

Here is my second edition I hope you enjoy it. Are you enjoying our summer weather? We have been subjected to some power cuts in the village of late and this has prompted a letter from a resident regarding house alarms. Each time there is a power cut some alarms go off and don't stop ringing "for ages". Although alarms are fitted to the mains they also have battery backup which takes over until mains power is resumed in the event of a power cut. Like all batteries they do go flat and need replacing regularly. If a battery is flat and there is a power cut, the alarm goes off, the battery is unable to take over and therefore residents are subjected to a terrible noise for some time. It happened twice on Saturday the 11 June. This can be upsetting for residents having sleep disturbed. Please can we think of our neighbours and check the backup batteries on our alarms. Although I was grateful for the second power cut as it stopped someone near me working with his loud power saw for a few minutes!

WILLAND SCHOOL

Willand School are well into their final term before the summer holidays and it's all systems go!

This term, the children have been involved in many outdoor educational visits. Our reception class visited Knighthayes. They participated in a growing workshop and labelled different parts of a flower. They also tasted some herbs and vegetables in the polytunnel (which was very popular) and many other activities linked to their topic on 'Growing'.

Early in June the Year 2 children visited Paignton Zoo for their school trip. In the morning session they attended some animal workshops where they got the chance to see vertebrates and invertebrates up-close. After lunch, they were lucky enough to witness a mother giraffe and its new-born baby being fed! They then had the opportunity to visit the rest of the zoo including the reptile and amphibian area; they had a most enjoyable and exciting day!

The Year 5 children will soon be visiting Vivary Park to walk on the high ropes course and the Year 6 children will have been on their residential to Dartmoor by the time this entry is published.

Summer has also seen the arrival of many sporting events – again with some brilliant outcomes. After a very long group stage, the Year 3/4 and 5/6 football teams won their final league games in the Culm Valley Tournament and were crowned champions! The games were played on an extremely hot day and all the children played brilliantly - showing great sportsmanship.

At the annual Swimming Gala, Willand were looking to defend their title from the previous year. The competition was very closely contested with the final race (the relay) being the crucial to the result. The whole team swam fantastically and finished second in the relay – meaning that Willand ended up winning overall!

With the upcoming EU referendum being in the news constantly at the moment, the children in Year 5 researched both sides of the campaign and then took to the

podium in front of their fellow peers, staff and governors and put their view across. After a rather well-informed debate and many probing questions from the audience, the children then took to the polls and voted for whether they thought Britain should 'remain' or 'leave'. The votes were counted and it was an overwhelming win for the remain campaign. The whole school was very impressed with the speeches and responses from our budding politicians.

This will be our last entry before the summer holidays so we look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Scarlett, Jess, Ben, Fred, Laine and Evie.

WILLAND HEALTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

The project is building momentum as promised :-) 4 more Trustees have joined the charity and 2 volunteers have come forward to help at fundraisers. Please contact me if you would like to help. Due to the existing Stable Block proving to be far too expensive to renovate, it will regrettably have to be demolished and a brand new bespoke design will replace it, therefore legal documents are being altered before work can really begin.

The CAMEO Spring Festival & Car Boot was hugely successful, raising more awareness and approx. £550 for WHCC including a cheque for £250 from Willand Community Composting for which we are very appreciative. Thank you to so many local businesses, shops and local residents for their donations to the LARGE RAFFLE; to all the stall holders and volunteers who worked hard on the day and to the people who visited us.

By the time this magazine is printed we will have made 4 presentations at different venues around the village raising more awareness, all important signatures and hopefully some more funds; thanks to Willand Methodist Church, St. Mary's Church Luncheon Club, Somerville House Nursing Home and Willand Primary School. If you have a local event taking place in the next few months and can invite us along we would be glad to hear from you. If we do a presentation it only takes about 20 mins maximum and if we are just talking to people our display takes up approximately 4ft in space.

We will be holding another Community Day in October, we will be calling it something like "Celebrating Willand". Contact me if you would like more information. I will be writing more about this in the September issue.

Sally Taylor 01884 829249 – Call me between 9am-9pm. Thank you.

DEMENTIA FRIENDS

Dementia Friends Is an Alzheimer's Society initiative. They are holding a free information session at Cullompton Town Hall on Thursday 7th July at 7pm. The session offers people an understanding of dementia, breaks common misconceptions and gives ideas for the small things you can do to make a difference. For more information and to book your place contact: **Cullompton Town Council office on 01884 38249**



Once again our Club has had another successful year. We continue to get support from dancers far and wide, and our Bands and Callers come from all parts of the Country. You may be surprised to know that many a caller has commented after a Saturday night Dance that they are envious of how successful our Dances are, and wished that their local Dances were so well attended. Our Club programme for the past year has included 18 Club Nights with an average attendance of 32 dancers, 12 Saturday Dances with an average attendance of 75 dancers, and our Annual Dinner and Dance.

Our residential weekend at Woolacombe was also another success this year. Some superb music from Pendragon and our callers Jane Thomas and Ted Farmer were in their usual good form.

Club Evenings have now finished for the Summer and will start again in September. However, we do have a Saturday dance on the 9th July. Check out our Website for further details and come along and join us. You are sure of a warm welcome – you never know until you try us out! **Marilyn Broom**
Chairperson

VILLAGE HALL CLOCK

The clock on the village hall was bought by the Parish Council at the time of the Millennium, but it has become clear in recent years that it is no longer able to keep to time. It would appear that there are a number of reasons for this and they include the fact that the radio transmitter that provided the updates was moved up to Cumbria and the clocks in Devon now find it difficult to maintain a signal. Another issue is that the technology is out of date and no longer made so that it is difficult and expensive to maintain the parts and to update them. The Parish Council have been told that it will cost a minimum of £2,000 to update the clock so that it will keep time. On-going maintenance costs have not been estimated. On the whole it is felt that it would be better to remove the clock altogether and make good the outside of the hall but the Councillors are mindful that others may wish to see it preserved. If you feel strongly either way, please contact one of the Councillors or email the Clerk to let them know. The clock will continue to be erratic until a final decision is made as to what to do.

willandclerk@willandmatters.org.uk

Inviting all local businesses

CHARITY HIRE A TABLE DAY

Saturday 30th July

Willand Village Hall

11am - 3.30pm

Great opportunity to sell your wares and promote your business whilst supporting the Devon Air Ambulance



To book a table (if 101 Donated to DAA) or for more information, please contact
Joanne Hardwick at jo-jamurray@hotmail.com or
telephone 07941583921

Supporting
Devon Air Ambulance Trust

01392 466666
www.daat.org
Registered Charity No: 1077408

NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME - WILLAND OLD VILLAGE GARDENS & ALLOTMENTS

Six Gardens and the allotments opened on Saturday June 11th & Sunday June 12th. The gardens welcomed 200 visitors who even braved the rain showers on the Saturday to enjoy all the hard work that gardeners had put in for this once yearly opening. We are very excited to say that we raised £1602 for the National Garden Scheme, which donates to various charities throughout the UK including, Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care and Hospice UK. Visitors came from all over the county including some from overseas who happened to be in the area. The feedback from everyone was very encouraging and made all the hard work worthwhile and visitors got to enjoy cakes & refreshments during their tour. We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who came and all the helpers who made the weekend such a success.

We are already planning for next year and looking for new gardens to join the group. If you would like to be part of a very rewarding event, please contact **Dorothy Anderson on 01884 33415**

PARISH COUNCIL

We are pleased to welcome Bill Tobin as a Parish Councillor which takes us up to seven in number. We only need another four for a full house. We thought we had found another 'volunteer' but she found it difficult to fit it in with the demands of her business. Do come and join us – it is certainly something different but does contribute to the village and community.

Housing Needs Survey

The survey has been completed and thanks those who participated – a disappointing 20%! It looks as if we may need 29 affordable houses over the next 5 years. Most will be only one or two bed roomed for starters or those wishing to downsize. That is all that has been asked for.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES –WHO DOES WHAT		
County Council only	County Council Joint Responsibility with Districts	Districts and/or Parish/Town Councils only
Adult Education	Canal and Waterways	Allotments
Concessionary Fares	Community Transport	Car Parks
Consumer	Country Parks	Cemeteries
Education	Economic Development	Electoral Administration
Highways	Emergency Planning	Environmental Health
Libraries and Archives	Museums and Arts	Housing
Public Transport	Industrial Units	Leisure
Registration – Births Deaths and Marriages	Financial support for Voluntary Organisations	Licencing
Road Safety	Public Rights of Way	Litter
School Transport	Recycling	Parks and open spaces
Social Services	Street Lighting	Planning Applications
Strategy Planning	Tourism	Revenue Collection
Trading Standards		Public Toilets
Traffic Management		Waste Collection
Transport Planning		
Waste Disposal		

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Firstly, I would like to pay tribute to Joan Levett, who died recently. Joan was instrumental in the building of Willand Village Hall, was Treasurer for many years, then Chairman. When her ill health made it difficult to attend meetings, she was made President, and helped as much as she could in supporting the Hall. Joan was passionate about the Hall and, when she was in good health, did all she could to support us. The attendance at Joan's funeral is a testament to the respect in which she was held. Her £500 legacy will help towards our refurbishment in August.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Viridor (formerly Uffculme Environmental) for the grant of £45,000 towards our roof and hall floor replacement. We have also received smaller grants of £1000 from the Leonard Laity Stoate Trust and £500 from the Viscount Amory Trust, as well as £500 from Willand Tennis Club, £1000 from Willand Youth Club, £100 from a Willand resident, £100 from Rotary and £48 from Willand Garden Club. We are still waiting for replies from some other grant funding organisations, but are still short of about £25,000 to get all of the work done. We are appealing to all organisations and individuals who use the Hall to consider making a donation – however small or large – so we can get all the work done in one go, rather than waiting several more years. Donations can be sent to me at 4, Orchard Way, dropped in the post box at the Hall or given to one of the trustees. Please help, as the Hall is a valuable community asset and we need to keep it in good repair. The Blackheart concert on 20th May, was not too well attended, but did make a small profit, which will go towards the refurbishment. Thank you to those who helped on the evening.

At our AGM, John Crocker was re-elected Chairman, Frances Wilcox booking secretary and Carol Allan Treasurer. We still have some vacancies for trustees. If you would like more details, please contact me, or one of the other officers. Bookings: Frances Wilcox - 07748 557107; email franceswilcox@hotmail.com or write to 35 Fir Close, Treasurer: Carol Allan – 01884 33828; email cbarwa@mail.com or write to 4 Orchard Way, Willand Website: www.willandmatters.org.uk/organisations for our diary and community page.

Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL DIARY

July				
Saturday	9 th	Evergreens Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	9 th	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	2.00 pm
Tuesday	19 th	Blood Donor Session	W.V.H.	1.00 pm
Friday	22 nd	WiTS Production	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Saturday	23 rd	WiTS Production	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Saturday	30 th	Devon air Ambulance Fundraiser	W.V.H.	11.00am
August				
All Events at the Hall Cancelled Due to Improvement Works taking place				

REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL		
Pilates	Monday	10.30am
Purelesque Knitting club	Monday	2.00pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 st Monday	2.00pm
Beavers	Monday	5.30pm
Cub Scouts	Monday	7.00pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Monday	7.00pm
Upholstery Class	Tuesday	10.00am
Flower Arranging	Tuesday	1.15pm
Pilates	Tuesday	6.00pm
Willand Vill. Hall Bingo	2 nd Tuesday	7.30pm
Tiny Tots	Wednesday	9.30am
Flower Arranging	Wednesday	1.15pm
Indoor Bowls	Wednesday	7.00pm
Garden Club	2 nd Wednesday	7.30pm
Pilates	Thursday	9.30am
CAMEO	1 st Thursday	6.30pm
Karate	Thursday	5.30pm
Folk Dance Club	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	7.30pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 nd and 4 th Thursday	7.00pm
WiTS	Friday	7.30pm
Cowgirl Twisters	3 rd Saturday	7.30pm
Folk Dance	2 nd Saturday	7.00pm
Rugby Tots	Sunday	9.00am
Martial Arts	Sunday	6.30pm

WORTH WAITING FOR!

Spring this year has seemed slow to arrive, but approaching Willand from Cullompton the scene was a picture of colour! The area was covered with bright yellow daffodils and the pink of the Cherry blossom, even Devon banks covered with primroses. What an impact! Soon the flowering of Ladies' Smock on the village verges (a white/slightly pink flower above the grass) was a delight due partly to the lack of early grass cutting - regrettably soon overtaken by neglect of grass cutting!

Coming soon - Tulip tree in flower

Across the road from the Bluebell Restaurant there is a triangle of grass with special trees including the Tulip tree. This tree was planted for the Queen's Silver Jubilee nearly 40 years ago. It should be in flower by July, pale yellow tulip shaped flowers. Only one branch flowered last year, following the necessary

removal of the top of the tree to avoid power lines. The large unusual leaves are worth seeing even if the tree is not in flower.

The Gables shelter belt

The late Dr Tracey built a house called "The Gables" in the early 1900's and planted a shelter belt. This is now known as Meadow Park Wood. This woodland is managed by the Woodland Trust in three sections - one small area is beside Maple Close, and another is between Beech Close and Silver Street. The residents of the new houses at The Gables and Ash Close may find this of particular interest as they live nearby.

Meadow Park Wood

The main part of the wood is approached from the Meadow Park entrance and is well worth a visit. There is a great variety of trees and the wood is unusual in the South West, as Hornbeam trees are one of the main species. From the entrance there are two paths, and where they meet again in the wood is a magnificent Hornbeam with twin trunks, just beyond is a fine wild Cherry also with twin trunks. Note the very different trunks and bark of each tree. The woodland is managed on the basis of natural regeneration, and it is good to see many young trees at various stages of growth. The Woodland Trust inspects the wood regularly and removes dangerous and old trees when necessary. For any dog walkers there are dog bins conveniently situated outside the wood by Silver Street, and in Meadow Park to the left of the main entrance as you leave the wood. The Woodland Trust is a charity worthy of your support. Try and get out and about this summer, and enjoy your local patch!

David Ritchie Voluntary tree warden

If you don't want to reveal your thoughts, keep your face in check.

WILLAND CYCLE CLUB

The club was formed over a year ago for local cycling enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. Our driving force has been Chris Williams, who had earlier noticed many solo riders on the roads around Willand and wondered if the formation of a local group might be of interest.

He has been proved right and membership of the club is slowly growing with rides now arranged for mainly three groups of riders:

- Those who like to go out at a reasonably fast pace on roads for up to two hours.
- Several members prefer a slower pace with rides of perhaps twenty miles or less.
- Plodders, like me, who often combine parts of the Grand Western Canal, with local, quieter lanes at a pace that is not important.

These are not rigid arrangements and outings are planned to suit the riders turning up and the weather conditions at the time.

There are now regular rides on Tuesday evenings, generally starting at 6 pm and on Sundays at 10.30 am, both starting at the Village Hall, as well as impromptu outings that are posted regularly on the club Facebook page, which is our chosen medium for communication. Some rides have a coffee stop somewhere along the route chosen.

Over the past few months, active members have also met together for the odd social drink at "The Halfway House" to discuss how best the club should move forward and a very informative bike maintenance evening has also taken place, where the mysteries of bike mechanics and servicing have been revealed by more knowledgeable members. How many of us present realised there were simple devices for cleaning chains and for checking their unwelcome wear, for example?

It is perhaps an appropriate time to invite anyone in the Willand area who owns a bike and wants to keep fit in the company of others, to make contact and join one of our very friendly rides. It should be emphasised that no-one ever gets left behind as the pace of every outing is set to accommodate the ability of the slowest rider and if mechanical problems or punctures happen, then everyone waits and helps while the trouble is fixed. Also, there are no membership fees or other charges, everything is free!

We hope also that in time, we will be able to see younger members riding out in groups, perhaps with parents and with the encouragement of current members in attendance.

Please contact one of us for more details, if you would like to join our rides, or talk to anyone you might see out on Willand's lanes, wearing our smart new club jersey. There are no membership fees or charges for rides. To access the Club Facebook page, search for Willand Cycle Club in the box and request membership from that page. Chris Williams (our Inspiration)...07517-725589
Derek Carpenter, (the Plodder)...01884-33664

Email: chriswilliams005@aol.com

Email: devonchippy@gmail.com

CHARITY LUNCH

The Culm Valley Methodist Church holds a charity lunch every third Friday in the month at the Church in Gables Road. We call it "Soup and Something" because we offer 2 or 3 choices of soup, 3 or 4 choices of sandwiches a couple of different puddings and coffee or tea. Some choose to have soup and a sandwich while others maybe have sandwich and pudding. Most have everything that is on offer - it really is up to the individual. We don't charge for this but there is a box for donations if anyone feels they would like to contribute something. We choose a different charity every six months and at the moment we have chosen the new Willand Health and Community Centre. The last charity to benefit was FORCE.

This is very informal and friendly and anyone is welcome, no prayers, no pressure just friendly chat and good food. We have a good time; why not come and see for yourself.

WILLAND METHODIST CHURCH EVENTS OPEN TO ALL IN THE COMMUNITY.

Date	Event	Time
First Friday of Month	Coffee morning and bring and buy	10.30am
Third Friday of Month	Soup and Something	12.00 midday
Friday 22 July	Pudding and Quiz Evening	6.30pm
Monday	Willand Art Group	2pm -4pm

A LETTER FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR RAY RADFORD

Dear Residents

As with all local Authorities, we have our annual meeting to start a new year. There have been a few changes at County Hall for me. I am now the Chairman of the Place Committee, which basically deals with all environmental issues, including waste management/ highways/libraries, etc... But my main responsibility is to look after the residents in my division, Willand, Uffculme, Culmstock, Hemyock and Clayhidon in the Culm Area, as well as six other Parishes north of the M5.

The Government have allocated a pothole action fund of nearly £2m for the whole of County. It will only enable us to deal with a limited number of sites. I will be invited to work with our local Neighbourhood Highway Officer, Willy Pike, on prioritising schemes in our area.

South West Highways contract comes to an end now and work on a new contract for interested parties continues. Initial Tenders have been received and are currently being evaluated. The work is taking place with partner authorities, Devon, Somerset and Plymouth. A report is due to be presented to Cabinet in September which will update Members on the tender process and seek approval to award the contract soon after, so that the contractor has 6 months to mobilise prior to taking on responsibility for works delivery in April 2017.

The new Highway Safety policy was approved by Cabinet on 11th May, it's definition of a defect is largely unchanged. A risk matrix is used to decide the response to a defect, but it remains the case that dangerous defects posing a high risk to pedestrians, cyclists and drivers will be made safe promptly. Delivery of the current year programme is going well. Information on programme of work has been published and you can use; Roadworks.org; to see planned works for Devon Highways and work by other organisations in your area.

We have tried to get a Road Warden Scheme up and running, not easy, for fixing minor carriageway potholes etc., using volunteers, currently being collated. The next steps are to update the guidance following the feedback so that Community Road Wardens can use it to deliver local priority work. Also, whilst a small amount of funding is being made available for Community Warden work, the scheme is to allow communities to do, or fund work themselves that the highway service can no longer afford to deliver because of budget cuts from Central government.

Training will be available.

Please keep the recycling going, this helps reduce our land fill cost and brings in revenue for what we recycle, all be it lower than it was 2 years ago. Interesting, we in Devon are the 2nd highest quantity of residual waste, for a County, in the Country, 31st out of 32 Counties. The average for a County is currently 7% lower than Devon, which, for us equates to around £3.25m in collection and disposal costs. We need to try and do a little better. Always here to help, just give me a call or email. **Ray Radford, Devon County Councillor for Willand & Uffculme.**

ST MARY'S CHURCH

St Mary's enjoyed celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday on 12th June, it is remarkable how Her Majesty the Queen's faith in the Lord Jesus has been such a significant part of her life.

In July we are pleased to be able to host visitors from our link church of St James, Gakui in Kenya. We support different projects that help St James in their ministry so it is wonderful to be able to welcome them to Willand and help them appreciate life here and to build on existing relationships. **Rev Simon Talbot, Rector St Mary's Willand Tel: 562570 email: simon@thetalbots.org.uk**

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Willand Magazine

Our new Editor is continuing to settle in and has the first edition under her belt and this edition will now be her second edition. We will soon be due for some subtle changes I am sure and it is very important that we all read what it contains as it is only in this way that we will know what is going on in the village, particularly if you have only recently arrived or do not have access to the various social media. Sometimes the information is a little dated but our website and the Facebook pages do get the information out a little more quickly. I say this with good reason as we have been accused of not informing or consulting yet the information has been circulated by one of the above mentioned means or has been clearly displayed on one of our notice boards in minutes of meetings. It just has not been read.

Appearance of the Village

The Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors have received numerous calls and emails as to the state of the village and in particular the state of the grass cutting – or not cutting as the case may be. The situation was aggravated by some crossed wires at Mid Devon District Council [MDDC] as people answering calls

were telling callers that it was entirely the Parish Councils' fault as we had opted out or were not paying MDDC to cut our grass [or words to that effect]. Hopefully some of that has now been rectified by a number of emails between the Parish Council and MDDC and the intervention of a couple of our Ward Councillors. The facts are that the Parish Council cut the grass for our half of the Jubilee Parish Field (behind the village hall and tennis courts) and the Cemetery. Devon County Council [DCC] is responsible for the grass on the roadside verges and MDDC is responsible for the rest which includes play areas, green open spaces and some grass banks on what was originally the 'council estates'. MDDC had a bit of a 'blip' and got behind with their grass cutting but hopefully they have had a purge and got on top of it again. The only minor problem is the 'finish' in the churchyard but Councillor Bob Evans is working on that one. We often moan about the actions [or non-actions] of some council officials and normally we do not hear names of officers responsible but praise where it is due. Andrew Busby, MDDC Estates Manager, picked up very quickly on our emails and concerns over the grass cutting and the misinformation which was getting out. He was sending out emails to other members of staff to get things corrected and for action to be taken and it was noted that some of the emails were timed quite late into the evenings. Dedication indeed and then we found out that he was actually on holiday – that is dedication.

The problem with the verges rests firmly with DCC and decisions made by them under the 'Tough Choices' policy. They decided to cut back the monies available for grass cutting which they paid to MDDC to cut the grass as their 'agents'. They were only to cut visibility splays and if anything else was required the Parish or Town Councils had to pay. DID YOU KNOW that Willand has over 34,000 square meters of grass which DCC are responsible for maintaining? This meant that Willand was asked to find over £11,000 to maintain what we had been getting. That would be a rise of another 25% on your council tax – DCC opts out and the Parish/Town gets the blame for the cost and if it is not done right. Willand and 8 other councils in Mid Devon declined to do this and advised that DCC should do the job in accord with their responsibilities. The bottom line is they did nothing for Willand until the Parish Council and a number of parishioners started bothering Councillor Ray Radford. Some grass was cut – I use the word very loosely – small bits were left which make it look as if someone is being childish – some areas were left and those that were cut were NOT cut to specification and footpaths are left with grass over them which could become slip hazards for pedestrians, particularly the elderly. Other footpaths are left obstructed as the grass has not been cut at all. Dog owners are having trouble in finding the droppings and so we have potential for a health hazard. Our local Neighbourhood Highways Officer is not happy with the work that has been done and has had the workmen back at least once to try and improve the situation. You judge what it looks like – he has tried but is overruled from above no doubt! All this in the interests of saving money without regard to potential insurance claims for accidents as a car driver cannot see to pull out or people may slip on wet grass left on pavements. Not to mention the potential for surface water

flooding as the uncollected grass is left to block gutters and drains. Are they saving money when the men who did 'cut' the Willand grass allegedly came from the West Devon Area – that is Okehampton/Tavistock/Torrington??

To those of you who have always cut the verge by your house and those who have recently done a 'one off' cut as you could not bear to look at the mess or put up with the weed seeds blowing into your garden a very sincere thank you but please do not put yourselves in danger. Councillor Radford offered to make £1,000 available to the Parish Council from his Community Budget but that would pass the onus back to the Parish Council and we would have to ask residents to provide the other £10,000!

IF YOU WANT THE PARISH COUNCIL TO TAKE OVER CUTTING THE GRASS VERGES AND PUT UP THE PRECEPT BY AN AVERAGE OF £7.60p PER HOUSEHOLD TO PAY FOR IT PLEASE WRITE TO THE CLERK. IT WILL NEED ABOUT 750 HOUSEHOLDS TO SIGN UP TO ACHIEVE A MAJORITY.

If you are not happy with DCC service regarding grass cutting please express your views to our local DCC Councillor Ray Radford. His contact details are in the magazine. If you want to be sure who is responsible for an area of grass which is of concern to you talk to me as I have the maps which show the areas of responsibility.

Planters/Flower Beds

The planters were getting lost in the long DCC grass and so their future was in doubt. In spite of requests only three volunteers came forward in addition to John Holmes who has been planting them up twice a year on his own until now. Now that the decision has been made to remove the remainder more volunteers have come forward and so all planters will be retained except the one nearly opposite One Stop in Station Road which no one appears interested in retaining.

A very big and sincere thank you to those who have come forward to look after the planters. Please make sure that our Clerk has your contact details and then John will liaise with you to order the plants which the Parish Council buys in bulk to reduce cost.

Play Areas

We still await the lease from MDDC for the Parish Council to take on responsibility for the rest of the Jubilee Parish Field although we have a letter of intent. Our Ward Councillors have given the new Chief Executive a tour of the village and he was well briefed and saw the difference in maintenance between what the Parish look after and what MDDC provide. Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help look after the Worcester Crescent and Mallow Court Play Areas. I have a feeling that Worcester Crescent has already been taken over by residents and the Brownies have also been cleaning the play equipment. We are seeking funding from Tesco for more play equipment on the Parish Field and so if you get a chance later in the year please vote for Willand. We are in early stages of obtaining some challenging equipment for the 8 – 14 year olds

which will give an obstacle type course next to the current play area on the Jubilee Field. We have the money for that once we have convinced suppliers to come up with a sensible price.

Discussions are continuing to provide a night landing spot in the village for the Air Ambulance. Some local businesses have already indicated support. We have not approached anyone for fundraising as yet but the Willand Theatrical Society has already kindly held an event to raise some funds. It was a good night at the bingo as I have three bottles of wine and a box of rather fattening chocolate biscuits to prove it.

Planning

The latest version of the Local Plan is predicted to go before MDDC Cabinet in September if there are no further delays. If there are any major changes recommended then there will be a further 6 – 8 weeks delay for more public consultation.

The agents for potential developers have been and seen the Parish Council in relation to the 250 to 300 houses off Meadow Park. No real substance or detail as yet and so more information is awaited.

Discussions between MDDC and the applicants for development at Junction 27 continue. All a big secret as to detail and so there is no more to tell.

We have no further information as to what is to happen about the proposed Co-op on the Mid Devon Business Park. The Solar Park on the field entering the village from Cullompton is understood to be seeking funders before it can start.

If you wish to know any more or we have missed anything please contact the Clerk or a Councillor. Please remember to do your bit to ensure growth of hedges or weeds do not obstruct footpaths even if DCC do not stick by the rules.

Barry G J Warren. Chair of Willand Parish Council

DEVON AIR AMBULANCE FUNDRAISER – SATURDAY 30TH JULY

Local businesses table top sale. Tombola and refreshments. Willand village Hall 11am -2.00pm Free Entry. Local businesses £10 per table. **Contact Jo Hardwick -07941583912.**

Did you know that this magazine and other information about Willand and parish council documents can be found on line at www.willandmatters.org.uk and there are also community Facebook pages. Search on Facebook for Willand Matters and Wow – What's on Willand.

Dare to dive in!



GIVE OR TAKE

Wed to Sat 27th- 30th July 2016

10am - 3pm

**CreaTIV Hub shop, TIVERTON
(next to the cinema)**

Bring along stuff you don't need
Take away anything you can use

You don't have to **Give** to **Take!**

All for Free

The purpose is to reduce landfill

- All items donated must be in fair condition and useable
- NO clothing please



Don't let Devon go to waste

C.A.M.E.O.

We have been very busy during May and June. We started off on a sad note when we heard that Barbara Walker had sadly lost her courageous fight with cancer.

Our May meeting could not be held in the Hall due to polling day so Sonia arranged a mystery trip. We went along the highways and byways on a beautiful evening ending up at the Monkton Inn near Taunton for a lovely meal.

Mary Tancock invited us to her home for a traditional cream tea party to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday.

The walking group did an old favourite when they went along the old Tiverton railway line and then a more challenging walk in the Blackdown Hills.

We enjoyed a Skittles evening at Ash Thomas followed by a delicious supper.

June saw us back in the Village Hall and we were pleased to welcome three new

members. We are off to Otter Nurseries for a look behind the scenes and another cream tea.

The Singles group are going cruising at the end of the month, well its actually the Isle of Wight and we hope there will still be some of this lovely sunny weather to enjoy. We had a lovely lunch at Petrocs, cooked and served by the students.

This month the walking group have been for a walk and picnic to Budleigh Salterton and also along the old railway line at Uffculme.

We have been invited to a tour of Pencairi workshop where they make garments for the outdoor clothing market and who donated six beautiful items for our big sale. We are then going to the Bluebell restaurant for lunch.

Our Speaker in June was Janet East with her hilarious talk on life at Yellingham Farm and what an interesting life it is. The Speaker in July is from the Devon Air Ambulance.

Our big event this Spring was our Coffee Morning and Sale in aid of the Willand Health and Community Project and we were overwhelmed with the superb support we had from local businesses, organisations and villagers who gave so generously prizes for our raffle and huge thanks to everyone who supported us in any way. We made a profit of almost £600 which we will add to our next effort due to be held in the Village Hall on 19th November. Please put this in your diaries.

Cameo members send you all a very big thankyou and look forward to seeing you all again in November. **Betty Penberthy.**

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF COLDHARBOUR MILL

The **WORKING WOOL MUSEUM** and **MILL SHOP** is now open every weekend and every Bank Holiday Monday! The new opening hours are Friday to Sunday, 10am-4pm every weekend and, during school holidays, Tuesday to Sunday 10am-4pm. The Waterside Café is now open (in the old shop) enjoy a coffee or more in our beautiful leatside setting. For all other information about the Mill and its history, admission prices, volunteering opportunities, shop and products, or to book guided tours for school or adult groups, contact the Mill Office by phone on 01884 840960 (Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm) or by e-mail: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or view the Mill website: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk.

SPECIAL EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: FRIDAY 8th JULY – CAR BOOT SALE

In the Mill Yard – Sellers 6pm £5 per car. Buyers 6.30pm – park in the main car park and cross the bridge. Hot food and drink available.

Things are a little quieter now for the summer but we have several things on in the early autumn. Hopefully another of our popular quiz nights is top priority! We are also booked to promote the Mill at the Stitching, Sewing and Hobbycrafts Show at Westpoint from 22nd to 25th September. We are also hoping to have a stall at the Bridwell Fair (Uffculme) on 17th and 18th September although this has not been confirmed as yet.

NEW SHOP FOR FRIENDS – The Friends have moved back to the Little Linhay (the smallest room on the right hand side). We are running this as a bookshop

only, so no more bric-a-brac please, we now only have a small space. Any books you have to donate will be gratefully received. Do come to visit us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – please help to make a difference at this unique heritage site! Volunteers are always needed for a range of activities including, repairs, painting, gardening, sweeping, helping with school visits, working in the Mill Office and as part of the Steam Group. For more information, phone or e-mail the **Mill Office 01884 840960**, info@coldharbourmill.org.uk. **Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3EE** *Find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter!*

WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY

Well summer must be here, as the rain showers have started! Thankfully we had a bright evening for the Queen's Birthday Bingo at the Village Hall and we want to say a big 'Thank You' to all the people who came along and supported the fundraiser. We are so pleased to say that we raised £212.55 each, toward the night landing pad for the Devon Air Ambulance & for WiTS. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and many people left armed with prizes from the Bingo & raffle. We would like to say a very big 'Thank You' to Two Sisters for the kind donation of 12 chickens and the £30 Voucher donation from Bradfords. The support of local businesses and from people in the village is essential for our community and clubs to thrive.

Our next productions will be on Friday July 22nd & Saturday July 23rd at 7:30pm. There will be a comical impression to kick the evening off and then a comedy play called Play Practice by the youth members of the club who we need, to ensure the future of the club!

This will be followed by a farce called 'Caught on the Hop' by David Foxton. In this hilarious play, Sophie Fontaineau who is returning home early from a rendezvous with her lover, finds that her husband is absent and she immediately suspects him of philandering. The comedy continues to intensify when Sophie spills brandy over the porters' trousers, which have to come off. The husband returns disguised as The Hunchback of Notre Dame and then his lover 'Esmeralda' pitches up, only to recognise the Porter who is now dressed as Sophie's aged aunt!! Watch out for the long suffering maid Clothilde who provides the final twist. This should be a great evening of entertainment, so please come and support all the hard work. Tickets will be available at Willand Post Office & Willand Pharmacy and on line at www.ticketsource.co.uk

Finally do remember, 'Drama does not walk into your life. Either you create it, invite it, or associate with it.' **David Keating**

The world looks better from the other side of a smile!

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Please join us for a "Blindfold Skittles" social evening on Thursday 7th July at 7pm at The Halfway House Willand. Cost £2 per person. This will be an opportunity to have fun and find out more about the Guide Dogs charity. We are also recruiting volunteers for the local support group.

Please contact Amanda for more information and to register. Call the Exeter office **0118 983 8722** or **[emailamanda.bealing@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:amanda.bealing@guidedogs.org.uk)**

The Guide Dogs charity is dedicated to helping people who are blind and partially sighted maintain their independence. Guide Dogs receives no government funding and is entirely dependent on the generosity of its supporters and local fundraising initiatives. **Neil Howe Community Engagement Officer**

WILLAND GARDEN CLUB

Thank you to those who attended our coffee morning in April and our Plant Sale on 28th May. The Plant Sale in particular made a good amount, which will help pay for our speakers, who are becoming more and more expensive.

We went to Bennett's Water Gardens, near Poole, instead of having our June meeting and saw the National Collection of water lilies, which were in full bloom and looking lovely. We will be seeing a video of National Trust Gardens at our July meeting

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. **Carol Allan**

CLASS OF 78 UFFCULME SCHOOL REUNION

Were you at Uffculme School between 1978 and 1983? A reunion is planned for Saturday the 10th September 2016 at the Globe Inn Sampford Peverell, 7.00pm till late £10 per ticket which includes a hot/cold buffet. Catch up and reminisce with old friends. **For more information contact Claire on 07917418404 or email: leavers83@hotmail.com.** If you know anyone who was at the school at this time please pass on the information.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER CARE NAVIGATOR

"People living with a life limiting illness sometimes need a helping hand to achieve what is important to them". Hospiscare is appealing for local people to support patients by offering a few hours of their time, either weekly or fortnightly to visit patients at home, offering emotional and practical support. Full training and support is offered and all travel expenses are paid. No previous experience necessary, just a willingness to help local people.

If you or someone you know is interested in find out more about this invaluable role, we would love to hear from you. **Contact the volunteering team on 01392 688068, volunteering@hospiscare.co.uk or visit our website.**

WILLAND HISTORY GROUP

There is not much to report since the last magazine, although we still plan to hold a 'Parish Walk' on an evening later this summer, probably in August. This will take the form of an informal tour of the village to record some of the more recent changes and take in some of Willand's historic sites – this year the theme will be 'The Old Farms of Willand'. Details have yet to be finalised, but if you would like to join us – and you would be more than welcome – feel free to get in touch

James Morrison, 01884 250057 (jamorrison235@gmail.com)

One 'Old Farm of Willand' we may pass is Coombe Farm, although perhaps 'lost farm' would be more accurate, as there is virtually no evidence that it was ever there. It was located on the gradient going up from the main road into the Old Village, on the left hand side, just past the turning to Orchard Way and before Beaufoy House. The name probably dates to at least the early-1600s when it was associated with the Coombe family, who were yeoman farmers in the village; a 1610 document records that Robert Coombe was churchwarden and constable for the parish. The farm had various owners and occupiers from the 1700s to early-1900s – including the Rowses for a short while – but from 1912 was farmed by Edwin Maunder, who also ran a 'pork merchant' business at Tiverton Junction; his brother was Lloyd Maunder, who established his abattoir there. Tragically, Edwin Maunder was killed in 1932 when struck by a passing lorry whilst he was shepherding a small flock of sheep along the new 'Willand Bypass' (which bypassed the Old Village), not far from his farm. The farm itself also suffered disastrous bad luck, firstly in 1919 when the barn and stable were destroyed by a fire caused a spark from a passing traction engine igniting the recently replaced thatch, and then in 1945 when another fire destroyed the thatched farmhouse and labourer's cottage (the adjoining Beaufoy House was saved). The farm itself was never rebuilt, although Edwin Maunder's son-in-law, Jack Webber, later farmed the Coombe lands, until the 1980s when they were developed as the Orchard Way housing estate. The actual site of the farmhouse, yard and outbuildings became a tennis court for some years, until the private residence 'Coombe Court' was built there.

The latest First World War battle to have its centenary commemorated is the momentous battle of the Somme, a battle indelibly seared on the national conscience. On the first day, 1 July 1916, the British Army suffered 57,470 casualties of whom 19,240 were killed. One of those young men who lost his life was Harry Dunn, born in Willand in 1892, son of William and Ellen Dunn, who lived in one of the cottages on Silver Street. Harry later left Willand for Culmstock, where he worked as a farm labourer until he enlisted and joined 9th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment (his name appears on Culmstock's War Memorial, but not Willand's) On 1 July, the 8th and 9th Devons attacked near Mametz village with some limited success but heavy losses. The dead, including 24 year old Harry Dunn, were buried in a mass grave marked by a plaque reading '*The Devonshires held this trench, the Devonshires hold it still.*'

WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS).

SUNDAY OPENING TIMES

This has been amended to be:- **10.00am - 4.00pm.**

Again we remind you when site is closed please do not leave bags outside as this constitutes fly tipping.

GRASS DEPOSITS

We ask that only freshly cut grass, that is grass mown within the preceding few days, is deposited on site.

It would seem that some residents are collecting their lawn clippings over a number of weeks which means that the bottom layer has become a soggy mess completely unsuitable for composting. We ask that people stop this as it is unreasonable to expect the volunteers working on the site to have to handle what has become an unhygienic mess.

NOTICE BOARD.

A notice board has been attached to the Composting site fence adjacent to North Jaycroft - near the traffic lights. This notice board is available for the community to display notices of events and information.

BAGS

We request that those who have had sieved compost return empty bags as soon as possible. Can we also remind residents that a considerable amount of effort is expended by our volunteers to produce bags of sieved compost at a very affordable price. It is not unreasonable to expect that **ALL** bags of compost are paid for.

FINALLY

To support the volunteers - please sort your garden waste and grass and deposit as separate items. This greatly assists in the composting process. We have noticed that there is an increasing amount of material other than grass being deposited in the grass collecting bins.

Well cheers from the site and thank you in advance for your cooperation and please remember that we are members of the Willand community just like you!

Tony Mander 07980472242. tony@tonymander.plus.com

Have you spotted the new post box on Willand Moor Road for collection times see back cover.

Please note that the cut-off date for the next issue of the magazine is Wednesday 10 August 2016. I feel it is really important for this magazine to be a forum for sharing what is happening in Willand so if you are an organisation or group active in Willand please send your news and articles to willandparishmag@gmail.com