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village website: www.willinghamlife.org
December 2015



illustration by Jennifer Price

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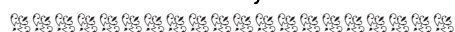
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CHRISTMAS

Kindness love and happiness
And thought for others,
Reminding us whoever we are
Fathers children mothers
That Christmas is special
And full of sweet joy,
Reminding us whatever we do
Of the birth of a baby boy.

Christine Lacey

Bin Collections – Wednesdays

Please note that from December to February green bins will be collected monthly.

2 December	Blue only
9 December	Black
16 December	Blue and Green
23 December	Black
31 December (Thursday)	Blue only

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

Our PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) is Tony Martin.

To contact local police, phone 101 or email:

Histon.npt@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Advertising

Advertising is sold on an annual basis for an insert into 12 issues beginning in January. Send any advertising queries or copy to: advertising.wnews@yahoo.co.uk, 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. No pdf files please. Paper copy may be left at the library.

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Green bin collection changes this winter

Don't forget, green bin collections change to monthly during winter when far less garden waste is put out for collection.

Monthly collections will start at the end of November and will return to fortnightly in March for the rest of the year.

Collection dates can be found on page 24 of the autumn South Cambs Magazine or online at www.scambs.gov.uk/bins-by-parish

For more information visit

www.scambs.gov.uk/content/changes-green-bin-collections-over-winter





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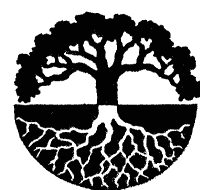
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Advent Adventure 2015

24 windows....24 days...

Following the success of this adventure last year, we are planning to run it again this year with a new theme - Christmas Carols!

24 windows around the village will each depict a different carol over 24 days. Each day a new window will be revealed and we invite you to work out which carol is represented!

Launch: Monday 30 November at The Porterhouse crossroads from 6 30 pm when the first windows will be unveiled and the lights at 41 High Street will be switched on!!!

Christmas Eve: 10 am - 12 noon. 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 online at www.willinghambaptist.org

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



Willingham WEA

The Spring Term starts on **Monday 11 January** at 10 am in the Baptist Church.

The course for this term is
900 Years of British Agriculture.

This traces the development of British agriculture since the Norman Conquest, examines the technological changes, the impact on the people, and the way in which it has helped to create our landscape.

Tutor – Mike Muncaster

Course Fee – £48.00

For more information contact – Rosemary Mumford,
01954 260934.

Willingham Women's Institute

The next meeting will be on **Monday 14 December**
at 7 30pm in the Social Club



Christmas party

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:

11 January – *Calendar Customs of Cambridgeshire*

8 February – *A Man Who's Paid to Talk to Himself*

WI News

October meeting



The meeting was a celebration of 100 years of the WI. Members brought along family memorabilia that was 100 years old and told the stories behind their items. There was a display of minutes from the first Willingham WI meetings and photos and other items showing activities over the years. The evening was rounded off with cake following a ceremonial cutting by the President, Jane Miller.

Over Village Market

Saturday 12th December

10am-1pm - Local produce +
artisans on the village green

We're back – Come to peruse the locally produced goods, linger a while for a chat. Stop for a cup of tea

- ❖ Meat, Bread, Cakes, Preserves
- ❖ Fruit & Vegetables, Crafts
- ❖ Refreshments & more ...

Like us on Facebook :

facebook.com/OverVillageMarket



Willingham Youth Centre News

A perfect party place

This month has been a busy month for activities in the Youth Centre. First there was the Feast disco held on 9 October (see report under Willingham Feast). In addition to this the Centre has been hired out at weekends for several children's parties and ever-popular entertainer Mr Marvel gave his first performance at this venue to a crowd of approximately 35 excited children.

The parents of partygoers have all been very positive about the venue for their children's parties, particularly praising the kitchen facilities, provision of small tables and chairs and the car parking right outside. One Mum commented: 'What a great space for my children's party – I was really impressed with the facility overall. I would definitely use it again and highly recommend it.' For hire details or any other queries email enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org

In addition to the use of the hall for private and public events, the Youth Club is going from strength to strength. Come along on Monday or Wednesday evening at 6 30 pm to check it out.

www.willinghamyouthcentre.com

'Right of Way' across Westmeadow Allotments.

Can people please be aware that the allotments in Westmeadow Close are on private land; there is NO right of way.

There is evidence of dog walkers using the allotments to exercise their dogs. This is not fair on the allotment holders who pay rent and are having to contend with dog mess.

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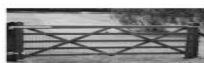
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Christmas Concert

2015

Saturday 5th December, 7:30pm
St Andrew's Church, Swavesey

Tickets: £7.00, £5.00 concessions and Under 18's free.

To reserve tickets 07881 824095 or available on the door.

Big 10 Live Ska Band



Big 10 are returning to the Social Club on Saturday 12 December at 8pm.

They are renowned for a huge ska sound, entertaining with their amusing stage antics and travelling the country with a loyal following. See them in action at www.big10ska.com or facebook.

Tickets are £10 each from the Social Club 01954 260557, or buy online - click on the 'big 10 tickets' link at www.willinghamsocialclub@btconnect.com.

Tickets can also be purchased online at www.wegottickets.com/event/337551. For a small booking fee you can now use this website to purchase tickets for many of the events held at the Social Club.



Old Willingham

The annual ploughing match has been held for more than 150 years with great rivalry between Willingham and Cottenham. Initially larger farmers employed ploughmen to 'show off' to the village. The ploughman had to plough a straight furrow, always 10 chain in length (200m), covering all vegetation from the previous crop in a set time. Each furrow had to be as unbroken as possible giving a 'saw tooth' effect. All of these features represented good farming at that time. Prizes were also awarded for the best turned out team, and many others relating to the horses or team. The farmer paid the entry fee and the ploughman and/or horse-keeper retained any winnings. Everyone was treated to a 'feast' prior to prize-giving at night, and of course had a day off. The ploughing match continues to this day and is a big event for the local farming community.

This month's photo is taken in the 1970s but shows a much older tractor with iron wheels competing.

OldWillingham.com



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.



WILLINGHAM GARDENING CLUB

Meetings are held at the Social Club on the first Monday of each month (except January and August) from 7 30 pm until around 9 pm. There is also plant raffle.

New members are always welcome. The annual subscription is £14 and there is a small charge of £2 for guests. Call Celia on 01954 261394 or just turn up to a meeting.

Members' Christmas Party: **Monday 7 December at 7 30 pm** when we shall enjoy a buffet meal, quizzes, wine and soft drinks, and good conversation. There is no charge for members and a modest £5 charge for guests. There will be a charge for drinks.

2016 Meetings

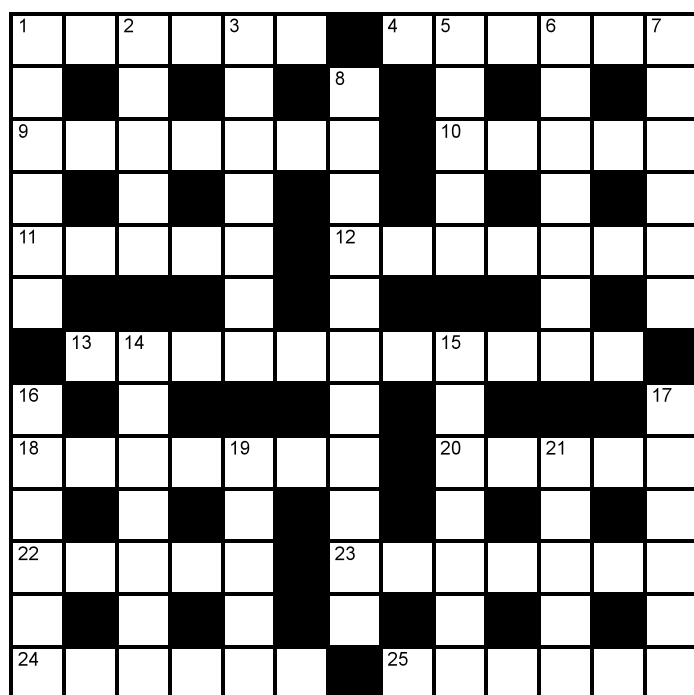
There will be no meeting in January.

Monday 1 February: Rob Marshall will talk to us about *Snowdrops*.

Christmas Mix Crossword

By Willow

(Answers on page 19)



Across

- 1 Anxiety disrupts rest on board ship (6)
- 4 Tell off dog chasing vehicle (6)
- 9 *Rangifer tarandus* bullied by the others! (7)
- 10 Inexperienced in area of putting (5)
- 11 Christmas gift of aromatic resin (5)
- 12 Old king's securing support for university (7)
- 13 Shiny decorations? (5,6)
- 18 Counterpoint to basic melody (7)
- 20 Campanologist's tools (5)
- 22 Half of traditional Christmas show (5)
- 23 Food and drink lover (7)
- 24 Makes better gifts? (6)
- 25 Tediously well-known (3,3)

Down

- 1 Tiniest decapod crustacean (6)
- 2 Person on mount (5)
- 3 Brimstone (7)
- 5 Benevolent spiritual creature (5)
- 6 Here's a donation (7)
- 7 Can endlessly flog Christmas glitter (6)
- 8 Mr Thornton? (11)
- 14 Truancy (7)
- 15 Mary's angelic visitor (7)
- 16 Maybe end VAT for the Christmas period? (6)
- 17 Appearance (6)
- 19 Spy's a respectable man (5)
- 21 The French expression of disapproval's amusing (5)



Friends of Willingham Library Book Quiz

Who are the authors of these books or short stories with Christmas or winter settings?

(Answers on page 19)

1. *The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding*
2. *Little Women*
3. *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*
4. *The Holly-Tree*
5. *Blood on Snow*
6. *The Box of Delights*
7. *Envious Casca*
8. *Skippping Christmas*
9. *Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow*
10. *Ice Station Zebra*

General Knowledge Quiz – answers begin with W

(Answers on page 19)

1. Who designed the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum in New York?
2. Who played the dance teacher in the 2000 film *Billy Elliot*?
3. The composer of the *Skaters' Waltz*?
4. German name for Vienna?
5. Capital and largest city of Manitoba in Canada?
6. The female star of James Cameron's *Titanic*?
7. Which poet waxed lyrically about daffodils?
8. Who played Harry Lime in the 1949 film, *The Third Man*?
9. Name the Englishman who composed the folk ballad *Danny Boy*.
10. Which British lake is 219 feet deep?
11. Who plays Vince Papale in the 2006 film *Invincible*?
12. A leading figure in pop art?
13. Who was the first owner of Hampton Court Palace?
14. Alaskan town of which Sarah Palin was once mayor?
15. Windsor Castle was built for which king?
16. The tree *Salix babylonica* is more commonly known as what?
17. An anemometer is an instrument for measuring the speed of what?
18. Who was the first Prime Minister to live at 10 Downing Street?
19. Where is a New Year gift/celebration known as a Calennig?
20. Gok, fashion presenter and author?

From the Parish Council

www.willingham-pc.org.uk

Tough Choices:

Cambridgeshire County Council is facing some bleak choices as it looks to balance the books. Next year the Council will receive £15 million pounds less from the government revenue support grant while needing to find an extra £20 million to meet the pressures from increases in the population and inflation. In total, savings of some £40 million will be needed.

Councils across the country are facing similar difficulties but the problems are made more acute locally by the strong growth. Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing counties in the country. This means more jobs and homes, but also much more pressure on schools, social care and roads.

The scale of savings means that proposals will have a wide impact from roads to libraries and even the care of the most vulnerable. All options are being considered to find ways of generating income and sharing services as well as achieving savings.

Local communities and volunteer groups will be asked to help expand the work that they already do in supporting their neighbourhoods. The Council has launched a consultation to explain the problems and to show how we can work together to find solutions. You can have your say and see a film explaining the situation at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/challenge.

Streetlights:

One proposal for saving money is to turn off many streetlights from midnight to 6 am, as has been done by many other councils across the country. There is a public consultation at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CambridgeshireStreetlightConsultation. The closing date is 11 December. The Parish Council is currently in negotiation with the County Council regarding the distribution of lights to be left on overnight in Willingham.

Note that highways problems, such as streetlights not working and potholes, can be reported and tracked on the Cambridgeshire County Council website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Modern Day Slavery:

A conference led by Chief Inspector Sutherland and attended by several parish councils including Willingham Parish Council was organised recently to raise awareness amongst the public of the issues of people trafficking, slavery and prostitution in our region. It is a problem that often goes unnoticed.

Signs to look out for in victims are: fear of police or other authority figures, signs of physical or psychological trauma, fear of talking about themselves or their situation, limits on their freedom of movement, having very little income and limited access to dental or medical care, living in debt, having no passport or other identification documents, being regularly moved often into crowded or temporary accommodation.

The general public are encouraged to report any suspicious activity they become aware of, however slight, to the police via the 101 system. 'It doesn't matter if you are wrong – but what if you're right?'

Bogus Calls:

We have reports of someone phoning residents claiming to be from Cambridgeshire County Council and asking about their recent fall. The person calling tries to engage the resident in conversation with the aim of finding out personal details.

If you ever receive a call from someone you do not know saying they work for the council, get their name and details and tell them you will ring them back. Do not call back immediately as the bogus caller may still be on your line. Wait and then telephone the council general enquiries line 0345 045 5200 and ask to be put through to the named officer. Always be wary of unsolicited calls and never give out personal or financial information over the phone.

Community Chest Grant:

The Parish Council has successfully applied for a grant of £1,000 from South Cambridgeshire District Council. This is earmarked to purchase picnic benches.

Contact Details:

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

Mr J Anderson	01954 203344
Mr A Cook	01954 260325
Dr R Croucher (Vice Chairman & Halls Lead Councillor)	01954 261113
Mr N Harris	07792 611226
Mrs L King	01954 260780
Mr P King (Chairman)	01954 260780
Mr D Law (Planning Committee Chairman)	01954 202188
Mr R Manning	01954 261235
Mrs B Mansfield	01954 261540
Mr S Mellows (Cemetery Lead Councillor)	01954 270063
Mr A Slater	01954 261455
Mr J Smith (Leisure & Amenities Lead Councillor)	01954 261141
Mr R Tassell	07974 673836
Mrs J Vincent-Pilsworth	01954 260929
Mr J Watson (Green & Boundaries Lead Councillor)	01954 200245

Meeting dates are published on the website, the notice board outside the public hall in the High Street and at the library. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak briefly or ask questions. Names of those wishing to speak will be recorded at the beginning of each meeting, together with their electoral register number. To ensure that everyone has a fair chance to speak within the allowed time (15 minutes in total) each speaker is limited to 3 minutes.

Forthcoming meetings: Wednesday 2 December, Wednesday 6 January. 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 usually open Monday to Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm, except for Bank Holidays. There is an answer-phone service outside office hours.

The contact details are: Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP: 01954-261027: email@willinghampc.org.uk.

Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell

Autumn News from the Hanson – RSPB Wetland Project

Our summer season

The breeding season for bitterns got off to an outstanding start with a record reserve total of 10 booming males, one of the highest populations in the UK for this our key target species. Unfortunately as the breeding season progressed it was apparent that fewer females were attempting to nest. Perhaps the variable weather this summer had a part to play, as wild lives can hang on the smallest of margins.

Roller-coasting aerial displays and acrobatic food passes were easy to see as up to six pairs of marsh harriers set up home in the reedbeds. Tasty morsels being passed from the parents to the young slowly become less frequent as juveniles learnt to become independent hunters. Bearded tits were hard to find in the windy weather this year but the reeling song of the grasshopper warbler could occasionally be heard in new scrubby margins.

At Barleycroft Lake, a pair of Mediterranean gulls fledged a chick for the first time. With cormorants and an unusual pair of grey wagtails, the lake was home to a trio of new tenants this year accompanying the more regular colony of black-headed gulls and common terns. Two pairs of turtle doves could be seen around the lagoons at Needingworth, feeding on piles of seed placed out for them. The reserve is taking part in a supplementary feeding trial, a small part of a countrywide recovery plan, for this highly threatened summer visitor.

Great crested newts, common lizards and variable damselfly were all recently found on the reserve for the first time. What, we wonder, will take up home next?

Back to work

Since our last report, Hanson has entered a new phase of reedbed restoration with work beginning in Cell 9. On a map you'll see this was once called Crane Fen. Once works are complete here and in the surrounding wetland cells, this will take the project to a new milestone of well over 100 hectares of newly created wetland habitat. Centuries have passed since this much wetland stood here.

With the return of our habitat management season, we have started to lower the water levels in the reedbed cells to encourage reeds to send out suckers in search of water and spread out further. Lower water levels also expose muddy islands, perfect for passing wading birds or the two great white egrets making use of Cells 5 and 6 in recent weeks. Keen eyes over the reserve will no doubt find much more wildlife over the coming months.

The partnership project with Hanson is all about creating a home for nature by transforming Needingworth Quarry into a vast wetland nature reserve. For further up-to-date reserve information visit our webpages at www.rspb.org.uk/ousefen.

Chris Hudson, Senior Sites Manager

Tel: RSPB Cambs & The Fens Area Office 01954 233260

e-mail: ousefen@rspb.org.uk

Fen Edge Community Association and the Fen Edge Family Festival

We need you!

The 2015 Fen Edge Family Festival (FEFF) held in Cottenham and sponsored by the Fen Edge Community Association (FECA) attracted large numbers of visitors and the organising committee received many messages of thanks and congratulations. If there is to be another in 2017 planning needs to start soon.

The organisation of the biennial FEFF is done by a sub-Committee of FECA and success relies on having new people with fresh ideas and a commitment to the shared interests of the 'five-village-commu'nity' of the Fen Edge: Cottenham, Rampton, Willingham, Waterbeach and Landbeach.

FECA is a charity that supports clubs and groups that contribute towards the social, recreational and leisure facilities in the Fen Edge villages. It publishes the Fen Edge News which keeps the villagers in touch with each other and promotes termly adult and family educational aspects of Cottenham Village College, and runs a website www.fenedge.co.uk for local happenings. Through modest annual subscriptions and the FEFF, FECA has funds available as grants to support those member groups in various ways and enable them to raise their own funds.

But times change, and many of the women and men who have served for a number of years on the FECA Committee or on the FEFF Committee (many on both) now need to move on to other commitments and will be standing down at the AGM in May 2016. This is an opportunity for new people from the five villages to be part of making the Fen Edge a vibrant community.

The following roles need to be filled: Chair of FECA; Treasurer, Editor of *Fen Edge News*; Trustee of the FECA Committee, Secretary of the FECA Committee, and member of the FEFF sub-Committee.

Contact us on chairfenedge@gmail.com or to write to: Eileen Wilson, Chair, Fen Edge Community Association Office, Cottenham Village College, High Street, Cottenham, CB24 8UA.

Any of the FECA Committee members would be happy to talk to you or your group about what these roles entail. You are welcome to come along to future meetings to find out more or to put forward innovations that you would like to introduce. We look forward to hearing from you.

Eileen Wilson

Chair, the Fen Edge Community Association





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District Nurse Team: 01223 726469 Option 2

Health Visitors: 01954 207612

Out of hours cover: Ring 111

Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

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

Out of Hours Care Please remember to phone Urgent Care Cambridge on 111 if you require medical attention when the surgery is closed. Please remember that Accident and Emergency is intended for life threatening conditions or if you are likely to need an X-ray.

Repeat Prescriptions The last date for ordering repeat prescriptions in time for Christmas holidays is **Monday 21 December**. The last date for collection of medicines before Christmas will be **Thursday 24 December** by 1 pm at both Willingham and Longstanton surgeries. To prevent wastage please order only those items that you need from your repeat medication list.

Christmas Lucky Squares in aid of Magpas £1 each These are available from reception in Willingham and Longstanton surgeries. Many prizes including food hampers, chocolates and other goodies can be won, so please buy a ticket or donate a prize. Thank you and good luck!

Self Care Medication Winter months are very busy times for GP surgeries and it is very helpful if some minor conditions are treated with over-the-counter medicines. Why not visit Willingham Pharmacy and stock up your medicine cabinet for the Christmas holidays. This is a short list of some minor conditions which you can treat at home.

- Treatment of acute pain, such as headache.
- Management of coughs and colds.
- Reducing body temperature where there is a small increase in temperature.
- Treating one-off constipation and/or diarrhea.
- Treating minor abrasions or irritated skin.
- Minor allergic responses.
- Occurrences of head-lice infestation.
- Treatment of oral or vaginal thrush.

Missed Appointments in October totalled 51 doctors' appointments and 60 nurse appointments. This amounts to approximately **9 hours** of wasted doctor time and **12.5 hours** of wasted nurse time as when appointments are not cancelled we are unable to reuse them for other patients. **PLEASE CANCEL YOUR APPOINTMENT IF YOU NO LONGER NEED IT!**

Flu Vaccinations Clinics are now set up so please phone

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

the surgery to arrange an appointment for your flu vaccination.

Carers Support Meetings Our next meeting at Willingham Surgery is on **Wednesday 9 March 2 – 4 30 pm**. Stephen Duffy from Buckles Solicitors is coming in to talk about *Wills and Power of Attorney*. Please pop along and get some free support and advice.

Camtad Hearing Clinics The next Hearing Aid Clinics will be held at Willingham Surgery on **Wednesday 16 December from 2 – 4 pm**. No appointment necessary, just pop along for your free NHS hearing aid batteries and for help and advice regarding hearing loss.

****ALL THE STAFF AT THE SURGERY WOULD LIKE TO WISH OUR PATIENTS A VERY HEALTHY AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS! ****

Sharon Unwin – Practice Manager

Christmas Bells

The bells of the Parish Church will ring on Saturday 5 December from about 10 am to 1 pm.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN WILLINGHAM

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

Services

6 December

9 00 am BCP Communion Service
 10 30 am Family Service

13 December

10 30 am Communion Service
 4 00 pm Christingle Service

20 December

9 00 am Communion Service
 10 30 am Nativity Service
 6 00 pm Carols by Candlelight (United Service)

24 December

4 00 pm Christmas Eve Crib Service
 (for children and families)
 11 30 pm Midnight Communion

25 December

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

27 December

10 30 am Family 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.

St Mary and All Saints Events

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 an informal and 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 in the Octagon, followed by a story time with singing in church and then a time to eat together back in the Octagon. Come with your children and enjoy! Contact Linda at revlin@me.com or 263187. Next Messy Church will be on **9 January**.

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 Liversidge (261349), Rosemary Woodward (205718) or David Jacques (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. A Coffee Morning (run by Mothers' Union) will also take place in the Octagon at the same time.



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

Services at 5 pm

Sunday, 6 December Led by Territorial Envoy Don and Lieutenant Trish Hall
Sunday, 13 December Led by Territorial Envoy Don and Lieutenant Trish Hall
Sunday, 20 December Carol service led by Don Hall, followed by tea.
Sunday, 27 December Led by Territorial Envoy Don and Lieutenant Trish Hall

Salvation Army Weekday Events

Brunchies: Breakfast club and coffee morning: Mondays, 10 30 – 12 noon (except Christmas and bank holidays).

Nimble Fingers Craft Club: Mondays, 2 – 4 pm. Bring your crafts and join with others. Learn new skills as well. Tea, coffee and good company provided.

Luncheon Club: Alternate Thursdays. Price £4. Book with Daphne on 260568. Please note that **17 December** is the Christmas luncheon with a start time of 12 noon – please book early.

CAMEO Friendship Club: Alternate Thursdays 1 45 – 3 pm immediately after Luncheon Club. Quizzes, singing, talks, games, light refreshments and much more.

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

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 will be in our thoughts.

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Services

6 December

- 9 00 am Opening windows: A distant vision – *Traditional Worship*
10 30 am Opening windows: A distant vision – *Contemporary Worship***
6 00 pm Yes or No? – *Evening Worship*

13 December

- 10 30 am Opening windows: Details emerge – *Family worship***
6 00 pm A Heavenly reward – *Evening Worship*

20 December

- 10 30 am Opening windows: A clearer picture – *Altogether Worship*
6 00 pm Joint carols by candlelight at St Mary's & All Saints church

25 December

- 10 30 am Opening windows: The light shines through – *Family worship***

27 December

- 10 30 am Opening windows: The view develops – *Family worship*
6 00 pm No Service

(**= + Sunday club for children)

Baptist Events

Advent Adventure – Please see separate advert in this edition or on the website (address above) for full details. Starts **Monday 30 November**, a new window each day featuring a carol, and ends on Christmas Eve at the Baptist Church on George Street 10 – 12 noon with refreshments, photos of all the windows and the correct title to each carol featured – how well do you know your carols?

TOPS: Toddler group: Tuesdays at 9 45 am for 18 months plus in the church. Great place to meet other families whilst the children enjoy the activities and playing. Currently there is a waiting list. Please contact Hilary Wyllie for further information – 01954 260051. Term ends 15 December.

Little Notes: Thursdays 10 am – 11 15 am. Half an hour of singing with instruments and actions followed by free-play, refreshments and a chance to meet other parents or carers. For all pre-school children aged 1-4, with a quieter space set aside for babies under the age of 1. Please contact Sharon Sennitt on 01954 782345 for further information.

Open Door Coffee Morning: Every Wednesday 10 – 11 30 am. This is a chance to chat with old and new friends over tea and coffee all welcome. Please contact Cynthia Nolan for further information – 01954 202240.

Kids' Friday Club: – Fridays at 6 30 – 7 30 pm in the church for children of primary school age year 1 upwards. Action-packed hour with craft, games, songs, drama all based around a bible story. Please contact Lorraine Bald for further information – 01954 261189. Term ends Friday 11 December.

Men's Breakfast: 17 December at 7 45 am in the Baptist Church for a hearty cooked breakfast followed by a short topical talk. Please contact Pete Sacre for more information – 01954 261655, sacrepete@yahoo.co.uk.

PASTORAL LETTER

OUR GOD: SO CLOSE AND SO TENDER IN LOVE

It is now!

Before Christmas resembles a call of John the Baptist: 'Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley' (Isaiah 40: 2-5). And good God is reminding us of his attitude towards each of us: 'Do not be afraid, Israel, puny mite. I will help you' (Isaiah 41: 14). If you identify yourself with Israel it is the call of God today you hear right away. In that very moment you are becoming with God 'a threshing-sled, new, with doubled teeth'. It is no one else, only you who 'shall thresh and crush the mountains, and turn the hills to chaff' (sic!) I, your God, I took you by the hand and come to your aid' (ibid.) This is the truth. When does this happen? It always happens when you believe in God.

And once again comes the euphemism from God, in the mouth of Isaiah: 'Oh, my poor little worm, Jacob!'

After such words the one who meets God is going to pieces...

Two ages of the history

Again in anticipation we talk about John the Baptist. He is indicated by Jesus as a person standing on the border of two ground-breaking ages of all time:

– the age before the implementation of the promises – a time of the prophets.

– the age of execution of the promises – a time of the witnesses.

The greatest in the age of the prophets is John the Baptist – the Elijah-Right-Before-Christ. But the smallest in the age of the witnesses is greater than John. And this age is already in progress. In this age there is no room for new promises – it is a time of meeting up with the boldest dreams of mankind in all generations.

Violent people

The world around us – Christians – has never changed. It is still full of fear, it cares about the security of life, nurtures itself with the earthly pleasures, cares about the successful life. But Jesus says: 'the violent are taking [the Kingdom of Heaven] by storm' (Matthew 11: 12). This violence comes from the personal involvement of God in human life. His promises are no longer carried out only, but He fulfils His promises kidnapping man to witness God's providence and continuous praise for His works.

Violent people in the Gospel are the people kidnapped by God!

These are the people, who – I repeat it again – allow God to act in their lives! These are the ones who know that they live in God's worldly pleasant environment and among the friendly events of Divine Providence. They enjoy the deep relationship with God based on continuously renewed decision to step out for Him in their own lives.

Because 'everyone else before John the Baptist was only prophesying...'

If you have ears and you listen to this message, these beautiful promises are taking their shape. They are fulfilling themselves to the last dot on the 'i' in this very day you are listening.

This is as well still one of the Last Days, recalls the word of God...

Fr Karol Porczak MS

Parish Priest

Sacred Heart RC Parish, St. Ives, Cambs.

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Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library
0345 0455225

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	

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, Mark Nokkert came to speak to us about the *Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership*. With lottery funding this organisation is not only helping to conserve the fen landscape but working to increase knowledge and participation in the landscape by local communities. It was a really interesting and informative talk which began with an appealing quotation. When Sir Harry Godwin, the Cambridge botanist and ecologist, remarked to a Fenman that he found the Cambridgeshire scenery 'singularly flat', the man replied 'Any fool can appreciate mountain scenery, it takes a man of discernment to appreciate the Fens'.

The sessions are free but donations are welcomed towards refreshments.

Future Talks:

- **Wednesday 2 December** – In a change to the previously publicised speaker, this session will now be a Winter Social. There will be seasonal refreshments, a selection of 'Winter Reads' to choose from, the computers will be available for use and it will be an opportunity to relax and chat.
- No session in January.

Friends of Willingham Library

Do you value your local library?

As widely reported in the local news, and on the Parish Council page in this magazine, Cambridgeshire County Council is making huge cuts to its budget, and there is a proposal to withdraw funding from smaller libraries and move them to community ownership. There are no specific plans as yet, and community consultation will take place once the proposals are agreed by County Councillors – probably in January 2016. So we do not know what is in store for the Library, but keeping it open will require strong support from the residents. If you value your local library, please email our County Councillor, Peter Hudson, at Peter.Hudson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk to let him know (copied to the Friends Group at king.linda.j@gmail.com) or write to him at Shire Hall, Castle Hill, CB3 0AP.

Up to date information will be displayed in the Library on the Friends Noticeboard.

Christmas Cover

Many thanks to all the children who entered this year's competition to design the front cover. We had lots of fantastic entries and our congratulations go to Jennifer Price for her imaginative and colourful illustration. Special commendations also go to the runners up, Simal Rashid and Erin Thomas, whose designs are shown below.



Photography Club Feast Report

The standard of photography in this year's exhibition impressed our judges so much so that it took over two hours of deliberation before they chose the show winners.

Most improved photographer went jointly to:

Symon Reynolds for *Yest of year New York Taxi* and Wendy Law for *Icelandic Stream*.

Best in show went jointly to:

Andrew Jackman for *Gruinard Bay in north west Scotland* and Stephen Lake for *Up close, not personable*.

Fourteen other club photographers received commendations for their work.

All the photographs can be viewed on our website www.willinghamphotoclub.org.uk.

On behalf of everyone at the Photography Club, I would like to say a huge thank you to WAG for their continued support in helping us to run our annual exhibition. This was our sixth exhibition and the club goes from strength to strength.

We received over two hundred human visitors and three dogs! I would also like to thank all of the club members, too numerous to mention, who helped make the exhibition such a success.

Anita Salmon
Chair of Willingham
Photography Club.



The Feast – part two

Continuing the Feast week celebrations, on Friday 9 October, a children's disco was held in the Youth Centre. This was attended by approximately 45 children aged 4-8 years with DJ James providing a great variety of music. The overall verdict from the children was 'awesome'! This is the first time that a public disco has been held in the Youth Centre, but thanks to its success and the positive comments, there are plans for more events like this. Keep an eye on *Willingham News* for information.

On the following day, there were no fewer than seven Feast events as well as the funfair. Helen, Paul and Mike were at the school at 7 am to set out tables for the Feast market. That might sound early for a Saturday but when we arrived, Jon the caretaker, had already opened up, put the lights on and probably had a leisurely breakfast. Our thanks go to Jon for his help and to the school for hosting the market. This year there were more stalls than ever and most did a good trade, especially those selling food, such as Camcattle, Waller's sausages, and Orb Bakery. Tiggers ran a very successful children's play area with a bouncy castle. At the same time Willingham School Association organised a driveway sale and so for some time the village resembled St Ives market with groups of people roaming around looking for bargains.



During the day both the Art and Photography groups held their exhibitions and these continued on the following day. The standard of work is truly amazing and gets better with each year. If you are interested in getting involved in either of these groups, please turn to the directory on page 23 for contact details.

In the afternoon several families braved the weather and the very muddy pathways to take part in the off-road treasure hunt on bikes, and in the evening the Social Club hosted a Soul and Motown disco which had the room full to bursting. Meanwhile the Baptist Hall hosted a 'rugby viewing and quiz evening.' The latter probably suffered a little as the England team had failed to get past the first stage of the competition!

On Sunday, the hardy cyclists set off to cycle to St Ives, more precisely Flood's Tavern in St Ives, where they were joined for lunch by the even harder walking group who had had a jaunt down the banks of the Ouse via Holywell.

The following weekend, the Social Club hosted their second Custard Comedy night on 16 October. Word had got

round after the first, especially since the same Mistress of Ceremonies, Laura Lexx, was performing, so this was sold out well in advance. The evening did not disappoint and was even better than the first. Let's hope the club are already thinking about a third!

The Feast ended officially with the live band, 'Up and Atom' at the Social Club the following day.

Conclusions? We certainly added to the life of the village and it was clear many people had much enjoyment. The WAG volunteers also felt the pressure and would welcome more help for next year when Feast weekend falls on 8/9 October, so why not get in touch now? We also need space to store our resources, so if you have an empty barn or shed then please make contact.

Mike Tidball for Willingham Action Group – 01954 260647.



Rosie in Stitches

The Friends of the Rosie Hospital raises money through the Tea Bar at the Rosie Hospital outpatient department and through their trading arm Rosie in Stitches which has raised £933 so far in 2015.

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

Forthcoming events

Wednesday 2 December 10 am to 4 pm

Outpatients Foyer, Addenbrooke's Hospital

We will have a large display with all sizes of baby clothes plus toys, bags, hats, scarves and blankets

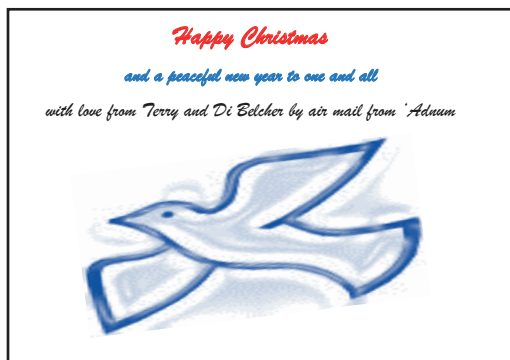
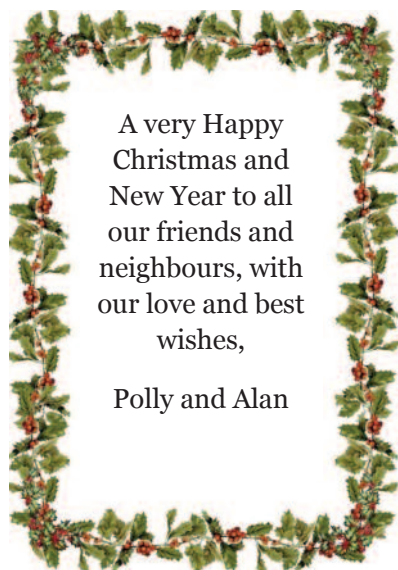
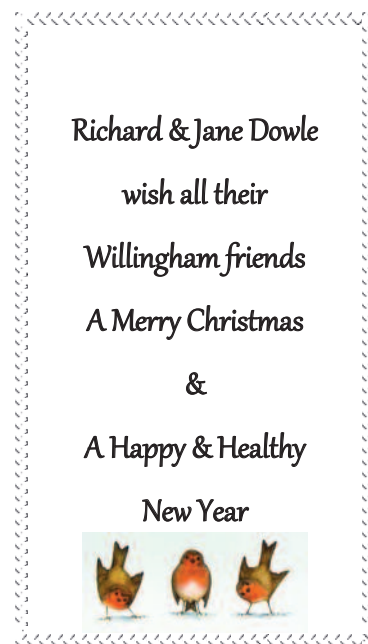
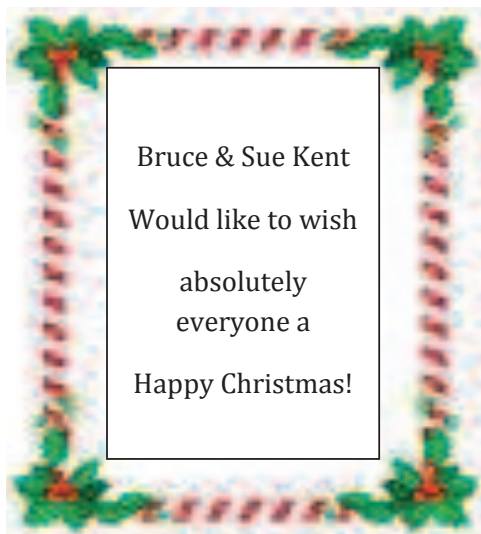
Saturday 12 December 2 30 pm to 5 pm

Willingham Craft Fair, The Ploughman Hall



Thanks to you all for your support

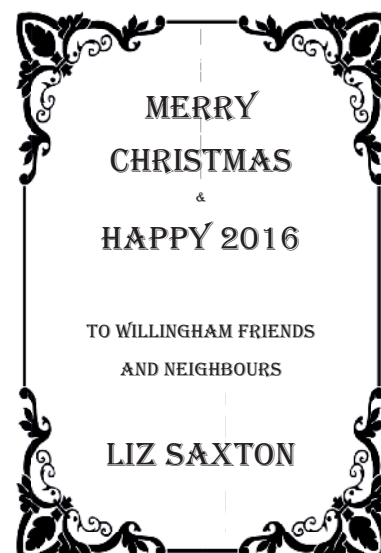
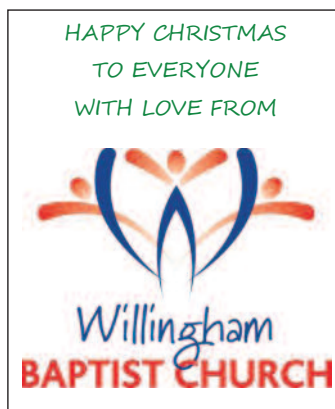
Christmas Greetings



OMGosh-that time already??

A slow -burning Christmas to
all friends in the Hood

Carolyn and Paul



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The show is packed with comedy, slapstick, great musical numbers and plenty of audience participation for all the family. Not to be missed!

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9 December to 11 December 7 30 pm

Saturday 12 December 2 00 pm and 7 30 pm
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Answers to crossword

Across: 1 Stress, 4 Carpet, 9 Rudolph, 10 Green, 11 Myrrh, 12 College, 13 Fairy lights, 18 Descant, 20 Bells, 22 Ernie, 23 Epicure, 24 Treats, 25 Old hat.

Down: 1 Shrimp, 2 Rider, 3 Sulphur, 5 Angel, 6 Present, 7 Tinsel, 8 Chocolatier, 14 Absence, 15 Gabriel, 16 Advent, 17 Aspect, 19 Agent, 21 Laugh.

Answers to FOWL quiz:

1. Agatha Christie
2. Louisa M. Alcott
3. Sir A. Conan Doyle
4. Charles Dickens
5. Jo Nesbø
6. John Masefield
7. Georgette Heyer
8. John Grisham
9. Peter Hoeg
10. Alistair MacLean

Answers to General Knowledge Quiz: 1. Frank Lloyd Wright 2. Julie Walters 3. Emile Waldteufel 4. Wien 5. Winnipeg 6. Kate Winslet 7. William Wordsworth 8. Orson Welles 9. Fred Weatherly 10. Lake Windermere 11. Mark Wahlberg 12. Andy Warhol 13. Cardinal Wolsey 14. Wasilla 15. William I 16. Weeping willow 17. Wind 18. Sir Robert Walpole 19. Wales 20. Wan



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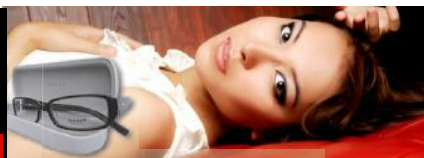
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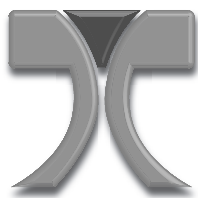
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VILLAGE DIARY

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Mon 30 Nov	Advent Adventure Launch	Baptist Church	The Porterhouse Crossroads	6 30 pm, see p5
Wed 2 Dec	Winter Social	Engage in the Afternoon	Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p15
Wed 2 Dec	Stall	Rosie in Stitches	Outpatients Foyer Addenbrooke's Hospital	10 am – 4 pm, see p16
Wed 2 Dec	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p9
Thu 3 Dec	Luncheon Club	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	12 30 pm, see p12
Thu 3 Dec	CAMEO Friendship Club	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	1 45 – 3 pm, see p12
Fri 4 Dec	Christmas Quiz	Cricket Club	Social Club	7 15 pm for 7 45 pm start See p19
Sat 5 Dec	Christmas Peal of Bells	Parish Church	Parish Church	10 am – 1 pm, see p11
Sat 5 Dec	Cake Stall	Parish Church	Parish Church Porch	10 am, see p12
Sat 5 Dec	Coffee Morning	Mothers' Union	Octagon	10 am, see p12
Sat 5 Dec	Christmas Fayre	Willingham School Association	Primary School	2 – 4 30 pm, see p19
Sat 5 Dec	Christmas Concert	Swavesey Community Choir	St Andrew's Church Swavesey	7 30 pm, see p7
Mon 7 Dec	Christmas Party	Gardening Club	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p7
Tue/Sat 8/12 Dec	<i>Jack & the Beanstalk</i>	Over Players	Over Community Centre	See p19
Sat 12 Dec	Over Village Market	Over Village Market	Over Village Green	10 am – 1 pm, see p5
Sat 12 Dec	Stall	Rosie in Stitches Craft Fair	Ploughman Hall	2 30 – 5 pm, see p16
Sat 12 Dec	Big 10 Live Ska Band	Social Club	Social Club	8 pm, see p7
Mon 14 Dec	Christmas Party	Women's Institute	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p5
Wed 16 Dec	Camtad Hearing Clinic	The Surgery	The Surgery	2 – 4 pm, see p11
Thu 17 Dec	Luncheon Club	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	12 noon, see p12
Thu 17 Dec	CAMEO Friendship Club	Salvation Army	Salvation Army Hall	1 45 – 3 pm, see p12
Sat 19 Dec	Breakfast & Topical Talk	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 45 am, see p13
Sun 20 Dec	Carols by Candlelight	Christians Together	Parish Church	6 pm, see p12
Thu 24 Dec	Advent Adventure	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	10 am – 12 noon, see p13

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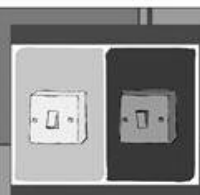
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	County Councillor	Peter Hudson	peter.hudson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Mr R Manning	01954 261235
	District Councillor	Mr B R Burling	01954 230168
	District Councillor	Mrs P S Corney	01954 213221
Services	Police		101
	Surgery		01954 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
	School Governors Chairman	Jonathan Lewis	01954 283030
	School Association	c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust	Ray Croucher	01954 261113
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Mrs M Dellar	01954 260045
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Mrs Kate Van Dort	01954 201567
	Tigger Toddlers	Lisa Smith	01954 201282
	Koala Kids		01954 260046
	Guides and Rangers	Lynn McGoff	01954 261296
	Ladybird Borland's School Of Dance	Mrs L Borland	01954 203347
	Bubbles/Messy Church	Rev L Liversidge/	01954 263187
		Heather Mellows	01954 270063
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Hilary Wyllie	01954 260051
	Little Notes Music Group (0-4 years)	Sharon Sennitt	01954 583195
	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		01954 260568/01223 233492
Local Representatives	Allotments	Sue Ayling	01954 260718
	Billavincea Lodge 8719	Mr M Scrivener	01480 413533
	<i>Cambridge News</i> Correspondent	Anne Kirkman	01954 260393
	Fen Edge Community Association	Eileen Wilson	chair@fenedge.co.uk
	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	Pete Lawrence	enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org
	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 Morris (Secretary)	01954 261291
	Cricket Club	Mr R Ambrose	01954 260446
	Cycling Club – www.willinghamwheels.com	Paul Knighton	07787 530394
	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	through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	www.willinghamwolvesfc.co.uk	
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 Karol Porczak	01480 462192
	Salvation Army	Don & Trish Hall	01223 233492
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