

Willingham News

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village website: www.willinghamlife.org

willinghamnews@gmail.com
November 2024



All the Fun of the Feast

See pages 12 and 13 for pictures from Feast Events

and for a Scarecrow Gallery!

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The deadline for your contributions is 8th of each month. Hard copy can be dropped off at the library.

Bin Collections – Fridays

Friday 1 November **Blue and Green**

Friday 8 November **Black**

Friday 15 November **Blue and Green**

Friday 22 November **Black**

Friday 29 November **Blue and Green**

(Dates correct at time of going to press)

Councillors' Contact Details

Councillor reports can be found on their websites

County Councillor

Neil Gough

www.facebook.com/neilmgough

District Councillor

Bill Handley

www.facebook.com/billhandleylibdem

District Councillor

Dan Lentell

www.facebook.com/CllrDan

To contact local police, phone 101 or email:
SCambsCops@cambs.pnn.police.uk

PLEASE NOTE:

Back issues of *Willingham News* from October 2005 to the present are now available on the Willingham Life website run by WAG:
www.willinghamlife.org/page/willingham-magazine-back-issues

If you have any changes to the Village Directory please send them to us at: willinghamnews@gmail.com

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 emails 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.

Cover photo

Willingham Feast Funfair at Night taken by John Lawrence

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Or view the Advertising page in the Willingham News section on the Willingham Life website at:
willinghamlife.org

A contact section is included at the bottom of the page

1st Willingham Scouts

The Dellar Cup

Each year, 1st Willingham Scouts awards the Dellar Cup to someone who has provided exceptional support to the group. This year the cup has been awarded to Ben Monks to recognise his efforts over several years in supporting a wide variety of events, notably helping with setting up and preparing mulled wine for the annual Fireworks Spectacular and participating in the committee activities. Previous cup-holders have included young leaders, leaders and committee members.



Tim Mead presenting Dellar Cup to Ben Monks



Scouts
1st Willingham Scout Group
FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

Join us for our annual fireworks display
at the Willingham Rec*.
Come and enjoy some Burgers, Hot Dogs and
Mulled wine

Family tickets cost £8 individual £4
are available online from:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/willingham-scouts/t-yayjerp>
Or by using the QR code.

Family tickets cost £10 individual £5 at the gate

Saturday 2nd November

Gates open 5:00PM

*If the Willingham recreation ground is flooded, the site will be available for the fireworks display.
If this is the case, rather than cancelling or postponing the event we will be relocating to an alternative location.

Fireworks Spectacular

It's that time of year, the nights are drawing in, there is no doubt that the weather has turned, pumpkin spice is everywhere and there are even a few shops with Christmas decorations out already!

What that really means is it's nearly time for the Willingham Scouts' Fireworks Spectacular on **2 November!!!**

We are planning to hold it at the Recreation Ground as we have most years but anyone who has seen it recently will have seen the amount of water sitting on the field (at the time of writing). Hopefully this will drain and dry up in time but we are planning for an alternative if the worst comes to the worst. We hope that won't be the case, but we will communicate far and wide any updates.

Running the event takes a lot of effort and we welcome any help from parents and volunteers if anyone could offer some time to help. We especially need help for the take-down after the fireworks and we would very much appreciate any help. Please contact tim.mead@1stwillinghamscoutgroup.org.uk or sign up at volunteersignup.org/D8LHX if you are able to offer some of your time, even if you read this plea for help at the last minute.

The Year Ahead

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have an exciting year planned and we would welcome helpers to support both evening meetings and other activities. We are particularly looking to fill the role of quartermaster, who keeps track of our store of equipment for outdoor cooking, camping, pioneering and other adventures.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact our Group Scout Leader, Tim Mead at: tim.mead@1stWillinghamScoutGroup.org.uk.

Willingham Combined Charities

Westmeadow Allotments

- Are you looking for a new way to keep fit?
- Would you like to grow fruit or vegetables to feed your family?
- Is your garden just too small to have a vegetable crop?
- Would a small allotment plot be the answer to your needs?

If the answer to the above is 'yes', then look no further! A number of small allotment plots, 5 metres x 5 metres are now available at Westmeadow Allotments.

These are ideal 'starter plots' in which to grow garden produce for just £15 per year.

If you are interested and need more details, please email: sueandpaulontour@hotmail.com.

Old Willingham

Until the early 1960s the village had no sewers or drains. Houses either had underground cesspits into which drains emptied or very good rhubarb! As can be imagined, the task of installing main drainage across the whole village and connecting to the new sewerage works between Willingham and Over was a big one and very disruptive. In this photo we see the work in progress on Berrycroft. This area was difficult as there is an underground river that runs north through the village between High Street and Long Lane. If you dig one metre down in this area you find pure yellow sand. The workers had to drill vertical holes with drains along the path of the trench and then pump the water out while they dug and installed the sewer.

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

See more photos at www.oldwillingham.com.



Working on the sewers in Berrycroft

Willingham Memory Box Café

invites people living with memory loss (from any cause) and their carers

to join us for

Music, Refreshments, Company, and Fun

on **Saturday 9 November**

from **10 am to 12 noon**

in the Octagon

(behind the Parish Church,

with wheelchair access and no steps)

No charge

Sponsored by St Mary & All Saints Church

For further details please contact

Frances Watts 01954 200542

Friends of Willingham Church

Special Event

That Rings a Bell – the History of the Town Crier

Mike Wabe, professional town crier and highly entertaining speaker, will perform at our next main fundraising event on **Friday, 22 November** at 8 pm.

Please arrive at the Octagon behind the Church from 7 30 pm.

Tickets are £10 per person available now by contacting the email below.

Wine, soft drinks and various nibbles included.

Contact: Friendsofwillinghamchurch@gmail.com

St Mary and All Saints Church mainly originated in the 13th century but has Saxon and Norman heritage. It is a Grade 1 listed building that contains nationally important medieval wall paintings.

The Friends of Willingham Church is a community group, established in summer 2023, to raise money for the maintenance of the fabric of the church. Most of the group are not members of the congregation. What links us is a desire to preserve the church building for future generations. We are always looking for more members, fundraising ideas and practical support. If you would like to become a member or find out more about us, please contact us by email or visit our Facebook page.

Cambridgeshire ACRE Community Action

Village Agents are dedicated to supporting you and your community. Did you know that Cambridgeshire ACRE has Village Agents working in Willingham?

At Cambridgeshire ACRE, our team of Village Agents are here to support you. Whether it's guidance, connections to community resources, or just a friendly chat, our Village Agents are ready to help.

You can find our friendly Village Agents at the Octagon Community Hub every Monday, 10 am till 1 pm. They offer a confidential and completely free service, with a focus on assisting you with identifying entitled benefits, completing forms, submitting blue badge applications, understanding confusing paperwork and connecting you with local groups and other organisations that can provide additional help and advice.

You can trust our Village Agents, as they are all Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and maintain strict confidentiality.

Octagon Community Hub meets at The Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church, Church Street, Willingham.

If you or someone you know could benefit from their support, self-referrals are welcome or professionals can make referrals using our easy Village Agent Referral Form at: www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/village_agent_referral.

If you're a resident of Willingham and the surrounding area and want to learn more about Village Agents and Cambridgeshire ACRE's community wellbeing work, please contact Rachel Mason at 01353 865025 or via email at rachel.mason@cambsacre.org.uk.

Willingham Women's Institute



Our next meeting will be on **Monday 11 November** at 7 30 pm in the Social Club. Helen Green will be coming to talk to us about *The Story of Salt*, which promises to be an interesting journey back in time, following the history of the now commonplace condiment.

In August, Jeanette Moser gave her talk entitled *Everyone Has a Story to Tell*. She introduced herself by telling us that she was 87 years old and had been expelled from school when she was five years old for punching boaters left on cloakroom pegs. Her humour and sincerity kept us interested in her life experiences, with references to her book *Letting Go* and prompts from her husband Alan – an amusing double act.

Jeanette began by telling us about her mother, escaping the horrors of the holocaust in Germany, making her way through Palestine and then to Johannesburg, where Jeanette was born. As a Jewish girl with dyslexia, her time spent boarding at a convent was difficult, but her strong character got her through and enabled her to deal with the many challenging trials in her life. She joined the Rhodesian Police Force, Special Branch and was involved in a successful undercover drugs operation. Self-defence skills were part of her training and she adapted those to specialise in self-defence and life-skill classes for women.

Throughout her talk she encouraged us to record our life experiences for future generations and for our own awareness, if not in a book or journal then as an 'I have list'. Jeanette was certainly an inspiring, eccentric speaker.

Why not join us? Our friendly group is open to all women. As well as our meetings, all members receive a copy of the monthly *WI News*, the national magazine, and can also join outings and activities organised by the Cambridgeshire Federation. You will be warmly welcomed for a taster session free of charge. To find out more, please contact willinghamwi28@gmail.com.

Over Players' Pantomime



Tickets are now on sale for The Over Players' panto *Sleeping Beauty*. This hilarious production has everything you'd expect from a panto plus some things you might not! The Over Players' panto tickets are available from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/overplayers.

Show dates: **10 – 14 December**

Over Community Centre, CB24 5NW.

The Night Sky in November

We know of young people in the village who are interested in astronomy, and many of us, at whatever age, look up at the night sky and wonder about the points of light we can see. The following are just snippets of what you can expect to observe with the naked eye, weather permitting, in the Willingham night skies this month.

When observing, many people already know that, usually, stars twinkle and planets don't – our atmosphere 'ripples' the weaker light from stars, but not so much the reflected sunlight from planets.

The First Quarter of our Moon is 9 November, when it will appear half-illuminated; the Full Moon is 15 November. On 11 November there is an apparent 'close approach' of the Moon and Saturn, rising around 5 pm, then at its highest from our location at around 7 30 pm – this 'high' will be not-so-high to the south in the skies above Longstanton. Then, on 20 November, with the Moon waning, we will see another 'close approach', this time with the 'red' planet Mars, rising in the north-east and traversing the sky together until lost in the south-west dawn twilight around 7 am.



Close approach of our Moon and Saturn, shown as at 7 pm on 11 November in the southern sky

November, particularly mid-month, has several named meteor showers – meteors are streams of a comet's debris – and from our village there are at least four visible showers due, but mostly with best visibility just before dawn. The Leonid shower will be at its peak on 17 November, the best displays around 6 am, as the Earth's rotation turns us to face the direction of the incoming meteors.

Not really observable this month is Venus, the brightest of the planets, which can shine brightly after sunrise or before sunset; it always appears in the direction of the Sun (which you should never look directly at). November is a time of the year when Venus appears during our day and is generally very low, then below the horizon at night. But, in early December, the Moon crescent and Venus will be very close as they become visible during late afternoon and remain close as they travel low in the southern sky. Side by side, cloud permitting, that'll be a good subject for our cameras! We'll have to wait until February when Venus will be at its brightest and highest and will appear very close to both Saturn and Neptune.

If you want more information on the night skies above our village, the British Astronomical Association website is a good start.

Luke Skywatcher

Willingham Library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

0345 0455225

Opening hours:

Tuesday: 10 am – 1 pm and 2 – 5 pm

Thursday: 4 – 7 pm

Friday: 10 am – 1 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm

Your Online Account

Log in to your account at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library, using your library card number and PIN to see your loans, renew items, search the catalogue and reserve items. You can also access our online services with a wide range of eBooks, eAudio books, eComics and eMagazines – all free of charge. If you're not a library member yet, it's easy to join online or in person at any library.

Engage in the Afternoon

Wednesday 6 November, 2 pm – 3 30 pm

Al-Anon. Support for families and friends of alcoholics. Enjoy a cuppa and a chat afterwards. Donations welcome.

Family Lego Club

Saturday 9 November, 10 15 – 11 15 am

Please note change of day and times. This will now take place on the second Saturday of the month.

Do you love Lego? Then come to the library and enjoy some time building with Lego or Duplo. This activity is suitable for children aged four and over who must be accompanied by an adult.

Digital Buddy Drop-in Session

Tuesday 12 November, 10 30 am – 12 30 pm

Struggling to access the web? Need help with an online application? Drop in to our library on the second Tuesday of the month to get help from our digital buddy for free.

Friends of Willingham Library Events

Contact: willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com for further information.

Family History Session

Friday 1 November, 10 30 am – 12 noon

The library computers will be available for research on Ancestry, Find My Past (access to these are free of charge at the library) as well as other genealogy sites. If you would like to know more contact us on the above email address.

Games and Social Afternoon

Wednesday 13 November, 2 – 4 pm

Come and join us for a relaxed game of Scrabble or one of the other games we have at the library or bring a favourite game of your own from home to share. Or you're welcome to just sit, chat and enjoy some company and refreshments.

Second-hand Book Sale

Saturday 2 November, 10 30 am – 12 noon

We have a good variety of second-hand books for sale for the whole family. Excellent value at 50p each or three for £1, so come along and stock up for all your reading needs.

Knit and Natter

Wednesday 20 November, 2 – 4 pm

Join us for an informal and friendly get together at the library bringing your knitting or any other type of needlework or handicraft. We'll be sitting and chatting while working on our pieces and perhaps giving help and advice to others. Refreshments available, donations welcome.

Poetry and Prose

Tuesday 26 November, 7 30 pm

Join us for an enjoyable and entertaining evening of poetry and prose. The theme is: *Anything Goes!* That's right, bring any favourite poem or piece of prose you want to this time, the choice is yours. You are welcome to just come and listen, to read the piece you have chosen, or have written yourself. Refreshments available. Look forward to seeing you there.

Cambridgeshire Libraries

Sign up for the Library Service's monthly email newsletter to find out the latest about what's going on in your local libraries. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/news-and-events/library-news.

The website also has Recommended Reading Lists and up-to-date news.

Safer Streets

Call for Volunteer Marshals

For the safety of the pupils of the Primary School and Honey Pot Pre-School, Cambridgeshire Council has implemented a legal road closure prohibiting all vehicular access to and from Thoday's Close during the times of morning drop off and afternoon pick up.

Parents and carers are politely requested that, if they are unable to walk children to and from school, they drive and park safely and respectfully in a safe and legal parking place within the surrounding streets.

With the help of parent/carer volunteers, we can enable disabled drivers with a blue badge, school coaches and pre-booked taxis for school pupils, safe escorted access during these times.

Children of morning volunteers can use the breakfast club for free while marshalling or, for the afternoon closure, children are collected from the school office at 3 30 pm. This ensures the marshals' children are safe and cared for while their parents and carers assist the safety of all pupils and young families as well as supporting the school and community.

If you can give 30 minutes in the morning or afternoon, either weekly, fortnightly or occasionally, your assistance would be greatly appreciated by the small team of volunteers that make this possible.

Please let the school office know at office@willingham.cambs.sch.uk if you might be able to help and be happy to join the Safer Streets WhatsApp group.

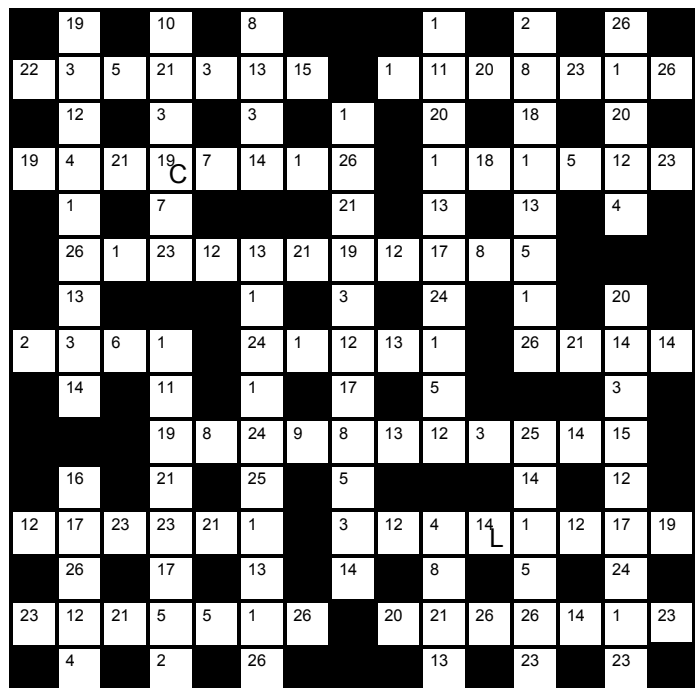
Many thanks.

The Safer Streets Marshalling Team

Codeword

by Willow

Answers on page 19



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Missing Vowels Quiz

by Herewill

The following books, shows and films, without the vowels and with random spacing, have exclamation marks in the title. (For example, L VR would be Oliver!)

Answers on page 19

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 K LHM A | 6 HWT HG RN CHSTLC H RST MS |
| 2 M M MM | 7 W S TW R DH |
| 3 M L NR G | 8 H C LC T T |
| 4 H L LDL L Y | 9 RP LN |
| 5 MR ST TC K S | 10 T RT RT R |

Potato

Cosily nestled in the rich black soil of the Fens,
When not being nourished
Through a thin white umbilical tube
I spent my time sleeping,
Lulled by the sweet shrill music of the Maris Pipers,
And hazily conscious of my siblings close by.

Then suddenly all was confusion!
The earth around me trembled and I was forced upwards
Into the place of blinding light and discordant cries
Where now I exist;
Astounded, I gaze around:
I am all eyes.

Anne Kirkman



Young Readers' Corner

Astronomy Word Search

As we have a new astronomy feature in this month's magazine, we thought it would be a good idea to have an astronomical word search. See if you can find 15 words related to astronomy in the grid. See the list below if you need a little bit of help.

Answer on page 19



- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| asteroid | galaxy | planet |
| aurora | meteorite | quasar |
| black hole | milky way | satellite |
| comet | moon | star |
| eclipse | nebula | supernova |

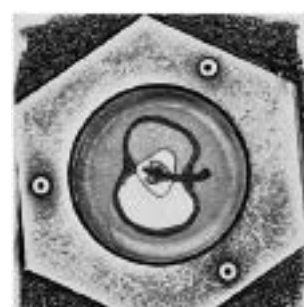
Mystery Photo

Did you work out where last month's mystery photo was taken? It was the Village Pump, a listed building, on the Green. This month's photo has also been somewhat edited but was taken within the village. Again, no prizes, just the satisfaction of a good guess.

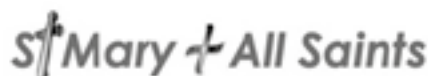


November's Mystery Photo

Any idea where this is in our village?



CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN WILLINGHAM



CHURCH STREET, WILLINGHAM
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13834

Sunday Services – in Church (except where shown)

- 3 November** 11 00 am Morning Prayer – Book of Common Prayer
- 10 November** 10 45 am Remembrance Sunday – beginning with the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10 45 am followed by a Service of Remembrance in the church at 11 am
- 17 November** 11 00 am Café Church – in the Octagon
- 24 November** 11 00 am Holy Communion

Family @4

There will be no Family@4 event in November.

However, we look forward to welcoming you for our annual Christingle Service – on **1 December at 4 pm** – see our Facebook page and Notice Boards for more details in due course.

Memory Box Café

Our next Memory Box Café will be on **Saturday 9 November from 10 am** in the Octagon, with music, refreshments, laughter and fun. Everyone living with memory loss or similar conditions, together with their carers and family, is welcome. See page 6 for further details.

Prayers for Ukraine and World Peace

We continue to keep an area set aside in Church for those who wish to spend some quiet reflective time during daytime Church opening hours to pray for Ukraine and its people, and for all areas of the world where there is conflict. **Every Thursday from 6 30 to 7 pm** we offer a time to gather to pray for peace. Do join us, everyone is welcome.

Octagon Hall

The Octagon Hall is available for group and private bookings at a cost of £15 per hour. For further information and bookings, please contact Colin Smith at the administration office, Tuesday to Friday, 9 30 am to 12 noon, using the contact details shown below.

Contact Details

Clergy:

Rev Jenny Hill 07970 949331 or jenny@5folds.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister:

Canon Jan Payne 07780 674563 or jan.payne@northstowe.church

5folds Administration Office:

Colin Smith 01954 203459 or admin@5folds.org.uk.

Catholic Parish of the Sacred Heart, St Ives

Details of services at St Ives at www.sacredheart-stives.org. Mass is also held at 6 pm on Saturdays in the Octagon at Bar Hill, next to the church at Hanover Close, CB23 8EH.

For more information about the Diocese of East Anglia, see www.rcdea.org.uk.



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

Minister: Rev Kwaku Efah

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Services – 10 am

Friendly and contemporary service with songs, prayers and teaching. All welcome at any stage of faith.

- 3 November** 1 Peter 2:4-9, The Living Stone and a Chosen People
- 10 November** Family Service – Remembrance Sunday
- 17 November** Safeguarding Sunday
- 24 November** Visiting Preacher (HoverAid)

EVENTS

Wednesday Fellowship – Coffee Morning, 10 – 11 30 am

Every Wednesday, Open Door for coffee and chat.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 16 November, 7 45 – 9 am

Hearty cooked breakfast with chat and talk: Kwaku Efah: *The Evangelist*

Community Lunch Club: Thursday 14 and 28 November

Book through Daphne on 01954 260568.

TOPS Baby and Toddler Group: Tuesdays at 9 45 am (term time only).

Meet other families while the children play. Ages 0-5. Contact Debbie Allen on 01954 261581.

Nimble Fingers Craft Club: Mondays 2 – 4 pm

Bring your crafts and join with others, learn a new skill or just chat. Contact Daphne on 01954 260568.

For all events contact: secretary@willinghambaptist.org.

Centenary Peal of the Church Bells

On 28 September many villagers will have heard the church bells ringing out a Full Peal through the morning. This was to celebrate the centenary of the installation of six new bells in 1924. Since then, the bells have been part of the village scene for local and national events as well as enabling the audible chime for the church clock.

Our picture shows the ringers at the end of the Peal. Many thanks to them for helping mark this special day in village history and for having the stamina to keep ringing for three hours. Thanks also to those living near the church for your understanding while this took place!





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A&E is not an alternative to a GP appointment. If we are closed, please call 111.

Surgery Closures

Please note the surgery will be **closed from 1 pm on Wednesday 20 November** for whole staff training. Please plan ahead and make sure you have enough medication to last, remembering to order your repeats at least **THREE** working days before collection.

When the surgery is closed, please call 111 for medical assistance, or 999 for a life-threatening emergency.

For urgent mental health support, please call 111 and select option 2.

We Are a Newly Registered Veteran Friendly Practice



The Veteran Friendly GP Practice accreditation scheme supports practices to deliver the best possible care and treatment for patients who have served in the armed forces.

The scheme helps GP practices to identify and support their veteran patients, which is important as the healthcare needs of veterans can be different to the general population.

If you are ex-forces, please let your GP know.

Please visit www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk for further information and to let us know if you, or a close family member, has ever served or is currently serving in the UK Armed Forces.

Waiting Times

We apologise that, due to the increased demands on the GPs, there may be delays in being seen for your routine or emergency appointment. Please bear in mind that our staff are working hard to minimise this but it is always advisable to allow a little extra time, just in case.

Private Insurance Work

The GPs will complete most private insurance documentation (eg claim forms for holiday cancellations, private healthcare questionnaires, factual medical reports etc) but these are not covered under the NHS contract. As a result, because the GPs need to prioritise their clinical work, these types of requests may take a while so please

WILLINGHAM SURGERY

NEW OPENING HOURS

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

Closed on Bank Holidays

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NORMAL OPENING HOURS

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

allow 30 days for your request to be completed and be aware that charges will apply.

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Meetings

The PPG brings together patients, GPs and staff from a GP practice. They meet quarterly to discuss issues relating to their surgery and the services provided to patients. This allows GPs and staff to work with patients to plan services which best meet the needs of the people who use those services. All of our patients are welcome.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 6 November, 1 30 pm** at Longstanton Surgery.

Carers' Meeting at Our New Venue

If you are a carer for someone and need advice and financial or emotional support, please come along to our carers' support meeting on **Wednesday 6 November**, at the Wilford Furlong Centre, where we will be holding a drop-in session **between 2 and 4 pm**. Please come along and get some support from other people in the local community. Refreshments are provided, there's no need to pre-book and it's completely FREE! Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month and for more information please contact susan.lawson7@nhs.net.

Please remember to treat all our staff with kindness and respect.

Willingham Medical Practice

Willingham Feast Events

Here are some images from this year's Willingham Feast Events.

Photography Exhibition



Judge's Choice



People's Choice



Art Exhibition



Repair Cafe



Ceilidh

The Willingham Scarecrow Spectacular

You may have noticed some new visitors dotted around the village recently. Here are just some of the brilliant scarecrows that villagers have created. For the complete gallery visit: www.facebook.com/WillinghamVillage.



FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Footpath to Highgate Farm

We are pleased to report that the Council's application to the Cambridgeshire Local Highways Improvement (LHI) fund for the provision of a footpath along Over Road to Highgate Farm has been successful. As the cost exceeds the maximum LHI allowance, there will be a financial contribution from the Council and a generous donation from the site owner. There is no timetable yet for when the work will take place, but we will let you know as soon as we hear anything.

Clock Minder Wanted

The clock in Great St Mary's tower is owned and maintained by the Parish Council. It is serviced annually and so generally keeps excellent time but does need occasional intervention. This includes the twice annual change to and from British Summer Time. The Council is seeking a volunteer clock minder who is able to climb the somewhat narrow staircase. If this appeals to you, please contact the Council Office.

School Parking

The Office has received several complaints about the continued dangerous and illegal parking near the school at the start and end of the school day, including incidents of cars driving onto private property. The Office has reported this to our local Police Officer. Cambridgeshire now has Civil Parking Wardens who can issue parking tickets. They have visited the school already and the Council has requested that they return soon. Please try to walk to school if at all possible. If you must drive, be considerate of other village residents and road users.

Parking Ticket Scams

We have had reports of people receiving emails or text messages which claim to be for a parking penalty charge but then link to bogus payment websites. Please be wary and see: www.gov.uk/government/news/dvsa-issues-warning-about-parking-fine-scam-text-messages for further information.

Remembrance Day

The Council Chair will be laying a wreath on behalf of the village for Remembrance Sunday. This will be at

the War Memorial in the church cemetery on **Sunday, 10 November at 10 45 am.**

Winter Fuel Payments and Pension Credit

New rules for winter fuel payments mean that only those in receipt of Pension Tax Credit can receive the extra annual payment. Pension Credit is worth, on average, £3,900 per year and, apart from the winter fuel payment, it also unlocks additional support such as help with Council Tax.

Many people who are entitled to Pension Tax Credit do not claim it, so South Cambridgeshire District Council is working to identify these people and to remind them that they have the opportunity to apply. If you know of anyone who may be in this position, please contact District Councillor Bill Handley who will connect them to the right SCDC officers.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Unfortunately, there have been incidents of bad behaviour in the communal area of Hereford Way. This land is the responsibility of the management committee and the Parish Council has no authority here although we have restated the complaints to them. The clerk has also reported the problems to the local Police Officer.

Contact Details

Councillors' details can be found on the website but below are the details for the Chair/Vice Chair and Lead Councillors.

Meetings

Meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 7 30 pm in the Octagon. Next meeting: **6 November**. Agendas are published on the website and the noticeboard outside the Public Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can speak briefly or ask questions. See agendas for further details.

Council Office Details

Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP

Tel 01954 261027

Email clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Opening hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 am – 1 pm (closed bank holidays)

Clerk: Mandy Powell

D Law	Parish Council Chairman	cllr.law@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 202188
P King	Parish Council Vice Chair	cllr.pking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
B Todd	Planning Chair	cllr.todd@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07956 993603
S Clark	Halls – Lead Cllr	cllr.clark@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07948 830406
L King	Leisure & Amenities – Lead Cllr	cllr.lking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
B Mansfield	Cemetery – Lead Cllr	cllr.mansfield@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261540
J Watson	Green & Boundary – Lead Cllr	cllr.watson@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 200245

Capture Willingham Life and Win a Prize
We are holding an open competition for the residents of Willingham, with a prize for the best entry.



The theme is **Willingham Life** and the entry form for submitting photos is:
<https://photo.ballandia.co.uk/compo/>



or scan this QR code

No Nature's Names!!!!!!!

The title says it all – the regular Nature's Names slot is taking a break, but in its stead this month is the origin of a common piece of punctuation that is much used, much over-used and quite powerful. The exclamation mark! Okay, there was really no need to slap one on the end there, but to add a bit of jollity I threw it in.

Why is the exclamation mark powerful? Apart from its use after the likes of *ah* and *oh* which, without it, look a bit sad (*ah!* and *oh!* are so much more purposeful), think of the difference to a meaning it can make. *Willingham has a library* is a statement of fact and can be quite 'so what?' But if you add an exclamation mark on the end – *Willingham has a library!* – then it adds an impetus to either pop along to scour the shelves or avoid it like the plague if books scare the daylight out of you.

Sometimes, as in the title of this piece, multiple exclamation marks are used for... well, I'm not totally sure why, except due to an adrenaline rush on the part of the writer, or as an essential in *The Beano*. Multiple marks were fashionable amongst some writers and publishers in the 19th century and hated by others at the time. The marks were labelled as *bangs*, *shrieks*, *startlers* and *shouts*.

The exclamation mark (in a slightly different form) was introduced into English around about the 14th century – then it was called a *point of admiration*. Prior to that, there's a plausible theory that it originated centuries ago, in Latin writing, where 'io' was added at the end of a sentence to signify joy or excitement.

For example: 'Strike him, Centurion, very roughly io'.

John Lawrence

Thought for the Month

November is, by tradition, a month when we remember.

As a community we will, of course, come together on Sunday 10 November for the annual ceremonies and service which accompany Remembrance Sunday. At 10 45 am we will gather around the War Memorial where the traditional words will be spoken and wreaths laid. Then at 11 am, there is a warm invitation to everyone to come into the parish church for an act of worship that will be accessible to all ages. We do not gather to glorify war – far from it – but to remember, with gratitude, all those who gave their lives in the two World Wars and elsewhere, that we might have our freedom today. We will hear again the names of those from Willingham who went away to serve and never returned. It is always a poignant occasion, perhaps more so this year as we mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Today, our television screens and social media are constantly showing us images from areas of the world torn apart by wars. As I write this at the start of October, the horrors unfolding in the Middle East, as between Russian and Ukraine and elsewhere across the world, remind us that the price of war is costly and it is often innocent civilians (of all ages) who have to deal with the fall-out from it. Across the world, millions have no homes to call their own as a result of conflict around them. There are 3.7 million people estimated to be displaced in Ukraine alone – the figures are heartbreaking.

As Christians, we worship Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. It is peace that we pray for regularly in our church communities and in our everyday lives. As we move through a season of remembrance in November, may we hold close to our hearts and minds the teaching of Jesus when he said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God'.

In November, as we remember, so too we pray fervently for world peace.

Jan Payne

Licensed Lay Minister, St Mary and All Saints Church

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Willingham Photo Club

willinghamphotoclub.org.uk

We are a friendly group of local amateur photographers at all levels of skill, experience and equipment. We meet at the **Baptist Church** every month where we share our photos taken on a given subject, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, and sometimes give talks on various aspects of photography.

The next meeting is **Monday 18 November at 8 pm** and the assignment is:

Neon Signs

Membership is £20 for six months. The first month is free for new members. For details, please contact:
derek@ballandia.co.uk.

Gardening Tips for November

The clocks have fallen back and so, hopefully, has the pace. Well, until the Christmas festivities begin, anyway. Autumn brings lots of change in the garden as the trees shed their leaves. However, while the garden itself is less productive than late summer, there are several jobs to undertake:

- November is the first month of the winter planting season and a good time to plant trees. Whether you choose rootballed or bare root, be sure to prepare the ground for planting to ensure your tree survives the winter.
- Plant the last of your autumn bulbs. This month is a good time to plant tulips. Choose a sunny or partially shaded spot with well-drained soil and prepare your bed with plenty of added compost.
- Prune your roses. Cut off most of the year's growth and take out large woody stems. (Note: Willingham Gardening Club has a speaker from Peter Beales Roses on **Monday 4 November**)
- Cut back and tidy borders.
- Cover young plants with fleece to protect them from frost.
- Make a hedgehog pile using logs, twigs and leaves. If you're having a bonfire, be sure to check for any hibernating hedgehogs.

Until next month.



Willingham Gardening Club

From the fight against slugs and snails, the merits of peat-free versus peat, to the best flowers for attracting butterflies and bees, our recent Gardeners' Question Time (GQT) was as lively and informative as the first. A special thanks again to our group of panellists: Colin Gill, Selwyn Richardson and Katja Gauci, who passed on their collective wealth of knowledge.

Here are some of our key takeaways:

- When watering, peat-free compost should be treated differently from standard, peat-based compost. Due to the woody materials of peat-free, they tend to look dry on the surface, making it easy to overwater. Turn your pot over, using your fingers to check the moisture level. Pots will also be lighter if they need water.
- While you can get sprays and pellets to rid your garden of slugs, there are many natural ways. Try a beer trap, scattering coffee grounds around the plants they've been attacking or applying petroleum jelly around the rim of your flower pots or stalks of your plants.
- Toadflax, echinacea, persicaria and asters are all excellent flowers to attract bees. Most flower with an open centre, giving access to the pollen.

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 4 November** where we look forward to welcoming speaker Simon White from Peter Beales Roses with his talk: *Rose Growing Made Easy*.

Willingham Gardening Club meets on the first Monday of the month at the Social Club, with refreshments from 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7 30 pm.

New members are always welcome and can sign up for a membership now. If you are interested in joining or learning about the benefits of membership, please email: willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com. Information can also be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/WillinghamGardeningClub. There is an entrance fee of £4 for non-members.

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Fen Edge Archaeology Group

The next meeting of the Group, which is a talk followed by the AGM, will take place on **6 December** in All Saints Church, Cottenham at 7 30 pm.

The speaker will be Adam Lodoen of Allen Archaeology.

The subject is titled *Chapel Hill, Little Thetford*.

This is a medieval site on the edge of the River Great Ouse and at the edge of the historic fenland. The mystery is where is the Chapel which should be here. We hope that Adam will reveal all.

The AGM will follow and members old and new will be relieved of their subscriptions for the coming year. If you're interested in archaeology please come to the meeting. You will be most welcome.



Readers' Noticeboard

BRIDGE

Local resident would like to hear from other bridge players.

Please call: 01954 232684

John Holroyd-Doveton

Quiz Answers

Codeword

Answer

1	E	2	G	3	A	4	H	5	N	6	Z	7	K	8	O	9	F	10	Q	11	X	12	T	13	R
14	L	15	Y	16	W	17	I	18	V	19	C	20	P	21	U	22	J	23	S	24	M	25	B	26	D

Missing Vowels Answers

- 1 Oklahoma!
- 2 Mamma Mia!
- 3 Moulin Rouge!
- 4 Hello Dolly!
- 5 Mars Attacks!

- 6 How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
- 7 Westward Ho!
- 8 Oh! Calcutta!
- 9 Airplane!
- 10 Tora! Tora! Tora!

Astronomy Word

Search Answer



The Octagon Community Hub

The Octagon Community Hub is open on Mondays from 10 am to 1 pm and extends a welcome to all. We provide free tea, coffee, hot chocolate, cold squash and biscuits. We also serve fresh soup and buttered toast at all sessions. The Hub is supported with funding from South Cambridgeshire District Council through Cambridgeshire ACRE. The Parish Council and the Co-operative Community Fund have also provided financial help.

We gratefully receive donations of bread from Boswell and Son Bakers in Church Street and have also received some kind gifts of tea, coffee and biscuits from other people in the village. Donations are always appreciated as we make no charge for refreshments.

You will find the Octagon at the rear of the Parish Church. Please follow the footpath to the left of the Church gate. We are wheelchair accessible and have a disabled toilet.

We have magazines, puzzles, knitting and colouring available for anyone interested but most people come for company and a chat. We would be very pleased if you could join us.

Christmas Greetings Reminder

There is still time to send in your Christmas messages for inclusion on a Greetings page in the December issue of *Willingham News*. Email them to us by **Friday 8 November** at our address, willinghamnews@gmail.com. Cost is £10 but all of this will go to our chosen charity, East Anglia Children's Hospice.

Post your cheques, (made out to East Anglia Children's Hospice) or cash through 54 High Street.

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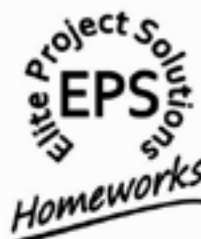
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WHAT'S ON

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Fri 1 Nov	Family History Session	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p8
Fri 1 Nov	Jam Club	Jam Club	Social Club	7 30 – 10 30 pm
Sat 2 Nov	Second-hand Book Stall	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p8
Sat 2 Nov	Fireworks Spectacular	1st Willingham Scout Group	Recreation Ground	Gates open 5 pm, see p5
Sun 2 Nov	Jazz Club – the Cambridge Jazz Co	Jazz Club	Social Club	12 30 – 3 30 pm Rosie-Val 01954 789670
Sun, 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov	Pub Quiz	The Porterhouse	The Porterhouse	8 pm www.porterhousepub.com
Mon 4 Nov	<i>Rose Growing Made Easy</i> with Simon White	Gardening Club	Social Club	Doors open from 7 pm, see p17
Wed 6 Nov	Patient Participation Group Meeting	Patient Participation Group (PPG)	Longstanton Surgery	1 30 pm, see p11
Wed 6 Nov	Talk from Al-Anon	Engage in the Afternoon	Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p8
Wed 6 Nov	Carers' Support Meeting	Surgery	Wilford Furlong Centre	2 – 4 pm, see p11
Wed 6 Nov	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p14
Fri 8 Nov	<i>Willingham News</i> & Christmas Greetings Deadline	<i>Willingham News</i>		Articles to be sent to: williamnews@gmail.com
Sat 9 Nov	Memory Box Café	Parish Church	Octagon	10 am – 12 noon, see p6
Sat 9 Nov	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	10 15 – 11 15 am, see p8
Sun 10 Nov	Act of Remembrance	Parish Church & British Legion	War Memorial, Parish Church	10 45 am, see p10
Mon 11 Nov	Shoe Box Appeal	Operation Christmas Child	Baptist Church	See October's issue
Mon 11 Nov	<i>The Story of Salt</i> with Helen Green	Women's Institute	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p7
Tue 12 Nov	Digital Buddy Drop-in Session	Library	Library	10 30 am – 12 30 pm, see p8
Wed 13 Nov	Games & Social Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p8
Thu 14 Nov	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p10
Sat 16 Nov	Talk: <i>People from Biblical Times – The Evangelist</i> with Kwaku Efah	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 30 – 9 am, see p10
Mon 18 Nov	Assignment: <i>Neon Signs</i>	Photo Club	Baptist Church	8 pm, see p17
Wed 20 Nov	Knit & Natter Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p8
Fri 22 Nov	<i>That Rings a Bell – the History of the Town Crier</i> with Mike Wabe	Friends of Willingham Church	Octagon	8 pm, see p6
Tue 26 Nov	Poetry & Prose Theme: <i>Anything Goes!</i>	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	7 30 pm, see p8
Thu 28 Nov	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p10
Fri 29 Nov	Photo Competition Theme: <i>Willingham Life</i>	Photo Club		See p15
Sun 1 Dec	Christmas Lights Switch On	Baptist Church	41 High Street	6 30 pm, see p19



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VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Council and Community	Parish Council		01954 261027
	County Councillor	Neil Gough	07919 990299 / neilgoughcrw@gmail.com
	District Councillor	Bill Handley	01954 200287 / cllr.handley@scamb.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Dan Lentell	01954 713000 / cllr.lentell@scamb.gov.uk
	Willingham Community Planning Group		07506 385554 / communityplanning@willinghamlife.org
Services	Surgery		01954 260230
	Dispensary for repeat prescription requests	Weekdays 10 am – 12 noon and 3 – 4 pm	01954 207602
	Library		0345 045 5225
	Pharmacy		01954 261787
	Community Warden	Joanne Twinn	joanne.twinn@ageukcap.org.uk / 07812 496002
	Patient Participation Group	Chris Thornhill	07721 029494 / crthornhill@gmail.com
Schools	Primary School	Mona Paalanen	01954 283030
	Willingham Out Of School Club (3–6 pm only)	M Lenk	01954 283033
	School Governors Chairperson	Chris Shaw	chair@willingham.cambs.sch.uk
	School Association	c/o school	01954 283030
	British School Trust	Ray Croucher	willinghambritishschooltrust@gmail.com / 07881 521041
Children	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Tim Mead	tim.mead@1stwillinghamscoutgroup.org.uk
	Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)	Kate Van Dort	01954 201567
	Koala Kidz, Children's Day Nursery	Edith Jeffrey	01954 260046
	Brownies, Guides and Rangers	Lynn McGoff	willinghamguides@hotmail.co.uk
	TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)	Debbie Allen	01954 261581
	Little Rainbows Baby & Toddler Group	Tiko Pending	tmwale31@gmail.com
Halls	Ploughman Hall Bookings	Through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Wilford Furlong Centre		01954 261445
	The Octagon		admin@5folds.org.uk
	Baptist Bookings and Rentals	Jenny Ambrose	secretary@willinghambaptist.org
	Willingham Social Club Bookings	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 / willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Youth Centre Bookings	Through Parish Council	01954 261027
			Clerk@willinghamcombinedcharity.org.uk
Local Representatives	Allotments		Clerk@willinghamcombinedcharity.org.uk
	Billavincea Lodge 8719	David Plummer	01480 492912
	Fen Edge Community Association	Eileen Wilson	chair@fenedge.co.uk
	Over & District Royal British Legion	Jane Matthews	07983 630265 / overanddistrictrbl@yahoo.com
	OWLS Community Car Scheme	Lorraine Hunt	07505 254363
	Willingham Action Group (WAG)	Paul Knighton	07787 530394
	Willingham Combined Charities	Lynn McGoff	clerk@willinghamcombinedcharity.org.uk
	Willingham Bee Group Chairman	Steve Smith	07795 215071
Clubs	Friends of Willingham Church	Rosemary Tiley	friendsofwillinghamchurch@gmail.com
	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)		willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com
	Willingham Carpet Bowls Club	David Young	01954 200561 / orchardist44@ntlworld.com
	Willingham Gardening Club		willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Men's Breakfast	Pete Sacré	01954 261655/whammensbrek@gmail.com
	Willingham Social Club	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 / willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Jam Club	Julian Eales	01954 201818
	Willingham Photo Club	Derek Law	derek@ballandia.co.uk
	Willingham Running Club	Monica Garcia	gcompass.monica@gmail.com
	Willingham Writers	Keira Garner, Jo Pilsworth	07539 292540 (Jo)
	Willingham Youth Club	Jack Stinton	enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org
	Women's Institute	Vicky Baggaley	01954 201405
Sport	Angling	Colin Dodd	07773 719330
	Badminton	Emma Byrom	01954 202481
	Bowls Club	To be appointed	
	Cricket Club	R Ambrose	01954 610113
	Cycling Club	Nigel Leaney	nigel.leaney@outlook.com / 07979 518200
	Willingham Diamonds Netball Club	Emma Byrom	01954 202481
	Willingham Sports Pavilion	Through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Jamie Smith (Sec)	01954 261141
Churches	Mothers' Union	Sue Hayden	01954 260363
	Baptist Church	Jenny Ambrose	secretary@willinghambaptist.org
	Roman Catholic Priest	To be appointed	01480 462192
	Parish Church	Rev Jenny Hill	07970 949331 / jenny@5folds.org.uk

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