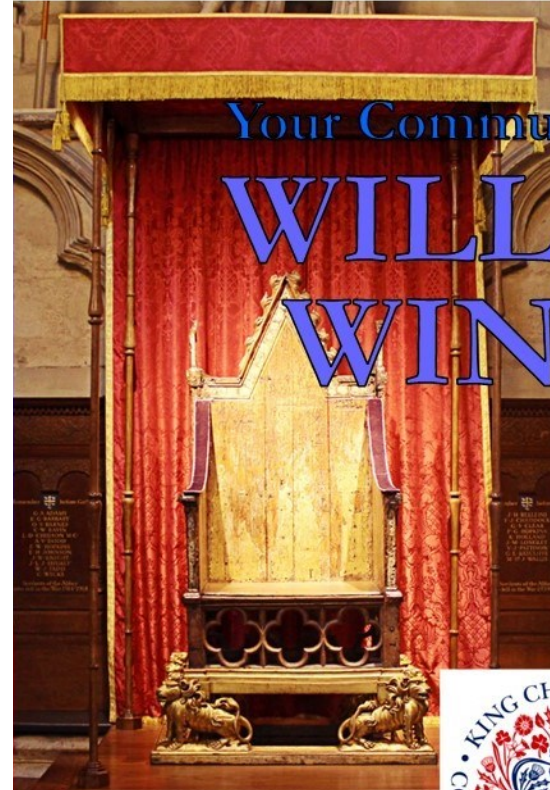


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WILLITON WINDOW



May 2023
Volume 23 Number 11



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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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It can also be downloaded as a PDF from the website:
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WILLITON WELCOME BOOKLET



Have you recently moved to Williton? If so, you may like a free
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and other useful information. Please ring Janet Cook on:
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Copies are also available to collect from the Parish Council Office
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E-mail Michelle : clerk@willitonpc.org.uk or admin@willitonpc.org.uk

There are not many occasions that we witness that we know are going to be truly historic before they happen, but May 6th will be one of those events with the Coronation of their Majesties, King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla.

From 09:30am on Saturday 6th May Williton Pavilion will be open for anyone wishing to watch the BBC coverage of the Coronation in the company of others; the broadcast will be shown live on the big screen in the main Hall. This is free entry and light refreshments – tea, coffee & cake – will be available (Donations welcome). In the afternoon, when the main event is over on the television at about 2:00pm there will be afternoon tea dances hosted by Somerset Ballrooms until about 17:00, and Foxes Academy will be serving high tea from 15:00pm. Again, entry will be free but there will be a charge if you would like tea.

As we mentioned last month, together with Watchet Town Council, we will be presenting all the Children at Danesfield, St Peter's School and Nursery with a commemorative mug, we have a small number available to sell at £3 each. If you would like one, please get in touch with the Parish Office, but be quick as we are rapidly running out!

However you will be marking the Coronation I hope that it will stay in your memories for a long while in the same way that those who can remember the Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II do.

Over the past few months, the Parish Council has been working with the Justice Service to help make Williton tidier and a bit prettier. In the next few weeks people who are doing Community Service will start working around the village to help clear overgrown areas, litter pick, remove graffiti etc. This will normally take place on a Sunday. The Justice team are also looking for indoor projects that can be tackled if the weather is bad, for example redecorating a room, so if you know of a community building that could do with this sort of help please can you get in touch with the Parish Office.

We continue to get a lot of complaints about speeding through the village and poor driving. With the help of Avon and Somerset Police we have restarted Speed Watch at some points around the village but if we have more volunteers, we can have more frequent checks and at other positions. If you can help, again, please get in touch. We are also working with Highways and the Police to see what other things we can do to combat the speeding problems we have.

The new unitary council – Somerset Council – came into being on 1st of April and the existing Somerset West and Taunton Council was disbanded. So far, we have not seen much difference in the way things work but there will be changes over the next few years, what they will be we don't yet know but I expect that the parish councils in Somerset will take on things that Somerset Council currently undertakes. One positive thing that has changed is the phone number, **0300 123 2224**, which is for all services that either the old County or District Councils provided, so if you do have a query and not sure who to contact or which area you need use that number and you will be directed to the right department.

I finish with the repeated request that if you think there is anything the Parish Council could or should be doing, please let us know.

Cllr Peter Payne.

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Saturday 6 May
9.30am—5pm

The Coronation will be screened LIVE
at Williton Pavilion from 9.30am
Light refreshments available

Followed by a Tea Dance led by the Somerset
Ballroom Dance at 2pm, with Cream Tea's
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Services in May at St Peter's Church Williton



UNITED BENEFICE OF WATCHET AND WILLITON

Website: www.watchetandwillitonbenefice.com/

For details of other local churches see page 12.



Sunday	7th	10.00am	*Family Worship
Sunday	14th	09.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	21st	09.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	28th	09.15am	Parish Communion

*On Sunday 7th of May our family service will be a special service celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. Local uniformed organisations have been invited. This will be followed by a bring and share picnic lunch.

We invite you all to join any of our services

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 Mrs Sue Withycombe	01984 633577 01984 632596
Ordinand	Mrs Julie Pelling	07973 961083
Reader	Mrs Donna Marsden	01984 633707
PCC Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Payne	01984 633084



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 Churchwardens if you have any questions, details above.

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



Maintaining St Peters Churchyard

During early April our volunteer churchyard team carried out the seasons first cut of the grass. The good news was there were very few incidents of dog dirt in the grass after the winter period. The bad news when the second cut was made later in April there were **seven incidents of dog dirt in the grass.**

Can we again 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.**
The Churchyard Team.



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Other Local Churches Information

Methodist Church (Williton)

For those of you who haven't heard about us yet, we are the Williton Methodist House Church and we meet at Mollie's house behind the Old Methodist Church building. **Our services are at 10.30am and last about an hour**, with refreshments afterwards. There is a different preacher every week, so our services follow a different format each week, and we are a small and happy group who welcome anyone and everyone who would like to join us, whatever your denomination or faith group. All of our preachers say that they like coming to us as we have such a warm and welcoming worship space.

Our aim is to be a presence for good in the village and we love to chat to people around the village, and some of us are members of other groups as well. We visit the hospital, listen to children read at school, lead worship in Croft House and hope to get together with St. Peter's and other church and faith groups to work together to bring the Gospel into people's lives. We used to have occasional ecumenical services and hope to do so again soon. We try to make Kindness our default position and would love to see anyone who would like to come and find out more about us. We want to open doors for others.

Our preachers for May are -

May 7th Local arrangement when we lead our own worship and sing all we want!
May 14th Rev. Malcolm Hope more singing. **May 21st** Clive Longhurst yet more singing. **May 28th** Rev. Nick Lakin, Pentecost service with Holy Communion and lots of singing as Nick brings his guitar and as Rona always says, he rocks!

We pray this month for the innocent victims of wars and conflicts across the world, especially in Sudan. We give thanks for all who help these people by donating time, money, medicines, or clothing. RAFT in Taunton is very happy to take your clothing donations and send them on to refugees in need. Contact Jane Sefton for more details, 656652. We pray also for all in Williton who worry about paying bills in this time of uncertainty and cost of living rises, and give thanks for everyone who tries to help. And we pray for peace in all areas of war across our world.

Team Ministry: Rev Nick Lakin: **01643 705175**.

Stewards: Mrs R Troman: **01984 633199**. Mrs J Sefton: **01984 656652**.

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 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 **01984 634681**.

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

Janet Bremner Tel. **01984 632118** email: janetbremner31@btinternet.com

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**.

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



The £2 Bus Fare Extended Until End Of June

The Somerset Bus Partnership has welcomed the Government's decision to provide an additional £75 million. This will enable bus operators to continue to cap their single adult bus fares at £2. The £2 flat fare introduced in January is now set to continue through to the end of June. Bus users in Somerset will be able to continue to travel on most bus routes in the county and beyond for just £2.

The previous average price of a single fare for a 3-mile journey was around £2.80, meaning that the new fare will mean a saving of about a third on the price every time you travel.

It's worth remembering that this initiative applies to cross-boundary services, which means you can travel for example from Taunton to Minehead or Taunton to Dulverton for just £2.

It's hoped this will persuade even more people to travel by bus, whether that's for work, education, shopping, or medical treatments. Millions of people across England will be saving money just at a time when many households are suffering from the rising cost of living.

The 13 operators involved in the scheme are: ATWEST, Bakers Dolphin, Community Transport (South West) Ltd, Dartline, Faresaver Buses, First South West (Buses of Somerset), First West of England, Hatch Green Coaches, FromeBus, Libra Travel, Mendip Community Transport, Somerset County Council and South West Coaches. For more information on this scheme: <https://www.travelsomerset.co.uk/busit>.

In addition, Somerset County Council has introduced within Taunton a special £1 single/ £2 return bus fare. Plus, there are new night time bus services with the last bus services leaving the towns and villages covered by the scheme will run between 10pm and 11.15pm. The bus routes that will have a night service are:

- 1: Taunton to Priorswood/Musgrove Park/Silk Mills Park and Ride
- 21: Bridgwater to Taunton (Bridgwater Bus Station to Musgrove Park)
- 22: Wellington to Taunton
- 28: Minehead to Taunton (including Cotford St Luke and Norton Fitzwarren)
- 30: Chard to Taunton

This is funded by Somerset's successful bid for Government money through its Bus Service Improvement Plan. Somerset Bus Partnership welcomes this further initiative and is encouraging Somerset to bid for further funding so this urban flat fare can be extended to other Somerset towns.

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

Somerset County Council and the Somerset Bus Partnership have launched the 'BUS IT' campaign to promote bus travel. Somerset Bus Partnership's Co-Chair, Peter Travis, said, "Bus usage had declined in Somerset during the previous decade, and even more so during the pandemic. So initiatives like the £2 flat fare are needed to boost passenger levels. Encouraging people to choose buses over cars is really important because it also helps reduce our carbon emissions. Transport accounts for nearly half of our carbon emissions in Somerset. Somerset Bus Partnership will therefore be continuing to work with Somerset County Council to encourage greater bus usage."

Help Needed

Somerset Bus Partnership is a voluntary organisation formed some 2 years ago. It now has 150 bus champions and works with 125 Parish Councils across Somerset. It ensures the views of bus users are heard on what they need from bus services in our County ... which means people can get to where they want to ... when they want to ... and the journey is reliable, comfortable and affordable. Key to the journey experience is easy access to bus information, improved bus stops and bus stations, and bus services that integrate with rail.

We are looking to expand the work of Somerset Bus Partnership over the next 12 months. However, we need more resource to help us do this.

Can you spare an hour a month to help? We could do with some assistance with our membership and administration. Or do you have a background in Planning, Traffic Management / Highways or Public Transport? Or have fundraising experience and could help with submitting fundraising plans?

If you can help please get in contact: somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com
<http://www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk/>
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Peter Travis Co-Chair Somerset bus Partnership



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This year's Hedgehog Awareness Week runs from 30th April until 6th May. It is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and takes place every year. It aims to highlight the problems hedgehogs face and how you can help them. This year the charity is asking people to 'Think Hedgehog'. Look at your garden or greenspace (or local park, school grounds etc) and imagine how useful or dangerous it might be if you were a hedgehog – is it a hedgehog disaster or a des-res? There are lots of hazards that can be removed or improved such as poisons and pesticides, uncovered drains, litter and netting. Always carefully check for hedgehogs before mowing, strimming or lighting a bonfire pile that they might have made a nest in.

There are lots of hedgehog-friendly features that can be added to make the area more welcoming to hedgehogs. Hedgehog highways (gaps in boundary walls and fences to ensure that a hedgehog can get in and out easily), Feeding stations (offer water and meaty cat or dog food), log piles, leaf piles or wild corners and edges (these will attract natural food and offer shelter for hedgehogs), ponds or pools, but ensure there are escape routes (a sloping edge, ramp or half submerged rock for hedgehogs to scramble out on), and of course, last but not least hedgehog homes.

BHPS Chief Executive, Fay Vass, said "These small actions can help create and link fantastic habitat for hedgehogs; just a little effort from each of us could make life a lot easier for them!"

If you want general advice about wild hedgehogs, or need help then please phone me Jane Sharp, Watchet Hedgehogs **07918 603059**.

Louise Dunn, Hoglets Hedgehog Rescue, **07712 673563**. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society **01584 890801**.

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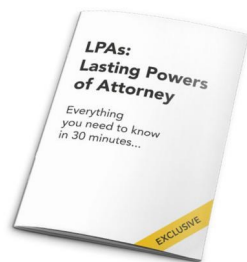
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Sun 7th/Sat 13th

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Faith Reflection



Hello there.

I was driving through Exeter recently and spotted a church that had been converted to become an architect's office. In Norwich, former churches have been used as a puppet theatre, music venue, gym, café and the home of a theatre company.

A few years ago, I was chatting with someone who thought that the solicitor's office by Williton Central car park would be a good location for a church!

All this has me thinking about what a church really is. Perhaps for many of us, a church is a building where people gather to pray and sing, celebrate and mourn. I'd agree with that. At the same time, I think of it as being a bit like an old village smithy – a place of warmth, a workshop and a hub of community life.

Perhaps when so many of the churches we see are institutional buildings, which are hard to heat, this description might not work for everyone.

Last year, when I was visiting a Christian festival at Butlins in Minehead, I talked to someone who wanted to describe church as two things: a loving community where people talk about Jesus. He didn't want people to only talk about Jesus. But he did want church to be understood as any place or group of people where those two things happened.

Perhaps, more than thinking of church as a place or type of building, it might be good if church meant something more. Maybe church is only church if it's somewhere you can be totally yourself, laugh with people, love and be loved, cry with each other and ask all the questions you want – no matter how outrageous, unexpected or cringey.

That's the kind of church I hope I'm part of. It's the kind of church I want to build. Take care and God bless.

Mike Sherburn, Watchet Baptist Church.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Members of the Parish Council and others work very hard to put on events in the Village, Pavilion and Memorial Ground. These events help to bring community together and hopefully share time enjoying the events.

So with all that is coming up this month in the community please do what you can to support them. It makes it all worthwhile to those that give their time voluntarily.



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Bishops Lydeard Mill & Rural Life Museum Needs Your Help!

Many of you will have visited the mill in the village which is open this year from **June 4th to September 29th**.

It will be 20 years this year since we first opened and (all being well) we will have raised £200,000 for charity!! (We support, cancer Research UK, SURE, Macmillan Cancer Support, St Margarets Hospice and The Open Door). We are very fortunate that the 5 charities supply us with volunteer stewards each day that we open so we do not have to pay anyone.

The Tea Room is another story!! Yvonne Back bakes all the cakes and donates them and Charlie supplies most of the foods that are sold (ice creams, chocolates, crisps, teas and coffees etc) but both of them feel unable to actually serve in the Tea Room....SO we are appealing to our lovely neighbourhood to see if anyone would like to help out! Even a one off day or half day would help especially if we can get enough volunteers to cover the whole season but a regular once a week, or once a month (only 4 days!) would be even more helpful! Yvonne (& Charlie Back) will ensure you know what is involved and show you how the till works (it really is easy!!) We will be having Open Days on **May 27th & 28th, 10am - 1pm** for anyone interested in seeing what happens but if neither date is possible, another evening visit could be arranged.

If you feel you could help or would like to know more you can, initially, email yvonne@bishopslydeardmill.co.uk or turn up for the Open Days. Thank you in anticipation!

Yvonne Back.



Keep an Older Person Safer in 2023

Cold calling is not illegal. However, any trader that ignores a sticker or notice on a door stating that the occupier does not wish to receive cold calls may be committing a criminal offence.

As a nationwide home care provider since 1980 we have decided to try and help prevent, where we can, an older or disabled person becoming a victim.

The above door sticker may be of interest to someone you know. These are free of charge and if you or they reply to this email:

info@ablecommunitycare.com, we will be happy to send some for you to pass on, or they may contact us directly, (since 2019 we have given out over 130,000).

We do not keep any individuals details on a database, and we do not give information to other organisations.

Angela Gifford Managing Director.

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Pavilion & Village Events



Saturday 6 May
9.30am—5pm

The Coronation will be screened LIVE
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Light refreshments available

Followed by a Tea Dance led by the Somerset
Ballroom Dance at 2pm, with Cream Tea's
served from 3pm

Entry is free. Tea, coffee & cake in morning for a
donation; small charge for High Tea.

Organised by Williton Parish Council

Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground
(Registered Charity 211212) presents:

CRAFT FAIR

Sat 27 May
2—4.30pm

Raffle Ceramics Free entry Jewellery
Fabric crafts Cakes Refreshments Are

Tables £10 each, contact
cllr.howes@willitonpc.org.uk to book

Williton Village Gardens

Sunday 21 May

A number of gardens in Williton will
be throwing open their gates to
visitors, many in aid of various
charities.

A variety of cottage, courtyard and
productive gardens.

Tickets and maps (£2) to visit the
gardens will be available from 1st
May in Williton shops and Williton
Parish Council.

Money raised from ticket sales will go
to Williton War Memorial Recreation
Ground registered charity # 211212

**Treats, Trinkets
& Treasures**

Ducks Racing at midday

CAR BOOT SALE



Sun 28 May
10.30am—12.30pm
FREE ENTRY FOR BUYERS

Memorial Recreation Ground
TA4 4PG
£5 per vehicle / Sellers from 9.30am

Regular Weekly Meetings / Groups & Events in Williton

Everyday	1.00pm - 11.00pm	Williton Social Club	Tel: 01984 248671
Mondays	9.30am - 12 noon & 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
	8pm - 9pm Ballroom Dance Lessons	Pavilion	Tel: 07535 601217
Thurs	10am - 12noon Cameo Coffee Group	St Peters Church	Tel: 01984 639600
	2.00pm to 3.30pm Foxes Teas	Pavilion (Term Time Only)	
	5.30pm - 6.30pm Rainbows	(Guide & Brownie HQ)	Tel: 07484 601929
Fridays	9.30 - 10.30am Zumba	Pavilion	Tel: 07738 676832
	10.00am - 12 noon Coffee & Chat	Mollie's 2 Higher Croft Tower Hill, All Welcome	Tel: 01984 656652
	12 Noon Friday Walks	Meet opposite Library	Tel: 01984 632459
	5.00pm - 6.00pm Squirrels	Guide & Brownie HQ	Tel: 07806 968961
	7.15 - 9.00pm Guides	Market St, Watchet	Tel: 07584 037156

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

Williton Hospital League of Friends

Williton Hospital League of Friends is seeking a new Treasurer

This is a voluntary post working with the other members of the League in helping support the hospital patients and staff. Some knowledge of working with the Charity Commission would be helpful.

Interested? Contact Marilyn Hill on **01984 568423** or Barbara Heywood on **01984 634725** to learn more.

LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

Even though we are still getting some cold wind days the opening leaves on the trees bring us the joy of spring as it brings the promise of warmer days in the garden.

DRS.



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

What's Happening This Month In Williton

Williton Monthly Meetings / Groups & Events for May 2023

Tues	2nd	Good Neighbours Grp	2.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Tues	2nd	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Weds	3rd	Family History	2pm & 3pm One to One (Book with Library)
Weds	3rd	Wasps	1.30pm Sampford Brett Village Hall
Sat	6th	Coronation Celebrations	9.30am to 5.00pm Williton Pavilion
Tues	16th	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Thurs	18th	Women's Institute	2.00pm Pavilion
Fri	19th	Community Market	9.30am to 12 noon Williton Social Club
Sun	21st	Open Gardens	Williton Village
Mon	22nd	Garden Club	7.30pm Danesborough View Common Room
Sat	27th	Craft Fair	2 pm to 4.30pm Memorial Recreation Ground
Sun	28th	Treats Trinkets Treasures	10.30am to 12.30pm Pavilion
Tues	30th	Bingo	7.00pm for 7.30pm start Pavilion
Weds	31st	Family History Group	7.15pm Pavilion Group Meeting

If you have a regular monthly event and would like it added to the monthly diary page please send to the editor email: williton@willitonwindow.co.uk or Telephone: **01984 631595**



Williton Garden Club



The March meeting of the Club was well supported and we were pleased to welcome some visitors and new members. Pauline & David Wright gave a very colourful illustrated talk on both their previous home, 'Lift the Latch' and their new garden at 'Little Latch'. It is really amazing what can be achieved with imagination and hard work both of which they know how to exploit. It is hoped to visit their new garden later in the year.

I am not able to give a definitive report on the April meeting as it was primarily our A.G.M. but as I write this I am expecting all to go smoothly as usual and as of now the existing officers and committee are willing to be re-elected. However the May meeting is due to be held on Monday 22nd, when we are expecting a visit from Stephen Powles who is going to tell us lots we don't know about Hedgehogs ! You will be welcome to join us either as new member or a visitor at £2 per meeting.



John Parsons, Chairman.

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FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT
IZZY SILVESTER.



May

May is such a hopeful month! Longer days, warmer weather and the return of the beloved seasonal events we are blessed with in Somerset— car boots and village fairs galore!

May is National Walking Month. It is a great time to discover the many wonderful locations in Somerset – from the Quantocks to the Mendips and the flats of the levels in between. The Get Outside in Somerset team can help you find your perfect walking day. Go to www.getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk for the inspiration to put a spring in your step!

May 11th is Somerset Day! This year the team are hosting Somerset's biggest ever quiz! Take part by tuning into BBC Radio Somerset on the 12th May at 7pm. You can also host your own quiz night – download the pack here:

www.somersetday.com/somerset-biggest-ever-quiz - let's all fly the flag for Somerset!

CCS Village Agents have been busy in recent weeks being part of the **Somerset Dementia Wellbeing Service Roadshow**. Come along and have a go on the Virtual Dementia simulator, giving a person with a healthy brain an insight into what dementia might be like.

The Somerset Dementia Wellbeing Service is a collaboration of existing dementia services in Somerset. The aim is to provide consistency, improve diagnosis and enhance support for people with dementia and their carers. Full details of the roadshow and new service can be found here:

<https://somersetcarers.org/news/dementia-wellbeing-roadshow/>

Coming up in June is Carers Week! CCS Village Agents support unpaid Carers through our Somerset Carers service. Our teams across Somerset are busy organising events to celebrate these heroes in our communities who selflessly care for their family members or friends. There will be goody bags, giveaways, free workshops and fun days – the full plan can be found here:

www.somersetcarers.org/carersweek2023 - we hope to see you there!

The West Somerset Carer's event is at **Williton Pavilion 2 - 4 on Saturday 10th of June**. The event includes free cream tea, free raffle, information stalls like the Citizens Advice and lovely things to do! Please come and treat yourself!

For free and confidential advice, help and support please contact either Izzy Silvester on 07931 018045 izzy@somersetccc.org.uk or Steve Grice on 07958 415270 stepheng@somersetccc.org.uk



Izzy Silvester.

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Williton and Surrounds Parkinson's Support



Williton and Surrounds Parkinson's Support Group – WASP'S, held their A.G.M. On Thursday 6th April, at Sampford Brett Village Hall.

The occasion was well attended by members and some prospective members.

Several members are quite poorly at present, and we wish them a speedy recovery.

The committee was re- elected , and one of the members also offered to join the committee. There were several suggestions for speakers, and events to help raise the profile of the Group.

It was voted to raise the annual subscriptions from January 2024 to £25.00, this reflects the increase in outgoings, and lack of grants that are available to voluntary groups. It is still good value, as it covers costs of Christmas Lunch and a Cream Tea in the summer.

Because the A.G.M. coincided with Parkinson's Week, members wore blue, and were supplied with large letters spelling this out, for a photo opportunity see below.

This was followed by a buffet supplied by the committee and members.

Next meeting is on **Wednesday 3rd May (Note this a Wednesday this time)**, the speaker will be Jeff Vintner on 'New Uses for Old Railways'.

Exercises commencing at 1.30pm.

Jane Cooper.



West Somerset Family History Group

Our May meeting is a group meeting where we as a group will try to help members move on with their research if they have become stuck. Our group help meetings are proving very helpful especially for new members . Entrance is £1.50 for SDFHS members and £3 for visitors who are always made welcome.

At the time of writing there are two sessions available at the library .You need to book with the library for the 2pm & 3pm slots. Car parking is in Killick Way.

Lesley Murray Secretary.

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AND WILLITON

WHEELS gives a very personal service to people who have no access to a car and need to attend a medical appointment or visit a friend. We collect from their front door and are around to pick them up after their appointment. A modest charge is made; for instance, a return trip from Williton to Musgrove, if you have a bus pass, is £12.40.

The number of journeys that we have done since New Year has increased to around 40 per month and sadly on 2 or 3 occasions each month we have not been able to find a driver.

We do need more drivers. Can any reader help us even if it is just for one drive per fortnight? Drivers receive expenses of 45p per mile and can choose to undertake the journeys which are convenient to them.

Coordinators provide the vital link between our passengers and drivers. They receive the requests for transport on the WHEELS mobile phone and then find a driver to take them. Usually they do this one week each month. Sadly one of our coordinators has had to give up so we badly need a new volunteer.

If you can help or would like to hear more about volunteering as a WHEELS driver or coordinator, please contact me at jjcarslake@tiscali.co.uk or ring me on 01984 639083.

John Carslake (Chair of Wheels).



WSMLA Guided Walks 2023

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.

Wed 10th May, Ralegh's Cross Short Walk

Meet 9.45 am at Ralegh's Cross Inn TA23 0LN

This four hour walk visits the Winding House and the Iron Mines near Beulah Chapel. It includes part of the Incline: steep, spectacular but optional.



Williton Walks Book



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



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Down at the Station May



It was good during the Easter holidays to see a good turnout of visitors on the railway with many starting and finishing their day out from Williton. We managed to finish the white lining of the platform edges on the first two running days before the trains came through, the weather was fine so the paint was able to dry quickly. It was well worth the effort and looks good.

Apart from the two bank holidays during May when there will be trains, we will be running Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays for the month on the Blue timetable, which basically means four trains in each direction daily, and right at the beginning commencing for four days from 28th April through till the 1st of May will be our **Spring Gala** when we will have an extensive timetable with three or four visiting engines to add to our home fleet. You will be welcome to come down and just watch or to ride of course, and to make use of the shop for hot or cold drinks, ice creams and light refreshments. Our **Plant Stall and Books etc.** will be available from the beginning of the month.

Fund Raising

As I've mentioned before, each station on the W.S.R. aims to be self supporting and maintains the fabric etc of the stations, in addition to contributing towards the overall maintenance of the railway at large. Several years ago, probably twelve, I ran an appeal for anyone with old bath or basin taps and other bits of brass, copper or lead, to bring it to the station so that it could be sold for scrap, and at the time we raised upwards of two hundred pounds. I am wondering after all this time whether there have been more such items cluttering up your garages and sheds around Williton? If so we would be pleased to receive any bits of brass, copper or lead for further funding. There is little value in aluminium or iron and steel apart from the fact it takes up a lot of space. In addition to metal I can also raise funds by selling for scrap old car batteries. Again I wonder how many of these have been put to one side in a garage when you might have changed one for your own car? I would be happy to collect if necessary, or you could drop anything off at my home (6 Long Lakes) or at the station on a running day. My number is **07762 896 073**. I look forward to hearing from you.

John Parsons, Station Master

Coronation of His Majesty King Charles 111

We love parties but we hate waste, so anyone planning an event, be it a street party, big community event or just a family get together it is asked to reuse and recycle wherever possible.

Bin Collections before & after the coronation

We do not usually collect on Bank Holidays, but we are collecting on Bank Holiday Monday, 1st of May, collections will be on the normal scheduled day for the rest of that week. But, there will be no collections on the extra Bank Holiday, Monday 8th of May. Collections will be one day later for the rest of that week, For more details visit the website:

www.somerset.gov.uk/the-kings-coronation-love-parties-hate-waste/



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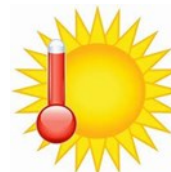
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Weather Temperature Statistics for 2022

34.2°C (93.6°F), recorded at Wiggonholt, West Sussex on 11th of August, is 2022 the hottest summer for the UK?

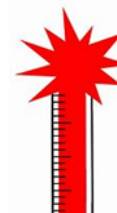


2022 will see the highest annual average temperature across the UK, exceeding the previous record set in 2014 when the average was **9.88°C**. Since 1884, all the ten years recording the highest annual temperature have occurred from 2003.

On 10th of June 2022, in Midwestern and South eastern United States. A record temperature in Death Valley, was **51°C (123°F)**. Perpignan, a city in southern France due East of Lourdes near the beach: Canet Plage on June 17th, 2022, Biarritz on west coast near famous Bayonne was among the hottest cities on Saturday, June 18th, hitting a high of **42.77°C (109°F)**. Tuesday July 18th and Wednesday 19th were the UK's hottest days on record with the average maximum temperature exceeding **30°C** for the first time. Britain recorded its hottest-ever day Tuesday, with temperatures hitting a high of **40.3°Celsius (104.5°F)** in the east of England, according to provisional data from the Met Office. On 19th July 2022 the UK recorded its highest-ever temperature shortly before 12:00 GMT, when it reached **40.2°C (104.4°F)** at London's Heathrow Airport. Minutes later, a new national temperature record of **40.3°C (104.5°F)** was reported in Coningsby Lincs, 130 miles north of London on 19th July, this record temperature of **40.3°C (104.5°F)** was recorded and verified by the Met Office. In Death Valley, temperature climbed to **51°C (123°F)**.

Earth's average surface temperature in 2022 tied with 2015 as the fifth warmest on record, according to an analysis by NASA. The past nine years have been the warmest years since modern record keeping began in 1880. Similar temperatures hit northern China, as well as Midwest and southern U.S. states.

P.J.



WILLITON WI

Thursday the 20th of April, the ladies of Williton WI enjoyed a very informative and interesting talk from Nichola Penn, Boo Cottage Botanicals with 'Tales of a Somerset Soap Maker', which included a demonstration on making a batch of soap.

There will be no open meeting in May as it is our AGM, but we look forward to a talk about Watchet Hedgehogs in June. More information in next month's Williton Window.

Irene Draper.

Free Quotations



Robin Parker ND arb
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WILLITON WEATHER



APRIL

On April the 12th we were surprised (or were we?) to have all the types of weather. Snow (*The latest till now was on the 2nd April.*) rain, hail, sunny periods (half an hour), then rain, sleet, mist, gales more rain, the day's rain total 18mm, over ½ an inch, a very wet day.

MARCH

A minimum temperature of 1°C on the 12th.

(*But often only as low as 10°C*).

The maximum temperature was 19°C on the 21st.

The maximum pressure of 30.35 inches (very high).

The minimum pressure of 29.15 inches on the 31st. (*When there was a lot of rain over 26mm*).

The total months rainfall was 96mm.

NATURE NOTES

The Tadpoles in our pond are now about 2/3 inch. The birds are nesting, the crows in the trees in long street are nesting high, the country saying is "When the crows nest high then summer will be dry!"

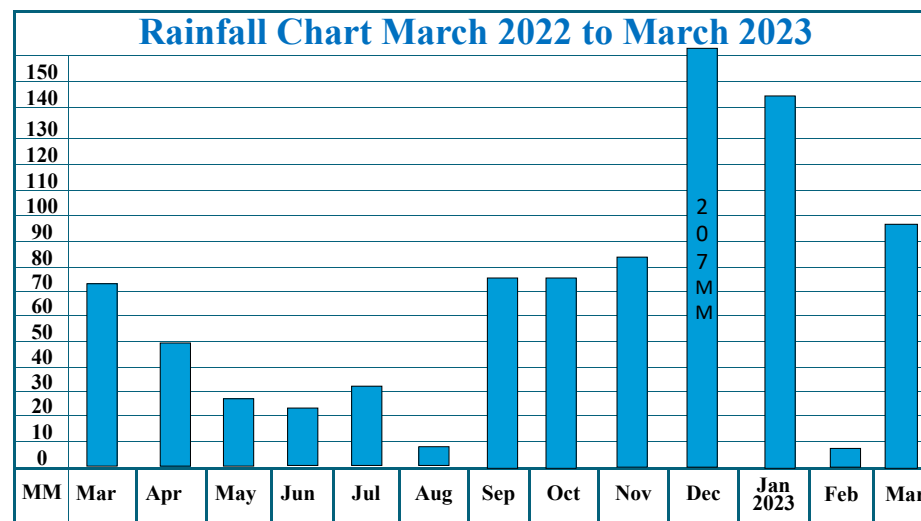


ASTRONOMICAL NEWS

Again the cloudy nights hid all the astronomical events. Venus and Jupiter are the two brightest planets in our sky. If you want to track and see the International Space Station as it is crossing the sky look at this website: www.space.com/how-to-track-the-international-space-station

Happy King's Coronation Weekend

PJ.



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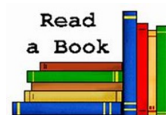
Or call us on **01823433973** we'll be happy to help!

Or visit the shop at Unit 8 Broadguage Business park
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Delivery is available every 2 weeks on a Tues / Thurs PM



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Williton Public Library

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



Rhyme Time



We are currently looking for a new volunteer to run our Rhyme time sessions for our pre school members. We have someone who will run sessions on a temporary basis from June but are still looking for someone on a more permanent basis. If you are interested please call into the library for more information. You would need to complete a DBS to undertake this role.

Technology & Computer Support?



Computer support sessions happen every other Thursday afternoon for 1:1 support with any device. Absolute beginners are welcome. (booking essential) We also have drop in computer support on the last Monday of the month from 2.00pm to 3.30pm no appointment needed.

Research your Family Tree

We have family history sessions on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month. (booking essential)



Book Club



Our resident book Club meets on the first Thursday afternoon of the month in the library.

Lego



On the first Saturday morning of each month the Lego boxes are available from 10am-12.30pm. Please note children must be accompanied by an adult.

Home Library Service

If you are unable to visit the library because of mobility or health issues our home library volunteers will happily deliver books to your home. Details at Willib.somerset.gov.uk



Talk to the Police



The local police drop in is on the first Wednesday morning of the month from 11am, no appointment is needed.

We are more than happy for groups to use our space to meet. Any groups such as games clubs, sewing, knitting, dads groups are all most welcome. Please get in touch.



For any information about the library please call in or email 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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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For full details & Tickets see:
www.regaltheatre.co.uk
May



Tuesday 2nd: 7.30pm ALLELUJAH (Film Cert 12A)

Based on the stage play by Alan Bennett, this is a warm, witty and moving story about old age, with a star-studded cast.

Saturday 6th: 7.30pm BETTY LEGS DIAMOND (First ever UK Tour)

This is Betty Legs Diamond as you have never seen her before. Live, up close and VERY personal! A fantastic evening of glamour, feathers and Top Hats. Prepare to be on your feet whilst you're transported into the glittering world of the legend that is BETTY LEGS DIAMOND.

Saturday 13th: 11.00am HALF A SIXPENCE (1967)

Arthur Kipps, apprenticed to a tyrannical draper, has an abrupt change of life when his grandfather dies and leaves him a small fortune. He then considers marrying a socialite instead of his old sweetheart. Starring Tommy Steele and Julia Foster. **All proceeds go to Regal support fund.**

Friday 19th: 7.30pm HUGILL'S CREW SHANTY SINGERS

FUNDRAISING SHOW A special fundraising event in aid of Children's Hospice South West. Hugill's Crew present an evening of sea songs from 'Minehead to Mingulay' and beyond, featuring Barnacle Buoys with support from Watchet Community Choir.

Tuesday 23rd: 7.30pm TOKYO STORIES

An exhibition on screen A thrilling encounter with one of the world's great art capitals. The film uses the exhibition as a launchpad to travel to Tokyo itself, and explore the art and artists of the city more fully.

Wednesday 24th: 7.15pm SLEEPING BEAUTY

LIVE performance from the Royal Opera House, be swept away by Tchaikovsky's ravishing music and Oliver Messel's sumptuous fairy tale designs with this true gem from the classical ballet repertory.

Friday 26th: 7.30pm. KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS

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Tickets for all events may be booked in advance online at <https://regaltheatre.co.uk/whats on> 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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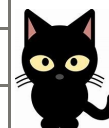
WORDSEARCH FOR MAY

by Phyllis Chidgey


Black Magic



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