



# WILLITON WINDOW

Your Church and Community Magazine  
August 2020  
Volume 21 Number 2

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**DEADLINE DATES FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE***ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 18 AUGUST**EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 21 AUGUST****The magazine will be ready for collection at the PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE****Between 10am and 12 noon weekdays from FRIDAY 28 AUGUST***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

email: [willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk)**Magazine distribution:**

Mr Neill Ambridge: 01984 639320

**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
	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**

Rev Vincent Woods 634681

**Baptist Church**

Rev Mike Sherburn 633755

Mrs M Collinson 632537

Mr J Bowcock 248169

Salvation Army Corps Leader Miss Sam Searle 07979 575453

Hall address and telephone: 1 Brendon Road, Watchet 633133

**DISCLAIMER**

We do our best to ensure that all advertisements and articles appear correctly in the Williton Window. Advertisements and articles appearing in this publication are accepted in good faith by the publishers, St Peter's Parochial Church Council, who can, however, not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, nor does their inclusion imply any recommendation.

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

View this magazine online at 8 [www.willitonwindow.org.uk](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk)**HELLO, THANK YOU AND GOODBYE**

I am immensely grateful to everyone who has stepped forward and offered their help, so that the Williton Window can continue in printed form with effect from the September edition (Covid-19 restrictions permitting).

During the past months of lockdown, a number of our permanent delivery people, as well as several new volunteers, helped with the delivery of the April magazine and, subsequently, with leaflets in respect of the Coronavirus Help Group and the future of the Williton Window. Heartfelt thanks to all of them.

As a result of the last leaflet drop, we have a new editor, Derek Smith, who is taking over from me and a new advertising / accounts person, Janet Cook, replacing Tony Guest. Both come with a wealth of experience in their particular fields. We also welcome two new sorting and distribution organisers, Neill Ambridge and Andrew Berry, replacing Phyllis Chidgey.

I am delighted to discover that nearly all of our previous delivery team are ready to pound the streets again. Four stalwarts have decided to stop and our sincere thanks for your devotion, and best wishes for the future, go to Jenny Berry, Don Dee, Liz Grinstead and John Tennant.

Finally, it has been a privilege and extremely interesting to edit the Williton Window for the past 14 years. In particular, I have had great fun with the colour covers. In the course of my work I have been supported by a wonderful team, met some lovely people and made some very good friends.

Thank you and best wishes to every single one of you - contributors, delivery people, advertisers, our wonderful printers - and, of course, my husband, Tony. We will take great pleasure in reading the magazine in the future, with none of the hard work!

Our team of volunteers can be contacted on the usual magazine email address: [willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk) or you can reach Derek on 01984 631595, Janet on 01984 639359 and Neill on 01984 639320.

Jenny Gibson

View this magazine online at 9 [www.willitonwindow.org.uk](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk)

## NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE!

In next month's magazine, our new editor - Derek Smith - will be publishing articles from local people who have done something new or different during lockdown, like taking up a new skill or hobby, making a new friend or discovering new places in the local countryside.

My personal escape route from the misery of the pandemic was inspired by David Hockney and many of my evenings have been spent teaching myself to paint on the iPad. It's been absorbing, fun and, although the results are not exactly up to Hockney standards, I am relatively pleased with them.

If you have an experience that you would like to share with other readers, please send your article to Derek (whose details are on page 8). He will be delighted to hear from you and the rest of us will enjoy reading your positive contribution - and maybe even be inspired to follow your example.

*Jenny Gibson*

## SOME REACTIONS TO THE NEWS THAT THE WILLITON WINDOW MIGHT CEASE

"Jacqui and I have been monthly visitors to Williton for the last 2 years. We were handed a copy of the Williton Window when we took possession of our flat and have looked forward to it with each trip. It helps us catch up on what has been happening and also look forwards to events in the next month.

We sincerely hope that a new team steps forwards and are able to take this outstanding village magazine forwards.

We fully understand the decision to step down and would be grateful if you can pass on our thanks to all of the current team for their efforts over the years."

Regards, Tim Hyde

"Williton would be a lesser place without it." R.I.

"When my husband and I moved here 6 years ago we looked forward to the magazine being delivered. It has kept us updated on village news and events and helped us settle in." L.M.

"It would be a great pity to lose such a valuable asset to the village and all of the businesses that it has supported over the years." R.M.

"I appreciate this is at a difficult time for the 'flag ship' village magazine in West Somerset. I wonder if you have found others to help?" I.S.

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*from SD*

Think before you envy someone, because someone elsewhere is probably envying you.

*Cover photo: Not actually in Williton but very close by, these flowers are part of a stunning roadside verge planted with wild flowers by the owner of Capton Manor in Capton.*

# Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group

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

Helpline Number

**01984 573673**

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

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

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

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

There's a list of traders and their opening times on our website as the situation changes frequently.

**[www.willitonhelp.co.uk](http://www.willitonhelp.co.uk)**

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE FROM 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.





**DON'T TAKE THE RISK THIS SEASON**  
**GET THE FLU VACCINE.**

**2020**

**FLU**

**You are an "at risk" patient  
 so don't forget to book your Flu jab!**

**Face coverings must be worn in clinics**

**We start taking bookings from 1<sup>st</sup> September**

**West Somerset Healthcare 01984 632701**

**NHS**  
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## Quantock Foodbank

To everyone who supported us all through lockdown and used the Top Ten poster, we send our thanks. You helped us enormously by donating those items which we needed most and ensured that we never once ran out of items required to fill the food parcels.

Since we opened in November 2018, we have fed 4,000 people, and 1,900 of these were from the start of lockdown to the end of June. Although we expect numbers to drop significantly during July and August, we anticipate that there will be an increase in the Autumn as many furloughed and seasonal workers are laid off. Since the foodbank will still have an ongoing role to play during the financial fall out and any further outbreak of Covid-19, we value your continued contributions.

On 18 June we received the news that the Quantock Foodbank had been entered on the Register of Charities as a CIO, which was the culmination of many months of hard work by the Trustees.

Kathryn Flenley, Chair, Quantock Foodbank

Tel: 07483 815122 Email: [quantockfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:quantockfoodbank@gmail.com)

Thank you for all your support.

## WILLITON LIBRARY

Williton Library will be re-opening to offer the order and collect service, from Monday 3rd August..

To begin with, we are only open for returning items, collecting reserved items and booked computer sessions.

Our revised opening hours will be:

Monday 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm

Tuesday closed (as usual)

Thursday 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm

Friday 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm

Saturday 11am - 1pm

Social distancing measures will be in place for when you return and collect, or have booked a computer.

To use the order and collect service, please use the online form here:

[https://secure.somerset.gov.uk/forms/Portal\\_Show\\_Form.asp?](https://secure.somerset.gov.uk/forms/Portal_Show_Form.asp?fm_formalias=SLRRS)

[fm\\_formalias=SLRRS](https://secure.somerset.gov.uk/forms/Portal_Show_Form.asp?fm_formalias=SLRRS) on [www.somersetlibraries.co.uk](http://www.somersetlibraries.co.uk). Williton Library should be appearing in the drop-down menu soon. If you cannot access an online form or you require a paper form, they will also be available from the Library during the opening times.

Public computers available for slots up to one hour (prior booking required, email [Librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk) or ask at the library). Face coverings are required for those using a pre-booked computer (exemptions apply - please check with library staff).

Visit the Somerset Libraries website for more information.

We look forward to welcoming you all back, and will update you as soon as we can start offering more!



## UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

### **ST PETER'S CHURCH**

For spiritual help, please contact:  
the Vicar: Rev Clive Gilbert on 631005  
Associate Vicar: Rev Kathryn Flenley 633568

### **CHURCH DOORS HAS RETURNED TO PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS**

It is with huge joy that I can announce that we opened for public worship on Sundays 19th and 26th July with services of Evening Prayer in the afternoons.

From Sunday 2nd August we will be holding our first Parish Communion Service at 9.15 am. This will be a shorter service than we had before lock down and social distancing needs to be kept. We will all need to wear face masks and accept that these differences are for everybody's health and safety. We will continue with our Service via "Zoom" at 10.30 am for the time being.

Over the course of the next weeks and months we will increase the number of services we offer. If you would like to know more, please ring me. We are also exploring the possibility of starting some of our other activities when we are allowed to do so.

This has been a very unusual and worrying time for us all and we thank God for all the countless acts of kindness and sacrifice that have been made by so many. The food bank and volunteer group have done amazing work and there is a real sense in which these unprecedented circumstances have brought the best out in our communities. I pray that this spirit of care and concern for others will continue and grow.

Huge praise must also be given to our health centre, pharmacy and Croft House and St. Peter's and Danesfield Schools for the way in which they have shown selfless service to us all. Our prayers go out to all those who have lost loved ones during this time and we hope to provide opportunities to give thanks for their lives in church when conditions allow us to. We would also like to provide an opportunity for as many as people as possible to come together and publicly thank all those who have helped our community during this pandemic so there is much to think about, pray about and plan for in the future.

The church doors are very strong and very old but only ever designed to keep people safe in times of difficulty and danger. I pray that we will have learnt enough during recent months that they will never again be closed to prevent people worshipping and coming together as a community. May God bless you all,

*Clive Gilbert*

### **Services at and from St Peter's Church**

Sun. 2nd Aug.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 10.30 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"
	<b>(please contact Clive for the passwords for the month.)</b>
Sun. 9th Aug.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 10.30 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"

*(Continued on page 15)*

*(Continued from page 14)*

Sun. 16th Aug.

9.15 am. Parish Communion in church.

10.30 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"

Sun. 23rd Aug.

9.15 am. Parish Communion in church.

10.30 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"

Sun. 30th. Aug.

9.15 am. Parish Communion in church.

10.30 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"

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### **BAPTIST CHURCH (WATCHET)**

The Baptist Church normally meets at Knights Templar School every Sunday. The Baptist Church is currently meeting online at [youtube.com/watchetbaptist](https://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.

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### **METHODIST CHURCH**

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

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

---

### **THE SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS**

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

**(Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)**

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

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### **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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

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### **FABRIC FACE COVERINGS**

A massive thank you to everyone that has donated either bedding, fabric and/or time making the fabric face coverings, each one takes around 30 minutes (cut, sew, press, pleat, top stitch and press again).

If you are in the Coronavirus vulnerable group, and have not yet requested your pack, please call **01984 573673** and someone will pop a one through your letterbox.

Please remember that the Doctor's Surgery now requires you to wear a mask when attending appointments as do the hospitals. Face coverings are also mandatory on public transport and in enclosed public spaces such as supermarkets, indoor shopping centres, transport hubs, post offices, banks and takeaways. Police can hand out.

If you don't need one now, you will in the coming months, so please don't delay and call **01984 573673**.

*Dawn-Lesley Howes*

Many people have missed going to their local Talking Café run by CCS Agents – there were 21 venues at the last count before lockdown. We are delighted to be back with our Talking Cafés – virtually anyway – streaming live weekdays at 11am on our Facebook channel – [www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset/live](https://www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset/live). You can catch up on previous sessions or join in on the lives each day, asking any questions you have in the comments and interacting with us agents again. We'd love to 'see' you there online and help in any way we can – don't forget the question you ask and have answered during the live session may help many other people in the same boat who are watching!

**Loneliness:** We all feel lonely from time to time. Feelings of loneliness are personal, so everyone's experience of loneliness will be different. One common description of loneliness is the feeling we get when our need for rewarding social contact and relationships is not met. But loneliness is not always the same as being alone. You may choose to be alone and live happily without much contact with other people, while others may find this a lonely experience. Or you may have lots of social contact, or be in a relationship or part of a family, and still feel lonely – especially if you don't feel understood or cared for by the people around you (see our information on the [causes of loneliness](https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/loneliness/about-#WhatCausesLoneliness) <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/loneliness/about-#WhatCausesLoneliness>). Lockdown has amplified this for many people, as groups and regular social activities have ceased, but there is always support and help at hand. We can arrange regular Talk & Support calls for you for free, just to have someone to chat to, arrange befriending services and link you to Good Neighbours schemes where they are set up – our Agents are very skilled in helping people overcome loneliness and reduce isolation.

**Care during Hot Weather** Warm weather is something many people look forward to every year, but it's worth remembering that sunny spells can pose health risks for some people. Before the hot weather arrives, it is a really good time to think about what you can do to protect yourself and your family and friends from heat. For some people, such as older people, those with underlying health conditions and those with young children, the summer heat can bring real health risks. That's why we're urging everyone to keep an eye on those you know who may be at risk this summer. If you're able, ask if your friends, family or neighbours need any support.

The top ways for staying safe when the heat arrives are:

Hydration is crucial: Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol.

Make sure you keep water with you at all times, especially if you are out and about

Close curtains on rooms that face the sun to keep indoor spaces cooler and remember it may be cooler outdoors than indoors

Try to keep out of the sun between 11am to 3pm

Walk in the shade, apply sunscreen and wear a hat

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Wear light, loose fitting cotton clothes

If you feel unwell, seek medical help by calling 111.

**Out on Bikes:** During lockdown, many people have taken the opportunity to get their family out on the bikes to enjoy the quiet sunny lanes. It's a timely reminder not just for cyclists to be car aware, but for drivers to 'Think Bike' and really slow down on country lanes. This time of year navigating windy, narrow lanes, your view may be obstructed overgrown hedgerows. Avon and Somerset Police have excellent advice for cyclists here, from being safe on the road, to keeping your bike safe : <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice/staying-safe-on-the-road/staying-safe-on-your-bike/>

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice/staying-safe-on-the-road/staying-safe-on-your-bike/>. RoSPA provides further advice for motorcyclists on their website here: <http://orlo.uk/TQLKZ>

**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](mailto: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.**

## FORGET ME NOT CAFÉ

We are still functioning! Every Saturday afternoon at 4pm there is a Zoom meeting for members, family and friends, as well as an invited speaker. Cake and coffee or tea provided by Zoomers! For those without computers we are keeping in touch with phone calls and the post.

If you know anyone for whom this might be a help or interest, please ask them to contact me on 07973 638030 or email [watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)

*Margaret Tatham, Watchet and the Quantocks DAA*

## WELCOME TO WILLITON - WELCOME PACK

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

## 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 Elliot's Touch, a Watchet charity to help fund research and find cures for Mitochondrial Disease in children. We are very grateful to the Post Office for stocking this book.

## ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

The sight of a newly thatched roof - especially mine!

*by SD*



## WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

To contact Williton Parish Council telephone 01984 633979 and talk to Michelle or Jo, or email Michelle [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk) or Jo [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk)

Despite all the issues the pandemic has caused in the last few months, it has been wonderful to see the community spirit alive and strong in Williton. From the people manning the Coronavirus Community Group phone lines, collecting prescriptions, ferrying people to doctors and hospital, doing the shopping, being phone buddies, donating fabric, making masks and delivering them, as well as much more besides. And there are lots of pockets of neighbours looking out for fellow neighbours, it really is a shining light in what have been dark and frightening times for many.

Another reminder that FREE washable face coverings are still available to the elderly and vulnerable, so please call 01984 573673 to claim yours. Remember face coverings are now required in shops from 24 July as well as on public transport, in doctors' surgeries and hospitals. So don't delay, get yours before you need them.

Following the resignation of a councillor last month, we now have THREE vacancies on the Parish Council. We'd love to have some young blood on the team, so please speak with Michelle, the Parish Clerk, and find out more.

*Cllr Dawn-Lesley Howes*

### IF YOU NEED HELP:

**Williton Surgery** Robert Street TA4 4QE Tel: 01984 632701 Out of hours: 111. In an emergency call 999.

**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 8 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) or her assistant (Jo Holmes) on 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@somersetcc.org.uk](mailto:izzy@somersetcc.org.uk) or tel: 07931 018045. Leave a message with your contact details.

**WASPS** - WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREA PARKINSON'S SUPPORT Tel: 01984 631472

### STATEMENT FROM CHIEF CONSTABLE ANDY MARSH:

I want to address some of the concerns raised about our handling of incidents over the weekend and give a wider context around the increasing demand we are facing as lockdown eases. To do this, I want to give a snapshot of the demand being placed on us to give the public a better understanding of the incidents we dealt with and the people we were trying to help over the weekend just gone.

Between 5pm on Friday 17 July to 8am on Monday 20 July, we received 1,017 calls to 999 requiring an immediate emergency response and a further 914 which needed a priority response. This is in addition to calls to the non-emergency 101 number and reports submitted online through our website.

The incidents we attended resulted in 178 people being taken into custody between Friday and Sunday – a 20 per cent increase on the last weekend of June and higher than the levels we were seeing before lockdown began.

#### **Significant incidents from over the weekend included the following:**

- A serious disorder in Easton, Bristol, on Saturday night following which two men were stabbed. One man was left in a serious condition. Two arrests were made and an investigation is ongoing

- A 150-strong street party in Easton

- Four serious collisions – a pedestrian died on the M32, another on the M5 near Clevedon and people suffered very serious injuries in collisions in Henbury and Yeovil

- 14 officers were assaulted while trying to help people and protect the public, facing being spat at, biting, scratching, punching, kicking, pushing and verbal abuse – including racial abuse. All these officers remained on duty – including one who returned to work immediately after treatment to a dislocated shoulder.

- We pulled officers away from front-line response duties to form a dedicated unit to respond to reports of unlicensed music events. This team successfully prevented one such event near Frome in Somerset on Saturday night after information from the public – but were then deployed to Upper Swainswick near Bath to prevent any more people turning up to a rave which was already underway when we had our first calls. We called officers in from rest days and other forces to close the event down by Sunday afternoon. We've seized five vehicles and sound equipment and made one arrest. A post incident review is ongoing and we will take robust action against those found to be responsible.

- Officers were trying to find 39 missing people – including nine assessed as high risk

- There were 95 calls reporting concern for welfare and 36 for people in mental health crisis

- Officers also had 79 reports of domestic assault to respond to

We cover a huge area – from Thornbury to Chard and Minehead to Frome, and on a daily basis my officers and staff show great professionalism and dedication in dealing with everything from theft, assault, complex fraud investigations, the protection of children and vulnerable adults, helping victims of

domestic abuse and hate crime and delivering the worst news possible to families after collisions and serious incidents.

This is all on top of three months of additional pressure on officers and staff working tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, despite the clear risks to their own health.

We have a proud tradition of policing by consent. This means working with our communities. We put our lives on the line to serve and protect and you play your part by reporting incidents, giving us information and showing pride and respect for the community you're a part of.

Sadly, we don't have limitless resources and can't be everywhere at once. We have to use our professional experience to assess every call, every request for help – and consider what incidents pose the greatest risk to public safety.

Our brilliant 999 and 101 call handlers quickly prioritise calls based on the risk of harm – potential loss of life, serious injury or sexual assault, factoring in the vulnerability of victims and witnesses and whether the offender is on the scene.

Our officers, supported by a wide range of police staff and volunteers, will then respond. Their actions are dictated by the evidence and resources available and a wealth of legislation. Our first priority is to keep everyone safe. That's victims and witnesses – but also officers and staff and it includes suspects and offenders, no matter what we're told they have done.

I am hugely proud of my officers and staff and the special constables and volunteers who give their time to support us. We don't always get it right, but we learn from the times where we do fall short.

---

## FROM AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE

### **25/06/20 9788 Somerset: Covid-19 Related Frauds & Scams a useful guide.**

The attached booklet has been created to address some of the most common Frauds & Scams and to provide some insight on how to best protect yourselves, this includes those currently working from home. Please do take a moment to read through the information as there is also key information regarding the NHS Test and Trace system.

[covid-19-fraud-guide.pdf](#)

### **06/07/20 9788 AW052 Theft from a Garden Shed.**

A garden shed has been broken into in Chilcombe Lane, Bicknoller around 00:30 on the 5th. The offender/s had broken open the main door of the shed after negotiating through a narrow double door initially and once inside have stolen a Stihl Electric Chainsaw, Strimmer, Battery & Charger. Also a Stihl Hedge Trimmer and Lawnmower which were later found abandoned in the lane. It is thought an older White Van may have been involved.

Please remember that if a crime IS in progress or has JUST occurred, or if there IS a threat of harm, time is of the essence and you should call the police on 999. When a situation happened in the past and you're NOT at risk, use 101.

To contact the Police about this incident, please call 101 quoting Reference number: 5220147340 Neighbourhood Watch / Crimestoppers on 0800 555111,

thank you.

[securing-your-garden-and-outbuildings.pdf](#)

### **10/07/20 9788 Somerset: Scam Automated Phone calls (Visa).**

Please be aware that one of our schemes has reported another potential scam. This time an automated call from Visa stating a transaction for £299 to Tesco has been authorised and asking for confirmation. The telephone number that called was 02039 669 829.

Several members have reported to have received the same call already. Should you receive the same call, simply hang up and notify Action Fraud on this number 0300 123 2040 or report it via their website below:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

### **1/07/20 9788 AW052 Residential Burglary. (For Information, keep your pet safe)**

A home in South Road, Watchet was burgled on the 20th between midday and 3:40pm. The outer door to the property was open but the inner door to the main residence was locked and secure and showed no sign of forced entry. The offender had managed to gain entry via the front door and once inside stole a 16 week old puppy before departing back through the front door. The victim later contacted the police again to state they had seen the puppy for sale on Gumtree in the Bristol area and a mobile number was provided, this was linked to a male who is known for artifice crime and theft offences. Enquiries by officers from Concorde house at the suspects address led to the arrest of the suspect and the recovery of the puppy. Please do ensure your pet is microchipped with up to date information, it has proven invaluable in the circumstance above. This is unusual for a pet to be stolen, but with more and more people taking on puppies and their ever increasing value, this may change.

---

## ARE YOU SHOPPING ONLINE?

### **Have you bought anything online recently?**

Almost 34% of all retail sales during May 2020 were carried out online, and new research suggests that only 16% of UK consumers intend to return to their old shopping habits post-lockdown.

**Online shopping fraud during lockdown** Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime, received **over 16,000 reports** relating to online shopping and auction fraud during the lockdown, with losses totalling over **£16m**. Members of the public have reported buying mobile phones (19%), vehicles (22%), electronics (10%) such as games consoles, AirPods and MacBooks, and footwear (4%) on sites such as eBay (18%), Facebook (18%), Gumtree (10%) and Depop (6%), only to have the items never arrive.

**Top tips for shopping online securely: Choosing where to shop:** If you're making a purchase from a company or seller you don't know and trust, carry out some research first. For example, by checking to see if others have used the site and what their experience was.



**Email accounts:** Use a strong, separate password for your email account. Criminals can use your email to access other online accounts, such as those you use for online shopping. **Scam messages:** Some of the emails or texts you receive about amazing offers may contain links to fake websites. Not all links are bad, but if you're unsure don't use the link, go separately to the website. And remember, if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is.

**Payment method:** If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one as other payment providers may not provide the same protection.

**What to do if you've fallen victim to online shopping fraud** We all make mistakes and these days the scams can be incredibly convincing. If you think you've visited, or made a purchase on, a bogus website, you should first, take a note of the website's address, then close down your internet browser. You should then report the details to Action Fraud and contact your bank to seek advice. Whether you've been a victim of fraud will depend on how much information you've provided to the website, so keep an eye on your bank transactions, if you can. Contact your bank immediately about anything that you don't recognise, even small amounts.

*For more information about how to stay safe online, please visit [www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime)*

## DOWN AT THE STATION

Well, at last we are down at the station again even if there are no trains running. This past month we have returned and to date, have made very good progress in weeding the tracks. The weeds had started to grow at an alarming rate with some nearly two feet high. In teams of three or four (keeping social distances etc) we have weeded from the A39 road bridge right down as far as the Swindon shed, and over the next few weeks will slowly venture further on towards Doniford Halt. Other teams of WSR volunteers have been making slow progress on the main sections of track between the stations, but with twenty odd miles that is a long weed! Other than that some regular maintenance has recommenced with repairs to fencing etc.

The Book and Bric-a-Brac Stall outside 6 Long Lakes has gone well and to date has raised £180 towards station funds. It has only been abandoned one day due to the weather which is really good. The Stall will continue during August although some weeks may be only for one day rather than two, Notices will be posted on the garage door. Please continue to come along as new books are coming in all the time. We recently had a pile of new Jigsaw Puzzles and most of those were sold quickly. Thank you for your support.

*John Parsons, Stationmaster*

## RECIPE FOR THE MONTH by Shirley Dee

### FRUITY RICE PUDDING FOR 4

400 g tin of creamed rice      5 level dessert spoons of soft brown sugar  
400 g tin of fruit cocktail

Heat the rice and mix in the drained mixed fruit salad, then pour into a flameproof dish. Top with the sugar and place under a hot grill until the sugar has melted and is bubbling. Leave to cool a little then enjoy with some cream!

View this magazine online at 22 [www.willitonwindow.org.uk](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk)

## ST PETER'S SCHOOL DIARY

Although we are now in the summer holidays, the last few weeks have seen a variety of activities in school.

Oak Class practised their archery skills, pedalled bikes on the big playground and spent lots of time making water runs. The children read Zog and then made their own dragon eggs by making papier maché balloons and decorating them in their favourite colours (with heaps of glitter too!) They also flew class kites out on the playground. The class went up to the newly laid environmental garden to do some seed planting and watering and enjoyed this so much that they went back later to carry on the gardening!

Ash Class designed and made rockets. The children made their rockets out of a decorated plastic bottle and launched them using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar - with mixed results! They were shown the reaction between diet cola and Mentos, then experimented to see how many Mentos would make the best stream of cola! The class made woven baskets by cutting a flower pot and weaving strips of coloured paper through and then each child made a chocolate rice crispy tray bake which was cut up and put in the baskets. The children learned about artist Romero Britto and created their own fish in his artistic style, using patterns, bold colours and black border lines to give their creations the 'wow' factor. They were asked to help out with the restoration of the environmental garden, so the children prepared the ground, scattered wildflower seeds and watered the seeds.

Rainbow Class looked at healthy eating and food groups and designed their own healthy pizzas which they also made and ate! The children wrote their own summer poems and had fun when they borrowed bikes from Danesfield School for their PE lesson.

Sunshine Class continued to weed the class planters and also used Danesfield's bikes for their PE lessons, as well as practising their archery skills. A highlight for the students was drawing 'Starry Night' by Vincent Van Gogh. The children also learned about Canada on Canada day! The students (dressed in red and white) learnt about the provinces and time zones of the country and about some of the famous landmarks. Of course, they had to learn about the maple leaf on the Canadian flag and its significance. So what better way to learn about the maple tree? Pancakes and Maple Syrup was enjoyed by the children as a treat and they finished the day creating their own Canadian flag, using wax crayons and black sugar paper! The class also studied hygiene as a basic need for humans and started a potato germ experiment. The children used dirty hands to handle the potato, then cleaned their hands and touched another piece of potato. The students wanted to see the effect this may have on the potato!

Since our return in June, we have been working hard to improve the school. We have cleared the area at the front of the school and the environmental garden is getting a much needed revamp too, with the help of our committed and dedicated PTA. As part of the improvements our Happy Stars and Forest School groups laid flamingo stones down outside the entrance which has made a huge difference.

SG

*We are so much going to miss these diary contributions from Sue Gilpin, who has now left St Peter's School. Thank you, Sue, for my favourite article every month. You are an inspiration and we wish you well in your future life. Jenny Gibson*

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## THE REBUILDING OF STREAM BRIDGE, MARCH - JULY 2020



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24

[www.wiltonwindow.org.uk](http://www.wiltonwindow.org.uk)

## WORDSEARCH FOR AUGUST by Phyllis Chidgey

### RIVERS OF THE WORLD

A	N	A	B	A	D	I	E	N	O
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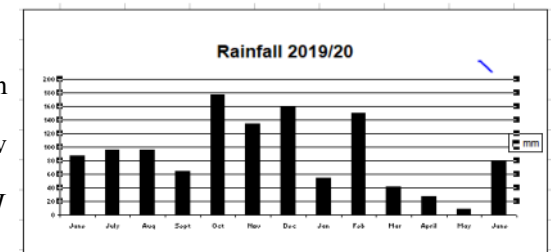
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ONEIDA  
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ORANGE  
GANGES

CALDER  
ALBANY  
TEVIOT  
SENEGAL  
THOMSON  
PARRAMATTA  
SACRAMENTO

## WEATHER - JUNE

Another record: June 24th was the hottest June day on record, in some places it was higher the next day. Temperatures were up to 28°C on the 24th (33°C recorded at Heathrow). The coolest night was 8°C on 9th, but there were quite warm nights for most of the month: 12°C or higher!

The minimum pressure was 29.6 inches on the 6th, followed by a maximum pressure of 32 inches on the 7th. We had a rain total of 78 mm for the month, even so we saw the sun on 24 days! There was fog on 16th and thunder on 17th. PJ



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- Assistance with interview preparation
- **West Somerset Advice Service** are at the hubs for the whole community to access

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

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

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

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

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

**VALUED VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

**at all hubs please phone if you can help!**

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