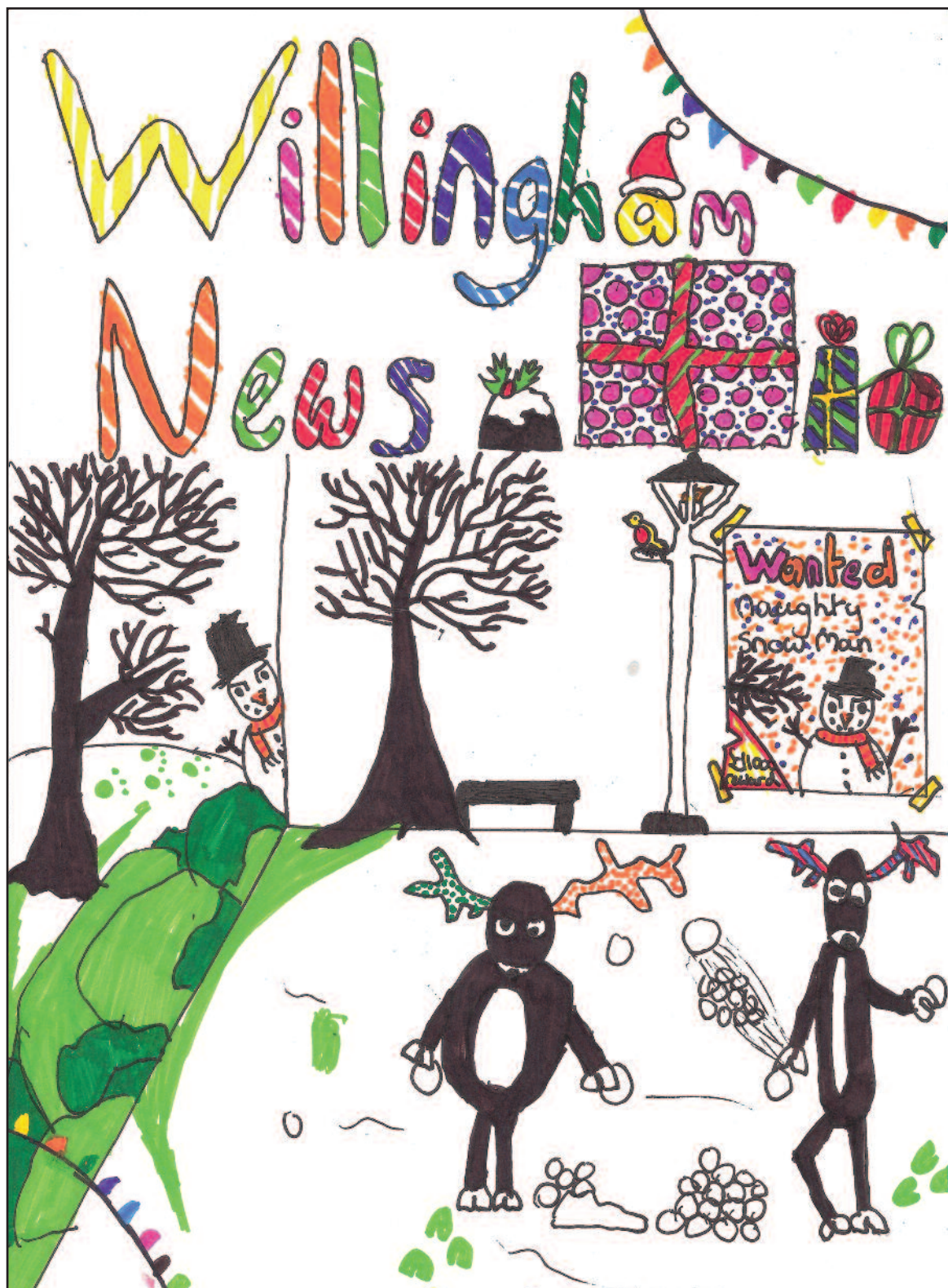


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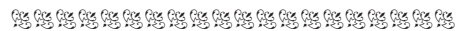
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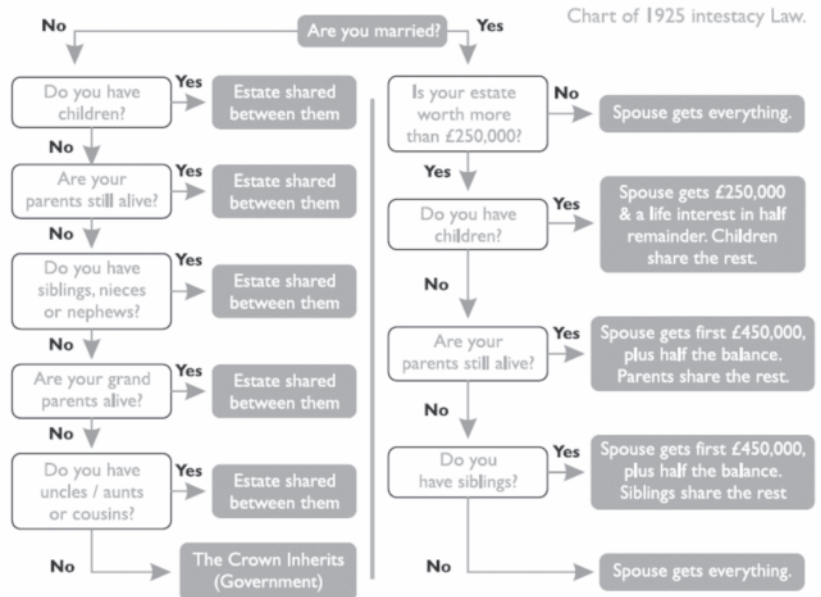
The Last Item on the Agenda?

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EDITORIAL

Christmas will soon be upon us and to celebrate we are pleased to publish the December edition with a specially designed cover. See page 5 for the details of the competition winners. We would also like to thank those readers who have chosen to use the magazine to send their Christmas greetings (page 9) and by doing so have also made a valuable donation to Magpas.

2014 has been a busy year with many activities each month for all of us to enjoy, and it is worth reflecting that we are fortunate to live in a village with so many opportunities. Next year will no doubt have lots more to offer, so don't forget to check *Willingham News* for all the details.

In the meantime the editorial team wishes everyone a safe and happy festive holiday.

Bin Collections – Wednesdays

Please note that from December – February, green bins will be collected monthly

3 December	Black
10 December	Blue and Green
17 December	Black
24 December	Blue only
31 December	No collection

Editors take every care to ensure the accuracy of content and undertake the right to edit material submitted.

Our PSCO (Police Community Support Officer) is Kerrie Harding.

Tel: 07736 086924


Email kerrie.harding@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Or Phone 101 for your local police station or contact Mark Rabel

Advertising

Advertising is sold on an annual basis for an insert into 12 issues beginning in January. Send any advertising queries or copy to: willinghamnews@btinternet.com, marking your e-mails Adverts. The *Willingham News* team wishes to thank all the advertisers for their support and interest. They play a vital role in maintaining this publication and also in our community as local businesses supplying goods and services. If you contact an advertiser, please mention that you saw their advertisement in *Willingham News*. Thank you all very much.

For the JANUARY issue: **Please note the deadline is 8 DECEMBER.** Please send material to the following email address: willinghamnews@btinternet.com. Please put *Willingham News* in the subject heading and, if possible, send copy and any photos as an email attachment NOT incorporated into the email. Paper copy may be left at the library.




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Christmas Cover

Many thanks to all the children who entered our competition to design the cover of this month's edition. We had lots of fantastic entries and our congratulations go to the winner, Katie Farrell, for her colourful and humorous design. Special commendations also go to the runners up, Eve Sawkins and Emily Morris, whose designs are shown below.



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Willingham Women's Institute

the WI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The next meeting will be on
Monday 8 December
at 7 30 pm in the Social Club

Christmas Party (Members Only)

New members are always welcome. Please contact Jacky on 261831 if you are interested. Come for a taster – we have some great meetings lined up:

Monday 12 January General Meeting and *Knitting with Wire* with Beryl Brookes

Monday 9 February *Robert Sayles Dig* – Alison Dickens

Monday 9 March *Origami* with Bobby Alecock

WI News

This year the Women's Institute is celebrating the centenary of its founding and WIs all around the UK have been holding various events. In Cambridgeshire, as well as an afternoon tea and a dinner, a ceremonial baton has been passed around the county visiting every WI, and a photograph has been taken of the members at each handover. The baton arrived in Willingham on Friday 31 October and was sent successfully on its way (see photo below).



Life Matters

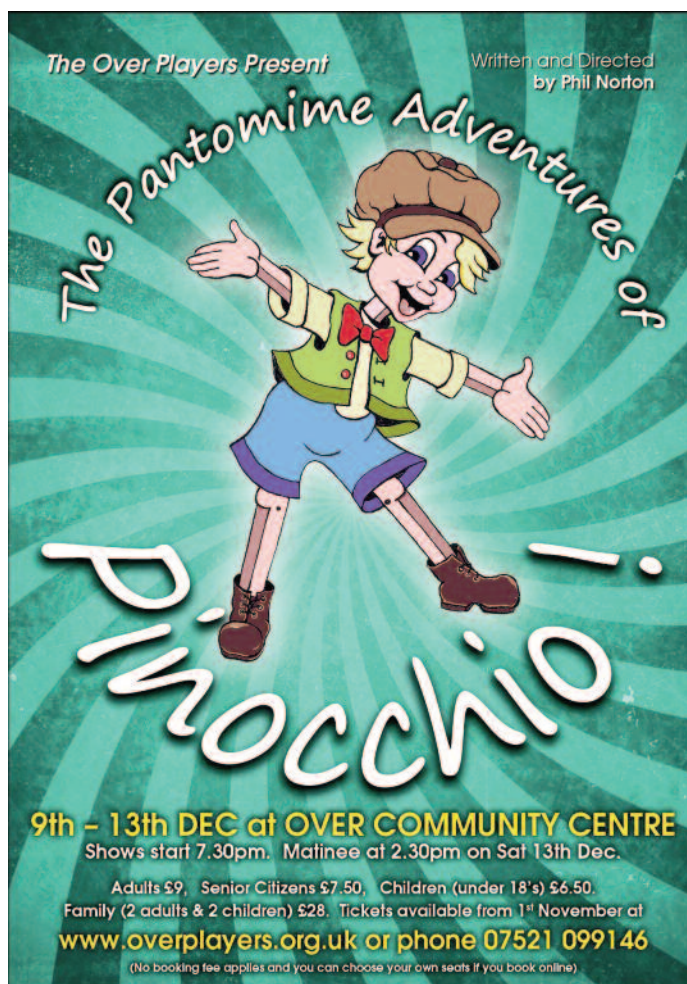
We all want to live life to the full, to grab every opportunity, make a difference, leave a lasting and worthwhile legacy. But somehow things don't always go as planned.

Life Matters is a series of events arranged by Willingham Baptist Church for all local men seeking something more from life.

12th December 2014 Food Glorious Food

4th February 2015 Curry and talk

Interested? Questions? Email us at: lifemattersformen@gmail.com



Willingham WEA

The Spring Term starts on **Monday 12 January** at 10 am in the Baptist Church Hall.

The course this term is *Life in Medieval Times*

Tutor – Karon Stanley

Course Fee – £48.00

For further information please ring Rosemary Mumford, Secretary, 01954 260934

Book Quiz

Christmas and other recipes from cooks. This time we've given initials of the authors to help you a bit.

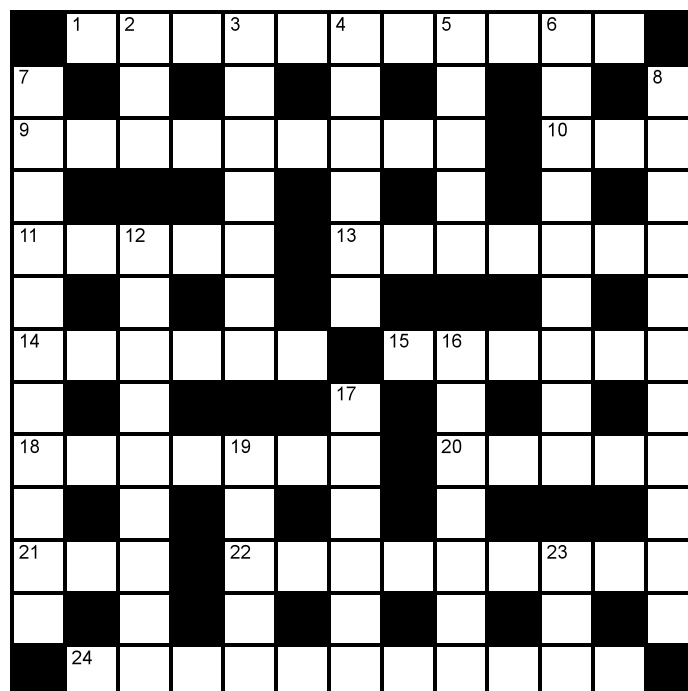
Answers on p10

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. <i>The Great British Bake Off: Christmas.</i> | L.K. |
| 2. <i>Plenty.</i> | Y.O. |
| 3. <i>Sweets Made Simple.</i> | M.H. |
| 4. <i>Crumb: the Baking Book.</i> | R.T. |
| 5. <i>Primrose Bakery Christmas.</i> | M.S. |
| 6. <i>Cook Now, Eat Later.</i> | M.B. |
| 7. <i>How to Drink at Christmas.</i> | V.M. |
| 8. <i>Christmas Food and Drink.</i> | A.B. |
| 9. <i>D----'s Happy Christmas.</i> | D.S. |
| 10. <i>The Hairy Bikers' 12 Days of Christmas.</i> | D.M. and S.K. |

Mixed Bag Christmas Crossword

by Willow

Solution on page 10



Across

- 1 Christmas in Germany (11)
- 9 His place was fully booked on Christmas Eve (9)
- 10 Model's put on spectacles as well (3)
- 11 Often nuisance is partly boredom (5)
- 13 Lively way to play music (3,4)
- 14 Walk wearily (6)
- 15 A very loud song for romance... (6)
- 18 ...in perfect circumstances (7)
- 20 To do with the kidneys (5)
- 21 Cabin's closed pointlessly (3)
- 22 First Christmas visitors (9)
- 24 Wise men; star gazers (11)

Down

- 2 One's out for a very long time (3)
- 3 Paying attention to (7)
- 4 Camelid bred for wool and meat (6)
- 5 Girl's working with bird (5)
- 6 Amuse; contemplate (9)
- 7 Carol's quiet evening? (6,5)
- 8 Titles bestowed by Queen at New Year (7,4)
- 12 Turns one's stomach (9)
- 16 Cambridgeshire village near Newmarket (7)
- 17 Mythical dragon-like creature (6)
- 19 Bright light on dinghy? (5)
- 23 Reading, Writing and Arithmetic (3)



WILLINGHAM GARDENING CLUB

Meetings are held at the Social Club on the first Monday of each month (except January and August) and start at 7 30 pm. There is usually a speaker on a subject of interest to gardeners and plant lovers and there is a plant raffle at each meeting.

The Club welcomes new members. Our annual subscription is a modest £12.50, though you may attend one meeting for £2. Simply come along or ring Celia (01954 261394).

Members' Christmas Party – Monday 1 December at 7 30 pm. Free to members, guests pay £5. Tickets can be collected on the door or by contacting Celia.

Next year's programme of outings is yet to be confirmed – details will be published in the club magazine and in *Willingham News*.

The Committee of the Club would like to wish all our members, and those who have supported us in 2014, a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Gardening Tips for December

1. Clear diseased fallen leaves from around roses and apply a compost mulch around the stem to prevent spores from black spot mixing with soil. Do not compost any leaves with black spot.
2. Insulate outside taps and turn off the water supply to them. Store irrigation system hoses in sheds or stores.
3. Raise patio pots onto bricks or pot feet to prevent pot soil from becoming saturated. Insulate pots containing tender plants with bubble wrap or hessian to prevent frost damage.
4. Watch out for slip hazards on paths and patios caused by mould or algae growth. Apply patio magic which will kill such growths without the need to hose down.
5. If you have heavy soil in your borders or vegetable plot it is worth digging it over to let the frosts in to break up the soil.
6. Keep your bird feeders topped up.
7. Apply grease bands to apple and pear tree trunks to prevent female winter moths from laying eggs. The bands are sticky but otherwise organic.

Lost and Found

FOUND in Church Street – rustic carved wooden walking stick. Tel 261293

Old Willingham

Here is a wintery scene. Apart from the church in the background you wouldn't recognize it as Willingham, as none of the buildings in the foreground remain today. This photo is taken from the corner of Church Street and High Street (Stock's Corner), probably in or around 1897. The building on the corner of Church Lane was a bakery then as now but, as so often happened in those days of thatch, it burned down in the early 1900s taking the house next door with it. Although quaint, many of these old cottages were very small and lacking in amenities. The Edwardian houses that replaced them would have been considered luxurious by comparison.

See more photos at www.oldwillingham.com

If you have stories or memories about this picture, please contact Jon Edney, 31 High Street or oldwill@oldwillingham.com



Important bin collection changes

Green bin collections

Green bin collections will be moving to a monthly collection during the winter months when far less garden waste is put out by residents. The change is being made for December, January and February collections only, with fortnightly collections remaining in place for the rest of the year.

Christmas collections

We're asking residents to make an early note of Christmas bin collections as changes this year will affect all residents, with some collections moving forward as well as back. Collections will be made up until 27 December, break until 4 January and return to normal on 5 January.

- Please ensure bins are put out by 6am on the day of collection
- You can recycle all your Christmas cards and wrapping paper in the blue bin
- You can compost all leftover food (cooked and raw) and real Christmas trees (cut up) in the green bin
- Excess blue bin material will routinely be collected when placed alongside the blue bin in a returnable container or cardboard box
- Excess black bin waste will be collected if placed alongside the bin on the first scheduled black bin collection after the New Year only.

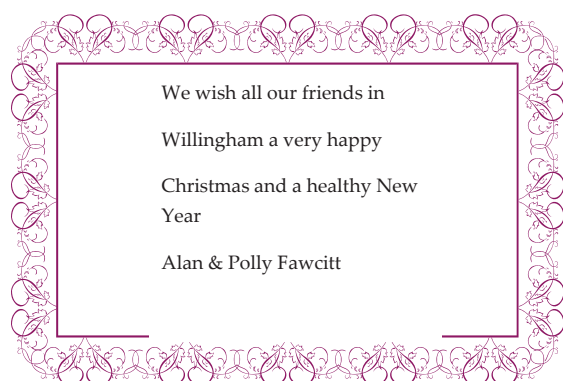
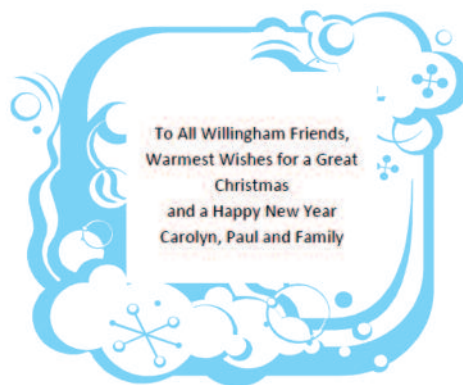
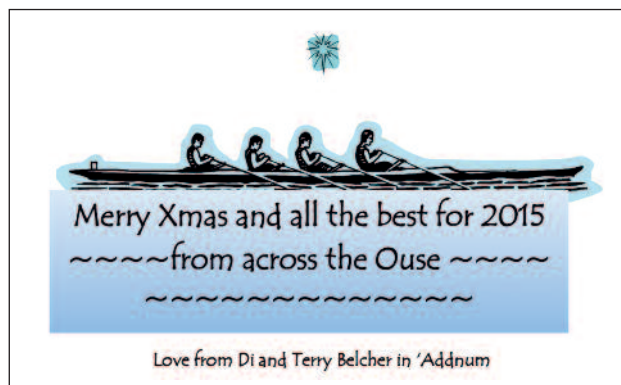
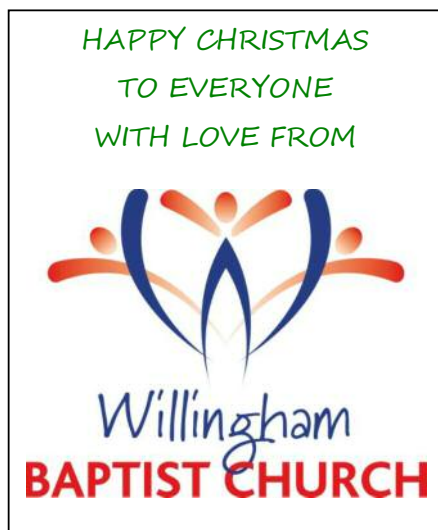
Want to know more?

For more information and to see the collection calendar:

- Visit www.scams.gov.uk/bin-changes
- See the latest edition of the South Cambs Magazine
- Call 03450 450 063



Christmas Greetings



Each month this year we have published a piece to commemorate the centenary of the start of the Great War. Our final piece has a humorous tone, but as we approach a time of feasting, it should perhaps give us all pause for thought.

World War 1 Rationing

Rationing during World War 1 was introduced relatively late into the conflict. Limited food restrictions and voluntary rationing had been attempted but were unsuccessful, as those with money could purchase supplies on the black market whilst the poor went without. Almost all of Britain's food imports came across the Atlantic from Canada and USA, and ships were at the mercy of the German U-boat campaign. By 1918, national food stocks were running dangerously low and rationing had to be introduced in February.

To assist housewives with avoiding waste and cooking with limited ingredients, the *Win-the-War* Cookbook was published with approval of the Ministry of Food. The foreword was a message to the women of Britain that efforts on the home-front were as important as in those in the trenches, and they were exhorted to 'beat the Germans in the larder and the kitchen.' The book provided useful tips such as how to build a hay-box cooker, encouraged people to 'masticate more', and promised 'complete victory if you eat less bread.'

One of the strangest sounding recipes in the book was for Fish Sausages, an unlikely sounding combination, but the finished dish was actually a kind of fish croquette made with cooked fish and rice rolled into a sausage shape. The quantities for 4 people would be more suited to today's fasting diet, containing just 2 cups of fish and 2 spoonfuls of rice; however the book got around the problem of tiny portions by recommending serving the dish after a first course of porridge! Who knows how many households actually sampled this delicious dinner menu, but the sacrifices made on the home-front were ultimately successful as food supplies did not run out and were distributed fairly. Rich households found out for the first time what it was like to be hungry and the poor were probably better fed than they had been before the war.

Answers to FOWL quiz: 1. Lizzie Kamenetzky. 2. Yotam Ottolenghi. 3. Miss Hope. 4. Ruby Tandoh. 5. Martha Swift. 6. Mary Berry 7. Victoria Moore. 8. Arabella Boxer. 9. Delia Smith. 10. David Myers and Si King.

Answers to crossword:

Across: 1 Weihnachten, 9 Innkeeper, 10 Too, 11 Ennui, 13 Con brio, 14 Trudge, 15 Affair, 18 Ideally, 20 Renal, 21 Hut, 22 Shepherds, 24 Astronomers.

Down: 2 Eon, 3 Heeding, 4 Alpaca, 5 Heron, 6 Entertain, 7 Silent Night, 8 Honours List, 12 Nauseates, 16 Fordham, 17 Wyvern, 19 Laser, 23 RRR.

Two generous grants from FECA for Willingham projects

At its first meeting under new Chair, Eileen Wilson, the Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) of the Fen Edge Community Association (FECA) responded to requests for financial aid submitted by Caroline Hyde for Willingham Youth Trust and by Catharine Atkins for Willingham Action Group. These requests were for equipment for Willingham's new youth club and the new QEII playground facility respectively, and each received a generous grant of £500. The Committee regarded these as eminently deserving projects well within FECA's remit 'to promote the benefits of the catchment area of Cottenham Village and its neighbourhoods'. Willingham-based F&GP members Graham Mumby and Paul Knighton (who, after presenting the cases, absented themselves from the discussions and voting) gave their thanks on behalf of the village, especially the hard-working volunteers who have taken these two projects from ideas on paper to tangible reality within such a remarkably short period.

It is worth noting that FECA's funds are largely generated from within Cottenham, home of the majority of the committee members and the most active fundraisers. This is especially true of Alan Leeks who recently resigned the F&GP chair to take up the chairmanship of Cottenham Parish Council. So, thank you Cottenham! This wider community support also helps to convince larger donors of the validity of these major local projects.

Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 13 December

2 30 pm – 5pm at the Ploughman Hall

Christmas Peal of Bells.

The Parish Church bells will ring on Saturday 20 December from about 10 am – 1 pm.



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Opening Hours

Monday	Closed	
Tuesday	10 am – 1 pm	2 – 5 pm
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday		4 – 7 pm
Friday	10 am – 1 pm	
Saturday	10 am – 1 pm	

The library will close for Christmas at 5 pm on Tuesday 23 December and reopen on Friday 2 January.

Library News

Engage in the Afternoon

Come and join in with these special sessions for adults on the first Wednesday of each month from 2 to 3 30 pm. There are speakers, tea/coffee/biscuits and a chance to change books.

In November Anne Kirkman came to speak about World War I and its effects on people from Willingham and Over following the enormously successful exhibition put on by the Friends over Feast weekend. There was a good turn-out and everyone enjoyed the true stories, some amusing and some sad, about local families.

These talks are free but donations are welcomed towards refreshments.

Future Talks:

- **Wednesday 3 December – *What's in a Name?***

Anthony Poulton-Smith, freelance journalist and author, will be speaking about the etymology of names. The talk not only covers the origins of towns and villages but also hills, streams, districts, fields, streets, and even public houses

Advent Adventure

24 windows around the village will tell the story of Christmas over 24 days. Each day a new window will be revealed showing part of the Christmas story.

Pre Launch at the School Christmas Fayre: 30th November

Launch: 1st December at The Porterhouse crossroads from 6.30pm when the first window will be unveiled.

Christmas Eve: 10am-12noon The final window will be revealed at the Baptist Church.

Refreshments will be available with donations going towards Willingham Youth Trust. Photos of all windows will be on display.

More details in the December issue of the Willingham News and online at willinghamlife.org

Leaflets with addresses of all the windows will be available later this month in various locations around the village.



Tuesday Story Times for Under 5s

Story Times are on the first and third Tuesdays of the month during term-time from 2 to 2 30 pm. Upcoming dates are **2 and 16 December**. Parents/Carers must accompany children. Attendances have dropped at the sessions recently so why not give it a try? It's fun, free and you will be supporting your local library!

Library Mobile App



Sorcer Mobile, is a library application for mobile devices that lets you check your account anywhere and at any time. With Sorcer Mobile you can see at a glance your current loans and reservations, including your borrowing history and any outstanding charges. You can also renew your loans easily. The app is free to download to your mobile device.

New Books at Willingham Library

The library has two sets of new books for you to choose from:

Quick Picks

The Quick Pick collection reflects the top ten national best sellers. These are brand new paperbacks which can't be requested – this means that there will always be a good selection on the shelf in your local library ready for you to pop in and borrow.

Rotating Collections

These collections of new fiction and non-fiction books on a theme swap around among Cambridgeshire's libraries every 6 weeks. At Willingham we currently have 'Islands' – come and see!

Merry Christmas to all!



Willingham Library is looking for Self Service and Library Access Support volunteers. If you can

help by giving a few hours per week and can commit to a minimum period of 6 months to support our library staff we would be delighted to hear from you.

The main tasks include helping with library stock, processing donations, shelving books and tidying shelves. Also, you could assist with helping customers use the self service equipment, photocopier, logging on to a computer, placing a request and accessing the catalogue.

In this varied role you can also support events in the library and sometimes help to facilitate the use of the library outside of opening hours for community use. Other tasks can include assisting in management of magazine donations and helping us to promote our eBooks, eAudiobooks, eNewspapers and eMagazines services.

For more information please contact Elaine Mountfort, Area Volunteer Coordinator:

Email: elaine.mountfort@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Mobile phone number: 07917 557984, Answer phone number: 01223 706352



EVENTS AT THE CHURCHES

Parish Church

Bubbles – is held in the Octagon every Friday during school term time from 10 – 11 30 am. Bubbles is for pre-school children accompanied by parents or carers. It offers a time to meet others and be creative.



Messy Church – is a fun session for the whole family, involving all the Churches in Willingham. It is held in the Octagon and Church. There are different craft activities, a story time and a time to eat together. Come with your children to enjoy. Contact Linda at revlin@me.com or 263187. The next Messy Church is on **13 December**, 3 30 – 5 pm.

time4T – a friendly get-together that is open to everyone every Friday 2 – 4 pm in the Octagon. Good company. £1 includes tea and biscuits. More information available from Alan (261349), Rosemary (205718) or David and Mary (261353).

Cake Stall – at 10 am on the first Saturday of each month. It is held in the church porch and proceeds go towards the work and upkeep of St Mary and All Saints.



Salvation Army

Coffee Morning: 8 December 10 30 am – 12 noon. Please join us for refreshments and a chance to chat to old and new friends.

Luncheon Club: at 12 30 pm on **4 December** and **18 December** (Christmas Dinner). Price £4. Please ring Daphne on 01954 260568 to book in advance if possible.

Ducklings Parent and Toddler Group: 9 45 – 11 45 am on **2, 9, and 16 December**, with crafts, singing and stories. £1 per session.

‘Nimble Fingers’ Craft Meeting: 2 – 4 pm on **1, 8, and 15 December**. Bring your crafts and join with others. Learn the skills of embroidery. Tea, coffee, and good company provided.

Charity Lunch

The December charity lunch supporting the Air Ambulance will be held on **6 December** in the Octagon at 1 pm.

This will be our annual Christmas Lunch with mulled wine and mince pies. We would be grateful for any contributions of other food for a ‘bring and share’. If you haven’t already indicated what you would be prepared to bring please phone David or Mary on 261353.



Willingham
BAPTIST CHURCH

George Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LJ
info@willinghambaptist.org www.willinghambaptist.org

The church and village welcomed Paul and Fiona Joel at a packed service in October. Paul is the new minister at the Baptist church and most weekday mornings can be found in the new church office. Please give Paul a call on 07955 071160 and drop in for a coffee. Photo shows Linda



Liversidge giving a word of welcome to Paul and Fiona on the left with Richard Lewis, the regional minister, on the right.

Advent Adventure – Are you ready? – See separate advert on page 11, and website for details – don’t miss out!

Life Matters: For all men. **12 December** – *Food Glorious Food*. Come for a Christmas social event of blind tastings, hottest chilli challenge, guess the meat, weird and wonderful, vintage or not, food quiz. Contact us at lifemattersformen@gmail.com

CAPmoney: Already worrying about the size of the credit card bill? This is a nationwide free course on managing your money – next course **Monday 26 January** – more details on the website.

TOPS Toddler group: Tuesdays at 9 45 am for 18 months plus in the church.

Little Notes: Thursdays 9 45 am – music and actions for all children aged 0-4 and their parents or carers.

Bumps, Babies and Beyond: Thursdays 10 15 – 11 15 am – free-play, refreshments and a chance to meet other parents or carers. For all pre-school children aged 0-4.

Open Door Coffee Morning: Wednesdays 10 – 11 30 am. Chat over tea and coffee. All welcome.

Kids’ Friday Club: Fridays at 6 30 – 7 30 pm primary school age year 1 upwards. Action packed hour with crafts, games, songs, and drama all based around a bible story. (Last session 5 December)

Men’s Breakfast: **13 December** 7 45 am in the Baptist church for an epic Christmas cooked breakfast. Please contact Pete Sacre for more information – 01954 261655, sacrepete@yahoo.co.uk

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN WILLINGHAM

ST MARY AND ALL SAINTS
CHURCH STREET, WILLINGHAM
www.willinghamchurch.org

7 December

9 00 am BCP Communion Service
 10 30 am Family Service
 4 00 pm Christingle Service

13 December

3 30 – 5 pm Messy Church – for all the family (Saturday)

14 December

10 00 am Communion Service

16 December

7 00 pm Carols by Candlelight (Tuesday)

21 December

9 00 am Communion Service
 10 30 am Morning Service (Nativity)

25 December

10 00 am Christmas Day Family Service
 10 40 am Short Communion Service

28 December

10 30 am Communion Service

We have a variety of styles of worship and we hope you will find one that suits you. You will be warmly welcomed whenever you come.

9 am Traditional – These are traditional Church of England Communion and Morning Prayer services. There is no Sunday School provision for children at this service.

10 30 am Informal and Child friendly

Modern worship with Sunday Clubs for children and young people in the Octagon during term-time. On the 1st Sunday of the month (and 5th when there is one) we stay together in church for a 'Family Service'. Children are always very welcome. Fidget bags are available for use in the pews.

If you know of anyone who is ill or who for some other reason would like a visit, please let the Vicar (Linda) know.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
 19 Needingworth Road, St Ives
www.sacredheart-stives.org

Weekend mass times:

St Ives: Saturdays at 5 pm; Sundays at 8 am and 11 am
 Bar Hill Church Centre: Saturdays at 6 pm

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER PRAYING FOR THE PEOPLE OF WILLINGHAM

In December
 West Fen Road, Westmeadow Close, Whites Path,
 Wilford Furlong
 will be in our thoughts.



WILLINGHAM SALVATION ARMY
 Silver Street, Willingham CB24 5LF
 01954 261108

7 December

Evening Worship with
 Major Thea Wood

14 December

Evening Worship and carol service
 with Major Thea Wood

21 December

Evening Worship

28 December

Evening Worship with
 Major Thea Wood

All at 5 pm. All welcome.



George Street, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5LJ
info@willinghambaptist.org www.willinghambaptist.org

7 December

9 00 am A Participating Community – *Traditional Service*
 10 30 am A Participating Community – *Contemporary Service*
 6 00 pm Advent – *Evening Worship*

14 December

10 30 am A Priestly Community – *Family Worship***
 6 00 pm Advent – *Evening Worship*

21 December

10 30 am Christmas – *Altogether service*
 6 00 pm Carol Service

25 December

10 30 am Christmas Theme – *Family Worship***

28 December

10 30 am A Loving Community – *Family Worship***
 6 00 pm Prayer Focus – *Evening Worship*

(**= Sunday club for children)

MOTHERS' UNION



Our next monthly meeting will be on
Monday 26 January at 2 30 pm.

We welcome Doreen Young will be
 giving a demonstration on *Flowers to Brighten your Home*.
 Also Bring and Buy stall.

All are welcome to join us.
 Subscription now due £16.

Autumn News from the Hanson – RSPB Wetland Project

At Ouse Fen we're passionate about creating a home for nature and the partnership project with Hanson is doing just that by transforming Needingworth Quarry into a vast wetland nature reserve.

A bumper summer for wildlife

With the breeding season coming to an end it is time to review the birdlife successes and failures on the reserve this year. Well, bitterns, our top target species did very well with 6 booming males, double last year's figure, and in July it seemed that young were on the wing across the reserve. This is above all expectations and bodes well for the future years as gravel extraction continues and new habitats are created. All the work done by our sterling volunteers – from pre-dawn monitoring of boomers, to sowing and planting reed plugs, pays dividends when a young bittern flies from the reeds right over your head.

We've also had a large increase in bearded reedlings with at least 24 pairs, up from nine last year, their pinging calls echoing across the reeds accompanied by the chatter of reed and sedge warblers. Overhead, sky-dancing marsh harriers had a reasonable year – six pairs raised at least 14 young. Barn owls had a great year with all four boxes holding three well grown chicks in the first brood, with more to come. On a sunny day it was a great place to watch hobbies hunting dragonflies over the reedbeds too.

The black-headed gull colony did very well at Barleycroft Lake with 274 pairs and eight pairs of common terns. Breeding wader numbers were also plentiful with 23 lapwing pairs and 12 redshank. Duck numbers and variety were good, including a pair of garganey present through the period. At Hanson's Needingworth settlement lagoons up to 4 turtle dove could be heard 'on-territory', welcome news alongside shocking declines nationally.

It has been a good year for butterflies, the nettles and thistles have provided caterpillar food and nectar for hundreds of small tortoiseshells, peacocks and the more occasional painted ladies and clouded yellows. On the mammal front we have seen Chinese water deer, water shrew and lots of water voles, so the new wetlands are providing secure habitats on a large scale. There have been occasional otter sightings too.

Get set for winter

Autumn wildfowl numbers have been building through October and November when thousands of ducks and geese join us to spend the winter here. The bird flocks attract raptors, particularly peregrines. One of the best ways to spot one is to look for lapwing and plover flocks rising from the fields and margins. There are rarities too from time to time – great white egrets seem to be making a home here, with one or two around the reedbeds throughout the autumn.

Our guided tours have come to a close for the current season but please keep an eye out for new events next year. For up to date reserve information visit our webpages at www.rspb.org.uk/ousefen.

Cbris Hudson

Tel: RSPB Cambs & The Fens Area Office 01954 233260
e-mail: ousefen@rspb.org.uk

Willingham Photography Club

Our Club meets every month in Willingham Baptist Tabernacle. We aim to learn more about photography and to enjoy ourselves. The next meeting will be on

15 December at 8 pm

Workshop *Painting with light*

Coffee

Lens and filter tutorial

Introduction to next month's assignment – *Traditions and traditional*

Technical questions and answers

Please bring your camera and some Christmas goodies to share

We cordially invite anyone who takes photographs to come along and see what is on offer. The level of your expertise does not matter; nor does the nature of your camera.



Contact numbers: Anita Salmon 01954 260875

Christopher Cross 01954 260790

In the meantime, do have a look at our website on

www.WillinghamPhotoClub.org.uk



FLOOD EMERGENCY CONTACTS

In the event of flooding, we recommend you contact the specified authorities involved in dealing with emergencies, which are generally as follows:

Police

Responsibility: Co-ordinate the emergency services in a major flood incident and help with evacuation of people from their homes where it is necessary.

Contact: Dial 999 only in an emergency, dial 101 for non-emergency.

Fire & Rescue Service

Responsibility: Respond to all emergency incidents as required. Assist public with personnel and equipment where a need is identified. They may also pump out floodwater (Contact your local service to ask about this. There may be a charge for this service).

Contact: Dial 999 only in an emergency, dial 101 for non-emergency.

The Environment Agency (EA)

Responsibilities: Issues flood warnings for flooding from rivers, the sea and ground water and deals with emergency repairs and blockages on main rivers. The Environment Agency is responsible for building, maintaining and operating flood defences and for issuing flood warnings to the public, other flood responding organisations and the media.

Contact: Flood line 0845 988 1188 service and Incident Hotline on 0800 80 70 60. (You can listen to recorded flood warning information for your area or speak to an operator for advice 24 hours a day).

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Highways

Responsibilities: Places flood warning signs on roads, organises road closures and diversions and clears blockages on highway drainage systems. Work with the police, fire and rescue services and the Environment Agency to co-ordinate responses during severe flooding. Deal with road closures and disruption to social services. Investigate disruption caused by overflowing drains.

Contact: 0345 045 5200 (Option 3) or out of hours contact the police.

Anglian Water

Responsibilities: Deals with blocked main sewers, and investigates issues with overflowing sewers.

Contact: 03457 145 145

Pastoral Letter

Advent

The 'average response time' is a term used by various services to show how much time they need to respond when needed. In case of the emergency services it can be a matter of minutes, in other situations the waiting time can be much longer. Those responding to the 999 calls must be alert at any time.

'Be ready, dressed for service, and keep your lamps lit, like people waiting for their master to return from the wedding. As soon as he comes and knocks they will open the door to him. Happy are those servants whom the master finds wide awake when he comes.' (Luke 12.35).

The early Christian communities had this sense of alertness with regard to the second coming of Jesus. They expected the Lord's return at any time. Now after two thousand years of waiting, we have lost this urgency and spiritual readiness. Advent (from the Latin word *advenio*, meaning 'to come') is the period of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ. This solemn commemoration of the first coming of Jesus, that took place in Bethlehem two thousand years ago reminds us of His second coming that will take place at the end of the world. The second coming of Jesus is possible because the first one has already taken place. Advent reminds us that whether the Master's coming is near or not, we have to be ready. This readiness should not be the result of fear but of genuine love for the Master. Fear only makes us anxious and afraid, while love fills us with joy.

A tourist came across a very interesting place. At first sight, the property seemed to be abandoned, but the order he noticed all around indicated that there had to be someone who took care of it all. As he looked around, he noticed an old man. He was a gardener. A short conversation took place between them. 'How long have you been working here?' the tourist asked. '24 years' - the gardener answered. 'How often do the owners of this wonderful house come here?' the visitor continued. 'It has been 12 years since they were last here. Usually I am here alone. People don't come here very often' the gardener answered. 'But this garden and house are kept in exemplary order. The owner of this house could come and live here even if he were to arrive tomorrow' the surprised tourist said. 'Not tomorrow dear sir, not tomorrow, but he could come and live here today!' the gardener replied.

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. It is a time of expectation, hope and joy. Advent is an opportunity to make a fresh start, to make a renewed effort in the way we live our lives. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus, our minds often turn to the many preparations we have to make; buying and wrapping gifts, decorating trees, planning parties and family gatherings, and so on. Time can pass so quickly that we can easily forget about the real meaning of Advent, and we arrive at Christmas Day without preparing ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' birthday. Advent is a time when we are called to take stock of our lives, to decide where we need to make changes and to resolve to do whatever is necessary in order to look forward to the Lord's coming with joy and peace.

Father Edward Tredota

Rosie in Stitches

Seasons greetings to all our customers and supporters. The Friends of the Rosie wish everyone a prosperous and healthy 2015.

With your help, we are making the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies.

If you have any spare polyester toy stuffing or yarn we are in urgent need of your donation.

Follow us on the Rosie in Stitches facebook page. New knitted clothes and toys for sale on our website www.rosieinstitches.org.uk

This winter we have a small display at the Tea Bar, Outpatient Department, Rosie Hospital at Addenbrooke's.

Our next stalls will be:

Bar Hill Community Market on

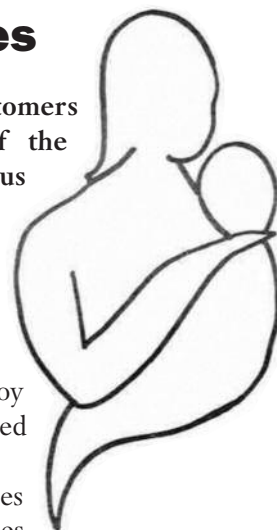
Saturday 6 December 10 30 am to 2 pm

selling discount baby clothes, new toys and gifts for Christmas.

Cambourne Business Park Christmas Market

10 December 12 noon to 2 pm

selling toys and gifts for Christmas. The organisers have arranged for the Salvation Army to provide some festive music.



swavesey
community choir

Christmas Concert

**GEOFFREY BUSH - CHRISTMAS CANTATA
CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND SONGS**

**SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER, 7.30 PM
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, SWAVESEY**

Tickets £7, £5 (concessions)
under 18s free
Box Office 07881 824095

Swaveseycommunitychoir@gmail.com
Swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk



WILLINGHAM SURGERY & LONGSTANTON BRANCH SURGERY

Reception Tel: Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 207600 Dispensary 260073

District Nurse Team: 01223 726469 Option 2

Health Visitors: 01954 207612

Out of hours cover: Ring 111

Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Our surgeries will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

When the surgery is closed please ring 111.

Please remember that Accident and Emergency is intended only for life threatening conditions or if you are likely to need an X-ray. In most circumstances you should ring 111 and you will be directed to the correct service. Please help our emergency services to help those most in need and save yourself a very long wait in the emergency department.

Doctors and staff wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday and New Year

The last date for ordering your repeat prescriptions in time for the Christmas holidays will be Monday 22 December. The last date for collection of medicines will be **Wednesday 24 December** by 1 pm at Longstanton or by 6 pm at Willingham.

Please ensure that you order your medicines in plenty of time. To prevent wastage please only order those items you need from your repeat medication list.

Why not visit our Pharmacy and stock up with over the counter remedies for your medicine cabinet before the Christmas holidays. Our staff can advise you.

Christmas Lucky Squares in aid of MAGPAS £1 each. Available from Reception in Willingham and Longstanton surgeries. Numerous prizes include food hampers, bottles, chocolates, and other Christmas goodies. Please support this worthy cause by either donating prizes or purchasing a Lucky Square. Many thanks.

CARERS SUPPORT Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 10 December** from 2 pm – 4 30 pm at Willingham surgery. For more information phone Karen at the surgery.

The Friends and Family Patient Satisfaction Survey introduced by the government has now been extended to include general practice. We have been issued with short questionnaires which will be available for you to complete when you attend our surgeries. We are sorry that we have to ask you to do so many surveys, but the information gathered from them is intended to help us maintain and improve our services for you. We hope that you will be sufficiently pleased with the service we offer to say that you would be extremely likely to recommend us to your friends and family!

Acknowledgements Our thanks go to the friends and family of Mr Alan Fakes who made donations to our Surgery Equipment Fund in his memory. Our vaccination fridge at Longstanton Branch Surgery recently broke down and our Equipment Fund meant we were able to immediately place an order for a replacement which was delivered the next day.

Cynthia Bidwell – Practice Manager

WILLINGHAM SURGERY NORMAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	8 30 – 1 00	2 30 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 6 00
Tuesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 5 30
Ante Natal/Baby Clinic		2 00 – 4 00
Wednesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 7 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	4 30 – 7 00
Thursday	8 30 – 1 00	Closed from 1 00 pm
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	Half day
Friday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Appointments	8 30 – 11 00	3 00 – 5 30
Emergencies		4 00 – 6 00

WILLINGHAM PHARMACY Tel: 01954 261787 NORMAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	8 30 – 1 00	2 30 – 6 30
Tuesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 00
Wednesday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 7 00
Thursday	8 30 – 1 00	CLOSED
Friday	8 30 – 1 00	2 00 – 6 30

NEW – Chiropodist/Podiatrist available Mondays at Willingham Medical Practice

Mrs Casey A Javed BSc (Hons) Pod SRCh MChS

The Foot Care Clinic - Willingham

**Telephone 01480 464507/07807 505534 for
appointments/queries**

www.stiveschiropody.co.uk

From the Parish Council

www.willingham-pc.org.uk

Major Projects:

As any of you that have employed builders will know, time estimates tend to be somewhat elastic. We had hoped to have the new youth building open this summer, but for very good reasons it was not possible. However, the good news is that it is now very close to completion and, fingers crossed, will be ready before the end of the year. There is also good progress on the purchase of the old traveller site on Meadow Road with contracts due to be exchanged within the same time scale. There is slightly less good news on the QE2 play equipment project which despite the best endeavours of the Parish Council and Willingham Action Group is still a long way short of the funding target.

External Authorities:

There are many services provided to the village over which the Parish Council has no control. But that need not stop us lobbying about them, which is precisely what we have been doing. There has been concern for some time about the security and robustness of the electricity supply. A very useful dialogue has ensued with UK Power Networks resulting in the upgrading of equipment and, very importantly, improved tree maintenance. Most of the short outages are caused by tree branches striking the overhead lines, particularly in wet and windy weather. Keeping the trees pruned is a major task which we are promised will be done.

So far, we have had less success with the Environment Agency. A meeting has taken place with them to explain the problems that are being caused and will be caused in the future by their refusal to clear the lode. The meeting resulted in a further refusal. We have, therefore, written to their chief executive, with copies to Downing Street, making absolutely clear the current and potential future problems resulting from their inaction. Of course, this is all about money. A stitch in time comes to mind as do photographs of Mr Cameron wading through the Somerset Lodes. We will continue lobbying on your behalf.

The Recreation Ground:

As the evenings get darker the use of the Recreation Ground for organised training events becomes more difficult. Responding to a request from users, the Parish Council has replaced the old floodlights with new LEDs. They are safer, brighter and a lot more energy efficient.

There are also plans to install a defibrillator which, if possible, will be made available for general use. Sadly, there are a few youths in the village that seem to get pleasure out of spoiling public equipment and buildings that you pay for. Please tell us if you know who they are and we will do our very best to make them see sense.

Crime:

Talking of crime, the village remains a relatively peaceful place to live. However, we are disturbed to hear of some scams which target the old and vulnerable including people posing as police officers to gain details of credit cards and pin numbers. A police officer will never ask for these details. Stay safe, just say no, and may you have a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Contact Details:

Your current Parish Councillors and their contact details (in alphabetical order) are:-

Mr A Cook (Chairman of the Council)	01954 260325
Dr R Croucher (Halls Lead Councillor)	01954 261113
Mr N Harris	07792 611226
Mr D Jacques	01954 261353
Mr P King (Vice Chairman)	01954 260780
Mr B Kirkman (Greens & Boundaries Lead Councillor)	01954 260393
Mr D Law (Planning Committee Chairman)	01954 202188
Mr R Manning	01954 261235
Mr S Mellows (Cemetery Lead Councillor)	01954 270063
Mr A Slater	01954 261455
Mr J Smith (Leisure & Amenities Lead Councillor)	01954 261141
Mrs J Vincent-Pilsworth	01954 260929
Mr J Watson	01954 200245

Meeting dates are published on the website, the notice board outside the public hall in the High Street, at the library, and are listed below. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak briefly or ask questions. Names will be taken down at the beginning of each meeting together with the electoral register number to ensure everyone has a fair chance to speak within the allowed time (15 minutes in total for all speakers – 3 mins max per person).

Meeting Dates: Wednesdays 3 December, 7 January, 4 February. The meetings are held in the Octagon behind St Mary and All Saints Church and start at 7 30 pm.

The parish council office is open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1 pm, except Bank Holidays and there is an answer-phone service outside office hours.

The contact details are: Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP.

Tel. 01954-261027: E-mail email@willinghampc.org.uk

Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell

Assistant: Mrs Halina Szulakowska

VILLAGE DIARY

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Mon 1 Dec	Christmas Party (Members Only)	Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p8
Tue 2 Dec	Story Time for Under 5s	The Library	The Library	2 – 2 30 pm, see p11
Wed 3 Dec	<i>What's in a Name?</i> with Anthony Poulton-Smith	Engage in the Afternoon	The Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p11
Wed 3 Dec	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p17
Thu 4 Dec	Luncheon Club	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	12 30 pm, see p12
Fri 5 Dec	Christmas Quiz Night	Cricket Club	Social Club	7 15 pm See Nov issue, p15
Sat 6 Dec	Cake Stall	Parish Church	SMAS Porch	10 am, see p12
Sat 6 Dec	Christmas Fayre	Phoenix School	Phoenix School	10 am – 1 pm
Sat 6 Dec	Stall	Rosie in Stitches	Bar Hill Community Market	10 30 am – 2 pm, see p15
Sat 6 Dec	Charity Lunch	For the Air Ambulance	Octagon	1 pm, see p12
Mon 8 Dec	Coffee Morning	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	10 30 am - 12 noon, see p12
Mon 8 Dec	Christmas Party (Members Only)	Women's Institute	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p6
Tue 9 Dec – Sat 13 Dec	<i>The Pantomime Adventures of Pinocchio</i>	Over Players	Over Community Centre	See p7
Wed 10 Dec	Christmas Stall	Rosie in Stitches	Cambourne Business Park Christmas Market	12 – 2 pm, see p15
Wed 10 Dec	Carers Support Meeting	The Surgery	The Surgery	2 – 4 30 pm, see p16
Fri 12 Dec	<i>Food Glorious Food</i>	Life Matters	Baptist Church	See p6 & p12
Sat 13 Dec	Christmas Cooked Breakfast	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 45 am, see p12
Sat 13 Dec	Christmas Craft Fair	Local Businesses	Ploughman Hall	2 30 – 5 pm, see p10
Sat 13 Dec	Messy Church	Christians Together	Octagon & Parish Church	3 30 – 5 pm, see p12
Mon 15 Dec	Drop-in Event	Carers Support Team	Tesco Bar Hill Community Room	10 30 am – 1 30 pm See Nov issue, p10
Mon 15 Dec	<i>Painting with Light</i> Workshop <i>Lens and Filter</i> Tutorial	Photography Club	Baptist Church	8 pm, see p14
Tue 16 Dec	Drop-in Event	Carers Support Team	Sawston Free Church	10 30 am – 1 pm See Nov issue, p10
Tue 16 Dec	Story Time for Under 5s	The Library	The Library	2 – 2 30 pm, see p11
Thu 18 Dec	Luncheon Club (Christmas Dinner)	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	12 30 pm, see p12
Sat 20 Dec	Christmas Peal of Bells	Parish Church	Parish Church	10 am – 1 pm, see p10

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Please notify *Willingham News* of any changes

Council	Parish Council (<i>See full details on page 17</i>)		01954 261027
	County Councillor	Peter Hudson	peter.hudson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Mr R Manning	01954 261235
	District Councillor	Mr B R Burling	01954 230168
	District Councillor	Mrs P S Corney	01954 213221
Services	Police		101
	Surgery		01954 260230
	Dispensary for repeat prescription requests		01954 260073
	Pharmacy		01954 261787
	Over Surgery		01954 231550
	Urgent Care Cambridgeshire		111
Schools	Primary School	Mrs V Francis	01954 283030
	Willingham Out Of School Club (3–6 pm only)	Mr D Carminati	01954 283033
	Phoenix Prep School	Gill Cooke	01954 263113
	School Governors Chairman	Jonathan Lewis	01954 283030
	School Association	c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust	Lynda Blunt	01954 261309
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Mrs M Dellar	01954 260045
	Ducklings Toddler Group	Rachel Robinson	07963 870971
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Mrs D VanDort	01954 201567
	Tigger Toddlers	Jenny Rayner	01954 270122
	Koala Kids		01954 260046
	Holiday Playscheme	Phoenix School	
	Willingham Guides and Senior Section	Lynn McGoff	01954 261296
	Ladybird Borland's School Of Dance	Mrs L Borland	01954 203347
	Bubbles/Messy Church	Rev L Liversidge/ Heather Mellows	01954 263187 01954 270063
	Bumps and Babies Group	Emma Tregenna	01954 261775
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Hilary Wylie	01954 260051
	Little Notes Music group	Emma Tregenna	01954 261775
	Kids' Friday Club (Baptist Church)	Loriane Bald	01954 261189
Halls	Ploughman Hall Bookings	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Wilford Furlong Centre		01954 261445
	The Octagon	Rosemary Mumford	01954 260934
	Baptist Bookings and Rentals	Emma Launchbury	01954 263108
	Salvation Army Hall Bookings	New details soon to be available	
Local Representatives	Allotments	Sue Ayling	01954 260718
	Billavincea Lodge 8719	Mr M Scrivener	01480 413533
	BreatheEasy Cambridge (British Lung Foundation)	David Hart	01954 260204
	<i>Cambridge News</i> Correspondent	Anne Kirkman	01954 260393
	Fen Edge Community Association	Alan Leeks	01954 250061
	Willingham Action Group (WAG)	Mike Tidball	01954 260647
	Willingham Combined Charities	Mrs Gail Cook	01954 231272
	Workers' Educational Association	Rosemary Mumford	01954 260934
Clubs	Gardening Club	Mrs C Bailey	01954 260794
	Social Club	Sarah Rutherford	07989 242155
	Willingham Jam Club	Julian Eales	01954 201818
	Willingham Photography Club	Christopher Cross	01954 260790
	Willingham Walkers	Mike Tidball	01954 260647
	Willingham Youth Club	Linda Liversidge	01954 263187
	Women's Institute	Jacky Sparks	01954 261831
	Women's Royal British Legion	Mrs M Few	01954 260124
Sport	Badminton	Sarah Custance	01954 202005
	Bowls Club	David Hart (Secretary)	01954 260204
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 260446
	Cycling Club	www.willinghamwheels.com	
	Ladies' Hockey	Teresa Hutchcraft	01954 260177
	Tennis Club	John Graham	01954 231968
	Willingham Diamonds Netball Club	Hannah Francis	01954 260993
	Willingham Running Club	Gerry Mears	07511 131645
	Willingham Sports Pavilion	Trudy Greygoose	07786 230559
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Claire Few	01954 203001
Churches	Mothers' Union (Branch Leader)	Mrs S Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Rev Paul Joel	01954 260538
	Methodists (Ministerial Contact)	Rev Hilary Cheng	01223 700778
	Roman Catholic Priest	Fr Edward Tredota	01480 462192
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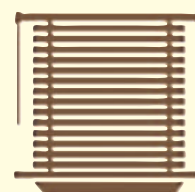
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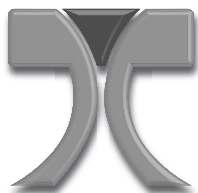
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