

July 2018



Where's Ed To?

Ed Pratt, ex photographer for the Curry Rivel News, is about to achieve the incredible feat of cycling around the world on one wheel.

Ed left home in Curry Rivel at the age of 19 with the ambition to be the first person ever to cycle around the world on a unicycle. After more than 3 years and over 20,000 miles, Ed is currently pedalling across the USA and hopes to complete his epic journey on Friday 27 July by arriving in exactly the same spot as he started.

Ed's adventure began in March 2015 at the Somerset headquarters of School-in-a-Bag, a Charity that provides practical learning materials for disadvantaged children throughout the world. Along the way Ed has been raising awareness for the charity as well as gathering over



£20,000 in donations. With each School Bag costing £20 it means Ed's trip has directly helped over 1,000 children gain access to the learning materials they otherwise would not have. Ed has cycled unsupported through Europe, then on to Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, across the vast country of China and down through South East Asia to Singapore. He then tackled Australia and New Zealand

before moving on to the USA, where he is now just a few hundred miles from reaching New York. He plans to fly from New York to Edinburgh in early July before starting his final leg, cycling the last 500 miles back home to Somerset.

A special event is being held on Friday 27 July at School-in-a-Bag Headquarters (Home Farm, Chilthorne Domer, near Yeovil), to welcome Ed home from his record-setting adventure. Full details of the event will be released nearer the time. To keep in touch with updates and how to attend simply follow SchoolinaBag on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/schoolinabag/>. You can follow Ed Pratt's World Unicycle Tour at: <https://www.facebook.com/MrEdPratt/> and discover more about work of School-in-a-Bag at www.schoolinabag.org

CR LIVE family festival has something for everyone!



...see inside for more photos...

District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

Council Leader Retires

The leader of SSDC, Ric Pallister, is stepping down after seven years in charge and over 19 years as a ward councillor. The Liberal Democrats group will now begin the process of selecting a new leader to take the council forward until the District Council elections in May 2019.

Further Housing Proposed in Stanchester Way

'The Maples' will shortly be applying for up to a further 27 dwellings in Stanchester Way. They have recently undertaken a pre-application consultation contacting residents whose properties share a boundary with the application site as well as sending over 400 postcards to households in the wider community informing them of their proposals. They are welcoming any comments you may have about this development so please either go on the website www.summerfield-curryrivel.info or contact one of the local parish councillors who will then be aware of your views when the time comes for the parish to make a decision on the planning application.

News in Brief

The Somerset County Council library consultation is now closed and a decision is expected in September. Huish Episcopi swimming pool is scheduled to reopen on the 30th June. An update on internet connectivity, which is still poor in many areas of the district, will be given by Connecting Devon and Somerset at the annual meeting with Towns and Parish Councils later in the month.



Volunteer Drivers needed for St Margaret's Hospice



St Margaret's Hospice needs volunteers to collect patients from their homes and drive them to their day centre in Yeovil and Taunton on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, then returning to take the patients home. Drivers use their own car or the Hospice minibus. Mileage is payable when using driver's own vehicle.

Volunteers can do this on a regular day(s) or as adhoc to cover sickness or holidays. Any help is appreciated. We try to match drivers to patients who live in their local area.

This position is subject to a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check. All drivers must hold a valid driving licence. Drivers also need to notify their insurer if they are using their own vehicle to transport volunteers and the Hospice will need to see this approval together with the current MOT certificate for the vehicle.

If you are interested in finding out more, please call Karen Davey, Reception & Volunteer Coordinator on 01935 709480 or email: volunteering@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk



Your Community Website
curryrivel.org.uk



Caution!

Our roads and narrow lanes are shared by horse riders, cyclists, motorists and pedestrians all of whom have a duty to be mindful of our fellow road users. In and around Curry Rivel there is a significant number of horse riders who hope that the recently launched online reporting system will help increase horse rider safety in Somerset.

Avon & Somerset police mounted section and the British Horse Society hopes to educate drivers and riders of their responsibilities when using the road. All road users caught up in near misses involving horses can use the new online reporting system. The system gives people the opportunity to share information on individuals, vehicles involved in a near miss, as well as the option to upload video footage.



PC Vicki Ephgrave of the Avon & Somerset Police Mounted section said "Road users are in near misses every day and this new online reporting system is really important in providing us with vital information on areas we need to focus our efforts on to make them as safe as possible for everyone. We'd like to remind anyone who's been in a near miss to please report it using this new online function. Don't just leave it just because you're not injured or an incident didn't occur, you may find yourself in that situation again and not be so lucky."

Nationally since 2010, over 2,900 road incidents involving horses, have been reported and within that figure 39 riders and 230 horses have been killed.

There are some simple steps motorists can take when approaching a horse, they include:

- Drivers slow down to 15mph when passing a horse.
- Be patient, don't sound your horn or rev your engine.
- Pass the horse wide at least a car's width where possible

Drive slowly away

Avon & Somerset police is also asking riders to be responsible when out riding by following these simple steps:

- Wear high visibility clothing when riding on the road so that both horse and rider can easily be seen.
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings and environment, don't talk or text on your mobile phone whilst riding on the road.
- Use clear and decisive hand signals to warn other road users of your intentions
- If you are riding a horse that is not used to roads, make sure you are accompanied by an experienced rider and horse

Be courteous and acknowledge considerate and good drivers.

If you've been involved in a near miss you can make a report online using the following link: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/horses



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Curry Rivel in Bloom

A flowering community

Gina Beauchamp

Well here we are, July has arrived and judging is on 12th July between 10.00-12.00 am.

Where did a year go? Time has flown and as with all things horticultural there is just a small window for planting and other jobs that need doing all at the same time.

You may have seen CRiB helpers busy around the village planting pots and troughs, watering and weeding. The war memorial is planted and hanging baskets in place. The silent soldier has arrived and another one has been ordered by the British Legion so they may go at each end of the village.

'Granny's Garden' has been planted by the BP garage. It is a sensory garden that we hope you will enjoy as you walk past. We will be placing special planters on some of the railings in the High Street to brighten up that area.

The water tap is on its way, a hole has been dug and we have been reassured that it will be finished very soon. In the meantime, we are very grateful to Peter Wallis who is kindly letting us use his tap to water the war memorial.

We have been acquiring old water troughs for planting at the village ends, thank you to Henry Lang for donating the one at the Hambridge end and to Nicky Barker for organising, planting and watering it! There are more to come.

We have noticed that many villagers have already joined in by planting beautiful pots and displays in their front gardens.

The Front Garden Competition takes place on 23-30th June. Results in August's CRN. Thank you to all who have entered.

How can you help?

BEFORE JUDGING DAY

Please weed frontages and cut grass especially along the High Street.

Place pots and troughs so they can be seen. Keep them fed and watered.

Help a neighbour who maybe can't garden to tidy up and plant a pot for them.

Pick up any litter around your area.

Volunteer to help water the war memorial or other areas near you.

Contact Gina on 01458 762296 or cribsomerset@gmail.com

ON JUDGING DAY

Last minute check on frontage for litter and weeds.

Come to the presentation in the old school room. Starts at 10.00am.

Everyone welcome.

There will be a light lunch Ploughman's style held in the Village Hall after the judging for everyone who has been involved in helping with CRiB. This should start at 12.15 approx.

Please enjoy the beautiful floral displays that are around the village and help our village look lovely, not just for the judging but all year round!

*Thank you all
for your
support and
hard work.*



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Langport & District History Society



The Restoration of The Aller Bells

Janet Seaton

The Society's June meeting was held at Aller Church and featured a presentation by our Vice Chair and experienced bell ringer, Anne Michell, on the restoration of the Aller bells.

The bells at Aller Church had been silent for 50 years when the Parish Council decided in 1997 to try to get them restored as a project to celebrate the Millennium. They had just two years in which to raise the £26,000 that would be needed, and after sterling efforts from the local community, the sum was achieved – and without the benefit of lottery money.

Anne's talk was illustrated by detailed 'before and after' photographs of the belfry, the bells, and the work to restore the whole of the inner construction of the tower. Because the tower is a listed building, the original wooden frame dating back to the late 16th or early 17th century that held the bells had to be retained, even though it was too badly affected by wet rot and decay due to death watch beetle and woodworm to support new bells. A new metal frame was constructed and installed below the existing one – a considerable feat of engineering.

Three new bells with tones to complement the original bells were sourced via a central fund of bells

from redundant churches, bringing the peal to 6. The new six bell peal were ready for rededication on St Andrew's Day 1999. New bell ropes with pre-stretched polyester tops and flax ends with the sallies in the colours of St Andrew were commissioned in 2005. These ropes are less susceptible to the wear and damp which makes them difficult to handle.

The Tower Captains of Aller and Huish Episcopi then demonstrated bell-ringing techniques, and invited members of the audience to have a go themselves. The good people of Aller must have wondered what was going on! Bell ringers are always needed, so anyone who would like to try it out should come to Huish Church on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 7.30 pm, where they will be very welcome.

The History Society's next meeting will be at Langport Library on Monday 3 September, when John Allen will give a talk about the Monmouth Rebellion. It is free to members (annual membership from September is £15): non-members are welcome, admission £4.

Anyone interested in joining the History Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, suzannestanden471@btinternet.com).

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

Defibrillator Appeal

In response to a call for a defibrillator to be installed outside the Village Hall for the benefit of users of the hall and local residents, an appeal has been set up to raise the £1200 needed which will also provide for a further training workshop on CPR. The link to the Crowdfund appeal is below, and this method of fundraising is an on-line system and perfectly safe. Even the smallest amount will help simply enter the link into your web browser

If you do not wish to contribute on line you can simply send an email to tgreenaway51@gmail.com or phone 01458 252495 to make a pledge. We will then make the necessary arrangements directly with you.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/curryrivelvillagehall>

Somerton U3A

Denise Clarke

The next monthly meeting of Somerton U3A will take place on Friday 27 July when we will hear from Emma Parker about Charlton Farm, the Children's Hospice South West.

Monthly meetings 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.

CURRY RIVEL PARISH PLAN 2015-2025 REVIEW

Tony Greenaway Parish Councillor

It's been two years since the Curry Rivel Parish Plan was published and much has been achieved in that time, notably Curry Rivel in Bloom, improved broadband, improvements to footpaths and wildlife and play areas and supporting flood relief initiatives. Below we highlight a further 5 areas of the original Parish plan and what has been achieved so far.

However, with the increased pressure for councils to build more houses there is now, more than ever, a pressing need for the Parish Council and the community to influence what happens to shape the future of our beautiful village and to protect its valuable assets. The vision that sits at the very top of the original Parish Plan is, **'Helping Curry Rivel to be a healthy and balanced community offering a safe and friendly environment for people of all ages to live, work and prosper.'**

This vision remains the overriding aim of the Parish Plan. During 2018 we are seeking the input from residents of all age groups to update the Plan to ensure that it remains relevant to the changing needs and wishes of the community.

Your views are being sought on these two simple questions

1. What do you like about living in Curry Rivel?
2. What would you like to see change or improve in the future?

In considering these questions you might find it helpful to think about:

Transport -Young People-Employment- Housing- the Environment

You can take part in the survey in the following ways;

on line survey <http://www.curryrivel.org.uk/parish-council/parish-plan-tell-us-what-you-think.html>

submit your views directly by email to tgreenaway51@gmail.com

fill in the simple questionnaire below

In addition, councillors will be in attendance at the forthcoming Village Fete on 7 July to seek your views about what you like about the village and what needs to change



PARISH PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Name (optional)

Email (optional)

1. What do you like most about living in Curry Rivel?

2. What would you like to see change or improve in the future?

Take completed forms to: Village Hall Foyer; One Stop Shop; Garage/Post Office

Parish Plan 2015-2018 Progress Report

You asked.....	What has been done since 2015
...to promote responsible dog ownership to prevent dog fouling	All but one dog poo bin has been replaced by a litter/dog bin which has enabled us to have more bins in new locations to give a better coverage around the village without increasing the cost of emptying the bins. All the rubbish bins (EXCEPT the one outside the One Stop) can be used for rubbish and dog poo bags. The ban on dogs from Eastfield has been lifted and residents are welcome to use the field for dog walking provided any dog mess is picked up (there is a bin conveniently situated at the gate). Twenty signs have been situated at the access points to all the footpaths.
...to conduct a survey of safety, traffic calming and noise reduction on A378	<p>The Parish Council decided against a professional traffic management assessment, which would have sought innovative solutions to our traffic problem because of the limitations set by Somerset County Council Highway</p> <p>The PC sought guidance from the Highways authority and as a result, rumble strips are now present on the road entering the village</p> <p>The active Speed Watch Team continues to monitor and report to the police the registrations of speeding vehicles after each hourly session, which has greatly reduced number of speeders through the village.</p> <p>The PC is considering the purchase of one or more Speed Indicator Devices as these will no longer be loaned by Somerset County Council.</p> <p>Where hedges are identified where they restrict vision or access, the Parish Council make approaches to the land owners concerned to have this remedied.</p> <p>More recently a member of the Parish Council has looked into issues of parking in and around the village car park, the Green and the High Street. Possible solutions are now being investigated.</p>
...to investigate cycle routes to Langport	A meeting with Sustrans during 2017 concluded that this would be a major project and possibly too expensive and difficult to do. However, there are persuasive reasons for such a project and discussions with the County and District Council are continuing.
...for better facilities and liaison for young people	<p>New play equipment has been installed in Westfield; plus the provision of picnic tables using the S106 money from the development of the Westfield and Heale Lane housing. Further play equipment changes are in hand. The dug-out at Westfield has been refurbished.</p> <p>Councillors contributed to ideas to improve the Stanchester Way play area when it was upgraded.</p> <p>The PC has a designated school liaison officer.</p> <p>The PC funded some books and medals for the children to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday</p>



....More CR Live



Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wix.com/films

Finding Your Feet (12A)

Friday 20 July



A romantic comedy which stars some of our best loved British actors.

Lady Sandra Abbott (Imelda Staunton) discovers that her husband of forty years is having an affair with her best friend. She therefore goes to stay with her bohemian sister, Bif, who lives on an inner-city council estate. Despite their differences in outlook Sandra lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class where she meets Bif's friends. This eclectic and energetic mix of third-agers is just the tonic that Sandra needs.

Also stars: Joanna Lumley, Timothy Spall, Celia Imrie, David Hayman and John Sessions.

Doors open at 7.00pm; show starts at 7.30pm in the village hall. Refreshments are on sale. Tickets £7 are available at the door. Don't forget we have our annual ticket for only £50 – saving you £20.

Coming soon: The Post (12A) A cover up that spanned four US presidents pushed the country's first female newspaper publisher (Meryl Streep) and a hard driving editor (Tom Hanks) to join an unprecedented battle between the press and the government.

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THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

On their way to The Somme and Ypres

By Tony Potter, Chairman, Branch Chairman

Two members of the Curry Rivel, Drayton and Fivehead Branch of The Royal British Legion are to join thousands marching in Belgium as part of the end of the First World War centenary commemorations this August.

The Royal British Legion event, known as the Great Pilgrimage 90 (GP90), will take place between the 5 - 9 August 2018 and will be one of the largest in the charity's recent history.

GP90 will mark 90 years since the original Great Pilgrimage in 1928, which saw 11,000 World War One veterans and war widows visit the battlefields of The Somme in France and Ypres in Belgium, a decade after the conflict ended.



Michael Brett (left) and Peter Hayes

The Great Pilgrimage culminated in a march through Ypres to the Menin Gate, in remembrance of those who never returned.

Local Legion members, Michael Brett, Fivehead, and Peter Hayes, Curry Rivel, will represent the Branch and the local community at the event, as Standard Bearer and wreath layer respectively.

Michael and Peter will tour some of the battlefields and cemeteries visited by those on the Great Pilgrimage, before proudly marching along the original route through Ypres, to the Menin Gate on Saturday 8 August 2018, bearing their new Branch Standard, paid for with generous donations from members of the local Branch.

They will join more than 2,300 other Legion members and dignitaries, including civic and military guests from the UK, Ireland, the Commonwealth and Northern Europe, who are taking part. Once at the Menin Gate, Peter will lay a wreath on behalf of the communities of Curry Rivel, Drayton and Fivehead.

Andy Anderson, Secretary of the Curry Rivel, Drayton and Fivehead Branch of The Royal British Legion, said: "The Great Pilgrimage 90 is a unique opportunity for the Armed Forces community to come together and bear our standards along the same route in Ypres taken 90 years earlier by the veterans and widows of the First World War. The Branch looks forward to proudly representing our community at the event."

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Letters to the Editor

Spot the difference - are you missing the point?

Dear Editor,

Your front-page article in the June edition and the request from the Parish Council for ideas on what we as villagers would like to see improve in our community illustrate that your editorial staff are missing the point by continuing to focus on topics such as the King William public house. The real question we should all be asking ourselves is to 'Spot the Difference' between Curry Rivel and other villages near to us which require real team/community spirit and a collective effort in fundraising to achieve improvements for all the villagers. If you look for example at nearby Kingsbury Episcopi who apparently raised funds for a new shop/coffee bar and village hall/changing rooms with matched lottery funding totalling around £900k, then you do have to ask the question whether Curry Rivel villagers could do the same even though our village population is many times greater than that of Kingsbury. I believe that this is the real question we should all be asking ourselves for Curry Rivel, and if we can't tackle such projects, why not and what should be done to improve our focus if such opportunities come up in the future.

Having spent 14 years in the drinks trade I would like to now comment on the front-page article about the King William pub which I thought was ill informed and unnecessary. In these difficult times for small independent pubs many are up for sale and the methodology when selling is to advertise in their trade press (e.g. Publican) without having signs on the building....this is because any signage will discourage any passing customers from visiting the pub. This happened to The Old Forge (now The Firehouse) and currently there are a number of pubs for sale in nearby local villages where signage on the building is absent for similar reasons. The King William was up for sale for 7 years before the community effort was made to try and purchase the property - so there was no difference here to any other local independent pub for sale. Now that the pub has planning for change of use they are obviously going to market themselves just as any home owner would.

We know the King William is still up for sale to be run either as a pub or with the opportunity now to convert to housing. If you look at the purchase price and the potential return of converting the building to two homes and an additional house in the car park there is potential here. Perhaps the Community should reconsider the purchase of this site with the opportunity to run the pub but with the knowledge that we could convert it to housing and make a profit if it was not a viable business. Now there's a thought!

Regards

Derek Devereux



***...and
more
CR
Live...***

Pilates

Mo Masrour Pilates Foundation

Tuesday: Curry Rivel (Primary School)

5.45pm – 6.45pm (All levels)

7.00pm – 8.00pm (Intermediate)

Private sessions 1 to 1 also available

Contact Mo for details on: 07815748518

mospilates@yahoo.com



Plant Sale in aid of Royal British Legion

By Robert Atkins

A plant sale was held at Stoneleigh Cottage, Heale Lane, on a sunny Saturday in May. Despite the draw of the Royal Wedding, more than 40 people attended, selecting plants from some 45 varieties of both vegetables and flowers.

The event was a great success raising more than £320 for the Curry Rivel, Drayton and Fivehead Branch. India and Robert would like to thank those who attended, those who contributed plants to the sale and those who helped on the day.



Courgettes Provençal

Do you have a glut of courgettes and tomatoes in the garden? Here's a quick, easy and tasty recipe which uses both.

Ingredients

25g butter
2 garlic cloves
1 onion peeled and sliced
225g courgettes thinly sliced
2 large tomatoes, skinned and sliced,
25g Cheddar cheese
Salt and pepper

Method

1. Melt the butter and fry the onion and garlic gently until lightly coloured.
2. Add the courgettes and tomatoes, cover and cook gently, stirring occasionally for about 10 mins until tender but still crisp.
3. Season and put into a flameproof dish, sprinkle with the cheese and brown quickly under a preheated grill.



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Reuse Repair Return Recycle – CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Over the last few months I have written about how to reduce our use of plastic and how and where to recycle plastic; in case you have missed it here is a summary of ideas and helpful hints.

A Summary of Useful Tips on Plastic Recycling

- Take plastic boxes to the butchers and fishmonger to save using plastic bags.
- Take mixed plastics that our bin men can't take to Tesco's in Langport recycling bin
- Take black plastics to any of the 16 recycling centres in Somerset.
- Buy loose fruit and veg to save packaging, reuse the plastic bag.
- Be more selective about purchases involving plastic wrapping.
- Buy a reusable water bottle and coffee cup. Cafes are becoming aware and will usually refill water bottles from the tap. Airports now provide a tap.
- Dispose of plastics responsibly. Take things home to recycle if you think a litter bin will not be sorted and recycled.
- Use paper straws, most pubs and cafes now have them.
- Use paper plates and wooden cutlery if needed.
- Think about how what you purchase and use will affect the environment.
- I have received a useful tip from a reader who says 'Reuse empty bread bags as dog or cat poo bags.'
- Also, I have received an email of thanks for all the ideas which have greatly reduced the amount of waste going in the writer's black bin and helped the family to recycle more. Great news!



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Curry Rivel Flower Show

Saturday 4th August

Here is a quick reminder that the annual flower show is not that far away. We hope that you will want to participate in some of the craft categories because there is still time to create a masterpiece!

The subjects for the craft categories are as follows:

Craft Section:

1. Knitted pom-pom hat
2. Embroidered panel

Painting Section:

1. Subject of your choice
2. Design a wallpaper (flowers, animals, abstracts, patterns, nature etc.)

Children's Section:

1. Wedding Card
2. Garden on a plate

Photography Section:

1. Photograph of dog or dogs
2. Sunset
3. Subject of your choice

The Big Summer Concert 2018

Patrick Rendell

This year we will be remembering the ending of the First World War 100 years ago, and certain musical items included have been selected to mark this anniversary, in particular a medley of "songs that won the war" which although written a century ago, are still well known.

The Summer Concert, presented as usual by the village choir and benefice singers, with the St. Andrew's strings, will take place on Saturday 21st July in the church at 7pm. We promise a solid hour of varied music, followed by drinks, a raffle and a retiring collection – just turn up - you don't need a ticket!

Each year we raise money for charity, and this year, we have chosen the Royal British Legion.

At last year's concert, we introduced an interlude of very brief pieces performed by some of our very youngest musicians, this was so applauded that we will do the same again.

Year by year both the number of participants, and the size of the audience has grown, so please come along and make our Big Summer Concert the biggest yet.

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St. Andrew's Church



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

July

Sunday 1st

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Prayer

Wednesday 4th

2.45 pm **Immacolata House**
Residents' Communion

Thursday 5th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Saturday 7th

2.00-4.30 - CR Green—Church fete

Sunday 8th

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **FH** - Holy Communion CW

6.00pm **CR** - Post-Fete Songs
of Praise

Monday 9th

3.30-5.30 pm CR School Messy
Church

Tuesday 10th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Thursday 12th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 15th

8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP

9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW

10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service

11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW

Thursday 19th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

2.00 pm **CR** - School Leavers'
Service

Saturday 21st

7.00 pm **CR** - Big Summer Concert

Sunday 22nd

9.15 **CR** - Holy Communion CW
& Sunday Club

11.00 **FH** - Holy Communion CW

6.00 pm **SW** - Evensong BCP

Tuesday 24th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

Thursday 26th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 29th

10.00 **CR** - United Benefice

Holy Communion CW

Scott's spot



What or whom do you worship?

In a talk I once heard, the American preacher spoke of his journey to church that Sunday morning. As he drove, he was struck by the image of many of his neighbours out washing their cars. There they were on their hands and knees, scrubbing and polishing away, looking rather as if they were bowing down in worship before their vehicles. It was, for him, a powerful picture of how the material goods of this world have the power to *potentially* command our worship, and draw it away from the proper worship of God, our heavenly Father.

Knowing that I'm far from immune from the allure of "stuff", and admittedly have found myself on occasion staring rather too lovingly at my particular brand of shiny straight-six driving joy, that image has stuck with me. You see, of all the offences against God that it is possible to commit, few are taught against more often in the Old Testament than the worship of idols. Throughout its pages many of God's leaders and prophets pour scorn on anyone foolish enough to bow down in the worship of a lifeless object made by human hands. In Psalm 115 the author writes this: *'Their idols are silver and gold, fashioned by human hands. They have mouths, yet cannot talk; eyes, yet cannot see. They have ears, yet cannot hear; nostrils, yet cannot smell. They have hands, yet cannot feel; feet, yet cannot walk; no sound comes from their throats. Those who make them become like them; and so does everyone who trusts in them.'* As we read these words it's tempting to imagine that we would never make a similar mistake. We're far too enlightened these days, aren't we?

CR = St. Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel

CR OSR = St. Andrew's Old School

Room

FH = St. Martin's Church, Fivehead

SW = St. Catherine's Church, Swell

Scott's spot ctd . . .

Yet a superior attitude at this point is probably unwise. Of course most of us would never consciously consider bowing-down to worship a man-made idol. But there are many ways in which our 21st century Western culture could draw us to do just that – albeit in a rather more 'under the radar' way. The idols of our time are not usually statuettes made from wood or metal, but they are no less real in their allure. The idols of our age, those modern day 'gods' jostling for our worship, are things like money, success, popularity, status, hobbies, power and sex – to name but a few. And although we may not like to admit it, the uncomfortable truth is that many of us may figure more prominently among their devotees than we care to admit.

It's been suggested that what we day-dream about, or spend most time thinking or reading about, is a pretty good indication of what or who owns our hearts. In a world of clamouring idols, where does your true allegiance lie?

With prayer and summer blessings,
Revd. Scott Patterson

St. Andrew's Songs of Praise Sunday 8th July 6.00 pm

Come and celebrate the end of the fete weekend, when a selection of favourite hymns will be sung.



From St. Andrew's Registers Weddings

*We wish them God's blessing
at the start of married life*
9th June - Kathryn Graves
and David Eastwell

St. Andrew's - Rotas July

Brass - Sue Randell

Flowers

7th - Fete

14th - Adrienne Holmes

21st & 28th - Lyn Cotterill

Cleaning

7th - Liz Rendell

14th - Jackie & John de Ronde

21st - Nicky Barker

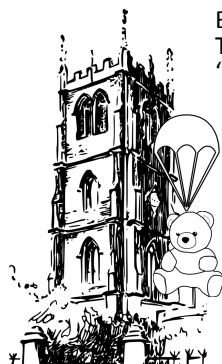
28th - Lynne Comley



St. Andrew's Church Fete
Saturday 7th July
2.00 - 4.30 on the Green

(bad weather: in the Village Hall and School Hall)

New this year: bric-à-brac, New-4-U stall (new and good quality clothes), Teddy bear parachute jumping from the church tower.



Bring your own Teddy bear with a 'parachute' plus name tag and come to the 'back' of the church tower (Old School Room side) where all Teddy bears will be collected, ascend the tower and at **2.30** jump in turn.

No entry fee!

Raffle tickets are still available at the School Admin Office, Sandpits Heating, Wiltown Garage, The Barbers at Coopers Cross - and on the day.

1st prize £100, 2nd prize large food hamper, and several other prizes.

'Balloon competition': a free MOT could be yours if you guess the correct number of balloons in one of the displayed classic cars.

Car parking - besides in the village main car park, there will be some additional spaces in the School car park and on the forecourt of Crisp Clean ('top' of Church Street, by Dyers Road).



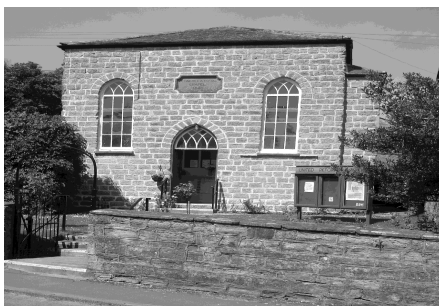
Flower display in the Church on the theme of Saints
 also on show
on Sunday 8th July
2.00 - 6.00 pm

St. Andrew's
Big Summer Concert
Saturday 21st July 7.00 pm

A concert with a variety of music, performed by the Choir and Benefice Singers, with St. Andrew's Strings and some talented young soloists.

See elsewhere in this month's issue of the CRN for more details.

United Reformed Church



July

(Services start at 10.30 am)

Sunday 1st - Mrs Jane Fry
(incl. Holy Communion)

Sunday 8th - Witness Box
(a surprisingly different service)

Sunday 15th - Rev Ken Coles

Sunday 22nd - Rev Tim Richards

Sunday 29th - to be arranged

Saturday 21st July Strawberry Tea on The Lawn (Old Manse, next door to Chapel) 3 - 6 pm.

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

URC Minister: Rev Tim Richards
 01458 252799

Connect

I was talking to my daughter about her design technology classes in school where they are encouraged to create and make designs in various materials which includes a much greater range than the metalwork/woodwork classes I so dreaded in my time.

I have great admiration for those who can work with metal or wood to create practical, beautiful, functional objects. It took me two years to make a tea trolley, which if memory serves me was, until very recently, still sitting in my mum's attic.

Connect ctd. . . .

I have never been brilliant at making things with my hands; I had friends who used kits to make model aeroplanes, tiny bits of plastic which became something else, something whole. My grandfather was an engineer and I was delighted and amazed when as a small child he made me a pair of metal stirrups for my rocking horse (I still have them).

Stay with me here....I have also watched and marvelled in the last 2 years on drives down into Cornwall at the road improvements as they took place around Indian Queens. How on earth do people know what they are doing, it looks chaotic and yet it all came together improving the journey for folk!

Whether it is an individual making something whole out of parts, or groups of people bringing different skill sets and experience to bear on a project that has as its aim the fulfilment of something beyond the scope of one person I find the process fascinating.

The scripture passage from 1. Corinthians about the body of Christ remains current and applicable to so many situations today. We cannot all do everything, we are not all interested in everything, but we can contribute in our own way, play our part. We can bring our knowledge, our gifting's and working alongside others create that which we set out to do.

But to achieve something worthwhile, we need to understand the aim, listen to each other and if we do not want the road improvements to lead us into nowhere, or the self-assembly furniture to collapse underneath us, we also need to pay attention to the plans, listening to each other as we go.

Working together takes patience, belief that what is being worked for is worthwhile and a determination to bring it about.

Almost anything can be achieved when people commit to pull together.

Your friend,

Tim.

CR Live



In July**Regular Events****MONDAY**

9.45	Art Club	Village Hall
6.00	Pilates	Primary School
6.45	Explorer Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport

TUESDAY

10.30	Drop In (2nd & 4th only)	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	All Saints Hall, L'port (2nd only)
7.30	Tuesday Group	Drayton Village Hall (3rd only)

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

9.30 -11am	Parent, Baby & Toddler Group (Term time only)	Primary School Hall
10.00	WI	Village Hall (2nd only)
1.30 - 3.30pm	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
4.30	Rainbows	Village Hall
4.30	Brownies	Village Hall
7.30	Parish Council	Village Hall (1st only)

FRIDAY

9.30-2	Get Together Club	Village Hall
7.30	Cinema Night	Village Hall (3rd only)

Special Events

Sat 07 2.00	Church Fete	The Green
Sat 21 7.00	Big Summer Concert	St Andrew's

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
Health Walks	250725
Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 741606
Inner Wheel	252648
Tuesday Group	252657/252022

Arts

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

Community Facilities

Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	741606
Old School Room Bookings (crosrbookings@gmail.com)	

250655/253856

United Reformed Church Hall - Lettings etc.	259391
URC Secretary	259434

Community Services

Doctors	250464
Police	101
Yarlington Housing	01935 404500

Education

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

Local Authorities

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

Religious

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

**Deadlines for August Edition**

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Send to:	crnadverts@btinternet.com
Comments & Articles:	5pm Tuesday 17 July
Send to:	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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