

March 2021



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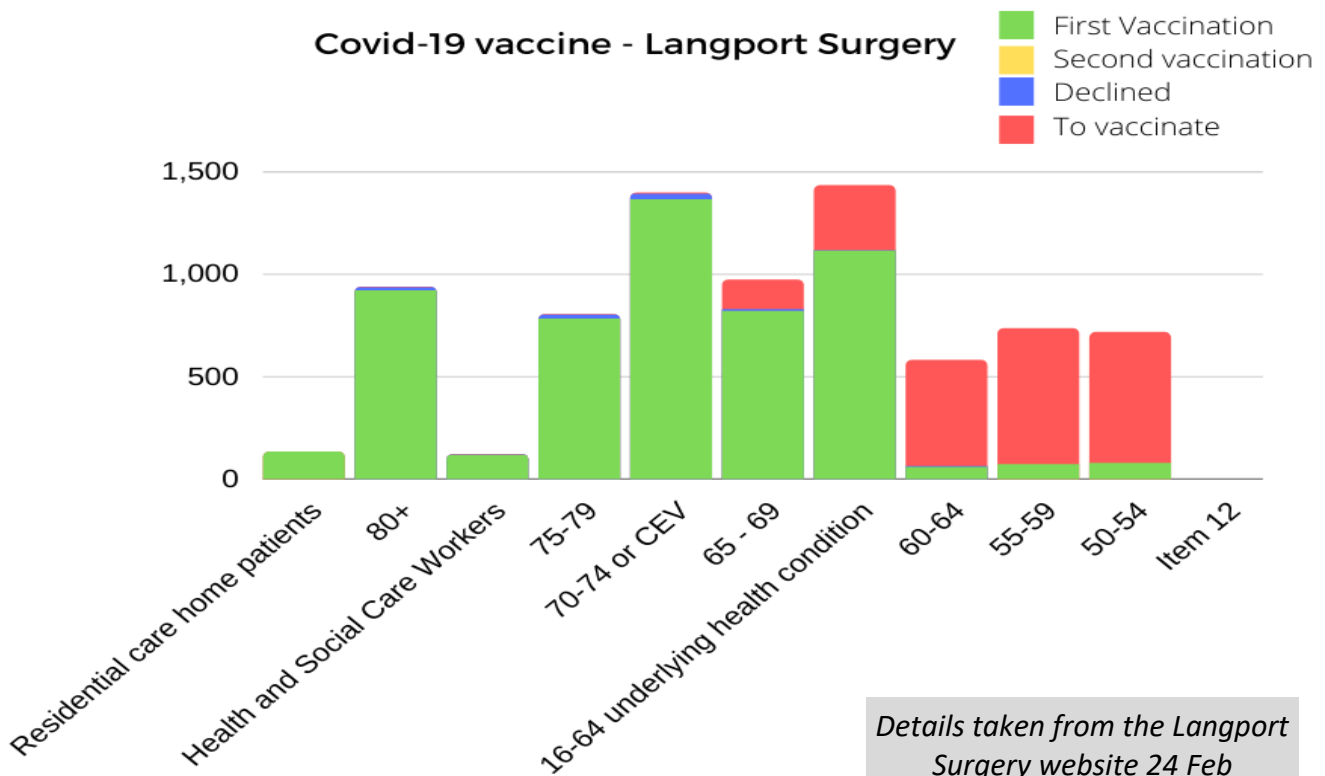
## Langport Surgery First Covid-19 Vaccination update

**Congratulations and thank you to the many professionals, doctors, nurses and all the other volunteers for carrying out a wonderful, friendly and efficient service** *Mike Davis*

*Week ending 20 February 2021 (next web update will be on Tuesday 3rd March)*

Langport Surgery is part of the Chard, Langport and Ilminster Primary Care Network (CLICK PCN)\* We are working through the vaccination programme as a network. You may be invited to a clinic locally, in Ilminster, Chard or to one of the large vaccination centres at Taunton Racecourse or the Bath and West Showground. Please accept the first vaccination appointment you are given if at all possible.

Please be aware that the clinics are being run from the Meadows Surgery in Ilminster due to the nature of storage/handling and logistics. Staff from Langport Surgery are heavily involved in staffing these clinics in Ilminster both clinically and administratively so you may notice an impact on our usual service as we take on this additional workload on top of the already busy day-job. We appreciate your understanding and patience



*This graph includes health and social care workers who may fall into younger age categories.*

# Curry Rivel Community Support Group

Steve Allinson

It is hard to believe that the genesis of the Curry Rivel Community Support Group was formed one year ago now, when I contacted our much missed former Chair of the Parish Council with a very “unplanned” idea of ensuring we looked out for each other in what seemed at the time a potentially challenging few months.

With the help of so many people and the reach offered by our village website and the Curry Rivel News, I believe that we have responded to the needs of our community in the last 12 months.

Although perhaps the most visible part of our work has been the Food Bank, much more has gone on “behind the scenes”. So, this article gives me a chance to remind everyone that our community helpline number is still operative and manned by our volunteers.

Please make a note of the number : **07716 792760**

Do not be embarrassed to call, as if we can't help for some reason, we are in touch with our Village Agent or other relevant persons to ensure queries and requests are dealt with correctly.

As 12 months have passed (it's hard to believe, isn't it?), since we began to learn the meaning of words such as “furlough” and “lockdown”, it is a good time to ensure our volunteer list is up to date. So, if you volunteered to help in the past, and still wish to, could you please send me your

phone number and email address via my details below. An indication of any particular area of help offered would also be great. All details will be treated confidentially and not shared with anyone outside of the volunteer group without your agreement. Several of us who have been instrumental in keeping the support group work going are meeting very soon to discuss the needs and requirements of our community so to have volunteer details available for that discussion will be great. Tony Greenaway has written about the Food Bank news elsewhere in this issue, but you can also keep up to date with what items we are running short of at the Food Bank by clicking on the Curry Rivel website ([www.curryrivel.org.uk](http://www.curryrivel.org.uk)) where we try and keep the information fresh and up to date.

As ever, a big “thank you” to everyone who has helped to make a difference over recent times. Our volunteer and support work continues, but the messages of thanks and gratitude from those we work with are always heartfelt and genuine and show village community life at its best.

Finally, let us all hope that there is light at the end of the long tunnel we have all experienced as winter turns to spring in 2021.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who is able to offer help, so please email me at: [steve@allinsonlaw.com](mailto:steve@allinsonlaw.com)

Best wishes to all who read the CRN, and thanks to the team for continuing to publish our village magazine.

## Food Bank Latest

Tony Greenaway

With nearly a year since the start of the current pandemic, it seems the right time to remind the community that the Community Support Group is still there to help families and individuals who require assistance in one form or another.

The services still up and running and available are:

The Foodbank (now covering Drayton and Fivehead as well as Curry Rivel Parish)

The Support Helpline available either by phone **07716 792760** or email [help@curryrivel.org.uk](mailto:help@curryrivel.org.uk)

Access to the Village Agent who can refer you to the many organisations that exist to support people in difficult times.

We continue to be amazed and grateful to individuals, businesses and organisations that have given their time, money or food and other provisions to help those in need in our parishes. If you are considering donating food or provisions, these are the items that are most needed at the moment::

**washing powder/liquid, fabric conditioner, tinned tuna, tomato ketchup, hair conditioner, shower gel, bleach, baby wipes, childrens' breakfast cereals, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables (not peas or potatoes, though).**

**Please no more pasta or tinned soup.**

Thank you once again for your continued support



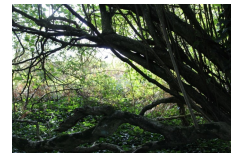
# Curry Woods Conservation Trust

Peter Goodenough

As you are reading this the Trust members will have planted a total of 500 trees and shrubs on the outskirts of Curry Woods. Considering the situation with Covid19 infection, unusually cold and wet weather and the general inability to mix it is very pleasing to be able to report that there is now a new wood on the Trust land. Alan Cockerell has sourced six large tanks that are going to be filled with water for the summer when it will undoubtedly be needed, Alan has also organised a large load of wood chipping mulch to be spread to help hold moisture over the summer. As well as our connection with the Woodland Trust, who supplied 400 trees and shrubs, Catherine Mowat has sourced another 100 trees from One Planet Matters (a social enterprise dedicated to ensuring that future generations will have a planet to enjoy and thrive on). These remain to be planted at the time of writing. Thank you to all our supporters who have made this happen, we look forward to

welcoming you all in the new woodland in the summer.

In the meantime, if there are any volunteers willing to help with spreading mulch later in March please do contact us on [CWCTRUST@aol.com](mailto:CWCTRUST@aol.com) or on 07903030533 - we will be delighted to hear from you!



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# Curry Rivel Village Hall News

Hazel Morris

The Village Hall Management Committee held its AGM in December at which a sad farewell was made to Roger and Chris Hampton who resigned from their respective positions of Chairman and Booking Secretary. Roger and Chris have made a huge contribution to the recent successes of the hall and will be sadly missed by all. They were presented with a gift and heartfelt thanks and I am sure we all wish them well in their new home.

During the last year, the hall has been closed down more often than not but with the excellent financial management of our Treasurer, the hall is still keeping its head above water! And as soon as we are able, we will re-open our doors for our regular and one-off hires. We are so looking forward to holding some of our annual events such as the Big Breakfast and we hope it won't be too long before the next one can be arranged as they provide such a great feeling of community spirit.

The revised membership of the committee was confirmed as Myfanwy Ashton, Hazel Morris, Ginny Smith, Peter Wheeler, Debbie Haines, Jeff Haines, Andrea Selway, Melvin Harding

and Bryony Clements.

The necessary nominations and seconds were made for the appointments of Hazel as Chair, Peter as Deputy Chair, Myfanwy as Treasurer and Debbie as Secretary.

**Vacancy** – the Booking Secretary position is temporarily being held by Hazel but we are looking for a new person to take on this role. It would suit someone with good organisational skills and who is fairly confident using their computer. Please contact Hazel (07730 755203) if you are interested to know more about the role.


The village hall is Covid-19 secure for hire, so when the lockdown restrictions are eased and you're looking for a venue to hold your next event, please don't hesitate to contact the Booking Secretary. More details about the hall can be found on the village community website: [www.curryrivel.org.uk](http://www.curryrivel.org.uk)



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# Could you be an Environment Champion?



**T**he aim of the Environment Champion Scheme is to improve the area in which they live by being the eyes and ears of the community and by promoting a clean, green and safe local area, encouraging pride and respect amongst residents for local streets and public places.

Environmental Champions are volunteers whose role will:

- Be the recipient of any environment/climate information South Somerset District Council (SSDC) wishes to share with parishes, through emails and attendance at forums.
  - Encouraging on specific green measures in the parish, to enable environmental sustainability to be at the core of the parish's decision making.
  - Collaborating with surrounding parishes/groups to maximise impact and share expertise.
  - Compile and return any information on their parish which would be useful for SSDC to know
- Environmental Champions are absolutely vital to the success of the District and County strategies when talking about engaging communities and creating resilient ecosystems. They act as the 'eyes and ears' in their local area as well as acting as a conduit for materials and initiatives.
- There is no limit to the number of Environmental Champions that can sign up.

Please contact: [ssdcenvironment@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:ssdcenvironment@southsomerset.gov.uk) to register your interest.

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# Traffic and Speeding through the village

Tony Greenaway



The Speed indicator devices have now been up and running since the summer and revealed what I think many people already know. There is a high volume of vehicles using the main road through the village- a staggering 360,000 recorded in just under 6 months! and this is only the vehicles going past the Speed Indicator devices, so the actual volume is much higher.

The bulk of drivers are respecting the 30 mph but there were over 7000 vehicles recorded doing over 41 mph and 450 doing over 50 mph, and that included vehicles during the lockdowns. In total there were 102,000 vehicles detected exceeding the 30 mph speed limit.

Parliament has undertaken some research into the effect of speeding. What they have deduced is that in obedience to the laws of physics, speed makes crashes more severe. This is particularly important in cities, towns and villages, where

pedestrians are particularly at risk. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents informed us that:

"Hit by a car at 40 mph, nine out of ten pedestrians will be killed.

Hit by a car at 30 mph, about half of pedestrians will be killed.

Hit by a car at 20 mph, nine out of ten pedestrians will survive."

Our pavements are extremely narrow in many places and of course we have lots of families, children going to school, the elderly and the infirm using these on an ongoing basis.

It will be interesting to see what the next 6 months reveal, but in the meantime this information has been made available to the Police, Highways and District and County Councils

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# Somerton U3A *Sue Haigh*

<https://u3asites.org.uk/somerton/home>

We will be holding two Zoom meetings in March for members to enjoy.

The first will be held on Friday 12th March at 11.00. "Hypnosis" with Alan Jones. I can assure you that his talk will definitely NOT put you to sleep.

On Friday 26th March at 11.00 "Photography" with David Boag, who is back by popular demand after his successful talk in January 2020.



Our monthly informative and friendly online Newsletter gives members the opportunity to keep in touch and see the activities taking place. For further information, or if you would like to join please visit the Somerton U3A website, or email: [membership@SomertonU3A.uk](mailto:membership@SomertonU3A.uk)

<https://u3asites.org.uk/files/s/somerton/docs/newsletter11february21.pdf>

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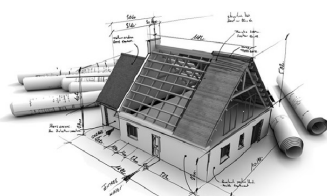
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# Letters...

33 Latimer Road,  
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Dear Friends and former customers of the old village Post office

Having left the village in December without being able to say goodbye to many of you, I wanted to say a few words of thanks.

I would like to thank everyone for the help and support you gave me, my family and business over the last 24 years. There are too many people to name but they'll know who they are.

I really miss being a useful member of the community and found helping people very rewarding.

I've moved to the Isle of Wight with my sister Julie to start a new life in the village of St Helens. We hope to return to Curry Rivel for a visit when it's safe to do so and will have the chance to catch up with you then.

Best wishes for the future, Alan and Julie Norton

Dear Editor,

Taking my permitted Covid exercise by walking along the lanes I can't help noticing the sheer volume of empty drinks cans that are littering the hedges and ditches of our parish. A quick survey shows that a particular brand of beer - Stella - has an enviable market share. Along Heale Lane, Dyers Road, Currywoods Way, Wick Hill, Stella cans are pretty well all you'll see. Crabtree Lane is Dragon Soop territory, with the odd vodka bottle literally thrown in. The Hambridge Road is dreadful in the amount and variety of containers - Fosters, Carlsberg, Stella of course, plus soft drinks cans and wine bottles, Costa cups and plastic bottles too.

What is it that goes through motorists' minds to think it is "OK" to toss their empties out of their van/car window and blight our countryside? Not only are they littering, but in many cases, undoubtedly drinking and driving too.....

Yours sincerely

Geoff Higson.

Dear Jane,

I would like personally and on behalf of the Parish Council to congratulate you, your team and all the contributors on the content, value of all the articles and exceedingly informative and eye-catching pictorials of the email February edition of CRN. It is a quite exceptional production and I think few other villages will have anything to equal it.

Yours,  
Derek Yeomans

Letter to the editor

An answer to litter and dog poo.

I agree totally with John Casebourne's views in last month's *Curry Rivel News*. Trouble is it's a nationwide problem. We moved from Sussex where full dog poo bags were regularly found in (and removed from) bushes. Do some dog owners really think that putting the pooh in the bags is what's important? Rather than putting it in a dedicated poo bin or taking it home? Same issue with litter. Strangely I find more litter within close proximity of litter bins. Is it really too difficult to get the litter in the bin? How can the problem be solved? Two things: education and enforcement. Children are taught many things at school – but not how to be responsible, be respectful, be kind, be caring, be thoughtful, be giving, be selfless, be Nature-loving. Aren't these more important than what's the capital of Madagascar? Some parents will be great influences in these areas but clearly not all. So why not include "Responsible Living" in the school curriculum? Not just the odd session but a serious subject. And shouldn't we have more local "officers" who can feel the collars of local litter louts (and do lots of other good things in the community). If we cancel the £100bn spend on the silly HS2 train line, we can afford thousands of local officers for communities like ours for many years ahead.

Name and address supplied



# Broadening horizons with the WI – contrasting meetings

Carolyn Paton



A Kinesiology practitioner zoomed in for the January WI meeting, at which a goodly number of members were present. Anne Shorthouse explained what kinesiology was and how it can help the human body to achieve equilibrium and well-being. This was a new concept for many of her audience, although a few people had come across it before. An alternative therapy, it is a non-invasive and holistic energy therapy, combining the ancient principles of traditional Chinese medicine with modern muscle monitoring techniques to gain an insight into areas of stress and imbalance within our energy system. It is based on the premise that any issues within an energy system will eventually be reflected in the body.

It aims to harness the natural healing force within, and having discovered which areas may not be functioning as well as they could, to restore and maximise their effectiveness.

It is no surprise to learn that good health acknowledges all aspects of our being, including our emotions. Who cannot say that they have been 'lifted' by good news, acts of kindness, demonstrations of care?

Anne explained how imbalances can be corrected using specialised lymphatic massage, nutrition, electrical balancing and emotional work.

Although many of us feel most comfortable with Western medical science (after all, that is what we are mainly used to) there is a widening recognition that this is not all there is to know, and that other approaches can be helpful. This introduction to Kinesiology was certainly interesting and may have things to teach us.

February saw a visit from Sue Applegate whom some may know as a Peony expert (who has appeared on Gardeners World) and as the viticulturist behind Polden Wines.

It was not however for her expertise as a horticulturalist that she came to speak, but for her lifetime passion as a member of Kingsbury Episcopi Band which comprises both wind and brass instruments.

The Band has been in existence for a century and has many long-standing members, including generations of the same family. There is obviously a warm and inclusive atmosphere within the organisation and members enjoy the social aspects of practising playing and performing together. Sue regaled us with photos - some of them very early - and spoke about the Band's involvement in local events including her own experience for example, of the differing musical resonances as one marches under the Hanging Chapel arch in Langport. She also outlined some of the challenges of marching while playing, including the necessity of household pegs to hold down the music which otherwise risked sailing away on the breeze, and the perils for that music of getting caught in the rain.

Some of the technical details attached to the separate

instruments were instructive.

Who knew that the small cornet consists of 1.5 metres of tubing, and that of the tuba 3 metres?

We were treated to a demonstration of how different notes are obtained from an instrument that has no valves, e.g. a bugle, a post horn, a hunting horn, a trombone. Afterwards came a selection of different mutes which can be placed in the bell end of the instruments to alter and/or reduce sound.

It was all very enlightening and left members anxious to hear the band in performance - possible on CD and obtainable from Band members.

Following this input, and after the speakers had left us, there was opportunity for discussion about the merits of what we had just seen and heard - a benefit of a Zoom format, as in normal times the speaker concludes the meeting and there is no opportunity for whole-group comment.

The president Anne Geach (01458 253078) ran through the notices about on-going activities (book group, a possible group craft project etc) and spoke about the topic for our next meeting. She also announced that following our vote, our Institute would be putting forward to the National Federation a Resolution in favour of action to stop women dying from undiagnosed heart disease.

We are always very happy to welcome new members to our WI. If you would like to join one of our virtual meetings as a visitor please contact Anne Geach via email at [ajgeach@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ajgeach@yahoo.co.uk), and she will send you a link to access our meeting. There is no obligation to join the group if you would just like to see what the WI has to offer. Our next meeting will be

on Thursday 11 March, with a talk on the Dorset and Somerset Ambulance

Service, starting at 10am.

Once again, members had appreciated the interaction afforded by technology and were pleased that the WI has been able to continue using this format.

## Join the CRN team

Jane Hamlin

The Curry Rivel News Group is looking for a new member to join the team that produces the Curry Rivel News. The vacancy is for the role of Secretary, but specialist secretarial skills are not required – just sufficient to take the Minutes at our monthly meetings, and to participate in our discussions in making the CRN as interesting and informative as we can. We prefer to meet face-to-face for our meetings, but use Zoom if that is not possible. For more information contact Jane Hamlin at: [curryrivelnews@gmail.com](mailto:curryrivelnews@gmail.com) or phone 252946.

## Somerset's Wonderful Wildlife

# It's magic: Dragons, Damsels and Demoiselles everywhere

By Nigel Grinsted



Photo: Dragonfly larva (© 2010 G. Bradley)

www.uksafari.com

**I**n the warmer months in Somerset some of the most visible insects are dragonflies, damselflies and demoiselles.

They are quite common because they need water for their larvae to thrive and grow and the Somerset Levels provide a near perfect environment for them. At Steart Marshes, 19 species of dragonfly have been recorded, including the "red-listed" Scarce Chaser. "Red-listed" means it's very scarce.

### What's the difference?

Dragonflies are the largest and fastest flyers and settle with their four wings outstretched to the side like an aeroplane. Damselflies are smaller and tend to flit from plant to plant. They settle with their wings folded back over the body.

Demoiselles are classified as a family of damselflies but they are larger and often have shaded areas on their wings.

### What do they eat?

Both the nymphs (the larvae, which live in water) and adults eat small insects and other small arthropods.

### Can they sting?

No but the females have an ovipositor for laying eggs and one of the folk misnomers for a dragonfly was "Horse-stinger".

### What eats dragonflies?

They may be fast and tough but spiders, frogs and some birds eat them both in larval and adult form.

### How long have dragonflies lived on Earth?

Dragonflies have been around for over 275 million years. Fossils have been found from the Permian period—only in those days their wingspan was up to 30 inches (75cm) and they weighed over 1lb (450gm), about the size and weight of a crow.

### Have they become much scarcer now as butterflies have?

This is an important question. I personally remember fields of flitting

butterflies and well-lit walls covered with moths back in the 60s and 70s. I remember seeing dragonflies but not excessive numbers. Today butterflies and moths are scarce as we all know. But, if anything, dragonflies and damselflies seem just as common. Is this because butterfly and moth caterpillars feed on wild plant leaves (which over the past fifty years may have been affected by insecticides) but dragonfly larvae live under water and don't eat plants.

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[mospilates@yahoo.com](mailto:mospilates@yahoo.com)







cribsomerset@gmail.com 01458 762296

### *Gina Beauchamp*

CRiB are not happy about entering the South West in Bloom competition this year and feel it would be better to wait until next year when hopefully more people will have been vaccinated, the virus will be less prevalent and things will be safer. We involve so many different groups of people in the village and it would be wrong to put lives at risk for the sake of one year. We will still be busy around the village with our planting and we are always looking for new areas to plant, so if you know of an area you would like to see improved please let us know.

### **Cultivate your garden**

Spring is on the way thankfully, and our thoughts turn to what we can be doing in the garden. Lockdown last year made many people who had not done so before turn to gardening. Online sales of seeds went viral; though maybe not the best word to use under the circumstances! So make sure you order your seeds in time. Garden centres are open this time around and many will deliver. Sandpits will deliver 80 litre bags of great quality multi purpose compost for £5 a bag. Kelways will deliver plants, seeds and soil. Companies such as Suttons and Thompson & Morgan sell seeds and plants online. They often have seeds for £1 a packet. When planting seeds, it is better to use small pots rather than seed trays. Sprinkle a few seeds into each pot. The plants can grow longer roots in the pots than in seed trays. Add some horticultural grit into the soil to help aerate the roots. Greenshutters sell it. Watering can compact the soil and the roots cannot get air and die. If you need any flower pots please contact me as we always have so many left from CRiB planting around the village.

### **No Glyphosate Weed Killer**

CRiB have always had the policy of not using glyphosate weed killer in the village. A new vinegar based weed killer is now available, Called WEEDKIL. It says it is safe to use in the garden. We will experiment and see how it deals with weeds. We always try and weed by hand, if you see weeds growing at the war memorial on the paving, they are usually field poppies which seed themselves and we encourage them to grow.

### **Let the grass grow**

By now the wild flowers and spring bulbs at Granny's Garden will be flowering and the grass will be growing, there will be buttercups and dandelions too. We leave these for the insects and bees because dandelions are one of the first

spring flowers that provide food for bees. We leave the grass for as long as possible to allow the bulbs to die back. You could try and leave an area of long grass in your garden for birds, butterflies and bees to enjoy. The first year we tried this in our garden we had a bee orchid and the following year a pyramidal orchid! Beware of letting ragwort grow as all parts of the plant are poisonous especially to cattle and horses. Identify it by the curly green leaves at the base.

### **Front Garden Competition**

This could take place again this year, and is usually judged during the last two weeks of June. There will be more details in future months. There is no particular colour scheme but we will always be looking for an element of recycling and water saving. It can be judged by two people going for a walk in the village on their own. The garden to be judged should be visible from the front gate as we will not enter the garden.

### **Jobs to do in the garden in March**

- Lift and divide clumps of perennials that are getting too large! Share them with your friends.
- Weed and top dress pots and planters with fresh compost and mix in some Growmore granules unless you are changing all the soil.
- Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes.
- Plant summer flowering bulbs.
- Protect new spring shoots from slugs, go out at night with a head torch and pick them off. Put ash from the fire or crushed egg shells around vulnerable plants. Use copper bands around pots or put vaseline around the edge of the pots.
- PLEASE do not use slug pellets as these will kill birds and hedgehogs.
- Prune roses and feed using a liquid or granular feed.

Cut the grass when dry enough, making sure the first cut is not too short.  
Enjoy your garden!

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# Twin my Vaccine –

## An Adventure in Supporting UNICEF

Rowan Patterson

**A**lthough Covid-19 has been hard on everyone in many ways, Revd Scott and I have noticed many heart-warming side effects: kindnesses drawn out by necessity. People have flocked to support their neighbours through the foodbank, provision of equipment for home learning, collection of prescriptions and so on. Many have learnt new skills so as to continue to provide access to lessons, community groups and hobby groups online. It can be hard work, but it's worth it to keep ourselves and our community healthy.

I'll admit, though, that as the year turned, the prospect of continuing this new, restricted lifestyle through the winter didn't fill our hearts with joy. However, there was light, in the shape of the first invitations for people to attend vaccination clinics. During January, we heard feelings of gratitude and hope expressed as the rollout began, especially as everyone in this country will have the vaccine provided, at point of contact, for free.

And that gave Scott an idea.

How about treating this unique moment as an opportunity to celebrate what we have here by being generous, not just to our local community, but to our global neighbours – people who won't be receiving a letter from the NHS because they happen to live in less rich or less developed countries? What if, whenever someone received a vaccine, they made a donation (if they could) to a charity involved in procuring and delivering vaccines to the poorest in the world?

We looked into it. Unicef, with their vast experience of delivering vaccines across the world, are doing exactly that, in partnership with the WHO and other organisations. JustGiving makes it really easy to set up a fundraising page, where people can donate online.

So, we set out on a little adventure.

On Saturday 30th Jan, quite late at night, I set up a JustGiving page, called Twin my Vaccine, with an initial target of raising £1000. I shared it with a handful of friends and family. Our first donation arrived by morning.

Over the next couple of days, we shared it with members of our churches and my limited social media contacts.

By 3rd Feb, we had passed our target; by the Friday it was five times over. People liked giving. They loved having a medium for expressing their gratitude and hope and being able to reach out and help across the world, just as they'd done locally.

We have simply sown the seed of an idea and set up an easy

means of following that idea through, but it has

been a real joy to see how eagerly others have taken it up. Mrs Pook, at the Primary School, announced a non-uniform day (for those attending school), in aid of the appeal, which was wonderfully personal for us. Then, thanks to people sharing the link way beyond our personal contacts, the total grew and grew.

The adventure continued. Before Scott had even approached them, the communications team at the Diocese of Bath and Wells had heard about his idea and had posted an article on the news page of their website. Plus, when BBC Radio Somerset rang them asking for interesting stories, they passed our details on.

So it was that at 7am this morning (14th Feb) I found myself speaking live over the phone to Charlie Taylor on the Breakfast Show. You just never know where life will take you! And the current total on our JustGiving page is £14,600 - £3000 more than it was this morning. JustGiving will pass this money directly to Unicef and GiftAid will mean they can claim thousands more.

It may be that we have already bored you silly by promoting this idea everywhere you look. But if you haven't come across it before and you'd like to celebrate your vaccination or that of a loved one with an act of generosity, please look at our [donations page](#) and feel free to share it widely:

<https://www.iustgiving.com/fundraising/RowanPatterson>

There is a further link there to information on Unicef's work in this field. Thank you so much. It is a privilege to facilitate one of Covid-19's better side effects.



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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.*

### Covid effects

**Private prayer** - under the regulations at the time of writing, St. Andrew's church is open for private prayer on

**Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10.00am - 4.00pm.**

**Services** - At the time of writing, the national situation remains uncertain. For our Benefice churches this means that, although we're hoping to hold 'live' services again soon, local conditions may result in short notice changes or suspension of any or all of the services listed. The Sunday services will then be via zoom, for the whole Benefice. Therefore, please also see the information on the notice board in the churchyard by the Green, in the church porch, on the village website, or on our 'A Church Near You' web page.

## March

### Thursday 4th

10.00 CR - Holy Communion BCP

### Sunday 7th - Lent 3

10.00 FH - All Age Family service

10.45 FH - Said Communion CW

6.00 pm CR - Evening Worship

### Sunday 14th - Mothering Sunday

9.30 SW - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 CR - All Age Mothering

Sunday service

11.45 CR - Said Communion CW

4.00 pm FH - All Age Mothering

Sunday Service

## Scott's spot

### Our neighbours

As I write, it's February the 14<sup>th</sup>, Valentine's Day, and love is in the air! Perhaps you know his story. St. Valentine was said to be a 3<sup>rd</sup> Century doctor and priest who was martyred for two reasons. Firstly because he refused to publicly deny Jesus, and secondly because he was secretly conducting marriage services for Roman soldiers in defiance of the Emperor. How true this may be is uncertain, but if so, we encounter a man of love on two significant counts. He loved Christ enough to die boldly expressing faith in him, and he loved others enough to serve them willingly. If true, then St. Valentine is a striking example of a man living out the teaching of his Lord. In Mark's Gospel chapter 12 Jesus is asked which of God's Commandments is the first and most important. His answer is all about love. Firstly the love of God - **'The first (commandment) is...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'** And then the love of others - **'The second is this, 'you shall love your neighbour as yourself'**. In the Christian life this love is to be the defining characteristic, and St. Valentine sets us a great example.



*Scott's spot ctd. . . .*

In Jesus' answer, I think we find both a challenge and a question. The challenge is for those who would claim to be following God's Commandments, but who then quietly forget the first. First and foremost the Christian life means a love for God that is increasingly central to how we feel, how we think and how we act. To claim to be 'living a Christian life' or 'living by Christian principles', but to overlook the first and greatest commandment is a bit like saying you know how to drive without ever having started the engine.

But there's a question here too. Who are our neighbours that we are called to love? This is a favourite question for a school assembly. Who do we think are the neighbours Jesus calls us to love as ourselves? Those who live next door? Those in the neighbouring village, town or city? Our European neighbours, our neighbours in the 'global village'? The answer, of course, is all of them, and we've seen that love of neighbour expressed in a multitude of ways over this last painful year. To name a few, love has been expressed through the practical and pastoral support of the vulnerable; through the generosity offered to foodbanks; through the appreciative applause for NHS staff; through simply taking the time to stop and chat (at a distance) when getting that daily exercise. Love for neighbour has been evident in many ways this last year.

*See next page . . .*

### March ctd . . .

#### Thursday 18th

10.00 CR - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 21st - Lent 5

9.30 FH - Morning Worship CW

11.00 CR - All Age Family Service

11.45 CR - Said Communion CW

#### Sunday 28th - Palm Sunday

10.00 CR - United Benefice All Age Family Communion

CW

#### Monday 29th

8.30 pm SW - Night Prayer

#### Tuesday 30th

8.30 pm CR - Night Prayer

#### Wednesday 31st

8.30 pm FH - Night Prayer

CR = St. Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel

FH = St. Martin's Church, Fivehead

SW = St. Catherine's Church, Swell

### From St. Andrew's Registers

#### Funerals

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

27th January - Interment of ashes

in St. Andrew's Churchyard of

Sheila Margaret Eynon

(† 7th December 2020)

### Rotas March

#### Flowers

5th, 12th, 19th - Lent

26th - Mothering Sunday

#### Cleaning

5th - Carolyn Paton

12th - Nicky Barker

19th - Liz Rendell

26th - Lynne Comley





Scott's spot ctd. . . .

As I witnessed 'love of neighbour' being expressed so widely during this pandemic, I noticed however that, perhaps understandably at the time, the scope of that love was largely limited to the local or national. It was this that got me thinking about how love for our *global* neighbours might also be expressed amongst the difficulties of this time.

Thus the 'Twin my Vaccine' idea was hatched and the 'campaign' grew from there. If this concept is new to you then please do read Rowan's article in this edition of the CRNews, which will bring you the story so far.

I leave you with the words of Bishop Ruth as she wrote in support of the campaign: *'The global perspective can sometimes get overlooked amidst all the pressing needs around us...It really is important that we don't allow our own anxieties for our nation to become one that gets caught up in a selfish response without concern for others around the world. If we are truly going to beat the virus then we need to pay attention to those who are even more vulnerable than ourselves.'*

With continued prayer as we face these long winter weeks together, but also look ahead to an increasingly vaccinated spring.

Revd. Scott.



### Easter Lilies

Due to the current situation, St. Andrew's Flower Guild is unable to decorate the Church with lilies again this year.

However, please be assured that there will be some flowers for Easter and we sincerely hope that we will be able to arrange Easter lilies next year.



## United Reformed Church



### March

#### **Our response to the Government's Covid-19 Directives in the light of Lockdown 3:**

Services **continue** at 10:30am on Sundays.

However, although Government Directives allow us to meet together in the Chapel building for formal worship, we have decided to continue meeting remotely for the duration of this lockdown using the video calling platform Zoom. It feels important to us that we join with the rest of society in limiting our physical contacts, the better to help keep wider society safe, bring down the virus reproduction rate, in turn eventually eradicating the risk of infection, whilst the vaccination roll out continues apace. Over the past months we have been sharing in scripture readings, prayers, singing together, sharing our concerns and listening to Rev. Tim's and other preachers' thoughts for the day, lighting a candle for peace & hope, using the internet. We will continue meeting this way for the time being.

Though prevented from meeting together in person for the time being, we continue to be *"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"*.

We have been joined by folk from Glastonbury, Somerton, Pedwell, Castle Cary - all unable to meet in their usual place of worship but still wanting to join with others as best they can.

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

Minister: Rev. Tim Richards 01458 252799

**Anyone** who would like to feel part of a worshipping community is invited to join us - from any denomination or none. Simply email Steve Beney on [stevebeney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stevebeney@yahoo.co.uk) expressing your interest and he will contact you to explain how to join us on Sundays.

**Prayer Requests** can be either emailed to our minister Rev. Tim Richards at [richardstim@hotmail.com](mailto:richardstim@hotmail.com) or call 01458 252799 (leave a clear message if no one is available to take your call) and they will be included in our daily & Sunday prayers for each other, our community & the wider world.

### **World Day of Prayer Friday March 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Last minute reminder.**

This service, with the theme *"Build on a Strong Foundation"* and prepared by the Christian women of Vanuatu, has a different form, due to the Covid pandemic



For those with access to the internet, the service will be via **Zoom** at **2.00pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>**; for an invitation, please email [glenysallinson@gmail.com](mailto:glenysallinson@gmail.com) no later than Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>. For those unable to join via zoom, **paper copies** of the service can be delivered, for people to follow the service for themselves on the day; please ring Glenys ASAP on 01458 - 251603 with your name & address.

**Do join us – everyone is very welcome.**

## \*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 March 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

Food Bank (help@curryrivel.org.uk)	0771 6792760
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
Footpath & Litter Warden	johnncasebourne@sky.com

#### Education

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

#### Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk) curryrivelparish@outlook.com	07714 510828
District Council	0 1935 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 April Edition

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday 11th March
<b>Send to:</b>	crn.nigel@outlook.com
<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 16th March
<b>Send to:</b>	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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### Pick up your Prescription from the Post Office

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