

Christ Church Willaston in Wirral Parish News



CHRIST CHURCH

Canon L.R. Bannon BA MA
Telephone: 0151 334 9931

METHODIST CHURCH

Rev'd Noel Sharp
Telephone: 0151 633 2558

July -August 2026

Safeguarding Statement for the Parish Church



At Christ Church, Willaston-in-Wirral, we take our duty and obligation to safeguard and protect all people extremely seriously and we have adopted the National Church of England's robust safeguarding procedures and guidelines.

If you or anyone you are in contact with would like to talk with someone independently, please call the Safe Spaces helpline on:

0300 303 1056 or email: safespace@victimsupport.org.uk

Alternatively, you may contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Anne Hughes:

aswillaston@outlook.com

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted at:

safeguarding@chester.anglican.org or on **01928 718834** (option 4)

Our Safeguarding Policy is available for all upon request from our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

For out of hours support, please contact thirtyone:eight on 03030031111

From the 1st of April 2026, when you ring Thirtyone:eight please listen carefully to all the options as they have changed.

When advised, you should select:

option 1 - 'Yes' to membership and you can then select either of the following options:

- *'speak with the Helpline team' OR*
- *'you are part of an organisation that has an information sharing agreement with us'*

*When you get through to the team please mention, that you are calling from '**[name of your Diocese]**' who are an 'Information sharing holder.'*

In an emergency, please call 999

Christ Church Willaston



For all enquires re: **Baptisms / Christenings,
Weddings, Marriage Blessings,
Renewal of Vows and Thanksgivings,**



please contact the clergy or churchwardens

Advertising space is available in Willaston Parish News at a quarter, half and full-page format.

Should you wish to advertise please contact the editor.

Mrs Susan Schwab, 9 Bushell Road, Neston

sjschwab@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 336 7554

On Wednesday 10 June 2026, the Archbishop of Canterbury led the Evening Eucharist at St Paul's Cathedral, London to celebrate 150 years of faithful and dedicated witness of Mothers' Union

Loving and faithful God,
we thank you for 150 years of Mothers' Union;
for every life touched, for every prayer offered,
every act of kindness given in your name.
We praise you for the vision of Mary Sumner
and for the countless members who have served you
with love, courage and quiet faithfulness throughout the years.
You have been our refuge, our strength and our guide in every season.

Lord, we thank you for families strengthened,
for the vulnerable protected, for hope restored
and for communities renewed.
Where there was need, you sent willing hearts.
Where there was darkness, you brought light.
As we stand at this milestone,
we place our past into your hands with gratitude
and our future into your trust.
Renew our calling, O God.
Refresh our vision.
Strengthen us for the days ahead.
Help us to walk humbly, love deeply
and serve faithfully, wherever you lead.

Lord of justice and compassion,
stir our hearts to continue the work
you have set before us.
Give us courage to stand with those who suffer gender-based violence,
to speak out against modern slavery
and to seek justice wherever there is oppression.

Open our eyes to the pain caused by racism and division.
Help us to challenge injustice, raise awareness
and be a people who welcome, respect and value all,
regardless of background or circumstance.

May we continue to be instruments of your peace,
bearers of your compassion and witnesses to your love in the world.

Amen

From the MU 150th Anniversary Commemorative Programme



WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNITY HUB



“where community meets faith”

Our community hub can offer a large space for hire in our recently renovated Nave complete with an AV system, under floor heating and refreshment area.

We also have a meeting room for hire for up to 12 people.



Christ Church Willaston
Neston Road
CH64 2TL

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www.willastonchristchurch.com

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BOUQUETS ✿ DELIVERIES ✿ WEDDINGS ✿ FUNERALS
✿ FLOWER SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE ✿

Diary: July 2026

1 st	Wednesday	1900	The Alpha Course	Christ Church
2 nd	Thursday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
3 rd	Friday			
4 th	Saturday	0930-1130	Willaston Country Market & Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
		1230-1630	Fairtrade Stall Neston Fair	Raby Park Road
5 th	Sunday		For Church services see p.16 and p.32	
		1030	Friends of Willaston Meadow	WillastonMeadow
		1500	Service at Weatherstones	Weatherstones
6 th	Monday	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
		1000	Monday Club	Memorial Hall
7 th	Tuesday	From 1000	Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Gardening Day</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
		As advised	Prayer Group	As advised
8 th	Wednesday	1400	Mothers' Union	Christ Church
		1900	The Alpha Course	Christ Church
		1930	Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral	The Nag's Head
9 th	Thursday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
		1930	Christ Church Men's Group: <i>talk: What is Ministry?</i>	Christ Church
10 th	Friday			
11 th	Saturday	0900	N&DCT Prayer Breakfast	URC Parkgate
		0930-1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
		1000-1200	Sion Roberts, Councillor Surgery	Memorial Hall
12 th	Sunday		For Church services see p.16 and p.32	
		1000-1300	Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Pop up Café</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
13 th	Monday	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
		From 1000	Monday Club	Memorial Hall
		1400	The Ladies Choir	Methodist S'Room
14 th	Tuesday	1400-1600	MU Knit and Natter	As advised
		As advised	Prayer Group	As advised
15 th	Wednesday			
16 th	Thursday	1900	UpLIFT: <i>shared Supper</i>	Christ Church
		1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
17 th	Friday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers: <i>Summer Concert</i>	Memorial Hall
18 th	Saturday	0930-1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
		1930	Hadlow Green Singers: <i>Summer Concert</i>	Memorial Hall
19 th	Sunday		For Church services see p.16 and p.32	
20 th	Monday	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
		From 1000	Monday Club	Memorial Hall
		1400-1630	Mobile Library	The Nag's Head
		1900	Meeting of the Trustees of the Memorial Hall	Memorial Hall
21 st	Tuesday	As advised	Willastonhey W.I.: <i>Ramble</i>	TBD
		As advised	Prayer Group	As advised
22 nd	Wednesday	From 1000	Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Gardening Day</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
		1930	Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral	The Nag's Head
23 rd	Thursday			

24 th	Friday		
25 th	Saturday	0900-1300 The Farmers' Market 0930-1130 Willaston Country Market	The Nag's Head Memorial Hall
26 th	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p. 32 1000-1300 Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Pop up Café</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
27 th	Monday	0900 Places of Welcome From 1000 Monday Club	Christ Church Memorial Hall
28 th	Tuesday	1400-1600 MU Knit and Natter As advised Prayer Group 1930 Willastonhey W.I.: <i>speaker; Ed Montana Williams- The Women Art Forgot</i>	Christ Church As advised Memorial Hall
29 th	Wednesday		
30 th	Thursday		
31 st	Friday		

Diary: August 2026

1 st	Saturday	0930-1130 Willaston Country Market & Coffee Morning 1330 Willaston & District Horticultural Society: <i>77th Annual Show</i>	The Green Memorial Hall
2 nd	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p. 32 1030 Friends of Willaston Meadow 1500 Worship at Weatherstones	WillastonMeadow Weatherstones
3 rd	Monday	0900-1100 Places of Welcome From 1000 Monday Club	Christ Church Memorial Hall
4 th	Tuesday	1000-1200 Friends of Hadlow Rd. Station; <i>Gardening Day</i> As advised Prayer Group	Hadlow Rd. Stn. As advised
5 th	Wednesday		
6 th	Thursday		
7 th	Friday		
8 th	Saturday	0930-1130 Willaston Country Market 1000-1200 Sion Roberts, Councillor Surgery	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall
9 th	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p.32 Mary Sumner Day 1500 Mothers' Union Mary Sumner Day Evensong*	Chester Cathedral
10 th	Monday	0900-1100 Places of Welcome From 1000 Monday Club 1430-1630 Mobile Library	Christ Church Memorial Hall The Nag's Head
11 th	Tuesday	As advised Prayer Group 1859 Christ Church Men's Group: <i>'selected' hosteries in Liverpool! meet at Crown (Skelthorne Street, Liverpool), station at 7.30pm.</i>	As advised From Hooton Station
12 th	Wednesday	1930 Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral	The Nag's Head
13 th	Thursday	1900 Film: <i>The People's Emergency Briefing (16+)</i>	Methodist S'Room
14 th	Friday		
15 th	Saturday	0930-1130 Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
16 th	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p.32 1000-1300 Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Pop-up-Café</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.

17 th	Monday	0900-1100 Places of Welcome From 1000 Monday Club	Christ Church Memorial Hall
18 th	Tuesday	As advised Willastonhey W.I.: <i>Ramble</i> As advised Prayer Group	As advised As advised
19 th	Wednesday	1000-1200 Friends of Hadlow Rd. Station; <i>Gardening Day</i>	Hadlow Rd. St.
20 th	Thursday		
21 st	Friday		
22 nd	Saturday	0930-1130 Willaston Country Market Willaston & District Rotary Club: <i>Book Stall</i>	Memorial Hall The Green
23 rd	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p.32	
24 th	Monday	0900-1100 Places of Welcome From 1000 Monday Club	Christ Church Memorial Hall
25 th	Tuesday	As advised Prayer Group 1930 Willastonhey W.I.; <i>Sheila Leonard - The Restoration of the Danny</i>	As advised Memorial Hall
26 th	Wednesday	1930 Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral	The Nag's Head
27 th	Thursday	1930 UpLIFT: <i>A quiet evening drink</i>	The Nag's Head
28 th	Friday		
29 th	Saturday	0930-1130 Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
30 th	Sunday	For Church services see p.16 and p.32 1000-1300 Friends of Hadlow Road Station: <i>Pop-up-Café</i>	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
31 st	Monday	SUMMER BANK HOLIDAY 0900-1100 Places of Welcome NO Monday Club	Christ Church

*Mothers' Union: please note the date, time and venue change

Prayers July and August 2026: *Please continue to pray for our Parish and its people. Requests for specific prayer can be made in confidence to church at any time.*

S	<i>Please pray for</i> 	5th Friends of Willaston Meadow	12th All Clergy Serving the Diocese	19th Willaston Methodist Church	26th Bishops Mark, Sam and Julie
M		6th Places of Welcome	13th The Ladies Choir	20th Willaston Memorial Hall Trustees	27th The Monday Club
T		7th The Prayer Group	14th The Royal Family	21st The Bereaved	28th Willastonhey W.I.
W		1st The Alpha Course	8th Mothers' Union	15th The Homeless and Hungry	22nd Willaston & District Rotary Club
				23rd Willaston & District Rotary Club	29th The Fairtrade Organisation

Th	2 nd The Community Hub	9 th Christ Church Men's Group	16 th Members of UpLIFT	23 rd Willaston School Children and Teachers	30 th Emergency Service and Health Workers
F	3 rd Willaston Pharmacy and Surgeries	10 th All those on Holiday	17 th Hadlow Green Singers	24 th Guiding in Willaston	31 st Willaston in The Past Group
S	4 th Willaston Country Market	11 th Our local Councillors and M.P. s	18 th Scouting in the Local Area	25 th The Environment	1 st August The Horticultural Society
S	2 nd August Friends of Willaston Meadow	9 th Mothers' Union	16 th Archbishops Sarah and Stephen	23 rd Christ Church Willaston	30 th Neston & District Churches Together
M	3 rd The Places of Welcome Network	10 th Friends of Hadlow Road Station	17 th The Hungry and the Homeless	24 th The Monday Club	31 st World Peace
T	4 th The Mobile Library Workers	11 th Christ Church Men's Group	18 th The Prayer Group	25 th Willastonhey W.I.	
W	5 th The Defence Forces	12 th Local Foodbanks	19 th Willaston Memorial Hall Trustees	26 th Knit and Natter Groups	
T	6 th The Faith in the North Initiative	13 th Students receiving Examination Results	20 th His Royal Majesty King Charles	27 th Members of upLIFT	
F	7 th Willaston Doctors' Surgery	14 th All in Hospital	21 st Willaston's Guiding Units	28 th Willaston Dental Surgery	
S	8 th Willaston Farmers and Businesses	15 th Willaston Country Market	22 nd Willaston & District Rotary Club	29 th Willaston in The Past Group	

Weekly Half-hour Prayer Group:

Tuesday 5.30 - 6.00pm.

A weekly half-hour Prayer Group will take place in order to pray for various current topics.

Please contact Chris and Mike Smith for details of venues.

Home Group:

Home Group meetings usually take place on the first and third Wednesdays of the month during term time. There are no meetings in July and August, but they will recommence in **September**. If you would like to find out what goes on, then why not attend the next meeting. Check with Helen or the notices for details or date changes.



**PLACES OF
WELCOME**

Our weekly Place of Welcome café (<https://www.tltogether.org.uk/placesofwelcome>) has gone from strength to strength since we opened in

October 2025. We have an average of 25 visitors attending and are delighted to see our regulars as well as new faces every week. A range of people call in, including young mums dropping children off at school, couples, and single men and women, some of whom have been recently widowed. It has been a joy to see some of our visitors grow in confidence as they build relationships and share interests and many of those we see regularly say it is the highlight of their week. Visitors and volunteers alike are very good at introducing new arrivals to others and we are seeing quite a few people inviting neighbours and friends along.

All our refreshments are free and our recent provision of toast is very popular! The purpose of the café is to share God's love with those in the village (and now further afield) by providing a space for friendship and laughter. We would love to welcome you any Monday morning between 9 and 11.30am – bring a friend!

FROM THE RECORDS

FUNERAL

Our condolences to all who mourn:

28th MAY Maureen REID

WEDDING

We extend our joy in their union in Christ

6th June Matthew JONES & Nicola WILLIAMS

INTERMENT OF ASHES

Our condolences to all who mourn:

14th June Susan AUSTIN

The Alpha Course at Christ Church

Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. The course will be held on **Wednesday July 1st and Wednesday July 8th.**

—What is Alpha? — Alpha UK — Explore the Christian faith



Unpack the Christian *faith* together.

Try Alpha.

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore life, faith, and meaning. Each talk looks at a different question around the Christian faith and is designed to spark conversation.

The 2026 Alpha course **has started** – come and join us at Christ Church Willaston
Wednesday Evenings at 7.00pm

It's free

There's no pressure

Everyone's welcome



alpha.org.uk

Alpha

Willaston's Hidden Gardens and Allotments 2026



Photo courtesy J. Krska

Many compliments were received. Even the weather was kind!

Over £5,000 was raised, including almost £1,000 from the sale of afternoon teas/cakes and donations from sales of plants, flowers, Willaston Country Market produce and historical products created by Willaston in the Past.

The event was organised by a committee of six gardeners over eight months. It was supported by Your Willaston, who provided on-line ticket sales and promoted the event, the Nag's Head, who paid for printing of garden guides, Gordale and Water World, who provided vouchers which were given to visitors.

Teas/cakes were provided by members of Christ Church in their open space and by members of the Methodist Church at Symonds Grange.

Many village businesses helped to promote the event and SPAR and Reid's café also sold tickets.

It was a truly magnificent community celebration of our beautiful village.

J. Kriska

Photo: courtesy Louise Kriska



The Open gardens event was a great success and we would like to thank Janet and the committee, as well as all the gardeners, volunteers and contributors for their help in making the afternoon a wonderful experience for the visitors. We are also very grateful for the donations both churches received. Thank you.

C. Parry



Faith in the North

Archbishop Stephen made a visit to Chester Diocese on the 2nd of June to promote the Faith in the North pilgrimage initiative.

On the afternoon of his visit, Tarvin Parish Church hosted an afternoon tea. Here the archbishop underlined the importance of pilgrimage and encouraged churches to embrace the opportunity to tap into the huge interest in pilgrimage in our culture – and to ensure our buildings speak to visitors of the story of Jesus Christ, to be better translators and interpreters of our holy spaces.

In the evening there was a service at the cathedral where, in his address, Archbishop Stephen drew parallels between Jesus' journey to the cross and the pilgrim's journey through life. He emphasised the value of slowing down to appreciate the journey rather than just the destination. Using his personal experience of walking the Camino way to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain, the Archbishop highlighted the importance of the hospitality of strangers and the inner stillness found through pilgrimage movement.

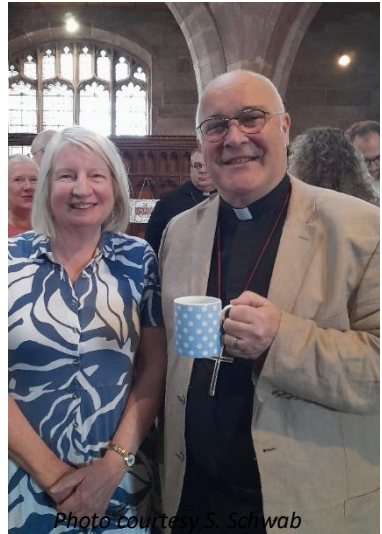


Photo courtesy S. Schwab

PLACES OF WELCOME

Every Monday
9-11am

Christ Church,
Neston Road,
Willaston
CH64 2TL

A Place of Welcome offers somewhere everyone can go for a FREE hot drink, a biscuit (or cake) and most importantly a friendly face to welcome you.

Open to all age groups including little ones.

We look forward to welcoming YOU.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

August 9: Mary Sumner Day

2026 ... marks the 150th Anniversary of MU, our movement born of Mary Sumner's vision. At its heart was her belief in the 'awful sense of responsibility ... that mothers had one of the greatest and most important professions in the world.' After raising her own children and watching them begin their journeys into parenthood, Mary resolved in 1876 to create a network of women supporting each other, the beginnings of MU.

Mary Sumner was born on 31 December 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester, to Thomas and Mary Heywood. From a young age, she was bright, sociable and deeply rooted in faith. She spoke three languages, sang beautifully and carried a strong sense of purpose.



In 1848, she married George Henry Sumner, a young clergyman whose family connections, including the Bishop of Winchester and ties to William Wilberforce, helped Mary establish her vision. Living in Alresford, Hampshire, Mary and George raised three children. It was here, in their home, that the first MU group met and the first membership card was issued, a humble beginning for a global movement.

For ten years, MU remained local but in 1885, Mary spoke at the Church Congress in Portsmouth, urging mothers to understand their responsibility to 'train up a child in the way he should go' (Proverbs 22:6). With growing support, branches multiplied across the UK and eventually worldwide, as women carried the movement wherever they went.

In 1896, as the movement expanded, Mary became Central President, helping establish a Central Council, the first Constitution and the Aims and Objects that guide us today. She continued in leadership until her husband died in 1909 and remained Honorary President until her own passing in 1921.

Today, 150 years later, Mary Sumner's vision lives on. From that first living-room gathering to a global network of millions, MU continues to empower women, strengthen families and transform communities. ...

*From **Mary Sumner: Our founder** by Clare Howarth, Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary Commemorative Programme*

The MU Knit and Natter Group meets most second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

We meet and work on various knitting projects.

Please feel free to join us in Christ Church.

Check with the organisers for more details and venues.

Knit and Natter breaks in August but will resume in September.



Christian Aid

A thank you to all the generous folk who donated in various ways to our Christian Aid Week appeal.

The total collected from Church collections, the Gordale Bucket Collection, Online donation and the Christian Aid Service raised £4,407.20., including projected gift aid.

This is the link to our Giftstar website if anyone would like to give a little more. QR link to our gift page:



Just as a reminder that even though Christian Aid Week is over, the emergency fund is being accessed all the time. At present there is severe malnutrition and the threat of famine in South Sudan; medicines and trained personnel are desperately needed to contain the Ebola outbreak in the D R Congo; and ongoing support is necessary for the many displaced families and refugees in the Middle East.

Lynne Vaughan



Fairtrade Report for NDCT June 2026

The Neston Fairtrade Town Steering Group is celebrating 10 years of campaigning in Neston. Fairtrade Town status was achieved in September 2019 with the support of local supermarkets, shops, cafes, schools and churches. The Group is applying to renew Neston's Fairtrade Town status by 1st August this year

Future Dates

- Fairtrade stall at Neston Village Fair, **Saturday 4th July.**
- Free Fairtrade refreshments to be provided at the Christian Aid Sponsored Walk on **Saturday 12th September.**
- A stall at Neston Market during Fairtrade Fortnight **21st September- 4th October** The theme is 'Do it Fair' encouraging consumers to choose ethically sourced products that guarantee fairer wages, safe working conditions and sustainable production for farmers.
- A stall at Neston Christmas Market
- Fairtrade reps will promote the Fairtrade chocolate Real Advent Calendar and continue to encourage their Churches to use Fairtrade refreshments and products.

Margaret Heibel

**EMERGENCY
FOOD FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN FINANCIAL CRISIS**

The foodbank has an urgent need for:

Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes, Cuppa Soups, Tinned Meat / Fish, Lentils, Fruit Squash, Soy Milk as well as these other non-perishable items: Tinned Tomatoes, UHT Juice, UHT Milk, Instant Coffee (small jars), Instant Noodles, Instant Pasta (Pasta and Sauce), Tinned Custard, Tinned Fruit, Biscuits and Small Treats, Toiletries, Shampoo, Jams, Crackers and Meat Paste Spreads.

*(Stocks of pasta and cereal and beans remain high)
Items can be donated when the church buildings are open.*

Christ Church is open on Monday morning from 0900 to 1100 and Saturday Mornings from 1000 to 1200

The Methodist Church is open on the First Saturday of the Month from 1000-1200

Another Zambian Adventure

Some of you will know that in 2024 and 2025 I took part in 2-week building projects in Zambia and Uganda with the charity Mission Direct; I also stayed with two Zambian families who work with those living in the compounds – wonderful, exhilarating and life-changing experiences.

This summer I am returning to Zambia to join a team helping to build a two-classroom nursery in a school serving a very poor compound. This will be followed by two weeks taking part in activities in another compound school and staying with my dear Zambian family. I pay all my own expenses but am inviting sponsorship for the project; all money raised will be spent *solely* on building materials and local labour.

If you feel you would like to support my endeavours, please go to the Just Giving home page and search 'chris-wells-4' for my page. NB. You may wish to adjust *down* the tip the platform suggests! Alternatively, please email me at wellschris1945@gmail.com.

Thank you very much. ***Chris Wells***



Willaston Methodist Church

Care, Share Empower

With the holiday season upon us, I pray you will have a pleasant and relaxed summer whether you are going away or spending time at home.

Services for July

- | | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| 5 th | 10.45am. | Service led by members of the congregation |
| 12 th | 10.45am. | Dr Judy Ford |
| 19 th | 10.45am. | Mr Roger Staines |
| 26 th | 10.45am. | Rev Phil Fanning |

Services for August

- | | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| 2 nd | 10.45am. | Rev Noel Sharp – Communion |
| 9 th | 10.45am. | Mrs Linda Pillow |
| 16 th | 10.45am. | Service taken by members of the congregation |
| 23 th | 10.45am. | Mrs Cate Warbrick |
| 30 th | 10.45am. | Rev Alan Lovelady |

Schoolroom Hire

A reminder that we still have times when our schoolroom is available to be hired.

It is a warm, welcoming space suitable for meetings or classes at a very reasonable cost.

Please contact me for details.

A warm welcome is extended to all to join us

Carol Savage

Tel: 0151 394 3335

Email carol.savage2@outlook



Friends of Hadlow Road Station Community Group

Kings Award for Voluntary Services 2025

On Friday 29th May 2026 FHRS were presented with their King's Award for Voluntary Services by the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, Lady Redmond. The award was presented to The President of FHRS Chris Hampshire who thanked Lady Redmond on behalf of FHRS. Refreshments were later taken at The Village Hall and supplied by Station Master House (SMH).

The award is a testament to the hard work, dedication and commitment by all the volunteers over the years that has made Hadlow Road Station and its surrounding environment what it is today and enjoyed by the local and wider communities.

Cheshire Life Magazine

FHRS are to feature in an article in a July edition (available from 26th June) of the magazine to highlight the work that has been and continues to be undertaken to maintain and develop the station and its surrounding environment plus our recent King's Award for Voluntary Services. So have a look out for what is a wonderful article.

Gardening

A team of volunteers turned out on 26th May to prepare the station and its surroundings for the event on the 29th. All pots were renewed with summer bedding and summer bedding was also added to the main borders.

As we are now into a very busy time of the year two sessions per month will now take place in June, July and August. A session took place 2nd June and this mainly focused on the far platform getting the hedges and bushes in line and trimmed. A further session took place 17th June.

Next working parties will take place on :

**7th and 22nd July,
4th and 19th August.**

On Friday 10th July we will be assessed for our entry into the Its Your Neighbourhood Award – if we are successful we will be given a Lifelong Award as we will have achieved 5 years of Outstanding Awards. Judging takes place later this year – so watch this space for further news.

FHRS would welcome any donations of spare plants and shrubs that the community may have whilst they undertake their garden revamps. Please contact Ian Corcoran on iancorcoran@btinternet.com to make arrangements with you.

Pop Up Café

Our first Charity Café that took place 17th May in aid of the Friends of Birkenhead Kennels raised £877 which came from the surplus from the café and from donation buckets held by FHRS and our friends SMH.

On 31st May the Jazz Duo (Annie and Keith) entertained the customers with a wide variety of songs. On Sunday 14th June we had our next Pop Up Café at which customers

were entertained by Night Whispers – it was wonderful to see them back with us for this season.

Also we had combined sessions from our friends, Mersey Morris, who were joined by their guests, the Belles of London City.

On Sunday 28th June we have our first visit of the season by the lovely ladies from Western Approaches who always provide a wonderful atmosphere with great songs leading to customer participation and chair dancing!

The next dates for the Pop Cafés are:

12th July we are entertained by Simon Le Barber and, on the **26th July**, Night Whispers return for their second session of the season.

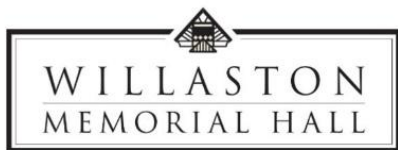
16th August we have Split Level as our entertainment and, on the **30th August** we have our second session by the Jazz Duo

13th September – this is our 2nd Charity Café of the season in aid of Wirral St John's Hospice.

This is also Heritage Café as part of the Wirral Heritage Week. We will be entertained by Western Approaches and Mersey Morris. The signal box will also be open with informative talks by Dom. So please come along and support a wonderful charity and take part in what will be a very entertaining and informative café.

On **27th September** – we will be celebrating the 160th Anniversary of the line opening and we are joined by the Thomas Brassey Society (the company that installed the line). We are also to be entertained by Familiar Ground – a new act but with a familiar face!!! We are always looking for new volunteers in whatever capacity you can help us. So if you would like to join our merry band of volunteers please do get in touch and we look forward to working with you to keep the wonderful station and its surrounding environment a pleasure for all.

Paul Cox



Charity No 520090

Trustees of the Memorial Hall

The next meeting of the Trustees of the
Memorial Hall will be held on:

Monday 20th July 2026 at 7 p.m.

For any enquiries about the meeting please contact the Secretary:
e-mail: doreen.francey@btinternet.com.

Friends of Willaston Meadow

It is lovely to see the Meadow at this time of year, with lots of flowers blooming and the grasses growing. We have spotted two orchids growing in the grass. The yellow rattle and pignut have been particularly successful this year.

Our volunteer team has continued to plant flowers, trim the grass and remove unwanted docks, brambles etc.

Sadly, we have had some antisocial behaviour, with one of the Forest School benches being moved. However, the community stepped up and we have been able to restore it to its rightful place.

Our next sessions are scheduled for **Sundays 5th July, 2nd August and 6th September**, weather permitting. Anyone is welcome to join us. We meet by Jackson's Pond at 10.30am and usually work until around noon.

You can visit our website at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/friendsofwillastonmeadow/home>.

We also have a Facebook page: [/friendswillastonmeadow](https://www.facebook.com/friendswillastonmeadow).

For more information, please go to either of these or ring

Sarah Shannon on 07948 604568.

Sarah Shannon



Hadlow Green Singers *SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!*

The village mixed choir warmly welcomes all singers whatever their musical experience. We rehearse on Thursdays, 7.30 to 9pm in the Memorial Hall.

We are just putting the finishing touches to our programme for the summer concerts (17th and 18th July) entitled 'Faraway Places' – see the poster elsewhere in this News; we look forward to sell-out evenings. Rehearsals for our Christmas programme start on 3 September – come and join us! For more information, see our Facebook page (Hadlow Green Singers) and our website (HadlowGreenSingers.co.uk).

Chris Wells, Chairman

The Ladies Choir

The Ladies Choir will be meeting on **Monday the 13th July**. There will be no rehearsal in August, but rehearsals will resume in September.

Rehearsals are held in the Methodist Schoolroom, usually from 2-3.00pm and new members, who enjoy a good sing, are always welcome – no previous experience is necessary.

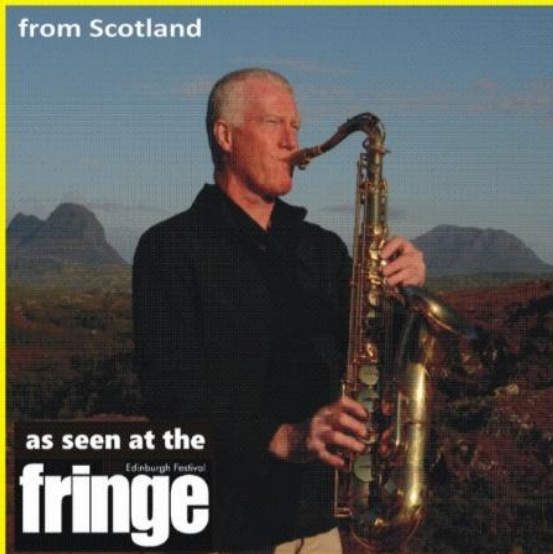
To confirm details of the times and dates of the Ladies Choir's meetings please contact:

Angela on 0151 3275108 or Margaret on 0151 3193782

Jazz in the Village

"Very cool music played in a magical atmosphere - this will appeal to jazz novices as well as hardcore enthusiasts." Three Weeks Magazine

from Scotland



Ian Millar
saxophone

Dominic Spencer
piano

"Beautiful soaring magic! I was blown away by your show, just breathtaking!"

"...expect warm, intelligent, reflective, human music..."



bring your
own drinks

WILLASTON MEMORIAL HALL

The Green, Willaston, CH64 2XR

Sat 19th Sept 7pm (doors open 6.45pm)
£18 (including supper)

tickets available from the Willaston Country Market every Sat from 9.30-11.30am

and from bookings.memorialhall@gmail.com



www.millarandspencer.co.uk



In May, we met to take part in the MU Wave of Prayer, praying for MU projects in the diocese of Chester as well as in Chester's linked dioceses in Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa and Argentina.

We were very grateful to Jim for leading us in some lovely hymns. It was indeed a special time of prayer.

Our next meetings will be:

at 2pm on Wednesday 8 July in church, and **at 3pm on Sunday 9 August** for a special Mary Sumner Day Evensong at Chester Cathedral. Do come and join us.

Viv Ley, Branch Leader



As I write, it is coming to the end of our Rotary year and we are organising donations to the charities we raised money for this year. In early June, president Anne Hughes and member Peter Farrall went to Chester to give a cheque for £2000 to Robert Whittall for Chester Aid to the Homeless (CATH). We will also be giving an equal amount to Northern Lights of Neston. Thank you to everyone who donated. We will shortly be choosing our charities for 2026/7. They will be announced in the September Parish News.

On July 1st, Brian Greenhalgh will take over as President and Peter Farrall as Secretary. Our Treasurer will remain as Guy Tilbury. We are celebrating the changeover with a meal at the Nags Head.

The village's Hidden Gardens event was a resounding success (well done to all involved), and we held a book sale on the green at the same time to take advantage of the increased footfall. Thanks to those who stopped by and bought a book or two – a few more pounds for our charities. Our next book sale will be August 22nd.

We held one of our wine tasting sessions in early June, for members only. Each couple brought a chosen wine and gave a little talk about it, then we all had a taste. A good night was had by all.

In early September we are holding one of our Safari Suppers. Members go to different houses for different courses and we all end up at one house. It's great fun and means you only have to cook one course.

Willaston & South Wirral Rotary Club is your local branch of Rotary Great Britain & Ireland. Members raise money for charity, are involved in activities within the local community and enjoy a healthy social life. We are an informal, non-traditional club. Membership is open to anyone aged 18 and over. If you are interested in joining, then please contact willaston.rotary@gmail.com or ring Fiona on 0151 3843081. Alternatively, you could drop into our next meeting, these are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the Nag's Head. You can also find us on Facebook.

Fiona Mosely



Parish of Christ Church Willaston-in-Wirral Men's Group

We are a group of men, of all different ages, some of us are married and some of us are not. Most of us live in Willaston and surrounding areas. We meet together for fellowship and, as most of us are Christians, we also meet to support one another in our faith.

Our usual pattern of meetings is one month we'll meet in church (finishing no later than 9.00pm), for a short service, followed by a talk, then the next month, we have a pub-social and so on. You do not need to live in Willaston to join us, and you don't need to be Christian either. Equally, you don't need to come to every meeting – come to what you want to and don't worry about the rest! You will be very welcome wherever and whenever you chose to join us! We really look forward to seeing you!

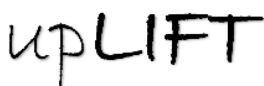
Thursday 9 July 2026: A short service of Evening Prayer, followed by a short talk; topic – 'What is Ministry'. Meet 7.30pm in the Parish Church

Tuesday 11 August 2026: Visit various 'selected' hostelrys in Liverpool! Catch the 18:59 from Hooton and meet at Crown (Skelthorne Street, Liverpool), just outside of Liverpool Lime Street station at 7.30pm.

Thursday 10 September 2026: A short service of Evening Prayer, followed by a short talk: topic – 'Gifts'. Meet 7.30pm in the Parish Church

Please check the website for any changes to dates.

For general enquiries, please contact - Stephen Harrington 327 6854,
Alan Roberts 327 4600, or Cannon Lyndon Bannon 334 9931



Ladies In Fellowship Together

We are a group of Christian ladies from Christ Church, Willaston, who meet together monthly to provide each other with friendship and fellowship. In strengthening our fellowship together, we are helping one another to share in the love and joy of knowing Christ. We generally meet on the second or third Thursday of the month. You do not need to live in Willaston to join us, and neither do you need to be a Christian!

Thursday 16th July 2026 - 7.00pm: A shared supper picnic in our church grounds. Christ Church, Willaston.

Thursday 27th August 2026 - 7.30pm: A quiet evening for those who are not away on holiday. Meet for a drink and a chat in the Nag's Head, Willaston

Thursday 24th September 2026 - 7.30pm: 'Annie' Liverpool Empire Theatre Visit
Tickets: £33 (Booking closed)

Please check the website for any changes to dates.

For more information, please contact - Helen Heath 07477582577 or
Claire Bannon 334 9931

Willaston and District Horticultural

July in the garden is focused on maintenance, watering and harvesting. Ensuring plants thrive during the summer heat.

Key tasks include deadheading flowers to prolong blooms, watering pots and new plants, weeding and harvesting salads and vegetables, feeding tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. It is also the ideal time to trim hedges and wisteria.

There is no meeting this month as it is the annual trip, which this year is to Arley Hall in Cheshire the family home to the Viscount Ashbrook since the 15th century. Arley Hall has 15 acres of beautiful and extensive gardens and a cafe/restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating.

Saturday 1st August is our annual flower show, which commences at 13.30. Refreshments of tea/coffee and homemade cake are on sale.

If you would like to become a member of the horticultural society the cost is £10 per year which includes 10% off plants at Burleydam, Carr lane, and both Premier plants. Please feel welcome to join our group on Facebook for details of upcoming events.

Happy gardening

Valerie Brizell, Chairperson, 07786982845,



**Willaston Country Market:
Saturdays, 9.30-11.30am
The Memorial Hall, Willaston.**

Coffee mornings at the market 1st Sat of the month so 4/6/26 and 1/8/26

We will be taking a stall at the next Farmers Market on 25/6/26

We will be operating from our gazebo on The Green on 1/8/26 as the Horticulture Show is in the main hall.

Selling all the usual produce including:

Cheshire Honey, jams, marmalades and chutneys.

Sweet and savoury bakes and free-range local eggs.

Fresh flowers, plants, vegetables and fruit in season.

Crafts, knitted goods and handmade cards.

Celebration cakes to order.

Contact : jackiwjenkins1896@gmail.com / 0151 721 6285 mobile: 07957926149

Baking orders by Wednesday please?

Jackie Jenkins

Sion Roberts, Councillor Surgeries: July - September

10:00-12:00am. at Willaston Memorial Hall Committee Room

Saturday 11th July, Saturday 8th August, and Saturday 12th September

**Willaston Horticultural
Society
Is holding it's
77th ANNUAL SHOW
OF VEGETABLES, FLOWERS
AND PRODUCE
SATURDAY 1st AUGUST
WILLASTON MEMORIAL HALL
Doors open 1.30pm
Admission £1.00
Children under 16 free with an adult
Tea, Coffee and Cakes available.**





Willastonhey W.I.

WI Monthly Meeting

There was no guest speaker at the last monthly meeting as we were celebrating our annual birthday. Members brought along a selection of savoury and sweet dishes to enjoy with a variety of refreshments.

We did have a brief talk from Rachel Furey of Neston Community Centre, who gave us an overview of what kind of work they undertake. We hope to have Rachel back in the not-too-distant future to give a more in depth talk on how the organisation works to help people in the local community.

Out and about

Rambling: The latest walk was around Hawarden. Both morning coffee and afternoon lunch were taken at the historic Gladstone Library.

Games Afternoon : Jigsaw puzzles was activity of the month.

Upcoming events

Rambling: Tuesday 21st July – TBD

W.I. Monthly Meeting: Tuesday 28th July – The Women Art Forgot - Ed Montana Williams

Rambling: Tuesday 18th August - TBD

W.I. Monthly Meeting: Tuesday 25th August – The Restoration of the Danny – Sheila Leonard

We will also holding our weekly/fortnightly/monthly activities of knit and natter, walking netball, bridge, darts and games afternoon.

Our meetings are held on fourth Tuesday in the month starting at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall. All welcome. For further information email willastonhey@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook @ Willastonhey W.I.

Sandra Humphreys

Film showing: 'The People's Emergency Briefing'

Venue: Willaston Methodist Church

Date: Thursday 13th August Time: 7pm Price: free

Tickets will be on sale from 3rd July from

Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-emergency-briefing-film-showing-tickets-1991988553386?aff=oddtcreator> or directly from Fiona Mosley 01513843081

It's a film which shows the climate and nature crises we all face. In the film, leading UK experts outline the threats arising from these crises in terms of our food supply, infrastructure, health, economy and our national security and suggest how solutions can be made to happen. It is being shown in communities nationally. We hope elected reps, MPs and councillors will come along to watch with us. Afterwards there will be a structured discussion about implications for our communities, and ways forward. ***(NB the film's minimum age recommendation is 16.)***

Hadlow Green Singers
Summer Concert

'Faraway
Places'

*Be transported by a varied
programme of choral arrangements
with sing-alongs*

free interval refreshments

*Fri 17th and Sat 18th July
at 7.30pm*

WILLASTON MEMORIAL HALL

Tickets £10 (£5 for under 16s)



available from choir members,
Willaston Spar, or by calling
Dave on 0151-200-7561



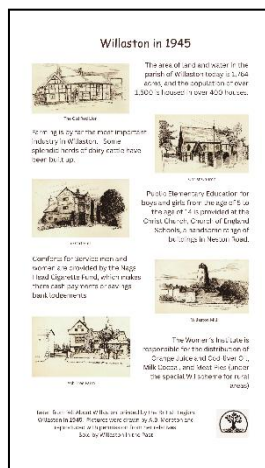
website



Willaston in the Past

Willaston in the Past aims to record and disseminate information about the history of the village. We have three booklets available for sale at £5 each:

- The History of Willaston and its Inhabitants, part 1: From William the Conqueror to Elizabeth I
- The History of the Old Red Lion
- Lest We Forget – the stories of the people on the War Memorial who died during WW1



We also have a selection of cards and new tea towels about Willaston in 1945, taken from a booklet printed by the British Legion at the time. These are available for £2.50 and £7.50.

Over the summer, we are planning to have a quiz around the village, particularly aimed at younger people. Look out for more information on noticeboards, our website and social media.

Our next General Meeting is on Tuesday 22nd September at 7pm in Willaston Methodist Chapel, when we will be speaking about the History of Willaston Mill.

We are grateful to Your Willaston CIC which has paid for our website: www.willastoninthepast.co.uk This has lots of articles, photographs and videos about the village in the past. We are always updating the information. Please

contact us via the website.

We have a Facebook page /WillastoninthePast and post a picture each week of different aspects of Willaston. If you use Facebook, please follow us and share our photos. We love reading the comments that people make each week.

We would love to hear from you if you have old photos or other records of the village or would be willing to be interviewed about living in the village in the past. If you are interested in our work, you can also join us as a member, which costs £10 per household per year. Please ring Sarah on 07948 604568 for a membership form or visit our website.

Sarah Shannon

Willaston Mobile Library Dates: July -September 2026

2.00pm - 4.30pm at The Nag's Head

Monday 20th July, 10th August and 21st September

*There is **no** Mobile library service on the 31st August due to the Bank Holiday*

** Please check the website for any changes to dates.*

Newsletter From Councillor Sion Roberts

It is a real privilege to represent Willaston and Thornton, and I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me. It's clear this is a critical time for our area, but I am encouraged by the strong sense of community pride and determination I have already seen.

It's been a busy few months, with a number of important issues that will shape our community in the years ahead. One of the biggest challenges continues to be planning and development pressures such as the Redrow scheme at Mill Lane. I strongly oppose development on Green Belt land so I am working closely with residents to ensure we are putting forward the strongest possible planning based objection. Alongside this, we have taken a more proactive step by beginning work on a Neighbourhood Plan for Willaston, which will give the community a much stronger say over future development.

Linked to this is the ongoing Community Governance Review, which is considering whether Willaston should have its own Village Council. This would provide a dedicated voice for the village and more local control, but it is important that residents understand both the opportunities and responsibilities involved. A key part of this consultation is the proposed boundary, and I would encourage residents to review the options carefully and have their say before the deadline.

There are also a number of major infrastructure proposals affecting the area. The Peak Cluster CO₂ pipeline remains at an early stage, but I am pleased that the Council has now formally set out its opposition. This will be crucial as the project progresses through the national planning process. The Crematorium proposals at Hooton are another recurring issue with both developers competing with rival plans once more.

It is encouraging to see progress on long-standing flooding problems around Hooton Road, with detailed design work now underway. I will continue pushing to ensure this leads to real, lasting solutions for affected residents.

Finally, I want to highlight the strength of our community organisations and volunteers. From the work at Hadlow Road Station, now recognised with the King's Award for Voluntary Service, the wonderful work at Willaston Meadow, to the work taking place at Hooton Memorial Hall and across the woodland, these efforts make a real difference to our area.

As always, if you have any concerns or would like to get involved in any of these issues, please do get in touch.

Cllr Sion Roberts
Councillor for Willaston & Thornton
Cheshire West & Chester Council
T: 07802 635796

sion.roberts@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Willaston C of E Primary School – News!



The children have had a wonderful year full of exciting learning and opportunities. We can't believe that we are at the end of another school year already!

Our Year 2 children had the wonderful experience of their first residential visit. They visited Barnstondale on the Wirral for an overnight stay, a huge first experience for some children, and they participated in lots of fun and exciting activities.

Year 5 children have explored Shakespeare's play Hamlet, with the support of North West Drama. This culminates in a fantastic performance at HOME in Manchester, introducing them to the theatre, working with their lighting and sound engineers and collaborating with other schools in a fantastic performance for parents. We are so proud of you!

In addition to this, Year 5 children also spent a number of weeks learning how to play the Samba drums, this will culminate in a brief performance for parents to show what they have learnt.

The PTA School Disco was also a great success. Held at Christ Church, the children had a great time, whilst helping to raise funds for the school.

Children in Year 6 were so excited to finally get to experience their final residential visit in primary school with a fantastic residential visit to PGL. They participated in a huge variety of very exciting activities and had such an amazing time!

We are also very excited to welcome our new Reception children to Willaston CE Primary School and we invited our new parents to a meeting to start their school journey.

The children are really looking forward to our PTA Summer Fayre on Friday 3rd July. Huge thanks to everyone involved in organising this event.

On Wednesday 8th July, Year 5 and 6 children from drama club will perform songs from 'Oliver Twist' for their parents.

We are very much looking forward to all the Year 6 activities that will be taking place to celebrate their time with us. As well as our annual Leavers' Church Service on Monday 20th July, they will enjoy a special Leavers Service at Chester Cathedral with other schools in the area, a Leavers Presentation in school where everyone receives their school 'Record of Achievement', as well as their Leavers Performance for parents. A very special day for our Year 6 class. We wish them all the very best of luck as they continue their educational journey to secondary school. You will be very much missed.

Our whole school will also come together on Friday 10th July to enjoy our 'Celebration Afternoon', parents and grandparents etc are invited into school to celebrate their child's achievements during this academic year.

We would also like to thank all our wonderful parents for their support this year, and huge thanks to our PTA for all their hard work and fundraising.

School term ends on Tuesday 21st July, and pupils return to school on Wednesday 2nd September following the Summer Holiday. We are very excited to welcome our new Reception class children and their families to our school community.

We are always keen to welcome volunteer helpers into school and would love to hear from you if you can spare a few hours a week and would like to come and volunteer in the school. We have many areas within school where we'd appreciate support – assisting pupils read, helping with cooking and Forest School to name a few. However, we are also happy to be led by your expertise, so should you have a skill you think you could pass on to our pupils we would very much like to hear from you.

You can contact the school office on either
0151 832 5360 or office@willastoncheshire.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Remember to take a look at our website for all our up-to-date news -
www.willastonprimaryschool.co.uk**



Girlguiding in Willaston Want to join in the fun?

For information on how your daughter can join us,
register her now at www.girlguiding.org.uk
and we will be in touch.

Willaston Rainbows – aged 4 to 7 Willaston Brownies – aged 7 to 10
Hinderton Guides & Rangers – aged 10 to 14 & 14 to 18,
meet at various venues locally

Scouting in the Local Area

1st Ness Scout Group has been formed by the merger of
1st Burton in Wirral and 1st Willaston Scout Groups.
It offers Scouting to young people in the Ness, Burton, Little Neston,
Neston, Willaston and Parkgate areas.

For more details, please consult via their website:

Contact | 1st Ness Scout Group.

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CHRIST CHURCH PARISH SERVICES



JULY - AUGUST 2026

Christ Church welcomes all to services.

Sunday 5 July: Fifth Sunday after Trinity

*9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship
3.00pm Worship at Weatherstones*

Sunday 12 July: Sixth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Eucharist

Sunday 19 July: Seventh Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 26 July: Eighth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 2 August: Ninth Sunday after Trinity

*9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship
3.00pm Worship at Weatherstones*

Sunday 9 August: Tenth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Eucharist

Sunday 16 August: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 23 August: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 30 August: Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Parish Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship

