

The Newsletter of Willington Parish Council



February 2022 Newsletter No. 27

Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2022! We hope that everyone had a restful break over the Christmas and New Year holidays. Your newsletter contains important information regarding training for the defibrillator, fundraising for more defibrillators, United Utilities updates, garden waste bin collections, results of the Christmas quiz, and much more!

Our Village Web site – willington.org.uk - Message from Jane Lowthion

The Parish Council has a statutory duty to host their own website. The main purpose of this is to ensure all parishioners have access to information on the workings of their Council, including minutes of meetings and finances. Willington website is quite basic. The Clerk has responsibility for posting minutes, finances etc. I have been keeping the front page up to date, adding a few pictures of events occasionally. Although the task is not onerous, I do want to pass it on to someone else now. It would be a simple task to train someone to take it on, even improve on it if enthusiastic. Please get in touch with Rob Winterbourne or me if you would be interested in finding out more.

Jane Lowthion jane.lowthion@btinternet.com Tel: 01829 751454

Note from Andrew Nicholas (Chairman) - we would like to say a big 'thank you' to Jane for managing the Parish Council website over the past few years.

How to use the Defibrillator.....a date for some basic training - Message from Andrew Nicholas, Council Chairman

We have a defibrillator installed in the re-purposed phone box at Willington Corner. If you needed the defibrillator in a medical emergency would you know how to:-

- access it and get it out of the cabinet?
- switch it on?
- access the pads and rescuers kit?
- attach the pads to a patient?



Just knowing these very basic steps could save vital time for the patient and give you the confidence to deploy the defibrillator while help arrives. It would be even better if you know how to perform Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Fortunately the defibrillator we have talks you through what you need to do (using speech and graphics plus real-time CPR help). It's therefore very easy to use.

Unfortunately, it is still not possible to provide defibrillator, CPR, and life-saving training indoors.

However, please wrap up warm and come along to the kiosk at Willington Corner starting @ 10.30 am on Sunday 6th March for some familiarisation instruction. I'll try and make it fun and suitable for all the family.

Make Willington Heart Safe Project



The Parish of Willington has one defibrillator, located centrally at Willington Corner. In the event of a cardiac arrest, for each minute that passes without effective CPR the chances of being resuscitated decrease by 10%....**chances of survival are greatly increased if a defibrillator is readily accessible at all times and is nearby.**

The time taken to access a defibrillator is of the upmost importance. Travel to and from the extremities of the Parish to the present defibrillator will take several minutes even by car; locating two additional publicly accessible (24/7) defibrillators could reduce access time to a couple of minutes, significantly increasing chances of survival. Two additional sites have been identified at Willington Hall and at The Boot Inn. These businesses have a high footfall of visitors, so the benefit would be for both parishioners and visitors alike. Mike Gollings at The Boot and Stuart Begbie at Willington Hall have given the project their backing and have each agreed to site one of the Defibrillators.

How will we raise the £3500 to pay for these additional life-saving devices?

We can go a long way to this by posting the Make Willington Heart Safe Project on the Cheshire West Crowd/Spacehive (Crowd Funding) Platform.

If the project is accepted for the platform, we first need to demonstrate that we have local support for the project. You (the residents of Willington) can do this by donating money to the project (you become a "Backer"). The more "Backers" we have, the greater chance we have of obtaining up to 50% of the project cost from the CWaC £125000 pot for set aside for local projects. Secondly, we will need to approach local organisations and businesses that may be willing to contribute. The Spacehive platform also attracts funding from other interested parties who may back the project. The project will run for 10 weeks; if it raises the target amount, the CWaC funds are released to us. If it doesn't hit the target, all "Backers" get their donations returned in full.

To progress this project we need to form a small team (it won't be time demanding). If you would like to help with this project, please contact Councillor Andrew Nicholas or The Clerk, Rob Winterbourne. **We must get the project up and running by 23rd March.**

We'll share an update with you on how you can make a donation (become a "Backer") on the Spacehive Platform when the project goes live.

Costings

Purchase & install 2 Zoll AED Plus (this model guides the rescuer through the resuscitation sequence in real time with voice prompts and graphics). To be housed in Aivia external cabinets.

To be bought through the Parish Council, saving the VAT.

Net Costing:

Zoll AED Plus 2 of @ £874.17 = £1748,34

Aivia 200 cabinets 2 of @ £415.00 = £ 835.00

Electrician Time & materials 2 of @ £200.00n (estimate) = £. 200.00

Total = £2983.34 Plus VAT



Notes from your Parish Council Clerk

The new Parish Council WhatsApp Group – at January's Parish Council meeting, the Council agreed to set up a Parish Council WhatsApp group specifically for the dissemination of information from the Council to the residents of Willington. For example, Cheshire Police Alerts, Road Closures, Power and Water outages will be posted on the group. Currently, this sort of information is posted on the Willington Neighbours WhatsApp group; from 7th March, this will no longer be the case. **So please sign up for the new WhatsApp group by contacting the Clerk on 07850 057012 or e-mail: clerk.willington@willington.org.uk.**

Parish Council new email addresses – with immediate effect, your Clerk and Parish Councillors will be exclusively using the following e-mail addresses for Parish Council business. These will provide clear segregation, improved security, and transparency for Council e-mails.

Cllr John Grimshaw - john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk
Cllr Rob Merrick - rob.merrick@willington.org.uk
Cllr Andrew Nicholas - andrew.nicholaswillington.org.uk
Parish Clerk - clerk.willington@willington.org.uk



Reduction in the speed limit on Willington Road – we have finally received the full set of costs for the scheme from CWaC Highways; **it is £5488**. At the Parish Council meeting on 25th January 2022, the Council agreed to ask CWaC Highways to proceed with the second consultation period (for three weeks via a notice in the local press). After the consultation is complete, implementation can proceed. Once the revised scheme has been in place for a while, we expect CWaC Highways to assess the levels of compliance with the new 30 mph limit. If compliance levels are low, we may have to implement (and fund) further speed reduction measures for example a vehicle-activated speed sign (VAS). When the revised limit is operational, the Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner (John Dwyer) plans to visit to see what has been achieved to improve road safety in the village (and no doubt to understand how we spent the £2500 grant he awarded us).

Silted up passing places on the narrow road between the entrances to Willington Hall – CWaC Highways have agreed that the passing places need cleaning out but we are still waiting for their contractors to schedule the work.

Remember, you can report any road or path issue (and other things such as blocked or damaged drains and grids) directly to CWaC using 'Report It' online at....

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/report-it.aspx>. Or you can contact CWaC - General enquiries 0300 123 8123

Replacement Parish Council Notice Board - it has been a while since our notice board was kindly spread across the Green by the driver of a silver car in the early hours of a Saturday morning. Following the agreement of our insurer to fully cover the costs of the new board, we instructed a local contractor to construct a new board (very similar to the old one). Unfortunately, the build has been impacted by the global shortage of timber (have you seen the price of basics such as plywood recently?) The timber has recently arrived and we hope that the new board will be installed in the next few weeks.

A Message from Edward Timpson MP

Whilst it was only this week that I heard Willington had suffered an incursion by an unaccompanied, wind-assisted trampoline (please contact the Parish clerk if you can help return it to its rightful owner!), I am obviously writing to you at a very difficult time due to a very different sort of incursion.

Russia's invasion of the sovereign state of the Ukraine is a criminal act by a totalitarian dictator. As the Prime Minister said in his televised address to the nation on 24 February, "Ukraine is a country that for decades has enjoyed freedom and democracy and the right to choose its own destiny. We—and the world—cannot allow that freedom just to be snuffed out. We cannot and will not just look away."

I will not dwell further upon the matter here, but we all wait with bated breath to see if the massive package of economic sanctions designed, in time, to hobble the Russian economy, will encourage Mr Putin to see sense, and thus restore a greater sense of peace in Europe.

COVID-19 TESTING

I know that some Willington residents are concerned about the change in the Covid-19 lateral flow testing arrangements. I am proud of the incredible diagnostics capacity that has been built in the UK over the course of the pandemic, which is the biggest in Europe.

Both testing and tracing have been important throughout the pandemic, helping people to protect themselves and others by taking tests before meeting friends, family, and colleagues and reducing the workforce impacts of isolation by allowing close contacts of positive cases to test daily rather than self-isolate. However, with the great success of the vaccination programme, access to new treatments, natural immunity, and the increased understanding about how to manage risk from this virus, the population has stronger protection against Covid-19 than ever before.

The focus of the NHS response to the pandemic is, therefore, moving away from regulation, and towards guidance and advice, while targeting protection at those who are most at-risk. As such, from 1st April, there will still be some limited ongoing free symptomatic testing—including for a small number of at-risk groups and social care staff. More detail will be set out in due course, which I will, of course, be scrutinising closely. I understand that the Government is working with retailers and pharmacies to help establish a private market in testing to ensure those who wish to purchase lateral flow tests can still do so.

DEFIBRILLATORS

I wish to send the entire village my condolences on the loss of a young life due to cardiac arrest. When such events befall those so youthful—and are so unexpected—they hurt all the more for their family and loved ones.

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) causes 100,000 deaths in the UK each year, and there are 60,000 incidents of SCA each year in community settings, like Willington and our other rural Cheshire villages. I know that using a defibrillator within three minutes of a cardiac arrest can improve a person's chance of survival by as much as 70 per cent, and I welcome goals set out in the NHS Long Term Plan which seek to prioritise the rollout of defibrillators.

A Message from Edward Timpson MP

This will help to prevent up to 150,000 heart attacks, strokes and dementia deaths over the next decade by improving community first response and building defibrillator networks. I also welcome the charitable partners supporting these targets, and I firmly support the work they do with local paramedics, ambulance services and health representatives to raise awareness of defibrillator locations.

Establishing clear and well-signposted networks of reliably-serviced defibrillators is extremely important. I, therefore, join the Government in encouraging all Cheshire organisations to consider purchasing a defibrillator as a standard part of their first-aid equipment, alongside their plasters, bandages, and safety pins. They should be that common.

AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES

The North West Ambulance Service does a sterling job, and their paramedics go above and beyond the call of duty frequently—no more so than during the pandemic. However, over my 11 years in Parliament, the issue of ambulance response times in Cheshire's rural and semi-rural areas has never gone away, and I have repeatedly ensured ministers are aware of this.

According to NHS data for January 2022, the North West Ambulance Service answers Category 1 emergency calls in an average of 8 minutes 31 seconds: its stated aim is an average of 7 minutes. They aim to answer Category 2 emergency calls in 18 minutes, but averaged 43 minutes 47 seconds. Clearly, there is still significant room for improvement, and ministers are more than cognisant of my unaccepting frustration with this performance level.

I am reassured, however, that ambulance trusts are being supported by NHS England and NHS Improvement to reduce ambulance waiting times. This includes monitoring and support through the National Ambulance Coordination Centre, and the Government's continued efforts to increase ambulance staff numbers.

As of July 2021, there are almost 17,700 clinical ambulance staff working in the National Health Service—an increase of 4.1 per cent since July 2020—and over 24,700 ambulance support staff—an increase of 2.9 per cent since July 2020. The NHS was also provided with a further £55 million investment for ambulance trusts to boost staff numbers ahead of winter, increasing capacity in terms of available ambulances to respond to patients and of staff in control rooms.

A Message from Edward Timpson MP

NOTICE BOARD HIT-AND-RUN

Regarding an accident of a very different nature, I was very disappointed to hear that one of Willington's fine community notice boards was wiped out by a car crash and that the cowardly perpetrator failed to take responsibility.

However, on the upside, whenever Willington has a problem, the village always seems to have an expert to help fix it, and so I am glad local craftsmanship will play its part in the manufacture of a new notice board.

I can't say that I have been of great assistance in this matter, but I am nevertheless flattered to have been invited by the Parish to come and unveil the new board when it's ready!

On a serious note, whilst I am delighted that no residents were harmed in this accident, I also welcome the fact that the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill will increase the maximum penalties for causing death by dangerous driving and death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs to life imprisonment.

In addition, there is an unjust gap in the law relating to serious injury, and so the Bill will also create a new offence of causing serious injury by careless driving. Hopefully, this new legislation will encourage unsafe drivers like our perpetrator to think again when they get behind the wheel.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Members of Parliament can help their constituents by advising on problems (particularly those that arise from the work of Government departments), and representing the concerns of their constituents in Parliament.

So if you need to get in touch, on this or any other matter, please visit edwardtimpson.com/contact to email me. You can sign up for my Eddisbury Report e-newsletter too.

You can also call my constituency office on 01829 733 385, or write to me at 58A High Street, Tarporley CW6 0AG.

Village Updates

Parish Council Budget and Precept 2022-23

Your Council has set the precept (the money we ask Cheshire West and Chester Council for to run the Parish Council) for the coming financial year at £6235. This represents an increase for a Band D property in the village of £5.63 per annum (equivalent to £0.47 per month) to £41.21.

Our overall projected spend for 2022/23 is £14654 which includes:

- significant funding for the speed reduction on Willington Road (funded from reserves and a grant from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office)
- the cost of the new Parish Council notice board (funded by our insurance).

After funding the speed reduction project, our reserves will still meet prudent and legal levels.

The 2022-23 budget details are published in the draft minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 25th January 2022 (available on the Parish Council website) or via the Clerk.

Update From United Utilities regarding our water supply issues.

Despite the issues experienced by a number of us with low pressure and off-colour water, we seem to have avoided the major leaks and long outages we experienced last year.

You may well be aware that one of the root causes of the water supply problems in Willington was the very high water pressure which very easily exposed any weaknesses in the pipe network. To resolve this United Utilities agreed to a Pressure Management Valve on Quarry Lane to reduce the water pressure to somewhere near the UK average of 2-4 bars or 30-60 psi.

United Utilities have confirmed that the Pressure Management Valve was commissioned on Wednesday 26 January and they are now able to monitor and adjust the local pressure as necessary from this valve. With the installation of the valve, United Utilities hope to optimise the pressure in the area and ensure it does not fluctuate, which will reduce the pressure on the infrastructure and reduce the risk of the pipes bursting.

If you experience any issues with your water supply, please report any problems to the United Utilities 24 hour contact centre by calling 03456 723 723.



Photograph by Richard Preston

Green Waste Collections



Garden waste bin collections- message from CWaC

Background

Cheshire West and Chester Council are committed to providing residents with a high-quality waste and recycling collection service. Garden waste collection is a non-statutory service - this means that the Council does not have to provide it. However, we know that many people in our borough value this service and we want it to continue.

Like many councils, we are introducing a charge for garden waste collections. This will support the cost of providing the waste and collection service. Residents who do not wish to pay for the service are free to make their own arrangements (such as home composting) or can continue to recycle garden waste at their local Household Waste Recycling Centre for free.

New Garden Waste Subscription Service

From Monday, 28 February 2022 there will be a £40 per bin annual charge for garden waste collections which residents will need to subscribe to, in order to continue receiving the service.

The new service will provide 20 collections within the year with a suspension outside of the growing season of 12 weeks (December to February). This equates to £2 per collection.

We strongly encourage you to pay for the annual subscription during the suspension period (12 weeks from Dec to Feb each year). you will still be able to pay for a subscription outside of this window however you will still be required to pay the full charge of £40. You can have as many garden waste bins as you like, at a cost of £40 per bin, per year.

Permits

Garden waste permits will be posted to residents before the start of the new service. Permits will be issued for every paid-for subscription.

Green Waste Collections - Continued

Support for Low Income Households

The number of households in receipt of council tax benefit who currently receive a garden waste collection is 10,637 (91.3% of households on full Council Tax reduction).

Customers in receipt of full Council Tax reduction will be offered a reduction of 25% (£10) on their initial bin subscription (not additional bin subscriptions). Residents will be required to provide supporting evidence of their eligibility by uploading a copy of their Council Tax Bill during the online application process.

Collection of Unwanted Garden Bins

Unwanted garden bins will **not** be collected until approximately June 2022. This will give you time to assess whether you want to subscribe to the service and not request the removal of your bin prematurely.

Please be advised that there will be a £21 re-delivery fee if a new bin is requested within 12 months of requesting for your existing garden waste bin to be removed.

Garden waste- website information

More information about the garden waste service can be found on our website along with the online subscription form: **[Garden waste collection](#)**

Our customer contact centre will also take payments over the phone 0300 123 7026.

Subscribe now to receive all your 2022 garden waste collections. We will empty your garden waste bin fortnightly from March to December for £40 per bin. It is quick and easy to subscribe and by doing it now you will receive all your 2022 collections.

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/garden-waste-collection.aspx>

In addition, your recycling and waste service is changing. Some residents in the area will be receiving new bins over the next few weeks. Those residents will receive a leaflet 2 weeks before the bins arrive. Some residents are not yet due to change. If you do not receive a leaflet and some of your neighbours and friends do it means that you will be changed later on in the changeover schedule. All properties will be changed over by the end of the year.

Cheshire News

Time to get walking again! Not that many of us stopped for the winter

At this time of year, we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Cheshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cheshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county, and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cheshire (part of the Walking in England website – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Tarporley & District U3A

Tarporley & District u3a will be holding their next general meetings at Tarporley Community Centre from 10am (doors open at 9.45am). Speaker begins shortly after 10am following a few notices on the following dates:

Thursday 31st March 2022: Our speakers this month are Mike and Mary Wilson who will talk about Sailing into Retirement Part 1 Around the UK. As soon as Mary and Mike retired, they set off in Lockington Lady, to sail around the UK (well most of it) to see whether they would be able to tackle the journey to the Med. This talk describes the 3-month journey which produced challenges and a great training run.

Thursday 28th April 2022: Our speaker this month is Karen Castle who will be speaking to us about Experiences of a Female Prison Officer Part 2. Karen, who has given us a fascinating talk before as Part 1, was a female prison hospital officer and one of the first female officers placed in a male prison.

Thursday 26th May 2022: Our speaker this month is Dr. Mark Baldwin who will be speaking to us about The Occupation of the Channel Islands. Dr. Baldwin is a military historian, publisher, and bookseller, having previously been a lecturer at Imperial College. He gave us an excellent Zoom presentation last year on Codebreakers and the Enigma machine and returns, in person this time, to talk about the Occupation of the Channel Islands.

You can find out more from our website at: <https://u3asites.org.uk/tarporley/home> where you will be able to read our newsletters and find out how to join.

Sandstone Ridge

THE CHESHIRE SANDSTONE RIDGE: Towards a New National Landscape

In June 2021 it was announced that the Cheshire Sandstone Ridge is to be considered for status as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Securing this designation will allow the area to benefit from greater protection and management. This diverse, distinctive, and celebrated landscape is located in the heart of Cheshire and covers an area of over 230 sq km, and is rich in heritage, archaeology, wildlife, and culture. This will be Cheshire's first AONB and represents the first nationally protected landscape lying wholly in the county.

The process towards the designation of the Sandstone Ridge will start in the New Year and will involve the consideration of natural beauty, the determination of the AONB boundaries, and public consultation. This process will take between two and three years during which time the public profile of the Ridge will be greatly enhanced.

The Sandstone Ridge Trust is one of many organisations that have an interest in the natural beauty, landscape, and cultural heritage of the Ridge together with the needs of the people that visit, live, and work on it. To this effect, the Trust has been instrumental in protecting and managing this magical landscape and has, over a number of years, attracted significant Lottery funding to support this initiative.



Please visit: <https://www.sandstoneridge.org.uk/> for more information

Andrew Hull - Chair of the Sandstone Ridge Trust Trustees

Taskforce Updates and Messages

Litter Picking - Despite the anti-social actions of some of our visitors, you will not have seen very much litter around the Parish. This is due in no small part to the continual efforts of a willing team of litter pickers. Thank you! If you would like to get involved in this very worthwhile task, we have vacancies to cover the following areas:

1. Willington Hall to Dickinson's Rough (Willington Lane)
2. Waste Lane and Kings Gate car park
3. Willington Corner Greens (vacancy here when the current volunteers depart Willington)

There is no organised routine for picking. Volunteers decide when to collect as the required frequency will vary with the seasons. All necessary equipment will be provided.

If you would like to help with the litter picking, please contact Cllr John Grimshaw on 752177 or john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk

Forthcoming Willington Taskforce activities – March dates to be advised later

1. Clear Willington Rd footpath of debris as far as South View
2. Prepare and re paint the finger signpost at Willington Corner.
3. Scarify and re- seed areas of the Green, and remove fallen branch debris and some overhanging branches to let in more light.
4. Minor repairs to the bus shelter roof.
5. Consider further stoned areas around the Green benches.
6. Remove branches obscuring traffic signs along Willington Rd.

If you would like to get involved in the task force, please contact Cllr John Grimshaw on 752177 or john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk

Many thanks to our long-standing litter pickers and task force members, and welcome to our new and younger ones! We now have a total of fifteen volunteers willing to get out there and do their bit for our community.

Willington Prize Christmas Quiz 2021 – answers and results

A big thank you to all of you who entered our Xmas prize quiz. The winners were Heather and Richard Bailey who received a gift voucher for Weetwood Brewery Shop. Very worthy runners-up were Isabel and Mike McIntyre who we are sure enjoyed their chocolates from Tarporley Firestation. Please see below for the answers.

1. If Prince Albert bought each of his children two presents and his wife (Queen Victoria) three presents, how many presents would he have to buy. They had **nine children, five girls, and four boys, with 17 years between the oldest and the youngest. So he had to buy 21 presents.**
2. How many of Santa's nine reindeers have names beginning with D? **3 Dasher, Dancer & Donner.**
3. Ignoring the partridge, how many birds are there in the Twelve Days of Christmas? **22 Two turtle doves, Three French hens, Four calling birds, Six geese a-laying, Seven swans a-swimming.**
4. How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizza? **Deep and crisp & even**
5. On what date do orthodox Russian Christians celebrate Christmas Day? **7th January.**
6. What is next in this sequence.... 3, 15, 18, 2, 2, 3, 29, 26, ? Clue – you probably won't need to go to work on these..... **27 – 'Xmas Day' 2022. They are all England Public Holidays 2022.**
7. Roughly how many miles did Mary and Joseph have to travel to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem? **They had to travel 90 miles to the city of Joseph's ancestors: south along the flatlands of the Jordan River, then west over the hills surrounding Jerusalem, and on into Bethlehem.**
8. Shakespeare wrote a play for Elizabeth I as a Christmas present. Which play is it? **-The Merry Wives of Windsor.**
9. Who wrote the story 'A Christmas Carol'? - **Charles Dickens.** And who said, "God bless us, everyone!?" **Tiny Tim**
10. If you're born on Christmas day, what's your star sign? **Sagittarius: December 17th to January 20th.**

Add the answers to Q3 & Q6 together, and then subtract the answers to Q1 & Q2.
Gives you twenty-five (of course).

Galleries in our Area

Galleries You Must Visit In Our Neighbourhood - Article written by Audrey Wraith

I thought I would like to tell you how much I enjoy visiting art galleries within a reasonable distance of Willington. There is no need to venture further afield although it is great to go to the London Galleries! We are very lucky to have a large group of world-class galleries/museums in Liverpool notably the Walker Art Gallery, the World Museum, the Maritime Museum and of course the Museum of Liverpool, which come under the umbrella of the National Museums Liverpool. We must not forget the Slavery Museum and Tate Liverpool either of course, which is one of the 4 Tates. Just to whet your appetite the Walker is hosting an exhibition The Tudors: Passion, Power and Politics from 21 May, which includes almost 70 works from the National Portrait Gallery as well as works from the Holburne Museum in Bath, a great opportunity to see some magnificent works. Also exciting news from The World Museum, which has announced that it will have the world premiere of Doctor Who The Worlds of Wonder from 27 May! I was interested to discover too that Tate Liverpool is housing the Turner Prize from 20 October this year. At the moment you need to book tickets for Tate but you only pay for special exhibitions. As you probably know its location on the Albert Dock is really super!

I want to encourage you all to support these museums.

I particularly want to promote the Lady Lever Art Gallery, which is about 20 miles from Willington and is located in Port Sunlight.



The Lady Lever was established by William Hesketh Lever to enrich the culture and education of the lives of his workforce and the general public. It was opened in 1922 by Princess Beatrice, the youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, and houses a fascinating collection of around 12,000 objects, including Pre-Raphaelite paintings, Chinese ceramics, and some of the world's finest Wedgwood jasperware. The art gallery holds a unique group of important Victorian paintings including early and later Pre-Raphaelites and masterpieces by artists such as Lord Leighton etc. There is also an impressive range of furniture from the late 16th century to the beginning of the 19th century and a room full of tapestries, classical antiquities, and Chinese ceramics. The Gallery contains the best of William Hesketh Lever's personal art collection. He was an inveterate collector! You need to visit it yourself to appreciate what I mean.

Galleries in our Area - Continued

Just to give you an idea of what the Lever Art Gallery has to offer artwise I include a picture of its most famous painting by the Pre-Raphaelite William Holman Hunt:



The Scapegoat (1854–1856) depicts the scapegoat described in the Book of Leviticus. On the Day of Atonement, a goat would have its horns wrapped with a red cloth – representing the sins of the community – and be driven off in an act of cleansing. Hunt started painting it on the shore of the Dead Sea, and continued it in his studio in London. It is perhaps not everybody's taste but it is an amazing painting to see in the flesh!

It would be wrong of me not to include a painting you may know by John Everett Millais – **Bubbles** 1886 – which was used many times to advertise Pear's soap. It is there too together with many paintings used in Lever's advertising campaigns.



Bubbles by John Everett Millais 1886

Galleries in our Area - Continued

To end I will include one of the paintings by Dante Gabriel Rossetti. His paintings are so richly coloured and look wonderful displayed in the gallery. The Blessed Damozel was painted 1875-9, based on a poem written by Rossetti himself.



The Blessed Damozel by Rossetti

I would like to plug the exhibitions held at the Lever, which are just 3 rooms so they are not overwhelming! After the current exhibition Fresh Perspectives – artworks by local secondary school children, there is an exhibition from 15 April – Kunichika: Japanese Prints. Kunichika was one of the most important 19th-century printmakers in Japan. Recent exhibitions have been on the ceramics of William de Morgan, Augustus John and Picasso's prints to give you an idea of the calibre of the exhibitions. Also, there is a good café at the Lever and a super shop!

I hope I have encouraged you to visit some of the great galleries we have on our doorstep!

Audrey Wraith

Your Council



About Your Council:

Please note our new e-mail addresses.

Cllr John Grimshaw (01 829 7521 77) - email: john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk

Cllr Rob Merrick (01 829 458387) - Vice Chairman - email: rob.merrick@willington.org.uk

Cllr Andrew Nicholas (01 829 752029) – Chairman -- email:

andrew.nicholaswillington.org.uk

Next Council Meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 29th March 2022. The meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to attend and listen to the discussions.

To Contact Us:

Write to Rob Winterbourne, 1 Lilac Close, Willington, CW6 0PL, Tel: 01 829 751 266 or email at:

clerk.willington@willington.org.uk

Your CWaC Borough Councillors are:

Cllr John Leather (01 829 752558) or email at: john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Cllr Harry Tonge email at: harry.tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk