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

May 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



This is the second copy of the Willaston Parish News as an online publication.
Many thanks to those who are making its transition a success.
A home printable copy of the magazine is available on request.
Should you have difficulty accessing the magazine please do ask for help.

Magazine Editor	Mrs Susan Schwab, 9 Bushell Road, Neston sjschwab@hotmail.co.uk	336 7554

A Prayer for Christian Aid Week 2026

Gracious God,
when we stand on the plains of uncertainty,
with no path before us,
we look to you.

We remember what you have done before
and our anxious hearts are comforted.
Showing mercy, you delivered us then;
in your love and faithfulness, you will do it again.

Give us the strength to step forward in hope.
Give us faith that changes us,
hope that feeds us,
love that moves us.
In Jesus' name,

Amen.

By Bob Kikuyu, Christian Aid's Global Theology Advisor, Nairobi.
Christian Aid website: j547956-caw26-order-of-service-eng.pdf

At Pentecost we pray for God to fill us with his Spirit:

Generous God, we thank you for the *power* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.
Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.
Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.
Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness
where there is division, sickness and sorrow.
Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit,
given us by the risen Lord.
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.

Extracts from Prayers for Pentecost Easter | The Church of England

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

BOOK ONLINE:
www.willastonchristchurch.com

ORDER BY 1PM FOR SAME DAY DELIVERY

@jilliandawnfloraldesigns
0151 327 1652

JD FLORAL

jdfloral@btconnect.com
07742034257

BOUQUETS DELIVERIES WEDDINGS FUNERALS
FLOWER SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Diary: May 2026

1st Friday			
2nd Saturday	0930 -1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
3rd Sunday		For Church Services see p.15 and p.28	
	1030	Friends of Willaston Meadow	WillastonMeadow
	1500	Worship at Weatherstones	Weatherstones
4th Monday		EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY	
	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
		No Monday Club	
5th Tuesday	As advised	Christ Church Prayer Group	As advised
6th Wednesday	1000	Friends of Hadlow Road Station Gardening	Hadlow Rd. Stn.
	1900	Alpha Course	Christ Church
7th Thursday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
8th Friday			
9th Saturday	0930-1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
	0930	Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral: *Book Stall*	The Green
	1000-1200	Sion Roberts, Councillor Surgery	Memorial Hall
10th Sunday		**CH**RISTIAN AID WEEK	
		For Church Services see p.15 and p.28	
	1830	Christian Aid Service at Neston Parish Church	Neston
11th Monday	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
	From 1000	Monday Club	Memorial Hall
	1400	Ladies Choir* *please check with organisers*	Methodist S'room
12th Tuesday	1400-1600	MU Knit and Natter	Christ Church
	As advised	Christ Church Prayer Group	As advised
	1900	Meeting of the Trustees of the Memorial Hall	Memorial Hall
13th Wednesday	1330**	Mothers' Union: *talk; Anthony Annakin-Smith; the 18th Century Foundling Hospital in Chester*.	Neston Parish Church, Neston
	1900	Alpha Course	Christ Church
	1930	Rotary Club of Willaston and South Wirral	The Nag's Head
14th Thursday		ASCENSION DAY	
	1930	Ascension Day Service, All welcome	Christ Church
	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
15th Friday			
16th Saturday	0930-1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
	1000-1200	Methodist Chapel Anniversary Coffee Morning	Methodist S'room
17th Sunday		For Church Services see p.15 and p.28	
	1000-1300	Friends of Hadlow Rd. Station Charity Pop-up-Café	Hadlow Rd' Stn
18th Monday	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
	From 1000	Monday Club	Memorial Hall
	1400-1630	Mobile Library	The Nag's Head

Diary continued on p 6

19th Tuesday	TBC	Willastonhey WI Ramble	TBC
	As advised	Christ Church Prayer Group	As advised
	1930	Willaston & District Horticultural Society: *talk; 'Growing plants for flower arranging', Sue Nicholas*	Memorial Hall
20th Wednesday	TBC	Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer**	Christ Church
	1900	Alpha Course	Christ Church
21st Thursday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
	1930	UPLift: Bread, Talk*; 'Ma Baker', chargeable event*	Christ Church
22nd Friday			
23rd Saturday	0930 -1130	Willaston Country Market	The Green
	From 1000	Willaston & District Horticultural Society: *Coffee Morning*	Memorial Hall
24th Sunday		PENTECOST SUNDAY	
		For Church services see p.15 and p.28	
	1045	Joint Service on the Green	The Green
25th Monday		SPRING BANK HOLIDAY	
	0900	Places of Welcome	Christ Church
		No Monday Club	
26th Tuesday	1400-1600	MU Knit and Natter	Christ Church
	As advised	Christ Church Prayer Group	As advised
	1930	Willastonhey W.I.: Birthday *Meeting*	Memorial Hall
27th Wednesday	1900	Alpha Course	Christ Church
	1930	Rotary Club of Willaston and South Wirral	The Nag's Head
28th Thursday	1930	Hadlow Green Singers	Memorial Hall
29th Friday	1000	Friends of Hadlow Road Station: *Presentation of King's Award for Voluntary Services*	Hadlow Road Station
30th Saturday	0930-1130	Willaston Country Market	Memorial Hall
31st Sunday		TRINITY SUNDAY	
		For Church Services see p. 15 and p.28	
	1000-1300	Friends of Hadlow Road Station Pop-up-Café	Hadlow Rd. Stn.

**Please note MU venues and time changes this month

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 May
Check with the organisers for more details and venues

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 times and venues.

Home Group:

Home Group is in abeyance whilst the Alpha course is running but will return once the course has concluded. However, there is still opportunity to join the Alpha course. The talks and discussions, cover a whole topic each week.
You will be most welcome.

Prayers May 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. **Please pray for:**

S	**31st** Bishops Mark, Julie and Sam	**3rd** Friends of Willaston Meadow	**10th** Christian Aid Workers	**17th** St. Nicholas Church Burton	**24th** Pentecost Services in Willaston
M		**4th** Places of Welcome	**11th** The Ladies Choir	**18th** The Mobile Library	**25th** The Monday Club
T		**5th** Willaston in the Past	**12th** Memorial Hall Trustees	**19th** Guiding in Willaston	**26th** Willastonhey WI
W		**6th** The Alpha Course	**13th** Willaston CofE School	**20th** Mothers' Union	**27th** The Rotary Club
T		**7th** Hadlow Green Singers	**14th** Christ Church Men's Group	**21st** UpLIFT	**28th** Willaston Businesses and Workers
F	**1st** All Worried about the Cost of Living	**8th** All Those Bereaved and Remembering Loved Ones	**15th** Scouting in the Local Area	**22nd** Refugees fleeing War Zones	**29th** Friends of Hadlow Road Station
S	**2nd** Willaston Country Market	**9th** All Local Councillors	**16th** Willaston Methodist Church	**23rd** The Horticultural Society	**30th** Willaston Surgeries

FROM THE RECORDS

INTRMENT OF ASHES

Our condolences to all who mourn:

12TH April 2026 Georgina Maud PERKINS



Christ Church Easter Celebrations

After the solemnity of the services of Lent and Holy Week, Christ Church celebrated a joyous Easter Sunday in a beautifully decorated church.

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to create the wonderful floral displays at the Cross, the altar, font and windows, as well as those who prepared and delivered the services.



Pentecost: Sunday 24th May 2026

'The Day of Pentecost marks fifty days since Easter Day and brings the Easter season to an end. It is a major feast of the Church's year when Christians recall how God's Holy Spirit was given to the disciples after Jesus' ascension, empowering them to begin the work of making disciples of all nations.

The Acts of the Apostles describes how the crowds gathered in Jerusalem – representing many nationalities and speaking many languages – were able to hear the disciples preaching in their own language.' Pentecost | The Church of England

The Willaston Methodist Church and Christ Church Willaston will come together on the 24th May

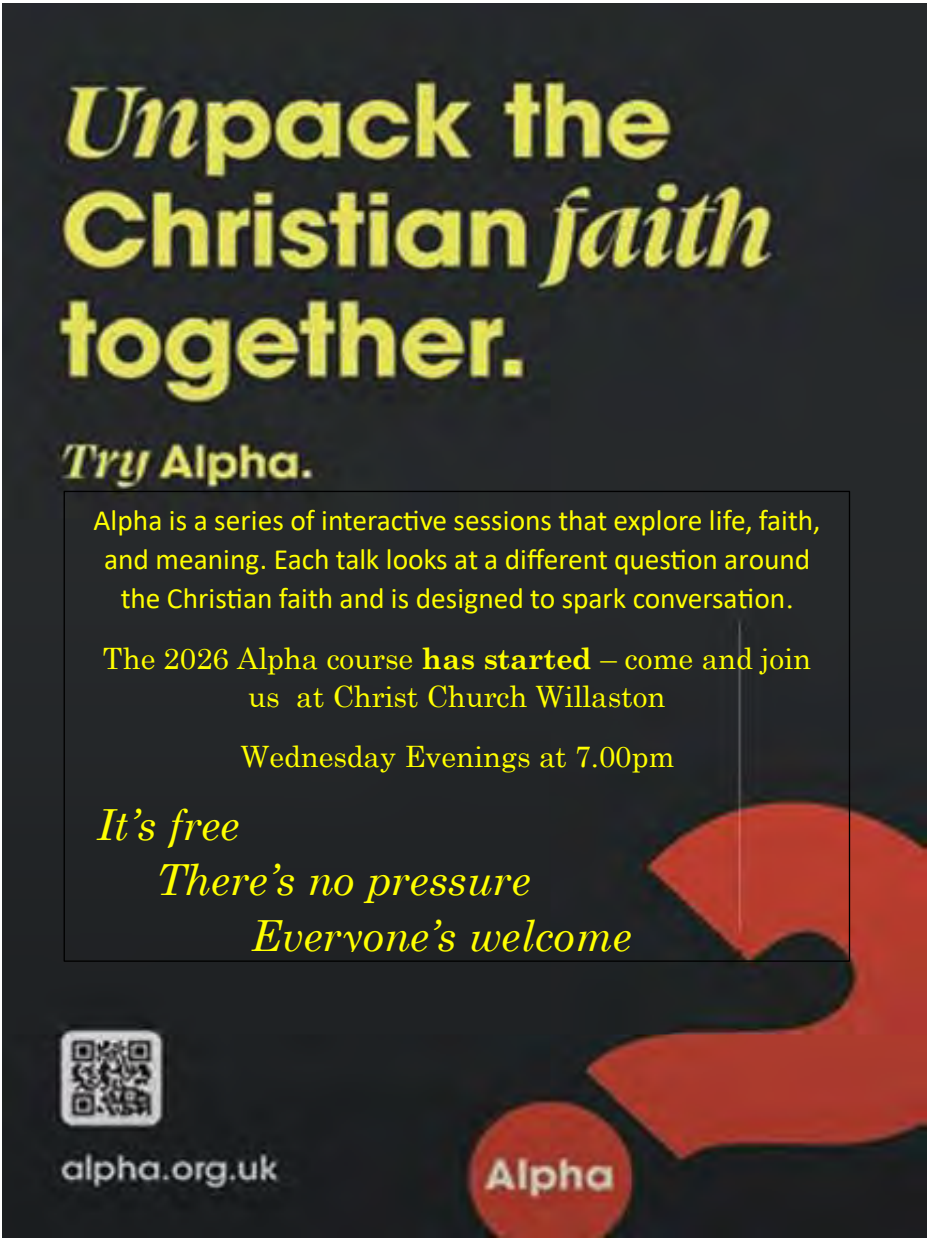
For a joint Pentecost Service on the Green, weather permitting, at 10.45am

Please feel welcome to join us.

The Alpha Course at Christ Church

Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited.

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





Please look out for donation envelopes in your local church and donate if possible

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All are welcome to join the Ecumenical Christian Aid Service
Sunday May 10th at 6.30pm
St Mary and St. Helen Neston Parish Church
Speaker: The Right Reverend Vivienne Faull,
Retired Bishop of Bristol
The offering collection will be for Christian Aid

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On Thursday 14th May, there will be a Christian Aid coffee morning from 10.00 am. to 12.00noon at the Gladstone Hall Pavilion Burton

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On Saturday 16th May there will be a 'Bucket' Collection at Gordale Garden Centre

What is a Cone Garden

Christian Aid Week 2026 will take place from 10th to 16th May, its focus: supporting families facing extremes of hunger, insecurity and economic hardship particularly in urban Kenya and in Burundi where over 70% of people face hunger and a lack of necessities like clean water and electricity.

In Nairobi cone gardens are helping: Christian Aid's local partner Beacon of Hope is training local people to grow food in seed beds, vertical stacks, multi storied gardens, hydroponics and in easy to manage multi-layered cone - shaped gardens. They are constructed using materials like polythene sheets and recycled paper. Efficient in constrained limited spaces, they are designed to maximise crop yield, improve water drainage and ensure better sunlight exposure. The conical shape of the gardens allows for multiple layers of soil, often 5 or 6, which allow different crop layers to be grown at the same time without expensive and potentially damaging chemicals - particularly beneficial in urban settings.

The shape of the gardens helps conserve water and nutrients which is especially important in this drought prone area. They require minimal gardening time, after planting, and are easy for new gardeners to use, especially if they come with storage tanks and irrigation pipes fitted. The wide variety of green leaved vegetables grown, from collard greens and beetroot leaves to managu- a fast to mature, highly nutritious, black, edible nightshade - is particularly effective in countering malnutrition in children and nursing mothers. Belinda and Fridah's stories can be seen at :- Bing Videos Bing Videos

From the Diocesan News

'Pilgrim Places with Archbishop Stephen: **St Andrew's Church, Tarvin - 2 June 2026**

You are invited to an afternoon tea with Archbishop Stephen, who will be explaining how the Pilgrim Places initiative can help churches grow faith through heritage and pilgrimage.

Pilgrim Places is an initiative of Faith in the North, which helps churches to see their visitors as pilgrims and their buildings as a way to foster spiritual growth. Our heritage and our buildings are rich resources for us, and during this meeting, and over afternoon tea, Archbishop Stephen will encourage and help us to make the most of them. We will hear stories of good practice from across the Diocese and Pilgrim Places resources will be explained.

Booking via the website below is essential and there are **limited** places available:

News you may have missed this week from the Diocese of Chester



Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) runs from Ascension Thursday until Pentecost.

Many resources are available as well as videos and worksheets for children.

These are available to download from the website:

Resources | Thy Kingdom Come



EMERGENCY FOOD FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN FINANCIAL CRISIS

The foodbank has an urgent need for:

Crackers, Tinned Tomato, Curry Sauce, UHT Juice, and Tinned meat / Fish, *as well as these non-perishable items: Tinned Rice Pudding, Packet Rice, Tinned Potatoes/Vegetables, Instant Coffee (small jars), Cuppa Soups, Instant Noodles, UHT Milk, Instant Pasta (Pasta and Sauce), Tinned Custard, Tinned Fruit, Biscuits and Small Treats, Toiletries, Shampoo, Jams and 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

WILLASTON's
Hidden Gardens and Allotments

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE
12.30 – 5.30 PM

SEE THE GARDENS HIDDEN BEHIND SOME OF THE VILLAGE'S ICONIC HOMES











ENTRY £6 Children free

Tickets from SPAR, Reid's café
OR on-line from:
www.yourwillaston.com

Exchange ticket for map at
Christ Church or any garden

AFTERNOON TEAS available at
Christ Church, Symonds Grange

PLANT SALES at the Old Red Lion

CHURCHES TOGETHER
Supported by Your Willaston and Gordale Garden Centre

Willaston Methodist Church

Anniversary

1838 1889 2026



Saturday 16th May

10.00am -12 noon

Anniversary Service

& Gift Day

Sunday 17th May 10:45am



Willaston Methodist Church

Care, Share Empower

How quickly the year is passing. May is already upon us, with Chapel Anniversary and our annual service on the Green to celebrate Pentecost to look forward to.

Services for May

3rd	10.45am.	Mr S. Cooper
10th	10.45am.	Mr John Crowther
17th	10.45am.	Chapel Anniversary Celebration
24th	10.45am.	Pentecost Service on the Green
31st	10.45am.	Mr Rodger Staines

Pentecost Service on the Green

Please join us for the annual outdoor service to celebrate Pentecost. This is a joint service with Christ Church, and this year will be led by our minister Rev Noel Sharp. If wet it will be moved into the Memorial Hall, where refreshments will be served after the service.

Chapel Anniversary

We will be celebrating our Anniversary over the weekend of 16th and 17th May.
There will be an Anniversary Coffee Morning and Gift Day on the Saturday 10am until 12 followed by a service in chapel on the Sunday.
Everyone is invited to join us.

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 at our services.

Carol Savage
Tel: 0151 394 3335 carol.savage2@outlook.com

Friends of Hadlow Road Station Community Group

Pop Up Café Season 26 – Continues: Friends of Hadlow Road Station (FHRS) have held three Pop Up Cafes this season – the weather was against us at café one and two, but our wonderful customers still turned out to support us – THANK YOU. On Sunday 12th the weather was kind to us and the sun shone. Mersey Morris entertained our customers and those passing through.

Our next café will be on **26th April** at which Simple Folk will be on hand to entertain us all.

On the **17th May** we hold our first Charity Café of the season. The charity selected is the Birkenhead Dog Rescue Centre. Please come along and support the charity that will be on hand to let you know all about the great work that they do. We also have Simon Le Barber on hand to entertain us all. All proceeds from the café, once expenses have been deducted, will go to the charity so please come along and have a bacon batch/teacake and a slice of cake with your drink.

The next dates for the Pop-Up Cafés are:

31st May	
14th and 28th June	10.00am – 1.00pm.
12th and 26th July	

Donations by Liverpool Civils: FHRS were very pleased to receive donations from Liverpool Civils – the company that are installing the new crossing points on Hadlow Road.

These donations consisted of new gravel to top up the section of track that had sunk over the years and top soil for the new raised beds – both currently in place and those planned for the season. FHRS really appreciated the company not only supplying the gravel for the track but also laying it for us – it would have taken many days of back breaking work to have done this ourselves.

Gardening: A team of volunteers turned out on 7th April to review and maintain the beds and borders. They also undertook the moving of tons of soil to the raised beds in place – the remainder was moved as part of the pop-up café on the 12th.

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.

Cheshire Life Magazine: FHRS are to feature in an article in a future edition 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 Kings Award for Voluntary Services. More update in the next Parish News.

External Events: FHRS successfully displayed at two local events in March – 14th March Railway History Day held by The Thomas Brassey Society. Thomas Brassey was the original company who installed the track at Hadlow Road Station. On the 21st March

FHRS attended the Wirral History and Heritage Fair with our friends from Willaston in the Past.

We are looking at other events over the year and more news as they become finalised. **On Friday 29th May 2026,** from 10:00, we will be presented our King's Award for Voluntary Services (KVAS) by the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, Lady Redmond. There will be an awards ceremony at the station from 10:30 – 11:30. We hope to see as many people as possible at the station for this very special event.

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

Sion Roberts, Councillor Surgeries: May - July

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

Saturday 9th May, Saturday 13th June and Saturday 11th July

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(also, Saturday 2nd May and Saturday 4th July - 9:00–10:00am at Gladstone Hall, Burton)

WILLASTON MEMORIAL HALL

Charity No 520090

Trustees of the Memorial Hall

The next meeting of the Trustees of the

Memorial Hall will be held on:

Tuesday 12th May 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 Spring returning to the Meadow, with lots of flowers blooming – in April, we have spotted bluebells, wild garlic, geum, honesty, red campion, fritillary and wood anemone amongst others. We planted corncockle at our volunteer session and have more plants to put in. The birds are in full song and mallards have returned to both ponds, following the difficult dry summer last year.

Our volunteer team has also spent time managing the area by Jackson's Pond, removing unwanted plants, such as brambles and docks. We have put stones next to the pond to encourage bird life to the water.

Our next sessions are scheduled for **Sundays: 3rd May and 7th June,** 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. 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.

Our Spring concerts were received very enthusiastically, particularly by the Friday night full-house audience. By the time you read this, we will have started rehearsals for the Summer concerts (17th and 18th July) when we will be singing a variety of mainly popular music.

It is not too late to try us out – we would be pleased to meet you! See our website (HadlowGreenSingers.co.uk) and our Facebook page (Hadlow Green Singers).

Chris Wells, Chairman

The Ladies Choir

Rehearsals recommenced in the Methodist Hall, from Monday 13th April, from 2-3.30. Due to the Bank holiday, we will meet on 27th April and then the 11th May.

Normally, we meet on the first and second Mondays of each month, with new members, who enjoy a good sing, always welcome and with no previous experience necessary.

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

Angela on 0151 3275108 or Margaret on 0151 3193782

Willaston Mobile Library Dates: May – June 2026

2.00pm - 4.30pm at The Nag's Head

Monday 18th May, Monday 29th June *

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



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 not 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 14th May 2026: *(Ascension Day)* We meet with the other members of the church for our annual Ascension Day Holy Eucharist service, which begins at 7:30 PM in the Parish Church.

Tuesday 9th June 2026: visit various selected hostelries in Birkenhead! Catch the 1859 from Hooton train station and meet at Gallagher's (Chester Street, next to the Police Station), then maybe on to the Wetherspoons on Argyle Street.

Saturday 20th June 2026 *NB this is an afternoon meeting* Brewery visit Spookton Brewing Company (Saint Thomas pathway, off Queens St, Chester). Catch the 12:27 from Hooton railway station and meet in the Station Tap on the concourse in Chester station for around 12:45pm. We will then either walk or get taxis from there.

Please check the website for any changes to dates.

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

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION
Join us, Join in



Last month, Christ Church MU was delighted to host MU members from around Wirral - and Chester too.

In our 150th Anniversary Year, Mothers' Union in York Province has put together a Prayer Capsule.

To mark the occasion, members from our corner of the province came together to hear MU Chester Diocesan President, Di, relate



the story of the capsule, explaining that it started its journey in Manchester and prayers are being added to it as it makes its way around the York dioceses before being taken by sponsored bike ride from York to London in time for the Anniversary Service at St Paul's Cathedral on Wednesday **10 June.** Some of us are looking forward to taking part in the great MU gathering in St Paul's and the Celebration Event the following day.

Photos courtesy Carole Steel

This month, we are invited to Neston Parish Church at 1.30pm on **Wednesday 13 May** to hear Anthony Annakin-Smith talk about the 18th Century Foundling Hospital in Chester.

Our annual Wave of Prayer Service will be held on the following **Wednesday 20 May** in church. Do join us. ***Viv***

Rotary Club of Willaston & South Wirral

Please get a team together and book a table for our quiz on 25th April. We hope to raise a chunk of money towards the new Christmas lights for the village. Thank you for your support if you are reading this after the event.

Our club charter night is in April, and we celebrated with a meal at Kri Kri. An excellent time was had by all.

In the summer, we are hoping to initiate a plant and seed swap. Bring along any plants you don't want, and take away some that you do! For example, I have many self-seeding wallflowers and snapdragons which I can pot up and bring along. We plan to combine regular plant swaps with our book sales on occasional Saturdays – dates for the book sales are: May 9th, June 6th, July 25th, August 22nd. We will be on The Green from 9.30 to 12ish.

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.secretary@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***


NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity
Willaston Grange
Hadlow Road, Willaston, CH64 2UN
Saturday 13 June
12 - 5pm
Adults £6 Children free
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
DOGS WELCOME
PLANTS FOR SALE
TEAS
ACCEPTED
More information at ngs.org.uk
Registered charity No. 1112644

upLIFT 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 21st May 2026, 7.30pm: Bread Talk by 'Ma Baker' followed by lots of bread tastings. Chargeable event (details to follow) at Christ Church, Willaston

Thursday 18th June 2026, 7.00pm (TBC): A summer evening walk around Heswall Dales starting at the Harry Beswick Pub Alternative venues to be announced if wet! Details to follow.

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 Society

May is the time to introduce vibrant bedding plants like marigolds, petunias and fuchsias. However, make sure the risk of frost has passed. Despite the soil holding moisture from winter, newly planted or shallow rooted plants may struggle in the bright breezy conditions of May. Prioritise watering seed beds and sensitive crops like broad beans.

As temperatures rise, greenhouses can quickly become too hot and dry. Ensure good airflow and consider cover for some seedlings.

Membership for the horticultural society gives you 10% off plants at Burleydam, Carr Lane, and both Premier plants which costs £10 per year to join.

We also have a Facebook page and notices on the community boards in the village about what is on.

If you would like to join us please contact me on 07786982845

At the horticultural society on **Tuesday 19th May** we have Sue Nicholas whose talk is about 'Growing plants for flower arranging', starting at 7.30pm. We have a plant sale, information on our annual trip to Arley Hall, and free refreshments.

Also, this month, we have the Coffee Morning, on the **Saturday 23rd May** from 10am. This includes a children's competition, plant sale from a local nursery - at a discounted price, bottle stall where everyone's a winner, guess the amount of sweets in a jar and the name of a very large pig, the cake stall and refreshments.

Happy Gardening ***Valerie Brizell, Chairperson***

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

This month we are selling beautiful bunches of fresh flowers at the market, in addition to the usual perennial plants, annuals, and vegetables ready for transplanting. There will be many different chutneys, jams and marmalades for sale too, including freshly made rhubarb and ginger Jam.



Our newest baker, Francesca, specialises in macarons, together with fabulous brownies and celebration cakes.

We are making more meals now, including curries, lasagnes, pies and veggie specialities.

The "woolly hats" have been tucked away for the summer and some lovely spring "knits" are ready for you, together with handmade cards and a variety of interesting craft items.

We are open every week and we are also having an extra stall at the Farmers Markets this summer.

Contact us for further information or if you wish to place an order:

Jackie: 0151 721 6284, mob: 07957926149. email: jackiejenkins1896@gmail.com

Jackie Jenkins



Willastonhey W.I.

WI Monthly Meeting:

Our latest guest speaker was Brian Jordan from the R.N.L.I. at Hoylake. Brian's talk, together with accompanying videos showing the boats and their rescue procedures, was very interesting and informative. He emphasised the rigorous training that the volunteers undertake at their dedicated testing centre in Poole, Dorset.

Local stations work together and Hoylake were recently involved in a big joint rescue with Rhyl station.

As the R.N.L.I. is dedicated to saving lives quickly and efficiently, the crews are ready to launch and rescue 24 hours a day, 365 a year. Because they are a charity, they depend heavily on donations as the costs of the crafts, maintenance and equipment is very high.

Out and About:

Rambling: A trip to New Brighton was the order of the day for our March Ramble. As well as walking along the prom, a detour around the back streets was made interesting by following the amazing street art trail. As usual, a coffee stop was taken early on, more walking, then lunch at the Magazine Hotel. Definitely a lovely day to be at the seaside.

Games Afternoon: We had fun playing dominoes at the Games Afternoon with a pause for tea biscuits and a chat.

Upcoming events:

Rambling: Tuesday 19th May – TBD.

Games Afternoon: Thursday 21st May – TBD.

W.I. Monthly Meeting: Tuesday 26th May W.I. Birthday Meeting

We will also hold our weekly/fortnightly activities of knit and natter, walking netball, bridge and darts.

Our meetings are held on the fourth **Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.30 p.m**. in the Memorial Hall. All welcome.

Please visit our website www.willastonheywi.weebly.com

For further information email willastonhey@gmail.com ***Sandra Humphreys***

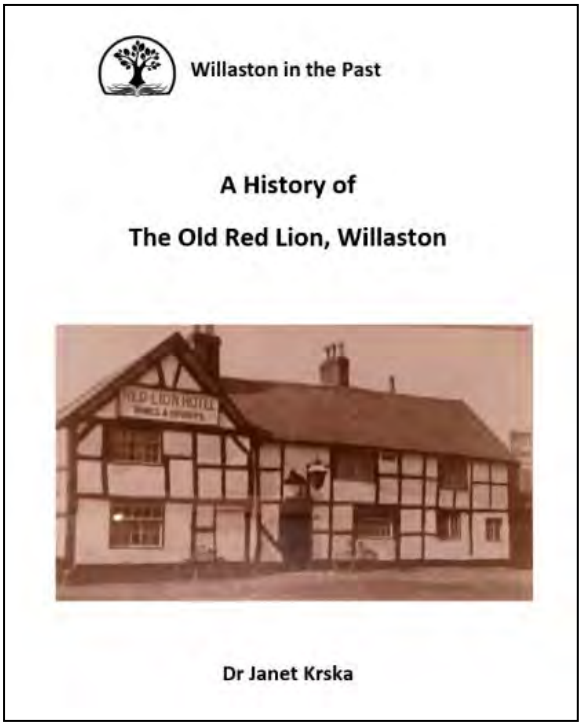
Scouting in the Local Area

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.

Willaston in the Past

Willaston in the Past aims to record and disseminate information about the history of the village. We have recently launched our new booklet which covers the history of the Old Red Lion. This is available to buy for £5, along with our other booklets and cards.

We will be at the open gardens on **Sunday 7th June** in the grounds of the Old Red Lion and this booklet, along with others will be available for purchase.



Our AGM will take place on **Tuesday 2nd June** at 2pm in the Methodist Chapel and the speaker is Anthony Annakin Smith.

We are grateful to Your Willaston CIC which has paid for a new website, which is easier to find. Our website address is now:

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 contact us for a membership form or visit our website.

Sarah Shannon

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

Willaston C of E Primary School – News!

We are very excited that Summer is officially here! We have so many things to look forward to during the Summer Term.

So far this term, our Year 4 pupils became Romans for a day as they explored the Grosvenor Museum and explored Roman Chester.

Our class photos will be taking place, and we are sure everyone will look very smart in their uniforms.

Pupils in Year 6 are very focused and resilient preparing for their SATs. Everyone is working so hard and we are immensely proud of them all.

Pupils in Year 3 are enjoying their weekly swimming lessons and Year 2 will be starting later in May.

A variety of sporting events will take place including athletics and tag rugby competitions.

Sports Day, towards the end of the month is always a highlight of the year for the children, and we are sure this year will be no exception! Many thanks to our PTA who will be providing ice lollies at the end!

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@willastonce.cheshire.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.willastonceprimaryschool.co.uk



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Supporting churches across Cheshire with passion and enthusiasm

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH SERVICES



May 2026

Christ Church welcomes all to services.

Sunday 3 May: Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 10 May: Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.00am Parish Eucharist
10.30am All Age Eucharist

Thursday 14 May: Ascension Day

7.30pm: Ascension Day Service

Sunday 17 May: The Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.00am Parish Eucharist
10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 24 May: Pentecost Sunday

9.00am Parish Eucharist
10.45am Joint Service on the Green

Sunday 31 May: Trinity Sunday

9.00am Parish Eucharist
10.30am All Age Worship

WILLASTON
CHRIST CHURCH

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

May front cover photograph courtesy Tim Ley