



# 100 Years of Remembrance

Tony Potter



This month the nation marks the centenary of Remembrance, the annual tradition that first took place in 1919

to pay tribute to those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice during what was then known as 'The Great War'. On the first anniversary of the Armistice on 11 November 1919 the Royal Family and senior politicians, together with Britain's military and religious leaders gathered to remember 'The Fallen'. Millions of families throughout the country had suffered the loss of a close family relative. These families and their communities felt that there should be some visible memorial to commemorate those lost lives. Now nearly a century later, war memorials can be found in nearly every Parish throughout the country.

Here in Curry Rivel a committee was formed in 1919 to consider what kind of memorial there should be; it was agreed that a replica of the ancient cross at Muchelney would be most appropriate and that it should be sited "on the roadside, on the King's highway, so that not only the inhabitants of this district could see it, but also all those who passed by on that road ..."

The memorial, which cost £250 7s 5d (the equivalent today of £5,310) was

paid for by 181 donations, of which the majority were for amounts equivalent to £1 or less, although the five principal families in the village each donated considerably more. The total raised was £244 14s 9d and the remaining amount was paid for by the local contractor, F.J. Dyer & Sons, who stated in their final account that "there is no profit charged of any kind and no charges for supervision, plant or tools." On three brass panels at the base of the cross were inscribed the names of the nineteen men who had died during and shortly after the war. The name of Jim



Stuckey was added in 1994 after a project by village school children found that he had died of gas poisoning in 1920. A further name, WF West, was added in 2007 following research by his grand-daughters. On the central tablet was inscribed, "Lest We Forget. To the honoured memory of the men of Curry Rivel who fell in the Great War 1914-1918. Live thou for England, They for England died". This final exhortation was subsequently removed to make room for a new tablet stating "Also in memory of the Fallen 1939-1945" when additional names were added after the Second World War.

The memorial cross, erected at 'The Bell Corner' on land donated by Major M.F. Cely Trevilian, was dedicated at a moving service on 7th November 1920 attended by the whole village. The service ended with 'The Last Post' and the singing of the National Anthem, before the villagers dispersed.

Nearly 100 years after that dedication and unveiling of the War Memorial, wreaths will be laid once again in memory of the villagers who were killed in both World wars. Amongst the wreaths will be one from the local Branch of the Royal British Legion, which has a new Chairman, Mr Mick Brett from Fivehead, who will combine the role of Chairman and Branch Standard Bearer.

# CRiB Gold Prize Winners



Curry Rivel in Bloom won Gold in the RHS South West in Bloom awards at the Atlantic Hotel, Newquay Friday 11th October. The ceremony was hosted by patrons Lord and Lady Fellowes, against the dramatic backdrop of a howling gale! The Curry Rivel contingent picked up four awards in the

different categories:

**RHS South West in Bloom Champion of Champions -- Gold**

It's Your Neighbourhood -- Allotment -- Outstanding

It's Your Neighbourhood -- War Memorial -- Thriving

It's Your Neighbourhood -- School -- Thriving

It's Your Neighbourhood -- Eastfield -- Thriving

Young Grower of the Year -- Zac Powell

CRiB go on to the RHS National Awards held in London on Friday 25th Oct 2019... GO GO GO Curry Rivel!



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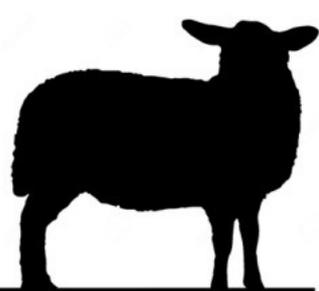
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# Curry Rivel's Popular Christmas Craft Fair is back!

Alison Richards

**T**aking place on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November** in **Curry Rivel Village Hall** (Robert Sewer's Hall) between the hours of **11am & 3pm** you will discover a plethora of stalls offering hand crafted quality items for sale – whether gifts for family and friends or a treat for yourself there will be plenty of shopping inspiration. Hand painted glass, beautifully turned wood items, cards, candles, crocheted sculptures, bead work, papercraft, jams & chutneys, ceramics, original artwork, metalwork, bags, jewellery, cushions, sweets, flowers, even something for the family dog, and more!

With a Dickensian flavour the Fair offers a warm indoor, friendly, festive atmosphere within which to browse, start (or finish!) your Christmas shopping or perhaps treat yourself, catch up with friends over coffee & cake or tea & bacon roll, try your luck on the tombola & raffle, enjoying musical accompaniment from Singers and Musicians throughout.

With good Disabled access, Free entry and free parking in the village carpark. Postcode: TA10 OHD.

A warm welcome awaits you.

## SOMERTON U3A

Denise Clarke

**T**he next monthly meeting of Somerton U3A takes place on Friday 22 November and will be a talk by Alex Leger - Television Producer, Director and Cameraman - who has led an extraordinary life. For 36 years whilst working for the BBC he was a prolific film maker. He produced the iconic Blue Peter and other programmes. He has survived sandstorms, landmines, erupting volcanoes, food poisoning, difficult presenters and flying bullets to make over 600 films across five continents. Although, he would say, not all turned out in the way he expected. From his first adventure encouraging John Noakes to climb Nelson's Column through to persuading Helen Skelton to wear a beard of bees, and from flying with the Red Arrows to bluffing cocaine paste smugglers in the high Andes; he can truly say there has never been a dull moment. It is unlikely that there is another TV Producer alive today who can begin to match his experiences. He is a great raconteur and his talks are lavishly illustrated with film and

video clips and enriched with many behind the scenes anecdotes.

Monthly meetings normally take place on the fourth Friday of each month at the Edgar Community Hall, Somerton starting at 10am with coffee (50p) and chat. After any notices the main event begins at 10.30am and finishes by 12 noon at the latest. Meetings are free for members, visitors £2 each.



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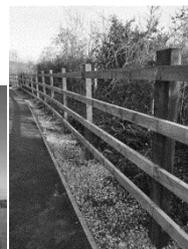
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# TUESDAY GROUP

Barbara Lancey

Following our August break, we were treated in September to an entertaining evening with the lovely Miranda Pender, who presented her 'Late Flowering Lyricist' story!

Miranda began by explaining that she only came to singing and composing about 10 years ago, in her mid-fifties! Generally she sings in the contemporary/folk genre, gathering inspiration from everyday life and the environment (think Richard Digeance/Victoria Wood!!). Picking up her guitar she sang her first song called "Beans Field Blues!", hilariously funny.

Miranda's musical journey began when at 14 she fancied the guitar tutor of a local youth group, so bought a guitar just to have lessons! She didn't pursue this for long and sold the guitar on starting university, and thought no more about it. However, in 2008 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and having sung with friends in Canada following her treatment, she determined to rekindle her earlier interest and bought a guitar. Taking lessons, she was encouraged to write her own songs, and she found ideas coming from anywhere and everywhere, for example the Chelsea Flower Show show gardens! This produced "Chelsea Golden Medal Winning Cutting Edge Garden Designer", another hilarious song! Intending only to play for herself, family and friends, her tutor encouraged her to perform in public. A fan of Richard Digeance she sent him recordings of her songs for his opinion. He was extremely critical but constructive, and invited her to record a CD at his home recording studio, copies of which Miranda had for sale.

With added narrative, other songs Miranda sang during the evening were "See You Say Goodbye", a true tale of her Great Uncle, very poignant, a 'cheeky' song about "Montmorencie's Pants!", and "You're Aye the Man for Me" about her first love - the man on the box of Scots Porridge Oats!!



This was a great evening and I am sure we will invite her back one day to sample one of her other presentations!

Our October meeting is with Trudi Henderson, Community Banker, who will present "Friends Against Scams", and my report on this will appear in the December issue of CRN.

The Tuesday Group is a ladies social group drawing from Drayton, Curry Rivel, Muchelney, Fivehead, Langport and beyond, and meets on the third Tuesday each month at 7.30 pm in the Drayton Village Hall. Annual membership is only £10, or come and try for a guest fee of just £2.50 per meeting.

For further information please contact either Barbara Lancey on 01458 252657, email [barbaralancey@hotmail.com](mailto:barbaralancey@hotmail.com), or Jean Padfield on 01458 253948, email [jeanpadfield2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jeanpadfield2002@yahoo.co.uk).



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# WI Today

Carolyn Paton

No self-respecting WI member goes to a meeting without her diary at the ready, as there are always a variety of activities proposed to members. This month there were options of a guided walk, a pub lunch, and the 'needles and natter' sewing afternoon, but also announcements of a special craft session to create items for the Fair to be held in the Village Hall in November, and a visit to Burns the Bread at Glastonbury. Flagged up too were the forthcoming Somerset AGM at Taunton, the 'shoebox' collection for distribution for Christmas, and participation in rehearsals for the WI choir that will lead the WI Carol Service in Wells Cathedral in December.

The competition this month was to submit a poem or anecdote related to the speaker's topic – adjudication of these was held over until next time.

A special event concluded the business section – the triumphal entry of a beautifully decorated cake marking the beginning of the countdown to the centenary of the Curry Rivel WI in 2021. Less than two years to go! Watch this space!

Anyone interested in the kind of activities the WI proposes, or simply in hearing a range of stimulating speakers should contact the President - Anne Geach on 01458 253078

This month's speaker was Gavin Haig FRCS, a many- talented naturalist and surgeon whose topic on this occasion was

'The trials and tribulations of a surgeon'.

Before beginning his official talk, he made a brief reference to the setting up and development of the award-winning Hospital Wildlife garden at Tiverton. This was already known to a few of the members, and the idea of a guided tour led by Gavin was one of those that buzzed around the room at the end of the morning.

Turning to the title of the day, he spoke with entertaining enthusiasm of his career as a surgeon, beginning with the many elements of training and experience necessary to the formation of the surgeon's skills. Along the way, and indeed since, he has seen many changes in surgical practice, tales of which aroused fascinated horror. Imagine an esophagoscopy (tube down the throat to you!) performed using a brass tube rather than a flexible pipe.... Apparently, nothing like as dreadful as one might imagine. Mercifully, we only saw the brass pipe - that sufficed!

Readers of a certain age may remember a fictitious surgeon named Sir Lancelot Spratt from the 'Doctor in the House' films played by James Robertson Justice; Gavin was appointed as Senior Surgical Registrar to a very similar large, noisy cigar-toting figure who disregarded health and safety regulations quite freely from within his position of power. A pair of WI volunteers gamely assisted in a demonstration of

the great man's modus operandi to the general hilarity of the room.

That aside, it was clear that Gavin's experiences have given him a huge respect for the achievements of the NHS and for all those medical advances which today - in spite of the cost and other drawbacks- enable us to live longer and fuller lives than would otherwise be the case.

Thankyou Gavin Haig for your humane and humorous view of your medical life.



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# Priceless Curry Woods

Peter Goodenough

I remember summer holidays. Often I would be sitting on a warm summer's day on a beach somewhere thinking about going for a swim but deciding to snooze a bit longer under the parasol. Finally, I would energise myself to go for that swim and I would lethargically get up and move. But the tide had gone out; it was too late. I would have to walk a long way to get to open water over rocky sea bed to achieve my goal and inevitably I gave up.

Any resemblance to climate change? We, the people, have left it too late.

The tide has gone out. The State of Nature report tells us of the decline. We are at the end game; we have to walk over a lot of rocky areas to reach the sea. In other words, we are going to have to put in a lot of hard yards to reverse the decline of nature we have all been so complacent about.

How can a paltry little Parish Council like Curry Rivel help? Well we can. We have a little gem of natural England in the Parish. The Curry Woods are historic- they still have a functioning ecosystem. You can still see the big five English mammals, and in fact most native mammals, thriving in the woods (not of course pine martens and otters, that would be silly). The insect population seems very healthy, many butterflies, moths, dragon flies, beetles, ants (especially ants). I can testify that grass snakes breed there and I have seen slow worms and adders. Now the challenge is how to conserve and extend these woods and their ecosystems.

The Parish Council has, since 2016, been monitoring the ownership of the woods. Somerset County Council owned a particularly important area next to and behind the jewel in the crown, a piece of woodland owned and conserved by a far sighted member of our community. In 2018 this Council land was to be sold. The PC asked for it to be transferred to the community as a community asset (this piece of land is a major contributor to water run-off and flooding in Water Street- see the PC risk register for details). However the request, stressing the importance of preserving the ecosystem and preventing water run-off, was unsuccessful.

But all is not lost, Somerset CC has offered the land to the Parish Council for £60K if it can be raised in six months. To this end a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation is being set up. The PC voted the funds to enable this during the October meeting. You will be kept up to date with how to make donations and a website will be available soon.

The PC has the support of a group who are working hard to improve tree cover in South Somerset. Our district has the lowest tree cover of almost any district in the Country (Country not County) so Curry Woods are priceless and we must protect them.

Come with us, walk over that rocky sea bed to find the tide. Together we can again swim in the natural pool that was there only a few short decades ago.

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# Langport & District History Society Talk Report: Town Criers

Janet Seaton

The Society's October meeting began in unique fashion, when it was called to order by the stentorian tones of Ilminster's Town Crier, Andrew Fox, and his escort Julie, both in their full livery. This appropriately introduced a fully illustrated talk on Town Criers by Janet Seaton.

Janet began by distinguishing between the various forms of crier-like officials in history, such as beadles (the most famous being Mr Bumble from Oliver Twist), bellmen and heralds, as well as criers. The cry 'Oyez, Oyez' is often said to denote Norman origins to some extent. Often criers could also be night watchmen or provide civic, judicial or religious duties. The low level of fatalities during the Great Fire of London in 1666 may have been due in part to London criers spreading the word quickly about the conflagration, and allowing mass civilian evacuation from the danger area.

Janet described the various means criers used around Britain and abroad to attract attention, such as drums, horns, bells, cymbals and gongs as well as the uniforms and regalia worn by them – 'real' criers prefer the term 'livery' not 'costume'!

As literacy and newspapers developed the need for criers declined. However, the criers have continually found new roles with some becoming veritable 'Jacks of all trades'. Nowadays they can be used in promoting tourism (as in Salisbury after the 2018 Novichok affair and its aftermath); providing a novel contribution to family and other social functions and in some parts of the world where literacy or modern media

may not be so prevalent, even to spread important public service messages, such as on vaccination.

Criers were generally, but not exclusively, male, and Janet gave examples of women criers from the 18<sup>th</sup> century Betty Dick of Dalkeith to the redoubtable Yvonne Chamberlain MBE, Crier of Axbridge since 1975, who died earlier this year. Langport has a history of town criers from the first being John Franklyn in the 19th century, to the last known being Frank Gaylard, (noted in the 1939 Kelly's Directory).

The Society's next meeting will be at the Sixth Form Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, Wincanton Road, Langport TA10 9SS on Monday 4 November when Stephen Honey will speak on Muchelney Abbey: origins to dissolution. Refreshments will be available in the cafeteria from 6.45pm. Non-members are very welcome, £4 per person. Anyone interested in joining the History Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, [suzannestanden471@btinternet.com](mailto:suzannestanden471@btinternet.com)). Follow the History Society at @langporthistory, and: <https://sites.google.com/site/langportheritage/home>.

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# District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne and Clare Paul

By the time this article goes to press we may or may not have Brexited and a general election may or may not have been called. So perhaps this is the perfect opportunity if you are not already registered to vote to sign up now. If you missed National Democracy Week, SSDC has lots of advice on their website and social media platforms encouraging more people to get involved in our democracy. The easiest and quickest way to register is to visit [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) - all you need is your National Insurance number and it takes about five minutes to complete the application. You can also change the way you vote, for example in person, by post or proxy. In South Somerset there are currently 129,000 people registered to vote. SSDC's Environment Strategy took a step closer to being formally adopted after it was recommended for approval by Full Council at the District Executive Committee. Earlier this year SSDC

formally recognised a climate and ecological emergency and since then have been identifying interventions that will help to achieve significant reduction, in the order of 80%, in our carbon emissions. The aim is to be carbon neutral by 2030 at the latest. If you would like to get involved in future projects within your community such as biodiversity, protecting species, recycling, etc please email [strategy@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:strategy@southsomerset.gov.uk). SSDC is leading the way in Somerset and your engagement is vital in delivering these ambitions. We are receiving numerous complaints about the inability to make direct contact and communicate with SSDC. It would seem with the focus on income generation and transformation there has been a frustrating lack of focus on core values such as providing basic services to residents. We have forwarded your concerns and hope this situation is quickly rectified.

## RNLI Autumn Events



14<sup>th</sup> November 10:30 until 12 noon

Coffee morning at  
1, The Green, Long Sutton

27<sup>th</sup> November 6:30 for 7:15pm

'William Hogarth; The Shakespeare of Painting'  
art lecture with wine and canapes, by  
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## Carol Singing

Monday 2nd December 7.00pm

This year's St. Andrew's-sponsored Carol singing will start at Maple Road (the new development off Stanchester Way) and after an interval move to Parsonage Place.



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# Sedgemoor Gardens Club

*Sylvia Goodenough*

Our October meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> was well attended and we were delighted to welcome several new members. Daffodil and tulip bulbs were on sale at wholesale cost and members took part in the monthly competitions and raffle.

Our speaker for the evening was Francis Burroughs, who delighted us with an extremely interesting talk about "the Victorian Head Gardener", drawing on the experiences of his father, who was apprenticed to a relatively small stately home garden as an eleven-year-old before the first World War.

After talking about the hierarchy of the 24 staff employed in the garden, with the pot boys (who did nothing but wash pots all day), and the gardener's boys at the bottom to the Head Gardener at the top of the pyramid, he asked us what we do when we are about to mow our lawns. He then went on to outline the actions needed to mow the lawns at his father's place of employment - starting with putting boots on two horses (so they wouldn't churn up the lawn) then harnessing one of them to the mower and the other to the roller. An undergardener sat on the mower to steer it while

a groom led the horse, followed by two men to rake the clippings to the side and two further men and two boys to pick them up. Two more men did a final sweep before the roller, while another undergardener on the seat, followed on. There was an assumption that another man was required to pick up any droppings from the horses, as these would have rather spoiled the finished effect! Perfect stripes were required and all this had to be done by specific times so that the inhabitants of the house always looked out at perfect lawns, never on working men!

Of course WW1 changed everything and fewer large houses could afford gardeners and certainly not in the numbers as before the war.

There were many other fascinating insights into a long-ago world and the talk was very well received by members. At our November meeting, on Tuesday 12th, Jeremy Wilson will tell us about "the scented garden".

We meet in All Saints Hall, Langport and are always delighted to welcome new members and visitors so do think about joining us. Ring 01458 250091 for more details or see our website - [Sedgemoorgardens.simple site.com](http://Sedgemoorgardens.simple site.com).

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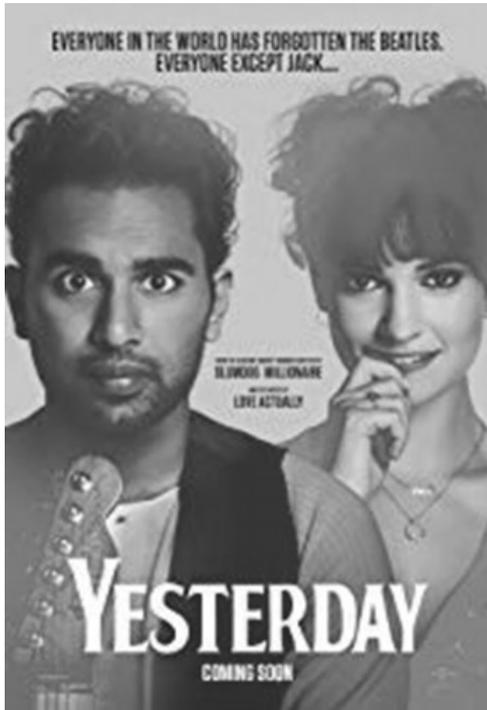
Please call David on 07766 572566 or email [david@hurdsill.com](mailto:david@hurdsill.com).

Menus also available on  
[www.hurdsill.com](http://www.hurdsill.com) or on Facebook @HurdsHillHouse

# Movies in the Village Hall

[mvh.curry.wix.com/films](http://mvh.curry.wix.com/films)

Friday 15 November



A romantic comedy directed by Danny Boyle and written by Richard Curtis. In Lowestoft, Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter but his friend and manager Ellie Appleton encourages him to pursue his dreams.

However, on the night Jack decides to give up he is hit by a bus during a global blackout. When he regains consciousness he discovers that he is the only person in the world who remembers The Beatles and their music. He starts to perform their songs passing them off as his own and becomes a worldwide sensation.

Jack finds himself drifting away from Ellie and realises he has some major decisions to make in both his private and professional lives.

A must for all fans of The Beatles' music!

Stars: Himesh Patel, Lily James, Sophia di Martino, Ellise Chappell & Meera Syal.

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.

Please note we won't be having a screening in December, as we know you are likely to be busy, but we'll be back in 2020 with a new line up of fabulous films. Also, the second film of the year will take place on Saturday 15 February.

## Christmas Turkeys and Geese

**Want to order your Christmas Dinner from a local friendly smallholding?**

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We only have 34 turkeys and 15 geese and we sold all but 2 last year, so order yours now to avoid disappointment!

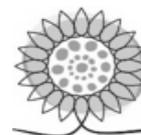
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# Recycle in Curry Rivel

Gina Beauchamp

CURRY RIVEL RESIDENTS CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

## RECYCLING PLASTIC BAGS

Although most people use their own bags in supermarkets these days, we still have plastic and plastic bags that we can keep out of our black bins and landfill. Most supermarkets have a container for recycling plastic bags, but it's not just carrier bags that can be recycled there. Keep a carrier bag in the kitchen to store these items, when full take it to your supermarket, Tesco in Langport have a container outside the shop.



### You CAN include the following:

- All plastic bags and clear plastic wrapping but not compostable or biodegradable as these will affect the quality of the recycled plastic
- Bread bags, give the birds the crumbs first!
- Bags used for fruit and veg in the supermarket
- Breakfast cereal liners, porridge bags
- Shrink wrap and joiners from multi pack bottles
- Frozen food bags from chips, veg, frozen fruit etc.
- Dry cleaning bags
- Magazine wrappers, but not the new biodegradable ones
- Any plastic bag that does not crackle when scrunched!

### DO NOT include these:

- Any non polythene film including Cling film
- Food & Drink pouches
- Film lids from ready meals, yoghurt pot tops
- Dirty bags containing food
- Compostable and biodegradable bags [Use these for food waste in the small brown bin]
- Crisp bags

## The Big Breakfast

Despite the lousy weather the recent Big Breakfast was a success, serving 111 delicious breakfasts to hungry villagers. A big **thank you** to everyone who got out their brollies and ventured to the Village Hall.

We have written to 'Santa Claus', and he has confirmed he will be joining us for the **Christmas Big Breakfast on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December!** We look forward to seeing you there.



For your diary, the AGM of the Village Hall will be held on 18th November starting at 7.30pm.

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## St. Andrew's Church

Find us at: [www.curryrivel.org.uk/local-info/churches/st-andrews-church.html](http://www.curryrivel.org.uk/local-info/churches/st-andrews-church.html) and [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11260/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11260/)



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

### November

**Sunday 3rd - All Saints**

10.15 **FH** - All Age Family Service  
 11.00 **FH** - said Communion CW  
 6.00 pm **CR** - All Souls Service

**Thursday 7th**

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

**Sunday 10th Remembrance Sunday**

9.00 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP  
 10.53 **CR** - Remembrance Sunday Service

**10.30**

**FH** - Remembrance Sunday Service, with FH Baptists

**Monday 11th**

10.45 **CR** School Remembrance Day Service  
 3.30 pm **CR School** - Messy Church

**Tuesday 12th**

10.00-12.00 **CR OSR** - Craft & Coffee

**Sunday 17th - 2nd before Advent**

8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP  
 9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW  
 10.00 **CR** - Family & Friends Service  
 11.15 **CR** - Holy Communion CW

**Tues 19th**

3.00 pm Immacolata House Residents' Communion

**Thursday 21st**

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

**Sunday 24th - Christ the King**

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

## A (very personal) view from the pew.

**By Carolyn Paton**

I am sitting in the traditional-looking building at the head of the Green in Curry - St. Andrew's church, and I see a building encompassing all sorts of different elements adapted and modified over the ages.

There are curious memorials, and furniture not usually found outside churches, but which may be full of meaning once an onlooker knows its purpose. And of course, the sheer volume of the place is in itself impressive.

So far, so common to many old churches. They are tourist attractions in themselves, drawing both casual and dedicated visitors. Those are likely to be people interested in architecture and/or history, those looking for a setting for their marriage that is not only beautiful but one which reflects the solemnity of the step they are contemplating, or they may be an individual simply popping in for a quick look or wishing to spend a quiet moment. So many purposes...

### December

**Sunday 1st - Advent Sunday**

10.00 **FH** - UB Family Service & Said Communion CW  
 11.00 **FH** - UB said Communion CW  
 4.00 pm **CR** - UB Family Christingle Service

**Monday 2nd**

7.00 pm **CR** - Carols at **Maple Road**, then **Parsonage Place**, followed by mulled wine & mince pies



**Thursday 5th**

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

**Friday 6th**

7.00 pm **CR Village Hall** Carols, Bangers & Mash

**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

*View from the Pew ctd . . .*

Built for another age? Certainly, those setting up Christian churches today erect more simple buildings, they rent halls, just meet in people's homes or other small spaces where tech conveniently supplies pulpit, hymn book and Bible, so that the more tactile versions that have served now over many centuries seem superfluous. So, what are we to make of this edifice in our midst? Is there any real use for it today?

Well, it has meaning for many people, some of whom are instanced above. It was designed to be a place of worship, a place to acknowledge and experience on some level the presence of that which is above and beyond – the transcendental – 'God', for short.

Does it do that?

Well as an ordinary Christian in the pew I can say that, for me, it does. Sometimes it does so more profoundly than others, because there are times when I am determined to gaze so firmly at my own problems and the detail of my own life that I allow only a small point of entry for that 'still small voice'.

But mainly, here is a space both in time and place where I can discover more about God, magnificent creator, about his nature as demonstrated in his incarnated self, Jesus, and about his Spirit, that hard-to-describe force that can lead us into all that is good and true.

So, for me it's a great space; a place of discovery and learning, yes, but also, one of re-building and repairing after recognition of my own role where things have gone wrong in my life, of warm exchanges with others and an awareness of that God-shaped presence in the building and the people.

It's a place of ordered beauty where fresh flowers lovingly embellish the old stones and the carpentry of a previous taste, where efforts are made to provide music that speaks to the heart, where care is shown in the attention given to each other, and encouragement is received to serve the outside world in whatever direction our talents and abilities lie.

*It's all about love, actually.*

**St. Andrew's Rotas November**

Brass - Lynne Comley

**Flowers**

2nd - Adrienne Holmes  
 9th - Poppies  
 16th & 23rd - Angela Cole  
 30th - Advent

**Cleaning**

2nd - Jackie & John de Ronde  
 9th - Nicky Barker  
 16th - Lynne Comley  
 23rd - Lyn Cotterill  
 30th - Julia Gauler

**St. Andrew's Flower Guild****Annual meeting**

will be held on **Wednesday**  
**20th November 10.30 am**  
 in the **Old School Room**.

**'Carols, Bangers and Mash'  
in the Village Hall**On **Friday 6th December**

St. Andrew's church will again host an evening of entertainment in the Village Hall. **Doors open at 7.00 pm**

A glass of mulled wine upon arrival, a meal of bangers & mash and a selection of puddings will be provided for £ 7.50 per ticket.

There will also be a bar.

The evening will feature intervals of light entertainment and Carol singing. Due to previous high demand, tickets will ONLY be on sale in Sandpit's, the BP petrol station/Post Office, and the School Office, or from members of St. Andrew's congregation (NOT at the door on the evening).

We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

**United Reformed Church****November**

(Services start at 10.30, unless indicated otherwise)

**Sunday 3rd** - Rev David Huggett  
 (incl. Holy Communion)

**Sunday 10th - Remembrance Sunday**  
**10.53** United Remembrance Service at St. Andrew's Church

**Sunday 17th** - Mr Barry Bryer  
**Sunday 24th** - Mrs Jo Morling

We are a small, 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. We respect the traditions of our past, engage with the present and look forward to the future, believing that Christian truth is not contained in static propositional statements but is ever changing and constantly evolving. 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

**From the Registers****Funerals**

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

3 October - Celebration of the life of Phyllis Nation († 12th September)

16th October - Funeral Service and Thanksgiving for the life of John Webber († 30th September)

22nd October - Service of Thanksgiving at Taunton Crematorium Anne Edmondson († 24th September)

24th October - Service of Thanksgiving at Taunton Crematorium Raymond Charles Orrme († 1st October)

**Harvest Charity Lunch News.**

**BIG THANKS** go to everyone who attended or supported in any way our Harvest Charity lunch: donations amounting to **£ 173** have been forwarded to Curry Rivel Primary School towards monies needed to replace outdoor play equipment. The congregation is very grateful to those who gifted and prepared the delicious food and helped decorate the building in celebration of the earth's Harvest.

**Dickensian  
Christmas Craft Fair**

**Saturday 9th November 11am – 3pm**  
**Curry Rivel Village Hall**

**Free entry**

With upwards of 20 stalls selling quality handcrafted items – from handbags & jewellery, ceramics & glass, original artwork, metalwork, crochet & knitting, papercraft & textiles, turned & reclaimed wood – there is inspiration galore for Christmas gifts or a special treat for yourself (even something for the family dog!). The Guides will be on hand to serve you tea & bacon buttie, coffee & cake; try your luck on the tombola & raffle; take a seat and listen to the recorder quartet from Glastonbury around 11:30am (& again around 1pm), followed by the Benefice Singers around noon; enjoy the warm, friendly, festive atmosphere, catch up with old friends and make new ones. **Hosted by Curry Rivel United Reformed Church** this is a free event (not a fundraiser) for villagers and visitors alike bringing under one roof talented local craftspeople and musicians: come and enjoy!

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# Children's Page

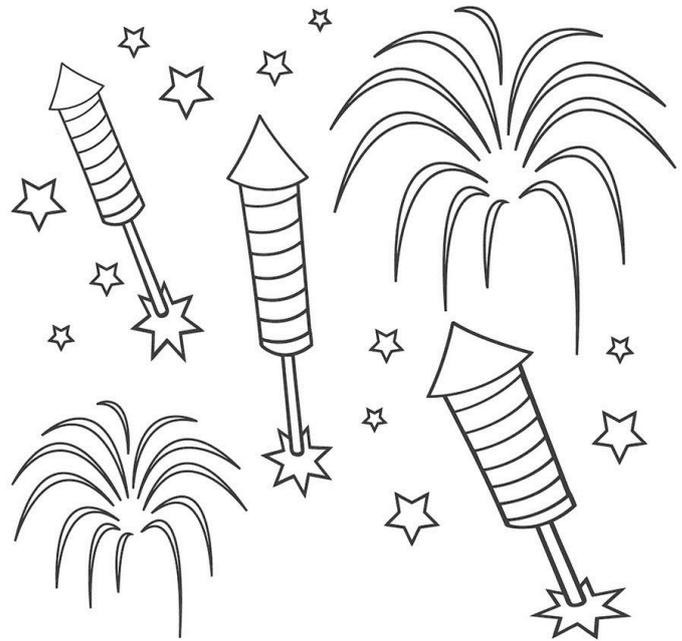


# Just For KIDS

## History of Bonfire Night

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, Curry Rivel and the rest of Britain celebrate Bonfire night or Guy Fawkes night, by lighting bonfires and watching firework displays. This is a tradition that goes back to 1605 when a plot to blow-up the Houses of Parliament with King James inside, was foiled. Guy Fawkes, one of 16 conspirators, planted 36 barrels of gun powder in the cellars under the Houses of Parliament early on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. He was discovered and captured by the Yeomen of the Guard after they received a tip-off and searched the building. Bonfires were lit across the country to celebrate and the 5th of November was made a public holiday.

Add some colour to this picture



## Firework Word Search

W	T	H	U	N	D	E	R	F	L	A	S	H	G
Q	R	W	O	L	T	E	A	G	X	A	J	O	P
T	C	O	Z	S	B	J	K	R	O	C	K	E	T
F	W	L	M	P	U	T	S	F	H	N	U	I	P
O	A	S	V	A	B	D	E	O	O	P	M	C	A
U	B	G	R	R	N	S	F	U	O	I	R	A	I
N	A	U	P	K	S	C	L	E	I	B	O	T	R
T	N	Y	P	L	S	F	A	W	I	F	C	H	B
A	K	F	U	E	E	E	I	N	G	F	K	W	O
I	E	A	T	R	I	O	R	W	D	D	E	E	M
N	G	U	Y	F	A	W	K	E	S	L	R	E	B
A	D	F	G	H	I	I	B	A	N	G	E	R	O
C	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	E	W	H	E	E	L

## Story of Fireworks

The history of fireworks is usually traced back to medieval China, although legends vary as to exactly how they were invented. A Chinese monk from the seventh-century named Li Tian is often credited with creating the first firework. According to lore, he stuffed gunpowder into a bamboo shoot and threw it into a fire, and boom! He is celebrated in parts of China with fireworks displays every April. Other legends claim the first fireworks came from a cook working in the fields who attempted to cook food by mixing sulphur, charcoal, and saltpetre (also known as potassium nitrate).

- |                 |              |        |          |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Catherine Wheel | Banger       | Rocket | Sparkler |
| Roman Candle    | Thunderflash | Flair  | Fountain |

## Charity Theatre Trips to Bristol Hippodrome

Tickets for **Les Miserables** are selling fast. We have a trip planned for Monday 20th April and a back-up trip on Tuesday 5th May. Prices including coach at £85 (Premium), £70 (Band A stalls) and £62 (Band B stalls/Grand Circle) for the tickets available at the time of writing. Contact Chris today for an update and to make bookings.

**We Will Rock You (The Queen Musical)** on Wednesday 18 March, £45/£58 is full but a second coach is a possibility with just a few more bookings.

Also book now for:

Matthew Bourne's **The Red Shoes**. The date for this trip has changed and it is now on Thursday 5th March 2020 at £61 and £39.

**Carmen**, Welsh National Opera's new production on Friday 13th March at £55.

**The King & I** London touring production. We plan an evening

trip on Thursday 26th March and a matinee on Wednesday 1st April.

**Mamma Mia**, Monday 8th June, £49 and £61

All of these have a payment date in the New Year, but the sooner you reserve the better seats you will receive. There is no charge for cancellation until I have paid for the tickets.

Our coach goes from Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerton, then Street/Wells or Keinton Mandeville/Shepton Mallet depending on bookings. Payment is usually due about two months before the show date. Any profit is donated to charity.

For more details of all trips please visit

[www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk](http://www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk),

e-mail: [coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com](mailto:coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com)

or phone: 01458 273085 for a brochure.

**In November****Regular Events****MONDAY**

9.45	Art Club	Village Hall
3.30 - 5.30	Messy Church (2nd only)	School Hall
6.00	Pilates	Primary School
6.45	Explorer Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport

**TUESDAY**

10-12	Craft & Coffee (2nd only)	Old School Room
10.30	Line Dancing Classes	Village Hall
2.30	Forget-Me-Not-Café	Village Hall
5.45 - 8	Pilates	Primary School
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Guides	URC Hall
6.30	Langport Youth Club	Ridgway Hall
7.00 - 9.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club (2nd only)	All Saints Hall, L'port
7.30	Tuesday Group (3rd only)	Drayton Village Hall

**WEDNESDAY**

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

**THURSDAY**

10.00	WI	(2nd only) Village Hall
2.00 - 4.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
4.30	Rainbows	Village Hall
4.30	Brownies	Village Hall
7.30	Parish Council	(1st only) Village Hall

**FRIDAY**

9.30-2	Get Together Club	Village Hall
7.30	Cinema Night	(3rd only) Village Hall

**Special Events**

4 Nov. 6:45 pm	History Society Talk	Huish Episcopi Academy
9 Nov. 11:00 - 3pm	Craft Fair	Village Hall
10 Nov.	St Andrew's Church Remembrance Service	
17 Nov. 2pm - 4:30	Sedgemoor Guides Jumble Sale	All Saints Hall, Langport

**Deadlines for December Edition**

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday <b>7th November</b>
<b>Send to:</b>	crnadverts@btinternet.com
<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday <b>12th November</b>
<b>Send to:</b>	crng2019@gmail.com

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**Some Useful Telephone Numbers****Youth Organisations**

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

**Sports Clubs**

Short Mat Bowls Club	251201
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
Curry Rivel in Bloom	762296
Get Together Club	251524
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 - Bookings etc.	259391

**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
Churchwarden	259003
Secretary PCC	251355
Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	274008
URC Minister	252799

# And the Winner is ....

*Alison Cockrell*

Yes, it was blowing a gale; yes, it was pouring with rain, but that was no deterrent for members of The Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association on Saturday 28 September. Around 40 members and their friends took part in another of the Association's popular quiz evenings. This time the quizmasters were "The Quiz Kids" who won one of last year's memorable evenings. Various rounds had been compiled on a range of topics including 2019, Weather and Maritime Matters as well as Somerset, Animals and The Human Body. The traditional Fil Rouge round, this time with 50 questions, was distributed at the beginning of the evening and required a number as the answer to each one - some proved quite tough!

With eight rounds and the Fil Rouge completed the scores were added up and "The Fivehead Rivels" were pronounced the winners – congratulations to Dave & Nina Cameron, Paul & Di Narey and Paul & Carol Crocker. Their efforts were rewarded by being presented with the Chairman's Cup by Barbara Hamlin, Chair of the Twinning Association and they also received some bottles of wine to celebrate their achievement.

There was also a raffle to help with the Association's fundraising.

Interested in learning more about the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association? Then please email:

[thepavilion54@btinternet.com](mailto:thepavilion54@btinternet.com) or telephone: 01458 252946

*Fivehead Rivels team members (l to r): Carol & Paul Crocker, Dave Cameron Di & Paul Narey and Nina Cameron.*



*Barbara Hamlin presenting the Chairman's Cup to Fivehead Rivels team members.*



## 1st Curry Rivel and Drayton Girl Guides Thank You

*Jane Brooke*

**Long Overdue Sri Lanka Report:** A huge thank you to those who supported our fundraising to enable four members of our unit and another from 1st Somerton to join a volunteering group under the auspices of Projects Abroad, to Sri Lanka last Easter. We were based in S.E. Colombo near a huge rubbish dump over 100 acres in area and 90 metres high which, in the monsoon the previous year, had collapsed taking houses and people with it. Our group taught English to pre-school children at three different one roomed schools of 30-90 children. Activities around the book "A Very Hungry Caterpillar" helped the children learn simple words through games and songs. In the afternoon we installed a pre-school playground with a sand pit, planters and mural of 'Elmer the elephant'. In temperatures of 36C and high humidity it was extremely hot sweaty work, but we kept cool by keeping our clothes and hats damp with water. A second group taught English in a community hall to a group whose ages ranged from 5 – 55 which made for interesting topics of conversation. The toilet in that community hall was a bucket in a small room!



Our weekend between the two weeks was spent in Kandy where we met with the Kandy Girl Guides and Rangers. Units there are associated with schools so we met in a big school and the Guides had organised activities around their New Year Celebrations which take place in April. We made the fire and boiled the milk that is their tradition and were shown how the community celebrates New Year, played a lot of traditional games, had a new year feast of Tamil and Buddhist dishes, danced traditional dances and then showed the Kandy Guides traditional Somerset country dancing. Communication was difficult as we possessed as much Sinhalese as they did English, but lots of smiles and hand signing meant we had a very enjoyable day. The cricket kit so generously donated went to a boys' senior school, where it will be put to full use.

We are now fundraising to enable three members of Sedgemoor division to go to Vietnam, Greece and Dublin on International community expeditions in 2020 and our next fundraiser is a Jumble Sale in All Saints Hall Langport on November 17th 2-4.30 pm. If you have any jumble, please ring 01458 252901 to arrange collection.

