

December 2018



## Where's Ed To?

Since returning home 3 months ago from his pioneering 'round the world on a unicycle' journey, Curry Rivel's very own Ed Pratt has continued his travels – though, not necessarily on his unicycle. He has been travelling around giving talks about his great adventure. So far, he has presented at Oxford University's Explorers Society, Burrow Hill Cider Farm, S.T.O.M.P. unicycle festival in Alabama and various Women's Institutes and schools.



At last, Ed will be presenting a talk about his adventure in Curry Rivel Village Hall on Sunday 16th December 2018.

Book your tickets now!

[edprattevening.eventbrite.co.uk](http://edprattevening.eventbrite.co.uk)

Here is your opportunity to join Ed and his unicycle on **Sunday 16th December from 18:00 - 20:00** in our **village hall**, as he shares the challenges he faced undertaking this massive adventure! The first, and so far only, person to travel round the world on a unicycle.

**Village Hall opens at 17:45. Ed starts speaking at 18:00**

## District Councillor's Report

*Tiffany Osborne*

I would just like to take this opportunity to express my sadness at the sudden death of Madelaine King-Oakley. Madelaine was a tremendous supporter of this village and her enthusiasm and generosity will be greatly missed. Amongst her many ongoing projects she was aware of the pressures of traffic congestion and car parking facilities in our village and was eager to help secure a suitable location to ease this situation. Her tireless work in moving this project forward will not be lost and will be continued to its conclusion in her absence. She was the perfect advocate of how people can make a difference to a community. Thank you Madelaine.

It has just been announced that all the Districts in Somerset have appointed a partner, Ignite, to assist in their work in assessing all the options for the future of the local government service provision in the county. Workshops will be commencing in November to explore a range of options as Districts and the County Council look to save money, restructure and consider Somerset as a unitary authority.

People often ask what has SSDC achieved for the community in the last year? In response SSDC have published a top 15 list of achievements which range from winners in Britain in Bloom, high participation in the free play days, council tax text alerts so minimise residents forgetting and getting into arrears and supporting social business networking events for small businesses.

The full list can be found on [www.southsomerset.gov.uk/latest-news](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/latest-news) should you be interested.



## Curry Rivel Community SpeedWatch

November 2018

*Robert Crowley – Community SpeedWatch Co-ordinator*

Volunteers have been observing and recording vehicles travelling through our village for approximately 15 years. At the beginning, the percentage of vehicles exceeding the speed limits compared to the total number passing was ten per cent. Over the years, this percentage has reduced to about one and a half per cent. This excellent situation is, of course, whilst SpeedWatch operates - who knows what the figure would be otherwise - I suspect much higher. We all know there are many speeding vehicles; drivers seemingly incapable or uncaring how fast they drive in restricted areas. The fact that 'watches' are organised on a random basis - sites, days and times - creates a definite incentive for vehicles to be driven at appropriate speeds. Clearly, this not enough and I am endeavouring to obtain the Highways Agency's agreement to provide a measure of traffic calming, with ultimately villagers' approval. It is a slow process.

Over recent times, the number of volunteers has reduced, owing to a number of reasons. We have very recently lost a very loyal member - Madelaine King-Oakley. Her untimely death was a keen shock to us all, as well as many others in the village. So often she offered to volunteer when numbers

were short, despite her involvement in a host of other village activities, particularly the Parish Council. As a mark of respect, watches were suspended for a period before and after the Service of Thanksgiving. We miss her greatly as do many others.

Madelaine's passing has accelerated the need for more volunteers to join us. I urge villagers to give serious consideration to join us. One has to be trained by the Police, but the training session lasts just two hours. Usually, I arrange two SpeedWatch sessions per week, each lasting one hour. Volunteers are invited to offer dates when they are able and wish to participate. There is no rota - just to take part if and when they are free and willing. I hope there will be a positive response to my appeal for more volunteers as a memorial to Madelaine.

Contact me at: [robert.crowley242@btinternet.com](mailto:robert.crowley242@btinternet.com)  
or 01458 259434

## Broadband User Survey

As *Connecting Devon and Somerset* continues its work to improve broadband services across our counties, they are keen to get an updated picture of where we are.

Where communities have benefited from new superfast broadband, what impact has this had? In communities yet to feel the effects of superfast, what are they able to do with the service they do receive and what would they like to do?

A survey has been developed to capture people's broadband needs and compare whether these needs are met by the service they receive. The survey is open to all residents and businesses within Devon and Somerset and in addition to capturing the impact from the new infrastructure, it will help

to identify the broadband needs across our counties and the data will influence future Digital Strategy.

The Broadband User Survey asks questions about currently available speeds, what homes or businesses can and cannot do with their existing broadband and the levels of satisfaction with their provider. The survey typically takes about five minutes to complete online and can be found at [www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/broadband-user-survey](http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/broadband-user-survey).

*Connecting Devon and Somerset* are keen for the survey to be completed by as many local residents and businesses as possible to get as clear a picture of the situation as they can.

## Somerset Waste Partnership Refuse Collection

Kerbside waste collections for Curry Rivel will not be affected over the Christmas holiday period. Collections will take place as normal on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December. However, there will be no garden refuse collection on either of those weeks.

The Recycling Centres, including Somerton, will follow their normal schedules except that all sites will close at 4pm on 24<sup>th</sup> December and 31<sup>st</sup> December, and they will be closed all day on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> January.

Christmas trees can be composted at home, or taken to a recycling centre. If you have a garden waste subscription, **undecorated** trees under 6ft can go out for collection on your usual garden waste collection day from 7<sup>th</sup> January.

## Somerton U3A

**SOMERTON U3A**

There is no monthly meeting for the Somerton U3A in December. Instead, there is a members only Christmas Lunch at Edgar Hall on 7 December. Full details on the web [www.U3Asites.org.uk/somerton](http://www.U3Asites.org.uk/somerton).

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 latest. Meetings are free for members, visitors £1.50 each".

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## Curry Rivel in Bloom

*A flowering community*

How quickly our joy at the South West in Bloom Awards last month turned to sadness. Barely a month later we heard that Madelaine, one of our devoted committee members had sadly passed away. Madelaine did so much for CRiB; she was instrumental in setting it up based on the Parish Plan and was our Parish Council link. She looked after our website, wrote the portfolio for the judges, she took on responsibility for the allotment that CRiB acquired this year and had had great plans for the future.

She was always to be seen watering and deadheading at the war memorial and at Granny's Garden; it was her idea to rename it and this was done officially by the judges on judging day. She loved gardening and meeting people, once while we were creating the sensory garden we were joined by a group of Canadian tourists, Madelaine explained to them what we were doing and exchanged contact details, they were sitting at the war memorial having a picnic as they couldn't get into the Firehouse. She was friendly and welcoming to everyone. We have found a rambling rose called 'Madelaine Selzer' and will plant it in her memory, maybe creating a rose garden in the village.... she loved roses. We will also set up a

Gina  
Beauchamp



horticultural award in her name, we will discuss this at future meetings. We are just pleased that she was able to see CRiB do so well at the South West in Bloom awards and receive our much longed for Gold medal along with the other awards, she was so proud. We will carry on in her name knowing that we are doing what she loved.

Rest in Peace Madelaine, we will miss you.....

' The kiss of the sun for pardon, the song of the birds for mirth,  
One is nearer God's heart in a garden,  
than anywhere else on earth '

### Poppy Trail for Remembrance Day

Thank you to everyone in the village who knitted and crocheted poppies, made them out of plastic bottles, to the school children who painted poppies on wooden spoons, these were all displayed in a trail from the church down to the war memorial. Thank you, too, to Langport Knitting club who displayed their poppy swag in the church porch. There were 21 poppies on the central post in the war memorial garden, one for each of the men who lost their lives in the first world war.

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*Mo Masrour Pilates Foundation*


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5.45pm - 6.45pm (All levels)

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Gina Beauchamp

### Bring your own plastic boxes!

At last, you can take your own boxes to Tesco and Sainsbury's to avoid the use of plastic bags. Use them at the deli or fresh food counters. The new BlackSheep Butchers in Langport, (formally Evans) now use paper for their meat and will also accept your own boxes!

I have written to M&S to ask them to try and reduce their packaging on shirts, to ask why they need to use plastic collar stiffeners, why not cardboard or better still none at all? Why can't they be hung on a coat hanger that will be reused just like blouses? This will save the waste of

plastic, cardboard and cellophane.

Don't forget to use the mixed plastic recycling bin in Tesco Langport car park. Here you can recycle the plastics that our bin men won't take. Plastic bottle tops can be taken to 'Lush' in Taunton. They need to be squidgy, not rigid.

Tin lids, are also a problem as we are told that they cannot be taken BUT they are metal too so when you have an empty tin, wash it out, slightly squeeze it shut to make the neck wider, fill it with tin lids and when full squeeze it again to close it so that they won't fall out. You can also pop in wine bottle screw tops and jam jar lids. You will find that the bin men will take the tin like this. They just don't want loose, sharp tin lids.



### Gardening Recycling

At this time of year with plenty of autumn leaves around, save space in your green bin or compost heap by putting them into black bin bags, poke a few holes in the bottom, store behind a shed for a year and you will have lovely mulch for your garden. PLEASE don't burn leaves and garden waste, especially during the day, it pollutes the environment and causes irritation to those with asthma or other breathing problems. Use a green bin, a compost bin or take it to Somerton tip. Take cuttings of perennials in early spring, reuse plastic pots and save the new plants for your garden or donate them to the open gardens plant sale!

*Date for your diary,  
Sunday 9th June.  
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# Langport & District History Society (Registered Charity 1179718)

## *South Somerset Flax & Hemp & the West Coker Twineworks*

Ross Aitken, Chair of the Coker Rope & Sail Trust, gave an illustrated presentation on how the Trust was restoring the famous Dawe's Twineworks at West Coker, and more generally, provided a wide-ranging description of the history and importance of the flax and hemp industries to South Somerset and West Dorset. Ross was dressed as Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who had invented one of the small machines used at the Twineworks.

The industry developed in this region because of its propitious geology and soil, ideal for growing flax and hemp. An important product of the regions' various rope and twine works was sailcloth, and 'Coker Canvas' was used as high-quality sailcloth for the Royal Navy, including several ships of Nelson's fleet at Trafalgar, as well as for many of the early America's Cup Race yachts. Ross speculated that it may even have been exported to Russia when Peter the Great was creating his Navy. To overcome domestic shortages of the necessary quantities of flax and hemp as raw materials for the industry, supplies were regularly imported from Russia by sea to West Bay, and to this day, small lead seals, dated and in Cyrillic script, that were affixed to these imports could be found in the fields and elsewhere in the region. Ross suggested that it was logical to assume that the ships would return to Russia laden with sailcloth for its Navy.

He then focussed on the Twineworks, which was developed by John Dawe in the late 19th century out of an existing business run by the Rendells. He briefly described the operation of the Works – which produced 42 differed types

of twine - and the lives of its workers. Sadly, the Works stopped operating in 1968, and lay derelict for many years. However its importance as part of the history and heritage of South Somerset was increasingly recognised by various public and voluntary bodies, keen to preserve the site and its contents, including, importantly, all its production machinery which, unlike other similar Works, had been retained in their entirety. The Works are Grade II\* Listed; various studies were made of how to preserve and restore it; and the site was eventually compulsorily purchased by SSDC in 2005.

The Coker Rope and Sail Trust was formed to take forward the site's restoration, and, with the benefit of substantial grants and donations has been working to transform the site, including restoration of the 100-yards long ropewalk building as its centrepiece, the various pieces of machinery at the site, and the creation of an impressive Visitor Centre. The Trust has received many expressions of interest in exploiting any new twine the restored Works produces.

The Society's next event will be its annual Christmas Social, to be held at the Black Swan, North St, on Monday 3 December from 7.30. It is £10 per person; bookings essential, to Colin Edwards on 01458 251118. Anyone interested in joining the History Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, [suzannestanden471@btinternet.com](mailto:suzannestanden471@btinternet.com)).

Follow the History Society at @langporthistory, and on: <https://sites.google.com/site/langportheritage/home>.

## Ringling Remembers



Two newly trained ringers at Curry Rivel;- Wendy Brinsden and David Geach, rang for the service of remembrance on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Proudly wearing badges issued to those who have learned to ring under the "ringing remembers" project; - a national initiative to recruit 1400 new ringers to replace that number who were lost in the great war. Two ringers from St. Andrew's Curry Rivel lost their lives in the great war – Thomas Pope and Albert Budd. Therefore two replacements have been found for them 100 years on.

After the service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung whilst the congregation processed to the village memorial.



## Tuesday Group

Barbara Lancey



It was a delight to welcome everyone to our October meeting, including several new members and guests. Notices out of the way, I had pleasure in introducing the return of Marion Nieuwenhuizen. I think those who experienced this Drumming Workshop will agree that Marion managed to drum up wonderful creativity, instilling fun and rhythm into all - including those calling themselves 'non-musical'! Her enthusiasm is infectious and an evening that started with some apprehension ended in a rousing 'finale', much laughter and loud applause!

Marion explained how she began her journey into drumming. Having moved to Taunton from the Netherlands in 1999, she wanted to expand her interest in folk dance and music, and learnt to play several instruments including piano and guitar, but her passion became the sound of African drums (not least, she said, because they don't need tuning!) and she was able to spend some time in Africa developing and perfecting this art and that of African dance. Subsequently she wanted to share this passion and started running workshops and classes after she and her husband moved to Taunton 10 years ago.

So, everyone having access to a 'Djembe' drum, she proceeded to teach us one rhythm, then a second, dividing

the group into two, sounding both rhythms at the same time, then a third, and finally improvising all that with a variety of percussion instruments.....it built to a fantastically innovative, and inclusive sound with everyone present, musicians and non-musicians alike delighting in the process and the end product....attracting spontaneous applause! Wow.....what a buzz of an evening!!

When you read this, we will have held our annual Skittles match against the men of the Drayton Group, which I will report on next month. We will, though, now be fast approaching our group's Christmas Party, always a fun and enjoyable evening with much feasting and laughter!

The Tuesday Group is a ladies social group drawing from Drayton, Curry Rivel, Muchelney, Fivehead, Langport and beyond, and meets on the third Tuesday each month at 7.30 pm in the Drayton Village Hall. Annual membership is only £10, or come and try for a guest fee of just £2.50 per meeting. For further information please contact either Barbara Lancey on 01458 252657, email [barbaralancey@hotmail.com](mailto:barbaralancey@hotmail.com), or Aideen Roche on 01458 252022, email [aideenroche@btinternet.com](mailto:aideenroche@btinternet.com).

## News from Curry Rivel Primary School!



Mrs Frances Burns – Headteacher

What a busy half term we have had – full of new experiences, progress in learning and finding ways to make a positive difference!

In October, we held two residential trips: the Year 4 and Year 5 children spent three days on challenging outdoor activities at Kilve. We had glorious sunny weather which made the walks on the Quantocks and down to the beach a memorable pleasure. The Year 6 children visited Bristol, staying at the YHA for two nights. Their activities included workshops and tours of SS Great Britain; learning about WWII and the impact on Bristol residents at the MShed museum; visiting 'We the curious' science museum for the planetarium and physics workshops.

Our fundraising activities included the Macmillan Coffee morning, hosted by the Year 5 and Year 6 children. They did a magnificent job of delivering cups of tea, cake, biscuits; interviewing the visitors and finishing off with a singing performance. We also held a non-uniform day in aid of 'Twinning Toilet' charity and raised £160. This will go to

providing resources and advice to communities in poorer areas – education about hygiene, provision of resources to build toilets, improving sanitation and providing clean water. Finally, we also held our Harvest Festival with parents and families donating food for the Food Bank in Langport.

Our key focus is on making good progress in learning. We were delighted to welcome two new class teachers to the school in September as well as two new teaching assistants. The whole staff team has reviewed how we can best accelerate progress and support every child to be happy and confident in their learning. Real experiences and linking concepts is part of this approach. Homework is now a more positive experience with families getting involved in the activities. The children now have a chart of topic research activities from which they choose over the term eg cooking a WWII recipe, creating an autumn poem, creating a map of their home. The children should feel really proud of what they have achieved so far!



## Movies in the Village Hall

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



### That's all

As we know many of you will be very busy in the run up to Christmas we won't be having a movie screening in our Village Hall in December.

We'll be back in the in the new year with a new

programme of fabulous films.

A big "thank you" to all of you who have supported Movies in the Village Hall during 2018 and we wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas.

## Christmas BIG Breakfast

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
from 8.30am till 12.30pm

at Curry Rivel Village Hall.

Special visit from **SANTA**  
from 9.30am till 11.30am

(Great Gift from Santa for a small charge)

Visit by **Ed PRATT** and his 'Round-the-World' Unicycle  
Fantastic Tombola and Raffle.

*A great Community event for everyone.  
Please come and support the Village Hall.*

## MEMORY CAFE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

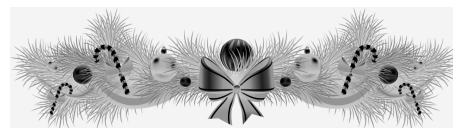
The 'Forget Me Not' Memory Cafe Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, at Curry Rivel Village Hall, starting at 2.30pm

If you regularly attend the Memory Cafe, or have been in the past, please come along.

The Memory Cafe is for anyone who has memory problems, or has a had a stroke, and we would be delighted to see new faces at the Christmas Party.

It promises to be a great afternoon, with a Christmas buffet, fun, games and the Tesco Elves!!

For more information about the Memory Cafe, or the Christmas Party, then please call Adrienne on [01458 252710](tel:01458252710) or Christine on [01458 741606](tel:01458741606)



## CURRY RIVEL W.I.

Invite you to a  
**BRING AND SHARE LUNCH**  
on  
Friday 4th January  
12 - 2 p.m.  
In the Old School Room

Everyone is welcome, come  
on your own, or with a  
friend.

Transport can be arranged

To arrange a lift, or for more  
information, please call

Anne on  
**01458 253078**

### THE BARBERS AT COOPERS CROSS

#### Christmas and New Year Opening Times

Thursday 27th December—10 am to 5 pm

Friday 28th December —10 am to 5 pm

Saturday 29th December—9 am to 1 pm

**Thursday 3rd January—Normal hours resume**

*For beauty appointments with Lucy contact her direct as usual*

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Row for the Ocean

.....an update on progress

Kirsty Barker

**B**ack in January the CRN were good enough to run a story on our plans to enter the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, this is an annual race to row from La Gomera in the Canaries to Antigua, a distance of some 3000 miles. Over the last 10 months we have been fund raising and talking to sponsors which means we have managed to raise in excess of £100,000 pounds which is unbelievable and in all honesty a figure that seemed impossible a year ago. We were a team of three then but we have been joined by Laura who is an experienced long-distance rower.

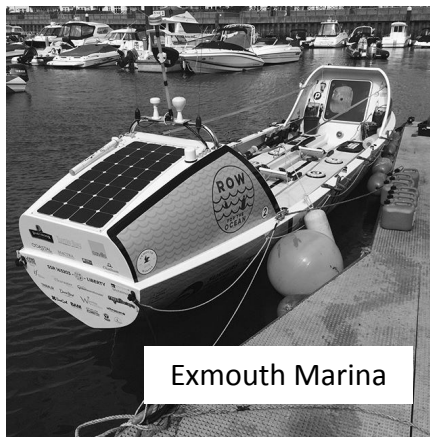
We have bought our boat "Liberty" which has been wrapped in her new livery and was unveiled at our launch party in Exeter in September. She is now in a container ship to La Gomera, (Tenerife), for the start on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Freeze dried food is stowed, (at 4000+ calories per day each we need a lot!), and she is going through the pre-race scrutineering as we speak to make sure all the required safety gear is there and working – it was last time we looked! For our part we will be starting to bulk-up soon, so plenty of Protein, it's expected we will lose something like 15kg during the row. We shall be storing all of our rubbish and disposing responsibly at the finish, given our aim is to raise awareness of plastics in our oceans it's the least we can do.

"How long is it going to take?", is a question we are often asked. Don't know is the answer. Last year the first ladies four did it in 6 weeks which was a record but the weather was kind with wind and currents pushing them along. The race organisers make sure we have sufficient food for 12 weeks but we have no intension of taking that long however as we all hate the de-hydrated food!

For those that are interested all the boats have satellite tracking so when the race starts you can see how we are doing and the organisers are very good with up-dates. If you open the Talisker Whisky link below you can see a video of what's in store...

[www.rowfortheocean.com.uk](http://www.rowfortheocean.com.uk)

[www.taliskerwhiskyatlanticchallenge.com](http://www.taliskerwhiskyatlanticchallenge.com)



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### THE BARBERS AT COOPERS CROSS

#### CHAIR TO RENT

We are looking to extend our hairdressing services to ladies in the New Year and are therefore seeking an independent and enthusiastic hairdresser to work on an appointment basis on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

You will be working alongside our current barbering team.

For further details contact Julian Morgan on 07776 180622

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## Curry Rivel Past & Present ...Makes a great stocking filler!

This fascinating book published by the Curry Rivel News Group in October 2014 draws together 155 photographs taken from the mid nineteenth century to the present day. Starting and finishing with the grand houses at each end of the village with images of the streets, houses, shops, churches and people going about their everyday lives between. Each 'old' photo is compared with a recent image of the same scene and charts the differences between 'now' and 'then', some major and others imperceptible. Interesting captions add historical context.

Originally sold at a special village price of £7.95 this excellent book is now available at a sale price of only £5. All proceeds from the sales will be made available in grant form to clubs, societies and institutions within the parish.

To get your copy contact the Curry Rivel News at [curryrivelnews@gmail.com](mailto:curryrivelnews@gmail.com) or pick up a copy in Living Pretty.

These photographs from the book show workers laying sewer pipes along High Street in 1938. How does it compare with recent work in our village?



### New Defibrillator

*Tony Greenaway*

The long awaited Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is now in place outside the Village Hall and is operational. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the appeal and to the Parish Council for the grant that enabled the purchase of the secure cabinet.

The Curry Rivel News Group



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to all our



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during the year.

Happy  
Christmas



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We only have 34 turkeys and 12 geese and we sold all but 4 last year, so order yours now to avoid disappointment!

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or call **01458 253111** or **07801 367770** and ask for  
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Old Heale  
Smallholding







At the start of the November meeting, members held a minute's silence in memory of Madelaine King Oakley, former treasurer and much loved member of Curry Rivel WI.

Our excellent and entertaining speaker, woodturner Bob Selway, brought with him a lathe and tools transforming the village hall into his workshop. Members were transfixed as he took a small block of cherry wood, demonstrating and talking us through every stage of the process as the block gradually emerged as a lovely bowl. Bob very kindly donated the bowl as a raffle prize which delighted our member Lorna Murphy who got to take it home.

Six members attended the 100th County AGM at Westlands in October when the speaker was Jennie Bond. A successful joint walk with fellow Pitney WI members followed by refreshments at Pitney Farm Cafe is to be repeated next Spring with Curry Rivel as hosts. Our President Jackie told us of a friend, recently bereaved who not wishing to burden her grieving family received excellent support when she contacted Silver Line. Set up by Dame Esther Rantzen, Silver Line is the only free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people, open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call them anytime on

08004708090

In the month ahead members look forward to meeting for a variety of activities including Needles and Natter, a pub lunch, a walk, a games morning and we will be

joining members from neighbouring groups at several Carol Services, particularly the annual County Carol Service at Wells Cathedral on 12th December.



Our next meeting on Thursday 13th December will be a Christmas Social. If you would like an opportunity to meet the members and join the fun, you would be very welcome. We meet at 9.45 for a 10am start. We also invite you to join us on 4th January 2019 for our third Bring and Share Lunch to be held in The Old School Room. If you would like a lift to either of these events or would like more information, please contact Jackie German on 01458 259688 or email jackiegerman@hotmail.com

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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.

### December

#### Sunday 2nd - 1st Sunday of Advent

10.00 **FH** - UB Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

4.00 pm **CR** - UB Christingle Service

#### Monday 3rd

7.00 pm **CR** - Carols on the **Green**, followed by mulled wine & mince pies

#### Wednesday 5th

2.45 pm **Immacolata House**  
Residents Communion

#### Thursday 6th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

2.30 pm **CR** - School Christingle Service

#### Sunday 9th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **CR** - Holy Communion

and Sunday Club

6.00 pm **FH** - Carol Service

#### Monday 10th

3.30 pm **CR School** - Messy Church

#### Tuesday 11th

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

#### Sunday 16th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW

10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service

11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Carol Service

#### Tuesday 18th

3.00 pm **Immacolata House**  
Carol Service

7.00 pm **SW** - Carol Service

#### Wednesday 19th

7.00 pm **FH** - Carols in FH  
Crown Inn

#### Thursday 20th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

2.00 pm **CR** - School Christmas Service

#### Sunday 23rd - 4th Sunday of Advent

10.00 **SW** - UB Holy Communion CW

### Scott's spot



It was in 1994 that the UK launched it's first ever National Lottery. Do you remember the advertising campaign that came just before it? It caused quite a stir at the time. In the ads a giant hand was seen hovering over the rooftops of a town before finally a finger reached down to pinpoint one lucky household as the winner of the jackpot. As the golden finger pointed, so then came those memorable, alluring words: *'It could be you!'*

This was a clever ad, images and words suggesting that the hand of fate just might one day single us out to receive riches beyond our wildest dreams. I wonder if you took the bait. Many did, and many still do. A number of people have become millionaires, but the vast majority will have spent considerable sums with little, if anything, to show for it. The presence of the word *'could'* in the ad meant that in reality the odds are firmly stacked against it ever being *you*.

As the Christmas celebrations approach once again, there is a stark contrast between the events of Bethlehem and what I've just described. In Luke's gospel we read familiar words from the Christmas narratives as he records for us the shepherds terrifying encounter with the angel of the Lord (no tinsel bedecked little girl this).

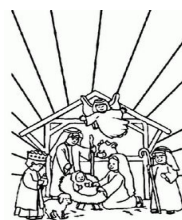
### Scott's spot ctd...

Luke writes: *'Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were overcome with terror. However, the angel said to them, "There's nothing to be frightened of; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy that is **for all people**: today a Saviour has been born to you in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord."*

In contrast to the above here is the promise not of cash on the earth, but of riches in heaven; a prize not only for this life but for eternity – the greatest gift ever given.

The point is, that what transpired some 2000 years ago with the arrival of God's Son, was no lottery dependant on blind chance. There was no question that it *'could be you'* if you happened to get lucky.

The message of the angels, of the New Testament, and of countless generations of Christians ever since is profoundly simple:



*'It is you.'*

The promise of God to humanity through Jesus His Son – that promise of a new life with Him and all the good things that flow from that – is not the preserve of the lucky few. It is yours for the taking, a gift waiting simply for you to claim and unwrap.

With every blessing for you and those you love this Christmas,

Revd. Scott Patterson.

### December ctd.

#### Monday 24th - Christmas Eve

4.00 pm **FH** - Crib Service

4.00 pm **CR** - Crib Service

11.15 pm **CR** - Midnight

Holy Communion

#### Tuesday 25th - Christmas day

8.30 **SW** - Christmas Holy

Communion BCP

10.30 **FH** - All Age Christmas

Holy Communion

#### Sunday 30th -

10.00 **FH** - UB Holy Communion CW

**CR** = St. Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel

**CR OSR** = St. Andrew's Old School Room ('behind' the church)

**FH** = St. Martin's Church, Fivehead

**SW** = St. Catherine's Church, Swell

### St. Andrew's Rotas December

**Brass** - Sue Blackwell

#### Flowers

15th - Christmas arrangements

#### Cleaning

1st - Julia Gauler

8th - Tina Geary

15th - Wendy Graves

22nd - Liz Rendell

29th - Jackie & John de Ronde



### From the Registers

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

28th October - Interment of ashes of  
Mr Frederick Charles Cousins  
(† 15th August)

12th November - A celebration for the  
life of Mrs Madelaine King-Oakley  
(† 31st October)

### Family Christingle Service in St. Andrew's

**Sunday 2nd December 4.00 pm**

Ready-made  
Christingles will  
be provided.



### Carol singing

**Monday 3rd December 7.00 pm**

The venue for this year's Carol singing will be the **Village Green**. Please join us in singing the seasonal Carols, accompanied by local musicians.

Refreshments (mulled wine & mince pies) will be served afterwards.



### Carols, bangers and mash on Friday 7th December in the Village Hall

When you receive this issue of the CRN this event will be almost upon us.

Tickets (£ 7.50) are available in Sandpit's, the BP petrol station/Post Office, the School Office and members of St. Andrew's congregation.

**Doors open at 7.00 pm.**

### St. Andrew's Craft & Coffee

Many thanks to all who came to the recent **Craft & Coffee** mornings in the Old School Room, making them such successful events. We do hope that you will all join us again, on **11th December**, from **10 am - 12 noon** in the **OSR**, bringing your own craft work to share your knowledge and expertise with others.

If craft is not your thing, then please come along for an informal chat with homemade cakes and refreshments.

### Update on the Shoe Box Appeal

Many thanks to all who contributed in any way to this appeal.

At the moment 26 boxes have gone from the village to children and adults who otherwise would have nothing this Christmas, and there will be more to come. A final total will be in next month's CRN.



## United Reformed Church



### December

(Services start at 10.30 am,  
unless indicated otherwise)

**Sunday 2nd - Advent** Mrs Jo Morling  
(incl. Holy Communion)

**Sunday 9th** - Something Surprisingly  
Different

**Sunday 16th** - to be arranged

**Sunday 23rd** - Rev Tim Richards

**Monday 24th - Christmas Eve**  
Midnight Service

Gathering at 11.00 pm for  
Service at **11.15 pm**

**Tuesday 25th - Christmas Day**  
No Service

**Sunday 30th** - 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  
tel. 01458 252788.

The friends and members of Curry Rivel United Reformed Church take this opportunity to wish the readers of the Curry Rivel News a blessed Christmas and warmly extend an invitation to our

**CHARITY CAROL SERVICE in support of  
ARC's SHOEBOX APPEAL \*\*\***

**FRIDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 7.00 pm**  
at which Shoeboxes filled with items for individuals supported by ARC will be collected, carols sung & festive refreshments (incl. mulled wine) enjoyed.

**And a warm invitation to our  
December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service**  
**Gathering at 11.00 pm**  
**for Service at 11:15 pm.**

### From Revd Rowena Francis

Remember the old fashioned play pens! A grandad was about to lift his distressed, 'terrible two's' grandchild out of one; when a voice firmly said from the kitchen 'He has to stay in there until he calms down'. Grandad was torn between wanting to comfort the child or follow his daughter's instruction. A few minutes later there was quiet. Mum peered round the kitchen door to see grandad sat in the play pen and the child playing and smiling with him.

This, for me, is a picture of Christmas. 'Grandfather' God looks down at the sorrow and anguish of the world and sends his son into the 'playpen' of the world to show how much we are loved.

God is in Yemen, on the cancer ward, in the homeless hostel, at the family table where there is not enough food, grieving with those mourning the loss of a loved one, in homes where gambling and alcohol have taken the place of love. God in Christ is present in the most difficult situation, and the most joyous, for there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God. The coming of Jesus as Emmanuel, God with us, shows us this clearly and calls us to respond in love and kindness to others. Hence Christmas is the time for giving to family, friends and to charity as God gave Jesus to us. This is what is at the heart of Christ-Mass; the rejoicing that God who is Love is here with us.

Christmas, in the dark shortest days of mid-winter, is a celebration of the coming of the light of love into the darkest places. It expresses the hope that however dark, apathetic or cruel the world, love will not be extinguished. Light puts out darkness in a way that darkness can never put out light.

With seasonal blessings,  
Revd Rowena Francis

\*\*\* Please note: Shoebox items need  
to be suitable for ADULTS.

Suggestions include: hats, scarves, gloves, socks, toothpaste & brush, deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, sanitary products, sweets or chocolate.

Any monetary gift will be used to buy items to support this appeal.



## Curry Rivel Entertainers

*Chris Champion*

**T**he Curry Rivel Entertainers need volunteers to help backstage for up and coming pantomime which will be performed in February.

If you could give a little of your time to help, please call 01458 250311. They will be delighted to hear from you.



## Charity Carol Service

*Alison Richards*

**O**n Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm, there will be a Carol Service in Curry Rivel United Reformed Church in aid of ARC's Shoebox appeal. (ARC was previously known as Taunton Association for the Homeless). Everyone is welcome to join in with the singing, and enjoy some mulled wine and festive fare. If you would like to donate gifts in a shoebox they should be suitable for an adult.

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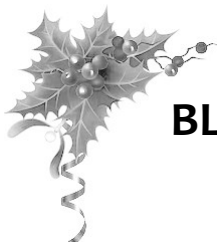


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**In December****Regular Events**

<b>MONDAY</b>	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	
<b>TUESDAY</b>	10-12.00 (2nd only)	Craft & Coffee	Old School Room
10.30	Dancing Classes	Village Hall	
2.30	Forget-Me-Not-Café	Village Hall	
5.45 -8pm	Pilates	Primary School	
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport	
6.30	Guides	URC Hall	
6.30	Langport Youth Club	Ridgway Hall	
7.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall	
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club (2nd only)	All Saints Hall, L'port	
7.30	Tuesday Group (3rd only)	Drayton Village Hall	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9.30	Mother and Baby Group	Village Hall
7.00	Dancing Classes	Village Hall	
6.45	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport	
7.30	Bell Ringing	St Andrew's	
<b>THURSDAY</b>	9.30 -11am	Parent, Baby & Toddler Group	
	(Term time only)	Primary School Hall	
10.00	WI	(2nd only) Village Hall	
1.30 - 3.30pm	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall	
4.30	Rainbows	Village Hall	
4.30	Brownies	Village Hall	
7.30	Parish Council	(1st only) Village Hall	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9.30-2	Get Together Club	Village Hall
7.30	Cinema Night	(3rd only) Village Hall	

**DISCLAIMER**

Publication of any article and advertising material is at the discretion of the Editor. Articles may be amended by the Editor. Views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Editor and/or the Curry Rivel News Group.

**Deadlines for January Edition**

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday 6 December
<b>Send to:</b>	crnadverts@btinternet.com
<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 11 December
<b>Send to:</b>	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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

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

**Sports Clubs**

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

**Social**

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251280
Twinning Association	251432
Women's Institute	259688
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
PROBUS	252545
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	253953
Get Together Club	251773
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Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 741606
Inner Wheel	252648
Tuesday Group	252657/252022

**Arts**

Entertainers	250311
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Dancing Classes	07730 755203
Art Club	253126

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Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	741606
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United Reformed Church Hall - Lettings etc.	259391
URC Minister	01749 679300

**Community Services**

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**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
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Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	274008
United Reformed Church Minister	252799

# Curry Rivel Remembers

By Tony Potter

The haunting sound of the Last Post echoed round a packed St Andrew's Church. A young woman wiped away a single tear and a fractious child cried, as the names of the 29 men from the village, who had died during both world wars, were read to the congregation – 21 men during and after the First World War and eight in the Second.

But this was the centenary of the Armistice that ended what was then known as The Great War and so the emphasis was on this. Curry Rivel was part of a national art project to commemorate those men and women who died as a result of that war, represented by 21 perspex silhouettes sitting in the pews scattered throughout the Church; a project aptly named *'There But Not There'*. Each one with a card giving that man's rank, name, regiment and how, when and where he died.

Another project was the Royal British Legion black silhouettes representing a soldier coming home from that war. One was at the village War Memorial and another on Bartram' Lane in line of sight from the Taunton road to the Burton Pynsent Monument; the same lane that passed the now ruined cottage where young Archie Sligo had lived; the first man from the village killed in The Great War.

After the Remembrance Service in St Andrew's Church, around 60 members of the village went to the War Memorial, where wreaths were laid on behalf of the Parish Council, the Royal British Legion and the Guides.

The local Branch of the Legion held a lunch in the village hall, attended by 60 members and their guests, at which over £400 was raised to assist the Armed Forces community.



Your Community Website  
curryrivel.org.uk

