



WILLITON WINDOW

Your Church and Community Magazine
JANUARY 2020
Volume 20, Number 7

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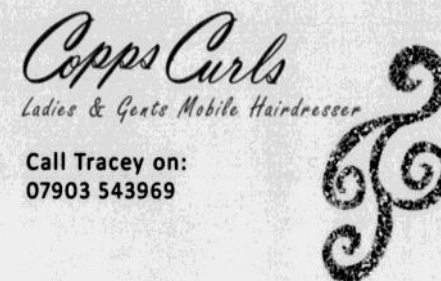
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**THE FEBRUARY MAGAZINE SHOULD BE READY FOR
COLLECTION FROM ST PETER'S CHURCH
FROM 10am ON FRIDAY 24 JANUARY.**

The magazines are arranged in alphabetical order of the distributor
on two pews at the back left of the church near the font.

DEADLINE DATES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 14 JANUARY

EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 17 JANUARY

Please send articles, news, diary dates and advertisements to:

Jenny or Tony Gibson, "Mill Cottage", 22 Bridge Street, Williton TA4 4NR

☎ 01984 634 899 / 07535 086223 email: willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

CUT OUT AND KEEP - USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Church of England (St Peter's)

Vicar	Rev Clive Gilbert	631005
Associate Vicar	Rev Kathryn Flenley	633568
Readers:	Mrs Bev Machin	568201
	Mrs Donna Marsden	633707
	Mrs Julie Pelling	07973 961083
Churchwardens:	Mr G Fenech	633577
	Mrs S Withycombe	632596

Methodist Church

Team Ministry:	Rev Nick Lakin	01643 705175
Stewards:	Mr P Gliddon	632327

Mrs R Troman	633199
Mrs J Sefton	656652

Roman Catholic Deacon	Rev Vincent Woods	634681
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Baptist Church	Rev Mike Sherburn	633755
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Mrs M Collinson	632537
Mr J Bowcock	248169

Salvation Army Corps Leader	Miss Sam Searle	07979 575453
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Hall address and telephone:	1 Brendon Road, Watchet	633133
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Williton Window distribution	Mrs P Chidgey	632755
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We do our best to ensure that all advertisements and articles appear correctly in the Williton Window. Advertisements and articles appearing in this publication are accepted in good faith by the publishers, St Peter's Parochial Church Council, who can, however, not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, nor does their inclusion imply any recommendation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: PRIVACY POLICY. We do not share or sell names, addresses, phone numbers or email addresses under any circumstances.

THE WILLITON WINDOW WISHES ALL OUR READERS,
CONTRIBUTORS, DISTRIBUTORS, ADVERTISERS AND
PRINTERS A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

ST PETER'S CHURCH

For Home Communion or visits of any kind, please contact:
the Vicar: Rev Clive Gilbert on 631005

Associate Vicar: Rev Kathryn Flenley 633568

Readers Bev Machin, Donna Marsden and Julie Pelling (see page 8)

Tuesdays 9.00 am Prayer Time 10-11.am Coffee and Chat

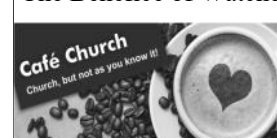
Tuesdays 11.00 am Mid-Week Service of Holy Communion

Church is open daily during daylight hours for personal prayer

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY

Sun 5th	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	10am	All Age Worship
Tues 7th	9.30-11am	"Little Saints" Toddler group at Croft House and then in the Meeting Room each following Tuesday
Thurs 9th	9.30-11.30am	CAMEO in Church - <u>C</u> ome and <u>m</u> ee <u>t</u> <u>e</u> ach <u>o</u> ther - tea, coffee and cake - weekly
Sun 12th	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
Mon 13th	10am	Communion at Danesborough View -all welcome
Sun 19th	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	11.00am	We join Christians Together in Watchet and Williton to celebrate The Week of Prayer for Christion Unity at the Pavilion in Williton
Sat 25th	10-11.30am	CAFÉ CHURCH in the Meeting Room
Sun 26th	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
	11.45am	Communion at Croft House
Thurs 30th	11.00am	Communion at Croft House

The Benefice of Watchet & Williton invites you to:



Café Church
Saturday 25th January
10 - 11.30 am

For all the FAMILY

Food, children's activities. A chance to meet with and talk to others. Newspapers and activities.

In the Meeting Room, next to the Vicarage,
24 Priest Street, Williton



Cover photo: The Lodge at the entrance to Orchard Wyndham

FROM DEACON VINCENT WOODS

A very happy New Year to you all!

Because of the need to “put this edition to bed” before Christmas, I am writing my contribution on the day after the 2019 General Election. Last night, and into this morning, the country witnessed a variety of hopes. Hopes were realised for the victorious and dashed for those who lost seats or failed to gain them. Hope for change was gained or lost, depending upon how one relates to the result.

Hope in human effort can be very rewarding, but it can also be disheartening or frustrating as our human frailty asserts itself. Hope is better placed in something above the human element.

So, for the coming year I offer you all hope, hope that cannot disappoint, namely hope in God.

As fellow human beings let you down, why not turn to God who never disappoints or fails us? This is a being who knows exactly what is best for us, even when we fail to recognise it ourselves. We can ask God for anything at all and he will respond, not always as we expect or desire, but in ways that are, in the end, what we need.

It is said that God knows our desires and needs even before we let them enter our heads and will respond positively to them. If we take this thought to heart and let it rule our lives, then 2020 can indeed be a year full of hope. May it be so for each of you.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass is celebrated at 6.30 pm on Saturdays at the Methodist Church, Watchet. For more information contact Deacon Vincent Woods on 01984 634681.

BAPTIST CHURCH (WATCHET)

The Baptist Church meets at Knights Templar School every Sunday at 10.30 am. For more information, visit the **website**: www.watchetbaptist.org.uk or email mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk or telephone 01984 633755.

METHODIST CHURCH

Worshipping at Danesborough View Common Room TA4 4SH.

Services: Sundays at 10.30 am - Please join us.

5th	Miss Mollie Brooks
12th	Rev Jane Sperring - Covenant Service
19th	United service at Williton Pavilion at 11.00am
26th	Mrs Margaret Lintern

THE SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS

(Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)

Salvation Army Hall, 1 Brendon Road, Watchet. All are welcome.

Sunday Worship 11am (followed by coffee and a chat)

Monday Silver Threads 3pm (Over 60s fellowship)

Friday Coffee morning (10am - 12 noon) Home-made cakes for sale.

All enquiries to the Corps leader, Miss Sam Searle on 07979 575 453.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED TO:

Two loyal readers for their generous Christmas donation of £70 to the Williton Window. And to the friend of Bill Hilton for his generous donation of £30.

Also to Williton Parish Council for their donation of £600, which enables us to help publicise the many fine activities they organise for the benefit of the village.
Editors

THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS

To everyone who helped make Williton look so festive for Christmas with lights, trees and shop window displays. It was great to see so many people at the Festival on the 11th and to sing our hearts out at the Carol Concert. Well done everyone, and thank you.
Editors

WILLITON FILM NIGHTS @ THE PAVILION

Tuesday 28 January, 19:00 hours

Downton Abbey

Excitement is high at Downton Abbey when the Crawley family learns that King George V and Queen Mary are coming to visit. But trouble soon arises when Mrs Patmore, Daisy and the rest of the servants learn that the king and queen travel with their own chefs and attendants - setting the stage for an impromptu scheme and other shenanigans.

Certificate: PG

Tickets available from Williton Parish Council office and Williton Post Office

Advance price: £4. On the door: £5.

Hearing Loop * Refreshments available: tea/coffee/wine/beer/cider * Free parking in Killick Way after 18:00 hours, limited disabled parking at The Pavilion, permits must be clearly displayed.

COMMUNITY MARKET AND CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

Williton Community Market will hold its first market of 2020 at The Social Club on Friday 17th January. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported us in 2019 when we raised over £40 each for our five local charities through donations for coffee and tea. Special thanks go to Williton Social Club for allowing us to use their facilities and making us so welcome. It has proved to be a lovely friendly relaxing venue. If you haven't joined us yet on the 3rd Friday of every month do come along to see what's on offer. You can be sure of a warm welcome.
Barbara Heywood

IF YOU NEED HELP:

Williton Surgery Robert Street TA4 4QE Tel: 01984 632701 Out of hours: 111. In an emergency call 999. **NHS Health Trainer** Rebecca Pitchers: mobile 07500 064683 or free phone 0800 412 5502

West Somerset Advice Bureau In the Children's Centre, Killick Way, every Tuesday 10am - 12.30pm. Tel: 01643 704624

Christians Against Poverty - Free debt help. Freephone: 0800 3280006 www.capuk.org

Quantock Foodbank 07483 815122 email: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com

Williton Police: In an emergency call 999. Otherwise call 101.



The Quantock Foodbank thanks everyone in Williton for your Christmas gifts and generosity throughout the past year. Sadly we are doing three or four times as much as last year, and we also have more homeless people. All the services which remain after the cuts are stretched to breaking point. So, please, keep helping those less fortunate than you are. Wishing you a very happy and peaceful new year.

Marlene Mason



Donate your Winter Fuel Payment so Somerset's elderly don't have to choose between eating and heating

A shocking one in eight households in Somerset live in fuel poverty. Somerset Community Foundation's Surviving Winter campaign encourages people who don't need their Winter Fuel Payment to donate some or all of it to help local older people who are unable to afford to heat their homes. Last year generous local donors who donated over £100,000 to Surviving Winter. If you would like to donate to Surviving Winter - or if you need help, visit www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter or call 01749 344949.

NEW YEAR KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTIONS

In Christmas week the normal refuse (black bin and recycling) collection will take place on Sunday 29th December (instead of the previous Friday) and the next kerbside recycling collection will take place on Saturday 4th January. The recycling site on Roughmoor will be open as usual on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9am-5pm and from 9am-4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. For more local recycling news go to somersetwaste.gov.uk.

WILLITON REGISTRATION OFFICE

The Registration Office has now moved from its previous home at Beckett House to the Library on Killick Way, Williton, TA4 4PY. The team are available to register births and deaths, take notices of marriage or partnership for Somerset residents, as well as simple "2+2" marriage and civil partnership ceremonies, all now available for both same and opposite sex couples.

To book an appointment or find out more information about any of these services and what you may need to bring with you, visit the Somerset County Council website (www.somerset.gov.uk) and follow links to the Births, Ceremonies & Deaths page. You can also order additional or replacement certificates through this site. The ceremony website is www.somersetweddingservice.org.uk.

Appointments are normally for 30 minutes for a birth registration, and 45 minutes for a death registration or notice of marriage. We ask that no more than 2 people attend appointments as space is limited in our interview rooms.

Opening Hours: Monday: 12 noon to 5pm; **Wednesday:** 9.30am to 12.30pm; **Friday** 9.30am to 12.30pm

Phone: 01823 282251 **Email:** registrations@somerset.gov.uk

WELCOME TO WILLITON - WELCOME PACK

Have you recently moved to Williton or do you know someone who has? If so, you may like a free Welcome Pack, which gives a map of Williton, details of services, clubs and organisations, and other useful information. Please ring Jenny or Tony Gibson on 634899, email willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk or go to our website: www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack

YOUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER



January – are you glass half full or half empty? Do you start the New Year with resolutions and excitement or shiver with the horror of bad weather, no money and dark nights? Take the half full- option and embrace a more positive mind-set to support you through the harsh winter months when life can be most challenging.

You don't need to pay a fortune on diet and detox kits, heating or a holiday to survive winter. Appreciate the beauty of winter to keep you feeling upbeat. Think log fires and walks or time to snuggle under a duvet, with a hot water bottle on the sofa and not feel guilty about watching the TV or reading a book all day! Get excited by planning the work you are doing in the garden for next summer or researching where you want to go on holiday. Eat local and simple foods. Making cheap, homemade vegetable soups keeps you warm and full throughout the day.

Driving can be tricky in winter, the rush hour is in the dark and the roads can be filled with ice, floods, potholes and wet leaves. The AA has advice to keep us all safe: <https://www.theaa.com/driving-advice/seasonal/winter>

Also, here are some top tips for staying well in the cold – and we know the past couple of years have bought particularly cold weather in the late January – March period with various Beasts storming in! These are particularly aimed at people who care for others but useful for other people too!

Ten Top Tips for to help keep us in good health this winter

1. Pressure ulcers often start in the home. If you notice a red spot that doesn't blanch when you press it, it could be the start of a pressure ulcer.
2. Do not rub the areas of red skin as this could cause a breakdown of skin.
3. Rubber rings can create areas of increased pressure, not prevent them.
4. If incontinence products are used try to not multilayer them as this could increase the risk of pressure ulcers occurring.
5. When moving out of bed do not ruck up bedding which could drag on the skin.
6. Where possible, reposition or move regularly to avoid prolonged periods of high pressure.
7. Remember that dehydration does not only occur in the summer. When we turn the heating on we still need to keep hydrated.
8. Keeping properly hydrated helps to prevent against Urinary Tract Infections.
9. Incontinence issues? Try switching to decaffeinated drinks but switch over slowly to allow the body to get used to the withdrawal of caffeine. Keep drinking at regular intervals during the day, as this can actually help with incontinence issues.
10. Remember good hand hygiene can help prevent against bugs and infections. Washing your hands with soap and water after going to the toilet and before preparing food for others is an essential way to reduce the spread of unpleasant illnesses to friends and family.

Please phone me Izzy Silvester your Village Agent on 07931 018045, leave me your name and number and I will ring you back. Or e mail me on izzy@somersetccc.org.uk . I do only work part-time so it may take a day or two for me to return your call. Thank you.

WASPS - WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREA PARKINSON'S SUPPORT

Here we are at the start of a brand new year, new resolutions still intact, we hope, and looking forward to a good new year for everyone. We would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. I know that the WASPS have a lot to look forward to.

We are now back to where we started 7 years ago - a support group for our local area for anyone who has Parkinson's. As a member of Parkinson's UK we had to attend workshops, send in reports and follow their guidelines. None of this on its own was hard to do, but when it came to getting volunteers we ran into problems; there were simply too many rules and regulations. So we took the honest approach and told them we were not big enough to work within their mandate and they let us go. They understand our point of view and we will still have links to them. We recommend that anyone who has Parkinson's take out an individual membership. It is very good value for money and they send out information to all members. Their magazine alone is well worth the membership.

We will continue to operate as The WASPS and hold our meetings at the Williton Pavilion on the first Thursday of every month, except for February when it the first Wednesday. We still have Jenny Manvell leading us in exercises before our meetings. These start at 1:15 and the regular monthly meeting starts at 2pm. The first meeting of 2020 will be on 2nd January and we are expecting a couple of guests who are "jumping" at the chance to have a chat with us.

The WASPS offer friendship, caring and support to anyone who has Parkinson's. We want you to know that you are not alone. You do not have to become a member, some people are not joiners, but if you need someone to talk to you can always contact the WASPS. We are a friendly group and always do our best to make everyone feel welcome. I can be contacted on 01984 631472. My email is queenwasp@outlook.com.

Linda Bishop

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our Christmas meeting we were entertained by the Stogumber Handbell Ringers. All their items had a seasonal theme and included well known carols which we were invited to join in. They also performed a light-hearted Christmas sketch. We heard how the group had been running for 20 years and currently rang a total of 28 beautiful bells.

This was followed by delicious refreshments organised and prepared by Chris Smith.

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday 16th January 2020 at 2pm at Danesborough View Common Room, when Ross McKee will tell us about Lundy Island. Visitors and new members will be made very welcome (a charge of £3.50 being made for non-members).

We wish you all a Happy New Year.

June Irving, Secretary

WILLITON HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre, £744.18 was raised. Since we have started selling books we have raised £1109. Thank you to everyone who has donated or bought books: please keep them coming.

WILLITON HOSPITAL THURSDAY KEEP FIT A free class from 10-11am with donations to Age UK.

Shirley Dee

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The New Year is a good time to start the journey of your Family Tree. Some of you may have had a DNA kit as a Christmas present and it has ignited an interest in all things ancestral. Our meeting this month is a review of a visit to London for the RootsTech fair by a couple of our fellow researchers. They will be sharing information they gathered during their visit which may 'kick start' those of us who have got 'stuck'. Entrance is £1.50 for SDFHS members and £3 for visitors, who are always made welcome. Tea/ coffee and biscuits are included in the entrance. Email westsomfhl@gmail.com for more information.

Every month we hold monthly sessions at Williton Library, when a volunteer will spend an hour with you to try to help in your research, either if you are a beginner or someone who has got 'stuck'. However, the January sessions are already fully booked. Sorry!

Lesley Murray

DEMENTIA ALLIANCE - FORGET-ME-NOT CAFE

All welcome between 10:30 and 12:00 in The Sanctuary, Swain Street, Watchet on Wednesdays 15 and 29 January for coffee, chat and cake. You can also attend the Church Rooms, Castle Street, Stogursey on Wednesdays 8 and 22nd January. For more information please email watchetdementia@gmail.com or ring 07973 638030.

WILLITON GARDENING CLUB

At our next meeting on Monday 25 January, there will be a talk by Neil Lovesey. We meet at Danesborough View Common Room at 7.30pm. Visitors and non-members are welcome at a charge of £2. For more information please contact our Secretary Liz Payne on 01984 633084.

GROW YOUR OWN POTATO DAY AND SEED FAIR

Williton Allotments and Williton Gardening Club will again be hosting Pennard Plants of East Pennard for Williton's second "Grow Your Own", Potato Day and Seed Fair on **Sunday 16th February** at the Memorial Ground Pavilion from 10:30 to 1:30.

Pennard Plants will have up to 60 varieties of seed potatoes which are sold by the tuber rather than by weight which is ideal if you only want one or two to put into a pot for a few earlies or more for a row but you don't need as many that are in the bags sold at garden centres. It also gives you a chance to try some different varieties and if you don't know what to plant the people from Pennard Plants really know their stuff and will be happy to give you good advice.

In addition to the potatoes, they will have onion and shallot sets and bulbs of garlic, as well as a fantastic range of heritage seeds, fruit trees, soft fruit and kitchen garden plants - and much more. So no excuse for not being ready for the start of the new growing season when it arrives in spring.

Entry is free and tea, coffee, soup and light refreshments including homemade cakes will be available. For more information please contact Peter Payne on 01984 633084.

ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Finding something you thought you had lost.

by SD

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Thurs	2	Williton Library	3pm Pins and Needles
Thurs	2	WASPS Parkinson's Support Group *	1.15 exercises, 2pm main meeting Williton Pavilion
Thurs	2	Book Club	2.30pm Williton Library
Sat	4	Williton Library	10.30am Lego Club
Tues	7	Good Neighbours	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	7	Williton Pavilion*	7.00pm Bingo, Williton Pavilion
Wed	8	Williton Library	10.30am Verse & Worse Light hearted look at poetry and prose
Thurs	9	Loop the Loop	3.30-4.30pm Williton Library
Sat	11	Williton Walk	2.00pm, Railway Station
Sat	11	Williton Library	10-12.00pm FOWLS coffee morning
Mon	13	RBL Women's Section	2.30pm Fire Station Lecture Room
Mon	13	Williton Library	4.30-7.30pm Homework Club
Wed	15	Family History	2.15 & 3.15pm At the library FULLY BOOKED
Thurs	16	Women's Institute	2.00pm Danesborough View Common Room
Thurs	16	Williton Library	2.30-4pm Scrabble Club
Fri	17	Community Market	9-11.30am Williton Social Club
Mon	20	Williton Library	4.30-7.30pm Homework Club
Tues	21	Village History	7.45pm EMN Hall Talk on 2WW2 Home Front in
Tues	21	Williton Pavilion*	7.00pm Bingo, Williton Pavilion
Sat	25	Williton Wanderers	10.30am Porlock Parish Church
Sat	25	Story & Craft Time	10.30-11.30am for children 4-10years
Mon	27	Gardening Club	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Mon	27	Williton Library	4.30-7.30pm Homework Club
Tues	28	Williton Pavilion*	6.30 for 7pm Film Night see page 11
Wed	29	Family History*	7-9.00pm Williton Pavilion,
Thurs	30	Book Club	2.30pm Williton Library

* Disabled parking (limited) only by Pavilion and make sure you have your disabled badge displayed. Parking in main car park on Killick Way (free after 6pm), two minutes walk from the Pavilion.

Entry in this diary is free. To have details of your organisation's events included, ring 01984 634899 or email willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

REGULAR WEEKLY VILLAGE EVENTS

Aikido	Williton Pavilion *	Sunday 2.30-4.30pm (R Banks 07562 322889)
Bingo	Danesborough View	Friday 7.30pm
Brownies	Guide HQ	Tuesday 5.45pm
Chair based exercise	Williton Hospital	Thursday 10-11am (free class) 633529
Community Employment Hub	Children's Centre	Tuesday 9.30-12.30 Relaxed free caring support: CVs, job searching, applications, interview prep, IT for everyone.
Craft and chat	Danesborough View Common Room	Tuesday 2.30-4.30pm (not 1st Tues in month). For info ring Lyn 634686. Free but donations
Cubs	Guide HQ	Wednesday 6-7.30pm
Dance and Gym	Williton Pavilion *	Monday 4.30 - 5.30pm Term time only Friday 4.30-6.30pm Term time only
Guides	The Guide HQ, Market Street Car Park in Watchet	Friday 7.15-9pm (info from Martha on 01984 248925)
Hugill's Crew Shanty Singing	West Somerset Hotel Watchet	Every Wednesday from 7-9pm (contact info@hugillscREW.org.uk)
Kundalini Yoga	Williton Pavilion *	Tuesday 7-8.30pm See page 12 NEW
Pilates	Williton Pavilion *	Monday 2 sessions 9.30am-12noon Monday 2 sessions 6-8.30pm Friday 2 sessions 9.30am-12 noon
with Ellie Stuart-Steel 07342 238 723		
<i>Booking essential for all classes</i>		
Positive People	Williton Pavilion *	Tuesday 11am - 1pm support for unemployed people aged 18 and over, into employment
Railway Modellers	Wednesday 7-10pm Rear of Washford Mill, Washford	(info: 07773 892085)
Rhyme Time	Williton Library	Friday 10.30-11am Term time only 0-4 years
RBL Rifle Club	Bridge Street Range on Fridays.	Ring for information 01984 632650
Short mat bowls	Williton Pavilion *	Monday 2 - 4pm
Stay Strong Age UK	Danesborough View	Monday 2-3pm
Tai Chi Shibashi	Salvation Army Hall, Watchet	11.15-12.15 £5 Julie 01984 633665
Talking Café	Williton Pavilion *	Tuesday 10am-12noon
UK Online	Williton Library	Monday 10.30-12noon Booking essential
Walk and talk	Williton Library	Thursday 10.30am-12noon
Walking football	Meet Killick Way car park by Library, Friday 12 noon	
War-games Club	Danesfield School	Friday 7-8.30pm
West Somerset Advice Bureau	Ring 01984 639588	Williton Gamers Wednesday 7-11pm
Yoga with Karen Abraham	Children's Centre	Tuesday 9.30am-12.30pm Universal Credit applications & support, Housing, benefits & other enquiries all welcome
	Williton Pavilion (info 07484 187420)	Thursday 1.30 - 2.30pm karenabraham@hotmail.co.uk
Youth Club	Williton Pavilion *	Thursday 6-8pm (Andy 01643 703155)
Zumba with K.t.	Williton Pavilion *	Monday 6 - 7pm Friday 9.30-10.30am
07738 676832		

ST PETER'S SCHOOL DIARY

The end of last term was extremely busy, especially with all the rehearsing for our Christmas play, 'Christmas with the Aliens'. The whole school enjoyed performing in front of their families and friends.

Ash Class have experienced some strange goings on! After hearing a loud crash the children rushed outside to see what had happened. There was slime, coal and metal scattered across the playground! They wondered if the Lorax had visited the school or maybe aliens had crash landed! The CCTV showed footage of a spaceship hovering over Alicia's garden. They explored the evidence left at the crash site and used scientific vocabulary to describe the properties of the foreign materials and then created Wanted posters of the aliens, which can be seen in Williton library. This strange experience has helped them get into character for the Christmas play!

Fir Class have been looking at symmetry in their art lessons. They started off by drawing the 'missing' half of an animal's face, which produced some amazing results. To progress from this, the children had a 'half portrait' of themselves which they had to draw the other side of their face. The children showed great perseverance to complete it, and the finished products looked fantastic.

In geography, as part of 'Our local area' topic all of year 4 went out into Williton. The aim was to follow a map to key destinations in Williton. On the walk they visited the train station, council offices, post office, fire station and finally the hospital, where the children sang Christmas play songs and enjoyed meeting Father Christmas, along with talking to the hospital patients and staff.

Happy Stars, our nurture group, enjoyed having their family and friends in school for an afternoon to help make their own Christmas cakes. They then returned two weeks later to marzipan and ice the Christmas cakes. The cakes looked amazing and it was great to see the children and parents enjoying working together. The nurture group had their own Christmas party, with Christmas music, food, face painting, elf hat making and even a visit from Santa himself with presents! Fun was had by everyone.

We were also lucky to have the Odment Theatre visit at the beginning of December, who came to tell us the story of the birth of Jesus. A big staging area was set up in the school hall and all classes were invited to watch. It was a lovely way to start off the Christmas festivities.

After a relaxing Christmas break, everyone will be recharged ready for a new term and the new challenges ahead. SG

SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2021/22 Consultation

School admissions arrangements for children who are due to start or transfer school for the 2021-22 school year, and those moving schools during the 2021-22 school year will be consulted on for a minimum period of 6 weeks ending 31 January 2020. This consultation applies to a number of schools and academies throughout Somerset and allows parents, other schools, religious authorities and the local community to raise any comments or concerns about proposed admission arrangements. To view the consultation (live from 9 December) please visit <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/school-admissions-policy/>.

DOWN AT THE STATION

At the time of writing we have just had the two evenings of Carol Trains, where trains run from each end of the line, each with a band on board. They appeared well supported with everyone enjoying themselves. Once they had set off on their return journey Williton staff stayed behind for their pre-Christmas supper with home-made soups, mince pies, sausage rolls etc.etc.

With only six more running days until the end the current season, trains will be running from Friday 27th December through to and including the 1st January. On the Sunday and Monday there will be additional trains running in the Winter Steam Festival, to give all the engines a final blow out before their winter rest. Annual Pass holders may not be able to use their passes on those two days. Trains restart on the weekends of 21st and 28th March.

Our Permanent Way gang has already made a good start to the maintenance work on the track and during the following three months it is hoped that much more track will be lifted and replaced. Need I say that this work does cost a considerable amount of money and there is an ongoing appeal towards raising it? Details are on the several websites you can access. Do look up west-somerset-railway.co.uk, wsr.org.uk or wsra.org.uk where you can find out lots of things about supporting the railway, becoming a volunteer in the very many departments of the railway, or just browse the pictures in the gallery.

Meanwhile at Williton the winter maintenance continues and we look forward to some dry and not too cold Tuesday or Thursday mornings during the next three months.

John Parsons, Station Master

RECIPE FOR THE MONTH by Shirley Dee

RICH FRUIT BUNS

If you have any dried mixed fruit and black treacle left over from making your Christmas cake, do make these!

150g (5 oz) butter	75g (3oz) chopped mixed fruit
150g (5 oz) self raising flour	2 eggs
A good tablespoon black treacle	½ teaspoon baking powder
150g (5 oz) caster sugar	1 teaspoon mixed spice

Chop the butter into small bits and melt in the oven. Mix all the ingredients together and put into 12 paper cases in a bun tin. It is a soft mixture and will spread and spill if too much is put into the cases. Put in a pre-heated oven 190oC / 375oF / Gas 5 and bake for about 20 minutes.

WEST SOMERSET VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

On Tuesday 21 January Robin Wichard will be talking about 'World War Two, Home Front in West Somerset'. Our meetings take place at 7.30 for 7.45pm at the EMN Hall, Monksilver TA4 4JE. Visitors and non-members are welcome at a charge of £3. Information: www.westsomersetvillagehistorysociety-wsvhs.com/

GOOD NEIGHBOURS CLUB

We resume meetings again on Tuesday 7th January at 2.30 pm at Danesborough View Common Room and are looking forward to meeting anyone who would like to join us. Enquiries to our Chairlady, Jenny Berry, on 632616.

Joy Elgood

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

To contact Williton Parish Council telephone the Clerk (Michelle) or her assistant (Jo) on 01984 633979 or email clerk@willitonpc.org.uk

It was with great regret that in Mid-November Williton Parish Council received a letter from Cllr Tony Perret advising that he was resigning from the Parish Council and, by default, from the Chairmanship of the Council. Tony has been on the Council for many years and I am sure that you will join the Parish Council in thanking him for all the hard work he has done for Williton during the time he has been on the Council and particularly whilst he has been its Chairman. At the last Parish Council Meeting I was honoured to be elected as the new Chairman, especially as I only became a councillor early in 2019. In that short time I have learnt a lot about the Parish Council and how it works, as well as discovering the amount of hard work done by my fellow councillors, our Parish Clerk Michelle Francis and her Assistant Jo Holmes, and what a great many others do behind the scenes for the benefit of our community.

There are many things going on in the village which just seemed to happen, for instance the Fete and Williton Christmas. Now that I am on the Parish Council it is clear that they don't just happen but a lot of organisation has to take place. So, as we start a New Year, can I thank everyone who has done so much for the village in 2019 and, in advance, for all they will be doing in 2020.

Tony's resignation has left us with a further vacancy on the Parish Council (we have 3 vacancies in total), and if you would like to find out what the Parish Council does, with a view to becoming a Councillor, please give Michelle or Jo a call on 01984 633979.

Over the past couple of months in addition to doing some fun things like organising the Christmas Parade and Festival, and getting the lights up around the village centre, the Council has been looking at several planning applications for large developments within its parish boundary. Although all the planning decisions that affect Williton are made by Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWAT), the Parish Council does comment on every application that is made.

Recently an outline application for 139 houses south of Normandy Avenue has been considered; a detailed application for 90 houses off Aller Mead has been submitted; and, although not in our parish, the application for the redevelopment of Watchet's paper mill site has implications for traffic management in Williton. Recently a consultation was held in the Parish Office for 350 houses to the west of Malmsey House, as well as a consultation regarding a new filling station at Washford Cross. These applications, if they are all agreed, will have a major impact on our community, not just with the potential to increase the size of the village by about 30% but also with the increased traffic that these developments will bring.

The Parish Council represents the residents of Williton and will do all it can to make sure that the decision makers at SWAT know how the village feels. If you have any concerns or comments about any planning application please contact any parish councillor or the Parish Office, so that we can truly represent you. Planning applications can be viewed on <https://www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/planning/find-a-planning-application/>

Councillor Peter Payne

MEMORIAL GROUND AND PAVILION

Massive thanks to everyone who helped make the Christmas Parade and Festival a huge success; to the Williton businesses and parishioners who generously gave gifts for the Christmas Tombola; to the Event Team for their creative decoration of Santa's Grotto and setting up the hall; to the Church for tirelessly serving refreshments; to the stallholders that came along and sold their wares, and last but not least to everyone who joined the parade and supported the event – a huge thank you.

And more thanks to those that helped make the Carol Concert a success and to everyone who came along to sing and enjoy the evening; another great event that we'll definitely repeat.

Apart from our film night (see page 11) there are no special events in the Pavilion in January, but we do have lots coming up this year. For all details, go to our website: <https://www.willitonmemorialgroundandpavilion.co.uk/memorial-ground-events/>

Our next **Event Team Meeting** is on Thursday 9 January at 7pm at the Pavilion in the Quantock Room (upstairs). If you want to join please do come along, we'd give you a very warm welcome.

On **Saturday 8 February** we have the first **Williton Open House** where many of the local groups, clubs, associations – of which there are a great many – will have a small table in the Pavilion. Many of these have regular editorial slots in the Williton Window and some don't, but do come along between **10am and 2pm** and meet everyone and maybe you'll find a new group or two to join for 2020. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available. If you're a group and want to take part please contact Michelle in the Parish Office. A list of groups taking part will be on our website <https://www.willitonmemorialgroundandpavilion.co.uk/memorial-ground-events/>

Trustee Dawn-Lesley Howes




The Murder Mystery event needs you!

We're looking for 5 budding actors (male & female) to take part and have some great fun in a **Murder Mystery** event for the village

No Lines To Learn!

Auditions will be at The Pavilion on Sat 11 Jan at 2pm with the Murder happening on Sat 7 Mar.

Call Nige on 07720 640698 or email nmcbrayne@yahoo.com for more info



Williton Pavilion Fundraisers are excited to present a **Murder Mystery Evening**

Who Killed the Farmer?

Teams of 6! The best team sleuths of the evening will win a prize!

Ploughmans supper (included)
Smaller groups will be joined to make 6

Williton Pavilion
Sat 7th March 2020
Doors open at 6:30pm start at 7:30pm

Tickets only £8 available from Williton Post Office, Parish Office & Harbour Fish Bar (Watchet)

For more information contact Dawn-Lesley on dlh@dawn-lesley.co.uk or Nigel McBrayne on nmcbrayne@yahoo.com

DO SOMETHING AMAZING THIS YEAR

Could you change a child's story this year?

For over 500 children in Somerset, spending time at home isn't possible right now, which is why we urgently need more foster carers to offer safe, loving homes to our children in care. Foster carers can make a real difference to children's lives. They help them through tough times and give them the support they need to achieve their full potential.

Fostering is not a one size fits all. There are a variety of different avenues within fostering to match the vast and sometimes complex needs of the children in our care, and the lifestyles of our carers; from the dedication of long term fostering over a period of years, to the flexibility of respite, providing care just one weekend a month. In return our carers receive ongoing support and training, a dedicated social worker and a weekly fee and allowance (amounts vary – please speak to our team or visit the website for details).

If you're aged 21 or over and have a spare room, along with the time and patience to support a Somerset child in care, visit fosteringinsomerset.org.uk or call our team on 0800 587 9900 to find out how you could help change a child's story. There is no upper age limit, and things like your gender, sexual preference or marital status are not important – you just need the right qualities and mind-set.

GLOBAL FRIENDS

Due to the holidays, the next session will be on Tuesday 4th February 2020 at 2pm. For more information please phone 248392. NH



WILLITON WALKS

We are always pleased to welcome new walkers on all walks, but please note that you participate in the walks entirely at your own risk.

* Colin's "Walk, talk and pause to regain your breath" walks start every **Friday** at 12 noon by the Library in Killick Way. Wear suitable clothing and footwear. Please bring a picnic unless the weather is very bad, in which case we'll probably eat at a café or pub. For more information, ring Colin Broom on 632721.

* This month's **Williton Walk** will be on **Saturday 11 January** starting at 2pm from the Railway Station. From here we will walk to Highbridge, then up the 'new path' to Luckes Lane. After walking down Luckes Lane we will across the A358 to Woolston and return to Williton via Sampford Brett. If you would like any more information please ring me on 632318.

Elizabeth Peeks

* **Williton Wanderers** will meet at 10.30am on **Saturday 25 January** at Porlock parish church. We should be back by 1.30pm if you want a pub lunch (I'm not booking tables any more). *Jenny Gibson 634899 / 07535 086223*

* **West Somerset Mineral Railway.** Sorry, we have no information about a January walk. You can try calling 01398 323841 or visit: www.wsmr.org.uk

* **Snowdrop Valley** is open from 25 January to 23rd February. For more information call 07507 797169 or visit <http://www.wheddoncross.org.uk/snowdropvalley.htm>

SMALL PRAYER

May this coming year bring peace and harmony to all people.



WORDSEARCH FOR JANUARY by Phyllis Chidgey

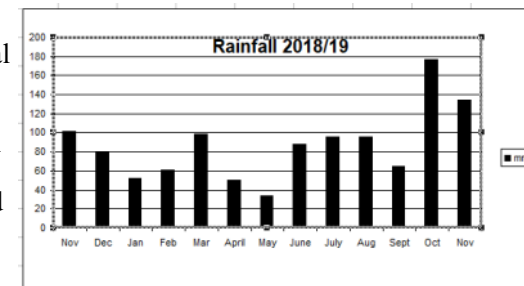
ASTRONOMY

R	O	J	A	M	S	I	N	A	C
A	R	O	T	C	A	R	F	E	R
E	I	N	D	U	S	U	N	T	A
B	G	A	L	A	X	Y	O	I	B
E	E	Q	U	I	N	O	X	L	N
L	L	U	B	O	Y	O	E	L	E
T	E	N	O	I	L	Y	R	E	B
T	I	T	A	N	A	C	U	T	U
I	R	E	D	U	T	I	T	A	L
L	A	D	I	O	R	E	T	S	A

IO LYRE TITAN SATELLITE LEO
 LYNX TUCAN REFRACTOR SUN ARIEL
 GALAXY CANIS MAJOR LION RIGEL EQUINOX
 CRAB NEBULA BULL INDUS LATITUDE ASTEROIDAL
 LITTLE BEAR

WEATHER - NOVEMBER

A very wet month, with a rain total of 134mm (5.3ins) for the month and it rained on 27 days. On Thursday 14th, there was snow on the Quantocks. The maximum temperature was 16°C on 27th and the coolest nights were at the start of November when we had frosts. The maximum pressure was 30.0 inches on the 29th and the minimum was 29.04 on 27th, which was both the wettest and warmest day!



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It's not about the cards you've been dealt, it's how you play your hand.

from SD

WHEELS needs Volunteer Drivers and Coordinators

WHEELS is your local driving scheme that takes people living in Williton, Watchet and Old Cleeve, who are unable to drive or use a bus, to doctors, hospital or dentist appointments, or to do their shopping or to visit friends, especially the sick or housebound.

We often receive thirty to forty requests for lifts per week. Sadly, two of our loyal and long-standing drivers have had to give up after many years, and I am worried that we may not have enough drivers to fulfil all the requests.

If you feel you could do just one or two journeys per week get in touch with us. Drivers receive 45p per mile. Or maybe you could be a coordinator, which would involve receiving requests by phone (WHEELS mobile phone provided) and organising lifts for 5 days once a month. Again, please do get in touch.

If you can help us to help people who have difficulty in getting about, please contact:

John Carslake
Chair, WHEELS
01984 639083

jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk

John Parsons
Vice Chair, WHEELS
01984 632334

john@johnmary.plus.com

WEST SOMERSET TALKING NEWSPAPER

needs a Treasurer with basic book-keeping skills. A very necessary but not time-consuming appointment. For more information, please ring Chairman, Roger Hurst, on 01984 640060. Thank you for helping blind and visually impaired people in West Somerset.

CLIMATE CHANGE?

John Tennant has lent us some of his photos of a mini-glacier and his collie in the snow in Bicknoller Combe in the mid-1980s.



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