



WILLITON WINDOW

Your Church and Community Magazine
FEBRUARY 2018
Volume 18, Number 8

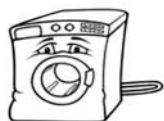
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Fortnightly: Wednesdays, 'The Well' at 'The Greyhound Community Room', Lime Street, Stogursey, 9.30am-12pm Tel: 01278 733 615

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

Every Friday: 'The Bridge' @ 'The Hub', Hopcott Rd, Alcombe, Minehead 9.30am-12pm

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FROM FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY**Please send articles, news, diary dates and advertisements to:**

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

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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 Michael Davenport	633672
	Mrs Tracey Copp	633657

Methodist Church

Team Ministry:	Rev Andrew Vidamour	01643 705175
	Rev Tina MacDonald	01984 568417

Stewards:	Mr P Gliddon	632327
	Mr P Hopkins	01278 741542
	Miss M Brooks	632115

Church Bookings	Miss M Brooks	632115
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Roman Catholic Deacon	Rev Vincent Woods	634681
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Baptist Church	Rev Mike Sherburn	633755
	Mrs M Collinson	632537
	Mr J Bowcock	248169

Salvation Army Corps Leader	Miss Sam Searle	07979 575453
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Hall address and telephone:	1 Brendon Road, Watchet	633133
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Williton Window distribution	Mrs P Chidgey	632755
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Williton Parish Council	Clerk: Mrs M Francis	633979
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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 details of services, clubs and organisations, and how to obtain more information. Please ring Jenny Gibson on 634899 or go to our website: www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack

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UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON**S T PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES**

Tuesdays	9.00 am	Prayer Time
Tuesdays	10-11.am	Coffee and Chat
Tuesdays	11.00 am	Mid-Week Service of Holy Communion
		Saints Day Services as announced

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

Church is open daily during daylight hours for personal prayer

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2018

Sun 4th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.00am	All Age Worship
Sun 11th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
Mon 12th	10.00am	Communion at Danesborough View- All welcome
Wed 14th	7.00pm	Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday
Sun 18th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Parish Communion
Thurs 22nd	11.00am	Communion at Croft House
Sun 25th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.00am	Benefice Service at St. Decuman's, Watchet



A celebration at St Peter's Church on Sat 28th – Sun 29th April.

We are on the lookout for hidden and not-so-hidden talents in our community, so that we can all come together and share the wonderful diversity of the talented people of Williton.

This celebration will include exhibitions, demonstrations and performances throughout the weekend, so start thinking about what YOU can contribute to make this

a really memorable event!

Contact any of the people named below as soon as possible, please, and let them know you wish to take part.

Kathryn Flenley 633568 / Kathryn.flenley@btinternet.com

Sue Withycombe 632596 / Susan.withycombe@btinternet.com

Sara Hempshall 639648

METHODIST CHURCH Tower Hill, Williton

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Coffee and chat: Fridays 10.00 am - 11.30 am - all welcome

This month our preachers are:

4th Mrs Monica Sandy
11th Mr Peter Hopkins
18th Rev Tina MacDonald - Holy communion
25th Miss Mollie Brooks

Are you looking for somewhere to hold a CRAFT or maybe EXERCISE CLASS or other activity? Our Church premises are available for hire Monday - Saturday! For information, please phone 01984 632115.

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.

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.

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.

IF YOU NEED HELP:

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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: 07889655193

FROM CLIVE WOOLDRIDGE

In recent times we, in the Methodist Church, have been spending time on thinking exactly what our mission is. What are we trying to do and how do we go about doing it? The answer to what our mission should be is quite simple. In the 18th century John Wesley pointed out our Christian responsibility: "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

We have translated Wesley's command to meet the needs of people in today's very different world by saying our mission should be about four things; worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. These four strands of our mission are all well and good, but over the few weeks since the turn of the new year I have also been concentrating my mind, and trying to help others to concentrate their minds, on another facet of our Christian experience which we often overlook and yet which is incredibly important in our lives. This is listening for God's call.

I think we all know what is meant by a call, because we have experienced one or someone close to us has. However, to hear a call from God we have to actually be listening and prepared to hear. Various things prevent us hearing a call. For instance, we may not expect to hear a call in an unusual place, or through someone we would not expect to be used by God. We may hear a call but, because we are not prepared, we do not really know that it is a call. In the Old Testament Samuel was called three times by God and Samuel each time ran to Eli the priest because he did not realise that the voice calling him was the voice of God. In John's gospel Nathaniel is called directly by Jesus but originally rejects the call because he feels nothing good can come from Nazareth!

The most important thing about a call from God is that it doesn't really matter whether we accept or reject the call, because if God wants us He will not take no for an answer. In my life I have argued against a call on various occasions, without any success, because God just kept calling until I gave in to his will and did as He wanted. If God is calling it is because He wants us to work for Him and because we do not think it is a good idea is not a reason to ignore or reject it. God certainly knows best and He knows what is best for us!

I have never quite accepted the idea of new year resolutions, after all if something is worth doing it is worth doing at any time, so, instead, I hope we can make a concerted effort to listen out for God's call, to be prepared for it and, above all, to respond positively to this opportunity to be used by God and to change our lives.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy 2018.

MID-WEEK COMMUNION SERVICES AT THE SANCTUARY, SWAIN STREET, WATCHET

These are held on the following dates in 2018 and are all on a **Wednesday morning at 9.45am** and last for about half an hour. All are very welcome!

January 10th; February 7th; March 7th; April 4th; May 2nd; June 6th; July 4th; August 1st; September 5th; October 3rd; November 7th; December 5th.

KATHRYN'S MERCY HOME

The 2017 Deanery Mission Project has raised over £9,000! Thank you!

For many years now, the Quantock Deanery has adopted an annual Deanery Mission Project, whether local, national or international, for which to raise funds on top of the parishes' commitment to meeting Common Fund obligations and other, parochial, charitable



giving. 2017 has proved the most successful year in recent memory, which is seen as a cause for celebration. The project for 2017 was the Kathryn's Mercy Home Trust in South India, founded by the Revd J Jeyapaul, a priest in the Church of South India.

Kathryn's Mercy Home works to bring life-changing education opportunities amongst the poorest, predominantly Dalit ("Outcaste") community in remote villages around the town of Devakottai in Tamil Nadu. It began in 1998 with a handful of boys but has grown enormously and has shifted focus in favour of girls, who are often overlooked in this very traditional society. The project now provides a hostel for 112 girls and 12 boys (accommodated in a nearby Roman Catholic hostel) so they can attend secondary schools in the town. There are also 20 unsupported elderly widows who live with the girls. The Trust further provides nursery and primary education to 276 poor children in the town itself. Through the Trust, 185 boys and girls have successfully completed their higher secondary education or university. 12 boys and 75 girls have completed vocational courses and work in factories. Through its financial support the Trust has trained 28 engineers, 17 teachers and 12 nurses, and one boy is currently studying for a PhD.

The girls' hostel lies beside a very busy main highway which runs to the coast. This road, which has no pavement, is to be made into a dual carriageway, but it's the same road along which the girls have to walk for 1.5 km each day to get to and from school. The Quantock Deanery Mission Project has raised a wonderful sum just in excess of £9,600 which will be used by the Trust to assist with the purchase of a minibus. Not only will this make the girls' journey to school each day safer, but it can also be used for outings for the children and the elderly widows. This total also means that the Deanery has raised in excess of £100,000 since it began its Mission Project. We celebrate the success annually at the Deanery End-of-Project Thanksgiving in January.

In 2018, coming much more locally, the Deanery has adopted Home Start West Somerset, based in Minehead, a voluntary organisation which offers support, friendship and practical help to families at home with children under seven.

Ben Flenley, Rural Dean Quantock Deanery



ST VALENTINE'S DAY

According to one legend, Valentine was a priest during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

FRIENDS OF WILLITON LIBRARY

Book of the month: *Tideline* by Penny Hancock

The Thames flows through this book, bringing a tale of love, loss and obsession, twisting and turning as the thriller casts forth its surprises. Sonia, a voice coach, opens her door to a charming young man, and a haunting past.



One of thousands of titles in your library, which also offers DVDs, computer training (with six terminals for the public), Lego Club, Knit, Chat and Needlework. Book Club meets at 2.30 on the last Monday of each month. The Library is open every day except Tuesday and Sunday in Killick Way. Phone 0300 123 2224. Website: librarieswest.org.uk

THE EDITORS ARE READING

The Horseman and The Wanderers by Tim Pears - Books 1 and 2 of his West Country trilogy (Book 3 still to be published). In the year 1911, twelve-year-old Leo Sercombe skips school to help his father, a carter, on an estate that cannot be far from Williton. Leo loves horses and dreams of a job on the Master's stud farm. This is fascinating social history with an intriguing fictional storyline. It makes one realise just how much life in West Somerset has changed in 100 years.

ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES by SD
Knowing the shortest day is behind us with spring on its way.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The year 2017 ended with our Christmas lunch at St Audries Holiday Club, which was very enjoyable and a great success.

This year had a sad start as members heard of the death of our previous chairman Audrey Scrace, who ran the club very successfully for 22 years.

There was a good attendance for the start of 2018 despite weather conditions and the meeting began with a quiz, followed by a beetle drive. There followed tea and biscuits, with a raffle and a table top sale.

Our next meeting will be at 2pm on Tuesday 6th February at Danesborough View Common Room and we should like to welcome any visitors and anyone wishing to join our very friendly group. You would be very warmly welcomed.

GLOBAL FRIENDS

There was no session this month because of members being ill or away. We learned this week that a valued member, Jenny Koch, has died in Buckingham with her family around her. Jenny was well known in Williton walking her little dog, Amber. We have sent a card to the family.



We need to look at further needs of the Network.

Our next meeting will be held at 2 pm on Tuesday, 13th February at the Williton Children's Centre. Everyone is welcome to join us for a friendly chat and a cuppa - and new members are always extremely welcome.

This informal group meets on the second Tuesday of every month at the Williton Children's Centre in Killick Way. Its remit is to encourage people of all ages and nationalities, including native English, to meet up and learn about each other's cultures and customs and to celebrate diversity, while enjoying the company of others. The group also offers informal advice and support on local issues, such as housing, education and finances. For more information on Global Friends, please phone 01984 248392 or 01984 634734.

WILLITON GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 26 February when two of our favourite, local, speakers - Chris and Judy Yates will be talking about roses. Visitors are always welcome (charge £2). We meet at Danesborough View Common Room, TA4 4SH. More information from Secretary Barbara Cook on 01984 639459.

WEST SOMERSET VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20 February at the EMN hall, Monksilver, TA4 4JE at 7.30pm for 7.45pm. Martyn Snell's talk is entitled "Off the Rails: The West Somerset Railway" and he will be telling us about our local railway post Beeching. Visitors are most welcome at £2.

More information on www.westsomersetvillagehistorysociety-wsvhs.com

WILLITON MARKET

The market will be held on Friday 16 February between 9 and 11.30 in the Parish Council Rooms, Killick Way. We sell fresh produce, flowers, eggs, preserves, jewellery, crafts, greetings cards and seasonal items. ST

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

WASPS - WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREA PARKINSON'S SUPPORT

I was one of those who caught this nasty cold/flu bug and was unable to attend the January meeting. Luckily Maureen Hilditch stepped into the breach and following is her report of the meeting.

Our January meeting was very well attended, especially when you consider how many people have been affected this year by the winter cold/flu bug. It was also good to see that nearly everyone arrived earlier so that they could take part in the pre-meeting exercises run by Jenny Manville - and no wonder, as we are all having so much fun we don't actually realise we are "exercising".

We then had a very informative talk by a solicitor on the benefits and importance of making a Will and setting up a Power of Attorney. We were then treated to a very welcome cup of tea and the chance to catch up with our fellow WASPS. We also were very fortunate in having our local Parkinson's Nurse at this meeting, she aims to attend whenever she can in order to give members the chance for a one to one consultation should they need advice in between their regular clinic appointments.

To celebrate our **5th anniversary** the February meeting will take place at the Williton Community Hospital on **WEDNESDAY 7th February at 2pm**. Dr Simon Cooper will be our guest speaker. There will also be representatives from other Parkinson's groups there. We will be having a raffle and, of course, birthday cake to enjoy with our tea. If you wish to attend please contact Linda Bishop at 01984 631472. It should be a terrific meeting.

Plans are going forward for our concert on April 7th in Minehead featuring the Minehead Male Voice Choir and the West Somerset Brass Band. This concert is to raise the awareness of Parkinson's disease. I will expand on this in March but you can mark that evening on your calendar just so you don't forget.

We know that not all people with Parkinson's want to become members of support groups, that is understandable, but you do not need to join a group to get support. We are at the end of the phone for everyone and ready to give you information or just have a chat. We will do our best to keep everyone informed about new developments in Parkinson's. We have new people coming to join us every month, and while it is sad to see more people being diagnosed with Parkinson's, it is good to know that no one has to feel alone. If you would like to find out more about our group, or wish to discuss Parkinson's and how it affects people you can reach me (Linda) on 01984 631472 or email me at queenwasp@outlook.com

Linda Bishop/Maureen Hilditch



A very big thank you to everyone who supported the two charity meals at the Bengal Spice last year - a total of £1,300 was raised over the two nights. The money raised was taken to Bangladesh and used to buy medicines for the refugees to help them through the winter months.

Sara Hempshall

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Thurs	1	Williton Library	3pm Pins and Needles
Sat	3	Williton Library	10.30am Lego Club
Tues	6	Good Neighbours	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	6	Williton Pavilion	7.00pm Bingo, Danesfield School
Tues	6	Watchet & District Audio Society	2.15pm, Sampford Brett Village Hall
Wed	7	WASPS Parkinson's Support Group	2pm at Williton Hospital 5th Anniversary Meeting
Thurs	8	Loop the Loop	3.30-4.30pm Williton Library
Sat	10	Williton Walk	2.00pm, Railway Station
Mon	12	RBL Women's Section	2.30pm Fire Station Lecture Room
Tues	13	Global Friends	Children's Centre, 2pm
Thurs	15	Women's Institute	2.00pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	20	St Margaret's Hospice	10.00am, Volunteer Recruitment Session at Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	20	Village History	7.45pm EMN Hall Monksilver Talk about The West Somerset Railway
Tues	20	Williton Pavilion	7.00pm Bingo, Danesfield School
Tues	20	Watchet & District Audio Society	2.15pm, Sampford Brett Village Hall
Fri	23	Bake Club	3.30-4.30pm Williton Library
Sat	24	Williton Wanderers	10.30am Rest and be Thankful, Wheddon Cross for Snowdrop Valley walk
Sat	24	Williton Library	10.30-11.30am Story & Craft Time for children 4-10years
Mon	26	Gardening Club	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room, Talk on Roses by Chris and Judy Yates
Mon	26	Book Club	2.30pm Williton Library

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

Please look at our advertising pages, where we have a number of new advertisers, whose services may be of interest to you. If you contact our advertisers or other contributors, please tell them that you saw their details in the Williton Window.

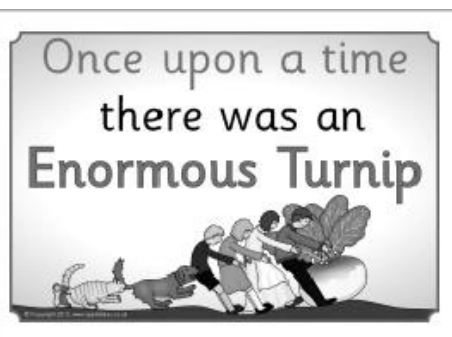
REGULAR WEEKLY VILLAGE EVENTS

Mon 9.30 am	Pilates	Williton Fire Station Community Room
Mon 10.15-12.45	UK Online	Williton Library, booking essential
Mon 10.30 - 11 am	Story and Rhyme Time 0 - 4 years	Williton Library (term time only)
Mon 2 pm	Table Tennis	Watchet Youth Centre
Mon 2 - 3 pm	Age UK - Stay Strong	Danesborough View Common Room
Mon 7.30 pm	Badminton	EMN Hall Monksilver (656496)
Tues 9.30 - 10.30am 11 - 12 am	Mat and floor based yoga Chair-based yoga	The Salvation Army Hall Watchet (level access and parking). For further details phone Julie Bolton 01984 633665 or email julieboltonyoga@gmail.com Guide HQ
Tue 5.45 pm	Brownies	
Wed 4-5.30pm	Williton Youth Club	Danesfield School (Paul 01643 703155)
Wed 6-7.30pm	Cubs	Guide HQ
Wed 7-10 pm	Railway Modellers	Rear of Washford Mill, Washford (info: 07773 892085)
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 am	KFA Movement	Danesborough View Common Room
Thur 10.30-noon	Craft and Chat	Drop-in at Williton Library. All welcome.
Thur 5.15-6.30 pm	Rainbows	Guide HQ
Fri 9.30 am	Pilates	Williton Fire Station Community Room
Fri 10am -noon	Coffee and chat	Methodist Church, Tower Hill
Fri 10.15-12.45	UK Online	Williton Library, booking essential
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 7.30pm	Walking football	Danesfield School

ST PETER'S SCHOOL DIARY

At this stage in the term, everyone has settled back into their normal routine following the Christmas break and is working hard. It's great to start new topics and learn new things.

Oak class have transport and travel as their new topic for the first half of the term and have already taken part in a traffic survey at the front of the school. Their role play area has changed into a travel agents and the children are looking forward to designing and making vehicles. The class also started learning The Enormous Turnip story and are excited about pulling up the turnip growing in our vegetable patch!



This term Elm class started their new topic of 'Journeys and Explorers' which looks to be very exciting. In Maths the year 2 children have been looking at multiplication and division, whilst the year 1 children have focussed on place value up to 20. The whole class has worked very hard since the holidays.

In year 3, Fir class, the focus in English is settings and as an introduction the children looked through their current reading book and picked out the language used by the author to describe the setting. One of the children was shocked at the lack of adjectives, adverbs and interesting vocabulary in her book, so the class decided to spend some time re-writing the paragraph. Many children rose to the challenge and their work is proudly displayed on a board in the school corridor for everyone to see.

Yew class have started the term well and are currently enjoying learning about the rainforest as part of their topic work and solids, liquids and gases in science. They continue to learn new chords and songs on the ukulele as well. Last term the class created the Christmas display in Williton library, which was awarded third prize and the children entered the Hinkley Point writing competition. They weren't prize winners, but their work was liked so much that it will be entered into future competitions. Later this term they will be taking part in a 'Bake off' competition with other local schools. This is a great opportunity for the children because they will get to know other children in the area and will be supported by local chefs.

Our nurture group, Happy Stars, have been busy doing science experiments. Tyler, one member of the group, was kind and brought in a science kit, which he had received for Christmas, to share with the group. They had great fun making a volcano erupt with blue and green bubbles and foam which the children really enjoyed. So a big thank you to Tyler and his family for letting Happy Stars become scientists.

Later this term we look forward to World Book Day and all our Easter celebrations.

SG

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our January meeting held, as usual, at Danesborough View Common Room was well attended and it was good to meet up with friends to discuss various things including our festive get togethers. Visitors were made welcome and we hope to see them at future meetings.

Our speaker was local Williton resident Peter Payne. He entertained us with his talk 'The Life of a Lock Keeper'. Peter's talk was very interesting and I am sure many of us had no idea what was involved in what to us is a leisurely pastime.

On June 6th the Women's Institute will be holding their A.G.M. in Cardiff and it was decided who we would send to be our delegate. The shortlist of resolutions was discussed and voted on.

Hopefully the notice board by the Co-Op will be updated by the time of our next meeting. It has been difficult to get access due to the on-going alterations taking place. However, this next meeting will be on Thursday 15th February starting at 2 pm at Danesborough View Common Room and our speaker will be Mr. Robert Heard on the subject of 'Remembering'. Our competition will be 'Poppies'.

Pamela Messenger, Secretary

WHEELY IMPRESSIVE !!

A Christmas card sent to all the volunteer WHEELS drivers reminded them of what was achieved during 2017 (or at least between the two Christmases) and I felt it would be good to share this with the wider community.

WHEELS has had a couple of recruitment drives this past year and we are glad to report that several new drivers have come on board and a couple of co-ordinators as well. Thank you, BUT should there be anyone else who would like to join the team please do get in touch with Chris Moore, our Manager on 01984 631557.

Here are the details from the Christmas card, including the jokey bit at the end!

- 1,900 Trips completed – over 40 each week
- 2,400 Passengers carried - The Office for National Statistics state the average UK resident weighs almost 12 stone – we therefore carried 180 tons of local residents – as much as 20 elephants or, as Jeremy Clarkson would say, several dozen Americans.
- 41,128 Passenger miles travelled – That's one and a half times around the world plus a return journey to the fish & chip shop in Liddymore Road via Edinburgh!

WHEELS has achieved all this by the combined efforts of all its volunteers.

John Parsons, Co-ordinator and Driver

WHEELS



Community run!

Available most of the year

Inexpensive

DOWN AT THE STATION

You may remember a couple of months back we showed a picture of the 'New' look car park with its fresh tarmac. Well, this past month, January, has seen the addition of some line markings, so that it now really looks like a car park. We hope now that drivers will heed the markings so that more cars can park.

On the station itself work is well underway in the redecoration of the interior of the waiting room on platform two. This is quite a job as the whole room is finished in gloss paint. Other smaller jobs are proceeding well and we should be spic and span come the beginning of the running season, which will start in earnest in the middle of March. However before then, there will be some trains running during the February half-term break, when our shop/tea room will be open as usual.

On the wider WSR front, planning is well under way for the Spring Gala in March when we have arranged for the visit of GWR 4-6-0- 6990 *Witherstack Hall* from the Great Central Railway; a 1930's Kerr Stuart pannier 7714, and for the whole of the coming season an ex USATC S160 No.6046. These engines were a fairly regular sight working out of Taunton, and there are plans for a special War Department goods train to run on certain days of the year.



John Parsons, Station Master

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

* **North Street / North Road** from the junction with Fore Street, northwards for a distance of 510 metres will be closed to enable Somerset Highways to carry out resurfacing works. The Order becomes effective on 12 February 2018 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to last for 5 days. While the closure is in operation an alternative route will be signed.

* **Stream Road** will be closed southwards from 310m south of the junction with Stream Road to Porch Elm for a distance of 390 metres to enable Somerset Highways to carry out drainage works in this road. The Order becomes effective on 19 February 2018 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to last for 26 days. While the closure is in operation an alternative route will be signed.

* **B3188 Woodford Road, Monksilver** (junction with Stream Road at Yarde towards Fair Cross) is closed from 22 January to 16 February also for drainage works. While the closure is in operation an alternative route will be signed.

* **Cleeve Hill** from 260m west of the junction with Saxon Ridge, south-westwards for a distance of 80 metres to enable Somerset Highways to carry out safety barrier works. The Order becomes effective on 19 February 2018 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to last for 5 days.

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

To contact Williton Parish Council telephone the Clerk on 01984 633979 or email willitonpc@btconnect.com

Williton Parish Council's first formal duty of the new year was to elect a new chairman. Cllr Tony Perrett was voted in unanimously. He will succeed Keith Richards, who stepped down as a councillor at the start of January.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to express gratitude to Keith for the valuable contribution he made during his term of office. Thanks also go to Guy Denton who vacated his seat on the Council in December.

With the departure of Keith and Guy, we now have two vacancies to fill. Having been co-opted only in August, I am still relatively new to the Parish Council myself. It has been a rewarding experience for me so far and I encourage anyone who would like to make a contribution to our local community to contact the parish office to find out more about being a councillor.

Cllr Scott Burnett, Williton Parish Council

ALSO:

There will be a flood meeting held in the Parish Offices within the next month. If you are interested in becoming a flood warden please call the office on 01984 633979 for more information.

And a reminder that the mobile NatWest banking van is at the Parish Office every Tuesday afternoon 2.00pm -2.30pm..

HELP REQUIRED

As many of you already know, an annual fete is held on the Memorial Ground every year on the second Saturday in July. The Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground Charity is looking to form a committee to work with them to help organise and run the fete. Even if you can only give a small amount of time you are very much needed - any amount of input will be gratefully received. Please contact Sarah Towells on 01984633979 or call in to the Parish Office on Killick Way. Thank you.

Sarah Towells

RECIPE FOR THE MONTH by Shirley Dee

PRAWN AND NUT STIR FRY

4 oz (100g) cashew nuts	8 oz (200 g) shelled prawns
2 sticks celery sliced	1 tablespoon cornflour
1 red pepper de-seeded and sliced	1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 or 2 cloves garlic crushed or chopped	1 tablespoon oil

Heat the oil in a wok or a large frying pan. Stir fry the nuts, celery, pepper and garlic for two minutes. Mix the prawns with the cornflour, add to the other stir fry ingredients and stir fry the nut and prawn mixture for one minute before adding the soy sauce and cook for a further minute. Serve with boiled rice.

SMALL PRAYER

Please help me to bring sunshine into people's lives.



WILLITON PAVILION PROJECT UPDATE

As a result of the Christmas close down there is little progress to report other than the excavation work which continues within the lane and the new foot-path that is now open.

We have been busy working with the contractors' design team on required changes to the main entrance and to the doors that open onto the ground. This work was required to allow them to complete the construction drawings.

Going forward, we will be contacting the User Management Team to arrange a meeting so that we can discuss the proposed structure of the Pavilion Steering Committee. This group of people will be responsible for the administration of the project evaluation process, analysing feedback from the users and village surveys to ensure that the facility continues to meet the residents' requirements. The Steering Committee will make recommendations to the charity on required improvements, including where required, investment in new equipment or further capital spend to improve the building or ground.

The layout for the new website has been agreed and when launched in February, will provide the charity and Pavilion with its own website, where you will find all the required information and news on the charity and Pavilion, including the hire rates for both the building and ground. The website will continue to evolve, so you will see some pages that are still under construction.

We have yet to agree with the contractor access along the new path when the main construction commences. The size of the secure compound will increase to allow for contractor vehicles and equipment storage. We hope to have more information on this for next month's edition of the Williton Window.

Councillor Bill Vaughan



PAVILION FUND RAISING GROUP

Now that we have had to stop our monthly coffee mornings, our fund raising mainly involves the fortnightly Bingo sessions at Danesfield School and collecting good quality clothes that can be sold on to raise funds for the pavilion.

We would be really pleased to see you at our Bingo sessions which are friendly and there are many prizes to win. Eyes down at 7pm. For February these are on Tuesday 6th and 20th and in March on the 6th with our Easter Bingo on 20th. The dates are included each month in the Events page of Williton Window.

Our next collection for clothes is 2 February so if you have any adult's or children's clothes, shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties or soft toys that you are happy for us to have, please either take them to Diane Hooper's at Roughmoor House (next to the cafe) on Roughmoor Industrial Estate or ring Diane to arrange for a collection. Diane's telephone number is 632497.

Elizabeth Peeks

WORDSEARCH FOR FEBRUARY by Phyllis Chidgey

AMERICAN INDIANS

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

CREE

OMAHA

CHINOOK

MONTAGNAIS

HUPA

APACHE

CHOCTAW

MOKI

CAYUGA

SHUSHWAP

HAIDA

DAKOTA

ALGONQUIN

MOQUI

SALISH

ATHABASCAN

MIAMI

OTTAWA

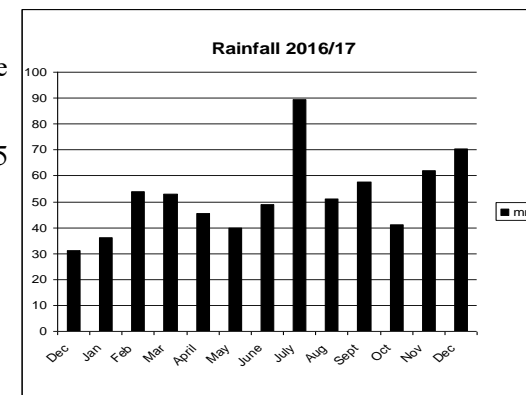
SHOSHONEAN

DECEMBER WEATHER

Wednesday 31st January will be the last chance to see the "Blue Moon" or "Perigee Moon" - in fact, it will be the last for several years!

December was again warmer than usual, with temperatures of 15°C on 21st. The coldest night was -2°C with a frost in the morning of the 12th. The maximum pressure was 30.45 inches on 5th and the minimum was 29.2 on 11th. We had a rain total of 70.5 mm for the month. The Met Office and NASA have now said that 2017 was the warmest globally since records began.

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.

* 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 and bring a picnic. For more information, ring Colin Broom on 632721.

* This month's Williton Walk will be on **Saturday 10 February** starting from the railway station at 2pm. We will walk towards Torweston Farm before crossing Teddy Bears crossing. From here we will pass Sampford Mill on our way to Sampford Brett. Our route will then take us along part of Aller Lane to Aller Farm, which will involve crossing the 'penny bridge' so remember to bring some pennies with you! We will then return down hill past St Peter's Church to the village. For more information please ring me on 632318. *Elizabeth Peeks*

* **Williton Wanderers** will meet at 10.30am on **Saturday 24 February** outside the Rest and Be Thankful pub at Wheddon Cross for an undoubtedly muddy walk to **Snowdrop Valley**, returning for lunch at the pub at about 1.30pm. About 5 miles. If the car park is full, park in the livestock market. Please let me know beforehand if you intend lunching, so I can let the pub know. For more information ring *Jenny Gibson* 01984 634899 or email willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

* **Mineral Line: Meet on Wednesday 21 February** at 9.45 am at Chargot Woods Car Park Grid Reference SS975355 for a one hour easy stroll to look at Langham Engine House and the history of iron mining in the Brendon Hills. Then a 2 hour walk down the steep miner's track looking at other features connected with iron mining. We may visit Burrow Farm Engine House or Kennisham Hill. Walking boots and rain wear needed. Booking essential on 01398 323841. Free walk, but donations welcome to West Somerset Mineral Line. More information: www.wsmla.org.uk

* The Great Somerset Walk – Wimbleball Lake

In aid of St Margaret's Hospice -13km around Wimbleball Lake, this year's event will take place on **Sunday 4 March** with walkers setting off from 9 am. The walk takes around 4 hours to complete. Registration costs £15 for adults and £10 for children and can be done on www.somerset-hospice.org.uk. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult and dogs on leads are welcome. More information, sponsorship forms and Terms & Conditions are available on our website.



FROM YOUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER

I hope that the Spring will have sprung when you read this, but as I am writing, it still feels like mid-winter. Almost everyone I know has a cough, cold or chest infection. Did you know that many winter viruses are spread by touch? Door knobs, stair rails, push buttons on a cash machine, if the person before you sneezed ...well, doesn't bear thinking about, does it? The way to keep these little nasties at bay is to wash your hands well - and often! - with soap and water. If you can, catch your coughs and sneezes in a tissue, wrap them up and throw the tissue straight in the bin.

How to get urgent health care at the weekends this winter

If you or someone you care about falls ill at the weekend, it can be a worrying time.. The NHS non-emergency number is **111**, it is fast, easy and free. When you call 111 you will speak to a highly trained adviser, supported by healthcare professionals, who will ask you a series of questions and immediately direct you to the best medical care. It is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation. If someone's life is in danger, that's the time to call **999**. For less urgent health needs, contact your GP or local pharmacist in the usual way.

New Bus Service to Musgrove Park Hospital on Saturdays from Taunton

A new service is operating from the bus station in Taunton on Saturdays to take people to Musgrove Park Hospital and replaces the park and ride scheme which no longer operates on Saturdays (since 30th December). It runs from Stand F, leaves every 20 minutes and runs from 7.30am till 8.30pm. .

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 e mail me on izzy@somersetccc.org.uk I do only work part-time so it may take a day or two for me to return your call. Thank you.

WILLITON HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have started the book stall! Books suitable for sale are very welcome. The stall will be in the hospital foyer on weekdays 2 - 4pm. Any questions give me a ring.

Volunteers please phone Shirley or Chris to arrange a chat and look around the hospital. Bedmakers are urgently needed or perhaps you could help as a relief for holidays, sickness, etc.

The hospital has appointed an activities coordinator. She is keen on getting various activities started and needs the following if you have any to spare: bits and pieces of a model railway, knitting wool and needles (7 - 10), an easel to enable wheel-chair patients to paint and someone to help with a woodwork group.

Shirley Dee, Volunteer Co-ordinator 01984 635600

SNOWDROP VALLEY (Wheddon Cross)

The roads to Snowdrop Valley (Drapers Way and Steart Lane) will be closed to traffic from Saturday 27 January to Sunday 25 February. During the middle two weeks, Saturday 3 February to Sunday 18 February, access is via the Park and Ride buses, run by ATWest, which leave from the village car park at Wheddon Cross, next to the Rest and Be Thankful Inn. Buses run regularly from 10.30am to 3.40pm with the last bus back from the valley at 4.30pm. The return bus journey costs just £6 for adults, £5 for senior citizens, and £2 for children aged 5-15, with children under 5 travelling free.

Long-stay parking for cars and coaches is provided at the livestock market 150 yards further down the road from the buses towards Dunkery Beacon. During the scheme there is a great team of volunteers who help to run the Snowdrop Café, in the Moorland Hall, providing delicious teas and cakes to support local charitable organisations. There are great meals and teas also to be found at other businesses in the village such as the Rest and Be Thankful Inn and the Exmoor House Hotel.

For walkers there is a marked walking route down into the valley, this is about a mile and takes around 30 minutes. Weatherproof clothing and sturdy footwear are essential, as the footpaths can be very muddy. **OR YOU CAN JOIN THE WILLITON WANDERERS ON SATURDAY 24th - See page 24.**

NEWS FROM ST. MARGARET'S HOSPICE

Making each day count
St. Margaret's
HOSPICE CARE

New Volunteers Needed

Across West Somerset a small team of volunteers work to fundraise for the Hospice. For 2018 we are launching our New Year, New You campaign to recruit supporting fundraising volunteers. There are a number of different volunteering roles available, including Fundraising Ambassadors, Collecting Box support volunteers and event volunteers. We will be holding a **volunteer recruitment session** in Danesborough View Common Room between 10am and 1pm on **Tuesday 20 February** and if you think you may be interested in volunteering to help the Hospice we would be delighted if you would come have a chat with us.

For further information about volunteering for St. Margaret's Hospice please contact your local Community Fundraiser, Jane Lillis on mobile 07736 886174 or email jane.lillis@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk

Time for Tea

Our Time for Tea campaign continues so if you are holding a tea party or coffee morning event during February or March we would ask you to consider donating the proceeds to St. Margaret's. If you need assistance in promoting your event then please contact Community Fundraiser Jane Lillis – details given above.

The Great Somerset Walk – Wimbleball Lake

Back for 2018 is this extremely popular sponsored walk around Wimbleball Lake on Sunday 4th March. See page 24 for more information.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you.

from SD

GOT A PROBLEM WITH MATHS??

ODDS AGAINST YOU??

CALL

THE EQUALIZER

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION
FORMER MATHS TEACHER
WASHFORD BASED
TRAVELS TO YOUR HOME
ALEX - 07813 450 677

Caring Professional FOOT Treatments
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Covering a 10 Mile Radius Of Washford

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Mobile FOOT Care By
Cullingford S.A.C. Dip FHPT/FHPP
MobileFootCareByHannah@gmail.com

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Or Treat Yourself To A Medi-Pedi!

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Liz Morrell 07702 360 095

PLANNING RENOVATIONS THIS YEAR?

If you're thinking of a new extension, a bit of remodelling, or finally knocking down that old garage, have you checked for asbestos? Any property built or refurbished before 2000 could potentially contain ACMs (Asbestos Containing Materials). Commonly found in corrugated roofing sheets, it was also widely used in artex-type paint coatings, insulation material, floor tiles, other construction material, fixtures and fittings. Left undisturbed, these materials don't present a health risk. However, when damaged the fibres easily become airborne and can be inhaled. Exposure to these microscopic fibres can lead to severe lung disease and cancer. In the UK, around 5000 deaths a year are linked to asbestos exposure, and it can take years for symptoms to develop. Invisible to the naked eye and normally blended with other substances, professional testing is needed to ensure asbestos is dealt with safely.

Somerset Scientific Services, part of Somerset County Council, offer free impartial asbestos advice as part of our commitment to public health and safety. We also offer an expert service to identify and project manage the removal of any ACMs. Samples of suspect material can be sent to our lab for analysis and we'll provide impartial advice on your next steps if asbestos is identified. For larger projects surveys can be completed on site by our specialist asbestos team if needed.

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