

# Happy New Year

# Willoughby Monthly

January 2025

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

Facebook group: Willoughby Monthly

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Wishing you all a happy 2025! I have always had something of a fascination for Victorian greetings cards. Strange Christmas cards displaying vicious looking Christmas puddings with teeth and one with a dead robin come to mind - very bizarre and to us now, seemingly not very festive. I particularly like the symbolism of this Victorian new year card, with Old Father Time greeting the baby New Year brought by a stork. The baby's rattle/sand timer being full and ready to turn over for the incoming year.

I am sure a good time was had by all at the NYE annual party in the village hall - hopefully not too many sore heads - maybe some New Year's resolutions being made as a result! I hope 2025 is a positive and productive one for everyone. Hannah

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
05-Jan-25	2.30pm	W.I.	Jack & The Beanstalk	Village Hall
09-Jan-25	2.30pm	Thursday Club	Games Afternoon	Village Hall
11-Jan-25	12-2pm	St Nicholas	Soup & Social	Village Hall
12-Jan-25	11am	St Nicholas	Allsorts Service	Church
14-Jan-25	7.30pm	Parish Council	Meeting	Village Hall
16-Jan-25	12.30pm	Thursday Club	Pub Lunch, Kilsby	Red Lion
18-Jan-25	2.30pm	W.I.	Therapy Dog Talk	Village Hall
26-Jan-25	11am	St Nicholas	Holy Communion	Church
29-Jan-25	7.30pm	Willoughby Society	Malcom Lewis talk	Village Hall
01-Feb-25	7.30pm	Willoughby Society	Live & Local event	Village Hall

## Thursday Club

9 January, 2.30pm Village Hall: Games Afternoon.

16 January, 12.30pm Pub Lunch at the Red Lion, Kilsby

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



## Parish Council

**Joanne Jarman, our Parish Clerk** - Congratulations to Jo on achieving her Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). This nationally recognised qualification is a testament to Jo's many hours of hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence in serving our council and community. Achieving CiLCA not only enhances the council's professionalism but also provides a solid foundation for good governance and effective local leadership. We are very lucky to have her.



**Culverts at the Lower Street/Moor Lane Junction** - After almost two years of site visits and email exchanges between FLAG and Warwickshire County Council, the culverts were finally cleared on 10 and 11 December. The jetvac lorry removed an estimated 9 to 10 tons of silt that had built up over a number of years. Watching the contractors at work was quite awe-inspiring as the silt and water spewed out of the hose. If volunteers had not done their amazing

clearance of the dense vegetation in the brook both before and after the culverts, WCC were quite clear they would not have commissioned the work to jetvac them. Our sincere thanks to all who volunteered for the benefit of our community.

## Willoughby Society

Happy New Year to all our members and supporters. Our programme for this year has something for everyone and if you would like to join society please contact Leonie Tromans. Our programme starts at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th of January with renowned photographer Malcolm Lewis. Join us as he takes us on the journey that he and Jo took last year along the beaches in France to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the 'D' Day landings. The evening is open to all, no booking necessary.

**Music Event** - with the bar area in the village hall now fully available, our first Live and Local music event of the year is on Saturday 1st February from 7.30pm when we will be joined by a Duo called 'Old Spot' who will bring Appalachian music to Willoughby with their five stringed banjo and fiddle amongst other



other instruments. Expect foot-stomping fiddle tunes and lazy banjo backbeats as they entertain us for an entrancing evening of music. We will be running a bar on the night, tickets are £15 and available from Leonie Tromans, [secretaryengxiii@aol.com](mailto:secretaryengxiii@aol.com) or any members of the committee.

## W.I.

Sunday 5 January, 2.30pm – Willoughby Village Hall We welcome Aunty Jen Productions a professional touring company who are presenting Jack & the Beanstalk. Adults £10 concessions £8 booking essential at [www.auntyjenproductions.co.uk](http://www.auntyjenproductions.co.uk)

In January we don't have an evening meeting instead we meet on Saturday 18th January at 2.30pm and we are delighted to welcome Jane Neary who is going to tell us all about therapy dogs and will be bringing one with her. Free for members but £5 for visitors. If you would like to come along please let Lorraine know on 01788890846 for catering purposes.



## St Nicholas Church

Happy New Year from St Nicholas'. A huge thank you to everyone who supported us throughout all our Advent and Christmas events last year. After the busyness of Advent and Christmas, January represents a time of new beginnings and fresh start. It is also an opportunity to go back to basics. We have lots of plans for 2025, but those are for later on in the year. In January we focus on the core things we do each month which are at the heart of what our Church is all about – being in our local community here in Willoughby and worshipping God.

So just the three dates for you diary this month:



- Soup and Social returns on Saturday 11th in the Village Hall. Why not pop along between 12-2pm meet old friends and make new. £6 suggested donation for lovely homemade soup and pud. We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help keep this great community event going so please contact Andrea on 07702626268 if you would like to be part of the amazing team who make this all happen.
- Our first Sunday Service of 2025 will be at 11am on 12th January. This will be an Allsorts service 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 2025.
- At 11am on Sunday 26th January we'll be having our first Communion service of the year.

Please do follow us on Facebook for the latest news, and just to flag as well as the St Nicholas' Website we do have a Benefice Website ([www.draycoteandleamvalleybenefice.com](http://www.draycoteandleamvalleybenefice.com)) which has details of everything that is going on in Willoughby and across the whole benefice. God Bless,

Rev Phil ([revphilprice@outlook.com](mailto:revphilprice@outlook.com) / 01788 819 366)



We would like to thank those of you who took part in our Christmas Tree Festival, decorated your house, garden or window for our light trail, bought, made and decorated trees for our Christmas tree festival, our volunteers who manned stalls, made cakes, put up trees and lights. Our craft stall holders and people who donated raffle prizes. Without your support, we couldn't run our community events. Our winners were:



Favourite decorated house was: Number 12 Carol Cowley.

Favourite Window Number: 5 Margaret O'Donnell.

Favourite tree: Willoughby Woman's Institute .

Name the Teddy was won by Jim Rowley with the name Fuzzy Wuzzy

Thank you all once again, community spirit at its best. Karen. Sue and Val

## Pop Up Café

Sheila, Karen, Pete, Val and all our lovely helpers would like to thank you all for supporting our pop up café. We hope you also enjoyed our well attended afternoon tea on the 8th December. Because of your generosity throughout the year we have been able to donate over £1,200 to charities who have offered support to village residents. Our next pop up café will be on Friday 7th February 10:30 - 12:30.

Wishing you all a pleasant and peaceful Christmas and New Year, Rachel.



# Village Hall

Village Hall Christmas Fayre - a HUGE thanks to everyone who came to support the Village Hall Christmas Fayre in any way! We are so grateful for the support of the village. It costs a lot to keep the hall in good repair ready for use by us all. The fees paid by users of the hall only covers part of the ongoing costs, so we have to raise funds ongoing and we couldn't do this without all you lovely villagers and others who come in from outside of the village to take part in events. We are delighted to announce that £1,435.00 was raised on the day which is a magnificent amount so THANK YOU

## So, what's been happening at St Nicholas church?

Having run many community events for the benefit of church funds and residents of local communities we have now completed the National Lottery Heritage Fund project to repair and restore the church roof and ceiling, the Parochial Church Council (PCC), under the direction of the Reverend Phil Price, has now decided the PCC should focus mainly on ministerial and mission-based activities. This means that the community-based church activities will cease to be organised in 2025, i.e. the children's craft events, the Heritage Day, Santa's trail and Christmas Tree festival. In view of these decisions, and with concern regarding possible problems surrounding the fulfilment of Lottery obligations, Karen Nichols (who has moved from the area), Sue Waddington and Val Baxter have resigned from the PCC. With regards to the stained glass window fund, all relevant permissions are in place. It is understood that no decision has been made by the new committee. This has been shared with the relevant grant bodies. A decision will be made in the New Year. Please contact Rev Phil Price for further clarification.



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## 100 Club December Draw

1st Place winner - Sue Johnson 2nd Place winner- Mark Street. Congratulations to you both!!



## Do you live in a rural area and feel passionately about health provision?

Would you like to ensure that health and social care research better reflects your community?

Are you interested in the experience of other people and promoting their voices?

## BECOME A COMMUNITY RESEARCH CHAMPION

Community Research Champions use the knowledge, experience and contacts they have as part of their community, to support engagement about research with their community

For more information please contact a member of our team at:

✉ [Research.PPI@uhcw.nhs.uk](mailto:Research.PPI@uhcw.nhs.uk)  
☎ 02476 966867 / 02476 964413

Scan here for research opportunities



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.

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. Send them to me at [thewilloughbymonthly@gmail.com](mailto:thewilloughbymonthly@gmail.com), Tel: 01788315893. Thanks, Hannah.