

# SOUTH WILLINGHAM CHRONICLE

to inform on the present and reflect on the village past



## SUPERFAST BROADBAND DIGS IT'S WAY TO SOUTH WILLINGHAM

June 11 saw Hainton Road closed for 10 days as fibre optic cabling was trenched to a new cabinet located on the roadside near Moors Lane - the aim of which is to bring the long-awaited superfast broadband to the village as part of Phase 3 of the initiative in Lincolnshire. The photo (*photo by N. Spencer*) above shows the base of the new cabinet on June 12. Residents may recall that former Parish Councillor Nigel Spencer had invited Stephen Brookes, Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager to a well attended Residents Forum back in 2015 to raise villagers frustrations. In January 2017 it was confirmed that South Willingham would be included in Phase 3 between Autumn 2017 and December 2019. It is good to see it happen! At the time of going to print it is not known how long it will be before it is "enabled".

### TIME RETURNS.....

*The church clock was silent for a four week period when the mechanism inexplicably seized. On May 8th, Smith of Derby (Clock Repairers), returned and found the conrod that served the clock hands had come off high up in the tower. All is now well again.*

### BISCATHORPE - 2 OIL WELL

Residents in the area will no doubt have received leaflets through the door against the proposals and a meeting was due to be held in Donington On Bain Village Hall on May 31 by a group known as SOS Biscathorpe. Egdon Resources were seeking an extension to the original timeframe and had resubmitted their application.

According to Lincolnshire County Council's Planning website - permission was granted on May 14 2018.

It's open report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director, Environment & Economy detailed the results of Consultation and Publicity: the following had no observations or comments to make: Environment Agency; LCC Highways; Anglian Water Historic England; South Willingham Parish Council; Natural England.

Historic Environment Officer (LCC) said the previous archaeological condition before trackway construction should continue. Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service acknowledged that the proposal had been screened for Environmental Impact Assessment, and was not for fracking.

East Lindsey District Council did not object to the application but 56 representations against the proposals were received from members of the public.

full details can be found at:  
<http://lincolnshire.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display?applicationNumber=PL%2F0030%2F18>

## PAUL FULLER AT 90

Paul Fuller celebrates his birthday with a party attended by friends and family

Paul, a well known supporter of community activities in the village, turned 90 at the beginning of May. Ever active, he attends the coffee mornings, helped to run the village film group and runs the ballroom and latin american dance group at the village hall as well as helping with the local villages church services and one in Grimsby. *(Photo by Dave Nutten)*



Paul organises and participates in the village carol singing round - the proceeds of which each year go to charity. In what spare time he has, he enjoys singing, music (particularly classical music) and concerts with the U3A . He also continues to study - continuing his research into the relationships between religion, politics, economics, ecology and sexuality. For many years he also was editor of the village newsletter - past copies of which can be found on the village website.

**for more on Paul Fuller - see Page 3 & “Life Chronicles” on Page 4**

## South Willingham couple Harold and Alice are a platinum duo after 70 years

Harold and Alice Bray, (both 96), celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary April 20.

The couple met whilst waiting to catch the bus home in Louth Town Centre. Alice was going home after going to the cinema with her two sisters and Harold, who was on leave from the Army, saw Alice as the best looking out of the three sisters, and thought he would try his luck and asked Alice out. Lucky for him, Alice accepted his proposal for a date and the couple soon started dating and were then married in South Willingham in 1948. After the war, the pair set up home in South Willingham and have spent the rest of their lives on a farm and initially kept sheep and then moved to cows.

The pair have two children together, Margaret and Alan, and now have seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. The couple have both enjoyed avid hobbies, with Alice enjoying painting various pieces of art and Harold has always enjoyed anything and everything to do with horse racing. He said: “I love anything to do with horse racing. It’s what keeps me alive. It’s very stimulating for the mind.”

When asked what their secret to such a long, happy marriage was, Harold said: “I think it’s down to luck. We have had a lot of luck in our life, which we have been very grateful for.” Alice added: “Maybe it was our union of coming together as a couple in the first place which has made us so lucky throughout our lives.”

*(Louth Leader 29 April 2018)*





*(photo above by Dave Nutten - Paul with family members on his 90th birthday)*

## Paul Fuller....in conversation....

“ Both my parents were churchgoers. In the mid to late 30’s I had access to an Armed Forces library and read extensively which started to sow a seed. I originally wanted to be a teacher but I was heavily influenced by my Grandmother whilst staying with her in 1946. I was particularly inspired by a visiting missionary from China.

Once I started to study theology, missionary work was my aim. I felt there was an obvious gap of separate cultures between church and the work place. Religion has to recognise the realities of every day life.

My Grandmother again influenced me with the United Reformed Church - a joining together of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches.

The major part of my career was Industrial Chaplaincy. Worker Priests work for a company - Industrial Chaplains are employed by the Church and have to have the agreement of employers and unions to engage with employees. Our role is: to support; provide criticism eg employer or union; provide feedback to the Church. It could, at times be very challenging - especially during strike action, but I loved every minute of it. The work would involve a number of Ministry Teams.”

As we talked Paul and this editor discovered our paths were likely to have crossed in 80’s in Grimsby when Paul was working on a programme for the former Manpower Services Commission - which involved research at the former Grimsby Careers Centre - where the editor was working as a Careers Adviser working with adults. A small world indeed!

I asked Paul at 90 what advice he would give to his younger self or younger others. “ A deeper understanding of why things are - there are reasons why things happen - there should not just be knee jerk reactions. You should also keep on learning”. What is his key to being so active and alert? “ Luck! Genes! - but also a loving family - parents, wife, children and friends. Lifestyle is also important - keep looking forward - and having a framework to live life by - for me that is the basis of religion”.



*(photo above by Dave Nutton - Paul with his children: Joanne; Tim; Debbie; Rachel)*

## **LIFE CHRONICLES - PAUL FULLER**

Paul was born in Gibraltar in May 1928. His father was a Giro Compass Expert for the Admiralty. On returning to Sheerness in the UK for the next 5 years, his father then got a job in Malta in 1935 and Paul went to Naval School there.

Whilst at home in the UK for a holiday, war broke out. His mother led a group of 4 women and three children, Paul among them, through France finally reaching Malta and their husbands in December 1939. When Italy entered the war in June 1940 the bombing of Malta started and a siege that lasted until 1943. Paul recalls several near misses and twice the building they were in was hit by bombs. "We were all very hungry - but my parents and members of the armed forces more so".

Paul's war work was as a Sea Scout, sounding the air raid siren, guarding the emergency unloading food store and on the dockyard on telephone duty as convoy ships made it through the German U boats. There were heavy losses. Paul's mother worked as a Cipher Clerk.

After the Allies invaded Sicily the siege was lifted and the war moved further into Europe. Paul's education resumed and he became an electrical apprentice in the dockyard doing a 48hour week whilst studying at Night School 7 nights a week. In July 1946 at the age of 18 Paul came back to the UK staying with various relatives. It was while living with his grandmother that Paul started applying for missionary service and in 1948 started theology training at New College London.

With no funding from any Education Authority he had to work every vacation and often through term time. When his parents came home from Malta in 1952 he lived with them for 2 years whilst working as cost accounts clerk, turner in a tractor factory, lighthouse keeper and driller and grinder in a lawnmower factory. In 1954 he joined Yorks United College, part of London University, for further theological training - adding bus conductor to his list of jobs. In September 1957, at the age of 29, he was ordained at Marple, Cheshire and he became a Minister.

At this time he met Gill, a Primary Teacher, at a Gilbert & Sullivan performance. they married in 1958 and 4 children followed. In 1965 a move to Marlpool in Derbyshire incorporated a part time industrial chaplaincy. In 1969 he moved to a full time Industrial Mission with South London Industrial Mission.

In April 1973 Paul & Gill bought a cottage in South Willingham with an eye on future retirement. Paul moved to a new job in Industrial Mission at Immingham in 1980 and they lived in Grimsby before finally retiring to South Willingham in August 1993.

Sadly, Gill developed alzheimers in 1997 and died in May 2017.

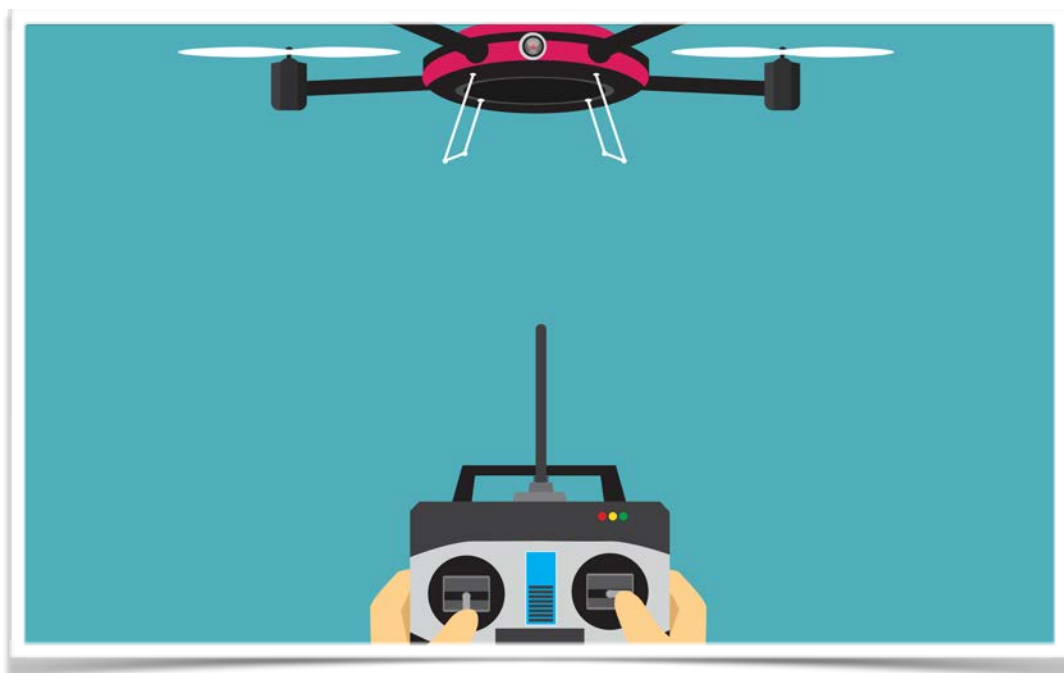


## SOUTH WILLINGHAM CHRONICLE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Nigel Spencer (Volunteer Editor); Chris Washer; Dave Nutten; Paul Fuller; Steve Cooney  
Residents and village organisations are encouraged to submit: photos; articles; ideas to:

[southwillinghamchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:southwillinghamchronicle@gmail.com)

Next issue: September 2018



## DRONE MAKES FLIGHT OVER SOUTH WILLINGHAM

At least three residents were alarmed while sunbathing when a drone was spotted over their gardens in South Willingham on a sunny Bank Holiday Sunday - May 6 2018.

Taking off and returning to a property in the village it travelled in the private fields at rear of Station/Hainton Road before hovering for period of time at height on it's return over Station Road. "I was enjoying the return of the swallows from my patio, when I spotted the drone looking down on me," reported one resident. Another, sunbathing in her garden, in what she felt was privacy, was alarmed at what she initially thought was the sound of a swarm of bees.

Meanwhile, new competency tests will require owners to prove they understand UK safety, security, and privacy regulations. These are expected to feature in a 2018 government bill, so we'll know more then. You may have seen some of that snazzy airborne footage on YouTube? Well, it's probably illegal according to UK laws regulated by the Civil Aviation Authority.

### **Consumer drones (classed as those that weigh under 20kg)**

must be flown no higher than 120 metres, and kept at least 50 metres away from people and private property. Legal responsibility for each flight lies with the operator.

**There are actually a myriad of considerations that you must take heed of when flying a drone in the United Kingdom.**

There is the aviation law, the confidentiality and harassment law, the data protection law, and most importantly, the privacy law. If you fly your drone low over someone's land without their permission, you could be liable in trespass, even if you do not personally go onto the land.

**If your drone has a camera, you should consider the impact of the Data Protection Act 1998 on the collection of footage using the device.**

The guidance also highlights the importance of ensuring that you only record in appropriate locations using the drone - for example, using the drone to film your neighbour's back garden is obviously likely to infringe their privacy; doing so repeatedly could amount to the offence of harassment.

## South Willingham Parish Hall Committee Chairman's Report 2018 *by Chris Washer*

This year there have been no big changes or horrible surprises! We continue to hold the occasional event; The Summer Banquet on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, which 34 people attended. The Harvest Supper on 29<sup>th</sup> September. Mike Perkins conducted the auction and 33 people came. A quiz with fish and chips on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Twenty four people attended.

Bookings for the hall have on the whole been good. With one offs, such as birthday parties, a bridge tournament and cycling feeding station. Also, there are our regulars, including Pilates, weekly on Monday afternoons, once a month Art Group on the first Tuesday at 1.30 pm, Dancing on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and Coffee and Chat on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10.30 am, and from September to April Reel Issues on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

Future bookings and events include another cycling stop on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 9<sup>th</sup> November has been earmarked for a commemoration of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1. Details to follow.

We continue to update and renew hall equipment as needed and do general maintenance. The internal walls were redecorated last September. You may have noticed that the front door is



looking a little shabby, it is due to be repainted shortly. In addition Emma Biggs now cleans the hall on a monthly basis.

Lastly, I would like to thank those who have given their time, and in some cases considerable effort, at our events. Doreen and Mandy for washing up when needed, Steve Brown, June Sylvester and Dave Nutton for the quiz questions.

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**A Quiz Night was held on 13th April 2018 and attended by 37 people. It was a close run thing but the Cottagers came out on top with 39 points, closely followed by Melvin's Mauraders with 38 points and Fall at the 1st Hurdle on 36.5 points. There was a raffle and the Willingham Winners was drawn. Altogether £235.45 was raised for hall funds. Thanks to all those who helped out on the night and before hand. We hope to have another quiz in the autumn. (Chris Washer)**

## PARISH COUNCIL

At the time of printing the Chronicle (June 12) the minutes for the May 9th meetings - Annual Parish Meeting, AGM, and Parish Council meeting are yet to be published. In the meantime, the Annual Financial/Audit Report has - showing an annual income raised from residents via the Council Tax Precept in 2017/18 of £900 and expenditure of £499. As of March 31 2018 £1,880 was in the bank account.

3 Councillors attended the March 22 meeting. The meeting discussed the possibility of establishing a council of the combined parishes of South Willingham and Hainton, who did not have their own council. Residents had provided further ideas on future uses for the telephone kiosk. The Village Tidy Up had been postponed owing to the recent snow and had been rearranged for Sunday 25th March. An Email from Mrs Marion Cooney had been received to request 1. That district council workers clear the footpath surface between South Willingham and Hainton; 2. That the district council be asked to attend to the street lamps; and 3. That signs and bins be placed to encourage dog walkers to clean up after their animals as the amount of dog faeces around the village was on the increase. Contact from Mr Dave Nutton via the village website had also been received regarding the South Willingham village signs making the suggestion that the 'please drive slowly' lettering be removed completely.