

Your Community Magazine

WILLITON WINDOW

May 2022
Volume 22 Number 11

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ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 17TH MAY

EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 20TH MAY

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

9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays from FRIDAY 29TH MAY

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

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We do not share or sell names, addresses, phone numbers or email addresses under any circumstances.



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It can also be downloaded as a PDF
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www.willitonwindow.org.uk

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Email: sales@rockwellprinters.co.uk



WILLITON WELCOME BOOKLET



Have you recently moved to Williton? If so, you may like a free Welcome Booklet, which gives a street map of Williton and Doniford, contact details of services, local clubs and organisations, and other useful information. Please ring Janet Cook on: **07989 466619**, or email: williton@willitonwindow.co.uk
To download a copy go to our website:
www.willitonwindow.org.uk

Cover Picture: Hawthorn May Blossom near Egrove Farm.

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UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON
 Website: www.watchetandwillitonbenefice.com/
 For details of other local churches see page 10.



Services in May at St Peter's Church Williton

We invite you all to join any of our services

Sunday	1st	10.00 am	Family Worship
Sunday	8th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	15th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	22nd	9.15am	Parish Communion
Thursday	26th	9.45am	Ascension Day Communion
Sunday	29th	10.00am	Benefice Communion

Every Tuesday 10.00am Morning Prayer

The church is now open every day for private prayer 08.30am - 6.00pm

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

Maintaining St Peters Churchyard

During April our volunteer churchyard team carried out the seasons first cut of the grass. A task that can take quite a bit of time as it is a reasonably large area of grass to cut and then strim the edges.

Unfortunately the task can be quite unpleasant at times because there is a considerable amount of **Dog Dirt in the grass**.

Can we ask the dog owners concerned to not allow their dogs to foul in the churchyard if this happens please obey the law and **clean up after your dog**.

Thank you.

The Churchyard Team.



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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
Janet Bremner Tel. **01984 632118** email: 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 or telephone Mrs M Collinson: **01984 632537**
Mrs S Shearer: **01984 568310** or visit the website: 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)
With the weather getting warmer we are looking forward to being in the garden sometimes for our services on Sundays. These happen at Mollie's bungalow, 2 Higher Croft Tower Hill Williton at 10.30am, and are followed by refreshments and a chance to talk to each other. We have a different preacher every week and occasionally a Local Arrangement, which is when we put together a service for ourselves. Everyone is welcome to join us on any Sunday, and also on Friday mornings between 10am and 12noon, when the conversation ranges widely, and the tea and coffee and biscuits are on offer. We have a collecting tin for our chosen charity, which is voluntary, we have raised a lot of money, which is sent to where it is needed.

Our preachers for May will be:

Rev Jane Sperring on May 1st. Rev Malcolm Hope on May 8th.
Rebecca Edwards on May 15th. Margaret Lintern on May 22nd.
Rev Carol Gill on May 29th with a service of Holy Communion.

We hold in our prayers Clare and her family as she settles into Westerley, asking that she will be comfortable there. We also pray for Angela, Nigel and Angie, Bridget and Paul, Drew and John, the Christians Together in Watchet and Williton group and the community of Williton, especially the young families at this difficult 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.**
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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Email : quantockfoodbank@gmail.com

Dear Friends

Thank you all so much for your amazing response to our Easter appeal and we have distributed seventy parcels filled with Easter treats, through the Community Network, Home-Start, Schools, Foodbank and Pantry. Having spent the last two Easters in lockdown, it has been wonderful to be out enjoying the spring sunshine without constraint and the joyous freedom of meeting with family and friends.

In February's newsletter we highlighted the inequality of access to the Foodbank and Pantry Pilot and our desire to find an area wide solution, and on Tuesday 22nd March a stakeholders meeting took place which was both positive and constructive. A new E-Mobile Pantry project has been initiated, to facilitate access for rurally isolated communities and a project team formed. The lead time for delivery of such a vehicle is around 12 months as manufacturers of some parts are located in Ukraine. The Foodbank's new project would deliver zero carbon, in line with the County Council's action on climate change which has been rated best in the UK; as has Somerset West & Taunton District Council, where projects in our own area have delivered electric vehicles for community transport. In the interim, the project team will be looking at other temporary arrangements.

Meanwhile, our volunteers and trustees continue to work extremely hard to meet the needs of our local communities, and representatives of the Foodbank were presented with the Millington Shield by Watchet Town Council on Tuesday 12 April. The shield is given each year to a local community organisation "to highlight the most valuable contribution they have made to the town".

Part of the citation reads:

'Working in Partnership with local agencies who provide referrals, the Quantock Foodbank has been providing a vital service to those in need of help from its base in Watchet across its coverage area including the rural Quantock villages'. 'Peak demand quadrupled during COVID lockdowns, but was met by the amazing generosity of donors and the efforts of volunteers and trustees operating the Foodbank.'

We were very pleased that Watchet Town Council decided to recognise what we do in this way and we thank them for their continued endorsement of this necessary work.

Your loyal support means a lot to us and we enjoy seeing some of you each week and having a chat.

Marlene.

Items which we would really appreciate at the moment are:

Instant Coffee, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Cold Meats, Laundry Powder or Liquid, Shower Gel and Toilet Tissue.

Combe Florey Art Circle

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Saturday 28th / Sunday 29th / Monday 30th May

From 10am - 4pm daily



Combe Florey Village Hall



Refreshments - Tea - Coffee - Homemade Cakes

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May 3, 17 & 31



@ The Pavilion

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Photographic Competition / Plants / Books / etc
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WSMLA Guided Walks 2022

Booking and up-to-date information: Exmoor National Park (ENPA) on 01398 323841. or on our website, www.wsmr.org.uk Booking is essential:

Further walks and/or talks can be arranged for groups.

Call 01984 634177 or 01398 323841



Walks are free, donations are welcome, dogs on leads only with permission, walking boots and rain wear are needed.

Saturday, 7th May, Raleigh's Cross Long Walk.
Meet 9.45am at Raleigh's Cross Inn TA23 0LN



We visit Beulah Chapel, the old Brendon village and the Winding House. Then we go down the Incline to Comberow, through the woods to Leighland Chapel and circle back via a picturesque waterfall. Bring a packed lunch. 7 miles Steep.



West Somerset Family History Group

In the March meeting our chairman Jane reminded us of ways to research our family tree, it was helpful also for our new members.

Our May meeting will be an open meeting where if we have problems we can help as a group or if you are new or have hit a brick wall come along and we can discuss ways for you to proceed in your research. More heads are better than one.

Entrance is £1.50 for SDFHS members and £3 for visitors who are always made welcome. Refreshments will be provided. email westsomfhg@gmail.com for more information.

All our monthly sessions for beginners at the library are fully booked for May so please book with the library for June sessions on 1st as at time of writing only 1 session is available.

Lesley Murray Secretary.

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+ Faith Reflection

Writing this at the end of April I have just seen some may blossom - the flowers of the hawthorn tree. It is out before May and reminds me that the saying "Don't cast a clout before may is out" refers to the blossom not the month as nature is a better indicator of the weather than our calendar. This year we were blessed with lovely weather over Easter and people were able to get out and about and enjoy the spring flowers and birdsong. But the flowers and the birdsong are around because the weather conditions were right, not because of a date in the calendar. Often we human beings feel we are in control of things, but in reality it is God who is in control. In Jeremiah chapter 29 God says "I know I have plans for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

During the past couple of years we have had to hang on to this promise and I am sure the people of Ukraine are also hanging on to these words as they flee the war in their country. Often times look bleak and we can lose heart, but as followers of Jesus we know that we may be able to look back and see that in reality God was in control of our lives. In May, in the church, we look forward to celebrating Pentecost, when those frightened disciples were transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit into people who would defy the authorities and offer the love of God to all people. We give thanks for their bravery and for all those over the centuries who have offered God's love to those who are frightened and lonely and in need. As we continue to care for one another and pray for peace and justice for all people we remember Jesus demonstrated God's great love for us by his death and resurrection and for that we give thanks.

Rev Jane Sperring.

Wasps Meeting at Sandford Brett Village Hall on April 7th

About thirty members were welcomed to a generous pre meeting cold finger buffet provided by the committee. While we enjoyed our lunch we struggled, with much laughter, to answer three pages of fun quiz questions provided by Jane.

Jane Cooper took the Chair for the AGM. The first item was the re-election of all the committee members en masse for another year. A comprehensive Treasurers report of the last year was read by Ginny Yandle, who is standing down, was then thanked sincerely for all her work as Treasurer since the very beginning of Wasps. She was presented with flowers and an attractive glazed pot. The position of Treasurer will now be filled by Tegwen Richards. Jane concluded the meeting by asking members for suggestions of subjects they would like covered by future speakers and also asked if anyone would like to join the committee.

Next month's meeting falls on election day so the hall is not available. Instead there will be the annual Cream Tea to be held this year at Doniford Farm Park on Thursday May 5th at 2.30pm. Members were reminded to book their places. There is no charge to members for this event.

The June meeting will be on Thursday 2nd June at 1.30 preceded by exercises at 1p.m. back in the Sampford Brett Village Hall when the speaker will talk on her experience of 'Around the World in Thirty Jobs'.

Rosemary Freemantle, Williton and surrounds Parkinson's support.

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Sun 15th May/ Sat 21st May

Sun 22nd May/ Sun 29th May

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Groups 6-30 / £10.00p per person



ORCHARD WYNDHAM

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Saturday 21st May

2pm

Tour of the house and gardens

*In celebration of the Queen's platinum
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*Donations taken for the tour go to
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&

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How You Can Help



You should now be seeing hedgehogs out and about again after the winter 'hibernation period'. Although, this winter a lot of hedgehogs did not hibernate because it was so warm, or if they did it was only for short periods.

I would like to tell you all about recording sightings of hedgehogs, alive or dead, and the reason for doing so. In the 1950's the population of our native hedgehog in the British Isles was estimated at around 30 million. However, now the population is estimated to be under 1 million. It is really important that organisations such as the Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species, the Hedgehog Preservation Society and local wildlife recording centres, are told about sightings as it gives them some sort of idea of the health of our hedgehog population. Whilst hedgehogs are currently classed as 'vulnerable to extinction', urban populations seem to be increasing slightly. This is probably due to our awareness of this little wild creature and what it needs to survive.

If you are able to, please record sightings on the Hedgehog Street website, www.hedgehogstreet.org when you go onto the website you will see a section called 'Home of the BIG Hedgehog map. Click on MAP and this will take you to the page where you can report sightings. Click on 'I've seen a hedgehog' and complete the form, and don't forget to submit it. Once you have done this your sighting will be recorded on the Big Hedgehog Map. You can also access this website via our own website, www.watchethedgehogs.org If you have any questions about this please let me know.

I am pleased that so many of you love our native Hedgehogs and are doing all you can to make it welcome in your gardens. Let's make Williton a 'Hedgehog Friendly Village'. E-mail: Janeyb8@hotmail.co.uk, Phone: **07918 603059**

Jane Sharp – Watchet Hedgehogs.

Good Neighbours Group

We are now meeting again in the Danesborough View common room after a long gap. We get together the first Tuesday of every month (except August). We welcome new members if you are aged 55 or above, please come and join us. For more information please call: **01984 632616**

Miss Berry.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

We have the Council elections coming up on the 5th May we all have the opportunity to vote for our representatives on the new Somerset Council.

Remember to exercise your right to vote, if you do not participate then you forfeit your right to complain when things are not as you would wish.

You have to play the game to be in the game!



DRS Editor.

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Williton Parish Council

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Talk to Michelle or email : clerk@willitonpc.org.uk

or Julie : admin@willitonpc.org.uk

QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND

To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II and to help our butterflies and bees Williton Parish Council have given every household a packet of **wildflower seeds**. Each packet is enough to cover 3 square metres, so please sow these in your garden.



On **Thursday 2nd June**, following a bugle call at 21:40 we will be **lighting the beacon** and joining more than 1,500 others across the UK, CT's, IoM and UKOT's. Come and join us at the Memorial Ground to witness this spectacle.

On **Sunday 5th June** we will be celebrating with **A Big Jubilee (Picnic) Lunch** starting at 13:00 hours in Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground. This will be an informal afternoon of fun, food, entertainment and competitions. Bring your own picnic please, although we will have a van selling hot food and cold drinks, and an ice-cream van. There will also be children's rides, inflatables and fun stalls. For children up to the age of 12 years there will be a competition for the best decorated crown. The Pavilion will be open and we will have BBC coverage on the big screen inside. Get in the spirit of the day and wear red, white and blue.

We would like to decorate the Pavilion and if anyone has photographs of other Williton Jubilee's or indeed any memorabilia that we could borrow for the exhibition it would be most appreciated, please drop it in to the Parish Office.

At the end of May, we will be decorating the tree on Bellamy's Corner, so if anyone has anything (or would like to make something) suitable in red, white and/or blue please take it to the Parish Office.

Other News in Brief:

- The Parish Council are pleased to announce that Public Toilets in Killick Way are once again open.
- The Foyer in the Parish Office is available for hire – please ask for details.
- Foxes Academy are providing Lunches in the Pavilion on Tuesdays and Afternoon Teas on Thursdays – please contact us for details.
- New fast charging electric car charging points now in Killick Way car park.

Michelle Frances, Parish Clerk.

Tue 24 May

Doors Open 18:30; Film starts 19:00 prompt
(15 minute interval)



@ Williton Pavilion

WWMRG is a registered charity (211212)
run by volunteers; help is always appreciated

Advance tickets available from

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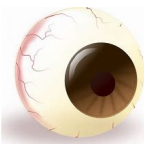
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God Gave Me A Miracle

Here is my story. On Monday evening March 31st I had a bad headache on the right side of my head. I sometimes get a sinus headache which I thought it was. However, partly through the night the pain got worse, and I was unable to sleep in spite of taking pain killers. Praise God, a house across the way from us had left an outside light on, showing a pattern of stripes on our bedroom ceiling. (Thanks God) as I looked, I realised that I could see the stripes through my left eye, but through the right it was a blur. I got up and found that all usable sight had gone from my right eye. For fear it was a stroke, I phoned the ambulance and was taken to A&E. After lots of questions the doctor looked at my eye and said "it just isn't working" I asked him what he meant and was told that the functions of the eye didn't do anything. He asked if it had been bleeding and then told me "it is serious" I was sent for a CT scan and then sent as an emergency to the eye clinic.

By then my pain level was 8 out of 10. It seems that the pressure in my eye was at a level to have damaged the eye and treatment had to start immediately. Several different kinds of eye drops were given at about ten minute intervals. Slowly the pressure started to reduce as did the pain. This went on for some time and then I had to have a big injection into my arm which had to be given slowly over three or four minutes. I was warned that I would get pins and needles over my body, but that didn't happen.

Next, I was given laser surgery to both eyes. To the right to help a cure and to the left to prevent anything happening in the future. The consultant was amazed that there had been no damage to my eye and thanks to me getting to hospital quickly I was able to receive emergency treatment. My eyesight is now amazing, and I have to take tablets and lots of different eye drops through the rest of this week. On the Friday, I had to return for more laser surgery. Reading on the NHS site it informed me that the problem could be stopped but damage to the eye was permanent.

Finally, our son Andrew who works in Taunton, finishes work at 4.40 pm and I was discharged at 4.00 pm so I had a lift home. The consultant was amazed that my eye was not damaged, he shared with his assistant that even the back of the eye was fine.



I thank God for a miracle in treatment and in the details of my day. All due to those many, lovely friends who have prayed. I was once in darkness, now my eye can see, I was lost but Jesus came to save me. Hallelujah!

Barrie Leete Dovetons Drive.

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May Village Agent News

May is National Walking Month in the UK, and a great incentive to Get Outdoors in Somerset. Kick start some healthy summer habits, or encourage you to move a bit more than normal! In Somerset, we are blessed to have 35 miles of our coastline on the South West Coast path route. Why not set yourself a spring-summer challenge to walk it! Find more information here: www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk/walk-coast-path/south-west-coast-path-national-trail/area/somerset-and-exmoor/.

Do you enjoy walking alone or with friends, or would you like to meet new people while you walk? The Get Outside in Somerset campaign has grown massively, with a website packed with local groups you could join, and a facebook group where you can share your favourite places to go. Why not inspire others to follow in your footsteps! Visit: www.getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk/activities and select walking from the dropdown list for ideas!

May 11th is Somerset Day – a now well-established celebration of all things Somerset! Hang your bunting with pride and join in many of the activities running this month, including the Somerset Day Trail. They showcase some fabulous destinations to visit on the 2022 trail challenge, and you could WIN one of four prizes by submitting an interesting/wacky/fun photo of your days out or home-set-up with the Somerset flag (or bunting) flying – more here: www.somersetday.com/2022-somerset-day-trail-map/

Help with Food

As you may know, CCS Village Agents were instrumental in the distribution of food to all corners of Somerset during the pandemic. Our role as primary distributor has come to an end, but the many community groups we supported are still going strong!

If you need help with food, please do still get in touch with your local CCS Agent, who will then connect you to your local group for premade meals or food boxes. Complete our online form here: www.tinyurl.com/2p88y4z6 or call 01823 331222.

If you are part of a Community Group, the Smart Community Food Resilience Grant Fund is open for applications until 31st May. Community groups, charities, organisations and agencies supporting or directly working to develop food resilience in Somerset communities can apply. Visit: www.smartcommunities.online/new-food-resilience-grant-fund/

HIS Church provides pallets of food for groups to purchase and use. For more details, costs and delivery contact: Christine Wylde on 07771 707477 or email: hisfood@hischurch.org.uk

Fareshare redistribute surplus food from some of the UK's top food companies to more than 10,500 charities and community groups. To join the scheme for regular delivery please contact: www.fareshare.org.uk/

Talking Cafes in May

CCS Village Agents are back in a Talking Café near you, at over 16 locations all across Somerset. It's a great place to drop in if you have a problem and don't know where to turn, or are feeling lonely or isolated and would like a cuppa and a chat, just drop in! Come and visit us in Williton Talking Café every Tuesday 1-3 at Williton Pavillion. Remember there is a **Community Lunch in Williton Pavilion every Tuesday at 12** for only £3. Please book your ticket at the Talking Café in Williton or go to the parish office.

For free confidential help and advice please phone Izzy Silvester on 07931 018045 or email izzy@somersetccc.org.uk or Ruth Wake on 07947 901240 or email Ruthw@somersetccc.org.uk



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What's Happening In Williton

Regular Weekly Meetings Groups & Events

Everyday	1.00pm - 11.00pm	Williton Social Club	Tel: 01984 248671
Mondays	9.30am - 12noon & 8.00pm-9pm	Pilates Pavilion	Tel: 07342 238723
	2.00pm - 4.00pm Short Mat Bowls	Pavilion	Tel: 01984 633084
	5.00pm - 6.30pm	Beavers (Guide Brownies HQ)	Tel: 07806 968961
	6.00pm - 7.00pm Zumba	Pavilion	Tel: 07738 676832
Tuesdays	1.00pm - 3.00pm Talking Cafe	Pavilion (Brendon Room)	Tel: 07931 018045
	2.00pm - 4.00pm Chatty Crafters (Except first Tues of the month)	Danesborough Common Room	Tel: 01984 634686
	5.45pm - 7.15pm Brownies	Guide & Brownie HQ	Tel: 07765 842747
Weds	10 - 11am. Move it or Lose it	Pavilion	Tel: 07421 762532
	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Cubs (Guide & Brownie HQ)	Tel: 07398 717048
Thurs	5.30pm - 6.30pm	Rainbows	Tel: 07484 601929
Fridays	9.30 - 10.30am Zumba	Pavilion	Tel: 07738 676832
	12 Noon Colin's Walks	Opposite Library at bench by car park entrance.	
	7.15 - 9.00pm Guides	Market St, Watchet	Tel: 07584 037156

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 May

Tues	3rd	Good Neighbours Group	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	3rd	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Thurs	5th	Wasps	2.30pm Doniford Farm Park (Cream Tea)
Tues	17th	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Thurs	19th	Women's Institute	2.00pm Pavilion (Brendon Room)
Fri	20th	Community Market	9.00am to 11.30am Williton Social Club
Sat	21st	Wyndham House	Charity Open Day (See page 17 for details)
Mon	23rd	Garden Club	7.30pm Danesborough Common Rooms
Tues	24th	Film Club	6.30pm for 7pm start Pavilion
Weds	25th	Family History Group	7.00pm to 9.00pm Pavilion
Sat	28th	James Bond Casino	6.30pm : Charity Night Williton Social Club
Sun	29th	Car Boot Sale	11.00am to 1.00pm
Tues	31st	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion

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Down at the Station

May 2022



Here we are in May already – nearly half way through the summer, although the weather has been quite good lately. Although the trains are running again we have been continuing with the remnants of the winter maintenance and the painting of the shop exterior is nearing completion. A new 'Refreshment' sign has been made and will shortly be put into position. It has been really good to see so many of the trains with lots of happy people on, and on two or three occasions by the time the first train arrived at Williton it has been full to capacity. Not always good for anyone waiting to get on board, but obviously good for the WSR. Not all trains are like that so it has to balance out over the week. **From the 5th to 8th May will be the Spring gala**, the first for three years and we are looking forward to greeting many visitors. Why not come down and see the visiting engines and share in the nostalgia of steam?

It has been good these past few weeks to welcome new volunteers to the team which will be a great help. Additional help would be welcome for the refreshment shop! Come and see what it is all about.

For the past couple of years during the lockdowns we have been running a Plant Stall from No.7 Dovetons Drive, as well as later on having plants for sale at the station. This year all plants will only be available at the Station and many are there already, with others coming on line as the season allows. Please do come down and browse especially if you have been getting your plants from us for the last two years. Should there be anything you particularly require and cannot see them there, please drop a note either into the station or 7 Dovetons Drive letter box, and we will see what can be done. **Thank you for your support.**

Similarly the Book Stall will resume now from 6 Long Lakes on Fridays only – outside if fine or within the garage if wet. A sign will be put on the window of the door if we are open. There are also many books for sale at the station with stalls on both platforms.

John Parsons, Station Master.



Williton Garden Club



April meeting is our Annual General Meeting and coming up in May, on Monday the 23rd, will be a visit by Michael Smith with a talk on House Plants. A lot of people who are unable to physically go out and tend a garden are able to have many plants inside, and I do know one person who has about forty different plants in her house! New members are always welcome, as are visitors. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.30 p.m. in Danesbrough View Common Rooms.

Plant Sale. Advance notice in that we are planning on holding our Plant Sale at The Parish Office, Killick Way, on Saturday morning 18th June. This has been something else we have had to miss due to the recent lockdowns, and we look forward to meeting you at this event. Tea and coffee will also be available and a tombola table, all to aid the funds of the Club.

John Parsons, Chairman.

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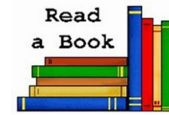
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(Closed Tuesday).



Library News

We are still hoping to restart our popular Lego Club for our younger members on Saturday mornings. If this is something you would be interested in running for approximately an hour each week please come in and see us for further information.



We would also like more volunteers to come forward to help with the Home Library Service. Books are delivered to housebound residents which obviously provide a lifeline for some members of our community. If you could give up a few hours each week, please come in for more details.

Our iPad loan scheme is continuing to be popular. If you would like to borrow one free of charge from the library. The scheme is designed to assist those looking for work and those wanting 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.



Our popular Monday Rhyme Time sessions at 11am with Billy are a regular event. Please come along with your pre school children and join us for a song and a story. Booking is not necessary.

For those people who want to up skill with their computers, laptops, tablets, or mobile phones we have sessions available to support you on Wednesday afternoons. 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 feel that you can book a session to use it.

If you would like to use the library space for a group to meet you are most welcome. Craft groups, dads' groups, knit and natter are all most welcome. Please pop into the library to discuss your requirements.

Our email address is 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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Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance



On Sunday 15th May 2022 we shall be holding our eleventh annual Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge, starting at 11am in Watchet and ending in West Bay.

Last year event saw 333 supporters take part to help raise funds to keep Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance flying. In doing so they collaboratively rode just over 18,315 miles and raised approx. £30,000 – that's enough to fund approximately 10 missions by the air ambulance.

We are aware that this event may cause you and your neighbours some slight disruption and would like to apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused. We can assure you that we will follow COVID government guidelines in place at the time of the event.

If you would be willing to help marshal this event in your neighbourhood and help us keep everyone safe, we would love to hear from you.

With best wishes and many thanks for your support. Contact Details :

Tel: **01823 669604** or Email: fundraising@dsairambulance.org.uk

Samantha Smith Fundraising Officer.



HEALING

Just a reminder healing continues to be held at the Phoenix Centre in Watchet. The next two dates are Thursday May 19th and Thursday June 16th between 2pm and 4:30pm. Remember animal healing is also available. Healing is free but donations are appreciated. If there are any queries, please contact Tony on **07831 104896** or Alison on **07796 780498** or email Alison on hadleysecretsquirrels@hotmail.co.uk

We also have a table selling various items including a nice range of crystals. We look forward to seeing you.

Alison Hadley.



WILLITON WI

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to the next meeting on 21st April. After our AGM, we shall watch the video 'Abba Forever, the Winner Takes All' and perhaps join in.

The May meeting will take place in the Main Hall of The Pavilion on Thursday 19th at 2.00pm, when Dr Francis Burroughs will give a talk entitled 'Can you play Jerusalem?'

Non-members and visitors are always most welcome (£3.50).

June Irving Secretary.

LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

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The Saint Decumans Parish Trust

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Mary Huxtable Sutton Relief in Need Trust

Registered Charity Number 202554

These two trusts exist to help local people who are in hardship, need or distress. Between them they can help people who live within a six-mile radius of the ecclesiastical parish of Watchet as it was delineated in 1935. This is a relatively wide catchment area.

One of these charities can trace its origins back to the reign of Elizabeth I, when wealthy locals established a fund to help soldiers returning from the wars in Ireland and their families, together with the families of those who did not return, and to look after, what was at the time the sole Parish Church for both Williton and Watchet, that of St. Decuman on the hill just outside of Watchet. Over the years this charity has helped local people with many things: essentials, accommodation, fuel, blankets, food etc. The charity has adapted and been added to over the centuries. Today as a trust it operates by making small grants to individuals and organisations that support individuals and also helps with grants for the repair and maintenance of St. Decuman's Church.

The other charity is the result of the generosity and care of Mary Huxtable Sutton who left funds to help local people, principally the elderly and those who were working and in need. Today as a trust it also makes small grants to individuals and organisations that support individuals.

If you, or someone you know, think that these Trusts might be able to help with a small grant for a specific purpose, particularly as we come out of these two difficult years of the covid pandemic and with the drastic increase in fuel prices for heating our homes that we all face, please speak with our local Village agents Izzy Silvester and Ruth Wake, contacts at local churches, or if you are a Magna tenant, the local Magna Tenant Advisor, who are all able to refer requests on to the Trusts. The two Trusts are not always able to help but all requests received are always carefully considered.

Izzy can be contacted on: **07931 018045** or izzy@somersettrcc.org.uk

Ruth can be contacted on: **07947 901240** or ruthw@somersettrcc.org.uk

Or for both Village Agents: **01823 331222**

Diana Ricketts-Tanner.

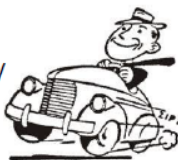
Small Acts Of Kindness Go A Long Way

After an incident involving my dog in the Village recently I just wanted to express my thanks and appreciation to everyone who has shown support, kindness and concern at what was a traumatic and difficult time. Word soon spread after the incident and I have been approached by many dog walkers and locals, some of whom don't even know us that well, but took the time to stop and ask how we were both doing. It really meant a lot to me.

Sasha.

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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



WILLITON WEATHER March



A minimum temperature of -1°C on the 25th.
The maximum temperature was 17°C on the 2nd & 15th.
The maximum pressure of 30.5 inches was on the 19th.
The minimum pressure of 29.0 inches was on the 29th.(very Low)
The total rainfall was only 52mm.

NATURE NOTES

Flowers and blossoms now very colourful, birds nesting, the tadpoles probably will have front legs when you read this and watch out for hedgehogs on the road, and 5 swallows seen on the 18th.

ASTRONOMICAL NEWS

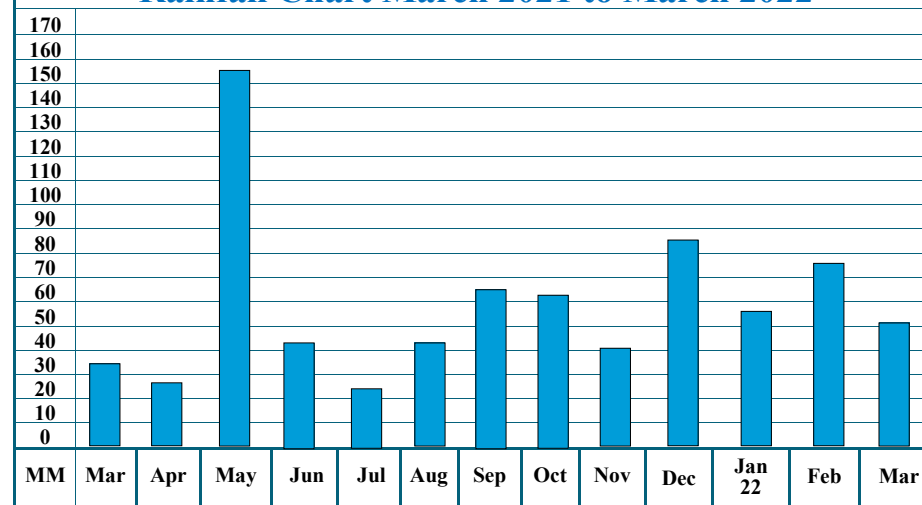
Throughout April, four bright planets will be seen in the southeast just before sunrise, before **dawn**, yellow dot of Saturn positioned just to its right (West). Mars will be just more to the right a bit later, with Venus visible longer: then a brighter Jupiter will rise to Venus' lower left. But I cannot see it!

There is an enormous comet -- approximately 80 miles across, at 22,000 miles per hour from the edge of the solar system, it will never get very close so poses no danger to us.

If you wonder what use is the space station; well amongst many other things they are testing a method of producing semiconductor crystals, studying solidification of transparent alloys (for use in industry), and most useful to us clothes to provide radiation protection.

P.J.

Rainfall Chart March 2021 to March 2022



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SATURDAY 28 MAY 22

CHARITY CASINO NIGHT
IN AID OF BCH NEUROSCIENCE WARD

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM - FREE DRINK & BUFFET - CASINO CHIPS

Tickets £15pp Available at the Bar

MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 07788 169929

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THEATRE REGAL THEATRE MINEHEAD

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For full details & Tickets see:

www.regaltheatre.co.uk

May



3rd:Film Supernova. Colin Firth and Stanley Tucci give dazzling, heartfelt performances as a couple facing their fears in a powerful and moving film about love and mortality.

7th :The Animal Guyz bring Animal Antics. Becoming one of the UK's leading animal presenters, this brand-new funny, entertaining, and educational live show will delight the whole family.

8th:Happy Days are Here Again. Come, bring your flags join Happy Days cast of West End performers and celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This patriotic, uplifting, feel-good show is full of well known songs that you can join in.

13th:Sherlock's Excellent Adventure! Our Star Theatre Company proudly presents their critically acclaimed comedy, Follow Sherlock Holmes and his incomparable sidekick Dr John Watson on this riveting, until now, unpublished case, Damsel in Distress.

14th:The Dime Notes. They present a fresh take on a timeless style, emphasising the propulsive grooves and sultry melodies which made early jazz revolutionary, controversial, and wildly popular.

19th:The Royal Ballet perform Swan Lake. Live and direct from the Royal Opera House. The magic of the lakes, forests and palaces is brought to life with glittering designs by John Macfarlane and a sublime score by Tchaikovsky.

21st:The Chance Encounter Project the Journey Goes on. Eleven talented musicians will bring you a Rock 'n Roll Spectacular with songs from 1954 to 1970. This event is a wonderful opportunity for The Chance Encounter Project to raise valuable funds for an amazing charity, Hope for Tomorrow, and at the same time say a big thank you to the NHS who are always there whenever we need them. Before the concert there will be an introduction from Project President Lord MacLaurin.

24th: Pissarro: Father of Impressionism an Exhibit on Screen. Camille Pissarro is rightfully known as the father of Impressionism. With exclusive access to most extensive archive of any Impressionist painter, and to the first major Pissarro retrospective in four decades, this film explores and highlights the enthralling and hugely important biography and output of an incredible artist.

Tickets for all events may be booked in advance online at :

https://regaltheatre.co.uk/whatson or from the Box Office (Tel 01643 706430) between 9.30am and 12.00pm Monday - Saturday; or by telephone only from 1.30pm to 4pm.

Some Covid restrictions are in place to ensure audiences and volunteers are protected. Everyone is asked to use the hand sanitiser provided and wear a face covering at all times, except when eating or drinking.

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Debbie 07342 237876 and
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WORDSEARCH FOR MAY

by Phyllis Chidgey

Rivers of England



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U	R	E	O	L	L	E	W	R	I
R	A	U	L	O	E	D	A	O	B
E	X	E	E	D	E	N	V	T	B
R	E	D	E	D	N	A	E	H	L
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L	M	M	E	R	S	E	Y	E	O
A	A	I	R	E	Y	W	E	A	R
C	H	E	R	W	E	L	L	A	F



AXE	AIRE	TYNE	LODDON
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YEO	BRUE	IRWELL	CHERWELL
BLACKWATER			


FORGET ME NOT CAFE

In the Sanctuary Swain Street Watchet 10.30 to Noon

May 4th: Coffee, chat and games.

May 18th: Dementia Action Week & 7th birthday

For any further details contact: Margaret Tatham on 07973 638030
or email watchetdementia@gmail.com



Looking for work, new skills and training opportunities or information on how to grow your business? Would you like to try out digital equipment to find out what might suit you? Then come and visit us at the new Step Up to Mobile Outreach service which is coming to you on Tuesday:

24th May and will be located at main car park, Williton from 10am-2pm.

Step Up to Mobile Outreach will be visiting localities with the aim of helping people access a range of employment, digital and business support provision.

Friendly advisors will be on hand to help you explore work opportunities, improve your CV, give helpful tips on how to find and apply for jobs online, and signpost you to a range of organisations who can provide specialist support. If you are currently in employment, the advisors will provide advice on training and skills opportunities to help you progress in work or change career pathways.

You will also have the chance to access and become familiar with digital resources such as Alexa, dongles, and iPads, and even meet our friendly talking robot called Ohbot.

Information will be readily available if you are thinking of starting up your own business or want to grow an existing business, including how the local library service can help you achieve your goals.

Keep an eye on the Step Up Somerset website, Events (stepupsomerset.org.uk) for updates on the dates and locations of upcoming events.

The Step Up to Mobile Outreach programme is being funded through Somerset County Council's successful bid for Community Renewal Funding from the Government.

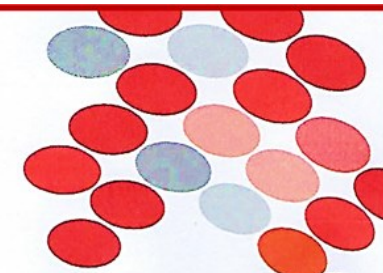


Williton Car Park

Electric Car Charging Points

The village car park in Killick Way now has two charging points (*two vehicles at each charging point*) to accommodate a maximum of four vehicles charging at the same time. There are four bays provided.

You will still have to pay for your parking at the Pay and Display machines.



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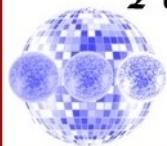
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