

LOCAL NEWS: LOCAL EVENTS: LOCAL CONTACTS

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WILLAND PARISH ORGANISA Allotment Holders Bridge Club	TIONS Sylvia Statham Wendy Boothroyd	Secretary/Contact peterandsylviastathar	m@hotmail.com 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	peterandsylviastathar	n@hotmail.com
Tiny Tots		inytots@gmail.com	07730 895472
Tennis Club	Mrs R. Parish	weirmilldevon@gmai	
Tennis Courts (Public Hire)		clubspark.lta.org.uk/Wi	
Village Hall Bookings	Frances Wilcox	bookings@willandvil	0
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		raftyfamily2021@gmail.co	
Willand Community Composting	•	andcommunitycompost	0 0
Willand Health & Community Centre			@whacc.org.uk
Willand History Group		orrison235@gmail.com	
Willand Short Mat Bowling Club	John Crocker	12 Maple Close	35589
Willand Theatrical Society		nesecretary@gmail.com	
Willand United Charities	Rev Simon Talbot		@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@	9btinternet.com 01884 821713
Quakers	Pat Bell	840823
Roman Catholic Church	Canon Kristian Paver - St Bon	iface, 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**

Richard Foord Ray Radford Andrea Glover Cathy Connor John Poynton	(M.P) (Devon County Council) (MD Dist Councillor) (MD Dist Councillor) (MD Dist Councillor)	Richard.Foord.MP@Parliament.UK ray.radford@devon.gov.uk aglover@middevon.gov.uk cconnor@middevon.gov.uk jpoynton@middevon.gov.uk	0207 2197172 820000 07908 734368 07548 872107 07834 869284
Parish Council	Parish Council Website	e www.willand-pc.org.uk	
Keith Grantham	(Councillor)	keith.grantham@willand-pc.org.uk	840780
Stephen Little	(Councillor)	stephen.little@willand-pc.org.uk	07795821476
Richard Phare	(Councillor)	richard.phare@willand-pc.org.uk	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
Jason Scott	(Councillor)	jason.scott@willand-pc.org.uk	07818 045215
Helen Jones	(Councillor)	helen.jones@willand-pc.org.uk	07454 510573
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Debbie Bird	(Parish Clerk)	clerk@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407



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LATECT DOCTAL COLLECTIONS	M . F:

	Thursday Willand	Village Hall 11.25am - 12.25pm
LATEST POSTAL COLLECTIONS	Mon to Fri	Saturday
Post Office (01884 32430)	5.00pm	11.00am
Currently a Priority Post Box on Sat and Su	ın.	
Meadow Park	9.00am	7.00am
Station Road	9.00am	7.00am
Fir Close	9.00am	7.00am
Willand Moor Road	9.00am	7.00am

#### **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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EDITORIAL 169

Well, we had a bit of sunshine late this summer (hope you managed to keep cool) Please take care in the darker evenings to come. Guy Fawkes Night comes around again, please have considerations for people's pets when discharging fireworks. The next issue December/January will be delivered around 28<sup>th</sup> November so please don't forget to include your Christmas plans in your submissions.

#### PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Let us start with the very good news - well it is for me and hopefully a lot more of the village, particularly the youngsters. The pump track in the Jubilee Field was officially opened on Friday 8 September 2023 by year 6 children of the Primary School thanks to the help of the Headmistress, Anne Hawkins, staff and parents. The fencing had been taken down the afternoon before as that was the only time we could get the workmen to do it. Children came out of school that afternoon and our handyman who was watering the new turf was swamped by lots of school children wanting to get onto the track. We had had problems earlier in the week with some children breaking open the fence at one end and going on the track, obviously something lacking in their upbringing when they do not know the meaning of safety fencing and the words 'Keep Out'. I was amused with some of the excuses/explanations they tried on me. Thirty years in the police force, heard it all before. It is there and for all to use from the littlest one on their trike right up to grownups who are the experts. Please act responsibly, share evenly, and help the less able who want to participate. It can be used by all sorts of bicycles, scooters, skateboards and the like. I am told that rollerblades will also work on it. No motorcycles or electric scooters please. Please read the sign and follow the safety advice, particularly the wearing of helmets. Please try and keep off the turf on the banks as some are already wrecking it. One last plea - put your litter in the bin - there are 3 in the field or else take it home. The main thing is to ENJOY.

It was in 2017 that I was involved with a small team in negotiating with developers for contributions towards the village to provide improved facilities to cater for the extra residents likely to come to the community. A lot of money was to go to the Primary School and then there was some for the Community Centre at The Gables and then a big chunk for 'teen facilities' which had a very wide definition but the improvement to the old BMX Track was the priority as it was getting dangerous with various rubbish coming to the surface that had been buried there in the past. Jason Scott, at that time a Parish Councillor, built up a rapport with a group of interested young people and possible uses and designs were discussed. Eventually when Bellway Homes became the final developer of the site in Meadow Park for 125 houses nearly £500,000 became available to be shared among the various agreed projects within the village.

Kai Forte came to the opening and put on a display for the children as to what they can work towards. Thanks to all who have been involved and in particular to the various Parish Clerks [4 in all] who have had to back us up in doing all the paperwork involved.

The next project is to replace the small skateboard ramps with a rather updated concrete half pipe. It has been designed and planning permission is being sought and the specification is out to tender. The money is available and held by Mid Devon District Council until all the applications and information is available and then it will be all systems go. We have also ordered a disabled access picnic bench to go in the field so there will be additional seating for a family gathering or just to sit and watch the children at play.

There will be some money left over if my calculator is right, so please let the Clerk have ideas as to what you would like to see by way of teen facilities – we have a pretty wide definition of 'teen' we are using so any ideas are open for consideration, and we are not restricted to the Jubilee Field.

The other good news is that some residents have come forwarded to be coopted onto the Parish Council as we are short as reported in the last magazine. We are pleased to welcome Jason Scott back as a councillor. He has been joined by Helen Jones who is known to many for her involvement around the village. It is hoped that in October Sue Leach will also be co-opted as well and a lot of people know Sue for her various involvements. There are still two more vacancies if you would like to become involved in helping your community. If you are over 18 and live in the village you are eligible. If we get more applications than there are vacancies some of us oldies can retire.

As some may know we have a new contractor cutting the grass verges this year and we are assessing the future of the contract as we regularly do. Do you have any thoughts, observations, or suggestions with regard to the verge grass cutting now and in the future. We want to hear from you as the village are paying. Please let the Clerk know. This does not include the areas covered by MDDC as they have reduced the number of cuts by way of savings, and it will show.

The Clerk has chased up some landowners over hedges growing over footpaths and thank you to those who have responded positively and done the job and we are still waiting on some who have promised. We have a bit of a battle with Devon County Highways over one area, but we are persevering.

You may like to watch out for some planning proposals that are hovering about in the system. The 160 acres of solar panels on good agricultural land between Willand and Halberton up through Brithem Bottom is beginning to move again. They are looking to put another large Anaerobic Digester in Halberton which will not directly affect us in relation to noise or odour, but we will be affected by additional traffic on the roads in the area taking more feedstock to and digestate from the site.

There is also an enquiry raising its head to apply to build 170 houses off Muxbeare Lane.

Although the main access looks to be out onto the B3181 just Up past Halfway House. It is in Halberton Parish, but all residents will be using Willand facilities, yet Halberton will get the Council Tax.

The site is not even in the local plan for housing. It is noted that the road layout is marked in two places as identifying access for expansion. Please make sure you make your views known during the consultation period whether you are or against or just have a concern to raise.

People have been asking what is going on along Silver Street with the roadworks. There is a planning requirement for the Meadow Park development to widen the footpath to a legal width where there is no margin between the road and the footpath. Somewhere along the line Devon County seemed to have slipped in some street light work, drainage, and installation of tactile crossings. The way they are working makes me wonder who is overseeing it and paying the bill?

Thank you to all who volunteer and help with all the clubs and projects within the village that contribute to us having a vibrant community. If you are not feeling the benefit, then perhaps you need to get more involved. If you just want to keep yourself to yourself and be left alone then that position is respected. As long as you are aware of the sense of community and help that is out there that is all that matters.

I finish by thanking the Reverend Simon Talbot for all his involvement in the village during his stay with us as our vicar. It has been a pleasure to work with him on occasions for the benefit of our community. I am sure we all wish him and his family all the best in their new life. I know one of his sons hopes to get a ride in a tank. I am sure that Stephen and Paul and others in the Team will look after us as needed. Who said that they had retired. Barry G J Warren Chairman

There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.

#### SUDUKO, No. 9

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SUDUKO This is the same as Sudoku but with letters instead of numbers. Each column and each square must Have one letter each.

Letters used **ACEILMNSU**Clue to middle line: "Male"
The solution is further into the magazine.

# WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS). LEAVES AND MOWN GRASS

Yep, It's Autumn – when the leaves drop down. For your information we accept leaves, - PROVIDING they are not mixed with any other material. When visiting the site with your leaves - please deposit where so directed – thank you. When there is sufficient volume of leaves, they are mown and added to the shredded material. The start of composting.

#### WE ARE A GREEN COMPOSTING SITE

'Going green' means that we are asking that you only bring green garden waste to the site that is listed on the signs ATTACHED TO THE GATES. To this request we add - No Vegetation with Soil attached. Also, any labels and stones. THIS IS NOT GOOD - bad for the shredder and DON'T COMPOST! If we are unable to receive - see "Recycle Garden Waste" below.

#### RECYCLE GARDEN WASTE.

In the meantime, for Garden Waste you have we do not accept, we offer the following information: Either; use of the MDDC garden waste collection scheme (there is a charge) contact 01884 255255 or, visit the DCC Ashely, Bickley, Recycling Centre.

#### **OPENING TIMES**

Wednesdays and Sundays only - 10.00 am - 12 Noon during which we offer.

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During these periods - We offer two types of compost: -

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PLEASE, returning of your empty bags will be gratefully received.

**Sieved Waste -** this material has been composted then sieved. But because it contains more twigs, we do not offer this as bagged compost. However, we do offer this as mulch at £2.00/wheelbarrow. We have a wheelbarrow. Users say, when dug in and left to winter it improves the soil quality.

#### MEMBERS (VOLUNTEERS).



We are very pleased to announce that we have a new contact for the WCCS. She brings with her much enthusiasm and knowledge in both her secretarial and financial knowledge. A great asset. Her name is **TRULY ROSE** and her contact email is: **willandcommunitycomposting@gmail.com**Further Truly is also listed in the Willand Parish Organisations list- page 1 of the Magazine.

Thanks for reading as this - my last magazine article – it has been a pleasure and satisfaction.

Tony Mander Mob 07980472242 email: tmander931@gmail.com

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#### (adapted from River Cottage)

Delicata squash has been described as a 'sweet potato' squash as the flavour and texture as the flesh is similar to sweet potato.

Ingredients: butter for cooking, 2 leeks, trimmed and thinly sliced including the green part, a large handful chard/spinach, shredded, 1 teaspoon English mustard, 4 tablespoons crème fraiche, 125g Gruyère or other well-flavoured hard cheese, finely grated, 2 smallish squash or one big one, a handful of thyme sprigs

- 1. Heat the butter in a saucepan over a medium heat and add the leeks. Leeks don't like to get too hot, so turn the heat down and sweat gently for about 10 minutes until soft. Add the chard/spinach and cook for a further couple of minutes until just wilted. Remove from heat and stir in the crème fraiche, mustard and cheese.
- Cut the squash in half lengthways and scoop out the seeds using a teaspoon. Fill the squash with the leek mixture. Pop a sprig of thyme into each one.
- 3. Bake for 30-40 minutes until the squash is soft and the cheese mixture is bubbling. Delicata squash has been described as a 'sweet potato' squash as the flavour and texture as the flesh is similar to sweet potato.

Chloe Blackmore, Little Bishops Organics www.littlebishopsorganics.co.uk littlebishopsveg@gmail.com





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#### **CAMEO**

In July 18 members made a return visit to one of our favourite places, the Great British Restaurant in Tiverton. The following week we met at Helen's Diner for coffee.

Our August meeting was a garden party at Peta's, our chairman. Peta and the committee put on a magnificent spread. The Walking Group had a walk along the lanes from Sampford Peverell and back along the canal, with coffee at the Globe Inn. They also had a walk in Ashclyst Forest and refreshments at Killerton.

We were back in the hall for our September meeting all of us flagging a bit because of the heat. Peta outlined all of the upcoming events for the autumn, and we are going to be very busy. Our speakers were Jane and Chris volunteers who organise, among other things, the Memory Cafe at College Surgery. We were amazed at what goes on there, everything run by volunteers from a gardening group who grow herbs and a herbalist who comes to talk about herbs and their uses. They run health sessions on all kinds of health issues, a drop-in with local doctors answering questions. The Memory Cafe supports people with dementia and Alzheimer's and their carers and families, offering a couple of hours much needed respite as well as activities and stimulation. It was an inspirational talk by two amazing people. Our charity this year is the Memory Cafe, so we are hoping to give them a useful donation. If you think you would like to come along and see what we are about, we meet in the village hall at 7 pm on the first Thursday in the month. Betty Penberthy.

#### WILLAND VILLAGE HALL. www.willandvillagehall.org.uk

We are now using a different package to deal with our bookings and invoices, so the invoices you receive may look a little different from the previous ones. There may be a few hiccups whilst we all get used to using it, but it should prove much easier and user friendly. Doug, who now deals with invoices, will send your bill from **accounts@willandvillagehall.org.uk**, so please contact him if you have any invoice queries. Visitors to our website will be able to see when the hall is free and regular users will eventually be able to see a record of all their hall usage. Booking forms are available on the site as well and will automatically get sent to Frances, our Booking Secretary, who will confirm if the time(s) requested are still available. Until the deposit of £30 (or full payment if less than £30) is paid and the booking confirmed, it will not appear on the online calendar and could therefore be taken up by another hirer, so please be prompt with deposit payment so your booking can go ahead. Payment by BACS is preferable, but you can pay by cheque if you cannot make a BACS transaction. We are unable to take cash anymore as we do not have a local bank.

After the August Iull, we are again experiencing almost a full complement of bookings. Please remember that you are responsible for vacating the premises by the end time of your booking and for leaving the hall clean and tidy for the next user. **Carol Allan Treasurer** 

#### **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL**

The month of August is always very quiet, not much happening at all, the next few months we will be working on next year's budgets, will be a challenging time.

Neither have I got anything to report for our area particularly, although there must be, if you have anything, please let me know.

This is a time of significant change and opportunity for English local government as a whole. Despite the government increasing funding for councils over recent years, a combination of high inflation and rising demand has left local authorities facing some of their toughest budgetary decisions to date.

Our Director of Finance Angie Sinclair revealed that the authority finished the 2022/23 financial year £156,000 in the black on a revenue budget of almost £630 million.

But she warned that – in common with councils across the country – Devon continued to face tough financial challenges.

The year since last June has seen all of us gain a better understanding our financial position, stabilising some area of the business which frankly were out of control, when they could/should have been in our control. Surges in service demand, not least in Adult and Children's services make the task more difficult to predict and model financially, but the 'new' corporate Leadership team are clearly all 'rowing' in the same direction, despite events like the cost of living and Ukraine war impacting us, but with no influence over those events.

Last summer Angie Sinclair, Financial Director, warned councillors that Devon faced a £30.5 million overspend with a potential further £10 million on top because of soaring inflation. She called for urgent action to be taken across the authority to curb costs.

Council leaders set up a group of senior officers from every department to go through the budget line by line and identify savings.

An overspend in 2022/23 has been avoided through an organisational-wide response that resulted in a rigorous in-year savings programme.

We currently provide financial support to organisations helping people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless even though we do not have a statutory responsibility to do so.

The proposal to cut the discretionary spending was originally made to help us balance our books in response to soaring demand for our statutory services.

Our contracts with providers will now be extended until the end of March 2024. In the meantime, we will continue to talk to Devon's eight District and City Councils, working together to agree a way forward that ensures ongoing homelessness support across the county.

Councillor Hart made the announcement having listened to members of the public speak passionately of the impact that the proposed cuts could have on them and others at a special scrutiny committee meeting.

Donna Manson, who is meeting regularly with District Councils' housing services to discuss a way forward.

Our Trading Standards service is reminding businesses, such as takeaways, sandwich bars, care homes and retailers who supply certain single-use plastic items, that a ban comes into force this October, and that they should start thinking now about alternatives and where to source them from.

The ban includes all single-use plastic cutlery, trays, plates, bowls, and balloon sticks, as well as banning the use of certain types of polystyrene cups and food containers used to supply food that is ready to consume.

Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Devolution Deal

The Government has agreed to conclude a devolution deal covering Devon, Plymouth and Torbay this year. The deal will, subject to consultation, see the establishment of a Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Combined County Authority. It will not require a directly elected Mayor nor costly reorganisation of existing councils. Devon's District Councils will have representation on the CCA as will representatives from the business and education sectors. The CCA will have new powers and additional funding from Government to tackle priorities such housing, public transport, jobs, training and skills. Functions and resources of the Heart of the Southwest Local Enterprise Partnership will be folded into the CCA. ray.radford@devon.gov.uk

#### **WILLAND TENNIS CLUB**

Willand Tennis is a friendly club, located beside the Village Hall. We are always keen to welcome new members with both Adult & Junior membership rates are available at very competitive rates throughout the year.

The 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

All bookings and payment are 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.



A middle management executive has to take on some sport, by his doctor's orders, so he decides to play tennis. After a couple of weeks his secretary asks him how he's doing. "It's going fine," the manager says. "When I'm on the court and I see the ball speeding towards me, my brain immediately says, 'To the corner! Back hand! To the net! Smash! Go back!" "Really? What happens then?" the secretary asks. "Then my body says, 'Who? Me? You must be kidding!"

#### WILLAND HISTORY GROUP

At our September meeting, History group members enjoyed looking through some of the items recently loaned or donated to the Willand Archive. These included: a set of minute books for Willand Over-60s Club dating from the 1980s; documents relating to the Village Hall; a book about the history of The Gables produced around the time it closed as a Devon County Council run children's 'hostel' in 2003; a detailed map of Willand, its parish boundaries and public rights of way created in 2004; and as well as several items that belonged to Lt-Colonel Jones who lived at Little Knowle in the 'old village', related to his time working in West Africa during the 1940s and 1950s. We would like to thank Jose Spearing, Margaret Dinnage, Brian Holmes, and all those who have contributed material, it is much appreciated. We would also like to remind everyone that we are always interested in anything to do with Willand's past, its businesses, clubs and organisations, and the people who have lived in the parish, and we are interested in anything right into modern times.

Willand Rovers, continues to hold a good league position in the 'Southern League Division One South', the highest level the club has ever reached in the national league system and after winning their first three games were even top. It is worth remembering that Willand was one of the first football clubs in the area. having been established by Dr Tracey in November 1899. The Victorian period saw the development of 'football' under various codes, or sets of rules, especially 'Rugby' and 'Association' football. In the Westcountry, rugby was the most popular from the 1870s, and Association football – then popularly known as 'soccer' was slow to catch on, especially in the Mid Devon area. Westexe FC of Tiverton appears to have been the first local team to play 'soccer' regularly (and the occasional game of rugby), from 1899, not long before Dr Tracey started an Association team in Willand. Dr Tracey was the parish's popular doctor, who lived with his family at The Gables; he was renowned throughout the district, not least for his enthusiasm for sporting activities, promoting their health and moral benefits. The Willand Association football club was given a sound foundation, with several local men appointed to the committee, with Albert Chick, parish carpenter and undertaker, as secretary, and Mr Bradbeer, a local builder, as treasurer. R. Richards was the first club captain, with G. Badger vice-captain. Their first game was against Sampford Peverell, which ended in a 1-1 draw: "Badger scored for Willand with a lucky sixty yards kick." There followed home and away fixtures against Tiverton Westexe, both of which unfortunately ended in defeat for Willand, 0-1 at home, and 7-0 at Westexe. when, "The Willand backs played pluckily, but they could not stop their opponents." Football has continued to be popular in Willand ever since these humble beginnings, and the football club has always been one of the pillars of our community - long may that continue, and the History Group wish Rovers the very best for a successful 2023-24 season. James Morrison, 01884 250057 (jamorrison235@gmail.com)

"Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

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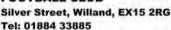
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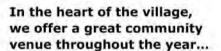
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Gabby Sully-Dunbar won a silver medal at the British Weightlifting Age Group Championships this week. At a tiny 56.7kg, she snatched 68kg and jerked 78kg. It was a great fight for the gold medal, she was beaten by a stronger lifter on the day.

We have been asked by several parents if we can run daytime/ early morning sessions. They have been listening to me highlighting the benefits of resistance training (Improved bone health, body composition, blood pressure and strength that lead to a reduction in risk of most non-communicable diseases, including cancer) and want to train under an experienced eye. If you are interested, then please ask.

Beginners are welcome in all our sessions: we want to support and encourage a healthy community. Why not start now?" **James Marshall** 

#### **WILLAND UNITED CHARITIES**

Willand United Charities was established in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and was formed from a number of small charities set up in the previous century to benefit residents of Willand who were in need, and this is still the purpose of the United Charities.

The Charity has 4 representative trustees appointed by the Parish Council with the Rector as an ex officio trustee. The money available for distribution is quite limited but the Trustees are able to make small grants to support individuals and local groups in need. The Trustees meet twice a year, the next meetings are in mid-October and then February 2024. It is possible to call extra meetings to discuss applications outside of these times as has happened in the last six months so people should not be put off from contacting us when necessary.

The current Trustees are Stephen Little, Neil James, Jason Scott and Kate Taylor, we await the arrival of the new Rector.

If you or someone you know would benefit from some support, then please contact the charity by using our email address **unitedcharities@whacc.org.uk** or contact one of the trustees, to receive an application form.

#### Kate Taylor Trustee

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. – Winston Churchill

#### THE CINNAMON TRUST

At the beginning of 2023 I decided to walk 100 miles each month for a different charity as a new year challenge, and in June my walk was for Cinnamon Trust. I only knew about Cinnamon when two friends of mine, now retired, walked dogs for people around the area for several years. Their great friendship was also formed by their dog-walking volunteer activity.

When deciding who to walk for in June I contacted Cinnamon and asked whether they would like to use my walk to raise funds for their work, as always providing they can do their own publicity, to which they replied that they would be very pleased to.

I have been so impressed with them, all their staff are very helpful and pleasant, and they have been so supportive and encouraging. (They are a national charity, but it was started in Hayle, Cornwall, who I have been working with). Just before I started walking on the 1<sup>st</sup> June, they had it up on their Facebook page, and the donations started rolling in which was so amazing.

Their volunteers do an excellent job of helping elderly and/or terminally ill people and their pets and so I felt I wanted to bring attention to Cinnamon and the amazing work they do, to the local area.

Quote from their leaflet - 'It is now widely acknowledged that pets can positively benefit the well-being of elderly owners. For many elderly people living on their own, their pets are their reason for living.'

If you know anyone who is anxious about not being able to take their dog out for walks or any other 'pet problem', do look on the Cinnamon Trust website https://cinnamon.org.uk/ or contact them by phone - 01736 757900. There are other ways they can assist, but also of course they are dependent on volunteers, so you may be interested in this area of volunteering for which they would be very grateful. **Delia Kennedy** 

#### WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE (WHCC)

The centre's use has been increasing. Regular Coffee and Chat sessions, U3A quizzes, Yoga, Pilates, Craft group, Food Pantry events, Book swap and private hires. If you think WHCC maybe a space suitable for your group/event, get in touch info@whacc.org.uk to arrange to come and take a look. If you have an idea for a group please get in touch, we are always looking for new ways to make use of our building. Would you like to get more involved in the community? Help move forward a community space. We are inviting people to apply to be become trustees the centre. For more information of contact info@whacc.org.uk.

We are having our AGM at the centre on Monday 16th October at 7pm. I would like to thank all our volunteers and Trustee's for their continued support. A special thanks to Linda Grantham for all the hard work maintaining the borders. **Tania Edworthy.** 

I was so surprised when the stationery store moved.

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

Having just celebrated Harvest Festival and giving thanks for all the good gifts we have received and then sharing them with people using the CHAT foodbank, we now turn our attention to Overseas Aid. We have started filling shoeboxes for Eastern Europe. If you'd like to help or donate towards the delivery costs and any last- minute gifts, we will be most grateful. Just let us know.

The next **Prospects** Worship for people with learning disabilities and their carers is on **Sunday 1**<sup>st</sup> **October at 3pm**. The theme is "Hurray for Harvest". Always nice to see new faces.

You'll get a warm welcome at our **Soup and Something Lunches**. Not least as we do not make a charge. We just provide a splendid choice of home -made soups, sandwiches and desserts. The next one is on **Saturday 21**<sup>st</sup> **October from 12 noon**.

Our usual **Coffee Morning** will be on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November from 10.30-12**. Call in for a chat. The coffee and biscuits are free.

Once again, in partnership with the Scouts, we'll be holding a **Christmas Coffee Morning with Stalls**, in the **Village Hall on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 10-12**. If you would like to have a table for your own items, please get in touch a.s.a.p. as space is limited. The cost is £8 for a 6ft table.

We **Worship every Sunday morning at 10.30 am**. We're told our singing is good, our welcome is truly meant and our Preachers and their words, are wonderfully inspiring. Why not come along and judge for yourself. The chat afterwards over a cup of coffee, often brings smiles and laughter too.

Not least, about the latest arrivals to change in our Jigsaw Library.

Thanks to everyone who donates to the freebie cupboard at the Chapel Gate. You are really kind and generous in what you give, and we are told how useful these items are to the very many who gratefully receive them.

To get in contact please Phone 01884 840942. Every Blessing.

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#### **VOLUNTEERING**

Do you have a spare few hours or half day or full day – to volunteer at our unique heritage site? We are looking for volunteers in a number of areas. Currently we especially need people to assist with spinning or weaving on our vintage factory machines on Wednesdays, Fridays or Saturday's full training provided.

For all the volunteering opportunities available, see www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/\_ or phone or email us for more info and an informal chat, and to arrange a taster session, please contact us by phone or email (see contact details below).

#### **CRAFT WORKSHOPS AT THE MILL**

4-hour workshops (inc. 45-minute lunch break), £20 each.

If you would like to do crafts using yarns or textiles, do join one (or more) of our popular Craft Workshops. All materials supplied. Places are limited so do book soon.

Wednesday 11th October – Autumn Yarn Wreaths Wednesday 22nd November – Christmas Crochet Saturday 9th December – Christmas Wreaths

To book online go to: https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/workshops/or phone the Mill office (see contact details below).

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#### **MID DEVON SINGERS**

After an extended summer break, more than 20 members of the Mid Devon Singers were delighted to return to rehearsals on 8<sup>th</sup> September under our new Music Director, Lydia Fitton

After a thorough vocal warm up, we worked on three varied pieces of music: California Dreamin' (by The Mamas & The Papas), You Will be Found (from "Dear Evan Hansen") and A Sunday Kind of Love (composed by Barbara Belle but sung by various artists). Over the coming weeks we'll be adding music such as: a Greatest Showman Medley, Will You Love Me Tomorrow, Bridge Over Troubled Water, I Feel the Earth Move and Moon River.



We will rehearse every Friday evening during the Autumn term at Halberton Village Hall, starting promptly at 7.15pm. The only exceptions to this are Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September (when we will be at Sampford Peverell Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm) and a break for half term on Friday, 27th October. As well as rehearsals, we try to keep a social diary going – for instance, during the summer we had a delightful cruise up the River Exe with Stuart Line Cruises of Exmouth and enjoyed our annual Summer BBQ.

New members are always very welcome - there are no auditions to join our friendly and sociable community choir & there's no charge for trying us out for a couple of weeks - membership subs are then a very reasonable £12.50 per month.

If you would like to find out more, contact our Membership Secretary, Lisa Pinney, either by email at membership@mids.org.uk or on 07446 877714.

Finally - keep an eye out on our social media feeds for general news, as well as information about our appearance at the Coldharbour Mill Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November:

Facebook: themiddevonsingers. Twitter/"X" @MidDevonSingers. Instagram: @middevonsingers. Michael Cuthbertson.



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

Fabulous audience response to our play "Cry Havoc" that WiTS performed recently with a superb review from NODA which is reproduced in part below.

"A new play written and directed by local playwright, Elliot White, and performed by WITS was a very exciting and funny piece of theatre.

This was a cleverly written story with a cunning twist at the end. Each character was created and written well and each one given their moment to shine. Very funny with superb double-entendres and jokes, I would highly recommend other companies consider performing Cry Havoc.

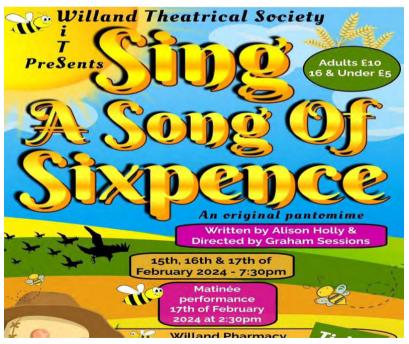
I congratulate the cast, crew, production team and "Elliot White" for a very enjoyable evening of superb entertainment."

**Lyn Burgoyne**. Southwest Noda representative (Mid and East Devon)

High praise indeed.

Rehearsals have begun for the annual Pantomime next February 2024 on 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Called "Sing a Song of Sixpence" An original panto from a local writer who had a great response with Cinderella what Happened Next. Keep your eye out to local media for details over the coming months.

New members have joined us this year and all will play some part in this Panto we are always open to anyone who wants to join and be a part of WiTS from backstage, to set design, costume design to treading the boards. We meet every Friday evening at the Village Hall at 7:30pm, why not pop along to see what we are about. **Sam Fincher** 



#### ST MARY'S CHURCH

As you will be aware, our former Rector Simon Talbot, has moved on to become a full-time army chaplain. We wish him well in his new challenge. Our services will remain at 10am every Sunday in the church by the Post Office whilst we undergo the process to appoint a new Rector. You are most welcome to come and join us.

Our **Harvest service** will be at 10am on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October and this year we will be sharing any donated goods with Willand Food Pantry and CHAT (Churches Housing Action Team)

We will be holding our **Remembrance Sunday service on 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.50am** in the churchyard around the war memorial as we did last year. There will be seats available for those who find it difficult to stand.

We hold regular groups for different ages and stages in our **Church Hall in Rectory Close** 

**Rockers Baby and Toddler Group** – This continues to be a popular group for those looking after pre-school children on Mondays at 9.15am in term time.

**Coffee and Chat** – we hold our coffee and chat café on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month from 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and join us on 13<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> November.

**Film Club** - On the first Saturday of the month we show a film from 7pm. There are posters in the church notice boards advertising the films being show. (Copyright restrictions mean we are not allowed to publish the films here). Please feel free to turn up.

**Keep Fit -** Professional and friendly Keep Fit classes are held in the Church Hall on Wednesday evenings between 6.00 - 7.00 during term time. Shirley (01884) **821520 Lesley Smith, Churchwarden (01884) 839436, 07944 295002 lesleysmith757@gmail.com** 

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We hope you enjoyed this issue of the Magazine.

CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER.



#### WILLAND FOOD NETWORK

Helen Jones, who leads the Willand Food Network which brought the unit to town, realised a facility was needed at Christmas nearly three years ago. She said: "During Christmas 2020 my mum asked me what I wanted for Christmas. I told her I didn't want anything, so I asked for a voucher, and I'd donate it to a family that needs something. "I contacted the school and told them I had a £100 voucher for a family to have. They put their names

in a hat, and they would draw out a name as there were 14 families that used the food bank.

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"We said we would get something for all 14 and we raised more than £2,000 and gave all of the families a hamper. We knew then we needed something like this in the

village. We can't believe the generosity of people who give to make other people's lives so much better. Many thanks to all that contribute. We are based on Gables Road as part of Willand Health and Community Centre **Opening times Mon-Fri 9am to 11am Mon. 6pm-730 pm.** Editor pp. **Helen Jones** 







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**Tuesday:** 6:30-7:30pm Pilates @Halberton Village Hall

**Wednesday:** 10:00-11:00am Pilates @Sampford Peverell Village Hall

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