#### **WILLAND MAGAZINE**

December 2021 & January 2022



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Brownies		Bridget Pea			07814 569054	
C.A.M.E.O. Ladies G	irn	Peta Jackn			07900 904822	
Club 55	"P	Margaret A		27 Townlands	38217	
Folk Dance Club		Marilyn Bro		27 10 1111111111111111111111111111111111	01404 47200	
Garden Club		Mrs Carol A		4 Orchard Way	33828	
Tiny Tots		Karly Cous		Cullompton	07730 895472	
Tennis Club		Mrs R. Par	ish	weirmilldevon@gmai	l.com 820803	
Tennis Courts (Public	c Hire)			clubspark.lta.org.uk/Wi	llandTennisClub	
Village Hall Bookings	3	Frances W		bookings@willandvi		
Village Hall Caretaker		Sam Finche	er - caretake	r@willandvillagehall.org.u		
Willand Rovers FC		Cath Dinne			07775 550436	
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Willand History Grou				orrison235@gmail.com		
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Willand Theatrical So	•	Karen Goo			38122	
Willand United Chari	ties	Rev Simon		Cullamentam	562570	
Youth Club (35218)		Mrs M. Billi	rigs	Cullompton	07766 141361	
CHURCHES / EDU	CATION					
Baptist Church, Cullo	ompton	Rev. Glen	Graham		34077	
Culm Valley Methodi	st Church	Rev. Paul Booth 32679				
Quakers		Pat Bell			840823	
Roman Catholic Chu	ırch			<ul> <li>St Boniface, Cullomp</li> </ul>		
St. Mary's Church	•	Rev. Simor			01884 562570	
St. Mary Parochial C		Secretary S	Sandy Han	cock	35165	
Cullompton Commur	nity College				33364	
Uffculme School					840458	
Willand Primary Sah	ool				33711	
Willand Primary Sche Parent/Teacher Asso		Mrs Jacobs		willandschool	820367 otfa@gmail.com	
i aleili/leacher Asso	C.	WIIS JACODS	•	Willariuscriooi	nia@gmaii.com	
<b>LOCAL REPRESE</b>	NTATIVES					
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Barry Warren	(MD Dist Co			middevon.gov.uk	07971 808423	
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Paul Major	(Councillor)			r@willand-pc.org.uk	07942 273939	
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Bill Tobin	(Councillor)			willand-pc.org.uk	821571	
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Andrea Glover	(Councillor)			over@willand-pc.org.uk	07908 734368	
Vacancy	(Councillor)			- : - : - :a. /a po.org.uk	2.000 / 0 1000	
,						
Barbara Bodkin	(Parish Cleri	k)	clerk@wil	land-pc.org.uk	07920 014407	

MEDICAL Bramblehaies Surgery. College Surgery Partnership - General Enquiries. Gables Road Pharmacy N.H.S. DIRECT National Blood Service (Donors) Glenda Frost. Out-of-Hours GP Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (24hr A & E) Urgent Care Centre (Currently open 08.00-20.00 7 days a week) Willand Surgery.	831300 32604 
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	Thursday	Willand Village Hall	11.05am - 12.05pm

LATEST POSTAL COLLECTIONS	Mon to Fri	Saturday
Post Office (01884 32430)	5.30pm	11.00am
Meadow Park	5.30pm	9.00am
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Fir Close	9.00am	7.00am
Willand Moor Road	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

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EDITORIAL No 158

Welcome to the Christmas and New Year edition. Things are certainly starting up in the village and there is more to get up and out to this year. If you are new to the village or maybe just retired and looking for a new interest why not join one of the groups or come along to an event and see if you would be interesting in being involved. There are lots of opportunities to get involved in the village and meet new people, now is the time to relaunch and revive. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the magazine team.

#### SOUTHWEST TRADING STANDARD ON AVIAN INFLUENZA

Heart of the Southwest Trading Standards Service have advised us that as of 5pm on the 3 November 2021 an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone was declared across Great Britain. This means that all bird keepers in Great Britain (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard are required by law to take a range of bio-security precautions:

**Schedule 1** - Minimum biosecurity measures applying to all keepers Keep domestic ducks and geese separate from other poultry.

- 1. Ensure the areas where birds are kept are unattractive to wild birds, for example by netting ponds, and by removing wild bird food sources.
- 2. Feed and water their birds in enclosed areas to discourage wild birds.
- 3. Minimise movement into and out of bird enclosures.
- 4. Cleanse and disinfect footwear and keep areas where birds live clean/tidy.
- 5. Reduce any existing contamination by cleansing and disinfecting concrete areas and fencing off wet or boggy areas.
- 6. Keep free ranging birds within fenced areas, and ponds, watercourses and permanent standing water must be fenced off (except in specific circumstances, e.g., zoo birds).

**Schedule 2** –Enhanced biosecurity measures for premises with over 500 poultry or other captive birds

Keepers with more than 500 birds will need to restrict access for non-essential people on their sites, workers will need to change clothing and footwear before entering bird enclosures and site vehicles will need to be cleaned and disinfected regularly to limit the risk of the disease spreading.

Full details of what is required can be found on the government website: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/1030990/aipz-declaration.pdf

To assist all bird keepers in complying with the new rules, the **biosecurity guidance and self-assessment checklists** have been updated and all the latest information can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#biosecurity

Remember that if you have poultry it is your responsibility to keep updated on any outbreaks and an easy way to do this is to sign up for text notifications - register with the APHA alerts service.

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

Times are changing for the village. Those who are observant will see that work has started towards the provision of 125 houses off Meadow Park. They do not have full planning permission at the time of writing but that does not seem to matter with some these days. They do have permission to make the entrance but they seem to be 'creeping'. Some were concerned at the number of trees that were being felled but I have had the MDDC Arboriculture [Tree] Officer to site and he assures me that they have felled the trees in accord with the permission granted for the entrance. It is also noticed that they had closed off the public footpath but I have visited the site and spoken to the workmen and advised them of the requirement to get permission to divert it temporarily. They have made an effort and MDDC Planning Enforcement Officers are watching points. The Parish Council has submitted a response which is on the public website for all to see and if you have any observations of your own please make sure you have your say. All the details and links are available on our website.

Another change is that sadly Jason Scott has resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons. He will be a loss to the Parish Council and to me personally as he has been very supportive and has undertaken many tasks with work in the Jubilee Field and with our new speed monitoring/warning equipment. He has also undertaken many surveys of assets. Thank you Jason and we wish you well for the future and if ever you feel able to come back and help you know that you will be welcome. There is now a vacancy for a councillor and so if you feel that you would like to help with looking after our community please contact the Clerk and she will take it from there. You can also speak with me or any other councillor for information.

Our handyman, David, has been busy putting rubber matting in the Jubilee Field to try and help improve things around the footpath to make it easier for the parents/carers waiting for children going in and out of school as part of the Covid-19 precautions. Hopefully the grass will grow through it and so we will not have lost 'green' but it should stop mud developing on the edge of the path. We had noted in the past that the area to the dog bin in the field and the entrance from Gables Lea were also mud baths at certain times and we hope to have improved those areas as well.

Arrangements are in hand for our Christmas light display again this year and we have been hit with some extra cost as at least one of our timing units needs replacing on a lamppost. Our Clerk will be writing to local businesses to seek their support and we do have a number that generously support us each year. If you feel you can help with a donation, however small, please contact Barbara, our Clerk and she will work with you. We do like those that help us to be recognised via our website and the magazine. Please make a point of supporting our local businesses who support our local community. Whilst speaking of help I would like to thank The Old Well for their support with a generous discount on our plants for the planters around the village.

Thank you also to John Holmes, our litter picker, for his voluntary support in this project with the various volunteers who look after the planters.

Volunteers are working hard to maintain supplies to the food pantry at the Preschool nursery site at the Gables. Sadly more and more people are needing their help. I know that they worked wonders for some families last Christmas so please keep the support coming this year.

There has been plenty of inconvenience at various places and times around the village with workmen digging holes and laying cables. Hopefully we will all benefit from it in the future. Sadly we still have a small group of young people causing damage and presenting other forms of anti-social behaviour around the village which is an inconvenience in their own selfish and inconsiderate way. Having said that there was another group which by their very presence caused some concern and it turned out that they were very polite and helpful so well done them as it was great to hear that their responsible manners and behaviour in the community was not only recognised but the information shared with others.

A lot of activities are coming up in the village which will benefit from interest and support. The Annual Carol Service is but one such event which will not happen without a lot of hard work by dedicated volunteers. Please support their efforts by attending such events. Speaking of volunteers may I thank the stalwarts who organise the Coffee and Chat mornings each month at The Gables WH&CC It is all very informal and relaxed — and cheap. I manage to attend most and it is good to see new faces each time. It gives me a chance to catch up on concerns of residents and you can also raise any concerns you may have with me as I am there with two hats on — Parish Councillor and District Councillor.

By the time you receive this I hope that I will have had the honour of representing our community in laying a poppy wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Another example of our community coming together to remember past members who gave their all. Willand is growing but let us make all incomers welcome and encourage them to be active members of the community too.

**Budget:** The Parish amount in the Council Tax bill is very small but as fuel and wages have gone up all our costs for grass cutting, grounds maintenance and the like will have to be paid for or else we will have to cut back. Anyone with any thoughts or questions are advised to contact the Clerk please. We can discuss at our Finance and Administration meeting in December and then the final figures will be agreed in January 2022.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New-year Please remember those that are not so fortunate or may have no family to share Christmas with, try and look in on a neighbour to make sure that they are OK and if possible bring them a little festive spirit. If you are on your own remember that there are people and organisations around who are always willing to help. Barry Warren Chair Willand Parish Council

#### **CAMEO**

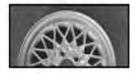
Where is Miss Marple when you need her? Our blackboard has gone walkabout. To my knowledge it has lived in the hall cupboard at the Village Hall since the 1950's first belonging to the W.I. and then to Cameo. If you know where it is please let Pat know 820382. (No reward though as we've had to splash out on a whiteboard).

October was our A.G.M. and we welcomed two new members and several visitors. As we have all been double jabbed we didn't need to wear masks and it was just great to be able to meet with all our friends again. We had fish and chips delivered and thanks to Frances Willcox, helped by Judith, we had several hilarious games of bingo. This last year has been difficult for everyone but we managed to make £350 for our chosen charity which was Cullompton Community Care Service, this was achieved by meeting in members gardens with the specified numbers allowed, attending. We will be receiving Smartie boxes in which to put 20ppieces to go towards our usual fundraising efforts for next year'. Excellent news. Peta will be our Chairman for the coming year which is great as she works so hard for all of us and always has lots of new ideas, and the committee will all remain in place, but we need a couple more members to volunteer to join the committee. The committee members were each given a bunch of flowers as we're Mary Tebbey for organising the Walking Group and Betty for 20 years of running the Singles Group.

Pat Sanderson will be their new leader. They are having their Christmas lunch at Rhona's this year and a New-year lunch at the Halfway House. New Cameo members will pay an annual subscription of £13 for the coming year but existing members will have a free year as we have not been able to participate as normal We have a big programme of events leading up to Christmas first of which is lunch at Porters Restaurant in Cullompton in October, and instead of the meeting at the hall in November we will have an outing to Street for Christmas shopping as the Hall is unavailable due to blood donors sessions. A coffee morning in November to Blackdown Garden Centre, Christmas dinner in December at the Beam Bridge hotel and members will be contacted when the menus and prices are available, .and later in December a Christmas lunch will be held at Petrocs where the food is cooked and served by the Special Needs students. This is always a joyous lunch for us as we get to meet and thank the students and also to buy the crafts they have been making. Then a trip to Exeter to see the Christmas lights and a bit of shopping using the service bus. A busy time ahead, but that's how we like it. We enjoyed a lunch at Porters Restaurant in Cullompton but then big problems arose as one member tested positive for Covid-19, so all 25 members who had been at the lunch had to be contacted to get tested along with all of their contacts but thankfully everyone else tested negative. A reminder to us all that we still have to be very wary about this virus. Another 20 or so members had a lovely crisp autumn day for their outing to Clarke's Village.

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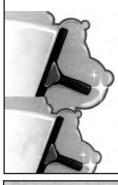
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Wednesday 10am - 11am Pilates @ Sampford Peverell Village hall

Wed 6:15 - 7:15pm Intense Interval Training

@ Uplowman

Thursday 8:45 - 9:45am Ladies Fitness Class @ Uplowman

For more info on classes or PT please visit my website www.jenniferbricknell.co.uk or ring 07980 008726





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Cullompton can offer late appointments Monday-Thursday and early appointments on a Wednesday from 7.30am.

Sampford Peverell also provides late appointments by prior arrangement on Thursday evenings and will be at our Cullompton Centre.

For full details and useful links please visit our website <a href="www.collegesurgery.org.uk/">www.collegesurgery.org.uk/</a>
(Out of hours please call 111)

A full and interesting programme of Speakers for next year has been arranged as well as outings, coffee mornings and lunches. We meet in the Village Hall on the first Thursday of the month at 7p.m.unless otherwise stated, and we welcome visitors to our meetings. Cameo members wish you all a Happy Christmas and hopefully a healthy New Year. Keep well and keep smiling. **Betty Penberthy.** 

## RECYCLING DATES DECEMBER 2021 & JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2022

Please note these dates are for collections normally on a Friday if you're normal collection day is not Friday then you will need to look online. Your new waste and recycling calendar is now available to download from MDDC website www.middevon.gov.uk/do-it-online/waste-and-recycling/collection-day-lookup. If you are unable to view your calendar online or require a copy sending to you in the post, please contact Customer Services on 01884 255255 or email customerservices@middevon.gov.uk

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COLLECTION 2 DAYS LATE DUE TO BANK HOLIDAY				**	
2021					
DECEMBER 3 10 17 24					
	20	22			
JANUARY	5**	11*	17*	22	28
FEBRUARY	4	11	18	25	
MARCH	4	11	18	25	
APRIL	1	8	19**	25*	30*
MAY	7*	13	20	27	
JUNE	6*	11*	17	24	
JULY	1	8	15	22	29
AUGUST	5	12	19	26	
SEPTEMBER	3*	9	16	23	30

#### WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

At last we are getting back to normal, with most of our regular hirers making a very welcome comeback. Now that the Hall is busy once again, please can I remind everyone, particularly school parents that the Hall car park is for use of people using the Village Hall, Tennis Club or Youth Club only? Preschool also pays an annual fee to use a small part of the car park for its staff. The trustees of the Hall allow parents to use the car park to drop off and pick up children from school, but there have recently been over 20 cars parked there all day. Please do not park your car there all day if you work or are helping at the school. It is very unfair on hall users, who sometimes find it difficult to park during the daytime, even if they are paying to use the Hall. We will be monitoring the situation, as we cannot have unauthorised parking upsetting our legitimate users.

We are still waiting for some quotes for our toilet refurbishment – why is it so difficult to get builders these days? In the spring, we will be painting the outside of the Hall (if we can get someone to do it) and then the Hall will have been almost completely refurbished. We have already had a number of good comments about the newly decorated rooms.

We have noticed young people hanging around the Hall premises particularly in the evenings. If you see any anti-social behaviour, please report it by calling 999. The Police have advised us to do this, so they can take action.

As we have so many bookings, which are handled by Frances, our Booking Secretary, please check our online calendar before you contact her to see if the date and time you want is available. Frances is a volunteer and also has a full time job, so this would make it easier for her. Please send in your booking forms promptly, as provisional bookings will only be held for a short while.

Please visit our website, **www.willandvillagehall.org.uk**, to check the calendar for future bookings. The email for booking is:

bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk. Carol Allan. Village Hall Treasurer.

#### **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES**

December				
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Bramblehaies Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Village United Carol Service	W.V.H	6.30 pm
Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Craft Market	W.V.H	10.00 am
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donor Session	W.V.H	10.00 am



#### MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

I wanted to revisit a couple of old friends if I may. I must once again ask you the ever patient reader to grab a note book, piece of paper and pen or open the contacts page on your phone. The reason for the request is that I'm again asking that you note the number 0800807060. This as regular readers will recall is the Environment Agency incident reporting line.

Why am I yet again asking you to note the number? I have received a number of calls complaining about odour issues, confusion over exactly where the odour is being emitted is a common theme. The description of the smell is another, it's like rotting flesh; grass; silage; gas the list goes on. The overriding issue is it's affecting you and your families in your homes to the degree that you have picked the phone up to tell me.

My standard question is have you called the incident line? The all too familiar answer is no. When I have a meeting with the Environment Agency and report the number of complaints I have received. Their answer is we have no record of that number of complaints, therefore we are unable to investigate what we are not aware of. To help me help you, if you have cause to consider odour an issue that's affecting you please call the number and report it. You don't have to give your name, if you wish to tell me or any of your councillors that's fine, having an incident number to give us is even better.

Next issue is our old friend planning. It is a complex and diverse issue, often with lines drawn and entrenched camps of those for and those against some applications.

I've noted an increased number of social media comments on the application for 125 properties that has come back after a break of a couple of years. This was another application that saw the applicant arguing that housing was urgently needed to satisfy demand and the site was vital in the delivery of part of that need. So urgent that after permission was gained (following an appeal) that the applicant promptly disappeared for two years seeking the highest bidder for the site with the apparent urgency of delivery taking a back seat against profit margin.

Despite the deal or no deal negotiations that have ensured for two years one aspect of the application that is positive was the agreed Section 106 contributions that were gained from the original applicant that must be honoured by the developer.

This includes a substantial contribution to Willand School that will allow much needed works to be funded on the school's hall capacity.

The agreement was above the levels that would normally be expected, but a determined and yes somewhat stubborn approach saw an agreement that gives some tangible benefit to our local school that otherwise would not have been available.

I am currently in negotiation with Devon County Council Education Department to fund the project NOW and not wait until the 75th house is built or the 17th person with a surname beginning with "W" has moved in or whatever the trigger points were, apologies it's been two years and the memory isn't what it was.

Apart from that I would simply ask that you all continue to stay safe and do What-ever it is you are doing to be able to think about Christmas.

Like so many I'm looking forward to a very different Christmas than last years. To see family, hold grandchildren, talk, laugh and just have somebody else to moan at about the rubbish on TV will be a treat, even if as some predict my Christmas will be stuck in a container on a dock side somewhere. There's always egg and chips. **Bob Evans Lower Culm Ward** 

#### **WILLAND PANTRY**

On the 10th and 11th of December, the pantry will be transformed into Santa's grotto. The big man himself will be visiting the children of Willand. Booking will be essential.

Available slots will be published on The Willand food network Facebook page, or can be booked by ringing me 07454510573. This will cost £3 per child. We will have the WHCC open on both days for refreshments and Christmas cheer.

We are hosting a men only bacon bap club, this will be held at Helen's Diner transport can be arranged. Many men have become isolated during covid-19 times, this is a social group. The sessions are free, though they will be charges for refreshments

I held a birthday fundraiser in October to get electricity in the Pantry, I'm pleased to say this was very successful and was installed a few weeks ago by Oaks Electrical. We would like to thank them for their hard, neat, tidy work. This allows us to keep open over the winter period.

We will be, in December putting together hampers for families in Willand that are reliant upon food banks, these will be handed once again to Willand Primary school to distribute.

We continue at The Pantry to reduce waste and give people a helping hand to get back on their feet. We would like to remind the residents of Willand We are open to everyone. **Helen Jones** 

#### WILLAND CRAFTY FAMILY - WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Christmas craft fair on Saturday the 11th of December 10am - 1pm. Our Christmas Craft Fair looks to be busy with over 20 stalls booked, we even have a face painter coming along. With a range of everything from lots of talented crafters and small businesses from the local area and refreshments available as well. For future dates and more information contact Emma Worth Telephone 07843811230 or email willandcraftyfamily2021@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

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#### WILLAND HEALTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

The downstairs area of the centre has been up and running for a few months now, the upstairs is still a work in progress. We have had various bookings, so if you would like to hire the space contact **info@whacc.org.uk**.

Hopefully yoga will be coming to the centre soon so watch our face-book page for more information.

We continue to fundraise, so why not come along to our tea and chat on 2nd December 9am until 1pm and take part in our Christmas raffle. Prize donations will gratefully be received, the draw will take place at midday. I hear the cake isn't too bad either. Not wanting either, still pop in and pick up something to read from our book swap you'll be most welcome. Take a couple home, no need to return them. Pass them on we don't mind. We are pleased to support the food pantry by letting them use our facilities as they turn themselves into Santa's grotto on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th December.

From all at WH&CC we wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year take care and stay safe. **Tania Edworthy, Chair** 

#### **HOSPISCARE**

Hospiscare, the local hospice for Exeter, Mid and East Devon, has launched an urgent fundraising appeal to keep its specialist services open. The charity is calling for support to save its services after losing vital income due to the pandemic, while simultaneously facing unprecedented pressures and challenges. Hospiscare now needs to raise an additional £1 million by March 2022 to stabilise its finances and ensure its ward beds can stay open and its weekend care services can continue.

Hospiscare has seen a significant increase in demand for its services. With a 15% rise in patients last year, the charity is now caring for more people than ever before. Having remained open throughout the pandemic, Hospiscare is still delivering care to some of the most vulnerable people in the local community, but it costs £22,794 every day just to keep its vital services going. The hospice relies upon the support of the community to fund its specialist services, with just 18% coming from the NHS.

The Clinical Director and Deputy CEO of Hospiscare, Tina Naldrett, said, our doctors and nurses provide specialist end-of-life care to patients and families across 1,028 square miles of Devon's heartland. If the funding shortfall continues, there is a real risk that Hospiscare will have to close beds on our ward and reduce our vital weekend services in patients' homes. Hospiscare was built by the community, for the community, nearly 40 years ago.

The last 18 months have been the most difficult in almost 40 years of caring for local people and the charity's income has not recovered enough to keep pace with the cost of care. We are asking our incredible supporters and everyone reading this to please consider supporting us now. Your support can help us recover from the pandemic and keep our services going, ensuring we are still

here to help those in the community who need us for the years to come. To make a donation today to secure the hospice's vital services, please visit **www.hospiscare.co.uk/sos** or call 01392 688020.

**40 Club** - With Hospiscare approaching its 40<sup>th</sup> year, we are calling on local businesses to join the 40 Club. Businesses are asked to join in return for an exciting range of benefits to their business, and all Hospiscare asks is they raise a minimum of £1000 during 2022. For further information, people should visit www.hospiscare.co.uk/support-our-work/fundraise/fundraise-at-work/the-hospiscare-40-club/.

**Light Up a Life** — Hospiscare are once again hosting Light Up a Life to remember loved ones that are no longer with us this Christmas. The charity will host an online gathering of celebration on Thursday 16 December and their Gallery of Memories and Book of Memories are open for dedications to loved ones. Please visit **www.hospiscare.co.uk/support-our-work/remember-a-loved-one/light-up-a-life/** for further information or call 01392 688020.

Festive Fundraising – Hospiscare are reaching out to the local community this Christmas, hoping people will come up with wonderful ways to fundraise this Christmas. For more information and lots of festive fundraising ideas, www.hospiscare.co.uk/support-our-work/fundraise/festivefundraising/.



#### CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Village Carol service At Willand Village Hall Sunday 5th December 6.30 start. Carols and readings followed by Mince pies and Coffee/Tea

Everyone is welcome to come and sing Carols, although we recognise that some people may be reluctant to be in a busy indoor space. **Rev Paul Booth** 



#### **COLDHARBOUR MILL**

During the winter the Museum, Shop and Cafe are all open to the public on **Thursdays** only, 10.30am-4.30pm (last entry 3pm). *You can* experience the buzz of the lively factory floor as our volunteers and production manager work on our heritage machinery. They might be spinning yarn, or weaving rugs or tartan cloth, giving you a feeling for what it was really like to work in the Mill in the past. The Mill will continue to be open for pre-booked school sessions and group tours for adults 7 days a week. Please see website, or email or phone for more info and to book. Please note the Mill will be closed 17th-31st Dec, and reopen on 1st January.

#### A SPECIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - NEW YEAR'S DAY STEAM UP

Saturday 1st January 10.30am-4.30pm (last entry 3pm) Join us for our traditional New Year's Day Steam Day.

Spend your first day of a brand new year jumping back into the past, exploring our Georgian woollen mill in action. You will have opportunities to book for a Steam tour — one of our amazing Steam Team will help you to discover the excitement of Steam Power. But it's not all about steam you can also book your free Factory Floor tour, where you will see demonstrations of our heritage spinning and weaving processes and get to experience what it was like working for the Fox Brothers.

You can also enjoy full access to the Museum as well as the community wildlife and wetland area over at the Mill Pond.

Our steam complex will be up and running until 3pm, and the site will remain open for visitors to continue visiting other areas of the Mill, including the Café, until 4.30pm: To book tickets in advance go to:

https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/events/

Or email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or phone: 01884 840960.

#### **VOLUNTEERING AT THE MILL**

Our volunteers make Coldharbour Mill special, with each person helping to keep the Mill running, preserving it for future generations.

Volunteers will continue to support the Mill over the winter period and we have lots of opportunities to get involved. Even if you can only spare a few hours a week, we'd love to talk to you. Just get in touch and we can tell you more about volunteering with us, and arrange taster sessions and training. You can see the wide range of volunteering opportunities at the Mill on this webpage: https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/

We would be especially interested to hear from people who would like to get involved in the Education Programme for schools — we have vacancies for people to dress up and play the role of 'Annie' the mill worker in the Victorian Drama sessions and also to help with the hands-on traditional crafts sessions no previous experience required. Email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or phone: 01884 840960.

#### WILLAND GARDEN CLUB

We had our first meeting since March 2020 in September and it was lovely to meet up again after so long. We had a presentation by one of our members who showed photos of New Zealand. Our October speaker talked about the History of Exeter and we all discovered some things of which we were unaware.

We held a Coffee Morning at the Hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. In spite of the horrendous weather, some hardy folk came along and we had a much better turnout than expected. There was a table full of lovely home-made cakes and lots of books, jigsaws, bric-a-brac and plants for sale. We agreed not to have our annual Club meal this year, because COVID has not yet disappeared.

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month and subscriptions are just £5 per person. The subscription entitles you to a 10% discount on all garden items at The Old Well Garden Centre.

If you would like to know more about the Club, please do not hesitate to contact me. Carol Allan. cbarwa@icloud.com 01884 33828

## WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS). OPENING TIMES Wednesdays and Sundays - 10.00 am - 12 Noon.

#### CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

**CLOSED** FROM 12 noon - Wednesday 22nd December 2021.

**REOPEN** FROM 10.00am Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Material: We accept Christmas trees.

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#### RECYCLE GARDEN WASTE.

In the meantime, we continue to ask you to recycle garden waste- either by composting yourself, or, deposit down here at the site. Finally, you could use either, the MDDC garden waste collection scheme (there is a charge) contact 01884 255255 or, deposit at the DCC Ashely, Bickley, Recycling Centre.

From all of us we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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#### 2022 QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

On the 9<sup>th</sup> November the NPG group had a meeting with various groups in the village at the end of this meeting the celebrations of next year's jubilee were touched upon. We are now looking to the rest of the community to find out:

- 1. What sort of celebration would you like to see in the village?
- Would you like to be involved in organising the celebrations?

If the answer to these questions is yes then please let us know what you would like and how you would like to help by either emailing **npg@willand-pc.org.uk** or drop a note in the post box for Willand Health and Community Centre (It's the blue post box located on the wooden fence opposite the main entrance to the village hall it has WH&CC written on it). We will then arrange a meeting for those wanting to be involved to be able to come together. **Frances Wilcox** 

#### ST MARY'S CHURCH

As always we have a large number of opportunities to celebrate the festive period.

Over December do look out for our nativity trail around the village. Different characters from the nativity will be placed around the village to find, before they come together in the churchyard on Christmas Eve. Get your coats on and see how many you can find! Please share selfies with St Mary's Willand Facebook page so we can all join in the fun together. Why not look up the QR code on the figures to find out more about the true story of Christmas.

Please also join us for our Christmas services starting with:

**Village Hall carol service** in conjunction with Culm Valley Methodists at **6.30pm 5 December**. I am sure this will be a wonderful occasion as different groups, churches and the school come together.

**3.30pm Friday 17 December** Messy Church Christmas Special in Church Hall, Rectory Close

**6.30pm 19th December** St Mary's Carol service followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

**4pm 24th December** Christingle service, always very popular so do arrive in plenty of time

11.30pm 24th December Midnight Communion

10am 25th December Christmas Service for all the family.

Please note our seating capacity is still smaller than normal so it is worth getting to our services early to ensure a seat is available.

I am also very pleased to say we have been able to restart our Rockers baby and toddler group from 9.15am on Mondays in term-time, Coffee and Chat 10.30am 2nd Friday of month & a new version of our Lunch Club which is now Afternoon Tea from 2.30pm-4pm on the third Wednesday of the month. All these activities are in the Church Hall on Rectory Close.

Please join us, there is no need to book before coming to any of these groups or services, a warm welcome will be waiting for you. **Rev Simon Talbot 562570 simon@thetalbots.org.uk**.



This December we will be creating a trail of large wooden Nativity characters around the village, each character tells part of the Christmas Story

You can follow the trail, visiting Bradfords Building Supplies, St Marys Church, the Church Hall in Rectory Close, Half Way House, Willand Methodist Church, Willand School and Walk down Jaycroft.

get your coats on, take selfies with the characters and share the photos

@stmaryswilland, and Willand Messy Church Facebook

"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."

Luke 2:10





#### WE ARE BACK

We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month 8.00pm to 10.30pm, in the Village Hall and welcome new dancers of any age and your first visit is free. No dancing experience is necessary. We have a caller and live music and all dances are walked through first. We are always pleased to see new faces whatever your age so why not come along and check us out for exercise to music even the 'chuckle' muscles get exercised too.

If you are new to the village and would like to 'try us out' we would be happy to arrange some help with the various moves before a Club Night starts. Please get in touch with me on 01404 47200 for any further information about this.

More details of Callers and Bands can be found on our Website willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk. Where you can see how active we are, or if you would like more information, please don't hesitate to ring me on the above number. We will look forward to seeing you. **Marilyn Broom - Chairperson** 

#### WILLAND HISTORY GROUP

First, we would like to give notice of our next meeting, which will be at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 7 December 2021, in the Annex Room of Willand Village Hall (the room nearest the Youth Club). We hope to continue planning activities for next year, as well as take a look at some items from the Willand Archive. The meeting is unlikely to last much more than an hour, and we would welcome anyone interested to come along and join us.

We recently discovered a newspaper article from the 5 January 1922 edition of the *Devon & Somerset News* that gives a review of local affairs in 1921 and gives an interesting window on what was going on in Mid Devon 100 years ago. Willand was singled out a couple of times, most notably for its famous Willand Sports, which had been resurrected after the First World War and was, once again, a success. There was also a mention for John Hunt, a well-known local character, who had retired after 45 years as stationmaster of Tiverton Junction, Willand's long-lost railway station.

Otherwise, the article contains some familiar moans about the weather — snow in April, and then a drought in June that lasted into October, and which was so severe that local farmers were still 'carting' water to their livestock in December. Indeed, the farmers were having a tough time of it, not only because of climatic pressures, but the government had withdrawn its promise of minimum price guarantees for arable produce — what became known as the 'great betrayal' — and at the same time Devon's agricultural workers were busy agitating for a wage increase. More generally, unemployment was a pressing issue, and the district council had introduced schemes to 'absorb the local unemployed' including widening roads and cutting down trees for timber.

There were also ominous signs for the future, including a 'slump' in land prices that had seen several local farm estates withdrawn from sale, whilst Tiverton and district had recently emerged from its 'great coal strike' – hinting at some of the economic troubles that were to follow over the next two decades. Meanwhile, the local branch of the Middle Classes Union had "shown considerable activity, but rather over-reached itself in an attempt to influence the municipal elections."

Also from January 1922, we have found a newspaper article which reveals that Willand once had its own hockey club. We know very little about Willand Hockey Club, although it seems likely that it was a girls' youth team – but can anyone tell us more? How long did the club last? Where did the team play its matches? The article reports on an evening of entertainment at the Parish Room (the old Church Hall on Dyehouse Lane) organised by the club, and in particular by the Misses Beatrice Maunder, Sybil Palk and Dorothy Venn. It included "pianoforte solos, songs, dances, recitations [and] an amusing little play" called A Marriage of Convenience. The play went down very well and the reviewer writing the article thought "all the parts were exceedingly well sustained, and the matrimonial mix-up made as amusing as it could have been. It is the first venture in histrionics by the younger folk of Willand With no stage trappings and no professional coaching the youthful performers managed to give a crowded audience a very hearty laugh and a most enjoyable evening ... one little suspects the stage talent that often lies dormant even in a little village community."

Finally, as the festive season draws near, Willand History Group wishes everyone a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2022

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



# CULLOMPTON FARMERS' MARKET IN DECEMBER

In the run up to Christmas Cullompton Farmers' Market with be running every Saturday from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Come and find us on the High Street on the 4th, 11th and 18th December. Local produce on sale from fresh veg to quality meats, eggs and cheese to beers, ciders and plenty more, there's sure to be something for you to enjoy.

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December 2021 Report: It's been a real pleasure for everyone to enjoy singing again this autumn in our expanding group.

Numbers have continued to rise as we attract more and more people who want to sing for pleasure in our social and musical group that includes first-timers, who haven't sung since school and talented, experienced singers of all ages from across the district and beyond.

As a result, temporarily, we're capping the choir at 40 singers as we are still cautious to keep safe when we are rehearsing and can maintain as much spacing as we like, so that everyone feels comfortable. We also insist that all members are at least double-jabbed or being tested regularly. We prefer singers to join at the beginning of a programme, normally at the beginning of a term, but can make exceptions, for example, to balance our four sections (sopranos, altos, and especially tenors and basses). Recently, we've been singing:

California Dreamin' (The Mamas and the Papas); Can you Feel the Love Tonight (Elton John); Fields of Gold (Sting); Lay all your Love on Me and Mama Mia (Abba); Sound of Silence (Simon and Garfunkel); The Long and Winding Road (Lennon and McCartney); We've Only just Begun, Sing, and Mr Guder (Carpenters) and Old Abraham Brown (Benjamin Britten).

Our varied Christmas programme reflects that we sing a little of everything across all styles from past to present. Besides popular and traditional seasonal songs, we're including modern carols such as *Riding on a Donkey, Torches, a Venezuelan carol* and a new version of *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* written for the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of a Halberton resident, Laura Midgely. We perform for Burlescombe's Candlelight celebrations at 4.30pm on Sunday 5 December; Willand Ladies Group on Thursday 6 January and Uffculme WI on Wednesday 12 January. Our own Concert is at Halberton Village Hall on Saturday 11 January at 7.30pm, followed our party. We resume singing after Christmas on Friday 7 January at Halberton Village Hall at 7.30pm and January is great time to join us, so contact us now.

There are no auditions to join our inclusive, diverse group. We're friendly, not cliquey; come and try us, free, for two or three sessions! Anyone interested is most welcome. Contact <a href="mailto:singers@halberton.org">singers@halberton.org</a> or Bernard on 01884 252910 or 07855 583356, or Terry (Chairman and Musical Director) on 01884 820081 or 07973 890947. **Terry Payne** 









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### THANK YOU

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Wishing everyone in the community a wonderful, safe Christmas.

We hope you enjoy spending time with your friends and family.

Best wishes from Nicci, Tony and all at PenCarrie xXx

#### WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WITS)

Rehearsals are already in full swing for the upcoming production on



25th & 26th February 2022 of "Cinderella What Happened Next" this will be a world premiere by Alison Holly a new writer to this genre. With lots of new faces and hopefully some dazzling special effects. New songs new costumes new jokes a treat for all the family.

Tickets will be on sale from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and will be available from all the usual

sources i.e. **WWW. ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety.** Also Willand Post Office and Willand Pharmacy.

WiTS take this opportunity to wish all our readers, friends and supporters a Happy Christmas and good wishes for 2022. **Sam Fincher.** 

#### **EXCELSIOR DEVELOPMENT**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our members, supporters and their families. We hope that you all have a safe and Happy Christmas. We are looking forward to seeing our members training again after their Christmas break.

If you want to learn a new skill and get fit in 2022, then why not try one of our athletics, gymnastics or weightlifting sessions?

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Older children and teenagers can train and compete in the throwing and sprinting and jumping events that we coach at athletics. They can build their fitness up in our winter 'strength and coordination' sessions that are fun and challenging.

Teenagers and adults can develop speed, power and strength in our weightlifting sessions: we have competitions at the club and travel to regional events too. 2022 could be the year that you start your new athletic journey. Right here in Willand. Contact James on <a href="mailto:excelsiorathletic@gmail.com">excelsiorathletic@gmail.com</a> '



THE CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022



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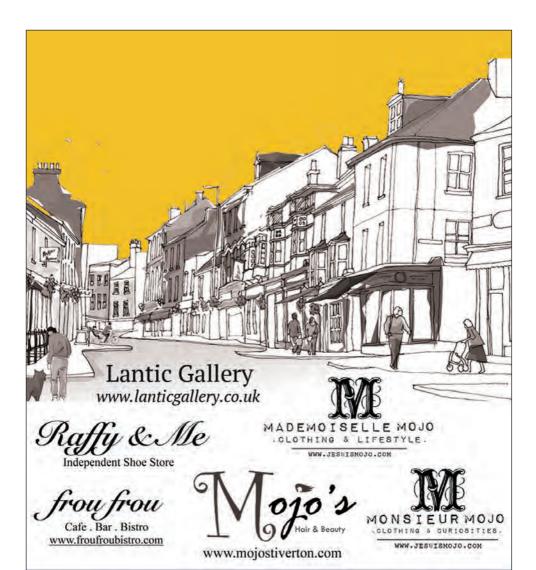
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