

## Save the King Willy

Yet again The King William IV public house, more commonly known as the King Willy, faces an uncertain future. Current owners of the pub have made a change of use application to the planners at South Somerset District Council and an outline application for the erection of two semi-detached dwellings with associated parking in the existing pub car park. If successful the village would lose its last pub, notwithstanding the Firehouse which has metaphorically risen from the ashes of the Olde Forge restaurant to become a thriving restaurant and bar.



Many are unhappy at the prospect of losing the pub and a community purchase proposal has been put together by a group of villagers. Tony Beauchamp contacted the *Curry Rivel News* with news of a meeting to be held in the Village Hall to gauge public interest in a community purchase of the King William. He said, 'You may have heard that the King William IV pub is up for sale; either with or without planning permission for change of use. To avoid losing this local facility, there is an initiative for the community to purchase the King William via shares in a Limited Company. If anyone would like to know more about this venture then please come to a public meeting in the **Village Hall at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday 6 June**'.

The King Willy has been serving beer and cider to the inhabitants of Curry Rivel for about 200 years. Landlords

brewed their own beer and cider in the attached malt and brewhouse (now demolished). Now a free house it has been an Ushers pub and before that was tied to Lang's Brewery, Hambridge. When William Weaver was landlord he persuaded his regulars to make cider with him, in return for free drinks, and so popular was the brew that beer sales dropped right down much to the annoyance of the Lang's Brewery. The pub has for many years been the venue for the Ashen Faggot ceremony, a West Country tradition which has almost died out in other counties. Every 5th January (old Christmas Eve) the village wassailers bring the ashen faggot to be ceremoniously burned in the King Willy fireplace.

Further information can be found on the facebook page – Community Purchase of King William IV Curry Rivel or email [kingwilliam.iv.2017@gmail.com](mailto:kingwilliam.iv.2017@gmail.com)

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## Village Parking Problems

Andy Anderson

Are you affected by the current parking and congestion issues around the Village Green and the High Street? If so Cllr Andy Anderson, of the Parish Council, would like to hear from you.

Please let me know what your issues are and any suggestions you may have to resolve the current situation. I am currently investigating possible options in an attempt to resolve these issues. It will not happen overnight; however, I hope to be in a position to propose possible solutions by the autumn. You can reach me at [andyanderson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:andyanderson@tiscali.co.uk)

# District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

As you will be aware, the County elections were held in early May and our local County Councillor, Derek Yeomans, retired. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Derek for his outstanding and committed support to our community in his role as County Councillor for the past 16 years. During his time he was Chair of the Regulation Committee, which is the Planning Committee for the County, involved with the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority, Scrutiny Committee, including Audit, and for the past eight years has been Chair of the Somerset Waste Partnership, a role he hopes he can continue as the designated representative from SSDC. He has worked tirelessly for our area and will be greatly missed. However, his worthy successor is Clare Aparacio-Paul who will be known to many of you due to her involvement in the setting up of Much Thorn FloodWings and her ceaseless work in supporting the flood victims during 2014. She has also been actively engaged in all community matters including fundraising, leisure, business and education and her achievements have already been recognised by the new

leader of the County Council, David Fothergill, by being offered a junior cabinet member role. Should you wish to contact Clare on any issues relating to County her email address is [capariciopaul@Somerset.gov.uk](mailto:capariciopaul@Somerset.gov.uk)

or 07879 423117. I look forward to working with Clare in the future on all matters which affect our local community.

SSDC is working on supporting South Somerset's economy. SSDC's response to the Government's Green Paper setting out its vision for building a future UK Industrial Strategy has been to highlight the importance of South Somerset's economy and its potential for growth and future job creation provided it gets the support it needs, most specifically investment in the aerospace industry. The aerospace activities in Somerset are part of a globally significant South West aerospace cluster and contribute £300 million a year to the local economy. If Somerset is to capitalise on remaining at the forefront of the aerospace industry we will need government investment and collaboration in infrastructure and skills, both from the public and private sectors.

## Get Ready for the Curry Rivel Flower Show

**Saturday 12 August at 2.30pm in the Village Hall**

Now is the time to start thinking about what entries you will be putting into the Show. Although it is called a 'Flower Show', it covers a variety of different classifications, including Vegetables - Flowers - Fruits - Flower Arranging - Home Made Cakes, Jams, Jellies, Sugar Craft etc. and a Men Only Section for Fruit Cakes & Quiches

### Decorative Section Class

- Home grown plant material to predominate – fruit and vegetables can be included.  
Not to exceed 18" (46cm) overall
- Britain in Bloom – Flowers and foliage for a Hall Table to be viewed from the front. Not to exceed 18" by width and depth – height unlimited.
- Gardeners' Delight – An arrangement to include a cup and saucer. Not to exceed 9" (23cm) overall.

### Children's Section

Children up to 8 years of age

- Birthday card for a best friend
- Garden on a plate

Children 9 to 12 years of age

- Birthday card for a friend's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Garden on a plate

### Open Class Photography Section

(photographs 7" x 5" unmounted)

- Curry Rivel in Bloom display
- Dawn
- Photograph of your choice

### Painting Section

- Single plain glass or glass vase
- A painting of your choice

### Craft Section

- Matinee Jacket
- Embroidered Tray Cloth

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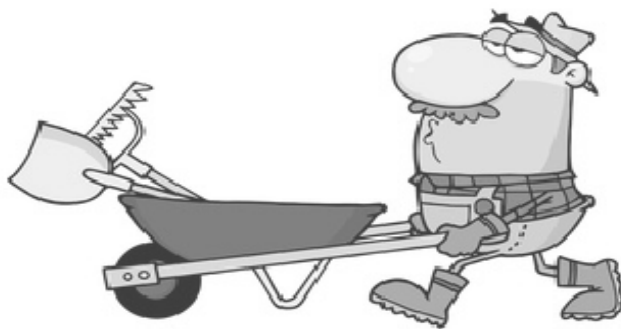


### Deadlines for July Edition

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday 15 June
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<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 20 June
<b>Send to:</b>	<a href="mailto:curryrivelnews@gmail.com">curryrivelnews@gmail.com</a>

# Growing Your Own

Sylvia and Peter Goodenough



'Flaming' June is the month with the highest light levels - this can be heaven for plants, but it must also be linked with warmth and adequate rain, so fingers crossed! Watering will be essential to keep growth going in dry periods.

In the vegetable garden it is time to get legume crops organised - autumn sown broad beans should be cropping and we are already harvesting peas. There is still time to sow main crop peas but no later than the beginning of the month as they don't like high temperatures, unlike French beans and runners, which should be put in their final positions early in the month if not already there. All the salad crops should be growing well by now- sow small amounts in succession to keep up a steady supply. Tomatoes under cover need staking, side shoots stopping and weekly feeding with high potassium (potash) fertiliser.

Mowing will be a regular job, particularly if we get some rain. Roses are in bloom and removing side buds from flower shoots will lead to large flowers. It may be necessary to spray against aphids, blackspot, mildew and rust though many recent varieties are resistant to some or all of these. Cut back early flowering herbaceous perennials, such as hardy geraniums, to within 3 inches of soil level after flowering. Theoretically you can get a second flowering this way - though we never manage it! Divide primroses and primulas for replanting. Using your fingers, pinch the terminal bud out of chrysanthus that were planted in May as this encourages bushy growth. They will also benefit from a high nitrogen feed. Half-hardy annuals can be planted out this month. If you want to lift spring bulbs, now is the time, when their leaves are yellow; put them in shallow boxes and dry them somewhere well ventilated. When they are dry remove dead outer bits and then store them until the autumn. Narcissus bulbs are quite happy staying in the ground but big clumps can be dug up, split and replanted either immediately or in the autumn. Tulips on the other hand really need a very dry, preferably hot, period in the summer, and so do better if dug

up and kept in dry soil, either in a greenhouse or conservatory but do not allow them any moisture. Meanwhile autumn flowering bulbs can be planted out. The Rotary Club crocus corms we planted near the Twinning tree by the garage in the autumn were in bulb baskets and these are a great idea as they allow bulbs or corms to be lifted from borders undisturbed while they are still green and plunged elsewhere to die down while the space they vacated can be used for new plants. We'll be planting more of our own bulbs that way this autumn, an added bonus is that they are cheap to buy and last years if handled carefully.

Hopefully there will be lots of soft fruit to enjoy this month Strawberry plants do well for about three years and then should be replaced. The easiest way to do this is to allow some runners to grow on after fruiting and peg the ends into separate pots of compost- they will then root from the tips and in the autumn the runners should be cut off the mother plant and planted in a new bed, while the mother plants should then be burnt, not composted, this stops the spread of viral diseases.

So, lots to do but it is also the best month to enjoy your garden, with long, mild, scented evenings to relax in it, enjoying soft fruit and cream and a glass of something light and fruity (well, we can dream!) so find time for some of that too!



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# Curry Rivel in Bloom News

Website: [curryrivelinbloom.simplesite.com](http://curryrivelinbloom.simplesite.com)

## JUDGING DATE

We have a date at last – **Wednesday 12 July. The judges will be in the village between 10-12am.** Please make a note of this and make sure everything in your area of the village looks good for it! More on that in next month's CRN.

## FRONTAGE COMPETITION

This year's competition is for the best purple and gold frontage display, which can be anything from a single pot to a whole front garden. The winner will be the second recipient of the Curry Rivel in Bloom trophy and they, with two runners up, will also receive a garden token. Judging will be over the weekend of **8 & 9 July**, but entrants do not have to be around for it as the judge must be able to see your display from the pavement/front gate.

## THE WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN & HIGH STREET etc.

Things have been happening in both these areas - Hopefully you have noticed the willow fence round the memorial garden and the troughs and pots on the walls in the High Street! By late June you will see rope swags between the posts that are already present, and hanging baskets will appear on the posts soon after. The plants for the ground cover are being grown on at present and will go out when conditions are right for them, as will the purple and gold plants in the High Street troughs. Planters will also appear in other places round the village - watch out for them- and if you can help with watering, feeding and deadheading any of them, or the war memorial garden, please let Sylvia know on 01458 250091 or 07903030533 or by email: [smgoodenough@aol.com](mailto:smgoodenough@aol.com).

## EASTFIELD MEADOW

The Parish Council has designated Eastfield as a community meadow and it will form the keystone part of our entry in the Environment Section. We have only recently found that both Eastfield and Batty Piece were designated as 'County Wildlife Sites' in 2007 due to their biodiversity as 'lowland meadows'. The reason given for both fields was that 'they support a range of plants that make up a community considered to be a U.K. Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat, Lowland Meadow'. We will be taking the judges through both meadows and anticipate that there will be a lot of unusual species for them to see there. Eastfield is there for everyone to enjoy, but please take care of the plants and of course, enjoy looking at them but don't pick any!

## PHOTOS

We are required to submit a portfolio of photos of the village throughout the year. If you have any good photos of your garden, allotment or anywhere else in the village please send them to Sylvia as above.

## FINALLY

Very many congratulations to Julia Jewell, Judy Powell and the group they assembled to run the plant sale in May. It was a great success in the sunshine and made a great sum of money to be used for Curry Rivel in Bloom.



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# Langport & District History Society

## Brunel's Ships

Barry Winetrobe

The Society's May meeting featured an illustrated talk by Philip Unwin on Isambard Kingdom Brunel's three great ships – the Great Western, the Great Britain and the Great Eastern. Philip served in the Royal Navy and works with the SS Great Britain Trust in Bristol.

The Great Western was conceived by Brunel as an 'extension' of his Great Western Railway between London & Bristol, taking passengers onward by ship across the Atlantic to New York. Then the largest passenger ship in the world, it was 236 feet long, a wooden paddle steamship, and made its maiden voyage the following year, the transatlantic voyage taking about 15 days on average. It saw much service on that run, and was also later used as a troopship during the Crimean War and on voyages to South America, before being broken up in 1856.

Brunel scrapped plans for 3 further sister ships of the same design in favour of a much larger ship, which would be proportionately much more economic to run. This was the iconic Great Britain (now based in Bristol Harbour as a famous tourist attraction), a revolutionary design combining being built of iron, with six masts and using screw propeller technology. It was launched in Bristol in 1843 in the presence of Prince Albert, and was a public sensation as well as a successful commercial ship after its maiden voyage in 1845, initially across the Atlantic and then for many years between Britain and Australia. Philip briefly sketched its more recent history from its rescue from

the Falklands in 1970 to its magnificent restoration.

The final ship was the Great Eastern, originally designed for the Far East trade in the 1850s. It was almost 700 feet long, designed to carry 4,000 passengers to Australia without refuelling. However it was an ill-fated vessel in many respects, from its financing, construction, launch and period of service, and was probably responsible for Brunel's early death shortly after its maiden voyage in 1859. Philip described the many travails of its voyages across the Atlantic, including being caught in a damaging storm in 1861 and being gashed by rocks off New York in 1862, and its more successful use in the laying of the transatlantic telegraph cable in 1865-6.

The next meeting will be on Monday 5 June, when Mike Beale will present a talk on the legacy of the Somerset & Dorset Railway. It is free to members (annual membership is £12): non-members are welcome, admission £2. Anyone interested in joining the Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471, [suzannestanden471@btinternet.com](mailto:suzannestanden471@btinternet.com)). Follow the History Society at @langporthistory, and on its website: <https://sites.google.com/site/langporthheritage/home>.

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# Movies in the Village Hall

[mvhcurry.wix.com/films](http://mvhcurry.wix.com/films)

## Lion (PG)

## Friday 16 June



In 1986 a five-year old boy, Saroo, lives with his family in Khandwa, rural India. He and his elder brother steal coal from freight trains to trade for food. During one job the boys are separated and Saroo, having fallen asleep on a moving train, finds himself in Calcutta, 1500 miles away. For a time, he has to live as a street child until he is sent to an orphanage. Soon afterwards he is adopted by an Australian couple, Sue and John Brierley, and goes to live in Tasmania where he grows up in a loving home. As an adult now studying in Melbourne, Saroo frequently thinks about his lost family and tries to search for them, initially

hiding the fact from his adoptive parents and his girlfriend. During a visit to Sue he finally tells her about his search and she supports his efforts.

Based on the non-fiction book "A Long Way Home", the film is a moving account of a young man's search for his biological family.

Stars: Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman, Rooney Mara and David Wenham. 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: *Hidden Figures* & *La La Land*

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# Letters to the Editor

## Happy 250th to The Monument



As Burton monument was built in 1767 it would be very sad to allow its 250th birthday this year to pass by without some form of commemoration. I wonder whether the current owners of the monument could be persuaded to open it for a day, or maybe a weekend, to allow people to get inside and climb the spiral stairs to the viewing area at the top. Of course there would be Health and Safety issues to be managed but hopefully suitable safeguards could be devised to provide a restricted number of interested visitors with what would be a great opportunity.

Best Regards  
Richard Hewitt

## Guides Trip to Sri Lanka

Oh dear Mr Powell what a sad letter from you in last month's Curry Rivel News. I say good luck and safe journey to the guides going to Sri Lanka. May it broaden their knowledge of our world and teach them new skills.

The Parish Council Rate has increased by 3% which equates to less than 3 pence a week. The State Pension increased by 2½% in April this equates, even on the minimum pension, to £3.00 a week 100% more than the P.C.R. increase.

My wife and I hope the guides have a great time in Sri Lanka.

Yours sincerely  
Colin Higginson .....P. S. Another funny April Fool keep it up.

## Village Policeman

In the 1870's my relation George Higgins was the village policeman in Curry Rivel. He was transferred from Tatworth near Chard. I assume he lived in the police house but any help regarding old photographs or information regarding him would be most helpful. He features in newspaper records and after retiring he moved to Trent near Yeovil.

Kind regards  
Mark Foot  
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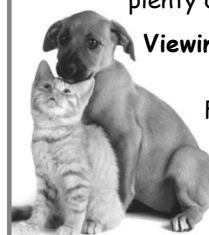
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# Twinning News

## *French visitors enjoy Curry Rivel twenty years on!*



a themed event and this year the theme was 'Party...Party', with a disco and a magnificent array of delicious party food prepared by Santa Checkley. The evening began with a fancy hat competition, judged by Curry Rivel guides who also helped with the serving and washing up.

Sunday morning brought many visitors and hosts to the Big Breakfast event in Curry Rivel, after which the entire group proceeded to Langport to board coaches for a day in Exeter. The French group were given a

The lamps may well be going out in certain areas of Anglo-European relations, but that is certainly not the case with Curry Rivel and District Twinning Association and their partnership with the French community of Chevilly. Here the lights of friendship and good company burn ever brighter, as witnessed during the May Day Weekend, when a group of some thirty seven 'Chevillois' and their driver made the bi-annual visit to Curry Rivel to be lodged with friends old and new.

The French visitors were met on Friday evening by their host families at R. Bracken Ltd, who had very kindly donated their premises to facilitate parking for cars and coaches. The visitors were then taken home to spend the first of three nights with their hosts. In many cases this involved the reunion of old friends, from both villages, who had known each other for many years. Others were meeting for the first time, but making new friends is very much part of the twinning experience.

Host families entertained their guests during Saturday but in the evening all came together for the grand reunion in the Village Hall. This is usually

guided tour of Exeter Cathedral in their own language, whilst many of the English group also took part in a separate guided tour. After lunch individual families could stroll around the City, visiting the attractions as they wished before meeting up for the journey home. Sunday evening is traditionally dedicated to a last dinner party for French guests with many family groups getting together to share the evening.

The French visitors left Curry Rivel for another two years on Monday morning for the journey to the Channel Tunnel. The visit was accounted a great success by both sides. Friendships were renewed and new friendships made. Next year the Curry Rivel and District Twinning Association will celebrate twenty years since the Twinning Charter was first signed, the first links made twenty years ago this year. It has been a record of true friendship and cooperation. Already the Twinning Committee is beginning to prepare for the twentieth anniversary visit to Chevilly and, one hopes, the same light of friendship will guide the Twinning for another twenty years to come.

# The Big Breakfast /Petit Déjeuner!

Roger Hampton

**T**he BIG Breakfast held at the Village Hall at the end of April was a great success, raising over £570 towards improvements to the Hall. This BIG Breakfast was arranged to coincide with the French Twinning Weekend, and it was great to have over forty French visitors and their hosts sample an English fry-up. Judging from the empty plates, everyone enjoyed the experience. Thanks to everyone in the village who attended the BIG Breakfast. The Village Hall Team really do appreciate your support.



***Fancy hat competition***



***le tombola***



***Saying goodbye***

## Beauty at the Barbers

Having just celebrated their second year in business, The Barbers at Coopers Cross are pleased to introduce an additional service for the community through Lucy Hayman-Hart, a fully qualified and experienced beautician.

Lucy will be working outside of the barber shop hours, to provide services focusing on nails (including manicures and pedicures), lashes and waxing, from the 5 June. Currently based in Yeovil, Lucy has been seeking opportunities to develop her skills independently, and is excited to begin work at The Barbers at Coopers Cross on Mondays, Wednesdays and evenings all by prior appointment.

Sharon, the resident Barber, who has over 20 years of experience, continues to welcome an increasing number of customers to the Barbers on a walk-in basis and has a growing number of both Ladies and Gents who call for out of hours/evening appointments to suit.

The Owners Julian and Elaine Morgan said "We have always been very keen to develop the shop's potential for the local community, so to increase our services for both men and women is very exciting. Although the shop is primarily a barbers, Sharon is an excellent general hairstylist for both genders and we are confident that Lucy, with her skills as a beau-

tician, will be a welcome addition. We are also pleased to announce that experienced barber, Jamie Bingham, will be working extra weekend hours from Sunday 21 May, which will allow us to cater to more customers from Curry Rivel and beyond."

Details are available at [www.thebarbersatcooperscross.co.uk](http://www.thebarbersatcooperscross.co.uk)



## Help Needed

The Active Living Group also known as the Get Together Club meets on Friday mornings in the village hall from 9.30 and provides a warm, friendly environment for older members of the community to gather together. On arrival drinks are served followed by an interesting talk or musical entertainment, card and board games plus plenty of opportunity for a good chat! The meeting ends with a delicious two course lunch, freshly prepared by our chef.

The club desperately needs more helpers, so if you can spare some time on Friday mornings we would love to hear from you. For more details phone Greg on 01458 251773 or Mike 01458 252076.

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# CURRY RIVEL MUSIC

Carol Haines

## "RETORICA"

For our final concert of the 2016-17 season, Curry Rivel Music was privileged to host a concert by "Retorica", an established violin duo. The two young ladies were as charming as they were brilliant, and gave us a varied programme, playing on instruments of 1786 and 1736 respectively.

The concert opened with a Sonata by G P Telemann who was, it appears, a friend of J S Bach. The first movement very sweet, the second rapid with each violin 'chasing' the other, the fourth movement gentle and melodious. The whole concluded in a scherzo. The work gave us a clear insight into the vital harmony and accord between the two players which was demonstrated throughout, and particularly perhaps in a modern work, written specially for them by John McCabe.

Music students were a constant theme. The Etude No 1 by Polish composer Henryk Wieniawski (born 1835) was one of a series written by him as student exercises. (He was, incidentally, considered one of the finest violinists after

Paganini.) The fourth item on the programme was a small selection from the 44 Duos written by Bela Bartók (born 1881) also for students, in a series of ascending difficulty.

Mozart was represented in the first half by a violin sonata written (he told his father) overnight, so that the violinist had to play at sight the next day, with the composer improvising his own accompaniment as necessary!

The second half featured the aforementioned work by John McCabe (born 1939). Apparently he, Alan Rawsthorne and Irish composer E J Moeran, were anxious to augment the limited repertoire available to the violin duo.

"Inventions" by J S Bach, also a composition for students, and a Passacaglia of G F Handel adapted for two violins by Scandinavian J Halvorsen, completed what was both a lively and varied programme for a good audience.

The new season opens on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, with the prestigious Pelléas Ensemble, of harp, flute and viola. See you there!



## What is a Dementia Friend?

A Dementia Friend learns a little bit more about what it's like to live with dementia and then turns that understanding into action - anyone of any age can be a Dementia Friend. Dementia Friends is about learning more about dementia and the small ways you can help. From telling friends about Dementia Friends to visiting someone you know living with dementia, every action counts.

Dementia Friends Information Sessions are run by volunteer Dementia Friends Champions, who are trained and supported by Alzheimer's Society. An information session is being held at the United Reformed Chapel in Wiltown on Sat 10 June between 10.00 and 12.00. when you can learn more about dementia and how you can help to create dementia friendly communities.



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## Village Wildlife Group – *latest news*

David German

**T**he Curry Rivel Nightingale is back! For the third year in a row this small migratory bird has flown hundreds of miles to find a mate here in little old Curry Rivel! News also of a sighting of a grass snake in a garden in the Townsend area, seen in a wildlife set aside area of the garden and swimming in a small pond too. We have had reports of slow worms, grass snake, an adder in Wiltown and an unconfirmed report of a smooth snake, which are not normally found around here. We await a follow up report this year.

A big news item for Batty Piece nature reserve is the report of a new orchid species seen in the meadow for the first time in over 10 years, possibly a green winged or an early purple orchid, subject to confirmation. Common on the RSPB reserve near Fivehead, we now have three wild orchid species! Who knows what may be found when walking the dog but please keep to the paths during the months of April, May and June, wild orchids are easily trampled.

Eastfield meadow will also soon be displaying wild orchids

along with the many other plant species which are now being given a chance to thrive again since regular mowing has ceased. The hedge between Eastfield and the adjacent Batty Piece, planted by volunteers over ten years ago, has been full of flower including blackthorn and hawthorn. More birds will be attracted to the hedge as it matures.

Latest news may also be found on the Community Facebook page and on the Community Web site.

Or contact David  
on 01458 259688



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## A churchyard chat – Part 2

(with a message in its tail)

### The flora in St. Andrew's churchyard.

Forgetting the graves and headstones from Part 1 for a moment, one could -almost- say that the churchyard is a garden, all be it somewhat bigger than most. You will find seasonal flowers, mainly daffodils and primroses; rose bushes and other shrubs, and there are more than 40 mature trees, including the two large chestnuts by the Green, two sycamores at the east side, a huge Lawson cypress, and in excess of twenty yews.

As mentioned in Part 1, maintenance of the churchyard is a responsibility of the PCC plus the Churchwarden. Some of these people, together with others from the congregation and the occasional volunteer from the village, put their hand to various aspects of maintenance, but there are obvious restrictions to what they can physically -and safely- undertake.

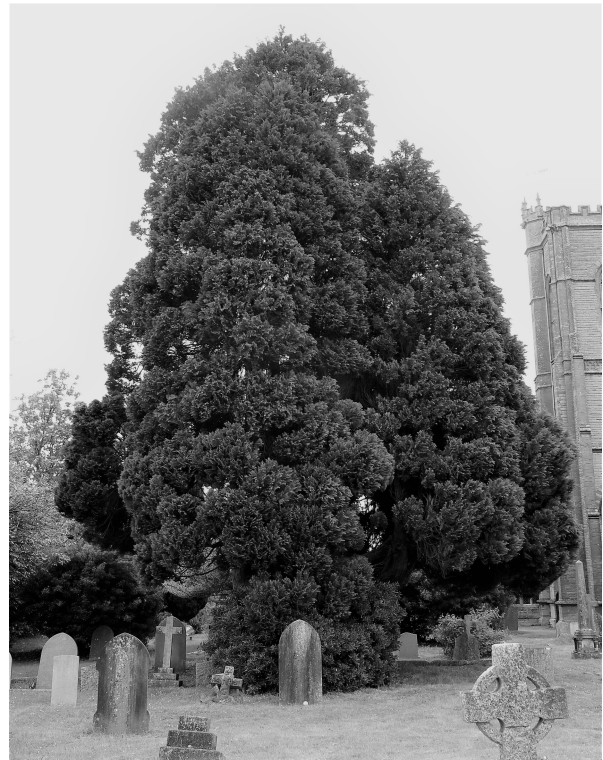
For many years, a small group ensured the regular mowing of the grass (not an easy 'straight up and down' job like your private lawn, due to the obstacles posed by graves and their headstones), but several of these volunteers reluctantly had to withdraw their services in 2014. Following a request from the PCC, the Parish Council has, since 2015, considered it appropriate to pay for this work (in the form of a grant) for which we are immensely grateful.

Other horticultural work remains to be undertaken by the volunteers, including Mr Henri Lang and his brother Richard, plus Ollie Cornall (one of their staff), who assist with the removal of leaves, debris from the cuttings from shrubs and trees etc., and who 'make it disappear' . . . . .

However, the volunteers can only in part keep those shrubs and trees under control. And in view of the constant pressure on funds to cover even the regular day-to-day expenses, employment by the PCC of professional contractors for such maintenance work has had to be limited to aspects where safety or prevention of damage were considerations, or based on advice resulting from (mandatory) periodic arboriculture inspections.

The report of the latest inspection of the churchyard trees, in early 2015, contained the observation that the large chestnut by the main gate is '*declining in vitality*' and that '*although difficult to predict the rate of decline, but based on its current condition, it is estimated that the tree's condition will continue to deteriorate and that it will require removal within five years*'. Further progression of the deterioration was observed during the removal of some dead branches, in January of this year. Note the black 'blobs' on the photo of the chestnut's main trunk: these are *daldinia concentrica* or 'King Alfred cakes', a sign of a tree's declining vitality, since they grow mainly on dead and decaying wood.

This looming removal is something that many will undoubtedly find disturbing, as it will drastically change the



well-known setting of the Green. More importantly for the PCC, the cost of taking the more than 100-year-old tree down (anticipated to be well over £ 3,000) forms a huge portion of the church's available funds – it represents more than one year's fete revenue.

And this comes at a time when other, substantially costlier projects of church maintenance have been identified, that require to be undertaken at a similar or even shorter notice.

In the face of this, the PCC is considering some 'out of the box' action regarding the removal of this chestnut, possibly to include local 'chainsaw teams' working alongside the professionals to generate piles of firewood ready for sale and seasoning. Perhaps by this we'll be able to negate some of the cost and keep the village warm! If this is possible, the date and call for help will be widely circulated. It could be quite an event...

For more information, please contact the Rector Rev Scott Patterson (251375), the Churchwarden Mrs Tina Geary (259003) or the PCC Secretary Mr John de Ronde (251355).



## St. Andrew's Church



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

### June

#### Thursday 1st

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 4th - Pentecost

10.00 **CR** - United Benefice

Pentecost Sunday Celebration

#### Monday 5th

3.30-5.30 **CR** School Messy Church

#### Thursday 8th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 11th - Trinity Sunday

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **CR** - Holy Communion CW

& Sunday Club

6.00 **FH** - Evening Prayer CW

#### Tuesday 13th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

#### Thursday 15th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 18th -

8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP

9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW

10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Worship

11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW

#### Wednesday 21st

2.45 Immacolata House

Residents' Holy Communion

#### Thursday 22nd

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 25th - Trinity 2

9.15 **CR** - Holy Communion CW

& Sunday Club

11.00 **FH** - Holy Communion CW

6.00 **SW** - Evensong BCP

#### Tuesday 27th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

#### Thursday 29th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

**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



### Adult Confirmation?

From the perspective of the church calendar, the months of April to June are pretty packed. April took us through Palm Sunday into Holy Week and the joy of Easter Day. At the end of May we saw Ascension Day where, six weeks after Jesus' resurrection, we mark his return to heaven. This month will see the celebration of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and then, hot on its heels, Trinity Sunday.

So it's on the first Sunday of this month (4<sup>th</sup> June at 10am) that as a United Benefice we shall gather in St. Andrew's church to celebrate the historic, prophecy fulfilling moment of God's Spirit being poured out into the hearts of his people. On this Pentecost Sunday we shall not only remember that seminal event (Acts chapter 2), but also the wonderful truth that this gift of power, guidance and comfort remains open to all. For those who are Christians, that is, for those who turn in repentance from sin and who walk by faith in Jesus Christ, this gift is part of the package. It marks the beginning of a partnership with God where extraordinary things become possible.

In the New Testament book of Acts the Holy Spirit features often. With Jesus having returned to heaven it's through the Holy Spirit that he continues to guide and grow the Christian church.

### From St. Andrew's Registers

#### Weddings

*We wish them God's blessing at the start of married life*

19th May - Louise Frances Hibberd and Matthew Colin Dyer

#### Baptisms

*We welcome into God's church*

14th May - Bella Norah Pead

#### Funerals

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

16th May - Funeral Service of Dennis Overd

## July

### Sunday 2nd

10.00 **FH** - All Age/Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 **CR** - Evening Worship

*Scott's spot ctd. . . .*

But there's one moment in chapter 8 that (finally) brings us to the subject of Confirmation. In this passage we encounter some Christian disciples who until that point have (vs.16) '**only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus**'. We then read about the Apostles Peter and John laying their hands on these disciples whereupon they received the Holy Spirit.

It's from this account that the Church of England draws its practice of 'confirming' Christians (often as teenagers) by prayer and the laying on of hands by a Bishop. In this special service those who were perhaps baptised as infants or children choose to come forward to personally and publically confirm the promises made on their behalf by parents and godparents. It's a moment that marks a further commitment to the Christian journey and, in the pattern of Acts 8, also involves a bishop especially asking God to send the Holy Spirit and give them the strength and courage to live as a Christian disciple.

With that in mind I'd like to offer to any **adults** within our Benefice parishes the opportunity to join a small group who are about to embark on preparation for confirmation. Perhaps this is something you missed out on as a teenager and would now like to follow up. Or perhaps you've come to the point in your faith journey where you'd value the opportunity to think through the Christian faith further with the possibility of confirmation at the end. Whatever your reasons, do consider getting in touch on 01458 251375 for more information. We're beginning in mid June and you would be most welcome. With every blessing to you and those you love, Revd. Scott Patterson.

### St. Andrew's Rotas June

**Brass** - Lynne Comley & Wendy Graves

**Flowers**

3rd & 10th - Madelaine King-Oakley

17th & 24th - Sue Randell

### Church cleaning

3rd - Nicky Barker

10th - Lizz Rendell

17th - Jackie & John de Ronde

24th - Nicky Barker



### St. Andrew's Church Flower Guild



There will be a meeting for Flower Guild Members in St. Andrew's Church on

**Monday 5th June at 2.15 pm** to discuss plans for decorating the Church for the Fete weekend.

### Church fete on the Village Green Saturday 8th July 2.00 - 4.30

An opportunity to browse the stalls with books, cakes, crafts and plants or have a go on the tombola. There will also be a collection of classic cars, birds of prey, and the **Drayton hand bell ringers** will show their skills at 3.15 pm in the Church. At 3.00 pm the popular dog show starts.

For the children there will be the **bouncy castle** and (for those up to 11 years) a **fancy dress competition: the best looking flower or vegetable**. To enter this competition, just turn up in your chosen outfit at 2.00 in the **centre of the Green** (or School Hall, in case of bad weather) when the Ringmaster will announce the start of the judging.

**Teas** will be served from the Old School Room and the Flower Guild will have decorated the church with flower arrangements, can also be viewed on **Sunday afternoon 9th July**. From 2.00 the church tower can be climbed, to view the surrounding area.

**Raffle tickets** are now on **advance sale** (and will be on the day) with **1st prize £100**, 2nd prize large food hamper, 3rd prize MOT, and several other prizes. Tickets are available from some of St. Andrew's church members, at the School Admin Office, Sandpits Heating, Wiltown garage, The Barbers at Coopers Cross.

Donations of books, toys, jewellery or craftwork would be gratefully received, as will items suitable for prizes on the tombola; to arrange collection, please ring 251355 or 252429, preferably before the week of the fete. Cakes (for the cake stall or with the teas) and plants can be delivered on the day of the fete.

**We look forward to seeing you on the Green**

(or in the **marquees on the School sports ground and the School Hall** in case of bad weather)

### United Reformed Church



### June

(Services start at 10.30)

**Sunday 4th** - Rev Evelyn Ridout  
incl. Holy Communion

**Sunday 11th** - to be arranged  
(Sunday school over 3's)

**Sunday 18th** - Mrs Jo Morling

**Sunday 25th** - Mr Chris Pitman

**URC Minister:** Rev Tim Richards

01458 252799



'I think my tooth is broken' came the text message.

And a little later 'It's aching and bits are breaking off!'

No explanation of which tooth, or how it came to be 'broken' – so thoughts running through my head include a sporting injury, a fall, or worse a fight in the playground – front tooth gone, blood all down her shirt – how will it look? Can it be fixed? What if it can't be fixed? How will her appearance alter?

Emergency appointment with the dentist reveals a 'baby' molar cracked on a piece of lunchtime pizza removed efficiently and (almost) painfully to allow the budding second tooth to emerge.

My main concern before knowing the full situation? How this might impact on how she looks. Image: after all my talk of 'it's not your shape, hair, eye or skin colour that matter but what's on the inside' in the first instant that was my fear. As a result of this small drama I am relieved things are no worse – and challenged to re-evaluate and reflect upon my belief we are loved 'whatever' and 'however'.

When it's down to the wire can I live what I preach?



### Curry Rivel Residents: join the Dementia Friendly Campaign! Dementia Friends Information Session and Coffee Morning.

Are you, anyone in your family or the Organisation/Group you belong to aware of someone experiencing dementia? Would you or the Group you belong to like to learn more about how to engage with and support individuals diagnosed with dementia?

The United Reformed Church is holding a **free Information Session at Curry Rivel United Reformed Church Hall on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> between 10am-12noon** run by local Dementia Friends Champion Rowena Francis to which interested residents are invited.

There are currently 850,000 people living with the condition in England. Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends programme is the biggest ever initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia. It aims to transform the way the nation thinks, talks and acts about the condition. The charity wants there to be four million Dementia Friends with the know-how to help people with dementia feel understood and included in their community. Dementia Friends Champions are volunteers who talk to people about being a Dementia Friend in their communities. Speaking about the Session, Rowena said:

'I am so pleased when people show their support for people with dementia, by coming along to a Session and becoming Dementia Friends. We need to create more communities and businesses that are dementia friendly so that people affected by dementia feel understood and included.'

All are welcome to attend the free Information session after which coffee will be served providing an opportunity to share experiences, ask Rowena questions and collect the badge pin which will denote you as a 'dementia friend'.

Anyone interested in supporting the campaign should go to [dementiafriends.org.uk](http://dementiafriends.org.uk).



## In June

### Regular Events

#### MONDAY

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

#### TUESDAY

10.30	Drop In (2nd & 4th only)	Old School Room
5.45 -8pm	Pilates	Primary School
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Guides	URC Hall
7.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club	All Saints Hall, L'port (2nd only)

#### WEDNESDAY

6.45	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.30	Bell Ringing	St Andrew's

#### THURSDAY

9.30 -11am	Parent, Baby & Toddler Group	Primary School Hall (Term time only)
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 (not August)	Village Hall (3rd only)

### Special Events

Sat 3	14.00	Elefun	VH
Tue 6	20.00	Public Meeting about the King William	VH
Sat 10	10.00	Dementia Awareness Coffee Morning	URC
Sat 17	13.00	CR Live Music Event	Westfield



**Your Community Website** [curryrivel.org.uk](http://curryrivel.org.uk)  
Curry Rivel - Above the Levels

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

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### Some Useful Telephone Numbers

#### Youth Organisations

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	01460 281184
Rainbows	252429
Brownies	253855 251953
Guides	252901
Pynsent Youth Football Club	251084

#### Sports Clubs

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

#### Social

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251796
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

#### Arts

Entertainers	250311
Music Club	250863
Art Club	253126
Youth Drama	251773

#### Community Facilities

Village Hall ( <a href="mailto:crvhbookings@gmail.com">crvhbookings@gmail.com</a> )	741606
Old School Room Bookings	250655
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) <a href="mailto:m.ludgate@btinternet.com">m.ludgate@btinternet.com</a>	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

**Would all local organisations please submit their correct phone numbers to CRN editor to amend the above list as necessary**