

August 2005

Volume 3 Issue 2



SOUTH WILLINGHAM NEWS

Last Orders Please

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Special points of interest:

- Last call for mobile butcher
- Tentative next step for Hall project
- Good response to Parish Council Questionnaire
- Information on the Web
- First Community Hall appeal sent in
- £55 for kidney research

On the 1st July this year, after very nearly fifty years, South Willingham sadly witnessed the last delivery of meat by Mr John Fisher of Tealby, whose little white butcher's van has become a familiar sight over the years, buzzing up and down the lanes of surrounding villages. He says that he first started deliveries in 1956 during school holidays by assisting his father, Mr Eric Fisher, eventually taking over the rounds himself.

The Fisher family first moved to Tealby in 1790, with the arrival of his great x 3 grandfather (another John) and his four sons.

During his years delivering he has experienced all kinds of weather and remembers some particularly bad winters, but has seldom, if ever, been prevented from getting through.

When asked for a comparison between today's prices and those when he



John Fisher making his last delivery to Eric Payne (Photo: Celia Payne)

first started, Mr Fisher remembers that in 1956 the price of one pound of sausages was 1s.10d (approximately 9 new pence) whereas today one would have to dig a bit deeper – around £2.20p per pound!

One of his abiding memories is the occasion, while slaughtering was taking place, when a beast fell down a fifty foot well shaft and became trapped – his father had to lower himself down and shoot the animal. The fire brigade then came to the rescue and hoisted the carcass back to the surface.

Mr Fisher hopes that in retirement he can spend more time with a newly acquired computer and

digital camera as well as continuing with his hobby as a radio ham – not to mention the possibility of taking up gliding again. So it looks like a busy time ahead.

I'm sure all those who benefited from Mr Fisher's visits will wish him well and take this opportunity of thanking him for supplying the basics of many a tasty meal and hope that he enjoys his retirement to the full.
Eric and Celia Payne.

Your views !

Many thanks from the Parish Council for the very encouraging response to the Village Questionnaire with eighty replies being received.

The information you gave us is currently being analysed with each councillor taking a separate subject area, and the results will have been assessed by August.

Once your views on the
(Continued on page 3)

Parliamentary Enclosure and the Landscape

At the beginning of the eighteenth century the rural landscape of England was still far from looking like we know it today. Over large tracts of the county, especially in the West and North, and to a considerable extent in the South-east, the pattern of field and hedgerow, hamlet and farm, road and lane, had established itself pretty much as we know it. But over millions of acres

between Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and the Dorset coasts, the country scene was still very much medieval. Farming was carried on in open fields that had not changed basically since the thirteenth century, and beyond the arable fields and their meadows lay great tracts of common pasture, much of it covered with gorse and furze, rising in places to moorland and mountains. A rough estimate of the amount of open land enclosed by parliamentary act was about 4,500,000 acres. Today only a few hundred acres remain at Braunton (North Devon), at Laxton (Nottinghamshire), and Haxey and Epworth in the Isle of Axholme.

By far the most conspicuous introduction into the new landscape were the small, hedged fields-

small that is, by comparison with the vast open fields that had preceded them, which often ran to several hundred acres unbroken by a single hedge.

sometimes do not run to the nearest village but continue for some miles through open country, reaching the villages by means of side-roads.

There is none of that apparently aimless wandering in short stretches, punctuated by frequent bends, going halfway around the compass to reach the next village, so characteristic of the landscape of the open field



The Forge, Blacksmith's lane is probably the original old forge

system.

The new fields were hedged around with quickset, hawthorn, with a shallow ditch on one side or both sides of the fence. The hawthorn is the oldest of the hedgerow trees, it gets its name from the Old English word *haga*, 'a hedge' or 'an enclosure', it was used from Saxon times onwards to make impenetrable fences.

A great number of new by-roads came into existence as a result of the enclosures. They can be easily recognized by the fact that they run from village to village practically straight across country, with perhaps an occasional sudden right-angled bend and then on again. More significantly still, these straight roads

With the enclosure of the open fields and the redistribution of the land mostly in compact blocks instead of strips scattered over the parish the shape of the village of South Willingham might have changed, as the village farmers built new farmsteads on their new allotments. However the new enclosures did not affect the village enclosures that predated the parliamentary ones, that is those that probably went back to medieval times. Consequently South Willingham village was not disintegrated as happened in some places, but kept the shape that we enjoy today.

*Martin Doughty
(to be continued)*

**"consequently
South Willingham
was not
disintegrated as
happened in some
places"**

Free Trees 2005

Once again the County Council is offering free trees for planting in the parish. A list of available species will be put on the notice board in the bus shelter on 29th August.

All of the trees are native to or characteristic of Lincolnshire. The aim is to help maintain the county's traditional landscape.

We are allotted 25 trees or 250 hedging plants or combinations of

both.

If you would like to choose some trees or hedging plants to plant on your land please contact Tina Speck on 313793 between 29th

August and 16th September.

*I think that I will never see
A poem lovely as a tree,
But when you plant a tree please do
Not block your neighbour's favourite view!*



Copper beech in South Willingham

Information on the web

A lot of information has now been placed on the South Willingham web site and this includes:-

Travel – Information on travel facilities available to the village including the bus timetable [also available in the bus shelter] and train times from Market Rasen

Services – Details of services available in the village eg. Butcher, newspapers, etc

Parish Council – Agendas and minutes of

meetings; status on planning applications; financial information, standing orders etc.

If you want to see more, then visit:
www.thelocalchannel.co.uk/southwillingham

New pages will be added and your response to the Village Questionnaire will help us identify those you are interested in.

(Continued from page 1)

Your Views!

various subjects are clear, the council can then determine what actions it can take to try and meet the responses you made.

In the next newsletter we will provide a feedback on the answers you have given and the actions the council will be pursuing.



During the Strawberry Tea

"The aim is to help maintain the county's traditional landscape."

Community Hall News

For several years, “don’t hold your breath” has been the best advice on reading our reports, but this time we ask You to wish us luck / pray for us / keep your fingers crossed. The first application has gone off in the post for a ‘winner takes most’ kind of grant. Wren, the agency that redistributes land-fill tax, is running a competition with a top prize of £250,000. If we don’t win, a possibility (!) we then apply in the usual way for a £50, 000 grant.

In September we apply for two other grants from Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and Lloyds TSB respectively. The availability of grants determines whether we go for the whole project or

whether we go for separate phases.

The coming season starts off with Harvest Supper on 30th September followed by a Trafalgar evening on Octo-



Strawberry Tea before it started.

ber 21st. There is a Quiz Night on November 18th and the Christmas Fayre is on Saturday December 16th. Next is a Burns Night on

January 20th, a Chinese New Year on February 17th and a St Patrick’s evening on, of course, March 17th. We think that Alison and Roy will be running their New Year’s Eve party again.

Finally, the Committee decided that we would be an umbrella organisation for interest groups who would meet in the Hall when necessary. The first of these will probably be a group of ramblers (Willa’s Walkers?) who will organise regular walks in the area or further afield. There will be a meeting in the autumn to start it off and notice of the date will be distributed.

“a group of

ramblers... who will
organise regular
walks in the area”

“The best way to suppose
what may come, is to
remember what is past”

A poem in The Sign of the Fish called “Remember when” aroused mixed feelings in the village. Nostalgia is something we all indulge in. Unfortunately, many people missed the positive note in the final verse. What we sometimes do not remember is that the old communities were regimented affairs, where people had to toe the line either of the Lord of the Manor or the Vicar. The present Parish Council

and Community Hall Committee believe deeply that people can make their own choice, joining in or not according to their taste. As the poem pointed out, most For Sale notices are taken down by people who want to make a contribution if they have the time and energy. Then memories of the past become a much needed foundation for

How to make
a bomb???

First Component ?

“The assets of the world’s three richest billionaires exceed the Gross National Product (GNP) of the 49 Least Developed Countries, with a combined population of 668 million people. The 225 wealthiest individuals have assets equivalent to a third of the world’s population (two billion



After the Strawberry Tea

people).”

Snippets

How good of Fleur Gordon and Nigel Moore to put plants for sale on the steps of their front garden. Apart from the choice of plants it reminds those of us with senior moments that the Post Box now in use is on the opposite side of the road. The Box fits in well with its surroundings and is more accessible, especially for older people, so thanks to the Post Office.

The local Police have been in touch with us asking if the South Willingham News would print their regular advice on security. We did so until we realised that the Parish Magazine was also publishing it. As both publications go to every home in South Willingham parish there seems no reason for reading it twice and we have informed the Police of our decision.

We welcome three new families into the village. Barry and Margaret Charman have come to live at Codlins Cottage. Barry was ill when they first arrived and we are glad he is home again. Andy and Jane Lowe with their daughter Kirsty are on Hainton Road and Dave and Jenny Cox have come to The Close. When they are all settled we hope they will feel able to join

in village affairs.

On the back page of each edition of the SW News is a small note of thanks to Skill Centres (UK) Ltd for printing the South



Tina Speck's winning photo of a garden

Willingham News. This covers some very expert work done for us by Diana Doughty who translates Microsoft Publisher into something her 'printing press' can read and sorts out the pages and photographs for us. We very much appreciate all she does.

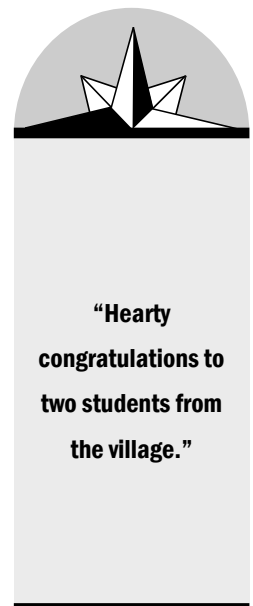
Frank Lacey was 90 on the 26th June and a number of people in the village sent congratulations or took them round personally during the day. Frank and Gill do very well getting about, sometimes with difficulty, and we look forward to seeing them at future coffee mornings.

Hearty congratulations to two students from the vil-

lage. Jenny Seward gained a first in her BA (Hons) in French and German at Warwick University and Alex Doughty gained a 2.1 for his B.Sc in Ecology at Leeds University. He also becomes a Member of the Institute of Biology.

Thanks also to people who contribute to the look of the village on the quiet. The Churchyard Maintenance Fund keeps the churchyard mown (contributions gratefully received!) but Eric and Celia Payne tidy the graves of people who used to live in Blacksmith's Cottage, Joe Donocik cuts the roadside hedge and Ken Webb strimms round the graves.

A Barbecue in June and a Strawberry Tea and Photo Competition finished off the year for the Community Hall. Both had good weather and were well attended. Tina Speck won the photo competition, with Celia Payne second and Jan Crouch third. (Notice, men, all women for the second year running!). Thanks again to John Edwards for judging the competition.



**"Hearty
congratulations to
two students from
the village."**

**South Willingham Parish Council and
Community Hall**

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Community Hall

**HARVEST SUPPER
ON SEPTEMBER
30TH**

**Coffee Mornings 1st
& 3rd Wednesdays**

Parish Councillors:

Martin Doughty [Chairman] 313686
Marcus Edmundson 313623
Nikki Harris 313618
Tina Speck 313793
John Sturgeon 313718
Roy Sylvester 313341
Ken Webb 313711

Parish Clerk:

Pam Webb [Tel: 313711]

Community Hall :

Roy Sylvester (Chairman) 313341
Fran Kingsley (Secretary) 313718
(Treasurer)

The Parish Council and the Community Hall are jointly producing this paper and through the Management Committee are publishing it quarterly. As well as official news and information about the Hall, they would like stories from around the village. As they are also reporters, sub-editors, publishers and first copy printers, they hope village people will come forward with ideas and stories themselves. Their thanks to Skills Centre (UK) Ltd for the printing.

Notices

Congratulations to Saun and Sarah Tucker on their wedding on Saturday 4th June. We wish them every happiness in their life together.



Barkwith Road Collection

John Sturgeon has received a letter from the National Kidney Research Fund thanking him for the amount of the envelope collection – the splendid sum of £55.00. Thanks to all who gave towards this excellent cause which funds 250 hospital projects

“Bit of a do” - international style

For a mere £7.50 you can enjoy good company, a drink and international dishes including Thai chicken, Moroccan lamb, Hungarian goulash, Italian risotto, French porc agen and shepherds pie, followed by a selection of luscious sweets.

The evening in aid of St Martin's church upkeep and will be held at the Manor House, Hainton Road on September 9th at 7.30 p.m. A warm welcome to everyone. Tickets from Pam and Ken on 313711 and Virginia & Marcus on 313623