

Watchet, Williton & Quantock **ADVERTISER**



August 2026 Issue 208



Working for the Community

FREE COPY

Welcome to the August Advertiser.
Thank you for picking up your free copy of the Advertiser. If you'd like to receive a digital edition each month, please subscribe at www.watchetadvertiser.com

Watchet Carnival was once again a huge success marked by a fantastic atmosphere and massive turnout to celebrate its landmark 25th Anniversary. Local volunteers and organizers were praised for their hard work which made it one of the best carnival weekends in recent years.

Watchet Summertime is a week long community festival taking place from 17th to 22nd August culminating in a fantastic firework display. Then on 12th and 13th September Watchet Forties Weekend takes place with many displays and events reliving those times.

*Front cover: River Barle, Withypool to Tarr Steps
Image by Shaun Davey via Exmoor Commons*



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Watchet, Williton & Quantock ADVERTISER

Working for the Community

Welcome to the Advertiser, a free publication offering community news & events, local business advertising and visitor information.

ADVERTISE WITH US

Boost your customer base and support your local community.

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ADVERTISING COSTS

Full page 19.5cm high x 14.1cm wide: **£55**

Half page vertical 19.5cm high x 6.95cm wide: **£27**

Half page horizontal 9.65cm high x 14.1cm wide: **£27**

Quarter page 9.65cm high x 6.95cm wide: **£18**

Eighth page 4.75cm high x 6.95cm wide: **£12**

Cost is per month/issue

Adverts can be black & white or full colour. We accept most file formats. We also offer smaller sizes and different term options to suit your budget.

Please send advert artwork or other content via email to Bill or Christine at

advertise@watchetadvertiser.com

by the 15th of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

We do not charge for community content.

The Advertiser is published at the end of each month, and is available as a printed booklet or to view online at:

www.watchetadvertiser.com and

www.facebook.com/WatchetAdvertiser.com

Visionary plans for historic Bridgwater Docks approved

Somerset Council has approved plans to regenerate the historic Bridgwater Docks as part of Bridgwater Vision.

The project will introduce residential and leisure moorings, improve walking and cycle routes, replace and repair key bridges and enhance public spaces while preserving the docks' historic character.

Opened in 1841, Bridgwater Docks played a vital role in local trade and remains home to the Grade II listed Harbour Master's House and many other historically significant buildings.

The regeneration aims to boost tourism, support the local economy and celebrate the town's rich maritime history.

The proposals were strongly supported by Bridgwater Town Council as they will lead to the restoration of a very important part of Bridgwater's industrial heritage.

Photograph: Somerset County Council



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When your phone gets broken ...

Dear Readers,

We have probably all experienced that horrible moment when your phone hits the floor and you pick it up hoping for the best. Sometimes you get away with a small crack. Other times you are greeted by a completely black screen and the immediate thought, "What about all my photos?"

The first thing to remember is that a broken phone does not necessarily mean lost data. Quite often the phone itself is still working perfectly well behind a damaged screen. If the screen is broken but the phone still makes sounds, vibrates, or rings when you call it, there is a good chance your information is still there.

Before paying crazy amounts or speaking to Dave down the pub about data recovery, check whether your photographs and contacts have already been backed up. iPhone users should check their iCloud account, while Android users should check their Google account and Google Photos. You may discover everything important is already safely stored online. In some cases, you might lose a few of the most recent images.

Water damage needs slightly different treatment. If your phone gets wet, switch it off if you can and resist the temptation to keep turning it on to see whether it still works. Do not plug it into a charger either. Electricity and moisture are not particularly good friends.

And despite the advice that has circulated for years and advice I have given myself in the past, please do not bury your phone in a bowl of rice. Rice is excellent

alongside a curry but it is not a phone repair tool. A professional repairer has a much better chance of repairing your device.

If there is no cloud backup a repair shop may still be able to help. Sometimes temporarily fitting a replacement screen or repairing the charging circuitry is enough to get the phone working so that photographs and other files can be copied. The aim does not always have to be repairing the phone permanently. Sometimes you simply need it alive long enough to retrieve your precious information.

Older phones can present different challenges. Photographs may be stored on a removable memory card which is excellent news because the card can often simply be removed and read using a computer. Contacts might also be stored on the SIM card.

One important warning: be careful who you give a phone to for data recovery. Your phone can contain emails, photographs, documents, passwords and personal information. Use a reputable repair company and ask exactly what access they require and again, unless Dave down the pub is a professional and knows what he is doing, avoid him.

Finally, prevention remains much easier than recovery. Check today that your photos and contacts are being backed up automatically. A replacement phone can be bought. The photograph from fifteen years ago that exists nowhere else cannot.

As always, any questions please send to Andy at ICT@watchetadvertiser.com.

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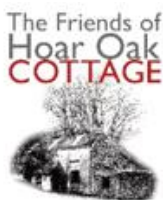


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The Friends of Hoar Oak Cottage are announcing a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund which will enable us to create 'Virtual Visits' to the cottage using drone photography.

Hoar Oak Cottage is a well-loved heritage building located in a very remote and, for many, difficult to access part of Exmoor. It is a long walk across beautiful but rugged moorland to Hoar Oak Cottage which was once home to generations of shepherds.

The cottage is of interest to local people, descendants of the shepherd families, those with links to sheep farming on Exmoor and anyone with an interest in the history, heritage, agriculture on Exmoor, landscape, wildlife or life from earlier, more 'natural' times.

The grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund will enable The Friends to work with local photographer Shaun Davey to create four 'virtual' walks that will take people on different routes to the cottage as well as a look around inside the cottage and its gardens.

This project will deliver improved inclusion, access and participation to this remote example of Exmoor heritage sitting in a protected landscape. The project will enable The Friends to deliver one of its sustainability aims by creating a lasting legacy of digital access to the cottage.

The Friends are delighted to have received this support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players this piece of Exmoor's heritage will be accessible to so many more people through drone photography and digital media.

Visit <https://hoarocottage.org/> for more information.

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Stagecoach Exmoor Buses

Summer 2026

The timetables for this year's bus service
 between Ilfracombe and Minehead is at
www.stagecoachbus.com

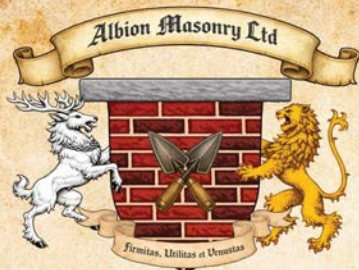
Operated by Stagecoach with support
 from Devon County Council and Somerset
 Council, there are separate bus services
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 and Ilfracombe. The single fare is capped
 at £3 for each bus service.

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Outfall, a major new solo exhibition by South West-based artist and researcher Bryony Gillard, opens at East Quay on Saturday 19 September 2026. The exhibition runs until 3 January 2027.

Exhibition Opening Party: 19.09.2026 6.00 to 8.00pm

Outfall brings together moving image, sound, and sculpture to explore the hidden politics of waste water, drawing attention to the sensory and often invisible materials that flow through our pipes, sewers, bodies, and waterways.

Against the backdrop of ongoing public debate around water pollution in the UK, the exhibition offers a timely and thought-provoking perspective on how our water, waste, and environmental systems are all connected.



A colorful poster for a 'Teddy Bears Picnic' event. At the top, the title 'Teddy Bears Picnic' is written in a playful, bubbly font. Below it, a red banner says 'Hestercombe Gardens'. The date and time '16th August • 3pm' are prominently displayed. The central illustration shows four teddy bears dressed in formal attire (two in red dresses, one in a black suit, and one in a green sweater) standing in front of a yellow house with a red roof. A picnic basket and a plate of food are on a red and white checkered blanket in the foreground. Text on the poster includes: 'Tickets for the Teddy Bears' Picnic are available from the Hestercombe Ticket Office, Taunton Visitor Centre, or by phone: 01823 413923', 'Family Ticket: £30 (2 adults + up to 6 children)', 'Adult Ticket: £15', 'Assemble your tribe and follow a "Bear Hunt" trail through Hestercombe's stunning gardens before enjoying a programme of classical music performed live on the idyllic lawns of the Orangery.', and icons for 'Follow a "Bear Hunt" trail through the gardens', 'Enjoy live classical music on the Orangery lawns', and 'Stories and readings of famous bears including Winnie the Pooh, Paddington & more!'. At the bottom, it says 'Space to wiggle guaranteed!' and features logos for Taunton Town Council and Hestercombe.

A vibrant 'Save the Date' poster for the 'Watchet Jumble Trail'. The word 'SAVE' is in large, bold, blue letters at the top, followed by 'THE DATE' in a blue banner. Below this, it says 'for the next' and 'WATCHET JUMBLE TRAIL' in large, colorful letters. The date 'SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026' is written in large, pink letters. The time '10:00 - 15:00' is in a blue banner. At the bottom, it says 'A DAY OF BARGAINS, HIDDEN TREASURES & COMMUNITY IN WATCHET!' and 'SIGN UPS TO BE A SELLER WILL BE IN AUGUST!'. The poster is decorated with various icons: a lamp, a chair, a shopping bag with a heart, a potted plant, and a teapot.

Young People Invited to Learn Filmmaking and Help Shape a Vaping Campaign

Young people aged 13-16 are invited to a free filmmaking workshop at Minehead EYE on Saturday 8 August, 10am-4pm where they'll learn creative skills while helping shape a campaign about vaping, created by young people, for young people.

Delivered by Somerset Film the workshop gives participants the chance to work with professional filmmakers to create short adverts exploring vaping and the messages that matter most to young people. Rather than telling young people what to think the workshop encourages them to share their ideas, experiences and opinions creating honest, engaging content that young people would want to watch.

During the day participants will:

- Learn practical filmmaking skills.
- Develop stories and campaign ideas.
- Film and edit their own short content.
- Watch their finished films with the group.

No filmmaking experience is needed. Whether interested in acting, storytelling, filming, editing, social media or simply sharing ideas, everyone is welcome. After the workshop, some ideas will be developed into professionally produced films, with selected participants invited to work alongside a professional cast and crew to bring their ideas to life. Places are free but limited, so advance booking is essential at <https://www.somersetfilm.com/whats-on>



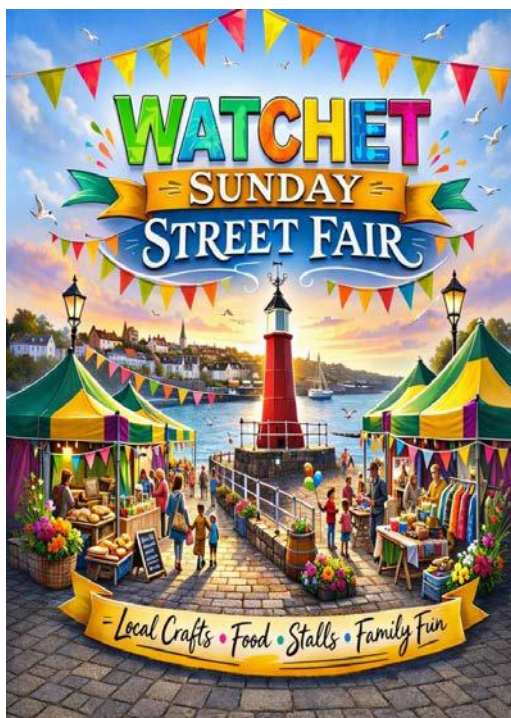
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Friday August 28th - Monday August 31st, 2026

SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST	SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST
2.00pm Opening	1.00 - 1.30 Watchet town band
2.15 - 3.30 Moor Jazz	2.15 - 3.30 Samphire
4.00 - 5.00 The Kingstons	4.00 - 5.15 Soul Trio
5.30 - 7.00 VooDoo Seven	5.45 - 7.00 Jordan Lyndsey
7.30 - 9.30 Filta	7.30 - 9.00 Irie Fire
10.00 - 12.00 Bloc Off the Wall + DJ Set	9.30 - 11.00 Jamestown Brothers

CAMPING FROM FRIDAY 28TH TO MONDAY 31ST AUGUST
SATURDAY 29TH & SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST: MUSIC

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Minehead & Exmoor Music Festival 2026 Saturday 1 August, 7.30pm

*Buckaroo Holiday from Rodeo, Aaron Copland
El Amor Brujo, Manuel de Falla Symphony No.2 in E
minor, Sergei Rachmaninov*

Coffee Morning in the Bar Saturday 1 August 2026, 10.00 – 12.00

MATA Summer Show SHREK THE MUSICAL

Saturday 15 August – Saturday 22 August
Irreverently fun for the whole family, Shrek The Musical proves that beauty is truly in the eye of the ogre.

Adele Tribute HOMETOWN GLORY CANDLELIGHT CONCERT Friday 28 August, 7.30pm

An unforgettable evening of live music by candlelight featuring the passion, power and energy of Adele's greatest hits. Backed by a world-class band, Natalie Black delivers an extraordinary likeness to Adele in both voice and presence.

Andre Rieu SUMMER CONCERT - VIVA MAASTRICHT! Saturday 29 August, 7.30pm

This year, André Rieu celebrates a spectacular milestone — the 20th anniversary of his iconic summer concerts on the magnificent Vrijthof Square. Captured live in his beloved hometown, this brand-new cinema event marks two decades of music and unforgettable magical summer nights. Viva Maastricht! is a joyful tribute to the city where it all began.

Tickets for all events may be booked in advance online at <https://regaltheatre.co.uk/whatson> or from the Box Office (Tel 01643 706430) between 9.30am and 12.00pm Monday – Saturday.

Friday 31 July for 7 days at 2.30pm and 8.00pm

SUPERGIRL (2026)

MILLY ALCOCK, EMILY BEECHAM *Kara Zor-El aka Supergirl joins forces with an unlikely companion on an interstellar journey of vengeance and justice.*
12A 108 minutes

Friday 7 August for 7 days at 2.30 pm

MINIONS & MONSTERS *The plot follows a group of Minions as they aim to make a monster movie of their own in old Hollywood.*
PG 90 minutes

Friday 7 August for 7 days at 8.00pm

Steven Spielberg's DISCLOSURE DAY

EMILY BLUNT, COLIN FIRTH *If you found out we weren't alone. If somebody showed you, proved it to you, would that frighten you?* **15 72 minutes**

Friday 14 August for 7 days at 2.30pm

PAW PATROL DINO MOVIE *The Paw Patrol end up in an unknown world filled with dinosaurs*
U 88 minutes

Friday 14 August for 7 days at 8.00pm

THE ODYSSEY **MATT DAMON, ANNE HATHAWAY, TOM HOLLAND** *After the Trojan War Odysseus faces a dangerous voyage back to Ithaca meeting creatures like the Cyclops Polyphemus, Sirens and Calypso along the way.*
15 172 minutes

Friday 21 August for 7 days at 2.30pm

Walt Disney/Pixar TOY STORY 5 *Woody, Buzz Lightyear and the gang return for their 5th film.*
PG 102 minutes

Friday 21 August for 7 days at 8.00pm

THE INVITE **PENELOPE CRUZ, OLIVIA WILDE, SETH ROGEN** *Joe and Angela's marriage is on thin ice. When they invite their enigmatic upstairs neighbours for a dinner party, the night spirals into unexpected places.* **15 107 minutes**

Friday 28 August for 7 days at 2.30pm and 8.00pm

SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY **TOM HOLLAND, ZENDAYA, SADIE** *A forgotten Peter Parker lives alone as a full-time Spider-Man until mounting pressure triggers a dangerous change and a powerful new enemy emerges.* **12A 145 minutes**

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