



# Willoughby Monthly

December 2025

Website: [www.willoughbyweb.net](http://www.willoughbyweb.net)

Facebook group: Willoughby Monthly

Volume 18



As we come to the end of another year in our village, December brings with it a chance to pause, reflect, and appreciate all that we've shared. From community events and quiet acts of kindness to the big or small improvements that make our village such a great place to live; it's been a pleasure to highlight these moments each month. I hope this festive season brings you joy, rest, and the company of those who matter most.

This edition will be my final newsletter, and I want to express my heartfelt thanks for your support, contributions, and encouraging words over the years. It has been a privilege to share our community's stories and celebrate what makes our village special. There is a flyer in this newsletter from Richard Jackson asking for volunteers to take over the compiling and printing of the newsletter. Please do consider it, it has been very rewarding but I am juggling too many plates and can no longer give it the time it needs. I'm happy to chat to anyone about what it entails. Merry Christmas/Nadolig Llawen to you all. Hannah

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 25	7pm	W.C.C	Bottle Bingo	Cricket Club
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	3pm	Church	Festive Sing Along & Slice	Village Hall
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	7.30pm	W.I.	Dantre Ukele Orchestra	Village Hall
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	2pm	Community	Afternoon Tea	Village Hall
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	3pm-7pm	Friends of Willoughby	Christmas Craft Fair/Trail of Light	Village Hall
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	7pm	Parish Council	Meeting	Village Hall
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	12.30pm	Thursday Club	Christmas Lunch, Weedon Bec	Crossroads Pub
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	6pm	Willoughby Society	Children's Christmas Party	Village Hall
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	4pm	Church	Family Carol Service	St Nicholas'
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	5-6.30pm	Church	Carol Singing	Village
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 25	5.30pm	Willoughby Society	Christmas Eve Carols	Amenity Garden

## St Nicholas Church - Rev. Price

December is here, and with Advent upon us, there's plenty to look forward to this Christmas at St Nicholas' Church!

### **Festive Sing-a-long & Slice – Thursday 4th, 3pm, Village Hall**

Kick off the festive season with a cheerful sing-a-long of your favourite Christmas songs. Midway through we'll enjoy tea and cake — a relaxed, fun gathering for all ages.

### **Family Carol Service – Sunday 14th, 4pm**

Join us for a warm Family Carol Service, led by the St Nicholas' Church Children's Choir. The service begins as the St Nicholas' Posada arrives in 'Bethlehem' and will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine — a perfect way to celebrate Advent and prepare for Christmas.

### **Carol Singing – Friday 19th, 5–6.30pm**

Our Children's Choir will be spreading festive cheer around the village. Keep an eye out for them — they'll happily sing your favourite carol if they know it!



Please note: There will be no Communion Service at St Nicholas' on Sunday 28th. Full details of all Benefice services are on our website: [www.draycoteandleamvalleybenefice.com](http://www.draycoteandleamvalleybenefice.com).

Looking ahead: Soup and Social returns on Saturday 10th January with delicious soups and puddings — we promise, no turkey soup! We can't wait to celebrate Advent and Christmas with you — see you soon!

## Willoughby Society - Leonie Tromans

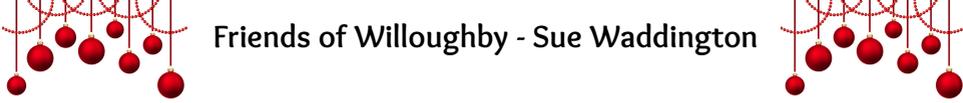
December marks the start of our new programme, and we hope you will agree that we have arranged an interesting and varied programme, with events to suit all ages, trips out and traditional Wednesday evening speakers. Working with the 'Friends of Willoughby' group means that we have been able to extend our programme this year to include the children's Halloween and Christmas parties. Following the success of these, we plan to include them in the programme for next year.

Hopefully, we will see The Rose open its doors again this year, but whilst it has remained closed, our Pop-up Pubs have been a great success. Although we have kept our prices low, we have managed to cover our costs and the cost of the licence for next year. When they do open, we may need to review some of our events, so we can provide support to the venue.

**Friday 12th December, 6 pm. Children's Christmas Party.** This is a joint venture between us and the 'Friends of Willoughby'. Full details of the event can be found in the 'Friends of Willoughby' entry.

**Wednesday 24th December 5.30 pm. Christmas Eve Carols in the Amenity Garden.** This is now a fixture in our calendar, so weather permitting, we will again be congregating in the Amenity garden, where we will be serving Mulled wine and Mince pies to accompany your carol singing. Wrap up warm and bring a torch.

**Saturday 24th January 7.30 pm.** This will be our first music event of the year, and we will be joined again by Sarah Jane Goodman, who will entertain us with 70's and 80's Covers songs. Sarah Jane is welcomed back to Willoughby following the feedback that we received when she sang for us last year and at Willoughby Festival the year before. The bar will be open and tickets for the event are just £12.50. These are available from Leonie Tromans, [secretaryengxiii@aol.com](mailto:secretaryengxiii@aol.com) or 07527 156920. Or any of the Willoughby Society committee.



## Friends of Willoughby - Sue Waddington

### Christmas Craft Fair and Trail of Light - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm – 7.00pm – Free Entry

The Friends of Willoughby invite you to a Christmas Craft Fair at Willoughby Village Hall 3.00 pm till 6.30pm and our Trail of Light 4.30 till 7.00pm. We will also have Children's Crafts 3.00 – 4.30pm, Refreshments include homemade soup, jacket potatoes, tea, cake and a raffle. Donations of cakes and raffle prizes will be greatly received. If you would like to take part in the trail by decorating your house, garden or a window please contact Sue Waddington [friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com)

### Family Christmas Party Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm – 8.30pm. Non-village children £2.00.

Children require a ticket and must be accompanied by an Adult. The Friends of Willoughby and The Willoughby Society, invite you to a Family Christmas Party in Willoughby Village Hall. A huge thankyou to the Willoughby Charities who have given us a donation towards running the event which has enabled us to provide Willoughby Village Children FREE ENTRY, non-village children will incur a small charge of £2.00. We will have music, games, refreshments and for the older children (Adults) a pop-up bar which will remain open until 9.30pm. Donations of cakes and raffle prizes will be greatly received. To help with catering and providing a little something from Father Christmas please book your tickets by contacting Sue Waddington email [friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com) or Leonie Tromans [secretaryengxiii@aol.com](mailto:secretaryengxiii@aol.com)

**Does your Village Organisation have an ongoing project?** Friends of Willoughby was established to give a little back to our community we have raised some funds and would like to give a little back to village organisations. We know Willoughby charities help our neighbours when they are in need and are grateful for all that they do. If you or your group, have a village project you are fundraising for, please drop us an email. [friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwilloughby@gmail.com) and we will see if we can help.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Hannah Gowney-Hedges, for all her hard work in collating, printing and getting the Willoughby Monthly ready for delivery, allowing our community to see what events are being run for them to enjoy. Also, a big thank you to all our volunteers, cake makers, and raffle donators and our community for all your support over the past year, without you we couldn't run the events we do. Wishing you all A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Sue Waddington, Val Baxter and Karen Nichols

### Village Hall - Joss Ray



100 Club October draw winners:

1st - Pat Atkins

2<sup>nd</sup> - Andrew Bendzak

Congratulations to you both

### Thursday Club - Jim Rowley

11 December 12.30pm Christmas Lunch at the Crossroads Pub, Weedon Bec. DACT bus leaves Village Hall at 12.15pm prompt. Start meal at approximately 12.30pm at the pub. This is for info, booking closed.

New members welcome - just ask the Secretary, Jim Rowley 01788 891 805

### Notifications

Di McKnight would like to wish all friends and neighbours in Willoughby a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. In lieu of cards I will be donating to Motor Neurone Disease charity for John.

## W.I. - Lorraine Geddes

**Thursday 4 December 7.30pm** – Village Hall – Danetre Ukelele Orchestra present a Christmas Concert – visitors welcome £5 includes refreshments – tickets from Lorraine 01788 890848 email [lorrainearnettgeddes@btinternet.com](mailto:lorrainearnettgeddes@btinternet.com) or Pat 01788 891223

**Sunday 4 January 2.30pm** – Willoughby WI are pleased in welcome back Aunty Jen Productions with Sleeping Beauty The Pantomime for tickets please contact– [auntyjenproductions.co.uk](http://auntyjenproductions.co.uk) or call 07904 872990  
– Adults £12 Concessions £10



## Bottle Bingo - Willoughby CC



Bottle Bingo is back at Willoughby Cricket Club on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> December. Doors open at 7pm, so come early, grab a drink from the bar and settle in for an evening packed with fun, laughter and brilliant prizes to be won. We're gratefully accepting donations for the bottle bingo. If you'd like to contribute, please drop them off with Glenys Rowe.

## Pop Up Café - Rachel Settle

Many thanks to everybody who came along to our café on November 7th. We are, as always, very grateful for your support. Our profit from the café this month will be donated to help pay towards storage racking in the village hall.

The Pop-Up Café will be opening its doors again in the village hall for our afternoon tea on Friday 5th December, 2 - 2:30pm arrival. This is a booked event to ensure we've catered accurately. If you haven't yet let me know you are coming, please ring me on 890724. We also require a small deposit of £3. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## Parish Council - Maggie Beech

**Village Car Park Policy** - The Parish Council approved the policy for use of the car park at its meeting on 11 November. This will come into force on 1 January 2026. Key elements of the policy are:

- Short-term parking only (12 hours maximum in any 24 hours) for cars, motorcycles and small vans.
- No long-term vehicle storage or commercial use.
- Abandoned, unroadworthy or untaxed vehicles are not permitted.

To read the policy, go to **Parish Council > Policies and Procedures > Car Park Policy**

at [www.willoughbyparishcouncil.org](http://www.willoughbyparishcouncil.org)



**Work on the island round the village sign and on the drainage ditch beside the village car park**

**WARNING:** On 3 December, would all residents please ensure there are no vehicles in the car park. The work may generate a lot of flying mud and vegetation which will potentially cause damage.

## Willoughby Brook Improvement Fund

The Parish Council congratulates all those involved in organising and supporting the successful Da Tree Fellas concert on 11 October and thanks all those who gave raffle prizes and donations. The total of £1,806 raised, after expenses, is a truly outstanding achievement and testament to a community that works together to achieve important local objectives.

Police and PCSO Police Community Support Officer - PCSO David Banks, PC Rebecca Bailey. The team have an e-mail address: [rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk) If you wish to report a crime please report it via the Warwickshire Police website or phone 101. Obviously, in an emergency please dial 999.