



PUBLISHED MONTHLY AND DISTRIBUTED FREE TO ALL CURRY RIVEL RESIDENTS, ALSO AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS OUTLETS AROUND CURRY RIVEL

## Christingle – Sharing the Light

Tina Geary

**C**ovid has taught us all to get a little creative in many areas of life and work. And nowhere was this more evident than with the “Christingle in a Bag”.



the opportunity to talk to the children about the meaning of the Christingle. He also shared vital instructions for how to put them together at home. I do wonder how many of the sweets actually made it home and on to the oranges!

Hopefully enough Christingles were completed so that the candles could be lit and a prayer thanking Jesus, the Light of the World. And the fact that this was happening in homes around Curry Rivel instead of the Church meant that St Andrew’s H & S officer could relax this year and not spend a nervous hour sat next to a fire extinguisher.

This year’s Christingles raised a lovely £71.80 for the Children’s Society, which will be gratefully received and put to very good use. Donation boxes are available for annual collection if you would like to help this worthy charity all year round. Last year, through the donation boxes, the amazing total of £1,238.76 was raised. The highest total yet. Thank you! Please contact me if you would like one. 01458 259003

We obviously couldn’t hold our annual Christingle service in St Andrew’s Church, so we had to do something a little different. The Children’s Society – a charity set up to transform the lives of children suffering abuse and neglect – stepped up to the challenge and created branded bags, balloons, prayer cards and stickers. A mammoth trip was undertaken by Scott and Shirley Larcombe to collect oranges from Glastonbury, Shepton Mallet and Wells which were kindly donated by



Tesco. And then the Geary family spent a fun night putting together 160 of the bags filled with the Children’s Society goodies along with a build-it-yourself Christingle with the orange, red ribbon, candle, and of course sweets on cocktail sticks.

The DIY bags were delivered to Curry Rivel Primary School. And the wonders of the Internet allowed the Revd Scott Patterson



More pictures on page 2...



## ...Continued from page 1



# Welcome to the February 2021 issue of the Curry Rivel News

Jane Hamlin – Editor

**U**nfortunately, because of the restrictions brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, we are unable to deliver a printed copy of this issue of our village newsletter to you. Please feel free to forward the electronic copy to anyone you know who might be interested. (I apologise if you have lots of kind friends who have all sent it to you!)

If you have a neighbour who is unable to access the electronic version, you might like to print off a copy for them so that they do not miss out on the news and interesting articles that have been submitted for inclusion.

At the time of writing it is looking unlikely that we will be able to print the March issue – though we will do so if we can distribute it safely. Thank you to all our contributors, distributors

and advertisers who make the Curry Rivel News possible.

Remember that you can always read the Curry Rivel News – and back copies from 2016 onwards – on the Curry Rivel website: [www.curryrivel.org.uk](http://www.curryrivel.org.uk)

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# Curry Rivel, Hambridge & Drayton Food Bank

Steve Allinson

The Food Bank at the URC hall continues to be open for food and monetary donations every Wednesday and Saturday between 12 noon and 1pm. In order that we can ensure your donations are used as effectively as possible, we shall be regularly updating what items we particularly require via the Curry Rivel Website: [www.curryrivel.org.uk](http://www.curryrivel.org.uk)

If you would prefer to make a financial donation by direct bank transfer, please contact Steve Allinson for the account details: [steve@allinsonlaw.com](mailto:steve@allinsonlaw.com)

foodbank

## Christmas Lights

Sue Walsh

As you may remember from the December issue of the Curry Rivel News my brother, Roy Webb, decorated his house in Chatham Place with Christmas lights in aid of charity. I am delighted to say that people have been very generous with their donations and £348.61 was raised for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

Thank you everyone for your kindness and thoughtful support.



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# Have you seen the new-look website?

Tony Greenaway

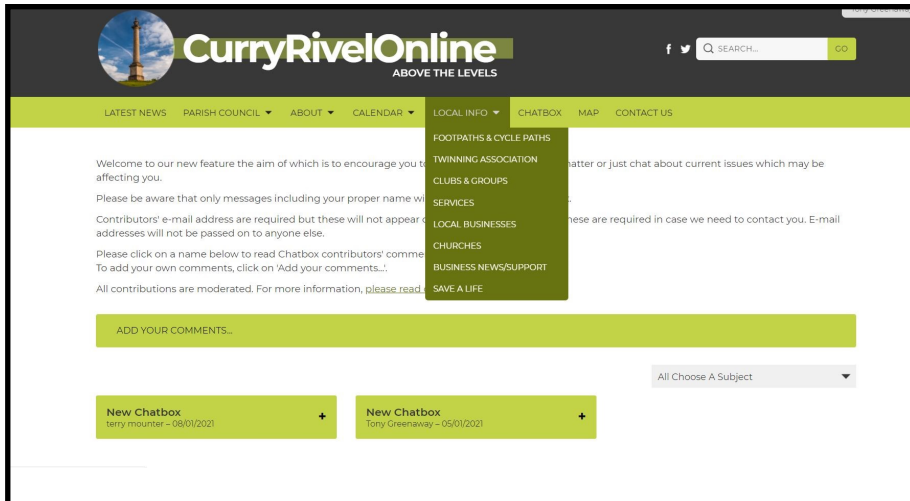
The Curry Rivel Community Website has been updated to make it more user-friendly for those accessing it on mobile phones and tablets. It contains new features like *Chatbox* where visitors to the site can ask questions, provide information or respond to existing *Chatbox* topics.

All the existing features are still available using the drop-

down menu and we encourage your feedback, articles and photos as we always have done.

If you have any comments on the new-look website, please submit them via *Chatbox* or by email to:

[editor@curryrivel.org.uk](mailto:editor@curryrivel.org.uk)



The Curry Rivel Community Website has an opportunity for a volunteer to join the editorial team and to help develop the website. This is open to anyone who has some knowledge of websites and social media and an interest in engaging with our local community.

The times of work are entirely flexible and at the moment it would take up approximately 3 or 4 hours a week.

For further information please email [editor@curryrivel.org.uk](mailto:editor@curryrivel.org.uk)

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# Recalling the ending of the past year with the Curry Rivel WI

Carolyn Paton

**D**ecember saw the WI in festive mood in spite of all the restrictions which we do not need to rehearse here. Members had adorned themselves with seasonal touches to their outfits - or at least, those parts of their outfits which were visible – they may have had their pyjama bottoms on for all anyone else knew!

The Christmas theme got going with a marvellous demonstration of how to make a Christmas wreath, given by Annette Stein, who built a beautiful creation before our very eyes. Those of us who had never before attempted such a thing felt encouraged to have a go - once we had seen the step-by-step atelier, and had picked up tips and recommendations along the way. She made it seem accessible and fun and so much more gorgeous than a

commercial one, being entirely personal and furnished from our very own gardens and hedges. A big 'Thank you' to her for sharing her skills with us all.

Obligated to provide our own coffee/ mulled wine and mince pies, members thus fortified themselves before attacking a quiz devised by Jackie German around a theme of well-known 'Marys' an activity enjoyed by all, although it has to be admitted that the success rate left room for a little improvement!

The meeting was coordinated by the President, Anne Geach (01458 253078) who went on to report on the various on-going activities of our Institute. Walkers had confined their route to local roads in view of previous heavy rain, and a small but cheerful group concluded their outing in Living Pretty, continuing their conversations in warm, agreeable and socially distanced surroundings. Roll on the day when such a thing becomes possible once again. Readers had zoomed in to talk about 'Silas Marner', and their reactions to this well-known work by George Eliot. The next book up for discussion in January is of a different genre, being 'The Ocean at the End of the Lane' an absorbing fantasy tale by Neil Gaiman.

An annual part of WI activities is a National agreement to support a Resolution agreed between all the Federations. This is then publicised and lobbied for during the year. Members here in Curry have voted between five propositions; time will tell which Resolution carries the day Nationally. This of course can never be a foregone conclusion, as each suggestion has its own merits.

WI members continue to support the CR foodbank on an individual basis, as is the case for monthly baking for staff at Immacolata house.

The next meeting will again be by Zoom on January 14, and the services of Anne Shorthouse (who will talk about Kinesiology) have been engaged. It will I am sure be interesting and enlightening, as is always the case with the WI.

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# Red Cross Fund Raising

Chris Cox

**T**o help raise funds for Langport & District Red Cross Group whilst our usual openings are suspended, I have written up the story of my year teaching in the bush of Jamaica.

With chapter titles including Rule Britannia in the Blue Mountains, How Not to Make Tea, Another Lovely Funeral, Mirror on the Ceiling, Five in a Bed, Gold Teats, The Gut Buster, Taking a Machete to a Banana, There's a Crocodile Behind You, and Birthday Suits in Hedonism, you can laugh along with the author and his

wife as they fall in love with Jamaica and its peoples.

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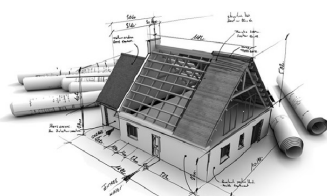
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# A new alveolus for the planetary lung

Peter Goodenough

**T**his is a story of a wet December day when there dawned a new hope. On the 19<sup>th</sup> December a group of intrepid local volunteers gathered together to heed the call for a new beginning. This was not done from an armchair on the internet but in the old-fashioned way. We worked in the wet and mud to plant 200 trees and shrubs on the land adjoining Curry Woods. Why would a group of otherwise sane people do this?

I like to think of this planet on which we are so fortunate to live in the same way as described by the great James Lovelock, he of the Gaia theory. This described the way in which the combined living mass on the planet operates as an indivisible system. If one bit is damaged the whole system has to react to repair the damage. As life is defined by science as the ability to breathe, then the planet as a whole is a giant lung and always has been since life (as we know it Jim) evolved. Breathing involves the taking in of



Anne & David Geach plant the first tree!

oxygen and the use of its oxidative powers to drive all other reactions in the body using the energy produced, with the release of water and carbon dioxide. This has happened for at least 3 billion years - that's a lot of oxygen. Where did it all come from? Well, you

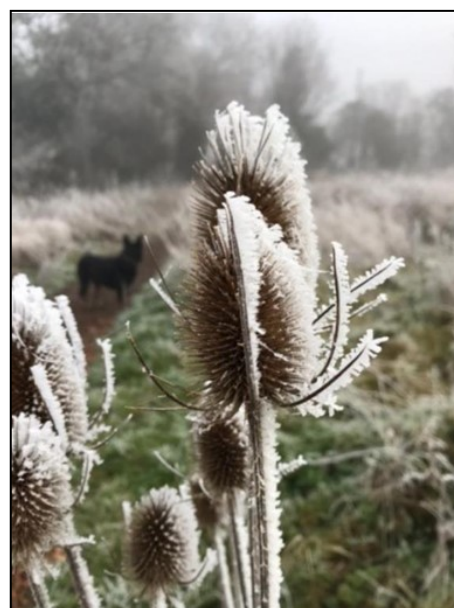


Wallis family planters

know the answer, don't you? Take a moment to hold a green leaf in your hand (don't pick it if you can avoid doing so), and think about what it's doing. In front of you it is performing such complex chemical reactions that we humans cannot master and reproduce them; in the biggest and noisiest chemical factories we cannot do one hundredth of that which the leaf you are holding in your hand is doing. That leaf represents the reason you are here and are alive. Only green plants can take carbon dioxide and water from the environment and use the sun's radiative energy to make them into molecules we can eat and, most importantly, also produce oxygen. Not just some oxygen but all the oxygen. All the oxygen for the last 3 billion years. That's why the group of villagers were out that Saturday in the mud and rain to plant 200 trees. (By the by, your lungs are made of millions of alveoli and they are where gas exchange occurs.)

We were planning more planting in January and were particularly looking forward to a group of children from the school, led by teacher Emily Langford,

coming to plant with us. It is so important to get their generation involved and we are very sad that the lock down has prevented it for the time being. However, individuals or families can still plant - we have another 200 trees waiting to be planted - so if you would like to help please ring 01458250091 or 07903030533 for details of how to get involved.



January teasel

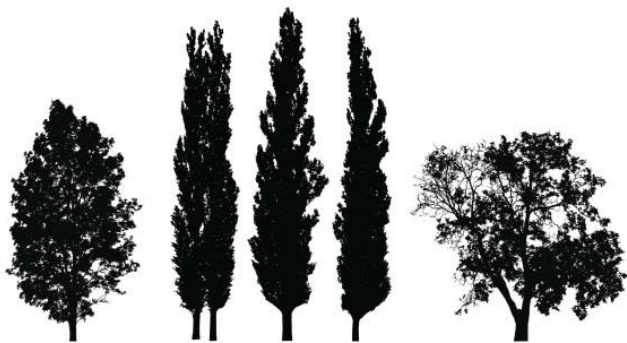


# Somerset's Wonderful Wildlife

Nigel Grinsted

## Poplar trees - some are 80,000 years old!

Everyone is talking trees – whether that's felling them irresponsibly (as in HS2 and in the Amazon) or planting them to help the climate. Mention Poplar trees and most people think first of one species: the tall and slim Lombardy Poplar. To be technically accurate, the Lombardy Poplar is actually a subspecies of the Black Poplar and its name refers to the Lombardy region of Italy where it originally occurred. In Somerset the Lombardy Poplar is often deliberately grown in rows to act as windbreaks on farmland, and it can also be found individually as an ornamental tree in residential areas. Less easily recognised are the White, Grey and Black Poplars and the Aspen all of which have a more typical deciduous tree shape. Indeed, the shape of these Poplars is actually rather beautiful and distinctive. The Aspen is also called the Whispering or Quaking Poplar because the leaves are small and the leaf stem very long so that even on a windless day the leaves will still shimmer.



White, Grey or  
Black Poplar

Lombardy Poplar

Aspen



### The oldest tree in the World

In Fishlake National Forest, Utah in the USA there is an Aspen that is estimated to be 80,000 years old. That's not a print error – eighty thousand years old. It's called Pando and is a clonal colony that shares one underground root system. Above ground, Pando may look like a grove of individual trees, but they are all genetically identical clones. Poplars are notorious for sending out shallow horizontal roots which then send up suckers which turn into new trees – this is what has continually happened with Pando for 80,000 years.

### The unpopular Poplar

This sucker production means that the horizontal roots can damage property foundations or cause subsidence and so insurers will often ask if any poplar trees are in close vicinity of a property they are insuring.



The leaves of Poplars are the preferred food of many moth caterpillars including some of our larger species such as the Clifden Nonpareil, Puss Moth, Poplar Hawk and Privet Hawk. However, none of our butterfly caterpillars are known to feed on Poplar leaves.

Poplars are dioecious – this means trees are either male or female and they are wind pollinators.

### Strike a light

Poplar wood (including Aspen) is one of the preferred woods used by matchstick makers. Indeed, in the mid 1900s Bryant & May planted acres of Poplars in the Grange Estate in Bedfordshire to provide wood but it was not actually used for this purpose as the company eventually used wood from Scandinavia instead before the planted trees had matured. However, the wood did get named Matchstick Wood by the locals.



# District Councillors' Report

Tiffany Osborne and Clare Paul

**W**e start 2021 as we left 2020 with the pandemic still very much in our midst and the need to be adhering to all Government guidelines with the view to protecting our loved ones and our community from the spread of this virus. Please stay vigilant.

As for SSDC it is also a bit of the same but just a different year. Planning is still on hold with no applications being processed until at least 19<sup>th</sup> February due to the phosphate issue. We have been told that meetings are being held between all the relevant agencies and commissioning is underway to provide an interim solution for all the Councils of Somerset to be able to assess the impact of developments caught by the current situation.

We have also been asked to communicate to you all that if any residents have an enforcement issue please log your queries via the website not call directly as this is the most efficient way of ensuring all information is appropriately logged and dealt with in a timely manner.

The Executive Committee have agreed in principle for the Octagon Theatre to get an injection in excess of £23 million to increase seating from 622-900 and add a fly tower and circle which would allow touring plays and musicals to attend. Space will also be created for smaller studios, a Café Hub and boutique spaces used possibly for cinema showings.

Finally, all Area Committees are currently on hold for the next couple of months whilst SSDC staff prioritise the use of their resources to support the community and the vaccinations roll out. Should any planning applications need to take place during this time then the Chair, Vice-Chair and Ward Member(s) will hold an informal zoom meeting with the planning officer to discuss this application in person.

## Pilates

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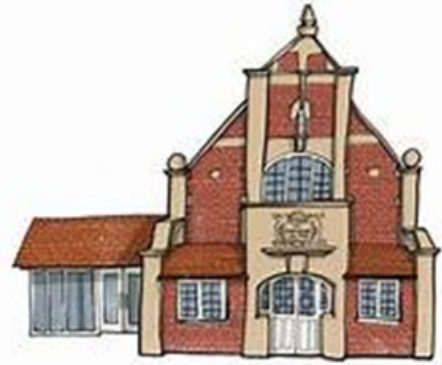
# CURRY RIVEL VILLAGE HALL



As we find ourselves in a third lockdown, the Village Hall once again is unable to open for bookings so the 200 Club is an invaluable way for you to help keep the hall in a good state of repair. We are pleased to announce the winners of the December 2020 Draw.

## Congratulations to:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs F O'Malley	£120
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr W Warren	£83
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dr J Hamlin	£66
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12 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs W Brinsden	£10
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs D Talbot-Williams	£10



This draw raised £455 for the upkeep of the Village Hall and we would like to thank all members of the 200 Club for their support. If you would like the opportunity to win one of these amazing prizes in the next draw, please contact Hazel on **07730 755203**

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# Litter, Litter Everywhere, Do Only Some of us Care?

*John Casebourne*

**C**urry Rivel and Drayton are without doubt wonderful places to live. Both villages have a very caring and compassionate community. You only have to glance through the Curry Rivel News to appreciate the commitment made by some members of these communities.

On arriving here from Gloucester, I was touched by the green and red card scheme that was in place. Placing one or other in my window. Green, I'm ok, red, I need help. How simple and caring is that? There are many, many more fine examples in both villages of members of the community helping those in difficulty, pain and suffering.

Then there is the superb network of countryside public footpaths which crisscross our local parishes, where wildlife can be observed in abundance and is a treat to behold. Tranquil spots, where you are able to enjoy the peace and serenity of these surroundings, even during covid. Many people in England are not so fortunate to have all this on their doorstep! We also have a real diverse population of skilled and professional women and men from all walks of life, which I believe adds to the richness of our communities.

During the course of the last year, many of you will have spoken to me and even helped me collect up litter as we walked around the parishes of Drayton and Curry Rivel. With the assistance of both of our Parish Councils, the SSDC and the SCC and our County Councillor, Clare Paul, great progress has been achieved to reduce the amount of litter plaguing our network of roads. Together, with the help of our very supportive team of volunteers, we have collectively made a huge difference to the amount of roadside waste degrading our countryside and villages.

As a supporter of education before enforcement, I would like to make an

appeal to every member of both communities. Firstly, please could you all kindly make sure that your recycling bins are packed securely. If you need extra bins to help you achieve this, please ask the SSDC. Think about the weather and windy days as this will help to keep our community less littered.

Secondly, I would like to appeal to those in our community who drink from bottles and cans whilst walking, cycling or driving, then discard their lager and soft drink cans, vodka and beer bottles, pub glasses, coffee cups and banana skins, orange peel, cigarette packets and butts, sweet wrappers, face masks, wet wipes, tissues, and other litter around our community roads, to stop, and think about the consequences of what you are doing to our world and wildlife. Consider your actions and recycle or bin your rubbish in the appropriate place - including your dog poo that some people continue to leave in bags in the hedgerows. No excuses. It is everyone's civic responsibility!

It is no exaggeration to say that since I moved here last March the litter team and I have collected thousands of these pieces of litter during the past ten months. As quickly as we clear them, they reappear. The amount of lager cans and vodka bottles we collect suggests antisocial drinking or drink driving! If you believe that people are drink driving then this is very serious and should be reported to the police before someone gets badly injured or worse, killed. You can contact the police via 101, 999, their website or Crime stoppers or speak to them directly. We have two new police officers covering our area and you will be seeing more of them in due course. So please don't get on the wrong side of them and pick up a fine or get caught drink driving, or excessive speeding risking your job and family income. No one wants that!

I understand that not all roadside litter

is from members of our own communities. However, the evidence we see on a daily basis suggests much of it is. I would add that the type of litter we collect suggests it is not all litter overspill from our council collection teams. Although I would agree some is, most of the litter on bin day is due to the way we casually pack our recycling bins.

It is totally unacceptable that such a caring community should be blighted by litter, and a few people who are really not willing to toe the line. Covid is bad enough for us all to have to put up with. There is no place in our great community for selfishness, inconsiderate antisocial behaviour, fly tipping or littering. So please, please, remember it is all about attitude more than enforcement. We all make mistakes and not one of us is squeaky clean, including me! **IT IS TIME TO CHANGE OUR ATTITUDE!**

Support your community with the correct attitude, please!

If you would like to help clear litter in any parishes in South Somerset please contact me [johncasebourne@sky.com](mailto:johncasebourne@sky.com) we can't expect our Government or Councils to continue to spend millions each year to clear up unnecessary roadside rubbish dumped by those who appear not to care about where they live or other people's communities.

Help to make our voices heard and reverse this huge problem.

I leave you with this extract from the "Tale Of Two Wolves". It is a story of a grandfather using a metaphor of two wolves fighting within him to explain his inner conflicts to his grandson. When his grandson asks which wolf wins, the grandfather answers whichever he chooses to feed is the one that wins.





# Sedgemoor Gardens Club

A club for all those in the Langport area interested in gardening

## Sedgemoor Gardens Club

*Sylvia Goodenough*

**S**edgemoor Gardens Club welcomed Francis Burroughs again on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January - in a rather different way to our 2019 meeting with him in All Saints Hall, Langport! However, his January 2021 Zoom talk was just as interesting; this time he was talking about the history of the front garden.

He started with the Romans, who, as a settled society, really enjoyed their gardens. Before them, Britain was lacking the settled and stable social order that goes with the time and inclination to spend time in gardens! He encouraged us to visit (when it is safe to do so!) the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff where a typical Roman garden has been recreated. What did the Romans do for us in terms of gardening? Lots, including teaching us to compost, Spring sow seeds, dig our soil and hoe out weeds!

He discussed the Dark Ages, when most gardens were around monasteries. Surprisingly the Vikings were keen gardeners, having fenced plots around their homesteads where they tended a few animals, vegetables and plants they used for dying. Much later came the English knot garden, popular in the sixteenth century. Colourful plants were not found in British gardens until later again - knot gardens were box hedged and formal spaces. Capability Brown and Repton developed the landscape look for large areas - Stourhead is in their image, although originally there would not have been the understory of rhododendrons etc. we see today.

Small plots around cottages could not really be called gardens until the Victorian era. Before that the lower classes were too busy toiling during the day to want to garden in any spare time! Some Victorian painters have produced chocolate box images of country life at the time - these were figments of their imagination! However, the developing middle class, in their suburban villas, did develop front gardens, and in them planted some of the new plant species coming onto the market at the time.

Nowadays, sadly, the front garden is in decline - new houses often have very little land in front of them and increasingly existing front gardens are being paved over to make room for cars to be parked. However, Francis showed us some original ways people do manage to combine parking and plants - so front gardens can still flourish, even if in a different form.



## SOMERTON U3A

*Sue Haigh*

**A**s we are unable to hold our meetings in Edgar Hall, we are increasing our monthly online events to twice a month.

The first Zoom meeting will be held on Friday 12th February at 11.00 "The Art of Trickery" - Ian Kemble will talk about magicians depicted in paintings. The second meeting on Friday 26th February at 11.00 "Is anyone there?" - Bob Mizon talks about astronomy. Bob, a retired French teacher, used to

inspire his pupils with his talks on the stars - all in perfect French!

We have over 50 interest groups and each month more of them are meeting by Zoom. Our monthly online newsletter gives members the opportunity to see what activities are taking place. For further information, or if you are interested in joining visit the Somerton U3A website or email: [membership@SomertonU3A.uk](mailto:membership@SomertonU3A.uk)

# Letters...



Dear Editor,

## 'History of Curry Rivel' by A O Mounter 1910 - 1988

My father, Arthur O Mounter, was born and lived all his life in Curry Rivel and spent many years after his retirement researching and writing this history of his beloved village for the period up to 1928.

He wrote it on an Amstrad word processor and then printed it on A4 paper to produce a few copies, one of which he deposited it in the Somerset Records office and one of which I have since scanned and converted to a Microsoft Word document that is available to anyone to do with as they wish within the limitations and restrictions of copyright law.

So, if anyone wants a copy then email me at > [terrymounter@btinternet.com](mailto:terrymounter@btinternet.com)

*Terry Mounter*

Dear Editor,

The caterpillar that Nigel Pearston featured in last month's Curry Rivel News is the Vapourer Moth caterpillar. It becomes one of these:

The Vapourer is a widespread day flying moth but only the male flies. The female's wings are so insignificant it can't fly. It attracts males by secreting pheromones, which lepidopterists at the time referred to as vapours - hence its name.

*Nigel Grinsted*



## 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.

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# Potholes

*Somerset County Council*

**A** pothole happens when the surface of a road or footpath has been worn away and a hollow forms. As the road surface ages it becomes more porous, and rainwater gets in through cracks. In wet weather the pressure created by traffic passing over the area forces water further down into the road surface, weakening it.

In winter, as the temperature changes between freezing and thawing, there is a faster deterioration of road surfaces, because the water filling cracks freezes and expands, loosening chunks of the surface material. Once a pothole has formed it will quickly grow as traffic continually dislodges and removes weakened and broken pieces of surface.

Our inspectors check roads, footways and cycleways for potholes regularly. Quieter routes are inspected less often, so we ask you to help us identify and report potholes. When you report a pothole we log it, inspect it within 3 working days, and schedule a repair where required.

When you contact us, please give us as much information as possible that will help our inspector find the pothole or road defect. The more information you give us, the easier it will be for us to find. Please tell us:

- Your name and phone number, in case we need to contact you
- Where the pothole or road defect is, including postcode, road name and parish
- Is the pothole or defect outside a specific property, for example outside Number 4, or near lamp column number 27?

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-pothole-or-road-defect/>

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## The Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal 2020

By Suzie Potter, Poppy Appeal Organiser

**W**hen the pandemic came to the fore at the beginning of 2020, we realised that, like so many other annual appeals, Poppy Appeal 2020 was going to be a challenge. As the months passed and we went from lockdown to lockdown followed by graded Tiers, there appeared to be uncertainty as to whether there would be any fundraising particularly as so many people were self-isolating in an effort to avoid putting themselves and others at risk.

At one point a decision had been made not to collect although as the year slipped along it was decided that safe, static and socially-distanced collections could go ahead provided appropriate safety measures were put in place. It was via these static outlets that I am delighted to report that the final total of money raised for the Remembrance collections this year was £2,042.08 which, although down by £1,877.38 on last year's total, is incredible when considering that the amount raised was purely through our static outlets.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed so generously and made this total possible.

Thank you



# Children's Page



# Just For KIDS

## Dog Breeds



- |                                 |                       |                 |                      |                     |                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1) Border Collie                | 2) Husky              | 3) Great Dane   | 4) Labrador          | 5) Shih Tzu         | 6) Newfoundland | 7) Beagle |
| 8) Greyhound                    | 9) Afghan Hound       | 10) Weimaraner  | 11) Golden Retriever | 12) Dalmatian       | 13) Corgi       |           |
| 14) Dachshund                   | 15) Bichon Frise      | 16) Labradoodle | 17) Pomeranian       | 18) German Shepherd |                 |           |
| 19) West Highland White Terrier | 20) Yorkshire Terrier | 21) Poodle      | 22) Basset Hound     |                     |                 |           |



# Children's Page



# Just For KIDS





## 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** - changes in regulations concerning gatherings or renewed/extended lockdown may result in short notice changes or suspension of any or all of the services listed below.

Therefore, please also see the information on the notice board in the churchyard by the Green or in the church porch.

## February

### Thursday 4th

10.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP

### Sunday 7th - 2nd before Lent

10.00 **FH** - All Age Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Worship/Prayer

### Sunday 14th - 1st before Lent

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **CR** - Parish Communion CW

### Wednesday 17th - Ash Wednesday

7.30 pm **CR** - United Benefice

Holy Communion & imposition of ashes

### Thursday 18th

10.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP

### Sunday 21st - Lent 1

9.30 **FH** - Morning Worship CW

11.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service

11.45 **CR** - Said Communion CW

### Sunday 28th - Lent 2

9.30 **FH** - Parish Communion CW

11.00 **CR** - Morning Worship CW

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

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

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

## Scott's spot

### Poems and Prayers for People facing a Pandemic

#### A Prayer for 'Corona-tide'

by Revd. Ben Lines

May the Christ who spoke boldly and calmed the seas,  
Grant us unending peace as we pray on our knees.

May the Father who welcomes the prodigal home,  
Embrace us and be present so we don't feel alone.

May the Spirit that grants us great courage and power,  
Cast out fear and anxiety in this darkest hour.

May the unity of God, the great three in one,  
Lead our communities in love even when this is done.

May the stillness of knowing the great I am,  
Give us security and hope that He has a plan.

May the resurrected Christ, whom death could not hold,  
Grant us knowledge and hope that death doesn't control.

May the creator God, who formed all that's around,  
Reveal glory and goodness so we don't feel drowned.

May God's grace that was revealed through Christ on the cross,  
Lead us on the narrow way so we don't get lost.



### From St. Andrew's Registers

#### Funerals

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

16th December - Service to Celebrate the life of

Terence Alan Nation († 2nd December) and funeral in cemetery

29th December - Interment of ashes in St. Andrew's Churchyard of

Joy Patricia Jeanes († 29th December)

### Rotas February

#### Flowers

5th, 12th - Sue Randell

19th, 26th - Lent

#### Cleaning

5th - Wendy Graves

12th - Anne Geach

19th - Anne Goff

26th - Jackie & John de Ronde



### Not Everything is Cancelled

(from the 'MercyHealth' website)

Not everything is cancelled...

Sun is not cancelled.

Spring is not cancelled.

Relationships are not cancelled.

Love is not cancelled.

Reading is not cancelled.

Devotion is not cancelled.

Music is not cancelled.

Imagination is not cancelled.

Kindness is not cancelled.

Conversations are not cancelled.

Hope is not cancelled.

And God's love for His people is never cancelled.

### Prayer During a Pandemic

Loving God, Holy One,

Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our neighbours, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely,

aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways

to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in Your

Faithful presence,

You, the God who does not abandon,

You, the Holy One, breathing within us, breathing among us,

breathing around us in our beautiful yet wounded world.

(The Sisters of IHM, Scranton)



*Grotesque, playing tenor viol*



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

Due to the current situation, it has been slightly difficult to plan this annual service in which all the churches in Curry Rivel, Fivehead and Swell usually join together with Christians around the world on the first Friday in March. The service, with the theme *"Build on a Strong Foundation"* and prepared this year by the Christian women of Vanuatu, will therefore need to take a somewhat different form.

For those able to access the internet, the service will be via **Zoom at 2pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>**; for an invitation to join, 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.

The service is always interesting and looks at the issues facing people, and particularly women, in a different country of the world each year, using material they have themselves prepared. This year we are praying with and for Vanuatu, the scattered group of islands east of Australia and north of New Zealand, with a British and French colonial history, and subject to devastating cyclones. In 2022, the service will be prepared by representatives from England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and we hope we will be back together in one of our own welcoming church buildings.

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

### Dear Friends,

Have you noticed the snowdrops or daffodils beginning to shake off their winter slumber and raising their heads to brighten our gardens, verges, parks and pots?

Victor Hugo in his extraordinary novel, *Les Misérables* wrote this: "If people did not love one another, I really don't see what use there would be in having any spring."

Now, I know most of us know this work through the musical but whether you are one of those who have read his magnum opus or only ever got to the first chapter there is much in that quote to think about.

## United Reformed Church



### February

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

Services **continue** at 10:30am on Sundays. **However**, although meeting in the Chapel building for formal worship is allowed, we have decided to **continue meeting remotely for the duration of this lockdown** using 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. 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, which will continue for the time being.

#### *Dear Friends ctd...*

The overwhelming memory of this time that we are living through will be, I hope, the resilience of our NHS and the outpouring of support within communities across this country; from cities to villages and street by street people have watched out for one another in ways we had forgotten and had all but passed into memory. I know this has been said before, and will be spoken of again before we reach the metaphorical spring when we can once more greet each other with a handshake or hug, when masks will no longer be needed and we once more experience the freedom to open our homes to friends and family. If we reach that time, no, when we reach that time, and I accept we have some way to go yet, but if at that point we withdraw from *'loving our neighbour'* then we will be so much the poorer for it.

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"*.

**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.

#### *Dear Friends ctd...*

There will be those who disagree profoundly with what I want to say next, that's fine, if we don't write or speak from the heart we might as well not bother.....so here goes.

When Jesus challenged people to follow him, he was talking about following his example, not necessarily his way of life, after all we can't all become itinerant preachers and teachers, healers and guides. But we can all love one another in the best sense of that word. Unconditional regard for the other in our midst. I think we have witnessed faith in action during this pandemic and I believe that is what faith is; **action**. Too often faith is focused on an individual response to Jesus, too often it is about worshipping a book or even a person, rather than grasping the understanding that if the kingdom of God means anything at all then it is up to us to be the labourers who make it a reality. Since March last year the foundations have been created, the first bricks laid - can we, will we keep building?

"Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence.

Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance.

Autumn passes and one remembers one's reverence.

Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance." — **Yoko Ono**

Yours, Rev. Tim.

## \*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 February 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 March Edition

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday 4th February
<b>Send to:</b>	crn.nigel@outlook.com
<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 9th February
<b>Send to:</b>	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

The Curry Rivel News is published monthly by the  
**Curry Rivel News Group** and is delivered free to households

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### Pick up your Prescription from the Post Office

Do you pick up repeat prescriptions from Langport surgery? If so you can request your medicine to be delivered to Curry Rivel Post Office in the BP petrol station. When you reorder, simply ask for delivery to Curry Rivel PO (including reorders on the surgery website). The surgery delivers to the Post Office every Tuesday and Friday. And while you're in the Post Office you can pick up a cappuccino too!