



# WILLITON WINDOW

Your Church and Community Magazine  
DECEMBER 2019  
Volume 20, Number 6

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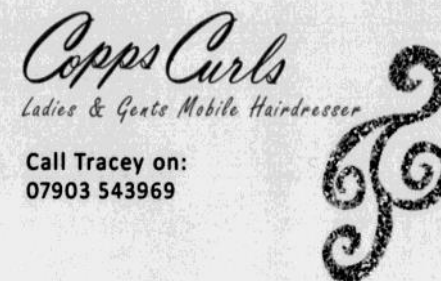
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**THE JANUARY 2020 MAGAZINE SHOULD BE READY FOR COLLECTION FROM ST PETER'S CHURCH FROM 10am ON FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER** (We recommend you deliver after Christmas).

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

**DEADLINE DATES FOR THE JANUARY 2020 ISSUE**

*ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER*

*EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 13 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 / 07535 086223 email: willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

**CUT OUT AND KEEP - USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS**

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

Vicar	Rev Clive Gilbert	631005
Associate Vicar	Rev Kathryn Flenley	633568
Readers:	Mrs Bev Machin	568201
	Mrs Donna Marsden	633707
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

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

**THE WILLITON WINDOW WISHES ALL OUR READERS, CONTRIBUTORS, DISTRIBUTORS, ADVERTISERS AND PRINTERS A PEACEFUL AND JOYOUS CHRISTMAS.**

**UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON**

**ST PETER'S CHURCH**

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

Associate Vicar: Rev Kathryn Flenley 633568

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

**Church is open daily during daylight hours for personal prayer**

**SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER**

Sun 1st	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	10am	All Age Worship
	4pm	Evensong at St Peter's
Tues 3rd	9.30-11am	"Little Saints" Toddler group at Croft House and then in the Meeting Room each following Tuesday
Thurs 5th	9.30-11.30am	CAMEO in Church - <u>C</u> ome and <u>m</u> ee <u>t</u> <u>e</u> ach <u>o</u> ther - tea, coffee and cake - weekly
Sun 8th	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
Mon 9th	10am	Communion at Danesborough View -all welcome
Sun 15th	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
Thurs 19th	11am	Communion at Croft House
Sat 21st	10-11.30am	CAFÉ CHURCH at the Vicarage with festive food and children's Christmas activities. A chance to meet with and talk to others.
Sun 22nd	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
	3.30pm	<b>Nine Lessons and Carols</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	4pm	Crib Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
<b>Christmas Day</b>	10.00am	Family Christmas Communion
Sun 29th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion

**BRENDON HILL (Beulah) METHODIST CHURCH TA23 0LL**

Our Carol Service will be held on Sunday 15 December at 6.30 pm, led by Mrs Jean Armin, and followed by light refreshments.

A warm welcome awaits you at our unique hill country chapel.

**Cover photo:** Christmas tree on Bellamy's Corner

## FROM ROSIE BROWN, Watchet Baptist Church

A few weeks ago I opened the end pages of my diary to check last year's Christmas card and gift list. There I also found my list of 'thank you' letters to write and thankfully they were all ticked off! But on looking at the list I saw that there were gift tokens, for which I had sent letters of thanks, which had not been redeemed! One large one, for my favourite store, was from my husband! Luckily he too remembered how we had hit the ground running in January and was not offended. We had a very pleasant day in Taunton in mid-October and righted the situation - we even bought some gifts for this Christmas!

This turned my mind to the most precious gift ever given ... the gift from our loving heavenly Father of his Son to the world. A gift which, if received, is life changing for all those who receive it. We may not even believe it to be true; like a gift token from a store, it doesn't become real until it is redeemed. We may put it in a safe place, as I did, and forget about it until by some chance we are reminded of its presence and know that action needs to be taken.

This amazing gift of God given to us and for us, is none other than God himself in human form, Emmanuel, God with us. This Christmas, please celebrate God's gift to you, receive him and in prayer, ask him what his gift of Jesus might mean for you.

May God richly bless you this Christmas.

## 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](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.**

**Services:** Sundays at 10.30 am - Please join us.

1st	Mrs Margaret Lintern
8th	Rev Malcolm Hope - Holy Communion
15th	Mrs Lynne Wooldridge
22nd	Carol Service
25th	Christmas Day - no service
29th	Local arrangement

## THE SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS

(Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)

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

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

Monday Silver Threads 3pm (Over 60s fellowship)

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

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

# CHRISTMAS PARADE AND FESTIVAL



Lantern Parade leaving Danesfield School 18:00, North St, Long St, Robert St to Pavilion

*Santa's Grotto — Craft Stalls — Christmas Tombola — Refreshments incl. Mulled Cider & Mince Pies*

Pavilion Opens 18:30

*Tue 11 December*

## WILLITON FILM NIGHTS @ THE PAVILION

December is a busy month for everyone, including the pavilion volunteers, so there will be no film night this month - sorry.

However, our **January film will be 'Downton Abbey'** on Tuesday 28th. Tickets are already available at the Parish Council Office - get yours early to avoid disappointment for this film, not yet out on DVD.

*Cllr Howes*

## GOOD NEIGHBOURS CLUB

The November meeting was very well attended, with two visitors. The talk was given by the RNLI with some amazing facts about the wonderful job they do. They are a charity with no support from the government, relying totally on donations from the public. We then had our usual coffee, tea and biscuits, along with a raffle and auction.

Next month's meeting will be our Christmas lunch, which everyone is looking forward to.

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

## GLOBAL FRIENDS

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

NH



## ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Winning a raffle prize.

*by SD*

## YOUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER



**Plenty to do this December** I have compiled some ideas to get you thinking about ways to keep you safe, healthy and entertained during the darkest month.

**Make sure you get out and about!** The darkness and bad weather are very isolating and it is easy to stay in and then realise you haven't seen anyone in an age! Keeping in touch and making friends via community activity reduces isolation and also means people are thinking of you and will miss you, should you have an accident. We have a listing of local Christmas events on our website <https://somersetagents.org/someretchristmasevents/> or call us on 01823 331 222. Perhaps you could take an elderly neighbour with you?

**Get out in the light.** Take a lunch time walk and expose some skin to soak up some daylight. This helps regulate your sleep patterns so you feel less tired in the winter. The NHS suggest there is not enough sun to supply your vitamin D however, so we need to get our vitamin D from food sources (including fortified foods) and supplements.

**Free Flu Vaccination** Check with your GP to see if you are eligible for a free flu vaccine or buy one from your pharmacy. Even if you don't feel you are in an at risk group for flu complications, by protecting yourself you minimise spreading infection to others who may be more vulnerable than yourself.

**Watch out for Scams:** This is the time that fraudsters increase their campaigns. With stress and rushed purchasing, people are less likely to spot a con. Watch out for counterfeit goods which could be potentially dangerous and counterfeit websites which do not have the HTTP// or the lock symbol. Sometimes it is placed on the website and not on the address to catch you out. Some websites are dressed up to look like a big brand so watch out for small differences. Fake holiday offers are also rife, as are phone calls about your phone or internet being cut off.

**The Family Invasion!** Preparing for your extended family visiting can also be stressful. Pre-plan with the family so everyone knows what to expect; perhaps reduce present buying by having a "Secret Santa" scheme so everyone gets one present rather than one each from everyone. Sharing the cooking load by getting family to bring dishes can help, as can getting guests to bring their own duvets. Put away any fragile objects or special toys so younger children don't cause upset and have house rules such as out of bounds teenage rooms to reduce friction. Don't forget to remove any sharp equipment, climbing temptations (including cords on blinds), dangerous liquids and medication from sight and height.

**Don't be alone:** If you are on your own at Christmas, join a volunteer group such as the Salvation Army, Crisis, Shelter and Do it. You will need to check this early as some charities require training and so will expect more commitment than help on Christmas day only. Perhaps you have space to entertain a guest who may be on their own at Christmas. If you are alone and unable to volunteer, ask us if there is a Christmas Lunch in your local area that you can attend.

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

## ROADWORKS

On Wednesday 4 December, part of Doniford Road, Culvercliffe Road and Maglands Road in Watchet will be closed to traffic from 7.30am to 5.30pm to enable Somerset Highways to carry out patching works. For more information contact Somerset Highways on 0300 123 2224.

## FREE PARKING

For the 4 Saturdays leading up to Christmas there will be free parking in District Council car parks in Williton, Watchet, Dunster, Minehead, Dulverton, and Wellington. NOT TAUNTON! There will also be free parking for Dunster by Candlelight in Warren Road upper car park (opposite Butlins) for the Park & Ride service from 5pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

*Cllr Hugh Davies*



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

A shocking one in eight households in Somerset live in fuel poverty. Somerset Community Foundation's Surviving Winter campaign encourages people who don't need their Winter Fuel Payment to donate some or all of it to help local older people who are unable to afford to heat their homes. Last year generous local donors who donated over £100,000 to Surviving Winter. This year Somerset Community Foundation (SCF) is also taking part in The Big Give, and **online** donations made from **midday Tuesday 3 December to midday Tuesday 10 December** will be doubled! If you would like to donate to Surviving Winter, visit [www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter](http://www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter) or call 01749 344949.

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Once again a big thank you to all our box holders and contributors who, through their efforts, have generously donated a total sum of £433-52, which will be used to help disadvantaged children and young people in this country, giving them a chance of a brighter future.

*Maureen Heath, House box Parish co-coordinator*

## CHRISTMAS KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTIONS

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

## NEW PETROL FILLING STATION AT WASHFORD CROSS?

Join Forelle Estates at a public drop in session to discuss their emerging plans for a new Petrol Filling Station at Washford Cross (opposite the Tropiquaria Wildlife Park). The proposals are currently at a very early stage and Forelle Estates wants to discuss the plans with the local community before progressing any further. Your views will help inform their decision as to whether they bring a planning application forward.

**When:** Wednesday 4th December 4pm-7pm

**Where:** Brendon Room, Williton Pavilion, 2 Killick Way, Williton, TA4 4PY



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

We had a well attended meeting in November. As usual our exercise leader, Jenny Manvell, kept everyone moving and having really a good workout. It is a real good boost and everyone comes away smiling.

Our guest speakers were Hayley Hughes and Charmaine Griffiths from the NHS patient care team. They told us that they realize that there are improvements that need to happen. They wanted to hear our questions and would like us to become involved in upcoming focus groups. We had a lively conversation and promised to work together to make things happen.

It is just amazing but suddenly December, with all its festivities, is upon us. I have been looking around and telling myself to take care and not go over the top. We always try to do so much for the family and good friends, and wind up exhausted. I bet you are nodding your head and saying me too! Well I am going to keep my promise or at least give it a good try.

On behalf of all of the WASPS I would like to thank everyone for supporting us in 2019, your help is really appreciated. We are looking forward to 2020. We have an excellent committee in place to work together to ensure that the WASPS Support Group continues to offer help and support to everyone who has Parkinson's and their carers.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 2nd January with exercises starting at 1:15 and the meeting starts at 2pm. All this takes place at the Williton Pavilion. It should be a really good meeting with some special guests. It is certainly a good way to start the New Year and I look forward to seeing you all then.

*Linda Bishop [queenwasp@outlook.com](mailto:queenwasp@outlook.com) 01984 631472*

## **WILLITON HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS**

There will be a Christmas service in the Brabazon Room on Wednesday 11 December at 3pm. Everyone is very welcome. Do stay for a cuppa afterwards.

League of Friends Christmas cards on sale in the foyer at the hospital, as are the books. Do come and have a look.

*Shirley Dee*

## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

On 1<sup>st</sup> November we hosted a Group WI Meeting at our Pavilion. We welcomed members from five other Women's Institutes to enjoy a social get-together, with eats (of course) and with a demonstration of Scottish Dancing, which we were all encouraged to join in. We were surprised to find how well we remembered some of the dances, which many of us hadn't performed for a very long time.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm at Danesborough View Common Room. This is our Christmas meeting, when we shall be entertained by the Stogumber Handbell Ringers. New members and visitors are always welcome, a charge of £3.50 being made for non-members.

*June Irving, Secretary*

## **WELCOME TO WILLITON - WELCOME PACK**

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

## **FAMILY HISTORY GROUP**

There is no meeting for our Family History group in December but can I take this opportunity to wish all our group a very merry Christmas.

If after the festivities are over and you are looking forward to the New Year and new challenges, you may have an urge to investigate your family tree. The West Somerset branch of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society is here to help. We meet at the Williton Pavilion on the last Wednesday of the month from 7pm to 9pm. Bi-monthly we have a speaker or a group meeting where we try to help each other. For more information email [westsomfhg@gmail.com](mailto:westsomfhg@gmail.com).

Each month we also hold one on one sessions at Williton and Minehead libraries, when you have one hour with one of our volunteers. Booking is essential. Dates for January will be in the next edition of the Williton Window.

*Lesley Murray*

## **DEMENTIA ALLIANCE - FORGET-ME-NOT CAFE**

All welcome between 10:30 and 12:00 in The Sanctuary, Swain Street, Watchet on Wednesday 4th December to make decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival and on 18th December for a Christmas party with carols. You can also attend the Church Rooms, Castle Street, Stogursey on Wednesday 11th December for coffee, chat and cake. For more information please contact 07973 638030 or email [watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)

## **FRIENDS OF WILLITON LIBRARY**

The Friends of Williton Library enjoy a meeting each month to plan ways of supporting our excellent Library. In December our meeting will be on Wednesday 11th at 2.30pm. Do come along.

The Library is open every day except Tuesday and Sunday in Killick Way. However, on Thursday 5th December it will be closed for staff training.

Phone 0300 123 2224. Website: [librarieswest.org.uk](http://librarieswest.org.uk)

## **SMART METERS**

The Williton Window has received a response to our Village Agent's article on smart meters last month. Our correspondent writes: 'Before everyone rushes out to acquire one, please do some research first. Some of the doubts raised about these devices include potential issues with health, due to the level of Wi-Fi radiation they (and all your neighbours' similar devices) produce, leading to possible cumulative effects of this energy, commonly known as 'Electro smog'. There are also questions as to long term financial savings and data security. The only ones ultimately likely to benefit are the energy companies.'

In other words, please do your homework before you commit to something you may later regret for one reason or another.

*Jenny Gibson*

## **BL WOMEN'S SECTION**

In December we will have a demonstration and session on making Christmas cards using decoupage. We meet at the Fire Station Lecture Room on the second Monday of the month at 2.30.

*Sara Hempsall*

## **SMALL PRAYER**

*I hope a tall, dark, handsome man will kiss me under the mistletoe!*



## THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Sun	1	Macmillan Cancer Support	2.15pm Crowcombe Village Hall See page 25
Mon	2	Williton Library	4.30-7pm Homework Club
Mon	2	Williton Pet & Equine	Late Night Shopping Event
Tues	3	Williton YFC	7.00pm Christmas Bingo at Williton Pavilion
Wed	4	Williton Library	10.30am Verse & Worse Light hearted look at poetry and prose
Wed	4	Washford Cross	4-7pm at Williton Pavilion
Thurs	5	Williton Library	Closed all day for staff training
Fri	6	Williton Library	10.30-11.30am Rhyme Time bring your little ones for songs and a story
Sat	7	Williton Library	10.30am Lego Club
Sat	7	Williton Walk	2.00pm, Danesfield School
Mon	9	RBL Women's Section	2.30pm Fire Station Lecture Room
Mon	9	Gardening Club	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room - Christams party
Mon	9	Williton Library	4.30-7.30pm Homework Club
Tues	10	Williton Pavilion*	7.00pm Bingo, Williton Pavilion
Wed	11	Williton Library	2.30pm FOWLS meeting
Wed	11	<b>Christmas Festival</b>	6.00pm onwards see pages 11 and 21
Thurs	12	Loop the Loop	3.30-4.30pm Williton Library
Thurs	12	Women's Institute	2.00pm Danesborough View
Tues	12	Village History	Christmas Lunch
Fri	13	Williton Library	10.30-11.30am Stories, songs and rhyme
Fri	13	Christmas Carol Concert	8 pm at Williton Pavilion*
Sat	14	Williton Pavilion*	9am-1pm Indoor car boot sale
Mon	16	Williton Library	4.30-7.30pm Homework Club
Tues	17	Williton Pavilion*	7.00pm Christmas Bingo, Williton pavilion
Thurs	19	Williton Library	2.30-4pm Scrabble Club
Fri	20	Community Market	9-11.30am Williton Social Club
Thurs	26	Danesborough View	1-4pm Bring and share buffet See page 24
Sat	28	Williton Wanderers	10.30am Crowcombe Car Park
Sat	28	Story & Craft Time	10.30-11.30am for children 4-10years

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

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

## REGULAR WEEKLY VILLAGE EVENTS

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



## ST PETER'S SCHOOL DIARY

This half term is always busy with the lead up to Christmas and, of course, exciting, as there are lots of different activities going on. In the next few weeks our Christmas production will be our main focus, with the whole school rehearsing. First a look back over the last few weeks.

Ash Class have been learning all about animals this term and they talked about the lack of food available for birds during the winter months, so decided to make bird feeders to put in their gardens. First, the children threaded wholegrain Cheerios onto pipe cleaners and tied them into a loop. Next, they drizzled the Cheerios in honey and rolled them in bird seed. Hopefully, more birds will appear in their gardens now! They also thought about the features of amphibians and how they have adapted to live in water and on land. The children used this learning to design their very own amphibians with legs to walk on land and gills to breathe under water. What creative thinkers in Ash class!

Fir Class paid their respect to the soldiers in the World Wars by creating their very own poppies to put on a class wreath. The children carefully painted cupcake cases in green and red paint to create a powerful wreath which they presented in the Remembrance Assembly in front of the whole school. In science the children learnt about John McAdam and how he invented a different road surface called macadamisation; later tar was added to the surface and is now known as tarmac.

Our year 3 and 4 children attended a workshop in aid of Remembrance Day. Two historians presented props and information to the children, including a firing canon! The children enjoyed understanding the meaning behind Remembrance Day.

Yew class have been learning how to write a newspaper report in English and studying maps of the local area in Geography. This has included sketching and model making. These children have the main parts in the Christmas play, so are busy learning lines too.

Happy Stars, our nurture group, have been thinking about all of the soldiers who fought in the wars and made their own poppies. On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November they went on a sponsored wellie walk to raise money for their own special Christmas party and fortunately the sun shone, making it even more fun!

Our PTA announced they had received an amazing £7662.06 through the Co-op's Community Fund. Every penny of the money raised will go towards the new outdoor area, not just completely covering the cost of the build, but allowing them to buy essential equipment and resources for all our children to use. A huge thank you to everyone for supporting this cause. After school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December it will be our Christmas Fair organised by the PTA and everyone is welcome to join us. SG

## COMMUNITY MARKET AND CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

Our Christmas market will be at Williton Social Club in Long Street, next to the Killick Way car park, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 9 - 11.30am. Fresh local produce, crafts and gifts. Come and shop, or simply enjoy a coffee and chat with friends old and new - all proceeds from our coffee morning will go to local charities.

Barbara Heywood

## DOWN AT THE STATION

**Santa's Winter Wonderland** - these trains will be running from Bishops Lydeard to Crowcombe (renamed Snowcombe, for the season). There they will meet Santa! Trains will run on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be six trains each day at 2,3,4,5,6 and 7 pm and there are additional attractions at Snowcombe to entertain all ages - and the station will be well lit during the evenings - magical!! On most of these trains there is an opportunity for adults only to take the **Whistletoe and Wine** excursion on one carriage attached to the Santa Train. All tickets in advance can be booked online at [www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk](http://www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk) or by phone 01643 704996.

**Dunster by Candlelight** trains will be running as usual with four trains on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> and three on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December. These are non-stop from Bishops Lydeard. You can either alight at Dunster and walk up to the village or continue to Minehead where a bus is provided to carry passengers to Dunster and back. Book as above

There will be two evenings when the **Carol Trains** run - tickets pre-booked - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Trains depart from both ends of the line, each with a band on board for carol singing. At each station passengers may get off and sing on the platform. At Williton the trains meet, so we have two lots of singers, then the engines run round and reconnect to the opposite train and return it to the starting station. Great fun and usually very well supported. Why not come down and join us? Trains arrive at Williton sometime around 8 - 8.30 pm.

Finally, after Christmas for six days from 26<sup>th</sup> December, there will be trains running each day, with some specials on the Saturday and Sunday, named the Winter Steam Festival. After this we will be closed down again for essential winter maintenance until the end of March.

Meanwhile at Williton we have lots of jobs to carry out and will be meeting most weeks on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

John Parsons, Station Master

## RECIPE FOR THE MONTH by Shirley Dee

### ICED CHRISTMAS PUDDING (FOR 8)

8 oz (225g) mixed dried fruit	3 eggs
2 oz (50 g) halved glace cherries	4 ½ oz (140g) caster sugar
5 tablespoons brandy	10 fl oz (300 ml) double cream
¾ pint milk	5 fl oz (150ml) single cream

Preheat oven: 300°F, 150°C, Gas mark 2

Place the dried fruit and glace cherries in a bowl and spoon over the brandy and leave to soak for 2-3 hours. Bring the milk nearly to the boil. Beat the egg whites with the sugar until well mixed. Pour on the milk and cook over a gentle heat without boiling, until the custard coats the back of the spoon. Cool for 30 minutes. Whip the creams together and mix with the custard and the fruits and brandy mixture. Turn into a large bowl and freeze for two hours until mushy. Mix well and put into a 3 pint (1.7 litre) pudding basin, lined with non-stick paper. Freeze for 2-3 hours until firm. Take out of the freezer about 20 minutes before serving. Turn out and decorate with a sprig of holly. Serve immediately and enjoy. (Put into two smaller containers if there aren't 8 of you.)

## WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Where would we be without our wonderful 'Volunteers' in and around Williton? So many people are now involved in weekly discussion meetings; advice and assistance groups covering mental health problems, learning difficulties, employment and loneliness; historical house or family research; workshops to relax or rebuild; and especially those who care for loved ones at home who no one knows. And let's not forget the volunteers and responsible householders who keep our rivers and streams clear. This is such an important time of the year for river clearance work. If anyone sees any item in the water that should not be there, please report it to us immediately so that we can try and help to sort it out.

We are constructing a list of people who wish to volunteer and are willing to help out with gardening, graffiti cleaning, new ideas for our community projects, etc. Would **you** like to suggest something you might like to be involved with? Drop your ideas into the suggestion box in the Parish Council Office to see what it is that we can do to make everyone prouder of where we live.

Our **recycling centre and collection service** are there for all of us to keep our homes and village free from debris: please recycle all that you can. Our ever helpful workers at the site and the collectors who hand pick our recycling, are aiming to join other villages around us to make Somerset one of the highest counties for recycling percentages and some of the cleanest!

**Speed -Why do we have to again question the speed used through our village?** We have a community in which exist young families, elderly and infirm people who need access to cross the roads at the bollards, but even the pedestrian crossing is becoming a stressful situation. Vehicles travelling through Williton have got much larger over the years, while large vehicles parked on the pavements make it impossible to be seen or for us to see anything at all. Speeding vehicles up to the roundabout or our junctions, from all directions, give little time for an elderly person or a mother with young children to cross the road. Please to all those who drive, remember the people who wait at the kerb. And please remind all drivers in your family to 'Take care of those out there on two legs'. **Please do your bit and take your foot off the accelerator when passing through!**

In the weeks leading up to Christmas we will be asking all our shopkeepers to take part in our **Christmas Window Challenge** and we would like you to vote for the best window.

**We all wish you a very happy Christmas and a healthy, prosperous 2020.**

*Councillor Barbara Nye*

## MEMORIAL GROUND AND PAVILION

In the Pavilion this month we have two special events: the Christmas Parade and Festival on Wednesday 11th and a Christmas Carol Concert with Watchet Choral Society on Friday 13th. Tickets for the concert are just £1 and can be purchased from the Parish Office and Post Office. Light refreshments will be available, including mulled cider and mince pies.

Anyone who purchased tickets to the cancelled concert on 19 October, please do return your ticket(s) to the Parish Office for a full refund.

Thank you to those of you who offered to help with the Conker clearance; unfortunately the weather was atrocious and it had to be cancelled. And a huge thank you to those of you who have put your name down on the Volunteer Register - this month's request for assistance is for help making lanterns for the Christmas parade. Meet on Monday 2 December at 10am in the Parish Office. If you can help please let Michelle or Jo know on 01984 633979 or email [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk) and you will be given more details.

Don't forget, if you think you'd be able to help out, even just once a year, please email [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk) with the subject Volunteer Register and we'll put you on our list - you can opt out whenever you want.

Our next Event Team Meeting is on Thursday 5 December at 7pm the Pavilion in the Quantock Meeting Room (upstairs). If you want to join, please do come along, we'll give you a very warm welcome.

Error Correction: I incorrectly wrote last month that the Children's Play Area was not part of WMG&P. In fact, the land is, but the equipment is the responsibility of the Parish Council.

*Trustee Dawn-Lesley Howes*

## WILLITON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS WINDOW COMPETITION

This year, rather than Councillors judging the competition, we'd like to ask villagers to vote instead. Please do pick up a voting slip from the Parish Office, or participating shops, and check out the displays. Entry forms must be in by 11 December. At the time of writing we do not have a full list of all the shops participating, so the list will be posted in the Parish Office window.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE AND FESTIVAL

This year's Parade - with Father Christmas and the Snow King and Queen - is on **Wednesday 11 December** and will start at Danesfield School at 6pm. Lit with lanterns, it will wind its way along North Road, down Long Street, turning into Robert Street and ending up at the Pavilion; please feel free to join in. Father Christmas will be at the Festival in the Pavilion from 6.30pm, entry to his Grotto is free for Williton children. At the Festival - which opens at 6.30 - we will have lots of stalls selling seasonal items and gifts from local tradespeople and organisations, as well as light refreshments and mulled cider.

We will also have a Christmas themed tombola, so if you have anything Christmassy that you can donate, please pop it along to the Parish Office. And if you have any Christmas decorations that you no longer require, please drop them in at the Parish Office as we will love to re-use them to decorate Santa's Grotto.

*Cllr Dawn-Lesley Howes*

## IF YOU NEED HELP:

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

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

**Christians Against Poverty** - Free debt help. Freephone: 0800 3280006 [www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)

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

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



## NEWS FROM WILLITON POST OFFICE

### Last Posting Dates for Christmas

**9<sup>th</sup> December** Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central and South America, Middle East, Far East

**10<sup>th</sup> December** Cyprus, Malta

**11<sup>th</sup> December** Eastern Europe (except Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia)

**12<sup>th</sup> December** Australia, New Zealand, Western Europe, Turkey, Greece

**14<sup>th</sup> December** Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, U.S.A.

**16<sup>th</sup> December** Austria, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Slovakia, Norway, Portugal, Iceland

**18<sup>th</sup> December** U.K. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland,

**20<sup>th</sup> December** U.K. 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Parcelforce Worldwide Express 48

**23<sup>rd</sup> December** U.K. Special Delivery, Parcelforce Worldwide Express 24

The cold weather has arrived and we are pleased to be able to tell you that we have a good selection of warm scarves, Christmas socks for children and adults, and gloves for little people!

We have recently taken delivery of a selection of high quality games for children and their families! Also just arrived are gin glasses with a Christmas flavour, a selection of jewellery and mobile phone charging pads! We may just have the perfect selection of gifts right here in the village!

**'Oops'** Last month I mentioned that we will be having our traditional Christmas Celebration - please note the **correct date is Wednesday 11th December**. We look forward to sharing some festive cheer! This is our way of saying 'Thank You' to you, our valued customers, for your patronage during the past 12 months! All of us at the Post Office send Season's Greetings and look forward to continuing our service to you in 2020. *Caroline Tyner*

### WILLITON WALKS

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

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

\* This month's **Williton Walk** will be on **Saturday 7 December** starting at 2pm outside Danesfield School. We will walk to Watchet and back on a circular route via the marina, Kentsford Farm, St Decuman's Well and Parsonage Farm. For more information please ring me on 01984 632318. *Elizabeth Peeks*

\* **Williton Wanderers** will meet at 10.30am on **Saturday 28 December** at Crowcombe car park (by the Village Hall) for a walk on the Quantocks. We should be back by about 1.30pm if you want to book a table at the Carew (I'm not doing this any more!). *Jenny Gibson 634899 / 07535 086223*

\* **West Somerset Mineral Railway**. Meet at Raleigh's Cross Inn TA23 OLN on Tuesday 10 December at 9.45 am for a 4 hour walk visiting the Winding House and the iron mines near Beulah Chapel. It includes the Incline: steep, spectacular, but optional. Walking boots and raincoats necessary. The Incline is a steep climb. Information and booking, please call 01398 323841. [www.wsmr.org.uk](http://www.wsmr.org.uk)

## WORDSEARCH FOR NOVEMBER by Phyllis Chidgey

### LAST ORDERS, PLEASE

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

ALE

BELL

PINT

SODA

BEER

ASTI

MONEY

OPTIC

STOOL

TABLE

TONIC

CIDER

CORDIAL

PEANUTS

SKITTLES

BILLARDS

ICE BUCKET

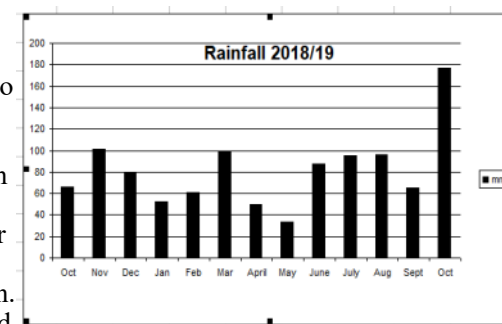
IRISH STOUT

LAST ORDERS

SLICE OF/LEMON

### WEATHER - OCTOBER

On Thursday 14th November I could see snow on the Quantocks and to the west on Dunkery (the media said there was 3 inches at Wheddon Cross). This followed a very wet October when it rained most days, which left the surface saturated, so that the November rains caused the floods. October's maximum temperature was 19°C on 7th. The coolest night was 0°C when we had frosts. The maximum pressure was 30.1 inches on the 21st and the minimum was 29.05 on 12th. We had a rain total of 177 mm (6.97 inches) for the month. *Pj*



### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same sized bucket. *from SD*

*Williton YFC*  
**CHRISTMAS BINGO**  
*Williton Pavilion*  
**Tuesday 3rd December**  
*Doors open 7pm*  
*Eyes down 7.30pm*  
*Raffle & Refreshments*  
*Everyone welcome*

Watchet and District Choral Society  
 present  
**THAT GLORIOUS NIGHT**  
 A joyful celebration of the  
 Christmas story  
 with music, carols old and new  
 and seasonal readings  
**Thursday 5th December at 7.30pm**  
 Watchet Methodist Church  
 Admission £7 - children free  
*Proceeds to 1st Watchet Sea Scouts*

**CHRISTMAS CAROL  
 CONCERT**  
 with Watchet Choral Society  
**Friday 13th December at 8pm**  
 at Williton Pavilion  
 Tickets £1 available from the Parish  
 Office and Post Office  
*Light refreshments will be  
 available, including mulled cider  
 and mince pies*

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Mon 9, Tue 10 or Wed 11 | Dec: Make a Reindeer in a Day (Workshop)

Thu 12 | Dec / 8pm: Yuletide! A Tudor Christmas with PIVA (Concert)

Fri 13 | Dec / 6pm: Murder Mystery Dinner

Sat 14 | Dec / 10-12.30am: Folk Carols with Matt Norman (Workshop)

Sat 14 | Dec: Christmas Carvery Lunch (1pm) & Carol Concert (3.30pm)

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**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

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