

March 2018



## Entertainers Fly With Peter Pan

Jane Hamlin

Liz Hembrow has written and produced another splendid Entertainers' performance in this year's village panto. What a treat was in store for everyone who was lucky enough to be in the Robert Sewers Hall for one of the four performances. The title role of Peter Pan was splendidly played with great confidence by Stephanie Baillie with Millie Retter as a delightful Wendy. Kim Huntley excelled as the impish fairy Tinkerbell.

*...continued p2....*



# District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

A consultation has begun by Somerset County Council on their library services which will conclude on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Under the proposals SCC are looking for 15 of the 34 library buildings to close or seek community involvement for them to remain operational. If this isn't possible, services would instead be provided either through community outreach venues or additional mobile library stops. As with all Council considerations it's a question of balancing challenging economic times, whilst maintaining a long-term sustainable option which can deliver a modern service. At present, the proposal does not affect Langport Library but as we know nothing is agreed until everything is agreed. Therefore, to ensure we maintain our local library as an important resource your support is required. Have your say on [www.somerset.gov.uk/librariesconsultation](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/librariesconsultation).

SSDC is proposing to set a balanced budget for the year

ahead with no cuts to services. However, it is recommending to increase its Council Tax. As you are aware SSDC is in the process of 'transformation', intended to deliver savings of £2.5m by 2019 as well as enter the commercial retail fray in order to generate additional income.

I continue to receive comments from residents regarding the on-going traffic and parking issues on the High Street in Curry Rivel. Both the Parish Council Chair and I have been in discussions with our County Councillor, Clare Aparacio-Paul, about possible solutions and she will be our voice with Highways on resolving this matter. However, if you have any comments, photos or perhaps ideas on how to make the High Street a slower and safer road please do let me know as the more evidence and opinions we can gather the more our voice will be heard.

## Entertainers Fly With Peter Pan

....cont.....

When Mr and Mrs Darling (Julian Morris and Maria Baillie) banished poor Nana the dog (Christine Champion) to her kennel and then went out to a banquet, Peter Pan was able to persuade their children – the top-hatted John (Lily Drake), the teddy-bear clutching Michael (Matilda Davies-Sowter) and Wendy to fly away to Never Never Land. The flying sequence, designed by Mike and Angela Pettitt – the props team - drew gasps of amazement from the enthralled audience. Julian Morris, a dastardly Captain Hook accompanied by his suitably motley band of pirates – Smee (Graham Walker), Cookie (Mark Pearson), the exotic Cecco (Penny Meakin) and Starkey (Danny Drake) – struck fear into the heart of anyone who likes a good joke. However, as we know, Hook was terrified of the deadly

crocodile which made its menacing, and ticking, pursuit in the search for him.

It was wonderful to see so many young people in the cast, and the orphaned Lost Boys (Nathan Patten, Lilia Patten, Freya Pearson, Grace Williams, Ella Abbott and Alisha Evans) really tugged at the heart strings, so that many people in the audience would have happily volunteered to be their mothers. Derek Yeomans played Chief Rumbling Tum who - with his tribe Tiger Lily (Christine Champion), Hacking Cough (Maria Baillie), Tickling Throat (Danielle Williams) and Running Nose (Jenny Ludgate) - got into a merciless swordfight with the pirates. Fortunately, however, as in all good fairy stories it all turned out happily in the end.

The actors were able to give of their best because of the support of the strong back-stage team. Chris Bottomley was the Stage Manager, Anne Hembrow was the prompter and Steve Petrou was responsible for the very effective lighting and sound. The enthusiastic singing was accompanied by the very accomplished Patrick Rendell at the piano and, as in all the best pantomimes, there were even opportunities for the audience to participate – which they did with great energy. Members of the cast also helped out back stage and Jane Rowland and Pam Morris provided important support Front of House. In addition to writing the script and being the producer, Liz Hembrow also produced the wonderful costumes. A tremendous amount of hard work was needed to achieve this success, but the audience all agreed it was well worth it.



Your Community Website  
curryrivel.org.uk



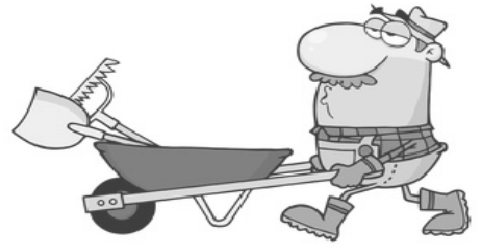
# Growing Your Own

Sylvia and Peter Goodenough

**A**fter a cold and often wet year so far we must be due for some better weather in March. Our Curry clay very quickly turns to liquid mud when it rains, meaning you do more harm than good by walking on it so it's been difficult and often impossible to make much progress on the garden so far. The annoying thought is that it will be rock hard and impossible to break up come summer!

Regardless, March must be a busy month for gardeners. If you have ordered new plants they will probably be delivered in March. They need to be unpacked immediately and the roots dipped in water if dry. If they can't be planted quickly, bed them in boxes of moist sand or soil or heel them in. Dig up established plants to get rid of perennial weeds embedded in them before active growth starts. If you have already prepared the soil lawn seed can be sown now, after applying fertiliser, unless it is part of the seed mix. Established lawns can be reseeded in bare patches and now is a good time to aerate lawns and apply a dose of fertiliser towards the end of the month.

March is also the seed planting month for both flowers and vegetables. We've already ordered ours and will aim to get them all planted by the middle of the month. Most will be in seed trays in the greenhouse or on a windowsill but later in the month some can be planted out in their growing position. Cuttings taken in the autumn will also probably need to be potted on and root vegetables such as potatoes and carrots can be planted out - plant a few early potatoes for the pleasure of eating your own creamy new spuds in ten weeks' time!



Roses can still be pruned but this should be done

as soon as possible. Before pruning check there is no immediate risk of frost and then, using sharp secateurs, make each cut, sloping backwards, from just above a dormant bud to a point on the opposite side level with the top of the bud. This slope allows rain to be shed, which minimises the risk of disease.

Many kinds of bulbs are at their best in March, and they always make a lovely spring display, but as soon as they look untidy, deadhead daffodils by removing the flowerheads and seedpods behind them. Never cut the foliage away as that is needed to photosynthesise to build up the bulb for next year. If you want to see a fabulous display of daffodils, and tulips, as well as other spring flowers, come along to Long Sutton Village Hall on Saturday 17th to view Sedgemoor Gardens Club's Spring Show. Entry, from 2.30-4pm, is free and there is plenty of parking right outside the hall. We guarantee you will leave feeling uplifted! And well fed, if you partake of the cream teas and cakes on offer!

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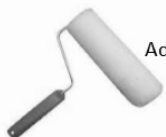
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# Curry Rivel in Bloom

Gina Beauchamp

Firstly, I must offer sincere apologies to the High Street Team and householders who joined in South West in Bloom last year and who were omitted from the list in last month's CRN. The High Street looked absolutely amazing thanks to all your efforts, and we look forward to seeing another beautiful display again this year.

Our entry for the South West in Bloom 2018 competition for the Cox Cup has been submitted and as the weather improves we will be setting about turning our village into another brilliant display of troughs, pots and hanging baskets.

South West in Bloom is not just all about having beautiful floral displays though, the judges' main areas of interest include; Horticultural Achievement, Environmental Responsibility and Community Participation. Although we do well on the first category we really need more help with the second two, especially community participation. If you can offer your help in anyway no matter how small, with planting, watering, dead heading or anything else, please do get in touch.

01458 762296 or email [cribsomerset@gmail.com](mailto:cribsomerset@gmail.com) Thank You!

The predominant colour for this year's planting will be WHITE - to signify Peace, a hundred years since the end of the First World War with touches of blue and pink to help bring out the white.

Work on the war memorial permanent garden planting will begin in March, weather permitting, and thank you to the Parish Council who have approved the installation of a water supply at the war memorial. CRIB have applied to Wessex Water for a grant to help pay for this.

Thank you too to Marian Dale a professional garden designer who has given us her time for free to help finalise the permanent design which was presented at the last CRIB meeting.

Thank you too, to all those who turned out to help on Sat 17 Feb for our composting day at the war memorial, thank you to those who have donated compost, their time and effort, we even had a financial donation to buy soil improver. A great community effort.



Thank you also to Bradley Lewis Garden Maintenance for collecting and delivering horse manure to the War Memorial and thank you to Julia Jewell for donating it.

Unfortunately, there were not enough takers for the planned potato growing competition to take place. Thank you to Ivor Dixon for organising it and also for writing this news letter for the past few months.

## Future Dates for your Diary.

Monday 7 May CRIB afternoon teas and quiz in the Village Hall, more details later.

Sunday 13 May Huge plant sale, in the village centre starts at 10.00 am Refreshments available. Come and buy the plants for your summer display!



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# Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

## Coffee Morning

Ali Richards



The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance provides a key role in the chain of survival for trauma patients needing specialist expertise as soon as possible; based at Henstridge on the Dorset/Somerset border the Air Ambulance can be at any point, in either county, with a Critical Care team on-board, within 20 minutes and then transfer the patient to the appropriate hospital into the care of the appropriate medical team just as quickly. Minutes saves lives.

The Charity's mission: to save and enhance lives through the funding and provision of an air ambulance service. The Charity's vision: to provide maximum patient benefit by delivering an effective, clinically efficient, and financially secure air ambulance service.

Recognising the Air Ambulance Service receive no direct funding from Government or the National Lottery but depend on fundraising and the charitable giving of benefactors alone, the United Reformed Church in Curry Rivel are hosting a **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday 24 March** in the **URC Hall** between **10 am – 12 noon** in support of the Service. Annual operational costs of £2.5 million (approximately £3,000 per mission; 886 missions last year) mean a lot of fundraising so we hope we can encourage the generosity of Curry Rivel villagers and invite you to come along on the 24 March to enjoy tea & biscuits, coffee & cake, books from the book stall, a friendly atmosphere, in exchange for a monetary donation to this vital 2 county-wide service.

\*Cake or book donations in advance gratefully received.

\*If you are unable to get to the coffee morning but would like to help us support the Air Ambulance Service financial donations can be sent to: Curry Rivel URC Treasurers (Mr & Mrs Potts), c/o Stoney Cottage, Stoney Lane, Curry Rivel.

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£15 per head



yum!

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# Langport & District History Society

Barry Winetrobe

## History of bells and English church bell ringing

The Society's February meeting at Langport Library featured a presentation by Tom Harris, Tower Captain of Staplegrove Church, Taunton on the history of bells and English church bell ringing. Despite the wintry weather, there was a large audience, including many guests, presumably fellow bell ringers.

He began with the known origins of bells in South East Asia around 3,500 years ago, and their various uses, as a simple indicator of the location of animals (something still in use today for domestic pets etc), to more social, ceremonial and religious uses. They ranged in sizes from handbells to huge beer-barrel-sized bells, as their musical potential became more understood and developed.

Gradually the practice spread westward into Europe, and, by the early centuries AD, the apparent aversion to the use of bells in churches was overcome, initially in Italy, and around 600AD, the Pope decreed that every church should have a bell. The

next phase was the use of multiple bells in churches from around 1000AD especially in Southern Europe.

Bells at this time were generally fixed, and struck by a clapper, though over time, forms of movement were introduced, such as swinging bells, which greatly increased their musical potential. Levers were attached to bells, and then forms of half and full circle-wheel structures. Tom showed us example of bells in various churches around the UK, and then produced a full-circle unit, which he demonstrated, with the assistance from a member of the audience.

He described how the idea of musical tune in bell-ringing was, and remains, an essentially English custom, and was taken around the world by the British through the Empire. Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries in the 1530s provided a new supply of redundant bells which could be used for experimentation. Rules and techniques for the complex art of bell ringing evolved, such as those published in a monograph by Fabian Stedman around 1670.

Tom briefly explained the procedures for casting bells, and their tuning, and regaled us with many fascinating anecdotes of bells and bell ringing throughout history, such as famous

huge bells in Burma and Russia,

concluding

with a lively Q&A session, and him generously distributing copies of his own pamphlet on bell ringing.

The next meeting will be at Langport Library on Monday 5 March, when Philip Unwin will return to describe the incredible journey of the SS Great Britain. It is free to members (annual membership is £12): non-members are welcome, admission £2. Anyone interested in joining the History Society should contact Sue Standen (01458 273471,

suzannestanden471@btinternet.com).

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



## U3A News

Denise Clarke

The Somerton U3A meeting on Friday 23 March will be a musical story by Tim Lewis - The Wind in the Willows, at the Edgar Community Hall, Somerton starting at 10am, free for members visitors £1.50.

Somerton U3A is hosting an Information Day on Wednesday 14 March at the Edgar Community Hall from 10am to 12.30pm. There will be representatives from many organisations such as Mind South Somerset, Age UK, Somerset Sight, Stroke Association, Motor Neurone Disease Association, Action on Hearing Loss. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning and everyone is welcome (not just U3A members) to attend this free event which offers advice and/or support from many of the voluntary organisations which operate throughout the community.

**SOMERTON U3A**

## Mothering Sunday Lunch at The Firehouse

SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2018 12-3pm

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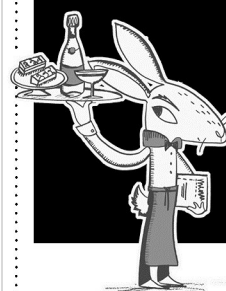


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2 course £22

3 course £28

Children's Roast £5



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# Movies in the Village Hall

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

## Dunkirk (12A)

Friday 16 March



**W**hen 400,000 men couldn't get home, home came for them. The film depicts how, surrounded by the German Army, allied soldiers from Belgium, the British Empire and France are evacuated from the beaches and harbour at Dunkirk during a fierce battle in World War II.

It portrays the evacuation from three perspectives: land, sea, and air. With little dialogue, director Christopher Nolan seeks instead to create suspense from cinematography and music.

Nominated in eight categories (including Best Picture) for the 2018 Oscars, Dunkirk is the highest grossing World War II film of all time with a brilliant cast.

Stars: Mark Rylance, Kenneth Branagh, Cillian Murphy, Ffion Whitehead and Tom Hardy.

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....**

## Paddington 2 (PG):

Paddington, now happily settled with the Brown family and a popular member of the local community, picks up a series of odd jobs to buy the perfect present for his Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday, only for the gift to be stolen.

## Murder on the Orient Express (12A):

When a murder occurs on the train he's travelling on, celebrated detective Hercule Poirot is recruited to solve the case.



Our Website  
[curryrivelpriamary.somerset.org.uk](http://curryrivelpriamary.somerset.org.uk)

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## The Royal British Legion

Curry Rivel, Drayton & Fivehead Branch

## Centenary Celebration

To mark the centenary of the formation of our Branch there will be a Reception in the Old School Room where the first meeting was held.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**At 6.30 p.m.**

**Old School Room, Curry Rivel**

**Canapes will be provided and a bar will be available.**

**Tickets at £5 per head must be purchased in advance from One Stop Shop, Curry Rivel or from Committee members**



## Letters to the Editor

### Village Parking Issues

For many years I owned and ran a florist/greengrocers (now 'Spirales', a private house) in the High Street just above the butchers (also now a private residence), the butcher and I frequently had several customer cars parked, outside including my delivery vehicle, which was hit several times by other vehicles, once by a hit and run driver. When I was interviewed by the police I said, 'I hope no parking is introduced along here', his reply was that parked cars slowed the traffic down and if it wasn't for the on-street parking the road would become a race track! If traffic lights were installed between the Bell and the King Willy would there still be free on-street parking? A fast driver coming from the Taunton end seeing a green light would almost certainly hit the gas.

Why not, say from the King Willy to Spirales, have parking one side only and no parking on the other, then from Spirales to the One Stop bus stop have no parking one side and one hour parking on the other with times such as 9am to 7pm as this is the narrow part and would allow parking for Living Pretty with marked parking slots! (we already have no parking at the entrance to Hillside Close & the Gables without the use of traffic lights).

Regarding additional parking - there is the village green, remove the grass and replace with brick paving with marked parking slots. A temporary parking ban could be put in place when events are held on the Green. A removable cover could be placed over the flagpole hole. There are also two large fields after the post office, just above Honeylands or Parsonage Place.

Derek N. Annetts

### Village Traffic Problems

Following the comments by Cllr Anderson in the January CRN and two residents in the February edition, here are some thoughts regarding parking in Church Street (by the school), round the village green and Church Road at the Hambridge cross roads.

Over the past 2-3 years this has become very crowded during the day, but no problem early in the mornings, so it's not due to residents' parking. Is more happening in the village hall, school, businesses, or are cars being left for extended stays in the car park? A number of times recently it's been necessary to reverse from Water Street back down to the car park because parked cars effectively make Church Street a single track road. Wouldn't it be worthwhile to revisit a one way system going up Church Street and down Church Road (vice versa may need traffic lights at the Hambridge cross road as this junction has poor visibility from the Taunton direction).

This may make it easier to negotiate, as obstructive parking is often an issue, particularly around the village green, Water Street, Church Street junction, and also at the Church Street/A378 junction. In both cases, drivers can be forced to pull out blind onto the wrong side of the road.

The bend, on the main road, just past the old post office toward Sandpits makes it impossible for those Taunton bound to see, although the parked cars do calm the traffic. As long as the dropped kerbs are clear and perhaps a little more it can be negotiated (at the moment).

Access for lorries, including waste disposal vehicles, is also problematic. Last week a lorry was unable to get to its destination further up Church Road as there was 'double parking' toward Butt Lane.

Apart from changing the traffic flow, an additional car park might help?

Jill and Peter Rogers

## Support Your Local Library

Under the proposals outlined in the County Council's plan for its 34 libraries the library at Langport will not be subject to change. Langport library is one of four libraries in area 4 Central Somerset which also includes Glastonbury, Street and Somerton. The proposal for Somerton is for the council to provide library services through either a partnership with the local community to maintain a library building in Somerton (supported by some funding from the County Council), or an additional mobile library stop. This would mean the closure of the current library building, with

library services being provided in other ways.

It is important that we respond to the consultation in order to show our support for Langport library. A poor response might be seen as a lack of interest in library provision in Langport which, who knows, could possibly result in a switch of the plan between Langport and Somerton.

It's also worth mentioning that staff in all libraries including those where no change is planned will be affected. Let's show our support for this important council service. <http://somersestlibraries.co.uk/consultation/> or ask for a paper version in the library.



## Parish Council View Ignored – King Willy Change of Use

I read with considerable dismay on many levels your lead story last month about the impending closure of The King William pub. I will immediately admit that I have not been a regular customer for a number of years, although I was when the pub was under previous ownership. Thus, I could be criticised like many other village residents for not supporting this amenity recently. Businesses though build up clientele and reputations through a variety of ways and the success of The Firehouse shows that the residents of Curry Rivel will support a pub and food business. Despite what seems to have been decided, a village pub in a community of this size is in my view a viable proposition, as Councillor Paul Deacon has sought to argue throughout this unfortunate saga. Many smaller villages around us have proved that with thriving local pubs being a vital part of the community.

My main concern about the closure stems, however, from the way the unanimous views of the Curry Rivel Parish Council were ignored by both the local planning authority and, indeed, by South Somerset District Council at their Area North Planning meeting in December. The way matters progressed, although it seems legal, show the flaws in our planning system. The minutes of the Parish Council show that our parish councillors voted unanimously to oppose the change of use to residential accommodation for the King William public house. Seemingly, this was with the exception of Councillor Yeomans who declared he had a conflict of interest, and so did not vote, although he also stated that he

believed it was a viable village amenity as the minutes also record. Surely then common sense and fairness should mean that those views are considered at the next planning stage? Clearly, however, that is not the case, as a body of councillors who have no connection with the village decided that those views could be ignored and the vote was taken at the South Somerset District Council planning meeting to allow the pub to be converted into residential accommodation. Somewhat surprisingly at that meeting it seems the aforesaid Councillor Yeomans (now as District Councillor for another ward) did not consider he had a conflict of interest anymore and voted with the majority of his colleagues to close the pub in a very narrow 6-5 majority decision. That is a matter for him of course and I note in the latest minutes of the Parish Council he has sought to justify that change of position, although I confess that I am struggling to understand that explanation.

As a lawyer, I am fully aware how planning law operates. However, that does not stop me being disappointed that the wishes of those who give up their time freely and generously to represent us with commitment and with the best interests of the village at heart, and who have first-hand knowledge of the amenity need in our ever growing village, simply count for nothing.

RIP King William, you hold many memories for several generations of Curry Rivel residents, but it seems that memories are all that will remain going forward.

Steve Allinson

## Red Cross Appeal for Volunteer Collectors

Dear Editor

Langport & District Red Cross Group is appealing for collectors in the surrounding towns and villages during the 2018 Red Cross Week, Sunday 6 to Saturday 12 May. An hour or two of your time during this week will be warmly welcomed and will help keep the Red Cross voluntary service running in this area. We do both bucket collections in Langport & Somerton and House-to-House in any of the villages in South Somerset where we can find volunteers. As

the last remaining volunteer-run Red Cross Centre in Somerset it is very important that we continue to raise funds to justify our continuing operation.

The Centre in the main Langport Car Park is open every morning, except Sunday, where we sell donated goods and provide friendship and company over a hot, or cold, drink and a biscuit (or two!). Donations of items for sale are always welcomed. We also carry a small stock of disability aids for loan or purchase.

Please contact Chris, the Group Leader, on 01458 273085 or e-mail to [cox.cj@btinternet.com](mailto:cox.cj@btinternet.com).

Many thanks Chris Cox

## Situation Vacant

If you would like to become involved with the production of your village newspaper, *The Curry Rivel News*, now is the time to do so as a vacancy has arisen in our editorial team.

The News Group consists of a publisher, advertising manager, distribution manager, treasurer and editors/feature writers whose aim is to produce.....

- a publication reaching all parishioners, creating an interest in the community and bringing people closer together.
- a publication that generates interest and support for the whole range of clubs and societies that are available and so increase the enjoyment of living in Curry Rivel.
- a publication which is used to share views and opinions.

Interested in joining this voluntary Group? **Contact Laurina Deacon on [curryrivel@gmail.com](mailto:curryrivel@gmail.com) or tel 251898**

# The Biggest Legion Event in History

## Two Volunteers Sought to Represent Our Community

By Tony Potter, Chairman, Royal British Legion

From 5-9 August 2018 members from communities across the country and beyond will come together for the largest ever Royal British Legion remembrance tour of The Somme and the Ypres Salient. We need two volunteers to go there and represent our community and the sacrifice it made in the First World War.

Ten years after the end of the war, veterans and widows visited the battlefields of The Somme and the Ypres Salient. In this year that marks the centenary of the end of the conflict, 90 years after that pilgrimage, Legion members will travel the same route, culminating in a parade and service to mark the start of the 'Last 100 Days Offensive', which led to the signing of the Armistice. On 8 August 2018, Standard Bearers will represent the communities of the United Kingdom and Ireland, as well as countries from across the globe, while wreaths bearing a Remembrance message will also be carried. This unique Remembrance-focused event will include two days of battlefield tours.

Your local Branch of the Royal British Legion has already raised £600 with generous donations from the Parish Council, the Curry Rivel News and 'Bristow Electrical'. Each of our two representatives will pay £200 to participate in this great event, which will cover the cost of transport, accommodation and meals, as well as a professionally guided tour of the battlefields.



We urgently need two people from the community to represent us. You do not have to be a member of the Royal British Legion and you can be any age from 18+, provided that you are fit enough to march past at a parade in Ypres and lay a wreath on behalf of us all.

Interested? Do you want to know more? Then please contact me - Tony Potter - on 01458 251280, as a matter of urgency.

## Pilates

*Mo Masrou Pilates Foundation*

Tuesday: Curry Rivel (Primary School)

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7.00pm – 8.00pm (Intermediate)

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## Curry Rivel W.I.

Our February speaker first discovered his love of writing when he was a youngster in school. When his teacher asked the class to write about half a page for the start of a story, Michael Malaghan wrote 30 pages – both sides! From then on, he knew he wanted to be a writer, so when he left school he got a job as a journalist for the local paper and hasn't stopped writing since. He has written for children's television including episodes of The Tweenies and Chucklevision, and has even taken work as a film extra. He has written several books, including historical novels for young adults and a biography covering his colourful journey as a writer.

On a similar theme, a large group of us recently attended a Somerset W.I. centenary lunch at the County Cricket Ground in Taunton where the guest speaker was Ann Widdecombe. After retiring from politics, she has taken up a wide range of opportunities and has also written a number of books. After her talk, she invited questions 'about anything' and there was no shortage of these from personal to political - she answered them all frankly and humorously.

Our 'Win Roos' competition this year was for a Somerset

Apple cake, all using the same recipe. Sarah Fogwill, who lives in Drayton and is well known locally for her beautiful, tasty cakes, came along to judge the entries.

Her thorough and fair method of judging resulted in joint winners – Angela Cole and Carolyn Paton. They are going to share it – 6 months each!

Our monthly pub lunch at the Drayton Crown was another popular venue and well attended. Our choice for February is the Wyndham Arms in Kingsbury Episcopi. Our sewing/craft group continues to flourish and our walking group starts up again next month with a walk in Pitney.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March and we are having a 'games' morning which should be fun. We'd love you to come and join in our activities, just turn up at 9.45am for a 10.00am start. If you'd like a lift or have any questions, please call Jackie German on 01458 259688 or email [jackiegerman@hotmail.com](mailto:jackiegerman@hotmail.com)

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**Sticks & Stones**

Emrys Evans & Denise Evans



Last month I read an article about how much food we as a nation throw away each year.

The figures were staggering, the main thing wasted were fresh chickens, just not cooked and then thrown out. Vegetables were also high on the list. I hope that the vegetables were composted!

Here is a good recipe for unused /old vegetables to save them being thrown away. You can use whatever is in your fridge and if you make a large pot it can be frozen in portions for use later on.

### Ingredients

1 large onion chopped  
2/3 carrots  
2 sticks celery chopped  
2 potatoes peeled and chopped  
2 handfuls of red lentils (optional)  
Any selection of veg left over, cabbage, broccoli (including the stalk), leeks etc.  
A pinch of chilli flakes for warmth not to make it too hot!  
salt & pepper to season

### Method

1. Soften the onions and celery in a small amount of vegetable oil. You can use a small amount of water instead of the oil to make it fat free. Add the chilli flakes and salt and pepper at this stage.
2. When softened add in the other chopped ingredients plus about 1.5 litres of water depending on the size of your pan and the amount of vegetables you are using.
3. Simmer for about 30-45 mins till the vegetables feel soft, use a hand blender to reduce the lumps in the vegetables

add more salt and pepper to taste if necessary.

Reuse old plastic takeaway dishes to freeze portions for later use.

Reuse- Repair-Recycle- Return. PLEASE can you share your recycling ideas with us?

Email to [cribsomerset@gmail.com](mailto:cribsomerset@gmail.com)

Happy Recycling ! Gina Beauchamp

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## What to See and Hear in March

March is an exciting time of year in the natural world as winter departs and spring arrives. Hedgerows start to turn green, the first blossom starts to show and birds start building nests. Bats may be spotted during the day as they look for food after their winter hibernation. Frog and toad spawn appears in ponds. Listen out for the spring calls of great tits and dunnocks, and colonies of rooks rebuilding nests in their communal nest sites. At Ham Wall you may hear bitterns booming in the reeds.

And as the days warm up, early butterflies will appear. Species you may see are peacock, comma, brimstone,

speckled wood, small tortoiseshell, orange tip and small and large whites. Flowers to look out for include lesser celandine, wood anemone, sweet violets and primroses. Hazel and alder trees are hanging with yellow catkins, releasing clouds of pollen in the breeze. The goat willow, better known as pussy willow is covered with furry silver catkins and the bare spiky blackthorn is covered by a froth of white flowers which arrive before the leaves.

It's possible to see and hear some of these spring marvels from the footpaths in the village or at Eastfield meadow located opposite the Westfield Recreation Ground. Enjoy!



### Sedgemoor Gardens Club

### DAFFODIL FESTIVAL

Long Sutton Village Hall

Saturday 17th March

2:30—4:30 p.m.

Parking & Entry FREE

Teas and Plant Sale





# Curry Rivel Music

Anne Michell

The penultimate concert of the 2017/2018 season of Curry Rivel Music will take place in St Andrew's Church at 7.00pm on Saturday 17 March when we will welcome the Thorne Trio of Ildid Llwyd Jones - Oboe, Esther Sheridan - Clarinet and Alexandra Callanan - Bassoon.

These three young ladies are all graduates of the Royal College of Music where each has been awarded many honours and prizes. As well as their ensemble appearances, they perform regularly with various national orchestras and

are heavily involved with education and the support of new music.

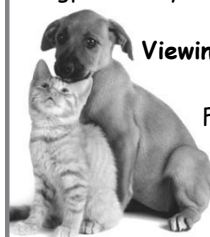
Their programme will include music by Handel, Beethoven, Ibert, Mozart and Elgar.

Tickets, which will be available at the door, cost £12. Students are admitted free. There will be an interval during which refreshments of wine, tea or coffee will be served.



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## Spring Lunch

**Saturday 24 March 2018 at 12.30 for 1.00 p.m.**

**Fivehead Village Hall**

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Vegetarian Curry



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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.*

### March

#### Thursday 1st

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 4th - Lent 4

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Prayer CW

#### Wednesday 7th

15.00 **Immacolata House** -

Service of Remembrance

#### Thursday 8th

9.00 **CR** CR School Collective  
Worship

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 11th - Mothering Sunday

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion CW

11.00 **CR** - All Age Family Service

4.00 pm **FH** - All Age Family Service

#### Tuesday 13th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

#### Thursday 15th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 18th - Lent 5

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

#### Monday 19th

15.30 CR School - Messy Church

#### Thursday 22nd

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

2.00 pm **CR** - School Easter Service

#### Sunday 25th - Palm Sunday

10.00 **CR** - United Benefice

All Age Holy Communion CW and  
Institution of Rev Patterson as Rector

#### Monday 26th

7.00 pm **SW** - Night Prayer

#### Tuesday 27th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

7.00 pm **FH** - Night Prayer

#### Wednesday 28th

7.00 pm **CR** - Night Prayer

## Scott's Spot

### Are you wise?

What do David Attenborough, Monty Python, Darwin and the writers of the Old Testament books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes all have in common? Answer: they have all explored the meaning of life. How did it all start? Where are we heading? Where does true fulfilment and purpose lie? Is the answer (you're not going to like it) 42?!

Well, according to the biblical book of Proverbs the way to tackle such questions is clear – the answers lie in the search for wisdom. In Proverbs chapter 3 verses 13 to 15 we read this: *'Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.'*

We might then ask what this wisdom is, and how we might find it. Well, for some the answer would lie in academic study. For others the 'university of life' will be where wisdom is to be found. For others still wisdom will be found in a letting go of the world and in immersing themselves in mystical/spiritual experiences.



According to the author of Proverbs, however, the real source of wisdom in this world is presented to us as a simple yet profound statement

Chapter 9 verse 10 reads: *'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...'*

The Bible's perspective is that real insight into the meaning of life, real wisdom, will go hand in hand with a growing knowledge of the ways of God. This doesn't, of course, deny the place for our God-given intellect or for the wisdom that can come through study and life experience – both are valuable. But it does remind us that there is a difference between worldly wisdom, and the wisdom founded upon faith in God and His word.

Actually, if you were to spend a few minutes scanning the range of topics covered in the book of Proverbs, then you'd find the author's teaching very practical and down to earth. But you'd also find a new dimension and different perspective to human life and wisdom. Here you'd find that God's perspective on the meaning of life often stands accepted worldly wisdom on its head. Here, in the Bible, you'd encounter a different kind of wisdom that would ultimately find its fullest expression in the apparent abject failure of the Cross, where paradoxically the suffering and death of Jesus would bring light and life to many. God's promise to us is that through faith in Jesus, through the folly of his Cross, and in following Jesus' costly path of service and sacrifice, true meaning is found for all. Amongst the wisdom of this world, is there room in your heart for God's wisdom too?

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

Revd. Scott Patterson.

### March ctd.

#### Thursday 29th - Maundy Thursday

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

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

#### Friday 30th - Good Friday

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

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

6.00pm **SW** - Compline

### April

#### Sunday 1st - Easter Day

8.00 **SW** - Easter Communion BCP

9.30 **FH** - Family Easter

Communion CW

11.00 **CR** - Family Easter

Communion CW

**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

### From St. Andrew's Registers

#### Baptisms

*We welcome into God's church*

Evie-Jane Tessa Tilley - 20th January

#### Funerals

*May God grant them eternal rest.*

29th January - A Service of

Thanksgiving and Celebration  
for the Life of Sheila Sandifer  
(† 1st January 2018)

8th February - A Celebration

of the Life of Dorothy Harwood  
(† 29th January 2018)



**Women's World Day of Prayer**

Note the special annual service to celebrate this day, in the URC, at **2.00 pm Friday 2nd March**,

with refreshments afterwards.

The theme for this year is

**'All God's creation is very good'.**

*Caring for the world for future generations.*

This inter-denominational service has been prepared by Christian women of Suriname.

All are welcome - men, women, and children.

**EASTER LILLIES**

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

If you would like to donate a lily (cost £ 3.00 each stem), please contact Adrienne Holmes (252710) or Sue Randell (253496) by

**Wednesday 21st March.**

**St. Andrew's Rotas March**

**Brass** - Nicky Barker

**Flowers**

10th - Mothering Sunday

31st - Easter Lilies

**Cleaning**

3rd - Tina Geary

10th - Wendy Graves

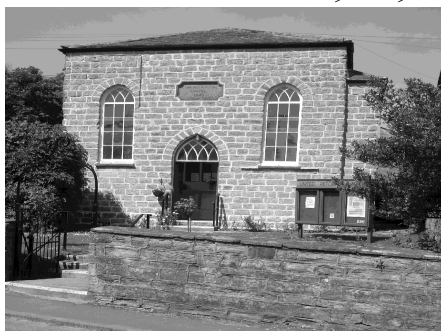
17th - Liz Rendell

24th - Jackie & John de Ronde

31st - Nicky Baker



It has been a bit chaotic in our house this past week: the reoccurrence of migraines for the youngest (distressing and disruptive at any time), pantomime rehearsals for the 'Dame' in the house (plus make-up and costume fittings on top), getting ready for visitors to stay and watch aforementioned Dame in said pantomime, plus an unexpected visit from a modern day 'Joseph' & 'Mary' – kicked out of their so-called 'christian' community when it was discovered she was pregnant and now sleeping in their car in need of practical and emotional support ..... but that's another story....

**United Reformed Church****March**

*(Services start at 10.30, unless indicated otherwise)*

**Sunday 4th** - Rev Viv Henderson  
*(incl. Holy Communion)*

**Sunday 11th - Mothering Sunday**  
Uniting with Langport URC, Bow Street

**Sunday 18th** - Rev Brian Milloy

**Sunday 25th - Palm Sunday**  
Rev Evelyn Ridout

**Thursday 29th - Maundy Thursday**  
19.00 - Last Supper, at and with members of St. Andrew's

**April**

**Sunday 1st - Easter Day**  
Rev Tim Richards

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

**Pillow Talk ctd. . . .**

Tim has also helped mum move from her home of 40 plus years into a self-contained flat in a managed assisted living unit in an attempt to keep one step ahead of her dementia; making decisions for herself whilst she can still make them and make sense of them once they have been implemented. I have been surprised by her fortitude and pragmatism – but there are also moments of recognition, frustration and deep sadness as she recognises who she is slipping away – followed by moments of non-comprehension for example in the assumption she can return to her old home whenever she chooses to 'do bits and pieces'.

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Coffee Morning @ the URC Hall**  
**Including Book Stall**  
**10 am – 12 noon**

**Fundraising for**  
**DORSET & SOMERSET**

**AIR AMBULANCE**

We all appreciate how important it is, after medical emergency, accident or trauma, that we receive the appropriate specialist medical attention as soon as possible – the DORSET & SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY aims to ensure just that being able to get to any point in either county in 20 minutes with a Critical Care team onboard; able then to transfer patients to the appropriate hospital with speed and efficiency. Such an essential and valuable service has no Government or National Lottery funding but depends solely on fundraising, benefactors & charitable giving hence our desire at the United Reformed Church to do something to help financially support this vital service.

**So coffee, tea, cake, biscuits, plus Books & a friendly atmosphere** in exchange for a monetary donation for the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance. Thank you in advance!

PS. Book or cake donations gratefully received in advance.

If you would like to make a financial contribution but are unable to get to the coffee morning donations may be sent to; Curry Rivel URC Treasurers, c/o Jenny & Tony Potts, Stoney Cottage, Stoney Lane, Curry Rivel.

**Pillow Talk ctd. . . .**

Somewhere deep down she knows what is coming for her and keeps going regardless – I wonder sometimes do we? Time with her as we have experienced and recognise her is foreshortened by this disease – but her life span is not. Learning to accommodate the changes in her is challenging for her nearest and dearest too but as she continues to 'pray to God that he might help he find that which she has lost or forgotten' we pray to God – our ever present help in times of trouble - that we might continue to love and cherish who she was whilst embracing who she gradually becomes with the fortitude and pragmatism she exhibits.

**In March****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)

**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	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 24	10.00	Coffee Morning	URC Hall
Sat 24	12.30	RBL Spring Lunch	Fivehead Village Hall

**Deadlines for April Edition**

<b>Advertising:</b>	5pm Thursday 8 March
<b>Send to:</b>	crnadverts@btinternet.com
<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 13 March
<b>Send to:</b>	curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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

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

**Sports Clubs**

Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791

**Social**

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	252146
Royal British Legion	251280
Twinning Association	251432
Women's Institute	259688
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
PROBUS	252545
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	253953
Get Together Club	251773
Health Walks	250725
Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 741606
Inner Wheel	252648

**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
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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
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Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	274008
United Reformed Church Minister	252799