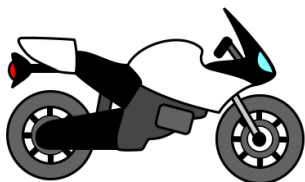


## EDITORIAL

Thank you to those who have submitted photograph entries to the competition for the January February front cover. The winner will be chosen at the Parish Council meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

## WILLAND SCHOOL OPEN AFTERNOON

Do you have a pre-school aged child? Are you trying to decide which school will give them the best, well-rounded education and greatest opportunities? We believe that we can give your child just that. But don't take our word for it! Come and see us in action. We are holding an Open Afternoon on **15<sup>th</sup> November** from 2.00 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. and would be delighted to welcome you to our school.



Would you like to discover a small supportive group of friends who share a common interest in motorbikes?

Perhaps you would like to join others who get together occasionally with a mission to find the best venue for fish and chips, cream teas or ice creams. Who knows one day we may venture as far as Brittany.

Please note that having tattoos, beards and pony tails are not mandatory but having a kind heart is.

If the idea appeals to you then please make contact.

**James Hill at [rangeofhills@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rangeofhills@hotmail.co.uk) or call 07795154989**

## WILLAND PHARMACY

Hello everyone

We just want to say we are glad to be part of this lovely community, we feel really welcome thanks to you all. We want to thank our patients and customers for your patience during this period of transition, we are trying our best to give you a great service and we will continue to work hard in order to provide the best pharmaceutical service for this community.

You are all welcome to Willand pharmacy for anything you need.

**Ivan, Cristina and Juan**, your new pharmacists in Willand.

## **ART GROUP**

We have a very friendly Art Group in the village which meets on Monday afternoons in the Methodist Chapel at 2pm for 2 hours.

We have a few vacancies at the moment & would welcome any new members. Experience is not necessary just a willingness to try something new, there is always someone to help & advise so if you think you would like to do something new this winter this could be the chance you've been looking for.

The days will get shorter very soon & you could have new friends & a new hobby to while away the dark days. Contact **Jenny Baker 01884 822882** for details.

## **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY**

Where does the time go? With a blink of an eye we find the summer is over and the leaves are falling, along with shorter days. Not to worry though, 2017 will soon be here and brighter longer days will quickly follow, hopefully!

Rehearsals are in full swing now for next years' pantomime Aladdin, which will take place at Willand Village Hall, **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**.

Remember to put the date in your new diaries!! If you have a desire to join in the fun and maybe help with scenery painting or sewing costumes, it's not too late! We are always thankful of any help. We are trying to think of new ways to attract people to the club and encourage more people to support performances, so if anyone can come up with some bright ideas, we would be very grateful!

In December we will have a Christmas Party with a festive menu, at the Halfway House, so anyone wanting to join us now, could be a part of that! Just contact any of the committee.

Looking forward into 2017, we are always open to new directors offering to direct a summer play or plays. Again if you have any suggestions please do contact us.

It only leaves us to wish everyone a Happy Christmas & Peaceful New Year! And remember – 'A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool' – William Shakespeare. **David Keating**

## **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH (GABLES ROAD) EVENTS OPEN TO ALL IN THE COMMUNITY.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
Sunday	Service	10.30am
Monday	Willand Art Group	2pm - 4pm
First Friday of Month	Coffee morning and bring and buy	10.30am
Third Friday of Month	Soup and Something	12.00 midday

## **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Village Carol Service - 4th December 6.30pm - Village Hall Carol singing and Christmas bible readings. Contributions from lots of village groups, including Willand School Choir. Followed by Coffee and Mince Pies. Come along and start Christmas off together. A collection will be taken for the Air Ambulance.

Christmas Coffee Morning Willand Scouts with the Methodist Church  
26 November 10am - 12noon Stalls, raffle, tombola, cakes. Please come and support us. **Paul Booth Methodist Minister**

## **WILLAND BEAVER SCOUT GROUP**

Willand beaver scout group is as popular as ever with a growing waiting list. We have had great fun over the summer term with events such as rafting and a BBQ party at Exmouth as well as a camp held at Halberton.

This term we have been out for walks, and the beavers organised a talent show for family and friends. Halloween biscuits, poppy day remembrance activities are all planned for the next few weeks.

A joint coffee morning with the Methodist church is planned for the end of November, in the village hall. We are organising another Christmas bingo on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the village hall. We would love to see you there. Keep your eyes peeled for the posters nearer the time.

We also have a cub and scout group for boys and girls aged between 8 and 14, if you are interested in any of our groups please contact me on 07999802679 and I will be happy to answer or pass on any questions and queries. **Liesa Milligan**

## **CAMEO**

At the September meeting Diane Sansome-Smith spoke to us about Mindfulness, a subject which few of us were familiar with. Diane, who is a teacher, told us about how Mindfulness can help to relieve stress and anxiety for people in various walks of life from schoolchildren studying for exams, folk working under stress in the National Health Service and even footballers! It is to create a more tranquil outlook on life and therefore make us all a bit more relaxed in our daily lives.

The Craft Group brought along the lovely quilt they have been making and this will be raffled for our Charity which is the Willand Health and Community Centre. Tickets will be on sale at various Village money-raising events for this project and also in local businesses. The draw will take place at our Xmas Coffee Morning on 19th November at the Village Hall from 11 to 1p.m where all proceeds will be for this worthwhile Village asset. If you can't come along please buy a ticket from these outlets, because, as Mr Tesco is always telling us "every little helps"! We are off to Buckfast Abbey and Trago Mills and then to Clarkes Village on 9th November for some Xmas shopping. A Christmas lunch is on 16th December at Petrocs and we are having a Christmas party in the Hall for our December meeting.

Sonia thanked Jenny for hosting a Coffee Morning for McMillan nurses. Members voted to have Devon Air Ambulance Trust as their charity for 2017.

The Walking Group had walked around Knightshayes and also a walk along the Tiverton Canal via the Swansneck. They are having a walk around Culmstock Beacon and a longer one around the Dulverton area later in the month.

October was our A.G.M and Sonia, our Chairman said we had had another very successful year with new members joining, some excellent speakers, enjoyable outings, meals out, skittles evenings and raising a considerable amount for our charity.

The Singles Group are flourishing and have had a lovely New Year Lunch at the Halfway House a picnic and a holiday in the Isle of Wight. At our November meeting our Speaker will be Jan King, "keep fit in a chair" wow! That sounds like fun!! If you would like to come along to our meetings you will find us in the Village Hall at 6.30 on the first Thursday of every month. **Betty Penberthy.**

### **ST MARY'S CHURCH**

We will be holding our annual Remembrance Sunday service on 13th November gathering at 10.45am at the War Memorial in the churchyard before moving into the church for a service. Please do join us as we remember the sacrifice and service of those who have served in the armed forces. I am pleased to say that we will have an improved method of securing remembrance crosses and wreaths, so it should avoid them being blown away as they were last year.

With November upon us it will not be long until Christmas! As always we have a large number of opportunities to celebrate the festive period. We start with the fantastic Village Hall carol service in conjunction with Culm Valley Methodists at 6.30pm 4th December. I am sure this will be a wonderful occasion as different groups, churches and the school come together.

I am also aware that amongst the celebrations of Christmas, for some, it can be a sad and lonely time as we miss those who are no longer with us. With that in mind our 11am service on 18th December will be a special service where we will light candles to remember those we miss at Christmas time.

Other Christmas services include:

18th Dec St Mary's Carol Service 6.30pm followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

24th Dec Crib and Christingle Service 4pm, always very popular so do arrive in plenty of time to guarantee a seat!

24th Dec 11.30pm Midnight Communion

25th Dec Christmas Service 10.15am for all the family

**Rev Simon Talbot, Rector St Mary's Willand. Tel: 562570 or  
E: [simon@thetalbots.org.uk](mailto:simon@thetalbots.org.uk)**

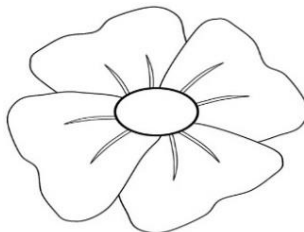


## **WILLAND WOBBLERS**

Willand Wobblers is a group of ladies over the age of eighteen who want to meet new people, have fun on a bicycle and get fit. We are not competitive and stick mostly to cycle paths. For more information and to join us please **contact Sharon on 07875145240 or email [svaughn40@gmail.com](mailto:svaughn40@gmail.com)**

## **BLOOD DONER SESSIONS WILLAND VILLAGE HALL 2017**

10 March 2017	Friday
11 April 2017	Tuesday
7 July 2017	Friday
8 August 2017	Tuesday
3 November 2017	Friday
1 December 2017	Friday



## **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL**

At last we have our new roof! We hope that our fuel bills will now be substantially lower and also that we do not need to worry about the roof falling apart and letting in water. As mentioned before, the floor in the hall will be replaced between 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January, so the main hall will be out of use. We are grateful to the Bernard Sunley Trust for £2,500 towards the costs, but have still had to spend most of our reserves and will be unable to replace the doors or decorate until we have raised further funds.

We have had a few instances lately where crockery is being put away dirty, particularly cups. We have tried providing tea towels, but they have been used for other purposes, left dirty or disappeared. We will not, therefore, be providing them anymore, so users of the kitchen will have to bring their own. We are sorry to have to do this, but we cannot afford to keep buying new ones. We have a limited amount of crockery available, so please ask if you need to know what we have and what you need to provide yourselves.

We have increased the size of our wheelie bin, but it is only emptied fortnightly, so please remember to take your rubbish home after your events.

Our usual monthly bingo is on 8<sup>th</sup> November and our Christmas one on 29<sup>th</sup> November. The Christmas Bingo will be for meat prizes (from Veysey's). We hope you will come along and support us. There is a good raffle as well as the bingo prizes.

We are still looking for some more trustees, if you are interested in supporting the Village Hall. Most of the people in the village use the hall at some time or another and it is used almost every day, so is a valuable asset to the community. Committee meetings are every other month and last just over an hour, so do not take up a lot of time, so please think about volunteering.

Bookings: Frances Wilcox - 07748 557107; email franceswilcox1@gmail.com or write to 35 Fir Close, Willand. Treasurer: Carol Allan – 01884 33828; email cbarwa@mail.com or write to 4 Orchard Way, Willand.  
Website: [www.willandmatters.org.uk/organisations](http://www.willandmatters.org.uk/organisations) for our diary and community page. Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer

## **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL DIARY**

<b>November</b>				
Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Devon & Cornwall Welsh Corgi Club Dog Show	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Blue Cross Christmas Fair	W.V.H.	11.00 am
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	WRFC – Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Cameo Christmas Fair	W.V.H.	11.00 am
Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	2.00 pm
Friday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donors	W.V.H.	1.30 pm
Saturday	26 <sup>th</sup>	CVMC – Christmas CM	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Village Hall Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
<b>December</b>				
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Preschool Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30p m
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bramblehaies Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	2.00 pm
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Scouts Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	WRFC Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Dance Performance	W.V.H.	6.30 pm
Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Dance Performance	W.V.H.	3.30 pm
Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Tennis Club Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	WRFC Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donors	W.V.H.	11.00 am

<b>REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL</b>		
Pilates	Monday	10.30am
Purelesque Knitting club	Monday	2.00pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2.00pm
Beavers	Monday	5.30pm
Cub Scouts	Monday	7.00pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Monday	7.00pm
Pilates	Tuesday	9.30am
Flower Arranging	Tuesday	1.15pm
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4.00pm
Willand Vill. Hall Bingo	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	7.30pm
Tiny Tots	Wednesday	9.30am
Flower Arranging	Wednesday	1.15pm
Indoor Bowls	Wednesday	7.00pm
Garden Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7.30pm
Pilates	Thursday	9.30am
CAMEO	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	6.30pm
Karate	Thursday	5.30pm
Folk Dance Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7.30pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7.00pm
WiTS	Friday	7.30pm
Cowgirl Twisters	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	7.30pm
Crafty Market	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	2.00pm
Folk Dance	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	7.00pm
Rugby Tots	Sunday	9.00am
Martial Arts	Sunday	6.30pm

## **SUGGESTIONS TO HELP PETS DURING FIREWORK SEASON**

The Autumn and Winter months bring a time of explosive celebrations that can cause terror for dogs, cats and rabbits and now is the time that pet owners could be thinking about taking steps to prepare and protect their pet from the fear of fireworks.

There are several things that can be done to make it as stress free as possible.

- Most dogs and cats have a favourite place to go and hide, if not you need to create a hideaway where they can feel safe. A room that is quiet and has minimal windows is the most suitable.
- Installing an Adaptil™ or Feliway™ diffuser close to the refuge area may encourage them to settle, feel relaxed and confident. This should be done 2 - 4 weeks prior to the expected stress.
- Provide blankets for them to hide under and burrow. A woolly jumper that has your scent on can be comforting.

- Close the curtains to block out flashes of light and as much of the sound as possible.
- Take your dog out for a walk an hour before the expected stress to go to the toilet and feed him an early evening meal to help him feel relaxed. A meal high in carbohydrates such as pasta or rice is ideal.
- Play some background music that your dog normally hears (and doesn't object to!), or leave the television on.
- Offer chews and treats to your dog in his hiding place. He will then see this hiding place as a good place to go, and he can chew on these to relieve his tension.
- Ignore the sounds of the fireworks yourself and do not soothe or comfort your dog. It may be difficult to do this but it is the worst thing to do. It gives your dog the impression that there is something to be frightened of and rewards him for being scared.
- Cats need to be confined to the house and provided with a litter tray.
- If your pet gets particularly distressed we recommend you talk to your vet about short acting medication. Old-fashioned sedatives have been replaced with modern anti anxiety drugs which help treat the problem, rather than just mask it.
- Small mammals like rabbits and guinea pigs that live outside should not be forgotten. If possible move them into a shed or outhouse. Covering the front of the hutch with a blanket can help cut out some of the noise and flashes of light.

If you require any more information about helping your pet, speak to either a Vet or Veterinary Nurse who will be happy to help.

## **WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

The time for preparing articles for the magazine seems to come around very quickly but still some events move even faster. There follows an update of information and activities in relation to a number of subjects within the Parish. If something has been missed or you need more information please contact the Parish Clerk or one of the Parish Councillors.

## **PLANNING ISSUES**

The decision has now been made to include land at Junction 27 in the local plan which requires a further consultation period and even more delay in submitting the local plan. We continue to be told that it is about the allocation of land and is not about Eden Westwood proposals but the presentation to the Council meeting by the Head of Planning and Regeneration took about an hour and some slides and words used were straight out of the Eden Westwood public presentations. Eden Westwood has withdrawn their proposals for the logistics development land to the north of the A38 and so that land is now not recommended for inclusion in the plan. Councillors' debate was very restricted and stage managed. The earlier public question time was extended to give everyone a say but questions and points raised were mostly ignored. The potential outcome of the vote was already known before



the meeting as the lead group had had a meeting the night before and it was known they could command a majority in support. Our three Ward Councillors and our DCC Cll Ray Radford did vote against.

A presentation was put on at the Methodist Church by the promoters of the large development proposed between Meadow Park and the Esso garage. It was pleasing to see that quite a good number of people attended. Some of the information on display was not factually correct in relation to transport and access issues and so we will have to pay close attention to these when the formal application is submitted. Suggested improvements to the Primary School will be welcome but the suggestions as to providing sporting facilities will need close attention to detail as the Parish could be stuck with a costly 'white elephant'.

I attended the appeal hearing over the potential five houses off Muxbeare Lane at the rear of the Mid Devon Business Park. I felt that the Parish Council was given a fair hearing by the Inspector and some assertions made by the Developer were successfully challenged. They made an offer before the Inspector to possibly make the land available for 'self build' which came out of the blue to both MDDC Planning Officer and myself. We will have to wait and see what the Inspector decides but we have to be realistic in that the Government policy with regard to planning is basically the answer is 'Yes' now what is the question!

This appeal brings to the fore a rather silly situation with our boundaries. The site is in Halberton Parish but it is in the Willand Settlement Area. Residents will use Willand facilities but their Council Tax will go to Halberton. Halberton Parish extends to the Willand and Uffculme side of the motorway but it cannot be reached from Halberton without going through Willand. We are in discussion with Uffculme to approach Halberton to redraw the parish boundaries in a more common sense and practical manner. If you would support this change, please let the Clerk know.

## **JUBILEE FIELD & PLAY AREAS**

The promised new play and fitness equipment is in place on the Jubilee Field and it has been good to see the use made of it by the children and the 'not so young'. The majority of feedback has been very positive but there has been the odd negative comment. It sounds as if some were expecting 'Alton Towers'. We are awaiting some running repairs to be made to the skateboard ramps so please be careful with them until the job is complete. The leases from MDDC still have to be signed and unfortunately they have seen fit to put their own interpretation on some detail of the 'agreement' which means that we will have to spend money on solicitors instead of further play/fitness equipment. The Parish Council may decide not to take on any more areas from MDDC if it is going to cost more money than will be saved. It is noted that MDDC Planning Approvals for some new houses in the village are having a condition placed on them to put monies into the 'pot' to refurbish the Chestnut Drive play area. As this was one of the areas they wanted to close we will need to ensure that monies collected are put to the right purpose. The delay with the Jubilee Field lease is holding up progress with the provision of the night landing spot for the Air Ambulance and it is therefore still a work in

progress and we are hoping that those who have raised funds or offered help will bear with us.

## **GRASS CUTTING – DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL STYLE**

The day before the Tour of Britain cycle race went through the village quite a bit of grass cutting took place around the village by a local contractor. Cynical commentators said that the cycle race ought to come through more often. Other cynics thought that it may have been done to coincide with the fact that there was to be a Parish Council meeting that night.

The truth of the matter is that our Devon County Councillor, Ray Radford, had made the arrangement with a local contractor and paid him using the £1,000 which he had offered the Parish Council from his 'locality budget' provision. The cycle race never went near many of the areas cut and so that killed that rumour and I am assured that it was pure coincidence that it was done to coincide with the meeting. Whatever the reason thank you Ray – it was a job well done. It will be noted that DCC have resumed normal service doing as little as possible around the visibility splays.

The Parish Council has arranged for a second spraying of the kerbside weeds and it must have been effective as they are dying. Anyone feeling the urge to cut grass verge by their house, scrape dead weeds from the kerbs or cut back the odd bramble encroaching onto a footpath - please feel free but do stay safe.

## **PLANTERS**

It will be noted that some of our volunteers have already started work on planters to get them ready for winter planting. John Holmes is working with the Clerk to ensure that all involved are aware. New plants have been ordered for delivery during late October. The Old Well Garden Centre at Waterloo Cross will be again supplying the plants with a generous discount and our thanks go out to them.

## **I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!**

In spite of earlier comments and requests for people to pick up the mess left by their dogs we are still finding odd unattended piles around the village and particularly on or near areas where children play. I watched a lady let her dog foul on the playing field with the dog on a lead and a child holding her other hand. She had no bag or means of picking it up but fortunately someone else provided the necessary and it was binned. I wonder what would have happened had I not been there to pass a suitable comment? Please tell me how you can exercise a number of dogs off the lead who go to different areas of the field and leave their message for the owner to spot what is going on and then go to the right spot to collect it? Come on you few - please do not spoil it for the majority. Please keep looking after our village as if we don't no one else will.

We are pleased to welcome Nick Bartlett on to the Parish Council, he was co-opted at the October meeting and brings additional business experience to the Council.

**Barry Warren Chair of Willand Parish Council**

## **WILLAND GARDEN CLUB**

In September, we heard about the Keukenhof Gardens in Holland and saw some lovely slides. Our October meeting will take the form of a quiz and we have a festive talk on Holly, Ivy and Mistletoe in November.

The Flower Show in August, which was run jointly with Sampford Peverell Garden Club, was successful. Sampford Peverell's schedule contained a large cookery section which had a number of entries and they also had several children's classes, which were well supported. We will be hosting the joint show next year at Willand and will be incorporating some of their classes into our schedule.

Thank you to those of you who attended our coffee morning on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> September. Special thanks to Mr and Mrs Jordan, who donated a number of fuchsias and pelargoniums for us to sell.

We are looking forward to the annual Pottinger Quiz at the end of October, where teams from local gardening groups meet together for light hearted gardening questions and lovely refreshments. Hopefully we will fare better than the last few years and get a few more questions correct!

New members and visitors are always welcome. We meet in the Club Room at the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month from March to December. We have a Club outing in June, where we visit an interesting garden and usually have a good meal. Our subscription is only £3.50 a year, so is excellent value.

For more details about the Garden Club, please do not hesitate to contact me on **01884 33828** or email me on **cbarwa@mail.com**. **Carol Allan Garden Club Secretary**

## **EXCELSIOR SPORTS**

Our gymnasts have loved the move into the Village Hall which has given us a lot more space. The new air trak mats have proven very popular and the Freestyle Gymnastics (Parkour) is now up and running. We have spaces in that class which runs twice a month for aged 9-18 boys and girls and no previous gymnastics experience is needed.

Our Winter Athletics training is now up and running, twice a month for our sprinters, throwers and jumpers. This follows a short break after their last competition at the end of August where they surprisingly dominated the sprints hurdles events. They will be working on strength and endurance work to prepare them for next Spring.

Our weightlifters will be competing in the first "Graham Cooper Memorial" competition in December. Graham sadly died in August and was instrumental in helping build our first weightlifting platform and preparing the gym floor when the club first opened.

Thanks to all our parents and volunteers who have helped with the move and fundraising. **James Marshall**

## **WILLAND SCHOOL**

Willand School has been up to a lot so shortly into the year. This year we have been doing something fun for everyone and we know there will be more exciting activities to come!

Reception, this year, have settled in extremely well with their new school, teachers and friends. During assemblies they are well-behaved and are always polite. In our school the reception classes have always felt included; this is because our school community are always giving a warm welcome to our newcomers.

As we do class assemblies every week, Year One and Two have done one each. During these assemblies, every child is given at least one part. They sing, dance and act while entertaining the school or giving information.

Our year four classes have already been on three school trips! The first activity was going to Tesco to do Farm to Fork activities. This is where they learn all about how food gets processed and then arrives in our local supermarkets. They explain that food such as bananas come from other countries who send the food over to us. Year Three participated in this event as well.

The next one was orienteering where they located different places in Killerton Nature Park. They did this activity to learn how to read maps and navigate themselves across wherever they are.

After all of that, they did a church visit to Saint Mary's church in the old village. They did things like taking communion where instead of wine they used juice, they also learnt about key parts of the bible like Noah's ark. Again year three participated as well.

Along with all of these exciting things, Year Five have lately been doing bike ability. They learn how to ride a bike on the roads safely. It takes two days of training to ride on the roads.

Upper KS2 have been very busy in their English lessons; as they have recently entered a story writing competition called Wild Places. They went to the environmental area to get some inspiration and a first-hand experience. They have written some amazing descriptions and imaginative stories and we are all very excited to see if we have won something.

We would like to thank you for reading our article and we look forward to telling you about what happens next in our school life.

**Written by Jakin, Hannah and Ben**

## **WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS)**

As you know our opening/closings periods were revised from September 1st 2016 to:-

**WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS 10.00am 12. Noon.**

The feedback from the majority is a mix of both recognition as to why (shortage of volunteers) and thanks that the site is still in existence to receive the residents garden waste for composting.

### **COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED.**

We wish to thank all of you who both deposited and left the site tidy and ALSO, for NOT depositing waste material outside the site when closed. However, the very few who did, this constitutes Fly Tipping (which is illegal) and not good for the community to see our area being 'contaminated'.

If you see any one doing this could you please get as much detail as possible and either report to MDDC (01884) 255255 or contact me (see below).

We will continue to monitor this and may have to enhance the security of the site possibly with CCTV.

### **COMPOST SALES:**

Purchase of compost can either be done while we are open OR, when closed you can:

**TEXT COMPOST TO 07514 033305** and someone will get back to you arrange the sale. Reminder the cost per bag of sieved compost is £1.50/bag and unsieved £1.00/wheelbarrow; if required use of wheel barrow it is located at the allotment side of the shed please return it.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

- A. If we were to have four more volunteers to do four hours per month each we could open two extra periods/month. Something to think about.
- B. We will open site as publicised but, there may be occasions when we will be unable to attend on site during these times. We would be grateful if you continue to keep site tidy and, if purchasing bags of compost continue to deposit monies in the shed letter box.
- C. There is a notice board located on the fence in North Jaycroft. This is for use by residents if you have notices to display. When your event is over please remove notices and keep tidy thank you.

Well that's all for now hopefully we will see you down on the site, and maybe have time for a chat.

**Tony Mander 09780472242 email: [tony@tonymander.plus.com](mailto:tony@tonymander.plus.com)**

### **HISTORIC VEHICLE SHOW – 21.08.16**

Sampford Peverell Historic Vehicle Committee would like to thank everyone who attended our event in Uplowman on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August. Unfortunately the rain did bring the show to an early close, but despite this we did have an amazing

display of craft stalls and vehicles, and as a result were able to donate around £1,240 to our designated charity, Devon Freewheelers EVS.

### **Advance Notice**

The show for next year has been arranged again at Uplowman Village Hall  
And will be on 13th August 2017

We will soon be busy making plans for this the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary so if you could get involved in any way please contact me on **01884 820527**. See you next year!

**Lindy Astbury, Secretary – Sampford Peverell Historic Vehicles**

### **WILLAND HERO REMEMBERED**

The Clerk to the Parish Council received an email in September from a resident of Talaton who had been researching 617 Squadron and their missions against V weapons sites in 1944 as his cousin had been a pilot on the dam busting raid.

He explained that while visiting France for his research he had been taken to a church in Leulinghem which is near St Omer to see some war graves. These were for 3 British airmen one of whom was F/L JA Edward DFC from Willand. The story he was told is that the crew were on a mission to one of the V weapons sites and their Lancaster was hit by flak. It took a while to evacuate the Lancaster as one crew was dead already and F/L Edward came down in the plane, near the village and was killed with the two others. The villagers buried them there and insisted that they stay there against the Germans wishes. Several others of the crew had bailed out away from the village and are buried elsewhere. There were attempts to reunite the crew in Leulinghem but nothing came of it.

He believes that this is a close precis of what he was told, and hoped it is not in conflict with what his family in Willand know, if they are there now, or the village records.

### **WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Willand Health and Community Centre Trustees held a very successful 'Celebrating Willand' afternoon at the village hall on Saturday the 15 October to raise funds, support and awareness of the project. Community groups and business in the village attended to lend their support and raise funds.

The Trustees aim for the Centre is to bring our community together and provide a centre for communication.

We would like to provide our village with a Health and Community Centre comprising of a Doctors Surgery, a Pharmacy, a Day Centre will be included with a small catering facility. It is hoped that additional rooms will house the following facilities: a large multipurpose amenity space used for:- Treatment Room(s);

Clinics; Therapies; Education in the Health & Welfare sector; a Library with computer access; Citizens Advice; Lift Share arrangements. It will provide an Information Centre for local organisations and businesses to advertise their current activities, job vacancies, etc., there will be space for an exhibition area for local Art, Craft & Heritage. Pop Up Stalls for local businesses and services, 2nd hand books, toys, plants etc. can be sold, all helping towards the running costs of the facility.

It will be a true heart to the village. With your support this project could be available by early 2018.

**Join our Facebook page to get up dates on the project: Willand Health and Community Centre.**

## **COME AND JOIN WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish. It is the level government closest to the community, with the district authority (Mid Devon) above it in the hierarchy. As it is the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason, they are a vital part of any community.

By becoming a parish councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support, a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve. Seeing your community change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped make, is something that can give you a sense of achievement and pride.

Parish councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), crime prevention, managing open spaces and campaigning for and delivering better services and facilities. It's true to say that on their own, parish councils have limited powers to make decisions. But they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the borough council, health authorities, police etc). In this respect parish councils are extremely powerful. The organisations that make the final decisions know that a parish council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something, and its views will be taken seriously.

Parish Councils have a wide range of powers which essentially related to local matters, such as looking after community buildings, open space, allotments, play areas, street lighting, bus shelters, car parks and much more. The council also has the power to raise money through taxation, the precept. The precept is the parish council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, the district council, which collects the tax for the parish council.

Willand Parish Council hold a Full Council meeting on the second Thursday of the month at 7.00pm in the Village Hall Annexe. The District and County Councillors usually attend this meeting too and give reports on their work. This is followed by

a Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee meeting. On the fourth Thursday in the month a Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee meeting is held and this is followed by an Environment Committee meeting. a Finance and Administration Committee which meets quarterly on the third Thursday in December, March, June and September Members of the public are invited to all these meetings and there is an item on the agenda for public questions. Each evening may last between two and three hours depending on the agenda set for the meetings to discuss.

In addition to the regular meetings, some councillors are required to attend other meeting representing the council. For example, acting as a representative on an outside body such as Willand United Charities, community activities such as the Village Hall Committee or helping develop a new project for the community. Such meetings won't happen every day, so it's not going to take over your life.

The Parish Council organise an annual meeting which all parishioners and organisations with Willand are invited to attend. All meetings are advertised on the council notice boards and website. Residents can bring to the attention of the parish council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the clerk. If matters raised are not the responsibility of the council, the clerk can bring them to the attention of the proper authority.

Willand Parish Council now has 8 Councillors and space for 3 more. If you are over 18, live in Willand and would like to be more involved with your community please consider joining the Parish Council. If you want to try before you 'buy' come along to one of the Full Council meetings held at 7.00pm on the second Thursday of the month.

Contact **Kate Taylor Clerk to the Parish Council**, details on the front inside cover.

## **CRIME PREVENTION IN WILLAND**

In his monthly report to the Parish Council PCSO Sims highlighted the fact that there had been some thefts from motor vehicles where they had been left unsecured in Willand and surrounding villages. He reminded everyone that items of value including Sat Navs should not be left on display in unattended vehicles. Although the crime rate in Willand was low there had been reports of an attempted burglary to a garage in Willand Old Village, and residents are encouraged to make sure that they lock all doors and windows in their property when leaving them empty and also that it is quite sensible to keep doors locked even when you are in.

**Please note that the cut-off date for the January February Issue is Wednesday 30 November.**

Take care of yourselves and each other.