

Your Church and Community Magazine

# WILLITON WINDOW

January 2021  
Volume 21 Number 7



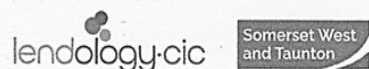
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### DEADLINE DATES FOR THE FEBRUARY 2021 ISSUE

ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 19th JANUARY

EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 22nd JANUARY

The magazine can be collected for delivery from the  
**PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE 9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays**

Commencing **FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY**

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

Mr Derek Smith, 34 Dovetons Drive, Williton TA4 4ST ☎ 01984 631595

**All advertising enquiries to:**

Mrs Janet Cook, 14 Dovetons Drive, Williton TA4 4ST ☎ 01984 639359

**Magazine distribution:**

Mr Neill Ambridge: ☎ 01984 639320

All enquiries by email: [willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk)

### LOCAL CHURCHES CONTACT NUMBERS

#### Church of England (St Peter's)

|                 |                   |              |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Vicar           | Rev Clive Gilbert | 631005       |
| Associate Vicar | Vacant            |              |
| 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

|                |                   |        |
|----------------|-------------------|--------|
| Baptist Church | Rev Vincent Woods | 634681 |
|                | Rev Mike Sherburn | 633755 |
|                | Mrs M Collinson   | 632537 |
|                | Mr J Bowcock      | 248169 |

#### Salvation Army

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Miss Sam Searle | 07979 575453 |
|-----------------|--------------|

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**Cover Picture:** Sunken Footpath Aller Farm to Monksilver.

View this magazine online at [www.willitonwindow.org.uk](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk)

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Vicar: Rev Clive Gilbert on 631005

Associate Vicar: Vacant



## Services in January at St. Peter's Church

|                        |           |                           |
|------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Sunday 3rd January.    | 9.15 am.  | All Age Worship.          |
|                        | 11.00 am. | Sunday Service via Zoom.  |
| Wednesday 6th January. | 9.45 am.  | Reflective Communion.     |
| Sunday 10th January.   | 8.00 am.  | BCP Holy Communion.       |
|                        | 9.15 am.  | Parish Communion .        |
|                        | 11.00 am. | Sunday Service via "Zoom" |
| Sunday 17th January.   | 9.15 am.  | Parish Communion.         |
|                        | 11.00 am. | Sunday Service via "Zoom" |
| Sunday 24th January.   | 9.15 am.  | Parish Communion.         |
|                        | 11.00 am. | Sunday Service via "Zoom" |
| Sunday 31st. January.  | 9.15 am.  | Parish Communion.         |
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## From the old things to the new.....



I expect by now that many of you will know that Anne and I are retiring to Cornwall at the beginning of February. Last month we said farewell to Rev. Kathryn Flenley - farewells are always difficult but they are much better than goodbye. Kathryn said much that I would want to echo in her farewell words but they would be tedious for you to read again.

I would particularly like to thank not only the many people who have supported me in my ministry amongst you but to thank all of you who have looked beyond the dog collar and seen me for the person that I am. There are many of you, younger and older alike who have hugely encouraged me by your welcome and acceptance both from within the congregation and beyond.

God has always prepared my path and I know that he has more prepared for me when I retire and I look forward to that and to more time with family and friends.

Thank you to all who have shared my journey here in Somerset. I would especially like to thank all those who have worked at and attended St. Peter's First School since we have been in Williton. I have absolutely loved all my contact with the school and am very grateful for the strong links which we have established between church and school. It has been brilliant to be greeted by so many children from the school as I have walked around the village.

Thank you to a wonderful group of people who worship at St. Peter's and for all the love and support that we have received from you and many others in Williton. You have a strong team of people who will help your parish church to continue to be there for this community and who contribute to it in so many ways.

Nelson Mandela finishes his autobiography imagining that he is at the top of a mountain as he comes to the point at which he finishes writing. Looking ahead he sees into the distance noticing that there are many more mountains to cross. I find that thought extremely encouraging - that whilst my journey through the ups and downs of life in Somerset is coming to an end I can look forward to the next part of my journey amongst the hills of Cornwall.

The words of the hymn : "One more step along the world I go" have always meant a great deal to me. Those opening words are followed with the words: "Keep me travelling along with you." I have always felt God travelling with me on my journey through life and I pray that you are all able to feel his presence travelling with you.

"From the old things to the new - keep me travelling along with you" - thank you to all those who have shared part of our journey with us while we have lived in Williton. The principal of the theological college at which I trained never said goodbye, he always said, "Go Well". That is what I would like to wish you all - that as you travel on in your journey, that you "Go Well" and know that God goes with you.

*Clive Gilbert*

**Editors Note.** We wish Clive and Ann a long and happy retirement and thank them for all they have given to Watchet and Williton during their time here.





## Accessible Transport West Somerset ATWEST

### ATWEST KEEPS GOING DESPITE COVID-19!

Throughout the current lockdowns and trials of Covid-19, Atwest has continued to run the dial-a-ride Slinky bus service supported by SCC, for which passengers can register and pre-book by ringing **01643 707090**. We pick passengers up from home and take them to most destinations in West Somerset. And back home!

### WE ARE SPENDING THOUSANDS ON KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

So far, with funding support from Somerset Community Foundation, A. Rylands small donations and the National Lottery, we are able to sanitise every bus on every journey to keep all of our passengers safe through Covid -19. The wellbeing of our passengers is our primary aim and our drivers are working very hard to enable everyone to get out and about safely.

*We would be very grateful for any contributions towards this vital process*

### KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OUR PASSENGERS

We know that many of our registered passengers are socially and rurally isolated, unwell or disabled, and now we are going to keep in touch with them by newsletter! We'll tell them all about the services which they can use, stories of what we've been doing, and we hope that our regular passengers will tell us their news too. Loneliness is bad for everyone's health and wellbeing. These newsletters are designed to cheer us all up. The Lottery is supporting us with this too.

*BY POPULAR REQUEST WE ARE ALSO TRYING TO RESTART THE SHOPPING BUSES AND WE WILL BE CONTACTING PASSENGERS AS SOON AS WE CAN TO LET THEM KNOW THEIR SERVICE IS RUNNING AGAIN!*

### **GOOD NEWS! A NEW BUS IS ON ITS WAY**

Thanks to the Hinkley Point Mitigation Fund (£36,000), the SCC Councillors' Fund, the Co-op, Garfield Weston and our own reserves we have been able to raise £56,500 to order a new long wheel-base Iveco bus to take our passengers where they need to go. We are delighted with this, and thank all the local people, councillors and supporters who helped us to raise this huge amount of money.

### **OTHER SERVICES WHICH ATWEST IS STILL RUNNING**

Local buses: 198 to Brushford and 10 to Porlock Weir; School buses: during the first lockdown for children of key workers and since September for all children.

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## WILLITON LIBRARY



We don't have any activities sadly, but we are now open and the public can browse again as well as make and collect reservations.

**Our normal opening hours are: Monday: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm.**

**Tuesday Closed (as usual)**

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 10am - 5pm. Saturday 10am - 1pm.**

### Christmas New Year Opening Times

We are closing early on Christmas Eve at 1pm. **Closed for Christmas 25th to 29th December.** Open 30th December normal hours. Closing early on 31st December at 4pm. **Closed New Years Day,** 2nd January normal Saturday opening times. Back to normal hours from Monday 4th January 2021.

Social distancing measures and a maximum of 6 people at any one time is in place. It is recommended if possible that you book the use of a computer, as only two are available due to space - this can be done in person at the Library, by calling us on **0300 123 2224**, or email [willib@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:willib@somerset.gov.uk) Books and other materials can also be reserved online at <https://www.librarieswest.org.uk> **To use the order and collect service, please use the online form here: <https://securel.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp>**

**fm\_formalias=SLRRS** on [www.somersetlibraries.co.uk](http://www.somersetlibraries.co.uk) Williton Library appears in the drop-down menu. If you cannot access an online form or you require a paper form, they will also be available from the library during the opening times. Face coverings are required for those using a pre-booked computer (exemptions apply - please check with library staff). Visit the Somerset Libraries website for more information.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-communities/libraries/libraries-are-back/> With all the changes please check:- Somerset Libraries Williton page which is regularly updated.

**We wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a brighter New Year**



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**Youth Club (Andy) Tel: 01643 703155**

Every Thursday 6.00-8.00pm

**Zumba (Katie) Tel: 07738676832**

Every Monday 6.00 -7.00pm & Every Friday 9.30 -10.30am

### Note

The above are listed on the pavilion events calendar at the time of going to print. Please check with the event organiser that the event is happening and of any additional requirements. There are some other provisional bookings to be confirmed please check the events calendar online:-

[www.willitonmemorialgroundandpavilion.co.uk/bookings/2021-01/](http://www.willitonmemorialgroundandpavilion.co.uk/bookings/2021-01/)

## Down at the Station



I would like to have been able to report that the first Santa Trains had visited Williton and all went well. However the magazine production restraints did not allow that, as copy for this edition was required before the first train run!

However we were all ready to receive the trains and I've no doubt all will go as planned. Santa Trains should have ran for seven days in all and hopefully after Christmas, there will be a mini Winter Festival of three trains each day on the 29th and 30th of December. There is still time to book your seats for those and, like the Christmas trains, they will only be running from Bishops Lydeard to Williton and return. All seats have to be pre-booked, either at [www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk](http://www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk) or by telephoning **01643 704996**.

The station was decked out with fairy lights and a decorated tree sat in the waiting room window to welcome the trains. As we have not got all the covid-19 sanitizers and other precautions around the platforms as yet the station is officially still closed to the general public. Staff were on hand to operate the gates and be available for any emergencies.

I still have plenty of books, both general reading or special train related volumes and should we get some fine weather (Fridays or Saturdays) during the next couple of months I will have them on display outside on my drive at 6 Long Lakes. Do call round and browse. All proceeds towards station funds.

*John Parsons, Station Master*



## Have you got concerns about someone sleeping rough in your area?



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## **WEST SOMERSET BUILD BACK BETTER**

Is a campaign focusing on local issues that need to be resolved in order to take better care of the planet and each other when things get 'back to normal'. There is a national campaign with broad aims which we support and we are addressing the problems and solutions that we have in a rural area with an ageing population and mainly low paid jobs. We are a group of community organisations, individuals and businesses concerned with improving transport systems; creating affordable, energy efficient housing; encouraging local food production; reducing waste and pollution and helping nature recover. We work with local organisations and initiate new projects, sharing knowledge and ideas for action. There are lots of things that we can all do to make a difference.

Our informal meetings had to be replaced by Zoom but we were able to get out and talk to people during the summer when we had market stalls in Minehead and Watchet and we have created a 'signpost' which was taken to various communities, showing the way to make things better. Groups in Minehead, Watchet and Porlock are finding alternatives to plastic so we can reduce the amount that we throw away, and regular beach cleans have removed a lot of it from the sea. There are schemes to repair and re-use things with people who have the skills to do this and plans to use electric vehicles for community transport. A new working group has been set up to create closer links between food producers and consumers. We held an on-line workshop in October with speakers on 'people power', community supported agriculture, alternatives to our cars, and community engagement. People can get involved by joining our virtual meetings and working groups and helping us let the public know about all the exciting initiatives that are coming from people in this area. We would love to have more people helping us plan activities and get our message across using websites, social communications and other media.

**To find out more about the national campaign see :-**

[www.buildbackbetter.org](http://www.buildbackbetter.org).

[www.facebook.com/groups/1138749779830517](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1138749779830517)

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## Williton Parish Council

To contact the Parish Council telephone 01984 633979

Talk to Michelle or email : [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk)  
or [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk)

I'm sure you are familiar with the message; what a terrible year. Hibernate seems like a good plan, but when to set the alarm clock, February, March...who knows when? So I'd better stay awake.

Things still go on with the Parish Council, but for social distancing rules and the Government's request to work from home means the Parish Office is not open to the Public. Do you know where it is? It is the first building on the right hand side of Killick way, between the filling station on Fore Street and the library, also in Killick Way. When it can re-open you know where to find our Clerk, Michelle Francis, and when they are appointed, her assistant.

The new financial year starts in April and before that the Council has to decide what it wants to do with your money. The total turn-over of the Council is about £90,000 which is collected by the Somerset West & Taunton District Council. The District Council then pays it back to the Parish. A larger slice goes to the District Council and even more to Somerset County Council. The Police, Fire Brigade and the Somerset Rivers Authority also have a share.

Of course, the Christmas Festival had to be run differently, but we hope you still turned out to see Father Christmas. Brightening up Fore Street did not look like it was going to happen, but thanks to a volunteer from the business community the trees and lights went up. The Christmas tree on Bellamy's Corner was put up by Councillors and helpers. We need more people coming forward to help with running events.

**You don't have to be a Parish Councillor to role up your sleeves.**

A defibrillator, should soon be installed on the Parish Office. The others positioned will remain, but the machine will be available 24/7. This is happening thanks to a sizeable donation from the local Charity, Bethany's. The Parish Council will maintain the defibrillator in the future.

**Have as good a time as you can,  
keep safe and well and look forward to the New Year.**

*Ian Aldridge.*

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## WILLITON WEATHER



### DECEMBER

Frosts were seen on the mornings of the 4th and 5th. At the start of December, the Jet Stream swung below the west pulling in wetter weather. More details in next month's Magazine (February Edition).

### NOVEMBER

In the first half of November, we had days warmer than average and very high pressure of 30.6 inches on the 19th (Higher than the summer) yet there were gales on this day.

The maximum temperature on the 9th, 10th & 17th was 18 C.

The minimum temperature on the 4th was -2 C with a frost.

The maximum pressure was 30.5 inches on the 5th higher than in summer.

The minimum pressure was 29.6 inches on the 1st.

The total rainfall was only 54.5mm.

There were gales on the 15th, 16th, 18th, & 19th. causing a few roads to be blocked with trees. We saw frosts on the 4th, 5th, 26th, 27th and fog on the 7th, 17th, 22nd, 28th and 29th (all day).

### Nature Note

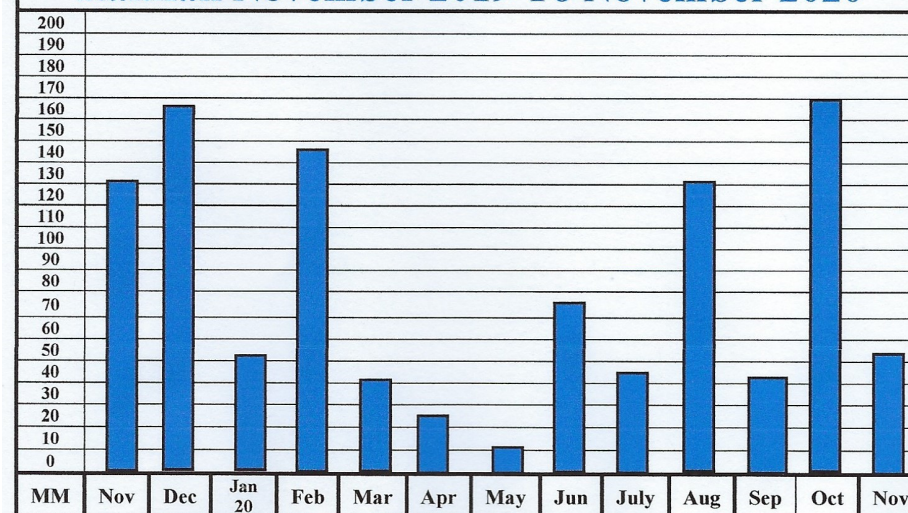
Please remember to put out water and food for the birds.

### Astronomical Data

Look out at the sky you may see the conjunction of the planets. Jupiter and Saturn may be seen in the lower SW sky look after 5:00pm. And Mars is in the southerly direction, apart from the Moon these are the brightest "Stars" objects to be seen (look even after Christmas).

*Pj*

### Rainfall November 2019 To November 2020





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## BAPTIST CHURCH (WATCHET)

The Baptist Church normally meets at Knights Templar School every Sunday. The Baptist Church is currently meeting online at [youtube.com/watchetbaptist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=watchetbaptist) on Sunday at 6pm. For more information visit the **website**: [www.watchetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.watchetbaptist.org.uk) or email [mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk](mailto:mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk) or telephone 01984 633755.

## METHODIST CHURCH

**Worshipping at Danesborough View Common Room TA4 4SH**

All our church services are cancelled until further notice in line with all other denominations. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all, keep safe and we look forward to worshipping together in the future.

### Services Via Zoom

Members of the Methodist Churches in West Somerset, including Williton Methodist Church regularly meet for Sunday worship. If you would like to join any of our zoom events you can get in touch with the circuit administrator of the local Methodist Church, simply email [wsmc2425@gmail.com](mailto:wsmc2425@gmail.com) and someone will be in touch. It would be helpful if you could provide your name and a telephone number.

## THE SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS

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

**All are welcome.**

(Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)

Salvation Army Hall, 1 Brendon Road, Watchet. 01984 633133

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass is normally celebrated at the Methodist Church, Watchet. In these troubled times, please contact Deacon Vincent Woods on 01984 634681 for information.

## THE FORGET ME NOT CAFE

For more information contact Margaret on 07973638030 or

Georgie Lewis on 01984 631738

[watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)



Margaret Tatham

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## FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER



It's December, and as Village & Community Agents, we know this can be a really tough time of year, so I'd like to share a little of what we are doing to help people during the winter months.

Christmas is upon us, and here at CCS (Community Council for Somerset) we are very busy with the Somerset Food Resilience Taskforce, in partnership with Somerset County Council. We are working together to increase food security for residents in Somerset.

Across Somerset, CCS Village Agents and volunteers delivered nearly **1,000 meals** to families in need to help prevent holiday hunger during half term, and have also recently delivered **nearly a tonne** of donated potatoes to people in need, distributed through 10 community groups. We are delivering regular food boxes to clients on a weekly basis and often distribute donated goods such as books, household cleaning products, and much more that people need!

Now we are on the hunt for anyone in their local community providing meals or access to food. **Is this YOU?** Do you want to start helping those locally in need?

### **We can help! With funding, advice, equipment & ingredients!**

Part of the CCS group, our Smart Communities team could provide you with the tools to set up a food bank, collection services or funds to purchase Fridges, Freezers and other equipment to help you store food safely, and help stock them for the people in your local area.

Keeley Rudd, CEO of CCS said: "We have had full support from all of our community here in Somerset helping us feed individuals and families throughout the pandemic. Please get in touch and join our movement, you will be warmly received."

One volunteer said: "I feel for people who are struggling right now. I'm a professional person and I've retired now but in the early 90's I found myself in a similar position through no fault of my own when the business I worked for collapsed suddenly after a government problem. As a single parent I found myself going to bed hungry and it's no fun."

So, if you are already helping your community or want to start today and have an idea let us help it turn into a reality. Visit: [www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk/](http://www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk/) **food** Or call **01823 331 222** if you are interested, or email [ccsmarcomm@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:ccsmarcomm@somersetccc.org.uk)

*Continued on next page*

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*Continued from previous page*

## **The Christmas Gift of Small Things**

This winter, our Village Agents in West Somerset have been putting together CHRISTMAS GIFT BOXES for people in need in our West Somerset Village Agent areas. Your kindness and donations are going out to isolated people who wouldn't otherwise receive a Christmas present. Thank you all so much.

### **Talking Cafes Online**

We are still unable to bring Talking Cafes back to physical venues and we miss all our clients so much! However we are still live streaming every day at 11am on Facebook and cover a wide range of topics, from Debt to Mental Health and all previous sessions can be watched anytime, anywhere via the Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset/>  
If you are not on Facebook you can now watch previous Talking Cafes on YouTube here:-

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5goIPHD91Ie4VDI5NMJdrQ> !

You can comment on the YouTube videos if you have any questions and someone will get in touch with an answer. We hope you enjoy them, let us know what you think!

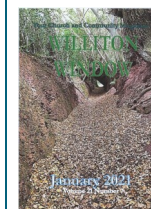
**Contact me Izzy Silvester on 07931 014045 e-mail: [izzy@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:izzy@somersetccc.org.uk) for confidential advice and support.**

CCS Village and Community Agents are in your communities right across Somerset. They help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and statutory and / or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs. We can offer advice and support to find local groups and activities available in your community and help you with any queries you may have or situations that you need advice and support with. Please visit [www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk](http://www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk) to find out more..

### **Mobile Banking**



I am pleased to advise that NatWest Mobile Bank have returned and will be available for business every Tuesday from 2.15pm – 2.45pm, parked outside the Parish Office



## **Williton Window**

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## Somerset: Telephone Scams



Dear Residents

We have seen a vast increase in the number of telephone scams in recent weeks from fraudsters claiming to be from HMRC, TV Licencing, Amazon, Utility Companies and many others. What do most of these have in common? When they call you be it an automated call or a person on the phone, most will eventually ask you to **press number 1** on your keypad to be connected to a particular department (**Please do not do this**).

Why did that department not contact you in the first instance? Because they need you to press 1. The most likely outcome is you will be connected to a premium rate phone line charging an extortionate rate for absolutely nothing at all. Please take care and be wary of any unexpected phone calls.

If you receive a call and you think it is fraudulent then please report it to Action Fraud at this link :<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/contact-us>

Two elderly residents in the Clevedon area have been the subject of serious fraud. Both received telephone calls stating they were police officers - one from Luton and the other allegedly from Bristol. The supposed officers were very persistent and even asked one of the victims to call 191 to check their identity with a colleague. This was a clever ploy, as the line had not been disconnected and the phone was merely handed to an accomplice. In both instances they were asked to attend their banks, and were advised by the fake police that they could get around the security measures / questions. On arrival the victims withdrew thousands of pounds between them, which was later collected from their homes by a courier. A password was given by the fraudster to use when handing the money over to the courier to make it even more convincing.

This type of fraud can occur anywhere, so always be wary of unexpected calls.

**Never give out any personal details, especially financial account numbers or passwords.**

If you have any concerns, hang up immediately. Contact the bank or organisation they claim to represent using a mobile or different phone in case the offenders are still on the line. Never use any telephone numbers provided by the fraudster.

**Police will never ask you to attend your bank or withdraw cash.**

### **Beware Amazon Scam Phone Calls**

If you receive what you believe to be a suspicious email, phone call or text message from someone purporting to be from Amazon concerning your account, ask the caller to confirm their telephone number and the order or account number they are referring to. **DO NOT** give the caller any of your personal or financial details, but tell them that you are going to contact Amazon on-line to establish the nature of the problem.

Usually the caller will then hang up, but if they persist make a note of the conversation and then politely end the call.

Then go to [stop-spoofing@amazon.com](mailto:stop-spoofing@amazon.com) and report details of the call.

**Remember - Amazon never contacts a customer by telephone.**



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| Size C | 1/2 half of a Page = 122mm(w) x 92mm(h)   | £175 Per Year | 12 Copies |
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For more information, contact Janet Cook on: 01984639359 or e-mail: [willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk)

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## One more step

By Bishop Peter



January takes its name from the Roman god, Janus, who is usually depicted as having two faces, looking both to the future and the past. At the start of a New Year it is good to do the same.

2020 will sadly be remembered as the year disrupted by COVID-19. Cracks in our care for each other have been revealed and it has had a disproportionate effect on those already vulnerable or deprived. It showed us that those who are most essential to our needs, those who clean and serve and care, are often those valued least in our economy. However, we also saw extraordinary acts of kindness and compassion, as churches and communities worked together to provide comfort, support, and practical care.

So, what of 2021? The temptation may be to forget what we have learnt, to paper over the cracks, ignore what has been uncomfortable and to seek comfort in the familiar. I hope we don't. 2020 opened our eyes to the harm caused when people are excluded on the basis of race, ability, gender, sexual orientation or wealth. Jesus calls us to a better way. Jesus broke the bounds of exclusion, refusing to accept the social norms and speaking to Samaritans, women, Gentiles, tax collectors and sinners. He teaches that the first shall be last and the last first. He reconciles humanity to God through his death and resurrection.

As we look forward to 2021, we need to think again what it means to follow Christ and to build our lives and communities based on mutual love, respect and service. 'For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

May we all know the Lord's leading and guiding as we step out into a New Year.

With my warmest greetings,

+ Peter Bathand Wells



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## Williton and Surrounds Parkinson's Support

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. Let's hope that 2021 is a good one for all of us. They say that nothing stays the same, Let's hope that's true. We have all lost a year of our lives because of Covid-19, and that is time we cannot get back. Now we have to hope that we can once again hold meetings, meet up with friends and family, in the not too distant future. We have taken the necessary steps to ensure that we stayed safe, and we will continue to be cautious. However won't it be good to regain our freedom.

While we couldn't get together over the holidays, so no Christmas Lunch, we acted upon an idea that one of our members suggested. With the hard work of the Committee all our members were able to enjoy a Christmas hamper. And all done within the rules of the Covid-19 legislation.

The WASPS are on the move, the Pavilion was great, we were a bit overwhelmed. We won't be too far away. We will be meeting at the Sampford Brett Village Hall. There is parking, and the hall is completely accessible to everyone. We will still meet on the first Thursday of every month, when meetings are permitted. We will let you know when our meetings will resume. If you need any further information about the WASPS and Parkinson's please contact me, Linda Bishop, by phone **01984 631472** or email me at [queenwasp@outlook.com](mailto:queenwasp@outlook.com)

**Once again Happy New Year from all the WASPS**





## 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 Janet Cook on 639359, or email: [willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk) or go to our website: [www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack)





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# Bereavement support

**The Somerset Bereavement Support Service is here if you've been bereaved and need emotional support or someone to talk to.**



**How we can help**

Marie Curie Companions can provide bereavement support for people across Somerset who are over the age of 18. This service provides telephone support calls with compassionate volunteers. They've all completed specific training, including how to support people in sensitive situations and dealing with difficult subjects, such as death, dying and bereavement.

In addition, a further six sessions of one to one bereavement counselling can be provided by experienced bereavement support workers at Mind in Somerset specialist bereavement service. Mind in Somerset support adults and children aged 12+.

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## Response to 'One Somerset' and The Future of Local Government in Somerset.

"We want to make it clear that the District Councils of Somerset do not support 'One Somerset' and the proposals for a single council for Somerset.

"The detailed work which the five councils of Somerset commissioned together clearly concluded that a single council was the wrong solution for the people and communities of Somerset.

"Somerset's District Councils have been focused in recent months on supporting our residents and businesses through the Coronavirus crisis. This remains our priority including focusing on how we help Somerset's communities and economy recover. However, as Somerset County Council is determined to push the debate on the future forward during the pandemic, as four districts we will now be putting our collective efforts to developing an alternative proposal. We have always said we would refocus on this when the time was right.

"We know we can offer a better future for the people of Somerset that reforms local government and is ambitious for our communities and their quality of life. Somerset does not deserve the cheapest local Government. Somerset deserves the best local government.

"We will develop the best plan for the future with the help and involvement of our communities."

### Background Information:

Local government has seen big reductions in funding from central government and that means challenges for everyone.

At the same time, the challenges our communities face require urgent attention which cannot wait.

The key challenges for Somerset communities, alongside recovering from the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, are:

- High rates of children growing up in poverty and poor social mobility
- Large numbers of struggling families
- Growing numbers of older people who are increasingly living in poor health
- The climate emergency
- Homelessness and the lack of genuinely affordable housing
- The economy including productivity, skills and wage levels

District Councils in Somerset have already undertaken radical change and as a result are financially sustainable, and able to protect services to communities without making cuts. However, we recognise that further change is required in the future.

A team drawn from the five councils of Somerset, including the county council, undertook further work on the options, and we agreed the well-trodden path of a single Unitary model was not the right choice for Somerset.

*Continued on next page*

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Our invitation to Somerset County Council to rejoin this joint work remains open. We will focus on a plan for widespread joint reform, that focuses on the needs of our communities.

Our aim is not to simply cut costs. Our intention is to find a way, to improve life for all residents in Somerset now and for the future.

Our communities do not deserve the cheapest local government. They deserve the best local government which will drive improvement in quality of life.

Just as Somerset County Council, we need to be invited by the Government to submit our plan for positive change in Somerset. If that invitation is received, we will consult with our communities on our proposals to help the people we serve, alongside partners in the NHS, police and more, shape the way our plans develop.

This will be a plan developed with our communities to create a better future for everyone in Somerset.

**Joint statement from The Leaders of Mendip District Council, Sedgemoor District Council, Somerset West and Taunton Council and South Somerset District Council in Response to 'One Somerset' and The Future of Local Government in Somerset.**



## January's Recipe Pat's Parsnip Soup



- 1lb Parsnips - peeled and chopped. 1 Large Onion - peeled and diced.  
1 Large Potato - peeled and chopped. 1 tsp Curry Powder.  
1oz Butter. / 2 Pints Chicken or Vegetable Stock (both are delicious).
1. Melt the butter in a pan and add the onion - saute until soft - then add the curry powder and coat the onion.
  2. Stir in the stock and add the Parsnip and Potato.
  3. Bring to the boil then lower the heat and simmer with the lid on the pan for 40 mins.
  4. Blitz in the liquidiser add salt & pepper to taste.
  5. Serve in warmed bowls with some lovely crusty bread. Salt & pepper to taste / chopped parsley to garnish.

*Janet Cook*

## Hinkley Point C Community Bus Service

Free bus service between Bridgwater and Minehead after the Christmas holiday period, the service will re-commence on **Monday 4th January**.

This service is specifically for travelling directly to Minehead or Bridgwater, you can get on at any stop as per timetable but you can only get off at Minehead or Bridgwater. You can get off at your home timetable stop on your return journey from Minehead or Bridgwater. *(For example, you cannot get on at Dunster and off at Carhampton this service is covered by the no 28 bus for local stops).*

Buses used on the service have been modified to allow for social distancing. These measures include the installation of Perspex screens and a clear indication of which seats can be used. Please note only 18 people per bus due to Social Distancing rules. In line with Government guidance, a face covering must be worn by all passengers.

If you have any questions regarding the service, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Somerset Passenger Solutions **01278 557 001** (10am to 3pm Mon to Friday)

**Please see timetable below for more information.**

### Hinkley Point C Community Bus Service Timetable

#### Bridgwater – Minehead

Monday - Friday

| Service Number                | HPC  | HPC  | HPC  |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Bridgwater Bus Station        | 0930 | ...  | 1340 |
| Cannington, Cemetery          | 0945 | 1045 | 1355 |
| Combwich, Crossway Farm       | 0949 | 1049 | 1359 |
| Stogursey, Acland Arms        | 0959 | 1059 | 1409 |
| Nether Stowey, Pooles Close   | 1014 | 1114 | 1424 |
| Nether Stowey, Castle Street  | 1016 | 1116 | 1426 |
| Holford, Plough Inn           | 1023 | 1123 | 1433 |
| Kilve, The Hood Arms          | 1028 | 1128 | 1438 |
| Doniford, Letter-box          | 1037 | 1137 | 1447 |
| Watchet, Liddymore Road Shops | 1042 | 1142 | 1452 |
| Watchet, WSR Rail Station     | 1046 | 1146 | 1456 |
| Blue Anchor, Driftwood Cafe   | 1056 | 1156 | 1506 |
| Carhampton, Community Hall    | 1104 | 1204 | 1514 |
| Dunster Steep                 | 1107 | 1207 | 1517 |
| Minehead Parade               | 1113 | 1213 | 1523 |
| Minehead Lidl                 | 1117 | 1217 | 1527 |



A free bus service provided by Hinkley Point C for local residents.

There will be no service over the Christmas period (Saturday 19th December 2020 – Sunday 3rd January 2021 inclusive).

#### Minehead – Bridgwater

Monday - Friday

| Service Number                | HPC  | HPC  | HPC  |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Minehead Lidl                 | ...  | 1345 | 1435 |
| Minehead Parade               | 1010 | 1355 | 1445 |
| Dunster Steep                 | 1016 | 1401 | 1451 |
| Carhampton, Community Hall    | 1019 | 1404 | 1454 |
| Blue Anchor, Driftwood Cafe   | 1027 | 1412 | 1502 |
| Watchet, WSR Rail Station     | 1037 | 1422 | 1512 |
| Watchet, Liddymore Road Shops | 1041 | 1426 | 1516 |
| Doniford, Letter-box          | 1046 | 1431 | 1521 |
| Kilve, The Hood Arms          | 1055 | 1440 | 1530 |
| Holford, Plough Inn           | 1100 | 1445 | 1535 |
| Nether Stowey, Pooles Close   | 1108 | 1453 | 1543 |
| Nether Stowey, Castle Street  | 1110 | 1455 | 1545 |
| Stogursey, Acland Arms        | 1124 | 1509 | 1559 |
| Combwich, Crossway Farm       | 1133 | 1518 | 1608 |
| Cannington, Cemetery          | 1137 | 1522 | 1612 |
| Bridgwater Bus Station        | 1152 | ...  | 1627 |

Complete list of bus stops:

Bridgwater, Bus Station (Bay 7) NON stop - Cannington Cemetery - Crossway Farm, Combwich - Acland Arms, Stogursey School, Stogursey - Durborough Farm - St. Mary Street Fire Station, Nether Stowey - The Clocktower - The Cock (E-bound) - Nether Stowey, adj. Castle Street - Pooles Close - Coleridge Road - Stogursey Turn - Plough Inn, Holford - Kilton Cross - The Hood Arms - Youth Centre - Higher Street, The Crossroads - St. Audries Holiday Camp - adj. The Windmill, West Quantoxhead - Haven Caravan Park, Williton Doniford Farm - Culvercliffe Road - Liddymore Shops - Churchill Way - Woodland Road, Risdon Road - Masonic Hall - Watchet Railway Station - Lorna Doone Caravan Park - Warren Bay Caravan Park - Warren Farm - adj. Hoburne Blue Anchor - adj. Beeches Camp Site - Driftwood Cafe - West Somerset Railway Station - opp. post Office, Carhampton, Dunster Showground - Dunster Steep Bircham Road, Minehead - WSCC - Alcombe Bus Shelter (NW-bound) - Alcombe Books - Minehead Middle School - Roman Catholic Church - The Parade, Minehead, Lidl Minehead

Somerset Passenger Solutions Customer Helpline 01278 557 001 (Available from 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday)



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## WORDSEARCH FOR JANUARY

Phyllis Chidgey

**Saucy**



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | S | I | A | L | E | D | R | O | B |
| S | H | E | R | R | Y | C | E | A | E |
| E | D | N | O | M | E | L | P | P | A |
| N | D | E | G | P | L | A | A | R | R |
| G | O | S | X | A | S | M | C | I | N |
| O | O | E | Y | R | R | E | H | C | A |
| L | F | E | O | E | A | L | L | O | I |
| O | A | H | S | P | P | A | I | T | S |
| B | E | C | H | A | M | E | L | C | E |
| S | S | E | R | C | R | E | T | A | W |

|        |         |            |  |
|--------|---------|------------|--|
| SOY    | CHERRY  | BECHAMEL   |  |
| CLAM   | GARLIC  | BERNAISE   |  |
| CAPER  | SHERRY  | BOLOGNESE  |  |
| APPLE  | APRICOT | BORDELAISE |  |
| LEMON  | PARSLEY | WATERCRESS |  |
| CHEESE | SEAFOOD |            |  |



### WILLITON WALKS BOOK



A book of 9 circular walks around Williton by Jenny Gibson is on sale at Williton Post Office for £2.50. All proceeds from this edition go to the Quantock Foodbank. We are very grateful to the Post Office for stocking this book..

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Remember that you can never give without loving but you can never love without giving.

Shirley Dee

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## Surviving Winter



Hundreds of older people in Somerset are forced to choose between heating and eating during the winter. The coronavirus outbreak means that for many of our older neighbours, this winter will be even more difficult and worrying. Many will need to stay at home to keep themselves safe and will find themselves cut off from family and friends, and facing higher costs to heat their homes.

With your help, we can help them stay warm, safe and well.

**Your donations will help us make sure around 500 vulnerable older people across Somerset have the support they need to get through the winter.**

**Your gift will help provide:**

- Vital grants to cover heating costs
- Community meals, befriending support or online activities to reduce loneliness and isolation
- Support to help those in need to access specialist services and community groups

**Hundreds of vulnerable older people in Somerset need your help this winter**

10% of Somerset households live in fuel poverty

On average, there are 440 excess winter deaths each year in Somerset

One in six older people in Somerset often feel lonely

**If you can afford to, please donate today and spread some warmth this winter**

- Donate online at [www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter](http://www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter)
- Donate by calling **01749 344949**
- Donate by cheque to the address below (ref. SW)

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Surviving Winter is run by:  
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Yeoman House, The Royal Bath & West Showground,  
Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 6QN

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## IF YOU NEED HELP:

**Williton Surgery** Robert Street TA4 4QE Tel: **01984 632701**

Out of hours: **111**. In an emergency call **999**.

The surgery has changed its opening times to enable staff to plan for the day ahead. They are telephoning all patients ahead of any face-to-face appointments to avoid non-essential contact.

**West Somerset Advice Bureau** Advice line: **03444 88 9623**

**Christians Against Poverty** - Free debt help. Freephone: **0800 3280006**

[www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)

**Church Clergy** contact details are on **page 4** of this magazine.

**Mindline Somerset** Emotional support helpline **01823 276892**

**Quantock Foodbank** **07483 815122** email: [quantockfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:quantockfoodbank@gmail.com)

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

**Williton Parish Council** telephone the Clerk (Michelle Francis) **01984 633979**

or email [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk)

**Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group** - ring **01984 573673** or email [willitonhelp@yahoo.com](mailto:willitonhelp@yahoo.com)

**Williton Registration Office** - **01823 282251** Pre-booked appointments only

**Village Agent - Izzy Silvester** email [izzy@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:izzy@somersetccc.org.uk) or tel:

**07931 018045**. Leave a message with your contact details.

**WASPS - WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREA PARKINSON'S SUPPORT**

Tel: **01984 631472**

## Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group

If you are still isolated and need help with grocery shopping, prescriptions, dog walking, errands or just need a friendly chat, we can put you in touch with someone who can help you.

**Helpline Number**

**01984 573673**

[willitonhelp@yahoo.com](mailto:willitonhelp@yahoo.com)

[www.facebook.com/willitonhelp](https://www.facebook.com/willitonhelp)

**If you need help, call or message us now**

Phone lines are operational every day from 8:00 am until 10:00 pm. You can leave a message at other times and we will get back to you.

There's a list of traders and their opening times on our website as the situation changes frequently. [www.willitonhelp.co.uk](http://www.willitonhelp.co.uk)



## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

All our help and information is now available in a single place on the Somerset County Council website:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/>

This page is refreshed through the day so please check in regularly to keep across developments and news.

View this magazine online at [www.willitonwindow.org.uk](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk)



WEST SOMERSET

# COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT HUBS

Pop in for free, positive friendly help and support!

- Access to internet/ Universal Credit journal
- Help with job searching/applying for work
- CV writing and updating
- Assistance with interview preparation
- **West Somerset Advice Service** are at the hubs for the whole community to access

**Every Tuesday:** Williton Children's Centre, Williton, 9.30am-12.30pm Tel: 01984 635980

**Fortnightly: Wednesdays,** The Greyhound Inn, Lime Street, Stogursey, 9.30am-12pm Tel: 01278 733 615

**Every Thursday:** The Sanctuary, Watchet 9.30am-12.30pm, Tel: 01984 248169

**First Thursday of the month:** Dulverton Library, Dulverton, 10.00am – 12:00pm Tel: 0300 123 2224

**Every Friday:** @ The Hub, Hopcott Rd, Alcombe, Minehead 9.30am-12pm Tel: 01643 707598

**VALUED VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

at all hubs please phone if you can help!

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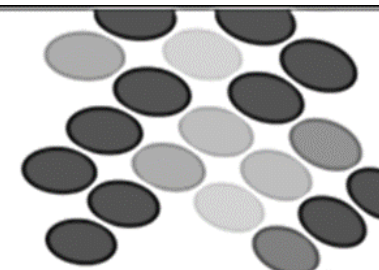
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