

March 2017



Another Entertainers' Triumph

Jane Hamlin

What a merry evening's entertainment was served up by the Curry Rivel Entertainers again in this year's glorious pantomime. We may have been sitting in the village hall, but we were magically transported to Nottingham and Sherwood Forest by Anne Hembrow's rollicking production of *Robin Hood*. We were charmed by the ladies of Nottingham (Keara Davis, Karla Davis and Maisie) and then entranced when later they became cider swilling merry men. Jane Rowland was the stall holder who sold Marion her special ribbon. How we hissed and booed at the evil hearted sheriff (Dan Crilley) who snarled at everyone – particularly his dim security officer Sir Cuss (Danny Drake) who had a cunning dastardly plan to catch the handsome thigh slapping hero Robin Hood (Kim Rowe) as he sought to win the golden arrow at the archery contest. How we hoped that Robin would also win the heart of Maid Marion (Stephanie Baillie) who had met Robin while out for a walk with her companion Caroline (Millie Retter). The other brave knights, Sir Prize (Maria Baillie) and Sir Face (Emma Pettitt) tried to help the castle chef, Dame Trott (Graham Walker), to make a cake and, to everyone's delight, ended up 'caked' in the ingredients themselves.

There were plenty of opportunities for audience participation. A jolly Little John (Mike Mason) and an exuberant Friar Tuck (Julian Morris) were well supported by the other merry men, Alan A'Dale (Mike Pettitt), Will Scarlet (Derek Yeomans) and Much the Miller (Lily Drake). More hissing greeted the arrival of the sneering and snivelling Prince John (Joe Walker)

and we sympathised with the Sheriff's wife, Lady Maud (Jenny Ludgate) who had to mix with these cruel nobles. Our hearts were in our mouths when Robin was captured and sentenced to die, but we cheered at the arrival of the very regal King Richard the Lionheart (David Oborne) who arrived just in time to save Robin and dub him Sir Robert Loxley of Huntingdon. Hooray!

Patrick Rendell provided the musical accompaniment, the stage manager was Christopher Bottomley and the very effective lighting and sound was controlled by Steve Petrou. As in previous productions the beautiful costumes were the work of Liz Hembrow.

Sadly, this is the very last production by the Entertainers. "Oh no it isn't!"

Oh yes it is, unless you, or your friends, join in. Don't hide your talents away. If you have a secret ambition to act or sing, now is your chance. If you would rather help backstage, they would love to hear from you. It is obviously great fun, so pick up your phone and call Anne Hembrow (01458 250311) to find out more about it. Then your name will join those above in the next review.



District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

With spring fast approaching now is the time to start thinking about exploring our lovely countryside and visiting the attractions South Somerset has to offer. To help with ideas of things to do on foot, horseback and bike and places to discover such as our market towns, fine architecture and artisan shops South Somerset District Council has produced a free 'Discover South Somerset' visitor's guide. Offering pages of ideas of places to go and activities to enjoy it is organised into sections and also includes a useful fold-out map. We are incredibly lucky to live and work in such wonderful surroundings so get exploring and make the most of it! You can pick up a copy at the Tourist Information Centres.

Our local MP, David Warburton, will be visiting Curry Rivel on Friday 10 March. He will be speaking in the Village Hall at 5.30pm about life in parliament and updating us on the process of Brexit. He is also happy to answer questions on any subject so if you would like the opportunity to meet him

and put forward any questions then please come along. Snacks and a bar will be available.

New developments are not always welcomed by all in the village. However, one benefit they can give emanates from the S106 money. This money is to benefit the community in specified areas such as leisure, village hall, etc. Subsequently, due to the Westfield development the village has recently purchased some play equipment for the recreation ground and we hope to have this up and running by Easter. As many of you will know the Stanchester Way development did not allow for any contributions, other than expanding the play area, but planning have resubmitted a new request on this site, which if approved, may result in additional contributions towards youth facilities, changing rooms and the village hall.

Join the Litter Heroes of Curry Rivel during the weekend of 4/5 March



Can you give an hour of your time to improve the look of village?

Please come to the village car park on **Saturday or Sunday between 10am and 4pm** to pick up a grabber, black bags, gloves and a high vis. vest. After a few instructions, we will mark on a map where you choose to pick up litter.

If you cannot help on the weekend but could do it on another day – please give me, Madelaine, a ring on 253976 and we can arrange another time to pick up the equipment to suit you.

Wouldn't it be great if we could clean the whole village?



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Growing Your Own

Sylvia and Peter Goodenough

It has turned very cold again at the time of writing and Spring suddenly still seems a long way off, even though we have lots of snowdrops and even some flowering daffodils in the garden. It's been a strange winter, with mild and wet periods interspersed with cold ones, but the one thing that has largely been missing is the strong wind from the west we have got used to since moving to Curry Rivel. Our young trees are upright rather than leaning over as they have been previously at this time of year!

March is probably the busiest month in the garden as a good display in the summer depends on preparation and planting now. If you have ordered new plants they will probably be delivered in March. They need to be unpacked immediately and the roots dipped in water if dry. If they can't be planted quickly, which is the best response, bed them in boxes of moist sand or soil or heel them in but do plant them in their final positions as soon as possible and water well if, as usual, the CR summer is dry. Where established perennial plants have become infested with perennial weeds try digging them up and removing the weeds - you can probably divide them and produce more plants for planting elsewhere, giving away etc. If you have already prepared the soil, lawn seed can be sown now, after applying fertiliser, unless it is part of the seed mix. Established lawns can be reseeded in bare patches and now is a good time to aerate lawns using a fork or a spiked roller attached to your mower if you have one of the fancier models. Apply a dose of spring (high nitrogen) fertiliser towards the end of the month. If you have ornamental trees you may think they do not need any feeding but keeping the ground around them open and loose and adding special tree and shrub feed will improve growth and flowering.

March is the main seed planting month for both flowers and vegetables. The list of potential seeds is enormous. We've already made a start with ours, and will aim to get all planted by the middle of the month. Most will be in seed trays in the greenhouse or on a windowsill but later in the month some can be planted out in their growing position. Autumn sown sweet peas, planted out if February, will need support as they grow - wigwams of canes work well but more innovative structures are fun. Cuttings taken in the autumn will also probably need to be potted on. Roses can still be pruned but this should be done as soon as possible as most buds are already shooting. Use rose fertiliser at the end of the month and gently loosen the soil to get air to the roots, an



often forgotten necessity for established plants. Prune in warm periods and cut from just above a dormant bud to a point on the opposite side level with the top of the bud. This slope allows rain to be shed, which minimises the risk of disease. Do not prune other shrubs now as the flowers will be lost.

Many kinds of bulbs are at their best in March, making a lovely spring display. If you want to see a fabulous display of daffodils, and tulips, as well as other spring flowers, come along to Long Sutton Village Hall on Saturday, 18th to view Sedgemoor Gardens Club's First Daffodil Festival. We guarantee you will leave feeling uplifted! And well fed, if you partake of the cream teas on offer!

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Curry Rivel in Bloom News

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Bring out your Pots and Troughs !

As spring approaches now is the time to clean out any pots and troughs and hanging baskets and prepare them for the coming season. This year we need your help to brighten up the village with these and any other containers you can use, especially at the front of your property where they can be seen by everyone.

The colour scheme is purple and gold, so any shades of blue to purple and yellow to gold are good. How about starting early with purple and yellow pansies and primulas, yellow daffs and blue irises...

Remember that there will be a plant sale in the centre of the village on **Sunday 14 May at 10.00 am** where you will be able to buy plants in the scheme colours, refreshments provided.

Competition

This year's is for the best purple and gold frontage / front garden which will be judged around the weekend of 8/9 July. This is in the judging period for Britain in Bloom South West - the judges will be in the village sometime between 5-17 July - we won't know the exact date until much nearer the time.

Last year's theme was red, white and blue for the Queen's 90th birthday and the competition was won by Linda Doddimead of Westfield.

Update on our entry

We are pleased to let you know that on the judging day, children from the village school will be involved in a pageant on the village green dressed in the purple and gold colours of William Pitt's livery when he arrived in the village 250 years ago in 1767.

The War Memorial

You may have noticed that most of the old trees and over grown shrubs from the site have now gone and the yews have been trimmed back to allow regrowth. This work has mainly been carried out by members of the group who have worked hard to clear away the undergrowth and rubbish which had accumulated there for many years. More recently they have been digging holes for the posts which will have hanging baskets on them as part of the summer display. Many thanks go to parish councillors Mike Cousins and Andy Anderson who gave up a Saturday morning to provide machinery and muscle to increase the depth of the holes by breaking through the solid rock that had defeated the

group!

This spring and summer the site will be planted up in annual flowers and the soil improved before the permanent planting takes place in the autumn.



Sponsorship News

The posts described above will have been erected by the time you read this. They were kindly donated by Sandpits Heating. We also thank Travis Perkins in Langport who donated the Postcrete to cement them into the ground.

We are very grateful to Mr. James Duder of County Stores for his financial sponsorship and he has also kindly offered to pay for the plants to plant the petrol station frontage in purple and gold colours to match the war memorial opposite.

Our work at the war memorial site would not have been possible without the use of electricity and we thank Peter Wallis very much for supplying us with this.

If you would like to help Curry Rivel in Bloom, either with a donation or by sponsoring a plant or a container, please contact Sylvia Goodenough on 01458 250009.

WEA Invitation

The local branch of the WEA (Workers' Educational Association) is holding an Open Evening on Tuesday 21 March between 7.30 and 9.00 pm.

We can promise you an interesting exhibition showing the history of the WEA in the South West since its founding in 1903. All the research for this was funded by the Heritage Lottery and undertaken by WEA members.

If you have half an hour to spare join us for tea and cake and also find out about Long Sutton Branch and what we do present day. Contact Doreen 01458 241711 or email doreen-royharvey@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

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Langport & District History Society

Barry Winetrobe



Inner Sanctums?

The Society's February meeting heard Rob Curtis speak on 'Inner Sanctums'. He tantalised his audience by not revealing immediately the subject of his intriguingly titled talk, and by warning that it had caused consternation in previous audiences. Then he showed an illustration of a toilet.

The oldest recognisable toilet facility has been found in ancient India, around 2,500BC, with sophisticated features such as pipes, drains, manhole covers and inspection chambers. The next major step forward came with the Romans, who introduced extensive public and private sanitation systems, not just in Rome itself, but around the Empire. He emphasised the social nature of such necessary functions and facilities, when Romans would meet at communal facilities.

Following the Romans, technology stalled for many centuries, with resort to more primitive systems, especially among the general rural and urban populace. An exception was in medieval monasteries, where the monks appreciated the importance of good sanitation. For the rest, the best instances of domestic sanitation would be, as expected, in the homes of the higher classes, especially the garderobes of medieval castles; the intricate and lavishly padded and decorated toilets designed for the use of monarchs from

Henry VIII onwards, and the later chamber pots and similar facilities, many examples of which Rob displayed.

Development of the modern WC was slow, and John Harrington's inventions at the end of the 16th century were not taken up for almost 200 years. Progress came in the late 1700s, with technical improvements making flush WCs more efficient and acceptable. During the 1800s, famous names such as Thomas Crapper and Thomas Twyford developed the type of facilities we use today.

By the 19th century, appreciation of public health led to the creation of decent public lavatory systems, initially private, but increasingly through municipal provision. The charge became a standard 1d – at least until decimalisation in 1971! Rob also described provision in other places, from trains and ships even to the International Space Station, and concluded by speculating on facilities of the future, perhaps focussing more on priorities such as recyclability, and showing examples of complex hi-tech Japanese toilets.

The next meeting will be on Monday 6 March, when John Smith gives a talk on Roman arms & armour. It is free to members (annual membership is £12): non-members are welcome, admission £2; refreshments available. Anyone interested in joining the Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, suzannestanden471@btinternet.com). Follow the History Society at @langporthistory, and on its website: <https://sites.google.com/site/langportheritage/home>.

Wildlife Survey Group

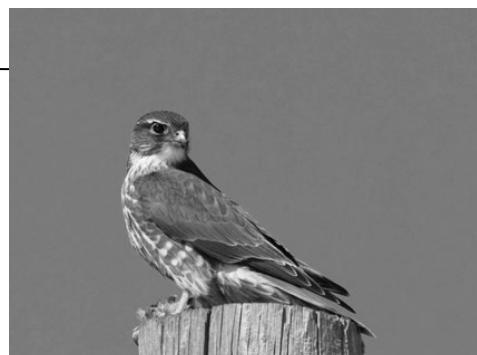
Spring is on its way and it's time to start noticing the wildlife all around us. Our small group hasn't been hibernating and we are discussing additions to our survey data.

The latest exciting addition to our map was the sighting of a merlin, the U.K.'s smallest bird of prey, in the lane to the north of the village on the ridge. We hope to get some reports back from the Big Garden Birdwatch but the weather wasn't kind on the specified weekend so results maybe in short supply. It would be helpful if residents continued to record their garden visitors, say monthly, and copy us in with results. Apart from birds we hope to get more sightings of grass snakes and slowworms and further hedgehog sightings this year.

It was great to see the report in the last edition of the *Curry Rivel News* giving an account of farming and wildlife on the Home Farm under the management of Henry and Richard Lang. A big success has been the support for breeding barn owls, producing 74 owlets over the last five years. If you missed it you can see the newspaper in full on the Community Web site.

An easily spotted wildlife feature in the parish is the large flocks of starlings flying in to winter roosting sites near Westhay. For information on the amazing sight of millions of

starlings
coming into
roost in the
reed beds
there is a
Starling



Hotline run by the RSPB - 07866 554142

Cranes were given a mention on the BBC Winter Watch programme recently, they have been seen in the northern area of our parish over West Sedgemoor, for more information see greatcrane-project.org.uk.

The 'Heart of the Levels' local Somerset Wildlife Trust group supports our efforts and you can view details of their programme at somersetwildlife.org/Heart_of_the_Levels

Lastly a mention of the Britain in Bloom competition which our village has entered this year. An important part of the marking is reserved for community support for environmental aspects of village life and we hope the Batty Piece nature reserve and Eastfield will be included in our presentation to the Judges.

There is much to look forward to in 2017. If you would like to be kept informed about our progress give me a call on 01458259688 or email : davidgerman555@gmail.com

Movies in the Village Hall

mvhcurry.wix.com/films



The Girl on the Train (15)

Friday 17 March

Based on Paula Hawkins' 2015 debut novel, The Girl on the Train tells the story of Rachel Watson's (Emily Blunt) life after her divorce. Every day alcoholic Rachel takes the train into New York, passing the house she used to share with her ex-husband, Tom, who is now remarried with a young daughter. As well as observing Tom she starts to watch a couple who live nearby, Scott and Megan Hipwell, whom she perceives as the ideal happy couple.

During one train journey Rachel sees Megan kissing a stranger on her balcony and becomes incensed by the indiscretion. The following day Rachel wakes up with a terrible hangover and injured but with no recollection of what happened the night before. She later learns that Megan is missing and becomes involved in the case, trying to establish what happened to Megan and what she herself was up to that night.

Stars: Emily Blunt, Haley Bennett, Rebecca Ferguson and Justin Theroux.

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

Coming soon: Collateral Beauty (Helen Mirren, Kate Winslet), Lion (Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman) & Jackie (Natalie Portman)

South Somerset residents to help shape the future of the Census

South Somerset has been specially selected as part of a large scale test of the census, run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). This is an exciting opportunity for local residents to help shape the census which will happen in 2021. Test day is 9 April 2017. Randomly-selected households will be sent a letter beforehand with a unique access code to enable them to answer their test questionnaire online quickly and easily – it should take about 10 minutes. There will be census officers working in the area in April and May, and online and telephone help will also be available.

Your participation is hugely valued by ONS. It will help develop an online census for 2021 that asks the right questions and gets the maximum response. The more successful the census test is in South Somerset, the more we benefit in future.

For more information on the 2017 Test: www.ons.gov.uk/census

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Debs is awarded 'Outstanding' by Ofsted

Curry Rivel Childminder, Debs Powell, was delighted to be given 'Outstanding' at her recent Ofsted inspection. Debs has been childminding in the village for 5 years and works with her assistant, Amanda.

"We are thrilled with the Ofsted judgments about our setting," Debs said, "We work hard to give great opportunities and experiences to the children to support their learning and development and it is rewarding for this to be recognised."

The Ofsted Inspection Report highlighted that "The Childminder and her assistant prepare children exceptionally well for the next stage in their learning" and that "children have extremely close and caring relationships with the childminder and her assistant, who respect each child as an individual". The Ofsted Inspector concludes that "children flourish in the childminder's care. They receive highly positive messages and benefit from engaging activities indoors and outdoors."



Messy play (painting, gloop, sand, shaving foam and similar), trips to local woods, walks in the fields, exploring nearby beaches, singing sessions and story times are just some of the activities children enjoy with Debs and Amanda. Debs believes in giving children lots of real-life experiences and loves encouraging and supporting the children to explore their world especially through learning outside.

There are currently limited spaces available for children with Debs Powell, and she does have a waiting list. For more information and to see the full report from Ofsted, please visit www.curryrivel-childminder.co.uk.

QUIZ NIGHT

Village Hall

7.30 pm

Friday 24 March

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*Robin
Hood
in
Curry
Rivel*



Curry Rivel W.I.

know that we have a Village Agent? These agents are supported by the CCS (The Community Council for Somerset) and ours is Audrey Mansfield. She came to talk to us about her job as Village Agent and brought a friend of hers who lives in Moorland and suffered badly in the floods. She first told us about her role within the community which is mainly to help anyone to get the help they need. She can help with applying for grants and allowances, put people in touch with organisations who can help, get the home library along, get your smoke alarms checked and much more. Because she covers such a wide area, Audrey needs to be informed when such a need arises and she can be contacted on audrey@somersetrc.org.uk. The second part of the talk was by Kate Symonds who lives in Moorland and she is also a Village Agent. Her home was badly flooded in 2014 and she told us her story with photos and some graphic descriptions of how it felt. It took over a year to dry out her house and it had to be almost rebuilt. The most important thing to come out of the disaster was the sense of community and the way that everyone pulled together to help each other. That is still evident today, long after the floods.

Our Walking group has a new set of walks ready for this year, the first one in Langport, finishing at Bow Wharf for a

Curry Rivel News

March 2017

How many people living in Curry Rivel

coffee. Also in Langport is our next lunch, this time at the Black Swan. There is one more planned and then we start on our garden visits – roll on summer!

We didn't get to the Cheddar Chocolate Company in December, so we are now hoping to go at the end of February. It's a small company making great chocolates. Their philosophy is simple – supply an excellent quality product at a reasonable price, and we will get a chance to see first-hand how this is done. We also get an opportunity to make our own chocolates to take away. It sounds like a good day out!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 9th, in the Village Hall. The speaker is Mike Spencer who will be talking about 'A Walk in China'. Why not come along, find out more about the WI and listen to the talk? Come 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

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Curry Rivel Music

Anne Michell

The penultimate concert of the season will be held on Saturday 11 March 2017 in St Andrew's Church at 7.00pm, when Curry Rivel Music will be hosting ***Charme du Hautbois***, an ensemble founded by Mark Baigent and Nathaniel Harrison.

Mark Baigent, oboe, and Nathaniel Harrison, bassoon will be joined by Alexander Rider on harp. They will be presenting a rarely heard repertoire of mid 19th Century music using instruments made by leading makers of the time; oboes by

Triebert and Loree, an Erard harp and the now rarely heard French System bassoon. The players are leading early music specialists who have performed with many well known orchestras including English Baroque Soloists, London Symphony Orchestra, Kings Consort, the Sixteen, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the Endymion Ensemble.

Their varied programme will include music by Henri Brod, Louis Spohr and Charles Oberthur.

There will be an interval during which refreshments will be available. Tickets are £12 and are available at the door. Students are admitted free.



Probus

The story of Clarks of Street was the subject of the talk at this month's meeting of Langport and Curry Rivel Probus club. Clark's own archivist, Dr Tim Crumplin, presented a fascinating insight into how Cyrus and James Clark started a business making rugs and brown peters and from then how Clarks, and the village of Street developed, including explaining the what, and why of how many of Street's best buildings came about.

Probus is a friendly mixed club for retired and semi-retired business, professional and other people who enjoy a monthly get together with an interesting talk, a nice lunch, and the occasional trip out. We're always happy to meet new members, so if this sounds interesting to you give us a go! Have a look at our website at www.langportandcurryprobus.btck.co.uk or give our Secretary, Paul Crocker, a ring on 01458 252545 for more

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Where's Ed To?

Ed Pratt, ex photographer for the Curry Rivel News, set off in March 2015 on his 18,000 mile World Unicycle Tour; if successful Ed will be the first person ever to officially circumnavigate the globe on one wheel. He is also raising money and awareness for the local charity School in a Bag.

Here he speaks about completing his journey across China.

"On the very top of my 'to do' list for roughly the last 6 months has been: Unicycle across China. Well, I can finally put a wee tick next to that one because I'm now across the border in Vietnam! The final distance was about 3,300 miles and I'm chuffed to say I rode (and walked - when the road became too steep or bumpy or BOTH) every inch of the country.

Mostly it was a very enjoyable experience, one that I definitely wouldn't want to repeat, but fun all the same. It was hard, that pretty much goes without saying, but was made harder due to the severe language barrier. The lack of English spoken even in cities could definitely be frustrating at times, but on the plus side people were usually pretty tech savvy and could communicate through translation applications. However, on more than a handful of occasions I turned up somewhere and my translated "do you know somewhere I can pitch my tent?" fell on deaf eyes (!) because the person couldn't read! Generally I found most people to be friendly, if not a little wary at first, but after explaining where I'd come from and where I was going, my unicycle and I experienced heaps of support.

A major problem on this ride was saddle sores. The pain was so bad that at times I was forced to dismount after about a mile because of the pain, stop, take a break, get back on and repeat. I've adjusted my unicycle now, changed the saddle, and while not perfect, it is feeling much more comfortable than before.

The highlights were definitely those when riding with company, i.e. the Chinese guys and Will. Although I wouldn't really consider my ride with Will to actually be 'riding' - cycling to the next place to set up a camera or explore would be more accurate!"

Ed is now continuing his journey through Vietnam and on to Laos where he is crossing the mountains. Missing the Chinese engineering with little bridges and tunnels to help smooth out the way he says the roads seem to have been built to give unicycle tourists as much pain as possible! Slow progress but pretty landscape.



Deliverer Needed

Can you spare some time once a month to deliver the *Curry Rivel News* to properties in Churchway? If so please contact Jon Geary tel. 259003 or email curryrivelnews@g.mail.com



Choose from:

- Roast Pork**
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Spring Lunch

Saturday 1 April 2017

Fivehead Village Hall

Tickets £12.50 each available from:

Tony Potter	01458 251280
Nigel Jackaman	01458 251796
Gordon Balmer	01460 81578
Bob Willis	01458 250772



Letters to the Editor

The Bell

Having lived in the village for over 50 years and watched small businesses slowly shut down, including my own, I have the following comments on The Bell. Do we need another pub? I got the impression that The Bell was struggling for 30 years and not only do we now have three dining units in the village but there are some other good ones within easy reach, even more so when The Drayton Arms reopens. The main building seems very stable apart from the roof, the back building, which looks poor, could be demolished leaving a large area if you include the garden; you could drive in one side and drive out the other! Tesco has history of taking on defunct pubs and converting them into Express stores and as One Stop is owned by Tesco perhaps they would be interested in a swap? One Stop will lose the use of the front bell car park if the site is developed. Perhaps the original proposal was possibly the most profitable to the owners i.e. all residential partial demolition of back area, front area to become flats and some new build on the front car park with all parking to the rear. In Langport what was a motorcycle repair and sales shop became an accountant's office and other retail outlets became cafes, offices, vets etc. perhaps this is an option for The Bell site? We should also not forget that a little while ago County Stores was trying to sell the petrol station for residential development. Personally I would like to see part retail and part residential on the site - I don't like to see the village just become a dormitory, but there must be parking for a retail outlet to be a success. Give Mr Tesco a ring!?

Derek N Annetts



Pilates

Mo Masrour Pilates Foundation

Tuesday: Curry Rivel (Primary School)

5.45pm – 6.45pm (All levels)

7.00pm – 8.00pm (Intermediate)

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Contact **Mo** for details on: **07815748518**

mospilates@yahoo.com



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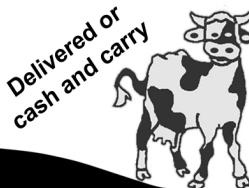
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St. Andrew's Church



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

March

Wednesday 1st - Ash Wednesday

7.30pm CR - Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

Thursday 2nd

10.30 CR OSR - Holy Communion BCP

Friday 3rd - Women's World Day of Prayer

2.00 pm CR - Interdenominational Service (see opposite page)

Sunday 5th - Lent 1

10.00 FH - All Age Family Service

11.00 FH - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm CR - Evening Worship

Tuesday 7th

3.00 pm Immacolata House Service of Remembrance

Thursday 9th

10.30 CR OSR - Holy Communion BCP

2.30 pm CR Parsonage Place Meeting Room - Lent course 1 Faith Pictures

Sunday 12th - Lent 2

9.30 SW - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 CR - Holy Communion CW

& Sunday Club

6.00 pm FH - Evening Prayer CW

Tuesday 14th 10.30 CR OSR - Drop-In

Thursday 16th

10.30 CR OSR - Holy Communion BCP

2.30 pm CR Parsonage Place Meeting Room - Lent course 2 Faith Pictures

Sunday 19th - Lent 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

Monday 20th

3.30-5.30 pm CR School Messy Church

Scott's spot

I'm an individual!

We live today, as never before, in an impersonal society – a world in which increasingly we are treated as numbers rather than individuals. Instead of being people, we are a reference number on a tax form, a policy number with an insurance company, a National Health Service number on a waiting list, a telephone number to a firm trying to sell us stuff. Answerphones, automated messages, e-mails, the internet – these have become the order of the day, personal contact reduced to the bare minimum. Disturbingly, many young people relate more easily to a computer screen than to real flesh and blood people.



In such a world it is reassuring to know that, in God's eyes at least, we are still real people, each of us precious and unique to him. In Luke's Gospel chapter 12 Jesus reassures those who perhaps feel de-humanised by our increasingly impersonal society. He says: *"Are not five sparrows sold for a couple of pence? Yet God does not overlook a single one of them."*

March - ctd.

Thursday 23rd

10.30 CR OSR - Holy Communion BCP

2.30 pm CR Parsonage Place Meeting Room - Lent course 3 Faith Pictures

Sunday 26th - Mothering Sunday

10.00 CR - All Age Mothering Sunday Service + coffee

4.00 pm FH - All Age Mothering Sunday Service

6.00 pm SW - Holy Communion CW

Tuesday 28th 10.30 CR OSR Drop-In

Wednesday 29th

2.45 pm Immacolata House Residents' Holy Communion

Thursday 30th

10.30 CR OSR - Holy Communion BCP

2.30 pm CR - School Easter Service

2.30 pm CR Parsonage Place Meeting Room - Lent course 4 Faith Pictures

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

Believe me, the very hairs of your head are all counted. Never fear, then, for you mean even more to him than many sparrows." He values us for what we are – unique individuals created in his image to share in a meaningful relationship with him.

But as we hear Jesus' words, and as they hopefully reaffirm our sense of personal value, we need also to recognise that it's not just about us. Jesus' words can also remind us that God calls us to value others, and in doing so, resist the depersonalising forces that threaten to undermine society today. We live in 'interesting times' where the political rhetoric within many Western countries has arguably become more self-centred, more inward looking, more willing to play on fear and stir up hatred, and far more prepared to 'demonise' whole people-groups for the sake of political gain.

Jesus' words will hopefully bring us reassurance, but also challenge. Because if we fall into the trap of viewing others as anything less than human, then we're doing to them just what we don't like faceless organisations doing to us! So whatever people-group you're perhaps inclined to de-humanise, be they Muslims, Jews, liberal or conservative Christians, the gay community, economic migrants, Mexicans (!), refugees, the homeless, those who voted to stay in, asylum seekers, those struggling with addiction, youths or the elderly, never forget that each person amongst those groups is not a number or an object, but precisely that – a person. If the rise of Hitler and the events of the Holocaust teach us anything, it is surely that de-humanising others can lead to acts of immense evil.

Yes we can rejoice that our heavenly Father knows the number of hairs on our head, but he knows the number on theirs too.

With every blessing to you and yours,
Revd. Scott.

A reminder for your diaries:

St. Andrew's Church fete
will be on

Saturday 8th July

Women's World Day of Prayer

Note the special annual service to celebrate this day, in St. Andrew's Church, at 2.00 pm Friday 3rd March, with refreshments afterwards.

The theme for this year is

'Am I being unfair to you'.

This inter-denominational service has been prepared by Christian women of The Philippines.

All are welcome - men, women, and children.

EASTER LILLIES

At Easter, special arrangements of lilies in memory of Loved Ones are placed in St. Andrew's Church.



Anyone wishing to donate a lily (cost £ 3.00 each), please contact Adrienne Holmes (01458 - 252710) or Sue Randell (01458 - 253496) by **Friday 31st March.**

St. Andrew's Annual meetings

**Monday 3rd April 7.30 pm,
in the Church**

- Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) to elect Churchwardens

(all parishioners may vote)
followed by

- Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), with reports about church life; PCC proceedings; the church's financial affairs over 2016, and the election of new PCC members (only those registered on St. Andrew's Electoral Role may vote).

St. Andrew's Rotas March

Brass - Nicky Barker

Flowers

4th, 11th & 18th - Lent (no flowers)
25th - Mothering Sunday

Cleaning

4th - Lyn Cotterill (t.b.c.)
11th - Julia Gauler
18th - Tina Geary
25th - Wendy Graves

**From St. Andrew's Registers**

Funerals

May God grant them eternal rest.

20th February - Funeral Service of Professor Roy Haines
(† 1st February)

United Reformed Church**March**

(Services start at 10.30)

Sunday 5th - Rev Tim Richards
incl. Holy Communion

Sunday 12th - Rev Rowena Francis
Sunday School for over 3s

Sunday 19th - Mothering Sunday
Members of the congregation

Sunday 26th - Rev Evelyn Ridout

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

PILLOW TALK

No Pillow
Talk this
month.

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In March

Regular Events

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

10.30	Drop In (2nd & 4th only)	Old School Room
5.45 -8pm	Pilates	Primary School
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Guides	URC Hall
7.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club	All Saints Hall, L'port (2nd only)

WEDNESDAY

6.45	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.30	Bell Ringing	St Andrew's

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

Special Events

- Sat 11 7.00 Concert St Andrew's
 Sat 18 2.30 Daffodil Festival Long Sutton VH
 Fri 24 7.30 Quiz Night VH

APRIL

- Sat 01 Spring Lunch Fivehead VH



Curry Rivel -Above the Levels

your community website curryrivel.org.uk

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Editor	Laurina Deacon curryrivelnews@gmail.com	251898
Assistant Editor	Jane Hamlin	252946
Advertising/Treasurer	Rob Atkins crnadverts@btinternet.com	253008
		crntreasurer@btinternet.com
Publisher	Mike Davis crnpub@gmail.com	252554
Secretary	Angela Edwards	
Staff Photographer	Mike Mason	252076
Distribution	Jon Geary curryrivelnews@gmail.com	259003
Church Pages	John de Ronde johnderonde51@hotmail.com	251355

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Youth Organisations

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	01460 281184
Rainbows	252429
Brownies	253855 251953
Guides	252901
Pynsent Youth Football Club	251084

Sports Clubs

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

Social

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251796
Twinning Association	251432
Women's Institute	251689
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
PROBUS	252545
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	253953
Get Together Club	251773
Health Walks	250725

Arts

Entertainers	250311
Music Club	250863
Art Club	253126
Youth Drama	251773

Community Facilities

Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	0751 664 2704
Old School Room Bookings	250655
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
Churchwardens	259003
Secretary PCC	251355
Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church	Somerton
United Reformed Church Minister	274008

Would all local organisations please submit their correct phone numbers to CRN editor to amend the above list as necessary