

Editorial

No 133

Welcome to this latest edition as the year draws to a close and the nights begin to draw in. Don't forget to change your clocks on the 28th October as we fall back into autumn. Don't be tempted to hibernate as there is so much going on in the village for you to enjoy as you will find out when you read on. Has anyone tried the seated exercise class in the village hall let us know how it's going. Did you know that *"Exercise improves your strength, flexibility and posture, which in turn will help with balance, coordination, and reduces the risk of falls. Strength training also helps alleviate the symptoms of chronic conditions such as arthritis and its fun!!!"* Talking of hibernation we have a lovely poem written by one of our residents and look at the back page to see where our defibrillators are kept you never know when you might need that information.

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 Tuesday 21st November from 2.00 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. and would be delighted to welcome you to our school.

WILLAND ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Rovers started another Western league campaign after finishing a credible 6th in the league. In the summer Russell Jee and David Steele have worked tirelessly to recruit some quality players. Having managed to secure last season's back 5, the job in hand was to try and find a midfield combination that could score and create goals, plus strikers who could find the back of the net with regularity.

Brett Worbey and Luke Alden have been joined in midfield by Glenn Gould Luke Mortimore and Josh Searle. Gould has fitted in seamlessly showing great energy and revelling in holding the midfield role. Mortimore has started the season brilliantly with a number of assists and 12 goals to boot. Searle has shown his versatility by playing in 4 positions already. All three are making a difference.

Up front a new combination of James Blake and Brad Ausden has shown early promise. The returning Blake has added to his 50 Willand goals with another 10 already this season and Ausden playing at this level for the first time has slotted in 5.

Due to the quirks of the fixture list the first game of the season was an FA cup match where we travelled to Cheddar, a Blake double put us through to play last year's Western League Champions Bristol Manor Farm, Ausden put us ahead with a fantastic strike after 5 minutes and although BMF equalised, Mortimore popped up in injury time to put Willand through. A trip to Wales

ensued but we were soundly beaten by a club 2 leagues higher playing on a plastic pitch.

In the league a first home game defeat then lead to an unbeaten 9 game league run which ended last Saturday with a narrow loss. The club now concentrates on the FA Vase when we entertain Street in what is the tie of the round for the West Country.

The charity team Braveheart's have joined the Willand family and play at Silver Street on Saturday's and Sunday's. The team was formed by a group of lads in memory of Cullompton resident Daniel Coffey who was killed whilst serving his County in Iraq.

As Willand and the surrounding area grows, the club are looking for ways to improve and are considering a ground swap move to a new purpose built, 2 pitch facility so watch this space for interesting times ahead.

Off the field the club is hosting events with live music coming to the Club see below for details.

Upcoming events -

Don't forget we host our fortnightly bingo every other Tuesday, eyes down 7:30pm.

We have a live band Bad Edukation playing at the football club on Saturday 2nd December, they will strut their stuff covering music from the 60s/70s and 80s, entry is free and everyone is welcome.

This year's Santa Run has been booked and will be held on Sunday 3rd December, this year's chosen charity is Braveheart a local Cullompton charity that raises money for maimed and injured soldiers. This will be our 6th year in running the Willand Annual Santa run, it would be great to see lots of festive Santa's running around the village once again this year. The Junior race will start at 11am with the senior race starting once the Juniors finish.

If you fancy a trip down memory lane then come join us this New Years Eve. We have managed to book the local band Zen. The band were on the music circuit back in the 80's and 90's and recently started playing again. Admission will be ticket only and numbers are limited tickets are selling fast. If you would like more information then please call Tracey Greening on 07515 667498.

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Your Parish Council has been involved with or initiated a number actions within the village – some more successful than others. Sadly, one of our councillors has chosen to leave us and so we are now down to nine. There are two vacancies if anyone feels that they can give some time please do, help try and make the community we live in a better place.

The Community Payback teams have been back in the village and cleared some footpaths and areas which Devon County Council [DCC] are responsible for but under their Tough Choices programme no longer maintain. The feedback we receive shows that the work they do is appreciated. Our thanks to Labdon Building Supplies, Cullompton for giving us dumpy bags to put the rubbish in, Andrew James Butchery at Four Cross Way for subsidising hot drinks for the workers and to our Community Composting Volunteers for making the site available to take the cuttings. Hopefully DCC will pay the expenses of the Community Payback scheme as they did last year.

DCC have done their last cut of the year of the visibility splays on the verges. The Parish Council – in other words you the parishioners – paid for a contractor to cut all the areas they left behind and had not touched all year and that was the subject of favourable comment from several residents. The contractors will be coming back before the end of the year to give all the areas a really good cut back. It may have already been done by the time you read this.

The Parish Council has decided that it will take on the grass cutting of these DCC verges next year and have put the work out to tender. The details are on the Willand Matters Website. Some monies will be available from DCC but the bulk will have to come from our precept and so there will be a rise in the parish part of your council tax. The contract will require at least 10 cuts per year which it is hoped will keep it looking tidy but some areas where there are wide verges or banks will be left until the end of the year to allow the wild flowers to grow and hopefully maintain a good insect population. Those areas will only be cut back at the end of the year. Just a metre strip at the road edge will be cut regularly. We do hope to avoid the untidy look of loads of grass left in heaps on the verges as it will be evenly spread around. This work will not cover the areas which are the responsibility of Mid Devon District Council [MDDC]. If you are looking after a section of verge yourself the contractors will give it a miss and leave it to you but we have it covered if you should move or no longer be able to look after that bit. Many thanks to all those of you who are doing your bit and also to those who have responded positively to requests to cut back hedges or shrubs when asked – or better still before it is necessary to ask. One or two have had formal letters from DCC to clear back growth affecting pavements and we would prefer that that did not have to happen.

Weed spraying of the kerb edges has again been carried out and Councillor Ray Radford [DCC] has funded half of the cost of this from his Community Fund, thank you Ray.

You will have seen from the press that MDDC appear to be overseeing a managed decline of some play areas and will not always replace equipment as it becomes unserviceable. The Parish already look after three areas and it is now about to take on a lease for 25 years for the South View Close play area to protect it. MDDC have done some works to bring the fencing up to standard before it is taken on. Any residents in the Close who can help with cutting the

grass and keeping a watchful eye on the area are asked to contact the Clerk. This scheme is working quite well elsewhere.

The Parish Council are now looking at taking on the Orchard Way play area as we feel that it could be improved by having the grass cut more regularly and from having some more 'challenging' equipment in it particularly for the older children and teenagers. It needs a new fence against Orchard Way pavement before we go that far but watch this space. If you have any views please send them to the Clerk or talk to one of the Councillors. Incidentally some thoughtless souls have cost the parish money by causing damage to certain items of play equipment. Please tell us who it is so that they can pay for it to be put right rather than all of us having to share the burden of their selfishness and stupidity.

Planning continues to be a concern and the further delay in the Local Plan Review basically to allow MDDC to have another go at getting things right around including Junction 27 land is putting us further in jeopardy from speculative applications from developers. Another 30 houses have been agreed to on appeal to add to the 60 along the Uffculme Straight. Your Parish Council was represented at an appeal hearing against the 259 houses between the woods at the edge of the village and the Esso Garage. One must question the commitment of MDDC in trying to defend these applications. The developer was represented by a barrister, a planning consultant, a transport consultant and two support staff. They had submitted a 395 page report to the inspector setting out their case and the failings of MDDC to have a proper plan. MDDC was represented by an Area Team Leader Planning Officer (Part Time) and a Transport Consultant from DCC Highways. MDDC had not submitted anything other than the original officer report when the application was first refused. DCC had submitted a written representation. Councillor Bob Evans one of our Ward Councillors made representations and Councillor Gillian Doe also attended in support. Sadly, Councillor Richard Chesterton, the portfolio holder for planning was not there. It was found out that two more sites amounting to a further 59 houses are being 'sat on' awaiting the outcome of this appeal. Personally, I am not holding my breath and so we could see Willand with an increase in housing and population of 21% over the next five years. With little or no infrastructure to benefit the village or to keep our community as a community.

Some who follow geography will realise that when they built the M5 a lump of Halberton Parish became isolated and could only be got to via Willand or Sampford Peverell and Burescombe parishes. Part of Halberton is in the Willand settlement Area and planning applications made in that area do not result in Willand or Uffculme being consulted. In 2002 Willand and Uffculme Parish Councils suggested to MDDC that this area be divided between them. MDDC delayed it to 'wait and see'. Both Parishes in effect have expanded with development in Halberton area but they have seen no benefit from it. Nothing happened and so in 2014 we had another go and the then MDDC Chief Executive decided to put it off until after the District Council Elections. Nothing happened and so we asked again and then an officer said it should wait until

after the County Council elections. Then there was the General Election. We have asked again and the Chief Executive has said a boundary review will be done but it will not happen in time for the 2019 elections and so it will be 2023 before anything happens. He has given a very firm assurance that this is an undertaking from him that a review will happen – not that the boundary will change. Being a realist, I doubt if I will still be around in 2023 and I would not be surprised to find that the Chief Executive will have moved on to better things by then. Foolish boy – I thought that we elected Councillors to make decisions!!

Some residents have expressed concerns as to the safety of the bridge over the motorway following one death and another attempt recently. We have written to Highways England asking them to review the safety situation.

The Parish Council is working with the Village Hall Committee to install WIFI in the hall. The telephone line is in and the rest will follow shortly. It may be a bit slow at first as there is no spare capacity on the fibre cable but we are assured that it will come.

Parking around the village is becoming a joke at times and unless you want the village covered in double yellow lines those irresponsible residents around need to have a rethink please. School drop off and pick up time show some at their worst and for someone to abuse a police officer who is trying to achieve some sense out of self-imposed disorder does not help. Parking on junctions, verges and across people's driveways cannot be justified. Around the estates some are parking on the wrong side of the road at night and when the street lights go out that make this more dangerous. Parking near or right opposite junctions is contrary to the Highway Code and whereas the police do not seem to do much about it they will have to if there is an accident. I know that the planners and developers have caused problems in the past by not making roads wide enough or making proper provision for parking but at the end of the day it is each individuals responsibility to park properly and safely. YES, it does apply to you as well as everyone else.

How can I complete an article without mentioning dog mess and irresponsible owners? Some of you will have seen the entries on Facebook and we now have some firm sightings of 'offenders' and they are being watched to get firm evidence. To pick up but then throw it over the fence into someone's garden takes the biscuit! You can put your bag in normal litter bins if there is not a dog bin BUT NOT IF IT IS IN A FENCED CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA PLEASE.

If I do not get the chance to do so in a magazine before Christmas may I wish you a very Happy Christmas. That reminds me – the contractor has given us a date for putting up the Christmas Lights. If you would like to sponsor a light or make a contribution please contact the Clerk. Barry Warren – Chair

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SAMPFORD PEVERELL HISTORIC VEHICLES

Sampford Peverell Historic Vehicles would like to thank everybody who attended this year event. We had an excellent display of vehicles of all ages and a varied range of craft stalls which helped us raise £2150 for Devon Freewheelers.

This means that since we formed 10 years ago we have raised around £10,000 for various charities.

I would also like to thank all the local businesses who donated to our raffle and all of the volunteers who helped make the show run so smoothly.

Lindy Astbury Secretary

WILLAND GARDEN CLUB

We had a coffee morning on Saturday, 23rd September, but it was very poorly supported, so we will be looking at the feasibility of holding them in coming years.

At our September meeting, we saw slides on South Africa, including Kruger National Park and the Garden Route. Our October speaker will be talking about Devon Wildlife and, in November, we will be hearing about the Bishop's Palace in Wells. For our annual meal, we will be visiting the Wyndham Arms at Kentisbeare.

The programme for 2018 has been finalised and includes some interesting speakers and we will be going to Sampford Peverell for the Flower Show next year.

After our AGM in December, we have a break from our regular meetings until the second Wednesday in March.

We meet in the Club Room at the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month from March to December and our subscription is only £3.50 a year. We do have room for some more members, so please come along. You can visit one meeting for just 50p, so you can see how we operate.

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.

WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS)

OPENING TIMES

Wednesdays and Sundays - 10.00 am - 12 Noon.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

Closed from Wednesday 20th December 12 noon.

Reopen Wednesday 3rd January 2018 - 10.00 am.

COMPOSTING CONTINUED

Christmas trees accepted providing they have no decorations and the branches are no more than 1" in diameter.

To purchase compost: Collect from bags outside the main gate insert payment into tube located below and replace tube cover. If no bags available outside then text COMPOST to **07514 033305** and someone will contact you. Sieved Compost is £1.50 per bag and unsieved is £1.00 per wheel barrow. If you need to you may borrow the wheelbarrow from the side of the allotment shed but it must be returned. Please return any empty bags.

Composting Matters

Leaves - Did you know that instead of raking leaves you can mow the leaves (mower to have collector) then cover your soil (flower beds/vegetable plot) with the mowed leaves. This will add nutrients to the soil.

We only accept dry leaves at the compost site please deposit in the nominated bay - nearest to the main gate. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Garden waste - Please continue to only deposit that which we accept (see signage). Particularly, Grass Cuttings need to be fresh and not left to be rotted in bags/wheelie bins.

To those very few who visit us and we either comment or very rarely refuse to accept their material - please do not take offence. This is only for composting reasons. We hope that when you next visit the site it will be a good experience.

Tony Mander Mob.09780472242 Email: tony@tonymander.plus.com

TAKE YOUR DRY LEAVES TO THE COMPOSTING SCHEME DON'T BLOW THEM INTO THE GUTTER AND BLOCK THE DRAINS!! WE DON'T WANT FLOODING ON OUR ROADS!

LIGHT UP A LIFE AND REMEMBER SOMEONE SPECIAL

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of our events in your area it is so appreciated. It is that time of year where we are promoting our Light Up A Life Appeal, where we invite local people to remember loved ones through our Book of Memories and local remembrance services.

Your local remembrance service(s) will be at:

St Peter's Church, Tiverton Friday 8th December, 7.00pm,

To put your dedication into our Book of Memories, which will be at your local service, please pick up a leaflet at our nearest shop, visit our website www.hospiscare.co.uk or contact us on 01392 688020 or fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk

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WILLAND HEDGEHOGS

Winter is approaching and our hedgehogs must hibernate
They need to be over 600gms and ought to be gaining weight
A nightly treat of soaked meal worms or cat food (dry or wet)
will ensure a regular visit from these prickly, nocturnal pets!

No bread or milk as it makes them ill

Rat poison and chemicals will also kill!

Sometimes we have up to 10 a night!

We spread their food so they don't fight!

Water is essential, in a container on the ground

but a pond is a danger unless a way out can be found

We have made holes in the fences and under the gates

So the hogs can feed widely and find themselves mates

If found in the daytime wandering about...

you'll need to give RSPCA West Hatch a shout!

Put them in a box and drive them there

they will then receive outstanding care

Watch out on the roads at this time of year

as hedgehogs often curl up in fear

Check your bonfires before you light...

hedgehogs are often hidden from sight

As hedgehogs are declining at an alarming rate

Helping these creatures just has to be GREAT!

Sue Lawrence

**RATS – NEVER FAR FROM WHERE YOU ARE ESPECIALLY IN BAD WEATHER AND WHEN
NEW BUILDING WORKS START. NEW WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULES HAVE BEEN
DELIVERED USE IT! DON'T LEAVE BAGS AND BOXES OF RUBBISH TO BUILD UP THEY
ATTRACT VERMIN AND ANNOY THE NEIGHBOURS. CONTACT MDDC IF YOU WANT TO
GET RUBBISH REMOVED.**

Cameo Christmas Fayre



SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER
WILLAND VILLAGE HALL
From 11.00am—1.00pm

*Lots of stalls including cakes,
raffle, craft etc
Hot Food available*



Supporting
Devon Air Ambulance Trust

01392 466666
www.daat.org
Registered Charity No: 1077998
Company No: 3855746

Coming to Willand!

A Heavenly Host of Angels



They will start appearing in December
Keep your eyes open for the ANGEL LOGO and any
other Angels.

How many will you find???

Will you display an ANGEL?
Would you like to part in the Advent Angel
Trail?

Or do it with your children?

This is what to do!!

1. Obtain an Angel Logo and a map of Willand
either by downloading from www.stmaryswilland.org
or email alanchris@madasafish.com or phone 01884 840909
2. Display your Angel Logo in a prominent place that can be seen from the road, eg in a
window, or protected by plastic and hung from a tree in your garden
3. Or be even more adventurous and display other styles of Angels
How about life-size angels in your garden??!!
- 4 Do the Trail with your children.
As you wander around Willand tick the ANGEL'S position on the map.

If you find more than 20, you can enter your map for a Prize Draw. Pop the map with your
name on it into the Church Letter Box outside the Church Hall in Rectory Close. EX 15 2RH. by
Friday 22nd Dec

The winner picked out from the entries will be announced on Christmas Eve at the Christingle
Service (and we'll contact you!)

Let's add to our village's Christmas decorations and fill it with ANGELS
to celebrate Jesus's Birthday



CAMEO

At our September meeting we had a most interesting talk by Kevin Balding a volunteer motorcyclist from Devon Freewheelers. These dedicated people travel all around Devon and occasionally into Cornwall and Somerset delivering urgent bloods, breast milk and tissue samples between hospitals, clinics and Dr's surgeries. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They use their own motorcycles and have to have an advanced driving certificate and all this is without payment. Kevin said they drive in all sorts of hazardous conditions and winter weather conditions in the night are really scary. They get no public grants and rely on organisations such as ours for donations. We were so impressed with their selfless work that at our A.G.M in October we voted to make them our charity for 2018.

At our A.G.M. in October we learnt about a really successful year. We had several new members and have a very healthy bank balance. We have had some delicious meals out and outings. We went to Dawlish for a meal at the Smugglers Inn followed by a walk around the river seeing the black swans with their cygnets. Our annual outing took us along the byroads to Spreyton via Crediton ending up at the Tom Copley pub for a sumptuous evening meal. Another outing was to Buckfast Abbey and in September, in glorious sunshine, we went to Lynton, the walking group went along the South West Coast path and came back via the Valley of Rocks. Other less energetic members looked around Lynton and went on the cliff railway. We visited Janet East's farm near Payhembury following her two hilarious visits to our meetings where we had a lovely cream tea. We had lunch at Petrocs and then another lunch at Petrocs Exe Valley Centre. This is run by the students whom are mentally and physically challenged. They prepare, cook and serve the food and quite rightly, they were very proud of themselves. We hope to visit them again. We have had some excellent Speakers, some serious and some light hearted.

We raised over £1,100 last year for the Willand Health and Community Centre and we are hoping to do just as well this year for the Devon Air Ambulance. We were all delighted that Sonia has agreed to stay on as Chairman for another year as she does a fantastic job and works so hard on our behalf. We were sorry to say cheerio to Linda as she steps down from her job as Secretary after several years and previously as Chairman. Our new Secretary will be Peta Jackman (nee Sparing). After all that hard work and talking it was time for yet more food as we all tucked in to a delicious American supper with everyone contributing food. A fitting end to our A.G.M and very successful and happy Cameo year.

The Walking Group have been out and about and, weather permitting, are planning two walks in October. The Singles group had had a wonderful holiday in Yorkshire visiting the Viking Museum in York and shopping and going to the Pump Room Museum in Harrogate and then the James Herriot Museum in Thirsk.

After all the talk of outings and eating it was down to business arranging our Christmas Coffee Morning on 11th November. This will be held at the Village Hall from 11a.m until 1p.m. As this is Remembrance Weekend we will be having a minutes silence before we begin.

We hope everyone in the Village will give us their usual generous support and look forward to seeing you there. There will be cakes, books, craft, bric a brac and of course a raffle and we will be serving hot food. At our meeting on 2nd November the speakers will be telling us about the Walronds in Cullompton and if you would like to come along we will be very pleased to see you.

We are having a Skittles evening at Kentisbeare on 17th October and on 19th November we are off to Clarks Village for some Christmas shopping.

December 7th will see us at the Merry Harriers for our Christmas dinner and 13th December we are having Christmas lunch at Petrocs.

Betty Penberthy

CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH GABLES ROAD

Date	Event	Time
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 No cost all donations go to charity.	12.00 midday

25th November 10.00 to 12.00 Christmas Fair joint with Willand Scouts in the Village Hall. Lots to do and buy with time to sit and chat.

3rd December 6.30pm Village Carol Service in the Village Hall come and start Christmas early. Carols and readings with songs from the school choir and The Occasional Singers. You will need to be early to get a seat.

December 17th 4pm Carols by Candlelight

December 24th 4pm Christmas Eve Communion

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Several new groups have started in the Village Hall this term. On Tuesday mornings, there is a seated exercise class for the less mobile and, on Friday mornings, there is a more energetic Zumba class. There are now a number of exercise classes at the Hall, including Pilates, Kettlebells, Karate and Martial Arts. There are also classes for the younger residents of Willand, with Rugby Tots and Gymnastics on offer.

WiFi is being installed in the next few weeks. It will not be very fast, as there is no capacity left in Willand for fibre connection. However, it is a step in the right

direction. We have had some new emergency lighting and also installed new lights in the front lobby, which make it a bit more welcoming. We are awaiting quotes now for new LED lighting in the main hall and for internal doors. After these installations, we will be decorating the main hall.

Tuesday, 14th November, will be the last of our monthly bingos for 2017. We will not be having a Christmas bingo this year because of clashes. In 2018, there will not be a bingo on the second Tuesday of each month, as we now have regular bookings on Tuesday evenings, but we may have occasional sessions throughout the year.

Now that the new external doors have been fitted, please come in by the front doors if you are using the main hall and the side door if using the side rooms. Also, now that the weather is getting colder, please make sure that you keep the outside doors closed once you have started your meeting / event.

Website: www.willandmatters.org.uk/organisations for our diary and community page. Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

NOVEMBER				
Friday	3 rd	Blood Donors	W.V.H.	12.00 pm
Saturday	4 th	Evergreens Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	11 th	Cameo Christmas Fair	W.V.H.	11.00 am
Saturday	11 th	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	2.00 pm
Saturday	25 th	CVMC – Christmas CM	W.V.H.	10.00 am
DECEMBER				
Friday	1 st	Blood Donors	W.V.H.	12.00 pm
Saturday	2 nd	Bramblehaies Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	2 nd	Tiny Tots Pamper Evening	W.V.H.	7.00 pm
Sunday	3 rd	Village Carol Service	W.V.H.	6.30 pm
Saturday	9 th	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	11.00 am
Saturday	9 th	Dance Performance	W.V.H.	7.00 pm
Tuesday	12 th	Tennis Club Christmas Bingo	W.V.H.	7.30 pm
Saturday	16 th	Devon and Welsh Corgi Club	W.V.H.	10.00 am

5TH NOVEMBER KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE INDOORS!

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REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL		
Pilates	Mondays	10:00 am
Purelesque Knitting Group	Mondays	2:00 pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 st Monday	2:00 pm
Beavers (Term Time)	Mondays	5:30 pm
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Mondays	7:00 pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Mondays	7:00 pm
Pilates	Tuesday	9:30 am
Seated Exercise Class	Tuesday	10.30am
W.V.H Bingo	2nd Tuesday	7.30 pm
Flower Arranging	Tuesday	1:15 pm
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4:00 pm
Tiny Tots (Term Time)	Wednesday	9:30 am
Indoor Bowls Club	Wednesday	7:00 pm
Garden Club	2 nd Wednesday	7:30 pm
Flower Arranging	Wednesday	1:15 pm
Pilates	Thursday	9:30 am
CAMEO	1 st Thursday	7.00 pm
Karate	Thursday	5:30 pm
WH&CC Quiz	3 rd Thursday	7.00pm
Folk Dance Club	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	7:30 pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	7:00 pm
Zumba	Fridays	9.30am
Wits	Fridays	7:00 pm
Cowgirl Twisters	3 rd Saturday	7:30 pm
Folk Dance	2 nd Saturday	7:00 pm
Rugby Tots	Sundays	9:30 am
Martial Arts	Sundays	6:30 pm

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Candles to Remember Service, Sunday 5th November 4pm St Mary's Church. All Souls', at the beginning of November, is a traditional time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us.

Come and light a candle as part of a short service helping us to remember loved ones who are no longer with us.

You don't need to have had a funeral service in church, or even have a link with St Mary's. If this would be something that would be helpful to you, please come and be part of it.

Remembrance Sunday service on 12th November gathering at 10.45am at the War Memorial in the church yard 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.

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 3rd December. I am sure this will be a wonderful occasion as different groups, churches and the school come together.

Other Christmas services include:

6.30pm 17th Dec St Mary's Carol service followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

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

11.30pm 24th Dec Midnight Communion

10.15am 25th Dec Christmas Service for all the family.

COUNCILLOR BOB EVANS

Following on from my initial article in June I'm hoping that a periodic note into the magazine may be of benefit to readers who have an interest in District Council issues. Can I start by asking readers if they know anybody that is considered to be Severely Mentally Impaired? (SMI) If so there may be a discount available on their council tax, it's complicated to try and script all details here but a couple of notes below may assist, my advice is if you think somebody may be entitled to a discount ask the council, they will help.

If one person lives in a property and they are SMI then they are exempt and pay nothing. (Class U exemption)

If there are two persons in the property and one person is SMI then they are entitled to 25% discount disregard and they pay 75%.

If there are two persons in the property and they are both SMI then they will pay nothing. (Class U exemption)

To explain the entitlement I have quoted Council tax Law and Practice, which explains the criteria as follows:

“A person is disregarded for discount purposes if he or she is severely mentally impaired and is stated to be such in a certificate from a registered Medical Practitioner, provided that there is entitlement to a state benefit from the qualifying list of benefits or other specified requirements are met. Schedule 1 of the 1992 Act provides the definition of SMI as:

A person is Severely Mentally Impaired if he has a severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning (However caused) which appears to be permanent.

The qualifying benefits are contained in the application form on the Mid Devon Website or simply phone the council and ask.

www.middevon.gov.uk/media/1160/smi_application.pdf

Other current issues in brief.....

Planning

Is always a talking point and I along with many councillors get many comments and questions. Unfortunately much is based on rumour but given the time many applications take that's unsurprising. Here are some known local applications:

17/00652/MOUT

ESSO garage. Mix of 30 residential properties and commercial units. This is still awaiting a decision. I note it has over 70 objections, that's very high and is certainly a factor noted by officers.

17/01179/FULL

29 residential properties in Silver Street. This is still awaiting a decision. I have attended meetings on this application and currently object given it's on a site that is only a backup set against land that is in the emerging local plan and agreed for development.

17/00300/MOUT

Not truly Willand but very close along The Uffculme straight , application is on the same site as 60 houses agreed by an inspector after an appeal by the developer. The application had been refused by MDDC but I have been informed this has also been granted following appeal.

16/01811/MOUT

259 houses mixed sizes. Again this has been refused as it's on land outside the local plan, I attended the full day appeal hearing on 3rd October and await the inspectors decision as I type, however this may be know come the magazines publication date.

Any of the above can be accessed via the MDDC planning portal, if you put the numbers in the full details with all documents will be available.

Final note on planning. The agreed Co-op store (to be built on the Mid Devon Business Park) has been an interesting case. Some may recall that when this originally went to committee I had a condition attached for a zebra crossing to

be installed. The Co-op have twice attempted to remove this condition, I'm happy to report that following much email correspondence a meeting was held on 11th September with representatives from the Co-op, Devon County Council, Willand Parish Council and myself, where provision of the condition was discussed. The Co-op have agreed that they will be providing a crossing facility in South View Road allowing safe access for all. My thanks to the Parish Council for their support on this issue.

The Public Examination of the Local Plan Review was due to commence on the 26th/27th September with the Inspector looking specifically at the allocation of land at J27 (Eden Westwood) and associated housing. Unfortunately MDDC have requested a delay in the examination following legal advice, this will not only delay the examination of the J27 elements but also the plan as a whole, leaving the district vulnerable to further unplanned and speculative planning applications. My position is well documented given the overwhelming responses I have received against the proposals, please watch local press and MDDC web pages as I believe following additional work a further opportunity to comment will be available as further consultation will now be necessary.

Play parks. To cut the narrative short I sit on the Environment Policy Development Group and have been involved in the debate on play park fencing. I am looking to get an agreement to set a new policy that requires MDDC and all Developers to comply with aspects of a report published by 'Play England'. This outlines design ideas, specifications and maintenance of play areas and open spaces. An excellent document and worth a read. If I get the policy through to Full Council and agreed this document would become the guide for all future play parks in our area.

Audit Committee. As Chair of Audit I am delighted to report that for the second year running MDDC were able to submit the full set of accounts to Central Government on the very first day of account filing period. This is a fantastic achievement by our Officers who have worked hard along with our audit partners, Grant Thornton.

Economy PDG. Our last meeting saw discussion on some very exciting projects that would not only bring benefits to local residents but also local businesses. These are both challenging and exciting times as councils up and down the country try to fill funding gaps.

For further detail on any meeting details go to the MDDC web site and look up "meetings" full details of any meeting can be accessed, as well as a full recording of the meeting should you wish to listen to the full debates. If you have any questions regarding the above or if you have an issue you would like me to help you with please do get in touch. In the first instance please email me at: revans.middevon.gov.uk. **Bob Evans MDDC Councillor Lower Culm**

“SITFIT”

**SEATED EXERCISE CLASS
TUESDAYS**

Willand Village Hall EX15 2PL

Every week 10.30 am to 11.30 am

£4 a session

Come in loose casual clothes and flat comfortable shoes.

It does not matter if you have not done any exercise in a while.

All exercises are completed whilst seated suitable for men and women

**For further information contact
Veronica, 07897420720
vwupstream@gmail.com**

**WILLAND HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH
MONTH
A SMALL, FRIENDLY**



**AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL,
COMMITTEE ROOM.**

TEAMS OF UP TO 4 (the tables aren't big enough for more)

**TEA /COFFEE AT HALF TIME
START 7.30. £3 PER PERSON**

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

CALL LIZ ON 0759 164 7989

EMAIL; liz.whcc@gmail.com



*“...no warmth, no comfort...no shade,
no shine, no butterflies, no bees, no
fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds....”*

November!”

**(Extract from poem by Thomas Hood
BUT not at Messy Church this month,
when we're looking to brighten things
up with a SEASIDE theme!!!!**

**There are lots of stories in the Bible
that take place at the seaside So
come along with sunglasses and
sunhats and share in the fun whilst
hearing the stories. Friday 17th
November 3.30-5.30 For families and
accompanied children**

**For more information Chris Dodds,
alanchris@madasafish.com**



DECEMBER

**Christmas Messy Church
is on**

**Friday 15th December
3.30-5.30**

**All the usual crafts, games,
activities, food and fun to
Celebrate Jesus's Birthday**



WILLAND SCHOOL

Despite the fact that we have only just started back at school, we have had a lot going on this term already!

Whole School Activities

Recently, we were celebrating European Language Day. Each class was given a different country to learn about. The children dressed up in the colours of their flag and traditional costumes. In addition, they all learned a bit about their country and presented it in assembly.

Eco

We have also had a visit from Sally Jackson from Devon County Council to present the waste and sustainability project. The eco team have been sorting out the rubbish from an average school day and discovered that our recycling rates have improved significantly. We are hoping for our food waste collection to begin shortly.

Lessons

We are pleased to hear that Reception have settled in well and are starting to get in the routine of Willand School. Year Three are doing well in their new French lessons and Lower Key Stage 2 are enjoying their new topic in history, the Romans. Upper Key Stage 2 are learning some new football and high fives skills in their PE lessons.

We may only be six weeks into term but two trips have already taken place. Years 5 and 6 have already been on an interesting trip to Dawlish Warren to complement their geography topic of The Exe Estuary. The children learned about coastal processes, in particular longshore drift (or how a beach is created). The children in Year 4 went to Killerton House with lots of other schools to take part in an orienteering activity.

Lots of the children in school are currently frantically writing a story for a competition. We hope to be able to give you some good news about that the next time that we write!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

UK Lawyer Peter Berenson founded AI in 1961. He had read that two Portuguese students had been imprisoned for 7 years for raising a toast to freedom. His original idea was that a network of letter-writers could bombard governments with individual appeals on behalf of prisoners of conscience who had been jailed or ill-treated, in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

The UDHR was adopted on 10.12.48 and of its 30 comprehensive Articles the two most important ones form the basis of Amnesty International's work. Article 18 – Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion....” And Article 19 - Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression....”

Amnesty took as its symbol a candle in barbed wire, because “It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness”. AI now has over 7 million members and supporters world-wide, and is the largest human rights organisation. AI received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977.

Amnesty International's work has expanded since 1961. It retains its original focus on Prisoners of Conscience, but now includes support for human rights defenders and people at risk; campaigns to oppose the death penalty and torture; support for refugees, migrants; rights of women, children, LGBT, disabled people; international justice; censorship and free speech.

Results

- 1) AI has been instrumental in the creation of nearly 1100 Human Rights Treaties and other legal instruments for example the UK Human Rights Act 1998. Without the UK Human Rights Act there would have been no inquest into the Hillsborough Disaster of 1989.
- 2) Recently 3 human rights defenders were released in the Sudan, Albert Woodfox from the USA was released in Feb 2016 after 43 years in solitary confinement and said **“I cannot emphasise enough how important letters from people around the world was. It gave me strength, made me more determined. But more than that, it gave me a sense of self worth...”**
- 3) Former Prisoner of Conscience Ihar Tsikhan of Belarus said **“When I feel left with no hope to fight I’ll get a letter and it inspires me. The light of hope appears again and my confidence in myself and my ability to change things returns. I thank everyone for their solidarity and letters”**. He is now released.



THE OLD WELL

Late Night Christmas Shopping

Monday November 27th

Until 8pm

Tastings by Bramble Foods,

Cottage Delight

and Lyme Bay

Father Christmas from 5pm

Carol Singers from 6pm

Local Butcher – Graham Saunders

Gifts and goodies to suit everyone

