



Lockdown Diaries – Can you share your experiences with us?

Steve Allinson

I am sure, like me, you will be talking about these “lockdown” weeks in years to come. We are part of living history in that regard. The Curry Rivel Community Support Group thought it would be a great idea to ask residents to record their experiences and, subject to the response, we could perhaps look to publish a record and raise funds for charity, and share our record with the County archivist, so it is indeed preserved for future generations.

So, all we ask at this stage is that you write a short piece (around 200 words) describing your experiences, thoughts, hopes and fears over recent weeks. Maybe there is humour for us to share, or maybe sadness. We have all been affected in some way and it is possibly important to record that for our future village generations. Nothing is off limits. Perhaps you are angry and want to let off steam. Alternatively, you may have had something happen to you that has cheered you along the way. We would love to hear from you whatever your story.

So, can you contribute? The more personal experiences the better, and please spread the word so all ages take part. We hope that the CRN may also be an outlet for this idea.

Please send any pieces to the Curry Rivel **website** at the following email : editor@curryrivel.org.uk

Do go to the village website to see a lovely contribution (our first) from MP, which may give you an idea or two so you can pen your own piece. If you wish to share a photo that is fine (perhaps of something you have photographed around the village during these times, or just of something that has been significant for you in recent months). If you are happy to have your name available that would also be appreciated, but anonymity will also be respected.

It would be great to gather these observations in the coming months, so let’s get those creative juices flowing.



Volunteers at the food bank... see page 4

Tuesday Group



Barbara Lancey

Our weekly newsletter, the TG Times, continues to be a great success in keeping members 'in touch', plus offering lots of hints and tips, while the monthly meetings are on hold. The content is from members themselves, and our Secretary cleverly constructs a very readable publication each week, which is emailed to members every Friday.

Regular weekly topics now feature - 'With Time on our Hands', 'Being Creative', 'Gardening', 'Celebrity of the Week' (getting to know a different member each week!), 'Amusing anecdotes', 'Recipes', 'Travel Stories', 'Poetry Corner' and much much more, including many photos and discovering so much about each other especially some hidden talents, an accomplished artist for one!

A couple of recent examples:

ALTERNATIVE MEDICAL DEFINITIONS!

Cauterise	Made eye contact with
Coma	A punctuation mark
Node	I knew it
Recovery Room	A place to do upholstery
Terminal illness	Getting sick at the airport
Urine	Opposite of you're out
Secretion	Hiding something
Seizure	Roman Emperor



DISH CLOTH MEMORY

Well I would never have believed a simple hand knitted dish cloth, given to me by a member of our group, who has been a lovely friend for quite a few years, could have made my heart skip a beat and bring back so many happy memories from at least 60 years ago. At the end of her note was added the words – 'it's a dish cloth'. *just in case I had not seen one before!*

Well, I knew exactly what it was. I think I may have even learnt to knit making one. Ladies of the village 'Working Party' who met, sometimes in our house, to knit, sew, drink tea and eat biscuits and catch up on village, dare I say, 'gossip', made them along with, aprons, covered coat hangers, knits of every kind, oven gloves, gardening aprons, (*a speciality of my Mum*) etc. All their makes were then sold at the annual village Summer Fete and Christmas Fayre in aid of the church and village hall. These events were highlights of the village calendar. We also had a small agricultural show complete with gymkhana. This involved great enjoyment and rivalry in entering the competitions in the 'Big Tent' for both children and adults. The pain of the writing competitions, I hated those but loved the cooking and flower decorations, I don't need to explain I am sure you can all picture it. Then the excitement of looking to see if you had a prize card by your entry. Such happy and simple times. So thank you to my friend, you know who you are, I couldn't bring myself to spoil my 'dish cloth' with greasy water, it is far too special!

As you will see, there's always something to keep us smiling!



The Challenges of Conserving Ancient Woodland

Peter Goodenough

It is almost beyond ironic. We are working to conserve an ecological network of ancient woodland made up of many different multicellular plants and animals. This is because such networks are being squeezed out of existence in the human dominated world. Suddenly we find that a non-cellular, non-living piece of genetic material wrapped in a protein coat can squeeze us out of our world domination. What the largest trees and animals cannot do has been done by a virus. This trojan horse type of attack, where our bodies destroy themselves, has been known to science for hundreds of years but who would have believed that, within a year, human civilization would be brought to the brink of collapse by a new version of an old enemy. Will this make us finally understand the balance of life and our role in the ecosystem? Who knows- Malthus in the 1700s was pretty sure pestilence was going to be hard to beat, and he was right. In defence of viruses it must be said that, in evolutionary terms, it is not in their interests to kill their hosts, that's why most people are asymptomatic; they produce lots of virus particles before they become immune but are still there to be reinfected in the future when their immunity has dropped off. If the virus induces its host to kill itself and wipe out the population then goodbye virus also. Think smallpox, it could only reproduce in humans and by effectively making the human population dead to the virus (by immunisation) it died out. Unfortunately, coronaviruses are better adapted and can live in a range of mammals. Those of us kept alive by modern scientific interventions often have less than optimal immunity, this has been exposed by the virus, evolution is cruel, it's the weakest and unfit that are killed. Never was a phrase more true than "survival of the fittest" today. If you are a young person reading this do think about a career in Biochemistry, this is where the most exciting research can be done to make sure people who are kept alive with a range of conditions can have a normal quality of life, we still need to understand so

much more about the complex interactions which make up our bodies. I am personally only alive today because of the incredible work of countless biochemists unravelling the life of cells.

So how's the conservation of Curry Woods going? Incredibly well is the answer.

Thanks to the perseverance of Sylvia and a family friend charitable status was obtained on June 22. Many, many thanks to James Mudie who used his connections and knowledge of the Charity Commission (he used to work for them) to keep things moving during the emergency. So despite everything they got the result that we all wanted. The Commission is rigorous in vetting new applications and was not really able to work at a normal rate but the team kept at it, chivvied them along and so the job was done. Also the people of Curry Rivel and other Trust foundations in Somerset have supported the work in an unbelievable way. CWCT has raised around £45000 as of today and this, given the situation, deserves praise of the highest order. Well done to all of you! We are now applying to South Somerset's community grants for environmental projects fund for up to £12500. If we can get their support we will be well on the way to completing phase one of the project, which is buying the land. If you would like to support our application to South Somerset please email Tiffany.Osborne@Southsomerset.gov.uk saying that you are strongly in favour of Curry Woods being conserved for the current community and the communities of the future. This money is set aside for environmental initiatives so Curry Rivel should be recognised for its own initiative. We hope you will continue to support us, as donations are still needed for one last push to buy the land. Contact the trust at cwctrust@aol.com, go to our website cwctrust.simplesite.com or ring Sylvia on 07903 030533 for our bank details.



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Do You Have Surplus Fresh Home-Grown Vegetables?

Steve Allinson (Chair CRCSG)

We have been so grateful for the regular donations of food and money to our village Food Bank. It has been very humbling to see so many from our community (and the surrounding area) coming together to assist those in need at this time.



Those of you who are gardeners will hopefully now be seeing the fruits of your labours with home-grown



vegetables. If you find that there are too many for your own use, then why not bring them along to the URC between 12 noon and 1 pm on either Wednesday or Saturday? We shall be delighted to add them to our food deliveries.

It does seem that the difficulties some in our community are facing will continue for the foreseeable future, so our Food Bank will remain in operation for as long as is necessary. We are meeting a very genuine need. This means that it is really important that we continue to receive ongoing food and/or financial donations. If you are reading this article, please consider if you can help. If you are not able to visit the URC, then please contact us via the details below and we shall ensure the delivery is made. We really do need your support.

Finally, if you need any help at all (however small or large) please do also use the confidential contact details below.

Contact us: email : help@curryrivel.org.uk

Dedicated phone number: [07716792760](tel:07716792760)

All contact is treated in the strictest confidence.



Pete Barker presenting a bag of fresh produce

Parish Council News

Tony Greenaway

At the June meeting it was all change as the councillors voted on and welcomed, Claire Anderson and Matt Geen, to the council. Derek Yeomans was officially recorded as Interim Chair and Terry Mounter as Interim Deputy Chair. Due to the major change in personnel and the lockdown, councillors are deciding on Council priorities for the coming few months. These will include future use of Westfield, parking restrictions around The Green and in the High Street, use of funds secured from house building under Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy, and projects for Climate Change Funding.

Speed Indicator Devices have been installed in two locations to deter speeding and to produce valuable data on traffic speeds. Unfortunately, neither of them have been operating all the time due to a technical hitch which is being sorted out.

The Council will have a vacancy soon for an experienced Clerk and Finance Officer. You will find a job description of the village website as well as in this issue of Curry Rivel News. Anyone interested should contact Derek Yeomans by email: dnlyeo@btinternet.com



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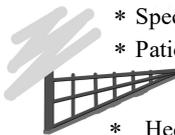
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Today is the tomorrow we worried about yesterday – and all is not well

Bill Blair

Yesterday, when life was good,
 For some, dare say, hum-drum
 We could not anticipate,
 The Hell that was to come,
 Coronavirus struck the world
 A pandemic quickly spread,
 Many thousands were infected,
 With some so ill, or dead!
 'Self-isolation' is a phrase,
 And 'social distance' too,
 With lists by government offices,
 Of things allowed to do!
 It quickly brought the best in folk,
 Who kindly volunteered,
 To help the elderly and others,
 With chores too hard or feared,
 Alas, there's in amongst us,
 The families, sisters, brothers,
 Who think they know the best,
 And jeopardise the others,
 We're in the middle of it now,
 Ahead the future lies,
 The cases all are worrying,
 The figures, graphs still rise.
 The end we can't anticipate,
 It's still some time ahead,
 By which time more will be quite ill,
 And some, so sadly, dead,
 So what, we ask, will happen,
 In the approaching summer clime,
 When four home walls consume us,
 And care and luck buy time?
 The answer is 'We do not know',
 The experts may just guess,
 But if we all obey the rules
 Will it go quicker? Yes!



Bridge Cycle Club

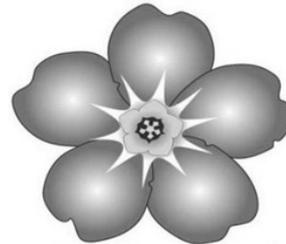
Tony van Bergenhenegouwen



A few friends are starting up a new local cycling club based at the Bridge Café in Langport. It is a free group with no charges or profit intended and simply exists to encourage more people out onto their bikes. It is a social cycling club for those with a passion to ride and be free and is open to all those with a road bike who can ride at an average pace of 10 to 15 mph. We envisage routes around Somerset and Dorset with distances from about 20 miles to 50 miles.

The meeting point is the Bridge Canteen (next to the cycle shop) by the bridge in Langport on Saturday mornings. For more details contact Brian Manning: 07763 878032 or email: briansetten@gmail.com

FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ



Roger Hampton

The Forget Me Not Cafe last opened at Curry Rivel Village Hall on 16th March and, for the time being, is closed.

Prior to the temporary closure due to the current Covid situation, the Cafe was very popular and was... 'a great place to make friends, especially for those with memory challenge'

We do hope all those that attended the Cafe are surviving the lock down, and we appreciate it has been very difficult for some. If there is anything you feel we might be able to help you with, then don't hesitate to call Chris on 01458 741606 or Adrienne on 01458 25271.

Whenever the Cafe is able to open, please be assured that we will do so as quickly as possible, and definitely bearing in mind the safety and well-being of all concerned.

Please take care and hopefully it will not be too long before we can open up the Forget Me Not Cafe again.

An experienced part-time Parish Clerk is now sought for Curry Rivel

The main purpose of the role is to:

- Ensure that the instructions of the council as a local authority are carried out effectively;
- To assist in the formation of policies and practices to ensure we have all the information required to run efficiently and make effective decisions;
- Be the main finance officer, and produce timely records of all meetings;
- Act as the first/ main point of contact with outside bodies and members of the public, representing the Council and distributing information on our behalf.

Key skills include good literacy, IT, numeracy and an ability to get on with a diverse spectrum of people. Membership of the society of local council clerks is desirable but not essential.

If you are interested and want to find out more - including hours and rates of pay - please contact our chairman Derek Yeomans in the first instance on 01458251549, or email your cv to dnlyeo@btinternet.com



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District Councillors' Report

Tiffany Osborne and Clare Paul

In the last few days there have been some major upheavals in the Planning Department at SSDC. The Lead Specialist for Planning, Simon Fox, as well as two experienced Lead Planning Officers Stephen Bainbridge and Alex Skidmore are leaving. This is all taking place during a period of planning reform in SSDC which became necessary due to backlog in cases and criticism of the planning function. We have asked for an urgent update as this obviously affects all ongoing as well as future planning applications and will undoubtedly cause frustrating delays.

As part of its ongoing commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030 SSDC plans to extend the Electric Vehicle charging network to meet the increasing demands, linking in with private enterprises, parish and town councils, neighbouring District Councils and Somerset County Council.

The initial plan is to have charging points at around 17 SSDC car park locations with two 22kW connectors at each, aiming to be completed by December 2021.

The opportunity to own your own home in South Somerset is set to become easier following a decision by South Somerset District Council's District Executive Committee to approve a number of new measures that will enable the council to achieve its housing targets. The Council had been very clear in a report that went to District Executive Members that South Somerset needs more homes to be built in order that residents have every opportunity to own or rent their own home. A lack of a choice of homes also greatly affects the economic performance of the district.

The report set out a way ahead to achieve a faster delivery for all types of homes in the right locations and to ensure a pipeline of delivery for the future. The Council commissioned a consultancy, the Three Dragons, to work with them to deliver a roadmap to achieve a higher rate of housing delivery. The report findings are based on a thorough analysis of the causes of under supply. It followed extensive consultations with the local development industry, affordable housing providers and Homes England.

The report highlighted a number of key findings that confirmed a persistent pattern of delivery falling behind the targets set out in the Local Plan. Furthermore, the evidence shows that whilst not meeting the needs of the district, the delivery of homes in the larger, sustainable settlements identified in the Local Plan Settlement Strategy has been less than expected/forecast. Apart from not providing enough homes this decreases the affordability of housing, and from a planning perspective, as we all know, can leave the Council vulnerable to planning applications in less favourable locations that were not previously identified as suitable sites for development.

The 'One Somerset' vision of Somerset County Council is, as one would expect, being opposed by all District Councils. As the County vs District arguments continue to rumble on we will keep you updated as to the pros and cons of the differing arguments.

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Could we have more litter bins, please?

Lily Gallaway

I've lived in Curry Rivel for nearly ten years now. I'm 17 and me and my friends love to go to Westfield park and recently we've been going up to the monument on nice evenings. However, I have no excuse for the rubbish my friends often leave at these places. I try my absolute hardest to make them take their litter home and usually they do, but when they don't the others and I will pick it up instead, but of course we can miss some sometimes. Recently I've been taking bin bags with me to these places to clean up behind people — not only my friends but others too, but it would seem a better solution to invest in a bin or two in areas such as the park. We often sit at the end of the park where the nearest bin is quite a walk away and when I'm not there a lot of litter is often left scattered around. I don't trust everyone

to take their own bin bags like I often do and so I think it would make quite a difference if more bins were placed around the park; only one or two would definitely help. I hate litter and I never excuse my friends of littering, but what with the current economic situation we are all spending much more time outside, so rather than allow the litter situation to carry on I want to be proactive about it and keep the village and the environment tidy.

I hope you can take this into consideration, I will continue to try and tidy everything up as best as I can, but I think a bin would make a huge difference not just to my friends and I but to others who also spend summer days in the park.

Curry Rivel Ponds – pre 17th century

An extract from A History of Curry Rivel by A O Mounter (who lived in our village all his life until he died in 1988)

The sources of the brook which fed the pools of Pool Barton and Water Street were in the forest and woodlands of Red Hill, Curry Woods and Coks wood, and before the clearing of the woodlands in Saxon times it was a fairly considerable stream. The northern side of the Water Street pool would appear to be the most likely spot for the first settlements to be established in Cory later to be known as Cory Revel and now Curry Rivel, and where later the first manor houses were built.

The village was well established by the time of the Norman Conquest, with a memorial chapel in the 13th Century. The settlement spread around the pools and along the stream and in the 15th Century there were at least 7 homesteads in existence of which 5 have survived to the present day. The stream and ponds were essential to the oxen, horses, sheep and cattle of the Yeomen and Husbandmen living in the buildings along the stream.

As the woodlands were cleared the stream became smaller.

There were many complaints brought before the Manor courts in the 16th and 17th centuries of interference by the farmers in the flow of the streams. To offset the resulting shortage of water deep wells were dug at several of the farms, later to be brought to the surface by lift pumps. These remained in use long after a piped water supply was brought to the village from nearby Barrington with reservoirs at Wiltown and near the lawn at Heale.

The farms became less dependent on the water from the stream and steps were taken to reduce the nuisance of flooding and in an attempt to contain

and tame the stream, ditches and drains were dug and constructed. Walls along the banks were built and are visible today from the Yews to the bottom of the school play yard. Between there and the old bakery a culvert has been constructed underneath Church Street that emerges at the rear of Barnards bakery (Living Pretty) then goes underneath the path at Fore Street and then underneath the road at Bell Corner where it flows into a ditch at Bell Mead, with 5 to 6ft walls, and so on its way to Drayton and the River Parrett at Muchelney. Today it is often just a trickle, but in heavy rainfall it can become a small raging torrent causing flooding at Water Street, the school play yard and until recent times at the Bell Corner. It has been known to flow through the front door of the Bell Hotel and out the back. This small and insignificant stream, named in the Middle Ages as Golden Way Brook, gave birth to the Cory tything and contributed to the history of Curry Rivel, being its 'lifeblood' for many centuries.



Children's Page



Just For KIDS

Dinosaur Facts

Dinosaurs lived in every continent on Earth; more than 700 different species have been discovered worldwide.

The Mesozoic Era is the geological time period when dinosaurs dominated the planet.

There are three geological periods that make up the Mesozoic Era, and they are the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

The Tyrannosaurus Rex was part of a group of dinosaurs known as theropod.

The bite of a T-Rex could easily crush through bone and was eight times more powerful than a lion's bite.

The Tyrannosaurus Rex was the largest apex predator of the dinosaur era.

The Brontosaurus was part of a group of dinosaurs known as Sauropods.

The Brontosaurus was a herbivore.

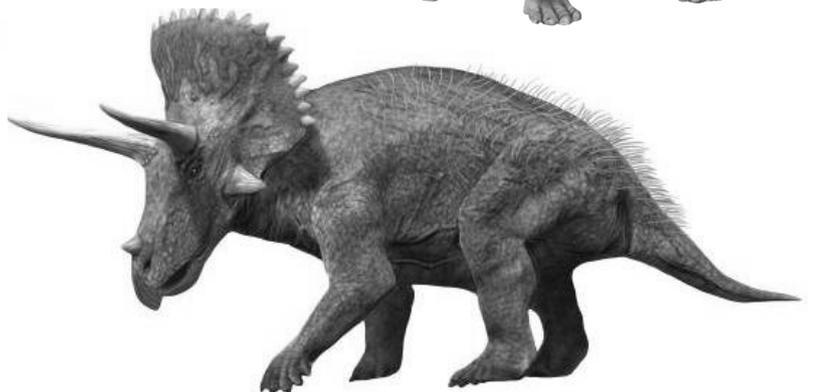
The Stegosaurus was part of a group of dinosaurs known as thyreophorans.

Triceratops lived during the Late Cretaceous period about 68 million years ago.

The name Triceratops means: "Three-horned Face"

The Pterodactyl was part of a group of dinosaurs known as Pterosaur (wing lizard).

Pterodactyls lived at the end of the Jurassic Period between 148 and 151 million years ago



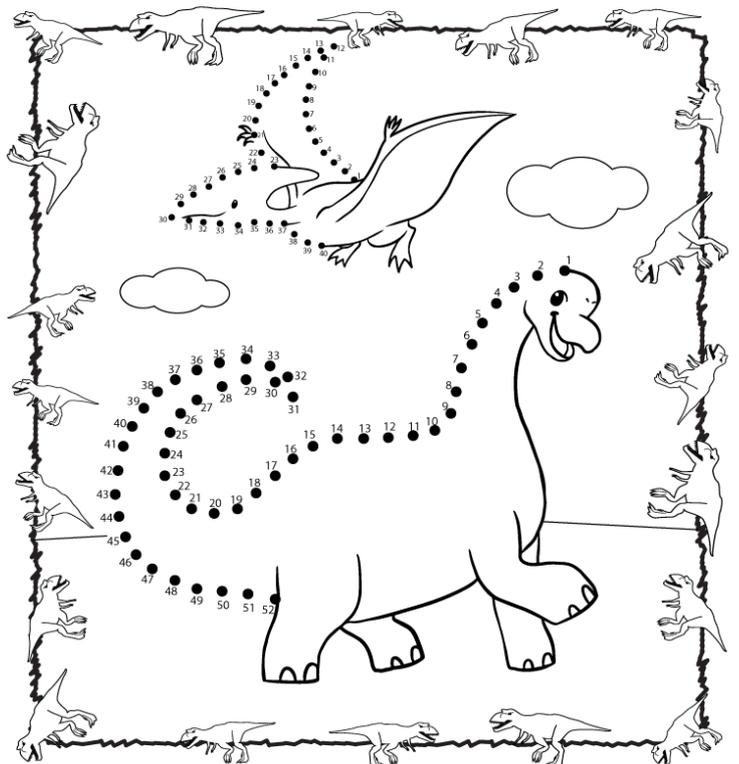
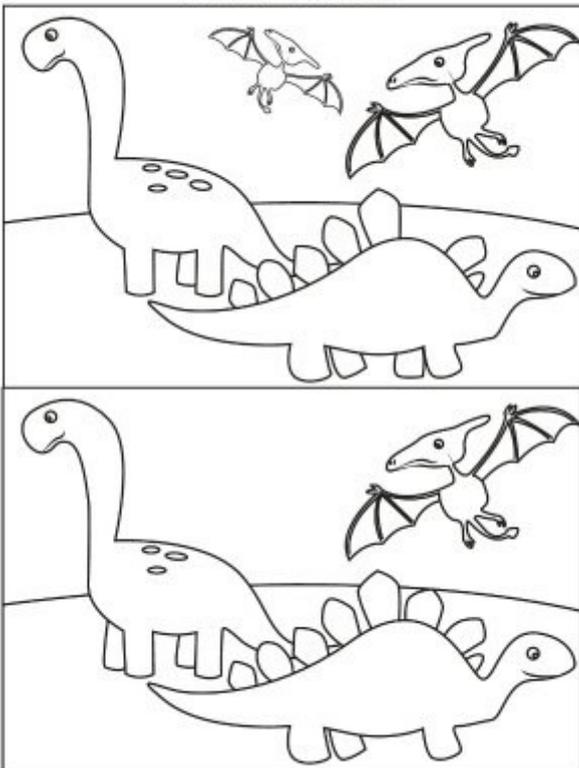
Children's Page



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Find 5 differences



St. Andrew's Non-fete/Giving Day

The afternoon of Saturday 4th July saw a steady flow of people coming to the Village Green to show their support for St. Andrew's Church. Many tried their hand -socially distanced- at 'Skee Ball', with the Rector overseeing the developing competition for well-stocked hampers; the one for 'adults' was ultimately won by Mr Robert Clark. Two other hampers for secondary and primary age children were both (!) won by the Colegrave boys, Dougal and Rufus.



Skee ball, overseen by the Rector

People then continued to the church where they could view some floral decorations prepared by members of the Flower Guild, and deposit their financial gift. Before the visitors went home, a (sealed) scone could be selected from a well-stocked table and many also took the opportunity to have a chat with friends and acquaintances, most of whom they had not seen in person during the lockdown period.

Together with bank transfers received, the total amount donated has stunned many at St. Andrew's: more than double the revenue from a 'normal' fete afternoon. These contributions are a great help to make up for the financial shortfall due to the Covid-19 related measures and they help facilitate the continued upkeep of the church and ministry in our village.

The Rector and the PCC wish to very sincerely thank all those who donated so generously.



Socially distanced chat



Flower decoration by church entrance



Flower decoration in the church

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St. Andrew's Church

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



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

Church opening

Please note that St. Andrew's is open for private prayer on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.00 am - 3.00 pm

August Services

Due to continuing uncertainties at the time of writing, please see the notices on the board in the churchyard by the Green or in the Church porch, and St. Andrew's page on the website 'A Church Near You' www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11260/

St. Andrew's Rotas August

Brass - Jackie de Ronde

Flowers

1st & 8th - Lyn Cotterill
15th & 22nd - Angela Cole
29th - Annette Stein

Cleaning

1st - Wendy Graves
8th - Anne Geach
15th - Anne Goff
22nd - Jackie & John de Ronde
29th - Nicky Barker



Scott's spot



Reassessing?

As we're emerging into a 'new normal' after (I pray) the worst of Covid-19 has passed, I'm hearing a recurring theme. Talking to people who are reflecting on the months since March, I hear about the difficulties faced, the pains borne and the impact felt. But I'm also hearing about life reassessed. Often I've heard people say things like: *"Despite the anxiety of Coronavirus and lockdown, it was also a good time to stop and think about what really matters."* It seems that having to pause the frenetic busyness of life, has been a good thing. It has allowed reflection. Reflection about work priorities, family priorities, time priorities, money priorities, relationship priorities, hair priorities (!) and so on. Seemingly there's been lots of thinking about what really matters in life.

And it hasn't just been those things above that have been reassessed. Being faced with harrowing pictures in the news day after day, with infection rates, death and grief being spoken about so starkly, has also stirred many to reassess God/Jesus/Christianity. In our ordinarily sanitised culture, where death is usually hidden away, suddenly it became unavoidable. Naturally enough this has led to reassessment of some of life's biggest questions. This has been seen in the thousands of churches up and down the country reporting many seeking help, support, prayer, comfort and guidance as they've engaged with worship and Bible teaching online. Despite churches being closed throughout lockdown, it appears that 'virtual' congregations have grown hugely.

St. Andrew's Non-fete / Giving Day VERY Many Thanks !

The Rector of St. Andrew's Church and the PCC wish to sincerely thank all who donated so very generously, either in person on the afternoon of 4th July or by giving via on-line bank transfer.

More about the fete elsewhere in this month's issue of the CR News.

Scott's spot ctd . . .

Perhaps you're one of the many people who have spoken about reassessing your priorities in recent months. Perhaps, too, amongst the national and global situation you've been asking the big questions of life: what's important; what am I here for; where is real strength and support to be found in times of trouble; if Covid-19 proved so serious for me and I was facing an induced coma and a ventilator, where would hope lie? Significant questions for a significant time.

Jesus said: *"Come to me all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls"* Matthew 11:28/29).

Paul wrote: *"...if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved"* (Romans 10:9).

Peter wrote: *"God...has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you..."* (1 Peter 1:3/4)

Is it time to talk to your Christian friends and begin to explore your Bibles?

With prayer for you and yours, our unlocking community, and for those around the world still facing so much.

Revd. Scott Patterson.



Flower arrangement adorning the donations jar.

TEMPORARY FOODBANK - STILL GOING ! -

If you are someone who would benefit from a food parcel in this way please email the CRCSG (Curry Rivel Community Support Group) at:

help@curryrivel.org.uk or call the dedicated telephone number
07716 79 2760.

All contact will be made in the strictest confidence and all data destroyed once this emergency situation is over.

The generosity of the Curry Rivel Community has been so great the CRVSG have extended the reach of the foodbank to include Drayton, Hambridge and Fivehead.

Donations for the Food Bank are gratefully received on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 12.00 - 1.00pm at the United Reformed Church.

The views expressed in **Curry Rivel News** are those of the contributors and not those of the publisher. Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the information supplied for inclusion in the publication is accurate, responsibility cannot be accepted for any omissions or inaccurate information. We reserve the right to edit any contribution for the purpose of clarity, consistency and layout limitations. By supplying material for publication, you are giving consent for its publication on the village community website.

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United Reformed Church



'Beyond Binary thinking..'

thoughts drawn from a reflection on the Parable of the Sower (Matt 13: 1-23) shared at a July Zoom Service led by Jo Morling.

As a master story teller Jesus understood his audience using topics they were familiar with to tell complex stories. Here he uses an agricultural image: the scattering of seeds on all types of soil with varying success rates. In all walks of life, there are variations and conundrums making outcomes variable and unexpected. You only have to look at the guidelines for life coming out of lockdown to know how complex life can be! The Government is unable to give us either/or options for easing lockdown – its too complex and variable.

Either/or (binary or dualistic) thinking just isn't real life and Jesus really understands this - so his story telling is more open ended, more complex, often defying binary opposition; they not only obscure easy, unambiguous interpretation, but create confusion, uncertainty instead.

So, for the sower, the seed doesn't fall on an either/or basis; life is just much more complicated than that. People are more complicated than that. This presents a challenge when we are called to go beyond binary thinking to create new relationships in new ways -relationships where we respect and value the other, no matter what the differences are in our appearances, behaviours and life situations.

But... isn't it interesting, ironic even, that a few decades after Jesus' death, the early church couldn't cope with this ambiguity.

Entrenched in dualistic thinking the explanation for this parable of the sower is given through the either/or definitions we are used to.

August

Services continue at 10:30 am via Zoom for the time being.

Anyone who would like to feel part of a worshipping community is invited to join us - simply email Steve Beney on stevebeney@yahoo.co.uk expressing your interest and he will make contact with you explaining how you can join us on Sundays @ 10:30 am.

We are an inclusive, outward looking group of people and we welcome all: wherever you are on your life/spiritual journey we welcome you without regard to age, gender, denominational background, sexual orientation, race or ability.

URC Minister: Rev Tim Richards
01458 252799

Beyond Binary thinking ctd . . .

The seeds on poor soil or eaten by birds are those people who are weak not strong, who hear but do not retain, who listen but ignore; only those who are acceptable, hear and understand, grow. This interpretation of the Parable of the Sower is almost certainly the work of the early church. Biblical scholars point to the style of language, but more that it was not Jesus's way to give detailed explanations of his parables. But, over the years this traditional interpretation has become our understanding of this parable - only those who hear are accepted into the Kingdom. We fall into the trap of describing others in that dualistic way.

Dualistic thinking can lead us to view everything according to our preferences and likes. Rather than loving the other, either-or thinking can leads to a house divided. There is no easy either-or in relationship building or reconciling with others in Gods kingdom. Real life relationships span a range of situations, just like in Jesus' parable of the sower. And all of these situations fall within God's creation of love, all of us fall in the circle of God's love. And as we move towards God on our journey of faith so we move towards the other.

God's love is not either/or. There is no distinction made by God for who we are. And we are called to do the same.

WARNING

All the Below events are subject to cancellation at short notice due to the Corona virus epidemic please contact each group for details.....Keep well, Keep safe

In August Regular Events



.....all postponed until further notice except shown....

MONDAY

- 9.45 Art Club
- 3.30 - 5.30 Messy Church (2nd only)
- 6.00 Pilates
- 6.45 Explorer Scouts

TUESDAY

- 10-12 Craft & Coffee (2nd only)
- 2.30 Forget-Me-Not-Café
- 5.45 - 8 Pilates
- 6.00 Cub Pack
- 6.30 Guides
- 6.30 Langport Youth Club
- 7.00 - 9.00 Short Mat Bowls
- 7.30 Sedgemoor Garden Club (2nd only)
- 7.30 Tuesday Group (3rd only)

WEDNESDAY

- 9.30 Mother and Baby Group
- 7.00 Line Dancing Classes
- 6.45 Scouts
- 7.30 Bell Ringing

THURSDAY

- 10.00 WI
- 2.00 - 4.00 Short Mat Bowls
- 4.30 Rainbows
- 4.30 Brownies
- 7.30 Parish Council (1st only) via ZOOM

FRIDAY

- 9.30-2 Get Together Club
- 7.30 Cinema Night

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 01460 281115
- Twinning Association 01460 281905
- Women's Institute 259688
- Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton 252813
- PROBUS 252545
- Sedgemoor Garden Club 250091
- Heale Lane Allotment Association 741880
- 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 251940
- 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



Deadlines for September Edition

Advertising:	5pm Thursday 13th August	
Send to:	crn.nigel@outlook.com	
Comments & Articles:	5pm Tuesday 18th August	
Send to:	crng2019@gmail.com	

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