

May 2018



Villagers enjoy the Full English!

The aroma of sizzling bacon wafting from the village hall attracted a good number of people to the Big Breakfast in April. Neighbours and friends chatted over their full English, sipping bucks fizz and catching up on the latest news in the village and further afield with the Sunday papers. It's a great way to start the day with the added bonus of no washing up! Roger Hampton, village hall chairman, reported that £619 had been raised and thanked everyone for their generosity especially Scriven's the Butchers who sponsored the Big Breakfast by providing the bacon, sausages and eggs. Congratulations to the hall committee for organising what is one of the most sociable events in the village calendar.



The Big Breakfast chefs ready for action.

Token Help Needed for Village Hall

Roger Hampton

The Village Hall committee has had a refurbishment plan accepted by the Tesco 'Bags for Help Scheme' which means that, if successful, the village hall will receive £1,100. Here's how you can help. From **May 1st until 30th June**, if you shop at Tesco, you will receive a Blue Token for every transaction, which can be used to vote for The Curry Rivel Village Hall project, one of three local community projects.

Just drop the token in the box as you exit the store.

The Village Hall project plans to replace existing lighting with low energy LED units, which will half the electricity usage for the lighting. The existing lighting is frequently left on when hirers have left the hall (often for more than 12 hours), so the new lights will work on sensors ensuring the lights only operate when required.

Tesco provide one blue token per transaction, even if you just buy a bottle of milk, so please remember to ask at the check-out for a token. Ask a member of staff for a token even if using the express check-out.

The community project receiving the most 'blue token votes' wins, so let's fill the box— there are no second or third prizes – only the winner gets the money!

District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

My apologies for not writing a report in last month's CRN. I was unavoidably detained abroad due to a broken down plane.

Planning for the Future

I have written previously on how our village will be targeted for development now that SSDC can no longer demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing sites.

It is inevitable that Curry Rivel will be beset with more planning applications because we have such varied amenities which makes it an attractive and sustainable place to live.

However, it is important that if we are to take on more housing this is done in a coherent manner, encompassing the encouragement of local employment opportunities and supporting small businesses, ensuring we have the infrastructure to cope with an expanding population and providing adequate parking and highway strategies to combat the increased traffic. Without a plan we will be left without a defence and our village will be open to developments in an ad hoc, inconsistent manner.

As part of this defence strategy and to adopt a more cohesive approach to the changes that will face our village the Parish Plan is in the process of being updated and we need to hear

your views on how you see your Curry Rivel in the future. What is important to you? Employment, housing, transport, the environment, etc? For us to provide the village you want to live in, one which is vibrant, thriving yet protecting what is important to village life we need your comments and your support and to complete the survey which will be importing in informing Curry Rivel's future.

You can complete the survey on line at www.curryrivel.org.uk – Parish Plan Survey – or there are feedback forms you can complete at the Post Office and the Village Hall. Please share your views.

Library Consultation

The Library Consultation has been extended until 13th June. If you value the services Langport Library provides then you need to make this known by either completing the online questionnaire at www.somersetconsults.org.uk or email librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk. Without your feedback the County Council will consider a lack of comments as a lack of support.

Fun for Kids

The 9th Annual Kids Fun Event is back! As always it will be offering a multitude of things to do for free so put the date in your diary - 15th September at the Curry Rivel Primary School.

FINGERS CROSSED FOR ANOTHER SCORCHER



Festival goers to the **Curry Rivel Live Music Festival** were treated to a heatwave in 2017 and event organisers Simon & Kern are hoping for the same again on **Saturday 16 June** for the popular one day micro festival. There's live dance/pop classics, blues and ska from 1pm until midnight. As well as the music there are stalls, a 'kids area' with circus workshops, face-painting, craft tent, fairground and inflatable rides, fire engine and much more. For the adults the Blue Ridge Runners with their American classic cars and bikes, our famous long top bar and hot food served all day. This festival has everything you need for a fantastic day out with the family.

Get your tickets NOW online at Eventbrite.co.uk (search Curry Rivel Live 2018) or at The Bow Street Barbers, Langport, The Post Office at the BP garage Curry Rivel and The Hair Lodge, Langport. The festival site is situated at Westfield Recreation Ground, Holdens Way, TA10 OHX.

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TUESDAY GROUP

Barbara Lancey

A male motorcyclist in full 'leathers' will certainly turn the heads of some women, but you can imagine the excitement of the whole group at the start of our March meeting, when he said his name was Ewan McGregor! Of course, our guest was not THE Ewan McGregor, but nevertheless he was just as charming and just as Scottish, and is a representative of the 'Freewheelers', a registered charity which offers an out of hours and free of charge courier service to the NHS - their slogan "Riding for Life" describes their operation perfectly!

We were taken on a graphic journey of this voluntary organisation, from when it was formed by someone from Yeovil around 15 years ago, to the present day with Freewheeler groups now countrywide! We learned that the NHS have their own weekday daytime courier service but have no such provision overnight or at weekends. This volunteer service was therefore formed to fill this gap, subsequently operating from 7.00pm to 7.00am, Monday to Friday, and then from 7.00pm Friday right through to 7.00am Monday. This is now the routine 365 days a year, and all for no payment whatsoever!

Ewan recounted some particular cases, outlining the difficulties they can face, but also expressing the feeling of satisfaction knowing a patient has been helped by his efforts, making it all worthwhile. A rider (there are fifty covering the South West!) must hold an advanced driving licence and also be trained to be fully conversant with everything they carry, as it is actually considered to be hazardous waste and has limited viability, hence the urgency to transport products from one place to another as quickly as possible. Although they transport blood, they are not a transfusion service, but carry many vital items such as whole bloods, blood samples, urine samples, prescription drugs and breast milk, operating to and from all types of hospitals, pathology laboratories, and sometimes people's homes. The organisation purchases the motorbikes from the Police, who also service and maintain them, and although Freewheelers are officially blue light operators, they are not allowed to break speed limits or go through red lights, but can use the blue lights and sirens to clear a path ahead as necessary. In addition to the riders, co-ordinators, also volunteers, answer the phone and disseminate the tasks. The co-ordinators also track every rider, who are often despatched to obscure locations, and any delayed response is

immediately investigated.

Freewheelers also spend time raising awareness and money, by giving talks and shaking buckets in supermarkets. They need to raise approximately £130,000 a year to keep this vital service mobile, the specialised motorbikes being the main outlay, but they save the NHS £350,000 a year, as it would have to use taxis and private couriers for out of hours needs without them. One of our members having worked in a Pathology Department, was so pleased to meet and talk to one of the riders face to face....in the workplace apparently there isn't the time to converse!

Yet another interesting and informative evening! Having tested the taste buds at the April meeting with a demonstration on how to make Sweet Canapés, our next meeting on 15 May is entitled 'How Jack came to be Jolly'...a lighthearted exploration of the Customs and Traditions of the Senior Service - a talk by Carolyn Stait! We meet in Drayton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Guests most welcome for just £2.50, or become a member for just £10 a year! For further information call Barbara on 01458 252657, or Aideen on 01458 252022.

Curry Rivel Flower Show

Saturday 4th August

It may seem a long way off but advance notice of the Flower Show craft categories ensures that we all have plenty of time to create a masterpiece!

The subjects for the craft categories are as follows;

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Craft Section | 1. Knitted pom-pom hat
2. Embroidered panel |
| Painting Section | 1. Subject of your choice
2. Design a Wallpaper (flowers, animals, abstracts, patterns, nature, etc.) |
| Children's Section | 1. Wedding Card
2. Garden on a plate |
| Photography Section | 1. Photograph of dog or dogs
2. Sunset
3. Subject of your choice |

Neighbourhood Watch

There has been increased criminal activity in the village and surrounding area. This represents break-ins to garages, sheds, out buildings, vehicles and homes. We have also been advised that cold-callers/rogue traders are active. Stay alert to scam e-mails claiming to be, for example, from HM Revenue & Customs! Be very wary of any e-mail you are not happy to receive. If not sure delete immediately.

The Police are reminding home owners to ensure good security of sheds, garages, out-buildings, gardens, motor vehicles and homes. For further advice go to www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Curry Rivel in Bloom

A flowering community

There is a lot happening this month and hopefully it will stop raining and we can begin to plant up the new

permanent war memorial garden. Thank you to Marian Dale of Summerdale Garden Design who has helped us refine the design and has sourced plants for the garden. We are hoping that a new water pipe will soon be installed to assist with watering! A new design for the area adjacent to the BP Garage has been proposed and Sue Hand and Pat Cilia will be planting this up soon. If you have any local stone lying around your garden that you no longer need please let us know, as part of the design will be a rockery.

Don't forget the **Plant Sale on Sunday 13th May at 10.00 am** in the village centre behind the old butcher's shop. Refreshments are available. Plants in this year's colours of white, pink and blue will be available.

Front Garden / Frontage Competition

We would still like more entries for this competition, please join in if you can. If you would like to enter please contact Gina on 01458 762296 or email cribsomerset@gmail.com with your details. You don't need to be present for the

judging which will take place between 23 – 30 June.

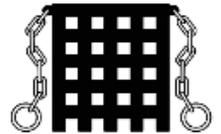
The Tea Party & Quiz that was organised for Sunday 7th May has had to be postponed due to clashes with other events taking place, we hope to reorganise this for later in the year, possibly September.

CRiB Allotment

We have taken on part of an allotment and hope to build some raised beds and lower beds, so we are urgently looking for any donations of wood that we could use for this please. We are making the beds 8'x4' for easy access. We are also looking for any donations of a shed 6ft x4ft, any soil, compost, tools, pallets, bean poles, in fact anything that you think might be useful for this project. We hope to be working with groups in the village such as the Brownies and Guides and other groups who would like to grow vegetables here. We are also building compost bins for recycling and producing our own soil. The allotment will be designed to give disabled access. Please contact us if you could help at all with building beds or digging, that would be wonderful! Any help is always gratefully received no matter how small.

Look out for lots of planting happening around the village in the next few weeks and months, we hope that you will be able to join in with Curry Rivel's entry into South West in Bloom, with lots of pots and troughs and plants on display. Judging day is Thursday 12th July!

Langport & District History Society



Popular Music in Edwardian Somerset

Janet Seaton

The Society's April meeting at Langport Library featured a presentation by local author David Sutcliffe, on the history of popular music in Edwardian Somerset. He first spoke to the Society in 2013, about the Vicar of Hambridge, Rev. Charles Marson, a friend of the folk song collector, Cecil Sharp.

His lively talk was illustrated by snatches of popular songs and music from the Edwardian period. In addition to a modern music player, he brought a phonograph dating from 1919, on which he played an early recording of 'Home Sweet Home'.

He explained how he had researched the music scene in Somerset by going through local newspapers at the Somerset Heritage Centre in Taunton, gathering information about what music was played and sung, about bands and choirs, and about local venues. This talk contained many references to music in and around Langport, which was fascinating to the audience, some of whom recognised them and contributed their own memories. David felt that Edwardian music had largely been forgotten, and his talk illustrated how popular various strands had been then. Almost all music at that time was live, whereas now 99% is recorded. Phonographs, or gramophones, were very expensive, costing about £400 in today's money.

Brass bands were hugely popular. Out of an estimated

30,000 bands in the country, he counted 100 in Somerset, including the Langport

Town Band, under the direction of Edward Purchase, a local publican. Encouraging the development of brass bands was thought to divert people from the dangers of alcohol, hence the Temperance Bands.

Amateur singing at home was common. The most popular parlour song in Somerset was 'Down the Vale', of which he played an extract. Gradually, however, professional singing in public began to replace it, and many church choirs, choral societies and amateur operatic societies were established.

Music Hall, which had begun in the 1840s in London, began to spread. Minstrel troupes and 'blackface' singers toured the country, singing about plantation slave life – which sounds strange to our modern way of thinking. They were gradually overtaken by white-faced female troupes of Pierrots, who entertained audiences in seaside resorts.

Finally David described the local folk music scene at the time, and reminded us of Cecil Sharp's collection of folk songs from local singers.

The next meeting will be at Langport Library on Monday 14 May, when Rob Curtis will return to give us 'A glimpse of Stocking' (probably not his own). It is free to members (annual membership is £12): non-members are welcome, admission £2. Anyone interested in joining the History Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, suzannestanden471@btinternet.com). Follow the History Society at [@langporthistory](https://www.facebook.com/langporthistory), and on: <https://sites.google.com/site/langporthheritage/home>.

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.

In March Ed wrote, 'about 750 miles cycled through the States so far and I've arrived in the gambling capital of the world. After the slow struggle through the winds of Death Valley I arrived in Las Vegas shattered, sandy and in need of rest. I recently passed the 18,000 mile mark. Why is this significant? Well 18,000 miles is the distance I had originally thought I'd be covering over my entire world ride. So job done, right? I should now just fly home. NO CHANCE. While this was the original distance I had planned, my route around the world has become significantly wigglier over the last three years and I'm now reckoning on covering a further 4,000 miles before arriving home in Somerset. So I'm getting there, but there's still plenty more unicycling to go!'

From Las Vegas Ed headed along Route 66 towards Amarillo, battling the elements, including snow storms and -2C temperatures. We hope you found Amarillo and let us know if Marie was waiting there!



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The Bad Pennies show their mettle

Alison Cockrell

The Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association held another of its popular quizzes in the Village Hall in April. The event marks the last social get-together before the important 20th anniversary visit to our twinned town of Chevilly over the early May Bank Holiday.

As the quiz was open to all, it attracted almost 50 people – both members and non-members – whose “little grey cells” were challenged to questions on various topics. Quizmasters Geoff, Simon, Alison and Nahum compiled eight main rounds which called upon participants’ knowledge of subjects as diverse as Somerset, Gardening, Sport and Film, TV & Radio. Distributed halfway through the evening was the customary Fil Rouge round, this time

comprising a sheet of questions where the answers were a number between 1 and 40 with each being allowed to appear only once.

At the end of the evening “The Bad Pennies” were declared the winning team – congratulations to Steve and Glenys Allinson, Rob and Paula Hewitt, Hazel Jordan and Ann Robertson. In recognition of their achievement they were presented with the Chairman’s Cup by Barbara Hamlin, Chair of the Twinning Association, and also received wine and chocolates.

A raffle completed the evening and helped in the Association’s fundraising efforts.

Interested in learning more about the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association? Then please email: thepavilion54@btinternet.com or telephone 01458 252946

Active Living Get Together Club



Fridays 9.30-2.00 Village Hall

Programme for May & June

May

04 Games
11 Take Note (Singing Group)
18 Sarabanda (Recorder Group)
25 Games

June

01 Games
08 Malcolm Gregory (keyboard player)
15 Help for Heroes
22 Games
29 Sarah Chant (accordion music)



Members of “The Bad Pennies”

being presented with the Chairman’s Cup

by Barbara Hamlin,

Chair of the Twinning Association.

U3A Denise Clarke

SOMERTON U3A

The AGM of Somerton U3A will take place on Friday 25 May and will be followed by a performance from The Abbey Quartet, a local group who were a great success at last year’s Somerton Music and Arts Festival. All members are urged to attend as we need to have a 20% attendance in order for the AGM to take place.

Monthly meetings take place on the fourth Friday of each month at the Edgar Community Hall, Somerton starting at 10am with coffee (30p) and chat. After any notices the main event begins at 10.30am and finishes by 12 noon latest. Meetings are free for members, visitors £1.50 each.

Deliverer Needed

Do you have half an hour to spare every month to deliver the Curry Rivel News to some houses in Stanchester Way?

Contact Jon Geary on 259003 or curryrivelnews@gmail.com

Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wix.com/films



Murder on the Orient Express (12A) Friday 18 May

The best detective in the world, Hercule Poirot, embarks on a three-day journey on the Orient Express. But a small avalanche hinders the train's engine and the passengers are stranded. During the night Poirot hears strange noises coming from one of the compartments only to discover the next morning that a passenger has been murdered. Will he identify who killed the victim before the train starts moving again?

The film has an all-star cast including Kenneth Branagh, Judi Dench, Olivia Colman, Derek Jacobi, Johnny Depp, Michelle Pfeiffer and Penélope Cruz.

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 annual ticket for only £50 – saving you £20.

Citizens Advice Open Day

Saturday 2nd June 10 a.m.—12 noon.

Royal Clarence House, Bridgewater, TA6 3BH

We are currently looking to recruit new volunteers .

Drop in to look around and learn more about volunteering with us.

Refreshments available.

For further information please call

Abi Black on 01278 459009

Coming soon:

The Greatest Showman (PG): Stars Hugh Jackman as P.T. Barnum, the visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation.



The Royal British Legion

Curry Rivel, Drayton & Fivehead Branch

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 17th May in Curry Rivel Village Hall at 18: 00

The AGM will be followed by a talk on the Royal Navy

by Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour, CB. RN.



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CURRY RIVEL PARISH PLAN 2015-2025 REVIEW

Parish Councillor Tony Greenaway

It's been 2 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 5 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 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 to helping shape the future of our village

Thanking you in anticipation

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Parish Plan 2015-2018 Progress Report – Part Two

You asked.....	What has been done since 2015
<p>...for improvements to existing footpaths and wildlife areas with more promotion</p>	<p>Six new gates have been installed to replace old styles and some paths have been improved. New signage has been installed at Eastfield meadow and Westfield recreation area. Eastfield is now managed to preserve and enhance its special status as unimproved, species rich meadow.</p> <p>There is ongoing work to improve signage around the village, for example, street signs and brown signs for the historic monument</p> <p>There is now a section on the website about public footpaths</p>
<p>...for an Open Gardens Day Committee</p>	<p>The event was very successful in 2016. The group has agreed to run another event in 2019.</p>
<p>...to research interest in a Britain in Bloom entry</p>	<p>thanks to the efforts of a group of volunteers and the unceasing efforts of Peter and Sylvia Goodenough, Curry Rivel entered the Britain in Bloom competition in 2017 and won two awards; one for the look of the whole village and the Bath cup for the new landscaping of the War Memorial. As a result there is now an official Curry Rivel in Bloom group in place which is planning future designs and entry for 2018</p> <p>The first task for the group was to help the Rotary Club plant 500 crocus corms on the land by the garage and 1,000 bulbs donated by SSDC.</p>
<p>...for a volunteer group to be set up to promote countryside and wildlife</p>	<p>A group has been set up with an active Facebook and Community Website pages. There is an interactive wildlife map on the website</p> <p>a letter has been sent to Somerset County Council Agriculture Holdings asking for first refusal on local land they own on the ridge when it becomes available with a view to making it a community asset, for example, as natural woodland or a community orchard</p> <p>a series of community walks were successfully run during 2017, including birdsong, owls and glow worms</p> <p>Batty Piece and Eastfield are now established as wildlife areas</p> <p>Work is ongoing to encourage community to make their gardens wildlife friendly</p>

Probus Club of Langport & Curry Rivel

Dorothy Wadeson

So far this year, we have discussed changes to our constitution ahead our AGM this month. We also welcomed our latest new member, Mrs Angela Cole and our membership is gradually increasing which is heartening. We enjoyed a fun Valentines Quiz compiled by our President, Robert Cole on multi-lingual ways of saying "I love you".

March saw the new officers elected and Robert Cole was presented with a past-chairman badge.

In April Nigel Phillips gave an interesting talk titled "Wild Places and Wildlife on the Somerset Levels" and produced some really interesting facts and information.

May heralds another interesting talk. Why not contact Paul Crocker on 01458 252648 and he will tell you more.

If you enjoy a natter and good company over lunch and an interesting talk, why not join us, we meet at the Drayton Crown each month on the second Wednesday.

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Letters to the Editor

Paws for Thought

Dear Editor,

I've asked my owner to produce and send this letter.

During the time that dogs with mainly black coats could use the parish footpaths only in the mornings, and dogs with mainly brown coats use them only in the afternoons, I've been stuck inside with no proper exercise, why, because I'm completely white!! I thought about rolling in the mud to look a bit brown, but frankly that's not my style, nor was a sprinkling of coal dust to make me look a bit black, I hated it.

I'm a Bichon Frise and proud of it, so the next time that someone in the village comes up with some cunning plan to restrict dog walking please make sure that the whole dog community is fairly considered. Let there be no further examples in Curry Rivel of prejudice on grounds of colour.

Fifi

Milk in Glass Bottles?

Dear Editor

The delivery of milk in glass bottles has never ceased, despite widespread belief to the contrary. When moving from the Thames Valley to CR we transferred our weekly milk delivery and have been very happy with it for nine years. The extra price of delivery probably puts some restrictions on popularity but there are lots of extras that can also be delivered, sometimes at very good prices. Try looking at milkandmore.co.uk for more information. There may be other providers.

No, I don't have shares in Dairy Crest (the Parent Company) or any other interest in this topic to declare except I am willing to pay a little bit more to protect the environment.

Dr Peter Goodenough

Dear Editor

My milk is delivered by Milk & More at about 3.00 a.m. so very little chance of causing a traffic problem. Glass bottles, organic if required and other useful groceries. I hope this will create some more customers for an excellent service.

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mospilates@yahoo.com



Curry Rivel W.I.



The highlight of the month was the exhibition we staged in the Old School Room – ‘A Tribute to Sheila Sandifer’. Sheila died in January and she had been a prolific needlewoman. With the help of her family, we put together a selection of her work – not just patchwork but clothes, Christmas decorations, bags, pictures and intricate cutwork embroidery. It proved to be very popular with over one hundred people coming to have a look on the day, who were in awe of her talent and went away inspired. As usual, the WI cakes went down very well too!

with Camilla, and Allan answered them all with honesty, but perhaps not always with the answer some wanted to hear!

We have drawn up a new programme of speakers for the next 12 months, with some interesting and exciting ones lined up. Our monthly walks continue and we will be starting our garden visits next month.

The speaker at our April meeting was Allan Peters who was personal Protection Officer to Princess Diana. Most of us remembered the attempted kidnap of Princess Anne in 1975, and it was after this that it was decided to increase the protection of the Royal Family. Alan applied, along with 500 other officers, and after a long selection process, got the job. He started off working with Prince Charles, who at that time was looking for a wife and stayed when he married Diana. Allan was prepared for questions and there were plenty! Lots of questions about Diana’s accident and Charles’ relationship

Our next meeting is on Thursday May 10th and is our AGM with voting on the Annual Resolution, which this year is about making mental health matter as much as physical health. We’d love you to come along and join in our discussions, 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

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REUSE - REPAIR – RECYCLE- RENEW - RETURN – CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

In reply to last month's query about a Curry Rivel Milkman, a villager replied with the details. If you would like to change to use glass bottles instead of plastic, contact Milk & More, Yeovil Depot on 0345 606 3606.

This month with the hopefully better weather and work in the garden beginning here are some tips on Recycling and Reuse in the garden.

- Reuse plastic bottles as mini greenhouses to protect tender plants or cut the bottom off and half bury in pots or the soil and use as a water reservoir during the drier months
- Dry and reuse crushed egg shells around seedlings to protect them from slugs and snails (these will need replacing after it has rained). Coffee grounds are a good deterrent too

- Use loo roll tubes, yoghurt pots or old fruit trays as containers for seedlings
- Reuse the tops of toothpaste pumps on the tops of plant canes as eye protectors
- Use old carpet (preferably natural fibre), sheets of newspapers or lawn cuttings as a mulch or weed suppresser around established plants or when you are establishing a new flower bed
- Use plastic bottles as home-made bird feeders or bird scarers
- Reuse old panes of glass to make a cold frame to protect tender seedlings
- Reuse broken crockery, such as mugs, old broken terracotta pots, in the bottom of pots as crocks to help with drainage
- Line a hanging basket with an old woolly jumper or newspapers
- Use cold wood ash (not ash from coal fires) to feed plants – the ash is a natural source of potassium
- Make leaf-mould every autumn from fallen leaves, which break down into superb potting compost. Put in black bags and make holes in the bottom
- Use old carpet as a 'lid' for a compost heap
- Source or donate unwanted garden tools through Freecycle groups – or groups like Tools for Self Reliance or The Tools Shed Project may accept donations of good quality garden or building tools
- Ask your local garden centre if they accept old plastic flower pots for recycling
- Finally, make the most of the rain which falls in your garden by saving it in a water butt

Inner Wheel Club of Langport & Somerton

Dorothy Wadson

This last two months have been quite busy for the club. At our February business meeting we were pleased to be able to donate a further sum to the local 1st Responders volunteers who are emergency angels helping people in need of urgent medical care after a heart attack/stroke etc. We were also able to send a donation to Mercy Ships.

We joined Langport and Somerton Rotary club for their 70th Birthday celebrations and heard a little about its history and the subsequent formation of our own Inner Wheel club. We celebrate our 70th Birthday next year, 2019 and are looking forward to the Rotarians joining us in our own event. We attended their special church service at Langport the following day and were treated to anecdotes on Rotary's national and local history. Afterwards the Rotarians laid on a light lunch for us all, joined by members of the church congregation.

In March we had our District Chairman Lyn Evans joining us at our usual monthly meeting at the Langport Arms. Lyn is a past Archery Olympian. She has been an inspirational Inner Wheel member for some years and takes a great interest in Inner Wheel clubs in the district and she conducted the induction of new member Christine Welsman.

If you would like to know more about the club and our aims please contact Angie Saunders on 01935840130. We meet at the Langport Arms for our lunch meetings on 2nd Monday each month.

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Welcome! Bienvenue!

Our Twinning friendship with Chevilly celebrates 20 years!

Barbara Hamlin

Following preliminary discussions and an exchange of exploratory visits, our Twinning Charter was first signed in Chevilly on 2nd May 1998. A proud moment for both communities! Since then we have hosted our friends here 11 times including a group of footballers, [young and not so young!] and a community choir. We have showcased our lovely village and the local area and taken excursions further afield to Bristol, Bath, Cheddar, the River Dart and Exeter.

Our villagers have been to Chevilly ten times and we too have visited some magnificent sites including Versailles, Paris and several Châteaux on the river Loire as well as delightful attractions in the Loiret area.

The Twinning Association exists to promote the friendship between us and to support young people in their exploration of the wider world. To this end we have raised funds to sponsor a family with children at our Primary School on the biennial visit to France; to host our visitors and more recently to support the teaching and learning of French at the school. The children in years 5 and 6 are currently in regular contact with pupils in Chevilly. We feel that horizons have been well and truly widened in the 20 years! We have had such fun and made so many friendships both here and in Chevilly.

In my national newspaper last month the question was asked if Brexit will be a nail in the coffin of parish twinings. As far as we are concerned the reply is a resounding

“ Absolutement pas!!” This friendship is made to last!



Derek Seward (Chair of Curry Rivel Parish Council) and Philippe Paillet (Mayor of Chevilly) shake hands after signing the twinning of their two communities in 1998.

Looking on are (L) Barbara Hamlin (Chair of the Curry Rivel and District Twinning Association) and (R) Sylvaine Zachareiwicz (President of the Chevilly Twinning Committee)

Painter & Decorator

01458 250005

Free Estimates



John Monaghan



PLANT SALE

**Saturday 19th May 10:00—12:30
Stoneleigh Cottage, Heale Lane**

**Begonias, Fuchsias, Geraniums, Hydrangeas, Bean plants,
Tomato plants and many others.**

Entry £1.00 includes Coffee or Tea

Raffle

**Proceeds in aid of The Royal British Legion, Curry Rivel, Drayton
& Fivehead Branch**

St. Andrew's Church



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

May

Wednesday 2nd

2.45pm **Immacolata House**
- Residents' Communion

Thursday 3rd

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 6th - Rogation Sunday

9.15 **FH** - United Benefice
short All Age/Family Service, followed
by Benefice-wide '*beating the bounds*'
event (see in right-hand column), incl.

10.30 **SW** Family Communion

12.30 **CR** Thanksgiving Service and
bring & share lunch in the OSR

Tuesday 8th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Thursday 10th - Ascension Day

9.00 **CR** School Collective
Worship

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 13th

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **CR** - Holy Communion CW
& Sunday Club

6.00pm **FH** - Evening Prayer CW

Thursday 17th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 20th - Pentecost

10.00 **FH** - United Benefice
All Age Communion CW

Monday 21st

3.30-5.30 pm **CR** School Messy
Church

Tuesday 22nd

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Thursday 24th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 27th - Trinity Sunday

9.15 **CR** - Holy Communion CW
& Sunday Club

11.00 **FH** - Holy Communion CW

6.00 pm **SW** - Evensong BCP

Thursday 31st

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Scott's spot



God's eternal arms

Recently I was shown a clip of my nephew Hugo taking his very first steps.

With my daughters now aged 7 and 9 this took me back a few years to that magical moment when they first began to walk. It begins with just a few stumbling, hesitant steps, but it is so significant. It marks another stage in the journey of life.

For these baby steps to happen, though, one thing is usually needed – a father or mother close by with arms outstretched, waiting to catch their child if they look as if they're going to fall. As I watched Hugo, sure enough, there with him were his parents, reaching out in encouragement. The knowledge that someone was there to support him was all-important to Hugo, giving him the confidence he needed to take those first faltering steps.

But that knowledge of support will in time bring Hugo confidence in so much more than just walking. He faces a world of new horizons, meeting new people, starting school, eventually taking on responsibilities etc. Sometimes things will work out well, at other times he will experience failure and disappointment – as we all do. But always there will be – or at least there should be – the knowledge of a mother or father who is there for him, someone ready to pick him up, comfort him, encourage him, and urge him onwards.

So it is with God, our heavenly Father. In the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy chapter 33 verse 27 (Revised Standard Version) we read this: '*The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.*' This verse reminds us that through the gift of the Holy Spirit our Creator is always there ready to offer a helping hand in times of need; always there to comfort us in times of sorrow; always there to reassure us in times of fear; and always there ready to lift us up when we stumble.

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

And as the memory of Holy Week and Easter begins to fade, it is good to remember also that through faith in God's Son Jesus, his death and bodily resurrection, even in death those arms are present. The world-changing events of that first Easter remind us that those arms are there ready to enfold us as we meet the last enemy, ready to lead us to the promised gift of eternal life.

God delights in His children as much as we do our own, and whether we see it or not, we rest secure in His everlasting arms. If you know yourself to be stumbling and uncertain in all you face, have you lost sight of the encircling arms of God?

With prayer and blessings for you and those you love,

Revd. Scott.

ROGATION SUNDAY AND BEATING THE BOUNDS Sunday 6th May

Everyone is welcome to join the United Benefice Rogation Sunday celebration on **6th May**, starting at **9.15** when we gather at St. Martin's Church in Fivehead 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 which will be followed by a bring and share lunch in the OSR.

Dogs **on leads** are welcome.

See the diary in left-hand column for approximate timings, so that any non-walkers can meet us at various points.

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.

**St. Andrew's Church
Flower Guild**

will hold their annual **Coffee Morning**
on **Saturday 12th May**
10 am - 12 noon



in the **Old School Room** to
raise funds for the flowers
that are used to decorate
the Church for the Fete
weekend.

Coffee, plants, cakes, raffle and
'pop-up' flower arranging table.
Everyone welcome.

**St. Andrew's Church fete
Saturday 7th July**

Planning for this year's fete is
continuing. Besides the usual stands,
the dog show and some classic cars,
there will be a bric-à-brac stall, a 'new
for you' stall (with good quality, new and
barely worn clothes), stocks to air your
frustration on willing 'victims' with wet
sponges and a bouncy castle.

Raffle tickets will be on sale in advance
(and on the day) with **1st prize £100**,
and a number of entry tickets to local
attractions as other prizes.

Donations of books, toys, crafts &
jewellery or plants will be gratefully
received, as well as items suitable for
prizes on the tombola. All items can be
collected; details in the June CRN.

St. Andrew's - Rotas May

Brass - Sue Blackwell

Flowers

5th & 12th - Adrienne Holmes

19th & 26th - Sandra Hill

Cleaning

5th - Wendy Graves

12th - Liz Rendell

19th - Jackie & John de Ronde

26th - Nicky Barker



**PILLOW
TALK**



For the May 2014 issue
of the CRN I wrote
something along the lines of '*being on
the cusp of adolescence, perhaps
pillowtalk in its present format is
coming to its natural conclusion*' and
here I am in 2018, 4 years later, still
reflecting on and writing about the
challenges of parenthood .

United Reformed Church



May

(Services start at 10.30 am)

Sunday 6th - Mrs C Leighton

Sunday 13th - Rev Tim Richards

Sunday 20th - **Pentecost**

Church Feast celebrating Pentecost

A surprisingly different Service.

Sunday 27th - Witness box

Another surprisingly different Service.

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 ctd.

My most recent challenge was how to
respond to the request to meet up
with and spend the day with friends in
the great metropolis of Langport.

Immediately frantic questions enter
my mind: where in Langport? How
long? Who with? What if it rains?
What if you get hungry or thirsty?
What if this happens? What if that
happens? I've heard rumours about
the Rec... Let's agree on a secret code
should you feel uncomfortable or
unsafe (unceremoniously dismissed
out of hand because she would just
text me anyway). And then 'Keep in
touch'.

We agreed she could go. Pondering
my hesitation to say yes out loud with
a friend it was gently pointed out to
me how would she learn to do things
for herself, make helpful positive
choices for herself, take care of herself
out and about if we didn't allow her
the opportunity?

Somerset & Dorset

Air Ambulance Fundraiser

A **BIG THANK YOU!** to everyone who,
via donations for coffee, cake & books,
helped us raise **£ 549** at our coffee
morning on Saturday 25th March –every
penny of the money donated has been
sent to our local Air Ambulance Charity,
so we include a thank you to those who
baked or donated cakes and emptied
their shelves of read or unwanted
books giving freely so that every penny
could go where it counts most.

Pillow talk ctd.

How would she grow into a responsible
adult if she wasn't given the freedom
to do just that? Another 4 years and
she could be moving away to college
(!); life skills need to be learnt, and
tested, and explored in order not to be
'all at sea and cast adrift' when that
time comes.

I'm still not totally relaxed with saying
Yes, even though we've said it a few
times now. It's as much about my fear
as it is her fearlessness.

Thinking this through I was reminded of
a beautiful retelling of the biblical
creation myth entitled *The Blessing
Seed*; rather than punishingly banishing
Man & Woman for eating the fruit of
the Tree of Knowledge 'not yet ripe'
God shows them the four paths leading
away from the Tree of Life – "*the four
paths are called the path of wonder,
the path of emptiness, the path of
making, and the path of coming home.*
*These four paths of life will help you
learn and to care.....You ate of the Tree
of Life before it was ripe. But the seeds
of learning and caring will grow inside
you.*"

In this retelling Man & Woman have to
leave the Garden of Eden in order to
learn how to be the best humans they
can be; there is no guilt or shame but a
necessary 'leaving' of the safety of
home in order to grow. God trusting all
the while that this 'growth' will occur.
I love this myth retelling on numerous
levels but in the context of our
daughter's request? 'Letting go' and
'sending out' are necessary parts of the
teenage transition into adulthood and
because necessary I begin to trust that
they are part and parcel of my enabling
my daughter to walk her own paths of
discovery toward learning and caring.

**In May
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	Tuesday Group	Drayton Village Hall (3rd only)

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

Sun 13	10.00	Plant Sale	centre of village
Sun 19	10.00	RBL Plant Sale	Stoneleigh Cottage Heale Lane



Deadlines for June Edition

Advertising:	5pm Thursday 10 May
Send to:	crnadverts@btinternet.com
Comments & Articles:	5pm Tuesday 15 May
Send to:	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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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
Tuesday Group	252657/252022

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