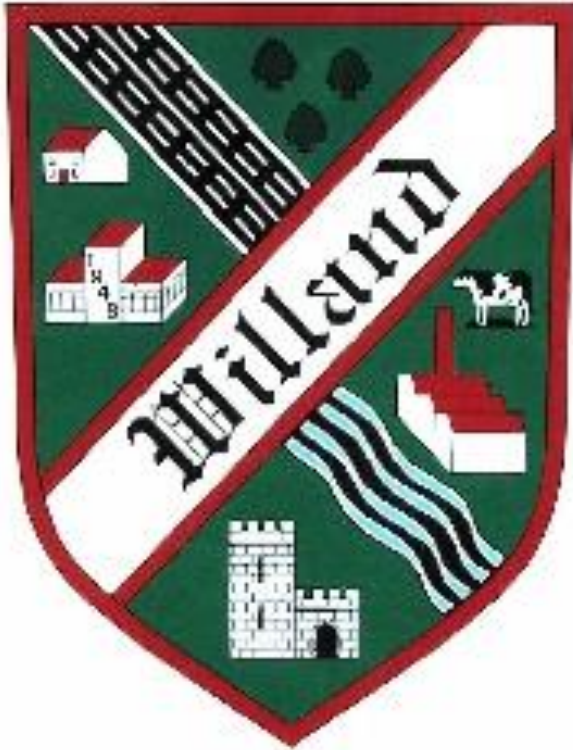


**WILLAND MAGAZINE**  
**September & October**  
**2018**



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

Delivered Free to Every Home

Welcome to the new edition I hope you have all enjoyed our long hot summer. Read on for a look at what has been happening and what is to come.

**WIDECOMBE FAYRE – Tuesday September 11th**

I am arranging a coach trip everyone is welcome. The coach will leave Willand Village Hall at 9.45am and will pick up in Cullompton at 10.00am. The fare will be £7.00 per person. For more information and to book a seat contact **Mrs Atherton on 01884 38217.**

**WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR - COMMENT & REPORT**

The last article referred to the grass and weeds growing and the contractors getting to grips with the grass verges. Although it has started to rain as I write this the recent prolonged dry period has made grass cutting almost irrelevant but the verges have been cut recently to keep on top of it all. Well done to all those volunteers looking after the planters as they seem to be blooming well. The Parish Council will soon be sending out tenders for cutting the grass verges and some other areas to award contracts from 2019 onwards. If there are any areas which are being missed and need adding to the specification please let the Parish Clerk know soonest. If you have any other comments or observations, please also pass them on as in the end it is you and me, the council tax payers, who must foot the bill.

Orchard Way play area should be coming under Parish control with a 25 year lease once the District Council has replaced the roadside fence and supplied the paperwork. We then hope to find funding for some more equipment in there. The Parish Council has achieved some more funding from DCC through Councillor Ray Radford and with a top up from reserves, an order has been placed for some more fitness equipment to be provided in the Jubilee Field which can be used by all age groups. Sadly, the supplier is very busy and so it could be October before we see it in place. Parents are finding that, particularly after school, the children want to stop and play and a suggestion had been put forward for more seating to be provided for those who would like to sit and natter whilst the children get their exercise. What do you all think?

We have been having incidents of groups of 'teenager/young adults' congregating in the field and there is evidence of drink, drugs and loads of litter at times. Motor cycles have also been seen by the shelter – definitely not allowed please. It has come to notice that some children, and even adults, have felt intimidated and have left the field when they intended to play. It is appreciated that most people will not want to confront such a group but as soon as you are safe please report the matter to the police and also let the Parish Clerk know that you have done so. Hopefully some police attention, darker evenings and the best policemen of all – heavy rain – will help resolve the matter. Thank you to those few who have spoken to them and also cleared up the litter. I shall get into trouble if I comment on those who have tried to excuse

the bad behaviour. Youth Clubs and other activities do not just happen – they need funding and volunteers to function – the volunteers have to come from the community!

The Gables site is still empty but hopefully that will soon change. A lease is being prepared for consideration of the Willand Preschool and hopefully that will be signed and a planning application submitted for part of the site to be used by them and the right hand part of the building will be available for wider and varied community use in line with many of the original concepts for a memory café, heritage centre, book swap and the like. It is hoped that the Willand Health & Community Centre Charity will be able to work with the Preschool to provide that facility and services but if they are not then the Parish Council will need to consider whether it can support other voluntary arrangements.

Things have been quite quiet on the planning scene. At the time of writing a decision is still awaited regarding the appeal against the refusal of development of the 'Esso garage site'. The application for the 125 houses decision has been deferred to allow consideration to be given to the provisions of the new National Planning Policy Framework which came into force at the end of July. The Inspector preliminary hearing for the Local Plan Review around Junction 27 and two connected housing developments is to be heard on 20 and 21 September 2018. Public consultations are taking place as to a possible consideration of considerable expansion of the Hitchcocks Farm Business Park but all Parish Councils surrounding it are seeking improved cycle and pedestrian routes from Willand up the B3181 to the main entrance and also the same provision between Willand and Uffculme. Make sure that you make your views known on all these issues at the appropriate time.

Willand Parish Council has a new Website to deal with purely Parish Council business and information. This will not replace the Willand Matters Website which was set up by Ray Ursell and his company. The Parish Council are grateful to Ray for his initial foresight in setting up that site and it is hoped that it will continue to provide information, news and other facilities to the village with support from local businesses. It is also acknowledged that his help and commitment has enabled a managed changeover of the parish council material. As one who spent many hours with him recording all the old minutes it is good to see that the site will retain that archive. Thanks are due to a small team of councillors and our Clerk who have overseen the commissioning of the new site. It is an evolving facility and any positive comments or observations will be welcome.

Tony Mander has confirmed his retirement from the Parish Council at the end of September 2018 so there will be the opportunity of an election or co-option depending on the circumstances. Thank you again Tony for your many years of service to the community – we will miss you. Elections will be held in May 2019 for MDDC and the Parish Council and so anyone thinking of standing needs to be making plans. It would be good for democracy if we had an election

this time rather than the 11 Parish Councillors and three MDDC councillors being put in place unopposed. Watch the new website for all details.

If you walk dogs pick up their mess, if your hedge or garden are growing well and encroaching onto pavements or footpaths please cut them back. We are working on DCC and MDDC to do their bits but please do not use that as an excuse not to do yours. We are all hopefully better than that so let us all do our bit to keep Willand tidy and a nice place to be.

### **BGJ Warren Chair of Willand Parish Council**

#### **100 YEARS SINCE THE SIGNING OF ARMISTICE**

November 2018 is a very special year for the Royal British Legion as it is 100 years since the signing of the Armistice at 11.00 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 1918 that put an end to the First World War. That is why the Remembrance services have always been at 11 o'clock on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month each year. This war took the lives of a vast number of men who were the flower of England's Youth in what was supposed to be the war to end all wars.

The men who fought and survived were treated appallingly by the Government of the time. They were sent home to try and pick up their lives where they left off, but as we know now nothing was ever going to be the same again. Many of the great houses had gone, farms had fallen into disrepair and returned to the landlords, and therefore many of the returning soldiers had nowhere to go or to live.

Field Marshal Earl Haig was appalled by the situation his Ex-soldiers found themselves in and that the government was doing very little to rectify the situation. On the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1921 Mr Tom Lister (later Sir Frederick Lister), together with Field Marshal Earl Haig, formed the British Legion to help the destitute soldiers.

In 1923 the Sampford Peverell and Uplowman British Legion was formed, which is still going today helping the ex-service personnel and their dependants but sadly it now only has about 8 active members out of a membership of 23. We have lost many of the Second World War veterans who were the mainstay of the Branch and now those of us who saw National Service are in our Eighties. I, Keith Astbury as Chairman of the Sampford Peverell and Uplowman Branch, appeal to the People of all the surrounding villages to join the RBL. We are the last village branch in the area to remain open.

The RBL is no longer restricted to Ex Service personnel as it is now a registered charity whose purpose is to serve Ex Service personnel and their dependents. The RBL has been appointed the Custodian of the Country's Remembrance services, which is a very important part of our village life. If we have to close the Branch, which is very possible unless we get more members, we will lose the RBL Standards and the connection with our schools at remembrancetide which will be another part of our history gone forever.

**If you are interested in Joining your local Branch of The Royal British Legion please contact me on 01884-820527 and I will be happy to talk to you about the work we do. Keith Astbury**

## **ALLOTMENTS**

We have had a good year on the allotments although the weather has been trying. Very wet and cold followed by very hot and dry. Gardeners are never satisfied

We opened the allotments again this year with other gardens and the composting site in the NGS scheme and helped raise money for charity. It is now coming to the time in the year when the tenancy agreements end and some of the members want to give up all or part of their plots, so if anyone is interested in taking one on please let me know. We are reducing the size of some of the plots to make them more manageable.

**Sylvia Statham 01884 32440 email [peterandsylviaatham@hotmail.com](mailto:peterandsylviaatham@hotmail.com)**

## **BLACKDOWN HILLS TRANSITION GROUP**

Blackdown Hills Transition Group consists of like-minded individuals who are concerned to address the challenges of the effects of Climate Change and our over dependence on the forecasted depletion of oil, aiming to promote sustainability.

**What does it mean to be more sustainable?** The Transition movement, initiated in Totnes over 10 years ago which was the first Transition Town of which there are many internationally. Another example being Stroud in Gloucestershire. They are typified by local councils taking on the mantle of doing things differently where they can to encourage a local economy to be less reliant on products and services from afar, additionally encouraging us as individual households to be more sustainable in our daily lives. How might we do this? You are probably doing some of this already - if not join in.

Think twice before shopping. Reduce, Reuse Recycle. Make sure your big purchases have big environmental benefits. Go Plastic Free. Boycott products that endanger wildlife. Pay attention to labels buy local, Fairtrade, organic. Be water wise, drink tap water, conserve water. Drive less, drive green. Green your home, Insulate, use energy saving appliances. Choose wild energy, use a green energy supplier. Take extinction Off Your Plate. Choose to have a smaller family. Use your voice and vote. Encourage politicians to have green policies to address our environmental challenges. (The Center for Biological Diversity ([biologicaldiversity.org](http://biologicaldiversity.org)))

The Blackdown Hills Transition Group organise a number of events throughout the year including the bi monthly Repair Cafe in Hemyock, see the poster on another page, Apple pressing days, Seed swaps, Election Hustings of Green issues, film shows, discussion groups and attendance at events, most recently the Honiton Show. Our AGM, to which all are welcome, is on 5th September at the Catherine Wheel Pub in Hemyock from 7.30pm.

October sees the return of the popular Apple pressing days where you are encouraged to bring all your home-grown apples for pressing and take home lovely juice to store for the winter months ahead. Current dates are Sunday 7th October at the Holman Clavel pub, Culmhead, Taunton TA3 7EA; Sunday 14th October at Glebe Park Upottery Playing Fields EX14 9RH; and Saturday and Sunday 20th and 21st October at Stentwood Farm, Dunkeswell EX14 4RW. See our website for times and admission is free.

<https://blackdownhillstransition.net> Also on Facebook and Twitter

**Jim Rogan**

### **Blackdown Hills Repair Café**

**An initiative of the  
Blackdown Hills Transition  
Group**

**First cafe Hemyock Village  
Hall Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September  
10am to 12 noon**

Bring along items that need repair-electricals, bicycles, textiles, furniture, ceramics and garden tools.

Volunteers will be on hand to help with repairs. A selection of repair materials will be available or please do bring your own.

**Refreshments on sale.**

### **VOICEWORX**

**Singing again**

**Mondays 7-9 pm**

**From 10 September  
Kentisbeare Village Hall**

Sing for fun and friendship  
No auditions

Free taster session for newbies

Exciting performances - choir festivals and community events

Members' music and practice  
Resources online

**[www.voiceworx.org.uk](http://www.voiceworx.org.uk)**

### **CAMEO**

At our July meeting, Peta read a letter of apology from Sonia that owing to unforeseen family problems she would be unable to attend tonight so once again Peta stepped up to the plate and Pat took over as Secretary. We'd had a lovely day out at the House of Marbles and Widdecombe. For our July Coffee Morning we met up at the cafe at Coldharbour Mill. We joined the Walking Group and went to Otterton Mill for morning coffee and the walkers then walked along the river to Budleigh Salterton having a picnic on the way. The less energetic of us had a look round the Mill and then took the coach into Budleigh where we enjoyed a leisurely lunch and look around and enjoyed sitting by the beach. It was a lovely day out. The Singles Group went to Blackdown Garden Centre for lunch and shopping. Pat Sanderson was delighted to tell us that she had raised almost £200 on her sponsored walk for

Cancer Research and thanked us all for sponsoring her. Our Speakers that night were Susan and Roger Tribble from the British and International Red Cross. We were surprised to learn of the work they do in this country supporting patients discharged from hospital and living alone, helping with shopping and making sure that the necessary back up was in place for their aftercare. They do not give medical care. They attend disasters such as Grenfell Tower, the London Bridge emergency, flood disasters such as Somerset levels, fires and many other dreadful events which occur all over the country, wherever they are needed. Internationally they try to reunite families in war torn countries and refugee camps. They provide humanitarian support all over the world and do wonderful work. This all resonates personally when their own home near Sidmouth was completely destroyed by fire a couple of years ago a few days before Christmas. They rely on charitable donations and we were encouraged to support the local Red Cross shops. After tea we then had a light hearted chat about "Our most memorable holiday": some good and some we'd rather forget!

Our August meeting was a barbecue at Petas house and it was a lovely sunny evening. Lots of delicious food and Peta had made some splendid desserts. This was the first barbecue for Cameo in our almost 20years existence and most enjoyable. The next Skittles evening will be at the Pony and Trap in Cullompton. As the weather is so very hot the walking group will not be venturing out until it cools down. There was not a Coffee Morning in August as so many of us were on holiday or have family staying. Our A.G.M in September will be followed by a fish and chip supper and after supper, Bingo. We will then begin our preparations in earnest for our annual Christmas Coffee Morning at the Village Hall on Saturday 15 December which this year is in aid of the Devon Freewheelers. These amazing people voluntarily give up their free time delivering, on their motorcycles, urgent blood samples, donated organs and medicine to hospitals and clinics all around Devon, whatever the weather or time of day, and all at their own expense. So please put a note in your diary and on your calendar and come along and support us. We look forward to seeing you there. **Betty Penberthy**



Our 2018-2019 Season will be starting with our first Club Night on the Thursday 13th September 8.00 - 10.30 pm . Club Nights are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month and we would be pleased to welcome anyone who might like to come

and join us. We are a friendly bunch of folk who enjoy our dancing and would like to share our evening with more local folk - you will be assured of a warm welcome. No dancing experience is necessary so why not come along and join us – live music with a caller, a cuppa and a biscuit or two in the mid sessions break all for £3.50. What value! We will be starting a half hour session for beginners to learn the various moves before a Club Night starts, after the first

evening. Please give me a ring on 01404 47200 if you have any questions about joining us or visit our Website.

**Marilyn Broom Chairperson**

**Burlescombe Parish Council vacancy for  
Parish Clerk /Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)**

The Parish Council are seeking a new Parish Clerk/RFO from  
December 2018

The post is home based (25 hours a month) and the hours are flexible with the exception of council meetings.

Salary will be in accordance with National Association of Local Council guidelines Scales LC1

£9.80 - £10.95 per hour dependent on experience and qualifications.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated person with good interpersonal, verbal, written and IT skills

It is important you have internet access at home, a laptop and printer will be provided.

If you wish to apply or seek further information please email the Clerk at

**clerk@burlescombe-pc.gov.uk**

Closing date for applications: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**CULM VALLEY MODEL RAILWAY SHOW Saturday 15th September**

Children can drive trains on our SOLDOR model railway layout. The little blue engine and his friends will be driven around the tracks by children (& adults) at our 10th Model Railway Show on SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER at WILLAND VILLAGE HALL. It is open as usual from 10am until 4.30pm. The cost is £4.00 for adults and only £1.50 for children & all visitors will be issued with a replica old time card rail ticket. There is of course free parking and wheelchair access to most of the hall.

Bring your children to let them have a drive of their favourite engines on our scenic Soldor model railway. There are 2 controllers so 2 children at a time can drive & there are also sidings for the older kids who would like to use their skill at shunting. For the younger ones push buttons allow them to drive the tram engine into a tunnel & then watch it come back from a different tunnel.

This is a great day out for families and will be super fun for visitors and club members alike.

Exhibition Manager, Malc Trump, has managed to assemble 16 top quality layouts, most of which have never been seen in Mid Devon. They cover different gauges, styles, eras & continents.



Ray Heard who has two rooms covering top quality second-hand items at bargain prices in all the popular gauges, including overseas. The Burnham club have their private owner wagons covering most companies that traded by rail in the Devon & Somerset area. Keith's Bits & Pieces from Weston-super Mare will be here selling bits & pieces of anything to do with model railways at very low prices!

As usual we will be providing excellent refreshments with bacon baps, hot dogs, pasties, sandwiches etc. as well as tea, coffee and cold drinks.

We hope to see you there on the 15th as the show is not just for enthusiasts but also a great family day out. For further information about the show or the club visit our [webpage www.cvmrc.co.uk](http://webpage www.cvmrc.co.uk) or phone **Malc Trump on 01884 840369** or myself, **Peter Fosberry on 01884 821811**. You can contact us by email at [cvmrc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cvmrc@hotmail.co.uk)

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

#### **WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME**

**OPENING TIMES  
WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY  
10.00AM – 12.00 noon**

**COMPOST SALES  
SIEVED £1.50 a BAG  
UNSIEVED £1.00 PER  
BARROW**

When closed bags of sieved are left outside the gate please place money in the tube and replace the lid.

If there are no bags left or not enough **text COMPOST** to **07514 033305**

Someone will contact you. Please return any empty bags

Come along and see us and we can advise on what pruning's and cuttings we take.

#### **Break in – your site was broken into: -**

This took place between Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August from Noon to when we re - opened Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

Damage was caused to doors security and property destroyed. As far as we can currently establish we are not sure if any property has been stolen. The police have been informed and they have issued:

**Crime Number: CR074271/18.** If you have any information to report could you please contact

**CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 or, contact me Tony Mander 07980472241. Email**

**tmander931@gmail.com\_Your Cooperation and support will be most welcomed and assist in your sites continuation.**

### **UP DATE FROM COUNCILLOR BOB EVANS**

They say a week is a long time in politics, well they should try dealing with 2 Sisters food group!

Having reported some progress in re-establishing contact with our local site it's all change, not only have many of the site managers changed including all my contacts but so has the Environment Agency (EA) Officer who deals with the site. Still not one to let such things prevent progress I can report that I

now have had some contact with the new site management and we are discussing issues around reports of night time noise presumably made by reversing FLT's. I'm also happy to report that the newly appointed EA Officer is known to me as she deals with the landfill site outside Uffculme and as I Chair the Liaison Committee we have worked together previously.

You can be assured we have already swapped several Emails on both noise and odour issues. **As always Please report issues directly to the EA on 0800 807060.**

Planning is at the forefront of much of the work currently being undertaken in my role, with one local application standing out from the crowd.

The 125 houses application on land off Meadow Park has been recently delayed as changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) require some investigation by officers to understand if any changes are sufficient to have made Material changes in their considerations.

What this application does however is give a stark example of how on occasions our role as your voice can be difficult, despite the size of the application and known opposition having been documented by the Parish Council the application had only eleven letters of objection, this from a latest population figure of 3360, for those who like me like figures, represents just 0.3% of the population. Hardly a strong argument in terms of opinion and one difficult to take to planning committee or an appeals inspector.

Following complaints of speeding vehicles and damage to cars on Silver Street from passing vehicles I am talking with Devon County Highways Officers regarding the reinstatement of the Vehicle activated signs (VAS) I'm promised the scheme will be reinstated but I cannot give a date, hopefully it will assist in making some drivers think about their speed.

Finally as always if you have any issues/comments please contact me or any of your other ward members, my direct E mail address is

**Revans@middevon.gov.uk. Bob Evans MDDC Lower Culm**

## **ST MARY'S CHURCH**

Autumn term is always a busy time at St Mary's with groups and clubs starting again after the holidays, Rockers (baby & toddler group) starts from 9.15am 10 September, St Mary's Guild (Ladies Fellowship) 2.30pm 13<sup>th</sup> September and Lunch Club (for seniors) 12.30pm 19<sup>th</sup> September. If you'd like to know more about any of these groups, please do get in touch.

Autumn also brings Harvest time, St Mary's Service will be 10.15am Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September and All Saint's Bradfield Sun 14<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm. At both these services there will be an opportunity to give dried, tinned, packet food to our local Food Bank run by CHAT in Tiverton.

It has been an interesting (!) year for farmers with a very wet spring and a very dry summer. All this reminds us how much we rely on God for the conditions we

need to grow our food and feed our animals. Do join us as we give thanks for all we have, pray for the coming year and remember the harvest God has invited us all to be part of. It's easy to take God's goodness for granted, so please do join us if you can. **Rev Simon Talbot, Rector St Mary's Willand**  
Tel: 562570 email: [simon@thetalbots.org.uk](mailto:simon@thetalbots.org.uk)

**St Mary's Church - Willand**

*Autumn Concert*  
*Church Hall, Rectory Close*

**Saturday 20th October 7:00pm**

**Starring**

**The Wyndham Singers**

**Accompanied by**

**Soloist - Pippa Searle**

**Duo - John Eschie & Alan Dodds**

**And Prize-winning pianist**

**Ben Shattock**

**Tickets £10.00 including Refreshments, bar available**

**Available from Allan Woodcock 01884 38753**

**Or email [arwoodcock@gmail.com](mailto:arwoodcock@gmail.com)**

**Or from Lesley Smith at Church**

**All proceeds to St Mary's Church Restoration Fund**

**UFFCULME GREEN DAY MAGELAKE  
PAVILION SATURDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2018**

10am - 4pm

Another Green Day is taking place in Uffculme this year - the 3rd such event. It will be opened by Prof Patrick Devine-Wright from Exeter University and Chairman of Exeter Community Energy.

There will be a great variety of stalls, organisations and children's activities, and this year we have a mixed programme of Pop-up-entertainment and short talks/questions sessions on a variety of subjects throughout the Day.

Lunch-time refreshments will be provided by volunteers from 'REROOTED' - the Tiverton Surplus Food Cafe using surplus food from supermarkets and shops. They produce amazing meals at the monthly Food Cafe in Tiverton, so come and see for yourself the tempting food on offer on Green Day for a very reasonable price.

Other refreshments available throughout the day and as always there will be the all-important DRAW with excellent PRIZES. Some surprises being worked on as well!

Most importantly it won't cost you anything - it is A FREE-ENTRY COMMUNITY EVENT - generously supported by Uffculme Parish Council.

Come and join us - it will be an educational family fun day! UFFCULME GREEN TEAM

### **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

Firstly, many thanks to those who responded to our article in the last Magazine, especially Derek Rowe, who recalls how the Russian Orthodox Monastery (at Redgate, in the 'old village') had its own goat to supply milk. On one occasion in 1977 the regular goat-milker was away for the day, so the goat was walked up to Derek's farm at The Elms and they asked if he would do the honours: "The only time I ever milked a goat." On another occasion Derek's wife, Bernice, recalls how some of the ladies from the village were invited to the monastery and were given boiled sweets as a gift. Can you remember any similar occasions? Derek also mentioned he could remember that Charlie Clist was the blacksmith in the Halfway House smithy (now under the pub car park). Was he Willand's last blacksmith?

Earlier this summer, as part of the Open Gardens Day, the History Group held a small exhibition in St Mary's Church. Feedback was very encouraging, and the History Group hopes to hold similar exhibitions again in the future. The exhibition looked at one of the church's previous incumbents, Revd William Andrews, who was Rector from 1918-1949. He had previously been a missionary in China and his surviving diaries give a vivid portrait of that time. In February 1902, for example, he was travelling up the Yangtze River on a house boat when he wrote: "The South bank below Tao-si Kuan (a large temple on a high rock where the river turns at right angles) is one of the loveliest views I have seen. There is primeval nature untouched by man & well covered with vegetation. The captain informs me that it is the home of great serpents & that small boats going near that bank are sometimes attacked & men killed & eaten." When he came to Willand, he presumably found the beasts of the River Culm to be less ferocious.

A hundred years ago, the tide of the First World War had turned for the final time: the Germans were retreating on the Western Front and victory for Britain and her allies was finally in sight. Willand farmer's son, Reg Rowe, took part in

the British advance, serving in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Devons. On 11 October 1918 he wrote to his mother: "We are all feeling in fine fettle about the latest news and think the end is in sight; we have him [the enemy] well beaten now, hope we shall not be too merciful with him. I was with a fellow the other day who could speak French fluently, he was talking to a woman who had spent three years under the Germans; she did not speak too harshly about them, said as a rule her home was not molested and had a certain amount of freedom, but her look belittled her; evidently food has not been too plentiful." And on 24 October, Reg wrote in a similar vein: "Well of late we have come out of acres of desolation into a beautiful country with pretty villages and towns intact. It has been a striking experience for all to see the delight and gratification of the civilians as we enter these places occupied for four years by the Germans. They have had no easy time of it and have had practically everything of value commandeered. We have old Fritz well on the run now, having a little of our own back."

Another Willand lad, Sam Seldon of Parkfield Terrace (Station Road), was also on the Western Front at this time, serving as a signaller in the Royal Engineers – a notoriously perilous job maintaining field communications, often at the height of battle. In September 2018 he was badly wounded by shrapnel in his arm and leg, but by "sticking to his work whilst under heavy fire" he secured the Military Medal for bravery. Having joined up in at a recruitment meeting in Willand in August 1914 – the same one as Reg Rowe and many other Willand men – Sam had served in France for nearly four years. The local press reported how, "He has had some marvellous escapes, having been in fifteen engagements, gassed twice, buried twice, hat and armband shot through, horse shot under him." Sam Seldon's neighbour in Parkfield Terrace, Lucy Quick, had also wanted to do her bit for the war effort and volunteered as a nurse in the Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) to provide care to wounded soldiers. She was posted to a hospital in Birmingham, where on 15 October 1918 she contracted influenza; this developed into 'double pneumonia' and she died on 22 October, aged 34. The 1918-19 influenza pandemic – known as the 'Spanish flu' – killed millions worldwide, but Lucy's role as a volunteer nurse had undoubtedly put her in harm's way. So while the service and bravery of Willand men is rightly commemorated, it is equally important to remember the hard work and sacrifice made by Willand women. Lucy's body was brought back to Willand, and she was buried in the churchyard at St Mary's. **James Morrison, 01884 250057 (jamorrison235@gmail.com)**

## THE DOGS TRUST ILFRACOMBE

Offer two free services - the first being about our *Canine Care Card* scheme, which dog-owners may be interested in. This is a service that owners can sign up to, whereby should they sadly die before their dog, we will look after their pet indefinitely, providing them with all the care they need until we can find a responsible, loving new home for them. This is often of great concern to the elderly, as their dog may be their only friend and companion. Dogs Trust can

give them peace of mind, knowing that their canine companions future is safe, should the worst happen to them.

The second service I offer for free is Dogs Trust talks to local community groups, as well as the chance to meet a four-legged resident. The talk reflects how, every year, we care for around 15,000 dogs across our nationwide network of rehoming centres and how we never put down a healthy dog.

**For more information contact Amy Bingham Supporter Relations Officer  
Telephone: 01271 817716 Email: amy.bingham@dogstrust.org.uk  
Website: www.dogstrust.org.uk**

## **HOSPISCARE**

**OPERA AT CADHAY** - Hospiscare is hosting an exclusive evening of live opera and supper in the beautiful surroundings of Cadhay, on 25 September 2018. After a champagne reception, renowned tenor Anando Mukerjee and internationally acclaimed soprano Justine Viani will perform. Ticket price: £75 Start time: 6:30pm For further information please visit [www.hospiscare.co.uk](http://www.hospiscare.co.uk) or call 01392 688020.

**OPEN GARDENS** - In its 14<sup>th</sup> year, Hospiscare Open Gardens has become a popular annual event where gardeners throughout Exeter, Mid and East Devon share their gardens, large and small, with like-minded people. Visitors enjoy coffee and cake, explore amazing private gardens and share gardening tips and ideas. Over the years Hospiscare Open Gardens have raised over £200000, and our services could not continue without such generous and reliable support. Can you open your garden to the public? You will be supported by a Hospiscare Community Fundraiser every step of the way, and they have plenty of ideas to get you started.

Hospiscare is a local charity providing free, quality care and support to people with progressive life-limiting illness, and their loved ones in Exeter, Mid and East Devon. Perhaps opening your garden could make a real difference for a local person approaching the end of their life. **Call 01392 688020 or email [fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk) for more information or to sign up now.**

## **NEW IDENTITY FOR MID DEVON COMMUNITY TRANSPORT CHARITY**

Mid Devon's well-known community transport service has undergone a makeover, including a brand new logo and a change of name.

From the end of June, Tiverton and District Community Transport Association will be known as Mid Devon Mobility.

The organisation, which was first established in 1989, unveiled its new look at an event at its offices in Tiverton on July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018.

The charity, which helps connect people in rural Devon, offers six services to communities around Tiverton and Crediton:

- Ring & Ride (Tiverton and Crediton)
- Daycation Club

- Shop & Leisure mobility
- Community Car (Tiverton and Crediton)
- Flexi Wheels (Tiverton and Crediton)
- Recycle Mobility Aids Project (Tiverton and Crediton)

These services aim to increase the independence, mobility and peace of mind of older and disabled people in and around Tiverton and Crediton, as well as helping to combat loneliness and isolation in rural Devon.

**To find out more information about Mid Devon Mobility and the services they offer, contact the office on 01884 242099 or visit the website at [middevonmobility.org.uk](http://middevonmobility.org.uk).**

### **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

We meet **every Sunday morning at 10.30am for worship** with a time for fellowship afterwards, when tea and coffee is served.

**Prospects** welcomed a number of new faces in July. The afternoon's activities had a fishy theme with paper weaving and painting to make various fish pictures.

This group in which learning disabled people can meet together for worship and fellowship. The next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> September from 3-5pm when we will be thinking about Harvest.

If you know of someone who may like to join us but need more information please contact either David Greet on 01884 840942 or the Rev. Paul Booth 01884 32679. Prospects is now a part of the national *Livability* charity [www.livability.org.uk](http://www.livability.org.uk)

You will have noticed that the CDs have now been removed from the tree outside but if you wish to make a **prayer request** please put it in the letter box beside our front door.

Our **Harvest celebrations** will include a Bring & Share supper on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 6pm with a presentation about a trip to the Holy Land by Gill Atkins.

We will be collecting food items for the food bank at CHAT and our service on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am will be led by Rev John Bolton. We welcome anyone and everyone to these events.

Our **monthly coffee mornings** will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30am. Our **monthly Soup & Something** lunches will be on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October from 12 noon. All of these activities are free, but donations are gratefully received.

### **NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME**

On Saturday, the 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup> June, six gardens in Willand plus the allotments were open for the National Gardens Scheme (ngs). It was a fine and sunny weekend. We welcomed 230 visitors, including local friends and

neighbours and folk from elsewhere. We raised £2,010.91, which will go towards the cancer and nursing charities that the ngs supports, such as Macmillan Cancer Support; Marie Curie; Hospice UK; Carers Trust; Queen's Nursing Institute; Parkinson's UK; and a few others.

When our gardens are open we do not have time to visit the others in the Group, so we decided this year to meet up beforehand to visit each other's gardens and the allotments. We had a most enjoyable afternoon. During the following week we all met up again for a Bring and Share Supper, hosted by Sylvia and Peter at The Firs.

In 2019 we plan to open our gardens again on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June. We would welcome any other garden owners in the village to join us. It is hard work, but most enjoyable. Our visitors are so appreciative to be able to visit gardens that are not normally open to the public, and to be tempted to enjoy a nice cup of tea and home-made cake. **Please contact Dorothy Anderson on 01884 33415.**

### **MAY WE PRESENT THE WYNDHAM SINGERS**

The Wyndham Singers, a male voice choir, were formed in the autumn of 2003 with the aim of raising funds for local charities by singing Christmas carols around the local pubs. A core of them then agreed to sing round the year in a relaxed fashion, meeting weekly. As a result, under Charles West, our Musical Director, the choir has become more and more popular and this year has more concerts booked than ever before. Aside from local venues, they have been invited to sing in the Cornish Male Choral festival and also in Wales, Gloucestershire and Saltash.

However, the concept of singing for charity remains and a total of over £100,000 has now been raised. Last year's chosen charity CHAT were the beneficiaries to the sum of £3600, which was in addition to monies raised for other charities. This year's charity is Exeter Leukaemia Fund and as part of this support, the Singers will be singing carols in the lead up to Christmas in Exeter Princesshay shopping centre. The Wyndham Singers are very pleased to support other charitable events.

The Singers rehearse on Tuesday evenings at the Wyndham Arms, Kentisbeare at 7:30pm and warmly welcome any man who would care to join us to sing. We do not hold auditions and welcome singers with a range of experience and ability. The repertoire is varied ranging from Mozart to Verdi and then Bob Dylan to the Carpenters taking in Simon and Garfunkel and Sea shanties. If all this is beginning to appeal, do get in touch. We also encourage any organisation who are considering a fund raising event to contact us. Further details can be seen on [www.wyndhamsingers.org](http://www.wyndhamsingers.org) or contact **Neil Carthew on 01884 32126.**



## **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY**

The buzz is back again with rehearsals in full swing for two one act plays scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> September at Willand Village hall at 7.30pm. There will be a repeat performance two weeks later at The Walronds, Cullompton on 15<sup>th</sup>. September again at 7.30pm Tickets cost £8.00.

Both plays were written by two of our members as first time writers in this genre. The first play "A Tragedy of Terrors" by Alison Holly has been great fun at rehearsals and "Carry On in Court" written by myself with tongue in cheek innuendo, hopefully both plays will be appreciated by our audience-fingers crossed. Tickets from [Ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety](http://Ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety). Also from Willand Post office and Willand Pharmacy. Whilst the humour isn't outrageous children may not necessarily get it so the committee have decided to make it over 18s only. Please come along and have a laugh with us, or is that AT US.

February 2019 Pantomime will be Little Red Riding Hood and rehearsals will start following the two events above. We generally have an open reading day where anyone can come along and have a read through and perhaps try an odd part themselves. I love to hear people try to do something different with their voices, based on their interpretation of the character they are reading. Sometimes a star is born. Anyone wishing to find out more about WiTS please contact our membership officer **Karen Goodchild on 01884 38122 or via email at [kagoodchild@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kagoodchild@yahoo.co.uk)**. Many thanks for your continued support **Sam Fincher**

## **WILLAND ROVERS EXCITING TIMES AHEAD**

After last season 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish, we start our assault on a very tough and competitive Western League. Willand aim is to produce an attractive attacking brand of football, last season many of the regulars say this is best football they have ever seen at Silver Street. We scored 121 goals in all competitions which showed we can entertain. The arrival of Josh Searle and Glenn Gould added experience and tenacity when we needed it. In addition two new young players arrived in the shape of Luke Mortimore and Brad Ausden between them they scored just short of 40 goals a remarkable achievement at this level. The return of Fletcher Williams after Christmas gave us another exciting flair player with an eye for goal.

Finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> was no mean achievement our potential promotion push was decided in the 37<sup>th</sup> game of the season. What probably ended our promotion dream was the weather, February and March snow and rain stymied our free flowing game with multiple cancellations meaning we had to play 3 or 4 times a week to fulfil our fixtures and with that many games it just led to serious injuries which depleted us in the end.

We have also improved the facilities off the pitch with a new cover watching area and turnstiles all things we needed to do in order to be ready for promotion to the Southern league. A gang of volunteers have worked all summer ensuring these and many other jobs have been completed for the new season.

Willand Rovers have the best events venue in the village with capacity of accommodating 150+ people, with competitive bar prices. If you are thinking of holding a party or event please give the Clubhouse a call on 01884 33885 and someone will call you back to discuss.

Willand Rovers would also like to thank Stan Robinson, Pencarrie and Halsall Construction all local businesses for their new and continuing support of our club.

### **WILLAND GARDEN CLUB**

Our visit to The Bishop's Palace in Wells was very enjoyable, with lovely weather for our tour around the gardens. We made use of the Blackdown Community Minibus, which was very comfortable. An added bonus to the day was the street market held in the town that Wednesday, which sold some lovely food and excellent coffee, as well as lots of interesting clothes, books and collectables.

In July, Brian Carlson spoke to us about fuchsias, their propagation and different varieties. In September, we have a talk on rare and unusual bulbs; our coffee morning is at the hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, and we would love to see you there, in October we will be having our annual club meal at the Wyndham Arms in Kentisbeare.

For more details about the Garden Club, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01884 33828 or email me on [cbarwa@mail.com](mailto:cbarwa@mail.com). We meet on the second Wednesday of the month from March to December, excluding June and August. Our membership fee is only £5 a year. This includes all meetings, refreshments and a subsidised annual club meal, so is very good value.

**Carol Allan Garden Club Secretary**

### **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL**

The Hall is looking good now with its new curtains and decoration. We hope that our users appreciate all the money we have spent on improving the facilities. Our refurbishment programme will be continuing with improvements to the annexe, its toilets and kitchen. We will also be looking at decorating and refurbishing the main toilets in the entrance lobby. Any donations from organisations using the hall or individuals would be very welcome, as all this work is rapidly depleting our resources.

Our new website, [www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk), is up and running. Please visit it to check availability for hire and to download booking forms. Frances, our booking secretary, also has a new email address for the Village Hall: [bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk), so please use this email to contact her.

**Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer**

**[www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk)**

## WILLAND VILLAGE HALL DIARY

<b>September</b>				
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Crafty Market	W.V.H.	11.00 am
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Willand Theatrical Society Production	W.V.H.	19.00 pm
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Culm Valley Model Railway	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Garden Club Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am

### REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

<b>Pilates</b>	Mondays	10:00 am
<b>Purelesque Knitting Group</b>	Mondays	2:00 pm
<b>Cull. &amp; Dist. Flower Club</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2:00 pm
<b>Beavers (Term Time)</b>	Mondays	5:30 pm
<b>Cub Scouts (Term Time)</b>	Mondays	7:00 pm
<b>Kettle Bell Pump</b>	Mondays	7:00 pm
<b>Pilates</b>	Tuesday	9:00 am
<b>Flower Arranging (Sept-Mar)</b>	Tuesday	1:15 pm
<b>Gymnastics Club</b>	Tuesday	4:00 pm
<b>Pilates</b>	Tuesday	7.30 pm
<b>Tiny Tots (Term Time)</b>	Wednesday	9:30 am
<b>Flower Arranging (Sept-March)</b>	Wednesday	1:15 pm
<b>Indoor Bowls Club</b>	Wednesday	7:00 pm
<b>Garden Club</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7:30 pm
<b>Pilates</b>	Thursday	8.15 am
<b>CAMEO</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	6:30 pm
<b>Karate</b>	Thursday	5:30 pm
<b>Folk Dance Club</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:30 pm
<b>Parish Council Meetings</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm
<b>Zumba</b>	Fridays	9.30am
<b>Wits</b>	Fridays	7:30 pm
<b>Cowgirl Twisters</b>	3rd Saturday	7:30 pm
<b>Folk Dance</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	7:00 pm
<b>Rugby Tots</b>	Sundays	9:30 am
<b>Martial Arts</b>	Sundays	6:30 pm

## **SUBMITTED BY A RESIDENT**

A sign outside a restaurant in West Ward Ho! Seen in a North Devon Newspaper and sent in by a resident of Willand. **“Want to start FREE Yoga? Please Start by Bending Over and picking up your dog poo! (Known as the “Downward Dog Position”) Then Poop it in the bin!”**

## **MORE NEWS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB EVANS**

Readers are aware of the J27 Eden Westwood proposals and given the inspectors examination date is looming (20th September) the subject is gaining some local press coverage.

Unfortunately, much of this is reported incorrectly and many facts have been omitted.

**With a recently published viability report now available, please go and read it at <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/planning-policy/local-plan-review-examination/>**

I thought a few headlines may assist a balanced view.

The inspector IS NOT examining the Eden Westwood proposals, he is looking at a land allocation, and any scheme proposals are reliant on as yet **non-existent planning applications.**

The viability report states:

Recommendation to REMOVE the surf park

Three properties are required to be purchased to ensure land is available; it's known some of this land IS NOT available.

Despite repeated promises that the offering would not have National Chains, the report assumes returns from National chains.

Some aspects carry a ticket entry cost.

The conclusion is that the whole scheme depends on the “assumptions “made on the outlet centre coming to pass, if not the whole scheme may become unviable. **Please, please go and read this report, it’s interesting to say the least. Bob Evans MDDC Lower Culm**

## **ST. MARY’S RESTORATION APPEAL – UPDATE REPORT**

I am very pleased to be able to record that there has been excellent progress since my first report at the end of March. DAC approval has been granted and permission has been given to fell the Cypress tree in the Churchyard; so we are only waiting for the Faculty document, which is due imminently. Local fund raising has been truly gratifying, with contributions coming from our own parish and beyond. In addition to the charitable trusts that I mentioned in my first report, we have been blessed with generous donations from the Leonard Stoute and Venezia Trusts, bringing the total to £11,000 which includes £4,000 payable when work starts, scheduled for late November.

The second major development has been the submission of tenders which, after some final negotiating on our behalf by Jonathan Rhind architects, resulted in a

far lower figure than any of us could have hoped for, reducing our total costings, including contingencies, to £87,698 gross, £73,176 net. Since the end of March our total funds raised, or promised, has risen from £21,572 to £35,782, so allowing for the Listed Places of Worship (LPOW) scheme, which enables us to reclaim VAT, means that we are approaching the 50% mark. Expenditure amounts to over £9,300 on architect fees (incl. £1,868 VAT).

Our applications are in for grants from Allchurches Trust and Viridor Credits, the latter having been supported by all of our elected representatives from our own Parish, District and County Councillors and by our Constituency member Neil Parish MP, as well as a particularly poignant letter from the Head of our Primary School. All of their letters were emphasising that this appeal was not just for a Grade 1 building, important though that is, but the value to the community, over the centuries, of this ancient building at its heart, and its continuing role in the daily life of Willand.

On behalf of the PCC, I am so grateful for all the donations that we have received, and for the dedicated work being undertaken to raise funds for our cause, to save our church for the decades ahead. **Simon Talbot Rector 1 July 2018**

## **EXCELSIOR ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT CLUB**

While our gymnasts have had a break over the summer, our weight lifters and Track and Field athletes have been competing. Well done to Weight Lifter Laura Turner who won the 2018 Graham Cooper Memorial Trophy. In 2nd place was Zara Sayer, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Helen Johnson. All 3 podium places were filled by working Mums, you can get strong and fit after having a baby.

Well done to athletes Jayden and Jack who competed in the Exeter Harriers Open. Both set personal bests in the Long Jump and Jayden got a personal best in the 600m.

### **New Autumn Timetable.**

Our September timetable is up on the club website, we are offering a new **strength and co-ordination** session on Monday nights from 1730-1830 for 10-14 year olds. Last year we had some young footballers and rugby players come to our sessions. We expected them to need to be stronger, but we were surprised at the lack of co-ordination in “sporty” people”. The two main reasons could be that is the time of the “growth spurt” so children are often adjusting to their new bodies. The second reason is the specialisation in one activity too early. Too much playing one sport may lead to an early success, but long term it often limits their potential.

The new class is aimed to help provide what physical education in schools used to do: get the children stronger and more skilful. **Please contact James Marshall on [james@excelsiorgroup.co.uk](mailto:james@excelsiorgroup.co.uk) if you are interested in this or weight lifting, or gymnastics.**

**THE CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**