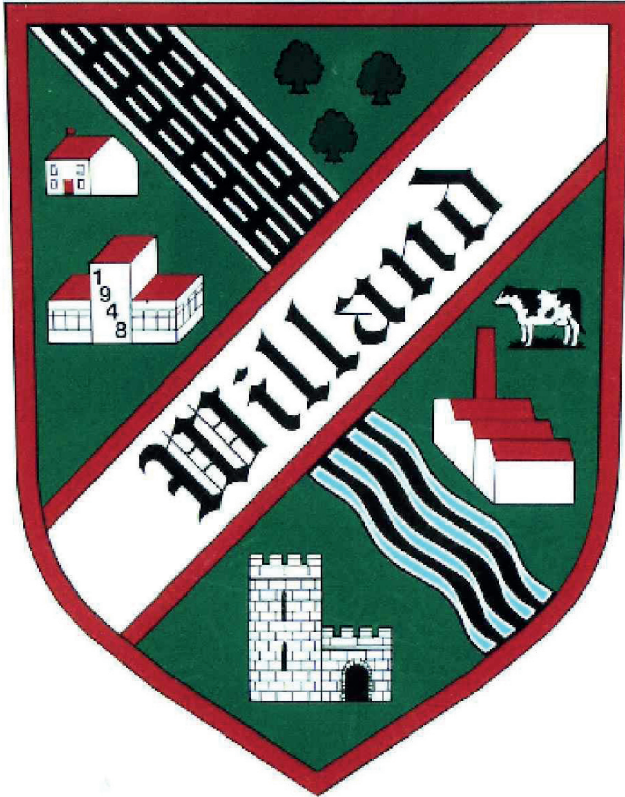


# WILLAND MAGAZINE

October & November 2020



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

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## WILLAND PARISH ORGANISATIONS

|                                |   | <i>Secretary/Contact</i>           |              |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Allotment Holders              | Sylvia Statham                                    | Peterandsylviaastatham@hotmail.com |              |
| Bridge Club                    | Wendy Boothroyd                                   |                                    | 01398 331219 |
| Brownies                       | Bridget Pearse                                    |                                    | 07814 569054 |
| C.A.M.E.O. Ladies Grp          | Peta Jackman                                      |                                    | 07900 904822 |
| Club 55                        | Margaret Atherton                                 | 27 Townlands                       | 38217        |
| Folk Dance Club                | Marilyn Broom                                     |                                    | 01404 47200  |
| Garden Club                    | Mrs Carol Allan                                   | 4 Orchard Way                      | 33828        |
| Tiny Tots                      | Karly Cousins                                     | Cullompton                         | 07730 895472 |
| Tennis Club                    | Mrs R. Parish                                     | Weir Mill Farm                     | 820803       |
| Tennis Courts (Public Hire)    | Margaret Morrison                                 | Driftwood, Gables Road             | 32331        |
| Village Hall Bookings          | Frances Wilcox                                    | bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk |              |
| Village Hall Caretaker         | Sam Fincher - caretaker@willandvillagehall.org.uk |                                    | 07377 556946 |
| Willand Rovers FC              | Cath Dinner                                       |                                    | 07775 550436 |
| Willand Art Group              | Jenny Baker                                       | Gables Road                        | 822882       |
| Willand Community Composting   | Tony Mander                                       |                                    | 821174       |
| Willand Cycle Club             | Alan Smith  | - biggiggy@hotmail.com             | 07545 273085 |
| Willand History Group          | James Morrison - jamorrison235@gmail.com          |                                    | 01884 250057 |
| Willand Short Mat Bowling Club | John Crocker                                      | 12 Maple Close                     | 35589        |
| Willand Theatrical Society     | Karen Goodchild                                   |                                    | 38122        |
| Willand United Charities       | Rev Simon Talbot                                  |                                    | 562570       |
| Youth Club (35218)             | Mrs M. Billings                                   | Cullompton                         | 07766 141361 |

## CHURCHES / EDUCATION

|                              |  |                             |              |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Baptist Church, Cullompton   | Rev. Glen Graham                               |                             | 34077        |
| Culm Valley Methodist Church | Rev. Paul Booth                                |                             | 32679        |
| Quakers                      | Pat Bell                                       |                             | 840823       |
| Roman Catholic Church        | Canon Kristian Paver - St Boniface, Cullompton |                             | 252292       |
| St. Mary's Church            | Rev. Simon Talbot                              |                             | 01884 562570 |
| St. Mary Parochial CC        | Secretary Sandy Hancock                        |                             | 35165        |
| Cullompton Community College |  |                             | 33364        |
| Uffculme School              |  |                             | 840458       |
| Willand Pre-School           |  |                             | 33711        |
| Willand Primary School       |  |                             | 820367       |
| Parent/Teacher Assoc.        | Mrs Jacobs                                     | willandschoolptfa@gmail.com |              |

## LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

|                    |                        |                              |               |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Neil Parish        | (M.P)                  | neil.parish.mp@parliament.uk | 0207 219 7172 |
| Ray Radford        | (Devon County Council) | ray.radford@devon.gov.uk     | 820000        |
| Richard Chesterton | (MD Dist Councillor)   | rchesterton@middevon.gov.uk  | 33480         |
| Bob Evans          | (MD Dist Councillor)   | revans@middevon.gov.uk       | 849248        |
| Barry Warren       | (MD Dist Councillor)   | bwarren@middevon.gov.uk      | 07971 808423  |

### Parish Council

### Parish Council Website [www.willand-pc.org.uk](http://www.willand-pc.org.uk)

|                |                    |                                  |              |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Keith Grantham | (Councillor)       | keith.grantham@willand-pc.org.uk | 840780       |
| Stephen Little | (Councillor)       | stephen.little@willand-pc.org.uk | 07795821476  |
| Richard Phare  | (Councillor)       | richard.phare@willand-pc.org.uk  | 821910       |
| John Sellick   | (Councillor)       | john.sellick@willand-pc.org.uk   | 07865 570755 |
| Jason Scott    | (Councillor)       | jason.scott@willand-pc.org.uk    | 07818 045215 |
| Bill Tobin     | (Councillor)       | bill.tobin@willand-pc.org.uk     | 821571       |
| Barry Warren   | (Council Chairman) | barry.warren@willand-pc.org.uk   | 07971 808423 |
| Karen Whatley  | (Councillor)       | karen.whatley@willand-pc.org.uk  | 01884 822894 |
| Frances Wilcox | (Councillor)       | frances.wilcox@willand-pc.org.uk |              |
| Kate Taylor    | (Parish Clerk)     | clerk@willand-pc.org.uk          | 07920 014407 |

## MEDICAL

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Bramblehaies Surgery . . . . .                            | 33536        |
| College Surgery Partnership - General Enquiries . . . . . | 831300       |
| Gables Road Pharmacy . . . . .                            | 32604        |
| N.H.S. DIRECT . . . . .                                   | 111          |
| National Blood Service (Donors) Glenda Frost . . . . .    | 820641       |
| Out-of-Hours GP . . . . .                                 | 111          |
| Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (24hr A & E) . . . . .      | 01392 411611 |
| Tiverton & District Hospital (24hr Casualty) . . . . .    | 01884 235400 |
| Willand Surgery . . . . .                                 | 821878       |

## TRANSPORT

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| National Rail Enquiries . . . . .  | 03457 484950  |
| National Express Coach Services . . . . .                                      | 0371 781 818  |
| Traveline . . . . .  | 0871 200 2233 |
| Stagecoach Devon . . . . .   | 01392 427711  |
| Devon Bus (All bus timetables are displayed outside the Post Office) . . . . . | 01392 382800  |
| Culm Voluntary Car Scheme . . . . .  | 07546 525683  |

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| CHILDLINE . . . . .                           | 0800 1111     |
| CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU, TIVERTON . . . . .    | 03444 111 444 |
| CRIMESTOPPERS . . . . .                       | 0800 555111   |
| DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL . . . . .                | 0345 1551015  |
| ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (24 HOUR) . . . . .        | 0800 807060   |
| FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE, COASTGUARD . . . . . | 999 or 112    |
| GAS . . . . .                                 | 0800 111999   |
| INJURED WILDLIFE Exeter . . . . .             | 01392 439898  |
| M.D.D.C./DOG WARDEN . . . . .                 | 01884 255255  |
| R.S.P.C.A. . . . .                            | 0300 1234999  |
| SAMARITANS . . . . .                          | 116 123       |
| SOUTH WESTERN ELECTRICITY . . . . .           | 0800 365900   |
| SOUTH WEST WATER . . . . .                    | 0344 346 2020 |
| STREET LIGHTING/HIGHWAYS . . . . .            | 0345 155 1004 |
| TREE WARDEN - MRS DENNIS . . . . .            | 01884 34050   |

**DEFIBRILLATORS** - Can be accessed outside the Post Office and the Pre School buildings dial 999 to get the access code.

**MOBILE LIBRARY** - visits four weekly

|          |                      |                   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Thursday | Townlands            | 10.15am - 11.00am |
| Thursday | Willand Village Hall | 11.05am - 12.05pm |

**LATEST POSTAL COLLECTIONS**

|                           |            |          |
|---------------------------|------------|----------|
| Post Office (01884 32430) | Mon to Fri | Saturday |
| Meadow Park               | 5.30pm     | 11.00am  |
| Station Road              | 5.30pm     | 9.00am   |
| Fir Close                 | 5.30pm     | 9.30am   |
| Willand Moor Road         | 9.00am     | 7.00am   |
|                           | 4.00pm     | 11.00am  |

**COMMUNITY POLICE**  
NON EMERGENCY DIAL 101 or Email: 101\_p@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk  
Or Email: cullompton@dc.police.uk

**MAGAZINE** Gerri Taylor 01884 821528 Editor: willandparishmag@gmail.com

**WILLAND WEBSITE** [www.willandmatters.org.uk](http://www.willandmatters.org.uk)

Welcome to this our Autumn edition, time for the leaves to turn and start to fall. A time for remembering those who fell during the wars and a time to start thinking about and planning Winter celebrations.

**WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS). COVID-19**

Many thanks to keeping to the site layout of safe distancing. As long as we do this the greater the chance of remaining open.

**COMPOSTING MATTERS. LEAVES.**

This is the time of year when the leaves are dropping/falling and so we all have to deal with this.

The first method suggested is to keep the leaves by: - collecting and raking then mowing 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.

Alternatively, you could (if you have one) deposit leaves in wheelie bin.

Or, we **ONLY** accept **DRY** leaves. If you visit please deposit where guided into the nominated bay. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**URGENT - WE NEED your empty bags.**

When you purchase bags of compost, we would be grateful if you please return the empty bags. Please look in your sheds/garages or even if you know someone who has could you let them know of our need! Bring them back to enable us to continue would be really good! Thankyou.

**OPENING TIMES Wednesdays and Sundays - 10.00 am - 12 Noon.**

**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR.**

During this period the site will be: -

**CLOSED** FROM 12 noon - Sunday 20th December 2020.

**REOPEN** FROM 10.00am - Sunday 3rd January 2021.

**GARDEN WASTE.**

Please continue to deposit **ONLY** that which we accept (see signage).

Particularly Grass Cuttings, need to be fresh and not left to be rotted in bags/wheelie bins. **Tony Mander. Mob.07980472242.**

**Email: tmander931gmail.com**

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

Covid-19 is still with us; Government guidelines are changing by the day to try and keep up with the changing situation; who knows what is happening to the economy and what the future holds in store for our working members of the community as the funds for furlough schemes come to an end? There will be a need for us to think and work together as a community as we go forward. There has been a small rise in cases of Covid-19 in Mid Devon as I write this but by the time you read this all may well have changed again – that is the nature of the situation. Please stick to the guidelines, use common sense and consider



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others. It may not affect younger members so badly but you can spread it to others – remember – **DON'T KILL YOUR GRANNY** – or in my case 'your grandad'.

We are suffering many instances of Fly Tipping around the village, particularly in the Dean Hill Road area. If you see instances of this please report it by email to MDDC Customer Services with the exact location and what is there black bags, bed, etc. and if you can, attach a photograph. If you see someone actually do it please take the vehicle number and report that. Some residents have CCTV and there has been some very good footage come forward.

Can we please have a look at our hedges, shrubs and plants which are next to pavements and if they are encroaching over the pavement please cut them back. With the need for social distancing and with all the walkers, runners and dog walkers we have around the village we really need the full width. If you see a problem and cannot speak to the owner yourself then please report the location and problem to the Parish Clerk and she will see what can be achieved. The last thing we need is County Highways having to serve a notice, or worse, on our residents.

Some have got rather excited at the amount of money the Parish Council has in its bank account. It has to be realised that the Parish has a number of assets which require there to be a 'sinking fund' to be built up for the future maintenance and replacement. Quite a substantial sum will soon be used as the order has been placed for the cemetery extension to be fenced and then boundary planting has to take place. Play equipment needs maintaining and replacing when it comes to end of life. Those using the Jubilee Field will note there has been a closure of the fenced area of the playing field to enable some equipment to be replaced and the safety surface needed replacing. The surface around the skateboard ramps has been repaired and before you know it £50,000+ is gone from the account. The Parish Council is trying to be prudent to build up the reserve over a period of time rather than 'hike up' the precept when a big bill is due. The other alternative is the closure of areas and/or removal of equipment.

On the subject of removal, it will be noticed that the sides have been removed from the shelter in the Jubilee Field. This has become necessary due to offensive graffiti on them and also misuse of the facility by a minority of individuals. The sides are stored and may be cleaned up and replaced in the future. A picnic bench has recently been added to facilities in the Orchard Way play area for the benefit of families whilst using the play equipment. Again, a minority, oblivious to Covid-19 advice chose to hold a drinks and questionable substance party there. In spite of there being a rubbish bin there it was not used and a local resident cleared up after them [thank you] rather than see the area unusable for others. If this behaviour continues we may be forced into removing that facility. Come on folks a bit of common sense and consideration for others required please.

# FOOT HEALTH CLINIC



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The Clerk now has some part time assistance and is able to update and put much more information on the Parish Website and Facebook pages. This is in an attempt to keep our community, or at least those interested, to be as up to date as possible as to what is happening in the village and the area in general.

There has been speculation on other Facebook sites as to what is happening to the trees around the site proposed for up to 125 dwellings on the fields just off Meadow Park. Outline planning permission and access has been approved as the result of an appeal. The Parish Council made application to MDDC for a Tree Preservation Order for the whole site and a temporary one was put in place. The landowner objected to some of the trees being the subject of an order, particularly those on the hedge across the site. Officers stood firm and were only prepared to agree to amend the order for a tree either side of the gateway – the approved entrance – to be taken out from the protection of the order. Common sense dictated that this be done. With my Independent Ward Councillor hat on I was able to propose that the slightly revised order be made permanent and all others on the Planning Committee supported my proposal and the Officer recommendation. The developer still may try and get some trees removed when they put in the details for the final layout but that will be for another day.

There are quite a lot of things being discussed and to be consulted on for the future development of the village and our community wellbeing. Please watch the magazine, website and Facebook and respond when opinions are sought or consultation surveys are set up. This is the only way we Parish Councillors can gauge what you are thinking and wishing for.

As a final note can I remind you all that we are two councillors short for our full quota. The current commitment is one meeting a month via zoom. If you are interested and would like to help your community please contact the Clerk for more details. **Barry G J Warren. Chair of Parish Council.**

## **POPPY APPEAL 2020**



This year the poppy appeal format will be very different. Poppies will be available in local shops and businesses as per usual but there will not be any door to door sale of poppies. Donations can also be made via the Royal British Legion Website where once you have donated you will receive a virtual poppy that you will be able to download and display in your window. If you require a wreath then this can be ordered from Margaret Dennis and if you are unable to get to the shops are isolating or shielding then you can contact Margaret to arrange the safe collection or delivery of a poppy or pin. If you are able to volunteer your help in this delivery system for the most vulnerable then please contact Margaret Dennis on 01884 34050.



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## NEWS FROM COLDHARBOUR MILL

### Making a Splash!

Water, Wildlife and Wellbeing

Although the Museum is currently closed to the public, Coldharbour Mill Trust is very excited to be launching the plans for phase two of PROJECT SPLASH!

This community woodland and wetland project aims to regenerate the Millpond area, creating a wildlife haven and community space for everyone to enjoy.

We want to involve **YOU** in the planning and design of the new 10-acre Community Space and Industrial Sculpture Trail.

We need members of the local community, schools and other groups to help co-create the new community space, so we are recruiting volunteers to help us deliver the design aspirations on the ground, getting input from all so the project can be as accessible and relevant as possible.

Your support will enable us to employ a part-time project coordinator and to provide volunteers with the skills training and equipment they will need for the project. This rural work-based expertise will help to improve volunteers' chances when seeking paid employment in the future. Alongside will be the development of countryside management and artisan skills such as dry stone walling, and management of water & wildlife.

You can show your support by giving your feedback, volunteering your time or donating to our crowd-funder!

For more info about volunteering to help with the project, please email [info@coldharbourmill.org.uk](mailto:info@coldharbourmill.org.uk) or phone 01884 840960.

To support the Crowd-funder appeal, please go to the Mill website: [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk) or to: [www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/making-a-splash-1](http://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/making-a-splash-1)

For more information about the project, to see the plan and a video, or to give feedback (by 31st October), please go to: [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/projectsplash/](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/projectsplash/)

**Susan Wasfi**



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## **WILLAND GARDEN CLUB**

Again, no news about the Club, as we have not met since March. We are hoping that, with lockdown, so many more people have been enjoying their gardens. It really has been a great year for fruit, vegetables and flowers. If we had been able to hold our Flower Show, I think we would have had a large number of exhibits. Fingers crossed for next year.

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. Visitors are welcome at £1 per meeting. **Carol Allan Garden Club Secretary**

## **DEAR RESIDENTS.**

Not much to report this time, Aug is always a quiet month, and haven't really got going yet, but we will get busy from now on, because we will be heading towards budget preparation time, what with covid-19, things will be very different. All our meetings are virtual meetings. If you have any issues, by all means let me know.

I have met with Phil Morgan, County Highways Officer, over the Doing What Matters, he has now put together a plan of the three most needed roads for attention in each Parish, this now will be considered by the asset management team, because there will not be enough funds available to complete all the schemes of every Parish in this next year.

There is a Government white paper due out later this month concerning changes to the structure of local government and a possible move to unitary council system. County Council Network have produced a document analysing the possible savings in expenditure on a yearly basis of each County being allowed to become a unitary council on existing boundaries. There is a document been produced on this, it is 70 pages long, but I have not read it yet.

The document talks about unitaries being between 300k to 600k+ electorate, this will have to be taken into consideration if change is made in Devon because Plymouth and Torbay are relatively small unitaries. One of the criteria, is that all unitaries must have whole district areas, such as the whole of Mid Devon being part of a unitary. It would look like Devon would have two unitaries at least because of the numbers. I think the white paper is heavy on creating unitary councils as opposed to two tier councils. A number of Counties have already been having early conversations with Government with a request to change to unitaries. Most Counties have had counter proposals being put forward by Districts, grouping themselves into smaller units by claiming to be reflecting to be better needs of the residents. We will have to watch this space. I think this is what has brought about GESP, which has been rejected by East Devon and now Mid Devon, so that is dead, but, I think a different version will come back

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for consultation because of the `Need to co-operate with other local Councils`, this something that is required within the planning process.

As the schools are now back from their lockdown and holidays, most schools in Devon, over 90% have returned for schooling. I haven't heard of any issues within the Culm Valley area, so assume there are no immediate issues. It must be very difficult for schools to work within the law, just hope they will be able to keep everyone safe.

"Nationally, you'll be aware that the number of confirmed covid-19 cases in some areas are rising, which has led to tighter restrictions being introduced. Although Devon's rates have been comparatively low so far, we cannot be complacent. Just like the rest of the country, we have seen a significant rise in the number of confirmed cases in September. Not all new cases are now linked to returning international travellers, which was the pattern we had seen recently. We must remember that coronavirus is still a very real threat to us all, especially to our older and vulnerable residents."

You may have heard England's Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Professor Jonathan Van Tam, describing the latest "big change" in coronavirus infections across the UK as a "great concern" and that he believes we are in for a "bumpy ride over the next few months" if people did not adhere more stringently to the social distancing rules.

**New rules from Monday (14 September). People will not be able to meet socially with others from other households in groups of more than six people.**

That applies indoors and outdoors, including in people's own homes. Rules around social distancing and the use of face coverings still apply too. There will be penalties for breaching the new rules. **The police will have powers to enforce, and fines of £100 could be issued. Fines will keep doubling for further breaches, to a maximum of £3,200.**

We are committed to providing the best quality and support for dementia care and are collaborating with care home providers to support sharing of best practice and to review briefings from the Alzheimer's Society and Dementia UK who we already work closely with.

In March the Government announced a new Pothole Fund to be awarded each year to highway authorities from 20/21 until 24/25 with Devon's share of this funding for 20/21 being £28.869m inclusive of the last year of the Pothole Action Fund at £1.92m. This increased capital funding adds an additional £26.949m to the capital programme approved in May this year, the largest capital programme ever at £81.843m. Any problems/concerns, you know where I am.

**Ray Radford Devon County Councillor Willand & Uffculme Division**

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## **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WiTS)**

Lockdown over “Clampdown” now in force. The new social gathering “Rule of Six” leaves us all treading water for the foreseeable future.

No changes at the moment to our long term strategy i.e. we will hopefully be holding our A.G.M. in April 2021 and after that start preparing for our next production in September 2021 of “Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders” Our thoughts go out to anyone caught up in this pandemic, we look forward to when we can all be safely together again. We hope that after all this trouble and sacrifice and isolation our audience’s will welcome the light relief of Amateur Theatre. Stay safe. **Sam Fincher.**

## **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL**

We have been taking a few more bookings over the last month and they seem to be working well, although, with the Government’s new rules coming into being on 14<sup>th</sup> September, we may not be able to hire out to more than 6 people at a time. Hopefully, exceptions can be made for suitable distanced classes.

It has been very difficult for the Hall, as we have no funding other than from hire charges, yet still have to pay utility and cleaning bills. Ensuring that the premises are as COVID safe as possible has increased cleaning costs as the sanitiser and cleaning wipes are not cheap. Please make sure you do use these if you hire rooms at the Hall.

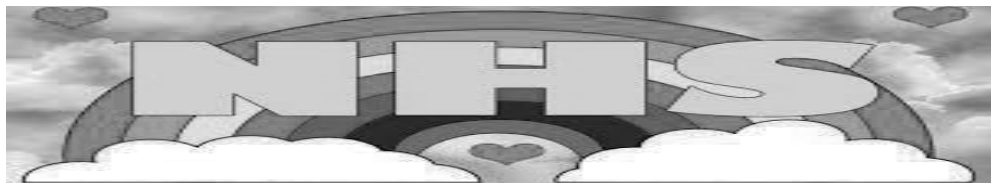
A note about the Tennis Courts: These belong to the Village Hall but are maintained by Willand Tennis Club. They also collect payments for bookings by the public, which are then used to help maintain the courts. Courts are available for public use, but now have to be booked online, not more than two days beforehand. Please visit the Willand Tennis Club site for more details.

After all the decoration and refurbishment we have done over the past months, we were looking forward to showing off our shiny new look premises, but we will look forward to doing so as soon as possible.

Please visit our website, [www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk), to check the calendar to see when the hall is free. The email for booking is [bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk). **Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer**

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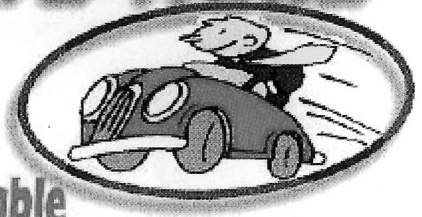
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| Pilates with Leanne           | Mondays          | 10.45 pm |
| Kettle Bell Pump              | Mondays          | 7:00 pm  |
|                               |                  |          |
| Pilates with Ellie            | Tuesday          | 9:30 am  |
| Pilates with Ellie            | Tuesday          | 10.45am  |
| Flower Arranging (Sept-March) | Tuesday          | 1:30 pm  |
| Move it or Lose it            | Tuesday          | 2:00 pm  |
| Gymnastics Club               | Tuesday          | 4.00 pm  |
|                               |                  |          |
| Flower Arranging (Sept-March) | Wednesday        | 1:30 pm  |
| Pilates with Leanne           | Wednesday        | 5.30 pm  |
|                               |                  |          |
| Pilates with Ellie            | Thursday         | 9.30 am  |
| Karate                        | Thursday         | 6.30 pm  |
|                               |                  |          |
| Zumba                         | Fridays          | 9.00am   |
| Theatre Train Exeter          | Saturday         | 2.00pm   |
| Cowgirl Twisters              | Saturday monthly | 7:30 pm  |
|                               |                  |          |
| Rugby Tots??                  | Sundays          | 9:30 am  |
| Martial Arts                  | Sundays          | 5.15 pm  |
| Martial Arts                  | Sundays          | 6.30 pm  |

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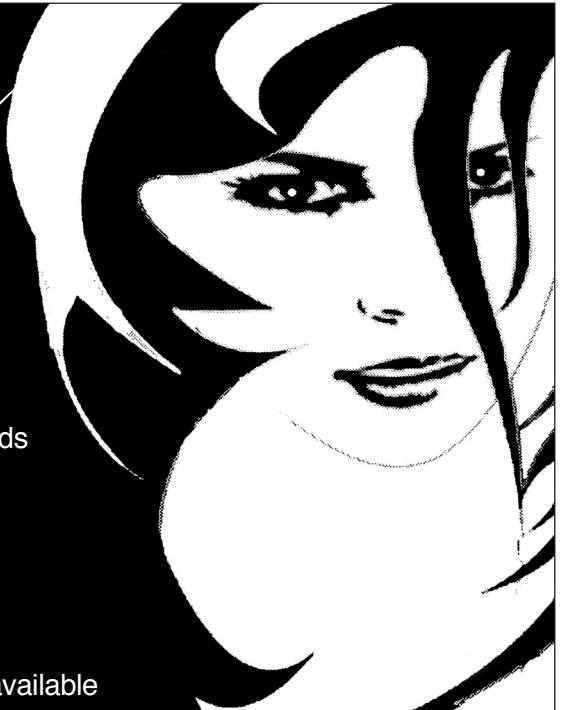
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## ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK

On the 29<sup>th</sup> February we hosted a 'Northern Night' in Willand village hall to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK (ARUK). It was probably the last Saturday night out that many of us had prior to lockdown, and all who attended had a great time.

The evening's entertainment inevitably spawned folk up on their feet singing and dancing, and was provided by the local George Formby tribute trio Ukulele Crazy, as well as the almighty sound of Wellington Silver Band.

The evening's delicious Northern Supper fare came in the form of traditional pie, chips and mushy peas, washed down with lashings of gravy.

In the interests of authenticity the 130 pies were supplied by our favourite Bolton based bakery, Greenhalgh's, and were transported south by members of my family. Having survived the 250 mile journey, our wonderful Willand Co-op manager Shane re-heated them to perfection. Additional local help came from Willand based Clarkes fish and chip shop who supplied 130 portions of chips & mushy peas all free of charge. Thank you to both Shane & the team at Clarkes for all they did to help make the evening such a success.

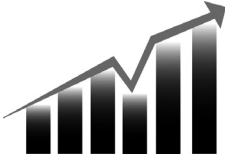


In addition to the ticket sales, further funds were raised by a raffle and auction of promises resulting in a whopping £1800 being raised on the night.

As previously mentioned the event was held to raise funds for ARUK as a precursor to sponsorship of Gudrun and I running the London Landmarks Half Marathon at the end of March. Sadly the epidemic saw the event cancelled, but having trained 3 times a week since the beginning of December we decided to still do the run & following the encouragement of the organisers, who changed the name to the 'Local Landmarks Half Marathon', we subsequently ran the 13.1 miles locally on Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Both Gudrun and I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to everyone who supported us and helped to raise the massive sum of **£4950**. Special thanks go to Heyford House Day Spa, Made by Jennie, Homeweb, Culm Valley Carpets, 2 Right Feet, The Old Well, Halfway House, Banburys & many friends, all who donated gifts for us to raffle/auction. Thanks too to my long-suffering husband Pete, for all his encouragement & support, he made a great master of ceremonies.





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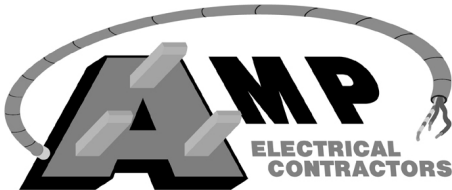
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The really good news is that we are now back running together again and have just received notification that we have secured places to run in the 2021 London Landmarks Half Marathon. Brings to mind we might just have to arrange another fund raising bash in the village hall in anticipation, hope you'll all come along watch this space. **Sue Leach**



## **HOSPICECARE**

**Marathon in a Month is Hospiscare's brand new virtual marathon event, raising vital funds to help support over 2000 patients and their families living with a terminal illness across Exeter, Mid and East Devon.**

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All participants will each receive a Hospiscare medal as a 'thank you' for their efforts and to celebrate their heroic achievement.

Adult - £10 Dog (and owner) - £15 Child - £5

Sign up today at <https://www.hospiscare.co.uk/events/marathon/>  
**Ali Mcgeown**

## **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

September 2020 marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of Willand's proudest moments, when the whole community contributed to the nation's efforts to win the Second World War. It was the time of the Battle of Britain, when the Royal Air Force successfully defended British air space from the German air force, so thwarting any chance they had of invading England. The government appealed for a Spitfire Fund of public donations to build aircraft, so the people of Willand decided to do their bit. A committee was formed – led by Major Lane, Oswald Little and Frederick Holloway – and they pledged to raise as much money as



possible towards the cost of building a Spitfire, one of the RAF's iconic fighter aircraft.

Starting from Monday, 2 September 1940, they organised a Willand Spitfire Week of intensive fundraising activities. There were darts competitions at the Halfway House, and skittles competitions at the Railway Hotel (then Willand's other pub, later knocked down when the M5 was built), as well as door-to-door collections, whist drives, a produce auction and a tennis tournament. The events culminated on the Saturday with a sports day – when Miss Gay was crowned Willand's 'Spitfire Queen' – with stalls and sideshows. In the evening there followed a 'grand' dance at the Assembly Room (also lost to the M5), and "Thus ended a proud and memorable week for little Willand." Just about everyone in the parish was involved in some way, and they had every right to feel proud: they raised an impressive £192, 10 shillings and 3 pence – according to the National Archives' currency converter this would have been worth about £7,575 today. The money was sent to the Ministry of Aircraft Production, which was headed by Lord Beaverbrook, who promptly replied in a letter dated 28 September 1940: "The people of Willand have paid a noble tribute to the gallantry of our airmen. And by their resourcefulness and generosity they have added strength to the Royal Air Force. I send to them my warm thanks. They have given splendid evidence of the spirit which animates our country to-day. Yours faithfully, Beaverbrook."

Willand's fundraising effort was not the only reason for the RAF's success in the Battle Britain, another reason was because, during September 1940, the Germans changed tactics and started bombing London, so starting the Blitz. But this also had a knock-on effect for Willand, because it prompted a firm called Bramber Engineering to move part of their business from Cricklewood in London to a site on South View Road in Willand (where K&S Auto Services is now). Bramber's made vehicle springs, trailers and trailer components, and by 1940 were engaged in war work, including a contract to make parts for tanks. The Germans bombs posed a serious threat to their irreplaceable machinery, so they moved it to Willand – where components were made and then transported back to their London works for assembly. Several of their London employees came down as well, and were billeted in the parish, but as the war went on and the business expanded many local people were employed. A post-war report emphasised that: "Special tribute should be paid to the many women operators who worked the machines both night and day." The hours were long, and the work was difficult and repetitive, and much of it had to be kept secret, even between fellow workers.

After the war, Bramber's kept on their Willand workshops, concentrating on the repair of springs, wheels, axle beams and chassis frames, contracting to bus companies from as far away as the Midlands. By 1965 over 60 people were employed by Bramber's in the offices and on the shop floor at Willand, and by the 1970s the Willand site specialised in the manufacture of boat trailers. The end for Bramber's in Willand came in 2010, after the business was essentially

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seen off by the 2008 global financial crisis – so concluding, after 70 years, one of the unforeseen consequences of the London Blitz. If you have any memories of working for Bramber's, or the people who worked there, or can add any more information about their war work, or the years after the war, we would love to hear from you. **James Morrison, 01884 250057 (jamorrison235@gmail.com)**

## **CAMEO**

The Walking Group have not been so affected as the rest of the group as they have been able to have a few well distanced walks mainly around the Uffculme area. The Singles Group have had to cancel all their meetings until the New Year as it is impossible for ten or more members to keep their distance in each-others rooms so unfortunately this will mean no Christmas party. We cancelled our holiday to Nottinghamshire as we were worried about travelling by coach. We have booked our New Year Lunch at the Halfway House as they can safely accommodate sixteen people in The Snug so we are keeping our fingers crossed. Peta had a little tea party in her garden and several members went to Bridwell House for a Coffee morning.

In September we had our first Cameo meeting since March in the Village Hall and new member Sue gave a talk about recycling. This was followed by a quiz and a draw. Next month is our A. G. M. This year's committee are willing to stand again but we are hoping that a couple of new members will volunteer to come on to the committee. We will be having a discussion and vote for next year's charity. We are trying to cope with the New Normal as best we can but we all miss the friendship that Cameo brings. Reluctantly we have had to postpone all Cameo meetings and coffee mornings until it is safe for us to meet again. Keep apart and keep well and keep smiling. **Betty Penberthy**

**SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE AND JOIN THE PARISH COUNCIL CURRENT COMMITMENT ONE MEETING A MONTH ON ZOOM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CLERK.**

## **MDDC NEWS**

### **Independent Councillor Barry G J Warren**

I have covered some issues in my Parish Council Report and Comment and so I will not duplicate them here. There is quite a lot going on at present with a lot of 'wheeling and dealing' and party spin being put on some things. I thought it may help to give some comment/news through my Independent and Non-Party Political eyes even if some of you will have formed a different view.

Since May 2019 MDDC has been led by an alliance of Liberal Democrats and Independents, sometime with support from Green Party members. The appointed leader stands as an Independent and he can select his own Cabinet Members. As the voters of Mid Devon had placed no overall party in power the leader tried to form a Cabinet which contained members from all parties. The

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Conservatives declined to participate and declared that they would form an opposition.

Since that time the current administration has taken time to try and get to the bottom of some of the activities and policies of the previous administration. There has been some alleged prevarication which has not helped.

There have been discussions with Exeter City Council and Teignbridge, East Devon and Mid Devon District Councils to form a plan known as GESP [Greater Exeter Strategic Plan]. Basically it would mean a lot more building of houses to meet Government targets and it appears that East and Mid Devon would end up with a disproportionate amount of housing compared with the other two areas, In the main it was perceived as providing housing for residents to commute into Exeter to work. A very comprehensive plan was presented for public consultation but in the view of some, me included, there were a lot of unanswered questions and in particular what the public was being consulted on. East Devon District Council by 33 to 22 votes decided to reject the plan and did not send it out to consultation. The leader of MDDC wanted to continue discussions with the three other councils but he was outvoted 7 to 1 in Cabinet. There were discussions behind closed doors which I have been unable to obtain the exact detail of but the outcome was that the leader did a 'deal' with the Conservative leadership. When the item was discussed at Full Council the leader put forward an amendment contrary to Cabinet wishes and the Liberal Democrats put forward their own amendment. The leader got his own amendment through with Conservative support.

The outcome was that the four Liberal Democrats on cabinet had their portfolios 'terminated' [sacked] and were replaced by four Conservatives – remember they would not take part when originally invited.

Decisions are now being made behind closed doors on some issues and we appear to be losing the intention for the Council to be more open, transparent and accountable that some of us stood for and can now do little about because of the change. We will keep trying so watch this space. I could say a lot more but I expect you have had enough by now. There have been press releases – 'economical with the truth' are the words which come to mind.

MDDC are very active in many areas supporting National and Local arrangements to support businesses and the public at large. Great efforts are being made by officers to make safety arrangements in the three main towns and Bampton to allow the shops to open and bring some vitality back to the area. Sadly some of the big named shops may be lost but all the more reason to support our local independent businesses. There is a lot of information on the website and there are regular press releases.

Covid and the lockdowns have had a devastating effect on the budget set to provide our services. The two main sources of revenue are car parks and leisure centres and their income has been very little. Government are releasing some funds through and although this is helping it will not cover all the losses.



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A new budget will have to be set very soon and this may see some services cut or reduced. Councillors will do the best they can to keep things going as best as able.

Have you noted that the recycling teams will now take small electrical items and will again take clothing so please let us recycle all we can.

The Government are suggesting changes to Planning Law to make it easier for developers to build more houses and Local Authorities will be penalised if they do not achieve targets but no matter how many planning permissions are given there is nothing in the changes to make housebuilders build – they will not build too many otherwise they cannot keep the prices up. Having read the proposals and attended officer briefings it is very obvious to me that the big developers are writing the policy. Am I a cynic – no just realistic? If you are asked to respond to a consultation please do so.

If anyone has a problem or wishes to discuss any matter with me please feel free to do so. My telephone number and email address are in the magazine and on the MDDC website. If you really want to frighten the children my picture is there as well!



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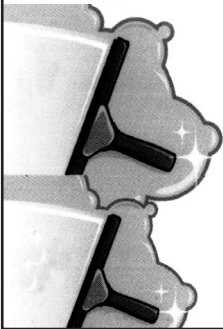
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## **ST MARYS CHURCH**

### **Sunday Services**

St Mary's church is now open for church services. We are meeting at 10am at the moment (although this might change so keep eyes open on facebook/posters). You are required to wear a face mask in church, unless you have an exemption.

### **Harvest Collection for CHAT**

In October we mark our gratitude to God for the abundance of food we have. As part of this we will be collecting food donations for CHAT. If you would like to contribute to this please leave your donation in the church porch. The porch will be open each day from 3-16 October 9.30am to 4pm. CHAT are grateful for any tinned or packet food or toiletries - but please do not leave any fresh food as this can not be distributed and is likely to be thrown away.

### **Remembrance Sunday Service on 8th November 10.45am**

We are currently planning to hold our whole Remembrance Sunday service in the churchyard around the War Memorial (i.e. there will be no service in church).

We are allowed to have as many people as we can fit socially distanced in the churchyard, however if regulations change we will need to revise how we mark this important occasion. **Reverend Simon Talbot**

### **MDDC Councillor Bob Evans**

Hello, I hope this edition of your Parish magazine finds you and your families well. We keep being asked what we think the new normal might look like, yet we all seem to be living a very "new" normal most days.

Covid is still causing worry and concern in all parts of the world. Locally our numbers are still low but we cannot be complacent. Please take care, wear a mask when asked, don't take risks and keep yourself and others safe.

As those that use the Willand Parish Council's web pages will know, I also have a role as a Councillor Police Advocate. Willand Parish Council have kindly allowed an additional page to be used for relevant information and police updates on issues that effect our local communities. I have asked Uffculme to do the same and they have agreed. If you wish to see the latest local updates please go to the relevant Parish web site and take a look.

On a similar theme I spent a recent Saturday morning with another Councillor Advocate and Alison Hernandez the Police and Crime Commissioner. Alison is looking to reopen a small number of local police units as reinvented community information and public access points and Tiverton is one of those units.

There will be an opportunity for locals to have a say in what they want to see in their local unit. I hope to have the information on how you can have your say very soon and this will be placed on the Parish web pages.

Proposed planning reforms - The government have recently released their proposals on planning reforms. Below are the relevant links that will take you to

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the white papers. There is also information on how you can make comments if you wish. Even if you do not wish to comment you may find the content interesting.

Publication of the government's proposals for reform of the planning system with the issue of

- 'Planning for the future' White Paper

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/907216/MHCLG\\_Planning\\_Consultation\\_Document.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907216/MHCLG_Planning_Consultation_Document.pdf)

- Consultation on changes to the current planning system (a more technical document)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/907215/200805\\_Changes\\_to\\_the\\_current\\_planning\\_system\\_FINAL\\_version.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907215/200805_Changes_to_the_current_planning_system_FINAL_version.pdf)

The White Paper sets out what it describes as 'radical reform unlike anything we have seen since the Second World War'. It sets out a new vision for the planning system addressing:

1. Plan making
2. A digital first approach
3. A new focus on design and sustainability
4. Reform of developer contributions
5. Increase development land availability and support for town centre renewal
6. A more engaging, equitable and effective system

Reform is proposed around 3 'pillars' of the planning system:

1. Planning for development – a revised approach for plan making including identifying areas for growth (outline planning permission granted automatically), areas for renewal (where there will be a presumption in favour of development) and areas for protection (to be defined nationally and locally).
2. Planning for beautiful and sustainable places
3. Planning for infrastructure and connected places

That's it for now, the days are shorter and the temperature is definitely dropping. Keep an eye on those who live alone. Look after yourself and as always if you have any questions or concerns please contact me or any of your other district councillors, after all that's what we are here for.

**Bob Evans Lower Culm Deputy Leader of the Council Cabinet Member for Housing & Property Services Telephone: 01884 849248**

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 11  
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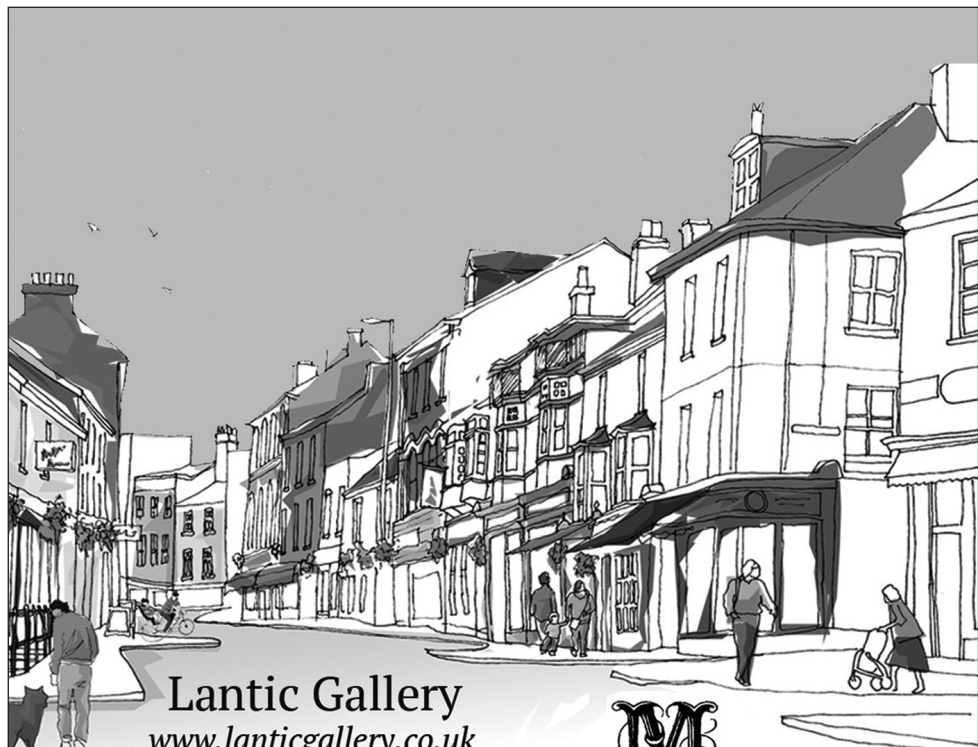
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[www.mojustiverton.com](http://www.mojustiverton.com)



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