

Your Church and Community Magazine

# WILLITON WINDOW

April 2021  
Volume 21 Number 10

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EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 23rd APRIL

The May magazine can be collected for delivery from the  
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Commencing **FRIDAY 30TH APRIL**

Please send articles, news and diary dates to:

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

All advertising enquiries to:

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

Magazine distribution:

Mr Neill Ambridge: ☎ 01984 639320

All enquiries by email: [williton@willitonwindow.co.uk](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk) (New e-mail address)

### LOCAL CHURCHES CONTACT NUMBERS

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

Vicar	Vacant :	*Enquiries to Churchwardens
Associate Vicar	Vacant :	*Enquiries to Churchwardens
Readers:	Mrs Bev Machin	568201
	Mrs Donna Marsden	633707
	Mrs Julie Pelling	07973 961083
Churchwardens	*Mr G Fenech	633577
	*Mrs S Withycombe	632596

#### Methodist Church

Team Ministry	Rev Nick Lakin	01643 705175
Stewards:	Mr P Gliddon	632327
	Mrs R Troman	633199
	Mrs J Sefton	656652

#### Roman Catholic Deacon Baptist Church

Rev Vincent Woods	634681
Rev Mike Sherburn	633755
Mrs M Collinson	632537
Mr J Bowcock	248169

#### Salvation Army

Miss Sam Searle	07979 575453
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**PRIVACY POLICY** We do not share or sell names, addresses, phone numbers or email addresses under any circumstances.

**Cover Picture:** Looking along the track towards Williton from Teddy Bear Crossing. (Let us hope 2021 brings the trains back).

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**UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON**  
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Please do join us on Sundays for some of our service via Zoom  
Zoom service times may change as some may be transmitted from church.  
Contact the churchwardens for details and Zoom codes.

 Please note these services may be subject to change in line with Government and Diocesan advice regarding Covid-19. 

<b>Sunday 28th March</b> <b>Holy Week. Palm Sunday</b>	08.30am 10.00am	<i>Eucharist via Zoom</i> All Age Worship In Church
<b>Monday 29th March</b>	7.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week In Church
<b>Tuesday 30th March</b>	7.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week <b>At St Decumans</b>
<b>Wednesday 31st March</b>	7.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week In Church
<b>Thursday 1st April</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	7.00pm	Eucharist <b>At St Decumans</b>
<b>Friday 2nd April</b> <b>Good Friday</b>	2.00pm	Good Friday Service In church
<b>Sunday 4th April</b> <b>Easter Day</b>	08.00am 09.15am 11.00am	<i>Eucharist via Zoom</i> Parish Communion in Church <i>Sunday Service via Zoom</i>
<b>Sunday 11th April</b>	08.30am 09.15am 11.00am	<i>Eucharist via Zoom</i> Parish Communion in Church Sunday Service via Zoom
<b>Sunday 18th April</b>	08.30am 09.15am 11.00am	<i>Eucharist via Zoom</i> Parish Communion in Church Sunday Service via Zoom
<b>Sunday 25th April</b>	08.30am 09.15am 11.00am	<i>Eucharist via Zoom</i> Parish Communion in Church <i>Sunday Service via Zoom</i>

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## Other Local Churches Information



### BAPTIST CHURCH (WATCHET)

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

### METHODIST CHURCH (Williton)

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

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

#### Services Via Zoom

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

### THE SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS

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

**All are welcome.**

(Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)

**Salvation Army Hall, 1 Brendon Road, Watchet. Tel: 01984 633133**

### CATHOLIC CHURCH (Watchet)

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

### WELCOME TO WILLITON - WELCOME PACK



Have you recently moved to Williton or do you know someone who has? If so, you may like a free Welcome Pack, which gives a map of Williton, details of services, clubs and organisations, and other useful information. Please ring Janet Cook on **639359**, or email: [williton@willitonwindow.co.uk](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk) or go to our website: [www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack)



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### Quantock Farmers ask '**Please do not feed the ponies**'

Since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic there has been an increase in people feeding the ponies on the open hilltops of the Quantocks. These ponies thrive on the grasses, heathers and plants on the hilltops and do not need extra food.

Some horses have special dietary considerations and can be intolerant to foods such as carrots and apples and cannot have too much sugar. Giving them "sweets and treats" can result in stomach ulcers, which are very painful, and colic which can kill them. Many fruit and vegetables may seem like "healthy" or "normal" horse treats, but they are not suitable for many horses including the ponies which graze the Quantocks.

As many of these ponies roam wild over the open hills people are unable to know how many "treats" they have been fed and people are making the mistake of saying "just one won't hurt". A further issue of feeding the ponies is that they associate people and cars with food. They become more tolerant and will actively approach people and cars which increases the risk of people being bitten or kicked or the ponies being injured by vehicle collisions.

Ranger Andy Stevenson said, "Although they are beautiful to look at, the ponies are pretty wild and certainly not pets so keeping a little distance from them and appreciating them from afar is the best for everybody's wellbeing".

Amanda Sampson (Communications & Support Officer) [asampson@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:asampson@somerset.gov.uk)

**Quantock Hills AONB Service, Fyne Court, Broomfield, TA5 2EQ**



## BEATING THE BOUNDS - WILLITON

I have found that these difficult times have given me a great opportunity to discover the hidden aspects of what is around us all. The daily walks (we are allowed) gives us time not only to walk but to contemplate the wonderful area which we live in.

I start my walks, opposite the Liddymore Estate (Cassino Road) which takes me from home straight into the Williton Parish. On this corner myself and members of the Parish Council have scattered wildflower seed. It is interesting to see what is coming up. Wild chive has raised its head, this is prevalent in some of the local fields/verges and the cutting that has been done has encouraged it. Also, some of the daffodils planted in the past have survived the cutting. We await the new seeds coming up.

If you head towards the coast from this point you might be lucky and see as we did the Shetland Ponies which amused me, I wondered if the wet weather had recently shrunk large horses! The day I walked this route was very wet and if you are going to follow it you need your wet weather gear, especially your boots.

When you reach the Doniford Junction, turn right and then right again past the Doniford Meadow bungalows and onward, the second gate takes you via the public footpath to Egrove. I took time at this point to observe the state of the river, not too high considering the wet weather we have had. The footpath to Egrove was very wet, I took time to congratulate myself on bringing my walking pole with me. It kept me upright.

When you get to Egrove you pass quite close to the houses, in the Spring/Summer there are a lot of flowers to look at by the houses. The path continues and there is a lot of pampas grass towards the river. You turn right at the end of the path, across the river. I always think that this would be a good place to use for producing hydro electric power, (looking for a grant here!).

The garden before the railway has a wonderful knot garden, full marks to the gardener. You cross the Railway, nicely spruced up with some new signs, and you are near the Industrial Estate. It's great that Williton has this facility. This provides work locally as well as producing useful things.

Carrying on down the main road, you pass Sir Gilbert Scott Court, another piece of Williton history – the workhouse, was here before it was converted into more genteel uses. I then made another right turn into Union Lane so that I could have a look at how the new housing is developing.

*Continued on next page*



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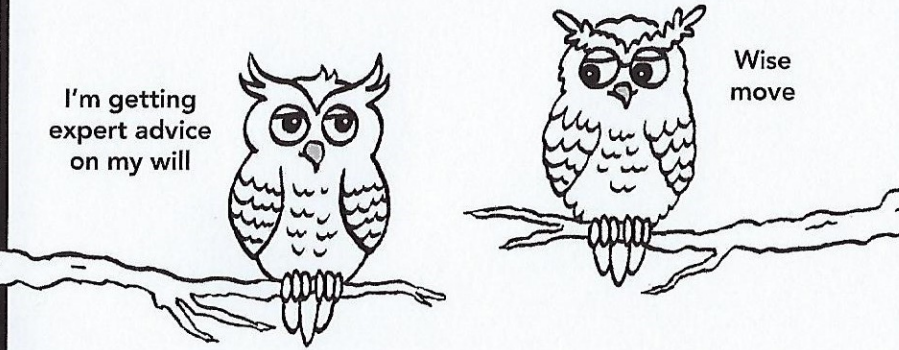
### Beating the Bounds

You carry on next to a dilapidated orchard. Wouldn't it be nice to see this replanted? Then at the end of the path you are back on the Doniford Road heading back towards Doniford. Just past Aller Mead Way the path runs out, it is the wish of the Parish Council to continue this path towards Doniford, but that is for another day. You then go back towards the Liddymore Estate and you are opposite the site of yet another planned new estate. Oh dear, more housing.

This brings us to the start of another walk that I have done recently. If you walk to the coast turning left at the end of the road, you can access the beach through the coastal path. The very miracle of the surf can be seen, the waves that come in and out, twice a day, are something we can enjoy. I have stood on the beach quietly, revelling in the sound that goes with the surf, looking across the channel and up and down the coast, whilst contemplating if there is any way that the 'powers that be' can halt the erosion of the coastline.

What Lockdown has taught me is patience and appreciation of what we have.

*Rosemary Woods.*



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## WILLITON BOWLING CLUB

Williton Bowling Club members have been working hard over the last few months getting the clubhouse, green and surroundings ready for the 2021 season but at the time we were not sure when or if that would be.

Because of the recent improvements in the number of people catching the virus the government is allowing outdoor sports to open up again so the club's opening day will now be on **Monday April 12th** commencing at **6 pm**. Although it is great news that bowling can commence the club still has to obey all the rules used to fight the virus, especially concerning the use of the clubhouse.

The club has a full fixture list of friendly and league fixtures but there could be some delay in when these actually start. The club will commence with roll ups for members on Monday and Friday evenings at 6pm and on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm.



If anyone is interested in joining this friendly club and want to learn the skills of bowling please come in and speak to someone, who will give you all the information you need. We do ask you to bring along a flat pair of shoes to wear on the green. If anyone would like to go down at some other time please phone **01984 632564** to book up a suitable time.

*Dave Sully President.*

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Rob Hay  
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## Williton Parish Council

To contact the Parish Council telephone 01984 633979  
Talk to Michelle or email : [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk)  
or Karen at [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk)

April is almost here which is always a special time for me. We have had a terrible year with the lock downs and closure of all but essential shops. Let us look forward to May which could see easing of restrictions and really getting back to normal.

We have been very busy at the Parish Council throughout the Winter and Spring. Organising contractors and working on behalf of the parishioners. Amongst the things that have been done recently is the siting of grit bins at Half Acre Close, Bridge Close and Five Bells. This may appear to be a simple thing to do but it has taken many months of discussions with Somerset Highways not just to get permission to put them where they are but also to make sure that they are refilled each year to come so that road salt is in them when it is needed.

Another major project that we are working on is to help businesses in the village to recover from the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. Last year we undertook a survey of the businesses to find out what their priorities were. The most common three responses were better free parking, more/better publicity and the reopening of the toilets in Killick Way. We have established a working group to find and deliver different ways to promote the businesses and reopen the toilets; and have applied for a grant from Emergency Town Centre Recovery Fund to achieve this. There is still a lot of legal work to be done before the work that is needed to be done before the toilets can start but it is hoped that they will be reopened before the main holiday season. Unfortunately, the Parish Council does not have any control over the car parks, but we are talking with Somerset West and Taunton Council and asking them to provide more and longer free parking bays.

May 6th is election day. This year the only election that residents will be able to vote on is for the Police and Crime Commissioner; elections were due for Somerset Council Councillors but because of the debates around the creation of Unitary Authorities in Somerset the Government has postponed that election until next year. For information about the two proposals for a Unitary Authority please have a look at the [www.strongersomerset.co.uk](http://www.strongersomerset.co.uk) and [www.onesomerset.org](http://www.onesomerset.org) websites where there are links to consultation pages. Parish and District Council elections will next take place in 2023. Although there is only the one election it is still important that you vote as this will decide who will provide the oversight on how Avon and Somerset Police operate over the coming years.

All Parish Council Meetings have been taking place via zoom during the pandemic so we have still managed to get a lot of things done, and if you would like to join in on one details are displayed in the Parish Office window, alternatively please contact our Parish Clerk or visit our website. One date for your diary is 28th April which will be the Parish Assembly again details can be found on our website in the same way closer to that date.

We are getting more feedback from parishioners via email etc. regarding things in the village. We will always consider your comments and complaints and either forward to the appropriate authority or action it ourselves. Thank you.  
*Cllrs Peter Payne and Michael White.*

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## Williton Memorial Ground & Pavilion The activities we are proposing this year

### Duck Race and Car Boot Sale (WWMRG) Sunday 4th July 2021

The ducks are in training for this great event so do not miss it! There will be two races, a car boot sale, book stall and bric-a-brac stall. We are always looking for more stalls so if you have any ideas or want to advertise your group etc. give us a call.

### Refreshments – served through hatch at the Pavilion

### Williton Village Fete (WWMRG) 4th September 2021

This date has been moved from July to September due to covid, on the hope that restrictions will be lifted and we can hold a full fete.

*Arena – Tug of War, Adult race (egg and spoon, sack race, wheelbarrow race etc.), Dog show final, talent show, children's races. Refreshments – Bar, hog roast, cakes. Side entertainment – stalls Craft and Produce show, Raffle, Dog Show (final in main arena). Book stall, Duck Race, Tombola, Mo's bucket, Scavenger Hunt and lots more.*

All the usual stalls around the Memorial Ground will be welcome and any ideas for stalls or fund raising games let us know. This all makes for a great day out.

### Christmas (Parish Council) Saturday 11th December 2021

We had very good feedback on the Christmas arrangements and party last year. It was hoped to have the Santa Sleigh again with stop off points this time so children can see and talk to Santa.

There will be a Shop Window Competition again this year and we will also have a competition for the Best Christmas Decorated Home.

These are always well organised and well attended events. Look out for the posters and notices.

Take care and stay safe everyone and please let us know if there is anything we can do or advise on.  
*Cllr. Michael White.*

If you've read the Williton Parish Council editorial you will know all about some of village events that are planned for later this year when we hope the situation is nearer to normality. As ever we are always looking for help on the day so if you are willing please let the Parish Office know **01984 633979**.

### This leaves me free this month to have a big beg for bulb donations.

I found this latest lockdown the hardest, no doubt in the main to the weather, we were so spoilt during the first one! As a daily user of the Memorial ground what I noticed was a lack of colour, all the trees are deciduous and there is one lonely cyclamen which raises its head each year in the picnic area.

It would be lovely to see more flowers in the park heralding spring and the end of dark and dismal nights; so I am asking if anyone is dividing snowdrops, crocus, bluebells (native), daffodils (and dare I ask cyclamen), we would be extremely grateful for any that you can donate.

If you could wrap them in damp newspaper or similar and drop them off at any of the donation doorsteps :- **25 North Croft / 18 Fairfield Drive / 1 The Old Methodist Hall, Tower Hill / Roughmoor House, Station Road / 18 Cherry Tree Way (Watchet)**  
*Cllr Dawn Howes.*

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## WILLITON LIBRARY



### Somerset's libraries reopen and launch 'Reading Friends' service

Our Temporary reduced opening hours are: Monday: 10am - 1pm  
Tuesday Closed. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 10am - 1pm.

Somerset Libraries are delighted to announce that as of the 8th March, almost all libraries have reopened, offering a limited service as lockdown measures start to ease. A new 'Reading Friends' befriending service has also been launched for those people who may feel lonely or isolated (see below for more details). Libraries are currently open in the mornings so that people can use the popular 'Library Choice' service whereby staff can pick a selection of titles based on what customers say they like to read, watch or listen to. In most libraries the People's Network computers can also be booked if people need to get online to help look for a job, access housing, or other government services.

Online, at <https://LibrariesWest.org.uk> reading fans can download a wide selection of e-Books, e-Audio titles, e-Newspapers, e-Magazines & e-Comics. These collections have proved to be particularly popular and the collections have been enhanced to help keep pace with all the new interest.

Browsing of shelves in libraries and the Mobile Library should be possible from the 12th April but in the meantime, we are very excited to announce the start of our new Reading Friends project, which provides the opportunity to socialise with others from the safety of your home. Reading Friends is a befriending project, which brings people together to talk about reading and share stories through phone calls, virtual groups and online forums. Our befriending phone calls will match participants up with a member of staff for weekly chats, whilst our virtual groups are informal online get-togethers where you can talk about books or simply just chat. This will also include a specific group for new parents and babies. Finally, we are also hosting an online forum for young people aged 14-24 on Discord. For more information or to take part email

[librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk) or call **0300 123 2224**.

If you or someone you know would like to take part, or you have any questions, about Reading Friends or other library services, please email [librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk) or phone **0300 123 2224**.

For anyone unable to leave their home, the Home Library Service is still able to offer a doorstep delivery service – contact [kirsty.Jenssen@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](mailto:kirsty.Jenssen@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk) for details of how to arrange a visit from a volunteer.

For regular updates on library opening times and services on offer, visit [www.somersetlibraries.co.uk](http://www.somersetlibraries.co.uk) or via social media – see Somerset Libraries UK on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

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## WILLITON WEATHER



### MARCH

The month began with frost, rain and fog clearing for some sunny days. Recently after the gales we have seen some warm sunny days. Perhaps Easter will be warm and sunny like last year.

### FEBRUARY

The coldest day for 20 years on the 11th, with a lunch time temp of only +2 °C.

The maximum temperature on the 24th. was 16 °C - quite warm!

The coldest night was - 4 °C here, but in Farringdon - 23 °C (again the 11th.)

The maximum pressure of 30.8 inches on the 27th. (very high for this time of year)

The minimum pressure 29.6 inches on the 17th.

The total monthly rainfall was 52 mm.

### ASTRONOMICAL NEWS

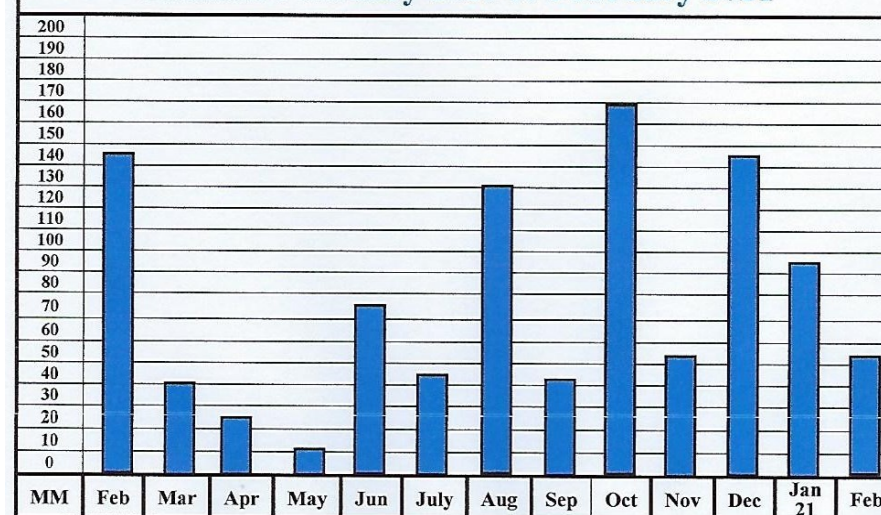
Did you see the very large moon rise ("snow moon") at the end of the month?

### NATURE NOTE

I expect by now you will have noticed the birds building nests. As well as the spring flowers - frog spawn has been seen and Bumble Bees {due to the average warmer spells (it is about a week ahead of average)} Unfortunately the frost has damaged our pear blossom!

*Happy Easter P.J.*

### Rainfall February 2020 to February 2021





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# Hope for a better future

By Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton



This month of April begins on Maundy Thursday, the day when we remember the last meal Jesus shared together with his friends before he was arrested and crucified. It was the meal that has become so significant in the life of the Church, where bread was broken and a cup of wine passed round, coming to symbolise for us the brokenness of the body of Christ. The sacrifice he made for the love of us.

Many of us will hopefully celebrate something of the Easter feast this weekend although restrictions continue for a while longer. We may not yet be able to gather in larger groups of family and friends but perhaps we can glimpse what is to come?

This has always been the story of the Church, to point to what 'is' but which may not yet be fully realised. During this pandemic there has been a need for hope amongst such bleakness and now as the vaccine is shared and the signs of life appear in the world around us, we begin to see what might again be possible. To hope for a better future.

And yet in the bleakness of this first weekend of April, which takes us into the darkness of the tomb on Holy Saturday, we remember that hope is not cheaply bought. It is not mere optimism, but rather something, though fragile, that is stronger than death.

As some of us break our fast this Easter and share the bread and wine of the Eucharistic feast, may we know both the cost of such love and the hope that it offers.

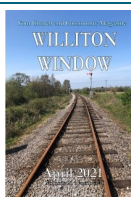
Easter blessings! +



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or Georgie Lewis on 01984 631738  
[watcht dementia@gmail.com](mailto:watcht dementia@gmail.com)

Margaret Tatham.



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## Avon & Somerset Police

### PHONE FRAUD WARNING INCIDENTS REPORTED IN SOMERSET



We're reminding people to be cautious and recognise signs of telephone and courier fraud following a number of reported incidents in Somerset in recent days.

We're investigating four reports in the Bridgwater area of fraudsters phoning potential victims and claiming to be police officers dealing with fraud.

In one instance, a woman in her 90s living in Sedgemoor, was called by a fraudster falsely claiming to be working for police in Bournemouth. He told her officers had arrested someone who had her account details and claimed her bank were involved in the scam.

He went on to encourage her to take out a four-figure sum from her bank and to lie to cashiers about why she was making such a large withdrawal, before handing it over to a 'courier' who would give her a password when he arrived. She duly handed the money to the fake 'courier' and also provided personal banking information over the phone, which led to money also being stolen from her account.

Fraud protect officer Amy Horrobin said: "Fraudsters tend to prey on the elderly and vulnerable people but anyone can be a victim. There's no shame in being tricked by these professional criminals, they can be very convincing.

"We must stress though police will never ask you to make a withdrawal from your bank for an investigation. They will never ask you to hand over personal banking details, such as your PIN. And they will never ask you to hand money to a courier who will collect it. The same goes for banks and other legitimate organisations and agencies.

"It is difficult during a phone call out of the blue to always think clearly, especially if the subject appears at face value to be very serious.

"So, if you are unsure if what you're being told may be a scam, then hang up the phone – the person at the other end of the phone will not be offended by you being cautious, if they are who they claim to be.

"Leave it five minutes, make sure you hear a dialling tone and the person who called initially has cleared the line, before then calling the organisation or company back. Use a number they advertise on their website or in the phone book. Don't use any number the person gives you.

"Alternatively call police on **101** or speak to someone you know for further advice."

We'd urge any other victims in the Bridgwater area to come forward and contact the police on **101**, giving reference number 5221045252.

More information on how to prevent being a victim of fraud is available on Action Fraud's website and we'd ask people to spread the message to friends and family, especially people living alone, to prevent further victims. <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

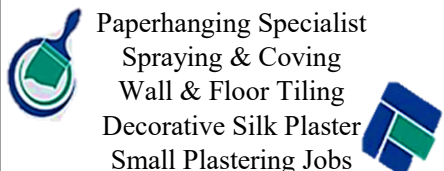
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## Down at the Station April



Well, there is a dim green light some way at the end of the tunnel!! It certainly seems like that as the current lockdown drags on, but with encouraging figures coming across every day on Points West, things are appearing to be working in the right direction and along with the many people who have had their vaccines so far, it all looks good.

We have now been given the green light to recommence gardening and some outside maintenance which is really encouraging – there is only so much one is able to do from home. I have been repainting nine of the red FIRE buckets we have around the station. Not just red of course, as they are white gloss inside and then the base and bottom rims are black with handles to match, so it has taken several visits to the garden shed. During April we hope to be able to get stuck in to some repainting of the waiting room on Platform Two and repainting of benches etc. At the same time the repairs and painting of the Lamp Room should be finished which will make for better storage facilities.

Currently the plan is that the WSR are hoping to restart some train services from 22nd May (still seems ages away!) and initially it is likely that those will be from Bishops Lydeard to Williton and return, similar to the Christmas Santa trains. Later it is planned to run on to Watchet and Blue Anchor. Again, to start with, ALL seats will have to be pre-booked on line or by telephone, so it will still seem strange. Hopefully by the next issue of Williton Window we will have more details for you.

In the meantime, it is planned to reopen our Plant Stall at 7 Dovetons Drive at the beginning of May and weather permitting, the Book and Bric-a-Brac stall from 6 Long Lakes, later this month. Your continued support is appreciated.

*John Parsons Station Master.*

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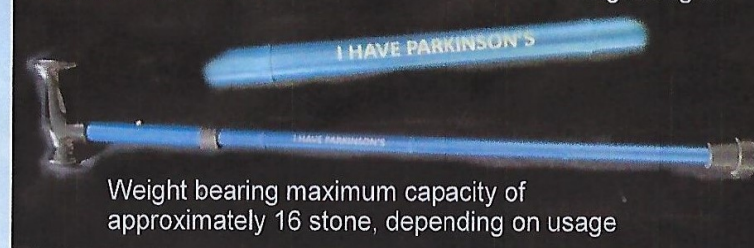
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## FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER April News



Spring is in full swing and so is the COVID-19 vaccine roll out! Hopefully by mid April the 40-50 year old age group will be invited to have their vaccinations.

If you are an unpaid Carer you are eligible to be vaccinated with the person you care for as long as you meet the eligibility criteria. We've put together a handy guide here:

<https://somerseccarers.org/news/unpaid-carers-vaccine-group-6/>

Please do register with your Doctor's surgery to let them know you are an unpaid Carer if you haven't already done so. Full details on the Somerset roll out of the vaccine can be found here:

<https://www.somersecccg.nhs.uk/health/local-services/health-services-during-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations-in-somerset/>

However, there will be many people still shielding and extremely isolated until restrictions are further eased in the summer. If this is you, have you thought about joining a Befriending Service? CCS has a NEW project called **CHAT TO CONNECT** for Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) People.

Do you want to meet new people in a similar position to you, with shared interests? We know it's good to talk and share experiences. We can connect you with another person who is on the CEV list to keep your spirits up – you are not alone. Complete the short online registration form, and we will match you with another person with similar interests and hobbies.

You may need some technical support in order to connect with someone so we are also offering one-to-one virtual support with phones, tablets, and laptops, downloading apps, and using Zoom or Whatsapp.

We have people ready to help you get online and talk to others! Go to:  
<https://ccslovesomerset.org/chat-to-connect/>

**There are other similar services in Somerset too –**

- **Age UK Somerset's Friendly Phone Calls service** Phone: 01823 345613 or email [befriending@ageuksomerset.org.uk](mailto:befriending@ageuksomerset.org.uk), or visit <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/somerset/our-services/befriending-service/>
- **British Red Cross** – Get help with loneliness: <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-help/get-help-with-loneliness>
- **Mind in Somerset** are launching some 'Somerset Wellbeing Friends' groups which focus on tackling loneliness, improving life skills and promoting coping strategies. Phone: 01935 474875 <https://www.mindinsomerset.org.uk/somerset-wellbeing-friends/>
- **The Silver Line** Free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people Phone: 0800 470 8090 <https://www.thesilverline.org.uk/>

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### Other ways to connect to people



If you are on Facebook – find local community pages or covid support groups. In the Facebook search bar, type the area you live, and then select to view groups and this should give you a list of groups where local people share information, ask advice and start conversations with each other – it can be a great way to get to know people in your area!

Most organisations have been able to move online in some form or another, why not check out some online groups:

### Book Clubs

The Reader <https://www.thereader.org.uk/> Tel:0151 729 2200

Somerset Libraries Reading Groups:

<https://somerseclibraries.co.uk/events/categories/reading-groups/>

**Men's Sheds** - community spaces for men to connect, converse and create. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly, they're fun. <https://menssheds.org.uk/>

**Keeping Active** - There are some great resources in Somerset that you can access online during the current restrictions

**Somerset Activity & Sports Partnerships** – ideas for all ages and abilities

<https://www.sasp.co.uk/be-active-at-home>

**Sport England** <https://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement>

**AGE UK Somerset** have some great suggestions -

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/somerset/activities-and-events/exercise-sessions/>

### Business Networking – Social Enterprise network

<https://ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-social-enterprise/>

**Courses** – Thinking of starting a new career or want to learn something new?

Try Somerset Skills & Learning <https://www.sslcourses.co.uk/> or Step Up

Somerset [www.stepupsomerset.org.uk](http://www.stepupsomerset.org.uk) - Helping you find where you need to be.

2021 feels much more optimistic as things slowly return to normal – why not use these last few weeks of lockdown to explore some hobbies or interests? You never know what new friendships you may find or a new interest that puts a spring in your step!

**For free confidential advice and support phone Izzy Silvester 07931 018045**



### Minehead Literary Festival Writing Competition

*Deadline for entries is 5th April 2020*

<https://www.mineheadliteraryfestival.org/short-story-competition>



### LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

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*Shirley Dee.*



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tel: **01984 631472**

## Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group

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

**Helpline Number**

**01984 573673**

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

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

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

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

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



## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

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

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

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

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



## Cycle track / Path from Dovetons Drive/Union Lane to Roughmoor Industrial Estate via Slade Way

### Did you use it?

Over the years there have been a number of cut throughs made by the public from Union Lane into the Industrial Estate. Many cycled to work through these cut throughs including many dustbin men or were used by residents wishing to visit businesses as well as dog walkers and those going for a walk. Over the years a number of these have been blocked off.

The final cut though was blocked off by fencing at the end of January 2021 by the landowner, Exmoor Trim. This now means you have to take a longer route to the Industrial Estate by walking or cycling along Long Street (A39).

The link that has been blocked is shown on the map below.



Photograph of the link (now blocked) taken from the end of Slade Way.

*Continued on next page*

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Exmoor Trim has been contacted and they do not wish to either reopen the link or relocate it.

### Can you help?

As this link has been used continuously for more than 20 years I am trying to see if this route can be claimed and so be made available again as a public right of way. To do this evidence has to be submitted by those that have used the link whether it is for a year, 5 years, 10 years or more. This means filling in a form which I then send off to Somerset County Council. I will need at least 20 people to fill in the form and at the moment at least 8 people have said they will.

If you are willing to fill in a form or wish to discuss this before deciding whether to fill a form in or not, or know someone who may be willing to fill in a form but they do not live in Williton please ring me on **01984 632318** or email me on [roger.liz@talktalk.net](mailto:roger.liz@talktalk.net)

I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully this much used link can be re-established.

*Elizabeth Peeks.*

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## **Avon & Somerset Police**

A home has been burgled on the 14th March between 7:40pm and 10:30pm in Larviscombe Road, Williton. The offender is thought to have accessed the property via the rear door that may have been inadvertently left insecure and once inside has stolen a Brown Leather handbag containing cash and bank cards from the vulnerable resident.

Any information please contact the Police on **101** quoting Ref number: 5221054784 stating NHW Release or Crimestoppers on **0800 555111**.  
Thank you for your support.



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# **WORDSEARCH FOR APRIL** by Phyllis Chidgey **EASTER** **Greetings To You All**



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

HEN	LAMB	HOT	CROSS	BUNS
GOD	BIRDS	CHOCOLATE	SERVICE	
EGGS	APRIL	EASTER	DAY	
LENT	FEAST	PALM	SUNDAY	
FAST	NESTS	SIMNEL	CAKE	
MASS	BONNET	MAUNDY	THURSDAY	



# **WILLITON WALKS BOOK**

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

# **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**



Nothing ever lasts, we are where we are now and even that won't last,  
live for the day.

*Shirley Dee.*



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## Shuttle Bus Boost County Vaccination Programme



A free Somerset County Council Taunton town centre shuttle service has been launched to get people straight to their vital vaccination slot.

The COVID-19 vaccination shuttle bus service started, Monday 1 March, following feedback, and will run every 30 minutes from Castle Way in Taunton town centre to Taunton Racecourse – one of Somerset's large vaccination centres.

The seven-day a week service uses one of the Council's fleet of minibuses and will help to support those who don't drive and will link easily with other operators coming into the town centre.

This follows other key transport support from the Council and partners including a regular shuttle to Bath and West Showground from Shepton Mallet, the suspension of concessionary bus pass rules for all public services before 9.30am and working with Community Transport and Slinky Demand Response services to allow free travel for bus pass holders attending vaccination appointments.

The new Taunton service starts at 8.20am each day, and will also serve bus stops along South Road and Shoreditch Road on route to the Racecourse. The last bus each day is 6.05pm from the Racecourse.

There will be capacity for a maximum of **four passengers** on each journey due to the need for social distancing.

**The service is reserved for those who have a pre-booked vaccination appointment at the Racecourse and this will be verified before passengers board the bus.**

**It's recommended those using the service catch a bus to arrive approximately 10 minutes before their vaccination slot.**

"I'm really pleased we're able to be able to work with the NHS in Somerset and offer this service now there's a need and get people to their appointments," said Cllr John Woodman, Somerset County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.

"For those without their own transport this will be a free, quick, and stress-free way to get to the Racecourse from a handy location in the town centre.

"Please be aware if you want to use the service, spaces have to be limited for each trip so time your journey accordingly."

Alison Wootton, joint senior responsible officer for the Somerset Vaccination programme said: "We're really pleased that we can offer this new shuttle bus service and grateful to our colleagues at Somerset County Council for making this happen.

"It's really important that people attend their vaccination appointments when they are offered across our 20 different locations, and this is a great additional support to help people to come to their appointments at Taunton Racecourse.

*Continued on next page*

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The shuttle service is set to run every day throughout March and April except for the following dates when the vaccination centre is closed for race days:

**4, 15 and 23 March; 8 and 21 April.**

**Members of the public using the buses are reminded that face coverings are mandatory at all times.**

The service will initially operate as a trial over a number of weeks, to gauge the number of people who want to take advantage of the service.

For more information on the NHS vaccination in Somerset please visit: <https://www.somersetccg.nhs.uk/health/local-services/health-services-during-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations-in-somerset/>

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/>

**For more information on the service please contact:**

Andrew Doyle Principle Communications Officer Highways and Transport  
Somerset County Council

[AZDoyle@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:AZDoyle@somerset.gov.uk)

**For more information about the vaccination programme please contact:**

Lisa Pyrke Interim communications manager Somerset

[CCGLisa.pyrke1@nhs.net](mailto:CCGLisa.pyrke1@nhs.net)

*Andrew Doyle Communications Officer Somerset County Council.*

Taunton Castle Way to Taunton Racecourse Vaccination Centre										
. WEF 1st March 2021 Daily 30 Minute Shuttle Bus Service										
Taunton, Castle Way Bus Stop	0820	0850	0920	0950	1020	1050	1120	1150	1220	1250
Taunton Racecourse Vaccination Centre	0832	0902	0932	1002	1032	1102	1132	1202	1232	1302
Taunton, Castle Way Bus Stop	1320	1350	1420	1450	1520	1550	1620	1650	1720	1750
Taunton Racecourse Vaccination Centre	1332	1402	1432	1502	1532	1602	1632	1702	1732	1802
Taunton Racecourse Vaccination Centre	0835	0905	0935	1005	1035	1105	1135	1205	1235	1305
Taunton, Castle Way Bus Stop	0847	0917	0947	1017	1047	1117	1147	1217	1247	1317
Taunton Racecourse Vaccination Centre	1335	1405	1435	1505	1535	1605	1635	1705	1735	1805
Taunton, Castle Way Bus Stop	1347	1417	1447	1517	1547	1617	1647	1717	1747	1817
<b>Route:</b> Castle Way, Corporation Street, Park Street, The Crescent, Upper High Street, Mary Street, Billetfield, Hurdle Way, Silver Street, South Road, Shoreditch Road and B3170 to Taunton Racecourse. As same route reversed to South Street then Mansfield Road and same route reversed to Tower Street to Castle Way.										
<b>Serves all bus stops on route, but only for passengers with a vaccination appointment at Taunton Racecourse</b>										
<b>Not operating on race days 4,15,23 March,8,21, April (Vaccination Centre closed on these days)</b>										



WEST SOMERSET

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- **West Somerset Advice Service** are at the hubs for the whole community to access

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

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

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

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

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

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