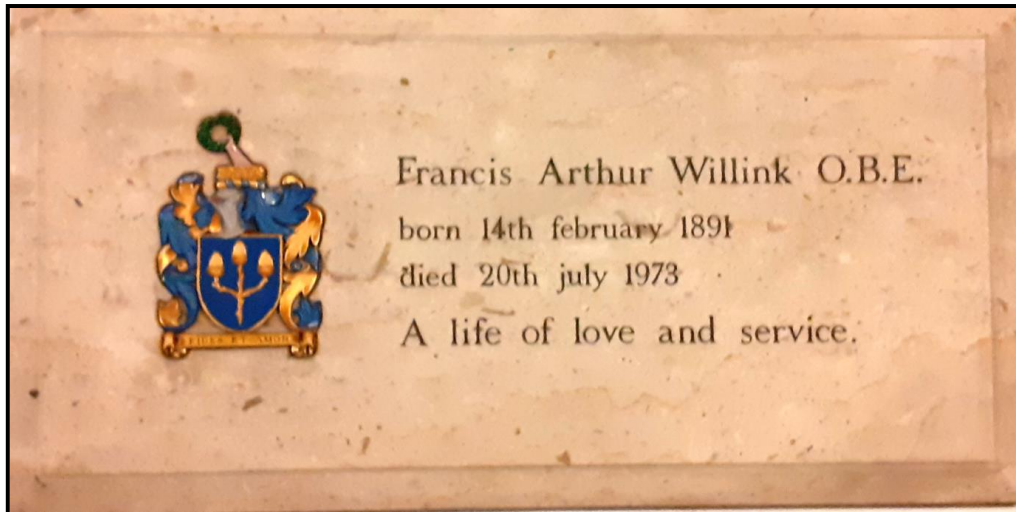


# Francis A. WILLINK



Born: 14 February 1891

Died: 20 July 1973

*COLONEL  
CHURCH TREASURER*



## Francis Arthur WILLINK

**1891:** Francis Arthur Willink was born on 14 February 1891. He was the son of Henry George Willink and Mary Grace Ouvry.

### Summary.

He was educated at Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, England.

He graduated from Brasenose College, Oxford University, Oxford, Oxfordshire, England, with a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree.

He fought in the First World War. He gained the rank of Captain in the Royal Berkshire Regiment.

He was appointed Officer, Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in 1942.

He was deputy chairman of Manchester Collieries between 1944 and 1948.

At this point, it is worth recording that his father was quite a polymath and distinguished citizen - a man of many talents. A very keen Alpine mountaineer, accomplished water colour artist, writer, lawyer, he lived most of his life in Burghfield in Berkshire and became one of the most prominent members of the community. He was involved in all aspects of local life, from being treasurer of the local bell ringing society to serving as a Berkshire County Council Alderman. A biography of him is available from Amazon, *Henry George Willink: A Biography of H. G. Willink 1851 - 1938* Paperback – 24 July 2017 by Malcolm Keith Summers (Author)

**1891** census: Highwoods, Burghfield, Berks.

Henry G. Willink	Head	M	39	Barrister. Living on own means.	b. Liverpool
Mary G.	Wife	M	40		b. Bucks.
Catharine D.	Daur.		5		b. London
George	Son		3		b. Do.
<b>Francis A.</b>	Son		1 mo.		b. Burghfield

+ 2 visitors  
+ 6 servants

**1901** census: St. Neot's School, Eversley, Hampshire.

George Willink	13	Pupil (1 of 23 pupils aged 9 to 14)
<b>Francis Willink</b>	10	Pupil

**1910:** *The Gazette* 4 February 1910.

*Unattached List for the Territorial Force*

*Cadet **Francis Arthur Willink**, from the Eton College Contingent, Junior Division, Officers Training Corps, to be Second Lieutenant, for service with the Eton College Contingent, Junior Division, Officers Training Corps. Dated 5th February, 1910.*

**1910:** *The Gazette* 6 December 1910: Appointments.

*4th Battalion, Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment); Second Lieutenant **Francis Arthur Willink**, from the Unattached List for the Territorial Force, to be Second Lieutenant. Dated 14th November 1910.*

**1911** census: 4 Sussex Gardens, Paddington (home of Colonel G. Clark) (16 rooms)

Gerard C. Clark	Head	M	65	Colonel Volunteer Force, retd: Private Means
Harriet Delamain	Wife	M	59	(married 28 years: 4 children, 2 died)
Hester Anite	Daur.	S	23	
Aimée H.	Daur.	S	21	
<b>Francis Arthur</b>	Nephew	S	20	Student: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Royal Berks. Regt.

+ 4 servants.

**1911:** *Reading Mercury* on 23 December 1911.

*Hunt Ball at Basingstoke:* The Vine Hunt Ball was held in the Drill Hall, Basingstoke, on December 14th. The ball was attended by ... Mr. George Willink, Mr. **Francis Willink**.

**1914:** *Reading Mercury* on 19 September **1914**.

Among the officers and men on active service whose homes are in the Ascot district or who have an interest in the neighbourhood are:

**Francis Willink**, 4th Berks.

**1917:**

Captain in the Royal Berks. Regt.

**1930:** He married Alma **Marion Chignell**, daughter of Reverend Hendrick **Chignell**, on 7 May **1930**, at Bucklow, Cheshire.

**1934:** *Hampshire Telegraph* on 17 August **1934**:

Marking the wedding of Lieutenant Aymé Arthur Carrington Ouvry, Royal Navy, and Susan Phyllis Alderson, at St. Peter's Church, Southsea, with a present:

Mr. and Mrs. **Francis Willink**, lalique bowl.

**1939** Register: Highfield, Mill Brow, Worsley.

**Francis A. Willink** M 14 Feb. 1891 Engineer, Colliery Director. Commandant Worsley Auxiliary Force

**Alma M. Willink** M 30 Oct. 1910 (sic) Voluntary Social Service Work

+ 3 servants

**1942:** *The Scotsman* published on 1 January **1942**.

*New Year's Honours:* Officers (O. B. E.)

Lieutenant-Colonel **Francis Arthur Willink**, Lancashire Home Guard.

**1959:** *Reading Standard* on 20 November **1959**:

A photograph with the caption:

*The illuminated crest and family tree of the **Willink** family is admired by the head boy and girl at **Willink** Secondary school, Burghfield, prizegiving. Mr. **Francis Willink** presented the awards.*

**1973:** WILL. Died 20 July **1973**. Lived at Highfield, Worsley. Probate granted London 26 November.

### **Alma Marion WILLINK**

**1909:** Birth of **Alma Marion Chignell**, daughter of Rev. Hendrick Chignell and Margaret Emma (Thomson) on 30 October **1909** in Chester.

**1911** census: 13 Abbey Street, Chester. (9 rooms)

Hendrick Chignell Head M 42 Minor Canon; Head Master Choir School, Chester Cath.

Margaret Emma Wife M 35 (married 6 years; 2 children)

Hendrick Dennis Son 3

**Alma Marion** Daur. 1

+ 3 servants

**1930:** She married **Francis Arthur Willink**, on 7 May **1930**, at Bucklow, Cheshire.

**1938:** Electoral registers. Hillfields, Burghfield.

**Willink, Francis Arthur**

**Willink, Alma Marion**

**1939** Register: Highfield, Mill Brow, Worsley.

**Francis A. Willink** M 14 Feb. 1891 Engineer, Colliery Director. Commandant Worsley Auxiliary Force

**Alma M. Willink** M 30 Oct. 1910 (sic) Voluntary Social Service Work

+ 3 servants

**1948:** Death of her father, Rev. Hendrick Chignell, on 21 June **1848** at Highfield, Mill Brow, Worsley.

**1949:** She held the office of *Justice of the Peace* (J.P.) for Manchester in **1949**.

**1981:** *The London Gazette* 3 April **1981**.

#### DEPUTY LIEUTENANT COMMISSIONS

Commissions signed by Sir William Downward, J.P., LL.D., Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Greater Manchester:

Wing Commander George Clapperton, O.B.E., D.F.C., 21 Maple Grove, Worsley, Manchester

Mrs. A. **Marion Willink**, M.A., 141 The Green, Worsley M28 4PA,

to be Deputy Lieutenants.

30th March **1981**.

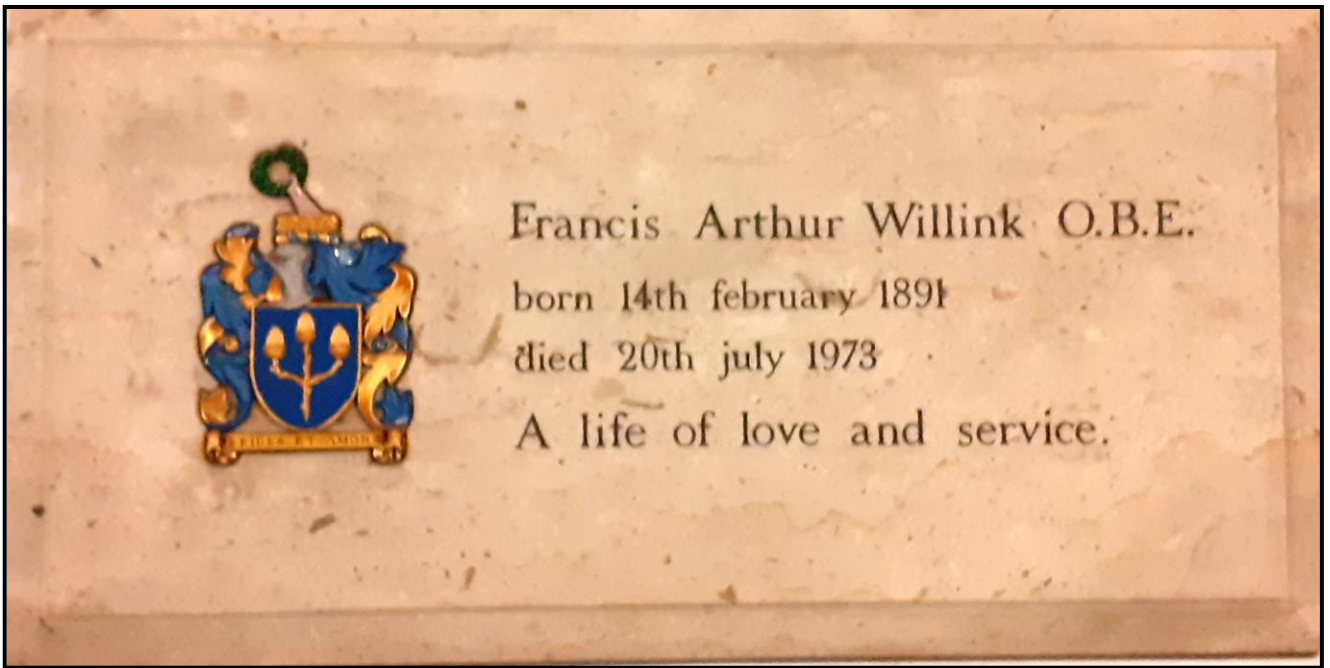
**2004:** Death of **Alma Marion Willink** on 31 December **2004**.

Prior to **2005:**

**Marion Willink** lived at *Chignell*, 141 The Green Worsley.







These plaques are fixed to the north wall of St. Mark's Church, Worsley.



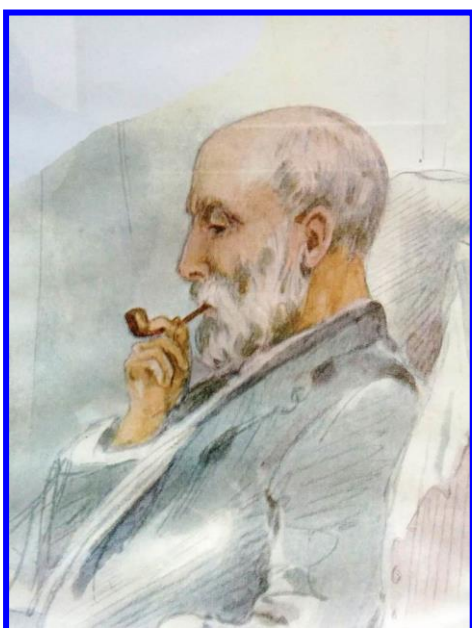
### The WILLINK Legacy



The Willink School is named after *Henry George Willink* (1851-1938) who lived much of his life at Hillfields on Burghfield Hill (now Guide Dogs for the Blind HQ). He was a pillar of the local community, as well as being a keen mountaineer and artist. Among many roles, he chaired the Berkshire Education Committee from its beginning and played a large part in shaping education in Berkshire, including being Vice-President of the Reading University in its early days.

By the 1940s, Hillfields had passed to the Dent family, near relatives of Willinks. In the 1950s Major Leonard Dent, who was also one of the first Governors of the school, suggested that the school should be named **The Willink School** in honour of **Henry George Willink**. The school opened on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1957 with 11 teachers and 245 students. The Hall, 3-storey and 2-storey block comprised the whole school, with the staff room being what is now called the Small Staff Room.

There have been just four Head teachers since the school opened: Mr Noel Jackson (1957-1980), Miss Mary Hulbert OBE (1980-1993), Mrs Barbara Wynn (1993-2007) and Mr Peter Fry (2007- ). The school now has about 1200 students, including 200 in Sixth Form, with around 75 teachers (not all full-time) and nearly 70 admin and other non-teaching staff.



### The WILLINK Leisure Centre

Built in 1997, the **Willink Leisure Centre** provides for both the school and the local community. Originally partially funded by local councils, the centre is now managed by Parkwood Community Leisure on behalf of the local authority. Facilities include a 25 metre indoor swimming pool, a fitness suite, sports hall and outdoor floodlit areas.

From Amazon:

**Henry George Willink: A Biography of H. G. Willink**  
1851 - 1938 Paperback - 24 July 2017

by Malcolm Keith Summers (Author)

