on line and search for "Do right by Billy petition" and that will take them to the petition site.

Group member Steve Gordos, a former sports editor of the Wolverhampton Express & Star, who was born in Bilston and attended Villiers School, said: "This is not just a Wolves thing – it's a football thing. Billy's place in world football history is permanent and what better place to recognise him than Wembley, the home of English football, where he won his hundredth cap?"

Two letters to FA chair Debbie Hewitt by another member of the group, Glenn Aston, did not receive a reply but a third attempt – a letter to chief executive officer Mark Bullingham – saw the idea thrown out. "Our view on recognising individual footballers by way of statues has remained the same since the new Wembley Stadium opening in 2007," said Bullingham in his reply.

"We commissioned one statue at the time at Wembley, which is of 1966 captain Bobby Moore. Bobby was selected to epitomise English football at its best with victory in the World Cup on that site. "We have not changed our position over time and therefore do not have any current plans to commission or install any new statues at Wembley. We are very disappointed with this response," said Steve. "I suppose you have to be my age, 78, to know Billy was not only a great player but a great ambassador for English football.

"I suspect our suggestion has not been put before the full FA council and I believe it should be. I believe they should honour Billy at Wembley. I was fortunate enough to be there to see Billy play his hundredth game for England. That achievement should have been enough to get him knighted. A statue might go a little way to making amends for that omission.

Steve said: "I well remember going to Wembley for Billy's 100th game. There must have been special trains laid on as I caught one at Bilston station. It was a big adventure for a 13-year-old.

The petition to the FA was started by another member of the group, Clive Corbett, author of several books on Wolves. He said: "We hope all football fans will back this."

Wright, who spent 20 years with Wolves, missed only three internationals during his England career and was captain 90 times, a record later equalled by Moore. He also played in 70 successive England games – another record. Wright, who was made a life member of the FA, died in September 1994.



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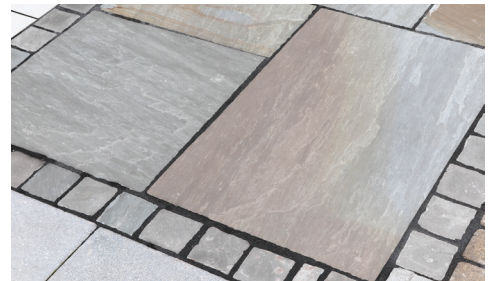
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Willenhall Carnival

The sun shone (it was very warm) and the crowds packed Willenhall Memorial Park on Saturday 10 June 2023 - what a fabulous day was had by all whom attended! We saw one of our largest turn outs with well over 5000 visitors during the day along with our largest turn out of stalls, food vendors and community acts/ singers who all made the day a huge success and kept the crowds entertained.

The Committee made the decision to remove the entrance fee again this year along with providing lots of free attractions which included donkey rides, bouncy castles, Punch & Judy show and Petting Zoo, all to give back something back to the community to thank everyone for the support Carnival gets during the year and at all its fund-raising events.

The Chair of the Committee and Events Organiser, Wayne Palmer said " the whole day was amazing and to see so many attending Carnival Day was excellent – we even had the

sun this year!! It was nice seeing everyone enjoying themselves and making a day of it at the park. I would personally like to thank everyone for the support we were given during Carnival Day, from the stall holders, community acts, charity stalls, car booters, singers, food vendors and the community - we smashed it!

The feedback and lovely comments we received makes it all worthwhile and its nice for people to be so appreciative of what we do as it takes over six months to plan and execute the day. and it's all done voluntary”

Planning is underway for next year’s event so here’s to making 2024’s Carnival Day bigger and better for everyone to enjoy.

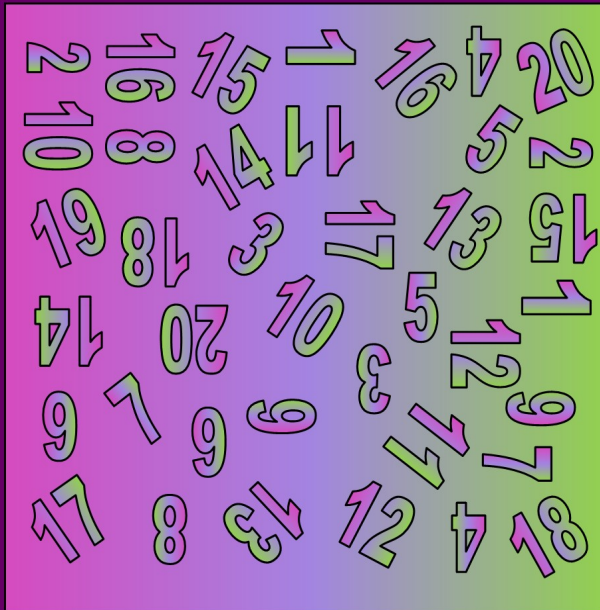
Follow us on our Facebook page to be able to see our other events that are coming up over the forthcoming months and we look forward to your continued support.



Kids' Page

Mixed-Up Missing Number Grid

All the numbers from 1 to 20 appear twice in the grid except one. Can you find which number only appears once?



Twist Your Tongue!

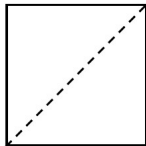
Try reading our tricky tongue-twister as fast as you can

ONE-ONE WAS a raceHORSE.
TWO-TWO WAS one, too.
WHEN ONE-ONE WON one race,
TWO-TWO WON one, too.

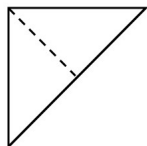
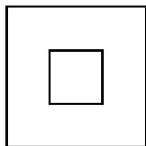


Cut & Fold

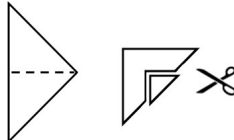
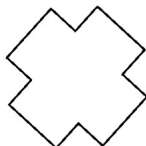
WHICH OF THE THREE PATTERNS BELOW IS created by FOLDING and CUTTING a square of paper AS SHOWN?



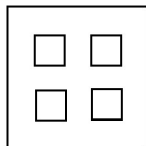
1



2



3



Fascinating Fact

The month of August was named after Roman emperor Augustus Caesar. Before this the Romans called it sextilis as it was the sixth month in their calendar.

Mixed-Up Missing Number Grid
The number which only appears once is 19
Cut & Fold Answer - 3

Mr Consistency

Why Dermot O'Leary is one of light entertainment's heaviest commodities.

Dermot O'Leary, by his own admission, encounters his fair share of criticism. Some accuse him of playing a little too much guitar music on his Radio 2 weekend show, and in the past the Twitterati have suggested his presenting voice can be a touch monotone. However, such observations are both unfair and untrue. Rather, the popular entertainment fraternity should be thanking the 50-year-old for delivering a healthy dose of sanity to a TV and radio ratings clamour that becomes all the more farcical with every new reality series or sensationalist podcast.

Dermot has lived through well over two decades of the madness, and emerges to tell the tale. "Certainly, as a competitive environment it's much crazier than it ever was," he begins. "There are so many different options for viewers and listeners these



days, but I like to think I have always sided myself with projects that are tasteful, interesting and, more than anything else, entertaining.

"I've always had a lot of fun doing live TV and radio, and when it stops being that way, I look for something else to do.

"Variation is key. Like most people, I'm interested in so many different things, and I never lose sight of the fact I'm lucky enough to explore these in the public domain."

Sean Dermot Fintan O'Leary Jr was born and raised in Colchester. His parents, Seán and Maria, had landed on these shores from Ireland. After feeling his way through the education system he attended Middlesex University, where he graduated in Media Studies and Politics.

Returning to his home county to work at BBC Radio Essex, that calling was clearly in the entertainment industry, and he quickly progressed from DJ tasks to TV school runner and Channel 4 presenter, working, notably, on Big Brother's Little Brother before switching to ITV.

"I think most people know me for Big Brother and X Factor, and they've been a massive



part of my life, but as in most things, you know when the time is right to give stuff up, and it became important for me to pursue other projects."

His switch to hosting the Saturday morning breakfast show on Radio 2 is perhaps a nod to future ambitions, and undoubtedly Dermot has the style, humility and confidence to make a genuine assault on larger commitments on the airwaves.

"I think radio is an incredible medium and it has always excited me. It's a very different creature to TV... I don't have to dress up, for a start!"

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Eddie Hughes MP

An update from your Member of Parliament



It's been another busy few months in Willenhall with plenty on across the town from community events to regeneration of our town!

I was back on site to see the progress being made at Willenhall Railway Station. I know many of you have seen the hustle and bustle on the site, so it was great to catch up with Transport for West Midlands to see how the work is coming along. Whilst the site has needed significant ground remedial work, the team are ploughing through to make the project a success.

I've been keeping you updated on the progress being made at the new Urgent and Emergency Care Centre at the Walsall Manor hospital since I secured the funding back in 2018. Although the department has been open for patients since the spring, I was thrilled to attend the official opening in June. The team have put a lot of thought into the new Urgent and Emergency Care Centre, with patient experience being at the heart of every feature in the new building. Securing this funding has been one of my proudest achievements since being elected as your Member of Parliament, and whilst I hope you never have to use it, I'm pleased to know this facility will be there for you and your loved ones should you ever need it.



The start of summer meant that Willenhall Carnival was back – and this year it was a lovely sunny day for it! The Carnival was bigger than ever with 40 extra stalls – including some free rides and entertainment suitable for all ages. This year I filled in for the Mayor of Walsall and was delighted to present to the Carnival Royalty who have raised over £3000 over

the past year. Well done to the Carnival Royalty, Wayne Palmer and the entire committee for another successful Carnival.

Nigel, Harry and the gang returned with the infamous Willenhall Transport Show, and I was joined with my MP neighbour, Jane Stevenson. There were even more vehicles on display this year and we were once again blessed with beautiful weather and luckily Alfonso's ice cream saved the day to help us cool down. Jane even spotted a Morris Minor like the one her mom used to have! Well done to Nigel and Harry for another great show.

The fun isn't over yet! There are still plenty of community events planned across Willenhall over the summer! This includes the famous Willenhall Lock Stock which is back on 3rd September and you can get your early bird tickets now from Touchdown Vapes on Clarks Lane or the Spud Van in Willenhall Market. With an exciting line up and plenty do, I'm looking forward to seeing you there.



It's also exciting to see work progressing on the former Eagleworks site. With the old factory now demolished, 34 flats and 20 houses are expected to be finished later this year. I was delighted to visit the site when construction first started and it's great to see how quickly progress is being made. Having secured £20m as part of the Levelling Up Fund, I'm pleased to see that the regeneration of Willenhall Town Centre has already begun. With the new railway station on the way, it's exciting to see much-needed transformation already taking shape.

I look forward to seeing you around Willenhall over the summer and I hope you make the most of the warm weather!

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Units 17, 18, 19, 29, 30 Essington industrial Estate, Bognop Road, Essington WV11 2BA



Gordon Hendricks
as

ELVIS

THE KING'S VOICE



In Support of

Mental
Health
UK

Fri 15th

Sept 2023

7pm

Willows Hall

Bath Street

***Tickets**

£35 £25

Tel: 07596 634281

* Booking & Transaction Fee Apply Online

Eventbrite

WILLENHALL WV13 2EY

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Bandstand Summer Season

Sponsored and organised by

Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park

Sundays from 2pm 'til 4pm

FREE EVENTS

Cosford Military Wives Choir

Sunday 16th July

100th Birthday of the park

'Stories of the Trees'

Project sponsored by:
Creative Black Country

1923



2023



6th August – The City of

Wolverhampton Brass Band

13th August – 2 Ukes - Ukulele Duo

20th August – Vicky Jayne - Singer

27th August – Andy James as Elvis

Please bring your own picnic chairs,
blankets and refreshments.

Alfonso serving ice cream, tea and coffee -
follow us on Friends of Willenhall Memorial
Park Facebook page – for updates on
cancellations in case of poor weather.
Featured in Willenhall Life Magazine.

Please note there is limited parking on Pinson
Road entrance car park WV13 2PW. Other parking
available St Stephen's Ave or Roundcroft.

Dartmouth Avenue gates will be open - park on the
events field (gate closes at 4.30pm).

Public toilets including disabled toilets available



We are Old Hall People's Partnership - your Locality Lead organisation

WE OFFER FREE SUPPORT FOR YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP

in Bentley, Darlaston, Moxley and Willenhall

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Support for existing clubs,
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Finding the funds you need,
Information, advice and guidance,
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and ... much, much, more!**

Telephone Denise or Diana

01922 474684

Old Hall People's Partnership
Reg Charity: 1099939

Wing Close
Established 2000

Bentley

Walsall WS2 0LS
info@ohpp.org.uk

Old Hall People's Partnership project support is funded by Walsall Council Resilient Communities



CHARITY NO: 1099939

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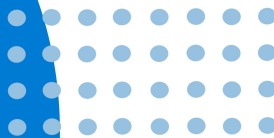
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Willenhall Lock Stock 2023



Hello music fans we are gearing up for a bigger Lock Stock on Sunday September 3rd 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 back ground 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.

YOU ARE THE MUSIC!

Luv team Lock Stock

 [willenhalllockstock](https://www.facebook.com/willenhalllockstock)



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.

THE POP ARENA

THE BLACK COUNTRY BEATLES

DAYTON GREY
SASS BROWN
BHANGRA SMASH UP
SOULCHILD
THE BRITANNIA BEAT
RELOAD
REBEL BLONDE

Plus
JESSY HAX
JESSIE DESAI
IZZYE



@WILLENHALLLOCKSTOCK

THE ROCK ARENA

SHINE A LIGHT STONES TRIBUTE

VOODOO SIOUX
KRAZYLEGZ
NEW SAINTS
JAM 4 JAK
SHORT HEATH BOYZ
COVER HOUNDS
CC RIDER BAND

Plus
WARDI
SAY LESS
FOUR TIMES INDIE



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.

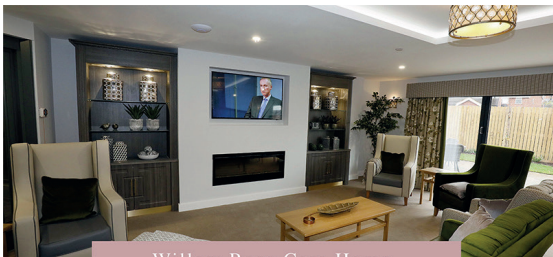
Our Manager

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



A new level of comfort and care



CONTACT

CALL

01922 270920

EMAIL

willowrose.manager@macccare.com

WEBSITE

www.macccare.com/willow-rose

LOCATION

Stroud Avenue, Short Heath,
Willenhall WV12 4ET

Events at 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 our care home, we try our very best to make wishes come true. This is our resident Keith Love and his one wish was to go back to Wolves FC's stadium, the Molineux.

They kindly, invited him to do the tour and Keith loved it. He was escorted by Nikki and Lorraine

our senior carers and enjoyed every moment. Keith was very emotional as he thought he would never go back but they were tears of joy. He is hoping one day he will get to watch his favourite team play once more.

We also had the alpacas come and visit us, which is great mental stimulation for the residents. They were so shocked to see them walk in but were happy to get a cheeky kiss off one of them and have plenty of cuddles.



Willenhall History

Roads have been around for a very long time and in the 16th century the upkeep for many was originally down to the land owners, but in 1555 the Highways Act changed this so that the parish inhabitant was obliged to work four consecutive days a year, this in itself was bad enough but the poor man had to use his own tools, cart and horse overseen by an unpaid local appointee the Surveyor of Highways. In 1654 however, road charges were introduced.



The first turnpike (toll) road was in 1663, administered by Justices of the Peace in Quarter Sessions. By 1706 through an act of parliament Trusts were

established enabling the Trustees to erect gates, demand labour or cash equivalent and appoint surveyors/collectors. This was done for a set period of time, they could borrow money, repair the road and install mile posts.

Money collected from the charges should have been used to repay the debt over time although this was rarely achieved with trusts renewed when required. In 1707 when the name Great Britain was first commonly used, the Turnpike Acts passed by Parliament ordered Scotland to follow England and Wales in their usage.



Most towns had a turnpike but as Willenhall was on the main coach road from Wolverhampton to Walsall to Birmingham it ended up with two and both remaining today. Coaches, horses and cattle arrived from Wolverhampton and entered the town via Wolverhampton Street which continued into what is now Market Place.

The mail coach stopped at the Bulls Head to drop and collect the mail nearby, both run by the Tildesleys. (In 1861 there were two collections and deliveries Monday to Saturday) Passenger coaches also stopped there and at The Bell Inn which Willenhall History Society is proud to be associated with.



The first toll house was this one built in the late 18th century by the junction of Walsall Road and Birmingham Street. The second one was built much later but was there in

1820 at the start of the New Road, which had been built to ease the traffic on Wolverhampton Street which was getting very congested.

It doesn't look quite like this today.

Society News

We had a great deal of interest at Willenhall Carnival and a wonderful day out at the Lion Salt Works Museum followed by a delightful cruise on the River Weaver at the Anderton Boat Lift in Cheshire.

On Saturday 23rd September 2023 we are hosting our own History Fair at St Stephens Church Hall in Wolverhampton Street, 10am to 3pm.

Entrance fee Adults £3 accompanied children free. Exhibitors to include Wolverhampton Archaeology Group + Moseley Old Hall + Codsall & Bilbrook, + Wednesfield History Societies + Wolverhampton Historical Blue Plaque Society + Black Country Museum + Museum of Wolverhampton & South Staffs + Gornal History Society & Mining Lamps + Table Top Miniature Model Railway + Willenhall Tapestries (The Bell Inn) + Leatherwork Demonstration + Refreshments Available.

By Liz Ince - Keeping our history alive.



summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Starts at Willenhall Library Saturday 8th July



Ready, set, Be Dog Smart!

Children aged 5 - 11 (accompanied by a grown-up) are invited to attend our free workshop.

Come along to learn all about how to stay safe around dogs and how to keep our four-pawed friends happy!



Friday 25th July
 Friday 11th August
 Friday 25th August
 10.00am – 11.00 am
 Willenhall Community Library
 Walsall Street, WV13 2EX

Booking is Essential. To Book call 01922 650771 or Email: Willenhalllibrary@walsall.gov.uk



Any Enquires please email
Clare.selvey@dogstrust.org.uk

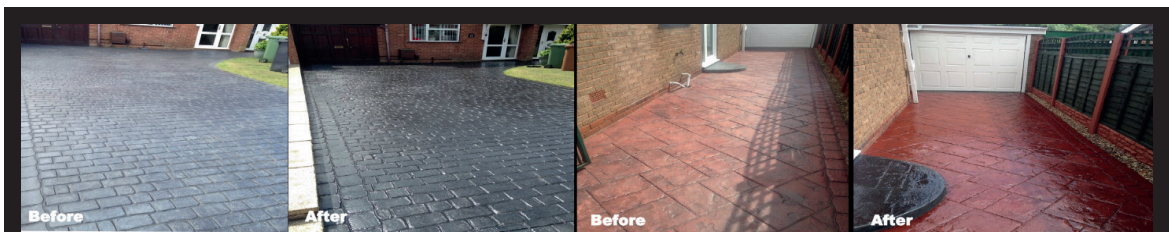


*No real dogs will attend this event



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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

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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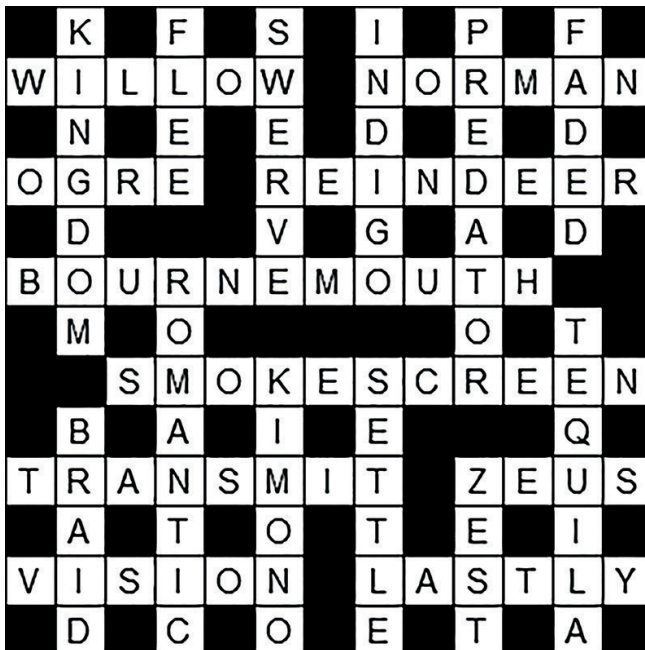
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Crossword Answers

From page 10



The next issue of the

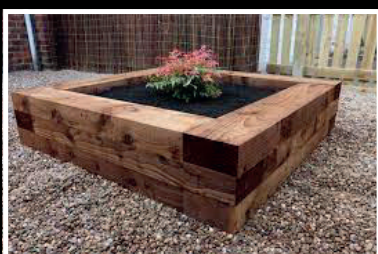
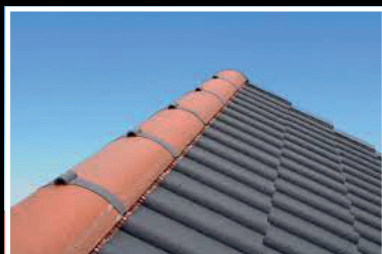
Willenhall
Life

is out on
22nd Sept

Booking deadline
1st Sept

If you want to get your message out to approx. 30,000 local people, email willemhalllife@yahoo.co.uk or ring Simon on **07534 603662**

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