



Royal British Legion Branch Celebrates Its Centenary

By Tony Potter, Chairman, Royal British Legion

On the evening of Thursday 8 March 2018, the Curry Rivel, Drayton and Fivehead Branch of The Royal British Legion celebrated its centenary with a drinks party in the Old School Room .



Branch Chairman, Colonel Tony Potter (left) receives the Certificate of Appreciation from County Chairman, Major Bob McDonald (right), while the Branch President, General Sir John Learmont, looks on.



Major Bob McDonald talks to Mrs Gwyneth Langford, daughter-in-law of William Langford

work and continued success in their second century. Other guests included descendants of the original founding committee. Mrs Jane Kwiakowski's Grandfather, Major Maurice Cely Trevilian, had founded that first committee in 1918, having been badly gassed during the War. The first secretary was Harry Lang, whose grandson, Henry, was present at the centenary drinks. And a sprightly 101-year-old Mrs Gwyneth Langford was also present. Her father-in-law, William Langford, had been one of the original committee members.

The Branch is always looking for new members. Interested? Then phone the Membership Secretary, Gordon Balmer, on 01460 281578 or email mullcott@icloud.com

One hundred years ago on Friday 8 March 1918, a meeting had been held in the same Old School Room, attended by ten former sailors and soldiers, all of whom had been discharged from the Royal Navy and the Army early because of their wounds. The meeting agreed to establish a 'Post of the Comrades of The Great War', which three years later was absorbed into the newly formed British Legion, later The Royal British Legion, making this Branch one of the oldest - if not the oldest - in the Legion.

The centenary drinks party was attended by the Royal British Legion Chairman for Somerset, Major Robert McDonald. He presented the Branch Chairman, Colonel Tony Potter, with a Certificate of Appreciation "in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Branch". He also read a message from the County President of The Royal British Legion, Bob Mansergh, in which he congratulated all members of the Branch, thanking them for their excellent



Group Captain Tony Talbot-Williams (left) And Flying Officer Jim Leckie.

Gina Beauchamp

I hope you enjoyed the soup recipe from last month, I made some during the snowy weather and it kept me going whilst snowed in!

This month still thinking about reducing plastic use, why not try the following:

- Buy loose fruit and vegetables, usually cheaper than packaged.
- Take plastic containers to the butchers or fishmonger.
- Use glass milk bottles that can be reused, is there a milkman in Curry Rivel?
- Take plastic that our bin men don't take away to the Tesco mixed plastic bin in Langport.
- Avoid buying food in black plastic trays that cannot be recycled.
- Don't put Q tips/ cotton buds down the toilet, they will end up in the sea killing wild life.
- Avoid buying shirts with plastic collar stiffeners, cardboard is just as good.

If we vote with our purchases, shops and supermarkets will soon get the idea and reduce their plastic packaging



With all that in mind, here's a list of common items and how long they take to "break down"

Glass bottle	1 million years
Monofilament fishing line:	600 years
Plastic beverage bottles:	450 years
Disposable nappies	450 years
Aluminium can:	80-200 years
Styrofoam cup:	50 years
Tin can:	50 years
Leather:	50 years
Nylon fabric:	30-40 years
Plastic film canister:	20-30 years
Plastic bag:	10-20 years
Cigarette filter:	1-5 years
Wool sock:	1-5 years
Plywood:	1-3 years
Waxed milk carton:	3 months
Tin Foil doesn't biodegrade !	

REUSE - REPAIR – RECYCLE- RENEW - RETURN

Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wix.com/films

Paddington 2 (PG)

Friday 20 April



A live-action animated comedy, the film is a sequel to the 2014 "Paddington" – and, reportedly, even better.

Paddington, having now settled in with the Brown family, has become a popular member of the community, offering people emotional support in various ways. With Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday coming up he wants to find the perfect present for her. He sees a unique pop-up book of London in Mr. Gruber's antique shop and embarks on a series of odd jobs, saving his wages in order to buy it. Sadly, the book is stolen. Paddington gives chase but the culprit escapes and our bear is framed, arrested and subsequently jailed. Mr. Gruber and the Browns believe in Paddington's innocence and set out to unmask the real thief.

The film has an all-star cast, in both live action and voiceovers, including a brilliant Hugh Grant in one of his best ever roles.

Also stars: Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Jim Broadbent, Julie Walters and the voice of Ben Wishaw as Paddington.

Doors open at 7.00pm; show starts at 7.30pm in the village hall. Refreshments are on sale. Tickets £7 (accompanied children £3.50) are available at the door. Don't forget we have our annual ticket for only £50 – saving you £20.

Coming soon: Murder on the Orient Express (12A): When a murder occurs on the train he's travelling on, celebrated detective Hercule Poirot is recruited to solve the case.



Your Community Website
curryrivel.org.uk



Village Hall Update

Roger Hampton

Save the Date for the next **BIG BREAKFAST** on Sunday 15th April 8.30am through till 12.30pm, at the Village Hall. It's a great community event, so come along, have breakfast and meet friends and neighbours.

After paying all our 'day to day' expenses, all funds raised from Hall Rentals, 'Big Breakfasts', and selling food at 'Curry Rivel Live', go towards making improvements in the hall.

Recent hall improvements include the installation of new 'low energy' led lighting in the Chatham Room and 'baby changing' facilities.



We have other improvements in the pipeline, so please keep supporting the Village Hall.



A Big Thank You....

Madelaine King-Oakley, *Chairman of your Parish Council*

To all the amazing volunteers who litter picked during our village Spring Clean weekend. Most roads and lanes were done. Many thanks to Freya, Matilda, Vicky, Robert, Andy, Claire, Tony, Ted, John, Annette, Alison and Geoff. I would also like to thank South Somerset District Council for their valuable support. They loaned us the pickers, gloves, high visibility jackets, black bags plus a first aid box (which luckily, we didn't need!) and wipes, plus they are also collecting the rubbish bags seen here in the car park. Last of all thank you to the quiet picker 'upperers' -those who pick up rubbish when they see it on our streets. Sometimes we need to pick up after the rubbish collections; the odd tin lid or things that have blown out of our recycling boxes.

ROGATION SUNDAY AND BEATING THE BOUNDS

Advance Notice

for the United Benefice 'beating the boundary' and Rogation Sunday celebrations on

Sunday 6th May.

See the Church pages for some background information and an outline programme of this event to which all are invited.



Parish Council Shorts of the March meeting

Madelaine King-Oakley

Grant applications

Curry Rivel Primary School PTA was offered up to £1,100 if they had a shortfall in raising money to buy 24 iPads for use of the school children.

The cost of £475 to hire a Climbing Wall for the Free Play Day on Saturday 15th September will be paid by the Parish Council. The Table Tennis for All club that meets every Monday at 10am in the village hall were given £405 for the purchase of second Table Tennis Table, which will become the property of the Village Hall committee.

Curry Rivel in Bloom (CRiB) group we given £750 for permanent planting at the War Memorial and other areas of the Village. Curry Rivel Primary School was awarded £750 for two class laptops to support children with special needs.

Planning applications

18/00080/FUL The conversion of existing garage into habitable accommodation, erection of a single garage and new window to west elevation. Little Acorn, Stoney Lane. The Parish Council decided this application is an over development and so little room is being left to turn in and will result in cars backing out into Stoney Lane.

There were no objections to the following applications:

18/00239/FUL The erection of a single storey rear extension and formation of dormer windows at 38 Chatham Place.

18/00256/LBC The carrying out of external alterations to front elevation of dwelling at Rest Harrow, Wiltown.

18/00287/FUL Demolish the existing conservatory and remove pitched roof over existing rear extension. Erection of 2 No. single storey extensions to front and rear of the dwelling at Little Orchard, Stoney Lane.

Annual Parish Meeting

Representatives of the many groups in Curry Rivel come together to give an annual report of what their group has done during the past year. It is an opportunity to hear of the enormous variety of activities that you could take part in. This is on **26th April** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Next Parish Council Meeting is Thursday, **April 5th** starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. You are most welcome to attend.

Annual Parish Council meeting will be on the **10th May at 7:30pm in the Village Hall**. This is a little later than usual because of the bank holiday weekend and the Twinning 20th year with the visit to Chevilly. At this meeting the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and councillors representing various village groups are elected.

Curry Rivel Music



Anne Michell

The final concert of the 2017/2018 season will be held in St Andrew's Church on Saturday 14th April when Curry Rivel Music will be hosting the CASTALIAN QUARTET of Sini Simonem - Violin, Daniel Roberts - Violin, Charlotte Bonneton - Viola and Christopher Graves - Cello.

This exciting Quartet, formed in 2011, is developing a reputation for creating an impact and is fast becoming a favourite with audiences in the UK and abroad. Over the past three years they have won top prizes at major international competitions and in 2016 they were selected for representation by the Young Classical Artists Trust which supports exceptional artists with the potential for international performing careers. Shortly after their visit to Curry Rivel, the Quartet will fulfil an invitation to perform the



complete Haydn Op.76 String Quartets at the Wigmore Hall and one of these will be included in their programme here.

The concert begins at 7.00pm. Tickets cost £12 and will be available to purchase at the door. Students and children are admitted free. There will be an interval for refreshments of wine, tea or coffee.

Super Soirée

Alison Higson

Members of the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association enjoyed a fabulous French meal in the Village Hall recently. The event was organised to celebrate a special milestone in its history – 2018 marks the 20th anniversary of the Twinning with Chevilly near Orléans. Over the years, friends from our twinned town have travelled to stay in and around our village and Curry Rivel people have in turn been welcomed into their homes.

With tables decorated in red, white and blue, around 45 people appreciated a traditional French meal of pâté, coq au vin with green salad and French bread followed by tarte aux pommes with cream. Needless to say, both red and white French wines helped "twinners" enjoy the event still further. It wasn't just an evening of food and drink, though. Background music with songs by famous French singers such as Michel Sardou, Françoise Hardy, Charles Trenet and Johnny Hallyday was also played. Furthermore, a short quiz



on general knowledge of France and French culture had been organised and several French songs were sung. Together with a raffle, the evening helped raise important funds. Another successful event for the Twinning Association!

Want to learn more about the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association? Then please email: thepavilion54@btinternet.com or telephone 01458 252946.

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Curry Rivel in Bloom

A flowering community

Gina Beauchamp

Front Garden Competition

Now is the time to bring out your pots and troughs and planters to clean up and prepare for spring and summer planting. CRiB will be holding the Frontage / Front Garden competition again this year.

Your entry must be visible from the pavement / front gate and you do not need to be present when the judging takes place. Our judge this year will be Marian Dale from Summerdale Garden Designs. Marian kindly helped CRiB recently to finalise the plans for the new permanent war memorial garden and gave her services free of charge. Judging for this will take place between 23rd – 30th June.

The main colour for planting this year is WHITE with touches of pink and blue to emphasise the white. We have chosen this as white is a symbol of Peace to represent 100 years since the end of the First World War. We are hoping to place a white wicker dove on the central post in the new War Memorial garden. Also look out for the 'Silent Soldier' who will be appearing soon.

Hanging Baskets

To help you with your planting we are able to offer wicker hanging baskets ready planted up in the above colours, supplied by a local nursery, they will be available from MAY but we must order them by the END OF APRIL. Cost £20 each. If you would like to order one or two or more, please let Gina know asap on 01458 762296 or email cribsomerset@gmail.com. Households and local businesses may order through us.

To enter the Frontage Competition please contact Gina with your name, address including postcode, tel no and email please. I have emailed those involved last year so please check spam folders in case the email has gone there as we are using a new email this year.

We hope you will enter and help to make our village look as beautiful, or even more beautiful than last summer. We are always looking for new areas to develop with planting so if you have any ideas where we could place a new pot or trough please let us know.

Four of the CRiB team are off to Torquay for a South West in Bloom Conference, we will let you know more about that in the May CRN. Judging for the Curry Rivel in Bloom entry in The Cox Cup will take place between 4th-18th July.

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Letters to the Editor



Village Traffic

In response to the letters regarding traffic lights in the High Street I would like to say that for people travelling up and down the road, it was probably easier. Although this was due to the lack of parking as much as the traffic lights. For those of us living along this stretch of the road it made life very difficult.

Most of us have to reverse into our garage or drive and the entries were often blocked by cars waiting at the traffic lights. There was also very little time to reverse before the traffic started moving again. I am not sure what the answer is, people have to park somewhere, but I am hoping it is not traffic lights.

Y. Hussey

More Village Traffic

Dear Editor

After reading all the published thoughts of various residents of the village, we thought we would provide a voice for we residents that live and park our cars on the High Street. This is not done to annoy others but merely due to the lack of a driveway. For us, parking in a nearby car park would not be ideal in anyway, for simple reasons like bringing our weekly food shop in, taking our young children to the car to go out somewhere (especially on cold wet days!) even being able to see our car from the window and knowing it is safe from possible vandalism. By forcing us to park our car elsewhere would bring up the price of our car insurance and devalue our house, I personally wouldn't want to buy a family home with no parking.

The alternative of parking in the village car park is often not an option as on most occasions there are no spaces as it's merely serving the business owners. We feel that the current situation although not ideal for everyone, does act as traffic calming through the village, is not a permanent fixture at any one time, allows for goods vehicles to deliver items, and there is no restriction for emergency vehicles and appears to be a solution for those properties without driveways. I would also like to point out that this is currently not costing the council/village any money and causes minimal impact on the village, at worst a slight delay to wait for oncoming traffic.

The proposed solution of installation of traffic lights would be costly and during quieter times, would possibly encourage speeding drivers who see a green light as an invitation not to show hesitation through them. If another car park were to be added this would inevitably be at the expense of green space, this would be a shame to see more of our countryside turned into tarmac with very little benefit. Those of us forced to park on the road to be near our homes run the risk of accidental/intentional damage to our cars of which we have suffered on many occasions, so it's not without its problems but for now seems to work with minimal impact on the village as a whole.

Mr & Mrs Pesar

Keep the Village Clean

Dear Editor,

As part of the village clean up weekend 10th/11th March, on Saturday afternoon I collected a lot of rubbish off one of the public footpaths around Stanchester Way. Imagine my disappointment, frustration and revulsion to find two new bags of dog poo directly on the path on the Sunday afternoon less than 24 hours later. What is the point of trying to help our community in the face of such anti-social behaviour?

Name and address supplied

CURRY RIVEL PARISH PLAN 2015-2025 REVIEW

Parish Councillor Tony Greenaway

It's been two years since the Curry Rivel Parish Plan was published and much has been achieved in that time, notably Curry Rivel in Bloom, improved broadband, improvements to footpaths and wildlife and play areas and supporting flood relief initiatives. Below we highlight five areas of the original Parish Plan and what has been achieved so far.

However, with the increased pressure for councils to build more houses there is now, more than ever, a pressing need for the Parish Council and the community to influence what happens to shape the future of our beautiful village and to protect its valuable assets. The vision that sits at the very top of the original Parish Plan is

'Helping Curry Rivel to be a healthy and balanced community offering a safe and friendly environment for people of all ages to live, work and prosper'

This vision remains the overriding aim of the Parish Plan. During 2018 we are seeking the input from residents of all age groups to update the Plan to ensure that it remains relevant to the changing needs and wishes of the community.

Your views are being sought on these two simple questions

1. What do you like about living in Curry Rivel?
2. What would you like to see change or improve in the future?

In considering these questions you might find it helpful to think about:

Transport Young People Employment Housing The Environment

You can take part in the survey in the following ways

- An on line survey
<http://www.curryrivel.org.uk/parish-council/parish-plan-tell-us-what-you-think.html>
- submit your views directly by email to tgreenaway51@gmail.com
- filling in a simple questionnaire available at the Village Hall, One Stop and the Garage.

In addition, councillors will be in attendance at forthcoming major local events including the Big Breakfast on 15 April, Curry Rivel Live on 16 June and the Village Fete on 7 July to seek your views about what you like about the village and what needs to change

I do urge you to take the time in helping shape the future of our village

Thanking you in anticipation

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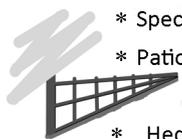
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Parish Plan 2015-2018 Progress Report

You asked.....	What has been done since 2015
...that all planning applications should be published as early as possible.	All local planning applications continue to be listed on the SSDC website and neighbours receive personal notification of any planning applications that might affect them All applications are included in a planning report that is issued along with agendas prior to Parish Council meetings The planning report and agenda are posted on the website before each meeting A link to the SSDC website for the residents to view the details of each planning application is on the Curry Rivel Community website
...that the Parish Council should always advance the wishes of the community on planning applications	Parish Council Councillors discuss all planning applications and take a majority decision to support, reject or defer an application. They listen to all of the views expressed by residents at the meetings or given by email, letter and conversation. Any decision to reject is made on legal planning reasons alone and in any event rejection at Parish and Area level can still be overturned on appeal as was the case with the Stanchester Way/Maple Road development In the current climate where housing stock requirements often dictate to local opinion, it is vital that the community and Parish Council work with developers in order to secure benefits that will improve and enhance benefit the village as a whole. This is achieved with developers carrying out pre application consultation at PC meetings.
...for improved broadband and mobile phone coverage	High speed broadband is now available to many households in the village, provided residents upgrade with their existing or new broadband supplier. However, the speed obtained is diminished with distance from the green boxes. The ongoing Government rollout of Broadband makes it a legal requirement for every household to have a speed not less than 10Mb/s. The PC will continue to lobby for this in the village although it is recognised that remote households will always struggle to get the same speeds as those closer to the exchange. Mobile phone reception is still very poor in the village. An approach was made to the St Andrew's church about an antenna on the church tower and they made the request to their relevant bodies. However, this is now superseded by a consultation for a new, more central mobile mast in Parsonage Place, opposite Bell Orchard. The PC had no objections so we are waiting for the installation. The Government is suggesting the sharing of masts to improve reception. This is now happening; like the upgrade of the mast at the top of Currywoods Way.
...for a better notice board in a central position	An electronic display screen is now in use in the Village Hall largely used to advertise events. This is kept up to date by the Community website team. A large notice board has recently been placed outside the One stop store. It is locked but there are several key holders if groups wish to use this facility to display community notices. The old notice board has been installed in the bus shelter in Townsend for residents at that end of the village. A new community board has been installed in the petrol station. There is a notice board outside the village hall.
...to research costs of water butts	Articles and links were placed on the Community website about water saving methods Enquiries to Wessex Water about the supply of cheap water butts proved fruitless.

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Dog Walkers Face Restricted Use of Footpaths

Concerns raised about the state of the parish footpaths have resulted in a clampdown on usage. The footpaths are suffering from the excessive rain and snow which has fallen this winter and the increased footfall which has left the paths very muddy and worn. Whilst it is encouraging that so many villagers are using the footpaths with their improved access, there is a need to preserve the network. A temporary arrangement has been put in place whereby dog owners will be restricted to one walk per day according to the colour of their dogs. Dogs with mainly black coats are permitted to use the footpaths in the mornings and those with mainly brown coats in the afternoons. If dog owners are unsure which category their dog falls into they should email a

photograph to whatcolourismydog.com for clarification. Walkers without dogs should also obey the coat colour rules in order to comply with equality legislation. Commencing on 1st April restrictions will be lifted when it is decided the paths have dried out enough for normal usage to resume.



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Curry Rivel W.I.

Sometimes things don't always go to plan, and this was certainly the case at our last meeting. We had planned a morning of games, but in the event, there was no time for anything but a quiz. It was a very original and entertaining quiz where all the answers began with the letters wi.... and it kept us going for the time available. Thank you to Sally for all the hard work you put into that and we'll keep the games for another time.

The WI has been campaigning on environmental issues for many years – calling for action to tackle pollution, preserve our countryside and address climate change in many ways. One of their initiatives has been their 'Show the love' campaign which is about making and sharing a green heart around Valentine's Day to start important conversations about climate change in your community. This year, Somerset have asked each WI to make a length of bunting with a green heart on each flag. Once again our talented members have come up with some beautifully decorated green hearts which will be assembled into a length of bunting. This will be handed in and when all the lengths are joined together they will be used to decorate areas in Somerset under threat from Climate Change. The WI expect to get a lot of TV and press coverage from this and will use it to promote the WI and their commitment to protecting the environment.

Sewing seems to play a large part in our lives at the moment as some of us are going to Wilton Lodge to see a series of wall hangings depicting the History of Taunton. This has

been compiled from individual panels which have all been made within Somerset, in fact two were made by our members. There are five hangings in all and in May they will be handed over to the Museum of Somerset and displayed in Castle House. It is quite unique and tells a wonderful story of the County from the very earliest times.



We recently lost one of our most prolific sewers, Sheila Sandifer, and we have decided to hold an exhibition to celebrate her life's work. It will be on Saturday 14th April in the Old School Room from 10am to 3pm and is open to everyone. We will be serving light refreshments and admission is free. We are hoping to show a large selection of her work which will include among other things patchwork quilts and bags, clothes, mats, cushions and Christmas decorations. She was so encouraging to others and we hope as many people as possible will be able to come along and be inspired by her too.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 12th April and the speaker is Alan Peters who was Princess Diana's bodyguard, his talk is called 'Lady Di'. We'd love you to come and listen to the talk and join in our activities, just turn up at 9.45am for a 10.00am start. If you'd like a lift or have any questions, please call Jackie German on 01458 259688 or email jackiegerman@hotmail.com

Somerset Wildlife Trust's Wildlife Gardens Open Days

The county's most beautiful and inspiring wildlife gardens are opening to the public again to fundraise for Somerset Wildlife Trust and inspire us to use our own gardens to help wildlife. The eight gardens, spread across the county showcase unique features that provide special homes for our best loved species - from small mammals and pollinators, to birds and pond-dwellers.

With many of our much-loved species facing challenges to find the habitat they need to survive - hedgehogs, bats and sparrows to name a few, making our gardens wildlife-friendly is more important than ever for species survival. In the UK there are approximately 16 million gardens – a vast amount of habitat available to wildlife if gardened in a wildlife friendly way, for example putting up bird feeders, nest boxes, creating wild areas and ponds.

For those who are looking for some inspiration on how to

make their gardens wildlife-friendly or fancy a wonderful awe-inspiring day out – don't miss out on these gorgeous gardens. These events are also fundraisers for Somerset Wildlife Trust as all hosts of the gardens will kindly donate the proceeds to the Trust to support its work across the county.

The entry fee is £4 per adult, (free for children aged 16 and under). Tea and cake is available too, at a small extra cost. No booking is required but if you have any questions please email Emma Jones at events@somersetwildlife.org. The gardens are listed on the website where you can also find information on parking, accessibility and dogs <http://www.somersetwildlife.org/wildlifegardens.html>



SOMERSET

Tuesday Group

Barbara Lancey

If you haven't heard of us already, or even if you have, let me introduce you to the Tuesday Group, a social gathering for women of the villages of Drayton, Curry Rivel, Langport, Muchelney and beyond! The group started in Drayton in the sixties initially called The Young Wives Group. Now open to a much wider catchment, we meet in Drayton Village Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, hence now named the Tuesday Group!

Our programme of events is varied and interesting, something for everyone, including outings, workshops, speakers/demonstrators, theatre trips, quizzes and much, much more, and we are always looking for innovative ideas and experiences to share. In addition, we have our annual Skittles Match against the men's Drayton Group plus our annual Garden and Christmas parties.

Thirty-eight members and guests welcomed Serena de la Hey, artist extraordinaire and creator of the 'Willow Man' to our last meeting when we were fascinated to learn how having attended Falmouth Art College, she very soon discovered the medium of willow. With the use of many slides, she gave a detailed account of her career, showing the progression of her numerous amazing sculptures over many years, including the 'Burning Man' event in the Nevada

Desert, where willow canes could be found just lying around! Although she works mainly with Somerset willow, of which there are many kinds, she will work wherever willow can be found, for example in France and Uruguay! She explained that most sculptures have a relatively short life especially out in the elements, and whoever commissions her work owns it and is therefore responsible for any required maintenance. Serena maintains the Willow Man herself as its owner and had to rebuild it after vandalism in the early years, though it is more secure now with the help of a moat, which also attracts wildlife. Her sculptures take the form of anything from geese, swans, wild boar, to full size figures of running men, even producing a work for Glastonbury Festival, and they are all a feast for the eyes. She also teaches the craft and showed a slide of a Harry Potter dragon she made with children.



A tribute to Sheila Sandifer

AN EXHIBITION CELEBRATING

A LIFETIME OF NEEDLEWORK

Saturday 14th April 10am to 3pm

Old School Room, Curry Rivel

Admission free, Light refreshments available

Curry Rivel WI

Come and join us at the TUESDAY GROUP!

The Tuesday Group is a social gathering for women of the villages of Drayton, Curry Rivel, Langport, Muchelney and beyond! We meet in Drayton Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Our programme of events has something for everyone, including Outings, Workshops, Speakers/Demonstrators, Theatre trips, Quizzes and much much more. With membership only £10 a year, it is great value for money, or come along as a guest for just £2.50 per meeting.

To find out more contact either the Barbara Lancey, on 01458 252657, or Aideen Roche, on 01458 252022, or just come along to the next meeting - and bring a friend or neighbour

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or 07986 545 064

Sticks & Stones

Emrys Evans & Denise Evans

Quiz evening

Join us for a fun quiz with rounds on various topics

Friday, 6th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Teams up to a maximum of 6 at £4 per head (pay on the night)

Raffle & prizes

Bring your own liquid refreshments & nibbles

Organised by the Twinning Association – all welcome!

Curry Rivel Active Living Group Desperately Seeks Volunteers

Mike Mason

I have written several times in the Curry Rivel News about our Active Living Group which meets in the Village Hall every Friday. The Group welcomes older people to come and chat with friends, have a home cooked meal and enjoy some entertainment. On arrival at about 9.30 tea and coffee are served followed by a speaker or musical entertainment. Guests then enjoy a two-course lunch cooked each week by our chef in the hall kitchen. The day closes with a game of bingo, with small prizes to be won. Sadly unless we can recruit more volunteers the club will be

forced to close. I would hope that in a village the size of Curry Rivel we can find some people willing to come and help. If you can spare a few hours each Friday please come along and join in the fun, the members would really appreciate it and you will find that helping to reduce loneliness and isolation is very rewarding. A lunch is provided for all volunteers. Please call Mike Mason on 01458 252076 or Jemma Lawson on 07786 190221

New Addition to the Busy Barber Shop Team

Elaine Morgan

The Barbers at Cooper Cross' is pleased to announce the addition of another fully qualified Barber/Stylist. Caz Ellis, who lives in Curry Rivel, has five years hairdressing experience and will be joining with immediate effect. She is looking forward to working with Sharon on the Barbering side of the Business.

A larger team will provide a better service for customers. There will be additional opening hours as well as cover for holidays and sickness providing greater consistency. Jamie, the Sunday barber, will continue with his appointment only service too. Ladies are welcome by appointment on a Wednesday evening as both Caz and Sharon are fully qualified and experienced Ladies stylists as well. Lucy continues to provide her ever popular beauty treatments by appointment on Mondays and

Wednesdays, plus extra times outside of the Barber Shop hours. The advert in this month's edition of the Curry Rivel News, provides further details of current opening hours and relevant contact numbers. The team look forward to meeting you.

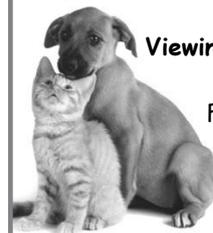


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THE BARBERS AT COOPERS CROSS

OPENING TIMES

MONDAY	BEAUTY WITH LUCY—BY APPOINTMENT
TUESDAY	10 AM—5 PM Barber shop walk-ins
WEDNESDAY	BEAUTY WITH LUCY—BY APPOINTMENT
THURSDAY	10 AM—5 PM Barber shop walk-ins
FRIDAY	10 AM—5 PM Barber shop walk-ins
SATURDAY	9 AM—1 PM Barber shop walk-ins
SUNDAY	BARBER Jamie on 07535 892092

For out of hours barber appointments contact the shop on 01458 252395

For beauty appointments with Lucy contact her direct on 07903 727590



St. Andrew's Church



We warmly welcome visitors and new members of the community to any of our services and other events.

April

Sunday 1st - Easter Day

- 8.00 **SW** - Easter Communion BCP
- 9.30 **FH** - Family Easter
Communion CW
- 11.00 **CR** - Family Easter
Communion CW

Thursday 5th

- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 8th - Easter 2

- 9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP
t.b.c.!
- 11.00 **CR** - Holy Communion CW
& Sunday Club
- 6.00 pm **FH** - Evening Prayer CW

Tuesday 10th

- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Wednesday 11th

- 14.45 **Immacolata House** -
Residents' Communion

Thursday 12th

- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 15th - Easter 3

- 8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP
- 9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW
- 10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service
- 11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW

Thursday 19th

- 9.00 **CR** CR School Collective
Worship
- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 22nd - Easter 4

- 8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP
- 9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW
- 10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service
- 11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW
- 6.00 pm **SW** - Evensong BCP

Tuesday 24th

- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Thursday 26th

- 10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 29th - Easter 5

- 10.00 **SW** - United Benefice
Holy Communion CW

Scott's Spot



A transformation

A friend told me recently that they attended a class reunion. He found it a fascinating, if strange, experience. Some of those class-mates had hardly changed at all over the years, but most had changed almost beyond recognition. The transformation wrought by age had for most been dramatic.

There is in the Bible a similarly dramatic transformation, one that for many adds considerable weight to the case for the bodily resurrection of Jesus that first Easter Sunday. Here we encounter a man similarly transformed beyond all recognition, although not by the passing of years, but through the impact of what he witnessed.

We meet this man first as an ordinary fisherman, but after he responds to Jesus' call, we see him quickly taking a lead amongst the disciples. The Apostle Peter is eager to learn from Jesus, he's the first to acknowledge Jesus as God incarnate, and to pledge his undying loyalty. All of which must, however, have made for some painful memories when following the Last Supper, just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied him three times. Amongst the events of that late Thursday night Peter found his loyalty tested - and wanting. We read in Matthew's Gospel chapter 26: *'After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man!" Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.'* In the end, the events of that night, his personal sense of guilt, and the events leading to Jesus' brutal crucifixion, left Peter in pieces. He, like all the disciples, were left broken, disillusioned and riddled with fear.

- CR** = St. Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel
- CR OSR** = St. Andrew's Old School Room
- FH** = St. Martin's Church, Fivehead
- SW** = St. Catherine's Church, Swell

Yet, when we turn to the book of Acts, what a transformation we find. In Acts chapter 2 it is Peter who boldly speaks out for Jesus after the events of Pentecost. In the weeks that follow, when his persistent pointing to Jesus brings conflict with the authorities and a command not to speak of Jesus, Peter responds (Acts 4:19) *"Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard."* From someone afraid to be associated with Jesus, Peter is now proud to bear his name; from someone ultimately concerned only for his own safety, Peter is now unconcerned about the cost of Christian discipleship. We have to ask ourselves what has changed; what has caused such a transformation in so little time? The answer? The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Peter met, touched, walked and talked with his risen Lord. To my mind only this, and the courage gifted by the Holy Spirit, can adequately account for such a transformation...

Happy Easter.
Revd. Scott Patterson.

St. Andrew's Annual meetings Monday 23rd April 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room

- Annual Meeting of Parishioners (**AMP**) to elect Churchwardens

followed by the

- Annual Parochial Church Meeting (**APCM**), with reports about church life; PCC proceedings; the church's financial affairs over 2017, and the election of new PCC members.



St. Andrew's Rotas April

Brass - Lynne Comley

Flowers

7th & 14th - Madelaine King-Oakley
21st & 28th - Sue Randell

Cleaning

7th - Lynne Comley
10th - Lyn Cotterill
17th - Julia Gauler
24th - Tina Geary



ROGATION SUNDAY AND BEATING THE BOUNDS

Advance Notice for 'beating the boundary' and Rogation Sunday celebrations on **Sunday 6th May**.

The Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessing on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce food. Rogation days (the 3 days before Ascension Day) were a period of fasting and abstinence, beseeching God's blessing on the crops for a bountiful harvest, starting on the preceding Sunday.

Beating the boundary goes back to medieval times, when a 'beating party' walked the boundary of a parish, checking the boundary markers and beating them with long sticks, also praying for the protection of the land.

On the **6th May** we're planning a special United Benefice Rogation Sunday event. Gathering at **9.15** at St. Martin's for bacon butties and a short opening service, then a 'beating the bounds' walk to Swell for a short simple Communion Service, coffee (and toilet stop), before continuing on to Curry Rivel where we will have a short service and a bring and share lunch. More details in the May issue of the CRN.

Church fete

Saturday 7th July

Planning for this year's fete is in its early stages. Donations of any of the following are very welcome:



books, bric-a-brac (yes, back again), craft & jewellery items, toys, textiles, plants.

There will also be a 'new for you' stall, with good quality, new and barely worn clothes.

Information how to donate items will be

Removing tree from churchyard



United Reformed Church



April

(Services start at 10.30)

Sunday 1st Easter Sunday

Rev Tim Richards

(incl. Holy Communion)

Sunday 8th - Mr Barry Bryer

Sunday 15th - Rev Jeff Armistead

Sunday 22nd - Rev Dr Paul Cattermole
MBE

Sunday 29th - Rev Rowena Francis
(incl. Holy Communion)

We are an inclusive, outward looking community and wherever you are on your life/spiritual journey we welcome you without regard to age, gender, denominational background, sexual orientation, race or ability. Tea/coffee is served after every service providing the opportunity to meet and chat with each other and the preacher.

URC Minister: Rev Tim Richards
01458 252799

A view from The Orchard

Easter Sunday begins the month of April; I hope you are reading this in glorious spring sunshine!

The clocks have now changed, the nights are drawing out (I have always liked that phrase) and we have summer to look forward to. Looking out through our windows and any time we take a walk outside there are signs of new life, shoots coming up through the soil, buds appearing on trees, flowers opening and the grass is beginning to grow (is the lawn mower in a fit state?). In short, there are amazing signs of life appearing all over.

In the words of a comic poem; 'The spring is sprung, the grass is riz...'
The ability of life to burst forth after the winter is something to delight in.

A view from The Orchard - ctd . . .

The wonderful way that life erupts and survives and transforms itself can, of itself, lift our spirits - and don't you find it incredible that something as flimsy as a plant can grow up through concrete and tarmac to defy attempts to suppress it? Even those pesky weeds wait for you to turn your back and then stick their heads above the parapet!

Easter is arguably the most important celebration in the Christian calendar. It is a time of reflecting on the mystery at the heart of our faith, how the tragedy of Good Friday is transformed into the extraordinary life enhancing events of that first Easter Sunday.

Paul says in the first letter to the Corinthians;

'The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God'.

It will not surprise those of you who know me that I struggle with some of the language used in that sentence, perhaps you do too, and there will be some who find our difficulty with that language puzzling; what I hope we can agree on is that without those events we would not be church today.

In John's gospel we read this;

'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly'

John 10.10: God's wish is that we might see what abundant life looks like. We see this clearly in all that Jesus was, through his life, the way he lived and was in relationship to others in the world. We see this through his being able to give up his life: it is about depth, not duration; it is about a passionate belief in fullness of life **for all** regardless of colour, creed or anything else which threatens to divide us. The recognition to have lived at all is amazing. May this gift of life be yours not just this Easter but always.

Tim



In April**Regular Events****MONDAY**

9.45	Art Club	Village Hall
6.00	Pilates	Primary School
6.45	Explorer Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport

TUESDAY

10.30	Drop In (2nd & 4th only)	Old School Room
10.30	Dancing Classes	Village Hall
2.30	Forget-Me-Not-Café	Village Hall
5.45 -8pm	Pilates	Primary School
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Guides	URC Hall
6.30	Langport Youth Club	Ridgway Hall
7.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club	All Saints Hall, L'port (2nd only)
7.30	3rd only Tuesday Club	Drayton Village Hall

WEDNESDAY

9.30	Mother and Baby Group	Village Hall
7.00	Dancing Classes	Village Hall
6.45	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.30	Bell Ringing	St Andrew's

THURSDAY

9.30 -11am	Parent, Baby & Toddler Group	Primary School Hall
	(Term time only)	
10.00	WI	Village Hall (2nd only)
1.30 - 3.30pm	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
4.30	Rainbows	Village Hall
4.30	Brownies	Village Hall
7.30	Parish Council	Village Hall (1st only)

FRIDAY

9.30-2	Get Together Club	Village Hall
7.30	Cinema Night (not August)	Village Hall (3rd only)

Special Events

Sat 14	7.00	Concert St Andrew's
Sun 15	8.30 -12.30	Big Breakfast Village Hall
Thur 26	7.30	Annual Parish Meeting Village Hall

Some Useful Telephone Numbers**Youth Organisations**

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	01460 281184
Rainbows	01823 698940
Brownies	251953
Guides	252901
Pynsent Youth Football Club	251084
Langport Youth Club	0793 899 338

Sports Clubs

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

Social

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251280
Twinning Association	251432
Women's Institute	259688
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
PROBUS	252545
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	253953
Get Together Club	251773
Health Walks	250725
Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 741606
Inner Wheel	252648

Arts

Entertainers	250311
Music Club	250863
Dancing Classes	07730 755203
Art Club	253126

Community Facilities

Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	741606
Old School Room Bookings (crosrbookings@gmail.com)	250655/253856

United Reformed Church Hall - Lettings etc.	259391
URC Secretary	259434

Community Services

Doctors	250464
Police	101
Yarlington Housing	01935 404500

Education

Little Pips	252822
Primary School	251404
Huish Episcopi Academy	250501
Huish Episcopi Leisure Centre	251055

Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk) m.ludgate@btinternet.com)	251432
District Council	01935 462462
County Council	0300 123 2224

Religious

Church of England Rector	251375
Lay Reader	01460 281555
Churchwarden	259003
Secretary PCC	251355
Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	274008
United Reformed Church Minister	252799
Tuesday Group	252657/252022

**Deadlines for May Edition**

Advertising:	5pm Thursday 5 April
Send to:	crnadverts@btinternet.com
Comments & Articles:	5pm Tuesday 10 April
Send to:	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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