



WATCHET CONSERVATION MATTERS

For conserving our built and natural environment

Issue 12

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Introduction from our Chair, Molly Quint:

Dear Members and Friends, It has been such a busy time for WCS. We had a great time in August cleaning the Tidal Pool on West Street Beach and on Bank Holiday Monday holding a Pool Fun Day, which I know so many of you joined, either watching the children sailing boats, playing drums, fishing for crabs (plastic or live), apple bobbing, remote controlled helicopter and boat demonstrations and much more. Very many thanks to all those who helped; many were not even members, but we hope they will soon be. We are planning to make the cleaning and Fun Day annual Events. We will now be progressing our next project, the Pebble Garden in Esplanade Lane. We are very happy to have co-opted two new members onto our Committee, Jan Simpson-Scott as our Minutes Secretary and Tim Prior who in the new year will be retiring to enable more time to be spent with his wife Judy at their Yankee Jack's Cottage. We are sad to lose Sam Westmacott from the committee due to increased work commitments and two projects in Watchet which she is leading. We thank her so much for all the hard work she did in setting up the society and so glad that she will remain a member of WCS. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28th September so please come, support the speaker, WCS and good things happening in Watchet!

Yours very sincerely



Molly

28th Sept 7.30 pm, Methodist School Room,

Harbour Road Watchet: Stephen Hayes NT

'Sunlight, Nightlife and a Romantic revival'

Stephen will talk about the challenges faced with the historic buildings and estates of the National Trust's local properties at Dunster Castle, and Coleridge's Cottage.



Bringing the castle, which has a keep dating from the 13th C into the 21st C has required attention to issues such as energy efficiency, addressed through capturing **sunlight** via solar panel technology on the rooftops! All this while conserving and encouraging their endangered **nightlife** bat population, which Stephen will illustrate through footage from their fabulous batcams. He will also talk about the opportunity for **romantic revival** at Coleridge's Cottage. All are welcome, so please do come along!

Tidal Pool West Beach Project 7th & 8th August

More than 30 volunteers of all ages rolled up their sleeves for a 6.30 am start and ten hours of hard slog. We scraped and cleaned the interior using shovels, brooms, wire brushes and more than a touch of elbow grease, having taken out rocks and pebbles with the help of a digger and driver provided free by local builder John Sutton.



John Irven thought that we managed to complete the task perfectly within safety guidelines through having lots of fun from all the enthusiasm and hard work of all the volunteers. Molly thanked the local residents, traders and groups who donated equipment, resources and refreshments, and all the helpers who made it all possible!