

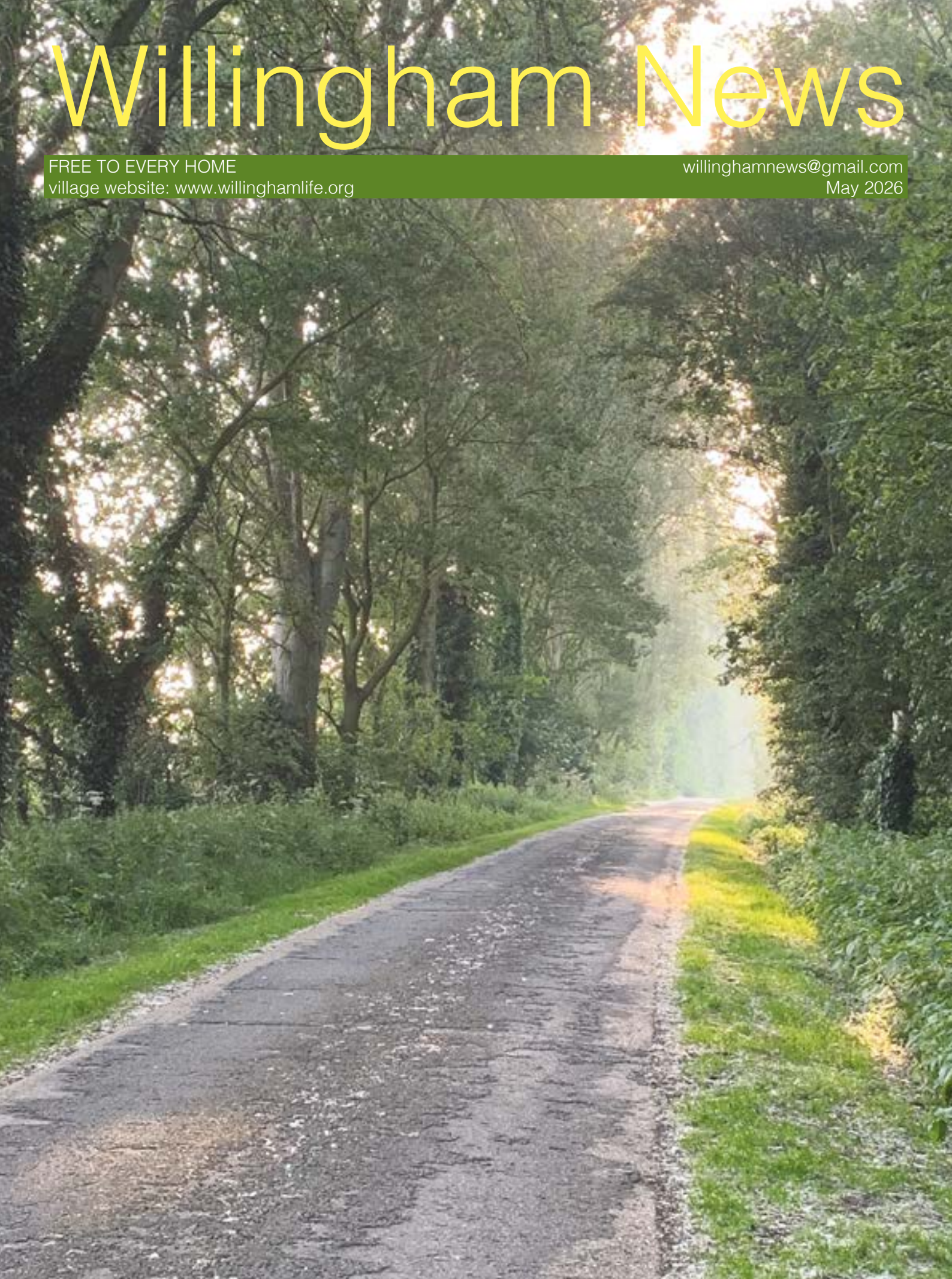
Willingham News

FREE TO EVERY HOME

village website: www.willinghamlife.org

willinghamnews@gmail.com

May 2026



*Early morning dog walk along Spong Drove
Sara Asbury*



'Slow' signs have now gone up in West Meadow Road following concerns about speeding traffic from residents. The signs originated from a discussion at the parish council followed by permission granted by county council highways who provided the signs to be installed. The residents are pleased with the outcome.



Fen Gallop last year. See page 17 for news of the Fen Gallop this year.



Andy Buchanan who has sadly passed away. See page 11.



Bulb planting by WAG. See page 13.

Willingham News is a subsidiary of Willingham News Ltd and is edited by volunteers. We do our best to ensure the accuracy of the content of the submissions, but this cannot be guaranteed. We reserve the right to edit or omit articles at our discretion. The views expressed in readers' letters are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Send your contributions to **willinghamnews@gmail.com** as an email attachment of up to 250 words (no pdfs) to arrive before the monthly deadline. The Editorial Team comprises Mike Bird, Liz Cosford, John Lawrence, Frances Watts, James Watts and Trevor Weston.

CONTENTS

May News

Do You Have a Story to Tell.....	19
Early Education in Willingham.....	11
Fen Gallop.....	17
History Meeting.....	5
Memories of Andy Buchanan.....	11
Memory Box Café.....	7
Mystery Photo.....	13
Nature's Names.....	7
Octagon Community Hub.....	17
Old Willingham.....	5
Open Studios.....	17
Over Players.....	5
Tea on the Green, Rampton.....	7
Trivia Corner.....	6
Update from WAG.....	13

Clubs and Groups

Bowls Club.....	11
Friends of Willingham Church.....	19
Gardening Club.....	6
Men's Breakfast Club.....	12 & 13
Northstowe Cricket Club.....	6
Photo Club.....	5
Women's Institute.....	6

Quizzes

General Knowledge Quiz.....	9
Police TV Drama Quiz.....	9
Answers.....	19

Monthly Items

Bin Collections.....	3
Christians Together.....	12
Directory.....	22
Library.....	15
Medical Practice.....	14
Parish Council.....	10
Thought for the Month.....	19
What's On.....	21
Young Readers' Corner.....	9

Please note the deadline for your contributions is now the 4th of each month.

Bin Collections

Friday 1 May	Blue and Green
Friday 8 May	Black
Friday 15 May	Blue and Green
Friday 22 May	Black
Friday 29 May	Blue and Green

(Dates correct at time of going to press)

Councillors' Contact Details

Councillor reports can be found on their websites

County Councillor

Yasmin Deter www.facebook.com/share/16a1voz7GB/?mibextid=wwXlfr

District Councillor

Bill Handley www.facebook.com/billhandleylibdem

District Councillor

Dan Lentell www.facebook.com/CllrDan

**To contact local police, phone 101 or email:
SCambCops@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.

O'MALLEY SOLICITORS
Family Law Specialists

Divorce • Matrimonial Property & Finances • Co-habitation Disputes Children Matters • Prenuptial Agreements.

With over 20 years' experience, we take a sympathetic and sensitive approach to Marriage and Family breakdowns. Contact us on **01954 202075**.

O'MALLEY SOLICITORS

84 Rampton Road, Willingham, Cambridge, CB24 5JQ
Tel: 01954 202075 E-mail: omalley solicitors@googlemail.com
Authorised and Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority
SRA No: 318339

ADVENTURE AWAITS
Bespoke Central American journeys, thoughtfully designed around you

ttg LUXURY TRAVEL AWARDS 2026
FIRECREST TRAVEL
Let's plan your trip!
helen@firecresttravel.com

FLOOR COVERINGS

Cambridgeshire's largest flooring showroom est. 1996

FREE no obligation quotes

01223 233233
www.floor-coverings.net

Unit 31-32 Dry Drayton Industries, Scotland Road, Dry Drayton, Cambridge CB23 8AT **Open:** Mon - Sat 9-5

ENTIRE safe Water Safe

The Complete Gas Heating and Plumbing Company

Plumbing • Heating • Gas
Bathrooms • Water Softeners
Property Maintenance

Tel: 01954 204044 • Web: www.entiregroup.co.uk
Email: service@entiregroup.co.uk

Founded in 2007, we have extensive knowledge and experience in all things plumbing and heating, making us a great company for all your household and business plumbing & heating needs. We pride ourselves on customer service and ensuring we offer an extensive range of services so can meet all our client's needs. However, don't just take our word for it - check out our 5-star reviews ★★★★★

Willingham Mini-Skips
Mini Digger Hire (with driver)

We provide a quality service at competitive prices to meet your personal requirements

For further information telephone
01954 261119 or 07774 197960

Kirsty Cornwell Coaching
Grief Counsellor, Life Coach & NLP Practitioner

Helping children, adults & families to manage their emotional well-being and mental health therapeutically
All behaviour serves a purpose

www.kirstycornwellcoaching.co.uk

The Coaching Cabin, Church Street, Willingham, Cambridge, CB24 5HS

Mobile: 07990610517
Email: kirstycornwell6@gmail.com

Cambridge Cats Protection
Making a better life for cats

Call 01223 528 312 to provide a forever home for a cat or kitten in our care. For neutering advice call 01223 236 188.
enquiries@cambridge.cats.org.uk | cats.org.uk/cambridge

CATS PROTECTION

Cats Protection is a registered charity 205644 (England and Wales), SC03779 (Scotland) and is listed as a Section 17 institution by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. BC_1710

AF BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LTD

Smart financial insights to help your business grow.
Management Accounting | Tax | HMRC Filing
Cost Control | Cashflow | Fractional FD/FC | Budgeting & Cost Control | KPI Dashboards & Performance Analysis | Process Improvement & Controls

07309 940321 | growwithaf@gmail.com www.growwithaf.co.uk

Old Willingham



Willingham Water Pump and Cambridgeshire Spies

Nowadays the village pump on the Green is a bit of a novelty and something for children to climb on but in past years it was a very important part of village life. The pump is quite similar today but then the whole area was a sea of mud due to the constant traffic of people and carts coming to get water.

Piped water did not start to arrive until the tower was built in Station Road in 1912 and it was decades before everyone had piped water to their homes. By September 1940 some people would still have been using the pump for domestic use. So the Nazi Spy, Wulf Schmidt soothed his foot at the pump rather than taking a bucket home. It drew a lot of unwanted attention. People living close to a village pump may have filled their kettles directly from the pump and the pump was in constant use by farmers needing water for their livestock, so Wulf Schmidt could have had a bemused queue watching him rub his ankle.



Old Willingham's May History Meeting

You may have heard of Willingham's Nazi spy and you have probably heard of the Cambridge five spying for the USSR, but have you heard of the spies who were trained in Cambridgeshire to enter Occupied Europe?

Find out more about it at the Old Willingham meeting on **Monday 25 May** at 7 30 pm in the Social Club. £5 on the door. Payment can be made in cash or by card.

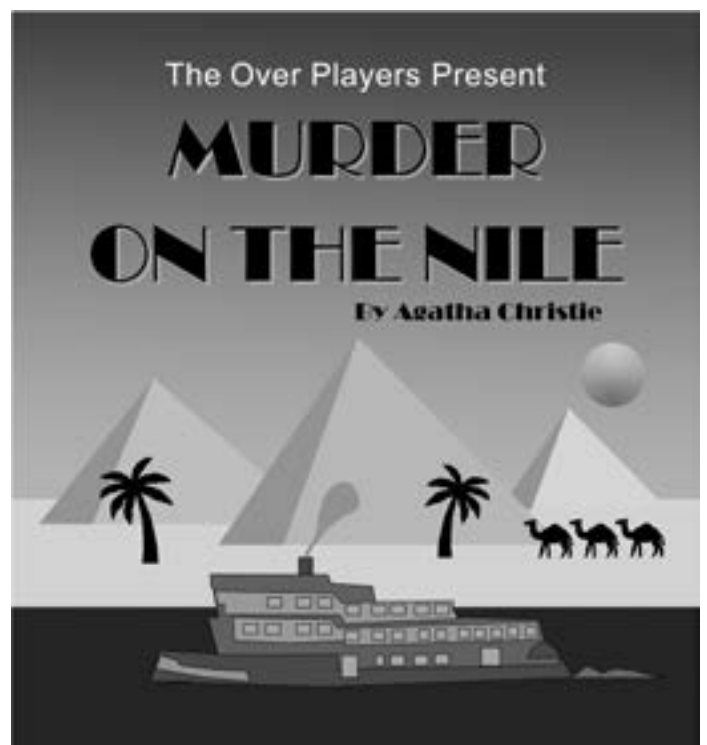
Over Players Production

Rehearsals are well underway for our production of *Murder on the Nile*, by Agatha Christie.

Welcome aboard the Lotus. What should have been a sun-drenched honeymoon for Simon Mostyn and his wealthy bride Kay, quickly dissolves into a claustrophobic nightmare. As they journey down the Nile, they are shadowed by a jilted lover and surrounded by fellow passengers with sharp eyes and even sharper motives. With Canon Pennefather searching for the truth amidst a sea of secrets, a shocking conspiracy begins to surface. Keep your wits about you—on this voyage, everyone has a reason to kill.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday 28, 29 and 30 May, 7 30 pm at Over Community Centre, The Doles, Over CB24 5NW. Tickets £13.

For further information and booking tickets, please visit www.overplayers.uk.



Willingham Women's Institute



Our next meeting will be on **Monday 11 May** from 7 pm at the Social Club, with refreshments available and time to catch up.

At 7 30 pm Stuart Green is coming to entertain us with *Sea Shanties*. This will be an open meeting for anyone to come to, £2 cost for non-members.

We had our Annual Meeting in March, followed by a Beetle Drive.

Looking for friendship, laughter and something new?

Our informal, warm and welcoming group is open to all women – whether you like listening to interesting speakers, participating in activities or simply enjoy a chat over a cuppa.

When? The second Monday of every month (except August).

Where? The Social Club.

Arrive from 7 pm for refreshments and a natter, 7 30 pm for a speaker or activity.

Come and meet us for a free taster session.

Hope to see you soon.

Find out more: willinghamwi28@gmail.com or call Vicky on 01954 201405.

Willingham Gardening Club

With spring firmly underway, we hope all your gardens have shaken off the last remnants of winter and are starting to bounce back to life. As with previous years, the Gardening Club will have a stall at the fete following the Fen Gallop to raise funds which contribute to the club's ongoing operational costs. If you have any excess seedlings or surplus plants you would be willing to donate to our stall, we would be immensely grateful.

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 4 May**, where we will welcome Kim O'Brien who will be giving a presentation entitled *Dahlias from tuber to vase*. We hope to see you there!

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. There is an entrance fee of £4 for non-members.

If you are interested in joining or learning about the benefits of membership, email: willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com. Information can also be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/WillinghamGardeningClub.

Introducing Northstowe Cricket Club

Northstowe Cricket Club is a friendly, growing community club which welcomes players of all abilities. The club brings people together through cricket, offering opportunities to play, learn, and get involved both on and off the field. As the new cricket season is approaching, the club is especially excited to welcome new players to its Women's Softball Team and already has a few Willingham players. Women and girls aged 12 upwards are invited to join — whether you're completely new to cricket or returning after a break. New players can also try a free taster session.

Softball cricket is fun, social, and easy to learn, with no experience or equipment required.

Practice sessions: **Fridays, 8 – 9 30 pm** at Northstowe Secondary School.



The club is also looking for players to join its men's hardball teams, and volunteers are always welcome to support club's activities. Friday evenings are a great opportunity to meet the team and become part of a friendly local cricket community.

For more information or to book a free taster session, email northstowecricket@gmail.com or message Northstowe Cricket Club on Facebook.

Trivia Corner

Maypoles on May Day used to be a common tradition and an excuse for a festival, dating back centuries. In 1644, however, Parliament banned maypoles and any sort of associated debauchery and revelry! After 1660, thanks to Charles II, 'Merrie England' was restored, and out came the maypoles on the village greens, together with singing, drinking and dancing.

Nature's Names

Ah, the silver birch tree. It seems to be everywhere. Which is not surprising as it's been around a long time, one of the first to recolonise the British Isles after those pesky glaciers retreated. It remains a pioneering species, rapidly forming woodland in open spaces much to the annoyance of some conservationists.

The origins of the name *birch* are somewhat blurred, but it most likely originates from the Indo-European *bhergo*, and the word for bright which was *bhereg*, referring to the bark. Germanic origins gave us *berkjōn*, in Old Saxon it was called *birka*, and the Old English version was *berc* – all quite close to bark. Several English place names such as Birkenhead and Berkhamstead were named after the tree.

It is suggested that the 'silver' part of the name was first popularised by Alfred Lord Tennyson in a fit of creativity. Before then, the Romantic poet Coleridge poetically described the birch as 'The Lady of the Woods', which drew on a traditional folk term for the tree.

In 1915, the American poet Robert Frost published *Birches*, a poem which is simple in form but complex in thought. As many poets are inclined to do, he imagines his last breath...

*...I'd like to go by climbing a birch tree,
And climb black branches up a snow-white trunk
Toward heaven, till the tree could bear no more,
But dipped its top and set me down again...*

Good old Bob, he did love his iambic pentameter. But back to the tree itself – traditionally, the leaves of the birch were used for their medicinal properties – they are antiseptic and were used to treat complaints such as kidney stones and gout. The wood itself is very tough, being highly suitable for making toys, bobbins, reels for the cotton industry, babies' cradles and countless other items. And yet, by far, the best reason to respect the silver birch must be that the sap was used to create birch water, which in turn was used in whisky production. And the branches were used as fuel in the distillation of the whisky. Cheers to the birch! Make mine a double.

John Lawrence

A Date for your Diaries from Rampton Village

Tea on The Green – Saturday 7 June from 3 pm

Join us on Rampton Village Green for cream teas, sparkling wine, music, a quiz and activity sheets for children. Come along for an enjoyable and relaxing afternoon in the company of friends and neighbours. Early bird prices (available from ramptonvillagehall.co.uk) are cream tea £4.50, cream tea with prosecco £6.50. On the day prices are £5 cream tea or £7 with prosecco. A joint venture with Rampton Fairies.

Willingham Memory Box Café

If you're living with any form of memory loss or other illness, and would like to join us please come and join us to sing or just listen to songs of the 60s and 70s and, at the same time, relax and have Refreshments, Company and Fun.
Please do come with a friend, family or carer

on **Saturday 9 May**

from 10 am to 12 noon

In the Octagon

(behind the Parish Church. There is wheelchair access and no steps).

All Welcome No Charge

Sponsored by St Mary & All Saints Church

For further details call 07780 610382 or

Email: memoryboxcafe@yahoo.com.



Warm in winter Cool in summer

Systems to suit all spaces & budgets

Improved air quality

Government Incentive **NO VAT** – expires 2027

FREE home survey

Fully qualified & F-Gas registered



07932 048 596

info@aeros-systems.co.uk

www.aeros-systems.co.uk

Over, Cambridgeshire

THE PLOUGHMAN HALL WEST FEN ROAD, WILLINGHAM

Book Willingham's village hall for your

Wedding Reception

Birthday Party

Private Function

Play or Musical Event

Club or Society Meeting

The Ploughman Hall

Offers:

A large hall

Bar facilities (subject to licence)

A fully equipped kitchen

Disabled friendly facilities

Ample off-road parking

Check out our competitive hire charges and make your booking at the Parish Office (01954 261027)

The Ploughman Hall – Willingham's village hall



CURTAINS, ROMAN BLINDS & SOFT FURNISHINGS





- ▶ Handmade and bespoke
- ▶ Fabric available or we can make use of fabric you may already have
- ▶ Poles & tracks supplied and fitted
- ▶ Based in Over

FOR FRIENDLY, HELPFUL ADVICE:
01954 200070 • 07910 507514
DENISE@DENISEJACKSONINTERIORS.CO.UK
WWW.DENISEJACKSONINTERIORS.CO.UK



Your local, family run carpentry business covering all aspects of carpentry

Kitchens Wardrobes Doors Media Walls
Bespoke Projects and Furniture

Call us for your free, no obligation, quote today:

Tel: 07934 860896
steve@masoncarpentrysolutions.co.uk
www.masoncarpentrysolutions.co.uk



Over, Cambridge

Highgate Country Stores Ltd



Over Road, Willingham, Cambridge, CB24 5EU

- * High Quality Pet Food and Accessories
- * Poultry and Farm Animal Feed and Equipment
- * Horse Feed, Equipment and Bedding
- * Riding Accessories
- * Fuel - Flo Gas, Logs, Kindling and Coal



Open 7 Days a week
www.highgatecountrystore.co.uk Telephone: 01954 260798
info@highgatecountrystore.co.uk

Highgate Butchers



We sell locally sourced quality meat and poultry enhanced by a wealth of butchery experience from our friendly and knowledgeable staff.

Come and see for yourself our great range of beef, Lamb, Pork, Poultry and Game products, not forgetting our 28 day aged beef.

Opening times: Mon: Closed / Tue-Sat: 8-5.30 / Sun: 9-2
Tel: 01954 260444 highgatebutchers@gmail.com

JASON KIRBY LTD

EXPERT DECORATORS

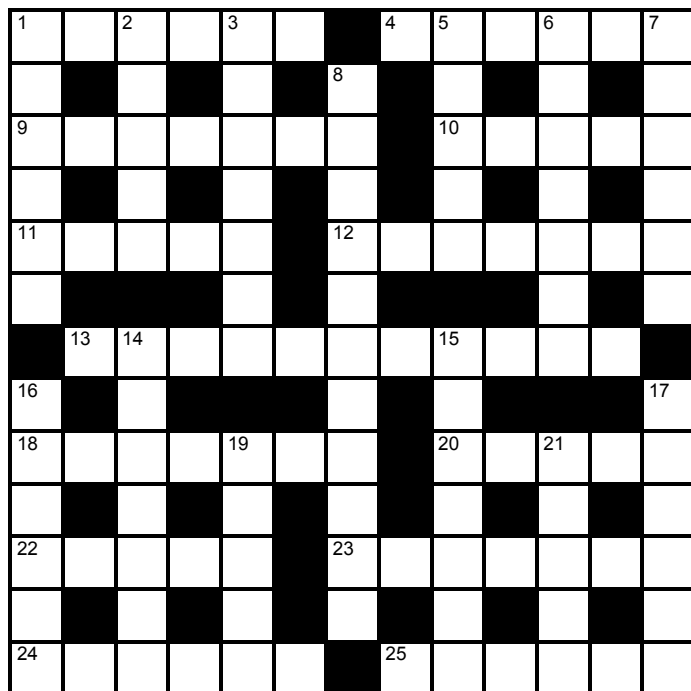
All Aspects of Internal & External Decorating
Period, Residential & Commercial Properties
Wallpaper & Mural Install
Kitchen Cabinet & Furniture Re-Sprays
Floor Sanding & Restoration
Plastering, Coving & Artex
City & Guilds, NVQ Qualified
For Service, Quality & Reliability



01954 211775
jasonkirbyltd.co.uk

General Knowledge Crossword by Willow

Answers on page 19



Across

- 1 Grass crop feed made for cattle (6)
- 4 Fashion doll created by Ruth Handler in 1959 (6)
- 9 New World explorer for Elizabeth I (7)
- 10 First name of singer Harry Webb (5)
- 11 Board game (5)
- 12 Last Beatles studio album from 1970 (3,2,2)
- 13 P L Travers book and film with Julie Andrews (4,7)
- 18 Back of a horse's lower leg (7)
- 20 Joint founder of a luxury car and engine manufacturing firm (5)
- 22 Part of the small intestine (5)
- 23 Eighth planet from the sun (7)
- 24 Sanctify with oil (6)
- 25 Chemical element with atomic number 8 (6)

Down

- 1 Evergreen tree (6)
- 2 French city and Eurostar destination (5)
- 3 Lincolnshire town with football team 'The Mariners' (7)
- 5 Racecourse founded by Queen Anne in 1711 (5)
- 6 20th century British composer (7)
- 7 French engineer associated with a Parisian landmark (6)
- 8 Disney animated film from 1994 (3,4,4)
- 14 Design movement from the early 20th century (3,4)
- 15 Plastic alternative to glass (7)
- 16 Second largest continent (6)
- 17 Britain's longest river (6)
- 19 Quizmaster and crime writer (5)
- 21 Canadian singer/song writer associated with Crosby, Stills and Nash (5)



Young Readers' Corner

MAY Words

There aren't many common words which contain the letters MAY in this order. Here are anagrams of five. Can you work out the words?

Answers on page 19

1. hey mam
2. many a noise
3. lay poem
4. bye ma
5. mid say

May Flowers Word Search

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

Rose	Iris	Snapdragons	Pansy
Peonies	Cosmos	Lily	Larkspur
Tulips	Rhododendron	Carnation	Lilac
Daffodil	Buttercup	Zinnia	Dahlia
Hydrangea	Chrysanthemum	Pelunia	Marigold

COOL2KIDS

Police TV Drama Quiz by Herewill

Answers on page 19

Many viewers like TV police dramas, even if it's only to raise an eyebrow at unlikely procedures in the storyline. But that aside, here's a quiz to test your knowledge of some popular crime series.

1. In the BBC series *Line of Duty*, what is the name of the unit that investigates 'bent coppers'?
2. Hits from which singer gave titles to two time-travelling TV crime dramas in 2006 and 2010?
3. What was the name of the actor who played DI Jimmy Perez in BBC's *Shetland*?
4. Which long-running ITV police procedural series, first broadcast in 1984, was originally entitled *Woodentop*?

5. Who plays DCI Rachel Carey in the conspiracy thriller *The Capture*?
6. Rowan Atkinson starred in a 1990s Ben Elton sitcom set in a police station. What was the title?
7. Which Cornish town is BBC's *Beyond Paradise* filmed in, supposing to be fictional Devon town 'Shipton Abbott'?
8. Which actor played the part of Sgt Catherine Cawood in *Happy Valley*?
9. In the crime drama *Luther*, what was the Christian name of DI Luther, played by Idris Elba?
10. Which stand-up comedian starred in the spoof police TV drama series *The Detectives* in the 1990s?

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Barry Todd

Barry Todd has resigned from the Parish Council. We thank him for his work with the Council, in particular with the Planning Committee. This has left a vacancy as chair of the planning committee which will remain unfilled until the new committee is selected at the next Parish Council meeting.

District Councillors

Both Councillors Bill Handley and Dan Lentell are standing down at the coming election. We would like to thank them for all the help and support over the years and wish them well in any new ventures.

Highways

The long-planned works on Earith Road have been completed and there is a smoother ride to the caravan site at Roseberry Park. We were unable to include any traffic calming with these works but still plan to get measures to reduce the inconsiderate speeding in both directions particularly on the 30mph stretch which is especially dangerous for residents and pedestrians.

The local Speed Watch group has restarted in earnest following a winter break. Unfortunately, there are still many road users who don't seem to accept that the speed limits apply to them. The group report all those exceeding the limits to the police, including any shown to be without a current MOT and/or vehicle excise duty paid. They are hoping to expand the scheme to include Over Road, Rampton Road, and around the Green. More volunteers are always welcome, especially from the roads that they want to add. The group can be contacted on speedwatchwillingham@yahoo.com and you will be given the required training and be able to add your availability to the rota.

The works to construct the footpath along Over Road to Highgate Farm should be in progress when this magazine is delivered. Whilst this Local Highways Initiative (LHI) bid was applied for over two years ago and awarded in October 2024, the scheme has proved more complicated to implement largely due to the road closures we have experienced along Over Road and agreements to reduce

future disruptions. Hopefully this work will be completed by 15 May.

The LHI bid last year for additional yellow lines at various points in the village was also successful. Consultation with highways has agreed to increase the areas to include Over Road where there are many issues with vehicle flows to the traffic lights particularly at peak periods.

QEII Field

Last year the very popular cable run (zip wire) was shut down as it was unsafe, and the original contractor was unable to replace it. The Parish Council has received quotations for options to install a new one and hope to have it operational again as soon as possible.

Contact Details

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

Meetings

The May meeting date is **13 May** at 7 30 pm and is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (Quarterly Budget Meeting). This is due to the elections held the previous week. Normally meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 7 30 pm in the Octagon. 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

emailclerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

Clerk: Mandy Powell

D Law	Parish Council Chair	cllr.law@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 202188
J Hutchcraft	Parish Council Vice Chair & Police Liaison Lead Cllr	cllr.hutchcraft@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07305 435771
L King	Leisure and Amenities – Lead Cllr	cllr.lking@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 260780
J Watson	Green & Boundary – Lead Cllr	cllr.watson@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07947 572008
B Mansfield	Cemetery – Lead Cllr	cllr.mansfield@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	01954 261540
S Clark	Halls – Lead Cllr	cllr.clark@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07948 830406
N Harris	Highways – Lead Cllr	cllr.harris@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	07792 611226

Memories of Andy Buchanan

Andy Buchanan sadly passed away at the end of March.

Andy's parents moved to Cold Harbour Farm, Willingham in the early sixties and I first met Andy when I was in my teens and he was in his early twenties. It was the start of an enduring friendship. Andy was a farmer, an engineer, an aviator and a musician. When he was 17 he went to Australia for two years as a cattle handler – quite an experience.

From his workshop Andy made and mended numerous bits of agricultural equipment for his family and farmers in and around Willingham. He was a blacksmith and designed, manufactured and installed wrought iron gates, fences and other ornamental ironworks. There are examples of his work in the village and beyond.

His love of aviation started when he used to cycle to Duxford aerodrome and learned to fly gliders. He progressed to powered aircraft and got his private pilot's licence. I remember seeing a Piper Cub light aircraft arrive in a container which was assembled at the farm. Andy was a longstanding member of the Cambridge flying group which was based at Cambridge airport. Many tales were told of happy days spent in and around aircraft.

Andy loved motor vehicles and had various projects over the years. He helped me deliver Foden trucks across East Anglia. He refurbished an old Scammell which went to shows and was used for weddings. He made a great job of restoring an old Caterpillar D8 crawler.

Andy loved music, especially Country and Western. He was an accomplished guitarist, built steel guitars and enjoyed sessions at the Jam Club in the village. Andy made many firm friendships with other like-minded musicians.

For many years I thought he would never marry, but he met Sue, the love of his life. With Sue came three children, and later grandchildren – he loved and adored them all.

Andy was a very engaging man and could be found in the Social Club enjoying a beer with friends, or sitting at the bar of the Bank micropub, again amongst his many friends. He touched so many people's lives and was respected and loved by all. He will be sadly missed but not forgotten.

See photo on inside of front cover.

Steve Halliday

**BR Unwin Brickwork & Building
Contractors Ltd.**

We are a family-run building company with 35 years' experience based in Willingham

- New Builds
- Loft and Garage conversions
- Extensions
- Renovations
- New Garage Builds

To talk to us about designing and building your dream home or maximising the full potential of your existing property please get in touch

01954 201556 or 07759 621390 bruce@brunwinbrickwork.com

Early Education in Willingham

In 1968 the Local History Group at Cottenham Village College published a small booklet containing an account of their research into local education in the area from 1593 to the 20th century. It is remarkably well researched and presented, and as well as a factual history of the development of education, it covers topics such as school attendance (or lack of it) and health problems affecting the children over the years.

I hope the original members of the group would have been pleased to have some of their work reproduced here for the benefit of newer inhabitants of the village.

Willingham Subscription School

The earliest known school in the neighbourhood was the 'Subscription School' founded in the village on 24 June 1593. Most schools founded at the time were the result of private bequests, but this one was funded by private subscription and the money collected was invested in land. Altogether 102 local people subscribed, in sums ranging from 3s 4d (three shillings and four pence) to £20. The list was headed by the Lord of the Manor of Bourneys, the current parson and a Mr Edward Mace. Altogether £103 8s 4d was subscribed in the first year and a set of articles was drawn up.

The first schoolmaster was Lawrence Milford who in 1601 was living in a cottage on the west side of George Street, with quite extensive land stretching from present day Love Lane to the roadway next to the Lode and rented more land both arable and fen from the Manor of Willingham.

There was no designated school building and teaching took place in a chapel in the south aisle of the Parish Church. So began a school which was to continue in existence until 1876.

Anne Kirkman

There will be another instalment next month.

Willingham Bowls Club Needs You

The game of lawn bowls is a fun sporting and social activity that can be played by people of all ages and abilities. We really need new members to ensure this activity continues in the village.

Why not come and give it a go? We are an extremely friendly bunch who organise regular informal roll ups during the week and at weekends and for those who like competition, we play in friendly and league matches in the evenings and weekends during the season.

If you see us playing on the green, come and say hello. All you need is a pair of flat soled shoes. We will provide everything else.

For roll up information and club news, do keep an eye on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/WillinghamBowlsClub.



St Mary & All Saints

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

Services – in Church (except where shown)

3 May	11 am	Holy Communion
10 May	11 am	Café Church – in the Octagon Hall
17 May	11 am	Holy Communion – followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting
24 May	11 am	Holy Communion – Based on the Book of Common Prayer <i>Led by Venerable Dr Alex Hughes – Archdeacon of Cambridge</i>
31 May		No service at St Mary & All Saints – 11 am – Joint 5Folds Churches service at St Mary's Church, Over

Wednesday Services of Morning Prayer

On each **Wednesday** a short Morning Prayer Service is held at 9 30 am in one of the four 5folds Churches.

Services in May are: 6 May, Swavesey; 13 May, Longstanton; 20 May, Willingham; 27 May, Over. Everyone is welcome.

Memory Box Café

Our next Memory Box Café will be on **Saturday 9 May** from 10 am in The Octagon with the usual mix of music, refreshments, laughter and fun. Everyone living with memory loss (or other illness) accompanied by a carer, friend or family is welcome. See page 7 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 and free tea, coffee, toast and a hot light lunch. 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. Also available is advice and guidance about finance. Everyone is welcome.

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 to pray for Ukraine and its people during daytime Church opening hours. Also, **every Thursday** at 4 30 pm, we offer a time to gather to pray for peace in Ukraine and the Middle East and for an end to conflict worldwide. Everyone is welcome.

Octagon Hall

The Octagon Hall is available for group and private bookings at a cost of £16 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 Ed Green (Team Vicar)	01954 716894 or ed@5folds.org.uk
Rev Stephen Dove (Team Rector)	07944 014521 or stephen@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
-------------	--



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

Minister: Rev Kwaku Efah

Sunday Morning Services – 10 am

Friendly contemporary services with songs, prayers and fellowship.

3 May Service with Communion

10 May Service

17 May Family Service

24 May Service

31 May Service

EVENTS

Wednesday Fellowship – Coffee Morning, 10 – 11 30 am

Every Wednesday, Open Door for coffee and chat.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 16 May, 7 45 – 9 15 am

Breakfast and chat. Speaker, retired local RAF Navigator – *RAF Canberra*. To book contact Pete on – whammensbrek@gmail.com.

Community Lunch Club – Thursdays 7 and 21 May

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 07919 024857.

Women's Bible Study Group – Monday 25 May 7 pm

For all events contact: secretary@willinghambaptist.org.

Catholic Parish of the Sacred Heart, St Ives

Mass at 5 pm Saturdays, 9 and 11 am Sundays.

Mass is also celebrated at **6 pm on Saturday** in the church at Hanover Close, Bar Hill, CB23 8EH. www.olem.org.uk.

For more information about the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia, See www.rcdea.org.uk.

Update from Willingham Action Group



Willingham community areas have had a beautifully bright start to Spring with huge thanks to the volunteers who got involved in bulb planting last winter. This photo and the one on the inside cover page show Willingham in bloom in Brickhills and at the Green.

Our Orchard came alive for a very different reason, with the Easter Bunny joining the families taking part in the Easter Trail, enjoying a walk in the Community Orchard, whilst collecting letters to win a prize. Other recent events have included our popular Spring Ceilidh and the eighth Repair Café.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, contributed your time and helped brighten up the village this Spring.

Unfortunately, we have made the decision to postpone our SWISH event in May. Watch this space for a date later in the year.

Willingham Fete

Our village fete will be taking place after the Fen Gallop on **Sunday 5 July** at Ploughman Hall from 11 30 am – 4 pm. There will be various stalls, food, drink and entertainment. It is set to be a great event for the whole community. Can someone please order the sunshine?

Getting Involved

If controlling the weather is not your thing, there are lots of ways to get involved, whether that's volunteering at the event, helping out at other local activities, pitching in with environmental projects around the village, or even designing and printing posters. Every contribution counts, and together we can make Willingham an even stronger, more connected community.

Stallholders

We welcome new stall holders at the fete, so whether you are a community group or a business, do get in touch. Prices are: Free for community groups / £5 for small businesses / £10 for established businesses.

Keep in touch by liking our Facebook page:

Website: www.willinghamlife.co.uk

Get in touch: events@willinghamlife.co.uk.



Men's Breakfast Club

Bletchley Outing

I am sure those of you went on this trip last month will agree we all had a great day. The morning kicked off with another stupendous full cooked breakfast and fresh fried eggs all for a ridiculous £3 each! Thanks to Dennis and Geoff our resident chefs who cook for us diligently every month.

An old friend, Malcolm Wylie from St Martin's Men's Breakfast and Church, Cambridge provided first-hand stories about his father Shaun at Bletchley...one of the senior Codebreakers at Bletchley Park during World War Two. Shaun Wylie became friends at college with one of the leading mathematicians of the day, Alan Turing. Later Shaun even invented the first computerised chess game! He died in 2009, leaving an amazing legacy.

After the talk, over half of us visited Bletchley Park for the rest of the day. Following lunch, we joined an hour's tour with a guide who knew about Shaun Wylie's work. We glimpsed a new huge AI Centre which highlights an amazing interactive insight into the future...awesome and scary too. We intend to return soon. Numbering 200 in 1938, Bletchley's staff grew with more than 9000 staff from all over the country working there during the 1940s, many commuting daily by train.

A great day, talk, breakfast and trip. Want to hear fascinating stories at breakfast and trips? You just have to join us! All welcome, third Saturday each month at 8 am. Our next meeting is **16 May** – Talk about *RAF Canberra* by retired local navigator.

Pete Sacré

Mystery Photo

For those readers who struggled to identify the photo in the March issue, it was the Newington Road sign at the Long Lane junction. Full disclosure, this month's photo was taken last summer, and it's been 'tweaked', but hopefully it will still be recognisable!





WILLINGHAM & LONGSTANTON SURGERIES

Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 01954 207600 Dispensary 01954 207602

Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.net

Community (District) Nurses: 0330 726 0077 Health Visitors: 0300 029 5050

A&E IS NOT AN ALTERNATIVE TO A GP APPOINTMENT

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

May Bank Holidays – Opening Hours

Please note the surgery will be closed for the bank holidays on **Monday 4 May** and **Monday 25 May**. Plan ahead and make sure you have enough medication to last, remembering to order your repeats at least three working days before collection.

The Mindful Life Group

The Mindful Life Group offer online, group-based mental health programs designed to support older adults and carers in building well-being, connection and resilience. Our accessible, evidence-based courses help bridge gaps in healthcare, particularly for those facing health inequalities. As a not-for-profit organisation, we are committed to inclusivity and sustainability, ensuring our services are both high-impact and accessible. For further information visit the-mindful-life.com.

Volunteer Opportunity: Chair of the Patient Participation Group

We are looking for a new Chair for our Patient Participation Group (PPG). The PPG is a group of patients who work with the practice team to help improve services, share patient views and support the development of the practice. As Chair, you would lead meetings, help set agendas, and act as a key link between patients and the practice.

Any patient registered with Willingham Medical Practice, who is interested in representing patient views and helping shape local healthcare services, can apply. No previous experience is required - just enthusiasm, good communication skills and a willingness to get involved. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sharon Unwin, Practice Manager. We would love to hear from you and welcome new voices to the PPG.

Vaccinations

- 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. Please note, when booking your second (booster) shingles vaccination, that this cannot be administered any sooner (even by one day) than six calendar months after the first vaccination was given.

Change of Personal Details

Please let us know if you change your name, address or telephone number. A change of address may mean that you are outside our practice area, and our reception team will advise you on this. It is important we have your up-to-date contact details in case we need to contact you at any time. You can update us by visiting www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk/practice-information/change-of-personal-details or popping into the surgery and completing a change of details form for you and other members of your household, remembering to bring your photo ID for identification.

Travel Information

As the summer holidays are fast approaching many of us are turning our attention to booking holidays and making our travel plans. If you are planning to travel abroad, please consider whether you will require any vaccinations. By booking a travel clinic appointment (at least six weeks before your date of travel) with one of our practice

NEW SURGERY OPENING HOURS

Willingham Medical Practice		Longstanton Branch Surgery	
Monday	8 am – 6 30 pm	Monday	8 30 am – 1 pm & 2 30 pm – 6 pm
Tuesday	8 am – 6 30 pm	Tuesday	8 30 am – 1 pm
Wednesday	8 am – 6 30 pm	Wednesday	8 30 am – 1 pm
Thursday	8 am – 6 30 pm	Thursday	8 30 am – 1 pm
Friday	8 am – 6 30 pm	Friday	8 30 am – 1 pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

WILLINGHAM PHARMACY Tel: 01954 261787

NORMAL OPENING HOURS

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

LONGSTANTON DISPENSARY OPENING TIMES

For Collection of Prescriptions		Telephone Line	
Monday	8 30 am – 1 pm & 2 30 – 4 pm	Monday	10 am – 12 & 3 – 4 pm
Tuesday	8 30 am – 1 pm & 2 30 – 4 pm	Tuesday	10 am – 12 & 3 – 4 pm
Wednesday	8 30 am – 1 pm & 2 30 – 4 pm	Wednesday	10 am – 12 & 3 – 4 pm
Thursday	8 30 am – 1 pm	Thursday	10 am – 12
Friday	8 30 am – 1 pm & 2 30 – 4 pm	Friday	10 am – 12 & 3 – 4 pm

Please note that when the GP surgery is closed our patients are unable to collect letters from or drop off samples with the dispensary team.

Please telephone 01954 207602 for any medication queries or hospital discharge concerns but NOT requests for repeat medications

nurses, they can offer a general travel consultation with advice. They are also able to administer the following vaccinations (free of charge): Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Tetanus Diphtheria and Polio and the MMR. For any other vaccinations we would recommend you attend the Willingham Pharmacy and Travel Clinic or Masta, a private travel clinic, located on Hills Road in Cambridge. Please visit our website for further information and to fill out a travel questionnaire, which must be completed before your appointment.

For those who are on repeat medication, please plan ahead and make sure you have enough medication to last for your time away, remembering to re-order with plenty of time before you travel and allowing at least three working days before collection. And, just in case of emergency, we would advise that you take a list of your repeat medication with you (your repeat prescription slip would be ideal).

Finally, just a reminder that the GP is unable to sign (as proof of identification) any passport applications and they will not write 'fit to travel/fly' letter for our patients.

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 6 May**, 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 alaine.bunce@nhs.net.

Willingham Medical Practice

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.

2026 is a National Year of Reading, supported by all libraries.
The aim is to encourage people of all ages to read for pleasure.

Engage in the Afternoon

Wednesday 6 May 2 – 3 30 pm

Sorry, we have not received any information about Engage for this month. When a decision has been made a poster will be displayed in the library window, it will be on Facebook or pop into the library and ask Jacob.

We will email our members the information too.

Digital Buddy Drop-in Session

Tuesdays 10 30 am – 12 noon

Sorry no session this month

After School Lego Session

Second Thursday of the month, term time only

Thursday 7 May, 4 -5 pm

Children four and over, with accompanying adult.

Family Lego Club

Saturday 9 and 23 May 10 15 – 11 45 am

If you love Lego, then come to the library and enjoy some time building with Duplo or Lego.

Children four and over with an accompanying adult.

Meet Roxy, a Pets as Therapy Dog

Tuesday 19 May 2 – 3 pm

Come along and enjoy some time in the company of the gorgeous Roxy, a Pets as Therapy dog and her friendly owner. This is a drop-in session.

A big thank you to all who have visited and supported these sessions, Roxy looks forward to seeing you again!

Postage Stamps – the Library now has a used stamp collection box.

Friends of Willingham Library Events

Contact willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com for further information

Friends of Willingham Library Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 2 June, 7 30 pm at the Library.

All welcome, members and non-members

Refreshments available

The aims of the Friends Group are to promote the use of the library within the community and to organise events. We are always looking for new members and new ideas for making maximum use of the library as an important facility in the heart of the community. Please come along and meet us to find out more.

Family History Session

Friday 1 May 10 30 am – 12 noon

The library computers will be available for research on Ancestry (access is 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 2 May 10 30 am – 12 noon

We have a good variety of quality second-hand books for adults and children for sale. Still at the great price of 50p each or three for £1.

Games and Social Afternoon

Wednesday 13 May 2 – 4 pm

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

Knit and Natter

Wednesday 20 May 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.



Award-winning home care in Cambridge

We provide high-quality care to help you live independently, in the comfort of your own home. Our friendly, and well-trained carers, can support you with things like personal care, medication, companionship or anything else you need.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

01223 850938

cambridge@greenwoodhomecare.co.uk

www.greenwoodhomecare.co.uk

FREE ASSESSMENT

DAY, LIVE-IN OR NIGHT CARE AVAILABLE

Anxious? Stressed out? In pain?

Let acupuncture help you find some calm



Find out more - text or email to book a free 20-minute phone consultation with Willingham acupuncturist Kaye Rooney Lic. Ac. BA Hons. MBAC

07593 058748

kaye@kr-acupuncture.com

Visit kr-acupuncture.com



Assure
Certified Installer



STEFAN'S BUILDING

07575724942

BECAUSE YOUR HOME MATTERS!!!

- *EXTENSIONS *GARAGE CONVERSION
- *NEW HOMES *HOME RENOVATIONS
- *WINDOWS AND DOORS *GARDENS
- *ELECTRICAL *PLUMBING
- *ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS
- *LOFT CONVERSIONS
- *KITCHEN DESIGNS AND FITTING
- *STRUCTURAL CALCULATIONS
- *PAINTING AND DECORATING

@StefanBuilding

stefanbuilding1977@gmail.com

WWW.STEFANBUILDINGS.CO.UK

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN



07903756915

alfie@bowling-electrical-services.co.uk

WWW.BOWLING-ELECTRICAL-SERVICES.CO.UK



ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989
We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service

Christopher
LOCKSMITH

Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors

No Call Out Charge All Work Fully Guaranteed

No Fix No Fee

10% Senior Citizen Discount



For More Advice & Help
Call Christopher:

07772 111 222

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

Fen Gallop 2026

It's time to dust off those running shoes and register for this year's Fen Gallop, and with 2026 being the Year of the Horse, what better reason is there to take part in this fabulous event?

The highlight for this year is a return to our signature course; a classic, with a more mixed-terrain route that captures the true essence of the event. The 10K and Four Mile, both professionally chip-timed, offer scenic countryside views and peaceful footpaths and bridleways, where our runners can gallop to their heart's content. Our younger runners are also catered for with our One Mile fun run, with a medal awarded to every participant. The Fen Gallop really is a 'family running festival' and is the ideal opportunity for a 'fit fam' day out!

The midsummer event returns to the Recreation Ground on **Sunday 5 July**, and as always, is an incredible fundraiser for the village. The money raised goes to help support our local primary school and this year we have nominated two additional charities that we would like to see benefit from extra funding. This year, our runners will also be fundraising for CamRARE (Cambridge Rare Disease Network) and the Willingham Community Warden Service which provides vital support to elderly residents. And of course, we couldn't do what we do without the support of our generous sponsors, Neil Marsh Health and Fitness and Hockeys.

Previous 'Gallopers' will know that the post-run award ceremony is a wonderful opportunity to grab a drink from the bar and a bite to eat from the BBQ as the all-important race results come in and the winners are announced. There are plenty of prizes up for grabs, including the much coveted 'resident trophies' awarded to our very own Willingham runners; the Penry Jones trophy is awarded to the first male in the 10K, the Rene Gould trophy for the first female in the 10K and Eileen Askew trophies for the first U16 male and female runners in the Four Mile run. The Glyn Smith trophy will be awarded to the first Willingham resident veteran (over 50+ years) in the 10K.

To sign up for either the 10k or Four Mile run, head over to fengallop.co.uk and give our Facebook and Instagram pages a follow to find out more about this community event! We are also looking for volunteers for the event. It's a fantastic way to get involved, support our runners and be part of an exciting day making a real difference for local people. Drop us a message fengallop@gmail.com or get in touch through Facebook.

Following on from the Fen Gallop this year will be a summer fete, based around the Ploughman Hall. It will include live music, stalls, dancing, face painting and ice cream. More details to follow! If you or your group would like a stall at the event, please contact WAG@willinghamlife.org.

Katy Gilbert

Fen Gallop Committee

The Octagon Community Hub

Monday Mornings 10 am – 12 30 pm

If you haven't tried out the Octagon Community Hub yet, why not come and visit us one Monday morning in May? We're open every Monday morning, including **Bank Holidays Monday 4 May and Monday 25 May**. We serve tea, coffee and squash throughout the morning and a light lunch at 11 45 am.

We make no charges for our refreshments, but donations towards the second phase of the Octagon Improvement Project are always appreciated. We are now in the process of updating the Octagon toilet facilities and replacing the hall curtains.

The first stage of the Octagon Improvement Plan involved decorating throughout, replacing the radiators to improve the heating and providing a wonderful new kitchen. Have you seen the new improved Octagon yet? If the answer is no, then do visit us soon.

You will always find someone to chat to if you would like some company. We also have regular visits from our Village Agent, who is supported by Cambridgeshire ACRE. She can offer confidential and free of charge independent advice and support covering different issues, as well as help you access a range of services, etc. There are magazines, books, puzzles, games, knitting and mindful colouring to enjoy as well.

Please follow the footpath to the left of the Church gate and you will find the Octagon behind the Church. We are wheelchair accessible and have a disabled toilet.

We look forward to seeing you in May.

And remember that we will be open on both Bank Holiday Mondays.

Open Studios, Advance Notice

Once again wonderful artists and craftspeople are coming together, opening their studios and exhibiting their talents during July weekends. As well as artists in Willingham, Rampton and surrounding villages, six artists will be participating in a diverse art trail in Cottenham during the first three weekends of July.

Willingham resident and jeweller Rebecca Dawson will be joining; Tracey Ashman printer, Stef Loizou mixed media collage artist, Monika Alikoviene oil painter, Bernie Witchalls silk spinner and textile artist and Iona Howard painter.

These artists will be exhibiting and discussing their work and techniques and also demonstrating their processes. With over 100 year's experience between them there will be something interesting and inspiring for everyone.

For further information on all the Cambridge Open Studio artists, visit www.camopenstudios.org, get the app or look out for the paper guide, free, in local businesses.

L.C Electrical

Contractors Ltd

Domestic, Commercial and Industrial Work

Re-wires and Maintenance

EV car charger installations

Fire Alarm Servicing

Emergency Lighting

Wiring Heating systems

Solar PV and Battery Installers

Inspection and Testing

24hr
call-out
service



Please call to arrange your free survey on:

Mob: 07833 133990

Tel: 01954 261501

info@lcelectricaltd.co.uk

Unit 3 Arthur Court • Norman Way Over •
Cambridge • CB24 5AL



Andy Tibbett & Sons Painting & Decorating



* All internal & external work carried out to a high standard

* Trade references can be supplied

* Very competitive pricing

* A prompt & polite service from a name you can trust

Telephone: 01954 230010

Mobile: 07717 493723

Email: andrewtibbett@hotmail.co.uk



Cambs Property Bureau

LETTINGS & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Tel: 01954 260200

e-mail: enquiries@cpbm.co.uk

Website : www.cambspropertybureau.co.uk

MAE Studio

Hairdressers

Our salon offers all aspects of hairdressing including wedding hair with a personal touch. We can come to you on your special day.

Tel: 01954 260224

38 Church Street, Willingham, CB24 5HT.

A.R.Aspinall & Sons Ltd

Tel: 01954 234966 Fax: 01954 234967
Unit 11 Norman Way Ind Est, Over, Cambs, CB24 5QE.
www.araspinall.co.uk

WE STOCK A FANTASTIC RANGE OF NATURAL PAVING PRODUCTS COME AND VISIT OUR NEW DISPLAY AREA.

Bricks Concrete Blocks Lintels Cement Sand
Gravel Hardcore Timber Fixings Footwear
Decorating Supplies Industrial clothing Paving Slabs

Opening times: Mon to Fri 7.30am – 5pm



WE OFFER A FREE LOCAL DELIVERY SERVICE!

CHIMNEY SWEEP

J. L. Wight

Guild of Master Sweeps, Certificates issued
Advice given/problems solved



01954 253315



www.camsweep.co.uk

9 Cow Lane, Rampton

ALAN'S CARPETS

Carpets and Vinyl Supplied and Fitted

We have been in the carpet trade for over 471 years

Samples to your home, Measure, Quote
Express delivery and fitting included

Phone 07790 681317

or

07790 544250

WILLINGHAM MOTORS LTD

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT GARAGE FOR ALL SERVICING/REPAIR REQUIREMENTS, MOT TESTING, AIR CONDITIONING, DIAGNOSTIC SOFTWARE, EXHAUSTS, TYRES

CAR SALES – P/X WELCOME CAR/VAN STOCK LOCATOR

QUALITY VEHICLES BOUGHT FOR CASH FREE COURTESY CARS

Tel: 01954 260467/206566 E-mail willinghammotors@aol.com www.willinghammotors.co.uk

SUTTON TREE SERVICES

- HEDGE MAINTENANCE
- TREE REMOVAL, FELLING & REDUCTIONS
- GENERAL PRUNING
- STUMP REMOVAL
- FULLY INSURED
- NPTC QUALIFIED

Please call to discuss your requirements or to arrange a free quote.
Paul Young 07765 223 692 or 01353 775 076



Friends of Willingham Church

friendsofwillinghamchurch@gmail.com

We organised a quiz evening in the Octagon on 27 March. It was a hugely enjoyable evening that tested people's brains and then fed their rumbling stomachs by providing a lovely supper. We ran a raffle which raised over £200 and ticket sales raised a fantastic £470. Thanks go to those who supported us by attending the evening and the wonderful local businesses who donated raffle prizes – namely Lot 25, Creative Grounds Café and The Bushel Box Farm Shop.



We recently appealed to the community for volunteers to join our committee and we're very pleased to report that three people have come forward to assist us. A huge thank you to them.

We're always looking for new Friend members of course. If you join us, you will receive updates on the building restoration projects when they get underway. This will not be for a while yet as, although we've raised quite a good amount over the last year or two and received a very generous donation from a village resident, we must discuss what aspect of the exterior of the building we can spend it on with the PCC. They are waiting for a visit from an architect in May to assess the building and to report on what needs to be done urgently and then arrange for it to be carried out. We will then pass on the money needed to either pay for it or pay for part of it depending on the amount it will cost.

So, we would ask you to please support the Friends with a donation of £10 (or more) every six months. You can set up a standing order or make payments by BACS.

If you would like to find out more, please email us on the above address.

Do you have a story to tell?

Do you have a story to tell or news of a local event? Do you have a lovely photo to share or an idea for a new series of articles? If so, we would love to hear from you, adults and children alike. Do you attend a club which we don't know about? *Willingham News* is produced by a team of volunteers. We are not reporters; we depend on you to supply the material.

If you feel you have something of interest, send it as an email attachment to the usual address, willinghamnews@gmail.com.

Thought for the Month

As I write this, the world is in a mess and there is great uncertainty as to what might happen next in the Middle East, in Ukraine, Sudan and other places where wars continue. These dominate the lives of those living through them and those of us watching on our TV screens, or social media. I find quite a few people saying they've given up watching the news because it's all so awful, they cannot cope.

At such times it is all too easy for us to become anxious, perhaps even depressed by what we see happening around us. Our own inability to change such events can lead us to despair. These are natural human reactions to situations, some so big, we simply cannot process them in a way that makes sense.

It is therefore important that whilst we acknowledge the real gravity of what is going on, we also look around us to find signs of hope – and they are there. The spring flowers have made their appearance; new lambs have been born and human babies too. The grass is growing again and will soon need a mow. Within the last few weeks, men and women of mixed nationality and race have flown through space to circle the moon. We have received from them glorious images of earth, reminding us of just how beautiful it is as a planet.

Christians have recently celebrated Easter and, with that, comes the greatest hope of all. The death of Jesus Christ (on Good Friday) and, three days later, his resurrection provides the narrative upon which Christian faith is formed and sustained. In the Gospel of St John, Chapter 14, we find Jesus's words that can comfort us now 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you..... Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.'

May these words sustain us in these difficult times.

Jan Payne

Licensed Lay Minister, St Mary & All Saints Church

General Knowledge Crossword Answers:

Across: 1 Silage, 4 Barbie, 9 Raleigh, 10 Cliff, 11 Chess, 12 Let It Be, 13 Mary Poppins, 18 Fetlock, 20 Royce, 22 Ileum, 23 Neptune, 24 Anoint, 25 Oxygen.

Down: 1 Spruce, 2 Lille, 3 Grimsby, 5 Ascot, 6 Britten, 7 Eiffel, 8 *The Lion King*, 14 Art Deco, 15 Perspex, 16 Africa, 17 Severn, 19 Osman, 21 Young.

Police Drama Quiz

1 AC-12 2 David Bowie (*Life on Mars* and *Ashes to Ashes*)
3 Douglas Henshaw 4 *The Bill* 5 Holliday Grainger
6 *The Thin Blue Line* 7 Looe 8 Sarah Lancashire
9 John 10 Jasper Carrott

May Word Anagrams

1 mayhem 2 mayonnaise 3 maypole 4 maybe 5 dismay

Universal Fencing Co Ltd

Established 30 Years

Tel: 01954 230860
mob: 07786012990
www.universalfencing.co.uk

SUPPLY ONLY OR SUPPLY AND ERECT
FREE ESTIMATE



Palisade Featheredge Field Gates Security Fencing

8 Arthur Court Norman Way, Over, Cambridge, CB24 5AL
Open: MON-FRI 7.30- 5pm

Commercial, agricultural, industrial & domestic fencing contractors

EDGAR FARRELL

— CONSTRUCTION —

WWW.EDGARFARRELL.CO.UK

NEW BUILDS/ EXTENSIONS/ CONVERSIONS
BATHROOM & KITCHEN FITTING

EDGARFARRELL2@YAHOO.CO.UK 07919800895

The BUSHEL BOX Farm Shop



Discover local and British produce and delicious Apples & Pears from our orchards

140 Station Rd, Willingham CB24 5HG
Tel: 07577 522941
bushelboxfarmshop.co.uk

ACA Heating & Plumbing

46 Church St
Willingham
Cambridge
CB24 5HT

Gas and oil boiler servicing, breakdowns
Boiler upgrades and heating installations
Bathroom and Wetroom installations
Un-vented cylinder installations/servicing
All types of plumbing and heating works undertaken
Local friendly services with over 14 years experience




Andrew Leahy mobile: 07833 204499
Email: andy@acaplumbing.co.uk
www.acaplumbing.co.uk

WAKEBRO CONSTRUCTION



Carpentry Specialist - New Builds – Extensions – Loft Conversions – Expert Kitchen Fitters – Bespoke Joinery

Your local family run business providing high quality home improvements for over 40 years!

For quotes and enquiries contact Jonathan Wake

[07984380221](tel:07984380221) - wakebroconstruction@hotmail.com

AJ GROUP



BUILDING INSPIRING SPACES

We are a local family business that revels in transforming your project dreams into a reality with our professionalism, honesty and creativity!

Whether you want to renovate your home, build an extension, or create something new, we can handle it for you from start to finish!

Extensions – Refurbishments – Conversions – Kitchens – Flooring – Electrical work – Bespoke furniture - AND SO MUCH MORE!

07989 341724  01954 202267
www.ajcarpentry.co.uk

puddini

UNIQUE CATERING

Whether you're planning an intimate dinner party or grand celebration, Puddini would love to help! We are a team of obsessive foodies who will work passionately to create a perfect edible experience.

Hidden Supper Club
Join us at our monthly supper club, based in Willingham, for a memorable evening of delectable dishes and warm community spirit. Also available for private hire.

Contact us to discuss your next party, join our mailing list for up and coming supper club dates and menus, or to enquire about privately hiring our event space.

www.puddini.co.uk
Email us on info@puddini.co.uk
Follow us on Instagram @puddini_caterers



WHAT'S ON

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISATION	VENUE	EXTRA INFO
Fri 1 May	Family History Session	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p15
Fri 1 May	Willingham Music Night	Willingham Music Night	Social Club	7 30 – 10 30 pm
Sat 2 May	Second-hand Book Sale	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	10 30 am – 12 noon, see p15
Sun 3 May	Jazz Club	Jazz Club	Social Club	12 30 – 3 30 pm Rosie-Val 01954 789670
Mon 4 May	Talk: <i>Dahlias from tuber to vase</i> with Kim O'Brien	Gardening Club	Social Club	From 7 pm, see p6
Tue 5 May	Willingham News Deadline	Willingham News		See p3, articles to be sent to: willinghamnews@gmail.com
Wed 6 May	Engage in the Afternoon, TBC	Library	Library	2 – 3 30 pm, see p15
Wed 6 May	Carers' Support Meeting	Surgery	Wilford Furlong Centre	2 – 4 pm, see p14
Thu 7 May	After School Lego Session	Library	Library	4 – 5 pm, see p15
Thu 7 May	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p12
Sat 9 May	Memory Box Café	Parish Church	Octagon	10 am – 12 noon, see p7&12
Sat 9 May	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	10 15 – 11 45 am, see p15
Mon 11 May	Talk: <i>Sea Shanties</i> with Stuart Green	Women's Institute	Social Club	From 7 pm, see p6
Wed 13 May	Games & Social Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p15
Wed 13 May	Annual Parish Meeting	Parish Council	Octagon	7 30 pm, see p10
Sat 16 May	Talk: <i>RAF Canberra</i> with a retired local RAF Navigator	Men's Breakfast	Baptist Church	7 45 – 9 15 am, see p12
Mon 18 May	Photo Club	Photo Club	Baptist Church	8 pm, see p5
Tues 19 May	Roxy 'Pets as Therapy' Dog	Library	Library	2 – 3 pm, see p10
Wed 20 May	Knit & Natter Afternoon	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)	Library	2 – 4 pm, see p15
Thu 21 May	Community Lunch Club	Baptist Church	Baptist Church	Booking essential, see p12
Sat 23 May	Family Lego Club	Library	Library	10 15 – 11 45 am, see p15
Mon 25 May	<i>Whig Cambridge Spy Talk</i>	History Group	Social Club	7 30 pm, see p5
Thu 28 May until Sat 30 May	<i>Murder on the Nile</i>	Over Players	Over Community Centre	Visit www.overplayers.uk See p5

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Council and Community	Parish Council		01954 261027
	County Councillor	Yasmin Deter	yasmin.deter@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
	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.co.uk
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	Mark Hurworth	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	Corrin Hoyes	07903 937718
Clubs	Friends of Willingham Church	Rosemary Tiley	friendsofwillinghamchurch@gmail.com
	Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)		willinghamlibraryfriends@gmail.com
	Open Circle Singers/Drummers	Marion Barber	07905 894422
	Willingham Carpet Bowls Club	David Young	01954 200561 / orchadist44@gmail.com
	Willingham Gardening Club		willinghamgardeningclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Men's Breakfast	Pete Sacré	01954 261655/whammensbrec@gmail.com
	Willingham Social Club	Lynne Sadler	01954 260557 / willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com
	Willingham Music Night	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	Prakash Nayee	07722 489850 / pnayee@btinternet.com
	Women's Institute	Vicky Baggaley	01954 201405
Sport	Angling	Colin Dodd	07773 719330
	Badminton	Emma Byrom	Emma.byromcb24@gmail.com
	Bowls Club	Mark Chapman	mark.chapmanwbc@gmail.com
	Cricket Club	R Ambrose	01954 610113
	Cycling Club	Nigel Leaney	nigel.leaney@outlook.com / 07979 518200
	Willingham Diamonds Netball Club	Emma Byrom	Emma.byromcb24@gmail.com
	Willingham Sports Pavilion	Through Parish Council	01954 261027
	Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)	Jamie Smith (Sec)	01954 261141
	Churches	Baptist Church	Jenny Ambrose
Roman Catholic Priest		Rev. Trindade Monteiro	Trindade.Monteiro@rcdea.org.uk / 01480 462192
Parish Church		Rev Stephen Dove	07944 014521/stephen@5folds.org.uk



Highgate Veterinary Clinic

**Independent Fear Free Practice
in Willingham**

- 🐾 Caring and Compassionate
- 🐾 Gold Standard Patient Care
- 🐾 Affordable Pricing
- 🐾 Pet Health Plan options

CONTACT US:
01954 620555
info@highgatevet.com
www.highgatevet.com






Contact for **FREE** to find out if treatment is right for you.

MOVE FREE CHIROPRACTIC

PAIN AND INJURY CLINIC



Live life pain-free, naturally!
Start your journey back to better health.

WHAT WE TREAT

- BACK PAIN
- NECK PAIN
- PELVIS AND HIP PAIN
- HEADACHES
- SCIATICA
- POSTURAL PROBLEMS
- JAW PAIN
- SPORTS INJURIES
- SHOULDER INJURIES
- PAIN DURING PREGNANCY
- MUSCLE SPASMS
- MOBILITY ISSUES

CHIROPRACTIC CARE | SPORTS/MASSAGE THERAPY | EXERCISE

Why wait! Give us a call today.
Read our reviews: We are 5 Star rated on Google.

📧 info@movefreechiropractic.co.uk 🌐 www.movefreechiropractic.co.uk
 📞 07405428244
 📍 91 High Street, Longstanton, Cambridgeshire, CB24 3BS



A TRUSTED SERVICE FROM A LOCAL COMPANY

From expert installations to easy supply only services – we have all your glazing needs covered!

- Replacement Double Glazing
- Secondary Glazing
- Fineo Vacuum Glazing
- Solar Controlled Glazing
- Glass Doors & Partitions
- Mirrors & Antique Mirrors
- Bespoke Glass Splashbacks
- Balustrades & Balconies
- Cat & Dog Flaps
- Glass Shelving
- Safety Glass
- Range of Glass Cut to Size
- Greenhouse Glass
- Furniture Protector Tops



Contact us for a no obligation quotation
or visit our showroom



📞 01223 211888

✉️ sales@clearglass.org.uk

🌐 clearglass.org.uk

📍 Unit M, Broad Lane Industrial Estate,
Cottenham, Cambridge CB24 8SW

Google
★★★★★

fen mobility centre

Scooters • Wheelchairs • Electric Beds
Riser Recliners • Walking Aids • Living Aids
Stairlifts • Ramps • Personal Care

Expert Advice | Sales | Service | Repair
Occupational Therapy



- ✓ Over 30 Years of Mobility Experience
- ✓ 100's of Items in Stock for Same Day Collection or Delivery
- ✓ Occupational Therapist on Site
- ✓ Test Drives & More
- ✓ Zero Pressure Guarantee
- ✓ Assessments in our Centre or Your Home
- ✓ Outstanding Aftercare, Warranties, Repair, Service & Hire

01353 653 753 fenmobility.com
Unit 5c Lancaster Way Business Park,
Ely, CB6 3NW

Vintage travel

ESTABLISHED 1990

Your Local Travel Company



THE TRAVEL TRUSTS AWARDS 2018 WINNER

TRAVELER READERS TRAVEL AWARDS 2018

travel AWARDS Best villa companies 2020

HANDPICKED VILLAS WITH POOLS

A selection of beautiful individual villas & houses with pools in tranquil settings & areas of traditional local culture.

Call for a brochure or to speak to one of our specialists **01954 261431** or visit our website **vintagegetravel.co.uk**

GREECE • SPAIN • LANZAROTE • BALEARICS • PORTUGAL
TURKEY • FRANCE • ITALY • CROATIA • CYPRUS



Paying too much tax? Paperwork a burden? Accounts fee expensive? Like a business review?

At Thompson Taraz Rand we understand your business and tax needs and provide a range of services to meet your requirements, including:

- Accounts Preparation
- Self Assessment
- Taxation Advice
- Business Start-ups
- Business Planning
- Payroll Services
- Online Accounting




Thompson Taraz Rand
Chartered Accountants | Business Advisers

Unit 1 Hazlewell Court,
Bar Road, Lolworth, CB23 8DS



01954 263000
info@thompsontarazrand.co.uk
www.thompsontarazrand.co.uk



HOCKEYS

01954 260940
WWW.HOCKEYS.CO.UK

SPECIALISING IN THE SALE OF HOMES IN WILLINGHAM AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES

HOCKEYS
ESTABLISHED 1885

