



WILLITON WINDOW

Your Church and Community Magazine
September 2020
Volume 21 Number 3

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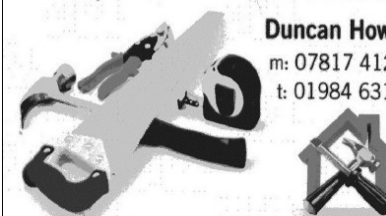
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DEADLINE DATES FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE

ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

The magazine will be ready for collection at the PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

Between 9.30am and 12.30pm weekdays from FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

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: willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

CUT OUT AND KEEP - USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Church of England (St Peter's)

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

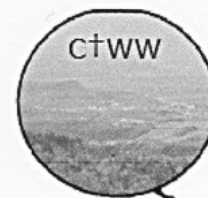
Hall address and telephone: 1 Brendon Road, Watchet 633133

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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 www.willitonwindow.org.uk



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Can you help with donating top five items listed above in this poster?

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THE FORGET ME NOT CAFE

The Forget-me-not Cafe for people living with dementia or other memory problems and their carers is meeting in different ways as we cannot get together indoors.

We are holding fortnightly Zooms on Saturday afternoons at 3.30pm alternating with a meeting on Friday mornings at 10.30am for tea or coffee outside the Esplanade club (drinks bought at the Marina café, Watchet).

You can join in the Zooms using an ordinary landline phone if you don't have access to a computer, tablet or smartphone. However you want to join in, contact us for the links and codes.

These are the dates -

August 28th	Esplanade and Marina Café
September 5th	Zoom meeting
September 11th	Esplanade and Marina café
September 19th	Zoom meeting <i>Singing with Paul Fricker</i>
September 25th	Esplanade and Marina Café
October 3rd	Zoom meeting
October 9th	Esplanade and Marina Café

In the meantime, I am investigating other places that we might be able to meet indoors, but I realise that a lot of people are very vulnerable and we have to be extremely careful.

For more information contact Margaret on 07973638030 or Georgie Lewis on 01984 631738

Margaret Tatham

watchetdementia@gmail.com

WILLITON WINDOW BACK IN PRINT

Dear Readers, it has been a long time since this magazine has been in print. I know some of you who do not have online access have not seen the Window since April. I am sure I do not have to remind you that a lot has happened. I don't believe anyone of us saw this Pandemic coming and what impact it would have and will continue to have for some years to come. That said, it has also allowed all of us to reflect on what we do and whether it was time to perhaps look forward, say goodbye to some things and embrace new things. We have some new team principal members, you can read below under **Who Am I** a brief from each one as to who they are.

Jenny Gibson has been a stalwart at making sure this excellent publication came through your letter box every month, even though for four months because of Covid 19 restrictions this could not happen, the work load for Jenny remains the same in making sure it was available online and e-mailed to as many as possible. The Williton community owe Jenny and husband Tony a huge debt of gratitude for all the time and effort they have put in over the last fourteen years. Thank you does not seem enough but has to be said for an excellent job well done. **Well Done Jenny & Tony Good On You**, we wish you both well in the future. I know a new editor will be seeking Jenny's experience in the initial months of taking over.

Also, our very grateful thanks go to **Tony Guest** for looking after the advertising and accounts for many years our sincere thanks for all your hard work. We wish you well for the future.

We have also recruited some new volunteers helping with deliveries and we say a big **Thankyou** to all those who have decided to retire from this task and give a warm welcome to our new volunteers. DRS.

Who Am I?

New Editor

I am Derek Smith taking over the job of Editor of Williton Window, one of the new team taking the reins. By the time you read this I will have been in Williton with my wife Jackie and my Granddaughter Louise just over six months. We came from Maidenhead in Berkshire, for Jackie and I to retire and a realisation of a dream to leave suburbia behind and live in the peaceful countryside. Williton has lovely countryside all around it and I have already walked most of the local footpaths and also cycled around the area.

I have been a regular church member all my adult life and spent most of my working life behind a Crown Post Office Counter. I have held most posts associated with church including editor of a church & community magazine. I am looking forward to the challenge but please bear with me while I get used to all the requirements of this important job. DRS.

New Advertising Contact / Treasurer

My Name is Janet Cook, I have lived in Somerset for over 40 years, having moved from Hampshire to undertake my nursing training at Musgrove Park Hospital. I later trained as a Primary School Teacher and have taught in many local schools, including Old Cleeve, St Peters, Stogumber and Bishop's Lydeard. My husband Phillip and I moved to Williton just over a year ago and like Derek have enjoyed getting to know the village and residents by walking around the many public footpaths.

Hopefully by the time you read this I will have contacted all of the current magazine advertisers to introduce myself personally. I also look forward to hearing from any new contributors over the coming months to help ensure the continued success of Williton Window and as Derek has said please bear with me as I get to know the ropes in this new role. *JC.*

New Delivery Co-ordinator

My name is Neill Ambridge, and with my wife Patricia and 2 pets, moved to Williton just over 4 years ago. Previously I had lived in Surrey near Heathrow Airport which combined with a job in computer software support equated to a very hectic way of life. I have found Williton and the surrounding area to be very friendly and I can be seen out walking with my white lurcher Hettie.

I will be sorting the magazines with my colleague Andrew Berry and liaising with all the wonderful volunteers who deliver the Williton Window. I look forward to meeting or speaking with you in the near future. *NA.*

Distribution

Hello, my name is Andrew Berry. I have lived in Williton since retiring from the National Health Service three years ago. I was born and grew up in Norton Fitzwarren near Taunton but spent nearly all my working life in South East London.

Up until the lockdown I had been involved with some voluntary work with the Minehead Dementia Action Alliance as well as being involved with activities via the University of the Third Age. *AB.*



Derek Smith



Janet Cook



Neill Ambridge



Andrew Berry



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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

From SD.

Life is full of surprises you never know what is round the next corner.

LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Being the only one to know the answer to the winning quiz question.

If you enjoyed the last little book of wit and wisdom look out for the next one on sale for £2.50p in aid of **Williton Hospital League of Friends**.
Give Barbara a ring on 634725

Cover photo: Harvest Done.

By Blackdown Wood looking towards West Quantocks head.

On a walk from Jenny Gibson's Walk Book.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group - ring 01984 573673 or email willitonhelp@yahoo.com

Williton Registration Office - 01823 282251 Pre-booked appointments only

Village Agent - Izzy Silvester email izzy@somersetcc.org.uk or tel: 07931 018045.
Leave a message with your contact details.

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



Williton Library re-opened 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)

Wednesday 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm **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?fm_formalias=SLRRS](https://secure.somerset.gov.uk/forms/Portal%20Show%20Form.asp?formalias=SLRRS) on 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 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!

Does anyone know what this building is?



On a recent walk passing between Torre and Bardon on the side of the footpath I saw this structure. It reminds me of a bread oven. It seems too small to be an old Pill box left over from the Second World War. There are no other buildings close by.

If you know the answer perhaps you can contact us and let us know.

To: willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

Williton Station



Alas no trains!

LibrariesWest

Library Announcement

Dear Library Member,

We are delighted to let you know that we are taking steps to link library customers to items which were requested prior to lockdown and which customers would still like to borrow.

However, please note that we are not yet able to re-open our online reservation system whilst we clear the backlog of requested items which have been in limbo since late March.

No outstanding reservations? Skip to the end of this message for other important information.

Reservations placed prior to lockdown

It is going to take longer than usual for us to find and deliver items that you have requested, and we ask for your patience as we adjust our processes to ensure that they are Covid-19 secure. Where an item that was requested is only located in a library which remains closed, it will not be possible to supply it yet. If you requested collection/pickup from a library that is closed, we will be unable to supply it.

Not sure whether you still want to borrow the item you requested? Please log on to your library account at www.librarieswest.org.uk and cancel anything that you no longer need, to help your library service focus resources on items that customers still wish to borrow. If you need a PIN reminder, please go to www.librarieswest.org.uk click on 'Log in' and then 'Forgot my PIN'. When your item is available you will be contacted by the library to arrange collection. Items are usually held for 14 days

Other Library Changes

As we re-open our libraries, some things may look and feel quite different click here <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-communities/libraries/some-libraries-planning-to-re-open-soon/> to find out more about library services available in Somerset including the order and collect service https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=SLRRS which you can use to request help in finding something to read.

Continued on next page

Library Announcement Continued

Returning Items

Now that libraries are starting to re-open, it is important that you are aware when your items are due for return.

Check your library account to see when they are due back. You can do this at www.librarieswest.org.uk or by using the Libraries West app.

If you need a PIN reminder, please go to www.librarieswest.org.uk click on 'Log in' and then 'Forgot my PIN'.

The majority of loans have been extended to at least 1st September 2020. However, as the return date approaches, you are advised to either return your items or renew them.

You can return items to any library that is open. You can renew via your online account or the library app. Please be aware that any items that were already overdue on March 18th 2020 that you still have on loan will start accruing overdue charges from Monday 17th August. Overdue charges were paused between March 18th and August 16th so you will not be charged for this period.

Keeping you reading online

1000's of e books, e audiobooks, and even magazines, newspapers and comics are available to download for free! Whether you're looking for the latest issue of BBC Good Food magazine, today's edition of The Guardian, or a great book to read or listen to just visit www.librarieswest.org.uk for more information. We've recently increased the number of available titles – more than 800 new e books & 1400 new audio books - so there's now even more choice, with more being added each week!

If you head over to our social media pages, you will see engaging new videos, links and other information each day to suit all ages and interests – from regular story-times for children to gardening tips and health & wellbeing videos. Just visit www.facebook.com/somersetlibrariesuk or www.twitter.com/SomersetLib

Spread the word!

Tell your friends and family to join Libraries West online for free by sharing this link: <https://www.librarieswest.org.uk/join> - a membership number will be generated to enable access to free e Books, e audio books, e magazines, e comics and e newspapers.

Once our buildings re-open, new members who have joined online can call in to a library to upgrade their membership so they can also borrow physical items such as books, DVDs and Talking Books.

Sue Crowley Strategic Manager – Somerset Libraries



WILLITON WEATHER



AUGUST

So far...the 7th. was the hottest ever recorded in England, but not here as only 28C. The MET said it is the driest summer, more than average, only 53% of the usual rain!

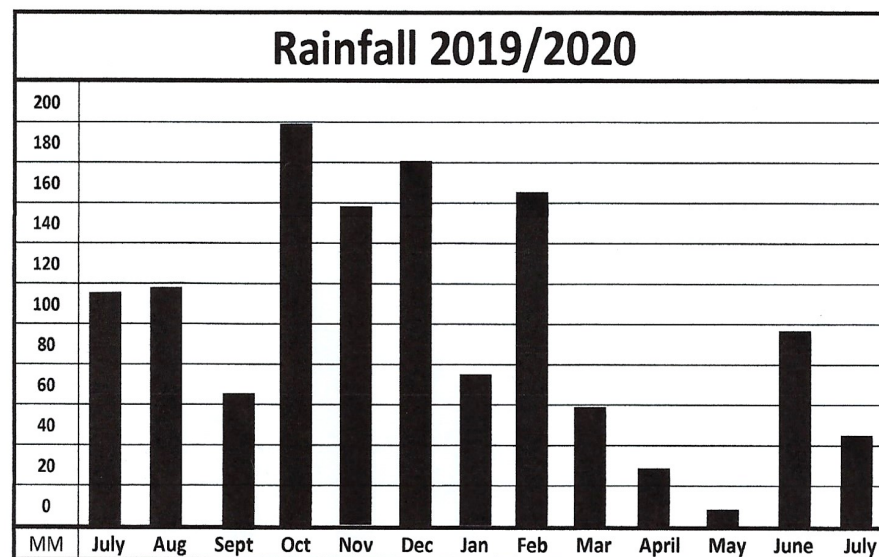
JULY

The maximum temperature 29C was on 31st., but 26C on 8th. & 18th. It was 25C or over on 12 other days with the sun seen most days and rain on only a minimum temp of 8C on 11th.

The Maximum pressure 30.4inches on the 12th. the Minimum was 29.8inches on the 25th.

The total rainfall was 47mm on 11 days and the sun was seen on some of these wet days.

The predominant wind was from the south west 10 days and west 10 days.
Pj.



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 1st September**

West Somerset Healthcare 01984 632701

NHS
 Providing NHS Services

UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

ST PETER'S CHURCH
 For spiritual help, please contact:
 Vicar: Rev Clive Gilbert on 631005
 Associate Vicar: Rev Kathryn Flenley 633568

DailyHOPE
 0800 804 8044
 A free phone line of hymns,
 reflections and prayers
 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
 CONNECTIONS

CHURCH DOORS HAS RETURNED TO PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS

We continue to hold services at 9.15 on Sunday mornings at St Peter's – all are welcome and we can accommodate comfortably about 24 worshippers at present (a few more if people of the same household attend!) We will all need to wear face masks during these shorter services 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.

We have learnt over these long months that caring for each other's welfare is of paramount importance and all other concerns pale into insignificance. At the end of his ministry, Jesus said these words, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Those listening were unsure what he meant so he continued, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

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. We are truly all in this together. May God bless you all, *Clive Gilbert*.

Services at and from St Peter's Church

Sun. 30th. Aug.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 11.00 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"
Sun. 6th Sept.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 11.00 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom" (please contact Clive for the passwords for the month.)
Sun. 13th Sept.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 11.00 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"
Sun. 20th Sept.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 11.00 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"
Sun. 27th Sept.	9.15 am. Parish Communion in church. 11.00 am. Sunday Service via "Zoom"

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 on Sunday at 6pm. For more information visit the **website**: www.watchetbaptist.org.uk or email mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk or telephone 01984 633755.

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.

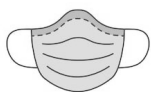
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

FREE FABRIC FACE COVERINGS

- ☐ Do you live in the Parish of Williton?
- ☐ Are you over 70?
- ☐ Are you in the COV10-19 vulnerable group?

You are entitled to **2 FREE face masks**
made by the ladies & gent
(in Williton & surrounding villages).



These are cotton & are washable at 60°.

Please call the
Williton Coronavirus Community Help Group
on **01984 573673** to request yours.

Dawn-Lesley Howes

Williton and Surrounds Parkinson's Support Group

Congratulations to all the people who have kept the Williton Window open. Derek and his group will follow in well trod footsteps. It is good to see that there are people out there who will take the Williton Window from strength to strength.

"The WASPS have not met as a group since February. It has been a very long 6 months and we are all feeling the need to keep in touch with each other. We have all done our best to phone each other from time to time and have a chat. It is really nice to hear from the other WASPS and it certainly brightens up our days. We have found many things to do to fill our days. There have been exercise classes we could tune into over the internet. These varied from the Silver Swans to PO Warrior and everything in between.

We managed to have one Committee meeting in our garden, obeying all the rules, and made plans just in case things started up again in the near future. This also gave us a chance to review our structure and our ability to do the work needed to keep our group running smoothly. We feel that we need someone that has basic computer skills to keep our records up together. It can be very hard to work on a computer when you have a tremor. The mouse goes flying across the pages and you find yourself in a place you have never seen before. And then there is the famous double click. You would not believe what that does to the files. If you have the skills and the time to help us we would really appreciate it. It would not take up too much time and it would really help us.

We know that this is a difficult time for everyone, but people still believe that support groups are very beneficial. Even without meetings going on we have had two new members joining us. The WASPS are still doing what we promised to do from the start, to give people with Parkinson's support, and to make sure that they know they are not alone. We hope to see all our WASPS back together again soon, but until then take care and keep well.

Linda Bishop. Committee Member

Contact at: queenwasp@outlook.com or telephone 01984 631472

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE
PLEASE CONTACT JANET COOK**

ON

01984 639359

e-mail: willitonwindow@yahoo.co.uk

FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER



Talking Café Live on Facebook:

Have you caught any of our sessions we stream live daily on Facebook? If not you can catch up on any of the Talking Café Lives here:

www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset/live.

A Village, Carers or Community Agent from CCS are LIVE weekdays at 11am to answer any questions or concerns you have – you can also ask privately via a message to the page. Each day Agents cover a different topic, and they have been so varied and interesting - below are just a few:

- ☐ Cooking on a Budget, where Rev. Jess whipped up 5 dishes for less than £10!
- ☐ Art Therapy ☐ Family Activities and things to do on a budget ☐ Library Service updates
- ☐ Hydration and UTI Advice ☐ Hospital Discharge Support ☐ Domestic Abuse ☐ Exercise to do from home and for people with reduced mobility ☐ Mental Health

All the Talking Cafés we have hosted on Facebook so far have had a combined total of 65,000 views!

Focus on Domestic Abuse awareness

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, of any age. We are seeing a particular rise in cases of abuse being reported by people over 71 years and with one in four women and one in six men experiencing some form of abuse in their lifetime the chances are we all know somebody who is experiencing domestic abuse behind closed doors.

It happens in all types of relationships, regardless of race, ethnic or religious group, class, disability, sexuality, lifestyle or nationality.

Tensions can escalate due to restrictions on socialising and 'normal life', but they are never an excuse for violence, manipulation, coercion and controlling a partner or family member. Even if you are self-isolating, government guidance allows you to leave your home to flee an abuser or seek help. It's rarely a one-off occurrence, but usually a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour. The Government define domestic abuse as:

“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.”

Types of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse can take many forms such as psychological, physical, sexual, economical and emotional.

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour

Continued on next page

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Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.”

Getting help if you are being abused

Online at <http://www.somersetsurvivors.org.uk>

Call the local helpline: **0800 69 49 999**

In an emergency always **dial 999**, even if you cannot speak for fear of being overheard, you can get help by **pressing 55** when the operator Answers.

Talk to any health professional or your local Village Agent – we can help!

Somerset pharmacies allow their consulting rooms to be a safe place for people experiencing abuse to get help and advice.

TOP TIPS TO AVOID SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

We have all been online and on social media more since lockdown began, and it's important to stay vigilant of new scams circulating. Get Safe Online safety experts have put together some simple tips to help you avoid becoming a victim of social media scams. www.getsafeonline.org

If you become a victim of a social media scam:

Report it to the social media network via the reporting mechanism on the site or app.

If you have lost money as a result of social media scams or via any other fraudulent activity, report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud reporting centre by calling 0300 123 20 40 or by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

CCS Village, Community & Carers Agents are in your communities across Somerset. They help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs. We can offer advice and support to find local groups and activities available in your community and help you with any queries you may have or situations that you need advice and support with.

Please visit www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk and www.somersetcarers.org or call me to find out who can advise you on **07931 014045**

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 PARISH COUNCIL

To contact Williton Parish Council telephone 01984 633979 and talk to Michelle or Jo, or email Michelle clerk@willitonpc.org.uk or Jo admin@willitonpc.org.uk

‘Well, how are we all doing?’ There have been so many changes in our lives over the past months that for many of us anxiety suddenly became another problem to deal with. For many of us this meant we had to learn how to change and there are those amongst us that find change difficult. But there were good changes just look at so many beautiful gardens around that if only our village fete had taken place; entries to show the best flowers, vegetables or crafts; would have been over-whelming and really caused the judges huge challenges.

But, there have been those amongst us who have stood up to a new type of challenge. People in so many positions within our public services across the numerous areas covered to whom we remain, so very grateful and proud. Those, who have gone to work for us, who have had to conquer their fears; daily facing exhaustion from long hours helping and caring for others. We cannot stop saying ‘Thank-you’ enough.

By being part of the Coronavirus Williton helpline, kindly set up by Wendy Spencer and Rebecca James, 01984573673 we on the Parish Council have been able to witness first-hand, how the community is coping and the great neighbourly spirit that came to the fore, when at times so desperately needed. ‘Clapping for Heroes’ brought so many people out on the street once a week, to show their appreciation but it did something else, it started at a distance, conversations started amongst neighbours who had barely spoken, some who had never spoken. People started to become aware that they hadn’t seen the elderly person who lives opposite, so they began to knock on doors to find out if they were okay.

On the helpline we’ve heard stories of acts of kindness, faces and names of neighbours now recognised, as friends. There have been exchanges of gardening tips, details of new found routes for daily exercise, recognition of the different types of birds now in the garden; all spoken over the garden fence or front gate. There are stories of those giving or receiving the odd phone call just to catch up, which have led to more stories some funny, some sad but tales of sharing moments of past or present. Through the helpline we have been able to share in reflections where our present day situation has caused memories in comparison to the last war, where thoughts have turned to growing up in the village, of schooldays and friendships, stories of sons and daughters who have driven miles each week to shout through the window to make sure your o.k. or to just leave bags of groceries on the doorstep, then to turn around and drive for miles home again.

Continued on next page

WILLITON PARISH CONCIL

Continued from previous page

There are some wonderful stories out there that we should record. I would like to do just that and add any recollections or past memories to our village Parish Council website. Many times over the months I have heard people say they are so glad that they live in Williton, so maybe it would be good to let others know who wish to learn; just why we feel it is a great place

If you would like to write a story, a memory or anything historical about the village please do contact me on cllr.nye@willitonpc.org.uk You can also write to me and just post it/or send to the Parish Office. We as councillors never want people to feel isolated and cut off, but we know that there are those in the village who have not picked up the phone, believing that no one would be interested in spending time having a chat. Believe me, we do and we have, spent hours over the past months doing just that. For all of us being locked away in isolation from those we love and the places we love to visit; has been a hard task, bringing with it ways we have had to find out just what the ‘new normal’ really means to us individually.

The village agents **01823 331222** have been working tirelessly to make sure that anyone needing help during lockdown has been contacted; along with the continual hard working teams at all the surrounding foodbanks. We have remained in contact with all of these, along with a list of other support groups in our surrounding villages; attempting to form a circle of communication to keep each other informed, almost daily at one point; concerning problems or help required.

There has been a wonderful generosity not just in peoples’ time given; but through donations of food items and fresh vegetables, financial which paid for elastic for masks and free portions of fish and chips to elderly or vulnerable all through lockdown. This was initially instigated from a selfless act, by John & Rachel who started using their tips to provide NHS workers with free suppers, then taken on by villagers contributions. There have been donations of reams of fabric from people in the village, that have kept machinists across the village donating their time, in making hundreds of free masks which we have helped distribute across every corner of the village. Volunteers have collected prescriptions, set up weekly shopping regimes, driven people to doctor’s appointments, made weekly phone buddy calls, walked dogs and helped dismantling storm damaged fences. To all of those who have given their time or donations we all thank you.

Councillor Barbara Nye

Information on Latest Telephone Scam

Please check your phone number display if you get INTERNATIONAL come up with the following number: **-02266-076902**

This is a company professing to be from BT it asks you to contact by pressing 1 for more details, to prevent having your phone line or internet disconnected. It is a **SCAM SCAM SCAM!!**

Please note the above and do not respond to this call



From Councillor Barbara Nye



Thought from the Salvation Army

A year has passed since my last comment in Williton Window so what can I say? Oh yes, the Covid-19 pandemic. What a shock when it became worldwide news, lock down or lock in whichever way you feel.

Well done to the NHS, carers, fire service, police and food banks etc for stepping up putting themselves at risk all of vital importance to our community.

When will it end, we ask? But it's like a flu virus that springs to life every winter. We may never be rid of coronavirus, but if we all act according to what is recommended, we are trying to put a STOP on the way.

If it's comfort you are looking for, the Bible offers us lots of encouragement. God says I will never leave you. Cast all your cares on God. Take no thought for tomorrow. That's a big one BUT God has promised never to leave us or forsake us.

I can hear some people say "Pie in the sky" If that's how you feel, try it, ask God to give you peace.

Yes, we are all wondering about the outcome. STOP, take notice of things in our lives and seek to move in a forward looking way. It won't be easy but we all need to be positive.

God Bless You , Sam.

Down at the Railway Station - September 2020

General maintenance at the station continues despite no trains running. The long hedge on platform two has had another haircut, much easier this time having been strongly cut a couple of months ago and the weeds? Yes they keep growing as well and we have had a second run through the main station tracks and have begun to expand a little outside the station as well.

At the present time it is still uncertain exactly when trains may resume running although it is hoped something may happen around Christmas, even if only for a week or so, with the aim of a fresh start next March. It seems so far ahead from now doesn't it?

On the fundraising side the book stall outside my home at 6 Long Lakes is still opening every Friday and Saturday, weather permitting, and sales have been steady.

I regularly receive additional books for sale and at present have about 200 general reading books with a further 100 or so books railway related. There are a few children's books and of course, the Bric-a-Brac which includes more items each week. I think I must say no more contributions for sale please or I will have to buy a larger house!! Anyway do come along and have a browse as all contributions are for the upkeep of our lovely railway station in Williton. Thank you for your support. **John Parsons Stationmaster**

LETTER FROM THE RIGHT REVEREND PETER HANCOCK BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS

I am writing this whilst receiving treatment in hospital, although by the time you read this, I hope that I may be back home having completed my first course of chemotherapy. The first thing I want to say, and I am sure this is echoed by so many, is what wonderful treatment and care I have received from everyone in the hospital. Their kindness, concern and professionalism are beyond words.

What is an unusual experience for me however, is that I have not been allowed to leave my room and the doors and windows have been kept firmly shut. Looking out of my window and craning my neck upwards I am just able to get a glimpse of the sky outside. Without that I would not know whether it was sunny or cloudy or raining outside. Not that I am in any way complaining. I am safe and receiving the best care imaginable. It is also important whatever may happen to keep a sense of proportion. I vividly recall hearing Terry Waite speak when he came to the diocese on one occasion. It is unimaginable what he went through in those 1763 days in Beirut – the first four years of which were spent in solitary confinement, blindfolded, in a basement room with no windows, with no books or papers, chained to a radiator and sleeping on the floor. His courage and faith are remarkable and have inspired so many people since. I remember him once being interviewed and being asked what the happiest moment of his life was, one that he would cherish forever. He replied: 'When my blindfold was taken off during my release in November 1991. I'd been in the dark – in a basement or blindfolded - for years. For the first time in five years I saw the sky, the grass, the colours, and I felt the wind on my face.'

Terry Waite is also very clear about how the prayers of so many others supported him through those years. As I write I am also very aware of all the prayers that have and are being said for me. That is both humbling and encouraging and once I am getting out and about again, I look forward to being able to thank you personally.

With my thanks, best wishes and prayers for you,

Bishop Peter

Editors Note.

We wish Bishop Peter all the very best in his ongoing treatment and remember Peter and family in our Prayers.

DS.

Hinkley Point

A drop in session was held at **Cannington Court** on the 21st August below are two items that may be of interest to some.

Southern Infrastructure Project

If you would like to receive regular updates regarding the Southern Infrastructure Project, where we will be building an Emergency Access Road onto site, please **get in touch**. Let us know your name and email address and ask to be added to the Southern Infrastructure Project distribution list. In the meantime, you can find the latest via our website details below.

Consultation on non-material change

Our application for a non-material change to the Hinkley Point C Development Consent Order seeks approval for changes to the layout of some smaller buildings on the Hinkley Point C site.

The changes to the layout are as a result of reviewing learning from our other power stations, incorporating evolving safety practice and security measures and improving the design of the buildings.

Consultation will run from 28 July to 4 September (inclusive) and comments on the application should be sent directly to the Planning Inspectorate.

For more info, visit our website www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity
Or E-mail: - Hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com

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.

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 or go to our website: www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack

WORDSEARCH FOR SEPTEMBER

by Phyllis Chidgey

Athletes

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

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- Help with job searching/applying for work
- CV writing and updating
- 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

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at all hubs please phone if you can help!

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