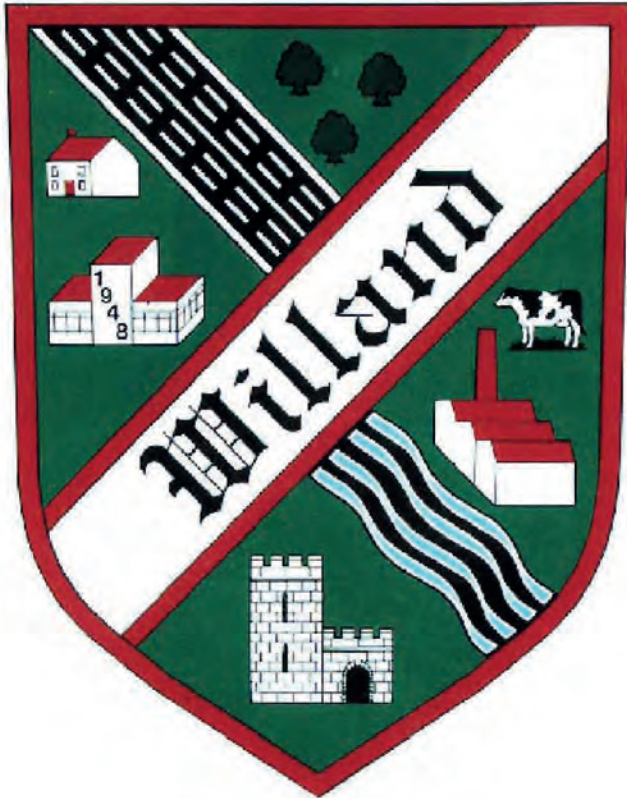


WILLAND MAGAZINE

April & May 2022



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

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WILLAND PARISH ORGANISATIONS

		<i>Secretary/Contact</i>	
Allotment Holders	Sylvia Statham	peterandsylviaastatham@hotmail.com	
Bridge Club	Wendy Boothroyd		01398 331219
Brownies	Bridget Pearse		07814 569054
C.A.M.E.O. Ladies Grp	Peta Jackman		07900 904822
Club 55	Margaret Atherton	27 Townlands	38217
Folk Dance Club	Marilyn Broom		01404 47200
Garden Club	Mrs Carol Allan	4 Orchard Way	33828
Tiny Tots	Karly Holley - willandtintots@gmail.com		07730 895472
Tennis Club	Mrs R. Parish	weirmilldevon@gmail.com	820803
Tennis Courts (Public Hire)		clubspark.lta.org.uk/WillandTennisClub	
Village Hall Bookings	Frances Wilcox	bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk	
Village Hall Caretaker	Sam Fincher - caretaker@willandvillagehall.org.uk		07377 556946
Willand Rovers FC	Cath Dinner		07775 550436
Willand Art Group	Jenny Baker	Gables Road	822882
Willand Community Composting	Tony Mander		821174
Willand Cycle Club	Alan Smith - biggiggy@hotmail.com		07545 273085
Willand Health & Community Centre	Tony Mander - tmander931@gmail.com		07980 472242
Willand History Group	James Morrison - jamorrison235@gmail.com		01884 250057
Willand Short Mat Bowling Club	John Crocker	12 Maple Close	35589
Willand Theatrical Society	Alicia - witsmembershipcontact@gmail.com		07593 823558
Willand United Charities	Rev Simon Talbot	unitedcharities@whacc.org.uk	
Youth Club (35218)	Mrs M. Billings	Cullompton	07766 141361

CHURCHES / EDUCATION

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

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Neil Parish	(M.P)	neil.parish.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7172
Ray Radford	(Devon County Council)	ray.radford@devon.gov.uk	820000
Richard Chesterton	(MD Dist Councillor)	rchesterton@middevon.gov.uk	07768 526946
Bob Evans	(MD Dist Councillor)	revans@middevon.gov.uk	01884 824082
Barry Warren	(MD Dist Councillor)	bwarren@middevon.gov.uk	07971 808423
Parish Council	Parish Council Website	www.willand-pc.org.uk	
Keith Grantham	(Councillor)	keith.grantham@willand-pc.org.uk	840780
Stephen Little	(Councillor)	stephen.little@willand-pc.org.uk	07795821476
Paul Major	(Councillor)	paul.major@willand-pc.org.uk	07942 273939
Lisa Mastrolacasa	(Councillor)	lisa.mastrolacasa@willand-pc.org.uk	07816 024489
Richard Phare	(Councillor)	richard.phare@willand-pc.org.uk	07496 113135
John Sellick	(Councillor)	john.sellick@willand-pc.org.uk	07865 570755
Bill Tobin	(Councillor)	bill.tobin@willand-pc.org.uk	821571
Barry Warren	(Council Chairman)	barry.warren@willand-pc.org.uk	07971 808423
Frances Wilcox	(Councillor)	frances.wilcox@willand-pc.org.uk	07748 557107
Andrea Glover	(Councillor)	andrea.glover@willand-pc.org.uk	07908 734368
Nick Bartlett	(Councillor)	nick.bartlett@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407
Barbara Bodkin	(Parish Clerk)	clerk@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407

MEDICAL

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College Surgery Partnership - General Enquiries	831300
Gables Road Pharmacy	32604
N.H.S. DIRECT	111
National Blood Service (Donors) Glenda Frost	820641
Out-of-Hours GP	111
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (24hr A & E)	01392 411611
Urgent Care Centre (Currently open 08.00-20.00 7 days a week)	01884 235400
Willand Surgery	821878

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Culm Voluntary Car Scheme	07546 525683

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DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL	0345 1551015
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Thursday	Willand Village Hall	11.25am - 12.25pm

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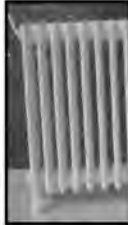
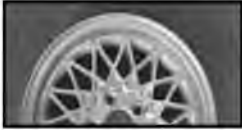
MAGAZINE Gerri Taylor 01884 821528 Editor: willandparishmag@gmail.com

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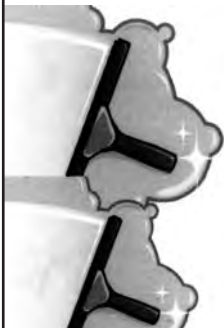


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Spring is here the daffodils snowdrops and primroses are blooming. Time to look forward to the rest of year and enjoy. Look for the word puzzle and what has been going on or about to happen in the village.

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR - COMMENT & REPORT

The year is rushing away before us and as I write this we are into the third month already.

Events in Ukraine are dominating the world news and we in Willand have a diverse make up of resident and/or working population so I am sure we share with all those who are affected directly, or have family in the 'war' region, our best wishes and support. It is having a knock-on effect to us locally with rising electricity and gas prices together with the various fuels for our transport. That then affects food prices and everything else which needs transport. Good argument to buy local wherever possible and support our local businesses.

The Parish and higher tier councils have all set their budgets and although we Parish Councillors had built in a little safeguard against inflation. I am sure our contractors will be seeking some further review of their prices to help with the unexpected increases. This will affect several of our households with their personal fuel bills so please keep an eye on vulnerable neighbours and try and assist them to get advice and help where needed.

Life goes on with planning applications which your Parish Council are consulted on. Planning permission has been given for Phase 2 of the Mid Devon Business Park but now variation to plans applications are being received to cater for the wishes of potential occupiers. We are awaiting the start on the 125 houses off Meadow Park. In anticipation of receipt of the agreed monies the Parish Council is looking at possible plans and contractors to improve the track in the Jubilee Field. There will be some monies over, hopefully, to replace and improve the small 'skateboard' facility. If you or your family have any ideas or interest in improving 'teen' facilities within the village please make yourself known to the Parish Clerk. The more community involvement in the planning of these things the better.

We are aware of consultations to expand Hitchcock Farm Business Park further. There are a number of applications for change of use of buildings around the village. People are seeking permission to fell or trim back protected trees and the Woodland Trust has received permission to carry out major works on the Woodland which will mean the loss of nearly 70 trees through disease. I am sure that they will replant and then if we use the woodland we need to respect and protect the new planting.

One application which is causing a lot of local concern is for the building of a new 'council house' in Barnes Close which will take away six parking spaces. Concerns are expressed concerning the potential to increase 'on street' parking and to restrict access to other properties. These concerns have to be balanced with the provision of needed housing. Residents have contacted me with my

District Council hat on but I have had to explain that as I am a member of the Planning Committee I must not do nor say anything which could be construed as to my having predetermined my position before examining all the facts and hearing argument put before the Planning Committee. You have two other Ward Councillors and I know that Richard Chesterton has met with some.

Speaking of parking, I am aware that parking at the Village Hall is becoming a problem. The Parish Clerk received complaints when Village Hall Trustees recently imposed access restrictions. I have had people approach me from both sides of the argument. I am sure some will say I am dodging the column when I say that it is not a matter for the Parish Council. The Hall is not owned by, nor is it managed by, the Parish Council – it is a separate entity and run by a Board of Trustees who are local volunteers doing their best to provide a very much needed facility in our growing community. I will stick my neck out with a view as a member of our community. If people are parking all day in the car park when they are at work, thus taking up spaces that people renting the village hall need to park in, then we have a problem. If those hiring the hall cannot park, they will not rent the hall and then the hall will not have the necessary money to maintain the building and the car park. We have had one suggestion in the past that we rip out the play equipment in the Jubilee field and make it into a carpark for parents dropping off and collecting children at the school. The Village Hall Trustees do have an understanding with the school which allows the car park to be used for dropping off and picking up. As one who used to have to walk a mile each way in all weathers to get to primary school on Dartmoor back in the early 1950's and parents did not even own a car – Dad had a bicycle – the carpark instead of play suggestion will not get any sympathy from me.

We are regularly getting complaints as to the state of some of the footpaths around the village. Some of the problem is caused by growth from hedgerows and gardens, some is from grass verges or the bottoms of hedges encroaching onto the tarmac thus narrowing the walking area and some is the state of the surface itself. Let me tell you a story. Vegetation growing out from gardens or hedges is the responsibility of the landowner but in some areas, there is no land owner - we have little bits of 'no man's land'. The bottoms of hedges encroaching onto the footpath attract the same responsibilities. If the landowner does not deal with the problem Devon County Highways or the Rights of Way Team can do it and charge the landowner. The surfaces are DCC but you play 'pass the parcel' as to which department does anything. At the end of the day DCC is the first point of call. In the past we used to be able to get the Community Payback Teams to do it but since the management of that service changed, we cannot get them. On the odd occasion MDDC has cleared some areas as growth was coming from 'council house' land. So what do we do? The suggestion has been made that as the Parish Council look after the verges, we should take on the footpaths to clear them once a year or so. You all pay through Council Tax although we do get a grant from DCC for the verge cutting. What do you think about the footpaths? At a rough guess it would add about

£1 per household onto the Parish portion of the Council Tax. Please tell the Clerk what you think.

All cannot have failed to notice the digging up of our roads for, in the main, the laying of fibre broadband. BT Open Reach already have cables and fibre but not all are on the best system. Gigaclear has been doing most of the recent digging and they have a contract to cover some roads. Airband also has a contract but they are a while away for their section of the contract. They are interested in picking up areas the others have missed and although there will be a cost involved, they will be interested to hear from people in the more difficult areas who want fast fibre broadband. The better the broadband connections in the area the better for the economy of the area and with more people being able to work from home it will help reduce the carbon footprint. Watch the magazine for flyers to tell you more and we will carry as much information as possible on the Parish Council website and the various Facebook accounts.

We have just held the statutory Parish Meeting but it was a very low key affair as compared to what we have done in the past. Thank you to the village organisations who submitted reports and these will be on the website for all to see. The details of the precept should be in this addition of the magazine and so if you have any concerns or questions please ask.

Covid has not gone away and so please taken sensible precautions to try and prevent the spread and keep our community safe and well.

I wish you all an early Happy Easter. **Barry G J Warren.**

SODUKO No2. This is the same as SUDOKU, but with letters instead.

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Each line column and square must have each letter once

Letters used DUNTOAICE

Clue for middle line “back to School”

The solution is further into the magazine have fun but no cheating now.

HOSPISCARE

I’m very happy to tell you that our campaign Open Gardens is running again this year, starting in April, with

lots of lovely gardens opening across Exeter, Mid and East Devon to visit. Often a place to enjoy tea and cake too! For information, the website to visit is **www.hospiscare.co.uk/opengardens**.

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL First the Good News

At our last trustee meeting, we agreed that we would not increase hire charges this year, because of some of the economic hardships we are all experiencing. However, this was before our Gas supplier went bust and we were transferred to a much more expensive one. Our gas bills for the past few months have been around £1000, well over double the amount we have paid before. To help us conserve fuel, please make sure that you keep all the exterior doors closed when the heating is on.

Some of you may not be aware that the Village Hall is NOT owned by the Parish Council or the School. It is run by trustees, who are volunteers and give their time, free of charge, to ensure the Hall is kept in good repair and utilised by as many people as possible. The trustees have to charge for its use, as they are responsible for raising all the money to keep it in good repair and we receive no support from the Government, MDDC or the Parish Council.

We have had a few problems recently. The Village Hall car park is not a public car park. The trustees allow parents to use the car park to drop off and pick up children from school in order to keep the children safe and away from the busy roads. Some of our users have complained that they have been unable to park and have talked about stopping classes because they have been unable to find parking space during the day as some school staff and other people not using the hall have taken up the spaces. If unauthorised users continue to park in our car park, we may have to take action to keep our users happy. We do not want to have to lock the gates to protect our hirers, but we cannot allow this situation to continue. Please help us by not parking in the car park unless you are either attending an event at the Hall or if you are dropping off or picking up your children at the beginning and end of the school day.

Once the weather has improved, we will be having the outside of the Hall painted. Please visit our website, www.willandvillagehall.org.uk, to check the calendar for future bookings. Email for booking is

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

CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH – GABLES ROAD. ECO CHURCH

We have received the Silver award, this has meant looking at what we do in 5 areas: worship & teaching, buildings, land, community and lifestyle. We have made changes and considered our impact on the environment. There are changes that you will see, even in our small grounds we have been able to leave space for wildlife and feeders for the birds. What is not so visible is how we consider our own impact on the environment.

Events that everyone is welcome to:

Easter Coffee morning fundraiser with Scouts at the Village Hall.

April 9th 10am -12noon, cakes games crafts and bric-a-brac

Lunch – Soup and something April 16th from 12 noon, there will be soup, sandwiches and maybe dessert. Coffee Morning May 20th 10.30am come for a chat. We look forward to meeting you. **Rev. Paul Booth**

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CULM VALLEY U3A

The Culm Valley u3a is part of a UK wide collection of 1000+ locally run interest groups providing opportunities, for those no longer in full time work, to learn, stay active and have fun.

Culm Valley u3a is a vibrant, welcoming, and friendly organisation with many activity groups to choose from with more becoming active on a regular basis.

Speakers are booked for our regular monthly meetings at Willand Village Hall, EX15 2PL on the **First Thursday between 2pm and 4pm**. These will include talks about Walking the North Downs Way, the work of the Plymouth RNLI, the Climate and Ecological Crisis, the Puzzling Aztecs of Mexico, Dartmoor Myths and Legends and how many of those 'illegal immigrant' garden flowers and weeds arrived in this country. Something for everyone!

We have a stall at **The Walronds Springfest on Saturday April 9th** to showcase our activities. We will also be selling crafts, including cute bunnies, and plants. Do please come along between 9.30 and 2.30 to meet some of our members and to find out more.

On **Thursday June 2nd** we will celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a 1950s indoor tea party with bunting, flags, music, food, dance, and some surprises too!

Keep a look out for more Culm Valley u3a celebrations when we join in with the National u3a's 40th anniversary during **September** this year.

Meanwhile, we hope to see you at **The Waldrons on the 9th of April**.

For more information please contact **Cvu3achair@gmail.com**

EXCELSIOR ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT CLUB.

Spring sees us transition from indoor activities to outdoor events. We are starting our weekly athletics sessions and our regular coaching clinics at Exeter Arena. We don't emphasise competition but if you want to train in sprints, hurdles, jumps and throws, then please get in touch.

We shall be holding our first weightlifting competition of the year in April. We have several new members who are itching to try their first competition. Other lifters shall be concentrating on athletics this summer (alongside their GCSEs).

Coach James qualified for the European Masters weightlifting championships with a total of 149kg at the Wild Boar Open in Lydney.

Finally, it is great to have our gymnastics classes operating at near capacity after a fraught two years. We have the most in our Parkour class for a long time. Thank you to all our members and their parents for supporting the club through this difficult time. It's great to see the children happy and sweaty at the end of each session. **James Marshall**

The love of family and the admiration of friends is much more important than wealth and privilege.

WILLAND GARDEN CLUB

Our first meeting of 2022 was on Wednesday, 9th March, where we welcomed three new members. We were shown a DVD of Cottage Garden and Houseplant Revivals, which was very interesting.

We have our first coffee morning on 19th March, which we hope will be well attended and will help us raise funds for our Flower Show. On 13th April, we will be hearing about Devon Garden History and we have a quiz at our meeting on 11th May, followed by our Plant Sale on 28th May.

Membership remains at £5 per annum, which entitles members to attend our monthly meetings (with free tea or coffee and biscuits), a subsidised annual outing and Club meal and 10% discount at The Old Well.

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

MID DEVON SINGERS

MiDS have continued to grow, enjoying singing new songs, welcoming new members, whilst ensuring that everyone, including vulnerable members, feel safe and comfortable.

As we ease, carefully, out of COVID restrictions, we have raised the cap on our numbers to 50 singers, so we have vacancies, now, if you're quick! It remains a precondition of joining our friendly, and non-cliquey, social and musical group that members are fully jabbed; we have a monitor, visible to all, that measures the CO2 level, where we practice or perform.

Our Spring Concert at Halberton on Saturday 26 March will NOT go ahead as we lost rehearsal time this term because of COVID related restrictions and absence. We also feel that it's safer to postpone, rather than risk having a packed Hall at Halberton in the days immediately after all restrictions are (planned to be) removed. The safety of our members, guests and the public remains paramount.

On Saturday 14 May we are organising a *Musical Tapas Evening* with a very varied programme, bar supper, in collaboration with Halberton Community Association. It's not just the MiDs performing; we are inviting anyone who would like to perform to join us.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to sing, play or dance (in any style, any genre) please contact me directly ASAP.

Young talented performers, of any age, are welcome; some are joining us from Bristol. The Village Hall will be set out cabaret style, the five blocks of items will allow drink refills in between and supper (between blocks 3 and 4) will be superb! More information will follow; note that tickets will go very quickly when released.

Our Summer Concert will be held on Saturday 25 June and our Summer BBQ will be held the following weekend. We hope to be performing at the Mid Devon Show (Saturday 23 July) and the Uffculme Show (Sunday 4 September).

There are no auditions to join our inclusive, all-age, singing group of starters, teenagers and experienced singers from across the district and beyond. We meet on Fridays (good for young singers) and it's free for them. We sing a little of everything - all styles from past to present. Contact Stéphanie (Membership) to see if there is space, through singers@halberton.org or Facebook or me. Contact our Concert Secretary if you'd like us to perform for you.

Terry Payne (Chairman and Musical Director) 01884 820081 / 07973 890947.

WILLAND TINY TOTS – Baby and toddler group from Birth to Pre school age. Every Wednesday (Term Time) at Willand Village Hall 9.30 till 11.30. £1.00 per child 50p for children under six months and £1.00 per adult. Children come five times and get the sixth session free. For more info contact **Karly Holley Willandtinytots@gmail.com** **07730895472**

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2022-2023

This is the precept requested by Willand Parish Council for the year April 2022 to March 2023. The Parish Council carefully considered the current income and expenditure which enables it to do the things it has to do within the Parish and those that improve the village for everyone. The Parish Council has also been mindful to keep any necessary increases to a minimum which, due to there being a few more houses in the village since last year, has resulted in a 1% reduction in the Band D Parish Charge.

The income figures are based very much on the actuals from this year. The project line reflects generous donations from local businesses towards the Christmas lights. Money has been secured from Devon County Council towards the cost of verge cutting and grant funding was obtained towards weed spraying, but the grant funding cannot be budgeted for in 2022-2023. You may notice that income from the cemetery has increased this year but it is not possible to accurately predict income from the cemetery although the maintenance costs are ongoing.

Contracts are ongoing for all the ground maintenance within the village and the figures reflect these contracts.

Total income expected £14984

Total expenditure predicted £76469

Precept requested £61485.00

Precept 2021/2022 was £60362

Increase for Willand £1123

	2021/22 Precept	2021/22 e/o Jan 2022	2022/23 Budget	VAT
INCOME				
Precept	60362	60362		
Bank Interest	80	4	100	
Magazine Advertising	5000	5307	5000	
Cemetery	3000	8532	3000	
Allotments	2215	2296	2190	
Projects		1800	0	
Ground Maintenance	4557	5287	4694	
TOTAL	75214	83588	14984	
EXPENDITURE				
Staff	20129	16372	20724	
Office administration	6015	4278	7437	271
Allotments	2215	1759	2190	
Cemetery	3090	2286	3500	
Magazine	6600	6417	6600	
All Ground management	14176	14283	14862	2972
Village projects	7139	5873	6806	1361
Donations to groups	350	350	350	
Play areas equipment	3000	2619	3000	600
TOTALS	62714	54237	65469	
Capital expenditure				
legal expenses	1000		1000	200
Community Event	0		0	
CCTV replacements	500		500	100
Office Admin	1000		1000	
Cemetery contingency	500			
Play areas new equipment	5000	762	4000	800
Play areas development	4500		4500	900
Totals	12500	762	11000	2000

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CAMEO

The New Year saw us busy as usual as the Singles Group enjoyed their annual New Year lunch at the Halfway House which was delicious. The Walking Group had a lovely and eventful winter walk in brilliant sunshine but bitter cold. They walked up the muddy and slippery path to Culmstock Beacon to see spectacular views. One member took a tumble into the wet bracken but luckily there was no harm done and the team leader lost her mobile phone, they went on to Bridewell House for a late but well deserved lunch. The next walk was one they hadn't tried before, around the lanes from Sampford Peverell to Uplowman and back and on to the Old Well for a cup of coffee. The next walk was a circular walk around the lanes at Clayhydon ending up at Bridewell House for coffee. The whole Cameo Group went for a coffee morning at the Old Well always good to meet up and have a chat. That's what Cameo is all about, getting together and enjoying each others company. At our February meeting Peta welcomed members and several new members too, which was great. Our Speaker was Ashley Jones, a civil servant working with the Police and Action Fraud investigators his talk was entitled Scambusters. He travels around the South West alerting people to the dreadful scams that can ruin our lives. He warned us to beware of phone calls purporting to be from the Police, trying to gain your confidence and giving away details of your bank account numbers and sort codes. His advice was to not engage in any conversations with them at all if you are unsure of their identity as they are highly skilled in convincing people that they are genuine. They are just scammers. The same applies to phone calls and texts from your bank etc. They do not need to ask you any questions as they already have all your details. Be aware of romance web sites many people have been defrauded out of thousands of pounds. He's said these scammers cost us all 190 million pounds last year and the N.H.S. costs us all around 106 million! He said thousands of scams occur and people were ashamed to report it as they thought it was their fault they had been scammed, it is not your fault and he urged us to report it. It was a scary talk but gave us all a lot to think about. If any of you belong to a group, he will be pleased to come along and give you this talk. There was so much more content, but it would fill the magazine. Our next outing was to Redwoods Inn at Uplowman where 22 of us had a delicious lunch. 1st March saw us meeting for coffee at Fordmore Farm Shop just outside Cullompton, it was very good and we'll certainly be going there again. At the March meeting Peta welcomed new members and distributed an up to date letter about Cameo meetings and events etc reminding members of their obligations to make for the successful running of Cameo. Peta has plans for our Jubilee celebrations at her house. Unfortunately, on the afternoon of our meeting our Speaker had to pull out, but, Peta saved the day and we had a general knowledge quiz which we all enjoyed. Several car loads of members had a lovely day out in Exmouth at the Leisure centre enjoying ten pin bowling followed by lunch. Then COVID struck and all the players had to be tested and our singles meeting was cancelled. **Betty Penberthy**

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

This month the edition sees the back of winter or so we all hope and a look forward to not just warmer but much better days for those who are close to us and those that through the world of TV and on-line media we watch go through unimaginable horrors.

Like all, I had no imagination that would have taken me through a world-wide pandemic and then watch war unfold in Europe.

So having watched with admiration so many do so much to help so many other unknown and unrelated individuals and neighbours get through the limitations that the pandemic brought to our communities, I'm now sat in meetings having to try and understand what it is the authority can do to help the expected tidal wave of souls that will come to us looking for shelter, security and hope, none wanting to be here, all wanting to simply go home, many no longer having a home to return too.

We will do all we can with all that we have and no matter our individual beliefs, I'm sure we will all wish, hope and pray they get what they want.

Moving somewhat closer to home, I've recently dealt with a couple of issues that related to elderly or in one case a vulnerable individual who via family and friends were looking for help in knowing their loved ones were safe or if the worst happened could summon help quickly.

I'm not a salesman but I have been a little surprised at how many people do not know of a service that MDDC can provide via- **lifeline**, I'm not going to try and sell anybody anything, but hope that one or two may find the article below helpful for their relatives or friends or may simply pass it in to somebody they feel may benefit.

The following can be found on the MDDC web site and is a direct lift from those pages.

Lifeline alarms



A Lifeline alarm provides help at the touch of a button 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The service provides peace of mind to people who feel at risk in their own homes. It gives people the freedom to live their life independently knowing that they can obtain assistance when they need it.

The technology consists of an alarm unit connected to the telephone line and a button to call for assistance if:

- you have become immobile or incapacitated;
- your security is being threatened or,
- you are suffering from a medical emergency.

The alarm is also supplied with a wireless pendant worn around the neck or wrist allowing help to be summoned from anywhere around your house or garden.

Calls for assistance are answered by specially trained staff who will immediately contact family members, friends or neighbours nominated by you for help. In the case of a medical emergency, the appropriate emergency service will also be called. This service is available to anyone living in Mid Devon. We charge a one-off installation fee of £30.00 and £45.12 per quarter thereafter. If you would like us to visit you and show you how the lifeline works, please **Contact us for more information. Lifeline@middevon.gov.uk**

Prerequisites for Lifeline alarms

The Lifeline alarm service is available to everyone in Mid Devon. However, you will need to have a telephone socket with an active landline near a three pin electrical socket.

We also offer additional bespoke packages to assist lifeline users with other needs such as

- Key safes
- Big button phones
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- Wireless Carbon Monoxide

Finally, I continue to be very proud that having made a promise not just to the residents of Lower Culm but all residents of Mid Devon that I would do all I can within my Cabinet portfolio not just talk about but bring about more social housing, only yesterday saw the second modular housing project passed by the MDDC planning committee, I'm hoping this is only the start and I am looking to have a different project nearly every month presented for committees consideration at sites throughout Mid Devon.

If you need any help or advice, please do contact me via E mail or phone and I will do all I can to help. **Bob Evans Lower Culm Ward**

Deputy Leader of the Council Cabinet Member for Housing & Property Ser?
07975905782

WILLAND HISTORY GROUP

Plans are in place to make our Platinum Jubilee Exhibition the perfect way to kick off your long Bank Holiday Jubilee weekend this summer. We've booked the Club Room of the Village Hall for Thursday, 2 June, with our Exhibition running from 1pm to 8pm, plus a Jubilee Tea, with tea and cake, bunting, music, and all the rest of it, at 4pm. The exhibition's theme is based around Willand in the 1950s, and we're still keen to collect items for our exhibition – pictures, photos, newspaper cuttings, general memorabilia, etc., etc. – but really anything relating to Willand over the last 70 years, past Jubilees, Carnivals, sporting successes, club celebrations, anything that shows our community at its best, but also anything that documents the many and various changes in the village, for better or worse. So please do get in touch, or bring it along on the day, you'll be very welcome.

We recently acquired a front page of the *Devon & Somerset News* newspaper from 8 October 1969, resplendent with a photo of Willand's Carnival Queen, Rosemary Broom, with her three attendants, Linda Roberts, Angela Hayes and Angela Pike. That year the Willand Carnival returned after a few years' lapse, but the floats were as colourful as ever, parading from the Old Village to Tiverton Junction. Amongst the prizewinning floats were 'Maunder's Hillbillies' by Lloyd Maunder's Poultry Dept., and 'Willand Wurzels Zider Arvest' by Willand Youth Club. Other entertainments that day included a fun fair, a Carnival Dance at the Village Hall, and a popular children's fancy dress contest, won by Louise Overy and Richard Penberthy as 'The Hippies'. On the same front page, under the headline 'New Town in Uffculme and Willand Area?', it was reported how the latest Devon County Council planning analysis had highlighted 'Uffculme-Willand' as the most suitable site to build a satellite town for Exeter 'with a target [population] intake of 30,000 by 2010'!!

In February, several History Group members enjoyed a visit to the Culm Valley Model Railway Club's open day (in their room at The Old Well, Waterloo Cross), and were impressed by their model of Tiverton Junction. The old railway station and its surrounds are recreated in incredible detail, including features such as the Railway Hotel (demolished when the M5 was built c.1975), and Park Farm (now Stoneman Engineering). The model is still a work in progress, but it really evokes a bygone era, circa the 1950s /60s, when Willand had its own railway station (finally closed in 1986).

We would also like to thank Richard Penberthy (see 'The Hippies' above) for sending us some of his memories of growing up in Willand during the 1960s and '70s. He recalls the area around the railway station at a time just before the M5 was built: "There was a slip road where the roundabout is that was the entrance to Platform 2 of Tiverton Junction Station, and the goods yard. I remember it well as we used to mess about in there. There was a large sandstone grinding wheel in the yard. We would take it in turns turning the handle while the other would sharpen his sheath knife which we all carried. Just before the railway bridge was a very large advertising board and hidden around

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the back of it was an abandoned motor scooter. On the other side of the bridge was [Park] farm and halfway up the bank on the right were steps to the station car park. The railings can still be seen today. Where the motorway bridge now stands was the slip road to the station, Railway Inn, a row of cottages (which went parallel to the railway line and as far up as the scrap metal dealers) and Assembly Rooms. These were all boarded up before work on the motorway started. We managed to break in to most of the cottages and make them into dens. I can't remember ever getting into the pub though. Further up the road was the market. If it was raining we played 5-a-side football in one of the sheds using the large sliding double doors as goals. The opposite side of the road was fields all the way to the Halfway House and Muxbear. In the fields was where the annual fairground went. Next to Aggie Weston's chip shop, which is still there, was Salter's stores; One Stop was Lloyd Maunder's butchers, and right on the corner was Broome's shop which also had a haberdashery department. Between Park Street and the top of Maunder's lane and the start of 'Round the World' was a large bank running alongside the road. Walking Round the World on the first corner before another railway bridge was a huge tree that just about everyone carved their name on. At the other end of Round the World, at the top of Dean Hill Road, were more houses which were all boarded up and a large tree with a seat around the base [Willand's Jubilee Tree planted for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887]. The only house to remain up was the one next to Charlie Goff's garage which was taken down brick by brick and re-built away from the motorway. It was quite a harsh winter that year and we would borrow trays from Goff's café and use them to slide down the embankment."

James Morrison, (jamorrison235@gmail.com)

WILLAND TENNIS CLUB

Willand Tennis Club is a friendly club, located beside the Village Hall, and always keen to welcome new members. New membership offers will be available from the 1st April. Junior membership is also available at a very competitive price.

New floodlights were installed on 2 of the courts in February which is a great bonus for the club.

All 4 courts are available to book for member and public use 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

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.

ST MARY'S CHURCH WILLAND

During March we have been collecting goods to donate to those fleeing the war in Ukraine. It has been lovely to see the pile of bags in church as a true mark of our solidarity and desire to help. At the time of print we are still collecting goods, but please check what is needed before leaving items in church. Any items that aren't needed will be donated to a local homeless charity. Please also join with millions of people across the world praying for peace.

As we remember human suffering across the World we remember at Easter that God personally knows the pain of injustice and human cruelty through the Lord Jesus' betrayal, torture and death. Easter is the most important time in the Christian calendar as we remember all Jesus' has done for us through his death but also the hope we celebrate through him coming through it and rising from the dead. You are warmly invited to join us for any of our services or events as we mark this important time of year....

27th March 10am Mothering Sunday Service

Good Friday 15th April 10am-12pm in Uffculme church - Crafts and games from primary age children.

12pm-3pm THREE HOURS AT THE CROSS

A service of Music, Hymns, Readings, Prayers and Meditation. The service is in six half-hour parts, and people are welcome to either come in or leave at any half-hour point during the three hours (or of course stay for the whole time).

Easter Sunday 17th April 10am - Easter celebration for all ages

For more information or for any pastoral needs please contact:

Rev Simon Talbot (Rector) Tel: 562570 Email: simon@thetalbots.org.uk

CULM VALLEY SINGAROUND

It began as an anonymous post on the 'Everything Uffculme' facebook page. 'Coming soon [if anyone is interested] the Uffculme singaround group.' Eventually a group of local Uffculme suspects gathered in the Square Corner Cafe and thrashed out what we wanted. Accordingly there's going to be a first meet in Uffculme Church on Tuesday March 15th. It is not a church event, but we decided that the church would have a good acoustic and a pleasant vibe as well as making social distancing easy. What everyone wanted to do was get together and sing songs with harmonies in a Natural Voice Style. So there will be folk songs, pop songs, songs from other countries with simple harmonies learned by ear. Leading the singing will be Andrew Hague, late of Sweet Honi Rock choir.

There will also be opportunities for individuals to perform a la Folk club 'Come All Ye' To be honest, we don't really know what shape this thing will end up being. It's democratic so get in at the beginning and help mould it into a real venue hire and perhaps buy a few arrangements and pay for a bit of advertising. If you are interested get in touch with Andy Hague on hague151@gmail.com. We'll kick off at 7.30pm and we're aiming to finish by about 9pm. **Andrew Hague.**

WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY

Wow what a response from our audiences for this year's pantomime, "**Cinderella What Happened Next**". A very unusual panto with Witch "Effre" Casting a spell mixing up reality. Our audiences were treated to faces from some old panto's including Aladdin, Dick Whittington along with Cinderella. With the time line distorted it was up to "Dr. What" in his time machine to sort it all out. Along with two stowaway Aliens and his trusty apprentice Tim (who was nearly a time lord he just wanted an "e" added to his name) With all brand- new costumes, smoke, sounds, songs, projections and lighting were to add to the drama. We would like to thank all the people who made fabulously positive comments on social media, we are so grateful that our hard work was to give so much pleasure and enjoyment to our audiences. We will endeavour to make next year even bigger and better.



Following our A.G.M on 13th May we are immediately going into rehearsals for the long-awaited play "**Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders**" that we will be performing in the early autumn so watch this space for future announcements.

Many thanks to The Coop Willand for their kind sponsorship of this year's Panto. Pictured are Manager **Shane Parker** presenting a cheque for £100 to WiTS President **Jeanette Simmons** and Treasurer **Sam Fincher**



We found parts for all our new members in this year's panto and didn't they do well. If you would like to try your hand we are always pleased to see new members, so check out the contacts page and get in touch. It may change your life **Sam Fincher**

WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Spring has well and truly sprung. The coffee and chat 1st Thursday of the month was well attended (with some new faces). Everyone is welcome, it doesn't matter if you come on your own, there is always a friendly face to chat with. Helen's diner kindly donated cake, which was well received. For those of you who want to be more flexible, there are yoga classes available. The Centre is also available for bookings, just email info@whacc.org for more information on availability.

WALKING IN ENGLAND

Time to get walking again at this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Devon www.walkinginengland.co.uk/devon has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Devon (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking. **John Harris**



SODUKO No2

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D	U	A	O	N	I	E	T	C
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We hope you have enjoyed this issue here is the solution to **Sudoku No. 2**

Memories warm you up from the inside



Happy Easter from the editorial team.

CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY 11th MAY 2022

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