

WILLAND MAGAZINE

July & August 2018



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

Delivered Free to Every Home

EDITORIAL

No 137

Please accept my humble apology for missing out the article submitted by the Culm Valley Methodist Church last edition I am afraid it became a victim of cut and oops it's gone into a cloud! I am really sorry. You will find the new entry for them in this issue. Read on for news and events in and around the village.

GARDEN PARTY AT SOMERVILLE HOUSE

Somerville House in Willand would like to welcome everyone to our annual garden party on Saturday 28th July at 2.00pm.

As always there will be plenty to do, why not try one of our home made cream teas, browse the stalls or just enjoy the gardens?

We look forward to seeing you.

THE CULM VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY CHOIR will be singing at the Bradfield Chapel Songs of Praise service, 6.30pm on Sunday July 8th. In addition to hymns of praise the choir will be singing pieces by Bach, Rutter, Goss, Wood and Lauritsen. You are warmly welcome to this service. For interest in the choir please contact **Richard Rutty** at rrutty15@aol.com.

WILLAND CYCLE CLUB

Willand Cycle Club is a small club for men and women who like getting out on their bikes. We are a friendly bunch, and although some of us may dress like pro cyclists we are very happy to muck in with the beginners!! So if you're new to lycra, you want to get fit, or you just want the social delight of a coffee and cake ride please join us. We have a regular midweek evening ride, and a Sunday Social. There is a club Facebook page to keep up-to-date with events, and for members to post stuff for sale or ask for advice. It would be terrific to see more people join the club. Only two criteria.... You must have a bike and you must be willing to ride it!!! Search for us on Facebook, or contact me via the details at the front of the magazine. **Alan Smith**

THE BLACKDOWN FOOD & CRAFT FAYRE "THE BEST OF THE BLACKDOWNS" AUGUST 26TH 2018

Now in its Fourth Year! This annual event showcases the very best of what the wonderful Blackdown Hills has to offer. National award winning food and beverage producers, local artisans demonstrating their skills and selling their wares, live music and lots and lots of free samples to savour!

There will also be a Bar stocking Tricky & Taunton Cider, Black Tor Brewery real ales and Bloomsbury fruit juices, the first-rate Moorbeams Farm Free Range Local Meats & BBQ, lots of Children's activities to keep the little ones entertained and all washed down with that special Blackdown Hills community spirit.

Last year – held in glorious sunshine (more ordered for this year!) -was a HUGE success attracting over 700 visitors and around 30 stallholders.

The Fayre this year is on Sunday 26th August - August Bank Holiday weekend -and will take place at Churchinford Village Hall (opposite the shop) with gates opening at 12 noon. Cream teas will be served from 12- 4pm and there is provision for parking in a nearby field so congestion in the main street is avoided.

The money raised last year, including that from the raffle and donations, was given to the local volunteer-run Community shop and Churchinford Pre-School. Worthy causes both so please come along and show your support and enjoy a great day out.

Any enquiries please contact Churchinford & District Community Shop on 01823 601026. Entry is FREE. See you there!

CAG DEVON

“Are you passionate about good food? Would you like to support people in your community to save money and plan, store and cook better to prevent food waste? Or perhaps you'd like to help run community meals using surplus food from supermarkets, farms and the high street as part of a Food Surplus Café. The average household wastes £470 worth of food every year! Join Community Action Groups Devon and Somerset Waste Partnership on a training day to learn about how to support people to eat well and waste less in their households. In the afternoon we will share ideas on how to set up a Food Surplus Café in your community, using food from retailers that would otherwise be wasted to make delicious community meals.

A training day will be held in Crediton, Saturday 21st July, 10am to 3:30pm, at the Boniface Centre. No experience is needed, just enthusiasm and willingness to take part. The cost is just £5 and booking is essential. Do get in touch to find out more and to book a place on info@cagdevon.org.uk or phone 07725760081. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @CAGDevon.”

WILLAND GARDEN CLUB

Our quiz in April went well, with 3 teams trying to answer some fun gardening questions set by Mrs Eira Brown. In May, we had a return visit from Paul Rendell. He has previously talked to us about Dartmoor, but this time spoke about Exmoor. We were surprised to find out that there was once a leper colony in the north of Exmoor. There is no meeting in June as we are visiting the Bishop's Palace at Wells on our annual outing. On 11th July, one of our members, Brian Carlson, will be talking to us about one of his passions – fuchsias. I am sure he will be bringing along some of his plants to sell.

It is Sampford Peverell's turn to hold the Flower Show this year on 18th August, where we will be joining them at Sampford Village Hall.

Our Plant Sale on 26th May was very successful and we hope all those who bought plants will have a colourful display of flowers and some prizewinning vegetables. Thank you if you attended.

For more details about the Garden Club, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01884 33828 or email me on cbarwa@mail.com. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month from March to December, excluding June and August. Our membership fee is only £5 a year. This includes all meetings, refreshments and a subsidised annual club meal, so is very good value.

Carol Allan Garden Club Secretary

CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH GABLES ROAD

You may have noticed some strange decorations hanging from the tree outside the church. They are CD's. Each one carries a **prayer request** made by our members or visitors. This was our contribution to a circuit-wide prayer initiative. This culminated in an afternoon with Music, Singing, Marbling, Painting, Crafting and Creative writing, followed by Cafe style worship including refreshments on Pentecost Sunday, when sixty plus people gathered at Willand Village Hall.

We continue with our **monthly coffee mornings**, at the church on **6th July and 3rd August** from 10.30am. Call in for a coffee. There are usually some homemade cakes for sale too!

Our **monthly Soup & Something lunches** will be on **Friday 20th July and Friday 17th August** from 12noon- 2pm. These are increasingly popular. Everything is free but donations are gratefully received for a chosen charity. Over the past six months we have raised the magnificent sum of £517 for the RNLI just from these donations. A new charity will benefit in the next six months.

"Prospects" is a group in which learning disabled people can joyfully meet together for Christian worship and fellowship through music, drama, song, arts and craft activities. The next meeting being on **Sunday 22nd July** at 3pm at the Methodist Church. If you know of someone who may like to join us but need more information please contact either David Greet on 01884 840942 or the Rev. Paul Booth 01884 32679. Alternatively just turn up; you will receive a very warm welcome. Prospects is now a part of the national *Livability* charity www.livability.org.uk

REGULAR EVENTS CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Date	Event	Time
Sunday	Service	10.30am
Monday	Willand Art Group	2pm - 4pm
First Friday of Month	Coffee morning and bring and buy	10.30am
Third Friday of Month	Soup and Something No cost all donations go to charity.	12.00 midday

WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

At last summer has arrived. We would like to thank our caretaker and cleaner, Andrea and Mel, the Parish Council, Michael Hollings and David Keating for their hard work in weeding and planting up the flower bed at the front of the hall. It is looking very pretty now. One problem they encountered was that some of the earth had been driven over repeatedly by cars missing the tarmac, making it very hard. Drivers, please take a little more care when parking, so we can keep this space looking good.

At our AGM, the present trustees were re-elected, apart from Mrs Dennis. Mrs Edith Patterson was elected as President of the Hall, as she has worked so hard for the Village Hall over many, many years. We do still have vacancies for trustees, if anyone is interested in applying. We only meet six times a year and the meetings are usually short. The hall is used 7 days a week nearly all year, so most of the village inhabitants have probably used it at least once. Isn't there anyone else out there who would like to be involved in running it?

The main hall has now been decorated and is looking very smart. However, when the curtains were taken down, they nearly disintegrated. They have been up for over 20 years and I think were originally made by Willand WI (now superseded by CAMEO). We have to replace them with fire resistant ones, which will cost over £1000. These will take a few weeks to make, so there will be bare windows for a while.

Our next project will be refurbishment of the annexe, its toilets and kitchen. We will also be looking at decorating and refurbishing the main toilets in the entrance lobby. Any donations from organisations using the hall or individuals would be very welcome, as all this work is rapidly depleting our resources.

We now have a new website: **www.willandvillagehall.org.uk**, where you can find the online diary, check availability or download booking forms. Frances, our booking secretary, also has a new email address for the **Village Hall: bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk**, so please use this email to contact her.
Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer

VILLAGE HALL DIARY

July				
Saturday	14 th	Willand Crafty Market	W.V.H.	11.00 am
August				
Saturday	4 th	Taunton Flyer (Cycling Event)	W.V.H.	9.00 am
Friday	17 th	Blood Donor Session	W.V.H.	1.00 pm
Friday	31 st	Blood Donor Session	W.V.H.	1.00 pm

bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk

REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Pilates	Mondays	10:00 am
Purelesque Knitting Group	Mondays	2:00 pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 st Monday	2:00 pm
Beavers (Term Time)	Mondays	5:30 pm
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Mondays	7:00 pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Mondays	7:00 pm
Pilates	Tuesday	9:00 am
Seated Exercise Class	Tuesday	10.30 am
Flower Arranging (Sept-Mar)	Tuesday	1:15 pm
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4:00 pm
Pilates	Tuesday	7.30 pm
Tiny Tots	Wednesday	9:30 am
Flower Arranging	Wednesday	1:15 pm
Indoor Bowls Club	Wednesday	7:00 pm
Garden Club	2 nd Wednesday	7:30 pm
Pilates	Thursday	8.15 am
CAMEO	1 st Thursday	6:30 pm
Karate	Thursday	5:30 pm
Folk Dance Club	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	7:30 pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	7:00 pm
Zumba	Fridays	9.30am
Wits	Fridays	7:30 pm
Cowgirl Twisters	3 rd Saturday	7:30 pm
Folk Dance	2 nd Saturday	7:00 pm
Rugby Tots	Sundays	9:30 am
Martial Arts	Sundays	6:30 pm

www.willandvillagehall.org.uk

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR - COMMENT & REPORT

The time seems to be rushing by and 2018 is nearly half gone. The grass is growing furiously, together with the weeds. The contractor cutting the Devon County Council verges for us is getting to grips with the work but it still needs a little more finesse which they are working on even as I write this. The contractors responsible for the Jubilee field and the play areas the parish have taken on are working well and the volunteers who look after the Worcester Crescent play area continue to do a great job – thank you all. Some of the MDDC areas look to have been neglected but Councillor Bob Evans has taken this up for us and we are assured that the cuts are being made in accord with the schedules. The large areas for play should be cut every two and a half weeks in the growing season but some areas around the estates only get seven cuts a year. By contrast the DCC verges are scheduled to have ten cuts – more if necessary. To those who continue to ‘adopt’ and cut areas of grass near to their houses we thank you again. Please keep it up but stay safe.

Please remember that shrubs and hedges, with the odd bramble, may be encroaching over pavements and it is the householder/landowner’s responsibility to ensure that the pavements are kept clear to their full width. To those who have responded promptly and positively when approached – thank you. To those that have made sure there is no problem without even being asked – an even bigger thank you. Hopefully you will have noticed that the weeds on the kerb edges have been sprayed and they will be done again later in the year. Our County Councillor Ray Radford has funded half the cost from his ‘community budget’ – thank you Ray. The planters around the village have now been planted up by our willing volunteers and they are looking good. Thank you. Thank you also to The Old Well Garden Centre who have again given us a very generous discount on the cost of the plants. Lots of ‘thank you’s’ but sincerely meant.

Work has now commenced on the site in Silver Street for the 28 affordable houses for rent which should be for people with Willand connections. There have been some public concerns expressed as to the amount of hedge removed which appears to be contrary to the approved plans. This has been taken up with the planning officer and it appears that there have been some amendments subsequent to the original approval which the Parish Council were not consulted about. Construction workers should be parking on the site and not on the road, grass verge or footpath. They have been told but so far it looks as if they need reminding so please report problems to MDDC planning office and our Ward Councillors. Please copy our Clerk into messages as well.

The Parish Council are trying to come to an accord with MDDC to lease the Orchard Way play area and by the time you read this it may be resolved. It would then be looked at to ensure the grass is cut more frequently and we will try and raise funds for some more play and trim trail equipment. We have been working with DCC Councillor Ray Radford to obtain some funding towards some more fitness and play equipment for the Jubilee Field which would also be used

by the school as part of their play/exercise programmes. The village community are paying for these facilities so if you see the mindless individuals or groups who insist on causing damage please either stop them or report them. The repairs or replacements are taking funding away from providing more equipment.

What would my ramblings be without mentioning dog poo! The children at the Primary School have prepared posters to try and encourage the irresponsible to clear up after their dogs. This was in the form of a competition, Parish Councillor Andrea Glover worked with the school staff and prizes have been awarded to the winners. I am sure the school will tell you who they are. Thank you, staff and children. The posters will appear around the village so please resist the urge to destroy them. You may have noted that MDDC are reducing the hours of their enforcement team to carry out dog poo patrols and put more time to litter patrols – they made more money in fines doing that. Not me being a cynic – they said so. As the village employs a litter picker I doubt Willand will see any activity at all but remember we put the fourth largest amount into the pot. If we do find a particular area or time when an irresponsible dog owner is performing please let us know and something will happen. Volunteers – please keep the pink spray going.

On the planning front by the time you read this the response period to the appeal to knock down the Esso garage and build 30 houses and some replacement commercial units will have closed and then we will have to wait and see what happens. The application to build 125 houses off Meadow Park is still being determined by Officers. Councillor Bob Evans and I were invited to participate in discussions with the agents and officers to see if we can get some more funds for the village, in various areas. This has been in an effort to get funding for the school in spite of DCC Education not seeking funding. Not holding our breath with what we have heard so far. It looks as if Willand could be getting even more houses with little or no extra facilities in spite of the best efforts of the Parish Council and some of our Ward Councillors.

The Planning Inspectorate have set 20 and 21 September 2018 for preliminary hearings into the Local Plan Review. This will be confined to the Junction 27 land and the two areas of land for housing identified to support it at Sampford Peverell and Tiverton. It is open to the public and your Parish Council hope to be able to address the Inspector. Watch this space as they say. Hopefully it will put a stop to, or at least slow down, all the speculative applications to build on land that has not been earmarked for development without the necessary facilities and infrastructure to go with it.

There has been some speculation, rumour and misinformation in relation to the future of The Gables site. In addition to discussions that have taken place with the trustees of WH&CC, the Willand Preschool has approached the Parish Council asking to have the opportunity to take on a lease for the site with a view

to part of it being used as an extension of the current preschool which needs room to expand to meet demand from the community. Part of the site would be available for community use as originally envisaged. There would not be room for the Surgery or Pharmacy if this path is followed. The Preschool Trustees are proposing to retain and refurbish the current buildings and have stated that they have the funds available now. No decision has yet been made as the papers are with the Parish Council solicitor for advice and preparation of necessary papers for consideration by the Parish Council before any final decision is made. The Parish Council would wish to retain this site for the village as was the initial intention. Circumstances may make a modification of ideas or change of direction to be made to achieve this four years on. The alternative will be to hand back the site to MDDC in accord with the original agreement which means that the modest amount which the site cost the Parish would be lost. There would be more houses with no addition facilities.

Tony Mander, probably our longest serving Parish Councillor, has given us advanced notice of his intention to retire in September and so there will be a vacancy on the Parish Council. Many sincere thanks to Tony for his loyal service and there will probably be more information nearer the time but in the interim if anyone would be interested in filling his vacancy please let the Clerk know. May 2019 will mean elections for a new council and so if 12 or more people show an interest and put their names forward the village can have an election and residents will be able to choose who should represent them and take the wellbeing of the village forward. District Council elections will also take place at the same time.

Thank you to all those who have supported the work of the Parish Council and all the various organisations within the village. Keep up the good work.
Barry G J Warren Chair Parish Council

WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WITS)

Another fun packed year for WiTS ended with our A.G.M held at the Village hall last month.

Plans are already in motion for next year's Panto, we can't wait, watch this space for any announcements.

Rehearsals have started for a comedy evening of two 1 act plays to be performed in September please keep your eye out for posters for the final details, hopefully I should be able to report in the next edition of the magazine.

A small group of our members are performing a murder mystery of our popular "King Alfa" at Bickleigh Village Hall on June 15th with profits going to Hospiscare. Although it will be too late to get tickets by the time the magazine is out.

We are always on the lookout for new members whether they want to act or try their hand at scenery painting helping behind stage, costume making and the hundreds of other things needed to get a production to the stage. It always

amazes me the talent that people have without knowing it until they try their hand.

This year we are looking for a new musical director as Paul our director for the last 5 years has decided to retire. Many thanks from all of us at WiTS to Paul for his incredible work. Also huge thanks to Cindy our talented set designer who has also stepped down this year. So there you have it two fabulous opportunities for new creative people to have a go.

Should you wish to find out more please feel free to contact Maggie our secretary Karen our membership secretary or indeed any of our members or just come along to the Village Hall on a Friday evening at 7.30 and say hello. Details can be found on our Facebook Page just search for WiTS. Lastly as always heartfelt thanks to the people of Willand who continue to support us.

Sam Fincher

ST MARY'S CHURCH

You might have heard a few weeks ago that Willand is on the up, well today I can reveal that (in the eyes of the Church of England) we are expanding too!

The Church of England as an organisation is full of quirks and curiosities, some are quaint but lovely, and others are just plain annoying.

One of those things that can be plain annoying are parish boundaries. You might know that Halberton Parish comes through the Mid Devon Business Park (at the Four Cross Way roundabout) down the Uffculme straight to the welcome to Uffculme sign and up the B3181 to Leonard Moor Cross. I am pleased to tell you that as of 1st July the church's parish boundaries have changed. Halberton parish will now stop at the M5 and Willand now has all the land between the M5 and B3181 to Leonard Moor Cross and down the Uffculme straight to the lane past Hichcock's Farm. This means Braddons, Pitt Farm, Mountstephen and properties off the Uffculme Road are now part of Willand (welcome if you live there!) For the sake of clarity I need to emphasise that this only relates to the church (ecclesiastical) parish boundaries, the parish council is still in negotiations about changing the civil boundary.

I hope that this change will enable us to serve those living in this "new" part of the parish well. It should makes more sense for those wanting to be married, baptised or have a funeral in what is geographically your local church (a map of the boundaries can be found on the church notice board).

Rev Simon Talbot, Rector St Mary's Willand Tel: 562570
E: simon@thetalbots.org.uk

UPDATE FROM BOB EVANS

At last we have some summer weather and I hope all are enjoying the longer days to the full. As a council we have recently entered our new municipal year so all committees have within the last few weeks re-elected their chair persons and initial meeting have been held.

As for local issues I have received several comments and some complaints regarding noise and odour from the 2 Sisters site, although it is useful to know the best avenue for any such complaints is to call the Environment agency. Their number is 0800 807060, your call can be in confidence but they will need to ask for some details.

These are reported to the Environment Agency Officer responsible for the site and will be discussed with the sites management to resolve.

Can I again ask that if you have comments on any local planning applications that you submit these to the Planning department at MDDC, this is a very simple process, just go to the planning web page on the MDDC site, (a guide is available) or you can contact myself and I can assist.

Local plan update

MDDC have now heard from the Inspector that the J27 and associated housing sites will be the subject of preliminary examination hearings on the **20th and 21st September 2018**. MDDC will be updating their website accordingly.

The Inspector has also taken the opportunity to update the matters that he will be considering. The Programme Officer (not an MDDC Officer) will contact all hearing participants of the new arrangements for continuing the preliminary hearings and circulate to them the Inspector's revised documents.

These will be open to the public and I understand will be held at the Tiverton Best Western Hotel.

For any issues, comments, problems please do not hesitate to contact myself on 01884 849248 or any of your other local councillors full details are on the MDDC Web site. **Bob Evans MDDC Lower Culm.**

WILLAND HISTORY GROUP

The History Group has received several requests recently for information on different aspects of Willand's past, including: Willand School, Redgate farmhouse, the Salter family of Verbeer, the Skinner family of Culm Vale Smithy, and the Bradbeer family of Sunnyside. If anybody thinks they may have any memories or further information relating to any of these topics, we would love to hear from you (on the email or telephone number below). For example, some of you may recall when Redgate farmhouse (on Jaycroft) served as a Russian Orthodox monastery (dedicated to St Elias) from 1967 to 1986. Do you have any memories of 'the monks and nun' who lived there? Or can you help with any information about the monastery?

Whilst researching further on Willand School, an incident has emerged which demonstrates how the risk of teachers being assaulted in the classroom is not entirely a modern phenomenon. On 7 March 1910, Richard Chick, a carpenter from Willand was summonsed to Cullompton Petty Sessions (Magistrates Court) under the charge of assaulting Samuel Dummett Lee, the headmaster of

Willand School. It was alleged that Chick had gone to the school on 23 February 1910, wanting to take his brother, Leonard, out of school – presumably on some unspecified domestic matter. The headmaster refused, stating that Leonard was under his charge and adding that, in any case, the school was about to be dismissed. At that point Richard Chick allegedly became, “very abusive ... and threatened to twist Mr Lee’s neck.” There were about 30 school children present at the time and it was reported that “a certain amount of confusion prevailed.” Richard Chick pleaded not guilty at the hearing, but the Magistrates decided that although the case was a ‘trivial one’ Chick should be fined 10 shillings and sixpence (about equivalent to a day’s wages for a carpenter), and it was emphasised how the discipline of the headmaster should always be maintained.

Most of us are probably fully aware of the dire plight of many farmland bird species, with populations plummeting across Britain and much of Europe – in no small part attributable to agricultural intensification since the Second World War, in response to government policy and consumer demand for cheap, mass-produced food. However, there was a time when some birds species were particularly plentiful and considered a significant threat to the annual harvest. On 30 May 1911 at the meeting of the Devon Farmers’ Union at Tiverton Town Hall discussions focussed on the ‘small bird pest’ in the district. In particular starlings had been greatly damaging young wheat; when the wheat is coming up, the birds get their beaks in and take the grain but also damage the roots and therefore the plant fails. The culprits were also noted to be ‘larks, sparrows and woodpigeons’. One farm had employed three or four elderly men and young boys to keep a continual watch over the fields and frighten the birds away. Willand’s William Rowe (farmer at The Elms) reported to the meeting that he also knew of a man who kept a boy for five or six weeks in a field of wheat to save the crop, and he asked, “Would it be feasible to lay poison?” The chairman pointed out that poison was too risky to other animals; others pointed out that it was also illegal.

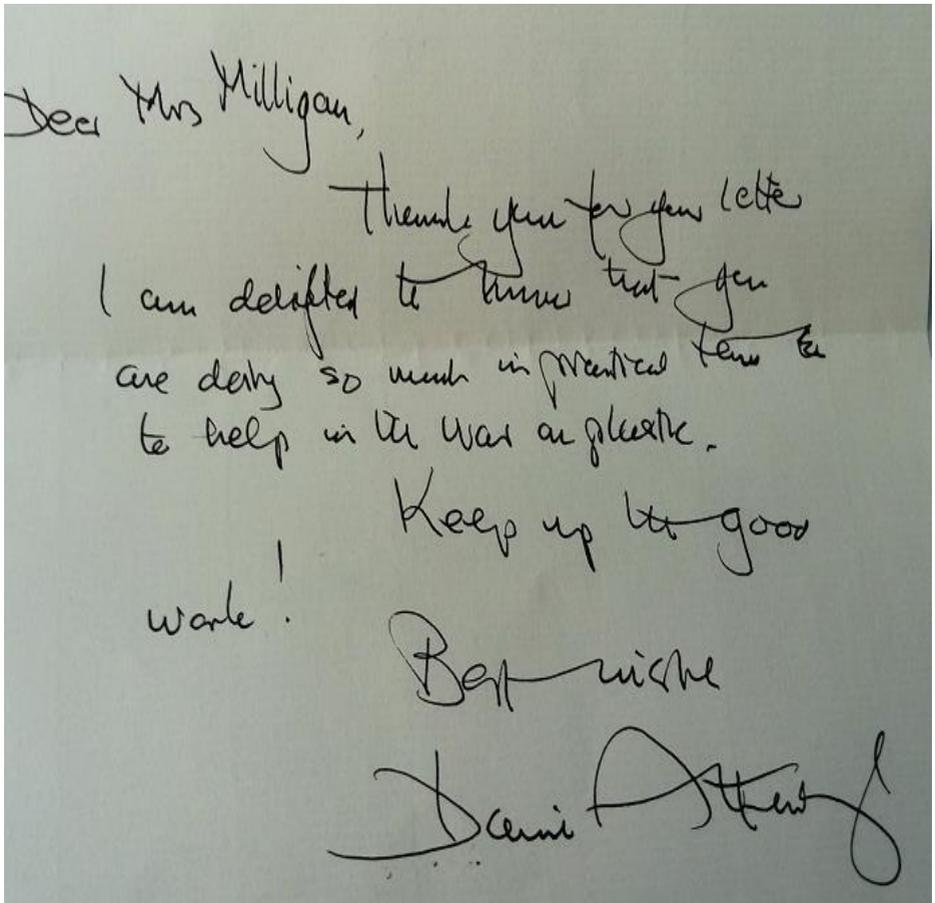
Finally, an interesting advert has recently been discovered in the ‘Wants’ section (equivalent to the jobs section) of the *Tiverton Gazette* for 8 February 1881 – the address to respond to is Harpitt House, Willand, and the advert was presumably placed by the elderly spinster, Mary Were Clarke, who lived there at the time. The advert reads: “WANTED, unmarried MAN, to live in home, take charge of garden, and make himself useful.”

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

WILLAND SCOUT GROUP

The lovely weather has allowed all groups to make the most of the sunshine. Joining together with 12 other scout and guide groups from the local areas and beyond for an uniformed event at Crealy camp in May, where 40 children aged 6-14 enjoyed rides and the camping experience with fun had by all including the leaders and parent helpers.

We celebrated David Attenborough's 92nd birthday by honouring all the fabulous work he does worldwide not only through documentaries but his passion for the environment inspired us to undertake a beach clean of Exmouth seafront at the end of April. The beavers, cubs and scouts cleaned the whole beach which is just over 2 miles and found an array of items from shoes and wet wipes to an alarming amount of plastic, including lid/bottle tops, lollypop sticks and cotton buds as well as rope, net and fishing lines. Quite horrendous what we are leaving and throwing away without considering the consequences. The group enjoyed the evening and were pleased to be doing something very worthwhile. As it was David Attenborough's birthday we sent him a card and a picture of us all on the beach. In less than a week we had a reply. A wonderful letter from the man himself congratulating us on our efforts and urging us to continue the "war against plastic" as he wrote. (See below)



Dear Mrs Milligan,

Thank you for your letter
I am delighted to know that you
are doing so much in practical terms to
to help in the war on plastic.

Keep up the good
work!

Best wishes
Danni Attenborough

THE PICTURE WE SENT TO DAVID ATTENBURGH



The beavers currently have 27 members and this term we have cycled or scooted to Tiverton train station, using maps and compasses and having a treasure hunt. We had our own version of sports day and the three-legged race was exciting. We are about to go pond dipping, a water activity at Haven Banks in Exeter, trying our hands at a bit of golf at Sampford Peverell before ending the term with a trip to the Bear Trail.

The cubs currently have 20 members and have enjoyed activities such as archery, forest walks, caving, climbing and will be completing dry slope skiing and a cycle ride before the term ends. They are also joining in with the beavers at the Bear Trail for some muddy fun.

The scouts are based at Halberton scout hut and have 16 members. They have been working on challenge badges that are focussing on fitness and team working, they have also been making rafts and trying them out on the canal, a wet experience I believe! The scouts also undertook a murder mystery challenge around Tiverton which involved a lot of walking and solving clues.

We would like to thank those that came and supported our bingo at Easter. The turnout was reasonable, surprisingly as the weather produced the snow and wintry weather at that time. Our joint coffee mornings with the Methodist church are always an enjoyable event and watch out for our next one at the end of November.

We were asked to join in with the churches St George's day celebrations at St Marys by Rev. Simon Talbot. We joined the guides and brownies parading

from the village hall to the church where upon we renewed our promises and took part in the service. Thank you for the invite.

If anyone would like to know more about our group, be that children or adult helpers please get in touch at Liesa.a.milligan@hotmail.com.

CAMEO

Our May meeting was our annual mystery trip and evening dinner and it certainly was a mystery. We travelled along the lovely by-roads to Culm Head and after we turned right we kept seeing sign posts for Honiton and Cullompton and we were wondering if we were heading back to the Village Hall. We eventually turned into the car park of the Bowd Arms near Sidmouth and we had an excellent meal with very good service, so mystery solved! The Walking Group did an old favourite walk around Culmstock and the racecourse accompanied by two four-legged honorary members. On to tea at the Old Well. They went on a lovely walk around Uffculme via Hunkin Wood and then went back to Uffculme for a charity cream tea.

Our Coffee Mornings are well-supported and we went to "Dottie's" in Cullompton. The next one is further afield as we are going to the cafe at Tiverton Canal basin. Several car-loads of members went on a guided tour of Ikea near Exeter and we have also been to the House of Marbles and on to Widdecombe On The Moor. A trip is planned to Exeter to see the Lammas Day activities. Peta has invited us to her house in August for a barbecue.

Our Speaker in June was Ian White telling us about his career as a commercial airline pilot. He first became interested in flying at the age of nine and this led to him flying all over the world. He told us about some of his experiences, most very happy but some a bit hairy. We then had a road safety quiz which left us with a bit of a problem! Would we pass the driving test now?

As our Chairman Sonia was away on a cruise celebrating her Silver Wedding Peta and Pat, comparatively new members, took the meeting and in the words of Brucie "didn't they do well" and they certainly did and received a well-deserved hearty round of applause. The Speaker in July will be Susan Tribble from the British and International Red Cross. If you think you would like to come along to one of our meetings you will be given a warm welcome. We meet in the Village Hall on the first Thursday of the month at 7p.m. **Betty Penberthy**

WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING GROUP

MDDC have told the composting group that they will not be providing a grant towards shredding this year. Since the introduction of the paying garden waste collection MDDC now regard local composting schemes as competition and therefore will not support them. We are sorry to say that as the costs of shredding have not reduced then the amount of money available to support

local projects will be reduced and it is likely that the WCC will have to turn down applications in the future.

WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME

OPENING TIMES

WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY

10.00AM – 12.00 noon

COMPOST SALES

SIEVED £1.50 a BAG

UNSIEVED £1.00 PER BARROW

When closed bags of sieved are left outside the gate please place money in the tube and replace the lid.

If there are no bags left or not enough **text COMPOST** to
07514 033305

Someone will contact you.

Please return any empty bags

Come along and see us and we can advise on what pruning's and cuttings we take.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The new parish council website www.willand-pc.org.uk is expected to be up and running by 1 July, and in anticipation of this the email addresses for the parish councillors and clerk have been amended in the front cover – I hope there are no technical hitches to cause a delay!

The website will provide information specific to the parish council activities, and as such will hold the documents produced by the parish council, including meeting agendas, minutes and relevant documents to the meetings, audit and account information, governing documents and general council information along with any current news regarding parish council actions. It will have links to the MDDC and DCC planning sites for ease of access to planning developments in Willand.

I would like to thank Ray Ursell for hosting the parish council information on the Willand Matters community hub over the last ten or so years, and for all the support he has given to me personally since I became Clerk, on all matters to do with the website and IT in general. I look forward to continuing to work with him on the non-parish council information I receive that would be better placed on the Willand Matters website, they should complement each other and provide comprehensive coverage of all things Willand.

THE CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST

THE VENUE - UFFCULME

The Venue is the latest addition to Mid-Devon's cultural offering.

With 400 seats in our main space, 2 studio spaces, a bar and box office service along with a team of people ready to help and work with organisations, people and companies - we want to bring in the best work on offer, and help make the work of local groups and organisations the best too.

For those who love to watch and enjoy theatre, music, comedy, dance...keep an eye on our What's On page at www.venueuffculme.com. If you have an event you'd like to see in our spaces, get in touch via the contact information below to see what we can do to help bring that to life.

Telephone: 01884 842912 email: info@venueuffculme.com address: The Venue, Chapel Hill, Uffculme, Devon, EX15 3AG

UFFCULME MUSIC & REAL ALE FESTIVAL

at Magelake Parish Pavilion, 6-7 July

TOP LOCAL BANDS

Local Ales/Ciders

7pm-midnight on Fri; 3pm-midnight on Sat

£6 admission or £10 for 2-day pass

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