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Folk Dance Club		Marilyn Bro	om		01404 47200
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	Thursday	Willand Village Hall	11.05am - 12.05pm

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Willand Moor Road	4.00pm	11.00am

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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

Printed by Brightsea Group, Exeter. Tel: (01392) 360616

EDITORIAL No157

Something for lots of people this issue, see the last page for news about the planning application for the 125 new homes in the village. Have your say using the right channels. Look out in all the usual places round the village to support the poppy appeal this year.

#### THE PANTRY

Many of you would have seen me begging for donations of food last Christmas to make hampers for families reliant upon Food Banks. The response was really amazing and we made 14 large hampers. The goodies that were left we gave to numerous organisations, including domiciliary care companies, to distribute amongst their elderly clients.

We were also aware of some families that didn't meet the Food bank criteria. We made up smaller hampers to give them a decent Christmas meal. We had over £700 left over which we turned into vouchers and gave to Willand School for use in the New Year.

The families that didn't meet the Food bank criteria just played on my mind... At the beginning of April, Kerstan Clapp arranged for a group of people to come to my house, to thank me.... I've never been so embarrassed in my life.

The plan was formed, we would open a Pantry for everyone to use.

We started fund raising, holding village sales and an auction, we have held a Pamper evening, we are having another one on 27th November, at the village hall. We also sold squares for cash prizes.

After numerous setbacks we were offered a space on the Gables Nursery site, thank you Dave Maynard. We were donated a Porta-cabin from The Chippy and had raised enough money to have it transported. So many local businesses and individuals donated time, goods and money to get us started. This was all achieved in less than 10 weeks.

At the moment we open Mondays and Fridays 9am until 10.30am. Wednesdays 4pm until 7pm. These times are subject to change. To keep up-to-date check our Facebook page, **Willand food network.** The Pantry is open to EVERYBODY in the village, it's not just for those who are struggling in some way. The majority of our goods would have gone to landfill, perfectly good food that is within its sell by date and other items such as nappies that are no longer the right size, often end up in the bin.

Come and say hello to us, I can guarantee there will be something there you will want to try or are short of at home. We also accept donations during our opening times. Please ensure all items are in date. If you are interested in volunteering let one of us know. **Helen Jones** 

#### **CAMEO**

About 20 of us had a really lovely meal at the Italian restaurant in Bampton Street and I'm pretty sure we will be going there again. Our August meeting was a Barbeque in Peta's garden and knowing Cameo, lots of gorgeous food

and plenty of catching up with each other. We had a very nice Coffee Morning at Coldharbour Mill and a lunch out at Bickleigh Mill. I think we really need an outing to a gym as all we seem to do is eat. At last in September we were able to have a proper Cameo meeting in the Village Hall, and what a great way to begin afresh with an excellent Speaker, Alison Webb.

Alison taught herself machine embroidery and as she also was a water colour artist she combined the two and created beautiful stunning pictures, so she thought that during lockdown she would see if there was a market for her greeting cards and pictures which she had made and much to her surprise it absolutely flourished even selling on line as far away as Australia and the United States her pictures and greetings cards. The embroidery was either done on her sewing machine or by hand and she incorporated tiny sea shells, twigs etc. which she put on her beach scenes. The effect was awesome. She and her husband photograph all kinds of things when they are out walking on our local beaches and countryside and that gives her a good basis on which to work her magic. It was a really lovely talk and demonstration and we were able to see samples of her work.

The Walking Group had a lovely but very hot walk around the lanes outside Bampton and back to the Swan Hotel for tea. Their next walk was an old favourite along the old Tiverton railway line and back along the canal. They took along Honorary Cameo member Max, Peta's black Labrador. He jumped into the canal and got entangled in the reeds, it was all hands on deck to try to get him out. Luckily one of the Group had a long walking pole and they finally rescued him. They then went to the Canal Tea rooms for a well-deserved cup of tea. He behaved himself on the next walk around the fishponds near Kentisbeare ending up for tea at the farm shop just outside Cullompton.

We had an absolutely gorgeous afternoon for our boat trip from Exmouth and along the Jurassic coast. As we got on the boat we were told that unfortunately the wind had changed direction overnight and it was deemed too dangerous. So we went along the coast as far as Sandy Bay, the engine was turned off and we gently drifted in towards the rocks where we watched the seals playing in the sea, there were kittiwakes and cormorants on the rocks so it was a lovely sight. We returned back along the Exmouth coast and then up the river Exe as far as the tide allowed seeing all the different birds on the sand banks by Dawlish Warren Wildlife sanctuary we enjoyed a cream tea on the way. We couldn't believe our luck as by the next day the weather had changed to overcast with showers.

Our next Coffee morning will see us at the Antiques Centre at Hele (formerly Fagin's Antiques). The Singles Group have had their first meeting at Kay's house in Cullompton. This was Pat's first meeting as our new leader. Betty retired after running it for 20 years. The Group gave her a lovely surprise tea party and presented her with a beautiful basket of flowers and a gift voucher for all her work during that time. The Group will continue to flourish under Pat's leadership as it is one of the most successful off shoots within the Cameo group.

The Walking Group had a very good ramble around the grounds at Killerton with coffee there afterwards. The November meeting will be an outing to Street for some early Christmas shopping as the Hall in unavailable as there are Blood Donors Sessions there all day and also in the evening.. **Betty Penberthy** 

#### **EXCELSIOR ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT CLUB**

9 of our club members recently competed for the club, all of them got personal bests in their events. That is a phenomenal result, well done to all of them.

In our club weightlifting competition, Chris Fotheringham won the Graham Cooper Memorial Trophy for the third consecutive year (he doesn't get to keep it though) with a total of 197kg (a new club record). Dom Allen came second and Yasmin Rashid third.

In the junior section, we had 4 lifters competing for the first time. Will Baylis won and then we had a three-way tie for silver as Daisy Marshall, Becca Talbot and Henry Newton all scored the same points.

There were a lot of nervous lifters but only 3 failed attempts out of the 42 total lifts, another excellent effort.

In athletics, Matthew Herbert and Jack Marshall represented the club at the Exeter Open last week.

Again, this was the boy's first official athletics competition. Both boys overcame their nerves and achieved personal bests in all their events (and the best results in 3/4 events of all competitors): long jump, 75m sprint (Matt) and 60m hurdles and 600m (Jack).

Our club motto is Turn Up, Stand Tall and Try Hard. All the competitors did all three, tried their best and then the results followed. Well done to them all.

If you would like to join our club to learn new skills and train with people who want to get better, then you are welcome.

## James Marshall excelsiorathletic@gmail.com WILLAND TENNIS CLUB

Willand Tennis Club is a friendly club, located beside the Village Hall, and always keen to welcome new members. A special offer 'Winter rate' of £40 for new adult membership will be available in October until end of March 2022. Junior membership is also available at a very competitive price.

All 4 courts will be available to book to the public all year for 'Pay & Play' up to 48 hours before the session. You can cancel your booking up to 24 hours before and obtain a full refund. For more details and to book a court, please look at our website: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WillandTennisClub

Booking and payment is only available online.

Junior level coaching with our club coach, Nigel Little, takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons (term time only). Minimum age for these sessions is 3 years. Adult coaching is also available either as a group or 1:1. Please contact Nigel on 07951140974 for more information.

Helen Richardson. Willand Tennis Club Secretary.

#### **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WITS)**

Auditions completed and the cast selected, rehearsals have started for our next production of "Cinderella What Happened Next" a brand new Pantomime written by one of our members Alison Holly. A modern panto incorporating all our old-world favourites with a twist. We will be presenting this in February 2022 in the school half term break, as usual a World Premiere not to be missed.

Half a dozen new members have joined our growing club this year so look forward to seeing some brand-new faces treading the boards in the new-year. With new costumes scenery and songs and backdrop projection images to give a 3D effect we always try to make each Pantomime better than the last.

We are always on the look-out for people to help with our productions. Interested? We meet at the Village Hall every Friday evening at 7.30pm, just come along. So when you get next year's diary don't forget to mark 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for the panto. **Sam Fincher** 

#### **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

The History Group enjoyed two successful meetings in August. The first included a productive discussion about our future plans, including parish walks, visits to local historic sites, a project to reorganise the Willand Archive, and much more, as well as tentative steps towards some social media output and maybe even a website. Plans for our 2022 Exhibition scheduled for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration weekend of 2-5th June 2022 are marinating nicely. It looks like we'll focus on Willand in the 1950s, especially around the Queen's Coronation in 1953, looking at how much Willand has changed in the 70 years since, as well as investigating how the village celebrated her Silver (1977) Golden (2002) and Diamond (2012) Jubilees. We had a look through some of the items we already have in the Archive relating to Willand's 1953 Coronation celebrations, including an original poster and service sheets for the 'Pageant Service' held in the Parish Church on Sunday, 31st May. the day before the Coronation. One document notes that "Children (and parents and friends) are asked to attend the Pageant Service in alphabetical order of surnames. A to N at 2.15 and O to Z at 3.45. If this is impossible please notify the Rector." More orderly times, indeed. Unfortunately, we do not have any photos from the Coronation weekend in Willand – can you help? We are looking for photos, documents or memorabilia from events such as these in Willand over the last 70 years for our display, so if you have anything, we'd love to hear from you.

Our second meeting in August took the form of a leisurely amble around the parish, from the Village Hall, into the 'Old Village', round Jaycroft Lane, past the allotments (which are looking very impressive!), over to the 'new' industrial estate behind the Co-Op, then back via South View, Somerlea and the Park. Referencing photos we already have of Willand in the 1950s, and with next year's exhibition in mind, we took photos of the same views now so that we can illustrate how much Willand has altered — it'll be no surprise to anyone: there's fewer fields now; more houses.





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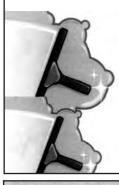
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Cullompton can offer late appointments Monday-Thursday and early appointments on a Wednesday from 7.30am.

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

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At the same time, we recorded some of those ongoing developments, perhaps the most recent and significant being the levelling of the Bramber's Engineering site. Having come to Willand from London in 1940 to escape the Blitz, the firm Bramber's established its engineering plant known as the Durban Works on South View Road, and for decades after employed numerous Willand men and women, until the business eventually folded in 2010. We recently came across a press cutting in the Willand Archive relating to Bramber's, from the *Express & Echo* and dated 11 January 1974, and which included two photos: one of Ivor Burston and Jack Baker working at the forge, the second showing the maintenance engineer, Dave Toye, on the back of a lorry with a generator that had just arrived from the company's London headquarters.

The generator's arrival had made it into the local papers because this was during the nation's 'Winter of Discontent', when economic turmoil and energy shortages forced the government to introduce the 'Three Day Week' from 1 January to 7 March 1974, under which mains electricity supplies to commercial users were restricted to only three days per week. Bramber's would only have been able to work on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but with the generator they could keep going on Thursday and Friday, securing Bramber's workers a full pay-packet at a time when many families were feeling the pinch. Do you have any memories from those days what was life in Willand like during the 1970s?

The History Group plans another meeting before Christmas, probably at the beginning of November, so if you would like to come along, or would like information on any of the group's activities, please get in touch on the contact details below, all are welcome.

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

#### CALLING ALL TALENTED PEOPLE IN THE WILLAND AREA

There are so many talented people and innovative small businesses in and around Willand – and Tiverton Pannier Market wants to hear from you.

The historic venue is keen to showcase quality local artists, crafters, makers, producers, start-up businesses and much more, including via the planned launch of an all-new Tiverton Farmers Market and Christmas and special events. The market is also on the lookout for quality local musicians, performers and groups who are keen to share their talents. For more details, call market manager 07815 791191 e-mail Jim Bray on or at jbray@middevon.gov.uk. Alternatively, follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TivertonMarket

#### **HOW IT USED TO BE - 1912**

"Police are occasionally employed in timing motor cars over a measured distance, to see that they do not exceed the speed limit and to report those that do. Special instructions will be given to officers employed on this duty."

#### ST MARY'S CHURCH

It has been lovely to welcome people back to church and sing in our services again in the last few weeks. Whilst we still have some social distancing measures in place wearing a mask is now a personal choice. Services are at 10am in church every Sunday.

We are also continuing our zoom service at 11am each week which can be accessed either on a computer, tablet or normal landline telephone. We are also putting a recording of the service on St Mary's Facebook page for those who would like to watch it later. If you would like more details, please contact Rev Simon Talbot.

I am pleased to report that our Coffee and Chat and Keep Fit groups have started again now. Please contact Carole Britton 841434 for more details.

We anticipate Rockers (our baby and toddler group) and Lunch Club will also be restarting soon, please keep your eyes out for messages on the church/church hall notice boards and on Facebook.

#### 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 9.30am to 4pm. CHAT are grateful for any tinned or packet food or toiletries but please do not leave any fresh food.

Our harvest service will be at 10am Sunday 3 October and we will be having a lunch after the service in the church hall. If you would like to join us for lunch please contact Sandy Hancock on 35165.

#### Remembrance Sunday Service on 14th November 10.45am

We are currently planning to hold our Remembrance Sunday service in the churchyard around the War Memorial followed by a service in church. If social distancing requirements change we will just hold a service in the churchyard as we did last year.



We hope to be able to stream the service on Zoom and upload Facebook later in the day.

As always please feel free to contact me if you would like to meet to pray, talk about an issue you are dealing with or talk about faith

Rev Simon Talbot Tel: 562570 e: simon@thetalbots.org.uk

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

Where is the year going to? Here we are in the middle of September and summer has been and gone for what there was of it. The only good thing from all the rain is that I have a wonderful crop of runner beans and so I hope all the other gardeners and allotment holders in the village are doing as well.

Now that the children are back at school and the evenings are getting shorter let us hope that the anti-social behaviour some have been experiencing around the village will subside. We have had a group of youngsters congregating in some places and drinking, drugs, criminal damage and litter to name but a few activities. I like art but some of the foul language sprayed as graffiti in the subway underpass is very much at the bottom end of the scale. Thank you to volunteer Tony Donald for managing to spend time to remove the most offensive of it. Litter bins tipped over around the village and litter in the Jubilee Field has also been a problem yet although there are two dog bins and two litter bins there, we, the homeowners, have had to pay for extra litter picks to keep the area safe and tidy. A lot of work clearing up has also been carried out by anonymous people who have seen a problem and sorted it. Thank you. Our CCTV around the village hall has some interesting footage captured on it. If you see this type of misbehaviour, please report it to the police. I have recently had a long conversation with Constable Legg, our local man who has promised and arranged some extra targeted patrols.

Our contracted handyman has been kept far busier than anticipated with repairing damage to a seat and gate, maintenance/repair of abuse to play equipment and trying to keep the BMX track safe. There seems to be no end of tasks he can turn his hand to when asked, thank you David.

The Parish Council are now back in the village hall annex for their meetings but there are some requirements for public attendance to be met in the interests of safety. Covid-19 is still with us. Although we did not have a meeting in August the work still went on. Our Clerk kept everything moving with reference to myself or others as required.

A small working group of councillors is dealing with the expansion of the cemetery as now that the fence is up hedging will have to be planted and the unused area will be developed into a quiet flower meadow, and we may have another seat. Any ideas or observations to the Clerk please. Some councillors with community support are looking at a plan for the future of the village and they are also exploring a potential village celebration for the forthcoming Jubilee. We will always welcome more volunteers.

The trustees and volunteers are getting activities going in The Gables WH&CC part of the building. It has been a pleasure to attend a couple of the Coffee & Chat mornings and meet the volunteers and members of the community who drop in for a coffee and some cake. The volunteers have produced some excellent cakes to ruin my diet.

Let us see more of you there and if I make it you can bend my ear on any problems with my Parish or District Council hat on. I will always help where I can, but you do have to let me know what the problem is.

Another group of councillors are working with our speed monitors and some figures will be available in the future. The signs are there to remind motorists to slow down – not as a challenge to see how high a speed you can register as you go by. We think a very small minority might be. When the Community Speed Watch volunteers are operating one system will complement the other.

Talking of problems, I hope everyone is responding to the 'consultation' from College Surgery wanting to close the Willand Branch Surgery. I remember attending an open meeting in the village hall some years ago when the same item was on the agenda. One does get the feeling that the decision has been made and the survey questions are set to get the right answer. Yes, I am a cynic when it comes to these types of surveys/consultations. Travel to Cullompton or Uffculme – or I have even been sent to Sampford Peverell for a blood test does not make sense. We are meant to be trying to reduce our carbon footprint, yet this will generate extra journeys. Use it or lose it but if it is taken away, we have no choice and it is no good complaining later if you do not speak up now urgently.

You may have noted that some funny pipes are appearing in the fields off Meadow Park where the 125 houses are to be built. I think that they may be carrying out percolation tests to see if the ground allows water to soak away sufficiently to plan drainage but I have heard nothing about a further planning application so it will still be a case of watch this space.

Please keep reporting things that you see which are wrong or likely to be a danger to our community. Please do not leave it to someone else. Potholes, overgrowing hedges, Odours from 2 Sisters or the AD Plant - it can all be followed up. Let us please continue to work to look after our village and community.

Please keep safe and well. Just because we have extended the cemetery it does not mean we have to fill it right away. **Barry G J Warren Chair** 

#### **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL**

There will be road disruptions until the end of the year while Gigaclear are laying cables for broadband in the Willand area and causing some trouble, but there must be other issues in and around Willand, but I have not been informed of any extreme problems I am hoping now the roads have be disturbed County will get around to doing what matters. Please let me or Dan Wood, our new man know if there are other issues.

Environmental issues are very much in the forefront of County's Climate targets, so I have included some information relating to this.

The Environmental Performance Board approved the business case to invest £196k in 131kW of solar panels on the roofs of DCC salt depots. 300kW of solar PV expected from the solar car ports at County Hall and Taw View.

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Planning application for this was expected to be submitted by now, but still waiting for approval from Digital Transformation and Business Support (DTBS) Management Team. The two phases of the Zero Carbon Buildings projects are expected to install 200kW of renewable energy. Street Lighting [Green Objective) is to retrofit 100% of remaining all and part-night lighting with LED lamps. Work is ongoing across the county to schedule. 45,000 are now using LED Technology with 34,000 remaining.

Funding for Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Block. Scrutiny members will be aware that the funding Devon County Council spends on supporting children with Special Education Needs far exceeds the funding we are allocated from central government. Last financial year we spent nearly £30 million, a third more than we were allocated. This is not a sustainable position and the cumulative impact of the funding gap if no action taken is shown above. We have now been informed by the DfE that for the financial year 2022/23 Devon has provisionally been allocated an additional £9 million. However, this still falls far short of the funding required. At the Master class in July, we shared some of the steps we were taking to try and achieve a more balanced position. The steps in no way reduce our responsibility to ensure children with SEN receive the support they need, as set out in the SEND code of practice, and primarily focus on: Just About Managing and pay.

Between 2019 and 2020 average pay for the lowest 20% of earners nationally rose slightly. In Devon outside of South Hams and West Devon it fell significantly and was already lower than nationally pre pandemic (in Devon as a whole for this group it fell by 6%). Unsure yet as to whether these impacts are temporary, but even temporary impacts could mean lower income households suffering from more debt issues. Average workplace pay rates in Devon were around 82.7% of the UK in 2020, but lower still in some parts of the County (West Devon just 71.9% of UK) Data on average pay rates overall in Devon were very volatile in 2020 showing a lot of changes to the labour market, but no significant trend, although greater levels of working from home. 2021 and 2022 data will be needed to ascertain any longer-term trends.

On average, pay for freelancers during 2020 took a significant hit SW House prices up 17% in a year – competition for housing, especially at higher priced end and in rural/coastal areas

Staycation boom causing rental property to come off the market and be let by Airbnb - renters who have to move have been hit, especially in traditional holiday areas. Unsure yet as to whether these impacts are temporary.

Anecdotal evidence (so far) of highly significant increases (doubling in some instances) in Food Bank usage in Devon during the pandemic lockdown periods and more widely worry about food insecurity, especially among those with children.

The summer has been a very challenging and intense period for the Health and Care system, and despite the removal of many of the COVID related restrictions, adult social care in Devon is dealing with care home outbreaks approaching levels close to those experienced at the peak of wave 2. With this local situation and the events nationally and globally, everyone's resilience is tested. If you need any further information, just ask, if I haven't got it to hand, I can always get it. Ray Radford Email; ray.radford@devon.gov.uk

#### MID DEVON SINGERS

It's a great pleasure for everyone to enjoy singing again. Following our summer, outdoor rehearsals, we held a BBQ and mini performance at Swallow Court, J27 on Saturday 4 September and welcomed new members to our growing number. Sunday 5 September, saw us debut at the Uffculme Show.

Our autumn sessions, with more new members, began on Friday 17 September at Halberton Village Hall. We are still cautious to keep safe; it is precondition of joining the MiDS that members are double-jabbed or having regular testing. We are performing in villages around the area for organisations and at events; we'll keep you posted where and when through our reports or Facebook or sign up to our newsletter.

The MiDS is a social and musical group. There are no auditions for our inclusive, all age, mixed choir that includes first-timers and experienced singers from across the district and beyond; children (8+) and families are welcome and it's free for young singers. We sing a little of everything across all styles from past to present. We're friendly, not cliquey, so come and try us, free, for two or three sessions Anyone interested in joining is most welcome; contact singers@halberton.org or call **Bernard Johns**, on 01884 252910 or 07855 583356, or **Terry Payne** (Chairman and Musical Director) on 01884 820081 or 07973 890947.

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#### **REGULAR EVENTS AT THE WILLAND VILLAGE HALL**

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE WILLAND VILLAGE HALL				
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	I <sup>st</sup> Monday	2.00 pm		
Beavers (Term Time)	Mondays	5.30 pm		
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Mondays	7.00 pm		
Kettle Bell Pump	Mondays	6.30 pm		
Pilates with Ellie	Tuesday	9.45 am		
Flower Arranging	Tuesday and Wednesday	/ 1.15 pm		
Move it or Lose it	Tuesday	2.00 pm		
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4.00 pm		
Tiny Tots (Term Time)	Wednesday	9.30 am		
U3A Craft Group	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	9.30 am		
Pilates with Ellie	Wednesday	5.30 pm		
Indoor Bowls Club	Wednesdays	7.00 pm		
Garden Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7.30 pm		
Pilates with Ellie	Thursday	9.45 am		
University of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Age (U3A)	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	2.00 pm		
CAMEO	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	7.00 pm		
Karate	Thursday	6.00 pm		
Folk Dance Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	8.00 pm		
Parish Council Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7.00 pm		
Zumba	Fridays	9.30 am		
WiTS	Fridays	7.30 pm		
Exeter Theatre Train	Saturday	2.00 pm		
Cowgirl Twisters	Saturday (Monthly)	7.30 pm		
Folk Dance	Saturday (Monthly)	8.00 pm		
Karate	Sundays	10.00 am		
Martial Arts	Sundays	5.15 pm		

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

October				
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Garden Club Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donors	W.V.H	12.00 pm
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Youth Club Bingo	W.V.H	7.00 pm
November				
Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donors	W.V.H.	12.00 pm
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Methodists Coffee Morning	W.V.H.	10.00 am
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Evergreens Coffee Morning	W.V.H	10.00 am
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Food Pantry Pamper Evening.	W.V.H	7.00 pm

#### MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

It used to be said that in Local Government the summer months were quieter than the others. Having had the pleasure of being one of your District Councillors for just over ten years now I have to say I think that presumption is well and truly in the past.

These past weeks and months have been some of the busiest I have known. The Planning Committee seem to have to meet every other week. Along with this are the myriad of meetings, some still via zoom. It sometimes feels that all we are doing is treading water rather than forging ahead.

Many of our front-line services are receiving a much higher rate of calls and requests for help and assistance than anyone can remember. What we have to remember is that as an employer the council are not immune from the issues facing so many other employers.

For example, we as others have a lack of HGV drivers this makes filling any short-term absence very difficult on refuse rounds. We have staff members who have caught Covid-19. Others have had to isolate due to direct contact or family members having to isolate. Our working practices have changed and yes this means some things simply take longer.

Many staff are frankly exhausted after a prolonged period of maintaining some semblance of order and trying to serve the public and keep their particular service going whilst filling in for staff absences.

When restrictions were lifted, we did question how normal "normal" would be. I think we can all see that "normal service" will not be resumed for a while yet and we have winter to get through.

I appreciate that if you are moved to complain then yes that complaint is important to you and maybe others. Each issue is recorded, each complaint is logged, and then prioritised. If you feel you are being treated unfairly then come to us your elected representatives and let us help you and ease the burden on our council staff. My first ask is for patience ....please.

#### Ask number two

As the portfolio holder for Housing and Property Services my officers have over the past months put together a new and updated "Housing Strategy" for Mid Devon this when adopted will run from 2021/2025. It aims to set out how we (Mid Devon) will look to tackle several housing issues. From the top: more social housing (or as some refer to it council houses); more affordable houses; how we influence the design of houses; the quality; energy use; carbon reduction and the use of existing property. The Strategy sets out a number of priorities in four chapters with some forty objectives.

I (we) would like your opinions please. Good, bad, or just a comment. The document is currently in its draft form and is out for public consultation. To read the document and make a comment visit the MDDC web pages or see the details overleaf.



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This is important as I have promised to build more social houses for social rent and have started to look at delivering modular homes as a way to increase numbers. These homes can offer well-built carbon neutral homes from one bed to four bed in an affordable way and in the places we need them.

The project has started and I assure you will gather pace. We need your input.

"The Housing Strategy 2021-25 aims to offer more housing, with more choice by developing new homes and improving existing homes and communities. There is a particular focus on affordable and social rent properties alongside a strong commitment to having low-carbon, accessible and adaptable homes".

Read the full press release at: www.middevon.gov.uk/council-s-housing-plans-for-next-five-years-need-community-input/

Thank you for reading my words. Stay safe, keep doing whatever you have been doing and let's hope the light is starting to show at the end if that very long tunnel. **Bob Evans** 

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

**URGENT-.** We would be grateful if you please return empty bags.

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We regret that we are having to increase the price of our compost to £2.00 per bag. This still represents very good value when compared to prices from garden centres. This increase will take effect from 01 November 2021.

**LEAVES -** We are approaching the season of falling leaves and while we accept leaves we would much prefer it if they were dry. Alternatively you mow the leaves and use them as a mulch. This will add nutrients to the soil.

Please continue to deposit ONLY that which is listed on the site signage.

Grass Cuttings need to be fresh and not left to be rotted in bags/wheelie bins and we can only accept hedge trimmings with a maximum diameter of one inch (2.54cms) We would also like to remind our patrons that Covid-19 has not gone away and to please respect our social distancing requirements.

**Tony Mander** Mob.07980472242 Email: tmander931gmail.com.

#### **CULTURE, CRAFTS AND COMMUNITY IN CULLOMPTON**

This autumn there is lots to see and do in Cullompton and it kicks off with the Autumn Fest on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October from 9.30am to 2pm. A feast and celebration of locally produced food and crafts in the High Street, The Walronds and The Hayridge. It's a wonderful opportunity to see the town come alive, hear some live music and meet the people who produce great quality food, drink and craft work. The Farmers' Market will be taking place on that day and will also be running on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. They offer a splendid range of stalls from eggs and fresh organic vegetables to free range meat, jams, cider and much more. **David Parry.** 

#### WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Another successful coffee and chat, where we welcomed some new faces and old alike. Please join us on the first Thursday of the month, you never know who you will meet and what new friends you may make. We were really pleased to meet the new Co-op pioneer Janine who popped in to introduce herself. It's the ideal time to make use of the book swap, drop one off or pick one or two up we don't mind. There are lots of interesting books to choose from, never judge a book by its cover. The next coffee and chats are on 7th October and 4th November look forward to seeing you there. The centre is available for bookings, please email info@whacc.org.uk. Tania Edworthy.

#### **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

We cannot say that things are normal, however we are trying to prepare to have Christmas events and support other people.

We are supporting the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal.

They ask people to fill a Shoebox for a family – not just a child. Our list contains items for all family members and includes items such a shower gel/shampoo, family games, stationary items, gift for mum and dad as well as sweets, soft toys, hats, scarves etc. If you have any of these items we can use them so you don't have to do a whole box. The boxes are sent to Eastern Europe you can find out more here. www.linktohope.co.uk/shoebox-appeal-2021.

Christmas coffee morning together with the Scouts, in the village hall Saturday 27th November 10-12noon. Please come and support. There will be cakes to eat and buy, as well as games and lots of bric-a-brac. The Scouts in particular would really appreciate you being there.

We are hoping that the village carol service can go ahead as normal, however as it usually means the hall is very full, we will make a decision later and widely advertise. **Paul Booth Methodist Minister.** 

#### BEDROOM TO BUSINESS PROGRAMME SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2021

The Business & IP Centre Devon (BIPC) is excited to announce the Bedroom to Business programme .Do you want to make your business idea a reality? Not sure where to start? Our Bedroom to Business programme includes a Growth Accelerator course with sales trainer James White. In addition, our team of 30 experts will provide supplementary workshops covering topics including: mindset, visioning, profit/loss forecasting and writing a business plan. All the webinars are delivered online and all are FREE to access. The 13-week programme includes all the steps and tools you need to make your dream a reality. For more details including the full programme see the BIPC Devon website: Business & IP Centre Devon (librariesunlimited.org.uk)

In other exciting news, we have partnered with NatWest to provide Start-Up grants and support for female founders. For more details on how to apply for a 'She Started It' grant check out: **Start-up Grant for Female Founders Business & IP Centre Devon (librariesunlimited.org.uk) Lisa D'Alberti** 

### **HOSPISCARE**

In October we have Marathon in a Month coming up, which is a challenge to suit everyone, walk a couple of miles a day, go for a ten mile jog or go all out and tackle 26.2 miles in one go. Everyone that completes their marathon will receive a zero-waste Hospiscare medal as a thank you for their effort. Local charity Hospiscare just asks that challengers raise £60 in sponsorship to support outstanding care for people who are living with a terminal illness across the heart of Devon.

**Event Date: throughout October** 

Price: Adult £10, Child £5, Dog (and owner) £15 www.hospiscare.co.uk/events/marathon Ali McGeown



### WILLAND COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH (WCSW)

I am pleased to report that we continue to make progress in the planning and hope to be ready for the volunteer team to run its first live roadside session towards the end of September or early October and, I want to take this opportunity to thank PC Adrian Legg from our local police team for his help and support in making this happen.

Every time I update on WCSW, I reiterate the very important point that the prime objective of WCSW is to remind motorists to be aware of their speed and stick to speed limits - we would much rather deter than 'catch'. Please also remember that speed limits are a maximum figure and that it isn't always appropriate to drive at the maximum, e.g. past our school or, in poor road conditions, etc. That guidance is taken from the Government's web site.

We will publish the results from our sessions along with information gathered from the speed camera vans and the VAS device recently purchased by the Parish Council. This will be a co-ordinated activity to make our village roads safer. **David Marrow and Andrea Glover** 

### **HOW IT USED TO BE - 1912**

"By the Motor Car Act, 1903, sec.9, a person cannot be convicted of exceeding the speed limit on the evidence of one witness only, nor unless either he is warned at the time that he will be prosecuted or notice on Form 965 is sent to him or the registered owner of the car within a reasonable time not exceeding 21 days."

### **COLDHARBOUR MILL**

Sunday 31st October **HALLOWEEN IN STEAM** 10.30am – 3pm Explore and enjoy the sights and sounds of our Steam Complex in full swing.

Take a tour around the boilers and engine and discover more about this exciting power generation system which dates from the mid-19th century.

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

Not only are we in steam, but you can enjoy our spooky ghost trail and get into the Halloween spirit! There will be something spooky and enjoyable for the whole family.

Our Steam Complex will be running until 3pm, and the site will remain open to continue visiting the Factory and Museum, Café and Shop until 4.30pm. To book tickets in advance, go to: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/events/

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

The Mill is open Monday to Friday 10.30am-4.30pm (last entry to Museum 3pm) until 31st October. This includes the Mill Cafe & Shop (free entry) and the Museum (entry ticket required).

Thursdays are Production Days – see the factory machines in action. For information and to book tickets, go to: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/visit/or email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or phone: 01884 840960.

### **Rural Skills Training courses**

If you know anyone who might be interested in the Rural Skills Training courses at the Mill, they can get in touch for more info by email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or by 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. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or can join us regularly we'd love to talk to you.

On this webpage you can see the wide range of ways in which you can contribute to the Mill's success. www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer. Just get in touch and we can arrange to talk with you more about volunteering with us. Email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk – or phone: 01884 840960.Coldharbour Mill Working Wool Museum, Uffculme, Cullompton EX15 3EE **Susan Wasfi** 

**STOP PRESS.** Notification has been received that a planning application has been submitted for 125 houses to be built off Meadow Park. See the Parish Council Website or Facebook for details.

CUT-OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE WED.10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

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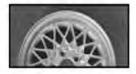
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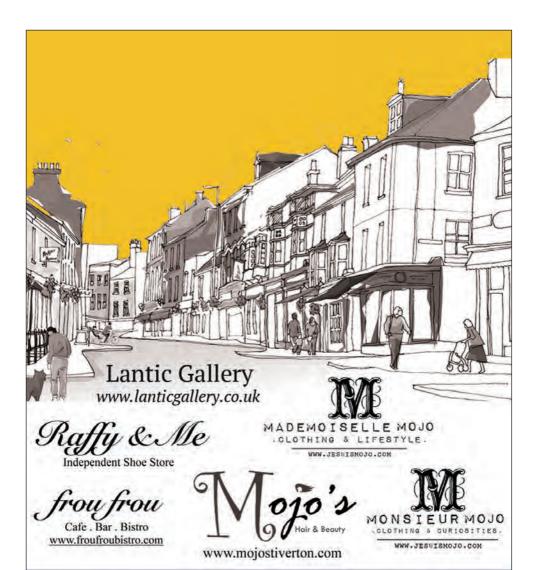
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