

# WILLAND MAGAZINE

October & November 2024



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

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## WILLAND PARISH ORGANISATIONS

		<i>Secretary/Contact</i>
Allotment Holders	Sylvia Statham	peterandsylvia <sup>statham</sup> @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	peterandsylvia <sup>statham</sup> @hotmail.com
Tiny Tots	Karly Holley	willandtintytots@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	Barbara & Graham Bodkin	willandccs24sec@outlook.com
Willand Health & Community Centre		info@whacc.org.uk
Willand History Group	James Morrison	jamorrison235@gmail.com 01884 250057
Willand Short Mat Bowling Club	Janey Parrett	07593 996991
Willand Theatrical Society		witsthesecretary@gmail.com 01884 32152
Willand United Charities		unitedcharities@whacc.org.uk
Youth Club (35218)		willandyouthclub@outlook.com

## CHURCHES / EDUCATION

Baptist Church, Cullompton	Rev. Glen Graham	34077
Culm Valley Methodist Church	Rev Nick Lakin	nicholas.lakin@methodist.org.uk 07895 740286
Quakers	Pat Bell	840823
Roman Catholic Church	Canon Kristian Paver - St Boniface, Cullompton	252292
St. Mary's Church Churchwarden	Lesley Smith	07944 295002
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

Rachel Gilmore	(M.P)	rachel.gilmour.mp@parliament.uk	
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
Richard Phare	(Councillor)	richard.phare@willand-pc.org.uk	07496 113135
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
Sue Leach	(Councillor)	sue.leach@willand-pc.org.uk	07732 952829
Sam Sycamore	(Councillor)	sam.sycamore@willand-pc.org.uk	07429 266786
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Vacancy	(Councillor)		
Debbie Bird	(Parish Clerk)	clerk@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407

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## MAGAZINE

Please send Editorial items to [willandparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:willandparishmag@gmail.com)  
Advertising queries to [willandmagadvertising2023@gmail.com](mailto:willandmagadvertising2023@gmail.com)

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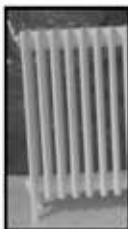
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I would like to thank Richard and Peggy our volunteer distribution team for moving heaven and earth to get the last edition of the Magazine out to you. Following myself confusingly putting the wrong dates out. Absolutely wonderful. We hope you all enjoy this edition of your Magazine.

**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

Children are back to school and life for them and parents will take on a new order until Christmas. Through the holidays there have been various activities/clubs arranged around the village and the area to occupy time and the various open spaces, particularly the Jubilee Field have been well used. Seeing whole families there with the picnic benches being used as well as the various equipment has been very pleasing to me as one of the team that have worked to achieve it all over the past years on behalf of our residents. We are also getting visitors from adjoining towns and villages coming to use the field and the Pump Track seems to be popular for a wide area including someone I spoke to from Taunton.

Hopefully everyone is aware that Willand Parish Council should have twelve [12] Parish Councillors to look after the Parish and it's residents. At present there are only nine [9] of us and I for one have passed the 80 years mark so we do need younger blood. My age reminds me of a saying of my late father when someone asked him how a neighbour was. His reply was that 'he had one foot in the grave and the other on a bar of soap and was praying that it would not rain.' Today that may offend some, but it is a reflection of the movement of time and the attitude to many walks of life. Hopefully the positive is that by the time you read this we may well have coopted at least one more Councillor to fill one of the vacancies.

In the last magazine I outlined a number of improvements which were taking place, or being planned to improve recreational facilities within the village by using S106 monies allocated for the purpose.

The skate ramp has been completed and is being well used but the seeding of the grass banks has not worked and not been helped by users climbing up the banks to get to the platforms at the top and then launch themselves off. I have witnessed some climb to the platform and then lose their nerve and then go down the bank again. I am told that you are meant to start in the 'bowl' at the bottom and work yourself up the sides to get to the top. I watched a couple of lads do this to great effect and asked them to work to educate others as to how best use it.

The Pump Track still seems to be popular, and the behaviour of most users is encouraging. I have been told, and seen on Facebook, complimentary comments on the behaviour of a number of our young people when using the facility. They have waited for the younger ones to finish their circuit before going to do their more advanced acrobatics. Older ones have been seen helping younger ones and the input from some parents has been most welcome.

It is pleasing to watch how some have developed confidence and skills from when the track was first opened.

There are two gripes we could do with some help with please.

1. Some are removing the stones from the drainage points in the centre and throwing them all around or making patterns with the stones on the grass. They are there for a purpose and the Parish have had to expend monies on buying replacement stone and also those on the grass do not do our contractors mowers a lot of good. Recently I was in the field on my invalid buggy and started picking up the stones from the grass. I was shortly joined by a Mum and Dad and their two lads who went around and picked loads and put them back where they should be. Thank you. Oh! Incidentally they were not Willand residents but from Cullompton.

2. Litter in the Jubilee Field at times is horrendous, particularly seeing the number of bins available. John, the Litter Picker goes there most days. I do know of some parents who help by clearing up when they are there; some pick up bits when they are passing through on the footpath. On a Youth Club night in July the field was being well used and there was litter everywhere and so on my buggy I stated going around picking up some of it. Before I knew it a group of older boys and girls were telling me that they would sort it and they did including 'persuading' one young man to clear up his own litter. They were a great bunch and I hope that their willingness to help continues and rubs off onto others. Thank you to all who help without having to be asked.

Quotations have been obtained for all the other play and fitness equipment I wrote about in the last magazine. The various S106 application forms have been forwarded to MDDC to release the money, but they seem to be dragging their heels again with the risk that the prices could go up or we miss a slot with the contractors. So far I am not aware of any moans about our proposals. The youngsters are looking forward to the new goal posts and a very complimentary email has been received from an adult who is looking forward to the fitness equipment planned for the Orchard Way area. Let us hope that all continues moving forward for a positive outcome.

I make my usual plea for people to cut back their hedges or shrubs to make footpaths fully useable. The hedge from Ash Close to the Esso Garage has been cut back but a trip out to the garage on my invalid buggy showed me that even now it is really too narrow and the surface in some areas is uneven and damaged. Our Neighbourhood Highways Officer from DCC was going to make arrangements for work to be done to take the hedge bottom and the grass verge back to the full width of the tarmac. Sadly, I have just heard that he is being moved on and so we will have to start working on the new officer. I did ask for volunteers to help as I had the tools but not the physical ability to do some of the work. We had one person who contacted the Clerk offering to help. Thank you but it needs a few more than that. At least we have finally got the potholes on the hill going down from the railway bridge repaired at last.

It has come to notice that people are fly tipping garden waste around the village in the woodland or on the edge of footpaths. This should be reported to MDDC as they will investigate and remove where appropriate and if needs be issuing a fixed penalty ticket to the offender. There is really no need to do this as we have a composting site within the village, MDDC have the 'brown bin' scheme and if all else fails you can take it to the recycling centre at Ashley, Tiverton. Please do not leave it to someone else to do – if you see it report it.

For those who have loved ones buried or ashes interned in the Cemetery, or even if someone just like to go there for quiet reflection, there are now two additional benches for use which we hope will meet with approval. Other additions/improvements are in the pipeline.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan has now been subjected to Independent Examination and some modifications have been suggested by the Inspector. Everything is now with MDDC to resolve issues with a view to moving forward to a referendum. Watch this space as they say.

The weather is going to get colder, and some will be worrying about not receiving Winter Fuel allowance if the Government go ahead with their proposals. If you have problems please do not suffer alone as there is plenty of advice and help available. Do not forget we have three District Councillors and a County Councillor who may be able to help. If they cannot do something themselves they may well have access to someone who can. There are friends and neighbours so please do not be too proud or afraid to seek help.

**Barry G J Warren Chairman** (Willand Parish Council)

## **MID DEVON SINGERS NEWS**

As soon as the summer weather arrives, it's gone again, and everything seems to suddenly take on more of an autumnal hue. Following our return from summer break, thoughts are already turning to Christmas – we're starting to rehearse music for our performances at "Dulverton by Starlight" (Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December) and the Waterloo Cross pub in Uffculme (evening of Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December). Keep your eyes peeled on our socials for further details.

Singing is a great way to get a serotonin boost and combat the dank Autumn weather – why not give it a try with the MiDS? New members are always very welcome, with no auditions to join our friendly and sociable community choir. There's no charge to try us out for your first 2 weeks & membership subs are then a very reasonable £12.50 per month. We rehearse every Friday evening during school term time at Halberton Village Hall, starting promptly at **7.30pm** and ending at **9.30pm** - with an all-important tea/coffee/chat break about halfway through.

If you would like to find out more about joining us or booking us for a performance, please contact us by email at **info@mids.org.uk**. Otherwise, be sure to keep an eye on our social media feeds for general news & performance information: Facebook themiddevonsingers Twitter/"X" @MidDevonSingers Instagram @middevonsingers. **Michael Cuthbertson**

## **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

Back in September it was nice to see a snippet of Willand history appear on TV during an episode of the BBC's series *Who Do You Think You Are?*, this one featuring Rose Ayling-Ellis, *Eastenders* actress and star of *Strictly Come Dancing*. Part of the programme focussed on Rose's great-great grandfather, James Welland, who lost his left hand whilst working for the Great Western Railway (GWR), at Tiverton Junction Railway Station in Willand (now sadly defunct, closing in 1986 in favour of the new station at Tiverton Parkway).

The Wellands were a local family, James' father having worked as a farm labourer and dairyman in neighbouring parishes. However, rather than work on the land, at the age of 19 James secured work with the GWR, which promised better pay and more job security, albeit at the price of long hours and often, as he was to find out to his cost, dangerous working conditions. It was only the second day of his employment when, on 10 May 1899, he was out moving signal lamps between the 'up and down' lines and took a backwards step, "at the same moment a goods train from Paddington to Exeter was slowly entering the station unseen by Welland, who was struck by the engine and knocked down. He appears to have instinctively put out his hands to save himself, and his left hand going on the metal [was] run over and completely crushed" (*Devon & Somerset News*). The stationmaster, John Hunt, sent him straight to the infirmary in Tiverton by special train, where it proved impossible to save his left hand. His injuries were later described as, "severe blow and shock to the system from collision; left hand very severely crushed, all the fingers hanging by strips of skin, and rendering amputation halfway up the arm necessary; right hand also much bruised, and one finger partly dislocated; injury to forehead, which was cut to the bone about three inches long; unconsciousness for more than two hours; and bruises to arms" (*Devon & Somerset News*).

This was an era before significant health and safety measures were introduced, and James would not have received any relevant safety training, just shown the job and left to get on with it; risk assessments were unheard of. Working on the railways remained incredibly risky: in 1899, the year of James' accident, 15,582 railway workers were injured and 584 killed in the United Kingdom. The GWR admitted liability for James' accident and promised to pay him 7 shilling 6 pence per week – half of his 15 shillings weekly wage – for the period he was totally incapacitated and out to work. However, James wanted £250 compensation, about £33,000 in today's prices, so he engaged a local solicitor and took the case to arbitration under the terms of the recent Workmen's Compensation Act. GWR were unwilling to go beyond their legal obligations, and the judge hearing the case at Tiverton County Court ruled in their favour, adding that he thought the company had behaved 'very fairly'. The case also failed at the Court of Appeal, leaving James with daunting legal costs.

In time, James was provided with a prosthetic hand, and he was able to get work as an insurance agent, probably selling policies and collecting payments in the local area. The 1901 census records show that he was then living in

Willand with his mother, who was widowed not long before his accident, in Railway Terrace on Station Road, the end house next to the Railway Hotel (this end of the terrace, along with the hotel, were demolished to make way for the M5 motorway). As well as James, his mother and one of his sisters, his home was also occupied by no less than six lodgers, all of them young men aged 19 to 25 and working for GWR at Tiverton Junction. No doubt this made for a busy home at times, but it would have brought in much-needed income for the Wellands. We know that during the early twentieth century there was a severe housing shortage in Willand, with little resolution until the building of Park Street in the 1920s.

At some stage between 1901 and 1904, James left Willand, and the BBC programme followed his subsequent life in Exeter, working in different jobs, struggling to make ends meet, including a brush with bankrupts, and struggling to find a home for his every-growing family – he and his wife, Ada, had 12 children. They eventually found some stability when, in the 1930s, they became beneficiaries of fresh obligations put on the local council to provide houses for poorer families, plus the interwar drive to build ‘decent homes for the working classes’ and were re-housed in one of the new council houses on Widgery Road, on the Polsloe Estate, Whipton, where James lived until his death in 1947, aged 66. So, if you get the chance to see a repeat of Rose Ayling-Ellis’s edition of *Who Do You Think You Are?*, or are able to view it on the internet, it is well worth a watch. And in the meantime, we await the next celebrity national or global to claim a link to Willand: there’s bound to be a few.

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

## **CAMEO**

After a short business meeting we enjoyed the celebrations of our 25th anniversary with a toast to our success as a group including our one remaining original member Mary Tebbey. After a very enjoyable buffet supper catered by Keepers Cottage and a hilarious game of pass the parcel.

We look forward to a variety of activities in the next few weeks including outings with the walking group, the monthly meeting of the singles, a river trip, a visit to Tavistock for the Goosey Fair, and trip to Clarks Village in November and coffee at Padbrook.

If you would like to come to our meetings you will get a warm welcome. Meetings are held in the hall on the first Thursday in the month at 7pm unless otherwise stated. **Kay Morris.**

## **WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS)**

WCCS members would like to take this opportunity to add our tribute to those already paid to the late Tony Mander, in recognition of all his work as WCCS Secretary and Treasurer for 20 years and, as his successor worded it, “for handing over everything in such good order.” Tony was a well-loved member of the team, and his enthusiasm, dedication and sense of fun will be sadly missed by everyone.

Some readers may not know that WCCS was born as a result of the 1998 Parish Appraisal and took several years to establish, largely due to the commitment and hard work of only 7 volunteers. The WCCS site has developed considerably since those early days and if you've not visited before, please call in to see what we do. WCCS would not run without a small team of dedicated volunteers, and we'd love to welcome some new faces (and pairs of hands) to join us.

In May we opened an extra session, on Monday evenings, and have been very pleased with the uptake of Monday evening deposits from villagers as well as the increase in visitors to the site since our Spring/Summer publicity campaign. The green waste has been flowing in from residents and sales of the resulting compost are well ahead of last year's figures. "THANK YOU" for your continued support.

In real terms, our August shredding session took over 4 hours, compared to 90 minutes for our April shredding session! Our volunteers will be working hard through the Autumn to turn this material into bagged compost for the community to buy. With the darker nights approaching our Monday evening sessions came to a stop on

9<sup>th</sup> September but we will look to reintroduce them in the Spring. Please keep any eye out in this Magazine and at the site for updates. In the meantime, here's a quick summary of the **What, When, Where** and **Who**:

**WHAT... TO BRING:** We accept most **Green Garden Waste** and for **FREE:** fresh grass (kept separate please), hedge clippings, pruning's (no more than 1 inch thick), plus flowers, vegetables, plants, leaves and turfs (again kept separate please).

We are **unable to accept** Cordyline and Palm leaves as they cause issues with the shredding machine.

**PLEASE NOTE:** we also ask that excess soil is removed from your green waste and that **all** "foreign bodies" such as labels, stones, pet poo, plant pots, wire, metal stakes\*, etc are excluded. (*\*Yes, a large metal rod was found in material during the last shredding session which could have caused a very nasty accident if it had gone undetected through the machinery.*)

**WHAT... TO BUY:** Sieved compost (with next to no twigs) @ £2.50/bag; unsieved waste @ £2.50/wheelbarrow.

The return of your empty bags would be greatly appreciated so they can be reused.

**WHEN:** Wednesdays and Sundays all year round, from 10.00am – 12 noon.

**WHERE:** WCCS site is located at the top end of Jaycroft in the corner of the Allotment site with convenient parking.

**WHO:** the joint WCCS Secretaries are Barbara and Graham Bodkin who can be contacted via email at [willandccs24sec@outlook.com](mailto:willandccs24sec@outlook.com) or call in to the site during opening hours to find out more and see the magic. **Barbara Bodkin.**



# J28

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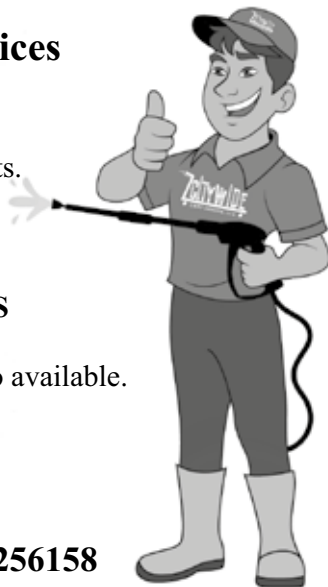
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## WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

We are still experiencing problems with our hirers being unable to park at times, because of school users, parents and staff. The trustees allow parents to pick up and drop off their children, but cars should not be left in the car park for longer than 30 minutes. Staff at the school should park on the school site. As we are losing clients because of this problem, we have been investigating having parking meters and camera-controlled car parking. This will allow 30 minutes free parking. Anyone staying longer will be subject to a fine levied by the parking company. Legitimate users of the hall will be able to log their car registration number inside the hall.



We hope we will not have to resort to this but cannot jeopardise the future of the hall by not having space for our hirers, and thus

losing their bookings.

We would like to welcome Linda Hillier as a trustee of the hall.

Linda has also agreed to trial doing some of our admin work, so we are very grateful to her for volunteering.

**Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer** [www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk)

## WILLAND UNITED CHARITIES

Willand United Charities was set up to benefit residents of Willand who were in need.

The money available for distribution is quite limited but the Trustees are able to make small grants to support individuals and local groups each year. The Trustees meet regularly twice a year, usually in September and February. Extra meetings are held to discuss applications outside of these times 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

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](mailto:unitedcharities@whacc.org.uk) or contact one of the trustees, to receive an application form. **Kate Taylor.**

**Trustee**



## **NEWS FROM COLDHARBOUR MILL**

**Current opening Times: Tuesday to Saturday**

**Museum & Shop: 11am – 4pm (last admission to Museum 3pm)**

**Grist Mill Café Bar: 10:30am – 2:30pm Days/times may change - check our website (or phone) for up-to-date information**

Entry prices for museum and events now reduced by 20% to 2019 levels, with an additional 15% discount if you book online in advance.

Visit the Mill website to book: [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/visit-us/](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/visit-us/) or phone 01884 840960 Visits by groups and schools can be booked for any day email [visitorservices@coldharbourmill.org.uk](mailto:visitorservices@coldharbourmill.org.uk) or phone 01884 840960

Join us for General Admission throughout October & November to enjoy

**DEVON AT WAR: WWII EXHIBITION by the Uffculme Local History Group**

### **CRAFT WORKSHOPS at the Mill**

All materials supplied, refreshments available. For more info and to book, visit the 'What's On' page of the Mill website, or phone 01884 840960. Places are limited so do book soon.

<b>HALLOWEEN WREATH MAKING.</b>	Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am–1pm
<b>CHRISTMAS CROCHET</b>	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10am–2pm
<b>RAG BAG MAKING</b>	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	11am – 3pm

Thursday 31st October – STEAM & SCREAM. 10.30am – 4pm (Steam Engines will run until 3pm) **Book online in advance to receive 15% off your ticket price or become a Coldharbour Mill Member and enjoy every Steam Up. day for a whole year.**

Sat 16th Nov, 8pm to Sun 17th Nov, 2am **PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION AT THE MILL.** Join us at the Mill for a spine-chilling exploration led by investigator Gemma.

Dive into Victorian and modern ghost-hunting techniques, from spirit boards to spirit boxes. Previous participants have reported unsettling noises like rattling doors, footsteps, and mysterious voices. Whether you're a seasoned ghost hunter or a curious beginner, this investigation promises an unforgettable experience. Are you brave enough to uncover the secrets of Coldharbour Mill? Participants must be over 18 and sign an accident waiver.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

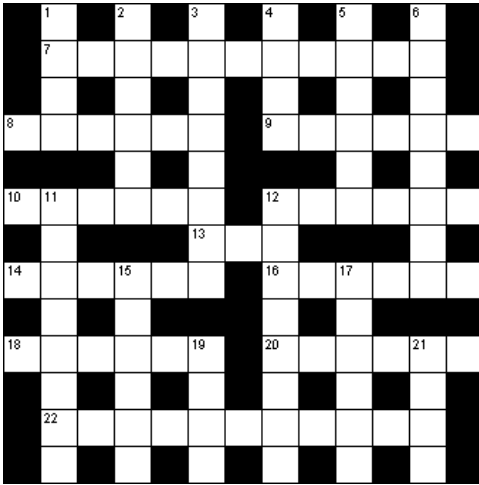
**COLDHARBOUR MILL CHRISTMAS MARKET** Saturday 30th November  
11am – 3pm For more info see Mill Website Events/What's On page.

### **VOLUNTEERING**

**If you have some spare time each week to join one of the volunteer teams at this unique heritage site, please contact us by phone or email (see below) for more info and an informal chat, and to arrange a taster session.**

**See also [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/) Phone 01884 840960**

**COLDHARBOUR MILL Uffculme, Cullompton EX15 3EE**



October Crossword  
 Solution Later in this  
 Magazine  
 No Peeking now

**Across**

- 7 Commodities offered for sale (11)
- 8 Yearly (6)
- 9 Avaricious (6)
- 10 More daring (6)
- 12 Two-way ticket (6)
- 13 Female sheep (3)
- 14 European language (6)
- 16 Red wine from Bordeaux (6)
- 18 Little angel (6)
- 20 Place where food is kept (6)
- 22 Futility (11)

**Down**

- 1 Portent (4)
- 2 Debated (6)
- 3 Youngsters (8)
- 4 Drawback (4)
- 5 Dissolve in the stomach (6)
- 6 French policeman (8)
- 11 Thorough repair (8)
- 12 Rash (8)
- 15 Trading place (6)
- 17 Aviators (6)
- 19 Ale (4)
- 21 Comfort (4)

**TIVERTON PANNIER MARKET**

**October**

- Saturday 5 October (9am to 2pm) Tiverton Farmers Market (Oktober Feast)
- Saturday 12 October (times TBC) Apple Day
- Saturday 26 October (10am to 2pm) Halloween Pumpkin Hunt, A Chance to Shine and family event
- Sun 27 October (9am to 2pm) Tiverton Salvage Fair

**November**

- Saturday 2 November (9am to 2pm) Tiverton Farmers Market (Ready for Christmas Market)
- Saturday 9 November (8.30am to 4pm) Ready for Christmas Market
- Saturday 16 November (8.30am to 4pm) Ready for Christmas Market
- Sat 23 November (5pm to 9pm) Electric Nights (Christmas lights switch-on)
- Saturday 30 November (8.30am to 4pm) – Ready for Christmas Market

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## **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

We hope you are enjoying the sunshine in these autumn days, and you may be even enjoying a sit on the bench of our lawn. Some of you were upset when we needed to fell the cherry tree due to its being unsafe. But over the next few weeks you'll see we'll be planting others, to replace it.

Dwarf apple, plum and cherry trees. We anticipate their blossom in the coming years, will bring a welcoming display to garland the developing spring. Staying on the theme of nature, if you missed our Harvest Festival and Lunch, don't be too disappointed, because on **Sunday Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.30.** we'll be holding a "Great Harvest Singalong" where you'll get to choose the music.

This especially for some of you who've told us; "We don't sing enough traditional hymns" So then and there, you can choose. Just let us know, soon. Already down, are "Autumn Days" and "Cauliflowers Fluffy, Cabbages Green" You can also bring along any produce for the C.H.A.T. foodbank.

On the previous **Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>**, we'll have our **Prospect Harvest Celebration and Tea, at 3pm.** This is our Disabled Fellowship Group but you all, are most welcome.

Thank you to all the knitters, funders and packers, who help us with our **Christmas Shoe Boxes** for all ages, sent to Eastern Europe (especially thinking of the Ukraine). Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

On **Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.30am.** we'll be dedicating them all, before the lorry comes to take them on their way. We'd be so pleased to thank you in person there. Our next free lunch is on **Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>. from 12 noon,** where the **Soup** will be piping hot, sandwiches come with a salad garnish and the sweets and desserts, are **Something** to indulge you.

People tell us the food is excellent and the company's great too. Come along and see for yourself.

We have a **Coffee Morning at 10.30am on Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>** usually with homemade jam, marmalade and pickles to buy. (Sometimes even cakes as well) Joint with the Scouts, our **Pre-Christmas Sale is at Willand Village Hall on Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 10am.** If you'd like to book a tabletop there, (£8), to sell off some "stuff", to make room for this year's presents?! Please email the address below.

We always meet for **Worship on Sunday Mornings at 10.30am.** and enjoy Fellowship together over coffee after the Service. It really has been rewarding to have had with us, some new faces recently. We hope you've found with us, a reassurance of and a faith in the future, in these uncertain days we live in.

Some of us meet in house groups during the week, to understand a little more, about how scripture helps us in our understanding of such a faith. Happy for you to join us there too. **Joan Greet. greetdj@hotmail.com**

## **WILLAND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

We are pleased to say that our tea and chat sessions are doing really well so please come and join us if you are available on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, Tuesday 15 October, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of November.

Our book swaps are also proving popular, and you can pop in and have a cuppa and a chat at the same time as choosing your books on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October between 6.30 and 7.30, 23<sup>rd</sup> of October between 10.00 and 11.30am, 18<sup>th</sup> of November 6.30 to 7.30 and 27<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 -11.30.

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN THE COMMUNITY.** We are looking to build on our team of Trustees and would really welcome some new faces to help the Centre to move forward into 2025. We would particularly welcome people who have skills and knowledge around social media, administrative and practical skills. Our Trustee meetings are held in an evening on a bimonthly or monthly schedule depending on when the need arises. For more information, and to express an interest please contact [info@whacc.org.uk](mailto:info@whacc.org.uk)

**ARE YOU A BUDDING COUNTRY SINGER OR A LINE DANCING GROUP?** would you like to volunteer your services and do a floor spot at our Country Music night to raise funds for Willand Health and Community Centre, to promote yourself and have some fun. Please contact [info@whacc.org.uk](mailto:info@whacc.org.uk) or pop along to one of the sessions mentioned above.

**WE ARE HOLDING A FUND-RAISING EVENT COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT WITH DANCING** – Dust off your cowboy boots and your Stetson and get your tickets and mosey on down to the Village Hall. Watch out for posters confirming dates and times and where to buy your tickets.

We would like to thank Jen and Jo for the donation of £28 from the sale of Jigsaws at the last tea and chat session. If you're looking for a jigsaw to do in the long dark evenings or cold wet days contact [info@whacc.org.uk](mailto:info@whacc.org.uk) and we can let you know when the next sale will be on or pop in to the tea and chat session and ask. **Gerri Taylor**

## **WILLAND HEALTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE REGULAR EVENTS**

Yoga	Tuesday	7.30pm
Pilates with Sarah	Wednesday	6.30pm
Tea & Chat	1 <sup>st</sup> . Thursday	9.30am
Pilates with Sarah	Fridays	9.15am
U3A Quiz	3 rd. Friday	10.30am

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

In the year since Rev Simon Talbot moved on to become an army chaplain we have been so blessed to have our church services led by the wonderful, retired clergy in our parish. Our new Rector, **Rev Ben Maynard** will be arriving in October, and we are excited to have him and his family with us.

There will be lots of occasions to celebrate again this year. Whether you are a regular member, have never been to church before or are somewhere in between, you are most welcome.

Our **Harvest Service** will be at 10am on 6<sup>th</sup> October and this year we will be sharing any donated goods with Willand Food Pantry and CHAT (Churches Housing Action Trust).

The **Wyndham Singers Male Voice Choir** will be holding a concert in the Church Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. The tickets will be £10 each with proceeds split between St. Mary's Church and Hospiscare. Entry will be by tickets only which can be purchased in advance from Lesley Smith (07944 295002) or Paul Johnson (07518 908057).

We will be holding our **Remembrance Sunday** service on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10.50am in the churchyard around the war memorial. 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 cafe on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month from 10.30 – 12 noon. Come and join us on 11<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> October and 8<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Film Night** – 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 shown. (Copyright restrictions mean we are not allowed to publish the films here). Please 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. For more information contact Shirley Widdecombe (01884) 821520.



The church hall can be hired for birthday parties, meetings and social gatherings. Contact Carole Britton (01884) 841434, 07814 971262, or [carolebritton12345@gmail.com](mailto:carolebritton12345@gmail.com) Lesley Smith and Paul Johnson (Churchwardens)

## VILLAGE HALL REGULAR BOOKINGS

U3A Gaming	2nd Monday	10.30pm
U3A Art in Action	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	1.30pm
Beavers (Term Time)	Mondays	5.30pm
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Mondays	7.00pm
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	5.30pm
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
Cowgirl Twisters	Saturday (Monthly)	7.30pm
Folk Dance	Saturday (Monthly)	8.00pm
Karate	Sundays	10.00am
Marshall Arts	Sundays	5.15pm



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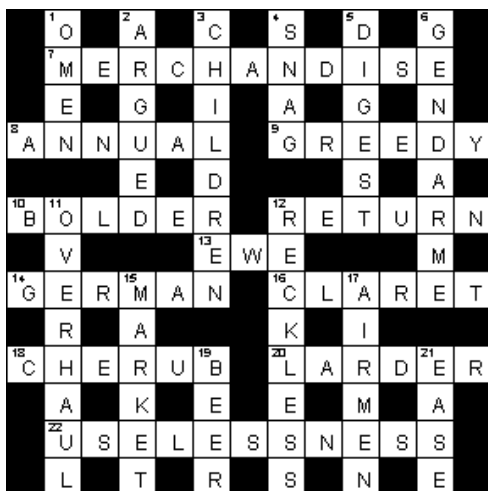
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Or pop into a local Energy Advice drop-in session. We are at the Tea and Chat morning at Willand Health and Community Centre on the first Thursday in December, March, June and September from 0930 - 1130. See website for details of other regular clinics nearby in Cullompton and Tiverton [www.ecoe.org.uk](http://www.ecoe.org.uk) (healthy homes/drop-in clinics)

ECOE also provides FREE and IMPARTIAL advice and support and Energy Saving Talks to community groups across Exeter, Torbay, Teignbridge, East Devon and Mid Devon.

For more information or to book an energy saving talk for your community group contact 0800 772 3617 or email: [healthyhomes@ecoe.org.uk](mailto:healthyhomes@ecoe.org.uk)



**Solution to October Crossword**

## WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY

Another intriguing Murder Mystery was performed by **WITS** on 14<sup>th</sup> September with “**the Will to Murder**” at Willand Village Hall it certainly got Willand’s budding Sherlock Holmes thinking. Unusually set at a wake but as soon as the “Will” was read it became obvious who was going to get It, but who dunnit? Great fun, our audiences are so appreciative of this kind of immersive drama, especially when two of our ladies started squaring up. We would like to thank all of you who attended we couldn’t do it without you.



We would also like to thank the kind & generous owners and staff of **Willand Post Office & Willand Pharmacy** for their fantastic support in selling our tickets for every show it is so much appreciated, Thank you.

We move on now to rehearsals for the annual Pantomime in February 2025. This year it will be “**Robin Hood**”.

With more new faces, costumes and of course songs. So, look out for the notices on “Willand Matters” and “What’s on Willand” plus our Facebook page and our website at...

[www.willandtheatricalsociety.co.uk](http://www.willandtheatricalsociety.co.uk)

Anyone wishing to have a go and join in and maybe become a star, please get in touch with us even if you haven’t plucked up the courage to tread the boards you will certainly have the skills we are looking for in set creation, costuming, catering (if only to make the tea) prop design, backstage help, all the many things it takes for a successful production, or just to be around a friendly, family, fun group trying to entertain our neighbours in Willand. Come on give it a go.

You can contact us anytime by emailing [witsthesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:witsthesecretary@gmail.com)  
**Sam Fincher**



**CUT OFF FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

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- Manager: Mrs Sadie White





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