

Calendar For February 2026

<u>SUNDAY 1st February</u>	<u>Pasture Close</u>
9am Holy Communion	All Saints Church
<u>SUNDAY 8th February</u>	<u>Pasture Way</u>
9am Family Service	Methodist Church
<u>SUNDAY 15th February</u>	<u>Pinfold Hill</u>
9am Holy Communion	All Saints Church
<u>SUNDAY 22nd February</u>	<u>Prospect Place</u>
9am Family Service	Methodist Church

Thank you to the monthly coffee morning ladies for their donation towards the running costs of the Church Christmas tree lights.

Thursday 19th March
Come to our
Soup Social

At Wistow Chapel
11.30am to 2pm
Tickets £5 to include
Soup and a roll, tea/coffee
and a choice of cake

Donations for the tombola and cakes would be most welcome

Tickets available from
Sue Culkin 01757-268952 or Chris Scott 01757-242545



Altar Flower Guild



1st February Mr. Jackson

No flowers in lent

WISTOW VILLAGE NEWS

February 2026



www.wistowchurch.co.uk

WISTOW VILLAGE CHURCH

ANGLICAN CONTACTS

Canon John Weetman – Priest-in-Charge

office@selbyabbey.org.uk

METHODIST CONTACTS

To be confirmed -

wistowmethodist@gmail.com

WORSHIP LEADER

Alison Cunningham –

07854085644

CHURCH WARDENS

Sue Culkin –

01757-268952

Nicki Williams -

07710831381

METHODIST STEWARDS

David Jones –

01757-268571

Christine Scott –

01757-242545

ALL SAINTS TREASURER

To be confirmed –

allsaintswistow@gmail.com

METHODIST TREASURER

Fiona Peill

wistowmethodist@gmail.com

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Nicki Williams All Saints Church

07710831381

Jean Legg Wistow Methodist

07733052664

Ryther Church Warden: John Dennis

07712435086

Cawood Church Wardens: Linda Grimshaw

07708630042



Items for the March magazine may be handed to Sue Culkin or emailed to wistowmagazine@gmail.com by **Thursday 12th February** please. The editorial team reserve the right to decide on items and wording of articles included in the magazine.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE & WHEN IN WISTOW

Singing For Fun Sundays 6pm to 7.30pm Methodist Chapel Alison Cunningham 07854085644 alisoninwistow@btinternet.com	Wistow Parochial CE VC Primary School Headteacher – Mrs. C. Cox 01757 – 268378 admin@wistow.n-yorks.sch.uk
1 st Wistow Brownies Monday 18.00 to 19.15 Jubilee Hall Amanda Greenaway 07470344018	1 st Wistow Rainbows Monday 16.45 to 17.45 Jubilee Hall Amanda Greenaway 07470344018
1st Wistow Guides Monday 19.15 to 20.45 Jubilee Hall Alison Cunningham 07854085644 alisoninwistow@btinternet.com	Wistow Youth Club Ages 8 to 11 Friday 7pm to 9pm Jubilee Hall Sue Sampson 07738660796
Parents & Toddlers Wednesday 9.30am – 11.30am Methodist Chapel Ages 0 to 3 £2 to include tea and coffee Janet 07981229668	Smart Start Pre-School Monday – Friday 9am – 3.15pm Jubilee Hall Susanna Phillips 01757 – 242576 wistowmartstart@gmail.com www.wistowmartstart.co.uk
Wistow Parish Council Clerk – Samantha Edwards clerk@wistowparishcouncil.gov.uk www.wistowparishcouncil.gov.uk	Wistow Gardening Group Contact 07800545052 or lindabaillie@gmail.com
Musical Chairs Monday at The Jubilee Hall Tarek Hassan 07741 999990 or Tarekhassan15@icloud.com	Wistow Jubilee Hall Booking Contact Jill – 01757-268442 jillianmarsden47@gmail.com
Cawood Art Group Alternate Mondays 10am to 12pm Old Boys' School, Cawood Anne Marie – annemarie50@sky.com 01757-269442	Wistow Jubilee Hall Diamond Dancesport Ballroom/Latin /dance fitness classes on Tues & Wed pm Contact Rachel –07719 449186 Diamond.dancesport@gmail.com

FEBRUARY NEWS

Wistow Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 11th February at 7pm in the Methodist Church.

Coffee Morning

Thursday 12th February at 10.00am in the Methodist Church – all welcome.

Messy workshop

Our next children's Messy Workshop in the Methodist Church, is to be held on **Friday 20th February** from 10am to 12pm for Wistow children aged between 4ys and 11yrs at £2 per child. Contact Chris on chris1915@hotmail.com to book a place.

Pancake Coffee Morning

Come and join us

On Tuesday 17th February
In Wistow Methodist Chapel
From 10 am till noon

Admission Adults £3.00

Children £1.50 Under 5's Free

Donations of Cakes, Buns etc Welcome

Tombola
And
Cake Stall



Admission
Includes
Pancakes &
A Drink

Proceeds to Church and Chapel

Dear Friends

February starts with what is often known as 'Candlemas' – the occasion 40 days after his birth (hence 2nd February) that Jesus was brought to the Temple by Mary and Joseph to 'present' him to God, give thanks for his birth, and follow the other rituals that we expected after childbirth according to the Jewish Law at the time. Mary and Joseph were greeted there by an old man called Simeon, who took Jesus in arms and spoke the words of praise and thanksgiving sometimes known (and sung) as the 'Nunc Dimittis':

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation, which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people; to be a *light* to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel".

This reference to Jesus bringing light into the world has led to many churches celebrating the occasion by lighting lots of candles and in some cases, people bringing the candles that they intend to use throughout the year to be blessed by the priest – hence 'Candlemas'. In some parts of the world, it also marks the date when Christmas celebrations finally come to an end and decorations come down (rather than 'Twelfth Night').

I'm rather pleased that we only have to use candles these days for symbolic and decorative purposes, whether in church or at home, although I do remember the power cuts of the 1970s when they had to be brought back into use as often the only source of light. It's so easy banishing the darkness of the cold winter nights by simply flicking a switch and getting instant light, but less easy banishing the darkness that troubles our world and our lives through injustice, poverty, war, disaster, disease, division and in so many other ways. It was these forms of darkness though, that Jesus came to address through the light of his love and to inspire us to do the same as far as we can by 'shining like lights in the world' ourselves. Perhaps as we think about how we can bring some light into the world through our words and actions, we can also give thanks for the many people who help to brighten up our lives, whether they realise it or not?

God Bless
Canon John

WASHA

We give thanks to Tanya Wray who has donated £100 to our All Saints Church Organ fund.

We also give our grateful thanks to our resident Stonemason; Richard Brownhill, who spotted a major structural failure in All Saints Church just before Christmas. With the help of our Architect and WASHA Trustees quick response the necessary repairs were carried out; on a temporary faculty, with engineering input to make sure the church would be open; and safe, again in time for Christmas.

Christmas Lights

Apart from monies already put aside for the Christmas Lights a further £100 pounds was given from the Musical Chairs group at the Village Hall. We thank them for being aware of groups trying hard to work for the community and I will pass this on to Paul Stafford who is leading the Christmas lights Group

Rob Poskitt

Weighton Waytes Choir

**On Saturday 18th April in Wistow Methodist Chapel at
7.30pm**

Tickets £8 each available from 01757 268571, 01757 268584
or 07597 956931

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE REPORT 2025

As you may know, John Warburton has been looking after Wistow All Saints Churchyard for the last few years. Last year there were problems with the church lawnmower breaking down which resulted in trying to keep the churchyard tidy with the use of a strimmer and John's domestic lawn mower for a period of 10 weeks, but even so he has done a great job on keeping on top of the grass cutting and general maintenance.

However, John (who is now 78) is now finding it difficult to carry out all the work required in the churchyard on his own has given notice that he will need to reduce his workload from this year.

As a result, we will need additional help to maintain the churchyard. John is willing to continue on a **voluntary basis**, carrying out the main mowing, but will be unable to mow around the gravestones or trim/cut the grass in these areas. Additionally, we will also require assistance for the general upkeep of the trees and shrubbery and collection of dead wood. We are therefore looking for a group of volunteers to help maintain the churchyard going forward.

We have looked at the possibility of contracting out the churchyard maintenance, but it is something we simply could not afford. Even at the current Minimum Wage (£12.21 per hour) this would cost around £6350 (John only charged £2.30 hour - £1200 year), plus that cost of consumables and other on-costs, the total could be around £8000 year. (see below)

If anyone is interested in joining a group of volunteers or would like to discuss this in more detail, or has any other ideas please contact: allsaintswistow@gmail.com or speak to Sue Culkin or Nicky Williams.

I hope you agree that the church and the churchyard are an integral part of our beautiful village your help with donations and/or volunteering to keep them both looking good and usable is much appreciated.

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR 2025

Total hours = 520 (grass cutting/strimming/weeding/clearing debris and trimming back shrubs and trees where possible)

520 hours at £2.30/hr	£1200.00
Consumables (Petrol/oil/2 stroke/trimmer cable/ weedkiller:	£87.63
Maintenance and repairs to mower	£111.84
Total cost for 2025:	£1380.27
The total amount of pledged donations for the year amounted to:	£1200.00
Plus John W contribution:	£ 19.20

Total income for 2025: £1219.20

Deficit for 2025: £161.10

Thank you to everyone who has given donations towards the upkeep of the graveyard, it is much appreciated