

Your Community Magazine

WILLITON WINDOW

May 2024

Volume 24 Number 11



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Williton Window Magazine

CONTRIBUTORS: DEADLINE DATES FOR THE JUNE ISSUE

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5PM TUESDAY 14TH MAY 2024

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All enquiries for advertising / articles / news & diary dates to:

Linda Wilson 07712 825043

All accounts enquiries to: Mr Ian Robson 07435 977003

Magazine distribution: Mr Neill Ambridge: 01984 639320

All email enquiries: williton@willitonwindow.co.uk

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We never share or sell any names or contact details.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Mind Line Somerset	Emotional support helpline	01823 276892
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	01984 633979
Pavilion	Bookings / Enquiries	01984 633979
Quantock Foodbank	Local Foodbank	07483 815122
Registry Office	Pre booked Appointments	01823 282251
Surgery	Robert Street TA4 4QE	01984 632701
Village Agent (Izzy Silvester)	Leave a message	07931 018045
WASPS	Local Parkinson's support	01984 631472
West Somerset Advice Bureau	Advice line:	0800 802 1808
WHEELS	Community Transport Service	07891 821861

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Williton Parish Council

01984 633979

clerk@willitonpc.org.uk or admin@willitonpc.org.uk

As May begins, Williton Parish Council will have already held its Annual Parish Assembly. Hopefully, some of you will have attended to see what's been happening and what future projects are in the pipeline.

With this in mind the projects below are in need of your support.

Firstly, the Williton Community Review: Councillor Denton has volunteered to take the lead. It is still in the early stages, and the steering committee is looking for local residents with an interest in the future of Williton to join us. There is a zoom meeting planned: if you would like to find out more, please email cllr.denton@willitonpc.org.uk

Secondly, the parish council is looking at the amenity area next to the children's play area. We do have a provisional plan but feel that this would benefit greatly with input from local residents, so that we can provide something that we will all appreciate and use.

Finally, we still have a vacancy on the parish council: no previous experience is necessary, just an interest in the local parish. If you have the time, it's worth joining so that we can improve the parish.

And on a final note, the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance are holding their 13th annual Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge on the 18th of May, starting from Watchet at 10.30 am and ending at West Bay. This is a worthy cause and support is always welcome on a tough challenge for participants. Hopefully it will be good weather and will raise lots of much needed funds!!

Cllr Guy Denton

CROQUET IS COMING TO WILLITON!!

All details will be in the June edition of
Williton Window

Look out for your copy end of May



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Williton Fete Flower Produce and Craft Show

Saturday 31st August 2024

This year's Flower, Produce and Craft Show is being held on Saturday 31st August in Williton Pavilion as part of the activities taking place in the village fete being held on the Memorial Ground.

There are classes for children, vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruit, domestic and craft, so there should be something for everyone to bake, make or grow.

Schedules and entry forms are available from the Parish Office in Killick Way, the Post Office, The Old Bank and Somerset Farmhouse.

This is a fun show so, even if you have never entered this type of show before, why not give it a try??!

Any queries or offers of help please contact **Peter Payne 01984 633084** or email peterstjohnslock@aol.com



2024
WILLITON
FLOWER,
PRODUCE &
RAFT SHOW
Sat 31 Aug
2.00—4.30 pm

COMPETITION for CHILDREN & ADULTS
Vegetables • Fruit • Flower Arrangements •
Flowers & Herbs • Jams • Cakes • Breads • Crafts

Schedule & entry forms available from Williton Parish Office, Wibble Farm Nurseries, Somerset Farmhouse and Williton Post Office from April

Pavilion open for exhibits to be staged 9:30am – 11:00am / Judging 11:15am – 1:30pm
Open to Public 2:00pm onwards / Prizes and Raffle Draw around 4:00pm
Closing date for all entries is Wednesday 28th August
Late entries will not be accepted
For further information please contact: Peter Payne 01984 633084



Sunday 21
July
10am—5pm

Williton
Village Wide
Garage Sale

Join us for the first
village wide garage
sale on Sunday 21 July

It costs £5 to register on the map.
Contact Williton Parish Council
on 01984 633 979
Deadline to Register:
Friday 28 June

View this magazine online at www.willitonwindow.org.uk



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*Applicable to stays starting before 31st March 2024 only, subject to availability. Somerset Care reserve the right to change/withdraw the offer at any time, without notice.



Services in May St Peter's Church Williton

UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

Website: www.watchetandwillitonbenefice.com/

May 2024

Sunday 5th	10am	Café Church
Sunday 12th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday 19th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday 26th	10.30am	All Age Benefice Communion

The church is usually open every day during daylight hours

St Peter's Church Contact Details

Vicar	Rev Mark Phillips	01984 639669
Churchwardens	Mr George Fenech Mrs Sue Withycombe	01984 633577 01984 632596
Ordinand	Mrs Julie Pelling	07973 961083
Reader	Mrs Donna Marsden	01984 633707
Reader	Clare Phillips	01984 639669
PCC Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Payne	01984 633084

The service on 26th May will be followed by a bring and share lunch as we say farewell to our Ordinand, Julie Pelling. Julie is being ordained at Wells Cathedral on 30th June.



CAMEO

(Come and meet each other)

Thursdays at St Peter's Church 10am - 12pm



Everyone welcome to drop in for coffee, cake and chat. Please speak to Sue or George (Churchwardens) if you have any questions, details above.

This is not a religious event. It is just an opportunity to meet others in our community and enjoy time together.



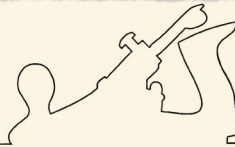
WEST SOMERSET CARER'S EVENT 15 JUNE 2024

WILLITON PAVILION SAT 25TH JUNE, 2PM - 5PM Free Cream Tea!!

Full details in next month's magazine

Or details from Izzy Silvester (Village Agent) 07931 018045

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Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground

(Regd Charity # 212112)



Private gardens and community spaces will be opening this year in the **Williton Village Gardens** event on **Sunday 2nd June**, from 10am to 5pm. Tickets/maps will cost £3 (hot drink included) and can be purchased from Williton Parish Council, Williton Post Office, Somerset Farmhouse and Glenmore Bakery from 7th May. Proceeds from ticket sales will be divided between Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground and The Quantock Foodbank.

Running on the same day – **Sunday 2nd June** - will be a **Craft Fair** at the Pavilion from 11am until 3pm. If you would like a table at the fair, please contact the Parish Office or email office@willitonpc.org.uk. The event will be free to buyers.

We are desperately in need of volunteers on 2nd June to help serve refreshments in the Pavilion kitchen.

If you can help, please contact me: cllr.howes@willitonpc.org.uk

We have extended the deadline to register for the **Garage Sale** on **Sunday 21 July**: please let us know by Friday 28 June if you would like to join in. It costs £5 to be included on a map, which will be made available to buyers free of charge through the village shops, Parish Office and on social media.

Schedules for the **Flower, Produce & Craft Competition** at **Williton Village Fete** on **Saturday 31 August** are available from Williton Parish Council, Williton Post Office and Somerset Farmhouse.

We are starting to collect items for the **Village Fete Tombola** so if you have anything suitable, please do drop it off at the Parish Office, which is open weekdays 10am-midday. If you cannot make these times, you are welcome to drop round to me at 25 North Croft.

Cllr. Dawn-Lesley Howes

Forthcoming Events

Williton Village Gardens – Sunday 2nd June – 10am-5pm

Craft Fair – Sunday 2nd June – 11am-3pm

D-Day – Lighting the Beacon - Thursday 6th June

Williton Village Garage Sale – Sunday 21st July

Williton Village Fete – Saturday 31st August

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Tracy Wint

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Williton and Surrounds

Parkinson's Support (WASPS)

We held our AGM on Thursday, 4th April at Sampford Brett Village Hall, before which Cathie was back with us after a short break to lead the exercises. Many of the exercises were to music, which members enjoyed - despite some random arm movements!

Our Annual Cream Tea has been arranged at Bicknoller Inn for Thursday 6 June: non-members are welcome to come and pay. Further details to follow. Plans were unveiled for a group outing in July. Members were given a choice between Tiverton Canal and Fleet Arm Museum: Tiverton Canal won! Details are still to be arranged - there is the possibility of minibus transport.

Our AGM followed: Treasurer's Report and re-election of Committee were unopposed.

Linda gave a brief synopsis of the Respite Fund which had been set up to help those with Parkinson's and the purchase of required items/medicines which are unavailable on the NHS. We agreed to transfer £300 from funds to the Respite Scheme. The Fund is completely anonymous: Sarah Barter (local Parkinson's representative) is the point of contact.

May's meeting will be on Wednesday 1st May, due to the hall being unavailable on the Thursday. Our speaker will be local historian and author, Geoff Lloyd, speaking about "Angels and Mules".

The meeting finished with suggestions from members regarding speakers and social media presence.

Jane



WILLITON WITH WATCHET WI

We are looking forward to April the 18th, when our speaker, Mr Phil Gannon, will be coming along to talk to us about the Mineral Line. I am sure that many of you have walked it and will find it a very enjoyable, local-interest talk. Let's hope that we will have some sunnier weather over the next few weeks to be able to get out for a walk without getting soaked!

Our AGM will be held on 16th May and then on Thursday June 20th. (half-way through the year!!) our speaker will be Lottie Dale, 'Treading the Wards', when Lottie will tell us about her experiences and adventures in the early 1970's at Barts Hospital in London. Visitors welcome as always.

Irene Draper

Williton with Watchet W.I.



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Look out for more info next month!

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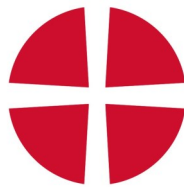
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Methodist Prayer for May



Hello Williton!

The Methodist group now go to Watchet at 10.30 on a Sunday for services and everyone is welcome to join us.



Our prayer this month is about working together and giving credit where it is due. Many of you in Williton do things for the community and we are all thankful that you do, and many others do things quietly and are not noticed but are still vital to the happiness of Williton.

But we can get cross when others don't do something our way, or not quickly enough, and then we have to take a step back and be grateful for what has been done. Let's try and work together happily, and we will go forwards.

Lord God, we have to work together with other people, and it can be annoying sometimes when they don't do things the way we want them to. It can be at work or at home - people can just be so irritating!

We have to learn to accept that everyone sees things differently and accept also that we are not always right. And one of the most important things is to thank someone for helping us, and tell them that they have done a great job. Again, not an easy thing to do, and we also need to accept compliments when they are aimed at us. It's all about listening to each other and treating each other as we want to be treated, as Jesus said.

So please, help us to stop being grumpy and just be nice to each other, amen.

Hymn: Lord, You call us to Your service StF 664
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtsubiBA78s>

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Faith Reflection

Greetings Friends,

I wonder if you remember any of these and how they made you feel?

Do you remember the first person you kissed? Your first holiday? The first car you drove? Your first (mobile) phone? The first time you told someone 'I love you'?

I hope that after any of these events, one thing is true – these are moments when we find that our world has changed, forever.

It's a brave thing, to do something new, or to allow someone to become part of your life and allow them to bless you, just as you bless them. Yet, I hope you will agree: it's the greatest feeling ever.

It will surprise very few of you that I also feel this way about the Easter story - and perhaps I'm not alone in this too.

There was a moment that made me stop, ask some big questions and pray hard. It was then that the penny dropped and that I believed, not just in my head, but in my heart, that Jesus is alive. The effects of those moments have stayed with me, every bit as much as my first kiss and my first love.

I think this is the best part of Jesus' rising from the grave. It was always meant to be more than just a five-minute wonder: it is something that we can carry with us every day, lifting our hopes higher as we recognise something of how greatly we are loved by God Himself.

My encouragement is to remember Easter and which part you enjoyed most, and ask yourself: "Am I still enjoying this, and how can I continue to do so?"

My challenge is to seek more of this joy for yourself. I believe that one of the gifts of the Easter story is knowing that God enjoys loving us, and will do everything to prove it.

My offer is to help explore the difference that Jesus can make today.

If you fancy a conversation, please feel free to get in touch, either with myself or one of the local churches.

Every blessing

Rev Andy Day,

Methodist Minister, Williton and Watchet

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS / GROUPS & EVENTS IN WILLITON

WEEKDAY	EVENT & TIME	LOCATION	PHONE NO.
Everyday	1pm -11pm	Williton Social Club	01984 248671
Mon	Pilates 9 - 10am & 10.15 - 11.15am	Pavilion	07342 238723
	Short Mat Bowls 2pm - 4pm	Pavilion	01984 633084
	Beavers 5pm - 6.30pm	Guide Brownies HQ	07806 968961
	Zumba 6pm - 7pm	Pavilion	07738 676832
	Scouts 7pm - 9pm	Guide Brownies HQ	07806 968961
Tues	Foxes Community-Lunch 12pm to 1pm	Pavilion (Term Time Only)	01984 633979
	Talking Café 1pm - 3pm	Pavilion (Brendon Room)	07931 018045
	Chatty Crafters 2pm - 4pm <i>(Except first Tues of the month)</i>	Danesborough Common Room	01984 634686
	Brownies 5.45pm - 7.15pm	Guide & Brownie HQ	07765 842747
Weds	Over 60s Exercise 10am -11am.	Pavilion	07421 762532
	Foxes Soup Club 12.30pm - 1.30pm	Pavilion (Term Time Only)	01984 633979
	Slimming World 4.30pm,	Pavilion, Main Hall	07960 173142
	Cubs 6.30pm - 8.00pm	Guide & Brownie HQ	07398 717048
	Slimming World 6.00pm	Pavilion, Main Hall	07960 173142
	Ballroom Dance Lessons 8pm - 9pm	Pavilion	07535 601217
Thurs	Cameo Coffee Group 10am - 12pm	St Peters Church	01984 639600
	Foxes Teas 2pm to 3.30pm	Pavilion (Term Time Only)	01984 633979
	Rainbows 5.30pm - 6.30pm	Guide & Brownie HQ	07484 601929
Fri	Zumba 9.30am - 10.30am	Pavilion	07738 676832
	Friday Walks 12pm	Meet opposite Library	01984 632459
	Squirrels 5pm - 6pm	Guide & Brownie HQ	07806 968961
	Guides 7.15pm - 9pm	Market St, Watchet	07584 037156

Please note some groups or events only operate during school term time

Thought for the Month

Keep an Open Mind . . .

it's the only way things can get in

Colleen Hoover

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH IN WILLITON & SURROUNDS

Monthly Meetings / Groups & Events for May 2024			
Wed	1st	WASPS (Wed. because Hall unavailable Thursday)	1.30pm Sampford Brett Village Hall
Weds	1st	Family History Session	PM. Book with library - One to One Sessions
Tues	7th	Good Neighbours Group	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	14th	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start, Pavilion
Wed	15th	Mineral Line Walk	Ralegh's Cross Short Walk, Ralegh's Cross Inn 09.45hrs
Thurs	16th	WI (AGM)	2.00pm Pavilion
Mon	20th	Garden Club	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	28th	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Wed	29th	Family History Group	7.15pm - 9.15pm Pavilion, Brendon Room
<p>If you have a regular monthly event and would like it added to the monthly diary page please send to the editor: email: williton@willitonwindow.co.uk or Telephone: 07712 825043</p>			

Williton Pavilion

Craft
Fair

Sunday 2 June

11am-3pm

Fabric crafts Ceramics Free entry Jewellery
Cakes Refreshments Art

*£10 if booked and paid for by 3 May

Tables £15* each, contact office@willitonpc.org.uk

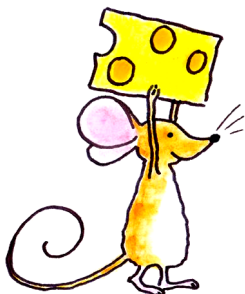
Williton Village
Gardens

Sunday 2 June
10am—5pm

Visit 14 village gardens and community spaces; a variety of cottage, courtyard, productive & low maintenance.

Maps (£3*) to visit the gardens are available from village shops & Williton Parish Council. All proceeds raised for Quantock Foodbank & Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground.

*includes free hot drink at the Pavilion 11am-3pm



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Danesfield's Easter Extravaganza!



Year 5 pupils at Danesfield School participated in an Easter Extravaganza led by members of St Peter's Church in Williton. They enjoyed learning about the events of Easter week and were really engaged by the activities that brought the story alive.

Thank you to Rev Mark and his team for organising this wonderful morning.

Helen Hatfield



West Somerset Family History Group

Our meeting on 29th May will be a general meeting where you can come along with any questions you may have about your research. Please feel free to share with us anything you may feel will be helpful to others in their research. At our March meeting new member Alex gave us some excellent tips about using Find My Past: <https://auth.findmypast.com>

We meet in the Brendon Room at Williton Pavilion, at 7.15 pm to 9.15 pm. The charge is £1.50 for members of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society, and £3 for non-members. As always this includes refreshments. Don't forget that Lesley Murray holds a one-to-one genealogy help session at Williton Library once a month. Please phone the library, or pop in, to book a slot.

Jane

Jane Sharp (Chairman)
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Down at the Station

Spring has arrived (I think). Plants are now available from the Station, (tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, vegetables). Prices are the same as last year. Come and have a cup of tea/coffee/snack whilst you look around. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Station.

This month sees the first Steam Gala. (3rd - 6th May: Friday - Monday) with a number of visiting Locos.

Also try the "Local" - Williton to Bishops Lydeard return.



Look forward to seeing you.

Phil Chapman and Peter Payne

Assistant Station Masters



Williton Garden Club

Just two things to mention this month.

Our first speaker of the new Garden Club Year will be Jonny Hartnell on Monday May 20th.

He will be telling us all about hardy orchids. I imagine that most of us have had at least one exotic orchid indoors but tempting a hardy orchid to come and live in my garden is something I've never managed. I'm looking forward to finding out which varieties to choose, where to buy them and most of all how to give them what they need to thrive.

Finally, a reminder that the Gardening Club plant sale will be at the Parish Rooms in Killick Way on Saturday 15th June from 10 – 12 noon.

There will be all sorts of plant life on offer – whatever club members have either grown or divided and potted up. Usually we have bedding plants, small perennials, vegetables and always some unusual plants to tempt the adventurous.

Club talks are always at Danesborough View Common Room and start at 7.30pm. Visitors are welcome at £2 per meeting or annual membership costs just £15.



Barb Cook, Vice Chairman

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THE WILLITON EVENTS TEAM ARE LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS

We are a small & friendly team needing more people to join us & help out at village events.

We've a host of ideas but not enough people to organise / help to run them all.

If you'd like to join us please email cllr.howes@willitonpc.org.uk or pop into the Parish Office.

WORDSEARCH

“SNOOKER”

by Phyllis Chidgey

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O	K	N	I	P	O	C	K	E	T
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Hedgehogs are one of Britain's most recognisable and well-loved wild animals. Did you know that the European hedgehog is one of around 16 different species found throughout the world?

They are most active at night and rest during the day in nests they have made of vegetation such as grasses, leaves, twigs and anything else they find which they think will be suitable. I cleaned out one of my hedgehog boxes a couple of years ago to find a lovely, abandoned nest in which the occupant had at some time incorporated a sweet wrapper and a small piece of weed suppressant fabric!

They are naturally solitary animals, only coming together to mate. Although a few might be attracted to a plentiful food source. Most literature about hedgehogs will tell you that they don't share boxes, but we have had several different reports recently of two hogs sharing the same box! They reach sexual maturity at around 12 months old, but I am sure there are always the exceptions to the rule! Litters of three to seven will spend up to six weeks with their mother and then they set off on their own, to find food and build their own nests. The lifespan is typical at two to three years, depending on the habitat, food supply and dangers in their 'areas'. They have been known to live for seven years.

I don't know about you, but I have been finding lots of little 'presents' around our garden, in other words hedgehog poo! I am convinced that once you have seen, and recognised it, you will be looking out for it in your friends' and relatives' gardens. I know I do.



Jane Sharp 07918 603059 (not a rescue)
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MAY OPENING DATES

Thurs 9th Sat 11th Mon 13th
Sat 25th Mon 27th



Williton Public Library

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

10am -1pm & 2pm-5pm

Saturday 10am -1pm.

(Closed Tuesdays).

Research your Family Tree. We have family history sessions on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month (booking essential). Our experienced volunteer can assist you if you are just starting or are stuck on your journey of discovery.

Book Club. The Book Club meets on the first Thursday afternoon of the month in the library.

Technology & Computer Support can be obtained on Thursday afternoons . 1:1 sessions are available with our Volunteer on any device. Absolute beginners are welcome (Booking essential).

Lego Boxes available first Saturday morning of each month, 10am to 12.30pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Story Sessions are held every Thursday during term time, 2.30pm to 3pm (before school pickup of older siblings). All welcome.

Home Library Service - Our library volunteers will happily deliver books to your home if you are unable to visit because of mobility or health issues. For further information, please email us at willib@somerset.gov.uk.

Groups are very welcome to use our space to meet. Games clubs, sewing clubs, Dad's groups etc. - all welcome!

WHY NOT JOIN US??

It's free to join the library - all you need is some form of ID such as a driving licence, utility bill, passport or bus pass. You can then view online resources such as our magazine/newspapers app or read books on our Borrow Box app. for free, or use the computers, borrow equipment such as thermal cameras, iPads and blood pressure monitors. You can borrow 20 books at a time for a three-week loan period and request books from other libraries to pick up at Williton (£1.20 charge on collection) Children do not currently pay overdue fines or request-fees.

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WILLITON WEATHER

On Monday 15th April, the BBC early news showed SNOW in Bradford! Here we had gale force cold (8°C) daytime winds. The gales caused a lot of damage, especially in the Midlands and Nottingham. However, on the 12th & 13th April, with the sunshine it reached 18°C - and in some places 22°C. And so the traffic was busy going to Dunster, Blue Anchor and Minehead, even at 3pm! The endless rain has caused problems for the farmers: crops flooded, fences down, etc.

Weather records for March 2024

The minimum temperature here (but no frost) was -0.5°C on the 28th.

The maximum temperature of 17°C on the 18th.

The maximum pressure 30.35 inches on the 20th.

The minimum pressure 28.88 inches - 978 mm on the 27th.

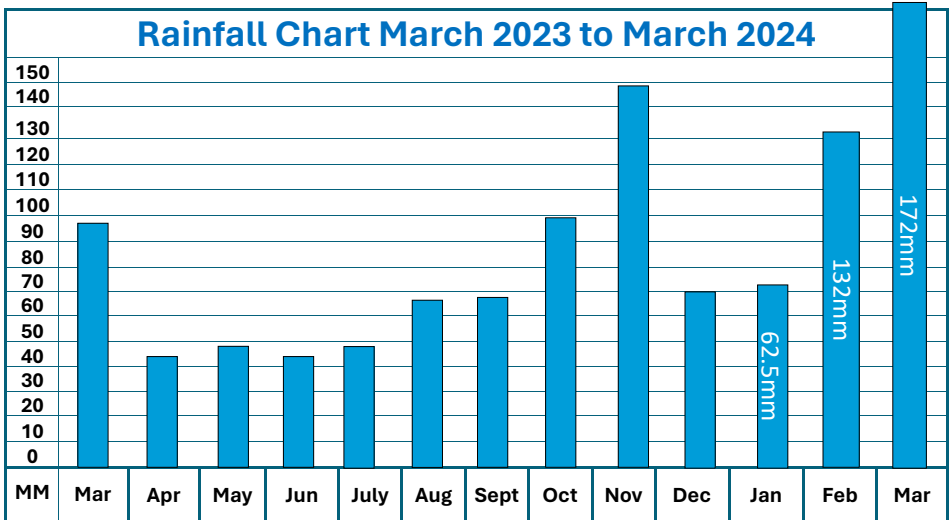
The total rain was 172mm (From environmental data: wettest March in more than 40 years (provisional Met Office figures). Wales was drenched by 197.5mm of rain!

NATURE NOTES

The spring flowers, trees and other nature items are 2 to 3 weeks ahead of average. In my road, Rhododendrons (special variety, though) have flowered from end of March.

We won't see the total Moon eclipse here early on 16th May, but we might see the phenomenon of the Moon reddening. Jupiter will be close to Venus and, about 25th, Mars will be close to Jupiter.

Pj



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2024

For full details & tickets see:
www.regaltheatre.co.uk



Wed. 1st: 6.45pm

CARMEN

LIVE from the Royal Opera House (Sung in French with English subtitles)

Sat. 4th: 7.30pm

FLEETWOOD SHACK

transports you back in time, allowing you to relive the magic and be immersed in the timeless melodies that have captivated generations.

Tues. 7th: 7.30pm

PERFECT DAYS (Cert PG)

This Oscar-nominated film about Hirayama, a man who is content with his simple life cleaning toilets in Tokyo. **Subtitled.**

Fri. 10th: 7.30pm

FREDDIE & QUEEN EXPERIENCE.

Based around QUEEN at their very best – the 86 ‘Magic tour’

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Fri. 17th: 7.30pm

THE SEARCHERS AND HOLLIES EXPERIENCE

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Wed. 22nd: 7.15pm

THE WINTER’S TALE

The Royal Ballet **LIVE** from The Royal Opera House.

Shakespeare’s profound story of love and loss.

Sat. 25th: 11.00am

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

All proceeds to go to the Regal Theatre support fund.

Wed. 29th: 12.00am The Pantoons present....

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST

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Thurs. 30th: 7.20pm

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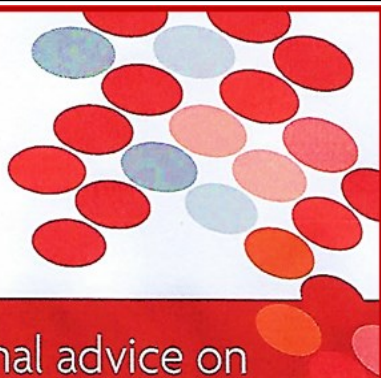
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