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YOUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY
MAGAZINE
DECEMBER 2018

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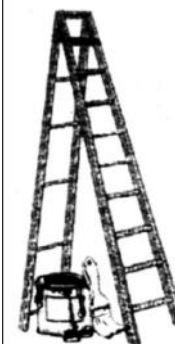
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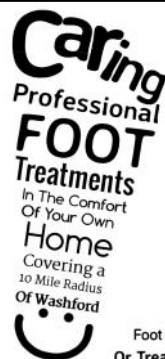
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DEADLINE DATES FOR THE JANUARY 2019 ISSUE*ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER**EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER*THE MAGAZINE SHOULD BE READY FOR COLLECTION / DELIVERY
FROM FRIDAY 21 DECEMBER**Please send articles, news, diary dates and advertisements to:**

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

☎ 01984 634 899 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
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

Baptist Church

Rev Mike Sherburn 633755

Mrs M Collinson 632537

Mr J Bowcock 248169

Salvation Army Corps Leader

Miss Sam Searle 07979 575453

Hall address and telephone: 1 Brendon Road, Watchet 633133

Williton Window distribution Mrs P Chidgey 632755**Williton Parish Council** Clerk: Mrs M Francis 633979**DISCLAIMER**

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 and advertisers
a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WILLITON AND WATCHET
Christmas Services and Events
St Peter's Williton

10th December: Christmas @ The Pavilion
 21st December: Children's Activities @ The Meeting Room
 23rd December: 4pm Carol Service
 24th December: 4pm Crib Service
 24th December: 11.30am Midnight Communion
 25th December: 10am Christmas Morning Service

Watchet Methodist Church

6th December: 7.30pm Concert Watchet & District Choral Society
 8th December: 10am to 12 Christmas coffee morning with a display of over 30 nativity sets and stalls.
 21st December: 6.30pm Scout Christingle Carol service
 23rd December: 10.30am Carol service
 25th December: 10am Christmas Day United service with the Baptist church
 1st January: 3pm to 5pm New Year Party. Bring and share tea
 6th January: 3pm Churches Together Epiphany Carol service and tea at St Decuman's

Salvation Army

Sunday 16th December: 11am Carol service followed by Christmas dinner

Roman Catholic Church

24th December: 6.30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas at Watchet Methodist Church

Baptist Church

15th December: 4pm Blue Christmas at The Sanctuary
 23 December: 6pm Carols by Candlelight at Knights Templar School

St Decuman's Watchet

30th November to 2nd December: Christmas Tree Festival
 1st December: Christmas Tree Festival Craft Fair
 2nd December: 4pm Christingle
 9th December: 3.30pm Guide Christingle
 21st December: Children's Activities at Holy Cross
 23rd December: 4pm 9 Lessons and Carols
 24th December: 4pm Crib Service
 24th December: 11.30 Midnight Communion
 25th December: 10am Christmas Morning Service
 6th January: 3pm Epiphany Carol Service (CTiWW) followed by tea

UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

ST PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

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

Associate Vicar: Rev Kathryn Flenley 633568

Reader Bev Machin on 01984 568201 or Reader Donna Marsden on 633707

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

Tuesdays 11.00 am Mid-Week Service of Holy Communion

Thursdays **CAMEO** Will be held at the Vicarage until further notice

Church is open daily during daylight hours for personal prayer

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 2018

Sun 2nd 8am Holy Communion BCP

10am All Age Worship

Tues 4th 9.30-11am "Little Saints" Toddler group in Meeting Room and each Tuesday until 18th December

Fri 7th 2pm WI Carol Service

Sun 9th 8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Parish Communion

Mon 10th 10am Communion at Danesborough View- All welcome

Sun 16th 8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Parish Communion

Thurs 20 11am Christmas Communion at Croft House

Sat 22nd 10-11.30am Christmas Café Church in Meeting Room

Sun 23rd 8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Parish Communion

4pm Carol Service

Mon 24th 4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day 10am All Age Christmas Communion

Cover photo: Snowman on Tower Hill, taken during the snow in March 2018

The Benefice of Watchet & Williton invite you to:

Café Church



**Saturday 22nd December,
10 - 11.30 am.**

For all the FAMILY

Mince pies, newspapers, children's activities. A chance to meet with and talk to others. Puzzles and carols.



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



www.willitonwindow.org.uk

METHODIST CHURCH Tower Hill, Williton Worshipping at Danesborough View Common Room TA4 4SH.

Services: Sundays at 10.30 am - Please join us.

This month our preachers are:

2nd Mrs Lynne Wooldridge

9th Mr Tim Hedgecock - Carol Service

16th **AT 10am** United Carol Service at St Peter's Church

23rd Local arrangement - Christmas Service

30th Rev Nick Lakin - Holy Communion

Look out for the knitted angels around Williton in the week before Christmas. These are a small gift from the Methodist Church for you to take home as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.



BRENDON HILL (Beulah) METHODIST CHURCH

Watchet TA23 0LL (junction of the B3224 and B3190 near Raleghs Cross)
Our CAROL SERVICE will be held on SUNDAY, 16th December at 6.30 pm, led by Rev Nick Lakin and followed by light refreshments. A warm welcome to our hill country chapel.

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.

Our Carol Service will be held at 11am on Sunday December 16th.

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

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.

Saturday 15th December: 4pm Blue Christmas at The Sanctuary

Sunday 23 December: 6pm Carols by Candlelight at Knights Templar School

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass is celebrated at 6.30 pm on Saturdays at the Methodist Church, Watchet.

Vigil Mass of Christmas will be celebrated at 6.30pm, Monday 24 December, Watchet Methodist Church.

For more information contact Deacon Vincent Woods on 01984 634681.



www.willitonwindow.org.uk

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8th

10am to 12 noon

**Watchet Methodist Church
30 NATIVITY SETS ON
DISPLAY**

*Christmas stalls - Cakes -
Refreshments - Christmas hamper raffle
Refreshments, donations
and raffle for the
Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance,
and the nursery school in Puri, India*

11

FROM REV JANE SPERRING

As Christmas comes I often hear people saying that Christmas is really for the children. This is usually said by people whose children are now grown up and left home. They seem to miss the excitement of the children anticipating what Santa Claus may be bringing or what the brightly wrapped parcels under the tree might contain.

In reality of course, Christmas is one of the greatest events that have ever happened in the world. It is a celebration of God giving up all his power and majesty and glory to become a tiny baby dependant on human parents.

Dr James Allan wrote the following poem.

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village,
The child of a peasant woman
He grew up in another obscure village
Where he worked in a carpenter shop
Until he was thirty
He never wrote a book
He never held an office
He never went to college
He never visited a big city
He never travelled more than two
hundred miles
From the place where he was born
He did none of the things
Usually associated with greatness
He had no credentials but himself
When he was only thirty three
His friends ran away
One of them denied him
He was turned over to his enemies
And went through the mockery of a trial
He was nailed to a cross between two
thieves
While dying, his executioners gambled
for his clothing
The only property he had on earth

When he was dead
He was laid in a borrowed grave
Through the pity of a friend
Nineteen centuries have come and
gone
And today Jesus is the central figure
of the human race
And the leader of mankind's progress
All the armies that have ever marched
All the navies that have ever sailed
All the parliaments that have ever sat
All the kings that ever reigned put
together
Have not affected the life of mankind
on earth
As powerfully as that one solitary life

And this is why Christmas isn't just for children, but for all of us, because today we still feel the influence of his life on us. We know that God loves us, because of that baby was born on Christmas day over 2,000 years ago.

So this year try to come to a Carol service where you can discover that Christmas is for everyone, not just for the children.

Wishing you all a very blessed Christmas and happy new year.

FROM YOUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER

As the winter season fast approaches it is a good time to think about our neighbours within our community. Loneliness is an ongoing problem in our communities and it is important to look out for and consider those who may be lonely near you. Do you have an elderly or isolated neighbour who would welcome a knock on the door, a friendly chat, an offer of some shopping? Often when we get to know our neighbours we can signpost them to support that is in our community such as in our local church, community centres, village halls and of course me - their Village Agent.

There will be a new Talking Café offering free support and advice in the new Pavilion building on Williton Memorial Ground. It will take place every Tuesday morning from December onwards from 10-12. Please come and have a cuppa and see how local professionals and volunteers you can trust can help you, or just pop in for a chat.

Do you know people who are struggling to manage caring for a loved one? They can refer themselves to the Somerset Carers Service where a Carers Agent can visit them in the privacy of their own home and support them in their role as a carer. Sometimes people don't realise they are a carer and so a gentle reminder of the support they are giving to their loved one and how they can get help with this is a positive step to enable them to continue in their role but also look after themselves. The Somerset Carers Service has a dedicated Freephone helpline that anyone can call Monday to Friday during office hours – 0800 31 68 600 and a website www.somersetcarers.org.

If you are feeling isolated, do try to get involved in what is available locally, especially as Christmas approaches and extra events are happening. That way you can build relationships and support within your community.

Not sure who to turn to? Village Agents are a charity that work with individuals and social groups to give confidential support and advice. We can enable people to be more independent in their home, manage personal finances, care for family members and advise on just about anything!

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

I F YOU NEED HELP:

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

West Somerset Advice Bureau Market House Lane, Minehead TA24 5NW. Tel: 01643 704624 In the Children's Centre, Killick Way, Williton every Tuesday between 10am and 12.30pm.

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

Williton Police: Neighbourhood beat manager: PC 4376 Jamie Munro, Mobile: 07889 659436; Police Community Support Officers: PCSO 9273 Sue Thompson, Mobile: 07889 655209 and PCSO 7292 Peter Bolton, Mobile: 07889 655193. In an emergency call 999. Otherwise call 101.

WASPS - WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREA PARKINSON'S SUPPORT

Our November meeting saw the room full to capacity. We welcomed as usual Jenny Manvell to get us exercising our limbs to some well known music. There was much laughter as we tried to master the art of co-ordination and throwing and catching tennis balls. We had great fun doing a sit down samba and were each given pompoms, drums etc. Some members were brave enough to get up and dance.

The exercises finished at 2pm and we then welcomed Mr Michael Stevens, a qualified first aider, who gave a talk and demonstration to remind us all how to put someone in the recovery position. He also answered various questions from members. Mr Stevens also told us about the charity he is involved with in Africa which takes in babies and children who have been left on the streets etc. Our members were happy to make donations to this charity.

Linda Bishop and Ginny Yandle attended a Christmas Flowers demonstration at Nether Stowey Village Hall and Linda accepted a cheque on behalf of the WASPS from Quantocks Flower Arrangers. WASPS had been their chosen charity for the year. The WASPS are very grateful for this donation.

We are now looking forward to our annual Christmas Lunch at the Bicknoller Inn again this year on December 6th.

The speaker for our January meeting will be someone from Porlock Oysters.

If you or someone you know has been recently diagnosed with Parkinson's, you are not alone. There is always support available. You do not have to attend a support group (it is a very personal decision), but if you would like further information, please phone Mrs Linda Bishop on 01984 631472 or email queenwasp@outlook.com.

In the meantime we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year and thank you for your support.

Ginny Yandle -committee member

SPREAD SOME WARMTH - DONATE YOUR WINTER FUEL PAYMENT



Somerset Community Foundation has launched this year's Surviving Winter campaign, which encourages people to join the growing number of contributors who donate some or all of their Winter Fuel Payment to help local people living in fuel poverty. This year, any online donations to the campaign made during the week-long Big Give Christmas Challenge - midday Tuesday 27 November to midday Tuesday 4 December - will be doubled!

Last year, over 500 older people living in fuel poverty in Somerset were helped to keep warm and better connected through the winter months, thanks to pensioners and other local donors who gave to Surviving Winter.

To donate to Surviving Winter, visit www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter or call 01749 344949. Please remember to fill in a Gift Aid form if applicable.

ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Having an itchy plaster cast removed.

by SD

WRBL WOMEN'S SECTION

At our next meeting on 10th December we are going to be having fun making chocolate truffles and boxes to put them in.

Further ahead into the New Year, at our January meeting we will be looking at pictures of our members when they were babies or toddlers to see if we can work out who is who! If you have a neighbour or friend who is a member of WRBL why not come and join us to see if you can recognise them?

We meet at the Lecture Room at Williton Fire Station at 2.30pm. *SH*

WILLITON COMMUNITY MARKET

Our Christmas market will take place on Friday 21st December between 9 and 11.30 am at Williton Social Club. Visit us and start your Christmas weekend.

Barbara Heywood

THE BIG WELLY DROP!

Welly Boots, Walking Shoes and Raincoats!

In the back of cupboards, and sheds....

Do you have children's and adults' raincoats and welly boots that are no longer in use?

Danesfield School and Exmoor National Park's FUN Project (Families united through Nature) are needing outdoor clothing for activities for families in Williton for outdoor events being planned!



Drop off any items at Danesfield School reception. Many thanks!

For further information please contact Lucy McQuillan on 07966 515580

or email lmcquillan@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

Also to the two ladies who came to my rescue when I collapsed at the top of Tower Hill on the evening of Saturday 10th November. Also to the couple who brought me home.

RJY



Thank You!

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. Please ring Jenny or Tony Gibson on 634899 or go to our website: www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack

STOCKING FILLER

A book of 9 circular walks around Williton by Jenny Gibson is on sale at Williton Post Office for £2.50. All proceeds from the books go to charity. Since the first edition in 2015 several hundred pounds have been shared between the Williton Window, Macmillan Cancer Support, St Margaret's Hospice and a children's cancer research institute. **The current charity is the WASPS and, so far, over £100 has been raised by sales of this Williton Walks Book.**

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

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

Mon 9.30-10.30 am <i>and</i> 10.45-11.45am	Pilates with Eleanor Rutter	Maglands Community Room, Watchet Booking essential 07342 238 723
Mon 10.30 - 12 noon	UK Online	Williton Library, booking essential
Mon 2 pm	Table Tennis	Watchet Youth Centre
Mon 2 - 3 pm	Age UK - Stay Strong	Danesborough View Common Room
Mon 6-7pm <i>And</i> 7.15-8.15pm	Pilates with Eleanor Rutter	Danesborough View Common Room Booking essential 07342 238 723
Mon 7.30 pm	Badminton	EMN Hall Monksilver (656496)
Tues 9.30-10.30am 6.15-7.15pm	Pilates with Nathan Pirt Pilates with Nathan Pirt	Watchet Community Centre West Quantoxhead Village Hall Info: Nathan Pirt 07762 721 271
Tues 9.30 - 10.30am <i>and</i> 11 - 12 am	Mat and floor based yoga Chair-based yoga More info from Julie Bolton 633665 or email	The Salvation Army Hall Watchet (level access and parking) julieboltonyoga@gmail.com
Tues 10am-12.30pm	Children's Centre	West Somerset Advice Bureau
Tue 5.45 pm	Brownies	Guide HQ
Tues 7-11pm	War-games Club	Info: Williton Gamers 01984 639588
Wed 9-10am <i>and</i> 10.30-11.30am	Pilates with Nathan Pirt	Bicknoller Village Hall Info: Nathan Pirt 07762 721 271
Wed 6-7.30pm	Cubs	Guide HQ
Wed 7-10 pm	Railway Modellers	Rear of Washford Mill, Washford (info: 07773 892085)
Thur 9-10am <i>and</i> 10.15-11.15am	Pilates with Nathan Pirt	West Quantoxhead Village Hall Info: Nathan Pirt 07762 721 271
Thur 9.30-11.30 am	St Peter's Church	Drop in for coffee and cake
Thur 10-11am	Free chair based exercise	Williton Hospital (<i>please ring Shirley on 633529 for information</i>)
Thur 10.30-noon	Craft and Chat	Drop-in at Williton Library.
Thur 10.30-12 noon	UK Online	Williton Library, Booking essential
Thur 5.15-6.30 pm	Rainbows	Guide HQ
Thur 6-7pm	Williton Youth Club	Memorial Ground (Contact Andy 01643 703155)
Fri 9.30-10.30 am <i>and</i> 10.45-11.45am	Pilates with Eleanor Rutter	Williton Fire Station Community Room Booking essential 07342 238 723
Fri 10.30-11am	Rhyme Time 0 - 4 years	Williton Library (term time only)
Fri 12 noon	Colin's "Walk and talk"	Meet Killick Way Car park
Fri	Williton RBL Rifle Club	Bridge St. Range. Info 01984 632650
Fri 7.15-9pm	Guides (<i>info from Martha on 01984 248925</i>)	The Guide HQ, Market Street Car Park in Watchet
Fri 7.30 pm	Bingo	Danesborough View Common Room
Fri 7 - 8.30 pm	Walking football	Danesfield School

ST PETER'S SCHOOL DIARY

We are now turning our attention towards Christmas and all the activities that are associated with it. The children are really enjoying rehearsing our Christmas production, 'Bah Humbug'. As you might assume, this play is based on Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. We are also looking forward to our Christmas Fair on Friday 7th December. The fair is being organised by our PTA and we would be pleased to see anyone who can join us that afternoon.

Now we go back to earlier in the term.

Elm class have started their topic work about local history, starting with the Oyster farming at Porlock Bay, then leading on to the West Somerset railway, and meandering all the way around the coast. In science, they are learning about light and dark, and this is linked into RE and learning about Diwali and the celebration of light. The children are also beginning to practise songs for the Christmas play.

Fir class have been learning about dinosaurs in topic and have made their own salt dough fossils which are proudly on display in their classroom. The children used non-fiction books to research about dinosaurs, then used small work figures to create fossil footprints and skeletons.

Yew class, our year 4 children, enjoyed parading from St Peter's School to Croft house with the scarecrows that they had made. This was part of the Archie Dementia Awareness programme. During their visit, the children sang songs, chatted with the residents and enjoyed refreshments together. In topic the class are continuing to learn about WW2 and have also been learning about WW1. Many children in the class have grandparents and great-grandparents who fought in the wars and decided to take part in the Armistice Remembrance Service.

Our nurture group, Happy Stars, have had a good start back after half term thinking about the war and Remembrance Day. The children have thought about how people lived during the war and food they ate. They also made and painted poppies. They are now starting to think about Children In Need and about children not as fortunate as themselves.

At the time of writing we still have Children In Need to look forward to; raising money by dressing in pyjamas or onesies, collecting as many 1p or 2p coins to fill lots of Pudsey Bears, and a cake sale. It should be a fun day. Of course, there will be a special carol service, Christmas lunch and many more exciting activities before the term ends!

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas!

SG

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Williton W.I. have enjoyed our 100th Year celebrations. At our November meeting Stuart Parkman informed and amused us with his talk on Triscombe Nurseries.

A group of willing volunteers has planted 100 bulbs at Bellamy's Corner. They are Narcissi Lobularis, known as Lent Lily, a wild daffodil which naturalises happily. They have lemon yellow petals with a darker yellow trumpet and grow to 20cms. Look out for them against the back wall next March! They are rabbit and deer resistant.

In December we are having a Christmas lunch at Kildare Lodge Hotel in Minehead. We look forward to meeting visitors at our January meeting and wish all a Happy Christmas.

Pamela Messenger, Secretary

NEWS FROM WILLITON POST OFFICE

December posting dates for Christmas delivery.

International Airmail

14 th December	International Standard to static HM Forces Mail, Canada, Czech Republic, Italy, Poland and U.S.A
15 th December	Finland and Sweden
17 th December	Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
18 th December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

UK Postage

18 th December	2 nd Class and 2 nd Class Signed For
20 th December	1 st Class and 1 st Class Signed For, Royal Mail Tracked 48
21 st December	Royal Mail Tracked 24
22 nd December	Special Delivery guaranteed

There is always so much to do at this busy time of year; we hope these posting dates will help with your planning!

Recently Amazon Returns introduced a new square barcoded returns label which we have not been able to process in Williton. However we can now tell you the **GREAT NEWS** that we do have the programme on our computers to send these for you! So no need to rush into Taunton to the Chip Lane Depot!

We have six foreign currencies in stock for your winter holidays –Swiss Francs, Euros, Thailand Bhat, U.S., Australian and New Zealand Dollars.

New tree decorations and all you need to wrap your gifts have just arrived, as well as a great selection of local Christmas cards!

Please come and join us for mince pies along with a glass of sherry, mulled wine or fruit juice on the Late Night Shopping evening, 12th December! This is our opportunity to thank you for your patronage through the year.

All of us at the Post Office send Season's Greetings.

Caroline Tyner

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

You can't shake hands with a clenched fist.

from SD

TEA PARTIES - WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

I am the local coordinator for Contact the Elderly, a national organisation which changes the lives of people aged 75 and over who live lonely and isolated lives, by taking them out to tea on one Sunday afternoon each month. Each guest is collected from their home by a Volunteer Driver, and taken to a Volunteer Host's home, where they join a small group for tea, cake and company. The group is warmly welcomed by a different host each month, but the charity's drivers and guests in the group remain the same. This means that over the months and years, acquaintances turn into friends and loneliness is replaced by companionship.

Interest in the local tea parties has grown enormously over the past year and I now have many guests from your area wishing to join us but unfortunately have insufficient drivers to take them to the tea parties. I would love to hear from anyone who can spare three to four hours once a month as a volunteer driver. All drivers will need a DBS check and the cost of this will be covered by the charity.

The tea parties really do change a lonely person's life.

For more information call Freephone 0800 716 543 or look at our website www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk or contact me direct on 01643 841276 / 07826 702958.

Christine Payne

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

At our November meeting Pat Pope gave us a highly entertaining talk about her life as a model from World War II up to the present day. It was a real eye-opener for some of us and, as always, it is interesting to find out about other local people's lives that are so different from our own.

In December we have our Christmas lunch and our regular meetings will recommence in January. We meet at Danesborough View Common Room at 2.30pm and we usually have a speaker or some form of entertainment. We include tea and biscuits and welcome both men and ladies. Do come and try our friendly club, whether as a visitor or new member.

All enquiries to our Chairlady, Jenny Berry, on 01984 632616.

RECIPE FOR THE MONTH *by Shirley Dee*

BRAZIL BAKE (A VEGETARIAN CHRISTMAS MEAL FOR 6)

225 g (8 oz) Brazil nuts	3 chopped celery sticks
225 g (8 oz) bread crumbs	1 red pepper deseeded and chopped
225 g (8 oz) grated carrots	1 teaspoon dried or 2 teaspoons of fresh marjoram
175 g (6 oz) chopped onions	Black pepper
3 eggs	3 tablespoons of tomato puree

Line and lightly oil a 20 cm / 8 inch ring tin. Grind the nuts and chop very finely and mix with the bread crumbs. Mix together with the carrots, onions, celery and red pepper. Add the marjoram, beat in the eggs and tomato puree, add a little water to mix. Pile into the prepared ring and smooth down the top. Bake for 45 minutes at 190°C / 375°F / Gas mark 5. Chopped fresh vegetables make a crunchy addition - e.g. avocado and mushrooms.

SMALL PRAYER

Please let Christmas be a time of peace everywhere.



WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

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

We have again had a very busy month at the Parish Council. Last weekend saw the Armistice Day commemorations. The showing of War Horse was a really good evening, a very poignant reminder of what our ancestors faced; a very humbling feeling. On Armistice Day it was lovely to see so many at the Remembrance Service, thank you to everyone involved and to the children for reading their poems. Thank you to everyone, including the Brownies, Cubs and St Peter's School for attending. Thank you to the ladies who keep the Memorial garden clear and the local businesses for donating bark mulch.

As we go into the winter months, please can we remind everyone of their riparian duties in keeping the rivers and streams clear. Unfortunately we have had several reports of garden rubbish (and other waste) being dumped into the water - this will cause blockages and in turn flooding, so please help everyone to stay dry and use the recycling centre to dispose of rubbish and prunings. Sandbags can be purchased from local builders merchants.

Williton Christmas Festival will take place on Wednesday 12th December at the Pavilion. The Parade, with a special appearance from Father Christmas, will start at 6pm from Danesfield School and make its way through the village to the Pavilion where there will be Santa's Grotto, stalls, refreshments, Watchet Town Band and Punch and Judy. Please come along and join in the festivities!

The Post Office and some other village shops will be staying open late that evening, so please visit them as well.

Michelle Francis, Clerk to Williton Parish Council

WILLITON PAVILION

As we go to print, the planned open day for Saturday 1st December from 10 am until 3pm, remains on schedule.

The past month has not been without its problems. The timing for the gas and electricity connections has pushed back the hand-over date by one week until 23rd November.

The website is now functioning and here you can see we have started to populate the calendar with provisional bookings. You can now submit an enquiry and we will send you a copy of the hire agreement for you to confirm your booking, or just pop in the office and talk to Michelle or Jo about availability and pick up a copy. On paying your hire fee, you will be given an electronic key that is date and time programmed for your event. When you arrive at the building you just pass the key over the reader to unlock the main door and then again on the reader in the lobby to unlock those areas that you have hired. When you leave, you repeat the process and just drop the key through the parish council letter box.

A user instruction sheet for the building is available on the booking page of the website, or you can collect one when you collect your key.

We have recently formed a cinema group who will be looking to set up later this year or early next to commence film nights; I understand these will also

(Continued on page 22)

include refreshments.

Although we were unable to open the pavilion in time for Armistice Day, the Pavilion Clock was switched on at 11 am.

Cllr Bill Vaughan

DOWN AT THE STATION

Service trains have now stopped for the season, but all the Santa and Christmas trains are coming up. On 1st December the **Minehead Christmas Market** will be held on Minehead station from 11am - 5 pm. There will be one special train running the line leaving Bishops Lydeard at 11.15 calling at all stations (apart from Doniford) and returning from Minehead at 16.30. Then the following weekend on both nights of **Dunster by Candlelight**, there will be three trains, only picking up at Bishops Lydeard and setting passengers down at either Dunster station, from where they can walk up to the village, or at Minehead where busses will transport them.

Every weekend during December there are **Santa Expresses** running from Bishops Lydeard to Williton and return. And from 22nd - 24th there will be additional **Santa Specials** from Minehead to Blue Anchor and back. The popular **Carol Trains** will be running this year on **four** evenings - 10th and 11th and again on the 15th and 16th December - trains running from both ends of the line to Williton and return. You are welcome to come down to the station and join in the carols from around 8.15 each evening. Tickets for all these special trains may be booked online at www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk or by phone on 01643 704996

After Christmas there will be just six days of running from 27th December until 1st January, when we close down for nearly three months. Volunteer staff will have plenty to do around the station and will be meeting regularly each week. You may have seen in the local press that due to more than usual infrastructure work along the line there will be NO trains during the February school half-term break, so the next trains after New Year's Day will be at the end of March.

John Parsons, Station Master

GLOBAL FRIENDS

The next session will be on Tuesday 4th December at 2pm. For more information on who we are and where we meet, please phone 01984 248392 or 01984 634734.



DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ

The Sanctuary, Swain Street, Watchet TA23 0AE Tel: 07973 638030
email watchetdementia@btinternet.com

Open from 10.30 am - 12 noon

5 December - 'My spinning wheel' with Christine Strong

19 December - Carols for Christmas

21 December - 'Animals from Books' with Jane Sperring

If you contact any of our contributors or advertisers, please tell them that you saw their details in the Williton Window.

And do look at our advertising pages, where we have several new advertisers, whose services may interest you.

WILLITON HOSPITAL

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: someone to repair some of our garden furniture, working under shelter. Would anyone like to learn hand massage? Please get in touch with Shirley or Chris 01984 635600. We will always get back to you.

Meadow Ward is holding a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 1st December from 2 to 4 pm. Do come along.

The LEAGUE OF FRIENDS is holding a Christmas service at 3pm on Wednesday 12th December at the hospital. Everyone is very welcome to come and join us. There will be usual cuppa and biscuits afterwards.

BH and SD

Chair-based Tai Chi and Yoga (can be done seated or standing)

Tuesday mornings 11.15 – 12.15

at the Salvation Army Hall, 1 Brendon Rd, Watchet TA23 0AU

Parking: Go into St Decuman's Road, then right into Gillams Place to the end

Cost: £5 (pay as you go)

Ease aches and pains; increase balance, strength and co-ordination; reduce stress and improve breathing.

Call Julie Bolton on 01984 633665 or email julieboltonyoga@gmail.com

A warm welcome awaits - come and have a go!



Quantock Foodbank

email: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com tel: 07483 815122

*WISHING EVERYONE A
PEACEFUL AND JOYFUL
CHRISTMAS*



*Thank you to all
who donated festive
food to bring some
cheer to those in
need.*

WATCHET & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY

presents

'Christmas Angels'

A Collection of Christmas music for
choir and audience

Thursday 6th December

Watchet Methodist Church
at 7.30 pm

Admission at the door £7.50

Advance bookings £7.00

WatchetChoralSociety@gmail.com

or telephone 01984 639004

www.watchetchoralsociety.co.uk

FRIENDS OF WILLITON LIBRARY

Many thanks to everyone who made our Coffee Morning such fun and such a success.

We're not just books: our regular activities include: *Computer courses* (Mondays and Fridays 10.15-11.45) Help with your computer and accessing the internet. *Book Club* (last Monday of each month, 2.30-3.30) *Code Club* (for 9- to 11-year-olds, alternate Mondays 4-4.45. Booking essential) Learn computer programming. *Verse and Worse* (first Wednesday of each month, 10.30-11.30) Sit round a table and listen to or read poetry and prose. *Family History* (Wednesdays or Saturdays by appointment) Explore your family roots. *Craft and Chat* (every Thursday, 10.30 to 12) Drop in for friendly conversation. *Pins and Needles* (first Thursday of every month, 3 to 4) Sewing and embroidery help and advice. *Loop the Loop* (second Thursday of every month, 3.30-4) For children of six and over who would like to learn to knit and crochet. *Rhyme Time* (every Friday, 10.30 to 11) Song and boogie time for children 0yrs to 4yrs. *Baked Bites* (last Friday of every month, 3.30-4.30) Bake at home and bring it along to share over a cup of tea. *Lego Club* (first Saturday of every month, 10.30-11.30, for 6 to 12-year-olds, booking essential) *Story and Craft Time* (last Saturday of every month, 10.30-11.30. Booking essential) For four- to ten-year-olds.



The Library is open every day except Tuesday and Sunday in Killick Way.
Phone 0300 123 2224. Website: librarieswest.org.uk

MYSTERY BOOKS NEEDED!

Many thanks to everyone who responded to last month's request for crime/mystery books. Do please tell friends and add book clearance to your New Year Resolutions! All donations very much appreciated. Please contact Jacqui Brown on 01984 631371 or by email jacquiannebrown@gmail.com to arrange collection.

WORDSEARCH FOR DECEMBER by Phyllis Chidgey

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

S	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C
A	L	E	S	N	I	T	P	O	H
N	F	B	S	T	H	G	I	L	R
T	I	U	M	U	R	N	E	L	I
A	R	T	A	R	T	I	S	Y	S
C	M	T	Y	K	N	B	Y	U	T
L	I	E	V	E	U	O	L	L	M
A	N	R	I	Y	T	R	E	E	A
U	C	A	R	D	S	W	O	N	S
S	E	N	I	R	E	G	N	A	T

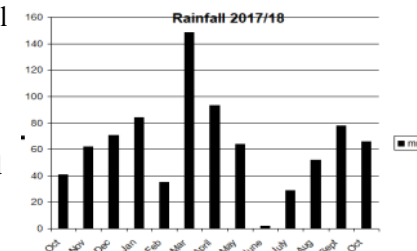
IVY	YULE	ROBIN	RUM/BUTTER
TOY	TART	HOLLY	SANTA CLAUS
ALE	NOEL	TINSEL	CHOCOLATES
FIR	TREE	LIGHTS	TANGERINES
ELF	SNOW	TURKEY	CHRISTMAS/EVE
NUTS	CARDS	MINCE/PIES	

WEATHER OCTOBER

This time last year I was remarking about the frosts, yet this year we have had warm days! Indeed, it has been confirmed that the last ten years have been much warmer than average - so do we have global warming? October temperatures were up to 22°C on the 10th. The coolest night was -3°C on 30th with a sharp frost. The maximum pressure was 30.2 inches on 19th. We had a rain total of 66mm (2.6ins) for the month.

Astronomical notes: on a clear night you may see the classic constellations of the Great Bear, Orion (follow the stars on the belt up to see the bright star Aldebaran) and Cassiopeia. For others you will need a star map.

PJ



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.

You do not have to live in Williton to join in these walks.

* 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. You can bring a picnic or more probably we'll eat at a café or pub. For more information, ring Colin Broom on 632721.

* This month's **Williton Walk** will be on Saturday 8 December starting at 2pm from Danesfield School. We will walk over Watchet Hill to the harbour/marina. From there we will walk along the Mineral Line to Kentsford Farm, up to St Decuman's Well and then on to Parsonage Farm before returning to Williton. If you would like any more information please ring me on 632318. *Elizabeth Peeks*

* **Williton Wanderers** will meet at 10.30am on **Saturday 1 December** at Steart Marshes main car park (free, with toilets) for a bird-watching walk with Jeff. To get there, drive along the A39 direction Bridgwater to the Cannington West roundabout and take the new bypass in the direction of Combech and Hinkley Point. Look out for the brown Steart Marshes signposts and follow them. Bring a picnic and binoculars and dress up warmly.

* **Williton Wanderers** will meet again on **Saturday 29 December** for our annual Christmas walk at 10.30 am outside the Carew Arms in Crowcombe. We shall return for lunch at about 1.30. Please let me know if you are coming to lunch, so I can give numbers to the pub. For more information, please email willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk or ring Jenny on 01984 634899.

* **Mineral Line** Join us on Monday 10th December for a fascinating insight into some of West Somerset's finest feats of Victorian engineering. A short easy walk around Langham Engine House, followed by exploration of other sites. Meet at 9.45 am at Chagot Woods Forestry Commission Car Park (GR SS975355). For information and booking call 01398 323841. Further information available on our website :www.westsomersetmineralrailway.org.uk

Teresa Wilson

SWP RECYCLING AND KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

Christmas and New Year 2018/19

Usual collection day
Monday 24 December
Tuesday 25 December
- Friday 28 December

Revised collection day

No change
All two days later, including Tuesday collections on Thursday 27 December and Friday collections on Sunday 30 December

Monday 31 December
Tuesday 1 January -
Friday 4 January
Monday 7 January

No change

All one day later, including Friday collections on **Saturday 5 January**

Usual collections resume

No garden waste collections 24 December - 4 January; resuming 7 January. Revised days also apply to assisted and clinical waste collections.

Recycling sites follow usual schedules, except **all sites close at 4pm** on Monday 24 and 31 December. All sites closed 25-26 December and 1 January.

Christmas trees - either: home compost, or take to a recycling site or, if you have a garden waste subscription, undecorated trees under 6ft can go out for collection on your usual garden waste collection day from 7 January, or look for local charity shredding/collections. (Last resort: send tree to costly, wasteful, polluting landfill. Place next to your rubbish bin on your usual collection day 7-18 January 2019).



Christmas at Halsway Manor

Sun 2 | Dec / 7pm
Martin Taylor and Martin Simpson

Sat 8 | Dec / 12 noon
Christmas Craft Fair + Santa's Grotto

Sun 9 | Dec / 10am:
Folk Carol Workshop

Sun 9 | Dec
Christmas Carvery Lunch (1pm) & Carol Concert (3pm)

Fri 14 | Dec / 6pm
Murder Mystery Dinner

Sat 15 | Dec / 2pm
Melstock Band West Gallery Workshop

Sat 15 | Dec / 8pm
Melstock Band 'The Leaves of Life'

Sat 22 | Dec / 6pm
Country Christmas Supper and Folk Dance

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www.halswaymanor.org.uk

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Contacts:

Every Tuesday: 'The River', West Somerset
Children's Centre, Williton, 9.30am-12.30pm
Tel: 01984 635980 (Williton)

Fortnightly: Wednesdays, 'The Well' at 'The
Greyhound Community Room', Lime Street,
Stogursey, 9.30am-12pm Tel: 01278 733 615

Every Thursday: 'The Sanctuary', Watchet 9.30am-
12.30pm, Tel: 01984 248169 (Watchet)

Every Friday: 'The Bridge' @ 'The Hub', Hopcott Rd,
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