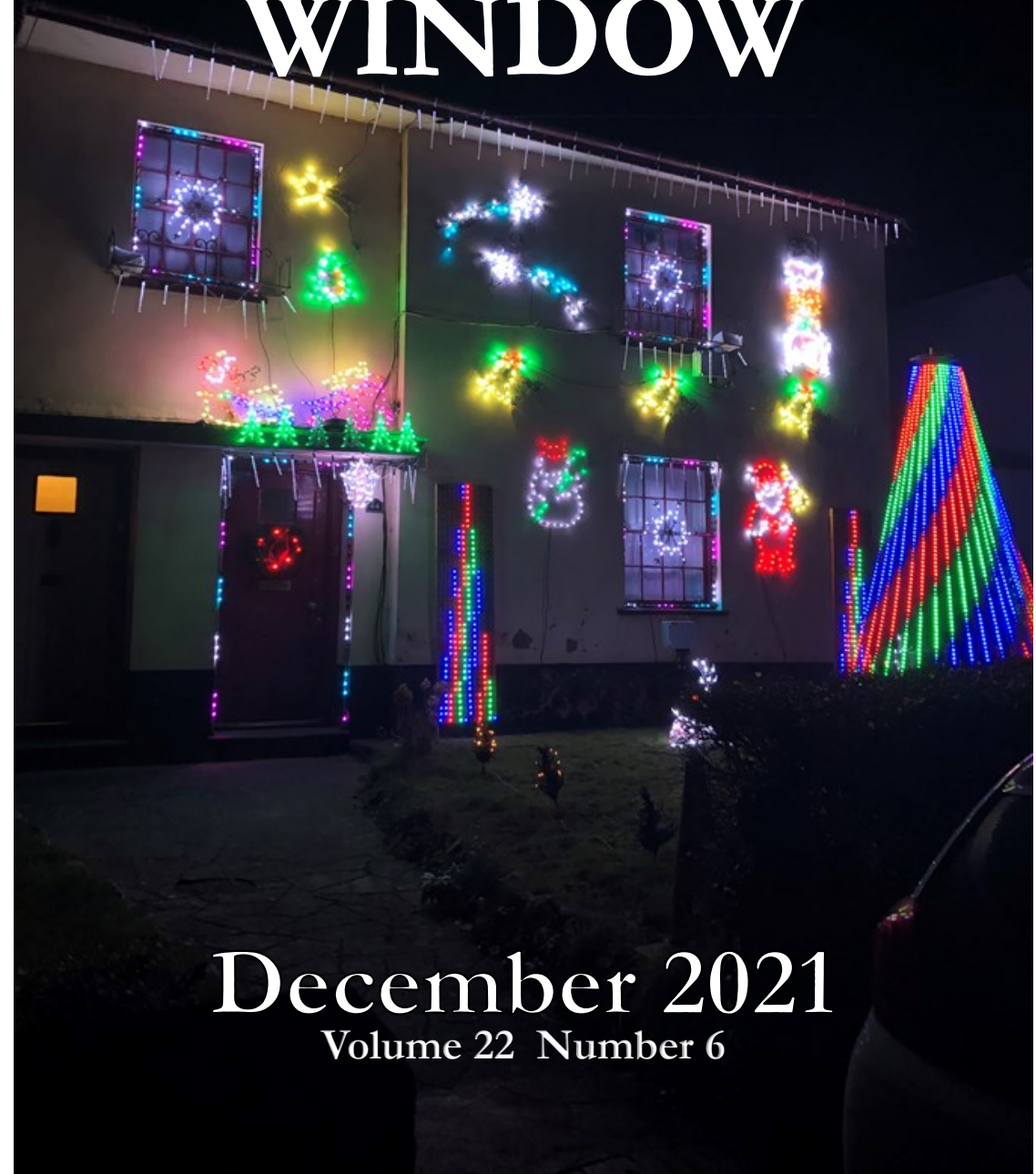


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# WILLITON WINDOW



December 2021  
Volume 22 Number 6

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**DEADLINE DATES FOR THE JANUARY 2022 ISSUE**

**ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER**

**EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 10th DECEMBER**

The January magazine can be collected for delivery from the  
**PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE**

**9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays from FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER**

**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 ☎ 07989 466619

**Magazine distribution:**

Mr Neill Ambridge: ☎ 01984 639320

All enquiries by email: [williton@willitonwindow.co.uk](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk)

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**This magazine is printed by:**

Unit 17, Cornishway East, Galmington

Trading Estate, Taunton.TA1 5LZ. Telephone: 01823 253958 / 01823 326060

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Have you recently moved to Williton or do you know someone who has?

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or go to our website: [www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack](http://www.willitonwindow.org.uk/welcome-pack)

**Cover Picture:** Christmas Lights on a house in Long Street

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## UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

Website: [www.watchetandwillitonbenefice.com/](http://www.watchetandwillitonbenefice.com/)

For details of other local churches see page 8.

### Services in December at St Peter's Church Williton

Sunday 5th December	10.00am	Family Worship
	09.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday 12th December	04.00pm	Camp Fire Community Carol Service
Sunday 19th December	09.15am	Parish Communion
	04.00pm	Crib Service
Friday 24th December	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
Saturday 25th December	10.00am	Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sunday 26th December **No Service today**

**Every Tuesday 10.00am Morning Prayer**

**Every Thursday CAMEO 10am to Midday**

The church is now open every day for private prayer 09.00am - 3.30pm.

### St Peter's Church Contact Details:

Vicar	Position Vacant	*Enquiries to Churchwardens
Churchwardens	*Mr G Fenech	01984 633577
	*Mrs S Withycombe	01984 632596
Readers	Mrs Bev Machin	01984 568201
	Mrs Donna Marsden	01984 633707
	Mrs Julie Pelling	07973 961083

**St Peters Church Invites you all to join any of our services**



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Holidays \* Caravan sales \* Functions



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 **Other Local Churches Information** 

**St Decuman's Church (Watchet)**  
Weekly Sunday Service 10.30 am Parish Communion  
For further details and enquiries please contact the churchwardens.  
Sarah Lander Tel. 07765 881229 email: [sclarkelander@gmail.com](mailto:sclarkelander@gmail.com)  
Janet Bremner Tel. 01984 632118 email: [janetbremner31@btinternet.com](mailto:janetbremner31@btinternet.com)

**BAPTIST CHURCH (Watchet)**  
The Baptist Church normally meets 10.30am at Knights Templar School every Sunday.  
For more information contact Rev Mike Sherburn: 01984 633755 or email: [mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk](mailto:mike@watchetbaptist.org.uk) or telephone Mrs M Collinson: 01984 632537  
Mrs S Shearer: 01984 568310 or visit the website: [www.watchetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.watchetbaptist.org.uk)

**CATHOLIC CHURCH (Watchet)**  
The Roman Catholic Church now meets for Mass at Watchet Methodist Church on **FRIDAY evenings at 6.15pm.**  
Contact Deacon Vincent Woods for more information on 01984 634681

**METHODIST CHURCH (Williton)**  
Williton had an unusual Remembrance service this year. We had a local arrangement service at which Clare Court talked about Glyn's time in Burma during the last war. It was sad to hear how they were treated but nevertheless interesting to hear. As Clare finished talking just before eleven o'clock, we switched on the T V and joined the silence at the Cenotaph. Rona kindly chose the hymns.  
We still meet for coffee and chat at Mollie's and raising money for our chosen charities. Where we meet every Sunday at 10.30 for service all welcome to come and join us.  
The old Methodist Church building has a new bright red front door, which will be opened for us on **Dec 12th at 10.30am for a Carol Service**, at the kind invitation of John and Richard, all welcome to join us to make a joyful noise. The service will be led by Mollie Brooks and Jane Sefton.  
We carry on our prayer list Paul and Bridget, Barbara and Angela, who all need healing prayer at this time, and we also think in our prayers of our Queen at this time. **Team Ministry: Rev Nick Lakin: 01643 705175**  
**Stewards: Mrs R Troman: 01984 633199 Mrs J Sefton: 01984 656652.**

**SALVATION ARMY WATCHET CORPS**  
All enquiries to the Corps leader, Miss Sam Searle on 07979 575 453.  
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 K.T's Zumba Classes on Facebook

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 FOR YOUR SPACE**

# Faith Reflection for Christmas

I must admit that I love Christmas, all the razz-a-matazz of it all. The Christmas tree in my household has to be real tree as I love the smell of pine and am happy to put up with finding errant pine needles even in spring! As I get out the ornaments I am reminded of people and places; Mr Greedy for my eldest son, Mr Happy for my younger son, the handmade decorations made by grandchildren, the ornament we bought in Ludlow, the grandma bauble, the decorations knitted by my late mother-in-law etc etc. I love to watch the Christmas movies and sing the Christmas carols, but most of all I like to spend time in Advent, in the four weeks leading up to Christmas, in opening my Advent calendar, lighting my Advent candle and reading the Bible and other devotional books to remind me that Christmas is really all about Christ.

I have a bit of a thing about crackers - no meal over the Christmas period is complete for me without a cracker to pull! The cracker reminds me of the reason for the season. The cardboard tube inside reminds me of Joseph who had to be strong to still support Mary who was having a baby he hadn't fathered. The coloured paper and tinsel reminds me of Mary who as a young girl was prepared to do God's will and have his son, and enfold him in love. The bang in the cracker reminds me of the element of surprise when the shepherds heard the angels singing on the hillside proclaiming "Peace on earth" and the joke reminds me of the shepherds who said "You can't be serious, telling us this magnificent news first. We're not the big wigs round here. Why have we been given the privilege of being the first to see this baby?". The paper crown reminds us of the magi who travelled for months and months to be able to worship this new born king and the gift inside the cracker of course represents the gifts that they - and us - can bring to Jesus - the gift of love.

In all the busyness leading up to Christmas do spare a thought for the real reason for the season. We also need to remember that it isn't a happy time for everyone. Some people will celebrate Christmas this year without a loved one, some may be ill, some are lonely and some may be worrying about how to heat their home or find food to eat, even in this country.

Jesus came into the world so that each and every one of us could have life in all its fullness; so that each and every one of us could feel loved and cared for all the time. As you celebrate this year say a special prayer for those who are finding life difficult and pray that they may feel the love of Jesus in their hearts and know that someone, somewhere, is concerned about them.

**I wish you all every blessing for this Christmas.**



*Rev Jane Sperring.*





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## SAINT DECUMAN'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 2nd</b>	10am until 5pm.	46 trees & stalls.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 3rd</b>	10am until 5pm.	46 trees & stalls.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 4th</b>	10am. until 5pm	46 trees, more stalls & soups/bacon rolls etc
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 5th</b>	11.30am until 4pm.	46 trees (no stalls) <b>4.00pm Christingle Service</b>



At times Christmas music at the Organ, Carols on the Guitar and on Saturday early morning Flute Group.

For any enquiries or further detail please contact Tony Knight on **07891 688448**



### Williton Garden Club

**December 2021**

The December meeting will be on the second Monday rather than the usual fourth, which will be 13th. The Programme indicates that it will be the Christmas party, but we have decided, due to the present situation with covid that this will be scaled down somewhat and we will be holding more of a 'normal' meeting but with Tea/coffee and mince pies. We plan to show a DVD of gardening interest and probably of vintage nature which should bring back many memories of things gone by. Be good to see as many members as can come along.

*John Parsons, Chairman.*



### WILLITON WI

Our November speaker was Ken Atherton, who entertained us all with a selection of popular 'saucy postcards', collected from his family's retail business in Blackpool. Dating from the 1900's, many cards were banned over the years, only to re-appear later in a slightly updated form. Sadly perhaps, not so many saucy postcards sent nowadays.

On December 16th we have our Christmas Lunch for members at The Pavilion. We look forward to welcoming visitors to join us at our Beetle Drive in January.

*June Irving, Secretary*

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**FATHER CHRISTMAS GROTTO IS TICKETED**  
**PLEASE ENSURE YOU PICK UP ONE TICKET PER CHILD**  
**FROM WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE BEFORE THE EVENT**

# Christmas Festival

## Sat 11 December

### Williton Pavilion—5-8PM

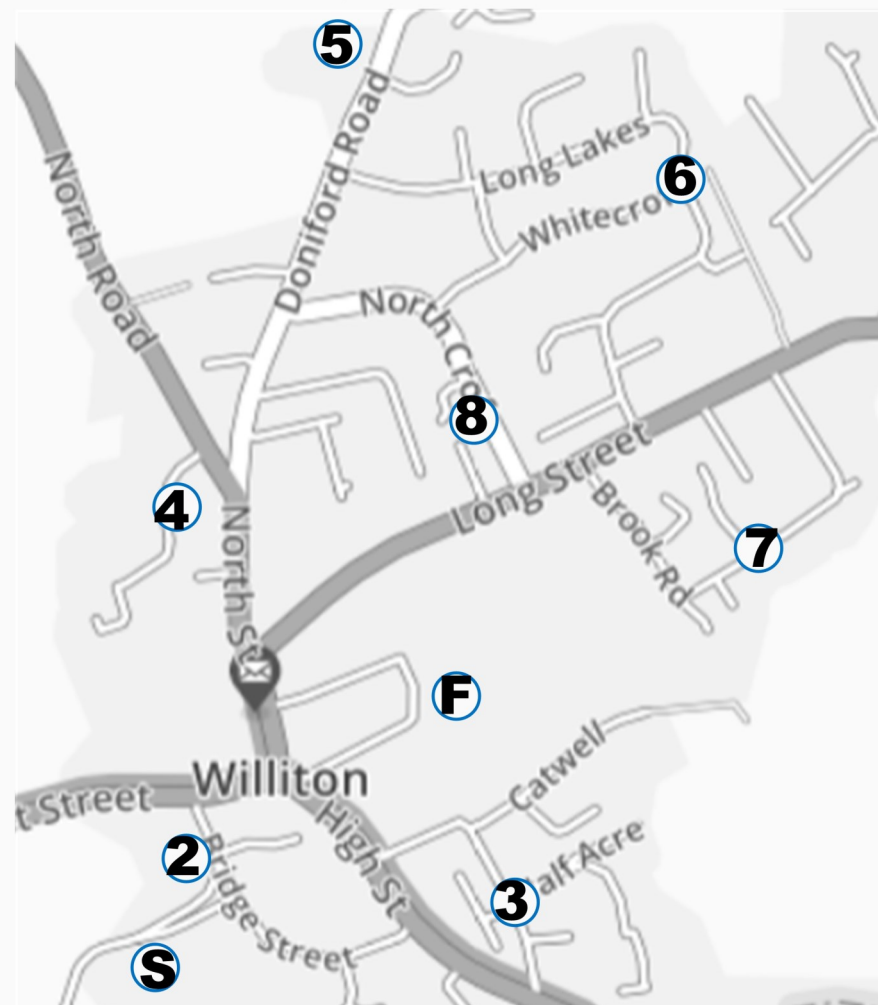
**Christmas Festival with  
gifts under £10**

At 4.30PM Father Christmas will leave St Peters Church & travel round the village in his carriage arriving at The Pavilion at 6.30PM. He can be visited in his Grotto from 7PM—tickets available from the Parish Office.

**STALLS ARE FULLY BOOKED**

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## *Farther Christmas' Route—Sat 11 Dec*



**START**—St Peters Church @ 4.30PM  
 2—Carol Singing @ 4.35PM  
 3— Half Acre 5 PM  
 4—Fire Station @ 5.15PM  
 5—School @ 5.30 PM

6— Whitecroft @ 5.45 PM  
 7—Townsend @ 6 PM  
 8— North Croft @ 6.15 PM  
**FINISH** —The Pavilion @ 6.30PM

**FATHER CHRISTMAS GROTTO IS TICKETED**  
**PLEASE ENSURE YOU PICK UP ONE TICKET PER CHILD**  
**FROM WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE BEFORE THE EVENT**

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## What's Happening In Williton

### Regular Weekly Meetings Groups & Events

<b>Everyday</b>	1.00pm - 11.00pm	Williton Social Club	<b>Tel: 01984 248671</b>
<b>Mondays</b>	9.30am - 12noon & 8.00pm-9pm	Pilates Williton Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07342 238723</b>
	5.00pm - 6.30pm	Beavers (Guide Brownies HQ)	<b>Tel: 07806 968961</b>
	6.00pm - 7.00pm Zumba	Williton Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07738 676832</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	2 - 4.00pm Chatty Crafters (Except first Tues of the month)	Danesborough Common Room	<b>Tel: 01984 634686</b>
	5.45 - 7.15pm Brownies	Guide & Brownie HQ	<b>Tel: 01984 632089</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	10 - 11am. Move it or Lose it	Williton Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07421 762532</b>
	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Cubs (Guide & Brownie HQ)	<b>Tel: 07398 717048</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	9.30 - 10.30am Zumba	Williton Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07738 676832</b>
	12 Noon Colin's Walks	Outside Library	<b>Tel: 01984 632721</b>
	7.15 - 9pm Guides	Market St, Watchet	<b>Tel: 07584 037156</b>

### This Month's Meetings Groups & Events for December

<b>Weds 1st</b>	Family History Group	3.00pm book with library
<b>Thur 2nd</b>	Wasps	12.pm Xmas Dinner Northfield Hotel, Minehead
<b>Tues 7th</b>	Christmas Craft Fair	6 - 9.00pm Pavilion
<b>Fri 10th</b>	RBL Coffee & Meet	10.00am - 1.00pm Parish Council Office
<b>Sat 11th</b>	Christmas Festival	6.00pm Pavilion
<b>Mon 13th</b>	Gardening Club	7.30pm Danesborough Common Rooms
<b>Tues 14th</b>	Christmas Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Williton Pavilion
<b>Thur 16th</b>	WI Christmas Lunch	2.00pm - 4.00pm Williton Pavilion
<b>Fri 17th</b>	Community Market	9am to 11.30am Williton Social Club

To be included in this diary please e-mail details to:

[williton@willitonwindow.co.uk](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk) or telephone to 01984 631595



### West Somerset Family History Group


The Family History Group is restarting after a nearly two year break due to Corona Virus. We are restarting our monthly help sessions at the library where an hour long 1 on 1 session can be booked with the library to help you start your family history journey or if you have become 'stuck' we can try to help you.

Also, in January we will be starting our monthly group meetings at the Pavilion details will be in next month's magazine. We look forward to seeing you again.



*Lesley Murray Secretary.*

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## Williton Public Library

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday  
10am -1pm & 2pm -5pm, Saturday 10am -1pm.  
(Closed Tuesday).



### Library News



We are pleased to announce that we have a number of iPads for people to borrow FREE of charge from the Library. The scheme is designed to assist people looking for work, wanting to develop new skills or those wanting to become more confident with technology.

The device needs no internet connection as they are all internet ready. Each device has a pre-loaded step by step video guide on how to use it as well as useful links on how to develop a CV, successful interviews alongside tips on health and wellbeing. The devices are loaned for 6 weeks, with priority given to those looking for work. There are no renewals. The library staff are happy to help with any inquiries.

We are also pleased to announce that our popular Family Tree Sessions have restarted. If you would like to start researching your family, please book a session at the library. Sessions run on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month and need to be booked in advance. Other sessions are available by request.



We were pleased to see so many children enjoying our rhyme time session in November and are pleased to announce another session on **December 16th at 11am**. Please come along and join in.

Details of our Christmas craft activities for children will be posted on Facebook and in the library.

**Booking for these is essential with the librarians or via email.**



We also have online help sessions available at the library on Thursday afternoons if anyone would like support with computer skills and confidence with IT devices.

**Booking for these is essential.**

We continue to have new books delivered on a regular basis so it is always worth popping in to see what's new.

Our email is [willib@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:willib@somerset.gov.uk) if you need to contact us.

**Happy Christmas to all our Customers.**

*Williton Library Team*

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## Down at the Station

### December 2021



November has been a strange month, as we are having a 'month off' from station duties, considering and planning all that needs to be done into the New Year as regards maintenance. The list grows, and hopefully after Christmas we will be encouraged to get our sleeves rolled up and stuck into the work. We are pleased to report that the crossing at Seward Way in Minehead is now completed and the staff are already being taught how to operate the new system, both for the signal box and platform staff as well. We look forward to next March when we hope a full service will resume.

The new venture of Winterlights, the specially illuminated trains running from Bishops Lydeard to Crowcombe and back, have already been running weekends since the 19th November, and due to demand for seats, these trains have now been extended into the few days after Christmas 27th – 31st December. Still time to book !

During December there will be the annual Santa Trains running every Saturday and Sunday with two trips from Bishops Lydeard to Williton and return, leaving Bishops Lydeard at 10.30 and again at 13.00. Then during Christmas week 21st – 24th there will be two Santa Trains, at the same times, each day. All seats are bookable and, I understand, bookings have been good to date.

It is proposed that on the days that Santa Trains arrive at Williton, we will be opening the shop especially for locals and visitors to come down and have tea/coffee and a mince pie. And of course, to watch the Santa Trains. There will also be a couple of sales stalls in the waiting room selling some items for Christmas and our ever popular book stall. Opening times will be 10.45 a.m. until about 2.00p.m. Do come down and visit us making it your daily exercise time. You will be made welcome.

*John Parsons,  
Station Master.*



### WATCHET FORGET ME NOT CAFE

Dates to January 2022 at the Sanctuary



**December - 1st** Painting with Trampas Brown.

**December - 15th** Christmas meal at Chives.

**January - 12th** First meeting in 2022.

For any further details contact Margaret Tatham **07973 638030** or email [watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)

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## **Williton Parish Council**

To contact the Parish Council telephone 01984 633979

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

or Julie : [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk)

It is that time of year again. Love it or hate it we are all getting ready for the big day.

What a wonderful time of the year for families and children. A time to reflect and renew friendships and show we care for the not so fortunate members of our community.

The Parish Council has been very busy organising events to make our Christmas special for all the parishioners of Williton. A special thankyou to Dawn-Lesley and the Events team for all the hard work they have done over the past year and for the Christmas events. Well Done.

### **Please note:**

- Anyone wishing to meet Father Christmas in his Grotto @ The Pavilion on Saturday 11th December needs to collect a ticket from the Parish Office – weekdays 10am-12noon
- Both the Christmas Craft Fair on 7th December and Christmas Festival on 11th December are fully booked and we cannot accept any more bookings for stalls. We have 26 stalls at the Craft Fair 6 - 9PM and 18 stalls at the Christmas Festival 5 - 8PM (more information on [WWW.RG.co.uk](http://WWW.RG.co.uk) “What’s On” tab).

The Christmas trees and lights will be going up in and around the shops that have agreed to display one in Fore Street soon. They will be adding Christmas cheer to their shop windows. It really does make the village have a magical feel at this time of year. We all look forward to it.

Good news on the public conveniences in Killick Way. The Parish Council has signed the lease to take over the refurbishment and running of these important facilities. We will be choosing a contractor soon and will get the refurbishment work started. We hope to have them open (at last I hear you say) for Spring 2022.

We would like to welcome our newest member of staff, Nadine, please pop into the office to say hello.

All details of the council, meetings and councillors can be found on our website **[www.willitonparishcouncil.org](http://www.willitonparishcouncil.org)**.

For any other enquiries contact the parish council office **01984-633979**.



*Councillor Michael White.*

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This is the first time I have written an article for the Williton Window. Watchet Hedgehogs group was started up 15 months ago, in conjunction with the Watchet Conservation Society. Since then it has become very apparent that there is a great fondness for our native wild hedgehogs in the area. Not just Watchet, but Williton also has what appears to be a good population of these iconic little creatures. Please have a look at our Facebook page and our website,

**[www.watchethedgehogs.org](http://www.watchethedgehogs.org)**

We are now coming up to the end of autumn and have had another influx of Hoglets as hedgehog mums have second litters. We are very lucky in that the word has gone around about what to look for, and how to help these little creatures. The need to act fast if you find a hedgehog which needs help is most important.

Autumn juvenile hedgehogs are ones that are old enough to be away from their mothers but too small to hibernate. The autumn juvenile season can start as early as September and is busy through until the end of November. However, some will struggle on and the occasional one can be found from December through until April. If the hedgehog is a regular visitor to your garden, is only seen at night, appears active and you are prepared to feed it every night then it can be left in the wild. However, if the hedgehog goes off its food, wobbles and staggers or starts coming out in the day or you notice it has green slimy poo especially if there is blood in it, and then it needs extra help as soon as possible. Even if you must bring a hedgehog in do keep putting food outside as there may be siblings or other autumn juveniles making the most of your hospitality!

If the food does not go you could continue to provide dry cat biscuits – these will not go off as quickly as tinned food so are less wasteful. Make sure there is water available, especially if feeding dry foods. It is helpful if you can weigh your visitor at least once a week if its size is a concern to ensure it is putting on weight and doing well. Any under 260gms in autumn are likely to be genuine orphans and should be rescued immediately. “Rescue” at weights above 600gms, based on weight alone, is strongly discouraged.

*Continued on next Page.*

*Watchet Hedgehogs continued from previous page.*



Make a feeding station for the outside hedgehogs. Use either a plastic child's toy box or storage box and cut a 13cm x 13cm (5" x 5") hole in one of the short sides. Place this over the food, like a tunnel, and the hedgehog can get through the hole to the food but it keeps cats out. A brick on top should stop the box being pushed aside. Another brick or large stone placed 13cm (5") from the entrance should stop a cat lying down and hooking the food out with its paw! Always make sure there is a little food left in the mornings – if not, you are not feeding them enough. (Information provided by The British Hedgehog Preservation society)

We are very lucky to have Hoglets Hedgehog Rescue at Sampford Brett, run by Louise and Simon Dunn. It is a small rescue and Louise and Simon care deeply for the hedgehogs in their care, looking after them until they can be released back into the wild. The rescue is self-funding and so any donations are greatly received. Members of Williton Social Club have recently collected £61 for the rescue and this will go towards much needed medications and food for the rescued hedgehogs.

If you have any questions, or need advice, about hedgehogs then please contact one of the below telephone numbers:

**British Hedgehog Preservation Society - 01584 890801**

**Louise Dunn, Hoglets HH Rescue 07712 673563**

**Simon Dunn, “ “ “ 07552 078364**

If you are part of a group who would like an illustrated talk about hedgehogs and how we can help them, please give me a ring Jane Sharp on **07918 603059**

*Jane Sharp Watchet Hedgehogs.*

---

## OVERNIGHT CLOSURE OF MINEHEAD MINOR INJURY UNIT EXTENDED FOR SIX MONTHS

The temporary overnight closure of the Minor Injury Unit (MIU) located at Minehead Community Hospital has been extended for six months from 1st November until 1st May 2022. Minehead MIU remains open from 8am – 9pm seven days a week, 365 days a year.

---







## Williton Royal British Legion Branch



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## Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground Charity News

A big thankyou to all Trustees and Parishioners for all the work they have done in the last year to make and keep our Recreation Ground looking so good and tidy. We are so lucky to have been left this ground in Trust for the parishioners of Williton.

The grounds and playing field are in excellent condition and trees have been maintained. Two new benches have been added and are well used. All looks great.

### Some good news

The area of land on the left of the recreation ground as you enter from Long Street was purchased some time ago for a community hall. This never came to fruition for various reasons. The Pavilion was built which is a multipurpose building for sport and community. This land has lain unused for a long time. The Trustees have now started work to engage a contractor to clear the ground with a view to opening it up for public use. It is a large area of land and once cleared could be used for a many different events. The first phase is to get it cleared and to remove some old and dead trees to make it safe. Once that is done we can decide how we can use it.

The original plan is to have a Multiple User Games Area built on the ground. Planning permission has been granted for this project. That is still the original objective. What we are doing now is to clear the ground and get it back into public use, then we can make a decision what we the parishioners of Williton want to use the ground for.

Well I have said enough. Just to say a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year from all of us at the Parish Council and the Trustees of the WWMRG Charity.

*Cllr. Michael White.*



Care and support  
through terminal illness

## MARIE CURIE

### Help required in the Williton area

A volunteer collection box co-ordinator role is now being recruited for the Williton area. If you have your own transport, could spare 2 / 3 hours a month and are interested in supporting the work of Marie Curie in your area please get in touch.



**To get involved and for a chat please call :  
Riona Houghton on 0787 6748717  
or email: [riona.houghton@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:riona.houghton@mariecurie.org.uk)**



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## Bethany's family closes her charity

West Somerset based charity Stand Against Speed 4 Bethany has closed after nearly ten years and shared its remaining funds among other good causes.

Bethany Paige Adams was killed in a car crash on January 7th, 2012. She was 17 and a front seat passenger in a car being driven by a young, newly qualified driver.

The charity was set up by Bethany's parents in her memory with the sole aim of educating young drivers aged between 16 and 25.

They delivered this in ways including a Choice & Consequence educational go-karting course, costing £30 per person, which was run alongside Dave Adams from Avon and Somerset Police.

Mark, Helen and Danielle Adams said in a statement: "After running the charity for nearly ten years we have made the difficult decision to now focus on our own well-being as a family. We would like to thank each person that has supported us over the past ten years – without their generosity we would not have been able to carry out all the hard work we have put in to delivering Bethany's story."

With what is left over, Stand Against Speed 4 Bethany has funded a defibrillator costing £2,300 to be installed on the outside of Williton Parish Council office in memory of Bethany. And a cheque has been presented to Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance for £3,022.66: "Living in a rural location we felt that this money would be of great benefit to the charity," the family said.

The road safety props, and educational items have been gifted to Teddy Bears Nursery, which Bethany attended.

Stand Against Speed 4 Bethany will still be holding its annual curry night and will give any money raised to the residents' fund at Croft House, Williton, where Bethany was working before, she died.



**Mark, Helen  
and  
Danielle  
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&  
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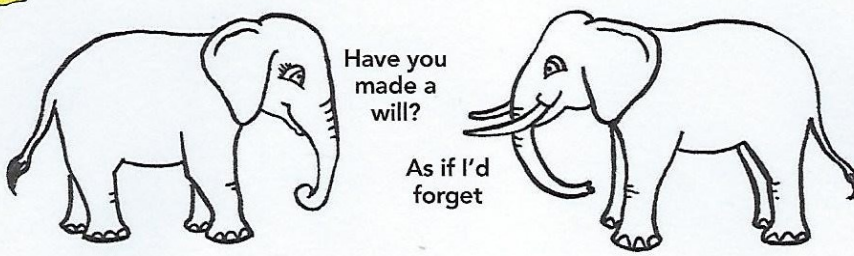
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## Have you experienced flooding in Williton?



The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) is working on natural flood management (NFM) as part of the 'Two Valleys' project. We're working with local landowners to put in interventions such as leaky woody dams, wetlands, and trees to help store and slow the flow of floodwater in the Doniford and Monksilver streams.

Excitingly, we have press interest from a national newspaper who are writing a positive feature on NFM and how we hope it might help local communities. The paper is keen to speak to people in Williton who have been impacted by past flooding as part of the feature. If this sounds like you, please contact [bryony.wilde@wwt.org.uk](mailto:bryony.wilde@wwt.org.uk)

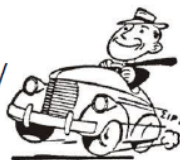
We're hoping lots of NFM measures add up and ultimately help to reduce the 'flood peak' to alleviate flooding in Williton, all the while creating a multitude of habitat benefits throughout the catchment area. Find out more at our website: [www.wwt.org.uk/two-valleys](http://www.wwt.org.uk/two-valleys)

*Bryony Wilde WWT  
Project Manager.*

Recycling & Waste Collections Christmas /New Year Revised Schedule			
Festive collections 2021-22			
Usual Collection Day	Revised Collection Day	Usual Collection Day	Revised Collection Day
Fri 24th Dec	No Change	Mon 3rd Jan	Tues 4th Jan
Mon 27th Dec	Tues 28th Dec	Tues 4th Jan	Wed 5th Jan
Tues 28th Dec	Wed 29th Dec	Wed 5th Jan	Thurs 6th Jan
Wed 29th Dec	Thurs 30th Dec	Thurs 6th Jan	Fri 7th Jan
Thurs 30th Dec	Fri 31st Dec	Fri 7th Jan	Sat 8th Jan
Fri 31st Dec	Sun 2nd Jan 2022		
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## WILLITON WEATHER



### NOVEMBER

The lowest night temperature 17/18th of November was higher than the average day temperature should be, however this has been very mild for November up to 19°C. Even a temperature of 16°C in Aberdeen.

### OCTOBER

The coldest night on the 11th was 8°C. But many milder nights of up to 12°C to 15°C! And the sun was seen on 28 days.

The maximum Temperature was 29°C on 5th.

The maximum pressure was 30.4 inches.

The minimum pressure 29.45 inches.

The total rainfall was 64.5 mm.

The predominant wind was from the SW on 12 days the N, cold on 4 days.

### ASTRONOMICAL NEWS

November's full moon is sometimes called a "Beaver moon", if you know why please let the Ed. know. 'Beaver moon' featured the longest partial lunar eclipse in five centuries.

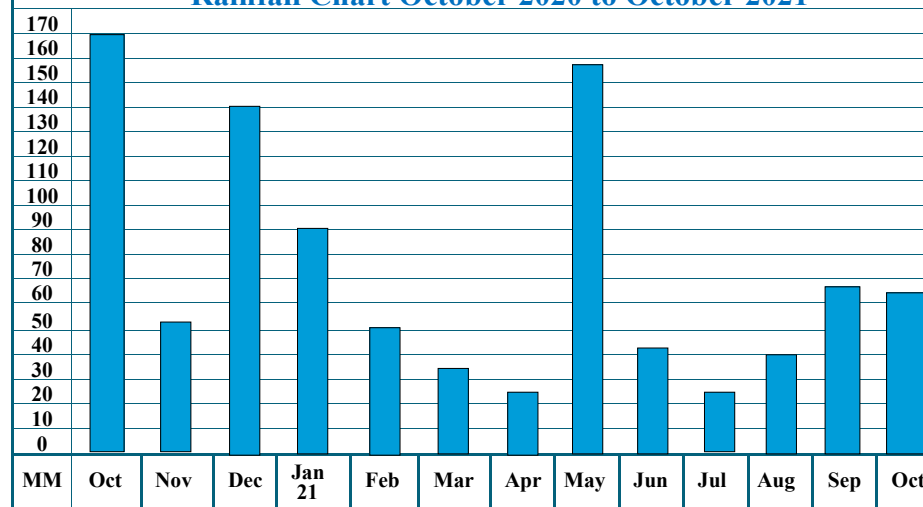
Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus will be bright in the evening skies as they move towards the west (Dec 7th & 8th). The planets only appear briefly after sunset.

### NATURE NOTES

Some trees have lost all their leaves but some are slow to follow. There are several reports of plants in flower again.

PJ.

**Rainfall Chart October 2020 to October 2021**



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## SOMERSET BUS PARTNERSHIP

The future is suddenly starting to look a lot brighter for bus Services in Somerset.

Over the past decade, public transport has not been an economic and developmental priority for Somerset County Council. Residents of this large, mainly rural county have been encouraged to rely on cars to get them to work as well as to shops, hospitals and places of entertainment and bus travel has dwindled accordingly. Bus journeys in the County have fallen by 43% over the past decade, we now have the second lowest bus journeys per head in the country and our bus services have the lowest satisfaction score.

But the Government's Bus Back Better strategy has prompted a major rethink with £3 billion of funding for bus improvements to be shared out between transport authorities across England (outside of London). Somerset County Council has responded and developed a highly ambitious Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and is asking the Government to fund the Somerset BSIP with an eye watering £163 million grant. You can read the 184pp document that Somerset has submitted justifying this bid here:

**www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-strategy** (the BSIP document can be found under the National Bus Strategy Section).

Even if the full amount of the Somerset bid is not granted, it is a recognition by Somerset County Council that its bus services need major improvement. Transport is the biggest emitter of carbon in Somerset accounting for 44.1% of Somerset's total emissions. Given COP26, we must now make sure Somerset pursues the initiatives outlined in the Somerset Bus Service Improvement Plan that encourage a switch to public transport and away from single occupancy private cars. This will reduce our carbon footprint.

Somerset Bus Partnership was set up so that the voices of bus users from across Somerset are heard. We now have over 80 "bus representatives" from all parts of the county who ensure we understand and reflect the needs of towns and parishes across the county.

We are looking for extra support within the Somerset Bus Partnership's core team. Have you had management experience of the bus industry or in a transport department within a Council? Please do get in touch if you have.

Somerset is now entering an Enhanced Partnership with local bus service operators to implement the Somerset Bus Service Improvement Plan. Somerset Bus Partnership has been invited to attend the launch of the Bus Advisory Board in late November. This is Somerset's first step in establishing a partnership arrangement with local bus companies.

Somerset Bus Partnership will continue to work with bus users and will hold Somerset County Council to the ambitious and worthy goals now espoused in the Somerset Bus Improvement Plan.

If you would like to get in contact with us drop us an email:  
[somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com) or follow us on Facebook: or via our website: **www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk**

*John Hassall Co Chair – Somerset Bus Partnership*

## FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER December News



Are you staying warm and well this winter? Having a cold home severely increases risk of illness and premature death, especially in older people, and no one should suffer a cold home, have to choose between heating and eating, or be able to stay warm and well with food and appropriate clothing.

This year will be especially difficult for many with the sharp rise in fuel costs putting pressure on household budgets.

Village Agents are delighted to be the distributor of the Surviving Winter grants on behalf of the Somerset Community Foundation – to help those most at risk pay for winter fuel, as well as being used in other ways to keep people warm and well - for example, a weeks' worth of hot meals or simple measures such as a new winter coat, hot water bottles, gloves and mittens!

The grant is made possible by people who can afford to donate their government winter fuel payment to the scheme – all the information on that can be found here: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter>

If you can afford to, please donate some or all of your Winter Fuel Payment to help support those living in fuel poverty. With your help, we can help them stay warm, safe and well.

If you need help keeping you and your house/home warm and safe, please contact your local Village Agent. Call **01823 331 222** or complete the short form here and someone will be in touch:

<https://somersetagents.org/agent-call-back/>

*We don't want you to choose between heating or food, and your Village Agent can help with both. Please do get in touch.*

Call me Izzy Silvester on 07931 018045 for free and confidential advice or email [izzy@somersettrcc.org.uk](mailto:izzy@somersettrcc.org.uk)

Community Council for Somerset (CCS), Viney Court, Viney Street, Taunton, TA1 3FB CCS main helpline Tel: **01823 331 222**

Web: [www.somersetagents.org](http://www.somersetagents.org) Email: [info@somersettrcc.org.uk](mailto:info@somersettrcc.org.uk)

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Do not fear death but rather the unlive life, you don't have to live forever you just have to live.

*Shirley Dee.*



As 2021 draws to a close the Regal Theatre Minehead offers a vibrant programme of theatre, film, concerts, gallery tours and more to entertain and cheer as the evenings draw in just take a look at our website:

[www.regaltheatre.co.uk/whatson](http://www.regaltheatre.co.uk/whatson)



The tempo changes on Thursday 2nd December with screening of the fabulous musical, Anything Goes, a heart-warming romance spectacular, dance routines and some of theatre's most memorable songs.

The Regal then welcomes the newly-formed The Chamber Orchestra of the West on Saturday December 4th; led by renowned violinist and Somerset resident Jacqueline Shave, favourite pieces by Corelli, Mozart and Bach are interspersed by less familiar selections.

Santa's Best Ever Christmas - the show where every child gets a present from Santa! Following last year's sell-out performances, Honalee Media are delighted to present their brand new Christmas show at the Regal on Wednesday 15th December at 4pm - special family tickets available.

Tickets for all events can be purchased from the Box Office **01643 706430**, open Monday to Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon; or by phone only 1.30p.m to 4.00p.m For more information visit [www.regaltheatre.co.uk](http://www.regaltheatre.co.uk) or call **01643 706430/ 01643 703921**.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER

**Tuesday 30th November 7.30pm** - Exhibition on Screen:

The Danish Collector: Delacroix To Gauguin



**Thursday 2nd December 7.30pm** - Musical Screening - Anything Goes

**Saturday 4th December 7.30pm** - Concert: Chamber Orchestra of the West

**Sunday 5th December 7.30pm** - Screened concert: Christmas with André Rieu

**Tuesday 7th December 7.30pm** - Film: The Truth

**Wednesday 8th December 7.30pm** - Live theatre: The Pantaloons-Humbugged

**Thursday 9th December 7.15 pm** - Live ROH screening: The Nutcracker

**Friday 10th December 7.30pm** - Live Band: Alter Eagles

**Saturday 11th December 7.30pm** - Live Folk Music: Moonrakers

**Wednesday 15th December 4.00pm** - Santa's Best Ever Christmas

**Friday 17th December 7.30pm** - Xmas Concerts, for Guide Dogs for the Blind

**Wednesday 22nd December 7.30pm** - Film: Dune

### LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Accepting all that life throws at you and hoping some of it is good!

*Shirley Dee.*





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WEST SOMERSET

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**Pop in for free, positive friendly help and support!**

- Access to internet/ Universal Credit journal
- 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

**VALUED VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

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

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## WILLITON GUIDE AND BROWNIE HEADQUARTERS

Williton Guide & Brownie headquarters is extremely grateful to the **Co-op Local Community Fund** for £5865.74p towards replacing our roof. The HQ is a charity run locally for Girl Guiding. It is a valuable asset currently used by Williton Brownies, Beavers and Cubs, an affordable space so that we can offer our activities to all children. Leaders who are volunteers prefer spending time organising and running activities for the children rather than fundraising so this is a substantial donation to our building improvements.

A wooden hut was erected on land, off Long Street, bought in 1952 from Wyndham Estate for Guides and Brownies. In 1985, after years of fundraising, a more substantial block rendered hall was erected and Williton Rainbows opened in 1990. With money received in 2017 from the **Co-op Local Community Fund** we replaced our windows and doors which has improved our carbon footprint and reduced our bills.

If you would like to volunteer for Guiding or Scouting or you would like information about Brownies, Beavers or Cubs please email:

[lindasully4@aol.com](mailto:lindasully4@aol.com)

*Linda Sully, Brown Owl and HQ Treasurer.*

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Get in touch  
Our Bump-Start coordinators:  
Debbie 07342 237876 and  
Clary 07342 237812



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## WORDSEARCH FOR DECEMBER

by Phyllis Chidgey

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL

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

IVY	CARD	BRANDY	MISTLETOE
LOG	CORK	TURKEY	TANGERINES
MINCE PIE	YULE	BUTTER	SANTACLAUS
SACK	HOLLY	NATIVITY	CAKE
MINCE	STOCKINGS	TREE	ROBIN
CHESTNUTS	MINCE		

## Watchet and District Choral Society



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thursday 16th December 7.30pm  
Watchet Methodist Church  
Admission Free

### Retiring Collection for the Watchet Coastguard

Please follow social distancing guidelines

We would prefer you to have had a negative lateral flow test before attending the concert - these are available from your local pharmacy





## Williton And Surrounding Parkinson's Support Group

### WASPS

A well attended meeting was held in Sampford Brett village Hall on Thursday 4th November. Jane Snell gave us an interesting and helpful exercise session, emphasising the importance of posture and the correct placement of feet upon the ground when walking.

This was followed by general WASP business concerning the problems of getting the blue stick accepted by Parkinson's UK. Two different ways of cleaning between your toes were shown for those members who could not reach their feet. One was a long and circular nylon soft bristled brush that could be used wet or dry available from the brush shop in Mere. The other an oblong shaped wire with washable cover on a long thick wire with handle, this was bought online.

We were then treated to an interesting flower arranging demonstration by the Carhampton Flower Group who showed us three very different arrangements. One for a table centre with a candle in the middle, the candle was ingeniously supported with cocktail sticks held round the bottom attached with tape or strong elastic bands and pressed into oasis. The second a large natural arrangement in a basket was demonstrated next and finally a modern collection of leaves and flowers that relied on colour and outline, phormium leaves were cut straight across and colour blocked for a very different effect. Raffle tickets were given out and three lucky members were given an arrangement to take home.

While we had tea and biscuits Jean Hodge went round those members who had signed up for the Christmas lunch to take their orders for the meal.

Next month there will not be the usual meeting. Instead, The Christmas lunch will take place at The Northfield Hotel in Minehead on Thursday 2nd December. The lunch is free for members, but friends may come too for a charge of £18.50.

WASPS next monthly meeting will be in Sampford Brett Village Hall at 1400 on Thursday 6th January preceded by exercises at 1315. We welcome anyone who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's and their Carers to come and join us.

If you need help with Parkinson's do, please email Jane at:

[waspscontact@gmail.com](mailto:waspscontact@gmail.com) or in a real emergency phone Linda on:

**01984 631472.**

*Rosemary Freemantle.*



### WILLITON WALKS BOOK

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



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



## News from Williton Post Office These are the Last Posting Dates



### BFPO

**28th November** - Operational HM Forces

**6th December** - Static HM Forces

### All Other Mail

**6th December** – Italy, Greece, Portugal, New Zealand, Australia.

**10th December** – Sweden, Cyprus, Malta.

**11th December** - Eastern Europe (except – Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic).

**13th December** – Canada, Czech Republic, U.S.A., Finland.

**16th December** – Belgium, Austria, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Iceland.

**18th December** – U.K 2nd Class. **21st December** - U.K. 1st Class.

**22nd December** – Parcelforce 48. **23rd December** – Special Delivery, Parcelforce 9, 10, AM, 24 (next Day).

### 10th December - Letters to Santa

Santa's address is – Santa, Santa's Grotto, Reindeer land, XM4 5HQ

Don't forget to put a stamp on your letter and include your child's name and address so Santa can send a reply.



It is remarkable to think that we have been running this Post Office for 16 years! Sometimes it feels like only just the other day! Thank you all for your wonderful support, we couldn't have done it without you! Or our wonderful staff, Sharon, Karen and Becky!

During November we have been topping up our Christmas stock with some popular lines, putting out wrapping paper and gift tags etc!

With the Covid numbers still high across the country, we have decided not to have our traditional Open Evening with Sherry and Mince Pies to coincide with the Christmas Festival on 11th December.

However, we hope to be able to celebrate your continued support of us in a similar sort of way, during the Summer of 2022!



**We wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas  
and Healthy and Happy 2022!**

*Caroline and Brian Tyner.*

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

## IF YOU NEED HELP:

**Williton Surgery** Robert Street TA4 4QE Tel: **01984 632701**

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

**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)

**Churches & Clergy** contact details are on **pages 6 & 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) **01984 633979**

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

**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**



### Avon & Somerset Police

#### Shed & Outbuilding Robberies



I would like to make you aware that we have had a spate of non-dwelling burglaries in the area in farms/outbuildings.

They have been stealing garden equipment and machinery.

Please be vigilant, please report any suspicious vehicles and activity

Many thanks,

**PCSO**

**6551 Howe**

*Neighbourhood Policing, Williton Police Station | Avon and Somerset Police*

*Williton Police Station, West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton TA4 4QA*



### Indoor Short Mat Bowls



I am pleased to tell you that after a long absence caused by the Coronavirus pandemic short mat bowls will be recommencing in Williton Pavilion on

**Monday 10th January 2022 at 2:00pm.**

Come along for an afternoon of light exercise and light-hearted competition. No experience is necessary, equipment is provided and bowls are available if you don't have your own. All that you need are clean, flat soled shoes or trainers.

For more information, please contact Peter Payne on **01984 633084**

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