



Your Community Magazine

# WILLITON WINDOW

February 2022  
Volume 22 Number 8

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## Williton Window Magazine

**DEADLINE DATES FOR THE MARCH 2022 ISSUE**

**ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 15th FEBRUARY**

**EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 18th FEBRUARY**

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

9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays from **FRIDAY 25th FEBRUARY**

**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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### WILLITON WELCOME BOOKLET

Have you recently moved to Williton? If so, you may like a free Welcome Booklet, which gives a map of Williton/Doniford, details of services, local clubs and organisations, and other useful information. Please ring Janet Cook on: **07989 466619**, or email:

[williton@willitonwindow.co.uk](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk)

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

**Cover Picture:** Mineral Line Path.

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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 February at St Peter's Church Williton

**We invite you all to join any of our services**

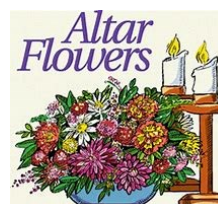
Sunday	6th February	10.00am	Family Worship
Sunday	13th February	09.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	20th February	09.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	27th February	09.15am	Parish Communion
Weds	2nd March	07.00pm	Holy Communion Ash Wednesday

**Every Tuesday 10.00am Morning Prayer**

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

### St Peter's Church Contact Details:

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



## Special Flowers in Church

How do you celebrate a special occasion or commemorate a poignant anniversary? One way could be to have flowers by the altar in our church, St Peters, either by arranging flowers yourself or have flowers arranged by one of our volunteers.

If you would like to do this, please get in touch with one of our Churchwardens, contact details are above.

*Liz Payne, PCC Secretary.*

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## ST AUDRIES BAY

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Thank you for all the functions and events you have asked us to host for you over the years. When we are eventually free to enjoy life again we will all be rushed off our feet catching up with lost time.  
 Remember, St Audries is here to help you celebrate!

Holidays \* Caravan sales \* Functions



St Audries Bay Holiday Club, West Quantoxhead,  
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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 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 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)

Everyone is welcome to join us for Coffee and Chat at Mollie's house, 2 Higher Croft, Tower Hill, on Friday mornings between 10 and 12, and we meet for worship there at **10.30am on Sundays**. Please feel free to come and join us and call Jane Sefton 01984 656652 or Mollie Brooks 01984 632115 for more details.

Our services are different every week as we have different preachers to lead us, which is the Methodist way. We also have services where we put together a service ourselves and we had such a service on January 30th when we all chose a Bible reading and explained why we had chosen it. This opens conversations on how we read our Bibles and how we understand the words and apply them to our own lives. I chose Micah chapter 6, verse 6, - God calls us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with Him. - a guide book for life.

**Our preachers for February will be:-**  
**Feb 6th:** Clive Longhurst  
**Feb 13th:** Rev Jane Sperring, a service with Holy Communion  
**Feb 20th:** Rev Nick Lakin  
**Feb 27th:** Lynne Wooldridge

We pray for Bridget and Paul, Clare, and Rona's new grandchild, and for the people of Williton.

**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.  
**All are welcome.** (Part of Churches Together in Williton and Watchet)  
 Salvation Army Hall, 1 Brendon Road, Watchet. Tel: 01984 633133.



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## WHEELS

### CAN YOU HELP US TO KEEP GOING?

WHEELS, which offers a very personal, low-cost service to local people who cannot drive a car and find public transport difficult, is continuing to operate, mainly offering lifts for medical appointments.

A vital volunteer role in WHEELS is that of coordinator, who receives requests for lifts and then matches the passenger to a volunteer driver. Due to illness, we are very short of coordinators, and if we are to continue this service, we must find new volunteer coordinators.

Coordinators operate from home for about one week per month, using the WHEELS mobile phone. They respond to requests from passengers and arrange the lifts, operating at times convenient to them. Full training is offered, and the coordinators offer a very valuable and much appreciated service to the community.

If you feel that you might be able to offer to help us with this service and would like to know more about it, please do contact

John Carslake on **01984 639083** or [jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk) or

John Parsons on **01984 632334** or [john@johnmary.plus.com](mailto:john@johnmary.plus.com)



## West Somerset Forum 21



### Help with high energy costs:

We are giving surviving winter grants to people over 50 who find it hard to pay energy bills and we can advise everybody about grants, discounts, energy suppliers and home improvements. We are advised that there are no cheap deals on the energy market so switching supplier does not help, but a lot of people can get the £140 Warm Home Discount and vouchers might be available for people with prepayment meters. People on benefits or low incomes may get free home improvements such as insulation, heating improvements and renewable energy, and these grants are changing in April so it is worth finding out what is available now. We also provide low cost firewood.

The surviving winter grants are paid through a charitable organisation, Somerset community Foundation, which collects winter fuel payments from people who do not need this and we give it to people who apply for help. If you would like to support this appeal for funds you can contact them on:

**01749 344949**. And if you would like more information about any of these matters please contact Hester on **01643 821768** or email: [hestertavens@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hestertavens@yahoo.co.uk).



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K.T's Zumba Classes on Facebook

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FOR YOUR SPACE**





# Williton Open House

**Sunday 27 February  
10AM - 1PM**



## Fancy a new hobby?

(perhaps not all of the above,  
but there'll be a great choice)

Come to **The Pavilion** and find out  
What's available in our village

## FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT, IZZY SILVESTER February News



It can be tough in the cold and dark months to get motivated to exercise - what do you do to Get Outside in Somerset?

For inspiration, why not visit [www.getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk](http://www.getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk) The site is packed with activities and ideas to help you to get outside.

You can also join in the Facebook group where people from across Somerset share local tips and ideas!

Go to [www.facebook.com/groups/531875827909722](https://www.facebook.com/groups/531875827909722) and take part in the chat! Find a new passion where you could meet new friends or take up a new hobby!

We are blessed in Somerset with an abundant choice of places to go, and most are free! From walking through our beautiful nature reserves, enjoying our town parks. Or for the more adventurous, explore our magnificent hills, the Quantocks await exploration!

There really is something for every age and ability. If you struggle to get outside in Somerset, contact your local Village Agent who could find a community solution to help you!

### Carers Groups make a welcome return!

Carers in Somerset will be delighted to hear that many of the Carers groups are reopening across the county!

**Dulverton**, Exmoor Medical Centre.

**Minehead**, Minehead Hospital.

Find out more about your local group on our Carers Hub – [www.somersetcarers.org](http://www.somersetcarers.org). If you look after someone else, whether that's family, friend or neighbour, the hub is packed full of support, activities and training.

Not sure if you are a Carer? Call our advice line and make sure you have the right support for you and the person you look after! **0800 31 68 600** or text 'Carer' to **78070** to receive a call back. Ask your Village Agent for information and ideas on supporting the person you care for so you can get to take a break and attend a carers group.

Can't make it to a Carers group? There are weekly Talking Cafes near you, for help and advice from your local Village Agent.:

[www.somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/](http://www.somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/)

Follow our service dedicated to Carers on Facebook or Twitter  
[@SomersetCarers](https://www.facebook.com/SomersetCarers).

Please phone me Izzy Silvester for free confidential advice and support on  
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**February 8 & 22**



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## Join Our Online Talks

If you are at a loss of what to do on these long dark winter evenings during the next couple of months, then you may wish to join one of our fascinating online talks.

14th February. 5.30 – 6.30pm. Rewilding with Bill Jenman. Rewilding is the conservation buzzword at the moment. But it's a divisive term that means different things to different people, as likely to provoke as to enthuse. This talk will explore the roots of the idea, what it really means, and the role it might play in the UK's unique environmental context.

24th February. 7.00 – 8.00pm. 30 years of the Quantock Hills AONB – where are we and how did we get here? As Chris Edwards, AONB Manager, prepares to retire he looks back over the last 30 years of exploring some of the key moments that shaped the Quantock Hills AONB Partnership and Service.

If you are interested in joining any of these fascinating talks please sign up here: **Quantock Hills AONB Winter Talk Programme 21/22**

Also please let us know if you would like to see a talk on a particular aspect or area of work of the AONB Service and we'll see if we can run this later in the year. **Tel 07977 412077**

*Iain Porter*

*Development Officer, Quantock Hills AONB Service*

## West Somerset Family History Group




Our next meeting is on 23rd February at 7pm in the Brendon Room in the pavilion. We will be having a talk about DNA and how to use the results from DNA tests.

Entrance is £1.50 for SDFHS members and £3 for visitors who are always made welcome. email [westsomfhg@gmail.com](mailto:westsomfhg@gmail.com) for more information.

Don't forget our monthly sessions at Williton library. A volunteer will spend an hour with you to try to help in your research either if you are a beginner or someone who has got 'stuck'. You need to book with the library as only one session is available at 3pm this month.

*Lesley Murray Secretary.*

  
**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..





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# + Faith Reflection

January and February can be very bleak months. Christmas is over, the decorations are down, we've probably eaten too much, money might be tight and spring seems a long way off. Short days, long nights, cold and miserable weather; we can sometimes feel a real sense of hopelessness. There doesn't seem to be a lot of light. Where is God, we might ask? Does He care? The good news is that God does care, He cares about the big things and the small things in our lives. Sometimes we just have to look a little harder.

A few weeks ago, I took my daughter, Eliza, to London to try and get a visa for returning to France for six months, to continue her work with a Mission Project, working with Refugees in Caen. We spent two hours at the Embassy, to no avail, because of the current restrictions in France, they wouldn't issue her with a Visa. She was really disappointed. It seemed like a wasted trip to London, but as we reflected on it, we'd spent the previous afternoon in the Tate Modern having a lovely time exploring the different exhibitions, and when we stopped to have a late lunch, just at the right moment, somebody moved from their table and we were able to sit there, a table with the most amazing views over the River Thames, straight towards St Paul's Cathedral. It was wonderful and I could have sat there all afternoon. Anybody who knows me well, knows how much I love a good view! God cared about the small things, we didn't get the visa, but we got the best table in the Gallery!

Before Christmas, my son, Stuart, broke his phone, and he was feeling quite upset and angry about it, and found it difficult not to be able to communicate with us whilst we were in London. That next day, I cried out to God, asking him to reveal himself to Stuart, knowing that we didn't have the money to replace the phone and not really sure what to do about it. I prayed 'Lord, please, by the end of the day, let somebody, somewhere, provide Stuart with a phone.' That night whilst at his parkour club, I was telling one of the parents that Stuart had broken his phone and was deeply upset about it. To cut a long story short, within half an hour she had provided a phone for him, an old one she had sitting in a drawer at home. Stuart was speechless when he came out of the club. I said to him, 'that God, that you're currently very grumpy with, well guess what? This morning I asked him to somehow get you a phone and look what's happened?!'

God knew how important this was to Stuart, a small thing, but God cares about the small things, and if we look hard enough, we can find God in all sorts of places. As Desmond Tutu said, 'Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.' Sometimes things seem bleak, but if we look hard enough, God is there, because he cares about the small things.

*Julie Pelling  
Reader St Peters Church.*



# Get ready for Recycle More



**Coming to Sedgemoor and  
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**Recycle more  
from your kerbside  
every week**



**Because you can recycle more,  
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every three weeks.**

[somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more)

Somerset recycles

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The new service is due to launch to around 70,000 households at the end of February. We will let you know if this changes. Recycle More is an important development that means doing things differently and you can play a key role in raising awareness and understanding.

An updated leaflet is due in early Feb. It will include a guide to recycling with the new service and an individual collection day calendar of recycling and rubbish collections for the coming year.

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

## 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>
	2.00pm - 4.00pm Short Mat Bowls	Williton Pavilion	<b>Tel : 01984 633084</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>	2.00pm - 4.00pm Chatty Crafters (Except first Tues of the month)	Danesborough Common Room	<b>Tel: 01984 634686</b>
	5.45pm - 7.15pm Brownies	Guide & Brownie HQ	<b>Tel: 01984 632089</b>
<b>Weds</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 - 9.00pm Guides	Market St, Watchet	<b>Tel: 07584 037156</b>

If you are thinking of joining or attending any of the above please check with the organisation as some only operate during school term times.

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

<b>Tues</b>	<b>1st</b>	Brownies Open Evening	5.45pm to 7.15pm Guide & Brownie HQ Long Street
<b>Weds</b>	<b>2nd</b>	Wasps. Family History Group.	1.15pm Sampford Brett Village Hall 3.00pm Library ( <i>Book with Library</i> )
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	Indoor Car Boot	12noon to 2pm Pavilion
<b>Tues</b>	<b>8th</b>	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
<b>Tues</b>	<b>15th</b>	Film Club	6.30pm for 7pm start Pavilion
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>17th</b>	Women's Institute	2.00pm Pavilion
<b>Fri</b>	<b>18th</b>	Community Market	9.00am to 11.30am Williton Social Club
<b>Tues</b>	<b>22nd</b>	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
<b>Weds</b>	<b>23rd</b>	Family History Group	7.00pm to 9.00pm Pavilion (Brendon Room)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	Williton Open House	10.00am to 1.00pm Pavilion
<b>Mon</b>	<b>28th</b>	Garden Club	7.30pm Danesborough Common Rooms

**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**

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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)

### February Parish Council News

Despite Covid restrictions and all the delays that this can be blamed for, one thing has come forward quite quickly. A grant was successfully applied for in the autumn to run an activity to help people who have been self-isolating from the virus to begin safely meeting up with friends.

The Parish Council contacted the Foxes Academy in Minehead and asked if they could prepare and serve lunches once a week in the Pavilion on the Memorial Ground. They agreed, so a joint project is now up and running. The first lunch was served on Tuesday 11th January and was enjoyed by everyone who attended. The students from Foxes who prepared and cooked the food, found the experience worthwhile. As a result lunches will now be served every Tuesday. There is a £3 charge to cover the cost of the food. Doors open at 11.45am and food is served at 12.15pm. Places are limited. To book a meal call in to the Parish Office in Killick Way or phone the Parish Office on **01984 634727** or email [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk) Our Village Agent, Izzy Silvester, can also take bookings who you can see at the Talking Café or contact on **07931 018045**, email [izzy@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:izzy@somersetccc.org.uk). You need to book by the Wednesday before the lunch to give Foxes time to buy in the food. You will be asked about allergies to make sure your dietary requirements are taken into account.

The Parish Council is pleased to continue to sponsor the Talking Café. This is held in the Pavilion every Tuesday starting at 2pm and Izzy Silvester, our Village Agent, is the usual host. Different organisations which help us in the community are there, both professional and voluntary, and can give advice on many issues which may be troubling you. The Café follows on straight after the Community Lunch, so why not round it off with a chat to other people, make some new acquaintances and enjoy the light refreshments in a very friendly atmosphere. The Café is one of the longest running events since the Pavilion opened and has helped many people get around all manner of issues making lives more pleasant and less stressful. Why not take advantage of this facility.

*Continued on next page.*

### February Parish Council News Continued from previous page

On 27th February between 10am and 1pm there will be another Open House event held at the Pavilion. This is an opportunity for you to see the wide range of hobbies and leisure activities that are going on in Williton. If you are looking for a new interest or would like to revive a hobby not followed for a long time, this is for you. Also clubs and groups supporting hobbies are welcome to have a pitch at the event to publicise their existence and encourage new membership. To book a pitch contact the Parish Office on **01984 633979** or email [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk).

Now is a good time to apply to be co-opted onto the Council as there is a place for a councillor which is not currently filled. There will be elections in May so this is a chance to see what the role requires for a few months before standing for election. In truth, none of us have been elected as only if thirteen or more people stand for election is there a need for an election. With the new unitary council coming into existence, also in May, it could be that the Parish Council will need to take on more responsibilities as the existing District Council is disbanded. A new face or a returning familiar face, you would be welcome.

*Cllr Ian Aldridge.*



### CALLING ALL BUSINESS OWNERS

Do you run/own a business in Williton, whether this be from a shop, a unit or from home?

The Parish Council are holding a reception at The White House on Sunday 6th February, to encourage the formation of a Traders Association in Williton and would like to invite you to attend.

Letters / flyers will be distributed, but we want to ensure we reach all businesses, which may be difficult for those working from home. Please could you contact the Parish Council on **01984 633979** or email [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk) for further details. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP, also to the Parish Council by 31st January 2022.

*Michelle Francis Parish Clerk.*



### Williton Hospital League of Friends NOTICE OF MEETING



Williton Hospital League of Friends are holding their AGM in the Brendon Room at Williton Pavilion on Wednesday March 16th, 2022, at 7.30pm Tea and Coffees to be provided ALL WELCOME

For further info please contact the League Secretary Barbara Heywood on **01984 634725**



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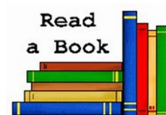
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## Williton Public Library

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

(Closed Tuesday).



### Library News

Our iPad loan scheme is proving popular so if you would like to borrow one free of charge from the library, please pop in to see us. The scheme is designed to assist those looking for work and to develop new skills. They come with helpful information for those wanting support with finding work, writing a CV and interview techniques. The device needs no internet connection.



Is one of your plans for 2022 to research your family tree? Do you need help getting started? We run individual sessions on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month where you can be supported on using Ancestry with our experienced volunteer. Sessions need to be booked in advance.



Monday Rhyme Time sessions at 11am with Billy are now a regular event starting on the 31st of January. Please come along with your pre school children and join us for a song and a story.

For those people who want to up skill with their computers, laptops, tablets, or mobile phones we have sessions available to support you. These sessions need to be booked with the library staff.



If you would like to play Scrabble, we have a wonderful Scrabble board available for use in the library. Please be aware that you can book a session to use it.

We are hoping to restart our Lego Club for our younger members in 2022. If this is something you would be interested in running you would need a Library DBS certificate. (There is no charge for this.) If you would like more information, please come in and see us.



Our email address is [willib@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:willib@somerset.gov.uk) if you need to get in touch with us or wish to book for an event.

Williton Library staff.

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## Down at the Station February 2022



The winter maintenance work has had a slow start due to wet weather, but there are signs of something happening. All the directional hanging signs have been taken down for cleaning and repainting, and work has started on the exterior of the shop building, where some new timbers are required along with new rainwater guttering.

Internally we are waiting on estimates for replacing the floor in the main entrance hall as this is too large a job for weekly volunteers if we want it back in use sometime this year! We have recently been donated a restored three wheeled GWR platform trolley, circa pre 1938, which we will have on regular display once trains start again.

*John Parsons, Station Master.*



## Williton Garden Club



Little to report this month as unfortunately our speaker for January was unable to come due to ill health. However we did meet and watched a couple more episodes of Geoff Hamilton's Gardener's World from a bygone age! Always entertaining.

Our planned meeting for February is on **Monday 28th** when we are hoping to have a talk entitled 'Year Round Bulbs' by Lady Christine Skelmersdale. New members welcome.

For the future, we can confirm that we have booked The Parish Rooms for our Annual Plant Sale for Saturday morning 18th June.

*John Parsons Chairman.*

## Temporary Road Closure: Cleeve Hill, Watchet

The works are expected to commence on **14th February 2022** and last for **5 days** to enable **Walters to replace existing signs and sensors..**

The contractor has indicated that access for Emergency Services through the site is permitted on this occasion.

For any further information about this closure please contact

**Walters on 01179 827400, quoting reference: ttr0478675WS**





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At this time of year it is normally quiet on the hedgehog front as the majority of our spiky friends should be hibernating. However, our climate is changing and this winter it has been very mild, meaning that a few of you have been seeing hedgehogs out in your gardens until after Christmas! I have had reports from Williton residents to say that they are still feeding hedgehogs which come regularly to their feeding stations.

I was very pleased, yet again, to receive a donation for Hoglets Hedgehog Rescue at Sampford Brett, from members of Williton Social Club. So I thought you might like to know what happens when a hedgehog is taken into a rescue centre for help.

The hedgehog is firstly weighed and a note made on a record sheet. This is to monitor whether the animal is putting on, or losing, weight. An assessment is made to see if there is an injury, fly strike, maggots, internal parasites, dehydration etc., so that the correct treatment can be given straight away. If it is cold it will be put onto a special heat pad to warm up. It is imperative that treatment is given from day one so that the hedgehog will have a good chance of surviving and being released back into the wild, which is the aim of every wildlife rescue. It is put in a box in a quiet place, with warmth, food and water and something to hide under and will be monitored daily to ensure it is putting on weight and that any wounds are healing (serious wounds will be dealt with by a vet).

Don't be tempted to 'hang on' to a hedgehog you have found which looks as though it needs help. Contact a rescue for advice. Hedgehogs are very good at 'masking' problems and one which has been rescued may suddenly appear lively and desperate to get out of its box. This may be a symptom of a heavy internal parasite burden and so the sooner it goes to a rescue the better its chance of survival.

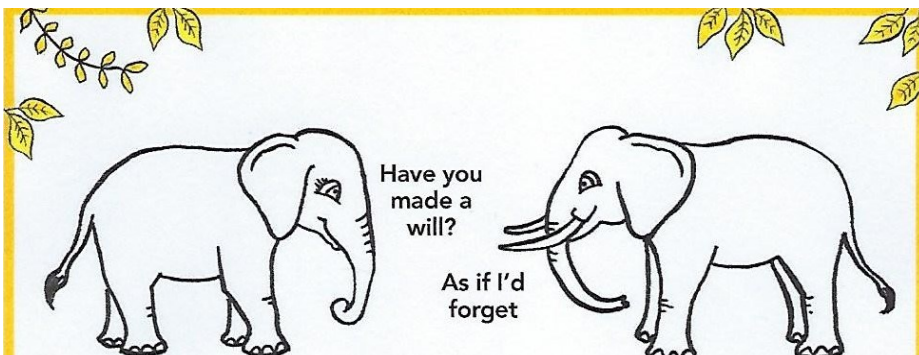
It is certainly not cheap to run a rescue. Food, bedding, heat pads, medication, accommodation (i.e. storage boxes or small animal cages), washing bedding etc. are expensive and if it were not for the generosity of local people then rescues would not be able to exist. In the case of hedgehogs, this would be a disaster as they are vulnerable to extinction and we must do all we can to ensure their survival.

If you know of a group who would like me to come along and give a talk about hedgehogs then please let me know. Tel: **07918 603059**

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



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## Williton Pavilion & War Memorial Recreation Ground

Tel: 01984 633979 E-mail: [admin@willitonnpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonnpc.org.uk)

**Tue 18 Jan**  
Doors Open 18:30; Film starts 19:00 prompt

**Postponed to Tue 15 Feb**

**Williton Pavilion**

**RESPECT**  
THE QUEEN ARRIVES

Advance tickets available from  
Parish Office, Holly Barn Antiques & Williton Post Office  
Advance: £4 / On the door: £5

Light refreshments (tea/coffee/softs/beer/wine) available

Cast your mind back for a moment to last year; I would like to thank everyone involved in the Christmas Market, Festival, Parade and Santa's Grotto. So many problems on the day of the Festival, with people dropping out due to illness, meant it was very nearly cancelled; **thank you so much to those that stepped in at the last minute and rescued it.**

I ask this every month, but we really do **need more helpers** - both on the run up to the events and also on the day, so please if you can spare a few hours let us know so we can put you on the volunteer list. We'll email out when we need help and if you're available great, if not there's always a next time. As a team of eight we cannot do this all on our own; we also work and we also like personal time too.

### So, what have we planned for 2022?

Please note I say planned, without more helpers, these ideas may very well remain just plans.

Subject to restrictions, **Bingo** and **Film Nights** will run as usual throughout the year. **Bingo** - Tuesday 8th & 22nd February.

**Film Nights** - We are very sorry that we had to postpone the screening of **Respect**. The film will now be shown on **Tuesday 15th February**.

Tickets already purchased are valid on the new date. If you are unable to make the new date, please return your tickets for a full refund. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Following the rise of Aretha Franklin's career - from a child singing in her father's church choir to her international superstardom - it's the remarkable true story of the music icon's journey to find her voice.

*Certificate: PG-13 (racial epithets, mature thematic content, violence, smoking, strong language and suggestive material)*

Rotten Tomatoes Audience Score 95% / Google Score 87%.

**Tickets available from Parish Council office, Holly Barn and Williton Post Office**

Light refreshments available. Free parking in Killick Way after 18:00 hours.

Limited parking for disabled at The Pavilion. £4.00 in advance, £5.00 on the door.

*Continued on next page.*

## Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground Continued

Way back in February 2020 just before the first Lockdown, we had an **Open House at the Pavilion** where many of the Williton non-profit/charity groups had tables to promote their group and meet new members. So, this year, we're having another on **Sunday 27 February, 10am to 1pm.**

Once again, it's free of charge for all Williton non-profit/charity groups, and visitors. If you are a Williton group and would like to have a table, please contact the Parish Office on **01984 633979** or email [clerk@willitonnpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonnpc.org.uk) as soon as possible to secure your space.

### Outdoor Car Boot

The last Sunday in each month from April - September; cars £5

### Duck Race

Coinciding with the 2nd Outdoor Car Boot on Sunday 29th May.

### Open Gardens

We are looking for residents to showcase their gardens on Saturday 21 May. Big or small, landscaped or wild, finished or a "work in progress" every garden is welcome! If you are interested, please call the Parish Office on **01984 633979**

**Farmers Market / Artisan Craft Fair** - we'd love to hold these monthly/fortnightly and if there is anyone in the village that has been involved in organising a Farmers Market, we'd love you to join our Team and share your knowledge with us.

**Village Fete** - Saturday 3rd September

**Christmas Craft Market** - Saturday 3rd December

**Christmas Festival & Santa's Grotto** - (provisional) Saturday 17th December

### Bunting

Getting this request out early so it's not so rushed this year. I am looking for any spare fabric that would be suitable for cutting up and making into bunting for the village fair. Bright colours or pretty patterned cotton curtains, duvet covers, table cloths etc would be brilliant - drop into the Parish Office or to the box on the doorstep of 25 North Croft. I am also looking for people willing to sew up kits as last year - email me [cllr.howes@willitonnpc.org.uk](mailto:cllr.howes@willitonnpc.org.uk) with your address and I will drop packs round as and when ready.

### Poppies

A little late, but a huge thank you to everyone who made poppies to decorate the Memorial on Remembrance Day. We would love to have many more this year to "upgrade" the display; there is some red wool in the box on my doorstep

(25 North Croft) and at 1 The Old Methodist Hall, Tower Hill. Feel free to email me if you need wool dropping off. Also wondering / hoping that someone might have some black 1" cotton tape spare, or even better a black cotton sheet/curtain/duvet they no longer need as I could make that into tape. Please drop off to my doorstep box or Parish Office, **Thank you.**

*Dawn-Lesley Howes.*

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## JANUARY

We are now having frosts and fog, we may have forgotten the rather mild December.

## DECEMBER

Once again a month warmer than average, some nights quite warm (often 11°C and even 14°C).

The coldest night on the 19th was 2°C.

The maximum temperature was 18.2°C on the 31st.

The maximum pressure of 30.6 inches was on the 17th.

The minimum pressure of 29.3 inches was on the 27th.

The total rainfall was 85 mm (most of this in the last week).



## SUMMARY

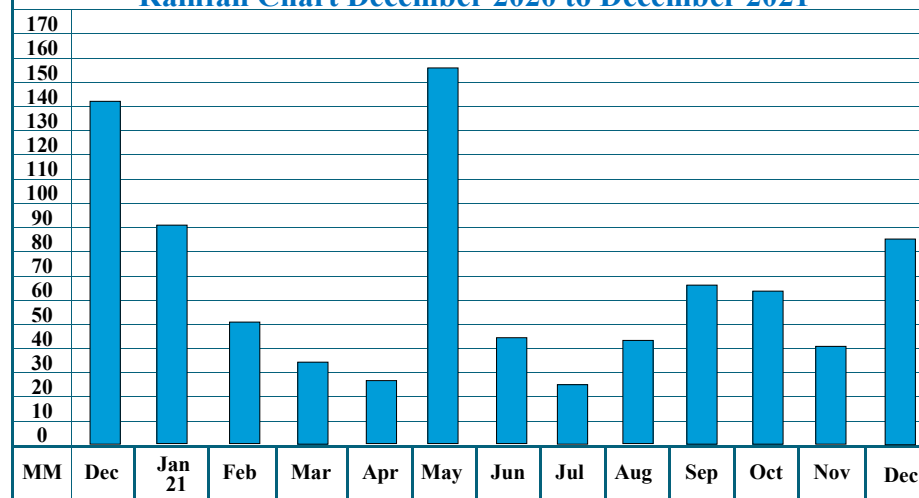
Last year the world saw a lot of records: July the hottest ever on record (Sicily)! At the end of November worst floods and many trees down, roads blocked etc. Louisiana worst hurricanes. Wettest ever in Australia. Even ice seen on the Tropic seas. Also, ice melting on the Andes.

## NATURE NOTES

After a mild December which saw Bumble & Honey Bees and even a small Tortoiseshell Butterfly active in the garden we have returned to more wintry weather. Birds are a lot more active at the feeders in the garden since the frosty weather returned. I have also noticed some nesting activity in the rookery in Long Street on the edge of the village.

PJ.

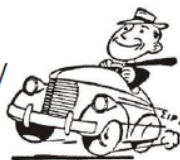
**Rainfall Chart December 2020 to December 2021**





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

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

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

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

**First Thursday of the month:** Dulverton Library, Dulverton, 10.00am – 12.00pm Tel: 0300 123 2224

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

#### VALUED VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

at all hubs please phone if you can help!

07392316158



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For full details see:  
[www.regaltheatre.co.uk](http://www.regaltheatre.co.uk)



### January / February

**Saturday 29th January & Sunday 30th 7.30pm**  
Spotlight Dance Company

**Friday 11th February 7.30pm**  
Tribute Band: Cold Place

**Friday 18th February 7.30pm**  
Live band: - Lollypops & Moptops - 50's /60's

**February 25th 7.30pm**  
Peter Gill – Piano Legends.

**Tuesday 1st February 7.30pm**  
Film: Minari

**Monday 14th February 7.15pm**  
ROH special screening:  
Romeo & Juliet

**Saturday, 19th February 7:30pm**  
Film West Side Story Cert 12A



Williton Brownies are holding an **OPEN EVENING** for girls aged nearly 7-10 years old, on **Tuesday 1st February 2022** from **5.45-7.15pm**. If your daughter would like to try some new, exciting activities with other girls please come along and give it a go for free.

To book a space please contact Linda (Brown Owl) on **07484 601929** or email [Lindasully4@aol.com](mailto:Lindasully4@aol.com)

*If you missed this date or were unable to come on that day please do still contact me.*

*Linda Sully.*



## WILLITON WI

Following the business at our January meeting, we all relaxed and enjoyed a fun afternoon with a Beetle Drive, which was won by Ann Smith.

The next meeting will be held in The Pavilion on Thursday 17th February at 2pm, when our speaker will be a member of Dorset and Somerset Fire Service. New members and visitors are always most welcome.

*June Irving Secretary.*

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."

*Michelangelo.*

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## WORDSEARCH FOR FEBRUARY

by Phyllis Chidgey

### Once Upon A Time



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

IN	WOLF	GRUFF	BASHFUL
ALI	PUSS	THREE	RAPUNZEL
DOC	DICK	BEARS	SNOWWHITE
PEA	BABA	DOPEY	BEANSTALK
COW	BOOTS	SLEEPY	GOLDBLOCKS
RED	BEAST	GRUMPY	CINDERELLA

### FORGET ME NOT CAFE

IN THE SANCTUARY WATCHET

For details of what is happening contact:

Margaret Tatham 07973 638030 or email [watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)



### LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

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DRS.





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## Williton And Surrounding Parkinson's Support Group WASPS



The first Meeting of the year was held in the Sampford Brett Hall at 1.30 pm on 4th January. Considering the weather and it being so soon after the New Year there was a good turnout of members.

Exercises were led by David Freemantle, himself a Parkinson sufferer, who was volunteered at short notice, his wife Rosemary, also a stand in, being unable to speak without coughing. This was a jolly session with the leader struggling to keep up with the exercises he had set the members. All exercises were performed while sitting down and included some testing ones for coordination.

Our speaker for the meeting was Hester Watson from West Somerset Forum 21. Her talk was very relevant considering the sharp rise in fuel costs. She gave us tips about keeping warm and spoke about the help available for saving electricity, and for sourcing grants to assist with paying for electricity and gas.

The February meeting will be on WEDNESDAY 2nd February in Sampford Brett. This change of day will allow Dr. Simon Cooper, the Parkinson specialist at Musgrove, to attend.

This meeting will mark the 9th Birthday of WASPS (Williton and Surround Parkinson Support Group), so there will be cake. Also entertainment from a ukulele band. Exercises will start at 1.30pm as usual, with the meeting starting at 2.15pm.

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 [waspcontact@gmail.com](mailto:waspcontact@gmail.com) (or in a real emergency phone Linda on: 01984 631472).

*Rosemary Freemantle.*



## Did you see Williton War Memorial at Christmas

Many thanks to the Royal British Legion for the beautiful Christmas tree which had twinkle lights brightening the night sky during December at the Memorial Ground.

A poignant reminder of the unofficial laying down of arms on Christmas Eve in 1914 during WWI.

*Jacqueline Brown.*

## 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: **0800 802 1808**

**Christians Against Poverty** - Free debt help. Freephone: **0800 328 0006**.

[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**.

## Geoffrey Dennett 1940 - 2022



Many local people will remember Geoff who sadly passed away on 3rd January. Born in Weacombe he moved to Watchet when he married Lee-Chelle to take up a job with Wansbrough Paper Mill, where he became a despatch foreman. On leaving the mill he became transport manager for Streets Transport Watchet, finally setting up his own transport company operating out of Avonmouth and Cardiff at which time they moved to Norton Fitzwarren, Sadly Lee didn't live many years after the move.

Whilst in Watchet Geoff was very much involved with the Baptist church and after a long interval he joined Watchet Choral Society, The Withycombe Players and then through his association with us, got involved with St Peters Players where he took part in two pantomimes and the dramatised version of Beckett in St Peter's Church.

Geoff always felt a strong connection with Watchet always reminding anyone who would listen that Yankee Jack was his great, great uncle.

He had a great joy of life despite serious health issues; he never complained or had a bad word for anyone. He will be sorely missed by all who loved him.

Rest in Peace dear friend.

*Alan & Ellie Jones.*



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