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# WILLITON WINDOW

December 2022

Volume 23 Number 6

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## Williton Window Magazine

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**ADVERTISING: TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER**

**EDITORIAL: FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

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

9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays from **FRIDAY 16TH 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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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](mailto:williton@willitonwindow.co.uk)  
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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

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

Sunday	4th	10.00 am	All Age Worship
Wednesday	7th	7.00pm	Taizé Service
Sunday	11th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	18th	9.15am	Parish Communion
Thursday	22nd	4.00pm	Carols around the Campfire
Saturday	24th (Xmas Eve)	2.30pm	Crib Service
Saturday	24th (Xmas Eve)	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Sunday	25th (Xmas Day)	10.00am	Christmas Day Communion

The church is open every day for private prayer during daylight hours

### St Peter's Church Contact Details:

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

## Winter Fundraising Quiz

The fundraising quiz has been produced to raise funds for St Peters Church.

Why not try your general knowledge skills?

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Plus a chance to win a bottle of wine if your copy has the lucky draw  
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**All entries to be returned by the 8th January 2023 a return envelope is  
included with each quiz booklet**

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## Other Local Churches Information

### St Decuman's Church (Watchet)

Weekly Sunday Service **10.45 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 on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. At other times, there are a series of smaller gatherings. 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 **01984 634681**.

### Methodist Church (Williton)

Only a few weeks now until Christmas when we celebrate the birth of Jesus once again. Here in our Williton House Church we will not be having a service on Christmas Day but look forward to joining with other people in Williton at other churches and at other events during this season. What we celebrate the most is that we can be together in spirit on that day and all other days and that we are part of something that covers the whole world, the faith in God's love for His creation.

Everyone is welcome to join us any **Sunday at Mollie's house, 2 Higher Croft, Tower Hill** for our services and we have a different preacher leading us every week. The services are at 10.30am on Sundays. On Friday mornings we meet together for coffee and chat so do come along and join us for a chat. We don't only talk about Church and there are some very interesting and wide ranging conversations every week, plus some excellent cake. If anyone would like to come along and see us, please phone **Jane Sefton on 01984 656652**, or just turn up. Mollie's house is just behind the old Methodist Church at the top of the car park.

### Our preachers for December are as follows :-

**Dec 4th** Rev Malcolm Hope with Holy Communion.

**Dec 11th** Tim Hedgecock with our Carol Service.  
Come along to sing carols old & new!

**Dec 18th** Lynne Wooldridge. **Jan 1st** Rev Nick Lakin.

We pray for Bridget and Paul, Angie and Nigel, Weet and everyone who is ill, lonely or sad. We also pray for families worried by the cost of living rises and for the people who help with the Food Cupboard and all who donate time, energy, food and money to it. It is a very important organisation around here as in so many parts of the country and we thank God for the goodness of the people responsible for it.

And we wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

**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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## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL & FAYRE ST DECUMAN'S CHURCH

**Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th December**

**'The Tastes of Christmas'**



It is wonderful to report that amongst the 48 trees there are contributions from Danesfield School Year 5 (3 trees), Croft House, Little Saints (Williton), PCC of St Peter's, Stand against speed for Bethany, Williton Beavers, Williton Cubs and Williton Hospital.

As mentioned last month this years theme is 'The Tastes of Christmas' and it will be interesting to see what delights will be portrayed on the trees. The church will be open from **10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday 2nd** when most of the stalls, raffle, tombola and teas & coffees will be 'open' for business whilst on Saturday during similar hours there will be the stalls with extra cakes to buy (some on Friday), bacon baps & hot dogs from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., hot homemade soups from 12 noon. During the morning there will be in the background music from Watchet Flutes and at intervals John on the organ.

The stalls will be cleared away on Saturday evening in readiness for Sunday services which include the Festival Christingle at 4 p.m. This allows viewing of trees from around **11.45 a.m. until 4 p.m.** A warm welcome awaits you at St Decuman's please come along to see the trees .

*Tony Knight*



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## Williton Hospital League of Friends

### Christmas Cards for sale

Following the long break caused by Covid we are now able once again to sell our Christmas Cards to raise money for the hospital. They are on sale in reception at the hospital every weekday afternoon between **2.00pm and 4.00pm** from 19th October until 15th of December. They are very good value at **£3 for a pack of 10** with a really good selection of designs so come along and have a look.







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## WHEELS-Can you help us?

If you have a car and even a little time you can spare, **WHEELS**, the local voluntary car scheme, would love to hear from you. Since restarting after Covid, we are helping lots of local people to attend medical and other essential appointments. In August, there were over 50 journeys.

There are local residents, mainly elderly people, in Watchet and Williton, who are unable either to drive themselves or to catch buses, which makes it very difficult for them to keep medical or dental appointments, visit their partners or friends in care homes, do their shopping, or even just get out of the house and meet other people.

WHEELS is a group of drivers who offer personal, door to door lifts in their own cars for as low a charge as possible, to avoid the practical difficulties and sometimes the isolation of those who cannot get about under their own steam. As well as being able to claim a mileage allowance, these drivers meet some lovely passengers, and know that they are providing a service which is very much appreciated. Drivers choose the journeys they wish to undertake, which may be as frequent or occasional as they wish.

**We are very short of drivers** and are having to turn down some requests from passengers. If you would like to find out more:- please ring **John Carslake on 01984 639083** or email [jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk)


**St Margaret's  
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## Volunteers Needed

### Can you help your local Williton shop?

For more information pop in store or call  
01984 633054 and ask for Irina or Lindsay


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Script by Ales P Trays

27th December 2022 - 1st January 2023

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## Quantock Foodbank

Latest news Autumn 2022



### All Good Gifts Around Us



Harvest festivals; harvest suppers; talks given; sales of home-made jams and other produce; raffles; plus donations of cash and provisions – all contributed to refill some very empty shelves.

Every church, school, village, and village stores came in with their gifts, for which we are -

Truly Thankful

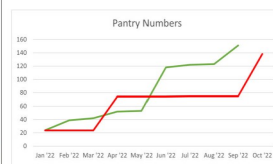


### Mobile Pantry

Thanks to the most incredible donations from people in the Quantock area and a Heart of the Community award, the fund nearly covers the contract cost of both the chassis and the insulated box body. There are still excess inflation costs to find plus a suitable base for the vehicle and installation of a charging point, however we are well on our way which is brilliant!



### Pantry Numbers Continue to Climb in Cost of Living Crisis



Families are struggling with weekly rises in the price of groceries and the October increase in energy costs, so they appreciate the support that the pantry offers in helping to put food on the table.

### An Unexpected Visitor

On Tuesday 18th October we were surprised to receive a visit from the High Sheriff of Somerset, Jennifer Duke, who was most impressed with the Annexe and all that the Charity had achieved, including its plans for a mobile future.



### Looking Ahead

It really is less than eight weeks away!

We are hoping to give people using the Foodbank and Pantry some extra Christmas luxuries. Items which would be most appreciated are:

Chocolates; Iced Top Rich Fruit Cake Bar; Christmas Puddings; Tins of Salmon; Tins of Ham; Children's Selection Packs.

As the last Pantry before Christmas is Thursday 22nd December, these need to be with us by **Monday 19th December**. Thank You all for your support.



## Williton and Surrounds Parkinson's Support WASPS

The November meeting of WASP's was held on Thursday 3rd November, at Sampford Brett Village Hall.



Our speaker was Peter Wellstood from Pro-Active Lifestyle Water Activities Club otherwise known as PALS. Several of our members can testify to the benefits they get from exercising in the pool. Peter gave us a brief history of the Club and the sort of activities they undertake. Singing in the pool is apparently encouraged. Instructors and poolside volunteers are on hand to ensure safety, and correct exercise technique. They also have a mini bus, which helps those who are unable to get to St Audries pool under their own steam. There is also a social calendar. In 2017, PAL's was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Linda gave us some positive news from Parkinson's UK, who hopefully will now help us promote the Blue Stick scheme.

Members were reminded that if they had not already put their name down for Christmas Lunch, they need to contact David as soon as possible.

The first meeting of 2023, will be on **5th January 2023**, and will take the format of an Open Forum, where members can discuss issues of concern, offer solutions to problems, and realise that they are not alone.

**All people with Parkinson's, their family and carers are welcome to join us.**

*Jane Cooper.*

## ENERGY HEALING



Another year is coming to a close as we enter December! Where does time go to? Many will be making preparations for Christmas at this time, for some this will be a time of year they find hard for numerous reasons while others revel in the festive season.

Whichever group you fall into it can be a time when you need some space for yourself, time to ponder and reflect maybe. The Energy Healing sessions continue in Watchet at the Phoenix Centre next to the library, you may wish to have a healing or even just sit in a calm space and have a chat. If you wish to discuss healing, please call myself or Tony details below.

### The next two sessions are as follows:

Thursday December 15th 2pm to 4:30pm

Thursday January 19th, 2pm to 4:30pm

Further information from Tony on **07831104896** or Alison on **07796780498** or

e-mail [hadleysecretsquirrels@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hadleysecretsquirrels@hotmail.co.uk)



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## AVIAN INFLUENZA (Bird Flu)



From 7th November 2022, it became a legal requirement for all bird keepers to keep their birds housed and to follow stringent biosecurity measures to protect their flocks.

This applies whether keepers have commercial flocks, or just a few birds in a backyard. The decision was made by the UK's Chief Veterinary Officer, as the UK continues to face its largest ever outbreak of avian influenza – with over 70 cases since the start of October. You should be vigilant for any signs of disease in your birds and seek prompt advice from your vet if you have any concerns.

You can help protect your birds and prevent avian flu by maintaining good biosecurity on your premises, including:

- Housing or netting all poultry and captive birds.
- Minimising direct and indirect contact between poultry and captive birds and wild birds - including making sure that their feed and water is not accessible to wild birds.
- Preventing access by poultry and captive birds to ponds and watercourses
- Cleansing and disinfecting footwear and equipment before and after contact with poultry and captive birds (or changing into clean footwear before tending to your birds).
- Regularly cleaning and disinfecting hard surfaces in areas where birds are kept.
- Reducing the movement of people, vehicles or equipment to and from areas where poultry and captive birds are kept, to minimise contamination, and using effective vermin control.
- Keeping fresh approved disinfectant at the right concentration for use at farm entrances and before entering poultry and captive bird housing or enclosures.

Full details of what is required can be found on the government website: [www.gov.uk/bird-flu](http://www.gov.uk/bird-flu)



## WILLITON WI

On the 17th of November, our speaker at Williton WI was David Sutcliffe who told us all about Winter Customs from Halloween to Easter. It was a very interesting talk and we heard all about traditions going back to Celtic and Roman times, early Christianity, Guy Fawkes right up to Father Christmas, with a few songs as well.

In December the ladies will be going for a Christmas meal at The Mason's Arms and our next meeting in the Pavilion will be in January.

**Williton WI wish you a very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2023.**

*Irene Draper, Williton WI.*

## LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Spending time with my three granddaughters during the recent half term holiday.

*DRS.*



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## Faith Reflection



I can't believe it's nearly December already! Where has the year gone? Has it been a good year for you, or has it been difficult? Perhaps it has been a mixture. As we approach the season of Advent, it is a time to stop, and reflect on the year and prepare for the coming of Jesus. Globally it has been difficult, climate change continues to be a pressing issue and the war in Ukraine has dominated much of the year bringing much pain, sadness and heartache to so many people. It has been good to welcome Ukrainian families into our communities, but we know for them, it has not been an easy time. The cost of living crisis has affected us all and money is tight. For some of us, with Christmas just around the corner, it is a worrying time, how will we be able to afford presents, how will we be able to celebrate in the way we normally do this year? These are difficult questions.

At Advent we are encouraged to take time to pause, to stand still, breathe deeply and prepare for the birth of Jesus. At Christmas we like to think of Jesus being born in a manger with Mary and Joseph and all the animals, the shepherds and the wisemen, and it being a sweet story that we see in the children's nativity plays. But it wasn't sweet and cosy, it was messy and difficult. Jesus was born in poverty, in a smelly stable with smelly animals and smelly shepherds! Mary and Joseph travelled a long way to Bethlehem, and when they got there, tired and weary, the hotels were full, there was no room. It definitely was not easy, as we like to believe.

Brian Draper, an author and Retreat leader, encourages us in Advent to stop and notice. To go outside, to stop and look at the trees, listen to the birds, look at the twilight skies, marvel at the beauty of creation. Whatever our circumstances, we can all do this. I would like to set you all a challenge to take 5 minutes each day to go outside, or if that is not possible, go and stand or sit by a window and look out and notice. And in that time of stopping and noticing think about our amazing God who made this beautiful earth and sent his son Jesus into the world to come and live among us. As the Message Bible puts it, 'Jesus moved into the neighbourhood.' (John 1). I love that! So, in all the difficulty, in all the pain, Jesus came to live amongst us and walk beside us. As we prepare for Christmas, let us hold onto that.

On behalf of the Churches in Watchet and Williton, I would like to wish you all much peace this Christmas.

*Julie Pelling Ordinand in training.*


### Count Your Blessings


At Christmas I have a saying I always try to remember which is: "If you have a roof over your head, enough to eat and can keep warm you are truly blessed" anything else is a bonus. DRS.



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## Lowest income households set to pay no Council Tax

A new, unified Council Tax Reduction Scheme targeting help at people on low incomes, care leavers and foster carers is planned for Somerset from 1 April 2023 when the new Somerset Council comes into being.

The Scheme was approved by Somerset County Council's Executive on 16th November, and will go to Full Council on November 23rd for final approval. The scheme will be simpler and fairer and means that the lowest income households will pay no Council Tax.

A single person with an income below £95 a week, or a couple with two children on a weekly income below £260, would be entitled to the full 100% council tax reduction. However, some families with an income below £500 a week could also be eligible for some support.

Care leavers up to the age of 25 will continue to be exempt from Council Tax and an entirely new measure, not currently offered by any of the district councils, will give Somerset County Council registered foster carers and qualifying Special Guardians a 50% reduction.

Certain benefits for people with disabilities, war pensioners, families in receipt of child benefit/maintenance and carers will not be considered when income is assessed. The scheme for pension age applicants is set by Government and will continue unchanged.

Councillor Liz Leyshon, Executive Lead Member for Finance and Human Resources said: "This is going to be a very challenging year for council finances, but it is important that we provide help to the people who need it most, no matter where they live in the county. The new Somerset Council is a chance to make Somerset fairer for everyone.

"We also want to support our foster carers who make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable children in Somerset as well as charities based in the county that do so much for so many people."

The simpler scheme will, if approved by Council, replace four separate systems operated by Somerset's district councils with varying levels of council tax support. The changes will harmonise support for working-age people on low incomes across the county.

While increasing support for the most vulnerable, the Council also agreed fairer charges for second homes and empty properties aimed at bringing empty homes back into use. There will be no discounts for second homes or empty homes while long-term empty properties will attract premiums, for example 100% for properties empty for two years, rising to 300% after ten years.

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme went out to public consultation in July and by the time it closed in September had attracted almost 1,200 responses – the majority supporting the proposals.

The new scheme will be simpler, easier to understand and less complicated to administer than the existing four district-based schemes.

The Council has also developed a new Business Rate Discretionary Relief scheme which aligns the different approaches currently in operation across the four districts into a single scheme. The new approach targets discretionary support at Somerset based charities and many not-for-profit organisations

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## Regular Weekly Meetings / Groups & Events in Williton

<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 Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07342 238723</b>
	2.00pm - 4.00pm Short Mat Bowls	Pavilion	<b>Tel: 01984 633084</b>
	5.00pm - 6.30pm Beavers	Guide Brownies HQ	<b>Tel: 07806 968961</b>
	6.00pm - 7.00pm Zumba	Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07738 676832</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	1.00pm - 3.00pm Talking Cafe	Pavilion (Brendon Room)	<b>Tel: 07931 018045</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: 07765 842747</b>
<b>Weds</b>	10 - 11am. Move it or Lose it	Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07421 762532</b>
	6.30pm - 8.00pm Cubs	(Guide & Brownie HQ)	<b>Tel: 07398 717048</b>
	8pm - 9pm Ballroom Dance Lessons	Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07535 601217</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	10am - 12noon Cameo Coffee Group	St Peters Church	<b>Tel: 01984 639600</b>
	2.00pm to 3.30pm Foxes Teas	Pavilion (Term Time Only)	
	5.30pm - 6.30pm Rainbows	(Guide & Brownie HQ)	<b>Tel: 07484 601929</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	9.30 - 10.30am Zumba	Pavilion	<b>Tel: 07738 676832</b>
	10.00am - 12 noon Coffee & Chat	Mollie's 2 Higher Croft Tower Hill, All Welcome	<b>Tel: 01984 656652</b>
	12 Noon Friday Walks	Meet opposite Library	<b>Tel: 01984 632459</b>
	7.15 - 9.00pm Guides	Market St, Watchet	<b>Tel: 07584 037156</b>

Please note during December with the Christmas and New Year holidays some groups or events may not be running please check with the organisation.



### Williton Garden Club



It was an interesting evening back on 24th October when we had a visit from F.E. Burroughs giving us an illustrated talk on Tales from the Potting Shed. There were several useful tips of what is needed and how to undergo certain functions to keep things clear and tidy, and enhance our ability to provide good cuttings etc. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have held our November meeting when Richard Horswood will have been talking to us about Alpines in Troughs. Richard has been before and we look forward to meeting him again.

Our December meeting will be on the 12th, an earlier Monday than usual, when it will be our Christmas Party. Apart from the customary festive food I've no doubt we will have an enjoyable evening and look forward to welcoming many members along that evening. Next year, the first meeting will be on January 23rd when we will be having a visit from the staff of The Orange Pip Florist.



John Parsons, Chairman..

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## What's Happening This Month In Williton

### Williton Monthly Meetings / Groups & Events for December

<b>Thur</b>	<b>1st</b>	Wasps	12.30pm Christmas Dinner Bicknoller Inn
<b>Sat</b>	<b>4th</b>	Christmas Market	1.00pm to 4.00pm Pavilion
<b>Tues</b>	<b>6th</b>	Good Neighbours Group	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
<b>Tues</b>	<b>6th</b>	Foxes Academy Christmas Lunch	1.00pm to 2.30pm Pavilion (Ticket Only from Parish Office)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>9th</b>	WI Carol Service	2.00pm St Decumans Watchet
<b>Mon</b>	<b>12th</b>	Garden Club Xmas Party	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
<b>Tues</b>	<b>13th</b>	Christmas Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
<b>Thur</b>	<b>15th</b>	Women's Institute	Christmas Lunch Masons Arms (Members Only)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>16th</b>	Community Market	9.30am 12 noon Williton Social Club
<b>Sat</b>	<b>17th</b>	Christmas Festival	5.00pm to 8.00pm with Father Christmas

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It is that time of the year where we have so much to do to prepare for Christmas, that time is very precious. It is important to take a step back and avoid the stress, what will be will be!

DRS.



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## Williton Parish Council

To contact the Parish Council telephone 01984 633979

E-mail Michelle : [clerk@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@willitonpc.org.uk) or Julie : [admin@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@willitonpc.org.uk)

November has been a rather wet one, I am sure the weather is a month behind. Apart from the much needed rain, which I have been caught in more than once the mild weather has given a second lease of life to the gardens. As I walk around the village, I see some lovely displays of flowers. A real pleasure and what a treat for this time of year. Thank you all.

A warm welcome to our three new Parish Councillors.

**Loretta Whetlor Ivan Angell Amanda de Burgh-Thomas**

We now have a full complement of 12 Councillors. I look forward to working with them to both run and improve our village. On that note can I remind everyone that the council are always looking for your feedback on projects we have completed and proposed. If you have any questions, comments or need to report things in our village, please let us know through the clerk at the Parish Office or come along to our Parish Council Meetings.

The same if you have any suggestions on the improvement of the Village or Memorial Ground, please forward to us so we can discuss and consider them.

You may have seen some work has been carried out on the area of land to the East of the Memorial Ground which was the original land bought for the Village Hall. Left unattended for years, it has now been cleared and seeded with a new fence erected. The next phase is now going ahead to clear some rubble and to remove a tree that has split in the winds. When this is done, we can open the area to the public. Please note that the Parish Council have designated this area as a "No Dogs allowed" area with the exemption to assistance dogs.

A couple of things, we need a name for the area and we also need to know what you would like to see the ground used for. At this stage it is a blank canvas, we are open to all ideas.

We have had some good ideas put forward already, but we need your view as you own it and will use it.

We have plans, early next year to have an open day at the Pavilion where we will have a table with maps drawings and proposals for your information. The important thing is that we get your ideas for consideration. We are also considering open days at the site so everyone can attend and put their ideas forward.

The defibrillator on the side of the Pavilion is up and fully functional. This is the third in the Village. The Spar, Parish Council Office and now the Pavilion.

This is a great achievement by one and all. Well done everyone who have made this happen.

*Continued on next page.*

## Parish Council Continued from previous page.

Last but not least. We do have a problem with a small number of cars, commercial vehicles and motorbikes exceeding the speed limits in the village. The speed limit is 30 mph. and it is 30 mph for a reason. I have witnessed many tragic accidents which were speed related.

We used to have a 'Speed Watch Group' which was very effective. I am pleased to say this is once again up and running, but we are desperate for more volunteers, who with training can monitor the speed of passing vehicles from the pavement and report to the Police for any follow up action.

Full training will be given. We have the speed monitoring and safety equipment ready, all we need is the volunteers to be trained and willing to give a couple of hours to this initiative. So come on if you have a few hours spare join the team, get the training and make our roads safer for everyone.

Contact the Parish Office for details.

Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 6th December, £5.00 per ticket – pre-ordered tickets only which are available from the Parish Office

Take care all of you I will see you around the Village.

### Latest News

The Parish Office will be open as a Warm Hub, on Monday and Wednesday mornings, for anyone to come along and be able to be in the warm. It is hoped that some craft can be put on, which Dawn-Lesley is sorting. *Cllr. Michael White.*



## Donate your Winter Fuel Payment

Somerset Community Foundation has launched this year's Surviving Winter appeal, which encourages people who can afford it to donate some or all of their Winter Fuel Payment to help vulnerable older people in Somerset who are unable to afford to heat their homes to stay warm and well.

The cost-of-living crisis means that this winter will be one of the toughest we have faced for decades. Many older people are already extremely anxious about rising bills and around 11,000 Somerset pensioners will find themselves living in fuel poverty this year, double the number in the same situation last year. The team at SCF know, from many years' experience of running their Surviving Winter appeal, that many of the poorest pensioners may not turn their heating on at all, or will cut back on food to save money as they are forced to choose between heating and eating. And with everyday costs like food and fuel rapidly increasing, this winter will see many of our most vulnerable older neighbours struggling to cope. Many will stay at home to save money and will find themselves cut off from family and friends.

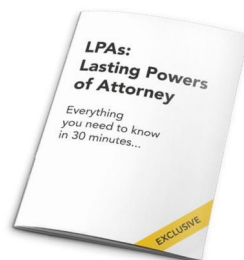
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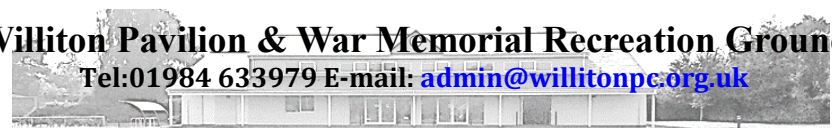
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## Williton Pavilion & War Memorial Recreation Ground

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



This month **Bingo** is on **Tuesday 13th December**. £7 for six books including tea/coffee in the interval, Raffle 50p a strip, Snowball £1, Football Scratch Cards 50p. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

There will be no indoor car boot sale this month, this will resume on Sunday 29th January.

Our **Christmas Market** is on **Sunday 4th December** running from 1 to 4pm. The hall is now fully booked and we have 25 stalls selling a wide variety of gift ideas and not just for Christmas.

The **Christmas Festival** is on **Saturday 17th December** from 5-8pm will have 20 stalls with most items priced at £10 or under; special gifts that children can buy for parents, grandparents etc. And of course, Father Christmas will be in his Grotto to chat with all the good girls and boys of Williton from 5.30 until 8pm. St. Peter's Church will have three tables of crafty goodies for children to make and take.

There is some disappointing news though; the company that provides the horses and carriage each year has temporarily closed due to family illness. We have struggled to find a replacement at such short notice so, unfortunately, there will be no Christmas Carriage around the village this year. All the money raised this year will be put aside for next year when we hope the carriage will be back with us, or a suitable festive alternative is found. We are sorry for any disappointment. However, Father Christmas will still make a short visit in the village as he will be joining the **Carol Singers at Croft House** at 4.30pm on Saturday 17th December, so please do come and join in. Don't forget that the Pavilion will be hosting the **Foxes Academy Christmas Lunch** on **Tuesday 6th December**; tickets are £5 and can be purchased from the Parish Office Mon-Fri 10am-midday. We must stress this is **ticket only** and there is a limited number, so don't delay in purchasing.



**Looking forward and into 2023 there are dates below for noting.**

**Sunday 4th December** - Christmas Market 1-4pm.

**Saturday 17th December** - Christmas Festival with Father Christmas 5-8pm.

**Tuesday 10th & 24th January 2023** - Bingo.

**Tuesday 31st January** - Williton Film Nights - Fisherman's Friends: One and All (TBC).

**Friday 10th February** - Curry & Quiz Night (TBC).

**Saturday 18th February** - Open House.

**Sunday 21st May** - Open Gardens (email me if you want to open your garden).

**Saturday 2nd September** - Williton Village Fete.

*Trustee Dawn-Lesley Howes [cllr.howes@willitonpc.org.uk](mailto:cllr.howes@willitonpc.org.uk)*

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## Down at the Station December 2022



The weather has not been too kind to us for the start of the winter maintenance programme, but we have been able to start with some sorting out and moving things into place ready for repainting. Sadly, two or three metal items have had to be discarded as they have outlived their valid repairability! However, others are in hand to take their place. The repair to the side gate to the station is well under way and it should be back in place by early December.

For the Dunster by Candlelight events the WSR are running one train each day non-stop from Bishops Lydeard at 16.30, on which there is also an option to have a Fish & Chip meal on the way. This is for the 2nd & 3rd December, and again booking needs to be done online.

The Winterlights programme of illuminated trains running from Bishops Lydeard to Crowcombe has now commenced and bookings are doing well. By the time you receive this edition of the Williton Window the annual Santa Trains will be running on all weekends during December, that is 3rd & 4th, 10th & 11th, 17th & 18th and then from the Tuesday 20th right through till Saturday 24th. There will be two trains each date shown, leaving Bishops Lydeard at both 10.30 and 13.30 each day. These trains run as far as Williton and back, with the engines running round at Williton. Booking is available on-line at :

**[www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk](http://www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk)**. One or two days are already fully booked! It is planned to run these trains the week after Christmas as well, from the 27th to the 30th of December.

It is intended, like last year, to have our station and shop open on all Santa Train running days. We plan to open from about 10.30 until 14.30 each day and you will be welcome to call down and watch the trains and have a tea or coffee while soaking up the atmosphere. Our sales stall of Christmas cards and gifts along with a wide selection of books and jigsaw puzzles will be available in the main building.

*John Parsons, Station Master.*

## CAMEO

(Come and meet each other)

A reminder that CAMEO meets on Thursdays in

**St Peter's Church 10am - 12pm**

Everyone welcome to drop in for coffee, cake and chat.

Please speak to Sue or George if you have any questions, details on page 6.

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





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2nd December – China.

5th December – Caribbean (except – BV Is, Dominica and Anguilla).

7th December – Africa, Central and South America, Hong Kong, Japan,  
Middle East, Asia.

8th December – Cyprus, Malta.

9th December – Greece, Turkey. Eastern Europe (except Czech Rep, Poland,  
Slovakia).

10th December – Canada, Czech. Rep, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA

12th December – Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands,  
Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain Switzerland.

14th December – Belgium, France, Luxembourg.

#### BFPO

2nd December – Operational and Static HM Forces.

#### UK Last Posting Dates

##### 9th December - Letters to Santa

Santa's address is – **Santa, Santa's Grotto, Reindeerland, 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.

19th December – All 2nd Class UK.

21st December – All 1st Class UK and Parcelforce 48.

22nd December – Special Delivery and Parcelforce 24.

23rd December – Special Delivery with Saturday Guarantee.

It is remarkable to think that we have been running this Post Office for 17years!  
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 as well as a few **New Ideas**, putting out wrapping paper and gift  
tags etc!

**We wish you all a Happy Peaceful Christmas and a Healthy Happy 2023!**

Caroline and Brian Tyner.



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Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday  
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(Closed Tuesdays).



**Rhyme Time**  
Our free popular Rhyme time sessions take place on a Monday morning between 10.30 and 11am (term time only) The group enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes. Please come and join in with us. Everyone Welcome.

**Children's Events**  
We will be running a Christmas craft afternoon for 4-9 year olds on Wednesday 21st of December (booking essential)  
We will also have the Lego box available during the afternoons of the first week of the Christmas holidays for anyone who wants to come and play with it. The Lego will also be available on the first Saturday of every month starting on Saturday 3rd of December. Everyone welcome to come and play. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Technology Support?**  
Support is available on Thursday afternoons in the library where our volunteer will guide you through improving your skills with any device. These sessions need to be booked in advance and are free to any library members.

**Research your Family Tree**  
The darker evenings are the perfect time to start researching your family tree. Library members can use Ancestry for free log in at libraries west. We also offer support with Individual Family history sessions on the first Wednesday of the month These free sessions are run by our experienced volunteer but do need to be booked in advance.

**Home Library Service**  
Are you housebound and struggling to come to the library? Our team of volunteers will deliver books to you. Large print, audio books, fiction and non-fiction are all available. Please email the library if you are interested in using this service.

**Reading Well Collection**  
We have a wide selection of books to assist with autism, dementia and mental health. We have just had a new delivery of books aimed specifically to support teenagers. All of these books have a six week loan period.

**How do I join the Library?**  
If you are not already a library member joining is easy and FREE. Call into the library with some form of ID such as a bus pass, Passport, driving licence and we will sign you up.  
There are now no charges for under 17's for requesting books, DVD hire or overdue charges.

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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Weather

## WILLITON WEATHER



### NOVEMBER

At this time of writing - 3rd week in November - we have had over 2 inches (30mm) of rain. I expect you noticed this ! Even so water levels have still not recovered from the summer drought conditions.

### OCTOBER

A minimum temperature of 6<sup>0</sup> C on the 18th (no frost yet).  
The maximum temperature was 21<sup>0</sup> C on the 20th and 29th.  
The maximum pressure of 30.2 inches on the 11th.  
The minimum pressure of 29.5 inches on the 23rd.  
The total months rainfall was only 82mm.

### ASTRONOMICAL NEWS

Look out on the 8th December 2022, Mars will be in opposition as Mars will pass behind the Moon this event is known as a lunar occultation.

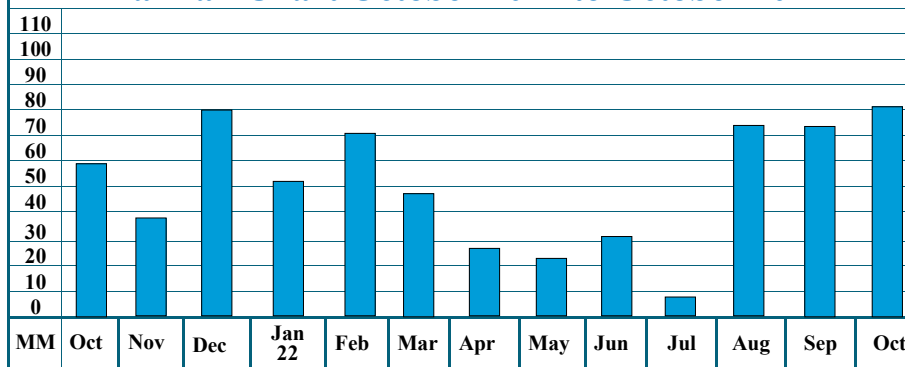
### NATURE NOTES

Again, I notice there are a lot of trees with green leaves while many are just bare twigs. I saw a bumble bee still about on our flowers.  
The editor mentioned that he has had his first primrose with a flower in the garden that goes to illustrate just how mild it has been.

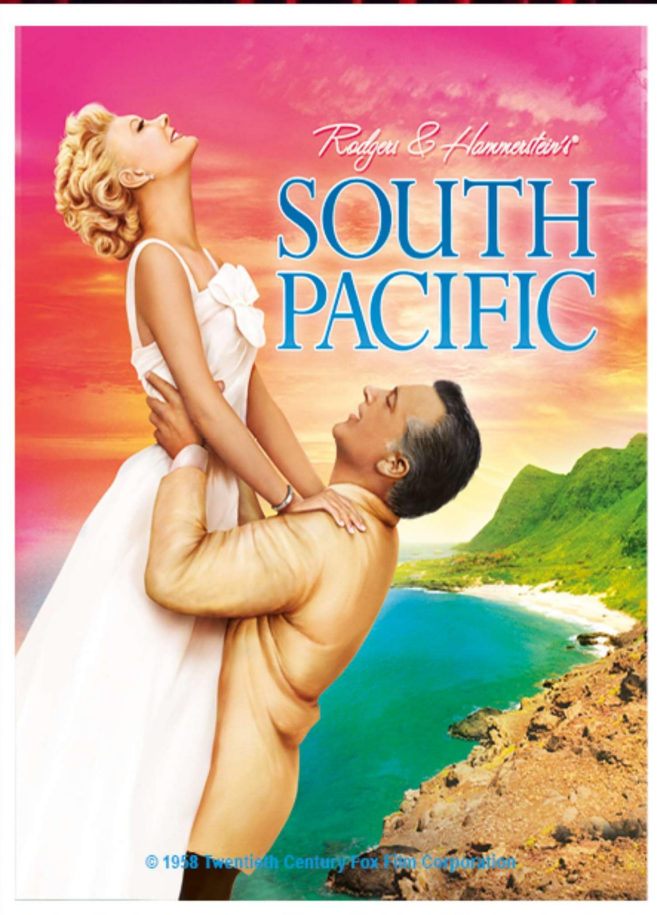
I wish you all a happy Christmas and Good Health in the New Year 2023.

P.J.

### Rainfall Chart October 2021 to October 2022



**Saturday Morning Matinee**  
**10th DECEMBER 2022**  
**at 11.00am** £3



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**The Regal Theatre in association**  
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**Thur 1st/Fri 2nd/Sat 3rd 7.30pm:**

**WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION**

We Start December with one of Agatha Christie's most accomplished plays, Barnstormers present this thrilling courtroom drama.

**Tuesday 6th: 7.30pm Film - THE LOST KING (Cert 12)**

A true story of a woman whose single-minded determination led to the discovery of the remains of King Richard III beneath a car park in Leicester.

**Thursday 8th: 7.15pm ROYAL BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER**

Live screening from ROH. Marvel at the brilliance of Tchaikovsky's score and join Clara at a delightful Christmas Eve party. As Clara and her enchanted Nutcracker fight the Mouse King and visit the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Prince in the glittering Kingdom of Sweets. This festive ballet classic, combining the thrill of the fairy tale with spectacular classical dancing.

**Saturday 10th: 11a.m South Pacific (Golden Oldies at the Regal Theatre)**

Tickets for South Pacific are just £3.00 each and why not enjoy coffee and cake before the film starts at the now-weekly Saturday Drop-in morning 10 - 12 each Saturday? If you would like to sponsor future Golden Oldies or suggest titles you might like to see, do please contact [admin.team@regaltheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin.team@regaltheatre.co.uk)

**Wednesday 14th: 4.00pm SANTA SAVES CHRISTMAS**

Join Jack, Dasher the Reindeer and Pompom the Penguin for this festive, musical, interactive adventure, as they meet Father Christmas at his home in the North Pole and help Santa Save Christmas!

**Family show most suitable for 2 to 7-year-olds. HO-HO-HO!**

**Tuesday 27th: 2.30pm, Weds 28th to Friday 30th 7.30pm**

**Saturday 31st 2.30pm & 7.30pm. Sunday 1st January 2023: 2.30pm**

**ROBINSON CRUSOE AND THE PIRATES**

A real pearl of a Panto, lively, vibrant and a fun-filled production, packed full of swashbuckling action, damsels in distress, desert island cannibals and plenty of songs for you to sing along to. Check our website to see the full list of show times. At each performance there will be a competition for the best dressed young Pirate in the audience and an opportunity for their photo to be taken with **Senorita Margarita Juicilita**.

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.

PS - The Regal Theatre is run entirely by volunteers - why not join us??



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**WORDSEARCH FOR DECEMBER**  
by Phyllis Chidgey  
A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year






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

FIR	TOY	PIES	FROST
IVY	SNOW	MAIL	GOOSE
NEW	PEAR	WINE	ORGAN
RUM	HOAR	SACK	MINCE
ELF	STAR	TREES	SANTA
GOD	EWE	YEARS	NIGHT
CAROLS	TURKEY	ORANGE	TWELFTH
ROBINS	NATIVITY	CHRISTMAS	

**FORGET ME NOT CAFE**  
In the Sanctuary Swain Street Watchet 10.30 to Noon



**December meeting is Christmas Lunch on the 14th now fully booked.**  
Details of our next meetings will be published in the January 2023 edition.  
For any further details contact:  
Margaret Tatham on **07973 638030** or email [watchetdementia@gmail.com](mailto:watchetdementia@gmail.com)



## Useful Telephone Numbers



<b>Christians Against Poverty</b>	Free debt help	<b>Tel: 0800 328 0006</b>
<b>Mind line Somerset</b>	Emotional support helpline	<b>Tel: 01823 276892</b>
<b>Parish Council</b>	Parish Clerk	<b>Tel: 01984 633979</b>
<b>Pavilion</b>	Bookings / Enquiries	<b>Tel: 01984 633979</b>
<b>Police</b>	Emergency Non Emergency	<b>Tel: 999 Tel: 101</b>
<b>Quantock Foodbank</b>	Local Foodbank	<b>Tel: 07483 815122</b>
<b>Registry Office</b>	Pre booked Appointments	<b>Tel: 01823 282251</b>
<b>Surgery</b>	Robert Street TA4 4QE	<b>Tel: 01984 632701</b>
<b>Village Agent (Izzy Silvester)</b>	Leave a message with contact details	<b>Tel: 07931 018045</b>
<b>WASPS</b>	Local Parkinson's support	<b>Tel: 01984 631472</b>
<b>West Somerset Advice Bureau</b>	Advice line:	<b>Tel: 0800 802 1808</b>



## Know your festive collection days



Make sure you know when we will be picking up recycling and rubbish. Collections are unchanged up to and including Friday 23rd December. There will be **no collections on Monday 26th December or Monday 2nd January** so both weeks' pick-ups are all one day later, including Fridays on Saturday. There will, as usual, be no garden waste collections in the festive fortnight. All usual services resume from Monday 9th January onwards. You can also look up all your collection days using My Collection Day on our home page at:-

[somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk).

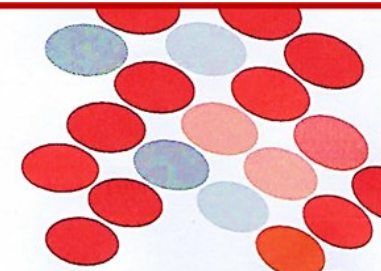
*We wish all our Advertisers, Contributors, Readers & Volunteers  
Happy Christmas & Good Health in the  
New Year 2023*



## 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)



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