

April 2019



Scruffy Signs to be Replaced

Your name in Lights!

Flora Pilo

Residents of Curry Rivel are only too aware of the embarrassing state of the village gateway signs which, over the past few years, have become more and more dilapidated, but the embarrassment will soon be over! The Curry Rivel News is pleased to be able to report that these battered and damaged signs, which announce a visitor's arrival to our village are to be replaced.

The new gateway signs will not only reveal the fact that one has reached Curry Rivel but also display forthcoming events. The latest technology in digital display will be available to clubs and societies to advertise their events in the month that they take place. Flora Pilo, secretary of the 'In and Out' club said, 'the new signs are going to be a real asset to village

groups and will mean the end of the little hand painted wooden boards currently used on the grass verges which are not very effective in advertising all the great things happening in our village'.

The digital displays may also be used (by residents only) for letting everyone know about big personal events such as special birthdays or wedding announcements or even expressions of undying love on Valentine's Day.

To apply to have your special event advertised on the village gateway signs please complete the online form at currywhatson.co.uk

Curry Rivel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRED !
CELEBRATING HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY ON 1ST APRIL

Entertainers' Magical Performance

For report.....

...see p13 inside



Ping and Pong



Abanazer and courtiers



Wishee, Aladdin and Widow T



Jackie German

At our February meeting, Nick Crocker from the British Heart Foundation stood in at the last minute for our original speaker and was a great hit with everyone. He managed to bring humour to a difficult subject and we all felt much more confident afterwards that we could cope with an emergency if required.

Throughout the year we have a monthly competition, usually a hand-made item or an item connected with the speaker. Points are awarded and added up through the year with the winner receiving a cup. In 2018 we had joint winners, Ginny Smith and Angela Cole who will share the cup for the next twelve months. The photograph shows Ginny and Angela being presented with the cup by our President Jackie German.

We had a good number of entries for our annual Win Roos craft competition. This year we asked for 'a flower arrangement in a tea cup' and it was won by Angela Cole. We are very grateful to Sue Randell from the Flower Guild who kindly judged the entries.

In the last month the walking group appreciated a vigorous walk around Somerton followed as usual by coffee and cake and thirteen members enjoyed their meal at the Firehouse in Curry Rivel.

Seven members enjoyed a very tasty and inspiring Literary



Lunch at the Somerset Cricket Club in Taunton and listened as two established local authors discussed their secrets of writing a successful crime mystery. We have also made cushion covers with other members from around the county, learning a number of new skills.

Future events include a walk around Chard Reservoir and our monthly lunch is at The Smokery and we hope to have a tour of the smokers as well. We also have a coffee morning for new members, a lunch and a competition afternoon with North Curry W.I. plus a visit to the Ashford Water Treatment Plant in May.

For our next meeting on Thursday 11th April, we welcome Sophy Layzell who will talk on the work of the Jemima Layzell Trust. We meet in the Village Hall at 9.45am for a 10am start. If you would like a lift or more information about the WI please contact Jackie German on 01458 259688 or by email: jackiegerman@hotmail.com

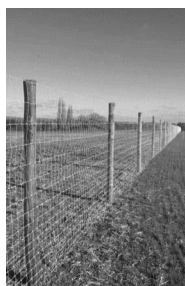
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SS Great Britain: the incredible journey

Janet Seaton (Langport & District History Society)

Postponed from last year due to bad weather, Philip Unwin was finally able to give his talk on how the *SS Great Britain* was brought back from the Falkland Islands and saved from dereliction.

He began by recapping the extraordinary career of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the ship's designer. Evidently a difficult man to work with, Brunel built bridges and ships as well as railways – the Great Western Railway being the most familiar – but he also built railways in other countries such as India and Italy. A workaholic, his ability to solve engineering problems brought him huge success.

His Great Western ship, a wooden sailing paddle steamer, operated the first scheduled transatlantic passenger service. Despite all her voyages being profitable, Brunel wanted to realise economies of scale, and also to introduce a propeller instead of the paddles, which were unsuited to ocean waves.

The *SS Great Britain* was the first iron-hulled, propeller-driven, ocean-going steam and sail ship in the world. Her revolutionary design changed shipbuilding for ever. She took passengers to New York, emigrants to Australia, and troops and horses to the Crimea. Eventually she was converted to a sailing ship and carried cargoes of coal. After a disastrous fire on board she was sold to the Falkland Islands Company and used as a container ship in Port Stanley until she was abandoned in 1933. Five years later she was scuttled in a nearby cove.

Thanks to the generosity of the philanthropist Sir Jack Hayward, a German barge company was contracted to undertake the ambitious task of bringing the ship back to Bristol. Despite the misgivings of many Falkland Islanders, the company successfully refloated the ship and secured it on to a huge barge, which was then towed back up the Atlantic. On 19 July 1970, the *SS Great Britain* arrived back 127 years to the day in the dock from which it was launched.

The large audience were fascinated by Philip Unwin's fluent presentation and were inspired to visit the restored ship. The History Society has arranged a group coach trip to visit to the *SS Great Britain* on 5 June. For more details email langporthistory@gmail.com.

The Society sincerely thanked the staff of Langport Library for their invaluable assistance in hosting its meetings over the years. Its next meeting will be at our new venue: the Sixth Form Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, Wincanton Road, Langport TA10 9SS on Monday 1 April at 7.30pm, when Jeremy Michell will present a talk about Franklin's 1845 North West passage expedition. Refreshments will be available 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).

Are you standing for election to be a

Curry Rivel Parish Councillor?

If so, you are invited to provide a short profile of yourself in **not more than 75 words**. Profiles will be published in the May edition of CRN. Photos cannot be accepted.

Profiles must be received by Editor, Curry Rivel News by email: (curryrivelnews@gmail.com) no later than 12 April.

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Sticks & Stones

Emrys Evans & Denise Evans



Gina Beauchamp

Lots of news and events this month. The first event is coming up on **Saturday 6th April** at 10.30 am this will be a **PLANT SALE** at the War memorial. It is 'Bring and Buy' as well so if you have a plant to donate please bring one and buy one! Or just come along to see what we have and buy a plant or two.

We will be selling mainly hardy plants, perennials that should last and spread and are drought resistant. We also have pots, hanging baskets, seeds, seed trays etc. Tea, coffee and cake available. All profits will go to planting schemes around the village. If you have anything you would like to donate before the sale or would like more info contact Gina on cribsomerset@gmail.com tell 01458 762296. Hope to see you there!

Front Garden Competition 2019

We are now open to entries for this year's front garden competition. Last year we had 22 entries, so if you entered last year, we hope you will do so again and we hope for new entries too. This year there is no colour scheme just a riot of colour!

The criteria for judging will be:

- Water saving
- Use of sustainable plants
- Recycling
- Horticultural excellence
- If you would like to enter just email Gina with your Name, address Post code and telephone number. Judging will take place during the week of 22nd-29th June.

Let's hope we have lots of entries to make our village look beautiful!

Hanging Baskets

Last year we were able to sell beautiful hanging baskets at a great price to villagers.

This offer is available again at just £20 for a large 16 "hanging basket packed with plants.

We need orders by the end of April please for delivery by the end of May in time for the open gardens! Email and phone details for orders as above.

Open Gardens 9th June 2019

Plans are going well for the open gardens....

We would still like some more gardens to be open and another venue for teas please, so if you would like to open your garden please let Gina know on cropengardens@gmail.com or 762296.

There will be a big breakfast on the morning of the 9th in the village hall from 8.30-12.30 with gardens opening from 11.00 -17.00 and teas available from 14.30.

There will be plants for sale in many gardens and a Market garden plant sale in the village centre behind Chanctonbury cottage.

Tickets will be £6.00 with children under 15 free, dogs on a short lead allowed with the garden owner's permission. More details next month.

CURRY RIVEL In BLOOM

Please get in touch if you would like to help with any aspect of gardening around the village. We are always looking for help with non-gardening jobs as well as gardening, for example office skills would be a great help with all our admin and paperwork (you would be surprised at how much there is!) and practical skills too, such as carpentry, digging, heavy lifting or any other skill that you may have to offer! Our next committee meeting is on Monday 1st April in the village hall, Chatham Room at 7.30pm, please come and join us and share your ideas.

Here are some important CRiB and village dates for your diary.

- Sat 6th April 10.30 am PLANT SALE, seed, pot and gardening bring and buy and swap shop. At the war memorial.
- May 25th CRiB QUIZ in Village hall 7pm start.
- Sunday 9th June Village Open gardens, 12+ gardens open to the public, plant sales cream teas. Big Breakfast in VH in the morning.
- 22nd -29th June front garden competition judging.
- Weds 3rd - Weds 17th July South West in Bloom judging
- National Finals Judging day Monday 29th July. This could change!
- South West in Bloom awards presentation ceremony in Newquay. Thursday 11th October.
- National Finals Awards ceremony October, date and venue to be announced.

..... Continued

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Gardening jobs for April

- If the soil is right plant seed potatoes now
- Plant gladioli and summer flowering bulbs
- Plant out sweet peas that were sown in October, if not done then plant the seeds now in a green house or cold frame
- Continue to dead head flowering bulbs and give a liquid feed to the leaves for beautiful bulbs next year. Don't cut back leaves for 6 weeks

Hand weed the lawn with a long pointed knife to get to the tap roots to avoid using weed killer that is harmful to wildlife. Especially look out for ragwort that is harmful to cattle and horses. Little and often is the key to keeping weeds at bay.

Annual Flower Show

Anne Hembrow

The Curry Rivel Flower Show is on **Saturday 3rd August** this year. We hope that you will want to enter, so we recommend that you start planting NOW!

Cheque Presentation

Karen Clapp, manageress of NISA grocers, presents Barbara Hamlin, Chair of Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association, with a cheque for £150 in support of the Association's 20 year celebrations.

You are invited to witness the Re-dedication of Friendship ceremony on the Village Green on the afternoon on Saturday 4th May at 2:30pm.

Before that, why not join them for a Quiz in the Village Hall on Sat. 6th April at 7.30pm. Teams of up to 6. £4 a head. Bring your own refreshments



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Sat 7am—4pm

Trek to Everest Base Camp

Denise Evans (one half of Sticks and Stones business) is trekking to Everest Base Camp at 17,600 feet high and beyond this height to 2 other mountains summits at 18,200 feet high. Denise is taking part in this challenge to raise money for her chosen charity Alzheimer's Society. In the past she has collected money for this cause by doing street collecting. In her business work with her husband, she has met other people who have been greatly affected by Dementia and she knows personally how hard this can be because her mother had it also.

She will trek to high altitude and back down again over 17 days at the end of April 2019. She will be braving possible altitude sickness, snow blindness, frost bite, avalanches, earthquakes, or maybe falling through glacial crevices

amongst huge ice blocks and severe cold to -30 degrees.

On the plus side Denise will experience fantastic scenery, friendly people, interesting wildlife, beautiful plants, and very interesting geology and get to be up in the mountains which she loves. You may see Denise out training on long walks and climbing any hills nearby to get the required fitness for this challenging personal event which will involve 8-12 hours a day trekking in the High Himalayas.

If you would like to support the huge effort that Denise is undertaking to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society, you can do this via her fundraising page:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Denise-Evans15

SOMERTON U3A

Denise Clarke

The next meeting of the Somerton U3A will be held on Friday 26 April when Martin Lloyd will thrill us with a dramatic account of how the actions of a group of assassins brought about a change in the passport regulations; how the unmasking of a spy caused a modification in passport design and how, for one man, the passport itself turned into a killer. Martin is a writer, speaker and cyclist. He travels far and wide giving talks to all kinds of societies, business groups and professional organisations; he has written books on history, current affairs, travel, humour, art, romance and thriller fiction; and when he is not doing this he is either riding his bike or broadcasting on the radio and television.

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

Meetings are free for members, visitors £1.50 each.

Probus Club, Langport and Curry Rivel

Dorothy Wadeson

March saw our AGM at which our first lady Chairman was elected; which is another innovation in the club following the admission of ladies a little over 4 years ago. Our other officers were also appointed for the year and our stalwart Secretary Paul Crocker - who is a fount of knowledge, good advice and organisation for us all - agreed to remain in post again. Fortunately, Ron Blake continues to be our Treasurer - which is not the easiest of roles. The other officers all give the club good reliable service during their term and, as the new Chair, I thank you all.

If you would like to join us at our April meeting, it will be at the Pound Inn, Aller on Wednesday 10th at 11.30 for 12noon. Please ring Paul Crocker on 01458 252545 and let him know.

Our website is www.langportandcurryprobus.btck.co.uk

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Charity Theatre Trips to Bristol Hippodrome

Chris Cox

The **Lion King** is back in Bristol and nearly sold out in the first two days. We have reservations for: Sunday 27th October matinee, Rear Grand Circle at £92 and Best stalls at £112; Thursday 31st October half term evening Rear Grand Circle and half-way stalls Band A seats for £92 ; Wednesday 13th November evening, Rear Grand Circle at £65 and better Grand Circle/ Good stalls at £82. Booking is already heavy so if you wish to come on a trip don't delay. Payment will be due on booking , unless I can negotiate a delay in my purchase date.

April also sees the payment date for **Matilda** (21 May Evening and 29 May Half Term Matinee (£62/£72), the Agatha Christie play **The Mousetrap** (Monday 24th June, £39/£44).

I can usually get hold of tickets after I have bought the main tranche, but they will probably not be such good seats.

The other trips planned are:

The Magic Flute (11 April, £56/£69), **Fame** (11 June, £45/£54), **Calendar Girls - The Musical** (16 July, £47/£59), **We Will Rock You (Queen)** (18 March 2020!, £45/£58) and **The King and I** (Thu eve 26 Mar(£53/£70).

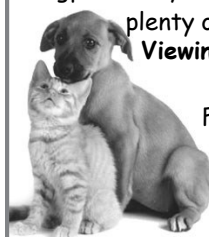
Prices excluding The Lion King include coach transport and are Stalls at the back/Stalls & Grand Circle near front. Our coach goes from Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerton, then Street/Wells or Keinton Mandeville/Shepton Mallet depending on bookings. Any profit is

donated to charity.

For more details of all trips please visit www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk , e-mail coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com or phone 01458 273085 for a brochure.

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Curry Rivel News

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From a Somerset Village to Tasmania

From Helen Taylor

A stranger comes to the village and delivers a talk about living and working in Australia. You've seen the promotional material around the village and your interest is aroused, you go along and listen to what he has to say about the opportunities. The speaker doesn't have an overhead projector, no glossy brochures, but that's not a problem because you can 'Google' your questions and go to 'catch up' to watch that documentary that was on telly last month, or have a chat with your neighbours because didn't they visit Tasmania on their world cruise last year or pop into Waterstones for a Rough Guide? But think again because this is 1840 a time when the average man had little access to books let alone the internet and the chances of hearing news from a neighbour who had previously left the village for a life overseas would have been remote.

The stranger in question was a recruitment agent called William Goldie who travelled through Somerset and Wiltshire looking for skilled workers to migrate to Australia. By the 1830s and 1840s Australia was receiving an increasing number of free settlers (as opposed to convicts) but there was still a huge labour shortage. The new landowners needed labourers to clear the land, plant crops and take care of animals and the expanding settlement meant that convict labour was insufficient. A government scheme was devised to entice skilled, free men and women to migrate to Australia to bring much needed skills and establish a more even balance between the number of convicts and free settlers as well as encourage free women to migrate to the new colonies. The scheme was called the "Under the Bounty Scheme". Employers could apply for skilled workers under the scheme and those approved would have their passage paid by the employer and Government grant. An agent in England was commissioned to hire suitable people to fill the skill shortages particularly those with experience of working on the land. The recruit would be required to sign a contract to work for a set period, usually five years in return for their travel costs.

William Goldie acted on behalf of many landowners in Tasmania, one of whom was called Edward Lord who owned a sizable property just outside Hobart. Lord had a requirement for farm labourers, stonemasons and a blacksmith to work on his property. It appears that Goldie was a good salesman as he persuaded a group of 38 Curry Rivel inhabitants, comprising families and single men, to sign up for a new life in a country over 10,000 miles away.

The group boarded the barque 'Tasmania' and departed from London on 14th May 1841. Everything worked in their favour as they were assigned to a ship on its maiden voyage providing very hygienic conditions; the ship's Captain, Alex Jamieson was an accomplished seaman; the surgeon was competent; the crew experienced, and the food supply was good. No deaths and two births during the voyage indicated that this group was more fortunate than many other migrants who made this journey. Nearly five months after leaving London the 'Tasmania' docked in Hobart Town on 7th October 1841.

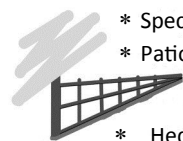
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SHIP NEWS.

Oct. 12.—Arrived, the barque *Tasmania*, Jamieson master, from Port Phillip 7th inst. with a general cargo. Passengers—Messrs. Furlonge, Thorne, Dr. Maddox; Mr. and Mrs. Monkton and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Locke and two children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Townsend and four children, Mr. and Mrs. C. Townsend and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Cattle and six children, Mr. and Mrs. Drayton, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, John Baker, Geo. Sweetie, Chas. Lough, Jas. Billing, Geo. Hayward, Geo. Hooper, Geo. Gulley, W. Hansford.

from the *The Courier* Friday 15 October 1841

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....continued.....

George Cattle, James Monkton, Charles Townsing, Henry Townsing and John Lock with their families, Samuel Drayton, George Sweeting, George Gullege, George Hooper, John Baker, Charles Louch, William Hansford, James Billing, George Hayward and James Lloyd were all under 35 years of age, mostly 'farm servants', two masons and one blacksmith. Why did these villagers take this huge step, leaving

their familiar surroundings, family and friends for a country about which they knew so little? How many of them had travelled further than the border of Somerset or indeed ever seen the sea before? The combination of the lengthy war against Napoleon, the adverse effect of the Corn Laws, unemployment and the industrial revolution meant that life was hard for the average man. A better life beckoned and so this brave band travelled to Edward Lord's 14,000 acre property in Lawrenny where they worked for the next five years. On completion of their contracts most of the group left Lawrenny to seek their fortunes. They went their own ways - some stayed in Tasmania, but others moved to mainland Australia or New Zealand where gold had been discovered, none returned to Curry Rivel.

Our thanks to Helen Taylor, whose ancestors were part of this group of migrants, for providing the Curry Rivel News with this story, she writes, 'my interest in family history research

probably started when I was a small child and my parents spoke about relatives I had never met. We lived about 1,000 miles from any family on a relatively remote farm, in Australia. My first big research project concerned the Townsing family. It is an unusual name and my suspicion that we are all related was confirmed very early into the project. A convenient starting point was 1841 when the family arrived in Australia, but this raised the question as to why they migrated in the first place. That was when I discovered the story above. Some older family members confirmed that the Townsings knew the Locks in Curry Rivel. In 2018 I visited Curry Rivel to look at the area they came from.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has a connection to any of the migrants mentioned in the article. I can be reached at:
towsing@gmail.com.'

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Curry Rivel Music

Anne Michell



The penultimate concert of the Curry Rivel Music 2018-19 Season will be held at St Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel on Saturday 13 April when Emma Abbate and Julian Perkins will give a piano duet recital.....one piano, four hands!

Emma, a Neapolitan, is a professor of piano at the Guildhall School of Music as well as being staff coach at the Royal Opera House. She has performed at innumerable prestigious venues throughout the UK and Europe in a variety of combinations, including many with Julian.

Julian is a Cambridge graduate in music and completed his studies at the Schola Cantorum in Basle and at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Apart from an outstanding career as a keyboard player, he is much in demand as a conductor.

The concert starts at 7.00pm and tickets, costing £12 each will be on sale at the door. There will be an interval for refreshments of wine, tea or coffee.

Bird Poems of the Romantic Poets

Kim Bailey

The local WEA is running a course at Long Sutton village hall on Wednesday 15th May. 14:00 to 17:00. The speaker is Jane Crozier. The cost is £10, which includes tea/coffee and cake.

The bird is traditionally an image of the poetic voice and, as such, held much appeal for poets of the Romantic period and beyond. We shall read about the nightingale and the skylark, of course, but also the snipe and the owl, always looking to discover the poets' perspective on each bird - from the ethereal to the terrestrial, from the fanciful to the carefully observed.

Booking must be made in advance via the WEA either online at wea.org.uk or by calling 0300 303 3464.

Email wealongsutton@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Love to Dance

Taster Session

Love to Dance supports the health and creativity of older people through inspirational movement-led arts activity. They will be holding a taster session in the village hall on Wednesday 15th May from 10am - 11am. There is a charge of £5.

It is an opportunity for those over 50 years of age to dance for fun, creativity and well-being. Dancing to great music is good for both your brain and your body, it improves fitness, memory, flexibility and core strength. Everyone is welcome and no previous dance experience is necessary. You can expect a warm welcome, a work out, a good laugh and relaxation. If you would like more information please contact Angie Ward by phone on 07546 404942 or by email: angieward2012@gmail.com



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Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wix.com/films

Stan & Ollie (PG)

Friday 19 April



This comedy-drama recounts the true story of Hollywood's greatest comedy double act. Starring Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly as the screen icons it tells the heart-warming tale of the pair's farewell tour. With their golden era long-since gone and struggling to get another film made they embark on a hectic music hall tour of Britain and Ireland, with the support of their wives – a daunting double act in their own right. The film focuses on details of the comedy duo's personal relationship, their love of performing, as well as for each other.

Also stars: Shirley Henderson, Nina Arianda, Danny Huston and Richard Cant.

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.

Coming soon:

Bohemian Rhapsody (12A): The story of the legendary rock band Queen and lead singer Freddie Mercury, leading up to their famous performance at Live Aid in 1985.

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REUSE REPAIR RETURN RECYCLECARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Saving Water

After last summer's heatwave we should be thinking of how to save water. Have a water butt in your garden at the end of your shed or green house to collect rain water for watering plants, have containers ready to put out if it rains to collect water then transfer it to your water butt or use it for watering plants. If you water your garden and have a water meter you are charged sewerage for the water that goes onto the ground which doesn't seem fair, so using rain water is a better option. Also think about plants that don't need so much water, use water-retaining granules in pots and hanging baskets, line pots and baskets with newspaper to help retain moisture, have saucers under pots to hold water. Google 'plants for dry places' for a list of drought resistant plants. Geraniums don't need as much water as most plants. Salvia, mesembryanthemums, poppies, sedum, lavender, buddleia and herbs all survive in dry conditions.

Composting

Compost at home and turn your unwanted garden waste, vegetable peelings and non-cooked kitchen

waste into a free, nutritious material that puts the goodness back into your garden. You could have a plastic compost bin or make one out of old pallets, two would be ideal then you can be emptying one while the other builds up.

If you home compost you could:

- Save money – good compost can make excellent soil conditioner; saving time, money and effort
- Improve your environment – the more you compost the less you send to landfill
- Improve your garden – compost puts nutrition back into the soil, improving your garden or allotment.

Remember to

- Take plastic waste that our bin men won't take to Tesco carpark where there is a mixed plastics bin or take it to Somerton tip
- Take plastic bottle tops to Lush in Taunton.
- Try to reduce plastic use where ever possible. Take your own reusable containers to the butchers or Tesco or Sainsburys will let you use your own instead of using plastic bags.
- Remember that if you put tin lids, wine bottle tops etc into an empty tin and squeeze it shut that the bin men will take it. They just don't want loose sharp lids.



**Think Christianity's not for you?
Time to think again.**

Alpha coming soon...

Alpha

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Entertainers' Magical Performance

Jane Hamlin

As we all know, Aladdin was a lad in trouble until the Genie of the Lamp came to his aid. This year we were treated to another colourful and lively production of this old favourite pantomime performed by the Curry Rivel Entertainers. Kim Huntley played the title role with panache, but also with the appropriate level of gullibility necessary to be victim to the cunning ploys of the dastardly Abanazer (Christine Champion). The glamorous Widow Twanky (Julian Morris) kept us all amused as she tried to run an efficient Chinese Laundry with the help of her two sons – Aladdin, who spent most of his time trying to court the beautiful Princess Adora (Millie Retter) instead of being where he should be, and Wishee Washee (Danny Drake) who was too trusting for his, or anyone else's good. The audience played its part by laughing in all the right places and enthusiastically joining in with cries of "He's behind you!" and "Oh no it isn't!" etc. We were entranced as Aladdin was transported to Egypt by magic carpet, and delighted as the doorway to the cave opened as Aladdin struggled to open his healthy sesame bar. Lilia Patten was the convincing ghost that lived among the treasures in the cave.

The jewel-encrusted Genie of the Lamp was played stylishly by Mike Pettitt with a subtle blend of authority and

subservience, and Lily Drake was a rather dashing Genie of the Ring.

Richard Beaven was a hero who stepped in at very short notice to play the Grand Vizier, and Nathan Patten played his son, Pekoe. Regular laughter was generated between scenes by Ping (Kerry Baillie) and Pong (Maria Baillie) as Keystone Cops-type police officers trying – and failing – to arrest Aladdin. The Emperor (Derek Yeomans) and Empress (Serena Patten) brought an imperial air to the action and Jenny Ludgate was Princess Adora's handmaiden. Other courtiers were Matilda, Freya, Ella and Lewis.

This was another magical, exotic and glittering performance by the Entertainers, but it would not have been possible without a strong production team. Liz Hembrow was the producer. She also wrote the very amusing script as well being in charge of the wonderful costumes with Marion Pancheri. The Stage Manager was Chris Bottomley, with a crew of Julian Morris, Michael Pancheri and Courtney Jones. Mike and Angela Pettitt looked after the Props and Steve Petroo was the lighting specialist. Jane Rowland and Pam Morris were Front of House. The songs were all accompanied by Patrick Rendell at the piano whose nimble fingers danced over the keys with his usual flair.

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Curry Rivel, Drayton & Fivehead Branch

Spring Lunch

Saturday 13 April 2019 at 12.30 for 1.00 p.m.

Fivehead Village Hall

**Non-members
welcome**

**Choose from:
Chicken Casserole**

Chicken Curry

Vegetarian Curry

Tickets: Members £12.50

Non-members £13.50

available from:

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Andy Anderson 07412 561283

Bob Willis 01458 250772

Neal Coombes 01458 251249

Robert Atkins 01458 253 008

One Stop Shop Curry Rivel



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.

April

Thursday 4th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 7th - Lent 5

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Worship

Tuesday 9th

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

Sunday 14th - Palm Sunday

10.00 **FH** - United Benefice

All Age/Family Holy Communion CW

Monday 15th

8.30 pm **SW** - Night Prayer

Tuesday 16th

8.30 pm **CR** - Night Prayer

Wednesday 17th

8.30 pm **FH** - Night Prayer

Thursday 18th - Maundy Thursday

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

7.00 pm **URC** - The Last Supper - at & with members of the URC

Friday 19th - Good Friday

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service,
with Baptist Church friends

2.00-3.00pm **CR** - Hour at the Cross

6.00 pm **SW** - Compline

Sunday 21st - Easter Day

8.00 **SW** - Easter Communion BCP

9.30 **FH** - Family Easter

Communion CW

11.00 **CR** - Family Easter

Communion CW

Sunday 28th - Easter 2

10.00 **SW** - United Benefice

Holy Communion CW

Scott's spot

The God who couldn't be knocked down.



When I was a boy I remember playing with *weebles*. These were plastic egg-shaped figurers that came in a range of characters and with many accessories. I seem to remember we had a fire engine, a fair ground set, and a plane to go with ours. If you also remember *weebles* then you will know that the adverts promoting them always included the phrase: '*weebles wobble, but they don't fall down*'! And it was true. However much you tried to knock them down, the clever distribution of weight meant they always stood back up again.

There is something of that idea in the accounts of the resurrection of Christ on that first Easter morning, for here we find a wonderful example of the God who couldn't be knocked down. The enemies of Jesus had conspired together to finally silence him. They'd offered a bribe to betray him, convicted him on the basis of false testimony, handed him over to the Romans for execution, and as his lifeless body was brought down from the cross and placed in a tomb, they must have felt sure they'd succeeded.

But even then they felt it prudent to be certain. In Matthew's gospel, we find an account of the chief priests and the Pharisees meeting again with Pilate the Roman governor, making sure.

Scott's spot ctd. . . .

They've remembered Jesus' teaching that on the third day he would rise again, and so to avoid the possibility of Jesus' disciples coming to the tomb to steal the body and so claim that Jesus had risen, they asked to set a guard at the tomb until the third day. They were leaving nothing to chance. Matthew records Pilate's response to this request: "*You have a guard of soldiers; go and make it as secure as possible.*" *So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing it with a stone and leaving a guard in charge.*

Yet in the end, none of that mattered, for the very next day what did they find but the stone rolled away, Jesus' body nowhere to be seen, and their worst fears realised. After all their attempts to cover every eventuality, how could this be? What could possibly have happened? Those are questions of significance, which anyone who disputes the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ still needs to answer.

In the final analysis, that first Easter morning faces us with a situation where hatred had done its worst, but, rather like a weeble, the love of God could not be kept down. Christ was risen! And that is as true today as ever. With all that was arrayed against it, Christ's resurrection shows us that ultimately there is nothing and no one that can thwart the will of God. The astonishing events of Easter speak of the God of power and hope who brought victory from seeming utter failure. This transformational power He offers to all.

With every blessing to you and those you love this Easter.

Revd. Scott Patterson

May

Thursday 2nd

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 5th

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Prayer

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

St. Andrew's Rotas April

Brass - Lynne Comley

Flowers

6th, 13th & 20th - Lent

20th - Easter Lilies

27th - Adrienne Holmes

Cleaning

6th - Lynne Comley

13th - Lyn Cotterill

20th - Julia Gauler

27th - Tina Geary



St. Andrew's Annual meetings
Monday 8th April 7.30 pm,
in the Old School Room

- Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) for the election of Churchwardens, followed by the
- Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), with reports about church life; PCC proceedings; the church's financial affairs over 2018, and the election of new PCC members.

Easter Lilies

At Easter, St. Andrew's Flower Guild arranges lilies in the Church in memory of loved ones.

If you would like to donate a lily (cost £ 3.50 each stem), please contact Adrienne Holmes (252710) by **Wednesday 10th April**.



Easter collection donation

The money collected during the Easter Service, on **21st April**, will be donated to our village School, for new books to increase its library's reading stock.

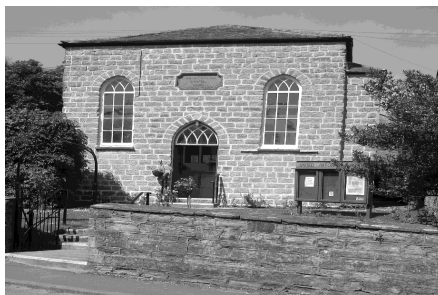
Church fete
Saturday 6th July

Planning for this year's fete is in its early stages. Donations of , bric-à-brac, craft & jewellery items, toys and plants are very welcome: books. Information how to donate items will be published in future issues of the CRN.

Summer Singing

Keen singers, you are invited by the Mid Wessex Singers, to experience the motivational guidance of our Musical Director, Graham Coatman, BA Hons Music, in a summer season of light music. Following our performances of varied and enjoyable music at our Autumn, Christmas and Spring concerts, we are looking forward to a relaxing term starting on Tuesday 30 April, culminating in an informal performance to invited guests at our Summer Soiree on 2 July. We rehearse from 7.15 - 9pm on Tuesday evenings at West Street Church Hall, Somerton TA11 7PR and the summer term is on a 'pay as you go' basis of £3.50 a week. For further information please ring 01458 274139, e-mail info@midwessexsingers.co.uk or visit www.midwessexsingers.co.uk.

United Reformed Church



April

(Services start at 10.30)

Sunday 7th - Rev Tim Richards
(incl. Holy Communion)

Sunday 14th - Mr Steve Beney

Sunday 21st - **Easter Day**

- Rev Tim Richards

Sunday 28th - to be arranged

We are an inclusive, outward looking community and wherever you are on your life/spiritual journey we welcome you without regard to age, gender, denominational background, sexual orientation, race or ability. Tea/coffee is served after every service providing the opportunity to meet and chat with each other and the preacher.

URC Minister: Rev Tim Richards
 01458 252799

A big **Thank you** to all who came along to our SPRING EVENT in support of Curry Rivel's Active Living Group. Your company was much appreciated.

Date for your diary

Christmas Craft Fair in the Robert Sewers Hall **Saturday 9th November**.

From St. Andrew's Registers

Funerals

May God grant them eternal rest.

19th February - Interment of ashes in Curry Rivel Village cemetery
 Mrs Sylvia Emaline Marshall

4th March - Funeral Service at Taunton Deane Crematorium
 Mrs Doreen Adela Jotcham

7th March - Funeral Service at Taunton Deane Crematorium
 Mr Colin Leonard Canham

13th March - Service of Thanksgiving for the life of
 Mr Timothy Muir Davies
 († 16th February)

From Revd Tim

What marks out a civilised society?

There may be as many answers as there are people to ask but we might all agree that one such marker is how a society cares for those in need.

Our NHS is often described as the Jewel in our Crown, and it is an extraordinary health care enterprise. My experience of health care in Taiwan was very limited and though I do not wish to generalise I would like to recount the following story:

I was taken on a trip to the mountains and, in the open courtyard of a temple we visited, a Doctor and a small team had set up shop for all who might otherwise find it difficult to access regular health care. We in Britain expect and most usually experience total privacy and confidentiality when talking to our GP but here at this mountain 'surgery' just metres away from the 'consulting room' a group of men were engaged in temple maintenance and able to see and overhear everything! No privacy here.

The following Sunday two of the women staff from the Church set themselves up with a desk and computer outside the church and as people arrived for the service, they were offered checks for blood pressure and diabetes. This information was relayed on-line to the same Doctor I had met earlier in the week who assessed it and made medical recommendations.

For the church to be involved not only with the spiritual care of its folk but their physical well-being too, taking a holistic approach to building relationships, was to witness a very practical approach to helping people; to see a community helping each other. This felt like *real* community.

In May we shall be welcoming 7 ministers from Taiwan who are visiting Somerset. They are only here for a week but I invite any of you with an interest in or an experience of Taiwan to get in touch.

Tim Richards.

In April**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	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
1.30 - 3.30	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

Some Useful Telephone Numbers**Youth Organisations**

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	01460 281184
Rainbows	01823 698940
Brownies	251953
Guides	252901
Pynsent Youth Football Club	251084
Langport Youth Club	0793 899 338

Sports Clubs

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

Social

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251280
Twinning Association	251432
Women's Institute	259688
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
PROBUS	252545
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	253953
Curry Rivel in Bloom	762296
Get Together Club	01278 256967
Health Walks	250725
Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 741606
Inner Wheel	252648
Tuesday Group	252657/252022

Arts

Entertainers	250311
Music Club	250863
Dancing Classes	07730 755203
Art Club	253126

Community Facilities

Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	741606
Old School Room Bookings (crosrbookings@gmail.com)	250655/253856
United Reformed Church Hall - Lettings etc.	259391

Community Services

Doctors	250464
Police	101
Yarlington Housing	01935 404500

Education

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

Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk) m.ludgate@btinternet.com)	251432
District Council	01935 462462
County Council	0300 123 2224

Religious

Church of England Rector	251375
Lay Reader	01460 281555
Churchwarden	259003
Secretary PCC	251355
Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	274008
URC Minister	252799

**Deadlines for May Edition**

Advertising:	5pm Thursday 11 April
Send to:	crnadverts@btinternet.com
Comments & Articles:	5pm Tuesday 16 April
Send to:	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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