

Willingham News

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a wetland area, likely a fen, in winter. The water is covered with a layer of ice and snow, and numerous tall, dry reeds or grasses are scattered throughout the scene, some standing upright and others leaning over. The overall color palette is dominated by the browns of the dry vegetation and the whites and blues of the ice and snow.

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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

Friday 7 February **Blue and Green**

Friday 14 February **Black**

Friday 21 February **Blue**

Friday 28 February **Black**

(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

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.

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The Village Postie



Many people know me as the village postie. By this time, I will have left my job in the village. I did see many people to tell them, but I hope my little ditty will be seen by my lovely customers who I have not been able to tell.

"The time has come, the walrus said...
To hand back my bags and trolley
Waterproofs and ID, they didn't supply a brolly!!
As nearly 37 years have gone
My posting days are now done.
Every day on show, the Royal Crest
Proudly worn upon my chest.
It's been the amazing job for all these years
But most of all, that's made it the best
Is all the customers on my list.
I'll miss you with all my heart.
It's not goodbye, just a fresh start
To move on to something new.
So there is just one more thing to do
Just to say a big THANK YOU!"

Kim Harding

All good wishes from the Willingham News team too, Kim.

Willingham Women's Institute



Our next meeting will be on **Monday 10 February** at 7 30 pm in the Social Club. Peter Haines will be coming to give us his talk – *Virtual Tour of Literary Cambridge*.

At our Christmas party we had wine, nibbles and a raffle. James Rudge entertained us with his magic tricks.

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.

Old Willingham



Here we see William Norman in his village dairy – probably in the 1930s. I am not certain, but I believe the equipment is for pasteurisation. Raw milk from the cow may contain nasty things like bacteria. It is necessary to heat it to around 70°C, hold for a time and then quickly cool it down again. What seems to be happening here is that the fresh milk obtained by hand from the cows is put into the tank on top and heated. After the required period it is let out through the thing that looks like a car radiator which is cooled by water from the tank on the right. The cooled milk is collected at the bottom and then sent for sale. The churns were taken on the back of a horse-drawn cart that stopped on street corners or was flagged down. People came out with jugs and purchased the milk straight from the churn. It had to be consumed on the same day as there were no fridges. Enjoy your breakfast!

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 Memory Box Café

We invite people living with memory loss
(from any cause)

and their carers to join us for
Music, Refreshments, Company, and Fun

on **Saturday 8 February**
from 10 am to 12 noon

in **The Octagon**
(behind Willingham Parish Church, with
wheelchair access and no steps).

All Welcome

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For further details please contact
Frances Watts 01954 200542

Polly Fawcitt

Polly Fawcitt sadly passed away peacefully at home on Saturday 4 January. After leading a very active life, Polly's health began to decline a few years ago but until then she was very much involved with all things centred around the village. Polly and Alan moved to Willingham in 1970 and raised a young family of five children at 'The Limes' in Long Lane before downsizing to the 'Old School House', Fen End in 1999.



When I first moved here in 1981 it didn't take very long before I came across Polly as she and Alan seemed to be at the heart of village life and were involved with numerous activities. Polly started up and ran the Windmill Playgroup from 'The Limes' in the early 1970s and organised a baby-sitting circle with tokens for payment. She re-started a tennis club in the village, which was no mean feat as she had to battle against bureaucracy. But she was passionate that there should be facilities for young people and was very good at circumnavigating red tape.

As a committed Christian she was an active member of the church and for a while was a church warden. She pushed very hard for the building of the Octagon. With Bill Kirkman, Polly co-founded the Saturday Lunch Club which ran for many years to raise money for a charity, the Budiriro Trust, to help provide elementary education in what was then Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). When the regime there changed this was no longer necessary, but the lunches continued for many years to raise money for various charities suggested by regular attendees. She organised jumble sales in the garden at 'The Limes', again to raise money for charitable causes.

In 1983 she became the Trust Administrator of the Sir Halley Stewart Trust, a role she took on for 16 years. The trust aims to support the salaries of imaginative people involved in pioneering research and projects across medical, social and religious fields. She also helped to establish the Association of Charitable Foundation (ACF) and was a founder member of its steering committee.

Polly had enormous energy; she worked hard behind the scenes in setting up the Willingham School Association and for a period she also regularly found time to take on

the role of relief post lady.

Back in the 1980s you might have seen Polly whizzing around the village on her drop handlebar bike, possibly checking up on an elderly village resident recovering from an illness or delivering a birthday card with her beautiful handwriting and her trademark snail illustration. If you ever had Polly for supper, a carefully selected and very apt 'thank you' postcard would arrive the next day.

More recently Polly was involved in one of the action and writing groups for the first Village Plan published in 2008 and was very much involved, along with a handful of other people, in getting the Community Orchard established.

In their retirement, Polly and Alan renovated a house in France and for 25 years spent every summer there until recently, working tirelessly on the building and surrounding gardens. They totally immersed themselves in their French village life just as they did here. She and Alan actively helped in the restoration of a 10th century chapel nearby. Polly was fluent in French and was well-known to her French neighbours. Each time she returned home, within days she would make it her mission to catch up with and check on elderly village residents here.

Gardening was a passion throughout her life and this kept her occupied at 'The Limes' and their French home, 'Les Boutiques'. Polly was a very creative person. She loved art, music, reading and was very clever at writing limericks and humorous verse. In her later years she was a member of the hockey club, still playing in her late fifties and early sixties and then tried her hand at Morris dancing!

Polly was truly a very special, unique person and she was an integral part of Willingham life. Everyone who knew her will have their own fond memories. If you have one you would like to share, please get in touch at our usual address.

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving at the church on **Thursday 30 January** at 2 pm.

Liz Cosford

Fen Edge Twinning Association

The annual visit took place in November 2024 with 34 French visitors arriving on Friday 1 November for a reception at Rampton Village Hall. They were greeted by Parish Councillors from the Fen Edge villages before finding their respective hosts and leaving to be entertained by them for the evening.

On Saturday they were taken to Bletchley Park, leaving after lunch to prepare for an 'indoor picnic' at Landbeach Village Hall.

On Sunday, hosts entertained their guests independently although most did take advantage of the special showing of *Chariots of Fire* with French subtitles, offered by the Cottenham Community Cinema in the afternoon. Groups of hosts got together for the evening meal to create a

Dinner Party atmosphere for the last night of the visit.

Hosts and guests all reported that they had enjoyed the weekend and felt that the level of goodwill and mutual understanding between our communities had been at least maintained and possibly even improved a little.

Find out more about our Twinning Association and how to get involved at: www.facebook.com/fenedgetwinning or come to our annual 'Fundraising Quiz Night' on **28 February**. The quiz will be held this year at Cottenham Village Hall, 7 for 7 30 pm, refreshments provided. Tickets £8.50 in advance (till **21 February**) or £10 on the door.

Tony Woodward
FETA Chairman

Saving Willingham News – £500 raised so far

We're delighted to say that, following our appeal in last month's magazine, we have had a fantastic response from readers and have already raised over £500 in donations. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously. However, this is just the start. We have to keep the momentum going.

Readers

If you would like to see the magazine continue in its present form, please consider a donation, however small, so we can continue delivering each month to every household in the village. You may have considered donating last month. Please do so now to help secure the magazine's future. Email us at: willinghamnews@gmail.com heading your email 'Donating to the magazine' and we will send you details of how to donate.

Local Businesses

Please consider advertising in the magazine. There are still 10 more issues in 2025. It's a great way to advertise your product or service village-wide and your investment will help guarantee the future of the magazine. As a local business, think about the added value you can bring to the village by supporting *Willingham News*. Rates are shown below. Please contact our Advertising Coordinator at the address given **by 8 February**.

Size	Price for 10 issues
1/16 page, 30 x 91 mm	£120
1/8 page, 65 x 91 mm	£195
¼ page, 132 x 91 mm	£355
½ page, 132 x 190 mm	£710

To book space contact: advertising.wnews@yahoo.co.uk.

We've made a great start to saving *Willingham News*. Now let's all pull together and make its future secure. Thank you for your support.

The Willingham News Team

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 17 February at 8 pm** and the assignment is carried over from December::

Creative Image

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

Christmas Shoebox Appeal



Packing the shoeboxes

Thank you so much to everyone who generously donated items for the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox appeal this year. We managed to pack 112 shoeboxes, which means that 112 children had a wonderful Christmas gift! Many thanks!

Hilary Wyllie

The Octagon Community Hub

Monday mornings 10 am – 12 30 pm

Come and join us on Monday mornings in the Octagon where you will find someone to chat to if you would like some company. We offer free tea, coffee, hot chocolate, cold squash and biscuits; we also serve fresh soup and buttered toast at all sessions.

There are magazines, books, puzzles, games, knitting and colouring to enjoy too.

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 hope to see you in February!

The Hub is supported with funding from South Cambridgeshire District Council through Cambridgeshire ACRE. The Parish Council, St Mary and All Saints Church and the Co-operative Community Fund also support us.

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.

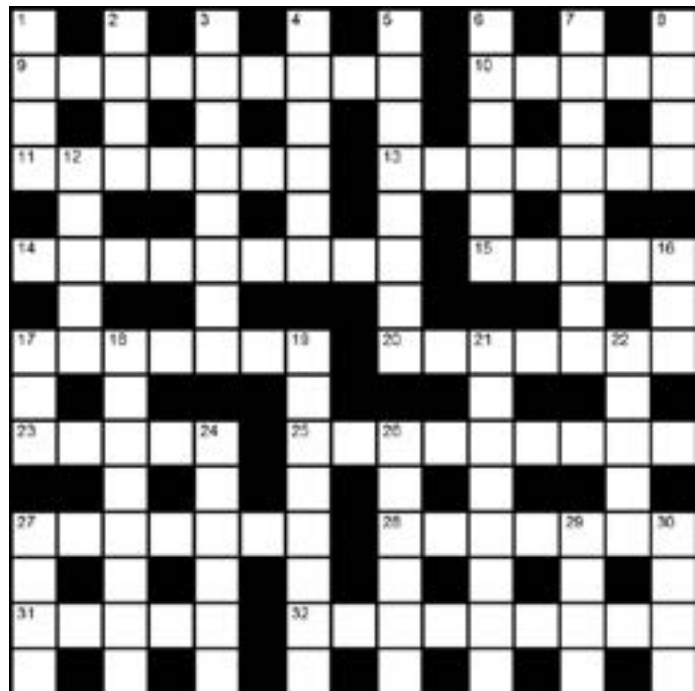
Cryptic Crossword

By Naxos

Answer on page 16

It's a Dog's Life

11 of the answers are famous canine companions.



Across

- 9 Bite back surrounds if the criminal gets milk tooth (5, 4)
- 10 Strange how Svengali enchants, but not completely (5)
- 11 Animal, I can be found in messy stable (7)
- 13 Dampness of bishop's seat has to be observed (4-3)
- 14 Live next to the wild range of German barman (9)
- 15 Occasion of electronic opening (5)
- 17 Rare rubies claim right of fighter (7)
- 20 Order a run in open country (8)
- 23 Group exclamation one might make at birth of small sibling (5)
- 25 Crumbs on dismembered body, thus holding clue for East Enders (6-3)
- 27 Expel number of attendees (7)
- 28 Choose Dennis for difficult situations – like finding the World Cup! (7)
- 31 Weary walk for 29's companion (5)
- 32 Miserable end really in the way of the academic (9)

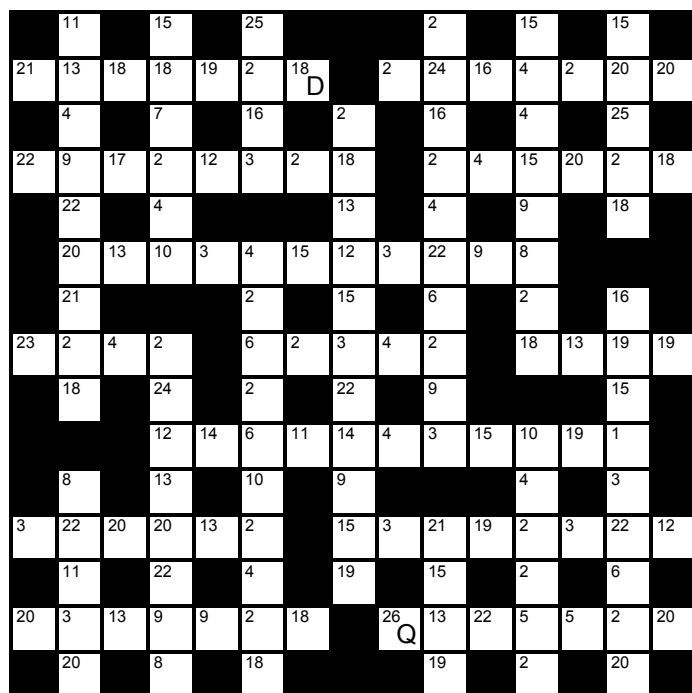
Down

- 1 Was unfortunately born to mop (4)
- 2 Feel the absence of young lady (4)
- 3 Savours the prospect of 28 (8)
- 4 Famous for making the likes of 9 and co salivate when dessert cut short? (6)
- 5 How does getting nought in a game get mixed with self-adoration? (8)
- 6 Scottish 2 is classier without clothing (6)
- 7 A German saint, a German genius (8)
- 8 Born after King, take this as a sign of humility (4)
- 12 Some agree measurement is up to ruler (5)
- 16 Draw bow (3)
- 17 Show contempt for surprise (3)
- 18 Optimistic master gets into trouble in the early stages (8)
- 19 Light again over bench (8)
- 21 Be unpleasantly insistent about copper coming to sad end red-faced (8)
- 22 All the world's a stage here (5)
- 24 Bond embraces love after villainous Doctor becomes intrusive (6)
- 26 Harp on about Oliver's situation (6)
- 27 Leaders of the one true order get everything (4)
- 29 Female subject of song that has depth (4)
- 30 One in the eye when left out of fashion (4)

Codeword

by Willow

Answer on page 16



ABCDEF GHIJ KLMNOP QRSTUVWXYZ

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

Autobiographies Quiz

by Herewill

Answers on page 16

Name the author of the following books, which are autobiographies or memoirs.

- 1 *Karma* (2023)
- 2 *The Moon's a Balloon* (1971)
- 3 *Friends, Lovers and the Big Terrible Thing* (2022)
- 4 *Unbreakable* (2023)
- 5 *Gloves Off* (2022)
- 6 *Notes From a Small Island* (1995)
- 7 *I Haven't Been Entirely Honest With You* (2024)
- 8 *Long Walk to Freedom* (1994)
- 9 *A Del of a Life* (2020)
- 10 *Boldly Go* (2022)



Young Readers' Corner

We're celebrating some of your favourite children's book authors and illustrators in this month's puzzles.

Word Search

First there's a children's book characters word search. See if you can find 15 book characters in the grid.



Mog	Thomas	Sophie	Tigger
Spot	Dogger	Mildred	Paddington
Bluey	Lyra	Alice	Hermione
Kipper	Matilda	Jemima	

Match the Book and the Author

Now match these books with their authors.

Answer on page 16

- 1 *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*
 - 2 *The Creakers*
 - 3 *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
 - 4 *The Cat in the Hat*
 - 5 *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*
 - 6 *Charlotte's Web*
 - 7 *Gangster Granny*
 - 8 *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
 - 9 *Tiddler*
 - 10 *Five Minutes' Peace*
- 1 EB White
 - 2 Eric Carle
 - 3 Roald Dahl
 - 4 Julia Donaldson
 - 5 Tom Fletcher
 - 6 Judith Kerr
 - 7 Jill Murphy
 - 8 Michael Rosen
 - 9 Dr Seuss
 - 10 David Walliams

Design Your Own Book Cover

Now design your own cover for one of the books in the list. Send a picture of your cover to us at willinghamnews@gmail.com for a chance to have it printed in a later issue of the magazine.



Mystery Photo

Did you work out where in the village the January Mystery Photo was taken? The picture, which had been edited and turned on its head, was one of the decorative corbels on the front of our Public Hall.



This month's photo, taken in the village, has also been 'tweaked'. Any idea where it is? Once again, no prizes, just the satisfaction of a good guess!



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.

Meet Roxy, a 'Pets as Therapy' Dog

3rd Tuesday of the month (term time only), 2 – 3 pm

A new monthly activity at the library. Come along and enjoy some time in the company of a 'Pets as Therapy' dog. This is a drop-in session.

Engage in the Afternoon

Wednesday 5 February, 2 – 3 30 pm

Bats: Past and Present

Animal history researcher and library assistant Eric Halinski will be giving a talk about the evolution and history of bats. Learn what they eat, how they live and how they went from flying mice to Halloween icons. Discover what species of bats we can see here in Cambridgeshire. Refreshments available.

Family Lego Club

Saturday 8 and 22 February, 10 15 – 11 15 am

These now take place the 2nd and 4th 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 4 and over who must be accompanied by an adult.

Digital Buddy Drop-in Session

Tuesday 11 February, 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.

To celebrate the 55th birthday of Willingham Library we will be holding an event in March or April. This will be based on 1960s Willingham and of course the opening in October 1969 of our library. We will have a local history speaker, photographic displays and some birthday cake to share. More details coming soon.

Family History Session

Friday 7 February, 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. A volunteer will be available to offer advice if needed. If you would like to know more contact us on the above email address.

Second-Hand Book Sale

Saturday 1 February, 10.30 am – 12 noon

Games and Social Afternoon

Wednesday 12 February, 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.

Knit and Natter

Wednesday 19 February, 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.

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.

Friends of Willingham Church

We will be holding our next fundraising event in March/April so look out for more information soon.

Saint 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. By joining the Friends, you will receive updates on our restoration projects and invitations to church events. We ask you to please support the Friends with a donation of £10 every 6 months (per household). We'd be very grateful if you would set up a standing order or make payments by BACS. For our bank details please contact the email address below.

So, if you would like to become a member or just find out more about us, our email is friendsofwillinghamchurch@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page.



WILLINGHAM & LONGSTANTON SURGERIES

Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 01954 207600 Dispensary 01954 207602

District Nurse Team: 0330 726 0077 Health Visitors: 0300 029 5050

Out of hours cover: Ring 111 Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.net

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

Surgery Closure

Please note the surgery will be CLOSED from 1 pm on **Wednesday 19 March** 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.

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.

Healthy You 'Stop Smoking'

No matter how long you've been smoking, you'll feel the benefits of giving up almost straight away. Your senses of taste and smell will get better in just a few days plus, as your lungs clear, you won't get out of breath so quickly. If your loved ones are non-smokers, you'll also improve their lives.

And don't forget about how much money you'll be saving as the average smoker spends over £4,000 every year on smoking. That's enough for a family holiday each year.

For further information, and to access the service, a self-referral can be completed by visiting: healthyyou.org.uk/services/stop-smoking or by telephoning 0333 005 0093.

Hospital Medication

We would like to remind our patients that the best place to collect any medication prescribed by clinical staff whilst visiting the hospital is from the pharmacy located in the hospital itself. We understand that queues and waiting times are often long and frustrating but by not waiting to collect will only cause further delays. To clarify, the dispensary is unable to dispense any hospital-requested medication without a clinic letter and these letters are often not received in the surgery for a few days after a clinic appointment/hospital attendance. In addition, the dispensary does not stock hospital medication so it has to be ordered in, which can sometimes take days, again causing further delays. So, please collect your medication from the hospital pharmacy to ensure that there is no interruption to your care.

Council Tax Disabled Band Reduction – Are You Claiming?

This is a scheme which aims to ensure that disabled people do not pay more because they live in a larger property than they would have needed if they were not disabled. To qualify in this context means someone who is substantially and permanently disabled. The person can be an adult or child and does not need to be the person responsible for paying the council tax.

For further information visit: www.scambs.gov.uk/council-tax/what-council-tax-discounts-and-support-can-i-get.

To request an application form email revenues@scambs.gov.uk or telephone 01954 713000.

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

WILLINGHAM PHARMACY Tel: 01954 261787 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

Vaccinations

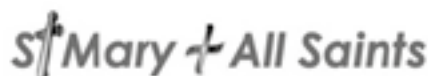
- The Flu vaccine is available until 31/03/25 for all pregnant women (including those women who become pregnant during the influenza season), individuals aged 65 years or over (including those becoming age 65 years by 31/03/25) and individuals aged 18 years to under 65 years in a clinical risk group category
- The Nasal Flu vaccine is available until 31/03/25 for all those aged 2 or 3 years on 31/08/24 (with a date of birth on or after 01/09/20 and on or before 31/08/22)
- The Pneumococcal vaccine is available year-round for everyone who is aged 65 years and over.
- The RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) vaccine is available year-round for everyone who is aged between 75 and 79 years of age and for all pregnant women who are over 28 weeks.
- The Shingles vaccine is available year round for everyone who is aged between 70 and 79 years of age and have never received a shingles vaccine, for individuals who reach the age of 65 or 70 years of age during the period 01/09/23 and 31/08/2028 (these individuals should be vaccinated on or after, but not before, their 65th or 70th birthday), individuals who are aged 50 years and above and meet the definition of severe immunosuppression and for those who are aged between 18 and 49 years and receiving a stem cell transplant.

Carers' Meetings

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 5 February**, at the Wilford Furlong Centre in Willingham, 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.

Willingham Medical Practice

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN WILLINGHAM



CHURCH STREET, WILLINGHAM

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13834

Services – in Church (except where shown)

2 February	11 00 am	Morning Prayer – based on the Book of Common Prayer
	4 00 pm	Family Time in the Octagon – see below
9 February	11 00 am	Morning Praise
16 February	11 00 am	Café Church – in the Octagon
25 February	11 00 am	Holy Communion

Family Time

A family-friendly hour in the Octagon to learn more about stories in the Bible, with activities, videos and light refreshments – all children to be accompanied by an adult.

Memory Box Café

Our next Memory Box Café will be on **Saturday 8 February from 10 am** in the Octagon with music, refreshments, laughter and fun. Everyone living with memory loss or similar conditions and together with their carers and family is welcome. See page 5 for further details.

Octagon Community Hub

The Octagon Community Hub is open every Monday morning from 10 am to 12.30 pm. Come and join us for great company with free tea, coffee, biscuits and freshly made soup. There are always magazines to read and borrow, jigsaw puzzles to do, board games and card games to play, colouring sheets to colour, wool to knit with or you can just chat to others in a comfortable, friendly environment. Everyone is welcome. See page 7 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. Also, on **every Thursday from 4 to 4 30 pm** we offer a time to gather to pray for peace in Ukraine, the Middle East and across the world and for an end to conflict. 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.



Willingham
BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Minister: Rev Kwaku Efah

ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY

Sunday Morning Services – 10 am

Friendly contemporary services with songs, prayers, teaching and activities for children. All welcome at any stage of faith.

2 Feb Luke 7: 18 – 35, *John the Baptist*.
Service with Communion.

9 Feb Family Service

16 Feb Luke 7: 36 – 8: 3, *Jesus and the Faithful Woman*

23 Feb Visiting Preacher – Simon Page

EVENTS

Wednesday Fellowship – Coffee Morning, 10 – 11 30 am

Every Wednesday, Open Door for coffee and chat.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 15 February, 7 45 – 9 am

Breakfast and chat. Talk by Canon Stephen Leeke: *Cherishing your Spouse*.

Community Lunch Club: Thursday 13 and 27 February

Book through Daphne on 07919 024857.

TOPS Baby and Toddler Group: Tuesdays at 9 45 am

(term time only). Meet other families while the children play. For children up to the age of five. 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.

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.

Willingham Men's Breakfast

'Matters of Life' series of talks and other activities
in 2025



We have a spectacular line up of talks for this year ... join us. Good company, great breakfast too.

Willingham Men's Breakfast 2025

Theme: Matters of Life

Date	Name of Speaker	Topic
18 January	John Gallagher MBE	<i>When God Made Peace (Police) Officers</i>
15 February	Canon Stephen Leeke	<i>Cherishing your Spouse</i>
15 March	Geoff Pake	<i>Facing Obstacles</i>
19 April	Jon Edney	<i>Titus – Saved by Good Works Alone?</i>
17 May	Mike Day (Ministry Aviation Fellowship)	<i>Friendship</i>
21 June	Josh Monteiro	<i>The Truth: Book of Jude</i>
19 July	Chris Brown	<i>Men and Healing</i>
16 August	Pete Sacré	<i>Life Doesn't Turn Out as Planned</i>
20 September	Glenn Myers	<i>Personal Journey and Purpose</i>
18 October	David Scott	<i>Being Accountable</i>
15 November	Dan Lentell	<i>Macho Man</i>
20 December		tbc

Other Activities 2025

Thu 20 February – 7 pm, Winter Curry Night Warmer, Royal Bengal, Church St, Willingham

Sat 19 April – Local day trip, details TBC

September Day Trip – TBC with opportunity to join St Martin's, Cambridge Men's Breakfast

Fri 24 October – 6 30 pm, Cooked supper and film. Film to be decided, at the Baptist Church, main hall, giant screen. This was hugely popular in 2024, ladies invited too – book early! All welcome.

Pete Sacré 01954 261655/07758 098150

Geoff Pake, Catering Mgr Geoffrey.pake@gmail.com

Dennis Hall, Catering

Website: www.willinghambaptist.org/community

Email: whammensbreakfast@gmail.com

Thought for the Month

So often, life just goes on for us, week by week, month by month. We see the seasons turn, we tend our families and gardens and if we are fortunate, we plan a holiday in the expectation of being able to go away and enjoy ourselves. And then something suddenly comes along which in an instant, turns our lives upside down. We have been no stranger to this kind of thing happening in the past but when this happened again to us a few weeks ago, it turned our lives upside down all over again.

At the beginning of November our son had a major road accident and was seriously injured. We count ourselves very fortunate that we live near a major hospital with excellent trauma specialists, skilled surgeons who work to put broken bodies back together again, kind nurses who tend to very personal care and even staff who ask the relatives 'and how are you?'

It is at times like this that we are so grateful not only for the skilled professionals, but also for the kind words from friends and neighbours, the simple card dropped through a door, considerate actions to give us space to breathe and adjust to what become our new normal.

We are just one family to experience such a life-changing event, but we share our feelings with so many others touched this last year by illness, bereavement or something equally life-changing. We are so grateful for the help we receive from others.

Thankfully, our village communities are mostly very good at this as neighbours and friends draw close to families under pressure. It is also important to know that support of various kinds is also available through our parish councils, churches and faith communities so that people don't need to face difficulties on their own.

As Christian people these are the times when we draw on our faith. During the Christmas period we have been celebrating the birth of Jesus, also known as Emanuel, which means 'God with us'. Even in the middle of the challenges of life, we can be sure that God is with us, strengthening and helping us to cope and for this we are thankful.

Rev Jenny Hill

St Mary & All Saints Church

Nimble Fingers Craft Club

Are you interested in knitting, embroidery, patchwork, cross-stitch – or any sort of craftwork? If you have a couple of hours to spare on a Monday afternoon, why not pop along to join our friendly group, to share crafting skills or to learn a new skill and to enjoy the company of fellow crafters. Refreshments are provided. £3 to cover the cost of the hall hire and refreshments.

Mondays, 2 – 4 pm, Baptist Church

Contact Daphne on 07919 024857, or just pop along with your craft work and introduce yourself!

Why Did Horticulture End in Willingham?



Young and old involved in the industry



During the 1930s and 1940s, working the land increased in Willingham. Orchards covered 200 acres of the village in 1905 increasing rapidly to 750 acres in 1935. The war years found the growers abiding by the rules

that the government published about what they were allowed to grow so people had some food. The Women's Land Army (WLA) worked with the farmers and growers producing agriculture crops, fruit, vegetables and some flowers. The WLA hostel was in Green Street. Local lads married land army girls making the village their home.

In the 1950s Willingham's fields would be a sea of colour with pyrethrums, chrysanthemums, statice etc. If anyone had even a front garden, there would be rows of flowers growing there. Families could still make a good living, with the majority still employed in the village either growing or supporting the horticulture industry.

During the 1960s things started to change. Growers' offspring saw their parents working so hard to make a living that they decided to find employment in nearby Cambridge. As people retired, there was no one wanting to take over the business. Growing flowers began to be a second employment with some landowners taking other jobs.

Railway Closure

After the railway at Longstanton was closed, the growers had to use road transport which was far more expensive and took longer for the produce to reach their destination unspoilt.

Overheads Increase

Previously the flowers and fruit were packed in wooden boxes, which were returned on the railway. Now the growers had to buy non-returnable cardboard boxes and punnets for soft fruit. Most greenhouses were heated by a coal boiler. Coal was getting more expensive. With the

transport and commission costs on top, growers found their costs were becoming greater than the produce sold for in the market.

Dutch Imports

As early as the 1950s, the Dutch government identified their culture of smallholdings was failing, so they embarked on a programme of purchasing smaller properties and leasing them back to more successful growers. The government also helped them by giving subsidies to enable Dutch flower growers to expand and produce cheap flowers, as well as investing in technology and research to make the Dutch flower industry the largest in Europe.

Supermarkets

People were shopping differently. Everything required was under one roof, including fruit, vegetables and flowers. Most flowers sold at supermarkets are imported. Greengrocers and corner shops were closing.

What Happened to the Growers?

They could not compete with the Dutch and some gave up growing but most carried on changing to growing more vegetables and fruit than flowers. Some growers decided to produce bedding plants which sold well, as Bar Hill was being built and customers came from there, buying plants to brighten up their gardens. Many growers had a stall outside the house for customers to pick up produce and put their money in an honesty box. Every little bit of money helped.

What Happened to the Land?

Trees were taken up and orchards diminished fast with only Manning's fruit farm remaining today. The flower fields were changed back to grain crops or pastureland for grazing. The few that had land suitable sold it to developers for house building. Willingham became a commuter village supplying personnel for the tech companies in and around Cambridge.

We feel fortunate to live in a village with such a rich heritage and hope that Willingham continues to celebrate its traditions and retain its identity rather than being swallowed up as a suburb of Northstowe.

Readers' Noticeboard



Experienced carer wanted for two hours per day to accompany an elderly couple on holiday to Madeira for two weeks. All expenses will be paid in return for two hours care a day.

Please call 01787 181178 to register your interest.

Readers' Letters

Dear Editors

I read with great sadness about the passing of Reg Purnell OBE, as written by Mike Tidball, in your January edition of *Willingham News*.

We were co-founders of Willingham Photographic Club with the late Francis Pullen. Reg was a keen photographer and joined the club not long after we opened our doors. Reg was an amazing guy. He always had a smile and kind words to say. He will be greatly missed in the village. Please pass on our condolences to his family.

Regards

Stephen and Anita Salmon

Dear Editors

Following the super article in the January magazine regarding the marathon tenure of Jane Dowle as *Willingham News* proofreader, it stirred memories of my involvement in an earlier village publication.

I moved to Willingham in 1972, into one of the first new houses. The only Willingham magazine was about six foolscap-sized sheets, held together with clips, called the 'Church Magazine'. It had a circulation of around 30 residents. My involvement was initiated through chats with Valerie Tischler, Sheila Turner and Geoff the vicar. Nick Tischler did an amazing job on the design and layout. It was somehow decided that we would undertake the task of raising monies through advertising in the future magazine. It was not ideal – to raise cash for something that did not exist! During this rather long process Geoff the vicar had frequent visits to my house to encourage progress, as sometimes it had been quite discouraging. But the 'blessed water' would always help! Eventually, we managed to gather sufficient money for one issue, plus some left over for a second. Dear Geoff wished to give the balance to charity, and rather sharp words followed, for extra cash was needed for the next issue!

My main reason for involvement at this time was to create a community information magazine, but to make sure that Christian faith and all faith would be present, plus information on all the village events would be readily available.

Kindest regards

Peter Dennis



Nature's Names



If you've ever watched a murmuration of starlings, for example over Ouse Fen, you cannot have failed to be impressed by their agility and precise massed manoeuvres. Even in our village, they can be seen (and heard!) as dozens of them gather to roost, chattering constantly. In terms of their colour, they look black

from a distance but, closer up, their iridescent plumage is stunning, with shades of green and purple, particularly in spring and summer.

The origin of their name derives from *staer*, *stare* or *starnel*, Old English names for the bird. Although this would have originated from the Latin *sternus*, going back further to its root in the Indo-European language has proved to be a linguistic mystery. However, the 'ling' diminutive addition to *staer* or *stare* is a bit of a mystery too – 'ling' is usually added as a means of indicating cuteness, for example *duckling*. It's debatable whether this bird could be classed as cute!

The name *stare* continued long into recent history – W B Yeats wrote a poem called *The Stare's Nest By My Window* in 1924. Still within the literary world, and overlooking the character of Agent Starling in *The Silence of the Lambs*, the poet John Clare often used the name *starnel* in his poems – in *The Shepherd's Calendar, January* (1827) he wrote:

*Blackening thro the evening sky
In clouds the starnels daily fly
To Whittlesea's reed wooded mere
And ozier holts by rivers near...*

The name *starnel* was used, it seems, in eastern England well into the last century – there might even be Willingham residents who recognise that name!

John Lawrence



Willingham Council School, 1939

On the Old Willingham website there's a Willingham Council School magazine which holds some gems about the history of our village and of everyday life in the year of the outbreak of the Second World War. Here are some more items from this precious publication.

A PLEASANT SURPRISE

One morning, when I came home from school, I went down to my father's workshop and there, lying on the floor, was a television aerial. A large box stood there too. I persuaded my father to open the box, and out came a beautiful television set, which was placed on the bench.

"When are you going to put up the aerial?"

"I don't know," he replied.

But a few days later I saw standing in the middle of the yard a huge pole with green and white stripes on it. On the top of the pole was a beam of wood with a rod on each end. Everyone was very anxious to learn what we were doing. They did not have to wait long. At nine o'clock all was ready. We switched on. Music was heard, Big Ben struck nine and a full-sized picture of a lady announcer appeared on the screen, wishing us all "Good evening".

I thought it was very wonderful to stand in my father's shop and hear and see a lady in London over sixty miles away.

John L G Beaumont, Std. 2

Here is a lovely poem by another young student.

THE ACORN

*'Little by Little,' an acorn said,
As it calmly lay in its soft, warm bed,
'I'm growing larger ev'ry day,
Deep, deep down in the earth away.'*

*Just a little each day it grew,
Now and then it drank some dew.
Down and down went a thin little root,
And up from the ground sprang another shoot.*

*Day after day, and year after year,
Little green leaves began to appear.
As long, slender branches spread out so wide,
The oak tree is still the great forest's pride.*

Joyce Garner

From the same magazine, here is a delightful linocut by Marie Few, a young student at the school.



Frost Flower

Do not try and use this to persuade,
to mourn, or for love: ice blossoms
will disappoint an intake of breath.

Within the clarity of cut glass
there is no stamen, style nor stigma
on these day-shy blooms.

A touch before sunrise
shatters petals into diamonds
or glistens your fingertip.

Tomorrow you will sit, watching
flowers on the stalks that died
a week ago or more; you will listen
to the white-on-white rhythm
of winter, hear the crackle
of cold in the ribbons of ice.

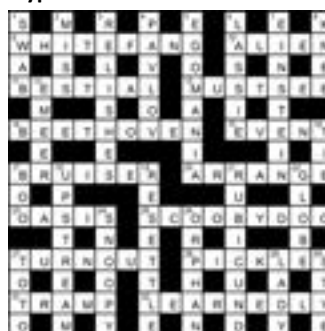
John Lawrence

*Note: a frost
flower is
something of
beauty; it can
form on sea
ice or, as in the
subject of this
poem, unique ice
shapes extrude
very briefly from
slits in the stems
of some plants, in
certain freezing
conditions.*



Puzzle Answers

Cryptic Crossword



NB The canine companions can be found at: Across 9, 14, 17, 25, 28, 31; Down 6, 7, 24, 27 and 29.

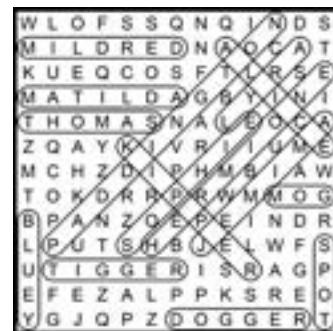
Codeword

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

Autobiographical Books Quiz

- 1 Boy George
- 2 David Niven
- 3 Matthew Perry
- 4 Ronnie O'Sullivan
- 5 Tyson Fury
- 6 Bill Bryson
- 7 Miranda Hart
- 8 Nelson Mandela
- 9 David Jason
- 10 William Shatner

Wordsearch



Match the Book and the Author

- 1 – 6; 2 – 5; 3 – 3; 4 – 9
5 – 8; 6 – 1; 7 – 10; 8 – 2; 9 – 4;
10 – 7

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Here is a brief round-up of some of the things which the Council has been working on over the past year.

Footpath to Highgate

For several years, the Council has sought approval for a footpath to Highgate on Over Road. We now have Minor Highways' approval for the footpath. With contributions being made by both the Parish Council and the owner of Highgate, this improvement should provide safe pedestrian access to the range of facilities available.

20 mph Speed Limit

20 mph throughout the village has been approved by the County Council and is likely to be put in place around February. Speeding is a constant issue raised by residents and it is hoped that this scheme will help reduce the speed of drivers within the village.

Flooding

This is an ongoing topic in the village especially when high or prolonged rainfall occurs. The Council continues to meet with Anglian Water and other agencies who are involved to work on the issues which impact Willingham. The Council is very lucky to have the assistance of two expert volunteers who live in the village and their help has been very much appreciated over the last twelve months. Meadow Road and Barton Field

Since taking on these sites, the Council has spent much time considering ways to improve them for the enjoyment of residents. Working along with some outside agencies, they are being turned into much more biodiverse sites. The latest improvement is the development of a pond at the Meadow Road site. We would encourage you all to take the time to visit both locations but please remember when visiting Barton Field that vehicles are not permitted along Black Pit Drove.

Cemetery Wall

For several years the corner of the north-west wall was monitored along with professional inspections. This showed that work needed to be carried out to stabilise this section of the wall. This has been carried out by a firm with expertise in rebuilding old walls. The small cast iron gate from Stile Lane into the cemetery has also been refurbished and now opens and shuts easily.

QEII Playground

The Council continues to maintain and improve this much-loved facility. The site does undergo annual inspections from ROSPA as well as weekly visual inspections by the Council, enabling any issues to be rectified as quickly as possible so that everyone can continue to enjoy the space.

Local Groups

Many local groups are supported by the Council, some with small grants and others with larger grants. This is a list of some of the groups which the Council supports:

Youth football teams, including free use of the Recreation Ground;

Willingham Youth Trust to pay for the youth worker services provided by Connexions; the Scout Group has financial support in using the Public Hall.

Community Lifelines

The Council is pleased to be able to continue to fund 14 Community Lifelines for residents. This is important so that they can continue to remain independent in their own homes.

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 **5 February**. 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
J Hutchcraft	Police & Crime Coordinator	cllr.hutchcraft@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07305 435771



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Unit 11, Highgate Farm, Over Road
Willingham, Cambridge, CB24 5EU

01954 620555
info@highgatevet.com



NEW!

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www.highgatevet.com



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The Night Sky in February



Jupiter and its moons, from left to right, Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto, seen through binoculars

If February gives us a few clear night skies over the village, here's what the lunar and planetary highlights will be. Normally I'd add 'visible with the naked eye' but here's an exception ... around mid-February, for example, the giant planet Jupiter is going to be at its highest and brightest in our southern early-evening sky, being the third brightest object after the Moon and Venus. It has around 95 of its own moons, and three or four of them can be clearly seen with most binoculars and a steady hand! The closest of the planet's moons, Io, is a little hard to spot because of the glare from Jupiter itself, but Europa, Ganymede and Callisto are often easy to see with binoculars, their orbits around the planet being pretty much edge-on from our perspective. Throughout the month, Jupiter is going to be visible from dusk, with the red planet Mars not far behind it.

During the evening of 9 February, if you look at the Moon, Mars will appear to be very close – this is called a conjunction. They will stay close as they track across the sky, sinking together in the west by 6 am. A few days earlier, our Quarter Moon will be snuggling up close to Jupiter.

It's worth taking the opportunity to see Mars at this time of year, as it will fade significantly in spring/summer. Venus will dazzle in the evening skies in February, setting around 9 pm in the direction of Over, and reaching its brightest magnitude of this year on 19 February. When viewed through binoculars it's actually a crescent, due to its relative position to us and the Sun. But if you do look at it through binoculars, the best time is at dusk – the glare of Venus' sulphuric cloud cover makes it harder to observe against a darker sky. By May, Venus will start to appear in the mornings but won't be as bright again for another 18 months.

Luke Skywatcher

A Resident's B&B Experience

She was a pleasant waitress, but very much at the mercy of a 'new system'. This was the first morning of our three-day break at a B&B in Cromer. She approached our table, pen and pad in hand ...

Waitress: Can I take your breakfast order please?

Me: Certainly. I'll have the scrambled egg, beans and mushrooms please.

Waitress (*pen hovering over her pad*): Scrambled eggs ... beans ... erm ... what else?

Me: Mushrooms.

Waitress: Right. So you don't want sausages (*scribble*) ... bacon (*scribble*) ... or did you say you wanted bacon?

Me: No bacon thanks. We're vegetarians. Veggie bacon tastes worse than its packaging.

Waitress: No fried tomato?

Me: Are you trying to sell us more breakfast?

Waitress (*slightly embarrassed and glancing over her shoulder*): No ... it's just that we have a list and we have to tick what you don't want.

Me: Huh? Let me get this right. If I only have a fried egg, you have to tick everything else?

Waitress: Er, yes. It's ... (*lowers her voice*) ... it's the new system.

Me: Oh.

Waitress: So, you don't want hash browns, onion rings ...

Me: Giblets.

Waitress: Did you say giblets?

Me: Yes, I don't want giblets. Ever. Especially with strawberry jelly and ice cream.

Waitress: Erm ... I don't think they're on the list ...

Me: Or a kipper. I'd hate it if a kipper turned up uninvited.

Waitress: I'm not sure ... oh yes, here it is. Kippers. There, I've ticked kippers. Anything else?

Me: Anything I do want or don't want?

Waitress: That you ... erm ... don't want?

Me: Where do I start? Soup. I don't want soup. Or aubergine crumble with pine nuts and horseradish custard. Much too early in the day for that.

Waitress: Erm ... okay ... I think I'd better ... er, can I just repeat what you do want?

Me: That'd be great.

Waitress: Scrambled eggs ... beans ... and mushrooms?

Me: Yes! Fantastic, thank you.

Waitress (*turning to my wife*): Now, can I take your order, Madam?

Liz: I think I'll skip a cooked breakfast.

Me: I thought you were going to have one, Liz?

Liz: I was. Far too complicated. We're sort of on a schedule?

Me: Oh. Okay. (*To waitress*) Then I'll skip it as well.

Waitress: What?

Me: Yes. Just tick everything you didn't tick before. Except toast, I'll definitely have toast.

Waitress: Toast?

Liz: Me too, please.

Waitress: Erm ... brown or white bread?

Me: Do you still have to tick the colour we don't want? If so, can you tick white, please? If not, tick brown.

Waitress: Erm ...

Me: By the way, do you do evening meals here, on the same system?

Waitress: I'll go and ask.

And therein often lies the problem with 'new systems'!

John Lawrence

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WHAT'S ON

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Sat 1 Feb	Second-hand Book Sale	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p10
Sun 2 Feb	Jazz Club	Jazz Club	Social Club	12 30 - 3 30 pm Rosie-Val 01954 789670
Mon 3 Feb	Talk: <i>Companion Planting</i> with Dr Ian Bedford	Gardening Club	Social Club	Doors open from 7 pm
Wed 5 Feb	Talk: <i>Bats: Past and Present</i> with Eric Halinski	Engage in the Afternoon	Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p10
Wed 5 Feb	Carers' Support Meeting	Surgery	Wilford Furlong Centre	2 – 4 pm, see p11
Wed 5 Feb	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p17
Fri 7 Feb	Family History Session	Library	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p10
Fri 7 Feb	Jam Club	Jam Club	Social Club	7 30 - 10 30 pm
Sat 8 Feb	Willingham News Deadline	Willingham News		See p3, articles to be sent to: willinghamnews@gmail.com
Sat 8 Feb	Memory Box Café	Parish Church	Octagon	10 am – 12 noon, see p5/p 12
Sat 8 Feb	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	10 15 - 11 15 am, see p10
Mon 10 Feb	Talk: <i>Virtual Tour of Literary Cambridge</i> with Peter Haines	Women's Institute	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p5
Tue 11 Feb	Digital Buddy Drop-in Session	Library	Library	10 30 am – 12 30 pm, see p10
Wed 12 Feb	Games and Social Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p10
Thu 13 Feb	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p12
Sat 15 Feb	Talk: <i>Cherishing Your Spouse</i> with Canon Stephen Leeke	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 45 am, see p13
Mon 17 Feb	Assignment: <i>Creative Image</i>	Photo Club	Baptist Church	8 – 10 pm, see p7
Tue 18 Feb	Meet Roxy, a 'Pets as Therapy' dog. Drop-in Session	Library	Library	2 – 3 pm, see p10
Wed 19 Feb	Knit & Natter Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p10
Thu 20 Feb	Winter Curry Night Warmer	Men's Breakfast	Royal Bengal Church Street	7 pm, see p13
Sat 22 Feb	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	10 15 – 11 15 am, see p10
Thu 27 Feb	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p12
Fri 28 Feb	Fundraising Quiz Night	Fen Edge Twinning Association (FETA)	Cottenham Village Hall	7 for 7 30 pm, see p6

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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@scambs.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Dan Lentell	01954 713000 / cllr.lentell@scambs.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
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	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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