

The Willoughby Monthly



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Facebook Group: Willoughby Monthly

Volume 19

January 2026

Welcome to the January edition of the WM.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to You All.

Our grateful thanks go to Hannah who has produced the WM for us for the last three years.

As we move into the New Year Bert & I have stepped in to make sure that you all get your monthly dose of Willoughby news and information giving our new team time to get ready to take over and learn the ropes. Bert was part of a group that persuaded me to produce the first WM back in 2008 and continue producing it until Hannah took over. This new beginning is a great time to try new ideas and jettison things that don't work so well. The design of this issue is based my previous WM. Please let us know what you like, what you don't like, and any ideas you have to make the WM better for 2026 and beyond.

We are pleased that Michael Nelson and Ravinder Atwal will be taking over production of the WM with Michael focusing on the words and Ravi looking to add an artistic touch with images/decoration. Bert & I will be supporting them whilst they get used to the software etc. Pat Atkins will oversee printing through to delivery. We are looking to establish new printing arrangements, more next month.

Each month the digital WM is uploaded to: the Facebook page for those who like social media; and also to www.willoughbyweb.net where you can find every issue from first to last. The website also has a 'rolling' calendar with all the forthcoming events that we know of.

Finally, if you find the WM print too small do let us know, we can arrange for you to have A4 pages instead of A5 which should be easier to read. Contact details are on the back page.

Richard Jackson

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
04-Jan-26	2:30 PM	Women's Institute	Sleeping Beauty the Panto - Aunty Jens Productions	Village Hall
08-Jan-26	2:30 PM	Thursday Club	Games Afternoon	Village Hall
10-Jan-26	12:00 PM	Church	Soup & Social	Village Hall
11-Jan-26	11:00 AM	Church	Contemporary Service	Church
13-Jan-26	7:00 PM	Parish Council	Meeting	Village Hall
15-Jan-26	12:30 PM	Thursday Club	Pub Lunch Crown Inn	Stockton
17-Jan-26	2:00 PM	Women's Institute	Chat & Craft	Village Hall
24-Jan-26	7:30 PM	Willoughby Society	Sarah Jane Goodman Music Night	Village Hall

Thursday Club

Jim Rowley



8 January, 2.30pm Village Hall: Games Afternoon, Scrabble, Boggle, Cribbage - bring along whatever you fancy! .



15 January, 12.30pm Pub Lunch at the Crown Inn, Stockton CV47 8JZ

New members always welcome - just call the Secretary, Jim Rowley 01788 891805

Willoughby Women's Institute

Lorraine Geddes

Sunday 4 January 2.30pm – Willoughby WI are pleased in welcome back Aunty Jen Productions with Sleeping Beauty The Pantomime suitable for all the family for tickets please contact– <https://auntyjenproductions.co.uk> or call 07904 872990 – Adults £12 Concessions £10 – I also have some tickets contact Lorraine 01788 890846



Saturday 17 January 2026 – Village Hall– 2-4pm we are having a chat and craft meeting when we will be knitting, crochet or sewing items for the shoebox appeal – or having some mindfulness time colouring mandalas. A nice relaxing afternoon – visitors always welcome to come along and join us.

Willoughby Parish Council

Maggie Beech

We wish you all a very happy New Year.

Rugby Borough Council (RBC) Local Plan - Update

Cllr Dale Keeling has reported that he and other RBC councillors met consultants for St. Modwen Homes on 11 November. He says that he and other councillors, representing the Leam Valley and Dunsmore wards, expressed their opposition and objection to the proposed Lodge Farm, stressing the closeness of Willoughby village as well as the increased traffic congestion and pollution.

Rugby Borough Council will hold a vote on the final version of the Local Plan on 21 January 2026 and the Cabinet meeting will be held beforehand on Tuesday, 6 January 2026. If you wish to watch the meetings live, go to rugby.gov.uk/committees-meetings and click on the relevant meeting to watch the Live stream videos. IF the Local Plan is approved at both Cabinet and Council, the public consultation will open on 26 January.

Pop-Up Cafe

Rachel Settle

Many thanks to everybody who came along to our afternoon tea on December 5th. We were, as always, extremely grateful for your support. It was a wonderful afternoon, thank you to all who donated to our funds.

Christmas preparations have overtaken us so we haven't yet decided where the money will be donated, but I will let you know at the next pop-up cafe.

The Pop-Up Cafe will be opening its doors again in the village hall on Friday 6th February at 10:30am and we look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing you all the very best in 2026.

Rachel, Karen, Sheila, Val, Pete, Lynn and Lorraine.

Happy New Year to all our members and supporters. We hope that our programme for this year has something for everyone. We are always keen to welcome new members! if you would like to join the society, please contact Leonie Tromans.

We have a music event on the 24th January details below. Everyone likes a good quiz, so why not come along on Friday, the 13th February at 7.30 pm for a social evening. The bar will be open. Everyone is welcome.

This year, the Willoughby Society will be sponsoring a **photographic competition**, and we would like you to send entries to photo-comp-only@willoughbyweb.net. You may enter photographs posted on FB but please submit them by email so that we have the best quality available. The covering email should include where and when the photograph was taken and be the best quality image you have, please. By submitting an image you agree that you own its copyright and that the Society has license to publish it in a calendar, framed picture, or Village media.

In September we will be selecting 12 photographs which will be used to create a calendar. The calendars will be available for sale and we would also like to select a few to be framed for display on the walls of the bar area in the village hall.

Photographs may include: scenes, people, animals or birds, in and around Willoughby.



Saturday 24th January 7.30 pm

Willoughby Village Hall

Sarah Jane Goodman

70's and 80's Cover songs

The bar will be open

Tickets are just £12.50 from: Leonie Tromans;
secretaryengxiii@aol.com or 07527 156920.

Or any of the Willoughby Society committee.

This is our first music event of 2026, welcoming back Sarah Jane. The feedback that we received when she sang for us last year and at Willoughby Festival the year before was great. Don't miss this visit!!

Village Hall

Joss Ray



Village Hall 100 Club - December Draw
1st Prize - Janet Tanser, & 2nd Prize - Tim Ray
Congratulations to you both!

If you are interested in hiring the Hall please email: vwhallenquiries@gmail.com

Church

Rev. Phil Price

Happy New Year from St Nicholas' and a huge thanks to everyone for supporting us throughout the Advent and Christmas period. It was a truly joyous and blessed time.

As we move into perhaps the coldest months of the year be assured of a warm welcome at any of our services and social gatherings in 2026.

Just three dates for your diary this month and one for early February:

- Soup and Social returns on Saturday 10th January in the Village Hall, 12 – 2pm. To ensure you don't miss out on a delicious soup and pudding, come in good time (before 12.30 recommended) and then sit back and make the most of the social time following the food.
- Our first Sunday Service of 2026 will be at on 11th January at 11am. This will be a contemporary service suitable for all ages and as part of the service we will be 'chalking the door' where we pray for God's blessing on all who enter the building in 2026
- Our Holy Communion Service will be on Sunday 25th January at the usual time of 11am
- Advance notice that Sing-a-long and slice returns to the Village Hall at 3pm on Thursday 5th February, so book it in your diary.

God bless, Rev Phil

Friends of Willoughby

Sue Waddington

The Friends of Willoughby would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Christmas Craft Fair and Trail of Light (6th December)– Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Craft Fair our volunteers on the day, our cake and soup makers and donations for the raffle. We would also like to thank those residents who took part in our Trail of Light by decorating their house, garden, or a window, and those of you who collected a map and voted on your favourite display, your support is much appreciated.

The Favourite house was number 11 and window was number 9

Family Christmas Party (12th December) - Thank you to everyone who came along to the Children's party, we hope you all had a good time. We would like to thank the Willoughby Charities for their kind donation towards running the event and Santa for taking time out of his busy schedule to pop in to see the children.

Date for your diary Spring Craft Fair Saturday 14th March 2026

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2026

Sue Waddington, Val Baxter and Karen Nichols

Police

Police Officers for the area are PC Rebecca Bailey and PCSO David Banks. The team have an e-mail address : rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk. If you wish to report a crime please use the Warwickshire Police web site or by phone dial 101 or in case of an emergency dial 999

Willoughby Monthly

Do let us have your ideas for improving the WM and, of course, any articles/notices you have for your fellow villagers. The monthly deadline for submission of items is the 15th. Send them to e-mail: wm@willoughbyweb.net or call Richard on 01788 891898.

Large print versions available, email or call.