

October 2017



## The Firehouse Scoops Prestigious Pub Award

Laurina Deacon

Kate Macey and her husband, Ed, have been working 'non-stop' since The Firehouse opened its doors for business at the end of May last year and all this hard work and effort was recognised at the Hilton Park Lane hotel in London at the recent annual John Smith's Great British Pub Awards ceremony. This prestigious competition, which has been running for seventeen years recognises the best pub operators in the country. Pubs from across Britain enter in the hope of winning one of the industry's most sought-after accolades. There are seventeen categories including Best Newcomer which

recognises licensees who have made the greatest impact since entering the trade and it was in this category that the Firehouse came out top.

Having entered the competition Kate explained that the judging process included lengthy interviews with a journalist from the award's sponsor who visited the pub and asked probing questions on marketing, advertising, staff training and management. Skype interviews followed until the number of entrants in their group was reduced to six finalists who were invited to the ceremony at which the winner was

revealed. 'Until our name was announced we had no idea who would win', said Kate 'On the night we had a live feed to the Firehouse so that the staff and customers could share in the excitement of our win. The staff team numbering about forty, most of who have been with us since the beginning, have been key to our success'. Kate is delighted with the publicity that the award has generated on social media and looks forward to welcoming new customers as well as local residents who have been giving their support to the pub since its opening.



*Kate and Ed  
with team  
members  
at the  
Firehouse*

# District Councillor's Report

Tiffany Osborne

## SSDC Commercial Strategy

Last month the Liberal lead Full Council voted to approve SSDC becoming a more commercial organisation. Until recently, the main source of funding had always come from government grants. However, as we are aware there have been financial cuts to the public sector. As such, as well as trying to find efficiency savings, SSDC is attempting to protect services by adopting a Commercial Strategy – making investments that will deliver valuable income – with the idea to future proof itself against further cuts and in doing so, sustain its current standards.

Yet, as much as this idea looks good on paper one can't help being uneasy about it in practice. SSDC promised the Octagon Theatre would be profitable three years after it came under council control, yet eight years later it is still being given £200,000 a year to make it viable. Westlands Leisure complex is already running at £350,000 over budget after just over a year in control and Huish Episcopi's new indoor swimming pool has already accrued an extra £100,000 to its original budget within months of starting its renovation.

Council Leader, Ric Pallister has said 'this is a big step for the council' and given SSDC's recent business acumen that is somewhat of an understatement. He continues, 'that they will be looking to recruit expertise and advice from the commercial sector to help us become more commercial'. But that expertise does not come cheap and nor are there vast amounts of commercial opportunities available to invest in to bring forth the income expected. These are very interesting times ahead for the future of this council.

**Local Plan – Housing Supply**  
The new Five Year Housing Supply paper is

now on the Council's website. Once again the Council can only demonstrate a supply of sites equivalent to 4.2 years so in simple terms this means that the Local Plan housing policies is diminished in favour of the National Planning Policy Framework in the determination of planning applications.

## Local Government Boundary Commission

In August I mentioned the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) is undertaking an electoral review. The LGBC have accepted SSDC's proposal to retain 600 councillors. Now they have started a period of consultation on ward boundaries and all parish councils will be asked to contribute to the consultation. If this is of interest to you there is more information on: [www.lgbc.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/somerset/south-somerset](http://www.lgbc.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/somerset/south-somerset)

## Gold Star Awards

Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year SSDC's Gold Star Awards will take place at the Octagon Theatre in October. Showcasing talented, caring and hardworking young people, as well as the volunteers who enable them to reach their full potential, the event both acknowledges and celebrates the hours of commitment given and aims to inspire other young people and volunteers by showing what a difference they can make to their communities.

If you know anyone who gives so much to our community then please nominate them – without these dedicated volunteers, coaches and young people many of the rural villages would not have the clubs, facilities and activities that are so integral to their communities. This event is about giving something back to these people as well as sharing some remarkably inspirational stories.

Go to [www.southsomerset.gov.uk/goldstars](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/goldstars) for more information and the nomination categories.



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<b>Comments &amp; Articles:</b>	5pm Tuesday 17 October
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# Growing Your Own

Sylvia and Peter Goodenough

Perhaps the biggest horticultural project in the village this spring and summer has been the work for Curry Rivel in Bloom, and it is early this month that we will know what the judges thought of our efforts. Do come along to the public meeting in the Village hall on 9 October to hear all about it and discuss whether we take part in the competition again next year.

However, we are now in autumn and in many ways October is the start of the gardening year. We clear away the remains of summer bedding plants and prepare our gardens for the winter ahead, while planning for next year by ordering seeds, repairing lawns and laying turf, preparing asparagus beds for spring planting, pruning climbing roses and fruit canes and digging over and improving unused vegetable plots. There may be some daffodils still to plant and now, as the soil cools and the danger of fungal infection becomes less, is the right time to plant tulips. Non-hardy plants need to be protected from frosts and keep an eye on dead leaves in ponds - cover your pond with netting to keep them out if possible.

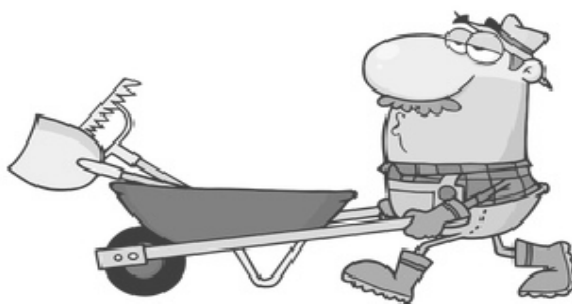
Lots of harvesting to do - pumpkins, squashes (they have gone mad this year- ours is growing everywhere!), potatoes, carrots, beetroot, onions, possibly some remaining beans, tomatoes (remove leaves to expose unripe fruit). Many herbs can be picked and stored this month. Pick fruit as it ripens, lift and divide rhubarb crowns and protect very small figs from frost by covering with netting bags filled with straw - the nets round supermarket oranges work well. We pot up strawberry runners in October, ready for planting out in the spring.

Perhaps the most vital preparation for next year is the adding of organic matter to the soil to improve its texture. Our clay soil in Curry Rivel really needs this to be done very regularly. If you have a supply of well-rotted horse or cow manure that is ideal stuff to dig in, but it is also possible to recycle all the plant matter generated by cutting and pruning to make your own compost, which works very well too. To read some books you would think making compost is a real art, but in actual fact we find we get very satisfactory results without

much fuss.

All grass

cuttings and plant material (anything woody being cut into small pieces), together with the contents of the kitchen compost bin (only plant material in here, please dispose of meaty leftovers separately) should be piled together in a compost heap or bin. This needs to be situated somewhere where it will get rained on. Aerobic fermentation gets under way - as the name suggests, it needs air, so the material shouldn't be compressed. As time goes on and the material settles and gets colder it becomes anaerobic, and if left, will start to smell, as anaerobic fermentation doesn't break it down as fully as aerobic and the intermediates are smelly. The wisdom is to turn it again at this point to introduce air and restart aerobic fermentation, repeating this as necessary until the material has broken down fully - but who has time for that these days? So, just dig the material in at this point, or if you haven't time now for that, use it as mulch on top of the soil over winter and dig it in later. Whichever way you do it, this organic matter adds body and texture to the soil and we are amazed at the change in the soil in our vegetable garden since we developed it eight years ago in an area that was previously grass. Curry clay has become lovely loam!



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# Curry Rivel in Bloom News

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

**W**e do hope you have enjoyed the continuing displays around the village this summer.

And the result is.....?

We won't know this until October 5<sup>th</sup>, when all will be revealed at a Presentation Event in Torquay. Please come along to the Village Hall on Monday 9 October to hear the result and the feedback from our judges. To recap, the village entry was in the Cox Cup, a division of South West in Bloom and we can be awarded a bronze, silver, silver gilt or gold medal. There are also discretionary awards that can be made on the recommendation of the judges, if they think any part of the entry was particularly outstanding. All the major displays are still looking excellent and this is down to a lot of commitment from the community for the community. Many people have been involved in weeding, feeding, watering and

dead-heading and they have done a great job. If the weather is kind it is hoped that the display at the War Memorial can be kept looking good until Remembrance Sunday.

Also at the public meeting on 9<sup>th</sup>, which will be chaired by the Chair of the Parish Council, the question will be asked - do you as a community want to enter the South West in Bloom competition next year? The Parish Council has put aside a budget for Curry Rivel in Bloom in 2017-8, but an entry must be with the active participation of more members of the community, with particular focus on them being able to commit to the project during the spring and early summer and undertake some physical work on the display areas.

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the meeting to hear our result and the judges' comments and to discuss the way forward.



## Curry Rivel Active Living Group

The Get Together Group meets in the Village Hall on Fridays

*Programme* for October, November, December

### October

06 Airs & Graces (Singing Group)  
13 Games  
20 Games  
27 Gill Goodwin (Music & Movement)

### November

03 Games  
10 Games  
17 Jenny Wood (Table decorations)  
24 Free Wheelers (Bike Blood delivery)

### December

01 Brenny (Country & Western)  
08 Take Note (Singing Group)  
15 Christmas Party  
22 Closed  
29 Closed



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## Bow Wharf Writers Group

**D**o you enjoy writing? Bow Wharf Writers Group is so named because they first formed in one of the rooms at Great Bow Wharf in Langport, but now they meet fortnightly during the daytime in different places in the area – often in Curry Rivel – to suit members of the group. It is a small group that includes published authors and competition-winning writers as well as those whose work is, as yet, unpublished. Essentially, all members just enjoy writing, supporting each other's writing, and sharing ideas. They have the occasional trip to places of interest to inspire their writing and hold their own showcase evening to share their efforts with friends and anyone else who is interested.

If you do enjoy writing and would like to know more about the group, and perhaps even join it, contact Rowan Patterson for more details: [rowan.patterson@btinternet.com](mailto:rowan.patterson@btinternet.com)

## Langport & District History Society

Barry Winetrobe

### Remember Then

**T**he Society's first meeting after its summer break featured an illustrated talk by Janet Few, a regular and popular speaker, entitled 'Remember Then: memories of 1946 to 1969 and how to write your own'. She concentrated on her project gathering and collating memories from 80 female volunteers, for a recently-published book.

She described the contrast between her previous focus on 17th century history and more recent history, especially with the advantage of being able to draw on the memories of those who lived through the latter period. Her 80 volunteers were all born before 1957, and were from a wide variety of backgrounds in terms of class, age, education, religion etc. Though intended originally to cover the whole UK, all the volunteers were from around England and Wales. The chosen period of the quarter century after the Second World War was a period of significant change, especially for women.

Her approach was not chronological, but a focus on topics, 16 of them, dealing with themes like clothes, school, housework, health, leisure and so on, covered by a series of set questions on particular sub-themes between each broad topic. For example, the topic of festivals and celebrations included particular aspects such as birthdays, Christmas,

presents, parties and party games, day trips, holidays and so on. These memories were buttressed by timelines, photos, documents and other artefacts. Janet described how she liaised with her volunteers, covering a topic at a time, within set deadlines. It was important for all the respondents to 'speak with their own voice'.

Janet then illustrated the results by reading out extracts from her book, quoting memories in a range of topics including work, education, clothes, housework, leisure and health, which were full of evocative references to many in the audience.

She concluded her much-enjoyed presentation by giving a series of very practical hints on how anyone could conduct similar research, such as keeping regular notes, especially of any ideas that can occur at any time; how to organise documents, photos and written text; the advantages of dividing broad themes into manageable sub-topics, and setting realistic deadlines.

The next meeting will begin with a brief AGM, followed by a talk by Brian Phelps on Gypsy caravans on Monday 2 October at Langport Library from 7.30pm. 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/langportheritage/home>.

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# Movies in the Village Hall

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

## Their Finest (12A)

Friday 20 October



**A**n hilarious yet moving comedy-drama set in 1940s London and based on the 2009 novel by Lissa Evans.

A British Ministry of Information film team is making a morale boosting movie about the Dunkirk evacuation during the Battle of Britain and the London Blitz. Young Welshwoman Catrin Cole is recruited to write scripts for propaganda films that the public will watch without ridiculing. During her work Catrin investigates the story of two young women who apparently piloted a boat in the Dunkirk evacuation. Although the story proves false it becomes the basis for a fictional film with some possible appeal. She and two male colleagues work hard to make the film become a reality, but the characters in this unlikely trio have to battle with sexism against Catrin, jealous relatives and political interference in their creative decisions and all while London endures enemy bombs.

Stars: Gemma Arterton, Sam Claflin, Bill Nighy, Richard E. Grant and Jeremy Irons.

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.

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## Hallowe'en Punky Night

Roger Hampton

The Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton is hosting a Charity Hallowe'en Bonfire Party on Friday 27 October from 6.30pm at Orchardleigh, Martock Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9HU by kind permission of Angie and Rupert Cox. Plenty of Halloween fun and games around the bonfire including prizes for best Hallowe'en fancy dress and best decorated pumpkin – or similar vegetable. Entry includes a hot dog and a drink for everyone – including the very best of Harry's Mulled Cider and apple juices made in Long Sutton. Additional refreshments will be available for purchase.

Tickets are priced at only £5 each, but under 11's go absolutely FREE. To order your tickets for this excellent family fun night out contact Rupert Cox on rupertandangie@btinternet.com or call 01458 241616

All proceeds will go to a range of local youth causes that the Rotary Club is supporting this year, and don't worry if the weather is a little inclement, as there will be a marquee for shelter and car parking nearby.

## Live, Laugh, Linedance

Hazel Morris

Line Dancing classes are held at the village hall and are a great way to exercise both the mind and body. Hazel is a qualified instructor and can't emphasise enough the importance of having fun while learning new steps and routines. Walk past the hall during either of the two weekly sessions and you'll be sure to hear the sound of laughter when we all end up facing different directions!

The floor in the main hall was given a facelift over the August Bank Holiday and, not only does it look amazing, it is also lovely to dance on and we're all enjoying the classes more than ever.

The classes have been running for almost a year and to celebrate we are holding a social evening on 25<sup>th</sup> November when we hope to see some new faces. If you haven't tried line dancing before, please come along to see what we get up to. Hazel is going to teach a couple of dances too so everyone can join in.

For more information/tickets, contact Hazel on 07730 755203.

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# Children's Play Event Defeats the Weather

Kaye Morgan

Amid fears of constant rain Action Somerset's children's play event at the primary school attracted more than 400 children and adults all determined to enjoy this eighth annual 'free' fun activity. Due to the amazing generosity of Wessex Water and Western Power three new events were included this year – hook the duck had the children captivated, a coconut shy that shelled out thirty coconuts and for young football fanatics, radar football.

The youngsters also got hands-on experience of a very large boa constrictor, a variety of interestingly marked pythons, chameleons and other creepy crawlies courtesy of Wendy Devereux who sponsored 'Reptilians Southwest'.



The day culminated with a raffle offering a huge array of prizes. This was organised by Gina Beauchamp and the winner of a huge basket of fruit, courtesy of Tesco, was Jean Dyer. Other prizes were donated by One Stop, Colin Higginson, Kaye & Ron Morgan, Tony & Gina Beauchamp, the Barber's Shop and the Nisa shop.

Other sponsors of the event were Curry Rivel News, SSDC Community Health & Leisure and Area Development North, Cllr. Derek Yeomans, Robert Crowley, Pendra's Fish & Chip Shop and Fosters Newsagents.

The usual firm favourites attracted the crowds with 120 youngsters of all ages making serious attempts to scale the 7.5 metre wall while 'Bluestar Art' facepainter, Emma Czelusta, coped with a never ending queue for her colourful intricate designs and hoards of kids took on the obstacle course culminating with a slide to victory. Others took on a more relaxed approach to life enjoying the Scouts outdoor cooking experience featuring marshmallows and popcorn, budding artists splashed the paint around courtesy of Tots Nursery, run by Christine Champion, and for those cash conscious kids needing advice on interactive banking, NatWest's Irene Henderson provided the technology and some banking related games.





## Curry Rivel W.I.

Although we had no meeting in August, we still managed to get together several times. We visited three gardens, each one very different to the one before, and our walking group had a great walk around Wearne, seeing different views of Langport on the way. We also had a lovely afternoon in July playing croquet at the home of Mr and Mrs O'Malley, thank you so much to them both for all the good times we've had there. A few of us made the long trip to Newbury to visit the National Needlework Archive. The main reason for the visit was to view 'The Country Wife' textile mural which was created by Constance Howard for the Festival of Britain in 1951 – it was stunning! We also had the chance to have a good look around and in the afternoon, we had a workshop to show us how to crochet a beautiful red poppy for Remembrance Day. However, our biggest event was a walk and tea in August to which we invited other WIs. For those who didn't want to walk, Robert Cole put on a very interesting tour of St Andrew's Church. Both of these were very popular so a big 'thank you' to Robert and to the ladies who organized the walk. Both groups then came back to a wonderful tea in the Village Hall with cakes and sandwiches made by our members – a lot of hard work went into it and it was enjoyed by everyone.

Our speaker in September was Gillian Gibson, local podiatrist and manager of Managed Care Ltd, who talked about the history of nursing, showing us some of her memorabilia which made us feel very old when we remembered using it!

She also shared some statistics with us which made uncomfortable listening – in Somerset, we are living longer but have a poorer quality of life than the average for the rest of the country. We have a 10% higher than average level of obesity, 25% higher level of smoking, and a higher incidence of diabetes, hip fractures and blood pressure. We also have a 56% bed occupancy in our hospitals of people who didn't need to be there. There are no easy answers.

In spite of this, we are currently planning our pub lunches for the coming few months (perhaps we should walk there?) and are looking forward to an afternoon celebrating the life and times of Jane Austen. We will have another local walk and are settling back to our sewing group, where we will plan what we are going to make for the URC Craft Fair in November and work on our new Story Sack for the School.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday October 12th, in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Charles Hill who is talking about the Woodland Trust. Why not come along and listen to the talk and also find out more about what the WI can offer you? Come 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)

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

*WI members enjoy a well-earned tea after their summer walk*





# Update on the Community Purchase of The King William IV Pub

Gina Beauchamp

**A**fter a successful meeting in the village hall in June we now have pledges totalling £100,000! So we are a third of the way to our total of £300,000. The Parish Council, on our behalf, has applied for and been granted a six month moratorium on the pub as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

Unfortunately, we are still a fair way short of our target, so we are approaching other key villagers to see if we can identify further substantial investors. If our bid is to be viable we need to show that there is more interest from the community. If everyone who has already pledged could go out and find three more people to pledge then we may reach the target!

We have organised another meeting in the village hall on: **Thursday 12 October at 7.30 pm**. Please come and show your support

## Save our Pub!

It could be used for so many more things, meetings, parties, hikers' lunches, pensioners' lunches. There is a need for meals on wheels in the village which could be provided from the pub.

It is the home of the traditional Ashen Faggot ceremony on January 5th every year. We would not want this centuries old tradition to be lost if the pub should close.

With more housing being built in the village and more planned it is bound to be viable, but only with your support. Once it has gone it has gone - we won't get it back! Hope to see you on 12 October.

For more details email [kingwilliam.iv.2017@gmail.com](mailto:kingwilliam.iv.2017@gmail.com)



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# Letters to the Editor

## Where's the David Macey Perpetual Cup?

Regarding the (Silverware Winners) of this year's Flower Show, I would be very interested to learn what has happened to the above cup that I donated to the show about 25 years ago? I note that the United Reformed Church is now responsible for the Children's Section Perpetual Cup; an explanation would be very welcome please.

David Macey (formerly Curry Rivel Food Stores)



---

## Saving the King Willy

Dear Sirs

I applaud the community's desire and effort to try and save and maintain the remaining pub in the village. However the real issue that needs to be addressed is the lack of custom the pub receives, without which any venture, however well-meant will not succeed. I fear that this fine and generous act of financial benevolence is just delaying the actual realisation that there is presently insufficient custom to enable a viable business to function. I would therefore ask the village to not just save the pub but more importantly give it the level of long term custom it needs to survive otherwise this generous act will count for nothing.

Yours faithfully, Marcus Hembrow

---

## Hurricane Relief

On Saturday 16 September, members of the Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton raised over £550 to help those affected in the Caribbean by Hurricane 'Irma'. Members were 'Shaking their Buckets' outside Tesco in Langport, and Williams' supermarket in Somerton to raise this fantastic amount.

All monies collected will be used to send 'Water Survival Boxes' to the worst affected areas in the Caribbean.

The Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton would like to thank everyone who gave so generously to the bucket collection. In recent days 500 'Water Survival Boxes' have been sent to the worst affected areas in the Caribbean.

If you would like to find out more about the good work that Rotary are doing both internationally and locally in our community then please go to:

[www.langportandsomertonrotary.org](http://www.langportandsomertonrotary.org)

Roger Hampton

---

# Big Breakfast Brings Benefits to the Hall

Roger Hampton

A big thank you to all those who supported the BIG Breakfast at the Village Hall in September when the brilliant sum of £556.85 was raised, which will be used to carry out further improvements to the hall. Recently the hall floor has been refurbished, an improvement much appreciated, especially by the Line Dancing and Level Dance group.

The next BIG Breakfast will be held on **Sunday 17 December**, put the date in your diary now for this great Christmas event.



# Monument Inscription

**L**ocal Latin scholar, Malcolm Bonnington visited Burton Pynsent Monument on the recent open day, here he explains the meaning of the inscription

On the lofty and impressive column at Burton Pynsent there is an inscription of five Latin words,

**'HOC SALTEM FUNGAR INANI MUNERE'**

They offer us an unusual combination of words, representing a partial quotation from one of Rome's most distinguished writers, Vergil. Remember that in the eighteenth century pupils at traditional schools would have studied Latin, and so such word play would have been less of a mystery.

Author of the "Aeneid", Vergil describes how pious Aeneas, the main character of his narrative, visits the shadowy underworld, where he encounters his father, and meets ghosts of future warriors, yet to emerge into the light of day. In that context there are three lines of special interest to us, which read as:

MANIBUS DATE LILIA PLENIS, PURPUROS SPARGAM FLORES  
ANIMAMQUE NEPOTIS **HIS SALTEM** ACCUMULEM DONIS, ET  
**FUNGAR INANI MUNERE**

*"Give lilies with full hands, and I shall scatter scarlet flowers so that at least by giving these I may pile them round my grandson's soul and perform my symbolic duty".*

The five words printed here in bold were borrowed and adapted for composing a very durable and public message on the Burton Pynsent memorial. Leading politician William Pitt the Elder, known later as the Earl of Chatham, was the message sender. And this is why!

The 1760s in Britain were a time of great tension and turmoil. Dissent turned into disorder and in 1768 rioting was seen on the streets of London. Here in the West Country in

1763 there had been serious friction with the apple-growers, because Lord Bute's government, needing more revenue, had imposed a Cider Tax, demanding an allegedly ruinous levy of four shillings for every hogshead of cider. Pitt the Elder threw his weight behind the objecting orchard owners but the next government, led by George Grenville, drove the measure through parliament.

Their cause had failed to win the day, but so crucial was Pitt's role and involvement that Sir William Pynsent made an enormously generous gesture. Notwithstanding the inevitable furore with disgruntled distant relatives, Pynsent bequeathed in 1765 his entire Somerset property to Pitt the Elder! What you see today at Burton Pynsent therefore is a 140-foot column of thanks - and what better way of ennobling it than use a quote from the works of Vergil?

Pitt enjoyed visiting his new Somerset property (his mother came to regard it as her home base) and he doubtless oversaw the planning and construction of his column, which grew and grew between the years 1767 and 1769. The whole estate was developed and landscaped by Capability Brown and was much enjoyed by the family up to 1778, when Pitt died.

Pitt chose the words from Vergil's verse and with some minor grammatical alterations had them inscribed on the Monument to indicate his thanks for Pynsent's generosity.

**HOC SALTEM FUNGAR  
INANI MUNERE**

*At least by giving this monument I may perform my symbolic duty!*




## Peppard S

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# Girlguiding Somerset Sri Lanka 2018

Jane Brooke

**1**st Curry Rivel and Drayton Guides along with Somerton Guides are the two Guides units in the smallest division (Sedgemoor) in Somerset. Last month due to one member dropping out of the county volunteering trip to Sri Lanka next spring, we welcomed a new member from Somerton Guide unit, which has increased our fundraising target somewhat. However, thanks to the magnificent donations of fabric and haberdashery from residents of Curry Rivel and other villages our stall at Drayton Street Fair in September raised an amazing total of £475. We were overwhelmed by your generosity and have sufficient stock for another stall at the Woolavington Textile and Fabric Sale on October 21st.

The group going to Sri Lanka meets up at regular intervals around the county for team building exercises, learn the local language and put together activity packs to be used on our trip. These get togethers ensure that we all know each other well and can work together effectively as a team before our trip and the meetings usually end in a group fundraiser. We've had a weekend in Brent Knoll close to the Guides from Highbridge where we held a Strawberry cream tea and a long weekend in Sparkford not far from the Yeovil based Guides where we held a Presidents Tea and helped out at the local

Fete. The whole group of 20 Ranger Guides and leaders is meeting in Fivehead Village Hall on **Saturday 28 October** for another briefing day of similar activities and this will culminate in a **Grand Auction of Promises** large and small, with ploughman's supper and a glass of wine, starting at 7 pm. There will be a bar. Tickets at £5 each and catalogue can be obtained from Jane Brooke on 01458 252901. Unfortunately, despite living in a digital age, technology has failed us and it will be cash or cheques only on the night. Despite this hiccup, we hope you will come and support this fun event and find out how diverse the range of promises on offer are.



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[thefirehousesomerset.co.uk](http://thefirehousesomerset.co.uk)



### Langport Surgery FLU Clinic

**Wednesday 18 October**

**8.00 a.m. — 11.00 a.m. at the Surgery**

**No appointment necessary**

**If you are in the following categories, and a patient of Langport Surgery, your doctor recommends you attend for your vaccination:**

- 65 + years
- Children age 2-3 years (Nasal spray)
- Pregnant
- A carer
- People with no spleen or reduced spleen function
- Stroke or a transient ischemic attack (TIA)
- Diabetes
- Chronic chest problems (severe asthma, COPD)
- Chronic heart disease
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease
- Immunosuppression
- Chronic neurological disease
- BMI of 40+

**Drop in to the Langport Surgery flu clinic if you are in any of the categories above. You may also be offered a pneumonia vaccination at the same time if you are eligible.**

## St. Andrew's Church



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

### October

#### Sunday 1st

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service

11.00 **FH** - Short Communion CW

6.00 **CR** - Evening Worship

#### Wednesday 4th

2.45 Immacolata House

Residents' Holy Communion

ion

#### Thursday 5th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 8th

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

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

6.00 **FH** - Evening Prayer CW

**Tuesday 10th** 10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

#### Thursday 12th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 15th

8.00 **CR** - Holy Communion BCP

9.30 **FH** - Morning Prayer CW

10.00 **CR** - All Age Family Worship

11.15 **CR** - Short Communion CW

#### Monday 16th

3.30-5.30 **CR** School Messy Church

#### Thursday 19th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 22nd

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

11.00 **FH** - Holy Communion CW

6.00 **SW** - Harvest Evensong BCP

**Tuesday 24th** 10.30 **CR OSR** - Drop-In

#### Thursday 28th

10.30 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 29th

10.00 **CR** - United Benefice

Holy 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

## Scott's spot

### Seeing is believing



If I were to tell you that I can pull a bus with my teeth, or sprint a ten second one hundred metres, or that I've just been voted the best dressed man in the UK, would you believe me? Well probably not! You'd either think me a show-off, misguided, or the worst liar you've encountered! If, however, you could see me doing those things then that would be very different. There'd be no question then – after all, seeing is believing.

Unfortunately none of those claims are true! But consider this. If someone arrived claiming to be the Messiah (God's chosen One), able to do extraordinary things like heal the sick, forgive people their sins and raise the dead, would you believe them? I doubt it. The thing is though, neither did Nathaniel when his friend Philip told him that he had found the long waited for Saviour. In John's gospel chapter 1 we read of Philip finding his friend and saying: "*We have found the one written about in the Law of Moses and the prophets: Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.*" Nathaniel responded, "*Can anything good come out of Nazareth?*" Philip answered, "*Come and see.*"

Clearly Nathaniel (soon to become one of the 12 disciples) was unconvinced by the claims of his friend. But as we note Philip's reply: "*Come and see*" his words reminds us about something important when it comes to the good news of Christianity

#### From St. Andrew's Registers Weddings

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

15th September Rebecca Bailly  
and Liam Store

#### Baptisms

*We welcome into God's church*  
10th September - Holly and Archie  
Trott

16th September - Isabelle Phelps

#### Funerals

*May God grant them eternal rest.*  
21st September - Funeral Service to  
remember the life of  
Mr Ronald James Harding

They remind us that the gospel is not about ivory tower philosophy or speculation but is a testimony to the experience of billions of people over the last 2,000 years, whose lives have been directly touched by the ministry of Jesus. It includes eyewitness accounts of real events in real history and a flesh and blood person who never travelled more than 200 miles from his place of birth, yet changed the world. Most importantly of all, it invites us to put our faith in Jesus, to respond to His promises and to see for ourselves the truth of who he is and all he means.

Philip said to his friend "come and see." Words today, just as pertinent for you.

With every blessing,

Revd. Scott Patterson

### Shoe Box Appeal 2017

A reminder that this year the boxes will be collected for **Blythwood Care**, a Christian charity based in Scotland.

In 2016 the two-millionth shoe box it delivered was one of 8,100 processed by volunteers from Ilminster, where 'our' boxes are sent initially - so, that box could have come from Curry Rivel!

If you would like to fill a shoe box, please pick up a leaflet in St. Andrew's church, or from Ginny Smith (250997) or Jackie de Ronde (251355). These leaflets give all the information you need. If you would like to know more, go to [www.shoebboxappeal.org](http://www.shoebboxappeal.org) or ring Ginny or Jackie.

Completed boxes can be delivered to the Old School Room during 'Drop-In' (2nd & 4th Tuesday from 10.30 - 12.00) or during a Sunday service at St. Andrew's. Please have your box ready by the **last week in October**, but earlier delivery is very welcome.

### St. Andrew's Rotas October

**Brass** - Sue Blackwell

#### Flowers

7th & 14th - Madelaine King-Oakley  
and Annette Stein

21st & 28th - Sandra Hill

#### Church cleaning

7th - Jackie & John de Ronde  
14th - Nicky Barker  
21st - Lynne cOmley  
28th - Lyn Cotterill  
30th - Liz Rendell





**Date for your diary***Dickensian themed***CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR***Organised by the URC***Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November****Village Hall 11-3pm**

New to the fair this year : Mimsical Studio stained glass, Kate Norton's original artwork, decorative wreaths, orders taken for Christmas table decorations & garlands, wrought iron work .

As well as the popular regulars: Ellis Pottery, Gemasis jewellery & leather bags, beautifully turned wood, knitted gifts, hand painted items, crochet work, chutneys & jams, handmade cards, Christmas Cakes, Heart & Home, plus the W.I and the Guides. As usual refreshments, tombola, raffle and musical accompaniment.

\* NB 2018 will be a fallow year where the craft fair is concerned so you may wish to forward plan and stock up on gifts for next year too!

A warm welcome awaits you! Come and enjoy the friendly, festive atmosphere whilst catching up with friends, browsing and shopping for that special, unique gift for someone or treat for yourself!

We look forward to seeing you

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www.forseyandson.co.uk

**United Reformed Church****October***(Services start at 10.30)***Sunday 1st - Harvest Thanksgiving \*\***

Rev Jeff Armistead

*(incl. Holy Communion)***Sunday 8th - Rev Rowena Francis****Sunday 15th - Mr Barry Bryer****Sunday 22nd - Rev Dr Paul Cattermole**

OBE

**Sunday 29th - Mrs G Allinson**

**\*\* Harvest gifts will be donated to OPEN DOOR, Taunton, working with the homeless and dispossessed on our doorstep .**

We are an inclusive, outward looking group of people and we welcome all; wherever you are on your life/spiritual journey we welcome you without regard to age, gender, denominational background, sexual orientation, race or ability. We respect the traditions of our past, engage with the present and look forward to the future, believing that Christian truth is not contained in static prepositional statements but is ever changing and constantly evolving. 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



The first evening of our holiday finds us sitting in a pub on the outskirts of Hereford enjoying our evening meal: burgers, fish, and for me – steak. 'What's that pink juice?'

I like my steak medium-rare and this was more toward the rare side so you can guess what the pink juice was. In a split second I decided in jest to be bluntly honest.

'In that case from right now I am never going to eat meat again. I'm going to be a vegetarian!'

*Pillow talk ctd . . . .*

'...and miss out on your favourite crispy bacon and roast chicken?' (we've tried vegetarianism before but it carried the caveat 'but I'll still eat chicken on Sunday'!)

'Yes: I am definitely vegetarian from now on!'

So what was different this time? From reception years at primary school it has been understood and known that bacon, pork, ham come from pigs; beef from cows; lamb from the farm we visited at Huish; duck (I'd forgotten that Christmas favourite) and chicken are the birds pecking round the yard.

The difference is the sudden realisation – or a better understanding, a deeper knowledge – that as human beings we farm these creatures for food. The belief had been we make use of them when they reach the end of their natural lives not that we end their lives for the purpose of making use of them (for food and other goods). It is the purposeful killing that is unpalatable.

It happens sometimes doesn't it? Those moments when something we have believed, assumed, presumed is either shown to be different or our perspective is widened, altered, challenged and changed by a fuller understanding; a deeper knowledge. And we are changed. It happens when we encounter the Love of God – it happens when we recognise that God's Love has 'no bounds' – everyone (and I mean everyone without exception, without condition or conformation) is included. Witnessing the first same sex marriage in one of our Churches along with an enormous host of others brought this home to me at a deeper level; a fuller understanding again – God's 'Welcome' excludes no one. In knowing that for myself I am changed. Reading Theology at University, extending and exploring my understanding of the bible, it's construction and the stories, characters, within changed my then less-thought through beliefs: meeting with, building friendships with, all manner of folk has extended and grown and changed me too.

The challenge? To be open to the expanding, deepening, changing, Love calls me toward – and then to be that change.



## In October

### 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
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.30
	Cinema Night (not August)	Village Hall (3rd only)

#### Special Events

Mon	09	7.30	CR in Bloom Results meeting	VH
Thur	12	7.30	Save the King Willy meeting	VH
Fri	27	6.30	Punky Night Bonfire Party	Long Sutton
Sat	28	7.00	Guides - Auction of Promises	Fivehead VH



**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	01823 698940
Brownies	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	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	( <a href="mailto:crvhbookings@gmail.com">crvhbookings@gmail.com</a> )	741606
Old School Room Bookings	( <a href="mailto:crosbookings@gmail.com">crosbookings@gmail.com</a> )	250655/253856
United Reformed Church Hall - Lettings etc.		259391
URC Secretary		259434

##### Community Services

Doctors	250464
Police	101
Yarlington Housing	01935 404500

##### Education

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

##### Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk)	<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**