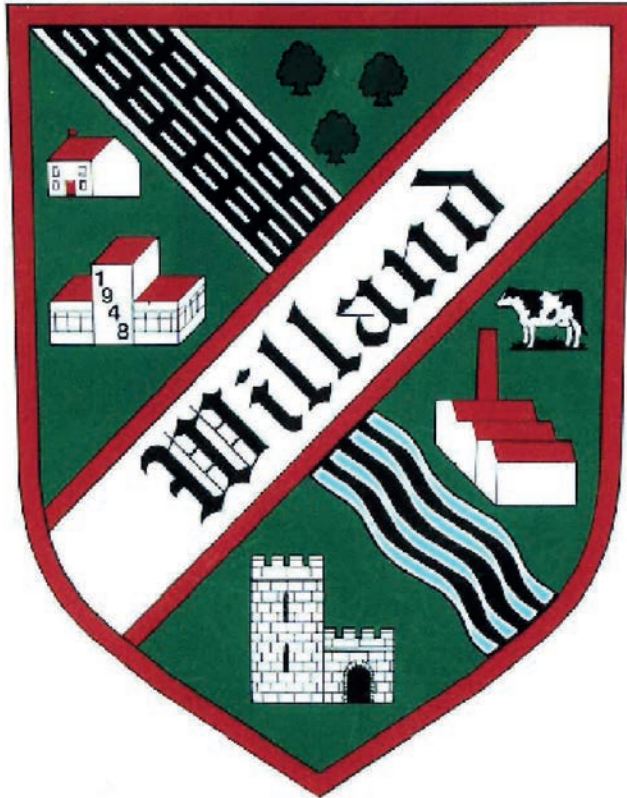


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August & September 2023



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## WILLAND PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Allotment Holders	Sylvia Statham	<i>Secretary/Contact</i> peterandsylviastatham@hotmail.com
Bridge Club	Wendy Boothroyd	01398 331219
Brownies	Bridget Pearse	07814 569054
C.A.M.E.O. Ladies Grp	Peta Jackman	07900 904822
Folk Dance Club	Marilyn Broom	01404 47200
Garden Club	Sylvia Statham	peterandsylviastatham@hotmail.com
Tiny Tots	Karly Holley - willandtinytots@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	07377 556946
Willand Rovers FC	Cath Dinner	07775 550436
Willand Art Group	Jenny Baker	Gables Road 822882
Willand Crafty Family and Friends	Emma Worth -willandcraftyfamily2021@gmail.com	07843811230
Willand Community Composting	Tony Mander	821174
Willand Health & Community Centre		info@whacc.org.uk
Willand History Group	James Morrison - jamorrison235@gmail.com	01884 250057
Willand Short Mat Bowling Club	John Crocker	12 Maple Close 35589
Willand Theatrical Society		witsthesecretary@gmail.com 01884 32152
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	circuitoffice@btinternet.com	01884 821713
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	willandschoolpta@gmail.com

## LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Richard Foord	(M.P)	Richard.Foord.MP@Parliament.UK	0207 2197172
Ray Radford	(Devon County Council)	ray.radford@devon.gov.uk	820000
Andrea Glover	(MD Dist Councillor)	aglover@middevon.gov.uk	07908 734368
Cathy Connor	(MD Dist Councillor)	cconnor@middevon.gov.uk	07548 872107
John Poynton	(MD Dist Councillor)	jpoynton@middevon.gov.uk	07834 869284
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>Parish Council Website</b>	<b>www.willand-pc.org.uk</b>	
Keith Grantham	(Councillor)	keith.grantham@willand-pc.org.uk	840780
Stephen Little	(Councillor)	stephen.little@willand-pc.org.uk	07795821476
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
Barry Warren	(Council Chairman)	barry.warren@willand-pc.org.uk	07971 808423
Andrea Glover	(Councillor)	andrea.glover@willand-pc.org.uk	07908 734368
Neil James	(Councillor)	neil.james@willand-pc.org.uk	07733 083158
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Debbie Bird	(Parish Clerk)	clerk@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407

**MEDICAL**

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Gables Road Pharmacy	32604
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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

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CRIMESTOPPERS	0800 555111
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL	0345 1551015
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (24 HOUR)	0800 807060
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**COMMUNITY POLICE**

Non-crime events can be reported to **101** by telephone or by email to **101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk** Any crimes need to be reported through **101** by telephone or on the web-form in the link: **www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/crimereporting**

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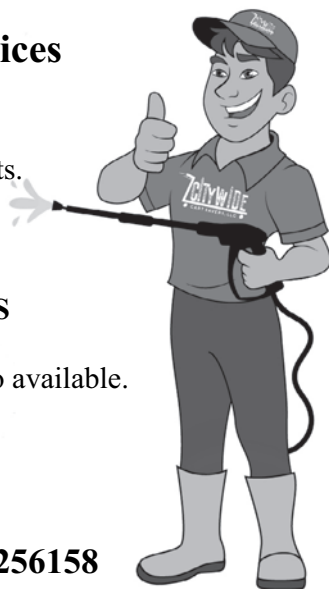
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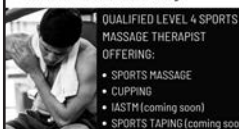
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**WILLAND MAGAZINE**

We welcome Richard and Peggy Pettifer to the Magazine team who will be in charge of distributing to all the homes in Willand. We are looking for a volunteer to deliver magazines to the Townlands area, it is only six times a year so please let us know if you'd like to do this. We take this opportunity to thank all our volunteer deliverers who do such an excellent job all the year round. Thank You.

**WILLAND TENNIS CLUB**

Why not enjoy the summer evenings by playing a game of tennis at Willand tennis club. This year we celebrate our 70th year and have a special offer on new adult membership.

We are a very friendly club, located beside the Village Hall, and always keen to welcome new members and (both Adult and Juniors). All 4 courts can be booked by tennis members and the public all year for 'Pay & Play'. 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: **[www.willandtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.willandtennisclub.co.uk)**

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, Club Secretary.**

**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

We have passed the longest day and the days will begin to become shorter from now on. The school holidays are approaching and one hopes that the children and young people will enjoy the facilities of the village without feeling the need to cause damage and further expense for the council tax payers of the village. The wanton damage to the dog bin by the Gables Lea entrance of the Jubilee Field has been put right with the provision of a new bin that will take any litter, including dog waste, so please use it responsibly. The total cost for the bin and the work to remove the old and fit the new came to £422.29 that need never have had to be paid out by the Parish. If anyone has a guilty conscience the Clerk will be only too happy to receive payment from the offenders. I know – some hope – but there is no harm in dreaming.

On the subject of recreation and play areas, as I write this the finishing touches have been put to the play area off Chestnut drive. There is a small climbing combination for the little ones, a roundabout for wheel chair users or even little ones in prams and then there are swings for little ones and the bigger ones. There is a seat for 'granny' to sit on and watch and a litter bin but please do not put dog mess in the bin in the play area. A larger area has been covered with safety surface and so hopefully the muddy areas will be reduced.

Hopefully work will start on replacing the BMX dirt track with a Pump Track in the Jubilee Field. Work is scheduled to start on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023 so that area of the field will be fenced off for safety. We would like to have had it ready for the summer holidays but sadly we have to fall in with the work programme of the contractors and believe it or not many were not interested in the work. We are also preparing for quotes and planning to replace the skateboard area with a larger and more solid structure but that will be a few months away yet. We are also in the process of acquiring a wheel chair friendly picnic bench to place in the field near to the other benches and hopefully this will create a family or party area. This will hopefully help as we oldies will be able to sit and talk and the youngsters can run around and use all the kit in the field.

Now we have a problem with which we need some help please. We should have 12 Parish Councillors and we now only have 7. We need a minimum of 4 to form a quorum to make decisions. Sadly, Lisa Mastrolacasa has had to tender her resignation due to work and child care issues. Lisa will be a great loss as although she has not been able to get to meetings since the birth of her daughter she has always been on the end of the telephone and able to contribute to various discussions. Thank you, Lisa for your contribution to our community and we hope to see you again if circumstances permit in the future. As a rule, we now only have one meeting a month with none in August. There will be a second meeting in December to set the budget and precept for the next financial year. If you are interested in helping your community and can find three or four hours a month – half of that at home reading things – please get in touch with the Clerk. If you want to find out more information, please feel free to give me a call.

We have had no rain and then the grass and shrubs are not growing and even dying and now we have the rain back but that will mean that things start to grow and footpaths get obstructed together with potential slip area hazards. In spite of expectations the Parish Council do not have any statutory powers to make a land owner do anything. If the problem is caused from Parish owned or managed land it is dealt with. We do write to householders and other businesses and authorities seeking their cooperation but if they do not respond positively, we have to refer it elsewhere for action. Devon County Council are responsible for ensuring that highways and public footpaths are accessible and safe. We do refer to them and they have powers to require landowners to cut back vegetation or make safe and if all else fails the DCC can do the work and charge the house/land owner. Sadly, they seem to have been on an 'excuses' course locally and everything is long winded. Power to the resident who rather robustly took on DCC at the top and got some action out of our Neighbourhood Highways Officer but we will have to wait and see what happens if the landowner does not take action. Thank you to all those who act responsibly by keeping their boundaries tidy and to those who respond positively when approached by the Clerk.

The Neighbourhood Plan is now out for consultation and although the consultation notification and request is in my name that is only 'politics'. The hard work has been done by Stephen Little and his team of volunteers and I thank them for all their time and hard work. I am sure that there will be a separate article on the subject elsewhere in the magazine which will be more informative if you need any help. Please do try and make time to read it and give any feedback as what is in it will affect the village and community for some years to come.

The country and our community are going through difficult and uncertain times with the economy and the cost of living. We are fortunate in that we have the Willand Pantry and we still have a helpline if someone needs help and/or advice. Please do not be too proud to ask if you need help. Please keep an eye on your neighbours, particularly the elderly, if they are on their own. If you are lonely and need to talk to someone then there are various coffee mornings and other functions going on around the village and surrounding area which can be attended for some conversation and company.

I am pleased to say that our revised volunteer team editing the magazine are working well and my thanks to all the team for a job well done. Keep well and I wish you all the best to get through the next couple of months until I write this article again. **Barry G J Warren Chairman of Willand Parish Council**

### **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

We are pleased to announce that the **Rev Nick Lakin** will be our minister from September. There will be a special service of welcome for him at Tiverton United Church on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. we look forward to seeing him at Culm Valley but with 8 other churches to oversee he will be a very busy man.

The next **Soup and Something lunch is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August from 12 noon**, when donations will go towards Link to Hope, an organisation that delivers shoeboxes full of goodies to people in Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. If you have any empty shoeboxes, we would be pleased to receive them, as we are aiming to surpass our total of 110 last year and are aiming for 150 this year.

Our usual **coffee morning** will be on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30-12**. Call in for a chat. The coffee and biscuits are free.

The next **Prospects worship** meeting is on **Sunday 6 August at 3pm**. This is designed for people with learning disabilities and their carers but is open to everyone. We always close with a shared tea.

Some of you will have noticed our brand-new cupboard beside the car park entrance. Please feel free to place any usable unwanted items in it for recycling to the wider community. **David and Joan Greet**

## **CAMEO.**

We have been very busy out and about. We had a lovely day in beautiful sunshine at the Donkey Sanctuary and after lunch shopping in Sidmouth. We took a picnic and spent the day in Teignmouth. The Singles group had their first meeting in the village hall and welcomed 2 new members. The Walking group had been along the canal to Ayshford, lots to see with ducklings and cygnets following their mother's. They had a short stroll along the Culm at Uffculme. We were back in the hall for our June meeting and Peta welcomed some new members. Our charity for this year is the Mind Cafe held at College Surgery run by volunteers it brings together people suffering from dementia. Offering activities and giving carers help, advice and support and a couple of hours respite. We enjoyed lunch at the Cat & Fiddle and coffee at the Old Well. Our speaker was Brian Colson who specialises in growing and exhibiting fuchsias and pelargoniums. Lots of questions from us and we learnt a lot about caring for fuchsias. He had a wonderful collection of slides showing his prize-winning plants. Our July meeting was a social with games and a quiz which was great fun. We have several events coming up, including a garden party at Peta's.

**Betty Penberthy**

## **ST MARY'S CHURCH**

I announced a few weeks ago that I have applied for a new role as a full-time Army Chaplain, and whilst there is still a bit of paperwork to do before my appointment is confirmed, I expect to be leaving my current role in early September. It has been a privilege to be Willand's Rector for the last 8 years but I feel now is the right time for a new challenge.

Life in church will still go on. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who will help to keep the show on the road. Our services remain at 10am every Sunday in the church by the Post Office, and we hold regular groups for different ages and stages in our church hall in Rectory Close. Rockers, our baby and toddler group is every Morning from 9:15am in term time, we hold a coffee morning every other Friday (2nd & 4th Fri of the month), Keep Fit classes every Wednesday evening and a Film Club on the 1st Saturday of the month. Everyone is welcome at any of our services or events.

**Rev Simon Talbot**  
**Rector of Willand, Uffculme, Kentisbeare and Blackborough**

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**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**GARY DELANEY**  
GARY IN PUNDERLAND



**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**SOUNDS OF SIMON**  
SIMON & GARFUNKEL TRIBUTE

**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**SEAN COLLINS**  
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**SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

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## **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL**

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

We are pleased to say that Doug Richardson has volunteered to look after the finances for the Village Hall. Frances, our Booking Secretary, and Doug will be investigating using a customised, online accounts package over the next few months. There could be a few hiccups whilst everything is being transferred over, so I hope you will bear with us. Doug will be sending out invoices from 1<sup>st</sup> July and all queries should be sent to his email at **[accounts@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:accounts@willandvillagehall.org.uk)**. I have enjoyed doing this for over 30 years, so now need a rest.

The side door has had a new lock fitted so hirers should not have any further trouble locking the door. If anyone does encounter any problems at the Hall, or if you have any constructive comments, there is a book on the shelf just inside the kitchen door, where you can leave your remarks.

We have just a few areas in the building which need refreshing, like the gents' toilets, but we have to wait until we have sufficient funds available. We are also purchasing an industrial dishwasher (which completes a wash and dry in 2 – 3 minutes). Some of our hirers have not been washing the mugs properly, so we hope they will be cleaner once machine washed. Once it is installed, please contact bookings or **[chair@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:chair@willandvillagehall.org.uk)** to learn how to use it. It is supposed to be very easy to operate.

Please remember to check the online calendar if you are considering hiring the hall. You can then see when or if the hall is free. Booking forms should be sent to **[bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk)** and we require a £30 non-refundable deposit before a booking can be confirmed. (If the total charge is less than £30, full payment is required in advance). Payment by BACS is preferable, but you can pay by cheque if you cannot make a BACS transaction.

**Carol Allan. Treasurer**

## **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY**

It's all go shortly with WiTS **10-year Anniversary Gala** at the Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm. All kinds of fun and entertainment are envisioned. There will be a silent auction with proceeds going to Devon Air Ambulance.

Table top games, Magic performance, live DJ, a hog roast and licensed bar. See the inside front cover of this Magazine for details.

The following week we will be performing our summer play **“Cry Havoc”** on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August at the Village Hall from 7pm this sharp-witted comedy is not to be missed.

We will then go straight into rehearsals for the annual pantomime, being performed as usual next February 2024 half term. This year we will be performing **“Sing a song a sixpence”** written again by one of our members with the traditional dames, “it's behind you”, “oh no you don't” slapstick fun.

**Sam Fincher**

WILLAND COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH (WCSW)

The team have been out on the streets since the last update and, sad to report, there is still a high number of drivers exceeding the speed limit. Unfortunately, other than the speeders for whom we record and submit details, we are currently unable to evaluate our effectiveness because the Parish Council still haven't re-activated the VAS box since Councillor Paul Major left the Parish Council at the end of March. As well as moving the VAS box between the opposite ends of Silver Street, Paul sent WCSW the data every month so that we could see whether the speeding numbers were up or down on the previous month and last year.

The subject is due for discussion at tomorrow night's (13 July) Parish Council meeting so, hopefully, by the time you read this, the VAS will be back in action. Mind you, they are also considering whether the VAS should be sold, after buying it with our money. You should also be aware that the Parish Council reluctantly commissioned an independent road safety assessment late last year and accepted the resulting report earlier this year. That report recommended possible solutions to the danger sites around the village, together with costs. Unfortunately, the Parish Council shelved the report 'as there is no money'. I think there should have been a discussion about which solutions might have been possible if some funds could be found/raised. So, that's potentially wasted £3,000 to £4,000 of our money.

We now have some hard facts around safety issues on our roads, including horrendous vehicle speeds, and I believe that we should form a plan to lobby Devon Highways to do something. One possible idea, for example, would be to say you find £5,000 and the Parish Council will match it. Personally, we believe that, based on their action so far, the Willand Parish Council aren't interested in road safety.

On the positive side, the WCSW team have helped Uffculme to set up a similar team and they successfully held their first live session on 7 July. As always, please stick to the speed limits. **David Marrow, Group Co-ordinator, WCSW**

SUDUKO. No. 8

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	P				N			
							H	N
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C		P				I		G
N				I	C		E	
R	C							
			C				P	
				R	H	C		

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code"  
The solution is further in the  
magazine, no cheating now.

## **CULM VALLEY MODEL RAILWAY**

Yet again, by popular demand, kids can drive trains on our SOLDOR model railway layout. The little blue engine and his chums will be whizzing around the tracks driven by children (& adults) at our 9th Model Railway Show on SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER at WILLAND VILLAGE HALL. It is open as usual from 10am until 4.30pm. The cost is £5.00 for adults and only £1.50 for children. There is of course free parking and wheelchair access to most of the hall.

Bring your children (or let your children bring you) to let them have a drive of their favourite engines on our scenic Soldor model railway. There are 2 controllers so 2 children at a time can drive & there are also sidings for the older kids who would like to use their skill at shunting.

For the younger one's push buttons allow them to drive the tram engine into a tunnel & then watch it come back from a different tunnel. This is a great day out for families and will be super fun for visitors and club members alike.

Exhibition Manager, Chris Shields has assembled 15 top quality layouts of different gauges, styles & eras. Whilst he tries to use local exhibitors, to ensure most layouts haven't been seen before he has cast his net as far as Cardiff and Poole this year.

Trade stands include regular Harvey's Hobbies who has the stage covering top quality second-hand items at bargain prices in all the popular gauges, including overseas as usual we will be providing excellent refreshments with bacon baps, hot dogs, pasties, sandwiches etc. as well as tea, coffee and cold drinks.

We hope to see you there on the 16th as the show is not just for enthusiasts but also a great family day out.

For further information about the show or the club visit our webpage [www.cvmrc.co.uk](http://www.cvmrc.co.uk) or phone Chris Shields on 01884 253945 or myself, Peter Fosberry on 01884 821811. You can contact us by email at [cvmrc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cvmrc@hotmail.co.uk).

## **WILLAND ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

We at WRFC have been busily preparing for the new Southern Football League season. Throughout the close season our volunteers have been hard at work making improvements to our ground and clubhouse: the works that have been undertaken include painting and decorating, fencing upgrades, and lots of cleaning.

David Steele, our manager, has also been very busy through the summer and is enthusiastically looking forward to his second year in the manager's hot-seat. He has retained many of the players who served us well last year and has brought in some new and exciting young players to give the squad a real boost. Everyone at the club is looking forward excitedly to the new season starting.

Our competitive matches for the new season are planned to commence on Saturday 5 August, when we have an FA Cup Extra-Preliminary Round match. Our first league fixture in the Pitching-In Southern Football League Division One South is scheduled for Saturday 12 August. Please look at our website and social media streams for our fixture list. If you can spare the time, it would be good to see you all at our home matches at Silver Street: the players do get a real lift with a noisy crowd behind them.

The quality of football played by the team and the entertainment they gave the spectators was excellent throughout last season. We feel the team will be even better this year.

We do need new enthusiastic and dynamic volunteers to help with the day to day running of the club. No particular skills are needed – but, of course, your “day job” skills may be very useful.

The amount of time you give can be as much or as little as you can spare: this can be from just an hour each week to ... well, for as long as you like. We would really like your help and to hear from you if you have professional skills in:

- Marketing and dealing with sponsors
- Organising social events
- Catering and hospitality
- Pitch and grounds maintenance

We are urgently looking for a volunteer to fill a vacancy for one of the more senior roles in the club, this is for Football Secretary.

If anyone is interested in this role, or in assisting the club in any other capacity, then please contact me, Mike Hawkins, on 07870 727120 or by email at **mikehawkins.willandrovers@gmail.com**

Our primary aim is for the club to be seen as a valuable community asset. We would welcome anyone in the local area, and particularly residents of Willand, to make use of the excellent facilities we have at the Club.

The facilities that are available include a licenced bar, skittles alley and kitchen facilities: The clubhouse can be booked for parties, discos, live-band functions, christening celebrations, wakes, business meetings, skittles matches and for regular meetings of any group or organisation. For more details and to check availability please email **willandroversfc@outlook.com** or call 01884 33885.

Why not come in and see us to watch a match, have a social swift-half with us on a Friday - the bar is open every Friday afternoon from 4pm and on matchdays - or just to inspect the facilities we have. You can always be assured of a very friendly and warm welcome, and you may be surprised what we have to offer.



**Mike Hawkins, Chairman, Willand Rovers Football Club**

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At Willand School we are currently looking for individuals who have knowledge of **Human Resources, Finance and Information Technology**. If you are willing to make a difference and are able to commit to eight meeting a year, please contact the clerk to governors **srose@willand.devon.sch.uk** for further information. ***Training and a DBS check need to be undertaken for this role***  
**Sam Evans**

**WILLAND SCHOOL** As Year Six are nearing the end of primary school, they are sticking to their tradition and putting on a brilliant performance of the hilarious story: **What A Knight**.

**A REMARKABLE RESIDENTIAL** Two weeks ago, our Year Sixes set out on their first residential to Pixies Holt in Dartmoor. There they took part in a range of different activities including orienteering, rock climbing, weaselling, scrambling and some team building activities. All in all, they had a fantastic time and wish they could go again.

Student quote: "Dartmoor was really fun; it was an amazing experience."

**SPORTS SPECIAL** On the 16th of June, KS1 and KS2 took part in the Willand School sports day. KS1 took part in the morning and KS2 in the afternoon. The children's parents arrived to watch all day's events. It was a very close competition but in the end Somerset won.

**BRILLIANT BOOKS** This year in Willand School each year group have made their very own display based on their favourite book they have read as a class.

**SAD GOODBYES** The Year Sixes are not the only ones leaving this year; two teachers from Willand school: Miss Northcott and Miss Abbott are sadly leaving us to have their own amazing adventures. Miss Abbott is journeying over to Brazil where she'll see one of the seven wonders of the world: Iguazu Falls. She has said, "Willand School will always have a special place in my heart because it was my first ever teaching experience and I will always be grateful for having the opportunity to teach such lovely and inspiring children." Miss Northcott is also travelling. She is going to be continuing her educational journey as a teacher in Dubai. She said, "Willand school will always be special to me because I was a student here and given the job to work here it has unlocked new opportunities to work in other countries."

**END OF YEAR EXPERIENCES** As is traditional at the end of a school year, each year group have been on interesting and exciting trips to complement their learning in school: The Reception classes went to Backwood Farm, Tiverton to explore the outdoor world; Year One visited RHS Rosemoor to learn more about plants; Year Two went to Paignton Zoo; Year Three went fossiling at Charmouth; Year Four visited Seaton Wetlands to understand more about rivers and Year Five went to Haldon Forest and the Go-Ape experience – a chance for them to learn to take risks and challenge themselves in a safe outdoor environment. **Sarah Nisbet**

### **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

First of all, we would like to thank Geri Holloway for writing to us with some wonderful memories that were stirred by our article in the last parish magazine, describing the opening of the Playing Field in 1937.

These vivid recollections help recreate a snapshot of what Willand was like, and recalls some of the personalities who lived here: “Born in August 1932, I have only vague recollections of Mrs Tracey, a much-respected local dignitary. She lived at the Gables, and sometimes, when I was out for my afternoon walk with my mother in that vicinity, we would meet her in her wheelchair being pushed by Margery, her tall, bespectacled spinster daughter. We would exchange brief greetings, me having been well primed beforehand by my mother to ‘say Good afternoon *nicely*’. Afternoon walks for my sister, Pamela, and myself, escorted by our mother, occasionally took us to the Playing Field situated between the rear of Fir Close and South View Road. It had two swings and two seesaws. The bumpy, jerky motion of a seesaw, partnered with my sister, never appealed to me, but I always enjoyed soaring skywards on one of the swings.”

“Albert Chick, the village carpenter and a talented musician, was my great uncle, brother of Henry Chick, who was my mother’s father. Oswald Little was Albert’s son-in-law, having married his daughter, Beatrice. Mr Honeywill lived in a detached house at the station end of Lloyd Maunders Lane. The applause accorded to my father in the formers’ speech was well deserved for my father’s fund-raising efforts, some of which I can recall. For example, watching him enthusiastically rattling his collection tin among the crowds in the (old) village, gathered to watch the Carnival processions.”

“Willand Carnival was a very popular and renowned annual event not only in the village itself but for much of the surrounding area too.

One year, in my early teens, I myself was one of the walking entrants – as a chimney sweep armed with a real brush borrowed from Harry Mortimore, our next-door neighbour, who was the village chimney sweep as well as its postman. My placard, a brief verse composed by my mother, exhorted the hundreds of spectators lining the route:

**“The electric sweep saves a lot of fuss, but remember the man with the old-fashioned brush.”**

The Carnival procession headed by a band (from Tiverton or Wellington?), followed by numerous colourful tableaux and many walking entrants, assembled on the road just beyond The Elms before wending its circuitous way through the (old) village, along Silver Street, South View Road and Station Road to its terminus in the yard adjoining the Assembly Rooms. By the time I had trudged that mile-long route my brush with its metal rod, authentic tool of my adopted trade, slung over my shoulder, weighed very heavy indeed!" Thank you, Geri, for such fantastic memories. If anyone else has similar memories, we would love to hear from you.

At our AGM in June, we discussed the future of Willand History Group and the feasibility of continuing, but unanimously agreed to continue as we are as far as possible. As well as ongoing projects, such as re-organisation and the proper cataloguing of the Willand Archive (any advice or expertise would be gratefully received), new projects were suggested, including looking at the 1921 census for Willand, collecting oral histories from current Willand residents, and taking a more in-depth look at some of Willand's historic buildings. We are also grateful to Brian Holmes – former editor of the Willand Magazine – for kindly donating to us a detailed map of Willand parish (Devon County Council, 2004), which we hope to use as the starting point for a closer look at the parish boundaries, and as a tool to plot some of the recent developments in the parish. However, as a small group, we would always welcome new members, or anyone who would like to help or get involved in any way, develop your own interests or drive new projects. If you think this might be for you, please do get in touch.

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

### **EXCELSIOR ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT CLUB**

"Over the summer, we shall have young athletes running, jumping and throwing in training and in competition. Their favourite event is either Long Jump or the relays. We have focussed on the 'up-sweep' technique to ensure a smooth handover.

Weightlifting shall also continue: we had three lifters compete on July 1<sup>st</sup>, all of whom got personal bests in at least one lift. George Shotton, in his first competition, made all 6 of his lifts, winning a silver medal.

Gabby-Sully Dunbar made a huge 70kg snatch (she only weighs 57.5kg) and won her category. She is competing in the British under-23 championships in Leeds in September.

Our gymnastics classes will resume on Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. We have vacancies for boys and girls starting school year 2 and 3 in the first class. Please email James on **excelsiorathletic@gmail.com** if you are interested in any of these sports.

Save the Date: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September. A Bingo and Quiz night at the Willand Rovers FC to raise funds for the club. All village residents are welcome."

**James Marshall Carlton House Elmside Willand Devon EX15 2RN**

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD: AUGUST

We have reached a turning point in the season with most of the crops now in the ground. At this time of year our work turns from sowing and planting to crop care, weeding and harvesting. August is also the time of year when we'll be sowing green manures, mixes of plants such as clover, chicory, vetch and rye grass that fix nitrogen and improve soil structure, keeping the soil protected over the winter.

August is one of the best times of year for seasonal, local eating. Day length is still long and plant growth is fast, bringing plentiful produce including summer favourites of tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, beans, aubergines and soon sweetcorn, as well as kale, chard, salad, beets, carrots, new potatoes and onions. This year we are growing ten varieties of tomatoes including a mix of cherry tomatoes (Black Cherry, Sakura, Mango Lassi, Santiam Sunrise and Yellow Submarine), salad tomatoes, and beefsteak varieties (Coeur de Boeuf, Mountain Miracle Pink Swarm). There's nothing quite like a slice of beefsteak tomato on toast, sprinkled with sea salt, basil and a drizzle of olive oil to signal that summer is here.

### Courgette Gratin

With an abundance of courgettes, it can be fun to play around with different ways of eating them – grilled, roasted, added to stir fries, frittatas, salads and ratatouilles. The softer skin varieties have great flavour and you won't find them in the supermarkets as they don't transport or store well. This gratin works really well and is a nice one to return to each year when courgettes are in season. It all cooks together in one dish so it's easy to make and works well with a simple side salad.

**Ingredients:** 2 tbsp olive oil, 3 onions finely sliced, 180g basmati rice, 7 medium courgettes sliced, 500ml veg stock, 4 tbsp crème fraiche, 150g grated cheese, salt, pepper, chilli flakes, fresh herbs to taste

**Method:** - Preheat oven to 190 degrees C

Heat olive oil in a large frying pan, add onions and cook for 20 mins until soft and sticky. - Add sliced courgettes along with rice. Mix and pour in the stock. Turn up heat and cook for 5 mins while stirring. You want the mixture to stay quite loose and oozy, so add a little more stock if needed.

Take pan off heat and stir in crème fraiche plus 100g grated cheese. Add seasoning to taste.

- Transfer to an oiled roasting tray. Make sure the rice is evenly distributed. Roughly flatten and try to get the courgettes on top to help keep the moisture in. Sprinkle on the rest of the cheese. - Bake in the oven for 40 minutes until the top is golden and bubbling and the rice is cooked. Little Bishops Organics  
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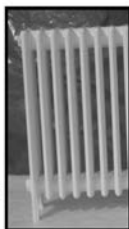
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## WILLAND VILLAGE HALL REGULAR BOOKINGS

U3A Art in Action	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	1.30pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2.00pm
Beavers (Term Time)	Monday	5.30pb
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Monday	7.00pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Monday	6.30pm
Pilates with Ellie	Tuesday	9.30am
Move it or Lose it	Tuesday	2.00pm
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4.00pm
Cowgirl Twisters	Tuesday	7.30pm
Tiny Tots (Term Time)	Wednesday	9.30am
U3A Craft Group	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	9.30am
Pilates with Ellie	Wednesday	4.30pm
Indoor Bowls Club	Wednesday	7.00pm
Garden Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7.30pm
Pilates with Ellie	Thursday	9.30am
University of the Third Age U3A	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	2.00pm
CAMEO	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	7.00pm
Karate	2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	6.00pm
Folk Dance Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	8.00pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7.00pm
Zumba	Friday	9.30am
WiTS	Friday	7.30pm
Exeter Theatre Train	Saturday	2.00pm
Cowgirl Twisters	Saturday (Monthly)	7.30pm
Folk Dance	Saturday (Monthly)	8.00pm
Karate	Sundays	10.00am
Marshall Arts	Sundays	5.15pm

### Uffculme Show & Country Fayre

We can now confirm this year's show will be on Sunday 3rd September 2023 at Bridwell Park, Uffculme EX15 3BU.

Roll up roll up - all the fun of the fair! That's the way to do it! A fun filled day with great music, food and stalls to look around. **Public Media**

## NEWS FROM COLDHARBOUR MILL

OPENING TIMES: the Museum, Cafe and Shop are open Wed – Sat 10.30am-4.30pm

For up-to-date news see the Coldharbour Mill Facebook page and the Mill website: [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk)

**SUMMER STEAM DAY.** Thursday 10th August 2023. 10.30am-4.30pm

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## **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL**

Members have received regular budget monitoring reports throughout 2022/23 in which budget pressures and risks have been identified. The outturn underspend of £156,000 is achieved after a contribution to the budget management reserve of £1.5 million and a carry forward of £500,000 into 2023/24 for Highways. The final outturn position is an improvement from the £3.6 million overspend forecast outturn which was reported to Cabinet on 8th March and a significant improvement on the £30.5 million forecast overspend at month 2 at which time there was a further £10 million risk identified relating to in year inflationary pressures. The organisational wide response to the financial challenges faced by the authority, resulted in £25.4 million of additional in year savings, income and alternative applications of funding being identified. Delivery of savings and additional income contained within the budget totalled £33.7 million against planned savings of £38.7 million.

Briefing Note / Position Statement from the Director of Children and Young People's Futures recognises the importance of pay awards in helping us to recruit and retain a strong and dedicated workforce, we are concerned that an unfunded pay rise would have significant impact on our maintained schools. The increase of £1,925 for NJC staff along with the proposed 6.5% for teachers represents an additional £13.8 Million in costs to DCC maintained schools in the 2023/24 financial year. This is an average of 7% of total schools funding of £185 Million (calculated as Schools Budget Share plus Mainstream Additional Grant).

Adult Care Operations and Health outturn is £4.8 million overspent, which reflects significant pressure on unit rates and higher residential and nursing placements volumes and complexity present throughout the year. These pressures have been partially offset by one off grant monies and underspends on staffing budgets which reflect the difficulty in recruiting care management staff

Devon County Cabinet are proposing the decommission the Mobile Library vehicles and provide £25K transition support for vulnerable users to continue to access alternative library provision. The Council would provide funding to help with the transition to other existing and new library services to ensure that the most vulnerable members of the mobile library community continue to access services they value. This has now been called to scrutiny for discussion. If scrutiny and make alternative suggestions, Cabinet do not have to except any suggestion/recommendations. The earliest any closure of the mobile library will not come into force is September.

Each of our county councillors has an annual locality budget, to be used as a fund of last resort, of £5,000 that they can use to respond to local needs within any financial year (April to March). Councillors can, if they wish, make grants to support projects or activities that benefit the communities they represent.

Email: [\*\*ray.radford@devon.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:ray.radford@devon.gov.uk)

**WILLAND PANTRY**

We've had a very busy few weeks at The Pantry.  
We held a village doorstep sale, this was the last one we will be doing, as car boot sales are back up and running.

Paul and Penny Hockey very kindly put on an amazing Exhibition at the church Hall, we have some fantastic talent in the Village, it was so very interesting. They raised a massive £440 for the Pantry. This, as always has gone to restock our shelves.

Our next event is an Afternoon Tea on Friday 18th August from 1pm at the WHCC. Everyone welcome. There will be as well as delicious homemade cakes and beverages activities for both adults and children.

We have extended our opening hours; we are now open daily from 9am until 11am we are also open on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6pm until 7.30pm. This is very much a use it or lose it experiment.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers for going the extra mile consistently to ensure the pantry is open and well stocked.

We have been donated tee shirts from JB Poultry Services, based here in Willand, AS Signs and Graphics and Pitfield leisure. A MASSIVE thank you to all of you. **Helen Jones**

**WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Coffee Morning Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> August look out for posters with more details soon.

If you would be interested in having a stall, please email [Info@whacc.org.uk](mailto:Info@whacc.org.uk)

**Book exchange** will now be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month if you want a book before the 23<sup>rd</sup> August then call in on the first Thursday or the third Tuesday of the month when the centre is open for our usual coffee and chat session. You would be very welcome. **Gerri Taylor**

Solution to SODOKU no. 8

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G	P	C	R	H	N	E	I	Y
Y	E	R	I	C	G	P	H	N
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R	C	E	P	G	I	N	Y	H
H	I	G	C	H	Y	R	P	E
P	N	Y	E	R	H	C	G	I

**We hope you enjoyed this edition of your magazine.**  
**Did you crack the SODUKO?**  
**Well done**

**CUT OFF DATE FOR NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

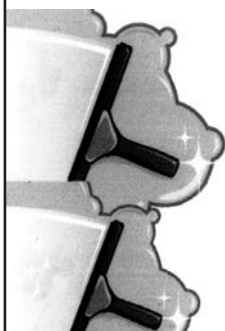
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