

December 2023

# Willoughby Monthly

Website: [www.willoughbyweb.net](http://www.willoughbyweb.net) Facebook group: Willoughby Monthly

Volume 16



Welcome to December's WM. It is a very packed calendar this month with lots of festive activities for all age ranges. As the year ends we are still sadly without an open village pub. Hopefully this won't be for long and I am sure we all hope for it to become a hub of village life and activities again. Our village hall is also in desperate need of a new heating system which is not cheap. If you can spare a donation, however small, towards the cost of replacing this, it would be very, very welcome. I'd like to end as usual, by saying a big thank you on behalf of us all to everyone who has volunteered/organised/helped/taken part in or donated towards village events and organisations this year and I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year! Hannah

P.S if you wish to ring me regarding the WM, please note there is a new number at the end of this newsletter.

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
01-Dec-23	7.30pm	Willoughby Society	Orchestra of the Swan	Village Hall
03-Dec-23	4pm	St Nicholas Church	Christingle	Church
04-Dec-23	7.30pm	Willoughby CC	Bottle Bingo	Cricket Club
07-Dec-23	7.30pm	W.I.	talk on Victorian Christmas	Village Hall
08-Dec-23	12.30pm	Thursday Club	Xmas Lunch, Crossroads pub	Weedon Bec
8/9-Dec-23	5-7.30pm	St Nicholas Church	Tree Festival & Trail of Light	Church
09-Dec-23	10-4.30pm	St Nicholas Church	12 days of Tudor Christmas & mart	Village Hall
10-Dec-23	11am	St Nicholas Church	Allsorts Service	Church
12-Dec-23	7.30pm	Parish Council	Meeting	Village Hall
15-Dec-23	5-7pm	St Nicholas Church	Christmas craft evening	Church
17-Dec-23	11am	St Nicholas Church	Santa Dash	Church
17-Dec-23	4pm	St Nicholas Church	Carol Service - children's choir	Church
24-Dec-23	11am	St Nicholas Church	Christmas Communion	Church
24-Dec-23	6pm	Willoughby Society	Christmas Eve Carols	Amenity Garden
29-Dec-23	7pm	Willoughby Society	Friday Film Night	Village Hall
31-Dec-23	7.15pm	village	New Year's Eve Party	Village Hall

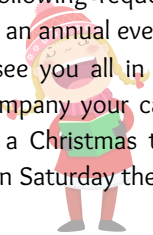
## Willoughby Society

Thank you to everyone who joined us on the evening of the 10th of November when we were entertained for the evening by the Rugby Male Voice Choir. A combination of the Raffle takings and donations has allowed us to donate £200 to the Village Hall boiler fund. The choir gave us some feedback following the show and said that we were the best audience that they have performed for. They will certainly remember Willoughby.

**Christmas Show.** We will probably have held our Christmas show 'The Orchestra of the Swan' and their 'Midwinter' performance by the time most of you read this Monthly. As I write this piece it looks like it will be a sell out and a wonderful evening. We are only able to host events like this due to the Live and Local Rural and Community Touring Network which helps groups such as ours to bring rural communities together to enjoy high-quality and affordable shows. Thank you for your continued support.

We will be organising two other events this month, weather permitting and following requests received last year to make carols around the Christmas tree in the Amenity Garden an annual event:

**Christmas Eve Carols.** At 6pm on Sunday 24th December we would love to see you all 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. If any children would like to make a Christmas tree decoration (suitable to stay outside) and bring it to the Amenity Garden for 3pm on Saturday the 2nd of December, we will be decorating the tree and garden on that afternoon.



**Friday Film Night.** Over the next few months, we will be hosting a Friday Film night. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy the evening, bring your own drinks and nibbles. A donation to help cover our costs is appreciated. The film 'What We Did on Our Holiday' starring Billy Connolly will be shown at 7pm on Friday 29th December. The film is described as an "Hilarious British comedy at its best". The other films that we will be shown once a month in the new year include: The new 'Mission Impossible' film, 'The Great Escaper', and the new 'Indiana Jones' film. Watch this space for the dates and times.

We own a Film copyright License for the village hall, so if anyone would like to show a film, please contact me prior to the showing so I can explain the requirements of the license. Leonie Tromans, Willoughby Society. [Secretaryengxiii@aol.com](mailto:Secretaryengxiii@aol.com).

## Thursday Club

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

January: our first meeting (Games afternoon) will be 2.30 pm on 4 January, NOT 11 January, to allow for works in the Village Hall.

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

## W.I.

Meeting on Thursday 7th December at 7.30 in the Village Hall. Our speaker is Jo Carter telling us about Christmas in true Victorian Style. We will learn how people of all classes in England used to celebrate Christmas and the origins of well known seasonal customs, cards and gifts. A warm welcome is assured to all visitors.



## Parish Council

### Upgrading Street Lighting to LED

At the Parish Council meeting on 14 November 2023, the Street Lighting Upgrade Report was accepted in full and it was resolved to seek approval for the borrowing of £15,000, repayable over a 10 year period, from the Secretary of State (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities). The street light upgrade will be self-funding from the savings on electricity and maintenance of the existing lights. There will be no increase in the Precept relating to the upgrade. Once approval has been received, it is proposed that the quote for £19,675 + VAT be accepted, Electricity Network Contractors be appointed to carry out the work; £4,675 be paid out of reserves.

### Review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

The modified NDP is on the agenda for approval at the Rugby Borough Council meeting to be held on 13 December 2023.

### Councillor Howard Roberts - Resignation

We are sad to report that our representative on Warwickshire County Council, Cllr Howard Roberts, has resigned due to ill health. The Parish Council would like to thank him for the support he has given Willoughby in the past. A by-election will take place in December.

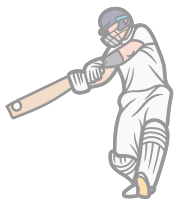
### New Year's Eve Party

Just a reminder to everyone to confirm that we will be going ahead with our New Years Eve Party on the usual date, start time 7.15pm. Jump The Trax will be playing their assortment of 60's, 70's, and 80's hits, so come and sing along, dance or just listen to music we all remember.

As usual every one brings their own drinks and we will have an American Buffet, I am sure it will be a night to remember. Please let us know if you would like tickets, which are £15pp. You can ring me, Brian on 890134, Leonie on 890700 or Bert on 890498.



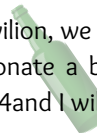
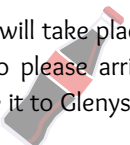
### Willoughby Cricket Club



Just for your information, I am pleased to report that our First team had another exceptional year in the Northants division 6. They were leading until the last day but unfortunately finished runners up, but they have been promoted in both the last two years. Our Second team did not do so well but still had an enjoyable summer.

We will be recruiting for next year for both senior teams and three junior teams U/11's U/13's, and U/15's, and anyone interested is welcome to attend the practice nets in January at Bilton School.

Bottle Bingo will take place again on Monday December 4th in the cricket pavilion, we want to start at 7.30pm so please arrive early. Would anyone who is kind enough to donate a bottle for the evening, take it to Lenys Rowe at 35 Main St or ring me, Brian Hall on 890134 and I will pick it up.



## St Nicholas Church

Our 1940s afternoon tea party was a great success. In total £500 was divided between the British Legion Tommy Tea Party and the Poppy Appeal. Our thanks go out to all the wonderful volunteers who baked cakes, made sandwiches, helped set up serve teas and clear down and to those who donated raffle prizes, led our sing a long and played so well. With everyone joining together as they did the event became such a memorable occasion. On Sunday 12th we had a Remembrance Event in the church at 4pm looking at those who kept our Home Fires Burning, the bombing of Coventry Cathedral, poetry of the war and sharing memories of some of our community.

The Posada has started its journey. Mary, Joseph and donkey journey to three local schools and then through the village stopping at families finally arriving at church on December 17th for our carol service at 4pm.

December for us is a busy month. We hope families will join us on Dec 3rd for our Christingle Service. The Christingle oranges will be made during the service. The trees will go up in church that weekend ready for our tree festival and Trail of light the weekend of the 8/9th Dec. Please contact if you would like to decorate a tree in church (£18 per tree) or a window for our trail of light. The Christmas market on Dec 9th also gives people the opportunity to experience a Very Tudor Christmas. Food, drink traditions and games and the 12 days of a Tudor Christmas.

The Santa Dash is a chance for children and families, including grandparents, to get in the festive spirit by racing round a field next to the church. This is on 17th December, just turn up.

Medals will be presented to all runners. Individual £3 families £5. Fancy dress optional. 11am registration, race 11.30. Refreshments sold. Contact Karen 07866572209 Sue 07889532810 Andrea 07702626268.

A Christmas craft evening will be held in church on December 15th, just turn up, children and adults welcome.

Calendars still available at a cost of £5 which is a lasting record of one of the most important years in the life of St Nicholas in recent times.

## Christmas Notices



**Janet and Jim Rowley** won't be sending Christmas cards in the village this year, we are putting the money to the Village Hall appeal instead. We wish you all a very happy Christmas.

**Norman and Betty Oates** will not be sending Christmas cards, but will make a donation to a village charity. We would like to wish all our friends a happy and peaceful Christmas.

**Jean and Pat** aren't going to send Christmas cards this year but giving money to fund the village hall heating. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### Police and PCSO

**Police Constable - PC Matt Birch and Police Community Support Officer - PCSO David Banks.**

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.

The deadline for submission of items is always the 15th of the month. Send them to me at [thewilloughbymonthly@gmail.com](mailto:thewilloughbymonthly@gmail.com) Tel: 01788 315893 or drop into me at College Farm on Main Street and I will do my best to fit them in.

*Thank You*